

Preston & South Ribble

Flood Risk Management Scheme

The Environment Agency is working hard with its partners to provide new flood defences for Preston and South Ribble. The flood risk management scheme aims to protect local residents and businesses from flooding well into the next century.

Q: Will the works damage my property?

A: No damage is anticipated to be caused by the construction work. It is standard practice with this type of work for pre-construction surveys to be undertaken. An independent surveyor will arrange a mutually convenient time to undertake a photographic survey of the properties identified as being closest to the construction work. We can share a copy of this report with you should you wish.

Vibration monitors will be in place close to properties as the works are undertaken, and we have strict tolerances that we must work within.

Q: Where will the construction vehicles and materials be set-up and stored?

A: The main storage of materials will be in site compounds located off South Meadow Lane, Broadgate and Margaret Road. Further smaller compounds will be located in other areas as the construction progresses. Materials will only be brought to location as and when required. CCTV and security will be in place.

Q: Can I still use the Guild Wheel cycle route and access Miller & Avenham Parks?

A: A small section of the Guild Wheel cycle route will be diverted for the duration of the construction along Riverside for safety reasons.

The entrance to Miller Park on South Meadow Lane under the West Coast Mainline will be closed, but alternative access will be provided through the South Meadow Lane car park.

Further details about the scheme are available at www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr

Keep in touch

If you are interested in receiving regular updates on the scheme, you can subscribe to our mailing list by emailing psr@environment-agency.gov.uk



About the scheme

The Environment Agency is managing the development of a new £54.7m flood defence scheme across Preston and South Ribble. The existing flood defences along the River Ribble were built between the 1920s and 1990s. They are now coming to the end of their life and need to be repaired or replaced.

Work will be across five areas: Broadgate & Riverside; Lower Penwortham; Frenchwood & Fishwick Bottoms; Higher Walton & Salmesbury; and Walton-le-Dale. Under the scheme, existing flood defences will be raised and new defences will be built. This will improve protection for around 5000 residential and business properties.

Throughout the project, we will be working closely with our partners at Lancashire County Council, Preston City Council, South Ribble Borough Council, and United Utilities. VolkerStevin have been appointed as our contractor to carry out the works.

The design of the flood defences

The new flood defences will be built higher than the existing ones and will include flood walls (topped with glass panels in some areas) and embankments. The design is sympathetic to the character of the local area and will enhance the riverside environment.

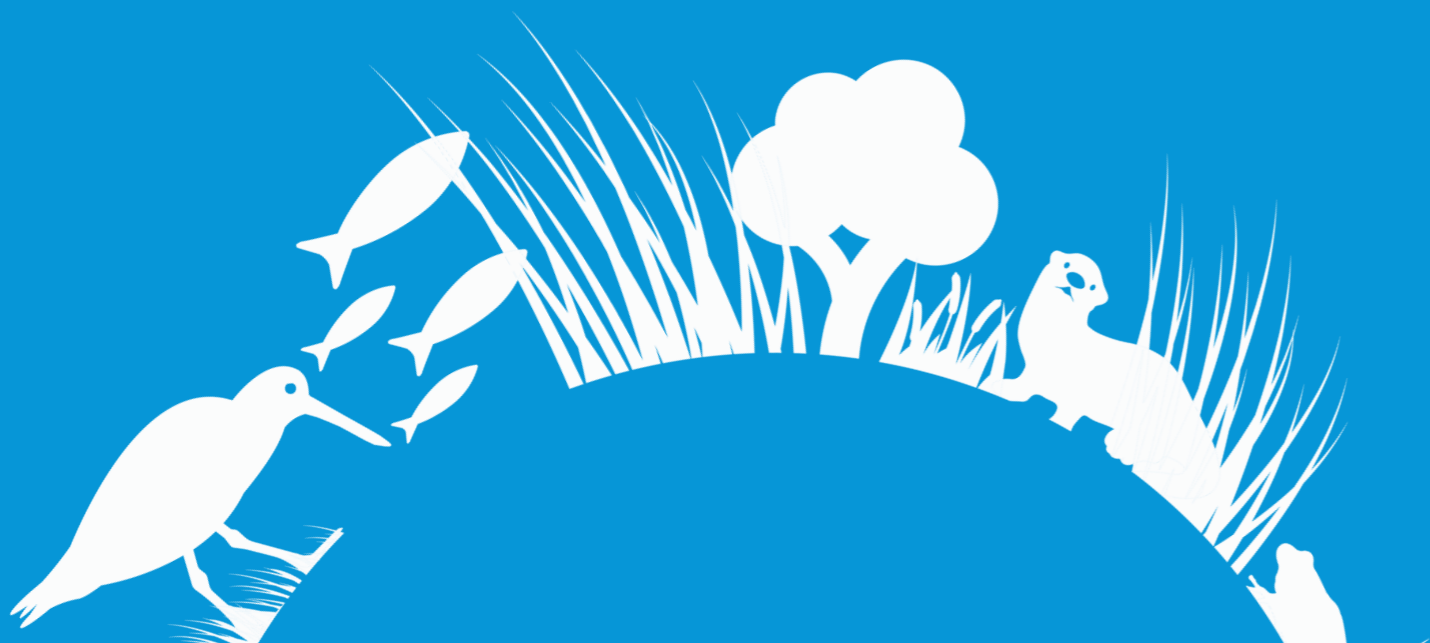
When is the work happening?

Design, planning, and ground investigation work have already been undertaken. Construction is set to begin in spring 2022 and is programmed to run until the end of 2024. During the construction, some road and footpath closures will be necessary.

Works will be scheduled in line with the recommendations of a Habitat Regulations Assessment, carried out as part of the planning process, to minimise disruption to nesting birds and other wildlife.

Future proofing against climate change

The scheme is being built in line with climate change projections, and we have designed the defences so they can be further enhanced and strengthened at a future date if required.



Frequently Asked Questions

We have addressed some of the most common concerns below, but if you have any additional queries then please contact the team at psr@environment-agency.gov.uk

Q: Will the new flood defences help with insurance for homes and businesses?

A: Reducing the risk of flooding and/or the impact a flood event may have, could make it easier for your property to be accepted by insurers or reduce your insurance premium.

However, this cannot be guaranteed as all insurance companies have different rules and standards when evaluating whether to insure a property in a known flood risk area. You can find more information by visiting www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr

Q: Are there any plans for dredging the river or gravel removal?

A: No. The riverbed around Broadgate is rock and therefore limited material can be removed. In addition, the volume of material that would need to be dredged or removed, in order to reduce flooding, would be very large and not cost effective.

Q: Will I still be able to access my property when the construction work starts?

A: Access will be maintained to properties, but there will be no vehicle access in some areas. Traffic management will be in place throughout the works. We will have operatives in the working area, who will stop works as required and direct residents along the residential footpath. Emergency access will be maintained at all times.

Q: Will I still be able to park on the road?

A: To undertake the work safely, some roads, or sections of road, will be closed to all non-construction traffic, including parking. Alternative parking will be provided, this may be on surrounding roads. Advanced closure notifications will be provided. We will endeavour to reopen roads as soon as possible.

Q: Will I still be able to have visitors and deliveries to my home?

A: Deliveries and visitor access will be maintained at all times. This will be done under the same conditions as residents accessing their property. We will require advanced notice to provide access for large delivery or removal vehicles, contact us via email at psr@environment-agency.gov.uk

Q: Will there be any changes to my bin collections?

A: Bin collection will be undertaken as usual. When we are working outside residents' properties, our team will move bins from your gates to outside the working area and then return them after the collection is completed.

Q: What hours will work take place and will it be noisy?

A: Our working hours are Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm, and Saturday 9am - 2pm. We do not anticipate working on weekends or bank holidays. With this type of construction noise is to be anticipated, however we will do all we can to minimise this as much as possible. Noise monitors will be in place to ensure that we are working within the permitted limit.

