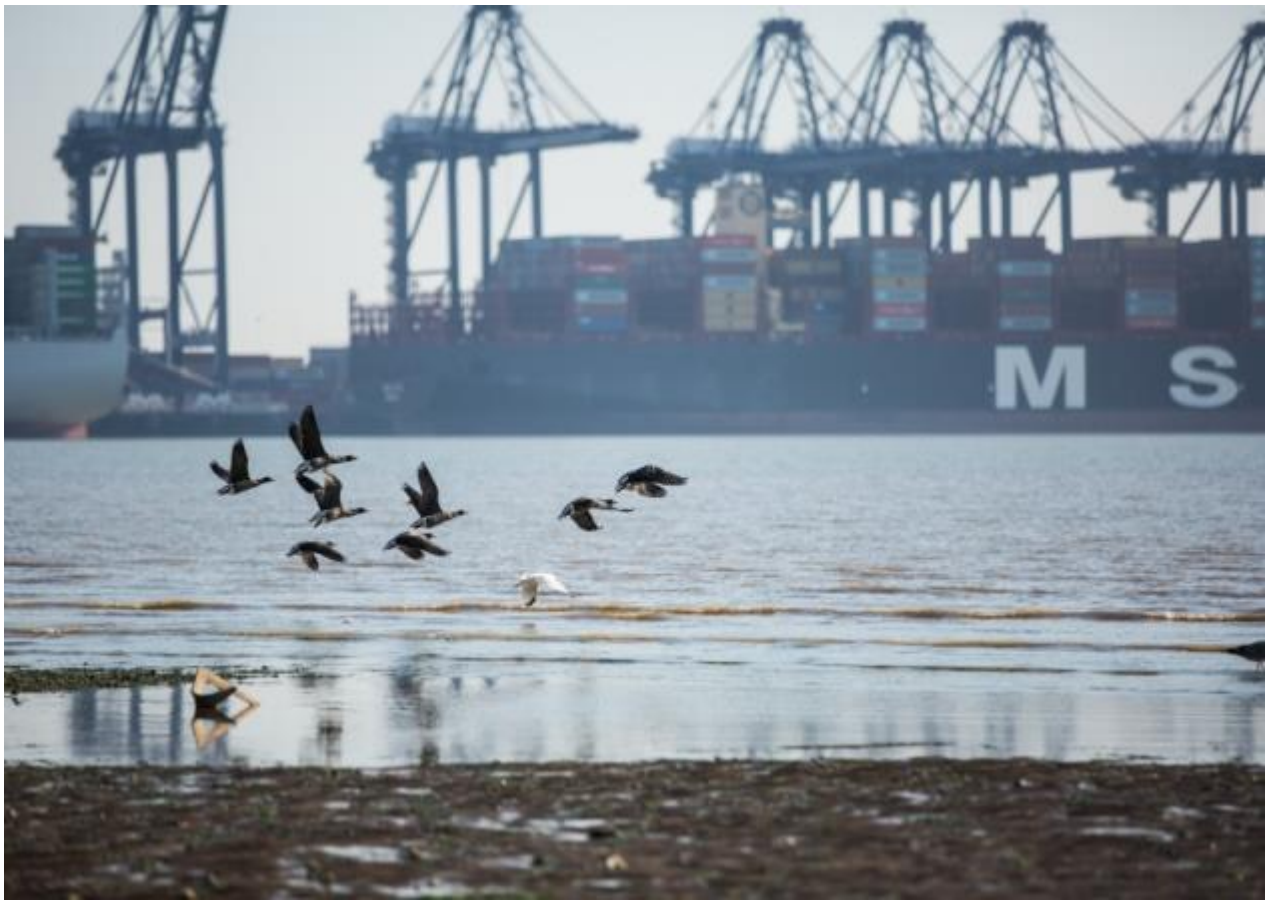
Huge £90m dredging project revealed - this is what it means for ports in Ipswich, Felixstowe and Harwich

Plans for a huge £90m dredging project to increase the depth of Harwich Harbour and support the region's ports for generations to come have been submitted.



Harwich Haven Authority has announced a ⍰90m improvement project at Harwich Harbour. Photo: Harwich Haven Authority.

Harwich Haven Authority (HHA) has applied to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for consent to increase the depth of the harbour and approach channel from 13m to 16m.

The proposal would allow for a new generation of mega-vessels to operate throughout Haven Ports, which includes; Harwich International Port, Port of Felixstowe, Navyyard, Port of Ipswich and the Port of Mistley

And HHA say the project is vital to maintain Haven's role as the UK's premier container hub and to sustain both employment and economic viability.

Neil Glendinning, CEO, Harwich Haven Authority. Photo: Harwich Haven Authority.

"The proposal we have put forward to deepen the harbour and channel is vital to ensure the flow of trade into and out of the UK's largest port facility", said Neil Glendinning, chief executive officer, Harwich Haven Authority.

"The shipping industry is critical to the UK economy with approximately 95% of all British imports and exports being moved by sea and the UK maritime sector contributes in excess of £2bn GVA to the economy.