

PRESS RELEASE

12 January 2023

Construction starts on new town centre location for the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme

- Flood defence work has started at Little Aynam as part of the multi-million-pound flood scheme.
- These essential works will continue in Kendal until summer 2023.
- The scheme is part of work to adapt to our changing climate which is leading to heavier and more intense rainfall and increased flood risk.
- When complete, the flood defences in Kendal will improve flood protection for 1,480 homes and 1,100 businesses.

The Environment Agency and contractors Volker Stevin are starting work in the Little Aynam area for the construction of new Kendal flood defences. The Flood Scheme Information Hub at Little Aynam will remain open to the public throughout the works on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00 am until 4.30pm.

The setting up of the site began on the 9 January with pre-construction preparations taking place including service diversions and vegetation clearance.

Mike Harper, Environment Agency project manager said:

“Over the next few weeks, further construction works will begin in the Little Aynam area of Kendal to better protect homes and businesses from the effects of flooding.

“We appreciate that the works being undertaken will impact on local people and we will do our very best to keep this to a minimum. We will continue to keep the local community updated as the works progress.

“The Kendal Flood Information Hub is open every Tuesday and Thursday on Little Aynam where the community are welcome to drop in between 10am until 4.30pm to find out more about the flood scheme and ask any questions.”

The new flood defences in the Little Aynam area will consist of reinforced concrete walls which will be clad in locally sourced stone. The flood defences will begin at Thorny Hills and will then follow the boundary of Gooseholme Park and the putting green. When completed the new flood defences will connect onto the new Gooseholme Bridge access ramps and to the rear of the Scout Hut, continuing to Miller Bridge.

During construction, access to the new Gooseholme Bridge will remain open to the public.

Traffic management and diversions will be in place, when required to allow the works to be safely carried out.

Construction of the flood wall is expected to take six months.

More information on the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme can be found on the flood hub website www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal/ “

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Notes to editors

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The Environment Agency is constructing a Flood Risk Management Scheme to better protect homes and business from flooding in the Kent catchment and improve the local environment and community amenities. Kendal is the first area to be delivered, followed by Burneside, Staveley, and Ings, and upstream measures including flood storage.

Economy

The Kendal Flood Risk Management scheme represents significant investment to protect homes, business and infrastructure from the damage caused by flooding. This is a considerable opportunity for Kendal and will lead to future investment from the private sector once the flood defences are complete. Some of this funding will go into the local supply chain and local businesses will no doubt benefit from increased trade.

European Regional Development Fund

The project is receiving £5.34 million of funding from the England European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for ERDF. Established by the European Union ERDF funds help local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>

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