

Dear Resident

LAXEY FLOODING ALLEVIATION WORKS – PROGRESS UPDATE

This is further update for the ongoing work to improve flood resilience within the Laxey valley.

Laxey Flood Alleviation Scheme

Working with other Government Departments, Garff Commissioners and JBA Consulting, this scheme is designed to identify all flood risk reduction opportunities possible within Laxey catchment. This covers river, surface water and tidal flood risk sources and considers natural flood risk management (in the upland catchment) and the possibilities for flood warning systems.

Over 50 options have been identified for river, tidal and surface water flood risk reduction and these options have been evaluated against set criteria, for example: suitability, build-ability, economic viability, environmental sustainability. Following evaluation, we have created a short-list set of options that we believe will protect the community by managing flood risk from source to sea to provide better protection and greater resilience for Laxey.

Most importantly, your opinion matters and so we would like to present the scheme to you by way of two drop-in days providing an opportunity to view the proposals, talk to the team and share your local knowledge. If you are unable to attend you can contact the team via flooding@manxutilities.im.

Protecting Laxey – ‘Drop in’ days
Laxey Working Men’s Institute
Monday 28th September 10am until 8pm
Tuesday 29th September 10am until 5pm

The overall scheme proposed is a substantial undertaking with an estimated cost of £10 million over about 2 years to reduce flood risk in Laxey. Already, some elements of the flood risk alleviation scheme have been accelerated to the design and build stage and following is an update on the key elements:

- Together, the Department of Infrastructure and Manx Utilities have designed improvements to the culvert (tunnel carrying Gretch Veg watercourse) opposite the Laxey Football pitch car park, with the aim of improving the movement of river flow in this area as well as reducing the risk of blockages. This concept was identified within the overall flood alleviation feasibility study. Hydraulic modelling and flood flow estimation has been undertaken to inform the sizing and capacity of the new culvert. Flow capacity will be increased by extending the width and height on the approach to the culvert from Gretch Veg falls allowing for future surface water diversion which will alleviate flooding issues elsewhere. Construction on the culvert has been fast-tracked and this work is underway. The new culvert will be 1mx3m; the walls of the open section between Glen Road and the river will be improved in the next phase of works here.
- The debris catcher for the Glen Roy catchment is also well underway. The Department of Infrastructure is placing large upright poles across a section of the river in the Laxey Glen Gardens. These poles are designed to catch trees, branches and other large woody debris to reduce the chance of blockages downstream near properties.

River and highway drainage maintenance

Since the flooding incident we have carried out both reactive and routine maintenance.

Works Area	Works Description
Glen Road	New wall reconstruction with sealed access gate. Extra-large gullies have been installed with new carrier drains alongside the new defence wall. A new heavy duty channel drains have been installed alongside Victoria Terrace along with two extra-large gullies. In addition, there was some on site reshaping of the highway to help with directing the water into the channel. A replacement channel drain along with a new larger capacity heavy duty drainage channel has been installed to alleviate water pooling in the low spot outside Near Brookside and Lewins Cottage. Tree and vegetation clearance works where required.
Laxey Mines road	A hole scoured out by the watercourse has been repaired.
Glen Mooar	Tree and vegetation clearance works where required.
Claram Lane	Ditch, culvert clearance and ground re grades where required.
Gretch Voar	Ditch, culvert clearance and ground re grades where required.
Baldhoon	New wing walls constructed to better channel the water into existing culverts of the carriageway. New drainage installed at various locations as required. Road resurfacing in areas. Ditch and culvert clearing works where required.
Agneash	Wibbly wobbly Bridge river bank repair works have been undertaken. Road resurfacing in areas. Ditch and culvert clearing works where required. Agneash reservoir (a small private dam) in the upper catchment has been structurally examined by a reservoir engineer who concluded the dam to be structurally sound.
Shore Hotel Car park entrance	A new heavy duty channel drain has been fitted.
Ramsey Road, between Art Reart and Milestone Cottage.	New gullies fitted along with a new carrier system to take surface water, this now discharges into the system by entrance to Art Reart rather than going over the bank.
Ballaragh Road	Ditch and culvert clearing where required. Installation of extra gullies to take more surface water from the carriageway in to the cleared culverts and ditches.
Upper Rencell Hill	Drainage pipe with larger capacity and work to direct surface water in to the culverts and drains.
Old Police station to Cumberland Lodge	Additional surface water drainage installed to separate road drainage out from the watercourse that flows down between the old police station and chapel terrace. All gullies associated now have sumps to catch any debris and prevent blockage. The existing system was enlarged in places and is now capable of taking a much greater flow.
All Laxey gullies around all estates and side roads.	All gullies cleared and jetted, some replaced where damaged.

I hope this letter has been informative and look forward to seeing you at the drop-in days in September. If you have any questions or information you'd like to share then please do get in touch via flooding@manxutilities.im or call Manx Utilities on 687687.