Poise Brook Flood Risk Management Scheme

November 2026

This slide pack provides an update on the development of the Poise Brook Flood Risk Management Scheme.

The scheme is currently in the early stages of investigation and development, and delivery is not yet guaranteed.

An engagement session was held with the local community and project partners in August 2026.

Following feedback received at that event, the format and presentation of these slides have been updated to make the information clearer and more accessible.

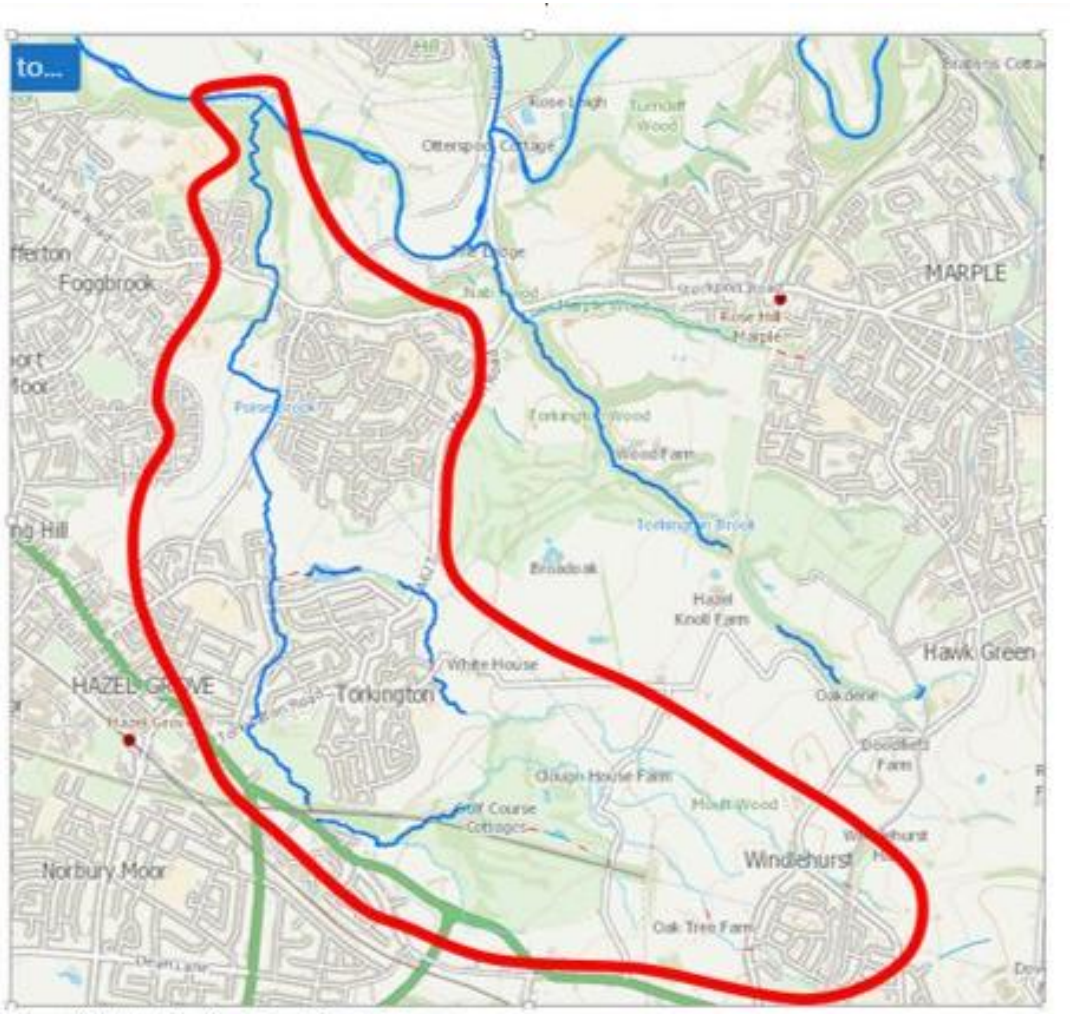


Figure 1 Study Area for Poise Brook Scheme

Environment Agency

Understanding the flooding problem in your area

Why are we carrying out this work?

570
properties are currently at risk of flooding

Previous floods have affected the community in **2016, 2019 and 2025**

Where are we now?

Current Stage: Investigating the problem and assessing options

We are working to:

- Understand how and why flooding occurs
- Assess the impacts on homes, businesses and infrastructure
- Identify potential ways to reduce flood risk
- Compare options to find the most effective and sustainable solution

Key message

No decisions have been made on a final scheme.

We are currently investigating the causes of flooding and assessing the options available to reduce flood risk in the future.

Our next steps

- **Understand** the flooding problem
- Identify possible options
- **Assess and compare options** (We are here)
- Select a preferred solution
- Seek funding, approvals and design

Environment Agency

Photos from previous flood events

This slide shows the impacts that flooding is having within the Poise Brook catchment at various locations.



Torkington Park



Torkington Road



Flooding Offerton Green June 2016



Offerton Green Estate

Environment Agency

Poise Brook Flood Risk Management Scheme

How flood risk management options are assessed:



Our aim is to find the most effective, affordable and sustainable solution to reduce flood risk for the Poise Brook community

Environment Agency

Chances of Flooding / Flood Probability

When we investigate flooding, we look at the probability or chance of a flood of a certain size happening.

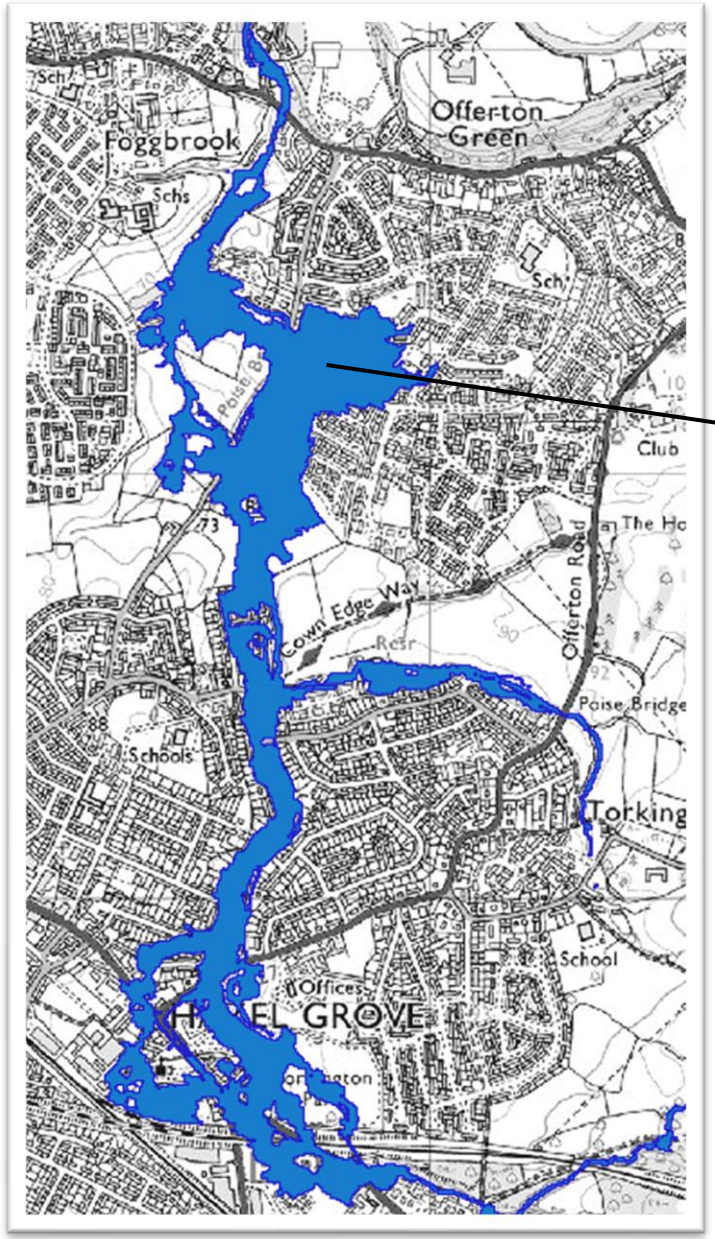
Not all floods are the same size, and they depend on how much it has been raining and how wet the ground is (amongst many other things).
Small floods typically happen more often, and big floods happen less often. So small floods have a high chance of occurring and big floods a low chance.

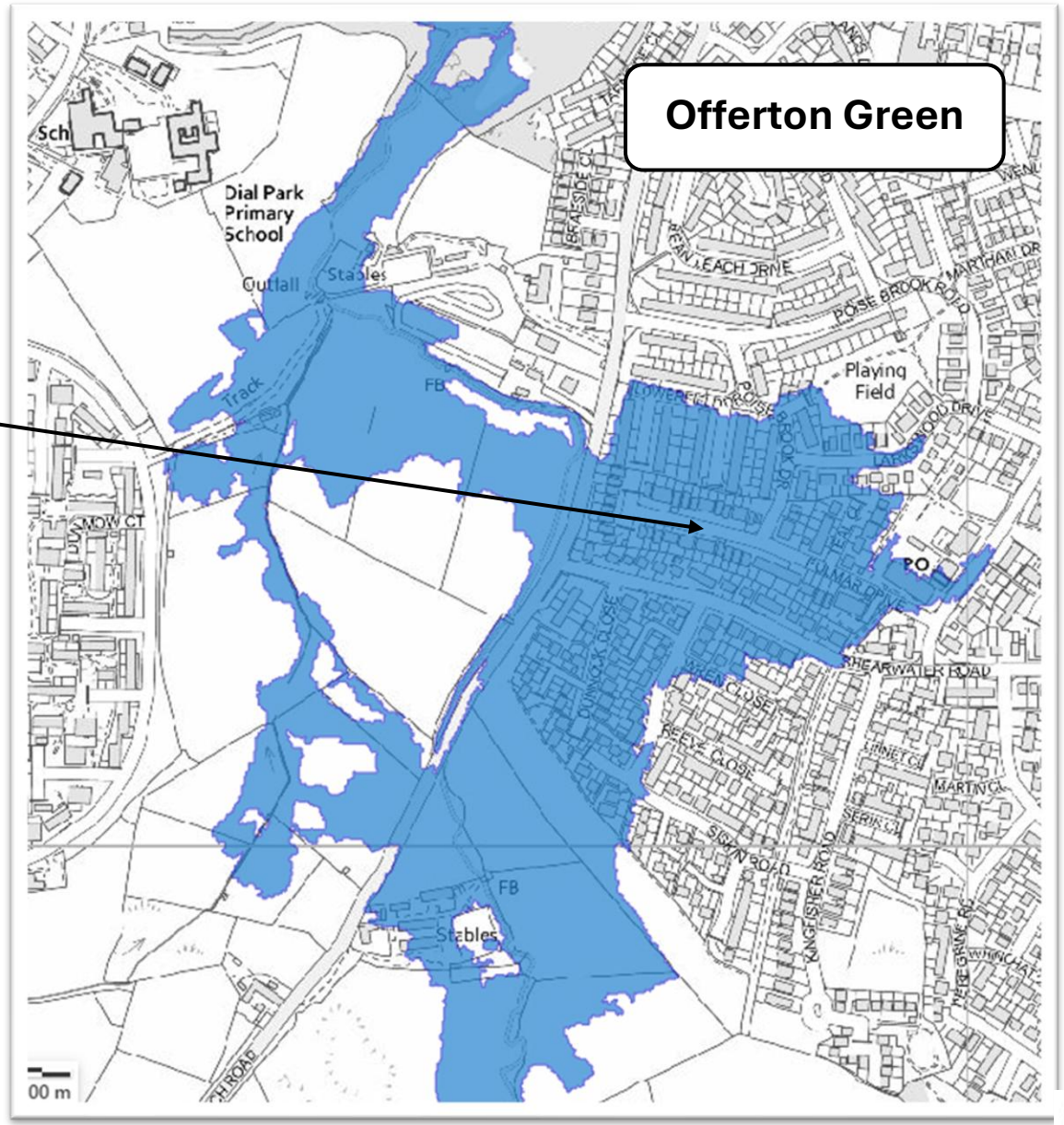
We describe the chance of happening as either a '1 in X' chance or a percentage probability, per year. The table shows how the chances or probabilities line up. For example, a very high probability flood has a 1 in 2 chance of happening each year, or a 50% probability.

Probability or Chance		Percentage Probability
Very High Probability	1 in 2	50%
High Probability	1 in 10	10%
Medium Probability	1 in 25	4%
Medium Probability	1 in 50	2%
Low Probability	1 in 100	1%
Very Low Probability	1 in 1000	0.1%

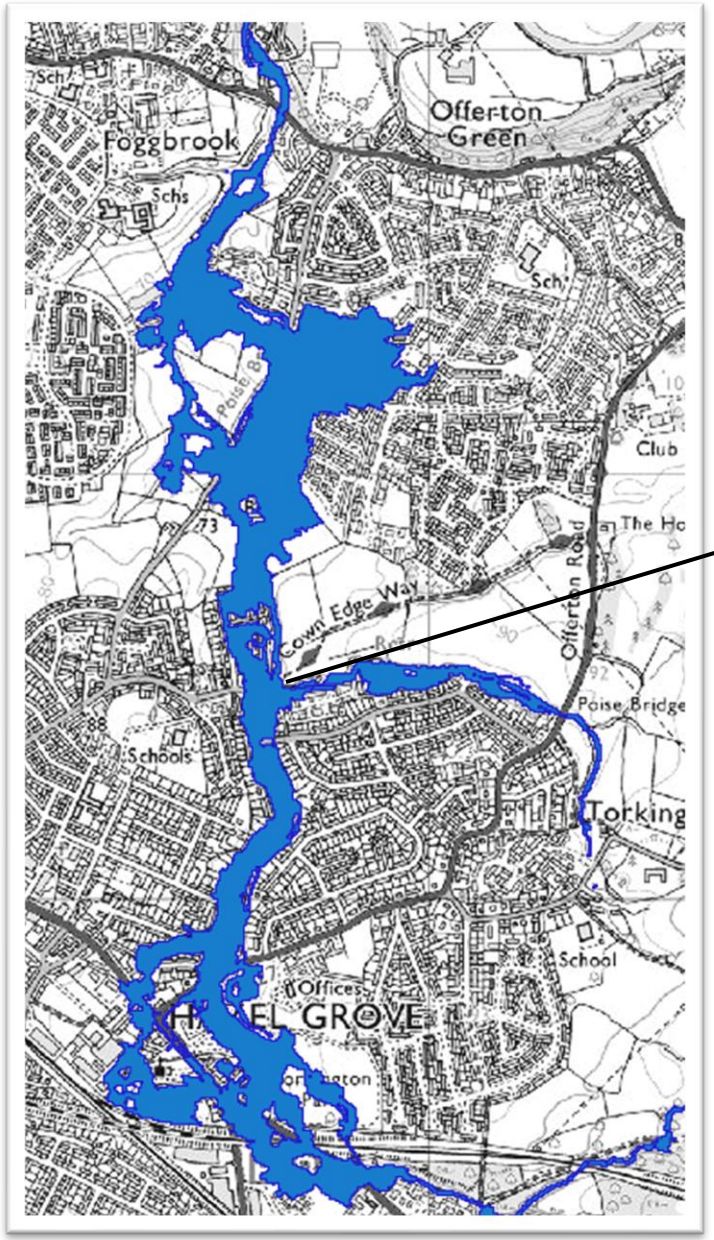
Environment Agency

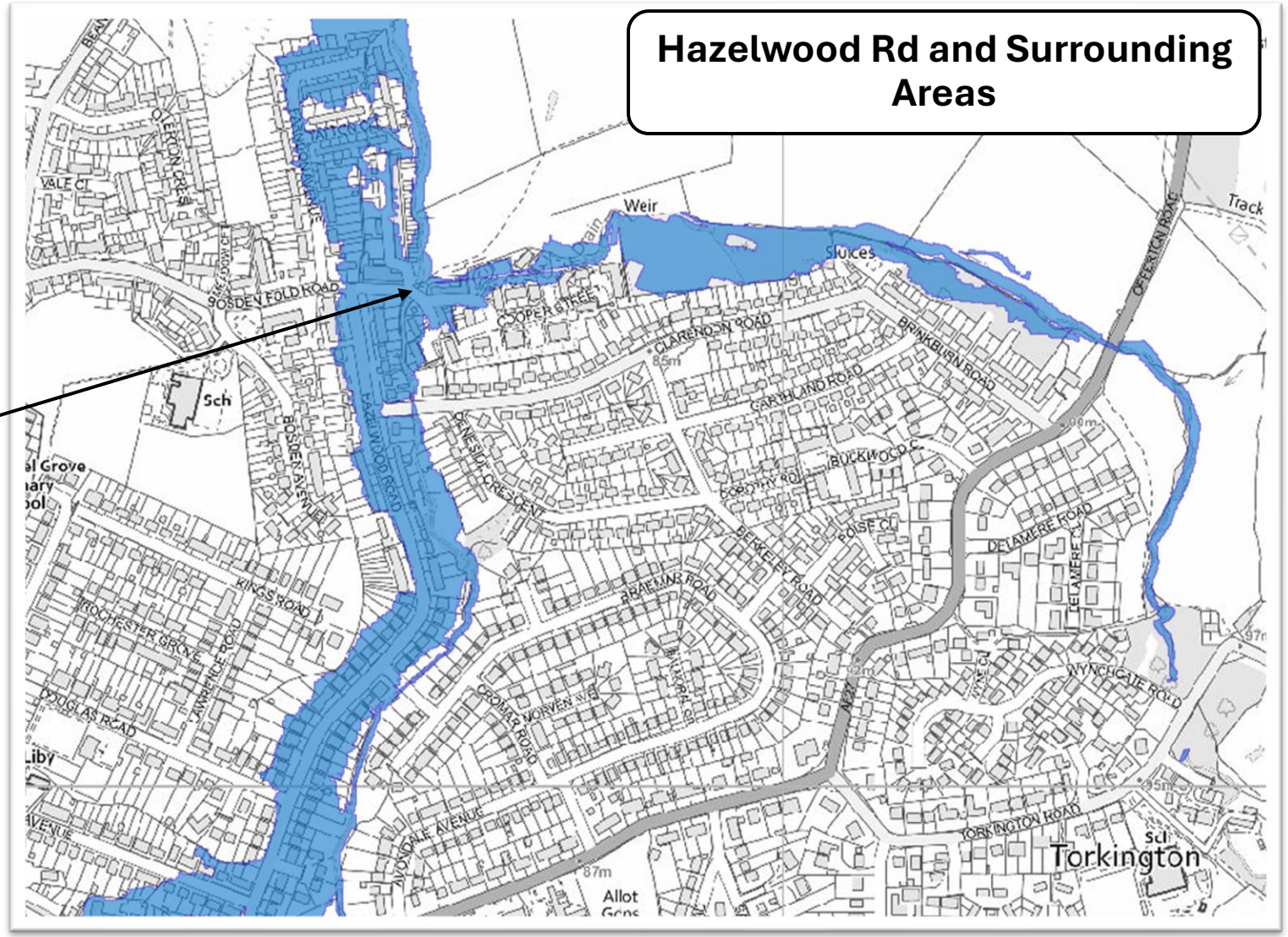
1 in 100 chance or 1% Probability Flood Extent





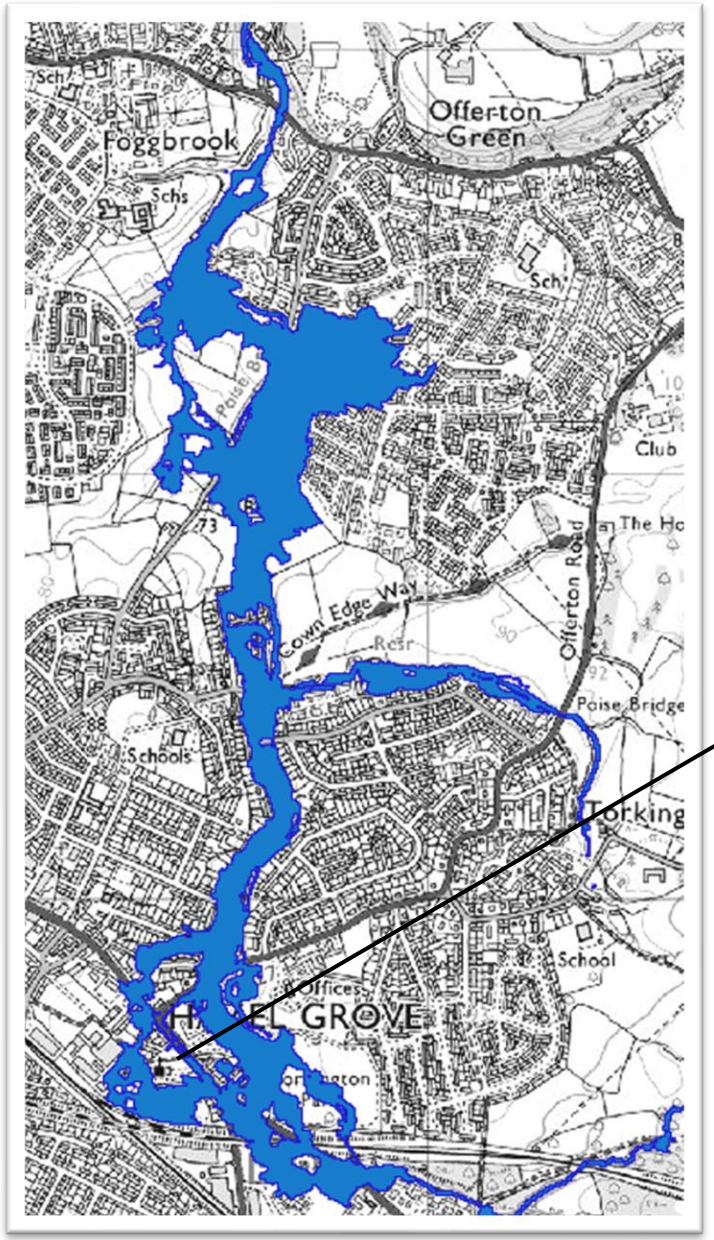
1 in 100 chance or 1% Probability Flood Extent

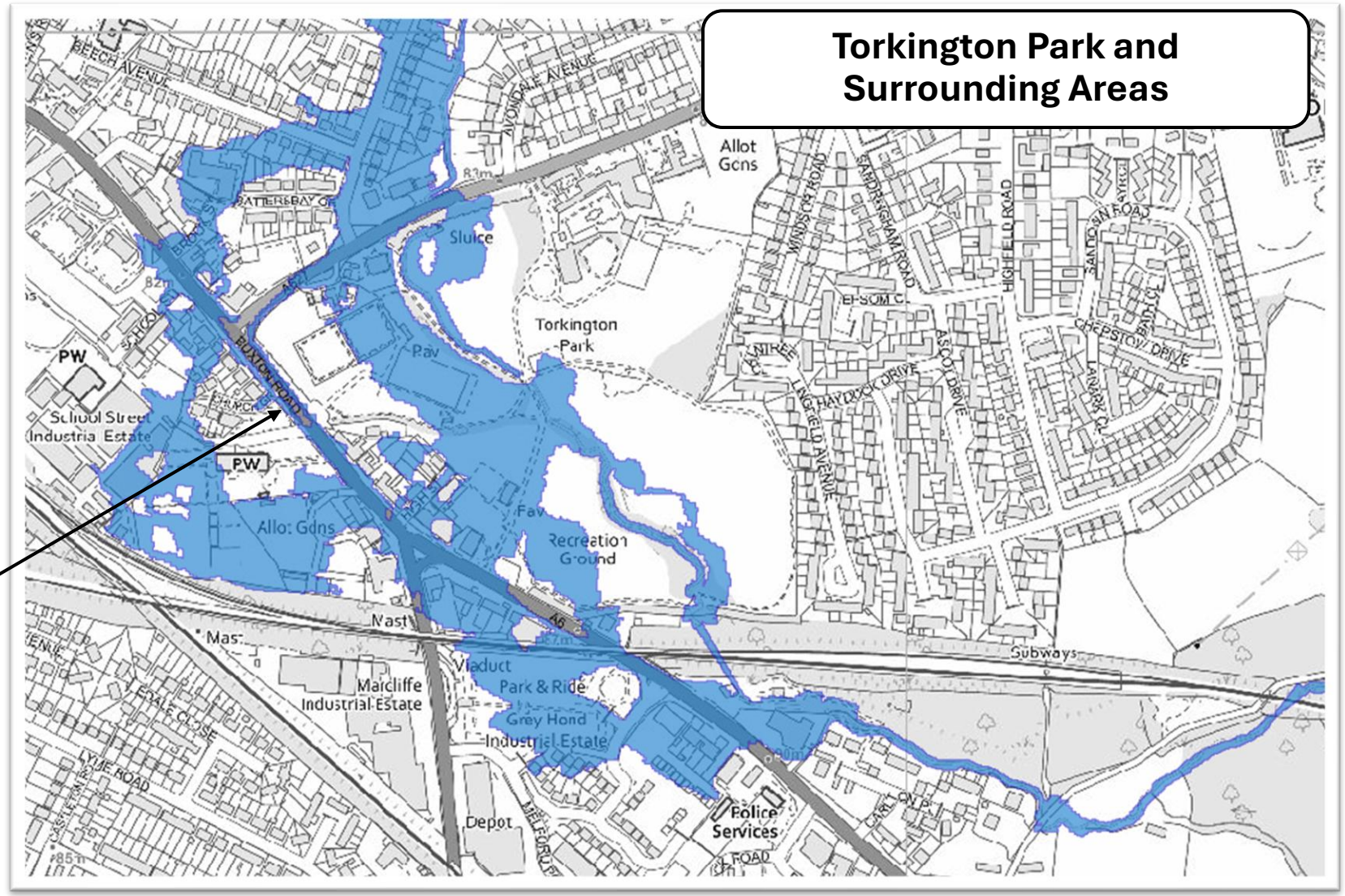




Environment Agency

1 in 100 chance or 1% Probability Flood Extent





Environment Agency

Options assessment

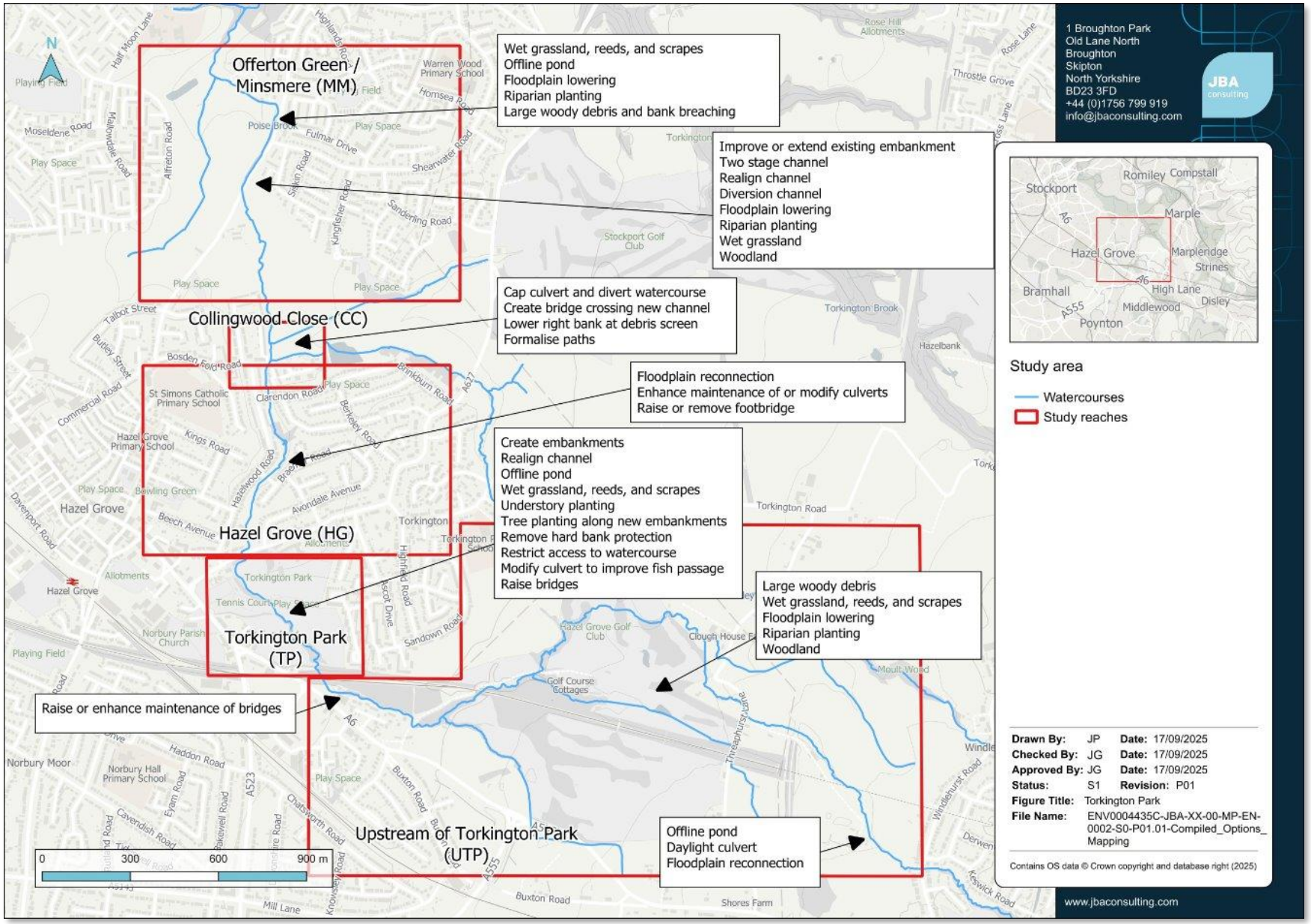
The next few slides show the options considered in the development process for considering a flood risk management scheme.

Using detailed flood modelling and technical assessments, our consultants identify and evaluate potential measures that could help reduce flood risk. These assessments help determine which options should be taken forward for further detailed consideration.

The options are still being refined and developed; however, we would like to share some of the initial outputs from the assessment process to show the range of measures currently being explored across the catchment.

Environment Agency

Shortlisted flood risk reduction ideas



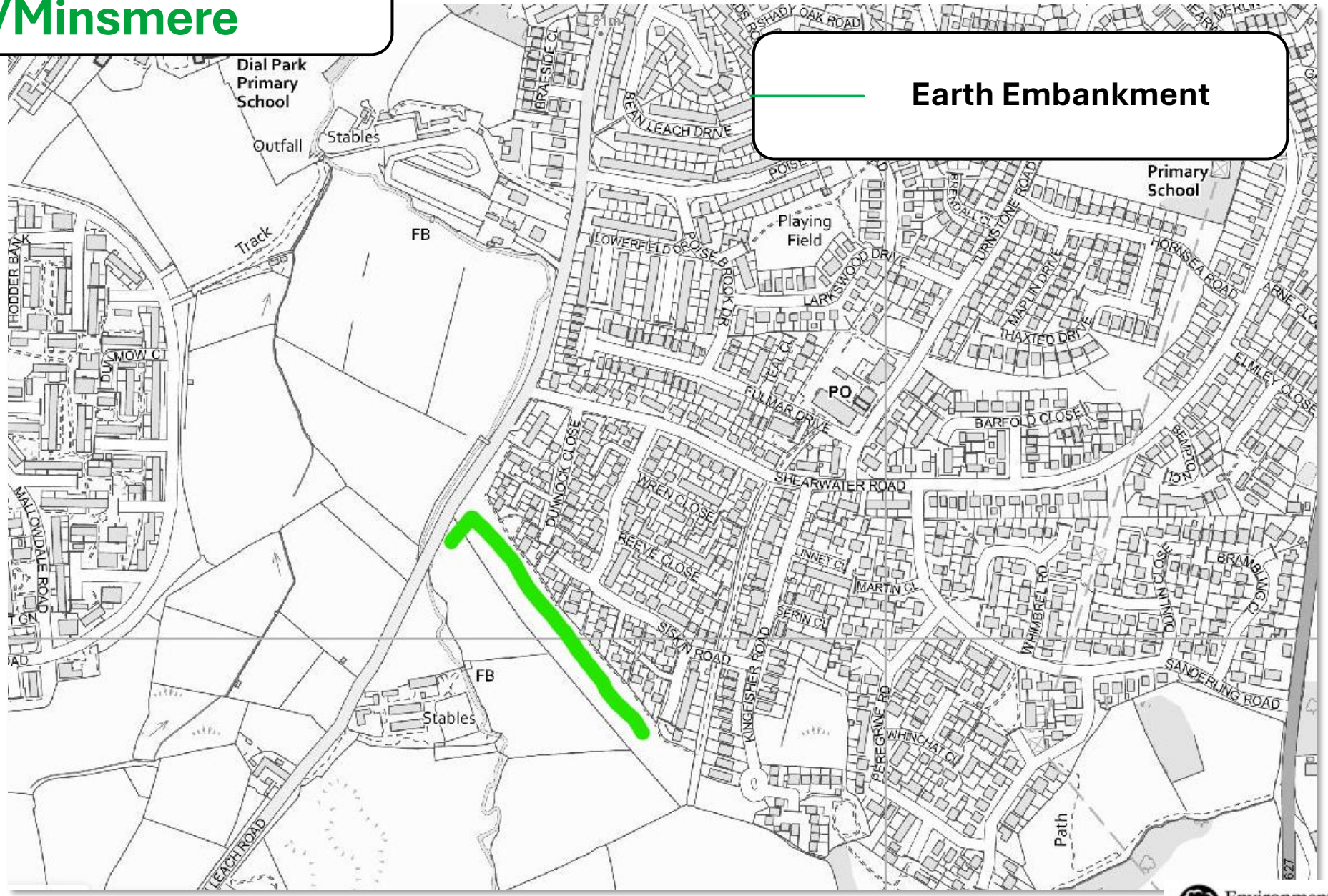
This slide shows what measures have been looked at which could help reduce flood risk. These potential measures can be put together in different ways to form 'options' to manage the flood risk. The chance that flooding to homes may still happen depends on what size the flood protection measures can be built to, for example the amount of water that could be held in Torkington Park or how many of the measures are built to work together. How much funding we receive, technical viability and public acceptability will influence the size and what might and might not be built.

Environment Agency

An improved earth embankment at Offerton Green/Minsmere

The proposed new earth embankment here would be slightly longer than the existing embankment in this location.

It would prevent flood waters from flowing downstream along roads and into homes.



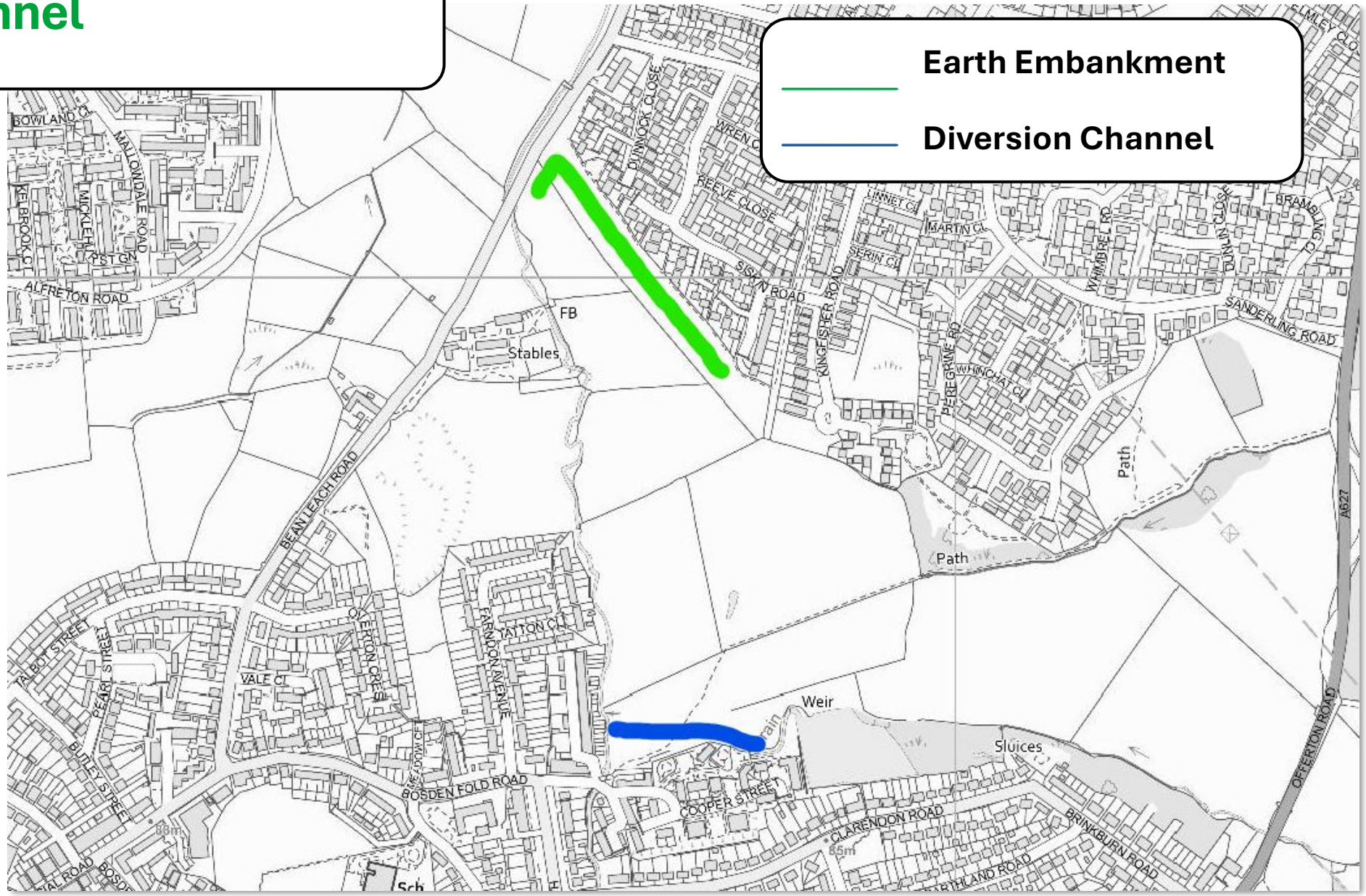
Environment Agency

A diversion channel

A new diversion channel could be built upstream of the earth embankment to increase how much water the channel can carry.

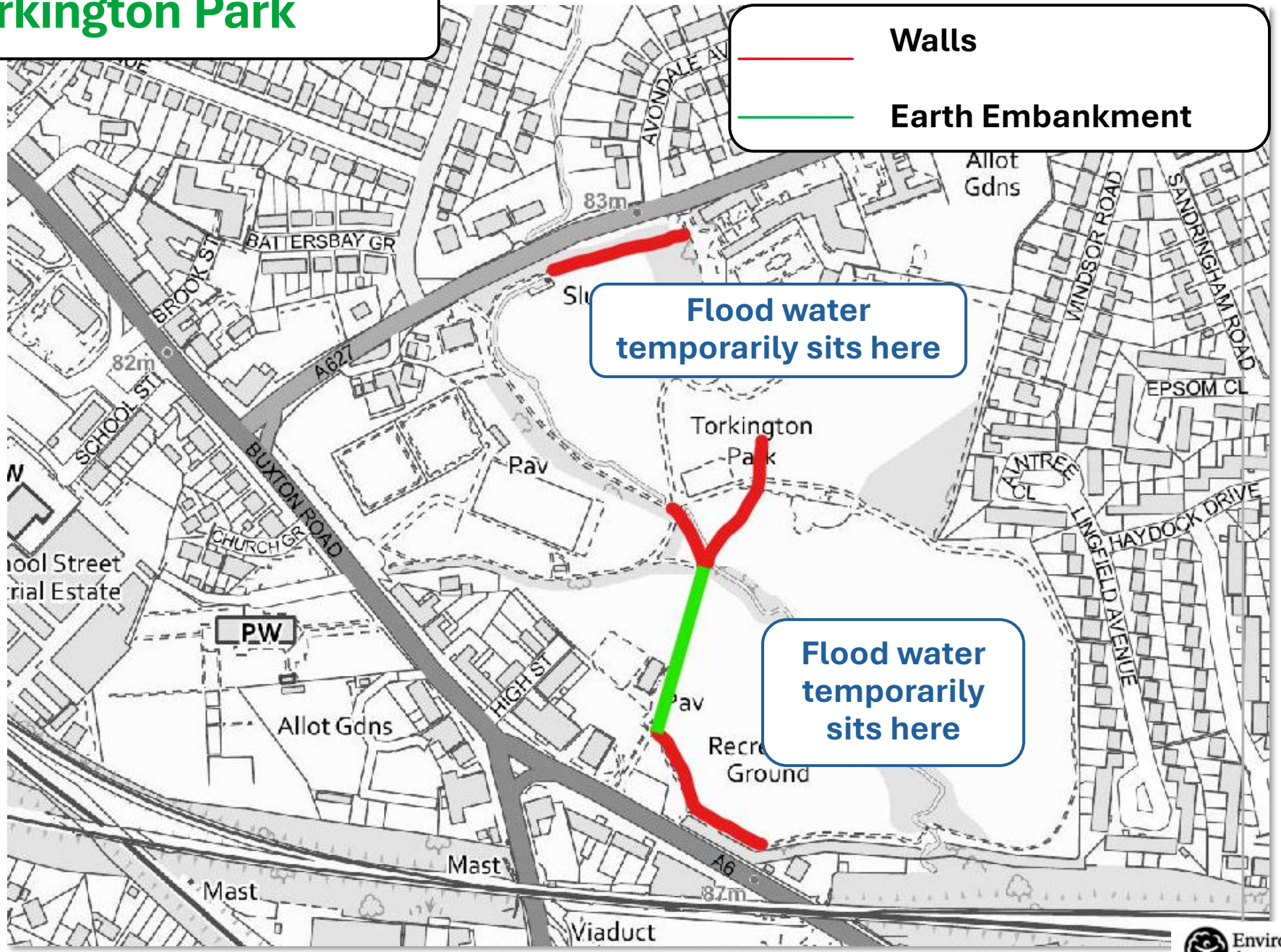
It should help reduce the chance flood waters come out of the channel.

Flooding would continue to be expected in the nearby fields



Flood Storage in Torkington Park

Flood water could be temporarily stored against the proposed flood defence walls and embankments shown here.
Water would be stored where the football pitches are, that might have been flooded anyway. Most of the time the football pitches would be able to be used.
All access would be retained with defences in place. We could incorporate terraces for seating on the earth embankments for public use.
To achieve a high standard of protection walls may need to be 3m in places.



Environment Agency

Flood Storage in Torkington Park: A Vital Part of the Solution

Flood Mitigation

- Central feature of all options.
- Park currently floods, the proposal will better control how it floods to reduce flooding in homes.
- The larger the flood risk, the larger the walls / embankments, the larger the visual impact in the park.

Environmental

- Increase the community's connection with nature.
- Increasing biodiversity in the park.
- Environmental enhancements providing educational opportunity.
- Removing concrete in the river, making it more natural.
- Re-planting more trees than will be removed.

Social

- Retains all existing facilities.
- Opportunity for sports viewing seating.
- Disrupts park usage whilst providing flood risk reduction to surrounding communities.
- Recognise the park's value to the community, want feedback to understand community needs.
- Reduces flood risk to main roads, protecting critical access routes.

Environment Agency

Torkington Park Design Challenges

Why flood storage matters:
Without this storage, flooding downstream would be much worse and harder to reduce because:

- Larger flood defences could have a bigger impact on the environment.
- More construction work may be needed in residential areas.
- Planning restrictions may limit what can be built.
- Larger schemes are more difficult to fund.

Balance

We are developing a solution that maximises flood risk reduction while minimising impacts on Torkington Park. Key considerations include:

- Protecting park facilities and open space, especially the football pitches.
- Understanding the community's priorities between flood protection and park impacts
- Planning restrictions may limit the level of flood risk reduction that can be achieved.
- Biodiversity improvements are required as part of any proposal.

Creating a balance between reducing flood risk and reducing impacts on the park.
What matters most to you?

Environment Agency

Benefits of Flood Risk Management Schemes

Financial Benefits	Societal Benefits	Environmental Benefits
Flood response cost saving	Improved Torkington Park	Cleaner less polluted rivers
Insurance cost reduction	Transport resilience	Increased biodiversity
Business/town growth	Reduction in crime	Climate resilience
Property price increases	Health & wellbeing improvements	Improved access to green spaces
Investment opportunities	Job creation	Increased amenity
Land value increase	Community Resilience	Improved connection to the environment

Environment Agency

Funding

Potential Cost of Project	£20m	£25m	£30m	£40m
Benefits	£71.1m			
Houses Better Protected	227			
Government Funding Eligibility	£18.3m	£22.8m	£27.3m	£36.3m
Funding Gap	£1.7m	£2.2m	£2.7m	£4m
Funding Indicatively Secured	£0.7m (Stockport Council) £2m indicative support from RFCC			
Benefit Cost Ratio incl. Contributions	4.1	3.2	2.6	2.1

***Full funding must be secured before the scheme can proceed.**

As the preferred option has not yet been selected, several cost scenarios are shown in the table to highlight the range of contributions required for the scheme to progress.

The government will fund the first £3m and up to 90% of costs above this.

You can see that if the scheme costs £40m, we don't currently have enough contributions to cover the costs.

There are numerous proposed flood schemes across the country bidding for limited funds and receive funding based on numerous factors.

Although funding has been identified from some sources, there is no guarantee that all funding required for the scheme will be secured.

We continue to work hard on securing additional funding from partners.

Environment Agency

Timescales and Next Steps



<u>Completed work so far:</u>

-Modelling of flood risk both now and in the future (including climate change)
-Development of options
-Securing partial funding
-Ground Investigations
-Engaging with partners

<u>Current stage:</u>

-Engagement with the community and partners
-Collating feedback on suggested options
-Seeking further funding
-Progression to a preferred options selection

*** Please note all timescales are all indicative and subject to the scheme securing funding and progressing to the next stage.**

Environment Agency