

<b>Coastwise – the North Norfolk Coastal Accelerator Programme</b>	
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<p>The north Norfolk' coast is vulnerable to climate accelerated coastal erosion. For decades it has been recognised that it is not technically, economically or environmentally viable to build and maintain erosion risk management structures along the whole coast. Over this period North Norfolk District Council and its communities have been at the forefront of coastal change management and have advocated the need to work together to seek to transition/adapt to the impacts of coastal change.</p> <p>North Norfolk was specifically selected by DEFRA in 2022 to receive funds to explore, develop and demonstrate coastal transition actions which prepare communities, infrastructure and government for coastal erosion. In August 2023 circa £15million was formally allocated by the Environment Agency through the Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme to NNDC. In North Norfolk this initiative is called 'Coastwise'. This programme will seek to co-create Transition Plans and practical actions with communities and sectors from which learning can be transferred to other locations and shape future government approaches.</p> <p>Coastwise is formed of a multidisciplinary team and will instigate conversations with communities and sectors from Winter 2023.</p> <p>By March 2027, we will have delivered an integrated Strategic North Norfolk Transition Plan, and co-created community and sector Transition Plans from which there will be some practical actions identified and delivered; contributions to coastal transition research; capturing and sharing of transferable approaches and learning; identification of future funding and financing and sharing with government possible future options for consideration and adoption to enable coastal transition to become part of the Government's national response to the climate/coastal erosion challenge.</p>
<b>Options considered</b>	This report provides an overview of Coastwise, the North Norfolk Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme.
<b>Consultation(s)</b>	This report has undergone consultations with Portfolio Holder, Director, Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Communications.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Overview and Scrutiny endorses the delivery of Coastwise.
<b>Reasons for recommendations</b>	That Overview and Scrutiny consider Coastwise, progress to date, and an opportunity to feedback constructive comments/input that may strengthen programme benefits and delivery.

<b>Background papers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Report 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Norfolk Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme Outline Business Case</li> </ul>

<b>Wards affected</b>	Coastal, Sheringham South, Sheringham North, Beeston Regis and the Runtons, Cromer Town, Suffield Park, Poppyland, Roughton, Mundesley, Bacton, Happisburgh
<b>Cabinet member(s)</b>	Cllr. H. Blathwayt – Coastal Portfolio Holder. Note that Coastwise is a cross authority project which will seek to integrate coastal transitioning into council wide operations.
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Rob Goodliffe, Coastal Transition Manager – <a href="mailto:Rob.Goodliffe@north-norfolk.gov.uk">Rob.Goodliffe@north-norfolk.gov.uk</a>

<b>Links to key documents:</b>	
Corporate Plan:	<p><b><i>Our Greener Future We will continue our work to create a cleaner, greener and zero-carbon future for North Norfolk</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and Transition our Coastal Environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Realising the opportunities of external funding to secure a sustainable future for our coastal communities through transition and adaptation responses.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Continue our journey to Net Zero <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continuing our own annual emissions reductions to reach Net Zero by 2030.</li> <li>○ Introducing significant new projects which deliver on our Net Zero ambitions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	Not applicable
Council Policies & Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shoreline Management Plan 6 (Kelling Hard to Lowestoft Ness)</li> <li>• Local Plan</li> <li>• Coastal Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document (Draft)</li> <li>• Net Zero Strategy</li> <li>• Community Engagement Strategy</li> </ul>

<b>Corporate Governance:</b>	
Is this a key decision	No

Has the public interest test been applied	This report is exempt as there are no confidential appendices.
Details of any previous decision(s) on this matter	<p>Cabinet 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023</p> <p>March 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 Delegated authority for submission of Outline Business Case</p> <p>May 24<sup>th</sup> 2023 Corporate Leadership decision to recruit the Coastwise Team</p> <p>August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 Corporate Leadership delegated decision to progress initial support package</p>

## 1. Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Raise awareness of Coastwise, as an essential programme to assist with preparing North Norfolk for climate enhanced coastal erosion.
2. To enable Overview and Scrutiny to provide constructive comments/input that may strengthen programme benefits and delivery.

## 2. Introduction

2.1 The North Norfolk coast, due to its soft erodible cliffs and natural coastal processes, has some of the most rapidly eroding coastline in Europe. The rates of erosion are expected to accelerate due to climate change, particularly in response to increased storminess, intense rainfall and sea level rise. Coupled with aging erosion risk management assets and a long-term trend of falling beach levels, many homes, businesses and infrastructure along the 21 miles of the cliffed North Norfolk coast are at risk from erosion. Please see Appendix A which outlines the key challenges and erosion risk in North Norfolk.

2.2 The current 'business as usual' for preparing and supporting communities, the environment and infrastructure for coastal erosion transition, is limited. North Norfolk is one of the leading local authorities in this sector, but still at best nationally coastal transition includes:

- Information – Shoreline Management Plan, risk maps, web resources.
- Planning policies – Rollback/relocation and Coastal Change Management Area
- Coastal Erosion Assistance Grant - Some residential properties are eligible, businesses are not
- Demolition assistance/advice
- Housing advice
- Guidance - when resources are available.
- Delivery of transition initiatives when external funds are available
- Variable erosion risk information in property transfer processes
- Variable public awareness and understanding of erosion and climate change enhanced erosion risk
- Limited public understanding of non-statutory function of government in managing erosion risk and individual responsibilities.

- 2.3 Coastwise, part of the national Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme, presents an opportunity to explore, develop, demonstrate and share how the current business as usual' can be transformed to ensure coastal communities are prepared for the challenges posed by climate accelerated coastal erosion.



Please scan the QR code with your Smartphone camera for a short film on North Norfolk's Coastwise or visit [www.bit.ly/WatchCoastwise](http://www.bit.ly/WatchCoastwise)

### 3. National Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme

- 3.1 The Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme (CTAP) is part of the Government's £200 million flood and coast innovation programme. North Norfolk District Council is one of only two English coastal authorities to have been selected to receive part of a £36 million investment from 2022-2027 to explore innovative approaches of adapting to the effects of coastal erosion. The other selected Council is East Riding of Yorkshire.

- 3.2 The national objectives of CTAP are to:

- Develop Strategic Transition Plans
- Capture evidence, tools and learning
- Test and demonstrate practical actions
- Share learning and transferability
- Embed learning and approaches in FCERM policy and investment decision and local policy

Eligible actions for funding include:

- Asset and property rollback
- Infrastructure solutions
- Repurposing land and assets
- Community and business preparedness
- Sustainable development through planning policies
- Sustainable transition funding and finance

- 3.3 Traditional coastal risk management structures/approaches, compensation for erosion losses and normal local authority functions are excluded.



Please scan the QR code with your Smartphone camera to learn more about the Environment Agencies Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme or visit <https://engageenvironmentagency.uk.engagementhq.com/ctap>

### 3.4 Coastwise – North Norfolk's CTAP

- 3.5 The North Norfolk CTAP is known locally as 'Coastwise'.

3.6 North Norfolk District Council submitted an Outline Business Case to the Environment Agency to secure CTAP funding at the end of March 2023. The proposal has been through the Environment Agencies Large Project Review Group for assurance. NNDC received confirmation of Outline Business Case approval on 2nd August 2023. The executive summary of the Outline Business Case is included in Appendix B, the full document and appendices is a substantial suite of documents and is available to O&S on request.

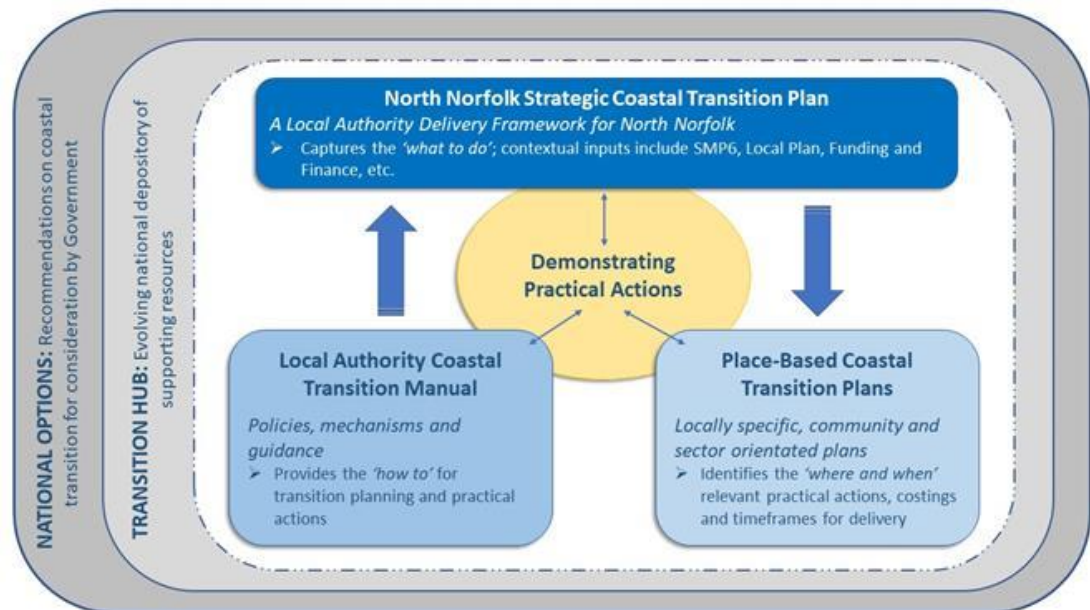
3.7 In total, the approved Capital and Revenue Budget for this programme is £15 million, which is to be funded by the Environment Agency funding alongside direct DEFRA contributions. Full Council approved the Capital and Revenue Budget on 20/9/2023.

### 3.8 **Coastwise Outputs**

3.9 Coastwise will produce five key outputs between 2023 and 2027:

1. **A North Norfolk Strategic Coastal Transition Plan.** Through the cocreation of local transition, the plan will by its nature be embedded in strategic and local initiatives. By project end, the plan will have become an evolving delivery framework for preparing local communities, individuals, businesses, and infrastructure providers for transition.
2. Development and delivery of **Innovative Practical Actions** and support options which are tested and evaluated. Opportunities will be identified, developed and tested for initial practical transition activities to meet some of the immediate needs posed by local coastal change.
3. A **Coastal Transition Manual**, defining a recommended methodology and approach to support the development of strategic, place-based and sector transition sub-plans. The manual will be aligned with strategic plans and local policy/frameworks, which facilitate the delivery of transition through Local Authority governance and operations structures.
4. **National Coastal Transition Hub.** The Coastwise will systematically document, evaluate and share the evidence and learning developed through a range of engagement materials to inform approaches to coastal erosion risk management and local development planning in future and in other locations. This could progress to become a wider 'hub' acting as a central resource for the sharing of transition information and knowledge, supported by or incorporated with the proposed Flood and Coastal Innovation Fund Knowledge Hub.
5. **National Options for Transition.** The North Norfolk CTAP will generate National Options for Coastal Transition for consideration of government. This could include proposals for the embedding of learning and approaches in existing FCERM policy and investment decision-making, innovations in funding and financing transition as well as local-development planning policies.

3.10 **Diagram 1. Below illustrates synergies between the Coastwise outputs.**



### 3.11 Coastwise Outcomes

3.12 The aspiration is to achieve three key outcomes, following completion of the project:

1. **Prepared and more resilient communities.** Communities in North Norfolk feel that they have a more sustainable future and they know how to seek support which will enable them to begin to transition away from risk.
2. **Supported, resourced and prepared local governance.** NNDC has sufficient resource and capability to appraise, seek funding, facilitate and deliver effective adaptation and transition options with its communities.
3. **Informed national and local policy, strategies, plans and processes for coastal management.** Using our practical experiences, evidence base, gap analysis and evaluation process to inform future development of local and national policy, strategies and processes for the sustainable management of coastal transition.

### 3.13 Coastwise Work Packages and Themes

3.14 The following 5 work packages will be delivered to achieve the outputs and objectives. As this is an innovation programme, there is scope to adjust and amend activities within the principles of CTAP and budget.

#### Transition Plans and Approach

- Defining transition plans.
- Consolidating existing transition knowledge.
- Research and Development identification and commissioning.

#### People and Place Preparedness

- Baselining of data, understanding and evidence to underpin involvement, development, decision making and evaluation.

- Working together by sector, topic and place to explore and co-create transition plans and practical actions.
- Enhancing coastal literacy.

#### **Practical Actions and Support**

- Initial short term erosion risk support.
- Securing land for transition.
- Practical Actions/taking forward Transition Plan actions.
- Improving local and national transition approaches.

#### **Funding and Finance**

- Exploring sustainable funding and finance options and mechanisms for coastal transition.
- Implementing funding and finance approaches.

#### **Programme Management and Governance**

- Delivering Net Zero.
- Programme management and governance. ?
- Recruitment and resourcing.
- Communications and Engagement.
- Monitoring, Evidence and Learning.

3.15 Cross cutting all work packages are four themes that will as set out below.

**Diagram 2. Coastwise Work Packages and Themes**



3.16 **Policy development** – Identifying where policy, strategies plans and legislation supports or creates challenges for transition alongside options for improvement.

3.17 **Stakeholder engagement** – Ensuring involvement of stakeholders is integral to all aspects of the programme and different approaches are appraised.

Stakeholders could include a local community, individual at risk, asset owner, business, research body, local government team, policy makers etc.

3.18 **Evidence and Learning** – Developing data and evidence to support policy development and decision making as well as knowledge and learning to be disseminated to assist wider transition.

3.19 **Net Zero** - Carbon emissions are a critical factor in the acceleration of coastal change. The ambition is to deliver a Net Zero Coastwise programme, this is ambitious and project processes and systems will need to be developed and incorporated, which will be new to NNDC and to coastal transition (which is also developing). There will be significant opportunities for learning which will be shared with the flood and coast sector, whilst also supporting NNDC's strategy and approach to move to net zero.

## 4. Progress

### 4.1 Outline Business Case

4.2 Since appointment of the Coastal Transition Manager in Autumn 2022, the required Outline Business Case (OBC) was developed and submitted before the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline set by the Environment Agency (EA). OBC's are required for all Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management funded schemes to formally secure funding. This programme is unusual in that it is seeking to innovate and progress with Coastal Transition, which has not historically been funded via these processes. Further guidance was provided by the EA as to their expectations of the OBC.

4.3 The OBC was submitted to the EA Large Project Review Group assurance process and only a small number of queries were raised. Notable queries related to the economic assessments completed for transition. As coastal transition has not previously been considered for funding, such queries were to be expected. As such Coastwise, as part of CTAP, will contribute to the future economic assessment approach.

4.4 NNDC received confirmation of formal approval of the OBC, therefore the full £15M funding, on 2 August 2023.

### 4.5 Recruitment

4.6 In order to deliver the programme it is necessary to recruit a focused team. The team will seek to work with wider NNDC teams and partners in order to effectively develop and deliver the programme objectives, but to also integrate coastal transition into the operation of the Council. Coastwise also seeks to build capacity in the coastal management sector through the development of expertise, skills and knowledge.

4.7 Coastwise roles, which will be funded from government grant, will be fixed term until the end March 2027. They include:

- Coastal Transition Manager – in post
- Senior Researcher – in post, seconded from UEA
- Coastal Transition Place Maker – start date January 2024



- Coastal Transition Community Facilitator – in post and started 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023
  - Coastal Transition Programme Assistant – in post and started 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023
  - Coastal Transition Planning and Policy Lead – under recruitment
- 4.8 Should any further roles be identified, business cases will be prepared for approvals as appropriate.
- 4.9 A further role of Coastal Transition Funding and Financing Advisor is hosted by the national Environment Agency Planning and Coast Team and funded through the NNDC and East Riding of Yorkshire CTAP programmes to deliver a joint Funding and Finance work package.
- 4.10 Coastwise is also supported by an Environment Agency Senior Advisor.
- 4.11 **Communications and Engagement**
- 4.12 As the North Norfolk Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme developed it was identified that shorter local programme title would be beneficial to support local conversations. Working with the NNDC Communications teams and following discussions with the EA CTAP team and East Riding, it was agreed that each local programme would have a name and logo. North Norfolk CTAP is known locally as Coastwise and branding is being developed to complement communications.
- 4.13 An initial strategic Communications and Engagement Plan was developed as part of the OBC and this is now being taken forward into a deliverable approach with the Communication Team.
- 4.14 Coastwise officers have worked with the NNDC Communications Team to develop initial communications materials, including web page and short explanatory films. Over time these resources will develop and expand. Coastwise also featured on the Regional Flood and Coast Committee stand at the Royal Norfolk Show and East Anglian Coast and Estuaries Conference.
- 4.15 **Programme & Governance**
- 4.16 Programme and governance arrangements have been put into place as per the NNDC Project Management Guidelines. A Programme Board has been inaugurated to provide oversight with reporting to the Cabinet Working Group. A Senior Officer Steering Group and external Critical Friends group have been established to provide programme support, local and national links to relevant initiatives and strategies and to provide broader creative input. As the programme develops, an initial session with the Youth Council was undertaken and will be explored further to ensure valuable youth input.
- 4.17 The programme is required to develop and trial coastal transition approaches that are transferable to other local authorities and Risk Management Authorities. As such it will be necessary to work with EROY and the EA in developing dissemination and collaborative opportunities.
- 4.18 **Initial Grants Package**

Cabinet approved the concept of an initial support package to enable Coastwise to work with those most at risk and to be able to offer levels of assistance where it is needed. A process, procedure and administration has been developed for support A, B and C below.

**A - Professional Services** - Support for provision of professional services such as legal, land agent, architect, planning agent to support actions such as investigating rollback. There would be the opportunity to keep the criteria 'open' as to not preclude good actions that may be arise.. This support will target and respond to those individuals or business at erosion risk. Support for individuals would be assessed on need and merit.

**B - Practical Actions** - Support could include moving services at risk which would reduce the life of a property, small scale refurbishment to improve quality of life in the short term, building improvements to reduce visual 'blight', removal of garden structures at risk etc. This support will target and respond to those individuals or business at erosion risk.

Each individual support would be assessed on need and merit. Where needs are identified, NNDC would utilise a surveyor (or similar skill base) to work with the owner to make an assessment, provide options, costs etc. Coastwise can then assess and either provide funds to complete the work or, if it is appropriate, arrange and deliver the work ourselves.

**C - Community support** - Targeted support that is identified through community conversations which may include (but not limited to) investigating local coastal erosion related issues or for practical assistance such as moving or supporting the transition of community assets.

- 4.19 This support will target and respond to those individuals, communities or businesses at erosion risk needs. The administration will be through the Coastwise team and applicants will be identified through conversations within communities and with those at risk from erosion. The administrative process provides a transparent and auditable approach that can be amended, varied as required. It is transferable to other localities and as such meets the wider objectives of CTAP.
- 4.20 Further support could be investigated to be delivered under the existing **Arts and Culture Fund**. It is proposed to add additional criteria to seek to support proposals that raise understanding and awareness of coastal erosion on the North Norfolk coast supporting the coastal literacy aspects of the project. Proposals could be managed through the Arts and Culture fund process with Coastwise consulted/involved in the grant approval process.
- 4.21 The first support was issued in September 2023 to Happisburgh Parish Council to assist with funding professional services to take forward investigations to enable a planning application for the replacement of a public beach car park to move forwards.
- 4.22 **Research and Development**
- 4.23 There is a significant amount of academic and sector interest in CTAP and Coastwise alongside a broader increased awareness and increasing opportunities for research in climate, coastal change preparedness and related

fields. Coastwise has engaged with research proposals from keeping abreast of emerging work, inputting and guiding proposals, supporting proposals and providing seed funding to establish research action.

4.24 A research and development schedule has been developed as part of the programme documentation and opportunities that can be taken forward and support the objectives of Coastwise will be considered. The developing Research and Development schedule can be made available to Overview and Scrutiny on request.

4.25 The programme enables Coastwise to take forward research into areas which will assist the overall aims of CTAP, e.g. gaps in coastal transition knowledge and will also support the wider community transition objectives. As such an approach to propagating supporting research is being considered which may then be able to unlock further funding opportunities.

4.26 **Other**

4.27 Numerous other areas are under development to support Coastwise activities and delivery, a few are noted below:

- Development of Monitoring, Evidence and Learning approach to Coastwise to enable capturing of learning to benefit programme development, future NNDC projects, EA programme, transferability of transition approaches, programme outputs and future government approaches.
- Input into DEFRA CTAP evaluation.
- Investigation of opportunities to utilise and develop further the Environment Agency [Readiness Assessment](#) technique to gain insights into council, partner and community level of readiness to transition.
- Utilisation of the [Social Value Engine](#) to gain insights and metrics into wider benefits as activities are developed and delivered.
- Baselining of international Transition Plan approaches and learning.
- Baselining and consolidation into one place coastal transition/adaptation case studies and knowledge.
- Baselining of current coastal literacy materials and coastal visualisation.
- Baselining of data and information on the North Norfolk Coast, including population, property and economic data.
- Baselining legislative responsibilities, liabilities and options for coastal risk and transition.
- Development of approach to explore coastal Sediment Valuation with regards to Flood and Coast Erosion Risk Management economic assessment valuations and nature based solutions.
- Input into discussions regarding the development of coastal Environmental Land Management Scheme options.
- Carbon baseline of current coastal transition business as usual.
- Identifying programme processes and opportunities to minimise carbon, and calculate carbon in programme processes.
- Identifying ways to meet net zero as a programme including offsetting opportunities.
- Understanding risk profile of updated National Coastal Erosion Risk Mapping (once available from the Environment Agency).

- Development of innovative CTAP funding stream contingency financial approach to assist with managing and lowering risks with grant claim/contingency funding management.
- Discussions with planning policy and development control regarding possible opportunities and approaches to rollback and replacement of at-risk homes and assets.
- Discussion with NNDC teams to seek to understand areas where codelivery and benefits can be realised.

#### 4.28 **Next Steps**

4.29 Key next steps are outlined below:

- Complete recruitment and onboard team.
- Begin conversations with coastal communities, sectors and individuals.
- Complete baselining to help shape the way forward.
- Seek opportunities to deliver short term actions to deliver transition and to generate learning.
- Develop youth and community governance arrangements.
- Test and implement ongoing monitoring, evidence and learning.

### 5. **Corporate Priorities**

5.1 Coastwise contributes to the following aspects of the Corporate Plan published on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

***Our Greener Future We will continue our work to create a cleaner, greener and zero-carbon future for North Norfolk***

- Protect and Transition our Coastal Environments • Realising the opportunities of external funding to secure a sustainable future for our coastal communities through transition and adaptation responses.
- Continue our journey to Net Zero • Continuing our own annual emissions reductions to reach Net Zero by 2030 • Introducing significant new projects which deliver on our Net Zero ambitions

### 6. **Financial and Resource Implications**

6.1 Coastwise is funded by direct DEFRA revenue and capital grant and Environment Agency capital Grant in Aid.

6.2 Defra funds are administered via a capital (£1,000,000) and a revenue (£405,000) Memorandum of Understanding, setting out the fund conditions and activity schedule. To date funds have been rolled forward over the financial year. The funds have already been received by NNDC, being utilised in the development of the OBC and resourcing with remaining funds allocated to activities in the delivery of the programme.

6.3 The largest proportion of funding is through Environment Agency Grant in Aid, totalling over the programme period to 31 March 2027, £13,595,000.

6.4 Table 3. below details the indicative income, note the programme total has been rounded up to £15,000,000.

**Table3. Indicative grant income over programme period**

Income streams £m	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	Total
Grant in aid	0	0	4,022,421	3,116,684	1,700,361	8,839,466
EA Contingency	0	0	1,958,715	2,032,652	764,081	4,755,448
EA Grant in aid including contingency	0	0	5,981,136	5,149,336	2,464,442	13,594,914
DEFRA Contribution	1,405,000	0	0	0	0	1,405,000

- 6.5 All direct staffing costs will be funded by the grants. This includes normal oncosts (NI, pension etc.) and supplemented with 5% back office charges. Where wider teams directly deliver programme activities, it is normal to capitalize these costs to the programme.

**Comments from the S151 Officer:**

*Expenditure on this project must be contained within the funding allocated for it as there are no other sources of funding available to the Council at this time.*

**7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 No specific legal implications arise from the report. Coastwise will seek to understand the existing legislative provision with regards to coastal responsibilities, liabilities and options to assist with shaping opportunities, learning and outputs.

7.2

**Comments from the Monitoring Officer**

*This report has been shared with the Monitoring Officer and some contribution made. Whilst no specific legal implications are raised within the report, we are available to liaise with in the event of any queries.*

**8. Risks**

- 8.1 A Programme risk register has been produced as part of the Outline Business Case and this has been adopted as the Programme Risk log. The key risks identified have been set out in a table below. The Programme board have strategic oversight of the risk and risk workshops are planned with the board to update risk profiles, identify additional risk and to ensure risks mitigation is progressed.
- 8.2 It should however be noted that as this programme seeks innovation, risks will need to be taken and there is an expectation that elements of the activities taken forward may not deliver the anticipated outcomes.

8.3 Key risks identified through OBC development and via workshops and scored as per the NNDC Project Management Risk matrix are outlined below:

Issue No	Significant Risk/Issue Description	Mitigation actions	Mitigated Risk Score
1	<b>Meeting programme financial projections</b> - Unable to spend allocated funds in projected years resulting in loss of funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing and timely discussions and updates with EA</li> <li>Ongoing monitoring of financial forecast and programme</li> </ul>	12
2	<b>Land availability</b> - Land required to deliver the scheme is not available or suitable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to understand legal routes to access land that is otherwise unavailable.</li> <li>be open minded about sites etc.</li> <li>Work with communities to identify land opportunities</li> <li>Early engagement with planning team on suitability</li> </ul>	12
3	<b>Consenting timescales</b> - With Environmental assessments etc. consenting timescales for activities could be significant and impact on delivery within the programme period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early identification of sites/actions</li> <li>Work with statutory bodies to minimise delays</li> <li>Seek consultant support</li> </ul>	12
4	<b>Changes in government direction on adaptation</b> - National priorities on transition / adaptation / resilience may change impacting current/future funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor political climate</li> <li>Seek to progress and deliver</li> </ul>	12
5	<b>Nutrient neutrality</b> -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep under review</li> </ul>	12

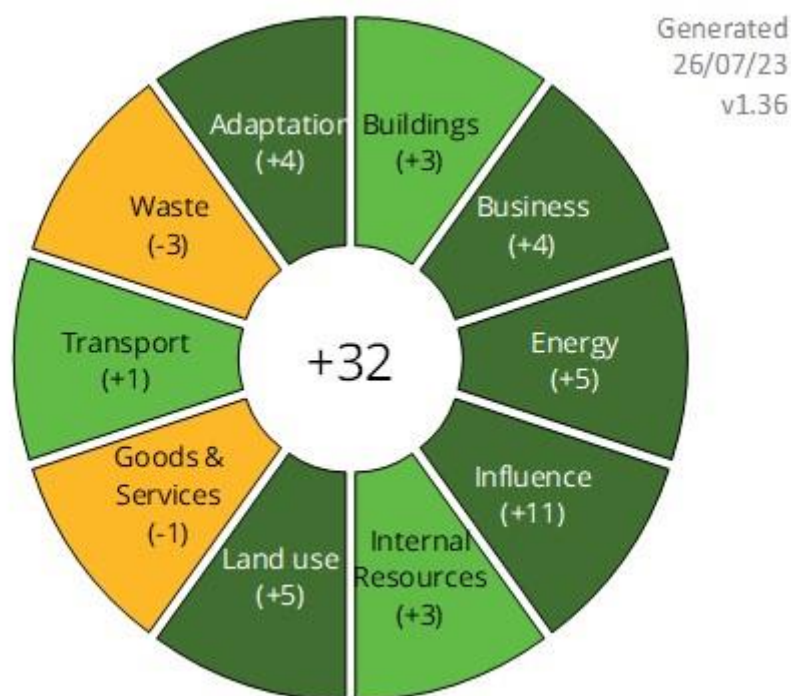
## 9. Net Zero Target

9.1 Coastwise embraces the principles of the NNDC Net Zero 2030 Strategy.

9.2 Climate change enhanced coastal erosion is a significant risk to the UK and will continue to occur North Norfolk. The extent of sea level rise and the consequential enhanced rates of erosion will depend on the rate carbon emissions are reduced across the globe and how global systems continue to respond to climatic changes.

- 9.3 NNDC has a role to play in reducing, mitigating and sequestering carbon. Coastwise has specifically identified Net Zero as a theme to cut across all the activities in the programme and it is recognized that in order to remove or reduce carbon, it must be considered from the inception of projects.
- 9.4 The following activities are proposed to be developed from which carbon management learning can be generated through Coastwise:
- Carbon baseline.
  - Carbon accounting.
  - Integration of carbon into programme and project decision making.
  - Carbon mitigation.
  - Carbon sequestration and offsetting opportunities.
- 9.5 The details of the practical actions and delivery will be developed through cocreation with communities and stakeholders, and as such the details have not been agreed and therefore a detailed carbon assessment is not yet possible. However, based on the aspirations of the adopted Outline Business Case a Climate Change Impact Assessment has been completed. This technique will be considered and incorporated into the development of carbon management of the programme moving forwards.

**Diagram 3. Climate Change Impact Assessment wheel**



- 9.6 It should be noted that the 'adaptation' score in the tool recognises that Coastwise is part of the journey to preparing for coastal transition and adaption. Following the programme and the anticipated future support of government for transition, adaption will continue and develop further.
- 9.7 There is an opportunity to learn as an organisation, project approaches and tools to carbon management which can then be adopted across the Council as well as shared with the Flood and Coastal Risk Management sector.

## **10. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**

- 10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed as part of the Outline Business Case process.
- 10.2 As the engagement with communities and co-created options develop, further equality, diversity and inclusion assessment will need to be considered.
- 10.3 Experiences of working in the field of coastal management is that some groups are well represented in discussion, but others are often not apparent. As such it has already been highlighted that Coastwise should seek to engage with younger people as they are often less well represented. This is specifically important as coastal change, enhanced by climate change will impact on the younger generation and future generations, and as such their insights and views are essential.

## **11. Community Safety issues**

- 11.1 Coastal erosion is potentially a significant risk to community safety (and wellbeing). Coastwise will seek to better prepare individuals, communities, NNDC and government for the challenges and faced by coastal erosion.
- 11.2 It may become apparent that during discussions with communities and individuals that some may have other needs and Coastwise could signpost to other services. Discussions are underway with the Community Connectors team to ensure these opportunities and linkages can be integrated.

## **12. Conclusion and Recommendations**

- 12.1 Coastal erosion is highly emotive and is a key risk to North Norfolk. We are not alone; this is the case nationally and for many coastal communities around the world. Realistically it is not an option to prevent the coast eroding in many places and where we try to, it will be an ongoing technical, economic and environmental challenge.
- 12.2 If we continue with the current 'business as usual', the impact of erosion will have many negative affects to many people and places. It is essential that like other climate enhanced challenges, we plan and prepare. The preparation for coastal transition will not be easy, but by working through the issues and discussing possible way forwards, we can all be better prepared and there may even be opportunities to enhance the coast via carbon offsetting, for example with the creation of new habitats
- 12.3 Coastwise provides an opportunity to explore how we may locally plan and prepare for coastal erosion and help shape the future national approach. To maximize this opportunity, it will take a commitment from people in North Norfolk, our council and government to work together, to push the boundaries of our own thinking and comfort and to carefully support others do the same.
- 12.4 Overview and Scrutiny are asked to endorse Coastwise, and to commit to provide timely and helpful constructive feedback so we may strengthen the programme and maximize on the benefits that can be delivered locally and for the nation.