

	REPORT TO CABINET TO BE HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2019
	Key Decision YES Forward Plan Ref
Corporate Priority: Developing safer and stronger communities	Cabinet Portfolio Holder Cllr M Cockerill - Portfolio Holder for Major Projects

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE – 19/002

WARDS AFFECTED: Mulgrave Ward

SUBJECT: STAITHES COASTAL DEFENCE STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATION (S):

Cabinet is recommended to:

- i. accept 100% FCDGiA (Flood and Coastal Defence grant in aid) funding from the Environment Agency to undertake a Staithes Coastal Defence Strategy. Total amount of grant aid awarded to the Council is £100,000;
- ii. approve the appointment of consultants up to the amount of grant offered, selected through a competitive tendering exercise via the YORConsult Framework, to assist with the preparation of the strategy.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

To produce a Coastal Defence Strategy for Staithes to allow us to effectively manage flood and coastal erosion risk.

To authorise officers to appoint a consultant to undertake the strategy review following a competitive tendering exercise.

HIGHLIGHTED RISKS:

As shown in Appendix A.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Situated north of Whitby, Staithes is a picturesque landscape of red-roofed cottages, scattered down the hillside and sheltered from the northern gales by Cowbar Nab.
- 1.2 The Current Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) policy for Staithes is to hold the line.
- 1.3 Funding has been secured from the Environment Agency to develop a Coastal Defence Strategy for Staithes. The Strategy will seek to better understand the issues, identify and shortlist options, describe the cost and benefits of options for future management of the coastal defence assets in Staithes. Once completed this will allow the Council to seek funding from the Environment Agency to undertake any necessary capital schemes on behalf of the community.

2. CORPORATE OBJECTIVES AND THE COMMUNITY PLAN

- 2.1 The project will support a number of the Council's Corporate Plan aims:

Aim 1: Developing a Safer Community
Aim 2: Building a Prosperous Community
Aim 3: Creating a Quality Environment

3. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

- 3.1 The original Shoreline Management Plan was completed in 1997. The need for a Strategy was confirmed by the fully adopted River Tyne to Flamborough Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2007). The strategy will bring to account sea level rise guidance, environmental requirements within the recommended timescale (SEA, EIA and WFD), and new local and strategic coastal process monitoring data subsequently gathered.
- 3.2 The Main objectives of the strategy review are:

Objective 1: To ensure that the risks from sea flooding, coastal erosion and coastal slope instability are identified and fully understood for the next 100 years.

Objective 2: To ensure that a full range of management options have been considered, at appropriate levels of detail, to address these risks, taking on board latest guidance and advice on appraisal and selection of options.

Objective 3: To ensure the preferred management options are technically feasible, environmentally and socially acceptable, and economically viable and represent a robust and sustainable investment strategy for the study area.

Objective 4: To ensure that there is appropriate organisational and consultation on the findings and recommendations of the Strategy.

Objective 5: To ensure that where possible, opportunities for environmental and economic enhancements have been considered.

Objective 6: To ensure that a collaborative approach between the respective organisations is adopted throughout the development of the Strategy, seeking to secure if and when required funding contributions.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Extensive consultation will be sought with the local inhabitants of the village of Staithes, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and the surrounding area. Other Stakeholder consultation will be sort with:

- Yorkshire Water - Infrastructure owner
- Environment Agency - Funding body
- Natural England - Environmental interests
- English Heritage - Heritage interests
- National Trust – Land owners
- North York Moors National Park – Planning Authority and land holder
- Local Parish Council
- North Yorkshire & Cleveland Heritage Coast
- North Yorkshire County Council
- The Crown Estates
- North Yorkshire & Cleveland Coastal Forum
- Durham University

4.2 Ongoing engagement, particularly with the key stakeholders listed above, will be extremely important to ensure that they are aware of, and in support of the any works arising from the strategy.

5. ASSESSMENT

5.1 Preferred Option:

The preferred option' is to develop the Staithes Coastal Defence Strategy in order to set out the long term management of the area, by the means of the latest available data and policy changes. By doing this option the recommendations of both the SMPs will be met.

5.2 The development of the the Strategy will allow us fullfil our responsibilities as a responsible coastal management authority.

5.3 The Strategy will seek to address recommendations highlighted in the Shoreline Management Plan. The Strategy report will study the affected area comprehensively and develop options to address the identified issues and develop and appraise new and old policy. Upon consultation with interested

parties a preferred option will be selected and taken forward and presented to the Environment Agency's Project Appraisal Board.

5.4 The recommended strategy includes the following key tasks:

5.5 In order to achieve the project's objectives a consultant will be appointed following a competitive tendering exercise via the YORconsult Framework to produce a high quality Strategy in line with Environment Agency guidance and templates. To aid the development of the Strategy we will be undertaking the following activities:

- Review the Strategic and legislative framework and previous studies within the Study area.
- Analysis and Interpretation of coastal process data along the frontage.
- Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC.
- Collate all existing relevant data and analysis and incorporate it into the strategy.
- Define ownership and possible contributors.
- Develop options for the management of flood and erosion risk
- Review coastal defence conditions within the study area.
- Water Framework Directive Assessment.
- Undertake an Economic Assessment.
- Undertake a CVS to understand the 'Enjoyment Value' of Staithes
- Consultation with stakeholders, residents and statutory bodies.
- Public exhibition on the Strategy.
- Conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment.
- Produce a Strategy Appraisal Report by the Environment Agency

5.6 Environmental Considerations:

- There are no specific permissions required to undertake this Strategy, however letters of comfort will be required by Natural England.
- The direct environmental impacts of undertaking the Strategy are minimal as all surveys will be non-intrusive.

5.7 Natural England will be kept aware of this project should approval be granted.

6. IMPLICATIONS

(a) Policy

6.1 The proposals accord with the Council's SMP2, which was adopted in May 2007.

(b) Financial

6.2 It is pleasing to notify that £100,000 of Environment Agency grant aid funding has been secured by the Coastal Projects team for this proposed Strategy.

- 6.3 It is not proposed that any Borough Council funding be expended on this study. The study is fully funded through the Environment Agency grant aid.
- 6.4 The grant is awarded in accordance with the Environment Agency's Memorandum relating to Scheme Approval and Grant under the Coast Protection Act 1949.
- 6.5 Under the terms of the grant, the Council is required to complete the Strategy, identify the solutions and make the results available to the Environment Agency.

(c) Risk

- 6.6 The risks, which may arise from the undertaking of study, are as set out in Appendix A.

(d) Legal

- 6.7 The proposed Staithes Coastal Defence Strategy will be carried out using the Council's permissive powers under the Coast Protection Act 1949.
- 6.8 There is a requirement to follow the Council's financial and contract procedure rules. This report is part of that process.

(e) Environmental and Sustainable Development

- 6.9 It is not envisaged that proposed investigation will in itself adversely impact on the environment. Any invasive work will be undertaken having regard to health and safety and other considerations.

(f) Others

- 6.10 I have considered whether the following implications arise from this report and am satisfied that there is no identified adverse implications that will arise from this decision to proceed with the Strategy.

Equalities and Diversity
 Staffing
 Planning
 Crime and Disorder
 Health and Safety

7. ACTION PLAN

- 7.1 The current programme is given below:

Cabinet receives report	November 2018
Prepare contracts	December 2018
Appoint consultants	April 2019
Strategy production	May 2019
Submit Strategy to the Environment Agency	March 2020
Report for approval of the Strategy to Cabinet	November 2020



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Chief Executive

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Background Papers:
River Tyne to Flamborough Head Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2), 2007

Appendix A

Risk Matrix

Risk Ref	Date	Risk	Consequences	Mitigation	Current Risk Score	Target Score	Service Unit Manager/ Responsible Officer	Action Plan
1	Nov 2018	Budget for Strategy	Additional funding to be sought from the EA	Fixed price quote from consultants using option A or G.	B3	A1	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Report to cabinet should funding bid be unsuccessful.
2		Borough Council attracts legal liabilities and responsibilities as a result of undertaking any future works.	Council could be subject to legal action from affected landowners.	Satisfactory legal agreements to be in place with landowners prior to commencement of works.	B4	A2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Seek legal agreements
3		Land ownership issues	Unable to identify all land owners and potential contributors to future schemes.	Establish ownership of affected assets.	B4	A1	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	legal land ownership searches
4		Failure to obtain full support from all consultees.	Future capital works will not proceed.	Full consultation with consultees	B4	B2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Conduct early consultation
5		To not undertake the study.	Risk to people, property and infrastructure will remain uncertain.	In adopting the SMP2 the Council has agreed in principle to support the recommended coastal studies identified within the document, subject to securing adequate funding. The Strategy is one of the actions arising from the SMP2.	B4	B2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Follow project programme.
6		Asset inspections taking place in a hostile marine environment.	Possible delay or injury claims from consultants.	This risk has been identified as low as the consultant will be made aware of the risk and inspections will take place during low water	B2	A2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Undertake a risk assessment

Risk Ref	Date	Risk	Consequences	Mitigation	Current Risk Score	Target Score	Service Unit Manager/ Responsible Officer	Action Plan
7		Unknown environmental issues encountered.	Delay caused by the requirement of further investigations/studies.	This is a low risk as the Council has worked in this area before and is familiar with its surroundings. Natural England will also be involved in the project to provide guidance if necessary	A2	A2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Consult with Natural England
8		Negative media coverage.	Causing a poor image of the council to the public	Provide the media with press releases explaining the project	B2	A2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Provide press releases
10		Environmental Impact Assessment	A full Environmental Impact Assessment will be required by Natural England. A negative EIA may prevent us progressing a scheme in the area .	Early engagement of statutory parties.	D2	B2	Chris Bourne/ Stewart Rowe	Screening requests to be sent to statutory consultees.

Glossary of Terms

Risk	An event which may prevent the Council achieving its objectives
Consequences	The outcome if the risk materialised
Mitigation	The processes and procedures that are in place to reduce the risk
Current Risk Score	The likelihood and impact score with the current mitigation measures in place
Corporate Objectives	An assessment of the Corporate Objectives that are affected by the risk identified.
Target Risk Score	The likelihood and impact score that the Council is aiming to achieve
Service Unit Manager	The Service Unit or Officer responsible for managing the risk
Action Plan	The proposed actions to be implemented in order to reduce the risk to the target score

Risk Scoring

Impact	5					
	4					
	3					
	2					
	1					
			A	B	C	D
		Likelihood				

Likelihood:

A = Very Low
 B = Not Likely
 C = Likely
 D = Very Likely
 E = Almost Certain

Impact

1 = Low
 2 = Minor
 3 = Medium
 4 = Major
 5 = Disaster