# **TEAM2100**



## Flood risks on Canvey Island

#### Is Canvey Island at risk of flooding from the sea?

Canvey Island is very low lying with ground levels nearly two metres below the daily high tide level in the Thames estuary. This means that the entire Island is at risk of tidal flooding which could impact more than 15,000 residential properties. This risk is managed by 14 miles (23km) of tidal defences which provide a very high standard of protection and were built in response to the last tidal flood event to impact the Island in 1953.

#### Can flooding occur from other sources?

There are no natural streams or rivers on Canvey Island. Instead, the Island has a complex and interlinked network of surface water sewers, open and culverted ditches, ponds, and pumping stations. Rainfall runoff is collected and channeled to the pumping stations and gravity outfalls around the edge of the Island and pumped or drained out to the Thames estuary. Flooding can occur if the amount of rain falling is greater than the capacity of the entire drainage network. This last happened on:

- 24<sup>th</sup> August 2013 widespread flash flooding including highways flooding in Maurice Avenue and Roggel Road / Sprundal Road impacting at least 50 properties.
- 20<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Intense rainfall across south Essex led to widespread flooding of roads and impacted over 200 properties. During the peak of the rainfall, 100 mm fell during a four-hour period which has a 0.3% chance of occurring in any one year and is considered an exceptionally severe event.

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## Who is responsible for managing flood risk on Canvey Island?

