

**From:** ERF Service Requests & Enquiries

**Sent:** 05 May 2020 13:55

**To:** Finch-Saunders, Janet (Aelod o'r Senedd | Member of the Senedd) <Janet.Finch-Saunders@senedd.wales>

**Subject:** Re: Flooding - your ref: MJ/JF

**Importance:** High

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to... received on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the subsequent follow up on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

I apologise in the delay in replying to your queries given the recent circumstances but I hope that my response will clarify your queries and demonstrate the positive action being taken by the Council to address the flooding issue in the area.

As noted in your letter, the highway drainage in the vicinity of the Perthi and Y Berllan can become surcharged during significant rainfall events and overland flows originating on third party lands. On the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020 over 60mm of rain fell in the 24hr period – this was an exceptional event.

The local drainage system, as with all highway systems, is designed to cope with highway drainage and not flows coming from the surrounding lands which has occurred periodically in the Perthi and Y Berllan area.

The existing system can cope the vast majority of the time but not in these extreme events.

Having recognised previously this unacceptable situation, the Council commissioned an Outline Business Case to identify a permanent solution to address this flood hotspot – as noted in your previous correspondence. Due to the complexity of the proposed solutions in the area which would impact on numerous landowners and stakeholders, the finalised draft was only received from our Consultants in the immediate aftermath of the February storm events.

However given the accepted urgency of the situation in the Perthi and Y Berllan area an immediate response is required. In March the Council applied to the Welsh Government for funding to initiate emergency permanent works in the area and were successful in receiving a grant award. The proposed works will involve the construction of additional drainage capacity and should greatly reduce the risk of future flooding in the Perthi and Y Berllan estates.

We are currently liaising with the Housing Association (Perthi landlords) and we hope to complete the works over the summer months pending agreement between the Council and the Housing Association. Once a commencement date is agreed, we will liaise with the local community, in whatever manner possible to explain the proposed works.

The intensity of localised rainfall during Storm Ciara – particularly between 5am and 8am on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> February – was unprecedented and the decision to deploy additional third party resources between Storms Ciara and Dennis was the correct one given the circumstances experienced in the area the previous week-end. All residents within known flood hotspots in the County are encouraged to deploy individual property protection to mitigate risk of flooding.

To clarify, the source of the flooding appears to be run-off from third party lands onto the highway which in turn overwhelmed the drainage system, increasing the level of water on the roadway and then onwards into the properties.

Conwy County Borough Council have appointed an independent Consultant to carry out an investigation into the event in Llanrwst in line with our statutory obligations – a copy of which will be shared with the impacted residents and will be forwarded to you for your records.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Regards,

Geraint

Yr Amgylchedd, Ffyrdd a Chyfleusterau / Environment, Roads & Facilities  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol CONWY County Borough Council  
Swyddfeydd Mochdre / Mochdre Offices  
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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Bydd y Cyngor yn ymateb i unrhyw ohebiaeth yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at unrhyw oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. We will respond to any correspondence in Welsh which will not lead to a delay