

Newsletter

Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme

Reducing tidal flood risk to 1,800 properties



Welcome



This newsletter is to keep you up to date with our progress as we continue to construct the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme. Team Van Oord is the design and build contractor for this Environment Agency and East Devon District Council project.

When it is finished 1,400 homes and 400 businesses in the town will be better protected from tidal flood risk. The scheme includes new flood walls, ground raising, flood gates and property flood resilience measures along the sea front and estuary.

The £12 million tidal defences will reduce tidal flood risk from the current 4 per cent chance of happening in any one year (also known as 1 in 25 year flood event) to a 0.5 per cent chance of happening in any one year (1 in 200 year flood event).

Design of the scheme takes into account the impacts of climate change and sea level risk and also enables improvements in the future if needed.

Environment Agency

The construction of the new flood defences have been progressing well, and it's great to see the improvements to Exmouth. We'd again like to thank local residents and businesses for their patience and understanding while we undertake this critical work. As outlined in this newsletter we have a plan to complete these works, however it's clear that this will be disrupted by COVID-19. We are following Government guidance and working closely with our supply chain taking all necessary precautions. As the situation develops we'll provide further updates regarding the project.

If you want to find out more about the whole project take a look at the Environment Agency's information page: (link—top right)

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/dcis/exmouth-tidal-defence-scheme-1>

School Engagement

Sixty Year 4 students from Marpool Primary School visited Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme as part of their "Rivers" topic. Jayne Johnson, Kier's public liaison officer, gave the students a brief introduction to the scheme explaining all the different tidal defence solutions which are being constructed to protect Exmouth's residents and businesses.

In our last newsletter we announced the winner of our Exeter Road Primary School drawing competition. Maisie's drawing (featured bottom left) has been transformed in to a site safety banner and can be seen displayed outside our site offices in Royal Avenue car park.



Marpool Primary School visit



Home safe, every night.....



Planning Update

Listed Building Consent for the works on the Smeaton wall was approved by EDDC on the 6 January 2020, further details can be found here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PYR816GHIK500&activeTab=summary>

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 18/2174/MOUT to allow changes to design, layout and materials of defences was submitted on the 14 January 2020 and is awaiting decision, further details can be found here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=Q3JJ9JGHRP00&activeTab=summary>

The outstanding proposals for Alexandra Terrace Junction, which were omitted from the original deferred matters application, are being finalised and plans will be submitted to EDDC for public consultation via the planning portal in April 2020.

Estuary Side

Installation of the defence wall along the estuary side are almost complete. We have now installed all the foundations and will be placing the precast wall units in April 2020. These works will take place from opposite the sports centre to the recreation ground. The wall is 300mm wide and the height will vary from 0-1.2m depending on the existing ground level. Traffic lights will be in operation for some of the works in this area.

The ground raising works adjacent to the boatyard also started in early February 2020. To carry out these works it has been necessary to close a section of the Estuary trail until late spring 2020. We apologise for the delay in reopening this footpath.

In April 2020 we will start to realign Royal Avenue, and reinstate areas alongside the tidal defences which include a new footpath.

Camperdown Creek

In February 2020 we started on the enabling works for the gate installation in the Camperdown Creek and the Exe Sailing Club entrance. The gates will be installed at a later date once they have been fabricated.

Subject to weather, we hope to complete the raised earth tie-in works and reinstate the area to open up access from Camperdown car park to the recreation ground and open the children's play area in late Spring (subject to COVID-19 restrictions). Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience these temporary closures have caused.

Rockfish

Unfortunately the Rockfish Restaurant on Exmouth Seafront was "battered" on the 13 February as a result of high tides and Storm Ciara. Kier's workforce were able to react quickly to the situation to help out with placing sand bags and fixing ply over the broken windows.

Kier's workforce received a well earned breakfast of fish & chips and a cuppa!

The Esplanade

The area from The Grove Pub, including Morton Crescent, Alexandra Terrace Junction, past the Clock Tower up to the Premier Inn is a hive of activity with construction of new defences and enabling works for flood gates alongside this part of The Esplanade.

This work will include a combination of highway and pedestrian flood gates, various flood walls, new drainage, Smeaton Wall strengthening, and landscaping. There are several different locations of work, but we are trying to minimise disruption with our road closure and ensuring pedestrian access is possible throughout construction.

After the summer embargo (school holiday period) we plan to commence the reconfiguration of Alexandra Terrace Junction along with all construction works associated with the gates in the highway at this location, the Grove, Premier Inn and Alston Terrace. We will also be working on the remainder of the road drainage. These works will also be done under a road closure or traffic light control.

All businesses will be open during the works, however car parking along The Esplanade may be reduced at times.



Rockfish takes a battering during storm Ciara

Considerate Constructors

As a site we are registered with the Considerate Constructors Scheme. The scheme monitor visits the site on regular intervals during construction and record their results. The key items that are looked at are:

- Care about **Appearance**
- Respect for the **Community**
- Protect the **Environment**
- Secure everyone's **Safety**
- Value of the **Workforce**.

We have just had our second visit and had a score of **44/50** which is great and we have received a Certificate of Excellence for it.



For this newsletter we are putting the spotlight on protection of the environment:

Reducing Carbon Impact

Construction does produce a carbon footprint – we aim to minimise this as far as practicable, examples on this scheme are:

- Precast concrete units used along Royal Avenue and Morton Crescent minimise carbon because they are manufactured in factory conditions where waste concrete is minimised. Multiple units come on one truck from the plant in comparison to site formed concrete where multiple concrete movements for the same amount of panels
- All timber used on the project are FSC or similar i.e. they are sustainably sourced
- The Hardwood timber used to clad the sheet piles is recycled – it came from Holland where its previous use was as timber piles on the edge of dykes.

Spotlight on the Environment



Pollution Prevention

To help protect our environment and reduce pollution we take the following measures:

- All machines use bio degradable oil
- Any refuelling of machine is done away from any watercourse
- All stationary plant or equipment will be placed on a 'Plant Nappy' an absorbent pad that will collect any drips from the machine
- We have training of what to do if there is a spillage of fuel or other harmful substance and have a 'Spill Kit' with all machines and vans – absorbent materials and containment devices.
- Dust – we minimise this by wet cutting – this both protects the environment and our workforce.

Zero Waste Target

When we build new schemes waste will be produced, we make every effort to minimise this waste:

- As a company we are always looking for ways to reduce, reuse and recycle
- To date **93%** of all the waste products produced from the site have been reused or recycled. That is about 900m3 that hasn't gone to landfill – so far
- The majority of the muck that is removed from site will go to a depot where it is recycled and then reused on another job
- All the waste from our general waste skips go to a recycling centre
- Shuttering plywood is re-used several times before recycling.

Protection of Habitats and resources

We are working in a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) amongst other designations and we have strict procedures so as not to cause any damage.

- We adhere to working restrictions so as not to disturb overwintering birds and also use best practice to reduce noise, no radios and no loud shouting
- The Eel grass/sea grass on the shore along Royal avenue is protected and we are not allowed to travel over it with any machines and access to our work area are restricted by foot to the smallest footprint
- Where possible in either the design or as the site progresses opportunities for habitat creation are always looked at. This may be as simple as leaving some of the tree clearance material for bug habitat; or the forming of small tidal niches as we have done on the revetment
- When our works come near to trees, those with or without tree protection orders, we always follow procedures – we protect the trees – both above and below ground. On this project we have a visiting Arboriculturist who visits regularly to check the condition of all the trees in the works area.

Noise & Vibration

Construction inevitably brings additional noise but we try to minimise the impact, some examples are:

- Keeping machinery in good working order
- Keeping machines and generators only running when they need to be and providing screening and noise muffling where possible
- Rubber tracked machinery – less noise on the road and less vibration
- Low vibration methods for piling works
- Acoustic barriers are used to reduce disturbance.

Key programme dates

April 2020

Work continues on secondary defences and associated drainage on the north side of The Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn.

Work continues on the defence wall, raising of the Estuary View car park at Royal Avenue and works to raise the Exe Estuary Trail adjacent to the boatyard.

Groundworks continue for Floodgate installation in Camperdown Area.

Summer 2020

Installation of pedestrian flood gates and gates in Camperdown area.

Autumn 2020

Commencement of work on Alexandra Terrace Junction reconfiguration and groundworks associated with gate installation at this location, the Esplanade at Premier Inn, The Grove and Alston Terrace. Completion of road drainage works.

Early 2021

Completion of landscaping works.

Installation of main gates across highways.

Commissioning of gates.

Scheme completion 2021.

Careers in Construction

Kier is keen to attract new talent to the construction industry in its new initiative 'Shaping your world'.

Take a virtual tour here:

<https://shapingyourworld.co.uk/>

Further information on careers in construction can be found here:

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/careers-construction-things-need-know/>

<https://www.goconstruct.org/learn-about-construction/>

<https://www.stem.org.uk/>



Traffic management

We are making every effort to minimise our impact on residents and visitors to Exmouth while we work on the tidal defences. There is an ongoing need to manage traffic to facilitate safe working areas and protect the public from harm.

The following restrictions will be in place:

Royal Avenue (Duck Pond) area

- Triangular section of Imperial Recreation Ground long stay car park closed until Summer 2020
- Lorry park at north end of Royal Avenue closed, access for construction traffic and MS Marine only during works
- Exe Estuary Trail (East Devon Way) between Carter Avenue and Royal Avenue car park remains closed until summer 2020

The Esplanade

- There will be continuing road closures and traffic management along The Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn until Summer 2020, these will recommence in Autumn 2020 through to Spring 2021



Camperdown Creek

- Restricted access to Camperdown car park and children's play area. We are aiming to have the children's play area open again by late spring (subject to COVID-19 restrictions). Alternative play areas are at: King Georges Field EX8 3EF, Phear Park EX8 1TJ and Queens Drive Space EX8 2AY

Kier are here!

Our Kier site office and compound is on the lorry park at the north (far) end of the Royal Avenue car park, Exmouth EX8 1EN.



MS Marine boatyard is open to business as usual.

Site safety

Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme is registered with the Considerate Constructor Scheme.



We would like to introduce you to Ivor and Honor Goodsite. You can visit their website and learn about

construction site safety, there is an educational interactive kidszone area.

<https://www.ivorgoodsite.org.uk/kidszone/>

We welcome your comments

Your comments and feedback are important to us. We have a post box on our Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme display boards at Imperial Road short stay car park or you can contact our public liaison officer as detailed below:

Jayne Johnson is the public liaison officer (PLO) for the construction phase of the scheme



Email: exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk

Mobile : 07716 223056

<https://m.facebook.com/Exmouth-Tidal-Defence-Scheme-311737652832611/>

