

Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works Briefing

Monday 20th October 2025

Dave Robson

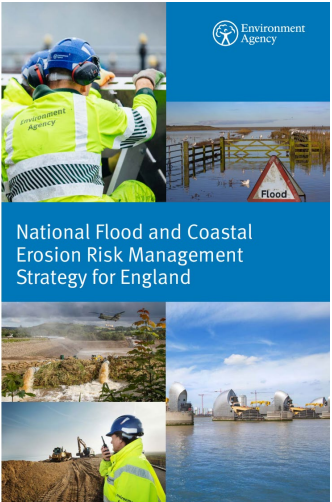
Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



Background



Policy, Strategy and Plan Context



Managing the coast

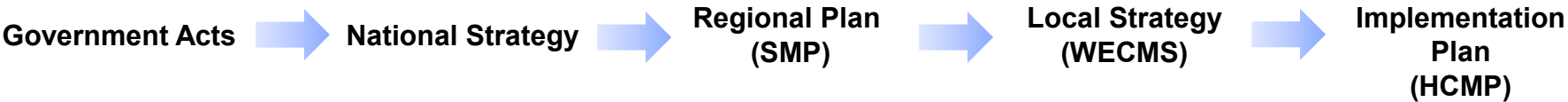
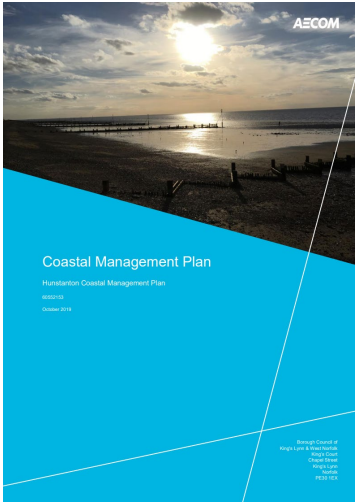


Summary: The Wash Shoreline Management Plan 2
Gibraltar Point to Old Hunstanton

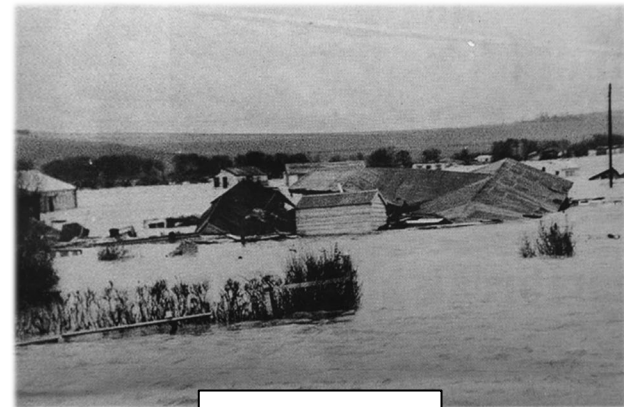
Managing our coastline



The Wash East Coastal Management Strategy



Why do we manage the West Norfolk coast?



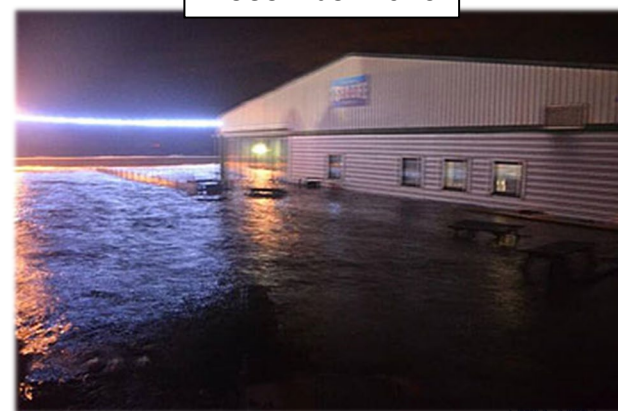
January 1953



January 1978



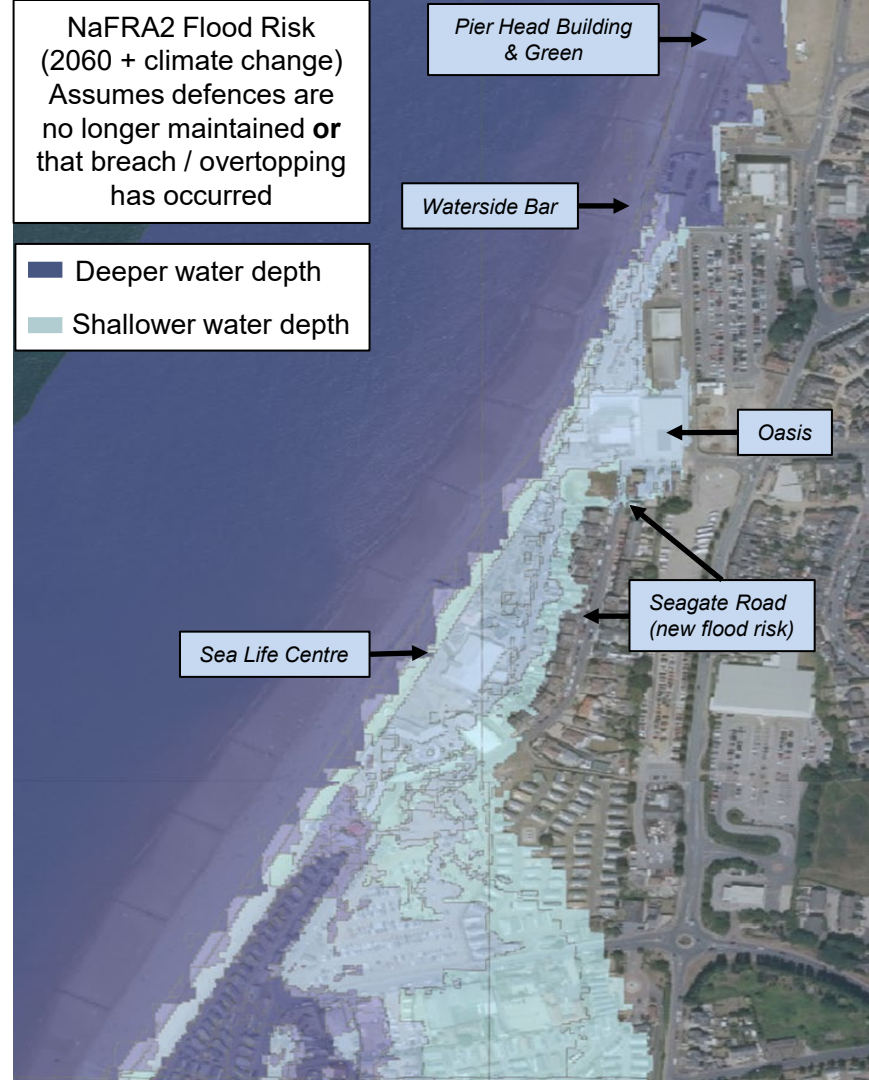
December 2013



NCERM2 Erosion Risk (2130) assuming defences no longer maintained
(80.71m to 109.93m of erosion could occur by 2310)

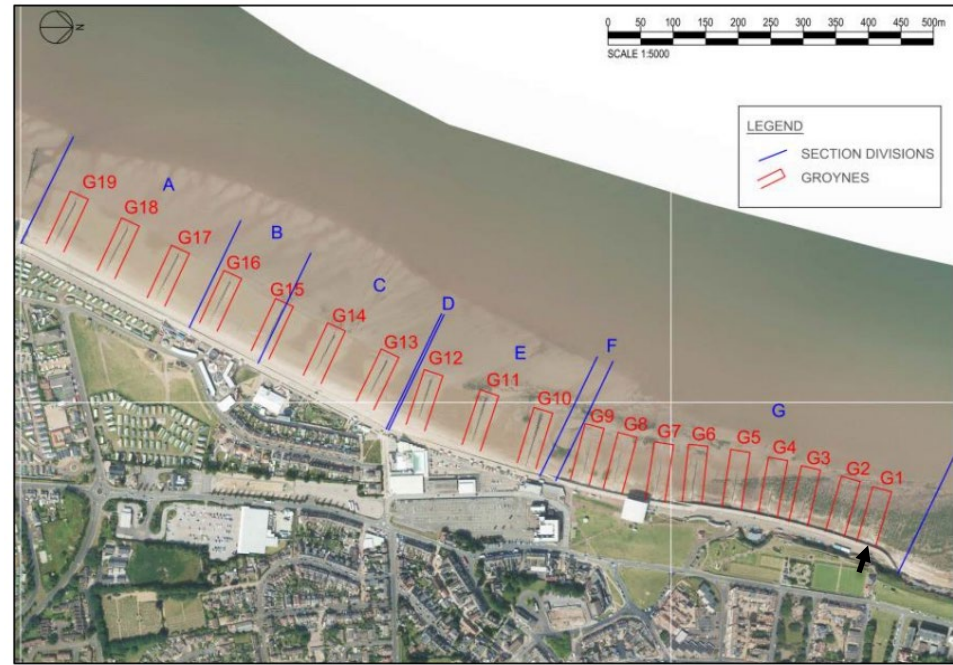


NaFRA2 Flood Risk (2060 + climate change)
Assumes defences are no longer maintained **or** that breach / overtopping has occurred

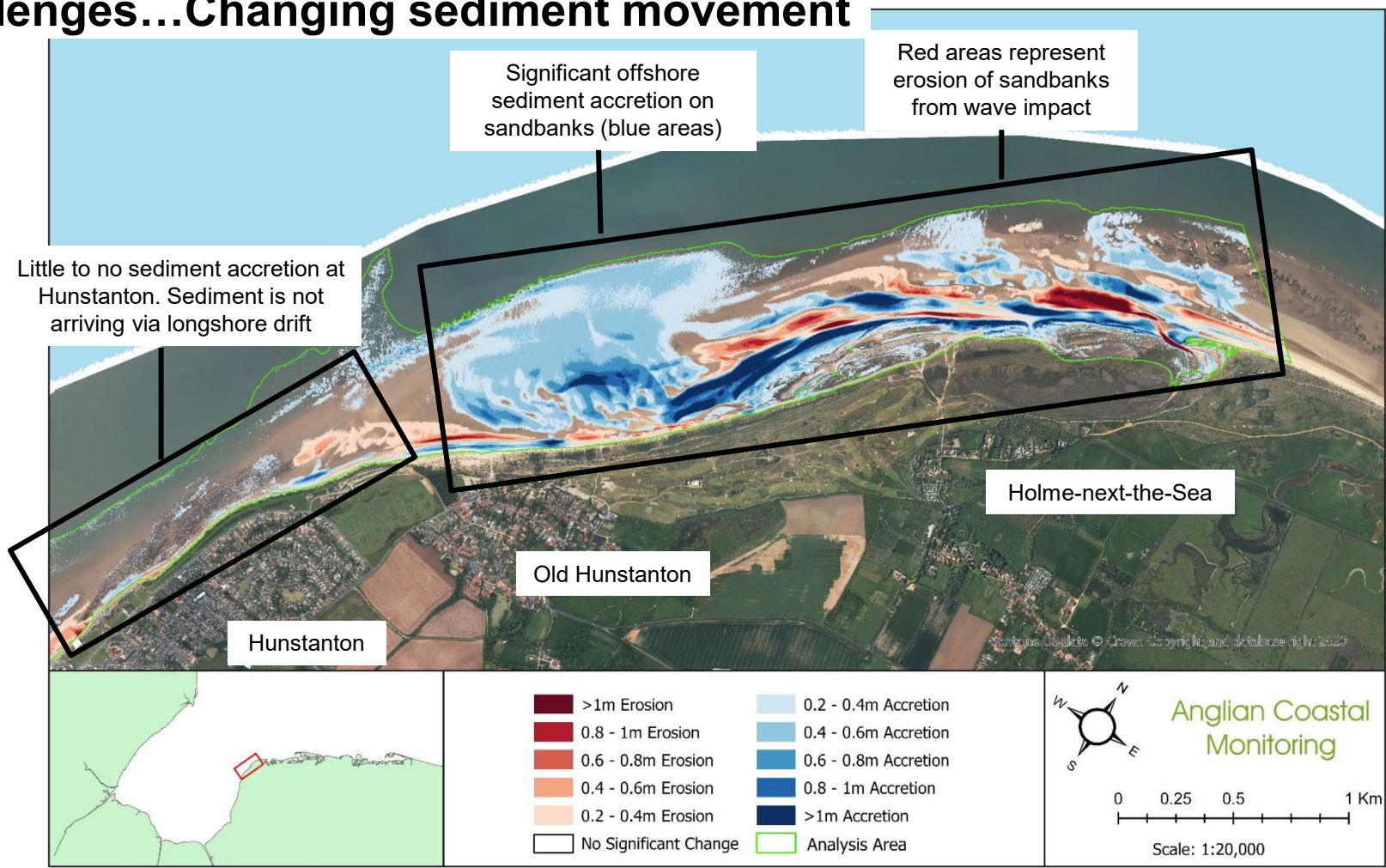


Hunstanton Town

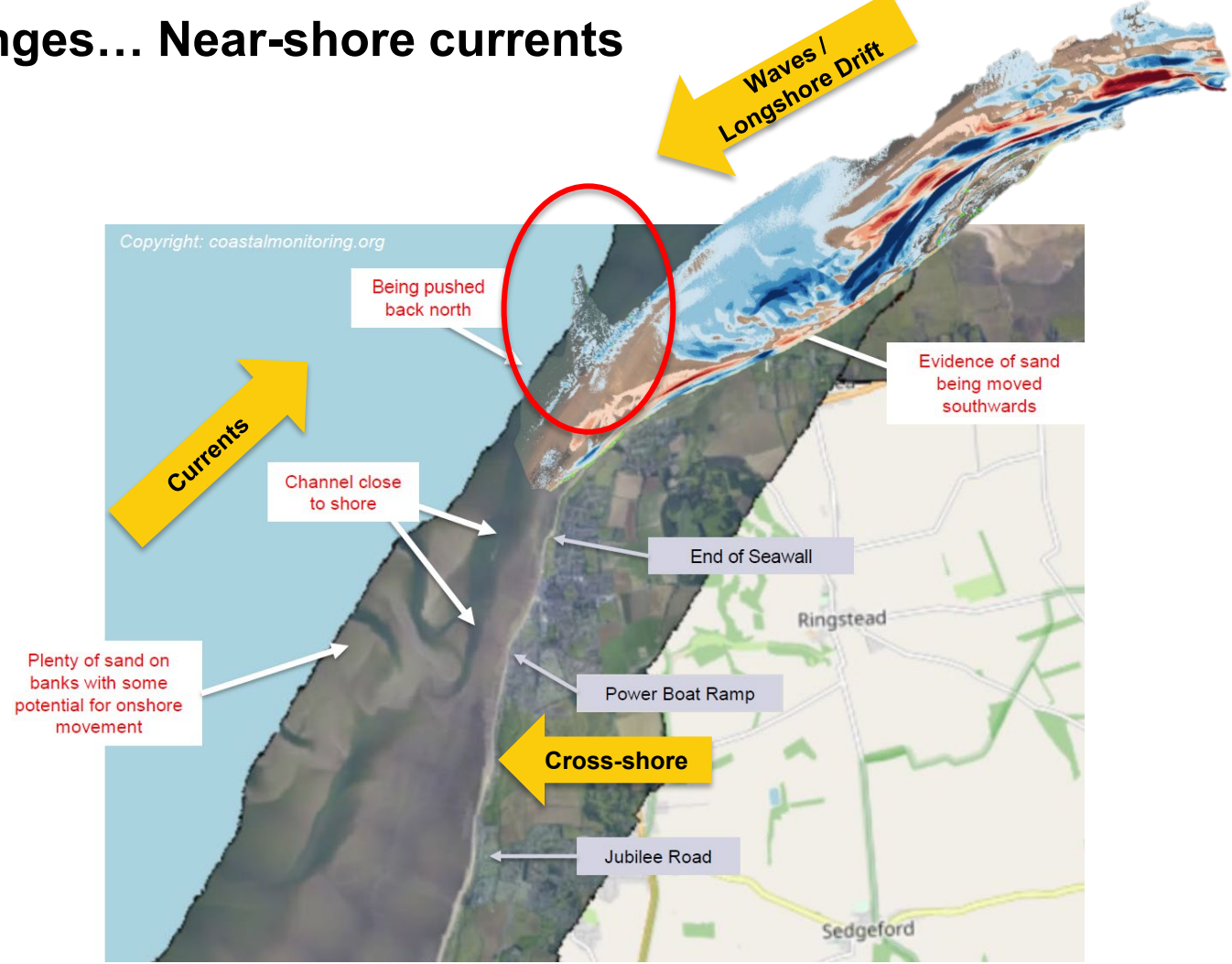
- 'Hold the Line' of defences policy for the next 100-years
- Actively managed by a 1.5km of traditional 'hard engineered' coastal defences
- Challenges...Changing coastal processes resulting in erosion of beach material



Challenges...Changing sediment movement



Challenges... Near-shore currents



2024 Data – Aerial LiDAR Data



Section G (2016 vs 2025)

December 2016



October 2025



Section F (2016 vs 2025)

September 2016



October 2025



Section E (2016 vs 2025)

February 2016



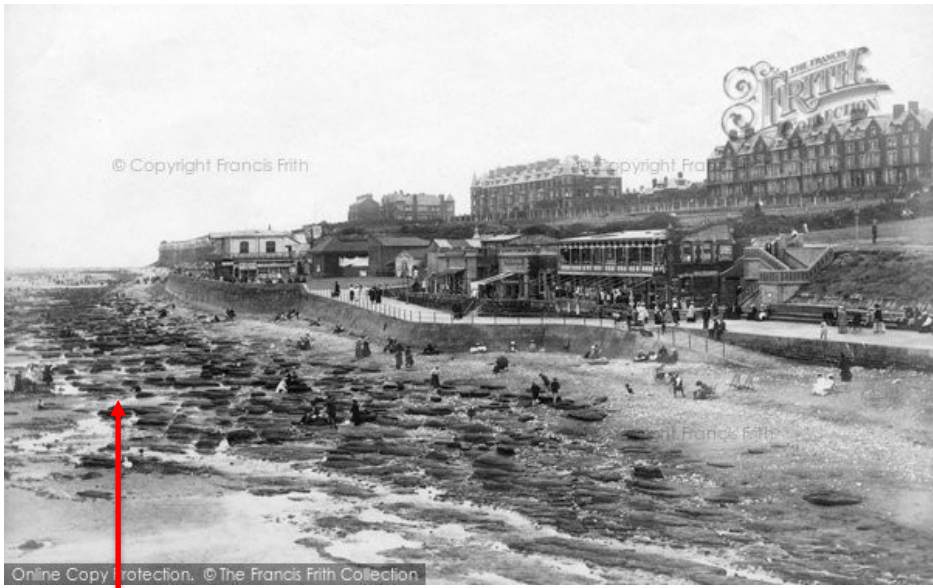
October 2025



Hunstanton in 1893 & 1907 – Similar beach conditions to today



Hunstanton in 1893



Hunstanton in 1907

Widespread Carstone exposure and limited beach cover is evident

Outcomes of Geotechnical Investigations



Geotechnical Investigation

- Excavation of 25 trial pits along the base of the seawall to expose the conditions seawall foundations which are normally buried beneath beach material.
- A ground penetrating radar survey to assess the internal condition of the promenade deck
- A falling weight deflectometer to test the material strength of the concrete promenade deck
- On site investigations were completed in Autumn 2024, and a final report of outcomes received in July 2025



Section A (Boat Ramp / Caravan Park)

- Wave-return wall** – No current works required
- Promenade deck**
 - Poor concrete condition and voids
 - Window sampling required within next 12 months
 - Potential replacement of prom deck required (up to 68 panels)
- Stepped seawall**
 - No refacing works required
 - No toe protection works or sheet piling required
- Monitoring**
 - Regular monitoring of beach levels
 - Structural stability monitoring every 5-years



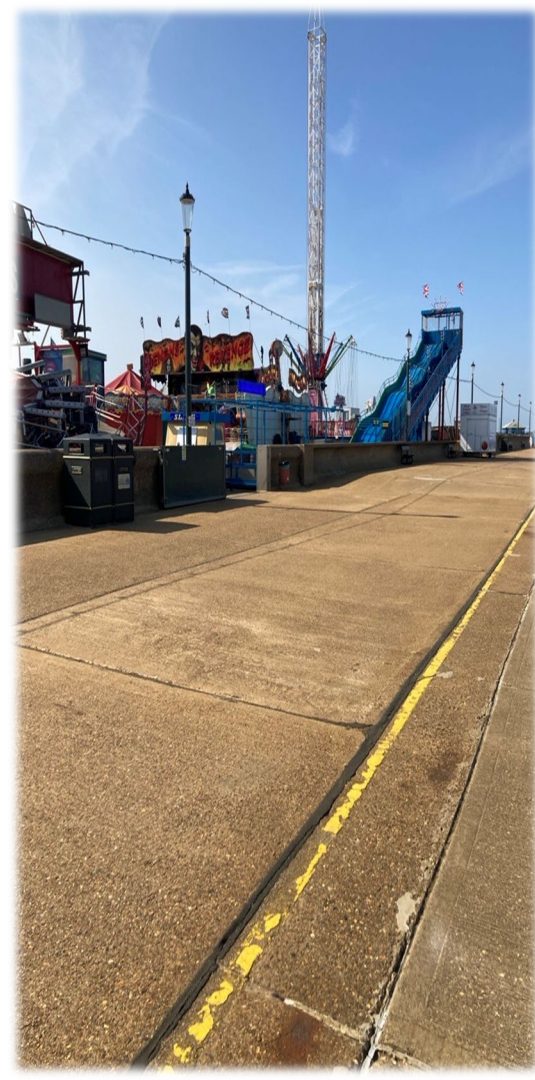
Section B (Fairground)

Wave-return wall – No current works required

Promenade deck – Poor concrete condition and voids
– Window sampling required within next 12 months
– Potential replacement of prom deck required (up to 20 panels)

Seawall – No refacing works required
– No toe protection works or sheet piling required

Monitoring – Regular monitoring of beach levels
– Structural stability monitoring every 5-years



Section C (Sealife Centre)

Wave-return wall – No current works required

Promenade deck – Poor concrete condition and voids
– Window sampling required within next 12 months
– Potential replacement of prom deck required (up to 46 panels)

Seawall – No refacing works required
– No toe protection works or sheet piling required

Monitoring – Regular monitoring of beach levels
– Structural stability monitoring every 5-years



Section D (Kit Kat Ramp)

Wave-return wall – Review rear wave wall condition

Promenade deck – Poor concrete condition and voids
– Window sampling required within next 12 months
– Potential replacement of prom deck required (1 panel)

Seawall – Potential refacing works required
– No toe protection works or sheet piling required

Monitoring – Regular monitoring of beach levels
– Structural stability monitoring every 5-years



Section E (blockwork wall / Oasis)

Wave-return wall – No current works required

Promenade deck

- Poor concrete condition and voids.
- Window sampling required within next 12 months.
- Potential replacement of prom deck required (up to 46 panels).

Seawall

- At risk of undermining if beach levels lower further.
- Installation of toe protection (sheet piling) alongside a seawall reface required to mitigate risk of future seawall undermining.

Monitoring

- Regular monitoring of beach levels
- Structural stability monitoring every 6 months



Section F (rock shop ramp)

Wave-return wall – No current works required

Promenade deck

- Poor concrete condition and voids
- Window sampling required within next 12 months
- Potential replacement of prom deck required (1 panel + ramp)

Seawall – Installation of toe protection and deeper sheet piles alongside a seawall reface required to mitigate risk of future structural failure occurring due to lower beach levels.

Monitoring

- Regular monitoring of beach levels
- Structural stability monitoring every 6 months



Section G (north prom)

- Promenade deck**
- Poor concrete condition and voids
 - Window sampling required within next 12 months
 - Potential replacement of prom deck required (up to 156 panels)

- Seawall**
- Installation of toe protection and new / deeper sheet piles alongside a seawall reface required to mitigate risk of future structural failure occurring due to lower beach levels

- Monitoring**
- Regular monitoring of beach levels
 - Structural stability monitoring every 6 months



Groynes

- Follow current health and safety repairs and removal over time.
- No additional works required.
- Some groyne removal works may be required as part of seawall refacing / sheet pile installation works.
- Groyne works will be completed as part of annual budget.



Next Steps



Comms Strategy / Stakeholder Engagement

- Briefings to local stakeholders
- Set up and regularly update new webpage
- Circulate letter and FAQs to prom businesses
- Media briefings
- Update to WECMS Stakeholder Forum (Sept)
- Update to E&C Panel (Oct)
- Updates to local businesses, prom traders, residents
- Local sea defences newsletter

The screenshot shows the official website of the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk. The page is titled "Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works". It features a blue header with the council's name and a search bar. The main content area includes a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Food, safety and environment > Water management and flooding > Coastal > Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works". Below this, there is a section for "Background" and "Policy, Strategy and Plan Context" with several small images. The right sidebar contains "Recently visited pages" and "Related pages". At the bottom, there are three news snippets from BBC, Lynn News, and EDP24, each with a small image.

Borough Council of
King's Lynn & West Norfolk

Listen and translate
Search west-norfolk.gov.uk **Q** **Menu**

MyNotifications **MyAccounts** **Sign In / Register**

Home > Food, safety and environment > Water management and flooding > Coastal > Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works

Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works

The Borough Council is starting a new capital works project for the Hunstanton Coastal Defences

Background

There are several policies and plans which link to how the Council undertakes its coastal management functions.

Policy, Strategy and Plan Context

Coast Protection Act 1949
Flood and Water Management Act 2010
Managing the coast
Managing our coastline
Coastal flooding and erosion

Recently visited pages

- Coastal
- Water management and flooding

Related pages

- Coastal flooding and erosion

BBC
'Multiple millions' needed to fix sea defences in Hunstanton
"Multiple millions" of pounds will need to be spent to repair a coastal resort's sea defences to protect it from flooding, a council has...
8 Aug 2025

Lynn News
Work is needed to improve town's sea defences, report says
A recent sea defences report has identified future works that may need to be carried out along Hunstanton Promenade.
24 Jul 2025

EDP24
Millions needed to shore up prom to protect seaside town from flooding
Millions will need to be spent on shoring up a Hunstanton's Prom and sea defences to prevent the town from future flooding.
8 Aug 2025

Next Steps 1/2

- Implement a 10 tonne weight limit and 5 mph speed limit on the promenade to mitigate against further deterioration of the promenade until capital replacement is undertaken
- Sign up to SCAPE Framework (Balfour Beatty)
- Internal project team and project board established
- Complete window (core) sampling to assess conditions below prom deck
- Complete 6 monthly digital level surveys of defence Sections E, F and G
- Continue regular beach level monitoring

Next Steps 2/2

- Start feasibility study and then structural design for works (SCAPE / Balfour Beatty)
- Start pre-application work for flood defence GiA funding application
- Await structural design then consider whether planning permission is required
- Following structural design completion, submit a defence GiA funding bid
- Start application for Marine Management Organisation marine licence

Indicative Project Timeline →

Project Planning Phase = 12/18 months (tbc)

Build = 24 months + (tbc)

