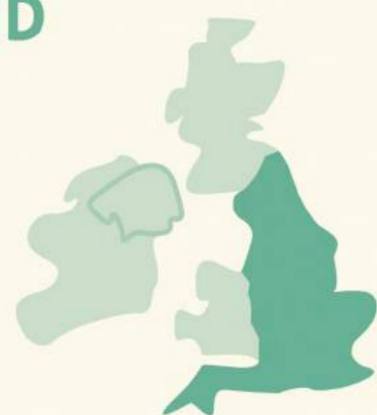


# SCOPAC HISTORIC LANDFILLS PROJECT

## BACKGROUND



Around **1200** historic landfills in England are at risk of coastal flooding and erosion



When most sites were filled there weren't strict regulations in place

Their contents are largely unknown

Many landfills were put on saltmarshes and are now close to environmentally designated areas

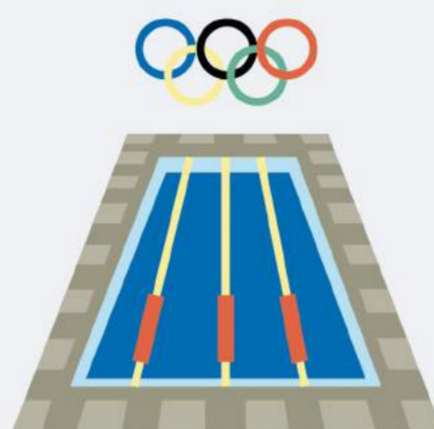


This waste could be hazardous to people and wildlife

## SCOPAC AREA



There are **144** areas of coastal landfill in the SCOPAC region, covering 22km<sup>2</sup>



If each landfill is **2m** deep, that's **17,000** Olympic swimming pools of waste

## HIGHER PRIORITY SCOPAC SITES

Half of this landfill could be exposed or flooded over the next century



Around **10** are visibly releasing waste already

If not dealt with this will continue to pollute the ocean and beaches...

Sea level rise will increase flooding + erosion



adding to the existing plastic pollution

Dangerous chemicals could spread from coastal flood events

## THERE ARE NO CLEAR SOLUTIONS

UNCLEAR LIABILITY

LOCAL GOV

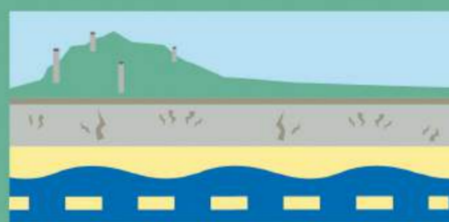
LAND OWNERS

It's unclear who, in practice, is legally responsible for pollution caused by historic coastal landfills



Government policy currently focuses funding towards protecting homes

### Current coastal policy



### HOLD THE LINE

For **75%** of landfills

But there is no funding mechanism to protect them

For higher priority SCOPAC sites this could cost...

**£150** million  
Defending sites



**£400** million  
Treating waste

**£1** billion  
To move landfills inland

Current rules mean this would count as a "new" landfill and be taxed at over **£100** per m<sup>3</sup>



Once we have a better understanding of the hazard and sufficient funding we can use an appropriate combination of options

## NEXT STEPS (depending on available funding)



Better Investigation and monitoring

Review of funding rules for coastal protection



National strategy to identify all landfill locations and hazards

Develop sustainable coastal protection and/or waste management options



Programme of works based on priority, to reduce negative impacts from landfills