



Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures will be installed at more than 240 properties by the end of May 2026. When completed later this year, the programme will have benefitted approximately 260 properties in Wardleworth and Littleborough. The measures are designed to reduce the impact of surface water flooding and fluvial flooding for vulnerable homes. Wet testing is being carried out on flood resistant door sets and flood barriers to check they are resilient to a simulated flood event impacting the property.

Olive Standing House, managed by Rochdale Boroughwide Housing Ltd (RBH), is an independent living facility in Littleborough. PFR measures, such as flood barriers for door entries and non-return valves to pipework to help mitigate against flooding, have been installed. Rainwater planters to help manage surface water around the building will be planted by staff and residents with volunteers from the Environment Agency. Olive Standing House, along with other properties in the area, was badly affected in the 2015 Boxing Day floods resulting from Storm Eva. The Resilient Roch team are working with staff from RBH and the residents at Olive Standing House to develop and provide training so that staff are fully aware of how to deploy the PFR measures in the event of a flood.

Holy Trinity Primary School has now received new rainwater planters. These planters will create a school rain garden to:

- Collect and store rainwater for school use
- Help teach pupils about water conservation
- Provide vibrant planting opportunities for sensory and biodiversity friendly species

Children at the school will help design and plant the new features, encouraging hands-on learning about sustainability. The planting will be carried out in the summer term.

Rochdale Borough Council is very keen to work with local schools as part of the Resilient Roch project on practical or classroom projects with pupils. Please get in touch with the team to register your interest.

✉ resilientroch@rochdale.gov.uk

Community engagement

The Resilient Roch project offers free flood resilience advice for residents in the Borough with a current focus on Littleborough and Wardleworth. Recently, the Resilient Roch team and the Environment Agency have been working with local schools to help children learn about flooding, climate change, and how we can be more resilient. This has included producing a stop motion film of the children's take of a flood event in their local area. The team have been working with local film makers in these workshops which includes learning about how floods occur and exploring the process of story boards and film making.

CONTACT US

How will we keep you updated and involve you?

We plan to keep communities up to date via updates on the Flood Hub and newsletters, all future newsletters will be posted on the Flood Hub <https://thefloodhub.co.uk>. We will also continue to use the Littleborough Flood Action Group to share information with residents.

In addition, the latest updates around our works can also be found on the Volker Engage app. The app allows you to receive regular updates of ongoing works and communication directly to your phone. You can also use the app to send any queries or provide feedback to our updates. Instructions to download the app can be found below.

If you have any queries or concerns and would like to speak to a member of the project team, please email:

rochdaleandlittleborough.FAS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Appointments available on request.



Scan the QR Code or search 'Volker Engage' to download



FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Littleborough Flood Risk Management Scheme Newsletter. Providing you with an update on how Phase 1B of the scheme is progressing.

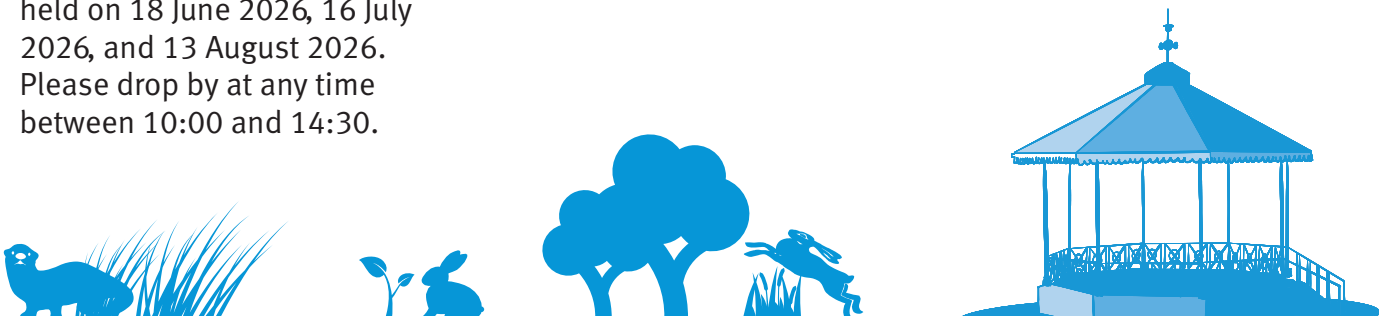
Progress update

Work is continuing, and despite inclement weather conditions we have been able to progress our earthworks at Gale West and Gale East. The table on the right provides a brief outline of the progress of each part of the scheme. For activities listed that are starting shortly, we will contact any affected residents prior to works starting with more information.

Library drop-in sessions

We are continuing to hold our drop-in sessions at Littleborough Library on Hare Hill Road (OL15 9HE) throughout the summer. This is an opportunity to come and chat with the team and learn more about the Littleborough Flood Risk Management Scheme. Our next drop-in sessions will be held on 18 June 2026, 16 July 2026, and 13 August 2026. Please drop by at any time between 10:00 and 14:30.

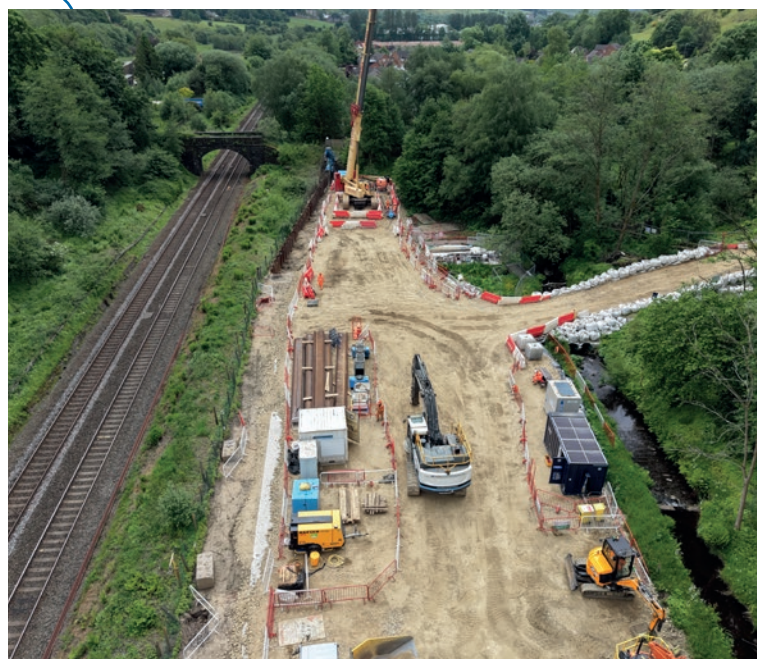
Littleborough FRMS Phase 1B Scheme Overview		
Location	Works	Schedule
Gale West	Embankment Works	Ongoing
	River Roch Drainage and Infill	Complete
	Pressure Relief Wells	Starting shortly
	Public Rights of Way Installation	Complete
	Outlet Structure	Ongoing, minor works
Gale East	Embankment Works	Ongoing
	Construction of Hammerhead and turning circle	Complete
	Downstream River Diversion	Almost Complete
	Upstream River Diversion	Starting shortly
Shottwood Fold	Riverbank Erosion Protection Works	Complete
	Landscaping	Ongoing
	Property Flood Resilience Works	Ongoing
Grove Lodge	Enabling Works	Complete
	Piling	Ongoing
Ealees Brook	Site Clearance and Preparation	Complete
	Piling	To be confirmed
Centre Vale	To be confirmed	To be confirmed



Grove Lodge

The area is now undergoing a major stage of construction. A new piling platform was successfully put in place, allowing our engineers to install new permanent sheet piles, forming the flood defence structure parallel to the railway line. During installation, residents may experience an increase in construction vehicles and equipment moving to and from site, which may cause some noise and vibration. To help minimise impacts, we are using vibration-less methods for the installation of sheet piles. This work is due to finish towards the end of August, and will be followed by site demobilisation and clearance.

[Sheet piling in progress at Grove Lodge >](#)



Shottwood Fold

At Shottwood Fold, we are working to finalise the riverbank grading work, grass seeding, and additional planting along the riverbank. The team has also started to install a limited amount of Property Flood Resilience measures around pre-surveyed properties and reinstate the surrounding land.

Trinity Medical Centre

As part of our work delivering the Scheme, we will be undertaking further ground investigation surveys behind the Trinity Medical Centre. As part of this, trial holes will be drilled on the west side of the wall along the River Roch. These surveys are an important early step in understanding the ground conditions for any works to the existing flood risk management assets.

Ealees Brook

At Ealees Brook, we have completed site clearance and are continuing enabling works. Trial holes have been dug to help the team assess existing service lines and pipes in the ground. Structural surveys have also been complete, allowing the engineers to plan the safest and most effective approach for the works. Once complete, we will begin temporary works, including marking out the sheet pile line and installing a platform to support future construction activities.

Gale West

Earthworks are currently being carried out, including the construction of the west and southern embankments. Once complete, these embankments will be seeded and form the perimeter of the flood storage reservoir. In addition, sheet piles will be installed along the west embankment of the site and pressure relief wells are being installed to help stabilise soil conditions.

We are close to completing the construction of the access tracks on the western end of the site. This will be used by the Environment Agency's operation teams to routinely inspect and maintain the new assets once construction works are complete.

Near Glen View, we have also been working to drain and infill the former River Roch channel. This includes the stone bridge over the channel, which has been backfilled with concrete and a drainage pipe installed.

[Construction of the access track in progress at Gale West >](#)



Gale East

We have now completed the installation of hammerhead and turning area at Gale East. The team has resumed construction of the west embankment to the south of the diversion structure. Topsoil is also being placed to restore areas to the finished level, helping to preserve the nutrient-rich upper layer of soil and create a suitable growth medium for vegetation.

We will also be excavating areas upstream, downstream and beneath the former flume to form new sections of the river channel. [Hammerhead and turning area under construction >](#)



GNG Foam Converters

Our team will be carrying out a range of pre-enabling works along the river and the surrounding working areas near GNG Foam Converters, off Todmorden Road. This will include setting up access to the site, installation of scaffolding, and excavating and preparing the ground for a new concrete base. This will be followed by the construction of the new brick wall structure and reinstatement of the riverbed. The team will continue to utilise extra road sweepers and dust suppression measures to minimise the impact from dust on dry days during these works.

