

**KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL**  
**SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE**  
**Selflessness – Integrity – Objectivity – Accountability – Openness – Honesty - Leadership**

**Council Offices**  
**50 Main Street**  
**Keswick**  
**CA12 5JS**

**Email: [townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk)**

9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

A meeting of Keswick Town Council will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Keswick at **7.00 pm**.



**Vivien Little**  
**Town Clerk**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies**  
To receive apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes**  
To authorise the Chair to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 21st November 2024 (pages 22-25) and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (pages 26-29).
- 3. Requests for Dispensations**  
The Clerk to report any requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- 4. Declarations of Interests**  
To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting). Members may, however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

*If a member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.*

- 5. Police Report**  
To receive the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team
- 6. Matters to be received from the Public**  
Such matters may be received throughout the meeting, however items raised should not be discussed for longer than 10 minutes and the Chairman reserves the right to curtail repetitious matters. Public participation shall not be longer than half an hour throughout the meeting.
- 7. Matters to be raised by Councillors**

An opportunity for Councillors to raise any unforeseen matters which are not on the agenda, with the consent of the Chair, and which do not require a decision – items raised should not be discussed for longer than 10 minutes. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS ONLY FOR URGENT ITEMS.**

**8. Outside Bodies Report**

To receive a report from the following representatives:

- i) Keswick Flood Action Group
- ii) Minutes of the Keswick Ministries Town Liaison Forum held on Thursday 12 September 2025 (for information only)

**9. Applications for Development**

- i) To examine applications for development and agree observations to be submitted to the Lake District National Park (Planning Group report to be circulated prior the meeting)..
- ii) To receive update on National Park planning decisions.

**10. Licensing application**

To receive Planning and Licensing Group report on licensing applications received.

**11. Mayor's Report**

To receive details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 6th December 2024–9th January 2025.

**12. Reports from Ward Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

- i) Cumberland Council
- ii) Lake District National Park Authority North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative (if available).

**13. Council Tax Base Confirmation**

To receive the report from the Responsible Financial Officer (if available).

**14. Budget for 2025/2026**

To approve the draft Budget for the financial year 2025/26 and to set the precept for 2025/26.

**15. Payment of Accounts**

To approve the payment of accounts for January 2025 as approved by the Inspection Committee (list to be circulated prior to the meeting):

- i. For the Town Council
- ii) For the Trusts

**16. Clerk's Report**

To receive the report of the Clerk (to follow).

**17. Consultation Response**

- i. To consider Keswick Town Council's response to the MHCLG's consultation on Standards in Local Authorities
- ii. To consider Keswick Town Council's response to the Keswick Parking Strategy Survey run by Cumberland Council.

**18. Membership of Committees and Outside Bodies**

To consider current membership of Committees and Outside Bodies, given the recent resignations and co-options.

**19. Events Minutes**

To receive for information the minutes of the Events Committee held on 5 December 2024.

To: All Councillors, Press, Police

## KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

## SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE

Selflessness – Integrity – Objectivity – Accountability – Openness – Honesty - Leadership

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held at on Thursday 21st November 2024 at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Keswick at 7.00 pm.

**Present:****Chair**

Councillor Louise Dunn

**Councillors**

Natalie Evans

Steve Harwood

Denstone Kemp

Benita Laphorn

Jean Murray

Rob Nelson

Claire Peat

Lorraine Taylor

Also present was Vivien Little (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer) four members of the public and one member of the press.

**112. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chris Houghton & Claire Houghton.

**113. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024 (pages 18-20).

**114. Co-option of a Councillor**

- i) **RECEIVED** a presentation from one co-option applicant giving the reasons they would like to be a Town Councillor, and what they feel they can offer to the community.
- ii) A vote took place and it was **RESOLVED** that Natalie Evans be co-opted as the candidate to fill the vacancy in the East Ward.
- iii) Councillor Evans duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**115. Requests for Dispensations**

The Clerk reported that no requests for dispensation had been received.

**116. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

**117. Police Report**

**RECEIVED** the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team.

**118. Matters to be received from the Public**

No matters were raised by the public at this meeting.

**119. Matters to be raised by Councillors**

Councillor Harwood gave Councillors a brief update about a meeting he had had with Cumberland Council regarding the efforts to reopen the Swimming Pool in Keswick. There would be a follow up meeting in January regarding this.

Councillor Laphorn informed Councillors of the recent award given to Keswick Community Housing Trust, the Kings Award. KCHT is only the fifth organisation in Keswick to receive the equivalent since it was introduced.

Councillor Dunn brought up a recent report which had been commissioned by Friends of the Lake District, entitled "Who Pays for the Lake District?" and encouraged all Councillors to go and read it. Councillor Dunn also thanked all the staff involved in the Christmas Lights switch on for a successful event.

## 120. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

RECEIVED a report from the following representatives:

- i) Keswick Youth Centre – Council representative Councillor Taylor. The Chair of the Youth Centre was in attendance to give an update on the progress the club had made. Lots of progress had been made, but they were hoping to continue to expand, to be a support for the youth of Keswick and surrounding areas.

Councillor Taylor reminded Councillors that there weren't many opportunities to support young people, and that the Youth Centre was undertaking fantastic work.

## 121. Applications for Development

- i) **RESOLVED** that the following observations be submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority (Action - RFO)

Plan ref.	Description, Location, Comments Recommendation
T/2024/0176	T1 - Silver Birch - Fell 3 , Leonard Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4EJ <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
T/2024/0185	Reduce and reshape one yew tree as shown in photograph Flat 5, The Hollies, High Street, Keswick, CA12 5AH <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
7/2024/2178	Proposed change of use to outdoor adventure venue Ken Taylor Automotive, Crosthwaite Road, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5PP <i>Support/Object – we support the principle of the proposed Change of Use to an Outdoor Adventure venue as an acceptable use of the existing unused former garage. We strongly object to the proposal to paint any of the existing walls black – we consider they should remain white as existing in this locality. We also note the concern raised by a neighbouring property about noise generation from the new HVAC unit indicated at the east end of the building in close proximity to existing dwellings. We request that Cumberland Environmental Health be consulted about the impact of this element</i> <b>SUPPORT/OBJECT</b>
7/2024/2203	Non-material amendment to planning application 7/2024/2115 (Single storey rear extension, external alterations and installation of glazed canopy to rear) to raise the overall height of patio doors to 2300mm 26, Wordsworth Street, Keswick, CA12 4BZ <i>For information only</i>

- 7/2024/2207** 2no. local needs dwellings following the withdrawal of application 7/2021/2228 - variation of condition 2 (plans) and condition 8 (foul water drainage) of planning permission 7/2021/2367  
Plots A and B, Land at Bristowe Hill, Crosthwaite Road, Keswick, CA12 5PG  
*No comments made*  
**SUPPORT**
- 7/2024/2209** To extant planning permission in relation to condition 1 on planning permission 7/2021/2254  
  
Land at Vendace Court, Borrowdale Road, Keswick, CA12 4EU  
*For information only*
- 7/2024/2211** Single storey extension of house to create entrance porch & home office. Conversion of garage to workshop. Reroofing of bay window and addition of 2nd bay window. Addition of rooflights and solar panels. Removal of chimneys.  
22, Springs Road, Keswick, CA12 4AN  
*No comments made*  
**SUPPORT**
- 7/2024/2230** Alterations and extensions to single storey dwelling, with rear single storey extension and new first floor extension (revised proposals following withdrawal of application 7/2024/2184)  
Mossgiel, Rogerfield, Keswick, CA12 4BW  
*Support/Object – we support the principle of the proposed extension/alterations to the existing dwelling on this site, as we did on the previous withdrawn application 7/2024/2184. We note the proposed changes to mitigate concerns raised by a neighbouring property, which are acceptable, but we object to the hybrid hipped end design of the roof. This is a significant change to the simplicity of the original design which we consider respects the recommendations of the adopted “Lake District Design Code” which states in Section 3.22 – The form of a new extension must be similar or to otherwise respect the form of the existing house. We consider the original design does but the new design does not in this locality*  
**SUPPORT/OBJECT**

- ii) **RECEIVED** update on National Park planning decisions.

## 122. Mayor’s Report

**RECEIVED** details of the Mayor’s engagements and meeting attendance for the period 11th October – 14th November 2024.

## 123. Reports from Ward Representatives

**RECEIVED** reports from the following representatives:

- i) Cumberland Council – Councillor Lansbury was in attendance and gave her first update since being elected as Cumberland Councillor for Keswick. She explained her priority areas, which included the swimming pool and housing. She encouraged Councillors to attend any Lakes to Sea Panels (the next of which takes place on Thursday 12 December), as it was a chance to interact with Councillors for the area.
- ii) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative - **RECEIVED** the report of the LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative.

**124. Clerk's Report**

**RECEIVED** the report of the Clerk.

**125. Payment of Accounts**

**RESOLVED** that the accounts for November 2024 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payments (Action – RFO):

- i) For the Town Council, vouchers 154- 183, amounting to £61,854.69 (sixty one thousand eight hundred and fifty four pounds and sixty nine pence)
- ii) For the Trusts, vouchers HP125 – FP136, amounting to £9,468.48 (nine thousand four hundred and sixty eight pounds and forty eight pence)

**126. Policy for adoption**

**RESOLVED** that Menopause Policy be updated and brought back at a later date (Action – Clerk).

**127. Consultation Response**

Consideration was given to the Town Council's response to the Government consultation on enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at meetings.

**RESOLVED** that delegated authority be given to the Clerk to respond to the consultation, after consulting with Councillors. The final response will be published in next month's agenda (Action – Clerk).

**128. Staffing Committee Minutes**

**RECEIVED** for information the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 1 November 2024 (page 2).

**129. Written Notice of Special Resolution**

**RECEIVED** a Written Notice of Special Resolution, at the request of Councillors Harwood, Dunn and Peat. 'That the Town Council resolves to rescind the resolution in Minute No. 104 i.e. 'that Company B be awarded the contract for supplying a photocopier/scanner to the Town Hall office for a period of five years'

**Prior to the following business the Chair moved the following resolution:**

*'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted'*

**130. Photocopier Contract**

Consideration was given to the report of the Responsible Financial Officer.

**RESOLVED** that Infinity Carlisle be awarded the contract for supplying a photocopier/scanner to the Town Hall office for a period of five years (Action – Clerk and RFO).

The meeting closed at 8.15p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

## SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE

Selflessness – Integrity – Objectivity – Accountability – Openness – Honesty - Leadership

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council held on Thursday 12 December 2024 at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Keswick at 7.00 pm.

**Present:****Chair**

Councillor Louise Dunn

**Councillors**

Natalie Evans

Steve Harwood

Denstone Kemp

Benita Laphorn

Jean Murray

Rob Nelson

Claire Peat

Also present was Vivien Little (Town Clerk), Catherine Parker (Responsible Financial Officer), three members of the public, Councillor Sally Lansbury (Cumberland Council) and one member of the press

**131. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chris Houghton, Claire Houghton and Taylor. Their apologies were noted and accepted.

**132. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Chair be authorised to sign as a correct record the minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on Thursday 14th November (page 21) and Town Council meeting held on the 21st November 2024 (pages 22-25), subject to an amendment regarding the Menopause Policy coming back at a future date for approval.

**133. Requests for Dispensations**

The Clerk reported that there were no requests for dispensation received.

**134. Declarations of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

**135. Police Report**

**RECEIVED** the report of the Allerdale Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team.

**136. Matters to be received from the Public**

A member of the public spoke in relation to agenda item 17 ii), informing Councillors of the planned Chinese Film Festival early next year, and the plan to hold a Chinese themed arts and crafts market on Sunday 23 February 2025.

*Councillor Kemp arrived at 7.09pm*

**137. Matters to be raised by Councillors**

Councillor Peat raised issues with standing water on between Penrith Road and Millfield. She reported that she had reported blocked drains to Cumberland Council, but that they had completed a cursory look at them, but not cleared them out as was necessary. The Clerk agreed to register a complaint in her capacity as Trustee of KCERP, as well as Town Clerk (Action – Clerk).

Councillor Laphorn was concerned that water was once again pooling on Borrowdale Road during heavy rain, mostly likely due to a blocked up gully.

Councillor Dunn encouraged Councillors to fill in the consultation on bin collections in Cumberland, and that there would be a Councillor only meeting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January to discuss the Town Council response to this.

### 138. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

**RECEIVED** a report from Keswick Fair Trade Committee – Council representative – Cllr Claire Houghton. A member of the Fair Trade Committee spoke to update Councillors on the activities of the Fair Trade committee, and encouraged Councillors to buy Fair Trade where they could.

### 139. Applications for Development

- ( i) **RESOLVED** that the following observations be submitted to the Lake District National Park Authority (Action - RFO)

Plan ref.	Description, Location, Comments Recommendation
<b>T/2024/0196</b>	Fell 2 Mountain Ash trees (17 & 18). Remove front limbs of Beech tree (19) which are overhanging the bed. Remove overhanging branches and ivy on large Birch tree (20). Reduce height of Holly Tree by 10 feet and shape (22). Remove Cotoneaster which has fallen at the side of Holly 22. Shape and lower branches of columns of Eucryphia (26) - Tree Work in Conservation Area Keswick Underpass Bed, Lake Road, Keswick, CA12 5DQ <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>T/2024/0212</b>	Fell 2 x birch, 2 x sycamore and 1 x ash-TPO application Mountain Lodge, Lonsties, Keswick, CA12 4TD <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>T/2024/0213</b>	T1 Lawson Cypress - Fell Gower, Blencathra Street, Keswick, CA12 4HW <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>7/2024/2196</b>	Two storey extension to provide shower in wc downstairs and bedroom upstairs 1, Old Mill Court, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5PJ <i>No comments made</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>7/2024/2208</b>	Change of use from B&B to HMO, no material changes or layout changes, eight bedrooms Brierholme Guest House, 21, Bank Street, Keswick, CA12 5JZ <i>Support – we support the conditions attached to this permission</i> <b>SUPPORT</b>
<b>7/2024/2232</b>	Conversion of garage to provide a one-bed local occupancy unit in accordance with planning permission 7/2021/2271 granted 26 November 2021 24, Ratcliffe Place, Keswick, CA12 4DZ <i>No comments required</i>



**7/2024/2237** Alterations to windows and doors and replacement of chimney with flue  
33, Lakeland Park, Keswick, CA12 4AT  
*No comments required*

**7/2024/2239** Proposed renovation with internal alterations, repairs to windows and  
painting exterior walls, doors and windows  
Royal Oak, Main Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5HZ  
*Support/Object – we support the overall proposals for renovation and  
internal alterations but object to the proposed hanging basket on the  
Station Street elevation at the height proposed where the pavement is  
extremely narrow*  
**SUPPORT/OBJECT**

ii) **RECEIVED** update on National Park planning decisions.

#### 140. Mayor's Report

**RECEIVED** details of the Mayor's engagements and meeting attendance for the period 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

#### 141. Reports from Ward Representatives

**RECEIVED** reports from the following representatives:

- i) Cumberland Council – Councillor Lansbury was in attendance and delivered a brief update on the work of the Lakes to Sea Panel, as well as updating Councillors on a meeting she had attended with Councillor Dunn at Keswick School to talk about youth representation.
- ii) LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative - **RECEIVED** the report of the LDNPA North Distinctive Area Parishes Representative. The Clerk was also to find the Annual Monitoring Report for Planning and pass it onto Councillors (Action – Clerk)

#### 142. Payment of Accounts

**RESOLVED** that the accounts for December 2024 as approved by the Inspection Committee be authorised for payments for

- i) For the Town Council, vouchers 184-201, amounting to £31,860.35 (thirty one thousand eight hundred and sixty pounds and thirty five pence)
- ii) For the Trusts, vouchers HP147 – FP150, amounting to: £4,085.68 (four thousand and eighty five pounds and sixty eight pence)

#### 143. Grants 2025/26

**RESOLVED**

- i) the grants to local organisations from the 2025/26 budget, with a total of £20,315 agreed as in the report (Action – RFO).

#### 144. Councillors' Surgeries

**RECEIVED** a report from Councillor Murray.

**RESOLVED** that Councillors liaise with Councillor Murray to cover the councillors surgeries, and that dates for the rest of 2025 will be booked (Action – Councillor Murray).

#### 145. Clerk's Report

**RECEIVED** the report from the Clerk.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer investigate options for a new board commemorating recipients of the Freedom of the Town and the Queen's/King's Award for voluntary service (Action – Clerk and RFO)

#### 146. Consultation Response

Councillors considered a Keswick Town Council response to the Boundary Commission consultation on ward boundaries for Cumberland Council.

**RESOLVED** that the following comments be noted on the consultation:

- i) The boundary for the Keswick ward needs to be realigned to match the Keswick Town Council Parish Boundary, ensuring that Calvert Way is included in the boundary; and
- ii) Keswick Ward went from four Councillors to one Councillor following LGR – given the amount of work in Keswick, there should be two Councillors (Action – Clerk).

**147. Correspondence**

- i) **RECEIVED** for information correspondence from the CCLA regarding investments; and
- ii) To give Cumberland Council any observations/comments on a proposal for a Chinese Themed market, to take place on a Sunday at the end of February 2025, there would be between 15 and 20 stalls.

Consideration was given to the Cumberland Council request.

**RESOLVED** that Keswick Town Council support this, on the basis that the market stalls will be for Chinese arts and crafts, and not for normal market stalls (Action – Clerk).

The meeting closed at 8.17 p.m.

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Chair

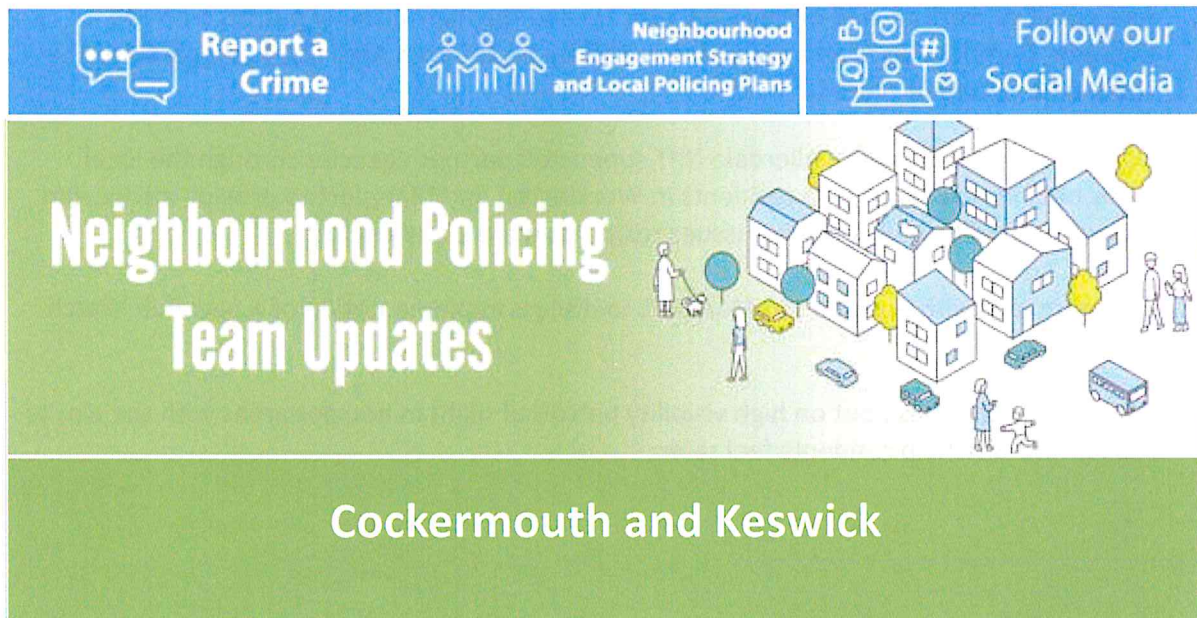
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Date

**Ania Mlynczak**

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**From:** Cumbria Police <CumbriaPolice@public.govdelivery.com>  
**Sent:** 16 December 2024 19:28  
**To:** Ania Mlynczak  
**Subject:** November & December 2024 - Cockermouth and Keswick

[View in browser](#)



In this months newsletter you will read about some of the things the team have been doing this month.

In November and December we continued to see extra patrols targeting anti-social behaviour and serious violence as part of Operation Enhance.

These are extra patrols funded by money secured by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to target anti-social behaviour and violence in hotspot areas.



This month we also supported anti-social behaviour week and below you will read what ourselves and partners did during the week to highlight the work we do all year round.

**Inspector Pete Aiston**

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**Anti-social behaviour week**

As part of anti-social behaviour week (18-24 November) of action partners from the local focus hubs in Cumberland worked together to speak to residents and identify problems.

ASB is a priority for Cumbria Constabulary and as such Operation Enhance, which sees extra patrols in areas identified as hotspots for ASB, continues.

The operation sees extra patrols in 18 areas identified by statistical analysis as the county's hotspot areas of anti-social behaviour and serious violence. These areas include areas of Carlisle, Barrow, Workington, Whitehaven, Kendal, Penrith, Maryport, Cleator Moor, Ulverston and Bowness-on-Windermere.

As well as providing high-visibility patrols, these officers also proactively respond to criminality and safeguarding issues that arise in their patrol locality.

As a result of work carried out by local officers and the high visibility patrols from Op Enhance, Cumbria has seen a reduction in ASB by 17.2% from April 2024 compared to the same time period in 2023.

During the week of action, Allerdale NPT supported partner agencies through the local focus hub, in reaching out to residents in Workington and Maryport to provide advice and support regarding ASB and other issues residents were experiencing.

The team met with licensee's in Maryport to discuss implementation of a new Pub Watch initiative.

Local PCSOs were also out on high visibility patrols at night in hotspot areas with the aim to reduce ASB and help residents feel safer.

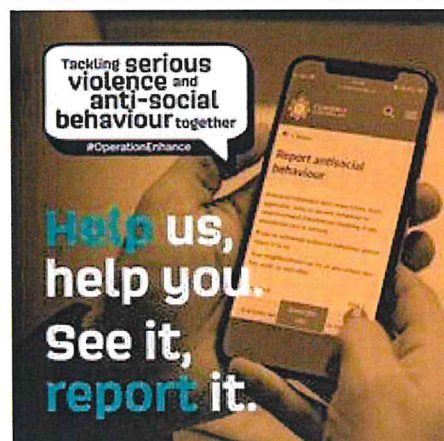


## Operation Enhance

Four months in and Operation Enhance has so far resulted in 143 stop and searches, 358 intel submissions from the public and 43 arrests.

Op Enhance sees extra police patrols in areas identified as hotspots for anti-social behaviour and/or serious violence across the county.

The operation has been made possible thanks to £1 million of extra funding secured by Cumbria's Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner from the Government's Hotspot Response Fund to target anti-social behaviour (ASB) and serious violence in hotspot areas across the county.



The operation sees extra patrols in 18 areas identified by statistical analysis as the county's hotspot areas of anti-social behaviour and serious violence.

As part of the operation, the public is encouraged to report antisocial behaviour by visiting the constabulary's website <https://orlo.uk/gKvGc> or our non-emergency number 101.

In an emergency always call 999. Information and intelligence from the public is vital so we can work together to tackle issues in their communities.

Find out more about Operation Enhance: <https://orlo.uk/ec9p7>

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### **Anti-social behaviour patrols Keswick**

On 9 December, we were on patrol in Keswick Town centre following a number of reports of young people acting in an anti-social manner.

Anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated and youths found acting in this manner will be dealt with robustly.

We will continue to pro-actively patrol these areas.

If you are experiencing any form of anti social behaviour please report it.



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### **Mini police make their community cleaner**

On 9 December, PCSO Clare Parker and Fairfield school mini police have done a litter pick in the area.

The area that we covered looks a lot cleaner and tidier now and the mini police all enjoyed the session.

Please

- Take your litter home with you.
- Use a bin if there is one.
- Try to recycle items including plastic bottles.



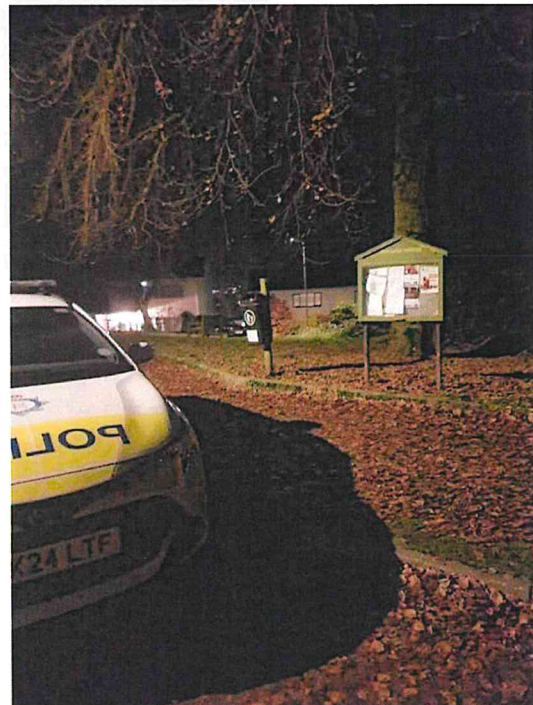
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### You said, we did

Residents of Papcastle are being subjected to anti-social behaviour by young people and there is daily drug use in the village.

As a result we did

- High visibility patrols conducted
- Local schools engaged with to identify the youths involved
- Leaflet drops by our local PCSO
- Education meetings with the youths identified to educate them on the consequences of their behaviour and the impact their behaviour is having on the community.



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### Remembrance day 2024

Officers and PCSOs from Allerdale NPT supported Remembrance Day parades across Silloth, Aspatria, Maryport, Workington, Cockermouth and Keswick. A big thank you to our Special Constables who also turned out to service parades as well.

It was good to see so many people come and support the parades, great community spirit shown across all areas.

It was an honour to lay a wreath at all the Cenotaphs and memorials.



### Christmas party at Victoria Court

On 11 December, PCSO Clare Parker has been along to Victoria Court Christmas Party and Christmas Quiz.

Lots of fun had by all and we even sang some Christmas songs.



### Road safety talk Dean School

On 29 November, PCSO Clare Parker went into Dean school to talk to the pupils about Road Safety. There was lots of good questions asked.

- Always wear your seatbelt.
- Find a safe place to cross the road.
- Don't cross in between parked vehicles.
- Be seen in the dark, wear bright colours.





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### **A day with PC Shona Pattinson**

A day with PC Shona Pattinson on 18 November...

Whilst on enquiries in Keswick, a vehicle was stopped and the driver reported for no insurance. The vehicle had been uninsured since September 2024.



Patrols in the evening were conducted in Papcastle, following reports of anti-social behaviour and drug use in the area.

Finally! Response patrols were assisted in Whitehaven, following a disturbance in the street, where several arrests were made.

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### **Keswick light switch on**

On 15 November, PC Shona Pattinson and PC Catherine Higson attended the Keswick Christmas lights switch on in the evening, in between responding to calls for service with their colleagues.

What a wonderful atmosphere which was clearly enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately as the night progressed, officers have had to deal with groups of young people causing anti-social behaviour in the town centre, which is a shame following a lovely event - parents, please keep checking in on your children and know their whereabouts. The children involved will be identified and dealt with in due course.



### Cockermouth

PCSOs Megan Jones and Dan Snell attended the light switch on in Cockermouth on 17 November.

Their day was made when they got to meet Santa...and he might of helped them with sharing who's on the naughty list!

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### Winners at the Neighbourhood Policing Awards

On 3 December, officers from Cumbria Constabulary's Neighbourhood Policing Teams celebrated their success and were recognised for their hard work at the annual Neighbourhood Policing Awards.

The awards were presented to officers and PCSOs during Cumbria Constabulary's Neighbourhood Policing Conference on 2 December.

Seven awards were presented by Neighbourhood Policing lead, Chief Superintendent Andy Wilkinson, to recognise the individual's contribution towards neighbourhood policing over the past year.

Three officers from Allerdale NPT won awards:

- *Cumberland PCSO of the Year – PCSO Rachel Pape*

PCSO Rachel Pape was recognised for her outstanding contribution within the Workington community. Over the past year she has been building relationships with local residents and businesses and supporting them if they become a victim of crime.

As a result of her dedication and hard work, anti-social behaviour has reduced in Workington by 29% this year.

- *Cumberland Neighbourhood Policing Officer of the Year – PC Catherine Higson*

PC Catherine Higson was awarded NPT officer of the year in recognition of her determination to provide victims of crime with the best outcome. She is committed to providing a safer neighbourhood for residents and works with victims of crime to provide support and reassurance

As part of her role, PC Higson has worked with local shops and businesses in Workington to deal with repeat ASB offenders.

- *Neighbourhood Policing Leadership Award - Sgt Neil McKinnell*

Sergeant Neil McKinnell, of the Workington NPT, was recognised for his leadership qualities while inspiring his team and making sure they are always supported.

Sgt McKinnell has been able to work on complex cases and address long standing disputes by providing problem solving solutions which has improved our service to the community.

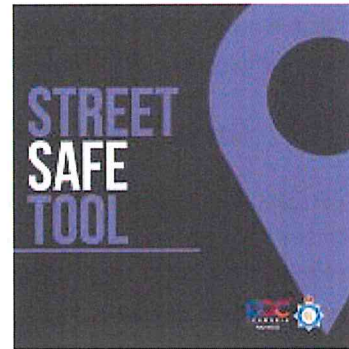
Read more: <https://orlo.uk/5vLzu>




StreetSafe is a service that allows you to report safety concerns in public places without giving us your name.

This includes issues like poorly lit streets, abandoned buildings, or vandalism, as well as instances where you feel unsafe due to someone following or verbally abusing you.

Report an issue here: [StreetSafe | Cumbria Police](#)



### Upcoming community police events

 Cockermouth library Main Street  
Cockermouth

 Tue 17 December 2024

 11:00AM - 12:00PM

For more information, please visit our website and enter your postcode in the Your Area section.

### Your local officers

Want to know who your local officers are?

Simply go to our website - [www.cumbria.police.uk](http://www.cumbria.police.uk)



Scroll down the home page and you can browse different areas to see who your local team are - or enter your postcode.

Not only will you be able to find out who your named local officers and PCSOs are, you will also be able to view our local policing priorities and details of any meetings or events we will be attending.



# Join Us!

Have you ever thought about being a police officer, special constable, PCSO or staff member?

Could you be make a real difference to people in Cumbria and help keep them safe?



**Recruitment is open now. We are looking for enthusiastic and dedicated people to apply now to join our teams.**

**For more information on the role of a police officer and the numerous entry routes, please visit [www.cumbria.police.uk/careers](http://www.cumbria.police.uk/careers).**

### **Independent Advisory Group (IAG) Cumbria Police**

Cumbria Constabulary are now recruiting for Independent Advisory Group (IAG) members from all communities that live and work within Cumbria. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute towards improving policing and wider service delivery throughout Cumbria.



This is a voluntary role and we welcome applications from all members of communities within Cumbria to contribute to providing, constructive and impartial advice that will enhance our service delivery.

To apply fill out the form here: [Apply to join an Independent Advisory Group \(IAG\) | Cumbria Police](#)



### **Wanted this winter – public appeal launched for wanted people across Cumbria**

Police in Cumbria are appealing for information from the public on the location of twelve wanted people.

The public appeal has been launched as part of ongoing action across the county to progress investigations with the aim of ensuring those who commit crimes in this county are brought to justice.

Detective Inspector Dave Howard, Cumbria Constabulary, said:

“We would like the public’s help in locating the twelve individuals who feature as part of this appeal.

“The appeals are connected to ongoing investigations covering a range of crimes.

“Each day, our officers and staff ensure those who are wanted in connection with offences are identified and located so we can progress investigations.

“Public information has, and always will be important in assisting our work to ensure we secure justice for victims.

“People in Cumbria know where these individuals are. Please pick up the phone and contact Cumbria Police or do so anonymously via Crimestoppers.” [Read more here.](#)



## **90 Op Merlin arrests made in in past 12 months as officers continue to target wanted individuals**

Wanted men, shoplifters and those involved in the supply of drugs were just some of those arrested during Cumbria Police’s most recent Operation Merlin week of action.

Operation Merlin ran across Cumbria between 9 December and 13 December, resulting in 18 arrests across the county. This week’s arrests took the total Operation Merlin arrest figure for 2024 to 90 arrests. [Read more here.](#)

### **Drink and drug drivers be warned – expect to be tested and arrested this Christmas**

Police officers will be scouring the roads of Cumbria in the lead-up to the Christmas party season and testing and arresting drivers who puts lives at risk behind the wheel.

This time last year, Cumbria Police promised to test hundreds of drivers for drink and drugs throughout December.

This promise was kept as more than 1,800 drivers were stopped and more than 1,300 tested for drink or drug driving.



A total of 130 arrests were made as a result – and officers are expecting a similar picture in 2024. [Read more here.](#)

### **Specialist patrols will offer reassurance and catch offenders in nightlife areas at Christmas**

Police are responding to concerns felt by women and girls – by sending out specialist patrols to offer reassurance and catch offenders in busy nightlife areas during the festive party season.

More high-visibility officers will be out in the run-up to Christmas, while police in plain clothes will also be deployed to identify anyone displaying inappropriate or predatory behaviour.

The move follows concerns raised in a survey carried out by police to hear more from women and girls on how they felt about their own personal safety.

Feeling safe in the night-time economy was raised as a key worry, leading to an extra focus on violence against women and girls. [Read more here.](#)

## Enquiries ongoing following incidents of spiking reported to police

Detectives are asking those out over the festive period to be vigilant after three incidents of spiking were reported to officers over the weekend.

The reports were of an unknown substance being added to drinks in Whitehaven, with a woman and two men affected.

The report also follows two reports made the previous weekend in Whitehaven.



Enquiries are ongoing, with detectives reviewing CCTV and looking at forensic opportunities.

We are also aware of social media posts circulating regarding needle spiking, no reports have been made to police but we encourage anyone believed to have been spiked to report it to police.

*Detective Inspector Calvin Greaves from Cumberland CID said “We are asking people to be vigilant whilst out over the festive period and report any incident to us so we can investigate.*

*“Spiking is an awful act, whatever the intention, the outcome is leaving individuals vulnerable and feeling unsafe.*

*“We would ask that if you believe they have been a victim of spiking to contact us.*

*“We will investigate regardless of when the offence is believed to have occurred.*

*“Reporting offences of this nature is at times a daunting prospect and we recognise the significant trauma spiking has on victims and help and support for this can be offered and signposted by speaking to officers.” [Read more here.](#)*

**Please share this information with any vulnerable friends or family.**

We are warning people across Cumbria to be on be vigilant to scam phone calls from fraudsters.

This follows a report made to police yesterday in which the victim was contacted by the fraudster claiming to be from her bank and that their bank card had expired, and she is due to be issued a new one.

The following day a male attending the victims address in Barrow and introduced himself as a police officer who needed to carry out fingerprint checks on her cards. He also offered to take her jewellery for safekeeping.

The male left with the cards and later posted them back through the door after having made a number of transactions with the cards.

The scams fit the pattern of fraudsters pretending to be officials, such as bank fraud teams, police officers or HMRC officials.

However, the scams can differ slightly from call to call.

But the fraudsters often request bank details, money to be sent electronically, cash to be withdrawn at the bank for collection or expensive items to be bought for collection at a later time.

Police and other agencies would never request this.

If you have any concern that the person on the phone may be a fraudster, put the phone down and call the police from a different phone on 101 for advice and guidance.

Officers are asking anyone who has been victim to such a scam to come forward.

If you receive a call you're not expecting, you should be suspicious. The vital things to remember are that your bank, other agencies and the police would:

- Never ask you for your bank account details or PIN number over the phone.
- Never ask you to withdraw money and send it to them via a courier, taxi, bank transfer or by any other means.
- Never ask you to send your bank cards or any other personal property to them via courier, taxi or by any other means.
- If you have any doubts about the identity of the person that you are speaking with, put the phone down and attend the bank or police station in person, wherever possible, to discuss the call you have received, or call a trusted number for the bank or police using a different telephone than the one that you have been contacted on.
- It's recommended you wait at least five minutes and make sure you can hear a dialling tone before you call, as there have been cases of fraudsters keeping the line open after a victim has hung up.

We ask that the public please share this information with any vulnerable friends or family.

If you think you have been the victim of a fraud you can report this to police on 101 and to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 – or by visiting their website at [Report | Cumbria Police](#)



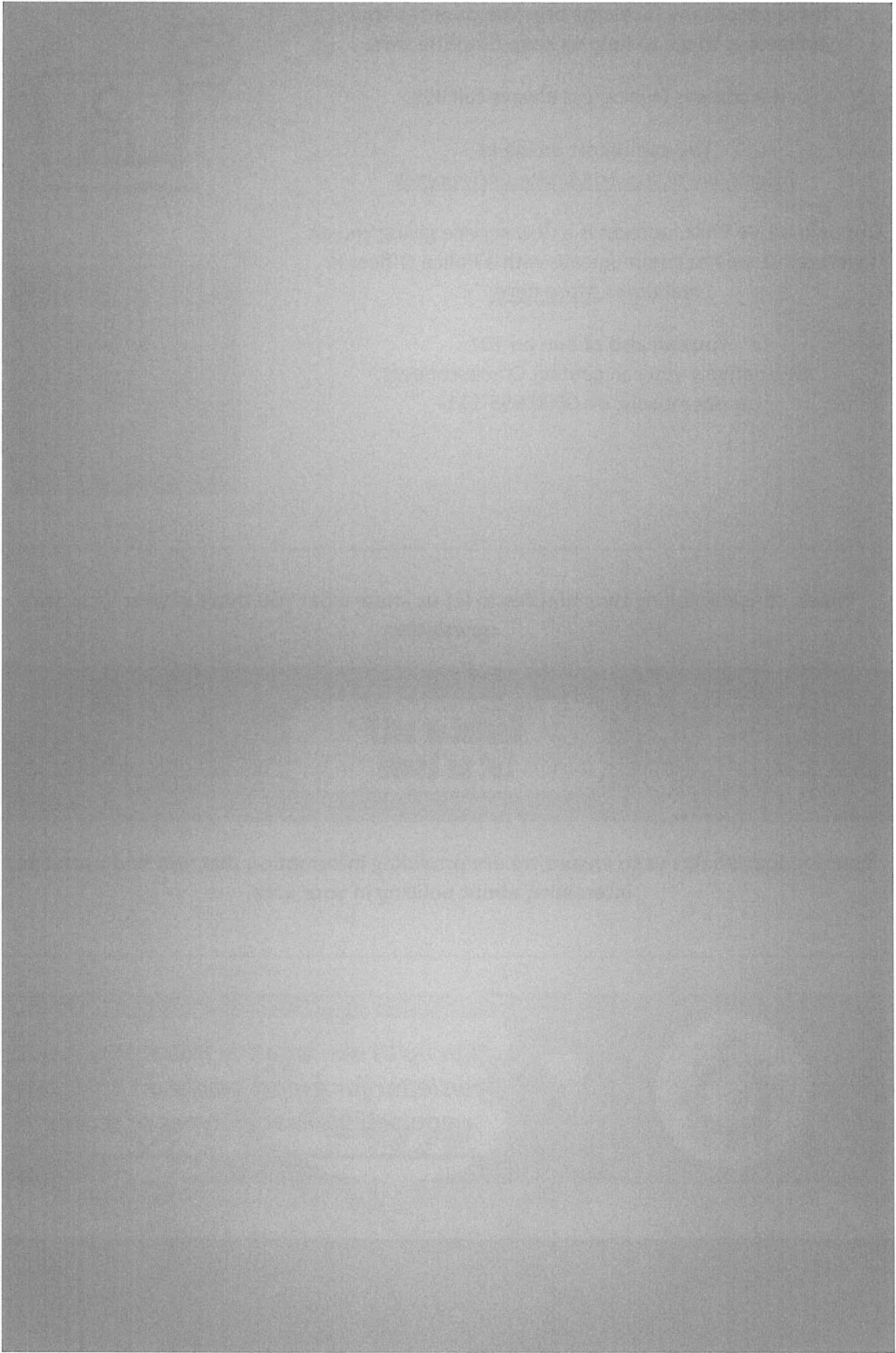
## Crime Figures

Further information can be found on [Police.Uk](#)  
Click here to visit the website

Please note the data contained on [Police.uk](#) is not live time







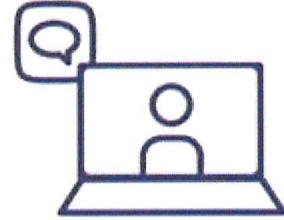
**Please report any incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour to us, to help us keep Cumbria safe.**

If a crime is in progress always call 999.

You can report online at  
<https://www.cumbria.police.uk/report-it>

Our online Live Chat function is a new service giving you an alternative way to communicate with a Police Officer in real time. [More here.](#)

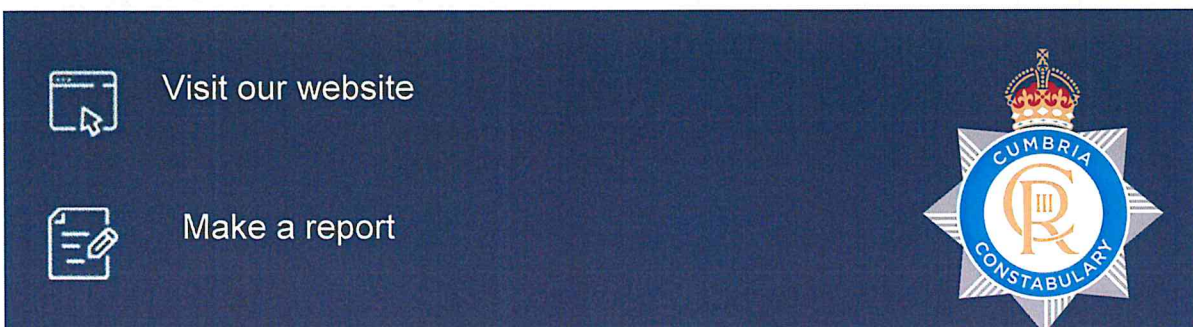
You can also phone on 101.  
Alternatively you can contact Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.



**Please consider taking two minutes to let us know what you think of your local area newsletter.**



**Your feedback helps us to ensure we are providing information that you find useful and interesting about policing in your area.**





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Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit [subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com](https://subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com).

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Cumbria Constabulary](#).

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This email was sent to [office@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk) using govDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Cumbria Police  
· Carleton Hall · Penrith · Cumbria · CA10 2AU



KTC: OUTSIDE BODIES REPORT

**Keswick Flood Action Group (K FAG): Update Jan 2025**

Cllr. Louise Dunn

The K FAG team continue their incredible work providing real-time updates this winter - updating the community on all storms and potential flood events. Please sign up to their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/549580611880403> to access information or look at their web site. <https://keswickfloodactiongroup.co.uk>

**In Keswick:**

- **Insurance against flood:** Lynne Jones is collecting evidence of anyone having trouble reinsuring their homes despite qualifying for FloodRe OR anyone who has difficulty in the selling/buying process because of the property's flood risk. Please contact her via Facebook if you can help.
- **Flood Simulation Exercise in Sept 2024:** On a Saturday in September, the Keswick Community Emergency Response Group (KCERP) held a half-day practice for a flood response. The council chamber was speedily turned into "Flood HQ" by the group volunteer leaders according to a well-practiced floor plan with a "Radio Room" to the side (which was, in fact, just one of the team in a cupboard with the radio control gear perched on a small picnic table - but don't knock it because it works). Large maps of the town were put up and radios prepared, then groups of volunteers were paged in, kitted out with high vis jackets. and tasked to go out and check the sandbag stores around town. Some local people also offered the teams experience in helping with erecting property level protection and to practice "door knocking". It was definitely time to review and revise the emergency plan/procedures and streamline the documentation. Living amongst the Lake District fells we have a very short catchment. Mountain rivers rapidly react and the river gauge on the town's main bridge can be recording the river's rise as an almost vertical line which, even with improved flood defences since 2012, rather concentrates the mind. It was important to prepare with practical exercises, spending time together, getting to know our strengths and abilities and picking up the ways we can improve our response. We also know how lucky we are to live in a small community where discounts from local shops helped with the purchase of the kit volunteers needed; and for having the full support of our town council, both in terms of providing permanent office space and the use of the council chambers but also for funding Claire, our terrific Emergency Response Coordinator. More than anything else it was so reassuring to meet up with so many lovely people from organisations like Lions, Churches Together, Round Table, who are prepared to come together and help in a crisis.
- **Hawthornes Leak saga continues:** After many months of reporting the leak on Penrith Road (and thanks to Cllr Sally Lansbury) investigations into the cause of

the leak on Penrith Road by Cumberland Council and United Utilities resulted in CC reporting it to United Utilities as a Section 81 defect. Section 81 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 sets out the duty of a utility company to maintain their apparatus. This includes the notification which can be given to a utility company if “emergency works” are required. The hole has been sealed up but water is still coming out of the road.

- **Lengthsman appointed:** Ben Metcalfe appointed and has started work clearing culverts and watercourses in the town. Contact via Cllr Claire Peat, KCERP.
- **Please report blocked grids to Cumberland Council:** Residents are asked to report any blocked drains and grids to Cumberland Council via their online reporting system. The more reports made the more likely they are to be unblocked. It takes a few minutes, send a picture and location reference (what 3 words or address/ postcode).

### Meanwhile in Westminster:

- **Environment Agency have published their Rural flood resilience partnership: 2024 to 2026 work plan.** A work plan developed in partnership to support the objectives of the FCERM Strategy Roadmap and help vulnerable rural communities when faced with flooding.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rural-flood-resilience-partnership-2024-to-2026-work-plan>
- **A new inquiry has been launched by the Environmental Audit Committee into flooding. The inquiry will look at infrastructure, climate change impacts and coastal erosion. Have your say here. DEADLINE 13th January.**  
[https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3512/?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoz3JleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHU0-rr-ajokqnX7Arm24v-\\_FnhyJua3k-OnicyXSYRnM0wQ0DVLHRQMW8g\\_aem\\_\\_hThuJmMeaAkbT3ZGylCVQ](https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3512/?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoz3JleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHU0-rr-ajokqnX7Arm24v-_FnhyJua3k-OnicyXSYRnM0wQ0DVLHRQMW8g_aem__hThuJmMeaAkbT3ZGylCVQ)
- **Local MP Markus Campbell-Savours asked. Question in the House of Commons, raising the issue of use of reservoirs to reduce peak flow in storms:** ‘In 2019, the Keswick Flood Action Group set out how Thirlmere reservoir could be managed to greatly reduce the impact of major flooding, like that seen in the town during Storm Desmond. Will the Leader of the House make time to debate how water companies’ infrastructure could be better used to prevent flooding in Penrith and Solway, and many other constituencies?’ KFAQ is reaching out to other communities where reservoir management reduces their flood risk in the hope that joining forces will bring about action.
- **Announcement November 2024: Reforms to flood funding and investment to protect farming communities** £50 million investment into internal drainage boards and plans to consult on new strategic vision for floods investment.  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reforms-to-flood-funding-and-investment-to-protect-farming-communities?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoyhVleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHQJzH\\_fueJrnxiLoNXR1P0ukcEECSq8e5f3devLMKg0bxTbeUxd7R4nrBQ\\_aem\\_ugTyjMisNmQR\\_BeMSE0v8Q](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/reforms-to-flood-funding-and-investment-to-protect-farming-communities?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoyhVleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHQJzH_fueJrnxiLoNXR1P0ukcEECSq8e5f3devLMKg0bxTbeUxd7R4nrBQ_aem_ugTyjMisNmQR_BeMSE0v8Q)

- Announcement August 2024: **UK to receive earlier flood and drought warnings using high-tech sensors and real time monitoring.** Researchers across the UK to use latest tech and major data bank to provide better flood and drought warnings. [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-receive-earlier-flood-and-drought-warnings-using-high-tech-sensors-and-real-time-monitoring?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoy8BleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHX6c4VTRxinvRC45LJraGtOYsPi5MktaA7FUqzASj7fyZxGmOm4bBdGqkA\\_aem\\_BUpJBafLkUL75yS7-NJrnw](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-receive-earlier-flood-and-drought-warnings-using-high-tech-sensors-and-real-time-monitoring?fbclid=IwY2xjawHoy8BleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHX6c4VTRxinvRC45LJraGtOYsPi5MktaA7FUqzASj7fyZxGmOm4bBdGqkA_aem_BUpJBafLkUL75yS7-NJrnw)

*Next month report: Keswick Ministries and KTA*



## **Notes of Town Liaison Forum – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

### **The Suite, Rawnsley**

#### **Attendees:**

Rob Nelson - Keswick Town Council  
Vivien Little - Town Clerk  
Louise Dunn - Keswick Town Mayor

Mark Ellis - Keswick Ministries  
Mike Causey - Keswick Ministries  
Simon Overend - Keswick Ministries

#### **Apologies:**

Jim Walker - Cumbria Tourism  
Jane Affleck - Keswick Museum  
Charles Hope - Vicar, St John's  
Helen Parkhill - Manager KTA

Andy Murphie - Vicar, Crosthwaite  
Peter Aiston - Cumbria Police  
Katy Maher - Cumbria Police

1. Welcome & apologies: Louse and Rob were welcomed, both attending their first TLF.
2. Notes from September meeting: Vivien had shared PSPO information with Mike; Matt will be in contact with Freya re youth messaging and a possible initiative during Convention. Brephos update - see below.
3. Situation report and updates from forum representatives:

Vivian (Town Council): Sally Landsbury now serving as a Cumberland Councillor; Natelie Evans has filled the vacancy. Lights switch on went well. Events co-ordinator appointed. Pressing Cumberland to re-open swimming pool. Reviewing motorhome parking at Lakeside car park. Further residents parking consultation with view to yellow-lining corners. Good meeting with new LDNP CEO.

Rob (Town Council): Asked about Keswick Archery's use of Packing Hall and option to continue to use if they were able to move their kit in and out around KM's other needs around building works and other bookings. Mike commented that he has good dialogue with June. KM will seek to communicate how local community groups can use rooms. It was noted that KM don't currently have the staffing resources to man the large PF facility in the evening.

4. Updates from KM
  - i. Brephos - Mark provided an update sharing KM's belief and values around the sanctity of life; our desire to support the town and recognise it as a holiday destination that welcomes all; our disagreement with Brephos' approach. KM have made strong representations to Brephos, and will continue to ask them to stay away. KM will continue to explore other options and keep in close liaison with the Town Council. Keswick Town Council plan to explore PSPO powers and facilitate local charity stands in the Market Place.
  - ii. Keswick Convention 2025 - 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: We anticipate big numbers, having had 3000+ children and youth this year, and more families / increased accessibility provision; we are talking to the museum about a display.
  - iii. Pencil Factory update - most rooms have now been fitted out; rooms have been named based on their former usage within the factory. The recent Enterprise Cumbria Conference was attended by c.275 and very well received with a number of enquiries about future bookings for 2025/6. We are sourcing locally as much as we can and engaging local labour to help run events. We are

advertising for three new facilities team posts based in Keswick. A new website - [thepencilfactory.com](http://thepencilfactory.com) has gone live.

- iv. Teaching & Training programme – we are running a number of smaller events that bring people to Keswick, often for a number of days at other times of the year.
- v. Future Convention dates – these will be ‘for info’ on all future agendas as we seek to communicate our long-term dates.  
2025: Sat 12<sup>th</sup> July to Fri 1<sup>st</sup> August  
2026: Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July to Fri 7<sup>th</sup> August  
2027: Sat 17<sup>th</sup> July to Fri 6<sup>th</sup> August

Last year we had over 3,000 children and teenagers register with us as we continue to bring younger families to Keswick year after year. We have a long-standing understanding with the Town that the first week of the Convention will be during the English school termtime; with two weeks being during the English holidays. We therefore follow the school calendars, which finish a day or two earlier year-by-year, and once every four or five years swap to being a week later, which is what happens in 2026 (and actually for most schools in 2025).

5. 2025 TLF meeting dates:

February Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

May Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>

September Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>

December Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>



**Planning Applications received between 6/12/2024 - 9/01/2025**

<b>Plan ref</b>	<b>Reply by</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description of Proposed Development</b>
T/2024/0226	21-Jan-25	8, Manor Park, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4AA	T 1 - 3 - Lawson Cypress - Fell. T4 - Yew - Fell. T5 - Sawara Cypress - remove 4 limbs over BT wires
7/2024/2244	20/01/2024	Mossgeil, Rogerfield, Keswick, CA12 4BW	Alterations and extensions to single storey dwelling, with rear single storey extension and new first floor extensions
7/2024/2246	09/01/2025 - extension agreed	Bank Tavern, 45-47, Main Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5DS	Proposed installation of various external signs and associated
7/2024/2247	10/01/2025 - extension agreed	Bank Tavern, 45-47, Main Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5DS	Proposed installation of external signs and associated lighting including repainting of the exterior
7/2024/2250	05-Feb-25	Clarewood, Lonsties, Keswick, CA12 4TD	Demolition and new build dwellinghouse
7/2025/2002	05-Feb-25	Fieldside Grange, Off Eleventrees, Keswick, CA12 4RN	Replacement x6 windows and x2 doors with white uPVC
<p><b>NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: Interested parties are invited to let the Town Clerk have their comments, in writing or via email to: <a href="mailto:townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk">townclerk@keswicktowncouncil.gov.uk</a>, prior to the meeting regarding any of the planning applications on this sheet.</b></p>			

Decisions Received from LDNPA

Planning Decisions Received between 6/12/2024 & 9/01/2025

Plan Ref	Date of Application	Location	Postcode	Description	KTC Observations	LDNPA Decision	Appeal	Appeal Decision
7/2024/0185		Flat 5, The Hollies, High Street, Keswick	CA12 5AH	Yew tree (as circled in notification) - Reduce and reshape as shown with red lin	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2024/0196	November-24	Keswick Underpass Bed, Lake Road, Keswick,	CA12 5DQ	2 x Mountain Ash trees (marked as 17 & 18 in notification) - Fell to ground leve	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2024/2196	November-24	1, Old Mill Court, Keswick	CA12 5PJ	Two storey extension to provide shower in wc downstairs and bedroom upstairs	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2024/2209	October-24	Land at Vendace Court, Borrowdale Road, Keswick,	CA12 4EU	Continued erection of single storey dwelling with associated parking for affordable local occupancy following installation of drainage run to commence planning permission 7/2021/2254	No comments required	GRANTED		
7/2024/2211	November-24	22, Springs Road, Keswick	CA12 4AN	Single storey extension of house to create entrance porch & home office. Conversion of garage to workshop. Reroofing of bay window and addition of 2nd bay window. Addition of rooflights and solar panels. Removal of chimneys.	SUPPORT	GRANTED		
7/2024/2214	October-24	Crosthwaite Campsite		The operation of a temporary campsite on an annual basis for three weeks during	Not received for comments	GRANTED		
7/2024/2230	November-24	Mossgiel, Rogerfield, Keswick	CA12 4BW	Alterations and extensions to single storey dwelling, with rear single storey ex	SUPPORT/OBJECT	Withdrawn		
7/2024/2232	November-24	24, Ratcliffe Place, Keswick	CA12 4DZ	Conversion of garage to provide a one-bed local occupancy unit in accordance with planning permission 7/2021/2271 granted 26 November 2021	No comments required	GRANTED		
7/2024/2237	November-24	33, Lakeland Park, Keswick	CA12 4AT	Alterations to windows and doors and replacement of chimney with flue	No comments required	GRANTED		

**AGENDA ITEM 10. LICENSING GROUP REPORT ON LICENCE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

Business Name	Location	Details of Application	Date Consultation Period Ends	Comments	Date Comments sent to Cumberland Council Licensing Dept.
The Highfield Hotel	The Heads Keswick Cumbria, CA12	Supply of Alcohol – on the premises: Mon – Sun 10am – 12 am Hours premises are open to the public: Mon-Sun 8am – 12.30am	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	No comments made SUPPORT	19.12.24

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 16TH JANUARY 2025**

**MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & MEETING ATTENDANCE**

For period 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Tuesday 10 December	Attended Keswick Choral Society's Christmas recital
Thursday 12 December	Inspected accounts and Chaired KTC Meeting
Friday 13 December	Attended the KAOS Christmas Concert at Lingholm for The Friends of the Calvert Trust
Friday 13 December	Acted as a Judge at the Staff Bake off Competition at Edwin Thomson in aid of Calvert Trust
Sunday 22 December	Attended Civic Carol Concert at St John's Church

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2025/26

ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES - ADMINISTRATION & ON COSTS -DRAFT

	AGREED Budget 23/24	AGREED Budget 24/25	Estimated Out Turn 24/25	DRAFT Budget 25/26	£ Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26	% Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26
<b>Expenditure:</b>						
Salaries, Nat ins & Pension (18.6%)	115240	121775	123722	131268	9,493	7.8
Payroll - Outsource Costs	350	442	500	540	98	22.2
Rent	7100	7100	7100	7100	-	-
Rates	0	0	0	0	-	-
Building Service Costs	6000	7500	7500	8000	500	6.7
Repairs - Decorating/Carpets/Upgrades	500	500	500	500	-	-
Insurances	900	900	828	900	-	-
Subscriptions	1030	990	948	1100	110	11.1
STAFF - Conferences/Training	800	850	935	1985	1,135	133.5
COUNCILLOR - Conferences/Training	0	990	450	650	- 340	- 34.3
Stationery	1200	1200	1000	1000	- 200	- 16.7
Postage	300	300	250	250	- 50	- 16.7
Telephone, Website & Internet	1370	1776	1776	1776	-	-
Photocopier/Printer/Scanner	1931	1777	1747	2147	370	20.8
Computer maintenance/support	3075	4172	4404	4602	430	10.3
Office Equipment	200	200	200	200	-	-
Staff Expenses	200	200	250	250	50	25.0
Ex Employee Pension	1496	1640	1700	1800	160	9.8
Health and Safety	50	70	70	70	-	-
Council Chamber/Meeting Expenditure	250	150	150	150	-	-
Staff Recruitment Costs	200	200	200	200	-	-
Worknest	0	0	2672	1336	1,336	-
<b>Total Expenditure:</b>	<b>142192</b>	<b>152732</b>	<b>156902</b>	<b>165824</b>	<b>13,092</b>	<b>8.6</b>

	AGREED Budget 23/24	AGREED Budget 24/25	Estimated Out Turn 24/25	DRAFT Budget 25/26	£ Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26	% Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26
<b>Income:</b>						
Council chambers rental	100	100	200	100	-	-
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>To be allocated:</b>	<b>142,092</b>	<b>152,632</b>	<b>156702</b>	<b>165724</b>	<b>23,632</b>	<b>15.5</b>
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	AGREED Budget 23/24	AGREED Budget 24/25	Estimated Out Turn 24/25	DRAFT Budget 25/26	£ Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26	% Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26
<b>Allocation:</b>						
General Fund - (60%)	85256	91580	94022	99434	14,178	15.5
Hope Park - (20%)	28418	30526	31340	33145	4,727	15.5
Fitz Park - (20%)	28418	30526	31340	33145	4,727	15.5
	<b>142092</b>	<b>152632</b>	<b>156702</b>	<b>165724</b>	<b>23,632</b>	<b>15.5</b>

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2025/26

GENERAL FUND - DRAFT

Expenditure:	AGREED Budget 23/24	AGREED Budget 24/25	Estimated Out Turn 24/25	DRAFT Budget 25/26	£ Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26	% Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26
General Administration	85256	91580	94022	99434	7854	8.58
Grants to outside bodies	19146	18977	18977	20315	1338	7.05
Christmas Lights	30500	34445	34445	35615	1170	3.40
Mayors Allowance	2000	2000	2000	2000	0	0.00
War memorial	1600	1600	1600	1600	0	0.00
Townfield - to be merged with Fitz Park from 24/25	2800	0	0	0	0	0.00
Open Spaces	1000	1000	1000	1000	0	0.00
Fitz Park - Grant from KTC (deficit)	193574	203297	190727	225988	22691	11.16
Communications (including Councillor surgeries)	500	500	500	600	100	20.00
Audit Fee/Accounts Preparation	1800	2015	2015	2065	50	2.48
Contingency Sum	4000	4000	2000	3000	-1000	-25.00
Keswick Events	9464	8510	8400	8167	-343	-4.03
Events Co-ordinator (inc email subscription)	0	6104	2000	6954	850	13.93
Floral displays	600	600	600	600	0	0.00
Allotments Expenditure	600	600	600	2600	2000	333.33
Annual Parish Meeting (inc room hire & refreshments)	100	100	104	150	50	50.00
Advertising	450	550	261	490	-60	-10.91
CCTV Annual Maintenance Cost - Police	3600	4000	4000	4200	200	5.00
LGR Provision	2500	0	0	0	0	0.00
Elections	6000	500	200	500	0	0.00
Grasscutting - Churchyards - TO BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY	0	4000	4000	4000	0	0.00
KCERP Support - General Fund	0	6500	6500	6500	0	0.00
KCHT - 2024, 25 & 26	0	3000	3000	3000	0	0.00
Card Reader	0	200	139	100	-100	0.00
New External Notice Board	0	0	0	800	800	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>365490</b>	<b>394078</b>	<b>377090</b>	<b>429678</b>	<b>35600</b>	<b>9.03</b>

Income:	AGREED Budget 23/24	AGREED Budget 24/25	Estimated Out Turn 24/25	DRAFT Budget 25/26	£ Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26	% Inc/red Agreed 24/25 to draft 25/26
Precept	328245	349627	349627	381694	32067	9.17
Grant to Fitz Park - Cumberland	20000	20000	20000	20000	0	0.00
Bank/Investment interest (inc War Memorial)	5	3000	4500	3000	0	0.00
Walker Park rent	14130	14130	14130	14130	0	0.00
Allotments Income - Rent	600	600	600	600	0	0.00
Keswick Events Contributions	2300	4721	2600	8254	3533	74.84
Christmas Light Contribution	200	2000	2000	2000	0	0.00
Townfield Interest - to be merged with Fitz Park from 24/25	10	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>365490</b>	<b>394078</b>	<b>393457</b>	<b>429678</b>	<b>35600</b>	<b>9.03</b>
<i>Estimated Surplus</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>16367</i>	<i>0</i>		

Free Reserves as at 31 March 2024 (Note: this will change during the year) **-19773** Based on 6 months operating costs being retained - as per Reserves Policy

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL FUNDS as at 30th November 2024

Earmarked		Top Up	Revised Earmarked DRAFT
Contribution towards local housing - available balance	£200	0	0
Elections - Co-option and By-Elections - available balance	£5,000	0	£5,000
Office & chamber (decorating, repairs & carpeting)	£1,269	731	£2,000
Professional Advice	£229	3771	£4,000
Equipment - IT & furniture	£1,040	1960	£3,000
CCTV - PCC	£6,400	0	£6,400
War Memorial - stonework, repairs & cleaning	£0	2000	£2,000
	£14,138	<b>8462</b>	£22,400

Funds

Christmas Lights - available balance	£402	PROPOSED THAT THIS FUND BE MOVED TO EVENTS FUND
Events Fund - available balance	£33,872	

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

16 JANUARY 2025

Consultation on Standards in Local Authorities

MHCLG have recently launched a consultation into how to strengthen standards and conduct in local authorities in England. Since 2012, when the Standards Committee for England was disbanded, there have been no sanctions in place for councillors with bad behaviour, but the government is beginning to look at this issue once more.

I have attached the consultation to this report, and Councillors should decide whether they wish to respond to it individually or as a corporate body. For clarity, I have responded as Clerk in my own capacity, and SLCC (on behalf of member clerks across the country) and NALC (on behalf of member Town and Parish Councils) will also be responding to it. I think that individual Councillors should respond to it, as it has the potential to impact them.

A number of the questions are primarily aimed at principal authorities, and we would still have to go through to Cumberland Council to investigate any breaches in Code of Conduct.

This survey is open until 12 February 2025.

Keswick Parking Strategy

This survey from Cumberland Council came out just before the last Town Council meeting, and is looking input from residents, organisations and visitors who park in Keswick. Looking at it, I don't think it is appropriate for Keswick Town Council to respond, as it appears to be mostly aimed at individuals, but would encourage Councillors and members of the public to respond to the survey.

The closing date is 31 January 2025.

Vivien Little

2 January 2025



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

Open consultation

# Strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England

Published 18 December 2024

**Applies to England**

## Contents

1. Scope of this consultation
2. Ministerial foreword
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6. Introducing the power of suspension with related safeguards
7. Public Sector Equality Duty

Annex A: Personal data





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# 1. Scope of this consultation

## Topic of this consultation

This consultation seeks views on introducing a mandatory minimum code of conduct for local authorities in England, and measures to strengthen the standards and conduct regime in England to ensure consistency of approach amongst councils investigating serious breaches of their member codes of conduct, including the introduction of the power of suspension.

## Scope of this consultation

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is consulting on introducing strengthened sanctions for local authority code of conduct breaches in England.

This includes all 'relevant authorities' as defined by Section 27(6) of the Localism Act 2011, which includes:

- a county council
- a unitary authority
- London borough councils
- a district council
- the Greater London Authority
- the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
- the Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority or police authority
- the Council of the Isles of Scilly
- parish councils
- a fire and rescue authority in England constituted by a scheme under section 2 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 or a scheme to which section 4 of that Act applies,
- a joint authority established by Part 4 of the Local Government Act 1985, an economic prosperity board established under section 88 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009
- a combined authority established under section 103 of that Act,
- a combined county authority established under section 9(1) of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023
- the Broads Authority

- a National Park authority in England established under section 63 of the Environment Act 1995

It does not cover:

- police and crime commissioners
- internal drainage boards
- any other local authority not otherwise defined as a 'relevant authority' above

All references to 'members' refer to elected members, mayors, co-opted and appointed members of each of the 'relevant authorities' defined above.

## **Geographical scope**

The questions in this consultation paper apply to all relevant local authorities in England as defined above.

They generally do not apply to authorities in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, except in relation to Police and Crime Panels in Wales.

## **Impact assessment**

We will produce a full Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) assessment, and all necessary impact assessments, as the policy proposals develop further following this consultation.

## **Basic information**

This is an open consultation. We particularly seek the views of individual members of the public; prospective and current elected members/representatives; all relevant local authorities defined above; and those bodies that represent the interests of local authority members/representatives at all levels.

## **Body responsible for the consultation**

The Local Government Capacity and Improvement Division of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is responsible for

conducting this consultation.

## **Duration**

This consultation will last for 10 weeks from 18 December 2024.

## **Enquiries**

For any enquiries about the consultation please contact:

[LGstandardsreform@communities.gov.uk](mailto:LGstandardsreform@communities.gov.uk)

## **How to respond**

You can only respond to this call for evidence through our online consultation platform, [Citizen Space \(https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/strengthening-the-standards-and-conduct-framework\)](https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-standards-and-conduct/strengthening-the-standards-and-conduct-framework).

# **2. Ministerial foreword**

The government is determined to fix the foundations of local government so councils can sustainably provide decent public services and shape local places, and so elected representatives can be fully accountable to the public they serve. Doing so is critical to national renewal, our missions, and our plans to push power out of Westminster and into the hands of local people with skin in the game.

At the core of this agenda is a plan to make local government across England fit, legal, and decent – so that councils have the backing from central government to deliver the high standards and strong financial management that they strive for, without needless micromanagement of day-to-day local decision-making. This plan includes:

- fixing our broken audit system
- improving oversight and accountability
- giving councils genuine freedoms to work for, and deliver in the best interests of, their communities
- improving the standards and conduct regime

This consultation is focused on the proposed reforms to the standards and conduct regime that will contribute to making sure England is covered by effective local and strategic authorities that are well-governed, with high standards met and maintained.

It is an honour and a privilege to be elected as a member and with it comes an individual and collective responsibility to consistently demonstrate and promote the highest standards of conduct and public service.

Members take decisions affecting critical local services such as social care, education, housing, planning, licensing, and waste collection. With greater devolution, local authorities will increasingly be taking decisions to shape local transport, skills, employment support, and growth. Decisions that are the responsibility of members impact virtually every citizen's life at some level, and the electorate has a right to expect that it can trust its local elected members to uphold the highest ethical standards and act in the best interests of the communities they serve.

I strongly believe that the vast majority of local elected members maintain high standards of conduct and that they are driven by duty and service. I believe that people stand for elected office in their local communities with the best intentions to act in the interests of those communities, bringing an energy and commitment to working collaboratively, creatively, and respectfully.

Members, officers, reporters and members of public are entitled to support and participate in the local democratic process in the confidence that high standards are maintained. This government wants to celebrate the positive power of public service and, in doing so, we want to give individual authorities appropriate and proportionate means to deal with misconduct effectively and decisively when it does occur. We also want to ensure that anyone can rightly feel confident about raising an issue under the code of conduct whether it impacts them personally and/or is a code conduct breach that brings the reputation of the council into disrepute.

With approximately 120,000 councillors in England across all types and tiers of local government, we know there are rare instances of misconduct.

Robust political debate is part of our democratic system, but we know from local councils that there are examples of bullying, harassment or other misconduct, when from even a very small minority of members can have a seriously destabilising effect, potentially bringing a council into disrepute and distracting from the critical business of delivering for residents.

This government is committed to working with local and regional government to establish partnerships built on mutual respect, genuine collaboration and meaningful engagement. Our ambition is to create a rigorous standards and conduct framework that will actively contribute to ensuring that local government throughout the country is fit, legal, and decent. With this in mind, this consultation seeks your views on a range of proposals to give local leaders the tools they need to establish and maintain a strong and ethical public service and democratic culture, and the people they serve the confidence that local democracy works for them.

### 3. Background: Standards and Conduct framework and sanctions arrangements

The Localism Act 2011

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/1/chapter/7/enacted>)<sup>[footnote 1]</sup>

established the current standards and conduct framework for local authorities.

The current regime requires every local authority to adopt a code of conduct, the contents of which must as a minimum be consistent with the 7 'Nolan' principles of standards in public life

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life>)

(selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership), and set out rules on requiring members to register and disclose pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. Beyond these requirements, it is for individual councils to set their own local code. The Local Government Association (LGA) published an updated model code of conduct and guidance (<https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/local-government-association-model-councillor-code-conduct-2020>) in 2021, which councils can choose whether to adopt or not.

Every authority must also have in place arrangements under which it can investigate allegations of breaches of its code of conduct and must consult at least one independent person before coming to decisions. These decisions are normally taken in one of two ways depending on an authority's specific arrangements. The decision can be made by full council following advice from their standards committee (or equivalent).

Alternatively, the decision can be made by the standards committee if they have been given the power to do so. Although a standards committee may contain unelected independent members and co-opted members, only principal councils' elected members may vote in a decision-making standards committee.

There is no provision in current legislation for a sanction to suspend a councillor found to have breached the code of conduct. Sanctions for member code of conduct breaches are currently limited to less robust measures than suspension, such as barring members from Cabinet, Committee, or representative roles, a requirement to issue an apology or undergo code of conduct training, or public criticism. Local authorities are also unable to withhold allowances from members who commit serious breaches of their code of conduct, and there is no explicit provision in

legislation for councils to impose premises bans or facilities withdrawals where they consider that it might be beneficial to do so.

The government considers that the current local authority standards and conduct regime is in certain key aspects ineffectual, inconsistently applied, and lacking in adequate powers to effectively sanction members found in serious breach of their codes of conduct.

## 4. Who we would like to hear from

Responses are invited from local authority elected members and officers from all types and tiers of authorities, and local authority sector representative organisations. We are also particularly keen to hear from those members of the public who have point of view based on their interest in accessing local democracy in their area or standing as a candidate for local government at any tier to represent their local community at some future point.

Please be assured that all responses to this consultation are anonymous, and no information will be disclosed in any future published response to the consultation, or reporting of the consultation results, that will compromise that anonymity.

### Question 1

Please tick all that apply - are you responding to this consultation as:

a) an elected member – if so please indicate which local authority type(s) you serve on

- Town or Parish Council
- District or Borough Council
- Unitary Authority
- County Council
- Combined Authority / Combined County Authority
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- Police and Crime Panel
- Other local authority type - please state

b) a council officer – if so please indicate which local authority type

- Town or Parish Council
- District or Borough Council

- Unitary Authority
- County Council
- Combined Authority / Combined County Authority
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- Police and Crime Panel
- Other local authority type - please state

c) a council body – if so please indicate which local authority type

- Town or Parish Council
- District or Borough Council
- Unitary Authority
- County Council
- Combined Authority / Combined County Authority
- Fire and Rescue Authority
- Police and Crime Panel
- Other local authority type - please state

d) a member of the public

e) a local government sector body – please state

## **5. Strengthening the Standards and Conduct framework**

### **a) Mandatory minimum prescribed code of conduct**

The government proposes to legislate for the introduction of a mandatory minimum code of conduct which would seek to ensure a higher minimum standard of consistency in setting out the behaviours expected of elected members. The government will likely set out the mandatory code in regulations to allow flexibility to review and amend in future, this will also provide the opportunity for further consultation on the detail.

Codes of conduct play an important role in prescribing and maintaining high standards of public service, integrity, transparency, and accountability. At their best, they establish clear guidelines for behaviour and expectations that members always act ethically in the public's best interest. Currently,



there is significant variation between adopted codes, ranging from those who choose to adopt the LGA's full model code to those who simply conform with the minimum requirement of restating the Nolan principles.

A prescribed model code which covers important issues such as discrimination, bullying, and harassment, social media use, public conduct when claiming to represent the council, and use of authority resources could help to uphold consistently high standards of public service in councils across the country and convey the privileged position of public office. It could also provide clarity for the public on the consistent baseline of ethical behaviour they have a right to expect.

We would be interested in understanding whether councils consider there should be flexibility to add to the prescribed code to reflect individual authorities' circumstances. They would not be able to amend the mandatory provisions.

### **Question 2**

Do you think the government should prescribe a mandatory minimum code of conduct for local authorities in England?

- Yes
- No
- If no, why not? [Free text box]

### **Question 3**

If yes, do you agree there should be scope for local authorities to add to a mandatory minimum code of conduct to reflect specific local challenges?

- Yes – it is important that local authorities have flexibility to add to a prescribed code
- No – a prescribed code should be uniform across the country
- Unsure

### **Question 4**

Do you think the government should set out a code of conduct requirement for members to cooperate with investigations into code breaches?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

## b) Standards Committees

Currently, there is no requirement for local authorities to constitute a formal standards committee. The only legal requirement is for local authorities to have in place 'arrangements' to investigate and make decisions on allegations of misconduct.

The government believes that all principal authorities should be required to convene a standards committee. Formal standards committees would support consistency in the handling of misconduct allegations, applying the same standards and procedures to all cases and providing a formal route to swiftly identify and address vexatious complainants. Furthermore, having a formal standards committee in place could support the development of expertise in handling allegations of misconduct, leading to more informed decision-making. Removing the scope for less formal and more ad hoc arrangements would also enhance transparency and demonstrate to the public that standards and conduct issues will always be dealt with in a structured and consistent way.

This section of the consultation seeks views on two specific proposals to enhance the fairness and objectivity of the standards committee process. Firstly, it considers whether standards committee membership would be required to include at least one Independent Person, as well as (where applicable<sup>[footnote 2]</sup>) at least one co-opted member from a parish or town council. Secondly, it seeks views on whether standards committees should be chaired by the Independent Person.

### Question 5

Does your local authority currently maintain a standards committee?

- Yes
- No
- Any further comments [free text box]

### Question 6

Should all principal authorities be required to form a standards committee?

- Yes
- No
- Any further comments [free text box]

### Question 7

In most principal authorities, code of conduct complaints are typically submitted in the first instance to the local authority Monitoring Officer to

triage, before referring a case for full investigation. Should all alleged code of conduct breaches which are referred for investigation be heard by the relevant principal authority's standards committee?

- Yes, decisions should only be heard by standards committees
- No, local authorities should have discretion to allow decisions to be taken by full council
- Unsure

### **Question 8**

Do you agree that the Independent Person and co-opted members should be given voting rights?

- Yes – this is important for ensuring objectivity
- No – only elected members of the council in question should have voting rights
- Unsure

### **Question 9**

Should standards committees be chaired by the Independent Person?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

### **Question 10**

If you have further views on ensuring fairness and objectivity and reducing incidences of vexatious complaints, please use the free text box below.

[Free text box]

## **c) Publishing investigation outcomes**

To enhance transparency, local authorities should, subject to data protection obligations, be required to publish a summary of code of conduct allegations, and any investigations and decisions. This will be accompanied with strong mechanisms to protect victims' identity to ensure complainants are not dissuaded from coming forward for fear of being identified,

There may be a range of views on this, as publishing the outcome of an investigation that proves there is no case to answer could still be considered damaging to the reputation of the individuals concerned, or it could be considered as helpful in exposing instances of petty and vexatious complaints.

### **Question 11**

Should local authorities be required to publish annually a list of allegations of code of conduct breaches, and any investigation outcomes?

- Yes - the public should have full access to all allegations and investigation outcomes
- No - only cases in which a member is found guilty of wrongdoing should be published
- Other views – text box

## **d) Requiring the completion of investigations if a member stands down**

In circumstances where a member stands down during a live code of conduct investigation, councils should be required to conclude that investigation and publish the findings. The government is proposing this measure to ensure that, whilst the member in question will no longer be in office and therefore subject to any council sanction, for the purposes of accountability and transparency there will still be full record of any code of conduct breaches during their term of office.

### **Question 12**

Should investigations into the conduct of members who stand down before a decision continue to their conclusion, and the findings be published?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

## **e) Empowering individuals affected by councillor misconduct to come forward**

The government appreciates that it can often be difficult for those who experience misconduct on the part of elected members, such as bullying and harassment, to feel that it is safe and worthwhile to come forward and raise their concerns. If individuals believe there is a likelihood that their complaint will not be addressed or handled appropriately, the risk is that victims will not feel empowered to come forward, meaning misconduct continues without action. We recognise that standing up to instances of misconduct takes an emotional toll, particularly in unacceptable situations where the complaints processes are protracted and do not result in meaningful action. We are committed to ensuring that those affected by misconduct are supported in the right way and feel empowered to come forward. This section seeks feedback from local authorities with experience of overseeing council complaints procedures, or sector bodies and individuals with views on how this might be carried out most effectively. We are also keen to hear from those who work, or have worked, in local government, and who have either witnessed, or been the victim of, member misconduct.

### **Question 13**

If responding as a local authority, what is the average number of complaints against elected members that you receive over a 12-month period?

[Number box]

### **Question 13a**

For the above, where possible, please provide a breakdown for complaints made by officers, other elected members, the public, or any other source:

- Complaints made by officers [Number box]
- Complaints made by other elected members [Number box]
- Complaints made by the public [Number box]
- Complaints made by any other source [Number box]

### **Question 14**

If you currently work, or have worked, within a local authority, have you ever been the victim of (or witnessed) an instance of misconduct by an elected member and felt that you could not come forward? Please give reasons if you feel comfortable doing so.

- Yes

- No
- [Free text box]

### **Question 15**

If you are an elected member, have you ever been subject to a code of conduct complaint? If so, did you feel you received appropriate support to engage with the investigation?

- Yes
- No
- [Free text box]

### **Question 16**

If you did come forward as a victim or witness, what support did you receive, and from whom? Is there additional support you would have liked to receive?

[Free text box]

### **Question 17**

In your view, what measures would help to ensure that people who are victims of, or witness, serious councillor misconduct feel comfortable coming forward and raising a complaint?

[Free text box]

## **6. Introducing the power of suspension with related safeguards**

The government believes that local authorities should have the power to suspend councillors for serious code of conduct breaches for a maximum of 6 months, with the option to withhold allowances and institute premises and facilities bans where deemed appropriate. This section of the consultation explores these proposed provisions in greater detail.

While the law disqualifies certain people from being, or standing for election as, a councillor (e.g. on the grounds of bankruptcy, or receipt of a custodial sentence of 3 months or more, or it subject to the notification requirements of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 - meaning on the sex offenders register) councillors cannot currently be suspended or disqualified for breaching their code of conduct.

Feedback from the local government sector in the years since the removal of the power to suspend councillors has indicated that the current lack of meaningful sanctions means local authorities have no effective way of dealing with more serious examples of member misconduct.

The most severe sanctions currently used, such as formally censuring members, removing them from committees or representative roles, and requiring them to undergo training, may prove ineffective in the cases of more serious and disruptive misconduct. This may particularly be the case when it comes to tackling repeat offenders.

The government recognises that it is only a small minority of members who behave badly, but the misconduct of this small minority can have a disproportionately negative impact on the smooth running of councils. We also appreciate the frustration members of the public and councillors can feel both in the inability to deal decisively with cases of misconduct, and the fact that offending members can continue to draw allowances.

### **Question 18**

Do you think local authorities should be given the power to suspend elected members for serious code of conduct breaches?

- Yes – authorities should be given the power to suspend members
- No – authorities should not be given the power to suspend members
- Unsure

### **Question 19**

Do you think that it is appropriate for a standards committee to have the power to suspend members, or should this be the role of an independent body?

- Yes - the decision to suspend for serious code of conduct breaches should be for the standards committee
- No - a decision to suspend should be referred to an independent body
- Unsure
- [Free text box]

### **Question 20**

Where it is deemed that suspension is an appropriate response to a code of conduct breach, should local authorities be required to nominate an alternative point of contact for constituents during their absence?

- Yes – councils should be required to ensure that constituents have an alternative point of contact during a councillor's suspension

- No – it should be for individual councils to determine their own arrangements for managing constituents’ representation during a period of councillor suspension
- Unsure

## a) The length of suspension

The Committee on Standards in Public Life recommended in their 2019 Local Government Ethical Standards<sup>[footnote 3]</sup> (CSPL) report that the maximum length of suspension, without allowances, should be 6 months and the government agrees with this approach. The intent of this proposal would be that non-attendance at council meetings during a period of suspension would be disregarded for the purposes of section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, which states that a councillor ceases to be a member of the local authority if they fail to attend council meetings for 6 consecutive months.

The government believes that suspension for the full 6 months should be reserved for only the most serious breaches of the code of conduct, and considers that there should be no minimum length of suspension to facilitate the proportionate application of this strengthened sanction.

### Question 21

If the government reintroduced the power of suspension do you think there should be a maximum length of suspension?

- Yes – the government should set a maximum length of suspension of 6 months
- Yes – however the government should set a different maximum length (in months) [Number box]
- No – I do not think the government should set a maximum length of suspension
- Unsure

### Question 22

If yes, how frequently do you consider councils would be likely to make use of the maximum length of suspension?

- Infrequently – likely to be applied only to the most egregious code of conduct breaches
- Frequently – likely to be applied in most cases, with some exceptions for less serious breaches



- Almost always – likely to be the default length of suspension for code of conduct breaches
- Unsure

## **b) Withholding allowances and premises and facilities bans**

Giving councils the discretion to withhold allowances from members who have been suspended for serious code of conduct breaches in cases where they feel it is appropriate to do so could act as a further deterrent against unethical behaviour. Holding councillors financially accountable during suspensions also reflects a commitment to ethical governance, the highest standards of public service, and value for money for local residents.

Granting local authorities the power in legislation to ban suspended councillors from local authority premises and from using council equipment and facilities could be beneficial in cases of behavioural or financial misconduct, ensuring that suspended councillors do not misuse resources or continue egregious behaviour. Additionally, it would demonstrate that allegations of serious misconduct are handled appropriately, preserving trust in public service and responsible stewardship of public assets.

These measures may not always be appropriate and should not be tied to the sanction of suspension by default. The government also recognises that there may be instances in which one or both of these sanctions is appropriate but suspension is not. It is therefore proposed that both the power to withhold allowances and premises and facilities bans represent standalone sanctions in their own right.

### **Question 23**

Should local authorities have the power to withhold allowances from suspended councillors in cases where they deem it appropriate?

- Yes – councils should have the option to withhold allowances from suspended councillors
- No – suspended councillors should continue to receive allowances
- Unsure

### **Question 24**

Do you think it should be put beyond doubt that local authorities have the power to ban suspended councillors from council premises and to

withdraw the use of council facilities in cases where they deem it appropriate?

- Yes – premises and facilities bans are an important tool in tackling serious conduct issues
- No – suspended councillors should still be able to use council premises and facilities
- Unsure

### **Question 25**

Do you agree that the power to withhold members' allowances and to implement premises and facilities bans should also be standalone sanctions in their own right?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

## **c) Interim suspension**

Some investigations into serious code of conduct breaches may be complex and take time to conclude, and there may be circumstances when the misconduct that has led to the allegation is subsequently referred to the police to investigate. In such cases, the government proposes that there should be an additional power to impose interim suspensions whilst and until a serious or complex case under investigation is resolved.

A member subject to an interim suspension would not be permitted to participate in any council business or meetings, with an option to include a premises and facilities ban.

We consider that members should continue to receive allowances whilst on interim suspension and until an investigation proves beyond doubt that a serious code of conduct breach has occurred or a criminal investigation concludes. The decision to impose an interim suspension would not represent a pre-judgement of the validity of an allegation.

We suggest that:

- Interim suspensions should initially be for up to a maximum of 3 months. After the expiry of an initial interim suspension period, the relevant council's standards committee should review the case to decide whether it is in the public interest to extend.

- As appropriate, the period of time spent on interim suspension may be deducted from the period of suspension a standards committee imposes.

### **Question 26**

Do you think the power to suspend councillors on an interim basis pending the outcome of an investigation would be an appropriate measure?

- Yes, powers to suspend on an interim basis would be necessary
- No, interim suspension would not be necessary
- Any further comments [free text box]

### **Question 27**

Do you agree that local authorities should have the power to impose premises and facilities bans on councillors who are suspended on an interim basis?

- Yes - the option to institute premises and facilities bans whilst serious misconduct cases are investigated is important
- No - members whose investigations are ongoing should retain access to council premises and facilities
- Unsure

### **Question 28**

Do you think councils should be able to impose an interim suspension for any period of time they deem fit?

- Yes
- No
- Any further comments [free text box]

### **Question 29**

Do you agree that an interim suspension should initially be for up to a maximum of 3 months, and then subject to review?

- Yes
- No
- Any further comments [free text box]

### **Question 30**

If following a 3-month review of an interim suspension, a standards committee decided to extend, do you think there should be safeguards

to ensure a period of interim extension is not allowed to run on unchecked?

- Yes – there should be safeguards
- No – councils will know the details of individual cases and should be trusted to act responsibly

### **Question 30a**

If you answered yes to above question, what safeguards do you think might be needed to ensure that unlimited suspension is not misused?

[Free text box]

## **d) Disqualification for multiple breaches and gross misconduct**

When councillors repeatedly breach codes of conduct, it undermines the integrity of the council and erodes public confidence. To curb the risk of repeat offending and continued misconduct once councillors return from a suspension, the government considers that it may be beneficial to introduce disqualification for a period of 5 years for those members for whom the sanction of suspension is invoked on more than one occasion within a 5-year period.

This measure underlines the government's view that the sanction of suspension should only be used in the most serious code of conduct breaches, because in effect a decision to suspend more than once in a 5-year period would be a decision to disqualify an elected member. However, we consider this measure would enable councils to signal in the strongest terms that repeated instances of misconduct will not be tolerated and would act as a strong deterrent against the worst kind of behaviours becoming embedded.

Currently a person is disqualified if they have been convicted of any offence and have received a sentence of imprisonment (suspended or not) for a period of 3 months or more (without the option of a fine) in the 5-year period before the relevant election. Disqualification also covers sexual offences, even if they do not result in a custodial or suspended sentence.

### **Question 31**

Do you think councillors should be disqualified if subject to suspension more than once?

- Yes – twice within a 5-year period should result in disqualification for 5 years
- Yes – but for a different length of time and/or within a different timeframe (in years) [Number boxes]
- No - the power to suspend members whenever they breach codes of conduct is sufficient
- Any other comments [free text box]

### **Question 32**

Is there a case for immediate disqualification for gross misconduct, for example in instances of theft or physical violence impacting the safety of other members and/or officers, provided there has been an investigation of the incident and the member has had a chance to respond before a decision is made?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- [Free text box]

## **e) Appeals**

The government proposes that:

- A right of appeal be introduced for any member subject to a decision to suspend them.
- Members should only be able to appeal any given decision to suspend them once.
- An appeal should be invoked within 5 working days of the notification of suspension; and
- Following receipt of a request for appeal, arrangements should be made to conduct the appeal hearing within 28 working days.

The government believes that were the sanction of suspension to be introduced (and potentially disqualification if a decision to suspend occurs a second time within a 5-year period) it would be essential for such a punitive measure to be underpinned by a fair appeals process.

A right of appeal would allow members to challenge decisions that they believe are unjust or disproportionate and provides a safeguard to ensure that the sanction of suspension is applied fairly and consistently.

We consider that it would be appropriate to either create a national body, or to vest the appeals function in an existing appropriate national body, and views on the merits of that are sought at questions 38 and 39 below. Firstly, the following questions test opinion on the principle of providing a mechanism for appeal.

### **Question 33**

Should members have the right to appeal a decision to suspend them?

- Yes - it is right that any member issued with a sanction of suspension can appeal the decision
- No – a council's decision following consideration of an investigation should be final
- Unsure

### **Question 34**

Should suspended members have to make their appeal within a set timeframe?

- Yes – within 5 days of the decision is appropriate to ensure an efficient process
- Yes – but within a different length of time (in days) [Number box]
- No – there should be no time limit for appealing a decision

The government is also keen to explore if a right of appeal should be provided, either in relation to whether a complaint proceeds to full investigation and consideration by the standards committee, or where a claimant is dissatisfied with the determination of the standards committee.

### **Question 35**

Do you consider that a complainant should have a right of appeal when a decision is taken not to investigate their complaint?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

### **Question 36**

Do you consider that a complainant should have a right of appeal when an allegation of misconduct is not upheld?

- Yes
- No

- Unsure

### **Question 37**

If you answered yes to either of the previous two questions, please use the free text box below to share views on what you think is the most suitable route of appeal for either or both situations.

[Free text box]

## **f) Potential for a national appeals body**

There is a need to consider whether appeals panels should be in-house within local authorities, or whether it is right that this responsibility sits with an independent national body. Whereas an in-house appeals process would potentially enable quicker resolutions by virtue of a smaller caseload, empowering a national body to oversee appeals from suspended members and complainants could reinforce transparency and impartiality and help to ensure consistency of decision-making throughout England, setting precedents for the types of cases that are heard.

### **Question 38**

Do you think there is a need for an external national body to hear appeals?

- Yes – an external appeals body would help to uphold impartiality
- No – appeals cases should be heard by an internal panel
- Any further comments [free text box]

### **Question 39**

If you think there is a need for an external national appeals body, do you think it should:

- Be limited to hearing elected member appeals
- Be limited to hearing claimant appeals
- Both of the above should be in scope
- Please explain your answer [free text box]

# 7. Public Sector Equality Duty

## Question 40

In your view, would the proposed reforms to the local government standards and conduct framework particularly benefit or disadvantage individuals with protected characteristics, for example those with disabilities or caring responsibilities?

Please tick an option below:

- it would benefit individuals with protected characteristics
- it would disadvantage individuals with protected characteristics
- neither

Please use the text box below to make any further comment on this question.

[Free text box]

## Annex A: Personal data

The following is to explain your rights and give you the information you are entitled to under the Data Protection Act 2018. Note that this section only refers to your personal data (your name address and anything that could be used to identify you personally) not the content of your response to the consultation.

### 1. The identity of the data controller and contact details of our Data Protection Officer

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is the data controller. The Data Protection Officer can be contacted at [dataprotection@communities.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@communities.gov.uk).

### 2. Why we are collecting your personal data



Your personal data is being collected as an essential part of the consultation process, so that we can contact you regarding your response and for statistical purposes. We may also use it to contact you about related matters.

### **3. Our legal basis for processing your personal data**

The Data Protection Act 2018 states that, as a government department, MHCLG may process personal data as necessary for the effective performance of a task carried out in the public interest. i.e. a consultation.

### **4. With whom we will be sharing your personal data**

We use a third-party platform, Citizen Space, to collect consultation responses. In the first instance, your personal data will be stored on their secure UK-based servers.

### **5. For how long we will keep your personal data, or criteria used to determine the retention period.**

Your personal data will be held for 2 years from the closure of the consultation.

### **6. Your rights, e.g. access, rectification, erasure**

The data we are collecting is your personal data, and you have considerable say over what happens to it. You have the right:

- a) to see what data we have about you
- b) to ask us to stop using your data, but keep it on record
- c) to ask to have all or some of your data deleted or corrected
- d) to lodge a complaint with the independent Information Commissioner (ICO) if you think we are not handling your data fairly or in accordance with

the law. You can contact the ICO at <https://ico.org.uk/> (<https://ico.org.uk/>), or telephone 0303 123 1113.

## **7. Your personal data will not be sent overseas**

## **8. Your personal data will not be used for any automated decision making**

## **9. Your personal data will be stored on a secure government IT system**

Your data will be transferred to our secure government IT system as soon as possible after the consultation has closed, and it will be stored there for the standard 2 years of retention before it is deleted.

- 
1. Localism Act 2011 ([legislation.gov.uk](http://legislation.gov.uk))  
(<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/part/1/chapter/7>)
  2. Only around 36% of the population of England is covered by a parish or town council.
  3. Local government ethical standards: report - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))  
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-ethical-standards-report>)

# Keswick Parking Strategy

Cumberland Council is seeking to understand the customer experience and usage of Keswick's car parks and invites the input and views of local residents, organisations and visitors to support the development of a Parking Strategy.

1. How often do you drive and park in Keswick?

- Daily
- 3-4 times a week
- 1-2 times per week
- 1-2 times per month
- 1-2 times per year

2. Are you responding to this survey as,

- A resident of Keswick
- Someone working in the town (but not a Keswick resident)
- A visitor to Keswick

3. What are your main purposes for visiting Keswick? *Please tick all that apply*

- Working
- Shopping
- Education
- Healthcare
- Recreation

4. Do you hold a current Blue Badge or have a disability that affects your mobility?

- Yes - Blue Badge Holder
- Yes - Mobility Issues (not Blue Badge holder)
- No

5. Thinking about your most recent trip to Keswick- Which car park did you use?

- Lakeside (Theatre by the lake)
- Central
- Otley Road
- Bell Close (short stay)
- Rawnsley Centre
- Derwent Pencil Museum
- Skiddaw Street
- Booths
- Crosthwaite Road (Keswick Town Council)
- Keswick Football Club (Crosthwaite Road)
- Rugby Club
- On street / unrestricted (free) parking
- Free time limited stay disk zone (onstreet)
- Not sure of the name

6. How long did you park for?

- Up to 1 hr
- 2 hrs
- 3 hrs
- 4 hrs

- 5 hrs
- 6 hrs
- 7-12 hrs
- All day (over 12 hrs)

7. Did you park overnight?

- Yes
- No

8. What was your main reason for using this car park? *Please select all that apply.*

- Convenience - distance to where you needed to go
- Convenience - easy parking option (access, space availability, accessible bays etc.)
- Cost
- Safety of vehicle and or driver/passengers
- Ease of travel to next destination

9. On a scale of 1 to 5 for value for money - where would you place cost of parking in Keswick? (*1 being poor and 5 being very good*)



10. What is your preferred method of payment for your car parking? *Please select one option.*

- Cashless by machine (card/contactless)
- Cash
- Pay by Phone - Mi Permit app
- Any of the above

11. Please rate the car park you last parked at in terms of:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Presentation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety/Security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lighting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Value for money	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Location	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cleanliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ease of payment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Are you a season ticket holder?

- No
- Yes -Workers Permit
- Yes - General Season Permit
- Yes - Commercial Permit

13. Please rate the value for money provided by your season ticket

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Very poor
- N/A (don't have a season ticket)

14. Thinking about the experience of parking in Keswick, what would be your main suggestion for Cumberland Council to improve how car parks are managed.

Enter your answer

15. Would you be happy to be contacted for a short telephone interview to discuss ways in which the car parking service could be improved ?

All survey participants will be entered into a prize draw to have a chance of winning one of two £50 vouchers.

Please provide your name with contact phone number/email to take part in the phone interview and to be entered into the prize draw.

Enter your answer

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KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

7 January 2025

Membership of Committees and Outside Bodies

With the recent resignation of Councillor Lansbury, there are gaps on some of the Committees and Outside Bodies which should be filled. I have attached the most up to date lists we have, and ask Councillors to consider any spaces which they would like to fill – in most cases, even if there isn't a space, there will be availability to join a group.

I also have a request from Councillor Harwood:

“The Town Council Planning Group which meets to consider our recommendations on all planning application in Keswick for submission to the Lake District National Park Authority currently comprises myself, Councillor Chris Houghton and Councillor Taylor. Councillor Houghton has been away for the past two months but is due to return shortly. However, Councillor Taylor has advised that she will have to step back from this role for possibly a few months. In this context I would like to ask for a volunteer to join our planning group to give a reasonable spread of views as we consider future planning applications. The current applications are at a low level for the forthcoming Town Council meeting on 16 January so not an issue. If you are interested in joining our Planning Group or require any further information please contact me. I hope one of you will be willing to join us to help out.”



**Keswick Town Council Committee Memberships**

**CHARITABLE TRUST MEETINGS**

(All Members of the Town Council)

**CHAIR:**

Councillor Jean Murray

**VICE CHAIR:**

Councillor Chris Houghton

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**STAFFING COMMITTEE**

**MAYOR (CHAIR) EX OFFICIO**

Councillor Louise Dunn (Mayor)

**TRUST CHAIR EX OFFICIO**

Councillor Jean Murray

**TRUST VICE-CHAIR EX OFFICIO**

Councillor Chris Houghton

**OTHER MEMBERS (x2)**

Claire Houghton

Lorraine Taylor

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**PLANNING & LICENSING GROUP**

Councillor Steve Harwood

Councillor Chris Houghton

Councillor Lorraine Taylor

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**EVENTS COMMITTEE**

**MAYOR (EX OFFICIO)**

Councillor Louise Dunn

**OTHER MEMBERS:**

Councillor Steve Harwood

~~Councillor Sally Lansbury~~

Councillor Claire Houghton

Councillor Rob Nelson

Representative of Keswick Tourism Association

Representative of Keswick Rotary Club

Representative of Keswick Lions Club

Representative of Theatre by the Lake

Representative of Cumberland Council (Keswick Market)

Representative from Cumbria Police

Representative of Keswick Scouts/Guides

Any other individual as requested by the committee.

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**VISITOR MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Steve Harwood

Councillor Claire Houghton

Councillor Claire Peat

**HOUSING WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Steve Harwood

Councillor Benita Lapthorn

Councillor Lorraine Taylor

(Note: Only Councillors have voting rights at meetings (unless members sign up to the Code of Conduct & sign a Declaration of Interests)

KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL  
16 MAY 2024

**REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES FOR 2024/25**

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>
<b>THE BATTERSBY CHARITY</b>	STEVE HARWOOD
<b>KESWICK IN BLOOM</b>	BENITA LAPTHORN
<b>KESWICK TOURISM ASSOCIATION</b>	CHRIS HOUGHTON
<b>KESWICK COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PARTNERSHIP RECOVERY</b>	SALLY LANSBURY
<b>KESWICK YOUTH CENTRE</b>	LORRAINE TAYLOR
<b>KESWICK FAIR TRADE COMMITTEE</b>	CLAIRE HOUGHTON
<b>KESWICK FLOOD ACTION GROUP</b>	LOUISE DUNN CHRIS HOUGHTON
<b>KESWICK MINISTRIES TOWN LIAISON GROUP</b>	ROB NELSON
<b>LIAISON MEETINGS (CALC) ETC</b>	LORRAINE TAYLOR
<b>THRELKELD HOUSING ASSOCIATION</b>	DENSTONE KEMP
<b><u>NEW OUTSIDE BODIES</u></b>	
<b>SUSTAINABLE KESWICK</b>	SALLY LANSBURY/LORRAINE TAYLOR

## KESWICK TOWN COUNCIL

## EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Keswick Town Council Events Committee held at Council Chamber, Keswick Town Hall, Keswick, CA12 5JS on Thursday 5 December 2024 at 10.30am

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**Present:** Councillor Steve Harwood (SH)  
 Councillor Rob Nelson (RN) (Chair)  
 Councillor Louise Dunn (LD)  
 Ania Mlynczak (AFA) (AM)  
 Catherine Parker (RFO) (CP)  
 Phil Byers (Cumberland Markets) (PB)  
 Claudia Walker (Keswick Scouts) (CW)  
 Marry Elliot (Theatre by the Lake) (ME)  
 Yvonne Booth (Events Coordinator) (YB)  
 Debbie Devereux (HNW café) (DD)  
 Tony Hirst (Keswick Lions) (TH)  
 Carol Hirst (Keswick Lions) (CH)  
 Keith Richardson (Cricket Club) (KR)

**15. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Vivien Little (Town Clerk), David Quainton (Keswick Rotary), Sally Lansbury (Cumberland Council) and Cllr Claire Houghton.

**16. Minutes –**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on the 19 September 2024 be approved (pages 5-7) subject to Tony and Carol Hirst being added to the apologies.

**17. Events Coordinator**

**RESOLVED** to introduce Yvonne Booth as the new Events Coordinator for Keswick Town Council.

**18. Christmas Lights Debrief**

A discussion took place in relation to the Christmas Lights Switch On 2024 and the following comments/observations were made: -

- It was a brilliant event with good turnout, therefore no need to change the format.
- Keswick Lions did a great job and a big thank you should be passed onto them. Their visibility made everyone feel much safer and they did a brilliant job with crowd movement and control.
- The accessible area was too large given the crowds, so the size can be looked at next year.
- Use of the accessible area is something that will grow over time. Making people aware in Keswick Reminder rather than just Facebook would help as some generations do not see Facebook.
- The accessible area should be made available for individuals with hidden disabilities too, they should have a specific card to confirm their disability.
- A dog area should be provided at the bottom of Market Square in future years, as many dogs seemed to be stressed at the event which in turn stresses their owners and others in attendance. It was appreciated that visitors to Town are not able to leave their dogs in accommodation, so providing a designated dog area seems like a logical solution. Owners with dogs not wanting to use this area should be asked to leave the area until crowds disperse.
- More stewards were needed at the end of the event for litter, bins, barriers and uncovering car park signs.

- A stewards briefing giving assigned duties would be useful in future years.

## 19. Events 2025

**RECEIVED** updates on future events for Keswick Town Council.

### May Day Event – Townsfield – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 from 10am to 3pm

- There was great debate about having a May King/Queen fancy dress competition after which a vote was taken. The results were 6 for and 6 against this idea. It was **RESOLVED** that St Herberts School be contacted to ask if they could choose a King and Queen from their pupils and if not that an un themed fancy dress competition could take place – **ACTION YB**
- Morris Dancers should be booked to perform - **ACTION YB**
- Fluid Productions should be asked to quote for a covered area and ground level performance area for the Morris Dancers in case of inclement weather - **ACTION YB**
- Concessions should be contacted to attend on the day - **ACTION YB**
- A Maypole to be purchased - **ACTION YB**

### VE Day – Wivell Park/War Memorial – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025 from 7pm to 9.30pm

- Set up will be a 'cut and paste' of the D Day event in 2024.
- Keswick Scouts will organise a cake stall and tombola from 6pm – **ACTION CW**
- Seating to be provided on flat area plus encourage people to bring their own seats.
- Cafe HNW to provide seats and stay open – **ACTION DD**
- Keswick Lions to help with putting seats in place along with gazebo setup.
- KTA and Keswick Lions be asked if their gazebos could be used – **ACTION YB**
- Scaffold installation cost to be confirmed – **ACTION RN**
- Chris Bland be invited to lead the parade asked to be Master of Ceremonies – **ACTION RN**
- Readings to be given by Rev Charles Hope and the Mayor of Keswick – **ACTION YB**
- LD suggested that we need a written schedule – **ACTION YB**

### Party in The Park – Fitz Park – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 2pm to 9pm

- Performers to be contacted (as per budget sheet) with St Herberts School Choir being the first act and DJ being the last – this must shut down at 9pm – **ACTION YB**
- DD was happy to continue with the Woodland Stage in Upper Fitz, as it worked okay in 2024. If possible, acts to be timed at 2pm and 4pm – **ACTION DD**
- Bee Unique to be asked to attend, although they would need to bring along more staff than 2024 due to concerns raised by Keswick Scouts who were assisting – **ACTION YB**
- A proper MC was needed and Ben Purkiss was to be asked to cover this role – **ACTION YB**
- KR will mark the cricket pitch out as far away from the event as possible as there will be a match on that day, as in previous years – **ACTION KR**
- Keswick Scouts to be 'litter reminders' to ask people to take litter home – **ACTION CW**
- A written schedule should be put together for this event – **ACTION YB**

### Scruffs – Fitz Park – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 10am to 4pm

- Everyone was happy that the event be ran and organised as per previous years.
- Market to be organised in house – **ACTION YB**
- Concessions and suppliers to be booked – **ACTION YB**
- A written schedule should be put together for this event – **ACTION YB**

**Keswick Games – Fitz Park – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025 time TBC**

- KR advised that at a recent meeting of the Cricket Club the club was behind this idea and agreed for their facilities to be used including the PA system and the bar would be open.
- The idea was for this event to be a repeat of Keswick Sports but on a lesser scale, possibly including cycling. A cycling track could be created with a 100m running track within the boundary.
- KR said the league dates would not be available until January 2025 and the date would have to avoid May 18<sup>th</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> as County matches had already been confirmed. The club start their winter maintenance in September so the event would have to take place prior to this.
- **After much debate the date was set as Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025**
- DD said that the games would be open in Upper Fitz Park which would provide additional activities.
- It was agreed that we need to pin down exactly what we are doing – **RESOLVED** that RN, SH, DD, KR and YB come up with a list of sports and games at this event and report back to the next meeting – **ACTION YB**
- A written schedule should be put together for this event – **ACTION YB**

**VJ Day – War Memorial – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025 time TBC**

- Event to be based on Remembrance Day
- Rev Charles Hope be asked to come up with a schedule – **ACTION YB**

**Christmas Lights Switch On – Market Square – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025 from 10am to 7pm**

- **RESOLVED** that the date for the event be confirmed as Friday 21 November 2025.
- This was to be a ‘copy and paste’ of previous years.
- A discussion took place to determine who could be asked to switch on the lights and they were to be contacted – **ACTION YB**

**Lakeland Trails Event – KR** raised a noise complaint about the drummers attending this event, the noise is incessant. KR appreciates that this is a one-off event, although the drumming continues for far too long and ruins the atmosphere in the area. **RESOLVED** that Lakeland Trails be asked for the drums to be played at the beginning of the first race and beginning of the main race only. - **ACTION VL**

**Chinese Event – PB** asked for feedback/observations/comments from the Town Council to hold an additional market in the Town in late February which would be Chinese Themed to run alongside, an event organised by the Cinema. **RESOLVED** that this be placed on the December Town Council meeting agenda for discussion.

**All Town Council Events** - More Councillors should be encouraged to attend all events in a volunteer capacity to help with tasks and support the Events Committee.

**20. Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED** that the date of next meeting was to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 11.50am

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Note:** SH, RN, CaP, AM, YB & CIP – Looked through the Events & Christmas Lights budget in detail to enable the figures to be included in the Town Council budgets to be approved in January 2025.