

COAST



INTRODUCTION

- 11.1 The Coast sub area comprises most of Scarborough District and the eastern part of the East Riding of Yorkshire. It includes the whole of the Region's North Sea coast, north of the Humber Estuary. It is bounded to the west by the eastern part of the Remoter Rural sub area, the York sub area and the Humber Estuary sub area. The Coast sub area has significant common issues – but has particular and important inter-dependences with the Cities of York and Hull and, outside the Region, the Tees Valley City Region. There are important connections to, and increasing competition with, the market towns and growing commuter and Principal Service Centres of Malton, Driffield and Beverley, which lie just outside the sub area.

11.2 Despite a strong interdependence with larger inland cities, the Coast sub area shares a number of unifying features. These include:

- A pattern of local economies and settlements with most centres facing challenges to historic roles as service centres and structural changes to main historic functions, including towns and agriculture, fishing and niche manufacturing and economic activities
- Unique and important assets
- Weak connectivity arising from relative remoteness and peripherality

SETTLEMENTS, THE ECONOMY AND HOUSING

11.3 The sub area has a population of about 160,000 – about 3% of the Regional total. The coastline is punctuated by a number of settlements. Scarborough is a Sub Regional Centre with a population, including surrounding villages of about 60,000; Bridlington and Whitby, are Principal Service Centres. Hornsea, Filey/Humnamby and Withernsea are Local Service Centres. Scarborough is the dominant coastal settlement, the 'Coastal Capital' – but its influence is weak south of Bridlington. The sub area has a significantly greater proportion of smaller older households than the regional average. The ageing population, and nature of the local economy, is reflected in economic activity rates lower than the regional average.

11.4 Scarborough, and particularly Whitby, are adjoined by areas of environmental designation and are largely confined by local topographic features. Their local settings, built form and historic features make them outstanding regional assets. Most coastal settlements south of Scarborough have attractive settings and features, but are generally less physically confined.

11.5 The pattern of settlements and local economy along the coast and its hinterland has been historically determined by the development and changing fortunes of fishing, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing. These sectors are continuing to change. Structural changes to local economies and other wider societal factors have led to concentrations of deprivation, worklessness and benefit dependence in some towns. A narrowing employment base and an increasing dependence on low wage/low skill sectors has resulted in significant losses of younger age groups. Consequently business start-ups are low, as is the number of small and medium sized enterprises. On the other hand, in-migration has been characterised by older, often (but not exclusively) lower income groups, who make increasing demands on the sub area's health and social care capacity. These demographic changes, together with the relative remoteness from the Region's main growth areas and the decline of the sub area's traditional employment sectors, poses a significant ongoing challenge.





- 11.6 The Coast sub area is an important asset for the whole Region and for the UK. There are national and international designations which must be safeguarded and enhanced, as well as other characterful coastal environments which should be retained. Many of the coastal settlements are already some of the Region's most attractive places to live. Effective regeneration and investment, changing lifestyles and workstyles, improved connections to nearby cities and city regions and safeguarding and enhancing in the built and natural assets of the Coast sub area can provide the impetus for developing reinvigorated local economies and the renaissance of the Region's coastal communities. These are issues regarding some of the sub areas housing stock, including areas of low housing demand in Bridlington and Scarborough and outmoded stock at Scarborough and Bridlington.
- 11.7 Policy approaches for the sub area focus on strengthening and diversifying local economies, utilising and strengthening its unique natural and man-made assets and minimising its relative remoteness. Implementing the Plan's core approach at the scale of the Coast sub area means that most new development should be focussed on the Scarborough urban area, with supporting growth at Bridlington and smaller scales of development at Whitby. Elsewhere in smaller settlements development should be mainly confined to meeting local affordable housing needs and supporting small-scale commercial development to achieve more local jobs. Hornsea is identified as a Principal Service Centre in the Regional Settlement Study, but it is acknowledged that because of its rural size and setting it should not be a focus for growth and, accordingly, it is regarded as a Local Service Centre for the purposes of the Plan. Withernsea has particular needs for wide ranging regeneration.





ENVIRONMENT

- 11.8 The Region's long and diverse coast is a unique environmental asset. The northern section, from Bridlington Bay to the regional boundary is characterised by headlands, cliffs and bays backing inland to upland areas, moors and valleys. Much of the area north of Scarborough is a Heritage Coast and this coastline, and the inland areas, forms part of the area of the North York Moors National Park. Flamborough Head, north of Bridlington, is the subject of a range of designations including:
- Heritage Coast
 - Special Protection Area
 - Special Areas of Conservation
 - RAMSAR
- 11.9 The coastline between Scarborough and Flamborough embodies many of the values of the adjoining Heritage Coast areas and formal designation should be investigated. The coast south of Bridlington is generally characterised by fast eroding low clay cliffs. This necessitates a policy of roll-back for development affected by coastal erosion. The Region has examples of good practice of integrated coastal zone management. All the Region's coastal local authorities need to continue to develop this approach. The sub area coast terminates at Spurn Head, a sand spit at the mouth of the Humber Estuary. Spurn Head and the landward estuary mud flats have a number of national and international designations. The environmental values of the Spurn Head area and all the sub area's designation areas should be safeguarded.






Fig.11.1 ENVIRONMENT MAP



SETTLEMENTS

-  Sub Regional Centre
-  Principal Service Centre
-  Local Service Centre
-  Built-up Areas

ENVIRONMENT

-  Countryside Character Areas
-  Important Environmental Designation
-  High Flood Risk Area
-  Fast-eroding Coastline
-  Investigate Coastal Environmental Designations

- 11.10 Achieving and maintaining high marine water quality is vital to safeguard and improve the onshore and marine environment and also to support the tourism sector. As well as the Region's coastline, the sub area includes other valuable natural character areas to be safeguarded. These include the most northern extent of the Wolds and parts of the North Yorkshire Moors.
- 11.11 Much of the built environment comprises of valuable historical heritage of docks, harbours and diverse settlements. The sub area has a particularly strong heritage of Victorian seaside town features.
- 11.12 There are a number of new off shore issues which challenge the coastal environment. Although the East Coast has limited conventional energy generation capacity and related infrastructure, the sub area will have an important role in terms of renewable energy generation. Off shore wind farms, especially off the Holderness coast and the south-east area of the Region, will require new on shore infrastructure. Developing these facilities on and off shore will need to account for important environmental and amenity factors. The Region's coast and Humber Estuary may have significant potential for hydropower. Off shore sand and gravel extraction may have adverse marine environmental impact.
- 11.13 Coastal erosion is likely to increase due to projected climate change and rising sea levels. This underlines the need for coastal planning authorities to adopt appropriate management strategies for the shoreline and inter-tidal areas, and to consider 'roll back' development limit policies where appropriate.

TRANSPORT

- 11.14 Relative peripherality and remoteness is a key characteristic of the sub area. The sub area is about 100 kilometres west of the Region's section of the national north-south transport corridor and further still from the main urban concentrations of West and South Yorkshire. Remoteness is both a problem in terms of sustaining and developing local economies and an opportunity in terms of providing for growing demands for different lifestyles.
- 11.15 Different parts of the sub area have important social, economic and transport connections with the Tees Valley City Region, York and the Leeds City Region area and Hull. Maintaining and, where possible, improving the efficiency and capacity of these road and rail connections is vital. The sub area's most important link is the road and rail corridor of the A64 and Trans-Pennine rail link between Scarborough, York and the wider Leeds City Region. This is a key investment priority for Local Authorities in and adjoining the sub area. Other important east-west links include the A614 Bridlington to West Yorkshire and Hull and A171 and rail link between Whitby to the Tees Valley City Region. Important north-south links include the A171, A165 and the Hull-Scarborough railway.

OUTCOMES BY 2021

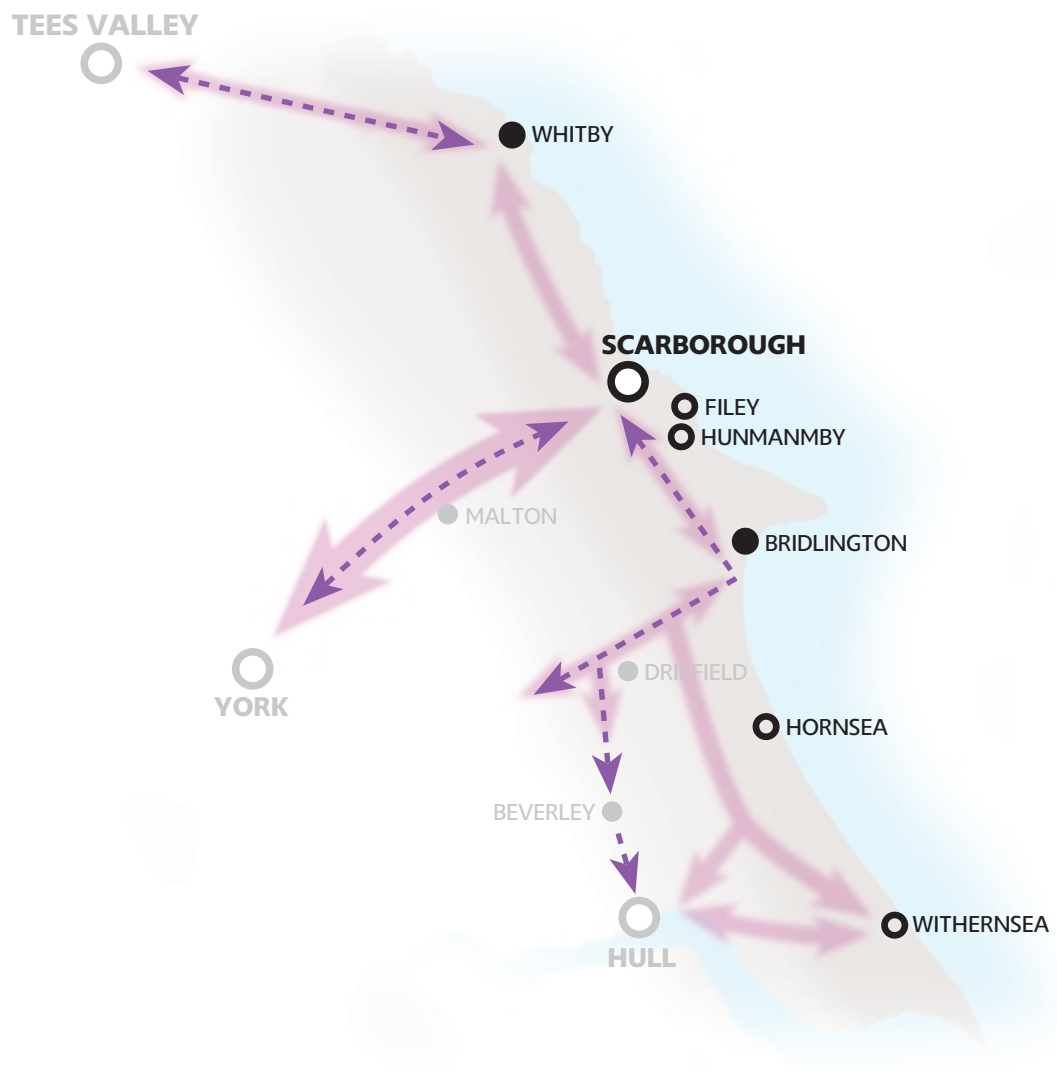
- The coastal environment, quality and character of the sub area has been protected and enhanced and its assets have been a driver to improve the quality of places and diversify their economic role
- Within the context of safeguarding the quality and character of the sub area, the roles of Scarborough as the Coast's Sub Regional Centre and the Principal Service Centres of Bridlington and Whitby, have been strengthened through an appropriate scale of housing development and economic diversification and the roles of Local Services Centres have been supported by small scale development, mainly to meet local affordable housing needs and small scale economic diversification

Table 11.1 | POLICY AND INDICATOR LINKS

KEY POLICY LINKS	INDICATOR	
YH1, YH4, YH5, YH6, YH7, H1, H4, E6, ENV1, ENV2, ENV5, ENV9, ENV10, T5, T8, T9	136	Progress on SMP2 (Shoreline Management Plan)
	137	Length of Heritage Coast in the sub area



Fig.11.2 | CONTEXT DIAGRAM



- | | |
|--|------------------|
| SETTLEMENTS | TRANSPORT |
| ○ Sub Regional Centre | ---> Railway |
| ● Principal Service Centre | |
| ○ Local Service Centre | |
| (Settlements with influence from outside the Sub Area are in grey) | |
| ➔ Linkages | |

**POLICY
C1****COAST SUB AREA POLICY**

All plans, strategies, investment decisions and programmes for the Coast sub area will, where relevant, seek to:

A**ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF PLACES**

- Strengthen the role of Scarborough as the Sub Regional Centre and the 'coastal capital' for much of the sub area
- Develop the Principal Service Centre roles of Bridlington and Whitby

B**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Diversify the sub area's economic base, opening up new employment land opportunities, with new tourism and other employment generating development and major new infrastructure at Scarborough and Bridlington which avoids undue damage to the protected nature of much of the sub area
- Review housing stock in Scarborough and Bridlington to ensure it meets changing housing market needs
- Utilise relative peripherality to develop tourism and localisation of services and businesses

C**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

- Protect the unique character, heritage and biodiversity of the undeveloped coast and coastal waters
- Conserve the geomorphological importance and natural beauty of the North York Moors National Park coast, the Flamborough Head coast, and Spurn Head and investigate extending Heritage Coast designation between Scarborough and Flamborough Head
- Protect the historic seaside character of coastal settlements and upgrade their town centres and the seaside settings
- Avoid the risk from flooding, erosion and landslip along the coast, including through roll-back approaches to relocate existing uses
- Improve marine water quality and maintain and extend 'blue flag' standards
- Investigate scope for more renewable energy initiatives




POLICY C1 COAST SUB AREA POLICY (continued)

D TRANSPORT CONNECTIONS

- Strengthen the Coast sub area's transport services, infrastructure and reduce perceived peripherality by improving:
 - the main east-west corridors and public transport links to the Tees Valley City Region, the cities of York and Hull and the conurbations of South and West Yorkshire
 - public transport access to coastal hinterlands and the North York Moors National Park
 - north-south links to secure better public transport links between coastal settlements

E STRATEGIC PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT

- Focus the majority of growth on Scarborough, with significant development at Bridlington
- Restrict development in and around Whitby to safeguard its particular historic urban form and setting
- Allow generally small scale development to support the regeneration and sustain the roles and viability of Local Service Centre coastal settlements

F REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

- Improve the public realm and quality of the built environment of coastal resorts and the coast's natural environment as the basis for economic diversification and regeneration

G JOINED UP WORKING

- Promote developing economic and social partnerships and partnership approaches to coastal, shoreline and marine management and conservation through Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans, Shoreline Management Plans and Heritage Coast Management Plans