

# THE RIVER ITCHEN FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

**NEWSLETTER** 

Autumn 2021

Important information for businesses about a new flood alleviation scheme along the River Itchen











## WELCOME TO THE RIVER ITCHEN FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME (RIFAS)

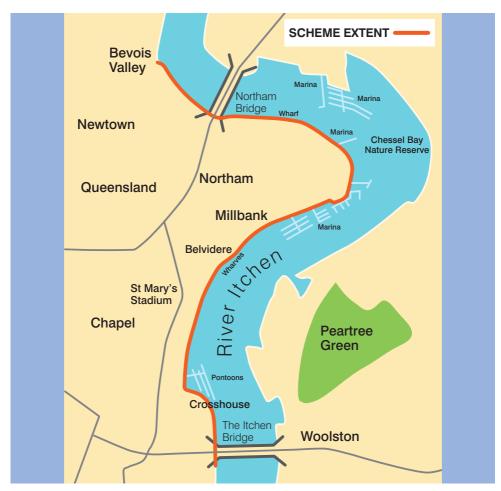


The River Itchen is an iconic part of Southampton, but rising sea levels and climate change are making the area more prone to tidal flooding. We want to better protect people, homes and businesses from the damage and disruption that flooding could cause now and in years to come.

The RIFAS will be an engineered wall, designed to better protect properties and infrastructure from overflowing water from the Itchen Estuary. The project is being delivered by Southampton City Council and the Environment Agency in line with the Council's Coastal Strategy. Throughout the duration of the project, we will be consulting with you, the people most directly affected by the scheme, as well as other stakeholders and community groups.

### The flood defence area

The area most at risk of tidal flooding, and therefore referred to as the scheme extent, runs from the west side of the river from Mount Pleasant Industrial Estate in the north, to the Southampton Water Activities Centre just south of the Itchen Bridge.



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### Where are we now?

We are currently producing the outline design for the scheme, which means we're considering different options for how the scheme will be built. We expect this phase to continue into 2022 while we consult with as many stakeholders as we can. You're invited to get involved – see the back page for information.



We'll be hosting public consultations in early 2022 and inviting local people to submit their ideas and feedback on the current plans. If you'd like to sign up to receive news about the scheme and information about our scheme events by email, please let us know by contacting us at

#### RIFAS@southampton.gov.uk

In the meantime, we would like to hear your views by completing our questionnaire about the RIFAS. Simply scan the QR code using your smartphone or visit



www.southampton.gov.uk/RIFAS2021 before Friday, 17 December, 2021.

If you would like this leaflet in an alternative format or language, please contact us by emailing <a href="mailto:RIFAS@southampton.gov.uk">RIFAS@southampton.gov.uk</a>