



Environmental Statement
CHAPTER 5 – Consultation

Langstone FCERM Scheme

January 2025

Langstone FCERM Scheme Environmental Statement

Chapter 5

Consultation

Contents

5.	Consultation	5-1
5.1	Approach to Consultation and Engagement.....	5-1
5.1.1	Identifying key issues and stakeholders.....	5-1
5.1.2	Raising awareness, involving and consulting stakeholders.....	5-2
5.1.3	Incorporating stakeholder inputs and providing feedback	5-2
5.2	Consultation and engagement throughout the development of the outline design	5-4
5.3	EIA Scoping.....	5-4
5.4	Consultation and engagement throughout the development of the detailed design.....	5-5

Figures

Figure 5.1: A exhibition poster summarising how the community has shaped the project... 5-3

5. Consultation

Extensive consultation has been undertaken with stakeholders including the community, businesses, landowners and regulators. This chapter provides a summary of the consultation and engagement undertaken. Detailed information can be found in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (**Appendix I**) so the reader is referred to this additional source of information to be read in conjunction with this chapter.

5.1 Approach to Consultation and Engagement

In the early stages of project initiation, stakeholder engagement was highlighted as key to the success of this project, especially as the site is popular with the local community and visitors. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) was produced at both the options appraisal and outline design stage and the detailed design stage. They have served as live documents that outline a framework for engagement with project stakeholders throughout the development of the design phases and keep a log of all engagement activities. The aims and objectives of the SEP, as well as the principles of engagement, has been outlined in the SCI.

5.1.1 Identifying key issues and stakeholders

At the outset of Detailed Design, a longlist of stakeholders was mapped and prepared, building on relationships which had been developed during the outline design. This longlist helped with the identification of stakeholder groups and plans for wider engagement.

Stakeholders have been invited to consider their interest in the project and how proposals will impact them. Throughout the duration of a Scheme, it is possible to identify new and emerging stakeholders and build relationships, which evolve. Therefore, it is emphasised that stakeholder mapping is a dynamic process.

Several stakeholder groups have been established which are detailed within the SCI and summarised below:

- Statutory Consultees.
- Technical Steering Group.
- Langstone Stakeholder Working Group.
- 3rd Party Professional Services.
- Frontline Residents and Businesses.
- Community Leaders.
- Wider Community and interested parties.

5.1.2 Raising awareness, involving and consulting stakeholders

A variety of engagement methods has been used at each stage of the project to encourage participation, raise awareness of the scheme, and update on progress. Engagement methods include, but are not limited to:

- Briefings and presentations.
- Face-to-face meetings and site visits.
- Workshops.
- Exhibitions.
- Virtual Exhibitions, digital webinars and other emerging technology.
- Displays, notice boards and signage.
- Newsletters and e-Newsletters.
- Booklets and posters.
- Web based media including an updated website, questionnaires, social media.
- Press releases.
- Direct communication via email, telephone and virtual telecall.
- Online opinion polls and questionnaires.
- Use of a project specific shared email address as point of contact.

This list is not exhaustive and various alternative or novel methods of engagement emerged as the project progressed. As the project evolved, the appropriate engagement was tailored to each stakeholder group.

5.1.3 Incorporating stakeholder inputs and providing feedback

Throughout the outline design and detailed design stages, all engagement carried out has fed into the development of scheme designs. For example, feedback from the January 2020 public events and the collaborative workshop in March 2020 clearly showed that a key concern was the seawall option along the Royal Oak frontage. Concerns raised related to impacts on views and heritage associated with a higher flood wall along this frontage. The community talked about an alternative option of reinforcing the quay while accepting some flooding in the future but with increased resilience of properties. The project team took these concerns on board and revisited options for this section of the scheme. As a result, two further options for the Royal Oak frontage were identified, incorporating an alternative defence alignment. Following an appraisal of the feasibility of this alternative alignment by our consultants AECOM, an engagement exercise was carried out with the community of Langstone to clarify which alignment was most supported by the community, undertaking extended consultation (<https://coastalpartners.org.uk/static/media/resources/langstone-alternative-alignment-leaflet.pdf>).

Providing feedback has been an important process of engagement. Feedback has been sought via the following methods:

- Regular updates on the website and social media streams.
- Questionnaire results and engagement reports made available for review on the website.
- Presentations and briefings on the engagement results and progress.
- Community drop-in Sessions and 1-2-1 Resident Meetings.

- Langstone Stakeholder Working Group.
- Email, telephone and written correspondence.

Summary reports of the engagement events, questionnaire results, and minutes of working group meetings are all available upon request or on the Coastal Partners website at www.coastalpartners.org.uk/project/langstone-coastal-defence-scheme.

You Said, We Did!

The Langstone Community and Stakeholders have been key to developing appropriate and considerate designs.

We have held various well attended community events over the years and have listened to feedback received to shape the design proposal

Here are some of the key community influences:



Figure 5.1: A exhibition poster summarising how the community has shaped the project.

5.2 Consultation and engagement throughout the development of the outline design

Section 3.1 of the SCI (Appendix I) outlines the extensive consultation and engagement undertaken during the outline design phase. This has included but is not limited to three workshops for the Langstone Stakeholder Working Group at key milestones (project start-up, shortlisting, leading options), face to face meetings, and two phases of public exhibitions. Please refer to the **SCI (Appendix I)** for more detail. Summary reports of the outcomes of these events and public feedback on the outline design are available upon request or on the scheme area of Coastal Partners website at www.coastalpartners.org.uk/project/langstone-coastal-defence-scheme.

The project team have also engaged with statutory stakeholders to obtain advice and their support at the short list and leading options stages of the project. This has included face-to-face meetings, online meetings and site walkovers. For example, a Discretionary Advisory Service (DAS) agreement was in place with Natural England and pre-planning advice was sought from the Local Planning Authority and Hampshire County Council including specific advice on conservation, archaeology and highways. Statutory stakeholder involvement and contributions have been embedded into the relevant chapters of the Environmental Statement (ES).

A Cabinet Meeting was held in October 2020. Prior to this, Coastal Partners provided detailed information to inform a Cabinet Briefing, in addition to answering several questions raised by Cabinet Members. Furthermore, Coastal Partners met with the HBC Leader of the Council and local residents on site to discuss concerns raised in the lead up to the Cabinet Meeting.

The Cabinet Meeting on the 28 October 2020 resolved that Cabinet:

- Noted the positive progress of the outline design study and the notable success relating to securing or identifying funding to take it forwards into detailed design;
- Approved the outline design and recommended route alignment options, the detailed design will be brought back to Cabinet for approval, noting the polarised community views on some stretches of the frontage.

5.3 EIA Scoping

An Environmental Scoping Report was prepared for the Scheme under the following regulations:

- The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended);
- Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

This was to scope the opinions of our statutory and wider environmental stakeholders to determine the environmental acceptability of the proposed scheme options and mitigation required. The **Scoping Opinion** is included as **Appendix A (A1, A2, A3)**, and the **Environmental Scoping Report** is included as **Appendix A4**. The scoping opinion has advised completion of this ES. See **Table 1.1 of Chapter 1 (Introduction)** for key questions raised as part of the Scoping Opinion, and where the information can be found within this ES. **Chapter 1 (Introduction)** also details which topics were scoped out of further assessment.

Consultation with key stakeholders has continued following the submission of the Scoping Report and throughout the pre-application process to inform them of the proposed project and capture potential issues, concerns, and relevant information to be considered.

5.4 Consultation and engagement throughout the development of the detailed design

Section 3.2 of the SCI (Appendix I) outlines the extensive consultation and engagement undertaken during the detailed design phase. This has included but is not limited to three workshops for the Langstone Stakeholder Working Group at key milestones (detailed design start-up, 50% design, 80% design), face to face meetings, community drop-in sessions, including on 'hot topics' and a public exhibition in January 2024 to present the detailed design. Please refer to the **SCI (Appendix I)** for more detail. Summary reports on the outcomes of these events and public feedback on the detailed design are available upon request or on the scheme area of Coastal Partners website at www.coastalpartners.org.uk/langstone-detailed-design-public-exhibition.

The project team have also engaged with statutory stakeholders to obtain advice and their support throughout the detailed design stage. This has included face-to-face, online meetings and site walkovers with the Local Planning Authority, Hampshire County Council and regulators, including the Conservation Officer. In addition, a Discretionary Advisory Service (DAS) agreement was in place with regulators and statutory consultees including Natural England. Their involvement and contributions have been embedded into the relevant chapters of the Environmental Statement (ES).

A Cabinet Meeting was held in March 2024, recommending that Cabinet approves progression to complete the Planning and Consenting stage of the project, of which the SCI supports.