

a better place for you

Nottingham Trent left bank flood alleviation scheme

An outline





a history of flooding

Nottingham has a well-documented history of flooding, dating back to 1795. The most recent serious flood occurred in March 1947. Twenty-eight miles of streets, 3,000 properties and 86 factories in the city centre were flooded. In response flood defences were constructed through Nottingham in the 1950s.

Fifty years on, these defences still protect Nottingham from the ravages of the River Trent. Although the flood defences have been well maintained over the last half-century, they are nearing the end of their design life. We have also found that the standard of flood protection provided in some areas is below that currently recommended by the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

Flood risk and the River Trent

Following the widespread flooding in parts of the Midlands in 1998 and 2000 we carried out an appraisal of flood risk along the River Trent between Stoke-on-Trent and Newark.

We assessed the condition and height of the existing defences and investigated options to improve flood protection to properties.

As a result of the assessments we carried out in Nottingham we concluded that:

- some areas of Nottingham left bank are only protected against a flood that has a 1 in 50¹ chance of occurring in any year.
- some stretches of defence are in poor condition.

In March 2005 we published our findings in the Fluvial Trent flood risk management strategy.

¹ Floods are categorised by their size and the frequency with which they are expected to occur. A 1 in 50 year flood event is one that is expected to occur once every 50 years or twice a century. This may also be expressed as a flood with a 2% chance of occurring in any given year. A 1 in 100 year flood only has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year but its effects would be much greater.

Top: Notts County football ground flooded in November 2000. (Picture courtesy of Nottingham Post)

Above right: Midland Station flooded in 1947.

Bottom right: Bosworth Road in the Meadows area, 1947.





managing flood risk in Nottingham

Although it will never be possible to prevent flooding entirely, we are committed to managing flood risk in Nottingham. Managing flood risk means reducing both the likelihood of flooding and the impact of flooding on people and properties when it occurs.

Nottingham Trent left bank flood alleviation scheme (Nottingham Trent left bank FAS)

Through the Nottingham Trent left bank FAS we are investigating how to manage flood risk along the left bank of the River Trent in Nottingham. Over 15,000 properties could benefit from increased protection.

Nottingham FAS has several aims including:

- to reduce flood risk to people and properties on Nottingham's left bank
- to increase the variety of plant and animal life in the river corridor
- to improve the overall appearance and environment of the river corridor
- to increase the recreation value of the river corridor
- to consider the interests of individuals and organisations.

How can we reduce flood risk?

Our preferred solution for Nottingham is to raise existing flood defences and to construct new defences where required. We propose to construct these defences to a 1 in 100 year standard. This would protect the left bank against a flood that has a 1 in 100 chance of occurring in any year. A 1 in 100 flood is indeed rare, but it could have devastating consequences.

Top: Properties in Colwick, one of the areas that will benefit from the scheme.

Below left: Attenborough is another area where we intend to improve flood protection.

Below right: Railway track at Attenborough. Attenborough station flooded in 2000.



where are we proposing to work?

We are looking to improve flood protection between the M1 at Sawley and Radcliffe Railway Viaduct in Colwick, a distance of 27km. This will reduce flood risk to over 15,000 properties. Within this area, works need to be carried out at the following locations:

Sawley

Proposed works at Sawley will include raising the height of existing earth embankments at the following locations:

- between Wilne Road and Tamworth Road
- between Church Farm and the railway embankment at Grove Farm
- around Trent Farm

A short length of new defence will be constructed in the vicinity of Harrington Bridge.

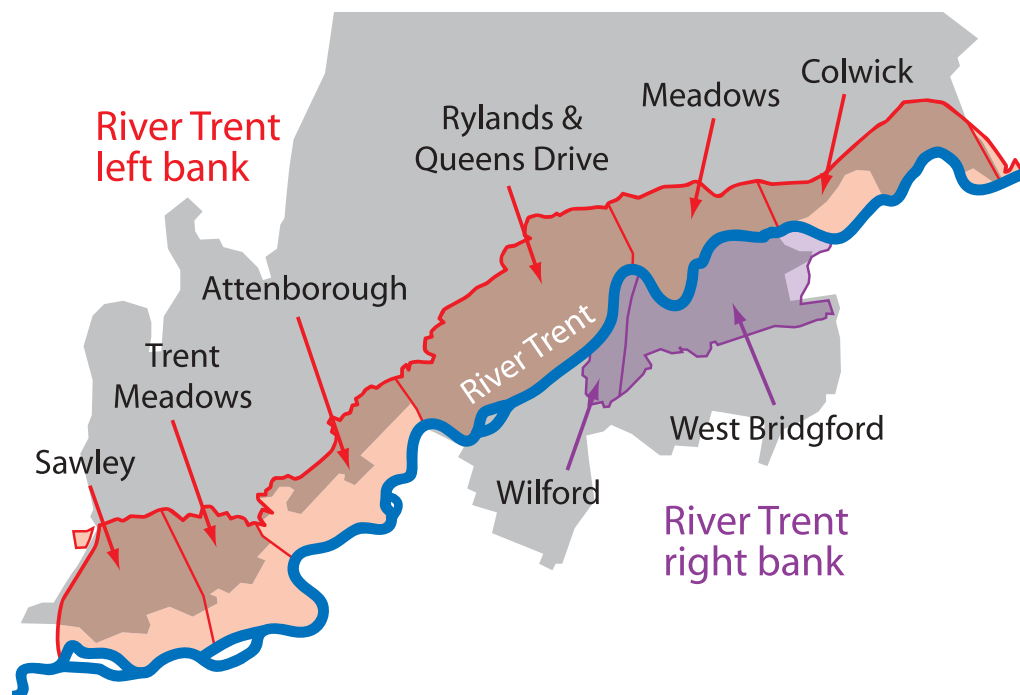
Top: Sawley.

Right: Locations of the Nottingham Trent left bank FAS are shown in orange.

Trent Meadows

The proposed works at Trent Meadows will involve raising the height of existing earth embankments in the vicinity of

Newberry Avenue, Owen Avenue and Holme Farm. We are also investigating a number of options for defence alignment in the vicinity of Trent Meadows allotments.



Attenborough

Attenborough will benefit from a series of new flood defences adjacent to the existing railway line and around Attenborough village.

Rylands

We propose to raise the height of existing earth embankments around the Rylands sports ground and Weir Field recreation ground.

Meadows

We are proposing to undertake works between Wilford Bridge and Trent Bridge in the Meadows area. We are investigating a number of options for the alignment of defences, including raising existing floodwalls and constructing new floodwalls.

Colwick

Works at Colwick will focus around the country park, the residential areas nearest the river and the industrial estate. We are investigating options for realigning the defences in Colwick to improve the flow of water in the area in times of extreme flood.



Top: Rylands. Right: Colwick. Below: Trent Bridge.





When do we plan to undertake work?
At this stage we are still evaluating the options, investigating whether building the proposed scheme is technically possible, environmentally acceptable and best use of public money.

Provided that this is the case, we will construct the scheme in stages over the next six years.

Enhancing riverside areas

This scheme offers an opportunity to enhance the riverside areas through the city. We have produced preliminary landscape plans for the six locations. These plans highlight the opportunities to enhance the environment that we are exploring including:

- creating wetland areas at Sawley
- enhancing the river and adjacent habitat for fisheries
- providing additional footpaths, improving access to the river and the quality of the environment throughout Nottingham
- enhancing the Attenborough

Nature Reserve lakes and other wildlife sites

- improving the area for specific species, for example bats and otters.

The benefits and effects

In the long term, the Nottingham Trent left bank FAS will have a positive effect on the city, reducing the flood risk to thousands of people’s homes and businesses, enhancing people’s enjoyment of the river and improving the existing environment.

In the short term, our construction activities may cause some disruption. That may include restricted access to properties and businesses, increased traffic and noise and disturbance to the local environment. We will minimise these effects by consulting the people directly affected and by following planning and Environmental Impact Assessment processes.

When the scheme is complete, there will be a modest increase in flood

levels both upstream and downstream of Nottingham during periods of extreme flooding. We plan to take the appropriate steps to ease the impact of flooding on these areas. We intend to undertake a separate study investigating methods of reducing flood risk to communities up and downstream of Nottingham.

What about the right bank?

We are simultaneously developing the West Bridgford flood alleviation scheme to improve the standard of flood protection to Nottingham’s right bank. Further information on the West Bridgford FAS is available from our web site at

www.environment-agency.gov.uk.



send us your feedback

We have produced a scoping report as part of our Environmental Impact Assessment process. The scoping report presents the options summarised in this booklet in greater detail and contains plans and drawings of our proposals.

We encourage you to consult the scoping report and we welcome your comments and any questions you may have. We have produced outline design drawings for each of the six locations and are currently seeking your input on:

- the proposed locations of the defences
- the proposed type of defence (walls or embankments)
- any local features that could benefit from the scheme
- any local features that might constrain the scheme.

The period during which you may consult the report and make comments lasts around a month.

The closing date for consultation will be 23 December 2005. We will consider all comments we receive before finalising the outline design for the scheme.

Copies of the scoping report, outline design drawings, indicative landscape plans and standard feedback forms are available from the web:

- go to our web pages on Midlands flood schemes at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/midlands/567079/567090/893833/894284/ and follow the links to the Nottingham Trent left bank FAS on the page or
- go to: www.NottinghamFloodDefence.co.uk

Copies of the scoping report are also available from the following public libraries:

Long Eaton Library,
Tamworth Road, Long Eaton
Toton Library,
Stapleford Lane, Toton
Inham Nook Library,
Barn Croft, Chilwell

Radford/Lenton Library,
Lenton Boulevard, Nottingham
Meadows Library,
Wilford Grove, The Meadows
Sneinton Library,
Sneinton Boulevard, Sneinton
Nottingham Central Library,
Angel Row, Nottingham

Or contact **Jody Harris** at the following address:

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After the consultation

After we have finished consulting the public we will proceed with a more detailed design of the scheme. We will continue to consult landowners, residents and interested parties throughout the design and construction of the scheme.

**Would you like to find out more about us,
or about your environment?**

Then call us on

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