

Dear Ms Maydon

In response to your further email of 10 November, please see the answers to your questions that I have been provided with from the Suffolk Highways Drainage Team:

1. How many properties are involved in New Street and on how many occasions did back flow occur?

Suffolk County Council (SCC) can never be sure how many people have flooded or how many times. Some people do not want to report this as they think it may affect their insurance premiums. SCC do know of one resident being affected on at least 2 separate occasions, the first being in 2018. The Anglian Water foul engineer also contacted SCC in 2018 to discuss flooding that was backing up the foul sewer and surcharging into the lower floor of a property.

2. Phase 1 work has stopped at the top end of Back Road where is the water currently being diverted to?

There is some flow out to the west via existing pipes. Although this is relatively limited due to the condition, the remainder of the surface water flows are currently piped into an existing Anglian Water equipment which enters the Brook via John Shepherd Close.

3. When Phase 2 is completed exactly what is the route of the surface water from New Street and at what point will it enter the Beck?

The new pipe will be laid in Harleston Hill and enter the Brook through the existing retaining wall by the triangle near the Swan Inn. Phase 2 is currently in design therefore a planned works start date is not yet available.

4. Will this increase the incidence of over topping of the Beck? (which currently occurs about couple of times a year.)

There will be some increase, but this is likely to be minimal in terms of affecting the flood risk of the Brook. We have an Ordinary Watercourse Consent Application which is being reviewed by SCC Floods Team. A flap valve / non return valve will be installed to the proposed outfall pipe which will prevent backflow up the pipe when the Brook is in flood and likewise will help to equalise the pressure in such scenarios to enable flows out into the Brook.

We understand the aetiology of the sewage egress in Low Road, but are now concerned about overtopping of the Beck.

Whilst there will be some additional flows into the Brook and we appreciate the concerns regarding this, the additional volume in terms of the capacity of the Brook is limited.

I hope this information provides the explanation that you require.

Best regards

Mark

Mark Ash
Executive Director of Growth, Highways and Infrastructure
Suffolk County Council