

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.

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



Environment Agency

"Spring is here, and construction of Exmouth's new flood defences continues at pace.

The last year has been a bit of a whirlwind, but we've weathered the storm and are looking forward to finishing the new defences later this year.

Our site team are working hard under difficult circumstances, so please support them as they help us protect Exmouth from the sea.

We in turn will do our best to limit any disruption caused by the works as the weather improves and the town becomes busier.

We have a lot of work planned in the coming months, particularly along the seafront. We hope that the majority of these works will be completed ahead of the summer holidays. If you have any questions about the programme of works (page 2) or the scheme in general, please get in touch."

Rob Butler, Environment Agency Project Manager

Flood Gates

Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme includes flood gates. These specially made gates will spend most of their lives open, but will need to be closed when floods threaten, to reduce the risk to local homes and businesses. They can be opened to enable normal pedestrian and vehicle access through the line of the defence, when the flood risk has passed.

Some of the bigger gates that we are building, such as those that cross roads and slipways, will be operated by our project partner East Devon District Council. However, there are a lot of gates being built as part of the scheme and more operatives are needed. As such, the Environment Agency is currently engaging with affected residents and businesses, in collaboration with Exmouth Town Council and East Devon District Council, to grow Exmouth's team of community flood gate volunteers. Over 15 volunteers have come forward from affected locations, including staff from the Imperial Hotel.

"It is a real pleasure to help the community in any way we can. Exmouth is a beautiful place, very popular for tourism and visitors. The town has always been supportive with our hotel and tourism. And we feel being part of this programme is a very good way to help the town and promote teamwork."

(Pedro Anzules-Martinez, Imperial Exmouth General Manager).

The Environment Agency's next step is to create a bespoke alerting system, to advise flood gate volunteers when the gates need to be closed (and can be reopened).

Community closed gates can offer more flexibility and can be opened sooner once the all clear is given. Our local experience at Lympstone, Starcross, Cockwood, Shaldon and Teignmouth has taught us that tidal flood gates can work better when they are operated by a community flood group, rather than individuals on their own. There is safety and resilience in numbers.

For more information contact:

dc.flood@environment-agency.gov.uk

Or visit our flood warning website:

<https://floodsdestroy.campaign.gov.uk/> or call our Floodline on 0345 988 1188.

Landscaping Works

Unfortunately the pandemic has meant procuring the landscaping items we need is proving problematic, stock of trees and ornamental plants have both been affected. As a result we are disappointed to advise we will now have to come back at the end of the year to complete the landscaping works in the vicinity of the clock tower and along Royal Avenue.

In November - December 2021 semi-mature trees will be planted along Royal Avenue.

Tree selection has been informed by the following:

- Consultation with EDDC Tree Officer to agree final species list
- Appearance of trees to maintain avenue appearance in Area A
- Mixture of trees to reduce risk of tree failure from disease
- Salt and wind tolerant species suitable for the exposed location
- Local knowledge of tree planting in Exmouth.

Key programme dates

April 2021

Phase 2 Esplanade road closure—After Easter the closure will be moved to the east side of Alexandra Terrace Junction to complete the works between the Junction and the Premier Inn.

A section of Alston Terrace adjacent to the Grove Pub will be closed for 4-6 weeks.

Opening of the lower walkway at Mamhead slipway.

July 2021

Installation of flood gates and completion of works in the highway and removal of road closure before school holiday period.

Opening of Estuary View car park.

August 2021

Removal of site offices & stores at Royal Avenue Lorry Park.

November 2021

Landscaping works at the Imperial Hotel and Clock Tower and Estuaryside adjacent to Royal Avenue, including planting of trees along Royal Avenue.

Scheme completion December 2021.

Traffic management

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

The following restrictions will be in place:

The Esplanade

- The section of the Esplanade road—between Alexandra Terrace Junction and the Premier Inn will be closed to vehicles from Easter to July 2021
- Short duration closures will be required in July to commission each gate in the highway



Royal Avenue (Duck Pond) area

- Triangular section of Imperial Recreation Ground long stay car park closed to July 2021
- Lorry park at north end of Royal Avenue closed, access for construction traffic and MS Marine only during works

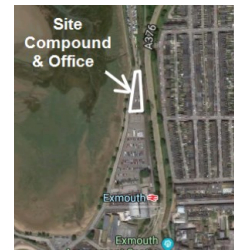
All Businesses will remain open as usual.

The Exe Estuary Trail is now fully open:



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. Due to Covid we will only be accepting visitors in case of emergency or by appointment



where there is no alternative available.

MS Marine boatyard is open for 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 here:

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

We welcome your comments

Your comments and feedback are important to us. We have post boxes on our Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme display boards at Imperial Road short stay car park and Mamhead Slipway, or you can contact our public liaison officer.

For further information about the Exmouth Tidal Defence construction works please contact the public liaison officer (PLO)

Email: exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk

Mobile : 07716 223056

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

