

# Press release: Opportunity to shape plans to reduce flood risk in Otley

Following the creation of a digital model of the river, and testing options in the model, a team from Leeds City Council, Environment Agency, and consultants WSP have now come up with four options that they would like the community's views on.

Residents and business owners can come and talk to the team at:

- The Core Otley, Unit 11 Orchard Gate, Otley LS21 3NX on Thursday 21 June between 4–7pm

The shortlist of options and supplementary works on show include using flood defence walls, flood defence embankments, maintenance including vegetation clearance and riverbank realignment.

Otley suffered flooding on three occasions between November and December 2015, which saw 74 properties affected. In the Autumn Statement 2016, Government announced £2 million to invest in a scheme to reduce the risk of flooding to homes and businesses.

The scheme is being led by Leeds City Council working closely with the Environment Agency.

Leader of Leeds City Council Councillor Judith Blake said:

We are very pleased to now share with people the progress we and the Environment Agency have made on the plans for flood prevention measures for Otley with these shortlisted options we are now considering and developing further. These measures are all deliverable and would make a real difference in providing reassurance to local residents and businesses against the threat posed by flooding, so we would encourage as many people as possible to come and see what we have in mind and tell us what they think.

John Woods, flood risk management advisor at the Environment Agency said:

After much work we are now approaching a really crucial stage in the project to select a final option for Otley. We'd encourage anyone with an interest in the scheme to look at the potential options and come along to discuss their views with the team. Residents views are really important in helping us to reach a preferred option for the town.

## Catchment-wide approach

The Otley Flood Alleviation Scheme is one of several schemes that is adopting a catchment-wide approach. This means the entire River Wharfe catchment area is being considered to help reduce flood risk. This approach looks at a combination of natural processes and engineered options to help slow the flow and catch water further up the catchment so that flood peaks are reduced further downstream.

After the drop-in event, a preferred option will be chosen and developed into the outline design phase, where the community will get another chance to comment on the proposals.

The team is aiming to submit a planning application in winter 2018 and subject to planning approval, construction on site will start by autumn 2019.

For those who can't make it to the drop-in, the shortlist of options are also available to [view online here](#) and if anyone has any comments they can be sent by email to [FRM@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:FRM@leeds.gov.uk)

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## **[Notice: SY5 9PH, Yockleton Growers Ltd: environmental permit issued](#)**

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Yockleton Growers Ltd
- Installation name: Bank House Farm
- Permit number: EPR/EP3737RT/V005

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## **[Notice: LE14 4NR, Island Gas Limited: environmental permit issued](#)**

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Island Gas Limited
  - Installation name: Long Clawson Oilfield
  - Permit number: EPR/UP3131CH/V002
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## **Notice: TR21 0JY, Council of The Isles of Scilly: environmental permit issued. EPR/HP3539EQ/S003**

The Environment Agency publish surrenders that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit, decision document and site condition report evaluation template for:

- Operator name: Council of The Isles of Scilly
  - Installation name: Porthmellon Waste Management Site
  - Permit number: EPR/HP3539EQ/S003
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## **News story: Reducing plastic waste in the environment: apply for funding**

There is up to £4 million for innovative business projects that look at ways of reducing plastic waste through new polymers, processes, designs, recycling regimes and use of biodegradable alternatives.

The funding is provided by UK Research and Innovation and delivered by Innovate UK. This competition forms part of the £20 million package of the Plastics and Research Innovation Fund.

### **Tackling the plastic problem**

There is growing concern about the amount of plastic waste in the environment and its impact on wildlife and the wider eco-system.

The amount of plastic waste produced is growing fast. [It was reported](#) that in 2016, 1.5 million tons of plastic was produced globally. This is set to double by 2034.

As recent as 2014, [it was found](#) that less than a third of Europe's plastic

waste was recycled, with another third ending up in landfill. The remaining third was sent to energy recovery facilities.

## **Projects should improve recycling**

The competition is seeking 'circular economy' approaches to plastic use that could include:

- developing new polymer materials
- new product designs
- new recycling processes
- increasing the value of recycled polymer
- innovations that encourage people to change behaviour and reduce plastic waste

Projects could also look at new business models or at approaches focused on compostable or biodegradable materials.

[Clean growth is one of government's 4 grand challenges identified in the Industrial Strategy. Find out more about why it is focusing on this important area for the future.](#)

## **Competition information**

- the competition opened on 18 June 2018, and the deadline for applications is at midday on 8 August 2018
- projects can be led by a business or a research and technology organisation, but all projects must include an SME. Only an SME can lead projects with costs below £100,000
- we expect project costs to range between £50,000 and £1 million and for projects to last between 3 months and 24 months
- businesses could attract up to 70% of their project costs
- a briefing event will be held on 19 June 2018

[Find out more about this competition and apply.](#)