

Humber – keeping you informed

July 2017

This newsletter provides an update on the Comprehensive Review of the Humber Strategy and on work taking place or planned to help reduce the risk of flooding to people and properties around the Humber Estuary.

Comprehensive Review of the Humber Strategy

Work is now underway on the Comprehensive Review of the Humber Strategy, with the support of our consultants CH2M, along with other leading industry experts. This important piece of work will redefine the strategic approach to managing tidal flood risk around the estuary, setting the way forward for the next 100 years. It provides us with the opportunity to reconsider the economic, social and environmental needs of the estuary and set an adaptive flood risk management investment programme. Defra will sign-off the revised Humber Strategy in 2019.

We have extended the boundary for the review to reach further upstream from the main estuary to include the rivers where tidal flow is the main source of flood risk.

Our Project Manager's perspective

'The Comprehensive Review is critical in helping the communities in and around the Humber manage their long-term flood risk and provides a springboard for future growth and environmental enhancement in the region.

We have divided the review into different work-streams, involving internal and external experts, to ensure the review of the strategy is a success, delivering adaptable solutions for communities and businesses while considering the needs of the environment.

We are working closely with our local authority partners on the review and we really want to involve a wide range of stakeholders through the process – to seek support, ideas and innovative solutions to managing flood risk. We are currently looking at how we can do this most effectively, and we will keep you updated about how you may be able to help deliver this vitally important piece of work'



*Richard Hartley,
Environment Agency Project Manager*

If you have any questions about the review or have any initial ideas about how you could get involved, then please contact HStrategy@environment-agency.gov.uk

Scheme Updates

Keadby Pumping Station: Remedial work to sustain the operation of Keadby Pumping Station for the next 5 years is ongoing, while we continue to refine the options for a large scale investment in a replacement terminal outfall. We have now completed works to replace the old automated weed screen cleaner and all works should be completed by the end of the summer.



Water for Wildlife and Farmers: This exciting partnership project investigates how techniques used in the US and Netherlands to rotationally wet agricultural land can provide benefits for farming, biodiversity and flood risk management. Phase 1, which considered the general economic and legislative feasibility of the techniques in the UK, is now complete. We are now undertaking Phase 2, which considers the applicability of the techniques to specific farms around the Humber. We are looking to progress a phase 3 which would deliver some small-scale trials of the techniques. There are a number of landowners who are keen to support this work.



Techniques used in the Netherlands

Skeffling Managed Realignment Scheme: A drop-in took place on 28th June to present the embankment alignment, breach locations and flood bank level, along with further information on the types of habitat which will develop, flood protection and drainage. A 3D computer model of the scheme proved to be a valuable tool to explain the design. Following the drop-in, two workshops were held on 3rd July: one for organisations who have a technical interest in the project and a public workshop to discuss local concerns. Both workshops were well attended and the project team has gathered valuable information to further develop the design. There will be further opportunities for the local community to have their say before we submit our planning application later this year.

Humber Hull Frontage Improvements: This project is reviewing the existing defences along the north bank tidal frontage through the Hull area. The scheme will cost around £35 million. We plan to have all the necessary funding and approvals in place to enable work to start in summer 2018. Construction works will take 3 years to complete

Our visual inspection programme, surveys and updated flood modelling are complete and have indicated to us which areas of defence we need to focus on. There is still more investigation and planning to be done before any construction work can begin. We shared our plans with the local community, as part of a wider drop-in on flood risk management schemes planned for Hull, in April this year.

South Ferriby & Winteringham Ings Sea Defence Improvements: At the beginning of July, we held 2 community events to seek feedback on the shortlist of options to reduce flood risk to South Ferriby and Winteringham. Over 70 people attended, including Andrew Percy MP at the South Ferriby event. Attendees provided really valuable feedback to the Project Team. Subject to funding, works on site should begin at the end of 2018.

Are you prepared for future floods? Although flood defences reduce the likelihood of flooding, the risk can never be removed entirely.

Flooding can happen at any time and we advise people to take simple practical steps to help reduce the impact of flooding to their homes or business.

- Check your flood risk by visiting www.gov.uk/check-if-youre-at-risk-of-flooding or calling Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- If you are at risk, sign-up to our free flood warning service
- To make a flood plan for your home or business visit www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood/make-a-flood-plan

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our national customer contact team on 03708 506 506 (landlines are charged the same as a local geographic call but mobiles may vary) or email HStrategy@environment-agency.gov.uk for information about the Comprehensive Review or Humber schemes.

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