

# Humber – keeping you informed

December 2015

This newsletter provides an update on work taking place and/or planned to help reduce the risk of flooding to people and properties around the Humber estuary.

## The Humber estuary

The Humber estuary is an hugely important area. Around 400,000 people live around the estuary alongside major industry such as power stations, refineries and our country's largest port complex. It is a key area for growth and development as well as being hugely environmentally significant. The estuary has both a UK and European designation under the Birds and Habitats Directive – this means the estuary's environment is protected by law.

Over 115,000 hectares of land are at risk of flooding around the Humber. We work closely with communities and partners to help reduce this risk. Over £86 million is being spent over the next six years to reduce the risk of flooding across the estuary. Within this newsletter we aim to keep you up-to-date on how this funding is being spent. The map below shows areas at risk of flooding from rivers and sea around the Humber estuary.



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## Humber spending commitment

In the autumn 2015 statement the government confirmed that flood defence spending would be protected - this includes the £86 million investment on the Humber. We recognise the scale of investment needed on the Humber, and the £86 million allocated for the next 6 years forms only part of our long term plan for the estuary. Future investment priorities are outlined in the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy which will be comprehensively reviewed alongside our partners.

## Floodline Warnings Direct

Since 2010, the Floodline Warnings Direct service has enabled the Environment Agency to automatically register and send warnings to 600,000 homes and business landline number. We have now added EE mobile

users which is the first time that flood warnings will be issued directly through a mobile phone provider. Mobile users with EE have now been registered for our free flood warning service where the billing address falls into a known area of flood risk from rivers – this will cover over 75,000 people across the Humber, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire area.

## North bank

### Reedness:

The 3.3 kilometres of flood defence between Swinefleet and Reedness have now been raised to provide improved flood protection in the Reedness area, following the December 2013 tidal surge. Modelling is now being undertaken to update national flood maps with the increased level of protection. We have supplied residents with letters to indicate the flood defences are complete to support them in their discussions with insurers. If residents require a letter to support with insurance queries they should contact [neyorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:neyorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk) with their contact details.

Works to stabilise Reedness Drainage channel, to ensure continuously safe land drainage in to the River Ouse, are now also complete.

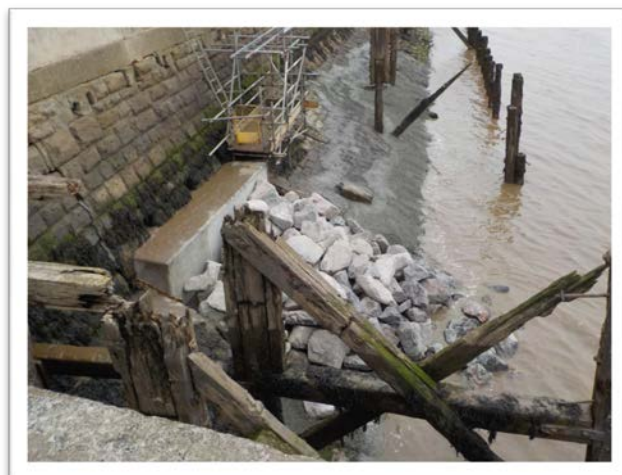
### Albert Dock:

During the tidal surge in December 2013, the Humber Estuary overtopped the dock side at Albert Dock in Hull, flooding 300 properties. Construction of 1.6km of permanent walls started in November 2014 to replace the temporary defence installed after the flooding and these walls were completed in July 2015.

Sealing up of Dunston Culvert (a redundant Yorkshire Water drain) was completed in September and the Trans Pennine Trail was re-opened at the end of October. An Albert Dock flood defence completion event was held on 1 December 2015. All that now remains is for a small amount of drainage and reinstatement works to be finished expected by the end of December.



Dunston Culvert before



Dunston Culvert completed works

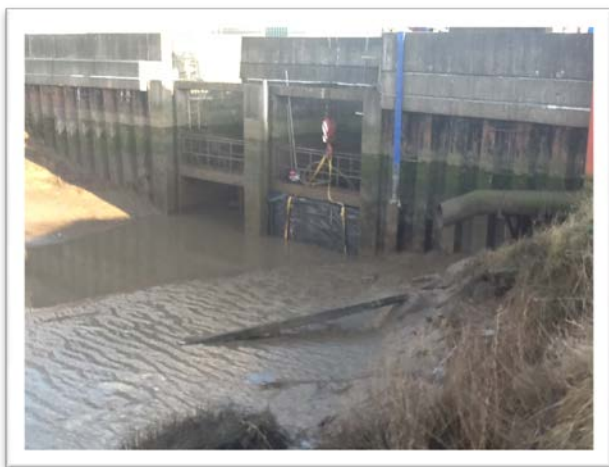
### Burstwick New Clough:

After repeated repairs over a number of years the flood gates at Burstwick New Clough had become beyond economical repair and required replacement to continue to provide appropriate levels of flood defence to Hedon and the Burstwick Drain Catchment.

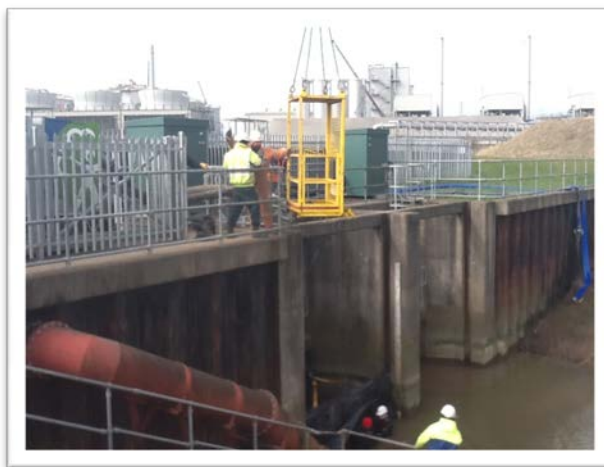
Contractors have been employed to determine the size and specification of the doors and any other work required. The outfall culverts were dammed off to facilitate the assessment of works required. Once completed the dams were removed.



The doors have been designed and are currently being manufactured, Weather permitting, work on site is expected to start in January 2016 and completed by March 2016.



**Bustwick New Clough Flood Gates**



**Assessment of works at Bustwick New Clough**

#### **Paull Holme Strays:**

The embankment at Paull Holme Strays (PHS) was originally constructed in 2003. PHS is located on the north bank of the Humber Estuary in East Yorkshire, east of Hull. This flood defence embankment extends from Paull Point Battery to Holme Hill. Following the tidal surge both cracking and settlement have been highlighted as an issue. Site investigation works are underway and will be completed by the end of December. There will be a period of monitoring that will take place before the results are collated and the design completed in the spring. Construction works are due to commence onsite in the summer of 2016.

#### **Chantry Cottages:**

We let a contract for the permanent works at Chantry Cottages to JBA-Bentley under the WEM framework last month, and the site was re-established at the end of November. Access points are being established with construction works due to start in the new-year. It is anticipated that site works will be completed in spring 2017.

#### **Hull and Holderness Flood Alleviation Scheme:**

East Riding of Yorkshire Council is leading on the HaHFAS project, which is looking to develop a strategic approach to the management of flood risk covering a large area to the east of Hull. The study is looking at the potential for implementing flood alleviation measures including tidal defences at Paull, as well as inland works to reduce flood risk from the Old Fleet Drain, Preston New Drain, Burstwick Drain, Thorngumbald Drain and part of the Keyingham Drain.

The focus of this work is currently on Paull Tidal defences, where work to protect more than 600 properties is due to start in the new year with the installation of a glass wall to increase the height of the current defences along the frontage. The Inland works are programmed for delivery between 2018 and 2022, with more than 2,000 properties expected to benefit.

#### **Hull River Defences Package:**

We are planning on improving the river defences through the city of Hull, so that they continue to provide long term protection from the risk of flooding from the River Hull. We are working in partnership with Hull City Council to seek funding opportunities with the aim of providing a scheme which will contribute towards growth and regeneration on the river front in the city.

The appraisal of the flood risk options is now complete and a business case will be submitted by the end of December. We have identified a WEM Lot4 supplier to carry out the construction work and will be awarding a contract once the business case is approved early in the new-year.

## South bank

**South Ferriby:** Site surveys for the planned refurbishment of the tidal doors at Ferriby Sluice, West Drain and East Drain are now complete and we are looking to procure the specialised timber, ready to start manufacture. Expected installation is summer 2016 dependent on weather.

We are continuing to progress the scheme to improve approximately 2km of tidal flood banks at South Ferriby. We have carried out environmental surveys alongside North Lincolnshire Council and site investigations are being planned along the existing flood embankment. We are on programme to complete construction in 2019. To ensure the scheme we deliver is the best it can be for the local area we need to do more detailed work upfront and that will take more time to plan. We will continue discussions with beneficiaries on future contributions. Changes in programmes are always possible, but we are committed to delivering the best scheme we can for South Ferriby and Winteringham Ings.

**Winteringham:** Our Operations teams are coordinating improvements around Winteringham Haven, including raising low spots in the flood banks and desilting the Beck. Detailed investigations at the outfall structure were completed earlier in the year. Plans are being discussed and any necessary improvements are expected to start in 2016, once funding has been secured.

**Barrow Haven:** Work to the retaining walls on the east side of the river is now completed. The new tidal doors have now been installed. Please see photos below.



New tidal doors



New tidal doors installed

**Barton to New Holland:** Progress is continuing on the initial economic assessment for a scheme to improve the tidal defences between Barton and New Holland. We have been allocated government funding, however a business case needs to be produced and significant local contributions secured before any preferred solution can be built. We are looking at the possibilities of enhancing and securing important local wildlife habitats as part of the scheme.

**Port of Immingham:** We continue to work closely with both North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) and Associated British Ports (ABP) to develop a scheme to reduce the risk of flooding to the port, national infrastructure and adjacent community. NELC are leading the project and have appointed Capita-Aecom, an engineering consultant to develop a business case for completion in spring 2016, with a view to replace the

port's tidal lock doors later in the year. NELC's Project Manager is also exploring other funding possibilities through the Greater Lincolnshire and Humber Local Enterprise Partnerships and EU funding streams looking for opportunities to contribute to accelerating the delivery a future phase of the scheme.

**Killingholme Marshes:** We are developing a small scheme to stabilise a short section of flood defence near to Killingholme Haven. We expect that this work to start in spring 2016 after the wintering birds have flown.

**Cleethorpes North Terminal Groyne:** The £750k scheme, being managed by North East Lincolnshire Council, will replace the existing groyne structure that maintains the amenity beach level and reduces the risk of flooding along the North Promenade and properties within the north end of the town. The council have commissioned consultants to progress the design. Construction on site is expected to commence in spring 2016.

**Burringham:** After a summer of investment and engineering work, the majority of the new flood defence in Burringham has bedded in and is providing the protection for the community. Huge metal piles were driven into the ground to provide a strong defence against flooding, and the final piece of work is to let the few remaining tiny gaps fill naturally. Over time the puddles seen behind the defence will disappear but currently during high tides we are still experiencing some minor seepage. The seepage is not a flood risk, and at most is likely to cause some inconvenience to those walking on the path or some puddles in the road. As it is taking longer to settle than expected and the weather is getting colder, we're planning a short term plan. This will be placing sandbags next to the path and paint areas that have not yet been exposed to the tide with a waterproof product until the tiny gaps at that level have naturally sealed.

## Are you prepared for future floods?

Although flood defences reduce the likelihood of flooding, the risk can never be removed entirely. Flooding can happen at any time and we advise people to take simple practical steps to help reduce the impact of flooding to their homes or business.

- Make sure you are registered to our free flood warning service, Floodline.
- Get the most out of the service by registering the maximum 5 ways to receive flood warnings. Use a combination of mobile phone numbers, landlines and email addresses. Make sure your contact details are accurate - if you've moved house, changed mobile phone number or got a different email address, please let us know. Don't risk not getting the message. Check your registered details by calling Floodline on 0345 988 1188. To make a flood plan for your home call Floodline or visit [www.gov.uk/floodsdestroy](http://www.gov.uk/floodsdestroy)

## Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our national customer contact team on 03708 506 506 (landlines are charged the same as a local geographic call but mobiles may vary) or email [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk). Alternatively, visit [www.gov.uk/flood](http://www.gov.uk/flood) or call Floodline on 0845 9881188 or 0345 9881188. Follow us on Twitter [@EnvAgencyAnglia](https://twitter.com/EnvAgencyAnglia), [@EnvAgencyYNE](https://twitter.com/EnvAgencyYNE) or [@LincsOpsEA](https://twitter.com/LincsOpsEA)