

Policy Unit 5C18 Salternshill to Park Shore

Summary description of Policy Unit

The privately owned foreshore and surrounding hinterland, including agricultural grade 4 land and individual residential properties are within New Forest National Park. The tidal floodplain is extensive at the south-western area of the river mouth, and covers the entire frontage length. The existing defences are privately maintained. The Beaulieu River mouth contains inter-tidal, saline lagoons, vegetated shingle and transitional freshwater habitats of International, European and national nature conservation importance; these and inland areas provide high tide roost sites and support the adjacent and nearby SPA/Ramsar sites. Gull Island is an important naturally evolving spit, although previous engineering works blocked Bulls Run and joined the island with the shoreline to the west. It is also part of a National Nature Reserve. Heritage assets include listed buildings, monuments, and maritime features.

Final policy options

SMP1 Ref
LYM7 No Active Intervention

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

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 Beaulieu.

Maintenance of the current defence line will provide protection to an extensive area of agricultural land and associated outbuildings, individual and small groupings of residential properties and environmentally important and designated habitats, such as coastal grazing marsh, that are located within the extensive tidal floodplain. The grazing marshes and agricultural hinterland also provide an important habitat function as they are important components of the Solent-wide network of high tide roost and feeding sites for wildfowl and wading birds, which support the European and national nature conservation designations applicable to West Solent and Beaulieu River mouth area. This function would continue to be provided if defences maintained.

It is the policy intention that the undefended and unmanaged shoreline within this frontage, such as Gull Island, remains undefended. This privately owned frontage is within the New Forest National Park.

Due to the types and extent of nature conservation designations for the Western

Solent and Beaulieu River mouth, if defences were not maintained, realigned landwards or setback defences constructed these options would all result in tidal inundation of the hinterland resulting in the loss of designated freshwater and coastal grazing marsh habitats and their function as a high tide roost site, which would need to be recreated in a more sustainable site elsewhere.

Despite the continued maintenance of flood defences by the landowner, managed realignment opportunities in the medium to long term are likely to be required, as the increasing risk of flooding from both the Solent and the Beaulieu River may require additional defences to protect properties further to the west at Park Shore.

Existing privately owned defences may be maintained through permissive development rights of private landowners, irrespective of the SMP policy. Property level flood defences may be appropriate where flood risk will increase in the longer-term.

Due to the environmental designations within Western Solent maintenance of defence structures will result however, 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.

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 that the Farlington Marshes 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 intentions for future defence management at Beaulieu River mouth.

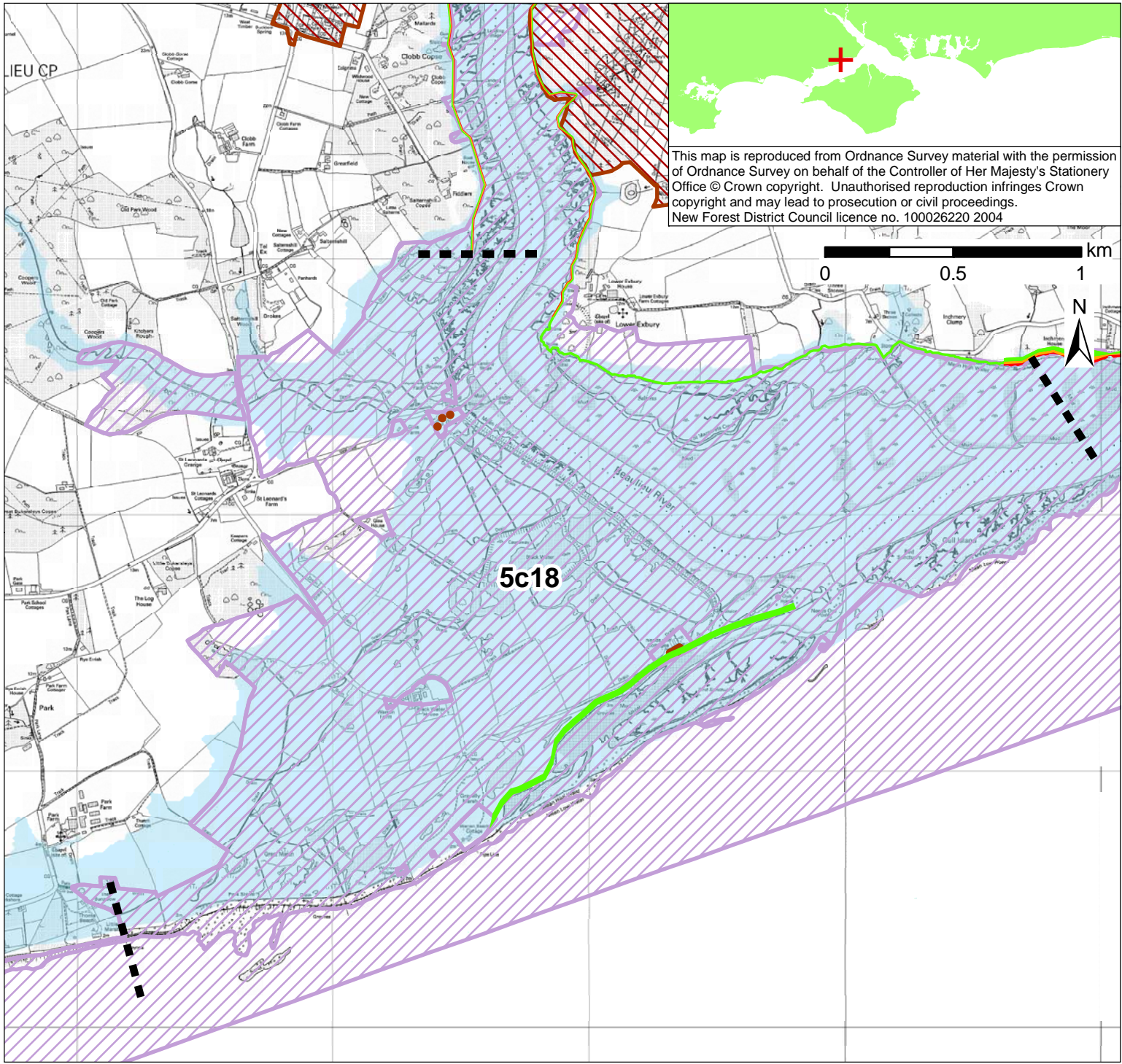
An Information Note for landowners, planners and developers on privately owned coastal defences and coastal planning issues has been produced.

Funding

Central government funding may be secured for identified works associated with managed realignment. 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)

Conclusion of the Western Solent Coastal Defence Strategy
Solent-wide network of high tide roost site study



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POLICY

From Present Day (up to 2025):	Medium-Term (2025 to 2055):	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

- Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2055
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2105
- Policy Unit Boundary
- International / National Designations
- Important Heritage Sites
- 2115 Indicative Floodplain (1 in 200 year) provided from PUSH