

26 April 2016

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27 APR 2016

DEAR MS RICHARDSON

Thank you for your letter of 14 March 2016 referring to questions relating to the Kendal floods of 5/6 December 2015, and to which I am responding in the absence of our Chief Executive.

Since receiving your letter, several United Utilities colleagues attended a Town Council meeting on 13 April 2016, along with members of other key organisations, including the Environment Agency, Cumbria County Council and South Lakeland District Council. At the meeting, answers were provided verbally to the questions.

As a result of that meeting, the organisations will be providing a collaborative response to all of the questions and this is currently being compiled.

In the meantime, I thought it would be useful to provide you with a response to those questions relating directly to United Utilities, as follows:-

Question 5

What part did Bird's Park Reservoir and its water collection systems play in flooding on the east side of Kendal?

Birds Park Reservoir is owned by United Utilities, however, it is not operational and does not provide a source of water for homes or businesses. It made no contribution to the flooding but it may have provided some attenuation.

Question 8

There are well known areas of development which apparently flooded and/or caused flooding elsewhere. Upper Sandylands (Rydal Road area) is one recently built example. Were there any others? Why did their drainage systems not handle the rainfall, and can their SUDs/attenuation tanks provide any assistance when the ground is already saturated in long periods of high rainfall.