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Stroud Sewer Strategy project reaching final milestones

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Galliford Try, in partnership with Severn Trent, is in the last stages of the Stroud Sewer Strategy project, which marks one of the largest infrastructure initiatives the businesses have undertaken together.

This critical project, in construction for the past two years, aims to control and significantly reduce flood risk within the Stroud Five Valleys area, and and includes installing four miles of new enlarged pipes, as well as separating surface water from the waste network.

The project has reached a pivotal point with the completion of the new trunk sewer and the main Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO) shaft tank, as well as the installation of the lid on the CSO shaft tank.

The 25m deep by 25m wide concrete-lined tank has a capacity of 7,400m3 – the equivalent of three Olympic-sized swimming pools or over 24,500 bathtubs of water.

The tank will drastically improve water storage capacity by 1,300% during heavy rainfall, helping to reduce sewer flooding and spills into rivers and watercourses. It will have cutting-edge smart controls that can hold storm water back during severe weather events and return it to Severn Trent's treatment works when rainfall has subsided.

As part of the project, extensive ecology work was also carried out to ensure the conservation of wildlife in the area, including the protection of badger setts, newt population, and arboricultural surveys to create root protection zones.

Mark Shadrick, Managing Director of Galliford Try's Environment business, commented: "This project shows our commitment to building robust and sustainable infrastructure that makes a real difference to

the lives of local people. The success of the Stroud Sewer Strategy is a testament to the dedication and expertise of our team and partners. We look forward to seeing the long-term benefits this project will bring to the Stroud area."

Steph Cawley, Customer Operations Director for Severn Trent, said: "Much of the Stroud sewer system was built in Victorian times, but with a growing population and climate change we now have more demand than ever.

"Solutions like this huge tank mean when there is heavy rainfall we can store the water and then, when it stops raining, we can safely treat it and return it to the rivers, which means we will have less spills into watercourses like the River Frome.

"This work will also provide people living in Stroud with a more reliable sewer network by creating more storage and larger sewer pipes, helping to protect homes and businesses from blockages and flooding.

"This enormous tank is an incredible feat of engineering that will benefit residents for generations to come."

The £25m Stroud scheme will also include the removal of a large sewer pipe that runs through the canal in the town, plus improvements at the Stanley Downton Sewage Treatment works.