

## Day-lighting or opening up piped watercourses

One of the causes of flooding is inappropriate culverting of watercourses. Historically culverted systems were fit for purpose at the time of their design. Due to a number of factors such as urban sprawl and climate change, some culverts are reaching their maximum operating function.

To reduce maintenance costs, improve flood risk management and bring environmental benefits, Sefton Council encourages de-culverting or the restoration of culverted watercourses to open channels.

### Specific benefits of day-lighting include:

- Reducing flood risk.
- Increasing the capacity of the system.
- Reducing maintenance costs.
- Easily identify issues requiring maintenance.
- Providing valuable habitat.

This can be particularly beneficial where there is poor land drainage causing surface water flooding as the water cannot easily get into the pipe or culvert. With an open watercourse this water will drain naturally into the watercourse.

