Coastal management studies

This consists of three projects.

1. Links survey

Start date: 1 January 2020

Project duration: 9 months

The objectives of this project are to:

- Identify current levels of coastal management understanding and engagement across links and cliff top courses. The study aims to establish levels of awareness, understanding and engagement in terms of coastal change via engagement with relevant courses, national governing bodies, professional associations and other key stakeholders.

- Provide a clear account of overall levels of coastal change awareness, and support this with a consideration and appraisal of existing management measures. At the conclusion of the project it will be clear exactly how prepared clubs are across the UK for the challenges that lie ahead and how more proactive clubs are providing sustainable coastal management within their course management.

2. Coastal Management Innovations: enabling the golfing community to apply innovative coastal management approaches and consider ecosystem benefits in their management decisions, to secure a sustainable long-term future.

Start date: 17 November 2020

Project duration: 7 months

The objectives of this project are to:

- Provide the golfing community with access to a wider range of options, which can be more affordable, have fewer negative impacts and can even provide win-win potential.

- Deliver a practical Golf Course Coastal Solutions Catalogue, which presents innovative options and their main characteristics, such as conditions where they are applicable, pros and cons, particular ecosystem benefit considerations and ballpark costs, illustrated with case studies.

- Develop a practical Ecosystems Benefits Management Tool (EBMT), which will support the content of the catalogue and provide a robust means for course managers to establish the habitat types on their course, their nature conservation designations, ecosystem benefits and management issues, and will also provide advice on managing habitat types as a collective system.

3. Coastal Management Study: helping the golfing community play its role in coastal management to secure a sustainable long-term future.

Start date: 17 November 2020
Project duration: 7 months

The objectives of this project are to:

- Provide the golfing community with the means to play their role in coastal management. The ultimate aim is to help secure a sustainable long-term future for coastal golf courses.
- Produce a trialled template plus user guidance for a Coastal Golf Course Management Plan, structured to enable effective interaction with Shoreline Management Plans and similar broader coastal management processes.
- Provide actual introductions of golf community representatives with coastal management authorities and processes at appropriate levels, to initiate the proactive role in coastal management that that golfing community needs.

These projects will be delivered by Royal HaskoningDHV.