

Transcript - Fishburn Sinkhole

[Mark Readman, Highway Services Manager. Mark is standing at the side of a busy road. Throughout the video there is the sound of traffic in the background, work being undertaken on the sinkhole and the wind blowing.]

[Mark Readman] We are onsite at Clervaux Terrace, Fishburn.

[Film Clip: Shot of street sign "Clervaux Terrace". Shot of row of houses with an area fenced off, where repair work is taking place and traffic driving past.]

[Mark Readman] We were alerted to a sinkhole which opened up in the highway just outside of the property number seven and eight on the twenty-first of January.

[Film Clip: Various shots of sinkhole. Shots of Durham County Council employees working on fixing the sinkhole using a small digger.]

[Mark Readman] Since then we have been working with relevant agencies to understand the problem and come up with a repair solution. There is evidence of property damage. The residents of those two properties have been relocated with support from Durham County Council. In addition, structure repairs to the property are being considered.

As you can see work has commenced on repairing the highway, what we will do is excavate any loose materials and reinstate the lay-by just behind the carriage way. We won't be working on the footway at the moment as there are some utilities that need some additional work in there. Once our initial repairs to the highway have been completed the site will be made safe and the Heras fencing will be removed.

[Film Clip: Shots of busy road with traffic driving past where the works area is located.]

[Mark Readman] We would like to reassure local residents that we will continue to monitor the area for further subsidence, we will provide regular updates and we would like to thank everyone of their patience whilst we repair the highway and look at options for the building repairs.

[Text: durham.gov.uk/roadworks]