



Policy

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

Erosion Lines

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

- Potential maximum long-term realignment option
- 2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

Environmental/Cultural Heritage

- National Nature Conservation Designation
- International and National Nature Conservation Designation

- Policy Unit Boundary
- Hold the Line (0-100 years)

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Location reference: Whitstable Town (Golf Course) to Whitstable Harbour

Policy Unit reference: 4b09

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

Whitstable Town to Whitstable Harbour is a dense urban area that extends to the shoreline. The long term plan is to continue protecting the developments including the residential, commercial and industrial assets, as well as maintaining the amenity assets, which is of great value to the local economy due to tourism. However, in doing so there is the potential that buried unknown heritage assets could be lost.

Preferred policies to implement Plan:

From present day: The present day policy for Whitstable Town to Whitstable Harbour is to continue to **hold the line** by maintaining the existing defences to protect the significant assets, which are important to the region's economy. This will be achieved by continuing to maintain the existing defences, i.e. the harbour arms, jetties, seawalls and the groyned beach. Transportation rates along this frontage are high but sediment feed is low. As such, pressure on the coastal system will increase throughout the duration of the Shoreline Management Plan.

Medium-term: The medium term policy for Whitstable Town to Whitstable Harbour is to continue to **hold the line**. This will be achieved by maintaining and, at some point during this epoch, upgrading the defence structures. This will maintain the character of the frontage and protect the significant built assets from sea level rise. The seawall in the town is relatively low and there is a strong probability that it will need raising during this epoch under current sea level rise predictions.

Long-term: The significant built assets along this frontage dictate that the long-term policy is to **hold the line**. To accomplish this and to keep pace with sea level rise defences will need to be maintained and upgraded. As such, the character of this frontage is likely to change, from one that offers amenity facilities and has landscape qualities to one that is purely defensive. The inter-tidal area will narrow further, with little or no beach building material entering the system and few fines bypassing the defence structures. Thus, retaining a beach in front of substantial defence structures will become increasingly difficult, particularly on the downdrift side of the harbour. Sourcing suitable recharge material is likely to become problematic and expensive in the future, as such the situation will be exacerbated. Despite this and the potential impact on the town's character, this recommendation is deemed technically and environmentally viable, for the duration of the Shoreline Management Plan.

Location reference:	Whitstable Town (Golf Course) to Whitstable Harbour					
Policy Unit reference:	4a09					
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	Maintain existing defences.	Residential, commercial properties and the harbour maintained.	Current landscape value maintained	Current marine, inter-tidal and terrestrial 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 / upgrade defence structures.	All residential, commercial properties and the harbour maintained.	Increased engineering may have an adverse effect on the landscape and townscape	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 residential, commercial properties and the harbour maintained.	Increased engineering is likely to have an adverse effect on the landscape and townscape	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.