



Our ref: 23684845
Your ref: EM63216

Esther McVey MP

www.nationalhighways.co.uk

11 February 2026

Dear Esther McVey

A556 attenuation pond

Thank you for your email dated 3 February 2026, sent on behalf of your constituents

about maintenance of the attenuation pond on the A556. I'm sorry to hear your constituent's property has been affected by flooding.

I'm also very disappointed to hear that your constituents feel they've had difficulty engaging with us recently. That is never the experience we want people to have, particularly when they're already dealing with stress and disruption. I'd be happy to investigate their recent experience if they're able to provide more details.

While we received contact from [REDACTED] in January 2026 on a different matter, the most recent correspondence I'm aware of regarding the A556 was sent to me via yourself on 10 February 2025. This correspondence concerned the condition of the road surface on the A556.

Within my response of 19 February 2025, I advised that further investigation was needed to ascertain the reason for the undulating road surface. Our investigation identified that settlement at the back of the abutment of the bridge had caused the road to sink. I'm pleased to update you that we've carried out resurfacing in the area, and have further work planned to begin in March 2026 to address the road surface issue.

We're aware of a drainage issue at the attenuation pond and have previously corresponded directly with your constituent regarding this. Two site inspections were

undertaken during 2025, and reactive work was carried out to reduce the water level and clear any blockages. While this work did temporarily mitigate the issue, we are aware that the water level has now risen again.

As this situation appears to be reoccurring, we believe a construction defect may be the cause of the issue. As a result of this a joint site visit is planned with our specialist drainage contractors. This will involve pumping water from the pond, and lifting manhole covers on the pond's downstream network to inspect the chambers in more detail. We hope this will assist us in identifying any construction defect preventing transfer of water from the first basin, to the next one (near the M56 junction 7).

We expect this site visit to take place by the end of February 2026. Subject to the findings of the site visit, we plan to carry out further remedial work during the 2026/2027 financial year. I would like to assure your constituent that we are working towards providing a long-term solution to the ongoing problem.

I'm sorry I can't provide more information currently, but I hope you find this response helpful. If you would like any further information, I'd be happy to help. My contact details are below.

Yours sincerely

