

LGA Coastal SIG Forward Work Plan 2022/23



Our 5 Strategic Priorities and Underpinning Objectives for 2022/23

1. We are a resilient hub for knowledge sharing and innovation

- Secure sustainable long-term income
- Better understand and utilise our members' skills and networks
- Enable collaboration and innovation within and beyond our membership
- Share best practice, skills and opportunities

2. We are the trusted, go-to voice for the coast with a powerful political influence

- Respected by key contacts: government, influencers, external bodies
- Become the go-to voice on coastal matters
- Raise profile of the SIG, the coast and our asks to generate the impact we seek

3. We champion sustainable for the coastal communities we serve

- Working towards year-round sustainable economies
- Ensuring safe and clean seaside leisure
- Support sustainable growth in marine and maritime sectors

4. We champion coastal resilience and adaptation in a changing climate

- Achieve national and local recognition of coastal management challenges and opportunities in creating a resilient coast
- Identify existing and new routes to support strategic delivery of coastal resilience and adaptation
- Take an evidence-based approach to support our coastal resilience and adaptation work
- Share learning and ensure collaborative opportunities between member authorities, partners and government

5. We champion sufficient and sustainable funding for our coast and communities

- Sharing of experience, expertise and opportunities across the SIG
- Influence decision-makers to improve funding provision for the coast and communities
 - Investigate, catalyse and enable funding innovation, including provision of seed funding

SIG Secretariat, Member Champions and Officer Leads, March 2022 (updated June 2022)

SIG Secretariat	Lead Officer	Project Officer
	Beccy MacDonald-Lofts	
Work Themes	Member Champion	Officer Lead
Coastal Communities	Cllr Ernest Gibson	Beccy MacDonald-Lofts
Coastal Adaptation	Cllr Angie Fitch-Tillett	Karen Thomas
FCERM Funding & Policy	Cllr Tom Ashton	Paul Mackie
Beach & Water Safety	Cllr Derek Bastiman	Sharon Blease
Fishing & Marine	Cllr Mark Roberts	Beccy MacDonald-Lofts
Coastal Water Quality	Cllr Jane Hugo	Clare Nolan-Barnes
Coastal Landfill	Cllr Nick Laws	Mark Stratton
Suicide Prevention	Cllr David Jeffels	N/A
Visitor Behaviour	Cllr Carole Mulroney	Southend Council provided

Working Groups, March 2022

- Adaptation
- Beach & Water Safety
- FCERM Funding & Policy
- Coastal Landfill
- Coastal Water Quality
- Subscriptions

These working groups are open to all SIG Members and officers.
Contact lqacoastalsig@southtyneside.gov.uk for more information.

Abbreviations/Acronyms

APPG	All-Party Parliamentary Group
CLIFF	Coastal Loss Innovative Funding and Financing (project)
EA	Environment Agency
FCERM	Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
LGA	Local Government Association
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
SIG	Special Interest Group
SIGSOG	Special Interest Group Senior Officers Group
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan
WG	Working Group

LGA Coastal SIG – Forward Work Plan 2022/23

Strategic Priority as identified through consultation			
Objective	Action	Owner	When
1. We are a resilient hub for knowledge sharing and innovation			
Secure sustainable long-term income	Run a webinar for non-member councils showcasing the value of SIG membership. Members asked to invite non-member neighbour councils, details will be sent by Secretariat.	Secretariat with support from all members.	Q3
	Explore external funding options, particularly for support to deliver improved internal and external communications.	Secretariat	Q2
	Recommence the review of the subscriptions model and present recommendations in June for comment and at the September AGM for approval.	Subscriptions Working Group	Q1-2
Better understand and utilise our members' skills and networks	Offer an introductory induction webinar for new Members and Officers, including a way for us to capture their skills and interests, and raise awareness of the SIG and how they can contribute. Record this and put on the website.	Secretariat	Q1-2
	Review the skills and networks of Members/Officers annually	Secretariat	Q2
	Members and officers to contribute to working groups, consultation responses and calls for information from the Secretariat	Members and Officers	Q1-4
	Support Champions and Officer Leads to fulfil their roles and undertake quarterly gap analysis of need	Lead Officer	Q1-4
Enable collaboration and innovation within and beyond our membership	Maintain existing topical working groups to facilitate collaboration, so far as the need still exists	Officer Leads	Q1-4
	Maintain effective partnership working with other coastal partners, including Coastal Group Network and through the OneCoast Coalition and Coastal Based Approach Steering Group, building on the outputs of the Championing Coastal Coordination national project and ensuring we add value.	Lead Officer	Q1-4

	Create an organogram of SIG governance structure and that of our partner organisations, building on the outputs of the Championing Coastal Coordination national project.	Secretariat	Q1/2
Share best practice, skills and opportunities	Organise an annual field trip to showcase best practice and encourage collaboration and relationship building	Cllr Tom Ashton with support from Secretariat	Q1-3
	Maximise meeting attendance (Members, Officers, key external contacts) by offering hybrid meetings, varying the location of meetings and holding at least one virtual meeting per year	Secretariat	Q1-4
	Exemplar thinking and practice to be showcased at quarterly SIG and SIGSOG meetings. All suggestions welcome and Members encouraged to make use of Members updates and discussion slots at SIG meetings and Officers to make use of equivalent at SIGSOG meetings	Secretariat and all members	Q1-4
	Working groups to collate/create relevant case studies for Secretariat to share across membership	Working groups	Q1-4
	All to share relevant opportunities and information with the Secretariat to circulate across membership	All members	Q1-4
	Explore the potential of a member's area of the new SIG website as a repository of resources and place for knowledge sharing	Secretariat	Q1-2
	2. We are the trusted, go-to voice for the coast with a powerful political influence		
Respected by key contacts: government, influencers, external bodies	Manage (joint) Secretariat function of the Coastal Communities APPG as a key vehicle for political advocacy	Secretariat	Q1-4
	Work with central government to create a cross-departmental Coastal Taskforce and if successful, input.	Lead Officer	Q1-2
	Continue to advocate for a Minister for Coast / Coastal Communities	Chair	Q1-4
Become the go-to voice on coastal matters	Using outputs from APPG Inquiry, produce a new "Our Coast Matters" report which supersedes position statements to form a briefing to use ahead of General Election Manifesto development.	Lead Officer with support from Officer Leads	Q4

	Nurture or, where needed establish, strategic relationships at Defra, DLUHC, MMO, EA, Association of IFCA's and Maritime UK.	Lead Officer and Chair	Q1-4
	Establish/nurture relationships with relevant Defra and DLUHC Ministers and their staff	Chair and Member Champions	Q2-3
	Input to relevant consultations and provide oral/written evidence	Secretariat / Champions / Officer Leads with input from all members	Q1-4
Raise profile of the SIG, the coast and our asks to generate the impact we seek	Phased refresh of SIG website, including creation of pages showcasing the working groups.	Project Officer	Q1
	Continue to grow our Twitter presence to engage in real-time with Parliamentarians and journalists	Secretariat	Q1-4
	Establish/nurture relationships with influential media contacts	Secretariat	Q1-4
	Attend and seek to present at relevant events and conferences, e.g. Flood and Coast, Coastal Futures	Lead Officer / Champions / Officer Leads	Q1-4
3. We champion sustainable regeneration for the coastal communities we serve			
Working towards year-round sustainable economies	Work to ensure levelling up agenda delivers this objective, engaging with the Coastal Taskforce (if created), alternatively with component departments and sector bodies.	Lead Officer with support from Fiona Johnson	Q1-4
	Nurture collaborative relationships with Coastal Communities Alliance and National Coastal Tourism Academy, building an understanding of how we add value to their work in this area.	Lead Officer	Q1-4
	Build understanding of LGA work on regeneration and better understand where/how we add value	Lead Officer	Q2
	Revisit plans for Year of the Coast with OneCoast partners (previously delayed due to pandemic), including exploring funding opportunities for development capacity	Lead Officer	Q1-2
Ensuring safe and clean seaside leisure	Information gathering to build a better understanding of current policy context, direction and opportunities relating to coastal water quality.	Clare Nolan-Barnes / Water Quality WG	Q1-2

	Pending this process, secure local government representation in EA Bathing Water decision-making process.	Cllr Jane Hugo, with a volunteer to represent group to follow if successful	Q3-4
	Build relationship with EA Director, David Dangerfield and Cllr Hugo. Organise a meeting in Q1	Cllr Jane Hugo with support from SIG Secretariat / technical support from Clare Nolan-Barnes	Q1-
	Build relationship with Defra Director with the responsibility for bathing water quality and Cllr Hugo. Organise a meeting in Q1	Cllr Jane Hugo with support from SIG Secretariat / technical support from Clare Nolan-Barnes	Q1-
	Organise a session for the Coastal Communities APPG on coastal water quality, query engagement with Ocean APPG/SAS	Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Joanne Matthews plus 1 officer – please volunteer	tbc
	Build relationship with Ofwat. Organise a meeting in Q1 with Cllr Hugo	Cllr Jane Hugo with support from SIG Secretariat / technical support from officers	Q1-
	Continue to attend the National Bathing Waters Group and Comms Group, sharing upcoming campaigns and opportunities with SIG members	Clare Nolan-Barnes with support from Secretariat	Q1-4
	Ensure collaboration and regular knowledge sharing between Water Quality and Beach & Water Safety Groups	Clare Nolan Barnes / Sharon Bleese	Q1-4
	Continue to engage with the National Water Safety Forum and capitalise/identify opportunities to support campaigns and initiatives to promote beach and water safety, including on the issue of personal watercraft.	Cllr Derek Bastiman / Sharon Bleese	Q1-4
	Explore opportunities to present to the SOLACE Forum of local authority CEOs on the Group's objectives around beach and water safety, seeking support and identifying areas of concern.	Cllr Derek Bastiman / Sharon Bleese	Q3

	Organise an evidence session on beach and water safety, including personal watercraft licensing, for the Coastal Communities APPG	Cllr Derek Bastiman and Sharon Bleese with support from Secretariat	Q3-4
	Support the ongoing work towards a common approach to beach/coastal signage, working with the National Water Safety Forum and other partners	Beach & Water Safety WG, lead tbc	Q1-4
	Review and share best practice and learnings across the SIG to help reduce preventable deaths and injuries, including from cliff falls and drowning, sensitively exploring the issue of suicide prevention, at the coast and promoting LGA Suicide Prevention Sector-led improvement programme	Cllr Derek Bastiman and Sharon Bleese SP - Cllr David Jeffels / support from officer volunteer?	Q1-4
	Review the findings of the "Visitor Survey" from 2021/22 and agree actions	Cllr Carole Mulroney / support from officer volunteer?	
Support sustainable growth in marine and maritime sectors	Nurture collaborative relationship with the Association of IFCAs and other relevant marine partners	Cllr Mark Roberts	Q1-4
	Promote the Motion for the Ocean and encourage all member authorities to adapt it to local circumstances. Share learning between member authorities that have passed the motion including an up-to-date page on the SIG website.	Chair / Secretariat	Q1-2
	Nurture collaborative relationship with Maritime UK, including on mutually-beneficial advocacy	Lead Officer	Q1-4
4. We champion coastal resilience and adaptation in a changing climate			
Achieve national and local recognition of coastal management challenges and	Input into Coastal Taskforce, if successful, and organise a session for Coastal Communities APPG on coastal resilience and adaptation, including discussion on coastal landfill. The outputs of this session will feed into "Our Coast Matters" report.	Karen Thomas / Paul Mackie / Mark Stratton with support from APPG Secretariat	Q2-3
	Consider the need for a review in coastal legislation, notably the Coastal Protection Act but also wider supporting legislation, working with new Defra funded adaptation projects.	Adaptation WG, lead to be assigned, volunteers welcome	Q4

opportunities in creating a resilient coast	Support delivery of the FCERM Action Plan outcomes 2022/23, liaising with the EA to ensure best use of limited resources.	Lead Officer	Q1-4
	Influence EA-led programmes and projects to embed adaptation, including Coastal Handbook, Roles and Responsibilities document, Review of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Assets (FD2730)	Lead Officer	Q1-4
	Engage and co-ordinate with the Coastal Groups Network 'Call to Arms' Groups, taking an integrated approach to make best use of limited capacity	SIG officer leads / CGN CTA leads	Q1-4
	Input to a workshop at Flood and Coast on why coast matters and opportunities in creating a resilient coast. (Can reuse/adapt for APPG). Ensure working group pages on SIG website are up-to-date ahead of F&C to signpost to.	Officer Leads with support from Secretariat	Q1
	Engage with Innovative Resilience and Adaptive Pathways Programmes, capture issues and opportunities from LGA Coastal SIG membership and feed into Pilots. Involve the membership of the SIG through workshops etc to share early learning. Engage with Defra and EA to understand the national governance structure for these programmes and the potential role for the adaptation WG and wider SIG within this.	Karen Thomas / Lead Officer	Q2-4
	Develop Position Statement on coastal landfill and input into evidence session for APPG.	Mark Stratton / Landfill WG with support from Secretariat	Q2-4
	Engage with EA and Defra on funding relating to adaptation and coastal landfill	Paul Mackie / Mark Stratton	Q1
	Engage with EA and Defra on environmental improvements	Paul Mackie	Q2
	Engage with LGA, DLUHC and Defra on allowance within current policy for access to central government funding facilities for capital and revenue asset maintenance / upgrade.	Paul Mackie	Q4
Identify existing and new routes to support strategic delivery of coastal resilience and adaptation			

Take an evidence-based approach to support our coastal resilience and adaptation work	Information gathering via wider SIG network and CGN network on coastal landfill issue. Issue questionnaire currently in draft and review data collected.	Mark Stratton and Landfill WG with support from Secretariat	Q1-2
	Our 2021/22 WG identified the following needs and studies needed on;		
	Establishing policy for biodiversity net gain (FCERMAcPlan1.1.1) for coastal protection and erosion frontages and linkages to Local Nature Recovery Plans (FCERMAcPlan1.4.5) Action: continue to raise the issue with EA National team	Richard Jackson T&F Lead Identify opportunities	Q1-4
	Action: look to FCRIP programme pilots for opportunities to explore these issues and natural capital of eroding frontages	Karen Thomas to share proposals for the CPE FCRIP pilot	Q1
	Supporting EA on planning and development policy	T&FG leads Alan Frampton Rob Goodliffe	Q1
	Action: share good practice at Adaptation WG	AF- share theCCMA work	Q1
	Action: share the scope of FCRIP pilots with Adaptation WG for discussion and identify opportunities to develop good practice and share learning.	FCRIP leads	Q2-4
Engage with EA-led research into mental health and changing coasts.	Volunteer needed	Q2	

	<p>Look into coastal viability as recommended in CCC report</p>	Volunteer needed	Q3
	<p>Adaptive Communication and engagement – CPE Action utilise the FCRIP CPE Pilot for Behavioural Change as a vehicle to share learning throughout SIG</p>	T&F Lead Sam Box with Sophie and Sharon Bleese	Q2-4
	<p>Historic assets Action: to share learning on pilots in Lewes and ESCoast Partners to ensure we understand the issues and opportunities of managing coastal assets with historical value. Action: Consider any recommendations for further work to support the funding and adaptation of historic coastal management assets.</p>	Sam Box and Tim Bartlett	Q1-4
	<p>Innovative Funding and Finance- Action: Share recommendations of the Coastal Losses Innovative Funding and Finance Project report Action: Develop the recommendations from CLIFF alongside wider adaptation funding mechanisms through the FCRIP programme.</p>	T&F Leads Paul Mackie and Rob Goodliffe	Q1-4
	<p>Integrated Infrastructure Investment and Resilient Assets Action: Develop IIIAR approaches in the FCRIP programme Action: Share learning with the Adaptation WG and wider LGA Coastal SIG.</p>	T&F leads Karen and Paul	Q2-4
Share learning and ensure collaborative opportunities between member authorities, partners and government	<p>Share work of working groups and seek steer at quarterly SIG and SIGSOG meetings.</p>	Member Champions / Officer Leads	Q1-4
	<p>Work with EA and Defra to understand how learning into and back out of the IRF/adaptation pathways programmes will be shared.</p>	Officer Lead for Adaptation	Q1-2

5. We champion sufficient and sustainable funding for our coast and communities

Sharing of experience, expertise and opportunities across the SIG	Members and officers to share opportunities and achievements with membership via Secretariat and at SIG/SIGSOG meetings	All	Q1-4
Influence decision-makers to improve funding provision for the coast and communities	If created, ensure the Coastal Taskforce considers these issues in line with levelling up agenda. Organise evidence session on funding for APPG. Explore tourism angle to FCERM funding.	Lead Officer, Paul Mackie and Fiona Johnson	Q2-3
Investigate, catalyse and enable funding innovation, including provision of seed funding	Maintain SIG Seed Funding Policy	Secretariat	Q1-4