

The Environment Agency is delivering a Flood Risk Management Scheme to better protect homes and businesses from flooding in the Kent Catchment and improve the local environment and community amenities. The construction of the scheme in Kendal is well underway and we are now preparing for construction in a number of additional locations.

This newsletter will provide you with a summary of the pre-construction activities that we will be undertaking from early March onwards. These activities will be to prepare the sites ahead of construction of the flood defences which will be starting in some locations this Summer.

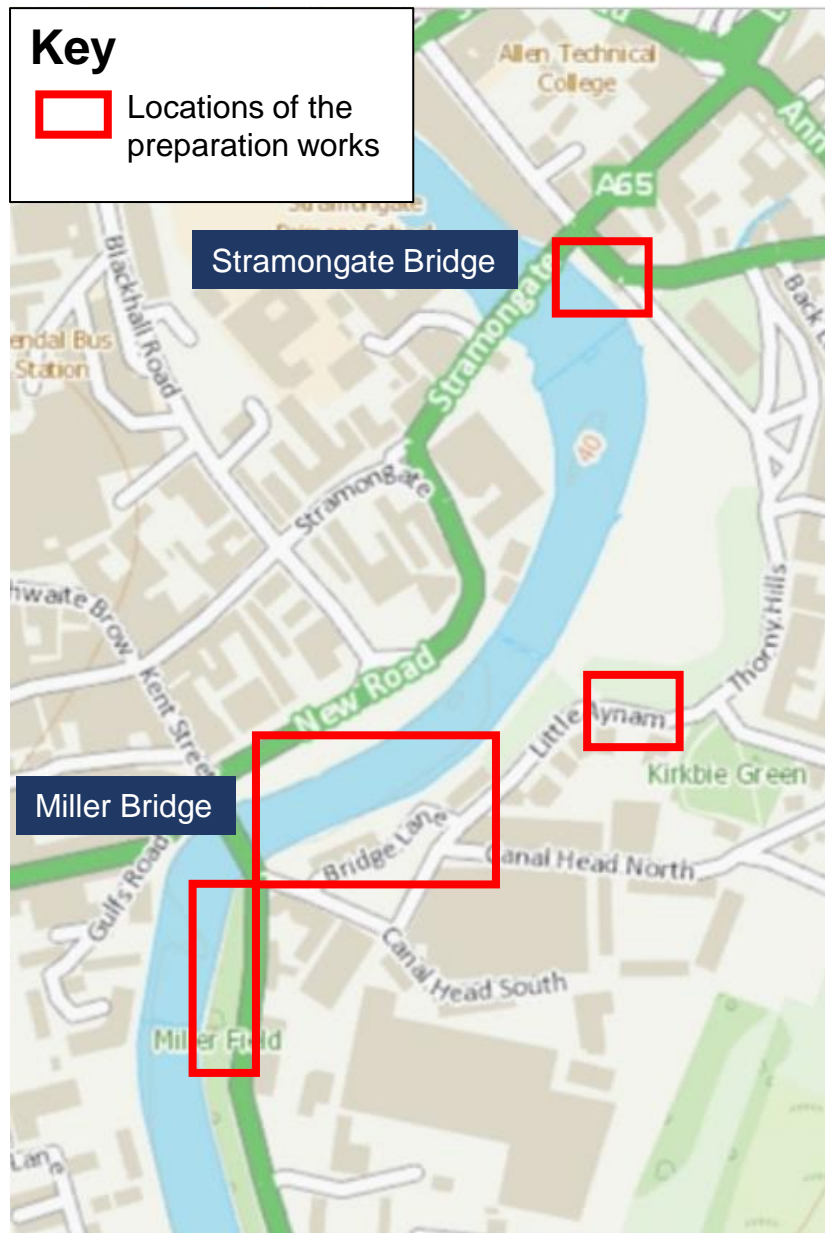
The locations in which we will be delivering a number of preparation activities will be in the vicinity of Stramongate Bridge, Little Aynam, and North and South of Miller Bridge, which are all located on the left bank of the River Kent.

## Preparing for construction activities


Ahead of any construction, we need to prepare the working areas which requires the undertaking of a number of activities which includes where required; vegetation and tree removal, the relocation of street furniture such as seating, railings, bins and street lighting, as well as working with utility companies to divert, or undertake service relocation. These activities will be delivered over the coming weeks and months.

For some of these preparation activities we may require to have in place temporary highway lane, and footpath closures in areas where we will be working in restricted areas along the riverside. The Traffic Management Plan we have developed in conjunction with Cumbria County Council Highways ensures these are managed appropriately to minimise any traffic and pedestrian disruption. Where we have temporary footpath closures in operation, we will always ensure a clear signposted diversion is in place.

The map below shows the extent of our preparation works and impact on public access.



### Key

-  Locations of the preparation works

During our preparation works:-

### Stramongate Bridge

- Stramongate Bridge will remain open
- Section of temporary footpath closure with a diversion in place

### Little Aynam

- Footpath closure and diversion will be in place

### North & South of Miller Bridge

- Miller Bridge will remain open
- A temporary lane closure will be in place on North Aynam Road with the other lane remaining open
- The footpath nearest the riverside at the North end of Aynam Road will be temporarily closed with a diversion in place

## Site working areas and hours of working

All working areas will be securely fenced and signposted. There will be no public access to any of our working areas to ensure all staff and the public are kept safe whilst we undertake the works. Our approved working hours will be Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. If we are required to work Saturday, the working hours will be 8am to 2pm however, our intentions are to work Monday to Friday only.

There are a number of activities taking place over the coming weeks and months ahead of construction of the flood defences. The programme below outlines the order and when these will be delivered.

### Spring

- Some vegetation clearance and tree removal
- Underground service and utility diversions where required
- Trialling the piling technique focussed to one location on Aynam Road

### Summer

- Underground service and utility diversions along Aynam Road
- Construction starts

### Autumn

- Further vegetation clearance and tree removal
- Ongoing service diversions

## Protecting the environment

An Independent Environmental Clerk of Works will monitor all vegetation clearance and tree removal activity where this is required, and will have a regular presence on site over the coming months. This is an important role that oversees all site preparation and construction works associated with biodiversity. This is to ensure safe working, and protection of the local environment is undertaken in accordance with legislation and best practice.

Pre-construction surveys have been carried out and include, but are not limited to; otters, breeding birds, invasive non-native species, trees and white-clawed crayfish as well as many other species such as salmon. Spawning grounds are known and monitored in respect of salmon and trout on all rivers and tributaries within the Kent catchment.

All of our activities around, or near European Protected Species are carried out under licence, and we will put in place measures to mitigate against impacts from any of our works. In preparation for vegetation clearance and tree removal, we have installed 64 bird and bat boxes in known nesting locations to provide additional safe habitat. We will also install environmental monitoring which will monitor noise, vibration and vehicle movements in sensitive locations so we can take further measures to mitigate against any risk of environmental harm.

As you may be aware, we have submitted a new planning application to South Lakeland District Council as the scheme design along Aynam Road has been updated to include additional lengths of glass panels, enhanced aesthetics and finishes, and changes to the construction technique which are all improvements to the original design. The pre construction activities taking place just South of Miller Bridge will be delivered under the existing planning application granted in Summer 2019, and will not be affected, or impacted by the new planning application submission made in February 2022.

A summary of the new application can be found on [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal) under 'What's happening – Aynam Road'.

To view the full Planning Application visit South Lakeland District Council website using the Planning Application Reference SL/2022/0163.

A sample panel of the glass sections can now be seen at Little Aynam along with supporting visualisations.

We appreciate that the works we will be undertaking and facilitating over the coming weeks prior to construction will have an impact on the local community and we will do our very best to keep this to a minimum. We will continue to keep you updated as our pre construction works progress.

If you would like to talk to us, or keep up to date there are many ways you can do this. Information on how you can get in touch, or where to find information is shown below.



### Contact us

Customer service 03708 506 506  
[KendalFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:KendalFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### VolkerStevin Engage

Our new project app allows you to keep up to date on the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme, view construction progress, images and provide feedback.



### Keep up to date

Visit [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal)  
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Scan the QR code to download VolkerStevin Engage. Available from both Apple and Google Play.

