

The Flood Scheme in Numbers

Over £55 million invested in the community

1,861 metres of flood defences constructed

563 wall units and **208 glazing panels** installed

Almost 20,000 tonnes of clay to create embankments

4 floodgates erected ready to be closed when there is a flood warning

191,454 hours of construction (as of April 2026)

3 revetments constructed to prevent riverbank erosion

14,000 trees planted to boost biodiversity and improve green spaces

1 new wildlife habitat created at Ribble Sidings

2 community spaces refurbished at Miller Park and Broadgate Gardens

3 new community football pitches created for recreation

3 sustainable drainage systems installed at local schools

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:

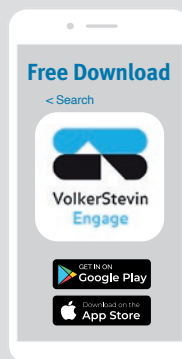
› **VISIT OUR INFORMATION HUB** - You are welcome to visit the Information Hub and speak to an advisor. Open Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am-3pm at BAC/EE Social & Sports Association, off South Meadow Lane, Preston, PR1 8JP.

› **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 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.



JUNE 2026

PRESTON & SOUTH RIBBLE FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME NEWSLETTER



Securing Our Future: Phase 1 Complete

I'm delighted to introduce this final community newsletter marking the completion of Phase 1 of the Flood Scheme. Since the 2015 storms, which came close to overtopping defences, we've worked closely with our partners to design and deliver vital protection for Broadgate and Riverside in Preston and Lower Penwortham.

This has been a complex and, at times, challenging project. The pandemic, record rainfall in 2023, difficult ground conditions, the need to work around existing infrastructure, and the impact of construction on daily life have all tested us.

Nonetheless, after careful planning, engineering innovation, and continued engagement, Phase 1 has been successfully completed. Alongside new and improved flood defences, the project has also

delivered environmental enhancements and upgraded public spaces.

On behalf of the entire team, I'd like to sincerely thank you for your patience, understanding, and support throughout the works. We know construction hasn't been without disruption, and your cooperation has been essential in helping us reach this milestone.

This project demonstrates what can be achieved when communities and organisations work together, and we are proud to leave a lasting legacy of flood resilience for your community.

Richard

Richard Knight | Environment Agency Project Sponsor



Jacobs

VolkerStevin

Environment
Agency

From Flood Risk to Flood Resilience

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



2015: Recognising the Risk

Following Storms Desmond and Eva in 2015—when the River Ribble reached record levels—it became clear that long-term flood protection was needed to safeguard local communities.



Flooding



Wall panels made

2021: Design and Planning

By 2021, a wide range of engineering options had been explored. Planning permission for Phase 1 was granted by Lancashire County Council, confirming that over 1.8km of flood defences would be constructed, extended, or upgraded to protect properties on both sides of the River Ribble.

2022-2026: Construction

Works began with strengthening the sewers and diverting services. Other early activities included building embankments near the old railway viaduct at Golden Way and behind St Mary Magdalen's Primary School. Additional construction took place at Penwortham Bridge Methodist Church, where flood walls and embankments now protect the surrounding area.

Sheet piles and concrete piled foundations were installed ready for the flood walls. A redi-rock revetment was constructed near Penwortham Old Bridge, to protect the riverbank. By the end of 2023, the Broadgate footpath and cycleway had reopened.

In 2024, flood walls with glass panels were installed along both sides of the river, Broadgate Gardens was officially reopened, and two floodgates were installed at the Miller Park entrance. The riverbank was protected with rock armour and rock bags. Behind Margaret Road, the embankment was constructed using 18,000 tonnes of clay. The flood defences in Lower Penwortham were completed by the end of the year with roads and footpaths reopened.

During 2025, the Scheme focused on Riverside, installing the final flood walls with glass panels, and two more floodgates. Riverbank works were also completed near Miller Park with the placement of hundreds of rock bags. By the end of the year most footpaths and roads were reopened.

Over at Fishwick Bottoms, volunteers planted 8,400 trees, this added to the trees already planted at Golden Way and Ribble Sidings – bringing the total to almost 14,000.



Defences at Penwortham Bridge Methodist Church

2015

2018-2020

2021

2022-2026

2026

2018-2020: Investigations

Detailed surveys, ground investigations, and flood modelling were carried out to develop an effective solution. Engagement with residents continued throughout this period, including during the pandemic, ensuring local voices helped shape designs.



Broadgate Gardens and the viewing platform



Walls and glass panels on Riverside



Rock armour (left) and Riverside under construction (right)

2026: Delivering Resilience

By April, construction of the final flood walls, glass panels, and floodgates had been completed. The riverside path, which includes the Guild Wheel, reopened to the public, marking the close of Phase 1.



S6 Panels



Riverside

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