

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

23 September 2026

COUNCILLOR HARRY BLATHWAYT - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period July to September 2026

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Coast Protection works

Overstrand

- Site setup for the Overstrand Coastal Management Scheme began on Monday 7th September, with arrival of machinery and welfare station, as well as fencing to enclose the site at the bottom of the Clifton Way ramp. The pre-purchased steel sheet piles having been delivered to site earlier in the summer.
- Construction began on week commencing 14th September. The work consists of two sections of sheet piling and concreting at either end of the sea wall. The western end, at the bottom of the zig zag slopes, is the first section to be worked on - see image below.



- Once the works at the western end have been completed, the contractor will move to the eastern side to continue the operation. The location is depicted below.



- Local stakeholders, including the Parish Council, local ward member, local businesses, and beach hut owners have been informed in the build-up to the scheme and about and will continue to be updated as it moves through to completion.
- The top and bottom parts of the slope containing Japanese Knotweed have once-again been treated and the effectiveness is continuing to be monitored.

Adaptation programme

- Coastwise drop-ins were held to share more widely the first community Coastal Transition Plans, developed in both Happisburgh and Trimingham there were:
 - Church Rooms in Happisburgh on Wednesday 15th July;
 - Trimingham Hall in Trimingham on Friday 17th July.
- The updated Business Case for the Coastal Adaptation Pilot funding was submitted in draft in early September, setting out the proposed programme for the continuation of Coastwise activity and for the development and implementation of the nascent Coastal Homes Assurance Scheme.
- A 'North Sea School' event was held on East Runton Beach with Coastwise support, where you learners discussed coastal processes, fossil hunting and coastal erosion.
- A final draft of the 'Coastal Change Management Area' (CCMA) guidance report has been received and is being reviewed. This will provide evidence for all coastal authorities to update their CCMA's, in light of the National Coastal Erosion Risk Mapping 2 data that was released at the beginning of 2025.

Repairs and maintenance work

- Sheet piling works being undertaken beneath the beach huts to the far east end of Cromer to prevent undermining.
- Further safety signage installed at Cromer and Sheringham to warn people of the dangers of climbing on the rock sea defence structures.
- Debris has been removed from Salthouse beach.

Other

- The Norfolk Coast Forum had its annual site visit, which was at Overstrand this year. The White Horse hosted the meeting presentations and there then followed a walk down to the sea wall to view the site of the upcoming refurbishment scheme. It was well attended and members of the Forum showed a great deal of interest in the multi-faceted issues illustrated at this complex frontage.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Coastwise

- Preparation for Happisburgh Heritage Capture Project launch event to showcase Happisburgh Church 3D scans and videos.
- UK Environmental Law Association Field Trip, hosted by NNDC/Coastwise, taking place in North Norfolk on 25th September.
- Portfolio holder and Coastal Adaptation Team Leader are attending the LGA

Coastal Special Interest Group annual field trip in September, being held this year in Blackpool (last year, its 25th was hosted by NNDC).

- Once the final CCMA Guidance Report has been received, the Coastal Management team will meet with the Planning team to discuss how to treat this issue in forthcoming planning policy and subsequent development management decisions.
- CAP Business Case Update Report to be assessed by Environment Agency; this is anticipated to be an iterative process leading to the agreed detailed programme that will be delivered in the coming years.

Overstrand

- Completion of Overstrand Scheme anticipated in coming months.

Repairs and Maintenance

- Works to begin on repairs to the revetment at Mundesley once Cromer sheet piling works have been completed.
- Repairs to revetment in Bacton.
- Continuation of removal of materials at entrance to existing Happisburgh car park in preparation for the replacement car park.

3 Meetings attended

Date	NNDC	BA	In Person	Virtual	Description
1st July		X	X		National Parks UK Seminar
3rd		X	X		Planning
6th	X		X		Cabinet
7 th /8 th	X	X			National Landscapes Conference
8th	X			X	Coastal SIG
14th	X		X		Norfolk Coastal Forum
14th		X		X	Finance Training
15th		X	X		National Parks 75 th Birthday Celebration
16th		X	X		NP England AGM
21st		X	X		Audit/Governance
22nd	X			X	Broadland futures
22nd	X		X		Full Council
24th		X	X		Full Board
7th August		X	X		Planning
10th		X		X	NPE Directors Meeting
12th		X	X		Members Field Trip
24th	X		X		Cabinet Pre Agenda 7 Business Planning.

