



August 2023

The Middle Level Commissioners' bank raising scheme

Briefing Note

Our bank raising scheme is the most significant programme of works the Middle Level Commissioners have undertaken since the construction of the current St Germans pumping station and is the largest IDB scheme in the Great Ouse catchment.

Having received financial approval, we have been focussing on building a project team to plan and develop the scheme ready for construction.

It requires a dedicated delivery team to manage a scheme of this scale and complexity. This includes ensuring we have undertaken all relevant environmental assessments and approvals, carrying out surveys and developing the design.

The Environment Impact Assessment considers all aspects of the works and how it may affect the ecology and environment catchment wide. The first stage of this assessment has been carried out and will be published in local newspapers and online during August and September for stakeholders to comment. All comments will be considered and incorporated into the full assessment for construction.

As part of this programme, we are assessing what desilting works are required on the River Nene (Old Course) through March Town.

Concerns have been raised that the work through March town could affect the stability of the bank.

We are aware of one bank slip along Nene Parade; however, a further possible bank slip has been identified. To ensure that the desilting work will not make the bank slips worse we will be carrying out a bank survey and stability assessment before programming these works.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in our work and we will continue to keep you up to date with the progress and timescales.

The project is fully funded through Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (FDGiA) funding from Defra. This funding is from central government for managing flood risk in England providing additional assurance required to ensure value for money is delivered.

If you would like to know more about this scheme or about any of the works we are carrying out, follow this link to our webpage <https://middlelevel.gov.uk> or contact our Public Liaison team at bankraising@middlelevel.gov.uk

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