



COUNCIL SUMMONS

To Members of the Metropolitan Borough Council

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council to

be held on **Thursday 21st September, 2017 at 6.30 pm at the Town Hall, Bootle** to

transact the business set out on the agenda overleaf.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Carney".

Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Southport

Wednesday 13 September 2017

Please contact Ruth Harrison, Democratic Services Manager
on 0151 934 2046 or e-mail ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

We endeavour to provide a reasonable number of full agendas, including reports at the meeting. If you wish to ensure that you have a copy to refer to at the meeting, please can you print off your own copy of the agenda pack prior to the meeting.

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A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, before leaving the meeting room during the discussion on that particular item.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(Pages 9 - 24)

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2017

4. Mayor's Communications

Public Session

5. Matters Raised by the Public

To deal with matters raised by members of the public resident within the Borough, of which notice has been given in accordance with the procedures relating to public questions, motions or petitions set out in Paragraph 36 to 46 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

(Details of any further petitions notified or questions submitted by members of the public will be circulated at the meeting).

Council Business Session

6. Questions Raised by Members of the Council

To receive and consider questions to Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees or Spokespersons for any of the Joint Authorities upon any matter within their portfolio/area of responsibility, of which notice has been given by Members of the Council in accordance with Paragraph 48 to 50 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, set out in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

7. Capital Budget Update 2017/18

(Pages 25 -
28)

Report of the Head of Corporate Resources

8. Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2016/17 - 2019/20 - Prudential Indicators 2017/18

(Pages 29 -
34)

- 9. Discretionary Relief for Business Rates following the Revaluation of 2017** (Pages 35 - 46)
Report of the Head of Corporate Resources
- 10. Adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan** (Pages 47 - 168)
Report of the Executive Director
- 11. Amendment to the Scheme of Members Allowances 2017/18** (Pages 169 - 172)
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
- 12. Constitutional Changes** (Pages 173 - 176)
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance
- 13. Membership of Committees 2017/18** (Pages 177 - 182)
Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance

14. Motion submitted by Councillor Roscoe

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Roscoe:

Motion in relation to Betting Machines

This Council notes:

1. The prevalence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) in betting shops, often referred to in the media as “the crack cocaine of gambling”.
2. That, unlike fruit machines in pubs, bingo halls and amusement arcades where cash stakes are limited to £2, gamblers can bet with cash or via a debit card up to £100 every 20 seconds on FOBTs, more than four times as fast as the rate of play in casinos.
3. That in 2012, over £1.5bn was lost on FOBTs across the UK. More profit was made from FOBTs than from the National Lottery, when according to the most recent British Gambling Prevalence Survey, 56% of the population play the Lottery, but just 4% play FOBTs.
4. Empirical evidence that suggests FOBTs are the most addictive form of gambling.
5. Research carried out by Geofutures, which found there to be four times as many betting shops in areas of high unemployment than in areas of low unemployment.
6. This same research estimates that £207,480,458 was

- lost on FOBTs in Sefton in 2016 alone.
7. Nationally, more than 80% of turnover in betting shops and more than half of profits are derived from FOBTs. Less than 20% of stakes in betting shops are over the counter.
 8. A recent economic analysis undertaken by Landman Economics, commissioned by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which assessed the impact of FOBTs on local economies and across the wider economy. The report concluded that every £1bn spent on FOBTs produces a net reduction of 13,000 jobs, compared to if spent in the wider consumer economy. The projected doubling of revenue from FOBTs by 2023 could cost a further 23,000 jobs across the economy.
 9. Concern that the Government has not addressed the issues caused by FOBTs, and the announcement made by Maria Miller MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, on 10 October 2013 in response to the Triennial Review of gaming machine stakes and prizes, where the stakes on FOBTs were unchanged.
 10. The Government has proposed measures that will require players who wish to stake over £50 per spin to seek permission from staff. This wrongly implies stakes up to £50 are safe, and that staff intervention is an effective means of ensuring player protection.
 11. The position in the Republic of Ireland where the Government has introduced legislation to outlaw FOBTs in betting shops.

This Council believes that the increase in FOBTs is causing significant problems and believes that the Government should either use the existing legislative framework, or introduce legislation to outlaw B2 casino games in betting shops.

Sefton Council launched a young people's outreach problem gambling programme (BigDeal) delivered through Beacon Counselling Trust and GamCare. Awareness raising sessions for groups of young people and training for professionals working with this age group which provides information about risks that problem gambling poses and how to recognise signs and symptoms. Beacon Counselling Trust also provides free problem gambling counselling to individuals and family members affected by the issue.

At the very least, local authorities should be given the powers to protect the local amenity and wellbeing of communities by:

- (1) stopping the proliferation of betting shops and
- (2) reducing the maximum stakes and slowing down the speed of play.

This Council therefore requests:

1. The Chief Executive writes to Helen Grant MP recommending a reduction in the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2.
2. The Chief Executive writes to the three Sefton MPs, Peter Dowd, Bill Esterson and Damien Moore declaring this Council's support for their proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act, which calls on the Government to reduce the maximum bet per spin on FOBTs to £2.

15. Motion submitted by Councillor Lappin

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Lappin

Motion in relation to NJC Pay to Councils

This Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012 compounded in Sefton by an incremental freeze for several years too
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation

This council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. This council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

This council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to local government funding and calls on the Government to provide

additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the LGA to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review

16. Motion submitted by Councillor Friel

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Friel:

Motion in relation to the Campaign “Tyred”

On Monday 10 September 2012 a coach bound for Liverpool carrying 53 people from the Bestival music festival on the Isle of Wight, left the road and crashed into a tree instantly killing Michael Molloy (18), Kerry Ogden (23) and the coach driver, Colin Daulby (63), and left others with life changing injuries.

The inquest into the crash found that the front nearside tyre which was actually older than the coach itself, at 19 years, was responsible for the crash.

Michael’s mother Frances is campaigning for a change in the law requiring a ban on tyres older than ten years on commercial vehicles.

Despite the wide spread public and political support for this campaign, no change in the law has been made, shamefully leaving others at risk from faulty dangerous tyres.

This Council:

- notes that Frances has launched ‘Tyred’ - the official campaign to pressure Government - to change the law to ban the use of tyres older than ten years on public service vehicles (buses, coaches and minibuses).
- wholeheartedly supports ‘Tyred’ and requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister and

Leader of the Opposition to seek cross-party support for a change in the law.

17. Motion submitted by Councillor Dawson

To consider the following Motion submitted by Councillor Dawson:

Motion in relation to Overview and Scrutiny – Call In Procedure

This Council:

- recognises that to maintain any semblance of being genuinely democratic, the operation of 'Cabinet government' within Local Authorities requires genuine open and engaging scrutiny and review processes including call-in procedures.
- notes that the extent and frequency utilisation of the process of call-in within Sefton MBC has, to date, been moderate and considered
- commits itself to engaging positively with those members of the Council who make call-in requests to ensure that the spirit of the legislation which created scrutiny processes is adhered to and that the best and most widely-supported decisions can be arrived at
- recognises that the best decisions are often made where those Councillors and community organisations which have a particular knowledge and concern about the specific issues concerned are permitted to be involved in pre-scrutiny of key decisions before they are made
- recommends to the Sefton MBC Cabinet that the Cabinet should instruct the Officers of the Council involved in preparing decisions for Cabinet Members to always consider which organisations and councillors might be usefully involved in commenting upon draft decisions before they are made, through either formal or informal pre-scrutiny processes

THIS SET OF MINUTES IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

COUNCIL

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON THURSDAY 13TH JULY, 2017

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Robinson) in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor) Vice Chair

Councillors Ashton, David Barton, Jo Barton, Bennett, Bliss, Booth, Bradshaw, Burns, Byrom, Carr, Carragher, Linda Cluskey, Cummins, Dawson, Friel, Gannon, Grace, Hands, Hardy, Jones, Keith, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Lappin, Daniel Lewis, Dan T. Lewis, Maher, McGinnity, McGuire, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Brenda O'Brien, Michael O'Brien, O'Hanlon, Owens, Page, Preece, Pullin, Roche, Roscoe, Sayers, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman, Weavers, Webster, Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atkinson, Ball, Brennan, Brodie-Browne, Kevin Cluskey, Dams, Dodd, Dutton, Fairclough, Jamieson, McCann, Pitt and Shaw.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interest were received.

23. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 11 May 2017; the Adjourned Annual Council meeting held on 16 May 2017 and the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting held on 20 June 2017 be approved as a correct record.

24. ONE MINUTE SILENCE

The Mayor reported that it was the Memorial week of Srebrenica and requested that all those present stand in silence for one minute as a mark of respect.

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25. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment - Freedom of the Borough

The Mayor referred to the Extra-ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 June 2017 and the Reception that took place in Bootle Town Hall after bestowing the Freedom of the Borough on The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. He thanked Members of the Council for their attendance at what was a truly successful and enjoyable event and thanked all the Officers in the Democratic Services Team for their hard work in organising the Freedom Event.

Royal Visit

The Mayor reported that together with the Mayoress, he had been delighted to meet HRH The Duke of Wessex when he visited the Brunswick Youth and Community Centre on 23 June 2017, to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Centre. The Mayor indicated that both the Mayoress and himself thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Armed Forces Weekend

The Mayor reported that together with the Mayoress, he had attended various engagements to celebrate the Armed Forces Weekend, which commenced on Friday 23 June with a reception on board HMS Iron Duke and then on Saturday 24 June, they attended the Armed Forces Day Parade, followed by Sefton's own Armed Forces Day Event on Sunday 25 June 2017 which included a drumhead service and parade. The weekend had concluded with a Church Service and Reception in Liverpool.

Tina Wilkins – Head of Adult Social Care

The Mayor reported that Tina Wilkins, the Head of Adult Social Care would be leaving the Council after 5 years' service to take up a position with North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation and on behalf of the Council extended thanks and appreciation for the work which Tina had undertaken for the Council and best wishes for the future in her new role. Councillor Cummins (Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care) paid tribute to the work undertaken by Tina for Sefton Council.

Steve Pearce – Democratic Services Manager

The Mayor reported that Steve Pearce, the Democratic Services Manager would be taking early retirement after 43 years' local government service and 10 years' service with Sefton Council and on behalf of the Council extended thanks and appreciation for the work which Steve had undertaken for the Council and best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement. The Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher) and Councillors McGuire, Jones and Bennett paid tribute to the work undertaken by Steve for Sefton Council.

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26. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The Mayor reported that no matters had been raised by Members of the Public.

27. QUESTIONS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council considered a schedule setting out the written questions submitted by:

- Councillor O'Hanlon to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Weavers to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Daniel Lewis to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Pullin to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Marianne Welsh to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Hands to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
- Councillor Dawson to the Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills (Councillor Atkinson)
- Councillor Dawson to the Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Moncur) – 2 Questions
- Councillor McGuire to the Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing (Councillor Hardy)

together with the responses given. Supplementary questions were responded to by the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing.

28. PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Council considered the report of the Director of Public Health which incorporated his independent annual report on the health and wellbeing of the population of Sefton highlighting key issues. The annual report had been developed through collaborative working with a range of Council and external partners and it considered the root causes of health inequalities across Sefton, what actions are already being undertaken locally to address these issues, as well as recommendations for future actions on nine key areas, which are:

- The best start in life
- Healthy schools and pupils
- Helping people find good jobs and stay in work

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- Active and safe travel
- Warmer and safer homes
- Access to green and open spaces and the role of leisure services
- Strong communities, wellbeing and resilience
- Public protection and regulatory services
- Health and spatial planning

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Grace and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the annual report of the Director of Public Health be received; and
- (2) it be noted that the report will be published.

29. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

The Council considered the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2016/17 and Councillors Page, Murphy, Sayers and Byrom highlighted the key areas of work undertaken by the respective Committees and thanked Members and Officers for their support and assistance during 2016/17.

It was moved by Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Byrom and

RESOLVED:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17 be noted.

30. PROPOSED PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER-DOG CONTROL

Further to Minute No. 7 of the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 19 June 2017, the Council considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance on the draft Public Space Protection Order – Dog Control, under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The report provided an overview of the public consultation on proposed additional dog control measures through a proposed Public Space Protection Order

It was moved by Councillor John Kelly, seconded by Councillor Friel and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Public Space Protection Order - Dog Control be implemented as follows:
 - (i) continue with the offences of not removing dog's fouling forthwith;

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- (ii) restrict the number of dogs that can be walked by one person to a maximum of 6;
 - (iii) prohibit dogs from entering enclosed playgrounds;
 - (iv) prohibit dogs from entering marked or fenced sports pitches during specified periods;
 - (v) dogs to be kept on a lead within defined picnic sites and family areas;
 - (vi) dogs to be kept on a lead within all public roads and footways;
 - (vii) dogs to be kept on a lead within all cemeteries and crematoria; and
 - (viii) dogs to be placed on a lead when directed by an authorised officer, to prevent a nuisance or behaviour likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to the public;
- (2) it be noted that the following restrictions/requirements will not be included within the proposal:
- (i) prohibiting dogs from open playgrounds;
 - (ii) dogs to be kept on leads in designated wildlife areas;
 - (iii) dogs to be kept on leads in designated nature reserves;
 - (iv) prohibiting dogs from designated beach areas – “dog free zones” (except for existing Dog Free Zones under current bylaws);
 - (v) dogs to be kept on leads within fenced conservation areas when livestock are present; and
 - (vi) persons in charge of a dog to have a receptacle with them to remove dog fouling; and
- (3) Officers be commended for the high levels of public engagement undertaken through a range of consultation channels in preparing the Public Space Protection Order – Dog Control.

31. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2017/18

The Council considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance which indicated that Councillor Dawson was no longer a member of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 28 June 2017, which had changed the Political Balance on the Council and that the change in proportionality affected the entitlement to formal Committee Places.

The impact of the change was that the Labour Group would now be entitled to one additional place on the membership of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the Liberal Democrat Group would lose one place on that Committee. As a consequence, Councillor Keith indicated that Councillor Marianne Welsh would no longer be a Member of the

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Committee. She also referred to a number of proposed changes to the membership of Committees by the Liberal Democrat Group.

Councillor Bliss on behalf of the Conservative Group proposed a change to the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health)

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Grace and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) it be noted that the change in proportionality resulted in an increase in the Labour Group entitlement of one committee place and a corresponding decrease in the Liberal Democrat entitlement;
- (2) the membership of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee be amended by the deletion of Councillor Marianne Welsh (Liberal Democrat) and the addition of Councillor Tweed (Labour); and
- (3) the following changes to the membership of Committees and Outside Bodies, as submitted by the Liberal Democrat Group and Conservative Group be approved:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health)

- Councillor Marianne Welsh to replace Councillor Dawson as a Member of the Committee
- Councillor Jo Barton to replace Councillor Keith as the Substitute Member for Councillor Marianne Welsh on the Committee
- Councillor Dodd to replace Councillor Marianne Welsh as the Substitute Member for Councillor McGuire on the Committee.
- Councillor Jones to replace Councillor Bliss as a Member of the Committee and Councillor Bliss to be the Substitute Member for Councillor Jones on the Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)

- Councillor Brodie Browne to replace Councillor Dodd as the Substitute Member for Councillor Hands on the Committee.
- Councillor Preece to replace Councillor Booth as the Substitute Member for Councillor Keith on the Committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

- Councillor Daniel Lewis to replace Councillor Dawson as the Substitute Member for Councillor Weavers on the Committee.

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- Councillor Booth to replace Councillor Shaw as the Substitute Member for Councillor Bill Welsh on the Committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services)

- Councillor Shaw to replace Councillor Weavers as the Substitute Member for Councillor Booth on the Committee.

Audit and Governance Committee

- Councillor Bill Welsh to replace Councillor Hands as the Substitute Member for Councillor Shaw on the Committee.

Planning Committee

- Councillor Lynne Thompson to replace Councillor Marianne Welsh as a Member of the Committee.
- Councillor Brodie-Browne to replace Councillor Dodd as the Substitute Member for Councillor Ashton on the Committee.
- Councillor Dodd to replace Councillor McGuire as the Substitute Member for Councillor Hands on the Committee.
- Councillor Marianne Welsh to replace Councillor Lynne Thompson as the Substitute Member for Councillor Preece on the Committee.
- Councillor Weavers to replace Councillor Booth as the Substitute Member for Councillor Lynne Thompson on the Committee.

Licensing and Regulatory (Urgent Referrals) Committee

- Councillor Keith to replace Cllr Marianne Welsh as the Substitute Member for Councillor Preece on the Committee.

Local Joint Consultative Committee

- Councillor McGuire to replace Councillor Dawson as a Member of the Committee.

Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

- Councillor McGuire to replace Councillor Dawson as a representative on the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

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- Councillor Booth to replace Councillor Keith as a representative on Sefton Education Business Partnership.

32. CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

The Council considered the report of the Head of Commissioning Support and Business Intelligence on proposed changes to the Contract Procedure Rules in the Council Constitution, following a review of procurement processes, rules and guidance, the progress of which has been reported regularly to Audit and Governance Committee.

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor Byrom and

RESOLVED:

That the revised Contract Procedure Rules set out in the report be approved.

33. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR BENNETT

It was moved by Councillor Bennett, seconded by Councillor Gannon and unanimously

RESOLVED:

Cuts to Police Force Budgets

The Council recognises the vital role played by Merseyside Police Service and thanks our police officers for the work they do in protecting our residents and in many cases putting their own lives at risk when tackling crime.

The Council considers that it is not only the Metropolitan Police Force that should be strengthened as terrorism and organised crime is spread across the country, and to do so only highlights the north/south divide.

The Council notes that:

- significant threats remain of violent crime and terrorism and that police officers consistently play the essential role in keeping order and halting terrorist atrocities.
- The latest Home Office figures show that between September 2010 and September 2016 the number of police officers in English and Welsh forces fell by 18,991, or 13%.
- As of March 2016, there were 5,639 authorised firearms officers in England and Wales, down from 6,976 in March 2010. The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) says that an additional 640 firearms

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officers have been recruited in the last year and plans are in place to bring the number of armed police back up to around 7,000 by next year. This is only being partly funded by the Government and some of the Police Forces must find some of the cash themselves.

- The numbers of special constables and police community support officers (PCSOs) who patrol the streets have fallen by 7% and 11% respectively in the past year alone, and simply comparing budget cuts to performance does not take account of demographic differences and crime levels. So while it is true to say that policing is being protected at least to some extent, this comes off the back of five years of deep cuts.
- Merseyside Police is approaching breaking point as the staff fighting a surge in shootings are “stretched to the limits”. That is the stark warning from Chief Constable Andy Cooke, who warned further planned budgets cuts could lead to low-level incidents not being responded to. His words came as Merseyside Police battles a gun crime epidemic while struggling to come to terms with the loss of more than 1,000 officers since 2010.
- Seven years of cuts have seen the Merseyside Police workforce slashed to such an extent that the Chief Constable, who has spent three decades in the police, has “never known a situation where Merseyside Police officers have been pushed to the limit in dealing with everything we need to deal with to keep our communities safe”. The force’s budget has already been reduced by almost £100m, but further cuts are expected to lead to the loss of more officers over the next three years. If those cuts become a reality, Chief Constable Cooke fears the public will see “a significant reduction in the service offered to them”.
- The primary duties of the Police are the protection of life and property, preservation of the peace, and prevention and detection of criminal offences which will become more difficult and unsustainable with continued cuts to the police.

This Council resolves:

1. To write to the Home Secretary indicating its opposition to any further cuts to the police forces and in particular the Merseyside Police and demanding that more money is made available for our Police Forces to enable them to carry out their duties and protect the citizens; and
2. To put on record its thanks to the Chief Constable of Merseyside Police and all officers, past and present for the excellent work they have done and continue to do in addressing crime in Merseyside.

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34. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR CARRAGHER

It was moved by Councillor Carragher, seconded by Councillor Moncur and unanimously

RESOLVED:

Breast is Best

Sefton Council strongly encourages mothers to breastfeed. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy actively promotes breast feeding as the best start in life, and as such it is encouraged by NHS and community breastfeeding support staff. *In spite of this, the Council will not discriminate against any woman in her chosen method of infant feeding and will fully support her in the decision she has made.*

Breastfeeding is the healthiest way to feed a baby and there are important health benefits for both mother and child. Despite this, Sefton still has one of the lowest rates of breastfeeding in the UK. The most recent statistics for Sefton tell us that 57.7% of new mothers start breastfeeding, but that this rapidly declines to 29.8% after just 6-8 weeks.

The World Health Organisation recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of a baby's life. Mothers often stop breastfeeding exclusively around 4-6 months of age, perhaps because they have returned to work. However, returning to work does not mean that women have to stop breastfeeding. Legislation is in place protecting new mothers in the workplace. Employees of the Council who are breastfeeding are covered under these regulations.

Sefton Council actively promotes breast feeding to new mothers, and it is acknowledged that the Council should create a breastfeeding friendly working environment. In so doing the Council will act as role model for other employers. Benefits include, reduced levels of sickness amongst mothers and babies, increased staff morale and an extra incentive to offer potential employees.

The Council will ensure that a Sefton Council workplace breastfeeding policy is implemented that includes ; break allowances so that mothers can express milk; provision of a clean, warm and private room for expressing milk; a fridge to store expressed milk and flexible working hours for breastfeeding mothers.

In addition, the Council will ensure:

- That breastfeeding is permitted and welcomed in all public areas of the Council;
- That under no circumstances will a breastfeeding mother be asked to move, cover up or stop feeding her baby;

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- That objections to breastfeeding in any public place are tactfully but robustly challenged;
- The development and implementation of a breastfeeding policy based on the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Standard, relevant NICE guidance and the Healthy Child Programme. The policy will be a collaboration involving families, health care professionals and the voluntary sector;
- That no Council or partner agency condones the promotion of infant formula through aggressive marketing techniques, or non-evidence based claims of health benefits; and
- However, the Council, whilst actively promoting breast feeding will not discriminate against any woman in her chosen method of infant feeding and will fully support her in the decision that she feels is best suitable for her well being.

35. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR HARDY

It was moved by Councillor Hardy, seconded by Councillor Thomas following debate, unanimously

RESOLVED:

Gun Crime and Funding

Events in the last months have highlighted significant challenges to maintaining the safety of our communities and the confidence of the public in those agencies tasked with keeping them safe. This is a time of unprecedented challenges for agencies working in Community Safety Partnerships.

During recent months the country has faced three terror attacks and the terror level has reached “critical”. At the same time, the Liverpool City Region has seen seven firearms discharges in seven days, one of which resulted in the murder of an 18 year old boy, as well as having to deal with an English Defence League rally in Liverpool City Centre.

Individually, and separately, these issues have led to heightened fears of violence across the region; people are scared and more needs to be done by the Government to address this.

Years of severe austerity cuts to policing, local authority and other public sector budgets have made it harder for partners to take the steps required to identify and challenge those engaging in terror and some of the most serious criminal activity that is currently blighting our communities.

Since 2010, Merseyside Police has lost £84 million from its budget, and is still required to deliver a further £18 million savings before 2021/22. This equates, in real terms, to 1,022 less police officers in Merseyside than

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there were 7 years ago and the implementation of a functional model that moves away from the Neighbourhood Policing model that had served our communities so effectively and delivered year on year reductions in reported crime and anti-social behaviour.

At the same time the Government continues to impose significant cuts in funding for local authorities. By the end of 2017/18 the Council will have met a funding shortfall of approximately £200m since 2010 and by 2020 Sefton will have had a real terms cut in funding of 51%.

Given the amount of money already saved and the scale of the funding cuts still to come, the council is now in a position where it simply cannot continue to provide the same levels of service. Whilst every effort has been made to protect front-line services, this is becoming increasingly difficult. Many council services have already been reduced or stopped entirely. The council's workforce has been reduced accordingly since 2010 and this impacts upon our ability to appropriately support the Community Safety agenda.

At this time appropriate funding is required to enable Merseyside Police and other partners involved in the Community Safety and Prevent agendas to identify and challenge those potentially involved in terrorism or those who engage in incidents of serious violence within our communities.

A reactionary approach alone is not sufficient and the Police and other agencies in the Liverpool City Region require additional funding to support prevention activity that seeks to work with those at risk of radicalisation or offending and to improve community cohesion in some of our hardest to reach communities.

This Council therefore calls upon the Government to:

- (i) Support Merseyside Police to meet these “unprecedented challenges” by increasing funding for Merseyside Police and halting the cuts that they are required to deliver by 2020; and
- (ii) Financially support other agencies affected by the Prevent and Guns & Gangs agendas, including Local Authorities, through the direct funding of local prevention teams with a dedicated remit of:-
 - (a) challenging and supporting communities;
 - (b) utilising any lawful means to deliver behaviour change; and
 - (c) offering those who are radicalised, or are involved in serious organised crime, a pathway out.

36. MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PULLIN

It was moved by Councillor Pullin, seconded by Councillor Marianne Welsh:

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 13TH JULY, 2017

“Following the tragedy of Grenfell Tower and the discovery of many of the nation’s high-rise homes being covered in non-fire resistant cladding, The Council recognises:

- That the concerns and worries of the residents must be met and homes must be made safe.
- That many residents who live in our nations tower blocks rely on social housing, many of which are on low incomes and are some of most vulnerable in society.
- That, if the cost of re-cladding tower blocks are to be met by their owners (Councils, housing associations or private landlords) then these costs are likely to be passed on to residents or will mean cutting of other services.
- That the passing on of costs or cutting services adversely affect the poorer and most vulnerable more.
- That landlords, through the lack of resources or an inability to raise resources, may do nothing and thus leave residents living in potentially dangerous homes.
- That the government’s own figures estimate the number of tall residential buildings which potentially have similar cladding as Grenfell Tower to be around 600.
- The Council acknowledges that it has neither the financial or human resources to respond to this issue.

Therefore this Council:

- Instructs the Chief Executive to write on the Council’s behalf to the Prime Minister and Communities Secretary, with a copy to local MPs constituencies within the Borough, expressing that the government should consider this as a civil emergency and express the Councils wish that where housing within a local authority area proves to be of concern and where there are no immediate funds to rectify the issues are available, that the Government (the SoS for Communities and Local Government) sets aside sufficient funding for capital works and also for local authorities to access to deal with any homelessness issues that may arise.”

An **amendment** was moved by Councillor Hardy, seconded by Councillor Roscoe that the Motion be amended as follows:

Add the following words:

“That, should it happen, the passing on of costs or cutting services adversely affect the poorer and most vulnerable more.”

And after “Therefore this Council:” add:

- “This Council congratulates the fast response of Sefton Council Officers, Elected Members, Merseyside Fire Brigade and OVH Officers

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COUNCIL- THURSDAY 13TH JULY, 2017

in inspecting clad tower blocks in Sefton, speaking to residents to allay their concerns and arranging for cladding to be removed.

- Their coordinated and informative response was in stark contrast to the delayed uncommunicative reaction of Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council.”

In accordance with Paragraph 71 in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution, Councillor Pullin indicated that he accepted the amendment as a ‘friendly amendment’ to his Motion.

Following debate on the Substantive Motion, it was unanimously

RESOLVED:

Following the tragedy of Grenfell Tower and the discovery of many of the nation’s high-rise homes being covered in non-fire resistant cladding, The Council recognises:

- That the concerns and worries of the residents must be met and homes must be made safe.
- That many residents who live in our nations tower blocks rely on social housing, many of which are on low incomes and are some of most vulnerable in society.
- That, if the cost of re-cladding tower blocks are to be met by their owners (Councils, housing associations or private landlords) then these costs are likely to be passed on to residents or will mean cutting of other services.
- That, should it happen, the passing on of costs or cutting services adversely affect the poorer and most vulnerable more.
- That landlords, through the lack of resources or an inability to raise resources, may do nothing and thus leave residents living in potentially dangerous homes.
- That the Government’s own figures estimate the number of tall residential buildings which potentially have similar cladding as Grenfell Tower to be around 600.
- The Council acknowledges that it has neither the financial or human resources to respond to this issue.

Therefore this Council:

- This Council congratulates the fast response of Sefton Council Officers, Elected Members, Merseyside Fire Brigade and OVH Officers in inspecting clad tower blocks in Sefton, speaking to residents to allay their concerns and arranging for cladding to be removed.

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 13TH JULY, 2017

- Their coordinated and informative response was in stark contrast to the delayed uncommunicative reaction of Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council.
- Instructs the Chief Executive to write on the Council's behalf to the Prime Minister and Communities Secretary, with a copy to local MPs constituencies within the Borough, expressing that the government should consider this as a civil emergency and express the Councils wish that where housing within a local authority area proves to be of concern and where there are no immediate funds to rectify the issues are available, that the Government (the SoS for Communities and Local Government) sets aside sufficient funding for capital works and also for local authorities to access to deal with any homelessness issues that may arise.

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Agenda Item 7

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 21 September 2017
Subject:	Capital Budget Update 2017/18		
Report of:	Head of Corporate Resources	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To request Council to approve additions to the Capital Programme and the use of up to £1.4m of the existing DFG adaptations programme be used for wider use within Better Care Fund plans.

Recommendation(s):

Council is recommended:-

- i) To approve the inclusion of the additional capital allocations, outlined in section 2, to the 2017/18 Capital Programme.
- ii) To approve the use of up to £1.4m of the existing DFG adaptations programme for wider incorporation into Better Care Fund plans.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To ensure additional schemes are included in the Capital Programme and that the use of up to £1.4m of the existing DFG adaptations programme be used for wider use within Better Care Fund plans.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

None

(B) Capital Costs

The report considers additional capital schemes and asks that they be added to the 2017/18 Capital Programme. It also considers that the Council has the ability to invest some of the Disabled Facilities Grant funding on wider social care capital projects and asks that the use of up to £1.4m of the existing DFG adaptations programme for wider use within Better Care Fund plans be approved.

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Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None
Legal Implications: None
Equality Implications: None

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4837/17) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD 4121/17) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

None

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council Meeting

Contact Officer:	Paul Reilly
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 4106
Email Address:	paul.reilly@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

None

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Cabinet meetings of 27 July 2017 and 7 September 2017 agreed a number of capital schemes and requested they be referred to Council. This report requests Council to approve the inclusion of these schemes into the 2017/18 Capital Programme.
- 1.2 The report also considers that the Council has the ability to invest some of the Disabled Facilities Grant funding on wider social care capital projects and asks that the use of up to £1.4m of the existing DFG adaptations programme for wider use within Better Care Fund plans be approved.

2. Further additions to the Capital Programme.

- 2.1 At Budget Council in March 2017, Members approved the capital programme for 2017/18. Since that point a number of additions to this programme have been identified and are detailed below for inclusion.

Scheme	Value (£'m)	Funding Source	Description
Dunes Leisure Centre – Sports Pitches	0.092	Capital receipt and Invest to save related borrowing	Due to inflationary pressure this scheme cost has increased and a further budget increase is required
Netherton Activity Centre Fitness Suite Refurbishment	0.150	Capital receipt and Invest to save related borrowing	New Scheme to refurbish a key element of the centre in order to maintain customer base
Various S106 schemes	0.154	S106 receipts	Various schemes within the Derby (£0.120m) and Linacre (£0.034m) wards

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Road Schemes – M58/A565

- 2.2 Members will recall that as part of the indicative 3 year capital programme that was approved in March 2017, the proposed funding of the M58 and A565 schemes was detailed. Following the closure of the 2016/17 accounts and a review of the funding options that are available it is proposed that the funding profile of these 2 schemes is updated. This will allow a reduction in the contribution required from the Council's LTP / Integrated Transport Block allocations over the 3 years, thereby releasing these allocations for alternative use. The proposed new funding profile for these schemes is shown below subject to Council approval.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
Source	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m
2016/17 carry forward	0.314	0.000	0.000	0.314
Residual fee income-highways design and development	0.175	0.550	0.000	0.725
Contribution from Integrated Transport Block	0.350	0.383	0.182	0.915
Balance to be met from unallocated capital resources	0.000	0.500	0.000	0.500
Total	0.839	1.433	0.182	2.454

3. Disabled Facilities Grant Allocation

- 3.1 The Council has been notified of the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) for 2017/2018, with an allocation of £3.644m. The grant is required to be spent in accordance with a Better Care Fund (BCF) spending plan jointly agreed between the local authority and the relevant CCG's. There is also a residual amount of DFG of £0.619m carried forward in the BCF from 2016/2017. While the DFG allocation is primarily for the purpose of mandatory grants to enable adaptations to disabled people's homes, as part of the BCF planning process it is possible to invest some DFG grant funding on wider social care capital projects. A sum of £2.4m has been requested to cover the anticipated cost of Disabled Facilities grants in 2017/18 and £0.445m is required for capitalisation of community equipment. Therefore it is estimated that £1.4m may be available for wider social care capital programmes subject to approval of Council and incorporation into Better Care Fund plans. All plans will be considered by SCIG.

Agenda Item 8

Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	27 July 2017 21 September 2017
Subject:	Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2016/17 - 2019/20 - Prudential Indicators 2017/18		
Report of:	Head of Corporate Resources	Wards Affected:	All
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt Confidential Report:	/ No		

Summary:

To update the Councils Prudential Indicators as required under the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet are recommended to

Approve the revised Prudential Indicators as detailed in the report, in order to comply with The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

Council are recommended to

Approve the revised Prudential Indicators as detailed in the report, in order to comply with The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The Councils Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 were approved at Budget Council in March 2017. In the event that an update is required then this is to be approved by Cabinet. Following recent investment activity by the Council and update is required to 4 of the Council's 10 prudential indicators.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

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There are no revenue implications arising from this report.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no capital implications arising from this report

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None.
Legal Implications: None.
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: n/a
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: n/a
Commission, broker and provide core services: The changes proposed within this report will ensure that the Council continues to meet its statutory requirements under the Prudential Code
Place – leadership and influencer: n/a
Drivers of change and reform: n/a
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: n/a
Greater income for social investment: n/a
Cleaner Greener: n/a

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4743/17) is the author of the report

Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD4027/17) has been consulted and has no comments on the report.

(B) External Consultations

N/A.

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Contact Officer:	Tom Walmsley
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Appendices:

There are no appendices to support this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (The Prudential Code) was introduced following the Local Government Act 2003. It details a number of measures/limits/parameters (Prudential Indicators) that are required to be set each financial year. The approval of these limits will ensure that the Council complies with the relevant legislation, is acting prudently and that its capital expenditure proposals are affordable. The Prudential Indicators 2017/18 report was approved by Council on 02 March 2017.
- 1.2 Since the approval of the 2017/18 prudential indicators the Council has incurred capital expenditure which means that certain prudential indicators need to be updated. These are:
- (i) Capital Expenditure (Section 2);
 - (ii) Capital Financing Requirement (Section 3);
 - (iii) Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement (Section 4);
 - (iv) Limit on Interest Rate Exposure (Section 5);

Prudential Indicator – Capital Expenditure

- 2.1. This indicator details the overall total planned capital expenditure of the Council and therefore reflects the Council's Capital Programme.
- 2.2. The revised estimate of capital expenditure recommended for approval are summarised below:-

Capital Expenditure - 2017/2018 to 2019/2020			
	2017/18 £m Estimate	2018/19 £m Estimate	2019/20 £m Estimate
TOTAL	62.935	18.875	12.809

3. Prudential Indicator – Capital Finance Requirement

- 3.1. The Capital Financing Requirement indicator reflects the Authority's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose. This is based on historic capital financing decisions and a calculation of future years planned capital expenditure requirements.

- 3.2. The revised estimates of the end of year Capital Financing Requirement for the current and future years are set out in the table as follows:

Capital Financing Requirement			
	31/03/2018 £m Estimate	31/03/2019 £m Estimate	31/03/2020 £m Estimate
General Fund	241.000	236.000	233.000

- 3.3 The reduction in the CFR in future years reflects the reduced borrowing required for the capital programme as spending falls over time.
- 3.4. CIPFA’s Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities includes the following statement as a key indicator of prudence:

“In order to ensure that the medium term net borrowing will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that net external borrowing does not, except in the short-term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years”.

4. Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

- 4.1. This prudential indicator is used to ensure that the authority does not borrow in advance of need. If the authority borrowed in advance of need then the net position would be negative – i.e. borrowing greater than the CFR. The figures below illustrate that the Council is not intending to borrow in advance of need, and that there is a significant level of “internal borrowing”. The revised estimates are detailed below:

Gross Debt and the CFR			
	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
CFR	241.000	236.000	233.000
Borrowing	-174.353	-175.049	-176.644
Net Position	66.647	60.951	56.356

5. Interest Rate Exposure

- 5.1. This indicator calculates exposure of either fixed or variable rate borrowings, less fixed or variable rate investments, expressed as a percentage of both fixed and variable rate borrowings net of fixed and variable rate investments.

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- 5.2. It has been necessary to revise the interest rate exposure limits in light of the increase fixed rate borrowing undertaken in 2017/18:

Limit on Interest Rate Exposure		
	<u>Upper</u> <u>Limit</u>	<u>Lower</u> <u>Limit</u>
Fixed Borrowing / Investment	340%	100%
Variable Borrowing / Investment	-5%	-240%

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Prudential indicators for each financial year are set at Budget Council and reflect the most up to date knowledge at that time. As the Councils capital programme evolves, certain indicators may need revision. In approving the changes within this report the council will be ensuring that it is complying with the appropriate elements of the prudential code. These will subsequently be monitored throughout the year by Audit and Governance committee.

Agenda Item 9

Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	27 July 2017 13 September 2017
Subject:	Discretionary Relief for Business Rates following the Revaluation of 2017		
Report of:	Head of Corporate Resources	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to consider and recommend to Council the Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief Scheme for businesses that have had a significant increase in their Business rate liability consequential from the Government's 2017 revaluation.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council that the proposed Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief Scheme for those ratepayers adversely impacted by the 2017 revaluation as set out within this report be approved.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The Council is expected to use a Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief scheme in order to distribute the additional funding received from central Government to those businesses in Sefton that have seen the steepest increases in their Business Rates bills as a result of the 2017 Revaluation.

The Government has stated that local government is best placed to determine how this fund should be targeted and administered to support those businesses and locations within their area that are in greatest need.

The proposed Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief Scheme is designed to mirror the criteria used by the Government when determining the amount of grant to the local authority, and initially be targeted at those properties in Sefton that have a rateable value of under £200,000RV and who have suffered a loss (before other reliefs have been applied) of more than 12.5%. Any remaining funds will be considered for distribution to other businesses in Sefton experiencing an increase in business rates as a result of revaluation and whose circumstances are such that the authority wishes to provide more assistance.

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These measures sit in the context of the Council's wider economic growth priorities for the Borough. The proposed scheme is designed to support economic growth ensuring businesses thrive and develop. Growth is key to realising the ambitions of the Vision 2030 where Sefton Council aims to lay the foundations for long-term self-sustaining economic prosperity. The distribution of this additional financial support by Sefton Council will provide real, measurable and practical benefits to those businesses targeted to receive help under the scheme.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

The alternative option would be not to make available discretionary support to businesses affected by Business Rates revaluation. Such course of action would fail to support our local businesses or utilise the extra funding made available to the Council by the Government.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The implementation of the Business Rates Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation relief scheme will be cost neutral provided the level of relief given does not exceed the Government's grant allocation. If relief exceeds the funding provided by the Government it will have to be met from Council resources. However, it is not expected that the authority will make awards in excess of the relevant grant.

The Government has confirmed that Sefton's Section 31 grant allocation for this purpose in 2017/18 is £551,739.

The Government has indicated the following future year's maximum funding allocations to Sefton Council as follows:

2018/19	2019/20	2020/2021
£ 267,987	£110,348	£15,764

(B) Capital Costs

None

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):

Any additional administrative burdens placed on the Billing Authority in designing and administering the new discretionary rate relief schemes will be carefully monitored but are expected to be met from existing Council budget and the Government new burdens funding of £12,000 allocated to each billing authority.

Legal Implications:

The Council is only obliged to give assistance to the amount of monies allocated to it for that purpose but is obliged to follow any guidance issued by the Government in respect of the relief scheme and failure to do so would result in some or all of the Council's allocation of funds not being received.

Equality Implications:

This report relates to business and no equality implications have been identified.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: Not applicable
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: The implementation of a local scheme of discretionary support to properties affected by the Business Rates revaluation of 2017 will support the Council's vision for "Open for Business" - working together with businesses to create the economic conditions for economic growth and supporting local businesses
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD4733/17) notes that the report indicates the implementation of the Business Rates Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation relief scheme should be cost neutral for the Council. Close financial monitoring will therefore be undertaken to ensure that the financial objectives of the scheme are met within the funding available.

The Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD 4017/17) has been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

A report was presented to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services) on 13th June 2017, where the draft scheme guidance was considered and noted.

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(B) External Consultations

As this is a Government measure, consultation has been undertaken nationally. The Government announced a consultation on the scheme for discretionary support, which closed on 7 April 2017. Although the detailed outcome of the consultation has not yet been announced, on 21 April 2017 the Government confirmed that final funding allocations to local authorities will be made according to the draft allocations published as part of the consultation.

As a condition of the grant, there is a requirement for the authority to consult on its proposed scheme with its major Precepting Authorities - Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner; and the Combined Authority.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

Contact Officer:	Angela Ellis, Customer & Transactional Services Support Manager, Sefton Council
Telephone Number:	0151 934 2154
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Appendices:

Appendix A – Business Rates Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief Guidance (Draft)

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 The Government determined to revalue Business Rates properties taking effect from 2017 based on 2015 values. The review was not intended to raise additional revenue, but rather to update rental values for properties. It was therefore intended to be 'fiscally neutral' nationally. However, regionally and at an individual taxpayer level the effect varied, such that some Business Rate payers have encountered increases and decreases. A system of transitional relief applies such that the gains and losses to individual taxpayers are limited in any one year and introduced over a five year period.
- 1.2 The Government has recently determined that Local Authorities can also make available additional discretionary relief to properties affected by significant increases in their Business Rates via a £300m fund which it has introduced for this purpose. This was announced as part of the Spring Budget 2017. This assistance will be provided under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988; this means that it will use existing legal powers
- 1.3 The scheme will be funded under Section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003; this means that it will be wholly funded by the Government.
- 1.4 Sefton's allocation of the Government funding for discretionary rate relief is expected to be £945,838 spread across the next 4 years as set out below:-

2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
£551,739	£267,987	£110,348	£15,764

2. Scheme Design

- 2.1 Local Authorities have the power to design their own discretionary Business Rates relief scheme to determine how the funding for "revaluation support" is distributed across businesses locally. This is subject to certain Government conditions which have been provided to Local Authorities by way of draft guidance.
- 2.2 Assistance can only be provided, under the terms of the grant, to ratepayers who face an increase in their bills following revaluation and the Government has made clear that it expects such grants to be made to those facing significant increases in 'lower value properties'.
- 2.3 Although the Government has not defined 'lower value properties' it is notable that the formula for grant allocation relates solely to increases for those properties with a rateable value of less than £200,000 with an increase of 12.5% or more;

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this could therefore be construed to be the Government's broad view on the parameters for applicants.

- 2.4 Draft guidance for the award of Locally Administered Revaluation Relief is at Appendix A to this document and it is on this guidance that it is proposed that the Sefton scheme be developed.
- 2.5 The guidance sets out:
 - a) Those businesses eligible to apply.
 - b) How an application should be made.
 - c) The matters to be considered in determining such awards, which must include evidence that the increase in business rate liability will cause financial hardship.
 - d) Decision making and the process for review of such decisions, including when a review is requested by the applicant.
- 2.6 Awards under the scheme are limited by rules on state aid, which allow an undertaking to receive no more than 200,000 Euro over a three year period. The procedures for awarding relief will include safeguards in this regard.
- 2.7 Following approval of the scheme the next step will be to contact businesses directly who may be eligible to receive the support and invite them to apply.
- 2.8 The Council will normally require an on-line application and state aid declaration must be completed for all discretionary rate reliefs.
- 2.9 The decision to authorise or refuse awards of additional discretionary support will be made under delegated powers by the Head of Corporate Resources.
- 2.10 All national, statutory reliefs and exemptions will be applied before any calculation for Locally Administered Revaluation Relief.
- 2.11 Should a ratepayer wish to appeal against the refusal of rate relief, an appeals process will be put in place.

3. Grant award and financial monitoring

- 3.1 It is important that the Local Authority makes full use of the available funds from Government to support businesses in need of this targeted support. However it is not expected that the authority will make awards in excess of the relevant grant. Appropriate financial monitoring systems will need to be implemented in relation to expenditure.
- 3.2 Based on an initial evaluation it is anticipated that the proposed scheme can be accommodated within the grant provided for 2017/18.

- 3.3 Members will note that the financial support reduces dramatically across the 4 years of the scheme. As a result any relief awarded in 2017/18 will be for one year only, with the level of support provided in years 2, 3 and 4 to be determined in those years based on the amount of central Government grant available. The Government has indicated that it is considering whether flexibility should be provided to allow grant funding to be moved between financial years and they intend to make a decision on this later in the year once they have a clearer picture of how local schemes are being shaped. If this flexibility is granted it would allow any grant funding not utilised in 2017/18 to be distributed in later years.
- 3.4 The intention is that all businesses will be self-sustaining as a result of the relief provided and any business applying for relief will have to evidence how this will be achieved.

4 Implementation of the scheme

- 4.1 It is not planned that any software changes to the way discretionary relief works will need to be made to the Council's billing system. However, on 30 June 2017, the Council software supplier provided a script which will allow a comparison of changes on properties between 2016/17 and 2017/18. This analysis is intended to provide an initial indication of the number of properties that might be eligible for local revaluation support relief and the extent to which relief might be applied.
- 4.2 After approval of the scheme the Council will be contacting businesses directly who may be eligible to receive the support and invite them to apply. The awards will be closely monitored and progress updates will be provided to Cabinet Member for Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Resources.

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Appendix A

Business Rates Locally Administered Discretionary Revaluation Relief Guidance (DRAFT)

1.0 Scope

- 1.1 As part of the Spring Budget on 8 March 2017 the Government announced a national fund of £300M to provide discretionary rate relief to taxpayers facing significant increases in their Business Rates consequential from the recent revaluation.
- 1.2 This assistance will be provided under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988; this means that it will use existing legal powers.
- 1.3 The scheme will be funded under Section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003; this means that it will be wholly funded by the Government. Funding will only be available to the extent that the local authority has spent its allocation.

2.0 Eligibility

- 2.1 Assistance will only be provided to ratepayers who face an increase in their bills following revaluation. The assistance will be targeted at those facing significant increases in rates in lower value properties. Normally this would be properties with a rateable value of less than £200,000 with an increase of 12.5% or more.
- 2.2 The assistance will only be provided in relation to Business Rates liability net of other Business Rates reliefs which may apply.
- 2.3 It is not expected that the authority will make awards in excess of the relevant grant and decisions will take account of available funding.

2.0 How an Application Should be Made

- 2.1 The Council will require that an application form is completed and will make available a form for this purpose via the authority's website.

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- 2.2 The authority will require the organisation applying to make available details of its accounts and financial position to help it decide whether an award is warranted.
- 2.3 In the event that a decision has been made to refuse additional support any request for a review of that decision must set out the grounds for a review including why the applicant believes the decision should be reconsidered.

3.0 Matters to be Considered in Making Decisions on Awards

- 3.1 The authority will take account of the following criteria when determining whether an award can be made:
 - a) The impact on the authority's budget position and the consequential effects upon services and taxpayers.
 - b) The financial position of the applicant.
 - c) The extent to which the organisation is likely to be financially sustainable.
 - d) The employment and other economic, social and environmental benefits provided by the organisation to Sefton and the relevant locality in which the business is located.

4.0 Decision Making and Review

- 4.1 Decisions on the award or refusal of additional discretionary support will in the first instance be made by the Head of Corporate Resources under delegated powers
- 4.2 Where an award is made the applicant will be notified of:
 - I. The amount of relief granted and the date from which it has been granted.
 - II. If relief has been granted for a specified period, the date on which it will end.
 - III. The new chargeable amount.

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- IV. The details of any planned review dates and the notice that will be given in advance of a change to the level of relief granted.
 - V. A requirement that the applicant should notify the authority of any change in circumstances that may affect entitlement to relief.
- 4.2 Applicants will be notified of the decision on the application and where refusal applies provided with brief details of the reason for refusal. Applicants will also be advised of the process of review, should they wish to appeal against the decision.
- 4.3 In the event that the applicant applies for a review of the decision, this will be considered by an Appeals Committee consisting of three elected Members of Sefton Council who will have final decision making power. There will be no further right of review.

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Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	7 September 2017 21 September 2017
Subject:	Adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan		
Report of:	Executive Director	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:			
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to adopt the Sefton Coast Plan.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) For Cabinet to recommend Council to adopt the Sefton Coast Plan.

- (2) For Council to adopt the Sefton Council Plan, subject to any recommendations from Cabinet

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The development of the Sefton Coast Plan is a requirement of the Local Plan and will also make a direct contribution to the outcomes of Sefton Vision 2030.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

It would be possible to proceed with some of the actions identified within the Plan, such as the Nature Conservation Strategy and Visitor Management Strategy, without adopting the plan. However this approach would significantly undermine the Partnership working required to deliver these strategies as it signals a lack of commitment from the Council.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The delivery of the Plan will be supported by all Partners within the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership of which the Council is one partner. Our role will be delivered within existing revenue resources.

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(B) Capital Costs

Capital costs to deliver the plan will be identified in the development of Strategies and Masterplans and no commitment to delivery will be made without capital resources being in place.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
None
Legal Implications:
None
Equality Implications:
There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not Applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: The role of volunteers and the voluntary sector is recognised in the plan both for the benefits of the work that volunteers contribute and the benefits that volunteers experience themselves.
Commission, broker and provide core services: The Council is supporting the delivery of the Plan through a Partnership.
Place – leadership and influencer: The 2030 Vision was used in the development of the Plan and the Plan supports the aspirations set out in the Vision.
Drivers of change and reform: The Council has played a key role in updating the Sefton Coast Plan to reflect the needs of our residents as set out in the 2030 Vision.
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not Applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not Applicable
Cleaner Greener: The Plan sets out an approach to how we will maintain and improve the natural beauty of the coastline whilst supporting the local economy in a sustainable way.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4059/17) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD LD4059/17) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

The public and Partner organisations have been consulted on a draft version of the plan this spring; details are set out in the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

Contact Officer:	
Telephone Number:	0151 934 2960
Email Address:	Graham.lymbery@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

Coast Plan Consultation Report
The Sefton coast Plan

Background Papers:

The following background papers, which are not available elsewhere on the Internet, can be accessed on the Council website:

Topic Papers that inform the Sefton Coast Plan:

- Landscape and Nature
- Access and Recreation
- Health and Wellbeing
- Economy
- Regulation and Control
- Skills and Lifelong Learning and Employment
- Water Resources
- The Historic Environment
- Energy
- Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
- Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation
- Delivery through Partnership Working

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1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 In 2016, Sefton Council led a visioning exercise for the communities of Sefton to imagine the Borough they wished to live and work in - *Sefton Vision 2030*. The coast was identified as an important asset to be valued and cared for. The Sefton Coast Plan sets a course to deliver to the same time frame as Vision 2030, a life-span of 15 years from publication.

The Sefton Coast Plan is a non-statutory document prepared by the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership (SCLP), comprised of Sefton Council, Natural England, the National Trust, the RSPB, the Mersey Forest, and Lancashire Wildlife Trust, which serves to deliver the Vision for the Sefton Coast as set out by SCLP:

Our vision is for the importance of the wonderful natural assets of the Sefton coast to be universally recognised and celebrated, and for the coast to be managed in a way which:

- **Conserves and enhances the important international, national and local network of natural and cultural sites, habitats and species, (Ecology)**
- **Enables local communities to benefit from sustainable economic growth and successfully adapt to coastal and climate change and (Economy)**
- **Provides long term benefits for the health and wellbeing of local communities, businesses and visitors to our coast. (People)**

- 1.2 The Plan has been prepared by Sefton Council on behalf of the SCLP and with their participation and input. The Sefton Coast Plan sets out by theme, the challenges for delivery, and the determination of priorities for action across a broad range of partners and communities, seascapes and landscapes. It takes an integrated approach to the management of the coast as many of the issues need to be addressed at a coastal scale, or on a thematic basis. The Sefton Coast Plan area is the whole of Sefton as it is widely used and valued by all the communities of Sefton, most of whom live within a short distance of the shoreline.
- 1.3 It clearly sets out that we have a coast that is under pressure from visitors, coastal change, climate change and development. There are key pressure points such as maintaining the extent and connectivity of the sand dune system that will require the removal of woodland; the proposed expansion of the Port which would require compensatory habitat to be successfully created; sustainable access to the coast which will need managing through visitor gateways and suitable infrastructure; sustainable development of housing and businesses as set out in the Local Plan. To be considered successful this Plan will have to address these issues and ensure that we have a strong partnership and resources to deliver it.
- 1.4 For the first time, this Coast Plan sets a new ambition to fully realise the opportunities that the Sefton Coast presents by balancing the needs of people and economic growth with those of the environment and ecology of the Coast. The

Plan sets out a route-map to both resolution of points of tension and full realisation of the opportunities.

2.0 Consultation

2.1 The consultation was undertaken from the 2nd of March to the 21st of April 2017.

2.2 We received over 500 responses from the public the details of which are available in the supporting document –‘Sefton Coast Plan Consultation Responses’.

2.3 The key points from the consultation responses are:

- The most popular uses for the coast are for walking, cycling, days out, nature trails, photography, quiet recreation and enjoying the views
- The respondents were generally happy with the cleanliness of the area and availability of parking.
- The respondents were not happy with the cost of parking, toilet facilities and refreshment facilities
- Key areas that respondents raised for improvements were parking, litter, toilets, refreshments and dogs – both better access for dogs and concerns over dog behaviour
- Respondents supported the strategic priorities we identified as part of our vision
- Respondents agreed with the big challenges we identified

2.4 At a meeting of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board on the 29th of June 2017 the following recommendations were presented to the Board and approved:

Recognise that the public responses are -

- an endorsement of the Plan,
- should be used as guidance for the subsequent plans and strategies
- should be used to inform co-ordinated operational action by the partnership

Recognise that the Partner responses –

- Support the Plan
- Identify some factual amendments
- Identify some amendments to emphasis
- Raise some concerns about delivery of the Plan
- Raise some concerns about readability of the document
- Do not require a rewrite of the document

Approve –

- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to undertake the minor edits around factual content and emphasis
- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to develop two summary documents that addresses some of the concerns over readability, the first an executive summary and the second a ‘taster’ summary for the public
- The Resources Task Group will develop a delivery plan with the support of the Partnership
- Adoption of the Plan by the Partnership and a recommendation to individual Partners to adopt the Plan within their organisations (once minor edits have been completed)

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- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to collate Partners and public responses into a single document to be made publicly available

3.0 Next steps

- 3.1 Subject to adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan the actions identified within it will be largely delivered via the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership. The delivery of the revised Nature Conservation Strategy and the Visitor Management Strategy are critical to the delivery of the Local Plan especially housing targets. The Nature Conservation Strategy will set out how we manage the biodiversity, habitats, sites and species on the coast. It will also identify those areas that are particularly vulnerable to change and pressure some or all of the time and propose actions by the partners to increase their resilience. The Visitor Management Strategy will set out how we will manage visitor and recreation pressure on-the coast so that they do not harm biodiversity on the coast. As many of the visitors to the Sefton coast come from outside the borough it is proposed that the geographical scope of the Visitor Management Strategy is city regional. The Visitor Management Strategy will need to provide evidence and a mechanism that can be used by developers including for new housing to protect vulnerable internationally important coastal habitats and species from harm from the potential impact of their developments. It also has the potential, as part of a coast-wide response, to enable investment in recreation and visitor management on Council-owned and other assets from the development process.

Sefton
2030

A confident and connected borough



2030 and beyond

Consultation Report



Agenda Item 10

Forward by Chair of Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership recognises that the coastline is a key element in the character for the borough. Because this is such a special place, we wanted to develop and adopt a Plan for the Coast for 2017 – 2030. Our ambition is to maximise the value of our unique coast for people, wildlife and a thriving economy and our aspiration for this Plan is that it will help broaden our Partnership.

The consultation showed how much people value the coast for walking, cycling, days out, nature trails, photography, quiet recreation and enjoying the views. Key areas for improvements were parking, litter, toilets, refreshments, dogs – both better access for dogs and concerns about dogs. Businesses also highlighted how important the coast is for them and the local economy.

There was strong support for strategic priorities set out in the Plan and agreement about the big challenges we face. It is also important that we use the consultation results when we are developing any associated plans and we will continue to work together and involve our local communities and residents as we develop and shape these plans.

On behalf of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership, I would like to thank everyone who has shown their commitment and support and to people and organisations who took part in the consultation.

Paul Nolan OBE

Chair of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership

July 2017

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Feedback from the Consultation and Engagement on the draft Sefton Coast Plan

This report provides the findings from the engagement process undertaken by the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership (SCLP) on the draft Sefton Coast Plan. The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership worked closely with partners, businesses, private sector organisations, the voluntary, community and faith sector and the community to deliver the Vision for the Sefton Coast to 2030 and beyond, as set out by SCLP:

Our vision is for the importance of the wonderful natural assets of the Sefton coast to be universally recognised and celebrated, and for the coast to be managed in a way which:

- **Conserves and enhances the important international, national and local network of natural and cultural sites, habitats and species, (Ecology)**
- **Enables local communities to benefit from sustainable economic growth and successfully adapt to coastal and climate change and (Economy)**
- **Provides long term benefits for the health and wellbeing of local communities, businesses and visitors to our coast. (People)**

The aim of the Plan is to take stock of the pressures and opportunities that affect the people, landscape and economy of the coast and deliver a new vision for the Sefton Coast to 2030 and beyond. Our Plan must balance the need to conserve and enhance the coastline and the habitats it provides with needs of communities. It must also identify how the coast can support a sustainable local economy and so help to reduce health and economic inequality across the borough.

The Sefton Coast Plan identifies “7 Big Challenges” that the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and other partners should work together to resolve.

A number of Topic Papers have been produced that provide the facts, evidence and explanatory context of the issues that need to be addressed.

As the Sefton Coast Plan is delivered, there will be a further requirement to consult on specific Strategies associated with the Sefton Coast Plan, for example, the Nature Conservation Strategy and the Visitor Management Strategy. There will be public information on these draft Strategies and how you will be able to get involved. Any relevant feedback from the consultation on the Sefton Coast Plan will be considered in any future consultations.

The engagement process was developed by the SCLP Tourism and Communications Task Group and signed off by the SCLP Board. It took place over an eight week period from 2nd March until 21st April 2017. This report brings together the feedback and lays out the key messages that have emerged through our conversation with the public and stakeholders over the recent months.

What were the aims of the engagement process?

We knew from the consultation undertaken on the Sefton 2030 Vision in 2016 that resident and business communities and visitors to the borough value the Coast and wish for its assets to be cared for. There was an overwhelming connection to the sea and landscapes and the surrounding areas.

Extensive consultation with both internal colleagues and external partners has been undertaken to prepare the draft Plan. This has taken form of one-to-one meetings, workshops, email correspondence and letters of representation.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership agreed that the engagement would raise awareness of the importance of having a collective vision for the Sefton coast, the emerging topics and the challenges to be addressed, be participative, interactive and suitable for everyone to take part.

Aims:

- To create awareness of the draft Coast Plan and provide information on how people can comment
- To create awareness of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and the activity it is involved in
- To develop a multi-faceted approach that engages with our target audiences, that makes the best use of resources
- To get as many written responses as possible from those who are interested.
- To understand further what people value about the coast
- To seek views on whether there are any gaps within the topic themes
- To gather insight and understanding that will inform future consultations

The consultation and engagement plan was a mixed methods approach that included a wide range of methods including information on social media (promoted by partners), developing a dedicated website, an on-line survey, hard copy surveys, promotion to schools and local businesses, discussions at Area Committee meetings, team meetings and focus groups with local community groups/residents. The Tourism and Communications Task group identified key messages which supported the engagement:

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Coast Plan Key Message

We are stronger working together
Our coast is under pressure
Our coast is changing, always has, always will
We need to take action to conserve and enhance our coast
Our coast is a wonderful place to celebrate and discover
Our coast can contribute to us living and thriving

The associated visual and social media campaign enabled people to become more aware of the intentions set out in the document to support participation in the consultation by providing information electronically and asking people to take part interactively or by conducting conversations face-to-face.

There were a number of elements central to the engagement approach:

- Use the numerous existing communication and promotional tools that we currently use as the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and individual partners.
- Build on the excellent partnerships and involvement that we have and to increase involvement and maximise our media profile.
- Work flexibly and with other current/planned communication campaigns to identify opportunities to engage and raise the profile of the Coast Plan
- Work within a coordinated joined up approach for the consultation on the Coast Plan and other relevant consultation streams that will take place in the next 18 months.

Communication and Social Media

A comprehensive communication and social media campaign was a key element of the engagement process for the Sefton Coast Plan. A dedicated website www.seftoncoast.co.uk/plan was developed with links to information on the Sefton Year of the Coast 2017 and event's calendar and how people could get involved. The social media campaign was supported by partner organisations. Some of the statistics are below, with a full list as appendix 1.

Between the Council and the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership we reached 3,264 people and there were 6,290 views to tweets. This resulted in a total of 1599 page views to the consultation page (2017, The Year of Sefton's Coast website). 1388 of these page views were unique visitors. This equates to nearly 40% of all traffic to the website for the period 2nd March – 21st April.

Key messages from the consultation and engagement process:

In total in excess of 500 people and 11 partner organisations responded to this consultation process. There were some common messages that emerged during the engagement process:

- Respondents identified a main coastal site they visited but many also visit other sites along the coast
- The most popular uses for the coast are for walking, cycling, days out, nature trails, photography, quiet recreation and enjoying the views
- The respondents were generally happy with the cleanliness and the availability of parking
- The respondents were not happy with the cost of parking, toilet facilities and refreshment facilities
- Key areas that respondents raised for improvements were parking and parking charges, litter, toilets, refreshments and dogs – both better access for dogs and concerns over dogs, sand management/clearance, signage and information and access to some coastal sites
- Respondents suggested that there should be more activities and events and education and learning
- Respondents supported the strategic priorities we identified as part of our vision
- Respondents agreed with the big challenges we identified.
- Respondents made some comments to the style and content of the draft Plan and Topic Papers

At a meeting of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board on the 29th of June 2017 the following recommendations were presented to the Board and approved:

Recognise that the public responses are -

- an endorsement of the Plan,
- should be used as guidance for the subsequent plans and strategies
- should be used to inform co-ordinated operational action by the partnership

Recognise that the Partner responses –

- Support the Plan
- Identify some factual amendments
- Identify some amendments to emphasis
- Raise some concerns about delivery of the Plan
- Raise some concerns about readability of the document
- Do not require a rewrite of the document

Approve –

- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to undertake the minor edits around factual content and emphasis
- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to develop a two summary documents that addresses some of the concerns over readability, the first an executive summary and the second a ‘taster’ summary for the public

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- The Resources Task Group will develop a delivery plan with the support of the Partnership
- Adoption of the Plan by the Partnership and a recommendation to individual Partners to adopt the Plan within their organisations (once minor edits have been completed)
- The Communications and Tourism Task Group on behalf of the Partnership to collate Partners and public responses into a single document to be made publicly available

We would like to thank those who have taken the time to consider the Plan and respond to the consultation, the responses are reported below.

Letters of Representation from partners

Partners and Elected Member groups were given an opportunity to provide a response to the draft Sefton Coast Plan. Eleven responses were received from the following organisations/individuals:

Wildlife Trust
Sefton CVS
National Trust
The Environment Agency
Natural England
Nature Connected
Liberal Democrat Group
Crosby & Waterloo Coastal Communities Team
Mersey Forest
Marine Management Organisation
Mr CW

The responses included some suggestions on how the content could be amended and on the style and presentation of the Plan and Topic Papers. In addition, a summary of the responses highlighted:

- There is support for the Sefton Coast Plan and the 7 Big Challenges identified;
- There is the need to have a strategic approach to the implementing and monitoring of the Plan and any subsequent Plans, including the Visitor Management Strategy and Nature Conservation Strategy;
- The Plan should emphasise the Borough as a whole and the assets within and promote the benefits the coast brings to the Borough;
- The Plan should explore the relationship with the Liverpool City Region (LCR)
- The Plan needs to place more emphasis on the cross-sector objectives, identifying specific economic, health and education related issues;
- The implementation of the Plan would benefit from the strengthening the role of existing organisational involvement and develop new opportunities, including the role of volunteers from all age groups

Area Committees

A report on the draft Sefton Coast plan was tabled at the following Area Committee meetings:

Central Area Committee – 9 March 2017
South Sefton Area Committee – 15 March 2017
Southport Area Committee - 22 March 2017

The report was noted at each meeting and information and surveys were distributed and attendees were encouraged to promote the consultation,

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Response to the Public Questionnaire

A survey was available on line (via e-Consult) and as a hard copy version. The hard copy version was also available in an easy read format. They were available for people to complete over an 8 week period from 2nd March to 21st July 2017.

Accompanying the survey was the draft Coast Plan, a group of Topic Papers and an Executive Summary of the Coast Plan.

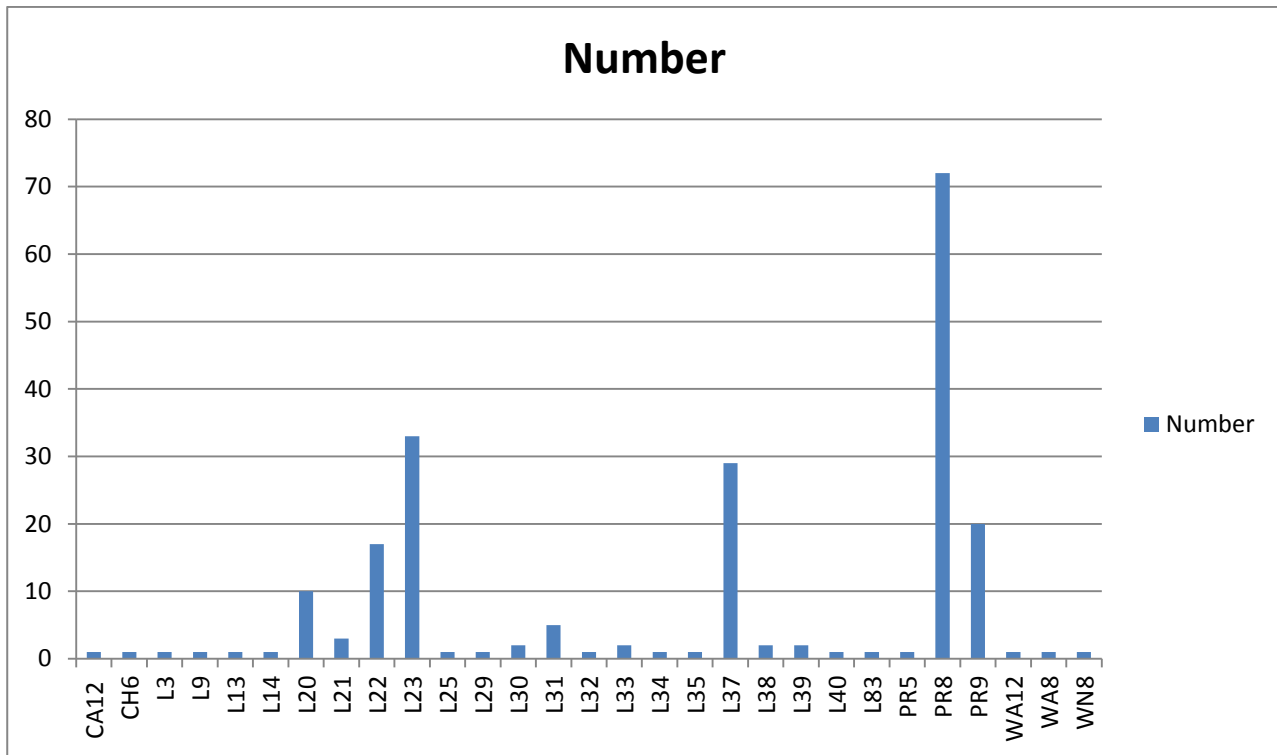
The questionnaire was to give residents, visitors and organisations an opportunity to comment on the Sefton Coast Plan. In total 1576 people viewed the information and 421 went on to complete the questionnaire.

There were 3 sections to the questionnaire and respondents were given the option on to only complete part of the survey.

- Section 1 - Was to help us to find out more about how respondents use the coast, what they think of the facilities and what they think the challenges are and how things can be different. (416 responses)
- Section 2 - These are questions about the Draft Sefton Coast Plan. We wanted to know respondents thoughts on the Strategic Priorities, the 7 Big Challenges and the Topic Papers and any other comments they may have. (290 responses)
- Section 3 - These are equality and diversity questions and were not compulsory to complete. These questions will help us to understand who is using our services and who is taking part in the survey (and who isn't), so we can tailor information and services to ensure they are inclusive and targeted, where necessary. (231 responses)

Section 1

Q1. Please tell us the first 3 or 4 characters of your postcode



Q2. How did you find out about the Sefton Coast Plan Consultation? Please tick one only

Council website	29
Partner Website	13
By Letter/email	13
Library	6
One Stop Shop	0
Other community building	5
Press article	13
Other (please specify)	Facebook 19 Twitter 59 Friend 10 Meeting 8

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Q3. Are you responding to this survey as:

(Please tick the option that best applies)

Sefton resident	187
An organisation	4
Visitor to the Borough	17
Coast Champion	0
Volunteer working on the Coast	4
A local business	1
An employee, who works on the coast.	4
Other (please specify)	

Q4. If you are responding as an organisation and would like to be involved in the Coast Partnership, please provide your contact details below

Contact details were provided by 9 organisations/individuals who expressed an interest in being involved in the Coast Partnership

Q5. How often do you visit Sefton's coast?

Every day	74
Once a week	70
Once a fortnight	26
Monthly	38
Less often	13
Never visited	0
Don't know	0

If you have never visited the coast, please go to question 11

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Q6. If you visit the coast, which of these coast sites do you visit **most often**? *(Please tick one only)*

Crosby/Waterloo	77
Hightown	2
Formby	43
Ainsdale	47
Southport	36
Marshside	2
Other (please specify)	

Q7. If you visit the Coast, please let us know which **other** coast sites you visit? *(Tick all the others that apply)*

Crosby/Waterloo	154
Hightown	134
Formby	218
Ainsdale	144
Southport	198
Marshside	64
Other (please specify)	New Brighton Hall Road LNRs City Centre Wirral Coast

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Q8. How do you travel to the Coast? (please tick all that apply)

Walk	248
Public transport - bus	32
Public transport – train	93
By Car	289
Cycle	105
Other (please specify)	Run 3 Coach 1 Horse 1

Q9. What are the main reasons for visiting and/or using Sefton's Coast? (Please tick all that apply)

Walking (including walking the dog/s)	333
Cycling	117
Running	53
Days out on the beach	165
Nature trails	140
Flying Kites, Kite bugging, land boards	12
Playing golf	13
Photography	109
Fishing	7
Beach clean-ups	33
Conservation and ecology	46
Swimming	8
Horse riding	5
Boat launching	8
Bird watching	68

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Quiet recreation	195
A place to picnic	84
Enjoying views	260
Visiting family and friends	51
Work	20
Other (please specify)	Heritage Flying my drone Researching coastal history Geocaching Looking for shipwreck material after storms Drawing, writing Collecting pebbles, shells and driftwood Kids playground Caravan Living next to it Historical wrecks Windsurfing
I don't visit/use Sefton's Coast	0

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Q10. Thinking about **where you visit the most**, how would you rate the following?

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
The cleanliness	23	102	137	85	43
The availability of parking	23	67	108	100	84
The cost of parking	18	36	53	121	143
The toilet facilities	4	22	48	101	205
Refreshment facilities	4	31	61	113	173
As a safe place to visit	58	132	115	72	13
The opportunity for learning about the coast and the environment	36	78	103	87	85

Q11. Please tell us your **top 3 things that you would like to be different** about Sefton's Coast

See appendix for verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit
Summary of responses by area:

Ainsdale

Key areas raised were

- Parking,
- Access,
- Dogs,
- Litter,
- Toilets,
- Nature and
- Refreshments.

Crosby/Waterloo:

Key areas raised were

- Improved facilities including seating, education and cafes
- Litter
- Car parking
- Toilets
- Management of sand dunes and wind-blown sand
- Dogs

Formby

Key areas raised were

- Improved facilities including signage, education and refreshment areas
- Litter

- Car parking
- Toilets
- Nature conservation
- Locals – impact on and special facilities for
- Dogs

Hightown

Key areas raised were

- Parking

Southport

Key areas raised were

- Litter
- Parking – including suggestions for more off beach parking and ceasing parking on the beach
- Sand vs mud/grass
- Dogs
- Toilets
- Improved facilities

Q12. Please tell us your **top 3 challenges** that you have about Sefton’s Coast

See appendix for verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit

This question was not clearly presented judging by some of the responses. Many other responses are the reiteration of question 11. Key elements to come out that are different relate to climate change and dealing with natural process along with financial constraints.

Section 2

Q13. The Sefton Coast Plan identifies three overarching Strategic Priorities. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the three priorities?

Proposed Strategic Priority	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Looking after the coast - Conservation and enhancement of nature and the environment	199	78	7	2
Managing visitors to the coast to avoid damage to the environment whilst increasing tourism	156	109	16	2
Development of a sustainable and competitive coastal economy	135	113	18	11

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Q14. Please use the space below for any comments you have on the proposed Strategic Priorities.

See appendix for verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit

A number of **Topic Papers** have been produced to capture the context and issues relating to a particular theme. For more information on the Topic Papers, please see the supporting documents. The topics are:

Topic Paper	Brief description
Landscape and Nature	Includes how our use of the coast as humans and how climate and weather combine to influence the extent and quality of land and seascapes, wildlife habitats and the species that depend on them.
Access and Recreation	Includes how the coast is currently used for both formal (tourism and events) and informal (i.e. walking and running) recreation and how all visitor access and recreation add to the pressure and if not properly managed, will cause damage to coastal habitats.
Health and Wellbeing	Includes how the coast and the natural environment contributes towards improved health and wellbeing
Economy	Includes how the Sefton Coast is significant as a contributing asset and opportunity to attract more visitors to Sefton, increase their stay time and spend within the visitor economy and how the full potential of the Port of Liverpool can be harnessed whilst considering any environmental and ecological pressure.
Regulation and Control	Includes how the Sefton Coast Plan will act with the Sefton Local Plan and other relevant plans and avoid conflict with the policies and directions of these plans.
Skills and Lifelong Learning and Employment	Includes how Sefton's coast and wider green infrastructure across the Borough provides opportunities, both formal and informal, for developing skills and knowledge, job creation and volunteering.
Water Resources	Includes how the natural environment of the Sefton Coast is dependent on healthy water resources and suggests a coordinated approach to the management of water.
The Historic Environment	Includes how the historic features we have along the Coast, i.e. ship wrecks and ancient footprints are important to the area, and how we need to record the discovery of any historic features.
Energy	Includes how the Sefton Coast offers opportunities for the development of low carbon and renewable energy technologies
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Includes how flood and coastal erosion are significant challenges for Sefton and how any environmental impact has to be considered at the time of development. Recognises

	that schemes have to be considered over the long-term and that a key element has to be about helping communities to do more.
Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation	Includes how the coast is eroding and how climate change is rising and how the Coast Plan provides an opportunity to reduce the impact of coastal and climate change.
Delivery through Partnership Working	Includes how to achieve the Strategic Priorities and Actions and address the challenges in the Coast Plan, there is a need to work together as partners and local communities.

Q15. We are interested to understand a bit more about which of the topics interest you **now**. From the list below, please indicate which of the topics interests you **the most** at the present time. **(Please tick one only)**

Topic that interests you the most	Tick
Landscape and Nature	98
Access and Recreation	70
Health and Wellbeing	40
Economy	13
Regulation and Control	2
Skills and Lifelong Learning and Employment	7
Water Resources	3
The Historic Environment	11
Energy	3
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	10
Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation	26
Delivery through Partnership Working	3

Q16. Please let us know **all the other topics** that interest you at the present time (tick all the others that apply)

Other Topics that interest you	Tick
Landscape and Nature	166
Access and Recreation	163
Health and Wellbeing	159
Economy	91
Regulation and Control	64
Skills and Lifelong Learning and Employment	78
Water Resources	70
The Historic Environment	136
Energy	63
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	131
Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation	139
Delivery through Partnership Working	40

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Q17. If you have any comments on any of the Topic Papers, please use the box below to record your comments. **Please indicate which Topic Papers your comment/s relates to.**

See appendix for verbatim answers

Q18. The Sefton Coast Plan identifies 7 Big Challenges that need to be addressed and suggestions on how to resolve the tensions. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the suggested big challenges?

Suggested Big Challenges	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The sustainable management of the natural environment	171	99	5	2
Identification of sustainable resourcing for the management of the coast	127	126	13	3
Developing sustainable access to the coast	145	117	11	2
The Coast not being resilient due to increasing pressure from people, climate and coastal change	108	126	29	5
Investment in Infrastructure and Management	92	133	27	10
Sustainable Economic Growth of the Port of Liverpool	70	134	41	19
Housing and Employment Growth	61	121	57	26

Q19. Please use the space below for any comments you have on the suggested Big Challenges.

See appendix for verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit

Q20. Please use the space below to let us know if there is anything else you would like to say about the Draft Coast Plan

See appendix for verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit

Q21. I would like to be kept informed about the developments with the Coast Plan.

Yes	129
No	121

Q22. I would like to find out more about how I can volunteer on the Coast.

Yes	65
No	168

Section 3

ABOUT YOU

You do not have to complete the next few questions if you don't want to.

These questions help us to understand who is using our services and taking part in our surveys.

You can find more information about why we collect this information in the "What's it got to do with you?" booklet which is available on the Council website and in Council buildings.

1. What is the first part of your postcode
(the first 3 or 4 letters and numbers) – see Q1 of the survey above

2. Are you

Male	83	Female	144
------	----	--------	-----

3. What is your age?

Under 18	2	18-29	15	30-39	36	40-49	52
50-59	60	60-69	51	70-79	1	80-84	2
85+	1						

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4. Disability: Do you have any of the following (please tick all that apply):

Physical Impairment

11

Visual Impairment

2

Learning Difficulty

12

Hearing Impairment/deaf

10

Mental health/mental distress

11

Long term illness that affects your daily activity

16

Other (please specify in the box below)

Chronic Pain

Asthma

Diabetes

Response from the Focus Groups

Venue: Strandbyme

Date: 7th April 2017

10 participants



Which part of the coast do people use?

Southport, Marina at Waterloo, Crosby and

Formby

Accessibility

- The coast is not accessible by public transport
- The coastline is particularly not accessible for those who are physically impaired
- One participant mentioned that the Rangers can pick up from the train stations in Formby – however, other participants were not aware of this and wonders if it is signposted enough?
- There needs to be an arrangement with the bus companies. There is no bus from Southport Town Centre to the Ocean Plaza.
- Getting to the front, particularly at Crosby is difficult
- Walking on sand and access onto the beach/promenade is difficult – need a boardwalk
- Use the train as there is less parking and the parking there is, you have to pay for
- Having a bus-pass helps

Facilities

- Barriers include:
 - £ for facilities
 - £ for parking
- There should be free parking
- Lack of refreshment facilities.
- People who use the coast could also use the surrounding areas as well, i.e., South Road, Waterloo, but they don't know about it. People come and see the Iron Men and should be encouraged to stay in the local area – needs more promotion
- There are refreshment and toilet facilities provided at St. Lukes Church
- Toilets on the coast are awful
- People are stopping coming to Southport to shop – they are going on line. Southport needs to re-invent itself – it used to be seen as a 'big day out'

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- The gardens at Waterloo are poor
- Ainsdale Beach could be improved if they didn't let horse-riders, cars and dogs loose on the leads
- Sefton could do with a lido facility

Why people use the coast

- Walking
- Fresh air
- Spending the day on the beach
- Picnics
- To see the sea lions
- To see the squirrels and other species
- Looking at the gardens
- To have a sense of freedom
- For free activities

"If you don't use it, you lose it"

Safety

- Never felt un-safe
- Lack of police – presence
- There should be an emergency phone along the coastline and first aid spots

Challenges

- Lack of £
- The environmental impacts
- Coastal erosion
- A sea wall would dramatically reduce erosion
- Quality of sea water
- The appearance of the environment
- Pollution
- Investment in surrounding shops
- Is there any funding (investments) from the Harbour Dock Board?

Improvements

- More portable toilets
- More promotion – Sefton needs to be a destination point
- Need to link the coastline – a boardwalk
- More Signage along the coast
- Could there be a private sponsor?

SPOC (Crosby) meeting

Venue: Crosby Library

Date: 10th April 2017

12 participants

The aim of attending was to provide an update on the Sefton 2030 consultation, promote the Sefton Coast Plan consultation and seek interested in joining the mailing list for the Sefton 2030 and The Coast Plan.

Some issues were discussed in connection to the Sefton Coast Plan.

Accessibility

- Access to the coast is poor – particularly to CLAC/Marina
- There is no bus from Lord Street to the Ocean Plaza
- Could a business sponsor a bus?
- Is there any funding from Peel Ports?

Facilities

- The toilet facilities on the coast need improving – there should be more. As people age, they need to use facilities more.

Challenges

- Dog fouling – although there might be bins – people do not use them and there is a lot of fouling
- The weeds on roads surrounding the coast are bad.
- Is there any road cleaners?
- There needs to be investment in the infrastructure surrounding the coast – perhaps a tram for the whole coast line
-

“Do something special for Sefton”

Other

- How much does the consultation materials cost?
- Does consultation really make a difference?

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SPOC (Bootle) meeting

Venue: St. Oswalds Court, Netherton

Date: 11th April 2017

15 participants

The aim of attending was to provide an update on the Sefton 2030 consultation, promote the Sefton Coast Plan consultation and seek whether people were interested in joining the mailing list for the Sefton 2030 and the Coast Plan. Some issues were discussed in connection to the Sefton Coast Plan.



Where do you visit the most?

- Burbo Bank
- Crosby Marina
- Southport

Accessibility

- You can get a bus near the coast but it is still too far away for those who find walking difficult
- The bus 206 goes around Crosby and touches the Marina and Hightown, but could it not be slightly extended to take people to the coast?
- Hardest to get to Crosby lakeside and Burbo-bank
- The cost of parking should be kept low
- The restrictions for parking (i.e. yellow lines) act as a barrier
- Parking in Southport can be difficult for people with LD/Older people – having to walk across the main road to get to the promenade
- There is no parking at Ainsdale
- There should be a road train/tram that goes along the coast
- A pensioners parking scheme would be a good idea, but would perhaps be too difficult to monitor

Facilities

- There should be more comfort stops
- As we want more visitors, then there should be more rest places, tea/coffee, toilets and shelter – particularly at busy times

Challenges

- Coastal erosion
- Abuse of the coast – fly-tipping
- Getting there – access
- Having the money to invest

Other

- What is happening to the nature reserve at Seaforth – peel port want to move it?
- What about Bootle – Bootle used to be a resort

Agenda Item 10

Appendix 1 Social Media Campaign

Sefton Coast Plan promotion/consultation details:

www.facebook.com/seftoncoast:

6/3/17: Ran piece/link to documents and questionnaires on Sefton Coast facebook page.

1,485 people reached.

6/3/17: Embedded Prezi plan file on Sefton coast facebook page.

726 people reached.

13/3/17: Ran new piece on link to plan and questionnaire.

273 people reached.

13/4/17: Ran piece on extended consultation period.

390 people reached.

21/4/17: Last chance to have your say piece.

390 people reached.

TOTAL: 3,264 reached.

[@theseftoncoast](#):

Tweets on:

6/3/17x2; 7/3/17; 8/3/17; 9/3/17; 10/3/17; 13/3/17; 15/3/17; 21/3/17;

TOTAL: 6,290 views.

+retweets of any mention of Sefton Coast Plan from Sefton Council/@seftoncoast2017, National Trust, Iron Man and Natural England accounts.

Talks/Walks/Presentations:

7/3/17: Heritage and Health Walk – discussed Sefton Coast Plan and how the 6 walkers could see it and respond.

9/3/17: Discussed plan and leafletted each attendee (40 people) during presentation on “Flora and Fauna of the Sefton Coast” at Sefton In Bloom meeting, Southport Town Hall.

10/3/17: Discussed plan, leafletted attendees (17 people) on National Trust shipwreck walk at Formby.

11/3/17: Promoted plan on public shipwreck walk (26 attendees) at Formby Point.

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18/3/17: National Trust land transfer open day at Lifeboat Rd – discussed plan and consultation with c30 visitors (as did NT and Sefton Council staff). Handed out flyers and questionnaires, went through summary.

29/3/17: Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens forum, Lord St West URC. Presented consultation to forum (approx. 50 attendees), handed out flyers, printed questionnaires, Q&A.

3/4/17: Sefton Carers History Group, South Rd, Waterloo: Discussed consultation during presentation to group (approx. 30 people). Handed out flyers.

4/4/17: Plugged Sefton Coast Plan and consultation during Sandgrunder Radio interview.

7/4/17: Discussed plan/consultation in Formby with 19 attendees on Ravenmeols Walk.

10/4/17: Handed out flyers/discussed plan and consultation during “Bird Migration” events at Hall Rd, Crosby, and Ainsdale Dunes (44 people in total).

21/4/17: Reminded attendees on evening Natterjack Walk that today was closing date for consultation (14 people).

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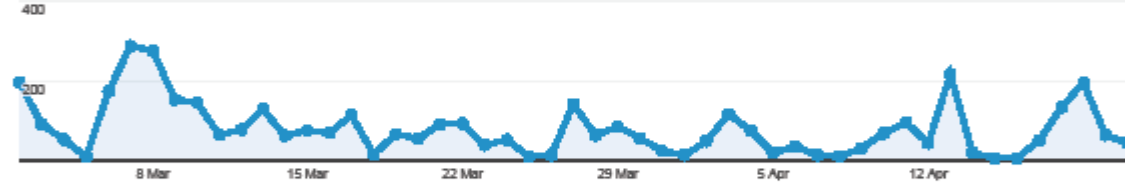
Pages

2 Mar 2017 - 21 Apr 2017

All Users
100.00% Page Views

Explorer

Page Views



Page Title	Page Views	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	4,106 % of Total: 100.00% (4,106)	3,196 % of Total: 100.00% (3,196)	00:01:28 Avg for View: 00:01:28 (0.00%)	2,042 % of Total: 100.00% (2,042)	78.21% Avg for View: 78.21% (0.00%)	49.73% Avg for View: 49.73% (0.00%)	US\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (US\$0.00)
1. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - The Coast Plan 2017-2030	1,599 (38.94%)	1,388 (43.43%)	00:04:04	1,299 (63.61%)	89.76%	84.06%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Find an event	748 (18.22%)	454 (14.21%)	00:00:32	82 (4.62%)	51.22%	13.77%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Welcome	625 (15.32%)	409 (12.80%)	00:01:20	354 (17.34%)	40.40%	32.96%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - News Blog	147 (3.58%)	111 (3.47%)	00:00:45	46 (2.28%)	58.70%	35.37%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Formby footprints walk (National Trust)	73 (1.78%)	60 (1.88%)	00:00:35	29 (1.42%)	89.66%	42.47%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Create an Event	70 (1.70%)	64 (2.00%)	00:02:35	0 (0.00%)	0.00%	2.86%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Our Mascots	54 (1.32%)	31 (0.97%)	00:02:52	10 (0.49%)	90.00%	37.04%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Between Land & Sea: 10,000 Years of Sefton's Coast	49 (1.19%)	39 (1.22%)	00:00:47	1 (0.05%)	100.00%	24.49%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Beachwatch beach clean event - Hightown	46 (1.12%)	41 (1.28%)	00:01:25	29 (1.42%)	82.76%	65.22%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. 2017 The Year of Sefton's Coast - Outdoor Cinema	37 (0.90%)	29 (0.91%)	00:05:36	23 (1.13%)	73.91%	67.57%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 120

Appendix 2

Q11. Please tell us your **top 3 things that you would like to be different** about Sefton's Coast

Verbatim comments split by primary area visited

Ainsdale

Accessibility	Less anti-social behaviour	Enforcement of laws and regulations
More dog control	Less litter	Less disturbance to wildlife
Re-open parking on Ainsdale beach	Information boards about eg local shipwrecks, prehistoric footprints etc	More parking around Ainsdale beach, less aggressive parking enforcement
More wardens (re dogs)	More litter bins	Better parking at Ainsdale out of season
More litter collection	More access	
Have free access to drive on to the beach	Dog wardens to ensure people are not taking too many dogs on to the beach at one time, as in dog walkers	Sorry, third one is still about dog fouling not being picked up. My husband and I always pick up after our dog. It gives us all a bad name. I would be devastated if dogs were banned from the beach. Please let's sort out the selfish people who don't pick up.
Toilet facilities	Refreshment facilities	more dog friendly
Access all year	Better toilets	Better cleanliness
Open beach during winter	Less grass between Ainsdale and Southport	
Larger car parking area	Better toilets	Better facilities
Remove more pines at Ainsdale nnr.	Add more deeper pools for dragonflies	
Cycle path along coastal road to Southport not wide enough	Toad hall ainsdale needs to be renovated	Less litter
Access all year	Better toilets	Better safety
Better access	Less horse manure on the beach	More dog friendly
More wastebins	Easier access to dog walking area	
Reasonable parking		
Poor free parking facilities	barely no facilities	pathways not cleared
safer environment -	contribution to	more protection for wildlife

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especially summer evenings at Ainsdale	renewable energy - tidal lagoon	
no restrictions for dog walkers	repair of fences	more bins for poo bags
Parking on beach all year for kitesurfing		
more toilets at accessible spots	more rangers stations	more places for coffee without ruining the environment
Disabled access	Carparking	Grass on beaches
Open access to Ainsdale beach	Not giving it to National Trust	Free access to residents who already pay via council tax
Marshside needs improvement		
REFRESHMENT FACILITIES	Better public transport	More organised events
No parking on the beach	More yellow sand	More dog poo bins
Attractions and Events	Pathways and Trails	Maintenance and Information
Beach open all year	Residents park for free	Better exit/entrance to ainsdale beach
Beach open to cars all year	Better car parking off beach	
Rake southport beach	Ainsdale lido area updated	Toilets
more rubbish collection	pot holes filled in on paths	more rubbish bins
More parking especially ainsdale	Picnic area	Warden controlled
Remove barriers at Ainsdale beach	Extend parking area on Ainsdale beach	Sack (name removed)
Development of recreation sports	More respect for our coast, not see as a playground to joyride, drink and crime	A better balance between preservation of nature and social aspect so maybe a treehouse like in Alnwick. In Ainsdale maybe turn toad hall in to accommodation above but down below have coffee shops, ice cream parkour bike hire
Better toilet facilities	Better visitor facilities	Some investment
Less reliance on cars to get to the beach i.e. better public transport e.g. multiple beach park and rides	Better access for the less able-bodied or elderly, including more seats along trails	Better connections between coastal communities and the seafront - at Waterloo and Southport in particular i.e. towncentres to be more seaward facing and street scene to encourage movement between the two aspects of those communities. Ainsdale, Birkdale and Hightown too.
More parking (free would be good)	Public toilets	Cleaner

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Parking / cost	Facilities	Education and learning
All year car access on the beach at Ainsdale (as local residents it's upsetting to see families with young kids struggle carrying things on to the beach during low of season	Cleaned toilet facilities at Ainsdale beach - all year round	educational boards about areas of SSI

Crosby/Waterloo

more facilities for younger children, including baby changes	more educational things to do for free or a small charge	more parking
More signage	more rangers	more toilet facilities
there should be more toilets	there should be more tables	
more toilets	more bins	more bins for dog mess
A place for ten pin bowling		
tidyness	cleanness	rubbish
less dog poo	dogs kept on leads	Don't pay in the car-parks
free car-parks	clean toilets	playground for all ages
more bins	more benches	
more benches	clean toilets	seperate area for dogs
more bins		
more dog poo bins		
toilet facilities	cleanliness	safe place to visit
pathways cleaned	more amenities	publicity
sand to be removed more often at waterloo!!	prominard to be extended between burbo-bank and waterloo	refreshments at waterloo end
more toilets	more places for a drink	more places to sit
Paths clear of sand	Dune height management	More litter bins
Clear promenade	A cafe and visitor centre	Toilets
More facilities		
Available expertise to support schools on visits	Outdoor classroom facilities	Coastal footpaths
toilets at Waterloo end	Could be cleaner	More attention to South of coast
Better facilities	More parking	Cleaner
Stop cycling on promenade between Waterloo and Coastguard Station. Too narrow even with the now erased cycle lane.	Designated dog walking areas	Cleaner beaches removal of tidal debris
less litter	cafe at hall road end of sea wall	remove the ugly iron statues

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Less dogs on the beach and grass areas		
nice place to eat/drink with dog and family	cleanliness	access for bikes/wheelchairs/prams
Beauty	It's ever changing nature	Local
A cafe	More toilets	?
Free parking	Better toilets	
Cleaner	Cycle lanes	
More security	Stop dog fouling	More toilet facilities
More litter bins and regular collections	More coastal education available	More activities
Better refreshments facilities	No parking fees	Boat launch improvements
A beach in southport - instead of a marsh	purpose built BBQ points	more events
Cleanliness of beaches	more refreshment facilities	more toilet facilities
More facilities	Sand cleared away more often	Dog laws enforcement
Better facilities	Safe cycle routes to the coast	
Stop car parking charges	More litter bins	Less litter on beach
Improved food and drink facilities to enjoy the view whilst eating	More education on flora and fauna	
Accessible	A cafe and visitor centre	Toilets
Sand cleared from paths	Dogs on leads	Better toilet facilities
More sculptures	Cycle. Trails	
Less dogs	Less rubbish	Transport linkd
Access to beach	Parking	Cleanliness
Sand free walkways		
A bit cleaner, less rubbish		
More cycle paths		
more seating	more wooden art pieces	cheaper parking for residents
less litter	fewer cars	better sand management
more cafes	better policing of dog owners	better walking paths
access to food and drink	signposting to local shops	promotion
Clamp down on litter offenders	More facilities on beach	Beach events
litter management after busy days especially at Waterloo	coherence of marketing	FREE parking - because it makes it accessible to everyone, and because otherwise I can't park on my street
Better infrastructure across the path certainly from Crosby Leisure Centre to Hightown, especially with regard to	better tourist information for visitors. This coast has MASSIVE potential	Better acretion management

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refreshments		
More, sympathetic places of refreshment	Even more nature, history walks	More artworks
Have a cafe at Hall Road	Run by the Council	To generate income
Sandfree promenade	Interesting features	Free parking
Free parking	Litter clearing at busy times	Better information
Visitor facilities/cafe/toilets	Education events/facilities/volunteering / notice boards updated	Signage improvement
Less dog mess	More public toilets at various locations	Clearing sand from walkways
Education about the conservation of the coast	More toilet facilities	More education about the wildlife and species on Sefton's Coast
More outdoor childrens play areas	Increased seating in some areas	Increased use of areas and promotion of them locally
Better sand clearance of pathways	Better upkeep of coastal dunes	Better refreshment facilities
Paths cleared of sand	Dune height management	Litter bins
Cleaner	Better facilities coffee etc	
More effective litter collecting done over weekends	Larger bins that are secure for rubbish when it's windy	Money from the parking fee being transparently invested in full to maintaining and preserving the coast
Dogs always on a lead	More litter bins	
Free Parking	Cleaner	Improved Toilet Facilities
Beach clean up	Education to the public about keeping our coast clean	More signage about the coast line and history
Cost of parking puts us off going :(
More activities for kids	Cycle zone	More nature trails
Less litter	Better quality refreshments	Water taps to rinse sand off
Better toilet facilities	Feel safer	Better catering facilities
More accessible facilities	Nearer parking	More guided tours so people who can't walk far or parents with small children could ride in something like golf cars.
Sand cleared from promenade	Litter patrols & tougher fines	More frequent emptying of bins at busy periods
More bins for recyclable and unreachable waste	Barriers to prevent cycle paths being covered by sand	More tourist information about crosby and waterloo
Cleaner - less litter	recreation areas - wider range (all ages)	Marked or maintained access - pathways

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		particularly around formby point
Cleaner		
Crosby/waterloo path free from sand	Better toilet facilities	Less dog dirt
Better facilities that generate revenue	Better beach clean ups	Different promenade solution inbetween Waterloo and Crosby
More information to public	More facilities - toilets, cafes	No.parking fees near burbo bank
Maintainance on the Crosby Promenade	Removing of rubbish beach	Better access for Horses
Cleaner beach at Crosby and Waterloo	Clear paths of sand all year round	More dog poo bins
Free parking		
Safer at night		
Lighting on paths for evening walks	Public toilets closer to beach at marina end	Clearer paths for cycling, too sandy
More places to eat and socialise	Cleaner beaches	Beach huts and pods
tidier	coffee shops	less concrete
visitor centre	much better toilet facilities	more than 1 of both above - so it's something we can be proud of if visitors come
Less dog dirt	Better parking	Better toilet facilities
Toilets on or close to the seafront at Waterloo	More targetted sand clearance of pathsSand clea	
less litter	less dog mess	less overgrowth
Toilets/facilities	Upkeep of paths/railings	More community events
reduced car park prices	people not leaving rubbish on nice days	more rangers
Beach clean ups Waterloo/Crosby	Cycle path link fisherman's path surface potholes	Burbo bank carpark better provision for cyclists.
A bit cleaner		
Free Parking	Less dogs	Less litter on busy days
Pity that the sand has submerged the path around the marina.		
Better cycle way	Path clearing	More dog wardens
toilet facilities	picnic area	better pathways
Cleanliness	Maintenance of the path from Waterloo through Crosby	Education opportunities/facilities
Cleaner beaches	More promotion to encourage people to visit	Visitor facilities at formby
Better visitor facilities especially refreshments	Removal of building rubble	More regular litter-picking
free parking		
Remove parking charges	Toilet facilities	
cleaner	reopen access to prom	more seating on prom

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	along Seaforth by containerbase	
Free parking	Clean litter	Public toilets
Crosby promenade should be kept clear so people can walk along it.	Dogs need to be under control, not banned.	
Toilet facilities	Improved walking and cycling routes	Free structured activities for all ages
visitor centres	improved accessibility from dunes to foreshore	restaurants, bars like new brighton would be good at Crosby
More beach clean ups	Free parking to encourage more people	More educational activities for kids
less litter	signs of sinking sand awareness	snack food facility's nine till five
More parking	Lower cost to park	More toilets
Reintroduce free parking	Keep paths more free of sand	(cycling/wheelchairs)
Free parking	Coffee stall	Nature information
More information boards	Coastguard back	Rangers about
parking fees	the weather	
better promotion	greater investment	improvements in common areas
No dog mess	Less litter	Easier for prams
Be able to sit in a cafe or restaurant and look out to sea	Not to have only Food vans for refreshments	More toilets
Less dogs	Less litter	Less cars
less run off into river via industry and agricultural eg Norton recycling	increased sand dune management	less traffic both commercial and public
More refreshments. Cafe not a van, preferably somewhere that dogs are allowed in at least part.	More toilets	More bins. There used to be lots along the seafront... now they are sparse.
fewer people	less damage to sanddunes	larger carparks
Clean up the prom	Clean up the beach and remove sanddunes creeping onto grass	Safer for pedestrians where bikes are concerned
Sand building up on promenade between the baths and Waterloo Marina makes it hard to run or walk and impossible for people to walk buggies and wheelchairs.	Build a cafe at Crosby beach	Better toilet facilities at Crosby beach
More bins	More dog poo bins	Running routes
Free parking	More toilets	Refreshments available
free parking	more refreshment areas	
No sand on promanade	free parking	Toilet/refreshment facilities
Free parking	More regular cleaning	Better policing
Toilets	Refreshments	Information site

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Zero development on the beaches	Protection of the sand dunes	Segregated cycle lanes
Paths cleaned	Sand brushed off paths	Rubbish removed
More wildlife	More cycle routes	
free/cheap parking	better refreshments	regular sand clearing
Free Parking	A coffee shop/restaurant	More walking routes
Free parking	Removal of sand from promenade path	Cleanliness
People picking up their dog poo	People taking home their litter	Better toilet facilities at Hall Rd
Less litter	Free parking	Facilities
more family activities	free parking	better control of dogs
Social commercialisation	Key asset that can bring economic growth	Key asset to bring well being
Clear paths	More for visitors	
Na		
Burbo Bank is one of my favourite places in the world. It would be great to have some kind of cafe there. I don't think it should be turned into some kind of shopping centre, but something better than a van that also takes advantage of it as a beauty spot.		
Better toilet facilities	I can't believe we don't have a beach front cafe / bar	More litter bins
car park charges	car park charges	car park charges

Formby

Better car parking	Refreshment facilities	Information notice boards
see q12 below	see q12 below	
Visitor impact and appropriate use of snaddunes		
toilet and refreshment facilities needed relatively nearby (say at Shorrocks Hill etc)		
Removal of all the bricks	free parking for residents	
More toilets	Baby facilities	Cheaper parking
More bins at Formby	Snack bar at Formby	Toilets at Formby
Clear sand from cycle paths Waterloo end	Much less litter @ Waterloo end	Discounted parking costs for local people
Maintance of the main footpaths	See less cars parked in residential areas at busy times	
More litter points.	Signs for visitors taking litter home with them.	More signs with regard to by-Laws.
Cleanliness	Free parking	Good Beach cafe
Parking near the military firing range area of the beach cabin woods or something	Toilets	Refreshments
Easy access to the beach	Park and ride to formby beaches	
More kids activities	Play area	More refreshments, cafe, beach

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		shops for buckets etc
safe bridge at Fisherman's crossing	More environmentally OK car parks	Visitor Centre at NT
More conservation	Less marine debris	Less traffic
Better access for people with disabilities	More information on wildlife, identifying birds	Cheaper car parking
Cheaper parking rates	Better access to beach at Formby	More bins for litter
Less dog mess	NT sort their beach	Better conservation
More litter bins	Greater maintenance of walkways, bridges and fences	
Better toilet facilities	Better control of dogs	More information boards
More facilities	More litter bins	Better signage
Access to more of it	Better litter collection	
More bins on beach areas	Frequent emptying of bins especially on busy days	More work done for the dunes
More refreshment facilities	Better restrooms	N/A
More staff on the beach/dunes/car parks in the winter	More car parks - it's awful living in Freshfield in summer when I have to queue to get to my own house due to the roads being blocked by visitors.	Litter! After every weekend there's litter all over the beach and dunes. The locals are sick of it.
More refreshments ON the beach. An ice cream van or two stuck right up in the car parks doesn't exactly encourage you to stay on the beach very long.	Less dog poo!! Especially in the pinewoods and surrounding dunes (the beach doesn't seem too bad)	General cleanliness - in particular a regular, concise effort to get rid of the bricks/rubble that feature along the bottom end of Formby beach
Better walkways for disabled	Beaches kept clear of rubbish	More parking poor facilities
More sand	Less vegetation	Better parking
free entry for residents all year round.	permanent toilet facilities at Formby	More regular clean up's
Different visitor culture - less litter	Spread visitor load over year - less beach crowd more explorers	Better links with the broader local community
Less litter		
More toilets	More parking	Visitor centre with cafe
Less litter	More information	Free parking
A cafe at Formby or Freshfield to make money for the council	More patrols to stop antisocial behaviour	The national trust to be less officious
Cleanliness of Lifeboat Rd	Removal of ugly metal signs	Increased staff at Ravenmeols
More information boards	More refreshment facilities	More toilets
Differentiate between local residents who use the beach every day and summer visitors re: car park charges	More refreshment facilities, but done tastefully and in keeping with the environment	Bins that are emptied regularly

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I quite like it as it is.		
Cleanliness of beach	Provision of refreshments	Access to beach
Less bricks!	Easier access across dunes	That's all
More toilets	More catering	
THE REDUCTION OF HOUSING NEAR THE DUNES - ESPECIALLY AT FORMBY.	NO EXPANSION OF THE CAR PARK AT FORMBY - TOO CROWDED ALREADY.	MORE CONTROL OVER LITTER - I.E. SUMMER VISITOR RUBBISH
seawall	better access in formby	more policing
Free parking	Cycle routes	More bins
The ability to walk in nature	The closeness to my home	Very good public paths
More regular removal of rubbish	Consultation on conservation projects	Free access to all areas for everyone
encourage people to use PT	Less litter	
Improved maintenance	More publicity	More refreshment places
Improved access/parking	Beach clean Victoria Road	
Less rubbish	More information signs	
Removal of rubble from beach caused by coastal erosion to old access road at Freshfield.	Educate visitors to be more responsible for disposing of any fouling caused by their dog and any litter they may have.	Ensure the public has a better appreciation of the opportunities offered by the Sefton Coast and the conservation challenge faced in order to preserve the coastal environment.
free access for disabled drivers	more places to sit	
Better signage	Protection of habitats	Managed parking
Free parking		
Less use as an attraction, more natural	At busy times more staff to monitor fires, noise etc	More to encourage visitors to use public transport
Easier access onto the beach	more carparking	more cycle paths
Better parking facilities	More bins with covers	More toilet & refreshment facilities
No teenagers on mountain bikes	No possibility of fracking	Cheaper parking at Formby point
Areas that keep people out	Rewilding and natural landscaping	recognition of waders importance to coast
Prevention of incremental development e.g. firwood house and wicks lane	More opportunities for public education about the changing coast e.g. why the salt marsh at Southport is an important habitat	Improved or new toilet facilities in spaces that will not impact on the natural coast
More ranger staff	Police presence in summer	More information about the challenges of conserving the site
Pram access onto beach	Toilets	Cafe

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More respect for nature	Control of dogs	Less urbanisation
Connected walk/cycle way	Amenities	
Free parking. Lifeboat road has no facilities at all		
Cafe at formby beach	Education centre for conservation	Nothing else, it's lovely really
more emphasis on getting there by public transport	vouchers for refreshments for people who walk or cycle there	improved ranger service / visibility to deter vandalism
less motor activity on dunes	more bins	more beach cleaning
Dog free areas on the beach	Heavy fines for dogs off leads	Dog specific areas away from people who dislike dogs
Bins emptied more often	Policed more	
More car parking		
Better facilities	Road congestion	
More protection for 'nature'	Less traffic	Less dog poo/litter
less traffic	more nature	less litter
better accomodation /holiday facilities at Ainsdale	better facilities near coast	More ecological buildings being built near / on coast
Open access	Proactive management	The National Trust to provide revenue to Sefton Council
Cleaner/tidier after sunny days	More info on coast and history	Refreshments eg beachside cafe/log cabin at Formby would be so popular
Cleaner	Better toilet facilities	Refreshment facilities

Hightown

Free parking	Cafe	Decent toilets at regular intervals
free parking	cafe at hall road	better maintainence of nature reserves
Less Difficult to park	No Charges at car park	Clear sand on footpaths
Beaches cleaner	Dog poo picked up	Less cyclists on coastal path

Marshside

Better cycling/walking paths	More cleaning around main roads/roundabouts	Better promotion of bird watching
Stronger/more information about wildlife		
Too many cars parking inconsiderately	Stop shops on Neville St. blocking pavemennts	

Southport

Sandy beaches to return	Grass cleared from	Beach to be clean
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	beach	
More litter bins	plastic bag dispensers	informationn
cleaner beaches	keep dogs on a lead	clean up after dogs
Better transport links, bus stops with shelters and litter bins. Park and ride to coast should be for everyone, not just drivers	More recepticles for litter and information about litter policy - better waste management	More police/community officers/warden for information and safety from anti-social behaviour and illegal cycling on pavements
free parking	more parking	later parking
less litter	no poo bags!!	no fracking
Free parking	Toilets	
Cleaner		
Investment in Southport	clean beaches	better access
The beach to be used more for events - there used to be bmx/motorcross racing, drive in movies	To find a balance between the grass and sand	to provide more toilets and bins
Accessibility	Grass build up at Southport beach	Funding for lifeboat
less weeds	less mud	access all year round
Beach cleaning	Dune cleaning	No cars on beach
Clean golden sands	Cleanup the disgusting muddy mess	Pay display car park weld road road
More information boards	A visitor centre	Easier access
Bins for dog poo	Dogs allowed on beach - if cars are allowed, dogs should be too	More woodland like Ainsdale
Stop parking on Southport beach	stop building ugly building like ocean plaza on seafront	
More visitors.	Inkeeping enterprise.	Innovative marketing.
Cleaner beaches	More environmental info	Better toilets
Cars banned from beach	Bigger Off beach car parks	Park and ride to beach
Cleaner	Sandier	More benches
Dog fouling on pavements	Provision of dog bins	Litter collection dreadful
More opportunities for wildlife	Less cars	to be more natural
Accessibility	More things to do	Cater for the number of visitors
Birkdale to southport beach cleaned	Tidying of coast road by pleasure land	Better parking facilities
Cleaner	Better maintained	Less grass on the beach
Public toilet availability all year round	Safe areas maintained for sea/sun bathing beach recreation	Improved dog and litter management
Cleaner beach	More attractions	Less sand on oatg
Safe areas to walk dog	Cleanliness	Education
Cleaner	Cheaper	Better facilities toielts
More promotion of the area in	More litter bins	

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other towns/cities		
Less interference	Parking away from beach	Less cost to access freshfield
Free parking for residents	Better toilet facilities	Sand cleared from the cycle path

No Primary site identified

more benches	more bins for dog poo	seperate area for dogs
More publci awareness of fragile dune habitat and conservation work	More environmental education opportunities	More public awareness of issues with dogs (poo bags/unruly dogs not being on leads)
off lead dog walking areas	better tidal management	better communication
A cleaner beach which is raked	Improved Toilet and Parking facilities	More bins which actually get emptied!
Cleaner	Easier to park//bike	More information
Ainsdale beach should be developed in order to generate income for the Council.	Car parking should be possible all year round.	Areas of the beach have been overtaken by grass. This needs to ne contained.

Q12. Please tell us your **top 3 challenges** that you have about Sefton's Coast

Verbatim comments split by primary area visited

Ainsdale

Changing ecological system	Anti-social behaviour	Understanding of the nature of the coast
Human disturbance	Scrub encroachment	Climate change
See all above points		
Grass invasion	water quality	Accessability
Litter		
Grass invasion	The tidal erosion	Litter
Decreasing open sand in the dunes	Its always difficult to accomodate everyone.	
The green beach	The tidal erosion	The lack of bins
Better year round access	Better toilets	
Parking	Cleanliness	
cattle on and next to pathways	lots of manure	dunes not advertised for family walks
boy racers on the sands in the evenings	lack of sensible parking when the tide is high	intrusive alien species in dunes
litter from irresponsible picnics	more wardens on beach	bins emptied regularly in summer
Discount to local residents for beach		

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pass		
not enough toilets	not enough places for a coffee	
Getting on with no parking in winter as I am disabled	Reduced parking area in summer at Ainsdale means overcrowding	Poor toilet facilities
Ownership....it belongs to the public, not the Council		
Marshside	Litter	
Fracking	Litter	Access
Finding a clean quiet spot	Not getting run down by cars	Walking for longer without a loo be closer
Southport grass and diminishing sand	Maintaining reputation for visitors	Budget cuts
Sefton have no money to spend to keep beach open annually	Sefton do not have resources to clear away overgrown trees or bushes, especially along ainsdale pinewoods	Sefton do not police dog mess or have enough receptacles as people leave bins overflowing
Beach closed unnecessarily	Impossible to get to Formby point by car at weekends	
Grass growing on southport beach	Ainsdale closed To cars in winter	Run down area around Ains beach
more bins for dog poo bags	bins to be emptied more often	pathe maintained better
Parking	Safety	Cleanliness
Being allowed to enjoy it without interference from Council employees	Grass ruining the beaches	(name deleted) idiotic personal crusade to rid the beaches of people.
Amount of dogs out of control	Lack of amenities near the beach	Pontins and it's ability to pull in worst people and crime to what should be a good one for sefton
Impacts of both natural coastal change and long term climate change on the very sensitive habitats - room for roll back to cope with coastal squeeze from rising sea levels and increased erosion, but also taking into account accreting areas e.g. salt marsh and how to change people's understanding of the value to people of salt marsh as a carbon sink, natural coastal defence and its value for wildlife.	Impacts of development and a rising North West England population, potentially increasing visitor and residential pressure on the coast and its habitats and species and its ability to respond to the challenges in point 1.	Effective long term management of the coastal assets, including good integration between marine and terrestrial planning. It requires will and resource, both of which may be lacking with funding cuts to government agencies and local government.
Parking		
Easy access parking	Gacikities	Learning more about it
No all yr car access to Ainsdale beach	Hopeless access to beach at Birkdale -too muddy	Lack of basic facilities at key access points to the beaches

Crosby/Waterloo

Dunes eroding on prom		
Look after the coast	Make the coast calm	Make the coast clean
more benches		
Safety		
not enough seats	not enough toilets	dogs running free and where children are
dog poo		
dog fouling		
access	be able to walk from beach to beach	toilet facilities
getting to the beach through all the sand	There is nothing to buy to celebrate seeing the iron men	That people and visitors should look after the coast and take rubbish home with them
small lake at marina drained - its just a cess pit at the moment - the water is bright yellow as of 12 April!	small lake at marina drained - its just a cess pit at the moment - the water is bright yellow as of 12 April!	
car parking charges	dog mess	No shops
Cannot cycle in Waterloo and Crosby due to sand	Views obstructed because of dune height	Concerned about safety of dunes and broken railings. (Waterloo and Crosby)
Accessing all of prom	Toilets	Cleanliness
Sand blocking paths		
Safety on beach during visits	Cost of transport to and from coast for school parties	Knowledge of practitioners undertaking a visit
Toilets	Litter control	Alcohol control
sand covering sections of the sea wall	amount of litter	dog waste
Council cuts		
Dogs running loose in beach	Sand not cleared from paths	Litter (sometimes(
Lack of toilets	Lack of parking	
Make more child friendly	Stop trying to make Southport into a mini Blackpool	Spend more money on Crosby coast
Beach litter	Lack of educational opportunities	More promotion needed
Erosion	Flooding	Dangerous mud
Accessing all of prom	Toilets	
Busy		
Less dogs	Less rubbish	Better transport links
Day trip litter louts		
sorry not sure what you mean by challenges		

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litter	too many cars running their engines	safety
not friendly to people who aren't dog lovers/owners	recreational activities are too expensive	better recreational opportunities are needed
pathways accessible		
Litter		
marketing and maximising opportunities to bring income to the area	fixing it as something special in local people's minds - source of pride and ownership and identity	keeping it clean after a busy day
How to manage accretion particularly across the promenade path from radar station to the coast guard station	Development of a visitor friendly environment	How to make the whole coast more accessible and still retain its uniqueness
Doggie bags left on or near paths. Why?	Littering.	Speeding bikes
The Council who need	a bit of forward planning	
Sandfree promenade	More controlled dunes	Litter free
Litter and food waste	Wheelchair access to some sites	
Less dog mess	Less litter on beach	Clearing sand from walkways for prams and wheelchairs
Conservation of species and habitats	Making people aware of what there is down on the Coast	
Volume of people to limited popular areas	Lack of dog free areas on beaches	Lack of access to quality and affordable refreshments in some areas
Sand building up at back of garden	Unable to access beach due to being disabled and pathways not cleared	Upkeep of residential home
Walking and cycling on paths	Views obstructed by dunes	Unsafe and broken railings
Litter	Dog poo pick up	
adequate rubbish and litter managemnet	Keeping the promenade free of blown sand	Stopping motorbikes driving on the grass and path to Hightown
Peel Ports encrouching on land	Peel Ports is eyesore	Dogs unleashed
Beach clean up		
Cost of parking		
Litter	Sand on walkway	Limited catering
improve toilets	buggy friendly	clean up litter
Work full time so can't access as much as would like	Cost of parking in places like Squirrel Woods is a barrier	
Cycle paths along coastal road Ainsdale are poor quality	More finances are spent in the north of the borough instead of being used in the south	Air and other Pollution from the docks

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maintaining sea defenses	balancing flood risk vs natural environment	cost - to local authority
Trying to walk when the path is blocked by drifted sand	Avoiding bikes Tec where the path is narrow/ none existent due to drifted sand	Missing barriers/ hand rails
Cycling along the Crosby promenade	Rubbish after a weekend in the summer	Motorbikes late at night
Litter	Animal welfare	Anti social behaviour
n/a	n/a	n/a
This question	Is confusing	It doesn't make sense
Cost of parking		
People littering	Dogs with no muzzel	
Clearer cycle/walking lanes		
Increased visitor numbers could lead to further litter	The impact of attracting more footfall on local residents and the impact on their amenity	Sustaining any developments against further cuts
litter		
don't feel proud when bring people	inadequate toilets for such a busy area	missed opportunity to educate people about our coast - learn more from random programmes on the TV
Cleanliness	ASB of some users	Parking facilities
Some of the paths are now completely buried in sand	A lot of litter is left in the summer.	
clean up litter	more bins	tidy overgrown areas
Nighttime safety	Cycling in burbo bank carpark	The weather
Littering is still a problem on the beach and more so in the parks.		
Shifting sands	People's attitude towards litter	Dog walkers not clearing up after their dog
Refuse collection not frequent enough	Sefton MBC not valuing as a resource	No facilities for visitors
Pollution		
Erosion	Protection of habitats for wildlife	Generating benefits for the local economy
poor public transport	prom blocked by sand in places	lack of seating on prom Waterloo end
See above - q11 is essentially the same question		
climate change	tourism	accessibility
Unsavory items left littering marina	Quality of water around Crosby	Sand dunes drifting and blocking paths
park litted signs bins	life guard seen many people struggling in quick sand	rangers to rid rubbish
Finding a way to encourage visitors to remove litter		

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No lifeguard	No swimming	Too many dogs
Safe sand	Cost of parking	Clean sand
sand		
lack of funding/money	erosion/weather	
Dog mess	Litter	Pram access
Council realising its full potential		
Less dog mess	Less litter	Less cars
increased funding	to reduce the negative environmental impact of encroaching industrialisation	sustainability
Sand not cleared often enough along some paths	Nowhere to grab a convenient coffee	No toilets apart from at the swimming pool... and I can't take a dog in there!
too many visitors	too many cars irresponsibly parked	fires
Access to beach due to walkways not accessible	Lost steps and rails due to access sand which is getting worse	Prom not wide enough for pedestrians and cyclists going fast
Sand build up on the promenade between Crosby baths and Waterloo Marina. Simple metal panels fixed on the sea-side of the walkway would stop this.		
Sand dunes blocking prom in waterloo		
parking cost	regular cleaning	keeping the red squirrels at Formby
Sefton Council doing something other than using the facility as a cash cow	Not wasting money on things like the High Ropes	The waterloo festival and car park in costal park
Accessibility due to lack of maintenance on the Crosby/Waterloo promenade	Unsocial behaviour - scrambler bikes	Litter
Coast not equipped for large number on sunny days	Dog walkers not cleaning up	
Clean paths	Clear rubbish	Clear walking area
this is not a proper sentence!		
Parking	Food on offer	
See above		
Too much litter	No public toilets	Difficult without a car
Lack of ambition whilst ensuring protection	Risk adverse council	Sand drift
Blocked paths		
Charging for parking. Look, I understand, but is there a slicker way of doing it than the way you currently do at Burbo Bank?		
Lack of toiletibg facilities	Beach access with a buggy	Nowhere to park up bikes / scooters
car park charges	car park charges	car park charges

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Formby

Erosion of dunes at Formby	Rubble on beach at Freshfield	Too many dogs
The state of Alexandra Road		
Visitor impact	Protection of sand dune habitat	Erosion at Formby
Wildlife attraction - more work needed to support rare species		
Trying to avoid horse manure on Formby beach	Not enough bins	Need snacks and drinks
Overcrowding	Dune erosion	Flora/fauna conversation
Future flood defence	Erosion of the sandhills	
Maintain public right-of-way down St. Luke's Church Road. & Albert Road past (Lord Mc.Combe's) Firwood Hall.	To keep certain parts of the shoreline natural & undeveloped.	Not to develop Lifeboat Road car park (Visitor centre etc) as a cash cow for the council - this can be done at Ainsdale where there is more space.
Going to the loo	Navigating the dunes	Being thirsty
Traffic formby	Parking southport	
Problems of erosion	Dog droppings	Interpretation
Littee	Traffic	Too bust at times
All year round parking /access at ainsdale		
Conservation	Reduce car use	Visitor pressure
Not enough litter bins	Rotting wood walkways, bridges and fences	Cyclists forcing walkers from paths
Litter	Access	Finding out about activities
Rubbish	Preserving our dunes	Antisocial behaviour effecting our beautiful area I.e. Squirrel walk (which I have been visiting since I was little)
Weekend visitors - too much litter	Horse riders on the disabled boardwalk entrance to the beach. Rules don't appear to apply to them.	Traffic- cars blocking driveways and roads in the summer.
Congestion/access issues on sunny days - limited parking outside of designated car parks and poor provision for any visitors wanting to explore Formby village	Keeping on top of any increase in visitor numbers by keeping on top of litter by beach cleaning, litter bins (inc dog poo bins)	
Poor visitor facilities	Erosion of sand dunes	Wild life diminishing
Southport's "beach"	Traffic management	Better facilities
nothing	nothingn	nothing
Disabled access		

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Littering	Visitor understanding of coast	Lack of catering
Volume of visitors during summer	Misconception about Southport and the importance of protecting the salt marsh	Dog attacks on beach. Perhaps less likely if more wardens on beach during summer
Protection of dunes	Minimising litter	Generating revenue
Get the coast to make money for the council	Ensure that Formby residents get priority	Sort out the parking on neighbouring roads when it is a nice day at the weekend
Volume of traffic at times	People's rubbish	Horses galloping with no regard for other beach users
Erosion at Formby	Handling and facilities for large number of visitors	Patrols by rangers to manage bad behaviours
Litter at south end of Formby point coast	Erosion and management of dune environment	Retaining 'wild' nature of coastline but balancing against better management of increasing numbers of visitors
Erosion of the dune front	Litter	
Not sure		
TO MAKE THE COAST ACCESSIBLE TO VISITORS - BUT TO REGULATE THE AMOUNT OF VEHICLES SOMEHOW.	ACCESS TO ST. LUKE'S CHURCH ROAD & ALEXANRA ROAD - REF. FIRWOOD HALL (MR. Mc.COMBE'S LITTLE EMPIRE! & ACCESS RANGE LANE.	
Erosion	summer visitors disrespect the formby	English Heritage destruction of woodland
Dog fouling	Erosion	Litter
Parking more so Formby Hightown	More activities needed	Not many cafes or establishments to eat to make it a day out
Rubbish especially after bank holidays	Better access for disabled	No areas restricted to dogs
Volume of cars and parking facilities	Litter especially Formby	maintaining and improving the coast
Dog fouling	Visitor Mgmt	
Effective conservation of coastline, flora and fauna whilst still allowing responsible public access	Funding/manpower restrictions limit what can be done.	Agencies working better together with shared aims and values.
access as I am disabled	lack of seating as I can not walk far	
Bikes etc degrading area	Abandoned litter	Effect of parking on community.
The possibility of fracking	The possibility of fracking	The possibility of fracking

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Too many visitors causing traffic chaos, especially on Formby bypass	Noise and rubbish left by visitors	Maintaining the dunes system with large numbers of visitors
a cleaner safer beach	managing cars	more facilities
Too busy!		
People	encroaching human development	Fracking
This question makes no sense		
Antisocial behaviour	High visitor numbers on sunny days	Litter and dog fouling
Better access for prams, very difficult at formby to access beach		
Keeping it wild	Zoning recreation	Resources for conservation
Waste bins in winter	carpark charging in summer with no benefit.	
To restrict erosion as far as possible		
Coastal erosion	Conserving wildlife	Access for elderly or disabled at formby
too many cars clogging up streets on approach to shore	reduced funding for ranger service	litter
disposing of rubbish	protection of current landscape	dog poo bags left around
Dogs	Dogs	Too many dogs
Traffic	Traffic	Traffic
Erosion	Litter	History
volume and speed of traffic	pressure on wildlife	noise
Access - not clear where to get access other than NT and towns	start enf point for walks/facilities don't exist	
Traffic management	Population growth	It being a dynamic environment.

Hightown

Encouraging visitors	Keeping it clean	Education
keeping area clean	improve maintainence of nature reserves	improve visitor facilities
Glass on beach	Overcrowded parking	Charges at car park
Erosion of the coastline	Erosion of dunes by cyclists on specialist bikes	Litter

Marshside

Litter	Beach deterioration due to grassing over	Quality of paths
Cars on pavements making	Shop merchandise in Neville st making pedestrians	

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pedestrians walk in road	walk in road
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Southport

Southport - disgusting beach : no sand	Birkdale - Disgusting beach : no sand	
directions	seating	finding litter bins
Climate change	Coastal erosion	Too much human interference (housing, waste disposal, exploiting the earth by fracking, at the expense of safe green/sand space and the conservation of rare species)
keeping it clean	over use	environmental damage
Attitude of Council	Mud on Southport beach	
Cleanliness		
access	facilities	cost
more landmarks towards the ainsdale southport end. we have the iron men, we have formby point then theres a huge opportunity in between there and the marshside bird reserve	Worried about how clean it will be kept if we don't have european standards	
Accessibility	Grass build up at Southport beach	Anti social behaviour
birds	vehicle access	too many rules
Too many shops	Not enough signposts	Not enough visitor facilities
No bins at start of Ainsdale Fishermans Path walk	Cant walk Dog on Southport section of beach	Poor parking at Ainsdale and Birkdale
Continued concervation of the amazing coastal flora and fauna	overdevelopment of the coast	
Themed signage.	Vandalism.	Understanding wildlife.
Overgrown	Litter	Sand on path
Erosion	Litter collection	
too developed in places	too many cars	Think there should be less parking on the beach
Queuing to park	Cost of parking	Lack of signage
Being allowed to walk dog on beach as lack of dog walking now in the area		
Public toilet availability	Maintenance of beaches	Dog fouling and general litter, plastic bottles etc
Too much sand on path	Not tidy	Parking prices
Accessing information about our coast	Rubbish on beach	
Litter	Dogs off lead	Toilets

See above	Above	Above
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No Primary site identified

Beach erosion/loss of dune habitat	Litter - especially dog poo bags	Endangered species (Natterjacks/sand lizards)
Communication	Participation	Cooperation
Cleanliness	Access for all	Sand and not mud and grass - Southport
Litter	Vandalism	Cleanliness

Q14. Please use the space below for any comments you have on the proposed Strategic Priorities.

Verbatim answers split by primary site that they visit

Ainsdale

Funding and resources have to be allocated and in place to deliver the priorities. I am convinced this is the case
We are fortunate to have an extensive coastline so surely there should be room for all of us to enjoy. I think that there is great work being undertaken in conservation but I think that it is unfair to put a complete ban on cars on the beach without having to pay. Our beautiful coastline should be there for us to enjoy without us having to pay for every visit. Not everyone can afford to pay. We are trying to encourage people to stay healthy and enjoy the outdoors.
It would seem that Coast and Courty are not really interested in tourism. Their aim is to prevent visitors to the LNRs and beach. Rangers have expressed that viewpoint and this survey does too.
I walk my dog everyday in the Ainsdale and Birkdale sandunes. This keeps us both healthy and fit. I have no concerns about my safety and find the people and dogs I meet friendly and approachable. I walk my dog "off lead" once away from the road. In an hours walk I see a few people and generally they also have dogs "off lead".
Why don't we have a a cafe, toilets, mini-shops, in a large visitor center with free parking at or near the Ainsdale beach entrance. It could be a private initiative on council land. This would encourage more visitors to the area which would bring in more revenue to the Southport area.
They are very generic so hard to disagree with but I would have liked to have seen something specific about local residents/council tax payers rather than being lumped in with visitors in general.
Need to sort out free parking a bit futher away so people can park and then walk to the beach like Salou making it look beautiful and not like a car park and litter everywhere - limit Icecream vans - limit horse boxes etc - limit dogs - it should be for kids and families to walk, play etc - have special events like sport, music, etc
I would add maximizing the value and use by the public whilst protecting the environment. The above may have the highest Strategic Importance but may not be the Strategic Priorities. The Highest Strategic Priority is more likely to be developing a more effective Operating Model and Stakeholder Strategy. Looks like the other stuff is well understood.

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<p>Ainsdale and southport should encourage visitors to the area, instead of discouraged, beaches closed, inadequate parking spot and facilities. Children and their families should come and see nature, explore the coast and its flora and fauna.</p>
<p>The second point is deliberately evasive.</p>
<p>Tourism is incredibly important to Southport, so why are visitors banned from parking on the beach so often and for the whole of October to March? Ridiculous! At very high tides, yes fair enough but the rest of the time it causes chaos as there is no alternative parking available. Cars have used the beach from Ainsdale to Southport for a hundred years and should be able to continue doing so. The green beach is a disgrace and an eyesore. There is plenty of dune habitat, we don't need more.</p>
<p>The coast should be regarded as a gold mine to the sefton area. Southern areas in Devon etc are no more beautiful than Ainsdale and Formby but we fill them with cheap fairs, places like pontins, allow people joy riding on the beach. We could make a lot of money locally from our setting. Pontins needs to go and a leisure development that is respectful for to the nature reserve should be developed. Once pontins has gone, the sands pub would be invested in. The attached lake is under used and could be developed for boats, benches, hides, picnic areas etc. protecting wildlife and eco system so important but sometimes so much emphasis no one is allowed to enjoy it. Toad hall she be developed, with coffee shop, restaurant, beach bike hire underneath . There should be more tours and learning opportunities for people to understand about the reserve. People should be charged for parking and this should fund wardens and security on all times even in winter. Formby squirrel woods is a fantastic asset but again something respectful to its environment like a treehouse in a small part would be great serving refreshments. We should be proud and try to start to engender the respect the reserve deserves</p>
<p>I'm sorry but I couldn't find any mention of these 3 strategic priorities in the consultation document. The document has 4 references to 'strategic priorities' but nowhere does it list them or give any indication what they actually are. I also think that people should be at the heart of this plan and they don't appear to be. There should be a strategic priority relating to the health and wellbeing of coastal communities. With regard to the visitor management issue - I strongly agree that this is a priority but the wording could be improved.</p>
<p>Don't know what is meant in Q13 point 3 to comment. Whilst strongly supported conservation, I also think tourism & facilities are important. Southport has commercial opportunities whilst other areas could develop more outdoor activities e.g. Hiking,</p>

Crosby/Waterloo

<p>Pleased to see at last the Coastal Plan moving up the ladder</p>
<p>Have more information to tell people about the coast</p>
<p>More benches and tables or chairs to sit on. I think there is a need to look after the beach and pick up the rubbish</p>
<p>Looking after the visitors who visit the coast and to keep everybody safe - more security Dog mess/fowling and dog bins - keep the coast tidy More benches needed</p>
<p>Tell people how to look after the coast More police around</p>
<p>I think there is too much litter about</p>
<p>I would like to see the coastal areas high in tourism but ensuring there is no impact on nature/environment. A clean safe place for all ages to enjoy. Possibly a board walk from Bootle right through to Southport with various stop off points would be great. Also cleaner sea water (not sure how - but wishful)</p>

<p>It would be nice to have a promenade along the whole front from seaforth - waterloo - brighton le sands, blundelsands, instead of the mish-mash that we have now. Tourists have said to me what a mess and disappointment, coming to see the iron men - Walking across the marina grass from the car-parks, the section at Brighton Le Sands is an assault course with blown sand. I know it must be a hell of a problem for you!! I do LOVE my beach. I have been fishing and scrimping for pleasure for over 50 years and I am 74 and I walk it more than ever, as I am retired. Thank you</p>
<p>Lots of management speak would help to translate into action</p>
<p>The sustainable conservation of this area is key</p>
<p>They all follow on from one another, but they could be all summarised as " Put developing the visitor economy at the heart of the development plan, whilst preserving and sustaining the environment. See the Somme estuary developments and infrastructure in Northern France</p>
<p>Clearly thought through and attractively presented</p>
<p>Create a cafe and facilities at Hall Road. It's been done at Otterspool Why not here? This would be somewhere to take our service users and be used by many of our aging population and also put some activities in for the children. These things would compliment the iron men.</p>
<p>Economic competitiveness is not the key priority for most users of the beach, all we want is a well maintained, clean environment that our families can enjoy, we do not want to loose any of our coast to business development, which will encroach on our peaceful enjoyment of our beautiful coast.</p>
<p>Stricter rules on people who leave rubbish. More recycling bins for plastic bottles etc. Stricter rules on drinking alcohol</p>
<p>I don't understand the third strategy. " Competitive coastal economy"? Are you referring to parking charges? I agree with the first two. Sometimes I think trying to hold back the sand dunes in Crosby is pointless. I played in those dunes in Seaforth over 50 years ago as a child. Then the Marina and promenade were built but for all these years the dunes have fought back. Maybe the money and manpower could be used just keeping the huge litter problem in order. More investment is needed particularly from plastic. Our coastal environment and wildlife are threatened by plastic.</p>
<p>The conservation of the habitats of wildlife is vital. Sustainability and encouragement of environmentally sound practises are important too. Solar powered buildings along the coast. Facilities and information for cyclists</p>
<p>the coast is a natural resource - its important not to sell this out in order to create a strong economy. A strong economy is only justifiable if the the other 2 objectives are fully met</p>
<p>Drop car parking charges</p>
<p>Don't understand why a beach voted in the top 10 in the world for sunsets has been ruined by wind farms! And no local benefits realisation to be seen.</p>
<p>I wholeheartedly support this proposal and think you could learn from working in partnership with the National Trust whose experience and knowledge. They could help Sefton avoid any unnecessary costly mistakes from lack of experience.</p>
<p>I believe the Coastline is Sefton's to look after for future generations - I don't believe you have the right to sell off land for housing or profit - we need to maintain these green and open spaces and encourage plant and animal diversity as well as space for people to 'be'</p>
<p>While the natural environment is very important, so is the availability of recreational spaces for people - who are of course really part of nature as well. The areas need to be managed to benefit both, and if this means closing some areas to people, so be it.</p>
<p>Totally agree</p>

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There does not need to be any further expansion of the port unless the appropriate on shore infrastructure is completed first (not after).
There are rumours that there will be restricted access to dogs. I think that this would be really unfair to the majority of responsible dog owners who visit every day of the year and are often involved in cleaning up rubbish on the beach that non dog owners have left.
the parking fee structure is totally wrong - as it is for all of Crosby.
has to be more done to increase/sustain wildlife as the local urban areas are only going to increase
Concerned about dogs off leads and dog mess
I visit Leigh-on-sea regularly to see my good friend from school. They have a tiny stretch of coast in comparison to Sefton, but they utilise it so well. Fish and Chip shops/restaurants, public houses, public toilets, cafes, ice cream parlours, etc I suggest Sefton council visit places similar to these to see what can be done quite easily. It should be our major attraction and bring in much needed revenue, to the council and local businesses.
People need to stick to paths and not wander on the sand dunes and grasslands
Agree with sustainability, but competitive and economy usually means cheap and nasty
I don't believe that dogs should be limited in their access to the coast.
Not sure visitor numbers have ever been 'managed' but parking to pay will put people off....
I agree with the aspiration, but as with most things in this area there is alot of talk, plans, non-elected groups ...but little action
I dont feel like the area representing a competitive coastal economy should be such a high priority, its natural qualities speak for itself and it should be an area that is divorced from development focusing on its natural qualities
We have a valuable asset, please do not think that you can commercial it without being socially aware... open your minds, there are people out there that could enhance the place without destroying the place. Be clear with your requirements, think about the future and suststaing public services through good growth and commerce
Would hate to see it commercialised and just about profit making.

Formby

THE CONSERVATION OF THE COAST SHOULD BE TOP PRIORITY & NOT A MONEY SPINNER FOR SEFTON COUNCIL - I. E. PARKING CHARGES, ICE CREAM SELLERS ETC. - ALSO THE NUMBER OF CARS VISITING ESPECIALLY FORMBY REDUCED - MORE USE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AT AINSDALE AS FORMBY IS TO SMALL & EXPANSION AVOIDED AT ALL COSTS - THINK OF THE LOCALS. AINSDALE HAS THE ROOM FOR EXPANSION. COASTAL ECONOMY SHOULD BE BUFFERED AWAY FROM THE BEACHES - THIS IS WHAT GOES ON IN SOUTHPORT & CROSBY & LIVERPOOL. NOT ON NATURE RESERVES. ITS THE WILD LIFE THAT NEEDS LOOKING AFTER NOT PEOPLES WALLETS.
Please help the entire coastline, not just Formby lifeboat road. There is also the area near the firing range.
Third statement is beyond stupid, competitive with what?
Different parts of the coast should have different priorities. For example, Southport and Crosby can be economy focused whereas Ainsdale Formby and Hightown need more of a conservation focus. All areas need to encourage visitors but for different

reasons.
I am concerned you may prevent dogs on the beach. Most regular dog walkers are very respectful and their dogs are well behaved. Please don't penalise us all.
A coastal economy for Formby would be fantastic but there needs to be more done to make the beach area more of a full day out. Refreshments are necessary - café provision on a permit basis for sunny / busy days would be the ideal solution. This needs to be on/nearer the beach as a couple of ice cream vans on the car parks, which are far too far away to traipse back and forth to are not the solution. Extra toilets and bins to cope with the increased demand would be required.
The last two come with some caveats. Does coastal tourism need to be increased, and does that naturally lead to an economy based on an unsustainable resource? Would spreading visitor pressure over the year be a more manageable goal? Could 'quality over quantity' of tourist work here e.g. ones that later spend a relaxed time in cafes and bars in the local village.
Visitor centre at formby would integrate community more and also tickets to get in may reduce visitor traffic. Maybe traffic light system (red-very busy, no spaces/green, spaces available) advertised on social media more than currently communicated to pre advise/reduce congestion
Increasing tourism is great but the natural habitat needs to remain as is
I think they sum up perfectly what the objectives should capture
Agree with tourism side but there is often litter left, and all the bricks are sometimes a hazard
THE CONSERVATION OF THE COAST AND ECO-SYSTEM SHOULD BE TOP PRIORITY & AND NOT BE SEEN AS A CASH COW FOR SEFTON COUNCIL TO MAKE UP SHORTFALLS FROM GOVERNMENT.- VISITORS TO THE COAST ESPECIALLY AT FORMBY IN THE SUMMER ARE TOO MANY FOR THE AREA CAUSING CONGESTION FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS NEARBY & VISITORS SHOULD BE RE-DIRECTED TO AINSDALE WHERE THERE IS ABUNDANT PARKING & ADDITIONAL FACILITIES. - JUST TAKE THE N. T. AT FRESHFIELD THEY SUFFER AS FORMBY DOES.WITH THE INCREASED TRAFFIC OVERCROWDING. - BY THE WAY I AM NOT A NIMBY!
These would be my top 3 priorities. See the responses I gave to questions 11 and 12 before I had sight of these Coastal Plan priorities.
Please don't let fracking come in to this area it would be ruined. We have so few areas of natural beauty these days, please please don't let us lose the beach, woods, wildlife and our safety for a pathetic attempt at squeezing the earth's resources further than is wise.
We must protect the coast from any dangers from proposed fracking
Create areas of separation especially free roaming dogs being kept out to allow areas for ground nesting birds, make sure no fracking can happen on or under the land the land and keep the space as natural as possible. Minimise traffic impacts
I do believe that education, particularly on a local scale, is of equal importance in promoting the future well being of the coast.
No access or restricted access zones are necessary to ensure that coastal wildlife is protected. Recreation and access management must be developed with nature conservation management to achieve the best results.
Surely the best tactic is to attract visitors to the coast to generate revenue and create sustainability, not extract revenue from current visitors who move elsewhere, and do not recommend the Sefton coast line to there friends and family.
I think you've identified priorities very well indeed. I've been a very regular beach goer at formby since I was a lad in the 1970's. Back then there was a lot of oil in the sand,

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<p>dumped by ships out at sea. It was vile. Now the beach is clean and I notice folk are WAY more mindful of taking home litter than 20 or 30 years ago. The community values it far more and I think they like being involved. It is sympathetically managed and a credit to those involved.</p>
<p>More dog friendly routes for people using it day in day out along with facilities to bin poo along newly.marked paths. Maybe washing facilities from rain water</p>
<p>Living in Formby it is a nightmare when there is lovely weather. There are far too many people who come for the size of the area. Add to that the number of dogs that they bring with them, some of them clearly out of control, makes going to the beach on a nice day out of the question. I have two small children and we don't feel we can enjoy tge lovely places on our doorstep because of inconsiderate dog owners.</p>
<p>Given the vulnerability of the coastline re coastal erosion and storm damage, anything which helps to protect the area has to be a priority.</p>
<p>Too much traffic. Live on route to beach, don't use our local patch of coast on sunny weekends/holidays as too many people there, many of whom do not respect the place judging by the amount of litter left. Fed up with the volume of traffic. A change in the weather one Sunday meant gridlock in our area, traffic stretching from Cross House Inn to the Lighthouse roundabout. Too many houses being built here, increasing pressure on the coast and yet more traffic.</p>
<p>No need to increase tourism will only ruin what we have</p>
<p>natural flood management excellent - need more environment for nature so less hard surfaces. worried about plans for more roads, more roads only leads to more traffic. far too much traffic. Need alternatives to car, far too much traffic on roads, volume and speed a worry. have lost count of number of red squirrels I have picked up which have been run over. walking etc need to be encouraged, needs to be a crackdown on parking on pavements, the built environment needs to be more pleasant to encourage more urban walking/cycling. too many houses being built in area. is there really such demand? they only bring more pressure on coastal strip and, yes, more traffic. no mention of fracking, surely a big issue for water management, pollution events, traffic, loss of green/agricultural space. too many visitors to the coast do not bring any positives but leave too much litter. don't go the coast ourselves at busy times, depressing to see the amount of litter etc people leave at times. too much anti social behaviour at night on dunes/car parks, fireworks, drug parties - after which they presumably drive. camping, caravans using the car park as a site. too many dogs/people trampling over potential nest sites how many more visitors can this area take? surely too much visitor pressure on an area makes it increasingly unpleasant for residents, how do you measure sustainability? I hear the variety of wildflowers etc on the rifle range is amazing because of lack of visitors - what is the future of the rifle range and why can we not have the same range/volume of 'nature' over a wider area. nature increasingly confined to tiny areas due to human pressure we need to do more to help it.</p>
<p>There is a need for long term conservation for whole coastline, not just short term development.</p>
<p>The National Trust SHOULD NOT be able to close the Sandhills, pinewoods or shore at Lifeboat Road. The National Trust should proactively manage the traffic on busy days And./Or make a contribution to the cost of policing the area. There should be a sign on the Bypass that says that the car parks are full and that the wait is n minutes.</p>

Hightown

There needs to be a balance between promoting the area as a recreational destination whilst preserving the natural habitat. As a Hightown resident, the worst thing for us has been expansion of the coastal path, which is rapidly being seen as a cycle path. Our peace and tranquility has been shattered forever and the promised eco finish to the path at the top of Blundell Road was replaced with Tarmac. So much for an area of natural beauty.

Southport

Southport has the worst beach in the country. We have business colleagues from all over the world who visit the town regularly. Every one asks why the beach looks so unsightly with unkempt green areas rather than sand. We should be thoroughly ashamed of our beaches. Because of the absence of sand in Southport, we are grammatically incorrect to use the term beach
Protected areas for certain species High interest areas with charges Wayfinding apps for mobile phones
On paper very good. It must be holistic recognising the inter-dependence of plants, animals, humans alongside sustainable economic growth and a safe and clean social environment. Fracking is the biggest threat if Aurora gets its way with the Sefton Council which even if it goes against it, central government under conservatives will over-ride. They have done this to Fylde Coast. FRACKING WILL RUIN SEFTON COAST economically, socially and environmentally with an increase in heavy traffic, visual presence of rigs with leaking methane and polluted water supply. It has been banned in many countries.
The Marshside Nature Reserve could be so much more and the Eco Centre is not publicised enough The beach area has too many car parks
We are lucky to live & work with a zone of stunning value, the challenge is to make the assests work now for our children & grandchildrens benefit.
I think that there should be more use of public transport - the park and ride is close to the beach in southport so why do people need to park on the beach.
Sounds like an excuse to leave the grass on the beach
What does development of a sustainable and competetive costal economy mean? If it means listening to local voices about what hinders the economic wellbeing of coastal businesses and activities, then I strongly agree. But it means the council will need to change and actually start listening to those voices.

No primary site identified

Tell people how to look after the coast more police around making sure people pick up their rubbish after eating on the beach
get the above balance wrong and the economy will not be able to provide for all parties.
Southport especially has been neglected as a beach under the guise of a natural environment. The natural environment exists at Marshside where all the birds are (not on the RSPB's stupid "bird field"). Return Southport beach to a beach next to a seaside resort.
Managing dog walkers and educating them on their responsibilities to others and conservation- keeping dogs under control and poo. Keeping the beaches clear of litter, glass and general rubbish and how that impacts on wildlife

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Q19 Please use the space below for any comments you have on the suggested Big Challenges.

Ainsdale

You need to facilitate access to the beach for disabled users and open the beach ALL year round. Closing the beach to tourists is not good economically. Revenue is required for sustaining council funds and creating jobs.

Have given up with this survey it is pure jargon !!! The people of sefton want to access the beach in safety with the knowledge that Sefton council behind the scenes aren't spending thousands on this type of consultancy . How many people have answered this questionnaire and how many people like myself gave up now. Open the beach for the Sefton residents for free charge outsiders and set up More community groups to manage the issues. Simple why make things so complicated with jargon from consultancy companies ridiculous

Include making the best strategic use of the coast for the community and the nation.

Re. Investment in Management - please invest in someone as an alternative to (name removed). He has no idea how to run the beaches and coastline.

There needs to be better transport facilities to the coast. Liverpool is developing more and more and we should capilise on this we have wonderful assets and should try and capture more tourists busing the city. Previous councils were short sighted and got rid of the railway that used to disembark at Ainsdale beach. With the transformation of the dock area over next 30 years a fast green shuttle along the coast would be amazing bringing people to our great coast like. Nature reserves like ours around the world are respected, used more we need to develop our assets. We also need to develop it as a golf resort and let black pool do the tacky beach fair thing. Lytham st Anne's is a great example to Southport. Is there a way we could link up boat transportation and travel with liverpool

How do the Big Challenges link to the Strategic Priorities? Resourcing will always be an issue - this plan is an opportunity to demonstrate why coastal management should be resourced and to use to unlock future funding sources, whatever they may be. It is not a deal breaker if no sources can currently be identified. Coastal resilience - strongly agree with the concept, disagree with the way this is worded. Given that visitor pressure on natural sites was the key driver for developing this plan it perhaps deserves to be a big challenge in its own right. Investment in infrastructure and management - management is already mentioned in the sustainable resourcing. Does it mean infrastructure management? Sustainable economic growth of the Port and housing and employment growth are challenges for the Local Plan not the Sefton Coast Plan. They are factors which impact upon the coast and the Plan should consider the issues posed by these and support, where appropriate, sustainable solutions but given that the focus of the Plan seems now to be what the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership can deliver it might be more appropriate to have one big challenge incorporating the impacts of economic and population growth on the coast.

Crosby/Waterloo

Sefton Council to try and get Peel Ports to put money into the Coastal Plan

<p>It is important to have economic growth of the Port of Liverpool but it shouldn't encroach on the marina we have and the same with housing and employment. Employment could increase on maintaining what we have</p>
<p>I feel Sefton is the poor relation!! compared to the proms at Liverpool (Albert Dock to Garston) and the prom at New Brighton to Seacombe. Wouldn't it be nice to have a nice stroll from Hall Road to Seaforth without the assault course and a loo at either end. I feel for the rangers and tractor workers on the front - they do a good job and work hard. PS In the 1960's before the Marina was built there were no sand dunes. nature will always win</p>
<p>Whilst the last 2 are important, they are less so in terms of their impact on the Sefton Coast.</p>
<p>We have lots of brownfield sites for housing growth, and you are already encroaching on green belt land in Sefton we don't need anymore growth near the coastal area. Peel Ports should never have been allowed to build the new dock this is a disgrace to local people, they do not rely on Peel for jobs, as Peel sacked most of them in the 80's and 90's. We would prefer Sefton Council to work harder and building alternative economic growth, through investment in local small businesses, training for young people and stronger employment requirements to allow local people to access local jobs</p>
<p>This is already a heavily populated, crowded, air polluted (due to traffic area). Unless alternative transport to roads is invested in we cannot take any more traffic from increased port use.</p>
<p>I don't understand what is meant by a number of the titles. I would need to see the proposals in more detail. The Port of Liverpool does concern me though. Peel Holdings have invaded more than land. They have taken our peace and health with their noise, smells, pollution etc. I live close to Blundellsands and I'm affected by the noise of the docks and recently that dreadful oil or fat smell that always hangs around the Bootle Rimrose Road/Seaforth area. Peel will stop at nothing for a profit so if they continue to behave in the River Mersey as they have done with poor Seaforth, Bootle and now maybe Rimrose Valley there is no telling what they would do to our coast if not monitored.</p>
<p>Peel ports should be held accountable for their production of pollution. They should fund infrastructure. It is vital our green spaces and coast are protected as the ecological value could not be regenerated easily if lost.</p>
<p>some are far more important to me than others. Maintaining the coast as a natural resource is more important than developing it as an economic resource. If all of these things can be balanced then that would be great. If they can't then housing and employment growth and economic growth of the port of Liverpool must come below the others</p>
<p>The growth of the port of Liverpool needs to meet everyone's needs not just that of corporate business. They do not seem to care about the environmental impact of those of us living close by. They need to consult with us and listen to how its growth will impact on us and our coast line</p>
<p>By engaging with and utilising the community, projects could be organised which could help to manage the coast. There are a lot of schools within walking distance of the coast, they could be a focus for organised beach cleans.</p>
<p>why is "infrastructure" and "Management" put together? Investment in infrastructure is great, spending on management is not, if it means more consultants and stupid questionnaires</p>
<p>Changes cant happen unless we sort out the basics - the causes of a polluted environment - industry and increased freight</p>

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As long as the growth of the economy doesn't impact excessively on the landscape and wildlife of the area. Finding the right balance is key.
While the last three items are important they are wider than Coastal - and are probably a distraction for this exercise
Housing and employment on the coast... are you actually nuts!? Its an area that is praised for its natural and unique beauty and is under threat by climate change. THIS IS THE LAST PLACE IN MERSEYSIDE WHERE HOMES AND EMPLOYMENT LAND SHOULD BE LOCATED!!

Formby

Not really agree or disagree statements. This is a terrible survey. As someone currently out of work, even with a degree, I could have produced something much better.
Port and housing are threats to the natural coast
Why do you need more management?
Peel Holdings are responsible for the Port of Liverpool.
They are a clear outlining of the potential conflicts that must be resolved along the Sefton Coast.
THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT HAS TO COME FIRST BEFORE HOUSES & EMPLOYMENT. AN OLD MAN ONCE SAID TO ME "YOU HAVE TO LOOK AFTER THE LAND & DON'T LOSE IT - BECAUSE THEY DON'T MAKE IT ANY MORE". THERE NEEDS TO BE A BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN THE TOWNS OF LIVERPOOL & AND ITS SUBURBS & THE SAME AT SOUTHPORT. - WITH ALL THE NATURE RESERVES AT FORMBY IT WOULD BE CRAZY TO BUILD MORE HOUSES - MORE CARS - MORE FACTORIES. - WE SHOULD BE EXPANDING THE NATURE RESERVES & LESS HOUSING.
I view the first 4 challenges as Sefton Coast specific. I view the last 3 challenges as being applicable on a broader scale - to the sustained development of the whole of Merseyside. Such investment in the economic and domestic infrastructure should be addressed on a regional level.
Nature Nature Nature - we humans have enough lets give something back.....
There must be crossover between developing plans for nature and access. Sometimes it seems that there are years when nature is the priority, then years when access is the priority- the way forward is to integrate the two aspects of the coast from the start.
I love the idea that this amazing bit of our area can generate some jobs and education opportunities whilst protecting and conserving wildlife and the terrain.
Too many people, too many housing developments near sensitive areas, too many cars, heavy wagons. Concreting over a nature reserve so we can import more tat from abroad? How sustainable is that?
Stop building on green belt, and stop changing green status belt land to land you can suddenly develop. Start listening to community's about what they want and not how you can extract revenue at the expense of the community. You save money in the wrong places
fracking not mentioned. the threats (apart from fracking) were covered but not sure about the resolutions for example it was recognised that housing development close to the coast is a threat to wildlife yet there is no mention of curtailing such plans. any strip of land seems to be regarded as a potential housing cash cow, any other considerations, environment, traffic, infrastructure, barely considered. its just too

crowded here. some day visitors seem to care very little for the area they are visiting. depressing. not sure what economic benefits day trippers bring, although its nice when others appreciate it sometimes there are just too many people. other areas, such as urban parks could be managed to be more wildlife friendly and also take some of the pressure off the coast. beachsafe a good thing, needs extending to other times and wider area.

Need to protect the coast from the port of Liverpool and more houses

The big challenge will be once the UK has left the EU when environmental legislation/regulation are loosened. Fracking will also impact as the geology under the coast comes under pressure.

Any additional housing would be significantly detrimental to coastal and Greenbelt areas of Sefton.

Southport

The multi-national companies and central government must recognise the wishes and needs of the local people in the port of Liverpool and the application for fracking by Aurora. This has happened by Cuadrilla in Fylde where the conservatives and this multi-national firm have totally disregarded the wishes, safety and welfare of the local residents and the environment

What the hell does most of this mean? For example "Identification of sustainable resourcing for the management of the coast" It is only relevant to the sort of people you have paid to dream up the survey.

Where is the marketing plan, selling the benefits of this zone ? Visiting for events & leisure is relatively simple, but we need to develop key messages around the benefits and advantages of living & working on the coast. e.g. Brighton as London's coast, we are the coast for Liverpool. ~ Manchester & The Northern Powerhouse !

Agree with employment growth but not sure what you mean about housing growth. Don't want houses built near beaches or conservation areas.

I think the growth of the port of Liverpool will have an adverse impact on the Sefton Coast's natural beauty and wildlife

Q20 Please use the space below to let us know if there is anything else you would like to say about the Draft Coast Plan

Ainsdale

Please keep in mind that each organisation only manages their part of the coast on behalf of the people they are accountable to, the organisation itself does not own the land.....local tax payers do. The idea of Sefton Council handing over land owned by their local residents to a private organisation i.e. The National Trust is appalling.

The plan suggests that we have 7 major challenges and need to develop plans to address them. It didn't suggest any major initiatives or indicate any major challenges facing the teams/partnerships responsible for undertaking the work (other than funding). So where are we. Do we have everything under control and just need extra funding, do we need to start developing proposals from scratch, do we need to redesign our business model and/or programme model, what is the gap between where we are and where we need to be. How do we introduce "Smart" programmes and engage with the public.

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The format is very poor and it is overly wordy, with long and complex sentences, terminology not always defined in the glossary and, currently, quite a few grammatical errors and incomplete sentences. In terms of layout it needs a succinct summary (no more than 16 pages) which sets out clearly: -who the plan is for - the vision (not Sefton Council's vision - that should be in an appendix as it is confusing having 2) - what makes the Sefton coast special - succinctly, with some facts and figures to excite people about how wonderful the coast is. This section should introduce the fact that there are detailed topic papers - there is then no need to duplicate the front end of each topic paper in the summary document. I was incredibly frustrated to find I didn't get to the meat and bones of the document until nearly the end of the document. - the 7 (or however many you end up with) big challenges -the 3 strategic priorities - which currently aren't listed at all and how these address the big challenges - the strategic actions from each of the topic papers (NB if these then don't easily align with the above and make sense it becomes clear that more work needs to be done on these). - delivery mechanism - who (the partnership AND other organisations - please note that throughout the document reference is made to the SCLP 'and other partners' - this should be 'and other organisations' as they may not consider themselves partners) and how - the delivery plan - reporting mechanism and timeframe for review/refresh There is a huge amount of duplication throughout both the Plan and the Topic Papers. A rewrite is needed to tighten up the text and express it more succinctly - say it well and say it once. There is also overuse of diagrams, some of which appear pretty meaningless when you really think about them. Again a rethink of the content would be useful here. There is a need to revisit the writing style - it is cumbersome and in some places quite patronising. It is not in plain English. Sefton Council and the North West Coastal Forum collaborated on a booklet on ICZM some years ago; I can supply the text from the ICZM principles which explained them simply if that would help. There is a reference to the 2006-11 Coast Plan as 'adopted'. As far as I am aware that plan was never completed and so was never adopted. I do appreciate the tremendous amount of work that has gone into getting the Plan to this stage, and the complexity of the job in hand but overall I think the actions lack ambition and there is a lack of policy to provide direction for people and organisations working on the coast. If suitable amended it could be an extremely valuable tool for the people and organisations in Sefton - and further afield - and be a major aid to facilitating the join up between marine and terrestrial planning and I hope that my comments, which are meant constructively, will help to achieve this.

Crosby/Waterloo

I think there is a lot of potential in the coast but at the minute it doesn't provide much recreational things to do for younger families who do not understand about the port and coast. I would like to see more facilities for people to enjoy a full day out at the coast instead of it being a walk as younger children will not enjoy as much

I know money is tight but if Sefton could just do one or two things to show Sefton residents that this is not just another paper exercise

More emphasis needs to be placed on the needs of people rather than the environment. The plan needs to go further to address the things that residents and visitors view as most important to them - good access, better recreational facilities and economically achievable access for all. In order to enhance the coast you need to first bring people to it so that they care about the sustainability of it. There is nothing that draws me to the coast at the moment so I don't personally invest in its sustainability. More enforcement around dogs and owners is crucial to make it a more welcoming

environment. There also needs to be better cafes and restaurants to make the most of the current trend and boom in people eating out. More things like amusement arcades would be good to attract people to the coast during the winter and on bad weather days.
I have visited many coastlines in many countries and the "wilderness" coast is declining as an attraction. As a destination, there needs to be other attractions to bring visitors in and help develop the visitor economy. I have lost count of the number of times I have spoken to visitors, many of them from abroad, who have enquired about places to eat, go to the toilet, read information etc. Any plan must include these aspects.
I feel that this questionnaire should have been posted to all residents along the coastal path, instead I found out about this through an individual's social media account 6 days after the consultation began!
It's vital that the primary aim for this coastal plan is not to charge more money for parking ,limit the places people can access the beach, or restrict access to dog walkers but the need to manage the litter that ruins the beach for so many of us.
I believe the Coast has been an integral part of what makes Sefton Special, I do not welcome large scale building developments on coastal areas. We are already seeing the eroding access to our coast with the building of hotel space at Crosby Lakeside and a new large adventure area, we want the land left open and accessible to all.
Need more information
Having a strategic plan is all well and good but what are you actually going to do?
allow for other activities at the coast eg. eating / drinking facilities with views, add more greenery and park areas, so people will still visit the coast but reduce the impact on one particular area i.e. the beach itself
We don't want the port area to be a dumping ground for the rest of the countries waste (e.g. Norton recycling) which is currently and indirectly negatively effecting the environment, wildlife and local population. We need a modern, clean and technologically advanced forward thinking industrial initiative. We also should seriously consider the use of rail to transport freight from the docks, the basics are in place, Peel Holdings need to invest in our future for the long term.
It's just another plan ... with some vague aspirations When there is soemthing more substantial it will be possible to comment further
how much did it cost? was it paid for from council tax?

Formby

I have no idea what the plan is. This survey is really poor.
Isn't this just a plan for the sake of having a plan, it's actually meaningless management waffle.
This plan should incorporate the reinvigoration of Formby village also. If people come all the way to Formby for the beach for a day out, it would be better if they could a) FIND the village and b) realise there are some good bars/restaurants to go to if only c) they could find somewhere free and easy to park their cars!!! THIS would help increase tourist numbers in the area.
Although the partnership working is strong, there is more room for engaging and growing local community groups. There is a strong sense of local ownership along the Sefton Coast. An engaged and understanding community would be a powerful asset in resolving challenges.
TIME & TIDE MOVE ON FOR EVERYONE - INCLUDING PEOPLE WHO ARE

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FORTUNATE TO LIVE IN HIGHTOWN - FORMBY & FRESHFIELD. - THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR SEFTON COUNCIL TO ENHANCE THE AREA ALONG THE COAST AND NOT TO OVER-DEVELOP IT. - AINSDALE HAS THE SPACE TO BE DEVELOPED THERE ARE LOTS OF EMPTY BUILDINGS ALONG THE SEA-FRONT TO PROVIDE VISITORS WITH VARIOUS AMENITIES NOT TO MENTION CAR PARKING FACILITIES - LOOK BACK IN YOUR ARCHIVES AT THE PHOTOS.

I would pay extra for Sefton to retain control rather than an autonomous and arrogant charity being gifted such a valuable asset. If it must go sell it at market value.

Perhaps we could make more use of the development of self managing volunteer conservation teams. There obviously would need to be a greater upfront investment in giving these teams the technical skills and equipment required to do the job but in the medium term it would, if managed properly and safely, pay dividends given the limited experienced employed staff available to support sustained coastal conservation and development.

Don't let fracking happen on our beautiful and precious coastline

It needs to be a strong tool to keep developers who are making money at bay, good development to maintain the coast as it is and to improve the area for wildlife is important -

I feel the plan is a little sparse on the actual detail about how the coast will be managed for change in the future. It is a useful summary of the problems faced but can it be seen as a plan if it does not outline any specific actions that will be taken?

No fracking. anywhere. bins with LIDS needed. its windy here. would like to see car use discouraged - more traffic control measures using green landscaping for instance rather than humps etc - more integrated path/cycle ways. no pavement parking. twenty mile per hour zones a useless waste of money and metal, putting a 20mph sign in a cul de sac of ten houses is a box ticking exercise, want to see real, practical more environmentally appropriate solutions. think like the Dutch. SUDS etc. to manage rainwater on roads. no more car parks/roads, they only need to more traffic, which you can probably tell, i'm increasingly concerned about. more done to help wildlife, fencing off areas for example. dog restrictions perhaps. we have the red squirrel here yet I don't feel they are valued enough, why cant road signs be put up warning of the possibilities of red squirrels running across the road. need more urban trees. thank you for the new ones on bushbys lane btw.

Southport

Yes, it's mostly bollocks.

Understanding & capitising on our natural assesets will depend on 'connectivity' in its widest sense.

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Q 17 If you have any comments on any of the Topic Papers, please use the box below to record your comments.

<p>I walked the marina today with my dog. Walking back past the big lake on the path there was a young lad - maybe 10 - 12 in an electric wheelchair. On getting home, I realised he get up the path rising up to the prom. NO, it was full of sand blown in overnight. Mums with prams would really struggle.</p>
<p>I use the Ainsdale and Birkdale sandhills each day to walk my dog. I enjoy the landscape and nature but need the access to continue to do this. Good health and wellbeing are the result of the current access to this landscape. It would be nice if the Ainsdale Beach area had a better economy.</p>
<p>Do you REALLY fully understand what all these statements actually mean?</p>
<p>The Crosby Coastal Plan should include the ability to have refreshment and information sites all along its pathway. So that starting perhaps with the radar station, followed by lakeside, baths and then the coast guard station, there should be opportunities to have refreshments, coastal observation and examine visitor information about the whole coast and its history.</p>
<p>I just wonder how much Sefton has spent on consultancy i this project please advise</p>
<p>We need to protect our coastline and the environmental impacts of Peel Ports traffic on our health. This expansion of the docks will be so damaging that we cannot afford to loose anymore green/coastal space. Sefton Residents are already getting short changed by the Highways Dept and any further erosion of clean and green areas will have an even more detrimental impact on local peoples health and wellbeing.</p>
<p>I was losing the will to live reading all the paperwork you have generated & came to the conclusion you haven't said very much at all other than a list of aspirations or stating the obvious. Very hard to comment when I am left with pretty much no idea what you actually intend to do.</p>
<p>On partnership working: It is unclear how priorities will be determined across Strategic Initiatives, Tactical Initiatives, Business as Usual, and "Smart" Initiatives. It is also unclear how the public will engage and how communications will be undertaken. I would expect that A Stakeholder Strategy, Communications Strategy and Operating Model to be done hand in hand. I would expect the Business Strategy (or plan) to cover both Strategic Work and Business as Usual.</p>
<p>ACCESS. - ST. LUKE'S CHURCH ROAD - FORMBY - WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ACCESS TO THE BEACH ALONG THIS & ALBERT ROAD. - REF: SIGNS "RESIDENTS ACCESS ONLY - VEHICLES WILL BE TOWED AWAY".. HAS THE MAN IN THE BIG HOUSE BOUGHT THIS ROAD? - SURELY IT IS A PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY. BEING THE FORMER ROUTE ACROSS TO LITTLE CROSBY & INCE BLUNDELL. I WILL BE GRATEFUL IF SOMEONE COULD EXPLAIN THIS TO ME. THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT. - I HAVE BEEN RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF THE COAST FOR MANY YEARS ESPECIALLY LIFEBOATS & SHIPWRECKS & WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IS PLANNED -IF ANYTHING ON THE OLD BOATHOUSE AT FORMBY. - I HAVE WITNESS A FEW TIMES WERE SEFTON RANGER'S LAND ROVERS & POSSIBLY SHRIMPING RIG'S ON LARGE TRAILERS - HAVE BEEN DRIVING OVER THE REMAINING FOUNDATIONS - SURELY THIS IS NOT CONSERVATION BY ANY MEANS? COASTAL EROSION. - IF THIS IS TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY WHY ARE HOUSES BEING BUILT SO CLOSE TO THE BEACH - ESPECIALLY AT ANDREW'S LANE FORMBY - & POSSIBLY MORE CLOSER ON THE FARMLAND NEARER TO THE BEACH. - THIS IS POSSIBLY THE AREA AROUND CABIN HILL - WHICH WOULD BE PRONE TO FLOODING MORE THAN ANY WHERE ELSE DUE THE LOW HEIGHT & DEPTH OF THE DUNES THERE (AGAIN THE OWNERS DOING THE WRONG THING FOR MONEY). ALSO BUILDING NEXT TOM THE RIVER ALT - THE NEARBY FARM</p>

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CLOSE TO THE BEACH WAS NOT CALLED MARSH FARM FOR NOTHING. - SORRY FOR RAMBLING ON - BUT THIS WAS WHY THIS PART OF FORMBY WAS NEVER DEVELOPED AMONGST OTHER REASONS.

National Trust answer only to the Charity Commission which is not an effective control. Continuation of control by Sefton Council is answerable to the residents whereas the NT will not be. Keep the coast in Sefton's control.

I will comment after I have had the chance to fully digest and consider the content of each paper.

General comment - Make sure SMBC support National Trust, RSPB, LWT and other partners effectively to preserve what we have and stop any further encroachment and development - certain areas are already able to be better used - Southport seafront, Crosby seafront keep visitors to those areas leave other spaces to pedestrians and on paths

Regulation and control - Sustainable Economic Growth of the Port of Liverpool. Although The port operations provide important employment and wealth creation for local people, both directly and indirectly through other port-related businesses, I feel that this can bring about direct competition between a healthy and thriving environment and direct and indirect industrial pollution. For example, Norton recycling which pollutes the air and produces toxic run off of heavy metals into the river system. The expansion of the port has also seen a heavy increase in freight, again to the detriment of the local environment. What's the point of the plan if we don't sort these evident problems out.

I don't believe that dogs should be limited in their access to the coast.

General comments: The topic papers should each have a clear outcome which supports the overarching vision. What does a well managed coast look like for each topic? What are you trying to achieve? There should then be one or more policies for the topics, cross-linked/referenced as necessary, to guide action. Actions will change over time as some are completed and new ones are brought in. Without clear policy that people and organisations can sign up to there is a risk that not only do new actions not get added as time goes by but that other organisations struggle to work in ways which help to achieve the desired outcome. Policy should support but not replicate policies in other key documents such as terrestrial and marine plans. Assuming that what the Sefton coast needs can only be delivered by working in partnership is dangerous. Many issues do need addressing in this way but individual organisations also carry out their own activity (e.g. businesses) and may not need to work with others at all. However what they do can have great impacts and they may well be very willing to try and adhere to policy if they have a clear message what this is and why it is important. Overuse of the word 'strategic'. There are no non-strategic actions, issues, challenges or opportunities so the word becomes both redundant and slightly irritating. Also many of the issues are challenges and the challenges are opportunities. The majority need a rethink about what is actually being said and how best to express it. Consistency - some have introductions, some don't. Why the difference? All need references to the relevant Local Plan policies as this document is supposed to support the Local Plan. Only the Historic Environment Topic Paper does this. All need cross referencing to each other as appropriate. While the level of detail is generally good there are some factual inaccuracies and they should be, as far as possible, expressed in plain English. The language is over-complex, sentences are over-long and the glossary - which in any case isn't attached to the Topic Papers - does not capture all the technical terms used (e.g. 'scheme provider' - I think 'developer' is a more commonly used term for what I think is intended although I appreciate it may not be an appropriate replacement in all cases). Partnership working - I do not understand why the governance review section is here. Who is the audience for this? The questions in particularly seem totally inappropriate. I am a member of the SCLP Board and it is normal for partnerships of this nature to change over time as needed for the circumstances of the day. If there is a

need to say something about governance review some short text reflecting the flexible nature of partnerships and saying something along the lines of 'the working structure and membership of the partnership will continue to be reviewed at intervals by the Board to ensure the SCLP remains effective and able to drive delivery of the SC Plan'. Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation: The coastal change part of this topic paper should be moved to the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management section. Climate change should cross reference to this but also bring out more about the impacts of climate change on people and communities. It is very brief in how it deals with this and doesn't seem to take into account things like impacts on health (both direct impacts of temperature and indirect impacts like disease vectors, etc.) and possible increases in visitor numbers to the coast as people try to get away from hotter urban areas, or take more UK holidays as southern Europe and north Africa get hotter. The latter can be an opportunity for bringing more wealth to Sefton's communities but also poses a management issue re the increased pressure on sensitive natural habitats. FCERM - should incorporate the coastal change text. This section is perplexing as it seems to muddle who the 'we' is. This 'we' is clearly Sefton Council not the SCLP. There is also reference to 'man-made' structures. It would be more appropriate to use the term 'artificial'. The strategic action for the SCLP to develop an Adaptation Plan including a Sand Dune Management Plan to support the SMP should be in the climate change and adaptation section and cross-linked to this section. Energy: This section states that tidal lagoon proposals would need to comply with the SC Plan and the SMP, Neither are statutory documents. They may provide guidance and be considered during the consenting process but the wording needs altering to reflect there is no legal 'need' to comply with either. They would however need to comply with the Sefton Local Plan (as stated) and also the emerging North West Marine Plan (not mentioned). The offshore wind section states Burbo Bank was the UK's first offshore wind farm. In fact North Hoyle, in Liverpool Bay (albeit in Welsh waters) was the UK's first offshore windfarm, becoming fully operational 3 years before Burbo Bank commenced construction. The energy section also refers to landfill sites. This flags up that there is no topic paper dealing with the issues of waste and contaminated land, both of which cause coastal management issues, for example the asbestos in dumped rubble at Hall Road, and potential issues arising from erosion of munitions waste. There is also mention of oil spill response with reference to 'those responsible'. It is my understanding that, historically at least, Sefton Council co-ordinated the oil spill response plan for the Sefton Coast in conjunction with the other land owners and relevant agencies - all of whom are part of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership. Water resources: the invasive species mentioned here are purely freshwater. Marine invasives are mentioned in the climate change section but could usefully appear here too. Marine water is also a resource (for people and wildlife) and so should be properly considered. Appropriate references need making in the strategic action on the need for the Water Resource Management Plan to link as needed to bathing water plans, FCERM plans and strategies, and catchment management plans. Marine invasives and marine litter along with other sources of marine pollution are indicators of Good Environmental Status of marine waters under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Other descriptors of GES may also be relevant to mention here in terms of a healthy aquatic environment. I note that on page 44 this topic paper refers to the MMO licensing fishing activity. The NW IFCA is the fisheries management regulator for inshore waters as described in the fisheries section of the economy topic paper. Skills: this needs to refer to the value of skills and learning to wealth creation, attracting inward investment and improving social cohesion and capacity building in local communities. Regulation and Control: here, and in other places in the document, there is mention of all the members of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership signing up to the Marine Management Organisation's Coastal Concordat. The first point is that it is Defra-led, not MMO-led. And for many organisations it is not possible for them to sign up to it. The Coastal Concordat is

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an agreement between local authorities and regulatory agencies such as Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Marine Management Organisation to effectively provide a single point of entry for developers into the consenting system. This Topic Paper also needs to refer to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive and/or the supporting UK legislation and also the Flood and Water Management Act. Reference to the enabling UK legislation may be more appropriate given Brexit. Also in this section, on Page 31, it says it 'follows the established principle that it should be assumed that these mechanisms of control will operate effectively, and where necessary in an integrated way. Therefore the Sefton Coast Plan complements (note spelling error in the document text) by identifying opportunities for partnership action especially where the existing system of control and regulation is not well integrated.' This is contradictory. It should be noted that in both the Marine and Coastal Access Act and the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive integrated coastal management is seen as the key mechanism to support integration of terrestrial and marine planning at the coast. It cannot be 'assumed' that it will all work smoothly - if it could there would be no need for the references in the legislation for ICZM and land-sea interactions. A key role of the Sefton Coast Plan should be to facilitate better coherence at the land-sea interface of both systems of planning and this should be writ large on the Plan. Economy: should include the energy topic paper. Health and Wellbeing: partially regurgitating another strategy is poor practice and confusing. If it must be done it should be in a box or some other format which clearly separates it out from what is original Sefton Coast Plan text. I think the strategic objectives and outcomes on pages 20 and 21 should be removed completely. Refer people to that document, don't reprint parts of it. The whole section needs a rewrite to focus in on how the Sefton coast can contribute to improved health and wellbeing. The heading is there but the wording needs clearer focus. Access and Recreation: Golf - page 12 refers to 'natural and man-made golf infrastructure'. This should be 'natural and created' or similar wording, however I am not sure what 'natural' golf infrastructure actually is; sand for the bunkers perhaps? Major sporting events as described may fit better into the the visitor economy Topic Paper. And perhaps the heading could be 'sports and recreation' here? There doesn't seem to be any mention of sailing.

Life long learning: the beach unites all age groups. I think young people and their contributions are well worth taking renewed focus on. I think the younger generation are really commendable; better educated and more in tune with their environmental responsibilities. Develop this and you'll have conservers of tomorrow already trained up.

Not read them so can't comment.

There are possibilities to engage with a number of training providers within Sefton which are able to deliver a range of low level educational programmes which will lead to progression either onto further learning, volunteering or employment. there needs to be good networking and partnership opportunities to provide the relevant educational opportunities

Topic papers will need reviewing as our dynamic coast and flora/fauna changes.

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Sefton 2030

A confident and connected borough



Agenda Item 10

SEFTON COAST PLAN

June 2017

2030 and beyond



Agenda Item 10

Document Control

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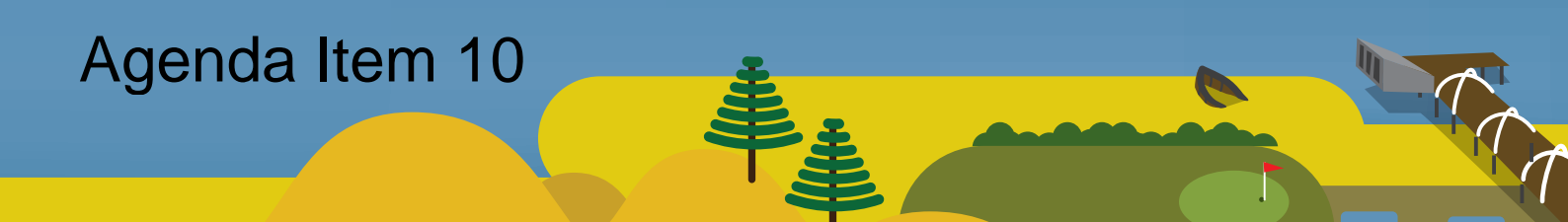




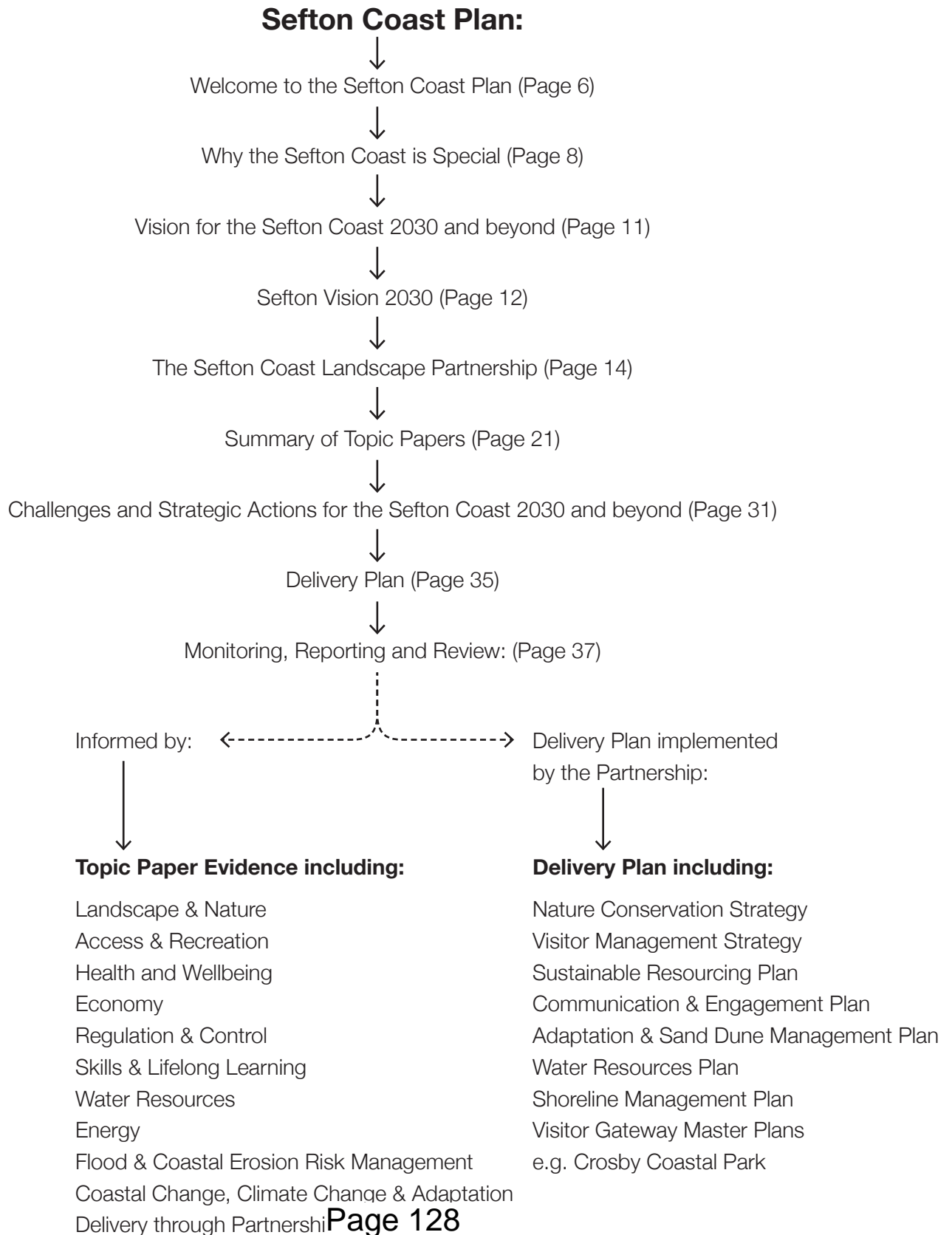
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Structure



Liverpool Bay



Southport

Birkdale

Ainsdale

West Lancashire

Formby

Hightown

Maghull

Crosby

Waterloo

Litherland

Aintree

Knowsley

Bootle

Liverpool

Welcome to the draft Sefton Coast Plan



Welcome to the Sefton Coast Plan. This is a non-statutory document prepared and adopted by the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership following a wide ranging consultation.

Consultation on the draft of this plan showed how much people value the coast for walking, cycling, days out, nature trails, photography, quiet recreation and enjoying the views. Key areas raised for improvements were parking charges, litter, toilet availability, more refreshments, dogs – both better access for dogs and an improved understanding by owners of their impacts on other users and the environment. Businesses also highlighted how important the coast is for them and the local economy.

There was Strong support for strategic priorities set out in the Plan and agreement about the big challenges we face.

The aim of this Plan is to take stock of these views and the pressures and opportunities that affect the people, landscape and economy of the coast to create a new vision for the Sefton Coast to 2030 and beyond.

The influence of the Sefton Coast extends well beyond the boundary of Sefton. Each year visitors from around the world visit the coast for business and leisure. World class golf courses, a global port and a classic seaside resort all sit within an internationally significant landscape. We have some of the most precious habitats and species in the UK.

Our Plan balances the need to conserve and enhance the coastline and the habitats it provides with needs of communities. It identifies how the coast can support a sustainable local economy and so help to reduce health and economic inequality across the borough.

Our Plan recognises that projected climate change, an ageing population and leaving Europe will have interacting and significant implications for the coast, communities and businesses.

The Sefton Coast Plan identifies 'seven big challenges' that the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and other partners will work together to resolve.

Managing the coast is complex. Charting a course through all of this is a tough challenge but by working together we believe we can



address the challenges set out in this Plan and move forward towards our vision.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership would like to thank Sefton Council for the leadership it has shown in supporting and writing this Plan.

I would also like to thank the Board, Task Groups and all those who have contributed their considerable knowledge to help develop this Plan.

Our aspiration for this Plan is that it will help broaden our Partnership. Our ambition is to maximise the value of our unique coast for people, wildlife and a thriving economy.

Paul Nolan OBE

Chair of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership

June 2017



Why the Coast is Special



The Sefton Coast has so much to offer, both to residents and visitors. The largest dynamic sand dune system in England, it offers miles of beaches and sand-dunes which connect woodlands and estuaries.

These natural habitats play host to a staggering amount of wildlife, including some of the rarest plants such as Isle of Man Cabbage and animals such as the Sand Lizard and Natterjack Toad, together with some of the largest concentrations of wintering wildfowl in the UK, which continue to find refuge in this landscape despite its ever-increasing popularity with visitors.



Fascinating shipwrecks and prehistoric footprints, trapped for thousands of years in sediment beds, can be found with a bit of luck and effort, and at Antony Gormley's "Another Place" at Crosby, Sefton boasts the biggest coastal open air art gallery in the country.

The significance of the coast extends beyond its stunning natural beauty and its landscapes and seascapes. The important maritime history of Liverpool Bay and the Port of Liverpool towards the south of Sefton means we overlook some of the greatest trade routes in the world, which continue to bring new ideas, business and diversity to our doorstep, just as they have done for hundreds of years. At the northern end of Sefton, is a second major economic driver within the borough, the classic seaside resort of Southport, a popular visitor destination for many decades.

We strive to increase tourism, support business growth and provide accessibility for all residents; the coastline is central to achieving these goals – the geographical outline of the borough means you are never very far away from the dunes, sand and sea, which all promise an almost infinite universe of discovery. Connectivity to the coast from north to south is amply provided for, by road and rail, and the natural resources of Sefton,



provide many new opportunities to contribute to a clean, green and more environmentally friendly place.

Sefton Coast is a source of inspiration for an active, inquiring and fun-loving population. The coastline is a key element in the character of the borough – exciting and dynamic, always changing as the winds and tides constantly influence the outline of the coast.

The landscape appeals to visitors, young and old, amateur or professional, whether they are day-trippers, anglers, naturalists, kites, cyclists, golfers, dog owners, horse-riders, walkers, artists, archaeologists or historians.

Sefton is a coastal community striving to forge an identity based on innovation and adaptability – and these are traits that can be found in abundance in the culture and natural heritage of this wonderful coastline.

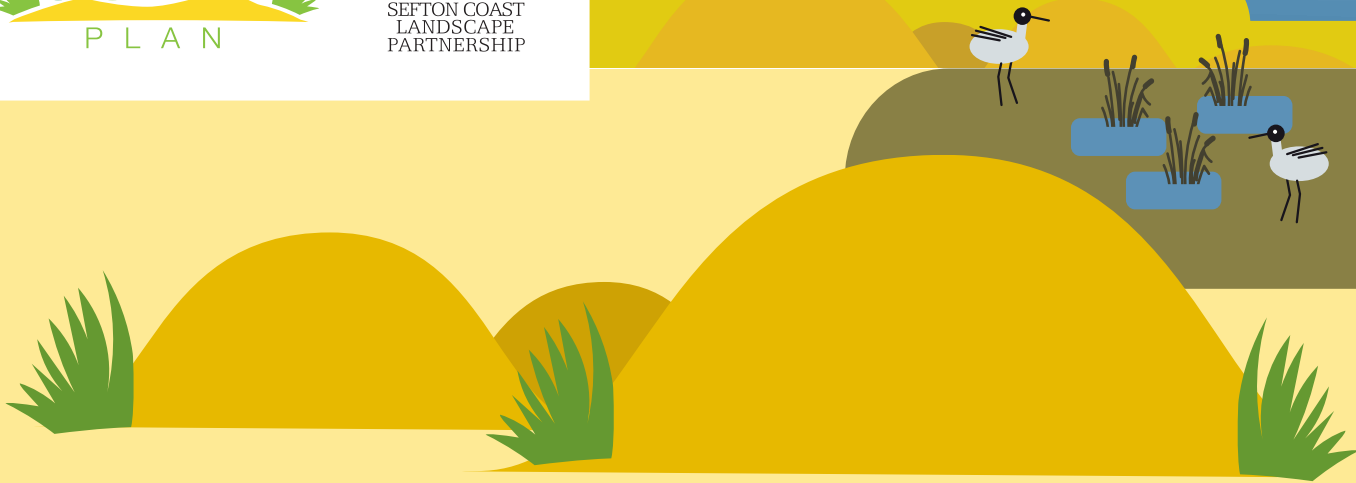
The nature, land-scape and sea-scapes of the coastal and marine environment are an extremely important asset to Sefton, the Liverpool City Region (LCR) and the nation. The Sefton Coast is an incredibly beautiful

and biodiverse area, due to the range and rarity of species and habitats that it supports. The variety and complexity of coastal wildlife habitats in Sefton, owe their existence to a rich and constantly changing coastal setting. Climate and weather combine to influence the extent and quality of those land and sea-scapes, wildlife habitats and the species that depend on them.

The people of Sefton enjoy a wonderful and diverse range of open landscapes and views, with many and various opportunities for leisure and recreation, to reap all the health and wellbeing opportunities the coast has to offer. The quality of life is highly prized by the people of Sefton, a wonderful place to live, work and play, a wonderful natural resource to discover and explore and celebrate in every way possible.

We are fortunate to be able to draw on many decades of partnership working on the dynamic and ever-changing Sefton Coast. By working together we can implement the Sefton Coast Plan and build the resilience of this special place for future generations to nurture and enjoy.





The sands turn white, then brown, then grey, then bleach out again as the cloud formation races through and casts its huge shadow over the beach, sailing as purposefully up the coast as the Gannets that patrol the Irish Sea in search of food for youngsters in colonies off South Wales and Ailsa Craig off Scotland.

But the way we see the Sefton Coast is constantly changing, its worth reviewed and re-valued through the eyes of fisherman, hunters and farmers, naturalists, pilots, day-trippers, kite surfers and soldiers over thousands of years.

The “Sandscape” we enjoy today in this unique coastal area, boasts a history as fascinating and as varied as the plant life in its flower-rich dune slacks.

From Marshside in the north to Seaforth in the south, the coastline has provided food, employment, recreation and inspiration to generations.

The conservation bodies and landowners try to share the riches of the area with as many visitors as they can. A long strip of estuary, shore, dune and woodland, it has more than its fair share of treasures.

Rare plants, amphibians, insects and reptiles; waves of migrating birds, prehistoric footprints, shipwrecks and record-breakers – their stories all shelter under vast skies, preserved and protected by experts and enthusiasts, amateurs and professionals, who see the worth of this incredible heritage and history and want to share it with as many people as possible.



John Dempsey

Taken from ‘Sandscape’

March 2016



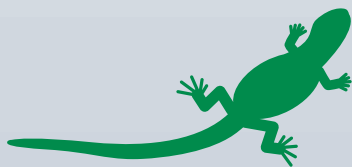
Vision for The Sefton Coast 2030 and beyond

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership has agreed a Vision for the Sefton Coast following discussion with partners. The Vision sets out our long term ambition to 2030 and beyond but also recognises that implementation of the Sefton Coast Plan provides an

opportunity to resolve some of the more pressing challenges. By working together and focusing on resolving challenges and realising opportunities we hope to increase the resilience and sustainability of the coast.

The Vision:

Our long-term ambition is for the importance of the wonderful natural assets of the Sefton coast to be universally recognised and celebrated, and for the coast to be managed in a way which:



Conserves and enhances the important international, national and local network of natural and cultural sites, habitats and species;



Enables local communities to benefit from sustainable economic growth and successfully adapt to coastal and climate change;

and



Provides long term benefits for the health and wellbeing of local communities, businesses and visitors to our coast.



Sefton Vision for 2030



In 2016, Sefton Council led a consultation process with the communities and businesses of Sefton, in which they were asked to imagine the future they wished for, in Sefton, in 2030.

The Council worked closely with partners, businesses, private sector organisations, the voluntary, community and faith sector and the community to help us focus on what's important and to be ambitious for the Borough and its communities in the future

The Sefton Coast featured very strongly in that imagination, as a place they cherished and respected and wished to conserve and enhance, discover and celebrate and which would contribute to their health and wellbeing.

They especially identified our wonderful coast and the need to make the most of it:

"I love the coastal setting of Sefton as it offers access to beaches/ coastal walks and promotes healthy lifestyle options. The beaches are looking much cleaner than they did back in the 70s and 80s and we can now be proud that more people want to visit our beaches."

"The Sefton coast and Rimrose Valley Park because they are green lungs in a densely populated area."

"The beach, the thriving independent businesses, the close-knit community, the wildlife, the housing, the array of activities available and the education."

"Lovely beach countryside walks and food."

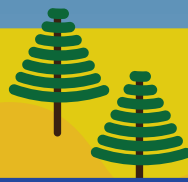
"The beach, Pinewoods and Formby Village street scene."

"Amazing beach, lovely parks, local shops and restaurants, good links to the city centre and motorways."

"Its people and the beautiful coast."

"I love its coast, the walks, the sea, Crosby, Waterloo and the Iron Men. I also love Sefton's history and culture, and its deep links with the historic port of Liverpool."

We have taken the important messages about the coast from Sefton Vision 2030 and integrated them into our ambition and aspiration that we are setting for the Sefton Coast Plan.



A clean, green and beautiful borough

In 2030, Sefton is internationally recognised for its outstanding natural beauty and commitment to sustainability.

We are a borough celebrated for its fantastic coast line and respected green spaces. Together, we work hard to preserve our assets, such as our marine lakes, woodlands, parks and canals and ensure that all future generations can enjoy them.

Through eco-friendly and green solutions, we have set the bar in sustainability. Everybody works together to keep Sefton clean and green, with a commitment to recycling, low pollution and better air quality.



On the move

In 2030, Sefton is easy to move around and well linked with the wider city region and beyond.

Night buses, better train links and affordability mean that public transport is safe and available to everyone. We can also enjoy the use of the many bicycle and walking friendly routes, meaning we can keep active.

Investment into the borough's public transport system and road networks have helped reduce congestion and have made it even easier for residents and visitors to reach homes, businesses and attractions.



Open for business

In 2030, Sefton is home to businesses of all sizes, from international organisations and small start-ups to social enterprises and community organisations.

We are a borough with a global outlook, exporting many of our services and goods via the port.

Sefton is also a leading coastal tourist destination, with businesses flourishing thanks to our strong visitor economy. While strong support for SME's and Start-ups, coupled with the creative use of commercial space, has resulted in vibrant high streets.

With strong public sector partnerships, an entrepreneurial culture and a strong work force, Sefton is the perfect home for any business and we are flourishing.



A borough for everyone

In 2030, Sefton is a borough that has everything we need to live, learn and age well.

From the moment we are born we are part of the community, with parent and baby groups & outstanding nurseries and schools. Quality apprenticeships, vocational training and university access mean we can follow our dream career path.

We live happy, healthy lives in Sefton. The borough is accessible for everyone and positive approaches are in place for those living with mental health issues and disabilities.

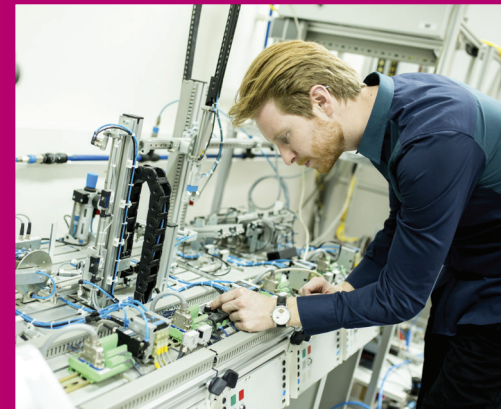
When it comes to enjoying our free time and living socially, there are clubs and groups for everyone.

Sefton

2030

A confident and connected borough

Sefton Council



Ready for the future

In 2030, Sefton is at the forefront of technology and research.

Investment in technology means that the borough is covered by comprehensive free Wi-Fi and strong, fast connection speeds.

By embracing change, we are ready to seize any opportunity and Sefton is now known across the world as a centre for advancement and research.

We are well connected to the rest of the world and we are always looking to the future. Sefton is a borough connected by people, supported by technology.



Together a stronger community

In 2030, Sefton residents look out for each other. We focus on our similarities and diversities but never on our differences, working together to live a fruitful life.

We are supportive communities, aided by a vibrant voluntary sector, where everyone has the opportunity to live an independent and proactive life. We know our neighbours and we help each other out in any way we can, from sparing a drop of milk to lending a caring ear.

Our communities are strong, knowledgeable and informed.



Living, working and having fun

In 2030, Sefton is the perfect place to enjoy your life.

With a variety of jobs and professions, Sefton has fantastic opportunities for everyone, from full time workers to part time workers. While a range of housing, including affordable and luxury, has made the borough one of the most desirable places to live in the country.

Our children and young people enjoy access to some fantastic schools, colleges and universities, meaning they can go on to fulfil their dreams and follow their chosen career paths.

We enjoy shopping on Sefton's high streets and social at one of the many bars and restaurants, plus a wide variety of sports facilities, clubs and events help inspire residents to keep active and enjoy sport.

We are a borough that offers it all with many people moving to the area and students returning to lay down their roots following graduation.



Visit, explore and enjoy

In 2030, Sefton has something to offer residents and visitors of all ages.

We enjoy activities on our beaches and floral greenspaces, while the rush of adrenaline at Southport Air Show brings visitors from far and wide. Sefton is home to a number of great events and festivals, while international sporting events return year after year.

Known for its cultural scene, Sefton has something for everyone.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership has existed as a partnership on the coast since 1978. We came together in recognition of the need to address some of the pressures facing the coast during the sixties and seventies such as development, coastal erosion and damage to the coastal habitats. By working together, as partners, we have achieved great things for the Sefton Coast and have been recognised for our work and some of these achievements are listed in Appendix 1. Looking to the future the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership can continue to better co-ordinate our actions and resources to achieve outcomes that alone, no single approach or organisation could achieve.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership continues to work towards our vision for Sefton Coast but recognises the need to

regularly review our strategic priorities and engage with our communities and visitors on issues that relate to the coast. We have set out a new direction within the Sefton Coast Plan that reflects the identity of the Sefton Coast as presented in the Vision for Sefton 2030, by the people and communities of Sefton and which serves to contribute to the desired outcomes of the wider Vision 2030 for the Borough.

The Sefton Coast Plan provides a new and ambitious level of delivery for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership by addressing some of the more complex points of tension and by committing to co-operate, combine resources and work together to resolve long-standing issues at a strategic level to fully realise the opportunities the coast presents.



Why the Sefton Coast Plan has been reviewed

Since the Sefton Coast Partnership Plan was prepared (Sefton Coast Partnership ICZM Plan 2006-2011) the partners have continued to work to implement it. Groups such as the Sefton Coast Woodland Owners Group and, History and Archaeology Task Group continue to work together to drive forward co-ordinated action on the Sefton Coast. The Partnership is proud of its track record and many achievements over several decades of partnership working, some of which are shown in Appendix 1.

The Sefton Coast is dynamic. The pressures placed upon the coastal assets continue to change. The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board recognised the need and opportunity to review and update the Sefton Coast Plan. Some of the main drivers for reviewing the Sefton Coast Plan at this time include:

- The adopted Sefton Coast Plan needs to be updated and reviewed;
- The landowners and managers on the Sefton Coast are under significant resource pressure and there is a need to adapt to the changing financial climate for management of the coast. More flexible approaches to management, asset maintenance and resources are required;
- New projects and sustainable economic development provide opportunities for new initiatives, projects and partnerships to develop as part of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership;

- Changing roles of organisations and partners, new and old, presents the opportunity to reflect and review the management and governance arrangements for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership;
- The Sefton Coast is under increasing pressure from use by people and investment in visitor and recreation management, sustainable access and infrastructure is required to build the resilience of the coast;
- The Sefton Local Plan adopted and having an agreed approach for visitor management and nature conservation is important to help facilitate sustainable housing and employment growth within the Borough.

The Sefton Coast Plan will provide a robust strategy to help guide priorities and action along the entire Sefton Coast to 2030 and beyond. It is our ambition that numerous projects and other opportunities will be realised for the benefit of our businesses, communities, environment and visitors that depend on the Sefton Coast.

How we will work together to Implement the Plan

We seek to work in partnership, at a strategic level whilst maintaining individual organisational operational activities. We will avoid duplication of existing regulatory processes (e.g. planning policy and marine consents). Therefore, to be included in the Sefton Coast Plan, strategic challenges and opportunities are defined as being:

- Relevant across the Sefton Coast Plan area;
- Have a significant likely effect across the Plan area; and
- Require a co-ordinated response or action to maximise positive outcomes.

The Sefton Coast Plan will be governed by the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board who will be accountable for measuring, monitoring and reviewing performance as we implement the Plan. These challenges and opportunities lead to Strategic Actions which will be supported by a Delivery Plan. The Delivery Plan will set out how the overall Plan will be implemented and may identify which partner organisation(s) are responsible for or contribute to delivery, its respective timescale and measures of success (how the action will be monitored).

As Partners we are in agreement on our shared vision and the principles that we will work to. We also agreed with the key challenges and opportunities identified within the Sefton Coast Plan and the route map for addressing these. We also recognise that individual Partners will at

times have different views, will have regulatory functions that they have to undertake and will have varying levels of involvement depending on the location and nature of the challenges and opportunities being discussed; we will respect this but always seek to work together positively within the Partnership to help implement the Plan.

The Principles that we will Work to

The principles set out below, will guide how we work together.

Integrated Coastal Zone Management

(ICZM) is a management technique for coastal areas with the objective of establishing sustainable levels of economic and social activity in coastal areas, while at the same time, protecting the coastal environment. The principles of ICZM are:

■ **Working with nature**

We will seek to work with, and not against, natural processes. This is often more cost effective and sustainable.

■ **Taking a long term view**

Whilst we will take account of any short term issues we will take a long term view and plan for up to a hundred years into the future. This is because actions such as construction of coastal defences or development on the coast can have long life expectancies in excess of 60 years and we don't want to create problems for future generations through short-term approaches

■ **Considering the bigger picture**

When undertaking actions we will consider the wider context. This is because so many

of our actions can have an impact on other areas both positive and negative. By considering the bigger picture we can avoid the negative impacts and maximise the positive impacts.

■ **Using an appropriate mix of tools (for example plans, policies, strategies)**

We will use the most appropriate mechanism available to us to support the delivery of our vision. This is because there are a wide range of plans and strategies already in place where we have already influenced how they approach the management of the coast. This can be a far more effective way of supporting our vision than trying to consolidate everything into a single document.

■ **Getting the right organisations to work together**

We will seek to work in partnership with other organisations on the coast to support the delivery of our vision. No one organisation can deliver our vision because there are so many different organisations responsible for different areas and actions. Working in partnership will allow us to co-ordinate our actions and make the best use of our resources.

■ **Ensuring the wide involvement of people**

We will seek to involve local communities and visitors in the management of the coast as they have an interest in how this unique asset is managed.

■ **Ensuring we are able to change our approach as our understanding improves**

We will take an evidence based approach to our decision making and actively review our priorities and actions as our understanding continuously improves.

■ **Reflecting local character and need**

The approach that we take in managing the Sefton Coast will reflect its unique and special nature.

Guided by these principles and working across the Sefton Coast Plan area, the Sefton Coast Plan will therefore:

- Take a strategic approach;
- Seek to inform management, policy, projects and decision making;
- Complement the existing legislative and regulatory systems that operate on-land, at sea and across the intertidal zone;
- Build resilience and take a sustainable approach;

and

- Achieve outcomes and impact that could not be achieved by any Partner alone.

The Operating Model for the Sefton Coast Plan

The operating model of the Sefton Coast Plan is based on building resilience at the coast, as the main driver to achieving long-term sustainability for people, the economy and the environment. In the context of the Sefton Coast Plan, we mean:

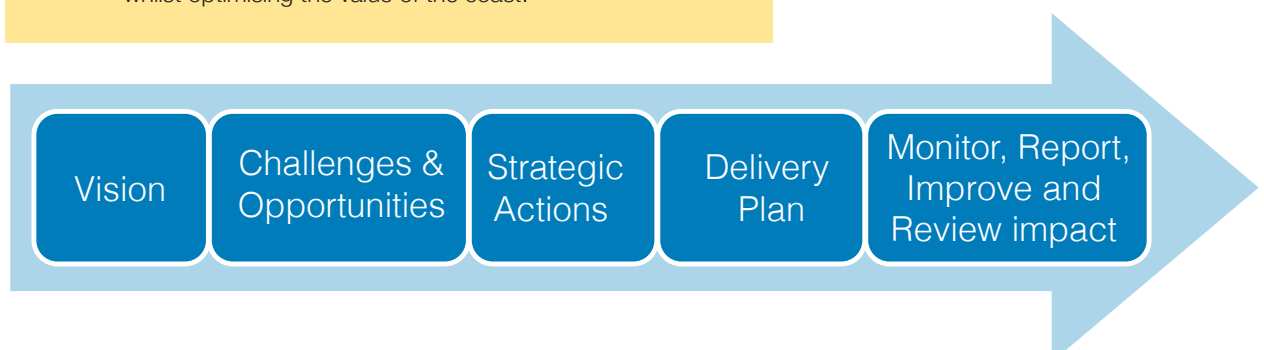
- **Resilience** is the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and still retain its basic structure and viability. In the context of the Sefton Coast this can apply to the economy, environment and our communities. The disturbance can be anything from flooding through to coastal change but the key aspect is about being able to recover from, or adapt to this disturbance.
- **Sustainability**, in basic terms, is the ability to continue a defined behaviour indefinitely. It is also often referred to as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In the context of the Sefton Coast this means that we need to consider our actions in the context both of their impact on future generations and on the impact of the environment, including:
 - » development of a sustainable and competitive coastal economy;
 - » conservation and enhancement of nature and the environment;and
 - » management of visitors to avoid damage to the environment whilst optimising the value of the coast.

The operating model, as shown on page 37, is designed to operate with and complement the existing statutory framework. The Sefton Local Plan, prepared by the Local Authority, for example is the main local policy framework to inform decisions over land-use and development. In the marine area, the emerging North West Marine Plan, prepared by Marine Management Organisation will act as the main policy framework for decisions in the marine

area. These two systems overlap across the intertidal zone and the Coast Plan seeks to ensure maximum integration of the two statutory frameworks.

The Sefton Coast Plan compliments and enhances these and identifies opportunities to deliver improved outcomes through partnership action, especially where the existing system, or control and regulation is not well integrated.

The Challenges and Opportunities are brought together into seven Big Challenges that the Sefton Coast faces. The Strategic Actions and Delivery Plan then provide a route map to resolve the challenges and realise the opportunities.

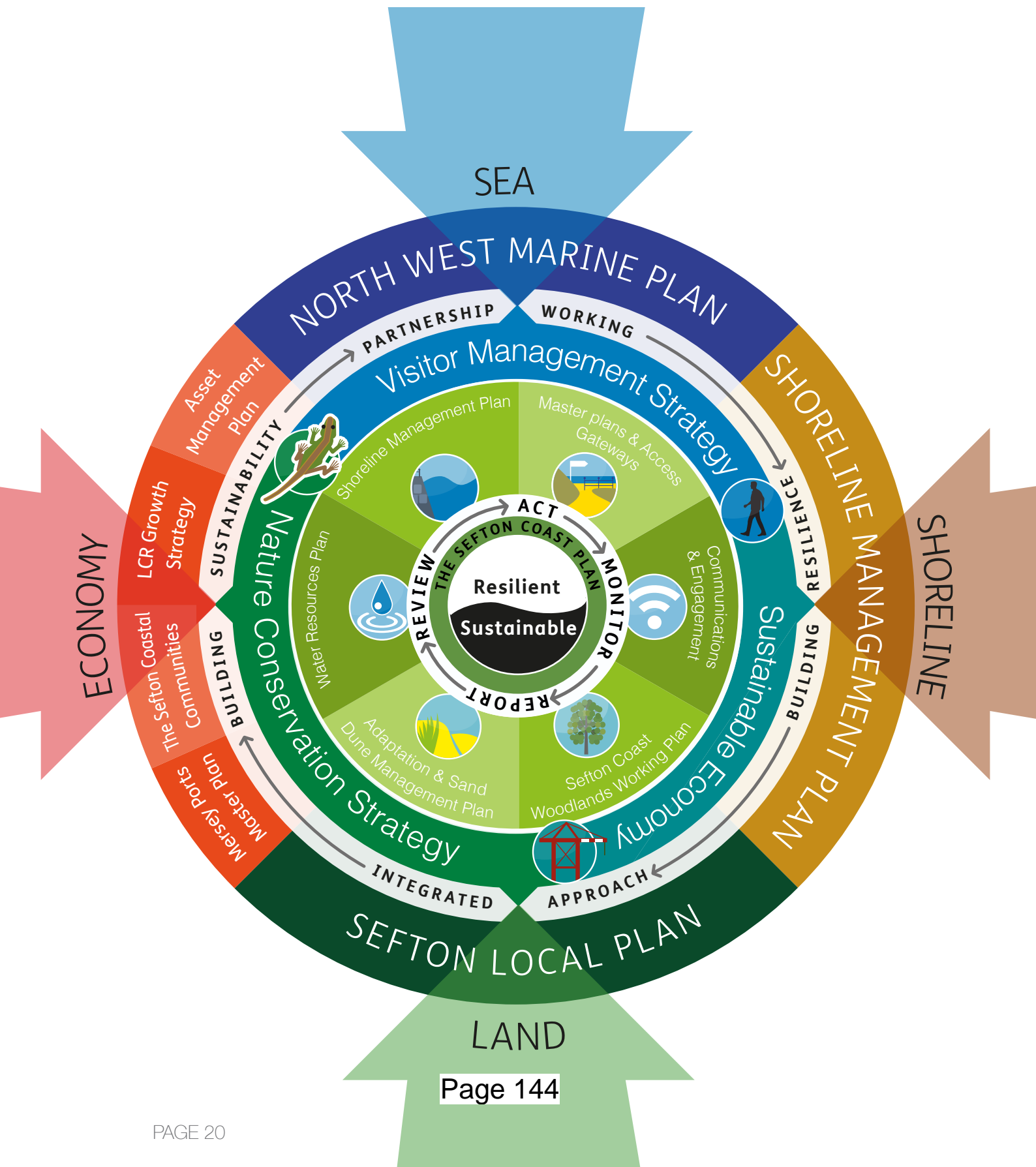


The **Delivery Plan** captures the Strategic Actions and delivery mechanisms which seek to resolve the challenges. It sets out which Partner(s) will be accountable and realise the opportunities for delivering the action, critical milestones to reach, timescale for delivery and the resources required to achieve this.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board will continue to monitor and review the delivery of the Plan and its consequent impact and outcomes. As and when required, any new opportunities and related challenges identified, and any remedial action or enhancing activity to the Plan will be expressed through updated Topic Papers and a refreshed Delivery Plan.



Influences on the Sefton Coast



Summary of Topic Papers



Twelve Topic Papers have been prepared as evidence for the Sefton Coast Plan. The Topic Papers identify challenges and opportunities for the Sefton Coast, its assets and communities.

Topic Papers will be updated individually as and when appropriate, for example, when new legislation is passed or new evidence emerges. The Topic Papers are:

- Landscape and Nature
- Access and Recreation
- Health and Wellbeing
- Economy
- Regulation and Control
- Skills and Lifelong Learning and Employment
- Water Resources
- The Historic Environment
- Energy
- Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
- Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation
- Delivery through Partnership Working

The focus of the Sefton Coast Plan is on challenges relating specifically to the Topics, where working together, across the Plan area and Partnership, we can deliver better outcomes in the long-term for the benefit of our communities, our economy and our natural environment.

Each topic paper sets out why the Sefton Coast is important to that particular topic. It

identifies the relevant strategic issues - the opportunities that are evident and challenges that must be resolved to fully realise that opportunity. By applying the principles of ICZM the challenges are taken forward in the Sefton Coast Plan, in a way that allows for them to be considered together, with integrated actions set out in the Delivery Plan, to address them.

The following sections present a brief summary of the Topic Papers and the main challenges that have identified, when considered together have led to the seven big challenges.



Landscape and Nature

The nature, land and sea-scape of the coastal and marine environment is an extremely important asset to Sefton, the Liverpool City Region, Lancashire and the nation. The Sefton Coast is an incredibly beautiful and biodiverse area, due to the range and rarity of species and habitats that it supports. The range and complexity of coastal wildlife habitats in Sefton owe their existence to a rich and constantly changing coastal setting. Climate and weather combine to influence the extent and quality of those land and sea-scapes, wildlife habitats and the species that depend on them.

Challenges - These coastal habitats are under pressure. Coastal change is impacting on the physical shape of the coast through erosion, accretion and sedimentation; significant erosion in particular, occurs at Formby destroying habitat leading to fragmentation and reduced viability. Coastal change will increase with climate change which will also change the patterns of weather that we experience, putting even more pressure on the habitats. Addressing issues such as the loss of sand dune dynamism will require a wide-ranging and integrated approach to habitat management of dunes, scrub control, livestock grazing, turf stripping, woodland management and where appropriate re-mobilisation of over-vegetated dunes.

As humans, our use of the coast puts pressure on the coast and this will increase as more houses are built and businesses developed. This creates a tension between the desire for access and access infrastructure and the need to maintain these important habitats. Coastal change in itself also creates stress on access infrastructure, heightening the tension at certain points along the coast e.g. erosion of car parks and caravan sites.

Working with natural processes, generates opportunities to improve the resilience of the coastal habitats, better link them along and across the coast and make space for nature to enable residents, visitors and businesses to cherish the specialness of the coast. As we improve the quality of this habitat through positive management and reduce the impact of visitors by directing them to less vulnerable areas we will increase coastal resilience.

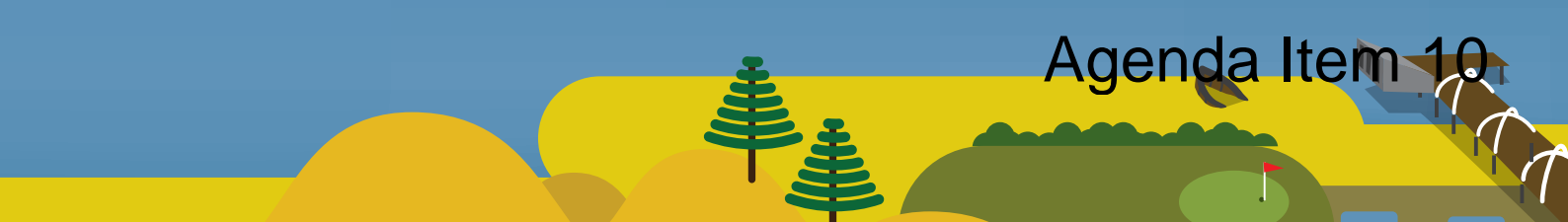
Preparing and implementing both an integrated **Nature Conservation Strategy** and a **Visitor Management Strategy** will help to address these tensions. Securing sustainable resources to prepare and implement these strategies is essential to retain and improve the specialness of the Sefton Coast and the Sefton Coast Plan area. The preparation and delivery of these strategies will be based on the evidence that we have available and supporting plans including for example the Sefton Coast Woodlands Working Plan (2016) and the Liverpool City Region Ecological Network (2015) and actions such as a communications and engagement plan, adaptation and sand dune management plan and a water resources plan.

Access and Recreation



The Sefton Coast has a history of recreational use of the beaches and sand dunes, for bathing from the 19th century and aviation from the 19th to the late 18th century, to more recent activities such as kite surfing and sand yachting. Sefton has good and excellent bathing beaches at Ainsdale, Formby and Southport which are assets to be protected.

More formal recreation and tourism events include the hugely popular Southport Air Show, National Musical Fireworks Championships, Antony Gormley's "Another Place" iron men statues, Southport Pier, various triathlons, the Royal and Ancient 'Open' golf championship and other golfing tournaments which tend to be concentrated in specific locations.



Informal recreation such as walking and running, playing on the beach, cycling, and horse-riding tend to be spread more widely across the coast. Both formal and informal recreation activities are supported by a range of paths and trails, roads and public transport facilities and generate income and visitor spend. In some locations, facilities are limited and investment is required to enhance the quality of visitor and recreation experience and at the same time, respect the wishes of local residents. Beach car parking creates challenges within the biodiversity duties and legislation, but the Visitor Management Strategy is an opportunity to provide a route map for resolution.

Challenges - All visitor access and recreation add to the pressure and if not properly managed, will cause damage to coastal habitats. We will need to direct this activity to less vulnerable areas where it can be more easily managed, thereby creating a series of gateway sites for access and recreation along the coast. Proposed sites for housing and employment developments will be required to demonstrate that there would be no significant increase in recreational or visitor pressure on the Sefton Coast as a result of the development plans or provide appropriate mitigation or compensatory habitats.

Access to and enjoyment of all coast related activities can make a big contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of people and communities and also support economic growth within the tourism economy. The coastal location is also an important amenity for residents, both existing and those looking to move here.

Preparing and implementing a **Visitor Management Strategy** will help to address these challenges. Securing sustainable resources to prepare and implement this strategy is essential to retain and improve the specialness of the Sefton Coast and the Sefton Coast Plan area. Preparation and delivery of the Visitor Management Strategy will be based on the evidence that we have available and supporting plans and strategies, especially the Nature Conservation Strategy.



The Sefton Coast provides a beautiful and inspiring outdoor environment for communities and visitors to enjoy, with associated benefits to physical and mental health and wellbeing, for the local community and visitors by providing:

- Clean, safe outdoor space for land and water-based exercise, play, and other activities
- Opportunities to get close to and enjoy nature and local culture and take time out from the hustle and bustle of busy lives
- Opportunities to enhance learning and skills, contributing to community wellbeing
- An inspiring landscape and seascape and a sense of place and belonging which is valued by many; and
- By providing resilience to the impacts of climate change and other coastal change for Sefton's coastal communities.

The natural environment of the Sefton Coast Plan area provides important ecosystem services for the *benefit of health and wellbeing*. Enjoyment of the coast directly contributes to achieving the objectives set out in Living Well¹, Sefton's Health & Wellbeing Strategy, led by the Health and Wellbeing Board. It is important that the Sefton Coast Plan and the Borough-wide Health and Wellbeing Strategy are aligned to deliver positive health and wellbeing outcomes and that increased use of the coast to deliver such outcomes will need to avoid damage to sensitive habitats.

Addressing these challenges as the coast and needs of our communities change will help us realise the coast's potential to improve health and wellbeing. The **Nature Conservation Strategy** and **Visitor Management Strategy** will support our objectives for improved health and wellbeing.



Economy

The significance of the Sefton Coast is recognised as an important contributing asset at the level of the Liverpool City Region and its City Region Growth Strategy and Destination Management Plan. Locally, the draft Sefton Coast Economic Plan, emerging Sefton Economic Strategy and the three Coastal Communities Teams for Crosby and Waterloo, Sefton Coast and Southport all identify important economic opportunities and challenges through their plans. Unique and distinctive coastal assets, including the natural coast, the resort town of Southport and features such as 'Another Place',

¹ Sefton Health and Wellbeing Strategy, 2014-2020, NHS England, Healthwatch, South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group and Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group, 2014.

present a significant opportunity to attract more visitors to Sefton, increase their stay time and spend within the visitor economy. The visitor economy of the City Region is growing strongly, with many accessing Sefton from the City of Liverpool, often arriving on cruise ships at the Pier Head in the Port of Liverpool.

The Port of Liverpool, located in the south of Sefton, is one of the UK's major ports, with state of the art facilities, the most strategically important port for transatlantic shipping, capable of receiving the largest shipping vessels in the world. Together with the Manchester Ship Canal and docks at Birkenhead, it forms an integral part of the Mersey Ports and Atlantic Gateway with a combined capacity of 40million tonnes of cargo. The capacity of the Port has doubled with the development of Liverpool 2 to create the most centrally, located deep water terminal in the UK which will allow global services to connect with the City Region as one of the most operationally efficient and modern terminals in northern Europe.

Challenges - In order to harness the full potential of the Port of Liverpool as an important transformational economic driver the port will need to expand to handle more cargo. This would also facilitate the transfer of as much container freight as possible from road to rail and water, relieving road congestion and noise and air pollution. However the positive impacts of sustainable economic growth and job creation also create environmental and ecological pressure, such as accidental pollutant spillages from ships to the impact of dredging on coastal processes. Port expansion may require the

relocation of a designated nature reserve to compensatory habitat, directed by regulatory frameworks and processes. A long term **Master Plan for Crosby Coastal Park** will reflect proposed port expansion and other requirements, such as the replacement of the seawall in the next decade.

The Visitor Management Strategy and Master Plans will help to make the best use of our coastal assets and capture economic spend locally.

Fishing, whilst not as important economically, has a long history on the coast and can contribute to the local economy. There are challenges regarding safety that need to be managed whether it is the low key activity of the shrimpers or the more significant but less frequent, cockling activities. There are opportunities to work with other partners such as the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) to co-ordinate activities in relation to fishing.

There are also opportunities to work with other sectors such as farming to influence how they work so as to minimise their impact on this special coastal environment.



Regulation and Control

Legislation and policy has developed in response to an increasing awareness of the value of our environments and the need to protect them. In recognition of the very special value of the Sefton Coast, National Trust and Sefton Council bought land in the sixties at Formby Point to protect it from development and waste. Up until this time

the coast was often exploited economically through the extraction of sand, growing of crops and dumping of waste such as tobacco waste.

The Sefton Coast Plan does not duplicate existing legislative and regulatory mechanisms of control and follows the established principle that it should be assumed that these mechanisms of control will operate effectively and, where necessary, in an integrated way. For existing statutory plans such as the Sefton Local Plan (including Neighbourhood Plans), the Sefton Coast Plan will act in conformity with the Local Plan and other relevant plans and avoid conflict with the policies and directions of those plans. Where needed, the Coast Plan will provide a mechanism to address unresolved coastal challenge and tensions.

Sefton's Local Plan is the main local policy framework on land, to inform decisions over land-use and development projects. The Marine Management Organisation is the main regulator at sea and is in the process of preparing the North West Marine Plan. These two systems overlap across the intertidal zone where better integration is needed. Therefore, the Sefton Coast Plan compliments these but also identifies opportunities to deliver better outcomes through partnership action, especially where the existing system or control and regulation is not well integrated. Regulators, such as Environment Agency, and advisors, such as Natural England, have both signalled their willingness to continue to work positively and pro-actively to help resolve the challenges including implementation of the Sefton Coast Plan.

Challenges - Increased recreational and visitor pressure on designated coastal habitats and communities will occur as a consequence of the development of new housing and employment sites, allocated in the Sefton Local Plan. Preparation and implementation of a **Visitor Management Strategy** is necessary to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Regulations because it will provide a mechanism for developers to demonstrate how damage to designated habitats in the Sefton Coast Plan area will be avoided.

With the pending exit from the European Union (Brexit), we will need to keep the regulatory framework under review as much of the legislation developed by Europe is transposed into UK law. It is unclear if the UK law will be changed as a result of leaving the European Union.

A further tension and challenge that the Sefton Coast Plan will address is to improve integration between regulatory processes and working between organisations responsible for regulation on land and at sea. There is an opportunity to improve the working of the regulatory system and a Strategic Action is included for partners to sign up to the Coastal Concordat as a framework to achieve this.

for developing skills and knowledge, improving employability and quality of life. It also provides a range of opportunities for volunteering and community engagement. The coast is significant for these reasons as a major contributor to achieve key aspirations of 'Living Well in Sefton: Sefton's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2014-2020' (2014) as well as Sefton's Vision for 2030, to:

- Create a place where all members of our community can live, work and enjoy life as valued members of the community.
- Promote independence and help build personal and community resilience.
- Improve opportunities and support residents to make choices so that people are able to live, work and spend their time in a safe and healthy environment.

Of particular note is the prediction of an increasing proportion of older residents in Sefton who may require more sufficiency of support, but who will also have more time to make voluntary contributions, an important resource by scale and experience to be harnessed through the delivery programmes of the Coast Plan and the Sefton Coast Landscape Partners.

It is important that the Sefton Coast Plan recognises these opportunities and seeks to support skills, lifelong learning and employment.



Skills, Lifelong Learning and Employment

Sefton's coast and wider green infrastructure across the borough provides a wealth of opportunities, both formal and informal,



Water Resources

Access to clean, safe water is fundamental to the health and well-being of our entire planet or biosphere. The natural environment

of the Sefton Coast is dependent on healthy water resources. This includes, for example, biodiverse coastal waters, healthy dune slacks, wetlands with hundreds of thousands of birds or thriving water vole populations on the many ditches and drains that intersect the farmland.

The Sefton Coast Plan area is hydrologically complex with much of the land below sea level. The interconnected nature of water resources places a wider responsibility on the citizens and businesses of Sefton to use water wisely, avoid pollution and support the processes that sustain clean and healthy water. The management of this water can cause problems ranging from the shrinkage of peat in the low-lying agricultural areas as a result of extensive pumped drainage through to problems discharging water across beaches where beach levels have increased as a result of coastal change. The watercourses within the pumped catchment of Sefton are currently failing to achieve good ecological status largely as a consequence of water quality issues and lack of habitat provided by modified channels.

Challenges - There are opportunities to better co-ordinate the management of water and recognise both the interconnected nature of the hydrological system and the long term change that will impact on it. This could include approaches such as Natural Flood Management where a whole system approach is taken to flood risk management, seeking to slow the flow of water and returning the systems to a more natural way of working.

Preparing and implementing an integrated **Water Resources Plan** will help to address these issues. This would also provide an

opportunity to better co-ordinate the delivery of works and outcomes, such as improving water quality at the same time as we reduce flood risk. Before starting the water resources plan it would be sensible to check that we have the right partners to deliver this coordinated approach.

The Historic Environment



The Sefton Coast has been utilised and occupied by humans for over 8000 years. The area remains a dynamic landscape with coastal erosion and new developments exposing new sites.

Features such as shipwrecks may last decades before they are lost to the natural processes of decay but others, such as the prehistoric footprints at Formby, may be exposed and lost within days after having remained buried for several thousand years. The challenge in relation to these historic environments is to sufficiently record new discoveries to permit preservation by record and dissemination of the information to specialist and general interest groups.

There is a massive interest in the historic environment both from people visiting the coast to the documentary coverage on television. There is an opportunity to enhance people's enjoyment and understanding of the coast through raising awareness and interpretation of this prehistoric and historic evidence.

Preparing and implementing a **Communication and Engagement Plan** will help to identify and act upon a number

of opportunities around raising of awareness and understanding of the coast, how to avoid damaging it and helping visitors to enjoy it. Such a plan would look across all the issues identified in the Sefton Coast Plan and develop a co-ordinated approach to communication and engagement. This can include encouraging land owners to report the discovery of any historic features and help, where possible, in their recording.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership will continue to support the history and archaeology task group and the volunteers who have an interest in this area.

be seen when looking at the offshore rig extracting gas to the west of Formby. Energy projects, such as investment in modern energy infrastructure, whilst strictly regulated, have the potential to impact upon habitats, designated sites, coastal processes and coast defences.

Challenges – The resilience and financial viability of new coastal visitor developments could be increased through installation of low carbon and renewable energy technology. This is also an opportunity as a powerful communication and education message regarding our commitment to reducing emissions.

Challenges - The Sefton Coast Plan area offers significant opportunity for large-scale renewable energy generation, especially from tidal technology in estuaries such as the Mersey. Each project will need to be assessed on its merits through the regulatory frameworks, taking into account the special environmental value and character of the Sefton Coast Plan area, the landscape and seascape, and also the significant economic benefits that could accrue from a more resilient energy generation infrastructure.


The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership will seek to work positively and pro-actively with energy scheme promoters to avoid impacts to the Sefton Coast. They will also seek to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change and the potential to avoid damaging emissions through use and investment in low carbon and renewable energy.



Energy

The Sefton Coast offers opportunities for the development of low carbon and renewable energy technologies. These technologies can make a significant contribution to the overall energy security and resilience of the area and wider Liverpool City Region. There is already significant wind energy development on the coast, both onshore and more significantly offshore. Tidal power has regularly been proposed within the Mersey and Ribble estuaries and recently on the Sefton Coast.

There is no specific benefit of locating solar power at the coast but it is often implemented as part of new industrial developments and may also offer some benefits through the development of visitor facilities for example. Biomass is significant as it is a major import into the Port of Liverpool for use in power stations and potential for local harvesting of biomass including firewood. There is also fossil-based energy on the coast the evidence of which can



Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

The coast is an important asset for flood and coastal erosion risk management. Saltmarsh and beaches reduce the energy of the waves before they reach shore which in turn, reduces the scale of defences we need at locations such as Southport and Crosby. The sand dunes provide a buffer for coastal erosion, allowing us to work with natural processes rather than introducing artificial and expensive defences. Sediment is brought in by the tides and storms from beneath the sea to replenish our beaches. Flood risk and coastal erosion are both significant issues for Sefton. Details of this risk and the policies for its management are set out in the **Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy (FCERMS) for Sefton** and the **Shoreline Management Plan** for the North West of England and North Wales.

The development of coastal defences can have a significant impact on the coast both during construction and after as their presence influences coastal processes. This has to be considered carefully during the development of any proposal to ensure that we don't damage the coast and to ensure that any proposal, delivers impact and outcomes as intended. This requires a good understanding of the coastal processes based on robust record-keeping and evidence analysis. We also have to consider such schemes over the long term, as a typical coastal defence will last 60 years. It is

not possible to remove all risk, so we have to plan for the times when there is flooding, erosion or damage to defences and help our communities to be more resilient.

Challenges - Coastal defences, significant by scale, present opportunities to achieve multiple benefits for both people and our natural environment. This could be putting in place infrastructure for visitors or designing schemes in such a way as to enhance the local habitat. Sharing our understanding of coastal processes, can help to form the evidence base for decisions at the coast and to be able to suggest how the coast might develop in the future. This is especially important in relation to the impacts of coastal and climate change which will lead to changes in both the long and short term.

Preparing and implementing a masterplan for Crosby Coastal Park will help to identify and secure multiple benefits for the area, as the proposals to replace the coastal defences are developed. Preparing and implementing an **Adaptation and Sand Dune Management Plan** will inform our response to coastal change over the long term and also develop our approach, working with the sand dune system as a natural defence. The development of a Water Resources Plan has already been mentioned. Undertaking to co-ordinate and share monitoring and research and aspiring to be a centre of excellence for this will support the development of our evidence base. Communicating this understanding and the implications associated with it, such as the residual flood risk, will support our communities to be more resilient.



Coastal Change, Climate Change and Adaptation

The coast is changing, it always has done and always will. There is a history of change at the coast both in terms of the features on the coast and the way that humans use and live on the coast. As an example, Formby Point has been eroding around its central section since around 1900 at a rate of 3-4 metres per year. Over the same period of time, our use of the coast has changed from one of exploiting it for minerals, agriculture and dumping of waste products, to recognising and valuing it as a natural asset.

Climate change arises because of increased greenhouse gas emissions since the start of the industrial revolution. The impacts of climate change on the Sefton Coast will include sea level rise, warmer wetter winters, hotter drier summers and more frequent extreme and intense storms.

The natural response to coastal and climate change would be for the coast to adapt by rolling back and habitats to change to ones more suited to the new climate. However, humans have built on the coast and constrained the space for the coast to roll back. We are also home to a number of rare and important species and we need to maintain a viable habitat for them. We have a general idea of how the coast will evolve but there are significant gaps in our understanding that need addressing.

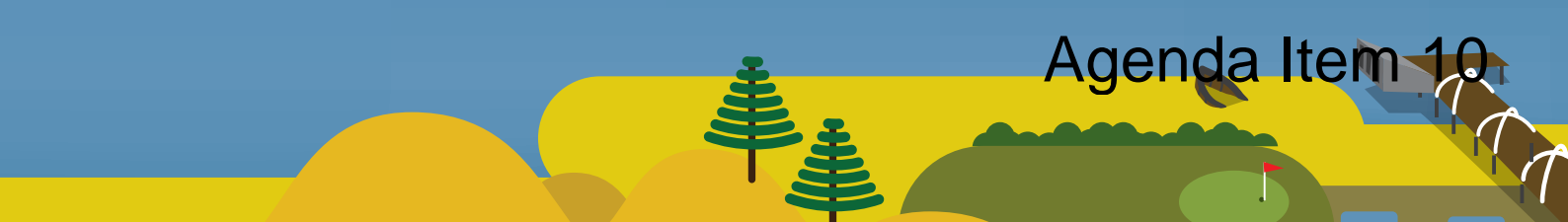
Challenges - There is an opportunity to reduce the impact of coastal and climate change by adapting to it in a timely manner, avoiding short term and potentially expensive decisions. Recognising what the coast might look like in the coming decades and planning now, for how we will adapt to this change such as relocation of infrastructure, creating space for the sand dunes to roll back is an important focus of the Sefton Coast Plan.

The **Adaptation and Sand Dune Management Plan** will guide future adaptation and development supported by the Partners' undertaking to coordinate and share monitoring and research. Preparing suitable plans for extreme weather events will mitigate some of the consequences of the increase in frequency and intensity of storms. Communicating an understanding of coastal and climate change and the implications associated with it will help our communities to be more resilient.

Delivery through Partnership Working



Partnership working is an effective approach which brings together a range of organisations that can't alone, deliver their desired outcomes, an approach that forms the foundations of the Sefton Coast Plan. Partnership working requires strong leadership and organisational commitment of time and resource.



There are a range of landowners, regulators and advisors who share a common vision for the coast some of whom are members of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership. The Partnership is supported by a number of Task Groups who collectively will take responsibility for the actual delivery of the Plan along with other partners. For strategic action to be truly effective many individuals and organisations, including our communities, including but not restricted to the Sefton Coast Landscape Partners, will all have a role to play and by working together, the benefits of the coast can be fully realised.

The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership is similar to other partnerships in that its activity tends to increase or decrease in response to the issues and opportunities at any point in time. The Partnership has changed and evolved over time and recognised the benefits of regular review to ensure that governance is strong and the partner representation is balanced and committed to implementing the Sefton Coast Plan.

Challenges - The new Sefton Coast Plan presents a timely opportunity to review partnership governance and membership, to align with the broader strategic agenda and ensure delivery and implementation. The chart on page 38 sets out the main roles and activities of Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership, including the Task Groups, for delivery and implementation of the Sefton Coast Plan.

The partnership arrangements, membership and terms of reference of the Board and Task Groups will be kept under review to assist successful implementation of the Coast Plan.

Resources are essential for effective implementation and many partners have important roles and contributions to make. When agreed, the Sefton Coast Plan is intended to be used by partners to support bids and applications for new funding and resources for implementation and action. A Strategic Action is included to develop a sustainable approach to resourcing delivery and we are committed to prepare and implement a **Sustainable Resources Plan**.

Challenges and Strategic Actions for the Sefton Coast 2030 and beyond

The Sefton Coast Plan guides what is intended for the Sefton Coast for the future, the challenges to be addressed and how this will be delivered. We are drawing on the challenges raised by partners, consultees and the communities of Sefton through a wide process of engagement. Our communities value the Sefton coast as a unique and valuable asset. Implementation of the Sefton Coast Plan will lead to a more resilient and sustainable coast.

There are seven big challenges for the Sefton Coast Plan. These are a combination of the challenges identified within the Topic Papers because the big challenges affect and influence several themes, topics and sectors. For the coastal assets, to be realised and our aspiration for the Sefton Coast Plan to become reality the big challenges must be resolved. Our joint commitment to work together, prepare and implement the Delivery Plan is the route map to resolve the challenges. **The seven big challenges, in no particular order are:**

Sustainable Resources

Current funding arrangements for the Sefton Coast are not sustainable because of reduced finance and capacity to manage our coastal assets and also increasing pressure from usage by people. Without intervention the resilience and sustainability of the Sefton Coast will be harmed. Preparation of a **Sustainable Resourcing Plan** for the partnership is our route map to resolve this by providing a sustainable approach to funding, including securing new resources, to implement the Sefton Coast Plan.

Sustainable Access

The Partnership support sustainable access and infrastructure but current access arrangements to the Sefton Coast are not sustainable because it is damaging sensitive coastal habitats and affecting local communities. Preparation of a **Visitor Management Strategy** is our route map to resolve these tensions by leading to actions that provide a sustainable approach to provide visitor facilities, including car parking and amenities, avoiding damage to sensitive habitats and local communities.

A Dynamic Coast

The integrity and connectivity of the Sefton Coast sand dune system is affected by a range of pressures and features including natural vegetation succession, reduction in rabbit grazing, introduction of non-native trees and shrubs and loss of livestock grazing among others. Review of the Nature Conservation Strategy 2008 and Woodlands Working Plan v3 January 2016 informed by the LCR Ecological Network and Green Infrastructure Framework to provide an integrated approach is our route

map to resolve these tensions by leading to sustainable management of the Sefton Coast and building a more resilient coast.

Not Resilient due to Increasing Pressure

The Sefton Coast is under increasing pressures from people, climate and coastal change and does not have the resilience to meet the increasing demands placed upon it. The strategies and plans that will be prepared and implemented (for example **Visitor Management Strategy** and **Nature Conservation Strategy**) will put in place integrated solutions to build the resilience of the coast for the future.

Investment in Infrastructure and Management

The Sefton Coast is already at risk from an increasing lack of resources to manage its special places. We will prepare and implement a **Sustainable Resourcing Plan** as our route map to resolve this tension that leads to new investment in improved management of the Sefton Coast through better sharing of resources, knowledge and capacity.

Sustainable Economic Growth of the Port of Liverpool

Expansion of the Port of Liverpool is required to harness the full potential of this transformational economic driver but its development will lead to partial or complete loss of internationally designated sites. Working together with the Regulatory processes habitat compensation for loss of designated sites in the port is required and the preparation and implementation of the **Access Gateway Master Plan** for the Crosby Coastal Park, is the route map to our contribution to help resolve this challenge.

Housing and Employment Growth

Sefton offers a highly valued residential and living offer for its citizens, but needs to build more houses to accommodate its growth in demand which will inevitably lead to increased visitor pressure. Sefton also seeks growth in employment opportunities for its residents but needs to create the places where businesses can grow and thrive, even those employment sites set away from the coast, create additional pressures on our natural environment. The Visitor Management Strategy is our route map to resolve this tension.

In addition to the seven big challenges, other challenges that more specifically relate to individual themes are addressed within the Topic Papers.

The Plan identifies a number of strategic actions, which together, comprise the



Delivery Plan.

The actions themselves are interconnected and interdependent and mutually inform and support each other.

The **Nature Conservation Strategy** and **Visitor Management Strategy** will be key amongst these in supporting the emerging Sefton Local Plan and ensuring compliance with the Habitats Regulations.

To help statutory organisations work together more efficiently for economic development projects on the coast, joint working practices have been prepared by the Marine Management Organisation. We have the opportunity to implement this approach in the Sefton Coast Plan area by signing up to the Coastal Concordat.

The parts of the Delivery Plan are symbolised to easily identify their integrated role to

implement the plan:



Nature Conservation Strategy;



Visitor Management Strategy;



Communications and Engagement Plan;



Adaptation and Sand Dune Management Plan;



Water Resource Plan;



Access Gateway Master Plans e.g. Crosby Coastal Park.

Other strategic actions include:

- Developing and implementing resourcing mechanisms to deliver resilience and sustainability of the Sefton Coast Plan through a Sustainable Resourcing Plan;
 - Monitoring any changes in law particularly in relation to Brexit;
 - Partners to sign up to the Coastal Concordat;
- and
- Undertake a review of the governance and operation of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and its groups.

Further to the development and implementation of the plans and strategies above there are a number of areas where we would seek to add value by:

- Supporting opportunities to develop skills and lifelong learning, employment, health and wellbeing, renewable energy and low carbon technology, port expansion, sustainable and inclusive growth; and

and

- Supporting the development of the Sefton Coast as a centre of excellence for monitoring and research.

The diagram below summarises the Sefton Coast Plan as a Plan on a Page.

Plan on a Page





Delivery Plan

A mechanism to identify how the Sefton Coast Plan will be implemented is needed because the plan itself does not provide the solutions. It does however provide the ambition and route map to find the solutions by working together to implement the Delivery Plan. As a partnership we are committed to the strategic action of preparing and implementing a delivery plan in close consultation with other partners **ready for adoption** of the Sefton Coast Plan.

The delivery plan is our “**Route Map to Resolution**”. It sets out how the challenges and tensions identified within the Sefton Coast Plan will be resolved. It will also help us realise the opportunities and full potential of the Sefton Coast. A challenge for the partners is to work together to identify, agree and implement those solutions. For each Strategic Action it is vitally important that the right people and organisations are involved. The task groups for the Partnership provide an excellent basis to move forward with the big challenges and strategic actions identified in the delivery plan – where there are gaps within the existing partnership arrangements these will be addressed as an early priority within the activity plan. Outcomes and outputs from the delivery plan such as the Nature Conservation Strategy, Visitor Management Strategy or Area-Based Master Plans will be consulted upon before they are finalised.

The Delivery Plan will include for each of the Strategic Actions, the following:

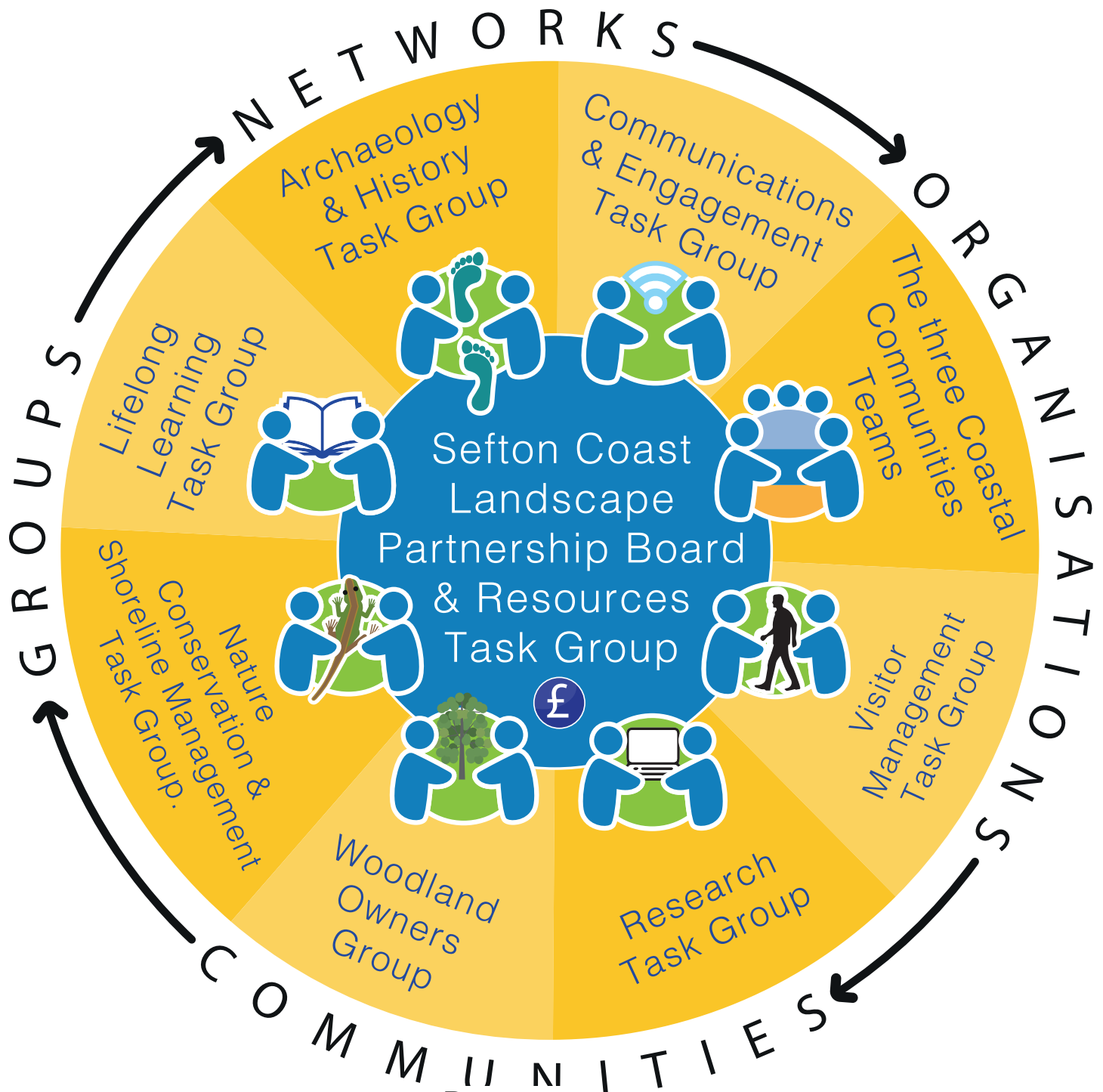
- A description of the Strategic Action;
 - An Activity Plan including actions, governance arrangements, milestones and target dates for completion of each activity;
 - Lead partner(s) and their role;
 - Other partner(s) and their role;
 - Estimate of cost and resources;
 - A Risk Management Assessment based on the likelihood and severity of impact of risks;
 - Outcomes and measures of success;
- and
- A mechanism for reporting progress to and being held accountable by the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership.

The Delivery Plan is also to be informed by a pipeline of projects that the Partnership is seeking to move forward.

As our Route Map to Resolution the Delivery Plan will be a live document, consulted upon, regularly updated and reported to the

Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Board and will need to be supported by strong partnership arrangements.

The Partnership

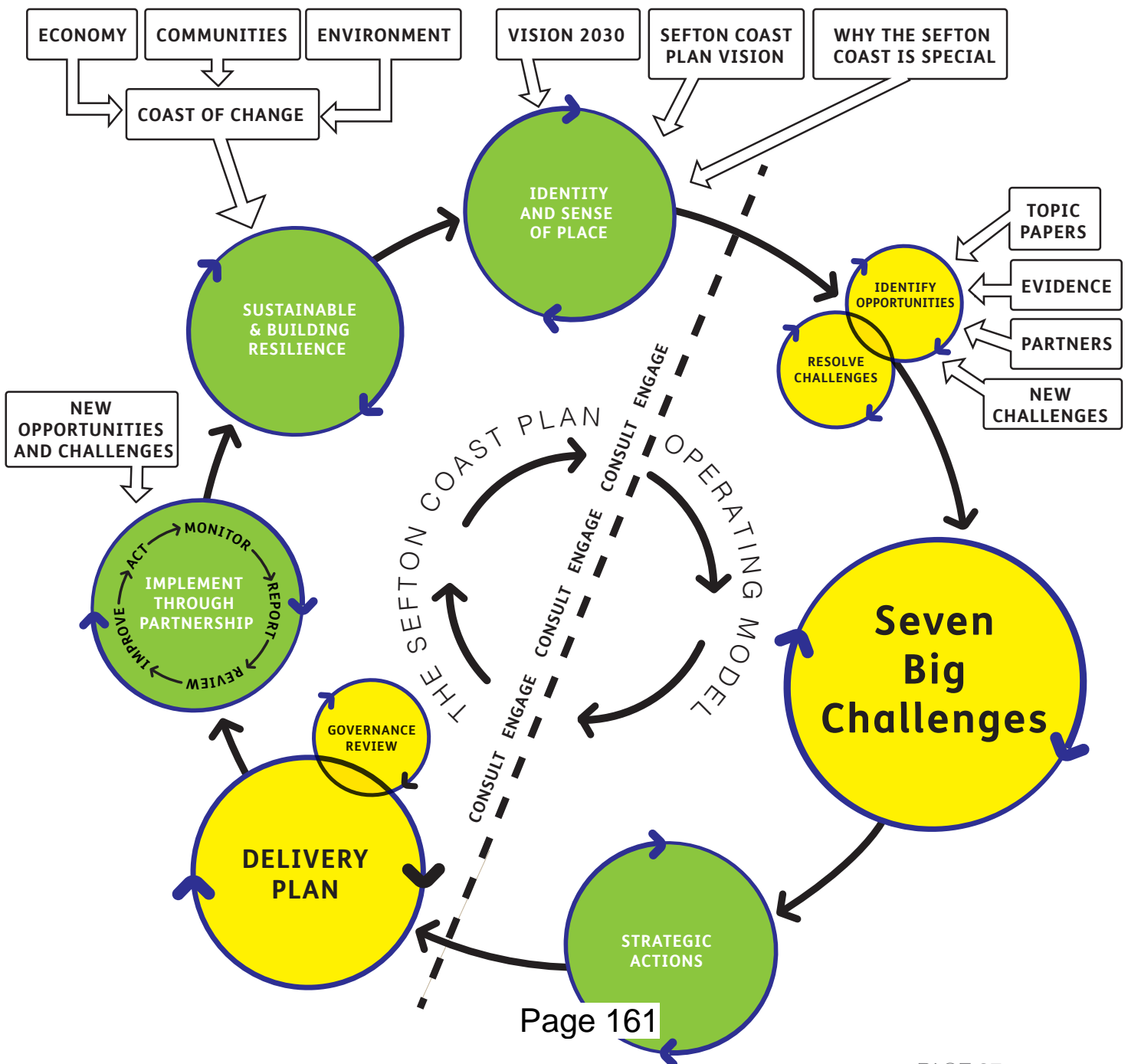


Monitoring, Reporting and Review of the Sefton Coast Plan

Regular monitoring and review is essential to ensure that the Sefton Coast Plan achieves its desired impact and outcomes, with a consistent approach to policy and legislation compliance.

This especially includes the monitoring of visitors to the coast and monitoring of the internationally important nature sites.

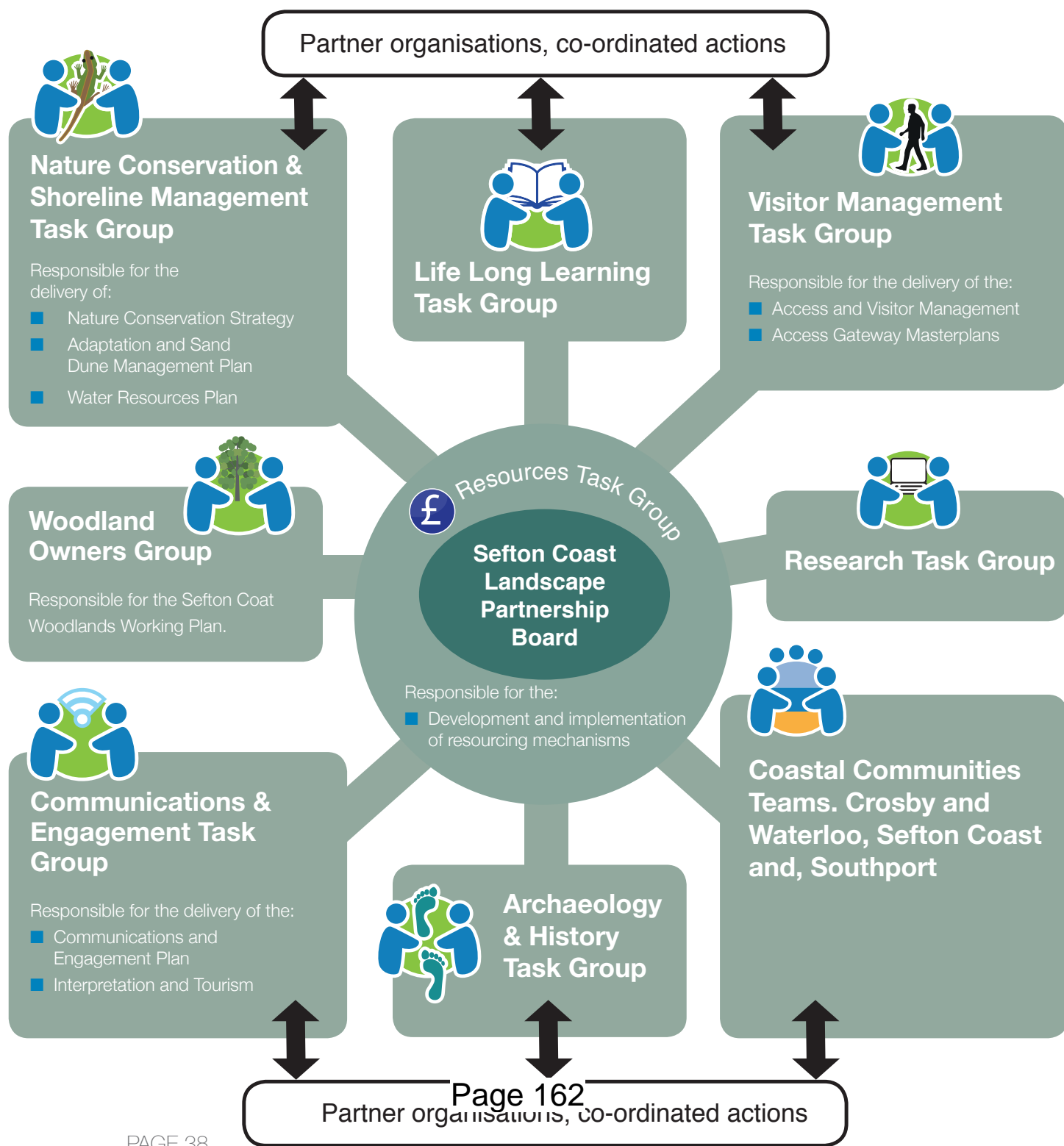
The Operating Model for the Plan



To ensure progress, the strategic actions set out in the Delivery Plan will include key milestone dates and detailed activity plans.

The Topic Papers will be updated as and when required due to such things as changes in our evidence and understanding or

changes in legislation. The Delivery Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and the entire Coast Plan will be reviewed approximately every five years or more often where additional strategic issues are identified or changes in legislation occur.



Glossary

Abstraction – the process by which water in its natural environment may be artificially removed through a manmade structure or by changing the flow of the water from its usual course to alternative other course.

Accretion – growth or increase by the gradual accumulation of additional layers of matter.

Aggregate extraction – the extraction of material or structures formed from a mass of fragments or particles loosely compacted together.

Aquifer – an underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock, rock fractures or unconsolidated materials from which groundwater can be extracted.

Artificial water body – a body of water that is not naturally occurring such as a man-made lake, as opposed to naturally occurring bodies of water, such as rivers or the sea.

Bathing Water Directive – a European Directive concerned with protecting human health and the environment from pollution.

Bridleway – a path or track along which horse riders have right of way.

Built heritage – the part of an area’s heritage that consists of buildings and structures, as opposed to natural or aesthetic assets.

Business continuity – planning and preparation to ensure that an organisation can continue to operate in case of new challenges or adversity.

Coastal Change Management Area – an area identified in a Plan as likely to be affected by coastal change (physical change to the shoreline through erosion, coastal landslip, permanent inundation or coastal accretion).

Coastal defences – measures taken to protect the coast against erosion and flooding by the sea.

Contaminated land – land where substances in or under the land make it actually or potentially hazardous to people’s health, or hazardous to the environment.

Conurbation – an extended urban area, typically consisting of several towns merging with the suburbs of a central city.

Dredging – the process of clearing the bed of a harbour, river, or other area of water by scooping out mud, weeds, and rubbish with a dredge.

Dynamic coast – a coast characterised by constant change or activity.

Ecology – the scientific analysis and study of interactions among organisms and their environment.

Erosion – the action of surface processes that remove soil, rock, or dissolved material from one location on the Earth’s crust, then transport it away to another location.

Glossary *(continued)*

European Marine Site

– marine areas of both Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), which are protected under the EC Habitats and Birds Directives.

Fauna – the animal life of any particular region or time.

Flora – plant life occurring in a particular region or time, generally the naturally occurring or indigenous— native plant life.

Fossil fuels – a natural fuel such as coal, gas or oil, formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms.

Fragmentation of habitat – where habitats are not connected resulting in smaller, less resilient habitats.

Geomorphology – the study of the evolution and configuration of landforms.

Good Environmental

Status – clean, ecologically diverse, healthy and productive.

Green Belt – an area of open land, on which building is restricted.

Groundwater – water held underground in the soil or in pores and crevices in rock.

Habitat – the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

Hard coastal defences – measures to protect the coast against erosion and flooding by the sea, by the introduction of man-made structures such as sea walls.

Hinterland – land lying behind something, especially a coast or the shore of a river.

Hydrography – the science of surveying and charting bodies of water, such as seas, lakes, and rivers.

Intertidal area – the area of seashore which is covered at high tide and uncovered at low tide.

Isle of Man Cabbage

– a plant of the cabbage family, known only from the west coast of Britain, including the Isle of Man. It is listed as “nationally scarce” and a “species of conservation importance in North West England”. The Sefton Coast dunes support some of the largest colonies in the country.

Kite surfing – the sport or past time of riding on a modified surfboard while holding on to a specially designed kite, using the wind for propulsion.

Appendix 1

History and examples of Achievements of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership

The Partnership's achievements were recognised in 1993 by the presentation of a Eurosite Quality Award for good practice in European nature management.

A major success was a European LIFE project which ran from 1995 to 1999 which enabled us to improve the coast through the preparation of a Nature Conservation Strategy, land purchases and the preparation and implementation of a number of site management plans.

In 2001 the Partnership prepared and reviewed the Sefton Coast Management Plan to promote best practice in coastal management, with an emphasis on cross-boundary working for the benefit of landscape, wildlife, amenity, heritage and economic activity.

The Heritage Lottery Fund backed Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme is a recent success of the Partnership. It ran from 2010 to 2015 and introduced thousands of visitors and the local community to the treasures of the Sefton coast.

The scheme promoted the cultural and natural heritage of the Sefton coast with the support of partnership members, offering activities for all ages. It celebrated

archaeology, prehistoric footprints, shipwrecks, and natural history with festivals, arts projects and events.

Access was improved with new and improved trails including the National Trust Asparagus Trail at Freshfield, Jim's Path at Ainsdale and Ravenmeols Trails at Formby. A new boardwalk was constructed at the National Nature Reserve at Ainsdale.

The scheme featured thousands of hours of volunteer time involving all the partners, with participants gaining a variety of skills, while benefitting from fresh air and exercise. Various publications were produced throughout the project and the Sefton Coast Woodland Plan was revised. Over 18 hectares of habitat were improved and based on this continued management through conservation grazing has been made possible with a Higher Level Stewardship project.

This successful scheme resulted in closer working relations between the Sefton Coast Landscape Partners with the development of the Sefton Coast Plan being part of the lottery scheme's legacy. A busy calendar of educational and community events, and increased volunteer involvement continues as does a flourishing social media presence - all keeping the momentum of the scheme going.

The Partnership is now poised to help drive forward implementation of the revised Sefton Coast Plan after it has been consulted upon and approved by the Board.

Agenda Item 10





Agenda Item 10

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

March 2017

Sefton
2030



SEFTON
COAST
PLAN



Report to:	Independent Remuneration Panel Council	Date of Meeting:	7 September 2017 21 September 2017
Subject:	Amendment to the Scheme of Members Allowances 2017/18		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	NO	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	NO		

Summary:

The purpose of the report is to propose an amendment to the Council's Scheme of Members' Allowances in relation to Members who have been appointed to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee for 2017/18.

Recommendation:

The Panel, having considered the information, recommend to the Council that the Members Allowances Scheme be amended to include a Special Responsibility Allowance of £5,875 per annum for each of the four Sefton Members serving on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee, along with the additional responsibility of the Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee and Lead Member Rail being paid an additional £9,975 as outlined within the report and as advised at the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To ensure that the governance arrangements of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee are applied and the four Sefton Members serving on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee receive their Members Allowances for this work undertaken.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

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Nil. The changes to accommodate the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee allowances would create an annual revenue cost to Sefton of £32,675. The Combined Authority will make similar savings as a result of the fact that it no longer pays Allowances to Merseytravel Committee Members As a result it is expected that a commensurate reduction in future levies to the Combined Authority will be used to net off the Council's additional costs. Discussions will need to take place with the Combined Authority to determine how the costs incurred in 2017/18 will be recovered as the levy has already been set for the year.

(B) Capital Costs

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):

The changes to accommodate the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee allowances would create an annual cost of £32,675. It is anticipated that the Combined Authority will make similar savings as a result of the fact that it no longer pays Allowances to Merseytravel Committee Members and discussions will therefore take place with a view to a commensurate reduction in future levies to the Combined Authority which will be used to fund the Council's additional costs. Discussions will need to take place with the Combined Authority to determine how the costs incurred in 2017/18 will be recovered as the levy has already been set for the year.

Legal Implications:

Equality Implications:

The scheme has regard to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 and other equality legislation and is designed to encourage diversity on the Council and facilitate local democratic engagement. The 2017/18 Members' Allowances Scheme promotes the role of a Councillor and the activities of elected members.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable

Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable

Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable

Place – leadership and influencer: Having Membership from Sefton on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee could increase the opportunities and benefits that may arise through collaborative working.

Drivers of change and reform: As above

Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: As above
Greater income for social investment: As above
Cleaner Greener: As above

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD.4799/17) has been consulted and notes the changes should bring about no increase in Costs for the Council. The expense of meeting the allowances for the four Sefton Members serving on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee should be offset by a corresponding reduction in the annual levy raised by the Combined Authority. The Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD.4083/17) has been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

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Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2042
Email Address:	ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Prior to May 2017, the Merseytravel Committee was largely responsible for overseeing the Combined Authority’s transport responsibilities, including making recommendations to the Combined Authority and taking decisions on matters delegated to it by the Combined Authority. From May 2017, this work will be undertaken by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority’s Transport Committee.
- 1.2 Previously, the allowances paid to Sefton Members appointed to the Merseytravel Committee were paid by the Council and reimbursed by Merseytravel.
- 1.3 From May, 2017 any allowances for Transport Committee Members must be paid and funded by each constituent authority within the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. In respect of Sefton, up to four Elected Members can be nominated to sit on the Transport Committee.
- 1.4 The Adjourned Meeting of the Annual Council on 16 May 2017 agreed that the four Transport Committee Members from Sefton would comprise:-

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Councillor McKinley;
Councillor Carr;
Councillor Friel – Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee; and
Councillor Dodd.

- 1.5 It is currently anticipated that the Elected Members nominated to the Transport Committee will carry out roles which are broadly in line the duties previously carried out on the Merseytravel Committee. Each nominated Elected Member should therefore receive a Basic Allowance in line with the previous rate as a nominated representative on the Merseytravel Committee.
- 1.6 In addition, and again in line with previous arrangements for the Merseytravel Committee, it is suggested that a Sefton Elected Member should receive a Special Responsibility Allowance for specific duties on the Transport Committee as Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee and Lead Member of Rail.
- 1.7 The governance arrangements for the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee are currently being reviewed and any proposed changes will be reported to the Independent Remuneration Panel and Council in due course.
- 1.8 The Members' Allowances for Elected Members of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council serving on the Liverpool City Region Transport Committee being as follows:-

Basic Allowance - £5,675;
Special Responsibility Allowance – Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee and Lead Member Rail - £9,975
- 1.9 The Panel, having considered the information, recommend to the Council that the Members Allowances Scheme for the Council be amended to include the allowances for the four Sefton Members serving on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee as outlined within the report.

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Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	21 September 2017
Subject:	Constitutional Changes		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To receive approval to make various minor constitutional changes as detailed in the report.

Recommendation(s): That:

(1) the Matters Delegated to the Full Cabinet contained in Part 5 of the Constitution be amended by the transfer of the following function:-

“35. Responses to consultation papers issued by the Government and outside organisations on strategic and corporate matters”

To the Responsibility For Executive Functions, Cabinet Members (General), B. Matters Delegated of the Constitution;

(2) the responsibility for “Coast” issues currently resting with the Cabinet Member – Locality Services be transferred to the Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing, be noted; and

(3) Council authorise the Cabinet to agree to delegate one or more Cabinet Members to act as its shareholder representative to a company and to determine what decision making powers that representative may have in that capacity.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To improve business continuity of the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None.

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What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

Not applicable.

(B) Capital Costs

Not applicable.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
Legal Implications: There is a statutory duty for the Council to amend and update the Constitution.
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: To ensure decision making is undertaken without delay.
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD.4849/17.) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD.4133/17) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

(Please delete as appropriate and remove this text)

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 The Council is required to agree or acknowledge changes made to its Constitution.
- 1.2 The Cabinet has delegated authority to respond to consultation papers issued by the Government and outside organisations on strategic and corporate matters. To ensure consultation papers are responded to in a timely order it is requested that those matters be delegated to the appropriate Cabinet Member. The Head of Regulation and Compliance be requested to amend the Constitution accordingly.
- 1.3 The Leader of the Council has reviewed the Cabinet Member Portfolios and in undertaking that review has transferred the responsibility of the “Coast” from the Cabinet Member Locality to the Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing and requests the Head of Regulation and Compliance to amend the Constitution accordingly .
- 1.4 Council has delegated authority to Cabinet to take all necessary steps to manage and safeguard any shareholding the Council owns in a company including but not limited to granting permissions, giving consents, and selling the shareholding as appropriate and where the Council is the sole shareholder, delegated authority be given to grant permission for further shares in a company to be issued.
- 1.5 As the Council explores new ways of working and starts to act more commercially its involvement in companies may increase and it is felt that more flexibility is required to aid efficient decision making and Cabinet should have authority to delegate to one or more Cabinet Members the authority to act as the Council’s

Agenda Item 12

shareholders representative(s) to a company and to determine what decision making power that representative(s) may have.

- 1.6 The Head of Regulation and Compliance be requested to amend the Constitution accordingly.

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	21 September 2017
Subject:	Membership of Committees 2017/18		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To advise the Council that Councillors Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh are no longer members of the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 20 July 2017, which has changed the Political Balance on the Council. To inform the Council that with effect from 29 August 2017 Councillors Bill Welsh and Marianne Welsh are now Members of the Labour Group. To also inform the Council that the change in proportionality affects the entitlement to formal Committee Places.

Recommendation(s):

- (1) That Council note that the change in proportionality results in an increase in the Labour Group entitlement of two committee places and a corresponding decrease in the Liberal Democrat entitlement of two committee places.
- (2) That this change be affected by adjusting the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- (3) That the Political Groups below report orally on the changes to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) in order to effect the revision to the allocation of Committee Places resulting from the change in proportionality:
 - The Labour Group to nominate one additional Member and one Substitute Member for both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills); and
 - The Liberal Democrat Group to lose one Member and one Substitute Member on both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- (4) That Political Groups report orally on other changes which they wish to make within their allocations of Committee Places.

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Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To effect the revision to the allocation of Committee Places resulting from the change in proportionality on the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

Not applicable

(B) Capital Costs

Not applicable

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
Legal Implications: The Chief Executive received formal notice of a change in the membership of the Liberal Democrat Group in accordance with Paragraph 9 (b) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. The allocation of Committee Places has been revised following the change in proportionality on the Council to meet the requirements of Paragraph 15 (d) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: : Not applicable
Commission, broker and provide core services: : Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: The proposals will ensure that appointments are made to the various Committees of the

Council in order to comply with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and to make appointments to those seats in accordance with Section 16.
Drivers of change and reform: : Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: : Not applicable
Greater income for social investment: : Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: : Not applicable

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4848/17.) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD4132/17.) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

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1. Introduction/Background

1.1 Councillor's Bill and Marianne Welsh gave notice that they had resigned from the Liberal Democrat Group with effect from 20 July 2017. With effect from 29 August 2017 Councillor's Bill and Marianne Welsh became Members of the Labour Group. This has changed the political balance on the Council and so a recalculation of the entitlement to formal Committee Places was undertaken which results in the Labour Group gaining two seats and the Liberal Democrat Group losing two places.

1.2 The change in proportionality is as follows:

Political Group	Number of Seats on Council	Entitlement to Committee Places	
		From 21 September 2017	Prior to 21 September 2017
Labour	40	50 (+2)	48
Liberal Democrat	14	18 (-2)	20 (-2)
Conservative	6	7	7
Independents	4	5	5
Independent (Councillor Dawson)	1	0	0
Independent Conservative (Councillor David Barton)	1	0	0

1.3 The revised allocation of Committee Places is as follows:

Committee	Places Available	Places Allocated to Political Groups			Independents
		Labour	Liberal Democrat	Conservative	
Audit and Governance	10	6	2	1	1
Licensing and Regulatory	15	9	4	1	1
Planning	15	9	4	1	1
O&S – Adult Social Care and Health	10	7(+1)	2(-1)	1	0
O&S Children's Services and Safeguarding	10	6	2	1	1
O&S – Regeneration	10	7(+1)	2(-1)	1	0

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& Skills					
O&S – Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services	10	6	2	1	1
TOTAL	80	48	20	7	5

- 1.4 The Labour Group and Liberal Democrat Group on the Council have been notified of the change to their entitlement of Committee Places and they have been requested to report orally on the changes to the membership of both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).
- 1.5 Political Groups may also report orally on other changes which they wish to make within their allocations of Committee Places.

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