



REPORT TO:	Economy and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Cllr Donald Milne
DATE:	28 th September 2017
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SUBJECT:	Llandudno Coastal Forum Update
ELECTORAL DIVISION:	Craig y Don, Gogarth, Mostyn and Tudno

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on the work being carried out through the Llandudno Coastal Forum to develop a new Beach Management Plan for Llandudno and consider future steps in developing any new proposals.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following objections to the emergency works that were carried out at North Shore following the 2013/14 winter storms, Cabinet approved the formation of Llandudno Coastal Forum on 8th July 2014 to work in partnership with various stakeholders to look at alternative options for beach management at Llandudno.
- 2.2 CCBC officers developed a brief in partnership with Llandudno Coastal Forum members, sought tenders and commissioned a Consultant, AECOM Ltd on the 22nd September 2016 to produce a draft Beach Management Plan (BMP) for Llandudno.

- 2.3 The BMP identified a long list of options for both the North and West Shore followed by a reduced short list of options which, in their professional opinion, would be most likely to satisfy the Welsh Government's funding criteria for coastal defence funding. Details of the assessment options considered can be found in section 4.13 of this report.
- 2.4 During a Llandudno Coastal Forum meeting on the 22nd August 2017, forum members supported the BMP and agreed that CCBC should proceed to seek further funding from Welsh Government to produce an Outline Business Case using the options that have been developed within the BMP.
- 2.5 Additionally, it was agreed that a separate meeting would take place on the 19th September 2017 between Llandudno Coastal Forum members and officers from Community Development Service (CDS) to discuss and explore additional funding for recreational, beach amenity, commercial and tourism opportunities.
- 2.6 It was also agreed that a public consultation drop in event should be organised to share the findings of the BMP with the general public before January 2018.
- 2.7 It must be noted that the work carried out by CCBC officers and councillors in close partnership with Llandudno Coastal Forum members to produce the BMP has been a great success story, considering the negative press and criticism that was thrown at the Council following the emergency coastal repairs that were carried out in 2014. It is good to see a positive agreement on the way forward. Thanks must go out to Llandudno Coastal Forum members that have been fully committed in developing the BMP which can now be used for the next phase of work.

3. RECOMMENDATION(S)/OPTIONS

- 3.1 That the report is noted and support is given to develop the beach management options that are proposed for Llandudno as follows:
 - a) ERF to seek funding from Welsh Government, through their Coastal Risk Management Programme, to commission a consultant to produce an Outline Business Case for the options considered within the BMP.
 - b) Llandudno Coastal Forum to organise a drop in session for the general public to learn more about the BMP that has been developed for Llandudno.

- c) CCBC officers to continue to attend future Llandudno Coastal Forum meetings as described in 4.18.
- d) That the report be recommended to Cabinet for approval/support.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 As previously reported following the 2013/14 winter storms funding was received from Welsh Government to carry out emergency beach replenishment works to protect the Town from flooding during coastal storm events. Beach replenishment works were prioritised as a matter of urgency, due to the high number of properties at risk and to protect against further significant high tides that were predicted during 2014 to 2016 (With the Highest Astronomical Tide occurring in September 2015 – the highest tide in a 19 year cycle). The completed replenishment works returned beach levels back up to the original design standard.
- 4.2 Following objections to the emergency works that were carried out at North Shore, Cabinet approved the formation of Llandudno Coastal Forum on 8th July 2014 to work in partnership with various stakeholders to look at alternative options for beach management at Llandudno. Llandudno Coastal Forum created and presented their ideas to the public at two separate consultation events, one at North Shore and the other at West Shore. Results of the consultation events showed support to consider other various beach management ideas for Llandudno.
- 4.3 On the 12th January 2016 approval was obtained from Cabinet to procure a new BMP for Llandudno, subject to the availability of funding.
- 4.4 A grant application was submitted to Welsh Government on the 4th November 2015 to seek funding to procure the BMP and to update Conwy's Tidal Flood Risk Assessment study which would provide a better understanding of present day and future flood risk for Llandudno by taking into account climate change and sea level rise predictions.
- 4.5 On 25th April 2016 CCBC received a letter from Welsh Government offering grant to procure a BMP and update the Conwy's Tidal Flood Risk Assessment study through their Coastal Risk Management Programme.
- 4.6 AECOM Ltd were awarded the contract to carry out both studies on the 22nd September 2016.

- 4.7 On the 17th November 2016 AECOM attended a Llandudno Coastal Forum meeting and gave a presentation on their proposed approach and methodology on how they were planning to produce the BMP. Forum members were pleased to see that progress was being made, but had some concerns in relation to a few of the options that would be considered and whether the Consultant would have enough time to complete their study within the specified timescale. Following deliberation by forum members it was agreed that the timescale for completion would be extended until the end of March 2017.
- 4.8 In order to address some of the queries raised by forum members in relation to a few options that were going to be considered, it was agreed to have a site meeting with forum members to discuss and address their concerns. This meeting took place on 15th December 2016 on the lifeboat slipway at North Shore. This proved to be a very positive and productive meeting with many of the concerns that were raised at the previous meeting being addressed.
- 4.9 Following the site meeting the Consultant prepared a brief statement on the work that they were carrying out to update the general public via the Llandudno Coastal Forum website.
- 4.10 An initial draft copy of the BMP was received by CCBC on the 3rd March 2017 with the final draft version being issued on the 23rd June 2017.
- 4.11 The draft version of the BMP was issued to members of Llandudno Coastal Forum on the 27th June 2017.
- 4.12 AECOM attended a Llandudno Coastal Forum meeting on the 29th June 2017 and gave a presentation outlining the contents of the draft BMP which was well received by the Forum members. Questions relating to its contents were fielded and explanations given in relation to possible options for the management of Llandudno's beaches.
- 4.13 Given the technical nature of the BMP document, CCBC produced a summary of its contents and issued it to the Chairman of the Llandudno Coastal Forum for distribution on the 19th August 2017. The main assessment options from the BMP for North and West Shore are summarised in the following tables:

Table 1: Assessment of the North Shore Options

Criteria Options	Amenity		Environment				Technical			Economic			
	Recreational use	Access	Permissions, consents and licences	Archaeology and cultural heritage	Landscape	Ecological designations	Functionality - Flood and coastal erosion risk management	Constructability	Durability	Impact on coastal processes	Capital cost	Maintenance cost	External funding potential
0: Do minimum								N/A			£0	£0 to £50k	N/A
1A: Detached Breakwaters											£26m to £32m	£0 to £600k	Low
1B: Submerged Detached Breakwaters											£19m to £23m	£0 to £600k	Low
2A: Fishtail Groynes											£14m to £17m	£0 to £440k	Low
2B: Onshore Fishtail Groynes											£13.5m to £17m	£0 to £440k	Low
3: Timber Groynes											£11m to £13.5m	£600k	Medium
4A: Beach Nourishment (Capital and Maintenance)											£10.5m to £13m	£100k to £1.2m	Medium
4B: Beach Nourishment (Capital only)											£9.5m to £12m	£100k to £1.2m	Medium
5: Beach Nourishment at Children's Corner											£0.5m to £1m	£10k to £100k	Medium
6: Wave return wall for Paddling Pool											£20k to £100k	£0 to £10k	Medium
7: Wave return wall for promenade											£0.3m to £1m	£0 to £10k	High

Table 2: Assessment of the West Shore Options


Criteria \ Options	Amenity		Environment				Technical			Economic			
	Recreational use	Access	Permissions, consents and licences	Archaeology and cultural heritage	Landscape	Ecological designations	Functionality - Flood and coastal erosion risk management	Constructability	Durability	Impact on coastal processes	Capital cost	Maintenance cost	External funding potential
0: Do minimum	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	N/A	Red	Yellow	£0	£0 to £50k	N/A
1: Periodic Beach Maintenance	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Red	Green	£0.5m to £1.5m	£0 to £0.5m	Low
2: Dune Regeneration	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	£100k to £500k	£0 to £5k	Low
3: Concrete wall and periodic beach maintenance	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	£400k to £600k	£300 to £400k	Medium
4: Rock cover layer	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	£100k to £200k	£TBD	Low
5: Sand Traps	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	£30k to £50k	£0 to £10k	Low
6: Breakwater Removal	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Red	Green	Red	£4m to £5m	£0	Low
7: Raised Walkway	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	£0.5m to £1.5m	£0 to £10k	Medium
8: Wall repairs / raising	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	£1m to £2m	£0 to £10k	Medium
9: Combined scheme	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Green	£2.4m	£0 to £20k	High

Both the Summary Report and the main BMP can be viewed in Appendix A, appended to this report.

- 4.14 During a Llandudno Coastal Forum meeting on the 22nd August 2017, forum members voted to support and approve the BMP and suggested assessment options as tabulated above. It was also proposed that CCBC should organise a drop in event for the general public to learn more about the BMP that has been developed for Llandudno before January 2018. This event would be attended by officers from CCBC, AECOM and members of Llandudno Coastal Forum. Finally, it was confirmed that Llandudno Coastal Forum members would now meet with officers from CDS to discuss and explore additional funding for recreational, beach amenity, tourism opportunities etc. that could help supplement coastal defence funding that is available through WG's Coastal Risk Management Programme.
- 4.15 CCBC now intend to seek further grant funding from Welsh Government to produce an Outline Business Case for scheme approval and capital investment. The Outline Business Case is the Welsh Government's process for assessing, in a structured way, the case for proceeding with a project, or the project's viability. It involves comparing various options, using economic appraisal to determine whether one the scheme options can be taken forward for construction. Consequently, it is felt that public consultation is necessary before proceeding with the options suggested within the BMP in order to establish that there is enough public support before investing additional resources into a scheme.
- 4.16 If the options for the management of the beaches at Llandudno suggested within the BMP are supported, approval will be sought to seek further funding from Welsh Government to proceed with the Outline Business Case which is likely, but not guaranteed to attract financial support through Welsh Government's Coastal Risk Management Programme.
- 4.17 Direction is required on whether Officers and Local Councillors should continue to attend future Llandudno Coastal Forum meetings upon completion and publication of the BMP. During Cabinet on the 9th June 2015 it was resolved that:
- (b) That Officers and Councillors continue to attend and support the Forum to develop further plans for the planned consultation event for West Shore for a limited period, not exceeding 3 months.*
- 4.18 Since 2014 CCBC officers and councillors have attended 38 Llandudno Coastal Forum meetings. All the meetings have been held on a weekday evening in the Town Hall, Llandudno. Subject to approval, it is suggested that ERF officers should now focus their attention on seeking funding to develop the Outline Business Case and only attend future Llandudno Coastal Forum meetings when specific items needs to be discussed and

shared by officers. It must however be noted that forum members have recently requested CDS officers to attend the forum to discuss other options and funding opportunities (other than coastal defence) to improve tourism, recreational activities etc. within the town. It is proposed that these discussions should continue to take place to explore the possibility of maximising potential funding opportunities that could be used to supplement the coastal defence grant that is available from Welsh Government.

4.19 Subject to approval and availability of funding, the draft outline programme for the next stage of work is as follows:

- Finalise and Publish BMP
 - Public Consultation on BMP
 - CDS and Llandudno Coastal Forum to explore other funding opportunities
 - Apply and Secure Grant Funding for Outline Business Case
 - Procure Consultant to Produce Outline Business Case
 - Production of Outline Business Case
 - Share Draft Outline Business Case with CCBC and Llandudno Coastal Forum
 - Finalise Outline Business Case
 - Public Consultation on Outline Business Case
- October 2017**
- 
- October 2018**

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 The Cabinet Member for Environment, Roads and Facilities attends the forum and has stated the following:

“This report shows the work and progress achieved by the coastal forum with support provided by officers and members over the last three years. I fully support the recommendations, in particular that we seek that funding for the next stage and that work to date and future options are displayed at public drop-in sessions in Llandudno.”

5.2 The Cabinet Member for Economy, Venue Cymru, Marketing and Events also attends the forum and has stated the following:

“This report and the new Beach Management plan shows what can be achieved through positive collaboration between members of the community and council officers. This is just step one in a long process but I am very hopeful that the final outcome will see our two beautiful beaches in Llandudno with improved beach surfaces and increased amenities for locals and tourists, as well as being the first line of defence to protect the Town from coastal flooding.”

- 5.3 In addition Cllr Frank Bradfield, Cllr Greg Robbins, Cllr Mike Priestley & Cllr Dave Cowans (former Portfolio Holder) and former Councillor Dewi Miles have all been a valuable part of the forum and have offered their support and views on numerous occasions.
- 5.4 Llandudno Coastal Forum includes various stakeholders from Llandudno who have been very proactive in providing their views and support towards new beach management proposals.
- 5.5 A presentation has been given to Cabinet Members to update them on the work that has been carried out by Llandudno Coastal Forum. Members were very supportive of the work

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The funding of the BMP and Conwy Tidal Flood Risk Assessment has been provided by the Welsh Government through its Coastal Risk Management Programme.
- 6.2 Officer time will be required to progress with public consultation if supported through the democratic process.
- 6.3 If approved grant applications will be submitted to Welsh Government for further works through Welsh Government's Coastal Risk Management Programme.

7. RISK

- 7.1 Some of the options and recommendations within the BMP may not be supported by members of the general public.
- 7.2 Further funding to progress with the next stages of work is not guaranteed.

8. DRIVERS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Links to the Corporate Plan and Risk Register
 - Outcome 2 - People in Conwy are safe and feel safe
 - Outcome 3 - People in Conwy live in safe and appropriate housing
 - Outcome 4 - People in Conwy are healthy and independent
 - Outcome 5 - People in Conwy live in a County which has a thriving economy
 - Outcome 6 - People in Conwy live in a sustainable environment
 - Outcome 8 - People in Conwy are informed, included and listened to

8.2 Impact on the Building Resilient Communities and Tackling Poverty agenda

8.2.1 Prosperous Communities - The BMP identifies alternative beach management options in addition to the flood protection benefits already provided to maintain a viable community and ensure insurance against flood risk is available and affordable. There may be an opportunity to increase tourism revenue to the community but the capacity for realising these benefits must also be appraised.

8.2.2 Healthier Communities – Improvements to access of the beaches promotes a more active and healthier lifestyle.

8.3 Equality Implications

8.3.1 As this is an update, an Equality Impact Assessment is not necessary at this stage. Access to the beach has been raised as a major issue under the present management. Improvements to access for all is therefore a key driver in seeking alternative options. A full Equality Impact Assessment will be carried out to determine the best approach to adopt during the outline design stage.

8.4 Sustainability Implications

8.4.1 Current beach management at North Shore requires regular maintenance works and unpopular replenishment works when trigger levels are met. Any replacement scheme should therefore minimise maintenance works and also provide a defence which is resilient to and / or can be adapted to meet the pressures of climate change and sea level rise. The BMP has identified the requirement to address the future flood risk on the coastal frontages at West Shore and North Shore to accommodate future sea level rise as anticipated.

8.5 Biodiversity Implications

8.5.1 None at present.

8.6 Effect/Impact on existing policies and procedures

8.6.1 The BMP assesses the feasibility for alternative beach management options. Until any appropriate alternative is put in place it has been resolved that the current management procedure is necessary to maintain the standard of flood defence. Any alternative scheme should also meet the Shoreline Management Plan policy of “Hold the Line”.

9. PUBLICATION

- 9.1 It is proposed that the BMP is publicised on the Conwy County Borough Council and Llandudno Coastal Forum website.

10. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 10.1 To provide an update on the work carried out to develop a BMP for Llandudno.
- 10.2 To seek support to submit a grant application to Welsh Government to develop an Outline Business Case for the beaches of Llandudno.
- 10.3 To keep the public up to date on the work carried out by Llandudno Coastal Forum.
- 10.4 To keep Llandudno Coastal Forum members updated on the development of the Outline Business Case and explore all possible funding opportunities to help supplement the Coastal Risk Management Programme funding that is available from Welsh Government.

11. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- 12.1 The Economy & Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee supported the recommendations within the report.

12. REPORT REVIEW GROUP (RRG) COMMENTS

- 11.1 RRG supported the recommendations within the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS	LOCATION	WEBSITE INFO.
Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes 7 th July 2014	CCBC Intranet	http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=452&MId=4100
Cabinet Minutes 8 th July 2014	CCBC Intranet	http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=171&MId=4136
Llandudno Coastal Forum Website – provides information including Llandudno Coastal Forum Minutes	Internet	www.llandudnocoastalforum.co.uk
Submitted Consultation Questionnaires	CCBC and Llandudno	N/A
Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes 4 th June 2015	CCBC Intranet	http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=452&MId=4519
Cabinet Minutes 9 th June 2015	CCBC Intranet	http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=171&MId=4629
Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 17 th December 2015/ Cabinet 12 th January 2016	CCBC Intranet	http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=451&MId=4518 http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=171&MId=4864

Appendix A

Beach Management Plan Summary Document
Beach Management Plan Report