

**COUNCIL MOTION
16 NOVEMBER 2023**

Proposer: Cllr Tony Brough

Seconded : Cllr Mike Prendergast

Subject: Southport Pier Maintenance

The recent report undertaken and published by the Council's nominated Consultants Thomasons included a section (page 5 of the Steelwork Inspection Report) that referred to an earlier consultative report on the condition of Southport Pier in 2017.

At that time the consultants identified remedial works required be undertaken to the structure - that were costed and estimated at £8.8 m.

Quoting from the current report.

Quote – “At this time it was decided to adopt a ‘Maintenance Painting’ solution at a cost of £1.5, while continuing to maintain and repair defects as they materialised”.

The current condition of the Pier clearly demonstrates that the ‘**solution**’ has failed.

Before the Council embarks upon a campaign to seek funding more than £13m to repair and refurbish the Southport's Pier can it be agreed by this chamber, that a realistic and budgeted provision for maintenance of the Pier is included in the Council's ongoing budgetary provisions and forward plan.

The adoption of an approved and costed maintenance provision would demonstrate Sefton Council's commitment to the Pier's refurbishment and its protection. It would also give comfort and confidence to external funders who will be concerned that without a formal commitment to ongoing maintenance of the structure, it's condition may again deteriorate to the point of closure and thereby discourage their appetite to contribute to the restoration project.

NOM:

Sefton Council recognises the need for a properly costed maintenance budget for the Southport Pier - and that the provision is formerly adopted into Sefton's ongoing budgetary provision.