

Supporting Communities Remaining at Risk (SCRR)

Purley-on-Thames

Winter 2016

What's happening?

We have identified your community as one where a temporary flood defence could help reduce the impact of flooding. To find out more we need to take a closer look so you might see our staff and contractors in your community conducting preparatory works over the next few months.

To complete these works, we may need access to privately owned land to clear vegetation and carry out other minor works like fitting removable fences or gateways. However where this is the case, we will be in direct contact with residents and landowners.

The project's purpose and objectives

We set up the SCRR project to improve the way we deploy temporary defences to protect communities that do not currently have a permanent flood defence. Temporary defences include pumps and barriers that are stored elsewhere and delivered to a location to reduce the impact of flooding to homes and businesses, minimise risk to life and help reduce the clean-up required after a flood.

Wherever permanent flood defences are in development or at least technically feasible, we will continue to develop them as planned. If temporary defences are also viable they will be used until such a time as a permanent defence can be completed.

Frequently asked questions

How do you decide where to use temporary defences?

Temporary defences do not work in all locations, the SCRR project used a range of criteria to decide where they could be used, and that is where they:

- Will protect more than five properties, from a **3.3% chance** of flooding in **any year**
- Offer a practical method of reducing the impact of flooding and are economically viable
- **Will not** significantly increase the impact of flooding elsewhere for other properties or communities
- Would not encircle and therefore isolate the community from additional support
- Have had no significant investment in individual property level protection
- Our ability to forecast flooding provides enough time to deploy the defences
- Were listed in our six year investment programme
- There is support from the local authority, partner organisations and the community



Metal A-frame, type barrier deployed in Staines-upon-Thames, February 2014.

When you receive a Flood Warning, you should always be aware of the situation in your local area and be prepared to take action to protect yourself, your family, your pets and property.

How do temporary barriers reduce my flood risk?

Temporary barriers work by creating an artificial wall to block the flow of water across the floodplain, preventing it from reaching those properties at risk and without increasing the impact of flooding elsewhere.

Where will the barriers be stored?

We will hold stocks of temporary barriers and supporting equipment at strategic locations across the country. When this equipment is required it will be delivered to the locations where it is to be deployed.

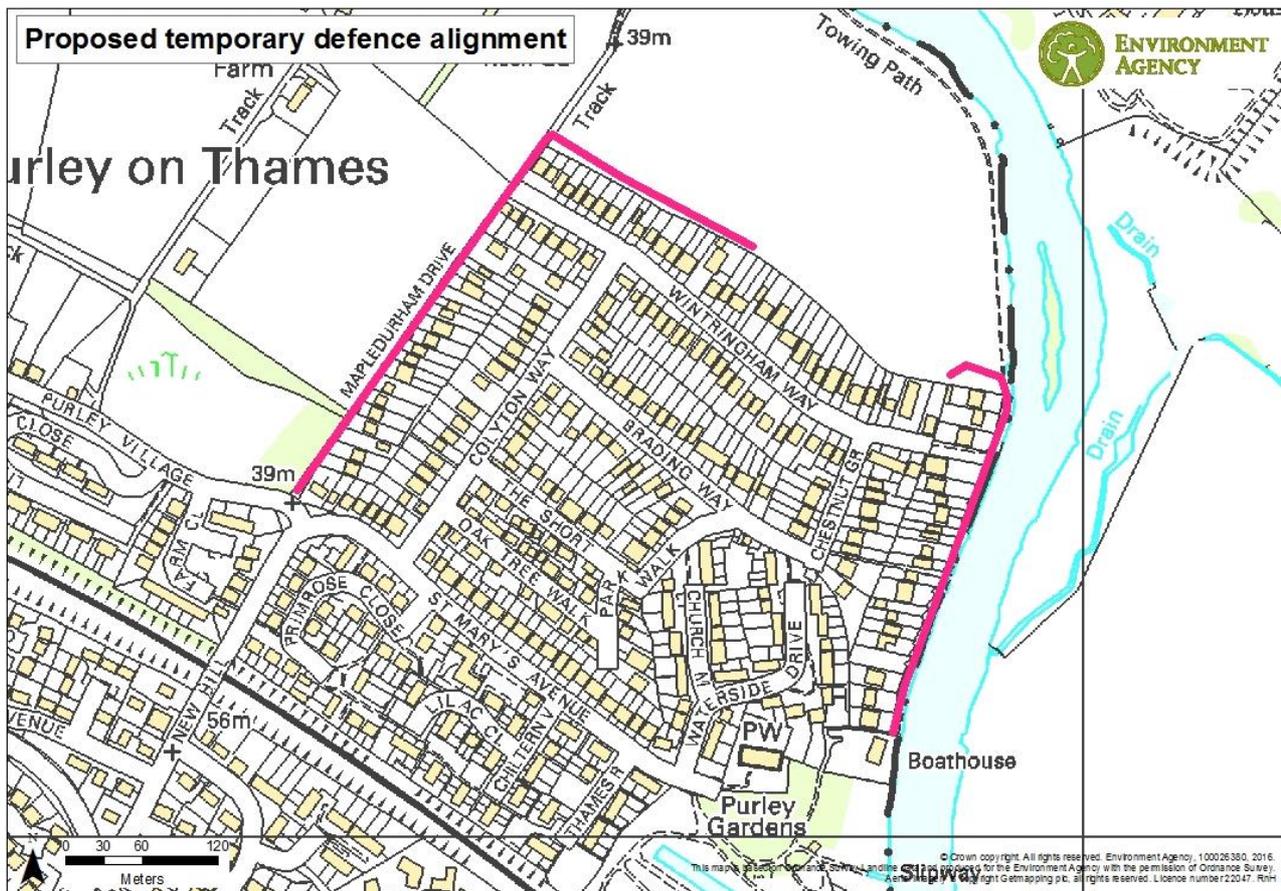
Who will deliver and deploy the temporary defences?

Our Operations Management staff or our contractors, including Eddie Stobart (Road Transport) Ltd. will deliver the equipment to site and deploy it when required.

Who else is involved?

We are working alongside our partners in local government, the emergency services, as well as private, voluntary and community organisations to ensure that it is possible to deploy these defences this winter if required.

Where will the defences be deployed in my community?



Please note

- These alignments **are subject to change** due to ongoing investigations into these locations, as well as discussions with residents and landowners.
- Temporary barriers **do not offer the same standard of protection** as a permanent defence.
- There is no guarantee they can be deployed during every flood because each flood is different and temporary defences do not work in all situations.
- The defences may require the closure and pumping of watercourses as well as supporting works like road closures and vegetation clearance. These details are currently being confirmed.

Further information and contacts

To check whether you are at risk of flooding or to register for free flood alerts and warnings please refer to the Environment Agency web pages:- <https://www.gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding>

For any other questions about temporary defences, please contact WTenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk or call 02030 259 804

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188