

6 Action Plan

6.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the South Foreland to Beachy Head Action Plan are to:

- facilitate implementation of the SMP policies;
- identify and/or promote studies to further/improve understanding where this is required to resolve policy and/or implementation;
- promote use of the SMP recommendations in spatial planning;
- identify procedures for the management of the SMP until its next review;
- establish a framework to monitor progress against the action plan; and
- initiate a future SMP review.

The following sections outline the steps required to ensure SMP recommendations are taken forward in the short term, both in planning and coast defence, and that necessary actions to facilitate the implementation of the longer-term policies are initiated as appropriate.

As such, the Action Plan identifies the steps to be taken in the period up to the next review of the SMP. This is nominally a 5 to 10 year process, however the plan recognises that there may be a reassessment of this timescale should an earlier review be considered necessary.

6.2 COASTAL DEFENCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The majority of the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP policy recommendations will be implemented through the process of coastal defence strategy development/review and the subsequent implementation of coastal defence schemes. The process of implementation will be underpinned by monitoring of the shoreline to identify ongoing behaviour, together with targeted study/investigation where specific uncertainties need to be addressed to enable/assist short, medium and long-term policy implementation.

In this area, the entire frontage is routinely monitored as part of the South East Strategic Coastal Monitoring Programme. Data collected from this monitoring programme will be used to review predicted cliff retreat rates and shoreline change; provide information for future updates of the SMP, continually improve certainty in the shoreline evolution and extent of erosion that may be expected. Table 6.1 does not refer further to this, rather focusing on the requirements from interrogation of the data this programme produces.

For each Policy Unit Table 6.1 identifies:

- the coastal defence strategy covering the unit;
- the nature of works required to implement the short term policy;
- whether the Strategy recommendations need to be reviewed in order to facilitate the 'short term' work requirements;
- any specific requirements for review of monitoring data from the unit;
- whether studies are required to either clarify/refine the policies or facilitate the medium/long term policies; and
- the organisation that will be responsible for promoting the actions.

This considers both the immediate implementation of the short term policies, and any preparatory works required to implement the medium/long term policies. The table also identifies the organisations responsible for undertaking each action.

Table 6.1 does not set a timetable/programme for undertaking these actions; however the relative priorities of each action are identified as High (H), Medium (M) or Low (L). For each of these the indicative timetable for action is likely to be as follows:

High (H)	within the next five years (2010)
Medium (M)	within the next ten years (2015)
Low (L)	within the next twenty years (2025)

Please note that where no action is required no priority is given

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c01	South Foreland to Dover	None in place	None	No	-	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L	None		Dover DC
4c02	Dover		Maintenance of existing structures	No Limited alongshore linkages mean works can be undertaken without need for strategy.	-	None	-	None		Dover DC
4c03	Shakespeare Cliff		None	No	-	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L	None		Dover DC
4c04	Samphire Hoe		Maintenance of existing structures	No Limited alongshore linkages mean works can be undertaken without need for strategy.	-	None	-	None		Euro Tunnel
4c05	Abbots Cliff		None	No	-	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L	The long term risk to the railway line must be reviewed in detail.	M	Network Rail and Dover DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c06	Folkestone Warren		Maintenance and improvement of existing structures	No Limited alongshore linkages mean works can be undertaken without need for strategy	-			The long term risk to the railway line must be reviewed in detail.	M	Network Rail, Shepway DC & Dover DC
4c07	Copt Point		None	No	-	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L			Shepway DC
4c08	Folkestone and Sandgate	Cliff End to Folkestone - ongoing	Maintenance of recently completed scheme, and other existing structures.	No strategy in place for Coronation Parade frontage, but limited alongshore linkages mean works can be undertaken without need for strategy. Ongoing strategy review covers area west of harbour.	L	Beach performance as part of ongoing recycling operations	H			Shepway DC
4c09	Sandgate to Hythe		Maintenance of recently completed scheme	Ongoing	L	Beach performance as part of ongoing recycling operations	H			Environment Agency & Shepway DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c10	Hythe Ranges		Maintenance of existing structures	Ongoing	H	Performance of shingle beach fronting rock/rubble defences.	L	The ongoing Strategy will verify the short and long term options for Hythe Ranges. The conclusions of this must be reviewed against the SMP policies and reported.	H	Environment Agency, Shepway DC & MoD
4c11	Dymchurch Redoubt to Romney Sands		Implementation of recently approved Dymchurch scheme, and ongoing maintenance of remaining frontages	Ongoing	M					Environment Agency & Shepway DC
4c12	Romney Sands to Dungeness Power Station		Dune management at Greatstone.	Ongoing	L			Clarification of Greatstone dune processes to understand past and future development and management approaches.	M	Environment Agency & Shepway DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c13	Dungeness Power Station		Ongoing recycling operations to maintain required standard of protection.	Ongoing	L	Annual Beach Inspections (Beach Feed Season) conducted by BE	M			British Energy and British Nuclear Fuels Limited
4c14	Lydd Ranges		Construction of set-back defences to facilitate return to 'natural beach'. Cease current recycling/ re-profiling activities.	Ongoing Will confirm/ establish short, medium and long term policies for this frontage	H	Monitoring to include the response of the shoreline to 'natural' process along this frontage and changes in habitat.	M	The ongoing Strategy will identify the short and long term options for Lydd Ranges. The conclusions of this must be reviewed against the SMP policies and reported.	H	Environment Agency, Ministry of Defence, English Nature, British Energy, British Nuclear Fuels.
4c15	Jury's Gap to The Suttons		Construction of new hard defence to improve standard of protection.	Ongoing Will confirm/ establish short, medium and long term policies for this frontage	H					Environment Agency & Rother DC
4c16	Camber Sands		Continued dune management	Ongoing	L	Review sand dune movement				Environment Agency & Rother DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c17	River Rother		Ongoing scheme construction on western bank, and maintenance/ improvement of defences on eastern bank. Possible limited realignment opportunities on both banks.	Ongoing	L			Promotion of managed realignment opportunities for habitat creation of east and west banks.	M	Environment Agency & Rother DC
4c18	River Rother to Cliff End		Ongoing implementation of flood defence scheme	Ongoing Will establish likely position for long term realignment.	M			Practicalities of long term managed realignment proposals, and strategy for removal of assets at risk. Potential habitat recreation sites to be investigated in the medium term.	M	Environment Agency & Rother DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c19	Cliff End to Fairlight Cove	Cooden to Cliff End	None	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been agreed by Defra and the base data that was used is now out of date. It is therefore appropriate that the strategy is reviewed to verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L			Rother DC
4c20	Fairlight Cove East (Sea Road)		Maintenance of existing rock bund	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been agreed by Defra and the base data that was used is now out of date. It is therefore appropriate that the strategy is reviewed to verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	M			Rother DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c21	Fairlight Cove Central (Rockmead Road)		Possible construction of rock revetment and slope drainage.	Yes The existing strategy identifies this section as 'Do Nothing'. This review is not an immediate requirement as the Scoping Study is considering works.	H	Ongoing detailed monitoring of slope movements to establish the 'phase' of landslide activity.	H	Ongoing Fairlight Scoping Study will identify viability of engineering solution. Recommendations of this must be fed back to the SMP. Due to immediate risk, Rother DC must work with homeowners regarding safety and need to vacate immediate risk areas.	H	Rother DC
4c22	Fairlight Cove West		None	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. The strategy needs to be reviewed to verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L			Rother DC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c23	Fairlight Cove West to Hastings		None	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H	Review cliff retreat rates against predictions, to ensure predicted losses are correct.	L			Rother DC & Hastings BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c24	Hastings		Maintenance of existing structures and improvements to groynes and harbour structures as necessary.	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H	Review beach profile data to ensure that a suitable beach is maintained	M			Hastings BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c25	Bulverhythe and Glyne Gap		Ongoing construction of revetment at Bulverhythe, and maintenance of other structures.	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H					Environment Agency and Hastings BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c26	Bexhill to Cooden		Maintenance of existing structures throughout frontage.	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H					Rother BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c27	Hooe and Pevensey Levels	Redoubt Gardens to Cooden	Ongoing beach management implementation through PFI contract.	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H					Environment Agency (Pevensey Coastal Defence Limited). The contract extends to Sovereign harbour entrance.

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c28	Sovereign Harbour		Ongoing maintenance of existing defences and beach management	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H					Sovereign Harbour Co., Environment Agency (Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd) & Eastbourne BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c29	Eastbourne		Ongoing maintenance of existing defences and operation of beach management plan	Yes The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.	H					Environment Agency & Eastbourne BC

Table 6.1 Coastal Defence Management Activities

Policy Unit		Coast Defence Strategy	Works for Short Term Policy	Strategy Review Required?	Priority	Specific Monitoring Requirements	Priority	Specific Study Requirements	Priority	Responsibility
4c30	Beachy Head	Cuckmere Haven to Redoubt Gardens	<p>On going maintenance of existing defences and operation of beach management plan; and</p> <p>None for the Beachy Head section of the frontage</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The existing strategy has not yet been approved by Defra. The base data used is now out of date. A review of the preferred Strategy Option may be required, with data from the Strategic Monitoring Programme, to review and verify the short, medium and long term policies for this frontage.</p>	H					Eastbourne BC, Wealden DC and Environment Agency

6.3 APPLICATION OF THE SMP IN SPATIAL PLANNING

The risk management policies set out in the SMP can not be implemented through coastal defence management alone. There is a need for spatial planning to adopt the policies, and understand their consequences, such that risk areas are avoided by development, and future changes in policy are facilitated.

The table below sets out actions which aim to ensure that the SMP policies are appropriately reflected in the relevant Regional Plan and Local Development Frameworks. The aim of this being that the long term coastal erosion and flooding risks are a material consideration in the planning process; again the relative priorities of these actions are indicated.

Table 6.2 Actions for Spatial Planning		
Action	Priority	Responsibility
Communicate the completion of the SMP to the Regional Assembly to ensure appropriate reflection in the Regional Plan.	L	South East Coastal Group (Chair/Secretary)
Inform Local Authority Planning Officers of final SMP recommendations and implications.	H	Local Authority Technical (Engineering) Officers
Submit SMP to Local Authority Planning Committees with request to 'note' the recommendations.	H	Local Authority Planning Officers to report to planning committee
Inclusion of the SMP as a section of or annex to the Local Development Framework.	M	Local Authority Planning Officers & Planning Committees
Adoption of preferred policy 'risk zones' as development planning consideration.	H	Local Authority and Environment Agency Planning Officers
Promote the development of planning policies to address potential housing stock losses through implementation of 'realignment' and 'no active intervention' policies.	M	Local Authority and Environment Agency Planning Officers
Assess the strategic requirement for habitat creation as a result of implementing the short, medium and	M	English Nature, Environment Agency,

long term policies on European sites.		Local Authorities
Investigate possible locations for habitat creation. This should be done in conjunction with LDF development allocations, catchment management plans and flood management strategies.	M	English Nature, Environment Agency, Local Authorities

6.4 FURTHER ACTIONS TO FACILITATE MEDIUM/ LONG TERM POLICIES

In addition to the specific actions outlined in the proceeding sections, there is also a need for some activities to be progressed, which require consideration beyond the scale of the SMP, and therefore are largely beyond the control of the Coastal Group (or its constituent organisations). However it is important that the need for these studies is promoted with the relevant bodies.

These studies/initiatives, and the actions for the Coastal Group, are outlined in Table 6.3, together with their priority.

Table 6.3 Further Actions to facilitate medium/long term policies

Action	Priority	Responsibility
Promote the investigation, and implementation, of mechanisms to facilitate the removal of 'at risk' assets (properties, infrastructure, etc), to enable the implementation of long term realignment/NAI policies. This will require a review of national policy/legislation.	H	South East Coastal Group to promote with Defra, through ongoing 'Making Space for Water' initiatives.
Promote a formal policy link between SMPs and Local Development Frameworks/Regional Plans. This will require Defra and ODMP to review current arrangements.	M	South East Coastal Group to promote with Defra through Coastal Group Chairs forum.
Promote Central Government funding for all consultation/ stakeholder activities in the development of SMPs, and strategies/schemes.	L	South East Coastal Group to promote with Defra through Coastal Group Chairs forum.

