

1. **Statement of Common Ground - Coastal Zone Planning** (Pages 1 - 9)

REPORT TO CABINET

Open		Would any decisions proposed :			
Any especially affected Wards All coastal wards	Discretionary	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide		YES	
		Need to be recommendations to Council		NO	
		Is it a Key Decision		NO	
Lead Member: Cllr Richard Blunt E-mail: cldr.richard.blunt@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: Cllr Ian Devereux cldr.ian.devereux@west-norfolk.gov.uk			
		Other Members consulted:			
Lead Officer: Peter Jermany E-mail: peter.jermany@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616239		Other Officers consulted: Alan Gomm			
Financial Implications NO	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications YES	Equal Impact Assessment NO If YES: Pre-screening/ Full Assessment	Risk Management Implications NO	
If not for publication, the paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act considered to justify that is (are) paragraph(s)					
Date meeting advertised: 3 rd August 2018			Date of meeting decision to be taken: 10 th August 2018		
Deadline for Call-In: 17 th August 2018					

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND – COASTAL ZONE PLANNING

Summary

A report was taken to the Local Plan Task Group to update members in relation to the Coastal Zone Planning Statement of Common Ground on 11 July 2018. The Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum also considered a report on the SOCG on 12 July 2018. The intention is for each council's relevant Cabinet members covering planning and coastal matters to endorse the SOCG. In our case these are Councillors Richard Blunt and Ian Devereux.

Recommendation

Endorse the Statement of Common Ground on Coastal Zone Planning.

Reason for Decision

To demonstrate compliance with the Duty to Cooperate.

Coastal Zone Planning SOCG – Purpose

The purpose of the Coastal Zone Planning SOCG is to set out an agreed approach to coastal planning in relation to

- Demonstrating compliance with the “Duty to Cooperate”;
- Agreeing shared aims for the management of the coast;
- Maintaining and developing a shared evidence base; and
- Recognising the importance of cross-boundary issues in relation to coastal management.

Background

Planners from all of the Norfolk and Suffolk coastal local planning authorities, including the Broads Authority, held a series of meetings in the latter part of 2017/early part of 2018 to share knowledge and experience and identify common interests around coastal planning processes. This Draft Coastal Zone Planning SOCG document is the outcome from those discussions. The draft document is set out at Appendix X below.

NSPF Endorsement

A report received the endorsement of the Norfolk Strategic Planning Member Forum at its meeting on 12 July for the Coastal Zone Planning SOCG to lead to its inclusion in the reviewed NSPF. At district level each planning and coastal portfolio holder is being asked to endorse the SOCG (in our case Cllr Richard Blunt and Cllr Ian Devereux).

Local Plan Approach

The current local plan approach to coastal planning is set out in Policy CS07 - Coastal Areas of the Adopted Core Strategy (2011) and Policy DM18 Coastal Flood Risk Hazard Zone (Hunstanton to Dersingham) of the Adopted SADMP (2016). Our existing approach is in line with the proposals in the SOCG.

Policy Implications

None.

Financial Implications

None.

Personnel Implications

None.

Statutory Considerations

The Duty to Cooperate is a statutory requirement for the local plan process.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

(Pre screening report template attached)

Risk Management Implications

None.

Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

None.

Background Papers

(Definition : Unpublished work relied on to a material extent in preparing the report that disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based. A copy of all background papers must be supplied to Democratic Services with the report for publishing with the agenda)

Pre-Screening Equality Impact Assessment

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



Name of policy/service/function: Statement of Common Ground – Coastal Zone Planning

Is this a new or existing policy/ service/function?: New

Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened.
Please state if this policy/service rigidly constrained by statutory obligations

The purpose of the statement is to set out an agreed approach to coastal planning in relation to:

- Demonstrating compliance with the “Duty to Cooperate”;
- Agreeing shared aims for the management of the coast;
- Maintaining and develop a shared evidence base; and
- Recognising the importance of cross-boundary issues in relation to coastal management.

The Duty to Cooperate is a statutory requirement.

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		

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?

No

3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?

No

4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?

No

5. 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

No

Actions:

Actions agreed by EWG member:
.....

Assessment completed by:
Name Peter Jermany

Job title Principal Planner (Planning Policy) **Date** 17 July 2018

Please Note: If there are any positive or negative impacts identified in question 1, or there any 'yes' responses to questions 2 – 4 a full impact assessment will be required.

Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Authorities

Statement of Common Ground

Coastal Zone Planning

This statement of common ground is between:

- Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk
- North Norfolk District Council
- Great Yarmouth Borough Council
- Suffolk Coastal District Council
- Waveney District Council
- The Broads Authority

The purpose of this statement is to set out an agreed approach to coastal planning in relation to:

- Demonstrating compliance with the "Duty to Cooperate";
- Agreeing shared aims for the management of the coast;
- Maintaining and develop a shared evidence base; and
- Recognising the importance of cross-boundary issues in relation to coastal management.

Background

The risk of coastal flooding and vulnerability to erosion along the coast does not respect local planning authority boundaries, and therefore coastal change needs to be considered across a wide geography. There are significant potential benefits to joint working across administrative and professional disciplines in addressing the issues of coastal planning.

A strategic approach to coastal land use and marine planning can benefit from the sharing of both issues and solutions, and inform planning practice. This is particularly the case in light of the similarity and commonality of coastal issues across the signatory planning authorities, the planning duty to cooperate, and the opportunity to build on the benefits of the existing joint Coastal Authority approach such as Coastal Partnership East.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that in coastal areas, local planning authorities should apply Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) across Local Authority and land/sea boundaries, ensuring integration of the terrestrial and marine planning regimes.

ICZM is a process which requires the adoption of a joined-up and participative approach towards the planning and management of the many different elements in coastal areas (land and marine). The recognised key principles which should guide all partners in implementing an integrated approach to the management of coastal areas are:

- A long term view
- A broad holistic approach
- Adaptive management
- Working with natural processes
- Supporting and involving all relevant administrative bodies
- Using a combination of instruments
- Participatory planning
- Reflecting local characteristics



Within the development planning system, local planning authorities should reduce risk from coastal change by; avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impact of physical changes to the coast, as set out in the NPPF. Any area likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast should be identified as a Coastal Change Management Area.

The Flood and Coastal Change Planning Practice Guidance also identifies that land can be formally allocated through local plans for the relocation of both development and habitat affected by coastal change.

Note: Physical change to the coast can be (but is not limited to) erosion, coastal land slip, permanent inundation or coastal accretion.

Shared Aims

- A **holistic and “whole coast” approach** will be taken, recognising **coastal change** is an inevitable part of a dynamic coast. A naturally functioning coastline is desirable in principle, but may not be appropriate in every location.
- The signatory Authorities will consider the value of **aligning policy approaches**.
- To have regard to the well-being of **communities** affected by coastal change and minimise blight.
- To **protect** the coastal environment, including nature conservation designations and biodiversity.
- To work with local businesses and the wider economy to maximise productive use of properties and facilities for as long as they can be safely and practicably utilised to promote **investment, viability and vitality** of the area.
- Adopt a balanced **risk-based approach** towards new development in Coastal Change Management Areas, in order to not increase risk, while at the same time to facilitate affected communities' adaptation to coastal change.
- To promote **innovative approaches** such as techniques that enable anticipatory coastal adaptation, removal of affected structures and property roll-back or relocation.

Agreed Approach

The signatory authorities agree to work together on coastal planning issues to:

- a) Implement the principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management;
- b) Develop shared **understanding** of coastal processes and the development planning implications of these;
- c) Share experience, **best practice** (including planning policies) and ideas for innovation;
- d) Use the adopted **Shoreline Management Plans** as a basis for development planning, recognising that defined areas may change in future and giving appropriate regard to emerging replacement Shoreline Management Plans, updated predictions of the impact of climate change or other relevant evidence;
- e) Acknowledge the importance of **coastal communities and their economies**, and foster their resilience, innovation and vitality;
- f) Recognise the need to **relocate or protect infrastructure** likely to be adversely affected by coastal change;
- g) Note the need for strategic policies on coastal change, in order to guide **neighbourhood planning**;
- h) Encourage development which is consistent with anticipated coastal change and its management and facilitates **adaptation** by affected communities and industries;
- i) Consider adopting policies to facilitate **rollback and/or relocation**, potentially including local plan site allocations or facilitating 'enabling' development;



- j) Consider adopting policies which require the use of **risk assessments** to demonstrate that a development on the coast will be safe for its planned lifetime, without increasing risk to life or property, or requiring new or improved coastal defences; and
- k) Consider adopting policies that seek to ensure that new or replacement **coast protection schemes** are consistent with the relevant Shoreline Management Plan and minimise adverse impact on the environment or elsewhere on the coast.

This Statement of Common Ground has been endorsed by the following:

Cllr. Ian Devereux
 Cabinet member for Environment
 Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

Cllr. Richard Blunt
 Cabinet member for Development
 Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

Cllr. Hilary Cox
 Cabinet member for Coastal Management
 North Norfolk District Council

Cllr. Susan Arnold
 Cabinet member for Planning
 North Norfolk District Council

Cllr. Graham Plant
 Leader & Chair, Policy and Resource Committee
 Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Cllr Carl Smith
 Chair, Environment Committee
 Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Cllr. Andy Smith
 Cabinet member for Coastal Management
 Suffolk Coastal District Council

Cllr. Tony Fryatt
 Cabinet member for Planning
 Suffolk Coastal District Council



Cllr. David Ritchie

Cabinet member for Planning and Coastal Management

Waveney District Council

Prof. Jacque Burgess

Chairman, Broads Authority

Broads Authority

Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro

Chairman, Planning Committee

Broads Authority

