

Councillor Simon Dudley  
Maidenhead Riverside Ward  
Leader of the Royal Borough of Windsor  
and Maidenhead  
Bray Parish Council – Holyport Ward

**Our ref:** DWR/jb/7075

**Date:** 15 September 2016

[Cllr.dudley@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.dudley@rbwm.gov.uk)

Dear Cllr Dudley

### **Mapping of fluvial flood risk**

Thank you for your letter of 4 August 2016 to our Chief Executive. James has asked me to respond on his behalf and will receive a copy of this letter. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

We recognise the importance of our flood mapping information to your local council and the community it serves. We continually work towards improving and updating the maps as more data is obtained. This ensures our current flood maps use the best information available.

Insurance companies use a range of data sources including flood maps from ourselves, other commercially developed maps purchased from the private sector and their own claims history when issuing insurance quotes. There is no blanket approach taken by the insurance industry when issuing insurance quotes to consumers. An increasing number of insurers are taking a more detailed view of whether a property could flood. This may include property-level and street-level assessment of risk from fluvial or other types of flooding such as surface water. We expect this to continue as both ours and private sector modelling and mapping improves. The introduction of Flood Re should also help make premiums more available and affordable for those communities in areas at flood risk.

The Thames model was updated in 2005 to include the Jubilee River, and much has been done to keep improving the flood map in your area. At present, we are remodelling the River Thames from Hurley to Teddington to take account of recent flooding, this will include Maidenhead. The updated modelling will provide consistent and improved information that can be used to support schemes in this area, including the River Thames Scheme. This work is nearing completion and later this year we intend to share it with local councils to give them the opportunity to comment on the draft outputs.

Once this modelling has been approved it will be used to update our flood maps. Precise timescales for this work will be shared with you as soon as we know them.

**Deputy Chief Executive's Office, Environment Agency**

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



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Our intention is that the updates will be completed by the end of the financial year.

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss, Thames Area Partnership and Strategic Overview Team Leader, Sarah Hale, will be happy to help. You can contact Sarah at [sarah.hale@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.hale@environment-agency.gov.uk), on 02030 258 863 or at Environment Agency, Red Kite House, Howbery Business Park, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8BD.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Rooke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**David Rooke**  
**Deputy Chief Executive**