

# CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

## Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

<b>What</b>	Visit to Montrose beach to learn about the coastal erosion issues.
<b>Where</b>	Montrose Links Golf Course
<b>When</b>	Tuesday 15 August 9:00 am – 9:45 am.
<b>Key Message(s)</b>	<p>Rising sea levels, increased coastal erosion and erosion-enhanced flooding will progressively impact Scotland's soft coastlines, its assets and communities.</p> <p>Important that stakeholders work together to find the most sustainable solutions to protect communities and assets from coastal erosion and flooding.</p>
<b>Who</b>	[Redacted], Angus Council, [Redacted] Chief Executive of Montrose Port Authority [Redacted], Director of Montrose Golf Links Ltd.
<b>Why</b>	<p>The local community and stakeholders are concerned about coastal erosion to the sand dunes on Montrose beach, which affects the golf course and the town.</p> <p>It is estimated that between 35 and 40m of beach has been lost to the sea since the early 1990s and the coastline could wear away by up to 80m over the next 50 years.</p>
<b>Supporting official</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Briefing contents</b>	<p><b>Annex A:</b> Map and directions</p> <p><b>Annex B:</b> Event programme</p> <p><b>Annex C:</b> Attendees</p> <p><b>Annex D:</b> Background</p>
<b>Media Handling</b>	No media expected.
<b>Dress code</b>	Stout footwear for walking on soft sand and Scottish summer weather appropriate clothing.
<b>Greeting Party and specific meeting point on arrival (if event is at a non SE Building)</b>	<p>[Redacted] from Angus Council will meet you at Montrose Golf Links Ltd. (MGLL) Building on Traill Drive, DD10 8SW.</p> <p>Car parking available at MGLL building.</p>

**CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM**

**Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues**

<b><i>Specific entrance for Ministerial car/parking arrangements</i></b>	
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# CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

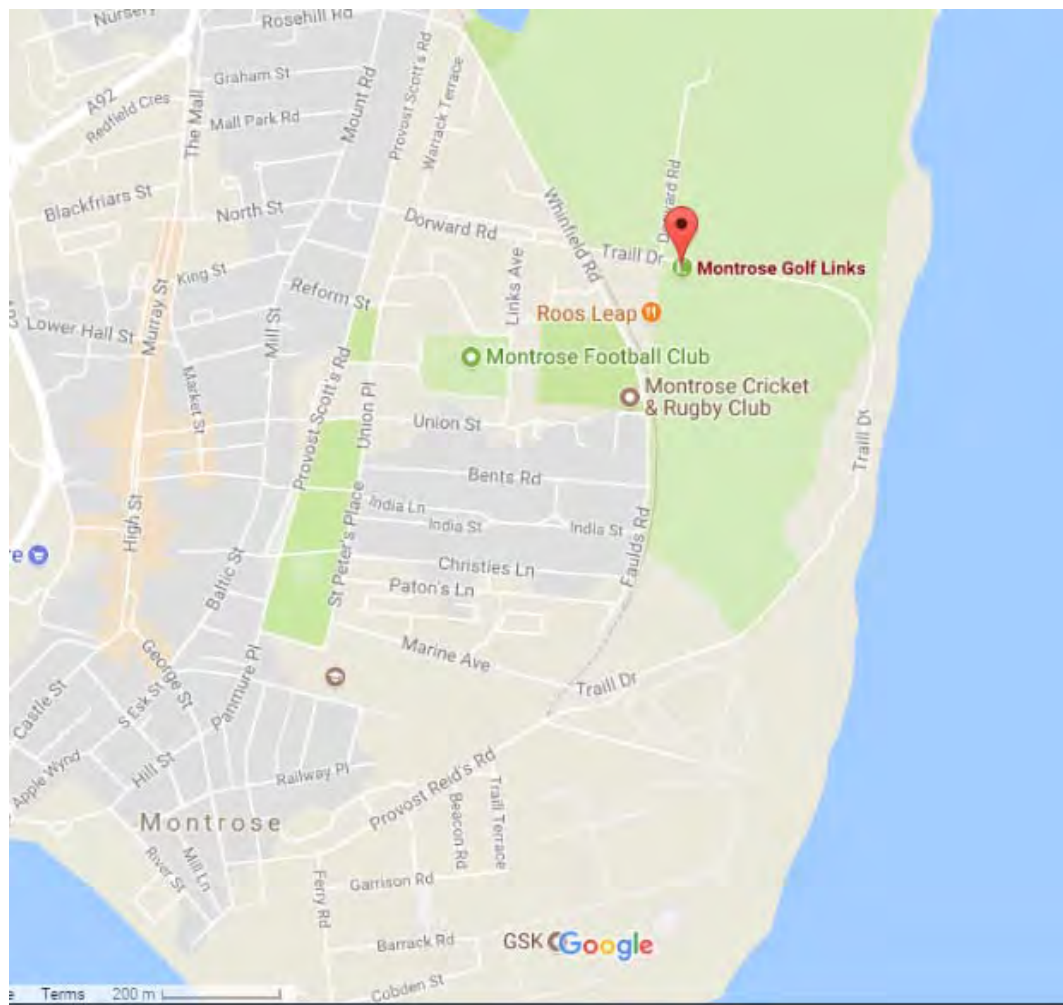
## Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

### Annex A

#### Montrose Golf Links

Postcode: DD10 8SW

Map:



# CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

## Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

### Annex B Programme

9.00am Arrive at Montrose Golf Links Ltd. (MGLL) building on Traill Drive. Met by [Redacted] Angus Council

9:05am Introduced to [Redacted] (Angus Council); [Redacted] (Montrose Port Authority (MPA), Chief Executive), [Redacted] (MGLL Director) and Prof. [Redacted], University of Glasgow.

9.10am Walk along edge of golf links – to provide context of interrelation between coastal defences, golf links and Montrose.

9.20am View from beach access ramp – to see zone between engineered defences and natural defences; explain coastal system and erosion and accretion issues, including MPA and MGLL perspectives.

9.25am View from beach of natural defences – further explanation of coastal system and erosion and accretion issues.

9.35am Return to Traill Drive and MGLL Building – walk and talk as we return.

9:45 leave

**CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM**

**Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues**

**Annex C      Attendees**

**Angus Council**

[Redacted]

**Montrose Port Authority**

[Redacted]

**Montrose Golf Links Ltd**

[Redacted]

**University of Glasgow**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Dynamic Coast – national coastal change

assessment project

**Scottish Government Official Support**

[Redacted]

Managing Flood Risk Team

# **CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM**

## **Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues**

### **Annex D      Background note**

[Redacted]

#### **Coastal erosion key points**

- Rising sea levels, increased coastal erosion and erosion-enhanced flooding will progressively impact Scotland's soft coastlines, its assets and communities.
- Coastal erosion is a naturally occurring process which periodically affects our soft shoreline.
- Coastal erosion and coastal flooding are interlinked and must be considered jointly; both are set to worsen in the near future.
- Nature is playing an important role along our coasts and can help us cope with climate change. Many properties and infrastructure lie behind natural coastal defences (i.e. the soft coast); these defences must be protected.

## **CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM**

### **Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues**

- Whilst Scotland's beaches and dunes: our 'natural defences' are protecting £13bn of assets, some of these are eroding and £400m assets will be threatened by 2050, if erosion continues.
- We should expect faster and more extensive erosion than we've been used to, increasingly affecting all asset types (buildings, infrastructure, cultural and natural heritage).
- Landowners are responsible 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. 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.
- Some local authorities (including Angus and Fife) have Shoreline Management Plans but these are not mandatory.

### **Montrose coastal erosion and flooding issues**

- The 3 mile long sandy beach has a Keep Scotland Beautiful Beach Award.
- 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.
- [Redacted]

# CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

## Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

[Redacted]

### Recent erosion to Montrose beach





# CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

## Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

### Anticipated erosion zones for Montrose in 2050 from Dynamic Coast – coastal change assessment map



#### Montrose Links Golf club

Montrose golf links, created by legendary Scottish golf course designer Old Tom Morris, is the fifth oldest golf course in the world. The first recorded round of golf took place in 1562. Significant parts of the 2 courses (Medal and Broomfield) are still on the original ground.

The links first began to show the effects of coastal erosion about 20 years ago when the 6<sup>th</sup> tee disappeared. Since then the erosion has continued despite work to halt the dunes being washed away.

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.

New sand fencing has already been installed to replace the barrier that has been lost. However storms at the end of 2013 took another 1.5m off the beach level, and 2m off the top edge of the dunes.

# **CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM**

## **Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues**

### **Dynamic Coast: Scotland's National Coastal Change assessment (NCCA)**

- The NCCA identifies past erosion and accretion rates along the coast and projects these forward to 2050. It shows that the switch to increased and faster erosion has already occurred. The results show that 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 we have 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 helps deliver actions in Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme by identifying the assets at risk if recent erosion rates continue.
- The NCCA is led and managed by the Scottish Government and SNH and the research was carried out by the University of Glasgow. The research is funded by CREW (The Centre for Expertise in Water).

[Redacted]

14 August 2017

## COASTAL CHANGE/EROSION AND FLOOD RISK IN MONTROSE

[Redacted]

### **Background**

Coastal erosion, a natural process, has damaged the dune system thereby increasing flood risk. The coastline has retreated since 1980s and the rate is now 2m/yr, affecting 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 eroded since the early 1990s and that the Montrose coastline could wear away by up to 80m over the next 50 years.

[Redacted]

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. Local authorities can use their Local Government Capital Grant to fund **coast protection**.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 14 August 2017 11:32  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform  
**Cc:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** Ms Cunningham's visit to Montrose beach tomorrow morning

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

I attach briefing for Ms Cunningham's visit to Montrose beach at 9am on 15<sup>th</sup> August.



Briefing for Ms Cunningham's visit to Montrose beach at 9am on 15<sup>th</sup> August

For reference I also attach a copy of the coast erosion briefing provided for the Cabinet meeting.



Coastal Erosion Briefing for the Cabinet meeting

Thanks.

[Redacted]

Scottish Government  
Environmental Quality Division  
Managing Flood Risk Team  
3H(S)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]



Find out how your coast is changing at [www.dynamiccoast.com](http://www.dynamiccoast.com).

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 09 August 2017 12:11  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

[Redacted]

Many thanks

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 09 August 2017 12:09  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

Hi [Redacted]

Briefing on coastal erosion for cabinet meeting on template now.

Thanks.

[Redacted]

<< File: Coastal Erosion Montrose.docx >>

Scottish Government  
Environmental Quality Division  
Managing Flood Risk Team  
3H(S)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

Find out how your coast is changing at [www.dynamiccoast.com](http://www.dynamiccoast.com).

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 07 August 2017 14:54  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for your contribution. Apologies that you were not sent the template.

<< File: A18011087.docx >>

I have cut and pasted your contribution into the required format but it still exceeds the required single page – grateful if you could edit it to a single page – grateful if I could have this COP tomorrow.

<< File: Coastal Erosion.docx >>

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Scottish Government - Directorate for Culture, Tourism and Major Events

Area 2-J South  
Victoria Quay

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 03 August 2017 14:44  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 03 August 2017 14:30  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

Hi [Redacted]

Some briefing on coastal erosion and flooding in Montrose for the Cabinet meeting.

[Redacted]

<< File: CABINET MEETING MONTROSE.docx >>

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

EH6 6QQ  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

Find out how your coast is changing at [www.dynamiccoast.com](http://www.dynamiccoast.com).

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 31 July 2017 17:16  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

Hi [Redacted]

Briefing request for Montrose as discussed last week.

Grateful if you could action by deadline Thursday 15:00. This request overlaps with preparations to the NCCA launch, so grateful if you could let me know whether you can meet the deadline, or whether we need to ask for more time.

thanks.

[Redacted]

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

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 31 July 2017 16:58  
**To:** PS/Transport Scotland; [Redacted]

**Subject:** Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing

Dear All

[Redacted] understands that [Redacted] has alerted you to briefing requirements for the Montrose Cabinet.

We would be grateful for briefing by 3.00 pm on Thursday 3 August as per the attachment. Briefing to include background on the highlighted issues and lines to take.

Please copy the briefing to [Redacted], [Redacted] and [Redacted] in Tourism and Major Events.

Regards

[Redacted]

<< File: Montrose Cabinet - Local Issues Briefing.docx >>

[Redacted]

| Scottish Government | G1 Spur | Saughton House |

Broomhouse Drive | Edinburgh | EH11 3XD | [Redacted]



[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 14 September 2018 09:42  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Montrose Port Authority  
**Attachments:** RE: Lines to clear - Montrose Port's dredging licence - Courier; A22076206.obr

Dear [Redacted]

Please find attached a copy of the press line from last night as well as an objective link to the rejection of Montrose Port Authority's (MPA) sea disposal application.

Prior to the FMQ and the media enquiry we had already arranged a meeting with MPA for 2 October to discuss the next steps.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Marine Scotland - Marine Planning & Policy

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

[Redacted]

General Queries: 0300 244 5046

Email: [Redacted]

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

<<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/MLFAQ>>

[Redacted]

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 24 May 2018 16:19  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: draft Montrose recommendation  
**Attachments:** draft recommendation on Montrose.docx

[Redacted]

Thanks,

[Redacted]

We would benefit from some input from [Redacted] suspect.

Happy to discuss.

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 24 May 2018 16:06  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** draft Montrose recommendation

[Redacted]

Please find attached a draft recommendation on the Montrose. Given the Cab Sec has visited Montrose and had meetings with both MPA and the Golf club I've not given details on the overall background.

Grateful for any comments

[Redacted]

**Marine Scotland** - Marine Planning & Policy

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

Direct Line: [Redacted]  
General Queries: 0300 244 5046  
Email: [Redacted]  
Website: <http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland>

Frequently  
Asked  
Questions

## **CABINET MEETING MONTROSE, 15 AUGUST 2017**

### **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.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

There has been interest from MSPs, MPs, councilors and media because the erosion affects Montrose golf links. The course first began to show the effects of coastal erosion about 20 years ago when the 6<sup>th</sup> tee disappeared. Since then the erosion has continued despite work to halt the dunes being washed away.

[Redacted]

MPA currently has a license from Marine Scotland to dredge in the harbour and deposit the sand in designated areas out at sea. Angus Council and the MPA are investigating whether the port dredged material could be used to recharge the beach.

### **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]

Managing Flood Risk Team

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

---

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 03 August 2017 14:30  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Montrose Cabinet - Official Briefing  
**Attachments:** CABINET MEETING MONTROSE.docx; Picture (Device Independent Bitmap)

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[Redacted]

Scottish Government  
Environmental Quality Division  
Managing Flood Risk Team  
3H(S)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh  
EH6 6QQ  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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thanks,  
[Redacted]

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

---

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Regards

[Redacted]

<< File: Montrose Cabinet - Local Issues Briefing.docx >>

[Redacted] [Redacted] I Scottish Government I G1 Spur I  
Saughton House I Broomhouse Drive I Edinburgh I EH11 3XD I Tel [Redacted]