

Message from DOI to Manx Radio Wed. 19-08-2020

Civil Defence was contacted by a Laxey resident concerned about the possibility of flooding overnight and arranged for a pallet of sandbags to be delivered to Laxey that evening by the Department of Infrastructure.

At 2.15am on Thursday, Civil Defence were mobilised and delivered a further pallet of sandbags. These were deployed at the Baldhoon road by Civil Defence and DoI teams, when a further four pallets of sandbags were arranged to be delivered to the scene.

The Fire and Rescue service were in attendance with two appliances, and deployed pumps.

Civil Defence left at around 3.40am when the Fire Service advised that further risk of flooding was low.

The flooding in October 2019 was partly attributed to the undersized culvert section from the DoI depot to the culvert section beneath Glen Road.

(Local residents dispute this - it appears to be an attempt to divert attention from the true cause of the flood - the hole in the wall made by contractors)

The capacity of the new culvert will be considerably greater than the existing one and will benefit from improved alignment, removing the sharp junction between the two culvert sections.

The project currently being undertaken aims to improve flow through the installation of a 3 metre by 1.2 metre box-section culvert and increasing the channel width and height on the approach to the culvert from Gretch Veg falls.

The pipework referred to is a temporary arrangement to divert normal river flows, and allows the contractor undertaking the essential flood prevention work to form the concrete foundation for the retaining wall units.

Some pipes were washed away last week night due to significant rain, which saw 47mm fall in just two hours.

The contractor has introduced a new working method to construct the concrete foundations for the top section of this scheme. Foundations will be excavated and concreted in the same working day, allowing the shuttering to be removed and the water course to remain clear overnight.

Once the retaining wall units are lifted and lowered into position today (Wednesday) the contractor will be out of the main river channel for the next few weeks while the new culvert is constructed. All works in the river channel will be complete by 30 September.

Does it match your version of events?

Best wishes

Aaron Ibanez
Local Democracy Reporter