

Location Area Risk Assessment



Clifton House

January 2023

Updated August 2023

Clifton House

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Introduction

All children, whether they are Looked After by the state or their parents, need to feel safe in the area surrounding their home. Just as any parent would want to their child to live in a safe area so too will a corporate parent who places children in a children's home. Recent public and media attention has focused on the physical environments of children's homes and the ever-changing risks associated with living in villages, towns and cities all round the UK. However, it is not always straightforward to define a 'safe' area. A place that was previously deemed safe can change rapidly and may cause a risk to vulnerable children in particular. Equally, in some individual cases, children may themselves heighten risks in an area if they have particularly risky behaviours and this is not managed appropriately.

A home may be located in an area with some local risks, and still be 'safe', if these are managed well, arrangements are made to keep children safe, and careful consideration is taken in particular around placement decisions. Risks associated with the location and the environment surrounding the home must always be considered along with the steps that should be taken to manage, limit, prevent and reduce to possibility of a young person be harmed whilst in a children's home and as mentioned previously, this puts additional emphasis on the placement decisions and in particular the providers matching process.

All Placing Authorities are equally as responsible for assessing local risks and making judgments about a location of a children's home before placing the child and in doing so should ensure that all relevant information about a young person has been shared with a provider to ensure that all risk factors have been considered and discussed. It is not only the risks that are considered when placing a young person in a certain location but also the accessibility for all young people to access external services such as education, health, CAMHS/Therapeutic services and age appropriate activities

Our service Clifton House is located in a small and Town of Sawbridgeworth, 3.8 miles from Harlow, Essex. And 4 Miles south of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. **Sawbridgeworth** is a small, mainly residential, town and also a [civil parish](#) in Hertfordshire, England,

10,479 Population [2021] – *Census*
2.981 km² Area
3,516/km² Population Density [2021]
0.41% Annual Population Change [2011 → 2021]

Sawbridgeworth: town and civil parish in Hertfordshire, United Kingdom – Local dialing code: 01279 – Postal code: CM21

Source: UK Office for National Statistics (web).

Explanation: All population figures and depicted boundaries are based on output areas officially assigned to the 2022 built-up areas. Output areas often include some unbuilt parts. However, tabulated area figures refer to (typically smaller) actual built-up areas in order to present a more realistic population density. Some of the older population figures are approximate values.

Role of the Provider

Regulation 46 of the *Children's Homes Regulations 2015* introduced a requirement in January 2014 for providers or managers to:

- Ensure that premises used for the purposes of a children's home are appropriately and suitably located so that children cared for by the home are: effectively safeguarded, & able to access services to meet the needs identified in their care or placement plans;
- Review the appropriateness and suitability of the location of the premises at least once in every calendar year. Taking into account the requirement in regulation 12(2)©

Although it's difficult to predict the ever-changing local environment and the associated risks that come with change, the homes management have a responsibility to access all potential risks in the local area and implement strategies to limit, prevent and reduce the risk of a young person being harmed. The home's management with implement a Location Risk Assessment which will be kept under review and amended periodically depending on changes to the local environment and taking into account any new risks as these are identified.

As part of the homes responsibility, ensuring that young people have the opportunity to share their views about the homes location, to establish whether they feel safe and to offer feedback on the quality of care and support that they are offered by not only the home but local services too.

It is important for the homes management have a broad understanding of the area in which the home is located and the characteristics of the local environment.

When carrying out a Location Risk Assessment, the home management will need to take into account;

- Whether the location of the home potentially places an already vulnerable child in an area that could continuing allowing that young person vulnerable to harm such as being targeted for CSE and/or radicalisation
- Whether the location will allow young people to continue exhibiting offending and anti-social behaviour;
- The suitability of the local neighbourhood as a location to care for children who may have already been victims of abuse and neglect; and
- Whether there are environmental factors that would represent a hazard to children, such as locations near busy roads.

Location assessments should also take into account any positive features in a local community that would offer benefits to children living in a children's home. For example, assessments could include evidence about opportunities for children to participate in leisure, sporting or cultural activities, or links with services that could support the child's ethnic or religious identity.

Popular attractions in the area include:

The Lock Climbing Centre (CM20 2QS)

Place of Interest around 5 miles away

Pishiobury Park (CM21 0AI)

Place of Interest around 1 mile away.

Duxford

Place of Interest around 18 miles away.

Hatfield Forest Country Park ([CM22 6NH](#))

Place of Interest around 5 miles away.

Hatfield Forest National Nature Reserve ([CM22 6NH](#))

Place of Interest around 5 miles away.

Paradise Wildlife Park (EN10 7QA)

Place of Interest around 15 miles away.

Henry Moore Foundation ([SG10 6DX](#))

Place of Interest around 6 miles away.

Lea Valley Park (Broxbourne) (EN10 6LX)

Place of Interest around 12 miles away.

Cineworld (CM20 2DA)

Place of interest around 2 miles away

Rileys Pool Hall (CM20 1LS)

Place of interest around 3 miles away

Lea Valley- White Water rafting (EN9 1AB)

Place of interest around 15 miles away

Rye House- Go Karting (EN11 0EH)

Place of interest around 6 miles away

Health Services located near Sawbridgeworth and Clifton House are:

Bell Street Surgery
Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9AQ
01279 603180

Specsavers,
Bishops Stortford,
CM23 3AT,
01279 656696

Essex Sexual Health Service
Community Health Centre
Harlow
0300 003 1212
Open until 17:00

Princess Alexander Hospital,
Hamstel Road, Harlow,
Cm20 1QX
01279 444455

CAMHS
The Colonnades
Beaconsfield Road
Hatfield
Herts
AL10 8YE

Damira Bishops Stortford Dental Practice
75 South St,
Bishop's Stortford
CM23 3AL
01279 215945
Check website for opening times. <https://damiradental.co.uk/>

Special care community dentist

King Arthur Court
Cheshunt
EN8 8XN 01992 780438 Monday to Friday 9am -5pm

Key contacts, resources and services

The Children's home already has links within the local authority in order to consult about any local issues or individual issues with young people. The key links for local services are detailed below and their responses to consultation on the location report.

Local Service	Key Individual and contact details	Details of services	Consultation
LADO/ Designated officer	01992 555420 http://hertsscb.proceduresonline.com/client_supplied/lado_referral_form.doc	Any suspicion of abuse or allegation regarding a staff member must be referred to Hertfordshire's designated officer within 1 working day. A phone call can be made to the number listed or alternatively, a referral completed which can be accessed at the web address listed.	The homes manager contacted Hertfordshire's LADO in June 23. Regarding the home and we can call for support or refer online when dealing with allegations and the thresholds.
HALO (CSE)	Non-Urgent hqsafeguarding@herts.pnn.police.uk Urgent- 101	A professional referral form can be submitted to Hertfordshire Police (Halo) to raise concerns regarding child exploitation. The referral process is for non-urgent matter following suspicions of abuse or perpetrating behaviour. For all urgent matters 101 or Children's services should be contacted.	Halo have visited the home in 2016. Halo were able to advise staff of approaches to take when supporting young people with CSE. Homes manager is trying to connect again to meet
Crime/Missing Person's	Shelley Marshall- Liaison Officer Shelly.Marshall@herts.pnn.police.uk Paul Western- PCSO Amanda Higham- PCSO	The local MPLO and PCSO's have close links with Clifton house and ensure that they come to the home to visit any new young people in placement. Clifton House provide the named Police officers with a Pen picture of each young person and details of risks and vulnerabilities. This supports the Police with supporting the home with missing episodes.	Clifton house has a good working relationship with the police. The police Liaison has been contacted regarding the suitability of the local area and whether there are any concerns/ Crime hotspots which may pose a risk to our Young people.

			The homes manager receives weekly emails from the Neighbourhood watch regarding crimes in the local area and community events to promote safety.
Local Probation / YOT	<p>Nick Smith – 01992 556324</p> <p>nick.smith@hertfordshire.gov.uk</p>	Any young person that comes to the home that already has involvement with YOS and/or commits an offence whilst at Clifton will be support by the local YOS. The homes staff will work closely with the local YOS to ensure that any young person that must attend regular appointments and needs support in fulfilling any court order that's in place	Currently there are no young people in the home which have YOT involvement
Local Health Services	<p>Children Looked After and Care Leavers Nurse</p> <p>Tel: 01438 843004</p> <p>Mob: 07584 558 343</p>	The LAC nurse will visit the home to see individuals should they require. The nurse is also available to provide information and resources to the staff.	
Access points- Support services for young people in Hertfordshire	<p>Young People's Centre, 14 Northgate End, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2EU</p> <p>This service can be accessed by referral.</p>	At the Bishop's Stortford Access Point young people can access information, advice and support on the following; Sexual health including, Advice on general health and relationships, Education and exams including exam pressure, Drugs, substance misuse and alcohol, Jobs and careers, Youth work projects and programmes ,Benefits and finance, Housing and homelessness, Improving resilience, self-esteem and confidence, Relationships including Family and Friendships, Training and apprenticeships and Independent living skills.	Access points- Support services for young people in Hertfordshire

Risk Assessment & Risk Management Strategies

Contents;

- **Road**
- **M11**

- **Local Transport Links**
- **Access to local towns**
- **Anti social behaviour/ Hotspots**
- **River**

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

Road;

The road located at the end of the drive way (Springhall Lane) is a potential risk due to being a small lane leading to a small housing estate located behind the home.

Although the road/ Lane is not a busy, it is the only road leading to small housing estate consisting of 8 homes located behind Clifton House, Springhall Lane leads to a larger road (East Drive) which sees a higher volume of traffic. East Drive is a 30 mph road through a residential speed calming area. The Homes access to East drive is located on a bend, therefore the potential risk of harm would still remain moderate if any young person were to attempt to access the road, especially if their behaviour erratic and such that they were not using the road with safety in mind.

If any young person that were to access the road during the daylight hours, they would find that there is a steady stream of traffic that could potentially be driving at speeds around 30mph. The road has adequate visibility and street lighting during the Night. Located at the end of East Drive is London Road. London Road has a speed limit of 30mph through the village and changes to 40mph after leaving the village and receives a greater volume of traffic.

The home will potentially accommodate young people with a history of missing behaviour and emotional instability and on occasions this may cause them to possibility attempt to leave the premises on foot and access the road in order to become missing or have time and space away from the home. Any young people who are initially accommodated at Clifton are very likely to be unfamiliar with the local area and the risks associated with the local road (steady flow of traffic, located on a bend) and this would also increase the risk of harm caused by the location of the road.

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: ROAD

Probability of risk occurring	Severity of possible injury/harm	Total Risk
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High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

Upon arrival to the home, staff will support young people to become familiar with the local area and the risks it presents, young people will be informed about the dangers of the road.

All young people that come into Clifton, initially will not access the local area independently. Before young people are permitted to access the area independently staff will ensure that the young people have a good understanding of road safety and knowledge of the local area and amenities.

Prior to accommodating any young person at Clifton House, the Location Risk Assessment will be sent to the placing authority for review on all the potential risks.

As part of the homes robust matching process, the homes management will consult with the placing authority to access the possibility of a young person accessing the road to leave the placement and/or place themselves at risk by using the road in a way that would be deemed risky. The homes management will request any information about any historic concerns/incidents that would suggest that a young person would potentially place themselves at risk using the road and if there was any evidence that the young person had a good awareness of road safety. All the information gathered will contribute to any decisions around the refusal or acceptance of a referral.

If a young person were to leave the home without support or permission to do so independently, staff from the home will ensure that the young person is followed and encouraged to use the foot paths if placing themselves at risk. Should a young person leave the home and access the road, adequate visibility and speed restrictions in the area should allow for the young person to be visible to oncoming traffic. During Night hours the road has street lighting and although young people will be less visible, the street lighting should allow a young person to be seen.

With the home not securing its doors during the day, the likelihood of a young person having the opportunity to access the road will be higher than at night but this will also be during the hours where the staffing levels are higher meaning that there are more staff to work with, support and protect a young person from potentially placing themselves at risk. Due to the nature of the home, the staffing levels have increased to 1-1 during the day/ evening. Staff levels decrease to 2 sleeping in members of staff at 11pm. Although the reduction in staffing can prove some risk, all external doors are locked and the additional staff remain at the home until all young people are settled. Should an incident

occur in the night whereby a young person manages to leave the home, 1 member of staff will follow and the on call member of staff will be called immediately to support.

Each young person will have an Individual Missing risk assessment that staff will follow each time a young person is believed to be potentially engaging in risk taking and/or missing behaviour and will have instructions on how to manage the risk, work with their colleagues and any external services and aim to have the young person returned home safely at the earliest opportunity.

Any and every-time a young person attempts to access the road to engage in risk taking behaviour whether that be to abscond, cause disruption, self-harm or even exhibit extreme attention seeking behaviour, staff will follow on foot and/or in a company vehicle in order to minimise the risk and encourage the young person to return safely to the home.

If in extreme circumstances a young person is placing themselves and/or staff at risk then staff may have no option but to restrain a young person as a safety measure and/or contact the emergency services for assistance.

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: ROAD

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

M11;

The M11 Motorway is situated 2.8 miles away from the home By foot and Car to Junction 7A of M11

With a high speed motorway running close to the home, there are obvious high risks and concerns about the potential of harm if a young person was to access the M11 carriageway.

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: M11

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2		3			5

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

Although there are obvious risks of harm that must be considered with the M11 being responsibly close to the home, the access to the carriageway is restricted by fencing, barriers and hedges that surround roads, farmland and countryside surrounding the M11. With the by closest junctions accessing the M11 being at Junction 7A

for Harlow (6 miles away) and at Junction 8 for Birchanger (7 miles away), this also reduces the risk significantly as there is no easy access to the carriageways.

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: M11

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
		1		2		3

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

Local Transport Links;

There is a local Train station located 0.8 miles away from the home with direct links to London Liverpool street, Cambridge and Stratford. Trains from this station run approximately every 40 mins between the hours of 7am and 11pm. There is are local town bus service that travels through Sawbridgeworth between Bishop Stortford and Harlow which are larger towns with larger populations.

The train station is manned between the hours of **Monday-Saturday 08:00-20:00**. Sunday 10:00-20:00. Bank Holidays 09:00-18:00, although there is a level crossing which allows access to the train tracks.

Sawbridgeworth Station has the following in place to assist with safety at the station;

- Train signalling protection
- CCTV monitoring by Signaller
- Road traffic light signals
- Full barrier equipment
- Audible alarm
- Signage

Outside of these hours British transport Police are point of call.

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: Local Transport Links

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

Initiating SureCare's matching process and formulating an initial risk assessment in collaboration with the placing authority, family (if appropriate) and any other relevant professionals, will assist the homes manager in making an informed decision as to whether the homes location and transport links and associated risks will impact or encourage young people to become missing, absent without permission or potentially cause harm. The homes staff will be fully aware of the local bus and train routes and the homes risk assessment and missing protocols will reflect the actions that staff will take if a young person were to attempt to access local transport. As mentioned previously, staff have company vehicles that will allow staff to follow any buses and attend any local train stations in attempt to prevent and reduce the chances of any harm coming to a young person.

The home has a good working relationship with the local Missing Person's Liaison Officer and Local PCSOs through Hertfordshire Police and will work closely in partnership with them to reduce the risk of any harm coming to our young people.

The Home staff are familiar with the emergency numbers in relation to any concerns with our children and will contact the necessary services in supporting the safe return of a child if the child chooses to access the trains/train lines without permission, building a good rapport with the BTP/south western railway to gain the best outcomes possible. • South Western railway "helpline" 0345 6000 650 - Reporting a problem relating to safety, people animals or objects on the tracks or around the track. • To Report a Crime British Transport Police 0800 40 50 40 (999/ text 61016) – Reporting any crimes in relation to the train lines/south western railway. • Taxi services and operations available to Clifton house and the area. Firstly, taxi services are not a first option of transport, the preference is to use the homes vehicles and the above listed public forms of transportation. Certainly, with the independent skills we are teaching the children, Taxi's will exceed their individual living budgets and are identified as higher risk for the children. However, some children may be placed at Clifton House using a taxi that is funded by their local authorities to accommodate educational access and contact arrangements. In these circumstances it is recommended by Clifton House to the placing authority that consistency is in place with the services and driver to build a rapport establishing a good/healthy relationship between the staff, driver and child. The outcomes desired, being a safer travelling environment for the child.

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: Local Transport Links

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
		1			1	2

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

Access to Towns;

The home is situated in the small town of Sawbridgeworth and within 4 miles from the larger towns of Harlow and Bishop's Stortford. Both towns have larger populations, more shops with later opening hours and transport links that are accessible till approximately 11.45pm.

The closest shops are in Sawbridgeworth, where there is a small supermarket, 2 newsagents, a café, several restaurants, pubs and takeaway venues.

Naturally, the home will have to consider that when conducting the planning assessment process, that any concerns about a young person spending time in the local villages and larger towns mentioned could be a risk. The risk of harm and exposure to negative influences will need to be considered prior to the commencement of the placement along with how the more time is spent in these areas may cause a young person to be exposed to crime and anti-social behaviour as well as potentially be groomed and/or subject to CSE.

. Risks of Child Sexual Exploitation in East Herts, the crime statistics that CSE would fall under in Police UK statistics is sexual and violent crimes, as they are combined it is difficult to get a true statistics. In 2020 a 4 % increase was recorded. Measures we can put into place to further control this risk are to complete key work on staying safe, stranger danger and appropriate relationships with our children. Children who arrive at Clifton House with sexual exploitation risks/concerns will have this risk further monitored on their individual risk assessment.

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: Access to Towns & Villages

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

Whilst maintaining a balance of encouraging social skills and educating young people on potential risks, the home will prior to any placement commencing have an initial RAMP in place that outlines the potential risks and vulnerabilities of each young person.

Any young person that is accommodated at Clifton will be initially on 1:1 supervision out in the community until such time that all the homes management, placing authority and family (where appropriate) are satisfied that a young person is able to be trusted to manage their behaviour out in the community on their own and not place themselves at risk of harm.

All arrangements for young people having “free time” away from the home will be discussed and agreed with all the professionals involved, with the family (where appropriate) and with the young person to ensure that the young person feels that they have contributed to the decision making, that they are aware of the expectations placed upon them and understand the reasons for certain decisions being made.

Once any arrangements are in place it will be the homes duty to frequently monitor the arrangements around a young person’s unsupervised time and ensure that this “free time” is being used suitably and in a way that ensures that the young person remains safe from harm.

There are numerous non-invasive and intrusive monitoring strategies that the homes staff can use to monitor a young person’s behaviour, safety and “free time” such as;

- Regular communication with a young person before, during and after any “free time” to monitor their movements
- Work closely with the young person’s family, friends and any relevant people at clubs, schools and schemes to gather important information about how the young person is whilst away from the home
- Staff noticing a change in patterns of behaviour; for example, a young person begins returning home and not presenting as they usually do, that a young person has some new belongings that cannot be explained and sensitively exploring why a 10-minute train journey has taken 2 hours

Staff will record and report in a timely manner any concerning patterns of behaviour, sudden changes to how a young person is presenting as well as any concerns around CSE, gangs and/or radicalisation. The homes staff will work with all professionals and external services in order to protect a young person from harm and frequently consult with the relevant services to monitor any ongoing risks . . Measures we can put into place to further control this risk are to complete key work on staying safe, stranger danger and appropriate relationships with our children. Children who arrive at Clifton House with sexual exploitation risks/concerns/Gangs/radicalisation will have this risk further monitored on their individual risk assessment

Details of local crime statistics are included.

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: Access to Towns & Villages

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
		1			1	2

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

Anti- Social behaviour;

Within Sawbridgeworth there are several locations in with youths are known to socialise, with reports of low level anti-social behaviour and minor criminal activity.

There is a possibility that young people coming in to the home may be drawn to seeking out new friendships and peer groups and may find themselves engaging in risk taking or anti-social behaviours. They're some hotspots around Sawbridgeworth, and in the larger towns of Harlow and Bishop's Stortford where drugs, particularly cannabis are known to be used.

These hotspots include;

Vantors Park (CM21 9NB) located 0.2 miles away

Local cemetery (CM21 9AD) located 0.5 miles away.

Bullfields park (CM21 9DF) Located 0.8 miles away.

Harlow Town Centre (CM20 1AN) Located 4.5 miles away.

Castle Gardens/ Skate park (CM23 2AY) 6.5 miles away.

Harlow Town park (CM23 2QQ) 4 Miles away.

Please find crime statistics located at the end of this report.

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: Anti Social Behaviour

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

Young people that come in to Clifton House are supported to maintain previous relationships/ friendships (if appropriate). Young people are encouraged to form positive relationships and networks to promote their social and emotional well-being.

Young people are encouraged to access groups and youth clubs locally. Young people's friendships are monitored and the young people in our care's wellbeing is observed before and after any contact.

Young people that arrange to leave the home to meet friends are encouraged to remain in contact with the house and share who they are meeting and their location with staff. Before young people are granted permission from the home to access the local area independently. Permission must be sought from the local authority and where necessary parents/ families. Professionals and families must be satisfied that the young person has the ability to keep themselves safe and manage their behaviour. Young people must be supported to take age appropriate risks in order to prepare them for future independence.

As stated previously, The home has 2 company vehicles, whilst a young person is accessing the local community staff may travel to known local hotspots.

All young people that are permitted to access the local community have an individual 'Accessing the local area' Risk assessment. This outlines any risky behaviours, vulnerabilities and control measures in place.

Currently three young people have access to local area on free time and this has been risked assessed for the individuals and is closely monitored by homes staff and any plans or risks adjusted as required.

The Local Police have a safer Policing scheme for Vantors Park and more patrols are visiting to ensure safety of young People throughout the day and evening.

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: Anti-Social behaviour

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2				1	3

Risk Assessment - *Potential risk factors due to the location of the home and the environment surrounding the home;*

River Stort;

The River Stort is a river in Essex and Hertfordshire, England. It is 24 miles (38 km) long and flows from just south of the village of Langley to the River Lea at Hoddesdon. The River Stort runs through Sawbridgeworth and neighbouring towns Harlow and Bishop's Stortford.

The river averages a depth of between 4- 8ft. The River Stort is used by Canal boats and barges and is accessible by foot. The river is not deemed appropriate for swimming.

The River is accessible by foot (0.5miles) and has a footpath running alongside it.

There is potential that a young person may access the River either unintentionally or intentionally. The footpath surrounding the River in places is uneven which can pose a potential risk. There is however a grass verge located between the water and the footpath.

The Foot path is lit by street lighting in some areas.

In order to access the River during dark hours, Young people must walk through a lane and across a field or The easiest place to access the river canal is approximately a 10 minute walk and is located by the lock in Sawbridgeworth which can be accessed by the immediate housing estate close to The White House this is all lit up with street lights at night and a tow path runs by the canal at this point towards Bishops Stortford and towards Harlow directions

Risk Levels PRIOR to Preventative Measures in place: River Cam

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
	2			2		4

Risk Management – *Strategies, actions and protective factors that the home will undertake to manage, limit and prevent the risk of harm to its young people;*

With much of the river not being accessible in Widdington itself due to the river running through farmland and running alongside the railways lines that are all surrounded by fencing, the risk of a young person accessing the river would be low. We will endeavour to provide water safety sessions with the young people via activities they enjoy on the water.

We will also on admission ask if the young person can swim and note this in their care plan and if they are unable we would promote lessons should they wish to learn.

At various points along the river canal Life rings are available

In Emergency in relation to water incidents the staff have details to contact river and canal trust after emergency services ; In an emergency call 999 immediately. When you have received a response from the emergency services, then inform us on 0800 47 999 47.

Risk Levels POST to Preventative Measures in place: River Cam

Probability of risk occurring			Severity of possible injury/harm			Total Risk
High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	High=3	Moderate=2	Low=1	
		1		2		3

Created by: Rachel Ranner Homes Manager

Signed: 04.08.23

To be reviewed: Jan 2024 **(will be sooner if there are any significant changes/events)**

Detailed statistics for Sawbridgeworth

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Detailed statistics for Sawbridgeworth' page on the Police.uk website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.police.uk/hertfordshire/402/crime/stats/>. The page header includes the 'POLICE.UK' logo and navigation links: 'Find your neighbourhood', 'Share this page', and 'Menu'. A cookie notice states: 'Police.uk uses cookies to make the site simpler. [Find out more about cookies](#)'. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'Home > Hertfordshire Constabulary > Bishops Stortford and Sawbridgeworth > Crime map >'. The main content area features a map of the area on the left and the title 'Detailed statistics for Bishops Stortford and Sawbridgeworth' on the right. Below the map, the 'Contents' section lists several links: 'Comparison of crime types in this area between March 2019 and February 2020', 'Comparison of outcomes in this area between March 2019 and February 2020', 'Crime levels in this area between March 2019 and February 2020', and 'Download crime data for this area as a CSV file'. On the right side, the 'In this neighbourhood' section lists links for 'Overview', 'Crime map', 'Stop and search', 'Policing team', 'News and events', 'Local policing priorities', 'Performance', and 'Community Payback'. The 'Related pages' section includes links to 'Find out more about Hertfordshire Constabulary's performance on HMICFRS's website' and 'Compare crime levels with other similar areas'. The bottom of the page shows the start of a section titled 'Comparison of crime types in this area between March 2019 and'.

Contents

- [Comparison of crime types in this area between March 2019 and February 2020](#)
- [Comparison of outcomes in this area between March 2019 and February 2020](#)
- [Crime levels in this area between March 2019 and February 2020](#)
- [Download crime data for this area as a CSV file](#)

In this neighbourhood

- [Overview](#)
- [Crime map](#)
- [Stop and search](#)
- [Policing team](#)
- [News and events](#)
- [Local policing priorities](#)
- [Performance](#)
- [Community Payback](#)

Related pages

- [Find out more about Hertfordshire Constabulary's performance on HMICFRS's website](#)
- [Compare crime levels with other similar areas](#)

Comparison of crime types in this area between March 2019 and

Crime stats for Sawbridgeworth from 2022

Crime in Sawbridgeworth

	AS B	Burglar y	Robber y	Vehicl e	Viole nt	Shoplifti ng	CD& A	Othe r Theft	Drug s	Bike Theft	Theft From the Perso n	Weapo ns	Publi c Orde r	Othe r	Tot al
Nov 2022	20	3	0	9	30	1	7	6	1	0	0	0	3	1	81
Oct 2022	10	5	0	3	35	12	4	2	4	0	0	0	2	1	78
Sep 2022	18	7	0	6	19	1	7	7	0	1	0	0	4	1	71
Aug 2022	22	4	0	8	17	6	5	8	0	0	0	1	8	1	80
Jul 2022	14	1	0	4	21	0	13	4	0	0	0	0	5	1	63
Jun 2022	25	3	0	6	21	0	5	4	2	0	1	1	2	3	73
May 2022	12	8	0	12	24	1	3	8	2	1	0	0	3	4	78
Apr 2022	17	3	0	8	31	1	11	5	2	0	0	0	3	0	81
Mar 2022	19	8	0	14	14	1	5	5	2	0	0	0	4	2	74
Feb 2022 2	11	0	0	7	23	1	4	3	2	0	0	1	3	0	55

AS B	Burglary	Robbery	Vehicle	Violent	Shoplifting	CD&A	Other Theft	Drugs	Bike Theft	Theft From the Person	Weapons	Public Order	Other	Total
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Jan 2022	7	4	0	2	10	1	7	8	3	0	0	0	3	1	46
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