

River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976 consultation

Specified interests: Organisations – contact log

Kent County Council (KCC)	4/4/19 Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at the project board which is attended by representatives from Kent County Council and Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.
	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - MFRA presentation to Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	29/5/19 Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	3/7/19 Phone call with KCC representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal. Will require Ward Cllr consultation, then a formal response from Cllr Mike Whiting as Cabinet Member. MFRA briefing note supplied. Project briefing note to follow
	27/9/19 Letter of support sent to Rebecca Pow MP
Maidstone Borough Council (MBC)	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	29/5/19 Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	1/7/19 Met with MBC representatives to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal.
	19/8/19 Sent draft report to MBC. This will be taken to their Policy and Resources Committee on 18/9/19
	Committee agreed to support. Have requested operational procedures. Will send letter of support once these have been received.
	5/12/19 Provided Leigh FSA operational procedures, redacted as necessary in the interests of safety of critical infrastructure.
	20/12/2019 Letter of support sent to Rebecca Pow MP
Sevenoaks District Council (SDC)	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	29/5/19 Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	16/7/19 Met with SDC representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal. SDC requested more detail about the proposals to prevent an increase in flood risk at Paul's Farm.
	20/08/19 Sent revised flood modelling and outline proposal for flood wall at Paul's Farm.
	23/12/19 Decision notice published online, raising no objection subject to a wave wall being installed at Paul's Farm: https://cds.sevenoaks.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD2967&ID=2967&RPID=17770663&J=2
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC)	4/4/19 Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at the project board which is attended by representatives from Kent County Council and Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.
	23/4/19 Met TMBC representatives to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal.

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	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	Provided information to support briefings to go to Planning and Transport Advisory Committee and Cabinet meetings
	4/6/19 Proposal discussed at Planning and Transport Advisory Committee
	25/6/19 Cabinet meeting to review response
	2/7/19 Letter of support sent to Therese Coffey
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC)	29/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	25/9/19 Met with TWBC representatives to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal. Agreed to provide a briefing and map to go to their meetings: Forward Look - 17/10/19 Management - 23/10/19 Advisory - 11/11/19 Cabinet - 5/12/19
	5/12/19 Presented proposal to Cabinet meeting and answered questions. Support agreed.
	20/12/2019 Provided Leigh FSA operational procedures, redacted as necessary in the interests of safety of critical infrastructure.
	19/12/19 Letter of support sent to Rebecca Pow MP
Upper Medway Internal Drainage Board (UMIDB)	29/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	16/8/19 Call with UMIDB representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal.
	16/9/19 Email received from UMIDB representative confirming the Board has no objections
National Farmers Union (NFU)	29/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	24/7/19 Dalcour Maclaren representative met with NFU representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal.
	12/11/19 Positive presentation and discussion with local NFU members to present proposals and answer questions.
CLA	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	25/7/19 Dalcour Maclaren representative met with CLA representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss if any further information is needed for them to consider the proposal.
Natural England	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	29/5/19 Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact

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	22/8/19 Telecon with Natural England representatives to present proposals, answer questions and discuss any outstanding issues. No concerns briefing note and map provided.
	25/11/19 Letter of support received.
Southern Water (SW)	9/5/19 Medway Flood Partnership member - Presentation on the proposal to amend the Scheme under the Act given at Medway Flood Partnership Strategy Group
	29/5/19 Email to MFP with briefing and map, requesting point of contact
	18/12/19 Telecon with SW representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss any outstanding issues. SW content with proposal and will provide a letter of support.
	31/01/20 Letter of support received
Network Rail (NR)	26/6/19 Email to request contact for consultation
	24/7/19 Telecon with Network Rail representative to present proposals, answer questions and discuss any outstanding issues. EA were asked to brief a more senior NR representative.
	31/01/20 Meeting with NR representatives to present proposals and discuss any outstanding issues. Network Rail content with investigations done and will provide a letter of support
	29/4/20 Email confirming support received
Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT)	23/7/19 Emailed KWT with briefing note to request a contact for the MFRA consultation
	2/12/19 Emailed KWT with briefing note to request a contact for the MFRA consultation
	16/12/20 KWT contact established, offered telephone discussion about the proposals.
	21/01/20 Discussion with KWT representative
	27/1/20 Shared Natural England's response to the MFRA consultation with KWT contact as requested.
	17/2/20 Emailed to check that KWT had everything they needed to consider the proposal.
High Weald AONB	10/03/20 Emailed to explain proposed amendment to the Scheme under the Act, consultation process and identify point of contact
	18/03/20 Telephone discussion with Co-Director of High Weald AONB Unit
	31/03/20 Emailed briefing note, and comparison map of natural floodplain, current extent of the flood storage area and proposed extent of the expanded flood storage area.
	16/04/20 Email from Co-Director of High Weald AONB Unit confirming that they have no comments to make on the proposal; it will have no impact on the High Weald AONB.
Leigh Parish Council	25/6/19 Email to Leigh Parish Council Clerk to offer a meeting to discuss scheme and MFRA consultation
	30/10/19 Presentation to Parish Council representatives. Representatives will take information and recommendation to Parish Council meeting in December 2019 with view to support.

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Penshurst Parish Council	19/12/2019 Email to Penshurst Parish Council Clerk to offer a meeting to discuss scheme and MFRA consultation
	3/2/20 Presentation to Penshurst Parish Council and members of the public
Bidborough Parish Council	19/12/19 Email to Bidborough Parish Clerk to offer a meeting to discuss scheme and MFRA consultation
	3/2/20 Clerk for Penshurst Parish Council is also the Clerk for Bidborough Parish Council. She confirmed at the Penshurst meeting that Bidborough Parish Council were content with the proposal and did not require a meeting.



The Rt Hon Rebecca Pow MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
Westminster
London
SW1P 4DP

Members' Desk

Sessions House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Tel: 03000 421645

E-mail: members.desk@kent.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 27 September 2019

Amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976

I am writing to confirm that Kent County Council strongly supports the proposed amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976, which permits water in the reservoir to be stored up to a level of 28.6 mAOD. This water level will significantly increase the volume of water that can be stored in the Leigh Flood Storage Area, reducing the risk of flooding to Kent communities downstream.

Following the flooding in 2013/14 that caused significant damage in the county, including to Tonbridge and Hildenborough, the County Council has been committed to supporting the Environment Agency to provide improved flood risk protection for the communities affected. This commitment includes a contribution of £2.5 million towards the delivery of the Leigh Expansion and Hildenborough Embankment Scheme (LEHES), as well as helping to secure the Local Growth Fund grant from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership that is also contributing to the scheme.

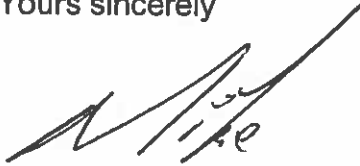
The LEHES will provide improved protection for 1,470 homes and 100 business in Tonbridge and Hildenborough and benefit other communities downstream. The scheme will reduce the impact a future significant flood will have in the county, reducing the disruption it causes and the time it takes to recover.

The County Council understands that there will be 16.4 ha of additional land around the flood storage area that will be affected by the increased storage level. However, the impacts on this land will be infrequent and the County

Council considers that the negative effects on this land will be outweighed by the significant benefits that the increased storage area will provide.

I hope that you appreciate the importance of this scheme to Kent and that you are able to support the proposed amendment to the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Whiting', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

MIKE WHITING
Member serving Swale West
Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste

cc Kathy Aucott, Environment Agency

Rebecca Pow MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham St
London SW1P 4DF

Via email: ps.rebecca.pow@defra.gov.uk

20 December 2019

Dear Ms Pow,

THE RIVER MEDWAY (FLOOD RELIEF) ACT 1976

I am writing on behalf of Maidstone Borough Council, which is an interested party under this Act.

We understand that the Environment Agency proposes to make an application to change the impounding level of flood water in the Leigh Flood Storage Area from 28.05m AODN to 28.6m AODN.

This matter has been discussed at our Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 18 September 2019 and the Council is content to support the Environment Agency's application.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Green

Director of Finance and Business Improvement


Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ


t 01622 602297 m 07901 828028 w www.maidstone.gov.uk

Maidstone Borough Council

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King Street,
Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ

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 [maidstonebc](https://twitter.com/maidstonebc)

 [maidstoneboroughcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/maidstoneboroughcouncil)

Decision Number:

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject

Consultation on the changing Medway Flood Act to allow a greater extent of flood water to be stored at the Leigh Flood Barrier

Details of Decision taken

Raise no objection to allow for the extent of the flood water to be stored at the Leigh Flood Barrier to be increased from 28.05m AODN to 28.60m AODN subject to the construction and a fully operational of the flood defence wave wall around Pauls Farm/Ensfield Lane area prior the flood waters being stored to the increased level.

Reason for Decision

We have been consulted by the Environment Agency seeking our views on their intention to apply to vary the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976 to allow them to increase the maximum level to which water can be stored at the Leigh flood barrier. At present they are only permitted to hold flood water at the barrier up to 28.05m Above Ordnance Datum Newlyn (AODN) but will be seeking ministerial approval to raise the level to which flood water can be held to 28.60 AODN. The Leigh flood barrier is not being increased in height, but will hold flood waters to 55cm higher than currently permitted.

I have attached a copy of the impact of the increased flood capacity, the extent of the flood mitigation measures around Pauls Farm in Leigh and briefing note which was sent out to the landowners on the proposed changes.

Flood map shows three different colours:

- Natural flood outline without the Leigh flood storage area
- Current extent of flooding with impounding to current 28.05m AODN level

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail

Decision Number:

- Modelled extent of flooding outline impounded level increased to 28.60m AODN.

Please note the modelling with the 28.6m AODN level includes the provision of the wave wall at Pauls Farm in order to protect a number of properties off Ensfield Road. The fourth attachment shows the extent of flooding without the wave wall at Pauls Farm, which indicates that flood waters would extend under the railway bridge and affect a number of properties in Ensfield Road and rear gardens of some of the properties in Well Close. Therefore the provision of the wave wall is essential to mitigate the increased flood waters stored at the Leigh flood barrier. The wave wall will be placed on an existing embankment and will involve the erection of a 0.9m high reinforced concrete wave wall. A planning application for the wave wall around Pauls Farm in Leigh will follow in due course and will be subject to a full public consultation.

In addition the increased flood storage area will slightly increase the flood areas around the Leigh flood barrier area, with the only land additionally affected being farmland and the relevant landowners have been contacted by the Environment Agency for their views.

Further upstream, the extent of the increase flood storage capacity will not affect Penshurst based the modelling they have provided.

Therefore we are intending on informing the Environment Agency that we will raise no objection to them increasing the level at which flood water can be stored, subject to the installation of the Pauls Farm wave wall prior to the increased flood level storage being implemented.

All Documents considered:

Email attached, along with the following attachments:

Paul's Farm flooding event without flood wall
Paul's Farm flood wall arrangement
Paul's Farm flooding event with flood wall
Landowner briefing note

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail

Decision Number:

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision

Without the provision of the flood defence wave wall, we would be imposed to the proposal, as it would result in the flooding of a small number of properties in Leigh. Crucial at the increased flood storage is not carried until the new flood wall is in place and fully operational.

Financial implications

None - as consultation by Environment Agency

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

None - as consultation by Environment Agency

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)

The decision recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users. Also note this is a consultation by Environment Agency

Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted



Cllrs Osborne-Jackson & Coleman (local ward)
Cllr Hunter (deputy portfolio holder)
Richard Morris (Chie Officer – Planning & Regulatory)

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(For Democratic Services use)

Decision Number:

Details of any conflicts of interest a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker	
None	
b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict	
None	
Decision taken by:	CHR. JULIA THORNTON
Signed by Portfolio Holder	
Date of Decision	23/12/19
Record made by:	
Date of record:	23/12/19

When completed a copy of this record must be sent to the Democratic Services Section by e-mail and a signed copy by internal mail



Nicolas Heslop

Leader of The Council

Borough Councillor for Cage
Green, Tonbridge

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Thérèse Coffey MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham St
Westminster
London SW1P 4DF

2 July 2019

Dear Minister,

Amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976

I am writing to confirm that Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council strongly supports the proposed amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976, which will allow an increase in the stored water level to 28.6m AODN.

Following the very significant and damaging flooding events that took place in 2013/14, the Borough Council has worked extremely closely with the Environment Agency and other members of the Medway Flood Partnership to pursue robust flood mitigation solutions. This has been clearly demonstrated by the agreement of the Borough Council in September 2016 to contribute up to £500,000 towards the delivery of the Leigh Expansion and Hildenborough Embankment Scheme (LEHES), as well as the strong role the Borough Council has played in successfully securing Local Growth Fund Round 3 grant funding via the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, and in providing strategic advice to the partnership.

Once delivered, the LEHES will result in much greater protection being afforded to 1,470 homes and 100 businesses in the Tonbridge and Hildenborough area, as well as creating greater resilience to Tonbridge Town Centre, which is seeing a renaissance as a food and drink destination, and better flood protection to local public leisure facilities in the area.

In addition, there will also be some benefits to other communities further downstream such as Golden Green and Little Mill. These are all benefits that are absolutely key to the future well-being of borough residents and businesses, and is the reason why this initiative is the top priority for the Borough Council.

In recognising the benefits of the LEHES, the Borough Council has also given consideration to the impact of the scheme. Having looked at the implications both as a landowner within the flood storage area and as a 'specified interest' as stated within the Act, the Borough Council acknowledges that there will be minimal impact on Haysden Country Park arising from the change in water storage levels, and early stage discussions have been undertaken with officers in our Leisure Services and Planning departments in order to minimise disruption during the construction works. It is also acknowledged that the additional 16.4 hectares of additional land around the edges and top of the flood storage area that will be required as part of the expanded scheme will be upstream, beyond the borough boundary. It is clear that the very negligible impacts within the borough are far outweighed by the tangible benefits that will be reaped once the initiative has been delivered.

I hope that you understand the importance of this scheme to the local area and that this proposed amendment to the Act is looked upon favourably.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'NH' followed by a horizontal line.

Nicolas Heslop
Leader of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

cc: Tom Tugendhat MBE, MP



Rebecca Pow MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
Westminster
London
SW1P 4DF

Our Reference: N/A

Date: 19 December 2019

email: stephen.baughen@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or
sharon.evans@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Dear Minister

Amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976

I am writing to confirm that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) supports the proposed amendment to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976, which will allow an increase in the stored water level to 28.6m Above Ordnance Data Newlyn.

Following the very significant and damaging flooding events that took place in the area in 2013/14, considerable work has been undertaken by the Environment Agency, in partnership with other bodies/stakeholders to pursue robust flood mitigation solutions for the future. TWBC has been involved in the Medway Flood Partnership to consider possible future flood risk mitigation measures across the area.

TWBC has been working with the Environment Agency, which has made considerable progress towards the implementation of the Leigh Expansion and Hildenborough Embankment Scheme, which will increase the capacity of the Flood Storage Area and reduce the risk to a greater number of homes and businesses in Tonbridge and Hildenborough.

The proposed amendment to the scheme will result in much greater protection being provided to 1,470 homes and 100 businesses in the Tonbridge and Hildenborough area, as well as creating greater resilience to Tonbridge Town Centre. The scheme directly affects a small area of land within Tunbridge Wells Borough within the parish of Bidborough: the Environment Agency has been working with affected landowners within the area. In recognising the benefits of the proposed scheme, the TWBC also given consideration to the impact of the scheme, in particular to communities within Tunbridge Wells Borough who live downstream of the Flood Storage Area.

Discussions have taken place between TWBC officers and members with officers of the Environment Agency to fully understand how the Flood Storage Area works and ensure that there are no negative implications of the expanded area on communities within the Borough. The proposals have been reported and endorsed by members of TWBC at Cabinet meeting on the 5 December 2019. Details of the report considered, and minutes of this meeting, are available here: <http://democracy.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/meetings/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=4381&Ver=4>

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DX 3929 Tunbridge Wells website www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk

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It is clear that there are very significant benefits of the expansion of the Leigh Flood Storage Area, the importance of this scheme to the local area and that this proposed amendment to the Act is supported.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Alan McDermott

Leader and Portfolio holder for Planning and Transportation



Steve Baughen

Head of Planning at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Aucott, Kathy

From: Mike Watson <Mike@MedwayIDB.co.uk>
Sent: 16 September 2019 10:33
To: Aucott, Kathy
Subject: Environment Agency proposal: change to the Leigh FSA stored water level

Morning Kathy,

Apologies for the delay in getting this response back to you.

I have consulted with all my Upper Medway IDB Members and I am happy to report I have received no objections.

Please could you continue to keep the Board and I updated on the progress of the project.

Regards

Michael Watson BEng (Hons)
Chief Executive

Upper & Lower Medway IDB
17 Albion Place
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 5EQ

Tel: 01622 758345
Website: www.medwayidb.co.uk

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Appendix L

Date: 25/11/2019

Our ref: 292813

Your ref: Leigh expansion and Hildenborough embankment scheme:



Kathy Aucott,
Senior Advisor for the Medway Catchment Kent,
Environment Agency,
Orchard House,
London Road,
Addington,
Kent,
ME19 5SH

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Kathy Aucott

Flood and Coastal Risk Management consultation – Option/Scheme advice to the Environment

Agency: Leigh expansion and Hildenborough embankment scheme: consultation on the Medway Flood Relief Act.

Location: Leigh Flood Storage Area

Thank you for your consultation dated 25/06/2019 which was received by Natural England on 28/06/2019.

Summary of Natural England's advice	Answer only yes or no
Is the proposal likely to lead to an environmentally acceptable solution?	Yes
Is the proposal likely to require an Appropriate Assessment under Habitats Regulations?	No

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Following the information received from the body/bodies above regarding this proposal, we write to confirm that it is Natural England's view that **the proposal is likely to lead to an environmentally acceptable solution.**

This advice is offered based on the information provided to date. It is given without prejudice to any advice that Natural England may offer in accordance with its statutory role under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, or any assent that may be required under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000). Formal comment on the proposal will be provided following consultation on the Environmental Statement as required under the relevant Regulations. We look forward to receiving further information as the proposal is developed.

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Should the proposal be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment then, in accordance with Section 4 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Natural England should be consulted again.

Yours Sincerely

Daniel Creech,
Advisor,
Kent and Sussex – Area 14
Conservation Delivery Team – South East
Natural England,
5th Floor,
Northgate House,
Valpy Street,
Reading,
RG1 1AF
07775555943
02080268850

Ms Kathy Aucott
Senior Advisor for the Medway Catchment
Environment Agency
Orchard House
London Road
Addington
Kent
ME195SH

Your ref

Leigh Flood Storage

Our ref

Date

31/1/2020

Contact

Tel 01903 272583

Fax

Dear Kathy

Leigh Flood Storage Expansion Scheme

I am writing to confirm that Southern Water supports the proposed amendment to the River Medway which will allow an increase in the stored water level to 28.6mAOD.

It is our understanding that once delivered, the LEHES will result in much greater protection being afforded to homes and businesses in the Tonbridge and Hildenborough area and increased resilience to Tonbridge Town Centre from fluvial flooding.

I note from our discussions and plans submitted that although the top water level of the flood storage area will increase the mobilised area of flooding does not increase significantly. I note that this change does not impact on Southern Water assets or the ability of Southern Water to operate and maintain existing assets in the area.

It is on this basis that Southern Water lends its support to this important flood resilience scheme.

Yours sincerely



Andy Adams
Planning and Resilience Manager
Wastewater

Aucott, Kathy

From: Wicks Douglas <Douglas.Wicks@networkrail.co.uk>
Sent: 29 April 2020 13:27
To: Aucott, Kathy
Cc: Butcher Derek
Subject: FW: Leigh expansion and Hildenborough embankment scheme: consultation on the Medway (Flood Relief) Act

Dear Kathy

Consultation on the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976

We note that the EA have undertaken consultation with Network Rail as regards to the above scheme, particularly that a seepage and slope stability analysis for the raising of the impounding level inside the Leigh Flood Storage Area (FSA) from 28.05 NMWOL to 28.60m NMWOL was carried out and the results of this study confirm that there is no detrimental effect to the stability and safety of the Network Rail embankments that run through the FSA.

Analysis of assessment of the increase in maximum water level on the Network Rail Six Arch Bridge (Structure No. RTT 81) has also been carried out. The preliminary result indicates no detrimental effect. This will require to be approved by the NR Route Asset Manager for Structures in due course.

The EA propose a tie-in at the base of the Network Rail embankment at 3no. points. It is proposed for ease of maintenance to propose the boundary fence be relocated in order that the tie ins are outside Network Rail boundary. This will require formal clearance to be undertaken in due course.

Given the above I confirm that Network Rail has no objection to the proposed change to the Leigh stored water level set out under the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976 subject to the above points all being approved by Network Rail.

Regards

Doug Wicks

Asset Protection Scheme Interface Manager

Asset Protection and Optimisation, South East Route

Network Rail

1st Floor | James Forbes House | 27 Great Suffolk Street | Southwark | London SE1 0NS

T.07984280019

Appendix L

From: High Weald Director <director@highweald.org>
Sent: 16 April 2020 14:20
To: Aucott, Kathy
Cc: Kennedy, James
Subject: RE: Environment Agency consultation on an amendment to the River Medway Flood Relief Act 1976

Dear Kathy,

Thank you for the extra details concerning the proposed amendment to the River Medway Flood Relief Act 1976 to increase the stored water level in the Leigh FSA from 28.05m AOD to 28.60m AOD, as measured at the control structure in Leigh. Thank you also for consulting us on the proposed amendment.

I have reviewed the information and I can confirm that I have no comments to make on the proposal: it will have no impact on the High Weald AONB.

Yours sincerely,

Jason Lavender
Co-Director
High Weald AONB Unit
Advising on the management of a nationally important landscape
01424 723011 www.highweald.org
www.twitter.com/highweald
www.facebook.com/highwealdaonb
Woodland Enterprise Centre, Hastings Road, Flimwell, Sussex, TN5 7PR

Celebrating 30 years of the High Weald AONB Partnership & 70 years of protected landscape designation
