

Public consultation begins on £3.3 million plans to reduce flood risk to 221 properties in Penketh and Whittle Brooks



- A consultation has been launched for a flood defence scheme at Penketh and Whittle Brooks that could reduce the risk of flooding to 221 properties
- The Environment Agency wants residents and businesses in the area to visit its online 'virtual engagement room' to view the details and leave feedback
- Consultation open until the 15 January 2021

The consultation on the proposals is open until the 15 January 2021 and can be viewed by visiting our virtual engagement room at <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/gmmc/penketh-and-whittle-flood-risk-management-scheme/>

Peter Costello, Area Flood and Coastal Risk Manager for the Environment Agency said:

"We have been liaising with local residents and partner organisations as we develop options to manage flood risk to 221 properties in Penketh and Whittle Brooks."

"We are now ready to share these proposals with the wider community, so we can factor in their local knowledge and insight as we refine the plans."

"We would encourage everyone to visit our virtual engagement room, where they can view details of the proposed flood defences, learn more about our ongoing work and share their views and feedback."

**Warrington Borough Council's Cabinet Member for public realm,
Cllr Hans Mundry, said:**

"This flood defence scheme is really important for the future of the area, so it's vital that local people have their say and help shape the plans."

"The Environment Agency have been working closely with residents throughout the development of the scheme, and this consultation is the next, important part of that work. If you are a local resident or business in the area, please visit the virtual engagement room, have a look at the latest plans and share your views."

Following previous feedback from the community, the Environment Agency is proposing to build an overflow culvert on Penketh Brook which will allow more water to flow underneath the railway and canal after heavy rain.

This proposal has the benefit of no longer requiring the transfer culvert between Penkth and Whittle Brooks or the need for the defences that had previously been proposed along Hall Nook. This additionally removes the need to remove existing trees and vegetation along Hall Nook, which was a significant concern for some residents. Proposals for tidal gates on Whittle Brook still feature in the plans, with some additional work to the channel and banks.

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