

Shenton Village, Hinckley and Bosworth

Flood Report

To discuss the flood report contact the Flood Risk Management Team by
e-mail: flooding@leics.gov.uk or phone 0116 305 0001

DETAILED FLOOD INVESTIGATION

Investigation Ref.:	2012-030
Investigation:	Shenton Village
Date of Flooding:	25th November 2012
Revision	Final

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 STATUTORY CONTEXT

Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) states that, on becoming aware of a flood which meets certain predetermined criteria, the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) must undertake a flood investigation in order to determine the relevant flood risk management authorities involved and which flood risk management actions have been (or should be) taken to mitigate future flood risk. Where an authority carries out a formal investigation, it must publish the results.

It was deemed necessary to complete a formal investigation into the flooding incident in Shenton Village on the 25th November 2012. The internal flooding of four properties was reported to the LLFA and the source of the flooding was initially not clear and reported to be from multiple sources.

1.2 CAUSE OF FLOODING

The flooding that occurred in the Shenton Village is a result of the rainfall that fell in the preceding weeks combined with intense rainfall that fell over a short period of time. The Sence Brook was overwhelmed by the water that fell onto the catchment and breached its banks at a number of locations within the village. In addition, the surrounding land was saturated due to the extended periods of rainfall resulting in higher than normal green field run off rates being experienced as surface water flowed over ground following the natural contours to the low lying area.

1.3 MAIN FINDING

During the flooding incident water was seen to be overflowing from the Sence Brook onto the adjacent land and along the Highway, The Sence Brook breached its banks in multiple locations within the village. The highway gullies and the 'public sewer' were not able to cope with the quantity of water running off the surrounding agricultural fields and in some areas natural flow paths conveyed the water down the highway and into the village.



2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY INVESTIGATION

Section 19 of the FWMA states:

- (1) On becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers necessary or appropriate, investigate:
 - (a) which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions, and
 - (b) whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.
- (2) Where an authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1), it must -
 - (a) publish the results of its investigation, and
 - (b) notify any relevant risk management authorities

2.2 FLOOD INVESTIGATION CRITERIA

A formal investigation will be carried out if one or more of the following occurs after a flooding event:

- Loss of life or serious injury
- Critical infrastructure flooded or nearly flooded from unknown or multiple sources
- Internal property flooding from unknown or multiple sources

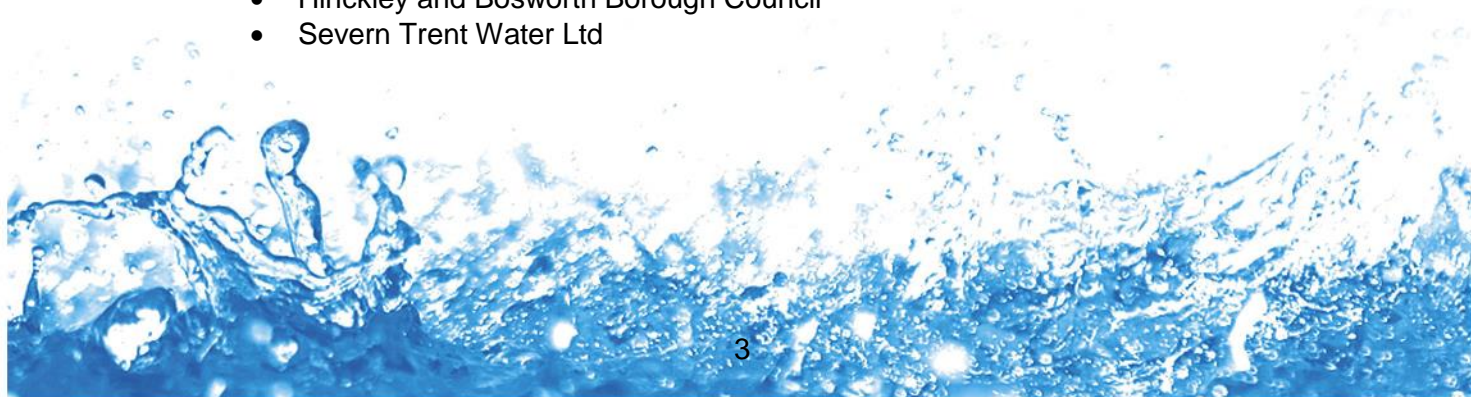
In the following circumstances, discretion may be used to investigate a flooding incident:

- A number of properties have been flooded or nearly flooded
- Other infrastructure flooded
- Repeated instances
- Investigation requested
- Risk to health (foul water)
- Environmental or ecologically important site affected
- Depth/area/velocity of flooding a cause for concern

2.3 RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES

The following risk management authorities were identified as relevant to the flooding within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough:

- Leicestershire County Council – Lead Local Flood Authority
- Leicestershire County Council – Local Highway Authority
- Environment Agency – Staffordshire, Warwickshire and West Midlands Area
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Severn Trent Water Ltd



2.4 NON-RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES

The following agencies are not prescribed as risk management authorities (RMAs). However, they have a significant involvement in flood risk management:

- Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Resilience Forum

2.5 FLOODING INCIDENT

It was considered appropriate to complete a formal investigation into the flooding incident in Shenton on the 25th November 2012. The internal flooding of four properties was reported to the LLFA and the source of the flooding was initially not clear and reported to be from multiple sources.



3 SITE BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION

Shenton is situated within the Borough of Hinckley and Bosworth approximately 3.5 miles north of Hinckley. Shenton is located within a small valley, the village straddles The Sense Brook classified as 'Main River'.

3.2 DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

There is a single watercourse within the area this is the Sense Brook, classified as 'Main River' this means that the Environment Agency has permissive powers to undertake work to reduce flood risk, the river flows in a northerly direction.

The area is served by a combined public sewer system. This system is maintained by Severn Trent Water as the relevant water and statutory sewerage authority. The responsibility for lateral connections onto the main sewer varies and can either be the responsibility of the adjacent landowner or water company (Severn Trent Water). Further guidance on this is contained within the 'Useful Contacts' section of this report.

Highway drainage within the immediate area is made up of a number of highway gullies which convey surface water via lateral connections into roadside ditches or the River Sence.



4 FLOODING INCIDENT

4.1 PREVIOUS FLOODING INCIDENTS

While there are formally no previous recorded flooding incidents in the area, anecdotal evidence indicates that the village has flooded historically from time to time. The village has been reported to have flooded a number of times since the 25th November 2012, including 27th July 2013.

4.2 FLOOD INCIDENT

On the 25th November 2012 there was a short duration very intense rainfall event that followed a number of days and weeks of significant heavy rain. It is believed that the ground was saturated and green field runoff rates would have consequently been higher than usual. The Sense Brook is reported to have overtopped its banks resulting in the flooding of four properties internally along with a number of properties being flooded externally, resulting in the main access road through the village becoming impassable for most vehicles.

During the flooding incident water was seen to be overflowing from the Sence Brook onto the adjacent land and along the highway, flooding the adjacent land and preventing drainage systems from discharging. The Sence Brook breached its banks in multiple locations within the village of Shenton. The highway drainage system was not able to cope with the quantity of water running off the surrounding agricultural fields and in some areas the road formed a flow path, conveying the water into the village.

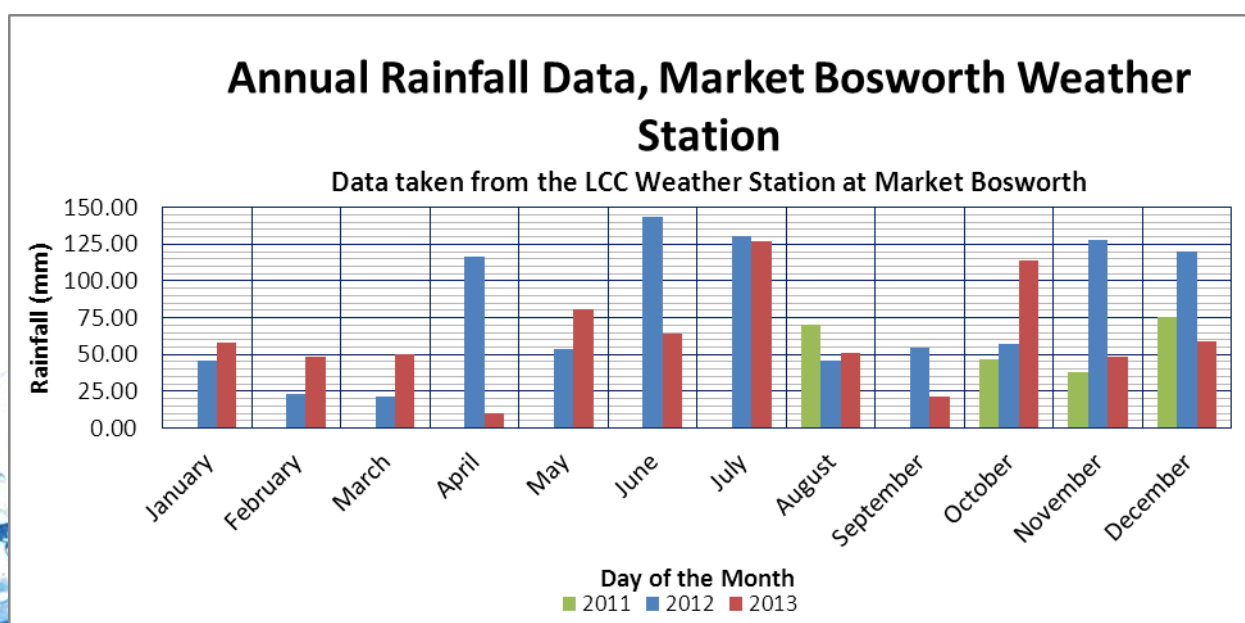
4.3 RAINFALL ANALYSIS

There had been substantial amounts of rainfall throughout October and November, resulting in the saturated ground conditions and a high water level on the Sense Brook.

'On the 19th, however, the passage of a very vigorous frontal system heralded an exceptionally unsettled interlude: 8-day rainfall totals in many parts of England and Wales exceeded the November average.....Across the country, extensive areas of agricultural land were flooded and, with leaves and other debris hindering drainage, flash flooding incidents were also common.'

Source: <http://nrfa.ceh.ac.uk/monthly-hydrological-summary-uk>

The graph below depicts the annual rainfall at the Market Bosworth weather station from the end of 2011 - 2013



5 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND FINDINGS

5.1 IMPACTS

People and property were affected by the flooding as a result of the significant rainfall. The County Council spoke to the affected persons to establish and further quantify the physical effects of the flooding incident, including identifying which properties were flooded internal as well as externally.

5.2 HIGHWAY DRAINS

The Highway drainage system within Shenton is made up of a number of gullies and grips that drain into the River Sense via lateral connections or roadside ditches.

5.3 PUBLIC SEWER

There is a foul water system entering the village from the south along Main Street that is pumped until it joins the combined system near to Whitemoors Antiques. This combined sewer then runs along Main Street, this is then pumped out of the village towards Sibson. As shown in Appendix D.

5.4 THE SENCE BROOK

The Sense Brook is designated by the Environment Agency as Main River. The Brook runs through the village of Shenton entering from the south of the village before turning west at Whitemoors Antiques and flowing out toward Sibson in the west of the village. It is believed that due to the preceding week's rainfall that the Brook was running at a high level on the day of the flooding incident, although no river gauges are present on the Sence Brook to evidence this, interviews with local residents have confirmed this was the case.

5.5 EXTENT OF FLOODING

The extent of the flooding is broadly reflective of the low lying areas indicated by both the Flood Map for Surface Water (Appendix C) and by the Flood Zone 3 shown on the Flood Zone Map (Appendix B).

The Environment Agency's Flood Map for Surface Water shows areas where surface water would be expected to flow or pond. The Environment Agencies Flood Zones Map shows where water would flow from a river for a given rainfall event.



6 RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY (LCC)

As stated within the introduction section, the County Council as the LLFA has a responsibility to investigate flood incidents under Section 19 of the FWMA.

The LLFA also has a responsibility to maintain a register of assets which have a significant effect on flooding from surface runoff, groundwater or ordinary watercourse, as detailed within Section 21 of the FWMA. The register must contain a record about each structure or feature, including the ownership and state of repair.

Whilst the County Council can suggest possible causes of flooding in Leicestershire and make recommendations to ensure flood risk is mitigated as far as possible, the FWMA does not provide the County Council with the mandate or funding to tackle all identified causes of flooding.

The County Council also has powers to serve notice on individuals, requiring them to maintain the flow of ordinary watercourses in accordance with Section 25 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 (LDA)

6.2 HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

HBBC has powers under Section 14 of the LDA to undertake flood risk management works on ordinary watercourses (non-Main River), where deemed necessary. Under Section 20 of the LDA, HBBC has the powers to (by agreement of any person and at their expense) undertake drainage work which that person is entitled to carry out and maintain.

6.3 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The Environment Agency has a strategic overview responsibility under the FWMA as well as permissive powers to carry out maintenance work on Main Rivers under Section 165 of the Water Resources Act (WRA). Main River means all watercourses shown on the statutory Main River maps held by the Environment Agency and the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and can include any structure or appliance for controlling or regulating the flow of water into, in or out of the channel.

The Environment Agency has permissive powers to carry out works of maintenance and improvement on these rivers. These powers can be used to undertake works to reduce flood risk where landowners fail to undertake their responsibilities under the WRA.

The Environment Agency can undertake enforcement action where third party asset owners fail to maintain their property/land in appropriate condition. They may consider undertaking maintenance or repair of third party assets in order to safeguard the public interest and where other options are not appropriate.

6.4 HIGHWAY AUTHORITY (LCC)

LCC, in its role as local highway authority, has a duty to maintain the highway under Section 41 of the Highway Act 1980. Section 100 of the Highways Act 1980 also gives the power to prevent water running on to a highway. Further information on the Highways Act 1980 is available via the link identified within the Useful Links section of this report.

6.5 WATER COMPANY (SEVERN TRENT WATER)

Water and sewerage companies are responsible for managing the risks of flooding from surface water, foul water or combined sewer systems. Public sewers are designed to protect properties from the risk of flooding in normal wet weather conditions. However, in extreme weather conditions, there is a risk that sewer systems can become overwhelmed and result in sewer flooding.

Since October 2011, under the 'Private Sewer Transfer', Water Companies are required to adopt piped systems on private land that serve more than one curtilage and were connected to a public sewer on or prior to 1st July 2011. Statutory sewerage undertakers have a duty under Section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991 to provide sewers for the drainage of buildings and associated paved areas within property boundaries.

Water companies are responsible for public sewers and lateral drains. A public sewer is a conduit, normally a pipe that is vested in a water and sewerage company (or predecessor thereof) that drains two or more properties and conveys foul, surface water or combined sewage from one point to another point and discharges via a positive outfall. There is no automatic right of connection for other sources of drainage to the public sewer network. Connection is therefore discretionary, following an application to connect.

6.6 RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS OF WATERCOURSES

As detailed within the EA document 'Living on the Edge', riparian landowners have certain rights and responsibilities, including the following:

- They must maintain the bed and banks of their watercourse, and also the trees and shrubs growing on the banks;
- They must clear any debris, even if it did not originate from their land. This debris may be natural or man-made;
- They must keep any structures that they own clear of debris. These structures include culverts, trash screens, weirs and mill gates.

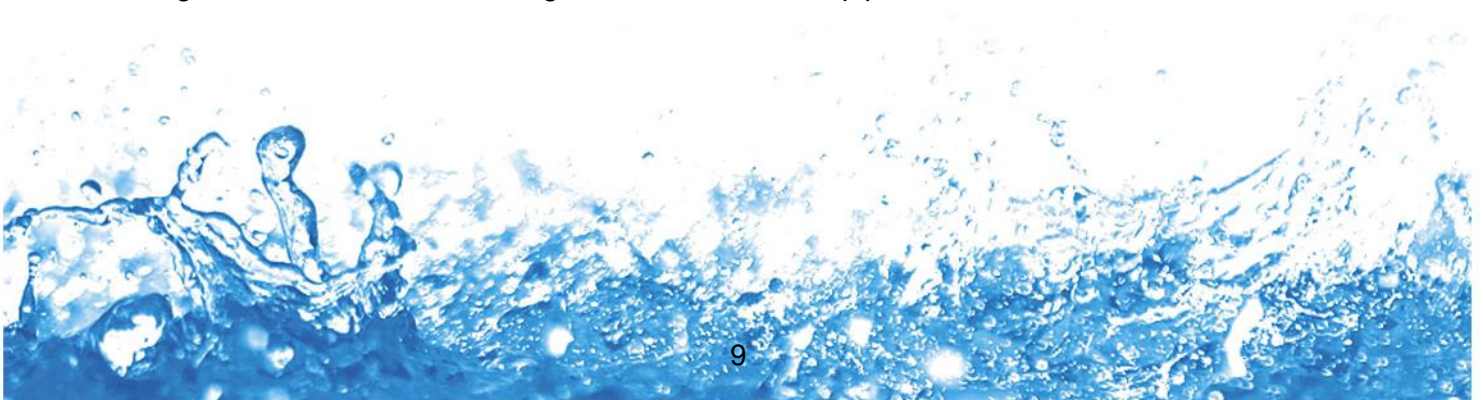
The following link provides further information:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31626.aspx>.

6.7 RESIDENTS AND TENNANTS

Local residents and tenants who are aware that they are at risk of flooding should take action to ensure that they and their properties are protected.

Community resilience is important in providing information and support to each other if flooding is anticipated. Actions taken can include signing up to Flood Warning Direct (if available), nominating a community flood warden, producing a community flood plan implementing property level protection and moving valuable items to higher ground, to more permanent measures such as installing floodgates, raising electrical sockets and fitting non-return valves on pipes.



6.8 COMPLIANCE

There is no evidence to suggest that any of the risk management authorities or stakeholders listed above did not comply with either internal policy or any legal duties



7 **CONCLUSION**

The flooding that occurred in Shenton is a result of the rainfall that fell in the preceding weeks combined with intense rainfall that fell over a short period of time. The Sense Brook was overwhelmed by the water that fell onto the catchment and breached its banks at a number of locations within the village. In addition, the surrounding land was saturated due to the extended periods of rainfall over the preceding months which resulted that more than normal green field run off was experienced as surface water flowed over ground following natural contours to low points in the area adjacent to the Sense Brook.



8 RECOMENDATIONS

8.1 SEVERN TRENT WATER

Severn Trent Water should continue to monitor their network, including any non-return valves and maintained in line with STW policies and procedures.

8.2 LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY (LLFA)

The LLFA will continue to monitor the locality and revisit when required, and continue to coordinate the management of flood risk and the interaction of RMAs across Leicestershire. Although the primary cause of the flooding was due to the main river, interaction with surface water may have impacted on the severity of this incident. It is therefore recommended that modelling is undertaken to assess the impact of flooding and determine modelled extents and if any further actions are available to minimise the risks. Once completed this information will be shared with other Risk Management Authorities and the public.

8.3 LOCAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY (LCC)

The Highway Authority should check the gullies and lateral connections to ensure that they are in good working order, and respond to any reports of blockages in line with any internal policies and procedures.

8.4 HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL (HBBC)

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council should continue to liaise with the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority where planning applications are received for this catchment to assess if any impacts will affect the flooding in Shenton.

8.5 THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA)

In some circumstances watercourse maintenance can reduce the effect of flooding and improve land drainage. The Environment Agency should continue to monitor the Sense Brook and assess any impacts on local drainage systems.



9 **ACRONYMS**

EA	Environment Agency
LCC	Leicestershire County Council
HBBC	Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
FIR	Flood Investigation Report
FWMA	Flood and Water Management Act 2010
LDA	Land Drainage Act 1991
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
WRA	Water Resources Act 1991
LIDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
STW	Severn Trent Water Ltd
FMfSW	Flood Map for Surface Water
RMA	Risk Management Authorities

10 **USEFUL CONTACTS**

10.1 **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**

General enquiries 03708 506 506 (Mon-Fri, 8am – 6pm)
Incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 (free phone, 24hours)

10.2 **SEVERN TRENT WATER**

Emergencies 0800 783 4444(24hours)
Website: www.stwater.co.uk

10.3 **LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Highways 0116 305 0001 (24hours)

10.4 **LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Lead local flood authority 0116 305 0001 (Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm)
Email: flooding@leics.gov.uk

10.5 **HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Customer Services 01455 238141

10.6 **USEFUL LINKS**

OFWAT Guidance on sewers

http://www.ofwat.gov.uk/consumerissues/rightsresponsibilities/sewers/prs_web_sewertransfer

Environment Agency:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/>

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Website:

http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/10028/flooding_leaks_and_blockages

Leicestershire County Council Flood Risk Team:

<http://www.leics.gov.uk/flooding>

Local Resilience Forum:

<http://www.localresilienceforum.org.uk/>

Land Drainage Act 1991:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1991/59/contents>

Water Resources Act 1991:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1991/57/contents>

Highways Act 1980:

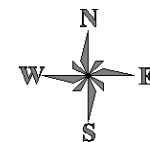
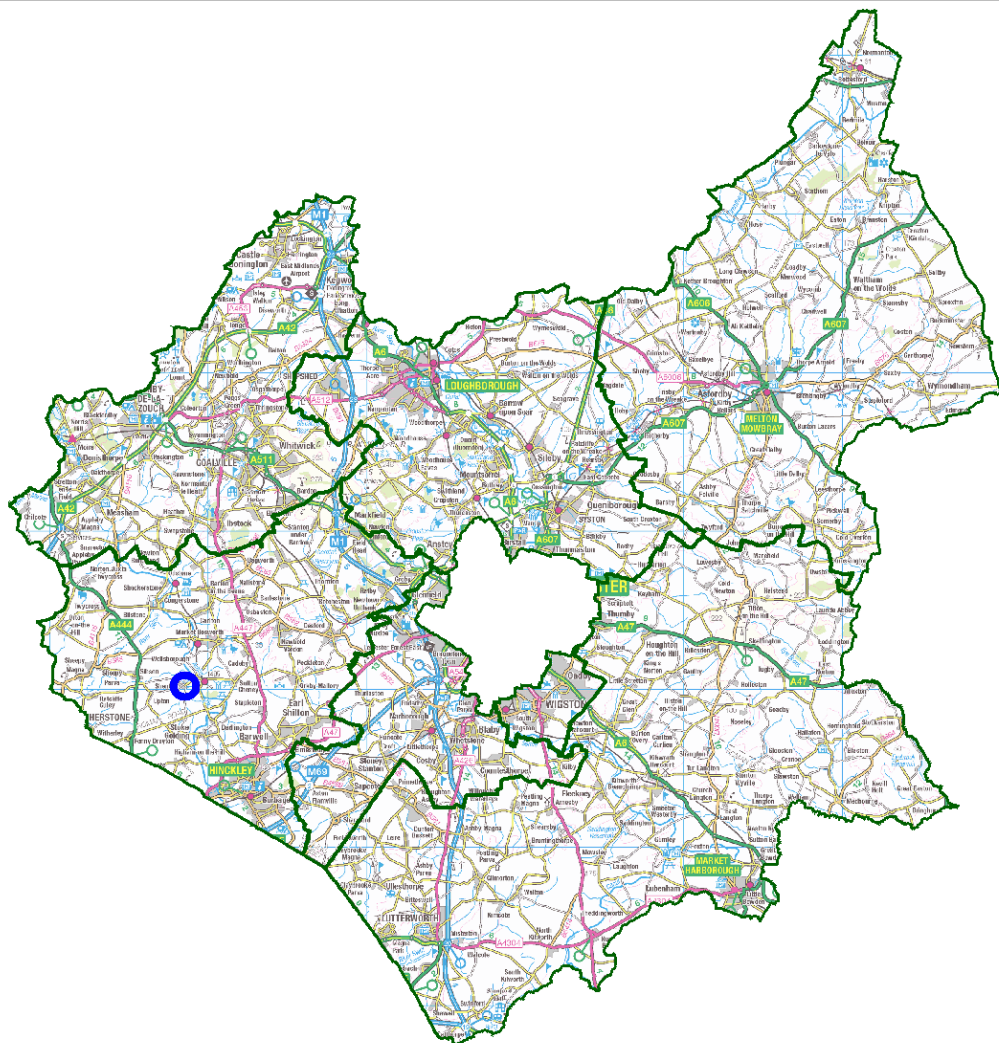
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1980/66>



APPENDIX A

SITE LOCATION PLAN





NOTES:

1. The Blue Circle indicates the approximate location of the flooding



ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE
DIRECTOR

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

SERVICE:
LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

TITLE:
Location Plan,
Shenton


LOCATION:
SHENTON

DRAWING NUMBER	SCALE
2012-Inv-030-LP	Not To Scale
CREATED BY: Chris Bramley	DATE: 23-12-2013
APPROVED BY: Daniel Rawle	SIZE: A4
E-MAIL: flooding@leics.gov.uk	
PHONE: 0116 305 0001	FAX:
COUNTY HALL · GLENFIELD · LEICESTER · LE3 8RJ	

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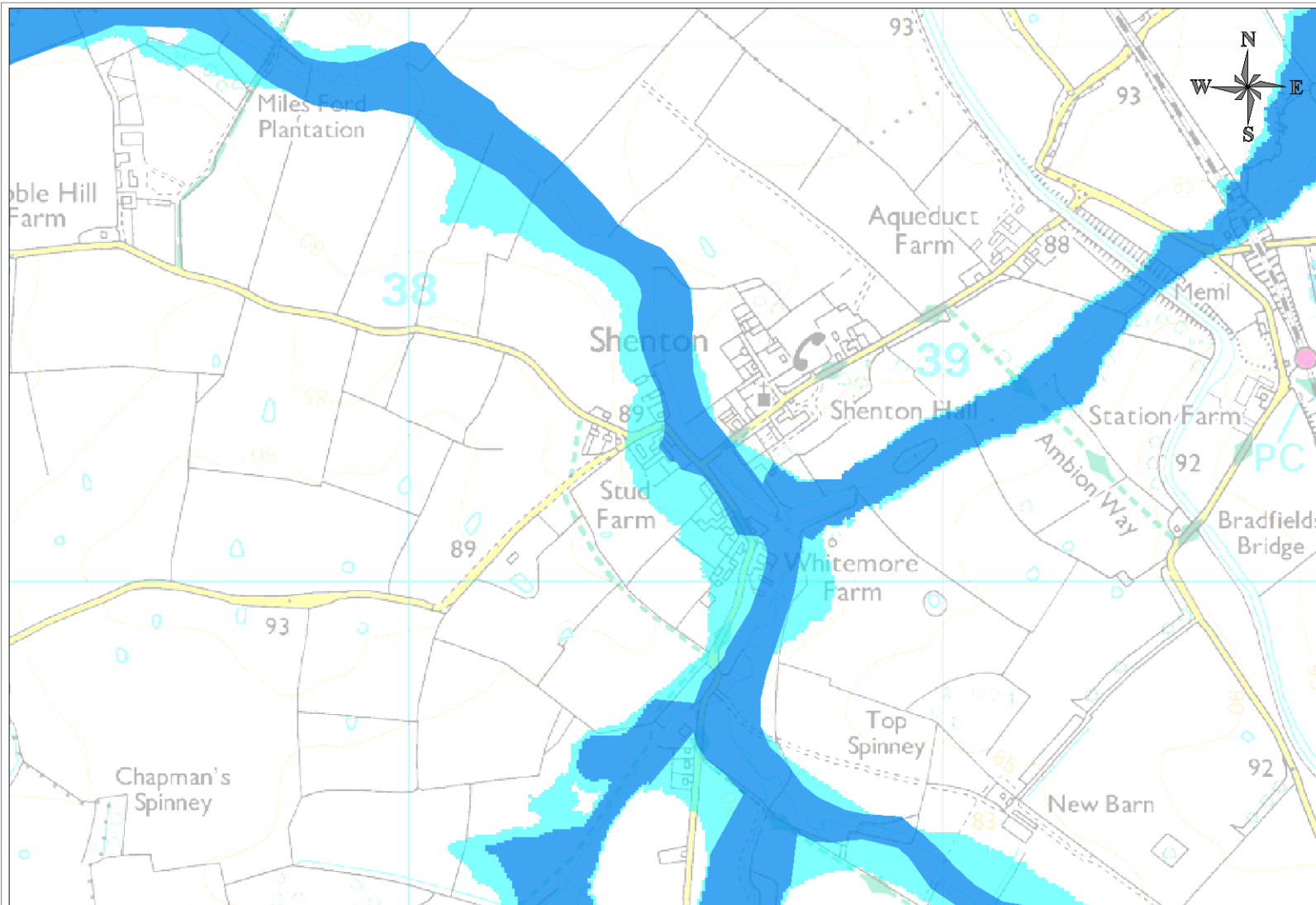
This map gives an indication of the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. It is not suitable for use at an individual property scale due to the method used.

Three large, semi-transparent blue spheres are positioned on the right side of the page, arranged diagonally from top to bottom.

APPENDIX B

FLOOD ZONE MAP





Key

Flood Zones

- Flood Zone 3
- Flood Zone 2

NOTES:

1. N/A



ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE
DIRECTOR

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

SERVICE:
LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

TITLE:
Flood Zones Map, Shenton

LOCATION:
SHENTON

DRAWING NUMBER	SCALE
2012-Inv-030-FZ	Not To Scale

CREATED BY: Chris Bramley	DATE: 24-12-2013
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APPROVED BY: Daniel Rawle	SIZE: A4
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E-MAIL: flooding@leics.gov.uk

PHONE: 0116 305 0001	FAX:
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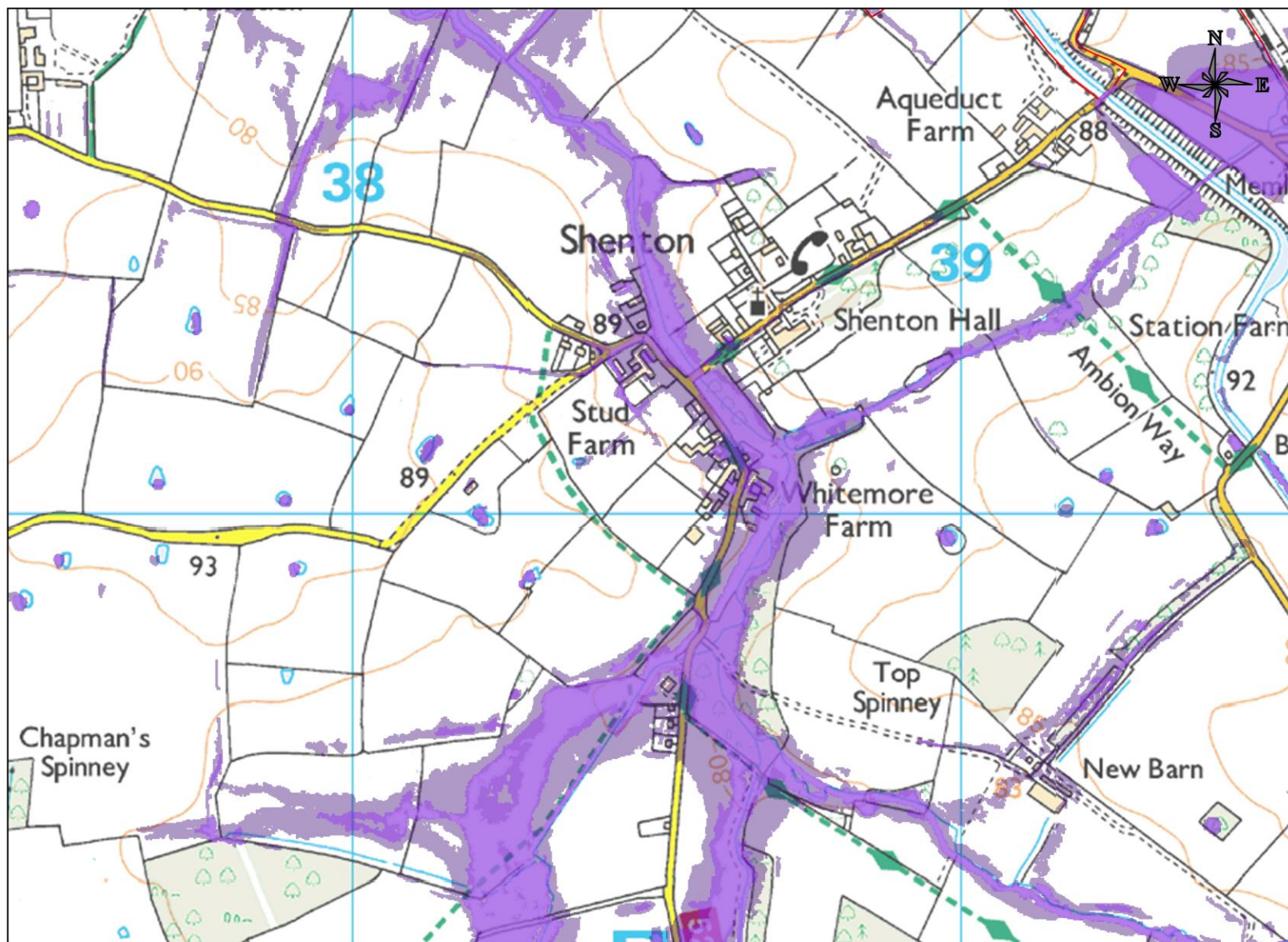
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APPENDIX C

FLOOD MAP FOR SURFACE WATER (FMfSW)





Location Map

updated Flood Map
for Surface Water



**Leicestershire
County Council**

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE
DIRECTOR

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

SERVICE:
LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

TITLE:
updated Flood Map
for Surface Water

LOCATION:
SHENTON

DRAWING NUMBER	SCALE
2012-INV-030-SW	Not To Scale
CREATED BY: Chris Bramley	DATE: 04-06-2014
APPROVED BY: Daniel Rawle	SIZE: A4
E-MAIL: flooding@leics.gov.uk	
PHONE: 0116 305 0001	FAX:
COUNTY HALL · GLENFIELD · LEICESTER · LE3 8RJ	

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APPENDIX D

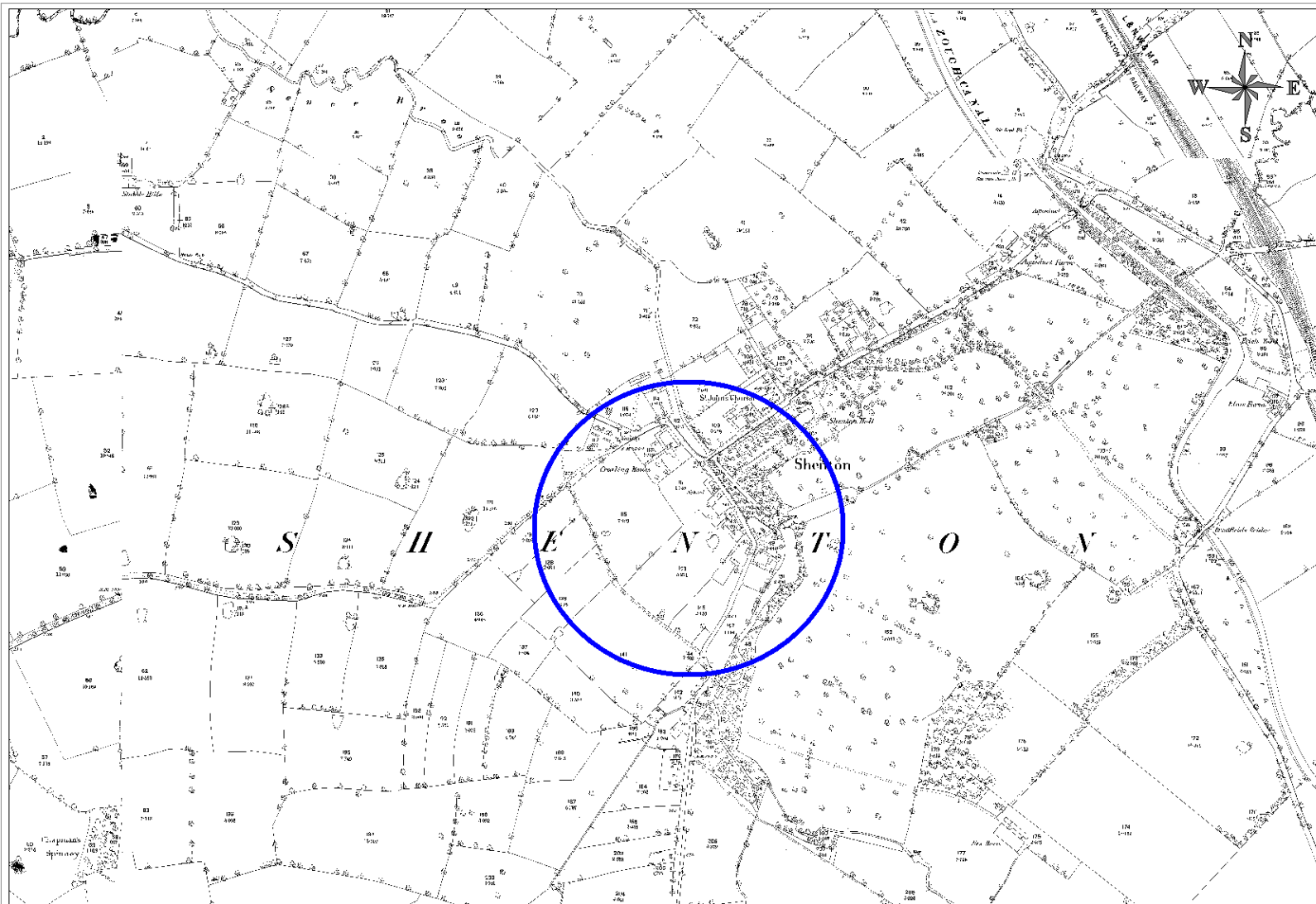
SEVERN TRENT WATER PLAN



APPENDIX E

1884 MAP





NOTES:

1. The blue circle indicates the approximate location of the flood.



ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE
DIRECTOR

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

SERVICE:
LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

TITLE:
1884 Map,
Shenton

LOCATION:
SHENTON

DRAWING NUMBER	SCALE
2012-Inv-030-84	Not To Scale

CREATED BY: Chris Bramley	DATE: 24-12-2013
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APPROVED BY: Daniel Rawle	SIZE: A4
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E-MAIL: flooding@leics.gov.uk

PHONE: 0116 305 0001	FAX:
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APPENDIX F

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Standard notice [not for use with Special Data, Personal Data or unlicensed 3rd party rights]



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