

# SHANKLIN COASTAL DEFENCE SCHEME NEWSLETTER

MAY- 2022 - ISSUE #1

### Welcome to the first edition of the Shanklin Coastal Defence Scheme newsletter

The Shanklin Coastal Defence scheme is seeking to create a sustainable future for Shanklin Esplanade that current and new generations can enjoy.

The coastal defences fronting the Esplanade are ageing, with some sections reaching the end of their useful life. If nothing is done to address this, the defences will become increasingly susceptible to coastal erosion. Within the next 30 years this would likely result in significant damage to the Esplanade, the services contained within it, and make access to Esplanade properties difficult.

The Environment Agency, in partnership with the Isle of Wight Council, is planning to refurbish existing coastal defences to reduce the impact of coastal erosion along Shanklin Esplanade.



# Aims of the scheme



To create a sustainable future for Shanklin Esplanade that current and new generations can enjoy.



To provide greater resilience to communities, property, and infrastructure by managing the risk of erosion and potential flooding.



To enable communities, the environment, wildlife, heritage, recreation, tourism, and business to adapt to climate change and sea level rise.

### Scheme area



### Current work

We are currently in the early 'Surveying and Investigations' phase of the project. No decisions about what the project will look like when finished have yet been made. To support the option development process, we need to collect some data to better understand the current risk from coastal erosion and flooding from the sea. This will help us to make decisions about how best to manage it now and in the future.

In February 2022 we undertook a detailed visual survey of the sea wall and groynes, the first stage in a series of assessments to confirm their current condition. Some areas of the wall are in good condition, but many are beginning to fail, as can be seen in the photo below.











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Over the next couple of months, you may see our contractors completing survey work using GPS equipment to obtain accurate land level measurements. They'll also be using ground penetrating radar to survey beneath the surface of the existing sea wall. This is a non-intrusive and non-destructive method of surveying.

The surveys detailed above are scheduled to begin on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and will be completed in July 2022.

### Key project timelines



### Public questionnaire

We will be seeking your opinion as the project progresses, and to kick-start this process we are launching a public questionnaire. This is an opportunity for you to share what you most value about the Esplanade area, any concerns you have or ideas for improvement that we could consider as we develop our options. We really want to hear your views so would encourage you to complete the questionnaire by visiting the web link below. Paper copies can be requested by using the contact below, or copies will be available at Shanklin Community Library. The questionnaire will close on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

### Next steps

We have a shortlist of options which we will be refining, based on our investigations over the coming months. We will be seeking your views on these options in Spring 2023. There will be various opportunities to view, comment and input your thoughts and suggestions.

We are also exploring funding options for later stages of the project. Sourcing funding and investment will be one of the key challenges and without this there is a risk that we will not be able to complete the project.

#### For More Information

Check out https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/solent-and-south-downs/shanklin-coastal-defence-scheme-informati/ for updates and to complete the public questionnaire.

If you would like to sign up to our distribution list and receive project updates via email, please contact us via the following email address: <u>IOW FDschemes@Environment-Agency.gov.uk</u>

Alternatively, you can write to the Environment Agency, Chichester Office, Oving Road, PO20 2AG or call us on 03708 506 506





