



# Rotherham Renaissance

...a new beginning

## The Riverside Flood Defence Scheme

Through Rotherham Renaissance, the town is driving forward a number of regeneration initiatives to create modern, high value and quality business and living environments – a major contributor to this is making a feature of the River Don.

Rotherham  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council

The logo for Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, featuring a stylized 'R' composed of two overlapping shapes: a purple one on the left and an orange one on the right.



To achieve the Renaissance vision a flood alleviation scheme is an essential first step to solve an existing constraint on the development of the town centre.

## The Riverside Regeneration Plan

The scheme will create an area for water to transfer to, in the event of flooding, and provides a wetland area that is accessible for the public to enjoy. Along the river edge, the flood scheme will remove barriers to flow and strengthen and enhance existing river wall defences. It will also open up the riverside to new brownfield urban development and create riverside access.

The All Saints' Quarter development is creating living, retail and business opportunities along the waterfront. The River Don is therefore already starting to become an important feature to Rotherham building pride and creating vibrancy amongst all facets of its community – the flood scheme will significantly contribute to ensure the safety of the riverside environment from future flood events.

### The Flood Risk

The town of Rotherham is built on the confluence of two significant rivers, the Don and the Rother, which are subject to a risk of flooding. Immediately west of this point there is the successful Templeborough Regeneration Area, a corridor of land extending from Rotherham itself to the M1 Motorway and includes the main road and rail links to Sheffield. It therefore provides a key link between Rotherham and Sheffield, and with the wider Don Valley, forms part of a sub-regionally important employment area. The recent flood events in June 2007 demonstrated very clearly the need for a scheme.



Sheffield Road, Templeborough was flooded, the railway and station also, with a number of commercial businesses considerably affected.

The Partnership of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Forward have worked together since 2003 to provide for a 1 in 100 year standard of flood defence over 1.5km from Magna to Centenary Way viaduct as a first phase of a 3km Rotherham community wide scheme. This is underway now and building is being carried out by Contractors Volker Stevin with design by Jacobs. This first phase will provide a flood compensation area for the whole scheme and will set required defence levels for the remainder.





## The Benefits

The scheme will, ultimately, remove a constraint to the achievement of the Renaissance vision, affording safety from flood risk to around 30 hectares of brownfield urban and development land, the canal, the main western gateway, rail and road infrastructure and 37 hectares of land accommodating existing businesses. It will therefore potentially provide over 1,000 full time jobs and safeguard over 2,000 existing jobs. The new community wetland area will be managed by Sheffield Rotherham Wildlife Trust, and local community access including schools and local businesses will be encouraged through development of the

facilities on site. Enjoyment of the area will be further encouraged and facilitated by the provision of walkways, wetland habitats, including small ponds and a variety of retained features. It is hoped the area will be a flagship of environmental regeneration good practice, including learning opportunities and celebrating the heritage of the whole area. This is a highly visible location at the centre of the Templeborough Regeneration corridor that provides an opportunity for the profile of this part of the flood defence scheme to be of regional significance.

## Contact

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