

Upper Calder Flood Risk Reduction Schemes

Keeping you informed

March 2015

Following the devastating floods in the Upper Calder Valley in 2012 and 2013, the Environment Agency and Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council - along with Yorkshire Water and the Canal & River Trust - have worked together to develop a programme to reduce flood risk and improve resilience within local communities. This will reduce the risk from surface water and fluvial flooding for more than 450 residential and commercial properties and is part of a long term commitment to tackle flooding in the valley.

Work on the first four schemes in the programme is about to start. The Environment Agency will be project managing the works and has appointed contractor JBA Bentley to design and build the following:

Shop Lock, Todmorden (works scheduled to start March 2015)

At Shop Lock, water overtops Rochdale Canal in periods of heavy rain and flows down the access ramp, causing flooding to the car park and adjacent properties at Lever Street. The works we will be undertaking will address this, thereby providing a safer environment for Todmorden residents and visitors to the area.

Bacup Road, Todmorden works scheduled to start March 2015)

Bacup Road has been a source of surface water flooding for many years, affecting local properties as well as homes and businesses in the Gauxholme and Shade areas of the town.

The works we will undertake will convey run-off from the hill slopes and catchment streams into receiving watercourses and prevent discharge to the road. This will minimise surface water on the roads, reducing the risk of flooding and also the risk of hazardous driving conditions.

There are at least 12 culvert crossings of Bacup Road that convey water flow from the tributary streams to the north of the road into Midgelden Brook to the south of the road. The main problem

is that these culverts are ineffective at collecting flows from the incoming streams. There are a number of reasons for this, including structural problems and lack of capacity caused by blockages. There are also significant areas of land between the catchments of the tributary streams that discharge water directly on to the road.

Our plan is to deal with each of the problems at source, ensuring that the culverts perform to their optimum capacity, or by improving capacity where problems have been identified. In between the tributary streams, additional road gully improvements are proposed to bolster the highway drainage. The combination of these measures will remove overland flows as close to their source as reasonably possible. This will reduce the risk of flooding to properties all the way down Bacup Road and to the properties adjacent to Rochdale Road.

Pin Hill Lane, Midgley (works scheduled to start April 2015)

Surface water run-off from the surrounding hillside flowing down Pin Hill Lane causes risk to properties at Lanes End, Duke Street and Railes Close.

Main works at this location will include:

Resurfacing to the upper 200m of Pin Hill Lane to prevent further erosion and increase stability of the lane;

Installation of additional surface water drainage infrastructure to Pin Hill Lane to collect and discharge flows into the adjacent Lane Ends fields;

The creation of a flood storage area within the Lane Ends fields.

Nutclough, Hebden Bridge (works scheduled to start March 2015)

Keighley Road, Bridge Gate and St George's Square are at risk of flooding from surface water run-off along Keighley Road and overtopping of Ibbot Royd Clough at the site of the former reservoirs for Nutclough Mill.

The most recent flooding was experienced in the summer of 2012 which resulted in:

- Flooding to a number of properties along Keighley Road;
- Damage to Nutclough Road;
- Overtopping of the lower reservoir which may have been exacerbated by a blockage, or partial blockage, to the outlet;
- Surface water on Keighley Road contributing to the widespread flooding problems experienced in Hebden Bridge.

Main works will include:

- Retain the existing overflow bypass channel for the upper reservoir, ensuring that any openings in the channel are cleared of blockages to improve flow routing and limit risks of overtopping.
- Install collector drains on Nutclough Road to pick up any flood water from the upper reservoir and re-direct it through new outfalls in the existing stone walls to the lower reservoir.
- Replace the existing debris screen with a new two stage debris screen to the outlet of the lower reservoir, to include access steps for operation and maintenance purposes.
- The existing overflow pipe to the lower reservoir will be improved to ensure that flood water can continue to enter the Nutclough culvert when the screen is blocked.

Whilst the above schemes will help to reduce flood risk, we will never be able to completely remove it. However, we are committed to finding solutions that will improve the level of protection to as many properties as possible.

What's next?

We will continue to work with our partner CMBC and other stakeholders to develop a number of additional flood risk reduction schemes to be delivered as part of an overall package of new works within the Upper Calder Valley. Details of these schemes - and when they are likely to happen - will be announced in due course.

Contact us

If you have any comments or questions about our work, please let us know.

Further information is available at <http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/environment/flooding/future.html>

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