



Hunstanton Coastal Defence Autumn 2026 Routine Repairs FAQs

A series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been produced by the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk regarding upcoming routine repair works scheduled to take place to the Hunstanton Coastal Defences.

These FAQs are being distributed to local stakeholders, businesses and traders location on and directly behind the coastal defences to provide information regarding what routine works are being undertaken.

Why are the Borough Council completing routine repairs to the coastal defences?

The Borough Council is a 'Coastal Protection Authority' under the Coastal Protection Act (1949) for the Hunstanton Town coastal defences. This means we have a duty to carry out coastal protection works, including maintenance and repairs to the existing defences, to help manage the risk of flooding and coastal erosion.

Each year we complete a visual inspection of the coastal defences which follows national guidelines set by the Environment Agency. These inspections help to identify any repairs required to maintain the standard of protection which the coastal defences provide. An inspection over the summer identified a number of repairs and routine maintenance required to aspects of the coastal defences.

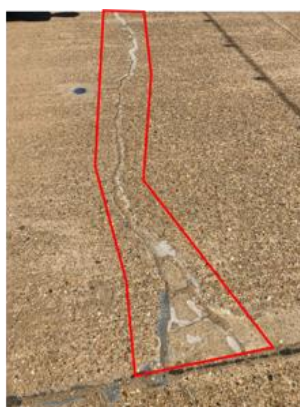
What routine repairs and maintenance will be undertaken?

This summer's inspection identified a total of 155 routine repairs and maintenance works required to various aspects of the concrete coastal defences. This includes: -

- Promenade joint sealant replacement
- Wave-return wall joint sealant replacement
- Promenade concrete crack repairs
- Concrete patch repairs to the promenade and slipways
- Blockwork seawall repairs and mortar joint reinstatement



Blockwork seawall repair



Crack repair



Sealant replacement

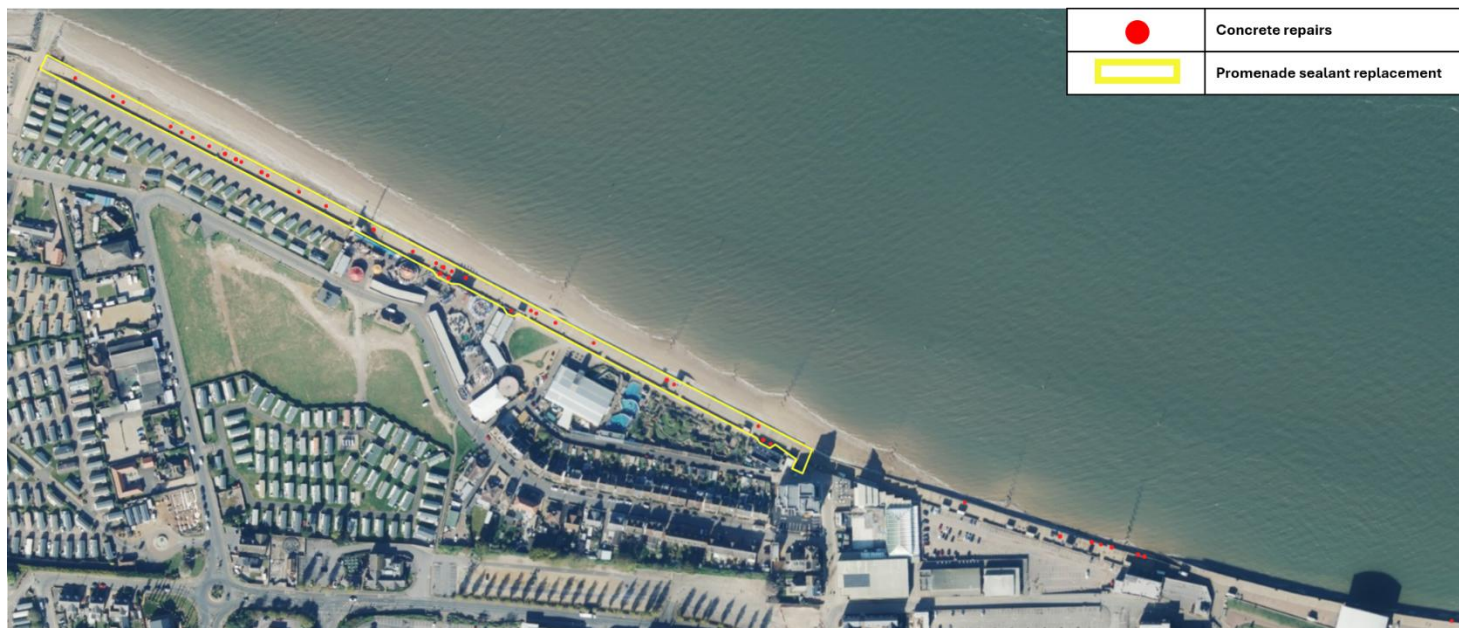


Blockwork seawall repair



Where will the repairs be undertaken?

The map below shows where the repairs will be undertaken



When will the repair works begin, and how long will they last?

The routine repair works will take around 8 weeks to complete, commencing on Monday 5th October 2026 and completing by Friday 27th November 2026.

To enable all repairs to be completed before the winter storm season, weekend working will be required. To minimise disruption during weekends, working will be limited to quiet activities (e.g. installation of joint sealant), with all breaking out of concrete and sealant taking place Monday to Friday.

Who will be undertaking these repairs?

These works will be undertaken by [Southbay Civil Engineering Ltd](#), who have previously completed a number of successful repair packages to the Hunstanton Coastal Defences between 2023 and 2026.

How much will these repairs cost and how will they be funded?

These repairs will cost £156,668 and are being fully funded by the Borough Council.

Will access to businesses on the promenade and behind the wave-return wall be impacted?

Access to all businesses located on the promenade and behind the wave-return wall will be maintained throughout the duration of the works.



Will access to the promenade or beach be restricted whilst repairs are undertaken?

No – access to the promenade and beach will be maintained throughout the duration of these works.

At times, temporary restrictions (barriers) and plywood covers will be placed around repair locations whilst repairs are undertaken to ensure the safety of the operatives undertaking the repairs and members of the public. These will remain in place until any materials (e.g. concrete and sealant) have fully cured. All barriers will be accompanied by appropriate safety signage.

In addition, occasional movement of plant on the promenade will be required. A strict speed limit of 5mph will be followed, alongside use of a banksman to guide vehicle movements and members of the public.

Will the repair works be noisy and dusty?

At times, power tools will be required for cutting and breaking out of defective concrete and joint sealant. When this is required, appropriate warning signage will be displayed around the working area, and works will take place for short durations to ensure the safety of operatives, members of the public and promenade traders.

To minimise dust generated from cutting out of concrete and joint sealant, water suppression tools will be utilised to reduce dust generated from the repair works.

Will a work compound be established?

Yes – for the duration of the works, a fenced off compound (including welfare cabin, material store, equipment, plant and vehicles) will be established on the North Promenade car (What 3 Words Location: [Serves.Hotel.Rejoins](#)). Appropriate signage will be placed on the heras fencing around the compound to notify members of the public of the repair works taking place.

What measures are being put in place to protect the environment whilst the repairs are undertaken?

Regard for the environment is of great importance when completing repair works on and near the marine environment. Prior to commencement of the repairs, a comprehensive methodology and environmental risk assessment shall be prepared by Southbay Civil Engineering and agreed by the Council and Natural England.



Who is responsible for the Hunstanton Coastal Defences?

The Borough Council owns and maintains the Hunstanton Town coastal defences from the Power Boat Ramp (What 3 Words: [Sourcing.Reason.Likes](#)) to where the defences end at the Hunstanton Cliffs to the north (What 3 Words: [Blatantly.Amounting.Give](#)).

Are plans for the Hunstanton Coastal Defence Capital Works and Interim Works progressing alongside these routine repairs?

Yes work is progressing on both the Capital Works and Interim Works projects alongside undertaking routine repairs and maintenance to the coastal defences.

Hunstanton Capital Works

In August 2026, we commenced Phase 2 of the pre-construction phase with our contractors Balfour Beatty and Jacobs. This phase will run until March 2027 and include undertaking optioneering (determining the best engineering solution) and production of a high-level outline design for the scheme. This will then enable us to produce and submit an Outline Business Case to the Environment Agency for flood defence Grant in Aid (GiA) funding required to undertake the remainder of the pre-construction phase and future construction of the capital works.

We will send out further updates as this work progresses, including opportunities for engagement and comment on proposals as they are developed.

Interim Works

Work is progressing with our contractors Southbay Civil Engineering and Fairhurst to prepare both a planning application and marine licence applications for the interim works (rock armour). Environmental surveys required to support these applications have been completed over the summer and work is progressing on preparing the detailed information required to support these applications, which should be ready for submission to the Local Planning Authority and Marine Management Organisation in the coming months.

We do not yet have a confirmed commencement date for the construction of the interim works, as this will be dependant on successful approval of both the planning permission and marine licence applications.

We will send out further updates as this work progresses.



Why are you undertaking patch repairs and routine maintenance when capital works will be completed in the near future?

The Hunstanton Capital Works project is in its pre-construction phase which is anticipated to take 12-18 months to complete. In the meantime, we will continue to undertake business as usual works, including regular asset condition inspections and health and safety inspections of the coastal defences.

How to find out more

If you would like to find out more about routine repair works we undertake to the Hunstanton coastal defences, the capital works project or the interim works project, you can do so on our website using the following links:

Routine Repairs: <https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/currentcoastalworks>

Capital Works: <https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/hunstantonprom>

Interim Works: https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/info/385/coastal/1308/hunstanton_coastal_defence_interim_works

You can also contact us at any time via email at floodandwatermanagement@west-norfolk.gov.uk