

Saltfleet to Gibraltar Point Strategy

Coastal flood risk management strategy
Public consultation summary of options

5th February – 22nd March 2018



Environment
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Coastal risk management in Lincolnshire

Sea defences between Saltfleet and Gibraltar Point help to manage the risk of coastal flooding to around: 20,000 residential homes; 1,700 businesses; 24,500* static caravans; 35,000 hectares of farmland and a bustling tourist industry.



A large area of land behind the defences is at or below mean sea level. Since the 1953 floods, major investment continues to improve and maintain these sea defences between Mablethorpe and Skegness. Hard defences (seawall) and natural sand dunes, in combination with beach renourishment provide a wide defence to manage coastal flood risk.

Up until the early 90s, Lincolnshire's beaches were subject to natural erosion, exposing sea defences and the supporting clay layer underneath. Without sand to act as a natural buffer and to take energy out of the waves, the risk of defences being breached was increased.



In 1991 the county's first coastal management plan was approved with a sand renourishment programme launched in 1994, known as Lincshore. As a result the beaches have been annually maintained at a healthy level.

* ELDC submitted core strategy Feb 2016-2031

Sea levels are rising with storms and flooding becoming more frequent due to climate change. To keep pace with climate change, we need to review how best to manage flood risk on the East Coast from Saltfleet to Gibraltar Point.



However, the latest climate change guidance indicates the present management approach may not be sufficient in the future to reduce coastal flood risk effectively. It is predicted that beach levels would need to be higher requiring more sand. Overall costs will increase, potentially doubling in the long term, yet it may be less effective at managing risk as we experience greater sand losses.

Shaping the strategy

We started with a long list of over 100 different ways of managing flood risk in the area; this included a wide range of options from having a sea wall and no beach, to installing large fishtail structures along the coast. With the help of detailed assessments and stakeholder workshops this list was narrowed down to six leading options to take forward to public consultation.

The best way to help manage risk of coastal flooding in the area may be a combination of the options presented in this document. When and where they are introduced will be determined by **trigger points**. These can be related to factors such as changes to legislation and local requirements, money and environmental issues such as climate change.

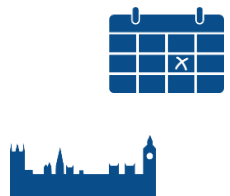


At each trigger point we will:

Review – Make sure the reaction is still relevant

Consult – We will seek views on major changes

Deliver – When work will begin



We want your views

Once you have considered the options, it's easy to have your say.

Visit our website below and participate in our online consultation or you can find out more and give your views by visiting one of our consultation drop-in events taking place along the coast in February and early March.

For more details please visit

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood-and-coastal-risk-management/sgp>

What's next?

Responses from this consultation and previous workshops will be considered alongside the findings of the [Strategic Environmental Assessment \(SEA\)](#) and our technical analysis. A draft strategy will then be published and taken to public consultation later this year.



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