

Chichester District Council

CABINET

9 February 2016

Beach Management Plan 2016-2021

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That officers apply to the Environment Agency (EA) for £1.25m of Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) for the Beach Management Plan (BMP).
- 2.2. Subject to EA approval of grant, that funding be spent in line with the BMP 2016-21 Schedule of Works shown at table 1.
- 2.3. That should the BMP Schedule of Works, set out in Table 1, require amendment during this period, that authority to amend is delegated to the Head of Housing and Environment Services following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment.
- 2.4. That the Head of Housing and Environment Services be authorised to procure and award contracts for work in accordance with the BMP 2016-21 and Financial Standing Orders.

3. Background

- 3.1. Works on the BMP 2011 to 2016, covering from Park Lane, Selsey to approximately 1 mile west of Shore Road, West Wittering will be completed by 31 March 2016. The works involved raising timber groynes on all CDC controlled frontages and recycling 8500m³ of shingle at Bracklesham and placing 6500 and 8000 tonnes of new shingle at Selsey and East Wittering respectively.
- 3.2. Phase 2 of the BMP 2016-21 for the CDC frontages is in the EAs medium term plan for the next six years. This means funds are provisionally allocated to the scheme.

4. Outcomes to be achieved

- 4.1. The 5 year BMP aims to provide a substantial improvement to the standard of protection offered to coastal communities. The Pagham to East Head Coastal Defence Strategy of 2008 clearly identifies the frontage policy as “Hold the Line” for the next 100 years, as does the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan of 2010. In order to achieve this aim investment in defences will be required throughout that period.

5. Proposal

- 5.1. Authority is sought for the Council to apply for FDGIA. This is achieved by submitting a Project Appraisal Report (PAR) to the EA. The PAR is supported by an economic assessment which provisionally has justified an award of £1.25m of FDGIA, to be spread evenly over the 5 year project (£250,000).
- 5.2. Of the £1.25m, £1m is forecast to be available for construction costs. With £125,000 for consultant and staff costs and a further £125,000 as a project contingency, to be retained by the EA.
- 5.3. Subject to approval of the grant, authority is also requested to draw £250,000 of FDGIA annually to undertake the works proposed in the BMP Works Schedule in Table 1. Works will be delivered during the autumn/winter of each financial year.
- 5.4. The Works Schedule over the five year period is likely to evolve due to unforeseen natural processes on the beach such as storm damage but in principle will involve the same type of engineering works which have been carried out over the last five years. Agreement is sought that decisions to amend the Work Schedule to meet such unforeseen eventualities be delegated to the Head of Housing and Environment Services, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment.
- 5.5. The coastal engineering contracts for the BMP will be procured through competitive tender or a mini competition under a framework approved by Legal Services and Finance and the award of contracts for the works be undertaken by the Head of Housing and Environment Services subject to following Council's Financial Standing Orders.

TABLE 1 – Construction costs (£1m)

Selsey & Wittering Beach Management Plan Coastal Engineering Works 2016-2021				
No.	Location	Description	Est. Cost £k	Completion
1	Danefield Road, Selsey	5500 tonnes of shingle imported and distributed over 4 Groyne bays.	160	February 2017
2	Hillfield	5500 tonnes of shingle imported	160	February

	Road / Oval Road	and placed		2018
3	West Beach, Selsey	Import and place minimum 5 tonne rocks in observed weak areas	170	November 2018
4	Danefield Road, Selsey	5000 tonnes of shingle imported and distributed over 4 Groyne bays.	150	February 2020
5	TBC	Works to remain uncommitted to allow for unexpected/emergency beach works which may affect the program.	160	March 2021
6	Whole frontage	Groyne improvements as required	200	2016-2021

6. Resource and legal implications

- 6.1. £250,000 p.a. grant from the EA up to 31 March 2021 will be committed to the delivery of the BMP over the 5 year period
- 6.2. The project will maintain Council assets by reducing erosion and flooding risk.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 In preparing the BMP, officers have liaised closely with EA officers and Natural England. Officers have also consulted internally with Legal Services and the procurement team.

8. Community impact and corporate risks

- 8.1. Delivery of the scheme over the long term will sustain the standard of defence on CDC controlled open coast frontages that are seen as being most at risk. The improved defences will give greater security to coastal communities and enable them to face the future with greater confidence.
- 8.2. The risk that the proposal will not deliver the desired outcomes as set out in paragraph 4.1 is significant given the unpredictable forces of nature. There can be no guarantee of prevention but this approach offers the best opportunity to improve coastal defences within the current financial restrictions.

9. Other Implications

	Yes	No
Crime & Disorder:		X
Climate Change: The proposed works will provide improved protection from the anticipated increases in sea level predicted from	X	

climate change.		
Human Rights and Equality Impact:		X
Safeguarding and Early Help		X

10. Background Papers

10.1. Draft Project Appraisal Report January 2016