

Sicity / Marguerite Park Phase 1 Flood Alleviation Project August 2021

Reducing
The risk of out
of sewer
Flooding

Project Update

NI Water is investing £8 million over the next 2 years to reduce the risk of out-of-sewer flooding in the Marguerite Park area of south Belfast, and pave the way for works at Sicity Park under Phase 2.

Over recent years, capacity issues within the existing sewer network have contributed to some homes within the Marguerite and Sicity areas experiencing internal and external property flooding.

The project involves the construction of over 1.3km of new large sewer pipes up to 1500mm in diameter, from the Groveland's area of Musgrave Park through the park grounds/Musgrave Park Hospital/Malone College, crossing under the railway line and through private lands into Diamond Gardens/Marguerite Park and Donegall Park.

Around 800m of the new sewer will be constructed using 'trenchless' tunnelling techniques, which will include tunnelling under the main Belfast to Dublin rail line. This method of construction will substantially reduce disruption within Musgrave Park/ Musgrave Park Hospital and Malone Integrated College.

Progress to date

Tunnelling works

Works commenced in April 2021 and are progressing well; a significant milestone was recently reached when the Tunnel Boring Machine completed the first section of tunnelled sewer within the grounds of Musgrave Park. This section, which is 215 meters, was the longest tunnel drive of the project.



TBM Breakthrough



Preparation of Tunnelling Pit

Pipelaying works

Open cut pipelaying works are continuing with the Groveland's area of Musgrave Park, and will connect into the section of tunnelled sewer, which has just been completed.

Current planned works

The next tunnel drive from Musgrave Park into the grounds of Musgrave Park Hospital is 120m long and is now underway.

Excavation works are continuing on other pits within the hospital and school grounds to facilitate the remaining four sections of tunnelling. These tunnel drives will be undertaken through the grounds of Musgrave Park Hospital / Malone College, and under the Belfast to Dublin rail line into private lands adjacent to Diamond Gardens.

During August our contractor will commence work to upgrade an existing storm water culvert under the railway line prior to the proposed tunnelling works in this area.

Future works

In August / September, ground investigation works will be undertaken within private lands adjacent to Creighton's Car Repair Workshop on Diamond Gardens. This advance work is in preparation for the section of tunnelling under the Belfast to Dublin rail line, which is currently programmed to be completed between December 2021 and January 2022.

Due to the number and location of existing underground services, the new sewers within the Diamond Gardens/Dongall Park and Marguerite Park areas will be undertaken by the traditional 'open-dig' method. We currently anticipate this section of the works will commence during Spring 2022, subject to progress on other elements of the project. We will provide a further update on timeframe as work progresses.

If you have any queries please contact Waterline on 03457 440088 or email waterline@niwater.com quoting '**KR489 Sicily/Marguerite Park Flood Alleviation Project**'

For further background information on the project, please visit: <https://www.niwater.com/major-infrastructure-investments/>

When complete, Phase 1 of this major investment by NI Water will significantly reduce the risk of out-of-sewer flooding and environmental pollution within the Marguerite Park area of South Belfast and will pave the way for Phase 2 Sicily Park.

NI Water along with our contractor BSG Civil Engineering are grateful to the public and all of our stakeholders for their continued co-operation and patience throughout this significant programme of essential works. We will continue to minimise disruption as far as is possible throughout the project.