

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Environmental
Cabinet

DATE: 26th February 2010
4th March 2010

SUBJECT: Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme

WARDS AFFECTED: Meols, Cambridge, Dukes, Ainsdale, Harrington, Manor,
Blundellsands, Church, Linacre

REPORT OF: Head Of Regeneration & Technical Services

CONTACT OFFICER: Graham Lymbery – Coastal Officer
Tel: 0151 934 2960

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval to procure survey services using the Buying Solutions Framework and to request that the Capital Programme be increased to reflect the revised cost of the project subject to Environment Agency approval.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Approval is required to proceed with the procurement and changes to the capital programme

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that subject to receiving 100% grant approval from the Environment Agency :

1) Halcrow Group Ltd are commissioned to undertake the survey via the Buying Solutions Framework at a cost of £295,000

2) the Capital Programme be increased to reflect the revised cost of the project.

KEY DECISION: NO

FORWARD PLAN: NO

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the call in period for the minutes of this meeting,

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Programme would either stop, be taken up nationally or another authority could take up the lead.

Loss of local control and experienced staff**IMPLICATIONS:****Budget/Policy Framework:**

Financial: There are no financial implications resulting from this report. The cost of the survey is estimated to be £295,000 and is subject to a successful application to the Environment Agency and 100% funding from grant.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	New grant approval			

Legal:**Risk Assessment:****Asset Management:****CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

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1. Background

- 1.1 Based on recommendations from the first round of Shoreline Management Plans a Cell 11 (North West England) wide coastal regional monitoring strategy was developed. An approval was received in October 2007 for a 100% grant funded three year programme from 2008-2011.
- 1.2 Sefton Council act as co-ordinator for the development and delivery of the programme on behalf of all the Authorities in the Coastal Cell.

2. Variation to the monitoring programme and spend profile

- 2.1 Sefton Council are seeking a variation to the programme from the funding body, the Environment Agency, to undertake bathymetric surveys.
- 2.2 Following recommendations and upon reviewing the programme the original budget of £100k was found to be insufficient to undertake the required bathymetric surveys. A request for 100% grant funding has been made to the Environment Agency based on a revised spend profile of £295k in 2010/11.

3. Procurement methodology

- 3.1 The survey would be procured through the Buying Solutions framework. Buying Solutions is the national procurement partner for UK public services. It is an Executive Agency of the Office of Government Commerce in the Treasury and the Environment Agency are in agreement with this proposal.
- 3.2 The primary role of Buying Solutions is to maximise the value for money obtained by Government departments and other public bodies through the procurement and supply of goods and services. Buying Solutions is a Trading Fund which is run on commercial lines, with responsibility for generating income to cover its costs and make a return to the Treasury.
- 3.3 Sefton Council have procured a number of products and services using the Buying Solutions framework.
- 3.4 The contractor selected through the Buying Solutions framework is Halcrow Group Ltd.
- 3.5 The survey will only be procured once approval to fully fund the project has been received from the Environment Agency.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that subject to receiving 100% grant approval from the EA :
 - 1)Halcrow Group Ltd are commissioned to undertake the survey via the Buying Solutions Framework at a cost of £295,000.
 - 2) the Capital Programme be increased to reflect the revised cost of the project..