

To the Occupier,

I am writing to provide an update to the residents of Penketh Court in regard to the ongoing flood risk management works the Environment Agency is undertaking at the debris screen on Penketh Brook adjacent to Penketh Court.

The Environment Agency is currently delivery the Penketh and Whittle Flood Risk Management Scheme which will reduce the risk of flooding to approximately 220 properties in the Penketh area of Warrington. As part of the wider project, the Environment Agency has been replacing the debris screen to ensure it meets current health and safety requirements for our operatives who undertake the clearance of the screen to prevent the culvert under Widnes Road becoming blocked and cause flooding.

The majority of the construction works have been completed and the screen is now operational. However there is one further outstanding element of construction still to be undertaken, to provide vehicular future maintenance access through the field gate at the top of the site from Farnworth Road. This section of works has been delayed significantly due to the presence of a gas main within the current footpath through the site and the requirement to liaise with Cadent Gas to ensure our proposals are not going to have a negative affect on their asset.

The project team met with Cadent Gas on site and have agreed a way forward subject to undertaking a trial hole to locate the current gas main and confirm the depth of the pipe below the ground level. The project team are liaising with Warrington Borough Council to get a formal footpath diversion in place before undertaking the trial hole. The timing of this is subject to the council's approval of the footpath diversion but we are hoping to undertake this works in the next couple of weeks.

Once the location of the gas main has been confirmed, we will then be undertaking the final access works which will involve laying matting and then reseeding the grass over the top. On completion, the area will look very much as it does now with a grassed area and footpath through the centre of the site down to the newly constructed debris screen. The access will only be used in the future by the Environment Agency maintenance team when there is debris to remove from the screen and for inspections of the screen post flood events.

Further information and progress updates are available at <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/penkethandwhittlefrms/>

Kind regards

Environment Agency Project Manager