

# Hindley, Platt Bridge Abram

## Flood Risk Public Consultation



**TUESDAY 1st SEPT**  
**ANYTIME 12:00 – 18:00**  
**PLATT HOUSE SURGERY,**  
**RIVINGTON AVE, WN2 5NG**

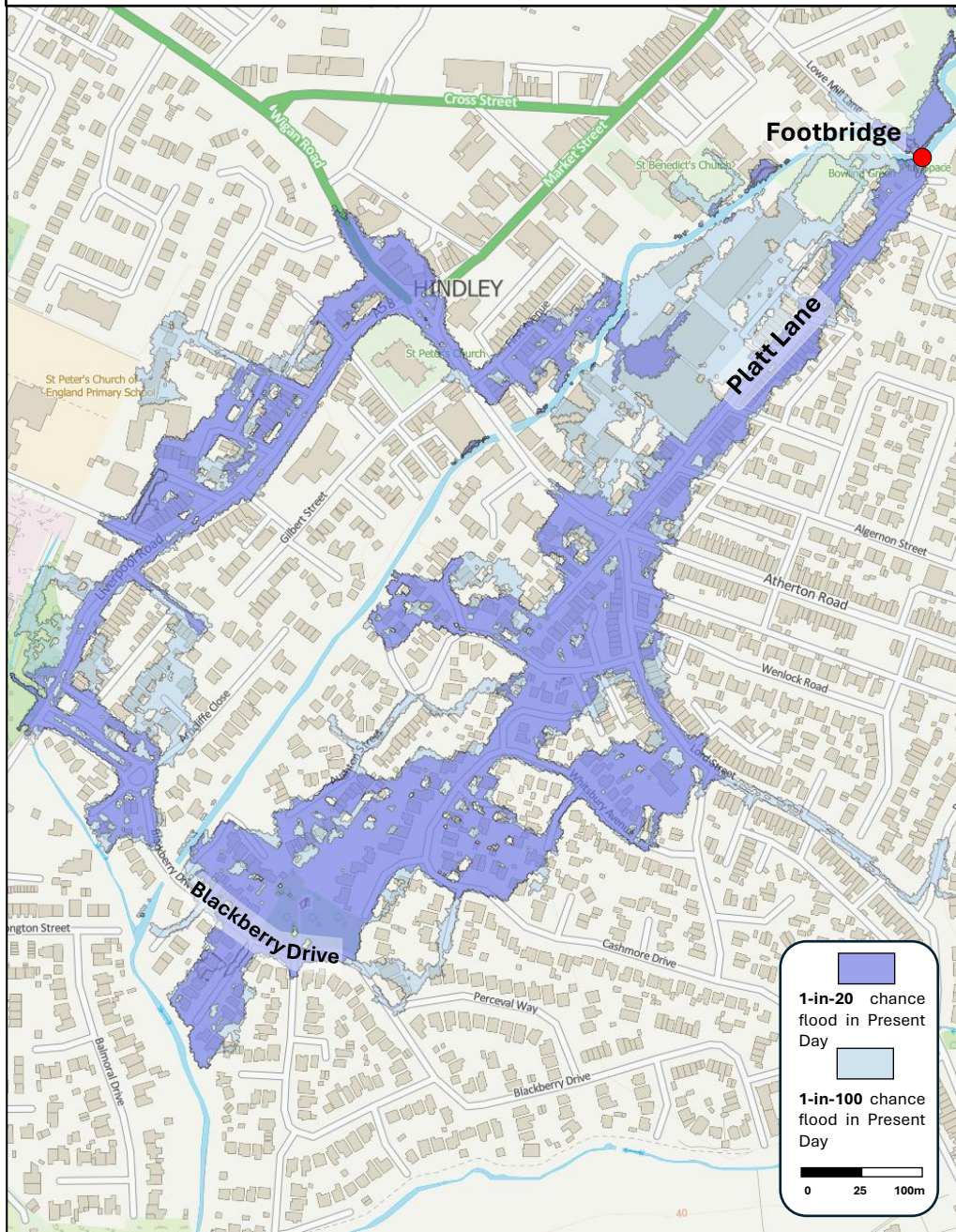
**THURSDAY 3rd SEPT**  
**ANYTIME 12:00 – 19:00**  
**TESCO EXTRA HINDLEY**  
**CROSS STREET, WN2 3AT**



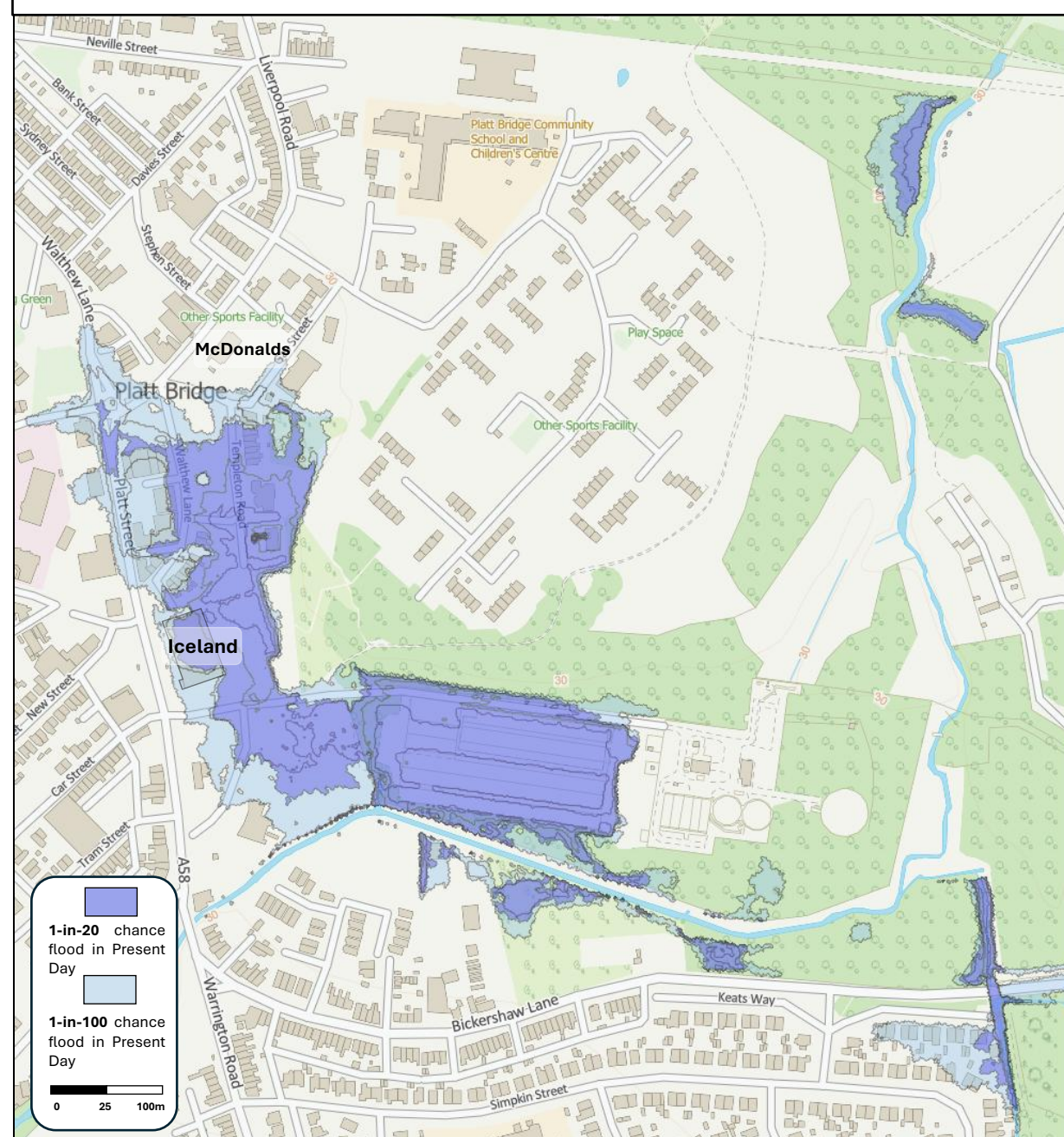
**Environment  
Agency**

*In partnership  
with:* **Wigan Council**

# Hindley River Flood Risk



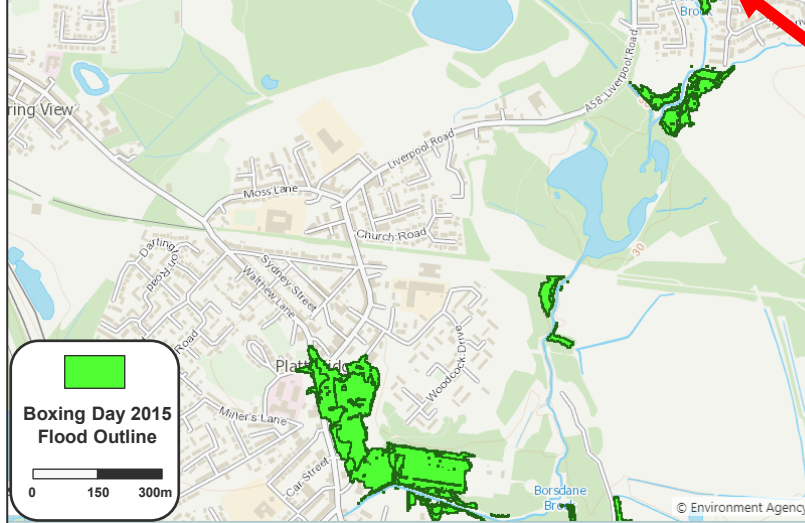
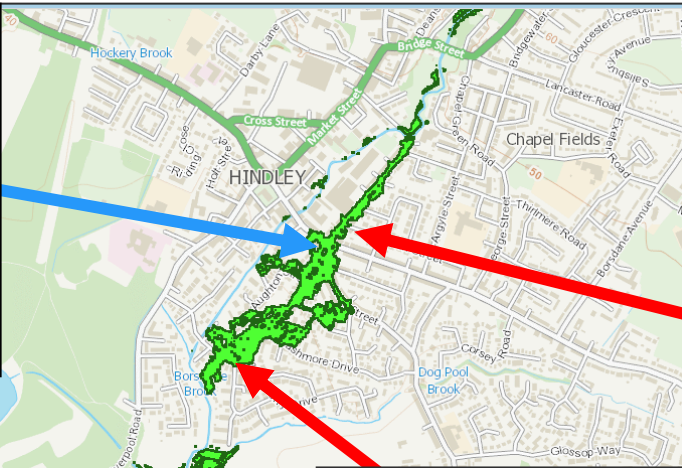
# Platt Bridge & Abram River Flood Risk



# Hindley: Flooding history

**26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015 Storm Eva 44 homes and businesses flooded in Hindley, Platt Bridge and Abram**

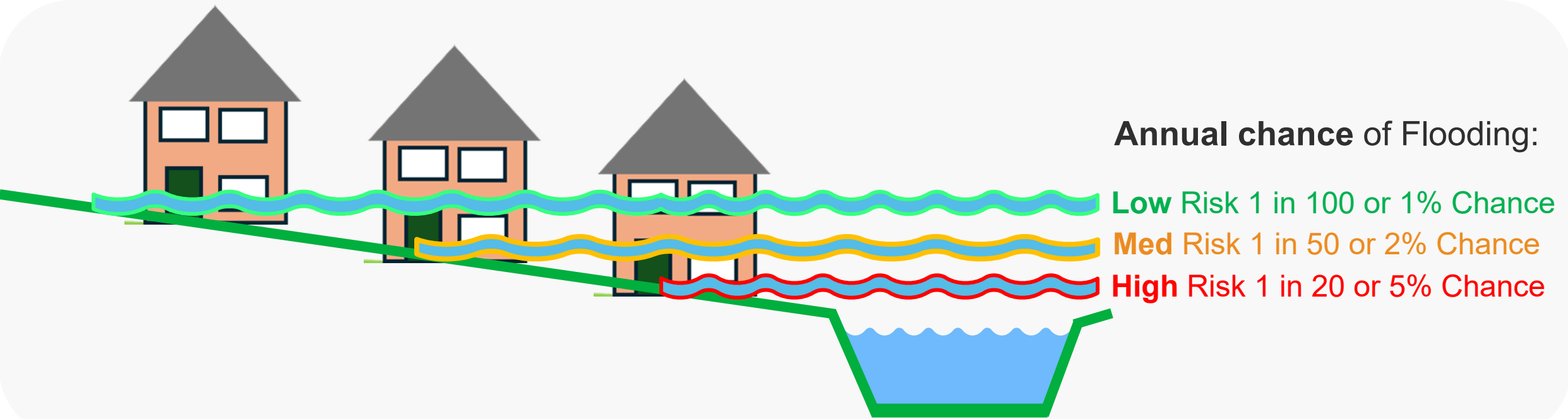
**03<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2024 - Storm Henk 2 homes, and 5 businesses flooded** (Picture - Blue arrow)



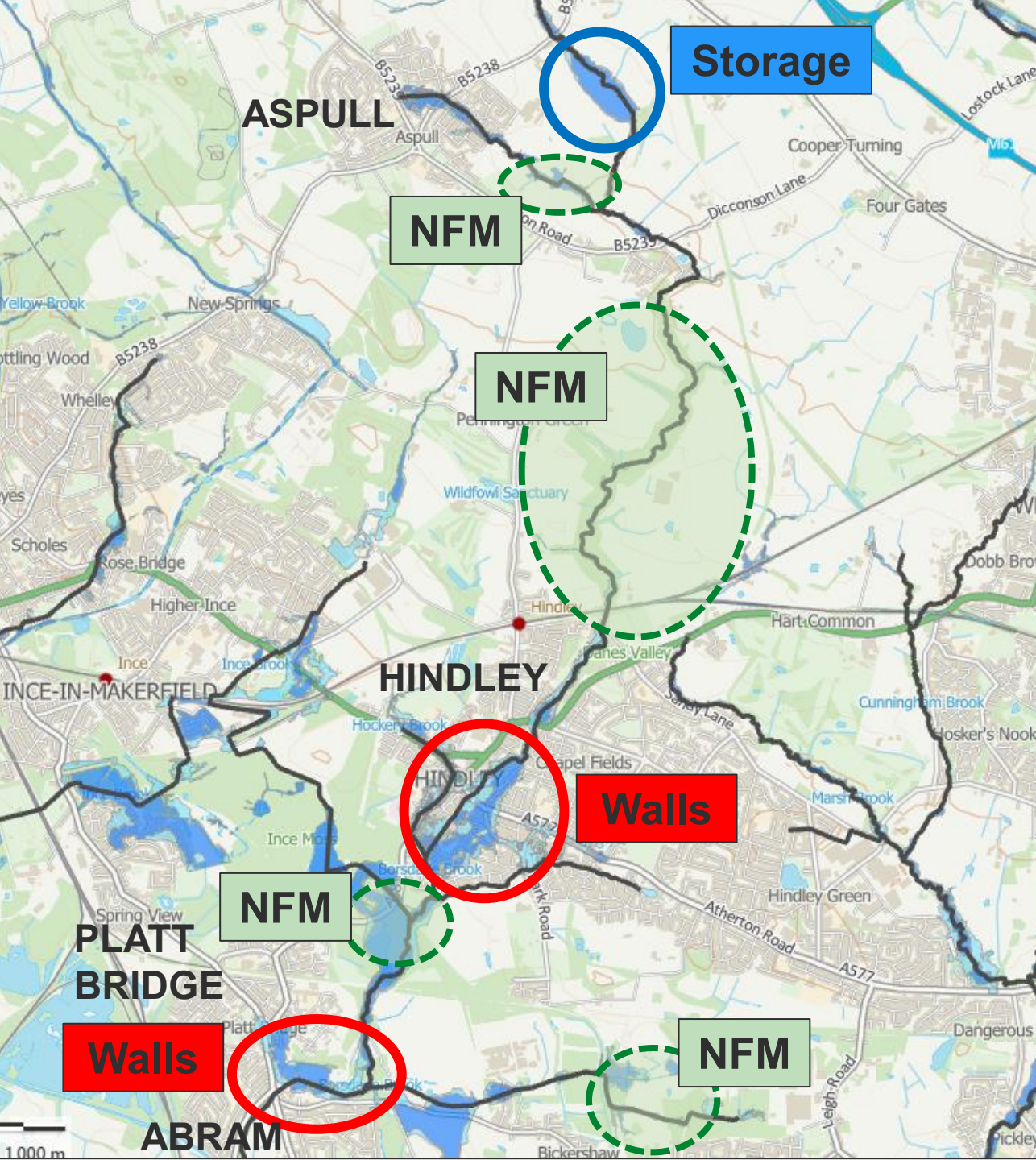
# 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 Platt Bridge and Abram 56 homes and businesses flooded



# What is River Flood Risk?



| Return period | Do Nothing Present Day | Do Minimum Present Day | Climate Change 2080 Do Minimum |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 in 10       | 446                    | 216                    | 513                            |
| 1 in 20       | 515                    | 361                    | 605                            |
| 1 in 50       | 632                    | 459                    | 673                            |
| 1 in 100      | 736                    | 574                    | 726                            |



# Proposed measures for reducing river flood risk

NFM

**Natural Flood Management (nfm)** at Aspull, Borsdane Woods, Low Hall Flash and Victoria Fields

Storage

**Flood Storage** at Aspull

Walls

**Flood walls and Channel**

**Improvements** like replacing footbridge and weir removal in Hindley. Walls in Platt Bridge and Abram

The preferred option is likely to be a combination of these measures

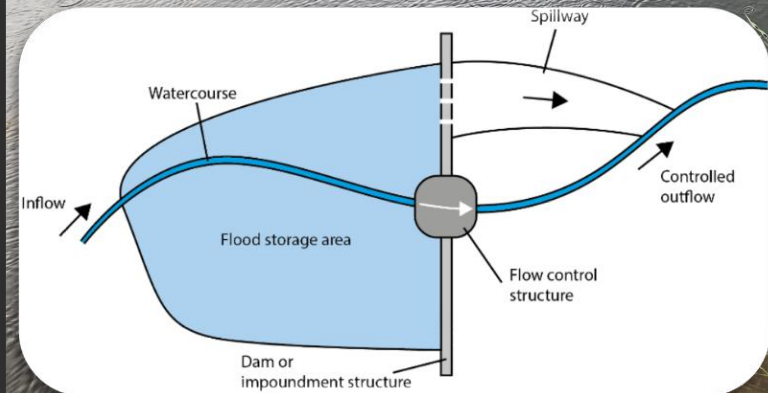
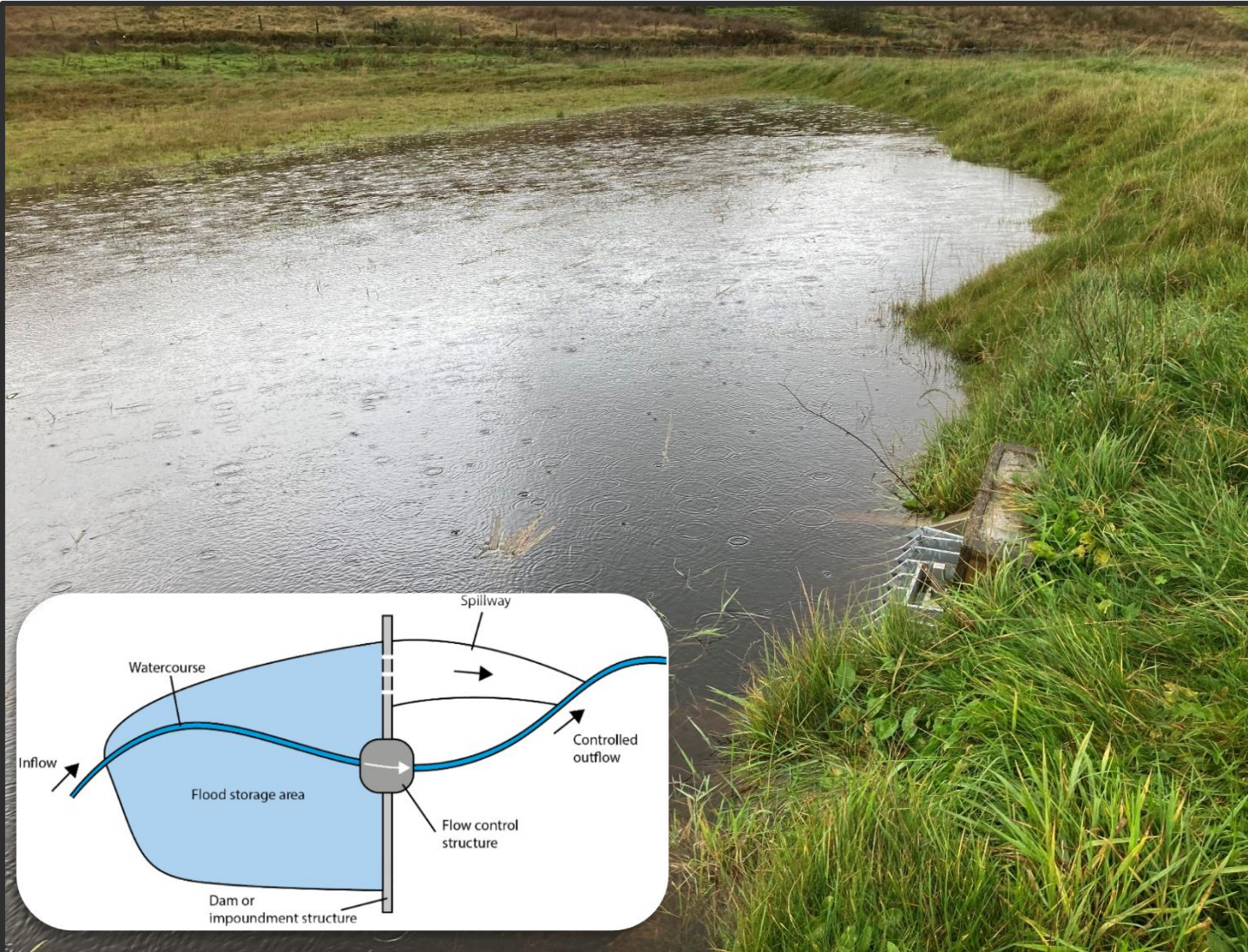
# Options to Reduce Flood Risk

- All options include **Natural Flood Management**
- **Option 1: Flood Storage at Aspull only**  
Protects up to 1 in 10 flood At Plat Bridge, higher standard Hindley
- **Option 2: Flood Walls** in Hindley and Platt Bridge  
This can provide a variety of standards of protection up to 1 in 100, involves nearly 2km of walls up to 2 metres high
- **Option 3: Flood Storage at Aspull, Channel Improvements and smaller and shorter Flood Walls** in Hindley and Platt Bridge.  
This can provide a *variety of standards of protection up to 1 in 100.*

Higher standards of protection need bigger defences which cost more money but also give greater benefits

# Natural Flood Management

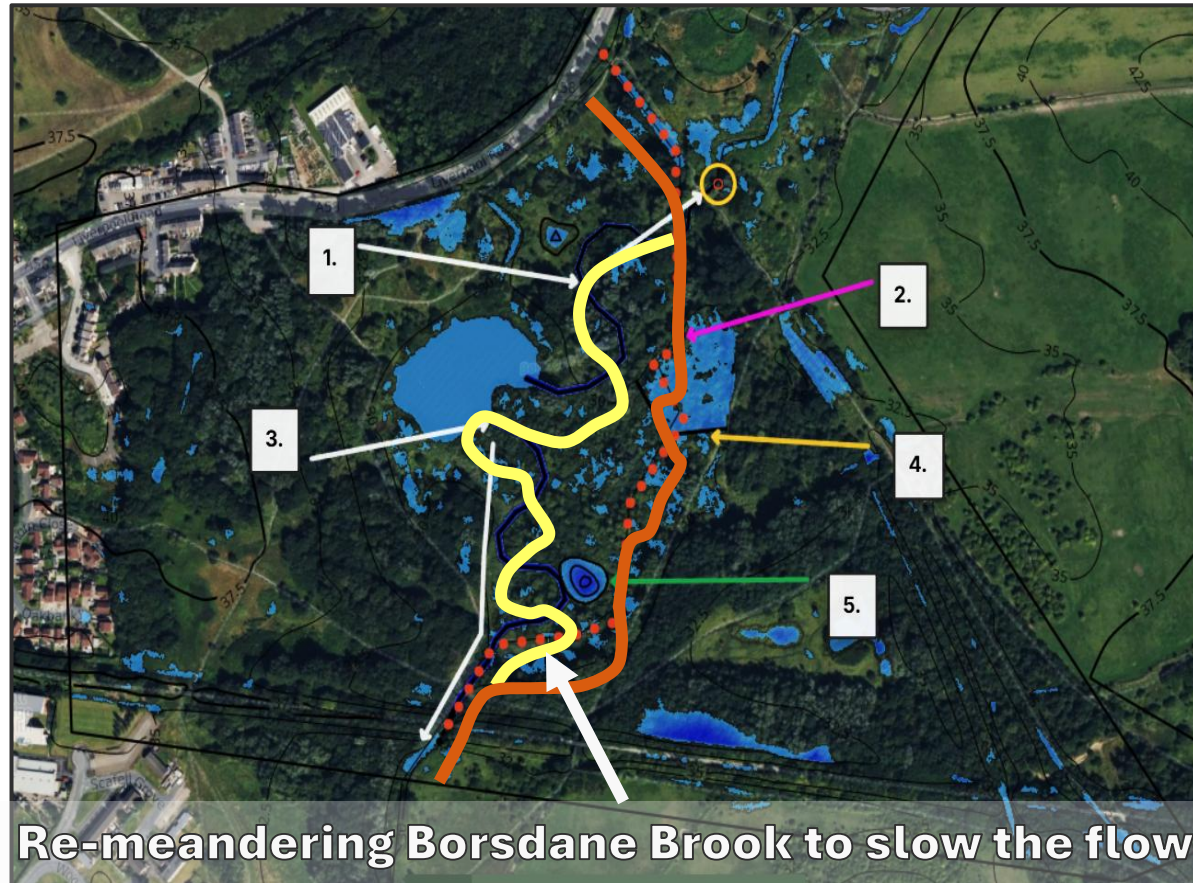
Slows the flow of water and reduces downstream flood levels



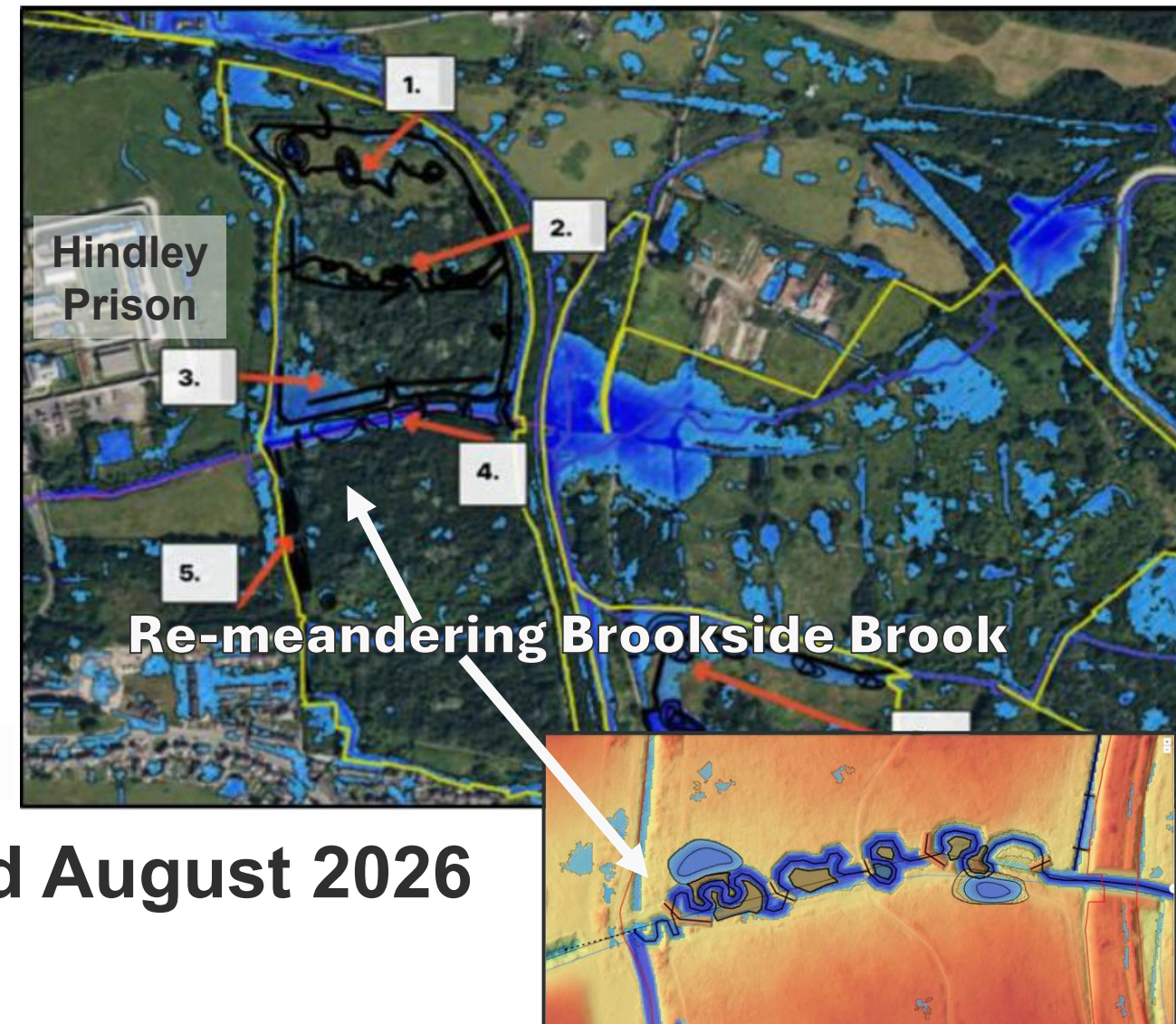
# Natural Flood Management



## Low Hall Flash

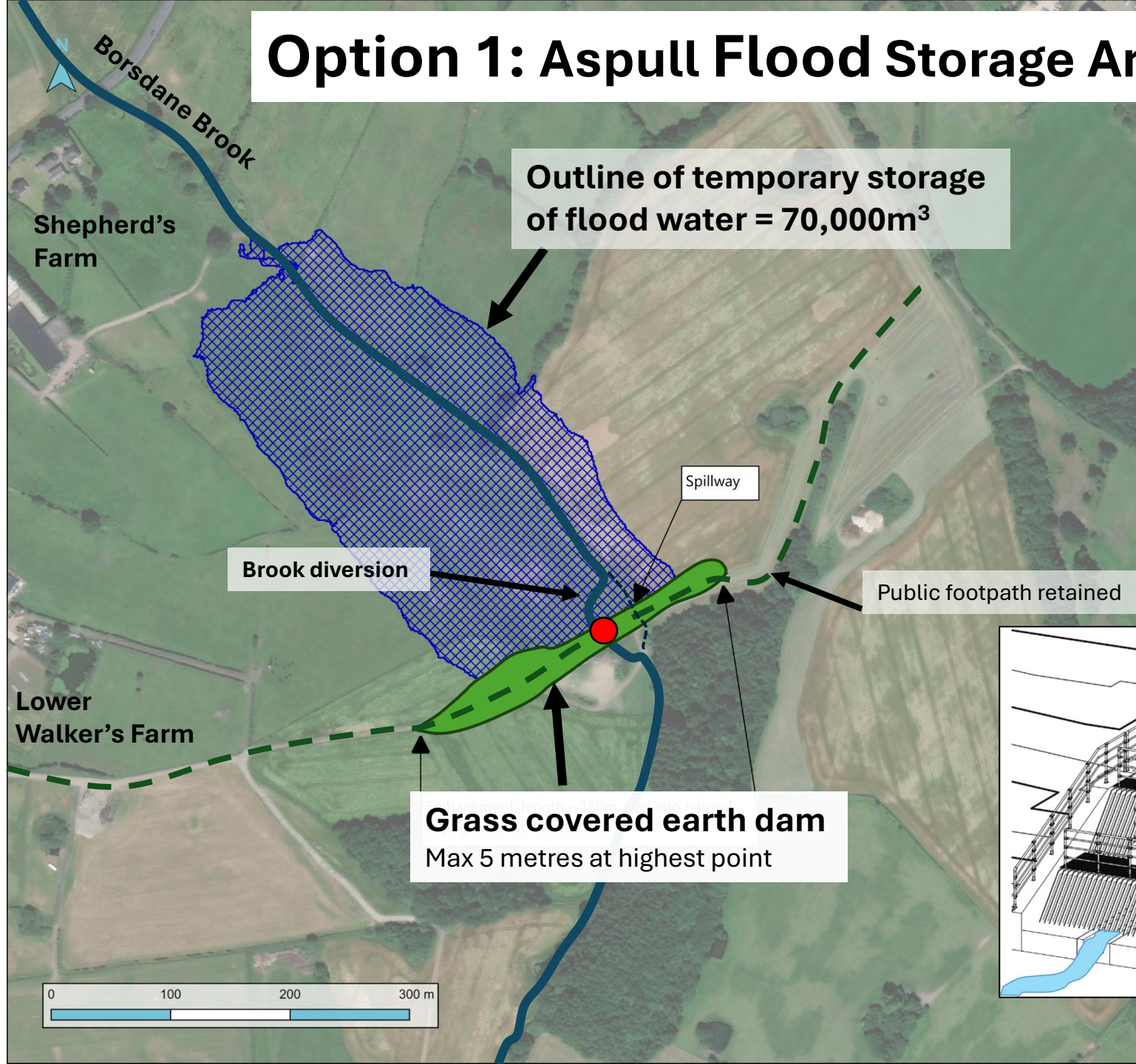


## Victoria Fields



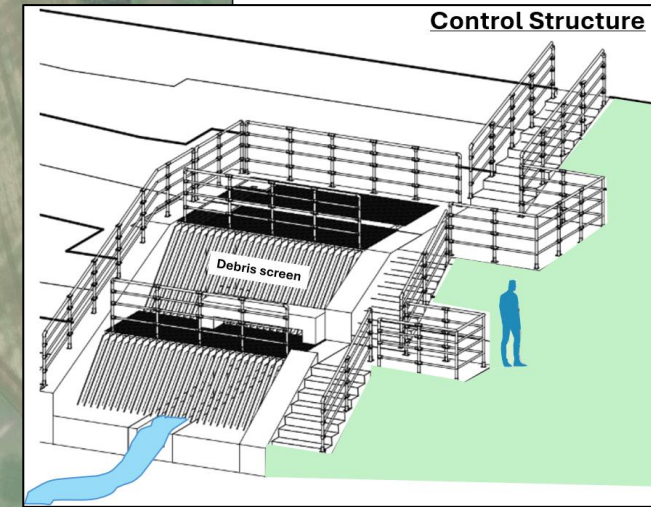
Lancashire Wildlife Trust started August 2026

# Option 1: Aspull Flood Storage Area



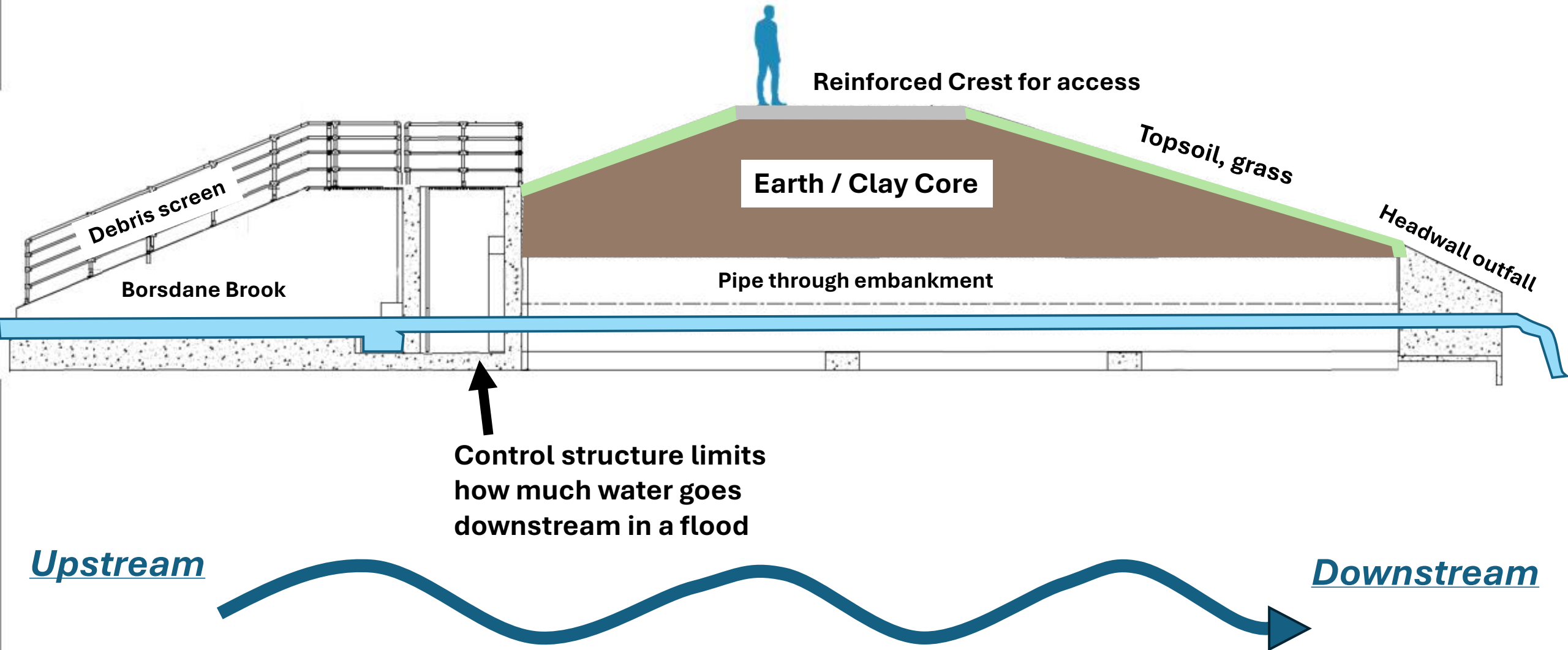
Aspull Proposed Embankment/  
Water storage feature

- Aspull Embankment
- Aspull Indicative footprint when full
- Control Structure



Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2026)

# *Flood Storage Reservoir: Cross Section*



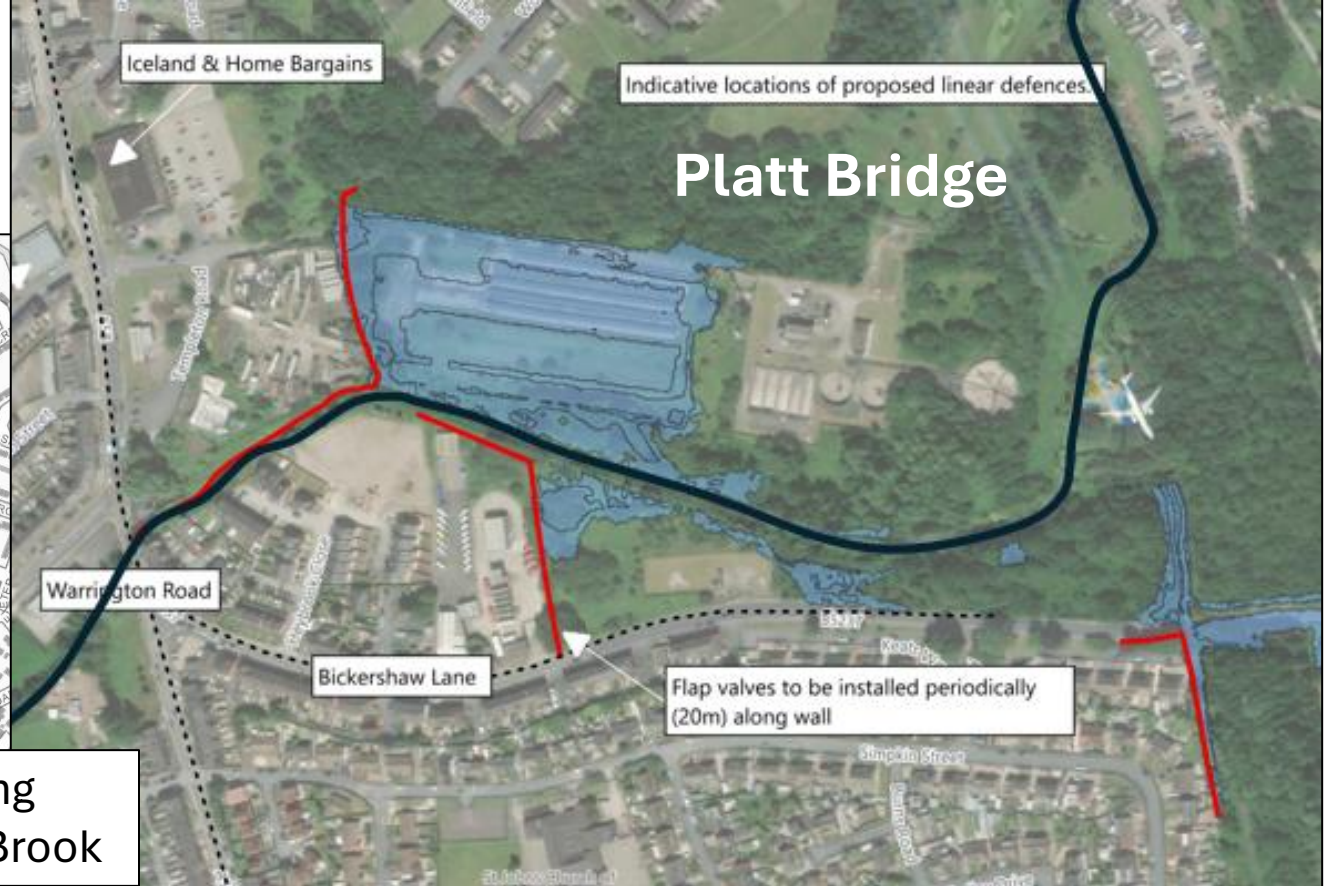
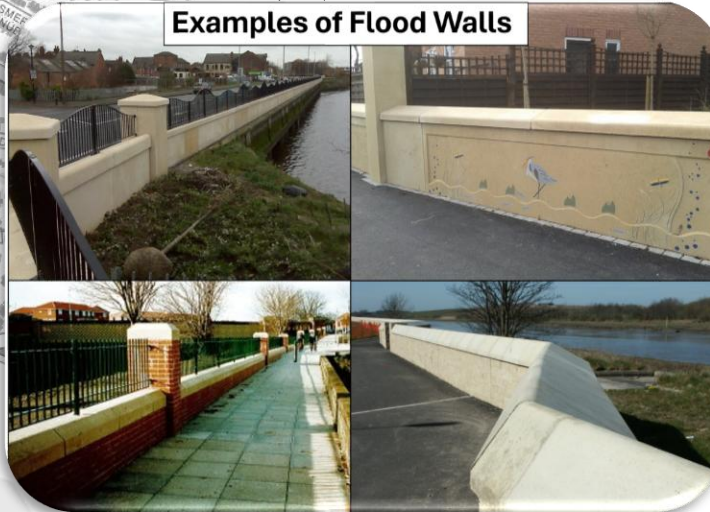
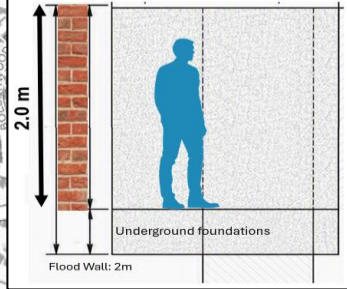
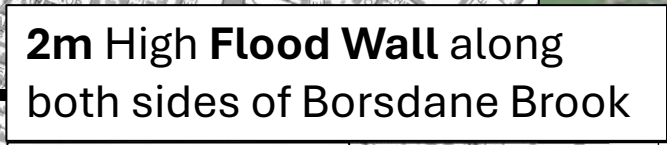
# Flood Storage Area Example

Coppull Lane, Wigan

Dam controls  
water flow

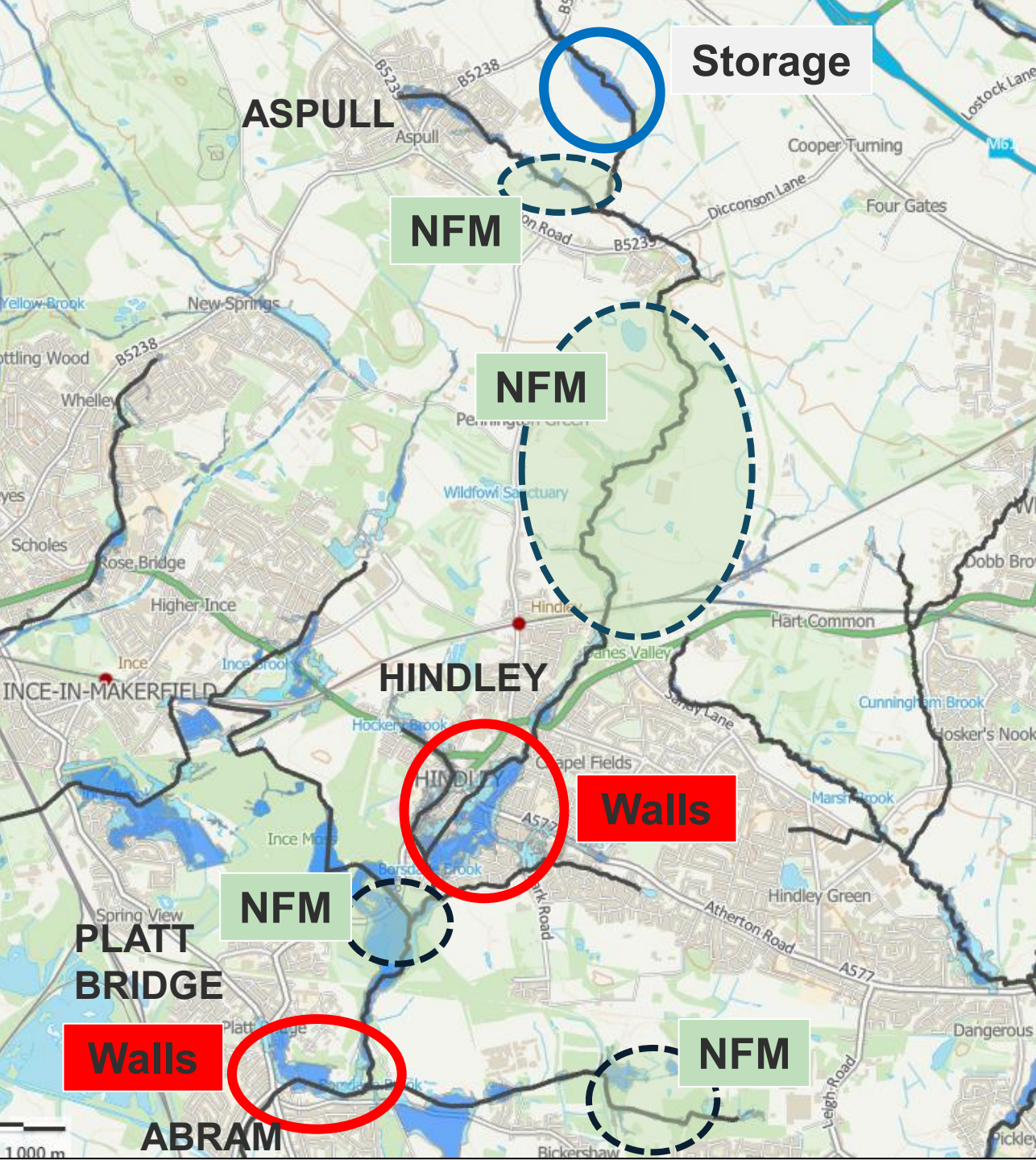


## Without Aspull Flood Storage



- Can protect up to 1-in-100 <
- Expensive <
- Very difficult to build <
- Views of river lost <
- Riverside environment impacted <

**Option Rejected**



# Option 3

**NFM**

**Natural Flood Management (nfm)** at Aspull, Borsdane Woods, Low Hall Flash and Victoria Fields

**Storage**

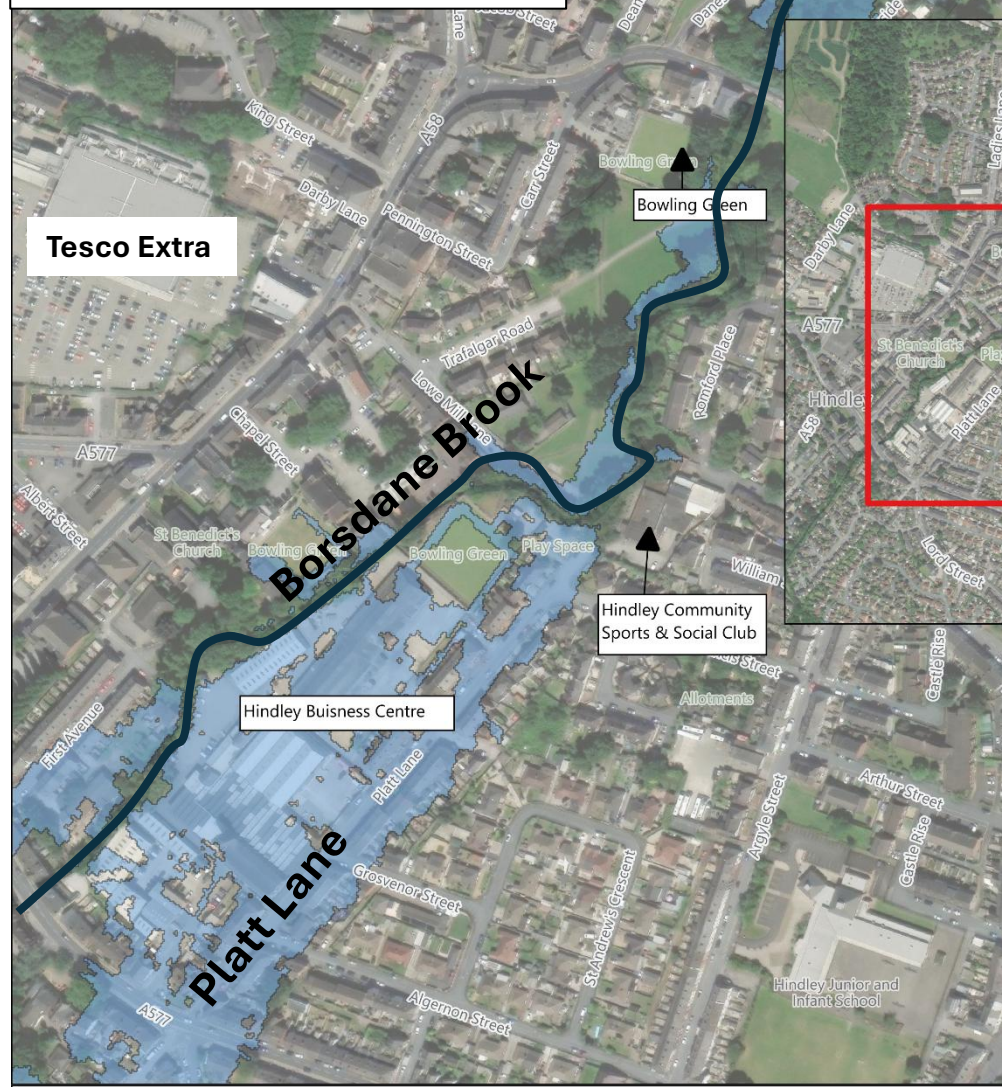
**Flood Storage at Aspull**

**Walls**

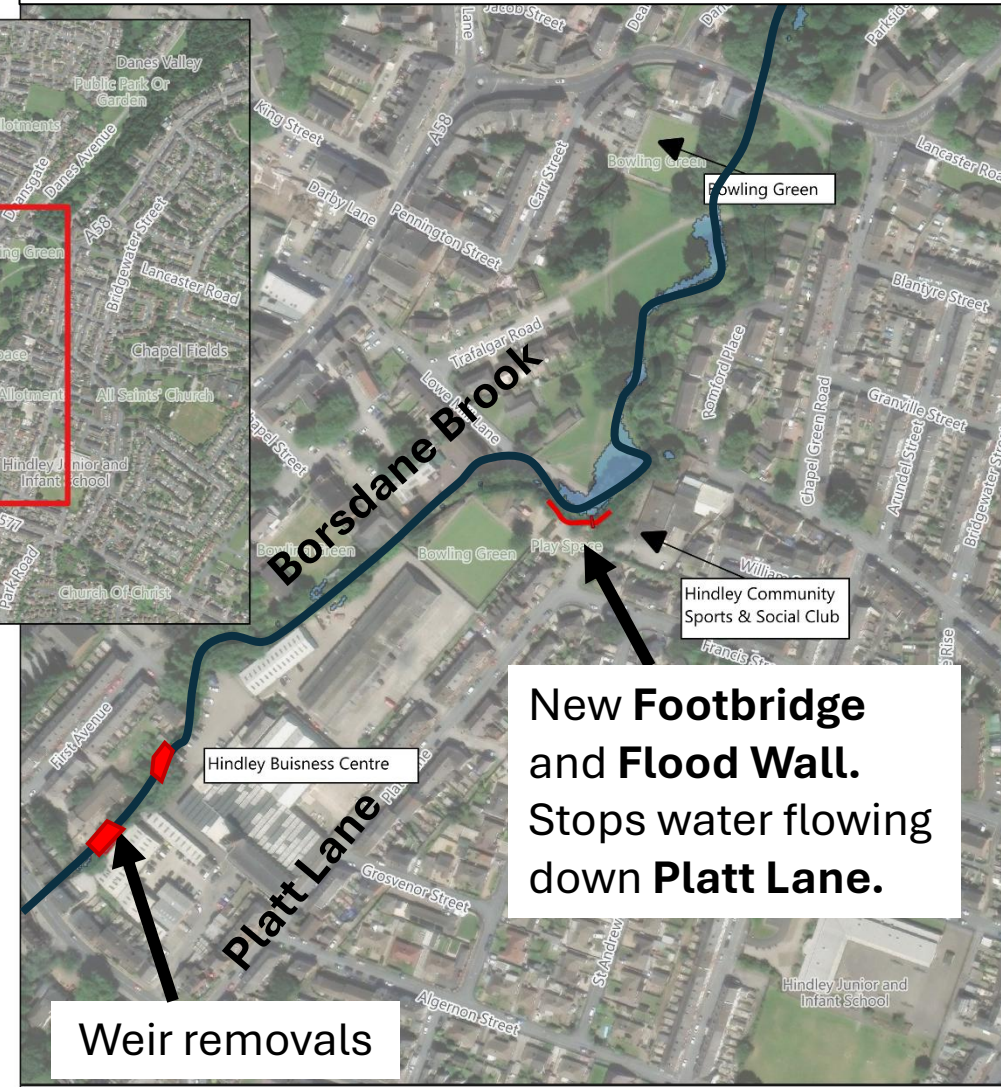
**Flood walls and Channel Improvements** like replacing footbridge and weir removal in Hindley. Walls in Platt Bridge and Abram

# Hindley Town Centre: Option 3

1 in 100 Flood Outline



1 in 100 Flood Outline with New Defences



# Hindley Option 3: Platt Lane Footbridge



- Platt Lane footbridge traps debris, forcing water down Platt Lane.
- Proposed replacement of the Platt Lane footbridge (approx. 11m x 2.3m).
- Deck raised by 500mm; services removed to reduce blockage risk.
- A new **Flood Wall** *may* be required to achieve higher **standards of protection**.



1.5m high **Flood Wall** blocks off the “ford”, stopping flood water down **Platt Lane**

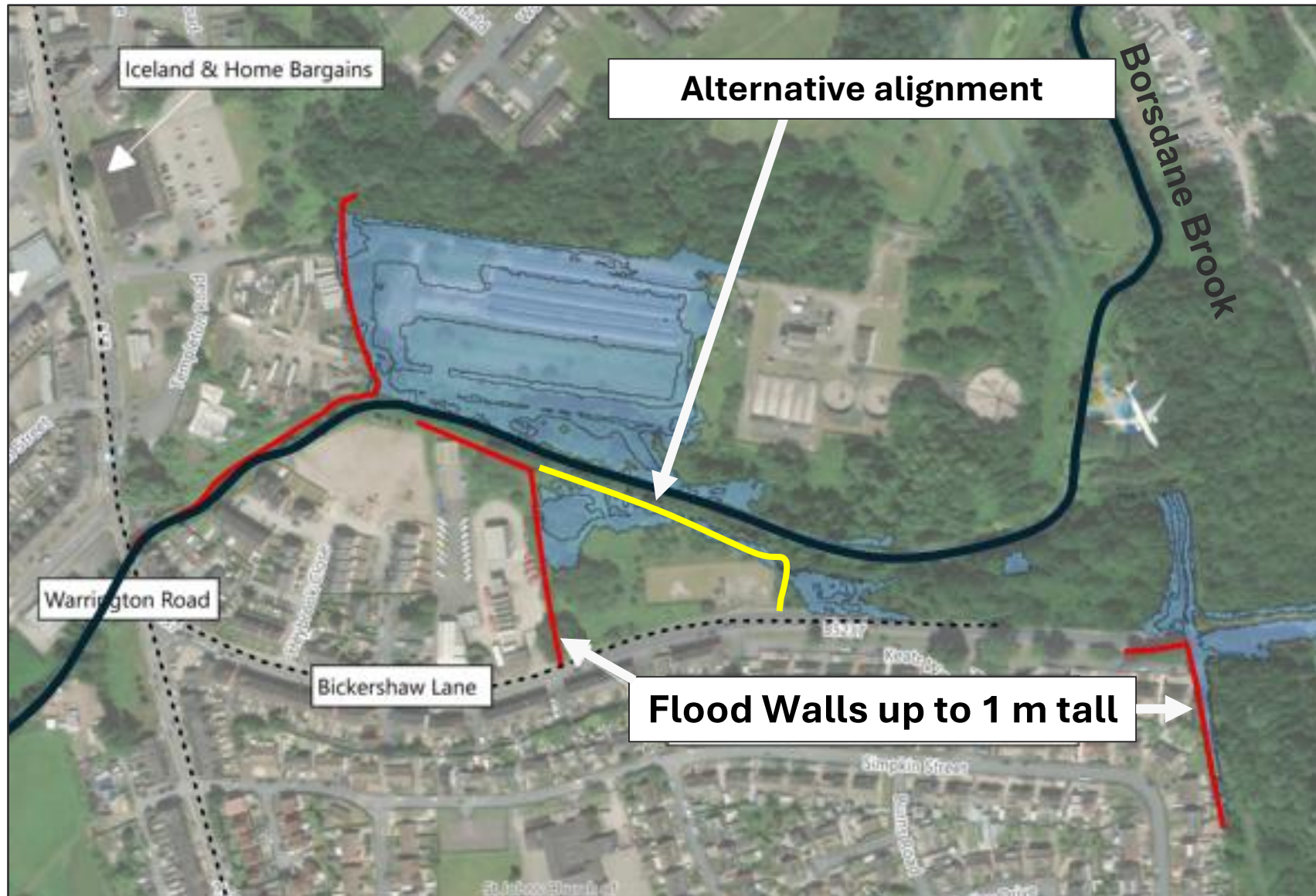


*AI concept art*

The **flood gate** will only be closed when there is a threat of flooding



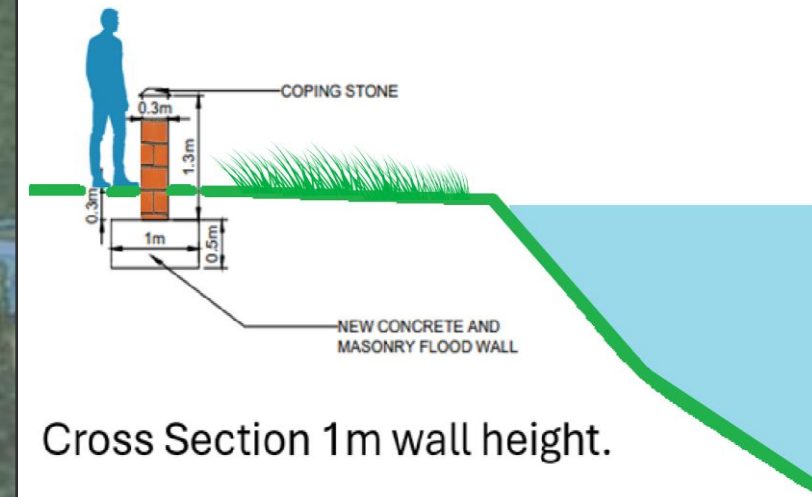
# Platt Bridge & Abram: Flood Walls



A variety of standards of protection from 1 in 20 to 1 in 100

## Wall Heights:

- 1 in 20: about 0.5m
- 1 in 100: over 1m



Cross Section 1m wall height.

# Costs, Benefits and Decision Making:

- **Option 1: Aspull**

- storage only
- *£25 million*

- **Option 2: Flood Walls**

- *Over £50 million*

- **Option 3: Combination**

- costs depend on standards of protection
- *£30 to £50 million*

- **Preferred option** is a balance of **costs** and **benefits**, not just the cheapest.
- High standards of protection cost more but give more benefits.
- After listening to peoples' views, we will select the **preferred option** using Government **rules**, people's **feedback**, the **costs** and **benefits** and **environmental** impacts.

# Project Funding Profile:

- **Scheme costs range from £25 million to over £50 million** depending on option and Standard of Protection
- **Wigan Council** have committed £3 million
- The **Regional Flood and Coastal Committee** have approved **£2 million** in principle.
- **Further contributions** will be sought.
- Majority of funding will come from the government
- Getting the funding depends on the costs and benefits compared to other schemes.

# What's next:

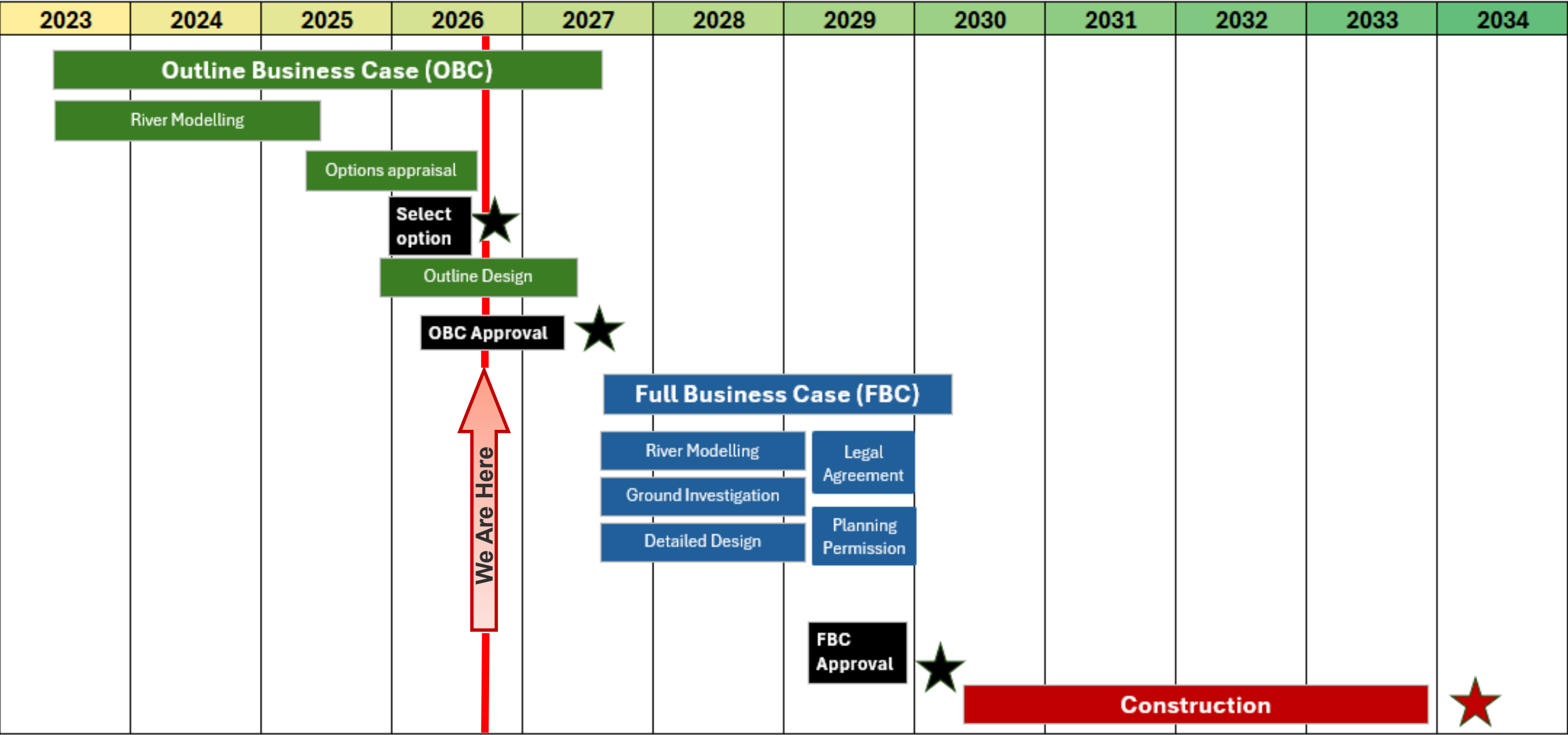
- **Autumn 2026:** Preferred option selected
- **New Year 2027:** Preferred Option consultation
- **Spring 2027:** Complete the outline design, costings and funding plan.
- **Summer 2027:** Submit Outline Business Case (OBC)

- **Summer 2027:** If **OBC** approved and money allocated begin Full Business Case (**FBC**)
- **2027-2029:**
  - Ground investigations
  - River modelling
  - Engineering designs
  - Community consultation
  - Costings
  - Select contractor
- **2028-29** legal agreements with funders and landowners.
- **2029** planning permission.

If **FBC** approved and **fully** funded:

- **2030** construction **start**
- **2034** construction **finished**

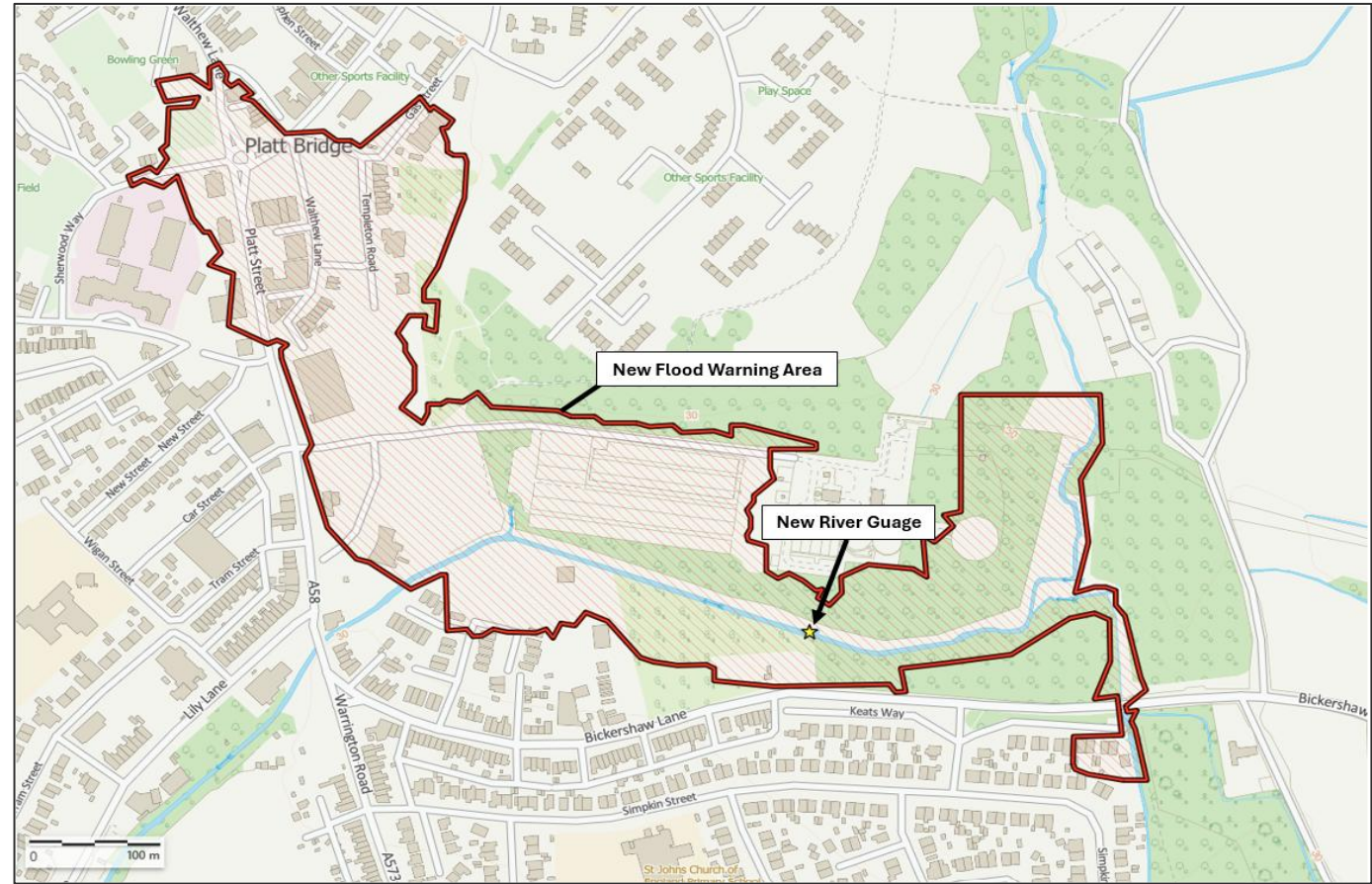
# Programme



# Integrated Water Management Plan

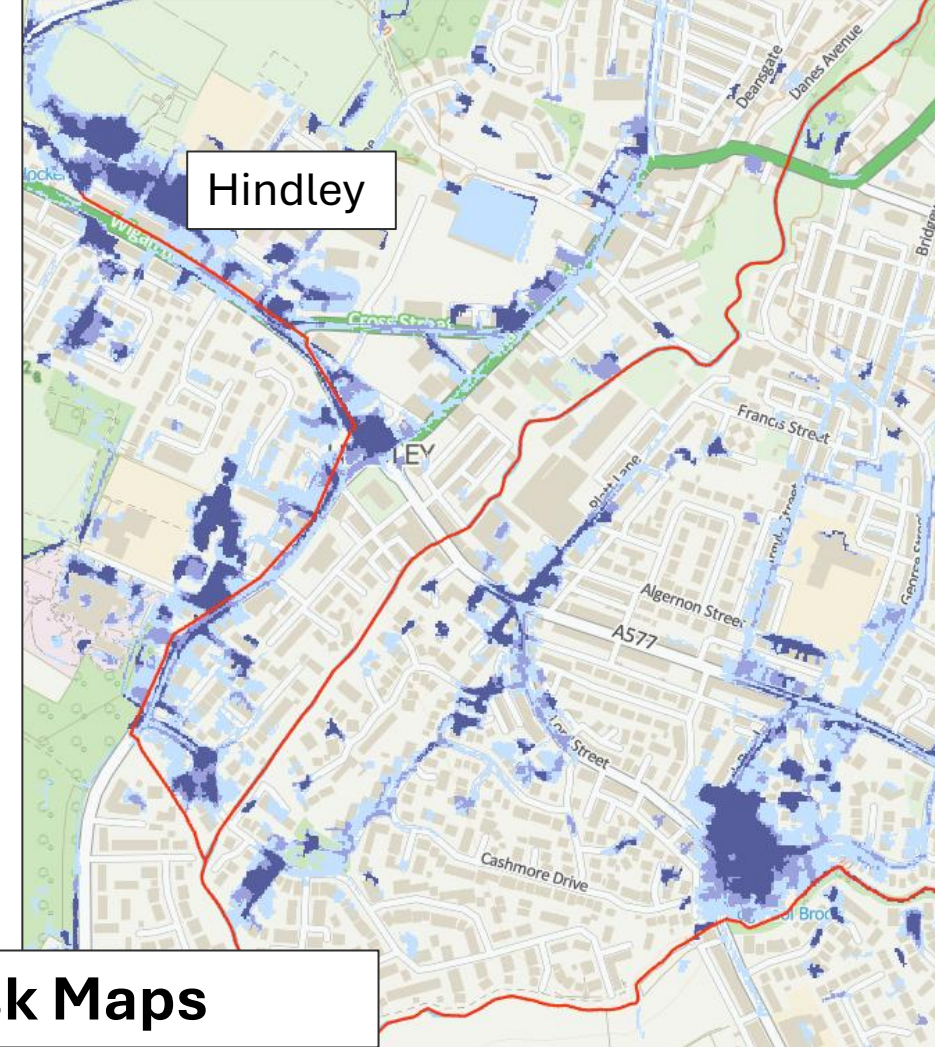
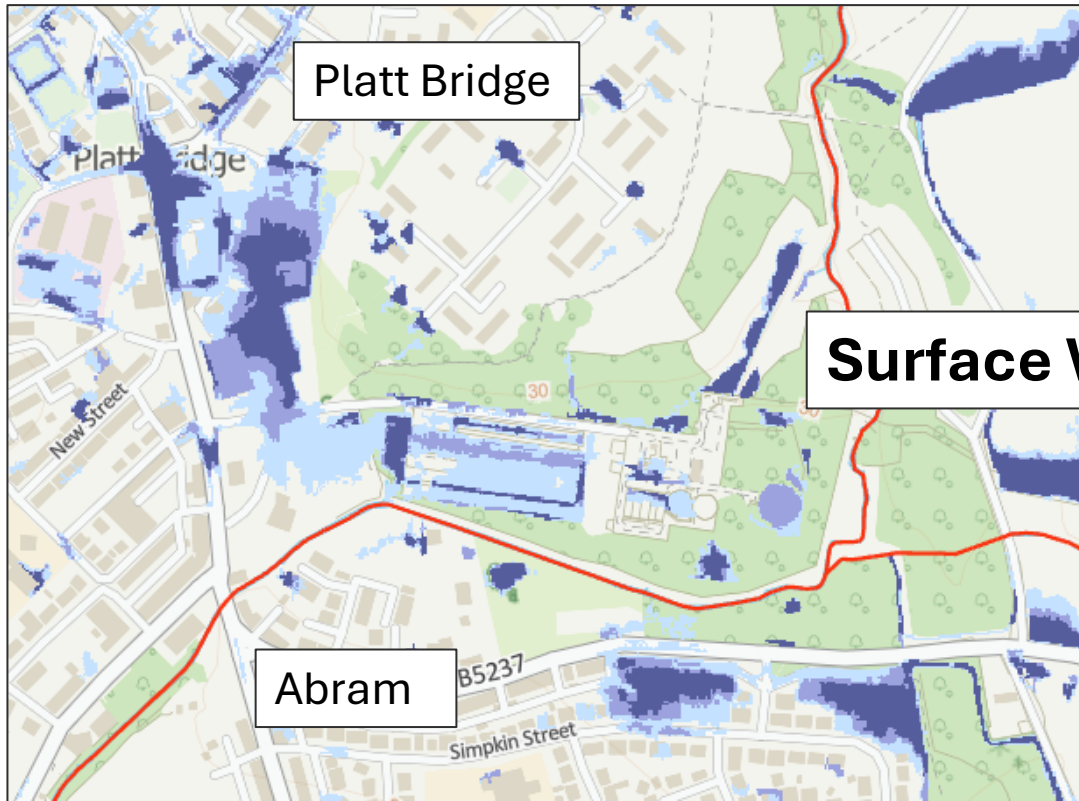
Since 01<sup>st</sup> Jan 2025 flood **Wigan Council, UU, GMCA** and the **EA** have:

- Installed non return valves
- Cleared river obstructions
- Bought temporary pumps
- Put in a new river gauge
- Developed an emergency response plan for Bickershaw Lane
- Created a **new flood warning area** in Platt Bridge



# Surface Water Flood Risk

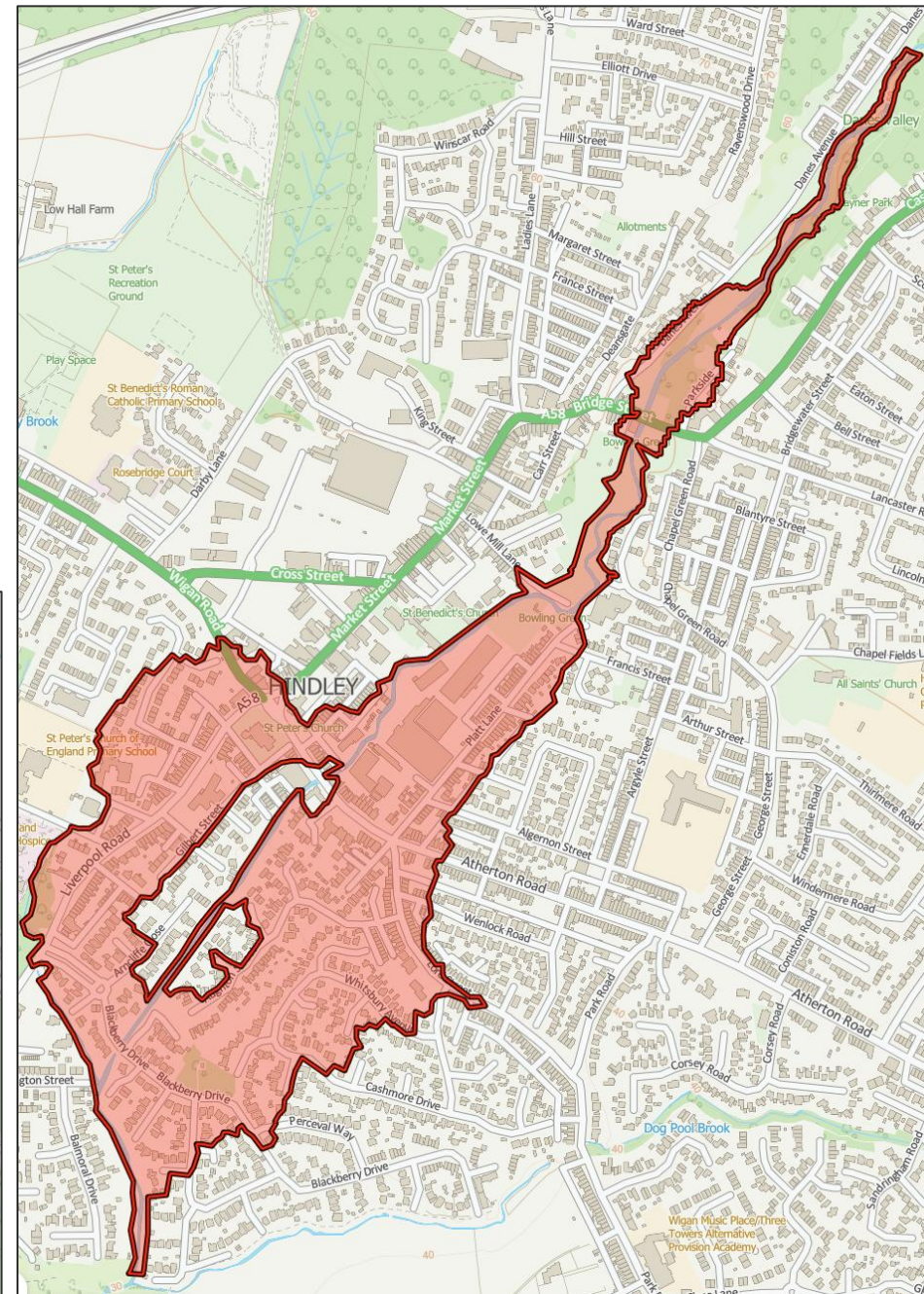
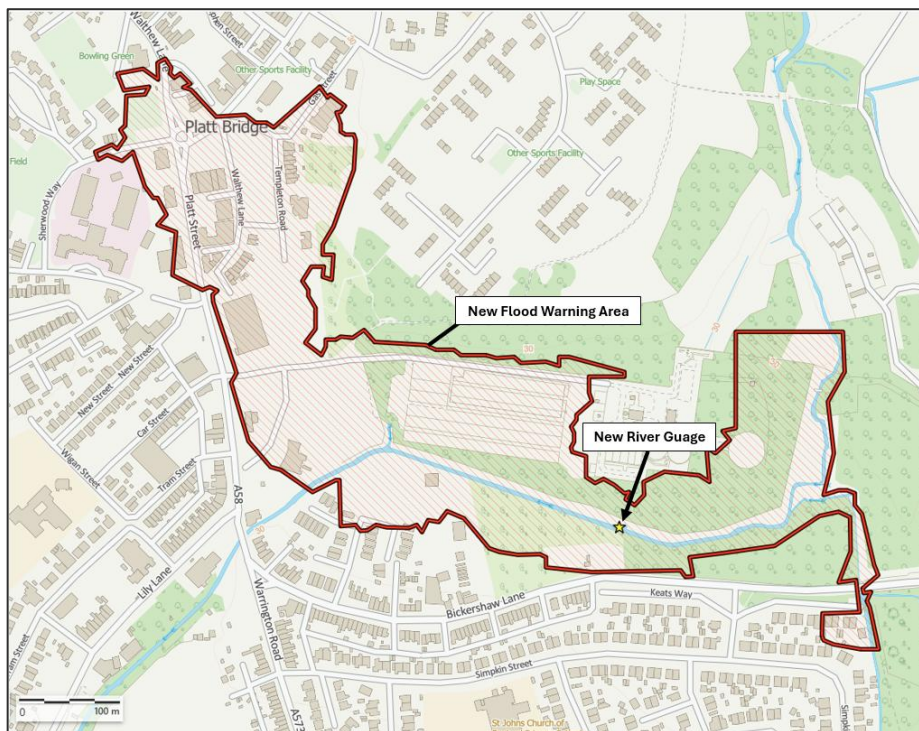
- The **scheme** deals with flood risk from the **river**
- **Surface water flooding** is from heavy rainfall before it enters the river
- Flood storage will help reduce surface water flood risk
- However, surface water flood risk will **remain**, but we are working with **Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Wigan Council** and **United Utilities** as part of the **Greater Manchester Integrated Water Management Plan** to reduce surface water flooding too.



**Surface Water Flood Risk Maps**

# Flood Warnings

- Are you at flood risk? find out here
- [Flooding - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/flooding)
- Get free flood warnings, sign up today!!
- [Get flood warnings by text, phone or email - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/get-flood-warnings)



# What do you think?

- We are interested in your views please fill in the consultation form and return to us by 12<sup>th</sup> October 2026
- If you would like to be kept up to date, then send your email address to [FloodResilienceGMMC@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:FloodResilienceGMMC@environment-agency.gov.uk)

