

Thanet District Council



Beach management

Members' Briefing - 12 July 2022

Background

- Beach management plan launched June 2020 - continued in 2021
- To help the public enjoy the area safely after covid restrictions lifted
- In response to large volumes of visitors to our beaches and coastline
- Activity funded through COMF

It involved

- Additional cleansing resources
- More bins
- Reopening of all coastal toilets
- Enforcement activity
- Return of RNLI provision
- Security in some locations
- Signage across the district

Current status

- Still seeing large numbers using our beaches and open spaces
- Visitors are important part of the local economy
- Majority of people behave responsibly but volume impacts on resources
- Refreshed Beach Management Plan in place
- Funded through existing resources - no external contributions this year
- Joint service approach - recruiting key roles imminently

Beach Management Activity

- Start of season meeting with RNLI, Your Leisure & Technical Services (caretaking Foreshore services) to introduce the bay inspectors and the new Foreshores and Maintenance post at Your Leisure
- Beach Concessions are in touch with the service daily with good connections established
- Good daily communication with Your Leisure and RNLI throughout the season, assisting with communication with beach concessions
- Well managed beach hut placement with far fewer issues than previous seasons

Beach Cleansing

- Promenade bins - emptied twice a day
- Promenade and Walkways - litter picked daily by a mobile squad
- Recycle bins (including additional 12 x 360L bins) - emptied daily
- Beach Rake - Margate Main Sands and Viking Bay daily - other bays on an adhoc basis
- Static litter pickers - Margate Main Sands x2, Viking Bay x2, Joss Bay, Botany Bay and Ramsgate Main Sands
- Working time - 6am till 6pm extended till 8pm (focusing on Promenade bins for Margate Main Sands and Viking Bay between 6pm to 8pm) if deemed necessary

Toilet Cleansing

- Open from 8am and last toilet closed at 8pm dependant on location
- Static toilet cleaners - Viking Bay and Margate Main Sands (to start asap)
- Mobile toilet cleaners - each toilet visited 3 times a day
- Toilet Staff Security - Friday to Sunday until start of summer holidays then increased to daily 1pm till 8pm
- Toilet inspections - visited by a supervisor frequently, all maintenance sent to MEARS
- Outstanding maintenance - MEARS instructed to carry out repairs to bring all toilets to a useable state by start of summer holidays
- Portaloos - Margate Clock Tower and Botany Bay

Seaweed Clearance

- Seaweed testing & analysis complete
- Soil testing and analysis complete
- EA deployment licence in place
- Technically competent manager outsourced
- Seaweed removal, haulage and stockpiling arranged
- Seaweed removal and deployment to farms is arranged and planned to start on 18th July
- Budget has been allowed for 12 days of seaweed removal and up to 700t of seaweed transported and stockpiled

Beach Safety

- Coastal signage review completed - to ensure this is effective
- New coastal safety signage being rolled out across Thanet this week
- Replacement “Welcome”, “Bay Information” and “Environmental” signage in final design phase - rolled out towards the end of the season
- International Blue Flags have been awarded for Minnis Bay; West Bay; St. Mildred’s Bay; Margate Main Sands; Botany Bay; Joss Bay; and Stone Bay
- Seaside Awards for Westbrook Bay, Viking Bay and Ramsgate Main Sands;.
- Weekly Kent Coastal Partnership Meeting with the Coastguard, RNLI and Kent Police to discuss safety issues and share good practice
- New algae cleaning contract in place, hot jet washing 38 coastal assets including tidal pools and the Margate steps every 4-8 weeks.

Beach Safety

- Dog Warden shifts 7am to 3pm daily with a focus on seafront areas
- Partnership visits to licenced premises around underage sales
- Passive drug dog deployed to train stations and within night time economy
- Regular intelligence sharing meetings with key agencies
- Police deployed to beaches and promenades over weekends at peak times throughout the summer
- Civil Enforcement focus on hotspot areas



Communications

- Regular communications promoting:
 - Respect, Protect, Enjoy - encouraging responsible beach behaviour and promotion of the PSPO
 - More to Explore campaign, encouraging people to see what else Thanet's towns have to offer beyond the beach
 - City to Sea's Refill app, where residents can find places to refill their drinking water
 - The Beach Check UK app, where residents and visitors can view real-time updates on how busy local beaches are
 - RNLI Beach Tannoy project promoting anti-littering messages



Thanet District Council

Published by Orlo · 9 July at 11:14 · 🌐

🌊 We're blessed with our beautiful coastline. A sunny day will mean our sandy beaches are likely to be extremely popular. Get off the beaten track and discover some of Thanet's hidden gems to avoid the crowds, take a look at <https://orlo.uk/exqrn> for inspiration.

🌳 There are many beaches, bays and open green spaces to enjoy - take a look at the many places you could visit.

☀️ The forecast for the weekend and next week is going to be hot. If you're planning to visit the [#Thanet](#) coast, please remember to plan ahead.



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Social Media Matters with Emma Dublin and 78 others

34 comments 16 shares





Thanet District Council

Published by Orlo · 5 June · 🌐



👁️ Have you seen our More to Explore campaign?

🔍 This year, we're encouraging visitors and residents alike to look beyond our beautiful beaches, get off the beaten track and discover some of the many hidden gems that the Isle of Thanet has to offer! From stunning architecture, to flourishing independent shops and a variety of fantastic places to eat and drink.

📍 So why not start exploring? Your new favourite place could be just around the corner...

🔗 Learn more about the More to Explore campaign at <https://orlo.uk/Yyzqx>

#MoreToExplore #WelcomeBack



See Insights and Ads

Boost post

👍❤️😂 40

35 comments 6 shares



REDUCE, REUSE, REFILL, REPEAT

DOWNLOAD THE REFILL APP

Join the #RefillRevolution



Thanet District Council

Published by Orlo · 9 July at 14:07 ·  · 

🌊 With **City to Sea's Refill app**, you can find cafes, restaurants and other Thanet businesses where you can refill your water bottle, for free!

🍵 You can also find places offering discounts on tea/coffee if you bring your own cup, places where you can get your food to-go in your own lunchbox, and even places to shop plastic-free.

👉 Head over to <https://orlo.uk/j70Ef> to join the #RefillRevolution.

#ReduceReuseRefillRepeat #LoveWhereYouLive #ClimateActionThanet

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Behaviour Change Projects - Education 2022

- School engagement, beach litter focused workshops and delivery of AQA awards
- ThinkForward Ambassadors Project (Hartsdown School Pupils) - protecting Margate beach
- Supporting Margate Arts School Degree Programme - focused on Margate Beach
- Beach Tannoy/Communications team/RNLI Anti-littering message project
- Cigarette Ballot Bins, Litter bag stations and Dog bag stations funded & installed district wide and at each main beach
- Do not feed the seagull signs at beach hotspot areas
- Sustainable partnership group gained funding for recycled litter picking equipment for our community groups district wide (17 groups)
- Refill project partnered with Surfers Against Sewage and City to Sea
- Partnership litter picks with Police, RUCU and TDC
- Stagecoach/TDC Anti-litter poster competition launched
- Awareness days - partnering with community groups