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.

This catchment was selected so that, by using a holistic catchment approach to understanding and managing flows, we can identify options to reduce the flooding and pollution incidents and the storm loading on the treatment works.

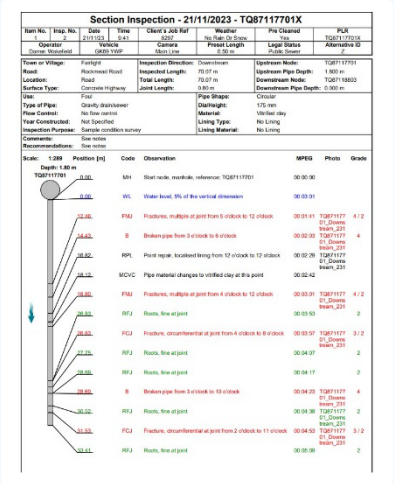
Our approach

- **Infrastructure improvements:** We're upgrading and optimising our infrastructure and systems to manage heavier flows of rainwater.
- **Partnership:** We're working closely with Deal Water Action Task Force 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:** 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

- Combined Sewer Overflow
- Surface Water connection under review
- Managed Surface water connection
- Red Roofs to be managed
- Treatment Works Optimisation
- Completed WinCan Survey
- Completed CCTV survey
- Lining Works in progress
- Completed Surveys at Marsham Farm

Our progress


Section Inspection - 21/11/2023 - TQ87117701X

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

  Our operational colleagues will be starting to reline parts of the sewer of the Waites Lane storm overflow through Wakeham's field February – March 2024
- **Surface water connections:** We're found and sealed eight 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 storm water stored in the storm tanks at the treatment works. We're also reviewing the treatment process for other optimisation opportunities.
- **Large roof rainwater management:** We're carrying out surveys within the catchment on the large roofs to manage the rainwater runoff from them. 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 in investigations into how the rainfall induced infiltration impacts the surrounding area.

Upcoming

- **Pathfinder surveys:** We'll be in the catchment with our operational colleagues to carry out a health check and clean of the combined sewer overflows throughout **March 2024**
- **CCTV surveys:** CCTV surveys are continuing in target areas **– March 2024**
- **Redundant main to the treatment works:** We're working with landowners to gain access to the field leading to the treatment works, we'll then be carrying out surveys on the redundant main. This is part of our infrastructure optimisations **– March 2024**
- **Treatment works optimisation –** Work is ongoing to optimise the treatment process on our treatment works.