

North Norfolk Coastal Change Pathfinder: Summary

Background

On 1 December 2009 NNDC was awarded a £3 million grant to develop new ways of managing the impacts of coastal change on our coastal communities. NNDC applied to become a 'Coastal Change Pathfinder' in September in response to the Government's Coastal Change Policy published in June 2009. Even though NNDC's bid was for £5.78 million, this award is regarded as a major success – being the largest amongst the fifteen successful authorities.

Implementing these pilot projects will directly benefit our local coastal communities and will also help to demonstrate solutions to the complex challenges likely to be faced in the future, both in North Norfolk and elsewhere. It is however important to remember that the pathfinder will not solve all the coastal change issues our communities face, but it will go some way to help those communities and shape the future of government coastal policies.

Project Outline

The projects being delivered under the Pathfinder programme include:

Projects	Description
Happisburgh Whole Settlement Package	
Cliff top Enhancement Project	To create a buffer of open land along the cliff top in Happisburgh incorporating the provision of a new car park, public conveniences, beach access, cliff top paths and to look to secure new locations for threatened infrastructure.
Removal/relocation of dwellings most imminently at risk (within the first SMP Epoch – up to 2025)	Develop and deliver a method of purchasing properties at greatest risk on Beach Road, Happisburgh and meet the needs of the owners.
Property Acquisition for Lease Back Project	Investigate, develop and deliver a method of purchasing properties at medium risk in Happisburgh and leasing them back to existing occupiers or to find new uses.
Happisburgh Beach Debris Removal Project	To improve the beach environment at Happisburgh by the careful removal of beach debris following community discussion.
Coastal Heritage Project	Enable the local community of Happisburgh to understand, record and manage the impacts of coastal change on heritage and record their own story.
Manor Farm	Work with the owner of Manor Farm Caravan Park,

Caravan Site Project	Happisburgh at assessing the options and constraints to relocating or adapting the existing business to the changing coastline. Should an appropriate option be available, the project will aid in the initial relocation.
Business Support Package	
Business Advice Project	Provide initial business diagnostic advice, agree an action plan, provide specialist advice and prepare a business plan for businesses operating within the 100 year erosion epoch. The advice may later be made more widely available to specific parishes.
Business Adaptation/Relocation Projects	Businesses who have completed a business plan from the business advice project may then apply for further assistance to aid in implementing their adaptation or relocation.
Business Investment Projects	Businesses who have completed a business plan from the business advice project may then apply for further assistance in investment opportunities.
East Norfolk Tourism Marketing Project	To develop a marketing plan for the East Norfolk Coast and identify beneficial activities to promote the area. To investigate and develop opportunities for business to operate co-operatively.
Infrastructure Package	
Trimingham Village Hall Project	Assisting with the relocation of Trimingham Village Hall
Cromer Path Project	To realign the Marram's path between Runton Road car park and Cromer town centre where it has been closed due to instability in the cliff.
Beeston Beach Debris Removal Project	To improve the beach environment and improve access at high water between Cromer and Sheringham by the careful removal of beach debris.
Salthouse Car Park Project	Assist interested organisations in appraising the options available in retaining car parking facilities in Salthouse.
Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Project	
Private Contribution for Flood Defence Project	To devise a mechanism for securing private contributions towards coastal flood defences at Wolferton Creek.

Communication and community involvement

Every effort will be made to keep local communities and other interested parties informed about the Pathfinder projects and to involve them in their implementation, where appropriate, in order to:

- ensure that the projects remain focused on the stated community outcomes;
- gain ownership of those outcomes amongst those most affected; and
- assist in the implementation and monitoring and of the project interventions.

Information about the programme is published on NNDC's website and monthly newsletters are being produced and distributed within the District. Public open days, workshops and other events will be a key feature of many of the projects.

Process

The following diagram sets out the process by which the Pathfinder is being managed

