

Humber – keeping you informed

August 2020

This newsletter provides an update on work we are doing to develop a new strategy for managing tidal flood risk on and around the Humber and also lets you know about some key flood schemes/projects going on around the estuary.

Humber 2100+ Strategy

The Environment Agency, 12 Local Authorities around the Humber and the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership are working in partnership with support from the Internal Drainage Boards and Natural England, to produce a new strategy for managing tidal flood risk around the Humber Estuary over the next 100 years. This also includes rivers where tidal flow is the main source of flood risk.

For more information please visit our StoryMap on the Humber 2100+ strategy <https://arcg.is/u1rPi>



Key messages

- We continue to work in partnership to develop a new strategy for managing tidal flood risk on the Humber, to respond to the impacts of climate change.
- Coronavirus has had a significant impact on the Humber 2100+ project and the way that we work. Working capacity and availability of colleagues and partners has reduced. However, work has been continuing on key aspects of the project.
- In February/March 2020 we ran three very successful scenario development workshops with colleagues, partners and key stakeholders. These were very well attended and gave us an opportunity to share information about how tidal flood risk could be managed and discuss and begin to develop different options, which we are calling 'scenarios'.
- Our focus for the past few months has been digesting the outputs of these workshops. This process has taken longer than planned as a result of coronavirus, and an additional step in the scenario development process is being introduced to build on the outputs of the workshops. This will ensure that the resulting scenarios are robust, feasible and sufficiently build in our core principles as a project.
- We are considering how the impact of coronavirus, and the additional step in the scenario development process have affected our overall programme. We do know that there will be a significant delay which will add additional time to the overall project giving us an expected completion date of the second half of 2023.
- Consultation originally planned for autumn 2020 will be postponed until 2021 both due to the programme delay and to ensure that we're able to effectively raise awareness of the consultation, so that people who live and work around the Humber have the opportunity to have their say.

Scenario Development Workshops

We held three very successful workshops in February and March 2020 to engage with colleagues, partners and key stakeholders. These were very well attended and gave us an opportunity to share information about how tidal flood risk could be managed and discuss and begin to develop different options, which we are calling 'scenarios'. A number of interactive sessions took place, where attendees were able to use local knowledge and expertise to create ideas to help us shape draft future scenarios for managing tidal flood risk around the Humber estuary.

The outputs from these workshops, have directly fed into the scenario development work. We will be using the initial scenarios developed at the workshops, alongside the results of the screening process and partnership expertise to produce a set of refined 'hybrid' scenarios. We have also included an additional step in this piece of work to create a more robust shorter list of scenarios to take forward. These events were an important part of the strategy work, engaging with and listening to partners and colleagues' feedback.



Coming Up

Scenario Development – next steps

After considering the outputs of the workshops, we have decided to incorporate an additional step into the scenario development process. To achieve this, the project team are using the initial scenarios and information from the screening process as “building blocks”, to create more refined scenarios. We have also created a new decision making framework which will help us to incorporate the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and our ambitions around decarbonisation of flood risk management on the Humber into our decision making process. This will guide our work to develop a short-list of improved scenarios and we hope to agree these in early 2021.

Public Consultation

Our first Public consultation will look at the scenarios that are being taken forward for full appraisal. This consultation will now take place in spring 2021. We will be working to develop the details of this consultation over the coming months. Further information on how you can give your views will be made available on our Humber 2100+ Information Page - <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/humber/strategyreview>



National FCERM Strategy

On 14th July 2020 the Secretary of State for the Environment, George Eustice, laid the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England in parliament. The Strategy has been developed working with over 90 organisations and there has been an extensive public consultation. The result is a final document with significant support that will result in positive changes to the way flooding and coastal change is managed in England. If you would like to read more please click on the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-management-strategy-for-england--2>

The new Humber Strategy will actively deliver against the themes of the Environment Agency's new National FCERM Strategy. The strategy will support and enable local long-term ambitions for the economy, the environment, and community wellbeing, by

- **ensuring that the Humber area is resilient in the face of climate change**
- **supporting sustainable development and working to facilitate growth which is 'future proof' in the face of sea level rise and tidal flood risk**
- **driving culture change and supporting the development of climate resilient communities around the Humber, alongside investment in flood defences.**

"Climate change is making the UK warmer and wetter, and we will be visited by extreme weather more frequently in the future. So we need to shift gears, to ensure we adapt and become more resilient."

*George Eustice, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy 2020*

Scheme Updates

South Ferriby and Winteringham Ings Sea Defence Improvements

The South Ferriby Flood Alleviation scheme contract was awarded in February 2019, when enabling works started on site. The scheme will reduce the risk of tidal flooding to 150 homes, businesses and the CEMEX plant.

The embankment to South Ferriby village frontage was completed in Nov 2019. Finishing works are taking place now including trimming, top-soiling/grass seeding and Fulsea Drain head wall construction. CEMEX will shortly have provided all of the 140,000 tonnes of material for construction of the western embankments in phase 2.



Bank West of River Ancholme taking shape

Following a short stop and re-start due to the coronavirus outbreak, the embankment construction west of the River Ancholme is progressing under full steam. Works either side of East Drain are progressing well in a relatively small area whilst the workforce are still maintaining social distance working. The main concrete walls will be completed by the end of August, with the cladding, copings, fencing, backfill and garden reinstatement completed by middle of October. Works to replace the East Drain parapet which commenced on Sluice road in June are on programme to be completed by the middle of August.

Construction completion is still expected by March 2021.



Flood wall foundations being cast along East Drain

Donna Nook

Progress has been made with the realignment site, water and accompanying sediments have been able to enter the site following the breach that was undertaken last year. We are already seeing habitats change, as the species develop and adapt to a saline environment. This is the first step in mudflat and saltmarsh development.



Looking toward Pye's Hall over the realignment site

Progress has been made to the outstanding aspects at the Donna Nook Managed Realignment site and Marsh Lane throughout these difficult times, namely the improvements to Marsh Lane and removal of the remaining piles from the breach site.

Unfortunately, because of our short operational window, and with the utility works delays, we will not be able to mobilise and complete these outstanding works onsite this year. However, we remain hopeful that the utility companies will attend to their service diversions along Marsh Lane this year, so that we can commence next year without any further delays.

Skeffling

Over the winter, a section of the embankment at Sunk Island Sands was damaged by storms and had started to erode. Our contractor completed repair works in April / May, installing new rock armour and reinstating the embankment at a number of locations.

We have also carried out additional ecological surveys along with further ground investigations around the terrestrial habitat to inform our design. Construction works are unlikely to happen this year but we are continuing to develop the scheme and are working closely with our key partners in order to deliver the project.

South Humber – developing projects

The Environment Agency is continuing to progress the three priority pipeline projects that are indicatively allocated funding within the 2021-27 Investment Programme namely: Barton to New Holland, Stallingborough 3 and Halton Marshes phase 2. When completed, these projects will deliver better protection to over 6000 properties, existing major industrial sites and significant infrastructure, together with enterprise zones.

Although all these schemes are being developed to deliver the current Humber FRM strategy, they are all embedding the strategic approaches of the new emerging strategy and current legislation.

Consultants and Contractors have been contracted through the Midlands Hub of the Collaborative Delivery Framework. They are providing early supplier input into developing the strategic and outline business cases. Construction works on the three projects is envisaged to run sequentially from 2022 through to 2027.

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.

To find out how you can be better prepared for flooding, check your flood risk and sign up to our free flood warning service, visit www.gov.uk/flood or call Floodline on **0345 988 1188**



Contact us



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



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