

# #WeAreHere

## Putting flood resilience at the heart of planning

The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) presents a unique opportunity to place the long term safety of our communities at the heart of the planning process. Given inevitable and devastating impact of climate change on communities and our economy, it is vital that we act now make flood protection a top priority for all planning decisions.

Hull is facing 1.5 metres of sea level rise in the next eighty years on the current trajectory of climate changing emissions caused by human activity. Skegness, Boston, Portsmouth, the coasts of Suffolk, to name a few, face irreversible sea level rise. Places such as Doncaster and the Derbyshire Dales an increased risk of flooding that will simply devastate communities if nothing is done.

This country cannot afford the billions it will cost every time there is a flooding disaster because no effort was made to address the problem, nor should the suffering of people and communities as a consequence of inevitable flooding and sea level rise be acceptable. Decisions are still being made to approve development in flood risk areas – where it is likely there will be no insurance and no long term future for these homes.

Baroness Hayman has proposed a 'community resilience to climate change' **amendment, no. 270** responding to the needs of people and places who are facing uncertain and risky futures:

### **270 'Community Resilience to Climate Change'**

This amendment would both define and prioritise adaptation and resilience in local authority planning functions in a way which enables greater action to deal with flood risk, and overheating.

### **Summary**

We strongly urge Peers to support these clauses during Committee stage of the Bill and to continue to press the UK Government for greater action to secure community safety in the face of the growing and inevitable threat of flooding.