

AGENDA ITEM 15a

Biographies of Witnesses

Meyrick Gough – Water Planning and Strategy Manager, Southern Water

Meyrick Gough has worked in the water industry for 18 years in a range of roles. He joined Southern Water in 1992 as a hydrologist and water quality modeller. From there he moved into the water resource planning area and helped to prepare some of the technical information for the water resource plans in 1994 & 1999. He then moved into operations and was the water supply manager for the Company's supply areas in Hampshire and West Sussex serving 1.1 million customers. He now works in the Corporate Strategy Planning team as the Water Planning and Strategy Manager, where he has overseen the development of the Company's 25 year Water Resources Plan, which was published on the 1st October 2009."

Martin Eade – coast protection engineer, Brighton & Hove City Council

I am a civil engineer, I joined the Borough Engineer's department of Brighton Borough Council in 1982 and was appointed coast protection engineer in 1998.

The role of the coast protection engineer is to maintain the City's coast defences and seek funding from central government to replace and upgrade them when they reach the end of their maintainable life. Day to day maintenance is funded from the general fund revenue budget, major capital replacement schemes are funded by grant in aid from central government.

Since 1998 I have been involved in the following major projects and activities –

1. two cliff stabilization schemes
2. established a cliff monitoring project with the University of Brighton
3. reconstruction of 2kms of seawall and Undercliff Walk
4. two strategic coast defence studies
5. represented Brighton & Hove during the preparation of the Selsey Bill to Beachy Head shoreline management plan
6. carried out inspections of the coast defences and supervised repairs

Behind the realisation of many of these schemes lies a long approval and grant application process with Defra and the Environment Agency. In the case of the second of the cliff stabilization schemes we went through a public inquiry with Natural England before the planning application could be approved.