

## [Work experience programme finishes on a high](#)

As the new school year starts, many students will be thinking about their future. Some may now be thinking of a career in nuclear engineering, after taking part in our hugely successful work experience programme.

Our hugely successful work experience programme has been running in Warrington for 3 years and gives local 15-17 year olds the chance to try out a number of engineering disciplines.

A total of 66 students took part in this year's programme, which is delivered by our graduates, apprentices and industrial placement students.

The final group of the summer, who came from schools in Cheshire, Lancashire and Greater Manchester, are pictured getting to grips with robotics.

Work experience students getting to grips with robotics.

Like all our students, during the week they dealt with a variety of engineering challenges.

These included designing a sludge recovery process and developing the mechanical package design, programming an automated guided vehicle, and then designing a bridge that can safely support the vehicle and package.

Each week they finished their programme with a visualisation of their design in virtual reality before presenting their weeks work experience to our senior engineers.

Our Warrington work experience programme is widely considered to be one of the best and has even led to careers in the business.

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## [Call for Humber communities to give views on tidal flood risk](#)

The Humber 2100+ partnership – made up of 12 local authorities, the Environment Agency and the Humber LEP – are working together to come up with a new approach to managing tidal flood risk around the estuary and on the tidal rivers upstream, such as the River Hull and the Holderness Drain.

They want to understand how people in the area feel about tidal flooding and

how it can best be managed, and are also keen to understand what people value in their local area and would like to see protected or taken into account as part of the new strategy.

Tidal flood risk on and around the Humber is currently managed through an existing strategy, published in 2008, which will see £150m invested in new or improved flood management schemes by 2021. However, the time is right to review the approach to ensure that all communities around the estuary can continue to prosper in the face of increased tidal flood risk due to sea level rise and climate change.

The Humber 2100+ project team is currently undertaking technical work to look at what is possible in terms of practicality, value for money and environmental considerations. However, they also want to know what people living and working in the area would like to see. All of this information will be brought together next year to develop initial options, and then a public consultation will be held to allow people to comment on the emerging proposals.

Environment Agency Humber Strategy Manager Philip Winn said: "Tidal flooding can have an effect on businesses, agriculture, communities and the local environment, as we saw in December 2013, when 1,100 properties were flooded and there was huge damage around the estuary.

"It's one of the biggest risks faced by people living on the very flat and vulnerable land around the Humber, so we want to involve as many people as possible in shaping the new strategy so that it truly provides a solution for all.

"This public survey is the first stage in gathering input from others, and there will be more opportunities to comment as we develop our plans."

Councillor Chris Matthews, East Riding of Yorkshire Council's portfolio holder for strategic management, said:

It is important East Riding residents who live near the Humber Estuary take part in this survey as it will help to inform us how aware people are of the risks of tidal flooding, how prepared they are if flooding occurs, and therefore what more we need to do as a partnership.

Although we are working on a number of tidal flood defence schemes and other measures which will reduce the risk of flooding, we can never prevent flooding altogether, so we need to make sure residents are as informed and prepared as possible.

Mike Thompson, portfolio holder for neighbourhoods, communities and environment, said:

Hull has made an incredible amount of progress in terms of building

a flood resilient city, but there is always more that can be done. This is why we want to hear your views.

Hull has the second-highest number of properties at flood risk in the UK outside of London, with 98 per cent of the city defined as at “high risk” of flooding. This risk will only increase with climate change and sea level rise, and your input into how we shape our future plans is crucial.

Cllr Stewart Swinburn, portfolio holder for environment at North East Lincolnshire Council, said:

Being situated on the coast brings with it lots of pros and cons.

Unfortunately we have seen the impact that flooding can have on areas in and around North East Lincolnshire. Tidal flooding can give little or no warning, and can damage or destroy property and businesses so it’s important that local people have their say on these plans.

It could be your house or business that is damaged, so don’t miss your chance to shape this 100 year strategy.

Cllr Chris McGuinness, Doncaster Council’s Cabinet Member for Communities, the Voluntary Sector and Environment, said:

I encourage residents living in Barnby Dun, Moorends, Stainforth, Sykehouse and Thorne, where there is a potential tidal flood risk, and any other interested people, to find out more about the strategy and have their say.

You can fill out the survey [here](#)

More information about the Humber 2100+ partnership and the new Humber Strategy can be found [here](#)

To check if you are at risk of flooding, and find out how to prepare, [visit](#)

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## [Commissioning letter to the MAC on a points-based system for migration](#)

The Home Secretary has asked the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to conduct a review of the Australian immigration system and similar systems to advise on what best practice can be used to strengthen the UK labour market and attract the best and brightest from around the world.

The MAC has been asked to report by January 2020.

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## [New system to ensure safety of self-driving vehicles ahead of their sale](#)

- Future of Transport Minister opens new test facility for self-driving vehicles, 5G telecommunications and cyber security developers
- government working to enable 'advanced' trials of self-driving cars
- safety assurance system aims to lead to mainstream sale and use of automated vehicles

The UK's position as a world leader in the safe testing and roll-out of self-driving vehicles has been further cemented by a new safety regime, called CAV PASS, being pioneered in the UK, Minister of State for the Future of Transport Minister, George Freeman, has announced today (4 September 2019).

To ensure self-driving vehicles are safe and secure by design and minimise any defects ahead of their testing, sale and wider deployment on UK roads, the government is developing an assurance system using its world-leading expertise in vehicle safety and cyber security within government, industry and academia.

The minister today also officially opened the Autonomous Village, a self-driving vehicle test facility at Millbrook-Culham with 70km of secure test tracks, a private mobile network and a simulator suite. This will be part of a network of self-driving vehicle test facilities across the country, co-ordinated by UK automated vehicle company Zenzic. The new ground will allow developers to safely challenge systems and collect data, to help fine-tune software, sensors, 5G telecommunications and cyber security systems.

Speaking at the Cenex-Low Carbon Vehicle conference today, Future of Transport Minister George Freeman said:

Self-driving vehicles can offer significant rewards for the UK's

economy, road safety and accessibility. We are determined to lead in the testing and development of safe autonomous transport.

This is new terrain, and with our national expertise the UK is well-placed to blaze the trail globally by developing a global benchmark for assuring the safety and security of this exciting technology.

Director of campaigns for road safety charity Brake, Joshua Harris said:

Connected and autonomous vehicles have enormous potential to eliminate driver error and help put an end to the daily tragedy of deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The technology and its potential is hugely exciting but it's critical that these vehicles are robustly tested for safety before allowing them on our roads. We support the leading role being played by UK government on this important agenda for safe mobility and the safety assurance regime will undoubtedly be fundamental to its future success.

The new safety assurance system will first focus on enabling the advanced trialling of self-driving vehicles, and aims to eventually help assure the safety and security of these vehicles for their mainstream sale and use. Such advanced trials may include those without a human operator in the loop at all times, or the assessment of novel vehicle types such as pods and shuttles.

This work builds on the world-leading [code of practice for automated vehicle trials first launched by the UK in 2015 and updated this year](#).