



Peterborough SuDS

Working to promote and improve Sustainable Drainage in Peterborough

Quarterly Newsletter

December 2015

Welcome!

💧 We are the Sustainable Drainage Team working within Peterborough City Council.

Our work for Peterborough takes on many forms and so we have devised this quarterly newsletter to keep you informed of our latest projects. Happy reading!

Water Level Monitoring

💧 Our team have installed water level monitoring at four locations across Peterborough.

These locations were chosen to help this team and others in the council respond quickly to heavy rainfall.

The installation of this telemetry means that the team can receive an early warning of when water levels start to rise and take early action.

Additionally the information collected can, in time, be used to provide a better understanding of how these catchments respond to rainfall.



Dams Pond

New Weather Stations

💧 Our Sustainable Drainage Team worked closely with [Opportunity Peterborough](#) with the installation of 23 weather stations in the Peterborough area.

Initially these stations are intended to provide atmospheric information for schools to use in their projects.

Our team are looking at how information from the rain gauges on 7 of these stations can be used to provide an early warning system and be combined with the water level telemetry information to understand how the drainage systems cope with certain volumes of rainfall.



Weather Station at ABAX Stadium

We are also working with the Peterborough Flood and Water Partnership to make sure that organisations across the Peterborough area, such as the Internal Drainage Boards and Environment Agency, are able to share rainfall information.

Cuckoo's Hollow

Members of our team have been working on a project to enhance Cuckoo's Hollow. This project will incorporate the works being undertaken as part of the [Werrington Brook Improvement Programme](#).



Cuckoo's Hollow

The work will involve the removal of a vast amount of overgrown reed growth on the Western side of the lake whilst keeping the majority of reed growth on the eastern half to enhance the wildlife habitat.

It is anticipated **800 cubic metres** of silt will be removed from the lake and left to drain down naturally resulting in an approximate **75% volume reduction**, thereafter this will be landscaped, harrowed and sown with grass seed. Oxygen Levels in the lake will be monitored throughout the works.

A specialist silt pushing boat will be used to move the sediment which reduces the amount of silt being animated within the lake compared to the use of a long reach tracked excavator. All reeds will be cut and removed from the lake with an amphibious vehicle which also assists in reducing the disruption.

It is envisaged once the project is complete it will restore the amenity value, enhance the wildlife habitat and further more reduce flood risk.



Cuckoo's Hollow

Exercise Nimbus

A member of our Sustainable Drainage Team recently participated in a local Emergency Planning exercise known as **Exercise Nimbus**.

The exercise explores ways to provide support to the council Emergency Planning team and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Resilience Forum.

We helped to provide some technical understanding and coordination in a test of the multi agency response to a flood event.

Our year so far...

This year so far we have currently inspected and surveyed **15 kilometres of watercourses** as well as numerous ponds.

These have all been cleansed, incorporating vegetation and silt management to ensure surrounding greenfield, industrial, residential and highway land can discharge freely thus reducing flood risk.

North Bank

We have supported the local Highway Authority in recent years by reviewing the protocol for closing North Bank, developing the existing processes to be more robust and ensure that they work in conjunction with [Cambridgeshire County Council](#).

As a result communication is now more widely spread, using local Flood Wardens and social media alongside existing radio, website and newspaper channels.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

We will be back for another edition in 2016.

Best Wishes,
Sustainable Drainage Team



Christmas Craig