

# Working together to manage tidal flood risk

We are developing an ambitious new strategy for managing tidal flood risk on and around the Humber, for the next 100 years.

# We want your views to help us shape the new strategy.

We want to find out more about local attitudes towards flood risk and hear about what matters to people around the Humber. To do this we have launched a survey to find out more about people that live and work around the Humber area and to gather information that will feed into our work on the strategy.

To take part in our survey visit:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HumberStrategySurvey/



#### Flood risk on the Humber

Tidal flood risk is a reality for many people who live and work around the estuary. Much of the area is low-lying, and the effects of flooding from the sea (or from tidal rivers that flow into the estuary) can be devastating for local communities and industries. This risk is only going to increase with climate change and sea level rise. The national importance of the Humber and its vital industries means that tidal flooding on the Humber can, have a far reaching effect beyond the estuary itself – with impacts being felt across the country.

#### Impacts of flooding What's at risk? 20% of the country's Your business or electricity is generated here home could lose this includes renewable power energy Importing and UK's largest port exporting would be complex with 40,000 affected causing shipping movements and widespread disruption more than 70 million to businesses tonnes of cargo per year Two of the UK's six oil Impacts on supply refineries are based around and price of fuel the estuary. Also a third of how would you the UK's coal and a fifth of fill your car? natural gas is imported here Over 120,000ha of The loss of crops due to salt agricultural land, much of water damage could impact which is high grade, providing on the nation's food employment for around industry affecting supply, 18,000 people trade and jobs

#### How do we manage the risk?

Significant investment has been made to improve the area's flood defences, much of this delivered under the current flood risk strategy, however the risk of flooding can never be removed entirely. The most serious tidal surge in recent times was on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 where an estimated 1,100 homes and businesses were flooded despite recent improvement to long lengths of defences

#### The current Humber Strategy 'Planning for the Rising Tides':

- Put in place in **2008** by the Environment Agency to manage tidal flood risk on the Humber
- By 2021 over **£150m** invested in flood defence improvements
- Improvements to standard of protection to over 70,000 properties

#### Looking forward

C Ages

planning for the rising tides

Many things have changed since the original strategy was put in place, such as:



**Climate change** and sea level rise are amongst the most significant challenges we currently face. With the threat of more frequent and severe storms there is an increased risk of tidal surges.

As a result we have been asked to develop a new Humber Strategy to meet the future needs of people, property and the environment around the estuary.

#### Humber 2100+

The new Humber Strategy (Humber 2100+) is being developed by a partnership made up of 12 local authorities from around the Humber, the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Environment Agency, in association with Internal Drainage Boards and Natural England.

The new 100 year strategy will need to be able to adapt to changes and/or opportunities in the future – such as sea level rise and economic factors.



Map showing the strategy area

### How you can get involved

At key decision points we will be holding full consultations to enable you to participate and help shape the future of how we manage tidal flood risk in the area.

In the meantime take part in our survey (details on the front page) or for more information about the work we are doing visit

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/humber/strategyreview

#### Be prepared

With flood events becoming more frequent, it is important for us to work together to ensure that communities and businesses are better prepared for flooding when it

## What you can do:

Visit www.gov.uk/flood to

- Check your flood risk
- Sign up for Free Flood Warnings
- Prepare a personal or business flood plan
- Install property level resilience

