Sefton Coast Partnership’s Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan 2006-2011

Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Nature Conservation & Biodiversity

Shoreline Management

History & Archaeology

Life Long Learning

Research

Tourism (Communication, Access & Interpretation)

Land-use Planning & Marine Related Activities

Major Landowners Activities

Seftons Natural Coast
LIFE LONG LEARNING

Goal: Facilitate and enhance the understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the coast by creating opportunities for education and learning

17 Role of Task Group

17 Objectives

RESEARCH

Goal: To promote awareness and create opportunities for research including collaborative research activities

19 Role of Task Group

19 Objectives

TOURISM (COMMUNICATION, ACCESS & INTERPRETATION)

Goal: Develop opportunities for recreation, sporting and tourist activities that draw on and are consistent with, the natural character and conservation value of the coast

Goal: Develop opportunities for quiet recreation on the coast through improved interpretation and physical access

21 Introduction

21 Local Delivery

21 Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan

22 Physical Access on the coast

22 Coastal Visitor Sites

LAND-USE PLANNING & MARINE RELATED ACTIVITIES

Goal: To support development that is coast dependent and sustainable within the coastal zone

Goal: To work with others in the interest of conservation and management of marine resources, including awareness of the high amenity value of the Sefton Coast

23 Planning Policy

24 Marine Spatial Planning

24 Dredging Disposal at sea

24 Dredging of Marine Aggregates

24 Emergency Planning

24 Energy Installations

24 Marine Spatial

25 Planning Fishing

MAJOR LANDOWNERS

27 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

27 The Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT)

27 Sefton MBC (SMBC)

27 National Trust (NT)

27 English Nature (EN)

27 Reserve Forces & Cadets Assoc (RFCA)

28 Golf Clubs

APPENDICES

pages 33-37

App 1 Coastal Geography and Orientation

App 2 Board Representation

App 3 Coastal Partnerships and Networks

App 4 Tourism Partners

App 5 Contact/Useful Information

5 Year Action Plan 2006-2011 Activity & Output Schedule
1

INTRODUCTION

Vision

“To manage and promote conservation and access to the coast, which ensures the protection of one of the most important coastal areas in Europe for nature, whilst providing sustainable benefits for people and the economy.

- Specifically, we accept the joint responsibility to ensure that the integrity and natural value of the dune system and estuaries is protected in perpetuity as one of the series of European nature sites.”

Introduction

This is the Sefton Coast Partnership (Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan) for 2006-2011. This umbrella document is a voluntary document produced by the Sefton Coast Partnership (SCP) to illustrate their activities. It replaces the former Sefton Coast Management Plan (Second Review) 1997 – 2006.

The Sefton Coast Partnership (SCP) works together on conservation and to promote sustainable benefits for access, people and the economy, predominantly in the interest of the undeveloped coast in Sefton. Urban regeneration is being driven by the Southport Partnership’s own Action Plan for the town centre and seafront. However, with respect to the seafront at Southport there are direct links to the emerging nature conservation strategy and beach management plan. A watching brief on port related activities (a major feature of Sefton’s economy) is maintained in the south of the borough. To find out more about the geography and orientation of the Sefton coast please see Appendix 1.

The Sefton Coast Partnership

The Sefton Coast Partnership (SCP) is an informal association of land managers, land owners, community groups, agencies and relevant Council Departments. All of the partners have an interest in the integrated management of Sefton’s valuable coastal areas. The Partnership is steered by a Board comprising representatives of the various landowners and groups.

A working group ad task groups take forward partnership activities and projects under a number of topic headings. Board representation is listed in Appendix 2. The Partnership holds an annual Forum, usually in February each year, a public meeting which provides an opportunity to discuss coastal issues with a broader audience.

Within this Plan period 2006-2011 the future structure and status of the SCP will be the subject of a review. This will include the SCP investigating the advantages of gaining charitable status.

The Board publishes ‘Coastlines’ twice a year which provides information about activities on the coast to local communities through a mailing list, and through schools and local libraries. For more information the Partnership website (www.seftoncoast.org.uk) provides detailed information on the coast, with links to other key coastal sites.
Introduction

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is a process which seeks to ‘join up’ the different policies that have an effect on the coast (land and marine) and to bring together stakeholders to inform, support, and implement these policies.

The ‘Key’ functions of ICZM include promoting sustainable economic development; reducing conflict; integrating marine activities and improving land use planning.

National Level

The European Union have adopted a recommendation on implementing integrated coastal zone management (ICZM). They have asked Member States to develop their own national strategies.

The European Union has recommended that Member States follow eight principles when formulating their national ICZM strategy. These principles are intended to provide a foundation for the UK and other national, regional and local ICZM strategies.

The EU 8 ICZM Principles

- Taking a long term view
- A broad holistic approach
- Adaptive management
- Working with natural processes
- Support and involvement of relevant administrative bodies
- Use of a combination of instruments
- Participatory Planning
- Reflecting local characteristics

Taken from ‘What is ICZM’ Wales Coastal and Maritime Partnership*

Benefits of ICZM at a Local Level

The guiding principles of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) are embraced within this Plan. Particular emphasis is placed on;

- sustainable tourism,
- nature conservation,
- Beach, land and shoreline management,
- lifelong learning and research
- historic and archaeological heritage of the Sefton Coast.

Some of the benefits in a local partnership approach, relate to opportunities for improved communication, exchange of information and collaboration between Partners. It is increasingly important that partnerships are able to explain such demonstrate how they are adding value to existing management structures.

Benefits:

- Building consensus on issues which require joint action Communication, information
- A communication network Communication
- Managing conflicting views Communication, information
- Public participation (Annual Conference, Lifelong learning and research) Communication, information
- Co-ordination of events Collaboration, communication, information
- A Help in developing support, input and delivery of coastwide strategies Collaboration, communication, information
**Adding value**

ICZM will help to achieve a sustainable balance between different pressures and activities, provide a guiding framework for integrating policies and management and, importantly it can provide considerable **added value** to existing management structures (WCMP 2004).

**Qualitative Assessment**
Through the Annual report process we will address each headline activity in the action plan to explain the ways in which activities have required involvement of the Partnership for that year. This will help illustrate the benefits of a ‘Local ICZM’ approach.

**Quantitative Assessment**
Through the Annual report process we will also address each headline activity in the action plan to explain the amount of Partnership involvement in contributing to that activity for that year. For example, core operational responsibilities such as land management or statutory duties of the Council, may still require partnership involvement, based around information exchange or communication.

In addition to assessing the type and amount of partnership involvement for each activity, we will also illustrate through the Annual report process;

- External funding levered in to support activities
- Partner financial support towards the administration of the SCP
- The value of in-kind contributions from staff time in administering & delivering partnership activities.
- The value of volunteer days in supporting both core operational land activities and supporting partnership activity.

**ICZM and Nature Conservation Networking Organisations**

The Sefton Coast Partnership is also a member of The Northwest Coastal Forum, CoastNET and Eurosite. They are networking organisations devoted to nature conservation management. For more information on these organisations please see Appendix 3.

- The Costal Practice Network (CoPraNet) - www.coastalpractice.net
- CoastNET - www.coastnet.org.uk
- Wales Coastal and Maritime Partnership - walescoastalpartnership.org.uk
Introduction

The Sefton Coast has long been recognised as one of the most important sites in Great Britain for nature since 1915. It is also recognised as a distinct area with its own landscape character.

Protection of nature on the Sefton Coast has developed step-by-step through the statutory processes which operate in the UK. From the 1960s to the early 2000s a suite of Sites of Special Scientific Interest were established. The SSSIs were reviewed in 2000 leading to the amalgamation of five individual sites into a single Sefton Coast SSSI.

A Southport Sanctuary for Pink-footed Geese was designated in 1954 and since then the Ribble Estuary has received protection as a SSSI for its importance to breeding, passage and over-wintering birds (part of the site lies within Sefton). In 2000 the Mersey Narrows SSSI was notified for its value to waterbirds (part of the site also lies within Sefton).

The Sefton Coast is also a nationally important site for historic and active geomorphology.

The initiatives that have been taken at the European level through the Birds Directive of 1979 and the Habitat Directive of 1992 support and strengthen the UK approach to nature conservation, adding an additional level of protection.

The Ribble and Alt estuaries are designated as a Special Protection Area under the EU Birds Directive and the Sefton Coast foreshore and dunes as a Special Area of Conservation under the EU Habitats Directive. The European sites form part of the Natura 2000 network of protected sites. The Ribble and Alt estuaries site is also designated as a wetland of international importance (Ramsar site) for waterbirds and the dune slacks.

Summary of statutory designations

International

Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar site (2002)

European

Sefton Coast Special Area of Conservation (2005)
Ribble and Alt Estuaries Special Protection Area (2002)
Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Shore potential SPA (and Ramsar site)
Potential Liverpool Bay Marine SPA

Collectively SAC and SPA sites form part of the Natura 2000 network of European protected sites

National

Mersey Narrows SSSI (2000) (part in Sefton)
Ribble Estuary SSSI (1984) (part in Sefton)
Formby Point potential GCR site and Hightown potential GCR site for historic landforms

The Sefton Coast also has a number of local designations through Sites of Local Biological Interest, sites with statutory designations such as Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and a National Nature Reserves (NNR)

Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy

Activity

Development and Implementation of Nature Conservation Strategy and Biodiversity Delivery Plan

EU Member States are expected to deliver ‘favourable conservation status’ which is central to the EU Habitats Directive (Article 2(2)). Implementation includes a range of measures to provide conservation objectives at all appropriate levels (local, national, biogeographical and European).
The Sefton Coast Life Project (1996-1999)* helped deliver Nature Conservation for the Sefton Coast Special Area of Conservation. Following the Life Project, management action and priority setting has been left with individual land owners/managers. This has not always focused on delivering the priority nature conservation management and biodiversity tasks that are needed.

There is now a willingness to tackle the serious and urgent issues of managing the SAC towards favourable conservation status; many of these issues were raised by the work on the NNR dune restoration project. The dune restoration project is now on hold until a plan to deliver a successful coastwide approach is prepared. This approach will make significant progress towards delivering the site conservation objectives for the whole SAC.

The UK Government have set a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target for 95% of SSSIs to be in favourable or recovering condition by 2010.

The Sefton Coast Partnership will prepare a Nature Conservation Strategy and action programme that secures biodiversity delivery for the Sefton Coast and by so doing, address nature conservation priorities for the European and national designated sites. This approach should help to ensure that landowners meet their statutory responsibilities to help enable favourable condition to be achieved.

A project officer has been appointed to prepare and begin implementing a Nature Conservation Strategy. The post is being managed by a sub group of the SCP Nature Conservation Task Group. This work is following closely the Sefton Coast Woodland Forest Plan model. The Woodland Forest Plan has demonstrated successfully that the coastal landowners and managers can work together to manage the whole of the woodland resource by working with each other rather than independently. Ensuring the process is inclusive of local communities will be a further key ingredient for success and is a good example of the SCP working together to deliver holistic solutions to coastal management.

* Sefton Coast Lif Project (1996-1999)  
www.seftoncoast.org.uk/natcons.html

* Explanation Designations -  
www.seftoncoast.org.uk/articles/03summer_designations.html

* Natura 2000 - europa.eu.int/comm/environment/nature/home.htm

* The Merseyside Biodiversity Group will continue to oversee implementation of the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan, many of whose species and habitat action plans are of direct relevance to the Sefton Coast. A full-time Biodiversity Action Plan Manager for North Merseyside co-ordinates local action.  
www.merseysidebiodiversity.org.uk

The Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan

Activity

Implementation of the Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan

The Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan marks a major achievement for both the Mersey Forest and the Sefton Coast Partnership. The Mersey Forest have been instrumental in it’s development and steering the plan to final approval at the end of 2002. The plan encompasses 420 hectares of largely pine wood distributed along 13 kilometres of the Sefton Coast between Hightown and Southport. They are an important part of the Coast’s heritage, much loved by the many users. The ownership is distributed between nearly thirty different owners, many of whom came together in 2001 under the steer of the Mersey Forest to collaborate in the writing of a management plan. A key issue for the Partnership is to maintain the momentum amongst landowners to deliver on a number of planned outputs. The Mersey Forest have continued to undertake the co-ordinating and monitoring role but only in the short term. This is of particular importance given that the Mersey Forest are entering a succession phase, which will have an impact on it’s ability to resource its core team.

The pinewoods were largely established by private landowners at the turn of the 19th and 20th Centuries and have been subject to various natural and manmade influences over their history. Originally planted to counter wind erosion of the sand dunes, management has since become driven by recreational and conservation objectives, though in more recent times, a lack of investment has generally lead to under-thinning and inadequate management of regeneration.

Management activities for the first ten years have been developed through a process of consultation to ensure that owner objectives are met and the public understand the intentions. These activities are available in map and tabular form and as a database for use by the managers and for public reference. A structure has been developed to measure progress, using indicators with opportunities to review objectives and activities.

Major issues that are addressed include the over-mature and underthinned pinewoods, the Red Squirrel...
Refuge, high levels of public access, important conservation objectives, high landscape value and a dynamic coastal environment.

The Woodlands Forest Plan provides clear management principles and includes:

- Working towards a ‘normal’ age profile using ‘coupe’ felling to minimise canopy disturbance and use patterns
- Developing a regular schedule of thinning, cleaning and coppicing to maintain health of woodlands
- Maintaining a focus on pine as a Red Squirrel food source and maintains broadleaf content at about 10% to discourage Grey Squirrel invasion
- Fostering a mosaic of species, age and vegetation type to retain landscape character and interest
- It recommends the retention of deadwood and the provision of nesting and roosting boxes where possible to improve habitat range
- It schedules regular review of management and natural processes, with the view to adjusting management to deal with issues as they arise
- It provides for an economic return where possible and promotes work in partnerships to reduce unit costs and improve market returns

The Mersey Forest - www.merseyforest.org.uk

Red Squirrel Conservation

Activity
Support implementation of Sefton Red Squirrel Refuge and Buffer Zone Policy

The Sefton Coast woodlands have been identified as a national refuge site for Red Squirrels as part of UK Red Squirrel Group’s national strategy. The Sefton Coast Red Squirrel Refuge and Buffer Zone was formally adopted by both the Sefton Coast Partnership and Sefton Council in 2005.

Red Squirrel conservation in Sefton is led by the Lancashire Wildlife Trust and lies within the remit of two SCP Task Groups – Nature Conservation and Woodlands Forest Plan – as well as the Merseyside Biodiversity Group’s Red Squirrel Action Group. The partnership body, Red Alert North West, brings together land managers and volunteers and has two very active local groups based in Formby & Southport and in Crosby.

Voluntary effort will continue to focus on two areas: monitoring of squirrel numbers in all of Sefton’s woodlands; and control of Grey Squirrels. A total of 25 x 1km transects are monitored six times a year, providing probably the most comprehensive dataset on any of Britain’s remaining Red Squirrel populations. Results of the first three years of monitoring indicate that the local Red Squirrel population is holding its own although Grey Squirrels are becoming worryingly more numerous.

Shooting and trapping of Grey Squirrels continues in many privately and publicly owned woodlands in Sefton and more than 100 residents of Blundellsands, Formby and Southport have been trapping in their gardens in recent years. This control effort will need to be maintained and stepped up if Red Squirrels are to be retained on the Sefton Coast.

Red Squirrel and Buffer Zone - www.seftoncoast.org.uk/articles/05summer_redsquirrel.html

Lancashire Wildlife Trust - www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/lancashire/

Beach Management

Activity
Implementation of the Beach Management Plan

The wide sandy beaches of the Sefton Coast (5700 hectares of inter-tidal land) are part of a dynamic coastal system that extends out to the sub-tidal zone and inland to the dunes and saltmarshes. They provide a marine habitat rich in the invertebrate food which supports bird populations in internationally important numbers, as well as providing for a sustainable local fishery, principally for cockles and shrimps.

The Beach Management Plan 2005-2010 is a milestone document for the Council and Sefton Coast Partnership. It marks ten years since the implementation of the first Beach Management Plan for the Sefton Coast. The Plan sets out the policy to further improve the management of Sefton’s beaches over the next five years:
The main emphasis on approach is to balance the obligations to protect the wildlife interest of Sefton’s foreshore with the popularity of the beaches for recreation and their importance for tourism.

A balance must also be struck between the management of the beaches as a safe and pleasant amenity and the need for coastal defence and fishery interests. The Beach Management Plan objectives identify the vision to develop and improve the beach infrastructure and facilities for visitors. This is an integral part of developing the Mersey Waterfront and Ribble Estuary Regional Park and will assist the Council and its partners in meeting its obligations to achieve favourable conservation status for the whole coast.

The management of areas of beach and intertidal areas within the candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) will be supported by the Sefton Coast Nature Conservation Strategy. Management will take in to account the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan.

The Beach Management Plan is intended to encourage support and partnership. Management is a continual process with the detail and overall approach discussed and agreed with relevant agencies and stakeholders through the Sefton Beach Consultation Group and Sefton Coast Partnership.

Within Sefton Council, several other departments are involved directly or indirectly with beach management and these are explained in the Beach Management Plan.

The Beach Management Plan includes objectives for:

- Nature Conservation & Biodiversity
- Southport Beach/Marshside
- Birkdale Beach
- Formby Beach (Lifeboat Road), Ravenmeols
- Crosby Beach & Hightown
- Recreation & Tourism
- Beach Safety
- Beach Cleansing
- Information, interpretation and education
- Legislation
- Environmental monitoring

*Beach Management*

[www.sefton.gov.uk/content-4367](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/content-4367)
4
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT

Goal: Develop and Implement appropriate coast defence strategies, and maintain the sea defence function of the beaches, sand dunes and salt marshes consistent with the natural character and conservation importance of the coast

Activity
Develop and implement Shoreline Management Plans (SMP’s) around activities of Communication, sustainability and standard of service

Introduction
Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) are a key component of ICZM. Shoreline Management relates to the need to protect against either tidal flooding, erosion, or both. On going research and a continuing review of guidance will be necessary due to the evolutionary nature of the SMP process. Traditionally, a range of engineering solutions have been used to resolve such issues.

In recent years there have been a number of changes towards how coastal protection is provided for. These range from new types of engineering solutions, to a range of schemes that either copy natural systems, or operate in harmony with the natural regime.

This greater understanding of coastal processes is partly due to study of whole ‘coastal process cells’ as opposed to local frontages. For example the Sefton coast lies within cell 11, which is a geographical area stretching from Llandudno to the Solway Firth. Not only can a more strategic approach to the provision of coastal works be adopted, but also a far wider range of options can be considered. This has given the incentive to develop suitable shoreline management techniques.

National research has now been completed on the future coastal evolution of England and Wales – Futurecoast (DEFRA 2002). It is intended that this research will be a key input into the second generation SMPs.

Policy and Guidance
The SMP’s recommend four policies for coastal protection.

• hold the existing defence line by maintaining or changing the standard of protection

• advance the existing defence line by constructing new defences seaward of the existing defences

• managed realignment by identifying a new line of defence and, where appropriate, constructing new defences landward of the original defences

• no active intervention to allow the coast to evolve naturally

The above policies will need to be supported by strategic monitoring and operating authorities must consider a number of issues when deciding how to implement the appropriate policy: These include;

• the impact of global warming and sea level rises along the coastline

• solutions must be sympathetic to the environment

• how to contribute to the biodiversity targets covered by both national and local Biodiversity Action Plans

• the need to work more with natural processes

• he need to raise the public awareness of the risks associated with development at the coastline and in floodable areas and the need to control inappropriate development at the coastline
Local Delivery

The Council’s Technical Services Department is the local delivery agent for coastal defence. A number of strategic coastal defence issues, reports and recommendations have been developed in the 1990s. The current strategy was updated in 1999, to incorporate changes in government policy through the Liverpool Bay and Ribble Estuary Shoreline Management Plans. The objectives within the Coastal Defence Issues and Strategy report have more recently been updated (see below) in 2005 to reflect further changes in policy and attitude towards coastal defence.

Much of the core work which needs to be carried out requires consultation with key stakeholders. The SCP provides the forum to undertake this consultation and also to communicate relevant issues to the public via a variety of media. Many Partners on the coast undertake monitoring, exchange of this information adds value to the monitoring undertaken by the coastal defence team and ensures that maximum use is made of the data that we gather.

There are a number of occasions where the coastal defence team collaborates with Partners on research projects to improve our understanding of the coast. By combining our resources and skills it is possible to achieve far more than we could as individuals. It is also important that we collaborate with Partners to ensure that any planning undertaken for coastal areas is developed with an understanding of future coastal evolution.

Objectives include;

Communication
• increasing people’s understanding and access to information relating to local coastal processes – through appropriate educational material, increased direct customer contact traditional media and electronic media.

Knowledge and Research
• Continuing to improve the understanding of natural processes and the response of the coastline to change, - through an effective monitoring scheme, exchange of best practice, supporting integrated research and information to partners.

Partnerships
• Continuing to actively participate in local and regional coastal groups and to encourage the groups to consider wider coastal zone management issues.

• To integrate with other coast management policies to provide comprehensive Shoreline Management Plans and to provide for needs of the coastal zone in terms of the environment, tourism, recreation and commerce.

• To identify other local, regional and national groups addressing ICZM (integrated coastal zone management) issues and actively participate where considered appropriate.

Sustainability
• Informing partners on the coast of scenarios for future coastal evolution taking into account the impact of climate change so that their decision making and policy development can be informed by the most up to date understanding of the coast.

• Opportunities to raise environmental awareness in relation to the future evolution of the coast and the impact of humans on this process, particularly through climate change.

• Undertaking coastal defence works and policy development in a sustainable manner, but within the funding constraints imposed by grant aiding bodies.

• To maintain and encourage the use of natural sea defences in appropriate locations, ensuring that the policy preserves the integrity and nature conservation value of the foreshore and dunes

Standard of Service
• To provide an appropriate level of Flood Defence to protect low lying areas of the Borough from flooding during high tides and storm events.

• To provide an appropriate level of Coast Protection to protect vulnerable areas of the Sefton coastline from erosion through implementation of the recommendations of the Liverpool Bay and Ribble Estuary Shoreline Management Plans.

• Where appropriate the team will maintain and if possible improve access to the foreshore for emergency vehicles, recreational usage and other shoreline interests

Liverpool Bay and Estuary Shoreline Management Plans -
www.sefton.gov.org

A guide for coastal defence authorities’ -
Maff revised 2001

The future coastal evolution of England and Wales -
Futurecoast (DEFRA 2002)
Introduction

The History & Archaeology Task Group provides an important support service for the Sefton Coast Partnership and its activities. For example the task group increases and makes accessible, the understanding of the Coast in terms of its history and archaeology. This is particularly important for those in the Partnership concerned with conservation, management, interpretation* and education.

As opposed to taking a forward look in the case of SMPs the task Group has in fact an important role in recording and interpreting valuable archaeology and history at risk from coastal erosion over time. For example coastal processes have seen the loss of the Lifeboat Station and human and animal footprints appear at Formby which were laid down 5,000 to 7,000 years ago.

There is increasing television coverage of the natural history of the Sefton Coast. Coverage has included Alan Titchmarsh’s ‘The Seven Ages of Britain (C4), ‘Making of the British Isles’ (BBC) including a piece on local historian Gordon Roberts taking a cast of one of the ‘Formby footprints’ and the (BBC) Coast to Coast series.

Objectives include;

• Gathering a core of background knowledge, based on authoritative, referenced and published, historical and archaeological research, using a multidisciplinary approach.

• Providing advice to coastal Partners and other Task Groups, as needed, on historical and archaeological aspects of the Coast. In turn to seek assistance in recording from others working or enjoying the coast.

• Reviewing existing assumptions on relevant aspects of the development of the coast, influencing its management.

• Pursuing the need for continuing recording and research, perhaps especially in the dune areas.

• Ensuring the recording and if necessary, make recommendations for the protection of newly discovered artefacts or features of historical or archaeological interest of whatever period, including buildings of historic interest and military remains.

• To establish links with existing groups working on relevant aspects of the Coast, such as local societies, educational bodies and university departments. To call on relevant expertise as necessary.

• Subject to resources, to undertake research and establish a suitable recording system and locally based data-base of information relating to the human past on Sefton’s Coast.

* See Interpretation Framework, annex 8 of the Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan
6  
LIFE LONG LEARNING

Goal: To facilitate and enhance the understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the coast by creating opportunities for education and learning.

Activity
Co-ordinate sharing of educational information and marketing of the Coast for educational visits

Introduction

Education is an integral part of the Sefton coast, whatever the format. It isn’t just about bringing students out to the coast for fieldtrips, but also about increasing the knowledge of all areas of society.

The main land managers on the coast – Lancashire Wildlife Trust, English Nature, RSPB and Sefton Council all provide educational facilities both formal – relating to the national curriculum and non formal – through training opportunities as well as guided walks and events, through their own Education Officers. Information regarding the educational facilities is currently available via different sources, the Task Group aims to bring about a more co-ordinated approach, making it easier for people to understand and access the information in one go.

Although the Partnership is largely about getting people to the sites, the provision of information in a co-ordinated format will improve marketing of Life Long Learning opportunities on the Coast and allow a much wider audience to be reached. A key aspect to this is the development of the on-line web information.

Objectives include;

• Develop effective partnership working across the whole spectrum of environmental education provision and community participation on the Sefton Coast

• Directly provide access to lifelong learning opportunities within the Sefton Coast Partnership by building on existing strengths of individual organisations

• Identify areas in which LLL provision could be improved including access to less represented groups, alternative methods of delivery, supporting policies related to sustainability and improving learning opportunities

• Utilise the SCP website as a vehicle for expanding and promoting the LLL network and providing a ‘one-stop-shop’ for people accessing information on e.g school visits, training and volunteering, events, available educational material

• Deliver annual reports to Partnership Board

• Investigate appropriate funding opportunities
7 RESEARCH

Goal: To promote awareness and create appropriate opportunities for research including collaborative research activities

Action
Deliver actions set out in the Research Strategy over the next 5 years and review progress at regular intervals

Introduction

The research task group continues to succeed in bringing together researchers and their ideas. Increasingly within academic circles the profile of the Sefton Coast and partnership working has been significantly raised through international, refereed conferences and internationally peer-reviewed academic journals.

The need for research stems from the fact that an understanding of all aspects of the coastal environment informs sustainable decision-making. There are many sectoral interests on the coast but many of these overlap to a greater or lesser extent, these overlaps may range from a common interest in the outcome of research to a common interest in data sets although they may be being used for different purposes.

The Task Group has developed a research strategy in an attempt to make these linkages more manageable in terms of identifying needs, opportunities and communication of ongoing projects. It is also important to place a research strategy within the wider recognition by the scientific community of and the growing national and international concern for global climate change. The potential impacts of changes in sea level and climate variability need to be addressed within a holistic, geographic approach to coastal zone management. Understanding the great variety of processes and interaction occurring within the coastal zone is therefore central to research.

The research strategy will therefore act as the steer for the task group during the life of this plan.

Objectives include;

- setting the Sefton Coast in its regional, national and international context and to encourage links with other sites
- encouraging multi-disciplinary studies to look at complex issues (e.g. the implications of climatic change)
- encouraging studies that look at the whole of the dune system and the wider coastal system enabling the managing agencies to generate and support research work
- maintaining a register of research or monitoring projects suitable for school, undergraduate and post-graduate studies
- encouraging research areas in proportion to their capacity to help achieve management objectives.
- disseminating information about research and monitoring activities being undertaken in and around the Sefton Coast

A range of partners are involved, including educational establishments and research institutes and this is looking to be expanded.
TOURISM (COMMUNICATION, ACCESS & INTERPRETATION)

Goal: Develop opportunities for recreation, sporting and tourist activities that draw on and are consistent with, the natural character and conservation value of the Coast

Goal: Develop opportunities for quiet recreation on the coast through improved interpretation and physical access

Activity

Implement Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan (TDP)

- Coastal Brand development, Signage and Communications
- Coastal Interpretation
- Marketing, Coastal Publications and Website
- Coastal Events

Developing opportunities for improving physical access on the coast

Developing opportunities for improving Coastal Visitor Sites

Introduction

Sustainable tourism has an important role to play in the development of the Sefton Coast over the coming years and will act as a powerful mechanism on which to base coastal regeneration if managed properly. The SCP Tourism Task Group and Sefton Council’s Tourism Department are developing this potential through a Sefton Coast Destination Development Plan. This Plan will be delivered over the next 5 years in conjunction with partners, The Mersey Partnership (TMP), The Mersey Waterfront Programme and the Ribble Estuary Regional Park. It has been developed and will be developed within the strategic direction set by the North West Development Agency (For more details on tourism partners please see appendix 4).

Local Delivery

The Sefton Coast Partnership with financial support from the Mersey Waterfront, have commissioned several studies on the Sefton Coast, required to feed into the ‘Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan’. These are the Communication, Interpretation and Product Development Study and a Physical Access Study. Separate but related tourism projects in development concern proposals to improve gateway visitor facilities at Ainsdale and Formby Point, and a major Water Centre facility at the Marine Lake, Crosby.

The above projects and sites were identified as a priority in the European funded Interreg IIC, Quality of Coastal Towns Report (March 2001). In order to plan for Tourism and visits to the Sefton Coast, the Tourism Task group and the Tourism Department with the help of TMP will monitor and review visitor numbers, expectations and spend through regular site visitor surveys based on the Quality of Coastal Towns work.

Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan

The Tourism Department with the Tourism Task Group of the SCP have produced a Tourism Development Plan (TDP) for the Sefton Coast. This is required because all tourism stakeholders and land managers associated with the Sefton Coast must have an agreed, clear and consistent policy to guide future work and decision making.

Current research shows that approximately 1.5 million people visit the Sefton Coast each year (excluding visitors to Southport) and spend in the region of £4 million. Activity is primarily undertaken by day visitors and includes recreational pursuits such as walking, cycling and watersports etc. There is also a considerable demand for the coast’s ‘natural’ offer particularly as the destination is one of Europe’s most important wildlife areas and supports many rare and vulnerable species.

The Tourism Task Group is acting as the vehicle to gain the necessary involvement and commitment to implement the Sefton Coast TDP. The groups objectives are;

- co-ordinate land management (communication)
- maximise opportunities for sustainable tourism
- encourage professional interpretation
- and assist marketing of the Sefton Coast

The Sefton Coast TDP will continue to crystallise the vision for coastal tourism contained within Sefton’s Tourism Strategy, so that emerging tourism products do not ‘just appear’, they are developed in a structured, integrated and strategic fashion. Furthermore the TDP will ensure these objectives are developed with respect for the unique natural environment that makes the Sefton Coast special and along with the desires of the host community.

It includes a series of actions to be completed during the period up to 2008 and are listed under 5 strategic priorities. These are;

- Coastal Brand development, Signage and Communications
- Coastal Interpretation
- Marketing, Coastal Publications and Website
- Coastal Events

21
Physical Access on the coast

The SCP are working to develop proposals for improved access following a 2005 commissioned study which undertook a review of physical access on the Sefton Coast. Initial discussions have identified the potential to deliver elements of the Strategy through wider coastal projects that are being developed. There may also be opportunities to deliver some of the proposals through the Local Transport Plan.

Proposals will be designed to support funding bids. There will of course be costs associated with the development of detailed project proposals.

The Planning and Economic Regeneration Department will take the lead working closely with land managers, key Council officers, and the SCP to coordinating and drive forward delivery. This will include supporting the Tourism Department who will be leading on marketing and interpretation of the Sefton Coast

Developing proposals for improved access on the coast will contribute towards the wider strategic aims of the North West Coastal Trail (NWC Trail) and the Mersey Waterfront. A NWC Trail is being championed by the North West Coastal Forum who, have commissioned two feasibility studies. The intention is that a North West Coastal Trail Project Officer (supported by Local Authorities) will be appointed who can take the project forward in a co-ordinated manner and procure funding for the project. Visitor access will also help deliver the Mersey Waterfront succession strategy.

Coastal Visitor Sites

Crosby Coastal Park – Gateway Master Plan and Water Centre Study
The Leisure Services Department of Sefton Council have prepared a master plan for the Crosby Coastal Park. This covers the coastline from Seaford to the River Alt. It seeks to improve the recreation potential of the area and protection of the natural habitat.

A first phase of environmental improvements, funded by Mersey Waterfront has led to new footways, which are fully accessible for wheelchair users, with improved linkages around the marine lake and between the park and the promenade. The improvements included better viewing points and a boost for wildlife with conservation of wetland habitat and dune restoration an important part of the scheme. Should future support from Mersey Waterfront be available as part of their succession programme this would come through their ‘Pride in Our Promenades ‘theme.

The Mersey Waterfront have also helped to fund a major feasibility study and due diligence work for study for a WATER centre at the Marine Lake. Although there is a long way to go, it’s hoped that the facility will develop into a national centre of excellence for watersports and outdoor recreation, specialising in providing facilities for people with disabilities.

If it comes to fruition, a revitalised Crosby Coastal Park, which will hopefully include Potters Barn and the WATER centre as described above, will act as a southern gateway to the Sefton Coast, and Coastal Path.

Formby Point and Ainsdale – Improved Visitor Gateways
Feasibility work and design proposals are to be completed in 2006 for gateway visitor enhancement. The properties in question are:

- The National Trust property, Victoria Rd, Formby
- The Sefton Council property, Lifeboat Road, Formby
- The Sefton Council owned Lido building and surrounding land at Ainsdale-on-Sea

At the Formby sites visitor infrastructure is being considered, including parking, Ranger/Warden office, storage, learning centre and public toilets.

At Ainsdale proposals include the potential for refurbishment of the Lido Complex to include office, beach shop, cafeteria and function room. The building must have the practical capability of supporting the growing demand for kiting at Ainsdale. Sustainable forms of building design and servicing, are key considerations for all three properties.

The action plan focuses on assembling the funding required to deliver these much needed improvements over the next 5 years.

Should support from Mersey Waterfront be available as part of their succession programme this is likely to come through their ‘Coastal Places and Open Spaces ‘theme.

Improved facilities will enable landowners to manage more effectively the number of visitors attracted to these honey pot areas.

Quality of Coastal Towns 2000 - for more information click onto www.seftoncoastpartnership.org.uk
9

LAND-USE PLANNING AND MARINE RELATED ACTIVITIES

Goal: To liaise with competent authorities to communicate the high amenity and conservation value of the Sefton Coast and the impact their activities may have on terrestrial sites.

Goal: Work with others who are promoting the conservation and management of marine resources.

**Action**

- Where appropriate maintain an interest in land use and marine based activities relevant to the coast
- Where appropriate maintain involvement in proposals to develop Marine Spatial Planning

**Planning Policy (Unitary Development Plan and Regional Spatial Strategy)**

The SCP role is to ensure that the Sefton Coast is properly represented through coastal policy within the Regional Spatial Strategy for the Northwest, the Council’s Local Development Framework and adopted UDP. Council officers will usually represent the SCP in developing coastal planning policies as part of its statutory duties. There are a number of planning policies in the Council’s adopted Unitary Development Plan that will have relevance when proposals for development are being considered*


**UDP Coast related policies**

- CPZ1 Development in the Coastal Planning Zone
- CPZ2 Coast Protection
- CPZ3 Coastal Landscape Conservation & Management
- CPZ4 Coastal Park
- EDT9 The Port and Maritime Zone
- NC1 Site Protection

- NC2 Protection of species
- NC3 Habitat Protection, Creation & Management

These policies are aimed at protecting the undeveloped Coast from unsuitable forms of development, where landscape and nature conservation are important considerations. Particularly, any proposals likely to affect the objectives or integrity of sites of local, national or international nature conservation interest will be assessed using Policy NC1. At the same time it is recognised that the developed parts of the Coast largely comprising of Southport Seafront and the Port and Maritime Zone are major locations for employment as are the economic benefits generated from offshore activities which may require landfall facilities.

Where development is proposed, these polices aim to protect the integrity of SMPs, the quantity and quality of groundwater, landscape character, biodiversity, and access to the coast for informal countryside recreation, leisure and tourism.

The draft North West Regional Spatial Strategy contains policies on the coast to reflect the importance of the coast economy, environment and social benefits. The two key policies are EM5 and W5.

**Regional Spatial Strategy policies**

- EM5 Coastal Development
- W5 Tourism & Visitor Economy
- EM1 Sound Environmental Management
- EM2 Green Infrastructure
- EM3 Regional Parks
- EM6 Minerals Extraction

**http://www.sefton.gov.uk/content-3508**

**Planning Control in the Marine Zone (between low and high water mark)**

Sefton Council, as Local Planning Authority, has no jurisdiction over developments below the low water mark. Development in the marine environment is ‘the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, under or over the seabed’. Such activities include construction projects inside and outside harbours, marine dredged minerals, navigation, pontoons and moorings, oil and gas exploration and production, submarine pipelines and cables and disposal at sea. Between high and low water mark, the planning system continues to have
jurisdiction, but operates in tandem with a range of sectoral controls over marine development. The Government view is that the current sectoral approach to management in the offshore zone should continue, but with increased emphasis on public information and improved consultation with, amongst others, local authorities. A summary of mechanisms is given in the Government’s Policy Guidelines for the Coast. An important role for coastal authorities and the NWCF is to ensure that the Regional Spatial strategy for the North West recognises the economic, social and environmental importance of the regions coastline. A number of policies are emerging to reflect this position*.

Sefton Council will establish dialogue and agree consultation procedures with agencies responsible for the management of the offshore zone. Where it would be useful to do so, Sefton Council will take part in liaison and information groups, e.g. the NW Coastal Forum and Mersey Estuary Partnership. There is also Eurosite, European Union Coastal Conservation (EUCC) and Coastnet. Where appropriate the SCP will respond to proposals for marine conservation and marine based industry as it affects both the Sefton Coast and the Irish Sea. This reflects a national approach towards ICZM and the SCP will also keep track of the DEFRA ICZM stocktake process.

Marine Spatial Planning

The extension of the habitats Regulations into marine areas led to the Irish Sea Regional Seas pilot study, which was headed by the Joint Nature Conservancy Committee. This study is now complete, but stakeholder engagement has been undertaken with respect to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP). MSP forms part of the Marine Bill and this work is looking at how information on human activities should be presented alongside habitat and species information. How MSP can be made to improve on the present situation for managing marine activities is an important question currently being explored.

Dredging Disposal at Sea

Dredged material is the only category of waste for which there are long term plans to continue dumping at sea. Dredging is necessary to maintain the navigation channels and to remove sediment from the docks. Material is dumped offshore through MAFF licensing procedures.

Dredging of Marine Aggregates

The effects of marine aggregate extraction will continue to be considered as part of the Shoreline Management process.

The dredging of marine aggregates, other than the extraction of sand at Southport takes place in the offshore zone under license from Government. Planning permission has been renewed for sand winning from the Horse Bank off Southport until 20___. This is for special industrial purposes, such as moulding sand in foundries and glass polishing. The extraction is conditional on the operation not having an adverse impact upon the foreshore or sea defences.

Emergency Planning

Relevant partners will work on a proposed review of the oil spill response plan, or a similar review of coast-wide emergency response procedures. Emergency Planning objectives are included in the Beach Management Plan.

Energy Installations

Offshore renewable energy: The SCP responded to the DTI consultation on wind energy in February 2003. To date North Hoyle is the UK’s largest off shore windfarm (owned by National Wind Power - NWP), operational since November 2003. A second installation at Rhyl Flats has consent, and a third (Burbo Bank - 10 km off Crosby) is going through the consent process. All these ‘Round 1’ windfarms are 30 turbines each.

NWP has been allocated Gwynt Y Mor, a ‘Round 2’ site (one of 15 in the UK, of which three are in the Eastern Irish Sea), which are for much bigger installations. Gwynt Y Mor, about 15 km off the N. Welsh coast and covering some 120 km², will comprise approximately 200 turbines, each 100 m to the hub, with a 125 m diameter rotor. The total installed capacity will be approx. 750MWe. NWP is a subsidiary of RWE Innogy, one of the UK’s major integrated energy businesses.

Oil and Gas: The Liverpool Bay Development - BHP Petroleum’s largest single project worldwide - comprises four oil and gas fields, together with significant offshore and onshore facilities used for extracting, transporting and processing these reserves.

Offshore operations are centred on the Douglas complex - a three-platform facility that monitors and controls the development’s three unmanned satellite platforms at Lennox, Hamilton and Hamilton North. Oil and gas from all four fields are received at Douglas.

The oil - produced from the Lennox and Douglas fields - is then processed, blended and sent through a 20km pipeline, to the offshore storage installation, before being loaded into tankers, for export worldwide.

Gas - extracted from Hamilton and Hamilton North as well as from Lennox - is part-processed on Douglas before it travels via a 34km pipeline to BHP’s state-of-the-art gas terminal, at Point of Ayr, on the North Wales coast. The total recoverable reserves in Liverpool Bay are currently estimated to be in excess of 150 million
barrels of oil and 1.2 trillion ft³ of gas. With peak oil production expected to average some 70,000 barrels per day, and a peak gas capacity of 300 million ft³ per day, the life of the development is projected to be at least 20 years.

**Fishing**

There is a long tradition of fishing on the Sefton Coast and the continuation of the industry is part of local culture. A sustainable fishery is a sign of a healthy coast and is fully consistent with international conservation designations.

Fishing within the coastal zone includes the activities of local fishermen harvesting cockles, shrimps and to a lesser extent fish. Bait digging for lugworm is not covered by legislation relating to fisheries.

The North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee is responsible for fisheries management in inshore waters up to six miles offshore of baselines. Sefton Council shares responsibility with the Mersey Port Health Authority and Sea Fisheries Committee to sample water quality and to analyse the shellfish meet under EC and national legislation.

The fishing industry is in important stakeholder in taking forward the Beach Management Strategy for the Sefton Coast. Issues such as marine litter, bait digging, beach access and improved storage and launch facilities (e.g. Formby, Altcar and Crosby) for local angling clubs are relevant here.

**Sefton UDP policies** - [http://www.sefton.gov.uk/content-3508](http://www.sefton.gov.uk/content-3508)


**National Wind Power - NWP** - [www.natwindpower.co.uk](http://www.natwindpower.co.uk)

**Marine Spatial Planning** - [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

**NB Water Quality issues are dealt with under beach management**
10 MAJOR LAND OWNERS AND ACTIVITIES

All the land managers listed have a key role to play in the development and delivery of a coast wide Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy. This collective approach is aimed at ensuring favourable condition of the coast which has been designated by the European Union as a candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC). Future site management will therefore be in conformity with the developing strategy which should be completed by 2007.

### RSPB

**Marshside Nature Reserve (x Has)**

**Activity**
*Develop and Implement site Management Plans in accordance with - Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy*

The RSPB are in the process of securing a new lease for a term of 99 years, from Sefton Council. In addition to the existing 110 hectares at Marshside Nature Reserve that it already leases, the new agreement would incorporate the southern outer shore of the Ribble Estuary, north of Marine Drive. This extension area would bring the northern boundary of the Reserve coterminous with English Nature’s Ribble estuary National Nature Reserve, which is already the largest Nature Reserve in England.

The RSPB are developing a management plan in order to secure the necessary consents from English Nature which will be needed to maintain the land in favourable status. The RSPB therefore is playing a major role in helping to deliver the SCP Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy.

Marshside relies on rainfall alone, which means that in the summer water levels can drop considerably which affects the rearing of important nesting waders. In recent years, additional bird pools (supported by MWP) and 10KM of new ditches have helped to improve water levels and distribute water around the whole of the marsh.

Improving the water levels has helped a number of new species to nest since the reserve began. Scarce duck species like teal and gadwell have begun nesting regularly. The reserve is now the most important site on the west coast of Britain for the spectacular Avocet (emblem of the RSPB) which first nested at Marshside in 2002.

*Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)*


### The Wildlife Trust (Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside):

**Seaforth Nature Reserve (30 Has)**

**Activity**
*Develop and Implement site Management Plans in accordance - Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan*

The Trust manages two nature reserves on the Sefton Coast. **Seaforth Nature Reserve** is situated in the Port of Liverpool and is managed under licence from the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company. Public access is by prior arrangement only since the introduction of government security regulations in July 2004. The reserve has been proposed as a Special Protection Area on account of its internationally important bird populations.

**Freshfield Dune Heath** was purchased from the MoD in 2004. A ten-year programme was launched in 2005 to restore the heathland habitats to favourable condition through scrub removal, the introduction of sheep-grazing and public access.

The Trust is the lead agency for red squirrel conservation in Sefton, working through the Red Alert North West partnership. Large areas of the Sefton Coast and its hinterland were recognised in 2005 as a red squirrel refuge and buffer zone, part of a network of sites in northern England on which red squirrel conservation is focussed nationally. An important aim is to appoint a part-time ‘People and Wildlife’ officer, to engage the community more fully in red squirrel conservation.

The Trust plays an active part in biological recording and monitoring on the Sefton Coast, in particular the updating of the Inventory of Vascular Plants.
Sefton MBC (Coast and Countryside Service)

Southport Beach (x Has)
Queens Jubilee Nature Trail (x Has)
Ainsdale & Birkdale Sandhills LNR (268 Has)
Lifeboat Road & Ravenmeols Sandhills LNR,
Formby (60 Has)
Hightown and the Alt Estuary (150 Has)
Crosby Coastal Park (x Has)

Activity
Develop and implement site Management Plans in accordance with -
Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy
Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan

The Leisure Services Department’s Coast and Countryside Service, is responsible for managing a large part of the Sefton Coast, including foreshore. The service is made up of Countryside Rangers, Beach Patrol and Lifeguard Unit and Community Rangers, all working as a team to make Sefton’s coast and countryside sites a better and safer place for people and wildlife. The headquarters are based at Ainsdale Discovery Centre.

The Coast and Countryside Service will continue to play an important role in supporting the Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy and the Woodlands Forest Plan as part of the management of the site. In addition the next 5 years will hopefully see improved visitor facilities at both Lifeboat Road and Ainsdale-on-sea Lido subject to the necessary funding being in place. This will be in accordance with a recently completed gateway study (see Section 8 for more details).

Southport beach is zoned, allowing parking, safe play and bathing to take place. The Queens Jubilee Nature Trail is a wildlife haven in Southport, the remnants of a once extensive dune system. The site lies close to the town centre, and has a series of well laid out trails, information boards and picnicking areas. Ainsdale and Birkdale Sandhills Local Nature Reserve is one of the largest areas of wild dune land left in Britain. Lifeboat Road is a gateway site with a wide sandy beach, high dunes, furrowed grassland that were once asparagus fields, scrubby areas of deciduous trees and a belt of pinewoods. Hightown Dunes and Meadows stretch from Hall Road Coastguard Station to the mouth of the River Alt. Within the site are sand dunes, a small saltmarsh, Crosby coastal park, stretches from Waterloo in the south, to the estuary of the River Alt at Hightown. It provides much needed recreational open space for the local densely populated areas of north Liverpool.

To find out more about these sites click onto the Sefton Council website.

Coast and Countryside Service, sites on the Sefton Coast -
www.sefton.gov.uk/content-4367

National Trust

Freshfields, Victoria Rd, Formby (200 Has)

Activity
Develop and implement site Management Plans in accordance with -
Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy
Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan

In 1967 the National Trust acquired the Freshfield foreshore and pinewoods with financial support from and public subscription to the Neptune Coastline Campaign. The reserve now covers more than 500 acres and is part of a nationally important sand dune system. There are over 300,000 visits a year to the reserve with most of it freely open to access on foot. Formby welcomes the highest proportion of first time visitors to the Merseyside Coast many of whom enjoy close views of the nationally rare Red Squirrel, which still survive here. A team of countryside wardens maintain the property, and there is a well established education service. The National Trust will continue to play an important role in supporting the Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy and the Woodlands Forest Plan as part of the management of the site.

The coastline has been steadily moving inland due to coastal erosion. Planning for change needs to take account of dune movements and managed retreat of car parking provision and access infrastructure. The next stage in this planning for change will be to try and implement improved facilities, over the next 5 years, in accordance with the gateway study for Formby Point and Ainsdale-on-sea Lido (see Section 8).

Natural England

Ainsdale Sand Dunes NNR (508 Has)
Cabin Hill NNR (28 Has)
Ribble Estuary (4,697 Has)

Activity
Develop and implement site Management Plans in accordance with -
Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy
Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan
In October 2006 English Nature will combine with the Rural Delivery Service (RDS) and the Countryside Agency (CA) to become Natural England, a new organisation with a wider remit than English Nature.

English Nature is responsible for three National Nature Reserves (NNR’s) on the coast. These are managed from the offices at Pinfold Lane, Ainsdale and Old Hollow in Banks. Management on the NNR’s is working towards delivering favourable condition by 2006 (or 2010 for Ainsdale Sand Dunes). English Nature are an important contributor to the success of both the Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy and the Woodlands Forest Plan as part of the management of these sites.

Priority management for the Ribble Estuary NNR is the continuation of grazing to maintain a short winter sward for internationally important numbers of visiting wildfowl.

Priority work for the sand dune NNR’s includes opening up of scrub and coniferous woodland areas to provide habitat for important dune flora and fauna, reduction of permanent water bodies to safeguard natterjack toad populations and continuation of grazing to maintain open dune habitats.

English Nature is looking at increasing access opportunities on all their Reserves. To find out more, click onto the English Nature Website.

The RFCA has and will continue to open up organised access.

**Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA)**

**Altcar Rifle Range (30 Has)**

**Activity**

*Develop and implement site Management Plans in accordance with -
Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy
Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan*

A member of the Sefton Coast Partnership, the RFCA are a private landowner who are fully supportive of the advancement of the management activities on the Sefton Coast. Two thousand trees have been planted since January 2005 and the cadet movement carry out tasks which contribute to the Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan.

Comprised entirely of volunteers the Conservation Group meets on a regular basis and contribute in an advisory capacity. Volunteers also (in helping support the North Merseyside BAP) carry out numerous surveys and prepare reports on Natterjack Toads, Sand Lizards, Birds, Moths, Red Squirrels, Brown Hare, Bats and Owls.

**Golf Clubs**

- **Hesketh Golf Club (x Has)**
- **Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club (x Has)**
- **Formby Golf Club (x Has)**
- **Formby Ladies Golf Club (x Has)**
- **West Lancashire Golf Club (x Has)**
- **Royal Birkdale Golf Club (x Has)**
- **Hillside Golf Club(x Has)**

**Activity**

*Encourage the development and implementation of site Management Plans in accordance with -
Nature Conservation & Biodiversity Strategy
Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan*

The golf clubs continue to be represented on the Sefton Coast Partnership at Board level through Formby Golf Club.

Golf courses today occupy over a quarter of the dune area, 550 ha out of a total of some 2000 ha, and much of this area includes the EU priority habitats of fixed dune and dune heath, with associated species such as the protected Sand Lizard *Lacerta agilis*. It is therefore essential, for the overall conservation of the dune system, that golf course management is sympathetic to nature and that clubs help to conserve their semi-natural duneland habitats.

With the support of the Golf clubs, their management plans will be developed and rolled forward through the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy for the Sefton Coast. This will help renew the partnership between golf and nature and raise awareness about the importance of managing the dune system as a whole.

Meanwhile in preparation for the 2008 Open Championship, Sefton’s Coast and Countryside Service and the Environmental Advisory Service are supporting the Royal Birkdale Golf Club on conservation issues in relation to minor reprefiling of it’s course.
Appendix 1

The Sefton Coast is a lowland sedimentary coastline at the edge of the West Lancashire plain extending between the Mersey and Ribble Estuaries. This well-defined stretch of coast falls entirely within the Borough of Sefton, part of Merseyside, but it also forms part of a complex of low-lying coasts and estuaries around Liverpool Bay in England’s North West Region.

The coast is a long wide arc of sand, a hindshore dune system, which once stretched unbroken northwards from the Mersey to the Ribble, where the sandy shore changes to the muds and salt marshes of the Ribble Estuary. All the coastal settlements – Bootle, Crosby, Hightown, Formby and Southport are built on the drier sand, avoiding the inland mosses.

Centuries of use has created a varied landscape complemented by the panorama of the Irish Sea with the far hills of Snowdonia and the Lakes visible on the horizon. This landscape falls into distinct units of which the dune coast is the largest. North of the busy dock estate at the Port of Liverpool is the urbanised coastal park at Crosby with good views of the shipping lanes. Beyond this lies the artificial shingle beach formed from ‘the erosion’ at Hall Road where building rubble was used in the 1940s to protect the coast against constant erosion by the River Alt. A vestigial dune landscape remains at Hightown, cut off from natural sand supply by the small estuary of the Alt. Just north of the Alt is ‘Wignall’s Bank’ formed by trapping sand in the eighteenth century and now part of the Altcar Rifle Range. This marks the start of the dune coast which extends north for 17 km around Formby Point to Southport.

The beaches and dunes convey a special sense of wilderness with high mobile dunes and a maze of dune ridges and hollows. The dune system itself, the largest of its kind in the UK, is rich in wildlife and is a classic example of a west coast calcareous (lime-rich) dune system notable for rare species of plants and animals. Some dune areas, formerly managed as rabbit warrens, have survived almost in their original form, whereas other areas were converted to fields (for asparagus farming, for instance) or planted with trees. The majority of this area is in public ownership with good access. There are two national nature reserves (Cabin Hill and Ainsdale Sand Dunes) leased and managed by English Nature. The National Trust property at Freshfield is well-known for its Red Squirrels. Adjacent is the Lifeboat Road Area owned by Sefton Council which also has three local nature reserves at Ainsdale, Birkdale and Ravenmeols Hills.

Dunes are ideal for links-type golf, and the courses at Formby, Southport & Ainsdale, Hillside and Royal Birkdale form an important part of the landscape. The dunes at Formby Point are eroding, while new dunes are building at Crosby and from Ainsdale-on-Sea to Birkdale. The dunes are key sea defences. Changes in the coast are marked by the foundations of the old Lifeboat Station, once well back in the dunes, but now exposed to the action of waves on the beach. The erosion is also gradually exposing remarkable animal and human footprints in silt deposits over 4000 years old.

At Southport areas of beach have been progressively claimed over the last 150 years to create the Seafront and its Marine Lake. The Pier marks the zone of transition to estuarine marsh. To the north of the town there are broad vistas across the grassy expanse of the Ribble Estuary to Blackpool and Lytham St Annes. RSPB’s Marshside Reserve confirms the value of the whole coast for birds, with the shoreline here marking the start of the 4,500 hectares of the Ribble Estuary National Nature Reserve.

The value of the Sefton Coast for nature conservation is recognised by the local, national and international designations which apply to the area. It is also a locally valued area for outdoor recreation, and attracts visitors from across the region. The Sefton Coast is rich in history and wildlife; it is a very special place and deserves careful management.

Appendix 2
Board Representation

- Forestry Commission
- Environment Agency
- English Nature
- Birkdale Civic Society
- RFCA
- Lancashire Wildlife Trust
- Cabinet Member - Environmental SMBC
- Chair of Planning Committee SMBC
- Mersey Forest
- National Trust
- RSPB
- Cabinet Member - Environmental SMBC
- Edge Hill
- Rep Golf Clubs
- Formby Civic Society
- Coast & Countryside SMBC
CoastNET deals purely with coastal interests to promote the exchange of ideas, information and expertise to find long term solutions to coastal problems that benefit all. There are three broad areas of work, Information and networking; Ideas and innovation and Engagement and awareness. Activities include conference and workshop programmes in the UK, regular publications and publishing best practice solutions for sustainable coastal management.

Eurosite is now the largest network of organisations devoted to nature conservation management across Europe. 21 countries are represented by more than 80 member organisations including public bodies, private organisations and Non-Government Organisations. For the benefit of nature and the human enjoyment of it, the goal of Eurosite is to enhance European nature conservation, through both the management of land and water and through the dissemination of practical information... working directly with site managers.

The North West Coastal Forum is a multi-agency partnership bringing together stakeholders from the public, private and voluntary sectors working to promote and deliver integrated management for our coastal areas to ensure their long term sustainability. The Forum is a unique regional organisation, which has been promoted as a model of good practice in the UK.

The European Union continues to support and promote ICZM through grant support of projects. The Partnership will continue to enter into projects where it is of benefit to the management of the Sefton coast and achievable with available resources. One such project called 'The ICZM Coastal Practice Network (CoPraNet)' has involved a number of European countries who committed themselves to a three year - Interreg IIIC project. This project has helped to establish a European coastal practitioner network, to help bridge the information gap on best practice between planners, managers and the research community throughout Europe. The UK is represented by the North West Coastal Forum of which the Sefton Coast Partnership is a Member.

CoPraNet has two primary objectives:

To develop a network of coastal stakeholders to exchange information and examples of best practice, which will support local and regional efforts for an integrated planning of coastal areas. This network must bridge the gap between planners, managers and the research community throughout Europe.

To support interregional exchange of best practice information on (a) sustainable tourism and (b) coastal erosion and beach management through an integrated approach.

Appendix 4
Tourism Partners

Mersey Waterfront
Funded through the NWDA and hosted by TMP, the Mersey Waterfront is a far reaching programme set up to regenerate the City Region’s 135km coastline. It connects the waterfront’s communities and assets across the districts of Sefton, Wirral, Liverpool and Cheshire, and aims to create an internationally acclaimed waterfront. It’s remit is to assist the delivery of relevant elements of the NWDA’s Vision for the NW coast by co-ordinating key tourism, sport and leisure activity and development opportunities along the waterfront under one coherent plan.

The backbone of the MW Succession Programme will be based on 6 themes. In no order of priority they are;

River of Light, Pride in Our Promenades, Coastal Places and Open Spaces, Brand New Brighton, Promoting the Place and Engaging People, and Management, Maintenance and Capital Works.

The Ribble Estuary
This will provide the UK with the most important river estuary for birds - if the North West Development Agency (NWDA) gives the go ahead for the creation of a new Regional Park.

A steering group led by key partners Lancashire County Council, Sefton Borough Council, RSPB, English Nature and Environment Agency has been formed to take forward the Regional Park idea. They believe that a positive decision from the NWDA could open the door for a range of projects that would benefit wildlife, communities and regeneration. The proposal has received overwhelming support from a wide range of interests including representatives of the local authorities around the estuary.

In anticipation of Regional Park status the RSPB are in the process of taking over the marshland north of Marine Drive as part of the existing Marshside Nature Reserve. The extension area proposed would bring the northern boundary of the Reserve coterminous with English Nature’s Ribble estuary National Nature Reserve, which is the largest Nature Reserve in England. The resulting RSPB area would certainly be one of their largest sites in the UK. This part of the Sefton Coast would act as the southern gateway to a new Regional Park for the River Ribble.

North West Development Agency and The Mersey Partnership
Since 2003, the Northwest Development Agency has taken over strategic responsibility for tourism. Following on from the publication of its strategy for tourism, the NWDA created 5 sub regional Tourist Boards with The Mersey Partnership (TMP) assuming the responsibility for Merseyside in April 2004.
TMP have been responsible for the Sub Regional Tourism Strategy and in order to deliver that strategy, the Merseyside Destination Management Plan (DMP) for the Liverpool City Region. Both are set by the national strategic framework for tourism, the Regional Economic Strategy and the Strategy for Tourism in England’s Northwest (2003).

With the news that Liverpool will be the European Capital of Culture in 2008 there is a strong desire to ensure that the whole sub-region contributes to and benefits from the momentum building up to 2008. Merseyside is considered to have two clear tourism destination brands, Liverpool and Southport. Southport has been recognised as Merseyside’s and the North West’s ‘Classic Resort’, which provides a clear long term vision to guide this important resort’s development. This vision is articulated in the strategy ‘Southport – The Classic resort: A Vision (March 2004)’. The Southport Seafront Action Plan is helping to deliver on this vision. The DMP for the Liverpool City Region 2005/08 also supports the development of the Sefton Coast as being critical in enhancing and diversifying the Southport offer.

Appendix 5

Contact/Useful Information

Glossary of terms
Sefton Coast Partnership – SCP
The Mersey Partnership – TMP
The Mersey Waterfront Regional Park – MW
Integrated Coastal Zone Management – ICZM
Wales Coastal and Maritime Partnership – WCMP
The Coastal Practice Network – CoPraNet
Shoreline Management Plans – SMPs
Tourism Department – TD
Planning and Economic Regeneration Department – PERD
Sefton Council – SMBC
Lancashire Wildlife Trust – LWT
Beach Management Group – BMG
National Trust – NT
Natural England – NE
Royal Society for Protection of Birds – RSPB
Reserve Forces & Cadets Association – RFCA

www.forestry.gov.uk/
www.merseywaterfront.com
www.english-nature.org.uk
www.sefton.gov.org
www.nationaltrust.org.uk
www.merseysidebiodiversity.org.uk
www.rspb.org.uk
www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/lancashire
www.edgehill.ac.uk
www.countryside.gov.uk/

Other useful web addresses
www.coastnet.org.uk
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/ICZM
www.pembrokeshirecoastalforum.org.uk
www.coastalmanagement.com
www.dorset.coast@dorset-cc.gov.uk
www.nwda.co.uk
www.coastalpractice.net
www.nwra.gov.uk

Source Documents
Strategies and Background Documents:
Land owner management plans (various)
The Sefton Coast Woodlands:
A 20 Year Woodland Working Plan, 2002 – 2022
Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy (in preparation)
Sefton Coast Tourism Development Plan
Research Strategy
Lifelong Learning Strategy for the coast
Red Squirrel Refuge and Buffer Zone Policy Strategy
Shoreline Management Plan
Beach Management Plan 2004 (draft)
North Liverpool Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

Partner web addresses
www.merseyforest.org.uk
www.environment-agency.gov.uk
www.seftoncoast.org.uk

32
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECT</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>PERD</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>Manage the process of looking into the future status of the SCP</td>
<td>Decision on future of the SCP (incl Trust or Charitable status) made within the Plan period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop a proposal for considering Trust or charitable status of the Sefton Coast Partnership</td>
<td>PERD</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>5 Public Coastal Forums completed</td>
<td>Public engagement in the partnership process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to deliver the Annual Coastal Forum</td>
<td>PERD</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>Managing the process of securing funds additional income</td>
<td>Amount of additional income committed over 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identify additional revenue towards the administration of the Sefton Coast Partnership</td>
<td>PERD</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>Support MW on strategic intent and collaborate specifically on delivering the Sefton Coast Tourism Destination Plan</td>
<td>See section 9.0 Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actively support and participate in the Mersey Waterfront (MW) Succession Programme and co-ordinated implementation.</td>
<td>TD</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>Amount of time devoted to supporting these forums</td>
<td>Improved communication, networking and collaboration in the interest of ICZM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue links and membership of Forums such as the NW Coastal Forum, Mersey Estuary Partnership, Ribble Estuary, Eurosite, European Coastal Conservation (EUCC) and Coastnet</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Role and Function of ICZM</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006/2011</td>
<td>Illustrating added value through the Annual report process</td>
<td>Delivering ICZM – Communication, information &amp; Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Nature Conservation and Biodiversity</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006/11</td>
<td>Develop Strategy and implement during the plan period</td>
<td>95% of the coast achieving favourable condition status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Strategy</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006/11</td>
<td>Promote policy Maintain data sets to monitor population</td>
<td>a viable red squirrel population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support implementation of Sefton Red Squirrel Refuge and Buffer Zone policy</td>
<td>LWT</td>
<td>2006/11</td>
<td>Woodland management plan outputs - Years 5 to 9. Review in 2005/06</td>
<td>400 has of managed woodland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of the Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006/11</td>
<td>In accordance with Beach management plan - Years 1 to 5</td>
<td>Support favourable condition, Beach management systems in place, improved cleansing &amp; h &amp; safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of the Beach Management Plan</td>
<td>SCP BMG</td>
<td>2006/10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shoreline Management</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Develop educational material and website Research Strategy; network events and web development</td>
<td>Promote public environmental awareness Exchange of best practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECT</td>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LEAD PARTNER</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>OUTPUT</td>
<td>OUTCOME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainability,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Advice to land managers on coastal evolution.</td>
<td>Improved Planning for Flood Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Standard of Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable Coastal defence works. Data management protocol. Local monitoring strategy.</td>
<td>Appropriate level of flood defence Effective monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>History &amp; Archaeology</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Publish Heritage Coast Conference Proceedings</td>
<td>Xx copies printed, web based</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supporting interpretation on the coast</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Research coastal asparagus cultivation (linked to interpretation)</td>
<td>Interpretation trail developed at Victoria Road, Formby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Pursue themed based leaflets – via the tourism &amp; Communication TG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Develop a Sefton at war study</td>
<td>Study completed &amp; published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Explore Coast Heritage status with the Countryside Agency</td>
<td>Decision of Heritage status taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Creating a network of interest</td>
<td>Local groups and individuals aware that they can contribute to understanding of Sefton Coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Developing a focus for activities relating to the human past</td>
<td>Annual programme linked to national Archaeology Week and/or Local History Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject to resources, encouraging research into thematic studies relating to the human past</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On-line web pages relating to the human past</td>
<td>Variety of media to inform management strategies and raise public interest and awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On-line web pages relating to the human past</td>
<td>Comprehensive series of linked pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Life Long Learning</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Complete annual teacher inset days</td>
<td>The number of teachers participating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Co-ordinate sharing of educational information and marketing of the Coast for educational visits</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Education resource packs for school teachers</td>
<td>Reviewed by 20xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Educational activities linked with wider Mersey Waterfront</td>
<td>In connection with other actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>On-line web information</td>
<td>Web site developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Develop young people</td>
<td>The number of young people on an educational visit to the coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECT</td>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LEAD PARTNER</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>OUTPUT</td>
<td>OUTCOME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Identify beneficial research areas&lt;br&gt;Develop website&lt;br&gt;Develop newsletter and circulation list.&lt;br&gt;Document relevant research and monitoring through the web&lt;br&gt;Update Sefton Coast database&lt;br&gt;Disseminate and promote good practice through papers, conferences, research meetings and/or exchange visits.</td>
<td>Support better management of the coast&lt;br&gt;Reference point for Research Strategy&lt;br&gt;An Improved research network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Publish new edition of Sands of time</td>
<td>Sands of Time published by 20xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tourism (Communication, Access &amp; Interpretation)</td>
<td>SCP</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Brand development, Signage and Communications&lt;br&gt;Coastal Interpretation&lt;br&gt;Marketing, Coastal Publications and Website&lt;br&gt;Coastal Events&lt;br&gt;Visitor Market and User Surveys and Visitor Site Monitoring&lt;br&gt;Review Destination Development Plan post 2008</td>
<td>Refer to TDP Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Adopt 5 year Implementation Framework by March 2006</td>
<td>Support of SMBC &amp; SCP Board&lt;br&gt;Commence procurement process in 05/06&lt;br&gt;Phased implementation commencing in 06/07&lt;br&gt;KM of new access developed or enhanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coastal Visitor Sites – Development and Enhancement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crosby Coastal Park</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Implement phased recreational and habitat improvements at Crosby Coastal</td>
<td>Improved Nature Conservation and Visitor facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECT</td>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LEAD PARTNER</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>OUTPUT</td>
<td>OUTCOME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER Centre, Crosby</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Secure full backing of Council to proceed</td>
<td>Regional Centre for disability water sports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Set up a company/trust with other partners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006-2008</td>
<td>Complete Business Planning, development work and procurement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formby Point and Ainsdale Lido - Gateway visitor study</td>
<td>SMBC NT</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Study endorsed by owners and Council</td>
<td>Study Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006-2008</td>
<td>Procurement Process commenced</td>
<td>Funding package in place</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007-2011</td>
<td>Phased Implementation commenced</td>
<td>Improved visitor facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 Land-Use Planning and Marine Related Activities
- Where appropriate maintain involvement in proposals to develop Marine Spatial Planning, marine and land based activities relating to the coast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Report to SCP Board on major development and marine related activities</td>
<td>Delivering ICZM – Communication, information &amp; Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maintain involvement in proposals to develop Marine Spatial Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 Major Landowners & Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCP</td>
<td>2006/11</td>
<td>Develop site management plans and activities in accordance with the Nature Conservation &amp; Biodiversity Strategy and the Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan.</td>
<td>Favourable condition status for the coast achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Forest Plan outputs achieved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RSPB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshfield Dune Heath</td>
<td>LWT</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Support Nature Conservation &amp; Biodiversity Strategy</td>
<td>Favourable Condition status achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Support Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan</td>
<td>50% of SLBI restored to heathland, acid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Support Forest Plan outputs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English Nature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>LEAD PARTNER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SECT</td>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>LEAD PARTNER</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>OUTPUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ribble Estuary</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Victoria Road, Formby Point (see also access and gateway study)</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Support Nature Conservation &amp; Biodiversity Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Support Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Golf Clubs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sefton Coast &amp; Countryside Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southport Beach</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Implementation of Beach Management Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ainsdale-on-sea (Lido)</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Delivering Gateway Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lifeboat Road &amp; Ravenmeols Sandhills LNR, Formby (see also gateway study)</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Support Nature Conservation &amp; Biodiversity Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Delivering Gateway Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crosby Coastal Park</td>
<td>SMBC</td>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>Support Nature Conservation &amp; Biodiversity Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sefton Coast Woodlands Forest Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>