

# Hebble Brook Flood Risk Reduction, Wheatley, Halifax

The Environment Agency is working in partnership with Calderdale Council, ARUP and BAM to deliver the Hebble Brook Flood Risk Reduction Scheme. This update provides you with information about our progress on the scheme.

## Information Bulletin No.1 – January 2026

### The Scheme

The Environment Agency and BAM are working to better protect against future flooding from Hebble Brook. The purpose of the project at Hebble Brook is to reduce the risk of blockage at the existing trash screen, which has historically caused water to back up in high flow events. Blockage by debris creates a large dam of water with no access to the screen and consequent flooding to nearby properties and businesses. The project involves:

#### Stopping Blockages Before They Start

- **Adding log catchers:** These will prevent large debris like branches reaching the main trash screen.
- **Installing overflow drainage pipe:** If the main screen gets blocked, this pipe will give water another way to flow through, helping prevent flooding.
- **Restoring the riverbank:** Making the left bank more natural will increase how much water the channel can hold.

#### Strengthening the River Walls

- **Fixing the gabion wall:** These stone-filled cages help hold the riverbank in place. We're realigning the river and building a protective bank to stop the wall from future collapse.

### Progress Update

To allow for the main construction work to take place, Hebble Brook will be temporarily diverted to create a dry safe working area. To do this, a large number of pumps will be used to divert the water downstream and around the works.

Since construction work began in September 2025, the site team have been busy carrying out preparation works for these pumps to be installed.

Site cabins are in place on Hebble Lane. A temporary access road and material lay down area have been constructed to access the trash screen. Sheet piles have been installed; these are long metal sheets vibrated into the ground to create a temporary barrier forming the dry work area.



Site cabins and temporary site access

Contact us! If you have any concerns or questions email us at – [CalderdaleFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:CalderdaleFAS@environment-agency.gov.uk).

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A temporary platform has also been constructed for the pumping equipment which is due to be installed shortly and will be in place for approximately eight months. A temporary dam will be constructed to ensure water does not enter the working area.

Over the next few months, work will be taking place to divert an existing sewer to make space to realign Hebble Brook. We will also begin excavation works to install concrete piles which will form the foundations for a new retaining wall along the river bank, which will protect it from future erosion.



Overview of the site



Sheet pile installation

## Volunteering in the Community

Throughout Winter 2025, BAM's Hebble Brook and Brighouse Flood Alleviation Teams utilised their corporate volunteering days to help three organisations who support Calderdale residents in need. Calderdale VAC - preparing winter care packages; Elland & District Foodbank – helping to organise and pack food donations; Focus4Hope - preparing food hampers for local families as well as donations to their Christmas Project.



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