

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Next step for Kendal Flood Scheme – planning approval granted for Stock Beck pumping station and Gooseholme Park flood walls**

- Planning permission has been granted for a new pumping station and flood walls at Gooseholme Park in Kendal
- The approval from South Lakeland District Council allows the next stage of the multi-million pound flood scheme to begin.
- New improved scheme design and landscape plans were shaped by feedback from residents and local interest group

The Environment Agency has been granted permission by South Lakeland District Council for a new pumping station for Stock Beck and flood defences at Gooseholme Park as part of Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme.

The approved plans are part of the multi-million-pound investment by the Government to improve flood protection for over 1,400 homes and over 1,100 businesses in Kendal and across the areas as a whole.

With this planning permission now in place, pre-construction work will start this winter to move underground utilities ahead of construction starting spring 2023. The flood defences will be built using natural stone located around the boundary of Gooseholme Park with a flood gate to maintain public access to the riverside.

The approved plans for the pumping station also include the use of fish friendly pumps. The new Stock Beck pumping station has been designed to protect fish as they move within the watercourse. Landscaping will also be undertaken between Stramongate into Gooseholme Park.

When built, the equipment for the pumping station will be housed underground with the building designed to reflect local architectural features. When this part of the multi-million pound flood scheme is completed, the Stock Beck Pumping station will manage levels in Stock Beck more effectively when water levels are high.

The Environment Agency will also create two new amenity areas for the local community to enjoy within Gooseholme Park.

**Alex Cowin, Project Manager for Stock Beck Pumping Station said:**

“Being granted the planning permission for the Gooseholme area heralds the start of the next part of the flood risk management scheme for Kendal.

“It is important to get the scheme built as quickly as possible to protect the homes and businesses in this area of Kendal.”

**End**

VIDEO interview with Alex Cowin available for download via this link: <https://we.tl/t-4PtaZkSnzP>

**Notes to Editors**

More information on the Kendal Flood Scheme can be found on the flood hub [www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal/](http://www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal/)

The Community Flood Hub on Little Aynam has information about the scheme and members of the Environment Agency team on hand to answer questions and take feedback on the project. The Hub is open every Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am- 4.30 pm.

Information and latest developments for the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme are also available online via the VolkerStevin Engage App which is available on your app store, free of charge for iPhone and Android phones.

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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