



Department for  
Communities and  
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Chief Planning Officers in England

11 November 2013

Dear Chief Planning Officer,

**Coastal Concordat for England**

I am writing to let you know that today the Coastal Concordat for England has been launched.

The coastal concordat is an agreement between Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Department for Transport, Department for Communities and Local Government, the Marine Management Organisation, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the Local Government Association's Coastal Special Interest Group, representing authorities in estuarine and coastal areas, and National Parks England.

The coastal concordat sets out key principles for coordinating the consenting process for coastal development in England. These principles have been developed by representatives of all those organisations who are directly involved. The concordat approach offers benefits to applicants, regulators and advisors by reducing unnecessary regulatory duplication, providing better sign-posting, streamlining assessments and increasing transparency and consistency of advice. Once adopted, the concordat approach can apply to any applications for coastal development as defined in the agreement. It will not apply where coordination mechanisms are already in place e.g. for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

I would strongly encourage you to adopt the principles set out in the Coastal Concordat, working in collaboration with other relevant public bodies. A copy of the published Coastal Concordat is attached at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-coastal-concordat-for-england>.

If you have any queries, please contact Amanda Furlonger on 020 7238 6830 or by email on [MarineProgrammeSupportOffice@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:MarineProgrammeSupportOffice@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

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