



Penketh and Whittle Flood Risk Management Scheme Newsletter September 2021

Project update / Flood Scheme update

Further to our update in January, the Penketh and Whittle Flood Risk Management Project has continued to make significant progress. We are pleased to announce that the £4.9 million Flood Risk Management Scheme (FRMS) has now been granted planning permission and the preliminary works contract has been awarded. This project is being delivered in partnership working with Warrington Borough Council

Penketh and Whittle Proposed works



Scheme works include:

- Clearance of Whittle Brook railway/canal culvert;
- Localised channel de-silting works and the construction of a tidal outfall structure with non-return valve on the Whittle Brook River Mersey confluence to prevent tidal ingress and siltation;
- Installation of an overflow relief culvert on Penketh Brook running beneath the railway and canal. The culvert will run from Penketh Brook parallel to the railway (approximately 140m) before dropping into a siphon for an additional 60m under the railway and canal. The overflow water will return to Penketh Brook via open cut channel (approximately 100m) downstream of the canal;
- Creation of 6500m² of biodiversity net gain habitat downstream of the railway and canal and approximately 50m² of new tree planting along Penketh Brook upstream of the railway and canal;
- Replacement of an existing debris screen at the inlet to the Penketh Brook Widnes Road culvert, which is currently not compliant with Environment Agency guidance.

Project Benefits

- The main benefits that will be derived from the flood defence improvements along Penketh and Whittle Brooks include:
- Reduction in potential loss of life and injury.
- Reduction in flood damages to property and vehicles.
- Reduction in stress and other adverse health and wellbeing effects for local residents.
- Reduction to transport disruption (A562, Hall Nook).
- Significant Biodiversity Net Gain Benefits.
- OM4 environmental enhancements.
- Increase in local property value.
- Ability to get house insurance and reduced insurance premiums.
- Improved ease of operation and maintenance of flood defence assets.

Penketh & Whittle FRMS – delivery programme

- Project Construction timeline
- Planning Approval Received: July 2021
- Full Business Case approved: July 2021
- Preliminary Works Contract Awarded: August 2021 (preliminary works to undertake site investigation, establish site compound, design tunnel under railway and canal, and preorder materials)
- Preliminary Works Start: September 2021
- Main Construction Works Contract Awarded: October 2021 (Construction activities)
- Main Construction Works Start: November 2021
- Construction Works Completed: August 2022

The Flood Hub Website

The Flood Hub is your one stop shop for flood advice and information. It is funded by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) and has been developed by Newground and other partner agencies to support communities at risk of flooding across the North West. You can find all the up to date information on planning and preparing for floods in the North West, to protect homes, businesses, land and wildlife. Visit <http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk> for more information!

How will we keep you updated and involve you

We will continue to share information with residents via newsletters, The Flood hub and social media.

If you are outside the flood area and would like to be kept up to date with the Penketh and Whittle Flood Risk Management Scheme via email or have any queries, please email foodresiliencegmmc@environment-agency.gov.uk to be added to the mailing list. We aim to send regular updates.

If you have any queries or would like to get in touch please email foodresiliencegmmc@environment-agency.gov.uk

