

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 20 JANUARY 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT)**

SUBJECT: **FLINTSHIRE COAST PARK PROPOSALS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To present to Members for endorsement, a prospectus for a Flintshire Coast Park. It details the strategic direction of recreation and access along the Dee Estuary following completion on the Wales Coast Path.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Following the Wales Coast Path project 2007-13, much support and interest has been stimulated around access to the Flintshire Coast. This has led to a number of local initiatives and groups wanting to further develop areas and asking for support from the Authority and potential grant funders. It was clear that Flintshire needed a framework strategy to link such developments and provide a holistic reference for external funding bids.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The prospectus sets the vision, that by 2034 the Flintshire Coast Park will have a reputation for:

- Its high quality and accessible environment
- Vibrant and sustainable fishing operation
- Thriving tourism and recreation provision
- Flourishing wildlife
- Celebrated cultural heritage

It sets the priorities to:

- Enhancing tourist, recreational and cultural activity
- Improving gateways
- Increasing footfall
- Stimulating interest
- Revitalising docks

With a commitment to high quality design, partnership working and social inclusion.

The prospectus features 6 hubs whereby people can access and

enjoy the coast. The Wales Coast Path and cycle path provide a common thread between hubs, providing walkers and visitors with a flavour of the Flintshire coast. The distinctive character of each hub will give a rich and memorable experience but will be set in a common theme of branding to give continuity along the county's coast.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Members endorse the concept of the Flintshire Coast Park and recommend that the Council seeks to take forward potential key projects within the area to support its priorities and objectives.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None identified. The prospectus will enable appropriate applications for external grant aid to be brought forward.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Not applicable.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 The vision will enable positive environmental benefits through managed access to the Dee Estuary and coast.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Not applicable.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 Projects within the Flintshire Coast Park can primarily be taken forward with existing resources within the Planning and Environment portfolio.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Further engagement work will be required as projects are promoted within communities.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Stakeholders have been engaged through the production of this prospectus and Planning Strategy Group has endorsed the proposal.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Flintshire Coast Park Prospectus

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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