



**Low Crosby and surrounding
area Flood Warning Service
FAQs**

What is this document?

Following some specific points raised by the Low Crosby Flood Action Group at the last update meeting (04/10/21) it was agreed that some outstanding questions about the Flood Warning Service provided by the Environment Agency were best addressed via a question and answer document. This has been placed on the Flood Hub and follow up questions are welcomed, we will try to address these where we can.

Flood Warning Areas: Low Crosby

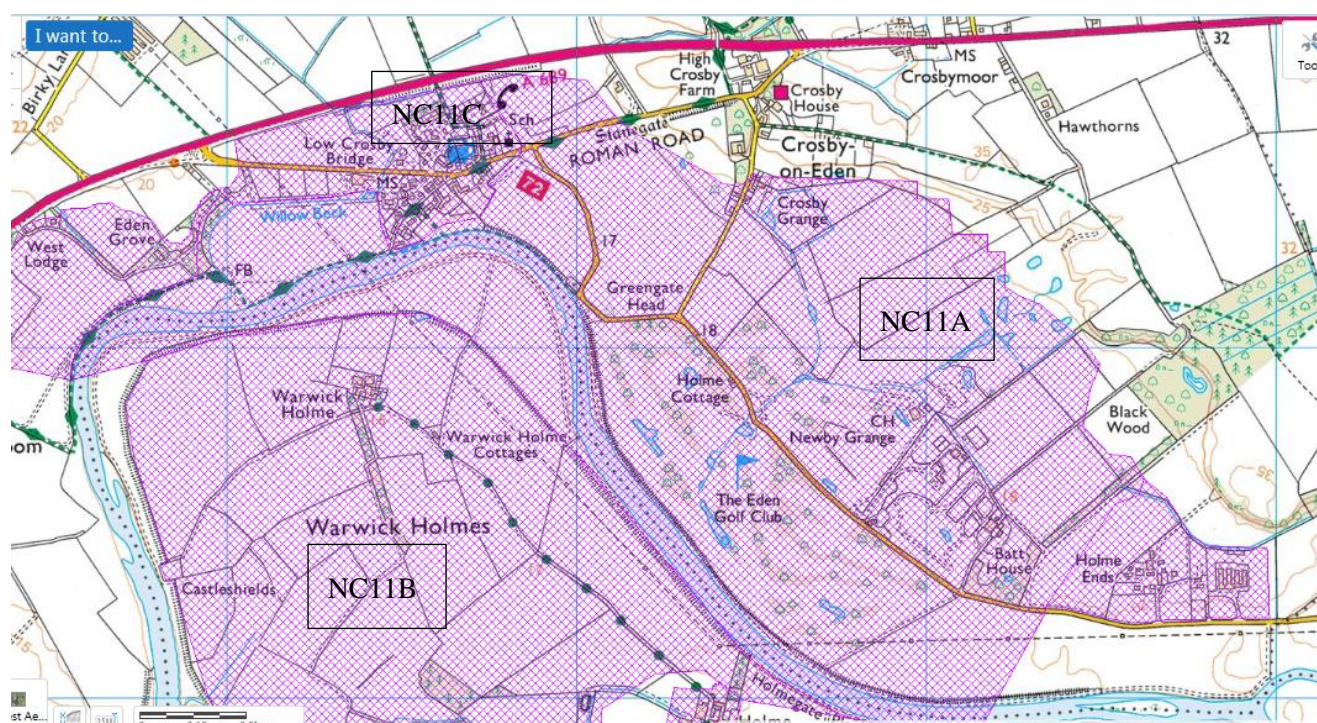


Figure 1. Flood Warning Areas around Low Crosby

At the last Flood Action Group meeting the Environment Agency was asked a series of questions around flood warnings for the village and surrounding areas. The flood warning areas and their associated codes are shown on the plan above.

NC11A - River Eden between Newby East and Low Crosby

NC11B - River Eden at Low Crosby, Warwick Holmes

NC11C - River Eden at Low Crosby Village, Holme Ends and Holme Gate

What gauges are used to help inform alarm triggers for Low Crosby?

Linstock Gauging Station is the primary forecasting site for Low Crosby Flood Warnings but it is also necessary to consider Great Corby, Greenholme, Eden Valley and levels of flooding at Appleby to assist in decision making. Great Corby is the back-up station in the event of any issues with Linstock.

Are other locations any guide as to what might be expected at Low Crosby?



One of the questions was around using other locations (such as Appleby) as guide to inform what may or may not happen in Low Crosby. The time of travel from Appleby is generally at 6-8 hours (i.e. a peak at Appleby could expect to be followed by a peak in Low Crosby 6 – 8 hours later). Input from Ullswater and input of Lowther-Eamont into the River Eden downstream of Udford at Langwathby, and the influence of a big flood on the Irthing, can have major influences on the River Eden at Low Crosby (for example some peaks have followed only 4 hours behind a peak at Appleby). The River Irthing has a big influence on affecting lead time for the areas outside of defences protecting properties in Low Crosby Village. This is reflected in the flood warning procedures for duty officers which include a requirement to consider issuing a flood warning based on levels at Greenholme gauging station on the River Irthing.

In terms of the 'size' of flood event that can be expected if the River Eden at Appleby is at top of defences, or over a 1m deep on Sands, part of Appleby, then it is generally accepted that issuing all Flood Warnings down Eden Valley (apart from those at a higher level of protection in Carlisle) if good lead times are going to be provided. This is especially so if high river levels on the Rivers Eamont & Lowther are occurring.

What is the lead time the Environment Agency tries to provide for flood warning at Low Crosby?

Locally agreed lead time (i.e. lead time of warning issued to onset of flooding) is 2hrs for Linstock and Low Crosby Flood Warning Areas. The ideal is to provide warnings well ahead of this timeframe.

What are the triggers for the flood warning areas in and around Low Crosby?

There are 3 flood warning areas around Low Crosby. The NC11A 3.80m threshold is set on the crest level of the lower embankments along the right bank at Low Crosby/Eden Golf Course. NC11B (left bank, Warwick Holmes) and NC11C ('defended' area of Low Crosby village and other higher areas) thresholds are both at 4.51m. Historically this level was 4.79m.

Following flooding to lower lying properties at Primrose Bank from backing up on Willow Beck, from a peak of 4.62m (hence we didn't issue the FW) the Flood Warning NC11C threshold was lowered to match the existing 4.51m NC3F Tesco and NC11B threshold to ensure a warning was issued ahead of known flooding occurring at 4.62m on the gauge at Linstock.

LOW CROSBY PROJECT CONTACT DETAILS

Customer Service	03706 506 506
Floodline	03459 881 188
Incident Hotline	0800 80 70 60

Please visit www.thefloodhub.co.uk/low-crosby for further information.