

# Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme

Newsletter 14 – November 2024

Construction on the Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme (Phase 1 and 2) began in October 2019 and is nearing completion. This work has been essential to provide better protection to the town from flooding and erosion.

The scheme includes the installation of a new 93-meter sheet pile wall along the Arun River to protect 176 homes on River Road, Tarrant Wharf and the surrounding area, as well as numerous businesses. Other improvements have been made to sections of pre-existing flood walls and embankments.

## Background

The Environment Agency has worked with West Sussex County Council, Arun District Council and Arundel Town Council to develop the Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme.

The scheme was developed in response to the collapse of a section of the tidal wall in 2015, which resulted in an emergency response from the Environment Agency. Emergency works stabilised the area but there was residual risk which required further work. Phase 1 was completed in August 2020.

## Phase 2 Construction Overview

Construction of Phase 2 began on 31 July 2023, led by our partners VolkerStevin and Mackleys. Site compounds were established on River Road and Mill Road to house temporary offices, welfare units, and storage for equipment and materials. A jack-up barge and smaller barges were positioned on the river. The river was temporarily closed to vessels and paddlecraft during key work phases to ensure safety and efficient progress.

Piling work started in late September 2023 and involved embedding 18-meter-long steel piles into the riverbed. During this phase, the original masonry wall at Tarrant Wharf partially failed, a

risk that had been anticipated and was managed with emergency works. Piling was successfully completed on 25 November 2023.

Following piling, backfill was added between the existing wall and new pile line. During this phase, we also conducted a detailed design review, making adjustments that reduced the load on the wall and designing out unnecessary components.

Recent work has included installing capping beams along the sheet pile wall, as well as adding balustrades, new ladders and other finishing touches.

The project team have worked hard to ensure the smooth progression of construction and minimise delays. However, the pace of work has been closely linked to the tide levels and river flows of the River Arun. Working in challenging conditions has meant work windows have been small and as a result, quiet periods have been unavoidable.

## Additional Site Activities

Over the past year, there have been several road closures around Mill Road and the High Street to accommodate the movement of equipment. We appreciate your patience.

During 2023/2024 winter and spring, our team undertook extra flood mitigation measures along River Road to ensure the area remained safe from flooding. Staff were on standby throughout the storms and water pumps were in place to remove the surface water when necessary.

Throughout the project, we've kept the community informed with weekly website updates and regular newsletters to provide a clear view of our progress. We also held drop-in events to answer residents' questions and receive feedback. Additionally, our project team joined Greening Arundel in

customer service line  
03708 506 506

incident hotline  
0800 80 70 60

floodline  
03459 88 11 88

November 2023 to tidy the area around Arundel Station.



## Contact us

### Website

Please note, this page is being taken down from January 2025. If you would like to access any of our previous comms, please request them via email.



<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/solent-and-south-downs/atws-phase2-info-page>

## What's next?

The site compound will be fully demobilised by the end of November 2024. Following this, additional works on the river wall will be carried out from a work boat. There will be some continuing small scale activities in the surrounding area.

## For further information

The Arundel Tidal Walls Scheme has met all the requirements outlined in the Lower Tidal River Arun Strategy. Any future works and ongoing maintenance of the river walls in the town will be the responsibility of the riparian owners. There is no strategic need for further Environment Agency flood defence works in Arundel.

If you have concerns about flood risk or would like more information, please contact us on the Environment Agency's Floodline on 0845 988 1188

## Contact details:

### E-Mail:

[ArundelTidalWalls@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:ArundelTidalWalls@environment-agency.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** Madeleine Spellman (Public Liaison Officer) 07721 248275 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday – until December 2024)

**Or write to:** Michael Carleymith, Environment Agency, Guildbourne House, Chatsworth Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1LD.

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