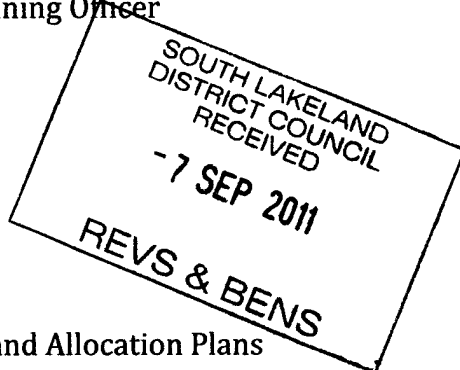



Development Planning Officer
SLDC
Lowther Street
Kendal LA9 4DQ




4th September 2011

Dear Sir

South Lakeland Land Allocation Plans

I am writing to you to express my extreme concern about plans to build houses on land in the Castle ward which, I believe, can only exacerbate problems of flooding in the residential areas around.

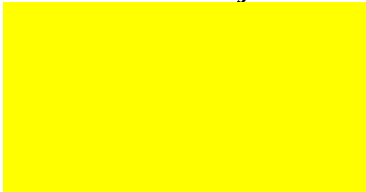
After the 1999 floods in Kendal, work was undertaken to prevent a recurrence of the costly damage through the Stock Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme. This work has been largely, although not entirely, successful- road flooding has since reoccurred near Rusland Park, and on one memorable occasion roads around Ann Street, Wildman Street and Castle Street had to be closed because of the depth of water - at that time I thought that I was going to be unable to return home from the town centre on foot and only managed to do so with great difficulty. Thus, it is clear that the Stock Beck flood lagoon is already barely adequate and lacks the capacity to absorb any more water at times of heavy rain.

I understand that the current Land Allocation plan includes a very significant number of sites for housing on land above Stock Beck and its flood lagoon (I have been unable to access the plan on the internet but believe that this includes R124, R676, R121, R141, R56, R100, R17, R587, R606, R586 and possible R590). I am horrified to note such widespread development plans for this vulnerable area - even a single development would increase the threat of flooding as land that might soak up water is covered over by new road and housing.

I note that the South Lakeland Local Development Framework outlines a number of Sustainable Development Principles, including CS1.1 that states that 'Opportunities must be taken to mitigate against and adapt to climate change, including addressing flood risk...'

I therefore urge you to remove all plans for new housing above Stock Beck and its flood lagoon.

Yours faithfully


Dr G.I. Helsby