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Public Service Plaza, Havant,
PO9 2AX

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5 June 2017

Dear Sir or Madam

SOUTHERN COASTAL GROUP

Date: 9 June 2017

Time: 10.00 am

Place: Hollybank Room, Public Service Plaza, Civic Centre Road, Havant, Hants
PO9 2AX

Please see the attached location map showing Havant Station, routes to Havant Public Service Plaza and location of car parks. If you are unable to attend please contact Nicholas Rogers as soon as possible by e-mail or telephone.

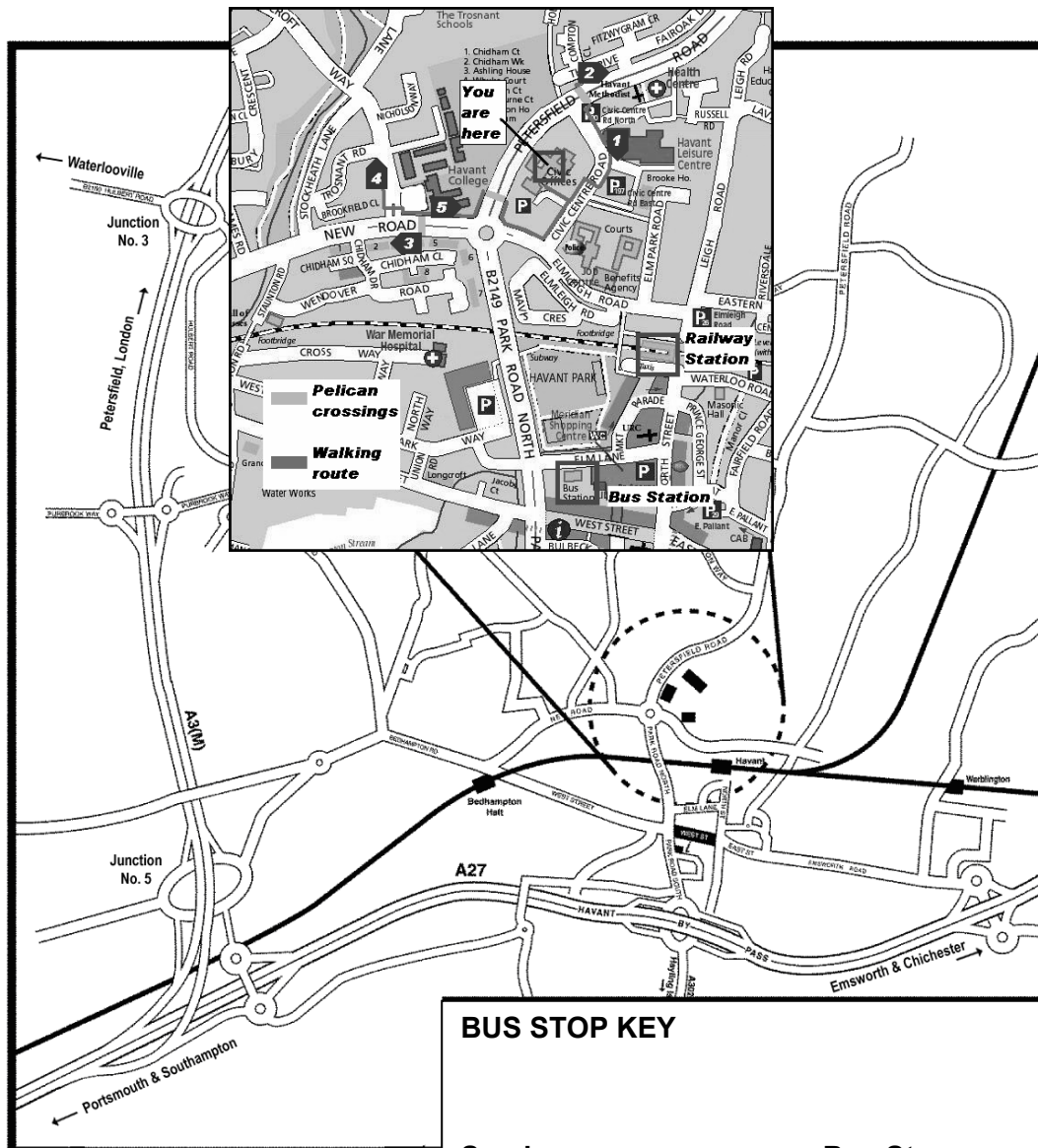
Yours faithfully

Nicholas Rogers
Havant Borough Council

AGENDA

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11	Coastal Yammer Experience to Date - Uwe Dornbusch	
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BUS STOP KEY

Services	Bus Stop
20, 21, 39, 63	1
20, 21, 36**, 39	2
23, 36**	3
23, 27**, 37	4
23, 27**, 36**, 37	5



Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant
Hampshire PO9 2AX

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HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held in on 17 March 2017

Present:

Dr Ken Buchan, Dorest County Council
Steve Cook, New Forest District Council
Dr Samantha Cope, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Mr Bryan Curtis, CGM Chairman
Dr Uwe Dornbusch, Environment Agency
Nick Gray, Environment Agency
Mr Nick Hardiman, Environment Agency
Dr David Harlow, Bournemouth Borough Council
Dominic Henly, Chichester District Council
Mr Matt Hosey, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Angela Marlow, Natural England
Stuart McVey, Southeast Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme
Mr David Robson, Borough of Poole Council
Mark Stratton, Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership
Lamorna Taylor, Dorset Coastal Partnership
Mr Neil Watson, Environment Agency
Mr Gordon Wilkinson, Eastleigh Borough Council

Apologies

113 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Marsden, Grant Armfield, Sarah Cairns, David Jenkins, Steve Woolard, Vincent May, Lyall Cairns, Hannah Williamson, Tim Adams and Stevyn Ricketts.

114 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Southern Coastal Group held on 9 December 2016 (Paper A)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Southern Coastal Group on 9 December 2016 be set as a correct record.

115 Chairman's Update (Presentation)

The Chairman provided the Group with an update on activities since the previous meeting. The update included the following key points:

- Coastal Asset Data – The project for the collation of coastal asset data had progressed following a workshop on 19 January. The first phase of baseline laser surveying was due to be undertaken in association with the Channel Coast Observatory, with a proposed 2-year timescale. Officers suggested arranging a further workshop to ensure all relevant parties were involved in developing the platform for the data.
- Capital Programme Cycle – The Chairman updated the Group on the progress of the 6-year capital programme. Letters detailing indicative allocation figures for 2017/18 were due to be sent out to CEOs. Officers discussed the possibility of accelerating existing projects or bringing forward newly identified projects to the current programme. Concerns were also raised over issues with the consistency of PF scoring.
- Asset Maintenance Costs – Officers were asked to contribute maintenance funding data to a spreadsheet to help build evidence towards future projects. It was agreed the spreadsheet be circulated to officers to populate and responses to be sent directly to Bryan Curtis.

116 National Update - Nick Hardiman (Presentation)

The Chairman invited Nick Hardiman to deliver a presentation to the Group on the latest activity of the Coastal Strategy Overview Refresh.

The presentation detailed the following points:

- The general objectives and priorities for the refresh – The objectives for the refresh included ensuring coastal governance was fit for purpose, address the quality and quantity of available data and ensure coastal groups have clear objectives and up-to-date information going forward.
- The outputs of the refresh to date – Outputs included updates to the Terms of Reference, SMP monitoring and reporting processes and coastal group maps.
- Future activity for the refresh – Future tasks included details on plans to raise the profile and consistency of coastal groups, a better understanding of risk in key areas, and renewed focus on SMPs and Habitat Creation Programmes.

Officers discussed potential funding opportunities for Habitat Creation Programmes, such as local nature partnerships. In relation to SMP refresh, officers suggested using a singular consultant to work with multiple coastal groups to ensure a consistent approach.

117 Geobags Case Study - Nick Gray (Presentation)

The Chairman invited Nick Gray to update the Group on the progress of the Geobags Case Study.

The Group were shown an example of a Geobag and received a presentation that detailed the following points:

- The study aimed to assess new ways of beach management on Shoreham Port, following the issues experienced by using plastic bags.
- The bags had been straight forward to fill and place on site, with the only issues encountered being the lack of a custom funnel for pouring materials into the bag and heavy lifting vehicles being unable to get on to the beach.
- The only failure in the Geobags since September had been a small hole created by a steel fence during the planting exercise. There had been no further failures.
- It was the view of the officers undertaking the study that the bags represented a good future option as they were easy to fill and move, and would be available for deployment within a month. There were concerns over costs of approximately £120 per bag.

It was agreed that a summary paper of the study be submitted to a future meeting of the Group.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.32am and reconvened at 11.40am

118 R&D Update - Sam Cope (Paper B)

Dr Samantha Cope gave an overview on the progress of the Research Programme. The update included details of ongoing research projects and those that had reached completion.

The following studies were discussed:

- Establishing shingle transport pathways – Church Norton Spit – The first phase of the study was completed, and a student was being sourced for the second phase of the study.
- Beach response in front of structures in open coast – Six scour chains had been deployed at Stokes Bay to monitor beach levels, with a further two chains to be deployed at Southsea.
- Monitoring of Poole Nearshore Replenishment Trials – The study had been completed and the final report was with the Environment Agency for sign-off. Leaflets detailing the study were also being produced.
- Scanning of historical aerial photography – The project was scoping photographs for year 2 of the study, with Dr David Harlow to take the lead on this phase.

- CIRIA Groynes in Coastal Management Manual – An invitation to a national workshop on 24 March to discuss topics relevant to the design and management of groyne systems and deliverables of the project had been sent to officers. Dr David Harlow and Peter Ferguson would report back to the Group.
- Update to the SCOPAC Sediment Transport Study – The study was near completion. A literature review had been completed and the project team were due to meet to review deliverables prior to the information going live. Officers considered a press release or communication to local education institutions to highlight the study to a wider audience.
- SCOPAC Contaminated Land Study – There were currently no clear funding streams for the protection of landfill. The project would aim to investigate possible sources of funding and highlight these issues back to Councillors. The study would also work in parallel with the NERC Contaminated Land Study led by the University of Southampton.

The Group considered a recommendation to continue the use of Vivid Websites for the management of the SCG and SCOPAC websites.

RESOLVED that £3,000 be allocated to Vivid Websites and SCOPAC Research Chair to continue to maintain websites for 2017/18.

The Group also received an update from David Harlow on the progress of the dismantling of timber groynes study at Bournemouth Borough Council. The work was continuing to identify the level of gribble infestation and abrasion in different timber types in groynes. The study had so far shown that Ekki timber had shown very few signs of wear, while Greenheart timber had been majorly impacted.

119 Coastal Monitoring Report - Stuart McVey (Paper C)

The Chairman invited Stuart McVey to introduce the report on the progress of the Southeast Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme.

The report highlighted that users of the Ordnance Survey systems may need to apply an offset for datasets to be compatible following the introduction of the new transformation. UAVs (drones) were also being assessed for future uses for coastal monitoring, due to reductions in costs.

120 SCG Programme Management Tool - Mark Stratton

The Chairman invited Mark Stratton to deliver a presentation on the SCG Programme Management Tool to the Group.

The presentation highlighted the reasons why the tool was needed, the potential benefits of using the tool, the progress made by the project to date and the next steps. The initial circulation of the tool had not received a full response from officers.

The Group highlighted the uses of the tool as a visual aid and as an opportunity to identify efficiencies within the region.

It was agreed that the tool be recirculated, requesting a full response from those who had not responded previously. It was also agreed that the Chairman report on the tool to the next meeting of the coastal group chairs.

121 SMP Plan Updates - Mark Stratton

The Chairman invited Mark Stratton to deliver a presentation on SMP Plan Updates.

The activity had conducted initial scoping work and collated up-to-date action plans, while a review of the spreadsheet had been conducted and a new format had been agreed. The review would then meet with lead officers at local authorities to populate the plan.

The presentation also detailed National Programme Analysis, which highlighted that while tidal and coastal schemes made up only a third of all schemes undertaken, the costs were approximately a 50% split with in-land schemes.

Officers raised concerns that the long design life of proposed schemes was not being fully appreciated when considering outcome measures. It was agreed that the Chairman would raise this issue at a national level.

122 Coastal Group Yammer - Uwe Dornbusch (Demonstration)

The Chairman invited Uwe Dornbusch to introduce Yammer to the Group and provide a brief demonstration.

Yammer was a social media tool that officers could use to disseminate information amongst colleagues and allow for quick communications. The demonstration highlighted the key features of the tool and the potential uses for the Group.

Officers were encouraged to use Yammer and it was agreed an item would be added to the next meeting to discuss experiences using the tool.

123 Location for SCOPAC Visit

The Chairman asked the Group to suggest possible locations for the SCOPAC Annual Site Visit on 17 May.

Any suggestions were requested to be sent to the Chairman as soon as possible to avoid the possible postponement of the visit.

124 Update from Members

Bryan Curtis requested any items of interest to be submitted as part of a paper to the RFCC meeting. Officers suggested an update on the latest research and coastal monitoring work.

Officers considered arranging a workshop to discuss Coastal Asset Data. It was agreed that the workshop be held on Wednesday 3 May at New Forest District Council, subject to the availability of the venue. Any officers interested in attending this workshop were encouraged to email Neil Watson and Steve Cook.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 1.07 pm

Coastal Group Report: 26th April 2017 – Coastal Group Update

SUMMARY

- This summary provides an update on key developments in coastal work related to the Standing Conference on Problems Associated with the Coast (SCOPAC), the South East Coastal Group (SECG) and Southern Coastal Groups (SCG).

Introduction – Unlike previous updates the aim of this summary is to provide a focused on the research and development and a very brief outline of the salient outcomes, issues and progress on the main items discussed at the last meetings of the Coastal Groups for the Southern Regional Flood Defence Committee. Where possible it will update items to present day. But, please note, it is not a substitute for the minutes of each Coastal Group meeting.

Summary of the Coastal Groups Activities – Priority for the individual coastal groups has been:

- Continued awareness and updating the Shoreline Management Plans;
- Scoping the investigation of the perceived skills and capacity issues within the specialist coastal management arena;
- Submitting ideas and requests for future Research and Development to the National team;
- Representative attendance at appropriate Workshops, Forums, Steering Groups and Project Boards;
- Reviewing governance and improved communications with a central website and Yammer group forums and
- Both groups and their members are concerned at the lack of apparent interest in the work that do and the cancellation of the Coastal Issues day. It was planned that a comprehensive day of update and discussion on current and future work, partnership working, research and development and both current and emerging issues for the coast was planned. The programme had been carefully developed and honed to the needs of the SRFCC with the Chairman and many of the Local Authority and EA Officers. The groups are now seeking some guidance on how they can continue to advise the committee on coastal matters beyond the production of these updates?

Refreshing the Coastal Strategic Overview

The National EA (Coastal Specialist) Nick Hardiman attended the last meeting of both groups to give an update on the Strategic Overview “refresh” and plans for the future. He outlined the history, objectives and priorities for the future for governance, profile and consistency, improved communications and understanding of risk. One particular output for 2017/18 requested by the EA Directors Leadership Team, FCRM Committee which was endorsed by the RFCC Chairs would to seek a consistent audit to ensure that the SMP action plans, policy and other content are fit for purpose. Whilst the Chairman on the

Coastal Group Network and EA develop this further it is anticipated that capital funding will be sought soon.

National Coastal Monitoring Programme – Extension of programme

The National Network of Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes' Strategic Board (the governing body for the programmes) voted unanimously to seek approval for an agreement in principal for future funding to be on a 6-year basis, and for an extension of the current phase by one year to 31st March 2022. The Coastal Group Chairmen on behalf of the Coastal groups approved this proposal and thus work will start soon to prepare detailed costs and proposals for submission to the Environment Agency National Team in 2017/18.

National Coastal Erosion Risk Mapping (NCERM)

It has now been confirmed that the NCERM information will be removed from the “My Backyard” EA website in the near future. Discussions are ongoing as to where and how this information will be hosted. There are fears that erosion risk will not be clearly demonstrated to the public as they currently are.

Research and Development Summary

Both the SE and S Coastal groups sponsor and/or undertake their own bespoke research and development programmes to either help with National work or to understand particular local issues. It was planned that a more detailed presentation on this was planned for the cancelled coastal issues day. If the Committee finds this interesting maybe they could flag it up and we may be able to provide something similar at a later date this year.

By way of flavor this is a summary of work currently underway together with estimated costs:

- CIRIA Groynes in Coastal Management £5,000
- Dismantling Timber Groynes £10,000
- Scour minor project £4,000
- Pagham tracer minor project £4,000
- Contaminated land £25,000
- Ebb deltas £15,000
- Historical photography scanning (1,000 images) £13,000
- Vegetated shingle project £5,000
- Low height seawalls £13,500
- Preston tracer study - minor fund 2017/18 £5,000
- SURGEWATCH £2,000 Tracer study co-ordination £15,000
- Storm analysis - Pending
- Minor fund projects (TBC)
- Geobag Trial £5,000

Three Beach Management Plan documents have now been completed and have been uploaded to the SECG website. These are for the following areas:

- Eastbourne to Rye
- Pegwell Bay to Oldstairs Bay
- Graveney to Northern Seawall

Dates of last meetings – SECG 9th March 2017 SCG 17th March 2017.

Future meeting dates: SECG 22nd June 2017 - Newhaven 7th September 2017 - venue tbc 7th December 2017 - venue tbc and SCG – 9th June 2017 – Havant - 15 September 2017 – Havant – 15th December 2017 – Havant. All meetings, where possible, are arranged to be before RFCC meetings in a bid to advise of current issues.

GOV.UK updated

The following GOV.UK updates relating to the coast have been issued between November 2016 and March 2017 which may be of interest as they relate to nation or local coastal issues:

- [Work begins on major £18 million Newhaven flood defence project](#)
- [Flood risk assessments: climate change allowances](#)
- [Flood risk assessments: river basin district maps](#)
- [Newhaven flood alleviation scheme](#)
- [Newhaven flood alleviation scheme](#)
- [Have your say on flood defences in Bampton and Tiverton](#)
- [Drop-in session ahead of construction phase of Dawlish beach management scheme](#)
- [Flooding possible along the east coast, Environment Agency warns](#)
- [Army and Environment Agency join forces to be 'winter ready'](#)
- [Flood risk activities: charges for permits from 1 April 2016](#)
- [Starcross and Cockwood tidal defence scheme](#)
- [Managing flood and coastal erosion risk annual report](#)
- [Newhaven flood alleviation scheme](#)
- [River Thames Scheme: public consultation and drop-in sessions \(November and December 2016\)](#)
- [Dawlish Warren beach management scheme](#)
- [Totnes: reducing the risk of flooding](#)
- [Newhaven flood alleviation scheme](#)
- [Flood risk activities: environmental permits](#)
- [Sirens to be tested in Dorset ahead of winter](#)
- [River Thames Scheme: public consultation and drop-in sessions \(November and December 2016\)](#)
- [Works to reduce flood risk in Exeter continue on Bonhay Road and at the Quay](#)
- [Accounting for residual uncertainty: an update to the fluvial freeboard guide](#)

- [Making better use of local data in flood frequency estimation](#)

Recent National Links of Interest or for action:

- National Infrastructure Assessment - Call for evidence - Responses made [call for evidence](#)
- National Infrastructure Commission Second paper [The impact of population change and demography on future infrastructure demand - Publications - GOV.UK.](#)
- MMO Marine Management Organisation – Questionnaire

Events: Recent and upcoming Coastal workshops and events which coastal practitioners may be interested in (NB this is not a definitive list):

Recent (January to April 2017)

- Coastal Futures 2017 Review and Future Trends 18th and 19th January 2017. Links to presentations: <http://coastal-futures.net/archive>
- Coastal Adaptation Plan Defra 19th January 2017 (BC and others)
- Nick Lyness Memorial Service Ocean Room, Weymouth Pavilion, 20th January 2017
- National Coastal Monitoring Programme Workshop and Project Board 23rd and 24th January 2017 (BC and others)
- ICE Maritime Panel 31st January 2017 (BC and others)
- LGA SIGSOG Telcon 9th February 2017
- Coastal Group Network Chairman's Meeting 22th February 2017
- Launch on the new EA Degree Facing the future working together to tackle global challenges 16th March 2017 Brunel University
- CIRIA Groynes in Coastal Management 24th March 2017
- Flood and Coastal Conference 2018 – Telford – 28th to 30th March 2017
- Presentation to Balfour Beatty Group on the Coastal Groups, National Coastal Monitoring Programme and ways forward re. staffing and SCAPE 6th April 2017 (Venue TBA)
- CIWEM Rivers and Coastal Group Study Weekend 2017 21st to 23rd April 2017 University Lancaster.
- Coastal Erosion Adaptation Seminar 25th April 2017 London

Coming May 2017 to onward)

- EA/Defra Stakeholder Forum (Date TBA)
- CIWEM RCG Spring Conference: Outcome Measures for flood and coastal risk management – fit for the future? 10th May 2017 London
- Coastal Practitioners Workshop (TBA)
- ICE 11th Coasts, Marine Structure and Breakwaters Conference 5th to 7th September 2017 Liverpool

N Watson Chairman Southern coastal group www.southerncoastalgroup.org.uk

M Penfold Chairperson SCOPAC www.scopac.org.uk

March 2017

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Hello and welcome to the Spring 2017 Edition of the LGA Coastal SIG Newsletter, with the latest news and information on the progress of the SIG. Please feel free to circulate this newsletter to others in your local authority or community who may be interested.

Andy Smith
Chairman, LGA Coastal SIG

AGM in Maldon 27th – 29th June; limited places remain book your space now!

Maldon District Council will be hosting the coastal study tour this year. With a diverse range of coastal issues Maldon will share their experiences and learning that can be taken back to your own authorities.

The District has one of the longest Coastlines at 75 miles and includes the Blackwater estuary with internationally important saltmarsh and mudflats. The Council is unusual as it owns and manages a large part of the estuary. Delegates will see how coastal defences are managed by coastal landowners and the Environment Agency, how the Council is developing the areas tourism offer and how it manages the Blackwater. We hope that you will attend this event organised by a SIG Member.

Staying at Vaulty Manor, B&B for two nights: Double room single occupancy £145, Double room with two occupants £165. If you can only attend part of the event please let us know. The itinerary has been circulated by email. To register please contact lucy.williams@eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Updates from Defra Floods Minister

The March SIG meeting was held at Defra offices, Nobel House, and the Defra Floods Minister, Thérèse Coffey MP, visited to the meeting to speak to members. Topics raised with Minister Coffey included repair and regeneration, local ports, adaptation of coastal and estuarine communities in to the future, and future funding for maintenance of coastal assets (more on funding and maintenance below).



Members also heard about the Great Repeal Bill which will bring EU law across to the UK so that the directives are still in existence. Future decisions about laws and directions will be outcome based objectives.

The previous week the Coastal SIG were thanked by the Minister in her response to a debate on Flooding in the House of Commons, for our work “leading to good local decisions”: A clip can be seen online at <https://youtu.be/dA9ZzcQMzw>

Consultations

We know that DEFRA and the EA are about to conduct a high-level review of the Partnership Funding Scheme and are expecting a consultation process on this later this year. We have contributed input to this in a number of meetings with the Minister and with officials. We hope this may bring significant changes to the allocation of FCERM funds. We would encourage all SIG member LAs to keep an eye out for this and to comment yourselves, and to us so that we can prepare a widely based response by the SIG

Open (*None that the group are aware of or minded to respond to at present*)

Closed

Government's Green Paper "Building our Industrial Strategy" has 10 key pillars, 3 of which are of particular interest to Coastal Authorities. Closed 17th April.

Defra consulted on proposals to ban the use of plastic microbeads in cosmetics and personal care products closed 28 February 2017. Angie Fitch-Tillett (North Norfolk District Council) responded on behalf of the SIG.

National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA) made a call for evidence about long term situation of infrastructure. Closed 10 February 2017. Unfortunately a response could not be provided by the deadline however the lead officer, Bill Parker, has attended events and will continue to represent coastal local authorities for this subject.

If you are aware of something that would be of interest to the group please send details to [Lucy Williams](#).

Adaptation

The working group, led by SIG authorities and including Defra, Environment Agency, Natural England, National Trust, and Coastal Groups, are collating lessons from the Coastal Adaptation Pathfinder projects and reviewing blocks to funding from existing Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) / Levy systems. The aims of the work have also been clarified as to what the term 'Coastal adaptation' means.

A technical workshop was held on 25th April to explore adaptation. This was well attended and the working group will be taking the outputs to inform the next stage of the process. The work of the group will input into part of the European Climate Change Adaptation Conference on 5th June in Glasgow.

Update about the Marine Management Organisation and Licensing Issues

The Vice Chair, Cllr Ernest Gibson and Laura Turvey, South Tyneside Council are championing the issues expressed by local authorities regarding the difficulties experienced with MMO licensing, whose team are based in Newcastle. Laura has had success with the pre-application advice. The MMO Licensing Business Management Team can be called on **0300 123 1032** for initial advice before your '2 hours free' starts.

The examples database collated from SIG Members comments was useful in supporting the themes that were common for improving efficiency working and were a good start point. The intention of the

collated information was to share the issues and learning so far, not for direct response on each case back to authorities. The MMO are keen to improve the licensing process by working with the SIG. MMO Senior Marine Licensing Manager, Katherine Ludford, will be coming along to a future SIG meeting. Laura shared the work of the SIG at an MMO stakeholder event on the 30th March. This will be a good opportunity to build positive relations and to share the “[On the Edge](#)” strategy for coastal authorities.

Andy Smith also attended the MMO Stakeholder Focus Group meeting on 15th February. The MMO have recently appointed Trudi Wakelin, previously Director of Operations at the Broads Authority, to the new post of Director of Licensing,. She spoke of a number of significant changes of approach to Licensing by the MMO, and we hope for some welcome outcomes as that process evolves over coming months. An organogram of the current MMO marine licensing team has been circulated.

Skills and capacity in local authorities

In case you have not seen it already Bill Parker has contributed to the New Civil Engineer magazine to highlight [gaps in skills and coastal engineers in local authorities](#). This topic is currently a major concern on the SIG agenda and we will continue to promote this issue to find a sustainable way to continue to resource the important requirements that are unique to authorities with communities on a coastal frontage.

To learn about partnership working, a solution for many authorities who have been aiming to reduce costs, please have a look at the summary of examples that were discussed at a seminar hosted by the SIG last year. This can be accessed from the [Partnership Section of the SIG website](#).

Maintenance and Funding

The funding of coastal asset maintenance by LAs is currently managed through DCLG Revenue Support Grant (RSG), which is expected to cease in the next couple of years, to be replaced by retention of Business Rates, with no specific allocation to Coast Protection, and to be less overall than RSG income. See the extract shared in Bill Parker’s lead officer report:

An extract of a helpful email from Defra below has identified that there may be two potential routes for this:

‘There is a good argument that for cost effectiveness, capital and maintenance spend should come from the same pot. That gives a good incentive to those owning assets to maintain them well, rather than leaving them to decay until someone else pays for a replacement.

One way of achieving this would be to centralise the current local funding for maintenance of coastal erosion and/or flood risk assets, to create a central flood and coastal defence capital and maintenance fund.

Another option would be to localise capital spend on local flood risk management and coastal erosion.

We (Defra) haven’t asked the question, but we would predict that if we did ask, the second option might well be the favoured approach. The first option could also help to resolve the complexities/anomalies mentioned above, the second less so.

However, the political trend at the moment is generally towards localism, and this might well outweigh consideration of the complexities. We know the LGA have asked for greater devolution of the Grant in Aid spending, and DCLG were looking to give local authorities additional responsibilities as they believe the total amount collected in the new 100% business rate retention approach will be greater than authorities currently receive.

It is clear that if as a SIG we support the first option then we will need to develop a body of evidence to support our argument. Whereas the second approach will depend on local political priorities as to the support repairs and maintenance receives. This conversation will continue but observations from the SIG will inform both the debate and the SIG's stance.

Marine Protected Areas

Andy Smith attended the recent meeting of the National Steering Group, now under a new Chair, Leanne Stockdale of the MMO. She spoke of a number of ambitions for improving the role and approach of the Group, looking at “the bigger picture”, especially in the context of Brexit, the Blue Belt concept, and the forthcoming Marine Pioneer projects.

Coastal SIG members (April 2017)



Membership of the LGA Coastal SIG

The continued subscription to the group is what gives the SIG the power to influence Government and provide the appropriate support network for issues that are unique to coastal local authorities. The SIG now has a map showing how much of the coastline is represented by the group – and where the gaps are. Please have a look at the [map on the website](#) and get back to [Lucy](#) if you are able to share any appropriate contacts in neighbouring non-member LAs who would value the shared network.

Subscriptions less than £1 a day and we hope that you see this as excellent value for money too.

East Coast surge event

Many SIG authorities on the East coast of England were affected by the surge event on 13th January. While the response from authorities and those with key roles was great it is important to note that these events cost each authority in terms of time and resources.

Thanks to efforts from all those involved, the Anglian (Eastern) RFCC noted at their recent meeting that 550,000 houses were kept dry and around £5bn of damage was avoided thanks to all the work that has gone in to preparing for these events.

Flooding and resilience

The National Farmers Union (NFU) recently launched their flooding manifesto which highlights priorities and asks Government and others to work with them to develop a long term strategic plan to mitigate future flood risk. See online at <http://www.nfuonline.com/news/latest-news/nfu-launches-flooding-manifesto/>

The concept of Property Level Resilience is now getting increased emphasis in the context of Flood Risk Management, and we shall seek to input to this in a number of different forums. If any Member LAs have information or views on how this is being approached in your own localities, we would welcome hearing about that.

Andy Smith has been invited to meet the new Chairman of DEFRA's Flood Resilience Group, who are working on issues around flood insurance, an agreement with insurance companies to allow resilience to be built in to flood repair works, changes to Building regulations regarding resilience and similar issues. If members have any comments or questions about those topics, please let Andy and Lucy know ASAP.

Surfers against Sewage organise beach clean in Cromer, North Norfolk

Young people in North Norfolk help to reduce marine litter in Cromer during a beach clean organised by Surfers against Sewage. To get in touch with SAS secretary please contact jack@sas.org.uk



Updates from the LGA communications team

Water Safety

There will be a water safety piece in **First** magazine in April and this coincides with the National Fire Chiefs Council water safety and drowning prevention campaign and there will be a lot of activity in FRS across England, Scotland and Wales. For more information see www.cfoa.org.uk/22132

LGA is supporting the **RNLI's Respect the Water Campaign**. This highlights key risks such as impact of cold water shock, giving people information about how to survive an unexpected fall into water or what to do if you spot someone in difficulty, whilst also sharing advice about how to prevent and avoid such incidents.. Although it focusses on coastal risks, much of its advice - in particular on slips trips and falls into water and on cold water shock is just as relevant in land as at the coast. Information about the campaign can be found at www.RespectTheWater.com, with further details to be published soon ahead of this year's campaign launch on May 25th.

And other updates

Refurbishment of the LGA will take place at the LGA House January 2017 – September 2017. Coastal SIG meetings will take place at other venues and these will be communicated to you.

DAERA Spring 2017 edition of Marine Litter Watch is now [available](#) This edition focuses on the practical and creative steps people are taking to address marine litter and includes short news articles and updates.

Coastal Cultural Network Recent Parliamentary Launch for this network, sponsored by Matthew Warman MP. The network aims to support, promote and advocate for the role of culture within coastal communities.

Google launches bespoke digital skills programme to boost British seaside tourism
<https://coastaltourismacademy.co.uk/news/article/google-launches-bespoke-digital-skills-programme-to-boost-british-seaside-tourism>

Natural England have produced a Marine Visualisation project to create infographics/posters and short videos about England's marine species and habitats, and the wide benefits they bring. Online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sROXuB89pDQ&index=1&list=PLMjpbfdBx8OX32qVq3Pf8Ane452LaLBaG> . Contact Kate de la Haye at Kate.delaHaye@naturalengland.org.uk .

MMO have call for 'Evidence requirement R064: The environmental impacts of marine litter'. Online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-environmental-impacts-of-marine-litter> . A second call for evidence is to look at 'Loss of fringing habitat and transitional communities from coastal squeeze.' Online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/loss-of-fringing-habitat-and-transitional-communities-from-coastal-squeeze> .

Coastal Groups and Environment Agency Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) representatives Andy Smith will be attending this conference in June and will report back on issues of interest to SIG Members.

Upcoming meetings & events

Date	Event	Booking details
15 th – 17 th May 2017	2 Day Marine Protected Areas: Science Policy & Management, Poole	Book online at https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/marine-protected-areas-science-policy-management-tickets-28764961775
5 th – Fri 9 th June 2017	Climate Change Adaptation Conference, Glasgow	Book online at http://ecca2017.eu/conference/
27 th –29 th June 2017	SIG Study Tour & AGM, Maldon	To register please contact lucy.williams@eastsuffolk.gov.uk
5 th – Thurs 7 th September 2017	Coasts, Marine Structures and Breakwaters, Liverpool, Institute of Civil Engineers	Book online at http://www.ice-conferences.com/coasts,-marine-structures-and-breakwaters-2017/

Future SIG Meeting Dates for your Diary

SIG Meetings

- AGM – 29 June 2017 (Maldon DC)
- Friday 22 September 2017 (Venue TBC)
- Friday 8 December 2017 (Venue LGA House)

SIGSOG (Officer) Meetings

- Thursday 11 May (by phone)
- Thursday 3 August
- Friday 10 November

Coastal SIG Secretary: Lucy Williams

(e) Lucy.williams@eastsuffolk.gov.uk (t) 01394 444552

Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils, Melton Hill, Woodbridge, IP12 1AU

PAPER C

Purpose : For Discussion

Committee: **SOUTHERN COASTAL GROUP**

Date: **JUNE 2017**

Title : **RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SCOPAC RESEARCH SUB-GROUP

1 CURRENT RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

1.1 SCOPAC MINOR PROJECTS FUND (2015/2016 AND 2016/2017)

Following the Southern Coastal Group meeting in December 2014 it was agreed that SCOPAC would benefit from funding the following two Minor Projects for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.

Dr Uwe Dornbusch (Environment Agency): Establishing shingle transport pathways from the sub-tidal to the beach: Church Norton Spit

Minor contribution of £4,000 – UD providing feedback

Church Norton Spit at Pagham Harbour, West Sussex has accreted by approximately 100,000m³ of material in the past 10 years, making it one of the largest accreting features across the SCOPAC region.

The origin of the material is unknown; therefore this study will investigate whether the material is transported from the sub-tidal across the nearshore bedforms to the shore. The sub-tidal area fronting the Pagham frontage is very shallow and covered with gravel. Some of this is visibly moving onshore as landforms (Inner Owers) but there are some peculiar shingle features at right angles to the beach that are thought to act as transport corridors.

SCOPAC has awarded £4,000 as a contribution towards the project to establish offshore to onshore shingle transport pathways at Church Norton Spit. Investigation of the nearshore bedforms will be achieved using two approaches:

- 1) A desktop GIS approach using South-east Regional Monitoring Programme data to capture changes over the last 10 to 15 years.*
- 2) Sediment tracing using the methods developed by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership to document shingle movement under different conditions.*

The project was instigated by Dr Uwe Dornbusch of the Environment Agency, Arun DC and Chichester DC. The first phase of the tracer study element was undertaken by Lucy White from the University of Sussex under the supervision of Dr Cherith

Moses from the University of Sussex. The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership provided the tracer study retrieval equipment.

Lucy White from the University of Sussex has completed her part of the research at a cost of £2,000 and a summary of her results was prepared by Dr Uwe Dornbusch for the SCOPAC and SCG websites. Dr Dornbusch is sourcing a second student to undertake further tracer studies and analysis using monitoring data with the remaining £2,000.

Dr Andy Pearce (Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership): Beach response in front of structures in open coast

Minor contribution of £4,000 - MH providing feedback

Lowering of beaches in front of coastal structures is widely accepted as a leading cause of failure. Beach lowering and toe scour is difficult to detect as the receding tide and storm waves tend to bury this evidence and any damage to structure foundations.

The SCOPAC region includes numerous beach structures at risk of scour, with foundations of poorly known depth and condition. Improved understanding of the scour risk at these structures will help SCOPAC members to better manage the scour risk and to design scour resistant replacements.

The ESCP deployed scour chains at Stokes Bay in Gosport and Southsea in Portsmouth, both of which are being monitored to measure changes in beach levels and maximum scour depth during storms. A draft report has been prepared and the measuring devices will be monitored throughout the winter of 2017/18 to gather further field data.

Recommendation: For information

1.2 MONITORING OF POOLE NEARSHORE REPLENISHMENT TRIALS

Channel Coastal Observatory: £15,000 from SCOPAC and £116,000 from EA R+D fund (2015 – 2016) - DR providing feedback

SCOPAC are contributing £15,000 towards the monitoring of a trial which has placed 30,000 m³ of sand on the seabed, allowing natural processes to push the material onshore to replenish the beaches in Poole Bay. This technique has not been tested in the United Kingdom to date.

The project commenced in February 2015, and involved the Borough of Poole working in partnership with Poole Harbour Commissioners, the Environment Agency, University of Southampton and the Channel Coastal Observatory. Poole Harbour Commissioners provided the sand from maintenance dredging of Poole Harbour entrance, thereby recycling the sand back into the system, rather than dumping it offshore.

The works were undertaken between the 9th and 14th February 2015, when 30,000m³ of sand was placed on the sea bed approximately 450m offshore at Canford Cliffs Chine in Poole Bay. Seven survey sets have been collected by the

Channel Coastal Observatory (CCO) since the material was placed on the sea bed. Each set consists of a topographic survey of the beach and a bathymetric survey of the sea bed. In addition, fluorescent tracer studies were undertaken to establish a link between the sediment deposited on the seabed and the beach.

The Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) is still in position. This measures the speed, direction and turbidity of water currents using sound waves. With the ADCP installed, any turbidity difference between the trial and conventional beach recharge can be assessed.

The final report was prepared by the CCO, reviewed by the steering group and is currently awaiting Environment Agency sign off. A 'lessons learned' leaflet has also been prepared by the steering group for practitioners and regulators.

Funding provided is as follows:

- * Environment Agency: £130,000 for the placing of sand on the seabed
- * Environment Agency Research & Development Fund: £116,000 for monitoring
- * SCOPAC: a further £15,000 towards monitoring costs

Recommendation: For information

1.3 SCANNING OF HISTORICAL AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Environment Agency: £13,000 (2015 - 2017) - UD providing feedback

Analysis of historical aerial photography is fundamental to understanding coastal evolution and change. The Environment Agency has now scanned almost all Annual Beach Monitoring Survey aerial photography negatives in collaboration with the National Collection of Aerial Photography and Blom. A number of Local Authorities hold historical aerial photography from the 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and the millennium. Post 2002, aerial photography is captured across the SCOPAC region as part of the South-east and South-west Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme for 2002, 2008, 2013 and 2016.

This project has produced a record of the historical aerial photography held by the councils within the SCOPAC region. Scanning of films by the National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP) commenced for year 1 of the project, focussing on images not previously held in digital format by the councils. These images were delivered and will be made freely available where copyright permits. The Environment Agency and the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership supervised students' who have digitised the flight paths of the images in preparation for website delivery.

Year 2 of the project will be managed by Dr David Harlow who will organise scanning of the remaining aerial photographs held by the Local Authorities.

Recommendation: For information

1.4 BOURNEMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL: DISMANTLING OF TIMBER GROYNES

Bournemouth Borough Council: £10,000 (2015 - 2017) - DH providing feedback

Bournemouth Borough Council have deconstructed timber groynes which were built between 1985 to 1987. These included groynes constructed of Greenheart, Ekki, Balau, Jarrah and Opepe.

This is a golden opportunity to assess the relative merits of 5 timber types after a 29-year field test. Bournemouth Borough Council have been carefully dismantling each groyne, numbering each plank to record its original location in terms of distance from seaward end & level. Any planks that are “unworn” are set aside for re-use in new groynes and are not assessed further.

Any “worn” planks are being assessed as to the degree of Gribble infestation and the degree of abrasion. The SCOPAC funds are being used for the scientific analysis undertaken by Jon Williams of TRADA. So far, 3 of the 5 types of wood have been inspected.

Recommendation: For information

1.5 CIRIA GROYNES IN COASTAL MANAGEMENT MANUAL

Bournemouth Borough Council and New Forest District Council: £5,000 – DH providing feedback

The current CIRIA Guide on the uses of Groynes in Coastal Engineering (1990) will be updated and called, ‘CIRIA Groynes in Coastal Management manual’ and will include other materials being used in the field such as plastic and rock.

There will be a new maintenance section covering the whole country, which the FCERM Asset Management Theme Advisory Group thought could build upon Andy Bradbury’s SCOPAC work.

A scoping questionnaire was emailed out to Local Authority and Environment Agency engineers to investigate what information exists on various groyne fields. There was a national workshop held on the 24th March 2017 to discuss the main topics relevant to the design and management of groyne systems and deliverables of the project, which Dr David Harlow and Peter Ferguson attended/presented at.

Peter Ferguson will be the lead SCOPAC representative on the steering group with Dr David Harlow disseminating information to SCOPAC officers.

Recommendation: For information

1.6 SCOPAC Contaminated Land Study

Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership: £25,000 (2016 - 2018) – TK presenting

There are a number of old landfill sites across the SCOPAC region that have previously been protected from the sea, but are now eroding due to the age of the original protection and sea level rise. A large number of these are owned by the

Local Authorities and are public open space. The nature of the problem is long-term as it is likely that the landfill sites contain some of the early plastics. Given that these can take hundreds of years to biodegrade, it will be necessary to continue to contain the sites for the foreseeable future, as removal is very unlikely to be a feasible option. There is therefore a need for a long-term plan that is technically feasible and affordable. The Shoreline Management Plans and Coastal Strategies form the basis of this plan, however at present, as far as protection of landfill is concerned, they are aspirational as there is no appropriate funding mechanism. Given that the landfill sites are often undeveloped, they do not qualify for FDGiA funding.

This desktop study builds upon a project undertaken by the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership in conjunction Tim Kermode. Possible funding streams to reduce flood and coastal erosion risk to landfill sites have been explored, with the main aim of the study being to raise the profile of the issue to the politicians. This SCOPAC study will work in parallel with the NERC Contaminated Land study led by the University of Southampton, which is investigating the practicalities of moving or defending landfill in the face of climate change.

Tim Kermode will introduce the background to the project, funding mechanisms explored and the proposed draft letter to be sent to the Environment Agency *Wessex* and *Solent and South Downs* area teams.

DRAFT LETTER TO THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AREA TEAMS

Dear.....

Unfunded liability for coastal land-fill sites

I write to make you aware of a potential liability for most Maritime District Councils, arising from historic coastal landfill sites for which there appears to be no adequate funding mechanism to manage existing and future risks of erosion and flooding. It is a national issue and a study by Queen Mary University has identified that there are as many as 1,500 coastal historic landfill sites at such risk.

Here at the Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) we manage the coast across four local authorities (Havant, Portsmouth, Gosport and Fareham). We have been aware of this problem as a local issue which we manage on an ad-hoc basis, and as a much wider issue since the North Solent Shoreline Management plan (SMP). The SMP has set a policy of 'Hold the Line' for landfill sites, however this does not provide funding.

Subsequently, we initiated a project to assess the scale of the problem and find possible funding sources to mitigate it. This project is now being rolled out across the SCOPAC region (Lyne Regis to Shoreham-by-Sea) to raise awareness of the issue. Initial research indicates that there may be 46 landfills at risk of coastal flooding or erosion within the ESCP area, and 158 at risk in the SCOPAC region.

As part of the studies we looked at possible funding mechanisms to provide the substantial sums of money that will be necessary to reduce erosion, flooding and pollution risks. Initial analysis suggests that the costs could be in the order of £150 million. We have examined the following possible funding sources:

- Flood and Coastal Erosion Management – Grant in Aid (FCERM-GIA)
- Local levy from the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC)
- Contaminated Land Capital
- Waste Management Capital
- Town and Parish Councils
- Grants from Land-fill Tax
- Funding for Coastal Access and footpaths

We have also looked at the Water Framework Directive and pollution guidance, which advise upon economic justification for works but not practical means to obtain financial assistance.

Unfortunately, the general conclusion that we have come to at present, is that although in some cases the funding sources will provide small amounts of money, overall there is no satisfactory mechanism to provide the scale of funding that is necessary.

The findings are preliminary at present, and we are taking up this issue as part of a paper concerning Outcome Measures and Partnership Funding at a CIWEM meeting in London, on the 20th June this year.

We would be grateful if you would let us know of any other funding sources that may be available to help Local Authorities. If nothing is available we would also be grateful of your advice on the potential for adjustments to the existing funding mechanisms or devising a new system which is appropriate for this task.

We would be very happy to provide further briefings or a presentation to your staff so that we can discuss this issue further.

Recommendation: For discussion



Report to Southern Coastal Group

June 2017

1. SURVEYS

1.1 Topographic Surveys

Spring surveys are now complete.

1.2 Lidar Surveys

Lidar data flown for Medmerry in December has been received and is currently undergoing QC.

1.3 Structure Laser Scan Surveys

Laser scans have been undertaken of coastal structures at Totland Bay and Colwell Bay on the Isle of Wight, data yet to be processed.

2. HYDRODYNAMICS

Milford waverider buoy was hit by a vessel on 29th May. The buoy has been recovered from the seabed and a replacement buoy deployed.

3. WEBSITE

The real time hydrodynamic data pages have been revised to now make data viewable over a whole year, whereas before it was up to a month at a time.

4. GENERAL

New Forest District Council has gone to tender for procurement of up to two UAVs for coastal monitoring programme surveys. Evaluations will be taking place in the coming weeks.

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