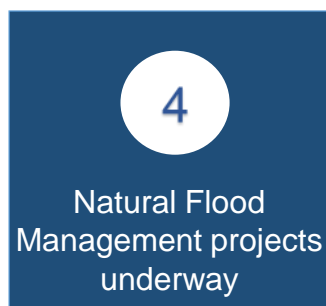


June 2020

The Environment Agency has proposed a three phase Flood Risk Management Scheme to better protect residential and business properties from flooding in the Kent catchment, and improve the local environment and community amenities. Kendal Town is the first phase, starting construction in Autumn 2020. Here is a snapshot of some of the benefits being delivered as part of the scheme;



Contact Us

Customer service 03708 506 506
Email KendalFRMS@environment-agency.gov.uk

Keep up to date www.thefloodhub.co.uk/kendal

Coronavirus and the impacts on the scheme

Although we are in a difficult time, we are committed and are actively progressing the delivery of the Flood Risk Management Scheme to better protect residential and business properties from flooding in the Kent catchment. We have continued with scheme design throughout the current situation. There have been some inevitable delays in our progress to undertake some site investigation works, but these have now resumed in Kendal, with us aiming to start construction in Autumn 2020.

We are currently developing a programme for a range of site investigations, surveys, and data gathering activities for Burneside, Staveley and Ings (Phase 2), and upstream measures including storage (Phase 3). These activities will commence this Summer. In addition, ongoing Natural Flood Management interventions will continue to be delivered to 'slow the flow' where we can implement safe working practices.

Data gathering

We resumed data gathering activities in Kendal in May, which continues to inform our detailed design of the scheme and will move these activities to Burneside, Staveley, Ings, and the upstream storage locations this Summer. We have already undertaken a number of surveys in Kendal and are looking at more detailed investigation activities to locate, and map, services and underground features which, in some locations, will require trial pits to be dug. At Jennings Yard Footbridge, we will be removing benches and some handrails for a short period of time so we can undertake our works safely. We will also be undertaking a river walk to survey existing in-river walls.



It is vitally important that all of our sites operate in a way that can protect the workforce to minimise the risk of the spread of Coronavirus. We are continuing to deliver our scheme where it is safe for our teams and delivery partners to do so. We are following the latest guidance from Public Health England regarding safe working on construction sites, and will operate where we can, implementing social distancing arrangements with all staff having PPE in order to undertake the work. We will ensure our staff and contractors' workforces are implementing Government guidance to protect them, their colleagues, their families, and the local community.

River maintenance and gravel removal

We have now entered the time of year where we are able to undertake in-river maintenance activities, and our assessments of the gravel accumulation in the River Kent has indicated that we need to remove excess gravel from a number of locations through the town from July, which includes Sandy Bottoms, Dockray Hall, Beezon Fields, Stramongate Weir, and Romney Gardens.

In addition to gravel removal, we will undertake our routine maintenance activities including invasive species control and vegetation management through the Kent catchment.

Working with our partners

We are working closely with Cumbria County Council (CCC) and other partners to ensure that we co-ordinate the Kendal scheme, Gooseholme Footbridge and Victoria Bridge works in order to minimise disruption to residents, businesses and visitors to the town.

We appreciate the sensitivities around traffic management and are currently working with South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) and CCC on our traffic management plans for the scheme.

We are also working closely with Untied Utilities as we develop our flood scheme and their sewer improvement programmes.

Phase One - Kendal

We will be here soon!!

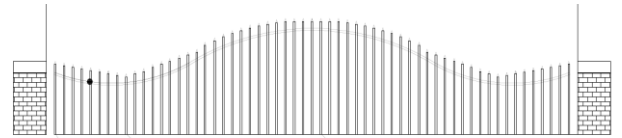
Our new information hub will offer the community and visitors the opportunity to keep in touch with what we will be delivering in Kendal, Burneside, Staveley, Ings, and the two upstream storage locations.



Our new information hub has provided us with a unique opportunity to bring together under one roof our team of scheme designers and delivery contractors to provide a central 'hub' for delivery of this complex three phase scheme. We are just working through how we can safely provide access to our hub, incorporating social distancing measures so bear with us and keep an eye out for further details.

Planning condition discharges and amendments

We have a number of planning conditions that require to be discharged as outlined by SLDC planning authority ahead of any construction activity, and we have been developing our plans. Taking advice and feedback on board from SLDC, Kendal Town Council and other key groups, our Landscape plans are taking shape, particularly how we plan to develop improvements to the Beeson Fields site. We are also developing plans to integrate art into the scheme including the development of a replacement 'Webster' railing option at Miller Bridge due to the railings being historically significant.



Webster railing design option at Miller Bridge

Beeson Fields improvements



Improvement features of this site

- New 3m wide riverside footpath
- Information boards
- Semi mature planting to screen the industrial estate
- Dense and open woodland planting
- Artwork using natural materials
- Sensory path through the woodland
- Tree re-use seating and public artworks
- Wetland landscaping for improved habitat for wildlife



Public artwork using natural materials.



A 'tactile path' will provide a sensory play experience



Delivering the Kendal scheme

We are well on the way to developing the final detailed design of the scheme for Kendal ahead of us starting construction in Autumn 2020. We are currently refining specifications and finishes of the walls, embankments and glass panel sections. We are also developing our plans for how we are going to deliver the scheme, which we will deliver in small sections we term as 'reaches' starting in the southern most area at Helsington Mills. The programme and order of delivery of the reaches will be agreed with SLDC as the planning authority. The order of work will be influenced by the complexity of construction and the need to minimise disruption within the town.

It is important that before the start of any construction works we prepare each reach. We will be undertaking a number of preparation activities to ensure the environment, community, and visitors to the town are protected from our works. We will be installing bat and bird boxes to provide alternative habitat, and we will be relocating street furniture such as street lighting, seating and bins. We will also need to undertake in some locations the diversion of utility services, and our traffic management plans and footpath diversions will be in place to carefully manage these as well as during our construction works.

Phase Two – Burneside, Staveley & Ings

Phase Three – Upstream measures including storage

We are continuing to develop our scheme designs for both phases ahead of our planning permission submission in Summer 2021. In preparation for this submission we will be undertaking a number of activities, one of which will be data gathering. This is an important activity which informs our understanding of the area and ultimately our design of the scheme. Our data gathering activities will commence this Summer and will include:-

Environment survey – These ecological surveys enable us to understand how wildlife use the site and which areas need special consideration.

Topographical – This survey of the land identifies features using Global Positioning System (GPS). This system enables us to display property and land features and physical boundaries on a scaled survey drawing.

Ground Penetrating Radar – A method to detect and map services and underground features using a non-destructive technique.

Trial pits and ground investigations – checking of services and utilities, foundations of existing structures and ground conditions.

We will provide an opportunity in Autumn for residents, businesses, and local interest groups to look at our developing plans to help shape them ahead of the planning application submission. We are also working closely with Untied Utilities as we develop our flood scheme and sewer improvement programmes for Burneside.

Milestone	Start date	End date
Data gathering	Summer 2020	Winter 2020
Scheme design	Summer 2020	Autumn 2021
Pre planning consultation	Autumn 2020	
Planning application submission	Summer 2021	
Construction start	Spring 2022	