

<b>ENVIRONMENT AGENCY ANGLIAN REGION</b>		<b>Item No:</b>	<b>Report No: CFCC13/</b>
<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>ANGLIAN (CENTRAL) REGIONAL FLOOD AND COASTAL COMMITTEE (RFCC)</b>	<b>Subject:</b>	<b>WASH EAST COASTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014</b>	<b>Officer Responsible:</b>	<b>Julie Foley/Nigel Woonton</b>

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- A. The Committee is asked to note the progress being made towards setting up partnership funding arrangements under the Wash East Coastal Management Strategy
- B. The Committee is asked to support the allocation of Local Levy funding towards the cost of a further beach recycling operation in financial year 2015/16 (works in Feb/March 2016) in a tripartite funding partnership with the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and Norfolk County Council.

### **1.0. Introduction**

- 1.1 The appraisal of options for Unit C (Hunstanton to Wolferton Creek defences) is dependent on the availability of funding under the Government's Partnership Funding Initiative (PFI). After a considerable amount of research we have been unable to find a legal and practical mechanism for the collection and management of partnership contributions from a diverse range of contributors on an on-going basis. It is now clear that funding from local contributors (both public and private) can only be secured via voluntary, contractually confirmed arrangements.

### **2.0. Meeting with Borough and County Councils**

- 2.1 Julie Foley and Nigel Woonton met the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk (BCKLWN) Chief Executive, Ray Harding and Norfolk County Council (NCC) Director of Environment, Transport and Development, Tom McCabe, on 30 January 2014. Also in attendance were Peter Jermany for BCKLWN and Philip Bennett-Lloyd for NCC both members of the WECMS Advisory Group.
- 2.2 The aim of the meeting was to agree how the three main authorities with responsibilities for the Wash East coast could work together to support local businesses and community interests to set up partnership funding arrangements in order to take forward the outcomes from the Wash East Coastal Management Strategy.
- 2.3 The meeting was very positive and as a result the following points were agreed:
  - The WECMS will progress to programme and present a range of options for the ongoing management of the coast between Hunstanton and Snettisham. The final choice of option will be dependent on the wishes of local stakeholders and the level of partnership funding contributions which can be raised.
  - The WECMS will go out to public consultation in summer 2014.
  - The current approved funding from the Environment Agency's Central Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC) will cease after the Feb/March 2015 beach recycling campaign. In order to allow more time to set up the necessary partnership funding

consortium the authorities (EA, BCKLWN and NCC) agreed to seek the necessary funding for a further recycling campaign in Feb/March 2016 on a tripartite funding basis.

- The authorities (EA, BCKLWN and NCC) agreed to participate in discussions with local stakeholders to set up a Charitable Trust or Community Interest Company. The BCKLWN agreed to lead on discussions with stakeholders to set up a Charitable Trust or Community Interest Company with support from the EA and NCC.
- EA agreed to report on the outcomes of the meeting to the next Central RFCC meeting in April 2014.

### **3.0. Recommendation**

- 3.1 **In order to support the proposal in item 2.3.3 above the Committee is asked to support the allocation of approx £50k Local Levy funding towards the cost of a further beach recycling operation in financial year 2015/16 (works in Feb/March 2016) in a tripartite funding partnership with the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and Norfolk County Council.**
- 3.2 This will allow for the additional time needed to work with local stakeholders to establish a Charitable Trust or Community Interest Company to secure sufficient partnership funding to provide for the on-going beach management along the Wash East coast beyond 2016.

**Julie Foley**  
**Central Area Manager**