

Humber – keeping you informed

January 2018

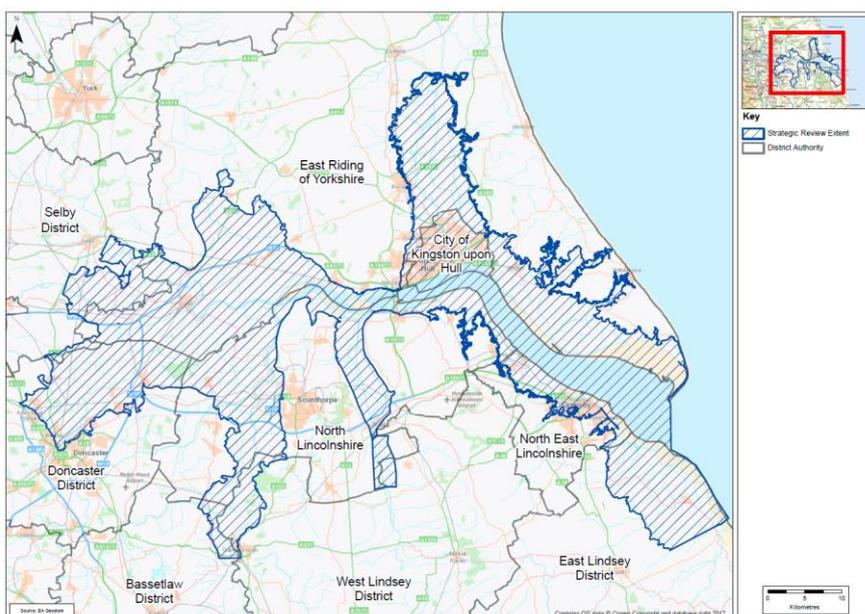
This newsletter provides an update on the Comprehensive Review of the Humber Strategy and on work taking place or planned to help reduce the risk of flooding to people and properties around the Humber Estuary.

Comprehensive Review of the Humber Strategy (The Review)

The Environment Agency and 12 local authorities around the Humber are working together to review how we manage tidal flood risk around the Humber Estuary, including rivers where tidal flow is the main source of tidal flood risk.

The Review considers the economic, social and environmental needs of the Humber Estuary in order to set the long-term strategic approach to managing tidal flood risk, setting the way forward for the next 100 years. This includes identifying future flood investment programmes. We are keen to involve organisations and individuals in this important strategy to manage tidal flood risk around the Estuary. This newsletter will keep you updated on how you can get involved. The aim is to get Defra approval in 2019, following agreement by the local authority partners.

We are currently progressing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the 12 local authorities and aim to sign the agreement by the end of March. We are working together on the approach to all aspects of the Review including modelling, economics, funding, the appraisal process which will provide a short-list of options which we will seek your views on and have just completed a statutory consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.



The Review boundary covers the 12 local authority areas reaching further upstream from the main estuary into Selby, Doncaster, Bassetlaw and West Lindsey, so we are extending the circulation of this newsletter across the new area.

Figure 1: Map showing the boundary for the Comprehensive Review of the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) which includes land below 7m contour.

Introducing the Sustainability Appraisal

This is the first time the Environment Agency has carried out a Sustainability Appraisal for a Flood Risk Management Strategy. A Sustainability Appraisal uses a range of social, economic and environmental criteria to assess the impact of options being considered for the Review. It ensures that sustainability issues are central to decisions made about flood risk in the Humber Estuary and tidal rivers.

We have been working with key organisations to develop the Sustainability Appraisal including assessment criteria and performance of options considered for the Review. We will also use the Sustainability Appraisal analysis to refine the resulting investment programme.

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

Scheme Updates

Skeffling Managed Realignment Scheme: We held a surgery at Welwick Village Hall in December to answer any questions on the scheme about this vitally important but complex project. We are working closely with our partner, Associated British Ports, on key elements of the scheme. This includes looking at the alignment of the footpath, following community feedback and works to Winestead pumping station. The drop-ins we've held so far have helped to shape the scheme and we will hold more events to show our latest plans and listen to feedback before we submit our planning application. We have also reviewed our timetable for the work, and we expect construction works to start, subject to planning approval, in early 2019, with completion expected by the end of 2020.

Humber Hull Frontage Improvements: We have now secured funding for this £42 million tidal flood defence scheme, which will reduce the risk of flooding to 113,000 properties. The scheme will review and improve a 19 km stretch of tidal flood defences in the Humber Estuary, to better protect homes and businesses. Subject to planning approval, work on the scheme will start in the summer and will be complete by 2020.

Water for Wildlife and Farmers: We are currently in Phase 3 of this exciting project in collaboration with the RSPB. Small-scale trials of temporary wetlands are taking place to provide evidence on the effect on soil, water quality and the local environment. The temporary wetlands technique, which is used in the USA and the Netherlands, allows shallow flooding of land for the benefit of farming, biodiversity and flood risk management. We are exploring how this management technique would affect land around the Humber and its future applicability.



South Ferriby & Winteringham Ings Sea Defence Improvements: Planning for the new flood alleviation scheme is continuing, following engagement on the short-list of options over the summer, with the preferred option being developed into an outline design. We have also engaged a contractor and are looking at costings and a programme of work, based on the outline design. Works for the new scheme are planned to start at the end of 2018, once all funding has been secured.

Following erosion of the foreshore, we have also installed a temporary concrete block defence at South Ferriby as a precautionary measure to mitigate the erosion risk.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188
0845 988 1188

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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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