

**LGA Special Interest Group Annual Report to LGA Board**

<b>SIG Name:</b>	LGA Coastal SIG
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**Membership**

*[Please note that only those authorities within membership of the LGA are permitted to be join LGA Special Interest Groups.]*

Adur District Council	Lincolnshire County Council
Allerdale Borough Council	Maldon District Council
Arun District Council	New Forest District Council
Blackpool Council	Norfolk County Council
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	North Devon Council
Boston Borough Council	North East Lincolnshire Council
Brighton & Hove Council	North Norfolk District Council
Canterbury City Council	Northumberland County Council
Chichester District Council	Portsmouth City Council
Christchurch Borough Council	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Cornwall Council	Rother District Council
Cumbria County Council	Scarborough Borough Council
Devon County Council	Sedgemoor District Council
Dorset Council	<b>South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council (Lead Authority)</b>
Dover District Council	Southend-On-Sea Borough Council
Durham County Council	East Suffolk District Council
East Devon District Council	Suffolk County Council
East Lindsey District Council	Sunderland City Council
East Riding Of Yorkshire Council	Teignbridge District Council
Essex County Council	Tendring District Council
Fareham Borough Council	Thanet District Council
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	Thurrock Council
Hampshire County Council	Hartlepool Borough Council
Isle of Wight Council	Torridge District Council
Hastings Borough Council	Wealden District Council
Havant Borough Council	West Sussex County Council

Borough Council of King's Lynn &  
West Norfolk  
Lancaster City Council  
Lewes District Council

Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council  
Worthing Borough Council  
Wyre Borough Council

**Aim** *[brief overview of SIG's main aim]*

The LGA Coastal SIG exists to champion and represent the collective interests of coastal, estuarine and maritime communities by increasing awareness and debate on environmental, economic and social issues at all levels in relation to the coast. It works in partnership with other organisations with complementary aims and brings pressure on the government to secure local government's full involvement at all levels of policy formulation concerning the coast.

**Key Activities / Outcomes of work undertaken** *[please keep this section to a maximum of one side of A4]*

The LGA Coastal SIG Secretariat (South Tyneside Council) ran our annual health check on strategic priorities and work areas resulting in no changes to our work areas or strategic priorities, and minor changes to the objectives under priority 4. The 2022/23 Work Plan was formally adopted by the membership at the March 2022 meeting and is available in full on our website [here](#).

**Progress against our 5 Strategic Priorities:**

**1. We are a resilient hub for knowledge sharing and innovation**

The Member Champions and officer leads of our working groups (Adaptation, Coastal Water Quality (was Bathing Waters), Beach & Water Safety, FCERM Funding & Policy, and Coastal Landfills) work collaboratively across local authorities and with external agencies to raise awareness of key issues and contribute to current initiatives.

The [website](#) has been completely transformed to show the culture of the LGA Coastal SIG and will be developing it into a hub to allow ongoing sharing of best practice and discussion.

Our 2020 annual study tour to Dorset was postponed and held in September 2021. The event allowed Dorset Council and Dorset Coast Forum to showcase their collaborative and innovative projects.

Our quarterly meetings have become a hive of activity and discussion attracting high calibre expert speakers who seek out the opportunity to present to our membership.

The decision on our subscription rates remained on hold and will be revisited in 2022/23.

The LGA Coastal SIG Twitter account [@LGACoastalSIG](#) launched last year now has 368 Followers, is very active and allows us to reach out to our Members through a different medium.

**2. We are the trusted, go-to voice for the coast with a powerful political influence**

As co-Secretariat of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Coastal Communities we work closely with the Chair Sally-Ann Hart MP to deliver the group's aims and have developed a Coastal Inquiry around focus topics that will run in 2022/23 as a series of parliamentary briefings, roundtables and information events.

The OneCoast coalition held a very well attended Meet & Greet that is leading to changes to develop the coalition to make it a stronger collaborative entity for coastal communities.

Our working group Member Champions and Officer Leads are members of national groups such as the National Bathing Water Group and National Water Safety Forum.

We attended a roundtable with Chief Medical Officer Professor Chris Whitty to discuss the annual medical report and following from this led a co-hosted a successful webinar on Health in Coastal Communities in October together with the LGA.

**3. We champion sustainable regeneration for the coastal communities we serve**

We have attended round tables with, Michael Gove MP for the launch of the Levelling Up White Paper ensuring that voices of councils are heard on these nationally important matters that have substantial implications for coastal communities.

Launched Coastal Powerhouse Manifesto in collaboration with Maritime UK at London Shipping Week setting out proposals for levelling up coastal communities. The manifesto can be downloaded [here](#).

**4. We champion coastal resilience and adaptation in a changing climate**

Part of the National steering groups for the Coastal Handbook and Shoreline Management Plan projects as part of these important refresh processes.

The Coastal Adaptation Working Group held a hugely successful online workshop on coastal adaptation at the Flood & Coast 2021 virtual conference. This was attended by 87 people from across the coastal sector and the outputs have been shared across organisations and supported the group's work programme.

**5. We champion sufficient and sustainable funding for our coast and communities**

Our FCERM Funding and Policy Working Group has been working closely with the Coastal Adaptation Working Group to raise awareness of the issues of funding and to source appropriate funding streams for projects, and through our close working relationships a number of our councils have been able to develop successful funding bids to support coastal adaptation.

The Chair attended a round-table with the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP alongside other local government representatives to discuss the Levelling Up White Paper prior to its launch to highlight the needs of coastal communities.

**Ambitions for the LGA Board to be aware of:**

- Ensure LGA are engaged with the APPG on Coastal Communities
- Build relationship between our Chair and LGA Leadership
- Build relationships between our Member Champions and relevant LGA Boards/Champions
- Build our understanding of LGA work and better understand where/how we add value
- Promote the Motion for the Ocean to all local authorities to embed a source-to-sea approach to support climate resilience, coastal communities and their economies.

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