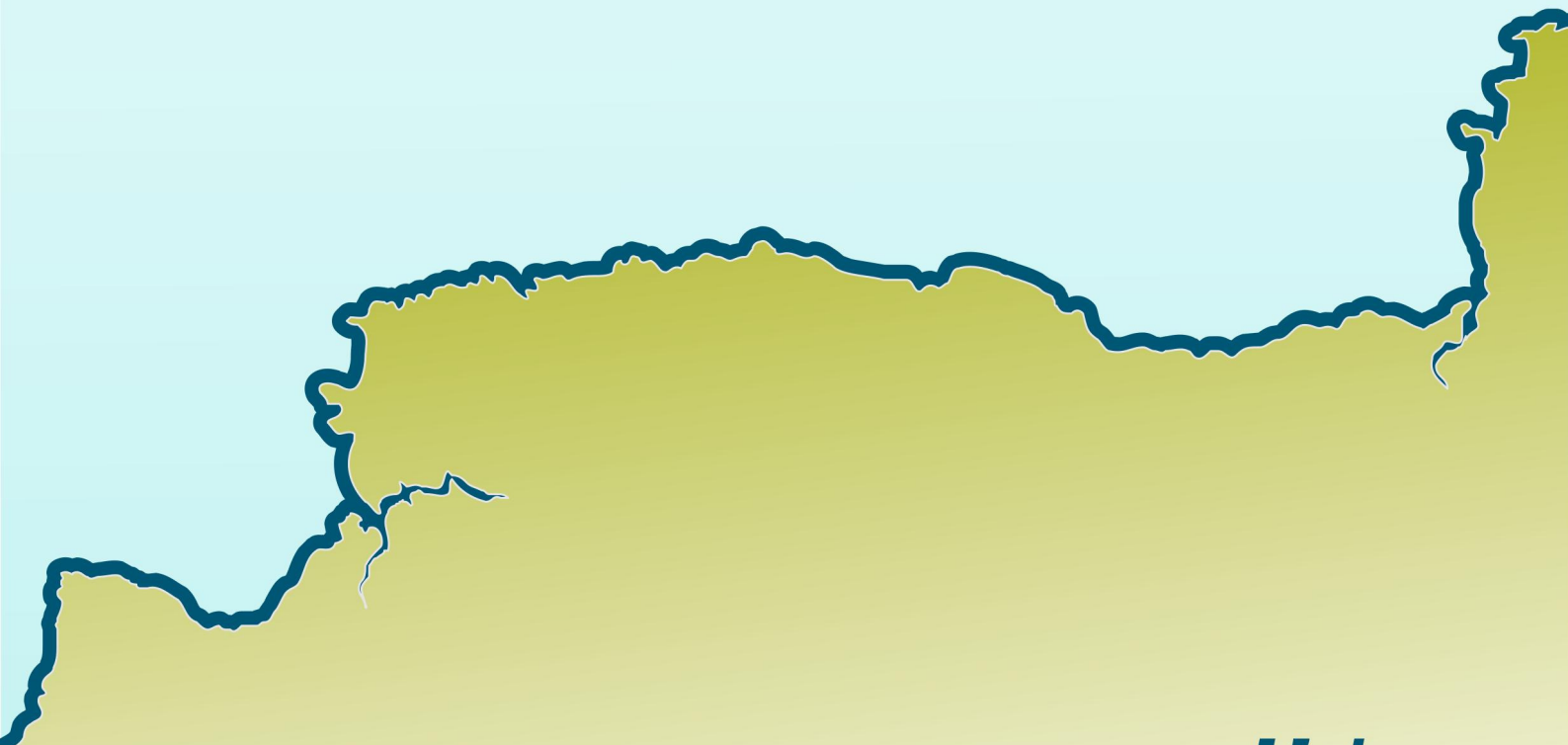
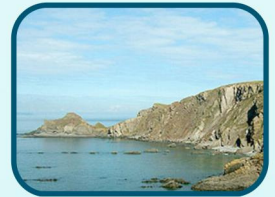


North Devon and Somerset Coastal Advisory Group (NDASCAG)

Shoreline Management Plan SMP2 Hartland Point to Anchor Head

Statement of Environmental Particulars



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I Introduction

This statement of particulars summarises how environmental and consultee considerations have been integrated into the development of the plan, and how the North Devon & Somerset Coastal Advisory Group selected the approach adopted in the final plan, in light of other alternatives. The statement goes on to set out the monitoring procedures that have been set in place to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan.

2 The Environment During the Development of the Plan

2.1 Integration of Environmental Considerations

Environmental considerations were integrated throughout the development of this plan by following the Environment Agency’s SEA operational instruction. This document ensures the potential significant effects of the plan on the environment are considered, mitigated or compensated throughout its development.

2.2 Influence of the Environmental Report

The environmental report was made available to statutory consultees and public consultation which influenced the development of the plan. Where significant negative effects were identified, appropriate requirements for mitigation and environmental enhancements are set out in Table 2.1 below.

Further assessment of effects on all SEA receptors will be undertaken as part of SEA and HRA at strategy level, and EIA and HRA at scheme level to continue the integration of environmental considerations.

Table 2.1 Requirements for mitigation and environmental enhancements

Environmental Topic	Agreed Mitigation/Enhancement activity	Responsibility
Population, Property & Human Health	There may be no provision in this plan for mitigating or compensating the loss of private properties. Identification of affected properties to be communicated by the competent authority in order that privately funded defences may be planned.	Environment Agency
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	The Appropriate Assessment has determined ‘No adverse effects on the interest feature of European sites as a result of these SMP policies.	Environment Agency
	The Appropriate Assessment has determined that ‘A policy of ‘managed realignment’ (in the medium term) may allow natural processes to establish where they have previously been constrained. This should bring long-term benefits to the interest features. ‘No adverse effects on this interest feature are therefore foreseen as a result of SMP policy’.	Environment Agency
	The Appropriate Assessment has determined that: ‘Habitat loss due to coastal squeeze can be mitigated by the creation of new habitat through managed realignment, although in some cases it may not be possible to achieve an exact like-for-like replacement. This will be achieved through the <i>Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Study Habitat Delivery Plan</i> ’.	Environment Agency
	Compensatory habitat will be required in the long term as coastal squeeze resulting from continued maintenance of defences causes loss of designated habitat.	Environment Agency
	The potential to realign the Hillsborough LNR boundary landward, in the long-term, should be explored.	Environment Agency
	Any land take for defences from Lundy SSI will have to be compensated at a scheme level.	Environment Agency
	Impact at the Huntspill River NNR and Berrow Dune SSSI should be mitigated in the future at a project level.	Environment Agency
	Impact at the Walborough SSSI and Uphill CWS should be mitigated in the future at a project level.	Environment Agency

Environmental Topic	Agreed Mitigation/Enhancement activity	Responsibility
Water	The policy of NAI and HTL should be implemented so as to not to adversely impact on the water quality status of the coastal waters, and does not compromise the achievement of WFD water quality targets.	Environment Agency
	Mitigation will be required at project level to protect landfill site from erosion and flooding to prevent pollution.	Environment Agency
Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage)	The likely impacts of the preferred SMP policy option on the Historic Environment will be investigated further at strategy or scheme level. Where avoidance of damage to a Schedule Monument is not possible and where it cannot be preserved in situ mitigation should take to form of excavation and recording prior to loss.	Environment Agency
Landscape Character and Visual Amenity	Opportunities will be identified in the AONB/Heritage Coast Management Plan to improve landscape character.	Environment Agency
	Any adverse impact on the landscape will have to be addressed during design at a scheme level.	Environment Agency
	The Competent authority or private funder to consider the use of locally sourced building materials and sensitively landscape new structures.	Environment Agency
	In areas of managed realignment, existing deteriorating defence will be removed to retain the visual amenity of the area.	Environment Agency
Soils and Geology	No mitigation required.	Environment Agency
Land Use, Infrastructure & Material Assets	Mitigation for loss of sections of the South West Coastal Path will take the form of relocating the path further inland.	Environment Agency
	No mitigation has been identified for losses of agricultural land.	Environment Agency
	Relocation of affected assets will be considered as part of the Severn Estuary Strategy.	Environment Agency

3 Consultation Responses

3.1 Responses to Consultation Period (October 2009 to January 2010)

96 consultation responses were received during the consultation period on the draft plan and its accompanying environmental report. The majority of consultation responses related to specific issues with Policy Units, support for the SMP, environmental issues and defences. All comments received were thoroughly reviewed and considered, and answers or links to further information provided where possible. Following consideration of comments, a number of policies were amended in some areas. Table 3.1 below presents the consultation responses received in relation to the environmental aspects of the SMP, and how they were actioned, including where they contributed to a change in policy in the final SMP. Note, these are presented in summary form and are grouped by issues raised. Further details of all consultation responses are available in Appendix B of the final adopted SMP.

Table 3.1 Consultation Responses Summarised by Issue and Actions Taken

Consultee(s)	Summary of Comments	Action/Response Taken to Finalise SMP
Somerset County Council North Devon AONB English Heritage Local Residents	The historic environment is considered to be underestimated and not fully reflected in the SMP, with mapped data and text not providing a full summary of available data from sources such as the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment. In addition, the significance of loss of a historic environment asset has not been provided in all cases, especially for non-designated sites.	It was recognised that there has been issues with the data presented and therefore this data was reviewed and new data re-obtained and re-plotted on the final mapping. The implications tables have been reviewed on the basis of re-obtained data received, to address the issues raised. In many locations, the policy has not changed as a result of this review, but in locations where assets are likely to be lost or damaged, either by coastal erosion, flooding or intertidal narrowing, we have ensured that the need to consider mitigation measures, such as photographic mapping, is duly noted. As recognised in the comments, full consideration of mitigation measures is usually undertaken as part of strategies or schemes. In terms of significance of loss of historic environment assets, a very significant potential impact would be classified in SEA terms as the loss of a Scheduled Monument. Therefore if it has not been listed as such by the Authority we have no way of knowing the sites importance. Post-SMP, relevant authorities should go through the SMP site by site to infer the sites importance where not designated to be able to reflect this concern in the SEA. A generic statement was added within the SEA to say that impact to non-designated sites will be dealt with a scheme level.
English Heritage	We would like to see the use of the term Historic Environment used throughout the document and Appendices. Various terms are used (Historic Environment, Cultural Heritage, Architectural and Archaeological heritage etc) which is inconsistent and confusing to the reader. For the purposes of the SEA the use of the term 'Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage)' would be acceptable.	All documents have been amended using suggested terminology.
Environment Agency Natural England RSPB	It is important that we align policies in this Plan with those of other plans, such as the Parrett Estuary Strategy and Steart Project, ensuring that any linkages and compatibility of the objectives are shown. It is also important to demonstrate linkages with Catchment Flood Management Plans and River Basin Management Plans.	Agree and the SMP team have worked closely with those developing the Steart Managed Realignment Project to refine policy in this area such that the final SMP and project are aligned. We have already discussed SMP with the Parrett Estuary Strategy EA project manager and aligned policies with that, although some modification of the long term policy is necessitated by developments of the Steart project not picked up by the strategy. We have also reviewed the documents to ensure sufficient reference to CFMPs and RBMPs (and associated Water Framework Directive Assessment) is made.
English Heritage North Devon's Biosphere Reserve	Requested that some of the SEA objectives be amended and/or additional objectives added.	The objectives were developed and agreed in consultation with stakeholders prior to policy appraisal. We do not agree that we should amend further or add in new objectives at this time. At this stage in the SMP process it will be difficult to incorporate a new objective. Therefore no action was taken in relation to this comment.
English Heritage North Devon's Biosphere Reserve North Devon AONB Devon County Council Environment Agency	The implications of preferred policies are not consistently discussed throughout the SMP in relation to historic environment, amenity/recreation and tourism.	The text in sections 4 and 5 of the SMP document and supporting appendices was reviewed in full and amended where appropriate to better reflect the implications of preferred policies on these features. Where possible, we have also sought to refer to specifics in the SEA that are to be picked up at scheme level.
Natural England North Devon's Biosphere Reserve	Greater clarification of preferred policy implications for environmentally designated features such as SACs and SSSIs is requested in a number of areas.	The text in sections 4 and 5 of the SMP document and supporting appendices was reviewed in full and amended where appropriate to better reflect the implications of preferred policies on environmentally designated sites.
North Devon's Biosphere Reserve North Devon AONB	Clarify further the status and importance of AONBs under the CROW Act 2000, as well as the implications of preferred policies on the AONB.	The text in sections 3, 4 and 5 of the SMP document and supporting appendices was reviewed and amended where appropriate to better reflect the implications of preferred policies on the AONB, and provide clarification regarding AONB status and importance.
North Devon's Biosphere Reserve	Given the wealth of environmental assets along the coast line, we suggest adding the recommendation to produce a Coastal Habitat Management Plan (CHaMP) as good practice. This will help the area to cope with the change of habitats and to strategically replace or re-locate habitats as the coast changes.	The Severn Estuary Strategy is replacing the current CHaMP in that area. The Environment Agency's Regional Habitat Creation Programme will also facilitate this and this is stated in the Action Plan. No other action was taken in relation to this comment.
Environment Agency	A non-technical summary needs to be produced as part of the SEA process.	A non-technical summary has been produced as part of the final SMP. It was not produced as part of the consultation draft and it has never been programmed to be produced until Task 6.1 of the SMP process in line with the Defra guidance.
Environment Agency	Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) have not been fully considered in the SEA environmental baseline and SEA objectives. We accept in most cases that coastal RIGS will be maintained or possibly enhanced by continued natural erosion processes, where the Plan policies are No Active Intervention.	The RIGS dataset was re-examined to ensure full coverage. Text in Section 5 of the SMP document and supporting appendices has been revised as appropriate to ensure this is adequately reflected in the final SMP.

Consultee(s)	Summary of Comments	Action/Response Taken to Finalise SMP
	<p>Examples of where RIGS may be affected include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7c04, Clovelly – Hold The Line, with possible work in front of the breakwater, could affect a small part of the RIGS. • 7c08, Appledore Tidal flats – Hold The Line may result in coastal squeeze, affecting the RIGS. <p>7d12, Lynmouth – Hold The Line may affect Lynmouth seafront RIGS, depending on the preferred defence option.</p>	
Environment Agency	<p>County Wildlife Sites have not been fully considered. These 'Local' sites are not statutory but they are recognised by Government planning policy and have an important biodiversity network function. The Plan refers to Defra's higher level targets for flood and coastal defence, which include requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure no net loss of BAP habitats. • to seek opportunities for environmental enhancements. <p>Without consideration of County Wildlife Sites the Plan cannot demonstrate that it has met this fully.</p>	<p>These sites are covered at local level. We have included comments in section 5 of the SMP document and supporting appendices on the implications of preferred policy on these sites, as well as the need for the consideration of these sites at a scheme level.</p>
RSPB Environment Agency Countryside Council for Wales North Devon AONB Local Residents	<p>The Habitat Regulations Assessment requires updating to better address the issues and meet the requirements of the habitats regulations. This should include quantification of habitat gains and losses, as well as identifying exact locations and extents of managed realignment and the likely habitat that would be created in each area of realignment.</p>	<p>The HRA was updated to addressing all issues identified in the comments received. This included identifying significant adverse effect that will be addressed through IROPI and habitat compensation measures. This has since been signed-off by the Environment Agency, Natural England and Countryside Council for Wales.</p>
Devon County Council North Devon's Biosphere Reserve North Devon AONB	<p>Greater clarity with regards the policy intent and implications of the preferred policy for Northam Burrows is needed to ensure that the relationships between future management of flood risk and the natural environment, human use and the need to protect the former landfill site are clear.</p>	<p>The text in the relevant policy statement has been amended to reflect the uncertainty about the future evolution of this section of coast and that, in this dynamic location, the policy approach does need to be flexible. The text has also been amended to ensure all implications for the former landfill site, tourism/recreation facilities and natural environment are clearly stated.</p>
RSPB	<p>The SMP needs in our view to be more specific about areas of freshwater habitat that would be affected by policies of no active intervention and managed realignment, particularly where those habitats are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest.</p>	<p>Further to this comment, we have reviewed the information and considered it not appropriate to add more detail to the implications tables. Therefore no action was taken in relation to this comment.</p>

4 Trans-boundary Consultation Responses

The SEA did not identify any significant environmental effects that required trans-boundary consultation on this plan. Due to this, no consultation responses were received via this consultation route.

5 Reasons for Selecting the Adopted Plan in Light of Reasonable Alternatives

The approach adopted in the final plan was considered against a number of reasonable alternatives during its development. The major reasons for selecting the adopted plan over the reasonable alternatives are shown in the table below. This table is reproduced from Appendix G of the adopted SMP documents.

Further details on the selection of the preferred option, which was developed into the adopted plan, are presented in its environmental report (refer to Appendix I of the adopted SMP documents). Information on how to access a copy of the environmental report can be found in the post-adoption statement, which can be found at www.ndascag.org.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: LUNDY					
7c01 – Landing Beach	Hold the Line	Improve existing defences to continue protecting the only access to the rest of Lundy, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences to continue protecting the only access to the rest of Lundy, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences to continue protecting the only access to the rest of Lundy, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to provide defence at Landing Beach in order to maintain access to the rest of Lundy. This is achieved through a HTL policy and as such NAI is not appropriate.
7c02 – Lundy (except Landing Beach)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast, designated for its environmental features, to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: HARTLAND POINT TO WESTWARD HO!					
7c03 – Hartland Point to Clovelly	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast, designated for its environmental features, to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7c04 – Clovelly	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall and breakwater to continue protecting Clovelly, through hold the line . This would be supported by continuing the annual transfer of pebbles across the harbour from west to east.	Maintain the defences and eventually replace, or add to the outside of, them with larger structures to continue protecting Clovelly, through hold the line . This would be supported by continuing the annual transfer of pebbles across the harbour from west to east.	Maintain the defences constructed in the medium term to continue protecting Clovelly, through hold the line . This would be supported by continuing the annual transfer of pebbles across the harbour from west to east.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to protect people, property and infrastructure at Clovelly. To do so will only have localised impacts on coastal processes and as such HTL policy is most appropriate.
7c05 – Clovelly to Westward Ho! (Seaford House)	Do Nothing	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to continue to allow this largely undefended section of coast to evolve naturally and minimise erosion risk to people and property. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available, will only have localised impacts on coastal processes, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: WESTWARD HO! TO SAUNTON DOWN					

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7c06 – Westward Ho!	Hold	Maintain and improve the existing seawall defences, replacing them with much larger structures as required, to continue protection for Westward Ho!, through hold the line .	Maintain the seawall defences to continue protection for Westward Ho!, through hold the line .	Maintain the seawall defences to continue protection for Westward Ho!, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to protect Westward Ho! against flood and erosion risk. This is achieved through a HTL policy as NAI would not be appropriate.
7c07 – Northam Burrows	Retreat	Continue to reduce flood and erosion risk for developed areas along the southern part of Northam Burrows by constructing low embankment/revetment type defences that reflect the waves power. Continue to take measures to protect the former landfill site, while allowing the pebble ridge to roll back and rotate to become more aligned with the dominant wave direction (possibly aided by recycling beach material), through managed realignment .	Continue to reduce flood and erosion risk for developed areas along the southern part of Northam Burrows by maintaining and improving embankment defences. Continue to take measures to protect the former landfill site, while allowing the pebble ridge to adapt naturally to rising sea levels, through managed realignment .	Continue to reduce flood and erosion risk for developed areas along the southern part of Northam Burrows by maintaining and improving embankment defences. Continue to take measures to protect the former landfill site, while allowing the pebble ridge to adapt naturally to rising sea levels, through managed realignment .	The objectives of the Plan here are to provide a sustainable long-term solution for managing flood and erosion risk to people, property and the former landfill site, and to work with the natural processes predicted to cause roll-back and rotation of the pebble ridge. This is best achieved under a MR policy as NAI would result in uncontrolled coastal change and increased risk to the landfill site, whilst HTL would not be sustainable.
7c08 – Skern Salt marsh to Appledore (west)	Retreat	Maintain the existing revetment defences to continue protecting the rest of Northam Burrows and provide access to the landfill site, through hold the line .	Maintain and improve the revetment defences to continue protecting the rest of Northam Burrows and provide access to the landfill site, through hold the line .	Maintain the revetment defences, improved in the medium term, to continue protecting the rest of Northam Burrows and provide access to the landfill site, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to manage flood and erosion risk to people, property and the former landfill site. This objective supports the managed realignment in unit 7c07. The policy to HTL here will provide a further 'back stop' to any flooding caused by overtopping and breaching of the pebble ridge. This will reduce the potential for any such events breaking through Northam Burrows and having a more significant impact on the Taw/Torridge Estuary. HTL here could also maximise the land available for adapting land use, whereas MR would reduce the land available.
7c09 – Appledore	Hold	Maintain and improve the various seawall/quay wall defences to continue protecting Appledore, through hold the line .	Maintain and further improve the various seawall/quay wall defences to continue protecting Appledore, through hold the line .	Maintain the various seawall/quay wall defences to continue protecting Appledore, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce the risk of flooding to people, property and infrastructure at Appledore. This is achieved through a HTL policy as NAI would not be appropriate.
7c10 – Appledore to Cleave Moorings, Northam	Do Nothing	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to allow the estuary to evolve naturally. This section is backed by steeply rising ground. A policy of NAI would result in no more assets being at risk of flooding than at present and as such is appropriate.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7c11 – Cleave Moorings, Northam and Bideford	Hold	Maintain the existing floodwall defences to continue protecting Northam and Bideford, through hold the line .	Maintain the existing floodwall defences to continue protecting Northam and Bideford, through hold the line .	Maintain the floodwall defences, eventually raising the height of the walls in response to sea level rise, to continue protecting Northam and Bideford, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk for people, property and infrastructure in Northam and Bideford. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7c12 – Upper Torridge Estuary (right (east) and left (west) banks between Bideford and Weare Gifford)	N/A	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Torridge Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect infrastructure and property. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Torridge Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect infrastructure and property. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Torridge Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect infrastructure and property. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	The objectives of the Plan here are to manage flood risk to people, property and infrastructure in a sustainable way and seek opportunities to allow the estuary to adapt to the effects of climate change in as natural way as possible. Further detailed study is required. The range of policies stated provides appropriate flexibility for detailed study to define exact policy by reach within this area.
7c13 – East-the-Water to Torridge Bridge (A39)	N/A	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining or improving existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure in the developed area of East-the-Water. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7c14 – Torridge Bridge (A39) to Instow	Hold	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining or improving existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise flood risk, by maintaining the improved defences, through a hold the line policy.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure on the developed frontage between East-the-Water and Instow. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7c15 – Instow	Hold	Maintain the floodwall defences, eventually replacing them with larger structures, to continue to protect Instow through a hold the line policy.	Maintain the defences, improved in the short term, to continue to protect Instow through a hold the line policy.	Maintain the defences to continue to protect Instow through a hold the line policy.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Instow. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7c16 – Instow Dunes	Hold	Undertake dune management through a managed realignment policy to ensure that the dunes provide a robust natural defence against the risk of flooding.	Continue dune management through a managed realignment policy to ensure that the dunes provide a robust natural defence against the risk of flooding. If this becomes compromised, construct a set back defence.	Continue dune management through a managed realignment policy to ensure that the dunes provide a robust natural defence against the risk of flooding. If this becomes compromised, construct a set back defence.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Instow by pro-actively managing the dunes that provide a natural flood defence in this area. This is in support of the policy in unit 7c15. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk.
7c17 – Instow to Yelland	Hold	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment along parts of this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies). Where realignment does not occur, continue to hold the line to protect infrastructure and property.	Hold the line of the defence to continue to reduce the risk of flooding.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement Managed Realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities to benefit the wider estuary. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c18 – Home Farm Marsh (Yelland to Fremington)	Retreat	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate managed realignment opportunities.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies).	Hold the line of the defence.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement managed realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities of benefit to the wider estuary whilst continuing the reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c19 - Fremington	Hold	Maintain and improve the defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	Maintain the improved defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	Maintain the improved defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan in this area is to continue to reduce the risk of flooding to the developed areas that are currently defended in this area. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7c20 – Fremington to Penhill Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan is to allow this undefended section of the estuary to continue to evolve naturally. This section is comprised of high ground with no assets at risk of flooding and so is achieved through NAI policy.
7c21 – Penhill Point to Bickington	N/A	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate managed realignment opportunities.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies).	Hold the line of the defence.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Bickington whilst seeking opportunities to create habitat. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c22 – Bickington to A39	N/A	Maintain and improve the defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	Maintain the improved defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	Maintain the improved defences to continue protection against flood risk to property and infrastructure, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Bickington. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7c23 – Upper Taw Estuary (right (east) and left (west) banks between A39 to tidal limit near Bishops Tawton)	N/A	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Taw Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect the railway line. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Taw Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect the railway line. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	Allow natural estuary evolution to continue through no active intervention along much of the upper Taw Estuary, but implement managed realignment or hold the line locally where defences are required to protect the railway line. Exact locations suitable for managed realignment will be informed by the ongoing Taw-Torridge Estuary strategy study.	The objective of the Plan here is to manage flood risk to people, property and infrastructure in a sustainable way, while seeking opportunities to allow the estuary to adapt to climate change in as natural way as possible. The range of policies stated provides appropriate flexibility for detailed study to define exact policy by reach within this area.
7c24 – A39 to West Ashford (Barnstaple)	N/A	Maintain the embankment defences, and eventually replace some with larger embankments, to continue protection for Barnstaple, through hold the line .	Maintain and further replace the embankment defences to continue protection for Barnstaple, through hold the line .	Maintain the embankment defences to continue protection for Barnstaple, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Barnstaple. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7c25 – West Ashford to Braunton (east bank of River Caen)	Hold	Continue to maintain existing defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate managed realignment opportunities.	Implement managed realignment along parts of this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies). Continue to hold the line of the recently realigned defence at RAF Chivenor.	Hold the line of the realigned defences.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement Managed Realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities of benefit to the wider estuary. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c26 – Braunton to Horsey Island (west bank of River Caen)	Hold / Observe & Monitor	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies).	Hold the line of the realigned defence.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement Managed Realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities of benefit to the wider estuary. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c27 – Horsey Island	Hold	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies).	hold the line of the realigned defence.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement Managed Realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities of benefit to the wider estuary. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.

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7c28 – Horsey Island to Crow Point	Observe & Monitor	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch (dependent upon outcome of studies).	Hold the line of the realigned defence.	The objective of the Plan here is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement managed realignment to provide both flood storage and habitat creation opportunities of benefit to the wider estuary. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.
7c29 – Crow Point & Crow Neck	Observe & Monitor	Continue to monitor the spit, under a policy of managed realignment , while investigating the importance of the spit in terms of providing protection to the inner estuary. If necessary, undertake beach replenishment to maintain this feature and/or repair any breaches, otherwise limited or no intervention is to occur.	Continue to monitor the spit, under a policy of managed realignment , and undertake works as required following the investigations in the short term. If studies show this area is not required for defence benefit of the inner estuary, then limited or no intervention is to occur.	Continue to monitor the spit, under a policy of managed realignment , and undertake works as required following the investigations in the short term. If studies show this area is not required for defence benefit of the inner estuary, then limited or no intervention is to occur.	The objective of the Plan is to work with natural processes in this area and only intervene if necessary to benefit the wider inner estuary area. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI would prohibit any intervention if it is required whilst HTL would imply intent to fix this point, which it is not intended to do.
7c30 – Braunton Burrows	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan is to allow this predominantly undefended coast to continue to evolve naturally in order to conserve its internationally-designated features. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7c31 – Saunton Down	Do Nothing	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion and maintain visitor access. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow the natural evolution of this undefended section of coast, which is designated for its environmental features. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: SAUNTON DOWN TO BAGGY POINT (CROYDE BAY)					
7c32 – Croyde Sands	Observe & Monitor	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow the natural evolution of this undefended section of coast, which is designated for its environmental features. This is achieved through NAI policy.

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7c33 – Middleborough Hill (Croyde Bay north)	Hold	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow the natural evolution of this section of coast while managing the risk of flooding and erosion to people and property. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
7c34 – Middleborough Hill (Croyde Bay north) to Baggy Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow natural evolution of this undefended section of coast, which is designated for its environmental features. This is achieved through NAI policy.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: BAGGY POINT TO MORTE POINT (WOOLACOMBE BAY)					
7c35 – Baggy Point to Napps Cliff (Putsborough)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow the natural evolution of this undefended section of coast, which is designated for its environmental features. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7c36 – Putsborough Sands and Vention	Hold	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow the natural evolution of this section of coast while managing flood and erosion risk to people and property. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes so long as defence continues to be in the existing form, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
7c37 – Vention to Woolacombe Beach (Woolacombe Sands)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow the natural evolution of this undefended section of coast, which is designated for its environmental features. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7c38 – Woolacombe Beach	Observe & Monitor	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow this section of undefended coast to evolve naturally, while managing flood and erosion risk to people and property by developing ways of adapting to the risk. As there are no defences this is best achieved through NAI policy with subsequent development of appropriate adaptation measures.
7c39 – Woolacombe to Morte Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow this section of undefended coast to evolve naturally, while managing flood and erosion risk to people and property by developing ways of adapting to the risk. As there are no defences this is best achieved through NAI policy with subsequent development of appropriate adaptation measures.

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POLICY SCENARIO AREA: MORTE POINT TO FORELAND POINT					
7d01 – Morte Point to Lee (west)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d02 – Lee	Hold	Maintain the existing defences to continue protecting Lee, through hold the line .	Maintain and improve the defences to continue protecting Lee, through hold the line .	Maintain the improved defences to continue protecting Lee, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to protect people, property and infrastructure at Lee. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7d03 – Lee (east) to Ilfracombe (west)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d04 – Ilfracombe	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall and breakwater defences to continue protecting Ilfracombe, through hold the line . Localised Advance the Line will be used in Ilfracombe Harbour as part of plans to re-develop this area would also achieve the aim of the plan.	Maintain the defences, eventually replacing them with larger structures, to continue protecting Ilfracombe, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences, improved in the medium term, to continue protecting Ilfracombe, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting people, property and infrastructure at Ilfracombe. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7d05 – Ilfracombe (east – Larkstone Beach) to Hele Beach (west)	Do Nothing/ Hold at Hillsborough	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d06 – Hele Beach	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall defences to continue protecting the A399, through hold the line .	Maintain the seawall defences, eventually replacing them with larger structures, to continue protecting the A399, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences which were improved in the medium term, to continue protecting the A399, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting people, property and infrastructure at Hele. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate. To do so will only have local effects on coastal processes.
7d07 – Hele Beach (east) to Watermouth Slipway	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.

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7d08 – Watermouth Slipway	Hold	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow the natural evolution of this section of coast while managing flood risk to people and property. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes whilst protecting infrastructure, though if no funding is available the policy will revert to NAI.
7d09 – Watermouth Slipway to Combe Martin	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d10 – Combe Martin	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall defences to continue protecting Combe Martin, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences, eventually replacing them with larger structures, to continue protecting Combe Martin, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences, improved in the medium term, to continue protecting Combe Martin, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting people, property and infrastructure at Combe Martin, which will only have local effects on coastal processes. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7d11 – Combe Martin to Lynmouth	Do Nothing	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this predominantly undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
7d12 – Lynmouth	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall defences to continue protecting Lynmouth, through hold the line .	Maintain the seawall defences, eventually replacing them with larger structures, to continue protecting Lynmouth, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences, improved in the medium term, to continue protecting Lynmouth, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting people, property and infrastructure at Lynmouth, which will only have local effects on coastal processes. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7d13 – Lynmouth to Foreland Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.

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POLICY SCENARIO AREA: FORELAND POINT TO HURLSTONE POINT					
7d14 – Foreland Point to Gore Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d15 – Gore Point to Porlock Weir	Observe & Monitor	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d16 – Porlock Weir	Hold	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow this section of coast to evolve naturally in the long term, while managing flood and erosion risk to people and property in the short to medium term, either by continued defence or by developing ways of adapting to the risk. It is unlikely that continued defence of Porlock Weir would attract public funding from the flood and coastal defence budget in the medium to long term. Defences at Porlock Weir would need to withstand the increased exposure to wave action that would follow as the adjacent areas retreat when sea level rises, making this area more prominent along the shoreline. This would make it technically more difficult to sustain defences and is unlikely to be economically justifiable, hence the policy for NAI. However, the existing defences would be maintained for as long as technically possible if alternative funds are available for this purpose, although even this may become unsustainable in the medium to long term. This would allow ways of adapting to flood risk to be developed and implemented if continued defence here does not occur.
7d17 – Porlock Weir to Hurlstone Point	Retreat	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan here are to allow this section of coast to evolve naturally, while managing flood risk to people and property by developing ways of adapting to the risk. These adaptation measures will be developed in response to the NAI policy as no further assets will be at risk of flooding by allowing natural processes to occur to justify MR policy to manage the natural roll back of the shingle ridge.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: HURLSTONE POINT TO HINKLEY POINT					
7d18 – Hurlstone Point to Minehead (west)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d19 – Minehead	Hold	Maintain and improve the existing defences to continue to provide protection to Minehead, through a hold the line policy.	Maintain and further improve the existing defences to continue protection for Minehead, through a hold the line policy.	Maintain and further improve the existing defences to continue protection for Minehead, through a hold the line policy.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to protect people, property and infrastructure at Minehead. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.

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7d20 – The Warren (Minehead Golf Course)	Observe & Monitor	Continue to provide protection by replacing and maintaining embankment defences along existing alignment, possibly supported by beach recycling and replenishment, under a policy of hold the line . Investigate and construct a secondary defence embankment inland to protect Minehead against flood risk.	Continue to provide protection by maintaining embankment defences along existing alignment, possibly supported by beach recycling and replenishment, under a policy of hold the line . Maintain the secondary defence embankment inland to protect Minehead against flood risk.	As it becomes unsustainable to maintain defence along the existing alignment, move to a policy of managed realignment , whereby the secondary defence line becomes the primary defence line.	The objective of the Plan here is to protect Minehead against flood risk from this area in a sustainable way and working with natural processes as far as possible. This will be achieved through HTL in the short to medium term and MR to provide a long term sustainable defence. A policy of NAI would increase flood risk to Minehead.
7d21 – Dunster Beach	Observe & Monitor	Continue to provide protection through beach management under a policy of hold the line . Investigate and construct a secondary defence embankment inland to protect Minehead against flood risk.	Continue to provide protection through beach management under a policy of hold the line . Maintain the secondary defence embankment inland to protect Minehead against flood risk.	As it becomes unsustainable to maintain defence along the existing alignment, move to a policy of managed realignment , whereby the secondary defence line becomes the primary defence line.	The objective of the Plan here is to protect Minehead against flood risk from this area in a sustainable way, working with natural processes as far as possible. This will be achieved through HTL in the short to medium term and MR to provide a long term sustainable defence. A policy of NAI would increase flood risk to Minehead.
7d22 – Dunster Beach (east) to Ker Moor	Observe & Monitor	Investigate and implement construction of set-back defence embankment under a policy of managed realignment .	Hold the line of the realigned defence through continued maintenance.	Hold the line of the realigned defence through continued maintenance and improvement.	The objective of the Plan here is to protect Minehead against flood risk from this area in a sustainable way, working with natural processes as far as possible. This will be achieved through MR policy to establish a long term sustainable defence line in the immediate future, then maintaining this position through HTL in the medium to long term. A policy of NAI would increase flood risk to Minehead.
7d23 – Blue Anchor	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall and rock revetment defences, and replace defences at the eastern end near the Blue Anchor Hotel. Extend them a little to the east, to continue protecting people, property and the B3191 from flood risk, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line .	Allow natural coastal evolution to occur by moving towards a policy of no active intervention , with implementation of local managed realignment if necessary to protect the railway.	The objective of the Plan here is to protect Blue Anchor against flood and erosion risk as long as it's economically sustainable. The policy of HTL will achieve this in the short to medium term, but long term policy of MR/NAI recognises that this position is unlikely to be sustainable in the long term.
7d24 – Blue Anchor to Watchet	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.

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7d25 – Watchet to Doniford	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall and breakwater defences, with eventual replacement of some defences with larger structures, to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences, eventually replacing those not replaced in short term with larger structures, to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line .	Maintain the defences to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting Watchet from flood and erosion risk. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.
7d26 – Doniford to St Audries Bay	Observe & Monitor	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Continue to allow existing localised defences to be maintained or replaced if alternative funding is available to reduce the risk of erosion. If alternative funds are not available, then allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan are to allow this coast to evolve naturally in the long term, while managing flood and erosion risk to people and property in the short to medium term by developing ways of adapting to the risk. The policy for localised areas of HTL, if funding is available will only have localised impacts on coastal processes, especially when much of this unit has a policy of NAI.
7d27 – St Audries Bay	Observe & Monitor / Hold	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d28 – St Audries Bay to Lilstock	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
7d29 – Lilstock	Hold	Maintain the existing embankment/gabion defences to continue protection against flooding, through hold the line , while preparing to move towards the medium term policy.	Allow natural coastal evolution by moving towards a policy of no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this section of coast to evolve naturally in the long term. The short term policy of HTL will maintenance of the short length of existing defence and allow time to plan and implement appropriate measures before moving to the policy of NAI.
7d30 – Lilstock to Hinkley Point	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: HINKLEY POINT TO BREAN DOWN					

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7d31 – Hinkley Point	Hold	Maintain the existing seawall defences, and possibly construct new seawall defences along the shoreline to the west, to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line . If new defences are not required along the western part of this frontage as part of the Hinkley Point power station expansion, then no active intervention is to occur.	Maintain the defences to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line . Any areas where the coast remains undefended are to be allowed to evolve naturally under no active intervention .	Maintain the defences to continue protection against flood and erosion risk, through hold the line . Any areas where the coast remains undefended are to be allowed to evolve naturally under no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to provide protection against flood and erosion risk to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station. As such a policy of HTL is appropriate to protect this nationally important asset.
7d32 – Hinkley Point to Stolford	Hold	Continue to maintain existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch.	Hold the line of the realigned defence.	The objective here is to continue to protecting Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station from flood risk in a sustainable way, working with natural processes. The policy of MR recognises the opportunity to provide a more long term sustainable defence line to protect this nationally important asset.
7d33 – Stolford	Observe & Monitor	Continue maintaining existing embankment defences under a hold the line policy. Investigate managed realignment opportunities.	Implement managed realignment along this stretch.	Hold the line of the realigned defence.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station and Stolford village against flood risk in a sustainable way, working with natural processes. The policy of MR recognises the opportunity to provide a more long term sustainable defence line to manage and reduce flood risk and reduce risk of coastal squeeze. A policy of NAI would not achieve this.
7d34 – Stolford to Wall Common	Observe & Monitor	Initially continue to maintain the shingle bank and defences to hold the line while measures are put in place to manage the change to managed realignment .	Hold the line of the set-back defences protecting the power lines and areas to the west provided this remains economically justified. No active intervention along the shoreline.	Hold the line of the set-back defences protecting the power lines and areas to the west provided this remains economically justified. No active intervention along the shoreline.	The objective of the Plan in this area is to investigate and, if appropriate, implement MR to create habitat of benefit to the wider Severn and Parrett estuaries.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7d35 – Steart Village	Observe & Monitor	Continue to minimise flood and erosion risk to Steart village from the Parrett, through managed realignment if a scheme can be justified on habitat creation ground, otherwise, no active intervention . On the seaward side initially continue to minimise flood and erosion risk to Steart village, through hold the line , while measures are put in place to manage the change in policy to no active intervention .	Continue to maintain set back defences while it remains viable to do so. Allow natural coastal evolution on the seaward side through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state, and to continue to defend against flood risk in a sustainable way where it is environmentally acceptable and economically viable. As adjacent areas retreat, this area would become more exposed along the shoreline, so existing defences would need to be replaced in the short term with much larger structures. This would make it technically more difficult to sustain defences here and also unlikely to be economically justifiable. Therefore existing defences would be maintained for as long as technically possible during the short term and into the medium term under the policy of HTL/MR. This will allow the implications of moving to a NAI policy to be fully investigated to help in planning how to adapt to any increased flood risk.
7d36 – South of Steart Village to north of Combwich (line of national grid power lines)	Observe & Monitor	Initially continue to minimise flood and erosion risk to Steart village, through hold the line , while measures are put in place to manage the change in policy to managed realignment in PUs 7d34, 7d35 and 7d37.	No active intervention along the former Parrett Banks.	No active intervention along the former Parrett Banks.	The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state, and to continue defending against flood risk in a sustainable way where this is environmentally acceptable and economically viable. The existing defences could be maintained for as long as technically possible during the short term and into the medium term, under policy of MR/HTL to support similar measures in adjacent policy units. This will allow the implications of moving to a NAI policy to be fully investigated to help in planning how to adapt to any increased flood risk.
7d37 – Parrett Estuary from line of national grid power lines to Combwich	Observe & Monitor	Maintain the existing defences to continue to minimise flood risk, through hold the line .	Maintain the existing defences to continue to minimise flood risk, through hold the line , including the new set-back defences protecting the power lines and areas to the west, provided it remains economically justifiable to do so.	Maintain the existing defences to continue to minimise flood risk, through hold the line , including the set-back defences protecting the power lines and areas to the west, provided it remains economically justifiable to do so.	The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state, and to continue defending against flood risk in a sustainable way where it is environmentally acceptable and economically viable. Continued maintenance of defences along this section of the outer west bank of the Parrett Estuary under the long term policy of HTL would support any realignment of the wider Steart Peninsula and also continue to constrain the estuary's low water channel.
7d38 – Combwich	Hold	Continue to minimise flood risk to Combwich by maintaining the existing flood defences, through hold the line .	Continue to minimise flood risk to Combwich by maintaining and, if necessary, rebuilding the existing flood defences, through hold the line .	Continue to minimise flood risk to Combwich by maintaining the existing flood defences, through hold the line .	The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state and to continue to defend against flood risk in a sustainable way where it is environmentally acceptable and economically viable. It is likely to be economically viable to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure at Combwich. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.

Proposed Policy Unit (Number & Description)	SMPI Policy	Preferred Policy			Reasons for selecting the adopted plan in light of reasonable alternatives
		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7d39 – Combwich to Bridgwater (Parrett west)	N/A	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy, as proposed by the Parrett Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy.	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for implementing managed realignment in the long term.	Implement managed realignment as informed by studies, otherwise maintain and, if necessary, rebuild the existing flood defences under a policy of hold the line .	<p>The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state, and to continue to defend against flood risk in a sustainable way where it's environmentally acceptable and economically.</p> <p>The Parrett Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy identified that there is slightly better economic justification to HTL in the short to medium term compared to MR, taking into account all the costs of implementing realignment. MR is more likely to be viable in the long term. NAI is not appropriate as it would lead to unmanaged increasing flood risk.</p>
7d40 – Bridgwater (upper Parrett Estuary)	N/A	Continue to minimise flood risk to Bridgwater by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise flood risk to Bridgwater by maintaining and, if necessary, rebuilding the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy. Construction of a surge barrier (as informed by further studies).	Continue to minimise flood risk to Bridgwater by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy.	<p>The objective of the Plan for the upper Parrett Estuary is to continue to reduce flood risk for a significant number of people, property and infrastructure at Bridgwater. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.</p>
7d41 – Bridgwater to Dunball	N/A	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise flood risk to Bridgwater by maintaining and, if necessary, rebuilding the existing flood defences through a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy.	<p>The objective of the Plan for the upper Parrett Estuary is to continue to reduce flood risk to people, property and infrastructure between Bridgwater and Dunball, which includes the mainline railway and the M5. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.</p>
7d42 – Dunball to River Brue	Hold	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for managed realignment.	Implement managed realignment at Pawlett Ham, for example, as informed by studies. Otherwise maintain and, if necessary, rebuild the existing flood defences, under a policy of hold the line .	Implement managed realignment as informed by studies at places such as Pawlett and Huntspill levels. Otherwise maintain and, if necessary, rebuild the existing flood defences under a policy of hold the line .	<p>The objectives of the Plan for the Parrett Estuary are to return it to a more natural, less constrained state and to continue to defend against flood risk in a sustainable way, where it is environmentally acceptable and economically viable.</p> <p>There are opportunities for realignment to provide flood storage and create habitat along this stretch. In particular, Pawlett Ham has been identified in the recent Parrett Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy. This is achieved through MR policy as NAI is not appropriate as it would not manage flood risk or habitat creation/adaptation.</p>
7d43 – Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge	Hold	Continue to minimise flood risk along this frontage by maintaining and improving as necessary the defences, through a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise flood risk along this frontage by maintaining and improving as necessary the defences, through a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise flood risk along this frontage by maintaining and improving as necessary the defences, through a hold the line policy.	<p>The objective of the Plan here is to protect the developed areas of Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge against flood risk. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.</p>

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		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7d44 – Berrow to Brean (north)	Observe & Monitor (possible Hold)	Continue to minimise the risk of flooding along this frontage through dune management to provide a more effective defence, through a policy of hold the line . Investigate long term sustainable management options, including improvement of existing defences and construction of a set-back defence.	The aim will be to continue to minimise the risk of flooding along this frontage. Implementation expected to be investigated by detailed study in the short term but is anticipated to include dune management to provide a more effective defence, through a policy of managed realignment and potential construction of a set-back defence.	The aim will be to continue to minimise the risk of flooding to the wider area of the Somerset Levels and Moors from this frontage. Implementation is to be investigated by detailed study in the short term but is expected to include management of the dunes and beach to restore the dunes as much as possible to provide a more robust natural defence through a policy of managed realignment and potential construction and maintenance a set-back defence.	<p>The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable protection against flood risk to Berrow and Brean and the wider Somerset Levels and Moors, working with natural processes as far as possible and retaining the natural features and beaches to benefit of tourism.</p> <p>To HTL along this stretch in the medium to long term would require the construction of very large hard defences. These would exacerbate beach narrowing and loss (the beach being covered at most states of the tide), making it technically more difficult to maintain defences in the long term. If there is little or no beach left, visitors would be less likely to be attracted to the area. As such, a medium to long term of HTL is not appropriate.</p> <p>To try to retain more beach material here and continue to manage the flood risk to the Somerset Levels and Moors in a sustainable way, a policy of MR in the medium to long term is most appropriate.</p>
7d45 – Brean (north) to Brean Down	Hold	Continue to minimise the risk of flooding along this frontage by maintaining the existing defences under a hold the line policy.	Continue to minimise the risk of flooding along this frontage by maintaining the existing defences under a hold the line policy.	If not possible to continue to hold the line , then allow more natural coastal evolution to occur by moving towards a policy of managed realignment .	<p>The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable protection against flood risk to the Somerset Levels and Moors, working with natural processes as far as possible and allowing this area to evolve naturally in the long term.</p> <p>The long-term sustainable management of this frontage is to be investigated as part of a detailed study in the short term. However, based on available information it is considered that to HTL along this stretch in the long term would require the existing hard defences to be replaced with larger structures once they reach the end of their effective life. It is uncertain if larger replacement defences would be technically sustainable in the current position and it is more likely that a realigned defence position would be adopted in the long term. Hence, it may be necessary to move to a policy of MR in the long term to continue to manage flood risk in a sustainable way.</p>
7d46 – Brean Down (south side)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.
POLICY SCENARIO AREA: BREAN DOWN TO ANCHOR HEAD (WESTON BAY)					
7e01 – Brean Down (north side) to Axe Estuary mouth (west)	Do Nothing	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through no active intervention .	The objective of the Plan here is to continue to allow this undefended section of coast to evolve naturally. This is achieved through NAI policy.

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		Short Term (to 2025)	Medium Term (to 2055)	Long Term (to 2105)	
7e02 – Axe Estuary left (west) bank (mouth to near Diamond Farm)	Hold (locally Retreat)	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through hold the line .	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through hold the line . Consider moving towards a policy of managed realignment .	If not possible to continue to hold the line , then allow more natural coastal evolution to occur by moving towards a policy of managed realignment .	The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable protection against flood risk to the Somerset Levels and Moors, working with natural processes as far as possible and allowing this area to evolve naturally in the long term. This is achieved through a long term policy of MR to ensure that any flood risk associated with this objective continues to be managed in a sustainable way.
7e03 – Axe Estuary right (east) bank (near Diamond Farm to mouth)	Hold (locally Retreat)	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for Managed Realignment.	Implement managed realignment as informed by detailed studies, otherwise maintain and if necessary rebuild the existing flood defences, under a policy of hold the line .	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing (or set back) flood defences, through hold the line	The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable protection against flood risk to the wider Somerset Levels and Moors, working with natural processes as far as possible. This is achieved through a policy of MR to ensure that any flood risk continues to be managed in a sustainable way.
7e04 – Axe Estuary mouth to Uphill	Hold (possibly Retreat long term)	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing flood defences, through a hold the line policy. Investigate opportunities for Managed Realignment.	Implement managed realignment as informed by studies, otherwise maintain and if necessary rebuild the existing flood defences, under a policy of hold the line .	Continue to minimise flood risk by maintaining the existing (or set back) flood defences, through hold the line	The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable flood protection for the wider Somerset Levels and Moors, working with natural processes as far as possible. This is achieved through a policy of MR to ensure that any flood risk continues to be managed in a sustainable way.
7e05 – Uphill to Weston-super-Mare (south)	Hold (possibly Retreat long term)	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue as far as possible but undertake dune monitoring and management if required to support the defence function of the dunes through managed realignment . If monitoring identifies that the dunes are at risk of breaching, then construct a secondary defence embankment this policy.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue as far as possible but undertake dune monitoring and management if required to support the defence function of the dunes through managed realignment . If monitoring identifies that the dunes are at risk of breaching, then construct a secondary defence embankment this policy.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue as far as possible but undertake dune monitoring and management if required to support the defence function of the dunes through managed realignment . If monitoring identifies that the dunes are at risk of breaching, then construct a secondary defence embankment this policy.	The objectives of the Plan here are to provide sustainable protection against flood risk for people, property and infrastructure at Uphill and Weston-super-Mare, working with natural processes as far as possible. This is achieved through a policy of MR to ensure that any flood risk continues to be managed in a sustainable way.
7e06 – Weston-super-Mare	Hold	Minimise risk of flooding and erosion to Weston-super-Mare by maintaining the existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise risk of flooding and erosion to Weston-super-Mare by maintaining the existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	Minimise risk of flooding and erosion to Weston-super-Mare by maintaining, or upgrading, the existing defences, through a hold the line policy.	The objective of the Plan here is to continue protecting people, property and infrastructure at Weston-super-Mare against flood and erosion risk. This is achieved through HTL policy as there is no room to implement MR and NAI is not appropriate.

In summary, the main changes to the SMP policies between consultation draft and final adopted SMP were:

- **Taw/Torridge Estuary** – there are a number of policy units in the Taw/Torridge Estuary where there is potential for managed realignment that could impact upon assets such as the Tarka Trail. The policy statements in these areas have been amended to reflect the potential for realignment to involve either realignment of the assets or tidal exchange through the assets. This has not required the policy of Managed Realignment itself to be changed in these areas.
- **Instow (formerly 7c15)** – The unit has been split into 2 parts to differentiate between hard defence frontage and dune frontage. The hard defence frontage retains a policy of Hold the Line for all three epochs. The dune frontage has been assigned a policy of Managed Realignment for all three epochs to reflect that the primary management here is likely to be dune management, although mentioning the possible need for a set-back defence if the defence function of the dunes becomes reduced in the future. The overall intent to continue to protect Instow has not changed.
- **Home Farm Marsh to Fremington (formerly 7c17)** – The unit has been split into 2 parts to differentiate between frontage where realignment potential is likely (Home Farm Marsh) and where the policy already says that defences are likely to be retained under Hold the Line (Fremington). This makes what is intended in each area clearer.
- **Penhill Point to A39 (formerly 7c19)** – The unit has been split into 2 parts to differentiate between the northern part where some form of realignment (likely exchange through the Tarka Trail) may be possible and the frontage towards the A39 where ongoing defence is required to protect the developed area at Bickington.
- **Watermouth (7d08)** – Having revisited the information in this area, and to be consistent with other areas where defences are privately owned, the policy has been changed to No Active Intervention for all three epochs but with the clear statement that there is no technical reason not to allow continued defences here if private owners wish to maintain them.
- **Porlock Weir (7d16)** – The defences here are privately owned and the owner has indicated intent to maintain (and possibly improve) the existing defences. To be consistent with other areas where defences are privately owned, the policy has been changed to No Active Intervention for all three epochs as there is insufficient economic justification to maintain these defences using public (flood and coastal defence budget) funds. However, the policy statement is clear that retention of private defences could continue if desired so long as they can be demonstrated to not have an adverse effect on the rest of Porlock Bay. The revised text retains the uncertainty about how sustainable this will prove to be in the medium to long term as it is thought that to provide adequate defence in the medium to long term will require larger defences over a longer extent of shoreline. The text therefore maintains that consideration may need to be given to adaptation measures in this area in the long term.
- **Minehead and Dunster (7d19, 7d20, 7d21)** – Having undertaken further review of the information, the policy here has been modified to be Hold the Line in the immediate term through beach recycling/short timber groynes (at Dunster) and replacement of embankment (at golf course), whilst undertaking a strategy study to look at the bigger picture, including potential issues with the terminal groyne at Minehead. Construction of a secondary defence line (seaward of West Somerset Railway) as back up to the beach will still be required under this policy as it is uncertain that the standard of protection beach management along the Dunster frontage alone will be adequate to reduce risk of backdoor flooding to Minehead.

In the medium term Hold the Line would continue for as long as technically and economically sustainable through continuing beach management, but this may well become unsustainable in this period, at which time the policy would move to Managed Realignment. At this point the secondary defence line constructed in the short term would become the primary defence line. Limited beach management to control roll back/minimise breach risk in this period could also be considered under this policy.

The long term policy will be similar to the medium term, reflecting uncertainty on the timing of the change to the realignment policy. Ultimately the long-term vision of the Plan for this area is to provide flood defence in a realigned position. If realignment occurs in the medium term, then the policy in the long term would be to maintain the realigned defence position under Hold the Line. If realignment did not occur in the medium term then it will be likely to occur in the long-term.

- **Doniford to St Audries Bay (7d26)** – Having undertaken further review of the information, and to be consistent with other areas where defences are privately owned and maintained, the policy here has been modified to be No Active Intervention as there is not likely to be a robust economic case to use public funds for defence of this area. However, the revised text clearly states that if the private defence owner wishes to continue to defend this area using private funds, then there is no technical reason not to permit it. The revised text does, however, retain concerns about how sustainable this will be even using private funds.
- **Hinkley Point (7d31)** – The policy here has been amended to reflect both current scenarios for the expansion of Hinkley Point as they are currently understood.
- **Stearr Peninsula (7d34 to 7d37), Parrett Estuary (7d38 to 7d42) and Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge (7d43)** – The policies here have been reviewed and amended to reflect the emerging findings of the Stearr Coastal Management Project. This review has been carried out with the Stearr project team to ensure consistency is achieved and has resulted in slight changes from the consultation draft of the SMP. Notably, the policy unit boundary between units 7d36 and 7d37 has been moved to now be at the point north of Combwich where the national grid power lines are situated. The policies in these two units are, however, as per the draft policies but in revised unit extents. No other changes to policy have been made in this area.
- **Burnham to Brean Down and the Axe Estuary West Bank (7d43 to 7d45 and 7e02)** – Having undertaken further review of all the information for this area, it is felt that the policies are broadly correct, although the long term policy for the Axe Estuary West Bank and the revetment frontage towards Brean Down has been changed from No Active Intervention to Managed Realignment to make it clearer what is intended in terms of requiring a set-back defence position as part of the future management of this area. Suggestion has also been added in the medium term to the possibility of implementing managed realignment along the Axe Estuary west bank in that period.

The only other change along the frontage has been to the position of the policy unit boundary towards Burnham-on-Sea (boundary between 7d43 and 7d44) which has been moved south to the boundary of the hard defences at the north end of Burnham sea front and the dunes. This is in line with the Black & Veatch (2008) management units and better reflects the different nature of the frontages.

The policy statements in this area have also been reviewed and updated to attempt to make the policies clearer.

- **Uphill (7e05)** – the policy for the dunes at Uphill has changed to be one of Managed Realignment to make it clear that dune management for defence purposes could occur if required based upon ongoing monitoring. This policy would apply for all three epochs to reflect that the primary management here is likely to be dune management that will manage the advance or retreat of the shoreline, although mentioning the possible need for a set-back defence if the defence function of the dunes becomes reduced in the future.

In addition to these more significant changes, small adjustments to policy unit boundary lines, unit names and clarification to policy statement text have been made.

6 Environmental Monitoring Measures During Plan Implementation

Monitoring of mitigation measures and environmental effects is described at a high level in the SMP Action Plan, and will be developed in detail under future strategy studies and schemes emerging from the SMP. It is not possible at this high level to define specific monitoring requirements. However, in a general sense, environmental monitoring will comprise:

- Development of habitat management and monitoring plans, where appropriate;
- The need to carry out Habitat Regulations Assessments at strategy/scheme level for some European designated nature conservation sites;
- Investigating opportunities for habitat creation where managed realignment is proposed;
- Continuing to consult key stakeholders and the general public during strategy development; and,
- Further studies at strategy or scheme level to investigate the potential impacts of flooding and erosion on important heritage features (known and unknown) at risk and to consider an appropriate programme of survey, recording and investigation to record these important sites, and those potential features not yet identified.

Developments implemented as a result of the plan will be subject to environmental impact assessment at project and strategic level as appropriate under the responsibility of the Environment Agency and Local Authorities. Additional environmental monitoring required will be identified from these assessments.