

Cumbria Coastal Strategy

Have your
say

Cumbria County Council is working with the Cumbria Coast Protection Authorities and the Environment Agency to develop a strategy for the future management of the coast from Arnside to the Scottish Border.

Everyone living, visiting or working on or near the coast is invited to take part in determining how their local coastline should be managed.



What is a coastal strategy?

A coastal strategy is a plan that sets out how we will manage the risks related to coastal flooding and erosion along our coastline over the next century. Cumbria County Council is working with the Cumbria Coast Protection Authorities (District Councils) and the Environment Agency, to develop a strategy for the future management of the coast from Arnside to the Scottish Border. This project is being funded by the Environment Agency.

It builds upon the ideas and policies presented in the North West Shoreline Management Plan. This large-scale plan set out policies for each stretch of coast. We now need to decide how we carry out these policies.

Why do we need a strategy?

In the future there is a risk that our sea defences could fail, or that risks from erosion and flooding will increase over time. This may lead to impacts on property and businesses located along our shoreline.

We need a strategy so that we have a clear plan for managing coastal risks in the future. It is also needed for us to get approval from the government for future flood and coastal risk management schemes and to help secure national funds to contribute to the cost of defences.

This strategy forms the first step in setting out our future approach to managing risks and will feed into our local plans.

What has been done so far?

We have carried out several studies looking at the key features of our coastline and the risks to these from coastal erosion and flooding, both now and in the future.

We have then focused on specific stretches of coast that have been identified as requiring more attention. These have been called **priority units**. Here we have looked at different ways to address future risk - we call these **options**.

Along the rest of the coast, we have looked at whether the current Shoreline Management Plan policy is still suitable and identified what future actions will be needed.

How can you get involved?

To make sure we fully understand and include the impacts on people, the local economy and the environment, we would like to hear your views about how your coastline should be managed.

More information on the Strategy and the options and ideas being considered is available on the project website www.cumbria.gov.uk/ccs. You will also be able to provide feedback here. A separate questionnaire is also available for those without internet access. Please return any responses by 14th December 2018.

Drop-in events are also being held, in key locations, giving you an opportunity to express your views in person and provide us with any extra information. These events will be held in the local libraries of the following places:

Silloth – Tuesday 20 November

Whitehaven – Wednesday 21 November

Millom – Tuesday 27 November

Barrow-in-Furness – Wednesday 28 November

Grange-over-Sands – Thursday 29 November

1.00pm to 7.00pm



How will your views be used?

The next stage will be to decide on preferred options for managing our coastline.

We will use your comments and any information provided in developing these.

What happens next?

Further work will be undertaken to produce a **draft Strategy Report**. This will set out for each stretch of coast what actions are likely to be needed in the future.

We will consult with you on this document in summer 2019, through our website www.cumbria.gov.uk/ccs. This will give you a chance to express your views on the final proposals.

Following this, a final Strategy Report will be submitted for approval by the Environment Agency – this is likely to be in winter 2019.

Once approval has been obtained, whether we carry out the preferred options will depend upon the funding available.

Want to find out more?

Please visit www.cumbria.gov.uk/ccs or contact the project team at CCS@cumbria.gov.uk

