

Frequently asked questions

Q. What is being done?

A. We are replacing the sea defence walls, as the existing coastal defences are time expired and currently failing. The current concrete coast defences were built in the 1890's and have been undergoing emergency repairs every year to prevent a major breach.

The project consists of two phases. Phase 1 started in January 2018 at Church Scar, and phase 2 commenced in December 2018, with work due to complete in March 2020.

Q. Why is the work being done?

A. Fylde Council require the work to be undertaken in order to protect peoples' homes and sustain economic growth as the existing sea defence wall is deteriorating. By replacing it now, we will continue to protect the area from flooding. The combined flood and erosion risk, contains 2,425 residential properties, schools and infrastructure serving the wider area. Whilst individual property owners are responsible for protecting their own property and land from flooding: Fylde Council has taken the proactive and positive decision to invest in protecting the coastline at Church Scar and Fairhaven. This being to avoid the risk of properties becoming blighted / succumbing to coastal erosion.

Q. How long will the work take?

A. The construction work is due to complete in March 2020.

Q. Can I still walk on the promenade?

A. We understand that this is a popular area, so don't worry we have diversions in place.

For phase 1 of the project a temporary pedestrian diversion is in place along the sand dunes, adjacent to Church Scar to maintain access between Lytham Green and Ansdell Road during works.

For phase 2 of the project at Fairhaven the promenade has been closed off for health and safety reasons, as well as a small section around the lake.

Q. Who is doing the work?

A. The main contractor is VBA, a joint venture between VolkerStevin, Boskalis Westminster and Atkins, who has been appointed by Fylde Borough Council to undertake the works on behalf of the Environment Agency. VBA specialises in designing and constructing sustainable flood and coastal defences throughout the UK.

Q. Why can't I park on Fairlawn Road

Carrying out this type of work unavoidably requires a lot of heavy machinery and due to the location of the site we will have no option but to close Fairlawn Road south of West Beach. Access will remain for residents of Fairlawn Road, however parking on Fairlawn Road will not be permitted for health and safety reasons.

Q. What about Granny's Bay?

A. Following the success so far with the Scheme the Council has taken the decision to re-invest grant available grant monies into works at Granny's bay too. Granny's bay is also due to be complete in 2020.

Q. Can I go on site to see what's going on?

A. For health and safety reasons we are unable to provide access to the public. We do however have a customer centre whereby up to date information and images of the project can be seen.

Q. What are the working hours?

A. The team will be working 7.30am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday and 8.00am – 2.00pm Saturday. If we need to increase this at any time, we will notify residents.

Q. Will the noise and vibration damage my house?

A. An independent surveyor has carried out pre-condition surveys on the surrounding areas. We also have noise and vibration monitors in place.

Q. What is happening with the memorial benches currently located around Fairhaven and Church Scar?

A. The project has involved a complete redesign of the promenade environment including benches, lighting, railings etc. The current plans are for the benches to be removed and stored safely and then returned to the area following completion of the project.

Please be assured that this removal will be carried out carefully, in a safe manner and with the utmost consideration. The memorial benches will initially be securely stored in an area within the contractor's site compound at Fairlawn Road.

The decision to temporarily remove the memorial benches has not been made lightly, however its safe keeping is our primary focus.

Q. When will the promenade reopen?

A. Whilst Parties, Fylde Council and VBA Ltd, on the 20/10/17 agreed by way of deed a Completion Date of 31/03/20 for the whole Scheme (Church Scar and Fairhaven Lake); from listening to the public's excitement about wishing to enjoy the new product at Church Scar, Fylde Council may decide to exercise its rights under the contract and take over certain areas earlier than agreed. One such area may be Church Scar when it is safe, practicable and commercially viable to do so (in respect of public expenditure)

Q. Where can I find out more about the project?

A. The customer centre is located on St Paul's carpark towards the back of Fairhaven Lake. Call in to meet the project team, take a look and the progress images and ask any questions.

Q. What are the customer centre opening times?

A. Monday 1.00pm - 4.30pm

Thursday 1.00pm - 4.30pm

Friday 9.00am - 12.30pm

Q. Why is the compound on Fairlawn Road still being used now the offices have moved to St Pauls Car Park

A. Our compound location on Fairlawn Road will remain for the storage of plant and material, however from the week commencing 22nd April all office staff, including our customer centre will be relocated to St Pauls Car Park.