

## **BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK**

### **RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY OFFICERS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

This is a record of a decision taken by an officers under delegated powers and where necessary taken in consultation with members and officers.

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	2025/26 – 2029/30 funding contributions for the Norfolk Coast National Landscape
<b>OPEN/EXEMPT</b>	Open
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Michael Burton, Principal Planner (Planning Policy)
<b>IS DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL IN?:</b>	YES
<b>DATE DECISION ADVERTISED:</b>	06 February 2026
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	13 February 2026
<b>DEADLINE FOR CALL IN:</b>	20 February 2026
<b>PRE-SCREENING EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT COMPLETED:</b>	YES/NO

#### **Delegated Power**

- 1.11 Developing and managing external strategic relationships
- 1.12 Shared services, Partnerships and Joint Working arrangements
- 5.3 Biodiversity, Local character

#### **Chief Executive and Executive Directors**

Day to day management of the process

#### **Decision Taken**

Approval is sought, under the Scheme of Delegation, December 2025 (<https://democracy.west-norfolk.gov.uk/documents/s82604/Part%203%20-%20Scheme%20of%20Delegation%20as%20at%20November%202025.pdf>) for the Borough Council's 2025/26 funding contribution to the Norfolk Coast National Landscape (Norfolk Coast Partnership).

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) annual funding for the Norfolk Coast National Landscape (managed by Norfolk Coast Partnership), has been set at £184,164 for the 2025-26 to 2029-30 financial years. This equates to £920,820 up to April 2030.

In response, the Norfolk Coast Partnership has already agreed, through the 2025 Norfolk Coast Partnership Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) Between Local Authority Funding Partners 2025-2030, partner local authority's indicative core funding contributions for the 2025-26 to 2029-30 financial years. These funding contributions include an annual inflation-based 4% uplift.

Annual contributions over the five years are set out in the table below.

<b>Financial year:</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>	<b>2029/30</b>
Norfolk County Council	£29,146.24	£30,312.09	£31,524.57	£32,785.56	£34,096.98
North Norfolk District Council	£15,180.33	£15,787.54	£16,419.04	£17,075.81	£17,758.84
Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk	<b>£15,180.33</b>	<b>£15,787.54</b>	<b>£16,419.04</b>	<b>£17,075.81</b>	<b>£17,758.84</b>
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	£1,214.43	£1,263.01	£1,313.53	£1,366.07	£1,420.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£60,721.33</b>	<b>£63,150.18</b>	<b>£65,676.18</b>	<b>£68,303.25</b>	<b>£71,035.37</b>

The indicative DEFRA core grant for the 2025-26 to 2029-30 financial years is now confirmed, at £182,164.57 (with no further uplift), allowing the Norfolk Coast Partnership to set annual partner contributions for the 5-year period. The Borough Council's total contribution over the 5-years is **£82,221.56**, an annual mean average of **£16,444.31**.

#### Recommendation

Approval by the Assistant Director for Environment and Planning, for payment of the Borough Council's total £82,221.56 financial contribution to the Norfolk Coast National Landscape, for the 2024-25 to 2029-30 financial years, including a £15,180.33 contribution for the current (2025-26) financial year.

#### **Reasons for the Decision**

The Borough Council remains a committed partner for the Norfolk Coast National Landscape, as agreed through the 2025 Norfolk Coast Partnership Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between Local Authority Funding Partners. This has agreed funding contributions for the Norfolk Coast National Landscape for 5-years ahead, up to the 2029-30 financial year.

The Borough Council's commitment to the Norfolk Coast National Landscape is reflected in the corporate priority to "Protect our environment – To create a cleaner, greener and better protected West Norfolk" (Corporate Strategy, 2023-2027).

#### **Details of alternative options, if any, considered and rejected.**

None. The Borough Council is already committed to monetary contributions the Norfolk Coast National Landscape for the 2024-25 to 2029-30 financial years, through the 2025 Norfolk Coast Partnership Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) Between Local Authority Funding Partners.

Furthermore, the Borough Council's has a statutory duty to protect the Norfolk Coast National Landscape. This obligation is defined by statute (Part IV of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000). Therefore, the Borough Council would be in breach of its legal duties if it sought to discontinue its role as a member of the Norfolk Coast Partnership.

#### **Any declarations of interest and details of any dispensations granted in respect of interests (in relation to officers and any Members consulted).**

None.

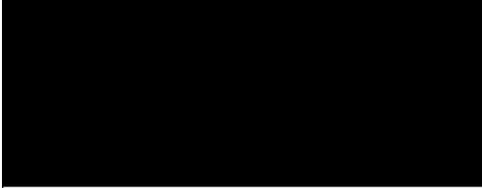
#### **List of Background papers**

Norfolk Coast Partnership Memorandum of Agreement between Local Authority Funding Partners 2025-30 (attached, as Appendix to this report).

**Authorisation**

Post Held Assistant Director – Environment and Planning

Signature



Date 5/2/26

**Consultation with members/officers**

**If the decision is taken following consultation with the members/officers, please give details:**

**Name of Members/officers consulted:**

Stuart Ashworth (Assistant Director, Environment and Planning)

Alex Fradley (Planning Policy Manager)

## Stage 1 - Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

For equalities profile information please visit [Norfolk Insight - Demographics and Statistics - Data Observatory](#)

Name of <b>policy/service/function</b>	Norfolk Coast Partnership Memorandum of Agreement Between Local Authority Funding Partners, 2025-30				
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function? ( <i>tick as appropriate</i> )	New		Existing	<b>X</b>	
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened.  Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations, and identify relevant legislation.	<p>The Norfolk Coast Partnership MoA was initially agreed by partners in 2021, for the 2021/22 – 2025/26 financial years. It was subsequently updated in 2023 when increased core funding for the Norfolk Coast National Landscape was formally confirmed by DEFRA. Most recently, an updated MoA for the 2025-26 – 2029/30 financial years was agreed, in response to DEFRA funding having been confirmed for the 5-years ahead, up to 2030.</p> <p>The MoA provides a framework for the delivery of duties and obligations arising from Part IV of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 including the operation and management of a National Landscape (formerly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Partnership, a Staff Unit to act on behalf of the Partnership and the publishing, reviewing and monitoring of the Norfolk Coast National Landscape Management Plan.</p>				
Who has been consulted as part of the development of the policy/service/function? – new only ( <i>identify stakeholders consulted with</i> )	<p>Planning Policy Manager Assistant Director, Environment and Planning</p>				
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>				
<p><b>1.</b> 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, 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. NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p> <p><b><i>If potential adverse impacts are identified, then a full Equality Impact Assessment (Stage 2) will be required.</i></b></p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			<b>X</b>	
	Disability			<b>X</b>	
	Sex			<b>X</b>	
	Gender Re-assignment			<b>X</b>	
	Marriage/civil partnership			<b>X</b>	
	Pregnancy & maternity			<b>X</b>	
	Race			<b>X</b>	
	Religion or belief			<b>X</b>	
	Sexual orientation			<b>X</b>	
	Armed forces community			<b>X</b>	
	Care leavers			<b>X</b>	

*For more information on health inequalities please visit <a href="#">The King's Fund</a>	Health inequalities*			X	
	Other (eg low income, caring responsibilities)			X	

**Please provide a brief explanation of the answers above:**

The Borough Council's role as a Norfolk Coast National Landscape partner is defined by statute (Part IV of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000). The role of the Norfolk Coast Partnership (guardian of the North Norfolk Coast National Landscape) is to balance the statutory duty of conserving and enhancing the area's natural beauty with non-statutory requirements to meet the National Landscape's social and economic needs.

The role of the Norfolk Coast Partnership is to benefit all groups, be they residents of or visitors to, the North Norfolk National Landscape.

Question	Answer	Comments
2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?	Yes/ No	The Borough Council is required to continue supporting the Norfolk Coast Partnership, in accordance with its statutory duties and obligations arising from Part IV of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.  The Partnership is required to work towards benefitting all groups.
3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?	Yes / No	Ditto (Q2, above)
4. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions? If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section	Yes / No	<b>Actions:</b>
		<b>Actions agreed by EWG member:</b> No actions required.....

**If 'yes' to questions 2 - 4 a full impact assessment will be required unless comments are provided to explain why this is not felt necessary:**

**Decision agreed by EWG member:** .....N/A.....

5. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?	Yes / No	<b>Please provide brief summary:</b>
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<b>Assessment completed by: Name</b>	<b>Michael Burton</b>		
<b>Job title</b>	<b>Principal Planner (Planning Policy)</b>		
<b>Date completed</b>	<b>05 February 2026</b>		
<b>Reviewed by EWG member</b>	<b>Jo Stanton</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>27 January 2026</b>

✓ Please tick to confirm completed EIA Pre-screening Form has been shared with Corporate Policy ([corporate.policy@west-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:corporate.policy@west-norfolk.gov.uk))