

Severn Trent Water: Cheltenham sewer renewal programme update

Severn Trent Water is committed to resolving the risks of sewer flooding for our customers in Cheltenham Spa. That's why we're investing over £5million to replace and repair our sewer network to reduce the risk.

Over the last two years, a detailed survey and analysis of the sewers which serve Cheltenham has been carried out, which has identified sections which can no longer meet the demands placed on them by recent development within the town - particularly during times of heavy rainfall.

Working with our contract partners NMCNomenca, solutions have been developed to address these deficiencies, which in the most part will involve replacing the existing sewers with much larger pipes to significantly improve the capacity of these sections.

We've discussed our proposals with key stakeholders to agree the timing of work in each area, and this has enabled the programme of work to be developed. Work commenced in June 2014, and is expected to be complete by Spring 2015.

Customers who may be affected by the work will be notified in advance, and invited to a series of open exhibitions for each area, where they will have the opportunity to meet the project team, obtain further details of our plans, and discuss any aspect of our work which may concern them.

An overview of the work is below, but as always, if you have any specific questions or concerns, please let me know – and we're always available to meet with you to discuss things in more detail.

Moorend Grove Flood Alleviation

We're constructing a new sewer on Moorend Grove and Peregrine Road to divert local drainage to prevent backflow into property basements.

We started work on Peregrine Road at the junction with Osprey Road on 14 July. Our current programme is as follows:

Peregrine Road: 14/07 until 12/10.

Moorend Grove: 15/09 until 24/10.

Sandy Lane Flood Alleviation

We started work on 21/07 and we are ahead of programme by 3 days. Our current programme:

Moorend Road: 21/07 – 08/08

Sandy Lane: 21/07 – 22/08

We're constructing a new sewer using a 'no dig' technique to speed up the construction because the highway diversion is very long.

Moorend Road will be back open by 1pm Saturday (09/08) and the diversion route will then be significantly reduced. We're working as quickly as possible to finish the work and remove the road closures.

Suffolk Road Flood Alleviation

This project will improve the overall performance of the drainage network across this part of Cheltenham.

Andover Street – We've started work on Andover Street (09/06/14). Our work in Andover is behind schedule by approximately 3 weeks due to additional underground services being found. The sewers we're constructing are large 1500mm diameter sewers.

We will then move onto **Andover Road** and **Painswick Road** and **St James Place**.

Suffolk Road – We're now planning to complete the Suffolk Road section by no dig methods so that we can finish as soon as possible to reduce disruption to the local businesses.

Langdon Road Flood Alleviation (aka Great Norwood FA)

We're due to start on site at the end of September and will be finished by the end of November.

An exhibition is being held on the 14 August at the Queens hotel for customers to visit us to discuss the upcoming work.

Winchcombe Street FA (Fairview Road):

This project involves the installation of a 1350mm sewer on Fairview road. We're currently laying at the junction with Fairview Road and Portland Street, and we're on track for site completion in October 2014.

Queens Road Flood Alleviation:

The project is nearing completion, as we were able to avoid a road closure on Queens Road by using a no dig technique to lay the sewer.

Our contract partners NMCNomenca will be completing some sewer rehabilitation works in the area, and we're expecting to be completed for the end of August.

Lansdown Road Flood Alleviation:

Due to unforeseen underground services located in June, during our initial work, we've removed our work from site to review our design options. Customers will be informed accordingly once the design has been finalised.

Cheltenham Rehab:

As part of our £5 million investment, NMCNomenca will also be rehabilitating 3 kilometres of structurally deficient sewers throughout the town. The work has been planned around the main projects so there are no road closure or diversion route clashes. The work in any one area is only for a short duration, typically only a few days, although it can be longer should

manholes need re-building. The rehabilitation works is due to commence in August and will operate on a rolling programme throughout Cheltenham until March '15. Customer care letters and consultation will be undertaken as part of this project.

Lichfield Drive:

The project involves working collaboratively with the Gloucestershire County Council highways team to manage surface water flooding on Lichfield Drive. The installation of a large tank sewer on Salisbury Avenue will ensure we store the surface water flows and these are not passed downstream to the Winchester Way area of Cheltenham, where DEFRA and Cheltenham Borough Council previously undertook major flood alleviation work. The work is due to commence on the 1 September across a 4 month programme. An exhibition is being held on the 14 August at the Queens hotel from 1pm for customers to visit us to discuss the upcoming work.

Future work is planned in the Lansdown Crescent, Cottage Rake Avenue, Roman Road, Cleeve View Road, and Fawley Drive areas of Cheltenham. Once the programmes are finalised we'll be issuing a full update to all stakeholders and inviting all businesses and customers within these areas to a public exhibition.

Latest Updates:

Cheltenham half marathon & Suffolk Road event

We'll be continuing to show our support for the patience and understanding our customers and the businesses in Cheltenham have shown as we carry out our vital work. We'll be temporarily re-opening roads to accommodate the Cheltenham half marathon on Sunday 7 September and acting as an affiliate sponsor for the event. And to help traders take advantage of this, On Saturday 6 September we'll be helping to support a market event being organised by the Suffolk Road Traders.

The latest public exhibition was a great success

We'd like to thank everyone who took the time to visit us at our public exhibition last week. The exhibition, on Thursday 14 August, was arranged to give customers an opportunity to quiz the project team on two new sections of work which are planned to start next month.

The first project to start is the Lichfield Drive Flood Alleviation scheme, due to commence on 01 September 2014. This work will require road closures on Lincoln Avenue, Salisbury Avenue and Lichfield Drive at various stages of the project, between September and December. The closures will affect the "D" bus service which operates in this area, and customers were able to benefit from the attendance of representatives from Stagecoach to find out about the proposed diversion routes and revised timetables.

Later next month we will be starting a project entitled Langdon Road Flood Alleviation which will require closures of Fairfield Parade and Langdon Road from late September until December 2014.

There was a steady flow of customers throughout the exhibition, keeping the project teams busy from the start of the exhibition at 13.00 until doors closed at 19.00. All our visitors found it a useful source of information, leaving them better prepared for when work starts next month.

The mole is coming to Suffolk Road!

Over the last few weeks, not only have we dealt with a collapse in the road at the junction with Suffolk Parade, we've also been clearing the way for our next section of directional drilling to install the new sewer pipes required on Suffolk Road.

We're confident that we now have a clear route for the 'mole' drill that will burrow its way beneath the road and form the hole for the new pipes. We'll be bringing the equipment to Suffolk Road on Monday to prepare it for the work, which is associated with the Suffolk Road Flood Alleviation project, which started on 07 July 2014.

The technique we're using in Suffolk Road requires more preparation than traditional trench excavation, but is far quicker to install once work starts, and significantly reduces the potential disruption associated with conventional methods. It'll ensure we're able to re-open Suffolk Road as planned in early October.

Advance notification of road closure: Andover Road

The above closure is associated with the Suffolk Road Flood Alleviation project, at the Ashford Road/Andover Street junction. Our work has progressed up Andover Street and early next week we'll reach the Andover Road junction which we'll need to close at 08.00 on Monday 18 August 2014. We've put advance warning signs up to advise motorists of the closure, and our site team have visited local residents to make them aware of our plans. Later next week we'll be reinstating our work in Andover Street which will enable us to remove the majority of our working area in Andover Street and restore customer access.