

# In what ways can coastal areas be a valuable economic and environmental resource?

Coastal areas can provide valuable economic and environmental opportunities, resulting in increasing numbers of people wanting to live near the coastal. This trend has become more dynamic in recent years because of the increase in global trade, the development of the tourist industry and the increasing individual demand for coastal lifestyles.

# A multi-use coastal area – the Solent

# Environmental

- Dibden Bay: area of mudflats and grasslands which attract thousands of wild birds, recognised by RSPB, SSSIs. Wanted to build container port but rejected after public enquiry.
- Keyhaven Nature Reserve: >2000 acres of salt marsh and mud flats, area supports nationally and internationally important migratory birds.

# Social

- Calshot Activities Centre: one of the largest outdoor activity centres in Britain (range of water-based activities e.g. windsurfing, canoeing, power-boating).
- Thorness Bay Holiday Village: holiday park overlooking the sea with a range of land and water-based facilities for family holidays.
- The City of Southampton: resident population of over 250,000 (largest city in south England)
- Cruise terminal: Southampton is the UK's busiest cruise port handling >200 cruise ships per year and 700,000 passengers.
- The River Hamble: several large marinas and a number of boatyards which are used by local and international yachtspeople, both for recreational and competitive sailing. Increasingly used for recreational motor boat owners.
- Cowes: Isle of Wight's main port and passenger ferry terminal, large natural harbour used by recreational yachtspeople, fishing boats and powerboat owners, hosts the famous 'Cowes Week'

# Economic

- Container Facility: part of the deepwater port and covers >200 acres, frontage of >1350m, next to rail freight terminal (25% container traffic).
- Exxon Mobil oil refinery: largest refinery in the UK, covering an area >3000 acres with a terminal frontage of 1500m. Refinery handles >2000 ship movements per year. Takes oil from all over the world and turns it into fuels and petrochemicals. Supplies approx. 15% of all petroleum products in the UK. Total workforce >3000.
- Fawley chemical manufacturing plant: produces > million tonnes of chemical products per year. Main products are chemicals used in paints, adhesives and rubber for vehicle tyres. Approx. 80% chemicals produced are exported by ship via deepwater terminal.
- Fawley power station: one of the largest oil-fired power stations in the UK
- Calshot activities centre
- Thorness Bay holiday village
- City of Southampton
- Roll on/roll off facility: approx. 750,000 vehicles per year are delivered from Asia, N America and Africa. Vehicle storage and distribution compound which holds 6000 cars.
- Bulk terminal: 28,000 grain facility and a flour mill operated by RankHovis. Fertiliser importing/processing plant. Glass reprocessing facility handles recycled glass brought in by coastal vessels.
- Cruise terminal
- Cowes

# Case Studies

- **Norfolk** – coastal management, reasons behind coastal protection, coast as a resource
- **Dorset** – variable rates of coastal erosion, coastal features
- **Holderness** – reasons behind coastal protection, coastal management
- **Southampton** – coast as a resource
- **Florida** – balancing socio-economic and environmental needs with management
- **St Lucia** – balancing socio-economic and environmental needs with management
- **Dubai** – balancing socio-economic and environmental needs with management