

Severe weather: Update for MPs

Good evening,

As you will be aware, the borough has experienced heavy rainfall this afternoon. The council's highways and street cleaning teams are out this evening across Waltham Forest working with emergency services and Thames Water to respond to reports of excess water on roads and highways across the borough and to ensure that residents and buildings are safe.

A number of businesses in the Wood Street area have experienced flooding. Officers are working with owners to secure premises and prepare for the clean-up. Additionally several schools including St Mary's Primary, Leytonstone School, and Heathcote School have undergone some water damage. We are helping to assess the damage and making sure that school staff are receiving the support they need.

The call centre is receiving a very high volume of calls. We are asking members of the community to alert us of areas where there are problems via social media to help keep lines free for the most urgent calls. We are also [signposting people to our information page](#) that has details of who to contact to report issues, as well simple tips to keep safe if flooding has occurred. Please do share this with residents who contact you asking for advice or support. An Environment Agency [flood alert is in place for the lower River Lee from Hoddesdon to Canning Town](#), including Walthamstow.

A meeting of the Gold emergency response group has taken place to ensure we are prioritising the worst affected areas, and we are ready to react if the situation should escalate. The rain is forecast to ease this evening but officers will continue to monitor the situation closely.

We will be in touch with any further important updates.

Kind regards,