

From: Paul Webb, Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services  
Simon Jones, Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport.

To: County Council – 18 December 2025

Subject: Marine and Coastal Act 2009 – Delegations to Officers

Classification: Unrestricted

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## **1. Introduction**

- a. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 gives the County Council a range of powers. Of relevance to the current paper are the following set out in Schedule 20 of the Act:
  - 1. Power to enter agreement with an owner or occupier for the carrying out of works for the purpose of assisting Natural England to discharge the coastal access duty.
  - 2. Power to establish or maintain the England Coast Path in the absence of agreement including the service of notice.
  - 3. Power to erect notices and signs where delegated by Natural England.
  - 4. Power to remove notices or signs.
  - 5. Power to enter land to determine whether works are required and the carrying out of the work and inspection for the purposes of the Act.

## **2. Delegations to Officers**

- a. Having a clear framework of delegations to Officers means that Members, Officers, and people external to the Council can see that any actions undertaken are done so by people with the proper authority. The Appendix to the Constitution sets out functions delegated to specific Officers.
- b. The Marine and Coastal Act is closely connected to the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. While the delegated functions for the latter Act are set out in the Appendix, the specific functions for the Marine and Coastal Act are not.
- c. For clarity, it is proposed to add a specific delegation for the functions set out in the Marine and Coastal Act 2009 to the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport. This will enable robust schemes of sub-delegation to be put in place by the Corporate Director.

### **3. Recommendation**

County Council is asked to:

- a. Agree to update the Appendix to the Constitution delegating the Council's functions set out in Schedule 20, sections 2, 3, 6(5), 8(1)(b), and 9(2) of the Marine and Coastal Act 2009 to the Corporate Director of Growth, Environment and Transport; and
- b. Ask the Monitoring Officer to update the Appendix to the Constitution accordingly.

### **4. Background Documents**

None.

### **5. Report Author and Relevant Director**

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