

In Partnership with:

Hindley and Platt Bridge Flood Risk Newsletter.

Newsletter Number 2. September 2024

This newsletter is being issued electronically to Councillors, MPs and community contacts but can be circulated to anyone interested in this project.

On Boxing Day 2015, 44 homes were flooded from Borsdane Brook. We, the Environment Agency, have secured government funding to investigate ways to reduce this risk. We are working with Wigan Council, Bolton Council, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, and United Utilities to understand the risk of flooding from the brook and surface water, so we can take an integrated approach to flood management. The area serves as a pilot area for the Greater Manchester Integrated Water Management Plan. [Integrated Water Management Plan - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

To comply with government rules and secure funding, we must follow a process involving several stages, tests and approvals before construction can begin.

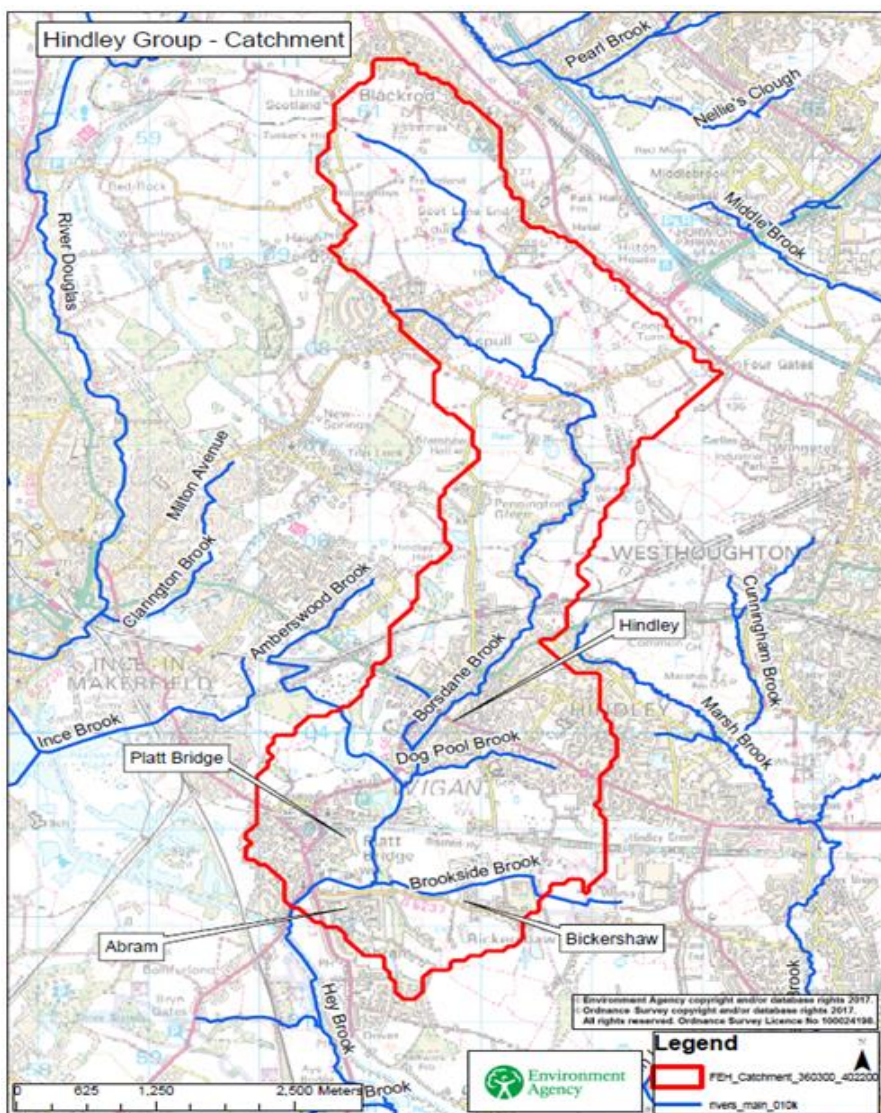
The three key stages of a scheme are appraisal, design, and construction. From start to finish these stages can take anywhere between three to six years or longer, depending on their size and complexity. For Hindley and Platt Bridge, we are currently at the appraisal stage. During this stage we are focused on defining the flooding problems and developing a range of possible options to reduce flood risk. Once that is complete, we will compare the impacts of each option and select the most effective and affordable solution.

Appraisal	Design	Construction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop options Consultation Select preferred Option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed design Secure funding Approvals and planning permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build it
2024	2026	2028

In our last newsletter, we mentioned that we are using a computer river model to understand the current flood risk and how it will change with a changing climate. This modelling has shown that there are 131 properties at very significant risk (1 in 5 chance per year) of flooding in Hindley and Platt Bridge from Borsdane Brook. Additionally, there are over 400 homes and 51 businesses facing a 1 in 100 chance of flooding. While that might not sound very risky, we still regard that as intermediate risk, between 'significant' and 'moderate'. With a changing climate, in one hundred years' time, these numbers will have doubled if no action is taken.

The good news is that our modelling has identified options that can reduce this risk. One option we have been looking at is a flood storage area upstream of Hindley, which could significantly reduce the risk of flooding in the area. However, constructing such a storage area is expensive and has many risks.

Over the next few months, we will continue to investigate the viability of a flood storage area. We will also develop further options to reduce flood risk where it runs through Hindley and Platt Bridge.



Study area

If the above studies prove that a scheme to reduce flood risk is viable, we will talk to communities about the options. We will then select our preferred option and seek funding to build it.

After completing the design and obtaining planning permission, we could potentially start building in 2028. However, this timeline depends on the issues we uncover during our investigations and securing enough funding from the government and other sources.

As the project progresses, we will engage with communities and other stakeholders, keeping them up to date with newsletters and public drop-in sessions where people can talk to us about our proposals.

We will also keep the Flood Hub website <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/> up to date, where you can find details about the project [Hindley Proposed Flood Risk Management Scheme | The Flood Hub](#). (This can be found on the Flood Hub website under Flood Risk Management Schemes>Proposed Flood Risk Management Schemes>Hindley (Greater Manchester).

If you wish to be kept up to date or receive newsletters by email about this project, please email floodresiliencegmmc@environment-agency.gov.uk

Reporting Flooding or blockages

If your home gets flooded, or you see something like a blockage in the river that could cause flooding or pollution please report it on the **Environment Agency's Incident Hotline 0800 807060**.

Free Flood Warnings

The Environment Agency has identified areas of Hindley and Platt Bridge that are at risk of flooding and can provide warnings of floods.

You can sign up to receive flood warnings for your home, call **Floodline** on **0345 988 1188**, or visit our website: [Sign up for flood warnings – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

The Environment Agency's produces maps that show the areas that are at risk of flooding, they can be found here:

[Flood map for planning - GOV.UK \(flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)


Environment Agency Flood Warnings




We issue 3 levels of flood warnings: Flood Alert, Flood Warning and Severe Flood Warning.


- **Flood Alert** – Prepare. Flooding is possible.
- **Flood Warning** – Act. Flooding to property is expected. Immediate action required.
- **Severe Flood Warning** – Survive. Severe flooding. Danger to life.

Know what to do when you receive a flood warning, use our 3-point flood plan.

Flood warnings - know what to do?



	FLOOD ALERT	PREPARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare a bag that includes medicines and insurance documents• Visit flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk
	FLOOD WARNING	ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turn off gas, water and electricity• Move things upstairs or to safety• Move family, pets and car to safety
	SEVERE FLOOD WARNING	SURVIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call 999 if in immediate danger• Follow advice from emergency services• Keep yourself and your family safe

floodsdestroy.campaign.gov.uk  Floodline on 0345 988 1188 #floodaware

Visit the Flood Hub to find out more information on how to prepare for flooding [The Flood Hub](http://www.floodhub.gov.uk),