Cumbria flood action plan

Ambleside community action table

The purpose of this action table is to highlight the flood management that is currently in place and the specific actions that are happening or proposed within Cumbria flood action plan for this community.

Please read this table in conjunction with the full Cumbria flood action plan and summary document, which can be found online by visiting www.gov.uk and searching Cumbria flood action plan.

Catchment: Kent/Leven

Impact of December 2015 flood: Approximately 160 homes and businesses were flooded

Description: The town of Ambleside is situated on the north shore of Lake Windermere in the Leven catchment. The river Rothay, with a catchment of around 60km^2, flows from Dunmall Raise and Rydal Fell north of Ambleside through the town, then joins the river Leven and river Brathay before flowing into Lake Windermere. The population of the town is around 2,600

Ambleside better protected

1) **Do Now (within next 12 months):**
   - **Complete repair and recovery work**
   - **Complete Emergency Plans**
   - **Register properties on Floodline Warnings Direct**
   - **Publish and review flood investigation report**
   - **Explore opportunities for natural flood risk management and engineered storage upstream of Ambleside**

2) **Develop (2-5 years):**
   - **Improvements to flood risk management assets and watercourses in response to the flood investigation report.**
   - **Continue to support sharing knowledge and best practice through the network for Community Action Groups**

3) **Explore (5+ years):**
   - **Implement opportunities for natural flood risk management and engineered storage upstream of Ambleside.**

	What's already in place	What we're going to do and what this will achieve	When this work will take place	Who's responsible for this work	How much will it cost/ Sources of funding
Strengthening flood defences	Flooding in Ambleside is reduced by over 750m of raised embankment and 180m of flood wall. These defences work together to manage river flows through the town. There are also 260m of culvert and numerous flap valves on drainage outfalls	**Improved defences** Review the recommendations from the Section 19 Flood Investigation Report and National Resilience Review to develop integrated flood risk management solutions. Although there may be no funding identified in the currently consented FDGiA Investment Programme, we will submit a bid for funding for viable projects identified following a review of the recommendations at the earliest opportunity, as part of the annual FDGiA Investment Programme refresh and/or when other appropriate sources of funding are made available. Provide access to additional national mobile defences.	Flood Investigation Report due **summer 2016** **Available before winter 2016**	Environment Agency	

Environment Agency

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		Repairing damages from Storm Desmond Work completed; The flood wall has been replaced, the debris screen on Fisher Beck culvert has been temporarily repaired and gravel removal in the Rothay Park area been undertaken. Work ongoing: Improve the river flows and install a permanent repair to the debris screen on Fisher Beck are all underway. The gravel removal works on Stock Ghyll requires traffic management, to minimise disruption to the town this is scheduled for after the school summer holidays.	Complete Short term (within next 12 months)		£100,000 from central government
		Modelling and forecasting post-event model re-runs Update the river level model with the most recent flow data available from Storm Desmond to develop and support any future schemes.	Short term (within next 12 months)	Environment Agency	£70,000 (Cumbria wide spend)
		Understanding Bridges Review the role that bridges play in flood risk and their vulnerability during a flood	Short term – strategic review within the next 12 months	Cumbria County Council Environment Agency	
Upstream management	Currently there is limited use of Upstream Management in the sub-catchments upstream of Ambleside.	Explore opportunities for engineered and natural flood management solutions to be used upstream of Ambleside in order to 'slow the flow' and manage peak river levels.	Medium term (5 years) or long term (over 5 years)	Farmers Landowners Community groups Trusts	
		Continue to work with the South Cumbria Rivers Trust and the Cumbria Peat Partnership to identify suitable sites and access funding to restore peatland, which will help to reduce flood risk.	Medium term (5 years)	Cumbria Wildlife Trust Natural England Forestry Commission South Cumbria Rivers Trust	Esmee Fairburn Foundation
Maintenance	Flooding in Ambleside is reduced by over 750m of raised embankment and 180m of flood wall. These defences work together to manage river flows through the town. There is also 260m of culvert and numerous flap valves on drainage outfalls. These assets and the river channel are maintained by the Environment Agency on an ongoing basis. This includes managing vegetation and removing gravel. The flood wall, embankment and other structures are also inspected and any necessary works carried out. The planned maintenance programme is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-and-coastal-maintenance-programme Cumbria County Council maintains the ordinary watercourses, surface water drainage and highway drainage.	New Environment Agency system will make it easier for communities to understand maintenance in their area. Improvements will show exactly when, where and what maintenance is being planned each year. Make sure that communities understand how they can access information on planned maintenance at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-and-coastal-maintenance-programme	Short (within next 12 months)	Communities Environment Agency Parish and district Councils	

Environment Agency

	What's already in place	What we're going to do and what this will achieve	When this work will take place	Who's responsible for this work	How much will it cost/ Sources of funding
Resilience	The Ambleside Community Emergency Plan Group (CAG) is an active group. CAG, with support from the Environment Agency is currently developing an Emergency Plan	Work with the Ambleside Community Emergency Plan Group and parish council so that they are able continue into the future. Continue to work with communities to set up a network of Community Emergency groups to share learning and best practice	Emergency Plan to be in place **before winter 2016.**	Residents and businesses Parish and District Council Local Government Environment Agency (Flood Warning and Community Resilience)	Local Levy, central government funding (Flood Defence Grant in Aid)
	Ambleside and Grasmere currently receive flood alerts, but the nature of the catchment and rapid response (flashy) watercourses does not allow enough time for effective flood warnings to be issued.	Work with the Community Action Group to develop a system of community based monitoring that will provide a better system of flood warnings.	**Before winter 2016**		
	South Lakeland District Council is administering flood recovery and resilience grants	Provide additional support to DCLG and Local Authorities to improve the uptake of the £5,000 Government resilience grants to help people better protect their homes. Applications can be made up until December 2016. A further £2,000 top up grant can also be applied for from the Cumbria Flood Recovery Fund.	Closing date for Grant applications – **end of December 2016**		Resilience grants of £5k per property
Water Level Management Boards	There are no Water Level Management Boards in this area				

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