Cumbria County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Cumbria and is responsible for the management of surface water flood risk. The area of Penrith Road is one of the greatest areas at risk from flooding.

Penrith Road has a low-lying area at the point where an ordinary watercourse (Castle Head drain) has to fight its way out into the river when river levels are high. The area is at risk of flooding from two sources:
- Surface water flooding.
- Flooding from the ordinary watercourses, above Ambleside Road.

The project will reduce flooding by:
- The construction of a new flood storage attenuation basin on land at Springs Field.
- A new pumping station at Penrith Road.
- And, where necessary, providing protection measures to properties between Ambleside Road and Penrith Road.

The scheme is funded by a combination of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid (FCERM GIA), Local Levy, Keswick Flood Action and Costal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid (FCERM GIA), Local Levy, Keswick Flood Action Group and Cumbria County Council.

As part of the project Cumbria County Council purchased the land at Springs Road, Keswick in January 2019 to construct a new flood storage basin which will hold and slow the flow of water down to the River Greta in a controlled way. A new pipe network will also link the basin to the Castle Head drain. This new alignment will divert water from its historic pathway through Brooks Cottage onto Ambleside Road.

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Here is a summary of the revised design following community feedback:
- Amendments to the design of the field boundaries at the Springs Field storage basin to prevent antisocial behaviour.
- Increased hedge planting at Springs Field storage basin and where possible plant mature hedging instead of saplings, and remove/relocated hedges elsewhere.
- Move the filter drain to the field boundary of Springs Field to catch more surface water run-off.
- Reduce the size of the pumping station kiosk/bus stop to fit in better with the conservation area.
- Agreement to avoid a road closure during the August bank holiday week.

As part of the scheme, a control room for the pumping station will be housed in a kiosk which will be built into the back of the new bus shelter located on Penrith Road just within Wivell Park (see artist’s impression).

The Project

The Project

Penrith Road Flood Alleviation

The Project Update

What will be happening over the next few weeks and how might this affect you?
- Penrith Road is closed from 2 September for 14 weeks so that we can construct the new pumping station.
- Our working hours will be 8am to 5pm Monday to Saturday at Penrith Road site to ensure that the road closure is on for the shortest possible time, and 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday at Springs Road field.
- As local residents and businesses, you will see an increase in construction traffic accessing and delivering to site.
- If we need to work any extra hours, we will do all we can to advise you of this in advance.

Please see the below timeline of work:

Week commencing 9 September and 16 September 2019

Springs Road
- Continue to strip top soil within the existing field and place temporary access road and hard standing area.
- Continue to erect temporary heras fencing and signage.
- Installation of site cabins.

Penrith Road
- You may have already noticed our advanced warning signs regarding the road closures on Penrith Road.
- We will be digging the road in preparation for construction work and cable diversions.
- This work will be noisy, but we will do all we can to minimise disruption to you, carrying out noise monitoring where necessary.

Further updates will be issued to keep you informed as we continue with the main construction activity.

We apologise for any inconvenience and disturbance you may suffer due to this essential work. Our people on site will do all they can to help you should you have any problems.