Remedial works at Sunderton Pool

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SYNOPSIS In 2005 the Environment Agency exercised its reserve powers as the enforcement authority for the Reservoirs Act 1975 to commission an inspection of the privately-owned Sunderton Pool near Shrewsbury. The inspection found the dam structures to be in very poor condition. In particular, the masonry spillway was in a state of considerable disrepair and concerns were raised for the safety of the dam. This paper details the work carried out in identifying those legally responsible for the safety of the reservoir, taking enforcement action, assessing the likely impact in the event of a dam breach, and in planning and procuring design and construction services to improve the safety of the dam. The remedial works included the construction of a labyrinth spillway. A number of difficulties were overcome during the construction of the works. This paper discusses how the reservoir safety risks were identified, assessed and managed.