

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 November 2025

COUNCILLOR HARRY BLATHWAYT - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period October - November 2025

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

General

- NNDC hosted the LGA Coastal SIG annual field visit between 30 September and 2nd October. It was also the celebration of the SIG's 25th anniversary. We showcased Cromer Pier, the Cromer Coast protection scheme, and took delegates along the eroding coast to see the impacts on settlements and the adaptation responses being developed via Coastwise. We also discussed the future energy-related prospects for Bacton Gas Terminal and visited Equinor's Windscape exhibition at Sheringham Museum. The visit was well received by our guests and very positive comments were made about the area and the work of the Council on such a broad spectrum of coastal issues.

Cromer and Mundesley

- Continued monitoring of impacts of Mundesley rock stockpile with both visual drone photography and GNSS rover survey (a land surveying technique that uses a mobile satellite receiver (the "rover") to determine its precise location relative to a fixed base station or a network of reference stations).

Overstrand

- Full Council approved the budget for the required works to Overstrand sea wall and a scheme has been added to the capital programme.
- Outline Business Case has been submitted and comments from Environment Agency are being reviewed/responded to.
- Top and bottom edges of Japanese knotweed outbreak have been sprayed. This will be repeated at least a further three times in spring and autumn in future years, coupled with innovative methods of spraying the central area of the plant growth on the steep and unstable slope.
- The eastern of the two slips, which is not contaminated with knotweed, was removed and deposited behind the revetment to the east and the western slip (containing knotweed) has been removed and disposed of by a licensed contractor. The cliff was reshaped to a safe angle of repose which appears to be holding.
- Suitable stabilisation works at the toe of the cliff, where it meets the sea wall, to help prevent further encroachment of the contaminated material on the walkway, are currently being investigated.

- The condition of the surface of the promenade is being closely monitored, in order for an informed decision to be taken about whether it is safe for the barriers to be removed, allowing access once again along the promenade.

Coastwise

- Coastwise Community Transition Plans: activities in communities facilitated by appointed contractors are ongoing in six communities.
- Happisburgh Car Park contractor has been selected.
- Further ongoing development on housing options for at-risk residential properties.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Potholes filled on Cromer promenade and sea wall joints infilled.
- Repairs to groyne and beacon in Sheringham and groynes in Cromer.
- Handrailing repaired in West Runton.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Cromer and Mundesley

- We will be accompanying Mundesley Parish Council on a beach walk to discuss the recent coast protection works.

Overstrand

- Investigating options for future treatments for knotweed, as currently only the outer edges can be reached from the top and bottom of the cliff; novel techniques such as drones may be required.
- Cliff stabilisation measures will be undertaken at the base of the cliff, on top of and behind the sea wall.
- Knotweed growth area and cliff/slope will be monitored over the winter using drones, to survey for movement.

Coastwise

- Submission of phase two Happisburgh Car Park facilities planning application.
- Scoping of strategic transition plan for the whole programme area.
- Development of decommissioning scheme/protocol for redundant risk management assets.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Post-season inspections of all steps, ramps, etc.
- Repairs to groynes where necessary.
- Repairs to navigation Beacons.

3 Meetings attended

Date	NNDC	Broads Authority	In person	virtual	Description
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2/09/25		X		X	CEO Update
		X		X	Suffolk County Council Leaders meeting
	X		X		LGA IDB SIG Parliamentary event
4/09		X	X		Navigation Committee
5/09	X			X	Coastwise Grant sign off meeting
		X		X	CEO recruitment meeting
8/09	X		X		151 officer meeting
	X		X		Cabinet
	X		X		Business Planning
9/09	X			X	Coastal Landscapes sustainable tourism presentation
10/09	X	X	X		Green King Hoveton Site Visit
11/09		X		X	CEO update
12/09		X	X		Planning Committee
16/09		X	X		South Norfolk DC & Broadland CEO meeting
18/09		X		X	Chairs pre-Board Meeting
	X	X	X		EFRA Select Committee Chair meeting. (various subjects)
19/09		X	X		Full Board meeting
22/09		X	X		NPE field trip to New Forest NP
23/09		X	X		National Parks England Board Meeting
24/09	X			X	Coastwise Catch up
	X		X		Full Council
25/09	X			X	LGA IDB SIG meeting
30/9	X		X		LGA Coast SIG Field Trip
1/10	X		X		ditto
2/10	X		X		LGA Coast SIG AGM
6/10		X		X	CEO Up-date
7/10	X			X	Mundesley project meeting with Parish C
		X	X		Boat Tolls Work Shop
9/10		X		X	CEO recruitment selection
10/10	X		X		RNAA Breakfast meeting
14/10		X		X	CEO Briefing
15/10	X		X		O&S
20/10		X	X		NPE Board Meeting
21/10	X		X		Cromer & Mundesley Board
22/10	X		X		Norfolk Rivers IDB
	X			X	LGA Bathing Water Quality SIG
23/10	X			X	Broadlands Futures Initiative
		X		X	CEO Briefing
25/10	X			X	Coastwise update
		X	X		RH J Mayhew MP meeting
30/10		X		X	CEO recruitment short list selection