

The Highland Council

**Transport, Environmental and Community Services Committee
7 November 2013**

Agenda Item	13
Report No	TEC 85/13

Storm Damage 14/15 December 2012 – Final Costs

Report by the Director of Transport, Environmental & Community Services

Summary

This report updates Members on the final costs in relation to the repairs to the damage which occurred to harbours and coastal structures during the storm surge on 14/15 December 2012

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Members will recall the reports to the TECS Committees of 19 January 2013 (TEC-3-13) and 16 May 2013 (TEC-38-13) which updated Members on the damage which had occurred to coastal structures during the storm surge of 14/15 December 2012 and the repair works that had and were being undertaken. This report provides a final cost for the works.
- 1.2 The work involved the repair of structures which are under the ownership of the Council, or of for which the Council has maintenance responsibilities.

2. Progress

- 2.1 The repair works were undertaken using a combination of internal resources and external contractors, dependent upon the complexity and scale of individual projects.
- 2.2 The use of Emergency Powers permitted the early appointment of contractors, thereby minimizing the period before repairs were effected.
- 2.3 Work has been completed at the following sites:
 1. Portskerra
 2. John O'Groats Harbour
 3. Freswick Harbour
 4. Ackergill Harbour
 5. Staxigoe Harbour
 6. Victoria Street Wick
 7. Scalesburn Wick
 8. Lybster Harbour Road
 9. Latheron Harbour
 10. Dunbeath Harbour breakwater, steps and picnic site
 11. Helmsdale Harbour
 12. Brora Harbour
 13. Golspie

14. Embo
15. Portmahomack Harbour
16. Dornoch Golf Course
17. Hilton
18. Balintore Harbour
19. Shandwick
20. Rosemarkie
21. Nairn

- 2.4 Consultants have provided their initial recommendations for the repair of the Dunbeath harbour wall. The estimated cost for the works is currently £250,000. The final report is awaited to permit a decision to be taken on prioritisation of the preferred option with a report to be taken to the Fishery Harbours Management Board.
- 2.5 The total cost of completing the works (excluding the Dunbeath harbour wall) was £1.533m, which is less than the original estimate of £2.5m.
- 2.6 A list of the locations affected and the repair works are detailed in **Appendix A**.

3. External Funding

- 3.1 The Scottish Government activated the Bellwin Scheme and the Council was invited to submit a claim under this Scheme. However the Council did not qualify for funding under the Bellwin Scheme criteria.
- 3.2 The Scottish Government did however provide financial support for the repair of Balintore Harbour (£100k) and Portmahomack Harbour (£50k), independent of the Belwin Scheme.

4. Other Damage

- 4.1 The emergency works dealt with the repairs to Council owned assets. Damage to other areas of the coastline has been assessed under the Council's current Coastal Protection Policy, which focusses on the protection of property rather than land.
- 4.2 The requirement for work at Rockfield, Hilton and in Helmsdale near the old crab factory has been assessed and no action is required at this time. Coastal erosion at East Gills Scrabster continues to be monitored.
- 4.3 Work to reinstate coastal protection to the Old Crab factory at Helmsdale is being undertaken privately.

5. Resource Implications

- 5.1 The total cost of repair works was £1.533 million and an allowance was made in the 2012/13 and 2013/14 budgets accordingly. The cost of repairs to the Dunbeath harbour wall will be reported to a future Fishery Harbours Management Board.
- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising as a direct result of this report.
- 5.3 There are no equality implications arising as a direct result of this report.

- 5.4 There are no climate change implications arising as a direct result of this report, however we are seeing much more frequent weather related incidents which result in damage to our infrastructure.
- 5.5 There are no risk implications arising as a direct result of this report.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Members are invited to note the final cost of works to repair the damage to Council harbour facilities and coast defence structures.
- 6.2 Members are invited to note that a further report providing details of the repairs proposed for Dunbeath harbour wall will be submitted to the Fisheries Harbours Management Board.
- 6.3 Members are invited to approve that the Council continues to provide advice and support to privately owned facilities which have been affected by the storm surge.

Designation: Director of Transport, Environmental & Community Services

Date: 25 October 2013

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List of Emergency Works

Works Location	Description of Works	Completed
Portskerra	1. Land slip –remove debris and reprofile face.	Yes
Scrabster – East Gills	1. Erosion to cliff face – monitor.	Monitoring
John O’Groats Harbour	1. Repair damage to concrete pier and deck 2. Repair collapsed wall 3. Repair navigation lights	Yes
Freswick Harbour	1. Replace rock armour protection 2. Repair concrete damage 3. Repair steps	Yes
Ackergill Harbour	1. Fence missing 2. Concrete steps undermined 3. Wash out to stone pier 4. Cracking on concrete deck 5. Loss of pointing 6. Wall repairs 7. Slipway repairs	Yes
Keiss Harbour	1. Coping stones displaced 2. Corner stones dislodged 3. Wash out of masonry joints 4. Damage to surface at top of slip	Yes
Staxigoe Harbour	1. Pier wall undermined 2. Stone pitching washed away 3. Rock armour displaced 4. Concrete access undermined	Yes
Victoria Street Wick	1. Repairs to River wall	Yes
Scalesburn Wick	1. Damage to wall parapet 2. Protection to property	Yes
Service Bridge Wick	1. Inspection	Yes
Lybster Harbour Rd	1. Damage to road	Yes
Latheron Harbour	1. Rock armour to protect road 2. Repair erosion to harbour wall 3. Repair damage to deck of river pier 4. Replace displaced rock armour	Yes

Works Location	Description of Works	Completed
Dunbeath Harbour	1. Relocate displaced Dolos (Breakwater) 2. Repairs to steps 3. Replace masonry to harbour wall 4. Repair parapet – consultant's report commissioned 5. Repairs to picnic site	1,2,3 & 5 –Yes. 4 – Draft consultant's report submitted
Helmsdale Harbour	1. Navigation lights displaced 2. Clear rubble	Yes
Helmsdale Old Crab Factory	1. Repair coastal erosion; install risk armour Location identified Feb 2013.	Monitor - Not required immediately
Portgower	1. Reinstate rock armour	Yes
Brora Harbour	1. Clear debris 2. repairs to displaced rock armour to west of harbour	Yes
Golspie	1. Repair damage to promenade 2. Repair damage to Shore Street play Area 3. Repairs to displaced rock armour	Yes
Embo Harbour	1. Remove debris from wave wall 2. Repairs to slipway	Yes
Portmahomack Harbour	1. Structural failure of wave wall 2. Structural replace of pier deck.	Yes
Portmahomack	1. Repair / Reinforce rock armour	Yes
Dornoch golf course	1. Rock armour repairs (agreed Feb 13)	Yes
Hilton Village and slipway	1. Repair / Reinforce rock armour 2. Repair coastal pathway	Yes
Balintore Harbour	1. Structural failure of walls and deck 2. Damage to pontoons	Yes
Balintore	1. Repair / Reinforce rock armour various	Yes
Shandwick	1. Repair / Reinforce rock armour	Yes
Rockfield	1. Repair / Reinforce rock armour – Meeting held with residents.	No. - Not required immediately
Rosemarkie	1. Clear debris from road and footpath	Yes
Nairn	1. Repairs to promenade 2. Repairs to rock armour	Yes