



# 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.

The detailed planning application for Morton Crescent was approved (with conditions) on 11 June. Details can be found on the Council's planning portal here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=POD63JGH09100&activeTab=summary>

We held a public drop-in session on 28 June on the detail for Alexandra Terrace Junction – see proposed layout below. The event was well attended by local councillors and members of the public who were keen to find out more about our proposal for this prominent but complex junction, which is busy with traffic and pedestrians.

The aim of the drop-in session was to help people give informed comments on the Alexandra Terrace Junction planning application. It was also a good opportunity to remind people about the whole tidal defence scheme and progress so far.

A decision on this final planning application is expected later this month. More information can be found on the council's planning portal here:

<https://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PRT8JMGHGSV00&activeTab=summary>

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>

### Planning update

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

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

### Alexandra Terrace Junction Proposed Layout



## Alexandra Terrace Junction

The junction where Alexandra Terrace meets The Esplanade has been redesigned as a key part of the Exmouth Tidal Defence Scheme. As well as providing benefits to reduce flooding it will also improve road safety at the complicated junction.

Using the graphic on page one you can see the proposed arrangement includes a new setback flood wall and changes to the existing road layout.

The major revision is to reduce the traffic access points to and from The Esplanade and popular sea front to one (it is currently two). The idea is that the alterations will simplify this area into a more defined road junction. The work will also improve access for pedestrians with a second island and crossing point being added on The Esplanade, where people already try to cross.

Historical features will be protected, particularly the iconic Victorian bollards, which will be relocated within the new layout.

## Camperdown Creek

Work to remove and replace new gabions will start soon. These large metal baskets filled with stone are fixed into place to protect the creek from wave damage.

The area for this work is in reclaimed, contaminated land (an old waste site) so for the health and safety of the public there is a large, fenced off working zone.

Unfortunately this fenced off area includes the children's play area near Camperdown Car Park. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience and disappointment this temporary closure may cause. As soon as we are able to release this part of the site we will reopen the play area.

Sheet piling work has started from the Sea Cadets building working towards the estuary. These metal sheet piles will be clad with hardwood timber.

## The Esplanade

We are continuing to strengthen the lower section of Smeaton Wall at the Mamhead Slipway end of The Esplanade. However during the busy summer holiday period we have removed our traffic management in this area.



From September there will be a lot more construction activity along the sea front.

Secondary flood defences will be installed from the Grove, along Morton Crescent, Alexandra Terrace Junction, past the Clock Tower up to the Premier Inn. The works here will include a combination of highway and pedestrian flood gates, various flood walls, new drainage, Smeaton Wall strengthening, rock armour installation and landscaping. As we will have several work locations we will close the road and sign diversions. We will try to keep the road closure to a minimum.

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

## Estuaryside

Earth raising works along the Exe Estuary, in the nature reserve area north of Royal Avenue, have been completed. As have, repairs to the existing concrete revetment in the same area.

Work to install approximately 260 precast concrete units along the estuary side has started. The wall is 300mm wide and the height will vary from 0.2-1.2m depending on the existing ground level. The top of the wall will be 4.5m above ordinance datum. Traffic lights are being used along this area.

We will also be doing spray concrete repairs to the revetment along the river edge next to Royal Avenue from the middle of August.



Estuaryside—Pre-cast wall units at the production yard

## 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 on site.

Take a virtual tour here:

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

### Ashley Back - Project Manager



- Makes sure we have the proper resource, supervision and facilities in place to carry out our work safely, while minimising the impact on the public and environment
- Arranges our activities into a sequence to deliver the work on time, within the constraints of the site
- Strives for cost effective engineering solutions to construction problems
- Controls costs to ensure the scheme is delivered to the required specification with a profit
- Identifies opportunities for the team to continue to develop their skills.

### Dennis Marsh - Quantity Surveyor



- Negotiates subcontract work packages, which involves arranging enquiry packs, inviting tenders, evaluating returns and agreeing terms and conditions
- Assesses and processes subcontract payments
- Monitors costs against forecasts and create reports for review
- Facilitates the use of new suppliers to help delivery our works
- Identifies additional entitlement against our main contract and minimises liability against outgoing costs.

### Jack Walker - Section Engineer



- Sets out the project works in accordance with designs and specifications
- Checks over the quality of our work project phases and keep 'as built' records for the scheme
- Orders materials to site
- Reviews design and construction details to understand requirements and check buildability
- Manages short term planning of project phases and look ahead to facilitate economic management of labour, plant, resources and materials.

### Andy Haley - Works Manager



- Briefs the workforce each morning so that everyone knows who is doing what and where
- Manages labour and plant on site, including hiring and off-hiring plant, equipment and labour
- Checks health and safety of operations and delivers toolbox talks with the workforce
- Checks the plant and equipment is safe, fit for purpose and that everyone has the correct personal protective equipment.

### Mike Rose - Site Agent



- Manages health and safety on site.
- Produces risk assessments and method statements for all site operations and ensures workforce is fully briefed on safe ways of working
- Manages subcontractors and checks workforce carry our job safely, efficiently and with due regards to ecology and the environment
- Plans the construction works to ensure the use of all plant, materials and labour is cost effective
- Manages the progress and programme, finding ways to accelerate the works or mitigate any delays.

### 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.ccscheme.org.uk/>



## Key programme dates

### August 2019

Work continues on the defence wall and revetment at Royal Avenue, piling and gabions at Camperdown Creek and strengthening the sea wall along the seaward side of The Esplanade.

### September 2019

Due to start on secondary defences and associated drainage on the north side of The Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn.

### January 2020

Start work at Alexandra Terrace Junction (subject to planning approval).

### February 2020

Floodgate installation to start.

### Scheme completion 2021.

## Ecology

We have agreed proposals to create niche habitats along the estuary side. This will provide features to retain water in small pools and holes to improve conditions for intertidal species such as crabs and periwinkles. Look out for trials soon.



You may have noticed us clearing vegetation near the playground at the Imperial Recreation Ground. As the trees had the potential to support nesting birds we carried out full surveys on two occasions.

We took special care to remove the trees and scrub very slowly under the supervision of two ecologists. There were no nesting birds disturbed during this additional site clearance.

## 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:

### Royal Avenue (Duck Pond) area

- Two way traffic lights during this month, removed at weekends if possible
- Triangular section of Imperial Recreation Ground long stay car park closed to October 2019
- 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 remains closed until October 2019.

### The Esplanade

- Western area of lower walkway closed between Mamhead Slipway to Temple Steps beach access opposite Alexandra Terrace Junction
- From September to spring 2020 there will be road closures and traffic management along the Esplanade between The Grove and Premier Inn.

### Camperdown Creek

- Restricted access to Camperdown car park and children's play area during August and September 2019. Alternative play areas are at: King Georges Field EX8 3EF, Phear Park EX8 1TJ and Queens Drive Space EX8 2AY
- Restricted access to Camperdown Creek slipway.

**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.



**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/>

