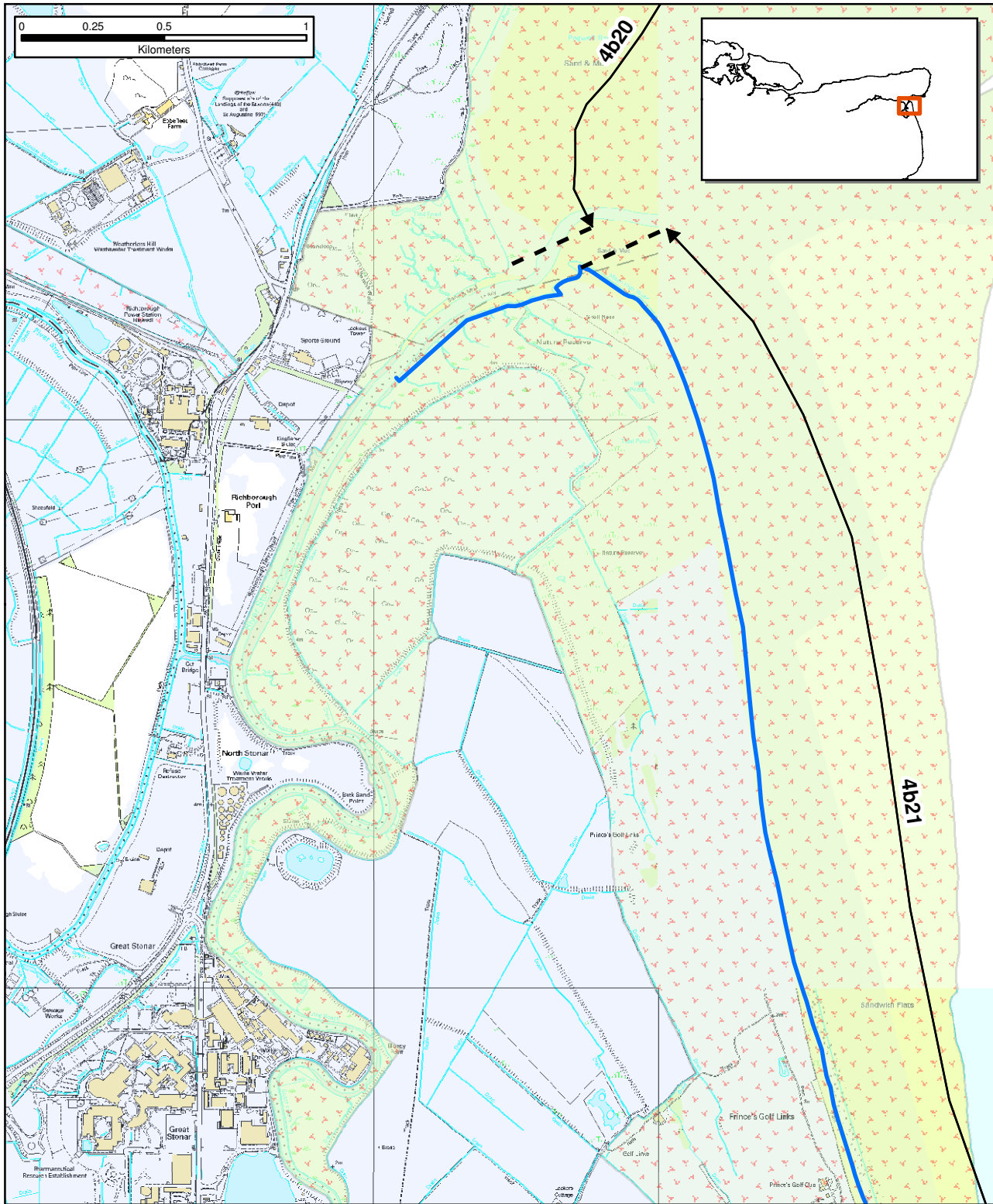


Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan

Policy Unit 4b 21: South of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate (North) - Map 1 of 2



Policy

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention

Erosion Lines

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

- Current shoreline
- 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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Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan




Policy Unit 4b 21: South of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate (North) - Map 2 of 2





Policy

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention

Erosion Lines

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

-  Current shoreline
-  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



Important Heritage Sites (Scheduled Monuments)

Location reference: *South of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate (north)*

Policy Unit reference: 4b21

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

A largely undeveloped frontage which is fronted by accreting sand dunes of international conservation importance and backed by nationally important golf links (Prince's Golf Links and Royal St George's Golf Links). The long-term policy here is to protect the town of Sandwich and limit large scale flood inundation, which concurs with the objectives of the 'River Stour Catchment Flood Management Plan' and the Sandwich Bay Strategy Study. Currently there are no formal shoreline defences in place, as the fronting sand dunes are accreting naturally and provide the required standard of protection. (Inland fluvial flood risk management practises will be maintained / implemented, which combined with the informal defences along the open coast will manage the flood risk to Sandwich). As such, it is anticipated that the continued provision of flood defence will not require hard defence. However, as the sand dunes are reliant on continued feed from updrift frontages and from offshore sources, it is strongly recommended that regular beach monitoring be undertaken, to ensure a suitable standard is maintained. If in the future, monitoring shows that the natural defence provided by the dunes does not keep pace with sea level rise and the risk of flood becomes unacceptable, or in the unlikely event that a breach in the dunes were to occur, then appropriate management practises would need to be put in place to limit the amount of flooding to the hinterland. Under this policy the nature conservation value will be maintained as the coastline functions naturally.

This section of coastline has also been addressed in more detail within the Pegwell to Kingsdown Coastal Management Strategy, where the preferred policy for 'Reach 2: Shell Ness to Sandwich Bay Estate' is 'Do Nothing', which concurs with the no active intervention policy in this SMP.

Preferred policies to implement Plan:

From present day: The present day policy for south of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate north is to introduce a policy of **no active intervention**. This will be a continuation of current practises i.e. the accreting sand dunes are substantial enough to withstand a 1:200 year event and provide protection to the substantial assets within Sandwich.

This policy has no adverse environmental or coastal process affects, sustaining the SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI and NNR designations, nor is it detrimental to the built assets. However, as the sand dunes are reliant on continued feed from updrift frontages and from offshore sources, continued and stringent dune management is required.

Medium-term: The medium term policy for south of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate north is to continue with **no active intervention**. As no engineering structures are currently in place along this section of the coastline, comprehensive monitoring together with intervals of limited access will be required to ensure that the dunes remain healthy and the hinterland assets (Sandwich) remain sufficiently protected from flood risk.

Location reference: *South of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate (north)*

Policy Unit reference: 4b21

With accelerated rates of sea level rise predicted, it is anticipated that the dunes could potentially come under some degree of pressure towards the latter stages of this epoch. Thus, in the unlikely event that a breach in the dunes were to occur then appropriate management practises would need to be put in place to limit the amount of flooding to the hinterland.

Long-term: The long-term plan for south of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate north is to continue with a policy of **no active intervention**, which will continue to provide protection to the substantial built assets in Sandwich. Ideally protection will be achieved via the sand dunes, which are currently substantial enough to withstand a 1:200 year event.

However, with sea level rise predicted to accelerate during this epoch and uncertainty regarding sediment supply, the integrity of the dunes could come under threat. Should this be the case then active and preferably soft management of the dunes would be required (in conjunction with fluvial flood risk management practises along the River Stour). This approach will maintain the majority of the hinterland assets, although the golf links could experience periodic flooding. However, this policy would have no or limited adverse affects to the environment (SAC, SPA, Ramsar, SSSI and NNR designations) and coastal processes. Stringent beach monitoring is recommended to support this policy.

Location reference:	South of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate(north)					
Policy Unit reference:	4b21					
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	Continue with current management practises i.e. managing the flood risk.	Flood risk to the town of Sandwich will remain managed.	Current landscape maintained.	Current environmental interests are maintained.	Current heritage assets maintained.	Current amenity and recreational facilities maintained (including backing golf links)
2025 – 2055	Continue with current management practises i.e. managing the flood risk.	Flood risk to the town of Sandwich will remain managed.	Current landscape maintained.	Current environmental interests are maintained.	Current heritage assets maintained.	Current amenity and recreational facilities maintained (including backing golf links)
2055 – 2105	Current flood management practises may need to change if there is significant dune erosion / sea level rise.	Some flooding of the backing hinterland could take place but flood risk to the town of Sandwich will remain managed.	Any increase in the management practises could, if not implemented sympathetically, have an adverse effect on the landscape.	The sand dune system may start to become vulnerable under storm conditions. Some freshwater habitats could give way to brackish habitats.	Some unknown heritage assets may be exposed / at risk.	Some shoreline and hinterland facilities (i.e. golf links) may be affected.