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Date: 21st December 2021

Dear Ann,

Section 19 Interim Report for Tattenhall

Thank you for your letter dated 15 December 2021 to Charlie Seward, Deputy Chief Executive, with regards to the Section 19 Interim Flood Investigation report for Tattenhall. As the Director with responsibility for this area Mr Seward has asked me to respond

As you are aware, the Section 19 interim flood investigation reports for all affected areas across the borough were recently presented to Cabinet on 24 November 2021, this included the village of Tattenhall. The interim report for Tattenhall provided a background to the flood risk, water management assets, and the borehole as well as a summary of what occurred during Storm Christoph. It also provides a list of actions/next steps to reduce the impact of flooding.

The Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), employed external consultant Atkins Ltd to undertake both interim and final Section 19 reports. Atkins are continuing with their flood investigations for all affected areas, and alongside this the LLFA will arrange for any necessary cleansing and/or CCTV inspections that have been identified. Unfortunately, at this stage I am unable to give specific timescales of when this work can be undertaken at Old Mill Place, but rest assured these works will be programmed in early in the New Year.

With regards to the overall drainage in Tattenhall, I understand that Mill Brook runs into a Mill Pond that is then culverted under the High Street before flowing north. There are numerous water related assets in the area including a Welsh Water combined sewer, road drainage, private drainage in Old Mill Place, and a historic mill race culvert. The LLFA will continue their discussions with all key agencies, including the Environment Agency and water companies, and will work with landowners in an effort to alleviate flood risk within the village.



As the LLFA, our responsibility is limited to managing the risk of flooding from ground water. It should be noted that neither the Council nor the Environment Agency (EA) have responsibility for managing ground water in its own right. The borehole at the old site has, for many years, reduced the level of ground water in the immediate vicinity, it is not anticipated that flooding of the local area will occur as a consequence of it being capped. Since the bore was capped several weeks ago no further communication with the EA has taken place, however we will be meeting in the New Year to look at the interaction of the ground water and the main river. The EA has published a very useful guide on groundwater flooding, this can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297421/flho0911bugi-e-e.pdf

The Council are undertaking a series of flood engagement events at those areas worst affected by Storm Christoph. We have already undertaken 2 of these in the areas of Acton Bridge and Hooton and we are undertaking a further 4 flood engagement sessions end of January/early February 2022. This will include the village of Tattenhall, and the event will provide affected residents, businesses, and members of the Parish Council an opportunity to discuss their ongoing concerns around flooding in the village with the specialist teams involved. We will also be able to inform you what we've been doing to protect against future flooding in the village, as well as how to prepare yourself.

On Wednesday 8 December 2022 the Government announced a range of new restrictions, designed to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in communities. To follow this guidance, it is now been necessary to redesign these flood engagement events to go online and more details including dates and times will be advised early in the new year.

I hope the above information is helpful.

Yours sincerely



Rose McArthur
Director of Transport and Highways



Cheshire West
and Chester