***Championing Coastal Coordination***

**Call for Expressions of Interest**

**Introduction**

*The Championing Coastal Coordination (3Cs) initiative is a programme of work that is being led by the* Environment Agency with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), The Crown Estate (TCE) and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs). It is a collaboration seeking to enhance and progress coordination for coastal sustainability and resilience in England. This is in recognition of the major challenges that we face in our coastal and estuarine environments.

Coastal communities are on the frontline of climate change, facing increased risks from the impact of coastal change through storms and sea-level rise, with serious challenges of future land and sea management priorities. Coastal zones often attract intensive investment in development to deliver economic growth, such as housing, ports, recreational and transport infrastructure. Economic competition for space between diverse and legitimate interests places multiple stressors on coastal and estuarine environments and can result in coastal squeeze and habitat loss. If these pressures are not well balanced, public access and enjoyment can be compromised, and ecosystem health can deteriorate.

England’s estuaries and coasts are home to a diverse range of natural capital ‘assets’ that provide ecosystem services vital to the economy and societal wellbeing. Restored, recovered and resilient coastal habitats provide functioning, nature-based solutions for mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change as well as a wide range of other ecosystem service benefits such as carbon sequestration, flood mitigation and biodiversity improvement.

Championing Coastal Coordination has aimed to tackle these challenges and the complexity of Governance by empowering local partnerships to improve:

* Environmental Protection: Coastal ecosystems are fragile and unique. Coordinated management protects biodiversity, maintains water quality, and preserves natural habitats.
* Sustainable Development: By aligning economic, environmental, and social goals, coordination promotes sustainable growth that does not compromise the health of the coast.
* Climate Resilience: Coastal regions are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts like sea-level rise, storm surges, and erosion. Coordinated planning and infrastructure investments enhance resilience.
* Community Well-being: Healthy coasts support thriving local communities through recreation, tourism, and livelihoods. Coordinated management ensures these benefits are equitably distributed.

Overall, championing coastal coordination is crucial for the long-term sustainability and well-being of coastal communities and ecosystems.

The 3Cs initiative ran a successful pilot in 2021/2022 and secured funding for an additional 3-year period from 2023-2025. For the financial year 2025/2026 we have been allocated a smaller budget, and we will use this allocation to consolidate the work to date. We hope to continue the programme from 2026 onwards, pending the outcome of the 2025 Government Spending Review

Funding allocations

With a smaller budget and a reduced timescale this year we will be running a much-reduced EOI process, and we will be focusing on one theme only. This will help us consolidate the work the 3C’s programme has achieved to date and set the foundations for the new spending review.

A competitive process will award funding to successful proposals to test a National Framework Development and Consolidation of 3C’s learning to date.

Project proposals will need to show how they contribute to collaborative advantage by working across public, private, and civil society sectors. Proposals will need to include involvement of local environmental Non-Governmental Organisations (eNGO’s), local planning authorities and coastal groups to co-develop their ideas and to improve strategic alignment of local planning and delivery.

**Overarching Requirements**

The overarching requirements for the 2025/2026 financial year are:

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| **National Framework Development and Consolidation of 3C’s learning to date**.  |

* Demonstrate how the project builds on work that has been undertaken in the 3C’s programme since its inception
* Demonstrate how the project will draw in learning from wider programmes such as Restoring Meadows, Marsh and Reef (ReMeMaRe) and the Natural Capital Ecosystem Assessment Programme (NCEAP).
* Demonstrate how the project will support local initiatives and projects to continue the development of good practice to inform framework development
* Use the project to develop local knowledge, training and the wider social capital.

Timeline milestones

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone Description** | **Estimated Start date** | **Estimated End date** |
| Launch call for proposals | 25th July 2025 | 25th August 2025 |
| Confirm successful proposals |  |  |
| First draft activity reports |  |  |

**Funding eligibility**

The Environment Agency is given powers under section 78 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 using monies from the Water Environment Improvement

Fund (WEIF)

The eligibility for this grant funding, the applicant is:

* Any organisation is eligible to apply for this grant as long as they fit within types of projects eligible for Championing Coastal Coordination.

Please complete the information requirements in Annex 1 and Annex 2

Please contact 3cs@environment-agency.gov.uk for further details

**Annex 1**

**Championing Coastal Coordination: Expression of interest form**

**Applicant summary**

**Project title**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Title  |  |

**Contact information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lead Organisation |  |

**Project owner**

Contact details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Name |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Mobile |  |
| Email  |  |

**Project Overview**

An overview of the project that contains an outline of the proposed works, partners, and outcomes.

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**Project location or locations**

Details and a description of the full extent of the project area. If you would like to include a map of the project area, please submit as part of this form.

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| --- | --- |
| Project location(s) |  |

**Project partners**

Project partners will need to representatives from public, private and civil society sector such as the [Coastal Group Network](https://tep-thames.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2604db06dc714acfae394253d0ee30f3), Coast Protection Authorities (CPAs) and/or a Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs).

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| List Project partners |  |

Project justification

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**Application detail**

Assessment of issues

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Project description and mix of activities.

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Project potential - Set out the outcomes of your project.

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Innovation and learning

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Readiness of project partnership

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Readiness of project business case

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Capacity for delivery

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Monitoring, evaluation and dissemination

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Cost estimate - Complete the high-level cost estimate table below.

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| **Costs** | **Total** |
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**Annex 2 Data protection**

The Environment Agency will be the data controller for this service. A data controller determines how and why personal data (personal information) is processed. The [Environment Agency personal information charter](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/personal-information-charter) explains how your personal information will be dealt with. Go to GOV.UK and search ‘Environment Agency personal information charter.’

The personal data collected will include:

• Full name

• Organisation

• Work email address

• Work phone number

We are allowed to process your personal data because it is needed to be able to manage this programme. By completing this Expression of Interest form and the signed and dated declaration below, you consent to us the Environment Agency doing so. The Environment Agency will keep your details until the project is closed or until you withdraw your consent.

Declaration

I provide my consent for my data to be held and processed by the Environment Agency for the purposes of the Championing Coastal Coordination project only.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature |  |

PLEASE PRINT NAME:

PLEASE PRINT JOB TITLE:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date |  |