

Kendal BID

20<sup>th</sup> March 2019



Dear Planning,

Following on from a presentation to the Kendal BID Board, from Craig Cowperthwaite on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and attendance from Cllrs Archibald and Evans, Kendal BID Board met to discuss their response to the Environment Agency's proposed flood scheme for Kendal and whether it should be supportive.

We noted that the Environment Agency has made it clear that they are unable to proceed at this present time, with approval for stages two and three, due to lack of landowner's agreement and funding. Kendal BID Board has grave concerns that the consents for these phases will not be forthcoming within the timescales required (pre 2021).

The Board also has serious apprehensions over the viability and effectiveness of phase one as a stand alone project, on any significant benefit to Kendal were a storm on a similar magnitude to happen in Kendal again. We noted the only real benefit, and not in any way to be marginalised, will be the pumping station at Stock Beck. We also noted that the towns bridges may also come under more pressure by the implementation of Phase 1 only, this is a major concern that could result in the town being cut off.

We also acknowledge that funding, at present, is only available for phase one and we acknowledge the timescales are extremely short. In addition, we acknowledge that no other flood resilience schemes have been investigated expect those presented by the Environment Agency and that Kendal's options are this or nothing. We are of the understanding that without phase 1 being accepted, Phases two and three will have no chance of being taken forward and the Board accepts that a small chance may be better than no chance at all.

The Board at this stage can only support phase 1, as this is the only application on the table. We would like it noted that the shot-gun approach i.e. 'take it or leave it' scenario, by the Environment Agency and South Lakeland District Council has left a bitter pill for us to swallow and we do so with reluctance.

Yours Sincerely

Kendal BID Board

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