



# 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.

### School Visit

Kate Pearson from the Environment Agency and Jayne Johnson from Kier ran workshops with years 5 and 6 at Exeter Road Community Primary School. We did this to help children learn about the dangers associated with flooding, as well as the potential hazards during the construction of the Scheme. We also shared tips on how to stay safe in or near construction sites and during floods. Great fun was had by all.

Kier sponsored a drawing competition to check the children understood our safety messages and the winner was Year 5 pupil Maisie Williams—imagine Maisie's face when she sees her drawing here and on our signs around Exmouth!

### Environment Agency

We'd like to thank the residents and others for their patience while we undertake these essential works. We recognise that it has been inconvenient and at times noisy. The scheme has been developed in consultation with the local community and our partner EDDC, and we are pleased to be able to incorporate many additional benefits for Exmouth, such as environmental improvements, new amenity and landscaping spaces and also enhance existing historical features.

If you want to find out more about the whole project take a look at the Environment Agency's information page:

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



Exeter Road CP School drawing competition winner—Maisie Williams Year 5

## Planning Update

Planning permission for the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme was granted by East Devon District Council on 17 January 2019.

Two specific areas of the project, Morton Crescent and Alexandra Terrace Junction, received outline planning while the details were being worked up.

The detailed planning application for Morton Crescent was approved (with conditions) on 11 June 2019.

The deferred matters planning application for Alexandra Terrace Junction was approved (with conditions) on the 27 August 2019.

Details of the deferred matters planning applications can be found on the Council's planning portal here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?>

## Estuary Side

We have completed spray concrete repairs to the revetment along the river edge next to Royal Avenue.

Installation of precast concrete units along the estuary side will restart in 2020 to minimise disturbance to migrating birds. This will be 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.

Final design for the ground raising works adjacent to the boatyard has taken longer than planned. This means we have extended the closure of the Estuary trail from the railway crossing to Royal Avenue until spring 2020. We apologise for the delay in reopening this footpath.

In the new year we will start to realign Royal Avenue and reinstate areas alongside the tidal defences.

## Camperdown Creek

We have finished removing and replacing new gabion baskets. These large metal baskets filled with stone are fixed into place to protect the creek from wave damage.

Sheet piles clad with recycled hardwood timber have now been installed from the Sea Cadets building towards the estuary. These defences reduce tidal flooding risk in the Camperdown area of Exmouth.

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 before Christmas. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience these temporary closures have caused.

In early 2020 we will commence with enabling works for gate installation in the Camperdown Creek, the alleyway leading to Rowsell Sails and the Exe Sailing Club entrance.

## The Esplanade

We have completed the topping up of rock armour between Mamhead Slipway and The Grove Pub.

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 preparation for new defences and 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, rock armour installation 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.



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



Topping up of rock armour—Esplanade Exmouth



## Careers in Construction - Meet the Team



Kier is keen to attract new talent to the construction industry in its new initiative 'Shaping your world'. There are so many different roles with great scope, diversity and opportunities to progress. We asked some of the team working on the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme to tell us about five of their tasks in a typical day in construction.

Take a virtual tour here:

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

### Jess Dunston Environmental Project Manager



- Manages the environmental and sustainability aspects of scheme design on behalf of the client, ensuring we are compliant with legislation, policy and strategy
- Champions biodiversity, landscape and heritage input to scheme design to ensure environmental risks are managed appropriately
- Identifies opportunities to integrate environmental enhancements into scheme design
- Provides technical guidance on specific issues relating to environmental assessment
- Quality assures environmental reports and products

### Jayne Johnson Public Liaison Officer and Planner



- Maintenance and review of the Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan
- Arranging meetings with the public, residents, businesses and stakeholders, and promoting the scheme
- Communicating information to the public via newsletters, school visits, Facebook, letter drops / emails and site meetings.
- Tracking public issues and ensuring they are resolved in a timely manner
- Updating and monitoring the construction programme

### Kate Pearson Flood Resilience Advisor



- Talking to customers about the dangers and impacts of flooding, so people know why it's important to be prepared
- Helping people understand what actions they can take to stay safe and minimise damage. Would you know [What The Flood To Do?](#)
- Supporting the development of new community flood groups and community networks
- Raising awareness of flood resilience by working with local councils, media, leisure centres, libraries, emergency services, schools and charities
- Training others

### Jane Lewis Compliance Manager



- Receiving, Logging and distributing drawings to ensure the latest revision is being used on site.
- Compliance checks against standard company documentation – checks on quality of workmanship.
- Log hazard spots and tabulate to discover any trends
- Gathering site information/records for reports to Kier and the Client
- Sourcing suitable training as required for site staff and operatives

### Laura Covington Environment Consultant



- Monitoring construction works to ensure they are not disturbing the important bird species
- Preparing a report to allow specific works to go ahead whilst protecting important habitats
- Reviewing design drawings to check they consider the ecology present locally
- Reviewing landscape planting proposals to get a cost effective visually pleasing scheme
- Informing Site team of consenting requirements for approvals of design

### Further information on careers in construction



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

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

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

## Key programme dates

### December 2019

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

Gabion reinstatement work and ground raising due to complete at Camperdown Creek.

### January 2020

Work re-starts 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.

Start work on scheme drainage along the Esplanade (subject to Highways approval).

### February 2020

Groundworks commence for Floodgate installation in Camperdown Area.

### Scheme completion 2021.

## Ecology

The Exe Estuary is designated for its wintering birds and is of particular value as a food resource for Brent geese and oystercatcher between the middle of September and the end of December which is why the shoreline is part of a voluntary exclusion zone.



Some of the works for the Scheme on the seafront are continuing into the wintering bird period. This has been agreed with Natural England and the Exe Estuary Habitats Mitigation team. Measures have been put in place to reduce disturbance and monitoring is being carried out to ensure that the important birds are not significantly disturbed.

## 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 late Spring 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 early 2020

### The Esplanade

- There will be continuing road closures and traffic management along The Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn until Spring 2020

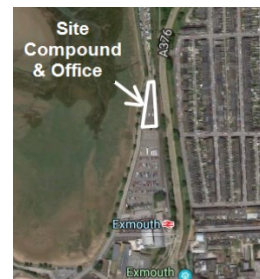


### Camperdown Creek

- Restricted access to Camperdown car park and children's play area during November and December 2019. We are aiming to have the children's play area open again before the Christmas holidays. 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.



**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 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.

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

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

