

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007, as amended ("the Regulations"): Screening Opinion

Proposal

Scarborough Borough council are planning to undertake urgent repair work to the harbour wall at Staithes. The work will involve the removal of loose fragments of grout and brick, re-pointing the brick work and where necessary replacing eroded stones, filling cracks with concrete and the removal of vegetation growing on the wall. The only addition to the existing harbour walls will be the placement of scour protection around at the bridge abutments. This will be made of sandstone 0.45m wide and with a total length of 25m. The works are due to start in September 2012 and are expected to last for two years.

Location

Harbour walls at Staithes from within Staithes Beck, upstream of Welsey Square east, along the harbour front to Seaton Garth.

Potential impacts

The work is likely to have an impact in terms of the introduction of foreign material to the marine environment and disturbance of the foreshore/river bed during construction works.

Consideration should be made as to how to minimise the risk of contaminates (from foreign material such concrete and debris) entering the marine environment and how to mitigate any potential adverse effects on the foreshore/river bed during the works.

Heritage

As parts of the harbour wall may be of some antiquity, we would suggest that it would be best practice to conduct a 'standing building survey' on the sections of wall to be repaired.

Any standing building survey should follow the Institute for Archaeologist's standard obtainable from http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa_standards_buildings.pdf.

Nature Conservation

Staithes to Port Mulgrave Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

North York Moors National Park

North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast

The works as assessed will not impact on the sites above and are likely to lead to an environmentally acceptable solution. It is unlikely that an appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations will be required.

Conclusion

It is the MMO's opinion that the proposed works do not fall within the specifications of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007. The works are largely

repair, maintenance and reconstruction, and as such, excluded from Annex II 10 (k) of the Marine Works (EIA) Regulations 2007.

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Date: 30/05/2012