


On the Edge

Coastal management from a local authority perspective

Bill Parker

Lead Officer LGA Coastal SIG

Suffolk Coastal / Waveney
District Councils

- 
- Role of Local Authorities
 - The perfect storm!
 - What are we doing about it?
 - The SIG
 - Conclusion

3 Key things to remember

- Coast Protection Act (CPA) 1949 – powers to local authorities on eroding coasts
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)– Local Authorities responsibilities for terrestrial planning (LPAs)
- Water Management Act 2010 – creation of Lead Local Flood Authorities
- Lots more.....

LA's are not all the same!

- Unitary A single authority covering all issues for an area e.g. Cornwall CC
- 2 Tier County Councils are Lead Local Flood Authorities
District / Borough Councils with CPA and LPA responsibilities e.g. Norfolk CC / North Norfolk DC, Great Yarmouth BC, Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Council
- National Park Family LPA responsibilities but CPA is with District / Borough e.g. Lake District and Cumbria County Council

Other organisations with coastal responsibilities

Environment Agency

Strategic Overview of Coastal Management

Coastal Flood Risk (as set out in 1949 CPA)

Private Owners

Ports, Harbours, National Trust etc

Eroding vs Flooding Coast

Environment Agency has specific responsibilities to manage floodable coasts

Local authorities (Unitary / District / Borough) have powers for eroding coasts

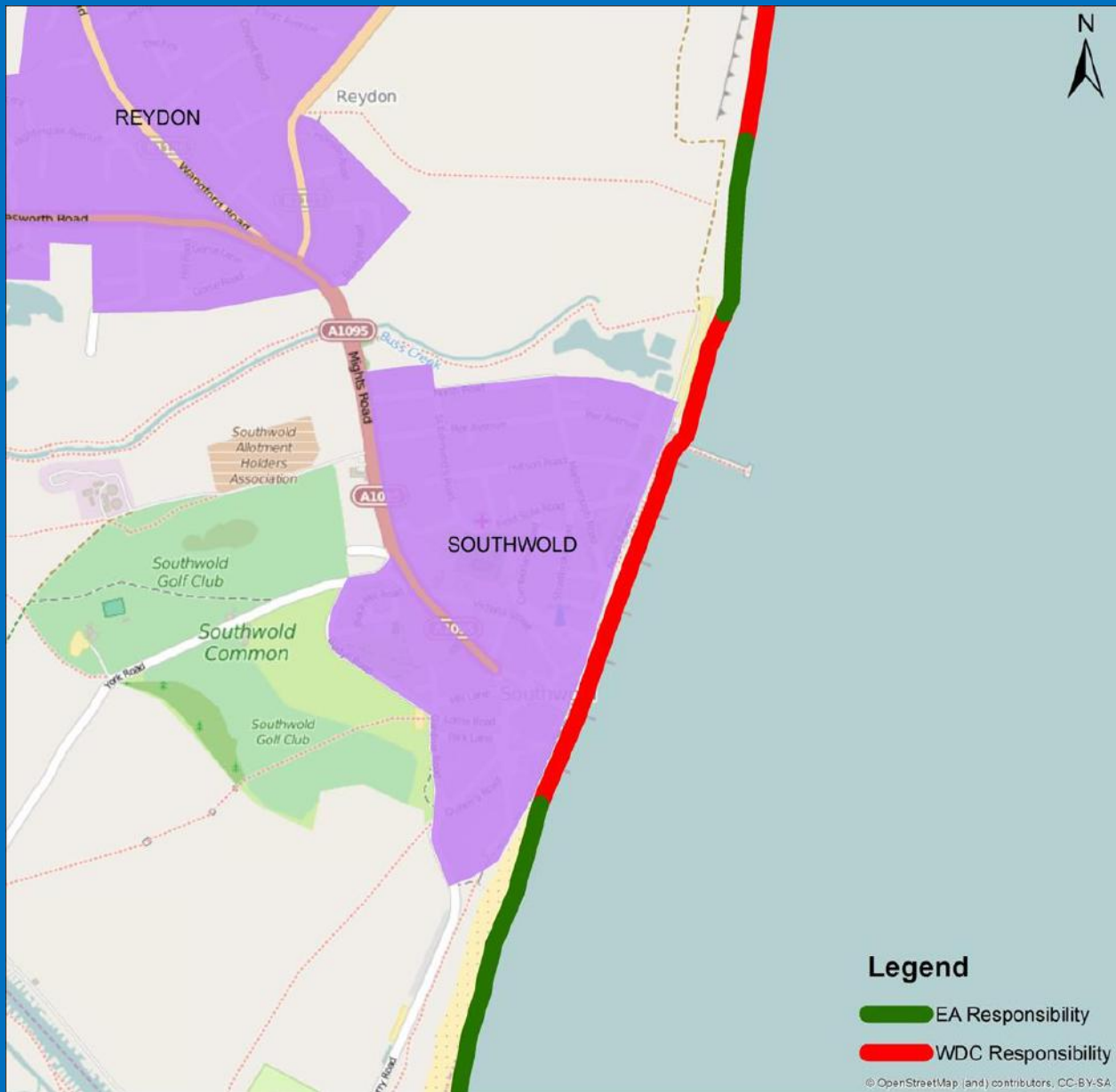
Who's responsibility is it ?

District Council



Environment Agency





Local Authorities also..

provide over 700 separate services to the public

Included within coastal management :

- Spatial planning
- Community welfare
- Economic prosperity and regeneration
- Public health and well-being
- Coastal protection
- Port management
- Beach management and inshore byelaws
- Inshore fisheries
- Leisure tourism and recreation;
- Mineral control
- Waste collection and disposal
- Transportation
- Coastal access
- Emergency Planning
- Coastal Heritage



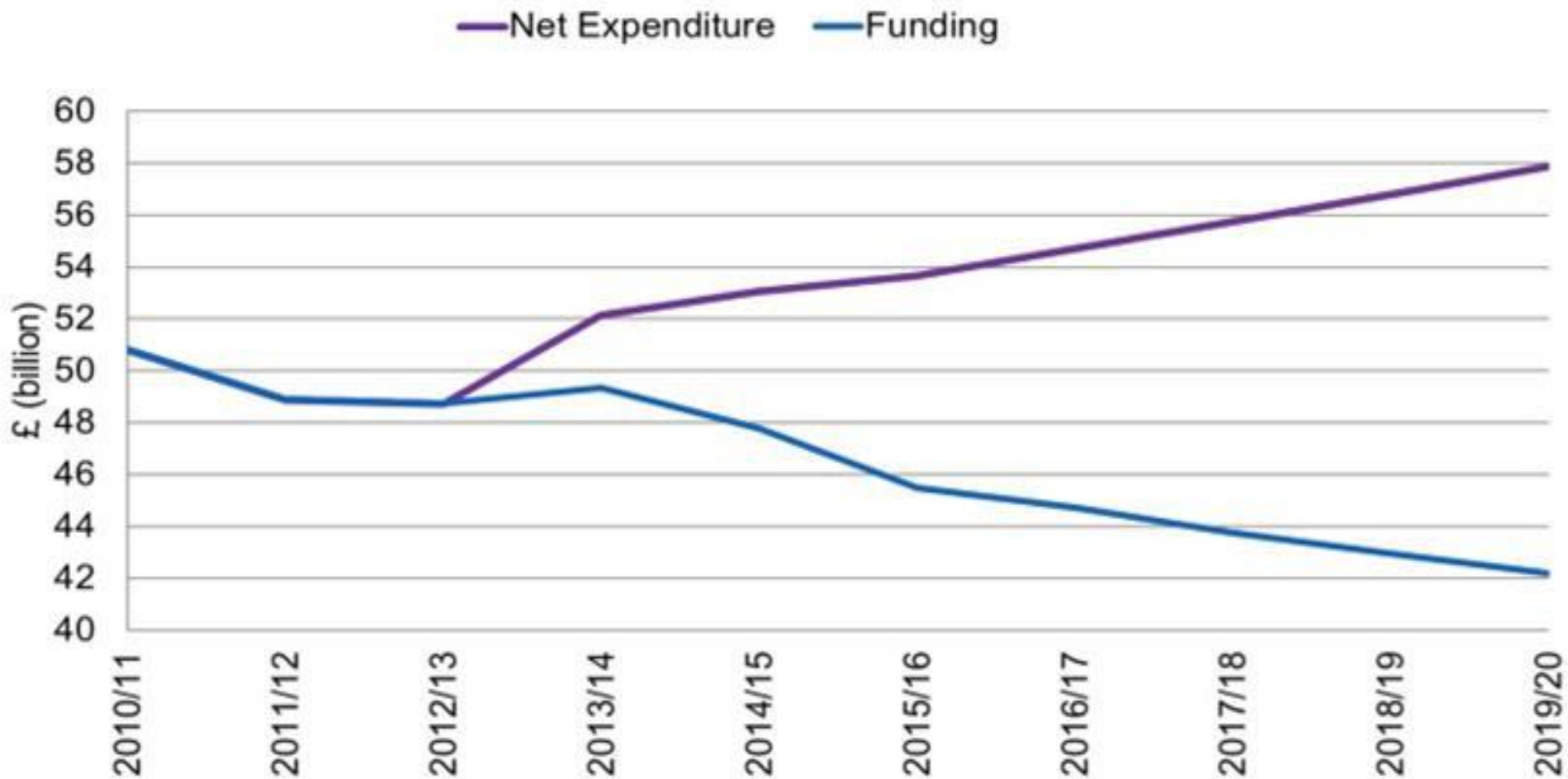




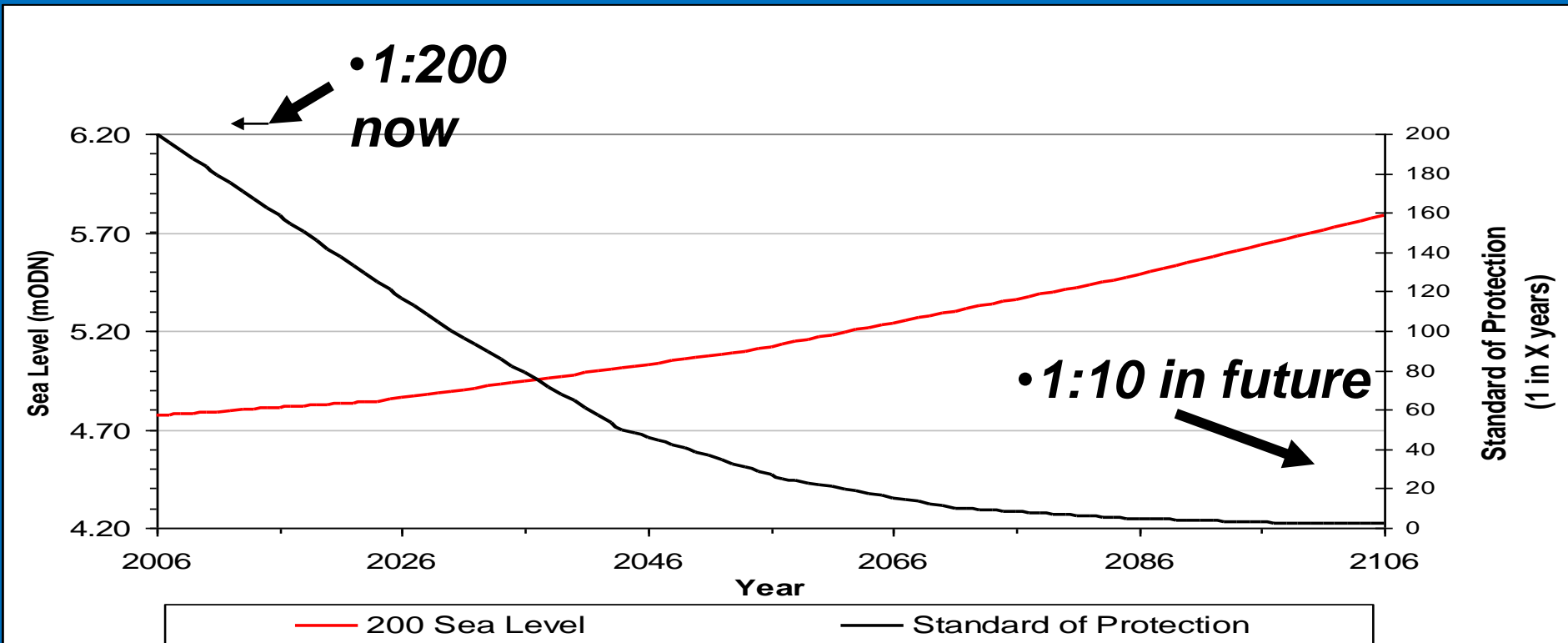


The perfect storm

The funding gap



Climate change, sea level rise and flood defence standards



• If sea levels rise as predicted in current guidance, a 1953 level would occur every 2-10 years by 2100





What are we doing about it?

Raise awareness with coastal communities of the challenges



Champion the Coast



£1.7m battle to save our seafront

By **MARK BOGGIS**

mark.boggis@archant.co.uk

Up to six tonnes of rocks will be unloaded onto Lowestoft's south beach next month as the first phase of a £1.7m scheme to defend the town's storm-battered seafront gets under way.

The emergency repairs – costing £800,000 – are due to start in two weeks' time and will see the boulders delivered by barge to provide a protective barrier for the badly-damaged seawall.

The work is due to finish by the end of October, with a second £900,000 phase due to start next spring to repair the promenade, stabilise the beach and combat the effects of erosion.

The defence scheme “should provide protection from the waves for 30 years,” according to Waveney District Council, which this week warned local businesses and people living near the seafront that the work could at times continue into the night and lead to “unavoidable disruption”.

The council says the repairs will start on Monday September 8 – having been planned to avoid the peak summer season and to ensure that work can be completed before any possible arrival of winter storms which may cause further damage to the unprotected and vulnerable seawall.

Because of the nature of the work, an additional section of the beach



VITAL WORK: Emergency repairs to Lowestoft's storm-battered seafront will start next month as part of a larger scheme to combat erosion.

Picture: LIBRARY

– between the Neptune statue and Claremont Pier – will be temporarily closed from next month.

There will also be some disruption to traffic as heavy machinery is brought to and from the site, and while the works are carried out at low tide there is likely to be noise and vibration.

Strussing the work was “an absolute priority”, Waveney leader Colin Law said: “This work is a vital investment in the future of our seafront and it is urgently needed as we cannot risk

failure of the seawall. Once repaired, the seawall will be protected from future winter storms and we can then move ahead with the next phase of the beach repairs.

“This will ultimately return our seafront to a welcoming and attractive place to visit, which will enhance the already thriving tourism industry within the town and provide long-term benefit to the local economy.”

Continued on page 2

Simplify what we do

Coastal Concordat

- Streamlines the development consenting process and co-ordinates regulators with a set of principles.
- It is an agreement between: Defra, DCLG, DoT, LGA Coastal SIG, MMO, EA, NE & National Parks England
- The Concordat is helping local authorities to work more effectively with other regulators and advisers
- Benefits include: reducing regulatory duplication, providing better sign-posting, streamlining assessments and increasing transparency and consistency of advice.
- 20 projects underway inc Royal Pier Waterfront, Southampton and Millbay Marina Village Plymouth.



Enable others to make a difference

- Local Authorities are the major contributing stakeholder to Coastal Partnerships
- Coastal Partnerships already exist with strong networks and enviable track records for delivery
- Local Authorities promote the benefits and potential of CPs for integrating delivery in partnership across the land/sea interface

Eg. EMS/MCZ governance, WFD in estuaries and coastal waters, regeneration, marine planning, third party investment

Learn lessons and develop policy



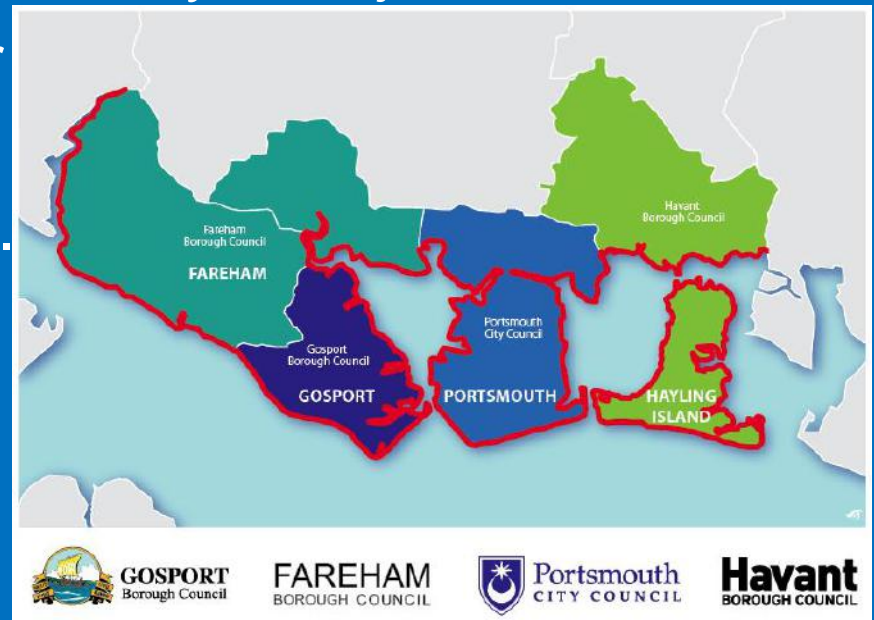
Coastal Adaptation Pathfinder Review
Scarborough, East Riding, North Norfolk
Great Yarmouth, Waveney

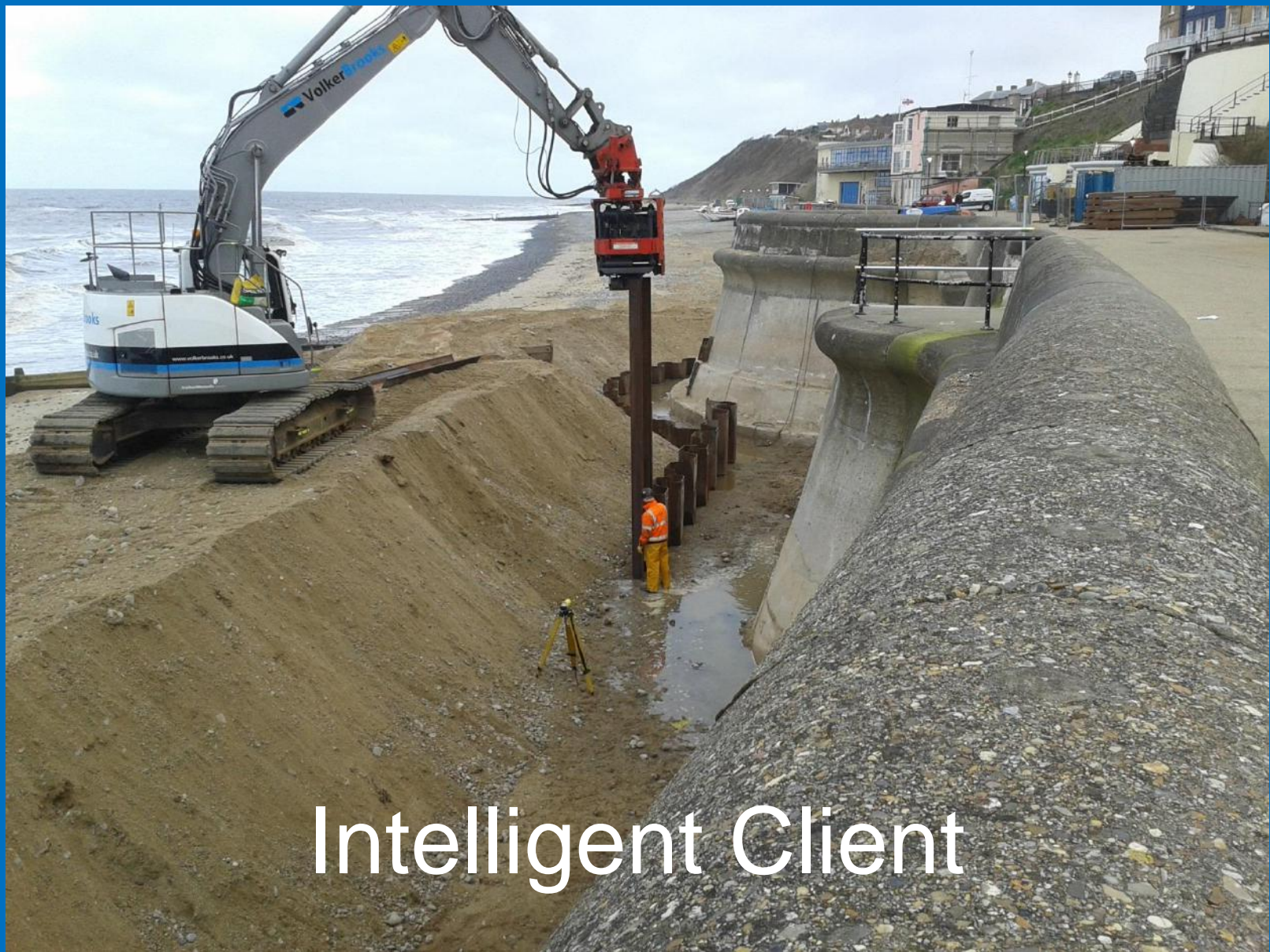
Build Resilient Teams



EASTERN
SOLENT | COASTAL
PARTNERSHIP

- Efficient use of staff, building specialist expertise
- A critical mass of staff and projects
- Increased confidence in delivery of objectives
- Use in-house staff rather than consultants
- Savings on procurement.



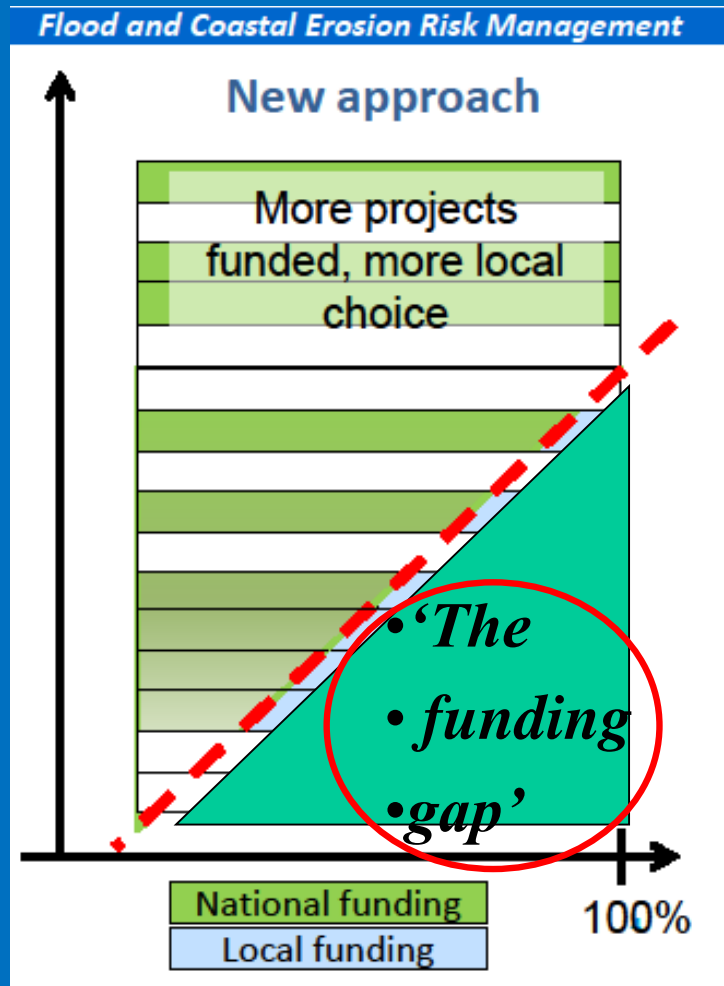


Intelligent Client

Build and Share Expertise



Experts in Funding



2014 Autumn Statement – Tax incentives for private investment in FCERM

Integrated approach



Innovation - The Sand Engine Concept



*Delfland Sand Engine,
Building With Nature project 2011
21.5million m³ sand*

Benefits include:

- *Meets the legal requirement for flood defence*
- *Economies of scale: 50% reduction in cost of sand*
- *Reduction in nourishment frequency from every 5 years to every 20 years resulting in less habitat disturbance on borrow areas and replenishment zones*
- *the Dutch capital of kite surfing*





Focus on delivery for local communities

The SIG

Local Government Association Coastal
Special Interest Group – The SIG

60 English coastal local authorities
working together with a common vision:

- A sustainable and thriving coast
- A vibrant coast
- A dynamic coast
- A democratic and informed coast

Role of SIG

- Champion the interests of our coastal and maritime communities.
- Support the sustainable development of the coast.
- To be part of policy formulation and implementation on the coast.
- Bringing pressure on the Government to recognise the needs of the coast.
- Strongly opposing changes which take responsibility and decision-making out of the hands of local democratically elected leaders.
- Promoting best practice and innovation, and commissioning research on coastal issues and the delivery of services.
- Providing a forum for debate between la and agencies / partners.
- Enabling the sharing of knowledge, expertise, experience and resources between coastal local authorities.

Energy – realising the benefits

There has been a rapid development of energy infrastructure at the coast, ranging from local wind turbines to nationally important on and offshore wind farms, offshore gas and oil extraction, landfill sites, and gas, oil and nuclear plants at the coast.

What we do

Local authorities have a range of planning responsibilities for the onshore development of energy infrastructure. Local authorities have also been partners in local and innovative energy projects to local communities to deliver sustainable energy solutions and to build a prosperous low-carbon economy.

Our Vision

The full benefits of the development of new energy infrastructure to the coastal community and environment are maximised, and the planning of marine energy development is fully integrated with terrestrial planning.

Energy: what we seek

- An integrated approach between marine planning, and terrestrial planning, drawing on the influence of Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) and local planning.
- The role of local authorities for providing consent for elements of these developments should be extended and local authorities should be given the opportunity to provide a more strategic role.
- The benefits of offshore energy be shared equitably with the coastal community.
- A greater level of government support for the CORE programme.

The LGA Coastal SIG will

- Work with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) to establish a protocol to secure between the Marine Spatial Plans and the relevant Local Plans and SMPs (see Marine Plan).
- Work with coastal local authorities to establish and promote best practice in securing the coastal economy and off-shore energy developments.

Managing Fisheries – achieving sustainability and supporting fishing communities

Ten Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs) exist around the English coast with the responsibility of promoting a healthy sea, championing sustainable fisheries and ensuring a viable fishing industry. IFCAs implement most EU and UK fisheries legislation. England's network of ten IFCAs has a combined annual budget of over £8.6 million, deploying over 40 vessels.

What we do

County and unitary councils fund the IFCAs through a levy system and Council Members represent about one third of IFCA Members.

Local authorities are often responsible for fishing facilities on-shore and for economic development and tourism also relevant to fisheries. District Council Environmental Health departments have a duty to enforce shellfish hygiene regulations. Some local authorities are also harbour authorities (Municipal Ports), and have powers to

ON THE EDGE A Coastal Strategy

Minerals and Dredging – reducing the impacts, maximising the benefits

The use of marine aggregate varies from inland building projects, beach re-nourishment to land reclamation at ports and harbours. The UK marine aggregate industry is one of the largest in Europe and the world, supplying 13% of the total sand and gravel sales in England in 2005. The LGA Coastal SIG recognises the importance of this industry to the national economy particularly, though not exclusively, in London and the South East where demand is highest.

What we do

Local councils are statutory consultees for dredging and marine minerals extraction off-shore. On-shore related activities might require local planning consents. In some cases the local authority may also be a harbour authority responsible for managing dredging as part of harbour maintenance. Artificial beach re-nourishment is a widely used shoreline management technique used by local authorities and the Environment Agency, which help to reduce the risk of coastal erosion and marine inundation.

Our Vision

Mineral and dredging industry that maximises benefits and avoids or minimises any adverse effects.

Minerals and dredging: what we seek

Balance between the financial success of the industry and improvements to the local economy of coastal communities. The incorporation of the findings of the multi-beneficial nature of nourishment projects for coastal defences on the local economy and the incorporation of the findings into national policy.

Local SIG will

Explore the potential for a formal partnership with the dredging industry and the Crown Estate to seek to maximise the benefits of their activities to the coastal community.

Work into the multi-beneficial nature of beach nourishment.

Support for continued research into the on-shore impacts of marine aggregate dredging.

Work to consider innovative solutions for sediment reuse or mechanisms to allow for beneficial material.

Work to consider innovative solutions for sediment reuse or mechanisms to allow for beneficial material.

Conclusion

- Local Authorities are a key player in coastal management with a democratic mandate
- There are major challenges facing L.A.s
- A huge amount of work is underway to meet these challenges
- The question is:

What can you and your organisation contribute to the delivery of effective coastal management in your area?

***Length of England's
coastline 6,260 miles***

44% of England (and Wales) coast is defended

***30% of coastline suffers with coastal
erosion***

***75% of all imports and exports
are handled by ports***

***3,000 registered fishing
vessels***

***700,000 people employed
directly by ports***

***31% all tourism is at
the seaside***

Seaside tourism values at £17bn p.a.

Over 50% of grade 1 agricultural land within the coastal plain

***40% manufacturing industry is on /
near the coast***

***All but one local
authority with the
largest % of over-65's is
located on the coast***

***31% of coast is occupied by buildings /
infrastructure***

Over 33% of England's coastline designated scenic or natural beauty



***Saltmarsh sequesters CO2 valued at
£11.93m/year***



www.lgacoastalsig.com

