



Agenda

Meeting held in private: Environment Directorate - Corporate Director and Executive Member - Open to Business

To: Councillor Mark Crane.
Date: Friday, 27 February 2026
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: Via Microsoft Teams

These meetings are private meetings. The agenda and papers for the meeting have been published for the purposes of openness and transparency. If a member of the public or press wishes to attend these meetings where there are extenuating circumstances, then they can request to do so via Maureen Wilson. Each request will be considered on its own merits.

Business

Items for Assistant Director Decision

1. Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Levy for the Whitby Harbour Property Level Protection (Pages 3 - 14)
2. Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Levy for Scalby Ness Nature Based Solutions Project (Pages 15 - 24)

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

Thursday, 19 February 2026

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North Yorkshire Council

Assistant Director Resources (Environment)

27 February 2026

Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy for the Whitby Harbour Property Level Protection (Flood cell 1,3 and 4) scheme.

Report of the Assistant Director – Regulatory Services and Harbours

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Request approval from the Corporate Director Resources (sub-delegated to the Assistant Director- Resources) to accept funding of £179,450 from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy to undertake a Property Flood Resilience (PFR) scheme for individual properties at significant tidal and main river flood risk around the Whitby Harbour area.
- 1.2 To notify of the intention that following acceptance and drawing down of the funding following approval of the business case, North Yorkshire Council will enter into contract with specialist PFR installers Watertight International Ltd to implement the scheme.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The River Esk flows through the centre of Whitby forming the harbour, which is protected by two breakwaters. Sea flooding due to extreme water levels in the harbour and lower estuary typically occurs on both banks. Notable sea flooding events occurred during the December 2013 east coast storm surge and a further storm surge in January 2017. The events caused extensive damage to public infrastructure and widespread flooding around the harbour impacting many properties.
- 2.2 The worst affected area on the east bank has been addressed by the Church Street Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS), which was one of the priority schemes recommended by the council adopted Whitby Coastal Strategy 2 (2012).
- 2.3 The Strategy found that for the other areas of flood risk around the harbour there was not sufficient economic justification to promote engineered community flood alleviation schemes. The Strategy recommended that property level protection (PLP) was instead investigated further for three areas; Floodcells 1, 3, and 4. This includes the areas on the east bank which are not covered by the Church Street FAS, and the area on the west bank between the Swing Bridge and main Whitby Bridge (See Appendix A- Flood Cell 1 is located within River Management Units RE1&RE2, Flood Cell 3 within River Management Units RE8 & RE9 and Flood Cell 4 within River Management Units RW4-RW9). The Strategy identified a potential 27 residential and 38 non-residential properties which could benefit from PLP in these areas.

- 2.4 A business case to the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (YRFCC) Local Levy is being prepared for Flood Defense Grant in Aid and Local Levy to enable implementation of the preferred strategic option in the fiscal year 2026/27. The Authority was recently notified that its Grant in Aid allocation has been withdrawn from the Government Flood and Coastal Erosion Investment Programme, owing to significant overspends in flood and coastal defense schemes currently live around the country.
- 2.5 The Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (YRFCC) comes together as a regional partnership to take an overview of flood and coastal erosion risk management. They also seek to promote investment and encourage innovation which is good value and benefits communities. RFCCs raise a Local Levy on Lead Local Flood Authorities, including North Yorkshire Council, which provides an invaluable resource to help fund local flood and coast priorities.
- 2.6 As the properties benefiting from PFR have already been identified and surveyed there is an expectation from homeowners that the scheme will be delivered. Risk Management Authorities could be open to reputational damage should the scheme be aborted or postponed waiting for funding to become available. The application of Local Levy that covers the Grant in Aid shortfall will ensure the delivery of the scheme in 2026/27, meeting homeowner expectations.
- 2.7 Permission to apply for grant was granted by the Executive Member at a public meeting of the Environment Directorate - Corporate Director and Executive Member - Highways and Transportation held 18 December 2023. Local Levy is administered by the Environment Agency and the funding of £594,000 required to deliver the works within the report includes an element of Local Levy allocated within the investment programme. Following permission to apply, a robust application that merited consideration was submitted to the YRFCC Local Levy using their capital project proforma.

3.0 DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

- 3.1 Property level protection, more commonly referred to as Property Flood Resilience (PFR), bridges the gap between traditional engineered flood defence schemes and sandbags. Measures such as flood barriers, flood doors, air brick covers and non-return valves to waste pipes are fitted to the property and are designed specifically to reduce the impact of flooding on properties. PFR measures can significantly reduce flood damage and repair costs, with every £1 spent on PFR potentially saving £5 in future damages.
- 3.2 Further assessment and refinement of the figures presented in the Strategy has been undertaken using a detailed modelling exercise utilising latest sea level data to establish tidal and fluvial flood risk. The owners of 17 properties identified were invited by letter to participate in the scheme and were provided details of drop in information event.
- 3.3 The drop in information event, which was by invitation only for owners of at-risk properties, was held at the Whitby Seafarers & Mission on 08 July 2025. Council officers, the Council's appointed PFR property survey consultant, JBA Consulting, and specialist installers Watertight International were in attendance to answer questions. The event was attended by the Town Major, Cllr Sandra Turner, and the North Yorkshire Council Whitby Streonshalh division Cllr Neil Swannick.

- 3.4 The owners of 12 properties registered interest in the scheme following the engagement exercise. A PFR survey for each property has been undertaken by JBA Consulting and a detailed report containing recommended measures and options to take forward will be provided to each homeowner. Further options development will be undertaken to ensure the correct products are identified and implemented that are appropriate for the person, flood and home.
- 3.5 Issues surrounding the surcharging of drains around New Quay Road during surge events was raised at the engagement event and has since been raised by the Highways Team. It is proposed to apply some of the Levy to investigate the issue further by carrying out an extensive drainage survey to better inform future management.
- 3.6 North Yorkshire Council has procured Watertight International Ltd via Lot 2 (Detailed Design and Construction) of the Environment Agency's Property Flood Resilience Framework for the Northeast area, which is open for use by other Flood Risk Management Authorities designated under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.
- 3.7 Following permission to accept the grant, the business case will be submitted to the Environment Agency to obtain the necessary financial approval to draw down the allocation. North Yorkshire Council will then enter into contract with Watertight International Ltd to design and construct the scheme and will enter into formal agreement with homeowners. Following construction JBA Consulting will carry out a post installation audit under an existing contract.
- 3.8 The Conservation Officer has been briefed on the scheme in respect of the Conservation Area and listed buildings.

4.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Under the Do-Nothing option properties would continue to flood, resulting in significant damages and disruption for property owners. Although this option would have zero cost to implement it would result in other costs to the local authority and other risk management authorities to respond to flood events and during post-flood clear up. Costs could be several thousand to tens of thousands of pounds per flood event.
- 4.2 Under the Do Minimum option the Authority will continue to promote the flood warning service operated by the Environment Agency. There is no change to the frequency or severity of flooding compared to Do Nothing. There may be a slight reduction in damage and disruption due to residents and businesses being better prepared for flooding due to flood warnings allowing sandbags to be installed. The scale of the flood event would dictate how effective the sandbags would be as a temporary deflector of flood water if put out in time by residents. However, this option would still incur the same costs to the risk management authorities for responding to flood events and during post-flood clear up. Costs could be several thousand to tens of thousands of pounds per flood event.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Upon acceptance, £179,450 capital funding will be secured to deliver the scheme outlined above. The project costs will be fully funded through Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy and no match funding would be required from NYC. Homeowners are aware that a contribution from themselves will be required if costs come in over budget. In order to limit the financial risk to the council, no products will be ordered until any required personal contributions are paid.

5.2 Any terms and conditions attached to the grant will be reviewed by Legal Services and if any of these present an unacceptable risk for the Council then the grant offer would be declined.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Any terms and conditions terms attached to the grant will be reviewed by Legal Services to ensure that they do not present an unacceptable risk for the Council.

7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The scheme benefits all residents with protected characteristics by reducing the risk of tidal and main river flooding around the Esk estuary. Properties have been identified based on modelled flood risk alone not individual characteristics. PFR measures can be selected to suit the property, its use, source of flooding and the person. Officers will work with the contractor and the property owner to ensure the right measures are chosen. (See Appendix B)

8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Flood mitigation offers positive benefits to resilience to future climate change projections. The proposals are anticipated to have a positive impact in response to climate change (See Appendix C)

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Property Flood Resilience is offered to all eligible residents who meet the criteria, the identified properties have either flooded or been identified as high risk of flooding within the Environment Agency guidelines and the scheme will improve living conditions for those flooding has affected. The implementation of PFR (Property Flood Resilience) will offer peace of mind to residents that there is some level of protection against tidal and fluvial risk.

9.2 The investment is being made now in recognition that changes in our climate will likely mean more frequent and extreme weather events. It is therefore considered appropriate to continue with the scheme as intended, with regular relevant liaison through the engagement channels established as part of the scheme.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION

10.1 That the Corporate Director Resources (sub-delegated to the Assistant Director-Resources), agrees to the Council accepting £179,450 from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy to undertake a Property Flood Resilience (PFR) scheme for individual properties at significant tidal and main river flood risk around the Whitby Harbour area subject to acceptable terms and conditions being received.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Key plan of River Management Units

Appendix B – EIA Screening Form

Appendix C – Climate Change Impact Assessment

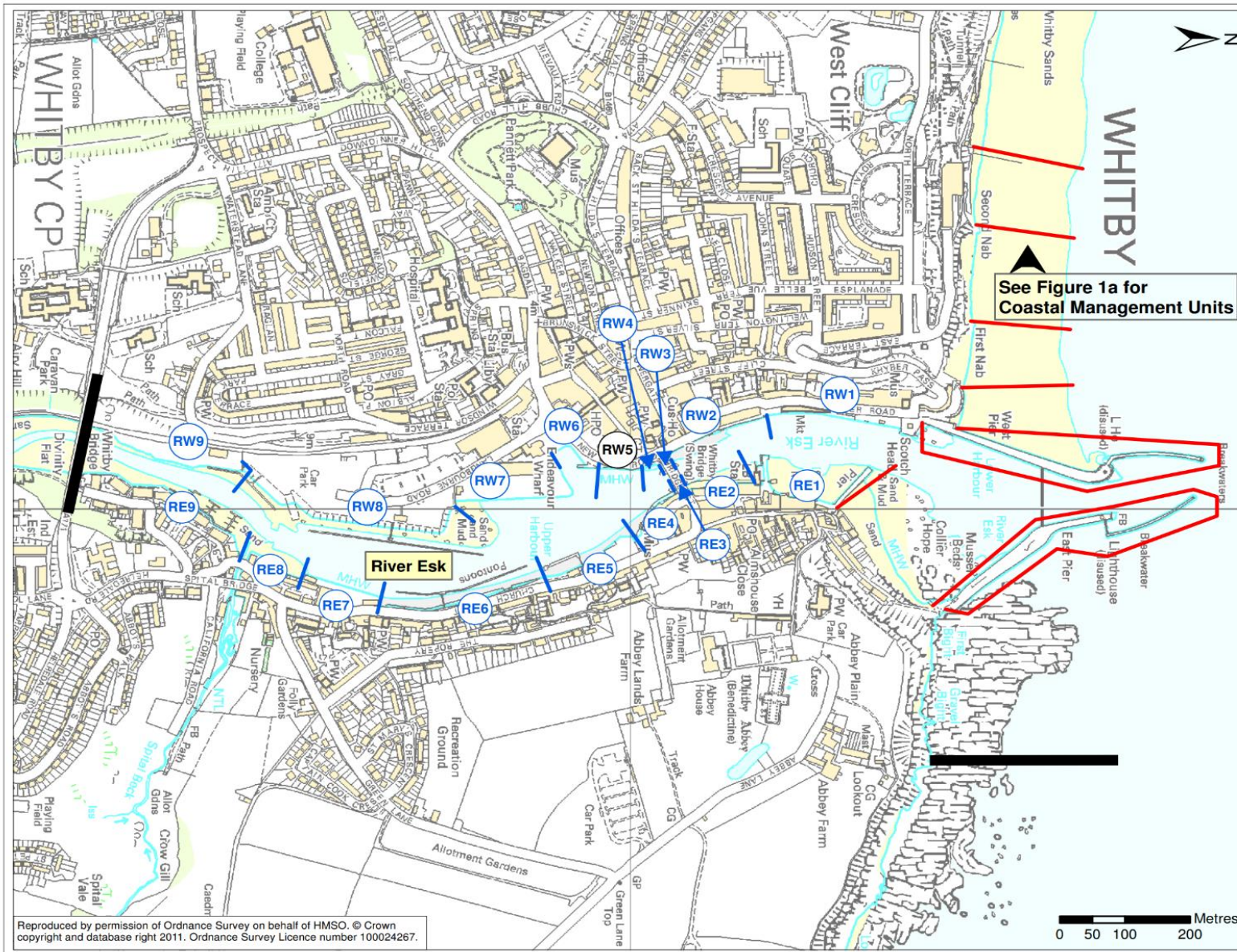
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

Callum McKeon
Assistant Director – Regulation and Harbours
County Hall
Northallerton
02 February 2026

Report Author – David Robinson, Strategic Coastal Monitoring Project Officer
Presenter of Report – Stewart Rowe, Principal Coastal Office

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Appendix A



- Strategy Frontage Boundary
- Coastal Management Unit boundary
- River Management Unit boundary
- Management Unit number

See Figure 1a for Coastal Management Units

Title:
Key Plan

Project:
Whitby Coastal Strategy 2

Client:
Scarborough Borough Council

Date:
October 2011

Scale on A4:
1 : 7,800

Figure: 1b	Drawn: TC	Checked: NJC
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<p>Initial equality impact assessment screening form This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.</p>			
Directorate	Environment		
Service area	Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure		
Proposal being screened	Whitby Harbour Property Level Protection (Flood cell 1,3 and 4)		
Officer(s) conducting screening	David Robinson		
What are you proposing to do?	Implement Property Flood Resilience to at risk properties around Whitby harbour		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	Properties have experienced flooding or have been identified as high risk of flooding.		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	The project involves committing officer time in 2026/27		
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics. As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		No – positive impact	
Disability		No – positive impact	
Sex		No – positive impact	
Race		No – positive impact	
Sexual orientation		No – positive impact	
Gender reassignment		No – positive impact	
Religion or belief		No – positive impact	
Pregnancy or maternity		No – positive impact	
Marriage or civil partnership		No – positive impact	
People in rural areas		No – positive impact	

People on a low income		No – positive impact	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		No – positive impact	
Are from the Armed Forces Community		No – positive impact	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (for example, disabled people’s access to public transport)? Please give details.	No		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (for example, partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	* The scheme benefits all those with protected characteristics by reducing the risk of fluvial and sea flooding around the harbour and thereby the associated effects upon residential properties and the public health of the community living at flood risk		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Callum McKeon		
Date	19/02/26		

Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Title of proposal	Whitby Harbour Property Level Protection (Flood cell 1,3 and 4)
Brief description of proposal	Implement Property Flood Resilience for properties at tidal and fluvial flood risk around Whitby harbour Listed building consent will likely be required on a property-by-property basis
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure
Lead officer	David Robinson
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	John Ward-Campbell

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following.

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

Appendix C

Environmental factor to consider	For the council	For the county	Overall
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste
Water use	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	Increases resilience	Increases resilience	Increases resilience
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology
Heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

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Decision (Please tick one option)	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full CCIA:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for decision	<p>*PFR will have a positive impact on properties with resilience to flooding which may result in reduced waste and potential increase of greenhouse emissions. *Waste from the implementation of PFR is one off and limited. Any waste will be removed by the contractor overseen by a North Yorkshire Council Project Manager. *Construction for Property Flood Resilience is one off and limited with no effect on greenhouse emissions and pollution.</p>			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Callum McKeon			
Date	19/02/26			

North Yorkshire Council

Assistant Director Resources (Environment)

27 February 2026

Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy grant for a Nature Based Solutions project.

Report of the Assistant Director – Regulatory Services and Harbours

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Corporate Director Resources (sub-delegated to the Assistant Director Resources), to accept the grant of £97,000 from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy to design a nature-based solution pilot scheme to mitigate coastal erosion.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This project will develop and pilot an innovative nature-based solution, supporting a proactive and sustainable approach to managing coastal change. The work will focus on building a detailed understanding of coastal processes at this location and using this evidence to design interventions that work alongside natural systems to enhance long-term resilience. The pilot will explore landscape-led and environmentally sensitive design options, including habitat creation, improved sediment management and nature-based engineering approaches. These measures are intended to help manage erosion pressures while delivering wider environmental benefits, such as enhanced biodiversity and positive outcomes for the upstream catchment. The project will produce a robust design, supported by evidence and learning, which will inform longer-term coastal management planning. By testing and refining approaches at this stage, the scheme will help identify future investment opportunities and support well-planned, value-for-money decision-making for the benefit of the area and its communities.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 North Yorkshire Council has assumed the role of Coast Protection Authority, previously undertaken by Scarborough Borough Council. In this capacity, the Council is responsible for overseeing coastal protection activities and the long-term management of coastal change.
- 3.2 Since 2008, an established programme of coastal monitoring has been in place along Scarborough's shoreline. This work provides a detailed understanding of how the coast and cliffs respond to natural processes over time, helping the Council to track long-term trends and inform future planning.
- 3.3 As part of good asset and risk management practice, the Council periodically reviews existing data to ensure its understanding remains current to support longer-term planning and identify opportunities to manage coastal change in a sustainable and proportionate way.
- 3.4 The Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) operates as a regional partnership overseeing flood and coastal erosion risk management. It promotes investment in projects that provide value for money and deliver benefits to local communities. The RFCC raises a Local Levy from Lead Local Flood Authorities, including North Yorkshire Council, which can be used to support locally important flood and coastal projects.

- 3.5 The Environment Agency's Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) National Strategy sets out a long-term vision for adapting to flooding and coastal change through forward planning and resilience. A key ambition of the strategy is to support communities in preparing for and responding to coastal change in a managed and sustainable way.
- 3.6 An initial allocation of Yorkshire RFCC Local Levy funding has been offered to support the design of a . During the design phase, a comprehensive funding strategy will be developed to identify and progress appropriate sources of funding for delivery. This will ensure that, on completion of the design, the project is well-positioned to move forward with clear governance, funding pathways and delivery arrangements. A subsequent Local Levy bid will be submitted following completion of the design to seek funding for construction in line with this strategy.

4.0 DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

- 4.1 At present, there are locations where no formal engineered slope management measures in are in place. There are areas that benefit from existing grassed buffers between the cliff edge and nearby residential properties, which play an important role in accommodating natural coastal processes over time and reducing the likelihood of any direct impact on properties.
- 4.2 Previous technical assessments have highlighted that, in the absence of managed intervention, long-term coastal change could gradually alter slope profiles under certain future climate scenarios. For this reason, the Council is taking a proactive approach by exploring options that would help manage these processes in a planned and proportionate way, supporting the continued resilience of the cliff-top area.
- 4.3 Technical reviews have identified erosion at the base of the slope as an important factor influencing how the slope behaves over time. This erosion is linked to elevated water levels in the beck during periods of high river flow and storm conditions. Site inspections have confirmed localised bank erosion in this area, indicating that targeted measures at the slope toe could provide long-term benefits.
- 4.4 As part of a proposed scheme, a slope toe protection design will be developed. The aim is to manage erosion in this area, support natural ground conditions and encourage the establishment of vegetation, all of which contribute to improving the long-term stability and resilience of the slope.
- 4.5 Design options will include environmentally sustainable, nature-based solutions that make use of vegetative materials. These approaches not only help manage coastal change but also provide wider environmental benefits, including carbon capture, Biodiversity Net Gain and ecological enhancement.
- 4.6 Ahead of completing the detailed design, further work will be undertaken to confirm the operation of existing drainage outfalls and to carry out the necessary ecological surveys to inform the final proposals.
- 4.7 Ongoing engagement with residents will form an important part of the project. The Council will continue to encourage residents to share local knowledge and observations of the coastal slopes, which can provide valuable insight to complement monitoring data. This collaborative approach supports effective management of the site and helps ensure that information, advice and future proposals are clearly communicated.

5.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

- 5.1 Relevant stakeholders have been engaged throughout the development of the project to ensure the proposals are technically robust and aligned with regulatory and operational requirements. Early engagement has taken place with the Environment Agency, focusing on flood risk management, regulatory considerations, and integration with wider catchment priorities. Discussions with Yorkshire Water have examined asset interactions, drainage implications and opportunities for coordinated working. The Scarborough SEA LIFE Centre has also been consulted to understand any potential implications for marine life, visitor experience and the local coastal environment. Engagement has additionally been undertaken with local councillors to ensure awareness of the project, understand local sensitivities and support effective communication as the scheme advances.
- 5.2 At this stage, engagement with residents has not yet been undertaken, as this will commence once funding is secured, and the design phase begins. A full programme of public engagement will be developed at that point.
- 5.3 Internally, the project team has engaged with the Council's Parks service, who have recently secured approximately £31,000 of external funding to work in partnership with Yorkshire Water on proposals to designate the area as a Local Nature Reserve. Throughout the design phase, we will collaborate closely with the Parks team and Yorkshire Water to ensure that our work aligns with and supports their ambitions. This integrated approach will maximise environmental outcomes, avoid duplication, and strengthen the collective case for investment. By coordinating our respective programmes, the project will demonstrate clear, joined-up thinking and deliver a more coherent, place-based solution for the site.

6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 Under the Do-Nothing option, awareness of the coastal erosion risk amongst residents may remain low. There would be no forward planning for managing the consequences of coastal erosion. Residents would be unprepared for the loss of properties creating difficulties for the Risk Management Authority to manage the process when the time comes for residents to have to leave. Significant mental health burden for residents becoming suddenly aware of the risks in an emergency situation, and with no forward plan for dealing with the risks residents may be left feeling unsupported and isolated. Whilst the cost of this option is zero in the present day, it may increase the costs to the Risk Management Authorities for dealing with the issue as the properties become at imminent risk of loss.
- 6.2 North Yorkshire Council is the lead Authority of the Environment Agency funded Cell 1 Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme. Under the option of Do-Minimum, North Yorkshire Council will continue to capture aerial photography and LiDAR data through the ongoing Cell 1 Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme to support understanding of coastal change and inform the likely remaining life span of the properties. As this data collection is already funded, the cost of this option would be minimal requiring only RMA staff time to consider timescales. However, this option poses the same risks as the Do-Nothing option in terms of community preparedness, and increased costs to the RMAs for dealing with the issue as the properties become at imminent risk of loss.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 A bid for grant from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy has been successful, securing £97,000 of capital -based solution to help mitigate coastal erosion and slope instability. This funding will support project costs, including consultant fees and NYC staff time. funding to undertake the design of a nature based solution to help mitigate coastal erosion and slope instability. This funding will support project costs, including consultant fees and NYC staff time. No match funding from the Council is required.

- 7.2 The precise cost of any future construction works cannot be confirmed until the design stage is complete. At this stage, costs remain indicative only. A second funding bid will seek to secure funding for delivery through the Local Levy and/or other available sources. Any future funding requirements and construction proposals will be subject to a further report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 It is expected that the Council will be required to enter into a grant agreement as part of accepting the funding, but these terms have not yet been received. Once received, Legal Services will review the terms and conditions in full to ensure they are appropriate and manageable. Should any clause present an unacceptable level of risk, the Council retains the option not to proceed with the agreement.
- 8.2 All expenditure of the grant will be managed in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules and, where applicable, the Procurement Act 2023 and the Subsidy Control Act 2022. Existing monitoring arrangements, including regular budget reporting and audit oversight, will ensure full compliance with funder requirements and provide assurance that the grant is being used appropriately.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report (Appendix A).

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The proposed funding bid, if successful will lead to adaptation to climate change. A key avoidance action will be to produce a design that mitigates the coastal erosion risk to several properties at Scalby Ness. The project will contribute to the reestablishment of the gravel riverbed habitat which is crucial breeding ground for the local rare brown trout species which is at risk of loss due to climate change (Appendix B).
- 10.2 The Scalby Ness coastal erosion NBS project will directly support the goals set out in North Yorkshire Council's Nature Recovery Strategy. It will achieve this by enhancing coastal biodiversity, providing natural flood and erosion protection, and supporting carbon sequestration.

11.0 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The proposal has been reviewed under North Yorkshire Council's corporate risk framework and presents a low and manageable level of risk. Financial risk is reduced through secured external grant funding and the preparation of a clear funding strategy for future stages. Commissioning a specialist consultant ensures technical compliance and minimises risks associated with design quality, cost variation and procurement challenge. Delivery risks including programme delays, environmental constraints and stakeholder concerns, will be managed through established project governance and early engagement with statutory bodies and local stakeholders. Reputational risk is limited and will be mitigated through transparent decision-making and clear communication. Overall, the project aligns with statutory coastal management duties and can be delivered within existing controls.

12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 As Risk Management Authority, North Yorkshire Council, under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, is required to act in a manner that is consistent with the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England and work collaboratively with other RMAs.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

13.1 The Assistant Director Resources accepts the grant of £97,000 from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy to design a nature-based solution pilot scheme to mitigate coastal erosion, subject to acceptable terms and conditions being received.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – EIA Screening Form

Appendix B - Climate Change Implications

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: <https://www.northeastcoastalobservatory.org.uk/data/Reports/>

Callum McKeon
Assistant Director – Regulatory Services and Harbours
County Hall
Northallerton
10 February 2026

Report Author – Victoria Thompson – Project Officer
Presenter of Report – Chris Bourne, Engineering and Coastal Manager

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Initial equality impact assessment screening form	
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.	
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure
Proposal being screened	Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy for Scalby NBS Project
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Victoria Thompson, Coastal Project Officer
What are you proposing to do?	Accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy for Scalby Sea Cut NBS Project
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect 35 properties currently at risk of coastal erosion through sustainable coastal interventions. • Safeguard heritage assets at Scalby Mills by enhancing natural resilience and reducing exposure to environmental stressors. • Restore gravel-bedded stream habitats that support biodiversity and ecological function. • Increase brown trout populations as a measurable indicator of improved water quality and habitat health. • Promote public awareness and understanding of river ecology through inclusive education, outreach, and citizen science initiatives.
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	<p>At this stage, the Scalby Sea Cut proposal is in early development, informed by evaluation and monitoring data. The project is likely to require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic support from the council (e.g. planning, permissions, stakeholder coordination) • In-kind contributions such as officer time, access to land, or integration with existing flood risk or environmental programme • Partnership working with external bodies (e.g. Environment Agency, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Wild Trout Trust)
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics</p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? • Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? • Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>	

Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Are from the Armed Forces Community		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (for example, disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (for example, partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	The decision itself whether to accept Local Levy has no equalities impact. Following acceptance of the grant, the community, inclusive of all individuals, regardless of protected characteristics. will be engaged in the design process for the nature-based solutions interventions. The site currently has no public access, and the engagement programme will be developed to ensure it is fully inclusive and accessible to all.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Callum McKeon		
Date	12/02/2026		

Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Title of proposal	Permission to accept Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy the Scalby Sea Cut NBS Project.
Brief description of proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To confirm acceptance of the offer of funding from the Yorkshire Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy for the design of a nature-based solutions pilot scheme to mitigate slope stability and coastal erosion at Scalby Sea Cut, Scarborough. 2) To notify that, following acceptance of this funding, a consultant will be procured to provide specialist technical support in developing the design for the nature-based solutions project at Scalby Sea Cut.
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Harbours and Coastal Infrastructure
Lead officer	Victoria Thompson, Coastal Projects Officer
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following.

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

Environmental factor to consider	For the council	For the county	Overall
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste
Water use	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	Decreases pollution	No effect on pollution	Decreases pollution
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	Increases resilience	Increases resilience	Increases resilience
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	Positive impact on ecology	Positive impact on ecology	Positive impact on ecology
Heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact, then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

Decision (Please tick one option)	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate:	X	Continue to full CCIA:	
Reason for decision	<p>The Scalby Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) project is currently in its early design stage, informed by recent evaluation and monitoring work. At this point, the project is not expected to result in either significant positive or negative environmental impacts. The interventions being considered such as slope stabilisation, habitat restoration, and sediment control are intended to work with natural processes and will be assessed in detail as the design develops. Any potential environmental effects will be carefully evaluated through appropriate assessments and stakeholder engagement before implementation.</p> <p>In terms of climate change impact to the council, the project does not currently require a major shift in resources, infrastructure, or policy. However, it aligns with broader climate adaptation goals by aiming to reduce erosion risks, protect assets, and enhance ecological resilience. As the design progresses, further analysis will be undertaken to understand how the project contributes to long-term climate resilience and whether it supports the council's strategic objectives under climate and environmental frameworks.</p> <p>This statement is intended to provide assurance that the project is being developed responsibly, with a clear commitment to evidence-led planning and environmental stewardship. More detailed impact assessments will follow as part of the formal design and appraisal process.</p>			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Callum McKeon			
Date	12/02/2026			