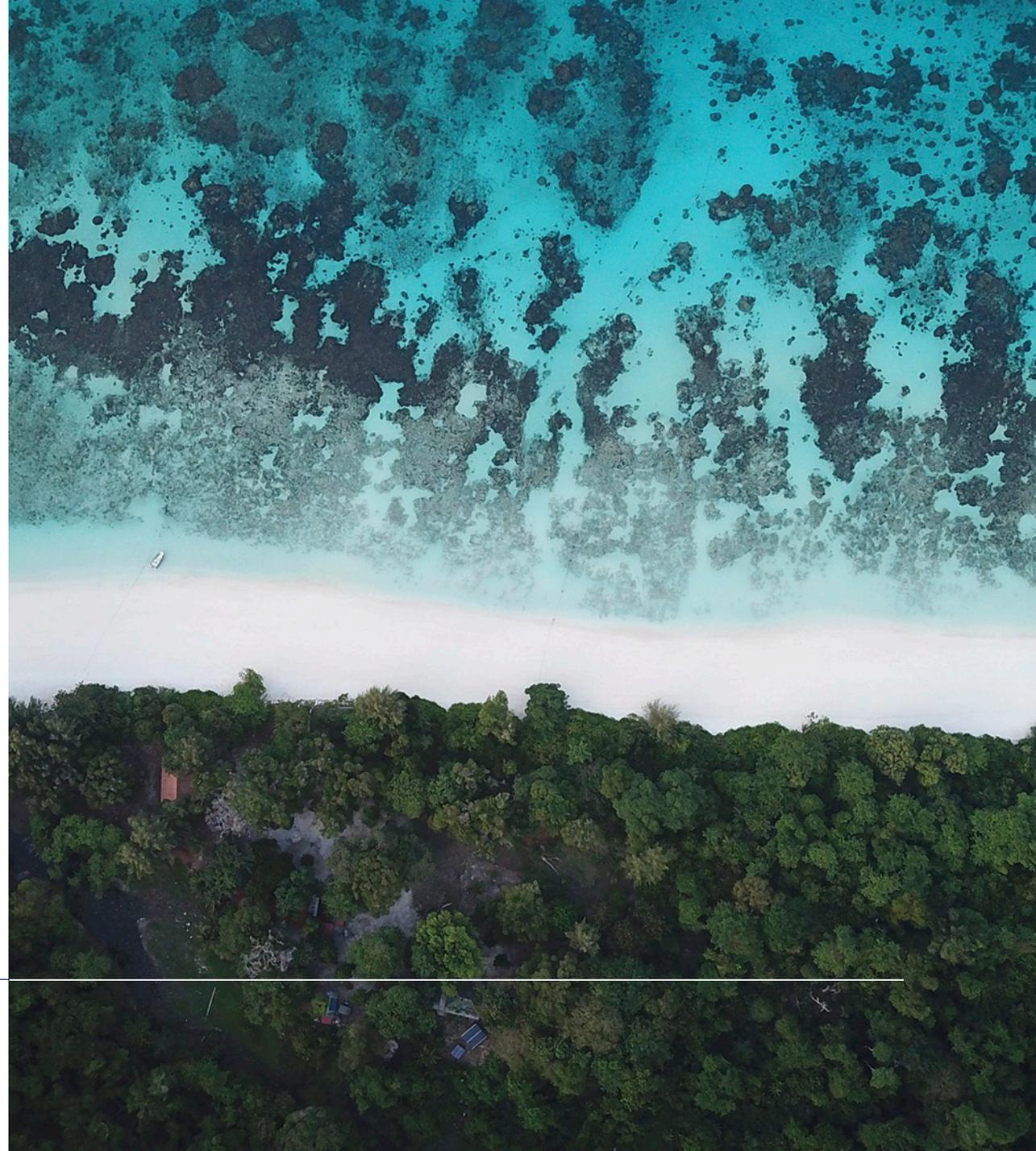


Coastal adaptation - the role of economics, communication and stakeholder engagement

Webinar

31 March 2021

A I T H E R



Introductions



Martijn Gough
Associate Director

Aither



Sarah Leck
Senior Consultant

Aither



Grant Hinner
Program Coordinator
Climate Change Adaptation

Noosa Shire Council



A I T H E R

Make better decisions



Economics



Policy



Strategy



Performance



Water Policy & Management



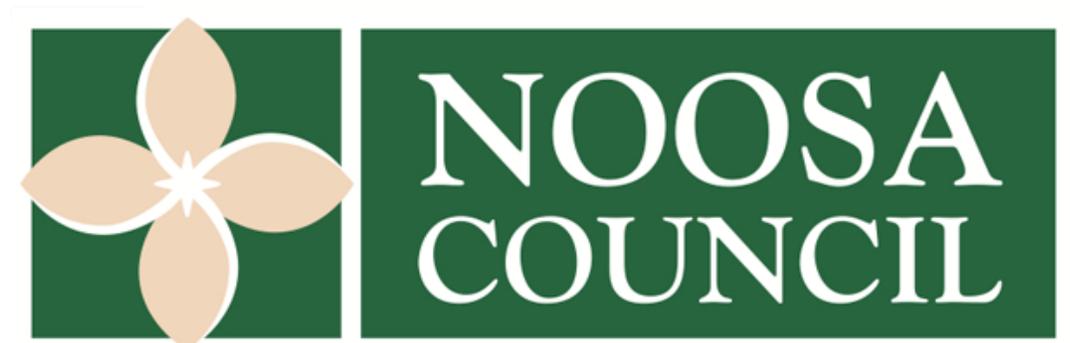
Water Utilities & Infrastructure



Water Markets



Resilience & Adaptation





Agenda

1. Introductions
2. The value of robust economics and communication
3. Insights from coastal adaptation projects
4. Engaging with stakeholders
5. Q&A



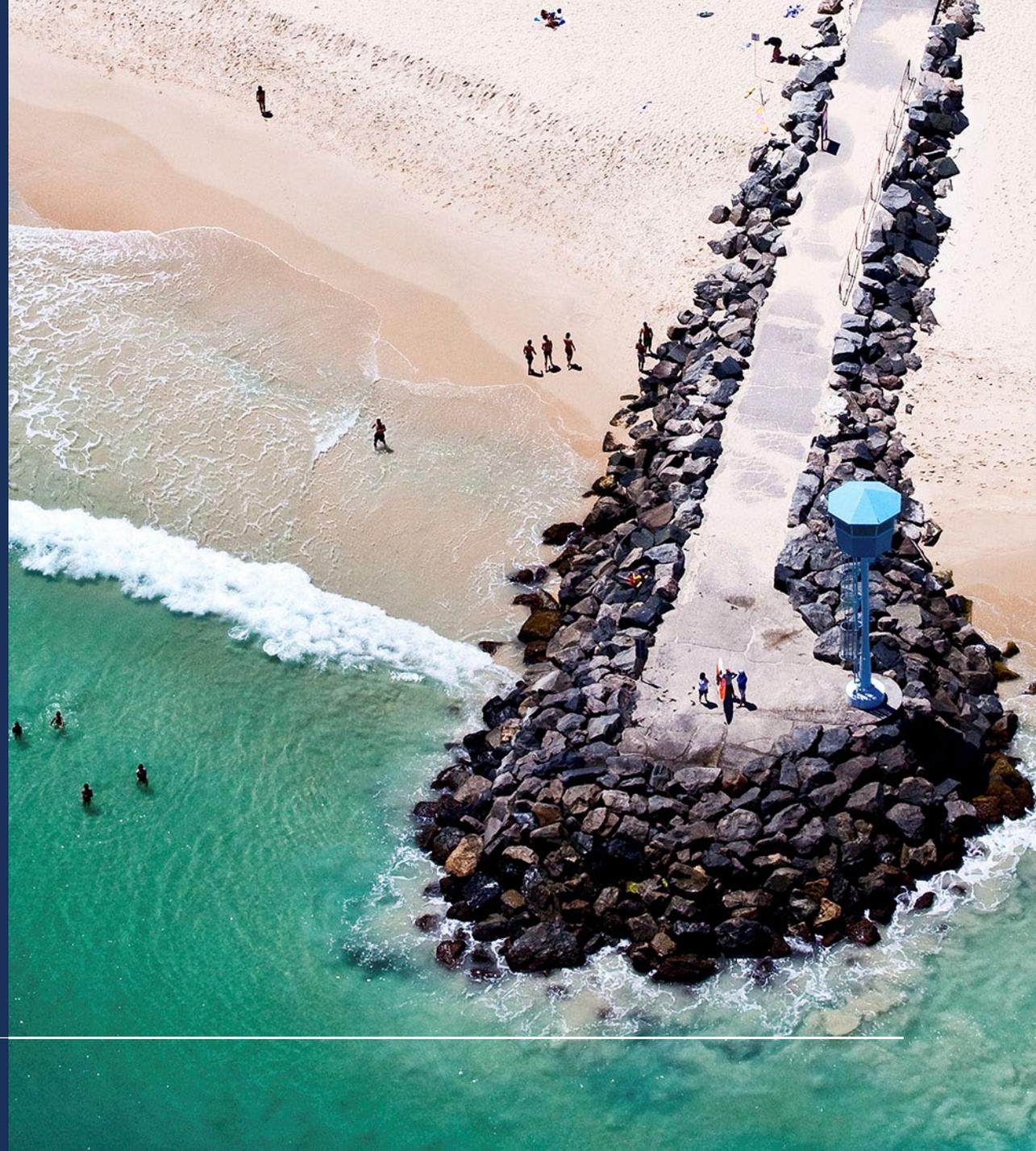
Poll

A I T H E R



The value of robust economics and communication

Martijn Gough



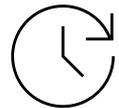


The coastal adaptation challenge

Making better decisions



Climate change is affecting coasts now and in the future



Decision made today have significant future implications



Decision can be challenging and often involve trade-offs



The value of robust economic analysis

How economics supports coastal adaptation decision-making



Clearly identify and communicate all the costs and benefits



Cost-benefit analysis quantifies costs and benefits and allows comparison with a common metric



Makes beneficiaries and trade-offs transparent



Can support specific investment decision-making as well as strategic planning



Can clearly identify uncertainties and limitations of analysis



Challenges of incorporating economics in decision-making

Complexity, confidence and trust



Only one input into decision-making



Can be complex:

detailed or complex data

valuation of 'intangible' social and environmental benefits and costs

Often requires assumptions



Not yet embedded in coastal management



Principles for building trust in economic analysis

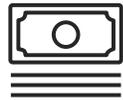
Embedding communication and engagement as a component of analysis



Clarity and agreement on the purpose of the assessment



Clearly outline all the benefits



Identify and include all the costs of action and inaction



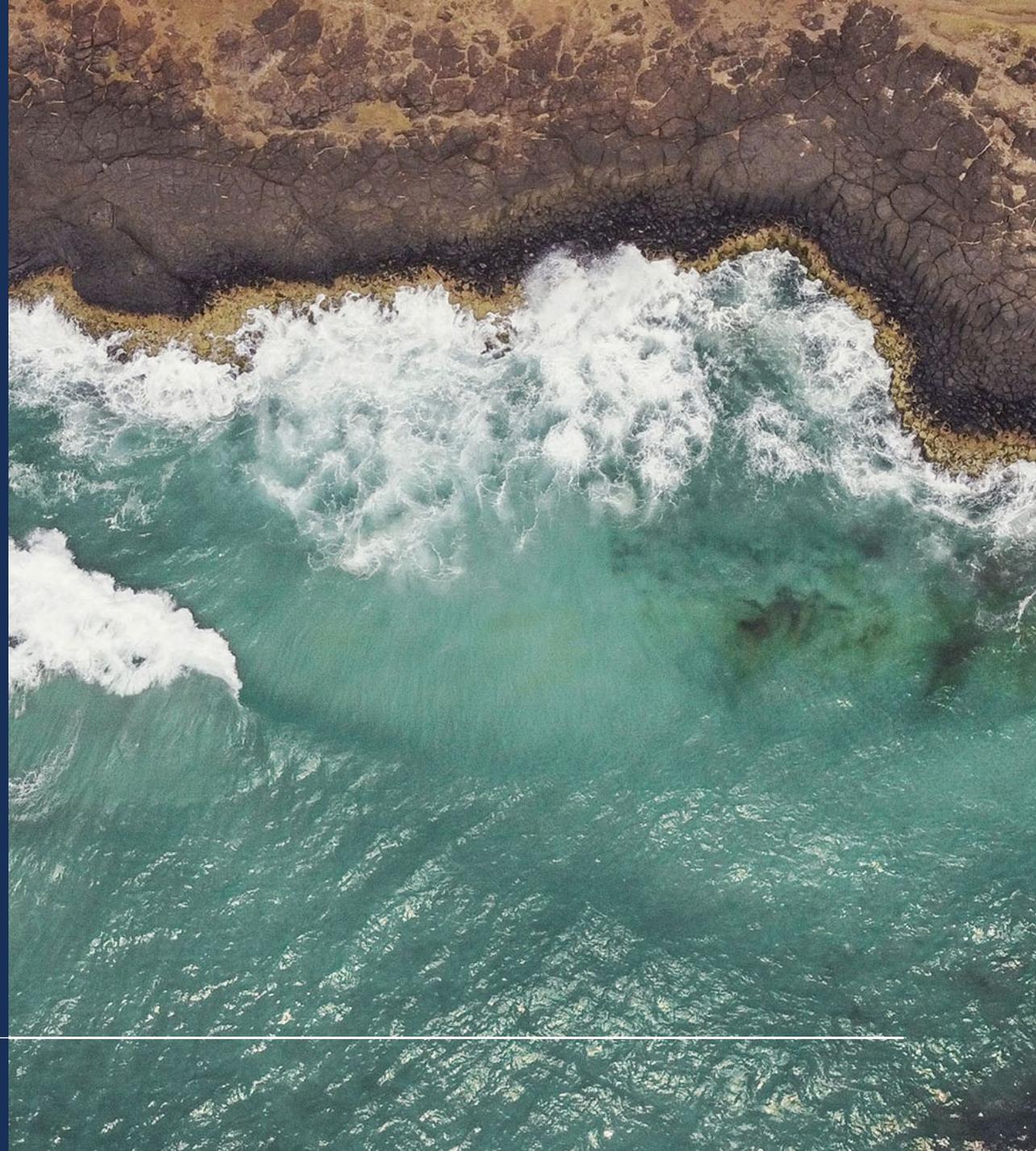
Transparently outline all assumptions



Acknowledge risk, uncertainty, and limitations

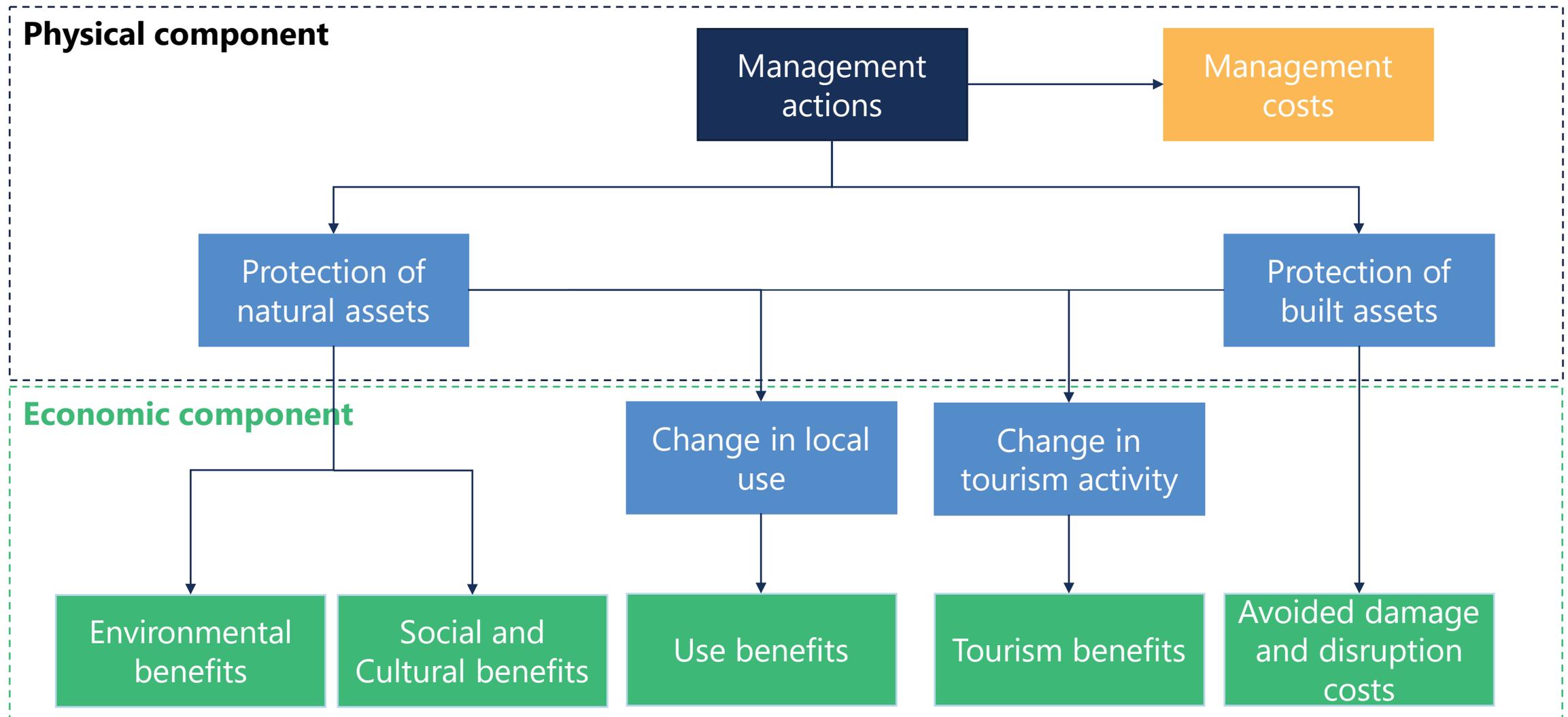
Insights from coastal adaptation

Sarah Leck



Coastal adaptation can deliver a range of benefits

These can be economic, social and environmental benefits





Different actions lead to different costs, benefits and trade-offs

Most adaptation options face trade-offs, risks and uncertainties



Common data and information limitations

Making good decisions requires good data



Sand supply
availability
and cost



Tourist
visitation



Local beach or
parkland use
and value

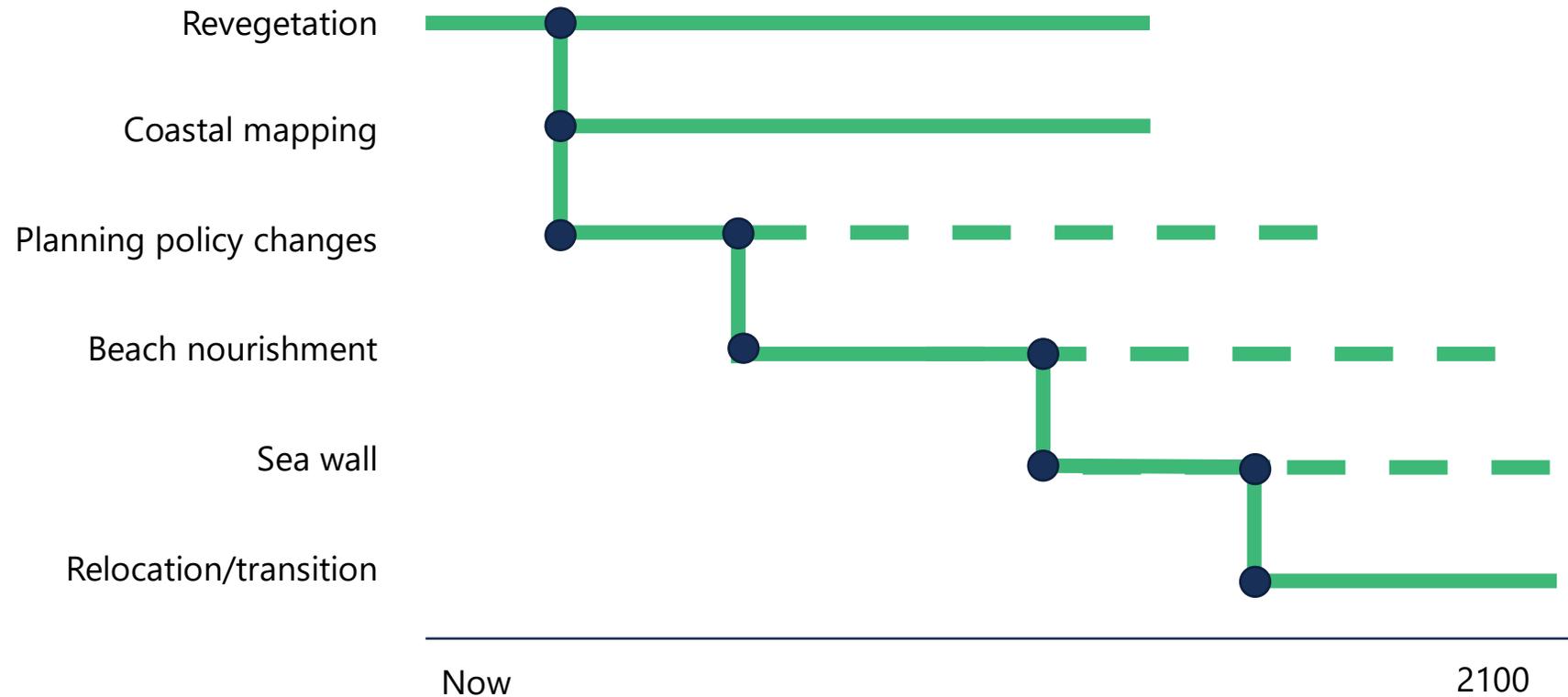


Property
information



Adaptive management pathways help manage trade-offs

They require more detailed analysis and much greater information



Engaging with the community

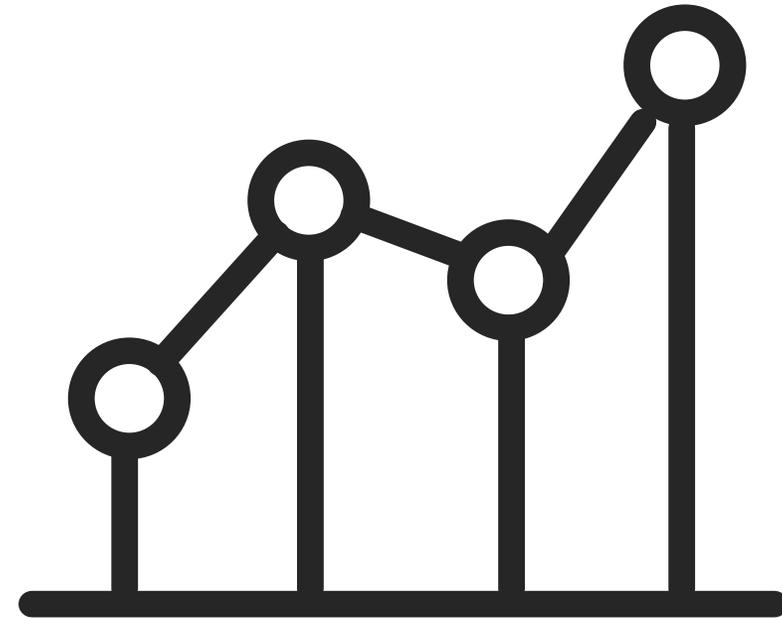
Grant Hinner



A I T H E R

Council's adaptation journey so far

- Decision to pursue QCoast2100 funding in 2016, commenced 2017
- Climate Change Response Policy 2017
- Queensland Climate Resilient Councils initiative, including governance assessment (2017 – present)
 - *Climate Risk Management & Resilience Advisory Group*
- Declaring a Climate Emergency (2019)
- Coastal Hazards Adaptation Plan
 - *\$500,000*
 - *Four years and still going*
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan turned Climate Change Response Plan
- Engagement: inwards, sideways, outwards, and upwards.



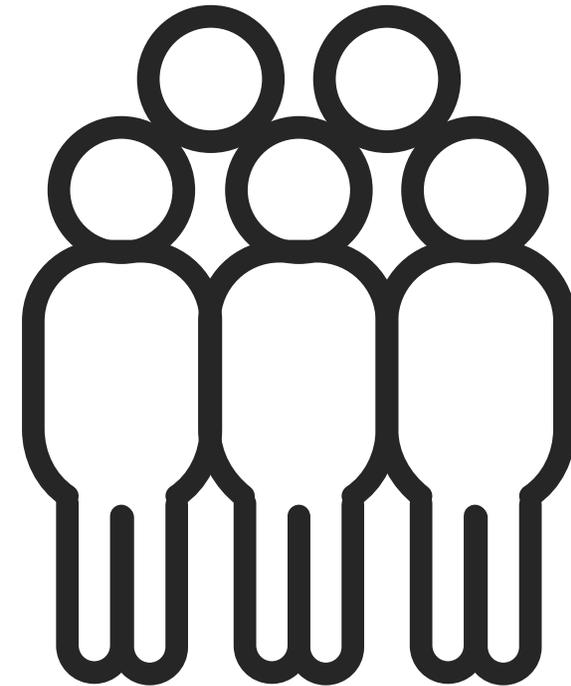
Engaging within Council

- Councillors
 - 2017-2020; good
 - 2020 – present; variable
- Executive Team (CEO and Dept. Directors); good
- Audit & Risk Committee and the corporate risk register
- Branch managers; variable
- Staff; good
- Updates to some policies, strategies and management plans already made



Engaging with the community and other stakeholders

- Mean/Median Age in Noosa (XX years)
 - Sunshine Coast (XX years)
 - Gold Coast (XX years)
 - QLD (XX years)
- Economy dependent on construction, aged care/retirement living, and tourism
- Population turnover
- Engagement on LGA-wide climate risk and adaptation (ex. coastal hazards)
- Engagement on coastal hazards (CHAP project)
 - What we did
 - Where things are at now



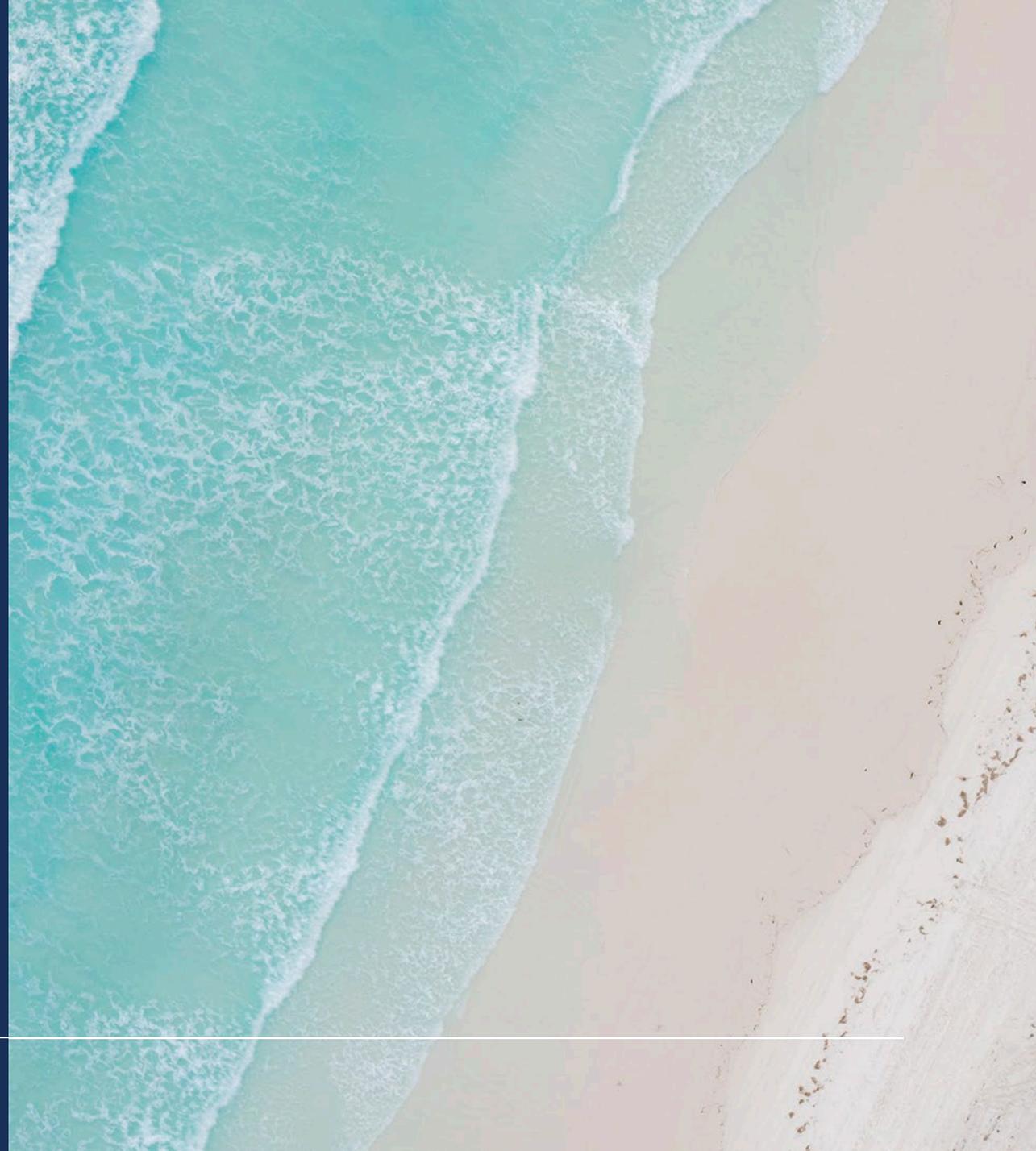
Lessons learned

- These may not apply everywhere
- Develop a program of engagement focussed inward, outward, sideways, and upward
- Intra-generational and Inter-generational equity are equally important
- Start early, lukewarm response likely
- Keep pestering as you get more information, this may bring more to the table
- Thematic design of engagement program may be beneficial
- Some may never show interest until they're presented with something they fear is to their detriment
- This can be very confronting, for everyone (internally and externally), so 7 stages of denial may occur
- It's a can of worms, and each worm that comes out is carrying another can of worms for you to open...



Q&A

A I T H E R



Audience poll

What are you most interested in learning more about?

- How to better engage with stakeholders
- How to undertake robust economic analysis
- Approach to cost benefit analysis
- Communicating economic concepts
- Adaptive management pathways
- Dealing with data limitations
- Other

What are the challenges you face?

- Communicating with stakeholders/community
- Understanding the economics
- Undertaking good economics
- Data / information limitations
- Other

Thank you

Martijn Gough
Aither

Phone

Email

Martijn.gough@aither.com.au

Sarah Leck
Aither

Phone

0473543994

Email

Sarah.leck@aither.com.au

Grant Hinner
Noosa Shire Council

Phone

Email

Citation

Do not cite, distribute or reproduce content from this document without the express permission of Aither Pty Ltd. Unless otherwise stated, this document remains strictly confidential and not for circulation or publication. © 2020 Aither Pty Ltd. All rights reserved.