



23 June 2008

Defra comment on Norfolk Broads

A Defra spokesperson said:

"The Norfolk Broads are currently defended from sea flooding, and benefit from a 20 years maintenance plan to protect the area from freshwater flood. The North Norfolk Shoreline Management Plan for this area has a policy to maintain the existing standard of protection at the current level for the next 50 years. The Environment Agency has an ongoing £120 million 20 year Public/Private Partnership project to strengthen riverside defences in the area, and it also has approval for a £21 million project for beach management works in the area.

"The Department recognises the impact that the changing climate has on our coastline which is why we are developing a range of approaches to help communities adapt to the changing coastline. We are working with those affected to look at how we can help people adapt.

"Natural England is leading groundbreaking research to assess the potential impact of climate change on England's natural environment, however they do not take decisions affecting people and property.

"Since 1st April 2008 the Environment Agency has had the strategic overview of all capital funding for coastal defence to ensure that works are appropriately prioritised, balancing national interests and local needs."