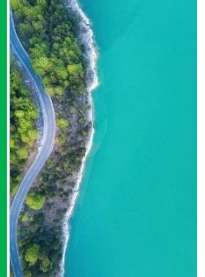


July 2022

- Update on the River Caldew Flood Risk Management Scheme
- The current situation
- Updates to the Flood Hub



# Caldew Flood Risk Management Scheme



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Or contact us via e-mail  
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## Update on the River Caldew Flood Risk Management Scheme

The aim of this newsletter is to provide an update on the work that the Environment Agency is undertaking to reduce flood risk in areas of Carlisle adjacent to the River Caldew; this includes communities in the Denton Holme, Caldewgate, Shaddongate and Willowholme areas of the city. This is part of our ongoing work to reduce and manage flood risk across the City of Carlisle.

Flooding in this area can occur directly as a result of extreme flood flows in the River Caldew, or in some areas, indirectly due to

high flows in the River Eden which lead to correspondingly high levels on the lower reaches of the River Caldew.

Over the course of the next 18 months, work will be undertaken to explore the best and most effective options to minimise flood risk in these affected areas. This will take the form of a series of studies, known as feasibility assessments, to identify new potential options that are able to provide long term, and climate resilient, flood risk management for this area of the city.

# The current situation

After Storm Desmond in 2015, a study was undertaken which looked into ways of reducing flood risk across the city. At this time, the most feasible option for this area of the city comprised largely of measures to increase the rate at which floodwaters could be passed through the through the city within the existing channel of the River Caldew, along with raising and extending the existing flood defences in a few locations.

A significant amount of work has been undertaken to improve our understanding of the flood risk along the River Caldew corridor through Carlisle. This work has been necessary to help us understand how we can best protect the area from future flooding, and to demonstrate how government funding such as a Flood Defence Grant in Aid can help us effectively achieve this.



It recently became clear that the combination of options we had chosen was not financially viable. This is partly because the level of funding the scheme qualified for was lower than initially estimated, and partly because estimated costs to deliver the scheme had increased.

This resulted in a very large funding gap. Furthermore, the nature of this scheme meant that we were unable to adapt it to provide an increased level of protection consistent with recently revised climate change predictions.



This means that it is no longer possible to continue to invest in the leading option, but rather we are working to establish a more suitable course of action that will provide the best possible solution and the highest levels of protection.

In order to explore the best possible solutions, we have secured funding to investigate a range of options that have not been possible to date.

## Updates to the Flood Hub

As part of our commitment to the local community, we have been providing updates and important information during the course of our work to reduce flood risk in the city.

As we move forward with the River Caldew Flood Management Scheme, we have now created a new Flood Hub page for this scheme and have added key details on the progress that has been made to-date and our future ambitions for this area. We will continue to ensure the latest information is available on the newly created River Caldew site, so all updates are clearly visible and accessible in one place for residents and businesses to remain up to date on our progress.

The Flood Hub can be accessed via [Caldew Flood Risk Management Scheme | The Flood Hub](#)

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