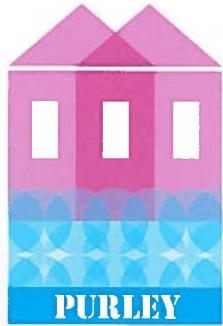


COMMUNITY  
FLOOD PLAN



**WHAT  
TO DO &  
WHY TO  
DO IT**



The Community Flood Plan for Purley, which was launched in March 2012 with the assistance of the Environment Agency, Greater London Council and the local Council, is one of the very few pilot studies to be carried out in London.

The plan is co-ordinated jointly by:  
Purley and Woodcote Resident's Association & Purley Business Association.

#### Objectives

- Identify the causes of flooding in Purley
- Identify risk areas
- Provide guidelines to those at risk to help them be prepared for emergencies, allowing them to act quickly and therefore reduce distress and disruption
- Provide information and advice on materials to safeguard properties
- Provide contact details for specialist professional services and suppliers
- Provide local contact details for help before, during and after a flood
- Initiate help after a flood
- Share knowledge of those who have been flooded
- Monitor progress and organise community meetings

# WE'RE HERE TO PROTECT PURLEY

# TOP

# 9

The following nine points should be carefully considered by members of the community as we work together to protect Purley from the effects of flooding.

## **ONE** **THE FLOOD WARDENS**

They are your first point of contact in a flood emergency. They have been trained to give advice. See page 18/19.

## **TWO** **DRAINS**

The drains in Purley get frequently blocked. The Council tries to keep drains in working order, but the situation is aggravated by householders brushing leaves from their gardens out onto the roads. The Council points out that this is illegal and should not be carried out.

## **THREE** **THE RAIN**

Over the years the rain fall pattern has changed - now it is frequently torrential. Purley's existing storm water drains and culverts are not able to cope with these sudden downpours.

## **FOUR** **INFRA-STRUCTURE**

Major infrastructure works to solve Purley's flooding problems will take years to implement. In the meantime the community is advised to take their own measures to protect their properties against flooding.

## **FIVE** **COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN**

The community flood plan is intended to fill this gap until any major infrastructure work to alleviate flooding is carried out.

## **SIX** **THE FLOOD TEAM**

The Flood Team is working on a voluntary basis to help the local community. We will be as helpful as possible, but cannot be legally held responsible for any errors or omissions in its actions.

## **SEVEN** **PROBLEMS**

The community should keep the Flood Team advised of related local flood problems so that it can monitor or plan appropriate actions.

## **EIGHT** **THE FUTURE**

It remains possible that the Flood Plan may be extended in the future to include Community Resilience to extreme weather, such as droughts, storms or other effects of changing weather patterns.

## **NINE** **IPHONE APP**

The Environment Agency is launching an iPhone app on Flood Warnings. Users can get real time updates on flooding near them.

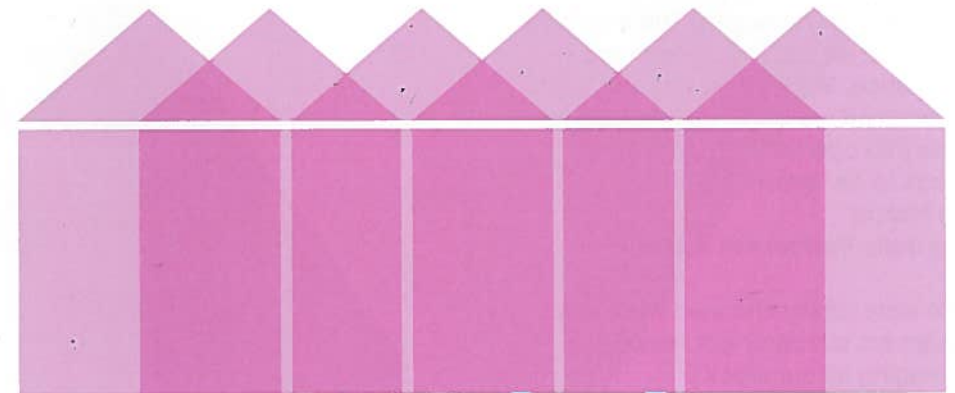
# WHY PURLEY FLOODS

Five main causes of flooding in Purley have been identified:

- 1 River Bourne - this runs through a culvert under Purley
- 2 Water run off from the surrounding hills into the valley floor
- 3 Blocked drains
- 4 Burst water mains and pipes
- 5 Water run off from the railway embankment

Water runs off the surrounding hills into the valley floor

Water seeps into the ground



Blocked drains

Burst water pipes

The River Bourne runs through a culvert under Purley



Many businesses in Purley were hit by the severe flooding of 2008. As it was so unexpected most people were totally unprepared.

"I had never seen anything like this before. The water just rushed into the rear access road and although our shop is higher than the road, the water crept into the shop and damaged our stock. The cars outside were floating"

**Mary Coughlan**

**Lucinda's on Russell Hill Parade**

"It was a most devastating experience. We had a foot of water in the pub. The basement was full of water. All the electrics, equipment and furniture was damaged. The electricity board cut off the supply from the substation. We worked day and night for nearly 6 weeks to get the business back into operation. The flooding needs to be resolved."

**Ian Harris**

**The Jolly Farmers in Purley**

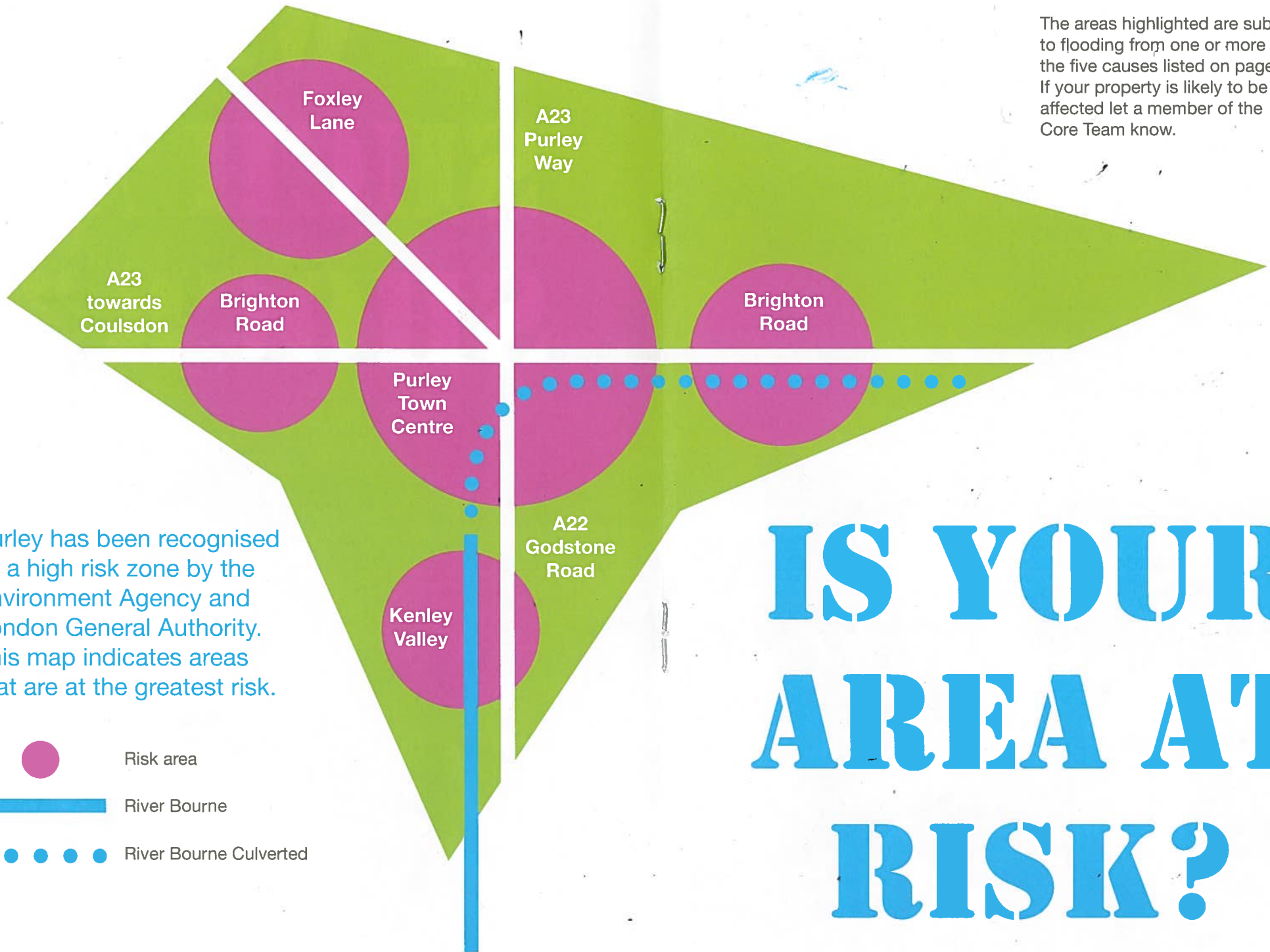
"We were totally shocked when our basement suddenly got flooded, damaging all our stock"

**Ketan Patel**

**Bon Bon on High Street, Purley**

**"IT WAS  
SUCH A  
SHOCK"**

The areas highlighted are subject to flooding from one or more of the five causes listed on page 6. If your property is likely to be affected let a member of the Core Team know.



Purley has been recognised as a high risk zone by the Environment Agency and London General Authority. This map indicates areas that are at the greatest risk.

-  Risk area
-  River Bourne
-  River Bourne Culverted

# IS YOUR AREA AT RISK?

It is imperative that you take all the necessary precautions to safeguard your own property against the risks from flooding.

Know your flood risk. Don't leave it to the last minute!

- Contact us to get your property surveyed by experts who will advise on the most appropriate actions for you.
- Purchase the necessary equipment suitable to minimise the type of flood risk you are likely to suffer from. You will be surprised by what is now available.
- Keep the equipment handy for use in an emergency.

# MAKE YOUR FLOOD PLAN BEFORE IT FLOODS



# HELP AND

## Organisations

**Greater London Authority (GLA)**  
020 7556 983 4669

**Environment Agency**  
020 7231 2312

**Vincent**  
Incident Management  
Leader  
020 7454 623

**Thames Water**  
Skuse  
Customer Relations  
customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk  
020 7200 897  
020 7424 2291

**Croydon Council**  
Trevor Kinkead  
Acting Senior Engineer, Croydon  
Drainage Dept  
trevor.kinkead@croydon.gov.uk  
020 8726 6000 ext 62242

Anna Bastow  
Emergency Planning Officer  
anna.bastow@croydon.gov.uk  
020 8760 5678  
07771 843008  
Fax 020 8760 5619

James Collis  
Croydon Resilience manager  
020 8640 7295

# ADVICE

## Specialist firms

A list of private /specialist firms covering all aspects of flooding is available from the co-ordinator on request:

- Flood risk assessments
- Flood damage restoration
- Drain Surveys
- Planning against flood

## Useful reading

**Flooding – Minimising Risk**  
Flood Plan guidance for communities and groups (Environment Agency)

**Dry Run**  
A community flood planning guide (Flood Plan UK [www.floodplan.org](http://www.floodplan.org))

**Planning Policy Statement 25**  
Development and flood risk

**Living with Water Report**  
Visions of a flooded future (RIBA, DEFRA)  
**Natural Flood Insurance Programme**  
(Thames Water)

**Sand Bags - How to use them properly for flood protection**

**Flooding from Ground Water**  
(Environment Agency)

**CREW - Community Resilience to Extreme Weather**  
([www.extreme-weather-impacts.net](http://www.extreme-weather-impacts.net))

**Drain London Surface Water Management Plan**  
(Environment Agency & Local Councils)



# WHAT TO DO

- ◆ No severe weather
- ◆ Be aware
- ◆ Be prepared
- ◆ Take action

There is no official flood warning service for Purley. However, if heavy rainfall or flooding is forecasted for the region then flooding may happen in the area.

As well as watching the news regularly you can check the following sources:

- [www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/uk\\_forecast\\_warnings.html](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/uk_forecast_warnings.html)
- [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/3days/125305.aspx](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/3days/125305.aspx)

We suggest considering the following actions for each level of risk.

## Very low risk

### What it means

Flooding is very unlikely

### Minimal disruption

- No widespread impact, but possibly some isolated and minor flooding of land and roads

### What to do

Draw up personal flood plans:

- emergency phone numbers and websites for information and advice
- what essential items to put in a flood kit
- where to turn off gas, electricity and water supplies
- where to move family, pets and valuables
- how to put flood protection equipment in place

## Low risk

### What it means

Flooding is possible

### Minor disruption

- Localised flooding
- Could affect individual properties
- Local disruption to travel

### What to do

- Monitor local weather bulletins
- Be prepared to act on your flood plan
- Prepare a flood kit of essential items

## Medium Risk

### What it means

Flooding is likely

### Significant disruption

- Flooding affecting communities
- Damage to buildings possible
- Possible dangers from fast flowing and / or deep water
- Potential disruption to infrastructure (e.g. railways, utilities)
- A number of roads are likely to be closed

### What to do

- Put flood protection equipment in place
- Consider moving family, pets and valuables to a safe place
- Consider turning off gas, electricity and water supplies if safe to do so

## High risk

### What it means

Flooding is very likely

### Severe disruption

- Widespread flooding affecting properties and communities
- Danger to life
- Collapse of buildings possible
- Widespread disruption
- Large scale evacuation may be required
- Risk of motorists becoming stranded

### What to do

- Ensure you are prepared
- Stay in a safe place with a means of escape
- Be ready should you need to evacuate from your home
- Co-operate with the emergency services
- Call 999 if in immediate danger

# YOUR LOCAL FLOOD WARDENS

In the event of a flood,  
the following volunteers  
will give you support.

They have been trained by  
the London Fire Brigade  
and Metropolitan Police,  
who are both supporting  
this pilot scheme.

**PAUL SHINEROCK**

**020  
8660 2010**

paul@shinerocks.co.uk

**IAN HARRIS**

**07870  
56 81 89**

ian@5012.net  
020 8660 2076

**ARI SAVVIDES**

**020  
8660 0472**

amsopticians@gmail.com

**KETAN PATEL**

**07814  
58 93 31**

khpatel07@hotmail.co.uk  
020 8660 0526

**DAVID POPPLETON**

**07941  
50 12 34**

davidpoppleton@hotmail.com  
020 8668 0500 day  
020 8405 9440 evening

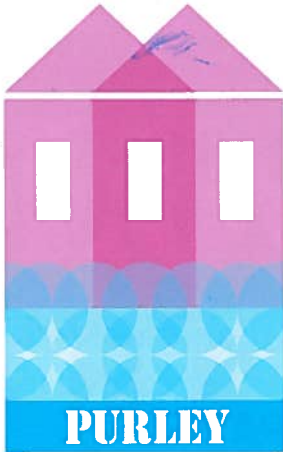
**TONY FARRELL**

LEAD FLOOD WARDEN

**07534  
10 96 55**

mekonhill@live.co.uk  
020 8660 3084

# COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN



## COORDINATED BY:

- PURLEY AND WOODCOTE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
- PURLEY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

## SUPPORTED BY DRAIN LONDON PARTNERS:

- GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY
- ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
- THAMES WATER
- LONDON COUNCILS

## CORE TEAM PURLEY:

### LISA DOWNHAM

Chair, Purley Business Association  
lisa@getfired.co.uk  
020 8660 318  
07940 777 492

### PHIL REED

leadingpr@aol.com  
020 8668 4048  
020 8668 8645 (evenings)

### TONY FARRELL

mekonhill@live.co.uk  
020 8660 3084

### TARSEM FLORA

Co-ordinator - Community Flood Plan  
Purley (CFPP) and Chair of Purley and  
Woodcote Residents Association

tvflora@gmail.com  
020 8686 6663 (office)  
020 8668 3393 (evenings)

**Correspondence address:**  
**Community Flood Plan - Purley**  
**38B Russell Hill, Purley, Surrey CR8 2JA**