

RESILIENT COAST

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO ADAPTATION

Across Australia and internationally, coastal land managers are taking a strategic approach to managing the risk of coastal hazards.

Common elements of this strategic approach include:

- Developing a framework for adaptation, including identifying Council's role (Figure 1), and the range of adaptation responses and options (Figure 2)
- Assigning a strategic 'adaptation response' to different localities, to guide decision making over present day, intermediate and 2100 planning horizons
- Assessing the range of 'adaptation options' suitable in different locations to help mitigate the risk of coastal hazards
- Developing a strategic plan for coastal adaptation, with prioritised actions over a 5—10 year timeframe.



		Land or asset type		
		Council owned	Managed by other authorities	Privately owned
Council's role	Inform	✓	✓	✓
	Observe	✓	○	✗
	Plan	✓	✗	✗
	Act	✓	✗	✗

Figure 1. Council's role in coastal hazard adaptation

VISION	A RESILIENT COAST FOR DOUGLAS SHIRE		
Adaptation response	Coastal hazard adaptation		
	Monitor	Mitigate	Transition
	Monitor the risk of coastal hazards. Monitor until local trigger levels are reached to initiate mitigation.	Actively manage to mitigate the risk of coastal hazards through a range of adaptation options. Mitigate until local trigger levels are reached to initiate transition.	A strategic decision to transition to an alternative landuse in some areas. Mitigation may be part of the transition process.
	Adaptation options		

Figure 2. Resilient Coast - Adaptation response for Council owned land and assets.

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APPLYING THE FRAMEWORK

Adaptation **response** and **options** (Figure 3) are informed by:

- Consultation with land managers, local communities, and other interested stakeholders
- The values and objectives for different locations
- An understanding of the risk of coastal hazards
- A regional-scale perspective of the range of values, uses and pressures in the coastal zone
- Adaptation framework.

In areas where the adaptation response is 'mitigate' (either present day or by 2100), the full range of adaptation options will be considered). These include land use planning, upgrading / relocation infrastructure, and coastal management and engineering. All options are considered for each location, and screened for appropriateness based on consideration of coastal values, objectives, feasibility, cost, and community perspectives.

For land and assets managed by other authorities, Douglas Shire Council may, as part of everyday activities, observe a risk from coastal hazards. If the risk is high, and/or continues to increase, Council will notify the relevant authority. Council may then advocate on behalf of directly affected communities.

Adaptation response	Mitigate				
	Actively manage to mitigate the risk of coastal hazards through a range of adaptation options.				
Adaptation options	Land use planning	Disaster management	Build resiliency/ relocate infrastructure	Coastal management and engineering	Enhancing adaptive capacity
Typically a combination of options in each region					

Figure 3. Resilient Coast – Adaptation options



Further information on adaptation options is provided in the 'Coastal adaptation' factsheet, available on the website: <https://ourcoast.douglas.qld.gov.au/building-a-resilient-coast-for-the-douglas-shire>

MORE INFORMATION ON COASTAL HAZARD ADAPTATION CAN BE FOUND AT:

- ✓ Coast Adapt: <https://coastadapt.com.au/>
- ✓ QCoast2100: <http://www.qcoast2100.com.au/useful-info>

FACT SHEETS IN THIS SERIES:

- Terminology
- Coastal landscape
- Coastal hazards
- Coastal adaptation
- Adaptation framework