

# FLOOD RISK & DRAINAGE – KEY ISSUES (UPDATED)

## Quick Summary

- Flooding already occurs across Broughton Astley
- Drainage systems are incomplete and not fully understood
- Surface water has limited routes due to ground conditions
- SuDS ponds rely on long-term maintenance that is currently failing
- New development will increase pressure on an already struggling system

### ***1. Surface Water Flooding is Already Happening***

- Flooding regularly occurs on Frolesworth Road and surrounding areas
- Water builds up quickly during rainfall events
- Real-world flooding is not fully reflected in planning models

Evidence: Local flood incidents (Jan 2025), Section 19 reports pending

### ***2. Drainage Network is Not Fully Mapped***

- Authorities confirm incomplete drainage mapping
- Full understanding may not be available until 2026–2027
- Planning decisions are being made without full data

Evidence: EIR/10433, FOI/10503

### ***3. Ground Conditions Prevent Natural Drainage***

- Clay soils prevent water soaking into the ground
- Soakaways are not viable in this area
- Water must be discharged into already stressed systems

Evidence: Local ground investigation reports

### ***4. SuDS Ponds Rely on Maintenance – and Are Failing***

- SuDS systems require long-term maintenance to function properly
- Existing SuDS ponds in Broughton Astley show poor maintenance
- Without upkeep, ponds lose capacity and increase flood risk

- Lack of clear/enforced S106 maintenance funding worsens this over time

Evidence: Observations from existing developments and resident reports

### ***5. Flooding and Sewage Systems Are Linked***

- Overloaded drainage systems push water into sewers
- This leads to sewer surcharge and pollution incidents
- Flooding and sewage issues cannot be treated separately

Evidence: STW EIR responses, local incident evidence

### ***6. Cumulative Impact Not Properly Assessed***

- Multiple developments rely on the same drainage network
- Combined impact is not fully modelled
- Risk increases significantly when developments are added together

## **Example Objection**

I object to this development due to flood risk and drainage concerns. Evidence shows existing surface water flooding, incomplete drainage mapping (EIR/10433), unsuitable ground conditions, and reliance on systems that are already constrained. In addition, SuDS ponds require long-term maintenance, and evidence from Broughton Astley shows these systems can fail without proper funding and management. This development would increase flood risk and is not supported by adequate infrastructure.