

# This autumn a rock structure is being constructed to protect the failing section of seawall, just west of the White House

## What happened?

Last winter's severe weather has resulted in a 200m section of concrete seawall at Westover, being heavily damaged. Half of the wall failed completely, and the other half is in a state of collapse. The seawall is unravelling in an eastwardly direction, which means the next 110m section is now also at very high risk of failure. Works are urgently required to slow the failure of the seawall.



## What is planned?

Phase 1 is the construction of a rock revetment in order to protect the seawall. The revetment will join the existing revetment fronting the White House, extending 180m to the west. This will be constructed using 9,000T of Larvik rock armour from a Norwegian quarry. New Forest District Council (NFDC) has allocated £1.5M to undertake Phase-1, but will be seeking to recover the majority of this cost through central government funding.

## How will the revetment be built?

The rock armourstone is being shipped from Norway to Southampton, then delivered to the site by a smaller barge. Plant on the foreshore will then place the rock into the revetment profile.

Inset image above: Damaged seawall.  
Images right (left to right): Rocks on the barge; Rocks being delivered from the barge; Rocks on the beach; Example of a completed revetment.



## How long will it take?

Construction is programmed to take approximately 14 weeks (weather and tide dependant). If sea conditions are rough, the barge will not be able to deliver the rock to the shore. The area around the construction activities will need to be closed off for the works duration, but it will be possible to view the works from the eastern end, beside the White House.

## What next (Phase 2)?

It is recognised that following the completion of Phase 1 there is a need to complete a full works scheme that provides the required protection across the whole frontage, over and above the urgent works. This is likely to take the form of a rock structure all along the damaged section, along with associated ancillary works.

In order to deliver this, there is a requirement to undertake scheme development and appraisal work, followed by site construction.

This will be subject to the receipt of central government funding and importantly, partnership funding, without which any future work will not progress.



Above: Map of Milford-on-Sea, showing where rock revetment will be constructed. Scale 1:2000 © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 Ordnance Survey 100026220

## Further information

The cost of this phase of construction is £1.5M, funded up front by New Forest District Council. The contractor for the work is Earlcoate.

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