

# Our Coast. Our Future.



## Factsheet | 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, 2060 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
<b>Council's role</b>	Inform	✓	✓	✓
	Observe	✓	✗	✗
	Plan	✓	✗	✗
	Act	✓	✗	✗

Figure 1. Council's role in coastal hazard adaptation

Adaptation response	Coastal hazard adaptation			
	Avoid	Monitor	Mitigate	Transition
	Avoid placing new development of assets in coastal hazard areas.	Monitor the risk of coastal hazards. Monitor until local trigger levels are reached to initiate mitigation.	Actively 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 land use in some areas. Mitigation may be part of the transition process.
<b>Adaptation options</b>		Monitoring and initiatives to enhance adaptive capacity	Full range of adaptation options	

Figure 2. Our Coast Our Future - Adaptation response

## 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 / relocating 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, Gladstone Regional 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

Adaption Response	Mitigate			
	Actively mitigate the risk of coastal hazards through a range of adaptation options.			
Adaptation options	Initiatives to enhance adaptive response	Planning updates	Modifying infrastructure	Coastal management and engineering
Typically a combination of options in each region				

**Figure 3. Adaptation options**

Further information on adaptation options is provided in the ‘Coastal Hazard Adaptation’ factsheet, available on the website: <https://conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/our-coast-our-future>

More information on coastal hazard adaptation can be found at:

- Coast Adapt: <https://coastadapt.com.au/>
- QCoast2100: <https://www.qcoast2100.com.au/tools/useful-information>

Fact sheets in this series:

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

