

Rochdale and Littleborough - Flood Risk Management Scheme Newsletter 7

September 2021

Welcome to the seventh Rochdale and Littleborough Flood Risk Management Scheme Newsletter. We will send out these newsletters as we develop the project to keep you up-to-date with progress. Please do feel free to send us questions and contribute your ideas.

Project Update / Flood Scheme Update

You may remember construction of the Scheme will be in two phases – Phase 1 (Littleborough) and Phase 2 (Rochdale – downstream of Smithy Bridge). We are phasing the construction works in this way because by beginning upstream in areas of Littleborough, the benefits will include a reduced flood risk for residents and businesses not only in Littleborough but also in Smallbridge and Rochdale at the earliest opportunity.

The enabling, or site preparation works, off Todmorden Road, are now complete and traffic management measures in the area were removed ahead of time. The project team would like to thank local residents and businesses for their patience while the traffic lights were in place. Network Rail and their contractors will now take over the site and install a culvert underneath the railway before Christmas as part of a suite of measures which will ultimately reduce the risk of flooding to the towns of both Littleborough and Rochdale.

The project team now move on to delivering the main flood risk scheme in first Littleborough, and then Rochdale.

Next steps

In autumn of this year a site compound will be installed adjacent to the Riverstone Bridge green area (see map below). This will be in place for approximately 20 months. A key part of this work is to replace the existing two bridges crossing over the river at Riverstone Bridge with a single larger bridge which will allow more water to pass through it, thus helping to reduce flood risk across Littleborough.



Left: Image showing proposed location of site compound in the Riverstone Bridge green area.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Work in the area will begin with service diversions (such as electric and gas) this autumn and by spring 2022 the work to replace the bridges will start. The project team intend to use the site to allow residents to call in to ask questions about the scheme and the engineering work. Dates and times for drop-ins will be advertised through the Flood Hub, the media and the project contact list.

Works on Phase 1b, primarily at the Gale site off Todmorden Road in Littleborough, will begin with a planning application due to be submitted to Rochdale Borough Council early in 2022 with construction starting in summer 2022, subject to planning permission and business case approvals. Works in Littleborough are expected to be complete by the first half of 2024.

This newsletter is part of a door knocking exercise to be completed on the 29th September to provide more information to those residents living in the Riverstone Bridge area and to provide the community with a project update across Littleborough.

Works on the remaining Phase 1a sites, Charles Street, Peel Street, Todmorden Road, Carriage Drive and Foam Converters are all due to start later this year and into the new year.

We are also keen to engage with residents in Phase 2 (Smithy Bridge – Rochdale town centre) and will be looking to set up a drop in/ Q&A before the end of the calendar year.

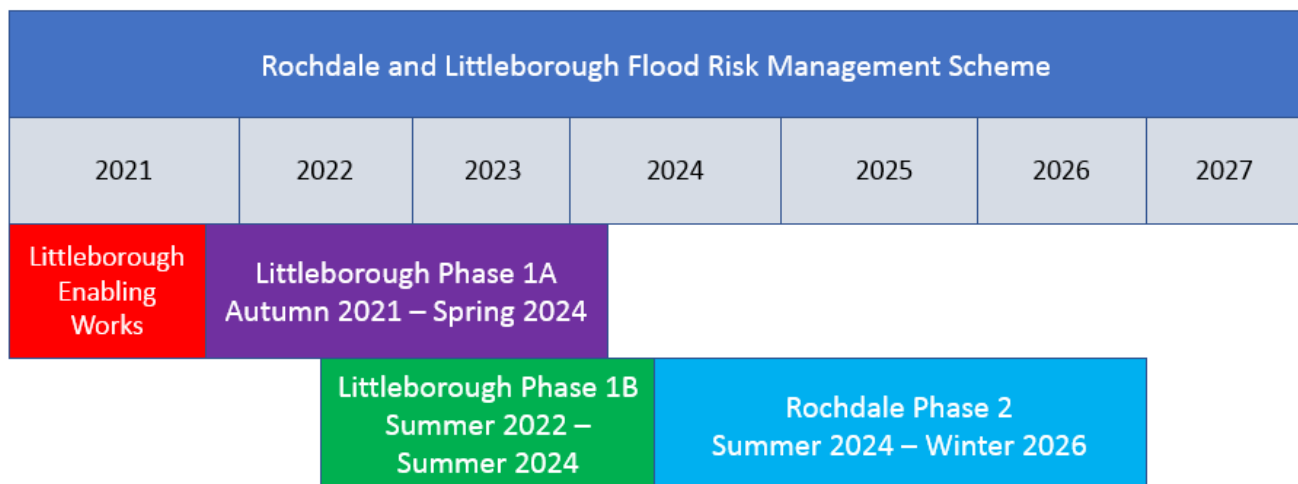
How will we keep you updated and involve you

We currently post monthly updates page to our Flood Hub page (www.thefloodhub.co.uk/rochdale-and-littleborough) but that will increase to fortnightly during construction phases. The updates often contain site photos and drone footage from the construction works.

If you are outside the flood area and/or would like to be kept up to date with the Rochdale and Littleborough Flood Risk Management Scheme via email, please email rochdaleandlittleboroughFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk to be added to the mailing list.

Estimated timeline of construction*

(*subject to planning and business case approvals)



customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88