

Windermere Town

Future Flood Risk Management

January 2018

Background

Following Storm Desmond, flood risk management authorities were commissioned by Government to reduce flood risk not only at community level, but to look for options to reduce flood risk across the County from Source to Sea. This means we have taken a new approach, working at a catchment scale to integrate land management, development and resilience from the tops of the fells down to the coast. In order for us to deliver flood risk benefits across the County in this way we are now part of an established partnership called Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership (CSFP).

What does Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership do?

The CSFP aims to lead, coordinate and monitor the management of flood risk across the County. This Partnership brings together Flood Risk Management Authorities including the Environment Agency, Cumbria County Council, District Councils, United Utilities and representation from other organisations including land managers and community groups who have an interest in, or responsibility for, flood risk management.

The CSFP is structured over two levels – the Board (strategic level) and Catchment Management Groups (operational/delivery level). The Board takes an overview of the whole Partnership, setting the direction and ensuring the three Catchment Management Groups deliver their objectives. The Board is currently chaired by Cumbria County Council, and the South Cumbria Catchment Management Group is chaired by South Cumbria Rivers Trust.

Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership Community representation

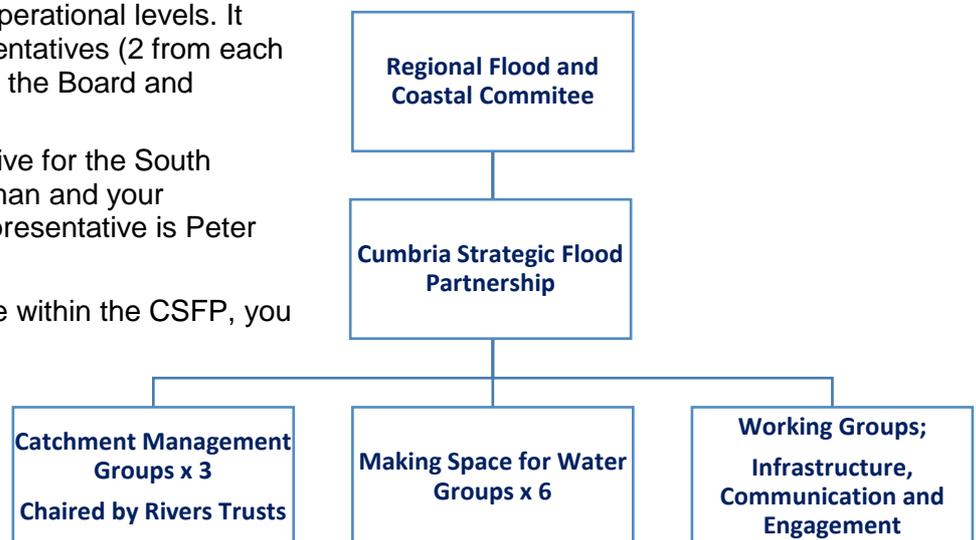
A key objective of the CSFP is to ensure communities are represented at both strategic and operational levels. It has appointed 6 community representatives (2 from each catchment area) to be a member of the Board and Catchment Management Group.

Your community Board representative for the South Cumbria catchment is Janet Chapman and your Catchment Management Group representative is Peter Lansberry.

If you have any queries on their role within the CSFP, you can contact them on:

chas.chapman@btinternet.com

peter@lansberry.co.uk



For more information on the CSFP visit www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org

or email CSFP@cumbria.gov.uk

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

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Work undertaken in Windermere town

Following the flood event in December 2015, the Environment Agency has:

- Maintained and will continue to maintain watercourses along Mill Beck and Meadow Beck including the installation of a new grid structure on Mill Beck by Upper Oak Street in autumn 2017. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-and-coastal-maintenance-programme> for the specific maintenance programme in Windermere.
- Worked with Cumbria County Council and South Lakeland District Council to investigate Craig Walk flooding.
- Assisted with the recovery response to September 2017 flooding around Windermere including near Queen's Park, Lake Road, Thornbarrow Road, Meadow Road, Craig Walk and Rayrigg Road.
- Incorporated community ideas and knowledge into current appraisal work for the town and catchment.
- Engaged with communities to help explain the government rules on which funding for schemes relies.

What next?

In June we published the “long list” of options as part of the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC) development. A SOC provides a high level understanding of the flood risk and demonstrates the need to continue working on a scheme and complete the Final Business Case. We assess each of the potential scheme components, known as ‘options’, (e.g. a flood wall) by measuring their viability against the following four tests;

Technical feasibility : Economic viability : Environmental sustainability : Community support

We have assessed the “short list” options for Windermere as part of a draft SOC. However, the draft SOC is indicating that a viable scheme option(s) has not been identified using the four tests above. As a result this specific assessment will not progress beyond the short listing, the stopping point being the completed modelling and final SOC report. The SOC report will be used as the basis for any future work as and when new information becomes available or additional funding secured. This work forms part of an annual review process to try and obtain funding for all the identified flood risk problems in Cumbria.

Therefore, if option(s) become viable in future we will seek to progress the business case process and in addition to this we will continue to support flood risk management in Windermere through such means as:

- Publishing the options outcomes, due in early 2018 at the consultation meetings or by request.
- Completing a hydrological model for the Windermere catchment, which will inform the ongoing “short list” assessment, support applications for other funding sources and aid future flood risk management.
- Continually seeking and improving partnerships and exploring additional opportunities.
- Working with Cumbria County Council to investigate watercourses near Lake Road in the Meadow Beck catchment, which will include using cameras to assess culvert conditions.
- Engaging with landowners and Cumbria County Council to manage flooding on Craig Walk and Brook Road.
- Continuing to support the scoping of Natural Flood risk Management (NFM) research and developments for Mill Beck, Scout Beck and the wider catchments.

We are organising a community drop-in for the Windermere town and Troutbeck Bridge communities which will take place at the Marchesi Centre in Windermere on Tuesday 6 March 2018. Do drop in anytime between 2pm and 7pm. We will share the assessment of all options with you and will provide an update on the next steps.

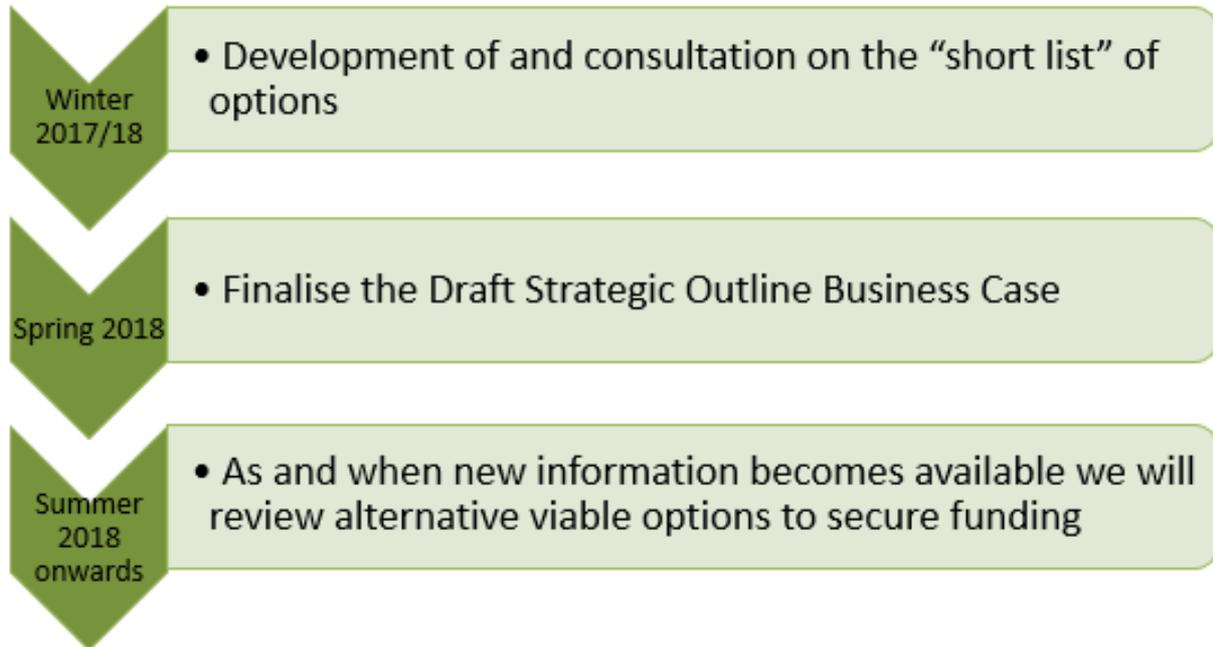
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Outline Delivery Programme



The Strategic Outline Business Case provides a high level understanding of the flood risk and demonstrates the need to continue working on a scheme and complete the Final Business Case.

Timescale

The appraisal process can take time to ensure we follow the correct rules and procedure in spending Government money.

For further information on the funding process and the rules we must follow, please read the “guide on how the Environment Agency fund and deliver flood risk management schemes” under the ‘Funding’ section of the Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership website <http://www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org>

Windermere Town Future Flood Risk Management

Contacting the Environment Agency

If you would like to contact the Environment Agency about 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.

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 and to be prepared. We can support you by; signing you up to receive free **flood alerts**, helping you to produce a **personal flood plan**, offering **property resistance and resilience** information and supporting the formation and ongoing work of a **community flood action group**.

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

- 1. Sign up** to the Flood Warning Service to receive free flood alerts.
- 2. Know what to do** when a flood alert is issued. Have a personal flood plan for you and your family.
- 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

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

