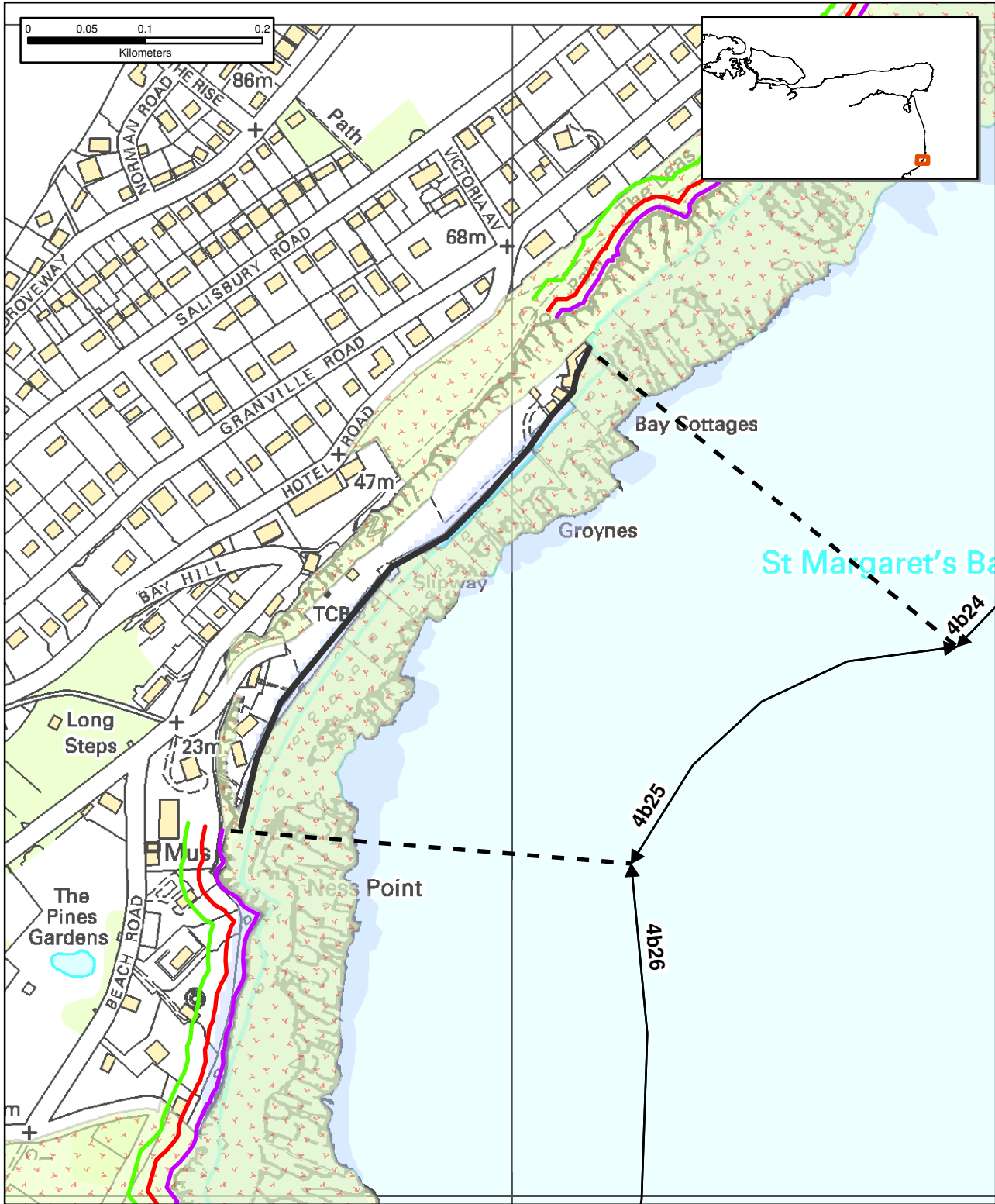


# Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan

## Policy Unit 4b 25: St Margaret's Bay - 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:**        **St Margaret's Bay**

**Policy Unit reference:**    **4b25**

### SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

**Plan:**

*This unit covers the section of coast which contains the clifftop village of St Margaret's Bay as well as some development on the undercliff platform at the base of the cliffs. Thus the long-term plan for St Margaret's is to continue to protect the assets through defending the present position (the frontage has a history of defence and currently there are a number of management practises in place). This is technically viable due to the low erosion rates of chalk cliffs, the limited amount of beach building material chalk cliffs provide, low sediment transportation rates along this frontage, the frontage being naturally sheltered and the limited impact on adjacent frontages. It is acknowledged that defending the shoreline here may in the future impact upon the environmental quality of the cliffs. As such it recommended that management practises are considerate to the surroundings.*

**Preferred policies to implement Plan:**

**From present day:**    The present day policy for St Margaret's is to continue to **hold the line** and protect the assets, through maintaining existing defences and management practises. Holding the line ensures that erosion at the cliff toe is arrested but it does not ensure that for the cliff top. However, the rate of erosion is reduced. It is acknowledged that the presence of these defences adversely affects the environmental and landscape quality of the cliffs.

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**Medium-term:**        The medium term policy is to continue defending St Margaret's under a policy of **hold the line**. Due to the nature of the cliffs geology, it is unlikely that rates of cliff erosion will increase during this epoch. However, under a scenario of sea level rise and coastal squeeze, it will become increasingly difficult to maintain a beach along this section of the coast. Therefore, beach nourishment may be required at some point during this epoch, if an amenity beach is to be maintained.

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**Long-term:**         The long term policy is to continue defending the socio-economic assets affiliated to St Margaret's through a policy of **hold the line**. Protection would most likely be provided by upgrading the existing defence structures. As such the character of the frontage may change, as the amenity and landscape qualities reduce.

<b>Location reference:</b>	<b>St Margaret's Bay</b>					
<b>Policy Unit reference:</b>	<b>4b25</b>					
<b>IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION</b>						
<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Management Activities</b>	<b>Property, Built Assets &amp; Land Use</b>	<b>Landscape</b>	<b>Nature Conservation</b>	<b>Historic Environment</b>	<b>Amenity and Recreational Use</b>
<b>2025</b>	Continue with the current management practises.	All built assets are maintained.	Current coastal landscape maintained.	Current environmental interests are maintained.	No known heritage assets are at risk. Some unknown heritage assets could be exposed / at risk.	The current amenity and recreational facilities will be maintained.
<b>2025 – 2055</b>	Maintain the defence structures and management practises.	All built assets are maintained.	Current coastal landscape maintained.	Current environmental interests are maintained but the fronting beach will denude.	No known heritage assets are at risk. Some unknown heritage assets could be exposed / at risk.	The current amenity and recreational facilities will be maintained.
<b>2055 – 2105</b>	Maintain / upgrade defence structures and potentially implement beach management practises under a scenario rising sea levels.	All built assets are maintained.	Upgrading defence structures could impact on the landscape along this stretch of coast.	Current environmental interests are maintained but the fronting beach will continue to denude.	No known heritage assets are at risk. Some unknown heritage assets could be exposed / at risk.	Some recreational facilities may reduce due to a denuding beach.