

This newsletter is given to interested parties within the Humber area. It provides an update on the development of a new strategy for managing tidal flood risk around the Humber. If you wish to receive this newsletter or would like further information please contact us at HStrategy@environment-agency.gov.uk

Humber 2100+ Strategy

Climate change is the biggest threat we face on the Humber. If unmanaged, sea level rise and extreme weather could have catastrophic consequences for local communities, the environment, the economy and key infrastructure. The Environment Agency is working in partnership with 11 local authorities, supported by Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) and Natural England to develop **Humber 2100+** - a new strategy for managing tidal flood risk (including tidal rivers), setting the way forward for the next 100 years. For more information, please visit our [StoryMap](#) on the Humber 2100+ strategy <https://arcg.is/u1rPj>



Strategy Update

Recap Previously the project secured approval for further spend to complete Step 1 (Understand Risk), and work began on the final package of evidence for partner endorsement.

The project team have been working incredibly hard through autumn and winter to finalise the Step 1 technical outputs, and to engage with colleagues and partners to prepare the ground for endorsement of these outputs in the New Year. The team have also been working collaboratively to define the implications of the technical outputs. Summary of which is below.

Our work has confirmed that the current risk of tidal flooding around the Humber will increase significantly with sea level rise, and we will no longer be able to manage tidal flood risk in the same way we always have. Flood defences are and will continue to be an important part of how we manage risk, but as tidal flood risk increases, we will need to identify other approaches to help us manage that risk in a more sustainable way. An adaptive approach to managing tidal risk will be key to allow us to flex and respond to future challenges, and we will need to develop this in partnership, given the interconnectedness of the estuary system.

The final outputs will be presented to partners in January, for consideration ahead of formal endorsement at a Programme Board meeting in March. We will also be working with partners to develop plans and materials to communicate the findings from Step 1 following the local elections.

Work is ongoing to finalise the scope for the design phase of the Humber Adaptation Pathways project (HAP). The team are planning to prioritise a piece of work to explore governance models for adaptation pathways. This will be complemented with a method and approach for developing an adaptation pathway on the Humber, and a digital tool to support decision making.

Scheme Updates

Outstrays to Skeffling Managed Realignment (OtSMRS)

For further information visit: [Outstrays to Skeffling Managed Realignment Scheme - Citizen Space](#) or get in touch with the team: Welwick.Skeffling@environment-agency.gov.uk.

The work for the 2024 season is complete. The contractors are no longer on-site but they are ensuring that all cabins and site compound items remain secure throughout the winter period. It has been encouraging to see the new amenities, in particular the bridleway and the bird hides, being used by the public. Bird watchers who have come to the site, have observed many of the birds the site intends to attract and even hen harriers, which attracted visitors from much further afield to the site to view them from the bird hides.

Since breaching the defences there has been some natural erosion, however, the tide doesn't yet fully evacuate the site at low tide. There are plans to carry out further work in the breach area to ensure this area can develop a truly intertidal ecosystem. The approvals and licences required for these works are currently in progress to be ready for spring.

Works this year at Skeffling Pumping Station (SPS) have seen the completion of the piling and the access and drainage ditch crossing. By the end of 2025 the project team aim to complete the construction works and begin commissioning SPS, with demolition of the old pumping station expected in 2026. Winstead Pumping station has received planning approval. With much of the earthworks completed before the end of this working season, work can move forward in the 2025 season.

Middle Humber – Capital Maintenance Programme (MH-CaMP)

The previous update was as follows: The MH-CaMP will help inform and direct the current FCRM capital programme for the Goole and River Ouse area and help manage any future investment and funding ahead of completion of the Humber 2100+ Strategy. Proposed work on the Middle Humber programme will start with an initial 'bundle' of 3 work packages, located on the left-bank of the Dutch River upstream of Goole and either side of the River Ouse at Reedness and Yokefleet^[HT1]. The business case was approved in July and the project team are now progressing the scoping and contractual negotiations to allow us to progress the first bundle of works.

Beckingham Marshes

No new update, however, the project team are continuing to develop the business case, which, is aimed at reviewing, repairing, or potentially replacing a dewatering structure that is coming to the end of its life and compliance with reservoir act. Investigation works and analysis are ongoing and supporting the funding allocation.

Barton - New Holland Tidal Flood Alleviation Scheme

For further information visit - [Barton to New Holland Flood Alleviation Scheme](#)

The project team has continued to work hard to develop the project appraisal and draft a robust Business Case, which is expected to be submitted in January, with a recommendation by March 2025. Small crest raising and improving the Humber flood embankment's resilience remains the main approach. However, some repairs to Barrow Haven defences and other small resilience works are now included. The cost for this complex project is £37M and the project team are keen to ensure an adaptable strategic approach is maintained. The project team continues to explore options to reduce costs to an achievable level and secure funding. It is envisaged that the RFCC will be approached to consider using Local Levy funds.

Further details of the outline design and business case have been shared with both the project's Steering Group and Resilience Advisory Group as part of ongoing engagement with community representatives. Further engagement is ongoing with Natural England and North Lincolnshire Council regarding the significant ecological and planning constraints/funding respectively.

The Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) ecology surveys continue, and the second phase of ground investigations are expected over the winter months.



View of Barton-upon-Humber estuary frontage looking west

Stallingborough Phase 3 sea Defence Improvements

3km of strengthening the revetment (picture below) and the southern 1.5km toe protection and revetment repair is complete, reducing the risk of overtopping and breaching during the winter. The upstream outfall improvements at Mawmbridge and Middle Drains are also complete. The additional access ramp improvements required at the northern end are expected to be constructed in early 2025.

The channel desilting works along Oldfleet Drain (picture below) is now complete, collaborating with North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board. However, once the Marine Licence has been issued, the desilting of the foreshore is expected in Spring 2025, alongside the remaining improvements works.



Section 1 rock armour installation



Oldfleet Drain desilting

At New Cut Drain outfall, the proposed access track is hampered by major sewer pipes and contaminated ground. An agreement has been reached for a new route with the landowners Anglian Water, but a planning amendment is required. The remainder of works and outfall improvements will be completed throughout 2025 working season.

A stakeholder engagement event took place on 10th September. All regulatory and partner organisations attended, together with local Councillors and Parish representatives. In addition, the funding contribution with National Highways is progressing, completion expected before spring. The project is expected to complete this vital coastal flood defence by late summer 2025.

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Donna Nook Managed Realignment Site (MRS)

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust have recently been appointed Site Manager following a successful tender. The Site manager is currently planning the environmental/ecological monitoring surveys under the Donna Nook Monitoring and Management Strategy and is assessing the management required to attract target species. The formal tidal defences will continue to be inspected and maintained by the Environment Agency.

Working in Partnership



Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Addendum consultation

We are launching a consultation on our Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Addendum.

To ensure that sustainability is central to the Humber 2100+ strategy, we are undertaking a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) that will inform and underpin its development. The SA will consider environmental, social and economic factors, informing future decision-making and leading to more sustainable outcomes. We consulted on a scoping report in 2018. After collating and analysing the responses, this report was refined to produce an amended SA scoping report in 2020.

As our approach to H2100+ has since developed, we have updated the scoping baseline through an addendum. This addendum updates the scoping baseline in the original report, describing how it could be affected by different tidal flood risk baseline scenarios over time. The addendum also updates the SA assessment framework. We are nearing the end of step 1 and the outputs from this step include modelled flood risk baseline scenarios which provide a strategic scale picture of how tidal flood risk could change over time (25, 50 and 100 years into the future). The SA scoping report addendum uses these baselines to describe, through a series of 'consequence narratives', how the tidal flood risk could affect environmental, social and economic factors across the strategy area.

Targeted at key stakeholder groups, the consultation will run from January 22nd to March 5th 2025. We are seeking views on whether:

- the narratives adequately describe the impact of tidal flood risk
- there are gaps in baseline information
- the strategic issues or future trends have been correctly identified

How resilient are you?

Are you prepared for future floods?

Although defences reduce the likelihood of flooding, the risk can never be removed entirely. To begin to be more resilient take some simple practical steps to help reduce the impact of flooding to your home or business.

To find out if you are at risk, how to prepare, stay safe and sign up (free) for flood warnings visit www.gov.uk/flood or call Floodline on **0345 988 1188**.



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

See our previous newsletters [here](#)



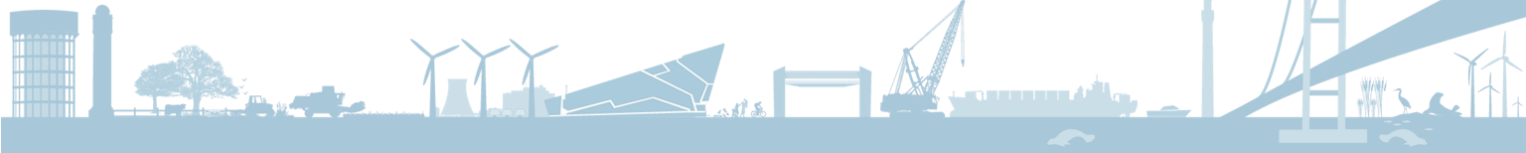
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