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### **Water Resources**



**HM** Government

# PUBLIC NOTICES FOR THE INQUIRY AND PRE-INQUIRY MEETING

#### **RIVER MEDWAY (FLOOD RELIEF) ACT 1976**

# RIVER MEDWAY FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME (LEIGH FLOOD STORAGE AREA VARIATION)

WHEREAS the Environment Agency has submitted for confirmation to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs scheme amendments made by them under section 17(3)(c) to the River Medway (Flood Relief) Act 1976 ("the 1976 Act"), which would authorise them to vary the Scheme for the operation of the Leigh Flood Storage Area. The 1976 Act provided limited detail on the statutory process to be followed and therefore we are taking best practice under the Compulsory Purchase (Inquiries Procedure Rules) 2007, which have been suitably modified so as to be used for this inquiry.

#### NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

- 1. a pre-inquiry meeting will be held virtually on 16 March 2021 at 10:00.
- 2. a local inquiry into this application will be held virtually by The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs from 26 30 April 2021 and thereafter from 5 7 May 2021 at 10:00.

Both the pre-inquiry meeting and the inquiry will be presided over by the Inspector appointed to hold the inquiry.

A copy of the application to vary the scheme can be viewed at: https://gateleyhamer-pi.com/en-gb/river-medway/

ANY QUERIES on this Notice should be emailed to floodscasework@defra.gov.uk.

### **SCHEDULE**

The Scheme, which is subject to the public inquiry, will increase the maximum stored water level in the Leigh Flood Storage Area from 28.05m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) to 28.6m AOD. This will include works to modify and improve the gates and mechanical infrastructure at the Leigh Flood Storage Area main embankment and works to raise the embankment between the cattle arch bridge and Ensfield Road.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

William Harrington, Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. floodscasework@defra.gov.uk

19th February 2021

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