

HURST SPIT TO LYMINGTON

STRATEGY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026 - ISSUE #18

Strategy Vision

A sustainable future for the Hurst Spit to Lymington area for the next 100 years: enabling communities, the environment, wildlife, heritage, recreation, tourism, and business to adapt to climate change and sea level rise.

Draft Strategy consultation now open

The public consultation on the Draft Strategy is now underway and will remain open until midnight on **Friday 25 September**.

We want to hear from everyone who lives, works, visits, or spends time along the coast between Hurst Spit and Lymington.

The Draft Strategy sets out proposed approaches to managing flood and coastal erosion risks over the next 100 years, helping to protect communities, businesses, infrastructure, and the unique local environment, as well as creating opportunities for habitat creation.

Over recent weeks, the Strategy Team has hosted a range of consultation events, including meetings, public exhibitions in Milford-on-Sea and Lymington, and an online webinar. These events have already welcomed 342 people, providing opportunities for residents to meet the team, ask questions, and explore interactive displays that bring future coastal challenges and potential proposals to life.



Public Exhibition - Bridge Centre



3D projected model illustrating flood risk

There is still plenty of time to get involved by visiting one of our exhibitions, exploring the consultation materials online, and sharing your views to help shape the future of this important stretch of coastline.

Local leaders and community partners explore the Draft Strategy

In June, the Strategy Team hosted two special events to share the Draft Strategy with elected representatives and community organisations.

One event brought together a wide range of local decision-makers, including Desmond Swayne MP, councillors from Hampshire County Council, New Forest District Council, Lymington and Pennington Town Council, Milford-on-Sea Parish Council, and members of the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.

Attendees viewed the exhibition materials, spoke directly with technical specialists. The event provided an opportunity to learn more about the proposed approach, ask questions, and understand what the Strategy could mean for local communities in the years ahead.

The other event, around 30 representatives from conservation organisations, the sailing community and landowners attended a similar session. They explored the interactive engagement activities and shared their local knowledge.

These conversations form an important part of the consultation process, helping to ensure a wide range of local perspectives are heard as plans for managing future flood and coastal erosion risks continue to develop.



Elected members meeting - 18 June 2026

Milford Dam upgrades strengthen flood protection



New twin floodgates at Milford Dam

The Environment Agency's Asset Performance Team has completed £120,000 of improvements to Milford Dam, a key flood defence near Milford-on-Sea. Built in 1998, the dam helps protect local homes and businesses by temporarily storing floodwater during periods of heavy rainfall.

The upgrade programme included a new control system, improved monitoring equipment, enhanced site safety measures, and a battery backup system to ensure the dam continues operating during power outages. Additional improvements include upgraded electrical systems, CCTV, and LED lighting.

The improvements will help ensure the dam remains reliable and better prepared to manage flood risk during increasingly variable weather conditions.

Stay in touch



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Have your say before 25 September 2026
www.hurstspit2lymington.co.uk/consultation