

Community flood plan summary

Severn Grove, Romilly Crescent and Conway Road, Cardiff, Wales

Why do we need a flood plan?

Over recent years the UK and World climate has become more unstable and experienced extreme weather events including rainfall due to climate change. The Welsh and UK governments have encouraged local communities to consider how they may prepare for such events.

We live in an area where flooding is possible (though generally low risk) so a small group of local residents have begun to draft a flood plan for their streets in line with Natural Resources Wales guidelines.

The previous major river flood event (1979), before flood protection bunds were put in place, affected parts of Cathedral Road, Plasturton Gardens, lower Kings Road and Cowbridge Road East as well as intervening roads and parts of south Riverside. The nearest point to our area was at the junction of Cathedral Road and Sneyd Street, 240m away. In 2020, 1.25% (1 in 80 year) chance floods overran Pontcanna Fields but were contained by the defences so no properties were affected. Apart from very localised surface water incidents our streets have not yet been flooded. However, flooding might occur because of the rise in extreme rainfall.

We are setting up a community flood plan to:

- Raise awareness of the type and level of flood risk in our streets.
- Give information and links to websites and resources which can help residents and businesses prepare and act before, during and after flooding.
- Help to coordinate volunteers.

What is the current flood risk?

The flood plan area covers the three streets and courts and small cul de sacs linking into them. There are three different types of flood risk illustrated by NRW maps shown overleaf.

River: In general, the neighbourhood **river flood risk** status is '**low**' (or between 0.1% and 1% chance each year (1 in 100 to 1 in 1000)) due to the flood protection along the River Taff. There are areas which are above the current potential flood level including the Kings Road Coop, Kings Road Yard, properties along the north east side of Severn Grove and the former rectory at the Conway Road/Romilly Crescent junction. The edge of potential river flooding is on rising land to the west such as the Pencisely Rise/Llanfair Road junction and Greenfield Road/Llandaff Road junction.

Surface water flooding: currently the most likely to occur. Risk varies across the area with Romilly Crescent the most at risk with both **medium** (between 1% and 3.3% chance each year (1 in 30 to 1 in 100)) and **low** risk along its length. Other roads affected are Severn Grove with patches at **low** risk. We should remember our sewers are combined surface water and sewage so the effects of flooding would be made worse.

Sea: Most of the area has **very low** risk less than 0.1% chance each year (less than 1 in 1000). There is a small area at **low** risk (between 0.1% and 0.5% chance each year (1 in 200 to 1 in 1000)) to the south of the plan area on Romilly Crescent reaching the Baker's Yard and the parade of shops around Betty Biggs. This level of risk extends south outside the area down Wyndham Crescent, Wyndham Road and Severn Road. Cardiff Bay barrage plays a role in protecting Cardiff from flooding from the sea.

What is my flood risk and what can we all do to prepare for flooding?

You can visit the following website to find out your property's flood risk and follow other links to learn what you can do before, during and after flooding:

<https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/check-your-flood-risk-by-postcode/?lang=en>

What issues can we address as a community?

Our community flood plan will describe the risk in more detail and set out actions to reduce the risk of flooding.

General issues we can address include the following:

- We can reduce the risk of surface water flooding by keeping gullies (road drains) clear of leaves and other detritus. You can put leaves into the Council's white garden waste bags.
- We can take an active role in the local flood plan initiative and act as local volunteers in the event of serious flooding
- We can ask the Council to carry out road repairs such as smoothing out lumps in roadside gutters which prevent draining, such as on Conway Road and Severn Grove.
- We can all look at our gardens and parking to see if there is too much non-porous hard surfacing with drains that can increase flooding by increasing the water that runs into the road and the combined sewer. We need to replace at least some solid hard surfacing with gravel, other porous surfacing, planting and/or put in soakaways for hard surfaces to drain into. See guidance for front gardens to meet planning requirements:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens-guidance/guidance-on-the-permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens>

- We can support initiatives (such as tree planting) to reduce the speed of water runoff in the River Taff catchment which affects the possibility of flooding in our area.
- We can encourage our local and national political representatives to take urgent action to address the causes of escalating climate change.

Lastly we can attend the local meeting on September 21st

Community event

There is a community event and exhibition at **9.30am-12.30pm 21 September 2024 at Conway Road Methodist Church meeting room** (lower level). Please come along and tell us what flooding issues and concerns you have and find out more.

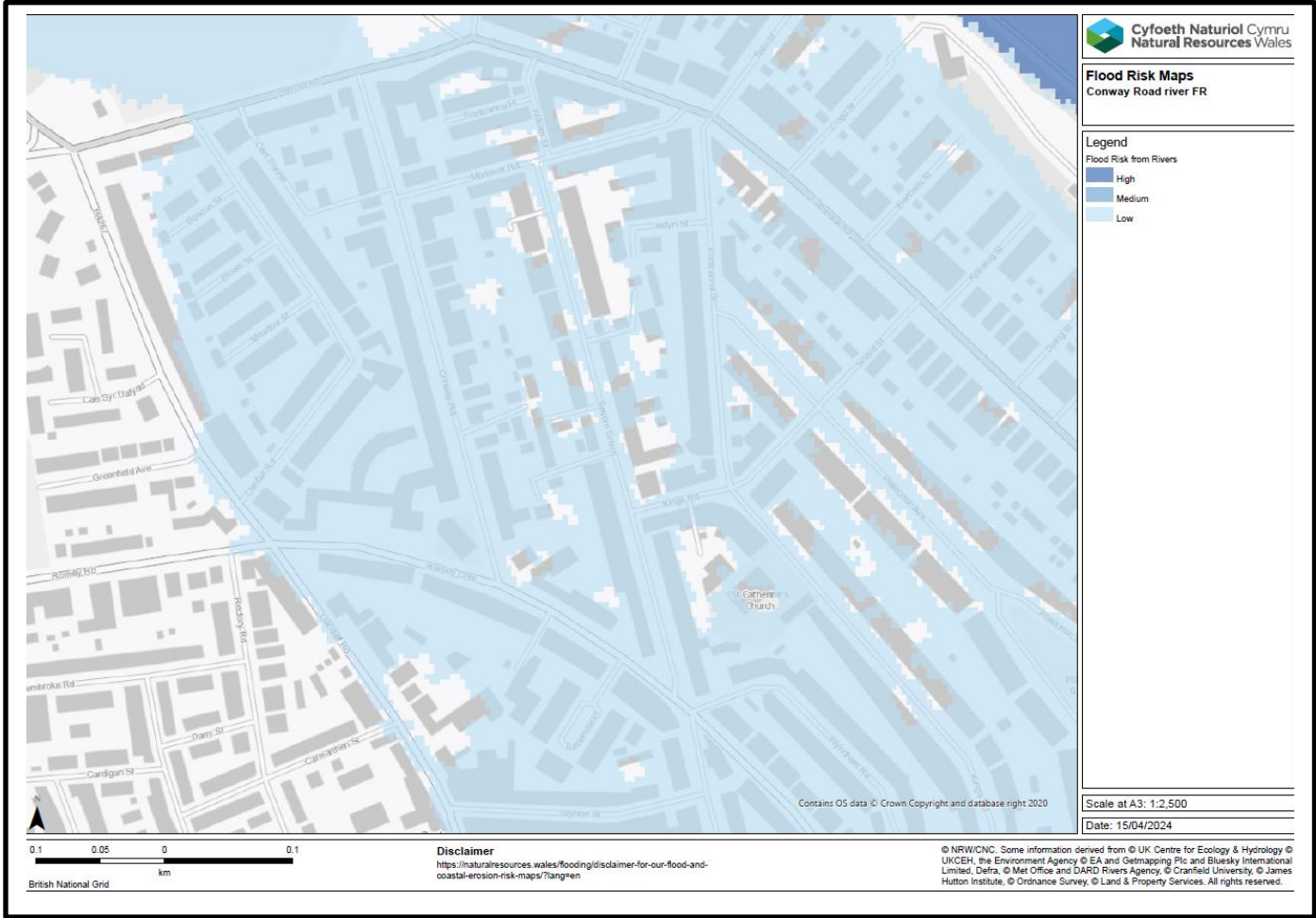
The full draft community flood plan which will be available to view and comment.

Website

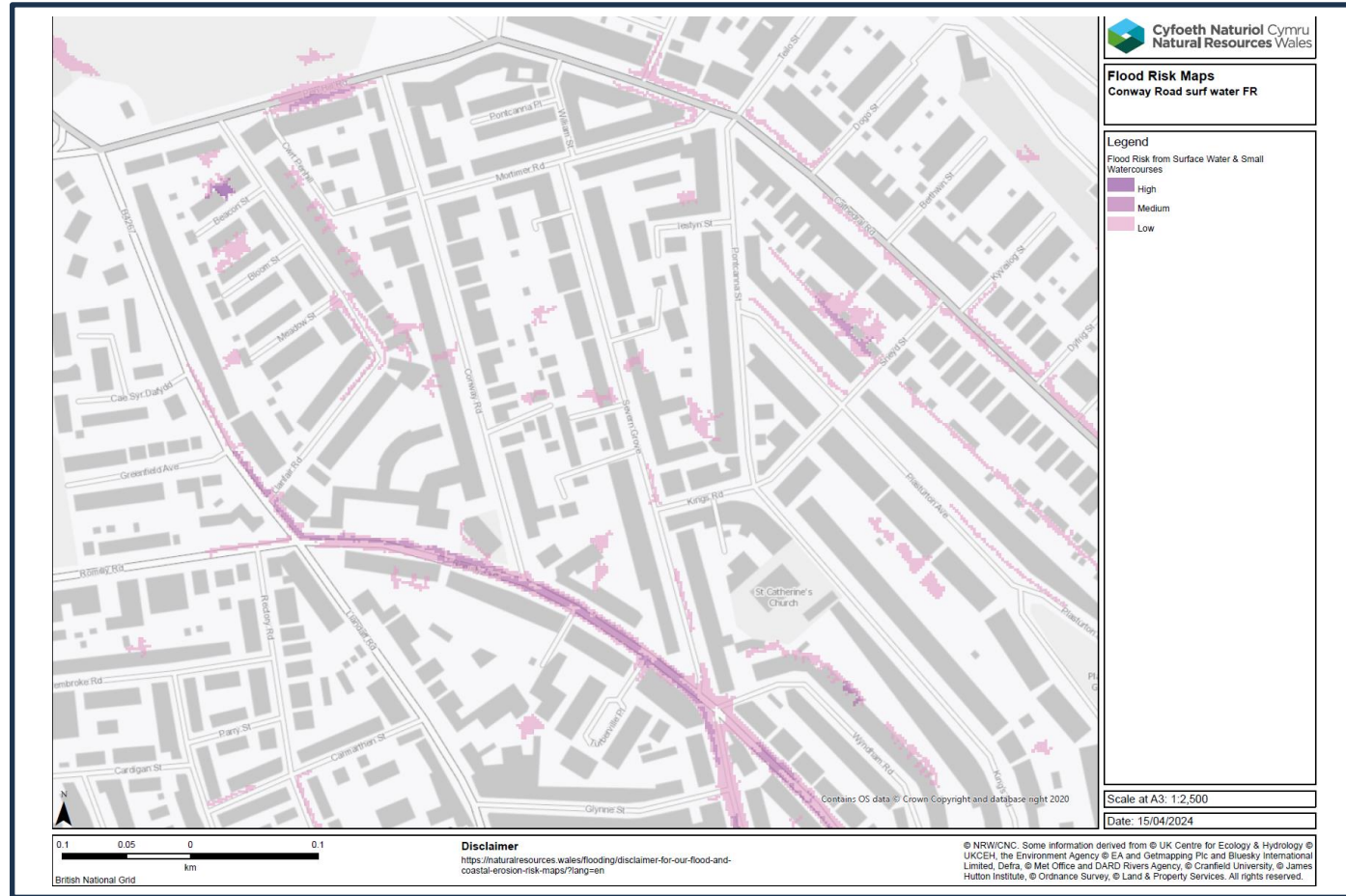
Please visit our website which will give more information as it becomes available:

www.pontcannaafloodplan.org.uk

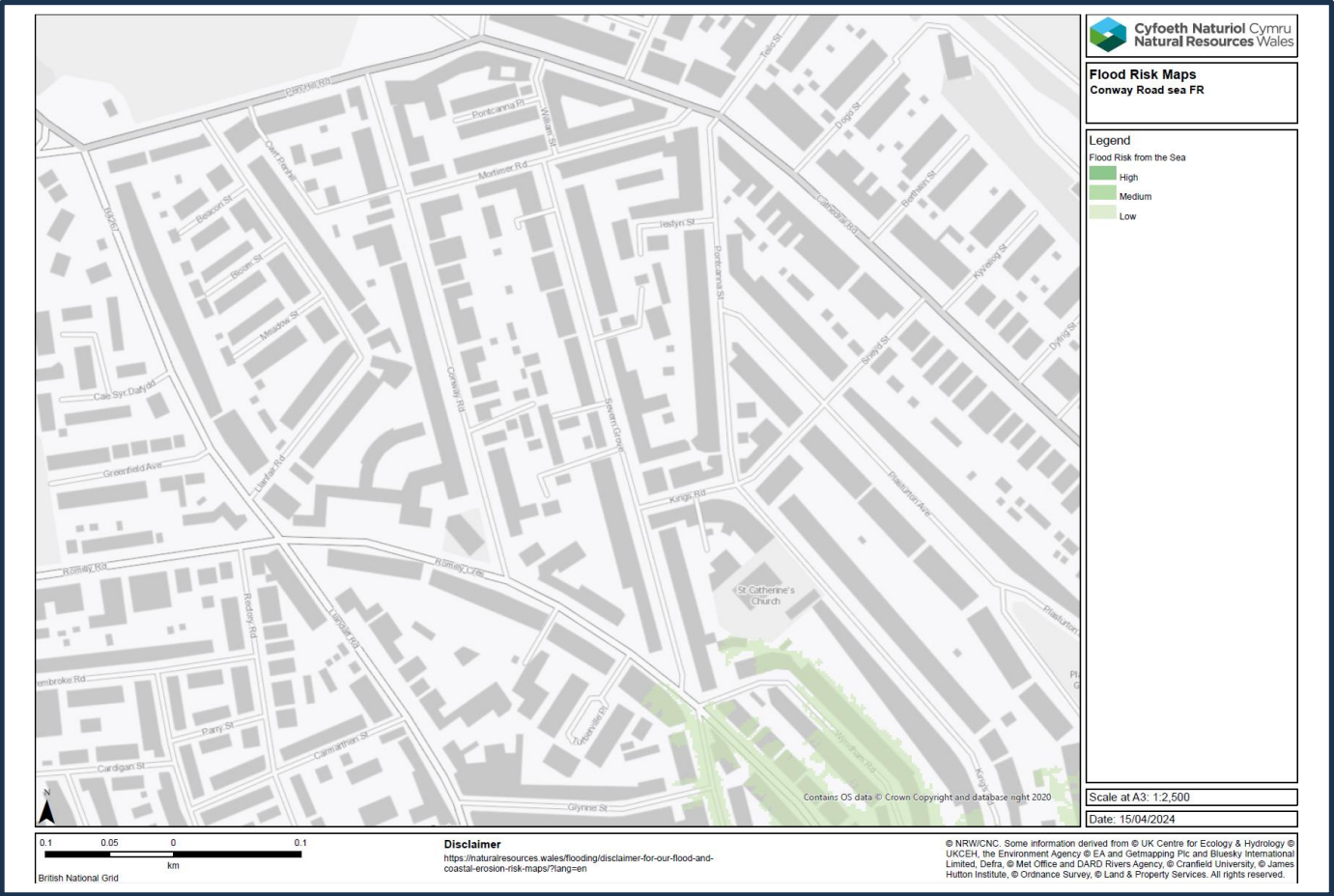
River flood risk map



Surface water flood risk map



Sea flood risk map



Previous recorded extent of floods map (these occurred outside area)

