Looe Flood Defence and Regeneration Scheme

Wednesday 14 June
13:15 BST
Speakers

Ellen Buswell, WSP International Social Specialist

Jodi Pastorino, WSP Engagement Specialist

Nigel Horwell, Arcadis Development Manager, Looe Flood Defence & Regeneration Scheme

Samuel Johnson, WSP Environmental Specialist
1. Introduction to social value in the context of flood defence projects.

2. Introduction to the Looe Flood defence project and project objectives.

3. Community engagement and communication.

4. Environment.

5. Conclusion and questions.
Flood Defence Projects and Social Value

- Flooding is a significant natural hazard that poses a threat to communities, causing extensive damage to infrastructure, homes, and the environment.

- The importance of social value in flood defence projects lies in their ability to deliver tangible benefits in terms of:
  
  - Flood Risk Reduction
  - Improved Community Well-being
  - Economic Growth
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - Enhanced Quality of Life.
Psychological Effects of Flooding

- Flood defence projects that prioritise social value help to strengthen community cohesion by:
  
  - Involving residents in decision-making.
  - Fostering belonging and empowerment.
  - Promoting collective resilience and support networks.
  - Consider the broader well-being of individuals beyond flood risk reduction
  - Actively involving diverse stakeholders.
  - Addressing inequalities, contribute to reducing stress, anxiety, and other psychological effects

- Strong community ties aid individuals in coping with flood-related psychological effects and facilitate the recovery process.
Social Value Approach

- Recognises the broader societal impacts of flood defence initiatives and aims to maximize positive outcomes beyond flood risk reduction.

- It involves:
  - Integrating local knowledge, perspectives, and needs into the planning, design, and implementation of projects.
  - Fostering community cohesion.
  - Empowering local communities and enhancing overall community resilience.

- Additionally, this approach emphasises long-term planning, collaboration, and effective communication with stakeholders to ensure that the social value they want is effectively incorporated into flood defence strategies.
Looe Flood Defence and Regeneration Scheme

- History of flooding
- A community at risk
Looe Project Objectives

- Protect Looe from frequent and severe flooding and damage over the next 100 years, giving the community time to adapt to climate change.
- Enhance the overall environmental integrity of the designated sites and water bodies.
- Work to promote economic growth in East Cornwall by protecting key transport links and protecting and enhancing the visitor and marine economy.
Flood Defence Options

- Demountable Barriers
- Permanent Walls
- Quayside Extension
- Flood Adaptation
- Tidal Barrier Only
- Tidal Barrier with Breakwaters
Community Readiness

**Understanding the community:**
- What’s important to the community?
- What values underpin beliefs or concerns?
- Demographics.

**Capability and capacity building:**
- Providing clear facts.
- Engaging meaningfully.
- Providing accessible and inclusive engagement.
- Giving time to absorb information and form opinions.

Less than 50 years from now, there will be a 1 in 2 chance of this extent of flooding taking place every year if we do nothing.

100 years from now, extreme flooding events such as this will be possible if we do nothing (0.5% chance).
Engaging Engagement

- Inclusive and accessible
- Look, listen or talk?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Podcast</th>
<th>Social Media &amp; Partner Sites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Videos/YouTube &amp; Partner Sites</td>
<td>Newsletters</td>
<td>Local Newspapers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>Pop up Events</td>
<td>Engagement Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcards</td>
<td>Posters and Leaflets</td>
<td>Feedback and Reports</td>
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You can view a short film about the scheme below:

History of flooding – video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gfCtWmPC-4
Addressing concerns

With change comes concern:
- Conflicting views
- Different perceptions

We need to:
- Understand the community’s concerns
- Work with the community to address concerns
- Essential for meaningful feedback
- Key messages: More than flood prevention

Campaign to address concerns:

Core themes:
- History of flooding
- Flood Defence Options
- Banjo Pier
- Environment
- Economics
The Community’s Relationship with the Environment

Building a picture of common concerns and values within the town.
Informing the Community

- Using our information to give the community the tools they need to have an informed preference on a Scheme.
- Helping gather more information which helps stakeholders within the community.
Environmental Added Value

- Exploring ways, we can add value to the human and natural environment as part of the Project.
Any questions?
Thank you

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