

# Newsletter

## Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme

Reducing tidal flood risk to 1,800 properties



Environment  
Agency



### 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

#### Exmouth tidal defence scheme construction pauses for summer season

The re-opening of the sea front road in June marks a major milestone in the construction of the £12m Exmouth tidal defence scheme.

The Environment Agency has removed most of the construction areas from the town and the road along the seafront is now open.

The Environment Agency's schedule includes a summer break to protect tourism in the area.

Work on the project, which was identified by government as critical infrastructure, has continued in line with the government's coronavirus (COVID-19) advice with measures in place to ensure social distancing and safe working procedures on site. This has allowed the team to reach this milestone as planned.

Environment Agency Flood Manager, Ben Johnstone said:

*"We are now one step closer to a finished tidal defence scheme for the people of Exmouth. I am extremely proud of the team who have worked so hard to keep this vital work on track whilst adhering to government guidance on coronavirus."*

*"I would also like to thank residents for their understanding and co-operation which has helped us get to this point. A lot has been achieved this year and I look forward to the next phase."*



#### New flood defence wall at Morton Crescent

East Devon District Council is also contributing to the project, and will maintain the defences built on council-owned land in the future.

Cllr Geoff Jung, Coast, Countryside and Environment Portfolio Holder for East Devon District Council, said:

*"I would like to thank the contractors Kier and the Environment Agency for continuing this important project at this most difficult of times. This scheme, once completed, will provide the many residents of Exmouth extra protection from coastal flooding."*

Exmouth Town ward members for the district council, Cllr Olly Davey, Cllr Joe Whibley and Cllr Eileen Wragg said:

*"With more than two thirds of the scheme completed, thanks to the works continuing by Kier and the Environment Agency throughout the current crisis, Exmouth will have much better protection ahead of the winter storms."*

When the Environment Agency contractors, Kier, return to site later in the year they will start at Alexandra Terrace junction with associated highways improvements, floodgate installation, landscaping and planting. The whole project is due for completion in 2021.

Once complete in 2021, the scheme will reduce the risk of tidal flooding to over 1,400 residential and 400 commercial properties.

Construction work started in June 2019 and covers 3 distinct areas :

## Estuary Side

On the estuary side a wall approximately 660m long has been built from the boatyard to the Imperial Recreation Ground.



Contractors worked during low tides to repair the revetment from the nature reserve to the Estuary View car park. A large area of the nature reserve was cleared of vegetation to create a continuous flood defence embankment which will be seeded this autumn.



Royal Avenue road and footpath realignment works are now complete and the Exe Estuary Trail (East Devon Way) is now open.

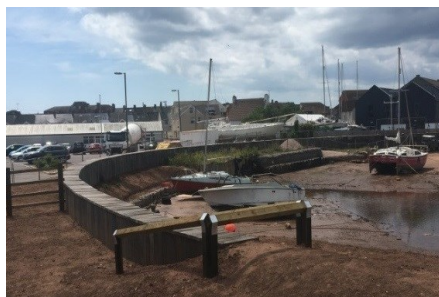
The Estuary View car park and tree planting along Royal Avenue will be completed when Kier return to site in late 2020 / early 2021.

## Camperdown Creek

At Camperdown Creek new gabions, large metal baskets filled with stone, have been replaced with new.



Sheet piled defences clad with recycled hardwood timber were installed by the Sea Cadet Building and foundations have been built for 3 flood gates.



The installation of the 3 floodgates in this area is planned to take place in Autumn 2020.

## The Esplanade

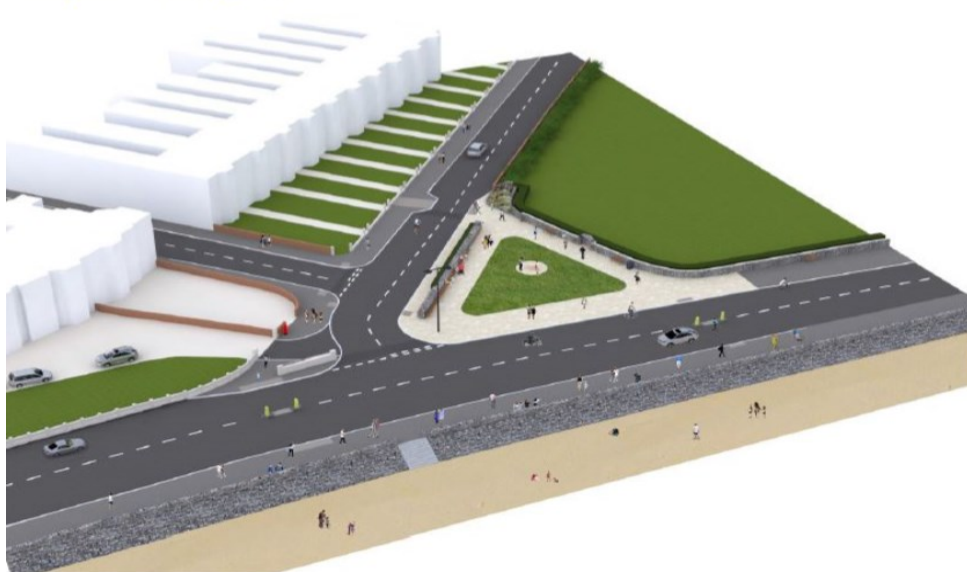
The Esplanade area from The Grove Pub, including Morton Crescent and the Imperial Hotel has had new defences built. This work included a combination of flood walls, new drainage, wall strengthening, rock armour installation and landscaping.



The installation of the pedestrian flood gates along Morton Crescent is planned to take place in Autumn 2020.

When Kier return to site in late 2020 / early 2021 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.

## Alexandra Terrace Junction Proposed Layout





**Estuary Side — Before**



Estuary Trail (East Devon Way) looking south

**Estuary Side — After**



New defence wall, footpath and revetment repairs

**Camperdown Creek — Before**



Camperdown Creek looking south-east

**Camperdown Creek — After**



New earth embankment & timber clad steel pile defences

**The Esplanade — Before**



The Esplanade / Morton Crescent looking west

**The Esplanade — After**



New defence wall along front of Morton Crescent



## 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**.



## Public Liaison Officer Trials & tribulations!

During the first phase of Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme we have encountered extreme weather; February '20 was one of the wettest and windiest and May '20 was one of the driest and hottest since records began. We have worked through challenging times, Covid-19 has affected our production, impacting on our workforce and our supply chain.

Through all of this our operations team have worked really hard to get over all the hurdles put in their way with smiles on their faces.

We have got to know a lot of you on the way and have built up good relationships with the Exmouth community.

On the whole the public and businesses have been very supportive through this phase of the scheme and this is demonstrated below in our feedback chart.

As public liaison officer for the scheme I would like to take this opportunity to thank the public for their support and cooperation and a big pat on the back for the Kier operations team.

## 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/>

<https://www.kier.co.uk/careers/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/recruitment>

<https://www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/united-kingdom/careers/vacancies>



## Planning

Links to the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme planning permission, reserved matters applications and variation of conditions can be found here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

## Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme - Feedback from the public



## We welcome your comments

Your comments and feedback are important to us, 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](mailto:exmouth.PLO@kier.co.uk)

Mobile : 07716 223056

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

