Can we adapt to a changing coastline?

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114 l.a.s have tidal edge, 60 SIG members
Village of the DAMMED: Entire Welsh village to be 'decommissioned' and its population forced to move after government warns it will be lost to the sea

MailOnline
Coastal evolution from Medieval to Present Day

- Erosion of weakly resistant coastline, documented loss of land and villages.
  - Clare (15th century)
  - Shipden (14th century)
  - Foulness (15th century)
  - Whimpwell (c.15th century)
  - Eccles (17-19th century)
  - Ness (17-18th century)
  - Newton Cross (14th century)

- Erosion of weakly resistant coastline, documented loss of land and villages.
  - Cromer
  - Happisburgh
  - Great Yarmouth
  - Lowestoft
Culture of replacement and investment - creating ‘Avoidable lock-ins’

Major Cornish rail improvement package announced by Prime Minister

Published: 8th July 2014

Long Rock depot to take over sleeper servicing when Old Oak Common closes
Blueprint for adaptive societies

Actions of Low/No Regret
Not making problems worse by making Long term decisions now that increase our risk (avoid lock-ins)
Prepare now for Long term risks and impacts
Monitoring

Soft Defences

Hard Defences

Temporary Defences

Adaptation

Monitoring

Geomorphological Monitoring

Habitat Monitoring

Visualisation Tools

Saltmarsh Restoration

Beach Renourishment

Geotextile Defences

Sand Engine

Regulated Tidal Exchange

Temporary Barrier

Rock Groynes

Sea walls/Embankments

Buy and Leaseback

Managed Realignment

Rollback

Change of Mindset
What do we need to do?

- Policy and decision making
- Funding
- Reporting
- Action now
1. Policy and decision making

• Define adaptation and clarify aims
• Recognise and integrate adaptation aims into policy nationally across government and locally
• Define who should lead on adaptation and do they have the policies and tools to deliver?
• Question if the current decision makers are equipped with the right expertise to make long term decisions?
2. Funding

• Examine if the current funding mechanisms (FDGiA and Levy) are equipped to support coastal adaptation – do we need to change the formulas / rules?
• Can Look for other existing funds be accessed?
• What about new financing programmes?
• How are new funders / financiers part of the decision making process?
3. Benefits and resources

• are the full benefits of adaptation really understood and are measurement mechanisms appropriate and applied?

• How do you resource the intensive process of working with members of the community, creating solutions and building funding packages?
4. Reporting and awareness

“If You're Not Keeping Score, You're Just Practising”

Martin L. Puterman et al,

Currently there is no regular or visible reporting on adaptation so why should this be taken seriously?

We need to share Lessons learned from Coastal Adaptation Pathfinder and other projects, stop re-inventing the wheel, demonstrate what can be done and raise the ambition of all concerned.
5. Action now
Can you contribute to the solving the way forward?

25\textsuperscript{th} April London - Defra workshop
5\textsuperscript{th} June Glasgow - 3rd European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ecca2017.eu/)
Thank you

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