

We have reached an anniversary milestone in delivering the Flood Risk Management Scheme for the community of Kendal. This scheme will better protect homes and businesses from flooding and improve the local environment and community amenities. Construction started in Kendal one year ago, and is progressing well with a number of locations now better protected.

This briefing is to inform you of our plans to celebrate the anniversary of construction and how you can support us to continue to raise the awareness and the wider benefits that our scheme provides.

Background

Planning permission for the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme was granted in Summer 2019 as part of a wider three phase scheme designed to take a catchment based approach and protect the most vulnerable communities from flooding in the Kent Catchment.

Kendal is the first phase being delivered with construction starting in February 2021. Below is a snapshot of some of the benefits of the scheme;



6km of defences through the town using a combination of walls finished mainly in local stone, grass embankments, and integrated sections of glass panels. With **more than half** of the defences **set back** from the riverside, **access to existing open space** and **riverside views** will be **retained** and **improved**.



At least **4000** trees will be planted through the town of a **variety of species**. **Larger, semi-mature** trees will be planted in places that are accessed the most. This is following a maximum of 500 trees in the town requiring removal, but we are working hard to reduce this number through ongoing detailed design.



55 hectares of improved habitat for wildlife and recreational space will be created for the community in **two** areas in Kendal and in the **Upper Kent** catchment.



Minimal in river works will be undertaken during construction as the majority of our defences are **set back** from the rivers edge. This means our works will **have little to no impact** on the existing river environment.



Establishing **up to 3km** of new and improved **riverside footpaths** and exploring the opportunity for a further **6km** of newly connected **walking trails** in the town.



The scheme is the stepping stone for a wider programme of **enhancements** to the town. Working in partnership we will support other potential improvements to the area for the **benefit of the local community** and **visitors** to the town.

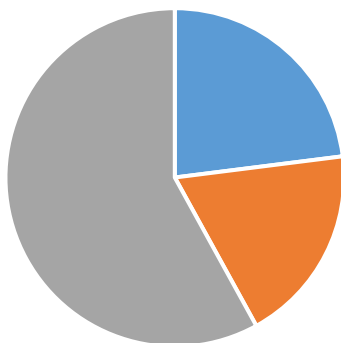
What have we delivered to date

Since construction began in February 2021 we have completed works in five locations with works progressing in a number of others areas.

This table provides a summary of these works;

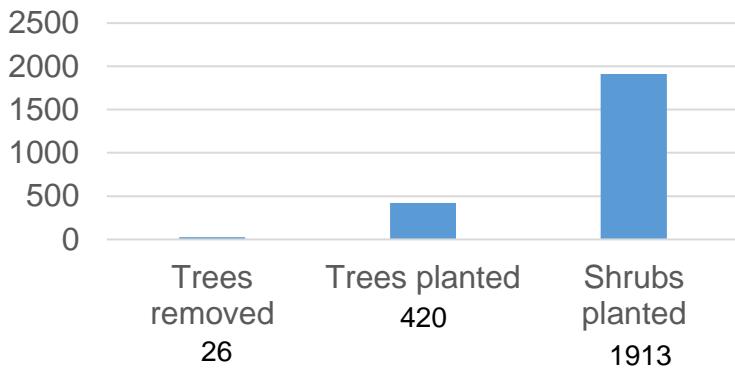
Location	Construction type	Community improvements	Status
Dockray Hall	Improved foundations and strengthened existing flood wall	Footpath resurfacing with tree and shrub planting to provide improved riverside habitat	Complete
Romney Gardens	Raised flood walls	Footpath resurfacing and shrub planting providing improved riverside habitat	Complete
Natland Road/Ford Park	Raised kerbing and flood wall	Footpath resurfacing, new seating and extensive riverside planting of ornamental shrubs, seed mixes and trees	Complete
Clarks	Raised flood wall	Restored a previously hard surface to grassland and planted a mixture of trees and shrubs to the riverside	Complete
Helsington & Watercrock	Raised flood embankments, flood walls and road raising	Resurfaced an existing car park and undertaking extensive planting of shrubs and trees. A further 1000 trees will be planted in the next planting season by Kendal Conservation Volunteers.	Complete
Parish Church	Raised flood walls		In progress
Waterside Flats	Raised flood walls		In progress
Busher Walk & Benson Green	Flood embankment and raised flood walls		In progress
Beezon Fields	Landscaping for a new environmental and public amenity area		In progress

Construction status to date



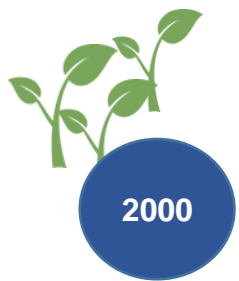
■ Complete ■ In progress ■ To start

Tree removal and shrub planting status to date



Community art, education and engagement

We are committed to leaving a lasting legacy for the community and visitors to Kendal. We are supporting a number of art and education initiatives to get the community involved with the development of the scheme. Here is a snapshot of some of the community involvement;

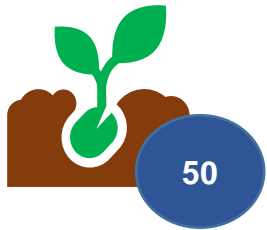


Engaging three local Schools, seven local charity organisations and over 20 community volunteers we took and potted over 2000 tree cuttings



Inspired Art

Working with three schools, one mental health charity, older residents of Kendal and four local artists, we are delivering inspired art which will feature in two key locations of the scheme



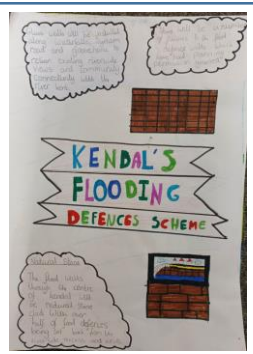
Families joined us and planted over 50 seeds in decorative pots with the help of Love art Workshops and Kendal Conservation Volunteers as a 'seed to tree' planting day



Over 200 students from local schools have attended site visits and talks



Over 60 children have creatively translated the scheme key facts into posters



Communications and engagement

We want to take this opportunity one year on, to celebrate the achievements that have been made, and to do this we will be running an intensive week of communications and engagement activity between **14 to 18 March 2022**.

Here is a snapshot of what is planned and how you can find out more;

Media Briefing – An opportunity for us to provide the media with an overview of what the scheme is delivering and to provide key messages which they can use when writing, or reporting on the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme.

Twitter takeover – Intensive social media presence during the week sharing key messages and highlights of the scheme. Follow us on [@EnvAgencyNW](https://twitter.com/EnvAgencyNW) to keep up to date.

VolkerEngage takeover – Our very own Volker Engage App will provide news and highlights of the scheme. Scan the QR code with your camera and download the app to your phone.

Press Release – content will be issued to all media providing information on the scheme, what has been achieved to date and a look forward to 2022.

The Flood Hub – visit www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal for more information, scheme key facts, blogs and more.



Get involved

Help us by getting involved;

Follow us on Twitter [@EnvAgencyNW](https://twitter.com/EnvAgencyNW) and share our posts



Download our **scheme App VolkerstevinEngage** from the App store or scan the QR code to keep up date or to get in touch



Share the scheme website link www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal with friends, family and colleagues so they can keep up to date.



Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme

Delivering environmental enhancement and improved community amenities