

ANGUS COUNCIL

ROADS COMMITTEE

27 NOVEMBER 1997

COASTAL PROTECTION - UPDATE

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR

ABSTRACT

This Report gives an update on the progress of proposed coast protection works at Carnoustie and Monifieth Beaches together with a recommendation for the establishment of a Coastal Protection Co-ordinating Group for Angus.

1 RECOMMENDATION:-

It is recommended that the Committee agree to:-

- (i) note the content of the works update reports for Carnoustie and Monifieth.
- (ii) instruct the Director of Roads to take the initiative in assembling a Coastal Protection Co-ordinating Group to co-ordinate an approach to protection and monitoring work between adjacent Councils and national coast protection forum and others as may be appropriate.

2 INTRODUCTION

Approval to proceed with coastal protection measures at Carnoustie and Monifieth (part) was given by the Roads Committee on 24 April 1997 (Report No. 461/97). The

overall coastal erosion situation for Angus was described in Report No 696/96 approved by the Roads Committee on 29 August 1996.

There is a need to re-establish a coastal protection co-ordinating group to co-ordinate an approach to protection and monitoring work between adjacent Councils and recently established national coast protection forums as well as private parties likely to have an interest in a strategic approach to coastal erosion.

3 **DETAILS**

3.1 **CARNOUSTIE BEACH**

The contract for the works described in Report No. 461/97 has been awarded to Tayside Contracts and the official start date was Monday 10 November 1997. The main works consist of the strengthening and heightening of the existing rock armour revetment between the Barry Burn and the MOD firing ranges.

Since the report in April a problem with damaged gabion baskets in the centre section of the beach has occurred and following a detailed survey the work to repair this damage has been included in the contract. These gabion baskets are going to have an ongoing maintenance requirement as plastic protection to the wires in the baskets is being stripped off as abrasive beach material is swept up onto the revetment by the sea.

The revised cost of the works including engineering/administration costs is now £82,000 due to the additional gabion repair work.

3.2 **MONIFIETH BEACH**

Tenders have been received for the protection works at Monifieth which are to be partly funded from revenue and partly from capital. Details on the cost of the work and the tender recommendation are the subject of a separate report to the Committee.

The revenue works consist of repairs to backshore lateral groynes and groyne repairs in front of the Council Caravan Park together with beach ramp repairs and strengthening to the rock armour revetment adjacent to Marine Drive. Capital works are for the reforming and strengthening of the rip-rap revetment between the Council Caravan site and the MOD firing ranges.

The works should commence early in January 1998.

3.3 COASTAL PROTECTION CO-ORDINATING GROUP

From 1988 Tayside Regional Council promoted a Coast Protection Co-ordinating Group as a forum for officers from adjoining Regions, District Councils, Scottish Natural Heritage and others with specific coastal interests meeting together twice a year to discuss relevant aspects of coast protection.

The specific functions carried out by the Group were:-

- the exchange of technical information
- communication of each authority's policy and programme in relation to coastal protection
- to organise a monitoring programme of beach profiling throughout the region
- monitor and report on effectiveness of existing sea defence measures
- determine when further research is required in critical areas as revealed by the monitoring programme
- comment on detailed proposals as submitted by individual members
- gather information from other relevant authorities and the SOID
- investigate all possible sources of finance available

The Group proved highly beneficial and enhanced co-operation between the various authorities to their mutual benefit.

There is still the requirement to carry out the above functions together with a need to liaise with the recently established Scottish Coastal Forum as well as the soon to be formed Firth of Tay Forum. The Government wishes coastal protection issues in Scotland to be taken forward by voluntary groupings. These provide a good basis for discussion and consultation and as an interface with Councils acting as Coast Protection Authorities and this will be a key area when actual works are required. The Co-ordinating Group will benefit Councils by providing a wider background of knowledge and experience in relating to the voluntary forums and provide a consistency of approach where this is required.

The Scottish Coastal Forum was established by the Scottish Office further to one of the recommendations from the discussion paper "Scotland's Coasts" in April 1996.

SNH have initiated the "Firths' Fora" to bring together in a voluntary grouping all the stakeholders and interested parties in promoting better management of discrete coastal areas such as the Firths. The Solway, Forth, Moray and Cromarty Firth Projects have all been underway for sometime and an inaugural meeting for the Firth of Tay Project has been arranged for 18 December in Dundee.

It is recommended that officers from Aberdeenshire Council, Dundee City Council and Fife Council be invited to join Angus Council officers as part of the Angus Coast Protection Co-ordinating Group along with SNH and others with a major interest in coast protection issues affecting the Angus Coastline.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of servicing the Coast Protection Co-ordinating Group which will not be significant can be met at present from the Revenue Block Heading for Coast Protection. No other financial implications other than as reported elsewhere arise from this Report.

5 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Law and Administration, Director of Finance and Director of Planning Transport and Economic Development have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 CONCLUSION

To build on the previous benefits of cross boundary co-operation in line with natural coastal cell boundaries it is suggested that a Coast Protection Co-ordinating Group should be set up for Angus. This will also give a broader platform for dealing with other national and local coastal forums in progressing better management of the rich and varied heritage that is the Angus Coastline.

Dr B McLellan
Director of Roads

NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Report No. 696/96 - Coastal Erosion - Angus Coastline - approved by the Roads Committee on 29 August 1996.

Report No.461/97 - Coastal Erosion - Carnoustie - Situation Summary Report approved by the Roads Committee on 24 April 1997.

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