

Press release: Flood protection event for North East town

Residents in a Northumberland town are invited to find out more about potential options for flood protection.

The Environment Agency is carrying out an appraisal of flood defences in Ponteland and are considering a number of options to continue to protect properties from flooding as well as bring environmental improvements.

Residents are invited to a drop-in event which takes place on 23 January at Ponteland Memorial Hall, Darras Road, NE20 9NX. They can drop-in at any time between 2.30pm and 6.30pm.

Ponteland has a history of flooding from the River Pont and currently the Environment Agency maintains a range of assets in the area, including flood walls, embankments and pumping stations.

It is currently reviewing the condition of those assets and working with partners to better understand flood risk in Ponteland and develop a flood alleviation scheme to better protect properties in the town into the future.

The scheme aims to:

- Improve understanding of main river and surface water flood risk in Ponteland, with an improved model to support the scheme as well as the flood warning and incident response.
- Reduce flood risk to homes and businesses in Ponteland, and reduce the impacts on roads and utility infrastructure.
- Seek opportunities to provide environmental benefits as a result of any scheme.

During this year, working with partners and the community, the Environment Agency hopes to identify a preferred option for flood protection.

Vanessa Collins, Project Manager for the Environment Agency, said:

We are updating our flood modelling and investigating the existing flood defences in Ponteland to improve our understanding of flood risk and ensure the standard of protection can be maintained in the future.

We are considering a number of options in more detail over the next few months and we would like to hear the thoughts of residents.

We understand just how devastating it is to be flooded – we know there is a history of flooding in Ponteland – and we are committed to ensuring residents are protected.

We want to work closely with the community throughout this process and would encourage people to come along to find out more.

The latest information about the scheme and the potential options are available on the scheme's new [online consultation website](#).

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The Environment Agency is inviting residents in Ponteland, Northumberland, to a drop-in event to find out more about flood protection in the town.

News story: Salmon found in River Don at Sheffield

An adult salmon has been found in the River Don at Salmon Pastures confirming the species' return to Sheffield city centre after an absence of 150 years.

Press release: FCO statement on the attack on a police academy in Bogotá, Colombia



An FC0 spokesperson:

The UK deplores the bomb attack on the General Santander police academy in Bogotá, which has claimed innocent lives and injured many more.

We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and our thoughts are with all those affected by the attack.

Colombia has been steadfast in its rejection of violence for political ends. We reaffirm the UK's strong condemnation of all acts of terror, and our unwavering support to the Colombian authorities as they seek to ensure sustainable peace in Colombia.

Further information

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[Press release: FC0 statement on the attack on a police academy in Bogotá, Colombia](#)

UK deplores bomb attack on the General Santander police academy that took place on 17 January.