

Redwick to Portskewett

Existing defences and probability of flooding

The existing sea defences protect agricultural land and villages on the Caldicot Levels. The current risk of tidal flooding to most properties is a 1 in 200 chance or less in any one year.

Flood risk will increase as sea levels rise and storms become worse.

The defences are generally earth embankments, which often have concrete or stone protection.

At Portland Grounds there is a lower section of embankment that has a higher risk of localised tidal flooding.



What can be done?

We will continue maintaining the various defences over the next 100 years.

The defences will be improved in phases to keep pace with climate change, in common with adjacent defences on this section of coast. This is likely to require extensive rock armour or concrete protection where not already present.

We aim to make improvements to the defence at Portland Grounds in the next 5–10 years, to make the standard of protection consistent with adjacent lengths of bank.

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 then sea level rise would be less than what is projected by the UKCP09 medium emissions scenario.

How these proposals were reached

There is a strong economic case to maintain and improve the existing defences due large number of properties and infrastructure that is protected. Rebuilding the defences further inland is not a less expensive option for the foreseeable future

Key



Existing defences referred to in text