

**Report to:** Cabinet  
**Date of Meeting:** 6 February 2019  
**Public Document:** Yes  
**Exemption:** None



**Review date for release** None

**Agenda item:** 19

**Subject:** **Coast Protection Act Consent for Devon County Council Alma Bridge Advance Works**

**Purpose of report:** To consider whether to grant consent to Devon County Council for works under the Coast Protection Act 1949

**Recommendation:** **That Cabinet agree the request for coastal protection work consent and that delegated authority be given to the Strategic Lead – Housing, Health and Environment to grant the consent subject to completion of consultation with out two neighbouring Coast Protection Authorities.**

**Reason for recommendation:** So that Devon County Council can proceed with advance works for the replacement of the Alma Bridge at a site upstream of the present structure.

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**Financial implications:** There are no direct financial implication to comment on

**Legal implications:** Legal Services have provided advice in respect of the use of the Coastal Protection Act and the granting of consent and also that currently we do not consider that there is an existing delegation within the Constitution that covers this point, hence the referral to Cabinet.

**Equalities impact:** Low Impact

**Risk:** Low Risk

**Links to background information:** .

**Link to Council Plan:** Delivering and promoting our outstanding environment

## 1 **Background**

- 1.1 East Devon are the Coast Protection Authority under the Coast Protection Act 1949 (CPA1949).
- 1.2 Under Section 16 of CPA1949 any person who carries out coast protection work without consent from East Devon is guilty of an offence under the Act, and could be served notice to remedy those works.
- 1.3 East Devon also have powers to grant consent under Section 16 of the CPA1949 in consultation with other relevant authorities such as the Environment Agency and neighbouring authorities.
- 1.4 Devon County Council (DCC) are preparing to deliver a new footbridge to replace the old 'Alma Bridge'. In preparation some improvement works are required to a section of the river training wall. These improvements consist of:
  - 1.4.1 Removal of vegetation growing out of the wall.
  - 1.4.2 Filling of large voids in the wall.
  - 1.4.3 Sealing of cracks in the wall.
  - 1.4.4 The construction of a new concrete toe at the base of the wall to reinstate some areas of scour and to provide future protection against scour.
- 1.5 DCC have therefore approached East Devon for consent under Section 16 of CPA1949 for these works.
- 1.6 By consenting these advance works to take place in the spring 2019 EDDC will enable DCC to keep on program to replace the old failing bridge with the main works starting in the Autumn of 2019.
- 1.7 The works are within Policy Unit 6136 of the South Devon and Dorset Shoreline Management Plan 2, the policy for which is to Hold the Line across all 3 epoch.

## 2 **Recommendation**

- 2.1 It is proposed that East Devon consent these works, subject to completing consultation with our neighbouring Coast Protection Authorities.