

Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme

November 2022 update

Introduction

The flood alleviation scheme at Hexham aims to reduce the risk of flooding to businesses on the Tyne Mills and Bridge End industrial estates and will protect homes and businesses up to the level of the Storm Desmond event in 2015.

The details of the scheme can be found on our website [Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme - Environment Agency - Citizen Space \(environment-agency.gov.uk\)](https://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/hexham-flood-alleviation-scheme)

Design and delivery of the scheme – progress update

North bank (Bridge End)

Regarding the north bank, we looked at many different options to reduce flood risk, and the most technically feasible and economically viable option to increase flood protection for the area on the north bank, is to demolish the Reiver Sports building and replace this with a flood wall and embankment.

We purchased the former Reiver Sports site and an application to demolish the building was approved by the local authority, Northumberland County Council, in July this year. Notice of these works was advertised on site. We are hoping for the demolition to start this month and it will take several weeks to complete.

Construction on the north bank at Bridge End began in July and we have progressed well with construction of the flood wall and embankment to the east.



North bank flood wall and embankment

South bank (Tyne Mills)

Construction of the flood defence is almost complete. The structure across the Skinnersburn, which contains the outlet pipe for the Skinnersburn and a high-level overflow, has been built and non-return valves have been installed to stop the River Tyne backing up when levels are high. We are constructing the embankment next to the outlet and the remaining section of flood wall.



South bank flood wall

We expect to complete the Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme by summer 2023.

Flood Resilience

In the build up to winter the EA Flood Resilience Team have been out and about door knocking and letter dropping every single business and residential property in the Flood Warning areas of Hexham (over 250 properties), encouraging people to sign up to the free Flood Warning Service and improve their resilience to the possible impacts of flooding. Every business and resident were also given advice and guidance on how to create their own individual flood plan. To sign up to the Flood Warning Service please visit - [Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) or for further advice please contact engagement_northeast@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Next steps and information

We will continue to keep you updated on construction progress over the coming months through our newsletters and our website.

We are always happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Please contact our Project Team if you have any questions about Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme, by emailing: hexhamfas@environment-agency.gov.uk

If you would prefer to speak to us by telephone, please contact Amanda McKeivitt on 0208 4746410.