

Flood Risk Management Scheme for the North Kendal Industrial Areas

August 2018

Earlier in 2018 we held public meetings to discuss a range of options for managing flood risk in Kendal and the River Kent catchment. Following these meetings and the feedback received, substantial work has been undertaken to consider the economic viability, technical feasibility, environmental sustainability and social acceptability of potential options. We now have a leading option to manage flood risk in Kendal.

The proposed Flood Risk Management (FRM) Scheme for Kendal has been divided into phases:

Phase 1: focuses on the construction of linear flood defences using walls and embankments through Kendal and improvements to better manage flows from Stock Beck watercourse system.

The proposed new flood defences will also protect the North Kendal Industrial Areas, including Mintsfeet Industrial Estate, Westmorland Business Park, Shap Road Industrial Estate, Dockray Hall Industrial Area, and the Lake District Business Park and residential properties in this area.

Phase 2: involves the construction of upstream flood storage areas, which will store floodwater to reduce the risk of flooding to properties downstream. The complexity of Phase 2 means it is on a longer timescale. Engagement on this phase will occur in 2019, when modelling and design of options is further advanced.

Planning applications for the construction of the proposed scheme will be divided as described above.

This newsletter focuses on Phase 1, providing an outline of the leading option. We would like to get your views on the leading option and to understand the impacts on your business and associated supply chain. Attached to this newsletter is a form seeking your comments, and also seeking information on the damages and impact of Storm Desmond in 2015. This information is important as it will help us to prepare a compelling business case to secure government funding.

Developing a flood risk management scheme

The nature and mechanisms of flooding mean that we work at a catchment scale to develop flood risk management schemes that integrate land management, engineered flood defences and better community resilience to reduce flood risk.

Earlier this year we shared the short list options for managing flood risk within the Kent catchment. Public drop-in sessions were held in a number of communities and the information shared at those events can be viewed on the Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership website www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org along with previous public newsletters.

We are now at a stage where we are refining our preferred option and commencing preparation of a planning application for Phase 1.

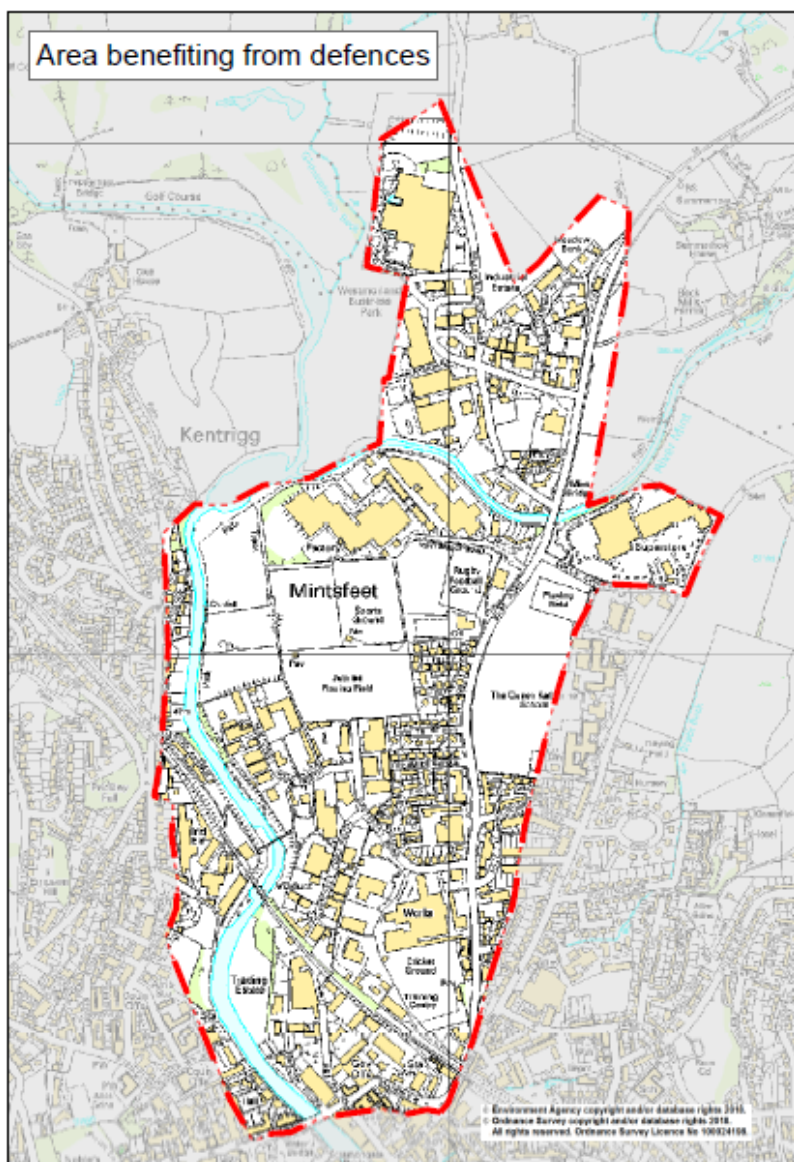
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Phase 1 North Kendal Industrial Areas and Kendal town centre - linear flood defence walls and embankments

Our leading option for Phase 1 will involve the construction of linear walls and embankments through Kendal town centre and improvements to better manage the flows from the Stock Beck watercourse system.

Linear walls and embankments will, on average, be 800mm in height. They will start on the River Kent, by Westmorland Business Park, and run down the River Kent approximately 4km, through Kendal town centre. There will also be walls and embankments on the River Mint, starting on Shap Road, and then running down both sides of the river to the point at which it joins the River Kent.

The map below outlines the approximate area benefiting from the Phase 1 work. The walls and embankments will be designed to ensure that water will not build up behind them. There will also be work carried out to manage the Stock Beck tributaries.



How will this work affect your business?

We want to work with you to minimise any disruption, and are seeking your feedback.

We anticipate that Phase 1 construction work will commence in spring 2019, and be completed by March 2021.

During the construction phase, there may be some disruption to your business, either through road closures, or restrictions on access to certain areas where construction is taking place. There may also be noise associated with the construction. We want to work with you to minimise these disruptions and any information you provide to us during this consultation process will help to inform the impact assessments, and management plans that we are developing as part of the Phase 1 planning application.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

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Funding

To gain government approval for the scheme, we must follow their rules and procedures. This includes the need to demonstrate that all relevant planning permissions, permits, landowner agreements, funding and legal agreements are in place. We are currently in the process of securing these.

We are also working with South Lakeland District Council to secure European Regional Development Funds. European Regional Development Funds must be targeted towards reducing flood risk to businesses. Therefore, if secured, this funding will support the delivery of the elements of the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme proposed for the North Kendal Industrial Areas.

Timeframe

We have a challenging timeframe for delivering Phase 1 of the scheme. This is partly driven by the requirements of the European Regional Development Fund, which we hope will contribute towards the cost of the scheme. The application for European Regional Development Funds must be submitted by November 2018.

In addition, a planning application for Phase 1 will be submitted to South Lakeland District Council in October 2018. We anticipate that this will be determined early in 2019.

Approval for Flood Defence Grant in Aid Funding will be sought once planning approval has been obtained.

We hope to have all the necessary approvals and legal agreements in place to enable us to commence delivery of the project in April 2019 for completion by March 2021.

Next steps

Attached to this newsletter is a feedback form. We invite you to provide us with any feedback on the preferred option. We would also appreciate any information you might hold on the impact of Storm Desmond in 2015, and any other instances of flooding to your business.

We will be using the feedback received to help us prepare the business case to secure government funding, and for the public consultation drop in session on Wednesday 26 September from 3:30 – 7:00pm at Kendal Town Hall. This session will cover the whole Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme, and specialists will be present to discuss the preferred option, receive feedback and respond to questions.

There will also be an opportunity to make comments on the planning application. As South Lakeland District Council are the decision-making body for planning in Phase 1, they will validate the planning application and then make it publically available for comment. They will advise on how you can make comments.

Keeping up to date

We are also intending to issue a similar newsletter providing information on flood risk management in the Kent and Leven Catchment, including the leading option for Kendal, and other communities in September 2018. There are further engagement drop in sessions dates planned for October for these communities.

Information shared at the planned drop-in, and any future and past information shared, will be available for anyone to view on the CSFP website <http://www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org>. If you would like to discuss the Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership further or have a local concern, you can contact your community representative Peter Lansberry at peter@lansberry.co.uk

If you have access to social media, follow the Environment Agency on Twitter (@EnvAgencyNW) for updates on future public engagement.

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Contacting the Environment Agency

If you would like to contact the Environment Agency about the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme, please email KendalFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk.

For wider future flood risk management you can email CMBLNC-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk. If your query relates to community or personal resilience please contact clfloodresilience@environment-agency.gov.uk.

There are a number of tools which have been developed to help plan and prepare for flooding and other emergencies. Visit <http://www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/Resources-Publications/Toolkits-Workbooks> Community Emergency Planning Toolkit for more information.

Be flood ready

We will never be able to guarantee a completely flood-free future, and so we encourage anyone living or working in a flood risk area to be aware of the risk and to be prepared. We can support you by: signing you up to receive free **flood alerts and warnings**, helping you to produce a **personal flood plan**, offering **property resistance and resilience** information, and supporting the ongoing work of **community flood action groups**.

It is important that you are prepared for flooding and we encourage you to take 4 simple steps:-

1. **Sign up** to receive free flood alerts and warnings online or via Floodline on 0345 988 1188.
2. **Know what to do.** Have a personal flood plan for you and your family, and consider packing a bag with essential items and having it ready to go in the event of flooding.
3. **Keep an eye** on the situation. You can view a 5 day weather forecast and monitor the river levels online.
4. **Keep up to date** with early warnings of heavy rain which could lead to flooding by registering for Cumbria Community Messaging. This is a free e-mail service and is complementary to our Flood Warning Service. To register visit www.cumbriacommunitymessaging.co.uk

Flood warning codes and what they mean

 FLOOD ALERT	<p>A flood alert will mean flooding is possible. People should make some plans, think about what they would have to do in a flood and keep an eye on the situation.</p>
 FLOOD WARNING	<p>A flood warning will mean flooding of homes and businesses is very likely. People should take action to make sure they and their family are safe, and try to reduce the impact of the flood (such as moving important items to a safe place).</p>
 SEVERE FLOOD WARNING	<p>A severe flood warning will mean worse flooding is likely, with danger to life. People should get to a safe place with a way of escape, and be ready in case they have to leave. Listen to the advice of the emergency services.</p>

For information on the above, visit <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings> or ring Floodline on 0345 988 1188



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