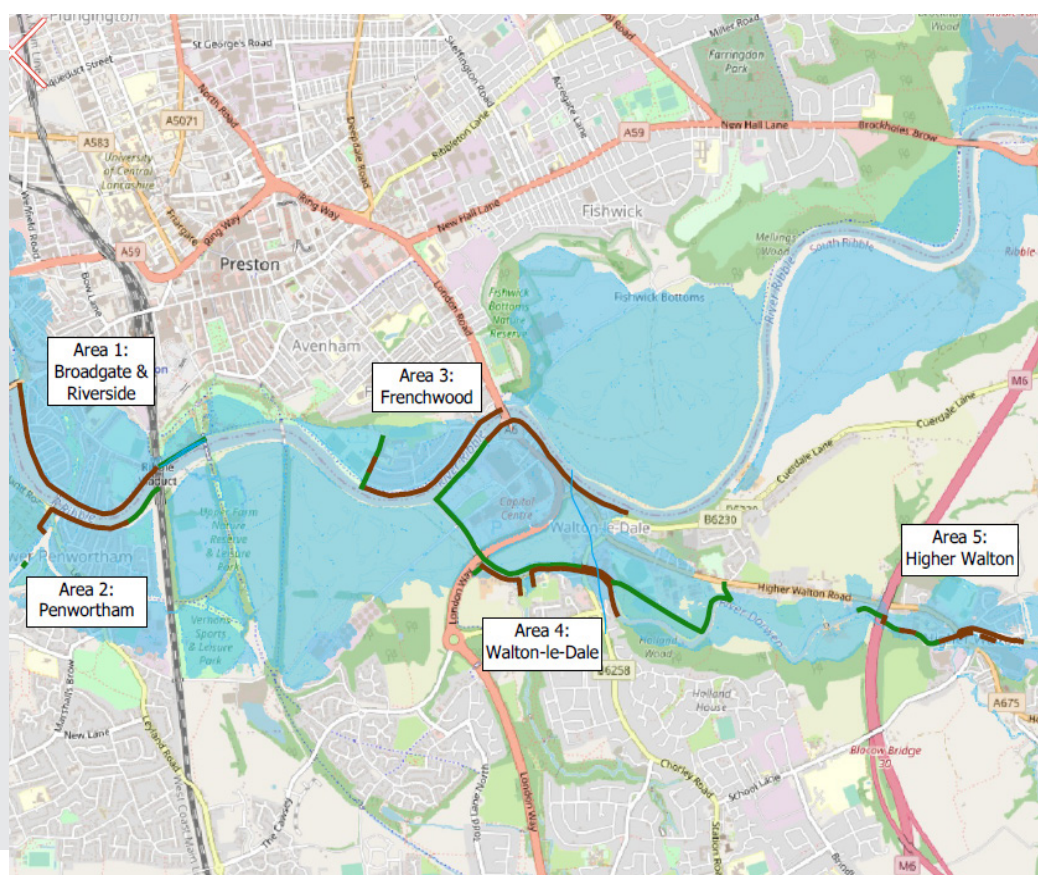


# PRESTON & SOUTH RIBBLE FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME AUTUMN 2020

## WHOLE SCHEME UPDATE

### Scheme Overview



The Scheme is divided into 5 areas of work:

**AREA 1**  
Broadgate and Riverside

**AREA 2**  
Lower Penwortham

**AREA 3**  
Frenchwood and Fishwick Bottoms

**AREA 4**  
Walton-Le-Dale  
(along the Capitol Centre)

**AREA 5**  
Higher Walton and Samlesbury

### Online Engagement Launched

Coronavirus is affecting us all, presenting challenges in how we engage with our communities and demanding new and adaptive ways of working. The situation is constantly developing and changing and it is essential that we observe and comply with the UK Government's restrictions.

For the Environment Agency, this means that we are not currently holding face-to-face public consultation events as we would normally do.

We are instead providing alternative ways for you to access scheme information, ask questions and ultimately make an informed response to our proposals.

You can visit our scheme page The Flood Hub at [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr) which provides information on our engagement to date and details of the proposed scheme.

### Scheme Funding

**The proposed scheme is currently expected to cost around £49m to deliver the flood defences. £6.525m in funding is coming from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with further funding from other sources such as the Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid and from the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

Throughout the life cycle of the scheme so far we have provided opportunities for people to give their view on the scheme design and plans, help us to shape flood defences that are fit for purpose and reflect the majority view in the community. These opportunities will continue as we move into the next stage of the scheme and beyond.

All responses received during the public consultation will be recorded and analysed. Where it is possible, we will use your feedback to help develop the scheme design or to help identify ways to address concerns about the impacts of the scheme.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions it has not been possible to hold community engagement events. Our digital engagement platform is now live and can be accessed via our scheme web page at [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr). Whilst this will be focused initially on areas 1 & 2 (Broadgate, Riversway and Lower Penwortham) of the scheme, as planning applications for this area are due to be submitted later this year. We will still be providing an opportunity for residents in the later stages of the scheme to view designs to date and provide comment.

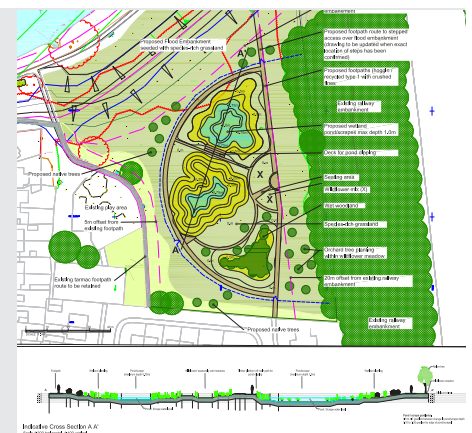
Learn more about the previous engagement sessions we held with the local community in 2017, 2018 and 2019 by visiting our scheme webpage [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr) or scan the QR.



### Ribble Sidings

Working in partnership with South Ribble Borough Council, we would like to enhance the public green space as part of the flood risk management scheme. Using the concept design developed by the council's landscape architect, a variety of wetland habitats will be created within a new network of footpaths.

The design includes dipping platforms which will allow people to interact with the new habitat. As the scheme progresses, these plans will form part of our public engagement.



## LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

### Tree removal decisions

During previous public drop in sessions for the Preston and South Ribble Flood Risk Management Scheme the community raised concerns about the loss of trees in the area. To facilitate work and ensure the defences have a long life, some trees will need to be removed, this work will be scheduled to avoid bird-nesting season. The areas for replanting are starting to be identified and the trees will range from saplings to more mature trees.

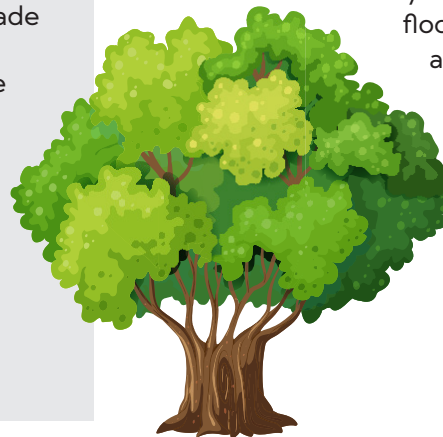
The Environment Agency commits to planting 5 trees for every 1 removed for this scheme. Prior to any decisions being made about trees a full topographic survey will be undertaken. The survey helps the project team identify where there are trees that need to be removed, trees where the crown can be thinned to provide safe access to the site and trees that have a tree preservation order. In line with our commitment to planting 5 trees for every 1 removed as part of this scheme, we are working closely with partners to identify best locations locally where these trees can be planted and are also linking in to the South Ribble Borough Council "Plant 110,000 trees" ambition.

### Self-seeded Trees

There are a number of 'self seeded' trees on the riverside of the flood defences which will be removed. Removal of these will allow access for construction and ensure new defences are not damaged by tree root growth. Self-seeded trees are trees that haven't been planted or planned, these trees can be as a result of seeds arriving by birds, the river and the wind.

They can cause damage to flood barriers, footpaths and walls due to lack of maintenance.

Maintenance for trees planned and located close to flood defences is regularly undertaken by the local authority.



### Wildlife and habitat surveys

Bats, otters and great crested newts are just a few of the species afforded legal protection and are protected under the legal framework of protected species.

As responsible developers, the Environment Agency has a statutory obligation to ensure our projects do not adversely impact on protected species or their habitats. where possible we will always try to avoid negative impacts.

In order to understand the likely impacts of the scheme and to comply with wildlife legislation we have commissioned and undertaken a number of protected species surveys, which include but are not limited to bats, otters and great crested newts.

#### OTTERS



Otter surveys involve looking for field signs such as footprints, spraints (droppings / faeces) and resting places (holts and couches). Otters may breed in these places or use temporary sites or lie-ups. Otters using our rivers may be impacted upon through habitat loss or degradation so a flood protection scheme must incorporate sympathetic design to address the impact it may have.

#### BATS



Bat survey techniques can be mobile or static and include a number of devices such as detectors and endoscopes. The surveys check for bat activity and emergence at certain times of the day and we also assess the roosting potential in cavities in structures such as bridges and trees.

#### GREAT CRESTED NEWTS



Surveying for Great Crested Newts involves a variety of traditional survey techniques such as bottle trapping and torch and egg searches. More recent surveyors have adopted the Environmental DNA (eDNA) survey method which involves taking a water sample from potential breeding ponds which are then sent to a laboratory for testing for Newt DNA. Newt DNA can enter the water during reproduction, from excreta and via shed skin cells.



# BROADGATE, RIVERSWAY & PENWORTHAM UPDATE



BEFORE



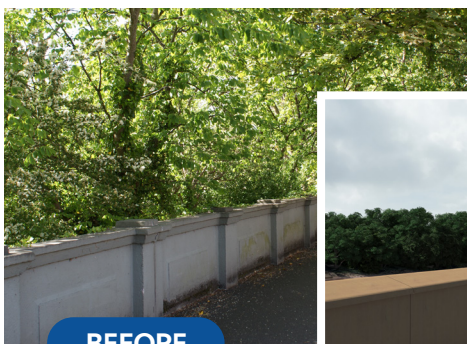
AFTER

## REACH A – BROADGATE:

Replacement of the existing concrete wall, with a new concrete wall, between Liverpool Road bridge and Penwortham Old Bridge.

Existing Wall Height: 0.75 – 1.23m

Proposed Wall Height: 1.20 – 1.60m



BEFORE



AFTER

## REACH B – RIVERSIDE:

A new concrete wall along the boundary of the BAC/EE Preston Social and Sports Association cricket pitch between Miller Gardens Apartments and Ribble Cottage (the 2 flood gates).

Existing Wall Height: 0

Proposed Wall Height: 1.16 – 1.22m



BEFORE



AFTER

## REACH B – RIVERSIDE:

Replacement of the existing concrete wall, with a new concrete wall with glass panels on top, along Riverside highway between Penwortham Old Bridge and Miller Gardens Apartments.

Existing Wall Height: 0.78 – 1.08m

Proposed Wall Height: 1.63 – 2.24m  
(incl. 800mm high glass panel)



BEFORE



AFTER

## REACH B – RIVERSIDE:

Reach B – Riverside: Replacement of the existing concrete wall, with a new concrete wall with glass panels on top, running on the river side of the road in front of the Continental Public House restaurant.

Existing Wall Height: 0.90 – 1.09m

Proposed Wall Height: 1.78 – 2.53m (incl. 800mm high glass panel)



BEFORE



AFTER

## REACH C – MILLER PARK:

A new concrete retaining wall along a ramped section of the main cycleway and earth embankment in Miller Park.

Existing Wall Height: 1.09m

Proposed Wall Height: 1.90 – 2.00m

## BROADGATE, RIVERSWAY & PENWORTHAM UPDATE

The following sets out the proposed designs for new flood defences and alterations to existing defences in the Broadgate, Riversway and Penwortham area.

### AREA 2A – PENWORTHAM METHODIST CHURCH:

Proposed precast concrete flood defence wall

Existing Wall Height: 0m

Proposed solid Wall height: 0.65 – 2.20m

### AREA 2A – ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH:

Proposed road ramp to raise existing road levels at the entrance to Penwortham Methodist Church. The private access road into the church and the adjacent allotments will be raised by approximately 1m.

### AREA 2A – GOLDEN WAY FOOTPATH:

Proposed precast concrete flood defence wall

Existing Wall Height: 0m

Proposed solid Wall height: 0.65 – 2.20m



### AREA 2B – RIVERSIDE ROAD:

Proposed replacement of the concrete flood defence wall, with precast concrete flood defence wall and glass panels on top, running along Riverside Road from the Cadent Gas Pipe Bridge to Stanley Ave (Upstream end of Riverside Road).

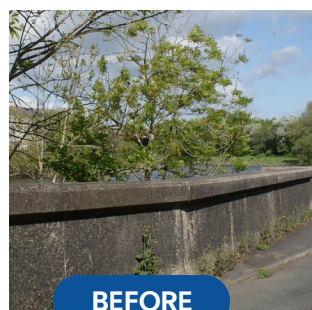
Existing Wall Height: 1.00 – 1.30m

Proposed solid Wall height: 1.70 – 2.20m (incl. 600–800mm glass panel on top)



### AREA 2B – RIBBLE SIDINGS:

Proposed replacement of the 1.7m flood defence embankment at Ribble Sidings with 3.5m high flood defence embankment with a 3m crest width. The existing riverside footpath (bridleway) route will be maintained with an access ramp over the proposed flood defences. A new habitat area will be created on the dry side of the flood defence embankment.



### AREA 2C – ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH:

Partial infill of the Network Rail dis-used underpass with 1.5m high solid concrete wall.

\*Wall heights are approximate and subject to change

We will be working to remove, replace and repair 9km of flood defences in total, we are working with partners to minimise disruption. The project will be constructed starting in 2021 and ending in 2024. During this time our communities should expect disruption in the form of road closures, construction works, footpath and cycle route diversions, increased noise and the increased presence of contractors. We will continue to update via [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr) and the online engagement platform for the duration of the project.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do we need new flood defences in this area?	The current flood defences were built between the 1920s and the 1990s and are reaching the end of their design life. New defences will reduce flood risk to properties and infrastructure in the area.
How many homes and businesses will you better protect?	The proposed scheme will better protect around 4,778 residential properties as well as over 300 businesses from direct flooding from the River Ribble and the River Darwen.
Will the proposed scheme increase my flood risk from other forms of flooding?	The Environment Agency and Lancashire County Council are working closely together and with other partners including United Utilities, South Ribble Borough Council and Preston City Council to ensure that flood risk associated with surface water and sewer flooding is not increased as part of the proposed scheme. This means existing pockets of surface water flood risk may still remain after construction.
How much will this scheme cost?	The proposed scheme is currently expected to cost around £49m to deliver the flood defences. £6.525m in funding is coming from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) with further funding from other sources such as the Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid and from the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. The project team continues to seek further funding for the scheme and will do so for the life of the project to ensure we deliver the most for our communities.
Who are you working with to secure funding?	European Regional Development Fund Direct Government funding and Flood Defence Grant in Aid Professional partners and local businesses.
When are works likely to start and finish?	Initial Ground Investigation works started in March 2019 although actual construction is not expected to start until 2021. Construction is likely to take place in phases and take 3-5 years to complete.
What are the impacts of Brexit on the EU funding?	We have secured £6.525m European Regional Development Funding (ERDF), the contracts have been signed and contracted subject to expected funding conditions. We don't currently expect any Brexit scenario to change this. ERDF will also create 4 full time equivalent posts locally and we will employ local people and contractors to undertake the works.
What will the scheme look like?	We have provided before and after visuals of the scheme defences for areas 1 & 2
How can I provide feedback and keep updated about the scheme?	We will continually seek to engage with residents, businesses and the wider community throughout this project with regular updates provided on The Flood Hub website, which can be found at <a href="http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr">www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr</a> Whilst COVID restrictions means it's unlikely we will hold community based engagement events in 2020, we are hosting a number of online events for you to participate in. More details can be found on The Flood Hub ( <a href="http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr">www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr</a> )

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if I don't have the Internet or have accessibility requirements?	<p>We aim to be as inclusive as possible and ensure that everyone has chance to access key information related to the scheme. If you do not have direct access to the internet you may be able to access it via your local library. Alternatively you can post any feedback to: Preston and South Ribble Scheme – PSO Team Environment Agency, Lutra House Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 8BX or email <a href="mailto:psr@environment-agency.gov.uk">psr@environment-agency.gov.uk</a></p>
Why cant you just do dredging / gravel removal in the river?	<p>The bed of the river at Broadgate is rock and therefore there is limited material which could be removed from this area. Additionally, the size of the Ribble Estuary means the volume of material that would need to be dredged to reduce flooding would be very large and not cost effective. To be effective dredging / gravel removal would need to be done frequently which also has cost implications.</p>
Have you considered Natural Flood Management as an alternative to building defences?	<p>Natural flood management offers a sustainable approach to managing floods and is intended to complement traditional "hard engineering" techniques, such as flood barriers, concrete walls or flood storage areas. Natural Flood Management (NFM) refers to measures which can be implemented on a larger catchment wide scale, that help protect, restore and emulate the natural functions of catchments, floodplains and rivers.</p> <p>NFM schemes rely on a combination of small-scale interventions across the catchment with the aim of reducing the quantity and speed of the flow of converging water before it reaches larger rivers and populated areas. Typically, NFM measures to 'slow the flow' of flood waters include woodland planting, leaky dams or wood debris barriers, small scale offline storage ponds, floodplain or wetland restoration. These have the advantage that they could benefit other areas and ecosystems within a catchment, rather than individual towns and cities.</p>
Would the scheme provide other benefits to the community?	<p>Some of the most deprived wards in Central Lancashire are located within the scheme boundaries including within Broadgate and Frenchwood. We are working with partners to understand how the scheme could benefit these areas. The amount of government funding (Flood Defence Grant in Aid) is calculated and weighted towards areas of deprivation.</p>
Future proofing: How is climate change built in and will the scheme last long enough?	<p>Climate change predictions are included in all our modelling work and the new guidance is currently being used to guide our scheme design. Our scheme will be built to last in to the future in line with climate change projections and we typically make sure we design defences that can be topped up at some future date if need be.</p>
Insurance: How will the scheme reduce impacts on homes and businesses?	<p>The will protect many homes and businesses at risk of flooding. These figures will change as modelling improvements are made and the impacts of flooding in Preston and South Ribble better understood. If this scheme is too big and intrusive to be acceptable to local communities, we will try and provide a smaller scheme that will have reduced numbers of homes and businesses benefiting.</p>
New development: Have we taken new development into account and have all new areas been identified?	<p>We are working with Lancashire County Council, Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council and other partners to look at planning as a whole. We have a specific group to look at this. The scheme could make future earmarked development sites more viable. There may be opportunities to look and extended development opportunities in future meetings. Any planned developments cannot be taken into account for our economic analysis due to rules set by the government. All new developments should take place away from areas of flood risk. Development in an area of flood risk will be subject to planning permission which should ensure the development only proceeds if it does not increase flood risk or create additional flooding.</p>

## CONTACT US

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact us.

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Please note this office is currently closed, any mail received will take a significant period of time to reach the intended staff member.

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Tłumaczenie tego dokumentu  
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