

Workington and Barepot 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.

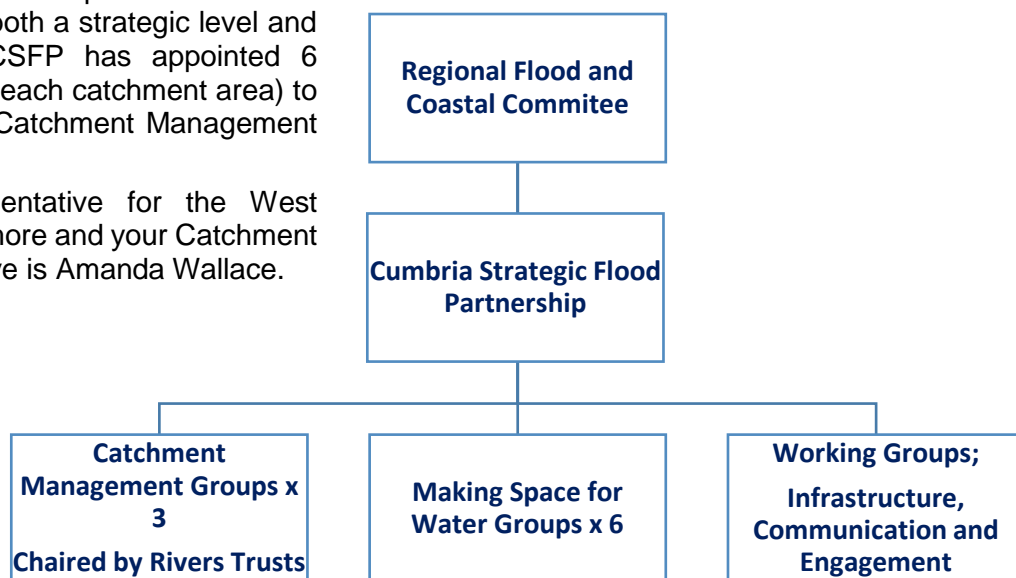
The CSFP is structured over two levels – the Board (strategic level) and Catchment Management Groups (operational/delivery level). The Board takes an overview of the whole Partnership, setting the direction and ensuring the three Catchment Management Groups deliver their objectives. The Board is currently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

Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership Community representation

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

Your community Board representative for the West Cumbria catchment is Sue Cashmore and your Catchment Management Group representative is Amanda Wallace.

If you have any queries on their role within the CSFP, you can send an email to the Environment Agency mailbox at CLfloodresilience@environment-agency.gov.uk and we will forward your email to the relevant representative.



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

Workington and Barepot Future Flood Risk Management

Work undertaken in Workington

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

- Delivered recovery works in Barepot, including repairs and raising of embankments, installation of non-return valves and gravel removal on the River Derwent.
- Undertaken modelling work throughout the Derwent catchment, including Workington and Barepot. This new hydraulic model will improve our understanding of flood risk in the area.
- Undertaken appraisal work which has identified a long list of options which was published during the summer 2017.
- Continued to monitor and remove gravel / grant permit applications for additional gravel removal.
- Incorporated community ideas and understanding into to current appraisal work for the town and catchment.
- Engaged with communities to help explain the government rules on which funding for schemes relies upon.
- Added forecast levels to Derwent catchment river gauges on the gov.uk website to facilitate community monitoring.
- Enabled Workington Town Council and Workington Flood Action Group to store a pump and emergency flood kits at the Environment Agency depot in Barepot.

What next?

In June we published the “long list” of options and we have been refining each option, measuring their viability against the following four tests;

1. Technical feasibility
2. Environmental sustainability
3. Economic viability
4. Community support

We now have a “short list” options for Hall Park View Workington and want to share these with the local community. The options for Hall Park View currently represent a sufficiently good return on government investment to allow the scheme business case to progress. We will continue to develop and refine the short list options required for the full business case, which will be used to secure government funding for the most viable flood risk management scheme using the four tests above. If funding can be secured for Hall Park View we will then progress with detailed design and construction, which includes planning applications, all other approvals, permits and landowner agreements required to deliver a scheme. We will need to ensure that there is no additional flood risk to Barepot as a result of these works.

Options which are most likely to move forward include improvements to existing flood walls and embankments to protect properties.

We also have a ‘short list’ of options for Barepot and using the four tests above our preliminary work is indicating that a viable scheme option(s) has not been identified. Barepot already benefits from previous flood defence work and the costs to carry out further improvements and or larger scale catchment options are not economically viable. As a result work on this project will not progress beyond short listing, the stop point being the completed modelling and final Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC) report, which will be due in spring 2018. 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.

Completion of the river model for the Derwent catchment is due in early 2018. This will improve understanding, inform the current appraisal work, and support applications for government funding and partnership funding.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Workington and Barepot Future Flood Risk Management

Other work that is still on-going includes:

- Review of the Seaton Mill gauging station flood warnings due to be completed during Winter 2017/18.
- Undertake a review of gravel management and triggers based on the modelling outputs.
- Support Natural Flood Management research and development throughout the catchment.
- Continue to employ a catchment based approach through the Catchment Management Group and working groups.
- Investigate the viability of deploying a mobile pump for Barepot.

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.

The Final Business Case provides all the detailed technical, economic and environmental information to justify a compelling case to invest the money to build a scheme.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

Workington and Barepot Future Flood Risk Management



The appraisal process takes time. As we are spending Government's money in providing flood risk management, we must follow their rules and procedures.

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>

We are currently organising a community drop-in which will take place in Workington on the 20th of March 2018 at St Michael's Church. Drop in anytime between 2pm and 7pm. We will formally share the "short list" of options with you and will have plans showing where each option could be located. We will provide an update on the next steps.

Workington Flood Action Group

Residents within your town have produced a community plan to ensure the local response is coordinated and comprehensive in an emergency situation. If you would like to speak to your local flood action group about this work or another local issue, you can contact them by emailing clfloodresilience@environment-agency.gov.uk and we will forward your queries to the flood action group.

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, 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 warnings**, helping you to produce a **personal flood plan**, offering **property resistance and resilience** information and supporting the ongoing work of the **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 Floodline Warnings Direct to receive free flood warnings

Over 35% of properties within Workington/Barepot have not yet registered to receive flood warnings. The Flood Warning Service is a free system which is used to warn of imminent flooding to land and property.

2. Know what to do when a flood warning is issued. Have a personal flood plan for you and your family.
3. Keep an eye on the situation. You can monitor the river levels online at <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/river-and-sea-levels> and search for your nearest river gauging station.
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



customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88