

## **Information on the Kendal Flood Defences Scheme: Kendal Flood Action Groups. February 2019**

### **1. What are the Environment Agency's (EA's) proposals for Kendal?**

The EA have just revised their planning application for flood defences, and now is the time for people affected by flooding, or who care about those who were, to send in their comments to SLDC. The defences would be sections of new walls or bunds between 0.3m and 1.5m high through Kendal from the Lakeland warehouse to just below Helsington Mills. They would mostly be set back from the current river embankment, and new parks and paths would be created by the river. It would look different, but still good when finished.

A pumping station at Gooseholme would get Stock Beck flows into the Kent if river levels were high.

The Kendal works are Phase 1 (2019-2021). Phase 2 would reduce flooding in Staveley and Burneside and Phase 3 (2021-2022) would build 2.8 million cubic metres of engineered flood water storage upstream of Kendal. Phase 3 also includes a "catchment drain" to protect Sandylands from water from Benson Knott and hills to the east.

### **2. Are there any realistic ALTERNATIVES to the proposals?**

**NO** If there was NO upstream storage very high (2- 4m) walls would have been needed, in Kendal. On the other hand if there were NO walls through Kendal it would need about 5 million cubic metres of upstream flood storage (which is twice as much water as is in Wet Sleddale reservoir).

### **3. Why can't they deepen the river or change the bridges instead?**

The Kent was deepened and widened and bridge foundations strengthened in the late 1970s, but flow is now limited by bridges, including Nether Bridge. It cannot be deepened into the bedrock without undermining the bridges and banks. Separate funding is going to be used to improve flow and safety of Victoria Bridge supports but removing or changing Nether Bridge would be very expensive and have even more impact on the look of Kendal than flood walls.

### **4. But what about the trees?**

The new plans change the wall alignments and about 545 trees are now potentially at risk instead of 770. At least 6 times as many (3,600) will be planted as replacements, 70 of them at least 6m high when planted. The new trees will last for many , many years, whereas some of the trees there now are old and diseased and likely to be felled anyway over the next 10 years. There is also separate funding for a large area of tree planting upstream to help "slow the flow".

**5. Would the Sandylands or Burneside areas get any flood protection if the current proposal for Phase 1 of Kendal Flood defences (the river walls) was refused by South Lakes District Council ?**

**NO.** The “Catch drain” to divert water from the hills above **Sandylands** is part of Phase 3, and can’t happen unless the flood walls in Kendal and the upstream flood storage are built first. **Burneside** also can’t have flood defences until Kendal’s defences are in.

**6. Can you still have your say on the Kendal Flood defences?**

**YES** – The Planning Committee is now going to be on 21 March, and we have all been invited to write in. Lots of OBJECTIONS to the scheme have already been sent in, mostly from organisations and individuals who have no real idea what our flooding was like. This makes it very hard for Councillors to understand how the decision will affect people, and they might vote against the planning application. Please write in by the end of February if possible, but don’t be put off if you can’t get it done by then.

**7. How do I comment?**

Either go to

<http://applications.southlakeland.gov.uk/planningapplications/comment.asp?AltRef=SL/2018/0925&ApplicationNumber=SL%2F2018%2F0925&AddressPrefix=&Postcode=&Submit=Search>

Or send an email to: [development.management@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:development.management@southlakeland.gov.uk) saying whether you support the flood scheme or not, and WHY. For example: how flooding affected you, your neighbours or family.

**OR use the template letter attached.**

**8. For direct information from the Environment Agency , visit their shop in the Unit 16 Fell Tarn Westmorland Centre on Wednesday afternoons from 13.00 – 17.00**

**9. Who are the Flood Action Groups (FLAGS)?**

The Flood Action Groups are ordinary residents working together to help each other in emergencies and get flood defences that work. There are FLAGS in Burneside, Mintsfeet, Benson Green and Sandes Avenue, North East Kendal (Sandylands), Ann Street and Castle Street, and Oak Tree Road. Any flooded area can form a FLAG.

We have joined together to make an organisation called the South Lakeland Flood Action Partnership (SLFAP).

For enquires email: [admin@slfloodaction.co.uk](mailto:admin@slfloodaction.co.uk)

Or see: [www.slfloodaction.co.uk](http://www.slfloodaction.co.uk)

To:  
Mr Andrew Martin  
South Lakeland District Council  
South Lakeland House  
Lowther Street  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 4DL

From:

Date:

Dear Mr Martin

Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme - Phase 1 Kendal Linear Defences

I am writing to express my support for planning application SL/2018/0925.

I think that the flood defence walls through Kendal are needed to protect the town from flooding

because:

Yours sincerely

Signed

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PRINT NAME: