

# High Tides and Flooding

## Why do floods happen?

Coastal flooding usually results from a combination of high tides and stormy conditions. Low atmospheric pressure can create a tidal surge which may cause serious flooding.

Added to this are the effects of wind and increased wave heights which increase water levels in Portsmouth Harbour.

Areas of this coastline are at risk from tidal flooding when these conditions occur. These photos show some of the effects of recent events.



## Historic Flooding around Portchester and Paulsgrove

Parts of Portchester have always been susceptible to flooding from the sea and surface water. There have been a number of significant floods in the past.

Over time some of the coastal defences in the area have been reconstructed and drainage measures improved.

The images above provide a useful reminder of the residual risks of flooding for those living in a flood risk area that benefits from flood defences. The most notable events were in 1912 and 1926.

Unfortunately records do not include floodwater levels and we have not been able to locate any flood benchmarks within Castle Street or surrounding area.

If you know of the existence of any flood marks, the project team would be interested to learn more.



Working together - protecting our coastline