

Low Crosby

Future Flood Risk Management

December 2017

Background

Following Storm Desmond, flood risk management authorities were commissioned by Government to reduce flood risk not only at community level, but to look for options to reduce flood risk across the County from Source to Sea. This means we have taken a new approach, working at a catchment scale to integrate land management, development and resilience from the tops of the fells down to the coast. In order for us to deliver flood risk benefits across the County in this way we are now part of an established partnership called Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership (CSFP).

What does Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership do?

The CSFP aims to lead, coordinate and monitor the management of flood risk across the County. This Partnership brings together Flood Risk Management Authorities including the Environment Agency, Cumbria County Council, District Councils, United Utilities and representation from other organisations including land managers and community groups who have an interest in, or responsibility for, flood risk management.

The CSFP is structured over two levels – the Board (strategic level) and Catchment Management Groups (operational/delivery level). The Board takes an overview of the whole Partnership, setting the direction and ensuring the three Catchment Management Groups deliver their objectives. The Board is currently chaired by Cumbria County Council and the Eden Catchment Management Group is chaired by Eden Rivers Trust.

Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership Community representation

A key objective of this Partnership is to ensure communities are represented at both a strategic level and at an operational level. The CSFP has appointed 6 community representatives (2 for each catchment area) to be a member of the Board and Catchment Management Group.

Your community Board representative for the Eden catchment is John Kelsall and your Catchment Management Group representative is Richard Milne.

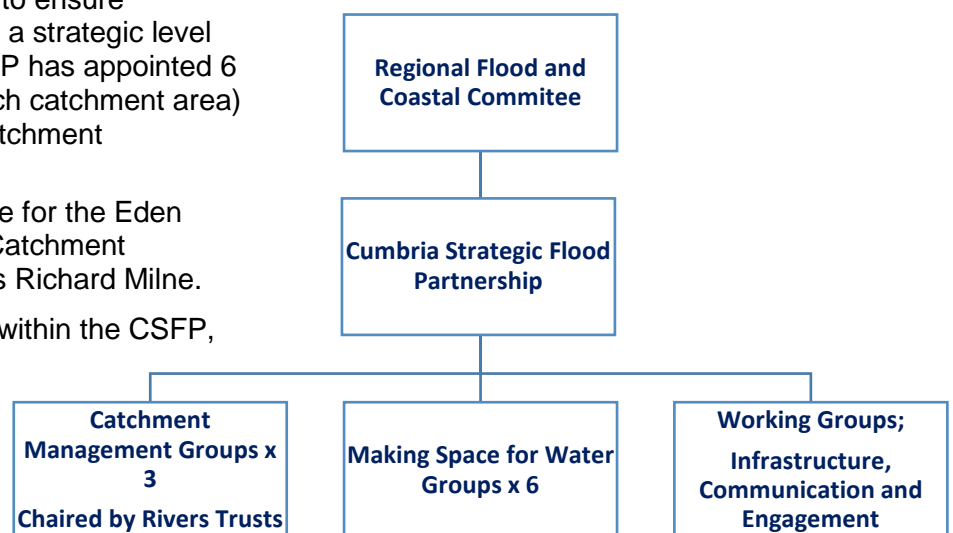
If you have any queries on their role within the CSFP, you can contact them on:

John Kelsall

john@phoenixarchitects.co.uk

Richard Milne

richardmilne_uk@btopenworld.com



For more information on the CSFP visit www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org

or email CSFP@cumbria.gov.uk

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What next?

In Summer 2017 we published the “long list” of options and since then we have been refining each option, measuring their viability against the following four tests;

1. Technical feasibility
2. Economic viability
3. Environmental sustainability
4. Community support

We are now at the stage in our appraisal work where we have a “short list” of options for Low Crosby and want to share these with the local community. At present the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) indicates that there are options which represent a sufficiently good return on government investment. These options have been developed with the help of the flood action group.

We will continue to work to develop and refine the short list options required for the full business case, which will be used to secure the most viable flood risk management scheme.

Once the business case is approved we will then progress with detailed design and construction, which includes planning applications, all other approvals, permits and landowner agreements required to deliver a scheme.

It is proposed that future flood risk measures could include a control structure on Willow Beck, localised walls and embankments along the east bank of Willow Beck and the Eden to protect properties on the north bank of the River Eden. These options are in line with the aspirations of the Flood Action Group.

We are also investigating other options with the landowner on the southern bank of the River Eden. There may be scope to manage this land in such a way that there are flood benefits to Low Crosby and communities downstream.

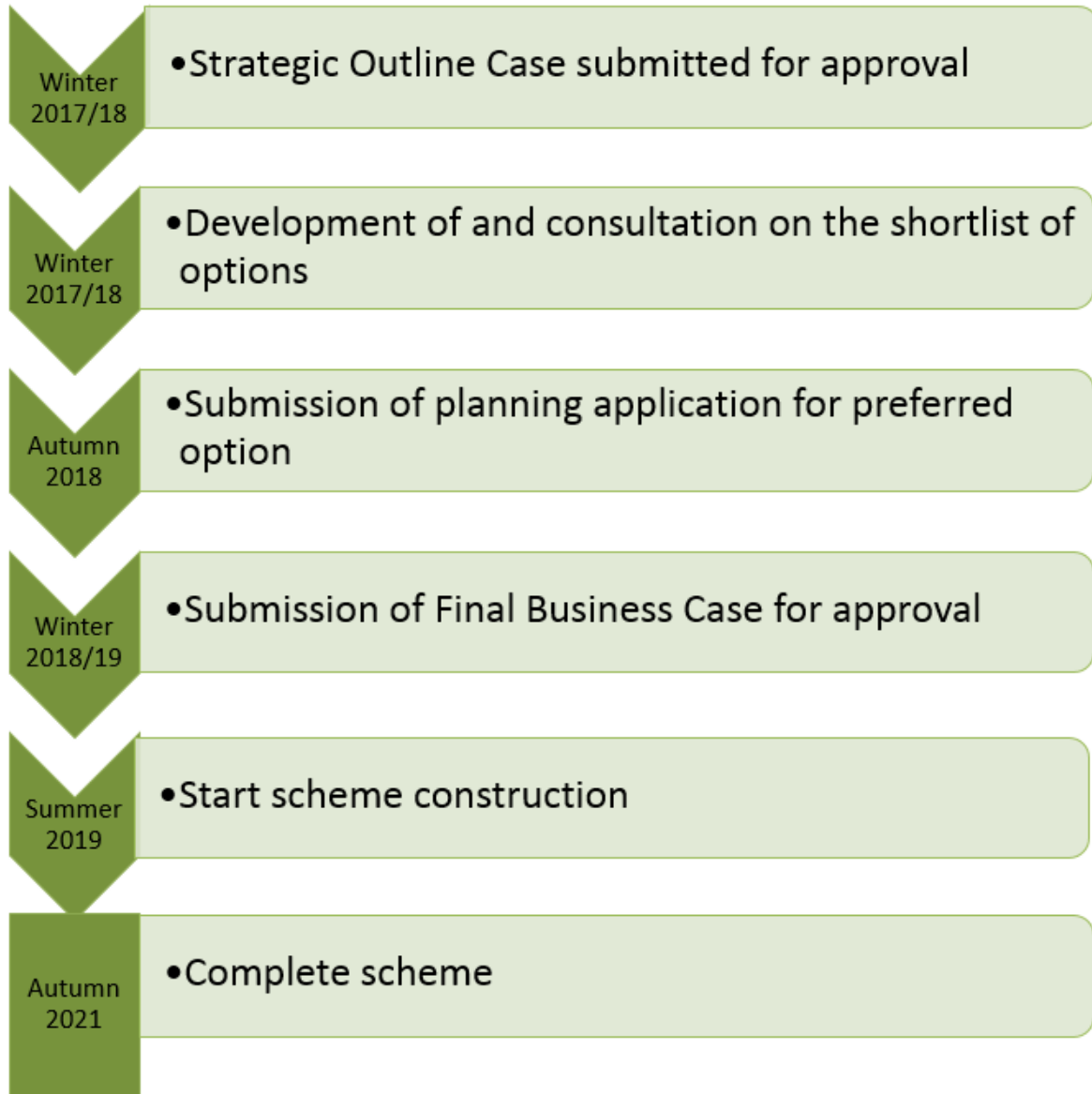
In addition to this we are also;

- Undertaking hydraulic modelling which is being used to inform changes to the flood risk areas at Low Crosby and Warwick Holme and is being used to inform the flood risk management options.
- Investigating the potential of using temporary defences within Low Crosby (this is not in place of permanent measures).
- Refurbishing and improving local river telemetry stations and rainfall gauges to increase data resilience and assist with recording, forecasting and warning.
- Undertaking our standard maintenance. Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-and-coastal-maintenance-programme>

We are currently organising a community drop-in which will take place in Low Crosby Village Hall on Tuesday 13th February. Drop-in any time between 2pm and 6:30pm. We will formally share the “short list” of options with you and will have plans showing where each option could be located. We will provide an update on the next steps.

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Outline Delivery Programme



The Strategic Outline Business Case provides a high level understanding of the flood risk and demonstrates the need to continue working on a scheme and complete the Final Business Case.

The Final Business Case provides all the detailed technical, economic and environmental information to justify a compelling case to invest the money to build a scheme.

This process can take some time. As we are spending Government's money in providing flood risk management we must follow their rules and procedures. For further information on the funding process and the rules we must follow, read the "guide on how the Environment Agency fund and deliver flood risk management schemes" under the 'Funding' section of the Cumbria Strategic Flood Partnership website <http://www.cumbriastrategicfloodpartnership.org>

Low Crosby Future Flood Risk Management

Contacting the Environment Agency

If you would like to contact the Environment Agency about future flood risk management you can email CMBLNC-PSO@environment-agency.gov.uk. If your query relates to community or personal resilience please contact clfloodresilience@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Be flood ready

We will never be able to guarantee a completely flood-free future, and so we encourage anyone living or working in a flood risk area to be aware and to be prepared. We can support you by; signing you up to receive free **flood warnings**, helping you to produce a **personal flood plan**, offering **property resistance and resilience** information and supporting the formation and ongoing work of a **community flood action group**.

It is important that you are prepared for flooding and we encourage you to take 4 simple steps:-

1. Sign up to Floodline to receive free flood warnings

Over 15% of properties within Low Crosby have not yet registered to receive flood warnings. The Flood Warning Service is a free system which is used to warn you of imminent flooding to land and property.

2. Know what to do when a flood warning is issued. Have a personal flood plan for you and your family.

3. Keep an eye on the situation. You can view a 5 day weather forecast and monitor the river levels online.

4. Keep up to date with early warnings of heavy rain which could lead to flooding by registering for Cumbria Community Messaging. This is a free e-mail service and is complementary to our Flood Warning Service. To register visit www.cumbriacommunitymessaging.co.uk

**For information on the above, visit
<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>
or ring Floodline on 0345 988 1188**



Community Planning

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) is supporting community resilience and emergency planning activities across the county. This includes helping people to get together to share their experiences, think about future risks and who in the community might need additional help. Contact ACT for more information on Tel: 01228 817592 or Email info@cumbriaaction.org.uk.