

A14
**Cambridge to Huntingdon
improvement scheme**
Development Consent Order Application

HE/A14/EX/175

TR010018

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Flood Risk Assessment Position Statement

October 2015

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010



A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme

Flood Risk Assessment Position Statement

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 To address the queries raised by the Environment Agency (EA) to the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) submitted in support of the *Environmental Statement* for the scheme in December 2014 and repeated in their Written Representations, Highways England has been undertaking a programme of additional hydraulic modelling to refine the FRA. The hydraulic models and relevant sections of the FRA have been submitted to the EA periodically for review and agreement. Highways England anticipates completing this process by 14 October 2015.
- 1.1.2 This note summarises the current position of the FRA.
- 1.1.3 All updates to the FRA will be collated into a single consolidated document for submission to the Examining Authority by 30 October 2015 (Deadline 13) as discussed at the Issue Specific Hearing on 17 September 2015.

2 Landowner Agreement to an Increase in Flood Risk

2.1 Ellington Brook

- 2.1.1 The document summarising the predicted change in flood risk on the Ellington Brook was issued to affected landowners (see below) and the Alconbury and Ellington Internal Drainage Board (part of the Bedford Group of IDB's) on 11 September 2015.
- 2.1.2 Highways England met with the Land Agent representing G B Sewell and Partners on 1 September to discuss the change in risk and is seeking a meeting with the other affected landowners, Eleanor Disney and the Church Commissioners for England, to achieve agreement to the change in risk during examination.

2.2 Brampton Brook

- 2.2.1 The updated assessment of scheme impact based on the revised hydraulic model indicates that there is no increase to flood risk upstream of the scheme. Therefore there are no affected landowners.

2.3 River Great Ouse

- 2.3.1 The document summarising the predicted change in flood risk on the river Great Ouse as a result of the scheme was issued to landowners and the Bedfordshire Group of Internal Drainage Boards on 11 September 2015.

2.3.2 A meeting was held with Mr Mann (landowner left/west bank) on 21 September 2015 who suggested that the predicted change in flood risk is likely to be acceptable subject to compensation. Highways England is seeking to reach agreement during the Examination. Liaison with Mr Marcu the landowner on the right/east bank is ongoing. Highways England is seeking a meeting with Mr Marcu during October to reach agreement to the change in flood risk.

2.4 West Brook

2.4.1 Updated hydraulic modelling of the West Brook identifies a small area of increase in the water level for the 1% (1 in 100) Annual Exceedance Probability event between the two areas of Borrow Pit 3 which cannot be fully mitigated by the scheme. There are no properties within the area affected. It is within the red line boundary and identified in the application as an area of land to be permanently acquired by Highways England. This is highlighted in the West Brook section of the FRA.

2.5 Beck Brook

2.5.1 The updated hydraulic modelling and assessment of scheme impact has identified an increase to flood risk on the Beck Brook upstream of the local access road, south of the main A14. This risk is limited to farmland and does not affect any properties. A memo is currently being prepared for issue to the affected landowner by 19 October 2015. This will be followed by a meeting before the end of October to seek agreement to the change in risk during Examination.

3 Hydraulic Modelling and FRA Agreement

3.1.1 Highways England's advisors met with the EA on 6 October 2015 and discussed modelling and FRA submissions to date on the following watercourses:

- Longstanton Brook
- Alconbury and Ellington Brooks
- River Great Ouse
- West Brook
- Covells Drain
- Oxholme Drain
- Utton's Drove Drain

3.1.2 Queries remain to be addressed on most of these but it is considered by Highways England that all can be agreed during the examination period.

3.1.3 Four outstanding models, associated reports and updates to the main FRA document are due to be issued to the EA for review by 14 October as follows:

- Cock Brook
- Brampton Brook
- Oakington Brook
- Beck Brook

3.1.4 The completion of these models has been delayed as each required the resolution of modelling issues. Highways England anticipates that the impact and proposed mitigation measures for each of these watercourses will be agreed by both parties during the examination period.

3.1.5 Table 3-1 summarises the current position of each hydraulic model and its agreement with the EA.

Table 3-1: Summary of Hydraulic Model Progress as of 14 October 2015

Watercourse	Current Position	Actions to Reach Agreement
Alconbury Brook	See Ellington Brook (combined model)	
Cock Brook	Modelling anomalies to be resolved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model to be submitted to EA by 14/10 • EA review by 21/10 • Address comments and resubmit to EA by 30/10
Ellington Brook	Model has been reviewed by EA, variations to skew of Ellington Brook local access road crossing adopted in model to be tested. To be re-submitted to EA before 14/10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address EA comments and resubmit by 14/10 • Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10
Brampton Brook	The previously proposed floodplain compensation mitigation measures revised following modelling update. Fewer areas are required, continue to utilise Borrow Pits as floodplain compensation. Submitted to EA 9/10 for review and approval.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EA review by 21/10 • Address comments and agree model by 30/10
River Great Ouse	EA have reviewed model and requested additional sensitivity runs on new crossing piers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit additional run information to EA by 14/10 • Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10

West Brook	FRA comments to be addressed. Sensitivity run on Award Drain hydrology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised FRA to be submitted to EA by 14/10 Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10
Oxholme Drain	Updated revised model issued to EA 7/10 Await formal comments from EA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Await formal EA review comments, acting on those received at meeting on 6/10 Formal comments from EA review by 14/10 Submit additional run information to EA by 14/10 Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10
Covell's Drain	Await formal comments from EA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal comments from EA review by 14/10 Submit additional run information to EA by 14/10 Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10
Utton's Drove Drain	Model agreed in principle. The EA have reviewed the updated model and have requested additional sensitivity runs and clarification.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional information to be provided to EA by 14/10 Agree impact and acceptability following EA review of additional model runs by 30/10
Longstanton Brook	Updated model issued and informal comments received from EA 6/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal EA comments on updated modelling awaited Resubmit model with additional information requested by 14/10
Oakington Brook	Calibrated model being finalised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated model issued to EA for review by 14/10 EA review by 21/10 Address any EA comments by 30/10
Beck Brook	Model update being finalised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated model issued to EA 14/10 EA review by 21/10 Address any EA comments by 30/10