## Policy Unit 5C10 Netley Castle to Weston Point

## **Summary description of Policy Unit**

The shoreline between Weston Point and Netley Abbey is undefended and managed by the Local Authority. The tidal floodplain is restricted due to topography, with residential and commercial properties located on the higher ground, but the flood risk area broadens towards Weston. The foreshore and open space are important recreational amenities; part of the open space is overlying a former landfill site. The sediment transport is from east to west, being fed by relatively low rates of erosion from the adjacent low cliffs. Netley Abbey and Netley Castle are key heritage monuments along with Conservation Area. Inter-tidal habitats of International, European and national nature conservation importance, and inland areas provide high tide roost sites and support the adjacent and nearby SPA/Ramsar sites. This frontage has been assessed in the draft River Itchen, Weston Shore, Netley and Hamble Coastal Defence Strategy, which has recommended a HTL policy for each epoch.

Final policy options	SMP1 Ref NET1 Hold the Line	
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	Hold the Line	Hold the Line

#### Summary of rationale behind final policy options

The final policy options are taken from and consistent with the draft Itchen, Weston, Netley and River Hamble Coastal Defence Strategy.

The shoreline between Netley Abbey and Weston Point has no defence structures and historically has not needed beach management intervention from the local authority. The increasing coastal flood and erosion risks over the medium to long-term may however, necessitate beach management and replenishment activities to maintain the recreational beach and to prevent the erosion of the open space and underlying former landfill site. Such works would provide protection to the residential and commercial properties located within the tidal floodplain that extends over the open space to the southern fringe of the Weston conurbation. Coastal monitoring will be key to the successful management of this beach.

Due to the environmental designations within Southampton Water holding the defence line would contribute towards the 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.

#### **Policy changes through Public Consultation**

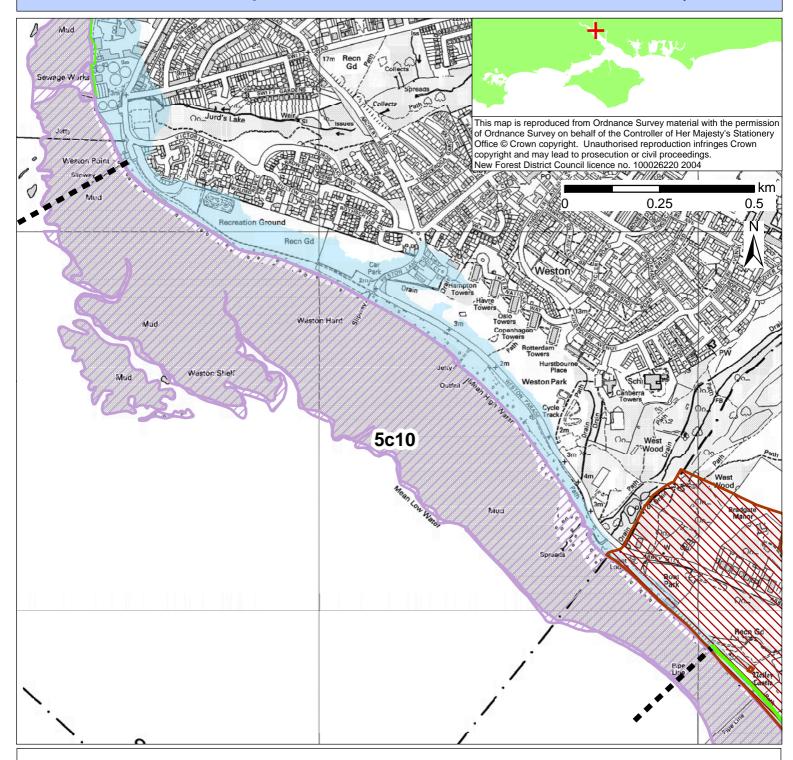
None. Public consultation on the draft Itchen, Weston, Netley and River Hamble Coastal Defence Strategy will confirm the final policy and management approach, which may require revisions to the final SMP policies

### **Funding**

It is uncertain whether central government funding would be secured for beach management for the frontage. Alternative sources of public funding may be available to Local Authority or to the County Council for adaptive management of the former landfill site.

# Further Studies (identified in Action Plan)

Conclusion and approval of Itchen, Weston, Netley and River Hamble Coastal Defence Strategy



#### **POLICY**

From Present Day (up to 2025):	Medium-Term (2025 to 2055):	Long-Term (2055 to 2105):
Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line

Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
Indicative erosion zone up to 2055
Indicative erosion zone up to 2105

Important Heritage Sites

2115 Indicative Floodplain (1 in 200 year) provided from PUSH

International / National Designations

■ ■ Policy Unit Boundary