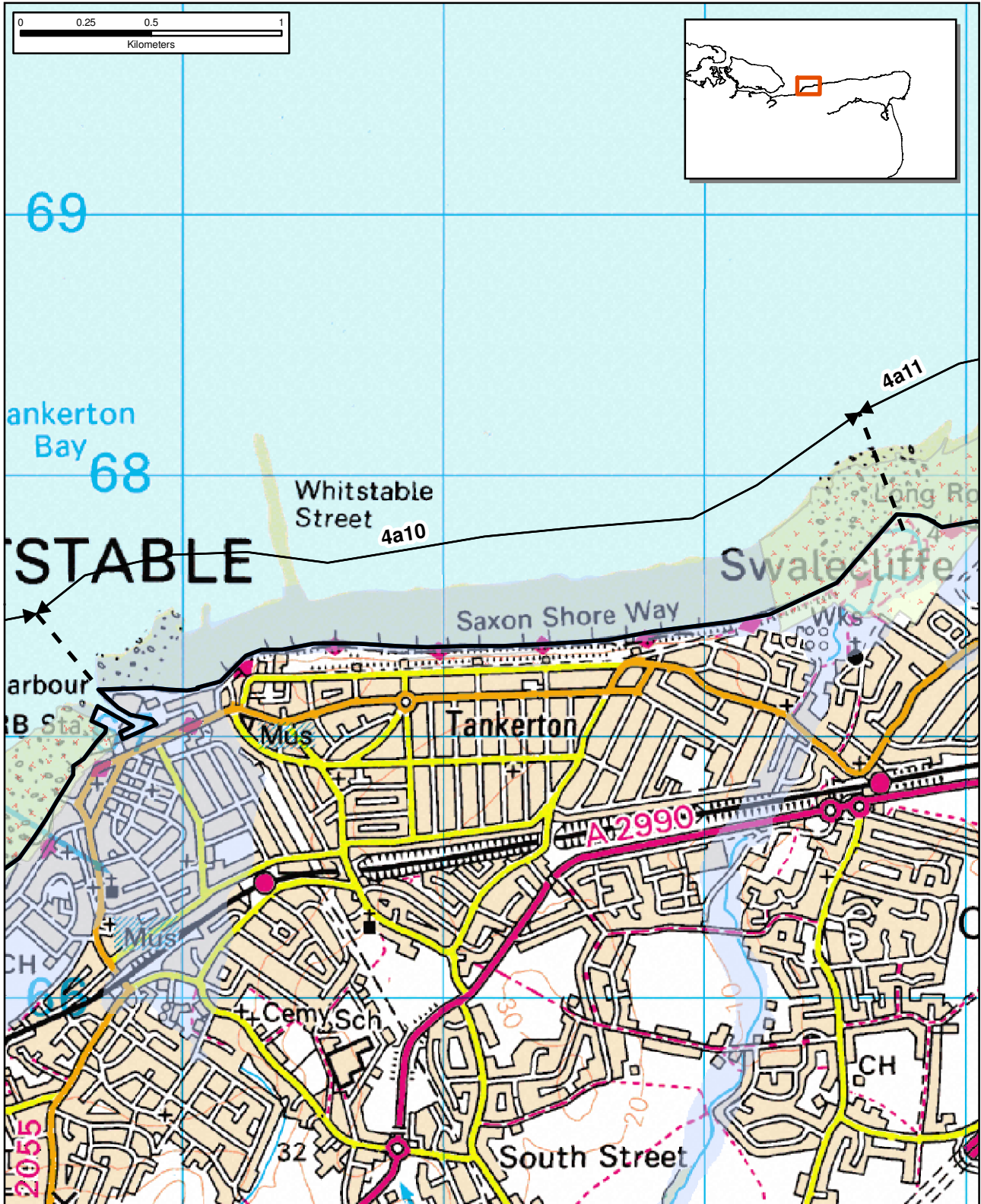


**Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan
Policy Unit 4a 10: Whitstable Harbour (East) to Swalecliffe - Map 1**



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

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



Potential maximum long-term realignment option



2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

Environmental/Cultural Heritage

National Nature Conservation Designation

International and National Nature Conservation Designation

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Location reference: Whitstable Harbour (east) to Swalecliffe

Policy Unit reference: 4a10

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

This is a densely populated urban frontage, with built assets extending to the edge of Tankerton Slopes and fronted by a popular tourist beach. The plan is to continue protecting the built assets and maintaining the amenity assets, which is of great value to the local economy due to tourism. In the long term however, this will inevitably result in a narrowing of the beach. Subsequently significant amounts of beach nourishment will be required if an amenity beach is to be maintained. This approach will ensure the protection of commercial and residential area. However, 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 Harbour (east) to Swalecliffe is to **hold the line**, by maintaining the defences and as such continuing to protect the densely populated town and its assets. With rates of sediment feed and transportation along this frontage being low, very little change in coastal processes are likely to occur within this epoch.

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: Continuing to **hold the line** is recommended for Whitstable Harbour (east) to Swalecliffe. 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 induce 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. However, this recommendation is deemed sustainable over the SMP timescale although this may not be technically viable in the much longer term.

Location reference:	Whitstable Harbour (east) to Swalecliffe					
Policy Unit reference:	4a10					
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 and current beach management practises.	Residential and commercial properties 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 engineering and management practises to compensate for sea level rise and beach narrowing.	Residential and commercial properties 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	Maintain / upgrade engineering and management practises to compensate for sea level rise and beach narrowing.	Residential and commercial properties 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.