

Newsletter

Spring 2021


southsea
COASTAL SCHEME



Keeping history alive

New sea defences at Frontage 1 (Long Curtain Moat) will closely resemble the historic area, thanks to meticulous sourcing of stone that matches the original seawalls.

Granite will be used for the apron (sloped revetment wall) and Purbeck Limestone will be used for the wall cladding west of Spur Redoubt.

Approval from Historic England for the materials to be used came after more than a year of consultation and testing of materials to ensure the new design was sympathetic to the historic area. It's a major milestone for the Scheme and allows us to press ahead with building the sea defences.

Life by the sea

We've installed 18 new tide pools in the newly constructed rock revetment at Frontage 1 (Long Curtain Moat), thanks to £20k match funding from the Environment Agency's Water Environment Improvement Fund.

The pools have been placed around the high water mark where they will provide a habitat for marine flora and fauna such as brown and red seaweed, barnacles, periwinkles and anemones. We could also potentially see some small gobies, crabs and starfish!



Happy to talk

We're often approached by organisations who would like us to speak at their meetings to provide an update on the Southsea Coastal Scheme – and we're happy to oblige! We recently presented at meetings of the Portsmouth Sailing Club and the Solent Forum. Who's next?

We want to 'sea' YOU!

Our public liaison officer Jeannette is looking forward to welcoming visitors to a drop-in Project Information Centre based at our Pier Road site, following the lifting of Covid restrictions.

Jeannette has a strong customer service background, having worked in HR, teaching, school travel and call centres.

Jeannette said: "It's a privilege to be involved in this significant project in my home town of Portsmouth. I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone who has questions about the Southsea Coastal Scheme – and hopefully sharing my enthusiasm about the scheme with them."

An update about the centre's opening date and times will be provided.



Unearthing forgotten city walls

More historic walls have been revealed during piling works west of the Spur Redoubt after the discovery earlier this year of 17th century walls and a slipway. The new find looks to date from the same period.

To minimise damage to the structure, a specialist demolition technique called hydro demolition was used to remove concrete around the walls.

Our close work with Historic England and Wessex Archaeology will ensure that the discovery is preserved for the future.



Southsea Rock!

In April we welcomed two deliveries of rock from Norway totalling more than 11,000 tonnes. The rock is being used to create the revetment at Frontage 1 (Long Curtain Moat).

The anorthosite rock has a density of more than 2.6t per m³ which makes it incredibly heavy and durable – both key characteristics for a rock armour defence.

Construction of the revetment is now underway. This involves placement and accurate packing of the rock in two layers, ensuring there are sufficient voids to dissipate the force of the waves.

Want more information?

Website: southseacoastalscheme.org.uk
Facebook: [SouthseaCoastalScheme](https://www.facebook.com/SouthseaCoastalScheme)
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