



DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE	OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	16 MARCH 2021	6
ST ANNES SEAWALL - UPDATE REPORT			

PUBLIC ITEM

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

SUMMARY

The Council has been successful in applying for funding to undertake development studies in preparation for the replacement of the hard sea defences at St Annes Seawall.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to:

1. To appoint a Councillor representative to join the project board, oversee the development of the project and report back to the Operational Management Committee on progress on a regular basis.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Operational Management Committee at its meeting on the 8th September 2020 resolved:

1. To recommend to Council approval of a new fully funded capital scheme 'St Anne's Sea Wall' within the Council's Capital Programme for 2020/21 in the sum of £300,000, to be met in full, from the Environment Agency flood defence grant in Aid programme;
2. Subject to 1 above, approve the commencement of the proposed development studies as identified in the report in the sum of £300,000, with the works being funded from the Environment Agency flood defence grant in Aid programme;
3. To approve the procurement approach detailed in the report to use the Environment Agencies National Framework to procure the consultants to deliver the development stage of the St Anne's Sea Wall project. To authorise that a contract(s) to be then entered into through the Environment Agency's National Framework for the Development Studies.

Community Focus Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 14th October 2010 resolved:

To endorse the decision of Cabinet to adopt the policies set out in the North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan for the Fylde coastline.

Cabinet considered a report on the adoption of the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) at its meeting on 15th September 2010. After consideration Cabinet resolved:

That subject to consideration and comment by the appropriate scrutiny committee to adopt the policies set out in the North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan for the Fylde Coastline.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Economy – To create a vibrant and healthy economy	✓
Environment – To deliver services customers expect	✓
Efficiency – By spending money in the most efficient way	✓
Tourism – To create a great place to live and visit	✓

REPORT

BACKGROUND

1. In September 2020 Fylde Council secured £300k 'Pipeline Acceleration' funding from the Environment Agency to develop a feasibility study (Outline Business Case) to investigate various options for improving coastal erosion and flood risk management at Pleasure Island, St Annes.
2. The existing seawall which extends 660m round Pleasure Island, was constructed in 1935, and reduces the risk of coastal erosion and flooding to 252 residential properties and 42 businesses. It is one of three strategic headlands which are critical to maintaining healthy beaches, dunes and to reduce the risk of coastal erosion along Fylde Council's frontage.
3. The existing seawall is at the end of its design life and is in poor condition, with frequent spalling evident, resulting in ongoing repairs and maintenance. Voids have previously been identified resulting in settlement of the promenade and slipway. The crest level is low and overtops during storms resulting in damage to the promenade, the flooding of two car parks, the swimming pool and fitness centre plant room, and flooding up to the door thresholds of the cinema, casino, amusement and restaurant complex.
4. The Coastal Defence Team has now been established; The Head of Technical Services will lead the project as the Project Executive who has appointed the Council's Chief Engineer to project managed the project. Jacobs Consulting Engineers have now been appointed under the Environment Agency's National Framework to prepare the Outline Business Case and establish the business disruption costs. Volker Stevin the contractor responsible for delivering the Fairhaven to Church Scar Coastal Defence scheme have been appointed to provide pre-contract advice in terms of construction, site layout, costings and communications.
5. The public realm element of the scheme is in the early stages of development and will be worked up in house by the Councils Landscape Architects.
6. The project is proposed to be run in the PRINCE2 environment (Projects in Controlled Environments). PRINCE2 has an established project governance structure/specific project roles and responsibilities. The Project Board has now been established and requires the Operational Management Committee to nominate a Councillor Representative onto the Project Board to perform to role of Senior Users and report back on progress to the Operational Management Committee. The Project Board will meet up on a bi - monthly basis during the feasibility stage and monthly when then project commences on site.
7. The project is entering the Consultation stage where part of the Environment Agency Outline Business Case preparation requires two consultations seeking the views of stakeholders, residents and businesses. The first consultation is a long list of hard coastal defence options which will be narrowed down to a short list of options for the final consultation exercise. A communications group has been established which will manage the consultation exercise.
8. The project is on programme and it is proposed to finalise the outline business case by the end of May 2021 and submit to the Environment Agency in mid-June 2021.

OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

9. The objectives, outputs and outcomes of the project are to provide urgent improved coast protection to over 252 residential properties and 42 businesses for the next 100 years, and also serve as an economic regeneration catalyst to The Island site.

CONCLUSION

10. In conclusion once the Councillor Representative has been appointed the Operational Management Committee can be formally represented on the Project Board and the member selected can bring regular progress reports back to the Operational Management Committee on progress.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	None arising from this report.
Legal	None arising from this report
Community Safety	The Scheme will be developed in line with all applicable safety standards.
Human Rights and Equalities	The Scheme's promenade will be accessible and conform to national standards.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	The Scheme will embrace the principles of sustainability. The Scheme will be designed to withstand the storm that has the probability of occurring once every 200 years. The Scheme will have a lifespan of 100 years with built-in adaptability for sea level rises.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	The Environment Agency Framework suppliers will have full responsibility for ensuring health and safety both in the detailed design of the Scheme and its construction. Commercial risk management will be overseen by the Project Board and Project Assurance.

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
None		