

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/dcjs/exmouth-tidal-defence-scheme-1>



Environment Agency

Construction to recommence in January 2021

Exmouth moves a step closer to increased protection from tidal flooding as construction of the £12m scheme restarts.

- The Environment Agency scheme will reduce flood risk for 1,800 properties including 1,400 homes and 400 businesses
- Construction will restart in January and is due to finish by the end of 2021
- A team of Community flood volunteers will be established to open and close flood gates.

Construction work on the Exmouth Tidal Defence began in June 2019. The Environment Agency's schedule included a pause in construction to re-open roads and clear visible construction for the busy summer and autumn tourist season.

The Environment Agency and East Devon District Council have now confirmed that work will restart in January and includes:

- Strengthening the lower walkway of the sea wall between Morton Crescent west and Temple Steps opposite Alexandra Terrace Junction
- New drainage outfalls through the sea wall
- Reconfiguring Alexandra Terrace Junction
- Highways accommodation works for floodgates and installation of floodgates at Esplanade East (Premier Inn), Esplanade West (the Grove), Alston Terrace and Alexandra Terrace Junction.

Environment Agency Flood Manager, Ben Johnstone said:

"I am delighted to confirm that construction of the Exmouth Tidal Defence scheme will recommence in January and the scheme is due to be complete in 2021. Climate change is happening now and we expect to see an increase in extreme weather and flood events. The Exmouth tidal defence, and schemes like it, are an important part of how we plan to better protect homes and businesses in Devon and Cornwall from flooding. I would like to thank residents in advance for their understanding and co-operation while we work on this vital scheme for Exmouth"

Clr Geoff Jung East Devon District Councillor, Portfolio Holder for Coast Country and Environment said:

"I am really pleased to see the final sections to this all-important tidal defence scheme being finished, which will protect the low-lying properties in Exmouth from coastal flooding. This is another important section to the ongoing work East Devon District Council, Devon County Council and the Environment Agency are required to carry out due to the increasing threat of increased storm intensity and sea level rise due to Climate Change."

The Environment Agency and contractors will work closely with Devon County Council Highways at Alexandra terrace junction and across the Esplanade on the installation of flood gates. From January sections of the Esplanade Road will be closed with signed diversions in place. A route through for cyclists and pedestrians will be maintained if it is safe to do so. We would like to thank you for your continued support whilst these essential works are carried out.

More about Flood Gates

The Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme includes flood gates in 26 locations. These specially made gates need to be closed when floods are predicted, to reduce the risk to local homes and businesses. The road based gates will be operated by East Devon District Council. Other gates will be operated by teams of community volunteers.

Community closed gates are used effectively in other towns across Devon, such as Lypstone, Cockwood, Shaldon and Teignmouth, they offer more flexibility, can be opened between tides and opened sooner once the all clear is given. This limits the length of time the gates are shut reducing inconvenience for residents and businesses. The Environment Agency is working with Exmouth Town Council and East Devon District Council, to establish a team of Exmouth community flood gate volunteers.

For more information contact:

dc.flood@environment-agency.gov.uk

For more information on how to prepare for flooding and our Flood Warning System please visit our website:

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

Key programme dates

January 2021

Phase 1 Esplanade road closure—Works in highways associated with installation of flood gates and strengthening the sea wall along the seaward side of The Esplanade. Road drainage and outfalls through the sea wall between Alexandra Terrace Junction and the Premier Inn. Completion of works to the Exe Estuary Trail and Estuary View Car Park.

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.

July 2021

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

Scheme completion 2021.

Traffic management

We are making every effort to minimise our impact on residents 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

- From January to July 2021 there will be road closures and traffic management along the Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn
- The first section of road, from the Grove to Alexandra Terrace Junction, will be closed from January to Easter 2021
- Western area of lower walkway closed between Mamhead Slipway to Temple Steps beach access opposite Alexandra Terrace Junction.



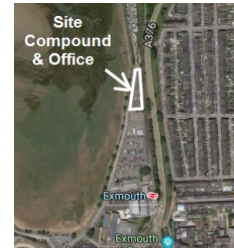
Royal Avenue (Duck Pond) area

- 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
- Exe Estuary Trail (East Devon Way) between Carter Avenue and LED Leisure Centre will need to be closed between January and Easter for 2-4 week period (closure dates will be confirmed on our Facebook page).

All Businesses will remain open as usual.

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 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/>

