

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Subject:	Mount Edgumbe Coastal Defence Works
Committee:	Mount Edgumbe Joint Committee
Date:	8 July 2016
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Jordan Plymouth City Council Councillor Duffin Cornwall Council
CMT Member:	Antony Payne (Strategic Director for Place, Plymouth City Council) Peter Marsh (Head of Commissioning and Asset Management)
Author:	Jon James, Natural Environment Manager Cornwall Council
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Ref:	ME
Key Decision:	No
Part:	I

Purpose of the report:

The report is to provide the Mount Edgumbe Joint Committee progress to date on the Coast defence works between Cremyll Quay and Garden Battery Beach Sea Wall.

The Co-operative Council Corporate Plan 2013/14 -2016/17:

Plymouth City Council:

This monitoring report links to delivering the priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan.

Cornwall Council:

Corporate Business Plan Priorities 2016/2020 will include:

- Stewardship of our Assets
 - Partners Working Together
 - Healthier and Safer
 - Engaging our Communities
 - Driving the Economy
 - Essentials for Living
-

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

The works are estimated to be in the region £600,000 and we are progressing a funding bid to the Environment Agency through their Flood Defence Grant in AID (FDGiA) which if successful should secure up to 50% of the required funding and remainder of the funds will need to be funded through Cornwall Council's and Plymouth City Council's Capital Programme.

Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:

There has been significant damage to the Cremyll Quay which has been stabilised using rock armour so as to prevent further deterioration and erosion, the Cremyll Slipway is being monitored and the sea walls between the Cremyll Slipway and Garden Battery Beach have had temporary repairs to prevent further erosion. Where areas have been considered a risk to the public, the site has been temporary repaired and or closed to the public (Cremyll Quay has been closed to the public).

Equality and Diversity

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? No

Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:

It is recommended that the Joint Committee notes the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

Published work / information:

None

Background papers:

None

Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin		Leg		Mon Off		HR		Assets		IT		Strat Proc	
Originating SMT Member													
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? No													

1.0 Introduction

Following the 2013/14 winter storm the Devon and Cornwall coastline suffered significant storm damage, which impacted on the coastline and sea defences. Both authorities received funding from the Government / Environment Agency to carry out repairs to a number of coast defences with the majority of the works being completed during the 2015/16 financial year. To give you an indication of the level of funding and scale of damage which occurred, Cornwall received circa £11 million towards its coast defence works. However a number of schemes did not meet the timescale for the first programme or the damage to the coastline was not identified in sufficient time to submit a bid to the Government/Environment Agency.

Cornwall Council is now submitting a second round of funding applications for sea defence/coast protection works through the Flood Defence Grant in Aid process (FDGiA) which is managed by the Environment Agency.

2.0 Update

In July 2015 Cornwall Council submitted a summary application to the Environment Agency towards the phase 2 projects, which included sea defence works along the coastline between Cremyll Quay and Garden Battery Beach, the applications were based on the information available at the time. Following the application the EA have requested further information on a number of project which included works along the Mount Edgcumbe Estate coastline. To enable us to provide the required information it has been necessary for us to carry out Project Appraisal Report (PAR), which will be submitted as part of the application to the EA.

We have appointed Royal Haskoning to prepare the PAR and this is due to be completed by mid-July. Early indications have shown there may not be sufficient residential properties requiring protection by the sea defences, therefore the economics are being focused around loss of visitors to the park, the ferry and associated infrastructure. The consultant is still developing a business case based around a 50% EA contribution from the FDGiA.

Works carried out to date to prevent any further erosion or deterioration have taken place which include the installation of rock armour at Cremyll Quay (the material can be reused in the main works), monitoring of the Cremyll Slipway Quay wall, temporary repair works to the sea wall between Cremyll Slipway and Garden Battery Beach.

The works to the Cremyll Quay will be constrained by the tides as the mean low tide level is close to the base of the wall, providing extremely limited working time. A method of construction utilising a form of cofferdam will need to be one of the options assessed as part of the options appraisal, and associated pricing. The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) will need to be consulted on this and the design.

The works are also constrained by the existing access to the beach; access methods for plant will need to be considered. In conjunction with this, land ownership details for the surrounding area need to be clarified.

The area is also within a Conservation Area, Area of Special Advertisement Control, Area of Great Landscape Value, Area of Great Historic Value and Special Area of Conservation.

The design and feasibility works are currently underway, with a view to tendering the works during September. Subject to securing the EA funding and all the necessary statutory approvals being in place it is anticipated that the works will commence in December 2016.

3.0 Risks

We have estimated that the project costs for the Cremyll Quay, Creyll Slipway Quay and sea wall works will be circa £600,000. We are working on the basis that we will secure around 50% of the funding through the EA's FDGiA funding stream, but this will be dependent upon how robust a business case we can present due to the small number of properties which would be protected and if the EA consider our economic argument around the Cremyll Ferry and tourism/visitors is sufficiently strong enough argument.

The original cost estimates provided may not prove to be sufficient to carryout all the required works once we have the scheme designed and costed and therefore we would need to value engineer the works or prioritise which works are carried out.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Joint Committee notes the report.