

CLIMATE CHANGE VISION AND ACTION PLAN FOR THE LOWER OUSE VALLEY

Coastal communities face the prospect of rising sea levels, increased erosion, flooding and the salinity of fresh water. All aspects of life will be affected, and a coordinated, long-term approach to adaptation will be essential.

LDA Design worked with communities in Newhaven, Seaford, Lewes and rural areas to help them understand the risks and opportunities and prepare to adapt. The work was part of Coastal Communities 2150, an EU project exploring innovative ways to engage people in planning for the future.

We created long-term adaptation scenarios including traditional flood defences and more creative solutions such as managed realignment, relocating buildings and infrastructure to higher ground or raising them up on stilts or floating platforms, and crops and farming techniques which are more resilient to extreme weather.

Illustrations and case studies were developed to help people visualise these scenarios and their implications. We used these in a series of consultation events including public exhibitions, a formal workshop and a pub quiz, then developed the vision and action plan, working with the community steering group. We also designed a climate trail with displays in five popular local destinations.

The work was very well received by community members, and received a Landscape Institute Award in 2014.



Waking up to tomorrow
Adapting to climate change in the lower Ouse valley and coastal areas
The Coastal Futures Group vision and action plan



CLIENT
Environment Agency

LOCATION
Lower Ouse Valley

PARTNERS
Royal Haskoning

SERVICES USED
Evidence base studies and policy advice, mapping and assessment of opportunities and risks, strategy development, guidance, training and communication

BUDGET
Confidential

AREA
Lower Ouse Valley, Sussex

SCHEDULE
Completed in 2013

- 1 Adaptation scenarios use in consultation events
- 2 Cover of the vision and action plan
- 3 Community members at the launch of the climate trail