Whitehaven Cricket Club FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

Site Address:

Richmond Terrace, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 7QR

Assessment Date: 3rd October 2024

1. Site Overview

Richmond Terrace located in Whitehaven, Cumbria, just outside Flood Zone 2. Flood Zone 1, which includes the property, signifies a low probability of flooding (<0.1% annual chance).

2. Potential Flood Risks

Flood risks for Richmond Terrace stem from the following:

- **Fluvial (Rivers)**: No immediate risk, as the property is not near major rivers like the River Ehen.
- **Tidal/Coastal Flooding**: The proximity to Whitehaven's coast poses a low to moderate risk from tidal surges, although Richmond Terrace is further inland and elevated, reducing the overall threat.
- **Surface Water Flooding**: Heavy rainfall can overwhelm drainage systems, causing surface water flooding. Consultation with drainage authorities is advised to confirm site-specific risks.
- **Groundwater Flooding**: The area's topography (on a hill) minimizes the likelihood of groundwater flooding.
- **Sewer Flooding**: Risk exists during extreme rainfall when drainage systems may become overloaded. Local utility data from United Utilities should be referenced.

3. Historical Flood Data

No significant flood history is noted for Richmond Terrace. However, the wider Whitehaven area has experienced coastal and surface water flooding in extreme weather events.

4. Flood Defences

Whitehaven benefits from coastal defences that mitigate tidal flooding risks. No specific flood defences are installed directly at Richmond Terrace, but regional systems provide some protection.

5. Climate Change Considerations

Over time, climate change is expected to increase rainfall intensity and sea levels, expanding the extent of Flood Zones. Future risks may rise, necessitating periodic reassessment of flood zones and mitigation measures.

6. Mitigation Measures

Given the flood risks, the following mitigation strategies are recommended:

- Install **flood barriers** for entry points (doors and windows).
- Improve property **drainage systems** to prevent surface water accumulation.
- Consider **elevating ground floors** or vital infrastructure in new developments.
- Stay updated with **flood warning systems** and establish evacuation plans.

7. Consultation with Authorities

Further information on drainage infrastructure, sewer flooding, and localized flood risks should be sought from:

- **Cumbria County Council** (Local Flood Authority)
- United Utilities (Sewerage and drainage data)
- Environment Agency (Detailed flood risk mapping)

8. Conclusion

Richmond Terrace, while outside Flood Zone 2, faces minimal flood risk from tidal and surface water flooding. Although currently low, these risks could increase with climate change. Implementing recommended mitigation measures will help safeguard the property from future flood events.