



## Kent Coastal Network

### **Integrated Coastal Action Working group (ICAWG)**

#### **Terms of reference: -**

#### **Vision**

“a place where we work with nature rather than against it, where natural and cultural diversity is enhanced and celebrated and where residents and visitors alike can enjoy clean beaches and unpolluted water, outstanding recreational opportunities and vibrant, prosperous coastal communities”.

#### **Aims**

The Integrated Coastal Action Working Group (ICAWG) will build on the partnership work carried out by Kent Coastal Network (KCN) in 2008/09, which examined the need for a more integrated approach to the management of the Kent coast.

The activities of the group, including the Kent Coastal Project Register will work towards the following broad aims for the coast: -

- To recognise the impacts and opportunities of climate change on Kent's coast and the need for adaptation
- To celebrate the value of Kent's coastal environment and acknowledge the benefits of positive management
- To utilise Kent's coastal resources and assets in support of sustainable economic growth and the visitor economy
- To enhance and promote the Kent coastal experience and tackle quality of life issues

These aims are the same as those identified through the KCN topic papers, work shops and meetings in 2008/09.

#### **Objectives**

The objectives of the ICAWG are:

- To improve communication between stakeholders
- To increase awareness of activities
- To facilitate working in partnership
- To provide a platform to discuss common issues

These objectives are the same as those of the Kent Coastal Network.

## **Membership**

ICAWG steering group

Chair: TBC

**Biodiversity** – Natural England – Lisa Jenner.

**Climate Change** – Kent County Council - Sarah Anderson

**Historic Environment** – Kent County Council – Lis Dyson

**Geology and Geomorphology** – Timescapes - Mark Harrison

**Industry** – Marine South East (SEEDA) – Richard Barron

**Quality of the Water Environment** – Environment Agency – Rob Wise

**Recreation** – Royal Yachting Association – Paul Rayner

**Regeneration & Coastal Towns** - Greening the Gateway Kent & Medway – Martin Hall

**Shoreline Management** – Thanet District Council - Mike Humber

**Tourism and the Visitor Economy** – Visit Kent – Cheryl Parker

New sectors that should be added with potential leads: -

**Landscape** (Kent Downs AONB)

Industry breakdown to include; **fisheries** (Kent and Essex Se Fisheries Committee) and **offshore renewable energy** (Vattenfall).

The group will have an open invite to Kent Coastal Network members, and others, to attend and present on current projects/activities. The Kent Coastal Project Register will be accessible to all via the KCN website.

## **Role of steering group**

- a) To review the Kent Coastal Project Register and consider opportunities.
- b) To provide updates on this at quarterly ICAWG meetings.
- c) To help identify the need for sub groups.
- d) To help develop a wish list of projects that will help to aid further integration on the Kent coast.
- e) To steer development of Kent Coastal Network conference every 18 months.
- f) To develop and maintain a database of funding opportunities for coastal projects.
- g) To avoid duplication of effort.

## **Role and opportunities for Kent Coastal Network members**

To input via [www.coastalkent.net](http://www.coastalkent.net) on new or unregistered initiatives and projects relating to the Kent coast.

A Kent Coastal Project Register will be developed and launched on the above website to facilitate this.

The register will also welcome projects that are at initial design stage so that other relevant parties can be consulted and identify opportunities for collaborative and integrated working.

The aim is for the Kent Coastal Project Register to be seen as an essential place to go to introduce any new initiative, to inform partners and for the ICAWG to provide a platform to discuss issues and facilitate partnership working.

It is anticipated that some of the benefits of the ICAWG and the Kent Coastal Project register will include: -

- The aligning of documents and of benefits of rationalising strategies, plans and processes and initiatives.
- Better use of available resources, avoiding duplication of effort and providing a more effective platform for seeking resources for both the public and private sector.

A measure of the success of this work will be the degree to which the Kent Coastal Network actively engages with the group; web uploads, enquiries, attendance at meetings, input into agendas.

All organisations engaging with ICAWG will all have equal status.

### **Timetable of meetings**

Steering Group meetings are to be held four times a year with an agenda agreed by the ICAWG steering group.

The agenda and minutes will be held on [www.coastalkent.net](http://www.coastalkent.net) on the dedicated pages and the meetings will be open to anyone who wishes to contribute/present.

One of the ICAWG meetings will be an annual seminar with full presentations, discussion and invite to all Kent Coastal Network. This may help to influence the content of the wider Kent Coastal Conference (coordinated by KCN) or may in time supersede it.

### **Review**

The success of ICAWG, its future direction and the need to reconsider an integrated coastal action plan will be reviewed and agreed after an 18 month period i.e. mid 2011.

Chris Drake  
Kent Coastal Officer 02.02.10

