

Policy								
From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:						
Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line						
Erosion Lines		Environmental/Cultural Heritage						
0-20 year erosion	Potential maximum long-term realignment option	National Nature Conservation Designation						
20-50 year erosion	2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency	International and National Nature Conservation Designation						
50-100 year erosion								
Policy Unit Boundary								
Hold the Line (0 - 100 years)								
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Location reference:

Seasalter to Whitstable Town (Golf Course)

Policy Unit reference: 4a08

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

This is an urban development fronted by an amenity beach. The plan is to continue protecting built assets and the seafront, which is of value to the local economy, due to tourism. Under a scenario of sea level rise it is anticipated that the fronting beach and lower foreshore will narrow, the platform will lower and defence scour will increase. Subsequently significant amounts of beach nourishment will be required if an amenity beach is to be maintained, in conjunction with an increase in defence maintenance. Nonetheless this approach will ensure the protection of the built assets and the railway line which passes within a few metres of the seawall.

Preferred policies to implement Plan:

From present day: The present day policy for Seasalter to Whitstable Town is to continue protecting the frontage and its associated assets by maintaining the defences, under a policy of **hold the line**. With rates of sediment feed and transportation along this frontage being low, very little change in coastal processes are anticipated for this epoch. In maintaining the defences the shoreline is held seaward of its natural alignment and the coast is prevented from functioning freely. The groynes along this frontage also interrupt alongshore sediment transport.

Medium-term: The medium term policy is to continue to hold the line. In response to sea level rise it is anticipated that the defence structures and beach management will increase at some point at some point during this period.

Long-term: The long-term policy is to continue to hold the line. This will be achieved by maintaining and upgrading the present defence structures. This will continue to protect assets from predicted sea level rise but will probably result in increased scour. Beaches along this section of the coast are anticipated to denude during this epoch and additional maintenance will be necessary to sustain an amenity driven frontage. If this becomes increasingly difficult then alternative (hard engineering) options may need to be sought. If this were to be the case then the character of the frontage would change. This recommendation is deemed sustainable over the SMP timescale although this may not be technically viable in the much longer term.

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IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION

Time Period	Management Activities	Property, Built Assets & Land Use	Landscape	Nature Conservation	Historic Environment	Amenity & Recreational Use
2025	Maintain / upgrade existing defences.	All properties and built assets are maintained.	Current landscape and land use maintained	Current terrestrial and marine habitats maintained	Known heritage assets will be maintained. Some unknown heritage assets may be exposed / lost.	Current amenity and recreational facilities maintained
2025 – 2055	Maintain defence structures.	All properties and built assets are maintained.	Increased engineering could have an adverse effect on the landscape.	Current terrestrial habitats will be maintained but the inter-tidal habitats will be at risk.	Known heritage assets will be maintained. Some unknown heritage assets may be exposed / preserved / lost.	Recreational value will be reduced due to denuding beach
2055 – 2105	Maintenance and improve defence structures.	All properties and built assets are maintained.	Further engineering is likely to impact on the landscape.	Current terrestrial habitats will be maintained but the inter-tidal habitats will be at risk.	Known heritage assets will be maintained. Some unknown heritage assets may be exposed/ preserved / lost.	Unless artificially maintained, little / no recreational beach will remain.