

## The Regional Monitoring Programme

Alongside the Channel Coast Observatory [www.coastalmonitoring.org](http://www.coastalmonitoring.org) and other partners, Coastal Partners have been using drone technology to monitor the coastline for the Regional Monitoring Programme. This progression has numerous advantages and is a real positive step for the industry.

The Geomatics Team at Coastal Partners carries out the monitoring using a Sensefly Ebee X Fixed Wing UAV and a DJI Inspire 2 Quadcopter UAV.



Each drone offers advantages in different environments and the team rotates them when required. The Ebee X is fantastic for surveying vast areas, providing adequate space for take-off and landing are available. Due to its vertical climb, the DJI Quadcopter is essential for areas where access and space are more difficult. It is also very efficient for localised surveying and shoots excellent 4K images.



By using drones, the team now captures up to date aerial imagery whilst recording essential information, such as cross-sectional profile lines and full baseline topography of survey units. Additionally, the monitoring now generates accurate point cloud data, Digital Terrain Models and Ground Control Points - those targets that help the team achieve the required  $\pm 30$ mm accuracy.



The regional monitoring that takes place by the drones also offers other benefits such as detailed Habitat Mapping with a higher density of topo points. The latter helping to improve accuracy and provide more intricate surveys. Alongside this, the turnaround time of the monitoring has reduced, as has the manpower needed to complete the surveys making the process more cost effective.

**The Geomatics team undertake the monitoring from Chichester Harbour to Southampton Water and continue to be impressed with the results produced. Scan the QR Code to visit the Geomatics webpage.**

