

# United

we're transforming Staveley's  
water infrastructure



## Action for Staveley

Hello, I'm Andrew Marshall and welcome to your latest update about our work to increase Staveley's resilience towards climate change. I'm a proud Cumbrian and live just down the road in Kendal. It's my job to lead on the solutions to help reduce storm water spills at Staveley wastewater treatment works and address sewer flooding in Staveley village, positively contributing to improving the water quality of the River Kent and River Gowan.

## Why Staveley?

Factors including climate change, sewer pipes that take both foul and rainwater, development, and the geography in this beautiful area we call home means that pressure is being put on the sewer pipes and the wastewater treatment works. All this means we need to make some upgrades in Staveley to make sure it is resilient to future pressures.

We're investing millions of pounds to upgrade Staveley's infrastructure. We have a team dedicated to designing the best solution. You may have spotted us in and around the village over the last 12 months as part of our essential investigation work, building our knowledge to help create effective wastewater solutions. The optimised solution will be selected by the end of the year ready for the outline design work to begin.

Designing a longer-term solution that is fit for the future takes time, so we have been reviewing options for short term quick wins at Staveley wastewater treatment works. In January we agreed a temporary arrangement with the Environment Agency to help reduce spills to the river. This arrangement has meant we have gradually increased the amount of wastewater we can treat at once since January and hope to reach a maximum in September, all whilst monitoring performance closely. This change will help to reduce overflows in the short term.

Throughout all our work we'll try our hardest to keep disruption at a minimum, , we will keep you updated with decisions about the project as they are made, and we'll keep you informed when our construction phase will begin, which is likely to be the latter part of 2025. We'll also be working closely with the Environment Agency to ensure we are aligned to the Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme.

# Results of our investigations so far

It was great to meet lots of you earlier this year at our drop-in sessions. Since then, it's been a busy few months. Here's a snippet of what we've been up to:

We've completed a full camera survey of our sewer pipes to check for any major issues. And the good news is, the pipes in Staveley are generally in good condition. We have identified some minor issues which will be fixed in the coming months. We will try to complete this work with the minimum disruption to the community as possible.

We've installed monitors inside the sewers which are capturing important data. This will help us develop an accurate picture of the flows in our sewer pipes and will be key in designing the right solution for Staveley.

We have worked in partnership with Westmorland and Furness council to understand how their surface water pipes may interact with the wastewater system. Surface water from roofs and roads does not need to be treated and can flow directly into the watercourse. We will continue to work as partners to identify any opportunities.

We've also been regularly catching up with the Staveley Clean Water Clean Streets group; a group made up of the Environment Agency, Westmorland and Furness Council, Staveley with Ings Parish Council, Clean River Kent Campaign and the Lake District National Park Authority. We've shared our progress and will continue to do so as our investigations and solutions develop.



## Fancy a water butt? It's on the house!

We're offering everyone in Staveley an easy way to help slow the flow of rainwater into the sewers and 150 of you have already taken us up on the offer.

Leaky water butts have the added benefit of built-in capacity, which helps manage excessive rainfall.

The offer is still open until the end of May, visit our website to sign up: [unitedutilities.com/action-for-staveley](https://unitedutilities.com/action-for-staveley)

These water butts will complement the rainwater planters at the Village Hall and the Pavillion to help slow the flow of rain into the sewers.



### Thinking of other ways you can help?

Got your water butt and wondering what else you can do to help protect rivers, lakes and seas? Here are a few ideas... Think about how much impermeable area is around your property, could any of this area turn green allowing rainwater to slowly soak into the ground rather than drain to a sewer?

Can any downspouts from your property, garage, or other outbuildings be directed to a soakaway or rain garden? Or could the downspouts drain via a water butt?

Instead of using fresh clean water for washing your car or watering your plants, could you use rainwater which saves you money on your water bill?

I hope you found this update useful and can see the progress being made. We're very grateful to all of you for your support and engagement. We'll continue to keep you updated as the solutions progress.