Producing a Surface Water Management Plan for Ipswich
The plan
We have produced a new plan for Ipswich to prepare for the potentially devastating impact of flash flooding caused by heavy rain.
Ipswich is one of 77 areas in the UK to receive government funding to do this.
The plan seeks to:
- Provide a greater understanding of local flooding.
- Identify responsibilities.
- Indicate when flood alleviation is likely to be implemented.
- Clarify who will respond to specific flooding problems in the future.
- Improve river water quality.

Who is involved?
The plan is being developed in partnership between Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Anglian Water, the Environment Agency and other stakeholders including the public and councillors.

What do you think?
Because funding is limited, the partnership has agreed to focus on four priority areas where we believe risks are greatest and alleviation most likely to be possible:
- London Road to Lavenham Road/Hadleigh Road
- Ancaster Road and Burrell Road
- Lovetofts Drive to Lagonda Drive
- Worsley Close to Ellenbrook Green

Take a look at the four flood maps and proposals for each area and tell us what you think.
What is surface water flooding?
Surface water flooding is caused by heavy rain, resulting in overloading of highway drains, combined sewers, surface water sewers and watercourses.

What causes surface water flooding?
Surface water flooding can be caused or exacerbated by the following:
- Blockages to road gullies, such as a build up of fallen leaves
- Fly tipped waste in streams, ditches or other watercourses
- Blocked outfall grilles
- Runoff from paved surfaces

Ipswich priority areas
To assess the risk to the four priority areas, we used computer modelling to produce flood maps and damage costs based on the frequency of rainfall for various scenarios, including options for reducing the worst effects of flooding.

The most important thing to remember when viewing the maps is that they are indicative and are based on an extremely rare and severe storm that could occur on average every 100 years.
Looking to the future – 30 years from now

The effects of climate change are likely to mean a 7.5% increase in peak rainfall intensity and a sea level rise of up to 200mm.

We will continue to ensure future developments use sustainable drainage systems and other methods to help prevent increased flooding risk in future.

Per year per property there is likely to be up to 0.3 square metres extra when it comes to paving for gardens, conservatories etc.

How you can play your part

You can take steps to help us reduce the risk of flooding, or to protect your property.

1. Report blocked highway gullies by calling 01473 433000 or for the grille at Milden Road contact **01473 432853** or for the grille at Ellenbrook contact **08457 145145**.

2. Use water butts

3. Never obstruct flood paths or watercourses, and report fly-tipping

4. Never wash cement, fat, oil or pesticides down drains

5. Minimise paved areas and drain to an adequate permeable area

6. Provide property flood protection, such as flood doors and air brick covers

7. Know the planning regulations – visit [www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk)

Find out more

View the Ipswich Surface Water Management Plan in full at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/floodrisk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/floodrisk)

Send your comments and questions to floods@suffolk.gov.uk or contact 01473 432853