

The Environment Agency is delivering a Flood Risk Management Scheme (FRMS) to better protect homes and businesses from flooding in the Kent Catchment, enhance the local environment and improve community amenities.

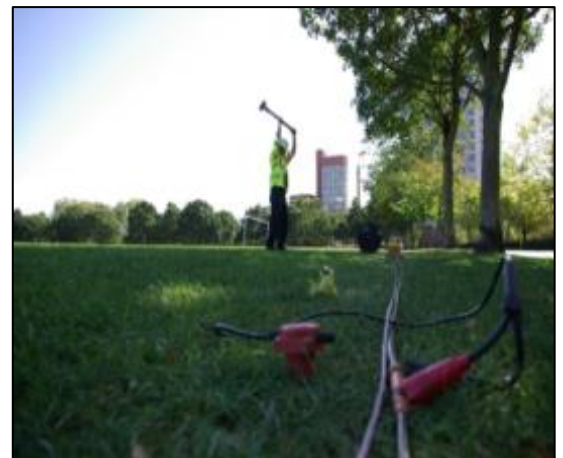
We are continuing our programme of surveys and investigations to inform development of the design of the proposed flood storage area at Ivy Bridge. Flood storage is an essential part of the flood risk management scheme, which aims to provide a 1-in-100-year standard of protection.

Our surveys explained

To give you advance notice, ground investigation (GI) works will commence during January and February 2026. VolkerStevin and Frugro, our specialist contractor will be undertaking the works. They are fully qualified and experienced in undertaking ground investigation works.

What will we see?

To progress the outline design of the proposed flood storage area we first need to build our knowledge of the ground conditions and underground features. To do this we will be undertaking **geophysical seismic surveys**. Very light touch in their nature, these investigations use 'seismic refraction' and 'electromagnetic conductivity' techniques.



Seismic refraction survey in progress

A Seismic Refraction survey involves placing a spiked 'geophone' at regular intervals along the survey line. The geophones are then connected to a seismograph by multi-core cables. A seismic source is then generated by striking a plastic plate, as shown in the image.

This will help determine:

- further detail about the location, depth and formation of the bedrock.
- the nature of faults, fissures and voids underground.

Bedrock is important because it provides a natural impermeable layer that will stop any seepage underground, a fundamental factor in the construction of flood storage. The GI will provide a high-level digital image of the underlying ground conditions, which will help us to understand the composition of the underground landscape.

What time of day will the survey works be undertaken?

Works will typically be carried out between 08:00 and 18:00, Monday to Friday (daylight dependent). Noise levels will be kept to a minimum where possible. In the event weekend work is required residents will be notified.

How long will you take to complete this work?

We envisage that the surveys will take two to three weeks to carry out and be complete by the end of February.

How will you access the area?

Due to the distances needed to travel, the team are planning to use an 'argocat' to access the area. This is a small 8 wheeled off-road vehicle, designed to travel over difficult terrain like mud, snow and water. Use of the argocat will mean that we do not need to lay down track matting.



An argocat vehicle

Will there be impacts on traffic or pedestrians?

If traffic or pedestrian management is required, it will be put in place for the safety of all.

How many people will there be undertaking surveys?

This will vary but there will be a minimum of two operatives, one supervisor and two specialists operating the specialist structural survey equipment. The Environmental Clerk of Works will also be present on occasions. The total number of operatives at any given location will be kept to the absolute minimum required.

Where will we find the latest information?

We will continue to keep you up to date with newsletter updates, with all information available on our flood scheme website www.thefloodhub.co.uk/upperkent - navigate to the 'What's Happening' page.

Alternatively, you can visit us at our Flood Scheme Information Hub based on Beeson Road Kendal (adjacent to Lidl supermarket). We are open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 4.30pm.

Contact us
and keeping
up to date

Visit our online information hub at:
www.thefloodhub.co.uk/Kendal
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