

Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for taking the time to view the information about our upcoming flood defence works and we hope you are excited about the prospects this provides for the area.

Feedback on the scheme is important to us, if you want to provide feedback to us on any aspect of the project, please contact us at the email address detailed below.

The following provides answers to some common questions.

- How can I find out more about the scheme?
 - If you have any specific questions or if you just wish to be kept up to date on the progress as we go into construction please contact us at: StokeTownCentreFloodRiskScheme-FowleaBrook@environment-agency.gov.uk
 - We will be sending out more updates during the course of the construction programme.
- Why are you doing this scheme when there is very little history of flooding in the area?
 - The community around the Fowlea Brook have been fortunate not to have experienced flooding from the brook in living memory – whilst many other areas across the region have suffered significant events. This scheme looks to increase the standard of protection to the community before that event impacts the area. It also takes into account the threat of climate change which sees us experiencing ever more frequent and violent thunderstorms – which the Fowlea Brook is particularly vulnerable to. Additionally, the impact of having such a large area of land designated as Flood Zone 3 hampers potential regeneration. Increasing the protection for this area will reduce some of the barriers to redevelopment.
- I am concerned about possible disruption caused by the work.
 - We cannot avoid disruption to people living and working close to the scheme. There will be possible noise disruption, potentially some dust creation and a need for some road and footpath closures. Whilst we cannot avoid this, we have and continue to carefully assess impacts of the construction to the community and will mitigate this where possible. Some of this is through simple measures like providing advance notice of traffic management. Our contractors will only be working during normal office hours and they also work in accordance with the ‘Considerate Constructors Scheme’ (<https://www.ccscheme.org.uk/>) .
- How are you going to access the construction area?
 - Detailed transport plans are being finalised at the moment and we will look to share these in the early part of 2022. These will show the routes for our construction traffic along with any closures. We will have two compounds set up to work from, one on the Spode site and the second along Rebecca Street, both on private land. As a result the impact of our sites will be limited.
- Will there be any road or footpath closures?
 - Yes – work to the Liverpool Road bridge parapet can be completed faster and with enhanced safety for our contractors if we close a short section of the road and divert traffic along Copeland Street. Access to businesses and residences will not be impacted. Similarly around the Liverpool Road trash screen it is likely that there will be some temporary footpath closures and diversions to keep construction equipment away from pedestrians.
- How is the scheme enhancing the environment?
 - Whilst some trees are going to be lost due to their position we will be replacing them at a ratio 5:1 with trees with a higher biodiversity value. Additionally, there will be area planted up with shrubs and perennials. Furthermore, the works on the new Spode channel provide an opportunity to create a range of habitats both within the river but also on the banks.
- I am concerned by the noise that the construction works might create.
 - There will be noise associated with the construction works, but being in a busy industrial urban location that noise will not significantly exceed that of daily life. Our contractors are part of the CCS mentioned above and so will only be working in normal office hours. As part of the design works we have assessed the level of noise from various activities and noise monitoring will be in place. Those residents or businesses that are closest to the piling works will be kept informed of when the piling will be closest to them.