

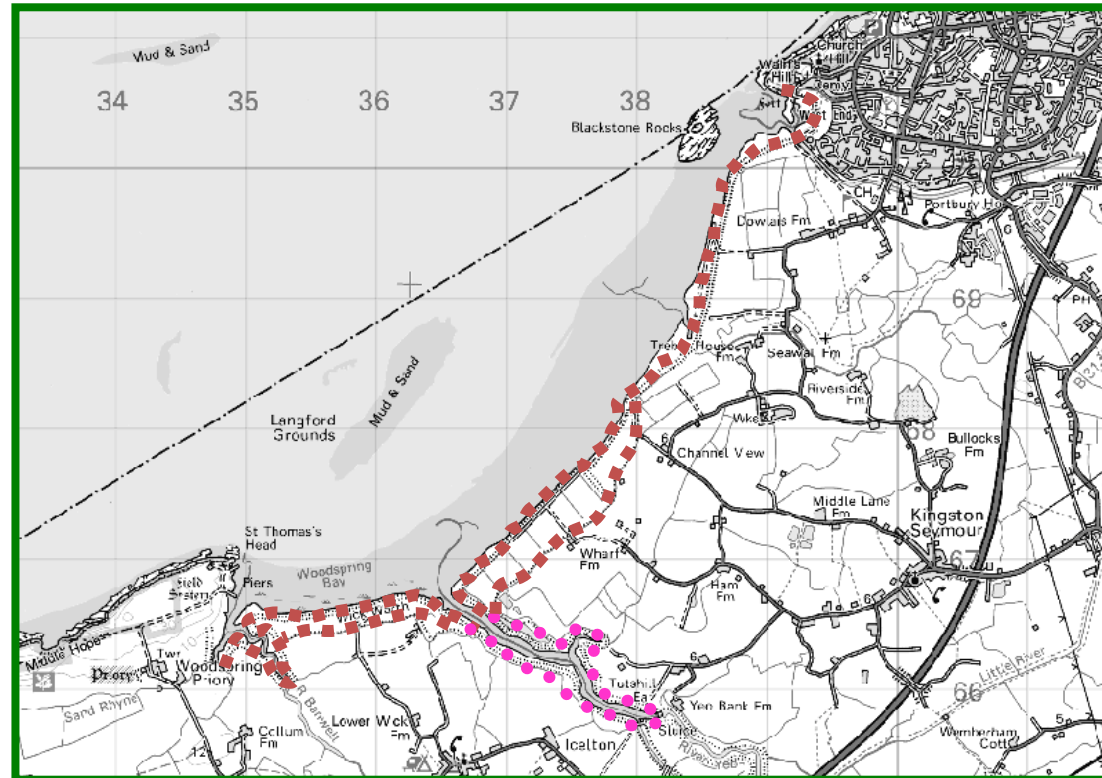
Clevedon to Middle Hope

Existing defences and probability of flooding

The probability of tidal flooding to properties in Kinston Seymour, Wick St. Lawrence, Weston Super Mare and west Clevedon is currently 1 in 50 in any year. Currently, agricultural land can flood in some locations on an annual basis.

It is likely that the Severn frontage will require upgrading in 20-30 years. Some sections of the Congresbury Yeo banks currently provide a low standard of protection. Improvements are programmed for this location- (marked in pink on the map).

We will continue maintenance to ensure that the defences remain secure, as funds allow.



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.

Key

- ● ● ● ● ● Defences maintained by the EA
- ● ● ● ● ● Improvement to defences- under development

How these options were reached

At Clevedon, there is currently sufficient public benefit for the Environment Agency to continue maintenance of the defences into the future. Therefore we will continue to maintain the existing defences as funds allow.

The tidal embankments around the Congresbury Yeo will become inadequate in the short term. These embankments contribute to the protection of Kinston Seymour, Wick St Lawrence and Weston super Mare.

Embankments will be improved in a phased manner, taking any opportunities for managed realignment that may arise.

What can be done?

Maintenance to walls in Clevedon will be continued for the next 20 years, provided there is sufficient funding. After this time they will be raised to keep pace with climate change.

The tidal embankments around the Congresbury Yeo are currently being improved to provide a 1 in 75 chance of flooding in any year over the next 25 years. This will also create saltmarsh and mudflat habitat. The realignment of banks is being undertaken in agreement with land owners.

The proposal to re-align embankments will only be carried out by negotiation and agreement with landowners, and is not a prescribed change.

Major realignment of the Severn frontage defences is not being considered for at least 25 years, and even then it will only be possible with the support of the landowners.

Landowners can help maximise the life of defences by ensuring their activities do not cause unnecessary damage.

Ongoing local discussions

There is ongoing work with the community and stakeholders as the Congresbury Yeo scheme develops.