

Press release: Oxford flood alleviation scheme online consultation opens up

The Environment Agency is calling on communities to have their say on benefits and features that will make up the £120 million project to reduce flood risk to all homes and businesses in Oxford.

The consultation will be open from 22 June to 20 July 2017, and will allow the public to input into design features; ranging from the 7 bridges along the route of the scheme, to options for benches and cycle racks on footpaths. The scheme is a major project which will involve lowering parts of Oxford's floodplain to increase capacity for floodwater, as well as widening and deepening some of the rivers and streams that run through it.

Speaking ahead of the launch of the consultation, Emma Howard Boyd, Chair of the Environment Agency, said:

The Oxford flood alleviation scheme will be a major feat of engineering and is one of the biggest projects we are working on across the country. I am very proud of our partnership approach, which is so important to building the scheme and keeping this iconic city moving during times of flood, for businesses, commuters and communities of Oxford.

Cllr Yvonne Constance, Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, added:

This is a really important issue for people in Oxford and beyond. The plans for the flood alleviation scheme are now very advanced and we want to hear what our residents think.

As the lead local flood authority, Oxfordshire County Council strongly supports the Oxford flood alleviation scheme and we encourage local communities, residents and businesses to take this opportunity to get involved in the consultation.

The project team spoke to over 200 members of the public at drop-in events throughout Oxford in May, where they shared information about the progress of the scheme and the many benefits it will bring. You can [go online](#) from 22 June to 20 July to view this information, see how they've been progressing with the scheme and to complete the consultation.

The project team will be available to help members of the public who don't have access to the internet to complete the online consultation at the

following libraries:

- Kennington Library, OX1 5PG: 2pm to 7pm on Friday 30 June
- Oxford Central Library, OX1 1AY: 12pm to 6pm on Thursday 6 July
- Botley Library, OX2 9LP: 9:30am to 2pm on Tuesday 11 July

The Environment Agency is working with local partners: Oxfordshire County Council, Oxford City Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, Thames Water, the Oxford Flood Alliance, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, and the University of Oxford, on the scheme to reduce flood risk to all homes and businesses in Oxford, as well as to major transport routes into the city.

For further information please visit:

[Oxford FAS web page](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

or contact the project team at oxfordscheme@environment-agency.gov.uk.

[News story: Home Secretary and Facebook's Sheryl Sandberg discuss the online terrorist threat](#)

Today the Home Secretary and Culture Secretary met Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer at Facebook, to discuss progress on an industry-led forum to tackle terrorist content online, end-to-end encryption and working with law enforcement.

Following the meeting the Home Secretary said:

Today was a useful opportunity to discuss the efforts Facebook are making to tackle terrorist and extremist propaganda online. I welcome their commitment to take serious action and to play a leading role in the industry forum announced in March after my last meeting with internet companies.

This is a problem that transcends borders and a truly global effort is needed to make a real difference. The Prime Minister has urged fellow EU leaders to help to rid terrorist material from the internet in all our languages, and gained support for the forum at the G7. We have launched a joint action plan with France and I will

be discussing the issue with colleagues from the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand next week.

Press release: Environment Secretary Michael Gove sets out new approach for UK fishing

Scottish fishermen will have their say on developing a new approach for the fishing industry, Environment Secretary Michael Gove pledged at his first visit to Peterhead.

The Fisheries Bill, announced in the Queen's Speech on Wednesday, offers a chance to take a fresh look at the UK's fishing industry for when we leave the European Union and become fully responsible for access and management of our waters and setting quotas.

In the coming months and years, the government will be working with the industry and marine scientists, as well as the devolved administrations, to preserve and increase fish stocks for their long-term sustainability, and secure prosperity for fishermen across the UK when we leave the European Union.

While visiting Peterhead's bustling harbour and famous fish market, the Secretary of State met skippers and industry representatives from the whitefish, shellfish and pelagic sectors.

Environment Secretary Michael Gove said:

The UK is a proud fishing nation and this industry is crucial for many coastal communities around the Scottish coast and Northern Isles.

That is why I made sure one of my first visits as Environment Secretary was to Peterhead, famous for its fishing heritage, to hear directly from fishermen about what their real priorities are in the upcoming negotiations.

As we negotiate our exit from the European Union, I am determined to secure the best possible deal, making sure we have a sustainable and profitable industry for today's fishermen and the next generation.

The Secretary of State also met Bertie Armstrong, Chief Executive of the

Scottish Fishermen's Federation, to discuss the future of fishing for Scotland once we have left the European Union, upcoming negotiations and what the Fisheries Bill could mean for fishing in Scotland.

Bertie Armstrong, Chief Executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation said:

We are delighted with the commitment made to taking back the beneficial control and management of our rich and sustainable seafood resources.

Jimmy Buchan, Business Manager at the Scottish Seafood Association said:

We're delighted to see the appointment of Michael Gove as Environment Secretary due to his strong connections with Scotland, Aberdeenshire and the processing sector. We look forward to working with him to make sure we get a good deal out of Brexit – that means a thriving fishing industry, with a processing sector that supports the communities we live in.

Starting this summer, there will be a period of engagement on the Fisheries Bill with the devolved administrations, fishermen, trade organisations, fish processors and the public to make sure we deliver a deal that works for the whole of the UK, and over time develop an approach which delivers the best outcome for the UK industry.

Speech: European Council June 2017: Prime Minister's press statement

At this European Council we dealt with a broad ranging agenda.

We covered issues that are of critical importance to the UK now – such as counter-terrorism and climate change. These issues will remain important after we leave the EU.

That is why we will play a full role while we are members of the European Union, and why we want a deep and special partnership with our EU friends and allies after we leave.

Last night I was also able to update other leaders on the UK's proposal to give reassurance and certainty to EU citizens who have made their homes and lives in our country.

Let me deal with a few of the items I and other leaders discussed.

On security, there was strong commitment around the table to stand firm in the fight against terrorism and the online extremism that incites terrorism.

I was able to thank our European partners in person for their support and condolence following the appalling attacks in Manchester and London.

Those attacks have not just affected British citizens, but citizens from across Europe – just as British people suffered in the attacks in Paris and Stockholm.

And I say this in a city which has itself suffered great loss from terrorist attacks.

These atrocities have strengthened the need for us to work together to keep our countries safe.

So I urged other leaders to put pressure on technology companies to do more to rid extremist content from the internet and to ensure that law enforcement agencies can access encrypted data.

That is what has been agreed at this European Council, and it builds on the recent work I have done with President Macron of France.

We must continue to work together to combat this evil, to defend our values, and to keep our citizens safe.

On defence, we have welcomed plans for Europe to step up cooperation on capabilities, and for the EU and NATO to work more closely together. The UK will always be committed to the defence of Europe.

On climate change, this European Council reaffirmed the commitment of the EU and all Member States to fully implement the Paris Agreement.

The UK welcomes that joint commitment.

We discussed the importance of the EU pursuing an ambitious trade policy, delivering jobs and growth. That trade must be fair as well as free. The UK will continue to play a leading role in pushing for openness in global trade.

On migration, I emphasised the UK would continue to play its part in tackling the ongoing migration crisis – which is a challenge for our entire continent.

The Council recommitted to a comprehensive approach to the crisis. That means dealing with the drivers of migration while also doing more to stem the flow of migration.

This summit focussed on the Central Mediterranean route, and I confirmed a new UK bilateral commitment of £75 million to meet urgent humanitarian needs while also facilitating voluntary returns of migrants making these treacherous journeys.

Finally, after the constructive start to our Brexit negotiations earlier this week, I wanted to briefly set out to my fellow European leaders the UK's approach to giving reassurance and certainty to EU citizens living in the UK.

I want all those EU citizens who are in the UK, who've made their lives and homes in our country to know that no one will have to leave. We won't be seeing families split apart. People will be able to go on their living their lives as before.

This is a fair and serious offer – it gives those three million EU citizens in the UK certainty about the future of their lives, and we want the same certainty for the more than one million UK citizens who are living in the European Union.

On Monday, I will publish my proposals in full – and look forward to reaching an agreement at the earliest possible date.

[News story: Insolvency Live! 2017](#)

Join us for our annual forum for insolvency and debt advisory professionals in London on Monday, 17 July 2017.

We will be hosting an expanded forum this year

10.30am to 4pm, Monday 17 July 2017, Westminster

At Insolvency Live! you will have the opportunity to hear from members of our Board and senior staff, ask questions and give us your feedback.

Insolvency Live! will include presentations, workshops and a question and answer panel. There will also be the chance to speak to representatives from a broad range of Insolvency Service teams to find out more about their work.

Topics of discussion will include:

- our recent activities and plans for the year ahead
- reviewing the first year of online bankruptcy applications
- Brexit and the insolvency profession
- introducing our new criminal enforcement team
- insolvency practitioner regulation
- our evolving approach to tackling director misconduct
- working with the profession to manage insolvency cases
- how should the Insolvency Service measure our effectiveness

If you would like to attend please [register your interest](#). As places are limited we will need to confirm your attendance with you directly. There is no cost to attend the event.

If you are unable to attend we will be tweeting from the event using the hashtag #InsolvencyLive and posting highlights on this page.