



# Humber – keeping you informed

August 2019

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 to let you know about some key flood schemes/projects going on around the estuary.

## New Humber Strategy

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



## Key points

- Since the last newsletter, technical work has been ongoing to develop the three potential strategic approaches which we have identified for managing flood risk (Containing the Tide, Adapting to the Tide and Keeping out the Tide).
- Work has also been ongoing to define how the new Humber Strategy will be developed and set out what form it will take. There will be two main parts to the strategy, with a detailed strategic approach set out for the first time period (around 25 years), and a higher-level 'narrative' approach for the remainder of the strategy up to 2121, setting out how the strategy will adapt to future changes. A managed adaptive approach so we remain flexible for the future remains at the heart of the Strategy.
- We are currently working on a **public survey** for release in autumn 2019, which we will use to gain knowledge and information from members of the public, local businesses and landowners, as well as to raise awareness of tidal flood risk and the work we are doing around the Humber.
- The Environment Agency and other Risk Management Authorities, such as councils, review their programme of capital projects on an annual basis to ensure it aligns with local and government priorities. We are considering all projects currently identified on the Humber so they don't conflict with any future strategic direction and allow us to successfully deliver the new strategy. We are also undertaking a piece of work looking at the integrity of all tidal assets, bringing together all historic data we have, while utilising advances in technology, to give us the best possible evidence base to make future decisions.

## Scheme Updates

These projects have all come out of the existing Humber Strategy, which will see £150m of flood defence improvements delivered by 2021.

### Donna Nook:

Donna Nook is a managed realignment site on the outer south of the Humber Estuary and will create 106ha of new compensatory habitat. The new habitat helps to compensate for habitat being lost through the strategic flood risk management approach known as 'hold the line'. This occurs as sea levels rise but flood defences remain on their current alignment, causing a coastal squeeze effect to the intertidal habitats on the foreshore. The realignment provides many local benefits, including improved tidal defences from Saltfleet to Tetney that protect almost 3000 properties and over 13,000ha of agricultural land and enhancement and creation of 106ha of intertidal habitat and further terrestrial habitats.

Construction is underway onsite. The engineered components of Pye's Hall sluice have been removed from site and the preparatory groundworks for the controlled breach of the existing defences are well underway.

### South Ferriby and Winteringham Ings Sea Defence Improvements:

The tidal surge in December 2013 flooded 129 homes in South Ferriby and 13 homes in Winteringham. It also caused millions of pounds worth of damage to the CEMEX cement factory, the A1077, utilities, local businesses and 1000ha of agricultural land.

The Environment Agency started construction of a £12M flood alleviation scheme in April 2019 to reduce the risk of flooding to 150 properties, infrastructure and land, whilst at the same time benefit the natural environment.

Project completion is planned for March 2021 and will be funded with contributions from North Lincolnshire Council, Defra Growth Fund and funding-in-kind from CEMEX. CEMEX have been stockpiling clay from their quarry at South Ferriby to be used for the embankments. To support the new defences, work has begun on a package of resilience measures that will complement the main scheme.



*South Ferriby flooding (2013)*



*Footprint of embankment stripped of topsoil and stone haul road being installed at South Ferriby*

### Humber Hull Frontage Improvements:

Funding was secured for this £42 million tidal flood defence scheme which will reduce the risk of flooding to 113,000 homes and businesses. The scheme will improve around 7km of tidal defences through the city of Hull.

Construction started in January 2019 at St Andrew's Quay Retail Park, and is now underway at Victoria Dock Village. Work on the scheme will be complete by the end of 2020.



*Graphical interpretation of frontage improvements*

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03708 506 506

incident hotline  
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floodline  
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### **Keadby and the Isle of Axholme :**

We have been working in partnership with Local Authorities and Internal Drainage Boards to develop our plans for the renewal of the Keadby Pumping Station.

The project was informed by the Isle of Axholme Strategy and provides flood risk protection to over 3,100 properties.

Site works commenced in March 2019 and construction works of a new outfall to the River Trent are now substantially under way. Sheet piling is now being installed to the south of the outfall structure in order to enable the construction of new concrete outfall cells.

The works to the outfall are expected to be complete in November 2020.

Works to the pumping station inlet have also started with the first new pumps to be installed early in 2020. All of the work to the pumping station will be complete in summer 2021.



*New outfall works*

### **Skeffling Habitat Compensation and Defence Scheme:**

This is a partnership project with ABP (Associated British Ports) to provide compensatory habitat to replace coastal squeeze and direct losses in the Humber Estuary as required under EU and UK Law (Habitats Regulations). The two planning applications, one for the west scheme and one for the east scheme are with East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Planning determination, by committee, is expected August 2019.

The team is in the process of responding to comments raised during the planning consultation process which is now closed. The aim is to begin pre-construction, such as site clearance, ecological surveys and mitigation/ management etc in 2019, with completion of the scheme in in 2022.

Looking forward...

### **South Humber Initial Assessments:**

The Environment Agency is in the initial stages of determining five projects to reduce the risk of tidal flooding near Barton/New Holland (including west of Barton Haven), Stallingborough, Humberston and Halton Marshes. Final decisions will take account of a number of factors including priority, justification and deliverability. The projects would form part of the Environment Agency's Investment Programme alongside the new Humber Strategy with future works expected to better protect a significant number of residential and commercial properties after 2021.

## **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](http://www.gov.uk/flood) or call Floodline on **0345 988 1188**



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## How you can get involved – Public Survey

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 are launching a survey in September that will help us understand more about people that live and work around the Humber area and feed into our strategy development work. There will also be an opportunity to get more involved next year during a formal public consultation.

Please keep a look out in September via our Facebook and Twitter accounts or visit our information page for more details:



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



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