

Environment Agency in
partnership with



Have your say...

On how we manage the coastline between Pagham and East Head

The Environment Agency in partnership with Arun and Chichester District Councils want you to participate in the decisions that could have a significant impact upon your local area. This newsletter is to help you do that.

We want to hear your views by 31 March 2007.

What is this all about?

In 2001 a strategy was put forward for managing flood risk and coastal erosion for the coast from Pagham to East Head. This strategy was not adopted due to changes in Government guidance on coastal management.

We have now reviewed to reassess the strategy options taking into account the new guidance.

Why bother with a consultation?

Our consultation document summarises the results of our review and identifies the initial preferred options. We have not decided on which option we will take and all options are open to debate.

After the consultation we will use your feedback to develop the draft coastal defence strategy. The strategy will set out how we should manage the coastline over the next 100 years and could impact on you and your local community. Your views are important, please take part in the consultation and make your voice heard.

Where can I find out about the options?

We have produced a consultation document, *Planning for the future: Initial consultation – a guide for local communities*. This document sets out the key issues and lists the options under consideration. It is **not** the draft strategy. It only lays out what we need to consider and why.

You can find out more about the consultation, read the summary of our technical review and download an online version of *Planning for the future* at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk/yourenv/consultations/current_consultations/

Paper copies of the document are available from your local library, council offices or by telephoning us on **08708 506 506**.

Come along and find out more at one of our exhibitions...

- Thursday 1 February, 12.00pm to 8.00pm
Town Hall, 55 High Street, Selsey
- Friday 2 February, 4.30pm to 8.30pm
West Wittering Memorial Hall, Elms Lane, West Wittering
- Saturday 3 February, 10.00am to 4.00pm
The Village Hall, Pagham Road, Pagham

Have your say

We've organised several exhibitions where you can find out more and share your views. We encourage you to attend and ask questions about the preferred options.

Residents from around the peninsula will be invited to join a residents' panel and discuss your issues. Residents Associations are encouraged to take part by sending a representative. If you would like more details please email us at pehcads@environment-agency.gov.uk

Parish Councils play a key role in the local community. Please discuss your views with your Parish Councillors so that they can share them at the Parish Councils' workshop.

Or you can read through the consultation document and send in the feedback form with your views.

Your say so far...

On 15 November 2006 a press launch publicised the start of the consultation. Since then we have distributed copies of the document at various public points across the peninsula. Keep your eyes open for our consultation posters and documents at local shops!

So far we have met with the Peninsula Community Forum, local councillors and residents of Medmerry and the Witterings. We are working with key organisations to raise awareness of the consultation in the wider community. Further meetings are planned to take place over the next few months.

We have listened to public views and decided to extend the consultation from its planned closing date of 14 February to now run until 31 March 2007.



How is this consultation relevant to you?

What the potential preferred options mean for you depends on where you live. Risk of flooding and erosion varies across the frontages, as does the condition of the existing coastal defences. The potential impacts of each option are discussed in the consultation document.

Climate change, rising sea levels and fiercer storms are putting these defences under increasing threat.

In addition to these increasing environmental pressures, we are facing a reality of limited funding. Government funding is not guaranteed in the long-term and is unlikely in the near future. Given this uncertainty we need to explore other alternatives together. The funding choices are explored in greater detail within the consultation document.

Making contact

Please send your feedback to us at the address below:

Environment Agency
Saxon House
Little High Street
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1DH

You can contact us with questions or to request a copy of the consultation document by telephoning 08708 506 506 or via email at pehcads@environment-agency.gov.uk

The Environment Agency and both Arun and Chichester District Councils have websites where you can find a range of information relating to the coastal areas.

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

www.chichester.gov.uk

www.arun.gov.uk

What does your feedback achieve?

All feedback we receive will be analysed and used to help us develop the draft coastal defence strategy. We will also produce a report on the environmental effects of the draft strategy. Once we have prepared these documents we will consult with you again.

This is your chance to influence the coastal defence strategy at its early stages. Share your views with us and help to determine how we should manage the coastline for the next 100 years.



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