

What are we telling you about?

Essential work that we are planning in your area to remove trees and bushes from seawalls so that we can continue to maintain these walls.

Where is this work happening?

The map overleaf indicates the stretches of the defence banks we will be working on.

When are we doing this work?

We will carry out the grass cutting work in March 2012. We will then return later to remove larger shrubs and trees, checking first for any nesting birds or other protected species.

We aim to minimise disruption by keeping the footpath open during these works, but would ask footpath users to wait for our machinery to stop working before passing. Staff on site will advise the public when it is safe to pass. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank people for their patience.

Environmental bodies, including Natural England, are in full agreement with us doing this work.

What will we be doing?

Work will involve cutting the grass along the bank as normal to a minimum height of 150mm.

Larger shrubs and trees will also need to be cut from the front face toe to the back face toe of the bank.

Work will be carried out using an excavator or tractor mounted flail, together with chainsaws and strimmers where necessary.

Cut material will be left on site to naturally decompose as habitat for lizards and other species, chipped on site or taken off site depending on the size and amount of material.

Why are we doing this work?

In order to maintain the standard of the banks, it is important that no large vegetation is growing on or through the banks with the potential to undermine the protection they offer.

Having the banks clear of large vegetation removes the possibility of fallen trees causing breaches of the defence and allows us to inspect the banks more easily.

This means that we can identify any early signs of failure and ensure where necessary, we maintain the banks appropriately. It also encourages more beneficial species of flora which help protect and bind the surface of the bank.

How will this work benefit you?

We want to make sure that sea defences offer the best standard of flood protection to people and their property. By doing this work now the structural integrity of the bank is ensured for many years to come.

How can I get involved or get in touch?

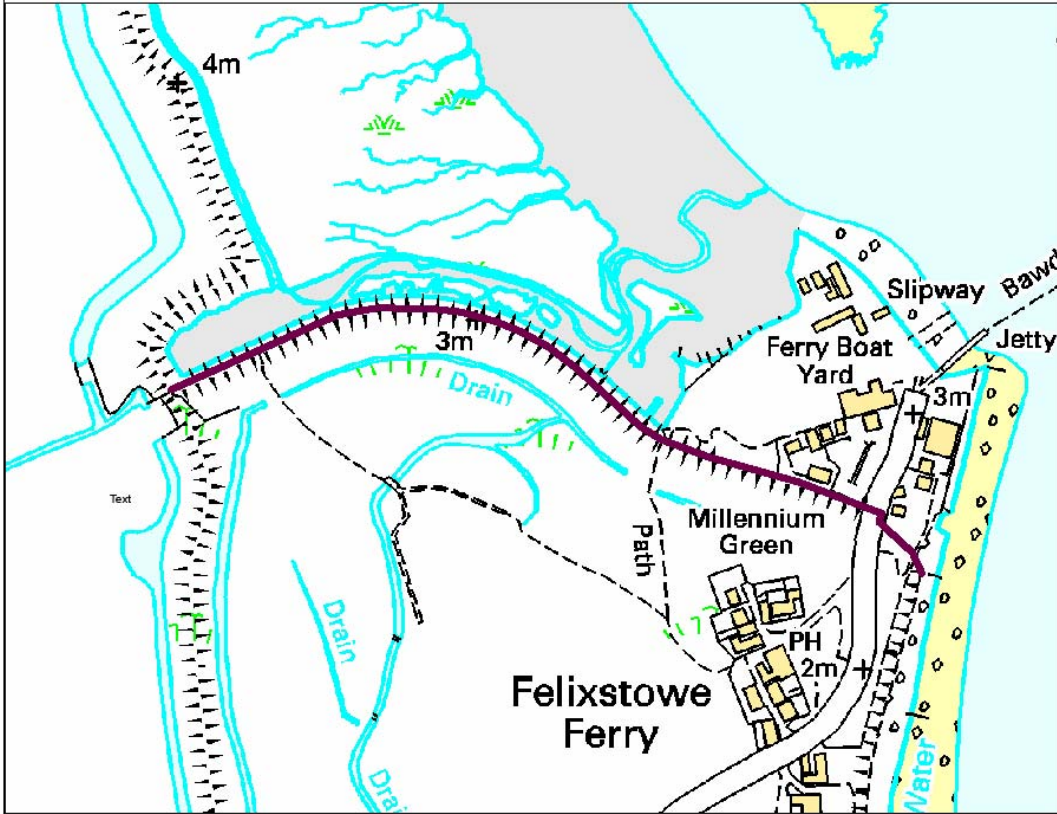
This information is to let you know about vital work going on in your community and adjacent to your land. Please contact us if you would like to discuss this in more detail, need further information or would like to comment on this work. We will keep you up-to-date with any further developments.

Contact

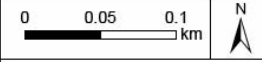
✉ enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

☎ 08708 506 506 (Weekday daytime calls to 0870 numbers cost 8p, plus up to 6p per minute from BT Weekend Unlimited. Mobile and other providers' charges may vary).

IMAN002124



Legend
Felixstowe Ferry Sea Wall Vegetation



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