

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL : TRANSPORTATION AND ROADS

COAST PROTECTION POLICY

A Statement of Policy for the Maintenance and Provision of Coast Protection Works

1. Maintenance of Existing Coast Protection Works

1.1 Works in the Ownership of Aberdeenshire Council

Aberdeenshire Council are responsible for the maintenance of existing coast protection works constructed by or for the council or the previous coast protection authority as formal coast protection schemes. They will be maintained in good condition.

1.2 Works in Private ownership

1.2.1 If maintenance or repair of existing coast protection works constructed by or for private landowners becomes necessary and comes to the attention of Aberdeenshire Council, the council will contact the private owner and inform him of his obligation to carry out maintenance or repair.

1.2.2 If ownership of existing coast protection works cannot be determined, Aberdeenshire Council will carry out any maintenance or repair which may become necessary provided that:

- (1) property or valuable land is in danger
- and (2) cost benefit analysis shows a positive return.

An appropriate contribution will be sought from the beneficiaries of any such work.

2. Provision of New Coast Protection Works

Aberdeenshire Council will promote new coast protection works when necessary in accordance with the following criteria:

2.1 Established Communities

2.1.1 The protection of established communities against erosion shall be treated as first priority. Protection against flooding due to overtopping shall be treated as second priority. All proposed schemes must show a positive return on cost benefit analysis. Contributions will generally not be sought from property owners.

2.1.2 If however notification of potential erosion or flooding problems had previously been given during the planning process, the council will not take the lead in promoting new coast protection works and will only contribute to the necessary works. Such contribution may take the form of design costs. Reasonable technical advice will be given free of charge.

2.2 Individual or Small Groups of Houses

2.2.1 Provided that at least one house is permanently occupied and does not constitute a second home or a business, individual houses and small groups of houses will be treated as in paragraph 2.1 above.

2.3 Agricultural Land, Estate Land, Commercial Properties and Caravan Parks

2.3.1 New coast protection works for agricultural land, estate land, commercial properties or caravan parks will not normally be promoted by Aberdeenshire Council. Contributions to such works will not normally be considered. Reasonable technical advice will however be given free of charge.

2.3.2 Formal design work including the processing of statutory procedures in connection with such works will be undertaken on request at a suitable fee to be agreed in advance.

2.4 Sports Facilities

2.4.1 New coast protection works for sports facilities will be promoted by Aberdeenshire Council only in exceptional circumstances. Should the council decide to promote such works, a contribution to the cost of the works appropriate to the number of users of the facility will be sought.

2.5 Publicly Maintained Roads

The protection of all adopted roads against erosion shall be treated as first priority. Protection against flooding due to overtopping shall be treated as second priority. Proposed schemes shall be prioritised with respect to the classification of the road. All proposed schemes must show a positive return on cost benefit analysis.

2.6 Privately Maintained Roads

2.6.1 Coast protection works for privately maintained roads will not normally be promoted by Aberdeenshire Council. Contributions to such works will not normally be considered. Reasonable technical advice will however be given free of charge.

2.6.2 Formal design work including the processing of statutory procedures in connection with such works will be undertaken on request at a suitable fee to be agreed in advance.

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