




Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy

Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report

June 2014



Quality Management

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001	June 2014	Preliminary Draft for Internal Review	K Jackson	R Taylor / J Wynne	P Woods
002	June 2014	Final for Issue to Consultees	K Jackson	R Taylor / J Wynne	P Woods

Invitation to Comment on this Report

This document forms the Scoping Report for the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy.

The purpose of the Scoping Report is to identify, through consultation, any plans and programmes of relevance, to describe the environmental, economic and social baseline of the study area, and to highlight the key environmental issues and objectives for consideration during the Coastal Strategy's development.

The report is open to consultation for **5 weeks**, from **25th June to 30th July 2014**. The following questions are presented as part of the consultation however further comments with regard to the Coastal Strategy are also welcomed.

- Q1:** Have all plans and programmes relevant to the Coastal Strategy been identified?
- Q2:** Are there any significant gaps or errors in the environmental baseline data that has been identified?
- Q3:** Are there any additional environmental issues, opportunities or constraints that need to be considered as part of the SEA for the Coastal Strategy?
- Q4:** Are the proposed SEA objectives, indicators and assessment criteria suitable in the context of the Coastal Strategy, and are there any objectives, indicators or assessment criteria that should be removed or added?
- Q5:** Do you have any further comments on the proposed approach and scope of the SEA?

Please send responses or comments on this consultation to:

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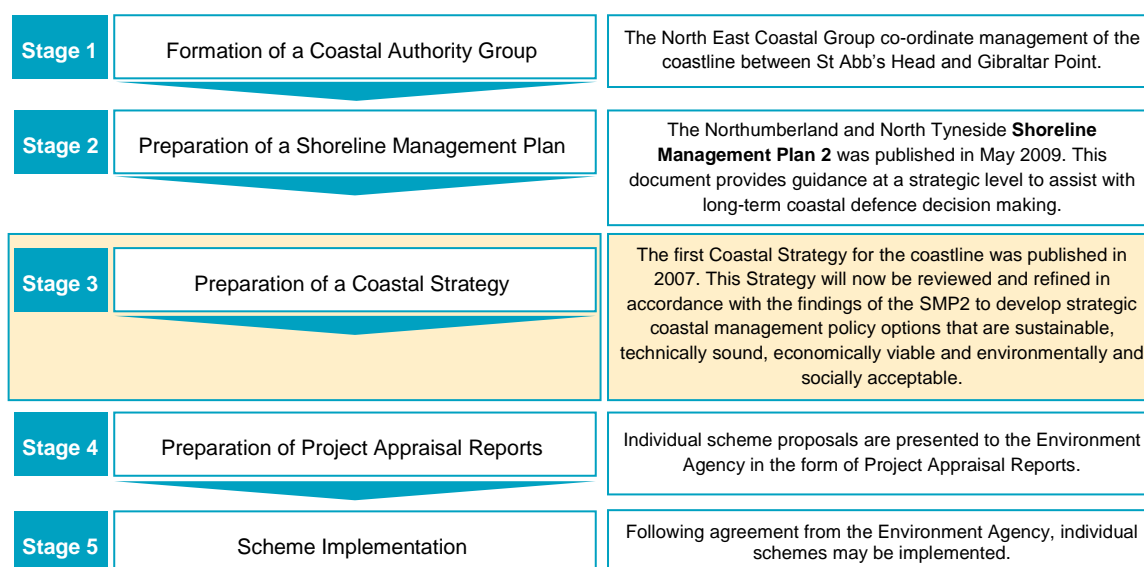
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1. Introduction

1.1 Background to the Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy

- 1.1.1 The Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy is a non-statutory document providing a high-level basis for decision making in relation to the long term management of the coastline. The Strategy appraises a range of coastal defence options to determine; the most sustainable, technically sound, economically viable and environmentally and socially acceptable methods of managing risks such as coastal flooding, erosion and sea level rise.
- 1.1.2 The Strategy document sits within a larger planning framework for coastal defence management, as illustrated in Figure 1.1, below. It draws on the strategic direction outlined in the Shoreline Management Plan to develop individual coastal defence schemes or projects for works at specific locations along the coast. The Strategy provides a more in-depth appreciation of the risks and requirements for protection, examining the coastal processes in detail and appraising the options against economic, environmental and social criteria.

Figure 1.1 Coastal Defence Planning Framework



- 1.1.3 The first Coastal Strategy for the coastline between Hartley Cove and the River Tyne was published in 2007. Since this initial publication, a programme of coastal monitoring has been carried out to obtain data and improve the understanding of coastal processes and the risks they pose. There have also been a number of important changes to legislation and policy, including the introduction of the Flood and Water Management Act, 2009 and a review of the higher level Shoreline Management Plan for the Northumberland and North Tyneside coast (SMP2) in 2009.

- 1.1.4 In light of these changes, a comprehensive review of the original Coastal Strategy and its recommendations is now required. The review will draw on the updated management policies outlined in SMP2, along with new sources of data, to put forward a revised shortlist of long term, sustainable solutions for individual project areas along the coast. Potential sources of partnership funding for these schemes will also be explored.

1.2 Study Area

- 1.2.1 The Strategy coastline stretches from Hartley Cove in the north to the River Tyne in the south and covers the urbanised areas of Whitley Bay and Tynemouth; a distance of approximately 10km. The coastline falls partly within Policy Development Zone 6 from Seaton Sluice to the River Tyne and Management Areas (MAs) 24 to 27, as defined in SMP2 (see Figure 1.2). The shoreline generally consists of undefended short sections of rock outcrops, cliffs and shore platform, between which are (mostly) defended or managed beach frontages backed by cliffs and dunes. The coastline can be divided into four principle management sections, as follows:

- **Hartley Cove to Curry's Point (MA 24)** – Clifed frontage with a rock shore platform. Defences exist at Hartley Cove and St Mary's Island with the remainder of the frontage being undefended and eroding.
- **Curry's Point to Brown's Point (MA 25)** – Defended frontage for most of its length by concrete or masonry sea walls and with a short section of rock armour. There is one short section of undefended cliff.
- **Brown's Point to Tynemouth North Pier (MA 26)** – This frontage consists of three bays between rock headlands; Cullercoats Bay, Tynemouth Longsands and King Edwards's Bay. Cullercoats Bay is mostly defended whilst, Longsands has defences to the north and managed dunes to the south. King Edward's Bay and the adjacent cliffs are heavily defended. Tynemouth North Pier is a large masonry structure which forms the outer navigation structure to the River Tyne and provides protection to North and South Tyneside.
- **Tynemouth North Pier to the Fish Quay (MA 27)** – This frontage extends from the coastal environment adjacent to the pier to the estuarine environment at the Fish Quay. The frontage is defended by a number of different defences including, concrete and masonry sea walls, a masonry groyne, rock armour and the quay walls.

Figure 1.2: Study area location plan



1.3 The Strategic Environmental Assessment Process

- 1.3.1 Under EU Directive 2001/42/EC (hereafter referred to as the 'SEA Directive') a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required for certain plans and programmes which are likely to have a significant effect on the environment. Currently there is no legal requirement to apply the SEA Directive to Coastal Strategies however, as these plans clearly help to set the future framework for planning, have significant environmental implications and require extensive consultation, it is considered best practice to do so¹.
- 1.3.2 The principle aim of the SEA Directive is to 'provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development...' By including SEA during high-level decision-making, it is possible to carry out a systematic appraisal of the potential environmental consequences of all options, allowing schemes to be directed towards the most appropriate solutions.
- 1.3.3 To this end, a SEA will be undertaken in parallel with the development of the revised Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy Plan, allowing for the environmental effects of options to be considered from an early stage.
- 1.3.4 The approach adopted by the SEA will adhere to requirements set out in The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations, 2004 (SI 2004 No.1633) (hereafter referred to as the '*SEA Regulations*') and will follow best practice guidance² produced by the former Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), now Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG).
- 1.3.5 A summary of the principle stages in the SEA process to be followed, as outlined in best practice guidance, is provided in Table 1.1, below.

Table 1.1 Stages in the SEA Process

SEA Stages and Tasks		Purpose
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope		
A1	Identify other relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives.	To establish how the plan or programme is affected by outside factors to suggest ideas for how any constraints can be addressed, and to help identify SEA objectives.
A2	Collecting baseline information.	To provide an evidence base for environmental problems, prediction of effects, and monitoring; to help in the development of SEA objectives.
A3	Identifying environmental problems.	To help focus the SEA and streamline the subsequent stages, including baseline information analysis, setting of the SEA objectives, prediction of effects and monitoring.
A4	Developing SEA objectives.	To provide a means by which the environmental performance of the plan or programme and alternatives can be assessed.

¹ Defra (2006), Shoreline Management Plan Guidance, Volume 1: Aims and Requirements

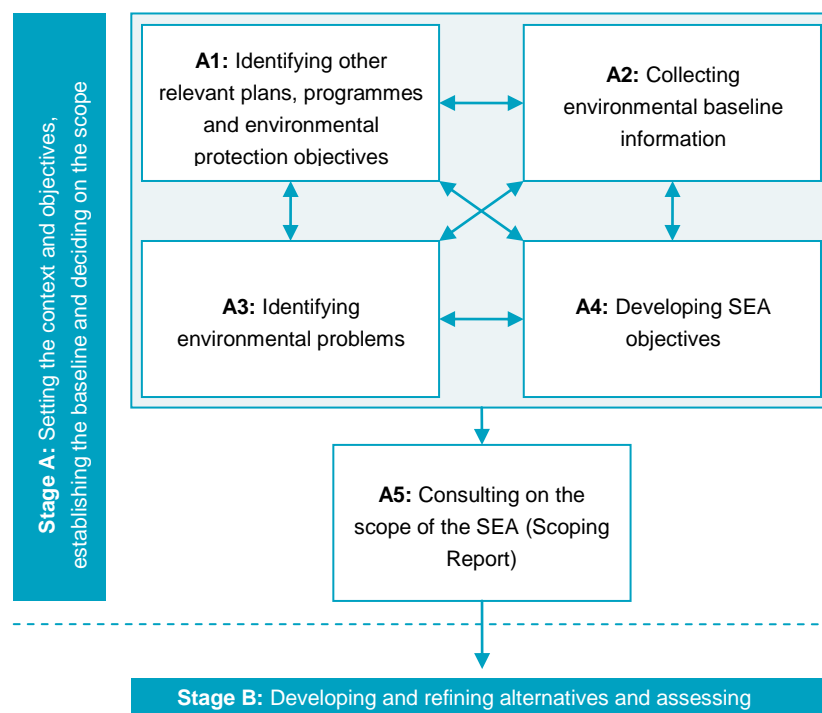
² ODPM (2005), A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive

SEA Stages and Tasks		Purpose
A5	Consulting on the scope of SEA.	To ensure that the SEA covers the likely significant environmental effects of the plan or programme.
Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects		
B1	Testing the plan or programme objectives against the SEA objectives.	To identify potential synergies or inconsistencies between the objectives of the plan or programme and the SEA objectives and help in developing alternatives.
B2	Developing strategic alternatives.	To develop and refine strategic alternatives.
B3	Predicting the effects of the plan or programme, including alternatives.	To predict the significant environmental effects of the plan or programme and alternatives.
B4	Evaluating the effects of the plan or programme, including alternatives.	To evaluate the predicted effects of the plan or programme and its alternatives and assist in the refinement of the plan or programme.
B5	Mitigating adverse effects.	To ensure that adverse effects are identified and potential mitigation measures are considered.
B6	Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of plan or programme implementation.	To detail the means by which the environmental performance of the plan or programme can be assessed.
Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report		
C1	Preparing the environmental report.	To present the predicted environmental effects of the plan or programme, including alternatives, in a form suitable for public consultation and use by decision makers.
Stage D: Consulting on the Draft Plan or Programme and the Environmental Report		
D1	Consulting the public and consultation bodies on the draft plan or environmental report.	To give the public and the consultation bodies an opportunity to express their opinions on the findings of the Environmental Report and to use it as a reference point on commenting on the plan or programme. To gather more information through the opinions and concerns of the public.
D2	Assessing significant changes.	To ensure that the environmental implications of any significant changes to the draft plan or programme at this stage are assessed and taken into account.
D3	Making decisions and providing information.	To provide information on how the environment Report and consultees opinions were taken into account in deciding the final form of the plan or programme to be adopted.
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the plan or programme on the environment		
E1	Developing aims and methods for monitoring.	To track the environmental effects of the plan or programme to show whether they are as predicted; to help identify adverse effects.
E2	Responding to adverse effects.	To prepare for appropriate responses where adverse effects are identified.

1.4 Stage A: SEA Scoping

- 1.4.1 The SEA is currently at the scoping stage (Stage A) where the likely extent and level of information to be included in the assessment process is determined. Scoping facilitates discussion and consultation with stakeholders early on in the process to ensure that the SEA is conducted to a level of detail that is fit for purpose. It also ensures that all environmental issues have been appropriately identified and that the definition of objectives for the SEA aligns with an understanding of the existing environment and any aspirations of the key stakeholders.
- 1.4.2 Scoping incorporates five principal tasks which are discussed in further detail below. The relationships between these tasks are illustrated in Figure 1.3.

Figure 1.3 Relationships between Stage A Scoping Tasks



A1: Identification of Relevant Plans and Programmes

- 1.4.3 A plan or programme will be influenced by, or will influence, other plans and programmes. External environmental protection objectives such as those laid down in policies or legislation should also be taken into account. By having an understanding of relationships between these documents it is possible to recognise potential synergies, as well as deal with any consistencies and constraints.

- 1.4.4 A comprehensive list of relevant plans, policies and programmes has been reviewed in preparing this report. Those of most relevance are detailed further in **Section 2** whilst, the full list is provided in **Appendix A**.

A2: Collecting Baseline Information

- 1.4.5 Baseline information provides the foundation for predicting potential environmental effects of a plan or programme. Aspects of the baseline to be considered are listed in Annex I of the SEA Directive and include information on; biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage) and the landscape.
- 1.4.6 A concise summary of the environmental baseline is provided in **Section 3** of this report, with figures showing the location of features in **Appendix B**.

A3: Identifying Environmental Problems

- 1.4.7 This task provides an opportunity to define the key environmental issues and help focus subsequent stages of the SEA process. Potential problems may be identified by exploring; conflicts between the policies of different plans and programmes, tensions between the baseline conditions and existing targets, objectives or obligations, and issues raised by consultation bodies and the public.
- 1.4.8 **Section 5** of this report provides a summary of the environmental problems identified which are of relevance to the Coastal Strategy.

A4: Developing SEA Objectives (and Indicators)

- 1.4.9 Objectives of an SEA are distinct from those developed for a plan or programme. SEA objectives serve a different purpose in that they are devised to enable the environmental effects of a plan or programme to be tested, as well as enabling a comparison of alternatives to be made.
- 1.4.10 In conducting the environmental assessment, a test of compatibility is performed between the SEA objectives and those of the plan or programme. Where conflicts between objectives are identified, alternatives and options for mitigation are considered.
- 1.4.11 The SEA objectives identified in this report (see **Section 5**) have been derived through consultation with stakeholders and the public, an understanding of the environmental baseline and a review of related plans and programmes. Indicators are provided within each objective as a basis for monitoring the environmental effects of implementing the Coastal Strategy and are derived where possible from baseline data.

A5: Consulting on the SEA Scope – The Scoping Report

- 1.4.12 The Scoping Stage culminates with the production of a Scoping Report which forms the basis for formal consultation with environmental authorities namely; Natural England (NE), English

Heritage (EH), Environment Agency (EA) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The report brings together all identified plans and programmes of relevance to the Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy along with details of the environmental, economic and social baseline of the study area (see **Sections 2 and 3 of this report respectively**). In establishing the baseline, key environmental issues are identified and objectives of the SEA are defined (see **Section 5**).

- 1.4.13 The report is structured into six sections as described in Table 1.2, below. Five appendices to the Scoping Report provide supplementary summary tables and plans.

Table 1.2 Structure of the Scoping Report

Section	Description
1. Introduction.	Introduction to the report and context for the use of SEA within the plan development process.
2. Relevant Plans and Programmes.	An overview of any other plans or programmes which may have an influence along with a consideration of other environmental protection objectives laid down in relevant policies and legislation.
3. Baseline Environmental Conditions.	A description of the environmental, economic and social conditions within the study area by theme.
4. Consultation.	A summary of consultation activities undertaken and identified in the future programme for the SEA.
5. Key Issues and SEA Objectives.	A summary of the key environmental issues is presented.
6. Next Steps.	An outline of the subsequent stages of the SEA.
Appendices	
Appendix A: Relevant Legislation, Policy and Guidance.	Summary tables of relevant programmes and plans.
Appendix B: Environmental Baseline Figures.	Figures supporting a description of the environmental baseline conditions in Section 3.
Appendix C: List of Consultees.	A list of statutory bodies, stakeholders and interest groups consulted/to be consulted during the development of the Coastal Strategy and the SEA.
Appendix D: Public Consultation Event Comments.	Comments received at an initial public consultation event.
Appendix E: Topic Specific Definitions for the Assessment of Significance.	Scales and descriptions used when assessing the significance of effects against the SEA objectives.

1.4.14 Subject to the requirements of the SEA Directive and paragraph 4 of the SEA Regulations, the Scoping Report has been distributed to the following consultation bodies for comment:

- Natural England (NE)
- English Heritage (EH)
- Environment Agency (EA)
- Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

1.4.15 The consultation period will last for **5 weeks**, from **25th June to 30th July 2014** during which time comments are invited on the following:

Q1: Have all plans and programmes relevant to the Coastal Strategy been identified?

Q2: Are there any significant gaps or errors in the environmental baseline data that has been identified?

Q3: Are there any additional environmental issues, opportunities or constraints that need to be considered as part of the SEA for the Coastal Strategy?

Q4: Are the proposed SEA objectives, indicators and assessment criteria suitable in the context of the Coastal Strategy, and are there any objectives, indicators or assessment criteria that should be removed or added?

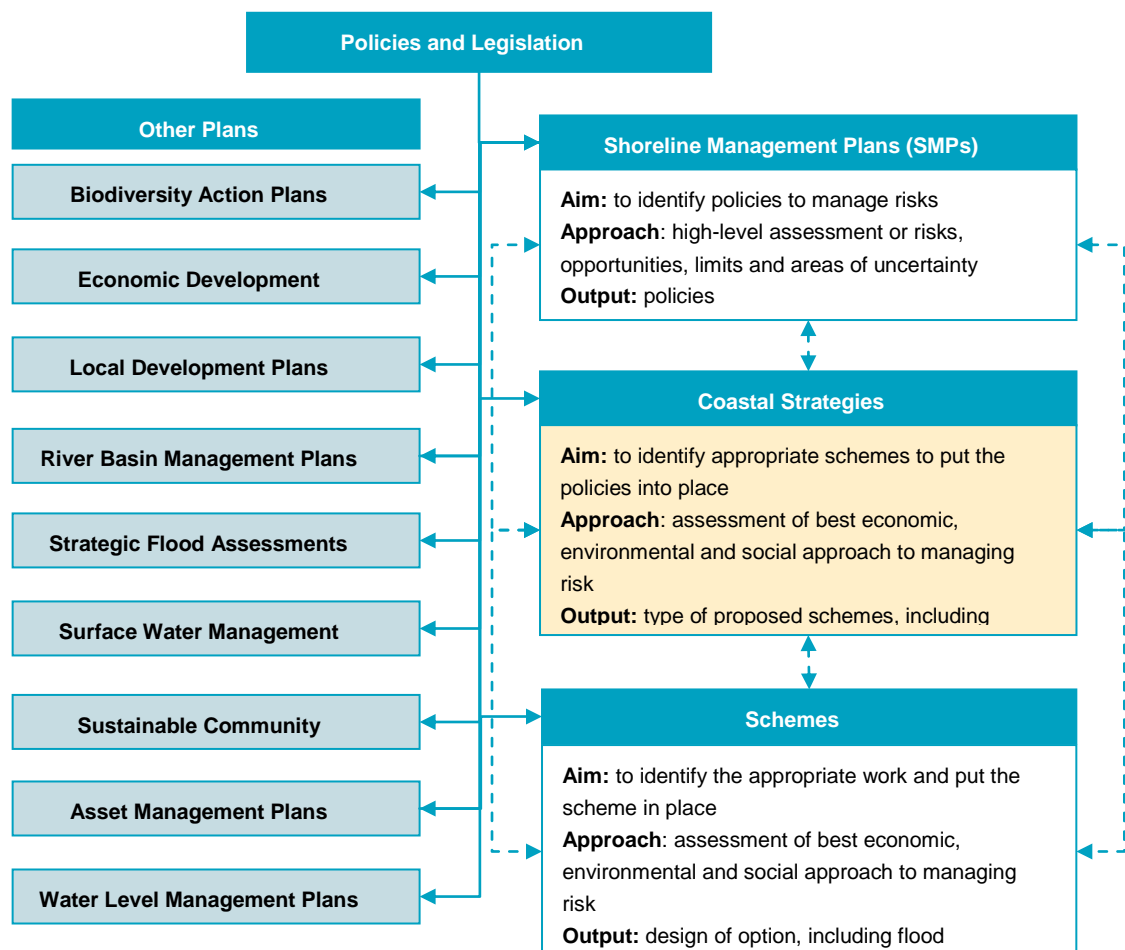
Q5: Do you have any further comments on the proposed approach and scope of the SEA?

2. Relevant Plans and Programmes

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The Coastal Strategy will be influenced by, or will influence, other plans and programmes as well as any environmental objectives, such as those laid down in policies or legislation. These include European and national policies, as well as regional and local plans such as Local Development Plans and higher level Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs). An understanding of the relationships between the various policies is required to take advantage of potential synergies and to deal with any inconsistencies and constraints.
- 2.1.2 Figure 2.1 below, shows how the Coastal Strategy is linked within a hierarchy of decision-making and how it can be derived from, or lead to, a number of other strategies and plans.

Figure 2.1: Hierarchy of decision making with links to other processes, policies and plans



- 2.1.3 A comprehensive list of relevant policies, plans and programmes is presented in Appendix A of this report whilst those considered to be of most relevance are summarised in this section. Where applicable, the objectives of these policies and plans have been taken forward in the development of targets for environment assessment criteria (refer to **Section 5**).

2.2 National Policies and Plans

National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)

- 2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012), sets out the Government's planning policies for England and specifies how these policies should be applied. In preparing plans, local authorities are required to take account of policies in the framework. Those of most relevance to the Coastal Strategy are as follows:
- *Policy 8: Promoting healthy communities* sets out policies on the role of the planning system in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. It identifies the need for access to high quality open space as well as the protection and enhancement of public rights of way networks, including National Trails.
 - *Policy 10: Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change* sets out the Government policy on development, flood risk and resilience to the impacts of climate change. It aims to ensure that proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change are adopted during the planning process and that the issues of flood risk and coastal change are taken account to avoid inappropriate development in areas of high risk.
 - *Policy 11: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment* sets out policies on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, valued landscapes and geological conservation interests in the planning system. The statement places an emphasis on the hierarchy of designated sites to ensure that protection is commensurate with their status.
 - *Policy 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* sets out policies to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.

Flood and Water Management Act, 2010

- 2.2.2 The Flood and Water Management Act takes forward some of the proposals identified in three previous strategy documents published by the Government; Future Water³, Making Space for Water⁴ and the Government's response to Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 floods⁵. The Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk and

³ Defra (2008), Future Water – The Government's water strategy for England

⁴ Defra (2004), Making Space for Water

⁵ Defra (2008), The Government's Response to Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 Floods

promotes the importance of sustainable development for local authorities when exercising their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions.

National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (Defra, 2011)

- 2.2.3 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the Environmental Agency (EA) to *'develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England.'* In response the EA, jointly with Defra, produced a National Strategy which encourages more effective risk management, by enabling people, communities, business, infrastructure operators and the public sector to work together to:
- ensure a clear understanding of the risks to flooding and coastal erosion, so investment in risk management can be prioritised more effectively;
 - set out clear and consistent plans for risk management to enable informed decisions to be made;
 - manage flood and coastal erosion risks in an appropriate way, taking account of the needs of communities and the environment; and,
 - ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incident are effective and that communities are able to respond effectively to flood forecasts, warning and advice.

Appraisal of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (Defra, 2009)

- 2.2.4 A Policy Statement which sets out the principles for guiding decision making on the sustainable management of flood and coastal erosion risk in England. The Statement identifies the need for structured and systematic appraisals to be carried out in order to justify expenditure on publicly funded projects and help to achieve better social and environmental outcomes as part of sustainable development.

The Marine and Coastal Act, 2009

- 2.2.5 The Marine and Coastal Act put in place a variety of measures to improve the management and protection of marine and coastal environments including the creation of a competent marine planning authority (the Marine Management Organisation) to deliver marine licensing and enforcement of legislation. The Act also addresses the issue of coastal access, placing a duty on the Secretary of State and Natural England to secure a continuous, well signed and managed route around the English coastline.

2.3 Regional and Local Plans

North Tyneside Council Unitary Development Plan (NTC, 2002)

- 2.3.1 The North Tyneside Unitary Development Plan (UDP) is a statutory plan and policy document guiding development in the borough. Adopted policies will continue to guide development until their eventual replacement by the Local Plan (expected November 2015). A principle concern of the UDP is the protection and improvement of the physical environment, particularly for areas of strategic environmental importance such as the coast which assist in the task of attracting inward investment and tourism. An area of coastal protection is defined where an open character is to be maintained and where possible enhanced, encouraging tourism and recreation but not at the detriment of landscape and nature conservation value.

North Tyneside Local Plan (NTC, 2013 – Draft)

- 2.3.2 The Local Plan is a statutory document setting out policies for the development and use of land, providing the overall spatial vision for North Tyneside to 2030. Locally specific policies and proposals for key areas, notably the coast, are provided alongside borough wide policies guiding the scale, type and location of new development and investment. The Local Plan is currently at consultation draft stage with an anticipated adoption date of November 2015. Policies of relevance to this Coastal Strategy include:

- Policy AS/1.5 The Coastal Sub Area sets out a need to integrate growth and development of the coast with the protection and enhancement of the built and natural environment, in particular the area's heritage assets at Tynemouth, Cullercoats, Whitley Bay and St. Mary's Island and the Northumbria Coast SPA and Ramsar site.
- Policy AS/8.6 Coastal Erosion restricts development within the Coastal Change Management Area to ensure that there are no adverse effects on biodiversity, tourism and leisure and the rates of coastal erosion currently observed as a result. The policy identifies that coastal defences around St Mary's headland should be maintained and vehicular access protected as well as a long term aspiration to maintain the beach and dunes around Tynemouth Longsands.
- Policy S/8.4 Biodiversity and Geodiversity sets out a need to protect and enhance the borough's biodiversity and geodiversity resources with regard to their relative significance. Priority is given to developments that seek to protect statutory and non-statutory designated sites and help to achieve the objectives and targets of the LBAP
- Policy AS/8.7 Coastal Green Links supports improvements to the cycle network along the coast and links to other routes to improve safety and convenience.
- Policy S/9.10 Heritage Assets sets out an aim to proactively preserve, promote and enhance heritage assets by recognising their significance and targeting improvements for those assets at risk or vulnerable to risk.

- Policy DM/9.12 Archeological Heritage seeks to protect, enhance and promote the borough's archaeological heritage.

Northumberland and North Tyneside Shoreline Management Plan 2 (NCAG, 2009)

- 2.3.3 Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) provide a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal evolution and present a policy framework to address risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment, in a sustainable manner. SMP2 sets out the results of the first revision to the original Shoreline Management Plan which covers a stretch of coastline extending from the Scottish Border south, to the River Tyne. It is a non-statutory document promoting policies for the management of risks from coastal erosion and sea flooding over the next 100 years.
- 2.3.4 Policy Development Zone 6 (PDZ6) from Seaton Sluice to the River Tyne aligns with the stretch of coastline covered by this Coastal Strategy. The area is described as comprising of short sections of hard rock outcrops of sea cliff and shore platform, in between which are (mostly) defended or managed beach frontages backed by cliffs and dunes. Current policy along this stretch of coastline is to generally maintain protection to property and infrastructure against erosion and sea flooding where defences exist, whilst allowing the natural development of undefended sections. Specific policies for the individual Management Areas (MAs) falling within PDZ6 are as follows:
- *MA24 Seaton Sluice to Curry's Point* – Hold the Line (Collywell Bay), Crag Point headland to remain undefended.
 - *MA25 Curry's Point to Brown's Point* – Hold the Line, with the exception of Managed Realignment at Trinity Road car park.
 - *MA26 Brown's Point to Tynemouth North Pier* – Hold the Line where existing defences are in place, No Active Intervention where coastline is currently undefended.
 - *MA27 Tynemouth North Pier to Fish Quay* - Hold the Line where existing defences are in place, No Active Intervention where coastline is currently undefended.
- 2.3.5 Key challenges identified in the plan include maintaining the largely Victorian era defences and managing the transition points between defended and undefended sections of coast.

North Tyneside Coastal Zone Strategic Framework and Masterplan (NTC, 2011)

- 2.3.6 A document providing an overarching framework to guide tourism and culture led regeneration of the coastal area over 15 years. The framework brings together details of initiated and delivered projects as well as providing a structure for the co-ordinated delivery of new and complementary projects. Proposals are linked to 6 key areas of change along the coast and are summarised as follows:

- *Northern Promenade* – developments of Spanish City and Beach Huts to provide a modern slant on the traditional seaside offer. The exposed lower promenade offers potential for coastal walks and development of a North Tyneside Triathlon. Running, cycling and water based sports to be encouraged.
- *Central Promenade* – a need to make the promenade structurally sound in order to maintain the sea defences. Opportunities associated with securing this investment to improve paving and public art.
- *Southern Promenade and Brown's Bay* – Diving and other outdoor sports to be encouraged. The area is to retain and embrace its rugged feel.
- *Cullercoats* – The relative tranquillity of the area to be preserved. Vacant retail units to be used to display works of local artists and creatives.
- *Longsands* – A place for everyone. Development of an urban gym on the disused open air pool and sports such as surfing encouraged. Improvements to family attractions and a programme of sporting and musical events.
- *Priory* – Improved interpretation of heritage assets. A programme of plays, festivals and music events. Development of a 'self-propelled lift' providing access to King Edward's Bay.

Tynemouth Village Conservation Area Management Strategy (NTC, 2014)

- 2.3.7 Adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, the Strategy recognises Tynemouth Village for its major historic value and puts forward a plan for managing change and future development within the Conservation area. Enhancement opportunities identified include conservation, re-use and development of the Tynemouth Outdoor Pool (a fundamental part of the sea defence), a project to uncover the Lion's Head Fountain at Long Sands and the provision of suitable paths and walkways to encourage walking and cycling.

Newcastle and North Tyneside Biodiversity Action Plan (NCC & NTC, 2008)

- 2.3.8 A ten year vision for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Newcastle and North Tyneside. The aim of the Plan is to ensure that the natural environment is managed more effectively to protect natural resources and to leave a legacy that will benefit present and future generations. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) sets specific targets for habitat creation to offset previous and predicted losses and where possible, provide ecological enhancements. The Plan currently consists of 10 Habitat Action Plans and 12 Species Action Plans.

3. Baseline Environmental Conditions

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 A comprehensive review of available baseline environmental data has been conducted for the study area. The study area incorporates all assets up to a 200m buffer from the seaward side of the low water line and the inland side of the high water line, (see Figure 1.2). This has been identified as the area which is likely to be impacted the most, either directly or indirectly, by the management of the coast.
- 3.1.2 The baseline review identifies the natural, economic and social features of the coast including the landscape, habitats and historical structures which help to define its character and ultimately, make it unique. By understanding this character and recognising why the coast is important to stakeholders, a more holistic approach to management can be adopted.
- 3.1.3 Information is presented under nine theme headings, as follows:
- Population, Human Health and Local Economy
 - Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
 - Water
 - Air
 - Land Use
 - Landscape and Visual Amenity
 - Cultural Heritage and Archaeology
 - Geology, Soils and Material Assets
 - Climatic Factors

3.2 Population, Human Health and Local Economy

Population

- 3.2.1 Based on the 2011 UK Census statistics, 200,801 people lived in North Tyneside. The distribution of this population however, varies greatly across the borough. Four of the five wards falling within the study area were recorded as having a higher population density than the North Tyneside average, indicating a concentration of people choosing to live by the coast. Whitley Bay is the most densely populated ward with around 60 people per hectare; generally densities decrease down the coast towards Tynemouth where on average there are about 34 people per hectare. The ward of St Mary's at the northern end of the study area is mainly rural and has a density of only 11 people per hectare. The individual populations for wards within the study area along with their respective density in 2011, are detailed in Table 3.1 below.
- 3.2.2 The statistics from the 2011 UK Census reflect only 'usual residents' and don't account for the large number of tourists and visitors which reside temporarily in the area during the summer months. The coastal frontage in Whitley Bay is predominantly a mixture of hotels and

restaurants and consequently the population is likely to be more transient. The other wards within the study area have coastal frontages dominated by residential properties interspaced by recreation areas.

Table 3.1: Population and density by ward in 2011

	All usual residents	Density (persons per hectare)
North East	2,596,886	3.0
North Tyneside	200,801	24.4
St Mary's	8242	11.1
Monkseaton North	9200	53.7
Whitley Bay	9416	60.2
Cullercoats	9202	48.0
Tynemouth	10472	34.1

3.2.3 The Environment Agencies flood map provides an assessment of the populations risk to flooding from rivers and the sea at any location. The majority of the coastline within the study area is heavily defended hence, most of the population falls within flood zone 1; land assessed as having less than a 1 in 1000 (<0.1%) annual probability of river and sea flooding in a year. Some properties however are at risk, these include;

- The area of Cullercoats Bay adjacent to the Newcastle University Dove Marine Laboratory and Lifeboat Station, assessed as having a 1 in 200 or greater (>0.5%) annual probability of flooding from the sea.
- The area around Tynemouth Longsands affecting the cafe, assessed as having a 1 in 200 or greater (>0.5%) annual probability of flooding from the sea.
- The area around Fish Quay a mixture of residential and commercial properties, assessed as having assessed as having a 1 in 100 (>1%) or greater annual probability of river flooding and a 1 in 200 or greater (>0.5%) annual probability of flooding from the sea.

3.2.4 The EA flood zones can be viewed on **Plan 01** in **Appendix B**.

Health

3.2.5 North Tyneside is considered to be one of the least deprived areas in North East England; however significant inequalities still exist within the borough with regard to community health. Indicators from the 2011 UK Census suggest that health in the coastal wards was better than the average for North Tyneside. Table 3.2 provides a summary of these statistics.

3.2.6 Health priorities in North Tyneside identified in the 2012-2013 Annual Health Report include: improving health and well being of families, improving mental and emotional health, addressing premature mortality and reducing hospital and care home admissions. The natural

environment and recreation provision can play an important part in helping to achieve these priorities for health. The coastal area provides opportunities for beach and water related activities including surfing, swimming, sailing, walking and cycling.

Table 3.2: Health indicators by ward in 2011

	'Bad' or 'very bad' health (% of population)	Long Term Health Problem 'activity limited a lot' (% of population)
North East England	193,438 (7.4%)	285,087 (11.0%)
North Tyneside	13,659 (6.8%)	20,246 (10.1%)
St Mary's	311 (3.8%)	597 (7.2%)
Monkseaton North	330 (3.6%)	542 (5.9%)
Whitely Bay	421 (4.5%)	735 (7.8%)
Cullercoats	571 (6.2%)	889 (9.7%)
Tynemouth	683 (6.5%)	1,048 (10.0%)

Local Economy

- 3.2.7 79.2% of the North Tyneside population are estimated to be economically active. The 2011 UK Census statistics for the coastal wards broadly corresponded to the borough averages for full and part-time employment however, the proportion of people that were self employed was found to be higher (see Table 3.3, below). This is potentially a reflection of the areas tourist economy and the number of small independent businesses operating along the coast.

Table 3.3: Employment in 2011

	Full time employment	Part time employment	Self Employed	Unemployed
North East England	707,759 (36.8%)	272,404 (14.2%)	125,746 (6.5%)	103,313 (5.4%)
North Tyneside	61,349 (41.5%)	21,815 (14.8%)	9635 (6.5%)	7304 (4.9%)
St Mary's	2181 (36.9%)	845 (14.3%)	520 (8.8%)	124 (2.1%)
Monkseaton North	2827 (42.6%)	1021 (15.4%)	592 (8.9%)	203 (3.1%)
Whitely Bay	3106 (44.0%)	991 (14.0%)	646 (9.2%)	299 (4.2%)
Cullercoats	2532 (38.6%)	984 (15%)	489 (7.5%)	215 (3.3%)
Tynemouth	3392 (43.3%)	1032 (13.2%)	732 (9.4%)	254 (3.2%)

- 3.2.8 Tourism is very economically important to North Tyneside and is estimated to be worth over £249 million to the borough, creating around 2,000 full-time, part-time and seasonal jobs. Attractions located along the coast include St Mary's Island and Lighthouse (with over 20,000 visits being made each year) the Blue Reef Aquarium, Tynemouth Priory and Castle, Spanish City and several Blue Flag beaches. The local connection with many famous artists can be

explored via the Cullercoats Art Walk, a promoted trail around Cullercoats Bay and surrounding streets. The location of the sites referred to above can be viewed on **Plan 01** in **Appendix B**.

- 3.2.9 Fishing and its associated industries are synonymous with the areas of Cullercoats and the Fish Quay and have been a constant presence for over 700 years. The once vibrant white fishing industry has suffered significant decline in recent years and despite the main fishing quay on the River Tyne remaining the biggest prawn port in England, this has led to industrial dereliction and the need for change. NTC are committed to supporting the remaining industrial areas through the Local Plan and recognise the distinctive 'gritty' character the fishing industry brings. The Council however, intends to support these industries alongside a programme for regeneration and mixed use development in areas such as the Fish Quay.

Recreation and Community Facilities

- 3.2.10 The study area has a number of recreational facilities including Whitley Park, Tynemouth Longsands, Tynemouth Park and St Mary's Island Local Nature Reserve. Other recreational facilities include the Blue Reef Aquarium, Tynemouth Pool and various golf courses and camp sites.
- 3.2.11 Water based recreational activities include rowing and sailing with both clubs housing their boats at The Haven, and surfing from Longsands Beach. Local diving clubs cite Cullercoats Bay and St Mary's island as being some of the best local diving areas.⁶ Fishing continues to be a popular recreational activity in the area; winter storms create a network of sandbanks and gullies which hold significant numbers of fish.
- 3.2.12 The coastal footpath running the length of the study coastline between Hartley Cove and Whitley Bay is well worn, indicating regular use. As well as this there is a promoted Heritage Trail Walk from Cullercoates to Whitley Bay.
- 3.2.13 North Tyneside has three major international, national and regional cycle routes: Hadrian's Cycle Way (NNC72), North Sea Cycle Route (NCN1) and Reivers Regional Cycle Route (NCN10).
- 3.2.14 The location of those community facilities and sites for recreation detailed above are shown on **Plan 01** in **Appendix B**.

3.3 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

- 3.3.1 There are a diverse range of natural environments along the shoreline, many of which are recognised for their local, national and international importance through statutory and non-statutory designations.

⁶ www.aquanorth.co.uk

International and National Nature Conservation Designations

- 3.3.2 Within the study boundary there is one Special Protection Area (SPA) as classified under EU Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the "EU Birds Directive"). The same area is listed as a Wetland of International Importance, or Ramsar site (as designated under the Ramsar Convention, 1973). Table 3.4 below, provides a description of the sites and **Plan 02** in **Appendix B** shows their location.

Table 3.4: Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites within the study area

Name	Description (adapted from site citations, JNCC)	Management Areas
Northumbria Coast SPA UK9006131 (1,107 ha)	<p>The Northumbria Coast SPA includes much of the coastline between the Tweed and Tees Estuaries in north-east England. The site consists of mainly discrete sections of rocky shore with associated boulder and cobble beaches. In summer, the site supports important numbers of breeding Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>, whilst in winter the mixture of rocky and sandy shore support large numbers of Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i> and Purple Sandpiper <i>Calidris maritima</i>.</p> <p>Disturbance by tourists in the summer can affect the breeding success of the Little turns, although disturbance can also occur in the winter when numbers of wintering wildfowl and waders are concentrated on the coast.</p>	MA24, MA25, MA26, MA27
Northumbria Coast Ramsar UK11049 (units at St Mary's Island, Brown's Point, North Point, Sharpness Point, North Pier and South Pier)	<p>The Northumbria Coast includes much of the coastline between the Tweed and Tees estuaries, consisting of mainly discrete sections of rocky shore with associated boulder and cobble beaches. These support a rich algal flora and associated fauna and form an important feeding area for wading birds.</p> <p>The areas of sandy beach within the site support a flora which includes Marram <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> and Sea sandwort <i>Honkenya peploides</i>. Other noteworthy fauna supported during the breeding season include the Great cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>, Black-legged kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla tridactyla</i>, and the Arctic tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i>. Species with peak counts include the European golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria apricaria</i>, (spring/autumn) and Common eider <i>Somateria mollissima mollissima</i> and Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> (winter).</p>	MA24, MA25, MA26, MA27

- 3.3.3 The principal national designations of ecological and/or geological importance are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). SSSIs represent some of the country's very best wildlife and geological sites and offer protection to flora, fauna and geological features of significance.
- 3.3.4 SSSI's are afforded protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 and the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. Local Authorities have a duty under this legislation to

further, and enhance, the nature conservation interests of these sites whilst carrying out their statutory functions.

- 3.3.5 Two SSSI are found within the study boundary with all units assessed as being in favourable condition. A description of these sites is provided in Table 3.5 below and their location presented on **Plan 02** in **Appendix B**.

Table 3.5: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the study area

Name	Description (adapted from site citations, NE)	Management Areas
Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice SSSI (Units 1011137, 1011138, 1011139) <i>Geological</i>	The coast from Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice provides one of the best exposures of rocks belonging to the Upper Carboniferous Coal Measures in Great Britain and is cited mainly for its geological interests. This section of coast however, also supports a significant proportion of the internationally important winter populations of purple sandpiper, sanderling, and turnstone. In addition there are locally important numbers of knot, ringed plover and golden plover.	MA24
Northumberland Shore SSSI (Units 1010081, 1010095, 1010102, 1010104) <i>Ecological</i>	<p>The Northumberland Shore SSSI includes most of the coastline between the Scottish border and the Tyne Estuary and consists largely of sandy bays separated by rocky headlands, with wave-cut platforms backed by dunes or soft and hard cliffs. Discrete areas of estuarine intertidal mudflats and saltmarsh are also included.</p> <p>The SSSI provides an important wintering ground for shore birds, and is of international or national significance for six species including purple sandpiper, turnstone, sanderling, golden plover, ringed plover and redshank. The Northumberland Shore as a whole is used by a wide variety of other shorebirds in winter, including curlew, oystercatcher, dunlin, knot, bar-tailed godwit and lapwing. Arctic and little turns breed on the shore during the summer. The inter-tidal zone is also favoured all year round as a feeding area for eiders, which are present in nationally important numbers.</p>	MA24, MA25, MA26, MA27

- 3.3.6 Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) are a type of Marine Protected Area. They ensure that areas that are important to conserving the diversity of nationally rare or threatened habitat and/or species, and/or are representative of the biodiversity in our seas, are protected. MCZs are created under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (Part 5) and exist alongside other European marine sites (SACs and SPAs), SSSIs and Ramsar sites to form an ecologically coherent network of marine protected areas.
- 3.3.7 Although no adopted MCZs fall within the study area, a potential candidate site from Coquet to St Mary's is currently under consideration for the second tranche of MCZs. Public consultation

on the proposals is likely to start in early 2015 with designation of the accepted sites later in the year. A description of the site is provided in Table 3.6 below and **Plan 02** in **Appendix B** shows its location.

Table 3.6: Candidate Marine Conservation Zones within the study area

Name	Description	Management Areas
Coquet to St Mary's Island Candidate MCZ	The Coquet to St Mary's Candidate MCZ stretches to 198sqkm along the Northumberland coastline and includes Coquet Island, important for breeding and foraging seabirds and grey seals, alongside St Mary's important for its rocky reefs and crustaceans. The sea floor, which reaches 30 meters in depth, consists of a mosaic of habitats. These include three different rocky habitats, interspersed with mixed sediments, unique shoreline underboulder communities and estuarine rocky habitats. All of these support thousands of seabirds and marine mammals, including 90% of the UK Roseate tern population, harbour porpoises, white-beaked dolphins, and species of whale.	MA24, MA25

Voluntary Marine Nature Reserves

- 3.3.8 Voluntary Marine Nature Reserves (VMNRs) are designated to conserve marine flora and fauna and geological features of interest, while providing opportunities for the study of marine systems. VMNRs (unlike MNRs) have no statutory basis and are established by agreement between non-governmental organisations, stakeholders and user groups. One VMNR can be found within the study area which includes the seabed around St Mary's island and the cliff tops at Curry's Point (MA24/MA25). The introduction of the Marine and Coastal Act 2009 has meant that many MNRs/VMNRs will be replaced by Marine Conservation Zones, a possibility should the Coquet to St Mary's Candidate MCZ be adopted in 2015.

Local Nature Reserves

- 3.3.9 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) are places of importance for wildlife or geology that hold a special local interest. They offer opportunities for education as well as public enjoyment. Principal local authorities are able to designate LNRs under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, as amended by Schedule 11 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Parish and Town Councils may also declare LNRs however only where powers have been delegated to allow them to do so. Management of the sites is often passed to voluntary conservation bodies such as the county Wildlife Trust and protection is usually given by local authorities through the Local Plan.
- 3.3.10 One LNR falls within the study area and a description of this site is provided in Table 3.7 below. **Plan 02** in **Appendix B** shows its location.

Table 3.7: Local Nature Reserves within the study area

Name	Description	Management Areas
St Mary's Island LNR	Connected to the mainland by a causeway that can be crossed at low tide, the island is home to St Mary's Lighthouse. The rock pools are home to a wonderful array of marine life, while seabirds can be observed from the island itself. The wetland is particularly important as a high tide roost for golden plover, oystercatcher, curlew and redshank, and as an important landfall for passing migrants in spring and autumn.	MA24, MA25

Local Wildlife Sites and Sites of Local Conservation Interest

- 3.3.11 Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) (formally known as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)) and Sites of Local Conservation Interest (SLCI) are non-statutory designated sites that recognise a variety of habitats of botanical, geological, ornithological and other wildlife interest. Seven sites fall within the study boundary, as detailed in Table 3.8 below. **Plan 02** in **Appendix B** shows their location.

Table 3.8: Local Wildlife Sites and Sites of Local Conservation Interest within the study area

Name	Description	Management Areas
Curry's Point and Wetlands LWS	Wetland, cliffs, scrub and grassland	MA24, MA25
Brierdene LWS	Scrub and grassland	MA25
Tyne Entrance LWS	Scrub and grassland	MA26, MA27
River Tyne (tidal Extent) North Tyneside Section LWS	Scrub and grassland	MA27
Tynemouth Boating Lake SLCI	Wetland and parkland	MA26
Brown Point Clifftop Grassland SLCI	Grassland	MA25, MA26
Tynemouth Longsands SLCI	Sand Dunes, maritime cliff and coastal grassland	MA26

Local Biodiversity Action Plans

- 3.3.12 The UK government produced 'Biodiversity: the UK Action Plan' in 1994 with the aim of conserving and enhancing biological diversity in the UK. To ensure actions and objectives of the national plans for species and habitats are translated into targets for local action, Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) have also been produced. LBAPs have the added value of

identifying and protecting habitats that may not be covered under the UKBAP due their local, if not national, importance. Habitat and Species Action Plans of relevance to the Strategy are detailed in Table 3.9 below.

Table 3.9: Local Biodiversity Action Plans of relevance

Name	Description	Relevant Targets
Habitat Action Plans (HAPs)		
1. Buildings and Structures	Buildings and structures provide important replacement habitat for a range of wildlife, particularly for breeding and shelter. Whilst a number of structures occur within recognised LWSs, a significant number of buildings with wildlife interest occur outside of designated conservation sites. Buildings and artificial structures adjacent to the River Tyne and coast support breeding populations of kittiwake and nesting ledges for fulmar.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure existing kittiwake sites are protected • Secure or create nesting habitat for kittiwakes along the River Tyne to enable existing colonies to expand or move
2. Estuary and Coastal Habitat	<p>Coastal habitats include open sea, offshore islands and reefs, intertidal rocky foreshore areas and sand beaches, sand dunes, sea cliffs and cliff top areas along the coast between St Mary's Island, Whitley Bay and North Shields Fish Quay. North Tyneside's intertidal habitat provides important winter feeding and roosting habitats for numerous wading birds including purple sandpiper and turnstone, sanderling, ringed plover, golden plover, redshank, lapwing, dunlin and curlew. Significant numbers of eider also feed in the intertidal area all year round whilst the mouth of the River Tyne is important for the number of terns that feed there during the early autumn. St Mary's Island is particularly important for the roseate tern whilst steep cliffs along the coast provide breeding sites for kittiwake, fulmar and rock pulpit.</p> <p>There is estimated to be over 20ha of intertidal mud, sand and rock foreshore habitats, 9.9ha of fragmentary sand dune habitats, 3ha of maritime cliff and 0.1ha of coastal grassland.</p> <p>The main issues of concern include coastal squeeze, recreation pressure, inappropriate management (excessive beach cleaning), water quality/pollution, dredging and climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure no net loss of mudflats and saltmarsh other than by natural processes • Create two high tide wader roost sites and manage existing sites appropriately • Plan dune grasses to regenerate extended dune system at Tynemouth Longsands • Access improvements incorporated along Tynemouth Longsands to aid dune regeneration • Create new priority habitats at St Mary's headland

3.4 Water

Coastal Waters

- 3.4.1 Coastal water quality monitoring is undertaken for the purposes of the European Union Bathing Water Directive⁷ (BWD) 2006 at five locations along North Tyneside's coastline. The majority of locations have achieved the higher standard for the last 5 years with the exception of Tynemouth Cullercoats. Table 3.10 below provides a summary of the results.

Table 3.10: Bathing Waters annual compliance results 2010-2014

Monitoring Point	Annual Compliance Results				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (latest in season June 14)
Whitley Bay	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher
Tynemouth Cullercoats	Minimum	Higher	Minimum	Higher	Higher
Tynemouth Longsands North	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher
Tynemouth Longsands South	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher
Tynemouth King Edwards Bay	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher

- 3.4.2 The Coastal waters are susceptible to pollution from a number of sources including combined sewer overflows and runoff from agricultural, highway and urban areas. The majority of pollution enters coastal waters through rivers and culverts from these inland sources.
- 3.4.3 Three of the four beaches along the coastline have currently been awarded Blue Flags in recognition of high environmental and quality standards. These include Whitley Bay, Tynemouth Longsands and Tynemouth King Edwards Bay. All beaches received a 2014 Quality Coast Award in recognition of high water quality and high standards of maintenance.

Surface Water

- 3.4.4 There are two main surface watercourses within the study area. At the northern end of the coast Briardean Burn outflows into the sea south of Curry's Point and is assessed as having poor ecological quality status. At the southern end of the coast is the tidally influenced River Tyne. This watercourse is assessed as having moderate ecological quality and the current status for chemical quality is listed as a fail.
- 3.4.5 These are the only water courses to have been classified by the Environment Agency using its

⁷ EU Directive 2006/7/EC concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC

General Quality Assessment. The remaining water courses within the Borough are classed as controlled water.

Groundwater

- 3.4.6 The majority of North Tyneside is designated as a Secondary A aquifer; these are permeable layers capable of supporting water supplies at a local rather than strategic scale and in some cases forming an important source of base flow to rivers.
- 3.4.7 There are two areas that are designated areas of principle aquifer; these are the Permian Limestones found at Tynemouth and Marden in Whitley Bay. These are layers of rock or drift deposits that have high intergranular permeability meaning they provide high water storage. They may support water supply and river base flow on a strategic scale.
- 3.4.8 Groundwater is not utilised as a water resource within North Tyneside.

3.5 Air

- 3.5.1 Good air quality is important for the environment and keeps people, plants and animals healthy. There are three air quality monitoring stations located within North Tyneside, each carrying out continuous real time monitoring for specific pollutants including; nitrogen dioxide, particulates and sulphur dioxide.
- 3.5.2 Annual reporting of air quality within the borough has been carried out since 2004. As of April 2012 all annual objectives for air quality have been met and there has been no requirement to declare any air quality management areas (AQMAs).

3.6 Land Use

- 3.6.1 North Tyneside is one of five metropolitan districts within the county of Tyne and Wear. It is situated on the mouth of the Tyne, with Newcastle City to the west, the North Sea to the east and bounds the County of Northumberland to the north. The main coastal settlements in North Tyneside include North Shields, Tynemouth and Whitley Bay.
- 3.6.2 The coast, including the river estuary, is mostly backed by urban areas with the coastal strip generally maintained in an open state. A mixture of housing, retail, recreation and tourist facilities interface with designated areas of built and natural conservation, some of which are of national and international importance. Current land use policy emphasises the need to integrate growth and development at the coast with the protection and enhancement of the built and natural environment (AS/1.5c). This includes the area's heritage assets at Tynemouth, Cullercoats, Whitley Bay and St Mary's Island and the Northumbria Coast SPA and Ramsar site.
- 3.6.3 Attractions along the coast are some of the most popular tourist destinations in the borough and help to support a significant tourist industry worth around £249million a year. Current

development policy places an emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the open character of the coast, typified by areas such as The Links and Whitley Bay, whilst promoting the range and provision of tourist and visitor attractions and accommodation (AS/1.5b). The majority of the coastal strip is in public ownership and has been subject to a £60million programme of regeneration aimed at reinvigorating and improving the image of the area. Proposals include the creation of a high quality public realm around the Spanish City attraction, a former fairground and ballroom, and access improvements to Tynemouth Longsands.

- 3.6.4 To the south of the study area, improvements to the North Shields Fish Quay have greatly improved its attraction. Historically the area embraced a range of land uses including dock yards, warehousing and port related activities such as smokehouses. Much of the earlier sea related industry left during the later part of the 20th century as the fishing industry was cut back due to the decline in North Sea stocks. The area lay in a state of dereliction and under-occupancy until a strategy for regeneration was implemented. Projects included refurbishment of several landmark buildings including the Dock Masters Building and Barrack Building at Clifford's Fort.
- 3.6.5 Although the fishing industry has diminished significantly over the years, the River Tyne remains a commercial river with offshore fabrication, fishing and port related industries. The Port of Tyne is the only passenger port in the region and provides regular passenger services to Northern Europe. These activities require adequate lengths of frontage for laying up-facilities, with some mineral and waste disposal also requiring access to water-borne transport. Current policy is to support and increase the economic activity related to development at the Port of Tyne (AS1.3d) as well as supporting fishing industry related employment within the Fish Quay area (AS/1.4b).

Contaminated Land

- 3.6.6 There is one area of historic landfill within the study boundary. Details are provided in Table 3.11 below.

Table 3.11: Historic landfill areas within the study area

Name	Site address	Last waste received	Type of waste
Beaconsfield	Grand Parade, Cullercoats, Whitley Bay	Unknown	Inert

3.7 Landscape and Visual Amenity

National Character Areas

- 3.7.1 National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. The profiles for each area provide a description of the natural and cultural features that shape the landscape, how the landscape has changed over time, the current drivers for change, and a broad analysis of each area's characteristics and ecosystem services. Two NCAs fall with

the study area, these are:

- NCA 13: South East Northumberland Coastal Plain; and,
- NCA 14: Tyne and Wear Lowlands.

3.7.2 A description of the key characteristics and opportunities within each NCA that are of relevance to the study area is provided in Table 3.12 below:

Table 3.12: National Character Areas within the study area

Name	Key Characteristics	Opportunities
NCA 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide, low-lying coastal plain with widespread urban and industrial development, extending north from the urban edge of Newcastle across the coastal plain, with mining towns and villages merging into rural landscape towards the north. • Sweeping sandy beaches and rocky headlands remain within largely developed coast, along with mudflats and salt marshes in river estuaries. • Large, open arable fields, served by large-scale farmsteads, are interspersed with pastures on the poorer reclaimed soils. Fields are bounded by post-and-wire fences or by low and gappy hedges. • Frequent areas of open water and wetland in areas of mining subsidence and as features within restored landscapes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance coastal and estuarine habitats and species, and allow habitats to adapt to coastal change, to improve coast's value for wildlife, geodiversity, recreation, archaeology and sense of place. (SEO2) • Enhance the recreational opportunities by addressing key gaps in the access network, such as across major roads and rivers, enhancing public transport, protecting and improving water quality and providing interpretation of key geological and historic sites. (SEO4)
NCA 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undulating landform incised by the river valleys of the Tyne and the Wear and their tributaries. • Widespread urban and industrial development with a dense network of major road and rail links and the spreading conurbations of Tyneside in the north. Dispersed towns and villages further south. • Strong legacy of mining, much restored to agriculture, forestry, industry, housing and amenity uses such as country parks, linking urban areas with countryside and coast by transforming wagonways to cycle routes and footpaths. • Industrial prosperity reflected in the large number of 18th- and 19th-century country houses, set within parkland in the vicinity of major settlements. • Small area of coastline between Whitley Bay and South Shields consisting of sand, rocky foreshore habitats and maritime cliffs, with historic landmarks such as St Mary's lighthouse and Tynemouth Priory. • Heavily modified, Tynemouth estuary supports regionally important numbers of wintering waterbirds and breeding shelduck and North Shields is a busy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reverse the fragmentation of semi-natural habitats due to the industrial and urban expansion of Tyneside by extending, creating and linking habitats in rural areas, developing or regenerating urban green spaces/urban fringe and protecting brownfield sites with high biodiversity interest. • Enhance and manage the Tyne and Wear river network and Tyneside coastal area to improve water quality and reduce flood risk, and to mitigate the effects of climate change. • Use an understanding of the unique historic landscape and heritage features of the Tyne and Wear Lowlands NCA to provide opportunities for interpretation, education, wellbeing, recreation

Name	Key Characteristics	Opportunities
	<p>port terminus for sea ferries to Norway and Denmark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of North Tyneside coast supports seabirds: purple sandpiper, ruddy turnstone and breeding little tern. Long history of settlement, mining and industry evidenced through historic buildings and settlement patterns which form a core part of today's landscape. 	and tourism, and to inform good design in new development that respects the setting of heritage assets.

3.8 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- 3.8.1 A Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) is a nationally important archaeological site or historic building given protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. A monument which has been scheduled is protected against disturbance and the Secretary of State must be informed about any work which might affect a monument above or below ground. Two SAMs are present within the study area and details are provided in x below. **Plan 03** in **Appendix B** shows their location.

Table 3.13: Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the study area

Name	Description (adapted from list entry, EH)	Management Areas
Tynemouth Iron Age and Romano-British settlements, monasteries, site of lighthouse, cross, motte, enclosure and artillery castles and later coastal defences (No. 1015519)	This monument includes the remains of an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, a pre-conquest and a post-conquest monastery, a ninth century wayside cross, a possible Norman motte, an enclosure castle, an artillery castle and 19th and 20th century coastal defences. They occupy a prominent headland with steep cliffs on three sides and form an important strategic position where, from the earliest times, it could command the mouth of the River Tyne.	MA26, MA27
Clifford's Fort (No. 1005896)	Clifford's Fort was built in 1672 at the beginning of the third Dutch war, to protect the mouth of the River Tyne and prevent enemy warships from entering the river. The Fort was intended to resist attack from the sea; therefore its firepower was concentrated in a riverside gun battery with a series of gun embrasures. The Fort was re-modelled in the 18th and 19th centuries and manned and maintained as a shore-based battery until 1881 when it was declared obsolete. In recent times Clifford's Fort has been at the heart of a comprehensive local authority re-generation	MA27

Name	Description (adapted from list entry, EH)	Management Areas
	scheme for the Fish Quay. The removal of inappropriate structures associated with the fishing industry and the repair and consolidation of the Fort and associated buildings as part of this scheme has helped to transform the Fort and this part of North Shields.	

Listed Buildings

3.8.2 When buildings are listed they are placed on statutory lists of buildings of 'special archaeological or historic interest' under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Listing identifies only those buildings that are of national special interest. It is not intended to be a preservation order, simply a mark that celebrates a building's special architectural and historic interest and ensures its future is considered within the planning system. The following grades apply to listings:

- **Grade I** buildings are of exceptional interest, sometimes considered to be internationally important. Just 2.5% of listed buildings are Grade I.
- **Grade II*** buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest. 5.5% of listed buildings are Grade II*
- **Grade II** buildings are nationally important and of special interest. 92% of all listed buildings are in this class and it is the most likely grade of listing for a home owner.

3.8.3 Listed buildings falling within the study area are detailed in x below. Their location is shown on **Plan 03** in **Appendix B**.

Table 3.14: Listed Buildings within the study area

Name	Grade	Grid Reference (X,Y)	Management Areas
St Georges Parish Church	I	436442, 570835	MA26
Collingwood Monument and Guns	II*	437180, 569066	MA27
Clifford's Fort South And East Wall Facing River	II*	436337, 568493	MA27
Cliffe House, Bank Top	II*	436418, 571467	MA26
Cliffords Fort West And South West Wall	II*	436326, 568533	MA27
War Memorial at St Georges Parish Church	II	436468, 570834	MA26
Lighthouse, Low Lights	II	436270, 568435	MA27
Former Life Brigade House	II	436310, 571288	MA26

Name	Grade	Grid Reference (X,Y)	Management Areas
Ballards Smoke House	II	436355, 568573	MA27
Former Radio Telegraph Station	II	436537, 571621	MA25/ MA26
War Memorial, The Links	II	435403, 572800	MA25
Clock Tower, Front Street	II	437106, 569409	MA26 / MA27
Former Irvin Buildings, Union Quay, North Shields, Tyne And Wear	II	436243, 568565	MA27
Sewer Gas Lamp, The Links	II	435316, 572767	MA25
Statue Of Duke Of Northumberland, Tynemouth Road	II	436466, 569063	MA27
North Pier And Lighthouse	II	437846, 569178	MA26/ MA27
Sewer Gas Lamp, Watts Road	II	435482, 572758	MA25
Liddell Tomb, Tynemouth Priory	II	437341, 569375	MA26 / MA27
Wright Tomb, Tynemouth Priory	II	437359, 569376	MA26 / MA27
Haswell Tomb, Tynemouth Priory	II	437366, 569374	MA26 / MA27
Anderson Tomb, Tynemouth Priory	II	437359, 569362	MA26 / MA27
Clark Family Tombs, Tynemouth Priory	II	437362, 569377	MA26 / MA27
Tomb In Style Of Greek Temple, Tynemouth Priory	II	437358, 569365	MA26 / MA27
The Dome, Spanish City	II	435412, 572693	MA25
Adamson Memorial Fountain	II	436364, 571218	MA26
Drinking Fountain, Northern Promenade	II	435230, 573243	MA25
Royal Nat Lifeboat Inst Lifeboat House	II	436397, 571367	MA26
The Watchtower, Percy Gardens	II	437033, 569880	MA26
Brigade Cottage, Spanish Battery	II	437233, 569034	MA27
Watch House, Spanish Battery	II	437255, 569047	MA27
Beacon House, Trinity Buildings	II	436116, 568451	MA27
Watch House, Bank Top	II	436401, 571400	MA26
Ex Station Passenger Building, Mariners Point	II	436764, 569175	MA27

Name	Grade	Grid Reference (X,Y)	Management Areas
Low Lights Tavern, Brewhouse Bank	II	436258, 568605	MA27
St Marys Lighthouse	II	435247, 575389	MA24 / MA25
45 Front Street, Tynemouth	II	437119, 569359	MA26 / MA27
46 Front Street, Tynemouth	II	437101, 569361	MA26 / MA27
54 Fish Quay, North Shields	II	436309, 568484	MA27
The Cottage, St Marys Island	II	435229, 575398	MA24 / MA25
22 Lovaine Row, Tynemouth	II	436989, 569507	MA26
The Old Maltings, Tanners Bank	II	436314, 568779	MA27
47 Front Street, Tynemouth	II	437088, 569373	MA26 / MA27
High Lighthouse, Dockway Square	II	436053, 568377	MA27
Grand Hotel, Percy Gardens	II	436958, 569887	MA26
Master Mariners, Tynemouth Road	II	436463, 569070	MA27
St Georges Vicarage	II	436388, 570821	MA26

Local Register

- 3.8.4 North Tyneside Council have compiled a list of significant buildings and parks that are not nationally listed but are considered to be of local architectural and historic interest. The Local Register does not put any extra planning constraints on a property but helps to raise the profile and give recognition to buildings and parks that are of special local importance. In compiling the Local Register nominations were put forward by the public and a panel of experts from the professional, academic and voluntary sectors came together to decide which nominations were worthy of Local Register status.
- 3.8.5 Buildings and parks on the Local Register which fall within the study area are listed in Table 3.15 below. Their location is shown on **Plan 03** in **Appendix B**.

Table 3.15: Buildings and parks on the Local Register within the study area

Name	Grade	Grid Reference (X,Y)	Management Areas
1 Union Quay, North Shields	Local	436132, 568400	MA27
Dove Marine Laboratory, Cullercoats Bay	Local	436365, 571304	MA26
Caley Fisheries Ships Chandlers, Tanners Bank	Local	436349, 568686	MA27
Tynemouth Sailing Club Storage Hut	Local	437294, 569168	MA27

Name	Grade	Grid Reference (X,Y)	Management Areas
Tynemouth Open Air Pool, Longsands	Local	437072, 569962	MA26
Rendezvous Cafe, Dukes Walk	Local	435177, 573355	MA25
Rex Hotel, Whitley Bay	Local	435777, 572352	MA25
Search Light, Priors Haven	Local	437335, 569302	MA26 / MA27
Tynemouth Park, Grand Parade	Local	436573, 570199	MA26
Panama Gardens, The Links	Local	435232, 572998	MA25
Whitley Park, Park Avenue	Local	435424, 572508	MA25
Queens Head, Front Street	Local	436394, 571499	MA25 / MA26
Lion's Head Fountain, Longsands	Local	436816, 570018	MA26
Grant's Clock, Whitley Bay	Local	435768, 572404	MA25
Royal National Mission To Deep Sea Fishermen, 52 Bell Street	Local	436114, 568378	MA27
42 Beverley Terrace, Cullercoats	Local	436350, 571157	MA26
Knott Memorial Flats, North Shields	Local	436587, 569016	MA27
Former Quay Master's Office And House, 40 - 41 Fish Quay	Local	436285, 568487	MA27
2-6 Trinity Buildings, North Shields	Local	436130, 568465	MA27
Pier Cottage, Pier Road	Local	437192, 569243	MA27
1-47 Percy Gardens Plus The Lodge, Priory Court And Gardens	Local	437047, 569723	MA26
1-6 Old Coastguard Cottages, Spanish Battery	Local	437251, 569085	MA27
1 Warkworth Terrace, Tynemouth	Local	436861, 569861	MA26
22, 24, 26, 28 Lovaine Row, Tynemouth	Local	436986, 569507	MA26
1-4 Spanish Battery, Tynemouth	Local	437248, 569122	MA27
3 Northumberland Terrace, Tynemouth	Local	436891, 569138	MA27
10 Priors Terrace, Tynemouth	Local	436966, 569120	MA27

Conservation Areas

- 3.8.6 Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance. They are designated by the Local Planning Authority. Table 3.16 below provides a description of the conservation areas within the study boundary. **Plan 03** in **Appendix B** shows their location.

Table 3.16: Conservation Areas within the study area

Name	Description	Management Areas
St Mary's Island Conservation Area	Designated in 1974 St Mary's Island is one of the most painted and photographed landmarks in the country and is also one of North Tyneside's most popular tourist attractions. The conservation area incorporates not only the island, but also the surrounding rocky landscape and mainland area around it. A revised character appraisal for the conservation area was adopted in April 2010.	MA24 / MA25
Fish Quay Conservation Area	The Fish Quay is a rugged, hardworking area with commercial activity in the setting of a number of historic structures. Its unique mix of buildings reflects the area's history and gives it a very special character. The conservation area was adopted in 2003.	MA27
Cullercoats Conservation Area	Cullercoats saw its first growth in the late 1600s when it flourished in the export trades of oats, wool, salt and coal. Later the area would be known for fishing and then also as a fashionable bathing dormitory town, which grew further following the arrival of the railway in 1882. Now the area is rich with reminders of its colourful past, with its maritime buildings in and around the bay, its grand Victorian terraces and several other important buildings and features, which together form a special place with a great sense of history. The conservation area was designated in March 2008 and a character appraisal was adopted in July 2009.	MA25 / MA26
Tynemouth Village Conservation Area	Tynemouth is a medieval village that grew in the early 19th Century as a fashionable dormitory for the middle classes of industrial Tyneside, and further again with the arrival of the railway and the opening of the Tynemouth Terminus in 1847. Key features of the conservation area are the 11th Century Priory and the Elizabethan	MA26 / MA27

Name	Description	Management Areas
	<p>Castle. The conservation area was designated in 1971, with some boundary amendments made in 2009. A community-led Character Statement was adopted in July 2003 and a Character Appraisal, produced by the Council, was adopted in April 2010.</p> <p>There are two Article 4(2) Directions protecting certain buildings in the conservation area.</p> <p>The Tynemouth Village Conservation Area Management Strategy SPD was adopted in April 2014.</p>	

Sites of Archaeological Interest

- 3.8.7 The Tyne and Wear local authority-based archive of information relating to the historic environment, (the Historic Environment Record (HER)) records information regarding known archaeological sites in the borough. As well as recording Scheduled Monuments and Listed buildings, it also records locally important archaeology.
- 3.8.8 The HER within the study area includes entries from the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods (18th, 19th and 20th centuries). Many of the modern period entries relate to the areas military heritage and have been recorded by the Defence of Britain project. These include pillboxes, anti aircraft batteries, tank traps, a radar station and searchlight battery. There are also several entries for ship wreck sites along the coast.

3.9 Geology, Soils and Material Assets

Geology

- 3.9.1 The stretch of coastline comprising the study area is of outstanding geological interest and diversity and contains one of the best exposures of Coal Measure strata in Great Britain.
- 3.9.2 There are superficial deposits of brown sand and gravel as well as clay silt and sand alluvium along the 10km stretch of the study area.
- 3.9.3 The study area is dominated by cliffs and rocky outcrops interspersed with low lying sand beaches. Sand dune and sand flat landforms are also present in a number of the coastal sections.

Soils

- 3.9.4 The majority of the soil in the study area is slowly permeable, seasonally wet soil. The texture of soil is loamy and clayey with moderate fertility. Soils are seasonally wet with impeded drainage. To the north of the study area from Whitley Bay to Seaton Sluice soils are similar in

structure but with higher acidity leading to lower fertility.

Material Assets

- 3.9.5 Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice SSSI is designated for its rocks belonging to the Upper Carboniferous Coal Measures. It includes outcrops of coal seams and mudstone horizons. The exposures along this stretch of coastline are some of the most frequently visited in the British Isles.
- 3.9.6 Geology of the area is ideally suited to providing the depth and temperatures required to support geothermal resources in the North Tyneside region.
- 3.9.7 All of the North Tyneside area has a strong history of mineral extraction, notably for the coal industry however there are no remaining working sites.

3.10 Climatic Factors

- 3.10.1 The closest Meteorological Office weather station to the study area is located in Boulmer, approximately 40 miles north, situated on the Northumberland coast. Annual averages for this station are available between 1981 and 2010 and are summarised in Table 3.17 below.

Table 3.17: Annual climate averages 1981 to 2010

Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Rainfall (mm)
12.2	5.9	689.1

- 3.10.2 UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) estimate sea levels to rise in the region of 21.8cm for London and 13.9cm for Edinburgh by 2050 (under a medium emissions scenario). The rise in sea levels will add to the pressure on existing coastal defences, with higher intensity storm surges anticipated along the coastline. In addition, wetter winters and drier summers, as well as higher annual mean winter and summer temperatures are expected. Winter mean precipitation is projected to increase in the region of 11% by 2050, with urban drainage systems becoming increasingly surcharged and properties at a greater risk of flooding.

4. Consultation

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Consultation plays an integral role in SEA. It provides the opportunity to understand the local issues and concerns of individuals, communities and business potentially affected by the outcomes of a plan or programme, as well as the stance from a strategic or national perspective.
- 4.1.2 The SEA Directive creates the following requirements for consultation:
- Authorities which, because of their environmental responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the effects of implementing a plan or programme, must be consulted on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the Environmental Report;
 - The public and the Consultation Bodies must be consulted on the draft plan or programme and the Environmental Report, and must be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions;
 - Other EU Member States must be consulted if the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment in their territories; and,
 - The Consultation Bodies must also be consulted on screening determinations on whether SEA is needed for plans or programmes under Article 3(5).
- 4.1.3 The action to be taken to fulfil these requirements is summarised in Table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Summary of consultation requirements under the SEA Directive

Steps in the SEA process	Requirements	Action to be Taken/ Taken
Determination if a plan or programme requires an SEA.	Consult Consultation Bodies if screening required.	N/A – SEA is not required for the production of Coastal Strategies.
Decision on the scope and level of detail of the assessment.	Consult Consultation Bodies.	SEA Scoping Report issued to Consultation Bodies.
Environmental Report and Draft Plan or Programme.	Consult Consultation Bodies. Consult the public. Information made available to the public.	Draft documents to be distributed to consultation bodies and made available via the NTC website.

Steps in the SEA process	Requirements	Action to be Taken/ Taken
During preparation of the plan or programme.	Take account of the Environmental Report and opinions expressed (and produce statement).	Incorporate requirements into the options development. Prepare a consultation report to document a response to comments.
Adopted plan or programme statement and measures concerning monitoring	Information made available to Consultation Bodies and the public.	Preparation of a plan monitoring report.

- 4.1.4 In developing the Coastal Strategy, communication and engagement with stakeholders and the public has taken place from the outset, so as to avoid potential issues arising later on in the process. A separate report detailing the engagement methods employed, the comments received and the response to these comments has been prepared and accompanies the Coastal Strategy document (Technical Report 9: Public Consultation and Stakeholder Involvement). A brief summary of activities in relation to the SEA is provided below, whilst copies of comments received so far and how these points will be taken forward in the SEA are provided in **Appendix D**.

4.2 Consultation to Date

Notification Letters

- 4.2.1 In February 2014, formal notification letters advising stakeholders of the intention to review the Hartley Cove to the River Tyne Coastal Strategy were issued. The organisations contacted were identified as having expected interest in the coast and some had previous involvement in the development of related plans and programmes.
- 4.2.2 The notification letters provided background information to the review, including a list of key objectives. Recipients were able to opt in/out of future consultation via an enclosed pro-forma and were encouraged to provide any comments they may have had at an early stage.

Public Consultation Event

- 4.2.3 A Public Consultation Event took place in St Oswin's Church Hall, Tynemouth on 16th April 2014 between 12.30 and 7pm. The event provided information via exhibition boards on the intended programme for the review, along with background information on the findings of the last Strategy. Interested parties were invited to comment on key issues or concerns they had in relation to the management of the coast as well as identifying any gaps in data or local knowledge which may contribute to the development of the plan.
- 4.2.4 A second public consultation event will take place in November 2014 and will present a number of shortlisted management options for comment.

Stakeholder Inception Meeting

- 4.2.5 An inception meeting for stakeholders (excluding the general public) was held on 5th June 2014. The meeting provided an introduction to the project, covering its aims, objectives and a programme of tasks going forward. The meeting provided an opportunity for stakeholders to raise and discuss key issues in relation to the management of the coast.

5. Key Environmental Issues and Opportunities

5.1 Summary of Key Issues

- 5.1.1 Following a comprehensive review of the environmental baseline a number of key issues and opportunities have been highlighted. These issues form the basis for identifying the objectives against which the potential management options will be assessed. Where only a small amount of issues have been identified for a topic, professional judgement has been applied to scope this topic out of the next stages of the SEA. Table 5.1 presents which topics have been scoped in or out of the SEA, along with a summary of the key issues and opportunities for each receptor.

Table 5.1: Key Issues and opportunities for consideration in the SEA

Receptor	Scoped In	Scoped Out	Key Issues and Opportunities
Population and Human Health	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently a risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and property within the study area; safeguarding human health and safety is of high importance. The populated areas of Whitley Bay and Tynemouth are economically important areas for tourism and local business; safeguarding commercial assets and homes is of high importance. Recreational resources along the coast are important to the local economy and the health of the population; access to the beaches, club houses and the sea for surfing, diving, rowing and sailing must be preserved or enhanced.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a number of statutory and non statutory sites designated for their nature conservation value within the study area; many are located within the inter-tidal area and should be protected or enhanced. The study area supports diverse habitats of flora and fauna which are recognised by the LBAP; these habitats should be protected or enhanced.
Water	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal water quality currently meets the higher standards under the Bathing Water Directive; minimising pollution and maintaining coastal water quality (or improving it where possible) is important. Surface water courses within the study area currently have poor to moderate ecological water quality status; minimising pollution and maintaining surface water quality (or improving it where possible) is important.
Air		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality meets all current annual objectives; minimising pollution and maintaining air quality standards is important. <p><i>It is recommended that air quality is scoped out of the SEA on the basis that any impacts will be dealt with at project level EIAs, particularly in relation to construction activities.</i></p>
Land Use	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The coastal strip is generally maintained in an open state; maintaining or enhancing the open character is important for tourism and recreation. Growth and development along the coast should integrate with the protection and enhancement of the natural and historic environment. Economic activity related to the Port of Tyne and fishing industries should be supported in appropriate areas along the coast.

Receptor	Scoped In	Scoped Out	Key Issues and Opportunities
Landscape and Visual Amenity	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The coastal landscape is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity; this character should be maintained or enhanced.
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are severally nationally important archaeological sites and historic buildings within the study area; they should be protected and if possible their setting enhanced. There are numerous locally important archaeological sites and historic buildings within the study area; if possible they should be protected and their setting enhanced. There are several conservation areas along the coast; it is desirable to preserve or enhance their character or appearance.
Geology, Soils and Material Assets	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parts of the coastline are of national geological interest and this is recognised through its designation as a SSSI; preserving these sites is important.
Climatic Factors	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change projections in relation to sea level rise and the frequency of more extreme weather events, suggest an increased risk to people and property. Vulnerability to effects of climate change should be reduced.

6. SEA Framework

6.1 SEA Objectives, Indicators and Assessment Criteria

- 6.1.1 The SEA framework forms the basis for identifying, measuring and comparing potential environmental effects associated with the different coastal flood and erosion management options developed for the study area. The assessment criterion helps to guide the assessment and provides a focus for the most important environmental issues (as identified in **Section 5**).
- 6.1.2 A number of SEA objectives have been derived through an understanding of the environmental baseline, a review of related plans and programmes and consultation activities undertaken with stakeholders and the public. Indicators and targets sit alongside these objectives and are used for monitoring and measuring the achievements of the Coastal Strategy following implementation:
- Indicators are used to provide a measure of whether the objective has been achieved or not. Where possible indicators use quantitative environmental information.
 - Targets set a desired outcome.
- 6.1.3 If necessary the SEA framework may be revised following scoping, should other key issues be identified through consultation with stakeholders and the public, or if new environmental data becomes available.
- 6.1.4 The framework will be used during the options appraisal stage of the SEA. Where the proposed options do not meet all of the SEA assessment criteria and where conflicts arise, it may be appropriate to propose mitigation measures to reduce the impacts on the environment.

Table 6.1: SEA framework

Receptor	SEA Objectives		Guide Questions for Option	Possible Indicators	Possible Targets
Population, Human Health and Local Economy	1	Ensure people and property are protected against coastal erosion and flooding risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Does it have the potential to cause or exacerbate flooding and coastal change?– Does it have the potential to help alleviate flooding?– Does it have the potential to affect coastal processes and/or erosion rates?– Does it minimise the risks of coastal change/erosion and flooding to people and property?	<p>Number of properties at risk from flooding and/or coastal erosion within the study area.</p> <p>Condition of defences.</p>	No loss to human life or deterioration of human health as a result of flooding and coastal erosion.
	2	Support the local economy through protection of assets related to the tourism industry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Does it have the potential to cause or exacerbate flooding and coastal change?– Does it have the potential to help alleviate flooding?– Does it have the potential to affect coastal processes and/or erosion rates?– Will it minimise the risks of coastal change/erosion and flooding to commercial assets related to tourism?	<p>Number of commercial assets at risk from flooding and/or coastal erosion within the study area.</p> <p>Number of people employed in the tourism industry.</p>	No loss of revenue for commercial assets related to the tourism industry as a result of flooding and coastal erosion.
	3	Recognise and support the role of the fishing and port based industries when considering coastal defence options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Does it have a negative impact on fishing and port based commercial assets?– Does it minimise the risks of coastal change/erosion and flooding to commercial assets related to the fishing and port based industries?	<p>Number of people employed in the fishing and port based industries.</p> <p>Number of commercial assets at risk from flooding and/or coastal erosion within the study area.</p>	No loss of revenue for commercial assets related to the fishing and port based industries as a result of flooding and coastal erosion.

Receptor	SEA Objectives	Guide Questions for Option	Possible Indicators	Possible Targets
	4 Promote good health and well being through the provision of access to coastal recreational resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it protect and/or enhance the health, safety and well being of the population through provision of access to recreational resources? – Will it change the location, extent or access to PRoW, cycleways, sailing and rowing clubs, the beach or other recreational resources? 	<p>Number of open spaces, sport and recreational facilities along the coast.</p> <p>Length of PRoW and cycle ways within the study area.</p> <p>Number of people with good health in the coastal wards.</p> <p>Number of beaches awarded Blue Flag and Quality Award Status.</p>	<p>Achieve Blue Flag status on all beaches.</p> <p>Achieve Quality Award status on all beaches.</p> <p>Maintain and promote recreational resources.</p> <p>Increase the number of people classified as having good health.</p>
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	5 Conserve and seek to enhance sites designated for their nature conservation value and maintain access for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it protect and/or enhance internationally designated nature conservation sites e.g. SPAs and Ramsars? – Does it protect and/or enhance nationally designated nature conservation sites e.g. SSSIs? – Does it affect animals and plants including protected species? – Does it involve the loss, damage or fragmentation of statutory or non-statutory habitats? – Does it cause a reduction to the favourable condition of sites? – Does it affect public access to areas of wildlife interest? 	<p>Condition of designated sites.</p> <p>Threatened habitats and species.</p> <p>Visitor numbers to areas of ecological interest.</p>	<p>SSSI units maintained in a favourable condition.</p> <p>Be compliant with the Habitat Regulations.</p> <p>Increase visitor numbers to areas of ecological interest.</p>

Receptor	SEA Objectives	Guide Questions for Option	Possible Indicators	Possible Targets
	6 Look at opportunities to improve the biodiversity and ecological value of sites through coastal defence management, including priority habitats indicated in the LBAP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it affect animals and plants including protected species? – Does it involve the loss, damage or fragmentation of LBAP habitats? 	Number of objectives in the LBAP achieved.	Contribute to targets identified in the LBAP.
Water	7 Minimise pollution to coastal and surface waters and ensure targets established by the Water Bathing Directive and Water Framework Directive are not compromised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it affect the amount of pollution arising from wastewater and surface runoff? – Does it protect and enhance the ecological status/ecological potential of surface, estuarine and coastal waters quality? 	<p>Bathing Waters Directive annual compliance monitoring results.</p> <p>Water Framework Directive monitoring results.</p>	<p>Maintain 'higher' compliance status at all beach monitoring points under WBD.</p> <p>Achieve Blue Flag status on all beaches.</p> <p>Achieve Quality Award status on all beaches.</p>
	8 Look at opportunities to promote and enhance the quality of coastal and surface waters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it affect the amount of pollution arising from wastewater and surface runoff? – Does it protect and enhance the ecological status/ecological potential of surface, estuarine and coastal waters quality? 	<p>Bathing Waters Directive annual compliance monitoring results.</p> <p>Water Framework Directive monitoring results.</p>	<p>Achieve 'good/pass' status for all surface water courses in the study area under WFD.</p> <p>Achieve Blue Flag status on all beaches.</p> <p>Achieve Quality Award status on all beaches.</p>

Receptor	SEA Objectives	Guide Questions for Option	Possible Indicators	Possible Targets
Land Use	9 Protect and enhance existing and proposed land uses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it conflict with or obstruct any proposed development activities? – Does it increase the risk of significant land contamination? – Does it affect land stability? – Does it change patterns of land use? 	<p>Local Plan/Development Framework objectives.</p> <p>Extent and standard of protection for areas of contaminated land.</p>	<p>No loss of sustainable land use or conflicts with planned sustainable land use.</p> <p>No release of contaminants that may result in pollution.</p>
Landscape and Visual Amenity	10 Protect and enhance landscapes and seascapes through sympathetic coastal defence management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it have a negative visual impact on the landscape (including at night)? – Does it negatively affect the distinctive landscape/seascape quality and character? – Does it enhance the distinctive landscape/seascape quality and character? 	<p>Visual amenity for seafront properties.</p>	<p>No adverse impacts on existing landscape character and visual amenity.</p> <p>Enhancement of landscapes and improvement to the existing visual amenity.</p>
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	11 Conserve and seek to enhance designated archaeological sites and historic buildings, including their setting and provision for access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it affect nationally designated historic assets e.g. SAMs and Listed Buildings? – Does it affect designated archaeological features? – Does it negatively affect the fabric and setting of nationally important historic assets? – Does it help to protect the historic asset? – Does it negatively affect public access to nationally important historic assets? 	<p>Condition of designated historic assets.</p> <p>Number of visits/admissions to historic assets.</p>	<p>No adverse effects on designated assets and their setting.</p> <p>No loss of designated assets.</p>
	12 Conserve and seek to enhance non-designated historic assets of local interest, including their setting and provision for access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it change the condition of locally listed historic building and known archaeological site? – Does it change the ability to investigate unknown buried archaeology? 	<p>Number of new sites added to the HER.</p>	<p>No adverse effects on non-designated assets and their setting.</p> <p>No loss of non-designated assets.</p>

Receptor	SEA Objectives	Guide Questions for Option	Possible Indicators	Possible Targets
	13 Maintain and where possible, enhance the distinctiveness and historic character of local settlement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it negatively affect the character of the conservation area? – Does it negatively affect places or spaces that contribute to local distinctiveness, and historic landscape character? 	Number of conservation area appraisals carried out.	No adverse effects on historic landscape character.
Geology, Soils and Material Assets	14 Conserve and seek to enhance sites designated for their geological interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it protect and/or enhance national Geological Conservation sites and important geological features e.g SSSIs? – Does it involve the loss or damage to statutory or non-statutory geological sites? – Does it cause a reduction to the favourable condition of sites? – Does it affect public access to areas of wildlife interest? 	<p>Condition of designated sites.</p> <p>Visitor numbers to areas of geological interest.</p>	<p>No adverse effects to features of geological interest.</p> <p>SSSI units maintained in a favourable condition.</p>
Climatic Factors	15 Reduce vulnerability and adapt to the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and flooding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does it assist in building capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change? – Does it help North Tyneside to adapt to climate change effects? 	Number of people and property at risk from flooding and coastal change in the study area.	Vulnerability to the effects of climate change reduced.

6.2 Compatibility of the SEA Objectives

- 6.2.1 When developing objectives based on environmental, social and economic issues, it is likely that not all objectives will relate or be compatible. For instance, objectives that relate to economic issues sometimes conflict with environmental objectives and vice versa. A compatibility assessment of the SEA objectives developed in **Section 6.1** is presented in Figure 6.1, and demonstrates any potential conflicts and uncertainties between objectives.

Table 6.2: SEA objectives

Ref	Objectives
1	Ensure people and property are protected against coastal erosion and flooding risk.
2	Support the local economy through protection of assets related to the tourism industry.
3	Recognise and support the role of the fishing and port based industries when considering coastal defence options.
4	Promote good health and well being through the provision of access to coastal recreational resources.
5	Conserve and seek to enhance sites designated for their nature conservation value and maintain access for all.
6	Look at opportunities to improve the biodiversity and ecological value of sites through coastal defence management, including priority habitats indicated in the LBAP.
7	Minimise pollution to coastal and surface waters and ensure targets established by the Water Bathing Directive and Water Framework Directive are not compromised.
8	Look at opportunities to promote and enhance the quality of coastal and surface waters.
9	Protect and enhance existing and proposed land uses.
10	Protect and enhance landscapes and seascapes through sympathetic coastal defence management.
11	Conserve and seek to enhance designated archaeological sites and historic buildings, including their setting and provision for access.
12	Conserve and seek to enhance non-designated historic assets of local interest, including their setting and provision for access.
13	Maintain and where possible, enhance the distinctiveness and historic character of local settlement.
14	Conserve and seek to enhance sites designated for their geological interest.
15	Reduce vulnerability and adapt to the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and flooding.

Figure 6.1: SEA Objectives and compatibility matrix

SEA Objectives	1															
	2	+														
	3	/	+													
	4	+	+	/												
	5	/	+	/	+											
	6	/	+	/	+	+										
	7	+	+	/	+	+	+									
	8	+	+	+	+	+	+	+								
	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+							
	10	/	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+						
	11	+	+	+	+	o	o	o	o	+	+					
	12	+	+	+	+	o	o	o	o	+	+	+				
	13	/	+	+	+	o	o	o	o	+	+	+	+			
	14	/	+	/	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	o	o	+	
	15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
SEA Objectives																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	

Key

+	Objectives are compatible
-	Objectives are potentially incompatible
o	Objectives are not related
/	Uncertainty over relationship

7. Next Steps

7.1 Remaining Stages of the SEA Process

- 7.1.1 The SEA objectives identified in this scoping report will be taken forward into the next stage of the SEA process (Stage B) and used to determine the suitability of different management options for the coast. The results of this appraisal will be presented in the form of an Environmental Report (Stage C) and stakeholder will be given an opportunity to comment on the draft conclusions before formal adoption of the Coastal Strategy by NTC (Stage D). Stage E, 'Monitoring' will be carried out by NTC as part of their monitoring programme.

7.2 Stage B: Developing Alternatives and Assessing Effects

- 7.2.1 Stage B incorporates 6 principle tasks which are presented in further detail below.

B1: Testing the plan objectives against the SEA objectives

- 7.2.2 The objectives of the Coastal Strategy need to be tested against the SEA objectives to identify both potential synergies and inconsistencies. The aim is to achieve consistency between the objectives however this is not always possible. In this circumstance a decision will be made as to where the priority lies and a justification for this decision will be recorded in the Environmental Report.

B2: Developing strategic alternatives

- 7.2.3 In conducting SEA the likely significant environmental effects of implementing the Coastal Strategy and any reasonable alternatives will be appraised. A number of 'options' will be developed by the Strategy to fulfil its objectives; these options will be appraised to understand the positive and negative effect of each. This is often an iterative process, with the alternatives being revised to enhance the positive effects and reduce the negative effects.

B3: Predicting the effects of the draft plan, including alternatives

- 7.2.4 The prediction of effects involves identifying changes to the environmental baseline which are predicted to arise following implementation of the Coastal Strategy. In carrying out this task a 'do nothing' scenario will also be assessed to provide a comparison of effects should no strategy for coastal management be implemented. Changes to the environmental baseline will be described in terms of their magnitude, their geographical scale, the time period over which they occur, whether they are temporary or permanent, positive or negative and whether they are secondary, cumulative and/or synergistic effects (see descriptions provided in Table 7.1 and Table 7.2, below).

B4: Evaluating the effects of the draft plan, including alternatives.

7.2.5 Evaluation involves forming a judgement on whether the predicted effects of the Strategy are likely to be environmentally significant. In determining significance, reference will be made to the assessment criteria developed for the SEA framework (see Table 6.1 in **Section 6**) and the characteristics of the effects as listed in Annex II to the SEA Directive. In particular:

- The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
- The cumulative nature of the effects;
- The transboundary nature of the effects;
- The risks to human health or the environment;
- The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects;
- The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - The special nature characteristics or cultural heritage;
 - Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;
 - Intensive land-use;
 - The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

7.2.6 The duration and nature of the effect will be recorded using the scale descriptions provided in Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 below.

Table 7.1: Scale and descriptions for the duration of effects

Duration of Effect		Description
LT	Long term	10> years
MT	Medium term	3 years to 10 years
ST	Short term	0 years to 3 years
Perm	Permanent	Lasting or to remain for an indefinite time
Temp	Temporary	Lasting for a limited period of time

Table 7.2: Scale and descriptions for the nature of effects

Nature of Effect		Description
D	Direct	Resulting from an impact with no intervening factors
I	Indirect	Not directly caused by an impact
SE	Secondary	An effect resulting from another effect
SY	Synergistic	Resulting from multiple impacts

7.2.7 Topic specific definitions have been developed for what constitutes a significant effect, a minor effect and a neutral effect for each of the SEA objectives and are provided in **Appendix E**. By defining a scale of significance for each receptor/topic area a consistent approach to the assessment will be ensured. As an example, definitions for determining the significance of effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna are provided in Table 7.3 below.

Table 7.3: Scale descriptions for determining the significance of effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna

Effect	Description	
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a large and sustained positive impact on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (e.g. it fully supports the conservation objectives of the site, or it leads to a long term increase in the population of protected species) The option would have a strong positive effect on local biodiversity (e.g. through the removal of existing disturbance/pollutants, or results in the creation of new habitats and a long term improvement to the ecosystem structure or function) The option will create new areas of wildlife interest with improved public access in areas where there is a high demand for such access
+	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a minor positive effect on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (e.g. it supports a few of the conservation objectives, or results in a short term increase in the population of protected species) The option may have a positive net effect on local biodiversity (e.g. through the removal of existing disturbance/pollutants, or results in the creation of some habitat and a temporary improvement to the ecosystem structure or function) The option will enhance the existing public access to areas of wildlife interest in areas where there is a high demand for such access
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not have any effects on European or national designated sites and/or any protected species (including designated and non-designated) The option would not affect public access to areas of wildlife interest
--	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a minor short-term negative effect on local conservation sites and species (e.g. through a minor increase in disturbance/pollutants, or some loss of habitat leading to temporary loss of ecosystem structure or function) The option would decrease public access to areas of wildlife interest in areas where there is some demand for such access
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a negative effect on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (i.e. by preventing any of the conservation objectives from being achieved or resulting in a long term decrease in the population of any species). These effects could not be reasonably mitigated The option would have large negative effects on biodiversity (e.g. through an increase in disturbance/pollutants, or a considerable loss of habitat leading to long term loss of ecosystem structure or function)
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects

- 7.2.8 Where an option is assessed as having a significant effect on the environment and alternatives have been considered, measures will be put forward to prevent, reduce or offset these adverse effects whilst maximising those effects that are positive.

B6: Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of plan implementation

- 7.2.9 Monitoring enables any unforeseen adverse effects to be identified following implementation of the Strategy. Decisions about what to monitor and the methods employed are considered at an early stage in the SEA process and finalised in the Environmental Report.

7.3 Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report

- 7.3.1 The Environmental Report is a key output of the SEA process; it presents information on the effects of the draft Coastal Strategy prior to its implementation and forms a basis on which formal public consultation is carried out. The Environmental Report must demonstrate that the SEA Directive's requirements have been met. This can be achieved by signposting the places in the Environmental Report where information required by the Directive is provided.
- 7.3.2 The structure and content proposed for the Environmental Report is provided in Table 7.4, below.

Table 7.4: Proposed structure and content for the Environmental Report

Structure of Report	Information to Include
Non-Technical Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of the SEA process; • Summary of the likely significant effects of the plan or programme • Statement on the different the process has made to date; and, • How to comment on the report.
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of the SEA; and, • Objectives of the Coastal Strategy.
Methodology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach adopted in the SEA; • Who has been consulted and when; and, • Difficulties encountered and limitations of the assessment.

Structure of Report	Information to Include
Environmental Baseline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links to other international, national, regional and local plans and programmes, and relevant environmental objectives including how these have been taken into account; • Description of the baseline characteristics and predicted future baseline; • Environmental issues and problems; and, • Limitations of the data and assumptions made.
SEA Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives of the SEA, assessment criteria and indicators.
Issues, Options and Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main strategic alternatives considered and how they were identified • Comparison of the environmental effects of the alternatives; • Description of how environmental issues were considered in choosing the preferred options; • Other alternatives and why they were rejected; and, • Mitigation measures proposed.
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for monitoring.
Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of significant effects of the Coastal Strategy; and, • Summary of mitigation measures.

7.4 Stage D: Consulting on the draft plan and Environmental Report

D1: Consulting on the draft plan and Environmental Report

- 7.4.1 Consultation on the draft plan and Environmental Report is an integral part of the SEA process. The SEA Regulations do not state a specific time period for consultation but requires that 'authorities shall be given an early and effective opportunity within an appropriate time frame to express their opinion'. As such, the consultation period will be undertaken over a 5 week period after which the responses will be collated and reviewed.

D2: Assessment of significant changes

- 7.4.2 Any significant alterations to the draft Coastal Strategy following consultation will be incorporated into the Environmental Report. This may involve re-assessment of some of the options proposed.

D3: Decision making and providing information

- 7.4.3 Environmental considerations and how they have been integrated into the Coastal Strategy's development will be documented within the finalised Environmental Report. This summary will provide a clear statement of how the Strategy's options have been changed (if at all) as a result of the SEA process.

- 7.4.4 Similarly, any changes resulting from the consultation exercises will also be recorded. This information will however be documented in a separate report covering Public and Stakeholder Engagement.

7.5 Stage E: Monitoring

- 7.5.1 Stage E 'monitoring and implantation of the plan' will be undertaken by NTC as part of a monitoring programme. Potential indicators and targets for use during this stage have been provided in the SEA framework in **Section 6**, Table 6.1.

Abbreviations

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
EA	Environment Agency
EH	English Heritage
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
BWD	Bathing Water Directive
HAP	Habitat Action Plan
HER	Historic Environment Record
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LNR	Local Nature Reserves
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MA	Management Area
NCA	National Character Areas
NE	Natural England
MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
NCC	Newcastle City Council
NTC	North Tyneside Council
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
PDZ	Policy Development Zone
PRoW	Public Rights of Way
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SLCI	Site of Local Conservation Interest
SMP2	Shoreline Management Plan 2
SNCI	Site of Nature Conservation Interest
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
UDP	Unitary Development Plan
UKBAP	United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan
VMNR	Voluntary Marine Nature Reserve

References

- DCLG (2012), National Planning Policy Framework
- Defra (2004), Making Space for Water
- Defra (2006), Shoreline Management Plan Guidance, Volume 1: Aims and Requirements
- Defra (2008), Future Water – The Government's water strategy for England
- Defra (2008), The Government's Response to Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 Floods
- Defra (2009), Appraisal of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
- Defra (2011), National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England
- EC Directive 2000/60/EC on establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, the "Water Framework Directive."
- EC Directive 2006/7/EC concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC
- EC Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks
- EC Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and on the natural habitats and species, the "Birds Directive."
- EC Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
- Environment Agency (2014), Flood Map [Accessed 05/2014]
- Newcastle City Council & North Tyneside Council (2008), Newcastle and North Tyneside Biodiversity Action Plan
- North Tyneside Council (2002), Unitary Development Plan
- North Tyneside Council (2011), North Tyneside Coastal Zone Strategic Framework and Masterplan
- North Tyneside Council (2013), Local Plan – Consultation Draft
- North Tyneside Council (2014), Tynemouth Village Conservation Area Management Strategy
- Northumbrian Coast Action Group (2009), Northumberland and North Tyneside Shoreline Management Plan 2
- ODPM (2005), A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
- ONS (2011), UK Census 2011. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html> [Accessed 05/2014]

Appendix A

Relevant Legislation, Policy and Guidance

A.1 International and European Policy

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
EC Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks 2007/60/EC.	Member States are required to prepare plans to manage risks posed by floods and coastal erosion by 2015.	The SEA will consider the environmental effects of the Coastal Strategy on the environment.
The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International importance.	Requires appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the conservation of wetlands and waterfowl.	This SEA will consider the impacts of the Coastal Strategy on wetlands and wetland birds.
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.	Objective is to achieve stabilisation in greenhouse gas concentrations.	The SEA will consider climatic effects within the development of the environment baseline.
EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (1979) "EU Birds Directive".	Member States have a duty to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitat in order to maintain populations at ecologically and scientifically sound levels. This applies to birds, their eggs, nests and habitats.	The SEA will consider the impacts of the Coastal Strategy on European Birds.
EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EEC (1992).	Member States are required to take legislative and administrative measures to maintain and restore natural habitats and wild species at a favourable conservation status in the community.	The SEA will take into account the conservation status of the study area and will seek to identify measures to further maintain and restore natural habitats.
The Convention on Biological Diversity. Rio de Janeiro (1992).	Article 6A requires each Contracting Party to develop national strategies, plans or programmes from the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	The SEA will consider biodiversity in accordance with guidance on this issue.
The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn convention).	Provides protection for endangered migratory species.	This SEA will consider the impacts on migratory (Appendix 1) species.
UNESCO Convention concerning the protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972.	Promotes integration of the protection of cultural and natural heritage in to planning.	This SEA will consider impacts on heritage and its setting.

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
United Nations Convention on law of the Sea (UNCLOS).	Sets out duties to protect archaeological and historical nature found in the sea.	The SEA will consider archaeological features in the development of the environmental baseline.
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020.	Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity, better protection for ecosystems and more use of green infrastructure, more sustainable agriculture and forestry, better management of fish stocks, tighter controls on invasive alien species, a bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.	The SEA will consider biodiversity in the development of the environmental baseline.
EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EEC).	Aims to achieve good environmental status of European marine waters by 2020.	The SEA will consider coastal water quality.
EC Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EEC).	The WFD will help protect and enhance the quality of surface freshwater (including lakes, streams and rivers), groundwaters, groundwater dependant ecosystems, estuaries and coastal waters out to one mile from low-water.	The SEA will consider surface water quality in the development of the environmental baseline however requirements of the WFD will be principally dealt with in a separate WFD assessment.
EC Directive on Bathing Water (2006/7/EC).	Aims to serve, protect and improve the quality of the water environment and to protect human health.	The SEA will consider coastal water quality in the development of the environmental baseline and links to its importance for tourism and recreation.
EC Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment 2001/42/EC.	For high level plans and strategies an SEA should be carried out in accordance with the approach described in the Directive.	This SEA will follow the legislation and guidance set out in the SEA directive.
Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004).	These Regulations implement Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and Council on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment as regards plans and programmes relating solely to any part of England.	The SEA is being undertaken in accordance with this European Directive.
EU Strategy on Climate Change.	Sets out steps to limit the effects of climate change.	The SEA will consider climatic effects in the development of the environmental baseline
EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC).	Establishes targets for improving human health and environmental quality by 2020.	The SEA will consider air quality in the development of the environmental baseline.
Charter for the Protection and Management of Archaeological Heritage	The Charter states that policies for the protection of archaeological heritage should constitute an integral component of policies	The SEA will consider archaeological heritage in the development of the

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
(1990).	relating to land use, development, and planning as well as of cultural, environmental and educational policies.	environmental baseline.
Convention for the Protection of Architectural Heritage of Europe.	The aim of this Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study. Sources are considered to be elements of the archaeological heritage all remains and objects and any other traces of mankind from past epochs, the preservation and study of which help to retrace the history of mankind and its relation with the natural environment.	The SEA will consider archaeological heritage in the development of the environmental baseline.
Mainstreaming Sustainable Development into EU Policies (2009).	The Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006) deals in an integrated way with economic, environmental and social issues and lists seven key challenges: climate change and clean energy; sustainable transport; sustainable consumption and production; conservation and management of natural resources; public health; Social inclusion, demography and migration; and global poverty.	The SEA will consider climatic factors, conservation and the population in the development of the environmental baseline.
OECD Initiatives.	Requests member states to develop strategic planning and management of coastal zones	This SEA considers the management of coastal zones.

A.2 National Policy

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
UK Legislation and Guidance		
Flood and Water Management Act, 2010.	The Flood and Water Management Act takes forward some of the proposals identified in three previous strategy documents published by the Government; Future Water, Making Space for Water and the Government's response to Sir Michael Pitt's Review of the Summer 2007 floods. The Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk and promotes the importance of sustainable development for local authorities when exercising their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions.	An SEA objective is to ensure that that people and property are protected against coastal erosion and flood risk through the Strategies proposals.
The Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009.	The Marine and Coastal Act put in place a variety of measures to improve the management and protection of marine and coastal environments including the creation of a competent marine planning authority (the Marine Management Organisation) to deliver marine	The SEA will consider provision for the coastal path and also the candidate MCZ.

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
	licensing and enforcement of legislation. The Act also addresses the issue of coastal access, placing a duty on the Secretary of State and Natural England to secure a continuous, well signed and managed route around the English coastline.	
Environmental Protection Act 1990.	The Environmental Protection Act 1990 establishes in England, Scotland and Wales businesses' legal responsibilities for the duty of care for waste, contaminated land and statutory nuisance.	The SEA will consider impacts on contaminated land.
Coast Protection (Notices) (England) Regulations, 2002.	An Act to amend the law relating to the protection of the coast of Great Britain against erosion and encroachment by the sea.	The SEA will consider the law in relation to the protection of the coast line.
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended).	Addresses species protection and habitat loss by setting out the protection that is afforded to wild animals and plants in Britain and gives details of protection afforded to Sites of special Scientific Interest.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Coastal Strategy on wildlife.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2012.	The objective of the Habitats Directive is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Coastal Strategy on biodiversity.
The Conservation Regulations, 1994 (Habitats Regulations).	Transpose the requirements of the Habitats Directive building on existing legislation for the protection of species and habitats listed in the Directive.	The SEA will seek to identify measures to further maintain and restore natural habitats.
The Countryside Rights of Way Act, 2000.	The Act places a duty on Government Departments to make a definitive map of rights of way and to subsequently ensure their accessibility. It also requires improved access to open land and consideration if the affects of recreational users on nature conservation.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Coastal Strategy on Public Rights of Way and access to the coast.
Coast Protection Act, 1949.	Requires protection of the coast of Great Britain against erosion and encroachment by the sea.	This SEA considers coastal erosion and protection.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006.	The Act established and constituted Natural England and placed an obligation on public authorities to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity. Legislation also empowers the Secretary of State to publish lists of living organisms or habitats thought to be of key importance to the conservation of biodiversity in England and Wales.	The SEA will consider effects on sites designated for their ecological and geological interest (SSSIs).

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979.	Requires provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and for the regulation of operations or activities affecting them.	
Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System (2005).	Sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system.	The SEA includes an objective to protect biodiversity and geological conservation.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG) Policy 8: Promoting healthy communities.	Sets out policies on the role of the planning system in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. It identifies the need for access to high quality open space as well as the protection and enhancement of public rights of way networks, including National Trails.	The SEA will consider impacts on the populations health with regard to the provision of coastal recreational resources and protection from flooding and coastal erosion risk.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG) Policy 10: Meeting the challenge of climate change.	Sets out the Government policy on development, flood risk and resilience to the impacts of climate change. It aims to ensure that proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change are adopted during the planning process and that the issues of flood risk and coastal change are taken account to avoid inappropriate development in areas of high risk.	An SEA objective is to ensure that vulnerability to the effects of climate change, such as sea level rise and flooding, is reduced through the Strategies proposals.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG) Policy 11: Conserving and enhancing natural environments.	Sets out policies on the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, valued landscapes and geological conservation interests in the planning system. The statement places an emphasis on the hierarchy of designated sites to ensure that protection is commensurate with their status.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Strategy on biodiversity and sites designated for their nature conservation interest.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG) Policy 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.	Sets out policies to conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Strategy on sites of historic and archaeological interest.
Circular 14/97: Planning and the Historic Environment Notification and Directions by the Secretary of State (1997).	The circular sets out requirements to notify and consult in reference to planning applications affecting the fabric or setting of listed buildings, conservation areas and historic parks and gardens.	The SEA will consider guidance on heritage and the historic environment.
Circular 02/93 - Public Rights of Way (1993).	This circular consolidates advice on recording, maintaining, protecting and modifying the rights of way network. It also outlines the powers which local authorities acquired under the Transport and Works Act 1992 to stop up or divert a footpath or bridleway in their area when	The SEA will consider guidance on Public Rights of Way.

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
	it crosses a railway, otherwise than by a tunnel or bridge, where this is considered to be in the interests of public safety.	
Natural Environment White Paper 2012.	Recognises that a healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It aims to mainstream the value of nature across society, including across government departments.	The SEA will consider population health and the opportunities to improve it through access to coastal recreational resources.
Plans, Programmes and Strategies		
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (2011).	A national strategy which encourages more effective risk management, by enabling people, communities, business, infrastructure operators and the public sector to work together.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Strategy and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
Appraisal of Flood and Coastal Risk Management (2009).	A Policy Statement which sets out the principles for guiding decision making on the sustainable management of flood and coastal erosion risk in England. The Statement identifies the need for structured and systematic appraisals to be carried out in order to justify expenditure on publicly funded projects and help to achieve better social and environmental outcomes as part of sustainable development.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
UK Biodiversity Action Plan.	The UK BAP aims to conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and increase priority habitats.	The SEA will consider biodiversity, will identify BAP habitat and, where practical, identify measures for meeting BAP targets.
Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystems (2011).	Builds on the white paper. The Strategy sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy for the next decade on land (including rivers and lakes) and at sea. Water management includes habitats and species, through a river basin planning approach; and also promotes approaches to flood and erosion management which conserve the natural environment and improve biodiversity.	The SEA will consider the effects of the Strategy on biodiversity and sites designated for their nature conservation interest.

A.3 Regional and Local Management Plans

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
Northumberland and North Tyneside Shoreline Management Plan 2 (2009).	Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) provide a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal evolution and present a policy framework to address risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment, in a sustainable manner. SMP2 sets out the results of the first revision to the original Shoreline Management Plan which covers a stretch of coastline extending from the Scottish Border south, to the River Tyne. It is a non-statutory document promoting policies for the management of risks from coastal erosion and sea flooding over the next 100 years. Policy Development Zone 6 (PDZ6) from Seaton Sluice to the River Tyne aligns with the stretch of coastline covered by this Coastal Strategy. Current policy along this stretch of coastline is to generally maintain protection to property and infrastructure against erosion and sea flooding where defences exist, whilst allowing the natural development of undefended sections.	SMP2 forms the basis for policy adopted in the Coastal Strategy. The SEA will review the policies set out in SMP2 and identify and conflicts between those policies identified in the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Unitary Development Plan (2002).	Provides a statutory development plan for the borough. Adopted policies will continue to guide development until their eventual replacement by the Local Plan (expected November 2015). A principle concern of the plan is the protection and improvement of the physical environment.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Unitary Development Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Local Plan (Consultation Draft Jan 2014).	The Local Plan is a statutory document setting out policies for the development and use of land, providing the overall spatial vision for North Tyneside to 2030. Locally specific policies and proposals for key areas, notably the coast, are provided alongside borough wide policies guiding the scale, type and location of new development and investment. The Local Plan is currently at consultation draft stage with an anticipated adoption date of November 2015.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Local Development Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Coastal Zone Strategic Framework and Masterplan (2011).	A document providing an overarching framework to guide tourism and culture led regeneration of the coastal area over 15 years. The framework brings together details of initiated and delivered projects as well as providing a structure for the co-ordinated delivery of new and complementary projects.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Framework and Masterplan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.

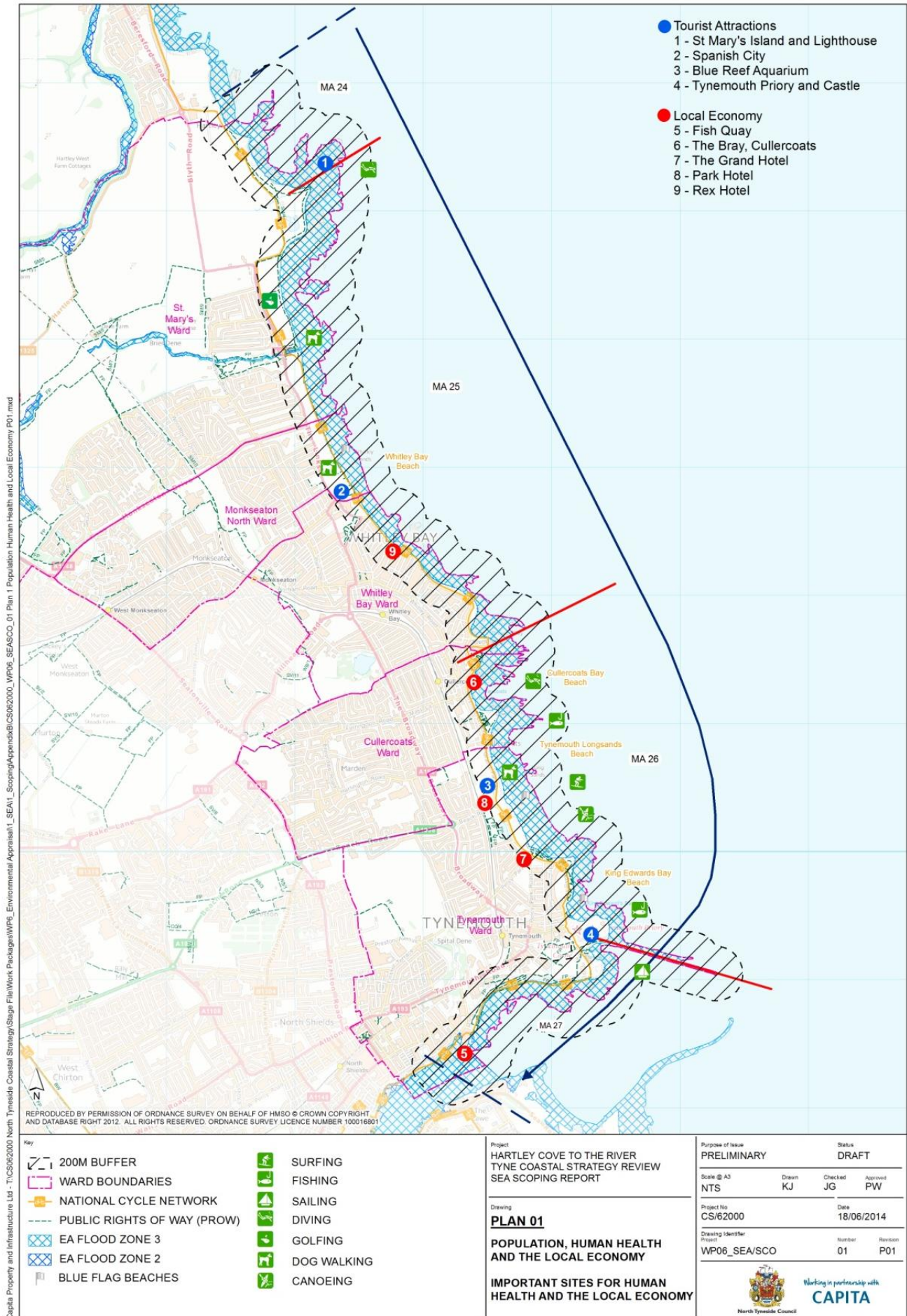
Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
North Tyneside Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan (Draft 2013).	The Council will work in partnership with the Environment Agency and NWL to prioritise sites for regeneration. The majority of the sites are coastal related and play a significant part in future regeneration proposals at the coast and safeguard the existing infrastructure behind the sea defences.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and identify and conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Council's Climate Change Strategy (2010 -2015).	The Climate Change Strategy builds on the principles of sustainable development and puts into place an integrated approach in fulfilling the social, environmental and economic objectives within North Tyneside. Objectives include local dune management to counter both physical effects of the sea and winds and the trampling erosion caused by pedestrian access.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Strategy and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2014).	The Strategy ensures that flood risks from all sources, including surface run off, groundwater and ordinary watercourses, are identified and managed.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Strategy and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Surface Water Management Plan (2012).	A Surface Water Management Plan is a framework to help understand the causes of surface water flooding and agree a preferred strategy for the management of surface water flood risk.	The SEA will consider the policies within the plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
Tyne River Basin Management Plan.	The RBMP for the Tyne River Basin District addresses the pressures facing the water environment and the actions required to protect and improve the water environment.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
Tyne Catchment Flood Management Plan (2009).	The CFMP set out policies for the sustainable management of flood risk across the catchment over the long term (50 to 100 years) taking climate change into account. The plan emphasises the role of the flood plain as an important asset for the management of flood risk, the crucial opportunities provided by new development and regeneration to manage risk, and the need to re-create river corridors so that rivers can flow and flood more naturally.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
Contaminated Land Strategy (Draft 2014).	The strategy describes the methodology used for the risk based inspection of the Borough and how the council will deal with contamination.	The SEA will consider any potential sites of contaminated land along the coastline.

Name of document	Relevant policies/objectives of the plan or programme	How it will be considered in SEA
North Tyneside Green Space Strategy (2008).	The Strategy considers all accessible green space in the borough including the coast which is identified as one of the most important areas of open space. It aims to provide green spaces which are attractive, safe and well managed as well as opportunities for enhancement or adaption ensuring equal access for all.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Strategy and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
North Tyneside Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011).	Green Infrastructure should be incorporated within both the design and delivery of new land use schemes with developer contributions used to support the creation of sites and their maintenance. A need to develop places of interest within the network, for recreation and tourism, including the coastline. Use of GI assets to enhance biodiversity and green space activity.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Strategy and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.
Tynemouth Village Conservation Area Management Strategy (April 2014).	Adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, the Strategy recognises Tynemouth Village for its major historic value and puts forward a plan for managing change and future development within the Conservation area. Enhancement opportunities identified include conservation, re-use and development of the Tynemouth Outdoor Pool (a fundamental part of the sea defence), a project to uncover the Lion's Head Fountain at Long Sands and the provision of suitable paths and walkways to encourage walking and cycling.	The SEA will consider Conservation Areas and the need to maintain and enhance the historic character of the area.
Newcastle and North Tyneside Biodiversity Action Plan (2008).	A ten year vision for the protection and enhancement of Biodiversity in Newcastle and North Tyneside. The plan aims to ensure that the natural environment is managed more effectively to protect natural resources and leave a legacy that will benefit present and future generations.	The SEA will consider local biodiversity by identifying BAP habitat and, where practical, identifying measures for meeting BAP targets.
North East Strategic Economic Plan (Draft Dec 2013).	The plan outlines how the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area's economy will grow over the next 10 years with proposals for a 6 year programme of investment.	The SEA will consider the policies within the Economic Plan and identify any conflicts between this planning tool and the Coastal Strategy.

Appendix B

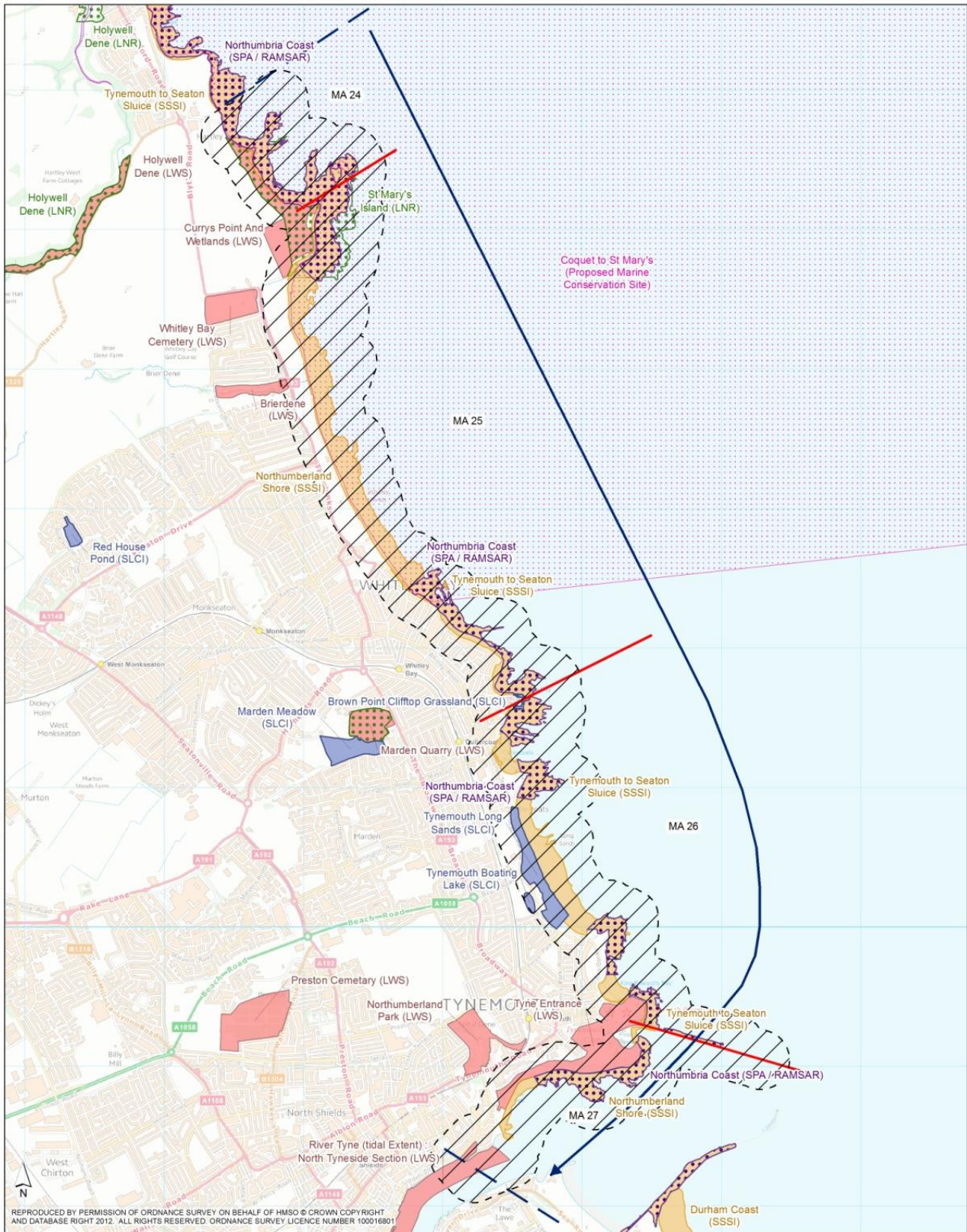
Environmental Baseline Figures

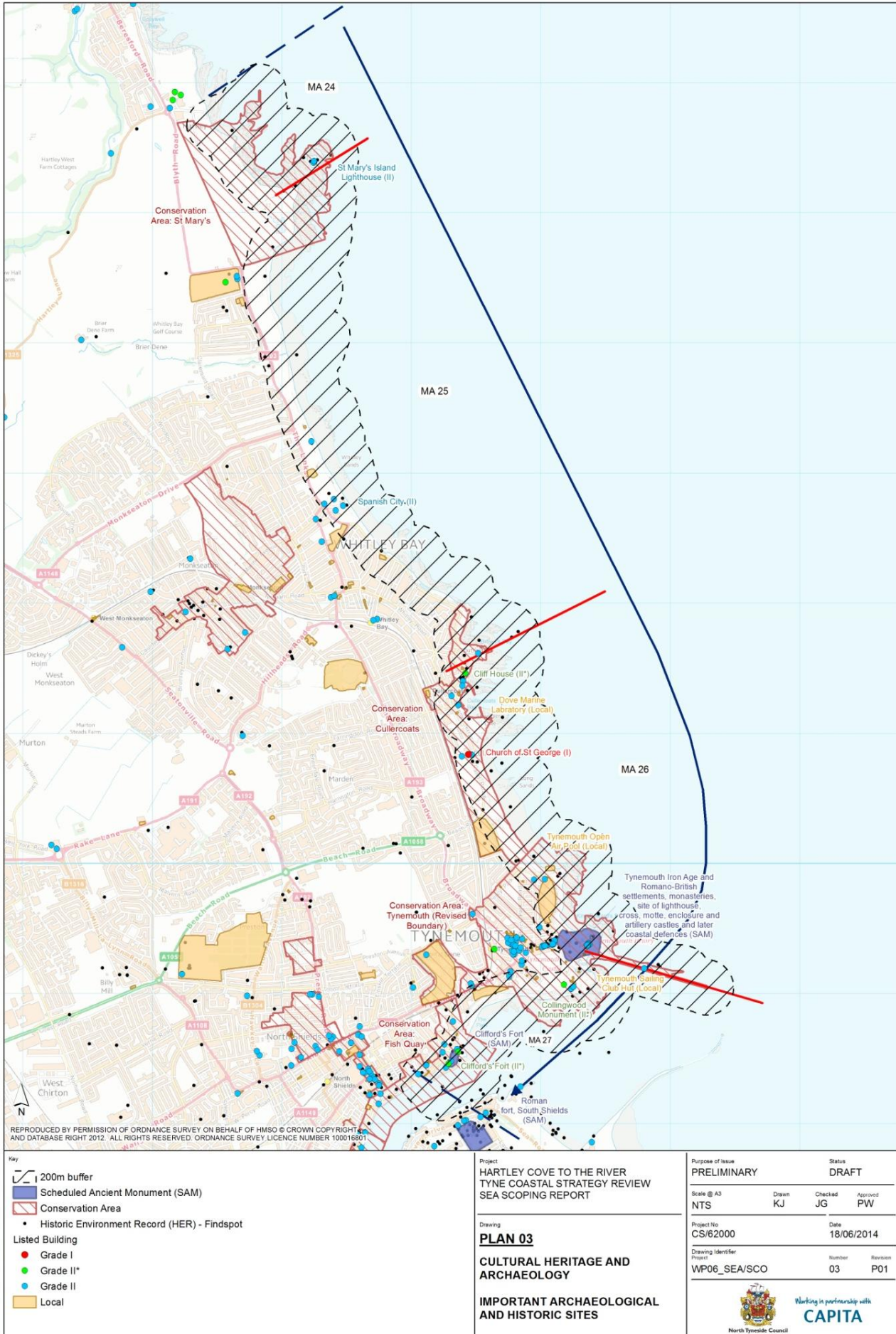
- B.1 Plan 01: Important Sites for Human Health and the Local Economy
- B.2 Plan 02: International, National and Local Nature Conservation Designations
- B.3 Plan 03: Important Archaeological and Historic Sites





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Appendix C

List of Consultees

C.1 Consultation Group One Members – Project Management

Name	Organisation
Peter Woods	Capita North Tyneside Council Partnership / North East Coastal Group
Mark Ellis	Capita Property and Infrastructure (Coastal Strategy)
Jane Tingay	Capita Property and Infrastructure (Coastal Strategy and WFD Assessment)
Katie Jackson	Capita Property and Infrastructure (SEA)
Hannah Carruthers	Capita Property and Infrastructure (HRA)
Steena Nasapen-Watson	Environment Agency (EA)
Colin Godfrey	Natural England (NE)
Alan Hunter	English Heritage (EH)
Emma Dixon-Lack	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)

C.2 Consultation Group Two Members – Authority Stakeholders

Name	Organisation
Jackie Hunter	Biodiversity Officer, North Tyneside Council
Graham Clarke	Public Rights of Way Officer, North Tyneside Council
Phil Scott	Head of Environment and Leisure, North Tyneside Council
Paul Buie	Head of Business and Economic Development, North Tyneside Council
Felicity Shoesmith	Manager for Engagement, North Tyneside Council
Niall Cathie	Client Manager Property, North Tyneside Council
Steve Bishop	Senior Manager Arts Tourism and Heritage, North Tyneside Council
Peter Slegg	Planning Officer, North Tyneside Council
Jackie Palmer	Planning Manager, North Tyneside Council
Marcus Jackson	Area Officer Seafront, North Tyneside Council
Mark Newlands	Client Manager Highways and Infrastructure, North Tyneside Council
Ian Lillie	Development Team Leader, North Tyneside Council
Frances Lowes	Senior Manager Regeneration, North Tyneside Council
Jacqueline Laughton	Strategic Manager Policy and Partnership, North Tyneside Council

Name	Organisation
Ian McCaffrey	Conservation Officer, North Tyneside Council
Paul Green	Senior Manager Strategic, North Tyneside Council
TBC	South Tyneside Council
TBC	Northumberland County Council
Cllr Sarah Day	Councillor, Tynemouth
Cllr Jean McLaughlin	Councillor, Tynemouth
Cllr David Lilly	Councillor, Tynemouth
Cllr Kenneth Barrie	Councillor, Cullercoats
Cllr George Westwater	Councillor, Cullercoats
Cllr Shirley Mortimer	Councillor, Cullercoats
Cllr Pamela Brooks	Councillor, Whitley Bay
Cllr John O'Shea	Councillor, Whitley Bay
Cllr Sandra Graham	Councillor, Whitley Bay
Cllr Judith Wallace	Councillor, St Mary's
Cllr Pam McIntyre	Councillor, St Mary's
Cllr Ed Hodson	Councillor, St Mary's
Cllr Brian Burdis	Northumbria Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
Cllr John Harrison	Lead Member for Environment
Cllr Norma Redfearn	Elected Mayor

C.3 Consultation Group Three Members – Interested Organisations

Organisation	Organisation
DEFRA	Northumbria Tourist Board
Department of Communities and Local Government	Panama Swimming Club
Department for Culture, Media and Sport	Sunderland Rambling Club
Department of Energy and Climate Change	Northumbria Ramblers
Department for Transport	Royal Northumberland Yacht Club
Port of Tyne Authority	Sport England North
Port of Blyth Authority	Sustrans
RLNI North East	Tynemouth Rowing Club
Country Landowners Association	Tynemouth Canoe Wave and Ski Club
The Crown Estate	Friends of Tynemouth Outdoor Pool

Organisation	Organisation
The National Trust	Sea Cadets
Lord Hastings Trustees	Tynemouth Village Society
The Northumberland Estates	BT Group PLC
Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade	Trinity House Lighthouse Service
Cullercoats Fishermen Association	The Maritime and Coastguard Agency
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation	Northern Powergrid
North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation	Northumbrian Water
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation	Northern Gas Networks
Durham Wildlife Trust	Dove Marine Laboratory
Northumberland Wildlife Trust	University of Durham
RSPB	Newcastle University
Marine Conservation Society	University of Northumbria
Northumberland and Tyneside Bird Club	University of Sunderland
Council for the Protection of Rural England	Red Seal Rescue

Appendix D

Public and Stakeholder Consultation Comments

D.1 Notification Letter and First Public Consultation Event

Comment	SEA Response
We are concerned to ensure that full account is taken of opportunities for the route of the England Coast Path along this section of the coast. Survey work is due to start 2014/5.	Access will be considered within the scope of the SEA along with requirements set out in the Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009.
From a built heritage viewpoint there have been a number of significant changes along the coastline since 2007 including the designation of a new conservation area covering much of the coastline at Cullercoats. We have had a number of new listed buildings added in the period including the lighthouse and cottage and St Mary's Island. Our Local Register has been brought into being since 2007 also. This covers certain buildings and places with a coastal focus.	Conservation areas and listed buildings (including North Tyneside Council's Local Register) have been incorporated into the environmental baseline for the SEA.
<p>North Tyneside's coast is one of the most popular places in the borough but is also one of the key regeneration areas of the borough. It is crucial that it needs to be managed so that in the future it is still a beautiful place to come and visit but also meeting the needs of visitors in the twenty-first century. The North Tyneside Local Plan is currently being prepared and contains coastal specific policies. The document has recently been subject to public consultation (November 2013) and can be found on the Council website. The North Tyneside Council Local Plan: Consultation draft (November 2013) was informed by a sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment. We can provide the comments we received from the statutory consultees if that would be helpful?</p> <p>Prior to the Local Plan the Council was pursuing a Local development Framework composing of a Core Strategy and Area Action Plans. There was an Area Action Plan being prepared for the Coast and this along with associated documents can again be found on the Council website.</p> <p>There have been many regeneration projects over the years that I have listed below and should inform the Coastal Strategy but I'm sure that colleagues in the regeneration team will provide further details if required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing water recreation at the coast and the conflicts of jet skis and other users. Potential new launch ramp at the Haven, Tynemouth. Regeneration of Tynemouth open air pool – many ideas discussed over the years but this is principally a key sea defence. Enhancement of the wildlife habitat of the dunes at Longsands 	<p>The Draft Local Plan and its policies will be considered within the scope of the Strategy and will be used to develop objectives for the SEA.</p> <p>Regeneration projects (ongoing and proposed) will be considered when developing management options. A representation from</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New pier at Cullercoats harbour but continued recreational pressures • Spanish City refurbishment and regeneration, Watts slope cafe and toilets, potential land train serving Spanish City, promenade improvements and landscaping. • Rockcliffe promenade improvements. • Future use of the boatyard south of St Marys Island. • Recreation provision on the Links with it being designated as managed realignment. • Future recreational and tourism opportunities at St Marys Island/headland. • Enhancing the national cycle network running along the coast. <p>I would be keen to be kept informed in the preparation of this document as I have worked on planning policy matters covering this area for a few years and have a keen interest in the coastal area.</p>	<p>NTC's Regeneration Team has been added to the list of consultees and a copy of the SEA Scoping report and draft Environmental Report will be distributed to them.</p>
<p><u>Environmental Issues</u> Consideration of International and National designations along the coast and their associated legislation. For Example:- <u>International Sites</u> - Northumbria Coast Ramsar Site and Special Protection Area (SPA) – protected by the 'Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010' <u>National Sites</u> - Northumberland Shore Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice geological SSSI – protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)</p> <p>Ensuring that potential environmental issues along the coast/estuary are identified within the document, for example:- Impacts of coastal processes or projects on the geological features of the Tynemouth to Seaton Sluice SSSI or the habitats (rocky foreshore areas and high tide roosting habitats) used by the qualifying bird species of the Northumbria Coast SPA. Protection of the Dune system at Tynemouth Longsands (an important natural coastal defence) Erosion of boulder clay along the cliffs at the coast Loss of, or impacts on, intertidal habitats (mudflats/saltmarsh) along coast/estuary Consideration of invasive species along the coast (in particular Japanese Knotweed)</p> <p><u>Links to Plans/Projects</u> The following Council Plans and projects should be considered within the document:- <u>Plans</u> The Local Plan (& associated Area Action Plans) Newcastle & North Tyneside Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Coastal Regeneration Strategy</p>	<p>International, national and local nature conservation designations have been incorporated into the SEA environmental baseline.</p> <p>The SEA will include an assessment on the potential consequences of the management options proposed, including 'do nothing' and 'do something' scenarios. Impacts on designated sites will be considered in the SEA.</p> <p>The impacts of invasive species will be considered in detail at scheme/project level and do not fall within the scope of the SEA.</p> <p>A review of relevant policies and plans, including those listed, will be carried out during development of the SEA to ensure proposals conform.</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p><u>Projects/Potential Projects</u></p> <p>Tynemouth Outdoor Pool</p> <p>Works to promenades (southern and central proms)</p> <p>Sand dune regeneration project (Tynemouth Longsands)</p> <p>Causeway at St Mary's Island</p> <p><u>Other Considerations</u></p> <p>Consideration needs to be given to the installation of groins at Whitley Bay beach to prevent the annual loss of sand from the beach due to the longshore drift under moderate to heavy sea conditions. Sand loss from the beach has been an increasing problem over the years since the old outfall pipes situated opposite Ocean View and Watts Slope were removed in 2006 after the new interceptor sewer works were completed.</p> <p>Consideration needs to be given to works to prevent further damage in the future to the northern corner of the Haven beach during moderate to heavy south easterly sea conditions which are threatening Tynemouth Sailing clubs building, car park and beach access facilities.</p>	<p>The Strategy will be updated to reflect schemes/projects already completed or proposed. The SEA will appraise only those projects which are to be completed.</p> <p>Options will be considered as part of the Coastal Strategy's development. If an option to resolve this issue is shortlisted then the SEA will appraise the effects of this option on the environment.</p>
<p>It is a number of years since English Heritage commented on the Shoreline Management Plan for this area. Since then we have produced generic guidance which is available on-line. I would in the first instance direct you to this as a means of helping to ensure that the Strategy Review takes appropriate account of the historic environment.</p> <p>http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/publications/publicationsNew/guidelines-standards/coastal-defence-and-the-historic-environment/coastaldefenceeh.pdf</p> <p>Any examination of the Historic Environment Record for the area would show that along this stretch of coastline there are a number of designated heritage assets by, and with very close association with the sea.</p> <p>Foremost amongst these is the <i>Iron Age and Romano-British settlements, monasteries, site of lighthouse, cross, motte, enclosure and artillery castles and later coastal defences</i> on the headland at Tynemouth – a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Elsewhere can be found, amongst other assets, Cliff House – grade II* listed, Clifford's Fort – grade II* listed and a Scheduled Ancient Monument, and lighthouses, a radio station, lifeboat house, watch house, cottage and watch club house, and pier, all grade II listed. Not within the study area, but in close association to the north are WWI defences at Hartley – grade II* listed. Any Coastal Strategy should, in order for it to be sustainable (and to be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework) seek to avoid any unnecessary or unjustified loss of, or harm to, the significance and historic value of the heritage assets impacted upon by proposed actions – including their settings.</p>	<p>Best practice guidance will be referred to during the preparation of the Environmental Report.</p> <p>The SEA will consider international, national and local designations when developing the environmental baseline. Find-spots detailed within the HER will also be considered.</p> <p>Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings, including those highlighted will be referenced within the environmental baseline for the SEA.</p> <p>A review of relevant policies and plans, including those</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>In your consultation document you make reference to the intention to prepare a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Coastal Strategy. English Heritage has also produced guidance on the preparation of <i>SEA, sustainability appraisals and the historic environment</i>. It can be found at –</p> <p>http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/publications/publicationsNew/guidelines-standards/strategic-environ-assessment-sustainability-appraisal-historic-environment/SA_SEA_final.pdf</p>	<p>listed, will be carried out during development of the SEA to ensure proposals conform.</p> <p>Best practice guidance will be referred to during the SEA.</p>
<p>Having recently returned from a holiday in Australia I have been catching up with what has been happening back at home in Whitley Bay. On reading recent editions of the Whitley Bay Guardian I came across a Public Notice regarding the Coastal Strategy Review. The Public Notice invites me to contact you which is the purpose of this e-mail. I would very much like to contribute to this Review and be kept in touch with the processes and progress and in particular with regard to that section of coastline between St Marys Island and Cullercoats Bay. My interest in this project is because I live just off this section of coastline on Monkseaton Drive and between myself and my wife we walk this area almost every day and I feel we have a positive contribution to make to finding solutions to the problems.</p> <p>Over the last couple of years there has been an increase in the rate at which these 10m high boulder clay cliffs have been eroding to the extent that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the north end of the Whitley Bay beach, a gap caused by erosion has developed between the sea defence wall and its abutment to the boulder clay cliffs. There is a limited amount of work planned to relieve this particular state of affairs which is due to start here soon. However this work is only a temporary solution and will only tackle one small aspect of a much larger problem. <p>Along this section of coastline the Briardene car park and the Links mini golf course are also under threat.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The edge of the boulder clay cliff is approximately five feet away from the north east corner of the Briar Dene car park and it and the rest of the east end of this park could fall away onto the beach at any time as there is a small stream running from under the car park down the cliff onto the beach (note: this water saturation of the cliff helps to fluidise the boulder clay speeding up its flow rate down onto the beach). 3. The whole of the eastern side of the mini golf course is being eroded away at a much faster rate than in previous years and soon there will have to be a course redesign to move the course tees away from the edge of the cliffs, or put out of commission altogether. 4. Along these cliffs there are a number of areas on the cliff slopes where Marsh Orchids have previously become established. These areas are 	<p>The consultee has been added to Stakeholder Group Four.</p> <p>This has been highlighted as an issue. Recommendations for management will be put forward in the Strategy and options will be appraised through the SEA process.</p> <p>This has been highlighted as an issue. Recommendations for management will be put forward in the Strategy and options will be appraised through the SEA process.</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>fast disappearing as the rate of soil erosion is faster than the seeding and re-establishment of these orchid colonies.</p> <p>I believe this Coastal Strategy Review should also factor in future development opportunities for Whitley Bay as a seaside resort (European and/or commercial funding provision and/or investment) plus the general state of ugliness (and lack of maintenance) of the shoreline area.</p> <p>Other shoreline problems:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a large unused and dilapidated area of promenade in front of the High Point Hotel. 2. There has been a major build-up of rocks + shingle and loss of sand cover over the beach in the area between the skate park and the southern end of Whitley Bay beach. 3. There are derelict rooms/shop bays under the upper promenade in front of the Royal Hotel which I understand are to be filled in and the fronts grassed over(!!??). 4. The two long sections of promenade, one along the Whitley Bay sea front to the Briar Burn and the other from the north end of the Whitley Bay beach to St Marys Island, both have sections of ancient handrails which are corroding away such that they are most unsightly and are becoming a danger to anyone who might lean on them. There are part sections of these handrails in the St Marys Island section that have been renewed where cars have crashed through them. There has been no attempt to improve the outlook for visitors to the town. 5. There are three shelters on the promenade, two north and one south of the Rendezvous Café which are dilapidated and unsightly. 6. There are two long beach hut plinths on the promenade north of the Rendezvous Café which are dilapidated and unsightly. <p>At the northern end of the Whitley Bay Promenade there is a concrete ramp down onto the beach and on its western side there is a high grass bank which leads along to the Briar Burn stream which runs across the beach to the sea. This high grass bank has been 'reinforced' along its base with large rocks which have been in place for as long as I can remember. This section of grass bank, presumably part of the original boulder clay cliff, has not suffered any measurable erosion that I am aware of whilst I have lived here (about 40 years).</p> <p>Recent improvements to the South Shields promenade area show what can be done with a proper application to appropriate design and locating funding opportunities. Why can this not be done for North Tyneside?</p> <p>Solutions to the problems:</p> <p>For points 1 to 3 -- The boulder clay cliffs need to be protected by either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Extending the present Whitley Bay promenade (maybe not quite as wide 	<p>A review of baseline data and modelling when developing the Strategy will help to gain an understanding of current rates of erosion, including past and future trends.</p> <p>Recommendations for management will be put forward on this basis and the SEA will appraise any effects of options on the environment.</p> <p>The presence of international and national protected habitats and species will be incorporated into the SEA's environmental baseline where existing data supports their existence. Locally important species and habitats as identified in the LBAP will also be considered.</p> <p>Proposals for the central promenade were put forward in the last Coastal Strategy document and have been taken forward as a project to be implemented in 2014/15.</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>as the present one) northwards to meet up with the sea wall at the north end of the beach.</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) Installing a rock protection shield along and up the base of the boulder clay cliff similar to that installed on the grass bank by the west side of the promenade ramp onto the beach.</p> <p>It is important for Whitley Bay as a holiday destination to have its adjacent coastline, as its main attraction, in a fit state to attract both day visitors and those wishing to stay for longer. At the present time the state of this coastline, particularly that section between the Briar Burn outflow to the sea and the northern end of the beach is in danger of being continually eroded away, destroying the viability of the mini golf course amongst many other considerations. We are told that there has never been sufficient funds available locally to address this problem in any fashion. I am sure there must be some available funding 'out there' to protect these cliffs coupled with improving the outlook for the promenade and beach which would revive Whitley Bay's prospects of becoming a successful holiday destination again. The funds could/should come from Central Government funding for seaside resorts, Northumbrian Water, European grants, coastal protection grants and the lottery fund to name but a few sources.</p> <p>One further requirement for Whitley Bay to become the successful holiday destination again is for the beach in front of the promenade to be in a presentable state. This is not so at present as the most important stretch of the beach between the skate park and the beach's southern end is piled high with rocks and shingle and visitors are not be able to use this area to sit on. These heaps of rocks and shingle are too high for any depth of sand to accumulate there. If these rocks and shingle were to be removed and replaced with sand then a major advantage would be gained for the town.</p> <p>I trust that an acceptable solution can be found that will address the ever faster erosion of our boulder clay cliffs and that this solution could be part of a wider goal of improving Whitley Bay's prospects as a visitor destination.</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the effects of options on the environment.</p> <p>The Coastal Strategy will consider opportunities for partnership funding and grants.</p>
<p>Will you please note that we would like to be involved and consulted with regard to all proposals for improvement plans for the Tynemouth Haven area.</p> <p>We, along with the Sailing Club, Sea Scouts and Red Seal Rescue groups have previously been involved in discussions with NTC about proposals for the Haven area and we request that this continues in the future.</p>	<p>The consultee has been added to Stakeholder Group Three and will be consulted during development of the Strategy.</p> <p>All consultees noted have been added to Stakeholder Group Three.</p>
<p>I can confirm that Natural England has no detailed comments to make at this stage but welcomes the objective of the Review to produce a strategy and proposed programme of work in which 'The integrity and coherence of the</p>	<p>The consultee has been added to Stakeholder Group One and will be consulted</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p><i>environmentally protected sites will be ensured</i> and the intention to undertake a SEA, HRA and WFD Assessment. We would however wish to provide further comment/input as the options are progressed.</p> <p>For further information on statutory sites for nature conservation which may be relevant to the Strategy we recommend that you look on the website Nature on the Map (www.natureonthemap.org.uk). This site enables web users to search for information about English wildlife sites and habitats on an interactive map. You might also find it helpful to look at the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) Project website (http://magic.defra.gov.uk/), which collates information from Defra, Natural England, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and English Heritage. Natural England's website, www.naturalengland.org.uk, also provides information on SSSIs that can be downloaded. The following provides a link to relevant European Site conservation objectives (http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/designations/sac/northeast.aspx).</p>	<p>during development of the Strategy.</p> <p>International, national and local environmental conservation designations have been incorporated into the SEA environmental baseline.</p>
<p>Low level of sand at front of Bray No protection from North Pier Raise level of Bray offrose 1.6m Cellar Flooded Dove Marine MMO European Fisheries Grant for harbour improvement Rock armour to pier too close – move forward Sand in harbour South Pier is excessive no toe on pier?</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the effects of these options on the environment.</p> <p>The Coastal Strategy will consider opportunities for partnership funding and grants.</p>
<p>We would like to see some improvements made at Cullercoats harbour for the boat standage area on the north side (The Brae) If not possible in this scheme, we would like it considered in the future. Risk of flooding and damage to the boats that have to lie there in bad weather.</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the effects of these options on the environment.</p>
<p>Needs to be enhanced, protected. It's what the public come and envy – look at South Tyneside. We also must protect a coastline, which we love.</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and</p>

Comment	SEA Response
	environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the effects of these options on the environment.
The Strategy is important and needs to be publicised, and to keep residents in the picture. I am very interested in the proposals.	A report outlining the consultation approach to be adopted during development of the Strategy has been produced.
<p>All as expected as per the SPM2. Comments as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of Erosion – Data could be made more public and public data gathering could assist i.e.: photo logging. Environmental data – Big Sea Project based at Dove Marine has used Citizen Science to gather data and for ongoing monitoring – it resides at NE Env. Records Centre (Eric NE) Beach Cleaning <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Removes dune building materials Is it consented – it removes food for coastal birds – the feature for which the area is designated Selective litter removal (seasonal) could reduce the need for expensive dune restoration Invasive Species – Japanese knotweed is established and spreading Urgent imperative to prevent development on undefended coast ie: W Bay mini golf What is sediment input from River Tyne? CSO'S – Those that flow to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Briardene Small stream to north of St Mary's actually input significant sewage waste into the coast. Briardene was in WFD and has been removed by EA despite failing due to heavy pollution from former mine workings /agriculture/CSO's. Archaeology – erosion is impacting on this especially regards WW2 features (Rapid Assessment undertaken by English Heritage) Data missing = <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coquet to St Mary's is a proposed Marine Conservation Zone (as such covered as pEMS therefore Habs Directive) River Tyne is Local Wildlife Site Data at ERIC NE (Hancock Museum) <p>Tynemouth Cliffs – impact area for breeding Kittiwakes – a key BAP species Any reclamation should enhance biodiversity No repeat of dreadful works done @ Cullercoats harbour</p>	<p>The impacts of invasive species will be considered in detail at scheme/project level and do not fall within the scope of the SEA.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA will be to ensure that any options proposed will minimise pollution to surface and coastal waters and ensure water quality targets are not compromised.</p> <p>The proposed MCZ from Coquet to St Mary's, LBAP species/habitats and Local Wildlife sites will be incorporated into the SEA environmental baseline.</p>
Would like to see renovation (NOT DEMOLITION!) of Tynemouth outdoor pool.	Regeneration projects (ongoing and proposed) will

Comment	SEA Response
	be considered when developing management options. The SEA will appraise the environmental effects of these options.
<p>What about the coast and why spend money on it. Leave it wild for more adventure at coast.</p> <p>Maybe free car parking for holiday visitors? – a little more access over looking wild areas for disabled etc – Montersign Beach Building</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the environmental effects of these options.</p>
<p>Access at Southern Promenade should be maintained to allow fishermen to access the foreshore.</p> <p>Sand on Whitley Sands low - affected by building of Trinity Road.</p> <p>Sands in Cullercoats Harbour very high – never been seen before.</p> <p>Need more maintenance of all coastal structures</p> <p>Reinstatement of groynes on Whitley Sands (Pipes).</p>	<p>Access will be considered within the scope of the SEA for a range of user groups including fishermen.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>I would just like to ensure the Port of Tyne are involved with any reviews.</p>	<p>The consultee has been added to Stakeholder Group Three.</p>
<p>Cullercoats Harbour – “The Brae” – the hard standing next to the RLNI Lifeboat House is in serious need of upgrading just to “hold the line”. During periods of bad weather, commercial fishing boats have for centuries been hauled up onto the Brae for safety. The Brae is now becoming increasingly unsafe due to its very low height and construction. It is awash during spring tides and heavy seas more and more frequently. Every time these events combine, the fishing boats have to be moved off the Brae and up the steep bank onto the main road, and when caught out there have been many incidents of severe damage to boats and equipment.</p> <p>The hassle and effort involved in having to haul these heavy boats up and down, to and from the boat park is enormous and completely unnecessary. The treat to safety of the boats is growing steadily due to the increasing frequency of tidal surges, extreme weather patterns and rising sea levels. Cullercoats Fishermen Association has for over 30 years repeatedly asked North Tyneside Council to resolve this problem and have also provided information on available grant assistance, all to no avail.</p> <p>Sea conditions can and do change suddenly, unexpectedly and there have</p>	<p>A review of baseline data and modelling will help to gain an understanding of the risks, including past and future trends. Recommendations for management will be put forward on this basis.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>been many instances of boats, on their trailers, being trapped on the Brae and unable to be moved at high water during heavy seas and spring tides and have then had to be anchored by ropes and chains to tractors to avoid being wrecked.</p> <p>The slipways and Brae in Cullercoats were not entered for consideration into the SMP2 consultation by North Tyneside Council prior to 2009 (MU 47-P26-PU26.2) although all other Councils had mentioned the need to protect their launching, boat storage and berthing facilities on their own coastlines. There have been no improvements to safety and operational facilities in Cullercoats for over 60 years!</p> <p>Please bear in mind that the RNLI Lifeboat House is considered at risk and therefore is notified by the Environment Agency when flooding is imminent, and that the Brae is even lower than the Lifeboat House!</p> <p>Can you please refer, for more details, to the information supplied by Cullercoats Fishermens Association at the Coastal Strategy Review Presentation of 16.4.14 held in Tynemouth Village. Our film evidence of the tidal surge of 5.12.13 in relatively calm conditions, is in the possession of Jane Allison of NTC Regeneration Team.</p> <p>The "European Fisheries Fund" grants information we supplied, we think, will have from this or next year, the title chnges to the "European Maritime Fisheries Fund". The MMO should be able to provide details.</p> <p>Could you please supply names and contact details of your officers who were present on 16.4.14 for future correspondence.</p> <p>We hope and pray this time our requests will be acted upon to sustain the safety and viability of the fishing fleet and the long historic heritage of fishing in Cullercoats. We look forward to your reply.</p>	
<p>Cullercoats Harbour needs sea defences from the rising spring tides and big seas that pound the harbour. We need the Brae raised and levelled for safety, to manoeuvre our fishing boats and protect them from worsening weather conditions and rising sea levels.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extend slipway by Dove Marine 2. CCTV required (vandals and weather) 3. Parapet wall around Brae required <p>Approx 60 years since the last improvements.</p> <p>Cullercoats Fisherman's Association has requested for over 30 years to improve defences.</p>	<p>The Coastal Strategy will appraise a range of options to ensure that the most cost effective, socially and environmentally acceptable methods for managing risk are put forward. The SEA will appraise the environmental effects of these options.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>Brae awash in big seas and tides. Damage to boats in past.</p> <p>Sea levels rising.</p> <p>Parapet wall around Brae required.</p> <p>Around Dove Marine extend slipway.</p> <p>Someone to turn up at meeting not like Marcus Johnson who did not turn up but Councillors did.</p>	<p>A review of baseline data and modelling will help to gain an understanding of the risks, including past and future trends. Recommendations for management will be put</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>CCTV required. 60 years since last improvements. Steps bust bearing etc on tractor wheels etc,</p>	<p>forward on this basis.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>The Brae should be raised to the 2nd level. Big tides to keep the boats safe. Avoiding the boats to be hauled up to boat park and disrupting traffic in doing so. The slip way next to Dove Marine to be levelled at the bottom, big drop when sands shift. Install CCTV to protect boats and RNLI Station against vandals. Over the years there has been very little done to protect the fishing boats that are left at the harbour.</p>	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>When planning Strategy regarding Cullercoates Harbor it must be remembered that Cullercoates Harboir is a working harbour used by Fishermen who work in harmony with holiday makers but use the harbour 12 months of the year. They require access to the beach and moorings and hard stand adjacent to the Lifeboat House. This must be taken into consideration. In the past the Council have treated fishermen (from the Village) as if they don't exist. Also Cullercoates Harbour is not a safe place for launching. Skijets damage has been done to fishing boats on the moorings and near accidents with swimming youngsters. Steps should be taken to ban them before a serious accident occurs and someone is badly injured or worse still killed.</p>	<p>The Strategy will endeavour to take all stakeholder views into account through a robust consultation methodology.</p> <p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>In relation to your partnership working Capita and NTC, regarding the Coast Strategy Hartley Cove to the River Tyne I would like to submit the following points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is now some 60 years since any safety improvements have been made to the Harbour. This is a working harbour and these are business operating from this harbour. Cullercoates Fishermens Association have requested various improvements for the safety of the fishermen and the knock on effect that this will have to all harbour users for over 30 years. All to no avail. The brae at Cullercoates should be levelled. At present damage is caused to the tractors, the boats and their trailers/wheels when having to manoeuvre up and down the brae. There should be a parapet wall added to deflect the force of the waves and seas. The slip which runs across the entrance to the Dove Marine Laboratory should be extended – at present this comes to an abrupt stop and there is a considerable drop – again causing damage to boats/wheels and tractors. There has been considerable vandalism caused to boats/tractors/wheels when parked on the braw. There has also 	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>

Comment	SEA Response
<p>been considerable and repeated vandalism done to the Dove Marine Laboratory and RNLI Lifeboat house. The only way to deter or detect the people who carry this out is to install CCTV which must be monitored by the Gatehouse at NTC. Much of this damage is caused because they are down the hill and out of sight of any passing police or locals who may report the damage. The police have been called on numerous occasions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The changes in weather/seas/tides means that the boats are not safe to be left on the brae as it is. In particularly bad weather the boats have to be taken up the hill to the boat park. This is becoming a more frequent requirement. These fishermen need their livelihoods preserved. 	
<p>Re Works at Cullercoats Harbour The following points should be noted when considering the Coastal Strategy Hartley Cove to the River Tyne:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The brae at Cullercoats should be levelled to improve the safety for the fishermen and their boats This will help to compensate for the rising tides, worsening weather conditions, big seas/storm surges/spring tides. Boats have to be moved up to the boat park in bad weather conditions. The slip way at the Dove Marine Laboratory needs to be extended as there is a considerable 'drop'. It is over 60 years since any improvements have been made and Cullercoats Fishermens Association have been asking for improvements for over 30 years. 	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>As a full time working fisherman from Cullercoats Harbour for thirty odd years, over the last ten years or so there has been concern over rising sea levels spring tides, it badly needs lifting. The steps have always been a big problem for the trailers and tractors turning, the brae being levelled would mean better and safer hauling up of the boats, with more room for another couple of boats. We've been trying for a long time to try and get CCTV installed down the harbour which would be a benefit for everybody down there RLNI, Dove Marine, and ourselves. The Cullercoats Fishermans Association have been asking for these improvements for many years.</p>	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>Brae is awash in big seas and spring tides – needs levelling off – steps of brae damage bearings on tractor wheels and trailer wheels. There has been a lot of damage to boats by vandals over a lot of years, costing fishermen for repairs. CCVT footage would be of great use for RNLI, fisherman, Dove Marine Lab and icecream hut etc. If brae was levelled off boats would not have to be hauled up to boat park in bad weather conditions, also a parapet wall around brae would be of good use. It is approx 60 years since any improvements were made, the CFA have been asking for improvements for over 30 years. An extended slipway by Dove Marine would be useful</p>	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>
<p>Would like to see present sea defences held and improvements made to</p>	<p>The Strategy will take into</p>

Comment	SEA Response
recreation (sea sports) helping tourism and the economy through specific initiatives – that help these aims in addition to sea defences e.g swimming pool, selected access points for sailing boats e.g. Haven , and surfing e.g. Black Middens, River Tyne and Hartley Cove, as well as surfing/RLNI centre, Long Sands	account the social, environmental and economic components of sustainability. The impacts on access and recreation will be considered within the scope of the Strategy (as part of the SEA) along with any relevant plans and programmes which set adopted policies for the coastal area.
<p>The main issues are the landslip under the Priory (KE Bay side) which needs reinforcing where necessary, preserving the existing 'supports' at KE Bay (landslip from 1910!) and under the priory headland and the pool.</p> <p>TCAMS contains proposals for the pool areas – these depend on funding of course, but a lido-type thing must be appropriate, and either a pool or a flattened area for other activities.</p> <p>The principles about providing support could apply on other parts of the coastal strip, but I am less familiar with those.</p>	<p>This has been highlighted as an issue. Recommendations for management will be put forward in the Strategy. The SEA will appraise the effects of these options on the environment.</p> <p>The Coastal Strategy will consider opportunities for partnership funding and grants.</p>
As a resident of Tynemouth and a member of the Friends of Tynemouth Outdoor Pool I am concerned that the Strategy supports the refurbishment and re-opening of the outdoor pool. This proposal not only maintains the pools existing function as a sea defence but aims to provide a sustainable community resource, transforming the existing eyesore!	Regeneration projects (ongoing and proposed) will be considered when developing management options.
<p>I welcome the opportunity to express my views and comments as follows. I have been a working commercial fisherman on this stretch of coast for some 45 years and feel well qualified to make recommendations. Firstly being a descendant of the fishing community of old Cullercoats it saddens me greatly to see how the needs of fishermen have been ignored for many decades. While it appears that Cullercoats is now in the last throes of its former fishing glory I can tell you that many Cullercoats fishermen work from nearby deep water harbours Tyne/Blyth and at any one time we all decide to base at Cullercoats this just simply would be impossible for the simple fact that our amenities have been lost to such an extent that no more than 3 boats could now operate because of the stepping of the North Brae. It would not only be impractical but dangerous for any more to try and negotiate the obstacles of stepping. These steps were put in there initially without question to deter the fishermen from using their traditional boat apron. I personally worked my boat from Cullercoats for some years during the 70s + 80s and after one near disaster on the steps with our tractor I decided to abandon my village. I personally met with Council officials of that time who were without any</p>	An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.

Comment	SEA Response
<p>sympathy for our traditional rights which were forwarded to us by the Duke of Northumberland when he sold the Harbour and surrounds to Tynemouth Borough Council. There has been a most recent battle for those left fishing there that sums it all up, the Council wanted to place more restrictions on the fisherman's Brae that would have effectively reduced the maximum fishing effort to 2 boats!!</p> <p>Allow the fishing heritage to flourish again in Cullercoats, flatten the Brae and restore our rights as the Dukes Charter* intended.</p> <p>*Dukes Charter is available to be viewed. The Charter was drawn up by the point of sale by the Due to TBC.</p> <p>(See attached photo of our harbour 'as it was')</p>	
<p>I supplement my husband's concerns by saying the Brae needs flattening and raising to take into account rising water levels, allow a fishing fleet again to exist, damage to boat carriages and tractors, safety and above all to restore our harbour back to being fishing friendly. Our Fishermen's Association have tried for 30 years for this restoration. It is 60 years+ since the then Tynemouth Borough Council made the Brae stepped to deter the fishing.</p>	<p>An objective of the SEA is to ensure options recognise and support the role of the fishing industry.</p>

Appendix E

Topic Specific Definitions for the Assessment of Significance

E.1 Population, Human Health and the Local Economy

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option has a significant positive effect on the likely determinants of good health (including employment opportunity, level of deprivation, physical activity, access to open space and recreational activities, improvements to environmental quality and community safety). The option would result in decrease in people or property at risk or affected by flooding, coastal inundation or sea level rise. The option would enhance public access to the countryside and increase open space provision.
+	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option has a positive effect on the likely determinants of good health (including employment opportunity, level of deprivation, physical activity, access to open space and recreational activities, improvements to environmental quality and community safety). The option may result in decrease in people or property at risk or affected by flooding, coastal inundation or sea level rise. The option would enhance public access to open spaces and the countryside.
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option has no observable effects on health and wellbeing of communities. The option would not result in any change to the amount of people or properties that are at risk by flooding, coastal inundation or sea level rise. The option would not enhance or restrict public access to open spaces and the countryside.
-	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option has a negative effect on the likely determinants of good health (including employment opportunity, level of deprivation, physical activity, access to open space and recreational activities, improvements to environmental quality and community safety). The option may result in increase in people or property at risk or affected by flooding, coastal inundation or sea level rise. The option would temporally restrict public access to open spaces and the countryside.

Effect		Description
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option has a large negative effect on the likely determinants of good health (including employment opportunity, level of deprivation, physical activity, access to open space and recreational activities, improvements to environmental quality and community safety). The option would result in increase in significant number of people or property affected by flooding, coastal inundation or sea level rise. The option would result in the loss of open spaces and restrict public access to the countryside.
	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.2 Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a large and sustained positive impact on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (e.g. it fully supports the conservation objectives of the site, or it leads to a long term increase in the population of protected species). The option would have a strong positive effect on local biodiversity (e.g. through the removal of existing disturbance/pollutants, or results in the creation of new habitats and a long term improvement to the ecosystem structure or function). The option will create new areas of wildlife interest with improved public access in areas where there is a high demand for such access.
	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a minor positive effect on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (e.g. it supports a few of the conservation objectives, or results in a short term increase in the population of protected species). The option may have a positive net effect on local biodiversity (e.g. through the removal of existing disturbance/pollutants, or results in the creation of some habitat and a temporary improvement to the ecosystem structure or function). The option will enhance the existing public access to areas of wildlife interest in areas where there is a high demand for such access.
o		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not have any effects on European or national designated sites and/or any protected species (including designated and non-designated). The option would not affect public access to areas of wildlife interest.

Effect		Description
- -	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a minor short-term negative effect on local conservation sites and species (e.g. through a minor increase in disturbance/pollutants, or some loss of habitat leading to temporary loss of ecosystem structure or function). The option would decrease public access to areas of wildlife interest in areas where there is some demand for such access.
- -	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a negative effect on European or national designated sites and/or protected species (i.e. by preventing any of the conservation objectives from being achieved or resulting in a long term decrease in the population of any species). These effects could not be reasonably mitigated. The option would have large negative effects on biodiversity (e.g. through an increase in disturbance/pollutants, or a considerable loss of habitat leading to long term loss of ecosystem structure or function).
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.3 Water

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would significantly decrease the amount of waste water, surface runoff and pollutant discharges so that the quality of that water receptors (including groundwater, surface water, sea water or drinking receptors) will be significantly improved and sustained and that all water targets (including those relevant to chemical and ecological condition) are reached and exceeded.
+	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would lead to minor decreases in the amount of waste water, surface runoff and/or pollutant discharges so that the quality of water receptors (including groundwater, surface water, sea water or drinking receptors) may be improved to some level temporarily and that some water targets (including those relevant to chemical and ecological condition) will be reached/exceeded.
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not change amount of waste water, surface runoff and/or pollutant discharges so that the quality of water receptors will not be affected.

Effect	Description
- -	Minor Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would lead to minor increases in the amount of waste water, surface runoff and/or pollutant discharges so that the quality of water receptors (including groundwater, surface water, sea water or drinking receptors) may be decreased to some level temporarily and it may prevent some water targets (including those relevant to chemical and ecological condition) from being achieved.
- -	Significant negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would lead to major increases in the amount of waste water, surface runoff and/or pollutant discharges so that the quality of water receptors (including groundwater, surface water, sea water or drinking receptors) will be considerably increased and will prevent some or all water targets (including those relevant to chemical and ecological condition) from being achieved.
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.4 Landscape and Visual Amenity

Effect	Description
++	Significant positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would make a significant positive contribution to statutory-designated landscapes or Historic Landscapes. The option would have a significant positive effect on the setting and attractiveness of local landscapes and townscape (e.g. through the replacement of poorly designed/derelict buildings with high quality development).
+	Minor Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would serve to enhance statutory -designated landscapes or Historic Landscapes. The option would have a positive effect on the setting and attractiveness of local landscapes and townscape.
o	Neutral or no effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not have any effects on landscapes or visual amenity.
- -	Minor Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have short-term negative effects on statutory -designated landscapes or Historic Landscapes. The option would have a negative effect on the intrinsic character of landscapes and townscape. The option would affect the visual amenity of local communities.

Effect		Description
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have long-term negative effects on statutory-designated landscapes or Historic Landscapes. The option would severely affect the intrinsic character of landscapes and townscape. The option would severely affect the visual amenity of local communities.
	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.5 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would make a significant positive and long-term contribution to the setting and conservation of designated and locally important cultural heritage features (e.g. – through enhancement of setting, permanent removal of a structure creating a negative visual impact, large scale enhancement of designated features).
	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would bring minor short-term improvements to the setting and conservation of designated cultural heritage features (e.g. - temporary removal of structure creating a negative visual impact).
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not have any effects on any cultural heritage sites or assets.
--	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would bring minor short-term degradation to the setting and conservation of designated cultural heritage features (e.g. – temporary use of equipment/structures creating a negative visual impact).
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would cause long-term degradation to the setting and conservation of designated and locally important cultural heritage features (e.g. – through direct and permanent loss or damage to designated sites, introduction of a structure that will have a considerable and permanent negative visual impact).
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.6 Geology, Soils and Material Assets

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a large and sustained positive impact on nationally designated geological sites.
+	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would have a minor and temporary positive impact on a nationally designated geological site.
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would not have any effects on geological conservation sites/important geological features of high importance.
--	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would cause minor short term negative effects on geological conservation sites/important geological features of high importance.
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option would cause a substantial and permanent loss of or damage to highly importance and/or designated geological conservation sites/important geological features.
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

E.7 Climatic Factors

Effect		Description
++	Significant positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option will increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change in the wider environment.
+	Minor Positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option may increase resilience/decrease vulnerability to climate change in the wider environment.
o	Neutral or no effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option will not contribute to climate change or the resilience from it.
--	Minor Negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option may decrease resilience/increase vulnerability to climate change in the wider environment.
--	Significant negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option will decrease resilience/increase vulnerability to climate change in the wider environment.
?	Uncertain or multiple effects, positive and negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the level of information available the impact that the option would have on the objective is uncertain.

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