

Keeping you informed

York Flood Alleviation Scheme



We are dedicated to better protecting over 2,000 properties in York from flooding. This special edition of our newsletter is celebrating us reaching that goal!

2000 Properties Better Protected!

Chris Ashcroft from the York Flood Alleviation Scheme at the Environment Agency said:



“We are pleased to be able to announce that York Flood Alleviation Scheme has reached its target of better protecting 2000 properties in York. These properties across the city are now protected from a 1 in 100 flood event.”

“The upgrade of the Foss Barrier, completion of works around Memorial Gardens and North St, Lower Bootham, Marygate, Bishopthorpe, and the roll out of flood resilience products means that over 2000 properties are now better protected against the risk of flooding. Many more are to be protected through the year with the completion of flood defence work near Clementhorpe.”

“With the majority of inner-city work near completion, our attention will focus on major construction work on flood schemes at Clifton and Rawcliffe and the Foss flood storage area which will hold up to a million cubic metres of water during severe weather and protect a further 630 properties”

“We would like to thank the people of York and everyone impacted by our construction for their patience and understanding whilst we have worked to better protect the city from flooding.”

“Despite our best efforts, we can’t prevent all flooding. It’s vital everyone knows the risk to them and how to keep loved ones, property and possession safe. Search 'know my flood risk' on gov.uk to sign up for the free Environment Agency flood warnings, receive information on the risk in your area and what to do in the event of a flood.”



Our North Street defences in action during the February 2022 flooding in York



2015

Then and Now!

2022

Taking a look at the journey of our York flood defences from 2015 to today

The Foss Barrier



(Top Left: Foss Barrier during the Boxing Day 2015 flood event. Top Right: The new gate installation January 2021. Bottom Left and Right: Newly upgraded Foss Barrier)

Following the 2015 floods, we've been working hard to improve the capability and performance of the Foss Barrier. The work to fully refurbish and upgrade the Foss Barrier is complete, and we are now in the process of training and handover from the contractors. An official opening event is being planned for June 2022!

A new replacement gate was air-lifted into place at the Foss Barrier in January 2021, marking a major milestone in the £38m upgrade that reduces flood risk to around 1,600 properties in York.

All the mechanical and electrical equipment that operates the gate has been replaced, upgraded and fully integrated with the rest of the Foss Barrier pumping station.

As part of the upgrade, all eight pumps have been replaced by bigger ones with greater capacity – they can pump up to 50 tons of water a second! And the new back-up generators mean they can operate during a power failure.



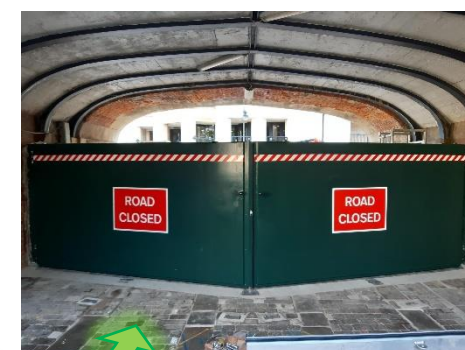
Scarborough Bridge to Ouse Bridge right bank

Our work to better protect 39 homes and businesses and key transport routes in this area was completed November 2021.

Improvements here include raising the flood wall and replacing all the floodgates on North Street, installing demountable flood barriers at two entrances to Memorial Gardens, and building a new flood wall and embankment between War Memorial Gardens and Leeman Road. We've also widened the flood gate at the upper end of North Street Gardens to improve access to the riverside, and waterproofed the car park under the Park Inn and our Community Flood Hub building.



Left: Flooding along North Street December 2015. Middle: Construction works August 2019. Right: Completed North Street Flood Wall



Left: Lendal Gate closed March 2018. Middle: Construction works August 2021. Right: Newly installed and upgraded Lendal flood gate

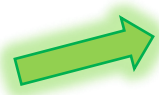


Bishopthorpe



Flooding in Bishopthorpe 2015

We've recently completed our work to better protect 198 properties in this area. We have installed 175m of 6.5m deep steel sheet piles, which will minimise the passing of water through the ground and under the above-ground flood defences. We have also completed work to install two new manholes with associated pipe work, reconnecting the surface water system and allowing the removal of the temporary over pumping system. We have constructed a new flood wall that will run along Chantry Lane and part of Bishopthorpe Road.



Completed underground defences and flood wall



Completed flood gate at the end of Chantry Lane



Completed flood along Chantry Lane



Coppins Farm to Scarborough Bridge



(Top Left: Almerly Terrace properties prior to our works. Top Right: Almerly Steps flood wall prior to works. Bottom Left: New glass panels on Almerly Terrace. Bottom Right: Newly raised Almerly Steps flood wall)



(Top Left: St Peter's School sports fields flooded February 2020. Bottom Left: Construction work taking place to increase height of the Lower Bootham embankment August 2020. Right: Works to raise the height of the embankment complete)

Work to better protect 156 properties in this area is near completion. We have raised height of the flood embankment in St Peter's School fields, built a new transition wall between the embankment and the development at the end of Almerly Terrace, installed new floodgates and glass panels to increase the height of the flood defence along Almerly Terrace, and have also installed a new flood gate at the top of the Almerly steps and piling within the Network Rail embankment.



Scarborough Bridge to Lendal Bridge



Top left: Flooding by Earlsborough Terrace February 2020. Bottom left: Installing the new flood panels December 2021. Top and bottom right: Completed flood panel installation

Work to better protect 57 properties in this area is near completion. We've increased height of the existing flood wall from Scarborough bridge to Museum gardens. This includes new flood gates and glass panels along Earlsborough Terrace and Esplanade Court, a new flood gate near Scarborough Bridge and new demountable panels for the Marygate flood gate. We've increased the height of the embankment within Museum Gardens and extended it at the southern end. This includes terracing of the embankment adjacent to the Hospitium.

Landscaping works will be beginning later this Spring, with hydroseeding of the embankment taking place in April, by ground preparation and planting on the terraced area and around the serpentine path. Tree planting will be taking place during the next tree planting season in the Autumn. We are working closely with Yorkshire Museums Trust, our construction contractors, and landscaping contractors to finalise the details of the type, location, and timing of the planting.

*Work on the
Museum
Gardens
embankment
December 2021*



What's happening in our other flood cells?

Westfield Beck (F12)

We are carrying out some more appraisal work to find the best way to reduce flooding for this flood cell. We are continuing discussions with Yorkshire Water regarding their sewer infrastructure and CYC regarding surface water flooding.

Clifton Ings (B10)

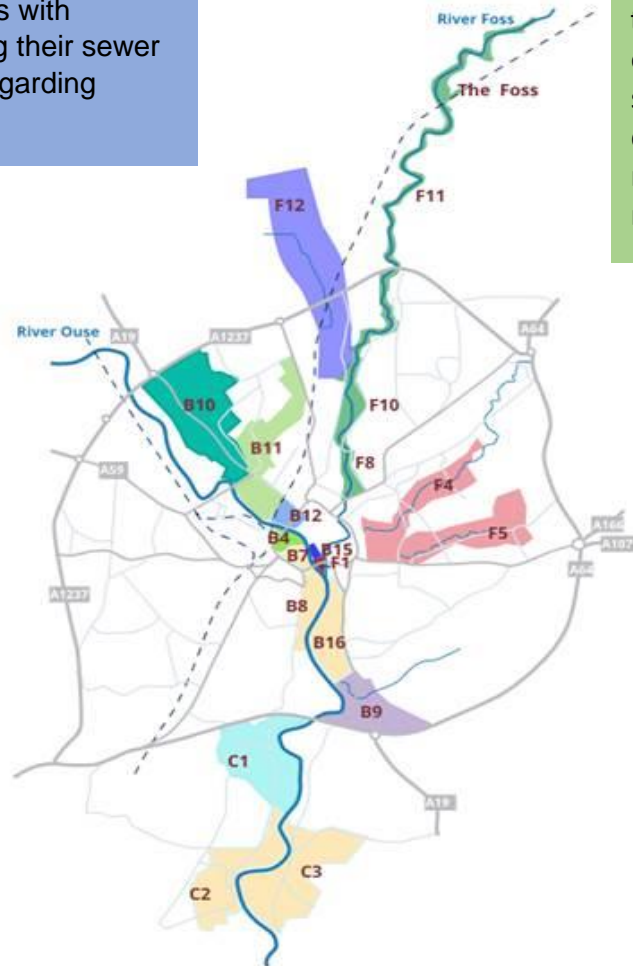
We have completed building our compound on the Cornfield, and are finishing our work on building the new Sustrans track. The next phase of construction is due to start in April 2022.

Foss Basin (F1)

Planned works at St George's field car park are to raise the height of walled defences. These works are to be carried out in 2022

Foss Storage Area (F8, F10, F11)

The setting up of our works compound is close to completion. Work will begin later this year to build a new embankment with outfall control structure upstream of York, designed to hold up to 1million m³ during times of extreme rainfall.



Tang Hall and Osbaldwick Becks (F4&F5)

Due to the scale of costs and site location constraints, we are unable to go ahead with the 'open culvert' scheme that had been originally planned. We are in conversation with CYC and other partners looking into how to incorporate Natural Flood Management and Sustainable Drainage processes to reduce flood risk in this area.

Property Flood Resilience (B7, B11, B12, B15, C1, C2, C3)

Under the York Five Year Plan PFR Scheme we are offering a free survey to eligible properties. The survey will identify the suitability of the building for PFR and recommend a list of measures bespoke to that property. For those who wish to proceed with the recommendations, we are offering to install resistance measures to their properties, up to £7,500 in value

We have reached out to properties potentially eligible for PFR, inviting them to fill in a questionnaire to help us establish whether they are suitable for our PFR measures. Thank you to all who have responded so far, we are currently processing this information.

Once contracts have been finalised we will be in touch with property owners to make arrangements for surveys to take place.

If you haven't received an invitation to complete the questionnaire but believe you may be eligible, or if you have and require assistance in completing it, please do get in touch via yorkfloodplan@environment-agency.gov.uk



Schools Engagement

Our team has been working to develop our education resources for delivery in local schools. Our aim is to inform and educate school aged students in York on the causes of flooding, the work we have undertaken to better protect the city from floods, and how to stay safe in the event of flooding in their area.

Recently, we have visited St Peters and Clifton With Rawcliffe Primary, linking in with the students' recent work on the topic of rivers and flooding. We also accompanied the Year 5s from Clifton With Rawcliffe on their trip to Clifton Ings, we took a look at the construction work taking place and how we're working with the local wildlife.



EA and BAM staff with students from Clifton With Rawcliffe Primary.

If you teach in York and would like us to come and visit your school, please do get in touch and find out more by emailing yorkfloodplan@environment-agency.gov.uk

To sign up for updates on any of the flood schemes mentioned in this newsletter, please email us at yorkfloodplan@environment-agency.gov.uk and include the scheme's name or location in the subject of the email.

Community Flood Hub

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to us closing our hub on Wellington Row on a couple of occasions, but we are happy to say we are open again for the public to visit and learn more about our completed and ongoing flood schemes in York.

We are open every Wednesday, 10am – 4pm, with different members of our team available for you to talk to, along with various displays providing further information on our schemes.



Our Community Flood Hub on Wellington Row

