

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 April 2018 13:23  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Proposed extension to current licence for Montrose

Dear [Redacted]

Firstly thanks for the comments on Montrose Port Authority's (MPA) draft BPEO they've been helpful. We are still awaiting the formal application & final BPEO as their sampling was delayed by the bad weather in March.

The same bad weather has also caused an increase in sedimentation in the harbour to the point MPA are having to turn vessels above a certain draught away, necessitating the need for a further campaign of dredging. The current sea disposal licence for MPA is valid until 29/4/18 however there seems to be difficulty in obtaining dredging plant and I understand MPA are seeking to use the same dredger Aberdeen have contracted once it's finished in Aberdeen Harbour. This is unlikely to be before 8/5/18.

MPA have requested an extension of a matter of weeks to their existing 3 year licence which given the circumstances MS-LOT would be minded to grant. It will be made clear that any extension should not be taken as endorsement of MPA's proposal to keep using the Lunan Bay disposal site and will not affect how we make our determination on any subsequent application. We will also be requiring MPA to communicate the need for this dredge with relevant stakeholders prior to any dredging activity.

If you have any comments about the above or want to discuss this proposed dredge in more detail please get in touch.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Scottish Government | Marine Scotland | 375 Victoria Road | Aberdeen | AB11 9DB

[Redacted]

General Queries: 0300 244 5046

[Redacted]

Website: <http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland>

Frequently  
Asked  
Questions

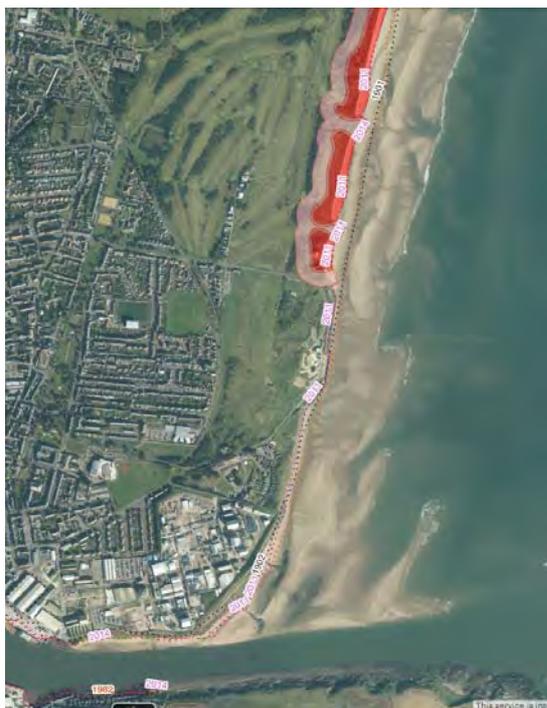
## Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group – Newsletter

The Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group met on the 9 February 2018 at the offices of Montrose Port Authority (MPA). The meeting was convened and chaired by officers of Angus Council, and attended by local councillors and representatives of SEPA, SNH, MPA, Marine Scotland and Montrose Golf Links Limited (MGLL).

The national and local context for coastal erosion and how this can be managed by the stakeholders at Montrose was discussed. The emphasis of the meeting was to be clear on the outputs of the various ongoing studies with a focus on mitigation and protection works.

**Montrose Flood Protection Study** by consultant AECOM on behalf of Angus Council. This study is a requirement of the **Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Flood Risk Management Plan**, which will assess whether flood defences and natural flood management can be used to reduce flood risk in order that a sustainable approach is taken and to consider the interactions between actions and effects on coastal processes along the shoreline. This study will be supported by ongoing work by consultant Partrac, who are specialists in sediment management, and who delivered the Sediment Tracer Study that confirmed the existence of onshore sediment transport pathways from nearshore deposition to the beach. The study takes forward the objectives of the **Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2**, which sets the policy for managing risks from erosion and flooding to the coast.

Montrose Bay has also been identified as one of five 'super-sites' under the second phase of the Scottish Government's **Dynamic Coast: Scotland's National Coastal Change Assessment** reference which aims to create a shared evidence base to support more sustainable coastal and terrestrial planning decisions in the light of a changing climate. The image below shows the changing position of the shoreline (Mean High Water Springs) from 1890s onwards for part of Montrose Bay. The second phase will forecast future change in the shoreline, anticipated damage and develop mitigation and adaptation plans with stakeholders.



## **Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group – Newsletter**

In addition to the above studies, a new **Coastal Flood Warning Scheme for Aberdeenshire & Angus** developed by JBA Consulting on behalf of SEPA will become available later in 2018. The scheme will improve the warnings of flood events from coastal events, based on developments in the mapping and understanding of coastal erosion, and forecasting the effects of coastal processes.

### **Outputs & mitigation and protection works**

The outputs of all of these studies are planned by the end of 2019, which will allow any actions including mitigation and protection works to be considered within the prioritisation for the 2022-28 flood risk management cycle. The prioritisation of these actions and the availability of funding from Scottish Government will then establish what sustainable and affordable actions are adopted in the next Local Flood Risk Management Plan. Match funding and contributions from the stakeholders and others will be a requirement for implementing the findings of the studies.

In the meantime, the Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group will seek any available alternative funding available in advance of 2022 for mitigation and protection works, and for ongoing surveys and monitoring.

### **Dredging and disposal**

MPA highlighted that the next maintenance dredge of the navigation channel at the port was planned for later in February 2018, subject to weather and tidal conditions. This material will be disposed of as per the existing Marine Scotland licence off Lunan Bay. Future disposal options are to be considered in the application for a new licence.

### **Golf Links**

The impacts of coastal change on golf courses around Scotland has been highlighted recently in the media following the publication of a study by the Climate Coalition. Montrose featured prominently in the coverage. MGLL will continue to pursue options to mitigate and protect the golf links, including physical coastal works as well as realignment and reconfiguration of the courses.

### **Montrose Common Good**

Much of the golf links at Montrose Bay are held on Common Good account, which is administered by Angus Council. The funding available for mitigation and protection of the golf links, which are leased to MGLL, is restricted by what is affordable from income generated and the overall amount held in the account. The Common Good has been a regular and significant contributor, as has Angus Council through other historic funding, to the development and delivery of actions in the Montrose beach management plan.

### **References:**

[https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/tay\\_estuary\\_and\\_montrose\\_basin\\_local\\_flood\\_risk\\_management\\_plan](https://www.angus.gov.uk/media/tay_estuary_and_montrose_basin_local_flood_risk_management_plan)

[https://www.angus.gov.uk/flooding/angus\\_shoreline\\_management\\_plan](https://www.angus.gov.uk/flooding/angus_shoreline_management_plan)

<http://www.dynamiccoast.com/webmap.html>

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 19 February 2018 17:00  
**To:** [Redacted]  
  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
  
**Subject:** Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group - Newsletter  
**Attachments:** Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group Newsletter February 2018\_Final.pdf

Dear All,

Many thanks for your responses to the draft newsletter, please find attached final copy for your use/distribution.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me or [Redacted]

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical  
& Property Services, Angus House, Ochardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 Februarv 2018 16:07  
**To:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Montrose Beach Stakeholder Group - Actions  
**Attachments:** Montrose Bay Stakeholder Group Newsletter February 2018.doc

Dear All,

Following last week's meeting, one of the actions was to produce a Newsletter for all the stakeholders to use as required. I would be obliged if you could by return provide any comments/changes to the proposed document.

Minutes will be issued later this week.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical  
& Property Services, Angus House, Ochardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

---

[Redacted]

**Subject:** Montrose Beach Stakeholder Group - Agenda

Dear All,

In advance of tomorrow's meeting, please find attached an agenda and the minutes of the previous stakeholder group.

The meeting will be at 10am in the boardroom at Montrose Port Authority's offices, (Postcode - DD10 9SL).

For those unable to attend, minutes of the meeting will be issued in due course.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical  
chardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** FW: Montrose Beach Stakeholder Group - Availability

Good Morning,

Following previous attempts to reconvene the stakeholder group prior to Christmas, I would like to invite you to a meeting on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (10:00am) at Montrose Port Authority Offices.

Please can you confirm your attendance at this meeting.

I will forward an agenda in due course.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical & Property Services, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** Montrose Beach Stakeholder Group - Availability

I am pleased to confirm that the report to Communities Committee was approved this afternoon – available via link:

<http://www.angus.gov.uk/sites/angus-cms/files/2017-11/382.pdf>

This included a recommendation for the Stakeholder group to meet.

I am therefore looking for suitable dates for the Stakeholder group to meet. I would therefore be grateful if you could advise me of your availability at the following times at your very earliest convenience. This email has been sent to all members of the group. I am anticipating the venue will be MPA Offices based on their previous hospitality for such.

2pm, 28 November;  
3pm, 30 November;  
10am, 5 December;  
3pm, 7 December; or  
10am, 8 December.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Technical & Property Services, **Place**,  
Angus Council, Angus House, Orchardbank, Forfar DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]



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**Minute of the Meeting of Montrose Stakeholder Meeting  
at Montrose Port Authority,  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 9:30hrs**

**Present:** [Redacted]

**Apologies:** [Redacted]

**Montrose Golf Links Committee, Marine Scotland, GlaxoSmithKline**

**1. Introduction**

[Redacted] welcomed all and thanked Montrose Port Authority (MPA) for hosting the meeting.

[Redacted] passed on the apologies for the meeting.

**2. Overview and Role of the Stakeholder Group**

[Redacted] gave an overview of the group and the erosion issues within Montrose bay, which Angus Council (AC) established as a formal group and sounding board for all stakeholders and regulatory bodies.

[Redacted] asked how matters from today's meeting would be communicated. WS referred this to item 7.

[Redacted] highlighted that Montrose Golf Links Limited (MGLL) require to be kept in close communication to keep their members informed.

**3. Note of Last Meeting**

Minute of last meeting were agreed.

**4. Sediment Tracing Study Findings**

[Redacted] gave an overview on the particle tracing exercise that was carried out over the year. The study commenced in April 2015 in partnership with MPA. Angus Council utilised the Shearwater dredger to use material from the channel with the tracers in a spoil location as shown on the circulated handouts (see appendix 1).

[Redacted] was asked what the annual dredge from the channel was and he advised that their average dredge is approx. 30,000cu.m. AC used approximately 7,000cu.m from a maintenance dredge as part of the tracing study. [Footnote: it is understood that the historic annual dredge quantity was 90,000cu.m]

[Redacted] described that the study results show a multi directionally sediment movement - see diagrams in Appendix 1.

Any subsequent material dumped within the bay would preferably be further north, but without impact to the SSSI (St Cyrus). This work has to be sustainable and appropriate; it would be a designed dumping of material and without impact on these or environmental issues.

[Redacted] highlighted that the type of dredger will have impact on the dump site and this must be a consideration for the future.

[Redacted] asked why the study dump site was picked. This was due to hopper size - and a managed risk for any impact to MPA – and proximity to the dune system.

## 5. Recent Developments

AC Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) is now published (<http://www.angus.gov.uk/smp2>)

Minor works undertaken from Beach Management plan (University of Dundee)

- Beach scraping
- Sediment management
- Rock armour movement
- Ramp access to be reinstated

[Redacted] highlighted the cost to MGLL in terms of the 3rd tee.

[Redacted] highlighted the fact that we need to co-ordinate all works within the bay and seek to report these collectively in the future.

## 6. Forthcoming Plans & Intentions of Group

Angus Council - are keen to promote a further tracer study in the bay utilising a full annual dredge. MPA could provide dredged material for the trial which can build confidence and evidence to continue to work with MPA and monitor the sediment in the future.

Montrose Port Authority - NSG weather patterns causing issues (e.g. easterly winds are problematic). Business shipping volumes and pressure that the channel is clear have increased. Trying to plan when you dredge is very difficult, but the MPA are keen to work with AC on a further study. [Redacted] will be carrying out a survey shortly ahead of further dredges. MPA will then plan their next dredge. Emergency dredge is a potential risk that we may face. MPA have dredged more regularly recently (3 times, 2 have been emergency). This becomes a commercial issue.

[Redacted] asked what the dredging issues were for the Port. [Redacted] advised it is the size of the vessels currently seeking to use the ports facilities.

[Redacted] asked about the dump site at Lunan, and if any tracing had been done there to consider impacts. Group advised that this is a deep water zone and likely to have no significant impact.

[Redacted] has to do an emergency dredge can some or all of this be dumped at the beach as an alternative to Lunan? [Redacted] was advised that the current dredge licence provided by Marine Scotland does not permit this. [Redacted] noted that current licence can be potentially amended if sought. Current licence is live until

April 2018. MPA cautioned that a licence change could be take time similarly to that of a new licence.

[Redacted] stated that beach recharge is the preferred option of MGLL.

There followed a general discussion around the table was regarding the implications of the dredging and the points noted above and below.

It was conjectured that a 4.8m tide with north easterly wind can easily incur a 1m depth to the channel.

The point of change on the beach for the longshore drift is flexible and can affect sediment transport. The previous trial dump site was close to the modelled point of the change. A further trial would assist in building evidence and confidence in results year on year.

[Redacted] contended that any emergency dredge would be better to be dumped off Lunan, as that material will not come back in. The evidence for this appeared to be anecdotal.

[Redacted] Iso contended that the Glaxo rock groynes are now creating a river to the ports channel during particular tide times.

Consensus of opinion was a preference for a substantial dredge in the next cycle to be retained in the Montrose coastal cell, which would require a new the sediment tracing license or modification to current MPA dredging licence. Separate discussion between MPA and AC to be held to review best options for licensing [Action: MPA/AC].

#### GlaxoSmithKline

No feedback following meeting.

#### Montrose Golf Links Limited

[Redacted] thanked AC for moving rock armour before Christmas. Concern remained over the erosion at the 'gully' but it appeared that the Sixth tee had settled down. MD to investigate and speak with MGLL [Action: MD].

### **7. Joint Communication from Stakeholders**

[Redacted] agreed to email a copy of newsletter to stakeholders for review and comment. This would be a joint communication of factual issues and the direction of the stakeholder group. AC with MPA to detail, and share with all interested parties soon after meeting. MSPs will be also be updated following this meeting given the direct interest they have shown. [Action: WS]

### **8. Next Stakeholders Meeting**

Local government elections will be held on 4 May 2017, so a meeting before summer recess may be challenging. August date for next Stakeholder Group meeting proposed by which time an action plan for 2017 can be prepared and reviewed.

[Redacted] noted that there would need to be due consideration on the current and new MPA dredging licence with Marine Scotland, who were not represented at this meeting.

## 9. AOCB

[Redacted]

will be commissioning a Flood Protection Study for Montrose under their Flood Risk Management (Scotland) 2009 responsibilities.

<b>Action List</b>		
Action Number	Details	Owner
1	Investigate erosion at the 'gully'	█
2	Angus Council to circulate newsletter for comment prior to communication to others, including MSPs	█
3	MPA and Angus Council to meet to determine best licence option for full scale dredge trial	██████████
4	Angus Council to arrange next Stakeholder Meeting	█

Montrose Stakeholder Group

10:00AM 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Montrose Port Authority Harbour Office

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Overview and Role of Stakeholder Group
3. Note of last meeting
4. Sediment Tracing Study
5. Recent Developments
  - a. Dynamic Coast
6. Forthcoming Plans & Intentions of Group
  - a. Angus Council
  - b. Montrose Port Authority
  - c. GlaxoSmithKline
  - d. Montrose Golf Links Limited
7. Joint Communication from Stakeholders
8. Next Stakeholders Meeting
9. AOCB

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 08 February 2018 10:49  
**To:** [Redacted]

**Cc:**  
**Subject:**  
**Attachments:** 2017 03 16 - Montrose Stakeholder Meeting Minutes FINAL.pdf; Stakeholder Group 8 February 2018 Agenda.pdf

Dear All,

In advance of tomorrow's meeting, please find attached an agenda and the minutes of the previous stakeholder group.

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Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical & Property Services, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

---

[Redacted]

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10am, 5 December;  
3pm, 7 December; or  
10am, 8 December.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Technical & Property Services, Place,

Angus Council, Angus House, Ochardbank, Forfar DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 25 January 2018 10:31  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** FW: Montrose Beach Stakeholder Group - Availability

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Please can you confirm your attendance at this meeting.

I will forward an agenda in due course.

Regards,  
[Redacted]

[Redacted] Engineering & Design Service, Roads Division, **Place** - Technical  
& Property Services, Angus House, Ochardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

---

[Redacted]

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3pm, 30 November;  
10am, 5 December;  
3pm, 7 December; or  
10am, 8 December.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Technical & Property Services, Place,

Angus Council, Angus House, Ochardbank, Forfar DD8 1AN Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]



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**Review of:**

**ABPmer (2017) Coastal Processes Assessment, Montrose and surrounding coastline. ABPmer Report No. R.2848. ABPmer on behalf of Montrose Port Authority.**

As a desk-based report this represents a fair summary of the work that has been done in the past on the changes seen in Montrose Bay. My comments below focus on the way which the evidence has been interpreted and this affects its reliability for addressing the questions presented by erosion within Montrose bay. These questions are laid out as aims within the report as:

1. To provide an up to date understanding of the processes operating on this stretch of coast and contributing to the ongoing retreat of the golf course frontage.
2. To establish whether there is a potential relationship between channel dredging and erosion at the golf course frontage.
3. To establish whether sediment feed would be an option for future management.

**Aim1.**

The report does a good job in summarising the hydrodynamic context in terms of tidal current and adds detail to an, as yet, incomplete wave climate. However, the latter is not backed up by detailed wave refraction analysis that would identify any putative north or south potential for longshore currents and any potential for directional sediment transit. The short-term sediment tracer experiment by Partrac shows sediment transit both to the north and south that may be seasonally driven, with northerly movement in winter (the season when highest waves and erosion occur at Montrose) and southerly movement under NE waves (arguably a secondary wave approach direction, given the wind and wave rose data in the ABPmer report). Any southerly sediment movement appears to have historically accumulated on Annat Bank, whose southern flank is controlled by the exit of the river South Esk. Crucially, only directions rather than quantities are detailed in the Partrac report. In the ABPmer report the longshore transit question is qualified by a suggestion that sediment transits on/offshore have not been quantified in published work. However, despite not being quantified in the ABPmer report either, weight is given to the importance of loss of sediment to below wave closure depth as a partial explanation of ongoing upper foreshore erosion. Part of this limb of the argument lies in the behaviour over time of MLWS since upper foreshore loss would be expected to be reflected in lower foreshore gain as well as losses to closure depth in the nearshore. Available on Digimap, a cursory look at MLWS movement shows landward migration of MLWS from 1903 to 2013 to match and sometimes exceed MHWS landward movement, particularly over recent decades and especially in the south close to the Annat Bank which forms the northern limit of the dredge channel (the chrono-sequence implications of which are expanded under Aim 2 below). Reduction in the extent of Annat Bank is one of the reasons that the southern part of the bay has required coastal defences to be inserted at GKN, South Links and the Faulds. Once inserted, these defences have very likely further contributed to beach lowering and further sediment losses along this part of the frontage that will have affected the adjacent intertidal both north and south. A

defendable interpretation is that sediment losses to closure depth and beyond certainly occur, but they are secondary to alongshore sediment transits, a transit that is dominated by northward movement. It is widely recognised that northward movement dominates along the golf course frontage and beyond leading to erosion in the south and substantial accretion in the north at St Cyrus. Over recent years there is now leakage of sediment beyond St Cyrus that has not been recognised or reported on previously. My interpretation is that this leakage results from sediment eroded from the south to accumulating at the north end of Montrose Bay. This allows the beach to advance seaward with enhanced lower foreshore and nearshore elevations allowing sediment to increasingly escape to the north. An indicative time-series sediment budget analysis matching the beach and dune volumes lost in the south against the beach and dune volumes gained in the north would help quantify any unaccounted-for losses (ie to the nearshore and southward into the dredge channel).

Aim 1 of this report is thus only partially addressed and leaves a series of unanswered questions relating to wave climate, the status of MLWS and Annat Bank and their relationships to the adjacent intertidal areas both to the north and south.

**Aim 2.**

Given the above, the report fails to make a convincing argument in disproving any linkage between erosion around the golf course frontage and the dredging removal of sediment in the south. Much is based on the existence of a net southerly sediment transit into the dredge area. That this transit occurs is evidenced by the Annat Bank on the northern side of the exit of the South Esk and the dredged channel. The area of Annat Bank (south of the Pavilion) historically has been much larger and extended further seawards than is now the case and is now about 12% of its 1903 extent (Table 1) with a concomitant reduction in its volume.

Year	Extent (m <sup>2</sup> )	%
1903	394,000	100%
1971	267,000	18%
2013	48,000	12%

Table 1 Areas of Annat Bank, south of Pavilion (excluding intertidal area seawards of Traill Drive).

The migration landward of MLWS at Annat Bank has been dramatic, particularly over recent decades, yet is not remarked upon at all in the ABPmer report. Its shrinkage would certainly affect wave refraction patterns, exposing the foreshore immediately to the north to enhanced wave energy and leading to beach lowering (exacerbated by insertion of coastal defences in response). Immediately to the south lies the channel where dredging to maintain a depth of 5.5m below CD has required annual removal of 20,000-100,00 cubic metres of sediment since 1984, to date a total of more than 1.5 million cubic metres of sediment. Since the Annat Bank has historically intercepted southward moving sediment, its shrinkage over recent decades means that more of this sediment now reaches the channel and requires to be dredged to maintain depths. If, as seems probable, the shrinkage of the Annat Bank is related in part to the removal of sediment dredged from the adjacent channel, its shrinkage is matched by, and affects, adjacent beach lowering immediately to the north. It follows that such a local sediment deficit will negatively affect the volume of sediment available to beach areas to the north and

contribute to ongoing erosion. My interpretation is that the evidence suggesting that a functional linkage exists between dredging and erosion further north is much stronger than the case for no linkage between the two.

Aim 2 of the report is not achieved, in my view.

### **Aim 3.**

The report seeks to establish whether sediment feed using maintenance dredgings would be a viable option for future management. In this regard, the report is more positive and identifies a potential benefit in using dredgings to enhance beach volumes to the north of the Faulds and begin to address the erosion problem there. However, if beach lowering adjacent to the Faulds is a contributor to erosion further north along the golf course frontage then any beach feeding programme might profitably be started at, or south of, this point to allow sediment to extend north (there is an under-represented risk to the shore to the south of the Faulds where the ports other neighbours would benefit from, and may demand, sediment feed). This accepts that there will be a minor amount of sediment that will move south, as indicated by the Partrac tracer study, may accumulate on the Annat Bank and, in the short term, enter the dredged channel. However, over the medium term, partial regrowth of the Annat Bank may be anticipated that will in time reduce any sediment leakage into the dredged channel. As far as the Montrose Bay sediment budget is concerned, the main attributable sediment losses are to sediment loss from flushing of the S. Esk exit and dredging of its channel in the south and sediment leakage in the north. It follows that these two loss areas are potential recycling sources for natural Montrose Bay sediments. The reintroduction of dredged sediment into the Montrose Bay system would be of clear benefit and likely to reduce the rate of erosion north from the Annat Bank, benefiting the Faulds and golf course frontages. So too would recycling of sediment lost northward at St Cyrus. The exact location and volumes of sediment won from this source would require careful consideration, but might centre on the subtidal sediment-rich areas beyond the NNR & SSSI boundary.

Aim 3 of the report is delivered but could have been more fully articulated in the context of the sediment budget of the whole of Montrose Bay. In my view, the ABPmer report focuses more on constructing a case to reduce the impact of sediment delivery back to the dredged channel rather than emphasising the wider benefits of recharging the intertidal foreshores to the north of the dredged channel (including the GSK frontage).

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

12 Sept 2017

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 September 2017 15:07  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** ABPmer review...sorry for delay been on leave.  
**Attachments:** Review of ABPmer Montrose report 13 Sept.docx

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Reader, School of Geographical & Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow.  
Glasgow G12 8QQ  
United Kingdom.

[Redacted]

The University of Glasgow, [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 02 July 2018 11:11  
**To:** MS Marine Licensing; nsg@montroseport.co.uk; [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: 174004 Montrose Entrance Channel capital Dredge

[Redacted]

The Ports previous 3 year maintenance licence expired in April and as such they applied for a new three year licence on the 26 April 2018. This licence allows for the entrance channel to be maintained at -5.5m CD. It is critical that this is renewed as the channel is susceptible to loss of depth especially after bad weather from the east and the Port need to be in a position to carry out necessary works at any time should it be required to allow safe passage into the Port. To date they have still to receive the public notice template to be published in the local press allowing the 28 consultation period to commence.

With regards the proposed capital dredging this is something that the Port have been considering for some time in response to the changing vessel type using the Port. They are looking to increase the published channel depth from -5.5 CD to -6.5 CD this increase of 1.0 m will allow the Port to have a larger time window for the transit of larger vessels in and out of the Port.

As such the question we were asking was, could we use the sampling test results carried out for the maintenance dredge application in the submission for a capital licence . If not and fresh sampling was required then we were looking for advice as to whether additional grab sampling would be adequate or whether we would require to carry out vibrocoring.

Trust this clarifies matters but should you wish to discuss further do not hesitate to contact us.

As indicated above the Port are concerned that they do not have a maintenance dredging licence in place and hope that their current application can be processed as soon as possible.

[Redacted]

---

[Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: 174004 Montrose Entrance Channel capital Dredge

[Redacted]

I think [REDACTED] has tried calling in the past about this. He is currently out of the office, but I could try and help.

Can you tell why is the capital dredge needed (if the maintenance dredge is taking 1m away)? If you do need both, does that mean you are dredging 2m?

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** FW: 174004 Montrose Entrance Channel capital Dredge

**Montrose Port Maintenance & Capital Dredging Licence Applications**

With regards below we are still waiting on a reply as to what if any sampling is required with regards an application for a capital dredge Licence.

The Port have also submitted an application for a Maintenance Dredge Licence for the next three years. To date they have had little response to this application particularly as to any advert which would have to be published in the local press.

As both these applications are critical to the Ports operations could you please advise as to what is required as soon as possible.

Should you require any further information do not hesitate to contact us.

[Redacted]

---

[Redacted]

**Subject:** 174004 Montrose Entrance Channel capital Dredge

[Redacted]

Montrose Port Authority have asked me to progress an application for a Dredging & Disposal Licence for a capital dredge of the entrance channel at the Port. The area to be dredged is as shown on the attached AH drawing 174004 – 001 Rev B. The dredge level will be increased from the existing minimum level of -5.50 CD to -6.50 CD meaning that the dredge depth would be 1.0m.

The quantity of material to be removed is 56,000 cu.m. The Marine Scotland guidance indicates that 6 samples should be taken for this quantity.

As you are aware the Port have already applied for maintenance dredging licence which is being processed at this time. As part of the application a number of grab samples were taken and tested as shown on the attached sampling plan which was agreed with the ML. As you can see Samples SS5 –SS10 cover the area where the Port are now wanting to carry out the Capital Dredge.

Can you please advise as to the following;

- As the proposed dredge is no greater than 1.0 m would grab sampling be ok.
- If grab sampling acceptable could the sampling and subsequent testing results taken at the locations indicated above in relation to the maintenance dredge application be used to support the capital application.

Trust the forgoing is in order but should you require any further information or wish to discuss do not hesitate to contact us.

[Redacted]

**Arch Henderson LLP**

8 Prospect III Business Centre, Gemini Crescent, Dundee Technology Park, Dundee, DD2 1TY

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 02 September 2017 09:44  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Re: more Ministerial correspondence

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/angus-mearns/502005/port-exonerated-over-dredging-link-to-montrose-coastal-erosion-crisis/>

The Courier today. It is very clear that MPA are choosing to use the report to shift their dredging activities from a contributor to coastal erosion to a contributor to the solution. Good news overall but not founded on sound evidence.

Regards,

[Redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 Sep 2017, at 00:39, [Redacted]

[Redacted]

The MPA report was passed to me on Thursday. We are still reviewing this. [Redacted] have kindly offered to review also.

In the interim here are my early thoughts:

The report seeks to answer two questions:

Is there a link between dredging the navigation channel and ongoing erosion at the MGLL frontage?; and

▪What are the management options for protecting the golf course including beneficial use of dredge material?

The report is really seeking to prove that the dredging of the navigation channel was not the cause of the dune erosion at the golf, which the the Port feels is what they are being accused of in the court of public opinion. In reality it has never been said that the dredging was the cause, merely a major contributor given the sediment deficit that the dredging introduces.

The dredging has lost over 1.5million cu.m of sediment from the coastal cell since 1984 at a rate of circa 50k cu.m per year. There have been three years over this period when 100k or more has been dredged and dumped. This is in the report. This loss represents sediment deficit as it lost to the coastal cell.

The evidence is that there are large quantities of sediment moving towards St Cyrus with the northerly longshore drift from The Splash north. The longshore drift is to the south from The Splash to the Annat Bank and River South Esk channel. This is accepted in the report, which is encouraging for beach recharge and the possible use of dredged material to balance localised areas of sediment deficit/erosion.

As a rule of thumb, on the basis of 2m per year erosion along the golf course frontage of say 2km of a dune 10m high, then this would amount to 40k cu.m. Therefore to answer your question the 50k cu.m per year on average or 100k cu.m from peak dredging would make a difference. The challenge is of course to get it from the navigation channel onto the beach.

We will pull together a more detailed review of the MPA Report, ideally by the end of next week. For now, I hope that the above is useful.

Regards,

[Redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Sep 2017, at 18:05, [Redacted]  
wrote:

Hi

I'm looking for some information about sediment lost to the Montrose system. MPA is licenced to dredge up to 100,000m<sup>3</sup> a year. It would be good to know how much of this amount might contribute to total sediment lost if it was transferred to the beach instead of the designated site offshore.

Do we have this information and how big a difference would it make?

Also has anyone seen the MPA report that [Redacted] mentioned would be ready soon?

For information there has also been more interest from the Courier today.

I will be away next week so can you please copy [Redacted] into your replies as he is helping me with the response.

Thanks.

[Redacted]

Scottish Government  
Environmental Quality Division  
Managing Flood Risk Team  
3H(S)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted] @snh.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 21 August 2017 11:22  
**To:** [Redacted] glasgow.ac.uk; [Redacted] glasgow.ac.uk  
**Subject:** Cab Sec quoted on FaceBook re Montrose erosion

I've just been sent a [link](#), which I've copied and pasted in case facebook is restricted in SG... It was from the 'Protect Montrose' page.

"Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform visited Montrose beach and links on Tuesday before attending the Scottish Cabinet. This allowed Ms Cunningham to see and hear first hand of the impacts of erosion on the links. Ms Cunningham later commented at the public meeting that the natural dune defences not only protect the golf links but also Montrose from flooding. It was also noted that all agencies and stakeholders need to continue to work together to establish solutions."

The actual words used by Roseanne Cunningham at the Montrose discussion were as follows:-

"I feel a little bit responsible for the renewed interest in the whole area of coastal erosion because it was the publication a couple of weeks ago of the Government's national coastal change assessment which triggered a lot of more recent coverage of this.

“What that showed was that the rate of coastal erosion that we’ve become accustomed to and we were calculating for was hugely under what in reality we are going to be facing.

“It’s going to be a lot faster and there is going to be a lot worse erosion than we’ve been accustomed to and it will affect a lot of different assets.

“The reason why the golf course in Montrose is so much of an issue because it is physically on the front line.

“I did at 9am this morning go down with a number of people from the council and other who are involved have a look at what’s happening at that point.

“The sand dunes historically were our defence against erosion but they themselves are now under threat.

“The important thing for Montrose to understand and for us all to be thinking about in terms of how we deal with this going forward is that if that front line defence goes then it’s not just coastal erosion that we are dealing with it’s also flooding. There are two issues that get caught up together. There’s a lot of work being done.

“I’ve seen examples of rock armour defences. I think there is a big debate going on just now about better defences that comes out of sediment management. There are quite complicated, technical issues around that because the big single engineered solutions tend to only work for a relatively short time and then you’re back to where you might have been before.

“It’s a significant challenge but there are a lot of people working very closely together. What’s important about the working is that it’s got to be cross sector and it’s got run up and down the whole coast. You can’t just isolate a bit of coast and make that work. It’s a very big issue not just for Montrose but for a lot of other areas as well. It’s a big issue that is going to have to be dealt with but it will involve all of us – government, local authorities, stakeholders, land owners as well all going to have to come together to work out the longer term solution.

“I suspect the longer term solution will not be the rock armour which is being used as a short-term stop gap at the moment.

[Redacted]

Scottish Government Placement

Scottish Natural Heritage

Inverness

IV3 8NW

Office : [Redacted]

Mobile : [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

Review of	ABPmer (2017) Coastal Processes Assessment, Montrose and surrounding coastline. ABPmer Report No. R.2848. A report produced by ABPmer for Montrose Port Authority.
Reviewer	[Redacted] Project Manager Dynamic Coast. Scottish Government placement with Scottish Natural Heritage.
Review for	Scottish Government & Angus Council.
Date	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
Status	In Confidence

**Summary:**

The evidence within the report is partial and therefore the conclusions drawn by the author and Montrose Port Authority are premature. The inclusion of publicly available information on the intertidal area between the navigation channel and the golf course links to the north, significantly changes the balance of evidence. Changes to the Annat Bank and Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) to the north have not been included in the review, yet would be the cornerstone of an argument to disprove the link between dredging effects propagating northwards. Within the last 40 years ca. 1.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of sediment has been removed from the South Esk dredged channel, at the same time the adjacent Annat Bank has reduces to ca. 15% of its size in the 1970s (Figure 1). This loss of ca. 250,000m<sup>2</sup> of intertidal foreshore is highly likely, in my opinion, to have adjacent effects on waves, tidal currents and the stability of adjacent (northern) shores. In layman’s terms the Annat Bank was the plug keeping the beach out of the South Esk navigation channel to the south. The dredging has not occurred in isolation, and other factors are likely to have affected this part of Montrose Bay too (sea level, sediment supply and wave climate etc.).

In its current form this report is unreliable; it also fails to adequately reflect the true risk within Montrose Bay, which when MLWS is considered is worse than otherwise thought from GlaxoSmithKline to Golf Links frontage.

There are substantial points to consider regarding the availability of reliable information to support an informed license application, and the gap between the minimum required to receive a license and the more lofty ideals of what was initially intended in Best Practical Environmental Options review.

There is much for us (Scottish Government and Angus Council) to consider together here at Montrose and elsewhere as we consider how to improve our management of the shoreline as climate change increasingly affects Scotland coastline.

**Detailed Notes:**

The report clearly lays out key reports and evidence on the changes within Montrose Bay. Following this it poses two questions of the assembled summary: are the dredging operations linked to the erosion at the golf course dunes, and would sediment feed be beneficial.

The compiled evidence appears convincing, but fails to include certain evidence to reliably disprove the potential connection between dredge and adjacent erosion. Once additional information is considered, the report’s conclusions are unreliable, and the [headlines in the Courier](#) are misleading.

Consideration of MLWS is absent throughout the report. This is particularly important within the section linking the dredged channel and the beach in question to the north at Montrose golf course. The absence of this information is critical, as this area (Annat Bank and its northern flank) geographically links the two areas in question, but would also demonstrate a process connection, or otherwise.

The changes to Annat bank over the last 100 years have been considerable, yet are not mentioned in the report. I do not know why they haven’t been included and I don’t infer anything from their absence. From a comparison of Angus Council’s Shoreline Management Plan maps and current OS mapping it is clear to see its extent has radically altered in the last four decades or so, during which time 1.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of sediment has been removed from the adjacent dredged channel. I’m not asserting causality, as there are other factors which have also influenced the beach (sea level, wave climate & orientation and natural sediment supply processes). But in my opinion the dredging is

likely to have exacerbated broader processes and thus have had a detrimental effect on the shore to the north.

My analysis (Figure 2) shows that Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) has retreated almost twice as fast as the dune vegetation edge in recent years. Which is expected as the beach face is more closely connected to the processes shaping them. In a similar way MLWS should strongly reflect changes to sea level, wave climate and sediment supply (natural and human induced) as it is covered by the tide more often than MHWS. The retreat of MLWS in the recent OS mapping, along the entire frontage, along with the near absence of Annat Bank, is deeply concerning.

Annat Bank formed an intertidal triangle of sediment at the southern end of the bay, which (when in equilibrium) would have interacted with the waves, to form an arc shape where the beach is close to parallel to the incoming waves. In this situation long shore drift would (nearly) stop moving sediment south. The near complete removal of this feature over the last 40 years ensures that when sediments move south from the drift divide at the Faulds, they do not stop until it is in the dredged channel.

In layman's terms, the Annat Bank was the 'plug' that stopped the beach from washing into the South Esk's channel, where tidal flow washes the sediment offshore, but also where up to 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> is removed annually.

So I find the conclusions of the report unreliable. The loss of this key landform which stabilises adjacent intertidal areas is related to adjacent foreshore changes to the north (i.e. golf course frontage). The loss of Annat Bank may not be solely down to dredging operations, as wider changes are also occurring (sea level, wave climate, natural and human restricted sediment supply etc.) but in my opinion they are highly likely to have had a detrimental effect on adjacent shores. Nevertheless foreshore steepening across Montrose Bay is now evident from the OS's updated MLWS line, so the problems are larger than many have been claiming.

Turning to the second question the report poses, yes sediment feed is likely to have some beneficial impact. But what is underlined by the report is the missed opportunity the last few decades have been. If available today the 1.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of sediment would stretch the 600m the golf club are so concerned about, and would build a dune 30m high and 80m wide. This is perhaps an unfair hypothetical scenario as the sediment is lost, but it demonstrates a 'resource that has not been valued', to echo the concept within the Cabinet Secretary's [keynote speech](#) for Dynamic Coast.

In my opinion, the reports recommendation to position the beach feed to the north of the drift divide, appears to reflect a greater concern to limit the return of sediment south (along with associated costs), at the expense of the foreshore protecting the defended shores of GlaxoSmithKline, South Links caravan Park and the Faulds area. The inclusion of MLWS within the review would highlight the broader need for beach feeding over a wider area, not just the golf course frontage.

In the absence of specifically commissioned survey data the public sector relies on the veracity of key datasets, in this case the Ordnance Survey tide lines. The lack of update between 1990s and 2013 for MLWS has obscured the disappearance of Annat Bank. Something that I suspect has not to have been picked up within the licensing process; and perhaps something we can reflect on.

Whilst all should be encouraged in the recent shared interest between the Montrose Port Authority and Montrose Golf Links Limited in joint solution, opportunities may also be realised in strengthening the licensing approach to ensure we don't have to wait for hindsight and irregularly updated maps to be alive to these issues. As climate change continues to affect Scotland's soft coast, we will need to look at the gap between the (minimum) sufficient efforts required to gain a license to dredge/dispose and the original more lofty intent of a Best Practicable Environmental Option. This is a matter that [Redacted] is alive to and we've had initial discussions about.

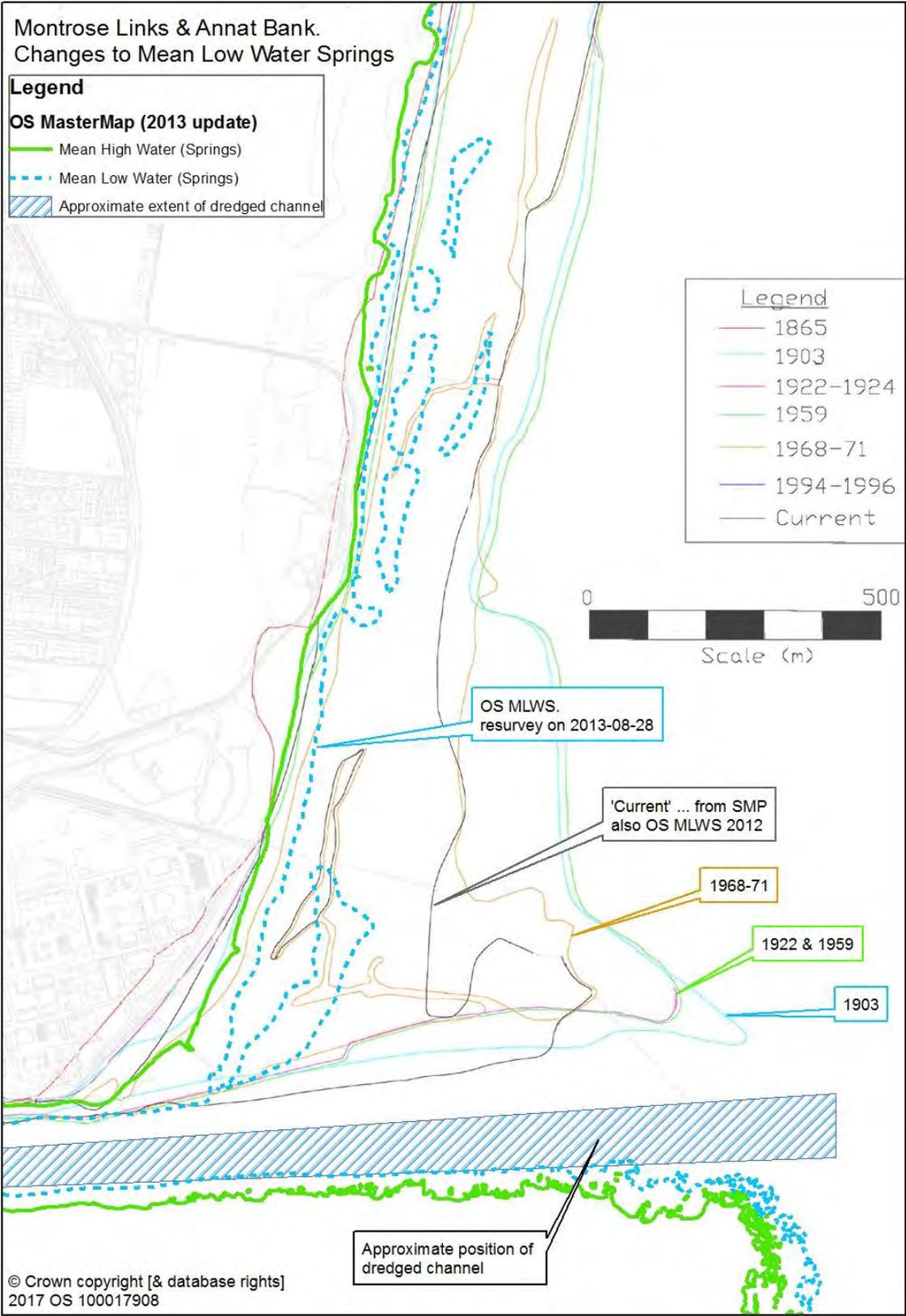


Figure 1 Montrose & Annat Bank: Changes to Mean Low Water Springs

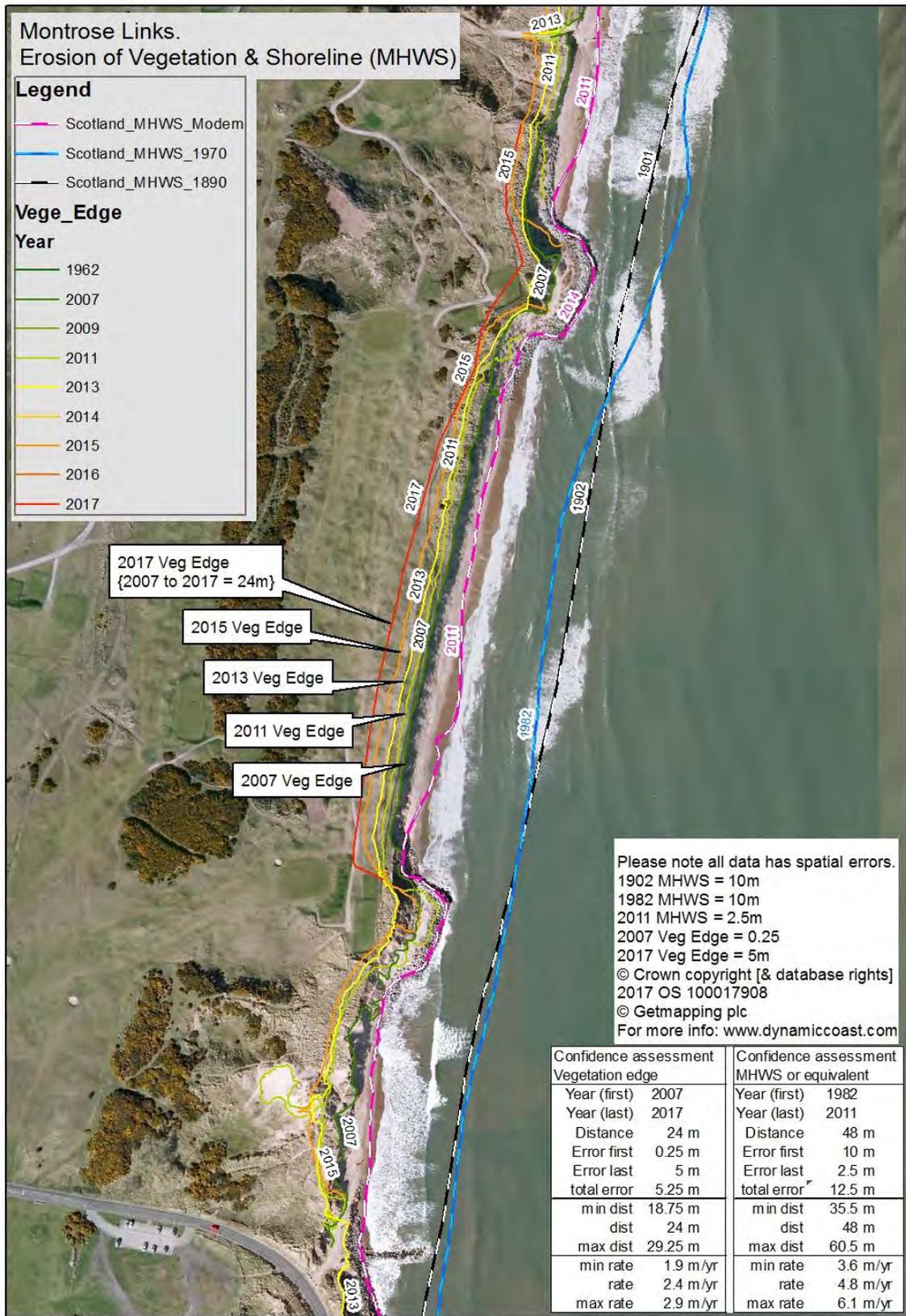


Figure 2 Montrose Links: Erosion of Vegetation edge & Shoreline (MHWS)

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 14 September 2017 15:16  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: IN CONFIDENCE: Montrose Beach  
**Attachments:** Review of ABPmer (2017) for Scot Gov and Angus Council - [Redacted]  
2017-09-06.pdf

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[Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: IN CONFIDENCE: Montrose Beach

[Redacted]

Good to speak with you yesterday. As requested please see attached review of the ABPmer (2017) Montrose Coastal Processes Report. I have undertaken this within my role with the Scottish Government, as such can [Redacted] please retain a copy within SG's corporate system.

I trust it is helpful, should you both, [Redacted], [Redacted] or [Redacted] have any follow-up questions I'd be pleased to answer them.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[www.snh.gov.uk](http://www.snh.gov.uk)

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[Redacted]

**Subject:** IN CONFIDENCE: Montrose Beach

Gents,

I have not been asked not to share the attached with others, however, I would request that you each treat these in confidence.

If you were able to cast your eyes over the report then I would be most appreciative.

Best regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Technical & Property Services, Place,

Angus Council, County Buildings, Market Street, Forfar DD8 3WR Tel: [Redacted]

[Redacted]



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## **COASTAL CHANGE/EROSION AND FLOOD RISK IN MONTROSE - BRIEFING**

[Redacted]

### **Background - coastal erosion and flooding in Montrose**

Coastal erosion is a natural process. It is affected by weather and tides and the actions of nature and man.

Coastal erosion is contributing to flood risk in Montrose and the dune system which was protecting the town is damaged.

Erosion and flooding has caused the coastline to retreat since 1980s and the rate is now 2m/yr and affecting the town and the golf course, designed by Old Tom Morris and the fifth oldest golf course in the world.

It is estimated that between 35 and 40m of beach has been lost to the sea since the early 1990s and that the Montrose coastline could wear away by up to 80m over the next 50 years. Storms at the end of 2013 took another 1.5m off the beach level, and 2m off the top edge of the dunes.

The Council has commissioned a flood risk study for Montrose to identify options to manage coastal erosion and flood risk in a coordinated way. The options will be considered for inclusion in the second generation Local Flood Risk Management Plan and apply for Scottish Government funding for flood risk capital monies available from 2022-28.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Angus Council and the MPA are investigating whether the port dredged material could be used to recharge the beach.

### **The National Coastal Change Assessment**

The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform launched the National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) in St Andrews last summer. The NCCA warns us to expect faster and more extensive erosion than we've been used to, increasingly affecting all asset types (buildings, infrastructure, cultural and natural heritage).

Before these trends accelerate further we have a window of opportunity to plan and adapt in advance of greater impacts. This requires cross sector and integrated adaptation and planning.

We have started **NCCA2** which will use the latest monitoring techniques to map and categorise the resilience of our coasts and identify the links between erosion and flooding.

Montrose will be one of five case study sites chosen to develop mitigation and adaptation plans with stakeholders. These will help demonstrate the need for coordinated action across the public sector.

### **Who is responsible for managing coast protection?**

Landowners have responsibility for protecting their property from coastal erosion. Local authorities have powers (but not obligations) under the Coast Protection Act 1949 to protect land from the sea. Some local authorities (including Angus and Fife) have Shoreline Management Plans but these are not mandatory.

### **How is coast protection funded?**

Local authorities can fund coast protection work under the 1949 Act from their general capital grant. Where there is an overlap with coastal flood risk and the works are included in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan flood risk capital monies may be available.

[Redacted]

January 2018

## SCOTLAND: COASTAL EROSION

[Redacted]

### **Scottish Government has completed Dynamic Coast Phase 1 – Scotland’s National Coastal Change Assessment**

- The NCCA shows that the switch to increased and faster erosion has already occurred and there are currently:
  - 100 residential and 100 non-residential properties, 140 septic tanks along with 53 km of roads, 9 km of rail lines and 22 km of water supply network and over 1,500 ha of cultural and natural heritage sites within 10m of the soft coast and at risk from erosion.
  - 7,000 residential and 2,300 non-residential properties, 700 septic tanks along with 500 km of roads, 58 km of rail lines and 300 km of water supply network and 8,800 ha of cultural and natural heritage sites within 50m of the soft coast and at risk from erosion.
- Before these trends accelerate further there is a window of opportunity to plan, mitigate and adapt in advance of greater impacts. This requires cross sector and integrated adaptation and mitigation planning
- The NCCA was led and funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Scottish Natural Heritage and the research was carried out by the University of Glasgow.

### **Dynamic Coast phase 2 January 2018 – December 2020**

- Phase 2 will investigate the resilience of Scotland’s natural coastal defences (e.g. identifying where low dunes may breach), estimating how future climate change may exacerbate erosion on our soft (erodible) coast. It will include developing mitigation, adaptation & resilience plans at super sites, including St Andrews and Montrose.
- In Scotland landowners are responsible for protecting their property from coastal erosion.
- Scottish local authorities have powers (but not obligations) under the Coast Protection Act 1949 to protect land from the sea. Local authorities can fund coast protection work under the 1949 Act from their general capital grant from the Scottish Government.

- Where there is an overlap with coastal flood risk and the works are included in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan flood risk capital funds may be available.
- Shoreline Management Plans are not compulsory in Scotland and only a few local authorities (including Angus and Fife) have voluntary Plans.

### **Montrose coast erosion**

**ISSUE:** Local concern raised about the coastal erosion affecting Montrose golf links and flood risk to the town. Erosion started about 20 years ago when the 6th tee disappeared and growing concern that the Montrose coastline could wear away by up to 80m over the next 50 years. Coastal erosion and flooding are interlinked and both are set to worsen in the near future in Montrose.

### **Background**

- Coastal erosion, a largely natural process, has damaged the dune system, which protects parts of Montrose, thereby increasing flood risk. The coastline has retreated since the 1980s and the maximum rate is now above 2 m/yr. This is affecting the golf course, the fifth oldest in the world.
- 40 to 60m of beach has eroded since the early 1980s and if that rate continues in the next 30 years the coastline could retreat another 70m inland. The Scottish Government's Dynamic Coast project shows the average rate of erosion has already increased, so future rates, including anticipated sea level rise, may be even faster.
- Angus Council is working with local stakeholders, including the Montrose Port Authority (MPA) and the Montrose Golf Club to identify the most sustainable solution. The Council has commissioned a flood risk study for Montrose, to be completed in July 2019, which aims to identify options to manage **coastal erosion and flood risk** in a coordinated way. Funding for these options can be considered as part of the second generation of Local Flood Risk Management Plans 2022-28 via the Local Government Capital Grant provided by Scottish Government.
- Some local stakeholders are in favour of a £5m hard rock armour defence to be put in place quickly. However such hard engineering is unlikely to be a sustainable solution and will most likely cause erosion elsewhere.
- MPA had a (now expired) licence from Marine Scotland to dredge in the harbour and deposit the sand in designated areas at sea. MPA has applied for a new marine licence to dispose of dredged material. Scottish Ministers must have regard (among other things) to the practical availability of any alternative method of dealing with the material and the available evidence as it relates to alternative options. The application is being assessed by Marine Scotland prior to going for consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees

[Redacted]

Flood Risk Management Team, Scottish Government  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 02 October 2018 11:55  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: For Awareness - House of Commons Debate on Coastal Erosion 12 June  
**Attachments:** Briefing - coast erosion - UK debate - June 2018.docx

Hi [Redacted]

With apologies: please see briefing [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay ( Area 3H  
South) | Edinburgh EH6 6QQ | Scotland | UK | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: 05 June 2018 14:37  
To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform  
[Redacted]  
Cc: Director of Environment & Forestry [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Subject: For Awareness - House of Commons Debate on Coastal Erosion 12 June

PS/Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

This is to make you aware that there will be a debate on coastal erosion in the House of Commons on 12th June. The debate will be opened by [Redacted] (Angus) and closed by [Redacted], Minister of State at Defra.

The Flood Risk Management Team has provided factual briefing to DEFRA on coastal erosion in Scotland, including the Dynamic Coast Project and information on Montrose. The briefing is attached for information.

[Redacted]

<<Briefing - coast erosion - UK debate - June 2018.docx>>

[Redacted] | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay ( Area 3H  
South) | Edinburgh EH6 6QQ | Scotland | UK | [Redacted]

# Westminster Hall Debate Briefing Pack

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

- MPA had a (now expired) licence from Marine Scotland to dredge in the harbour and deposit the sand in designated areas at sea. MPA has applied for a new marine licence to dispose of dredged material. Scottish Ministers must have regard (among other things) to the practical availability of any alternative method of dealing with the material and the

available evidence as it relates to alternative options. The application is being assessed by Marine Scotland prior to going for consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 02 October 2018 12:13  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: WH debate on Tuesday 12 June  
**Attachments:** 2018 06 05 WH General Coastal Debate Pack.doc

Hi [Redacted]

Here is the briefing pack for SoS  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay ( Area 3H  
South) | Edinburgh EH6 6QQ | Scotland | UK | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: 08 June 2018 15:42  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: WH debate on Tuesday 12 June

[Redacted]

We are expecting the speech from the MP on Monday. I have asked private office to copy you in so that you can quickly check it for us. The debate is a 09h30 on the Tuesday so there probably wont be a lot of time.

[Redacted] Here is our briefing pack –  
grateful if you can add the fact check in the relevant place when you receive it. The usual format is bullets (statement/rebuttal)

[Redacted]  
Street, London, SW1P 4DF ' [Redacted]

3rd Floor, Seacole Block, 2 Marsham  
<<http://www.defra.gov.uk/>> [WWW.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

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\*\*\*\*\*

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
Environment  
**Sent:** 13 September 2018 17:34  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform  
RE: Lines to clear - Montrose Port's dredging licence - Courier

CC'ing Cab Sec PO

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 September 2018 17:30 [Redacted]  
**To:** Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Subject:** Lines to clear - Montrose Port's dredging licence - Courier

Hi [Redacted]

Courier is asking about the Montrose Port dredging license [Redacted] asked about in FMQs.

I would be grateful for clearance of the following line that has been agreed with policy, comms and spads.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

## **Background**

Marine Scotland has refused a licence application by Montrose Port Authority (MPA) to dispose of all their dredged material to a site in Lunan Bay, to the south of Montrose Bay, it has not refused the dredging activity itself.

MPA's dredging removes up to 100,000m<sup>3</sup> per year from the Montrose Bay system, routinely deposited at the Lunan Bay site, which has led to a loss of beach building material from the bay, potentially reducing the beach's resilience to storm activity and associated erosion.

In accordance with the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (the 'OSPAR Convention') and under legal obligations of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, Marine Scotland must consider other practicable uses for dredged material. The application contained no component of beneficial use and was therefore refused. Marine Scotland officials have arranged to meet with MPA.

Thanks

[Redacted]