

**CABINET – 5 JUNE 2004**

**ECONOMY & PLANNING; LEISURE SERVICES; AND ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIOS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Coastal Management Plan (CMP)**








**Summary of Purpose and Recommendations:**

To note the contents, revisions and achievements of the revised Coastal Management Plan report and the Implementation Schedule.

**Cost to Council:** £ Employee and printing costs

**Within existing budget?** Yes

**Contribution to Corporate Plan (Minor/Moderate/Major/Neutral):**

	+		-		+		-
	Major			<b>Priorities</b>			
	Major			Clean Streets and Public Space		Neutral	
	Moderate			Crime and Disorder		Neutral	
	Moderate			Housing		Neutral	
	Moderate			Managing our Finances	Moderate		

**Comments on Impacts on Corporate Objectives and Priorities:**

The CMP provides a wide range of information, policies and strategies relating to all activities on the NFDC coast, and is an extremely important tool in delivering integrated and cost-effective management of coastal issues. The Plan has been revised and developed through inter-directorate cooperation, and consultation with a number of external organisations and the public. NFDC's CMP is widely regarded as a leading example of best practice for integrated coastal zone management.



Organisation of excellence



Working with public and partners



Economic well being



Social well being



Environmental well being

## **REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

A Coastal Management Plan (CMP) was published by the District Council in 1997; it provides a wide range of information, policies and strategies relating to all aspects of activities and impacts on the NFDC coast. This important document, produced through inter-directorate and department co-operation and communication, is widely regarded as leading the way in best practice for coastal zone management.

The plan divides the New Forest coastal frontage into 12 distinct zones, and presents an implementation programme. The CMP has been reviewed and updated by the members of the Coastal Management Plan Officers Working Group (CMPOWG). Minor revisions have been made to the plan to reflect progress of the implementation plan, legislative changes and the forward programme.

Members are requested to consider the revisions to the original document as drafted.

### **2. SUMMARY / SYNOPSIS**

2.1 The review of the CMP reflects changes to the management and operation of coastal zone activities arising from a range of factors; these include international legislation and local management. Some of the changes have had a significant impact on the way in which coastal related services are run and it was considered both desirable and necessary to update this document. Overall, changes to the document are small and reflect issues previously agreed by NFDC or where information is factually incorrect or out of date.

2.2 The principle revisions to the document reflect the following issues:

- Progress with the implementation plan
- Legislative changes
- Local management policy changes
- Development of a revised forward programme
- Dissemination methods

2.3 The revised document will be available in a variety of formats. Hard copies of the CMP, including colour maps will be produced, for internal departments, Councillors, Parish and Town Councils, and other government bodies, and key organisations. The text, photographs and colour maps will also be available for viewing and downloading through a website. The website will host an interactive Geographic Information System (GIS), which will enable the user to select and abstract information in connection with areas of interest.

2.4 Appendix 1 details how the Coastal Management Plan's policies and proposals will be implemented. All the proposals rely on the ability of the Council and other agencies to deliver them. Proposals need to be considered alongside all the other demands that are placed on all agencies.

### **3. MAIN BODY OF REPORT**

The principle changes to the CMP text and achievements that have been implemented in the coastal zone as part of the CMP review process are highlighted below. The majority of the text is essentially unaltered apart from those sections discussed below. Elsewhere minor changes reflect current factual accuracy.

In view of the small changes to the text and the large report volume, copies of the document have not been circulated. Hard copies of the full document will be made available in the Members room and electronic copies provided on request.

#### **3.1 Main changes and additions to the text**

##### **3.1.1 Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme**

The Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme is a new project, which is being managed by New Forest District Council in partnership with the University of Southampton and the Southampton Oceanography Centre. With funding granted by Central Government, NFDC has taken the lead in a partnership with other maritime district councils and the Environment Agency to manage and organize a multi million pound project for coastal monitoring. The project extends from Portland Bill to the Isle of Grain in the Thames Estuary, and includes the monitoring, recording, GIS and database analysis, and long-term prediction of coastal processes. The outputs from the project will be the basis for the design of future coastal defences in the region and are of considerable importance to everyone in the south-east, in view of rising sea levels and climate change. The monitoring programme will include a combination of remote sensing techniques, physical measurements on the shoreline and assessments of wind and wave climate. outlined in the CMP. Specific reference is made to this monitoring programme in the CMP, for each of the individual coastal zones outlined in the plan.

##### **3.1.2 Coastal Defence Strategy Studies**

Coastal Defence Strategy Studies funded by DEFRA, provide a strategic framework for sustainable coastal management for defined stretches of coastline. These studies need to be completed prior to the overarching second round of Shoreline Management Plans review process. Coastal defence strategy studies consist of environmental, economic and coastal process studies, and incorporate existing coastal projects and saltmarsh studies. The NFDC coastline between Chewton Bunny and Calshot Spit is covered by two Coastal Defence Strategy Studies. The current Christchurch Bay Coastal Defence Strategy Study extends from Hengistbury Head to Hurst Spit; NFDC are awaiting DEFRA funding for the Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy Study, which will cover the frontage between the distal end of Hurst Spit and Calshot Spit.

##### **3.1.3 'No Soak Away' Zone and 'Areas at Risk from Erosion'**

The plan re-emphasises the NFDC policy that restricts development within the “no soak away” zone and “areas at risk from coastal landslip and erosion”. These areas are currently being updated through the Christchurch Bay Coastal Defence Strategy Study.

### **3.1.4 Number of Moorings**

The rise in the number of mooring demands has been noted by Harbour Managers. No action is proposed at this stage.

### **3.1.5 Review of Public Conveniences**

A ten-year programme of refurbishing NFDC public conveniences has been approved. Toilets have been rebuilt at Lymington Quay, Lymington New Street and Brockenhurst Car Park, whilst those in Milford, Calshot, Keyhaven and Fordingbridge are due to be rebuilt over the next few years.

### **3.1.6 Landscape Character**

Section B2 has been substantially re-written to reflect the identification of Landscape Character Areas in the New Forest District Landscape Character Assessment 2000. Key features particular to each Character Area are highlighted. The maps have been updated accordingly.

### **3.1.7 Dibden Bay**

References to Dibden Bay have been updated in the light of the Public Inquiry held 2001/02 and now need to be updated further to reflect the decision.

### **3.1.8 Hythe**

Section C10 has been updated to reflect recent new development along the waterfront and progress in implementation of the Hythe Waterfront Supplementary Planning Guidance.

### **3.1.9 Nature Conservation Designations**

All references to nature conservation designations have been updated, and references included, as appropriate, to ongoing work on the Solent European Marine Sites initiative.

### **3.1.10 New Forest National Park**

The emergence of the New Forest National Park has been recognized.

### **3.1.11 Planning**

All references to planning documents have been updated.

### **3.1.12 Consultation**

References to the consultation that took place in 1992 have been deleted.

### **3.1.13 Implementation**

A more realistic approach to the implementation programme has been taken. Items that are unlikely to be implemented have been removed. Separate short and longer-term implementation schedules are shown. Detailed site-specific references have been updated to take into account progress with implementation. References to Dibden Bay are currently being updated in the light of the recent government decision to reject ABP's port development proposals.

### **3.14 Main Achievements since 1997**

- Hurst Spit Stabilisation Scheme
- Lymington Quay Scheme
- Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme initiated in Summer 2002.
- Channel Coastal Observatory, based at Southampton Oceanography Centre, set up Autumn 2002. [www.channelcoast.org](http://www.channelcoast.org)
- Recycling of sediment from North Point and Calshot Spit for beach management
- Groyne maintenance programme – substantial cost savings made
- SCOPAC research projects – climate change, sediment transport etc.
- Liaison with Southern Water regarding the removal of the Becton Bunny outfall.
- Structural repair to Eling Toll Bridge and work underway to renovate the Mill
- Milford Promenade public consultation exercise and feasibility study
- Wardening established at Pylewell Lake
- A security firm has been employed to help address beach hut vandalism
- Programme of coastal amenity works implemented each year; for example, improving access, replacing shelters, repairing steps and other coastal facilities
- Beach hut Supplementary Planning Guidance prepared
- Publication of Supplementary Planning Guidance for Webbs site at Lymington
- CMP has provided a basis for response to consultations on planning applications (e.g. Solent Aeronautica)
- Part implementation of Waterfront Supplementary Planning Guidance e.g. Hythe Promenade scheme underway, start on site in 2003
- Presentation of the Council's case at the Dibden Bay Public Inquiry 2001-02.
- Public Access to waterfront provided as part of redevelopment of RNAD site at Marchwood
- Eling Quay environmental improvements completed (redevelopment of former steam mill won award)
- District-wide landscape character assessment undertaken in 2000 has provided useful context and is now referred to in the updated CMP

## **4 DISSEMINATION**

- 4.1 The recommendation to produce the revised document in a variety of formats arises from policy to increase the use of e-technology. Hard copies of the CMP, including colour maps will be produced, for internal departments, Councillors, Parish and Town Councils, and other government bodies, and key organisations. The text, photographs and colour maps will also be available for viewing and downloading through a website. The website will host an interactive Geographic Information System (GIS), which will enable the user to select and abstract information in connection with areas of interest.
- 4.2 It is envisaged that the large number of student and public enquiries currently experienced by a variety of departments will be directed to the website initially; with any additional, site-specific details provided by the relevant department personnel, as requested.

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The expected costs of production (£2600) of the revised coastal management plan will be met from existing budgets and has no direct impact on this Council's budget.

## **6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no environmental implications.

## **7 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

## **8 CONSULTATION**

8.1 The members of the CMPOWG are drawn from a number of internal departments and Directorates. These include Coast Protection, Land Drainage, Planning, Landscape, Leisure, Environmental Health, Coastal Safety. The review process also involved discussions with Graphics, GIS and ICT staff to discuss the production and website delivery of the CMP and associated maps.

## **9 PORTFOLIO HOLDERS COMMENTS**

9.1 The Economy and Planning, Leisure and Environment Portfolio Holders all support the recommendations contained in this report.

## **10 CONCLUSION**

10.1 The review of the CMP reflects changes to the management and operation of coastal zone activities arising from a range of factors; these include international legislation and local management. Some of the changes have had a significant impact on the way in which coastal related services are run and it was considered both desirable and necessary to update this document. Overall, changes to the document are small and reflect issues previously agreed by NFDC or where information is factually incorrect or out of date.

## **11 RECOMMENDATIONS**

11.1 That the revised Coastal Management Plan document be approved, subject to officers updating references to Dibden Bay in the light of the recent Inquiry decision, and the revisions and achievements noted.

### **Further Information**

Andrew Bradbury  
Coastal Projects Manager, Resources Directorate  
Chairman of Coastal Management Plan Officers Working Group  
Tel: 023 8028 5911  
E-mail: [andy.bradbury@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:andy.bradbury@nfdc.gov.uk)

### **Background Papers**

None

**D IMPLEMENTATION**

This part of the plan considers how it is to be put into effect, monitored and updated.

**D1 Putting the plan into effect**

D1.1 This Coastal Management Plan has been prepared corporately by the District Council. This corporate endeavour will continue through:

- implementation of the plan's policies and proposals
- regular monitoring of District Council activities and those of other authorities, organisations and individuals affecting the coast
- updating and periodic re-publication of all or part of the plan
- on-going work on the coast

D1.2 The management plan will be up-dated and published in whole or in part as necessary.

D1.3 All the proposals rely on the ability of the Council and other agencies to deliver them. Proposals need to be considered alongside all the other demands that are placed on all agencies. This plan provides a basis upon which decisions can be made and it focuses attention on the coast in an integrated way.

D1.4 The following tables list all the proposals shown in the management plan and gives estimates of when they will be implemented. These tables will be kept under constant review, and will be updated as projects are completed and as new projects come forward. They will be among the items to be re-published on a regular basis.

## ACTION LIST

Policy Proposal  
Ref:

Resources

Date

Comment

### ZONE 1: NAISH FARM

Z1.1	Examine measures for sustainable management of beach and cliff	DEFRA funded Christchurch Bay Coastal Defence Strategy.	Summer 2004	Joint strategy plan being developed with Christchurch Borough Council as part of the Christchurch Bay Coastal Defence Strategy.
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### ZONE 2: BARTON-ON-SEA

Z2.1	Maintain and improve coast protection works	Budget provision for maintenance. Bid required for improvements.	Ongoing	Details and programme to be examined through Christchurch Bay Coastal Defence Strategy. Monitoring and maintenance ongoing.
Z2.2	Provide key information points on access paths	Content specification under review. Budget available	2005/06	Final detailed specification needed
Z2.3	Request HCC to include the cliff top footpath in the Solent Way long distance path	No allocation.	March 2005	Relies on cooperation of landowners and HCC Discussions are taking place with HCC who are currently reviewing this area.
Z2.4	Return part of the East Marine Drive car park adjacent to the Golf Course to cliff top and refurbishment of the remainder	£20000	2004/05	Scheme in works programme.

### ZONE 3: BARTON GOLF CLUB TO HORDLE CLIFF

Z3.1	Liaise with Southern Water about removing the Becton outfall, and monitor its effects on coastal erosion	Officer time from existing budgets.	Spring 2004	The Barton Waste Water Treatment Works has been demolished and the site is undergoing redevelopment. Liaison with Southern Water Services. Monitoring of Coastal Processes
Z3.2	HCC to re-designate the existing footpath as the Solent Way long distance path	No allocation.	March 2005	Discussions are taking place with HCC.
Z3.3	Finalize the re-routing of the footpath and bridge adjacent to the Golf Club	Process underway	2004	Discussions are taking place with private landowners and HCC



#### ZONE 4: MILFORD-ON-SEA

Z4.1	Explore with Milford Community Tourism Group possible ways to increase the attraction of Milford for visitors	Within budget	2004/5	This has implications for approach to future investment in Milford. Linked to Z4.2 and Z4.3.
Z4.2	Improve and monitor coast protection works.	Budget provision for maintenance. Bid required for improvements.	Ongoing	Details and programme to be examined in Coastal Defence Strategy for Christchurch Bay. Linked to Z4.1 & Z4.3.
Z4.3	Improve environment of seafront.	Feasibility and consultation undertaken. Scheme agreed and funding in place.	March 2005	Will be linked to discussions about the future of the seafront as a whole (Z4.1 and Z4.2).  Public conveniences near the Bowling Green to be replaced.
Z4.4	Seek designation of Sturt Pond as a LNR	Principle agreed by NFDC Cabinet	December 2004	Detail of Declaration is being devised
Z4.5	Request HCC to include the footpath in front of the White House and the cliff top footpath in the Solent Way long distance path	No allocation.	March 2005	Relies on cooperation of landowners and HCC Discussions are taking place with HCC who are currently reviewing this area.

#### ZONE 5: HURST SPIT TO LYMINGTON / KEYHAVEN MARSHES

Z5.1	Maintain and develop coast protection works to retain Hurst Spit	In current budget.	Ongoing	Long-term beach management scheme in progress.  Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.
Z5.2	Continue to investigate saltmarsh erosion and establish means of reducing the rate of loss.	DEFRA funding for comprehensive study awaited.	Ongoing monitoring	Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Strategy.
Z5.3	Monitor sea wall	Part of routine coastal inspection; within budget.	Ongoing	Sea wall is Environment Agency responsibility but NFDC carry out low -key monitoring.
Z5.4	Monitor and manage Keyhaven River by Keyhaven River Management Strategy	Strategy defines resource implications.	Annual	Produce and review each year
Z5.5	Press for high standard of restoration of gravel workings & landfill sites	Within existing resources.	Ongoing	In collaboration with the Environment Agency
Z5.6	Press for lengthening of waste water outfall to	Southern Water are responsible for outfall	December 2004	Pennington Waste Water Treatment Works now operational. Southern Water is looking into

	protect shellfisheries			extending the outfall pipe by a further 0.5km
<b>Z5.7</b>	Keep under review need for traffic management and car parking controls at Keyhaven car parks.	Within existing resources.	Ongoing	Discussions with Parish Council ongoing
<b>Z5.8</b>	Trial for Hurst Spit passenger service	New proposal required.	March 2005	Discussion by agencies will be required.
<b>Z5.9</b>	Replace public conveniences in Keyhaven car park	Within existing resources	2005	Visual impact an important consideration

### **ZONE 6: LYMINGTON RIVER ESTUARY**

<b>Z6.1</b>	Co-operate with Environment Agency in the design and construction of flood defences.	In conjunction with Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy	2004/05	Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.
<b>Z6.2</b>	Investigate techniques for reducing the saltmarsh erosion rate and retaining the existing saltmarsh system.	DEFRA funding for comprehensive study awaited – some contributions already in place from SCOPAC, HCC etc	Ongoing monitoring	Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy. May include trials that make beneficial use of dredged sediments for inter-tidal recharge.

### **ZONE 7: NORTH WEST SOLENT SHORE**

<b>Z7.1</b>	Monitor coastal processes	DEFRA funded Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme	Ongoing	Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.
<b>Z7.2</b>	Review effectiveness of coast protection works. Encourage high standard of design in coastal protection works at Lepe and eastwards	HCC installed groynes To be funded from existing resources.	Ongoing	Consultation and liaison with HCC and private landowners Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.
<b>Z7.3</b>	Discuss with HCC routing of Solent Way closer to shore and other public access to coast.	No allocation.	March 2005	Liaison and consultation required. Discussions are taking place with Hampshire County Council who is currently reviewing this area. (Also Z2.3 & 3.2)
<b>Z7.4</b>	Assist landowners with advice regarding the design	No allocation	Ongoing	

	and implementation of coast protection works.			
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### ZONE 8: CALSHOT SPIT

Z8.1	Management of 'Tom Tiddler's Ground' to be coordinated with Calshot Marshes LNR	No allocation needed at this stage.	March 2005	Discussions with landowners and managers required.
Z8.2	Replace the public conveniences and cafe	To be funded from existing resources and partnership with private company	2005	Visual impact an important consideration

### ZONE 9: FAWLEY

Z9.1	Cooperate with the Environment Agency about pollution	Within budget.	Ongoing	Mainly through New Forest (Waterside) Environmental Protection Liaison Committee.
Z9.2	Monitor coast protection works and saltmarsh management	Officer time within budget. DEFRA funding for comprehensive study awaited	Ongoing	Part of National Flood and Coastal Defence Database inspection programme. Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.

### ZONE 10: HYTHE

Z10.1	Seek to implement remaining proposals in Hythe Waterfront development brief	No allocation; grants/lottery bid; bid to be submitted for capital works; primarily development lead; partnership projects.	Future years	Major scheme developing link between village centre and its waterfront. Some progress being made.
Z10.2	Monitor coast protection works, Prospect Place and Shore Road	Officer time within budget.	Ongoing	Part of National Flood and Coastal Defence Database inspection programme.

### ZONE 11: DIBDEN BAY TO MARCHWOOD

Consider any implications arising from the government decision to refuse permission for port development.

### ZONE 12: BURY MARSHES TO ELING AND LOWER TEST VALLEY

Z12.1	Environmental improvements to Eling Quay and the public slipway	Developer funding.	Ongoing	First stage completed.
Z12.2	Refurbish Eling Tide Mill to ensure its effective	Works are underway but investigations are needed to	December	Complete current work and programme future

	operation.	assess what further work is required	2004	work after investigations.
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## LONGER TERM PROPOSALS

**Policy Proposals**  
Ref:

**Comments**

### ZONE 1: NAISH FARM

Z1.2	Work with other agencies, to promote environmental improvement scheme at Chewton Bunny	Major scheme requiring partnership of NFDC, Christchurch BC, Hants. CC, Dorset CC
Z1.3	Work with HCC to investigate extension of Solent Way to County boundary	Relies on cooperation of landowners and Hants. CC.
Z1.4	Provide key information point at Chewton Bunny	Important site in the signing strategy

### ZONE 2: BARTON-ON-SEA

Z2.5	Improve the appearance of the cliff face by encouraging natural vegetation to re-establish	
Z2.6	Improve the cliff top environment (open space, car parks, planting etc)	

### ZONE 3: BARTON GOLF CLUB TO HORDLE CLIFF

Z3.4	Provide a key information point at Taddiford Gap.	Important site in the signing strategy
Z3.5	Environmental improvements to Taddiford Gap car park and associated footpath.	
Z3.6	Remove redundant substation at Taddiford Gap	
Z3.7	Encourage appropriate new planting, e.g. at Barton Golf Club.	
Z3.8	Improve the appearance of the cliff face by encouraging natural vegetation to re-establish.	
Z3.9	Maintain and improve existing coast protection works.	

### ZONE 4: MILFORD-ON-SEA

Z4.6	Provide key information points	Important site in the signing strategy
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Z4.7	Encourage tree planting and open space management plan.	
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#### ZONE 5: HURST SPIT TO LYMINGTON / KEYHAVEN MARSHES

Z5.10	Provide key information point, Hurst Spit	Important site in the signing strategy
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#### ZONE 6: LYMINGTON RIVER ESTUARY

Z6.3	Encourage environmental improvements at Bridge Road and improved public access to the riverside	
Z6.4	Initiate environmental improvements within the Seawater Baths area	
Z6.5	Provide key information points - Seawater Baths and the Quay	Important site in the signing strategy – Pilot scheme already in place

#### ZONE 7: NORTH WEST SOLENT SHORE

Z7.5	Environmental improvements	Design guides & site surveys needed.
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#### ZONE 8: CALSHOT SPIT

Z8.3	Long-term coast protection measures	Details and programme to be examined in Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy.
Z8.4	Develop plan for coordinated management of Calshot Spit	Need to cooperate with Hampshire County Council; see also Shoreline Management Plan.
Z8.5	Improve the condition of the concrete outfall and bagwork structures flanking Tom Tiddler's Ground.	

#### ZONE 9: FAWLEY

Z9.3	Encourage retention and management of coastal woodlands	Liaison with refinery and industry operators
Z9.4	Encourage completion and appropriate management of the landscaping in and around oil refinery and petrochemical complex	Liaison with refinery and industry operators
Z9.5	Where possible, improve public access to the foreshore.	Liaison and consultation required.

ZONE 10: HYTHE

None at this time

ZONE 11: DIBDEN BAY TO MARCHWOOD

Z11.1	Work with private developers and other agencies to improve public launching facilities at Cracknore Hard.	Improvements sought through local plan policy for Husband's Shipyard.
Z11.2	Improve the environmental quality of the coast.	
Z11.3	Enhance public access to and along the foreshore and through the coastal development sites.	Improvements to be negotiated with redevelopment of coastal sites.
Z11.4	Respond appropriately when outcome of New Forest National Park Inquiry is announced.	

ZONE 12: BURY MARSHES TO ELING AND LOWER TEST VALLEY

Z12.3	Assist Totton & Eling Town Council with management plan for coastal open spaces.	Seek initial views of Town Council
Z12.4	Encourage footpath between Goatee Beach and RNAD site, Marchwood	Requires negotiations with landowners; need to respect areas of nature conservation value.
Z12.5	Link coastal routes from Eling north to the Test Way	Requires negotiations with landowners; need to respect areas of nature conservation value.
Z12.6	Landscape improvements to mitigate the visual impact of industrial development at Eling Wharf.	Historic commitment arising from development.