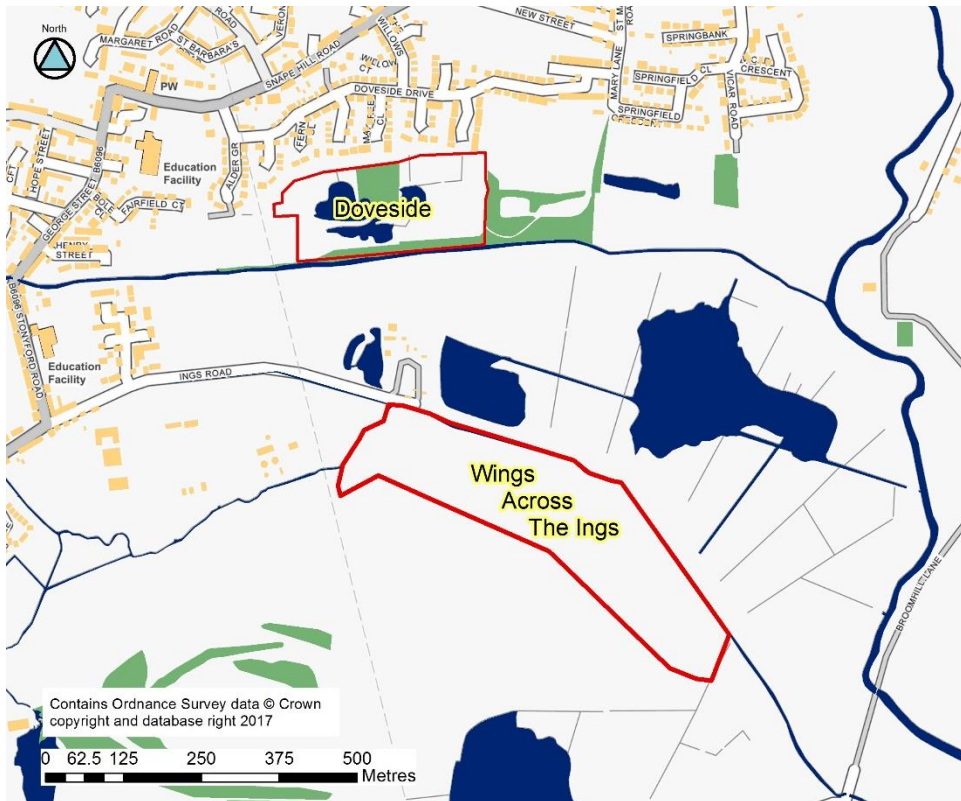


Wings across the Ings / Doveside Nature Reserve Project

The Wings across the Ings (WATI) / Doveside Project is a partnership between the Garganey Trust, the Environment Agency and Barnsley Council in the Wombwell and Darfield areas of Barnsley. The scheme has both flood defence and environmental benefits.

There are two locations where the project is being implemented, shown on the map below:



The Doveside scheme is located north of the River Dove, adjacent to Darfield. This project will create up to 4 ha of wetland habitat and will be flood-neutral. This means that it will neither increase nor decrease flood risk to the local community.

The WATI scheme is located south of Wombwell Ings. This project will reduce flood risk to 17 properties in Low Valley and will also create up to 7 hectares of wetland habitat.

Funding

The funding to support this project comes from a combination of sources: directly from the government, from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and from the Landfill Communities Fund.

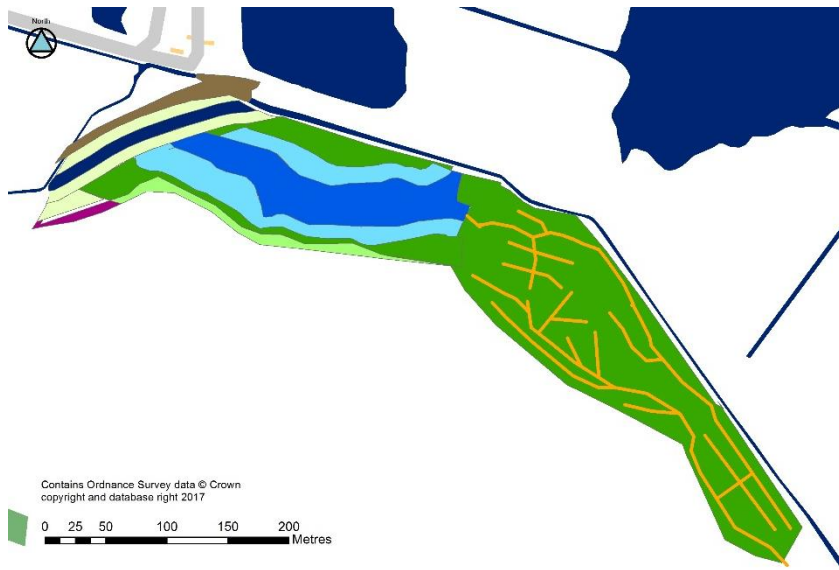
The overall project attracts government funding because it reduces the flood risk to residents within Low Valley, and also provides additional environmental benefits. The majority of the Environment Agency funding is generated because the WATI scheme protects a number of residential properties in Low Valley. The Doveside scheme generates additional income because the proposed works will help to create habitat and achieve targets under the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Background to the project

HLF funds have allowed for the purchase of farmland where the WATI scheme is located. Now that this has happened the works can take place to convert the arable field into a wetland. The scheme reduces flood risk because a new channel and bund system will provide flood relief for local residents.

The Doveside site was given to Barnsley Council in *lieu* of the Doveside housing scheme, to be run as a nature reserve. However, the site is not reaching its wetland habitat potential due to a lack of council funds. By joining it together with the WATI scheme sufficient funding can be generated to ensure its potential is fully reached.

So what will the projects deliver?



WATI

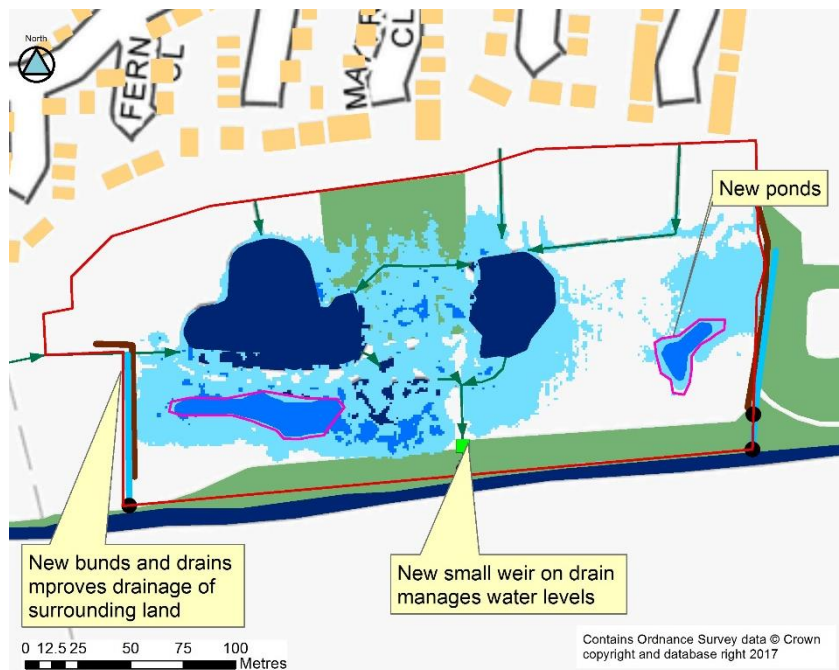
In addition to reducing flood risk to local residents, a new reed bed and wet grassland system will provide valuable habitat for a range of wildlife.

Doveside

Shallow ponds will be dug out and water levels leaving the site will be managed by a small weir. New drains and bunds will improve the drainage of surrounding land.

The habitats we create will attract more varied birdlife onto the site, some of which are Birds of Conservation Concern (RSPB).

A Flood Risk Assessment has been produced for the scheme which shows it to be flood-neutral. The adjacent residential properties are on higher ground when compared to the habitats within the site, and the three sewer outfalls from the adjacent properties will not be affected by the scheme.



When will the works happen?

The WATI works are scheduled for autumn 2017 and the Doveside works will follow these, over the course of the winter. On completion both sites will be managed as nature reserves.

For further information please contact:-

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