

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Presentation to Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel

Date: 08 June 2022

Report of: Director of Planning and Regeneration

Subject: COASTAL PARTNERS

SUMMARY

The Panel will receive a presentation from the Coastal Service which will include an update on the service, climate change and information on current projects as well as the day-to-day maintenance of the Fareham Borough Council coastal assets.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are now invited to note the contents of the presentation.

Introduction

1. Fareham Borough Council coastal protection officers are working collaboratively in a Partnership providing a shared coastal flood and erosion risk management service with our neighbouring local authorities of Portsmouth CC, Gosport BC and Havant BC. This has enabled the Partner authorities to pool their resources and develop expertise and capacity to provide a high-quality, cost effective service.
2. The service has continued to grow over the last twelve months with the current number of roles at sixty-four and a budget of £3.8m for 2022/23. The future looks robust with a Capital Investment Plan exceeding £200m over the next ten years benefiting from Grant in Aid from Defra / Environment Agency funding.
3. Delivering services more efficiently has led to lower costs to the Partner Authorities, with Fareham's current savings standing at £269,000 (£348,000 including inflation) against pre- partnership budgets.
4. Overall including Fareham there has been a saving of £4.6million of project efficiencies to date.
5. Chichester District Council is about to join the Partnership as the fifth partner in Spring 2022, building a stronger more resilient partnership, increasing the knowledge and skillsets and increasing future work opportunities and income which will continue to enrich the service delivered to Fareham's coastal communities.
6. The partnership continues to be committed to its vision working with Fareham, *"To manage coastlines, improve community resilience and enhance the natural environment"*.

Climate Change

7. Managing the impacts of Climate Change on our environment is a priority. Coastal Partners analyse data collected by our in-house Geomatics team and the South-east Regional Monitoring Programme (<https://coastalmonitoring.org/southeast/>) to understand the short and longer term impacts of sea level rise and increased storminess on our coast. This information is important for asset maintenance along the Fareham coastline and to assist in the future design and adaptation of coastal defences. Environment Agency guidance on climate change is incorporated into scheme design to ensure latest sea level rise rates and extremes are considered.

Asset Management and Maintenance

8. Asset management and maintenance is provided for all of FBC's owned coastal assets, through a risk-based approach. Routine inspections, recommendations, programme scheduling, and repairs are carried out throughout the year.

Projects Update

Fareham Quay and Alton Grove to Cadour Drive Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Scheme (FCERM) Studies

9. These Studies received executive approval in February 2022 and the process to procure a consultant is currently underway.
10. The Study will look to identify long term sustainable options to address:
11. Climate change, erosion risk and landfill, flood risk to properties, cost of maintaining poor condition defences and public safety risks

Hook Lake Coastal Management Study

12. This study received executive approval in July 2020 and is currently underway to identify options to fulfil a legal requirement to create new intertidal habitat to offset losses elsewhere in the Solent and Hamble estuary.
13. The two-year study is being undertaken to better understand the site, explore the potential for creating new intertidal habitats, look at wider recreation opportunities and develop preliminary designs for a scheme.
14. The study will look to at how we can maximise the potential benefits for both local people and wildlife to keep Hook Lake a special place.