

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Appendix C – Consultation & Engagement



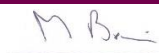
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Contents

1	CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT.....	1
	C1.1 Introduction.....	1
	C1.2 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	1
	C1.3 The Stakeholders	1
	C1.4 Engagement Events.....	2
	C1.6 Summary of Feedback.....	4

Tables

Table C1-1	SMP Stage and Consultation Summary	3
Table C1-2	Summary Table of Feedback.....	5

1 CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Appendix C provides information relating to engagement and consultation events held over the course of the Dumfries & Galloway Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) development and supplements information that is mentioned in Section 3 of the main SMP document. A short introduction, further information relating to the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and a summary of who the stakeholders are is provided while Table C1-1 provides a summary of the Engagement events, purpose and methods employed during each event to communicate the progression of the SMP. Finally, a summary of the feedback received is provided, and the effect of this feedback on the Plan is mentioned.

C1.1 Introduction

Communication is key to the successful identification and implementation of sustainable Shoreline Management Policies, and it is therefore important that all stakeholders, the public and all relevant authorities are provided with information through all stages of the completion of a SMP. Stakeholder views on the options and objectives for managing present and future coastal flood / erosion risk, were sought and appraised, and recommended policies and actions presented to Stakeholders outlining any implications that they have for communities and the environment. Engaging with Stakeholder throughout the development of the SMP should ensure that the purpose of the SMP is clear and avoid unrealistic expectations regarding Dumfries & Galloway Council policy and spending.

All communications from the stakeholder process are summarised in this Appendix, together with information arising from the consultation process, including questionnaire feedback.

C1.2 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

The stakeholder engagement process was intended to build trust and understanding between all parties involved in the formation of the SMP with the aim of being inclusive, transparent, and appropriate in its methods and application.

At the onset of the programme (2019) an Engagement Plan was produced, (refer to Annex C1). The aim of the Engagement Plan was to provide an over-arching resource for all communication and consultation activities, by setting out the planned engagement with wider audiences through the many information channels now available as well as direct stakeholder engagement. New and traditional media are vital conduits for communication, influencing opinion among the wider public / decision-makers / strategic stakeholders, as well as those affected locally. The specifics of communication activities relating to the SMP were outlined, with the objective that consultation and engagement was proactive, accessible, meaningful, accountable, and therefore effective. The aim was to ensure that the public engagement process provided a platform for the public to understand the importance the SMP and allowed them to take ownership of the chosen solution(s). This document was produced in discussion and agreement with the Client Steering Group (CSG), including, representatives from; the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, NatureScot (previously Scottish Natural Heritage), Marine Scotland, Solway Firth Partnership, Solway Marine Information, Learning and Environment (SMILE) and Dumfries & Galloway Council (Development Planning & Environment).

A Client Steering Group (CSG), established by the Council to provide expert knowledge and information, has been involved throughout the development of this Plan and acted as a focal point for discussion and consultation throughout the development of the SMP. This group included statutory consultees, academics, local authorities, and other primary interests within the study area, ensuring consideration of all interests during the review of outputs. The CSG was involved through meetings at key points within the SMP development process and provided direct feedback and information to the Consultant (RPS) as well as being a focal point for the engagement process. A partnership approach was adopted with the CSG, providing a collaborative decision-making forum.

A series of planned engagement events took place during the development of this SMP, these are outlined in Section 1.3 and summarised in Table C1-1.

C1.3 The Stakeholders

At the beginning of this project, Dumfries & Galloway Council engaged Jacobs to identify stakeholders for the Shoreline Management Plan Scoping Study. This formed the basis of the various groupings targeted by the

engagement process during the development of the SMP. In addition to the CSG, the following groups were identified,

- Elected Members Forum (**EMF**) – open to all local elected members of Dumfries & Galloway Council, MSP's and MEPs and provided a forum to keep local elected members up to date on progress.
- Key Stakeholder Forum (**KSF**) – comprising key influential stakeholders including Community Councils, Community groups, State agencies and bodies, Academics, Utilities bodies and MoD.
- Public Stakeholder Group, this group was open to all people living within the vicinity of, or with an interest in the Dumfries & Galloway coast.

C1.4 Engagement and Consultation Events

Engagement with key stakeholders was required at key points in the project, to keep them informed of present and future flood and erosion risk and obtain views and opinions on possible management approaches, options, and objectives for managing this risk in the future. Engagement also provided an avenue for the collation of additional information to inform the project. Table C1-1 summarises the SMP engagement stages.

During the Baseline data assessment stage of the SMP, a round of engagement events were held at four locations along the Dumfries & Galloway coast such that all communities had an opportunity to get involved. At these series of engagement events, information was displayed regarding the structure of the shoreline for management, the purpose and progress of the SMP, and the emerging understanding of coastal process and risk. Further engagement “events” were held once the recommended policies were identified and when the actions had been identified.

Each engagement event was set up in a similar manner, upon entering the event, information was gathered via a ‘sign-in sheet’, in which participants were encouraged to leave contact details, so that they could be notified of future events. Similarly, those who attended the Engagement Events, were also encouraged to complete a ‘Feed Back’ form. This provided an opportunity for stakeholders and communities to ‘Have a Say’ and voice concerns regarding decisions made during each stage of the SMP (refer to Table C1-2 for further detail). Each event included poster boards with summary information regarding the objectives of the SMP, how the shoreline was organised for management purposes, potential options etc. A presentation was given, and material including copies of the Preferred Policy Statements and Action Plans (at the appropriate stage of the Plan development) were available for perusal and review.

During the Preferred Policy Stage, Covid-19 social distancing and lockdown restrictions implemented within the UK, delayed the SMP engagement process. In order to continue progressing the SMP study, a virtual platform was developed to undertake and continue the necessary engagement. This platform and the availability of MS Teams allowed engagement to continue, although the public expressed a mixed preference for both virtual and physical engagement events. For engagement on the Action Plan, a mixture of virtual and physical venues was employed, although both formats were poorly attended.

The statutory consultation on the draft SMP and SEA was held over a 3-month period (between June to September 2022) and was facilitated via a virtual platform hosted by Dumfries & Galloway Council. The platform allowed the draft SMP to be viewed and accessed by anyone and provided contact details including an email, phone number and postal address for the submission of comments.

All information gathered at these events was assessed and considered refer to Section 1.4 for further detail. Further detail relating to questionnaire feedback can be found in this Appendix (refer to Table C1-1) and Annexes C3, C4 and C5 (for further feedback response detail).

Stage	Activity	Date	Location	Purpose of Engagement	Participant Group(s)	Method
Baseline Data Review & Assessment	Client Steering Group meeting 1	(Morning) 22 nd January 2020	Dumfries	D&G & RPS undertook Client Steering Forum and Elected Member Meetings	Client Steering Forum	A meeting involving a formal presentation followed by an open discussion & update on progress
		(Afternoon) 22 nd January 2020		D&G & RPS undertook an Elected Member meeting	Elected Member Forum	
	First round of stakeholder and community engagement	5 th February 2020	Port Logan	Introduce the SMP process, gather information, views and issues relating to coastal flooding and erosion.	Elected Members General Public Key Stakeholders	A meeting involving a formal presentation followed by an open discussion. Presentation outlined objectives of the SMP, timeline & initial baseline report. Public exhibition, map books & feedback forms were provided. Open informal discussion encouraged, and information recorded.
		6 th February 2020	Kirkcudbright			
11 th February 2020		Kirkbean				
12 th February 2020	Annan					
Face to face meetings were suspended due to Covid. To continue the SMP process, a Virtual consultation room was developed https://consultationspace.com/Dev/Dumfries/						
Policy Development	Second round of stakeholder and community engagement	8 th March 2021	Virtual	Preferred Policy options for each Policy Unit were presented. Gain a consensus on the preferred policy scenarios to put forward in the draft SMP. To provide stakeholder and the wider public with opportunities for support and objection and moving to resolve differences.	Elected Members Forum	MS Teams Meeting with formal presentation followed by an open discussion & update on progress
		9 th March 2021			Client Steering Forum & Key Stakeholder Forum	
		22 nd April 2021			Public Engagement / Community Councils	Virtual Consultation Room (VCR)
Refer to Summary of Feedback Form, 11 feedback forms were completed. All respondents agreed that information was well presented and easy to follow. Most respondents agreed that information was well presented and easy to follow. Most respondents noted that they would prefer a combination of both virtual and 'fact to face' engagement. Feedback received from all participants, reviewers and respondents has been collated and summarised. All additional comments and information relating to individual Policy Units, will be considered during a review of the Preferred Policies.						
SMP virtual consultation room updated with new information on the Action Plan.						
Action Plan	Third round of stakeholder and community engagement	1 st October 2021	Virtual	Review how the Preferred Options are to be implemented. Review responses from wider public. To provide stakeholders and the public with opportunities for support and objection and moving to resolve differences	Elected Members Forum	MS Teams meetings
		5 th October 2021			Client Steering Forum and Key Stakeholder Forum	
		16 th November 2021	Cummertrees		Public Engagement	Face to Face meetings / Virtual
		17 th November 2021	Portpatrick			
Draft SMP	The draft SMP including all appendices, Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) were made available via the Dumfries and Galloway Council website, for a 3-month consultation period (mid-June to September 2022). All documents were interactively accessible, and provision was included for the submission of comments and feedback directly to Dumfries and Galloway Council, which were subsequently used to inform the preparation of the final SMP and SEA documents.				D&G Council website	
Final SMP	Publication of the Final SMP on Dumfries and Galloway Council website.				Make available on council website, Presentation LA Planners	
SMP Dissemination	Disseminate final SMP to all stakeholders and relevant authorities.				Disseminate to adjacent councils. NatureScot, HES, SEPA. Provide copies via the Council website. Inform stakeholders of the final plan	

Table C1-1 SMP Stage and Consultation Summary

C1.6 Summary of Feedback

During each engagement period all comments and feedback received was reviewed and noted, and engagement summaries produced as summarised in Table C1-2.

Following each engagement stage, the draft outputs presented were reviewed alongside the feedback received and changes made if it was adjudged that the feedback justified a change in policy or action. An example of a change that resulted from the engagement process was the updating of the initial erosion assessment to include the then draft output of the second phase of the Dynamic Coast project.

Following closure of the consultation period on the draft SMP, all responses received were considered by both RPS and Dumfries & Galloway Council and appropriate actions taken where necessary. None of the comments or feedback received resulted in changes to the policies presented in the draft SMP although some clarification of the application of policies was required.

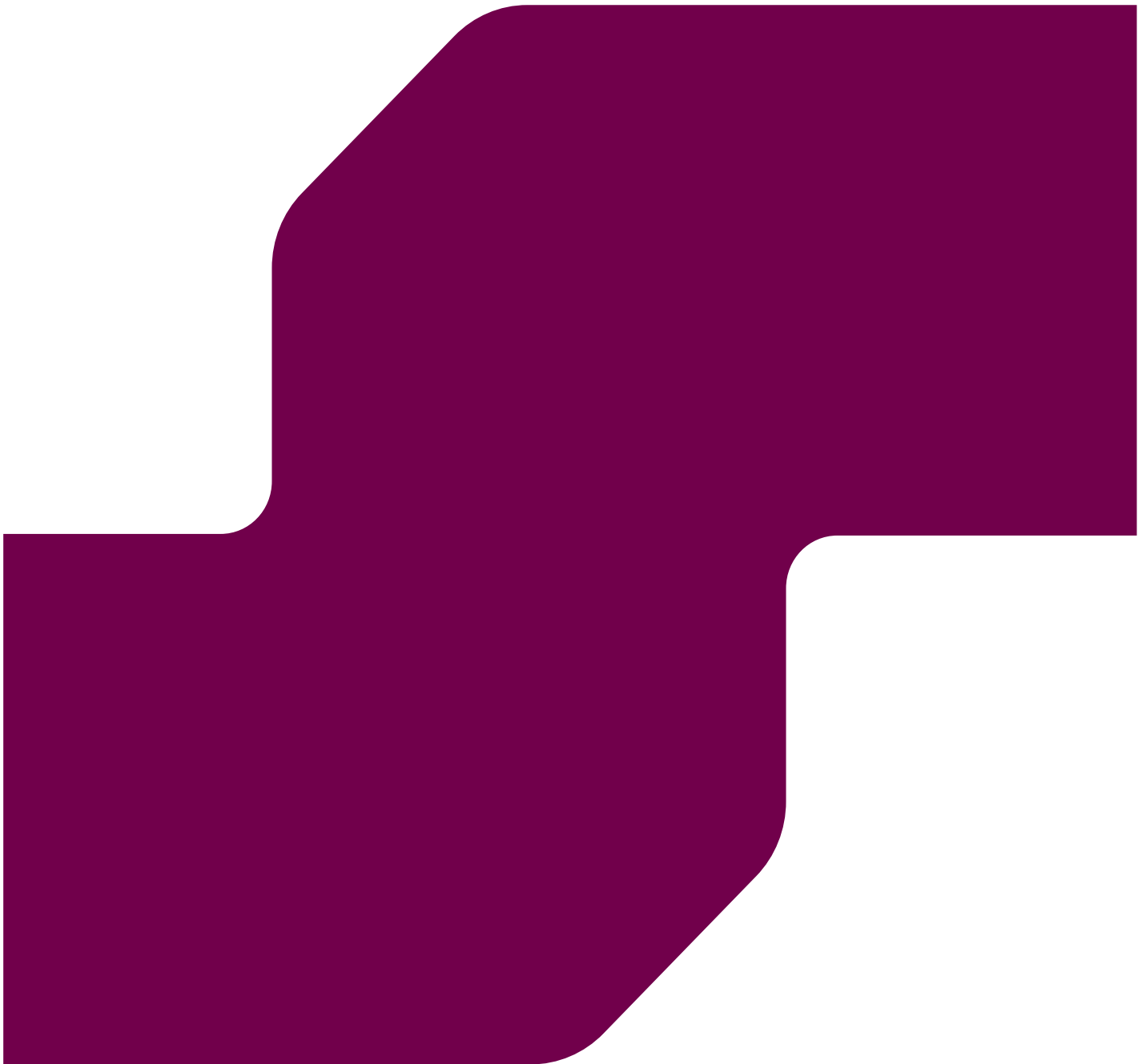
Stage	Activity	Date	Location	Feedback Summary	Attendance
Baseline Data Review & Assessment	First round of stakeholder and community engagement	5 th February 2020	Port Logan	Concern relating to the future of the A716 dominated this event. Concern was also expressed regarding the future of Drummore Harbour.	29
		6 th February 2020	Kirkcudbright	Detailed information was gathered relating to Policy Units 12, 13, 17, 18. <i>Refer to Annex C2 Feedback Doc for further detail</i>	
		11 th February 2020	Kirkbean	Concern expressed by Carsethorn and Southernness residents dominated this event. Concerns were mainly raised regarding the flooding of homes and coastal erosion. Issues and concerns relating to the future of coastal defence was expressed and noted.	
		12 th February 2020	Annan	Detail relating to coastal erosion at Policy Unit 4 was provided. Opinion relating to Whitesands was shared.	
Policy Development	Second round of stakeholder and community engagement	8 th March 2021	Virtual	(EMF) Attended by elected members, who expressed concern relating to climate change and sea-level rise.	17
		9 th March 2021		(CSF & KSF) the strategic approach adopted raised concern, this was resolved noting that policy selection considered keeping consistency with policies for adjacent cells outside Dumfries & Galloway (Cumbria, South Ayrshire), this query will feed into the Action Plan. The concept of Natural Capital was recommended. Concerns relating to the linkage between the SMP policies and the Land Use Planning System were raised. It was noted that the SMP should be used as a guidance document and be considered when the Planning policies are being produced / updated. The method used to determine costs throughout the study was queried. It was noted that a high-level economic appraisal considered the damages due to coastal flooding and erosion and this was used to justify the recommendation of the preferred policies. It was identified during this meeting that new coastal erosion information was available. Dynamic Scotland provided this new data which was used to update the Policy Statements.	11
		22 nd April 2021		(PSF) and for Community Councils and Ward Officers. Five feedback responses were completed. CPU 4, CPU 6 and Policy Units received attention. Most returns agreed with the management policy. Some comments were received relating to the difficulty in understanding the material provided. Further information was received relating to Policy Unit 5. Description of coastal evolution was provided for Policy Unit 14 and 23. Overall, it was noted that the VCR was informative and worthwhile. There was a mixed reaction as to the format of future engagement events.	16
Action Plan	Third round of stakeholder and community engagement	1 st October 2021	Virtual	Feedback was received for Policy Units 4, 5, 6, 8 and 14. Most responses agreed with the Policy and Action Plan outlined. It was commented that the statements were 'wordy'. It was stated that Carsethorn community who manage their own sea defences, noted that these require maintenance and are not robust. It was commented that it would be good to see longer term solution for coastal erosion in place. It was described how properties located a Portling Beach have experienced coastal flooding. As a response, this information was used to calibrate the project information relating to flooding. A detailed description relating to of coastal processes was described for Policy Unit 12 & opinion relating to the best management approach was received. Erosion of the Core Path within Policy Unit 7 was mentioned. All respondents noted that their visit was informative and worthwhile. There was a mixed response as the best engagement method applied 40% preferred both virtual and face to face format.	15
		5 th October 2021	Virtual	Questions were raised on the potential for habitat creation and whether sites for this have been identified within the plan; the influence of SEA on the selection of policies and whether opportunities for mitigating adverse environmental impacts have been identified. It was noted that the SEA and HRA will recommend mitigation measures for possible impacts of the implementation of preferred policies. A question on the responsible organisations for the proposed actions was also raised and it was noted that the Action Plan will generally indicate involved parties for proposed actions.	9
		16 th November 2021	Cummertrees	Policy Unit 1, 2, 3 & 4 received the most attention. An attendee was disappointed that there were no hard copies to take away. It was noted that these could be viewed & downloaded from the internet. Concern was expressed for vulnerable members of the community who did not have access to the internet and were not represented by this engagement approach. A description of how the shoreline has changed between Policy Unit 2 to 4 was received.	3
		17 th November 2021	Portpatrick	CPU 4, especially Policy Unit 24 and 25 received the most attention. Both attendees agreed with the proposed policy and action. It was noted that communities must fight for limited funds.	2
Draft SMP	Draft Plan consultation	3-month period (June to September 2022)	Virtual	The responses provided by stakeholders and the public, mainly consisted of comments and further information vital for the future working of the SMP. Post-consultation discussion between RPS and the Council identified no immediate update to the policies was required.	
Final SMP	Plan Finalisation & Dissemination				
SMP Dissemination					

Table C1-2 Summary Table of Feedback

Engagement Plan

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Engagement Plan



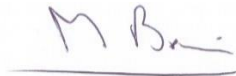
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Contents

INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Principles of Consultation and Communication	1
2 STAKEHOLDER MAPPING	3
2.1 Stakeholder Group	3
2.2 Other Stakeholders	4
3 STAKEHOLDER GROUPS TERMS OF REFERENCE	5
3.1 Composition of the Stakeholder Groups	5
3.2 Objectives and Scopes	5
3.3 Terms of Reference	5
3.4 Outputs and Reports	6
3.5 Meeting Frequency	6
4 COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING	7
4.1 Messaging	7
4.2 Audience and Tools	7
4.2.1 Workshops and Open Days	7
4.2.2 Printed Material	8
4.2.3 Media and Public Affairs	8
4.3 Procedures for Communication and Recording Feedback	13
4.3.1 Data Protection	13
4.3.2 Communications by Post	14
4.3.3 Communications by Email	15
4.3.4 Communications by Phone	15
4.3.5 Communications via Website	16
4.3.6 Direct Stakeholder Engagement	17
4.3.7 Incorporating Feedback	17
5 MEETINGS PROGRAMME	18
5.1 Client Steering Forum Meetings (CSF)	18
5.2 Elected Members Forum (EMF)	18
5.3 Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF)	18
5.4 Public (other) Stakeholder Meetings (PSM)	19
6 INTERNAL PROJECT COMMUNICATIONS	20
6.1 Internal Project Team	20
6.1.1 RPS Internal Project Management Communications	20

INTRODUCTION

The Dumfries & Galloway Shoreline Management Plan Study (SMP) aims to provide guidance to operating authorities and regulatory bodies as to future sustainable flood and coastal erosion risk management along the Dumfries & Galloway coastline; essentially providing an agreed high-level approach, intent and framework for management. In addition, the SMP aims to provide guidance to planners, individuals and organisations with interests in the coast; setting out an understanding of coastal behaviour, the pressures, constraints and opportunities for sustainable use of the coastal zone to facilitate and guide others in developing their own plans.

This is the Engagement Plan for the SMP. It is a high-level plan, and therefore aims to be an over-arching resource for all communication and consultation activities as they progress and develop. The specifics of communication activities relating to the SMP will be determined in supporting detailed implementation programmes and event plans; however, this document will guide the process, ensuring that consultation and engagement is proactive, accessible, meaningful, accountable and therefore effective.

1.1 Principles of Consultation and Communication

The over-riding principles that apply to all communications activity are to ensure that all communication and consultation activities are proactive, accessible, meaningful, and accountable in order to ensure their effectiveness.

1. **Proactive** – All communication activities will be approached proactively. In advance of each phase, key objectives will be set, target audiences identified, and appropriate communications tools determined. Implementation programmes will be developed and implemented. Priority will be given to making direct contact with stakeholders.
2. **Accessible** – This relates to accessible venues for events, appropriate language or print material, but it is also more fundamental than that. It is essential that stakeholders are made aware of the opportunity to engage with the project and have an opportunity to impact the decision-making process at the most appropriate times in the project. All material published about the project for the general public will be written in a clear and concise manner and, while not losing important detail, will not overly rely on technical terms to explain the project.
3. **Meaningful** – For each stage of the project where there is an opportunity to consult with stakeholders, objectives will be developed to define the scope of influence. There will be aspects of the project that stakeholders can feed into and the nature and extent of that scope will be clearly defined. Stakeholder input will be welcome at all times. However, there needs to be clarity so that stakeholders' expectations of the process are not unrealistic.
4. **Accountable** – More than anything, the process needs to be accountable. This requires that detailed records are kept of all issues raised by stakeholders, there is a process in place that ensures those

issues are appreciated by the technical team, and there is a documented response to stakeholder issues, demonstrating how feedback has / has not been absorbed by the project team in the process of undertaking the SMP.

Using these objectives as guiding principles will ensure that the public engagement process will build a platform for the public to understand the importance of the project and allow them to take ownership of the chosen solution(s).

This over-arching Plan will ensure that there is an appropriate flow of information to all stakeholders, the general public, and all relevant authorities. The plan will endeavour to keep the channels of communication open between the project team and its stakeholders. There will be a high level of respect towards stakeholders, and a willingness to gain an understanding of the needs and issues of all stakeholders.

The Engagement Plan set out the planned engagement with wider audiences through the many information channels now available as well as through direct stakeholder engagement. New and traditional media are vital conduits for communicating with, and influencing opinion among, the wider public, decision-makers, strategic stakeholders, as well as those affected locally.

The Engagement Plan for the SMP need to be fluid and flexible so that they can be tailored to respond to developments and stakeholder needs, as required.

2 STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

2.1 Stakeholder Group

It is very important that all relevant stakeholders are identified at the outset of the project. Stakeholder mapping allows the relevant organisations and individuals to be identified and targeted with specific information about the project at the appropriate juncture(s) and to be invited to take part in the various consultation exercises that will be rolled out over the lifetime of the project. Stakeholder mapping is an ongoing activity which must be regularly reviewed to ensure that the stakeholders remain up-to-date and relevant. Stakeholder mapping activities for this study include:

- an initial stakeholder mapping exercise; and
- ongoing stakeholder mapping activities.

The initial stakeholder mapping exercise was completed by Dumfries & Galloway Council and Jacobs in the Scoping Study for the project, and included compilation of a list of all potentially relevant stakeholders, such as:

- Environmental Authorities;
- Primary Stakeholders:
 - Government departments;
 - Community councils.
- Secondary Stakeholders:
 - National agencies and bodies;
 - Regional authorities;
 - Development boards;
 - Industry and representative bodies;
 - Non-governmental organisations;
 - Research projects.

Stakeholder details have been compiled into a stakeholder register. The stakeholders included in the stakeholder register constitute the Stakeholder Group.

The stakeholder register is included in **Appendix A**. This is a live appendix which will be further updated as further stakeholders are identified.

The Stakeholder Group will initially be contacted by the communications coordinator and will either be emailed an 'introductory pack' relevant to the SMP or advised where they may access this information. This will introduce the project and provide information on project activities, consultation activities and the mechanisms set up for stakeholders to engage with the study.

Ongoing stakeholder mapping activities will ensure that the stakeholder register remains up-to-date and relevant.

2.2 Other Stakeholders

Additional interested parties, outside of the Stakeholder Group, are also being identified and these include:

- The general public living within the vicinity of the Dumfries & Galloway coast;
- Local groups;
- MPs;
- MSPs;
- Local Elected Members.

These groups and individuals will also be contacted by the communications coordinator and will be invited to attend public open days and to use the various mechanisms established to engage with the study.

3 STAKEHOLDER GROUPS TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 Composition of the Stakeholder Groups

The various Stakeholders Groups will be chaired by RPS on behalf of Dumfries & Galloway Council.

The members of the Stakeholders Groups shall include representatives of a number of Environmental Authorities, Local Authorities, statutory and non-statutory public bodies, and local organisations within (in part or in whole) Dumfries & Galloway that might have an interest in, or be affected by the flood risk, erosion risk and future management of the shoreline (and the decisions made towards the development of the Plan).

RPS and Dumfries & Galloway Council may invite persons from other organisations to become permanent members of the Stakeholders Groups. Ad-hoc attendees may be invited to attend certain Stakeholders' Workshops for the purpose of presentation or discussion of specific issues.

3.2 Objectives and Scopes

The Stakeholders Groups are being established to support the SMP.

The objectives of the Stakeholders Groups are to:

- support the consultation and engagement activities of the SMP team, and
- promote regular communication and understanding between members of the Stakeholders Groups and the SMP team; and,
- provide a forum for members of the Stakeholders Groups to voice their opinion and provide input and local knowledge on the outputs of the SMP.

3.3 Terms of Reference

The Stakeholders Groups will:

- Attend a number of workshops at various points throughout the project to provide views and feedback on the project, shoreline management and related environmental issues within the Study Area.
- Be presented with regular updates on the SMP.
- Ensure the communication of information, data, views and opinions from the members of the Stakeholders Groups to the SMP team.
- Disseminate information and outputs from the SMP to the members' organisation as appropriate and, as necessary, coordinate reviews of same within their organisation.

The Terms of Reference may be revised by the SMP team, subject to the majority agreement of the SMP Stakeholders Groups.

3.4 Outputs and Reports

The outputs and reports on discussions, decisions or activities (including minutes / summary reports of workshops or other meetings) from the Stakeholders Groups will be disseminated or published as appropriate through the SMP.

3.5 Meeting Frequency

The proposed meeting programme for the various Stakeholders Groups is provided in Section 5 of this Plan.

4 COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING

Communication planning will be undertaken at various stages throughout the project. Using this high-level Plan for guidance, a detailed implementation programme will identify the messages; audiences; communication tools and key objectives for the project.

4.1 Messaging

Given the complex technical nature of the project, it is important to identify and distil the key project messages. Project messages can cover both general and specific aspects of the project including:

- the need for the project;
- the benefits it will bring;
- confidence in the project team and the high quality of the project; and
- the importance of stakeholder involvement in the process and the ways in which stakeholders and all interested parties can contact the project and engage with the project team.

Given that there are a large number of stakeholders involved in the project, ensuring that messages are consistent is essential. For this reason, 'key messages' will form the basis for all communication material (website updates; presentations; media interviews; displays etc.). The key messages may incorporate Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that will assist all team members in their interaction with stakeholders.

4.2 Audience and Tools

Key target audiences will be identified as part of ongoing stakeholder mapping. The most appropriate communication tools will then be matched to stakeholders (See Table 4-1 for a full suite of communication tools). It is envisaged that throughout the lifetime of the project, a range of tools will be used to ensure tailored communications with stakeholders. However, a number of over-riding principles apply as set out in the following sections.

4.2.1 Workshops and Open Days

Great care will be taken in ensuring that the venues for these events are appropriate in terms of access and location. A database of local venues that could possibly be used will be drawn up. Venues for the Client Steering Forum (CSF) and Elected Member Forum (EMF) will have to be central, with wheelchair access and appropriate facilities. For the Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF) and Public Stakeholder Meetings (PSM) venues will be identified within the appropriate region of Dumfries & Galloway and will have wheelchair access and appropriate facilities. Each event will be promoted within the area and identified stakeholders will be encouraged to attend.

4.2.2 Printed Material

A production guideline will be drawn up for each printed document detailing the purpose, audience and distribution network. All printed material will be made available in on-line format. Text will be appropriate to the audience in terms of technical content and layout (font size etc.).

4.2.3 Media and Public Affairs

A media and public affairs programme will be developed for the SMP. The purpose of this is to publicise key relevant project findings or to inform stakeholders of consultation opportunities.

Table 4-1: Suite of Potential Engagement Methods / Tools

Method	Detail	Type	Audience	Use	Advantages	Disadvantage
Newsletters	Provides technical information in a user-friendly manner	Indirect	Depending on circulation, could be entire project catchment.	At key project junctions, to advise of major project updates	Available in hard and soft copy, can be disseminated widely	Does not build personal relationships, may go unseen, is not engagement, just information provision
Information leaflets	Provides technical information in a user-friendly manner	Indirect	Depending on circulation, could be entire project catchment.	At key project junctions, to advise of major project updates	Available in hard and soft copy, can be disseminated widely	Does not build personal relationships, may go unseen, is not engagement, just information provision
Steering Group meetings	Meeting with presentations and discussions on specific topics	Intermediary	All key stakeholders	At key project junctions, to advise of major project updates	Provides a forum for the Steering Group members to voice their opinion, and provide advice, input and local knowledge; Members disseminate information from the study to their organisations and to elected members	Resource intensive, limited consultation value
Stakeholder Workshops	Workshops with stakeholder group	Intermediary	Environmental authorities and stakeholders	At each consultation phase	Provides a forum for stakeholders to voice their opinion and provide input and local knowledge; Builds relationships with stakeholders	Resource-intensive
Conferences and seminars etc.	SMP representation and involvements at appropriate conferences and seminars	Intermediary	Conference and seminar delegates	As opportunity arises	Allows the project team to focus the key messages and deliver project information to an appropriate audience; Raises awareness.	Does not build relationships, is often not engagement, just information provision
Email Service	Dedicated email address that is managed by the Communications Coordinator	Intermediary	Online, literate audience	Throughout the project lifetime	Allows for resolution of questions, provides ability to send out additional information easily, can be proactive or reactive	Limited to people with internet access, responses may require internal approval, thus slowing down ability to respond and engage, can strengthen, but not build, relationships, must be maintained regularly
FAQs	Short answers to questions raised by stakeholders	Indirect	Depending on circulation, could be entire project catchment	As needed, if stakeholders raise a number of queries that pertain to the wider community	Available in hard and soft copy, can be disseminated widely, allows for quick resolution of questions	If not done promptly and accurately can be a barrier to stakeholders understanding and engaging with the project, does not build personal relationships, is not engagement, just information provision
Feedback Forms	Open-ended document that invites stakeholder feedback	Intermediary	Depending on circulation, could be entire project catchment	At stakeholder workshops and public open days	Can be done online or in hard copy, can give the project team a better understanding of how the wider community views the project	Does not build personal relationships

Method	Detail	Type	Audience	Use	Advantages	Disadvantage
Information Centres	Public space available to meet with team members or browse project information	Direct	Entire project catchment	Throughout the project lifetime	Puts stakeholders into direct contact with project team if proactively promoted, allows for as little or as much time is needed to engage, builds relationships	Resource-intensive
Market Research (Focus Groups)	A series of small meetings of invited stakeholders to discuss key issues	Direct	Random stakeholders in the catchment area	As appropriate, if the project team is seeking feedback on specific issues	Provides snapshot of public opinion	No substitution for stakeholder engagement, does not build personal relationships
Advertisement	Paid notice in media	Indirect	Entire project catchment	At key project junctions	Disseminates information to the wider public, guarantees coverage as space is purchased, box-ticking exercise	Does not create understanding, does not build personal relationships, may go unseen, is not engagement, just information provision
Chat Rooms	Online panel discussions	Direct	Online, literate audience	As appropriate, if stakeholders raise a number of queries that pertain to the wider community	Puts stakeholders into direct contact with the project team, allows for quick resolution of questions, can be tailored to specific topics or issues	Resource-intensive (once you start you cannot stop), limited to people with internet access, responses may require internal approval, thus slowing down ability to engage in this type of forum
Community Interest Group	An invited panel of stakeholders on a specific topic or topics	Direct	Targeted, key stakeholders who can feed back issues to the wider catchment	As appropriate, prior to key project junctions, if the project team requires specific feedback on key issues and is open to change	Can build consensus on specific aspects of the project, shows commitment to resolving over-arching issues, builds relationships, can resolve contentious issues, strengthen planning application	Resource-intensive, requires commitment
Open Days	Public displays and information materials provided over a short period of time with the project team available	Intermediary	Entire project catchment	At each project phase within each APSR	Builds relationships, can disseminate project information to a large group of people in a short period of time, allows for quick resolution of questions	Resource-intensive, can be a target for protest
Personal Meetings	One-to-one meetings with stakeholder and team member	Direct	Key stakeholders, as defined by themselves or the Project Team	Upon request or by invitation to interested stakeholders	Allows for personal discussion, builds relationships	Resource intensive, responses may require internal approval, thus preventing full dialogue to occur
Phone Line	Dedicated phone number that is operated during office hours by communications coordinator	Direct	Key stakeholders, as defined by themselves or the Project Team	Throughout the project lifetime	Puts stakeholders into direct contact with project team, allows for quick resolution of questions, builds relationships, can be proactive or reactive	Resource intensive, can strengthen, but not build, relationships, must be maintained regularly
Press Release	Statement or article issued to the media	Indirect	Entire project catchment	At key project junctions	Disseminates information to the wider public in an inexpensive manner	Is not stakeholder engagement, can go unseen
Public Affairs	Strategic engagement with elected representatives or community leaders	Direct	Targeted stakeholders	As appropriate, at key project junctions	Helps to disseminate project information through existing channels of communication	Needs to be inclusive, resource-intensive

Method	Detail	Type	Audience	Use	Advantages	Disadvantage
Public Displays	Information boards in publicly accessible locations	Intermediary	Entire project catchment, but would specifically targeted at recruited stakeholders (i.e. community groups)	At workshops and open days, in public areas	Can provide project information in locations already frequented by stakeholders (e.g. libraries or local authority offices)	If not staffed, does not allow for engagement, just information provision
Posters	Posters in publicly accessible locations	Intermediary	Residents within area of SMP	In public areas within SMP e.g. community notice boards, local post offices	Can provide project information and announce events in locations frequented by target audience	Does not allow for engagement, just information provision; Can go unseen
Public Meeting	Large meeting open to all interested stakeholders	Intermediary	Limited by venue, but open to all interested stakeholders	As appropriate, if the project team needs to give project information out in a large forum and answer questions directly	Can disseminate project information to a large group of people in a short period of time	Significantly resource intensive, can be a target for a protest
Seminars	Small presentations on specific topics, open to invited stakeholders	Direct	Targeted stakeholders	As appropriate, if the project team needs disseminate information to targeted stakeholders	Allows the project team to focus on key messages, delivers project information to a targeted audience	Resource intensive
Small Group Meeting	Face-to-face meeting between stakeholders and team members	Direct	Targeted stakeholders	Upon request or by invitation to a small group of interested stakeholders	Puts stakeholders into direct contact with project team, builds relationships, can be tailored to meet the needs of specific stakeholders or issues	Resource intensive, can be seen to be exclusive
Stakeholder Forum	An invited discussion with key technical teams on both sides of the project	Direct	Targeted technical stakeholders	As appropriate or at critical project junctions or when key issues need to reach a final conclusion	Can provide technical answers to long-standing debates, shows commitment to resolving the overarching issues	Resource intensive, can be seen to be exclusive
Surveys	A brief questionnaire about key project issues or projections	Indirect	Random stakeholders in the catchment area	As appropriate, prior to key project junctions, if the project team is unsure about the stakeholders' views on specific issues	Can be done online or in hard copy, can give the project team a better understanding of how the wider community views the project	No substitute for stakeholder engagement, does not build relationships
Websites	Online space where all project information is available	Indirect	Online, literate audience	Throughout the project lifetime	Information always available, allows for quick resolution of questions	Limited to people with internet access, does not build relationships, must be maintained on a regular basis, is just information provision, not engagement
Web-based work platform	Online space to store and manage project data and where users can edit data	Indirect	Targeted stakeholders including Progress and Steering Group members	Throughout the project lifetime	Provides controlled and safe access to work-in-progress to a targeted audience	Limited to people with access to the system, does not build relationships, must be maintained on a regular basis, is just information provision, not engagement

REPORT

Method	Detail	Type	Audience	Use	Advantages	Disadvantage
Written Letters	Either proactive or reactive correspondence	Intermediary	Targeted stakeholders and interested parties	At key project junctions or in response to incoming letters	Can provide a large amount of information to a targeted audience, can be personalised to answer specific questions, can be proactive or reactive	Responses may require internal approval, thus slowing down ability to respond and engage, can strengthen, but not build, relationships, must be responded to promptly
Presentations	Presentations with details of aspects of the study	Intermediary	Targeted stakeholders and interested parties	At events	Allows the project team to focus the key messages and deliver project information to an appropriate audience; Raises awareness; Can be made available online	Information provision, not necessarily engagement
Summary report	Report relating to consultation activities and events	Intermediary	Targeted stakeholders and interested parties	At the end of key consultation phases	Allows the project team to distil the stakeholder messages and influence the planning processes.	If not done promptly and accurately can be a barrier to stakeholders understanding and engaging with the project

4.3 Procedures for Communication and Recording Feedback

The collation and processing of feedback from stakeholders and the public will be coordinated by the SMP communications coordinator (Joanne Murdy). The communication tools which will be employed during the study will outline the mechanisms by which interested parties can contact the team. These are outlined in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2: Mechanisms for contacting the SMP Study Team

By post	The communications coordinator's postal address will be provided for communication by post.
By email	A dedicated project email address, smps@dumgal.gov.uk is provided for communication by email and the communications coordinator will receive any emails sent to this address. When the communications coordinator is unavailable, emails sent to the dedicated project email address will be forwarded to Richard Bingham or Dr Malcolm Brian to ensure they are processed.
By phone	The communications coordinator's phone number will be provided for communication by phone.
Via the Dumfries & Galloway Council website	Comments made via the Dumfries & Galloway Council website will be forwarded automatically to the communications coordinator.
Via direct consultation with team members at events or in the field.	The SMP communications coordinator, as well as various relevant team members, will be on hand at all engagement events.

The procedures for collating, processing and responding to all forms of communications is detailed below. When the communications coordinator is on leave or otherwise unavailable, their duties will be carried out in their absence by another team member.

4.3.1 Data Protection

RPS and Dumfries & Galloway Council are committed to protecting an individual's privacy in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 / 679. Consequently only personal information necessary for the completion of the Dumfries & Galloway SMP will be collected and held on record for the duration of this project. Personal data will only be stored and used where the owner of such data has given permission to do so.

Personal information that we might collect and process, includes names, addresses and contact details (including email addresses and telephone numbers) which will be used to respond to queries, follow up on additional information offered and to keep stakeholders informed of upcoming engagement events.

No stakeholder is under any statutory or contractual obligation to provide personal data to the Dumfries & Galloway SMP team, however if such information is not provided when requested we will not be able to offer the same level of communication as afforded to others who provide the necessary data.

RPS and Dumfries & Galloway Council take the security of personal data seriously and have internal policies and controls in place to try to ensure that personal data is not lost, accidentally destroyed, misused or disclosed, and is not accessed except by their employees in the performance of their duties in relation to the Dumfries & Galloway SMP. A copy of the RPS policy will be made available at all engagement events for stakeholders to view.

In line with RPS policy anyone wishing to establish what personal data RPS hold on them can contact dataprotection@rpsgroup.com at any time. We may need to request specific information from you at this time to help confirm your identity and ensure your right to access the information we hold, so that personal information is not disclosed to any person who does not have the right to receive it. You will not have to pay a fee to access your personal information (or to exercise any of your other rights). However, we may charge a reasonable fee if your request for access is clearly unfounded or excessive. Alternatively, and in exceptional circumstances only, we may refuse to comply with the request in such circumstances.

4.3.2 Communications by Post

Incoming Post

- Most incoming letters will probably be addressed to the communications coordinator.
- Any incoming letters not addressed to the communications coordinator will be forwarded to them along with the accompanying envelope and any enclosed documents etc.
- The communications coordinator will log all letters and attachments in the communications register.
- If a letter does not require a response, the communications coordinator will send an acknowledgment of receipt of the letter to the sender by email if possible or, if not, by post.
- If required, a response will be prepared and sent to the sender by the appropriate team member(s) within one week. The response may be by phone, email or post depending on which is most appropriate. The communications coordinator will notify the appropriate team member(s) and will coordinate their response;
 - Political responses and queries in relation to existing and planned schemes will be issued by the Dumfries & Galloway Council;

- All other responses will be issued by either the communications coordinator, Joanne Murdy or Dr Malcolm Brian.

Outgoing Post

- The communications coordinator will log all outgoing consultation letters and any enclosed documents in the communications register and will scan the signed letters and enclosed documents.

4.3.3 Communications by Email

Incoming Emails

- Most incoming communications emails will probably be sent to the dedicated SMP email.
- Any incoming communications emails not sent to the communications coordinator will be forwarded to them along with any attachments.
- The communications coordinator will log all incoming emails and attachments in the communications register.
- If an email does not require a response, the communications coordinator will send an acknowledgment of receipt of the email to the sender by email.
- If required, a response will be prepared and sent to the sender by the appropriate team member(s) within one week. The response may be by phone, email or letter depending on which is most appropriate. The communications coordinator will notify the appropriate team member(s) and will coordinate their response;
 - Political responses and queries in relation to existing and planned schemes will be issued by the Dumfries & Galloway Council;
 - All other responses will be issued by either the communications coordinator, Joanne Murdy or Dr Malcolm Brian.

Outgoing Emails

- The communications coordinator will log all outgoing emails and attachments in the communications register.

4.3.4 Communications by Phone

Incoming Calls

- Most incoming communications related calls will probably be to the communications coordinator.
- Other team members who receive communications calls will complete the Communications Form and forward to the communications coordinator.

- The communications coordinator will log all incoming calls in the communications register.
- If required, a response will be prepared and sent to the sender by the appropriate team member(s) within one week. The response may be by phone, email or letter depending on which is most appropriate. The communications coordinator will notify the appropriate team member(s) and will coordinate their response;
 - Political responses and queries in relation to existing and planned schemes will be issued by the Dumfries & Galloway Council;
 - All other responses will be issued by either the communications coordinator, Dr Joanne Murdy or Dr Malcolm Brian.

Outgoing Calls

- Most outgoing communications related calls will probably be made by the communications coordinator.
- Other team members who make communications related calls will complete the Communications Form and forward to the communications coordinator.
- The communications coordinator will log all relevant outgoing calls in the communications register and will coordinate any follow-up action required.

4.3.5 Communications via Website

- All communications made via the Dumfries & Galloway Council website will be forwarded to the communications coordinator.
- The communications coordinator will log all of these communications in the communications register.
- If the communication does not require a response, the communications coordinator will send an acknowledgment of receipt of the communication to the sender by email.
- If required, a response will be prepared and sent to the sender by the appropriate team member(s) within one week. The response may be by phone, email or letter depending on which is most appropriate. The communications coordinator will notify the appropriate team member(s) and will coordinate their response;
 - Political responses and queries in relation to existing and planned schemes will be issued by the Dumfries & Galloway Council;
 - All other responses will be issued by either the communications coordinator, Joanne Murdy or Dr Malcolm Brian.

4.3.6 Direct Stakeholder Engagement

- Direct stakeholder engagement will occur at stakeholder workshops, public information days, seminars and conferences and may occur when team members are in the field.
- Feedback forms will be developed in advance of workshops and information days.
- When team members encounter interested parties in the field, they will complete a Communications Form and forward to the communications coordinator.
- The communications coordinator will log all off these communication in the communications register.
- If required, a response will be prepared and sent to the stakeholder by the appropriate team member(s) within one week. The response may be by phone, email or letter depending on which is most appropriate. The communications coordinator will notify the appropriate team member(s) and will coordinate their response;
 - Political responses and queries in relation to existing and planned schemes will be issued by the Dumfries & Galloway Council;
 - All other responses will be issued by the communications coordinator, Dr Joanne Murdy or Dr Malcolm Brian.

4.3.7 Incorporating Feedback

RPS project team feedback meetings will facilitate integration of the communication aspects and technical aspects of the study and the consequent incorporation of stakeholder submissions and comments into the planning process.

The communications register has been developed so that incoming communications can be categorised several ways including by;

- Category of stakeholder i.e. general public, NGO, local group, state agency or body, government department, local authority, regional authority, development board, representative body, commercial, research project, other;
- Overall subject of the communication i.e. risk mapping, objectives, option development, SMP.

These categorisations will facilitate the recording of feedback, and its incorporation into the planning process, in a structured, consistent and transparent manner.

Feedback reports will be compiled by the communications coordinator. These reports will summarise the feedback from stakeholder and the general public, and outline how this feedback has been incorporated into the planning process.

5 MEETINGS PROGRAMME

5.1 Client Steering Forum Meetings (CSF)

The Client Steering Forum objectives are to:

- Promote regular communication and understanding between the Client Steering Forum members and the SMP team;
- Provide a forum for the Client Steering Group members to voice their opinion, and provide advice, input and local knowledge, on the technical and detailed direction and outputs of the SMP; and,
- Support the activities of the SMP team.

Table 5-1 provides the envisaged meetings for the Client Steering Forum to review progress and study deliverables.

Table 5-1: Client Steering Forum Meetings

Project Steering Forum Meetings	Target date	Purpose
1 CSF Meeting One	Wed 22/01/2020	Baseline Information Review
2 CSF Meeting Two	May 2020	Policy Options
3 CSF Meeting Three	October 2020	Action Plan
4 CSF Meeting Four	January 2021	Draft SMP

5.2 Elected Members Forum (EMF)

Meeting are to take place with elected members via the EMF to keep them updated of the progress of the SMP. Table 5-2 provides the envisaged meeting dates for the EMF.

Table 5-2: Elected Members Forum Meetings

Elected Members Forum Meetings	Target date	Purpose
1 EMF Meeting One	Wed 22/01/2020	Baseline Information Review
2 EMF Meeting Two	May 2020	Policy Options
3 EMF Meeting Three	October 2020	Action Plan
4 EMF Meeting Four	January 2021	Draft SMP

5.3 Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF)

Key influential stakeholders have been identified and will be engaged with directly through workshops and meetings. This list of key stakeholders may change throughout the course of the study. Table 5-3 provides the envisaged meetings for the KSF.

Table 5-3: Key Stakeholders Forum Meetings

Key Stakeholders Forum Meetings	Target date	Purpose
1 KSF Meeting One	Wed 5/02/2020 Port Logan Thurs 6/02/2020 Kirkcudbright Tues 11/02/2020 Kirkbean Wed 12/02/2020 Annan	Data Collection / Baseline
2 KSF Meeting Two	May 2020	Policy Options
3 KSF Meeting Three	October 2020	Action Plan
4 KSF Meeting Four	February 2021	Draft SMP

5.4 Public (other) Stakeholder Meetings (PSM)

Other stakeholders and the general public will be engaged to provide information on and to seek views on the SMP. Table 5-4 provides the envisaged meetings for the PSM.

Table 5-4 Public Stakeholder Meetings

Public Stakeholder Meetings	Target date	Purpose
1 Public Stakeholder Meeting One	Wed 5/02/2020 Port Logan Thurs 6/02/2020 Kirkcudbright Tues 11/02/2020 Kirkbean Wed 12/02/2020 Annan	Data Collection / Baseline
2 Public Stakeholder Meeting Two	May 2020	Policy Options
3 Public Stakeholder Meeting Three	October 2020	Action Plan
4 Public Stakeholder Meeting Four	February 2021	Draft SMP

6 INTERNAL PROJECT COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Internal Project Team

The SMP project team organisation chart showing communication channels is presented in Figure 6.1. The lines of communication identify Richard Bingham as the consultant's main point of contact and Project Manager.

6.1.1 RPS Internal Project Management Communications

Richard is responsible for the flow of information between all parties including Dumfries & Galloway Council, the RPS project board (Dr Malcolm Brian and Richard Bingham) and the RPS technical team leads and their support staff.

The RPS project board have overall responsibility for delivering a quality-assured SMP study on time and to budget, part of which is ensuring that communication between the client and within the team is maintained. The board will meet each month to discuss progress on the scheme and this will be complemented by regular discussion between team members as the need arises.

Systems for ensuring effective internal RPS team communications include use of a range of media (telephone communications, email, memoranda, reports, minutes, websites and video conferencing).

The procedures to ensure that team members are kept informed of developments regardless of their location include:

- A project introductory briefing attended by core team members and technical leads as appropriate.
- Regular internal team meetings (attended by management board representatives, core team members, lead technical personnel).
- The use of the web-based platform to facilitate the exchange of data between all parties on the SMP.
- The designated data manager (Richard Bingham) will ensure the correct parties have access to the required documents and datasets.
- The designated communications coordinator (Joanne Murdy) will ensure the correct parties have access to the required communications documents, materials and registers. The procedures for communications registration and management are as set out in Section 3 of this communications plan.
- At a project task level each technical team leader will speak fortnightly with his respective team to ensure the quality of work and that progress, in line with the schedule, is being maintained. Any

issues or potential delays will be dealt with this at this level if possible or relayed to Malcolm Brian should further direction, or input from the client, be required.

- An RPS project “to-do-list” will be maintained by Malcolm and circulated to appropriate team members throughout the study.
- Contact details for all team members (including client and stakeholders) will be maintained as a live appendix to this communications plan and made available to all team members.

Appendix A

Stakeholder Register - Live

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
DGC	Brian Templeton	Project Manager			CSF
DGC	Michael Smith				CSF
DGC	Euan McGillivray				CSF
DGC	Katia Rajovic				CSF
DGC	Shona McCoy	Team Leader, Development Planning & Environment			CSF
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Liz Horton				CSF, KSF
Scottish Natural Heritage	Alistair Rennie				CSF, KSF
Marine Scotland					CSF, KSF
Solway Firth Partnership					CSF, KSF
University of Glasgow					KSF
Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association	Scottish Executive				PSM
Cairnryan Community Council	Ross Hay	Secretary			KSF
Carsethorn Community Development Group	Mark Hennessy				KSF
Cumbria County Council	Mark Brierly	Cumbria Coastal Strategy Project			KSF
Cumbria County Council	Paul Marriott	Cumbria Coastal Strategy Project			KSF
Dalbeattie Community Council	Ally Kalotka	Secretary			KSF
Eastriggs, Dornock and Gretna Community Council	Richard Brodie				KSF

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
Gatehouse of Fleet Community Council	Helen Keating	Secretary			KSF
Gretna and Rigg Community Council	Dougie McGregor	Secretary			KSF
Isle of Whithorn Community Council	Ruby Bell	Secretary			KSF
Kirkmabreck Community Council	Martin Armstrong	Vice Chair			KSF
Kirkmaiden Community Council	John Ansell	Secretary			KSF
Port William and District Community Council	Jennifer Gray	Secretary			KSF
Royal Burgh of Wigtown and District Community Council	Jak Kane	Secretary			KSF
Southernness Community Council	Elaine Roydes	Secretary			KSF
Springfield and Gretna Community Council	John Mason	Secretary			KSF
Tongland and Ringford Community Council	Sue Stanworth	Secretary			KSF
Kirkbean Community Council					
Loreburn Community Council					
Canonbie and District Community Council					

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council					
Cummertrees and Cummertrees West Community Council					
Ruthwell and Clarencefield Community Council					
New Abbey Community Council					
Colvend and Southwick Community Council					
Kirkbean Community Council					
Loreburn Community Council					
Canonbie and District Community Council					
Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council					
Cummertrees and Cummertrees West Community Council					
Ruthwell and Clarencefield Community Council					
New Abbey Community Council					
Colvend and Southwick Community Council					

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
Buittle Parish Community Council					
Auchencairn Community Council					
Dundrennan Community Council					
Royal Burgh of Kirkcudbright and District Community Council					
Borgue Community Council					
Cree Valley Community Council					
Garlieston Community Council					
The Royal Burgh of Whithorn and District Community Council					
Old Luce Community Council					
Stoneykirk Community Council					
Kirkmaiden Community Council					
Portpatrick Community Council					
Stranraer, Ochtrelure and Belmont Community Council					
Kirkcolm Community Council					

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
D&GC Councillors					EMF, PSM.
MPs / MSPs	Oliver Mundell	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Finlay Carson	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Sharon Dowey	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Craig Hoy	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs/ MSPs	Emma Harper	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs /MSPs	Carol Mochan	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Colin Smyth	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Martin Whitfield	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs /MSPs	Brian Whittle	MSP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	Alister Jack	MP			EMF, PSM
MPs / MSPs	David Mundell	MP			EMF, PSM
Scottish Government					PSM
Environment Agency					PSM
Scottish Forestry					KSF
Historic Environment Scotland					KSF
Keep Scotland Beautiful					
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society					KSF
Scottish Wildlife Trust					KSF
Solway Marine Information, Learning and Environment (SMILE)	Georgina Reid	Smile Project Officer			CSF, KSF, PSM

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
SUSTRANS					KSF
The SCAPE Trust					PSM
Barholm Mains					PSM
Dourie Farming Co. Ltd					PSM
Kiryennie / Crook of Baldoon Farms					PSM
National Farmers Union Scotland					KSF, PSM
Murray Fisher Foundation					PSM
All landowners (inc. private landowners)					KSF
Arbigland Estate Trust					KSF
Ardwell Estates					KSF
Caerlaverock Estate					KSF
Crown Estate					KSF
Defence Estates / MoD (including Eastriggs; Kirkcudbright Training Area)					KSF
Glenapp Estate					KSF
Hoddom and Kinmount Estates					KSF
National Trust Scotland					KSF
D&GC officers (various departments)					CSF, KSF
Cumbria County Council					PSM

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
South Ayrshire Council (Ayrshire Roads Alliance)	Greig Scott	Supervisory Engineer			PSM
Carlisle City Council					PSM
Allerdale Borough Council					PSM
Copeland Borough Council					PSM
Adaptation Scotland					PSM
British Association for Shooting and Conservation					PSM
Emergency Services					PSM
General Public (incl. local residents; farmers)					PSM
Loch Ryan Advisory Management Forum					KSF
Maritime and Coastguard Agency					PSM
North West Coastal Forum	Caroline Salthouse	Secretary			PSM
Scottish Enterprise, Dumfries & Galloway					PSM
Marine Management Organisation					PSM
Harbour / Marina Operators (incl. Annan Harbour)		Harbour Officer			KSF, PSM
Stena Line					KSF

REPORT

Organisation	Name	Position	Email Contact	Tel	Group
Transport Scotland					PSM
Network Rail					KSF
National Grid Transco					PSM
Scottish Water					KSF
Utility Companies					KSF
RSPB					
Dumfries & Galloway Housing Partnership					
Loreburn Housing Association					
Environment Agency					
WWT Caerlaverock	David Pickett				

Appendix B

Consultation and Client Contact Information

Consultant Contact Information: (RPS)

Name	Role	E-mail
Malcolm Brian	Project Director	
Richard Bingham	Project Manager	
Adrian Bell	Coastal Processes Lead	
Joanne Murdy		

Client Contact Information:

Name	Organisation	E-mail
Brian Templeton	DGC	SMPS@dumgal.gov.uk
Michael Smith	DGC	
Euan McGillivray	DGC	
Katia Rajovic	DGC	

Feedback Summary (Baseline Stage)

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Shoreline Management Plan



DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY SMP– SUMMARY OF FIRST PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Total number of questionnaires completed: 10

(7 Elected Member and 29 members of the community attended the initial round of Shoreline Management Plan Engagement Events at Port Logan, Kirkcudbright, Kirkbean and Annan).

What is your experience of coastal flooding &/or erosion? Please give brief details including information about locations and nature of flooding &/or erosion that you may be experiencing or experienced.

The majority of responses described flooding and erosion at Southernness and Carsethorn. Nun Mill/Goatwell Bay, Knockbrex Bay and Sandgreen/Airds Bay were also mentioned.

What issues or concerns do you have on how your local coastline is managed?

- The coast does not appear to be managed by authorities but rather left to individuals.
- There is no interest in Southernness, when the Council tried to help they were threatened with prosecution. Funding was re-directed to roads instead.
- There are 18th Century cottages located along the edge of Southernness, just behind the lighthouse. The defences here are all privately owned and maintained. Some residents mentioned that they are unable to finance these any longer. Residents are concerned regarding the sinking of coastal defences with water undercutting them.
- Carsethorn is affected by strong erosion. The community receives little official guidance and/or advice on how to deal with this and attract funding (funding not expected from the cash strapped council). Climate change makes this even more uncertain. The good will of the Dumfries and Galloway Council is appreciated but more moral technical and initiative buoyancy would be preferred.
- The future of Carsethorn is a major concern. If future sea level rise occurs, the village will experience more flooding and erosion in the future without better coastal defence.
- SGN gas utilities potentially could be exposed, if the line is not held.
- The Parkdean Sewage Treatment Plant located at the head of Gillfoot Bay could potentially get flooded and pollute the surrounding habitat of the rare and protected Natterjack Toad.
- There is a lack of urgency to deal with any coastal flooding or erosion issues.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Shoreline Management Plan

What would you like to see included in the plan?

- A full and detailed erosion survey that considers the influence of isolated sea defences.
- An infrastructure risk assessment.
- Priority given to areas where houses are directly affected.
- Consider a Flood warning system that is accessible to all – There is a large elderly population, many of whom struggle with internet and technology.
- More prominent individual or Council help is desired.
- We would obviously like to see our specific situation clearly resourced. We are aware of the brief of the plan and are keen to see a clear exposition of forecasting in the light of climate change. In your maps you designate potential flooding as still water: it would be good to see possible extent of wave overspill.
- An exploration of simple ways to stem the erosion, have the use of groynes been looked at?
- Public disabled access to the beach at Carsethorn should be considered.
- A reference to Gas infrastructure should be included within the SMP.

Additional comments/information provided during Consultation

- Consider dredging the Solway to deepen the channel, thereby reducing the width of the Solway, but making it deeper.
- There seems to be a conflict of interest in some areas. As an example - Our local landowner removed gorse bushes which were doing a very good job of reinforcing the line to the merse at Carsethorn. Presumably to attain government grants in conjunction with keeping sheep (2 of them I may add). Consequently, metres and metres of field have been washed away and continue to be. All the while changing the shape and stress areas constantly. The officials charged with research need to press home the importance of saving houses and coastline as a priority over saving the NatterJack Toad, which was the reason for said sheep.
- A716 Drumore Road: When this road is closed due to high sea levels and wave overtopping, the public are advised to take the alternative route. A couple already lost their lives, when they were washed out to sea during a storm and overwashing incident. Residents currently don't like the alternative route during the closure of the A716 along the Kilstay section. The alternative routes along small B and minor roads inconvenience local residents and the community. This adds an extra half hour onto journey time. Also, the safety of this alternative route is a major concern, due to the lack of passing spaces. It is used by large vehicles such as 'Milk Tankers', that are seen to present a hazard to other users.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Shoreline Management Plan

Additional comments/information provided during Consultation (Continued)

- Concern was raised regarding the 'state' of coastal defences that currently protect the A716, Kilstay Road/Bay Section. There is opposition to the potential option of moving this road landwards as this will remove the protection that it provides to 2 properties located along this road. The concerned resident, provided an opinion regarding their preferred option for additional 'rock armour'.
- Tongland and Ringford Community Council, provided information regarding the presence of Reed habitat located at the tidal lower reaches of the River Dee. They also mentioned the presence of a local walk-way that is used by the public to appreciate this special habitat, with bird watching opportunities. The walk currently runs from around McLellan's Castle to Tongland.
- A Brighthouse Bay reference was made to Rockvale Cottage, being affected by wave overtopping. It was mentioned that this cottage is over 200years old, and is defended by the presence of a breakwater/jetty.
- RSPB attended the public consultation meetings and provided information relating to the Baldoon and Mersehead Reserves.
- MoD attended the public consultation meeting. No issues or concerns were identified.
- Coastal erosion is having an impact on Core path 181 (Kirkandrews to Carrick) and Core Path 180 (Carrick). The shoreline is receding at around 1m per year where Core path 181 crosses Knockbex Bay and the private road to Carrick Shore, which is also Core path 180, is threatened by the receding shoreline near Carrick Neck.
- Flooding at Powfoot was reported.
- Coastal erosion at Browhouses was described, including the undercutting of a private defence asset.
- The coastal flooding at Annan Harbour was described as a frequent and annual occurrence. The worst flooding in living memory occurred following Storm Frank in January 2016.
- It is important for us to be included. Thank you for your efforts.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Shoreline Management Plan

Post event Information to Address the Main Concerns

All information provided by the community and key stakeholders is appreciated and will be considered by the Project Team in the development of the new Shoreline Management Plan.

Some specific issues mentioned included:

Risk Assessment of infrastructure: As part of updating the Plan, surveys were undertaken throughout September / October 2019 to identify existing coastal defences and assess their current condition.

A Full Survey, timescale and measurement of erosion: The Shoreline Management Plan will establish a robust, evidence-based and long-term sustainable approach for managing the risk of coastal flooding and erosion. It aims to set out an understanding of the coastal processes affecting Dumfries and Galloway's coast, and that includes erosion. It is, however, noted that there are limitations to assessing coastal erosion as often assessors depend on historical data to do so and the dynamic processes occurring on the coast (for example, the loss and rebuild processes that take place in between storms) can impose challenges to accurate assessments.

Conflicts involving private assets: While it is noted that poorly maintained defences may have a detrimental effect on neighbouring properties, it is not under the Council's statutory duties to maintain private defences.

Sewage treatment works at Gilfoot Bay: According to information provided by SEPA and forwarded to the Project Team by a key Stakeholder "even if a tidal surge was to breach the Parkdean Sewage Treatment Plant's wall there is unlikely to be any spillage of untreated sewage. The plant is maintained & inspected to high standards and the outlet pipes are fitted with non-return valves".

Kilstay Coastal Defences: We have listened to the concerns of the residents relating to coastal flooding along the Kilstay Road. We have reviewed the existing Shoreline Management Policy using all available information and have advocated a safer and longer-term sustainable option.

Core Paths: An investigation of Core Paths was undertaken, to assess the present day and future coastal flooding and erosion.

SGN gas utilities: Concerns regarding the exposure of SGN gas utilities was investigated. The 2016 document 'Climate Change Adaptation Second Round Adaptation Response National Grid Gas was consulted concerning present day and future coastal flooding of SGN gas utilities. NCCA information was used to identify the present and future coastal erosion risk, no concerns or issues have been identified.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Shoreline Management Plan

Post event Information to Address the Main Concerns (Continued)

It should be noted that a Shoreline Management (SMP) is a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal processes. The plan will establish a robust, evidence-based and long-term sustainable approach for managing the risk of coastal flooding and erosion along each part of the Dumfries and Galloway coast.

The information gathered in the questionnaires and from the discussions at the events will be used to improve and assist with the development of the plan. The Project Team are progressing the plan and a further series of engagement events will be held at key stages in the plan development (details will be put onto the webpage at <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/SMP>)

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to all who attended.

Future Engagement

COVID19 social distancing and lockdown procedure have been implemented to varying degrees within the UK and continue to evolve. Consequently future engagement may take place digitally/virtually. Details to will be posted at <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/SMP>.

Facebook

Please note that there is a Facebook page dedicated to the development and update of the Shoreline Management Plan.



Feedback Returns

Virtual Event Feedback Summary (Response to Preferred Policies)

Dumfries and Galloway Shoreline Management Plan

9
Responses

34:04
Average time to complete

Active
Status

- The shoreline has been divided into 35 Policy Units (see Map Information Panel). Which section/s of the shoreline are you interested in?

9
Responses

Latest Responses
"Concur"
"Policy Unit 6: Glencaple -Dumfries"
"14 Gatehouse of Fleet"

9 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Annan, Glencaple
2	anonymous	section 8
3	anonymous	7
4	anonymous	All
5	anonymous	Policy Unit 8: Southernness - Castlehill Point
6	anonymous	All
7	anonymous	14 Gatehouse of Fleet
8	anonymous	Policy Unit 6: Glencaple -Dumfries
9	anonymous	Concur

2. Are you in agreement with the proposed Management Policy for your area of interest?

● Yes 7
● No 1



2. Are you in agreement with the proposed Management Policy for your area of interest?

8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Yes
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	Yes
4	anonymous	Yes
5	anonymous	Yes
6	anonymous	No
7	anonymous	Yes
8	anonymous	Yes

3. Please provide any comments you wish to make on the Management Policies:

7 Responses

Latest Responses

"This response is from D&G Outdoor Access Forum who has an overvie...

..

"The canal banks south of the town are eroding. The canal has subseq...

3. Please provide any comments you wish to make on the Management Policies:

7 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	wordy, wondering how any commitments will be accountably tracked as work packages going forward
2	anonymous	As a community in Carsethorn we have managed our own sea defences but these need maintenance and are not robust. It would be good to see longer term solutions for coastal erosion in place.
3	anonymous	Not sure. Complicated
4	anonymous	In general agree, but concerned that there is no mention of any impact on Portling beach and properties located there. Several of these are at the tide level and have experienced coastal flooding.
5	anonymous	Not sure
6	anonymous	The canal banks south of the town are eroding. The canal has subsequently become shallow and wider speeding up the bank erosion. If dredged and banks stabilised the extra depth will provide a 'sink' for the tidal inflow. Due to the shallow depth, where once large ships could sail, the tide is currently being pushed further upstream causing a greater likelihood of flooding within the town. Actions a) Dredge the canal both north and south of the A75 to north of Port McAdam. b) stabilise banks with stone to prevent further rapid silting.
7	anonymous	This response is from D&G Outdoor Access Forum who has an overview of The Core Path Network. As a considerable proportion of our network is on the coast we are interested and keen on developments as they happen to our coast management

4. Please let us know your thoughts on the online engagement experience:
Information provided was well presented and easy to follow

- Yes 8
- No 0



4. Please let us know your thoughts on the online engagement experience:
Information provided was well presented and easy to follow

8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Yes
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	Yes
4	anonymous	Yes
5	anonymous	Yes
6	anonymous	Yes
7	anonymous	Yes
8	anonymous	Yes

5. Your visit was informative and worthwhile

- Yes 8
- No 0



5. Your visit was informative and worthwhile

8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Yes
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	Yes
4	anonymous	Yes
5	anonymous	Yes
6	anonymous	Yes
7	anonymous	Yes
8	anonymous	Yes

6. For future engagement, do you prefer online or face to face engagement events?

9
Responses

Latest Responses

"No preference"

"either/ both. very impressed with the online engagement as presented."

"Both when possible. "

6. For future engagement, do you prefer online or face to face engagement events?

9 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Mixture and depends on the situation. This was a clever experiment but operating on a smaller laptop or phone screen which is online was v difficult or impossible to read the panel images easily once they were clicked on. This questionnaire was findable but not obvious. Also quite a few pop up links to pdfs or pages. Nice idea but will filter out a lot of potential consultees.
2	anonymous	I enjoyed this one and could access as much detail as I wanted. Perhaps for those with questions face to face may have been better but for me this was ideal
3	anonymous	Face to face.
4	anonymous	No, this is good. I don't have to leave home.
5	anonymous	Online
6	anonymous	Online
7	anonymous	Both when possible.
8	anonymous	either/ both. very impressed with the online engagement as presented.
9	anonymous	No preference

7. 5. Are there any additional comments you wish to make?

7
Responses

Latest Responses

"To enable long-term planning of our coastal paths this Shoreline Man...
"In the last 40 years watching the Fleet, from the changes in course it t...

7. 5. Are there any additional comments you wish to make?

7 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Which stakeholders is this aimed at?
2	anonymous	it saved a lot of time and effort not having to go to a venue. will exclude people not comfortable with technology from engaging so should only be one form of engagement
3	anonymous	Good this moving forward and in a more formal format.
4	anonymous	What about landloss and farms?
5	anonymous	Some stuff is difficult to understand.
6	anonymous	In the last 40 years watching the Fleet, from the changes in course it takes and the shell types and amounts being washed up on Sandgreen beach, I have been very aware in the past few years how much depth of sand/mud has been depleted and how much more rock has been uncovered. I am aware of this from Mossyard to the Murray Isles on all of the Fleet estuary beaches. I wonder if this is wider within Wigtown Bay and where such a massive amount of sediment could have gone in such a short amount of time and whv
7	anonymous	To enable long-term planning of our coastal paths this Shoreline Management plan is essential

ANNEX C4

Virtual Event Feedback Summary (Response to Actions)

Dumfries and Galloway Shoreline Management Plan

5

Responses

06:53

Average time to complete

Active

Status

1. The shoreline has been divided into 35 Policy Units (see Map Information Panel). Which section/s of the shoreline are you interested in?

5

Responses

Latest Responses

"All of them, but Particularly Sandhead"

"All Units. However, specific comments below relate to Policy Units 1 a...

"CPU6"

1. The shoreline has been divided into 35 Policy Units (see Map Information Panel). Which section/s of the shoreline are you interested in?

5 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	test
2	anonymous	CPU 4- from the Isle of Whithorn to Kilfillan Point
3	anonymous	CPU6
4	anonymous	All Units. However, specific comments below relate to Policy Units 1 and 5.
5	anonymous	All of them, but Particularly Sandhead

2. Are you in agreement with the proposed Actions to implement the Shoreline Management Policy for your area of interest?

- Yes 2
- No 1



2. Are you in agreement with the proposed Actions to implement the Shoreline Management Policy for your area of interest?

3 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	No
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	Yes

3. Please provide any comments you wish to make on the proposed Actions:

Latest Responses

5 Responses

- "There has been erosion over my lifetime between Altain (at the south...*
- "Thank you for seeking Historic Environment Scotland's views on the d...*
- "Difficult to follow without guidance. Proposed policy statements are w...*

3. Please provide any comments you wish to make on the proposed Actions:

5 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	test
2	anonymous	I am not in agreement as I am unable to read the material, so do not know what I may be agreeing with.
3	anonymous	Difficult to follow without guidance. Proposed policy statements are well explained.
4	anonymous	<p>Thank you for seeking Historic Environment Scotland's views on the draft Proposed Actions consultation materials prepared in support of the Dumfries and Galloway Shoreline Management Plan. We have reviewed these for our main area of interest for the historic environment and offer the following initial comments. As you will be aware, in our response to your consultation on the draft policy options (dated 3 May 2021) we noted that 'no active intervention' was proposed for flooding/coastal erosion at the shoreline in the vicinity of the scheduled Caerlaverock Castle and Old Castle, castles, courtyards and harbour (SM900046) within Policy Unit 5. For clarity, it will also be for the environmental assessment of the SMP to consider the potential effects of the preferred policy approach, its alternatives and proposed actions on this site, identifying mitigation or enhancement measures where appropriate. The Preferred Policy Statement for Policy Unit 5 that is presented at this stage offers further information in response to our previous comments relating to Caerlaverock Castle. Within that response it is stated that while Caerlaverock Castle itself is not identified to be at coastal flood or erosion risk "it is accepted that parts of its extensive grounds may be at risk." While it is unclear what is being referred to as part of the extensive grounds it is important to note that scheduled monument here covers both the first and second castles and their outer courtyards as well as the remains of the harbour associated with the first castle. In light of this we welcome the recognition here that the environmental assessment that accompanies the SMP will identify impacts and we would look to that assessment to ensure that the component parts of the scheduling are appropriately considered. In relation to Policy Unit 1, the response to our comments relating to the Sark Inventory Battlefield site are noted. Again we look to the environmental assessment to be carried out in order to inform and influence decisions on policy approaches and actions.</p>

4. Information provided was well presented and easy to follow



4. Information provided was well presented and easy to follow

3 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	No
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	No

5. Your visit was informative and worthwhile



5. Your visit was informative and worthwhile

3 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	No
2	anonymous	Yes
3	anonymous	Yes

6. For future engagement, do you prefer online or face to face engagement events?

4 Responses

Latest Responses
"both"

"Virtual, lots to read. I can take my time to read through this stuff"

6. For future engagement, do you prefer online or face to face engagement events?

4 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	
2	anonymous	I would prefer to have material which I can read and consider
3	anonymous	Virtual, lots to read. I can take my time to read through this stuff
4	anonymous	both

7. Are there any additional comments you wish to make?

3
Responses

Latest Responses

**No. Worried about how our coast just seems to be wearing away. Get...*

7. Are there any additional comments you wish to make?

3 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	
2	anonymous	The entire Virtual Engagement Room concept appears to be a waste of time to me, attempting to view the material from a laptop. I found the entire experience completely frustrating and demotivating. Please do not ever use this mechanism again.
3	anonymous	No. Worried about how our coast just seems to be wearing away. Gets worst every year.

ANNEX C5

Feedback Summary - draft SMP)

Respondent	Consultee Category	Comment
NatureScot	Statutory Consultee & Key Stakeholder	<p>We have provided detailed input to the SMP through earlier consultations, as noted in the 'Post Public Engagement Site Specific Comments' for each Policy Unit in Appendix D. Recognising that the SMP forms high-level policy, with local detail to be established through action planning, development planning etc, we look forward to future opportunities to further engage with coastal management in D&G, particularly where there may be implications for designated nature conservation sites.</p> <p>We have one specific comment, concerning Policy Unit 4. For the coast east of Powfoot, Fig 4.2 in Appendix D shows a Preferred Policy of No Active Intervention (NAI) for all epochs, only changing to Hold The Line (HTL) at Newbie Mains Farm. This is supported by text on p34 – 'a localised HTL policy... elsewhere NAI'. We welcome this, in line with specific nature conservation advice in our consultation response of 20 April 2021. However, text on p35 states that HTL "should be applied ...where assets are at risk" (second para), that the Preferred Policy is HTL and that NAI "is considered... in areas with low risk" (last para). As there is at least one property between Powfoot and Newbie Mains that has clear erosion risk, this text appears to contradict Fig 4.2, which could lead to confusion or inappropriate actions in future. We recommend these sections of text should be amended to state simply that both HTL and NAI are Preferred Policies, for different parts of PU4.</p>
Natural England	Statutory Consultee	<p>Natural England has no comments to make on the Draft SMP, SEA and HRA. The lack of comment from Natural England should not be interpreted as a statement that there are no impacts on the natural environment. Other bodies and individuals may wish to make comments that might help the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to fully take account of any environmental risks and opportunities relating to this document.</p> <p>Should the proposal be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment, then in accordance with Section 4 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, please consult Natural England again.</p>

Respondent	Consultee Category	Comment
Historic Environment Scotland	Statutory Consultee	<p>We welcome where the draft Dumfries and Galloway Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) offers an updated and in-depth understanding of the risks associated with coastal processes in the Dumfries and Galloway Area. We understand that the SMP has used this understanding to develop new policy approaches for the management of these risks and, also, to identify actions for their implementation.</p> <p>We note that the SMP recommends a policy of 'No Active Intervention' across most of the Dumfries and Galloway shoreline. 'Hold the Line' policies are mainly recommended for the settlement areas within Coastal Policy Unit 1 (Inner Solway Firth) and Coastal Policy Unit 6 (Loch Ryan) and other localised areas across the SMP area. It is also noted that, due to anticipated future sea level rise, 'Hold the Line' will become increasingly unsustainable and that an alternative policy of 'Managed Realignment' is proposed for the medium-longer term.</p> <p>While we are broadly content to agree with these policy approaches, we nevertheless understand that they will bring with them pronounced challenges and opportunities for the historic environment. A policy of 'No Active Intervention', for example, is likely to result in a continued risk to the historic environment caused by coastal flooding and / or erosion in the short term. In the medium to long term, this risk is likely to increase due to the anticipated effects of climate change. Similarly, a policy of 'Hold the Line' may lead to impacts on heritage assets and their settings as flood defence measures are maintained and adapted to accommodate increased flooding and erosion risks. A policy of 'Hold the Line' also may not provide sufficient adaptation or protection to cultural heritage assets as the risk of flooding and erosion increases. We therefore welcome where we have been engaged on the development of the SMP and have been made aware of the policy approaches and actions proposed. We also welcome the wider commitment to awareness-raising included within the SMP Action Plan.</p> <p>We note that paragraph 3.2.7.2 includes some analysis of those heritage assets at risk from flooding or erosion. This specifies that some heritage assets within Coastal Policy Units 4, 6, 16, 18, 27, 28 and 32 have been identified to be at flood and/or erosion risk. Here, it would have been beneficial if these heritage assets were identified and, also, if some analysis of these risks had been provided. We note that the Arbigland Inventory Designed Landscape (GDL15) is identified as one of 13 heritage assets potentially affected by coastal erosion. While we welcome the identification of this asset, it would have been useful if this list were expanded upon.</p> <p>We are generally content with the high-level summary of existing pressures and issues for cultural heritage in the SMP area presented at paragraph 3.2.7.3</p> <p>We note that the options for each Coastal Policy Unit Area have been assessed against the objective to 'protect or, where appropriate, enhance historic environment features and their</p>

Respondent	Consultee Category	Comment
		<p>settings and welcome this. We note that the minimum requirement for meeting this objective has been to ensure 'no loss or damage to heritage features, or their settings, from the construction or operation of proposed measures'. An aspirational target of 'increased protection/preservation for heritage features and/or improvement of their settings' is also identified. Here, we are unsure why the minimum requirement does not consider no damage to or loss of cultural heritage features caused by flooding or coastal erosion.</p> <p>The reporting of environmental effects for the different policy approaches to be applied across each Coastal Process Unit is, however, difficult to interpret. This is because the assessment findings for several policy units have been merged into a single table. This means that individual heritage assets, or groups of heritage assets, are not clearly identified and it is difficult to establish exactly where significant effects are likely to occur. As a possible result of this, we note that the 'key conclusions' section for each Coastal Process Unit often doesn't identify potentially significant effects for the cultural heritage topic area.</p> <p>This, in turn, may lead to the proposed mitigation and monitoring programme not being fully informed by the assessment findings. We welcome the proposal to mitigate any impacts on heritage assets caused by the construction and maintenance of physical shoreline management measures through detailed design at a project level. We recommend that the design of any such works should be informed by a heritage assessment where appropriate. We would welcome the opportunity to comment on feasibility studies, heritage assessments etc. where there are likely to be effects on sites within our statutory remit.</p> <p>We note the acknowledgement at page 112 that where the policy is to take no action and allow natural uninterrupted coastal processes, including erosion and accretion, to continue there is a potential for loss or damage to cultural heritage assets or their settings. In line with this, we welcome the recommendation that owners should continue to monitor the risk to these assets and follow advice offered by HES. Our Guide to Climate Change Impacts (2019) may be helpful in this regard.</p> <p>The proposed mitigation measures included at Table 7-1 are also welcome. We note that these also include proposals for reducing and avoiding impacts on the historic environment caused by the implementation of shoreline management measures through sensitive project design and planning. We welcome the proposal that suitably experienced heritage professionals should be involved in these processes. As above, we would welcome the opportunity to comment on feasibility studies, heritage assessments etc. where there are likely to be effects on sites within our statutory remit.</p>

Respondent	Consultee Category	Comment
The Coal Authority	Statutory Consultee	Our records indicate that within the Dumfries and Galloway area there are recorded coal mining features present at surface and shallow depth including; mine entries, shallow coal workings, reported surface hazards, surface coal mining and mine gas sites. These recorded features may pose a potential risk to surface stability and public safety. The Coal Authority's records also indicate that surface coal resource is present in the area, although this should not be taken to imply that mineral extraction would be economically viable, technically feasible or environmentally acceptable. As you will be aware those authorities with responsibility for minerals planning and safeguarding will have identified where they consider minerals of national importance are present in your area and related policy considerations. As part of the planning process consideration should be given to such advice in respect of the indicated surface coal resource.
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Key Stakeholder	The Ministry of Defence (MOD) currently own a large area of shoreline at Eastriggs which is located in CPU 1 Policy unit 2. The recommendations set out in the consultation is for a hold the line position in the short term and a hold the line/managed retreat in the medium to long term. We understand that this approach has been recommended on the basis that the site is contaminated and therefore should be protected to stop any contaminants being released. DIO attach a non-technical note setting out a summary of the most recent Land Quality Assessment and remediation works relating to the Eastriggs MOD site.
Transport Scotland	Key Stakeholder	Further, we are developing our approach to adaptation and resilience, which includes consideration of the latest climate change projections, impacts and risks, including coastal change/erosion. This will inform our interventions in this policy area and will likely feed into a number of the proposed actions within the SMP.
G Baird	Public Consultee	<p>The report is comprehensive well researched and written and I welcome the findings and conclusions. In particular, for Luce Bay, I note the relevant parts for Sandhead beach (quotes from the SMP provided by the consultee).</p> <p>Consultee has lived on Sandhead beach for almost 70 years. Over that time the coast south and west of Altain has been heavily eroded, to the extent of approximately 50-100m with the loss of a number of dwellings and farm buildings. East and North of the northernmost dwellings on S road, there has been a slight build-up, but for the southerly houses, there has been slight erosion. This is particularly troublesome in SE gales and a storm surge. This year it accounted for flooding into the football field, the village green and the gardens of the 4 most southerly houses. Those dwellings further north have for good reasons, been spared the grass cutting and benefit from marram grass and other vegetation.</p> <p>There have been a few sightings of sand lizards, with common lizards, adders and slow worms rewarding the patient. Stone chats and skylarks abound. We are proposing a regeneration project to preserve and enhance the current natural</p>

Respondent	Consultee Category	Comment
		environment and reduce the risk of foreshore erosion. We would welcome any advice or support on the best way forward not pursue the objectives of coastal and wildlife protection.
J Gray	Public Consultee	Consultee would like to input their opinion on the above plan. They would say that maintaining what is already in place is the best way to continue. Also encouraging local people to take responsibility for their own coastline is important to the consultee. Consultee has recently moved to Port William and am very proud to live in a town which built its own harbour.