

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

17 November 2021

COUNCILLOR A FITCH-TILLET - CABINET MEMBER FOR COAST

For the period September to November 2021

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Innovative Resilience Fund - Progress Update

Coastal Partnership East is progressing within the Environment Agency funding process to secure £8.4M to deliver the Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Transition programme. Work is progressing with preparing the Outline Business Case and resources are in the process of being put into place to assist with supporting the programme development.

Cromer Phase 2 and Mundesley Coast Protection Scheme – Progress Update

An Environmental Scoping opinion has been received by the Local Planning Authority. Due to high volumes of enquiries and staff shortages at the Marine Management Organisation, a scoping opinion has not been received from the marine element of the work. We have now received a MMO case officer but there will be a delay in the response from those programmed which will impact on the timescales for submission for consents and the project. Construction costs are likely to be higher due to industry wide increases to materials costs, this is being assessed and plans put in place to seek any additional funds if required. The draft detailed design is nearly completed and these were presented to and discussed with the Local Liaison Groups.

Sea Defence Revenue Maintenance

Maintenance of sea defences and beach accesses have continued and included repairs to groynes and navigation markers across the district.

Bacton to Walcott Sandscaping Scheme

Monitoring of sediment movement continued with data captured in September. Detailed analysis of the June and September monitoring is underway. Breeding birds were monitored throughout the breeding bird season and a comparison report is being drafted to compare all data collected through the scheme. This highlights that the Sandscaping scheme has not had a detrimental impact on breeding birds on the coastline. A guidance note will be produced to share the learning from the project. Ideas for trial windblown sand mitigation measures were shared with local residents and the parish councils, feedback has been reviewed and the team are preparing to install trial measures to manage windblown sand.

Coastal Loss Innovative Funding and Finance (CLIFF) Project

The CLIFF project, which is investigating potential methods of funding and financing initiatives to assist those who are at risk of losing their residential properties from erosion or permanent flood inundation, is coming to a close. All interviews for this phase with insurance and finance bodies has now been completed and the financial

model completed. The outputs of the model and the interviews will feed into the final phase report which is now being drawn together.

Shoreline Management Plan Refresh

A national Shoreline Management Plan Refresh is underway. This is not a review of policies but will seek to update the SMPs against new guidance and improved governance. The East Anglian Coastal Group, through Coastal partnership East are recruiting a SMP Co-ordinator to assist with delivering this work in the Anglian region and specifically for SMP 6 & 7.

National Activities

Coastal Partnership East and Portfolio Holder Cllr. Angie Fitch-Tillett continue to engage and lead on progressing national working groups through the Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group and Coastal Groups Network around the theme of Coastal Adaptation.

The team are involved with the national DEFRA Project investigation historical rates of coastal change and the National Coastal Erosion Risk Mapping project.

Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Conference

The first joint Norfolk and Suffolk Coastal Conference on the 14 October was a success with 288 attending the day. Recordings of the presentations are currently available online.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Continuation on development and delivery of above projects and initiatives,

3 Meetings attended

All Cabinet Meetings, including planning and budget presentations
All Ward Parish Councils
6.10.21 Chairman's Civic Reception
7.10.21 Norfolk & Suffolk Coast and Estuaries Conference
9.10.21 Presented Norfolk Coast Partnership Dark Skies Festival final session
11.10.21 Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party
13.10.21 Chaired LGA Coastal SIG Adaption Working Group
18.10.21 Broads Internal Drainage Board, Code of Conduct Training
20.10.21 CPE Procurement Presentation (SCAPE Model)
21.10.21 Development Committee
29.10.21 RFCC (East)
2.11.21 Chaired Norfolk Coastal Forum
3.11.21 Employment and Appeals Training, Greenbuild
4.11.21 Chaired Mundesley Coast Protection Scheme Liaison Meeting
5.11.21 Chaired Cromer Coast Protection Scheme Liaison Meeting

