

HURST SPIT, BEACH RECHARGE WORKS, BUSINESS CASE AND DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Hurst Spit is a key feature that provides protection to the Western Solent. The Spit reduces the flood risk to properties and low lying land between Keyhaven and Pennington, as well as protecting the highly designated environmental area within its lee by reducing the effect that storm waves would have on the Western Solent. The Spit also provides added protection to Hurst Castle, and for recreation and sailing activities.
- 1.2. The Hurst Spit Beach Management Plan (BMP) covers the 50 year period that commenced in 1996 following the completion of the Hurst Spit stabilisation scheme. This plan allows for the ongoing maintenance of the Spit through three main elements of management operations:-
 - 1.2.1. Crest trimming and recycling
 - 1.2.2. North Point recycling
 - 1.2.3. Interim beach recharges
- 1.3. Since the commencement of the BMP only the operations identified in paragraphs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 have been undertaken. These operations, along with the successful management of the Spit, have enabled any interim beach recharge works to be delayed.
- 1.4. Following the winter storms of 2013/14 the volume of available beach material to enable low cost operations to be undertaken has reduced to the point that there is now a requirement to undertake the first interim beach recharge.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1. Funding has been allocated (but not approved) within the Environment Agency's medium term plan to deliver a beach recharge project for Hurst Spit.
- 2.2. The allocated funding is broken down across three years to initially undertake business case development and design, followed by a construction phase.
- 2.3. Officers of the coastal team are now undertaking the necessary works to prepare the FRM7 application submission to the Environment Agency to draw down £300,000 of funding to enable development of the business case and design.
- 2.4. The works to be undertaken with this funding will assess fully the options available for this scheme together with a full justification. The study will consider the continued management of Hurst Spit in terms of the benefits, likely scheme costs and the environmental implications. It will then go on to consider and establish necessary partnership funding, undertake the detailed design, identify sources of suitable material and undertake planning and licensing requirements.

2.5. Works will continue through the member Task and Finish Group to identify partnership funding streams to enable the main construction works to be undertaken following completion of those items identified in 2.4 above.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. That approval be given to submit the completed application (FRM7) to the Environment Agency for the drawdown of the total funding required to undertake the development of the business case and design; and
- 3.2. That subject to receiving the approval of initial funding as identified above, that works commence on the development the business case and design through the commissioning of appropriate consultants.

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER

I have agreed to the recommendations of this report.

Signed: S Beeton

Date: 9 August 2017

Date on which notice given for this Decision – 9 August 2017

Last date for call-in – 16 August 2017

For further information please contact:

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