

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

24 February 2021

COUNCILLOR A FITCH-TILLET - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period December 2020 to February 2021

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Innovative Resilience Fund – Expression of Interest Submitted

Coastal Partnership East on behalf of our three Coastal Local authorities have submitted an Expression of Interest to the £200M National Defra Innovative Resilience Fund.

Our bid entitled the Norfolk and Suffolk Coast Transition Programme aims to build on previous coastal pathfinder experience. We have set out an ambitious £10M programme to support our coastal towns facing coastal erosion or tidal flood risk. We will co-create adaptation and resilience solutions and embed those with key communities to develop 'real' options to help them plan for present and future coastal change.

We look forward to finding out if we have been shortlisted in March/April 2021. In the meantime, we will take this time to reflect on the huge step forward the team have made in capturing all our coastal adaptation needs and the key things we need to do to deliver this challenging work with our coastal communities.

Coastal Loss Innovative Funding and Finance (CLIFF)

The Coastal Loss and innovative Finance project (CLIFF) seeks to investigate and assess potential funding and financing solutions to assist and incentivise residents of properties at high risk erosion or permanent inundation to relocate.

The project was instigated by CPE and has since included DEFRA, Environment Agency, Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group, NNDC, CPE, Lewes District Council, Scottish Government and the Welsh LGA as partners.

Through interviews with the finance/insurance sector and key flood and coast representatives, the initial scoping phase shortlisted three approaches for further assessment. These approaches include a Levy Model, Coastal Rehousing Pool and Coastal Accumulator Fund.

The next feasibility phase has just begun which will seek to assess these approaches and associated sub options. A Technical and Steering Group of partners is providing project oversight.

The project has a very positive fit with the recent Government Flood and Coast Policy Statement and Environment Agency Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

Strategy.

The project to date has been funded by NNDC, Lewes District Council, Defra and LGA Coastal SIG.

Broadland Future Initiative

The Broadland Future Initiative is led by the Environment Agency and The Broads Authority. An elected member's forum is being set up with the first meeting planned for the spring. There is also an online survey currently open linked to a virtual exhibition, please see the below low links.

[Broadland Futures Initiative \(virtualeventspace.io\)](http://virtualeventspace.io)

[Broadland Futures Initiative \(broads-authority.gov.uk\)](http://broads-authority.gov.uk)

Operational report

Coastal defence inspection and maintenance operations have continued over the winter period including:

- Revetments repairs
- Bastion repairs - Cromer
- Access repairs - Bacton, Overstrand, Happisburgh
- Beacon refurbishment - Sheringham
- Cromer Pier- steel works and remedial works to 9 legs completed

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

National FCERM Adaptation Working Group

The CPE team are part of the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Adaptation Working Group. This group links both the Coastal Group network (representatives from Risk Management Authorities from around the English coast) and Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group. This work is initially focusing on Action Planning for the delivery of the FCERM Strategy in respect of the Coastal Erosion related strategy measures, specifically those focusing on Coastal Adaptation.

This work will seek to guide national and local focus on the delivery of key strategy outputs which also align with CPE partner objectives regarding longer term climate resilient approaches to the coast.

National Consultations

The report from the recent EFRA Evidence Review which NNDC, through CPE provided representation has been published, see. [Flooding \(parliament.uk\)](http://flooding.parliament.uk)

A further EFRA Call for Evidence has been made to Seeking evidence on how local

factors can be taken into account in the government's flood and coastal defense investment programme and how we can increase the uptake of property flood resilience.

A further government consultation is being completed on proposed changes to the FloodRe scheme, this potentially links to the CLIFF project outlined above.

Coastal Partnership East will work with partners such as the LGA Coastal SIG to consider the consultation/requests for evidence and seek to represent NNDC as appropriate.

Capital Schemes

The activities for the Mundesley and Cromer Phase 2 Coastal Management Schemes design and consenting have now been tendered on the Coastal Partnership East Dynamic Purchasing System. A consultant is sought to work with the team to develop these schemes together as soon as possible. It is anticipated a consultant will be appointed in April 2021. Following appointment, the project Local Liaison Groups, involved in earlier phases of both projects will be reconvened. The team are seeking to design and gain consent (including all relevant environmental aspects) as soon as possible to enable tendering of the construction towards the end of the year. These timeframes are subject to factors such as consenting and final design economic assessment.

Maintenance Schemes

Revenue maintenance schemes are under preparation for maintenance at Sheringham including restacking of rock armour and at Overstrand including sea wall works (east).