

South Humber bank

20 February 2014

Ongoing repairs to flood defences and March high tides

This briefing is to update you about the ongoing work to repair flood defences along the South Humber bank following 5 December floods and to provide you with information on the high tides forecast in early March 2014.

Repairs to flood defences

Our immediate repair programme is progressing very well. We have now successfully completed over seven kilometres of repairs to defences between Barton upon Humber and Goxhill Haven. These defences have been repaired to the good standard they were in prior to the December flooding.

Picture: Completed bank repairs at Goxhill Haven



We have now moved our machinery to work on repairs between Barton upon Humber and Ferriby Cliff. Work here is progressing well and we expect to be completed by middle of March. Further repairs will also be carried out between Goxhill Haven and East Halton Skitter and between A1077 to Whitton. These repairs are expected to be finished by early April.

We will be carrying out landscaping works to the flood embankments in the summer. This will include seeding the banks with grass which will help to protect their stability.

We are very appreciative of the continued local support from landowners, businesses and property owners who are allowing us to carry out these works more quickly.

We are continuing to undertake an update of the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy which looks at long term justification, funding and solutions to managing flood risk to communities along the Humber. We are starting to now encompass all the data and learning from the recent flooding into the strategy update.

High spring tides in March

More high tides, also known as spring tides, are forecast over the weekend of 1 March 2014. Spring tides happen every two weeks of the year and will not normally cause flooding.

The tidal surge on 5 December was caused by extreme weather conditions, when low pressure and strong winds combined with high spring tides. Although we can forecast the spring tide levels a long way in advance, weather conditions can only be accurately forecast by the Met Office about five days before.

It is unlikely these extreme weather conditions will combine again in early March, but we are closely monitoring the situation with our partners, and will issue any flood alerts and warnings that are needed.

We continue to advise people to sign up to receive our flood warnings by visiting our website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk or by calling Floodline on 0845 9881188 or 0345 9881188.

If you have any questions about the work to repair defences then please contact the Environment Agency's national customer contact team on 03708 506 506 (landlines are charged the same as a local geographic call but mobiles may vary) or email <u>enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>

Why not get the latest updates from us on Twitter? @EnvAgencyAnglia or @LincsOpsEA

incident hotline 0800 80 70 60 floodline 0845 988 1188