

1. The recent submission document for the Sandymoor South development clarified that Halton Borough Council are the Lead Local Flood Authority for the area. It also clarified that the Environment Agency are responsible for Keckwick Brook and Sandymoor Brook.

Correct, both LLFA and EA have responsibilities relating to the Brooks. However any landowner who has a stretch of watercourse that runs on or under their land or run on the boundary of their land has riparian responsibilities for watercourse. Therefore the LLFA and EA are not the only parties with responsibilities to Keckwick/Sandymoor Brook. More detail on these responsibilities can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>

2. Who is responsible for the regular checking and clearance of the trash gates on both brooks? On what frequency are these checked?

This is dependent on the landowner in which the Brooks run. In general in Sandymoor the LLFA checks and clears the trash gates and culverts under adopted Highway. HBC assets are roughly subject to monthly inspection and orders are raised for culvert and trash screen clearance with our contractors as and when it is needed. Works were undertaken at Walsingham Drive, Wisbech, Windy Willow underpass and Blackheath Lane last week to clear trash screens, removed debris / vegetation from the culverts.

3. Who is responsible for the maintenance of vegetation on both of the brooks and on what frequency are they checked and cut-back?

As above the landowner has responsibility. Where the Brooks run through land that falls under HBC ownership maintenance is carried out in line with our Open Spaces regime.

4. As the LLFA, do HBC monitor the state and condition of the brooks on a regular basis, including the condition of the trash gates and vegetation? If not, why not?

This is as per question 2 and 3 above.

5. As the LLFA do HBC monitor and maintain the condition of the numerous attenuation ponds across Sandymoor? If not, why not? The recent submission for Sandymoor South clearly indicated in the correspondence within the Utility Report that United Utilities will not be taking any responsibility for the new attenuation ponds at the development. As the LLFA is it therefore expected that HBC will take ownership of these assets?

Whichever Landowner has an attenuation pond then maintenance responsibility sits with them.

HBC are only responsible to monitor and maintain attenuation ponds that they have adopted. HBC have not adopted any SuDS / attenuation features within Sandymoor.

During the planning phase the LLFA will look at the submission and comment on whether what is being proposed is appropriate, we will also generally ask or condition the developer to supply a maintenance and management plan for any of the features. During the construction phase the LLFA will generally attend site to check the features are being constructed as per the design and in recent years we have requested a condition be applied so we can receive as built drawings of the features.

With regards to Sandymoor South the HBC is not expecting to take ownership of the attenuation assets and would expect these responsibilities to be adopted by a management company or landowner.

6. Are there adequate funds for the on-going maintenance and condition monitoring of each brook and attenuation pond system? Where are these funds derived from?

We currently have the funds to maintain HBC assets, we don't have funding or resource currently to adopt any SuDS. Where we need to upgrade / create new assets we generally bid for funding via the EA GiA process.

7. Who is responsible for the condition monitoring and maintenance of the ponds within the woodland within Sandymoor, where the woodland is under the control of the Woodland Trust?

Assets on a landowners land are theirs to maintain as they have riparian responsibility so in this case it would be the Woodland Trust.

8. Who ensures that the culverts from the Woodland Trust assets remain free running and clear of most debris to prevent increased flood risk? Is this HBC as the LLFA?

Assets on a landowners land are theirs to maintain as they have riparian responsibility so in this case it would be the Woodland Trust.

9. I live on Walsingham drive, after my neighbour was slid into by a truck on black ice on Walsingham drive and also two courier vehicles nearly crashed into our house and driveway last year and the year before (video footage available), I'd really appreciate the road being gritted (judging by the kerbs and road layout part of it will be a bus route soon?) or at least a grit bin provided for residents to grit the road themselves, I'd presume any other residents of side roads off the existing gritted bus route would like access to grit bins as well?

I understand that Walsingham drive is currently partly adopted, once fully adopted Highway and if it becomes used by buses then the road would become part of the Runcorn gritting route. I have asked that the area be assessed for a grit bin and will inform you of the outcome.

10. "Following 4 recent road closures on Keckwick Lane and Delph Lane without any resident pre-notification, could John please outline what the process should be for informing local residents of road closures, and how he can ensure that the process is followed for future closures"

I have been in contact with our Traffic Manager and I am informed that the recent closures on Delph Lane and Keckwick Lane are due to works by British Telecom.

With regard to works by the Highway Authority, where appropriate there would be a letter drop to affected residents and advance notification boards would be erected two weeks in advance.

All road works in Halton are subject to Permitting and this information is displayed on One.Network.