

Sidmouth & East Beach Management Plan (BMP)

How is the beach management plan being developed?

Development of the beach management plan involves a number of stages. These are shown in the flow diagram adjacent along with identifying when community involvement is planned.

Involving the community!

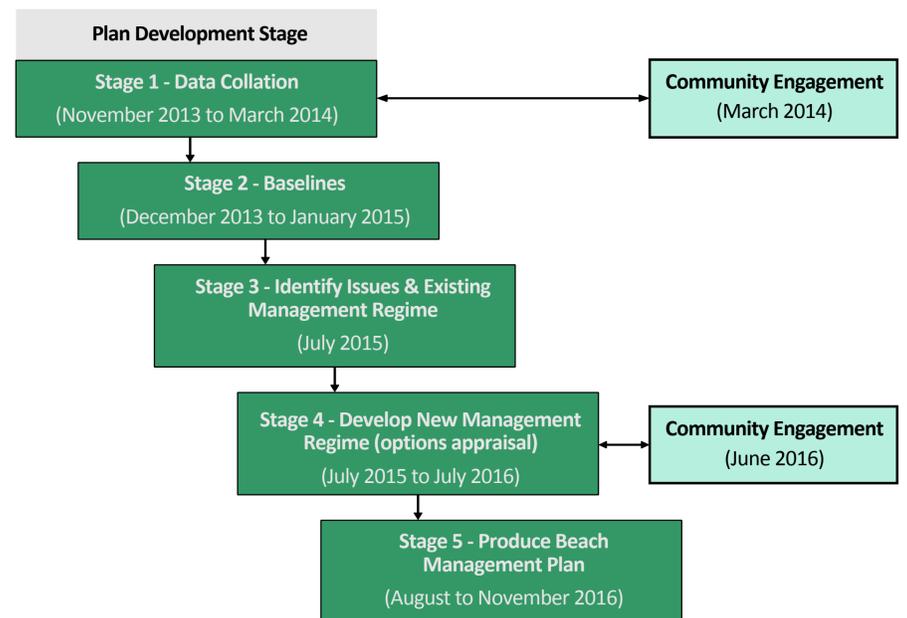
This is the **second community engagement event** held during the project. The purpose of this event is to allow the local community to give their views on a short-list of potential future management options that have been identified by the project team and project steering group. Please let us have your comments by **4th July 2016**.

After the 4th July 2016, the project team will consider all comments and make recommendation as to what should be the preferred option. This will be presented to the project steering group (which includes members of the community) in early August 2016, after which time the final options appraisal report and beach management plan will be prepared.

Once approved, the beach management plan will drive further investigations and scheme development to implement the preferred option.

How you can get involved at this stage?

This is your opportunity to provide your views on the potential future management of coastal flood and erosion risk at Sidmouth, and identify to the project team your preference in this regards along with any specific local issues, opportunities or hurdles that you think should be considered in the delivering a new management approach to the beaches and coastal defences along the Sidmouth coast.



Fixed Requirements (your views are welcome but we need to follow national guidance on the assessment of options)
Cost-benefit of the preferred option: We must subject any proposals to a cost-benefit analysis and this will influence the choice of the preferred option.
Funding: Funding to implement the preferred option cannot be guaranteed as it will be assess amongst national priorities. However, the greater the amount of partnership funding contributions that can be secured, the greater the chance of implementing the preferred option will be.
Detailed design and investigation: The preferred option identified in the BMP will need to be subjected to further more detailed design and investigation to refine and optimise the scheme. This will take about 1-2 years following approval of the BMP, depending upon exactly what option is chosen and so the amount of work required. East Devon District Council is already planning for this work.
Consents and Planning: As part of detailed design and investigation, the final scheme will need Planning Permission, a Marine Licence and various environmental consents.
Negotiable (the views of residents and professional partners will guide the preferred option selection process as part of this BMP project)
Scale and form of defences: We will listen to your views on the scale and form of each option, and the acceptability of each option on access, visual impact, use of the beach and promenade etc.
Alignment/position of defences: There are technical constraints that influence the alignment and position of proposed defences, and whilst these are subject to refinement in detailed design, we welcome views on how these may impact use of the frontage and where we can seek to minimise any such impacts through detailed design.
Other potential benefits: We are already considering potential for each option to incorporate broader benefits to the area as part of the measures to reduce the risk of coastal flooding and erosion, such as access to the shoreline and regeneration of the Port Royal area, but we would welcome your views on any particular broader benefits that could be considered for incorporating into any of the options.

What happens next?

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Once approved, the beach management plan will drive further investigations and scheme development to implement the preferred option.

Contacting us –

If you have any questions following this event, please contact sidmoutheastbmp@eastdevon.gov.uk

or visit the project website at <http://eastdevon.gov.uk/coastal-protection/beach-management-plans/sidmouth-and-east-beach-management-plan>



Options Appraisal – A Brief Overview

The options appraisal process comprises the following steps:

1. Identify a long-list of potentially viable and appropriate options for managing coastal flood and erosion risk along different parts of the BMP area.
2. Appraise the long-list against technical, economic and environmental criteria.
3. Consult the project steering group.
4. Confirm a short-list of options that will work in combination across the BMP area.
5. Appraise the short-list against technical, economic and environmental criteria.
6. **Consult the steering group and the public (current step).**
7. Select and confirm the preferred option.

In identifying the long-list of options, the BMP frontage was sub-divided into four frontage units:

- A. Jacob's Ladder Beach and Connaught Gardens (Chit Rocks)
- B. Sidmouth Town (Chit Rocks to the River Sid, including the training wall seawards of Alma Bridge)
- C. East Beach (River Sid eastwards to BMP boundary)
- D. River Sid Western Wall (upstream of the training wall / Alma Bridge).



The short-list is derived of combinations of options for each of these four frontages which are: (i) considered appropriate for that frontage following the long-list appraisal; and (ii) complimentary with options in the adjacent frontages.

Technical Appraisal

Each short-list option has been appraised for how well it would be anticipated to perform and achieve the aims and objectives of this project. This appraisal has been based upon the evidence and understanding of the coastal defences and coastal processes developed as part of this project.

Environmental Appraisal

The environmental implications of each option have been appraised against the understanding of the environmental characteristics of the area developed as part of this project.

Economic Appraisal

The economic appraisal is based on assessment of the costs and benefits of each option. This is expressed as the benefit:cost ratio (BCR) for each option. The BCR then forms part of the Partnership Funding calculation to determine how much of the required costs can be claimed from central Government via the FCERM-GIA, and how much of the costs will have to be found from other sources of funding. This partnership funding calculation also takes into account the numbers of properties protected against the risk of flooding and erosion, the level of social deprivation of the areas at risk, and legal environmental requirements.