

# Cockermouth flood risk management

Reducing the risk of flooding to homes and businesses in Cockermouth

September 2011

**We are progressing with the detailed design of a flood risk management scheme for Cockermouth which began in August 2011. We hope to have this completed and have all the necessary planning permissions in place by April 2012, which will allow us to start construction during 2012, if funding for the scheme is secured.**

## Where we are now...

### Working with you on our detailed designs

It's really important that we work with you whilst carrying out the detailed design so we can address any issues or concerns.

We have started work on the design options for Rubby Banks Road. Residents in Cockermouth can view and comment on the design options for the new flood wall at Rubby Banks Road at a community drop-in session on 7 September 2011. This will be held at the edge of the River Cocker at Riverside Car Park in the centre of the town (opposite Rubby Banks Road).

This is the first of a series of drop-in sessions being held in different areas of the town, for the local community to comment on detailed designs for the flood risk management scheme. We will hold future sessions for Waterloo street, Graves Mill and Derwentside Gardens.

Don't worry though, if you are unable to attend in person, please do contact us, and the project team will be able to answer any questions or queries you may have.

During September, we will also be carrying out ground investigation for our design proposals at Waterloo Street, Derwentside Gardens, Jennings Brewery and the Town Hall. Residents who may be

affected by this work will receive early notification.

We will continue to work with the community on our designs especially those directly impacted – such as those living next to the flood walls and embankments.

### Funding

We are currently preparing a bid to secure government funding for a flood risk management scheme which will reduce the risk of flooding to homes and businesses in the centre of the town.

Although at the moment funding for the scheme is not guaranteed, it is vital the Environment Agency has community involvement at this stage so any issues can be addressed and a planning application can be submitted.

Once all this is complete and if planning permission is granted it will allow the Environment Agency to start building the defences, if funding is secured.

Flood and coastal resilience partnership funding means that many schemes in areas at high flood risk will receive full funding from Government, whilst others receive large contributions that will go a long way towards meeting the amount needed for a flood scheme to be built.

Where additional contributions are needed, the Environment Agency works in partnership with local communities to find ways of securing private investment such as from businesses or developers who will benefit from the added protection a flood defence will bring.

As the detailed design progresses, we will confirm the amount of contribution we will need to raise for the Cockermouth Flood Risk Management Scheme.

Our project team will continue to work with the Cocker mouth Flood Action Group and the local community to raise funds and identify where savings could be made to reduce the overall cost of the proposed scheme.

We are seeking contribution in the community through the Cocker mouth Flood Action Group and directly with the Cumbria County Council and Regional Flood Defence Committees.

## Areas we are looking at to make cost-savings to the scheme

We have identified the following areas where savings could be achieved.

### Detailed design

We are considering efficient and more cost-effective designs at Rubby Banks Road, Waterloo Street and Jennings Brewery. As the detailed design progresses, we will work with the community on our options to allow you to have your say.

### Construction

Savings can be made through our purchases, project management and reducing the time spent on-site during construction.

### Visit our new webpage

To help keep you up-to-date with our plans and progress to reduce flood risk in Cocker mouth, we have created a new webpage.

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/cockermouth](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/cockermouth)

The new webpage has been set up for use by people in Cocker mouth and surrounding villages, to

find out the latest information about our proposals to reduce flood risk in the town and to help answer any questions you may have.

You can also use our new webpage to find out if you can sign up to receive our free flood warnings and find out what steps you can take to prepare for flooding and protect your home or business.

## We want your views...

Please feel free to get in touch with us to discuss our proposals. Please contact:

Keith Roddy, Project Manager  
Tel: 01925 542782

Adrian Bacon, Area Flood Risk Management  
Tel: 01768 215811

Email: [floodriskcocker mouth@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:floodriskcocker mouth@environment-agency.gov.uk)

To find out if you are at risk of flooding and for information on how to protect your home or business from flooding, please call the Environment Agency's **Floodline on 0845 988 1188**, or visit the Environment Agency website

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)