

<b>Title</b>	County Councillor's Report
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Happy New Year; it's been a damp start to the year for many of us, so here's a brief **flooding update from the County Council**:

The County Council's fire and rescue service, highways teams and emergency planning teams were active in helping communities suffering from flooding, and social care teams have been ensuring that vulnerable people are helped if needed, although clearly it's our local residents and communities who are most vital in responding to such events.

The government made an announcement about financial support for residents and businesses affected by the floods, and the expectation that councils will deliver this, although at the time of writing we're awaiting details of how this will work.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-payments-for-communities-affected-by-flooding>

The main official source for advice on how to prepare for flooding and who to contact is at <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com>

Another useful place for information on road closures is <https://twitter.com/OxonTravel>

The County Council is not responsible for providing sandbags to residents because of rising water – only when a property or properties are at an immediate risk of flooding from water from the public highway. As such, OxonCC holds a limited supply.

Residents are advised to follow the Environment Agency's updates and, if they are in a risk area, to make their own arrangements.

Residents can call the Environment Agency's flooding hotline for advice and support at any time, seven days a week, on **0345 988 1188**.

Residents can check their flood risk, sign up for free flood warnings and keep up to date with the latest situation from the Environment Agency at [gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding](https://gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding).

The County Council's [news webpage](https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/news-webpage) also contains helpful information on river levels: <https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/river-levels-in-oxfordshire/>

### **A4074 safety**

There have been a worrying number of incidents on the A4074 Berinsfield-Shillingford stretch.

I have raised this a number of times at the County Council, and have requested an urgent meeting with the Cabinet member responsible.

While there is a long-term project to improve the whole A4074 corridor, it's clear urgent action is needed to make this stretch safe for all road users, although as ever funding for improvements will be a challenge.