

Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme

September 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 scheme defences are a combination of flood walls and grass embankments along the bank tops of the River Tyne and the Skinnersburn.

On the south bank (Tyne Mills), 300 metres of new flood defence will be constructed from east of the Northumbrian Water Peth Head Pumping Station and along the edge of the Northumberland County Council yard, crossing the Skinnersburn and tying into high ground.

On the north bank (Bridge End), 370 metres of new flood defence will be constructed from the existing flood embankment behind Egger UK Ltd to the former Reiver Sports site, where it crosses the site and ties into high ground in the northwest corner.

Design and delivery of the scheme – progress update

Tyne Mills

We began construction of the flood defence in January and the wall is almost complete.

The structure across the Skinnersburn, which contains the outlet pipe for the Skinnersburn and a high-level overflow, has been built. Non return valves have been installed to stop the River Tyne backing up when levels are high. Over the next few months we will construct the embankment next to the outlet and tie into the new flood wall and high ground on the north. The outlet has been designed to account for high flows in the Skinnersburn.



Photo 1 Skinnersburn Outlet



Photo 2 Tyne Mills flood wall

Bridge End

Construction on the north bank at Bridge End began in July. We are continuing to progress well with construction of the flood wall and embankment to the east.

As part of the scheme, we have purchased the former Reiver Sports site and will be demolishing the building. Before this can happen utility diversions and relocation of a substation have had to take place. We are hoping for the demolition to start in November.



Photo 3 Bridge End flood wall



Photo 4 Bridge End embankment

Hexham Flood Alleviation Scheme - Completion timescales 2022

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

Funding and contributions from businesses

We are in discussion with several organisations and businesses on the estate about making a contribution towards the scheme to ensure its progression. If you are willing and could contribute, then please contact our Project Team, using the contact details below.

Next steps and information

We will keep you updated on construction progress over the coming months through our newsletters and our website also provides further information:

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/north-east/hexham-flood-alleviation-scheme/>

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