

# Progress Newsletter

#### In this edition:

'Upcoming consultation', 'BFI – The Royal Norfolk Show'.

#### **UPDATE TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS**

Welcome to the latest edition of the BFI Progress Newsletter. In this edition, we share news of an important opportunity for you to shape the development of the BFI strategy, as well as news about our involvement at this year's Royal Norfolk Show.

## **Upcoming Online Consultation**

So far, we have developed a firm understanding of future flood risk, how this could be impacted by climate change and how managing flooding must align with the characteristics of this unique area.

Incorporating feedback from our previous consultation(s), we have confirmed the objectives that we want our plan to achieve, including how actions are developed and evaluated.

Our next step is to identify the different possible ways by which we can manage flood risk. We are describing this as a 'toolkit' of actions which we propose to explore during future work, to

decide which approaches could work best to reduce flood risk. We would value your input at this early stage to help us refine and develop our toolkit of possible flood risk management actions.

We are inviting communities and stakeholders alike to take part in a short online survey. The survey will open on 16<sup>th</sup> June and close on 14<sup>th</sup> July. The link will be available from the BFI website or you can visit it directly from the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 via the interactive Toolkit here. (Please note the interactive pdf is not compatible with mobile devices, for the best experience we recommend using a laptop or PC.)

We are simply wanting to know the following:

- Do you agree that the possible actions listed should be in the toolkit?
- Are there any actions missing from the toolkit?

It is important that we have as much input as possible so that we can accurately demonstrate the thoughts and opinions of the community that this strategy is being designed to serve. After looking at the action toolkit as demonstrated in the interactive landscape image, the survey itself is brief and should take only 5-10 minutes to complete.

The action toolkit has been developed from a review of past work in the BFI area, as well as similar work being undertaken nationally and internationally.

At this stage, actions are not being considered in specific areas and are not being assessed for their suitability. Instead, we are creating a long list of all the possible actions to manage flood risk in the area.

Following this community feedback and further technical appraisal we will reduce the toolkit down to a short list of possible actions that satisfy the outcomes described in the BFI objectives.

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## Further background to Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

The BFI plan is building on various significant investments made in the past 20 years such as:

- The Broadland Flood Alleviation Project upgraded and realigned flood banks, and delivered environmental improvements
- Implementing the Kelling to Lowestoft Ness Shoreline Management Plan has led to the installation and maintenance of various coastal structures and the beach itself
- Sheet piling and concrete wall refurbishments to upgrade protection in Great Yarmouth, as recommended in the Flood Defences Strategy Review

The management of flood risk can also be achieved through actions that do not involve large scale construction, such as the use of land in ways that are less vulnerable to the effects of flooding, and warning systems that reduce the potential disruption to our lives.

Whilst some fundamental requirements to manage flood risk in this area of national and international significance have not changed from what has been done in the past, the context for

delivering sustainable flood and coastal erosion risk management is changing. For example, we have a greater appreciation of climate change and the value of the environment and our community wellbeing. In some cases, actions to manage flood risk can have wider benefits such as creating new opportunities for recreation, wildlife, and the management of water resources that at other times may be scarce.

## BFI - Royal Norfolk Show

We are delighted to announce that for the first time the BFI will be present at this year's Royal Norfolk Show. We will form part of the Anglian (Eastern) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee's area (RFCC). We will have members of the BFI project team on hand to speak with the public about the strategy as well as lots of information and videos on display. You can also take part in the online survey that will be available via the QR code built into BFI Flood Risk Action Toolkit display.

The RFCC plan to showcase how partner risk management authorities work together and plan for the future.

The RFCC will share information about the 1953 flood surge, as well as how things were changed by the tidal surge of 2013 compared to where we are now. This will be alongside raising awareness of water management, thinking about how we can better store water in

the winter months to be more prepared for drier, warmer summers.

The Environment Agency's Flood mobile will be available to look inside allowing the public to find out how it all works. For the younger generation there'll be an opportunity to play Rivercraft, the educational version of the popular game 'Minecraft'. This is a suite of games launched to help educate children and young people about the risks of flooding – and highlight the potential careers where people can make a difference.

For more general information on The Royal Norfolk Show, 28-29 June 2023, please visit: <u>Home -</u> <u>Royal Norfolk Show</u>.

### **CONTACT US**

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