

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] (MARLAB)
Sent: 22 January 2018 09:33
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Montrose
Attachments: u414847_11-01-2018_14-31-33.pdf

Dear [Redacted]

I hope you enjoyed your Christmas & New Year.

We've just been passed this letter which Graham Black received and I'm drafting a reply at the moment and wanted to check a couple of things with you.

[Redacted]

Secondly we're in receipt of the port's own report which includes beach recharge in its discussion section [Redacted]

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Marine Scotland - Marine Planning & Policy

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

Direct Line: [Redacted]
General Queries: +44 (0)1224 295 579
Email: [Redacted] [__gov.scot](mailto:___@gov.scot)
Website: <http://www.gov.scot/marinescotland>

Frequently
Asked
Questions



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Graham Black
Director
Marine Scotland
375 Victoria Rd
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

12 December 2017

Dear Graham

I write in relation to Montrose Port Authority's licence to dredge the channel giving shipping access to the harbour, and their well-established practice of disposing of the dredged sand at Lunan Bay.

This practice clearly allows the port to dispose of the sand at minimal expense. I understand that there has been some suggestion from Marine Scotland that the Port Authority may in future be required to deposit dredged sand on Montrose beach, which will involve additional expense and inconvenience for the authority, with no offer of financial compensation for so doing.

It is the Authority's view that depositing sand without groynes or rock armour to hold it in place would be a waste of time and money, as the dominant undercurrent would sooner or later carry the sand back into the channel. There has been no commitment from those responsible for the beach to put such armour in place.

The Port Authority have expressed concerns that, if the sand is deposited on Montrose beach, it will move back to the channel as a result of the undercurrent, and they are at a loss to understand the scientific basis for what you propose.

I would therefore be grateful if you could review the methodology and science that was used to form the basis of this decision, and ensure that Montrose Port Authority is not faced with extra expense for no long-term benefit to the beach in question.

Yours sincerely
[Redacted]

Lewis Macdonald MSP
North East Scotland

CABINET MEETING MONTROSE, 15 AUGUST 2017

COASTAL CHANGE/EROSION AND FLOOD RISK IN MONTROSE - BRIEFING

Lines to take

- Nature is playing an important role along our coasts and helping us cope with coastal change. Many properties and infrastructure lie behind natural coastal defences (i.e. the soft coast); these natural defences must be protected.
- The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform launched the National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) in St Andrews last week. 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.
- Coastal erosion and flooding are interlinked and both are set to worsen in the near future – this is what we see here in Montrose.
- Aware of the serious erosion issues to the sand dunes that affect the Golf Course and the Town in Montrose and understand that Angus Council is working with local stakeholders to identify the most sustainable solution.
- The Council will commission a flood risk study for Montrose this year that will consider the impacts of coastal erosion and flood risk.

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.

Angus Council is working with local stakeholders, including the Montrose Port Authority and the Montrose Golf Club to identify the most sustainable solution.

The Council is about to commission 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.

The study has the potential to benefit 104 residential properties and 43 non-residential properties at risk of flooding, with potential damages avoided of up to £5.2 million. The study will consider economic, social and environmental impacts.

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 6th tee disappeared. Since then the erosion has continued despite work to halt the dunes being washed away.

Some locals stakeholders are in favour of a £5m hard rock armour defense to be put in place quickly. However rock armour is unlikely to be a solution and will most likely cause erosion elsewhere. Sediment management and shore-face recharge are the subjects of on-going consideration by Angus Council and Montrose Port Authority (MPA).

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: 13 September 2017 16:05
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: more Ministerial correspondence

Hi [redacted]

Thanks for this. Perhaps we can have a chat next week about what if anything SG should be doing here?

Do you want to see the reviews from [redacted] (SNH) and [redacted] (Glasgow University) of the Port's recent report? [redacted]

Best wishes [redacted]

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

[redacted]



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From: [redacted]
Sent: 11 September 2017 16:17
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: more Ministerial correspondence

Hi [redacted]

I hope you had a good trip.

Not quite sure what you're wanting to do with the responses from the others on the report but to reply to the fourth para in the letter something like the following would answer the next app/bpeo bit.

You are correct in that Montrose Port Authority's current marine licence, required for the deposit of the material at sea, runs out on 29th April 2018. Should the Harbour Authority apply for a new marine licence to dispose of dredged material to begin thereafter, the 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. This aspect is the purpose of the assessment of the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO). Public consultation will also form part of the determination process.

I'm afraid I can't really cover the other aspects of the letter as, being the regulator in this area, I am not able to provide the policy opinion here.

Please get in touch (I'm around tomorrow) if you want any further information on the licensing aspect.

It would be good to get a handle on who is actually going to start pulling stuff together to propose the other options as part of the licence application, or if the port is expected to do it of their own volition.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 01 September 2017 18:06
To: [redacted] snh.gov.uk; [redacted] glasgow.ac.uk; [redacted]
[redacted] @angus.gov.uk)
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: more Ministerial correspondence
Importance: High

Hi << File: S20170030965.pdf >>

I'm looking for some information about sediment lost to the Montrose system. MPA is licenced to dredge up to 100,000m3 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 Nik Scott- Gray 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.
Best wishes [redacted]

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Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ
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[redacted]

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

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[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @angus.gov.uk>
Sent: 02 September 2017 09:44
To: [Redacted]
Cc:

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]

On 2 Sep 2017, at 00:39, [Redacted] angus.gov.uk> wrote:

[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]

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

[@gov.scot](mailto:)>

Hi

I'm looking for some information about sediment lost to the Montrose system. MPA is licenced to dredge up to 100,000m³ 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 Nik Scott- Gray 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 [Redacted] is helping me with the response.

Thanks.
[Redacted]

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Mobile: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[@gov.scot](mailto:)>

[Redacted]

scotland.gsi.gov.uk]

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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

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[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 14 August 2017 11:32
To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
Cc: DG Economy; [Redacted] DG Rural Affairs Environment and Services;
[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 15th August.



Refining the initial
Briefing - Montrose...

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



Coastal Erosion
Briefing for the Cabinet...

Thanks.
[Redacted]

Scottish Government
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Mobile: [Redacted]
[Redacted]



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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

What	Visit to Montrose beach to learn about the coastal erosion issues.
Where	Montrose Links Golf Course
When	Tuesday 15 August 9:00 am – 9:45 am.
Key Message(s)	<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>
Who	[Redacted] , Angus Council, Nik Scott-Gray, Chief Executive of Montrose Port Authority [Redacted] Director of Montrose Golf Links Ltd.
Why	<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>
Supporting official	[Redacted] Environment Quality Division [Redacted]
Briefing contents	<p>Annex A: Map and directions</p> <p>Annex B: Event programme</p> <p>Annex C: Attendees</p> <p>Annex D: Background</p>
Media Handling	No media expected.
Dress code	Stout footwear for walking on soft sand and Scottish summer weather appropriate clothing.
Greeting Party and specific meeting point on arrival (if event is at a non SE Building)	<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

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

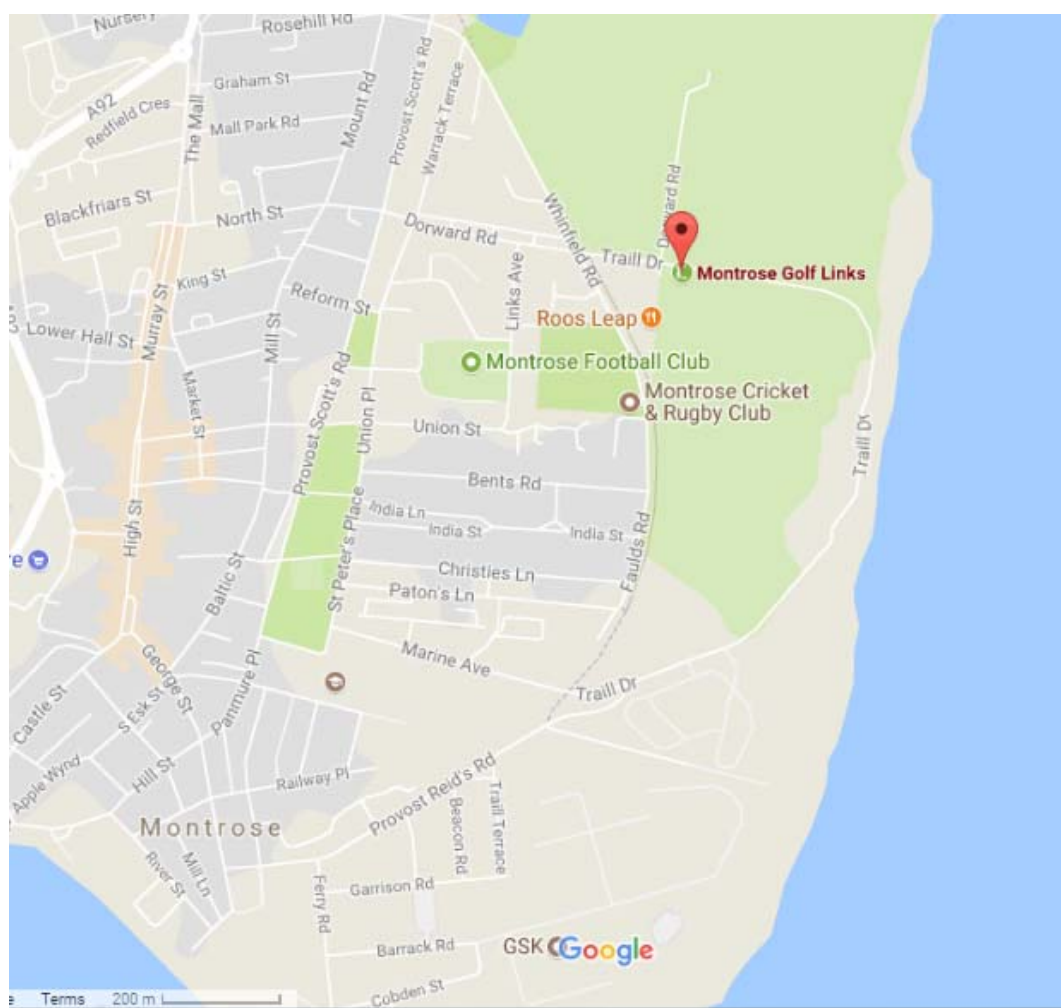
Briefing for visit to Montrose to learn about the coastal erosion issues

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); Nik Scott-Gray (Montrose Port Authority (MPA), Chief Executive), [Redacted] (MGLL Director) and [Redacted] [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

Nik Scott-Gray, Chief Executive

Montrose Golf Links Ltd

[Redacted] , Director

University of Glasgow

[Redacted]
assessment project

Dynamic Coast – national coastal change

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

Top lines

- Nature is playing an important role along our coasts and helping us cope with coastal change. Many properties and infrastructure lie behind natural coastal defences (i.e. the soft coast); these natural defences must be protected.
- Coastal erosion and flooding are interlinked and both are set to worsen in the near future – this is what we see here in Montrose.
- Aware of the serious erosion issues to the sand dunes that affect the Golf Courses and the Town in Montrose and understand that Angus Council is working with local stakeholders to identify the most sustainable solution.
- Sediment management and shore-face recharge are the subjects of on-going consideration by Angus Council and Montrose Port Authority (MPA).
- The Council will commission a flood risk study for Montrose this year that will consider the impacts of coastal erosion and flood risk.
- The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform launched the National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) in St Andrews this month. 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.

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.
- Angus Council is working with local stakeholders, including the Montrose Port Authority and the Montrose Golf Club to identify the most sustainable solution.
- The Council is about to commission 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.
- The study has the potential to benefit 104 residential properties and 43 non-residential properties at risk of flooding, with potential damages avoided of up to £5.2 million. The study will consider economic, social and environmental

CABINET SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND LAND REFORM

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

impacts.

- [Redacted]

- MPA currently has a licence from Marine Scotland to dredge in the harbour and deposit the sand in designated areas out at sea until end April 2018. Angus Council and the MPA are investigating whether the port dredged material could be used to recharge the beach.
- Marine Scotland supports the beneficial use of dredged sediments and continues to advise such parties of national, legal and international obligations and the evidence required to inform future licences to place the materials in the best practicable environmental manner.

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 6th 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]

Managing Flood Risk Team
14 August 2017

COASTAL CHANGE/EROSION AND FLOOD RISK IN MONTROSE

ISSUE: Local concern raised about coastal erosion affecting Montrose golf links. Erosion started about 20 years ago when the 6th tee disappeared.

Top Lines:

- Nature is playing an important role along our coasts and helping us cope with coastal change. Many properties and infrastructure lie behind natural coastal defences like sand dunes; these natural defences must be protected.
- The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform launched the National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) in St Andrews earlier on in August. 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).
- The erosion maps produced as part of the NCCA will help to plan and adapt in advance of greater impacts, enabling cross-sector and integrated adaptation approaches.
- Aware of the serious erosion issues to the sand dunes that affect the Golf Course and the Town in Montrose and understand that Angus Council is working with local stakeholders to identify the most sustainable solution. The Council will commission a flood risk study for Montrose this year that will consider the impacts of coastal erosion and flood risk as well as potential ways to manage the coastal erosion.

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.

Angus Council is working with local stakeholders, including the Montrose Port Authority and the Montrose Golf Club to identify the most sustainable solution. A flood risk study for Montrose to be commissioned by the Council 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 defense to be put in place quickly. However such hard engineering is unlikely to be a solution and will most likely cause erosion elsewhere. Sediment management and shore-face recharge are the subjects of on-going consideration by Angus Council and Montrose Port Authority (MPA).

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] Managing Flood Risk Team
[redacted]

Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
cc.Minister for Transport and the Islands

Application for a marine licence under Part 4 of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the deposit in Lunan Bay of material dredged from Montrose Harbour.

Commented [Redacted]: Provide the issue rather than just the licensing aspect – did you get anything from [Redacted]?

Purpose

To seek your agreement to refuse, in its current form, the application submitted by Montrose Port Authority (“MPA”) for a marine licence under Part 4 of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the deposit in Lunan Bay of 738000 wet tonnes of material dredged from Montrose Harbour over a 3 year period.

Commented [Redacted]: Are we at that stage now or is this to inform Cab Sec of the issues?

Priority

Routine

Background

On 17 April 2018 MPA submitted an application for the deposit in Lunan Bay of 410,000 m³ of material dredged from Montrose Harbour over a 3 year period.

Commented [Redacted]: We need more here of the background of the issue, a very noted history if you will [Redacted] Also including the involvement of other ministers.

Consideration of the Application

MPA has selected sea disposal for all the dredged material, ruling out any beneficial use of the material on cost grounds. They estimate costs of £2 per m³ for sea disposal and £11 per m³ beach replenishment from a dredger moored offshore.

MS-LOT is satisfied that the proposal may have an impact on the marine environment through the removal of the dredged material from Montrose Bay.

Commented [Redacted]: Move to later, this is very final, spell out the evidence first.

MS-LOT has concerns about the conclusions of the documents used to support the selection of sea disposal as the preferred method of dealing with the dredged material.

Consultation Summary

MPA commissioned a report assessing coastal processes in Montrose Bay which found no link between dredging and erosion in Montrose Bay and has been used to support their chosen BPEO. This report has been reviewed by the Dynamic Coast Project Team.

Commented [Redacted]: List the other work done first.

MS-LOT commissioned Jacobs to review MPA's BPEO and coastal processes assessment as well as the Dynamic Coast Project reviews. MS-LOT also sought comments from Scottish Natural Heritage (“SNH”) on the BPEO.

SNH raised concerns that costs were being included in more than one section of the BPEO and that the BPEO was lacking in evidence to support statements about what material would be suitable for reuse as well as the assumption that beach replenishment would have little benefit.

The Dynamic Coast Project Team raised concerns that the coastal process assessment failed to disprove a link between dredging and the erosion around Montrose Golf Links frontage and that dredging was likely to exacerbate broader processes affecting the beach level.

Jacobs' review found that the costs were reflective of industry standards, but that other less engineered options could reduce the costs of beneficial placement and the basis for discounting beach replenishment as a viable method was not considered to present a balanced appraisal. They also found that removal of up to 100,000m³ per year of dredged material from the closed system of Montrose Bay can only represent a loss of sediment that is never returned and with that a loss of beach building material, which would naturally contribute to beach and dune decline.

Discussion

Under Part 4 section 27(2) of The Marine (Scotland) Act 2011 In considering an application for a marine licence to authorise the deposit of a substance or object within the Scottish marine area, the Scottish Ministers must have regard (among other things) to the practical availability of any alternative method of dealing with the substance or object.

Scotland's National Marine Plan includes policy GEN 8: developments and activities in the marine environment should be resilient to coastal change and flooding and not have unacceptable adverse impact on coastal processes or contribute to coastal flooding.

Article 2 of The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic states The Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, take all possible steps to prevent and eliminate pollution and shall take the necessary measures to protect the maritime area against the adverse effects of human activities so as to safeguard human health and to conserve marine ecosystems and, when practicable, restore marine areas which have been adversely affected.

Recommendation

MS-LOT is of the view that you should

Determine that it is appropriate for MS-LOT to refuse, in its current form, the application submitted by MPA for a marine licence and for MS-LOT to engage with MPA and other stakeholders to further consider beneficial uses of the dredged material.

Commented [Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted]

We should have references to the council's view point, SG's viewpoint, transport Scotland, Transport Minister, Golf club . local residents ect.

CABINET MEETING MONTROSE, 15 AUGUST 2017

COASTAL CHANGE/EROSION AND FLOOD RISK IN MONTROSE - BRIEFING

Lines to take

- Nature is playing an important role along our coasts and helping us cope with coastal change. Many properties and infrastructure lie behind natural coastal defences (i.e. the soft coast); these natural defences must be protected.
- The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform launched the National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) in St Andrews last week. 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.
- Coastal erosion and flooding are interlinked and both are set to worsen in the near future – this is what we see here in Montrose.
- Aware of the serious erosion issues to the sand dunes that affect the Golf Course and the Town in Montrose and understand that Angus Council is working with local stakeholders to identify the most sustainable solution.
- The Council will commission a flood risk study for Montrose this year that will consider the impacts of coastal erosion and flood risk.

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.

Angus Council is working with local stakeholders, including the Montrose Port Authority and the Montrose Golf Club to identify the most sustainable solution.

The Council is about to commission 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.

The study has the potential to benefit 104 residential properties and 43 non-residential properties at risk of flooding, with potential damages avoided of up to £5.2 million. The study will consider economic, social and environmental impacts.

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 6th tee disappeared. Since then the erosion has continued despite work to halt the dunes being washed away.

Some locals stakeholders are in favour of a £5m hard rock armour defense to be put in place quickly. However rock armour is unlikely to be a solution and will most likely cause erosion elsewhere. Sediment management and shore-face recharge are the subjects of on-going consideration by Angus Council and Montrose Port Authority (MPA).

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]