

1 August 2023

IMPORTANT UPDATE – Change to Flood Warning Message

Dear Resident

We are writing to update you on the changes we have made to the flood warning service for Beales Corner in Bewdley. These changes come into effect from **1 August 2023** and will remain in place until the new flood risk management scheme has been completed (currently estimated to be in 18 to 22 months' time).

As you are aware, work on the permanent flood risk management scheme is continuing with the main construction phase starting in August. As previously communicated, it will not be possible to deploy the temporary flood barriers due to the level of work being carried out on site, as well as our ability to erect the barriers in a way that provides the required safety to the public behind them. Consequently, the Flood Warning message has been amended accordingly.

Changes to the Flood Warning Service Message

If you are not already signed up to the Flood Warning Service, please visit our website: <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/> or call Floodline on 0345 988 1188

If you already receive our warning service, please note the following change:



A Flood Alert will continue to be issued at threshold of 3.3m



A single Flood Warning will be issued at threshold of 4.1m.

'As previously communicated, the barriers at Beales Corner will not be deployed due to the construction of the Flood Risk Management Scheme.'

The further update messages, advising when water levels were against the barrier, will no longer be issued.

The Environment Agency have trialled the use of temporary barriers in Beales Corner, Bewdley since 2007. This has always been under a best endeavours basis. The temporary barriers have always offered a limited level of flood risk reduction, and therefore many residents also have Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures. During the main construction period, you will need to be extra vigilant if flood warnings are issued and be ready to take personal action to reduce the impacts of any flood.

Together with partner organisations, we have reviewed the multi-agency response plan, and aim to provide additional support for residents during this construction period should it be needed. However, this will always be subject to available resource and any other higher priority incidents across the county. Therefore, we always recommend that you make your own necessary arrangements to reduce the impact a flood has on you and your property.

The National Flood Forum (NFF) are supporting the Bewdley Flood Action Group. If you would be interested in finding out more about joining, please contact the NFF on 01299 403 055 / jean.timmins@floodforum.org.uk

Construction Project updates

Further information and updates on the Beales Corner Flood Risk Management Scheme, including details of traffic management, can be found on the project website: <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/bealesfrms/>

If you would like to receive the project newsletter, please email your contact details to BLBFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk or call our National Customer Contact Centre during office hours on 03708 506 506 and ask to be added to the mailing list.

If you have any further questions about the Flood Warning Service, please email [Enquiries Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Enquiries_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk) or call the Enquiries Team on 02084 747856.

Kind regards,

Flood Resilience Team
West Midlands Area