

Project Overview

Project Title	Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme - Step 2
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Main Funding Programme	BEIS Capital Investment Fund	
Current Forecast Project cost	£125,826,000	
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority now	£12,565,000	
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	Source	Amount
	FCERM GIA	£7,783,000
	Defra Booster GIA	£60,217,000
	Economic Recovery GIA	£21,000,000
	Leeds City Council	£9,967,000
	Community Infrastructure Levy	£5,700,000
	West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Step 1)	£3,900,000
	European Structural and Investment Funds	£2,204,000
	Network Rail	£1,400,000
	Department for Education	£250,000
	Local Levy	£500,000
	Other Government Department	£500,000
	Total of match funding	£113,261,000

Scheme Description

This scheme will reduce flood risk to residential and commercial property, and infrastructure along the River Aire in Leeds. Measures include new flood walls, improvements to flood water drainage, and a new flood plain at Calverley. In addition there will be improvements to Kirkstall Valley Nature reserve, including better access and a new riverside pathway for cycling and walking. This scheme will provide protection against a one in 200-year flood event for the upstream section of the river between Leeds Railway Station and Newlay, beyond Kirkstall Road to the west of the city.

Business Case Summary

Strategic Case

Severe economic and social impacts were caused by the River Aire floods Leeds in 2015 including:

- Financial and emotional costs of lost possessions
- Disruption to medical services and social care provision
- Short-term health impacts (such as respiratory illnesses) and long-term health impacts (such as anxiety, and PTSD)
- Limited access to schools, libraries and community centres.
- High insurance costs
- Costs associated with temporary relocation
- Limited access to public transportation

This scheme will reduce the risks, impacts and costs of flooding by protecting land used for employment, as well as improving and protecting access to businesses, homes and key infrastructure. This will boost the area's resilience to climate change and will benefit residents and businesses in these vulnerable areas. It will also increase developer and business confidence to ensure they invest and grow in the Leeds area.

The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) shows the area that will benefit the most from this work has higher than average levels of deprivation, with 71% of the population living within the two most deprived categories. As such, flooding in this area could have a disproportionately negative impact on these groups and the scheme will contribute to protection for this.

The economic resilience that the scheme provides is in accordance with various policies and strategies set at national, regional and local levels.

The full scheme is expected to deliver net carbon benefits as a result of the increased flood protection when compared to the carbon costs involved in the repair works following a severe flooding event equivalent to that experienced in 2015.

Economic Case

The key benefits include the protection of businesses, jobs, homes and development land as well as ensuring key infrastructure remains operational – this includes transport, electricity, communications and data connectivity.

Commercial Case

Step 2 of the scheme is currently in delivery and around 80% complete. Leeds City Council is currently in contract for the necessary works and funding agreements are in place with the existing funding contributors.

It is considered that stopping or pausing delivery of this scheme is not viable, as this would reduce the benefits, increase costs and reduce the overall value for money of the scheme. Halting delivery could also lead to contractual issues which could further increase costs. Leeds City Council is not in a position to contribute further funding without harming essential council services, for which it is experiencing increased demand, in particular for services helping vulnerable adults and children.

Financial Case

The full scheme (Steps 1 and 2) has secured funding totalling £113,261,000 to deliver the scheme. However, the scheme's delivery cost has increased to £125,826,000 due to high inflation rates, leaving a funding gap of £12,565,000.

Step 1 was partially funded through the Local Growth Fund and is now complete and operational. Step 2 is currently under construction.

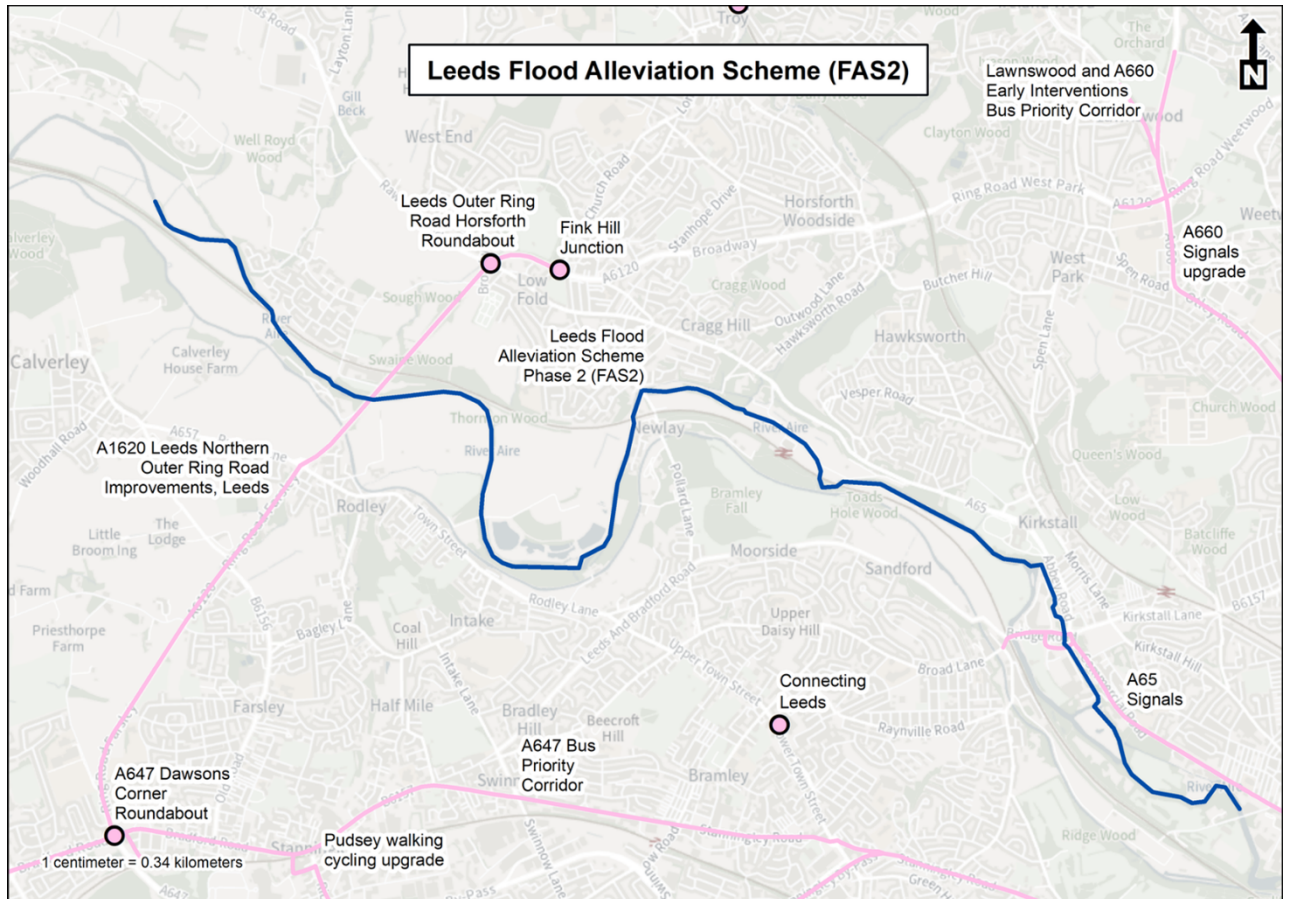
The full amount of the funding shortfall has been sought via a bid to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), to be spent in the 2022/23 financial year. This funding request is capital only and does not include any loans, retrospective funds or resource costs.

Management Case

This scheme is being managed by Leeds City Council and has an effective internal governance structure in place. These additional funds will continue to be managed within it.

Location Map

The following map shows the location of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme Step 2 scheme:



Please note, depending on the level of scheme development, the location and scope of the schemes indicated here are indicative only.

For further information on Combined Authority schemes across the Leeds City Region, please refer to: <https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/growing-the-economy/leeds-city-region-infrastructure-map/>