

## Settlement: Wellington

### Location of Investigation

Figure 1: Large Scale Map showing location of Wellington

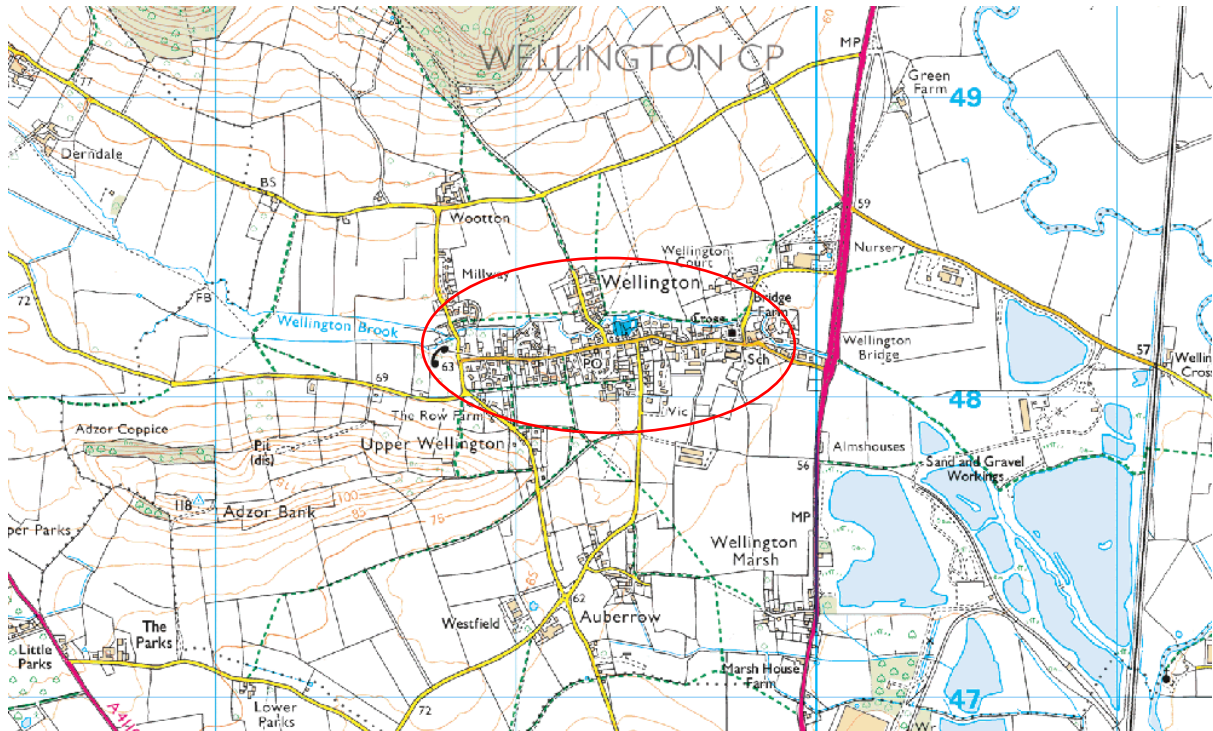
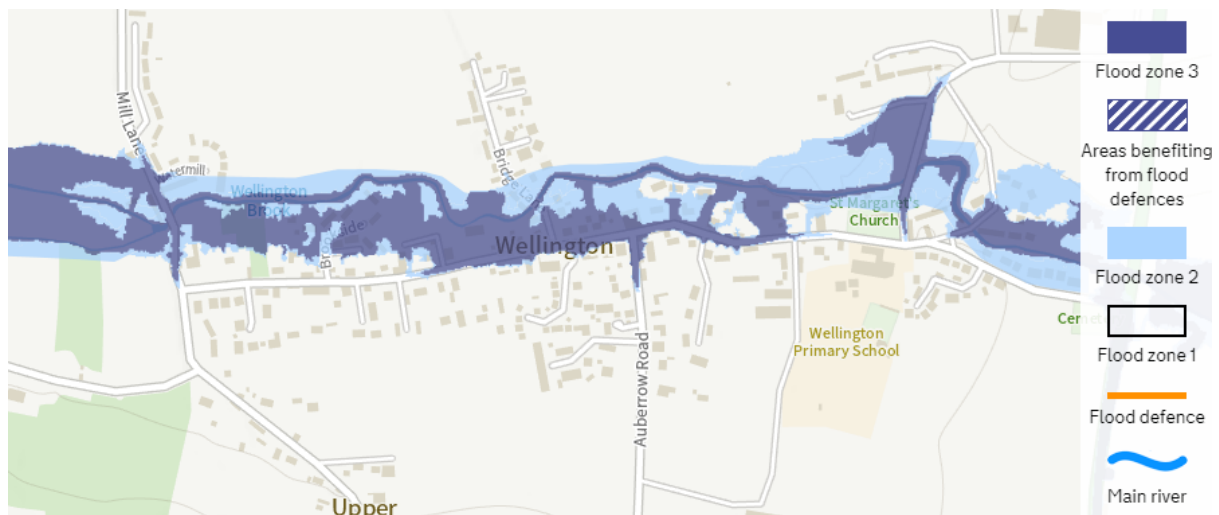


Figure 2: Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea), June 2021



<b>Date of key flood event</b>	February 16 <sup>th</sup> 2020
<b>Authorities with Flood Risk Management duties or functions relating to the event</b>	Herefordshire Council (Land Drainage Authority) River Lugg Internal Drainage Board

Wellington Brook is designated as an Ordinary Watercourse, which therefore fall under the regulatory supervision of Herefordshire Council Land Drainage Authority and the Lugg Internal Drainage Board.

## Key Flood Event

**Flood Type:** Fluvial

**Watercourse Catchment:** Wellington Brook, a tributary of the River Lugg.

Records presented via questionnaire returns identified a total of 36 properties reported internal flooding in Wellington during the February 2020 flood event. However, the Parish Council have identified 51 properties that flooded internally.

The extent of flooding varies amongst the affected properties, in some cases data was not recorded. The depth of flooding also varies slightly between the submissions with some properties reporting flooding of less than 6 inches and others reporting flooding of up to 2ft at ground floor level. Some basement flood depths were recorded greater than 6ft. The duration of flooding also varies slightly amongst the properties from less than 1 day up to 2 days.

There is only one account of previous flooding (in 1998) and eight properties reported the 2020 event to be the first flood event. HC records for this location identify some flooding from 2007. Previous investigations by BBLP at this site confirm this flood history.

The Fire Service attended a domestic property at 05:19 on 16th February and another domestic property at 15:22 on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

<b>Number of Internally Flooded Properties related to key flood event</b>	36
<b>Number of Internally Flooded Properties during most acute flood</b>	36
<b>Impact on Strategic Highway Network</b>	None reported
<b>Impact on Critical Services</b>	None reported
<b>Health Risks</b>	No injuries or loss of life were reported

## Description of Flooding

The source of flooding for some of the properties in the village is from the Wellington Brook. Almost every property with reported flooding was found to be within a flood zone for this watercourse. This is supported by seven accounts of an overflowing river or stream.

There were four accounts of a blocked bridge or culvert which may, or may not, refer to a structure on the Wellington Brook. There was one record of an overflowing ditch and six reports of surface water runoff. There were also six respondents who noted a blocked gully.

Representatives from Wellington Parish Council attended a walk through of the Wellington Brook in October 2020. At this time, it was confirmed that there were no reports of blockages at culverts on the Wellington Brook at the time of the flood.

Two properties are recorded as flooding from surface water which is stated as being due to a bridge deck being higher than the road, which leads to water ponding if the gullies block.

Fluvial flooding occurred from the Wellington Brook, there was also a backwater effect from the River Lugg. Its noted that the brook has been diverted off it's natural course historically, prior to modern

records. This was at least prior to 1885 when mapping shows it on its current course. Fluvial flood water spills onto the right hand bank of the brook, because the bank is low. The road is on low lying land and so the road conveyed floodwater. The highway drainage cannot function in this scenario because the gullies and the piped outfalls are all submerged in flood water.

**Damage to Cultural Heritage Sites:** There are 17 listed buildings located in the Flood Zone within Wellington.

### Previous reports of floods

Prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020, one property flooded in 1998. Herefordshire Council's records suggest that eight properties flooded in 2007.

### Previous Flood Risk Studies

There are no flood risk studies previously undertaken at this location.

### Conclusions

A total of 36 properties reported internal flooding in Wellington during the February 2020 flood event with depths of up to 1ft at ground level although basements were up to 6ft. The survey responses and grant applications reviewed for this study indicate one historic flood event in 1998. Other flood records held by HC show some flooding in 2007.

A road closure on the highway was implemented during the flood

Following the flooding, the River Lugg IDB were engaged in channel maintenance work on the length of Wellington Brook downstream of the A49.

Herefordshire Council Land Drainage Authority proposes to exercise their flood risk management function in response to the recent flooding. Herefordshire LLFA has identified a requirement to promote delivery of a feasibility study on the Wellington Brook.

DEFRA grant funding is being sought this financial year for a flood risk study in this area, based on the existing fluvial flood risk in the villages of Wellington and Canon Pyon.