

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 pleased to announce that we have received planning approval for the improved scheme design for Aynam Road and Waterside and are therefore preparing to start construction.

This newsletter will provide you with an update on the planning approval we have obtained and information on the pre-construction activities that are continuing along Aynam Road. We will also be starting the construction of an in-river working platform connecting Miller Fields to Waterside as we prepare to start works at Waterside.

Planning permission approval

We have received planning approval from South Lakeland District Council for our improved scheme design for Aynam Road and Waterside. This approval means we can now progress to deliver the scheme in these locations. The improved scheme design includes some of the following key features;

- Extension to the length of glass panel flood walls along Aynam Road retaining riverside views
- Stone cladding to both sides of the flood wall with a soldier course coping that will blend into the local area of the town
- Improved foundation design which will effectively control seepage and groundwater
- Integration of a 'Webster' railing design creating a new gateway to a riverside walk from Miller Bridge to Jennings Footbridge



Preparing for construction activities

We have completed the relocation of the street lighting down Aynam Road and the Gas main diversion, with United Utilities shortly starting some site investigation as they continue to design the relocation and connection of the sewer network which will be carried out later this year.

We have started to undertake works to prepare the site at Miller Fields which will be our site working compound as we start to deliver a number of in-river works. One of the first activities will be to construct an in-river bridge and working platform which will provide access across the river from Miller Fields to Waterside and a working area to aid construction of the flood wall at Waterside. The in-river bridge and working platform will enable us to construct the glass panelled flood wall from the river side which increases our work area and removes any impact to the large main sewer pipe which runs along Waterside.

We will also be undertaking works along the river bank at Aynam Road which will include some vegetation and tree removal and also bank stabilisation work to reduce the risk of vehicle damage as we construct the flood wall. This will involve the installation of a number of stabilisation bags to the footings of the banks which will provide the required stability so we can access and utilise these areas safely.

These preparation activities will continue to require a temporary highway lane and footpath closure along Aynam Road. 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.


Site working areas and hours of working

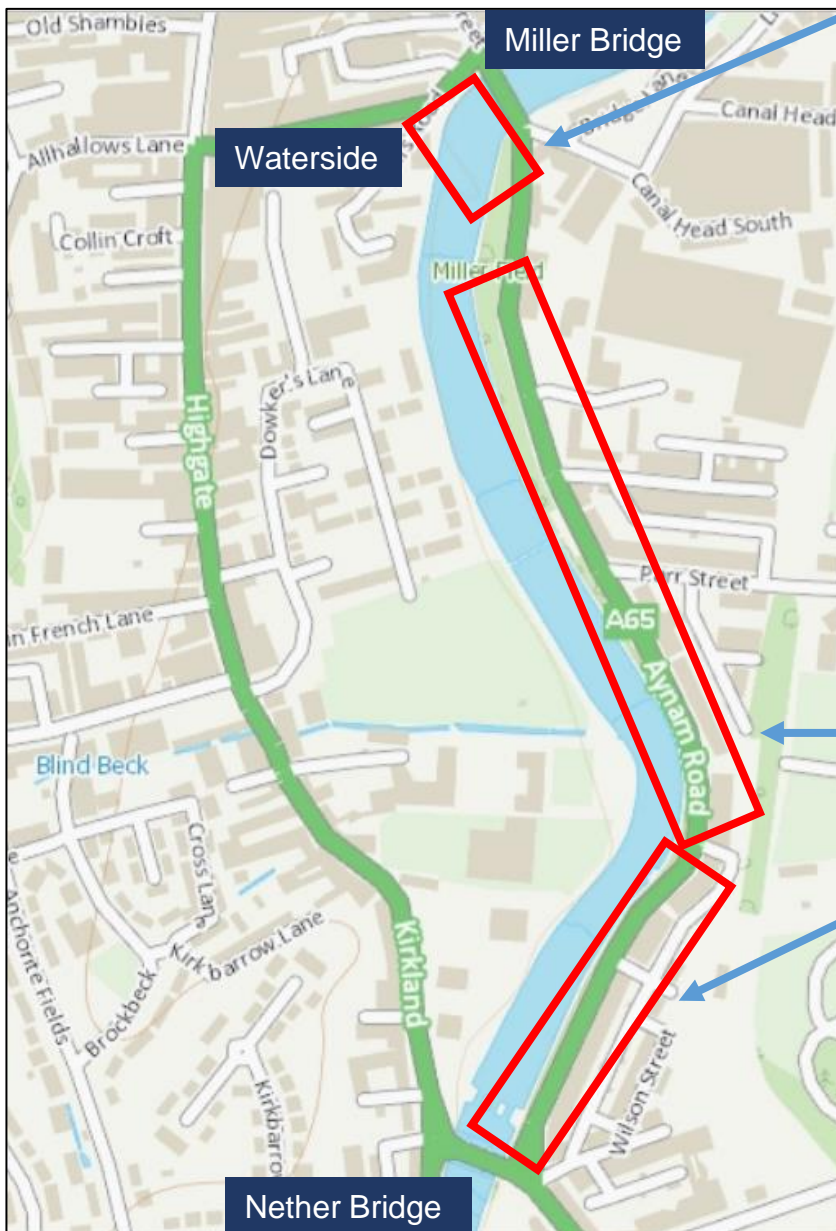
All working areas will be securely fenced and signposted. There will be no public access to any of our working areas to ensure all staff and the public are kept safe whilst we undertake the works. Our approved working hours will be Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. If we are required to work Saturday,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

Preparing for construction – extent of works

The map below shows the extent of the preparation works along Aynam Road and across the river from Miller Fields to Waterside.

Key

 Locations of the preparation works



During our preparation works:-

Miller Fields

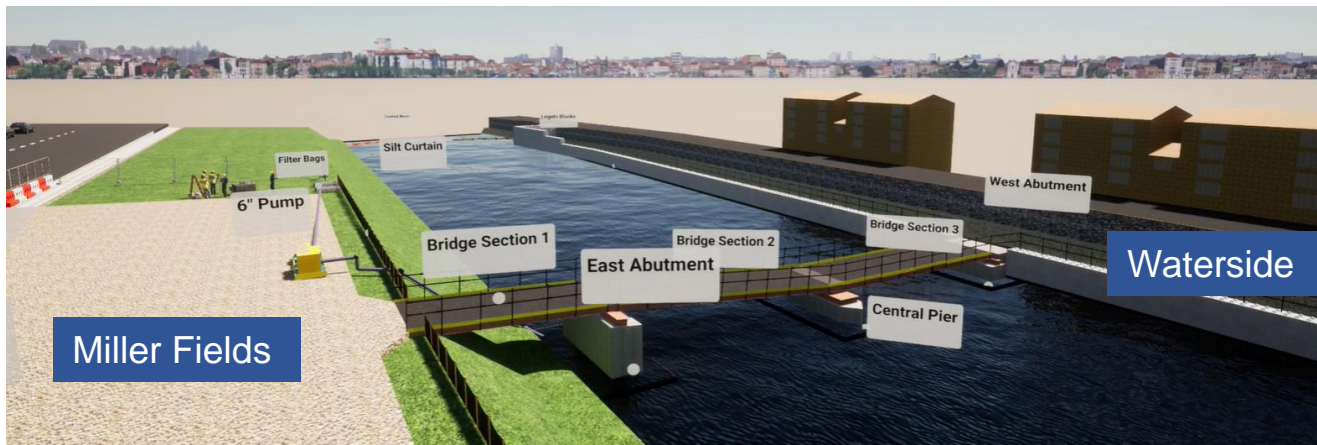
- Our site working area will aid the construction of an in-river bridge and temporary working platforms to enable construction of the glass panelled flood wall at Waterside.
- Miller Bridge will remain open during all of our works.
- Footpaths will be temporarily closed with a diversion in place.

Aynam Road

- A number of service and utility diversions will continue to be undertaken over the coming months and include United Utilities Sewer diversion and Electricity North West and BT cable relocation.
- A temporary lane closure will be in place along Aynam Road with the other lane remaining open
- Footpaths will be temporarily closed with a diversion in place.
- Nether Bridge will remain open during all of our works.

In order to construct the glass panelled flood wall along Waterside, we will be constructing a temporary bridge and working platform which will extend across the river from Miller Fields to Waterside. The bridge will provide the access required across the river and the platforms will provide the working areas to construct the flood wall.

The temporary in-river bridge and platform will be constructed by installing 3 piers which will be placed into the river bed to form the foundation for the bridge deck. The bridge deck which has been constructed off site will be lifted into place and secured providing safe and stable access to Waterside. The bridge crossing and working platforms have been designed to be safe even during high river levels.



Protecting the environment

An Independent Ecological Clerk of Works will monitor all activities 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.

Full consideration has been given to the in-river working platform and bank stabilisation bags. Consent has been granted for these works to be undertaken and will be monitored by our Independent Environmental Clerk of Works.

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. We will 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.

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.

Visit us You can now come and see us at our Flood Scheme Information Hub located on Little Aynam. We are open every Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 4.30pm



Contact us

Customer service 03708 506 506
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
Follow us EnvAgencyNW 

Scan the QR code to download VolkerStevin Engage. Available from both Apple and Google Play.

