

Aust to Avonmouth

Existing defences and probability of flooding

The current probability of tidal flooding is 1 in 200 in any year, with some localised weaker spots having 1 in 20 chance of flooding in any year.

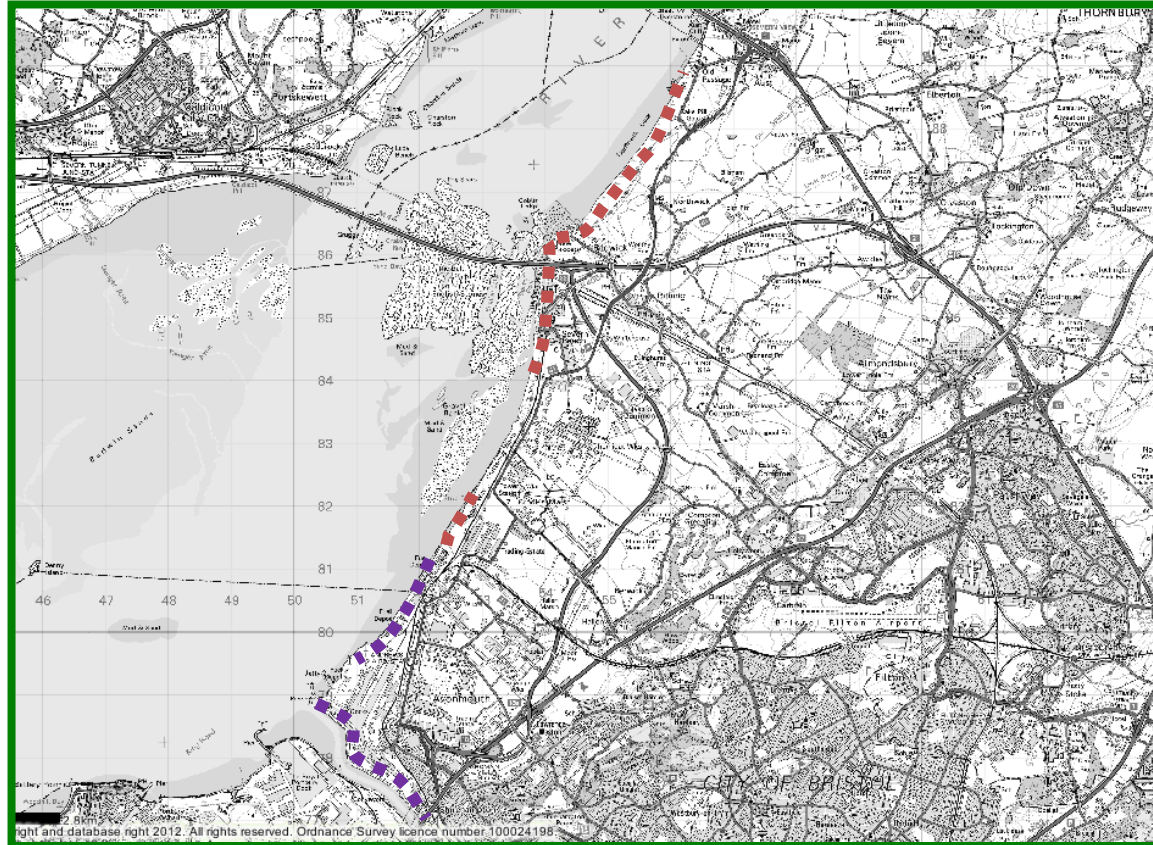
In the future, as sea levels and storminess increase, the level of flood risk will increase.

Continued maintenance by the Environment Agency, landowners or other authorities is required to ensure defences will be effective into the future.

Sea level rise note

The UKCP09 medium emissions scenario projects about 0.1m of sea level rise by 2030, about 0.3m by 2060, and about 0.7m by 2110.

Currently sea level is rising at about 2 to 2.5mm a year. If this rate were to continue, sea level rise would be less than what is projected by the UKCP09 medium emissions scenario.



How these options were reached

There are a significant number of properties in this area, as well as critical infrastructure (Avonmouth Docks, a power station, substation, and railway line); listed structures and environmental features. It is likely, based on current prioritisation for allocating funds that public funding would be available to improve the defences.

The risk of flooding will increase significantly by 2060, and the defences will become inadequate if they are not improved.

We will be able to improve defences further if funding opportunities arise through working with Local Authorities, major businesses and developers.

What can be done?

We are working in partnership with Local Authorities and major businesses to improve the defences when required. Contributions from new developments will be necessary to help fund new flood defences.

We wish to see the defences improved around Avonmouth Docks so as to keep pace with climate change and ensure the risk of flooding is less than 1 in 200 in any year.

The Environment Agency will continue to work with Network Rail to ensure that they are prepared for the potential increase in flood risk.

Long term improvements between Severn Beach and Avonmouth Docks are being discussed through the West of England Partnership.

Key

- Defences maintained by the EA
- Other defences

Ongoing local discussions

There is ongoing discussion to secure funding through partnership working and development.