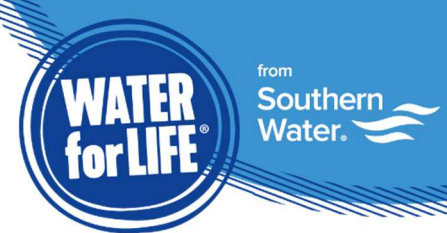


FAIRLIGHT UPDATE



What we're doing to 'slow the flow' and reduce surface water in Fairlight

[Watch our Fairlight Pathfinder Update video](#)

Background

The Fairlight catchment was specifically chosen as a Pathfinder due to current and historical occurrences of flooding, and current storm overflow performance within the area. The original Fairlight sewer network is acting as a combined sewer with foul water and surface water connecting into the sewerage network.

- **Infrastructure improvements:** We're upgrading and optimising our infrastructure and systems to manage heavier flows of rainwater.
- **Partnership:** We're working closely with customer and stakeholders within the catchments as well as local authorities, businesses, and homeowners so we can make the biggest impact possible.
- **Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS):** We're using a variety of SuDS to increase natural drainage and manage excess surface water.
- **Putting misconnections right:** Illegal surface water [misconnections](#) can really affect how well sewer systems handle rainwater. Many of these misconnections are on private pipework, so we need to ask permission from the landowner before we can put them right.

Our progress

- **Slow the flow:** We've installed 263 slow-drain water butts for residents. These will capture 26,300 litres per rain event and manage 0.52 hectares of impermeable area. We're sourcing alternative sizes of water butts and will be rolling out Phase Two of the installs in **Spring 2024**.
- **Pipework improvements:** We've carried out 5km of detailed surveys in the catchment on the main sewer spines. We're now reviewing these surveys and preparing a programme of works to line the key areas of the sewer to stop infiltration, with a view to start late **Spring 2024**.

Our operational colleagues will be starting to reline parts of the sewer linked with the Waites Lane storm overflow through Wakeham's field – **April 2024**.

- **Illegal connections:** We've found and sealed eight illegal surface water connections within existing foul manholes, this has now increased the resilience of the system and is managing at least 0.5 hectares of impermeable area.
- **Optimisation:** We're in the process of reviewing and optimising the way in which we return stormwater stored in the storm tanks at the treatment works. By doing this, we can hold and treat even more stormwater. We're also reviewing the treatment process for other optimisation opportunities.
- **Large roof rainwater management:** We're carrying out surveys in the catchment on large roofs to manage their rainwater run-off. If the properties are connected to the foul system, our engineers will be contacting the owners over the coming months with proposals to rectify the connections.
- **Working collaboratively:** We're working with the Marsham Sewer Trust and the Environment Agency on investigations into how the rainfall induced infiltration impacts the surrounding area.



Our progress



- Completed WinCan Survey
- Completed CCTV survey
- Lining Works in progress
- Completed Surveys at Marsham Farm
- Completed Lining Works

- Combined Sewer Overflow
- Surface Water connection under review
- Managed Surface water connection
- Red Roofs to be managed
- Treatment Works Optimisation

Upcoming

- **Pathfinder surveys:** Lower Waites Lane 2 CSO was visited out of hours on the weekend of the 9th March to perform remedial work on the storm screen by our sub-contractor. A clean of Lower Waites Lane 2 will be completed after the Easter break, with Waites Lane CSO to be completed once ground water levels subside - **Spring 2024**
- **CCTV surveys:** CCTV surveys are continuing in target areas, including areas we were unable to access earlier in the year due to high water levels – **Spring 2024**
- **Redundant main to the treatment works:** This is part of our infrastructure optimisations and will be progressing with further surveys and investigations towards the end of April – **April 2024**
- **Treatment works optimisation:** Work is ongoing to optimise the treatment process on our treatment works and will continue through 2024. Working with our engineering sub-contractors we've identified two areas which will progress in **April 2024**
- **Engagement :** The Southern Water Engineer and Project Manager will be at Fairlight Village Hall on 15th April from 10:00-14:00 for a customer drop-in.

