

INFORMATION ITEM

| REPORT OF | MEETING | DATE | ITEM NO |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE | OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE | 9 NOVEMBER 2021 | 9 |
| LYTHAM SEA DEFENCE REPAIRS | | | |

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The length of the seawall in Lytham, from Church Scar to the Windmill, requires remedial work to the concrete upstand upon which the railings are fixed to. There is a length of the upstand near Windmill of approximately 65m that has significantly moved and consequently, the railings are now at an angle. The report considers the remedial works for the existing seawall at Lytham and a proposal to replace a length with new railings.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Technical Services.

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

Following a meeting with the Chairman of the Operational Management Committee, Councillor Roger Small on 10th September 2021, the Technical Services team were tasked with implementing improvement works to the seawall along Lytham Green. This report details the progress made since the initial meeting.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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Report

BACKGROUND

- Images 1 and 2 (attached) show the concrete upstand that requires remedial work. At various points along the upstand, work is required to repair areas of spalling. Historically, patch repairs have been undertaken to this detail where concrete spalling is evident - caused by surface water, frost and a coastal environment. In addition, a length of the upstand and railings have all moved. Image 3 shows this detail is absent on the new promenade from Church Scar to Granny's Bay.

PROPOSAL

Concrete Repairs

2. A survey was undertaken at the end of September 2021 of the whole upstand between Church Scar and the Windmill. 19 areas were highlighted as being in need of remedial works, from Church Scar to Lytham RNLI, due to the spalling. The term spalling is used to describe areas of concrete which have cracked.
3. Given the expected cost of the works, the Informal Procedure for Low Value Contracts was implemented. The results of the survey were sent to GJN and Sons Limited, a specialist structural concrete repair contractor, for a quote. This company has previously been used by Fylde Borough Council and always offered value for money and given excellent service. This has meant the appointment could be made quickly and remedial works could begin before the winter months, thus addressing the repairs before they deteriorated further.
4. A meeting was held with GJN and Sons Limited onsite, and a satisfactory quote of less than £10,000 accepted. Works will commence the week commencing 1st November 2021.

Replacement of Railings

5. A 65m length of the upstand has failed near to the Windmill. The concrete upstand is not ideal as surface water on the promenade runs towards the upstand but cannot drain away. Subsequently over time, surface water has found a route under the upstand and thus undermining the foundation. To demolish the old upstand and replace it with the same detail would, in officer opinion, be a poor use of money. In addition, the current height of the railings does not comply with safety regulations so need raising.
6. A design has been proposed that will address the drainage issue. This design will also replicate the railings seen west of Church Scar. This will also allow Technical Services the opportunity to raise the height of the railings and improve safety - see image 3. This work will be tendered and is expected to be delivered late winter/early spring 2022.

Vegetation Control

7. The surface water, in addition to undermining the plinth wall foundation, is finding numerous paths into the stone revetment via capillary action. Over time, vegetation has started to grow a root system into the revetment which, if not addressed in an appropriate manner, will undermine the structural integrity of the structure - see image 2.
8. The woody vegetation along the sea wall has been stump treated to try and suppress future growth. These works were carried out by the Ranger Team, under the supervision of the Council's Parks Department.
9. Future control measures of vegetation along the revetment are currently being explored to ensure the sea wall structure is not compromised, whilst recognising its importance as a wildlife habitat.

Funding

10. The works will be financed via the Coastal Defence Revenue Budget in the current (2021/22) and future (2022/23) financial years.

Image 1 - Existing plinth wall which is leaning seaward adjacent the windmill.



Image 2 - Existing plinth wall being undermined by vegetation



Image 3 - Proposed replacement detail – as delivered west of Church Scar. Note the old stone revetment has been retained in this area.

