



South Tyneside Council



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment  
Agency

Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme

Part of the £200m

Flood and coastal innovation programmes

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# Stronger Shores

**Making British coastlines and communities  
stronger in the face of flooding, coastal erosion  
and climate change.**



# National Policy

## Vision for the future

The power of nature will be part of our solution to tackling flood and coastal erosion risks.

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***‘Harnessing the power of nature to reduce flood and coastal erosion risk and achieve multiple benefits’***

***Flood and Coastal Innovative Funding Programme***



HM Government

## **Flood and coastal erosion risk management Policy Statement**

July 2020



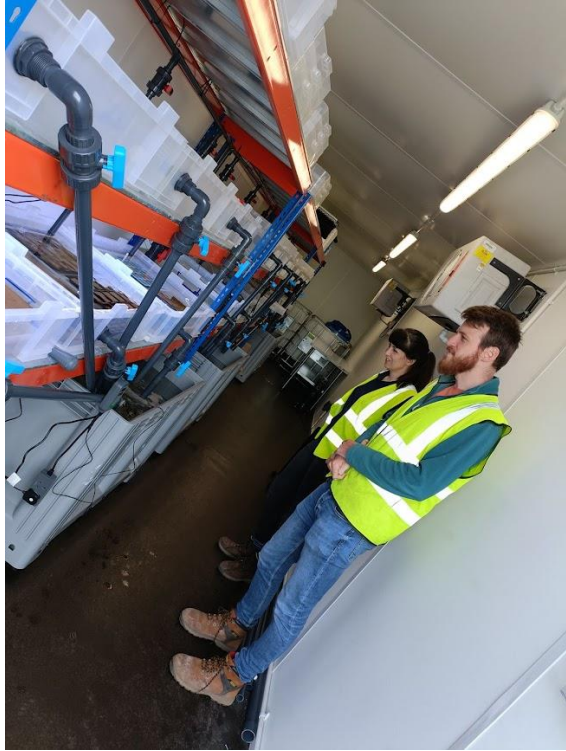
# What?

Improve understanding of the coastal protection value of marine habitats (seagrass, kelp, native oyster reefs) and their wider benefits to climate change and biodiversity.





## How?



## Objectives:

- ❑ Test new approaches to habitat restoration:
  - Apply **innovative monitoring** techniques
  - Quantify the **costs and benefits & wider benefits**
  - Generate **evidence and learning** – in a UK context



# Why?

- ❑ **Coastal Protection Value**
  - Wave attenuation
  - Sediment stabilisation
  
- ❑ **Wider Benefits**
  - Valued as hotspots of biodiversity
  - Carbon sequestration
  - Water quality improvements





# Oyster Reefs





# Kelp





# Seagrass



*Photo credit: top Catherine Scott; bottom Emma Butterworth (Project Seagrass)*





# Natural Capital



Natural capital is a **term for the habitats and ecosystems that provide social, environmental and economic benefits to humans.**  
*(NatureScot)*



# Natural Capital and Stronger Shores

- 1) Produce a map of marine habitats in the North East, and potential for restoration
- 2) What condition are the habitats in?
- 3) What are the different pressures on the habitats?
- 4) What are the main benefits each habitat provides?
- 5) Produce an Asset and Risk Register
- 6) Support the case for restoration
- 7) Strengthen governance around restoration
- 8) Provide evidence for restoration as a way of protecting the coast



# Shortlisted Sites

Site	Seagrass	Kelp	Native Oyster
Lindisfarne	✓		
Beadnell		✓	
Boulmer		✓	
Cullercoats		✓	
South Shields/ Marsden/Whitburn	✓	✓	✓
Sunderland/Roker	✓	✓	
Teesmouth	✓		✓
Skinningrove		✓	



## Delivery Partners



UNIVERSITY OF  
PLYMOUTH



# Stronger Shores

## Collaborative Partners










## Local Authority Partners







Sub Projects	Delivery Partners
<b>Seagrass restoration and monitoring</b> at Teesmouth with volunteering opportunities.	
<b>Small-scale seagrass restoration pilots</b> with volunteering opportunities.	 North Sea Wildlife Trusts
<b>Overarching Research and Kelp Restoration</b> through PhD Research.	 Newcastle University
<b>Native oyster restoration and monitoring</b> at Whitburn in collaboration with the national Wild Oyster Project. Spatting Pond at Hartlepool.	
<b>Coastal Monitoring &amp; Modelling</b> to build evidence base to feed into toolkit development.	 Newcastle University
Project wide <b>Communications, Education and Engagement Programme</b> helping to make communities more resilient.	 North Sea Wildlife Trusts
<b>Bespoke Natural Capital Accounts</b> providing an economic case for future investment	 UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH
<b>Monitoring, Evaluation &amp; Dissemination</b> including TOOLKIT development to inform future strategy.	Consultant support

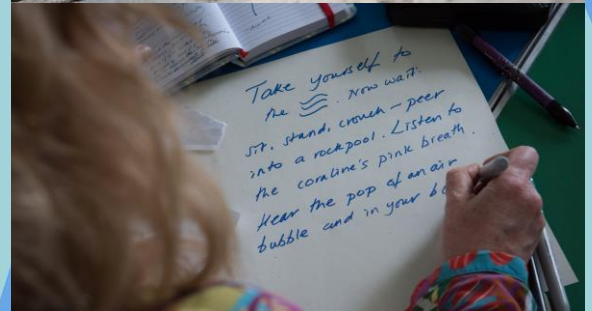


# Engagement

Opportunity to learn from engagement approaches from other projects and develop best practice.

Keen to collaborate and target engagement so it is more meaningful.

How can we use this project to try different approaches to talking about, and connecting people with, the underwater world?



# Thank you for listening

Karen DGLISH, Stronger Shores Project  
Delivery Manager  
[karen.daglish@southtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:karen.daglish@southtyneside.gov.uk)



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