



**Coast-R
Network**

Overview of the ReCCS & Coast-R Network

ukcoastalresilience.org



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Prof. Briony McDonagh

UK national lead for the Coast-R Network
Professor of Environmental Humanities
University of Hull

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Prof Briony McDonagh

- Human geographer and environmental historian with longstanding interests in coastal and estuarine places
- Working on community-engaged & participatory projects for water & climate action
- Our experience delivering Risky Cities and related Humber-focused projects shaped our enthusiasm for & willingness to lead the Coast-R Network!



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Risky Cities: Living with Water in an Uncertain Future Climate



- 3 year UKRI-funded project & part of the UK Climate Resilience Programme (2020-2023).
- Examining Hull's long history of living with water and flood ...
- And using these learning histories to engage communities in building flood resilience today and for the future ...
- Via large-scale public arts (FloodLights 2021), site-specific theatre (COP26) and a creative community engagement programme (workshops, creative writing, visual arts, textiles, music, digital media, touring exhibitions).



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So what is the ReCCS Programme?

- The Resilient UK Coastal Communities and Seas programme (2024-29) is a £14.8M investment consisting of a Network Plus and 4 research grants.
- Programme aims:
 - Build a transdisciplinary, whole systems understanding of UK coastal seas, coastal communities and coastal natural capital.
 - Support collaboration with stakeholders to build understanding and enable transformative decision-making.
 - Enhance community knowledge mobilisation and improve resilience in the management of UK coastal areas and seas.




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4 ReCCS projects

- **Transitions in Energy for Coastal communities over Time and Space (TRANSECTS)**
 - Karen Alexander, Heriot-Watt University
- **Advancing Resilience and Innovation for a Sustainable Environment (ARISE)**
 - Gina Reinhardt, University of Essex
- **Resilience of the Anthropocene coasts and communities: assessing and responding to urban and post-industrial coastal risks (RACC)**
 - Kate Spencer, Queen Mary University of London
- **Transformative Research Actions for Resilient Coastal Communities (TRACC)**
 - Tim Acott (Co-Lead), University of Greenwich
 - Jasper Kenter (Co-Lead), Aberystwyth University




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Coastal Communities & Seas Together for Resilience (aka Coast-R Network)

- An inclusive and collaborative community of practice working to build knowledge, action and resilience for UK coastal communities and seas.
- Join up via ukcoastalresilience.org or email COASTR@hull.ac.uk




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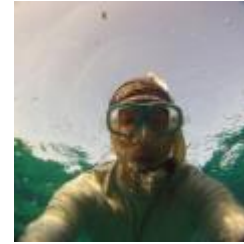




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Who we are

- A growing network anyone can join!
- Supported by 15 P-CLs from 6 UK universities
- Plus 25+ coastal, marine, government and voluntary sector founding partners



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Coast-R aims

1. Champion and coordinate research and knowledge exchange across and beyond the ReCCS Programme
2. Develop and support transdisciplinary research capacity around coastal and marine resilience, including via the Flexible Fund
3. Scale and embed effective place-based interventions into policy, practice and knowledge mobilisation



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Our objectives

1. **Sharing learnings and good practice** across sectors and disciplines so as to build UK coastal and marine resilience.
2. **Co-designing and hosting events, training and mentoring** to improve partnership working and nurture the next generation of resilience champions.
3. Working in partnership with coastal communities and partners **to identify and respond to priority needs using our Flexible Fund.**
4. **Collating key insights, case studies and resources** through our website, policy briefs, foresight documents, conferences and practitioner events.
5. **Building ongoing practitioner and community-led evaluation** and reflection on the activities of the Network+ and funded projects, and thereby shape future learning, legacy and funding opportunities.



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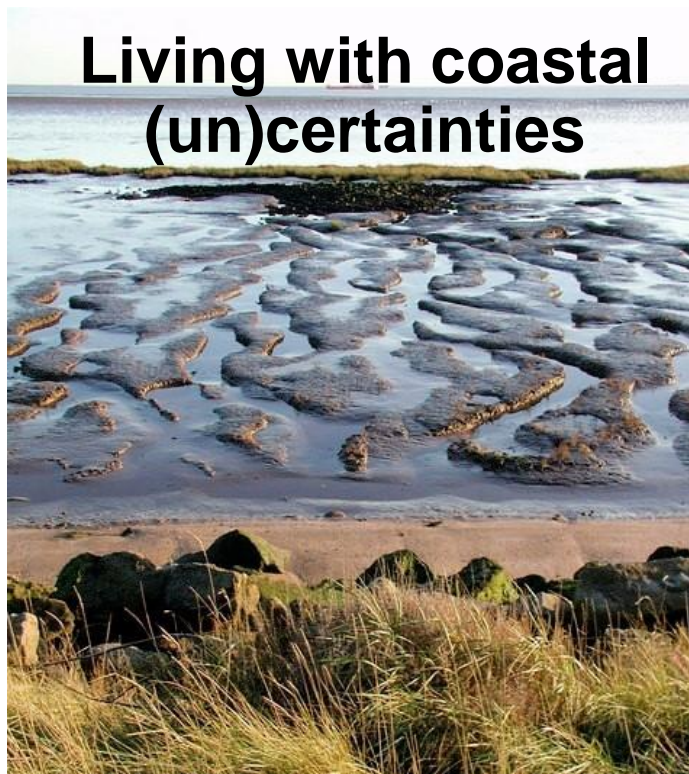
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Our cross-cutting themes

**People, places
and participation**



**Living with coastal
(un)certainties**



**Working together
at interfaces**




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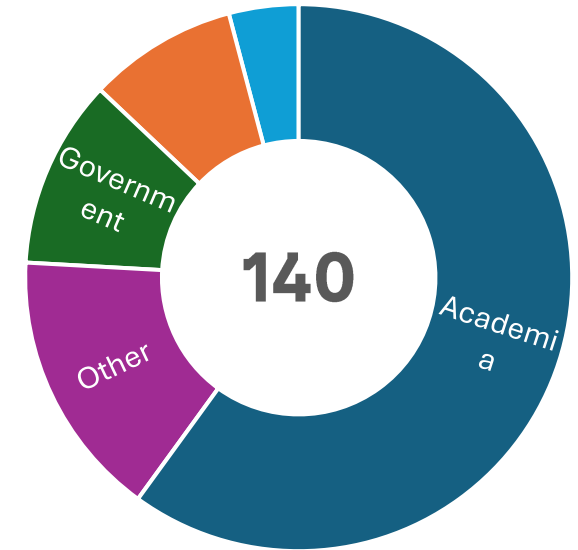


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Coast-R launch & Y1 event

- Programme launched at University of Hull 6th November 2024
- Attended by 140+ people from a range of sectors including universities, government and industry.
- Programme included a welcome from Emma Hardy MP and an overview of the ReCCS programme and Coast-R Network, as well as a round table discussion featuring colleagues from a range of coastal and marine organisations.

Participants by sector



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Next steps

- Regular newsletter now launched
- New webinar series – 14th May. Sign up via website
- Round 1 of Flexible Fund launches – mid 2025
- Y2 programme event in 11-12th Sept 2025 at University of Glasgow
- Ongoing training, workshops & events



<https://www.ukcoastalresilience.org/events>
to sign up for events & news



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Defra/EA Flood and Coastal Innovation (FCRIP) Projects

- **Changing Coasts East Riding** (lead: ERYC) – Delivering a programme of community-based research to co-create a better transition in areas of rapid coastal erosion. Inc. building new training opportunities for coastal transition (CPD and MSc courses)
- **SuDSlab** – collecting real-time data to evaluate Sustainable Drainage Systems with Doncaster, Immingham and Grimsby Surface Water Resilience Project and with *Living With Water* in Hull and East Riding





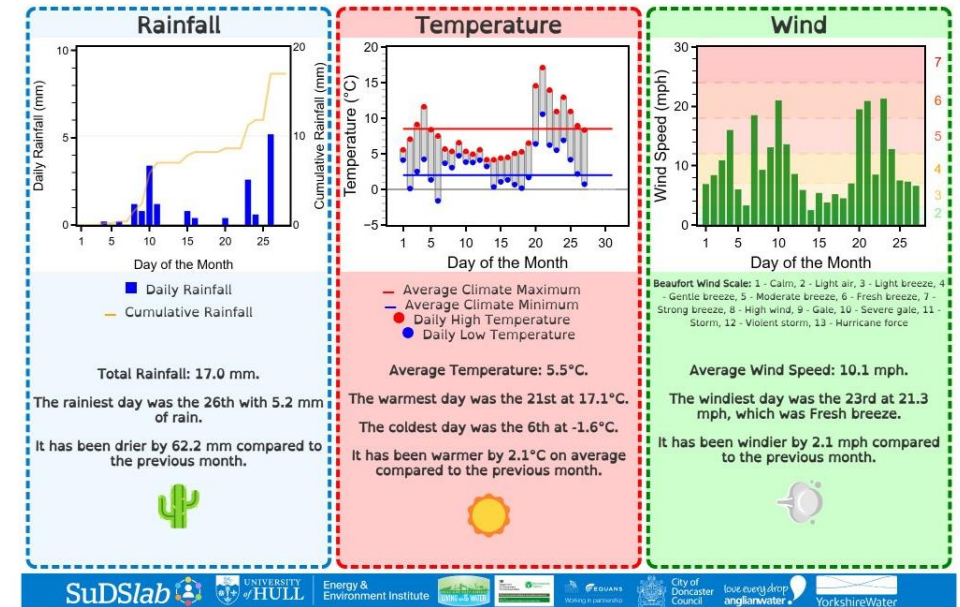
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Related research projects

- **Water Data For People** – sharing real-time, hyper-local weather and hydrological data with local communities to communicate water issues and climate change. Uses a combination of science-led and participatory approaches, drawing on our work on Risky Cities.

Western Primary

February 2025 - Weather Station Report



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Related Humber research projects



Coastal defence ecological enhancements – Sue Hull (with YMNP)



Microplastic deposition and transport within the Humber - Julie Hope (IMMERSE funded)



Rodney Forster's work on reestablishing the Oyster fishery within the Humber



Greg Vasilopoulos's work to monitor water quality in the Humber using a distributed sensor array (IMMERSE funded)



University representation on the Humber 2100+ stakeholder forum and in the Living with Water Partnership



Community Waterscapes explores watery heritage in Hull & surrounding areas (PI: Katerina Velentza)



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Humber PhD projects

- Coastal adaptation in Hornsea & Venice – Petra Codato
- Drainage heritage in Hull & Goole – Emily Ingram
- Gender & environmental stewardship in Hull & Grimsby – Lucy Brooke
- Blue carbon capture in Humber saltmarshes – Charlie Trotman
- Blue carbon capture in managed realignment sites – Ellie Burrell
- NE coastal bird project - Wesley Shemmings-Payne
- Volunteering, ocean literacy & coastal defences – Helen Fletcher



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**Coast-R
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Get involved !

- Sign up for the mailing list for our newsletters, events and webinars (coastr@hull.ac.uk)
- Voluntary/Community/Third Sector - Apply to join our Strategic Advisory Board by 4pm 16th May
- Apply for Flexible Funding to support small projects (mid 2025 launch)
- Apply for funding to run training workshops (mid 2025 launch)
- Share a case study on our digital engagement platform ukcoastalresilience.org
- Contribute to one of our community, practitioner or policy workshops
- Email EEI@hull.ac.uk about related projects and PhDs.



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