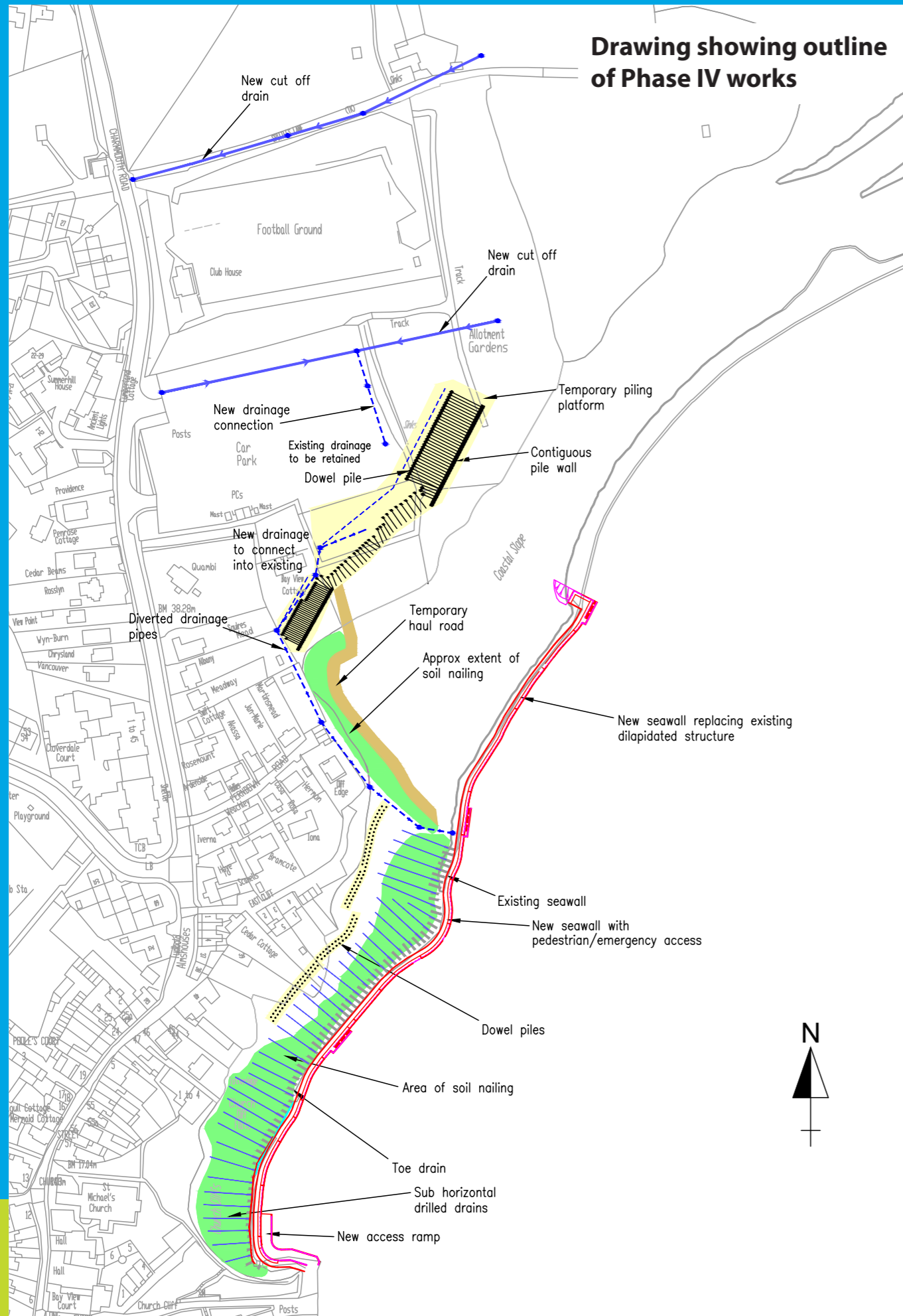


Drawing showing outline of Phase IV works



# Lyme Regis Phase IV

## Environmental Improvements



Lyme Regis sits on an actively eroding stretch of coast and faces challenges from coastal erosion and land slips.

The Phase IV scheme is a multi-million pound project to protect homes, roads and infrastructure from the effects of coastal erosion in Lyme Regis.

The works will secure around 390 metres of coastline between Church Cliff and East Cliff for the next 50 years.

Up to 480 homes will be saved from damage or loss of access.

Major utility pipes and cables that would otherwise be destroyed by ground movement will also be protected.

West Dorset District Council is leading the scheme and appointed contractor Dean and Dyball Civil Engineering to carry out the works. A site compound has been set up in Charmouth Road Car Park for the duration of the scheme.

Major construction work began in early April 2013 and will take about two years to complete.

Preliminary works has already seen ecological surveys, ground investigations and the stripping of vegetation and treatment of Japanese Knotweed.

Nick Browning, Head of Engineering Projects at West Dorset District Council, said: "It is really positive news that works to stabilise Church Cliff and East Cliff has begun.

"The Lyme Regis coastline has faced huge challenges from coastal erosion and land slips over the decades

and it is very important that this work is carried out to safeguard homes and businesses.

"The district council will be keeping residents informed of the progress of the works and will be working alongside the town council, emergency services, residents, local businesses and the contractor to minimise disruption."

Defra funding of £14.6million was secured in March 2012 when the Environment Agency approved the scheme.

West Dorset District Council has contributed £600,000 to the works and Dorset County Council up to £4.27million.

The district council's land stabilisation and coastal protection programme has offered security for the town and safeguarded against the risk of destructive landsliding.

Phase I was completed in 1995 and won Civic Trust and British Construction Industry awards. It also was a key feature of the council's beacon award for quality of the built environment.

The district council carried out emergency works to address some urgent instability issues in certain areas of the town in 2003/04.

Phase II began in spring 2005 and was completed in 2007 to protect the area from Cobb Gate to the harbour from landslides and coastal erosion.

An exhibition centre, showcasing the plans for Phase IV in more detail, can be viewed at the Marine Parade shelters in Lyme Regis.



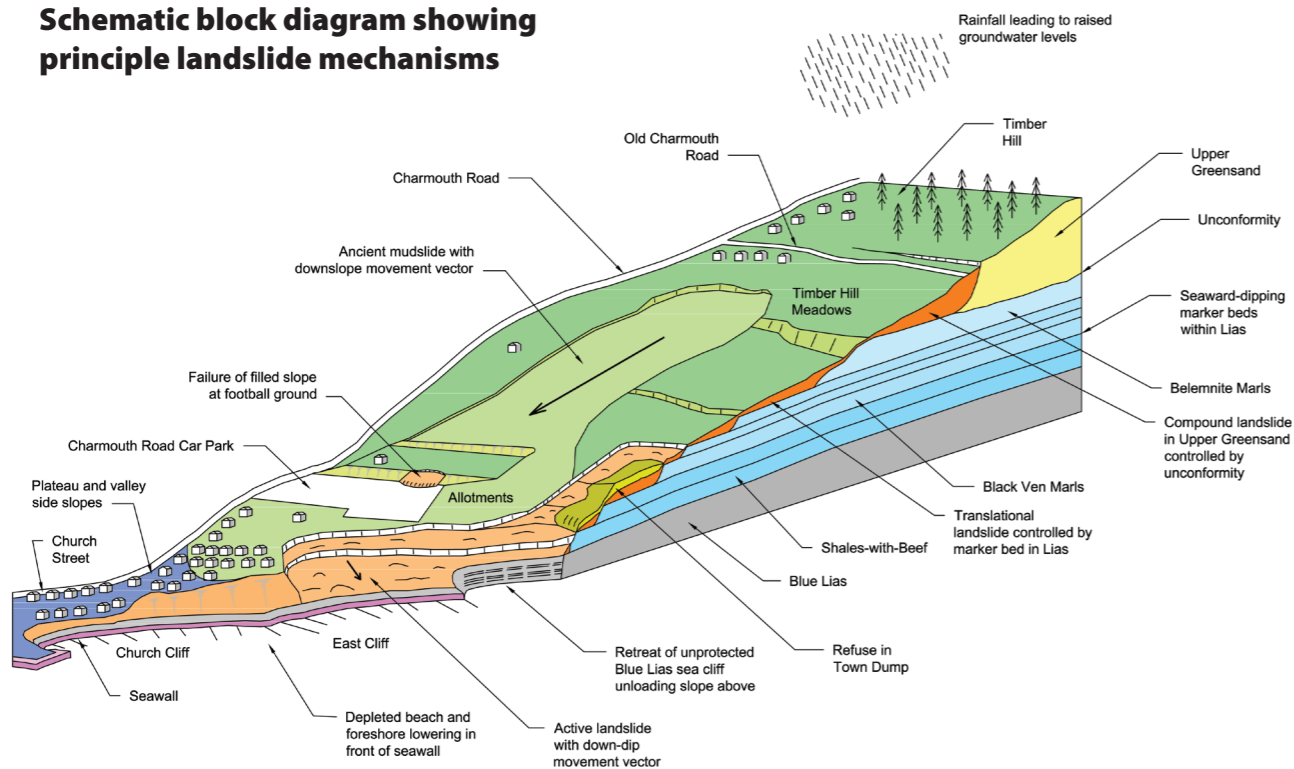


## World Heritage Site

Much of the Phase IV work is within the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site as well as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation. The scheme has been designed to keep environmental impacts to a minimum. Invasive plant species growing at present on the coastal slopes will be removed and natural vegetation and habitat restored.

## Why a scheme is needed

### Schematic block diagram showing principle landslide mechanisms



This diagram shows the forces at work on the eastern side of the town.

Over the past 10 years there has been high rainfall and parts of the landslide systems to the east of the town have advanced rapidly.

Studies show that if nothing is done the seawall will fail and over the next 50 years, housing, Charmouth Road Car Park, the football ground, sections of Charmouth Road and important underground pipes and cables will be lost.

## Phase IV works

Phase IV is the last major part of the coast protection and coastal slope stabilisation work under Lyme Regis Environmental Improvements Scheme, which was devised in the early 1990s by West Dorset District Council working in cooperation with the town council and local groups.

The overall scheme provides long-term coast protection through a major programme of engineering works. Earlier phases, funded mainly by Defra, saw the construction of sea walls and promenades. Beaches were also replenished and slope stabilisation works carried out. Sewage treatment was provided in partnership with South West Water. Cobb Road was stabilised and improved by working with Dorset County Council.

## The proposed Phase IV works

The full scheme for the east of the town will cost approximately £19million. The proposed works affect three main areas:

- The foreshore - immediately in front of the existing sea wall
- Lower coastal slopes immediately east of housing on East Cliff and Ferndown Road
- Middle slopes including Charmouth Road car park, the football club and allotments

The proposals strike a balance between environmental and ecological effects, achieving the engineering objectives and funding.

This newsletter has been produced by West Dorset District Council as part of its commitment to keeping residents informed about work in Lyme Regis.

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