



Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS Environmental Statement

APPENDIX E – CONSULTATION

OCTOBER 2008

Reference number IMMI000642

NOTTINGHAM TRENT LEFT BANK FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

APPENDIX E CONSULTATION

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A list of abbreviations, a glossary and a list of references are included in *Sections 14 to 16, Volume 1*.

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E1. INTRODUCTION

Nottingham is located on the banks of the River Trent and currently some 16,000 properties are at risk of flooding. The city has a long history of flooding with notable events occurring in 1795, 1875 and 1947. The latter prompted construction of the current defences during the 1950s. The most recent flood event was in November 2000, which was classified as an event with a 3%¹ (1 in 33) annual probability of occurrence.

An appraisal of the flood risk in Nottingham was published by the Environment Agency in 2005. The study, known as the Fluvial River Trent Flood Risk Management Strategy (“Fluvial Trent Strategy” or FTS), included inspections of the existing defences, topographic surveys, ground investigations, computer modelling of the river, economic analyses and a review of options. The work confirmed that the standard of protection of the existing defences is low in places and that some of the defences are approaching the end of their useful life. A business case has been approved by the Environment Agency’s Board to undertake works to improve the defences and increase the standard of protection to protect against a flood event with a 1% annual probability of occurrence.

Works to improve the defences on the left bank of the River Trent through Nottingham are being proposed as part of the Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS). The whole of the left bank of the River Trent through Nottingham is a single ‘flood cell’. By this term we mean that a breach at the defences at any location could, in theory, flood the whole cell. The cell extends a distance of 27km from the M1 at Sawley to the Radcliffe on Trent Railway Viaduct; refer to *Figure 1.1, Volume 1*. Only upon completion of the entire works will all of the flood cell be protected against a flood event with a 1% annual probability of occurrence.

The works span the boundaries of four local planning authorities. As a result, *Volume 1* of the Environmental Statement (ES) is a ‘front end’ overarching summary document. It outlines the approach and scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and presents the overall results. It contains all background legislation and policy, survey methodology and any generic mitigation. It also summarises the consultation undertaken, the proposed environmental enhancements and the Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

There are four separate technical appendices, each of which relates to the specific works within each planning authority. This is illustrated in Table E1.1.

¹ Floods are characterised by their size and the frequency with which they are likely to occur. A 1% annual probability of flooding may also be expressed as a flood that has a 1 in 100 chance of occurring in any given year. If a flood occurs in one year the chance of it occurring the following year is still the same, 1 in 100.

Table E1.1 Scheme Areas and Local Planning Authorities

Appendix	Scheme Area	Local Planning Authority
A	Sawley and Trent Meadows	Erewash Borough Council
B	Attenborough, Erewash and Rylands	Broxtowe Borough Council
C	Meadows and Colwick Country Park	Nottingham City Council
D	Colwick	Gedling Borough Council

This is *Appendix E* and it describes the consultation undertaken. It should be read in conjunction with *Volume 1*.

A communications plan has been prepared and is being appropriately updated as the scheme progresses. Its aim is to:

- identify key stakeholders with a likely interest in the scheme;
- clarify the roles and responsibilities of the project team for specific aspects of external communication;
- establish a programme for future consultation.

Consultation is a key element of EIA. The communication plan identified early in the process those who needed to be consulted and when.

E2. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - INTERNAL CONSULTATION

A number of key internal stakeholders were identified as having interest in and requiring input to the Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS. These stakeholders represent internal functions of the Environment Agency at a Regional and Area level. For each functional group a key contact was identified and acted as a conduit for information flow to and from their functional group. The role of these stakeholders within the Environment Agency is provided in Table E2.1.

Table E2.1 Internal Environment Agency Consultees

Function/Role
Project Manager
EIA Officer
Lower Trent Area Flood Risk Manager
Lower Trent Area Client Sponsor
Regional Estates Manager
Senior Legal Officer
Team Leader, Regional Asset and Investment Management
Principal Communications Officer, Corporate Affairs
Biodiversity Technical Specialist
Team Leader, Biodiversity, Fisheries and Recreation
External Relations Officer
Team Leader, Planning Liaison
Team Leader, Operations Delivery Technical Team
Team Leader, Development Control
Team Leader, Environmental Management

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E3. EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

E3.1 External Consultees

Through the scheme development, a large number of consultees have been identified. The communications plan has divided these consultees into the following seven groups, for ease of reference:

- statutory consultees;
- public sector governance;
- infrastructure;
- recreation;
- private sector;
- community sector; and
- landowners.

The full list of consultees within each of the above groups is provided in Table EE1.1 in *Annex E1*.

E3.2 Stages of Consultation

Consultation on flood risk management for Nottingham comprised the following stages:

- Fluvial Trent Strategy – March 2005;
- Masterplan and Constraints Plan – August 2005;
- Scoping Report – November 2005;
- Screening Opinion – November 2005 to November 2006;
- Scheme Alignment Leaflet – August 2006;
- Environmental Statement – April 2007; and
- Environmental Statement Addendum – October 2007.

A review of these different stages of consultation is provided below, outlining who was consulted and the responses provided.

E3.2.1 Fluvial Trent Strategy

External consultation on flood risk management options for Nottingham began during the preparation of the FTS. A draft copy of the Report was launched in April 2004, with public meetings held at Nottingham and Alrewas, Burton upon Trent to raise awareness. Three months of public consultation followed during which over 300 copies of the report were issued and 60 comments received.

The majority of the comments received could be summarised into seven key themes:

1. why is the 1% annual probability of occurrence (1 in 100 year) event used in the economic assessment of flood management options;
2. further clarification of how priority scores are calculated for the proposed flood management options;
3. the appraisal methods appear to be biased towards providing schemes for populated urban areas;
4. most recommended options are not sustainable;
5. gravel pits could provide valuable flood storage facilities, which is contrary to the strategy findings;
6. could partnerships or sources of additional funding influence the findings of the strategy; and
7. what is the programme for delivery of the River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) and the Tidal Trent Strategy.

Annex E2 provides responses to these common queries. A number of the issues relate to the methods currently used to appraise flood risk management schemes and, as such, were passed to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) for consideration in any future changes to their policy.

The final version of the report was issued in March 2005. It appraised a range of flood risk management options and identified the most suitable throughout the 200km of the Trent, including Nottingham; *refer to Section 2, Volume 1.*

E3.2.2 Masterplan and Constraints Plan

The first stage of consultation for the Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS was the distribution of Masterplan and Constraints Plans in August 2005. Separate drawings showing a potential outline design and associated existing environmental constraints were sent to key project stakeholders including Natural England (previously English Nature), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Wildlife Trusts, English Heritage, Network Rail, British Waterways and various departments of the Borough, City and County Councils. This was followed up by a series of joint meetings and site visits during September 2005.

The purpose of the plans and meetings was to introduce the scheme and canvass early opinion on design constraints and opportunities to improve biodiversity, recreation and landscape.

The majority of those consulted provided comments. The following is a summary of the main issues:-

- concern of the potential impact to the Attenborough SSSI;
- flood walls would generally be preferred as they minimise land take;
- scheme provides opportunity to improve riverside access through extension of the Trent Valley Way;
- a sensitive design along Victoria Embankment, Meadows, is required.

Table EE3.1, *Annex E3* provides more detail on those consulted, along with a summary of their specific comments.

E3.2.3 Scoping Report

The Scoping Report was issued in November 2005 with over 1,000 copies of the Report sent out to interested parties throughout Nottingham. To raise public awareness on the Scoping Report, a Non-Technical Summary was produced in a leaflet format and sent to an additional 1,500 properties. Public exhibitions were also held at Attenborough Nature Reserve Visitors Centre and the Bridgeway Centre, Meadows on consecutive weekends during December 2005 when members of the project team were available to answer queries.

120 responses to the Scoping Report were received. The following is a summary of the main issues:-

- strong support for the scheme from the local community, particularly Attenborough;
- potential impacts of the scheme on, Attenborough SSSI, Scheduled Monuments, listed buildings, visual amenity (particularly Conservation Areas), individual landowners and land take;
- identifying opportunities for environmental enhancement;
- increased flood risk to villages surrounding Nottingham;
- objection to the scheme from residents in areas downstream of Nottingham;
- concerns over the conclusions of the FTS.

A summary of the comments received on the Scoping Report and how they have been addressed by the scheme is provided in Table EE4.1, *Annex 4*.

E3.2.4 Screening Opinion

A request for Screening Opinion was made to each LPA. Under the “Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England & Wales) Regulations 1999” (SI99/293) an applicant “who is minded to carry out a development may request the relevant planning authority to adopt a screening opinion”. (5.-(1)).

Further, under SI99/293 an applicant “who is minded to make an EIA application may ask the relevant planning authority to state in writing their opinion as to the information to be provided in the environmental statement (a “scoping opinion”).” (10.-(1)).

In accordance with this regulation, an opinion on the Scoping Report was requested. Copies of the correspondence from each LPA are provided in *Annex E5*.

Each LPA was consulted again during the submission of this amended ES.

E3.2.5 Scheme Alignment Leaflet

The Scheme Alignment Leaflet, issued in August 2006, presented the preferred flood defence alignments throughout the entire scheme. Its purpose was to invite comment on these preferred alignments before submitting the planning application and the accompanying ES.

Over 2000 copies of the Scheme Alignment Leaflet were sent to those who received a copy of the Scoping Report and others who had expressed an interest in the scheme. Many more copies were also downloaded directly from the scheme website.

Although not a formal public consultation under EIA legislation, seven key stakeholders provided responses to the Scheme Alignment Leaflet.

The following is a summary of the main issues raised:

- objection from residents of Attenborough on the alignment through Attenborough village;
- the visual impact and restricted river frontage access of the flood defence along Victoria Embankment in the Meadows; and
- visual impact of the flood defence along Newbery Avenue, Trent Meadows.

More detail on the comments received on the Scheme Alignment Leaflet is provided in Table EE6.1, *Annex E6*.

E3.2.6 Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS Environmental Statement April 2007

An Environmental Statement (ES) for the Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS was originally published in April 2007. The ES was submitted to each LPA and was made available to view at each of the LPA offices and the Environment Agency Offices in West Bridgford. The Non-Technical Summary, copies of relevant drawings and a copy of the ES on CD was also available to review at eight local libraries. A Non-Technical Summary was issued to all previous consultees on the scheme, numbering approximately 1500, and a digital copy of the ES was placed on the scheme website (see E5.2). Overall approximately 91 responses were received.

More detail on the comments received on the Environmental Statement is provided in Table EE9.1, *Annex E9*.

The following is a summary of the main issues raised:

- concern over lack of investigation into increased risk and severity of flooding of villages downstream of the FAS;
- there was little warning given regarding the submission of the planning application and the ES;
- lack of clarity and consideration of impacts in the ES about the intention to create a walk way around the edge of Colwick Industrial Area;
- continued objections from the residents of Attenborough Village about the alignment through the village; there is confusion as to why the option for a wall through the Old Fisherman's Car Park was rejected;
- it was not clear in the ES whether new footpaths created as part of the enhancement measures could also be used as cycle paths;
- Beeston Marina were surprised that the Environment Agency has decided not to create flood defences for them.

In August 2007 we produced an addendum to the ES, which incorporated a review of the compensation package for the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI. The addendum was submitted with an amendment to the planning application to Broxtowe Borough Council.

E3.2.7 Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS Environmental Statement October 2008

In October 2007 as part of the Nottingham Strategic Flood Risk Assessment a remodelling exercise was completed using a revised modelling technique. The new model showed that there was an increased level of flood risk in Attenborough with anticipated flood levels being significantly higher than previously thought. Broxtowe Borough Council requested that a revised planning application be submitted. We, therefore, withdrew the original planning application and the ES.

On 23 April 2007, members of Nottingham City Council and the Environment Agency met to discuss the ongoing progress of the scheme. The Environment Agency informed Nottingham City Council that they thought the risk of providing demountable flood defences was too high. This decision was based on previous experience of flood events elsewhere in the country. They therefore wanted to propose an alternative alignment of defences along Victoria Embankment. These changes were discussed with and supported in principle by Nottingham City Council on the 18 June 2008 with representatives from planning, conservation, parks, drainage, highways and regeneration. For details of the revised alignment, which is the only significant alignment change from the original ES, refer to *Appendix C*.

A revised planning application has been submitted to Broxtowe Borough Council, along with this ES for the new proposals. Consultation with Nottingham City Council, Gedling Borough Council and Erewash Borough Council in October 2008 confirmed that previous decisions regarding permitted development rights are unaffected by the proposed changes. Erewash Borough Council also confirmed that the planning permission obtained in 2007 for the works at Tamworth Road, Sheetstores Sluices and the new embankment at Trent Meadows Picnic Area is still valid, and no new planning application is required.

E4. ATTENBOROUGH VILLAGE CONSULTATION

The sensitive setting of the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI and Nature Reserve (Attenborough SSSI) and the adjacent village was evident very early in the scheme development. Due to the contentious issues through the Attenborough village reach, an in-depth consultation exercise was undertaken with the Attenborough residents, Natural England (NE) and Nottingham Wildlife Trust (NWT).

E4.1 Attenborough Residents Consultation

E4.1.1 Attenborough Community Focus Group

The Environment Agency believed intensive engagement with Attenborough community was important throughout the scheme development. A Public Involvement Consultant was recruited who advised establishing an Attenborough Community Focus Group (Focus Group) to broadly reflect community interest. Therefore, a group of approximately 30 individuals were recruited on a voluntary basis with their role to:

- provide feedback and insight from the local community to the Scoping Report;
- identify local issues and constraints that exist;
- act as a sounding board for the initial local proposals;
- feedback to the wider community about the initial proposals and the project process to be followed.

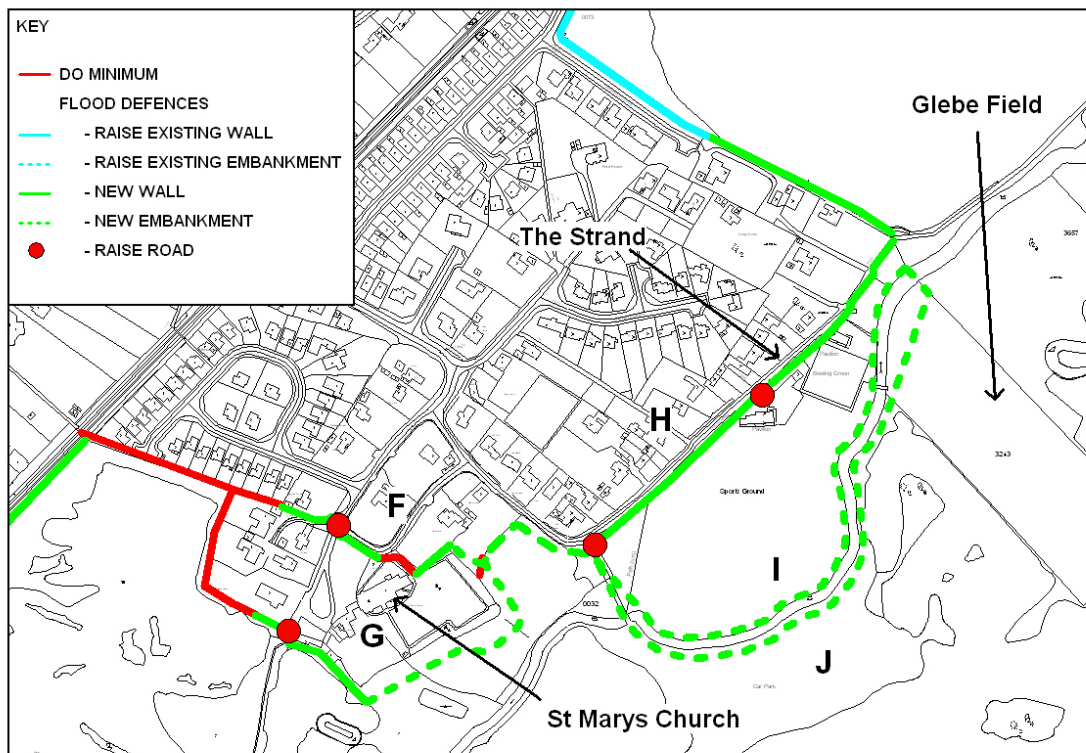
The Focus Group members do not formally represent any organisation or sector of the local community.

E4.1.2 Consultation at Scoping Report

At Scoping Report stage, five possible alignment choices were identified around Attenborough village. These are shown on figure E4.1 and the following is an explanation of each alignment:

- Alignment F: Would follow the naturally high ground via the shortest route across Church Lane, before tying into The Strand. Beyond this point the defence could follow a number of alignments (H, I or J) which are described below.
- Alignment G: Would follow the boundary of the isolated properties to the south-west of the village. Beyond this point the defence could follow a number of alignments (H, I or J) which are described below.
- Alignment H: Would be the replacement of the hedgerow along The Strand with a flood wall.
- Alignment I: Would follow the southern boundary of the cricket pitch.
- Alignment J: Would be similar to alignment I, but would be positioned on the southern side of the existing watercourse, within the SSSI.

Figure E4.1 Alternative Alignments Considered for Attenborough Village



The Focus Group met with the Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS project team three times during January 2006. All meetings were initially tape recorded to provide an accurate record of the meeting. The recordings were used to produce meeting notes which were issued in draft form to all participants for agreement that they represented an appropriate record. Meeting notes highlighted those participants present, feedback from discussions and a summary of the questions asked. No comments or views were attributed to specific individuals. The following is a summary of what was discussed at each meeting:

Meeting 1: Thursday 12 January 2006, Village Hotel Attenborough.

Meeting 1 was to provide background to the project to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to understand the rationale behind the project, the role of the Environment Agency and the process that will be followed to deliver this type of project.

Meeting 2: Saturday 14 January 2006, Village Hotel Attenborough and Site visit

Meeting 2 looked at flood defence structures, what they are and what they look like. It included a site visit to the existing flood defences at Wilford, which is also a Conservation Area, followed by a walk around Attenborough to look at the area under discussion.

Meeting 3: Tuesday 17 January 2006, Village Hotel Attenborough

The third and final meeting was designed to gain feedback from community members about the flood defence scheme in Attenborough and what group members feel about the proposals.

Both the Environment Agency and the Focus Group agreed the series of meetings to be very informative, with both parties gaining a better understanding of the design alternatives, constraints and opportunities for the village.

The following summarises the main responses from the Focus Group at Scoping Stage:

- flood protection for the village was welcomed as many in the village were badly affected in the November 2000 floods;
- concerns over the short term (construction) and long term (visual) impact on the village setting;
- concerns over English Nature's (now Natural England) view of the scheme and their support for it;
- flooding to the village is exacerbated by the 'boards' which control the water levels of the adjacent Nature Reserve lakes;
- preference is for alignment G over alignment F;
- preference is for alignment J over either H or I;
- alignment H would not protect either cricket or bowls pavilion and is the least preferred alignment;
- improvement in the water quality of The Brook would be welcomed, as it currently attracts large rats and mosquitoes.

E4.1.3 Consultation at Scheme Alignment Stage

The Scheme Alignment Leaflet, published in August 2006, outlined the preferred flood defence alignments through Attenborough, (Alignments G and H). The proposals were presented to the Focus Group at meetings held at the village hall on the 14 August 2006. Presentations by the Environment Agency, Black & Veatch (Design Consultants) and English Nature (now NE) provided an explanation to the reasoning behind the selection of the preferred route. Further details of the alignment selection through Attenborough are provided in *Section B2, Appendix B*.

This was followed by a public drop-in session on the 15 August 2006 at the village hall when members of the project team were available to answer questions. A number of questions were repeatedly raised during the meetings regarding the reasoning behind the selection of the preferred alignment. Therefore, on the 8 September, the Environment Agency produced a Frequently Asked Questions pamphlet for Attenborough and issued over 450 copies to the local residents who had expressed an interest in the scheme. A copy of this pamphlet is included as *Annex E7*.

Many Attenborough residents objected to the preferred flood defence alignment proposed for Attenborough. Therefore, the Environment Agency agreed to a

review of all alignment options between St Mary's Church and No. 51 The Strand during autumn 2006. This review included:

- A workshop with representatives from the Focus Group on Saturday 23 September to discuss the design alternatives for the village.
- A meeting with Attenborough village representatives, Environment Agency, NE, Broxtowe Borough Council and Nottingham County Council, on the 2 October.

The conclusions of the review and the final preferred route for the village remained as Options G and H and this was presented to the Focus Group on the 16 January 2007. On the same date, over 450 copies of a Fact Sheet explaining the final preferred alignment and the reasons behind it were sent to those villagers who had expressed an interest in the scheme. A copy of the Fact Sheet is provided in *Annex E8*.

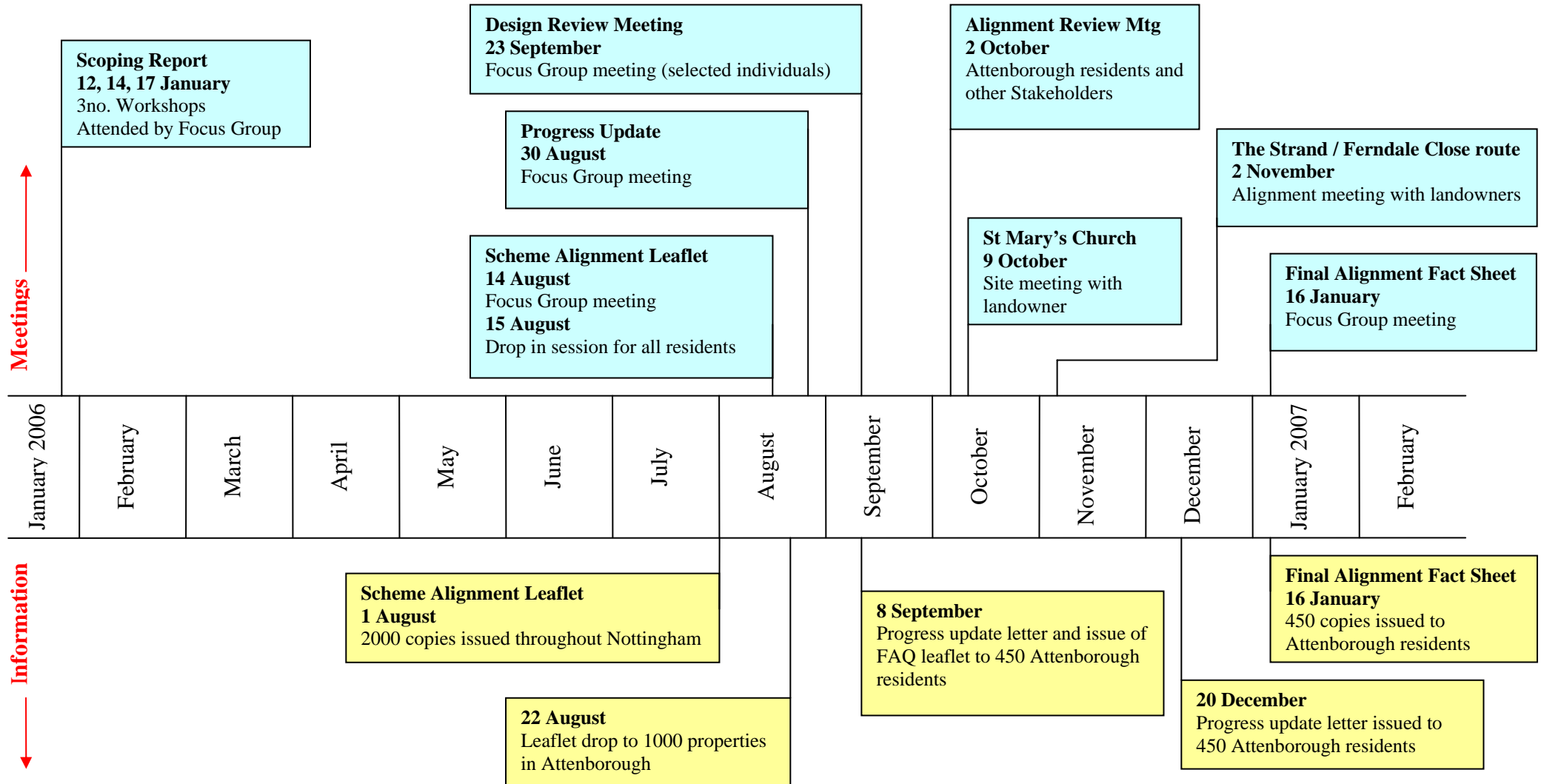
Figure E4.2 provides a timeline of consultation with Attenborough residents between November 2005 and the publication of the first ES in April 2007.

E4.1.4 Consultation on Revised Scheme

As a result of the revised river modelling work undertaken in 2007, we updated the design of the defences through Attenborough village, resulting in changes from the defences proposed in the 2007 planning submission. A further internal review concluded that the change in proposed height of the defences does not change the proposed alignment.

In August 2008 we distributed a newsletter to update Attenborough residents who had expressed an interest in the scheme on how the scheme had developed (see Annex E10). Residents were also invited to a public meeting and drop-in session. The public meeting was held on 15th September 2008 where we explained why the scheme had been revised. During design of the scheme, the character of the area was taken into account and we aim to design the defences in a manner in-keeping with the village setting. . The answers to the most frequently asked questions from the meeting were reiterated in a newsletter posted to every resident in Attenborough in October 2008; Refer to Annex E11.

Figure E4.2 Timeline of Consultation with Attenborough Residents until submission of original Environmental Statement



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E4.2 Stakeholder Consultation

E4.2.1 Attenborough SSSI

Attenborough SSSI was established in 1966. It comprises a series of disused gravel pits excavated between 1929 and 1967. The process of recolonisation over the following 40 years has created a wide range of aquatic and waterside habitats.

The area was notified as a SSSI in 1964 (amended in 1982 and 2008) as it provides a valuable refuge for over-wintering waterfowl and sustains an important breeding bird community, and is of national importance. More information on the Attenborough SSSI is provided in *Appendix B*.

NE is the Government Body responsible for the designation and conservation of all the SSSI's within England. The Attenborough site is managed for them by NWT. The Environment Agency has actively engaged with both these parties to assess, minimise and manage the impact of the proposed flood defences on the Attenborough SSSI.

E4.2.2 Consultation with Natural England and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

Both NE and NWT, commented on the FTS (March 2005), Masterplan and Constraints Plan (August 2005), Scoping Report (November 2005) and the Scheme Alignment Leaflet (August 2006).

In addition to the formal consultation, a series of meetings have been held with both parties to discuss the flood defence design, alignment and associated mitigation works through the SSSI. The following paragraphs summarise the key meetings held.

***Tuesday 26 July 2005, site meeting at Attenborough Nature Reserve.
Attended by NE, Broxtowe Borough Council, NWT, Nottinghamshire
County Council, Black & Veatch.***

Site meeting prior to issuing the Masterplan and Constraints Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the scheme and identify initial constraints and opportunities

***Thursday 15 Dec 2005, site meeting at Attenborough Nature Reserve.
Attended by NE, Broxtowe Borough Council, NWT, Cemex, Black &
Veatch, Environment Agency, Jackson Civil Engineering, HR
Wallingford.***

Site meeting to discuss the Scoping Report. The meeting discussed alignments presented in the Scoping Report, possible construction techniques, impacts on Cemex operations and environmental mitigation opportunities.

Thursday 26 January 2006, meeting at Hilton Hotel, Nottingham.

Attended by NE, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency.

The meeting was prior to issuing the scheme's business case (Project Appraisal Report or PAR) to the Environment Agency's National Review Group. The PAR document required NE's support and they were seeking clarification on the reasons for the scheme and the proposed mitigation works.

At the meeting in January 2006, it was agreed that the Environment Agency and NE would hold regular meetings through the development of the design to keep NE abreast of progress.

Progress Meeting 1: Thursday 4 May 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency.

Alignment, habitat creation (on site and off site) and sheet pile cut-off were all discussed at length.

Progress Meeting 2: Monday 12 June 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency.

Mitigation measures, off site habitat creation and surveys within the SSSI were the main meeting topics.

Site Meeting on Friday 16 June 2006.

Attended by NE, Nottinghamshire County Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency, English Heritage.

The meeting was to discuss the flood defence alignment options through the village and assess the impacts. The routes discussed were around St Mary's church and the alignment adjacent to the Village Green.

Progress Meeting 3: Thursday 10 July 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency, Broxtowe Borough Council.

Presentation on the sheet pile design and the potential impacts on lake levels. The alignment through Cemex works, off site habitat creation, construction access and forthcoming consultation were all discussed.

Progress Meeting 4: Friday 15 September 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency, Broxtowe Borough Council, Jackson Civil Engineering.

Alignment through Attenborough village, sources of material, construction techniques, temporary infilling of lakes for access and off site environmental enhancements were all discussed.

Meeting of Monday 2 October 2006

As outlined in section E4.1.3, this meeting was attended by Attenborough village representatives, Environment Agency, NE, Broxtowe Borough Council and Nottingham County Council. Its purpose was to discuss the flood defence alignments through Attenborough village.

Progress Meeting 5: Monday 9 October 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency, Jackson Civil Engineering.

The purpose of the meeting was to identify mitigation and compensation measures for works through the Attenborough SSSI.

Progress Meeting 6: Wednesday 10 January 2006.

Attended by NE, NWT, Black & Veatch, Environment Agency, Jackson Civil Engineering and Cemex.

A site meeting to discuss and potentially agree the package of on site mitigation measures for the works through the Attenborough SSSI.

On 20 December 2007, an Environmental Project Board (EPB) was established with members from NE, NWT, Cemex, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Broxtowe Borough Council and the Environment Agency. The aims of the EPB are to:

1. Engage all members in the environmental mitigation and enhancement;
2. Build on the mitigation agreements developed during 2007;
3. Deliver the maximum benefit to the environment through the efficient use of the resources available;
4. Deliver reedbeds in 2008 near the River Erewash;
5. Oversee the delivery of the whole package of mitigation work in accordance with the project programme; and
6. Develop additional environmental enhancements and deliver these works.

Details of the proposed compensation works as recompense for the damage the scheme is having to the environmentally sensitive sites, is provided in *Appendix F – Environmental Compensation and Enhancement*.

The following summarises the main issues raised by Natural England, throughout the consultation process:

- the FTS conclusions and whether flood defences were the preferred flood defence option for Nottingham;
- whether there was an alternative flood defence alignment that didn't impact upon the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI;
- if the flood defences had to pass through the SSSI, the land take was to be kept to a minimum;
- a flood defence alignment passing through the Old Fisherman's car park would not be supported given the sensitivity of Glebe Field and the availability of an alternative alignment that didn't impact upon the SSSI;
- that the scheme did not affect the SSSI's hydrology and particularly the pond levels;
- the extent of the required compensation package.

E4.3 Summary of Consultation Exercise

Designing a solution for a permanent flood defence wall which will impact upon both the Attenborough SSSI and the village's Conservation Area, has required over 12 months of consultation.

The consultation has been extensive with discussions held with Broxtowe Borough Council, NE, NWT, Cemex, Nottinghamshire County Council, English Heritage and the residents of Attenborough village.

The conclusions of this extensive consultation process are as follows:

- The process has provided the opportunity for the interested parties to identify the key constraints and input into the design;
- All the possible design options have been explored in an attempt to balance the constraints identified by all interested parties;
- Changes have been made to the scheme's design, where possible, to accommodate the issues raised;
- The constraints of the area have been explained and formed the rationale for the final design, which is a wall along The Strand; and
- There is no agreed consensus to the final alignment. Generally the residents of The Strand and users of the Village Green are opposed to the alignment along The Strand and favour an alignment through the SSSI. There are many residents in Attenborough, especially those flooded in 2000, who do not oppose the alignment along The Strand. The statutory consultees, with the exception of Nottingham County Council Built Conservation, favour the alignment along The Strand.

Consultation with those directly impacted by the works will continue through detailed design to agree access arrangements and any individual compensation measures.

E5. ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT CONSULTATION

E5.1 Environmental Statement Submission

The revised ES was submitted to each LPA and all statutory consultees in October 2008. It is available to view at the following locations:

- Erewash Council Planning Offices
- Broxtowe Council Planning Offices
- Nottingham City Council Planning Offices
- Gedling Borough Planning Offices
- Environment Agency Offices – West Bridgford, Nottingham

The Non-Technical Summary, a copy of the relevant drawings and a copy of the ES on CD are also available to view at the following libraries:

- Beeston Library
- Inham Nook Library
- Meadows Library
- Nottingham Central Library
- Radford/Lenton Library
- Sneinton Library
- Toton Library
- West Bridgford Library

Due to the size of the ES, we have not issued copies to all consultees. A Non-Technical Summary has been issued to all previous consultees on this scheme.

E5.2 Nottingham Flood Alleviation Scheme Website

To support the launching of the Scoping Report, a scheme website was developed, which can be found at www.nottinghamflooddefence.co.uk. The website contains background information on the scheme, key dates, frequently asked questions and electronic copies of formal consultation documents, including the FTS, Scoping Report, Scheme Alignment Leaflet and this ES. Over the past 30 months, the website has received more than 225,000 hits.

The website will continue to be updated during the detailed design and construction phases, to inform the interested public of progress.

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ANNEX E1
Table of Consultees

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Table EE1.1 Table of Consultees Engaged

Consultee groups are presented as categorised by the communications plan

<i>Statutory Consultees</i>		
British Waterways	English Heritage	Highways Agency
Broxtowe Borough Council	Erewash Borough Council	Natural England
Countryside Agency	Gedling Borough Council	Nottingham City Council
Derbyshire County Council	Health & Safety Executive	Nottingham County Council
<i>Public Sector Governance</i>		
Barton in Fabis Parish Council	Government Office East Midlands	Newark Area Drainage Board
Burton Joyce Parish Council	Gunthorpe Parish Council	Nottingham Regeneration Ltd
Colwick Parish Council	Little Eaton Parish Council	Rushcliffe Borough Council
Council for the Protection of Rural England	Local Councillors	Sawley Parish Council
Defra	Local MEPs	Sport England
East Midlands Development Agency	Local MPs	St Mary's Parish Council
Fairham Brook Drainage Board	Newark & Sherwood District Council	Stoke Bardolph Parish Council
<i>Infrastructure</i>		
British Airports Authority	Network Rail	Severn Trent Water
Central Networks	Nottingham East Midlands Airport	Telecoms
Coal Authority	NTL	Transco
Emergency Services	Power Station at Radcliffe on Soar	
National Grid	Powergen Retail Ltd	
<i>Recreation</i>		
Attenborough Bowls Club	Kirk Hallam Athletic Club	Nottingham University Boat Club
Attenborough Cricket Club	Long Eaton RC	Nottingham University Old Boys Club
Attenborough Football Club	Long Eaton Victoria Angling Society	Nottinghamshire British Horse Society
Attenborough Sailing Club	National Watersports Centre	Nottinghamshire Constabulary Bowls Club
Beeston Marina Limited	Nottingham and District Federation of Anglers	Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club
Boat Fair	Nottingham and Union Rowing Club	Parkside FC
Chilwell Manor Golf Course	Nottingham Anglers Association	Redhill Roadrunners
Erewash Valley Running Club	Nottingham Athletics Club	Robin Hood Marathon

Gedling Park Joggers	Nottingham Casuals RFC	Sawley Marina
Gedling Ramblers	Nottingham City League	Sport Nottinghamshire
Holme Pierrepont RC	Nottingham Kayak Club	St Leonard's Riding School
Ilkeston Running Club	Nottingham Racecourse	The Plains Running Club
Inland Waterways	Nottingham Sailing Club	Trent Lock Golf Club
Kimberley & District Striders	Nottingham University AC & CC	
Private Sector		
Beeston Express	Lafarge	RMC
Cemex	Meadows One Stop Shop	Tarmac
Civic Trust Nottingham	National Farmers Union	Trent Cruising
Country Land and Business Assoc.	Private Sector Developers	
HR Wallingford	Racecourse Holdings Trust Limited	
Community Sector		
Arkwright Community Gardens	Derbyshire Countryside Service	On Trent
Attenborough Community Gardens	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Operational Services
Attenborough Environmental Project	Earl Mavers AA	PEDALS
Attenborough Flood Alleviation Alliance	Embankment Tenants' & Residents' Association	Queens Walk Community Association
Attenborough Preparatory School	English Bowls Youth Development Scheme	Radcliffe Park Residents Association
Attenborough Reserve Management Committee	First City	Ramblers Association
Attenborough Village Green Association	Grantham Central Community College	RSPB
Attenborough Village Hall	Greater Nottingham Partnership	South Broxtowe Local Area Forum
Beeston and District Civic Society	Groundwork Trust	South Derbyshire Badger Group
Beeston Rylands Group	Gunthorpe Environment & Flood Alleviation Group	South Nottinghamshire Bat Group
Blotts Country Club	Ilkeston Civic Society	St Saviours Community Project
Bramcote Conservation Society	Living Landmarks Lottery Bid Project Team for Embankment	Sustrans
British Canoe Union	Meadows Action Group	The Ilkeston and District Local History Society
British Horse Society	Meadows Advice Group	The King's School
Broxtowe LSP Partnership	National Federation of Anglers	The Nottingham Emmanuel School
BRSA	New Meadows Tenants' & Residents' Association	Trent Lock Residents Association
Carlton Forum RC	North Nottinghamshire	Trent River Park

	Bat Group	
Chilwell Comprehensive School	Nottingham Central Library	University of Nottingham
Colwick Park Wildlife Group	Nottingham Civic Society	West Bridgford Freemasons
Derby Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd	Nottingham Historical and Archaeological Society	Women's Institute
Derbyshire Archaeological Society	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	On Trent
<i>Landowner</i>		
All directly affected landowners	National Watersports Centre	Sawley Golf Course
CEMEX	Nottingham Racecourse	Sawley Marina

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ANNEX E2
Fluvial Trent Strategy – Summary of Consultation Process

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FLUVIAL TRENT STRATEGY
SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION PROCESS
Common Queries
2005

In total, 60 responses were reviewed during the 3 month consultation period on the Draft Report, covering a wide range of issues. All comments were proven to be extremely valuable and careful consideration was given to each point raised.

A number of comments were repeatedly raised by consultees, which can be summarised into seven themes. This section provides details of these 7 'common queries'. The answers provided are generic, but sufficiently detailed to address the widest range of related and associated queries. A number of the issues relate to the methods currently used to appraise schemes and, as such, were passed to Defra, for consideration in any future changes to their policy or appraisal methods.

1. Why is the 100-year return period used in the economic assessment of flood management options?

Flood defence schemes are financed by central government and must therefore be assessed using a common baseline, to ensure the best and fairest use of the available public funding. Therefore, it is appropriate and pragmatic that a single standard of protection is used in the economic assessment process, to allow schemes to be assessed on a like-for-like basis.

In the Trent Valley the areas with the greatest number of properties potentially at risk from flooding are the large urban centres of Burton upon Trent, Nottingham and Newark. The Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance 3 (Defra FCDPAG 3) provides details on indicative flood defence standards of protection for different land use bands. Land use band 'A' is described as 'intensively developed urban areas at risk from flooding' and has a recommended indicative standard of protection of between 50 and 200-years. The 100-year standard was adopted for use in the Strategy, as it is considered the most appropriate standard within this indicative range for the type, size and areas and number of properties at risk.

In addition, the insurance industry has recently adopted the 75-year return period as its minimum flooding threshold when assessing insurance risk. Therefore there would be difficulty in promoting a scheme that offered a standard of protection of less than 75 years.

2 Clarification of how priority scores are calculated for the proposed flood management options

Priority scores have been calculated in accordance with Defra's FCDPAG documents. As detailed in the Draft Report, the priority score is based on the following criteria:-

- Economics
- People
- Environment

The above elements are scored separately and summed to provide a total priority score. The maximum potential score is 44. Detailed information on how priority scores are calculated for flood defence schemes are available on the Defra web site at the following address:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/enviro/fcd/policy/grantaid.htm#AnnexB>

A summary of the 3 criteria used to define the priority score system used in the Draft Strategy Report is detailed in the following sections.

Economic Component

The economic component is defined by the benefit/cost ratio of the scheme and has a maximum value of 20. The following bands are used:

Benefit/Cost Ratio	Priority Score Component
Less than 1	0
1 to 10.5	1 to 20 (on a linear scale)
Over 10.5	20

People Component

The people component is calculated based on the number of residential properties being protected per £k of project cost. It comprises a base score subject to a maximum value of 8, with adjustment for risk to public safety (between 0 and +2 points) and vulnerability (between -2 and +2 points). The maximum value is 12.

As all options were designed to prevent flooding of built up areas, all schemes were considered to be in the 'high risk' category (+1 point). The vulnerability score was calculated for each flood cell, according to Defra guidelines, based on Government figures for deprivation by ward.

Environment Component

This factor is based on the designated area maintained by the project plus any net gain of National Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat due to the project works per £k of project cost. The maximum value is 12.

Within the Draft Strategy Report the environmental component could not be calculated as detailed in Defra's standard approach, due to the scale of the study. However, the fundamental concepts were adopted where data availability allowed. All schemes were given a base environmental score and, in line with Defra guidance, additional points were awarded where schemes would provide protection for Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

During the next, and final, stage of the appraisal of schemes (the Project Appraisal Report – PAR), priority scores will be recalculated using more site specific data and appraisal at a local level, rather than the holistic assessment undertaken for this Strategy Report.

3. *The appraisal methods, particularly priority score calculation methods and the use of the 100-year standard, appear to be biased towards providing schemes for populated urban areas*

The above answers to questions 1 and 2 provide details on the choice of standard of protection used for assessment and clarification on the priority score system. As stated in the answer to question 1, the Strategy is bound by methodology and guidelines specified by Defra to ensure that the best use is made of public money and the rationale behind the selection of the 100-year standard is provided.

The priority scoring system is designed to assess all schemes on an even basis and identify those schemes of greatest priority that are also providing value for money. As stated in the response to question 2, the economic component is dependant upon the benefit/cost ratio for the scheme and in its simplest form, it makes greater financial sense to protect 500 homes for £1M, than it does to protect 50 homes for the same cost.

It is a fact that along the fluvial Trent corridor, the current defences protecting the large urban areas, particularly Burton upon Trent and Nottingham, were originally constructed in the 1950s. This not only means that they are reaching the end of their design life, but are also inadequate when the potential increase in flood risk associated with climate change over the coming decades is taken into consideration.

4. *Concerns were raised that most recommended options are not sustainable*

The Environment Agency share the concern that many options recommended in the Strategy are not sustainable. However, due to the nature of large flood events on the River Trent, where large flows are seen for several days, many sustainable options cannot provide the necessary attenuation or storage of flows to show significant benefits at, or near to, the 100-year standard used. However, during the detailed assessment of each recommended scheme – the production of the PAR – local environment enhancement, such as improved footpath access, creation of backwaters, realignment of defences to create washland etc, will be considered.

Sustainable ‘soft’ engineering options may typically benefit smaller watercourses where flood flows and volumes are smaller. It is possible that the Trent CFMP may recommend the adoption of such schemes on a broad scale throughout the catchment.

SuDS (Sustainable urban Drainage Systems), land management options and development control are, however, all sustainable solutions and are recommended in the Strategy for adoption as best practice.

5. *Several consultees consider that the gravel pits could provide valuable flood storage facilities, which is contrary to the strategy findings*

The use of gravel pits for flood storage is discussed in Section 6.2 of the Main Report; Generic Appraisal of Options, under Off-line and Floodplain Storage. The Draft Report did not recommend the use of gravel pits as a viable flood management option due to the small storage capacity afforded by gravel pits.

Due to the permeable nature of the gravels present in the Trent Valley any excavations will rapidly fill with water seeping through the gravel. Many gravel extraction sites in the Trent Valley contain water, even during the extraction process. Water levels in the pits are likely to be close to levels in the river, especially where the works are near to the river channel. Generally, water levels in the pit will tend to rise and fall with water levels in the River.

During a flood event, when flood water spills out of the river channel, water levels in gravel pits in the valley are, therefore, likely to be already raised. Whilst gravel pits may have large surface areas, they are unlikely to allow floodwater to be stored to any great depth; the water already in the pit prior to the flood does not contribute to the available flood storage. The only gain in available storage is the difference in level between the original ground level (prior to excavation) and the water level in the pit when the river floods. In reality, this may equate to only a few centimetres of available storage depth.

Given the nature of major flood events on the Trent, with large flows over a long period of time, such small increases in storage volume will not provide a viable solution to flood problems.

For gravel pits to provide significant flood storage volumes, major works would have to be undertaken to permanently exclude water from the pit; this would necessitate installing a watertight lining to the pit, or significant engineering works to isolate the gravel pit from water levels in the river. The pit would then become a permanent 'hole in the ground' into which water could flow in time of flood. Pumps would then be required to empty the pit following the flood event (and to remove accumulated rain water prior to a flood). This would lead to an extremely expensive and impractical flood management option and one that may prove ineffectual should two flood events arrive in quick succession. Such schemes would also reduce the environmental benefits provided by gravel works, where recreational facilities and wildlife sites are frequently incorporated into the decommissioning of the works.

The use of gravel pits for flood storage will remain discounted from the list of recommended flood management options in the Fluvial Trent Strategy.

6. *Could partnerships or sources of additional funding influence the findings of the Strategy?*

As stated in the response to question 1, flood defence schemes are financed by central government and must therefore be assessed using a common baseline, to ensure the best and fairest use of available public funding. In the Strategy, and in line with Defra guidelines, all schemes have been assessed using the same methodology. This means additional funding cannot be considered at this stage and therefore cannot influence the final list of recommended or prioritised schemes.

However, should additional sources of funding be identified this could result in schemes becoming more cost beneficial (in terms of the amount of public money spent). If non-public funding is secured, this could result in the scheme being brought forward in the Agency's capital programme, which is currently based on the recommendations of the

Strategy. Such scenarios can only be assessed on an individual scheme basis, once additional sources of funding are secured.

7. *What is the programme for delivery of the River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) and the Tidal Trent Strategy?*

The Trent CFMP has been on hold pending resolution of the agreed national guidelines for CFMP's. The Trent CFMP is now starting, but is in its early inception phase and the programme has yet to be defined.

The Tidal Trent Strategy is expected to be released in Draft format, for public consultation, in or before Summer 2005.

Whilst the CFMP and Tidal Trent Strategy are not currently available, the advanced delivery of the Fluvial Trent Strategy has helped accelerate schemes onto the capital programme and will now allow high priority works to compete for funding at a national level.

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ANNEX E3
Summary of Masterplan and Constraint Plans Responses

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Table EE3.1 Consultee Responses on Masterplan and Constraints Plans

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Action
STATUTORY CONSULTÉES				
Planning Services – Team Leader	Nottingham City Council	Meadows	<p>Victoria Embankment – All notable landscape features picked up in the appraisal report, more detailed evaluation will be required on notable buildings, trees and protected species as the scheme progresses. Options 1 and 2 present problems for the Leisure and Community Services Department.</p> <p>Trent Bridge to Colwick Country Park – This area forms the river frontage of the Waterside Regeneration area, an extract from Nottingham City Council Local Plan Review enclosed to establish planning policies for this area. Mentions the existence of a proposed plan to construct a new link across Trent Lock in association with British Waterways. Sets out the council’s desire to continue the Trent Valley Way.</p> <p>Colwick Country Park – Option 2 would appear to offer the most suitable solution. Further work will need to be conducted especially an environmental assessment and groundwater and inundation analysis.</p>	<p>See <i>Appendix C</i></p> <p>See <i>Section C14, Appendix C and Sections D14 and D15, Appendix D</i></p>
Planning Officer	Broxtowe Borough Council	Attenborough and Rylands	Grateful for the opportunity to comment on the preliminary drawings. Would appreciate confirmation of any changes in the defence height around Attenborough.	
Ecologist – Conservation & Design	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	Preferred option around Barton Pool Nature Reserve would be to take a new embankment along the southern or northern boundaries of the reserve, instead of through the middle of the field. Adverse impacts upon the nature reserve would need to be mitigated for.	Northern boundary preferred option.
Assistant Nature Conservation Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Attenborough and Rylands, Colwick	<p>The preferred option would see the least ecological and the most environmental benefits. Floodwalls would be preferred to embankments in many cases, and should be constructed in an ecologically sensitive way.</p> <p>Attenborough - A flood wall would reduce the footprint of the flood defences on the SSSI, and would be preferable. Mitigation and compensation measures should be included to fully mitigate against any ecological impact.</p> <p>Colwick – No objections to the proposals within this area. Appropriate compensation and mitigation measures should again be sought.</p>	Flood wall used through SSSI and mitigation and compensation measure proposed for ecological impacts.

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Action
Head of Conservation Policy & Planning	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Attenborough and Rylands, Colwick	Concerned at the effect of the proposed works on Attenborough SSSI, through land take and effects on the flora and fauna of the reserve. Confirms that compensatory habitat creation would be required within the SSSI. The preferred options for Attenborough SSSI and Colwick Country Park would see land take minimised	Design has minimised land take and compensation measures proposed.
Planning Department	Gedling Borough Council	Colwick	Would like to extend the riverside path throughout this section. A possible footbridge to link the area with the National Watersports Centre would also be beneficial, as would an improvement to the area surrounding Rectory Junction to allow greater access and recreational use.	Footpath expansion being investigated as part of enhancement proposals.

ANNEX E4
Scoping Report Responses

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Table EE4.1 Consultee Responses on Scoping Report

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
STATUTORY CONSULTEES				
Conservation Officer	English Nature	Entire scheme	<p>Detailed response included. Summary of key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rationale for chosen proposals and reasons for discounting others is needed. • Full ecological survey along the line is required. • Impact assessment of short, medium and long term effects. • Areas suitable for mitigation/compensation. • Mitigation during and after the construction phase. • Hydrological survey to study groundwater. • An examination of alternative defence route (proposed by EN). • A timescale for the studies, consultation and construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections 2 & 7.5, Volume 1 • Appendices A to D
Assistant Inspector	English Heritage – East Midlands Region	Entire Scheme	<p>EH welcomes the increased protection for the historic built environment. Principle concern is that fabric and setting of Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Conservation Areas are offered protection by the scheme. Impact on archaeological remains are kept to a minimum. Does not think works at Sawley would have a significant impact on setting of Scheduled Monument. At Attenborough village, EH preferred Alignment is G but a wall not an embankment. Would require Scheduled Monument Consent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.11, Volume 1
Area Manager	Countryside Agency – East Midlands Region	Entire scheme	<p>Concerned with the visual appearance of any new defence, would favour options which are least visually intrusive. Support options which would improve access, enhance the landscape and improve recreational facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections 7.8 & 9, Volume 1
(Assistant Nature Conservation Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Attenborough Rylands Meadows Colwick	<p>Attenborough – Concerned that the proposals will have negative impact on the SSSI. If any, would prefer Alignment E. Supports the habitat enhancement proposals.</p> <p>Meadows – Support options to maximise floodplain. Removal of mature trees should be minimal.</p> <p>Colwick – Supports Alignment A. Least damage to the SINC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.5, Volume 1 • Appendices B, C & D

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
(Rights of Way Area Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Attenborough Rylands Meadows Colwick	Keen to progress the new riverside route at Colwick Industrial Estate. Council will deal with the landowners, legal work and future maintenance. Enclosed details of possible barriers and surfaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 7.4 & 9, Volume 1
Senior Built Conservation Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Trent Meadows Attenborough Colwick Rylands	Detailed response – outlines preferred options for each of the areas. Includes some ideas for mitigation measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7, Volume 1
Principal Officer- Land and Reclamation Team	Nottinghamshire County Council	Trent Meadows Attenborough Colwick	Concerned over visual impacts at Sawley and Attenborough Village. Prefers Meadows M2 Alignment option A along Victoria embankment and Colwick C1 Alignment option B through SINC/Country Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.8, Volume 1 Appendices A, B & D
Rights of Way Inspector	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	The main areas identified for improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fencing of certain areas to allow access for wheel and pushchair users. Linking footpaths to create a circular walking route. Corrections to footpath routes provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 7.4 & 9, Volume 1 Appendix A
Greenways Officer	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley Trent Meadows	Greenway specifications provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.5, Volume 1 Appendix A
Development Control	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	The line with the least environmental impact would be preferable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2, Volume 1 Appendix A
Environmental Services Dept	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	Provided corrected route alignments and suggestions for enhancements. Concerned that some alignments may cause access difficulties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2, Volume 1 Appendix A
Ecologist	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley Trent Meadows	Wishes a meeting between Notts and Derbyshire Wildlife Trusts and county geologists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.5, Volume 1 Appendix A
Planning Officer	Erewash Borough Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	Comprehensive response, detailed comments on each option for each area. Main concerns are the visual impact of the works but no strong objections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7, Volume 1 Appendix A

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
Engineer	Erewash Borough Council	Sawley, Trent Meadows and Attenborough	Would like to see improved operations of Sheetstores Gate and a meeting to discuss linking gravel extraction areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 9, Volume 1 • Appendix A & B
Team Leader - Section Engineer	Broxtowe Borough Council	Attenborough and Rylands	Lack of opportunities for residents to view the proposals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 5, Volume 1
			Serious concern over the interaction of the Trent and Erewash catchments, also concern that sheet pile defences can affect ground water regimes. Prefers option along The Strand in Attenborough, ideally located behind the existing hedge. Consideration over building materials needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections 2 & 7, Volume 1
Planning Services – Team Leader	Nottingham City Council	Rylands and Meadows	Concerned that any such development may decrease the utility of the riverside area. Suggests the potential use of ‘smart flood defences’ between Memorial Gardens and Trent Bridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2, Volume 1 • Appendix C
Senior Rights of Way Officer	Nottingham City Council	Rylands Meadows Colwick	The council would support measures to improve public access and connectivity between the rights of way network in the City and County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.4 & 9, Volume 1
Local Plans Manager	Gedling Borough Council	Gedling - Colwick	Queries over whether allocations for housing and employment at Teal Close, shown in Replacement Local Plan were anticipated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4, Volume 1
Client Manager	City Estates	Colwick	Unclear of the position of existing defences. Footpath creation will significantly affect landowners. Agreements needed over maintenance of footpaths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections 7.3 & 9, Volume 1 • Appendix D
Estate Planner	British Waterways	Entire scheme	Would like to see impacts on waterways including moorings, at Meadows. Willing to discuss further enhancement opportunities at Sawley and Colwick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 9, Volume 1 • Appendices A to D

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
Communication Manager	Sport England	Entire scheme	Wishes to remain on the contact list Interested in the area close to the National Watersports Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 7 & 9, Volume 1
<i>NON STATUTORY CONSULTEES</i>				
Head of Conservation Policy and Planning	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Attenborough Rylands Meadows Colwick	Detailed response. Expresses concern at the underestimation of impacts on the Attenborough SSSI. Requests more detailed study to be undertaken before any agreement can be reached.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.5, Volume 1 Appendix B
Conservation Officer	Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	Sawley and Trent Meadows	Narrow geographical scope of the report. Emphasis on hard engineering results is a missed opportunity. Broadly supportive of the environmental enhancement plans. Welcomes plans for habitat creation throughout the scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.5, Volume 1 Appendix A
Chair	Trent River Park Partnership c/o Groundwork Greater Nottingham	Entire scheme	More emphasis should be placed upon sustainable drainage systems as a means of flood alleviation. Wishes to discuss the surfacing for the embankments with the EA. Concerned that many forms of recreation have not been taken into account. Would like to discuss ways of maximising access to the river frontage. SUDS appraised at strategy level as being best practice but insufficient to solve flooding in Nottingham. Enhancement opportunities for recreation included in PAR costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 2 & 7, Volume 1
Secretary	Long Eaton Victoria Angling Society	Sawley Attenborough Trent Meadows Colwick	Concern over lack of consultation. Referring the scheme to the Regional Fisheries. Ecology and Recreation Advisory Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 5 & 7.4, Volume 1
			Highlighted Erewash Canal holds national fishing events. Attenborough – concern over Grange Pond. Can cause problems in periods of heavy rainfall. Owns some land in Colwick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.4, Volume 1

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
Secretary	Nottingham and District Federation of Anglers	Entire scheme	Concerned that raising the levels of the Trent will reduce fish stocks. Anger that EA has made no reference to fish.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 7.4, Volume 1</i>
Environment and Safeguarding Officer –	Nottingham East Midlands Airport	Entire scheme	Wish to be kept informed, as any change in bird population (through creation of habitat) could break CAA rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 9, Volume 1</i>
Area Manager	National Farmers Union	Entire scheme	Would be against using farmland as flood storage without proper conservation. Would prefer scheme to be progressed without compulsory purchase being used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 7, Volume 1</i>
Chairman	Pedals	Entire scheme	Wishes to ensure footpaths will be suitable for bicycles and that proposed works will not impede any routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sections 7 & 9, Volume 1</i>
Chairman	Colwick Parish Council	Colwick	Impressed with detail and scope of the consultation, apart from the tight timescale. Would strongly prefer option A in Colwick, but option B is not totally unacceptable. Option A is the preferred alignment option.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sections 2 & 5, Volume 1</i> • <i>Appendix D</i>
Head of Planning	Nottingham Regeneration Ltd	Trent Bridge to Colwick Park	Wishes to remain on contact list (response included with Nottingham City Council letter).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 4, Volume 1</i> • <i>Appendix C</i>
Councillor	Broxtowe Borough Council - Beeston Rylands	Attenborough and Rylands	Praises the scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Appendix B</i>
East Midlands Regional Manager	- Highways Agency	Entire scheme	Range of options impact the HA equally. Possibility to link the wildlife corridors of the motorway with the wildlife corridor of the Trent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 7.10, Volume 1</i> • <i>Appendices A to D</i>
Chairman	Attenborough Sailing Club	Attenborough	The club committee prefer option E. Lists a number of potential enhancements for sailing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 7.4, Volume 1</i> • <i>Appendix B</i>
Senior Town Planner	Network Rail	Entire scheme	Would have to address impacts on the railway during the constructional phase, also effects on the railway system downstream. Effects on railway drainage will need to be carefully assessed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Section 2, Volume 1</i>

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
Development Director – Estates Office	Nottingham University	Entire scheme	The university has property including playing fields, a pavilion and staff houses on the River Trent boundary (Grove Farm in Rylands). The flood defences do not protect these areas. What consideration has been made regarding the flood defences not protecting these areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2, Volume 1
Chair	Old Meadows Tenants and Residents Assoc	Entire scheme	Concern that a wall will not halt the rising floodwaters. What measures will be put in place to prevent water flooding from the mains drains?	
Head Teacher	The King's School	Meadows	Concerns over Meadows M2 option B – emergency vehicle access, parking and views from the school. Prefers option A. Disused tennis courts, which could be restored as an enhancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 2 & 7.4, Volume 1 Appendix C
Director	W.Westerman Ltd	Attenborough	Option B – is preferable as it follows existing line of defences and is connected into S4. Option A will not protect all of the properties. Would like to see a scheme to facilitate flood drainage in case of defence breaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2, Volume 1 Appendix B
SURROUNDING VILLAGES				
Landowner		Entire scheme	Feels that both banks of the river should be protected equally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1
Landowner		Outlying villages	Several queries raised concerning her local area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is a modest increase? Meaning of extreme flooding. Which communities will be affected? Meaning of 'appropriate mitigation'? An overall shortfall in consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1
Landowner		Outlying villages	Resident of Radcliffe-unhappy at scheme benefiting one group over another.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1
Landowner		Outlying villages	Concerned at the lack of defences downstream from Colwick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1
Landowner		Outlying villages	Feels that Gunthorpe and Burton Joyce should be included in the scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1
Landowner		Outlying villages	Concern at areas downstream from Colwick will not be protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8, Volume 1

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points	Section where actions described
Councillor	Burton Joyce Parish Council	Outlying villages	The council are writing to ask for a meeting with the EA over the scoping report.	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
Councillor	Clerk – Gunthorpe Parish Council	Outlying villages	Expresses concern at lack of defences downstream. Contravenes Human Rights Act sections 1, 2 and 8	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
Chair	Gunthorpe Environment and Flood Alleviation Group	Outlying villages	Concerned at the lack of flood defences downstream of Colwick. Detailed response to the scoping report. Contravenes Human Rights Act sections 1, 2 and 8	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
Landowner	J A B Short Ltd	Outlying villages	Query over the effect of the scheme at Hoveringham.	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
MP	MP	Outlying villages	Wishes to discover the amount of consultation that has taken place between various parish councils and Gedling Borough Council.	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
MP	MP for Sherwood	Outlying villages	Queries over why the proposed area was selected. Residents further downstream will want reassurances that the work will not increase flooding risk down river.	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>
Councillors	Nottinghamshire County Council	Outlying villages	Disappointed at lack of consultation with stakeholder groups in Burton Joyce; The Burton Joyce Parish Council, Residents Assoc and Preservation Society	• <i>Section 8, Volume 1</i>

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ANNEX E5
Local Planning Authority Screening Opinions

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E5.1 Erewash Borough Council

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EREWASH



**DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY
DIRECTORATE**

Development Services

Town Hall Long Eaton
Derbyshire NG10 1HU

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E-Mail: planning@erewash.gov.uk

Jody Harris,
Environmental Assessment Officer,
Environment Agency,
Oulton Court – 10 Warwick Road,
Olton,
Solihull,
B92 7HX,

Please ask for: Mr A Reddish
Direct Telephone: 0115 907 2202
Your Ref: IMMI0593
Our Ref: AR/PD
Date: 20th June 2006

Dear Jody,

**RE: NOTTINGHAM TRENT LEFT BANK FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME: EIA SCREENING
AND SCOPING OPTION**

May I thank you for providing the information relating to the Scoping Report stage of the aforementioned project. This response, which in effect can be considered as the screening opinion, has drawn from the information provided in the Scoping Report data in addition to the Borough Council's discussions with yourself and Stephen Cavanagh from Black and Veatch.

It would be logical for the purposes of this correspondence if I were to start at the area of study closest to the Borough's boundary with Broxtowe and then move in a general south-western area whilst making comments on the details provided to us by the Environment Agency / Black & Veatch.

Trent Meadows – Sheet Four of Four (Drawing 108705-0420-0005-PA):

Option one (the preferred choice) would see a flood defence wall form a northern boundary running in-between the Barton Pool Nature Reserve (ER075 in the Derbyshire Wildlife Sites Register) and the mainline railway immediately adjacent. It was explained to the Borough Council that talks had already taken place with English Nature (EN) who expressed that this was their preferred route. The Borough Council recognises the expertise that EN has in the field of ecology and biodiversity and would naturally follow any guidance that was forthcoming from them. Any flood defence work envisaged at Barton Pool would need to take on board comments made by English Nature to minimise the threat of damage/harm to this SINC site whilst flood alleviation works took place. It is to be highlighted that should Option 1 be taken forward, a planning application for the proposed works would have to be submitted to Erewash Borough Council.

Sawley – Sheet Five of Five (Drawing 108705-0410-0006-PA):

Work relating to the Floodgates on the Erewash Canal will require the submission of a planning application to the Borough Council.

Sawley – Sheet Two of Five (Drawing 108705-0410-0003-PA):

Option one would involve the construction of a new flood wall passing through various sections of Sawley Village (a conservation area). The stretch of proposed wall which follows the northern boundary of 396 Tamworth Road is acceptable (subject to the appropriate type of material) in



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principle to the Borough Council. Clarification is requested of the definitive heights of the section of proposed walling running along the eastern side of Tamworth Road, as the variance level between 0.3m and 1.5m is quite substantial and one that cannot be well visualised whilst trying to assess the anticipated works on site. A site visit to the area showed a very narrow pavement between the established line of walling and the roadside, and the Borough Council are concerned that this width of pavement would be reduced with the erection of new flood walling. An existing building also forms part of the established boundary wall in this particular section, and doubts were raised by Officers as to how a wall would be incorporated into, or to complement this building. Moving south along Tamworth Road, the Borough Council is also concerned that at a currently-gated access to residential properties, any flood defence work would be undermined by a need to keep some degree of openness available to these properties.

Option two would involve a new drainage ditch inlet and outlet structures and also new embankments to a maximum height of 3.64m in selected places. As referred to in option one, it would be greatly beneficial if the Borough Council could see cross-section workings of how these embankments would sit visually with the gradient of the land to the south of Sawley Village to ensure that such embankments would not be overly intrusive to the naturally established landscape in this particular area. Sentence

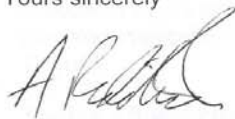
Option three would involve the creation of new embankments to the east and to the south of Sawley Village in a long-standing Green Belt designation. This option would negate the need for work to be carried out within the built environment of Sawley Village, but instead require large embankments up to possibly 3.85m high to be constructed. The line of this proposed defence would keep flood waters furthest away from the village, but care must be taken should the construction of the embankments be chosen as the preferred option due to the potentially intrusive nature of their presence within a Conservation Area. The Borough Council would again request to see cross sections and impressions of how such embankments would blend into the environment in this location to ensure that proposed work makes a positive contribution to the general landscape.

As Richard stated, all other proposed works mentioned either in the conversations between the Borough Council and Black and Veatch / Environment Agency or in the detailed workings shown in the indicative plans will not require the submission of a planning application. However, where planning applications are to be submitted (potentially for the work at Barton Pond, the Erewash Canal Floodgates and within Sawley Village), the Borough Council would wish for these to be submitted individually to its Development Control section.

As a whole, the Borough Council acknowledges the thorough nature of the Scoping Report and the data that it has collated and analysed with regard to the Erewash Borough area and looks forward to continued consultation during the course of this project.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact me on the above phone number or email address.

Yours sincerely



ADAM REDDISH

Planning Officer
Policy and Development (Planning)

E5.2 Broxtowe Borough Council

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Although considerable correspondence has taken place with Broxtowe Borough Council during the design development, no formal screening and scoping opinion was ever received. A site visit with Broxtowe Planning Officers took place on the 15 March 2007, to determine the extent of the areas requiring planning permission. The following letter relates to the areas requiring planning and was received after this site visit.

Ask for: Miss A Bramall
Ext: 3449
Our Ref: AB/P45



Your Ref: JAP/108785/22
Date: 30 March 2007
Email: dpcd@broxtowe.gov.uk

e-mail- palmerj@BV.com

Dear Ms Palmer

**NOTTINGHAM TRENT BANK FLOOD ALLEIVATION SCHEME
ATTENBOROUGH VILLAGE**

I refer to your e-mail and plans submitted on the 20 March 2007.

From the information submitted I agree that the sections you have highlighted with the zig zag will require planning permission, although an application for the whole scheme through the Broxtowe area will be submitted. As stated previously any wall adjacent to the highway cannot exceed 1m in height and elsewhere must not exceed 2m in height, without planning permission. The creations of the embankments are considered to be new engineering works, which require planning consent. I can also confirm that the in filling of the lakes within Attenborough Nature Reserve will require consent

I would like you to look again at the Beeston Rylands area, I am aware that some works involve a wall 1.5m high and the raising of the existing ramp across Riverside Road. I would like you to ensure that no part of the wall is above 1m in height within 2m of the highway.

The plan submitted, as you state, is not easy to read, I have therefore tried to use the previous plans submitted on the 12 March 2007 to identify the works in more detail. As this has been based on my own interpretation, I would like to take this opportunity to state that this is my informal opinion and therefore not binding on the Council should a formal planning application be submitted.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely

Miss A Bramall
Planning Officer

Director - P M Stone

Directorate of Planning and Community Development

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Telephone: 0115 917 7777 Fax: 0115 917 3377
Typetalk: 0800 959 598 DX: 11663 Beeston
Email: dpcd@broxtowe.gov.uk www.broxtowe.gov.uk

E5.3 Nottingham City Council

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My Ref: GMS/R Trent Left Bank Project
Your Ref: ps/jap/108785
Contact: Mike Senior
Email: mike.senior@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Planning Services
City Development
Exchange Buildings
Smithy Row
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NG1 2BS

Tel: 0115 915 5406
Fax: 0115 915 5222
www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Black & Veatch Ltd
38 City Road
CHESTER
CH1 3AE

BLACK & VEATCH CHESTER	
RECEIVED	
16 FEB 2007	
PASSED TO	JAP
FILE NO	
REPLY DATE	

13th February 2007

Dear Ms Palmer

NOTTINGHAM TRENT LEFT BANK FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME - Planning Application Considerations

Thank you for your letter and enclosures of 31st January 2007, in which you request a formal opinion as to whether or not the works constitute "permitted development" and if so, under what provisions.

Your enclosed annex states that all the works proposed by the Environment Agency comprise engineering or building operations and therefore constitute "development" as defined in section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It is agreed that the proposed works constitute development, but they are considered to be "permitted development" as they fall within Schedule 2 Part 15, paragraph A (b) of the Town and Country (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 namely:

"Development in, on or under any water course or land drainage works and required in connection with the improvement, maintenance or repair of that water course or those works".

Paragraphs (10) and (12) of Article 3 of the GDPO are relevant. Paragraph (10) states that development is not permitted if an application for planning permission for that development would be a Schedule 1 application or a Schedule 2 application within the meaning of the Town and Country Planning (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988. However, paragraph (12) specifies that paragraph (10) does not apply to "development which consists of the carrying out by a drainage body within the meaning of the Land Drainage Act 1991 of improvement works within the meaning of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999". It is understood that the Environment Agency is a drainage body within the meaning of the Land Drainage Act 1991 and the proposed works fall within the scope of these Regulations.

You have asked for confirmation as to whether Listed Building Consent would be required for proposed works in relation to Listed Buildings and Structures. From the information you have supplied the only structures that we might require applications for include the Victoria

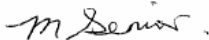


Embankment Gateways and Screens, the neighbouring Toll House and the Suspension Bridge, but having examined the details shown on your enclosed drawings their small scale unfortunately makes it difficult to determine the extent of the works involved. Please will you let me have copies of drawings to a larger scale that clearly show what is proposed in relation to them. Copies of the visualisations should also assist. Following this I should be in a position to advise you.

I am awaiting observations from the Council's Leisure and Community Services Department on the contents of the drawings enclosed with your letter, but I will aim to let you have the Council's comments by the end of next week (25th February 2007) at the latest.

Since receipt of your letter I received a telephone call from Robin Newlove who has advised me that it is intended to send out pre-application packages comprising details of the proposed scheme by 2nd March and to formally submit applications for planning permission to neighbouring authorities by the end of March. Please note that the City Council as Local Planning Authority for the city would not expect to receive a planning application for development it considers to be "permitted development".

Yours sincerely

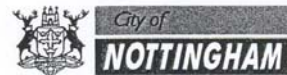


Mike Senior
Team Leader
Planning Services

Direct line ☎: 0115 915 5406

My Ref: GMS/Leftbank/EIAScoping
Your Ref: IMM10593
Contact: Mike Senior
Direct Line: 55406
Date:

Mrs Jody Harris
Environment Agency
Olton Court
10 Warwick Road
Solihull
B92 7HX



Planning
City Development
Exchange Buildings North
Smithy Row
Nottingham
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Fax: 0115 915 5222
Minicom: 0115 915 5178
www.plan4nottingham.com

email: mike.senior@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

11th April 2006

Dear Mrs Harris

**Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 1999
Nottingham Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme: EIA Screening and Scoping
Request (Regulations 6 & 10)**

Thank you for your letter of 13th February and for providing me a copy of the scoping report for the above project. I can now respond as follows:

The proposal would appear to fall within Schedule 2, 10 Infrastructure Projects, category (h) Inland-waterway construction not included in Schedule 1, canalisation and flood relief works. As you know schedule 2 schemes require EIA whenever they are likely to have a significant effect on the environment or are likely to exceed specific thresholds or are located in a sensitive area as defined in Regulation 2(1). In this case, as the area of the works exceeds 1 hectare I can confirm that EIA will be required.

In response to your request for a scoping opinion consultation has been carried out and I enclose copies of responses I have received from British Waterways, the City Council's Traffic Management Team, Pollution Control, English Nature, the City Council's Leisure and Community Services Department, and the Countryside Agency. In the event I receive further responses I will forward them to you.

I have no further observations to add at this stage.

Yours sincerely

Mike Senior
Team Leader
Planning Services

Encs



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Transport Local
Authority of the Year
2002-3



Awarded to Best Management Services,
Building Control, Food & Licensing,
Health & Safety (Enforcement) Public
Health, Road Safety &
Trading Standards for excellence



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10 March 2006

Planning
City Development
Exchange Buildings North
Smith Row
Nottingham
NG1 2BS

Our Ref EMS-NOC-06-31

Dear Mr Senior

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
REGULATIONS 1999 NOTTINGHAM TRENT LEFT BANK FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME –
SCOPING REQUEST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Thank you for the consultation in respect of the above. In relation to the potential impact in the Meadows and Colwick areas we suggest that it is clarified that the impact on waterway users is also to be considered. In all areas, in addition to the impact of increased traffic movements on local roads we suggest that the viability of alternative forms of transport such as waterborne transport is also considered.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Edwards
Estate Planner

East Midland Navigations
British Waterways The Kiln Mather Road Newark Nottinghamshire NG24 1FB
T 01636 704481 F 01636 705584 E enquiries.emidlands@britishwaterways.co.uk
www.britishwaterways.co.uk





ENGLISH HERITAGE

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Mr Mike Senior
Team Leader
Planning Services

Our ref:
Your ref: GMS/LeftBankEIA
Telephone 07770610214
Fax

28 February 2006

Dear Mr Senior

re: **Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation – scoping request for EIA**

Thank you for the letter of 16th February. I can confirm that we believe an EIA is necessary on this scheme. We draw particular attention to the need to assess the impact of the proposed works on the following features and their settings.

Rylands - Tow-path footbridge LB 429435, Beaston Lock and Weir and related canal structures and archaeological deposits. Meadow Road Bridge LB 429359.

Meadows – Entrance Gates LB 458931, Telephone Kiosk LB 458932, The Memorial Gardens RPG 4750, Statue LB 458928, Pond LB 458927, Wall LB 458929, War Memorial LB 458926, Suspension Bridge LB 458924 / 428221, Gates LB 458925 also Trent Bridge LB 457446 / 241795. The potential for survival of remains of earlier crossing points over the Trent is highlighted in the desk-based assessment both in the vicinity of Old Trent Bridge SM NT30) and towards the Suspension Bridge (LB 458924 / 428221) - specific archaeological investigations should be carried out in advance of works on this stretch of the Trent so that impact can be assessed and mitigated to specifications agreed with the County Archaeologist.

In addition we would re-iterate the following recommendations from our response to the FAS Scoping report.

1.1 Summary of response

English Heritage welcomes the increased protection for the historic built environment which will be afforded by the proposed works. Our principle concern is that the fabric and settings of listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas are protected. Further we are keen to ensure that where archaeological remains are impacted by flood defence works this impact is minimised and the contribution to human knowledge is maximised.



44 DERNGATE, NORTHAMPTON, NN1 1UH

Telephone 01604 735 400 Facsimile 01604 735 401

www.english-heritage.org.uk

Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available

1.2 Supervision of works - safeguarding the historic environment

In addition to specific works of archaeological mitigation discussed below, the Environment Agency should in our opinion arrange for archaeological supervision of all ground works in proximity to historic features identified in the scoping report or as a result of further investigations. This is to ensure that schemes of working are successful in minimising the historic environment impact of works and that there is a mechanism in place for management and recording in the event of the exposure of unpredicted historic remains.

Such supervision should be delivered on a day to day basis on site by a named and suitably qualified archaeologist. All contractors should be briefed that the Environment Agency explicitly authorises the person conducting archaeological supervision to communicate and interpret a mandatory scheme of working in proximity to historic features.

1.3 Minimisation of the impact of works

In several stretches works to raise and re-profile existing embankments are proposed, where these stretches pass through or over significant archaeological remains highlighted in the FAS Scoping Report and Desk-based Archaeological Assessment we are keen that the impact of works is minimised. In these locations we would recommend working strictly within the existing fenced easement alongside the embankment, thus minimising damage by mechanised plant.

1.4 Archaeological investigation and recording

Archaeological recording is to be conducted at locations and to standards agreed with the respective county archaeologists and in the case of Scheduled Monuments with English Heritage.

1.5 A Strategic approach to Palaeochannels

Palaeochannels can contain evidence of prehistoric activities, and the remains of wharfs, ferry crossings and bridges, mill sites, fish traps etc. Environmental data can be recovered from palaeochannels to augment our knowledge both of prehistoric environmental conditions and, in and around Nottingham, of the industrial development of the medieval and modern town. Geo-chemical analysis of outfall sediments and tributaries in and around Nottingham City offers an excellent opportunity to develop both our knowledge of the past and our understandings of the movement of heavy metals and other pollutants in the environment.

A project wide methodology for the investigation and recording of palaeochannels impacted by construction works or associated borrow pits and environmental enhancement works should be developed. This will ensure a consistent approach to targeting, sampling and recording across the project. This should lead to the creation of a high quality body of palaeo-environmental data suitable for further analysis and publication. This strategy should be worked up by the Environment Agency's archaeological contractors in cooperation with the County Archaeologists for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire who have established methodologies for the exploration of the Trent Valley deposits. Knight and Howard have mapped and explored the research potential of palaeochannels in the Trent Valley as discussed in the Trent and Peak desk-based assessment. Dr Jim Williams, [07801 213300



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Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available

[jim.williams@english-heritage.org.uk] the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor will be happy to offer further expertise in this area.

1.6 Dissemination of knowledge about the historic environment

The Trent Left Bank scheme has the potential to enhance knowledge about the historic environment of the Trent corridor. This knowledge should be disseminated through appropriate media. A monograph publication of the results of archaeological investigations and analysis should be costed into schemes of archaeological recording. On-site interpretation of archaeological features and the changing character of the Trent corridor would enhance public understanding and enjoyment of the historic landscape.

Yours sincerely

Tim Allen
Assistant Inspector
E-mail: tim.allen@english-heritage.org.uk



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DEPARTMENT (P)
- 6 MAR 2006 26337
CITY DEVELOPMENT

Mr M Senior
Nottingham City Council
Exchange Buildings North
Smithy Row
NOTTINGHAM
NG1 2BS

Your ref: GMS/LeftBankEIA

Our ref: B 5.9.80

3 March 2006

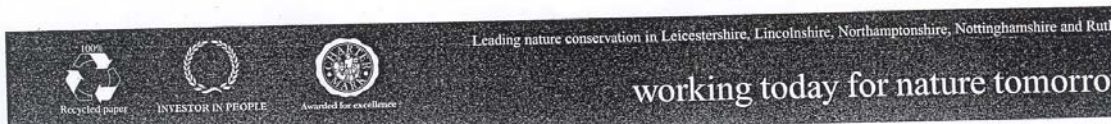
Dear Mr Senior

***Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)
Regulations 1999: Scoping Request
Nottingham Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme***

Thank you for consulting English Nature over the above. The opportunity to assist in the preparation of the above Environmental Statement at this early stage is welcomed. We are of the opinion that the following issues need to be addressed in the Environmental Statement:

- **The Potential for Sustainable Development**
 - Include references to structure and local plan policies
 - Identify any existing public transport, cycle routes and pedestrian provisions in the vicinity of the development site, highlighting improvements that can be made with regard to new links within the development and with adjacent areas
- **Ecological Assessment**
 - Identify the current land use and review the existing landscape and features of the site
 - Undertake a phase 1 habitat survey
 - Survey for all protected species, at an appropriate time of year in addition to consulting with local wildlife recording groups for information.
 - Identify all nature conservation sites within 2km of the development, eg, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Local Nature Reserves, Regionally Important Geological Sites, Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and areas affected by Tree Preservation Orders
 - Assess the impact of the development on the existing ecology of the site and the surrounding area and state ways in which any adverse impacts will be avoided or mitigated for

Cont.



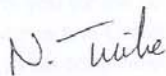
- **Contributing to Biodiversity**

- Establish the potential for landscaping & tree planting with native species
- Identify opportunities for the creation and restoration of habitats appropriate to the locality, include plans to retain existing landscape features such as mature trees, hedgerows and ponds within the development site
- Explore opportunities for avoiding damage to, and enhancing biodiversity on this site with reference to the *Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan*

We are aware that the applicant is aware that ecological issues will have to be addressed during the EIA process and will copy this correspondence direct to them.

We look forward to being consulted on the application and the Environmental Statement including any protected species surveys carried out.

Yours sincerely



NICK TRIBE
Conservation Officer
Biodiversity and Planning
Cc Jody Harris, Environment Agency

Our ref
Your ref
Date

EM/LA/187474B
GMS/leftBankEIA
08 March 2006

DEPARTMENT	265 67 P
10 MAR 2006	
CIT. DEVELOPMENT	



Mike Senior
Planning
City of Nottingham
Exchange Buildings North
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Market Place, Bingham
Nottingham, NG13 8AP

Telephone 01949 876 200
Fax 01949 876 222
deanskrabania@countryside.gov.uk
www.countryside.gov.uk

Dear Sir,

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATION 1999 SCOPING REQUEST FOR NOTTINGHAM TRENT LEFT BANK FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

Thank you for consulting the Countryside Agency – Landscape Access and Recreation Division (LAR) in connection with the above scoping exercise.

We are the statutory Agency working to

- conserve and protect England's natural landscapes and all their characteristics
- encourage awareness of access to and enjoyment of the countryside and green spaces
- achieve the sustainable management and use of the countryside

The Countryside Agency firmly supports the pursuit of high standards of design in all development, and especially that which respects local character and distinctiveness. The Countryside Agency believes that all development should be of a high quality design not only in terms of aesthetics but also in ways by which it incorporates the full range of sustainable development objectives i.e. economic, social and environmental. We propose that development should be good enough to approve, not bad enough to refuse.

Landscape

Of prime concern to the Agency is the impact of the proposed development on the landscape character, accordingly we would require that a visual and landscape character appraisal is undertaken within the EIA. Such an assessment should be based on good practice guidelines such as those produced jointly by the Landscape Institute/Institute of Environmental Assessment 2002. Landscape character assessment provides a sound basis for guiding, informing and understanding the ability of any location to accommodate change, and to make positive proposals for conserving character, enhancing it or regenerating it, as detailed proposals are developed.

The relevant Countryside Character Area description that should be used as baseline information for this site can be downloaded free of charge from our web site at



of working that ensure that inconvenience by users is kept to a minimum and that access to open space is maintained, whenever possible. These measures should be agreed and put in place prior to the works starting. Any mitigation measures should be environmentally sensitive to the area.

I would also expect that the proposed access and recreational enhancement opportunities outlined in the Environment Agency's letter should be detailed in the EIA. I am aware from previous consultations with the Environment Agency on this scheme that these may include the opportunity to create new and improved paths for pedestrians, cyclists and wheelchair users with links to the existing network and surrounding countryside as well as other recreational facilities.

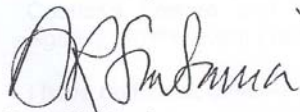
I note that the applicant refers to the fact that it is anticipated that the overall impact of the scheme will result in peak flood depths downstream of Nottingham City increasing. We would therefore expect that the EIA would also detail the consequent impact of increased flood depths upon landscape, access and recreation issues for the affected area.

In terms of other information that is available that should be used to inform the EIA we would advise that the applicant access the MAGIC website at www.magic.gov.uk This site holds a wealth of web based GIS data on rural schemes and countryside designations.

We would also wish to see the proposal positively contribute to the objectives of the On Trent initiative. Please ensure that the Initiative is consulted and that the applicant is aware of this project. The On Trent Project Manager is Ruth Needham, c/o Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, East Mill, Bridge Foot, Belper, Derbyshire. DE56 1XH Tel

I trust you will find the above comments useful in informing the scoping opinion. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require clarification on any of the comments made

Yours faithfully



Dean Skrabanja
Countryside Officer - Positive Planning



City of

NOTTINGHAM

Leisure and Community Services

My Ref:
Your Ref:
Contact:
Direct Dial:

Mike Senior
Team Leader
Planning Services
City Development
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Natural History Museum
Wollaton Park
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NG8 2AE

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Fax: 915 3932

Email: wollaton@nemg.demon.co.uk

DEPARTMENT	26110	P
29 FEB 2006		
CITY DEVELOPMENT		

27th February 2006

Your ref. : GMS/LeftBankEIA

Our ref. : G:/nbrcenqu/MikeSenior1.doc

Dear Mike

Re: Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1999 Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme – Scoping Request for Environmental Impact Assessment

Thank you for consulting Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre (NBGRC).

We have read the Environment Agency Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Opinion document IMM10593 and have nothing to add with regard to protected sites or species from the records we hold at Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Record Centre. We have no additional issues to raise.

Please contact me on (0115) 9153909 if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely

Peter Acton for Service Manager (post vacant)
Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre

Nottingham

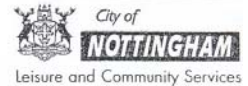


Director: Michael Williams, DMS, DMA, MILAM, MBIM
Assistant Director - Libraries, Information & Museums: Brian Ashley BA DiplLib ALA

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My Ref: EMB06/18
Your Ref:
Contact: Stefan Kruczkowski
Ext: 0115 915 2753



Mike Senior
Team Leader
City Development
Exchange Buildings North
Smithy Row
Nottingham
NG1 2BS

March 17, 2006

Dear Mike

**Re: Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme:
EIA Screening and Scoping Options**

Further to the information you forwarded for our consideration, we wish to offer our comments on the proposals.

Colwick

With respect to the proposals, which will affect the areas within Colwick under our ownership, we can offer our agreement in principle. However, we would wish to be consulted at the detailed design stages with key areas of concern relating to: the impact on flora and fauna.

Though we acknowledge that these concerns have been initially recognised in the 'Summary of Potential Impacts at Colwick' and will be considered through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the Environmental Statements (ES). We would wish to have the opportunity to review and comment on the EIA and ES once these are complete.

Meadows

With respect to the proposals, which will affect the areas within the Meadows under our ownership, namely the Victoria Embankment (recreation ground, riverside park and gardens), we can offer our agreement in principle. However, we would wish to be consulted at the detailed design stages with key areas of concern relating to: 'human beings and land use', the impact on flora and fauna - in particular any felling of trees.

Many of the trees along the Victoria Embankment are mature and add significant value to the landscape character. We would therefore seek to afford protection to all

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Director: Michael Williams



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EMB06/18 (continued)

those trees deemed to be merit. All works affecting these trees would require sensitive and careful consideration, with the completion of an Arboricultural study prepared and submitted for us to have the opportunity to review and comment.

We acknowledge that our concerns relating to flora and fauna have been initially recognised in the *'Summary of Potential Impacts at the Meadows'* and will be considered through the EIA and ES. Though we would wish to see consideration under the Summary of the Potential Impacts within 'Human Beings and Land Use' associated with raising the road and the construction of a new defence, with our concerns principally associated with the post construction impacts of such works on user access (with full consideration of the Disability Discrimination Act) and event management.

In view of the post construction visual impact on the 'setting of listed buildings' we would suggest that the Environment Agency approach English Heritage (if this has not yet been done) to establish dialogue at these early stages. Though we recognise that as part of this internal consultation, Pete Smith (Conservation Officer) will be aware of these proposals.

As with Colwick, we would wish to have the opportunity to review and comment on the EIA and ES once these are complete.

I trust that this letter effectively conveys our comments, however should you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me directly on 0115 915 2753.

Yours sincerely



Stefan Kruczkowski
Development Officer
Parks & Open Spaces Development

- cc. Simon Gladwin, Team Manager, Parks & Open Space Development
- cc. Bob Chaffin, Service Manager, Arts and Events
- cc. Keith Prowting, Senior Arboricultural Officer, Street Scene
- cc. Paul Owen, Nature Conservation Officer, Parks & Open Space Development
- cc. Anna Murphy, Arboricultural Officer, Street Scene

Mike Senior

From: Paul Boulton [paul.boulton@nottinghamcity.gov.uk]
Sent: 15 March 2006 10:57
To: mike senior
Cc: john lee
Subject: Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Allieivation Scheme - Scoping Request for EIA
Importance: High

Mike

The main issue from my point of view is how these proposals impact on the public rights of way network both during pre and post construction. So long as there is enough detail in the EIA to cover this issue then I would be fairly content. At the appropriate time prior to construction the Environment Agency should contact the City Council's Senior Rights of Way Officer John Lee to discuss further.

I also noticed that the scheme is to affect the Victoria Embankment. The EA should contact Leisure and Community Services about these proposals as the Embankment comes under their responsibility.

I'm sorry these comments are a bit late.

Regards
Paul

Paul Boulton
Traffic Management Team Leader
Traffic and Safety
Nottingham City Council
Lawrence House
Talbot Street
Nottingham NG1 5NT

15/03/2006

E5.4 Gedling Borough Council

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Planning & Environment

Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park
Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU

Ms J Palmer
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38 City Road
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Fax: (0115) 901 3758
Minicom: (0115) 901 3935
Email: michelle.dunne@gedling.gov.uk

Our Ref: MJD/GAM
Your Ref:

22 February, 2007

Dear Jenny

Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme

I refer to your letter and accompanying details relating to works in connection with the above project.

I can confirm that as these works are for the improvement, maintenance and repair of a watercourse and are to be undertaken by the Environment Agency, they are considered to fall within the remit of permitted development under Schedule 2 Part 15 of the General Permitted Development Order 1995 (as Amended). As such a planning application will not be required.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M J Dunne
Principal Planning Officer

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- 1 MAR 2007	
PASSED TO:	JAP.
FILE NO:	
REPLY DATE:	

Head of Planning and Environment - P Baguley BA (Hons), MCD, Dip Mgmt (Open), MRTPI
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ANNEX E6
Scheme Alignment Leaflet Responses

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Table EE6.1 Consultee Responses on Scheme Alignment Leaflet

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points
Senior Landscape Architect	Derbyshire County Council	Sawley and Trent Meadows	The flood protection measures should strive to conserve and enhance the landscape character.
Assistant Nature Conservation Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Attenborough	Due to the importance of the SSSI, the routing of the flood defences through the SSSI in the vicinity of The Strand should not be taken forward.
Head of Conservation Policy and Planning	Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust	Attenborough	Any routing of the defences through the SSSI is unacceptable, and would like to see further exploration of any alternatives.
Conservation Officer	English Nature	All	Expects to see detailed specialist surveys undertaken, especially for water vole, otters, badgers, great crested newts and breeding birds. With reference to the impact during and post construction.
Conservation Officer	English Nature	Attenborough	Any option that would unnecessarily damage the SSSI would not be acceptable and may not be granted planning permission.
Chairman	Attenborough Village Green Association	Attenborough	Would not find any route along The Strand acceptable. Welcomes the re-assessment of option 3 through the SSSI.
Assistant Director of Planning	Broxtowe Borough Council	Attenborough	Concerned that details within the document are difficult to interpret and do not identify heights for the proposed defences, also that option 3 has been removed.
Senior Built Conservation Officer	Nottinghamshire County Council	Attenborough and Rylands, Meadows, Colwick	Would strongly recommend investigation of an alternative location for the flood defences at Attenborough, to avoid locating along The Strand.
Principal Officer – Land and Reclamation	Nottinghamshire County Council	All	Sawley – Alignment option A is preferable to B or C in visual impact terms. Trent Meadows - Alignment option A is preferable to B or C in visual impact terms. Meadows – No further comments to make Colwick – A shorter but taller length of flood defence would be acceptable adjacent to the housing estate.
Councillor	Rushcliffe Borough Council	Meadows	Concerned at the appearance of a 1.6m high wall along Victoria Embankment between Suspension Bridge and Trent Bridge.
MP	MP Broxtowe	Attenborough	Would like to ascertain the reasoning behind dropping option no.3. Would like to see the character of the village retained.

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points
Landowners		Attenborough	<p>A significant number of responses were received from members of the Attenborough community including local residents and users of the village green, cricket and football club, and bowls club. The majority of responses were against the proposed alignment option along The Strand and in favour of an alternative alignment around the perimeter of the Brook. In summary, the number of responses received was as follows:</p> <p>Responses in favour of option 1 (a route along The Strand) – 12 Responses in favour of option 2 (a route around the village green) – 2 Responses in favour of option 3 (a route through SSSI) – 84 Responses with no clear preference - 8</p>

ANNEX E7
Attenborough Village FAQ's – September 2006

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Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme Scheme Alignment Leaflet – Frequently Asked Questions

Attenborough

Introduction

Although it will never be possible to prevent flooding entirely, the Environment Agency are committed to managing flood risk throughout Nottingham. Through the Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme (Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS) we intend to improve the standard of protection along the 27 kilometres of the Trent's left bank through the city. Our solution is to either raise existing or construct new flood defences which will result in over 15,000 properties benefiting from an increased level of flood protection.

We launched our consultation on the Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS in November 2005, with the issue of the scheme's Scoping Report.

The Scoping Report was a public consultation document seeking comment on the options proposed. All statutory stakeholders were consulted on the proposals between November 2005 and January 2006. To seek public opinion on the proposals through Attenborough, we formed and met with the Attenborough Community Focus Group (Focus Group) over a series of workshops during January 2006. The Focus Group was formed to provide feedback on the Scoping Report, and to identify issues or constraints to the scheme that existed in the Attenborough area. Individuals were recruited on a voluntary basis, and members were invited to participate because they could represent the different views and interests of the Attenborough community. In January 2006, the group provided comments on the initial proposals presented in the Scoping Report and was encouraged to feed information back to the wider community about the process.

Over 1,000 copies of the Scoping Report were sent out to interested parties throughout Nottingham and we received over 35,000 hits on our scheme website www.nottinghamflooddefence.co.uk. Since January 2006, we have been appraising the comments received, carrying out further surveys and meeting with statutory stakeholders. This was needed to develop a design for the flood defence's preferred alignment.

We presented these preferred alignments in our Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS Proposed Flood Defence Alignment leaflet (referred to as the 'Scheme Alignment Leaflet') which we issued publicly during the week commencing the 24th July 2006. To inform the Attenborough residents of our preferred alignment for the village area, we held a Focus Group meeting and a Public Drop In meeting at the Attenborough Village Hall on the 14th and 15th August 2006 respectively.

Publication of the Scheme Alignment Leaflet raised significant concerns from members of the Attenborough community around the impacts on the Attenborough Village Conservation Area, the Village Green and associated sporting facilities, the Bowls Club and The Strand. As a result we undertook a four month review of our preferred option through the Village which commenced in September 2006. This review was extremely informative and has helped the selection of the preferred flood defence alignment for the Village.

We have prepared this Frequently Asked Questions pamphlet to provide answers to those mostly commonly asked questions. The questions have been grouped together into separate categories for ease of reference.

Flood defence embankment beyond village green (known as 'Option 3')

1. What is alignment Option 3?

The Scheme's Scoping Report, published in November 2005, presented three alignment options for the stretch of proposed defence between St Mary's Church and 51 The Strand, through Attenborough village:

- Alignment H: The replacement of the hedgerow along The Strand with a flood wall
- Alignment I: A flood defence around the Village Green along the edge of the existing brook.
- Alignment J: A flood defence beyond the Village Green along the opposite (outside) edge of the existing brook.

'Option 3' is the flood defence 'Alignment J' presented within the scheme's Scoping Report (November, 2005). This was a flood defence running parallel with the Old River Erewash (the brook), passing through the area known locally as 'the fisherman's car park' and Glebe Field. This area lies within the Attenborough Gravel Pits Nature Reserve which has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This alignment option was presented in the Scoping Report as a flood defence embankment, which we now know would vary in height between 1.9 and 2.5 metres high and have a permanent footprint (landtake) of approximately 20 metres. This option would require sheet piling below the ground to restrict groundwater movement during flood events.

2. Why weren't other types of defence like a wall considered along this alignment?

Both a wall and embankment were originally considered for flood defence alignment option 3 (alignment J). The Scoping Report presented an embankment as the preferred defence type as it has the following advantages over a wall through this stretch:

- Considered to be less visually intrusive in the natural environment
- Provides a greater opportunity for local environmental mitigation measures
- Enables current access arrangements to be maintained

The Scoping Report was a public consultation document inviting comment not just on flood defence alignment, but also defence type. Comment was invited on whether embankments or walls are more appropriate for each new section of flood defence (Scoping Report, Nov 2005; pp 36).

Status of Option 3

3. Is an objection from Natural England (previously English Nature) the only reason for dropping Option 3?

When the Scoping Report was launched in November 2005, we consulted with all of our statutory consultees including:

- Natural England (previously English Nature);
- English Heritage;
- Broxtowe Borough Council;
- Nottinghamshire County Council;
- Attenborough Village Green Association (AVGA); and
- Local residents (Focus Group).

AVGA and the Focus Group supported the proposals for alignment option 3 as did the Built Conservation function of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Natural England (previously English Nature), Nature Conservation function of Nottinghamshire County Council, and English Heritage supported proposals for alignment option 1, which is a flood wall along The Strand.

Those parties who preferred alignment option 1 to alignment option 3 stated the permanent loss of habitat within a SSSI and the existence of viable alternative routes for the flood defence (refer to question 4) as the key reasons for their preference.

4. Why was this alignment option removed?

The following are the reasons why option 3 was not taken forward as the preferred flood defence alignment:

- Although the residents of Attenborough supported option 3, it did not receive the full support of any other statutory stakeholder, including Nottinghamshire County Council, Natural England (previously English Nature), English Heritage or Broxtowe Borough Council. (refer to Question 3).
- Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 9 'Biodiversity and Geological Conservation' recommends that development should not take place within a SSSI where the development is likely to have an adverse effect on the SSSI and there are alternatives for the development. The alignment of option 3 would cause permanent loss of land in a SSSI, with options 1 and 2 both providing alternatives with routes outside the SSSI.
- Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) 25 'Development and Flood Risk', restricts the development within floodplains and where practical encourages floodplains to be used for their natural purpose; storing floodwater. The Attenborough Village Green, although a functional recreational area, is a natural low lying floodplain. Under PPG25, Option 3 is the least favoured as it effectively prevents the flooding of this natural floodplain resulting in more floodwater passing downstream.

The Attenborough Gravel Pits Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

5. What is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are areas of special interest for reason of their flora, fauna or geology. They are England's best wildlife and geological sites and are afforded strong legal protection from damaging development and other activities.

SSSIs also receive strong protection from damaging development in all national, regional and local planning frameworks. Planning policies state that planning permission will not normally be granted where development within is likely to have an adverse effect on its special interest or where alternative options exist (refer to question 4).

Further information on SSSIs can be found on Natural England's (previously English Nature) website at: www.naturalengland.org.uk. Please note that as from the beginning of October 2006, English Nature, the environment activities of the Rural Development Service and the Countryside Agency's Landscape, Access and Recreation division was united to form a single body called, Natural England.

6. What is Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI

Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI is only one of 66 SSSI sites within Nottinghamshire. The East Midlands is a region that has generally suffered the largest decline in wildlife and biodiversity when compared with any other.

Attenborough Gravel Pits covers an area of 220 hectares. It was first notified as a SSSI in 1964 and is one of the largest SSSI's in the county. It comprises of open water, reedswamp, marsh, unimproved meadows, willow carr and wet woodland, all of which are habitats of special value. This is because these support important communities of breeding and wintering birds, which are also of special interest. The wintering population of pochard, shoveler and great crested grebe are of national importance.

Glebe Field Meadow, is the stretch of the SSSI adjacent to the Fisherman's car park. This field is an area of lowland neutral grassland containing a rich community of meadow species including some rare species. It is considered to be an important remnant of Trent meadowland prior to gravel working (refer to Question 7).

Further information on Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSIs can be found on Natural England's website at: www.english-nature.org.uk/special/sssi/sssi_details.cfm?sssi_id=1003408

7. Why is the area behind the village green (including the fisherman's car park) considered to be a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?

The following response was provided by Natural England in their presentation to the Attenborough Community Focus Group on Monday 15th August, 2006.

The boundary of the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI was carefully drawn to include all of the special habitats, as well as the full series of habitats on which the birds depend. The inclusion of small areas of land lacking special interest within the SSSI is often necessary to defend the integrity of the SSSI.

The following are details of the special features which would be adversely affected by a flood wall along alignment 3:

- Glebe Field Meadow – This is a fine example of unimproved damp meadow, which is a nationally rare habitat type, and an important remnant of Trent meadowland prior to gravel working. It has a rich community of meadow plants such as betony, knapweed, devils-bit scabious and rare species such as dropwort.
- The Brook – This is a quiet, un-polluted and slow moving channel. Particularly at the downstream end, it is the best example within the SSSI of a rich community of wetland plants, for example yellow and white water lily, arrowhead and water soldier. It is also home to two specially protected animals; water vole which is a nationally declining species and the otter.
- Fisherman's Car Park – This is not part of the special interest of the SSSI, but it is developing into flower-rich grassland not found elsewhere on the nature reserve. It has also become an important educational site for local school children using the reserve

Flood defence wall along The Strand (alignment option 1)

8. What exactly is alignment option 1?

Option 1 as presented in the Scheme Alignment Leaflet (July 2006) is a slight variation of the flood defence 'Alignment H' presented within the scheme's Scoping Report (November 2005) (refer to Question 1).

Option 1 shows the replacement of the hedgerow along The Strand with a flood wall which is approximately 1.4 metres high. In September 2006 our intention was to pass the flood wall around Attenborough Bowls Club to avoid the existing underground electrical cables. However, further investigations and discussions with Central Networks during Autumn 2006 have now confirmed it is possible to continue the flood wall along The Strand rather than follow the perimeter of the bowling green. This alignment will reduce the impact on the bowling green and avoid separation of the Bowls Club from the cricket pavilion.

As with option 3, sheet piling would also be required below ground to restrict the flow of groundwater during a flood event.

9. A wall on this alignment will not protect the village green / cricket pavilion from flooding. This area is a very important focal point for the whole community.

A flood wall along alignment option 1 will not protect the Village Green or the associated amenities from flooding. However, the proposed flood defences along option 1 would not change the current flood risk to the Village Green area.

10. A wall will change the whole feel of the area. How would the Environment Agency make this scheme fit in with the surroundings?

Due to the location of underground electricity cables, the construction of a wall along The Strand would require the removal of the existing hedgerow. When constructed there would be a distance of approximately 1.5 metres between the foot of the wall and the roadside edge of The Strand. This area is currently a grass verge with wooden bollards.

We would like to discuss with the local community ways in which we would be able to minimise the visual impact of the flood wall. This could include:

- Reinstatement of vegetation along the verge, between the wall and The Strand.
- Raising of a verge on The Strand to reduce the apparent height of the wall when viewed from The Strand.
- Covering of the wall in local stone based cladding in keeping with the conservation area status of the village.

11. There will be a requirement for the removal of a hedgerow. Is this hedgerow protected?

The existing hedgerow running parallel to The Strand acts as an informal boundary for the Village Green area. A recent survey of the hedgerow confirms it contains Hawthorn, Elder, Field Maple, Ash, Ivy and Bramble. The hedgerow does have sizeable gaps but is generally in good condition.

The hedgerow does meet the definition of an 'Ancient and/or species-rich hedgerow' defined by the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), on the grounds that it supports an average of five woody species. Nottinghamshire County Council has stated that it is also known to date back to at least 1835.

Under the Hedgerow Regulations (1997), as the hedgerow is protected, planning permission would be required to undertake any operation that would damage the hedgerow. We will be applying for planning permission for all works undertaken in the Attenborough area.

12. Any wall will encourage graffiti.

Our proposed measures to minimise the visual impact of the flood wall would discourage graffiti (refer to Question 10). This could include cladding the flood wall with local stone and reinstating vegetation in front of it.

Also given the fact that the wall is located close to properties along The Strand and the demographics of those both living and using the area, we feel there is a small risk of graffiti to the wall. There are a number of existing garden and boundary walls along some properties of The Strand. Despite these walls being up to 2 metres in height, they do not appear to suffer from graffiti.

13. The construction of this alignment option would involve major disruption to local residents.

The construction of any of the proposed flood defence alignments will cause some disruption to the Attenborough Village community. This is because regardless of the alignment through the village, improvements are likely to be needed to the current drainage system along The Strand. This is very likely to involve excavation and temporary disruption to this road.

These temporary construction impacts are an inevitable part of building defences to protect people from flooding. We will carefully managing the construction process to minimise the adverse effects on the village. The construction period will be kept as short as possible and we will ensure that access to properties is maintained throughout the duration of the works. We will be liaising closely with all the people affected in order to keep disruption to a minimum.

14. This alignment option will damage the bowling green, can the wall be continued down The Strand instead of going around the green.

The flood wall along The Strand runs parallel to the existing underground electrical cables. The road begins to narrow outside no. 41 The Strand and at this location there is insufficient room to construct the flood along the boundary of the hedgerow without crossing the underground electrical cables. We therefore have to turn the flood wall through 90° outside the Attenborough Bowls Club and run it around the boundary of the bowling green. This effectively provides long term flood protection to the Bowls Club pavilion and it's bowling green.

We felt that the long term benefit of flood protection would be more important to the users of the bowling green than the short term construction impacts. A representative of the bowls club has been included on our Residents Design Review Group to ensure that the constraints in this area are fully considered.

Other Related Issues

15. Option 1 will destroy our Village Green. I therefore support the local 'Save our Village Green' campaign.

Flood defence alignment option 1 would not destroy the Village Green. There would be temporary disruption during construction which is an inevitable part of building defences to protect people from flooding (refer to Question 13) and we would minimise the visual impact of the flood wall (refer to Question 10). However, once complete the flood defences along option 1 would not change the current footprint, usage or flood risk to the Village Green area.

It is likely that, if constructed, option 3 would also involve temporary disturbance to the Village Green and The Strand areas. This is because improvements are likely to be needed to the current drainage system through these areas (refer to Question 13).

16. Can you provide details of the proposals of the defences to the rear of St Mary's Close?

The ground levels in and around St Mary's Close are high enough to act as a natural flood barrier, preventing overland flooding to this area of Attenborough village. Therefore no flood wall is proposed for this area.

However, flooding would still be possible by flood water passing through the underground strata. Therefore to prevent this we intend to effectively build a wall 'beneath ground'. This will be achieved by a technique known as sheet piling. There will be temporary impacts during construction (refer to Question 13), but upon completion there will be no obvious signs of these sheet piles and the area will be reinstated to how it currently looks.

The consultation process

17. Why were the community not consulted about 'option 3' being dropped?

The issue of the Scheme Alignment Leaflet was our opportunity to consult with the Attenborough Community about the proposals for alignment option 3 not being taken forward. We have used this opportunity to assess the communities feeling towards the preferred option before we submitted any formal planning application. The issue of the Scheme Alignment Leaflet, and the associated meetings, has been very successful in demonstrating to us the community's views on the current proposals.

We are now acting on the response and views of the local community.

It was an oversight on our behalf not explaining within the Scheme Alignment Leaflet why Option 3 was not being taken forward. The reasons for it not being presented as the preferred option are explained in the answers to Questions 3 and 4.

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ANNEX E8
Attenborough Village - Fact Sheet

**Confirmation of Flood Defence Alignment being submitted for Planning
January 2007**

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Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme

Flood defence alignment – Attenborough Village

Update January 2007

This leaflet outlines the Environment Agency's preferred alignment for flood defences through Attenborough village as part of the Nottingham Trent left bank Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS). This leaflet has been produced following a four-month design review period including significant consultation with members of the Attenborough community and other statutory consultees to the scheme. This leaflet summarises information that will be presented in the planning application for the scheme, due to be submitted in March 2007.

Managing flood risk in Nottingham

The Environment Agency is committed to managing flood risk in Nottingham. This includes reducing both the likelihood of flooding and the impact of flooding on people and properties when it occurs. Through the Nottingham Trent left bank Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) we have investigated how to best manage flood risk along the left bank of the River Trent in Nottingham. Our proposed solution for Nottingham is to raise existing flood defences and, where required, construct new defences to protect Nottingham from a flood with a 1 in 100 year annual chance of occurrence (or 1% chance of occurring in any given year). The Nottingham Trent left bank FAS involves works in five locations through Nottingham including, Sawley, Trent Meadows, Attenborough, Meadows and Colwick.

Attenborough

In Attenborough there are no existing flood defences. We are proposing to construct a flood defence adjacent to the railway line between Trent Meadows and Rylands, incorporating Attenborough Village.

The selection of the preferred flood defence alignment through Attenborough is challenging, as the human, historic and natural environments present us with a number of constraints. Through Attenborough Village, the alignment options are influenced by the local community, sporting facilities, areas of archaeological importance and the Attenborough Gravel Pits Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

This leaflet focuses on the proposals for the stretch of flood defence in the vicinity of the Attenborough Village Green.

Attenborough Village Green Section

Our original proposals, as outlined in the scheme's environmental Scoping Report (November 2005), presented three alignment options in the vicinity of the Village Green. Comments on the Scoping Report were received from members of the Attenborough community along with other consultees to the scheme.

Following responses to the Scoping Report, we presented our preferred alignment for flood defences in Attenborough Village in our Scheme Alignment Leaflet (July 2006). The leaflet presented two alignment options in the vicinity of the Village Green. Publication of the leaflet raised significant concern from members of the Attenborough community around the impacts on the Attenborough Village Conservation Area, the Village Green and associated sporting facilities, the Bowls Club and The Strand.

As a result, we undertook a review of our preferred option through Attenborough Village commencing in September 2006. During this review period we considered submissions from the following consultees:

- Attenborough Village residents (including residents of The Strand, representatives of the Village Green Association, Cricket Club and Bowls Club)
- Broxtowe Borough Council - Planning Department
- Nottinghamshire County Council – Landscape, Nature Conservation, and Built Conservation specialists
- Natural England
- CEMEX
- Environment Agency technical specialists

Discussions held during this design review period have informed the proposals outlined in this leaflet.

Our Proposals

In March 2007 we intend to submit a planning application to Broxtowe Borough Council for the Attenborough part of the Nottingham Trent left bank FAS. Outlined below is a summary of the proposals that will be submitted for the section of the flood defence in the vicinity of Attenborough Village Green.

Wall Alignment

Throughout the development of the scheme concerns were raised by members of the Attenborough community regarding the alignment of the defence in this stretch. We have reviewed our earlier proposals and undertaken significant consultation with local residents, local authority representatives and other stakeholders to the scheme.

Following this consultation, our preferred option is still a flood wall along The Strand. This is principally because this option conforms to planning policy guidance as outlined in the previously issued 'Frequently Asked Questions' pamphlet. However, as a result of the concerns raised we have altered the wall alignment, such that it continues along The Strand to the northern extent, rather than following the perimeter of the bowling green. At the end of

The Strand, the wall would turn west around number 51 The Strand and continue towards the railway line. (Refer Figure 1). This alignment has been proposed to reduce the impact on the bowling green and avoid separation of the Bowls Club from the cricket pavilion. Both were issues raised by the Attenborough community. It will also reduce construction impacts to the bowling green and the brook and reduce the overall length of the defence in this stretch.

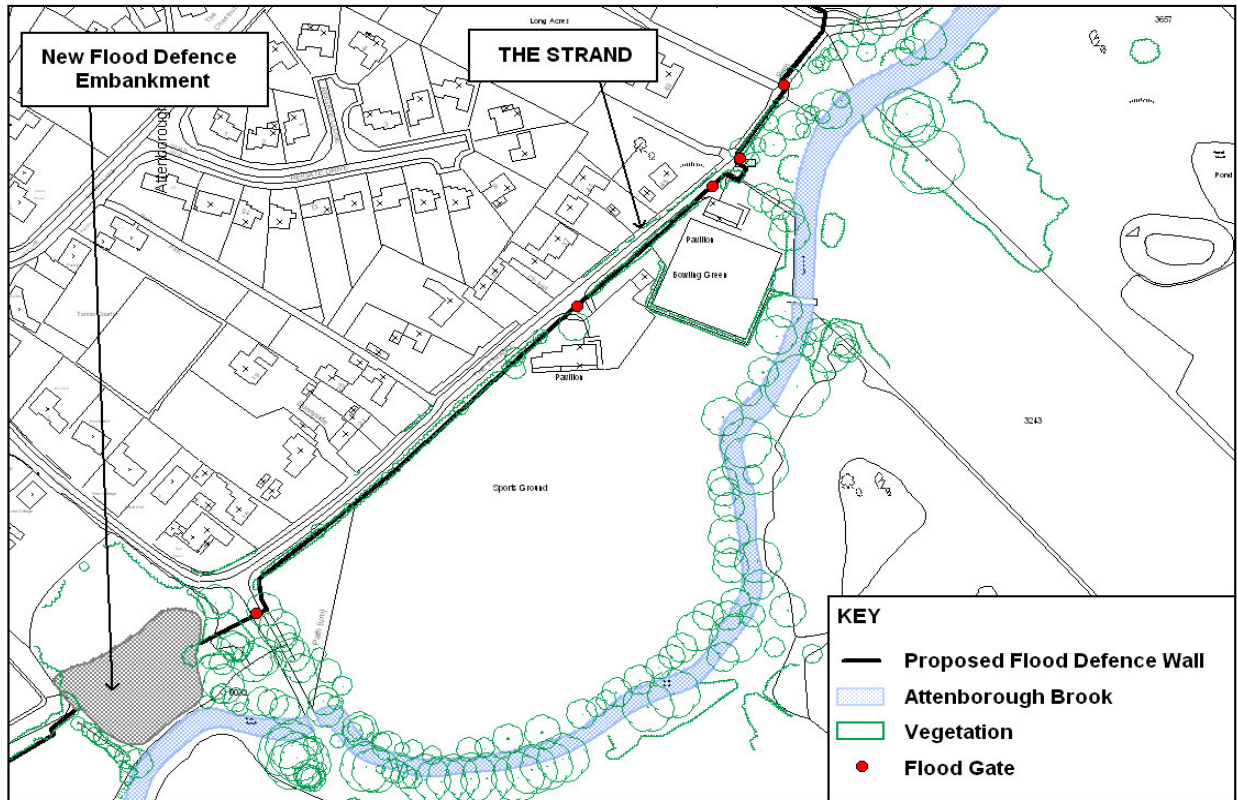


Figure 1 – Flood defence alignment along The Strand

Wall Height

The height of the flood wall above current ground level would vary along the length of The Strand between 1.2m (3ft 11in) and 1.6m (5ft 3in). We propose raising the ground level on the Village side of the wall by approximately 0.2m to reduce the apparent height of the wall from The Strand side.

Location	Height above current ground level (viewed from The Strand)	Height with ground re-profiling (viewed from The Strand)
Height at corner of Strand	1.4m to 1.6m	1.2m to 1.4m
Height at Pavilion	1.2m to 1.3m	1.0m to 1.1m
Height at Bowls club	1.3m to 1.6m	1.1m to 1.4m
Height at northern end	approximately 1.5m	approximately 1.3m

Wall Finish

The wall would be clad in material to be agreed with the local planning authority. The cladding would be chosen to be in keeping with the characteristics of the Attenborough Village Conservation Area. It is likely to be a locally sourced stone as represented in Figure 2.

Landscaping

Between the access to the fisherman's car park and the pavilion car park, appropriate planting would be reinstated on the Village side of the wall in a margin (approximately 1.5m) between the wall and The Strand. There would be a gap between the wall and the planting to allow access to inspect and maintain the wall. This planting is likely to be a hedgerow of native species. This vegetation would act to visually screen the wall from The Strand. The landscaping would be covered by a five-year maintenance contract to ensure it establishes successfully.

Between the pavilion car park and number 49 The Strand, a grass verge would be reinstated on the Village side of the wall.



Figure 2 – Visual representation of the flood defence along The Strand upon completion

Flood Gates

Flood gates would be built into the wall to allow access to the fisherman's car park, the cricket/football pavilion, the Bowls Club and private residences. The proposed flood gates would have the following dimensions.

Location	Height	Width
Access to fisherman's car park	1.8m	4m
Access to Pavilion	1.6m	8m
Access to Bowls club	1.4m	8m
Access at 49 The Strand	1.5m	1m
Access to Nature Reserve	1.5m	2m

Construction Impacts

General construction impacts

The construction of the flood defence would involve temporary disturbance to residents on The Strand, users of the Village Green and Bowls Club and visitors to the area. The general construction impacts are likely to be localised noise, vibration and disruption of access to properties. The scale and nature of these impacts will be presented in detail in the Environmental Statement for the scheme that will accompany the planning application. During the detailed design stage we would work closely with the residents and users of The Strand to manage and minimise the construction impacts.

Sheet piling

The ground conditions underlying Attenborough Village are predominately gravels. As a result, during flood conditions, flood water can freely pass through the underground strata. To prevent this we intend to create a barrier beneath ground by sheet piling. The impacts of sheet piling are localised noise and vibration, the extent of which will be presented in the Environmental Statement.

Drainage improvements

The design for the flood defence scheme would consider the removal of surface water that may build up on the 'dry' side of the defence during times of flood. To accommodate this, drainage improvements will be needed along The Strand to remove surface water to a small pumping station, which would be located below ground level.

The Way Forward

The Environment Agency has permitted development rights to carry out a significant proportion of our flood defence duties. These permissive powers can extend to flood defence works. However, due to the nature of the works at Attenborough, we will be applying to the local planning authority (Broxtowe Borough Council) for planning permission.

The Nottingham Trent left bank FAS planning applications will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement, which will contain details of the design, the likely impacts and proposed mitigation. The Statement will contain an appendix dealing specifically with the Attenborough area. Once our planning application is submitted, Broxtowe Borough Council will formally advertise the scheme. Any comments you would like to make on the scheme should be directed to Broxtowe Borough Council planning department at this time.

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

**Then call us on
08708 506 506 (Mon-Fri 8-6)**

email

enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

or visit our website

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

**incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 (24hrs)
floodline 0845 988 1188**

ANNEX E9
April 2007 Environmental Statement Responses

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Table EE9.1 Consultee Responses on April 2007 Environmental Statement

Name	Organisation	Area of Interest	Key Points
Planning Officer	Gedling Borough Council	Gedling Borough	Have concerns regarding the increase in number of properties below Nottingham at risk from flooding and believes that defence works in these villages should be undertaken before the FAS is completed. Improvements to the footpath and cycle links through the Colwick reach should be investigated.
Secretary	Gunthorpe Flood Alleviation Group	Gunthorpe	Submits a holding objection to the scheme. Application fails to meet the requirements of PPS25 – Mitigation of Detrimental Effect. The ES does not address mitigation for the increase risk of flooding to villages below Nottingham.
Chair	Burton Joyce Residents Association	Burton Joyce	Suggested mitigation for the increased flood risk to villages below Nottingham includes completely separate schemes to the FAS. They think that to refer to them is irrelevant and misleading. The figures for the number of properties that will benefit from an improved standard of flood defence as a result of the FAS have been calculated in a completely different basis from the figures for the number of properties that will be at additional flooding risk as a result of the FAS. There has been a complete lack of meaningful consultation with the downstream villagers and no updates to the Burton Joyce Parish Council especially with regards to the timing of planning applications. Mitigation for the adverse impacts to the downstream village should be included as part of the scheme and should not be the subject of a separate programme.
Acting Planning Manager	Nottinghamshire County Council	Nottinghamshire	The County Council supports and welcomes the overall scheme however, is concerned with regards to the increase in localised flood risk to the surrounding communities. Concern that the although the ES addresses mitigation proposal as specified in PPS25, they are only proposals and in many cases further study will be required to finalise them. This does not offer great assurances to communities which might be at greater risk.
Project Manager	OnTrent	All	Would like as much habitat creation and protection as possible. OnTrent fully supports the specification set down by NE and NWT in term of mitigation at Attenborough. OnTrent would like to be kept informed of any progress on habitat enhancement on any other areas of land near the Trent. The appearance of the flood walls are very important and should be as unobtrusive as possible. Thought should be given to using imaginative designs and attractive materials.
Chairman	Campaign to Protect Rural England	All	Opposed to the flood defence. Wall along the Strand in Attenborough will destroy an existing mature hedge, views to the residents will be destroyed and it will be difficult for them to access their homes among other negative consequences. A bank defence (Option 3) would be better environmentally and socially.
Planner	British Waterways (BW)	Beeston Canal	Several detailed design comments. Closures/any restrictions of the canal/towpath will need to be discussed with BW and not be over the Christmas period. Working hour restrictions will need to be considered considering the amenity of those in the area.

Chairman	Attenborough Village Green Association (AVGA)	Attenborough	Surprised that the AVGA was not included on the Schedule of Landowners in the Agency's planning application. The Green is not owned by Cemex as shown in the ES rather it is vested in trustees. The AVGA had never heard of the improvements to the Green proposed in the ES.
Directors	Beeston Marina Ltd	Beeston	Astonished that the Environment Agency has decided not to protect the marina and mobile home site. Believe that the residents of Attenborough and the villages north of the railway line are getting unfair sway in decisions.
Technical Operations Manager	British Waterways Marinas Ltd	Sawley	The scheme to raise the flood banks to the south of Sawley Village will have a serious effect on their business. The site is the largest inland marina in the UK with over 600 berths, some of which are residential.
Clerk	Hoveringham Parish Council	Hoveringham	Concern over increased flood risk to downstream villages. The ES does not contain detailed assurances of aid or mitigation for downstream villages as part of the planning application.
Development Manager	Groundwork Greater Nottingham	All	The ES does not confirm that there is a definite intention to provide a route for cyclists and walkers all the way along the edge of Colwick Industrial Estate. Pleased that the ES has incorporated creating many footpaths and walkways.
Residents		All	<p>Increase mosquitoes from reedbed creation in Attenborough especially with the predicted effects of global warming.</p> <p>Concerns over access to the ponds for fisherman and ensuring that the reedbed creation areas do not become recreational parks.</p> <p>Increase risk of flooding to downstream villages is a major concern</p> <p>Annoyance that the views of Attenborough Village residents have been ignored compared to the views raised by nature conservation organisations.</p> <p>The application was not registered with Broxtowe Borough Council when the letter advising people that the planning application was submitted.</p> <p>Concerns that creating footpaths and walls may also create new ways for thieves to enter residents' properties.</p> <p>Plus many responses concerning impacts on individual's private property.</p> <p>The material in the ES is too much and the definitions of floods are too complex for a layman to understand.</p> <p>The ES makes no rational assessment of the human cost or risk.</p>

ANNEX E10
Attenborough Village Newsletter – September 2008

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Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme at The Strand, Attenborough

Purpose of the scheme

The Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation scheme stretches for some 27km from the M1 at Sawley to the Radcliffe Viaduct at Colwick. When completed the scheme will reduce the flood risk to approximately 16,000 properties in the Nottingham area. This newsletter provides information on the scheme as it runs through Attenborough.

What has happened since the first planning application?

Our original planning application for the works around Attenborough was withdrawn in November 2007 because new information became available regarding predicted flood levels for Nottingham. This will require a change in the height of the proposed flood defences at Attenborough, but not as much as we initially predicted in April 2008. We plan to re-submit our planning application to Broxtowe Borough Council in October 2008.

What has changed?

We have listened to the concerns raised by local residents about our original design of the flood wall and have amended our designs (see below). The floodwall will still be constructed along the existing hedge boundary between The Strand and the village green. After reinstatement of The Strand the new wall will be approximately 1.5m high when viewed from the village side and 2m high on the village green side.

What are we doing to reduce the impacts of the new wall?

We have listened to the concerns raised about our original design and made changes to reduce the visual impact. Measures proposed include:

- Raising the level of the road to reduce the relative height of the wall to pedestrians
- Sensitive re-planting and landscaping, including planting a hedge to shield views of the wall
- Use of natural stone cladding
- On the village green side of the wall we are looking at including a seating arrangement with some raised flower beds to help soften the appearance and improve the amenity value of this area.

We are also interested in considering the possibility of introducing a residents-only parking scheme along The Strand and including width restrictions e.g. 'pinch-points' to help manage such a scheme. Adjusted road widths would provide opportunities for the planting of a few trees along the road to help reinstate the existing character of the street.

Public Meeting

We hope that our proposed design changes will add a benefit to the existing setting, as well as providing an important flood risk management function. We are keen to hear your views on how we should reinstate The Strand and ideas for any other local enhancements for the benefit of local residents and users of its amenities. Where possible suggestions will be included in our scheme before we re-submit for planning in October 2008.

We would be pleased to hear your views at a public meeting on **Monday 15th September** from **7.30pm – 10pm** at the **Village Hotel, Attenborough**. If you are unable to attend this meeting please send us your comments to:

Dave Bartram
Nottingham Flood Alleviation Scheme
Environment Agency
Olton Court
10 Warwick Road
Solihull, B92 7HX

Nottingham.FAS@environment-agency.gov.uk

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ANNEX E11
Attenborough FAQ's – October 2008

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Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme

Attenborough

Frequently Asked Questions

October 2008

Introduction

Although it will never be possible to prevent flooding entirely, the Environment Agency are committed to managing flood risk throughout Nottingham. Through the Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme (Nottingham Trent Left Bank FAS) we intend to improve the standard of protection along the 27 kilometres of the Trent's left (north) bank through the city. Our solution is to either raise existing or construct new flood defences which will result in over 16,000 properties benefiting from an increased level of flood protection.

The Nottingham Trent Left Bank scheme has been developed as part of our strategy to reduce flood risk in Nottingham. We have already completed the new £11m flood defences in West Bridgford and the Left Bank scheme has already gained planning permission from Erewash Borough Council.

We are preparing a planning application for Broxtowe Borough Council to proceed with this flood alleviation project. On the 15 September 2008 we met with members of the community about our proposals. In response to the matters that were raised we would like to take the opportunity to provide further information on the alignment and we have updated the frequently asked question (FAQ) leaflet originally issued in September 2006.

This updated FAQ leaflet therefore details the status of the Environment Agency's preferred alignment, along The Strand in Attenborough. It also addresses a number of new questions which were not covered in 2006, including antisocial behaviour, the responsibility of the floodgates during a flood event and the benefits for keeping the village green as part of the floodplain. The questions have been separated in to sections for ease of reference. The first of these sections looks at what is our chosen option, the reasons why it is the preferred choice, its current status and answers a number of common questions. Section two details why alternative options were dropped, section three considers issues relating to the SSSI and section four deals with other related issues.

Section 1: Flood defence wall along The Strand

1) What is our chosen alignment ?

The Scheme's Scoping Report, published in November 2005, presented three alignment options for the stretch of proposed defence between St Mary's Church and 51 The Strand, through Attenborough village:

- Alignment H: The replacement of the hedgerow along The Strand with a flood wall.
- Alignment I: A flood defence around the Village Green along the edge of the existing brook.
- Alignment J: A flood defence beyond the Village Green along the opposite (outside) edge of the existing brook.

Our chosen option is a slight variation of the flood defence 'Alignment H' which was presented in the Scheme Alignment Leaflet (July 2006). This option involves the replacement of the hedgerow along The Strand with a flood wall which when viewed from the Strand will appear to be 1.5 metres high. Sheet piling will also be required below ground to restrict the flow of groundwater during a flood event.

There are two changes from the option presented in July 2006 and now, which are:

- a) the slight increase in height as a result of revised flood modelling. In November 2007 a more sophisticated approach to flood modelling became available to us following the preparation of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Nottingham. The new model showed that predicted flood levels in some locations are higher than we had anticipated and therefore we needed to change the design of our proposed defences. The new information requires a change in the height of the proposed flood defences at Attenborough, but not as much as we initially predicted in April 2008. The height increase is now only 200mm over the initial planning application. For interest this is 200mm below the level shown on the mock up board on the Strand with a final level of 28.13m AOD.
- b) the raising of the road to reduce the relative height of the wall and improve its appearance.

The floodwall will still be constructed along the existing hedge boundary between The Strand and the village green. After reinstatement of The Strand the new wall will be approximately 1.5m high when viewed from the village side and 2m high on the village green side

2) What is the current status of our chosen option?

We will be submitting a new planning application, based on the alignment along the Strand, to Broxtowe Borough Council at the end of October 2008.

3) Why is the village green continuing to be included as a flood storage area?

Although the Village Green is used as a recreational area it is a natural low lying part of the floodplain. The floodplain stores water during flood events, reducing the impact of flooding for homes and businesses and acting as a natural flood defence. Reducing the capacity of the floodplain pushes floodwater elsewhere, increasing flood risk for others. Preserving existing floodplain is an important principle in managing flood risk and so natural floodplain is protected by national planning policy. Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 25 (Development and Flood Risk) encourages the 're-creation of functional floodplains and the setting back of defences'.

4) In the material presented to the public why has the EA not provided a visualisation of the cricket pitch under flood?

Flooding of the cricket pitch is a regular occurrence (most recently June 2007) and most people in the village have seen this first hand. The proposed floodwall will not alter the frequency or duration of flooding.

5) A wall on this alignment will not protect the village green, cricket pavilion and bowls pavilion from flooding. This area is a very important focal point for the whole community.

A flood wall along The Strand will not protect the Village Green or the associated amenities from flooding but neither will it make the situation any worse.

6) This alignment option will disrupt the Attenborough Football Club, Bowling Green and Attenborough Cricket Club.

During the construction phase there will be periods when the village green will not be available for sporting activities. The details and duration of these periods will be made available once a detailed plan of construction has been drafted. These construction plans will be completed following consultation with local residents, associated groups and representatives to minimise impacts and disruptions.

7) How are the cricket and bowls club to get insurance?

The flood defences will not change the flood risk to the cricket and bowls clubs, so existing arrangements should be able to continue. However both clubs have been built in the floodplain and insurance against flooding will always be difficult.

8) This alignment option will disrupt village activities such as the annual village fete.

The proposed works will where possible consider the village calendar to minimise disruption to the annual village festivals and similar events.

9) Who will be responsible for the operation of the flood gates

The Environment Agency will be responsible for the operation of the flood gates before, during and after a flood event.

10) Will the vibration affect my home?

We will carry out full condition surveys of all properties within 20m of the piling before we start work. While the work is being undertaken we will continuously monitor levels of noise and vibration. We have a number of options for how the piling is undertaken and the noise, vibration and duration is different with each. We will balance each of these to select the method that will minimise the risk of damage or disturbance to property resulting from the construction process.

11) There will be a requirement for the removal of a hedgerow. Is this hedgerow protected?

The existing hedgerow running parallel to The Strand acts as an informal boundary for the Village Green area. A recent survey of the hedgerow confirms it contains Hawthorn, Elder, Field Maple, Ash, Ivy and Bramble and whilst the hedgerow does have sizeable gaps it is generally in good condition. This meets the definition of an 'Ancient and/or species rich Hedgerow' under the UK BAP however does not meet the criteria of biological importance of the Hedgerow Regulations.

12) A wall will change the whole feel of the area. How will the Environment Agency make this scheme fit in with the surroundings?

Due to the location of underground electricity cables, the construction of a wall along The Strand will require the removal of the existing hedgerow. Our plans for the reinstatement of The Strand were shown as photo visualisations at the public exhibition on September 15th but briefly consist of:

- a) Raising the existing road level to minimise the visual height of the wall.
- b) Cladding of the wall with natural stone to blend in with other nearby stone walls
- c) Replanting of the hedge with semi mature plants in front of the new wall.
- d) Planting of trees where space allows
- e) Replacement of existing street lighting with heritage models.

13) The visual representation of the wall along the strand is misleading. A hedge will be unable to establish given the aspect and proximity to the new wall.

We believe that the visual representation of the wall given on September 15th and shown in the Environmental Statement Non Technical Summary, represents a reasonable and realistic impression of the flood wall along The Strand after completion. By careful selection of hedge species, the use of semi mature plants and good maintenance we are confident we can overcome difficulties with establishing a hedge alongside the wall in the shade. The wall will be clad on this face to reduce the visual impact while the hedge is establishing.

14) The visualisations are poor and misleading – why is the height of the cricket club wall much higher than shown?

Visualisations are designed to give an impression of what the finished scheme will look like, they will not take the place of accurate engineering drawings but for many are easier to understand. Some problems with distance perspective were evident in the visualisation and have now been changed. Overall they helped people understand what we are trying to achieve.

15) The wall will create a barrier between the green and the rest of the village. How will the Environment Agency overcome this?

The flood wall will include a number of flood gates that will permit access between The Strand and the village green.

16) The wall may encourage graffiti.

Our proposed measures to minimise the visual impact of the flood wall will discourage graffiti. The measures will include cladding the flood wall with local stone and reinstating vegetation in front of it.

Furthermore the wall is located close to properties along The Strand and the demographics of those both living and using the area, mean that we feel there is a small risk of graffiti to the wall. There are a number of existing garden and boundary walls along some properties of The Strand and they do not appear to suffer from graffiti.

17) The chosen option will obstruct the view of the village green encouraging antisocial and criminal behaviour making the area unsafe.

The height of the wall will be slightly higher than that of the existing hedgerow that it replaces and whilst the wall will not have gaps, currently found in the hedgerow, there is no reason to suggest it will promote antisocial or criminal activity.

If the Broxtowe Borough Council consider the development likely to cause antisocial or criminal activity they may choose to consult the police.

18) The construction of this alignment option would involve major disruption to local residents.

The construction of any of the proposed flood defence alignments will cause some disruption to the Attenborough Village community. This is regardless of the alignment through the village, and improvements will be needed to the current drainage system along The Strand. This will involve excavation and temporary disruption to this road. Disruption to any utility services will be notified well in advance and we will liaise with residents, the school, local businesses and users of recreational sites over the nature and timing of any such works.

These temporary construction impacts are an inevitable part of building defences to protect people from flooding. We will be carefully managing the construction process to minimise the adverse effects on the village. The construction period will be kept as short as possible and we will ensure that access to property is maintained throughout the duration of the works although there will be periods through the working day where access by vehicles will not be possible. When it is necessary we will provide alternative parking until the particular operation has been completed. Machinery will be located as far away from property as possible and measures to reduce the noise put in place. We will be liaising closely with all the people affected in order to keep disruption to a minimum.

19) How will the road raising affect my property?

The raising of the road will have little effect on drives that currently front onto the Strand. The amount of road raising required to bring the visual height of the wall to 1.5m is between 200 and 400mm depending on existing levels. This height difference drops as you move away from the proposed flood wall and disappears as you reach the back of the existing footway. Both the road and the footpath will be fully reinstated.

20) Will there be a turning circle at the end of the strand to stop lorries having to reverse?

There are no plans to create a turning circle at the end of The Strand.

21) The construction works will significantly impact access to the school, disrupt lessons and remove an area of play and physical education during construction.

We anticipate that access to The Strand may be restricted for several months, however access routes to the school will be made available including suitable guarding and signage to ensure the safety of children and parents arriving and leaving the school.

Temporary construction impacts are an inevitable part of building defences to protect people from flooding and we will be carefully managing the construction process to minimise any impacts on the school and its pupils (refer to question 18).

We are reviewing the possibilities to engage with the school during the construction period.

Access to part of the village green for physical education and play will still be possible during construction although the available area and access routes will be restricted.

22) The route along The Strand will destroy the Village Green.

The new flood defences will not destroy the Village Green but there will be temporary disruption during construction. This is an inevitable part of building defences to protect people from flooding (refer to Question 18) and we will minimise the visual impact of the flood wall (refer to Questions 12 and 13). Once complete the flood defences along The Strand not change the current usage or flood risk to the Village Green area.

23) What happens to flash flood water on the dry side of the wall?

Part of the scheme is to improve the current surface water drainage system in the village. The exiting surface water pipe work will be diverted to a new underground pumping station which will operate during a flood. Water will then be pumped over the defences to prevent any build up behind.

24) Flooding in 2000 came up from existing drains. What is the solution to stop this reoccurring?

In November 2000 several outfalls into the River Trent did not have flaps fitted to them, this caused flood water to back up the connecting pipes and come out in the village. Since then all outfalls have had flaps fitted and valves installed in manholes to allow the pipes to be shut off. These works when combined with the proposed underground pumping station will greatly reduce the risk of flooding from drains.

25) What about flooding from the River Erewash?

The proposed flood defences have been designed to reduce the risk of flooding from both the River Trent and River Erewash.

26) The north west corner of the village green needs an extra flood gate?

The existing gate in the North West Corner of the Village Green will be moved slightly and incorporated into the flood gate that is required for the access to the Fisherman's Car park.

27) Will the existing space needed for the cricket (40m boundary) and football (100 yard pitch and 2m behind goal) pitches be retained?

There will be no encroachment on the existing cricket or football pitches.

28) How long will the cricket pitch be unusable?

The cricket pitch is affected by both the working area and the need to provide alternative access and parking. As a minimum one cricket season will be affected but this will depend on the start date and the service diversions. In addition it relies on the pitch having sufficient time to settle following reinstatement before the start of the season. During the detailed design process we will be working with the Cricket Club to ensure that our impact is minimised. Any reinstatement of the pitch will be to at least existing standards.

Section 2: Flood defence embankment beyond village green

29) Why are we not going around the village green through fisherman's car park ?

We have a statutory duty to ensure that in exercising our functions we avoid or minimise adverse effects on an SSSI. Further, wherever possible we must take positive steps to conserve and enhance the special interest features of an SSSI where their activities may be affecting it.

Planning Policy Statement 9 'Biodiversity and Geological Conservation' recommends that development should not take place within a SSSI, where there are alternative options.

This means that where granting planning permission would result in significant harm to those biodiversity & geological conservation interests, local planning authorities will need to be satisfied that the development cannot reasonably be located on any alternative sites that would result in less or no harm.

An embankment in the SSSI, would be approximately 3 metres high and have a permanent footprint (land take) of approximately 21 metres. This option would require sheet piling below the ground to restrict groundwater movement during flood events. Natural England maintain that the alignment through the SSSI will result in significant damage to the interests of the site. As the responsible authority we are following their advice as well as complying with our own statutory duty.

Further, the protection of the village green is counter to Planning policy Statement 25 'Development and flood Risk' and 'Making Space for Water'. Therefore in principle we would not favour a route that protects open flood plain. (see question 3)

30) Is an objection from Natural England the only reason for dropping the route through the SSSI?

When the Scoping Report was launched in November 2005, we consulted with all of our statutory consultees including:

- Natural England,
- English Heritage,
- Broxtowe Borough Council,
- Nottinghamshire County Council,
- Attenborough Village Green Association (AVGA), and
- Local residents (Focus Group).

AVGA and the Focus Group supported the proposals for the alignment through the SSSI as did the Built Conservation function of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Natural England (formerly English Nature), the Nature Conservation function of Nottinghamshire County Council, English Heritage, and Broxtowe Borough Council Section Engineer all supported proposals for the flood wall along The Strand.

Those parties who preferred the route along The Strand over an alignment through the SSSI, stated the permanent loss of habitat within a SSSI and the existence of viable alternative routes for the flood defence as the key reasons for their preference.

31) What evidence do we have that the alignment along the Strand is the right option ? Why have we discounted the other options ?

There was a lot of work done in 2006 to look at the viability of alternatives to going along the Strand. This is documented in the Scoping Report (November 2005) and then the Scheme Alignment Leaflet (August 2006) and Alignment Fact sheet (January 2007). The work that we did included:-

- Ecological surveys of the Attenborough Hedgerow
- Consultation with the local community (including forming an Attenborough Steering Group)
- Consultation with Statutory Consultees including Natural England
- A technical appraisal of alignment options

Following the revised flood levels we re-considered the options available to us including going behind the properties in the Strand and going along the boundary of the properties. The options were considered in an internal options report and further discussion was undertaken with Broxtowe Council, Natural England and some residents. We also undertook a survey of the height of the ground behind the Strand.

This work included checking whether the alignment through the fisherman's car park was preferable to the route along the Strand. Due to the fact that the fisherman's car park alignment is closer to the River Trent the height of the defence increases even further and would be approximately three metres high. This would increase the footprint of the defence and increase the impact on the SSSI. Therefore, we are still proposing a preferred alignment along the Strand.

Section 3: The Attenborough Gravel Pits Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

32) Why is the area behind the village green (including the fisherman's car park) considered to be a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?

The boundary of the Attenborough Gravel Pits SSSI was carefully drawn to include all of the special habitats, as well as the full series of habitats on which the birds depend. The inclusion of small areas of land lacking special interest within the SSSI is often necessary to defend the integrity of the SSSI.

The following are details of the special features that would be adversely affected by a flood defence through the SSSI:

- Glebe Field Meadow – This is a fine example of unimproved damp meadow, which is a nationally rare habitat type, and an important remnant of Trent meadowland prior to gravel working. It has a rich community of meadow plants such as betony, knapweed, devils-bit scabious and rare species such as dropwort. We acknowledge that there is an option for going through the Fisherman's Car Park but then avoiding Glebe Field by crossing the Brook.

- The Brook – This is a quiet, un-polluted and slow moving channel. It is the best example within the SSSI of a rich community of wetland plant, for example yellow and white water lily, arrowhead and water soldier. Standing open water including the Brook is part of the revised notification for the site advertised for consultation by Natural England in July 2008. We can improve the biodiversity value of the channel and this is why we are proposing to undertake enhancement works to the Brook.
- Fisherman’s car park – This is not part of the special interest of the SSSI, but it is developing into flower-rich grassland not found elsewhere on the nature reserve. It has also become an important educational site for local school children using the reserve.
- The lakes that form part of the SSSI – Standing open water bodies (with emerging fringe vegetation) is part of the revised notification for the site advertised by Natural England in July 2008.
- Passerine Bird Breeding habitat including records of Song thrush, Willow warbler and Bullfinch.
- Invertebrate habitat – For example, habitat for butterflies and moths

33) If the Car park is a SSSI why has it been used as a store for previous construction activity and is going to be used as a compound for the proposed flood defence?

Our compound will only use the existing hard standing areas of the car park. The impact on the SSSI of locating the small construction compound in the car park will be minimal. Considerable care will be taken to avoid areas in the car park that have special biological and environment interest.

The decision to use of the car park as the site of a compound was made in part to ensure the minimal disruption to the residents of Attenborough during construction.

34) Why can’t the embankment be built as it would soon be overgrown providing a habitat for wildlife?

Flood embankments are engineered structures which require regular mowing and maintenance to prevent woody plants and trees establishing themselves and causing damage. They are relatively sterile in terms of habitat other than the potential to sow with a wild flower mix. The presence of an embankment would not compensate for the loss of a 21 metre wide corridor through the SSSI.

35) Why is the brook being dredged?

The Environment Agency has a statutory duty to protect and enhance the local environment. We are proposing to do enhancements throughout the Nottingham Left Bank FAS project area as part of the scheme. One such enhancement includes the de-silting of the brook that will improve the flow of water and water quality for flora and fauna.

Section 4: Other Related Issues

36) What will happen to funding of the scheme if the application is refused?

If we are not successful in gaining planning permission, we will appeal against the decision but it is likely that our funding would be diverted to other flood defence projects whilst the problems are solved. Nottingham is a very cost effective scheme with a high priority and compares well to other large flood defence scheme. However we would have to effectively rejoin the queue for funding and we could not guarantee how soon this would be available again.

37) Will there be access to foot crossings across the railway line?

There are no plans to alter any pedestrian access across the railway line.

38) Will the wells be monitored?

We have an existing network of groundwater monitoring wells which were installed to inform the design of the sheet piling, these will continue to be monitored to assess any adverse impact of the sheet piling on ground water flows.

39) How often will the road have to be painted to keep the colour?

The coloured road surface was not paint but coloured tarmac, this is commonly used through out the construction industry and although more expensive produces good long lasting results.

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ANNEX E12
Newsletter Feedback – October 2008

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Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation Scheme

Feedback from the 15 September 2008

Purpose

The Nottingham Trent Left Bank Flood Alleviation scheme stretches for 27km from the M1 at Sawley to the Radcliffe Viaduct at Colwick. When completed the scheme will reduce the flood risk to approximately 16,000 properties in the Nottingham area. On the 15th September we met with members of the public at the Village Hotel to discuss our proposals for Attenborough. This newsletter is to provide a summary of the responses we received and inform you about how we are moving forward.

To accompany this newsletter we have also produced a Frequently Asked Questions document to address a number of common issues.

Public Meeting - 15 September

The public meeting was an invitation to hear views on how we should reinstate The Strand and ideas for any other local enhancements.

We presented our proposals for reducing flood risk to Attenborough under five topics:

- Flood Risk Management: the need for the scheme.
- Overview of the proposals for Attenborough.
- Hard landscaping proposals including road finishes, parking and cladding of the wall.
- Soft landscaping including replanting.
- Construction Impacts.

Approximately two hundred members of the public attended and we obtained a lot of useful comments about what we were proposing to do. We received one hundred and fifty feedback forms and additional comments that were put on post it notes and on the materials on display.

The comments about our reinstatement plans for The Strand have been useful and we provide a summary of the responses below. We did also receive a number of comments about the alignment of the route. We provide further clarity below on our position in relation to our chosen alignment.

Summary of landscape responses

The aim of the evening was to obtain feedback on reinstating The Strand in a way that was in keeping with the surroundings.

Parking proposals: Of the respondents, 47% were in favour of restricted parking and 53% against. Since the

meeting we have investigated further with the Highways Authority and based on this and the response we received, so we will not be pursuing this option.

Traffic management proposals: Only 32% of all respondents were in favour of such an idea. However, we have looked specifically at the responses for the residents who live along the Strand. For this reduced sample 50% were in favour of the traffic management proposal, and the remaining 50% did not express an opinion either in favour or against the idea.

The traffic management options, such as width restrictions, provide opportunities for improved soft landscaping through for example, additional tree planting. We believe this will be sympathetic to the local character of the Strand. As there is some support from the residents directly affected we are continuing to look at how traffic management may be implemented and practical matters raised during the public meeting such as Emergency Access.

Seating: Of the responses we received commenting on our proposals for seating along the cricket pitch 40% were in favour and indicated that it would be beneficial for people using the site. 38% did not support the proposed seating with several indicating that it was unnecessary. A further 11% of the responses highlighted the need to liaise with the cricket club regarding the plans and future maintenance. The remainder of the comments addressed specific matters including increasing the amount of replanting instead of seating and anti-social behaviour.

Planting: 53 % of respondents said that mitigation planting was a positive proposal. 22% of the responses were unfavourable with comments including that it was window dressing and irrelevant. 16% raised questions about how the planting would be maintained and whether there was sufficient room to implement the reinstatement shown on the visualisation. Following this feedback we are proceeding with the reinstatement planting proposals. There is support for this reinstatement and it is essential to mitigate for the removal of the hedgerow along the Strand. The space available for these measures is addressed below.

In addition to the above questions the following matters were also raised through the event:-

Road Raising: Some concerns were raised about the effect of road raising on front boundaries and drives.

Effects will be minimal due to the small change required and all roads and footways will be fully reinstated.

Space available for the landscaping measures: Respondents indicated that there was not enough space to implement the proposals shown on the visualisations without impacting on the edge of the cricket pitch. There is sufficient width to accommodate the wall and replacement hedge within the foliage of the existing hedge. However the proposed seating and planting boxes shown on the pitch side, would take the place of the existing wooden benches.

Colour of road surfacing: a number of comments were received regarding the finish of the road surface and the light colour of the road. The colouring was intended to show how the finish to the road surface could be used to support the Conservation Area setting and was discussed with Officers at Broxtowe Council. We are open to suggestions about whether an alternative finish would be more suitable. The final finish will need to be agreed with Broxtowe Council before the works commence.

Visual impact of the wall: We received some comments about a fault with the perspective of the cricket pitch visualisation. We have revised this and it is shown below:-



Summary of construction responses

Many of the comments put on the feedback forms related to the construction work; in particular concerns there may be a detrimental impact on the cricket pitch and the wider community.

When we have finished construction, the risk of flooding to the cricket ground will not be significantly worse than it is at present. The cricket pitch is within the flood plain and currently it floods at around a 1 in 2 year flood event. The construction of the Nottingham Flood Alleviation Scheme will not alter the onset at which flooding occurs or increase the frequency. However, during a 1 in 100 year (1% annual chance) flood event, the depth of flooding will increase by 7centimeters. The depth of the water during a 1 in 100 year flood is currently over one and a half metres and so the increase will make very little difference.

The main construction issues raised were:-

Vibration impacts on the properties: The contractors have noted the concerns raised by residents about the vibration impact. We will be undertaking a full condition survey of all properties in advance of the work starting. In addition we are considering what we can do to reduce the vibration impact by amending the construction methodology. During construction we will monitor the vibration levels.

Use of the village green by the school: Access to part of the village green for physical education and play will still be possible during construction although the available area and access routes will be restricted.

Use of the cricket pitch: The cricket pitch is affected by both the working area and the need to provide alternative access and parking. As a minimum one cricket season will be affected but this will depend on the start date and the service diversions. In addition it relies on the pitch having sufficient time to settle following reinstatement before the start of the season. During the detailed design process we will be working with the Cricket Club to ensure that our impact is minimised. Any reinstatement of the pitch will be to at least existing standards.

When work was going to start and how long it would last: The work along the Strand is estimated to take six months and is programmed to start in 2010. Before construction begins, there will be preliminary work to draw up more detailed designs and for the service diversions. We will liaise with individual residents in advance of the work and on matters such as the final road surfacing.

We will do everything we can to minimise the disruption to the residents of Attenborough and users of the village green. A site liaison person will be available to discuss any issues. Our preferred contractor won a Considerate Constructor Award in 2007 for their work on the Environment Agency scheme at West Bridgford and will provide the same standards on this scheme.

Other Issues

There were a number of other issues raised during the meeting, including:

- Who is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the flood gates?
- How surface water runoff during heavy rainfall will be managed following completion of the FAS?
- Will this really reduce flood risk, as the flooding also comes from the River Erewash and drains backing up.
- The strength of the protection given to wildlife.
- Requests to start the project as soon as possible.
- Flood storage capacity of the village green.

These are addressed in the Frequently Asked Questions document that we have produced to accompany this newsletter.

Alignment

Many of the comments we received were about the proposed alignment. We understand the reasons why many people believe that we should select an alternative route through Attenborough. We have however investigated the economic, technical, social and environmental impacts of each option and the alignment along The Strand is the most effective way to deliver the level of protection that is required not only to protect Attenborough but also the whole of Nottingham.

The main reasons why we are not going through the Fisherman's car park are:

- The Environment Agency has a legal duty to conserve and enhance the environment;
- Planning guidance recommends that development should not take place within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
- There will be an adverse impact on this SSSI if we were to construct the flood defences through it; and
- Natural floodplain is protected under planning guidance to prevent increased flood risk to others.

Further details have been provided on each of these in the Frequently Asked Questions document.

Forward Look

We have used the comments we received at the public meeting to work up our proposals further. This is continuing.

The Attenborough Flood Alleviation Alliance (AFAA) submitted twenty questions on the 15 September. We have provided a written response to these questions. These documents are available on request from the address below. We are meeting with AFAA to discuss their concerns.

We intend to submit our planning application at the end of October 2008. If we are successful in gaining planning permission we will then undertake more detailed design work. Construction will then start in 2009, with the Attenborough section currently programmed for 2010.

If you would like further information or would like to provide additional comments please contact:

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