



We are dedicated to better protecting Tadcaster from the risk of flooding.

The aim of this newsletter is to update you on our progress with the scheme and inform you of upcoming public events.

## Introduction & Welcome

### *Tadcaster FAS*

Since our last update in May we have all faced many challenging times and significant changes to how we go about our daily lives. All of us on the project team hope that this update finds you and your families safe and well.

Despite the impact of Covid19, work has continued on the Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme project. We have adapted many of our working practices, but we continue to be dedicated to providing a scheme to better protect the town, its residents and businesses against the risk of flooding, and in turn help the community thrive.

Our main focus has been on identifying a shortlist of feasible options to present to the community, for your views and feedback.

We have worked hard to identify solutions that are environmentally and socially acceptable as well as being technically feasible and affordable. Each community that we work in has its own characteristics and complexities; there are often many factors to consider that influence or constrain the choice of solution/s. Tadcaster is no different. We need to ensure that the solution is right for the town's flood dynamics as well as being suitable for the local environment, whilst at the same time not increasing the risk of flooding in neighbouring communities



Images courtesy of David Lindsay Photography

## Engagement

### *A new approach*

We always seek to engage with local communities during the development of any scheme to ensure that we listen to and learn from their views. Where possible, we also include features in the design of our schemes that enhance the natural environment or provide other benefits, such as better access or improved facilities.

The next significant stage of the project was originally planned as a series of evening drop ins, plus development of a town centre information hub - opportunities to meet you all face to face, discuss our plans and gather your feedback.

We have now adapted these plans to allow for Covid-19 social distancing restrictions but the purpose and focus is still the same- we want to hear what you have to say. We want this to be a scheme that is accepted by the community. We have now developed innovative new approaches to delivering community engagement in Tadcaster whilst public gatherings cannot be held.

**Over the coming weeks you will see an increase in the presence of project staff around the town and the river working to strict social distancing rules. Please respect these rules as we go forward. We will endeavour to keep you all in the loop as to what is ongoing and when.**

 [tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk)

 Environment Agency  
c/o Tadcaster Town Council  
The Ark, 33 Kirkgate, LS24 9AQ

 @TadcasterFloodScheme

 @EnvAgencyYNE



## Public Consultation

*Have your say*

We would now like to hear from you, your views on the shortlisted options for the Tadcaster FAS. The launch of the short list of options sees the use of a new and innovative approach to public engagement, providing a virtual drop in facility that is available to you as and when you are free to 'visit' and not limited to our opening times.

Public consultation will be open from **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October** and will be available in two formats:

### 1- ONLINE VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT ROOM (live from 30<sup>th</sup> Sept)

This is a virtual on-line site which will provide details on the outline designs of those options considered feasible to help reduce flood risk in the town. The 3D program allows you to 'virtually' walk around the room to read the information panels on each option.

[www.virtualengage.arup.com/tadcaster](http://www.virtualengage.arup.com/tadcaster)

Or scan the QR code



### 2 - The TADCASTER TODAY community newsletter (arriving on your doorsteps soon)

The community newsletter article provides those without access to the online resources the same opportunity to view the information and provide feedback.



## Give Us Your Views

We will ask for your views on each of the options. Full details on how to give us your feedback will be available on both the on-line site and in the Tadcaster Today newsletter.

Both these avenues will provide you with more detail on each of the shortlisted options. We want to seek your views on these and will use your feedback to help inform the work we are doing to review the suitability of each potential option.

At this stage we are not specifically consulting on things such as how potential new defences may look. We will consult on this in a separate event at a later date, once the preferred option has been identified, to enable your views to feed into the detailed design of the selected option.

**We are therefore interested in understanding:**

- **Which of the options you prefer and why?**
- **Your thoughts on the potential alignments of new flood defences or new locations for flood storage; and**
- **Any parts of Tadcaster that you feel would not be defended through our proposals, which you think should be, as well as any areas you feel shouldn't be defended?**

Your feedback will be used to help us to identify the final outline design for the Tadcaster FAS.

## What's Next?

Further events will be planned to ask the community to provide additional comments on the finished look of the scheme (including defence height, defence type, finish etc). These will be advertised using our information page; Facebook page; twitter; (links below) and Tadcaster Today newsletter etc.

Throughout this project there will be numerous opportunities for you to feed into the development of the flood alleviation scheme, either through formal engagement events such as this or via one of the communication channels below. We will continue to increase the level of communication with you and update you with progress.

We look forward to engaging with you during the next phases of this project .

## Stay Informed

*Sign up for project updates*

Many of you will have seen and signed up to our Facebook page (@TadcasterFloodScheme) and also registered for updates via the e-newsletter (email:tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk). Please continue to do so.

To go with these engagement tools we have recently launched our [Tadcaster FAS information page](#):



This page is designed to provide easy access to information on what is happening in Tadcaster, including background information to the recent flooding, a summary of the project and progress updates, ensuring those without social media accounts can still gain access to online resources.

To be kept up to date on all of this please sign up to our project email updates via [tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:tadcasterfas@environment-agency.gov.uk) or follow us via our Facebook page @TadcasterFloodScheme.

## Stay Prepared

*Flood Warning Service.*

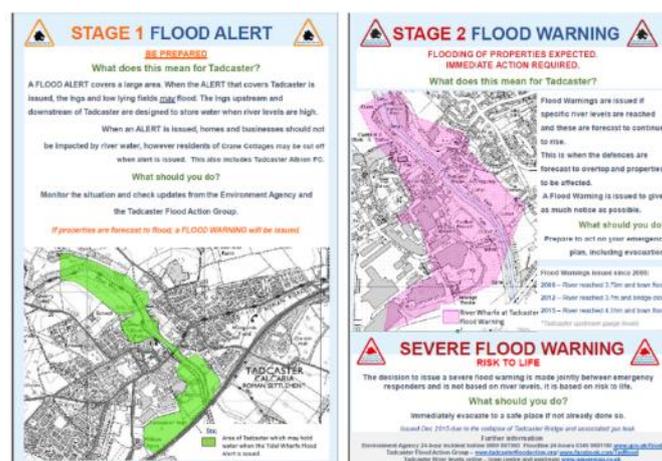
Please continue to be prepared and resilient towards flooding by signing up to receive advanced warnings of flooding. Register by calling Floodline 0345 988 1188, or visiting [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)

If you are already registered to the Floodline Warning Service, again please check if your details need updating by visiting

[www.fws.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/login](http://www.fws.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/login)

Tadcaster Flood Action Group also provide an excellent local service. Please take the time, if you haven't already done so, to sign up for their system which is linked to our incident response. You can do this by visiting

[www.tadcasterfloodaction.org](http://www.tadcasterfloodaction.org) or  
[www.facebook.com/Tadflood](https://www.facebook.com/Tadflood)



You can also download and keep a copy of our guide to the meaning of a flood alert and a flood warning for Tadcaster by visiting

[www.tadcasterfloodaction.org/what-we-do](http://www.tadcasterfloodaction.org/what-we-do)

**Remember that even homes and businesses which are protected by flood defences are still at risk of flooding. Our free flood warning service provides up-to-date information about flood risk straight to your landline, mobile and/or email.**

**Thank you very much for taking your time to read this newsletter.**

**Please continue to look after yourselves and your families, stay safe and we look forward to meeting many of you once circumstances allow.**

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