

# Frequently asked questions

- **Why do we need a new strategy?**

The Lincshore project started in 1994 and has provided flood risk management to homes and businesses in the area for over 20 years. We are now reviewing the coastal strategy to cover a larger area between Salftfleet to Gibraltar Point.
- **Does beach nourishment work?**

Beach nourishment is a tried and tested approach which has performed very well over many years to manage coastal flood risk. It forms part of all six options being considered for the long-term strategy. It is expected that this approach will continue as a stand-alone approach until such time trigger points indicate alternative measures are required.
- **What is a trigger point?**

Environmental factors, local requirements, legislation and money all act as trigger points. Trigger points will indicate when something needs to change. Example: when future sea level rise creates greater sand losses requiring a change in approach.
- **If groynes help keep sand on the beach, why were the wooden ones taken out?**

The Lincolnshire coast used to have a number of wooden groynes in place to control sand movement. During the 1970s/80s however, these proved ineffective as sand was continuously stripped from the beaches despite their presence. As sand volumes increase, we need larger structures which can be easily adapted to control movement. There are a number of groynes that still remain along the stretch of beach from Natureland seal sanctuary up to the North end of North Shore Gold Course. This area naturally retains sand, for this reason groynes have been left in place as they still remain effective.
- **What role does sand play on the beaches?**

Sand on the beach acts as a wide defence and helps to protect sea defences (the seawall) and the supporting foundation clay layer underneath. This effectively reduces water depths and the impact of wave action at the seawall. If we did not recharge the beaches with sand we would see the sand being stripped away exposing the clay layer which undermines the stability of the main defences thus leading to potential failure.
- **Will you need to improve the seawall?**

The seawall is vitally important in managing coastal flood risk and will require maintenance and improvement in adaption to sea level rise. This will depend on trigger points, indicating when a change is needed.
- **Why is this a Flood risk strategy only?**

This strategy covers almost 40kms of coastline with a large expansive flood cell reaching up to 15kms inland. The management of coastal flood risk is a priority for Lincolnshire as without it the landscape it supports and enhances would not be able to function in its current form. Therefore, it is vitally important we focus on the coast. We are working in partnership with other risk management authorities to provide additional benefits as a result of this strategy.
- **Why do you only nourish the beaches in zone B.**

Where a natural coastal process provides a sediment supply to grow the coastline which does not require intervention to manage (currently zones A & C). We will continue to monitor **all** zones until trigger points dictate a review of the strategy.
- **What is the current policy for managing the coast?**

Shoreline Management Plans (SMP) set the Policy intent of how all coastlines should be managed. They are partnership documents which were reviewed in 2010, and the plan covering this strategy area is within the Humber Estuary Coastal Authority Group (HECAG) SMP. The aim of this strategy is to meet the policy aspiration of 'Hold the Line and keep pace with climate change' in the short to medium term (i.e. at least until 2055). It should be noted

however that longer term (beyond 2055) the SMP highlights that limited 'managed realignment may be required in local areas.

- **What is managed realignment?**

Managed realignment involves the setting back of the present flood defence to a new line further inland thus creating a buffer zone which can reduce wave energy, sediment transport and erosion, and provides a more stable defence line. The process can also promote more inter-tidal habitat.