

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Flood Resilience Project - Abson Road

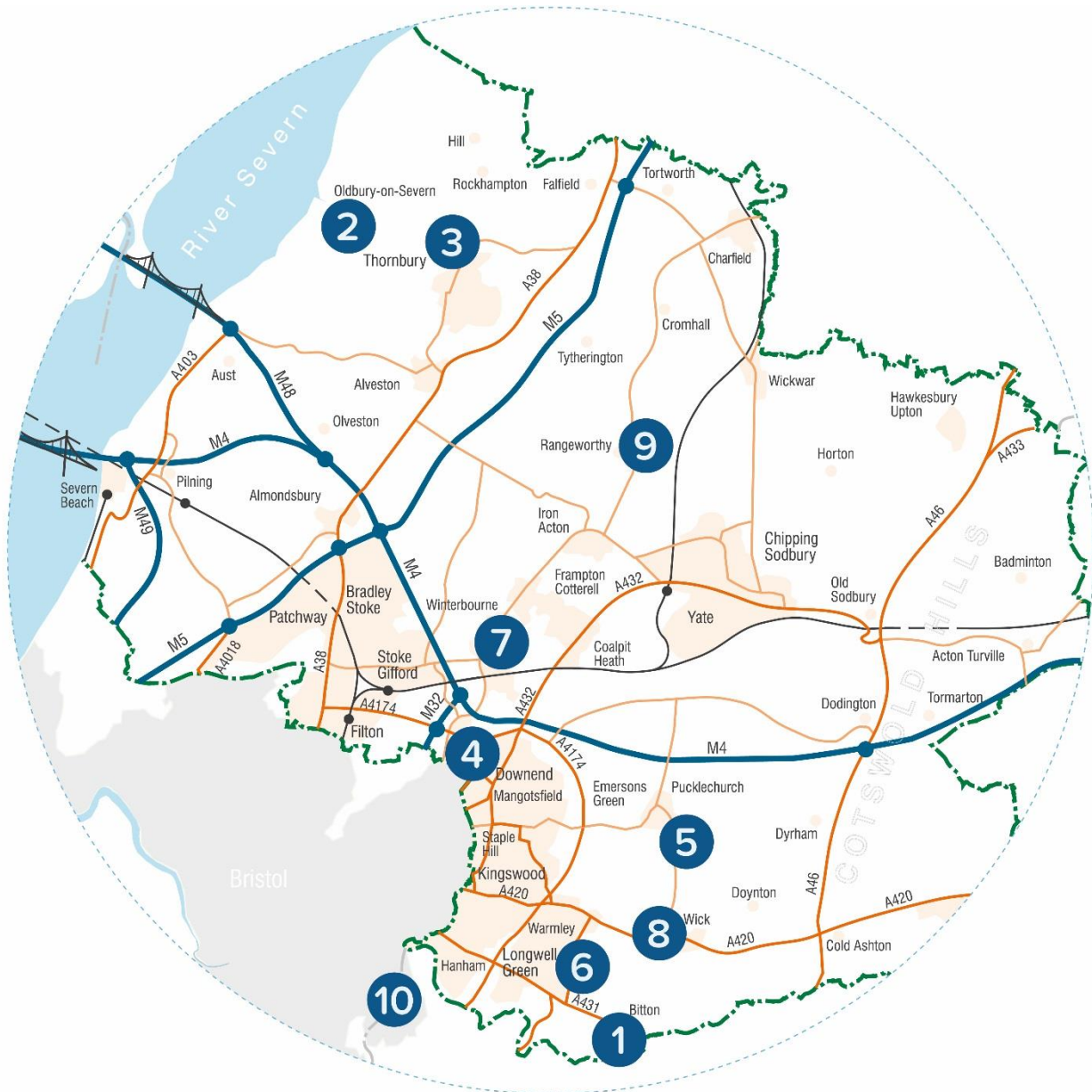
### Q1) What is the Flood Resilience Project?

In 2017 we were successful in applying for £3.35million of government funding, under the Challenge Fund scheme, to make major improvements to drainage systems at nine sites in South Gloucestershire and one site in Bristol. The grant will pay for a package of measures to address long-standing flooding problems at each of the sites and will include the replacement and upgrading of ineffective drainage systems. The works will mean the sites, generally on classified roads, will be able to cope with extreme weather. They will reduce the need for reactive maintenance works and ultimately result in a cost saving for the council.

### Q2) Where are the nine sites you will be working on in South Gloucestershire?

The sites in South Gloucestershire are:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. A431 (Bath Road)                      | Swineford             |
| 2. Church Road & Chapel Road & Camp Road | Oldbury on Severn     |
| 3. Oldbury Lane                          | Thornbury             |
| 4. Beckspool Road                        | Frenchay              |
| 5. Abson Road                            | Wick                  |
| 6. A4175 Cherry Gardens Road             | Bitton                |
| 7. B4058 (High Street)                   | Winterbourne          |
| 8. A420 (High Street)                    | Wick                  |
| 9. B4058                                 | Bagstone, Rangeworthy |



**Q3) Which site will be you working on first?**

The first site to receive drainage improvements will be Abson Road, Wick. Work will start on site at Abson Road on Monday 14 May.

**Q4) Will you be closing Abson Road?**

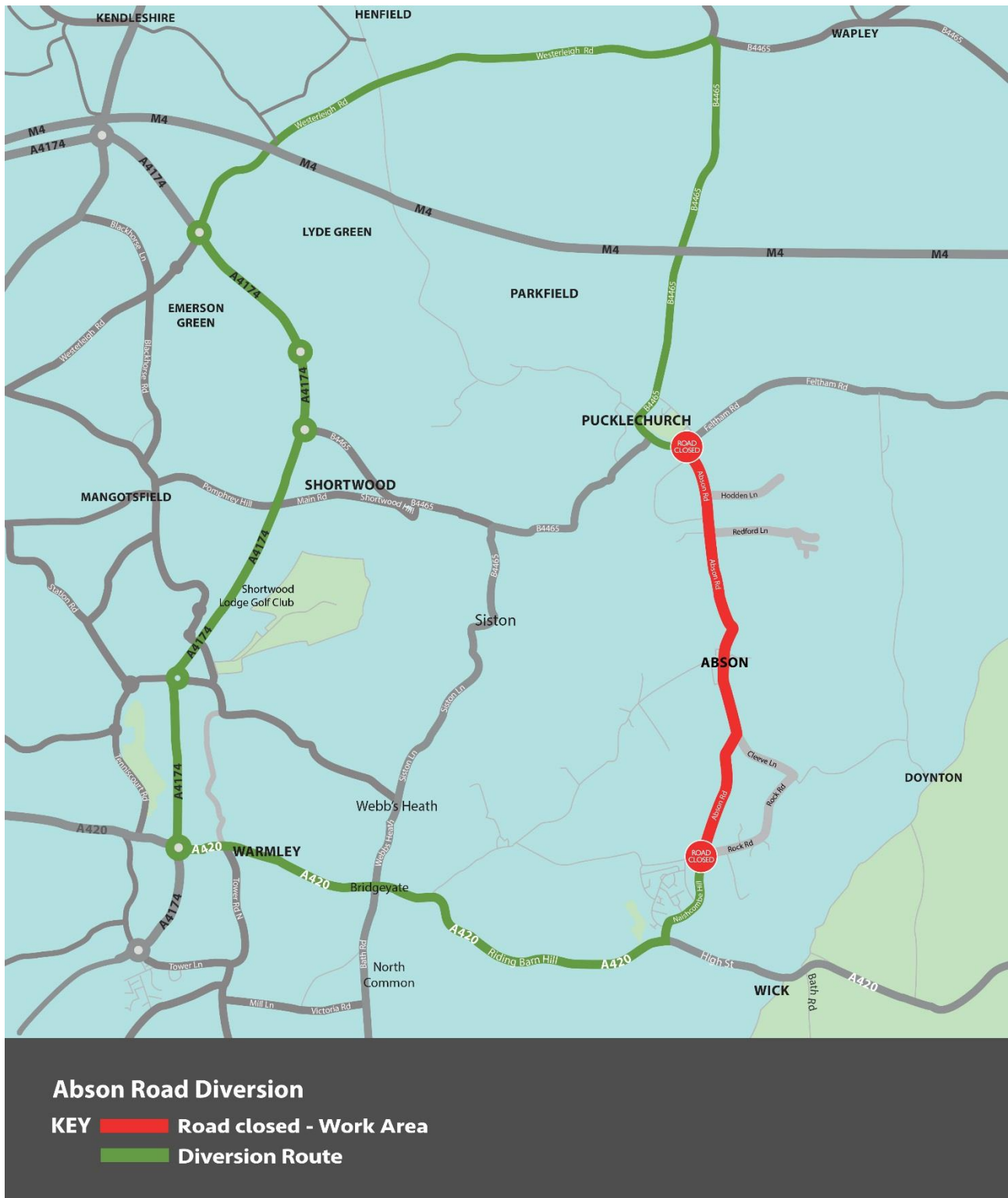
In order for us to carry out these improvements safely, we will need to close the road for the duration of the work. The closure will be in place from the junction of Rock Road to the junction with Feltham Road. It will be closed 24 hours a day from 10am on Monday 14 May.

**Q5) What is the diversion route?**

**Contact:**

[FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk) [www.southglos.gov.uk/FloodResilience](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/FloodResilience)

The diversion route from Feltham Road is north on the B4465, west on Westerleigh Road to the A4174 ring road, southbound on the ring road, east on the A420 and northbound at Naishcombe Hill.



### Q6) What works are you carrying out at Abson Road?

Repairs will include replacing and/or upgrading defective pipes, removing root ingress from trees and replacing defective manholes and gully covers. CCTV surveys carried out before

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the works revealed significant damage, however, we may find further defects as we begin work on site.

**Q7) How long will the works take and how long will the road be closed for?**

We may find more damage than our CCTV surveys have already identified once we start work on site. It is therefore difficult to provide an accurate timescale of the works but we anticipate they could last for up to six months. We will provide updates for residents as we begin work on site.

**Q8) Why hasn't this work been undertaken before?**

This maintenance work is included in a long term maintenance programme. However, we now have the opportunity to carry out this work along with improvements to other sites in South Gloucestershire through the financial support of the Challenge Fund received from the Department for Transport (DfT).

**Q9) What if these works were not carried out?**

If no work was undertaken Abson Road would flood on a more regular basis and the drainage system in place would gradually deteriorate even further. This would result in an increase in closures due to flooding and damage to the carriageway itself. Eventually, if no improvements were made, the road would have to be closed for drainage repairs as well as highway reconstruction which would have to be funded by the council.

**Q10) I live on Abson Road, how will I get in and out?**

Access will be maintained for properties on Abson Road, however, it may vary during the course of the project from the north or south end of Abson Road. We will keep residents notified during the course of the works.

When we are excavating in the carriageway outside a property entrance, access will be restricted for a short time period. Prior to this happening, we will be in direct liaison with the affected resident/s to advise them and work out the best solution. Heavy duty metal sheets will be used to allow vehicles to pass over open drainage excavations.

During the works, Abson Road will be a no through route.

**Q11) I live in Oaktree Avenue, how will I access my property?**

Road Closed Ahead signs will be in place at Feltham Road to allow motorists to follow the diversion route more easily. The physical road closure will be in place at Redford Lane and works will not take place north of this so access to Oaktree Avenue will be maintained at all times.

**Q12) I live on Abson Road, how will my bins get emptied?**

Bin collections will be as normal. The bin lorry will access either from the north end or south end of Abson Road.

**Q13) How will the emergency services get through?**

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Emergency services will have access through the site, but depending upon the works they may have to access the point of the emergency from either the north end or south end of Abson Road. We are liaising with the emergency services and have advised them of the works.

**Q14) Are bus services going to be affected?**

The 620 service will be affected by the closure of Abson Road and will be diverted for the duration of the works. See details of the amended route on our website [www.southglos.gov.uk/transport-and-streets](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/transport-and-streets)

**Q15) My business is going to be affected by this road closure, will I get a reduction in my rates?**

Under certain circumstances businesses might be eligible for a reduction or relief in business rates. Further information on business rates is available on our website <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/business/business-rates/>

**Q16) Who will be doing the work?**

The council's StreetCare department is responsible for this project and our own in-house teams will be carrying out the works.

**Q17) Why are you closing the whole road if you are only working on sections of it?**

It is necessary to divert any potential through traffic away from Abson Road. If potential through traffic were allowed all the way along to the point of the physical works then they would have to turn around in the available road width, this is not achievable for heavy goods vehicles.

In addition a large percentage of the drainage is under the carriageway or in the verge. To enable us to repair or replace the drainage, we require a large excavator and a safe working zone. This type of work cannot be undertaken safely using traffic signals.

**Q18) Will there be any benefits to Abson Road?**

This work will improve the road's resilience to flooding meaning there will be less disruption and damage during extreme weather. By carrying out this work now, the drainage system will be greatly improved and will reduce the requirement for frequent and costly, emergency maintenance works.

**Q19) What will be the impact on vehicle journey times?**

The diversion is lengthy and we anticipate journey times will increase by a significant amount.

We understand the scheme will cause disruption to residents, commuters and businesses and we would like to apologise in advance and kindly ask for your patience whilst this is taking place.

We have been working hard to make people aware of the works and the impact they are likely to have on businesses, commuters and communities. We are sorry but unfortunately we can't do these works without having a major impact on travel in the area.

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**Q20) Will you be monitoring the impact on local roads?**

Officers will be out monitoring the situation during the first few weeks of the works at key locations, junctions and areas expected to be impacted the most. We are operating a flexible approach to the traffic management and will implement additional regulations, closures or signage if considered appropriate.

**Q21) Have you consulted people about the project?**

The work was agreed by members and as an operational matter, we did not hold a public consultation on whether the works will be carried out or not.

However, we are engaging with residents, commuters, businesses, parish councils, schools and organisations in the area and are holding two public sessions where members of the team will be available to answer any questions.

These take place on:

**Tuesday 1 May, Pucklechurch Community Centre from 4pm-7pm**

**Thursday 3 May, Wick Village Hall from 4.30pm-6.30pm**

**Q22) Where can I find out more information?**

Read the latest news on this project at [www.southglos.gov.uk/newsroom](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/newsroom) or visit our dedicated web pages [www.southglos.gov.uk/FloodResilience](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/FloodResilience)

To contact a member of the team email [FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:FloodResilienceProject@southglos.gov.uk) or call 01454 868000.

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