

Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2

Newsletter – September 2021

Our September 2021 newsletter includes information on Step 1 construction and proposal development and an update on Step 2 construction proposals. All zones referenced can be seen on the zone map on the last page of the newsletter.

Step 1 (Leeds City Centre to Kirkstall and Newlay)

Developing proposals

In Zone 10, a flood defence design solution that works for both the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (LFAS2) and the developer of Wellington Place has now been agreed, and final details are being drawn up.

We are continuing to engage with Armley Mills Museum in Zone 12a, to ensure that flood defence proposals complement the heritage and history of the site. Our design and construction teams are working with museum staff and Historic England to ensure all parties remain informed about construction in this area. We anticipate that enabling works, such as minor vegetation clearance and relocation of museum assets, will begin in the next few weeks. Construction of flood defences in Zone 12a is set to begin in the new year.

In Zone 13, we are engaging with landowners and businesses to finalise our proposals. Site investigation works are continuing upstream from Kirkstall Bridge. Ground investigations have also started at Newlay Bridge, and will inform the detailed design of the flood defences.

Construction progress

In the Step 1 area, we continue to carry out construction works, mindful of evolving government Covid-19 guidance to ensure the safety of our workforce and the public. Significant progress has been made in Zone 11 over the last few months, with the removal of contaminated ground, which will enable the construction of flood defences to the rear of the SFS site on Kirkstall Road to begin. In mid-August, the construction team started to install sheet piles in the river channel outside the eChem site.



Completed flood wall and access ramp at the Tannery

The estimated completion date for this stage is the end of this month. This will be followed by landscaping works to add greenery to the flood defence walls.

Works at the Tannery site have now been completed. The flood walls have been fitted with railings and the area has been cleared, with the original boundary fencing and gates reinstated.



In Zone 12b, works are continuing on the stairs and new abutments to Milford Place Bridge. Due to delays receiving the necessary cladding material, the footbridge is now expected to temporarily reopen to the public at the end of September.

Construction of the reinforced concrete flood wall behind Kemps Lighting is complete up to Milford Place footbridge, and construction of the new flood wall upstream of the bridge has begun.

After some brief delays, construction in the car park at the Cardigan Trading Estate has started, with sheet piles being installed for the flood defence wall.

The construction of the flood defence wall at Cardigan Fields Leisure park has also concluded. We are currently carrying out landscaping works in this area. Keep an eye out for the project information board on display at Cardigan Fields, to see project drawings and visualisations of what the area will look like once work is complete.

The construction of the reinforced concrete flood wall at Stagefreight is also now complete. Sheet piling further downstream from the site has also started, and is due to be completed at the end of October.

Following the installation of sheet piles at the Home Office site on Kirkstall Road, landscaping is being undertaken on the imprinted concrete wall. Further downstream, by the Riverside Service Station, works have begun to install a stone causeway in the river, in preparation for the sheet piled wall.

We are continuing to engage with businesses and residents about ongoing construction works in areas of Zone 12c. Designs for flood defences around the Leeds Motor Company site have been finalised, with work scheduled to begin in mid-September.

At Zone 12d, we are liaising closely with businesses in the area to provide up-to-date information, support and resources to avoid any disruption to operations. Work at Big MC's Container Storage started in early September, and security and separate facilities to accommodate customers and their goods has been provided.



New concrete wall nearing completion upstream of Milford Bridge



Completed concrete wall by Kemps Lighting



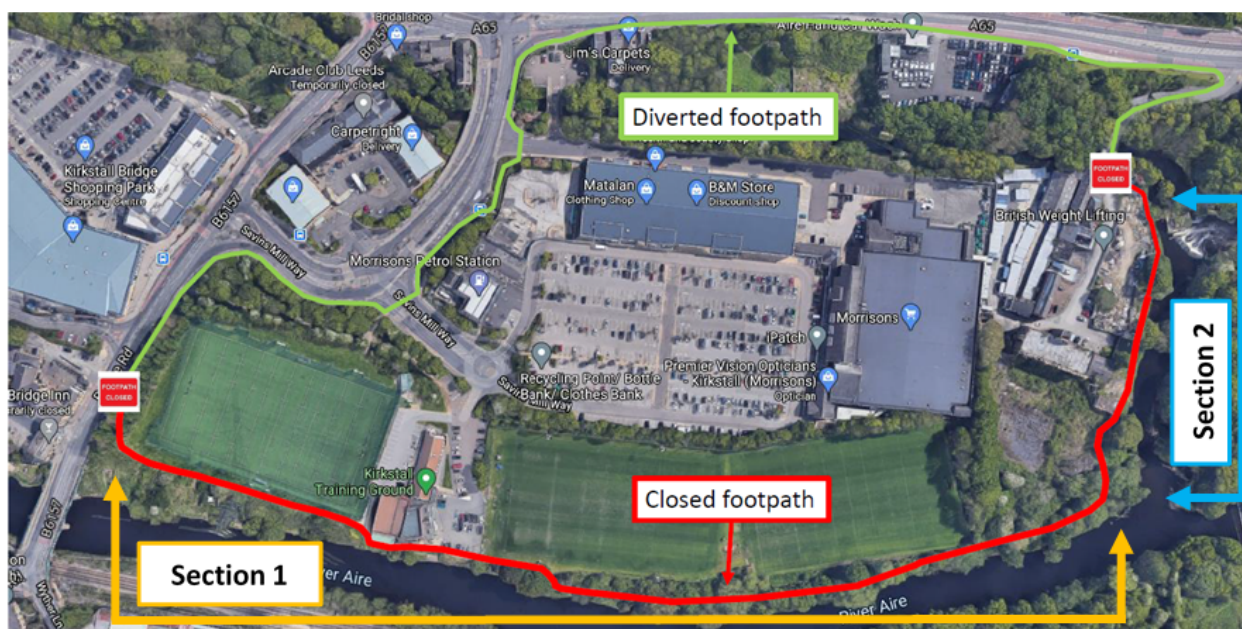
Causeway installation for the piling works

Additionally, the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme team have worked with the Leeds Flood Risk Management Team and the Fire Service to install two throwlines in Kirkstall. Following the tragic death of a local teacher in May 2020, the necessity and availability of such safety equipment has become increasingly apparent. As shown on the map, the first throwline (Kirkstall 1) is situated on the right bank of the river, to the rear of the Cardigan Fields Leisure Park. The second throwline (Kirkstall 2), is on the left bank, across the river to the first location.



Site clearance and access works began in August between St Ann's Mill and Leeds Rugby Academy, in preparation for permanent flood defence works. In June 2021, in order to allow construction works to continue safely, we temporarily closed the footpath from St Ann's Mill to Kirkstall Bridge. The map below shows the footpath closure and the diversion route, as well the locations of the signage.

The footpath from Kirkstall Bridge and alongside the pitch (orange lines labelled 'Section 1') will be closed until at least December 2021. The work around Kirkstall Training Ground Pitch is expected to be completed in May 2022, with the pitches reopening then. The footpath within St Ann's Mill (blue lines labelled 'Section 2') is expected to be closed for longer in order to facilitate works there. We expect construction here to be complete and the footpath to be reopened in autumn 2022.



In Zone 13c, we are writing to residents in Newlay informing them of ongoing ground investigations and construction of flood defences, due to start in Spring 2022. In February 2021, as a result of heavy rainfall, the weir collapsed and we are now conducting surveys to understand how these developments will inform the finalised designs for the flood alleviation works. However, LFAS2 will not be re-instating Newlay Weir.

Step 2 (Calverley area to Apperley Bridge)

We are engaging residents in Zone 14 on our proposals for flood risk management in the area. Construction of the access track for the flood control building and flood storage area between Horsforth and Rawdon is now also complete, with some ancillary work left to do. A haul road has been completed, and on-site offices established to aid with the construction works. All construction workers will be clearly identifiable through their uniforms and safety equipment.

Some tree felling has also been necessary in the zone to create these facilities. Reducing tree loss through design is a priority, but as part of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme, for every one tree that has to be removed, we pledge to plant three new ones. Where possible, these will be in the vicinity of the original tree. We are continuously looking for new sites along the River Aire Corridor and in local areas to plant trees. Please get in touch if you have any recommendations for tree planting locations

In order to create a flood storage area in Zone 14, a cofferdam is being formed. This is where water is pumped out of an area within/near the river to provide a dry working environment to enable safe construction.

These works, which began at the start of this month, mark an exciting advance in the engineering and construction on the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme.

Within Zone 15, we are continuing to develop detailed designs of flood defences, and engaging with residents to ensure they are adequately informed of developments. We hope to carry out further engagement and visits with residents in the area once designs are finalised.



River diversion works



Crane platform construction for flood storage area

Leeds Climate Commission

Since the last newsletter, we spoke to the Leeds Climate Commission about the LFAS2 project, and how our ongoing construction works to reduce flood risks along the River Aire are delivering environmental innovation through a low carbon scheme. See more [here](#).

Keep in touch

In response to Covid-19, the regular surgeries at the Viaduct Road Project Office are still temporarily paused. These will recommence as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the scheme, please contact the team via email at lfas@leeds.gov.uk. Phone or Microsoft Teams calls with the team can be arranged if you would like to talk through any specific questions relating to your home or business. For more general information, or if you would like to see updates via social media, please visit [our webpage](#).

Finally, if you would like to amend your subscription details, or request this communication in an alternative format, please contact us on the above details.

Zone map

