

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**28 March 2023**

### **COUNCILLOR HARRY BLATHWAYT - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST**

For the period February to March 2023

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

##### **Coastal Maintenance**

A wide range of different coastal maintenance works have been undertaken in February/March at: Wells, Sheringham, East Runton, Cromer, Overstrand, Bacton, Walcott and Happisburgh.

##### **Cromer Phase 2 and Mundesley Coastal Management Scheme**

Local Liaison Group meetings as well as drop-in sessions were held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February for the Cromer and Mundesley Schemes. Most people who attended were very interested in the projects and feedback was generally good.

##### **Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme**

Positive initial feedback was received from the Environment Agency on the draft Outline Business Case (OBC). The lead officer has been finalising the OBC in advance of its submission. A workshop was held to develop the strategic Communications and Engagement Plan for the CTAP OBC.

The first CTAP Senior Officer Group was held and gave a steer for the wider governance around the emerging programme and opportunities for closer working on key topics like innovative funding (CLIFF project), spatial mapping, sediment studies and infrastructure discussions. CTAP and Resilient Coast project officers are already collaborating on data and mapping and resources are being developed. Work is progressing with developing the CTAP Initial Grant support package.

The Environment Agency Chair, FCERM Board and Directors were welcomed on a visit to the North Norfolk coast on 9<sup>th</sup> March. They were very interested to see the coastal challenges confronted by our coastal communities at Overstrand, Trimmingham, Bacton and Happisburgh and heard about the approaches being developed to tackle the complex issues through the CTAP initiative and related projects.

##### **Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document**

The public consultation for the Coastal Adaptation SPD came to a close on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**Other**

Storm Larissa (March 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>) brought strong winds and waves to the Norfolk and Suffolk Coastline. CPE officers have been supporting GYBC with an emergency situation involving properties at risk in nearby Hemsby.

The issue of lifeboat access around our coast is becoming increasingly challenging and is being raised by MP for Great Yarmouth – an east coast review of the resilience of the service is being called for, given the ongoing risk to access ramps around our coast.

North Norfolk featured prominently in a recent BBC Countryfile programme (5<sup>th</sup> March) which took an in-depth look at coastal erosion challenges and also the fossil finds prevalent on our coast – featuring Happisburgh.

**2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.****Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme**

Outline Business Case to be submitted by end of March.

**Cromer Phase 2 and Mundesley Coastal Management Scheme**

Planning and Marine Licences are to be submitted imminently.

**Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document**

Collating and reviewing responses to public consultation.

**Norfolk Coast Forum**

To be held online on 28<sup>th</sup> March between 10:00-12:00.

**3 Meetings attended**

- Mundesley Local Liaison Group
- Environment Agency Chair and FCERM Board and Directors Visit
- Coastal Partnership East Board Meeting
- Norfolk Coast Partnership Strategy Group
- Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership Group Stakeholders