

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

25 March 2026

COUNCILLOR HARRY BLATHWAYT - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period February to March 2026

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Coastwise

- Construction continues on the replacement Happisburgh Car Park.
- Significant progress has been made in the development of the Coastal Homes Assurance Scheme, which is hoped to be progressed through the recently announced Coastal Adaptation Pilot.
- Investigations into understanding the potential for insuring homes at risk of erosion have been completed.
- Happisburgh Church Digital Heritage project was launched with a public event. The building recording has been completed.
- A protocol for decommissioning coastal management assets has been completed. This will be incorporated into wider coastal asset management procedures.

Overstrand

- Notices under the Coast Protection Act, have been placed in the EDP and North Norfolk News in, a procedural requirement of the funding for the refurbishment of Overstrand sea wall. This consultation period has now been completed, there have been no objections regarding the works.
- Consultants have prepared the documentation for the scheme, including environmental assessments, which have been submitted to Planning under notification procedures related to permitted development rights, awaiting outcome.
- The Consultants have submitted the final design. The coastal team are now in the process of progressing with the construction tender.
- Tender procedures for purchasing sheet piles have been completed and the team are now reviewing the information.

Repairs and Maintenance

- The void that was discovered under the promenade to the east of Sheringham has been filled and the structure therefore declared safe again. The Coastal Engineer explained the issues and the solution at the recent Coastal Forum meeting. The work has gone according to plan, and the promenade will have been re-opened by the time of the meeting. Monitoring of promenades and sea walls elsewhere for potential voids continues.
- Windblown sand clearance has been undertaken at some locations along Bacton and Walcott frontages.
- Floodgate inspections have been undertaken.

Other

- Input has been made into LGA Coastal Special Interest Group's response to National Planning Policy Framework consultation in relation coast risk management.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**Coastwise**

- Demolition of vacated properties in the immediate erosion risk area will commence following UK Power network disconnections (dates to be confirmed).
- Coastal Erosion Transition Plans for settlements along the coast will be shared soon with those communities for consideration. Following this, further dialogue will take place in the hope that the plans will be adopted by communities and that they will inform future actions to assist in community adaptation.
- The government has announced the Coastal Adaptation Pilot that will supercede the Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme which currently funds Coastwise. Details are being prepared and it is expected that this will enable the extension of Coastwise to March 2029, an increase in overall budget and approval for a wider scope that can enable further support to homes at erosion risk.

Overstrand

- Tendering for the construction contract will commence shortly.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Repairs to aids to navigation will be ongoing.
- The reinstatement of the timber revetment and plant bays on Mundesley beach will be undertaken as soon as the weather permits – these were removed to facilitate the coast protection scheme, completed last year.

3 Meetings attended

Date February	NNDC	Broads Authority	In Person	Virtual	Description
2 nd	X		X		Cabinet and Business Planning
3rd		X		X	Chairs Briefing
4th	X		X		Training
13th		X	X		Full Board
18th	X		X		Full Council
23rd	X		X		Cabinet Pre agenda
24th		X	X		Risk, Audit and Governance
25th	X			X	Portfolio Meeting
25th	X			X	LGA Coastal Sig elected members
25th		X		X	Chairs Briefing
26th	X			X	Norfolk Coastal Partnership briefing