

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

2021/22  
Decision No.  
2342

### Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 7 February 2022

<b>Portfolio</b>	Planning and Development
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Fareham Coastal Defence Study (Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cadour Drive)</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Planning and Regeneration
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	Protect and enhance the environment

#### **Purpose:**

To seek approval to undertake coastal defence study to develop Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Scheme options for the Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cadour Drive frontages, to reduce flood and erosion risk alongside the impacts of those risks on historic coastal landfill.

The project will also provide an opportunity to investigate additional broader outcome opportunities important to Fareham Borough Council (FBC) and the wider Fareham community relating not only to the environment, but also to the improvement of the public realm, regeneration, enhancement of amenities, improvement of recreation opportunities, access and community health and wellbeing.

Fareham Quay is situated at the end of Fareham Creek in the north corner of Portsmouth Harbour (Appendix A), the frontage is tidally dominated, relatively sheltered and subject to wind driven waves.

Located within three kilometres of Fareham Quay, the Alton Grove to Cadour Drive frontage, north of Portsmouth Harbour, near Portchester (Appendix A), is fronted by a shallow intertidal foreshore. Given the exposure to the prevailing south and south westerly winds, the frontage is susceptible to wave overtopping when strong winds combine with high tidal conditions. Both coastal frontages and existing defences are owned and maintained by FBC and are now reaching the end of their serviceable life.

Across both frontages, a significant number of properties are at risk of an extreme tidal flood event during the next 100 years. Further to this, both coastal frontages are identified as historic coastal landfill sites. Continued erosion of defences in these locations could also risk exposing further landfill and potentially pollute the environmentally important Portsmouth Harbour.

The aim is to undertake a combined FCERM coastal defence study for the Fareham

Quay and Alton Grove to Cador Drive frontages. The Study will assess and develop longer-term coastal management options, reducing flood and erosion risk and addressing historic landfill issues, as recommended in the River Hamble to Portchester Strategy (RHPS) (2016) and the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (2010).

The study will also put forward a proposal and outline design to try and secure further funding for detailed designs and to implement and construct the preferred option.

**Options Considered:**

At the invitation of the Executive Leader, Councillor R H Price, JP addressed the Executive on this item.

As recommendation.

**Decision:**

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- (a) approves commencement of the Fareham Coastal Defence Study; and
- (b) agrees that the Director of Planning and Regeneration is given delegated authority to procure and deliver the works, subject to the award of contract being made through an Individual Decision of the Executive Member for Planning and Development.

**Reason:**

If no coastal defences were in place, 49 properties across both areas are at tidal flood risk from a 1/100-year extreme tidal event today, substantially increasing to a total of 400 properties at risk during the same event in 100 years (Appendix B).

Further to this, both sites are former landfill sites, with historical operation of landfill activities from as early as 1932. The RHPS, identified the Fareham Quay frontage as a 'medium risk' landfill site. The area is currently defended by a poor condition block wall which has several recent failures requiring remediation. The Alton Grove to Cador Drive frontage has been identified as a 'high-risk' site as most of the area is undefended and subject to erosion with areas of poor condition concrete sandbag walls. Continued erosion of defences in these locations could also risk exposing further landfill and potentially pollute the environmentally important Portsmouth Harbour.

Due to the apparent risks at both these sites and following adoption of the RHPS, both Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cador Drive were identified as priority sites to progress coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes.

Sea defence damage and failures present an on-going and increasing risk to public safety. Since 2012, various maintenance activities have taken place at both sites. If no future planned maintenance is undertaken, sections of the frontage at both sites will continue to fail, as recently seen during Storm Barra (7<sup>th</sup> December 2021) at Salterns recreation ground.

The Fareham Coastal Defence Study and associated schemes are included in the Environment Agency's Capital Investment Programme, although it is likely that limited grants will be available for the delivery of the schemes. Funding for the study was approved by the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (SRFCC) in December 2020 along with funding from FBC.

**Confirmed as a true record:**

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

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