



Nov 2023

## **Keeping you informed – Storm Babet and Storm Ciaran**

As you will be aware, over recent weeks the UK has been hit by Storm Babet and Storm Ciaran both of which have brought significant disruption. Babet alone brought an incredible amount of rain in a short space of time. Whilst approximately 96,000 properties were protected from flooding during this storm, sadly, the total number of properties reported to have been flooded stands at 2,146. Our flood warning service sent out over 300,000 messages by email, telephone and text, and our staff worked round the clock with partners to help reduce the risk. Teams operated flood defences, flood storage reservoirs and installed temporary barriers where needed to help protect communities.

Whilst the threat from these storms has now passed, we are now heading into the winter period, and it is essential that communities at risk of flooding continue to be aware of how they can be prepared.

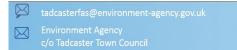
Please continue to take care over the coming months, stay away from swollen rivers and please don't drive through flood water as just 30cm of flowing water is enough to move your car. You can sign up to flood warnings if you haven't already done so, check the latest safety advice, and see updates on X, formerly known as Twitter @EnvAgency.

Should you require additional support with any of the above we are available in person as a project team every Tuesday morning at Tadcaster Town Council, The Ark, 33 Kirkgate – please feel free to pop in and see us.

Tadcaster also benefits from additional support via the Tadcaster Flood Action Group, dedicated to helping the community become more resilient and prepared. Please do visit their website for further information.

https://www.tadcasterfloodaction.org/









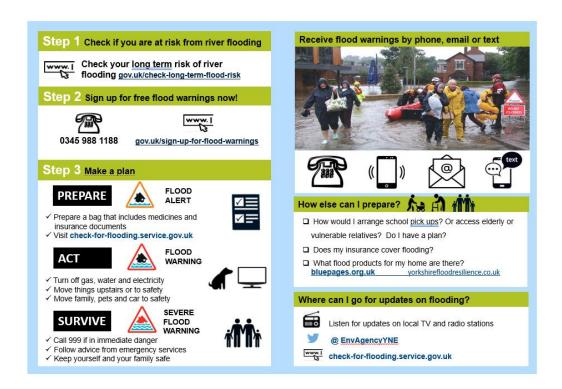




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## **Tadcaster FAS and Fish Pass update**

A Pre – Planning application has now been submitted to the local planning authority. This will allow the EA and their design/construction partners to discuss in a more formal approach with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) the various aspects of the flood scheme moving forward. This is the first steps within the planning application to ensure that the full planning application for the FAS will be suitable and move through as soon as possible. We will be looking to have this package of works concluded by early next year. This in turn will allow us to proceed with the planning application for the FAS works. There will be scheduled drop in events within the community before and during this period to allow the general public an opportunity to discuss any concerns and issues with the scheme. The fish pass has been deemed as permitted development by the LPA and as such will be progressed accordingly.

We have now also concluded our Site Investigation works in the area to allow us to understand the infrastructure. We will be working closely with North Yorkshire Council Highways and Yorkshire Water moving forward as well as other statutory bodies.

Additional Ground Investigations will proceed in the area around the East and West banks of the river around the bridge in the coming weeks, commencing end of November 2023 lasting for approximately 3 weeks.

Internally we continue to look at construction programs and how we deliver the FAS and the fish pass in an economical and cost benefit way, working with our construction partners on contracts and costings for the scheme to ensure a smooth and easy start for both the fish pass and the FAS as soon as possible. We also continue to work with local landowners and key stake holders as required.

Whilst we continue to work towards a Flood Alleviation Scheme for Tadcaster as swiftly as we can, we are also working with the local authority and utility providers to address surface water flooding alongside this scheme.

The Flood Risk Management Team at North Yorkshire Council shared with us the following information. "Investigation is currently underway, to examine North Yorkshire Council systems that are related to and potentially impacted by the Tadcaster FAS proposed works. Primarily this relates to the highway system serving Commercial Street which discharges to the river Wharfe. It is intended to map out and survey the condition of this system, to inform any repairs that may be needed and ultimately to ensure that works delivered as part of the FAS do not have an impact on the surface water systems. This work may involve discussions with riparian owners where applicable as it is not always clear which elements of the system are the responsibility of NYC Highways and which have riparian responsibility. It is recognised that Bridge Street has a high surface water risk and the council is committed to fully examining all opportunities to reduce this risk and explore options that may be deliverable alongside the Tadcaster FAS with partners."









## How to contact us

The Tadcaster FAS project team are available in person at The Ark, Tadcaster Town Council Offices every Tuesday between 10-12.

Email tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk

Visit our website for up to date information <u>Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme</u> (FAS) Information Page - Environment Agency

Or follow us on Facebook @TadcasterFloodScheme

For queries relating to surface water please contact the Flood Risk Management Team at North Yorkshire Council Flood and water management | North Yorkshire Council



