

# Dorset Coast Assessments: Understanding the forces of change

Part-funded by the Dorset Coast Forum and C-SCOPE (Combining Sea and Coastal Planning in Europe), the project's aim was to provide a robust and comprehensive baseline description of coastal and marine areas in order to achieve a seamless and integrated approach to the proactive and coordinated management of Dorset's coastline.

Our ground-breaking assessment, understood to be the first of its type, describes the character of the Dorset seascape, the forces of change that are acting upon it, and the mechanisms necessary to plan for positive change in the future. Management actions and target strategies set out in the assessment will shape policy and planning decisions and contribute to Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and World Heritage Site management plans.

The approach developed acted as a pilot study to develop 'An Approach to Seascape Character Assessment', authored by LDA Design and published by Natural England in 2012.

The Dorset Coast Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment was commended by the Landscape Institute in its annual awards.



**Client**  
Dorset Coast Forum (C-Scope Project)

**Location**  
The Dorset Coast and Marine Environment

**Partners**  
Royal Haskoning

**Services**  
Environmental Planning

**Budget**  
£50,000

**Area**  
6217 km<sup>2</sup>

**Schedule**  
Ongoing

<sup>1</sup> West Bay Cliffs and Chesil Beach

<sup>2</sup> Durdle Door

<sup>3</sup> Golden Cap