

Josh Newbury MP

By email at: josh.newbury.mp@parliament.uk

Our ref: 25375

Your ref: JN01998

Date: 14 February 2025

Dear Josh Newbury MP

Thank you for your email of 10 February 2025 regarding updated flood risk mapping in Rugeley raised by your constituent Mr Jeremy Plunkett of Keystone Lane Rugeley WS15 2EF.

The Environment Agency (EA) has a duty to update our understanding of current and future flood risk as part of our “strategic overview” role for all sources of flood risk. We have spent the last 4 years working with local authorities across England to develop a new National Flood Risk Assessment (NAFRA) which uses the best available data, information and modelling from both the EA and local authorities.

There are a variety of reasons for the changes in risk, the most notable being improved data and modelling methods for assessing the frequency of flooding. The new maps also include the potential impact of climate change on flood risk.

When we checked Mr Plunkett’s details, we saw that his risk from river flooding remains assessed as very low. The flood risk from surface water is now assessed as low, however the map did not previously show the property at risk. Looking at predictions of flood risk, between 2040 and 2060 the surface water flood risk for the property is assessed as medium. Whilst there has been an increase in our assessment of flood risk for the property, it is not considered high as stated in the letter.

The EA hold the data on flood risk and are responsible for publishing that information. The responsibility for updating surface water flood risk information lies with the Lead Local Flood Authority, in this case Staffordshire County Council. If Mr Plunkett disagrees with the current assessment of his property’s flood risk, he should bring it to the attention of Staffordshire County Council who may consider investigating the situation. They can be contacted by email at flood.team@staffordshire.gov.uk

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this further, or any matters within your constituency, please do call or email me.

Yours sincerely

creating a better place
for people and wildlife



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roy Stokes".

Roy Stokes

Place Manager - Staffordshire

Sentinel House, 9 Wellington Crescent, Fradley Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS13 8RR