

The Environment Agency is delivering a Flood Risk Management Scheme in Kendal to better protect homes and businesses from flooding and improve the local environment and community amenities. Construction has started in Kendal and is progressing well with a number of locations now better protected.

This briefing is to inform you of an imminent planning application submission to South Lakeland District Council Planning Authority following a number of design and construction amendments and improvements to the original scheme for Aynam Road and Waterside. These improvements and amendments have been made as a result of our understanding of the area following survey and assessments and feedback from key stakeholders and the community.

Background

Planning permission for flood defences along Aynam Road and Waterside was granted in Summer 2019. Permission was granted for a scheme design that has since been improved following a number of discussions with key partners, interest groups and the community. The number of improvements and changes to the original design requires the submission of a new application which will supersede the previous planning approval granted in 2019 for Aynam Road and Waterside areas only.

Below is a visualisation of the proposed improved design changes to the flood wall along Aynam Road. This new glass panel and wall design increases the visibility of the river and riverside areas along Aynam Road which was a fundamental aspiration to achieve by the local community. The same glass panel design and specification will be used at Waterside and other glass panel locations within the town.



Original approved flood wall and glass panel design (2019)



Proposed improved flood wall and glass panel design along Aynam Road. Tree planting proposed where ground conditions allow (after 5 year growth)

In addition to the flood wall design, a number of other improvements and amendments are proposed. This table provides a full summary of the design changes that will form the new planning application.

Location	Element	Proposed improvements
Aynam Road	Glass extent	Viewpoints replaced with 411m of 800mm high glass panels on top of stone clad flood walls to provide views across the river where walls are over 1.2m high.
Aynam Road	Cladding	Stone cladding to both sides of floodwalls and features a Soldier course coping.
Aynam Road	Foundation design	Further ground investigations has enabled us to improve the design to more effectively control seepage and groundwater using an augered piled foundation between Jennings Yard Footbridge and Nether Bridge.
Aynam Road	Heritage	Replica Webster railings as gateway to Miller Fields
Aynam Road and Waterside	Finish to glass frames	Slimline bead blasted Stainless Steel top rails and uprights, recessed bottom rails. Glass panels all 3m in length to reduce frequency of uprights.
Waterside	Construction method	Walls constructed from in river platform with auger piled foundation to protect utilities, also provides increase in riverside path width.

Additional design improvements

Preserving Kendal's heritage remains an important factor to include in our scheme design. The railing design and opportunities to preserve and celebrate historically significant structures has provided an opportunity to design elements into the scheme. This replica 'Webster' railing design located downstream of Miller Bridge will form part of the new planning application. These historic 19th century wrought iron railings are located on both banks downstream of Miller Bridge and are historically significant to Kendal. This design will also influence the railing design throughout the wider scheme.



Community consultation

The design improvements and amendments of the scheme at Aynam Road and Waterside have resulted from discussions and feedback from key partners, local interest groups and the wider community. Planning shapes the places where people work and live, therefore it is only right that people should be given the opportunity to take an active role in the consultation and engagement of the planning process. We undertook a series of consultation events during October 2021 on the design improvements to gather feedback which would inform our scheme design and support the planning application submission.

The consultation was focussed towards the following groups with a design amendment pack and feedback form publicly available on thefloodhub/kendal website.

Statutory consultees

- South Lakeland District Council
- Environment Agency
- Cumbria County Council
- Natural England
- Historic England
- Kendal Town Council
- United Utilities

Elected members

- Kendal Town Councillors
- South Lakeland District Councillors
- Cumbria County Councillors

Local organisations and groups

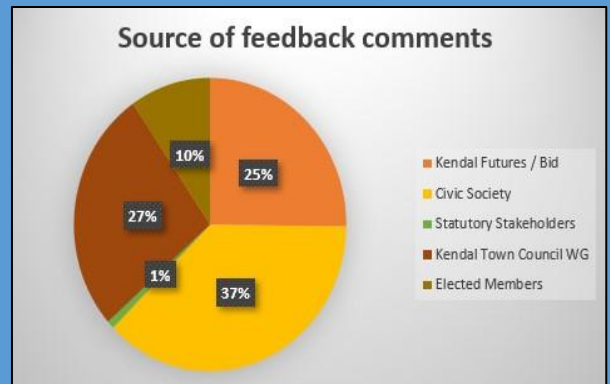
- Kendal Town Council Working Group
- Kendal Civic Society Working Group
- Kendal Futures
- Kendal Bid
- Lakeland Arts
- South Lakes Housing

Local organisations and groups

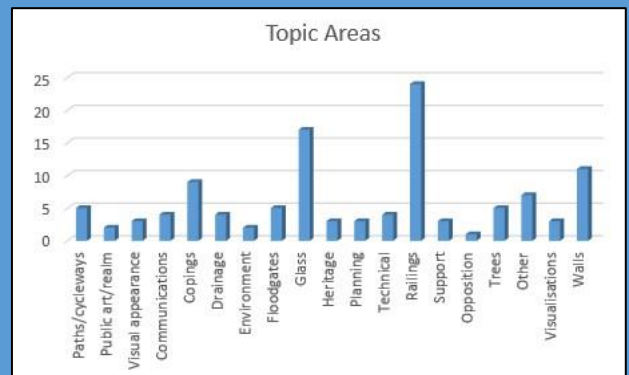
- Flood Action Groups
- Aynam Road residents
- Landowners and tenants
- Businesses
- Wider community

Consultation feedback summary

A total of 115 comments were collected from the focussed consultation sessions. This chart highlights the source of the feedback responses.



The feedback indicated the following topic areas are of most importance which related to technical elements such as walls, copings, railings and glass.



A total of 22 comments were collated from our online feedback. **86%** of the feedback supported the new improved glass panel and Webster railing design.

How has the feedback informed the design?

One of the key focusses of the consultation has been the glass walls, including the design of the frames and wall copings. Ongoing engagement and discussion resulted in two design options.



Original design option 1 – Soldier course coping



Alternative design option 2 – Chamfered coping

The coping stone design originally put forward for consultation was a 'Soldier' course style. Consultation feedback received from some stakeholders indicated a preference for a chamfered coping, which was perceived to be more fitting for the location. Both coping designs are shown above.

Through further engagement and discussion with key partners including Kendal Town Council as co-funders of the additional glass panels along Aynam Road, a decision has been collectively made to progress with the original design option 1 of the Soldier course coping.

Next steps

We will be submitting a planning application to South Lakeland District Council week commencing 24th January 2022. The application will include:-

- Glass flood wall with soldier course coping design
- Changes to wall finishes
- Changes to foundation type to include CFA piles
- Changes to construction working method
- Inclusion of the design features such as the Webster railings.

A further consultation period will take place as part of the formal planning determination period. The dates for this consultation will be advised on the South Lakeland District Council's planning portal web page.

Contact us

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VolkerStevin Engage

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