

Policy Unit 5A06 Fishbourne		
Summary description of Policy Unit		
<p>This privately owned frontage is within Chichester Harbour AONB. The extent of the potential tidal floodplain would significantly affect an extensive area of agricultural grade 1 land, along with small numbers of Listed Buildings and terrestrial, archaeological features, and local transport links. Analysis of shoreline erosion (see Appendix C5) indicates the rate and scale of coastal processes are less within the harbours than on the open coast. There are inter-tidal and transitional freshwater habitats of International, European and national nature conservation importance and important roost sites for waders and waterfowl that support nearby and adjacent SPA/Ramsar sites. The shoreline is privately owned and defences privately maintained.</p>		
Final policy options		SMP1 Ref n/a
Epoch 1 From Present Day (up to 2025)	Epoch 2 Medium Term (2025 to 2055)	Epoch 3 Long Term (2055 to 2105)
Hold the Line No public funding available for private defences	Hold the Line No public funding available for private defences	Hold the Line No public funding available for private defences
Summary of rationale behind final policy options		
<p>The final policy options to continue to maintain the privately owned and maintained defence line reflect landowner's intentions for future management of their defences, thus removing the potential opportunity for intertidal habitat creation at Fishbourne.</p> <p>Continued maintenance of flood defences will provide protection to an extensive area of agricultural grade 1 land, along with small numbers of listed buildings and terrestrial archaeological features and local transport links that are located within the extensive potential coastal tidal floodplain to the south east of Fishbourne. This privately owned frontage is within Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The European and national nature conservation designations applicable to Chichester Harbour and the network of sites within the agricultural hinterland provide a supporting function as roosting or feeding areas to waders and waterfowl to these designated sites.</p> <p>Due to the environmental designations within Chichester Harbour, continued maintenance of defences will result in the continued loss of European and national nature conservation designated habitats such as inter-tidal foreshore habitats, through coastal squeeze. These losses will need to be mitigated within the same designated area or compensated for elsewhere and delivered through the Regional Habitat Creation Programme. Opportunities for habitat mitigation and compensation have been detailed within the Appropriate Assessment of the final policies.</p>		

Policy changes through Public Consultation

The policies proposed for consultation were HTL / HTL* / MR. The * in epoch 2 indicated that further detailed studies were required to understand the role the site has in the Solent-wide network of wildfowl and wading bird roost sites and to determine the feasibility of managed realignment opportunities in the medium to long-term.

Following discussions and consultation with landowners the HTL* in epoch 2 and MR policy in epoch 3 were amended to reflect landowner's objection to MR policy option and their intentions for future defence management at Fishbourne, thus removing the potential opportunity for intertidal habitat creation. Funding sources have been clarified.

An Information Note for landowners, planners and developers on privately owned coastal defences and coastal planning issues has been produced.

Funding

Central government funding may be secured for identified works and those associated with managed realignment and habitat creation. As is currently the case, no public funding would be available for continued maintenance of defences by private owners.

Further Studies (identified in Action Plan)

Emsworth to East Head Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy
Solent-wide network of high tide roost site study

