

REPORT TO CABINET

Open/Exempt		Would any decisions proposed :		
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory/	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide	YES/NO	
	Discretionary /	Need to be recommendations to Council	YES/NO	
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision	YES/NO	
Lead Member: Cllr I Devereux E-mail: cllr.ian.devereux@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr B Long		
Lead Officer: Dave Robson E-mail: dave.robson@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616302		Other Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Dave Robson E-mail: dave.robson@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616302		Other Officers consulted: Management Team, Peter Jermany, Jade Kite		
Financial Implications YES/NO	Policy/Personnel Implications YES/NO	Statutory Implications YES/NO	Equal Impact Assessment YES/NO If YES: Pre-screening/ Full Assessment	Risk Management Implications YES/NO

Date of meeting: 4th February 2020

HUNSTANTON COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Summary

The Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan (HCMP) is an operational plan that covers both Hunstanton cliffs and sea defences

Recommendations

That the Hunstanton Coastal management Plan be adopted and the financial contributions be approved.

Reason for Decision

To enable the Council to plan prepare and carry out coastal works to meet its obligations under the Shoreline Management Plan 4 (SMP4) and Wash East Coast Management Strategy (WECMS).

1 Background

- 1.1 The Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan (HCMP) is an operational plan which will determine what works are required to the Hunstanton sea defences and cliffs over the next 100 years.
- 1.2 The HCMP follows the general policies laid down in the Shoreline Management Plan 4 (SMP 4) which covers the coastline between Gibraltar Point and Old Hunstanton, and the joint Environment Agency / BCKLWN Wash East Coastal Management Strategy (WECMS).

1.3 The SMP 4 policy options are: -

Policy Zone	Short Term Up to 2025	Medium Term 2025 to 2055	Long Term 2055 to 2105
Hunstanton Cliffs (Unit A)	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention /Hold the Line
Hunstanton Town (Unit B)	Hold the line	Hold the line	Hold the Line

1.4 The Environment and Community Panel on 21 January received a presentation on this matter and recommended to Cabinet that it be approved.

2 Options Considered

2.1 The HCMP covers two areas; Unit A Hunstanton Cliffs and Unit B Hunstanton Town (Promenade to the power boat ramp).

2.2 Unit A - Cliffs

15 options were initially considered from Do Nothing to various forms of new defences being installed. These 15 options were then reviewed and a short-list of 5 options was produced. After further review and Stakeholder consultation, rock armour was selected as the preferred option.

2.3 No residential properties are at risk over the next 100 years. Two commercial properties may be at risk between 2030 and 2060 and a further two commercial properties may be at risk between 2060 and 2117 assuming a 10m property buffer.

2.4 Following the SMP 4 policies of no active intervention until after 2055, it is not expected that any form of defence will be needed in the short or medium term.

2.5 The possibility of installing a pilot in the short/ medium term was considered. However, as rock armour is a well-established coastal defence measure, the need to install as a pilot is not considered necessary.

2.6 The Borough Council will need to establish a trigger point on when to install the preferred option along the whole length of the cliffs. Coastal erosion is in the form of periodic block falls along the cliff frontage predominantly due to erosion of the bottom carstone strata by wave action leading to block falls of chalk. The “average” erosion rate is small at about 10-30cm per year. However, in practice 1-2m sections of cliff are lost every 5-10 years. The erosion rate is not linear or uniform across the whole cliff frontage.

- 2.7 To help establish more data on the nature of block falls and erosion rates along the whole length of the cliff frontage it is proposed that a cliff monitoring programme be implemented. This will be an annual ground based Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) survey along the whole cliff frontage to help build a cliff regression model. This will then help determine the extent of coastal erosion and determine when the rock armour should be installed. It is also anticipated that another LiDAR survey be completed after any large storm event (such as 2013) to determine the impact of the event. It is also proposed to complete an annual drone survey which will provide a detailed visual record of the cliff condition. This work will help guide when the trigger point is required.
- 2.8 **Unit B-Hunstanton Town Defences**
19 options have been considered. Some general enhanced measures were considered but the preferred option is to maintain the existing layout of the defences. The Hunstanton Town Regeneration Project also considered a couple of options along the sea front but these measures will not be taken forward and therefore will not make any changes to the flood defences. The Hunstanton flood defences will be maintained at the 1 in 200 year's defence level.
- 2.9 The asset condition survey shows that the northern stretch of the promenade (section G), from the Green northwards, has around a 15 year's residual life left. The southern part of the defences from the Green to the power boat ramp has around 15/ 35 year's residual life. The timber and concrete groynes are in need of urgent repair / replacement over the next 4 years. The groynes have an estimated residual life of between 5 to 15 years.
- 2.10 The preferred option is to repair the existing flood defences to maintain the current 1 in 200 year defence level in the short term and to sustain this level in the medium / long term by raising the height of the defences to mitigate against sea level rise. The rear wave flood wall, using current predictions, will need to be raised from the existing 6.68mMOD to 7.5mMOD over the next 90 years.
- 2.11 An option to resurface the prom surface with asphalt was considered but rejected as it would need to be replaced every ten years and could be adversely impacted by wave action.

2.12 The projected works are as follows: -

Asset	Residual Life	Works	Notes
Northern Prom (Section G from Green northwards)	15 years (2034)	Reface with concrete	Reface again after 30 years in 2064 & 2094
Southern Prom Sea Wall, Prom surface and Wave Wall (Section A,B&C)	35 years (2054)	Reface with concrete & raise wave wall	Reface again after 30 years in 2084
Southern Prom Sea Wall, Prom surface and Wave Wall (Section D,E&F)	15 years (2034)	Reface with concrete & raise wave wall	Reface again after 30 years in 2064 & 2094

2.13 The process to review and adopt the works required as part of the HCMP has been through two public consultations events based in Hunstanton. The Wash East Coast Management Strategy Stakeholder Forum, which is made up from local Town and Parish Councils, regulatory bodies and other interested groups, has also been consulted, most recently in October 2019.

3 Policy Implications

3.1 The preferred options selected for Units A & B both follow the SMP 4 policies and timelines as detailed above in para 1.3. Therefore the preferred options do not conflict with SMP 4 or WECMS.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 Management Team considered the HCMP over the summer and agreed to a selection of work based on external match funding. They requested that the prom resurface works were brought forward and that extra funding for public realm be included. This would tie in to the regeneration work planned for Hunstanton.

4.2 Three bids for funding from the Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC) were made during summer 2019. The bids were as follows:

Work	Timeline	BCKLWN Costs	RFCC Local Levy Application	Total Costs
Groynes	yr1 to yr4	£50,000 p.a.	£50,000 p.a. match funding	Annual Cost £100,000 p.a. Total Cost £400,000
Cliff Monitoring	yr1 to yr4	£6,000 p.a.	£6,000 p.a. match funding	Annual cost £12,000 p.a. Total £48,000
Prom Resurface 300m Sections D,E & F	yr1 to yr2	£215,000	£215,000 match funding	BCKLWN + LL = £430,000 Arts Council Grant £100,00 (public realm) Total £530,00
				Overall Total: £954,000

4.3 The bids to the RFCC have been successful and agreed in principle but will need to be confirmed and agreed by the Environment Agency National Appraisal Body before any funds will be released.

4.4 The proposed timeline is as follows:

- Baseline cliff regression report December 2019
- Implement tender/design work from December 2019
- Adopt HCMP Feb 2020
- Tenders issued March to May 2020
- Annual Cliff Survey March 2020
- Select Contractor June 2020 tbc
- EA National Appraisal Body June/ July 2020 tbc
- Groyne work start Autumn 2020 tbc
- Prom works start Autumn 2020 tbc

4.5 The costing for the bids has included a 60% optimism bias as per treasury rules. The realised costs may differ and these will not be known until the written tenders have been submitted. Once these have been received and the preferred contractor selected, only then will the actual costs and final Local Levy contributions be known. Council is invited to approve the funding for the contributions.

5 Personnel Implications

- 5.1 Members of the Flood & Water Management Team will lead the project with input from colleagues in Resort Services, Property Services, Procurement and Regeneration / Coastal Community Teams.

6 Statutory Considerations

- 6.1 The Council is a Coastal Protection Authority as defined under the Coastal Protection Act 1949.
- 6.2 The coastal management and flood risk role is further defined in the WECMS where the Borough Council, as Coastal Protection Authority, leads on Unit A- Hunstanton Cliffs and Unit B the Hunstanton Town Sea Defences. Unit C from South Hunstanton to Wolferton Creek shoreline is the responsibility of the Environment Agency.
- 6.3 Hunstanton Cliffs are designated as a Geological SSSI, Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar Site (to the seaward edge of the Promenade). They are also part of the Wash SSSI and Hunstanton Conservation Area (cliff top green as far as the former Coastguard Lookout/cottages only).
- 6.4 The seaward frontage of Unit B is a designated Ramsar Site, SPA and SAC. It is also part of the Wash SSSI and Hunstanton Conservation Area (northern Promenade in front of Esplanade Gardens and the Green only).

7 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 7.1 A pre-screening EIA has been completed and is attached. No negative impacts were noted to any group.

8 Risk Management Implications

- 8.1 If the Hunstanton sea defences failed or were overtopped then 655 residential properties and 2612 mobile homes/ static caravans would be at the risk of flooding. These properties are directly behind the Hunstanton Sea defences and south toward Heacham.
- 8.2 The above figures only relate to a breach failure along the Hunstanton sea defences. A breach along the other sections coastal defences would impact a wider area.
- 8.3 Adopting the HCMP will ensure that capital/ maintenance works are carried out to the flood defences and a failure of the flood defences remains a low risk. Sustaining the level of defence by raising the rear

wave flood wall in line with HCMP will keep the 1 in 200 year defence level over the next 100 years.

- 8.4 The works associated with the Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan have been submitted as part of the Local Levy application process. This entails a three stage peer review process from Environment Agency staff, other Flood & Water Risk Management Authorities and finally by the Regional Flood & Coastal Committee.
- 8.5 The timeline for works will need to take in to account peak holiday season, food vendors leases along the prom, the autumn/ winter storm season and working in a maritime environment.

9 Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

None

10 Background Papers

Shoreline Management Plan 4 Non-Technical Summary
Wash East Coastal Management Strategy
AECOM Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

Borough Council of
King's Lynn & West Norfolk



Name of policy/service/function	Hunstanton Coastal Management Plan				
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function?	New / Existing (delete as appropriate)				
<p>Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened.</p> <p>Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations</p>	<p>Works to Hunstanton coastal area to replace or repair existing sea defences to maintain current SMP policy of Hold the Line.</p> <p>Annual monitoring of Cliffs will follow SMP of No Active Intervention but will provide data on where trigger point is and when preferred option should be implemented.</p>				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			X	
	Disability			X	
	Gender			X	
	Gender Re-assignment			X	
	Marriage/civil partnership			X	
	Pregnancy & maternity			X	
	Race			X	
	Religion or belief			X	
	Sexual orientation			X	
	Other (eg low income)			X	

