

Poise Brook Flood Risk Management Scheme

March 2026

Welcome to the Poise Brook flood risk management scheme newsletter, providing an update on how the project is progressing.

Project Background

The Environment Agency is in the early stages of exploring options to reduce flood risk in the Offerton Green and Hazel Grove area. The catchment has experienced significant flooding in recent years, with notable events occurring in 2016 and 2019, and more recently 2025. 581 properties currently lie within the Environment Agency's Flood Warning Area.

We are currently progressing through the appraisal stage of the Poise Brook Scheme. To date we have assessed flood risk across the catchment, produced a long list of measures that could help reduce flooding or its impact and we are combining these to create a short list of options. Using rules set by Government and balancing various pros and cons, a preferred option will be selected

to take forward into the Outline Business Case.

Business cases are stages that are required of us to show that a flood risk management scheme is cost effective, technically viable, environmentally acceptable, and deliverable. They provide the evidence needed to secure funding from Government and project approvals, ensuring that public money is spent on options that offer the greatest benefit to communities.

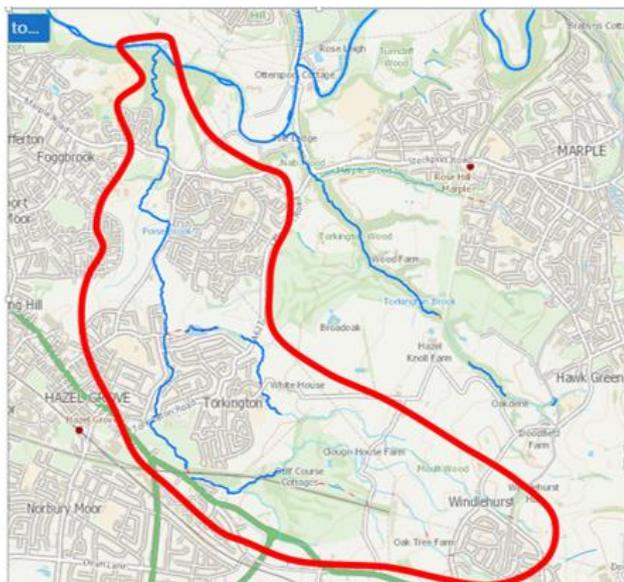


Figure 1 Study Area for Poise Brook Scheme

Options Development

At this point, no preferred option has been selected, options currently include:

- Temporary storage of water during heavy rainfall within Torkington Park
- Linear defences, such as walls or embankments
- Upgrading and extending the existing Minsmere earth embankments
- Culvert improvements to increase capacity and reduce blockage risk
- Property Flood Resilience (PFR)
- Targeted Natural Flood Management (NFM) interventions

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Ground Investigations

Ground investigations have recently been carried out at several locations across Stockport, including within Torkington Park. These investigations help us understand the local ground conditions, which is essential for assessing the feasibility and design of potential flood risk management measures. A small second round of ground investigations is still required; these are hoping to be completed in March 2026.

Funding

For the scheme to progress to the next stage of the business case process to enter detailed design phase, it must be fully funded. We continue to work with partners, such as Stockport Council, to identify opportunities to close the remaining funding gap.

From April 2026, changes to the Government's partnership funding rules have reduced the size of this gap, however, competition for available funding is high.

The new rules mean that more projects will be eligible for funding in the future. Therefore, projects will need to be prioritised to ensure the investment programme as a whole meets the Government's strategic objectives set out in the funding policy.

This means that some projects, including the Poise Brook Flood Risk Management Scheme, are being reviewed to ensure alignment under the new funding approach. Where there is poor alignment, the Environment Agency will work directly with local teams and communities to develop new project proposals.



Flooding of Offerton Green 11th June 2016

Flood Warnings

You can get free flood alerts and warnings for properties at risk from the river through the Environment Agency by phone, text or email. Register by calling Floodline on **0345 988 1188** or online at **www.gov.uk/get-flood-warnings**.

Future Engagement

We will be arranging drop-in sessions in summer 2026, where residents, communities, and partners can:

- Learn more about the scheme
- View the options being developed
- Ask questions and share feedback

Details on dates, times, and venues will be shared closer to the event.

If you have any further questions, please contact floodresiliencegmmc@environment-agency.gov.uk

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