

Essex County Council  
**Flood and Water Management Team**  
E3 Zone 1 County Hall  
Chelmsford  
Essex, CM1 1QH

**Date:** 16/07/2018  
**Our Ref:** EPP2 FAS

The Resident,

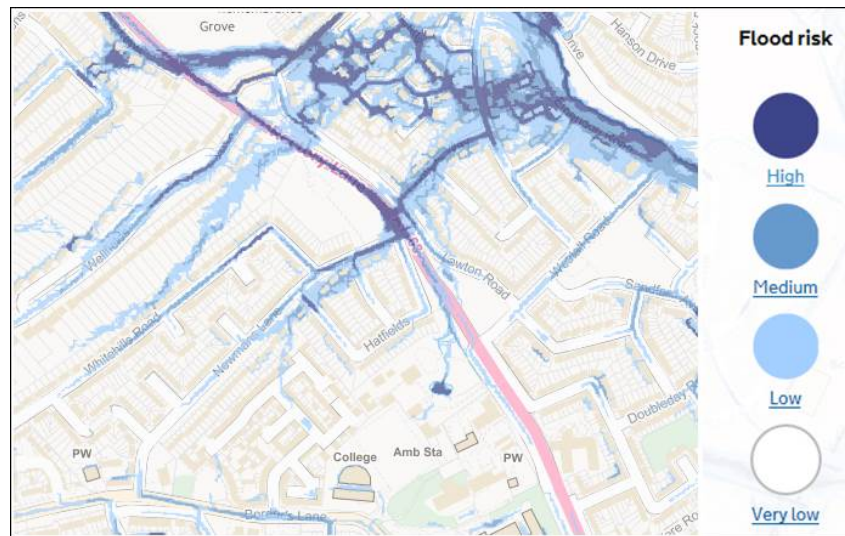


Dear Sir/ Madam,

**POTENTIAL FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME, HILLYFIELDS, LOUGHTON.**

As Lead Local Flood Authority, Essex County Council (ECC) has a responsibility for managing local flood risk under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. This is defined as flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. ECC also has a duty to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) identifying areas at highest risk and outlining measures to reduce them.

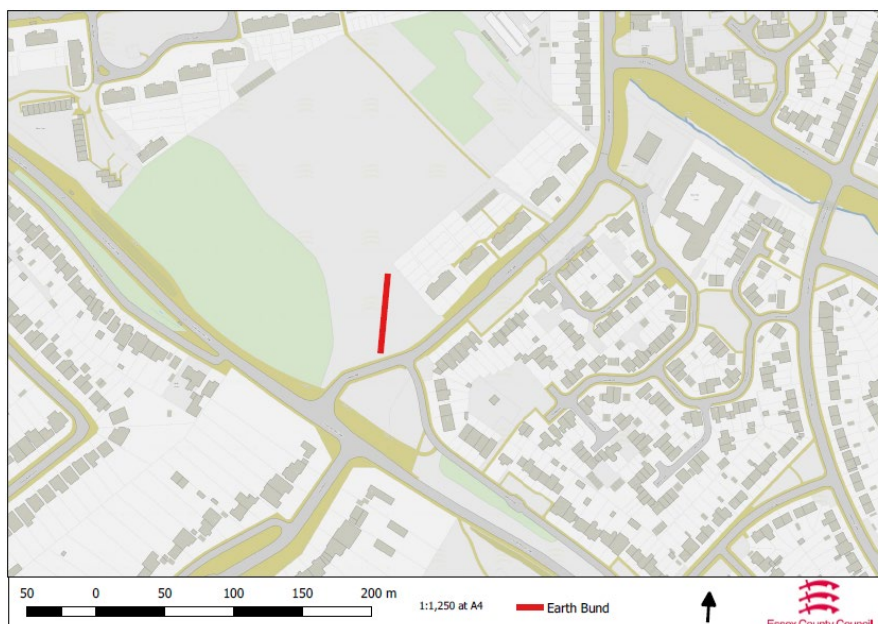
The LFRMS for Essex covers the entire county and has led to the production of more localised investigations into flood risk called Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs). These investigate risks in more detail, using computational modelling and recorded flood incidents to identify Critical Drainage Areas (CDA's), or smaller sub-catchment at higher risk of flooding. SWMPs have been undertaken across Essex and the resultant CDA's all ranked based on a number of factors, including numbers of properties at risk, to produce a prioritised list for the potential receipt of a flood alleviation scheme, when funding allows. The surface water flood risk for the Hillyfields area can be seen below as found on the Environment Agency's website (<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map?map=Reservoirs>).



In 2015 ECC started a capital programme which aimed to install large scale flood alleviations schemes within Essex in the highest risk CDA areas. The Hillyfields area forms the EPP2 CDA within the Loughton SWMP, and was chosen for further investigation due to the numbers of properties identified as being at risk.

All potential schemes involve the assessment of the CDA catchment as a whole rather than focusing on the specific area of risk, and studies have identified that works at this location would provide a reduction to local flood risk.

As such as we are proposing the creation of a 1.2m high earth bund following the red line on the map below. This will allow water to be stored at times of flood before reaching those at risk, with a controlled flow into the existing drainage network to ensure that the existing system does not become overwhelmed. As with other schemes the storage area will only become wet during times of flood flows, and water will be stored for no more than 48 hours.

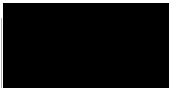


The construction of the earth bund requires ECC to seek planning permission and as such we will be submitting an application at the beginning of August. During this process there will be an opportunity for you to meet and discuss the proposals with ECC in more detail through a community engagement event.

**The event will be an informal drop in session held at Loughton Library 4pm until 7pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the proposals in more detail in the meantime then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



**Charlotte Smith**  
**Flood Investigation Engineer**

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