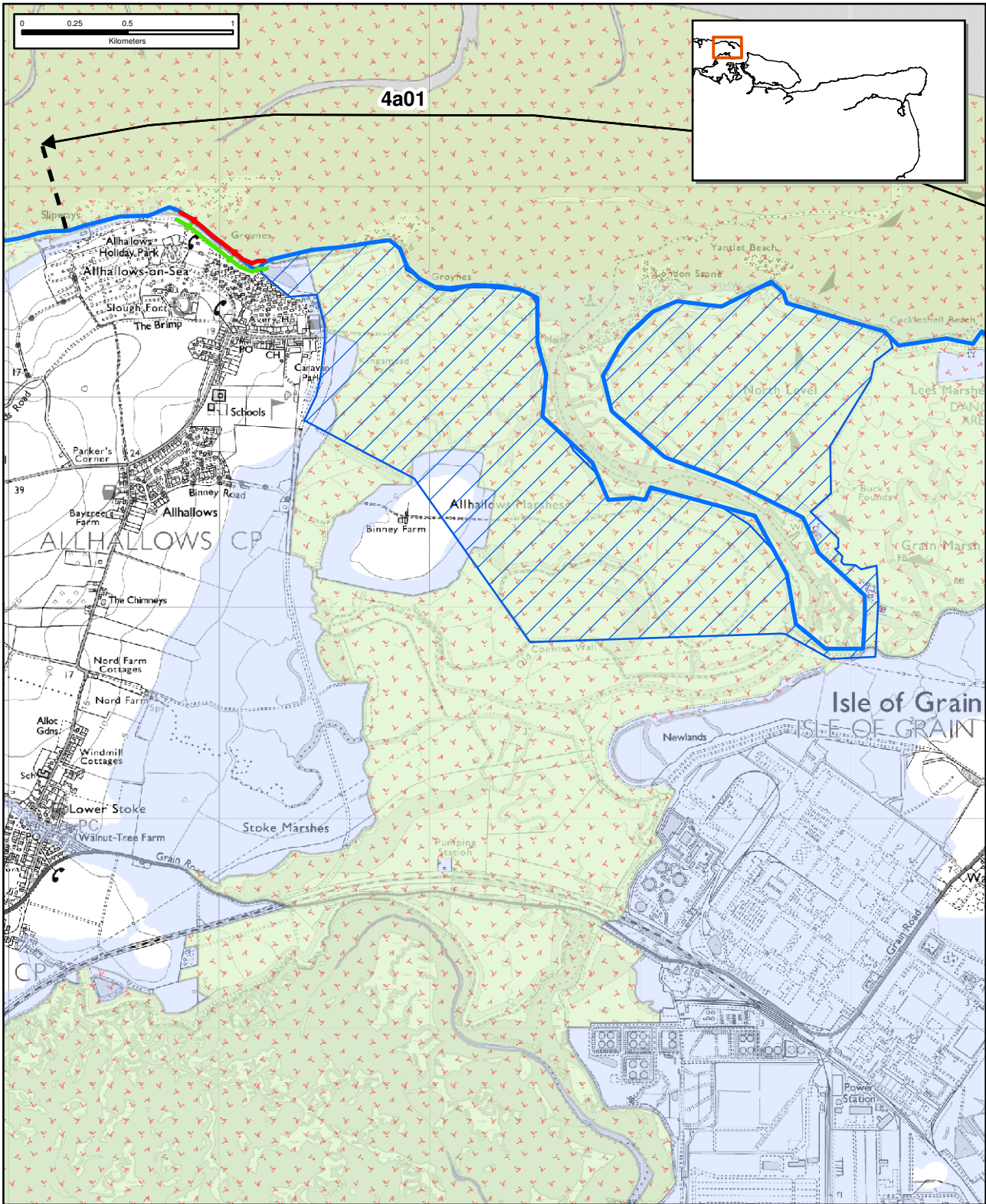


Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan

Policy Unit 4a 01: Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain - Map 1 of 2



Policy

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
Hold the Line	Managed Realignment	Managed Realignment

Erosion Lines

- 0-20 year erosion
- 20-50 year erosion
- 50-100 year erosion

- Policy Unit Boundary
- Current shoreline



Indicative realignment extent



2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

Environmental/Cultural Heritage

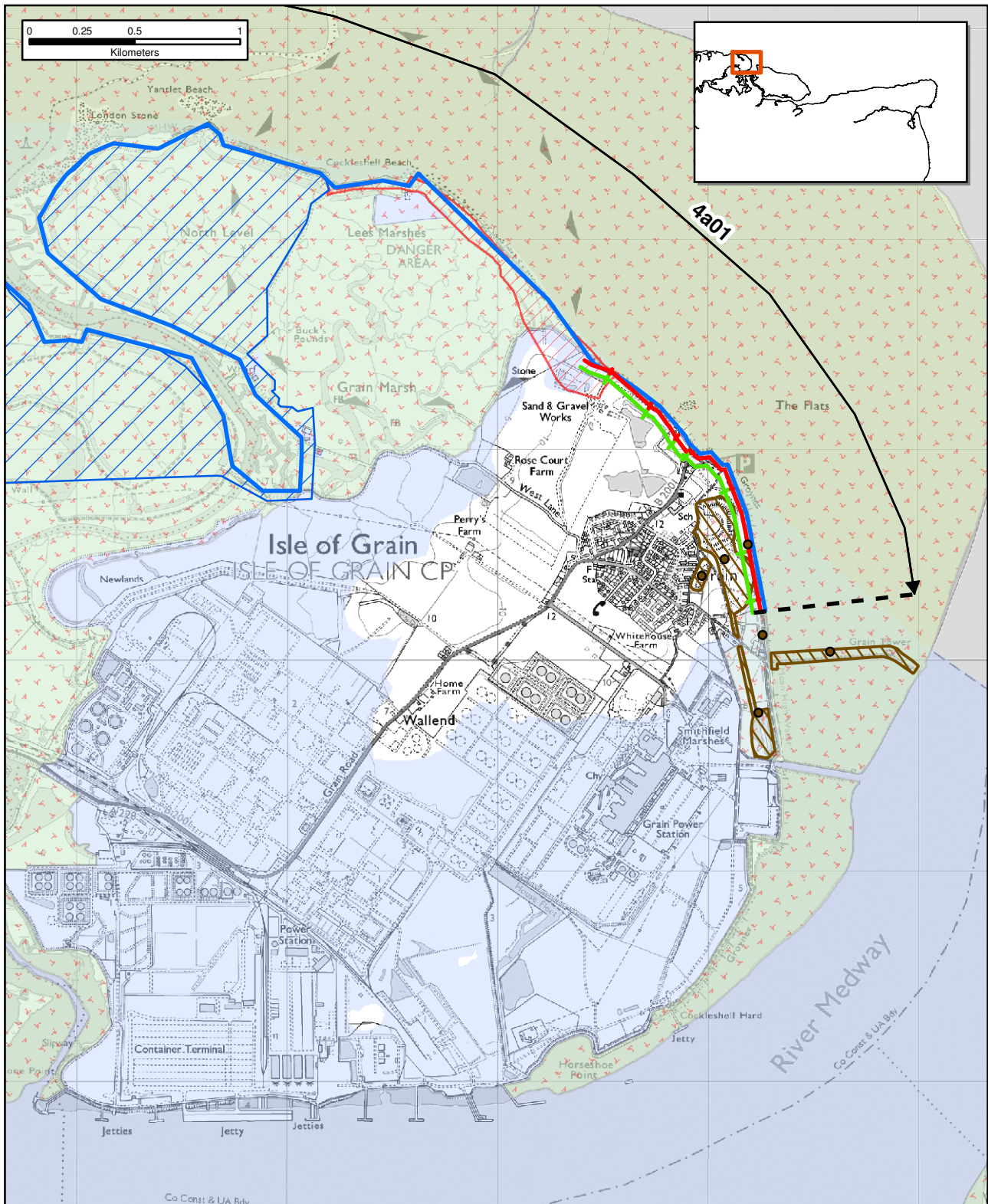
National Nature Conservation Designation

International and National Nature Conservation Designation

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Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan

Policy Unit 4a 01: Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain - Map 2 of 2



Policy

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
Hold the Line	Managed Realignment	Managed Realignment

Erosion Lines

- 0-20 year erosion
- 20-50 year erosion
- 50-100 year erosion

- Policy Unit Boundary
- Current shoreline



Indicative realignment extent



2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

Environmental/Cultural Heritage

- National Nature Conservation Designation
- International and National Nature Conservation Designation
- Important Heritage Sites (Scheduled Monuments)

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Location reference:	Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain
Policy Unit reference:	4a01

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain marks the western extremity of the SMP frontage and marks the interface between the open coast and the Medway Estuary (Policy Unit E4 01: Grain Tower to Colemouth Creek – Medway Estuary and Swale SMP. The preferred policies for the estuary unit are Hold the Line in the short, medium and long terms).

In the short term the plan is to continue protecting the low lying assets, which include properties, roads, agricultural land and coastal grazing marsh. However, in the medium and long term the plan is to realign the defences, to realise potential environmental, engineering and coastal process benefits. Under rising sea levels it is anticipated that it will become increasingly difficult to defend the shoreline and maintain a beach on this frontage, due to coastal squeeze and a general lack of natural sediment inputs. This would result in a need for very substantial hard defences, if the current alignment were to be held in the long-term. Managed realignment would avoid the need for such defences, possibly creating cost savings and environmental enhancement. No specific realignment position has been defined under the SMP, only an indicative extent. There is potential for loss of buried unknown heritage with managed realignment in the latter two epochs. This approach would involve the managed loss of assets; however it is intended that the villages of Allhallows and Grain, and the electricity / railway line would be protected.

The marshland is a designated freshwater habitat and its loss needs to be compensated for. Delaying realignment until the 2nd epoch will give time for compensatory habitat to be established and allow for consistency with the TE2100 strategy. Although the hinterland varies, the coastal processes are consistent along the unit and treating this frontage as a single unit is the most appropriate way forward.

Preferred policies to implement Plan:

From present day: The present day policy for Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain is to **hold the line** by maintaining existing defence structures and management practises. This will ensure that current flood protection measures will remain in place.

Medium-term: In the medium term, if the socio-economic, environmental and technical benefits are confirmed, then it will be appropriate to implement a change of policy to **managed realignment**, at a set-back position and allowing the current shoreline position to migrate landwards. A policy of managed realignment will allow some inundation and erosion (of the slopes at Grain) and a degree of natural coastal processes seawards of the realigned defence as well as reduce

Location reference: Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain

Policy Unit reference: 4a01

the probability of uncontrolled large scale flooding.

No specific realignment position has been identified for the SMP. However, any set back could involve the loss of built assets, and could potentially include properties, roads, agricultural land and freshwater habitat. Realignment would create a coast that will not require ever increasing expenditure to maintain in the coming centuries, together with the creation of important brackish and saline habitats, as well as coastal process benefits i.e. reducing the impact of coastal squeeze.

The loss of the designated freshwater habitats would normally require mitigation measures to be implemented, and this aspect will require more detailed appraisal if it is still required in the long term.

Long-term:

Providing the socio-economic, environmental and technical benefits have been confirmed then the long-term policy for Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain is a continuation of **managed realignment**. This policy will continue to deliver technical and environmental benefits and eliminate / reduce the risk of uncontrolled large scale flooding.

Depending on the realignment extent the shoreline has the potential to reach a position more in keeping with its natural form. As such, providing sediment supply is sufficient to keep pace with sea level rise, a fronting beach and in the vicinity of Yantlet Creek, mudflats and saltmarsh, could be maintained.

Note: The amount of realignment and subsequent flood (spatial) extent implemented along this frontage, has the potential to (slightly) increase tidal levels in the upstream sections of the Thames Estuary.

Location reference:	Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain (south)					
Policy Unit reference:	4a01					
IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION						
Time Period	Management Activities	Property, Built Assets and Land Use	Landscape	Nature Conservation	Historic Environment	Amenity and Recreational Use
2025	No change from the current management practises, construction of a realigned flood defence structure could take place during this epoch.	No built assets will be at risk during this epoch.	The current landscape will be maintained.	Current habitats will be maintained. Constructing a realigned defence structure will disturb the existing habitats.	Existing heritage assets will be maintained. Defence construction may affect heritage assets.	Current amenity usage maintained.
2025 – 2055	Construction / maintenance of a realigned flood defence structure. Current shoreline defences will be allowed to fail.	Some built assets and land anticipated to be at risk, the extent depends upon the position of the realigned defence.	The current landscape will change, giving way to an increasingly natural landscape.	Some freshwater areas give way to saline habitats.	Some unknown heritage assets could be at risk and will therefore need recording and / or relocating.	Improving the landscape and increasing the habitat variety could lead enhance the amenity use.
2055 – 2105	Maintain the realigned flood defence.	Some built assets and land anticipated to be at risk, the extent depends upon the position of the realigned defence.	An increasingly natural landscape will continue to develop.	Further freshwater areas give way to saline habitats. Saline habitats will establish themselves.	Some unknown heritage assets could be at risk and will therefore need recording and / or relocating.	Improving the landscape and increasing the habitat variety could lead enhance the amenity use.