

Policy CS34 – Flood Risk and Coast Protection

Summary of Comments Received	Recommended Response
<p>The penultimate paragraph of Policy CS34 should be altered to read: "...where sufficient evidence is provided to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on coastal processes <u>or designated biodiversity assets of International, national and local importance (see Glossary for full list)</u>". Most of the coastline and large areas of coastal hinterland are designated wildlife sites or supporting habitat. Proposed activity may be subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment.</p>	<p>Accepted, but it is recommended that Policy CS34 is amended with simplified wording to read: "Proposals for new coastal protection and sea defence works will be permitted where they are in line with the recommendations of the adopted Shoreline Management Plan and emerging Wirral Coastal Strategy and where sufficient evidence is provided to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on coastal processes <u>or designated biodiversity or geodiversity assets.</u>" It is also recommended that paragraph 23.7 is amended to read: "Proposals for coastal defence works must therefore be supported by sufficient evidence to determine their wider impact on the coastline <u>and on designated biodiversity and geodiversity assets.</u>"</p>
<p>Policy CS34 currently has no reference to biodiversity or wildlife. Since most of the coast is internationally designated for wildlife and many parts of river valleys are Sites of Special Scientific Interest or Sites of Biological Importance and act as wildlife corridors, there should be explicit links to Policy CS30 and Policy CS33.</p>	<p>Accepted. It is recommended that Policy CS34 is amended to read: "Proposals for new coastal protection and sea defence works will be permitted where they are in line with the recommendations of the adopted Shoreline Management Plan and emerging Wirral Coastal Strategy and where sufficient evidence is provided to demonstrate that there will be no adverse effects on coastal processes <u>or designated biodiversity or geodiversity assets.</u>"</p>
<p>Paragraph 23.9 should be amended to read: "<u>This policy will be applied together with CS30, CS31, CS33 and CS35, because of the close links between the water environment, biodiversity, wildlife corridors and other green infrastructure.</u>"</p>	<p>Accepted, but it is recommended that paragraph 23.7 is amended with simplified wording to follow the recommended modification to Policy CS34 to read: "Proposals for coastal defence works must therefore be supported by sufficient evidence to determine their wider impact on the coastline <u>and on designated biodiversity and geodiversity assets.</u>"</p>
<p>A reference to the use of native plant material of local provenance should be included, in order to maintain and enhance biodiversity value.</p>	<p>Accepted but it is recommended that point 4 of Policy CS30 – Requirements for Green Infrastructure is amended to read: "contribute towards net gains for nature and the enhancement of ecological networks and preserve and enhance the setting of any biodiversity and geodiversity assets in line with Policy CS33, <u>including the use of native species where this is possible and feasible,</u>"</p>

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<p>Insufficient weight has been given to the effects of sea-level change. If sea-level rises by about 50 cms in the next 50 years, then average high tides will flood the car park alongside the Sailing School at West Kirby and Spring Tides will overtop the pavement of South Parade. Given that the climate is changing to become more extreme, there will be more storms and there will be frequent flooding of property in and around South Parade from Riversdale Road to the Sailing Club. Models suggest that anything greater will see flooding as far as West Kirby Railway station from Lingdale Road to Sandy Lane.</p>	<p>No change is recommended, as Policy CS34 already requires the consideration of climate change in line with the Shoreline Management Plan and Environment Agency Flood Maps to take account of sea level rise and flooding resulting from climate change.</p>