

Flood Risk Statement

Project Number: JC224

**Site: King David High School
Eaton Rd, Crumpsall, Manchester M8 5DY**

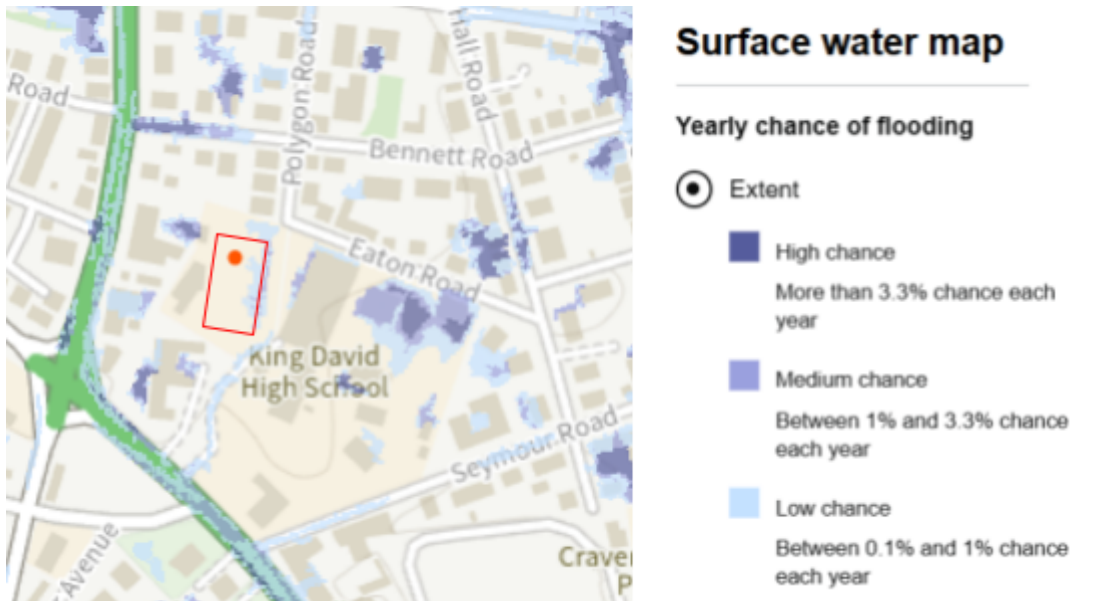


1. Introduction

- 1.1. This statement has been prepared to assess surface water flood risk in relation to the proposed development.
- 1.2. The proposals comprise the resurfacing and modest reconfiguration of an existing area of hardstanding within an operational school site to facilitate managed community use outside normal school hours.
- 1.3. No new buildings are proposed, and there is no increase in site footprint, site levels, or impermeable surface area.
- 1.4. The statement considers the existing flood risk context of the site and demonstrates that the proposals do not increase flood risk on or off site.

2. Site Location and Flood Risk Context

- 2.1. The site is located outside Flood Zones 2 and 3 and is not at risk from fluvial or tidal flooding (Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning).
- 2.2. The Environment Agency Long Term Flood Risk service identifies the site as being at very low overall flood risk. However, the detailed surface water mapping shows a very small, localised sliver of medium surface water risk affecting part of the existing hardstanding only, with no buildings or finished floor levels within the mapped area (Environment Agency – Risk of Flooding from Surface Water mapping).



3. Relevant Policy Framework

3.1. **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**

Paragraph 167 states that development should be directed away from areas at highest risk of flooding and that it should be ensured that “development does not increase flood risk elsewhere”.

Paragraph 173 confirms that “when determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere” and that suitable mitigation should be provided where necessary.

3.2. **Planning Practice Guidance (Flood Risk and Coastal Change)**

The PPG states that a Flood Risk Assessment should be proportionate to the level of flood risk and the scale and nature of the development, and that not all development in areas of surface water risk requires a detailed FRA.

3.3. **Manchester Core Strategy Policy EN14 (Flood Risk)**

Policy EN14 states that development should: “reduce flood risk overall” and “not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere”, and encourages the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems where appropriate.

3.4. **Guide to Development in Manchester SPD – Water Management and Weather Resilience (Section 4.9)**

Section 4.9 states that developers should demonstrate how surface water is managed effectively and that “sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) should be included, and the amount of hard surfacing minimised, for example by providing on-site capture and soakaway of rainwater”.

4. Existing Conditions

- 4.1. The affected area comprises existing hardstanding used as part of the school grounds. Surface water is currently managed via established drainage gullies and channels, which discharge to the existing surface water drainage network. There is no evidence of historical flooding affecting buildings on site.



5. Proposed Development and Policy Compliance

The proposals comply with the above policy requirements in the following ways:

- 5.1. Incorporation of SuDS and betterment (Core Strategy EN14; Guide to Development SPD 4.9): As part of the resurfacing works, a passive sustainable drainage measure will be incorporated within the existing macadam hardstanding to improve surface water infiltration and reduce runoff.

The proposed works consist of piercing the existing macadam surface at regular 1.0 metre centres to a minimum depth of 300 mm in order to penetrate the underlying sub-grade. This will be carried out using a specialist compression gun to form drainage holes with a diameter of approximately 28–32 mm.

All drainage holes will be backfilled with a suitable fine angular or sub-rounded pea shingle (nominal 10 mm particle size) to surface level. The surface will then be compacted using a non-vibrating roller (Bomag or similar), taking care not to overload the existing court construction, to ensure the pea shingle is fully seated and to prevent future settlement.

This measure allows surface water to drain vertically through the macadam and into the underlying sub-grade, increasing infiltration and reducing peak surface water runoff rates when compared to the existing condition.

Previous examples below:



- 5.2. Effective water management (Guide to Development SPD 4.9): Existing drainage infrastructure is retained, with improved performance due to reduced peak flows generated across the surface.
- 5.3. No increase in flood risk elsewhere (NPPF paras 167 & 173; Core Strategy EN14): The development does not increase impermeable area, does not alter site levels, and does not obstruct existing overland flow routes.
- 5.4. Proportionate response to surface water risk (PPG): The mapped risk is limited in extent, affects external hardstanding only, and does not affect buildings or vulnerable uses. A proportionate surface water statement is therefore appropriate, rather than a full Flood Risk Assessment.

6. Vulnerability and Sequential Test

- 6.1. The proposals do not introduce any new residential or other vulnerable development within the area identified as being at risk of surface water flooding. The mapped area of medium surface water risk affects existing external hardstanding only and does not coincide with any buildings or areas of occupation.
- 6.2. In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance, the Sequential Test is intended to apply where development is proposed in areas of significant flood risk or where vulnerability is increased. As the site lies outside Flood Zones 2 and 3, and the proposals do not increase vulnerability or exposure to flood risk, the Sequential Test is not triggered in this instance.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1. The surface water flood risk affecting the site is extremely limited and confined to existing hardstanding.
- 7.2. The proposals do not increase impermeable area, do not alter flow routes, and incorporate measures that improve surface water infiltration and reduce runoff.
- 7.3. In accordance with the NPPF, Planning Practice Guidance, Manchester Core Strategy Policy EN14, and the Guide to Development in Manchester SPD, the development will not increase flood risk on or off site and will marginally improve the surface water management.
- 7.4. The inclusion of drilled infiltration points within the existing macadam provides a quantifiable surface water betterment in accordance with Core Strategy Policy EN14 and Section 4.9 of the Guide to Development in Manchester SPD.