

## WINTER PITCH DRAINAGE WORKS AT CHESTER-LE-STREET BEGIN



Preparation has begun for the installation of a new drainage system at Durham cricket ground in Chester-Le-Street



Work can be broken down into the following tasks:

1. Removing the existing turf from the outfield.
2. Stripping of topsoil, grading of subsoil and replacement of topsoil to create improved levels that marry to the square and the existing boundary, especially upslope of the square. Currently water runs from the pavilion side of the ground onto the square and the aim is to eliminate this in the future.
3. The installation of a system of main, collector, lateral and sand slit drains.
4. Connection of the system to the existing outfall drain to the river.
5. The installation of an automatic pop-up irrigation sprinkler system including a new storage tank and pump system.
6. Spread of rootzone material to provide a stone-free layer on the surface.
7. Fertilisation, turfing with washed turf and re-establishment.

The project is hugely weather reliant. It is hoped if the weather stays good the vast majority of the work will be completed by Christmas. The following gives an indicative timetable of what is happening.

Activity Timetable	Timing
Contractor appointed	Aug 09
Work commences	Sep 09
Turf & topsoil removal, subsoil grading and topsoil spread & grade.	Sep /Oct 09
Drainage and irrigation installed	Oct / Nov 09
Rootzone spread	Dec 09
Turfing completed	Dec 09 – Jan 10
Outfield maintained	Jan 10 – Apr 10
Outfield ready for play	Apr 10

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