

Appendix 3 - Options Appraisal

Option No	Measure	Approx. Cost	Benefit	Risk
1	Do nothing	£0k	£10k saving made	Gulls return to key nesting sites, previous work and investment likely to be wasted
2	Continue with current programme	Upto £20,000	Can continue with existing egg and nest removal programme	Without proper evidence of impact, unable to show that there is a cost benefit to programme and whether displacement has occurred
3	Carry out breeding population survey only	£4,000 - £6,000	Provides estimate of breeding population and key nesting sites to be used to compare with previous survey results and help decide on future actions.	Without egg & nest removal previous 2 years work has been undermined as eggs this year will produce birds who will breed in 2-3 years time
4 *Preferred Option*	Carry out breeding population survey whilst continuing some targeted work in priority sites	£20K	Provides estimate of breeding population and key nesting sites whilst continuing to treat key sites.	Less money for egg and nest removal. Continued work may skew survey results.
5	Use future budget to confine egg removal work to the key breeding sites	£20K	The heaviest nesting sites will continue to prevent birds breeding	Without good evidence, unable to show that there is a cost benefit. Some medium intensity nesting sites will be returned to gulls for nesting