Statement from Cumbria Police:

"The health, social care and emergency services in Cumbria are resourced to serve the 500,000 resident population and will be stretched to breaking point by this crisis.

Large numbers of visitors will only place an additional burden on these hard-pushed professionals."

Statement from Keswick Town Council:

We are asking all non-essential businesses in Keswick to close with immediate effect to help prevent the transmission of Covid19, and for all of us to improve the practise of social distancing. (We have requested that Allerdale BC suspend the markets.) We also urge take-aways to act responsibly and follow the relevant social distancing guidance.

We ask that those businesses that facilitate visitors change their policy to prevent them from coming in the first place. I.e. please close your B&B, Hotel, Hostel, Holiday Let or Campsite until this emergency is over. We would particularly ask all holiday letting agencies to stop any further bookings and cancel all those existing ones. We all need food and medicines, and the Post Office. But we can manage without the others.

We realise this is a terrible time for all residents, many local businesses, and sole traders who we realise largely depend on the tourist trade, but until this crisis is behind us none of us should risk reckless behaviour assuming that we are somehow immune.

We need to work together for the benefit of Keswick, and together we will get through this, and welcome back our visitors with open arms. If you wish to help our community directly, please contact the Keswick Community Emergency Recovery Partnership. (email to keswickvolunteers@gmail.com)

If you are a visitor and are reading this, please return home to help restore the balance of demand on our NHS and other services.

Signed = Keswick Town Council (David Burn (Mayor), Paul Titley (Deputy Mayor), Alexandra Boardman, Markus Campbell-Savours, Allan Daniels, Alan Dunn, Steve Harwood, Sally Lansbury, Tony Lywood, Duncan Miller, Adam Paxon, Peter Terry)