

Chorley Road

The existing brick wall to the rear of the properties on Chorley Road will be removed and replaced with a flood defence wall. The new flood defence wall will be up to 0.7m tall and clad in brick, topped with a wooden fence for privacy and security.

Where the change in height required to meet the flood defence level is small, a HGV standard kerb will be used to tie the new flood defence wall into the surrounding high ground.



A visualisation of the proposals for the Chorley Road



A visualisation of the proposals for the Blue Bridge area

Blue Bridge

A low flood embankment will be constructed along the existing access track at Blue Bridge, off Higher Walton Road, to the River Darwen and Environment Agency monitoring station, next to the public footpath. This embankment will enhance flood protection for Walton-le-Dale by reducing the risk of flooding along Higher Walton Road.

To facilitate these works a satellite compound will be required at Blue Bridge Nursery.



Flood wall along the Boulevard, Frenchwood

Maintenance on existing defences

In some areas of Walton-le-Dale and Frenchwood in Preston there is no requirement to raise or replace the existing flood defences as the height is sufficient, and the defences are in good order. Nevertheless, we have carried out routine maintenance to extend the life of these defences, so they continue to reduce the risk from flooding.

Maintenance work has been carried out along the Boulevard in Frenchwood, across the river near Ashbridge Nursery, and in Walton Green.

Find out more about the flood risk management scheme

We will continually seek to engage with residents, businesses, and the wider community as the Scheme progresses in your area. If you would like to provide feedback and/or receive updates, then you can:

VISIT OUR INFORMATION HUB - You are welcome to visit the Information Hub and speak to an advisor. We are open on Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am-3pm at BAC/EE Social & Sports Association, off South Meadow Lane, Preston, PR1 8JP.

EMAIL US - You can provide feedback and sign-up for our newsletter by contacting us via psr@environment-agency.gov.uk

DOWNLOAD THE ENGAGE APP - We post regular updates on the VolkerStevin Engage App. Use the QR code below to download or visit your App Store and search 'VolkerStevin Engage'. You can also use the App to ask questions and to provide feedback.



WRITE TO US - If you do not have access to the internet, then you can write to us:

Preston and South Ribble FRMS, Comms & Engagement c/o Lancashire PSO Team, Environment Agency Lutra House, Dodd Way, Off Seedlee Road, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 8BX

Please note, there can be a delay in mail reaching the correct member of staff.

If you wish, please include your telephone number and we will contact you by phone.



PLEASE RECYCLE

WINTER 2025

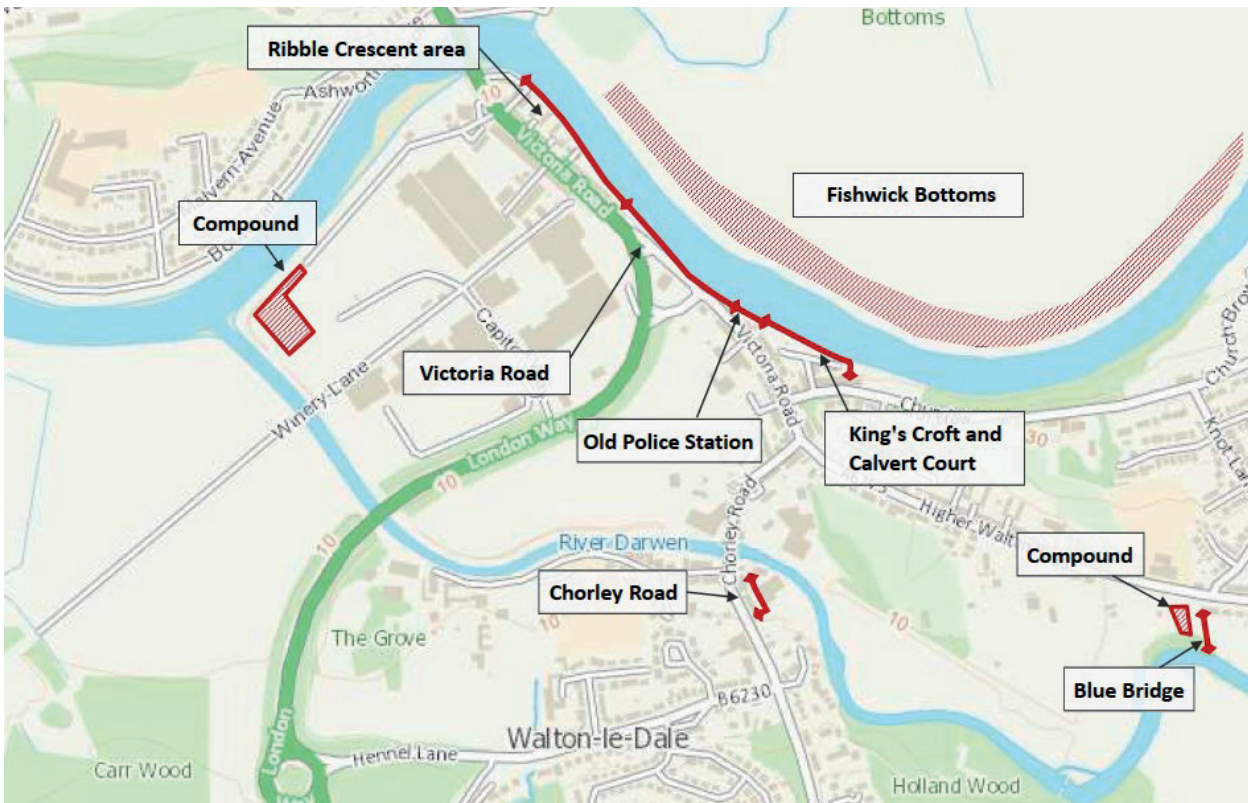
PRESTON & SOUTH RIBBLE
FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME
NEWSLETTER



Introducing Preston and South Ribble Flood Risk Management Scheme Phase 2

Phase 2 of the Preston and South Ribble Flood Risk Management Scheme focuses on strengthening flood defences along the River Ribble in Walton-le-Dale and at key sections of the River Darwen, including Chorley Road and at Blue Bridge, off Higher Walton Road. Across Phase 2 of the Scheme, the condition of existing assets has been assessed and maintenance work has been undertaken, where necessary, to extend their design life.

Following a recent public consultation, the proposals are now progressing through the planning process with South Ribble Borough Council. The aim of this phase is to reduce flood risk from both the River Darwen and the River Ribble across Walton-le-Dale, while also helping to mitigate the future impacts of climate change. Lancashire County Council and United Utilities are exploring options to address surface-water issues in the area, and we are in ongoing contact with them as this work progresses.



A map of the proposals for Phase 2 of the Preston and South Ribble Flood Risk Management Scheme

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Flood Scheme Area Updates

Public consultation and planning application

A planning application for Phase 2 of the Scheme has now been submitted to South Ribble Borough Council for works at Victoria Road, Blue Bridge and Chorley Road. Applications are also being submitted for notices of permitted development for Ribble Crescent and King’s Croft and Calvert Court.

The planning application follows the public consultation held between 5 May and 5 June 2025, during which the Environment Agency gathered valuable feedback from the community. Engagement with stakeholders and residents has been central to shaping the Scheme since 2018, with previous consultation rounds held in 2019 and 2020.

Across the consultation the Environment Agency received 46 responses. Key themes included:

Support for the Scheme	50% of respondents expressed support, while 31% indicated opposition.
Benefits identified	Respondents identified reduced flood risk and the protection of property and businesses as the most important benefits of the Scheme.
Victoria Road proposals	Concerns were raised about environmental impacts, particularly the removal of the Lime trees.
Blue Bridge and Chorley Road	No specific feedback was received on the proposals for Blue Bridge and Chorley Road.

Victoria Road Lime trees

Removing trees is not something the Environment Agency undertakes lightly. Extensive investigations, including tree root radar surveys and engineering assessments, were carried out to try and identify alternative designs that could preserve them.

Unfortunately, due to the density and spread of the root systems, and the proximity of the trees to the required working area, it is not feasible to retain them and construct the flood defences. To enable the works, we will have to remove 18 of the 21 Lime trees, with

the trees on the Victoria Road viewing platform being retained.

As part of the Scheme, the Environment Agency is delivering significant environmental benefits, including planting over 14,000 new trees across Preston and South Ribble. This includes 8,450 trees and 2,550 hawthorn hedges already planted at Fishwick Bottoms. The Environment Agency is also exploring ways to preserve the legacy of the Lime trees, and has taken 180 cuttings to be propagated and replanted elsewhere in the community.

Preston and South Ribble Flood Risk Management Scheme Phase 2 proposals

AREA 3: WALTON-LE-DALE

Ribble Crescent area

The proposals for the Ribble Crescent area will raise the height of the existing flood defence wall between Bridge Terrace and the Victoria Road viewing platform by approximately 0.5m. This will be achieved by installing glass panels on top of the existing flood wall.

Glass panels have been used across Phase 1 of the Scheme in Preston to increase the height of flood protection delivered by defences, while maintaining views for residents and visitors. The glass panels form part of the defences and are strong enough to withstand the forces of flood water.

As part of the Scheme, the Victoria Road viewing platform will be refurbished, and the flood wall will be raised to align with the upgraded defences along Victoria Road.



A visualisation of the proposals for the Ribble Crescent area



A visualisation of the proposals for the Victoria Road area

Victoria Road

Along Victoria Road, the existing flood defence wall will be replaced with a new wall, increasing the height of the defences by approximately 0.3m. The new flood defence wall has been designed with large foundations, so that it is possible to raise the height of the defences in future if needed to keep pace with climate change.

The increased height of the new flood wall is necessary to enhance flood protection across Walton-le-Dale. Additionally, the existing flood wall along Victoria Road is showing signs of structural movement and needs to be replaced with a more resilient and durable defence.

King’s Croft and Calvert Court

Following recent updates to flood modelling, we have identified the need for enhanced maintenance works at King’s Croft and Calvert Court. As part of these works, the height of the flood wall and embankment will be increased by up to 0.2m. This will be achieved by installing a larger coping on the flood walls and adding a capping beam on to the core of the embankment, which will be recovered with earth.

This will help ensure the level of flood protection in this area is consistent with other defences delivered across Phase 2 of the Scheme. We will continue to engage with local residents ahead of construction commencing to share more information about the works.

Follow the Flood Scheme’s progress on
X @EnvAgencyNW Instagram envagencynw

Get the latest updates on your phone with the **VolkerStevin Engage App**. Use the QR or visit your app store to download. You can also visit our website at www.thefloodhub.co.uk/psr

