



Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review

Appendix B: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation





Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2)

Appendix B: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation

December 2010

Notice

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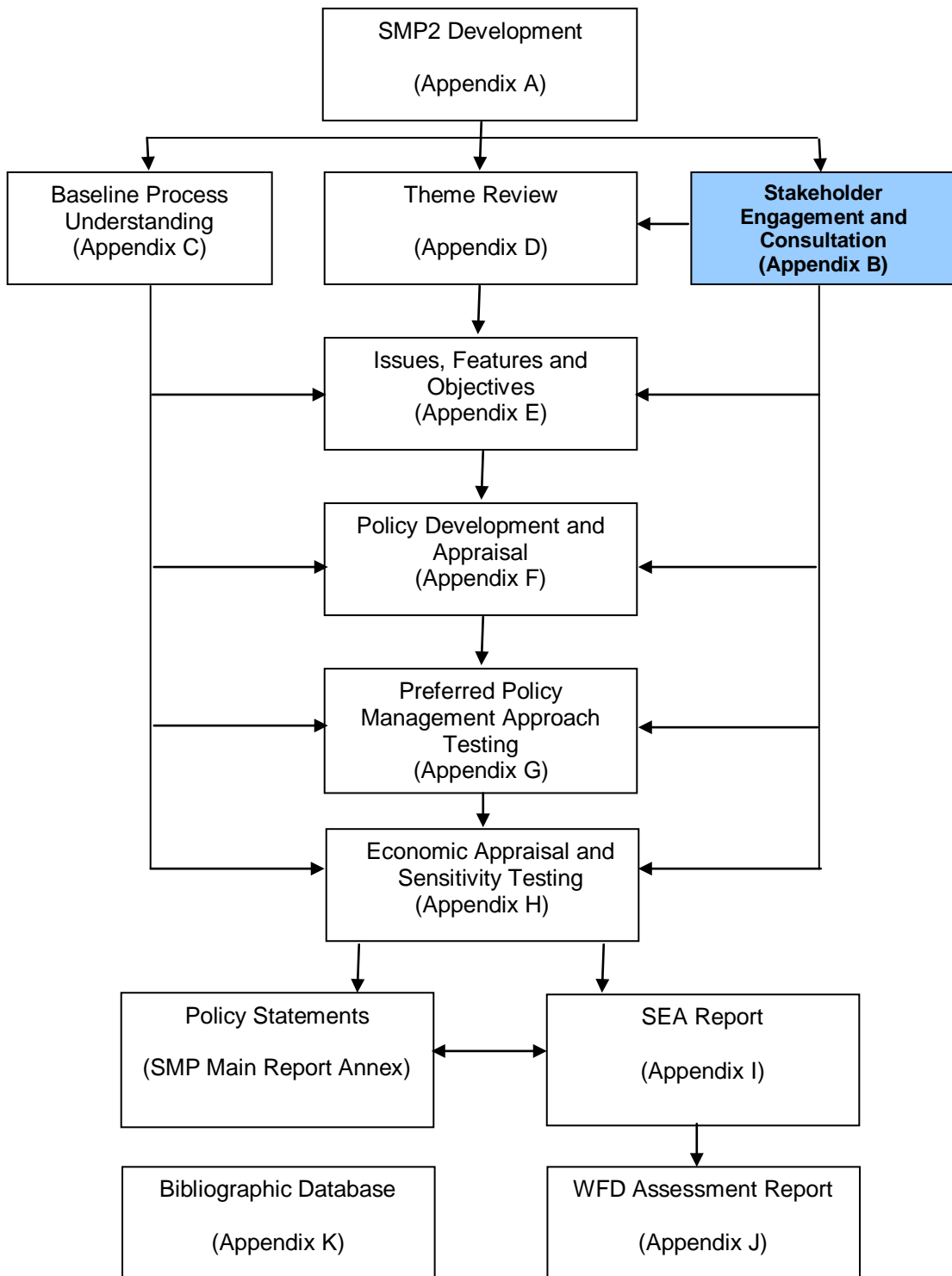
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Supporting Appendices

Information required to support the Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) is provided in the following appendices. These supporting documents offer transparency to the decision making process that is undertaken, leading to explanations and reasoning for the promoted policies.

A: SMP2 Development	The history, structure and development of the SMP are detailed in this report. The investigation and decision making process are explained more fully to outline the procedure to setting policy.
B: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation	Stakeholder communication is continuous through the SMP2 process, comments on the progress of the management plan are recorded within Appendix B.
C: Baseline Process Understanding	This report includes detail of coastal dynamics, defence data and shoreline scenario assessments of NAI (No Active Intervention – defences are not maintained, repaired or replaced allowing the shoreline to evolve more naturally) and With Present Management (WPM) i.e.: SMP1 Policy.
D: Theme Review	The identification and evaluation of the natural landscape and conservation, the historic environment and present and future land use of the shoreline.
E: Issues, Features and Objectives	The features of the shoreline are listed within this report. A series of strategic objectives are then set along with commentary on the relative importance of each feature identified.
F: Policy Development and Appraisal	Presents the consideration of generic policy options for each frontage identifying possible acceptable policies and their combination into 'Management Approaches' for testing. Also presents the appraisal of impacts upon shoreline evolution and the appraisal of objective achievement.
G: Preferred Policy Management Approach Testing	Presents the policy assessment of appraisal of objective achievement towards definition of the Preferred Plan (as presented in the Shoreline Management Plan document).
H: Economic Appraisal and Sensitivity Testing	Presents the economic analysis undertaken in support of the Preferred Plan.
I: Strategic Environmental Assessment Report	Presents the various items undertaken in developing the Plan that specifically relate to the requirements of the EU Council Directive 2001/42/EC (the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive), such that all of this information is readily accessible in one document. This includes work to help towards a Habitat Regulatory Assessment (HRA).
J: Water Framework Assessment Report	Provides a retrospective assessment of the policies defined under the Severn Estuary SMP2 highlighting future issues for consideration at policy implementation stage.
K: Bibliographic Database	All supporting information used to develop the SMP is referenced for future examination and retrieval.

The information presented in each appendix is supported and guided by other appendices; the broad relationships between the appendices are illustrated overleaf.



Acronyms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
AA	Appropriate Assessment.
ABP	Association of British Ports
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
ASERA	Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities
ATL	Advance the Line
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plans
BCCPA	Bristol Channel Counter Pollution Association
BMIF	British Marine Federation
CAPE	Community Adaptation Planning and Engagement
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales
CD	Chart Datum.
CFMP	Catchment Flood Management Plan
CHaMP	<i>Coastal</i> Habitat Management Plan
CPSE	Coast Protection Survey England
CSG	Client Steering Group, principal decision-making body for the Shoreline Management Plan = Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG)
CV	Capital Value. The actual value of costs or benefits.
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
DECC	<i>Department of Energy and Climate Change</i>
Defra	Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs.
EA	Environment Agency, may also be referred to as 'The Agency'
EH	English Heritage
EiP	Examination in Public
EMF	Elected Members Forum (SMP2), comprising an Elected Member from each of the Local Authorities
FCA	Flood Consequence Assessment
FCDPAG3	Flood and Coastal Defences Project Appraisal Guidance

Term	Definition
FCS	Favourable Conservation Status
FRMS	Flood Risk Management Strategy
GCR	Geological Conservation Review site
GES	Good Ecological Status
GHT	Gloucester Harbour Trustees
GIS	Geographic Information System
HAT	Highest Astronomical Tide
HER	Historic Environment Record
HLT	High Level Target
HMWB	Heavily Modified Water Bodies
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
HTL	Hold the Line
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IFCA	Integrated Flood Consequence Assessment
IROPI	Imperative Reasons of Over-riding Public Interest
JAC	Joint Advisory Committee (of the Severn Estuary Partnership)
KSG	Key Stakeholder Group, which acts as a focal point for discussion and consultation through development of the SMP
KWS	Key Wildlife Sites
LAT	Lowest Astronomical Tide
LDP	Local Development Plan
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (now DEFRA)
MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
MHWN	Mean High Water Neap tide
MHWS	Mean High Water Spring tide
MLWN	Mean Low Water Neap tide
MLWS	Mean Low Water Spring tide
MMO	Marine Management Organisation

Term	Definition
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MR	Managed Realignment
MSL	Mean Sea Level
MU	Management Unit
NAI	No Active Intervention
NE	Natural England
NEDS	National Economic Development Strategy
NFDCC	National Flood and Coastal Defence Database
NMR	National Monuments Record
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NT	National Trust
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
PCPA	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act
PMG	Project Management Group
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
PSA	Public Service Agreement
PU	Policy Unit
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
QRG	Quality Review Group
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RCZAS	Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey
RDP	Rural Development Plan
RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SDAP	Sustainable Development Action Plan

Term	Definition
SDS	Sustainable Development Schemes
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SECG	Severn Estuary Coastal Group = Client Steering Group (CSG)
SEP	Severn Estuary Partnership
SESMP2	Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review
SFC	Sea Fisheries Committee
SFRA	Strategic flood risk assessment
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan
SMP1	A first-round Shoreline Management Plan
SMP2	A second-round Shoreline Management Plan
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
SoP	Standard of Protection
SPA	Special Protection Area
SRS	Single Regional Strategy
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuD _s	Sustainable Urban Drainage System
TAN	Technical Advice Note
UKCiP	<i>United Kingdom Climate Impacts Programme</i>
UKCP	UK Climate Projections
WAG	Welsh Assembly Government
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WPM	With Present Management
WSP	Wales Spatial Plan

Compliance to the SMP2 Quality Review Group (QRG) Terms of Reference

This Appendix of the SMP 2 seeks to meet the following requirements set out by the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Quality Review Group:

- *The decision process is logical and there is a clear audit trail for decisions.*
- *An appropriate consultation model is specified and used on the SMP2.*
- *The consultation process has been clearly documented and the method for dealing with issues raised clearly set out.*
- *The documents record the responses to stakeholder concerns and identify if and how these have been taken account of (or reasons why not) in the final policy decisions.*
- *The public has had ample opportunity to have its say, all stakeholder comments are adequately dealt with and the plans amended accordingly.*
- *Clear statements set out where stakeholder aspirations have driven the preferred policy options.*
- *The public consultation process is transparent and auditable.*

Executive Summary

The Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) is undertaking a Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) for the Severn Estuary. The SECG is comprised of the Local Authorities, Environment Agency Regions and Internal Drainage Boards around the Severn Estuary. It also includes Natural England and the Countryside Council for Wales. The first Shoreline Management Plan (SMP1) for the Severn Estuary was completed in November 2000 and this is now being reviewed and shall involve stakeholder consultation and participation throughout its production.

The opinions and views of stakeholders are important in producing an effective SMP. Throughout the development of the SMP2, the SECG will explain the different issues involved and ask stakeholders for their comments and views.

This Appendix is divided into the following Parts to reflect the programme of stakeholder engagement carried out:

- **PART A:** The Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (produced at the outset of the SMP2 to demonstrate the approach to consultation for the project);
- **PART B:** Key Stakeholder Events (January 2009) – an overview of the approach taken and comments received from the first series of key stakeholder events organised for the SMP2. Public Consultation Events (June and August 2009) are included and an overview of the approach taken and comments received are presented from the first series of public consultation events held in Clevedon, Penarth and Gloucester to help with policy decision making for the SMP2.
- **PART C:** Draft SMP2 Public Consultation Phase - comments and outcomes of the 3 month consultation period.

PART A: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

This Stakeholder Engagement Strategy sets out:

- **The different groups of stakeholders;**
- **How each group will be involved;**
- **The different stages in stakeholder engagement:**
- **An overview of the public consultation.**

It follows the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) guidance on preparing SMP2s, which is available on the Defra website¹.

¹ <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/guidance/smp.htm>

1. Introduction

The Severn Estuary is a complex and challenging location politically, environmentally, socially and from a management point of view. It includes two national administrations and ten local authorities. The development of policies encompassing the entire estuary needs to take account of the different local priorities and any different approaches by national government.

The Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) is undertaking a Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) for the Severn Estuary. A Project Management Group (PMG) has been set up by the SECG to manage the day to day development of the SMP2. More detail on the make up of the SECG and PMG is in section 3.

Atkins Limited, in partnership with ABPmer, is helping the SECG to prepare and consult on the SMP2.

1.1 What is an SMP?

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a high level non-statutory plan that advises on how the coastline should change in the long term and sets out policies for three 'epochs' of 20, 50 and 100 years (set at 2025, 2055 and 2105). It is developed in partnership by local authorities, regulators and other stakeholders.

An SMP includes:

- a large-scale assessment of the coastline – identifying the natural forces sculpting the shoreline and predicting, as far as possible, how the coast will change over time with erosion, sea level rise and climate change (in 20, 50 and 100 years);
- identifies the risks to the developed, historic and natural environments as the coast changes;
- a policy framework to manage the risks in a sustainable manner – an indication of how the coastline should look in 20, 50 and 100 years.

1.2 What does an SMP do?

The aim of an SMP is to positively influence the way decisions are made in coastal areas that may be at risk from erosion or flooding, in order to manage those risks to current and future communities. It is important to avoid making decisions that would place additional responsibilities on future generations by unnecessarily increasing the number of areas at risk from coastal flooding and erosion or not planning adequately to cope with flooding and erosion in areas where traditional defences are not sustainable.

An SMP enables planners and regulators to plan for and manage the way that the coast will change. This could be by maintaining or improving defences, by enabling the natural processes to play a greater role, creating new natural habitat or by helping areas that are at risk of flooding at some point in the future to cope with and limit the impact of flooding events.

It aims to provide more certainty for landowners, residents and businesses; to know how the coast will be managed by regulators during the next 100 years, so that they can plan ahead and make decisions about investments, homes, development and the management of their resources.

An SMP only sets out policy for coastal defence management. It doesn't set policy for any other ways of managing flood risk (such as land drainage). It does, however, take into account plans and policies that manage flood risk from rivers (e.g. Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans) to ensure that they do not contradict each other.

It also takes account of other existing planning initiatives and legislative requirements, and is intended to inform wider strategic planning. For example, the information contained in the SMP will form the basis for a Planning Authority to offer advice on future development or advice to the public (and others) on how to avoid building in areas that are likely to be at risk from coastal erosion or flooding.

1.3 How does an SMP work?

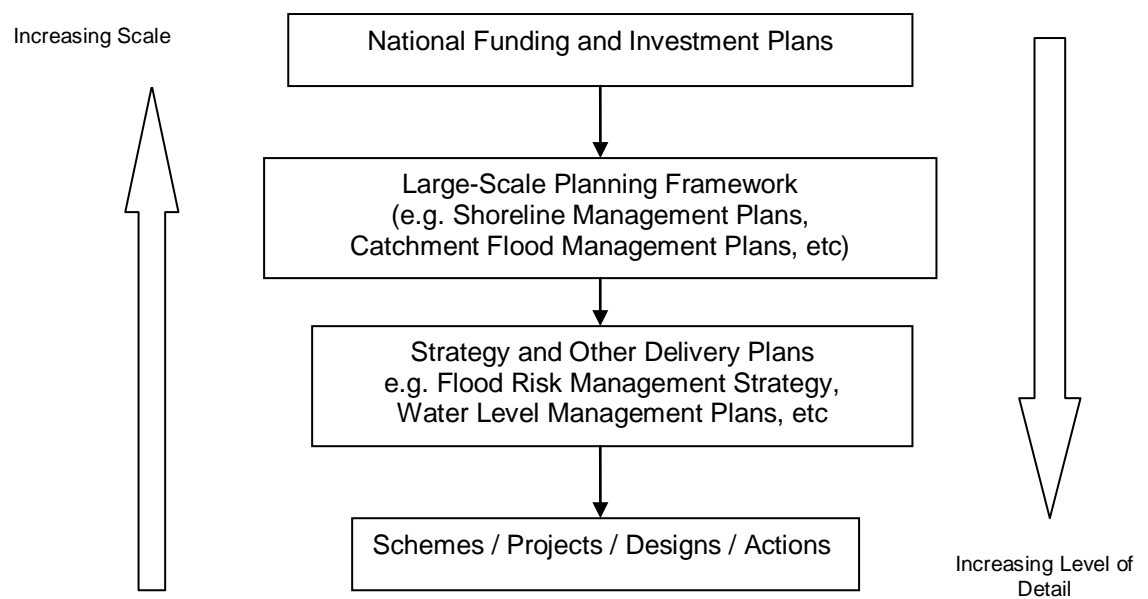
The coastline will be divided up into sections called 'Policy Units'. For each section, the SMP will recommend one of the following four policy options:

- No active intervention – no construction of new defences or maintenance or upgrade of existing defences;
- Hold the existing line of defence – maintenance of existing defences in their current position, with upgrades to counter climate change and sea level rise;
- Managed realignment – landward realignment of defences, giving up some land to the sea to form a more sustainable defence in the long-term;
- Advance the existing line of defence – seawards movement of the defences.

A policy option will be needed for each of the three epochs (20, 50 and 100 years). Choosing a particular policy option for one epoch does not mean that policy option will be the same for all three epochs. For example, the policy option for a stretch of coast could be 'hold the existing line' for the first epoch (0 – 20 years), changing to 'managed realignment' for the next epoch (20 – 50 years). Choosing the policy options will be based on many different factors, such as the natural processes affecting the coast, climate change, presence of important features that benefit the community, economic factors, presence of nature conservation sites, and many more. The choice of policy options will be informed by information provided by and the opinions of stakeholders.

SMPs sit above large scale strategies and set out policies that describe the overall direction in which coastal management should move. Plans, strategies and decisions should be made taking account of the policies in the SMP. This will help ensure that, for example, future developments are not put at higher risk of flood or coastal erosion. Figure 1.1 shows where SMPs sit in the flood risk and erosion planning hierarchy.

Figure 1.1 – Flood risk and erosion planning hierarchy



The SMP seeks to inform those people developing strategies, preparing plans and making decisions on land use, development and planning with information on coastal erosion and flooding risks and the agreed policies for managing the coast, so that:

- Future development does not take place in areas at risk from flooding, erosion and instability
- Development is sensibly restricted in possible areas of managed realignment
- Development does not affect the natural balance of the coast, cause erosion or increase flood risks elsewhere, or lead to more coastal defences needing to be built.

1.4 The first Shoreline Management Plan for the Severn Estuary (SMP1)

The first Shoreline Management Plan for the Severn Estuary was completed in November 2000. The strategy covered the shoreline from Lavernock Point in Wales, to Haw Bridge near Gloucester, to Brean Down, west of Weston Bay in England. A copy of the SMP1 is available on the SECG website at: <http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/publications.html>

In developing the SMP2, the SECG will review the policies developed in the first Shoreline Management Plan (SMP1), take account of coastal strategies and studies undertaken (e.g. Catchment Flood Management Plans, Local Authority development plans, Wales Spatial Plan, etc.), and changes in policies and legislation (e.g. the Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive) since the SMP1.

1.5 The Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2)

Following a review of all the first generation SMPs, a new approach to preparing SMP2s was developed. This approach was developed as part of the Futurecoast project and looks at how and why the coast changes. This is known as a 'behavioural systems approach'.

The new approach looks further into the future and covers a 100 year period, subdivided into three 'epochs' of 0 - 20, 20 - 50 and 50 - 100 years. The time periods for these epochs cover the years 2005 - 2025, 2025 - 2055 and 2055 - 2105. These agreed epochs ensure all the SMP2s produced cover the same time periods.

The development of SMP2s will consider coastal strategies and studies undertaken since the previous SMP, and changes in policies and legislation (e.g. the Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive).

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has produced two volumes of guidance to help ensure that all SMP2s are undertaken in a consistent way. This Stakeholder Engagement Strategy follows the Defra guidance. All the guidance is available on the Defra website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/guidance/smp.htm>

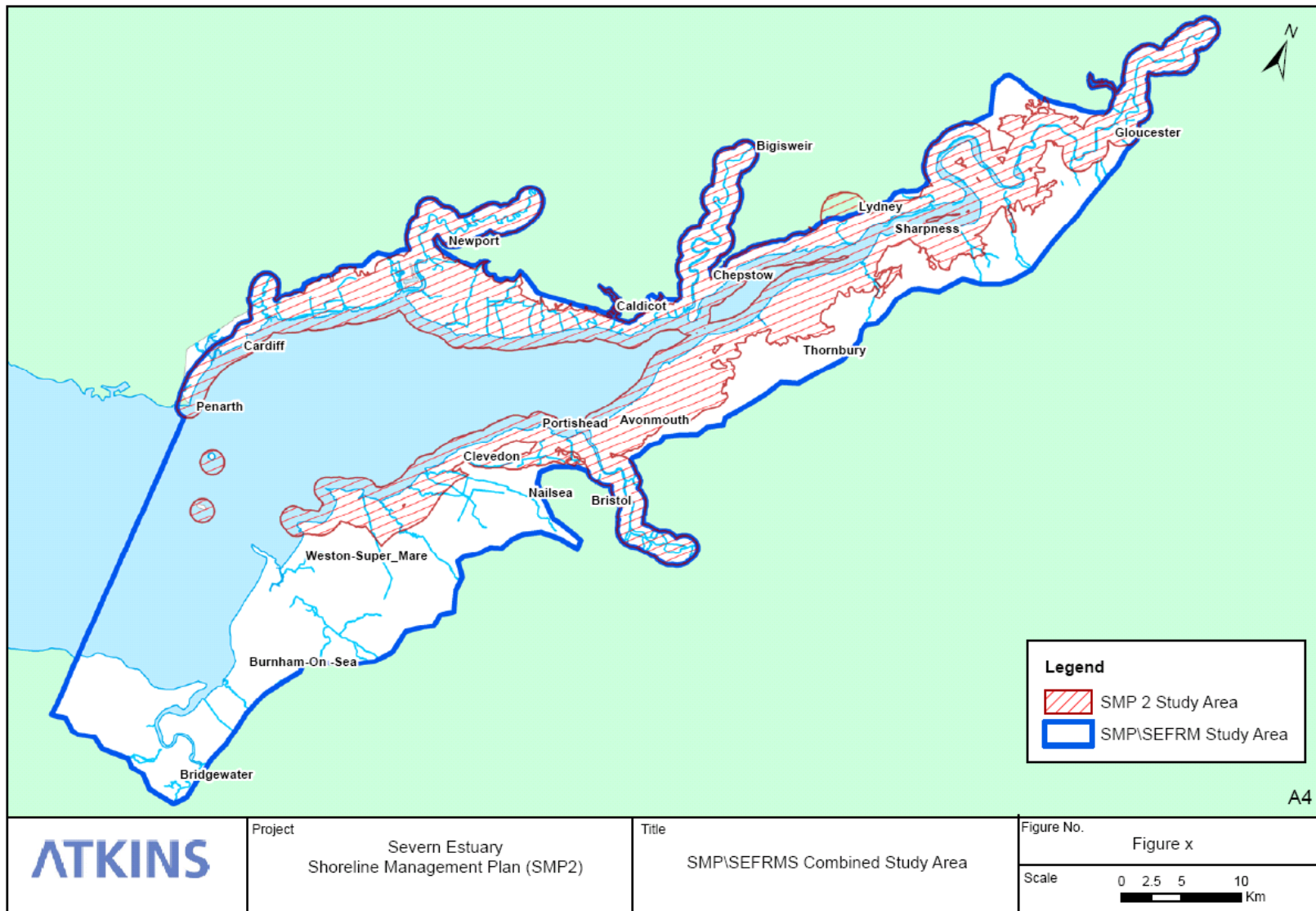
1.6 The area covered by the SMP2

The SECG have defined the area covered by the SMP2. It encompasses coastline from Anchor Head (Birnbeck Island) on the English side of the Estuary (a move northeast from the first SMP) to Lavernock Point on the Welsh side. The upstream boundary remains at Haw Bridge in Gloucestershire.

The first SMP covered the shoreline from Lavernock Point in Wales, to Haw Bridge near Gloucester, to Brean Down, west of Weston Bay in England. The decision to move the boundary from Brean Down to Anchor Head was taken as a result of the review of first generation SMPs. Brean Down marks one possible boundary between Bridgwater Bay and the Severn Estuary, but a potential breach of the dunes to the south of Brean might affect Weston Bay, to the north. To take account of this possible linkage it was agreed with Defra to move the boundary to Anchor Head. The area between Anchor Head and Brean Down is included in the North Devon & Somerset SMP2. More information on the North Devon & Somerset SMP2 can be found on the North Devon & Somerset Coastal Advisory Group website www.ndascag.org/

From the shoreline, the area of the SMP2 extends inland one kilometre or to the extent of a 1 in 1,000 year flooding event (whichever is greatest) and upstream into rivers that flow into the Estuary. This ensures that all areas likely to be affected by changes to the shoreline or flooding from the sea are included within the area of the SMP2. The area also encompasses the mid-Estuary islands of Flat Holm and Steep Holm. Figure 1.2 shows a map of the area covered by the SMP2.

Figure 1.2 – Area covered by the Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2)



1.7 Adoption of the Severn Estuary SMP2

Following the SMP2 development process, the public consultation and revision, the SMP2 should be adopted / approved by the various decision making authorities within the SMP2 area:

- Local Authorities
- Environment Agency (via Regional Flood Defence Committees / their equivalent in Wales)
- Natural England
- Countryside Council for Wales

The SMP2 should also be agreed by Defra and the Welsh Assembly Government.

The process of adoption / approval is an important part of the SMP2 development process as it signals the commitment of each of the authorities to the policies contained in the SMP2. An Action Plan will set out how the policies in the SMP2 will be taken into account by the various authorities in developing future strategies, preparing plans and making decisions.

2. Engaging with Stakeholders

Coastal flooding, erosion and climate change are technically complex and emotive issues, affecting people's lives, businesses and livelihoods. Throughout the development of the SMP2, the SECG, with the help of Atkins Limited and ABPmer, will explain the different issues involved, how different parts of the shoreline may be affected and will ask stakeholders for their comments and views on the development of the SMP2 policies.

2.1 Aims of the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

The opinions and views of stakeholders are important in producing an effective SMP. Stakeholders will be asked to help identify issues, define possible SMP objectives and help reach consensus on preferred final policy recommendations.

The SMP2 aims to develop long term policies that will provide more certainty for landowners, residents and businesses around the coast to know how it will be managed in the future. Stakeholder engagement is an important way of enabling those landowners, residents, businesses and other stakeholders to have the opportunity to feed into the development process and help shape the development of the SMP2 and its policies.

This Stakeholder Engagement Strategy sets out how the SECG will work with stakeholders throughout the SMP2 development. It follows the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) guidance on preparing SMP2s, which is available on the Defra website².

This report has two main aims, namely to:

- Set out how a wide range of Stakeholders will be included in the development of the SMP2,
- Link the Stakeholder Engagement requests of the SMP2 and Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) appropriately to reduce the number of times that the SECG and Environment Agency ask for Stakeholders' views. See section 7 for information on the FRMS.

The following sections of this report set out different aspects of the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy that will achieve these aims:

- Section 2 – Engaging with Stakeholders - why involving Stakeholders is important;
- Section 3 – The Stakeholders – who the stakeholders are;
- Section 4 – Stages in Stakeholder engagement - how stakeholders will be involved
- Section 5 – Public Consultation – the three month public consultation phase
- Section 6 – Production of final SMP2 and Action Plan
- Section 7 – Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) - how the SMP2 and FRMS are linked

The Welsh Assembly Government's *One Wales: A Progressive Agenda for the government of Wales* includes a commitment to citizen centred governance and government, building

² <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/guidance/smp.htm>

on the recommendations of the Beecham Report (*Beyond Boundaries: Citizen-centred local services for Wales*) and *Delivering Beyond Boundaries*.

Defra sets out five guiding principles for stakeholder engagement in its *Shoreline Management Plan Guidance Volume 2: Procedures*.

- **Inclusivity** - The initiation of the Plan Review process should indicate whether a participatory or a consultative approach is adopted and outline the extent of wider community involvement.
- **Transparency** - Timely, accurate, comprehensive and accessible recording of representations, decisions and their justification is required to track decisions. The strategy should indicate who has responsibility for this.
- **Appropriateness** - The range of Stakeholders, their level of involvement and likely knowledge, the potential for differences of view and the opportunity for raising awareness will influence the approach adopted.
- **Clarity** - The roles of different "players", including identifying where final decision-making lies, must be made clear in the strategy.
- **Comprehensiveness** - The strategy should cover all stages, including plan dissemination and arrangements for reporting on Stakeholder engagement.

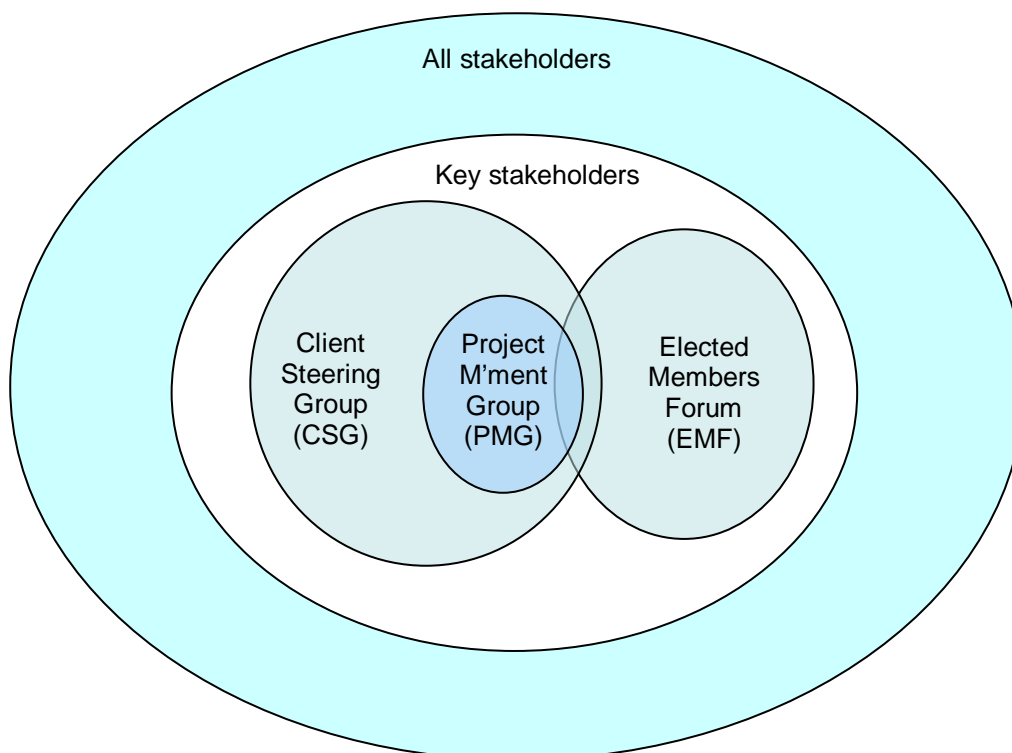
3. The Stakeholders

Defra guidance on preparing SMP2s sets out four different groups of stakeholders.

- Client Steering Group (CSG) – this is the Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG)
- Elected Members Forum (EMF) – made up of elected Members from the Local Authorities
- Key Stakeholder Group (KSG) – made up of stakeholders with primary interests in the Estuary (e.g. industry, conservation, user groups, etc.)
- Other Stakeholders – everyone else in and around the estuary with an interest in the management of the coast and the development of the SMP2, including all members of the public.

The relationship between the stakeholder groups is set out in Figure 3.1, which shows that the different groups are all sub-groups of the group ‘all stakeholders’.

Figure 3.1 – The relationships between different stakeholder groups



3.1 Client Steering Group (CSG) / Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG)

The Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) will act as the Client Steering Group for the SMP2. It is responsible for the overall development of the SMP2. Membership of the SECG / CSG is:

- Monmouthshire County Council – lead authority for the SMP2;
- North Somerset District Council;
- Bristol City Council;
- South Gloucestershire Council;
- Stroud District Council;
- Forest of Dean District Council;
- Newport City Council;
- Cardiff City Council;
- Vale of Glamorgan Council;
- Gloucestershire County Council;
- Environment Agency South West / Midlands / Wales – providing staff to manage the project;
- Caldicot & Wentlooge Internal Drainage Board (IDB);
- Lower Severn IDB;
- Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra);
- Welsh Assembly Government (WAG);
- Natural England (NE);
- Countryside Council for Wales (CCW);
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

The SECG will guide the overall SMP2 development process and has the following roles and responsibilities:

- Overall responsibility for the delivery of the SMP2;
- Propose representatives for the EMF;
- Review stakeholder list and provide contact details for stakeholders;
- Assist in the implementation of the stakeholder engagement strategy, including raising the profile of the SMP2;
- Provide relevant information to the consultants to develop the SMP2;
- Attend meetings to discuss the development of the SMP2;
- Disseminate information on the SMP2 back to their own organisation and internal stakeholders;
- Provide information and feedback to the consultants from internal stakeholders in their respective organisations;

- Provide comments on identified features, issues, objectives and policy drivers;
- Approve the SMP2 Action Plan;
- Encourage the adoption of the SMP2 and Action Plan.

The CSG has set up a Sub Group to act as the Project Management Group (PMG) to oversee the day to day management of the SMP2 production and is comprised of the representatives set out in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 – Project Management Group

Organisation	Representative
Environment Agency – South West Region	Ken Tatem
Environment Agency – Midlands Region	Susan Russell
Environment Agency Wales	Natalie Newton
Monmouthshire County Council	David Harris
Vale of Glamorgan Council	Stephen Edwards (up to July 09)
Bristol City Council	Chris Barrow
The Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Drainage Board	Dean Jackson-Johns
Natural England	Angus Bloomfield (replaced with Adrian Jowitt from July 2009)
CCW	Nicola Rimington / Sue Howard
Welsh Assembly Government	Peter Jones / Kerry Keirle

The PMG has the following roles and responsibilities:

- Day to day management of the SMP2 development, including approving documents and information for publication;
- Agree the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy;
- Undertake actions on behalf of the CSG;
- Act as a conduit between the consultants and CSG members – to aid flow of information between the CSG and Atkins;
- Approve public consultation leaflets and consultation request forms;
- Manage the public consultation;
- Present the draft SMP2 at 3 x public exhibitions (supported by the consultants);
- Report the results of the public consultation to the consultants.

The Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP) provides Secretariat services to both the SECG and the PMG and hosts the SECG website, where more information on the SMP2 can be found³.

3.2 Elected Members Forum (EMF)

The Elected Members Forum (EMF) provides an opportunity for elected representatives from the Local Authorities within the SECG area to be involved in the SMP2 development process, as well as employed officials (which are represented through the SECG).

Local Authorities will be asked to adopt the policies put forward in the SMP2 and put them into practice (see section 1.7). Elected Members ultimately represent their constituents – the residents, businesses, etc. that will be affected by the SMP2 policies. It is important that their views and comments are taken account of in developing those policies.

Representation on the EMF will mirror that of the SECG, with a politician (or agreed equivalent) from each local authority sitting on the Forum. It is important to ensure that there is cross party representation on the EMF and that no political party can dominate the Forum. The SECG will suggest potential representatives and invite them to be a member of the EMF.

It is not possible to ensure that the membership of the EMF will not change during the development of the SMP2, as local elections are due to be held in England during May 2009 (Gloucestershire and Bristol). There is a risk, therefore, that the membership of the EMF will alter during the development of the SMP2. The roles and responsibilities of the group will, however, remain unchanged.

The Chair of the relevant Internal Drainage Boards and a representative from the Regional Flood Defence Committee (and the relevant equivalent in Wales with responsibility for coastal flooding) will also be invited to EMF meetings to provide additional expertise. Organisations without Elected Member input (Natural England, CCW, RSPB, and Environment Agency) may volunteer a representative to offer support and information to the Elected Members Forum. There is, therefore, some overlap between the EMF group and the CSG group (see Figure 3.1).

The membership of the Elected Members Forum may co-opt additional Elected Members from time to time by agreement.

Members of the EMF will be invited to specific EMF meetings, at which they will be provided with information on the development of the SMP2 and its links to the development of the SFRMS and asked for their comments and feedback. The SECG will host the EMF meetings, supported by the consultants.

Elected Members will be asked to provide feedback to and from their respective authorities to ensure information on the SMP2 development is disseminated and feedback taken account of.

Four EMF meetings are proposed:

- Initial meeting – to introduce the consultants and provide Members with information on the SMP2 process, the SFRMS and links between the two projects. The role of the EMF and indicative timings of future EMF meetings will be set out. (20 January 2009);

³ <http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/index.html>

- Policy Drivers meeting – to update the Members on progress, the identification of features, issues, objectives and recommendations for key policy drivers. (June / July 2009);
- Draft SMP2 meeting – to present the draft SMP2 to Members for comment. This meeting will be held during the public consultation phase. (Sept – Dec 2009);
- Final draft SMP2 – to the final draft SMP2, following consultation responses and any changes made to the initial draft SMP2. (Jan / Feb 2010).

Details of the EMF structure, dates of future EMF meetings and the comments and issues raised in EMF meetings (non-attributed) will be posted on the SECG website.

Other elected representatives (Assembly Members, Members of Parliament and Members of the European Parliament) are included in the Key Stakeholders Group (KSG) (see below).

3.3 Key Stakeholders Group (KSG)

The Key Stakeholder Group (KSG) (Annex A) will act as a focal point for discussion and consultation throughout the development of the SMP2. It is comprised of stakeholders with primary interests in the Estuary (industry, conservation, user groups, etc.) and will enable the SECG to seek comments and views from a wide range of informed local interests at key stages in the SMP2 development process, prior to the full public consultation phase. The roles of the KSG, as set out in the Defra guidance are to:

- Review and suggest issues, benefits and objectives identified by the SECG (2 x stakeholder forum, January 2009);
- Review objectives evaluation;
- Contribute to identification of key policy drivers;
- Review and agree identified policy drivers (2 x stakeholder forum, May 2009);
- Contribute to the wider public consultation (including 1 x stakeholder forum + 3 x public exhibitions).

The Severn Estuary benefits from several well established partnership groupings that have an Estuary-wide remit and have come together under the umbrella of the Joint Estuary Groups initiative to collectively manage the Estuary:

- Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP);
 - Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) – oversees the direction of SEP.
 - Management Group – made up of SEP funding bodies.
- Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA);
- Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG);
- North Devon and Somerset Coastal Group (ND&SCG);
- Standing Conference of Severnside Local Authorities (SCoSLA);
- Bristol Channel Counter Pollution Association (BCCPA);
- Bristol Channel Coastal Group (not yet formally convened).

The membership of these different groups overlaps significantly, with key stakeholders for both the SMP2 and the FRMS represented on some or all of the groups.

For the SMP2, the SECG will be involved in all aspects of the development of the SMP2. As such, it will also be kept up to date on developments in the FRMS to ensure that the two do not diverge or contradict each other and so that the FRMS can be guided by the SMP2 as it develops.

A long list of potential Key Stakeholders (Annex A) was identified by Atkins based on:

- A partial stakeholder analysis undertaken for the FRMS
- The list of key stakeholders set out in the SMP1
- Analysis of groups represented on the various Joint Estuary Groups
- The Severn Estuary Partnership's 'Who Does What' Guide

This list was reviewed with the PMG and a final list of Key Stakeholders identified, including over 300 separate organisations, businesses, individuals and groups. The Key Stakeholder Group does not include organisations already included on the SECG or EMF. The list of Key Stakeholders is at Annex A. Stakeholders not included in the KSG are included in the 'other stakeholder' group.

Communicating with Key Stakeholders

Consultation with Key Stakeholders will take place throughout the development of the SMP2, but will be focussed around three phases where Key Stakeholder Group fora are planned. These meetings will enable the SECG to meet and discuss issues with the KSG. The fora are timetabled to take place towards the end of January 2009 (2 x forum), May 2009 (2 x forum) and as part of the public consultation process (1 x forum + 3 x public exhibitions).

The SECG see the fora as key stages in the development of the SMP2 and as a way of bringing together the SMP2 and the FRMS, so that stakeholders can be updated on and feed into the development of both projects.

In addition to the stakeholder fora, briefing notes and feedback requests will be sent to the Key Stakeholder group by e-mail and posted on the SECG website.

Landowners

Landowners and owner-occupiers are an important group of stakeholders likely to be directly affected by the policies in the SMP2. They include individuals and organisations such as farmers, businesses, residents, charities and Local Authorities.

The range of different types of landowners means that they may be represented in any of the different stakeholder groups. Organisations or bodies representing landowners / owner-occupiers may also be represented in the same or different stakeholder groups as individual landowners. For example, farmers' groups are listed in the Key Stakeholder Group and individual farmers will also be included in the 'Other stakeholders' group. Farmers can either ask their representatives to put forward their comments and concerns via their local representative (within the KSG) or raise them themselves.

3.4 Other stakeholders

A large number of individuals and organisations are likely to be affected by or have an opinion on the policies being developed by the SMP2 process. Many of these will not fall into one of the groups above and are, therefore, included within the 'Other stakeholders' group. This group also contains the general public.

As the largest and most diverse of all the stakeholder groups, it is not considered possible to directly contact every member of this group – over 500,000 people live around the Severn Estuary.

Other stakeholders will be contacted and made aware of progress on the development of the SMP2 through:

- e-mail updates (using SEP monthly e-news, which reaches >1,000 contacts);
- SECG website (which shall host all information concerning the SMP2 and link to the FRMS website);
- Consultation leaflets (bilingual);
- 3 x public exhibitions during the public consultation (Autumn 2009);
- Public consultation process (Autumn 2009);
- Publication of final SMP2 (including a bilingual summary leaflet).

The Severn Estuary Partnership (SEP)

The SEP acts as a vital facilitator in helping to co-ordinate actions and foster co-operation and communication within the Estuary. The SEP acts as Secretariat for ASERA and SECG, organises Estuary Groups meetings, Partnership meetings and hosts the websites for SEP, ASERA, SECG and the Severn Estuary Gateway, which acts as a web portal to all the Estuary Group. It also organises an annual conference (Severn Estuary Forum) and the Severn Wonders Festival to co-ordinate and promote events in the Severn, raising its profile among locals and visitors.

The SEP provides the means for all stakeholders to contribute to the management of the Estuary and has several different levels of membership that reflect the different types of stakeholder within the Estuary:

- Partner – represented on both the JAC and Management Group – regional / national authority, statutory agency, relevant authority, water company, port authority, consultancy, industry;
- Organisation member – represented on the JAC – charity, company, university, consultancy
- Club member – local user groups (club, etc);
- Individual member – members of the public.

The SEP has over 130 members and maintains an extensive contacts database containing over 2,000 records covering the whole Estuary.

Working with the SEP is key to efficient and effective stakeholder engagement for both projects. Regular updates on the development of the SMP2 and FRMS can be provided as part of SEP's regular communications to members through its meetings, website, newsletter (Severn Tidings), annual Forum and e-mail alerts.

In addition to its Secretariat role, SEP has been contracted to support the SECG and the consultants in the development of the SMP2 by:

- Assisting in providing contact details so that Key Stakeholders can be notified of the SMP2 and invited to participate;
- Including updates on the SMP2 in the monthly e-news e-mail – to > 1,000 contacts that have expressed an interest in being kept up to date with what is happening in the Estuary;
- Help identify venues for KSG and other meetings – with suitable transport and access provision (Annex G);
- Assist in the running of KSG meetings;
- Including updates on the SMP2 development during planned JAC meetings (May, Sept. 2009);
- Including updates, information on the SMP2 development and public consultation at the Forum (Summer 2009);
- Upload information to the SECG website (see below);
- Continue to provide secretariat to the SECG and PMG.

SMP2 website

The SECG website will provide a single point of access for information and documents as the SMP2 is developed. The site is accessed via the Severn Estuary Gateway website as follows:

<http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/>

Updates on the development of the SMP2 will be posted to the website as it develops. Information will include:

- Background to the SMP2 process
- Information on KSG fora – timings, documents for discussion, feedback
- Information on the public consultation – timings, how to respond, results
- Updates on the development on the SMP2
- SMP2 documents – draft and final SMP2, summary documents
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) for the SMP2 – scoping reports, draft documents, final documents

The development of a website is also part of the FRMS programme. To help reduce confusion and to aid understanding of the links between the two projects, each site will include a link to the other and explain the relationship between the SMP2 and the FRMS. As soon as the FRMS website is developed, a link will be available on the SECG website.

How to get involved

The SMP2 will be developed over a period of many months, so there will be a number of opportunities to get involved.

There are different ways for all stakeholders to raise comments or provide information, such as:

- Personally at meetings, through the public consultation process;
- Via an organisation that represents a distinct group of stakeholders – farmers' organisation, environmental group, industry representative, club or association representing a particular activity (e.g. angling, walking, wildfowling), public interest group, etc.;
- Through local political representatives – local Councillor, AM, MP or MEP.

Views or comments raised within one group do not have more or less weight than views raised in another. It is up to the individual to decide the best way for them feed into the SMP2 development process.

4. Stages in Stakeholder Engagement

This section of the report sets out the stages in the development of the SMP2 and outlines how and when the different groups of stakeholders will be invited to take part.

4.1 Identify stakeholders

Section 3 of this report identifies the different stakeholder groups and their make up.

4.2 Make stakeholders aware of SMP2 and FRMS

The different stakeholder groups will be made aware of the SMP2 using a range of means and will vary depending on the stakeholder group in question, as summarised in Table 5.2 below.

Table 4.2 – Summary of methods for contacting stakeholder groups

Stakeholder group	Current level of awareness	Means of notification
Severn Estuary Coastal Group / PMG	Leading on the SMP2 development	No initial notification required Regular meetings of PMG with consultants PMG to sign off
Elected Members Forum	May be aware of SMP2 process via other routes	Potential members contacted via letter and invited to be part of group and attend first meeting. Follow up telephone call to confirm membership and first meeting attendance Briefing note prior to meeting Initial EMF meeting Jan 2009 3 further EMF meetings + briefing notes
Key Stakeholders Group	May be aware of SMP2 development (through SEP meetings / updates). May be aware of SMP process (from SMP1 involvement). May not be aware of SMP process or SMP2 development.	Initial letter & questionnaire – 2 types tailored to different levels of awareness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explaining SMP2 and differences to SMP1 • explaining SMP process and SMP2 development SEP updates (e-mail / newsletter / website) SECG website update – link to FRMS website

Stakeholder group	Current level of awareness	Means of notification
		Key Stakeholder Fora – Jan, May, Autumn 2009
Other stakeholders	<p>May be aware of SMP process (from SMP1).</p> <p>May not be aware of SMP process or SMP2 development</p>	<p>SEP updates (e-mail / newsletter / website)</p> <p>SECG website update – link to FRMS website</p> <p>Awareness raising by SECG members</p> <p>Public exhibitions (x 3 during public consultation phase)</p>

Timing: November 2008 – January 2009 (and on-going)

4.3 Identify features, benefits, issues and objectives

This phase will use the *Assessment of Issues, Features and Objectives - SMP1 Update Handout* as the main mechanism for verifying the continued importance of features, benefits and issues identified during the SMP1 and the identification of new and future features, benefits and issues.

The handout / questionnaire will be distributed to all SECG members, who will be asked to check the details and provide any additional information on the features, benefits and issues in their area. In addition, SECG members will also be asked to identify any future issues that may arise in the medium and long term epochs to be considered in the SMP2. SECG members will also have an opportunity to suggest draft objectives for the features they identify.

A similar questionnaire will be prepared for Local Authority planning officers in order to identify key planning policies and / or plans in the coastal zone that may impact on the formation of current / future shoreline management policies.

In addition, a *Theme Review* will be undertaken to outline areas of the coastline in terms of their importance for:

- the natural environment;
- landscape character;
- the historic environment;
- land use (current and future).

All this information will be used to prepare an overall list of features, benefits and issues to 'Key Stakeholders' and will feed into the identification of key policy drivers, policy units and policy scenarios.

Timing: November 2008 – January 2009

4.4 Review features, benefits, issues and objectives

The features, benefits and issues document and the Theme Review provide a general outline for drafting objectives for each of the features.

The different stakeholder groups will be asked to be involved in this stage in the following ways:

- The PMG / SECG will lead on determining an objective(s) for each feature, based on the issues that affect it and the benefits the community derives from the feature. For example, a coastal footpath may be at risk of erosion, but it forms an important route for walking and cycling, with important tourism benefits and helps to reduce road traffic. The objective for this feature could be *'reduce the risk of coastal erosion to the footpath'*.
- The KSG will be invited to provide feedback and comments at two fora – one to be held in England, one in Wales. The meetings will be hosted by the SECG / PMG, with support from Atkins and SEP. Central to the fora will be presentation of information and gathering stakeholder comments on:
 - SMP2 process – what it does, what it feeds into, benefits of involvement;
 - SMP2 issues, benefits, issues and draft objectives;
 - FRMS issues and objectives (if appropriate);
 - SEA Scoping Report (and AA) baseline for SMP2 and FRMS;
 - SEA objectives for SMP2.
- Details of KSG meetings will be posted on the SECG website. Attendance by other stakeholders will not be precluded.
- Features, benefits, issues and objectives will be posted on the SECG website, along with details of the stakeholder fora and comments from stakeholders (non-attributed).

Comments from stakeholders will be collated and held in a database so the list of features, benefits and issues can be updated and draft objectives reviewed and revised. The revised set of features, benefits, issues and objectives will be posted on the SECG website.

Timing: January – February 2009

Assess the relative importance of objectives

Once objectives have been developed, the relative importance of each will need to be determined. This is a key stage in the development of the SMP2 and will inform the identification of Key Policy Drivers, Policy Units and Policy Options.

This stage of work will be informed by the SEA and take account of the scale at which the objective is important – local, regional, national, international. Consideration will also be given to the relative importance at each of the three epochs within the timescale of the SMP2, as it is possible that the importance of objectives may change between the 2025, 2055 and 2105 time periods.

The collaboration of the PMG and the full CSG is vital to ensure that the ranking of objectives reflects the different scales of need within the Estuary throughout the three SMP2 epochs. As such, this phase includes several iterations, requiring input from the PMG / SCG initially to rank objectives and a meeting of the whole CSG to discuss and finalise the ranking.

Timing: February - March 2009

4.5 Policy development

Information collated from stakeholders, policy review, SEA scoping and from the flood and erosion modelling exercises will be combined during this phase of work to develop and assess potential policy scenarios for the coastline.

Identify Key Policy Drivers

A Key Policy Driver is a feature with sufficient importance that it has a potentially overriding influence on policy selection at the wider SMP2 scale. Sustaining these features and the benefits derived from them may be a key requirement at regional, national or international level e.g. European Protected Site features.

Identifying Key Policy Drivers from the list of identified features will be led by the PMG / SECG with assistance from the consultants. This work will be informed by the agreed ranking of objectives undertaken in the previous phase of work.

Timing: February - March 2009

Identify potential policy options

There are four possible policy options available in developing the SMP2:

- Hold the line – the standard of protection is maintained or altered to ensure that the current line of the shore is maintained over the epoch. This option includes situations where operations are carried out either in front of or to the back of existing defences.
- Advance the line – new defences on the seaward side of the current line of the shore are proposed. This should only be considered where significant land reclamation is considered.
- Managed realignment – the shoreline is allowed to move backwards but that movement is limited and managed by interventions.
- No active intervention – no investment in coastal defences or operations – coastal processes are allowed to progress with no intervention.

The objectives identified for a feature may naturally point towards a particular policy option to achieve those objectives, or there may be several potential options that could achieve the stated objectives e.g. maintaining a coastal footpath could be achieved either by a 'hold the line' option, or a 'managed realignment' option. The objectives for adjacent / near features may also influence the choice of policy option. The technical feasibility and economic requirements for each possible policy option will also be considered to inform the choice.

Policy options for each epoch will be derived. Policy options for a particular feature may change between epochs.

In making the assessment of policy options, the reasoning for choosing / discounting / changing an option will be documented to ensure there is a transparent record of the thought processes that informed the choices.

Develop policy scenarios

Combining policy options for sections of coast will create 'policy scenarios' that take account of changes along the shore as well as through the three SMP2 epochs (0-20; 20-50; 50-100 years). The number of scenarios that are developed will depend on the inter-linkages between different sections of the coast. If alongshore linkages are strong, scenarios will need to consider all sections of the coast that are interdependent.

It is not necessary to develop policy scenarios for the whole coast, only for those where inter-linkages are strong. If alongshore linkages and the interdependencies between adjacent sections of coast are not strong, it may be appropriate to consider these areas in isolation and not develop a wider scenario.

As in the development of policy options, the development of policy scenarios is an iterative process of setting out possible combinations of policies in a scenario, testing the effects of that scenario and amending it, if needed, based on the outcome of the tests.

The different stakeholder groups will be asked to be involved in this stage in the following ways:

- The SECG will lead on refining the policy options and scenarios
- The second EMF meeting will receive a presentation and be asked for comments
- The KSG will be invited to provide feedback and comments at two fora – one to be held in England, one in Wales. Progress since the last stakeholder fora will be outlined and the proposed policy options, policy units and policy scenarios will be presented for comment. The meetings will be hosted by the SECG / PMG, with support from Atkins and SEP.
- Details of KSG meetings will be posted on the SECG website. Attendance by other stakeholders will not be precluded.
- Policy options, policy units and policy scenarios will be posted on the SECG website, along with details of the stakeholder fora, comments from stakeholders (non-attributed).

Comments from stakeholders will be collated and held in a database so that policy options, policy units and policy scenarios can be reviewed and revised. The revised set of policy options, policy units and policy scenarios will be posted on the SECG website.

Timing: April - May 2009

Policy scenario assessment

Having defined possible policies for future shoreline management, it is then necessary to determine the response of the shoreline under these policy combinations over the 100 year SMP2 timeframe. Sensitivity testing, environmental and socio-economic assessment exercises shall be undertaken by the consultants to help confirm policy preferences and assess the degree to which policy options and scenarios help to achieve objectives.

Based on the results of the testing and assessment, policies and policy scenarios may need to be amended and will inform the preferred scenario identification (see below).

Timing: June - July 2009

Preferred scenario identification

This final phase before public consultation will pull together all previous work to:

- Identify preferred scenarios – based on the outcome of the scenario assessment exercise – the degree to which each scenario achieves the required objectives will be key to determining if a scenario is the preferred option.
- Define policy units – specific lengths of coastline to which a particular management policy applies. They will take account of changes in policy over time and significant differences between policies and implications between sections of the coast.
- Agree preferred policies for each policy unit – finally review the policies, their implications and the policy scenario interactions to determine the agreed policy for each policy unit.

Finally, each preferred scenario will undergo sensitivity testing and socio-economic assessment to identify key uncertainties / variables and evaluate the economic viability of each policy, using appropriate broad scale costs.

Timing: June - August 2009

5. Public Consultation

The information, modelling, policies and scenarios undertaken and developed in the previous stages of work will be pulled together to create the draft SMP2 document, ready for public consultation.

The PMG / SECG will determine the detailed approach to the public consultation, which will include:

- Publication of draft SMP2 document on the SECG website;
- Publication of associated SEA / HRA on the SECG website;
- E-mail update to SEP members;
- Production of draft SMP2 summary document (bilingual) – hard copy and on SECG website;
- Presentation of draft SMP2 to EMF meeting;
- Presentation of draft SMP2 to KSG meeting;
- Public exhibition of the draft SMP2 (x3) – the PMG will present the draft SMP2, with support from Atkins.

The different stakeholder groups will be asked to be involved in this stage in the following ways:

- The PMG / SECG will lead the public consultation;
- The EMF will be invited to a meeting concerning the draft SMP2 / SEA;
- The KSG will be invited to a specific meeting concerning the draft SMP2 / SEA;
- Other stakeholders will be asked to provide comments and feedback on the draft SMP2 / SEA – via SECG website, at 3 x public exhibitions.

The PMG is responsible for managing the public consultation and reporting the findings to Atkins so that any revisions to the draft SMP2 can be made for production of the final SMP2 document.

Timing: October – end December 2009.

6. Production of Final SMP2 and Action Plan

Following the public consultation, the draft SMP2 will be amended based on the findings of the consultation and a final SMP2 (and associated environmental assessments) produced. An Action Plan will also be produced, designed to implement the SMP2.

The different stakeholder groups will be asked to be involved in this stage in the following ways:

- The PMG / SECG will inform the consultants with the findings, which will be set out in a Consultation Report;
- The PMG / SECG will lead on the amendment of the draft SMP2 and the production of the final SMP2 and associated Action Plan;
- The EMF will be invited to a meeting presenting the changes to the draft SMP2 and the production of the final SMP2;
- The KSG will be invited to a specific meeting concerning the draft SMP2 / SEA;
- Other stakeholders will be made aware of the changes to the draft SMP2 and production of the final SMP2 and Action Plan – via the SECG website and bilingual summary leaflet;
- The PMG / SECG will encourage the relevant operating authorities to adopt the final SMP2 and take forward the policies and Action Plan.

The consultants will produce electronic and hard copies of the final SMP2 and Action Plan for the PMG / SECG.

Timing: January – April 2010.

7. Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS)

The development of the SMP2 coincides with the creation of a Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) by the Environment Agency, which will be guided by the policies developed in the SMP2. Project Management for the FRMS is being undertaken by the Environment Agency's National Capital Programme Management Services (NCPMS). The Project Manager and lead National Environmental Assessment Service (NEAS) Officer are responsible for communication with other EA staff within the project management structure and across the Environment Agency as a whole.

The FRMS takes a more detailed look at how existing and future coastal defences will be managed, the standard of flood protection and the type of defence. This is part of starting to see how some of the flood risk management policies proposed in the SMP will be implemented.

The SMP2 will guide the scope and direction of the FRMS, so it is important that these two projects work together. Atkins Limited and ABPmer are working with the Environment Agency to develop the FRMS during 2009.

Working with stakeholders is also important for the development of the FRMS, but the SECG and the Environment Agency do not want to burden stakeholders with requests for information and comments if certain aspects of the development of both projects can be combined.

7.1 Linking the SMP2 and the FRMS

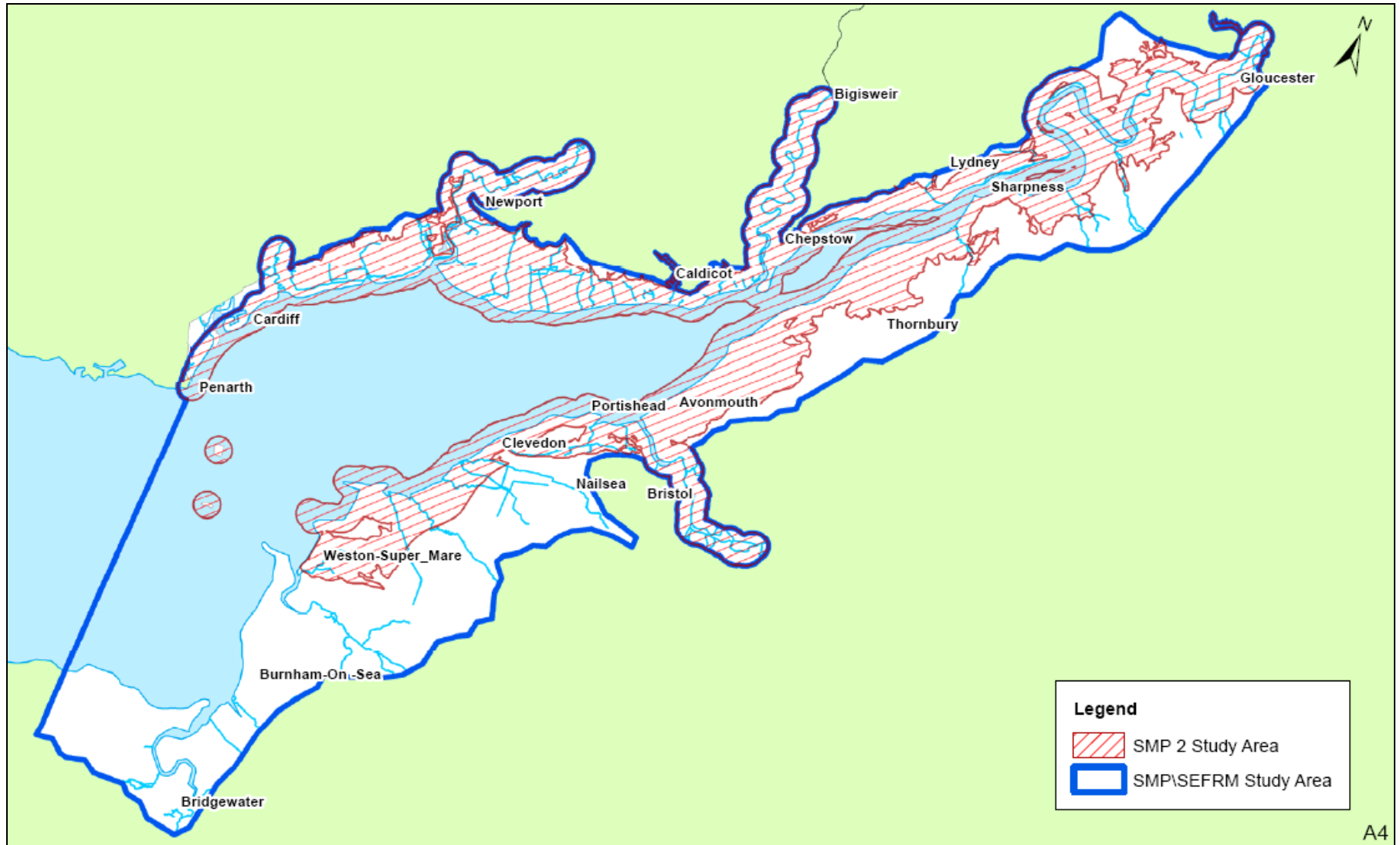
The FRMS will be guided by the policies being developed for the SMP2. The FRMS, however, focuses on specific aspects of managing flood risk around the Severn Estuary and may produce useful findings and information to feed back into the SMP2. Both programmes will use very similar data and information that will be shared.

A Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) are required for both the SMP2 and the FRMS. An SEA is designed to take account of environmental considerations in the preparation of plans that are likely to have a significant effect on the environment. An HRA is designed to ensure that protected European Sites, for which the Severn Estuary is designated, are not adversely affected by any proposals.

The SMP2 and FRMS cover the same general area of the Severn Estuary and many of the environmental considerations for the SEA and HRA for both projects will be very similar. Figure 7.1 shows the different areas covered by the SMP2 and the FRMS. Both the SMP2 and FRMS SEA's include requirements for public consultation.

The SECG aim to consult on the SMP2 SEA Scoping Report during the KSG meetings. The comments will be fed back into both the SMP2 and FRMS. The aim is to reduce the number of times stakeholders are asked to comment on very similar issues, while ensuring that the legislative requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive and Habitats Directives are met.

Figure 7.1 – SMP2 and FRMS areas within the Severn Estuary



A4

PART B: Key Stakeholder Consultation Review

(January - June 2009)

This Part provides an overview of the approach taken and comments received from the first series of key stakeholder events organised for the SMP2 in January 2009 (Cardiff and Slimbridge). It also includes key stakeholder workshops arranged during this time to help supplement gaps in knowledge.

1. Approach to Key Stakeholder Events

1.1 Overview

Over 300 letters with associated initial questionnaires were issued prior to the event to the identified Key Stakeholders on the 21st November, 2008. The level of detail in the letters issued was determined by whether or not an individual Stakeholder had been involved in the first Severn Estuary SMP. Copies of the responses are currently being held by Atkins, (these are available to identify individual responses in Annex C).

This report outlines a summary of the responses received. These are presented under a series of strategic headings. The details of the responses are within Section 4, and also added to the Theme Review and the “Issues, Features and Objectives” tables (Task 2.3).

Severn Estuary Key Stakeholder meetings were held on Tuesday 27th at Cardiff University, Glamorgan Council Chamber, and Thursday 29th of January 2009 at Slimbridge Cinema, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT).

The purpose of the events was twofold:

- Introduce the SMP2 process to the identified Key Stakeholder Group (set within the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy);
- To request their contribution towards the identification of issues features and draft objectives for separate “Theme Areas” identified for the study area.

The agenda for both events was as follows:

- Introduction to the Meeting (5 mins);
- Planning on the coast - What are Shoreline Management Plans? (5 mins);
- The significance of SMP2 to the Severn Estuary? (5 mins);
- Communication and Engagement : Who is involved and the role of a Key Stakeholder (15 mins)
- Break out session – what we now want from the KSF

The break-out sessions were structured to enable attendees to spend the remaining time (circa 2.5hrs) to visit the 3 “geographic stations” and provide focused input on their preferred area.

Attendees were welcomed to stay as long as they needed.

Stakeholders were clearly informed to reply back with comments on “issues, features and benefits” for their area by Friday 13 February. All responses have now been incorporated into this report.

1.2 Attendance at the Events

There was good attendance at the workshops, with approximately 40 people attending each event from geographic locations around the estuary shoreline (Annex B). A key message taken from the events is the need for continued engagement in the process, plus the importance of stakeholder communication with colleagues and friends in raising awareness of the SMP2.

Details of the actual discussions and outcomes of the events are recorded in Section 4. Full details and original comments are included in Annex C. Comments are amalgamated between the two events and presented for each “Theme Area”. This is done to help the Atkins team better understand the geographic issues being raised. The comments are not altered in their content and represent as close a dialogue received as possible. Where known, the actual stakeholder organisation is presented for completeness.

1.3 Responses Received

41 questionnaires had been returned to the Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan team by the 5th February 2009. The main areas of concern identified in these letters were as follows:

- Preservation of farmland. A number of stakeholders expressed concerns over the present risk to high grade agricultural land currently providing a livelihood and supporting linked local businesses along the Severn Estuary Shoreline, particularly at Wentlooge and Caldicot, and upstream of the Severn Crossings. The land is described as an invaluable resource to the region.
- Managed risk to harbours and navigable channels. The Severn Estuary is extensively used by fishing boats, pleasure craft and for transport in industry; a wish to maintain these routes has been expressed by multiple stakeholders in response to the letters issued.
- The risk of pollution via the nuclear power stations (Oldbury through flooding and/or erosion has been expressed as a concern of the stakeholders).
- Residential risk from flooding/erosion.
- Infrastructure impacts associated with climate change.
- Future land use plans and developments on the shoreline. These were expressed as a concern in the letter responses, and how different policies may affect the socio-economic “signature” of the study area.
- Access to public footpaths and bridle ways. Stakeholders have expressed concern for the recreational routes from which the estuary can be enjoyed. Where possible public access to the shore should be maintained.

Original replies are tabulated in Annex C.

1.4 Issues Highlighted through Consultation

The issues of particular stakeholder concerns are highlighted by Theme Area. General Issues affecting all Theme Areas or the entire Severn Estuary shoreline are noted in the following sections.

1.4.1 General Issues

Stakeholders expressed a general interest in maintaining the quality and diversity of the estuarine environment, both on the shoreline and inland. Both those in attendance and post event responses showed some acceptance of sea level rise and need for adaptation.

Shoreline path and bridleway maintenance and extension where possible, are high priorities for some groups. The risk of erosion and storm damage to the coastal path should be reduced where possible or managed for the longer term where possible; this issue is highlighted by WAG and within the draft Marine & Coastal Access Bill (2009). Where a managed realignment policy is adopted the coastal paths are expected to be re-aligned to preserve coastal access. The issue of coastal access was extended by a handful of stakeholders to mean marine access also, for boat launching sites to remain where possible.

Within the Severn Estuary there is a strong desire from the stakeholders to keep the shoreline "user friendly" for craft to navigate. Stakeholders have expressed concern for the 350 yachts (approximately) moored in the muds of creeks and pills around the Severn Estuary. The depth of the mud and depth of the water needs to be balanced in order for the boats to be safely moored, thus any changes to the sediment budget along the coastline may affect the moorings. Access to the foreshore is also very important to the owners and crew of the mud-moored yachts in the Severn Estuary, obstacles to their access may add an additional safety risk.

Agriculture is an important industry for many areas on the Severn Estuary Shoreline, adequate defences and funding for these either directly by government or through schemes in which landowners can participate is important to stakeholders as identified through consultation. Where land lost to flooding and/or erosion there is interest in compensation schemes to financially account for the land lost through lack of protection.

Critical infrastructure can be found in many forms along the Severn Estuary shoreline, this includes electricity distribution networks. Any major electricity substations within an area at risk from tidal inundation from Severn Estuary should be defended to a 1 in 200 year defence level (0.5% AEP) as loss would have major societal impact on local people.

The preservation of conservation sites along the Severn Estuary shoreline was repeatedly expressed as important by the stakeholders. There is a wish to protect wetland environment where possible and use soft defences to develop/enhance further wetlands.

Lighthouses along the entire estuary shoreline are important assets to port industry within the region. Stakeholders proposed an objective to avoid damage to lighthouse structures from coastal processes and flooding.

Concerns were expressed over cost benefit issues of improving defences in the short-medium term. Linked to this is the high level of interest in the Severn Barrage proposals, and what impact this will have on the future flood risk of the region. Would defences now be unnecessary with the influence of the barrage?

1.4.2 Penarth

The risk of erosion and storm damage to the coastal path should be reduced where possible, the path is important as a local recreational asset and tourist attraction. The issue is highlighted by WAG and Marine & Coastal Access Bill (2009). No other commentary was

received concerning any other coastal erosion being experienced in the area except to the coastal path.

1.4.3 Cardiff

Boat access and the maintenance of waterways were highlighted as an issue of high importance to stakeholders in the Cardiff area. Boat access to Atlantic Wharf in particular was noted for its importance to commercial industry currently in operation at Cardiff. The maintenance of boat access to water ways in the Cardiff area are of local and regional importance, reducing marginally in value between 50 and 100 years in the future. The stakeholder objective for this region is to maintain boat access and public access to sites.

The maintenance of habitats at the SSSI on Rumney is of a high importance to the stakeholders, it is an important site for flora and fauna benefiting the general public and tourists. The objective for this site is to maintain the ecological value of the site through minimal disturbance to habitats.

Cardiff Bay and Wales Coastal Path, linked by the Cardiff Barrage is of high importance to the residents and tourists at a local to regional level due to the flood protection provided and as a tourist attraction. Pedestrian and cycle access throughout the Bay, linking Penarth to Cardiff, is of high importance. Maintain barrage for flood protection, social amenity and tourist use is the objective for the Cardiff region.

Stakeholders have expressed it desirable not to disturb or threaten the presence of Cormorants in Cardiff Bay with developments at the coastline.

1.4.4 Wentlooge

The Wentlooge levels are of high grade agricultural land of the same level of importance as the Caldicot Levels. The agricultural land is considered by stakeholders to be of increasing importance due to quoted statistics – Britain only produces 60% of food it currently requires, as this figure is reducing, there is a need to maintain highly productive ground.

1.4.5 Newport

The port operations are of commercial and industrial importance to the region. To protect the port operation and safeguard customers and employees is the preferred objective for the channel at Newport.

1.4.6 Caldicot

The noted trend of the shoreline over the past 50 years, at Rogiet in particular, is reportedly erosion. There is an expressed concern that the current defences of the Caldicot Levels are insufficient to protect against future sea levels and storm surge events. The local community are keen to see improved defences to protect the land and essential infrastructure, such as the M4.

Stakeholders highlighted key features of the Caldicot Levels: the high grade farmland, industry (50% land use) and key infrastructure (rail linking Newport and Cardiff and electricity network). The features listed are considered of high importance over the next 100 years, particularly the high grade farmland due to the stats given that the UK only produces 60% of food it requires, this figure is reducing, there is a need to maintain highly productive ground. As tides are described as reaching 2m above land level behind the defences, land drainage is also an issue affecting farmland of the Caldicot Levels. For the Caldicot Levels, stakeholders have proposed an objective of maintaining and improving, if possible, the current level of defence and internal drainage system.

Key infrastructure of Magor and Undy community is potentially at risk of flooding and erosion based on the 1 in 1,000 year flood outline.

The UK's largest brewery is situated at Magor and Undy, although the brewery premises is not within the 1 in 1,000 year flood risk zone the fresh water source supplied to the brewery is at risk of saline intrusion in the event of a large flood event. The brewery's supply of produce has national importance to the economy.

The features and issues highlighted by stakeholders of the Caldicot Theme Area were all given high importance at a minimum of a regional level to locals, tourists and industry.

1.4.7 Chepstow and the River Wye

Policies set by the SMP Review have implications for biodiversity within the AONB and the downstream sections of the River Wye. The preservation of the biodiversity of the region is of national importance and key to tourism in the region.

1.4.8 Chepstow to Lydney

No-one expressed any particular issue or feature at either event or through returned questionnaires.

1.4.9 Lydney

No-one expressed any particular issue or feature at either event or through returned questionnaires.

1.4.10 Lydney to Gloucester

Local Parish Councils identified that the land surrounding Westbury on Severn to be primarily grazing land for farmed animals and that it is frequently flooded by high tides. They expressed concern over future flooding in the Parish and the impact this would have on the farming community and regionally dependant businesses.

From Lydney to Gloucester farm land on the shoreline is affected by flooding, particularly upstream from Minsterworth where flood events in 1947, 2000 and 2007 caused disruption. Realignment of the upstream defences is proposed to reduce the detrimental affect of flooding at Minsterworth.

1.4.11 Gloucester to Haw Bridge

Much of the city of Gloucester is within the 1 in 1000 year tidal flood risk zone, stakeholders highlighted that properties within the city boundary have suffered in recent flood events. Stakeholders identified the city as a whole to be a key asset and for flood and erosion risk to be avoided where possible.

The Gloucester area is a large development along the Severn Estuary. The existing residential properties are of high importance to the locals so the key objective for this land-use is to prevent loss or damage due to erosion or flooding where possible.

Essential infrastructure including the WTW, electricity sub-station and road network are important assets highlighted by stakeholders during consultation. The key objective for this feature, as proposed by the stakeholders is to prevent loss or damage due to erosion or flooding.

The Gloucester to Sharpness Canal was discussed as an important feature of the area as a recreational asset, tourist attraction and for playing a role in water management. It is important to local communities, businesses and tourists.

Gloucester Wildlife Trust Strategic Nature Areas Project is adjacent to the Severn and helps reduce the severity of flood events by reducing lag time. It has this offset because defences on the conservation area realignment do not allow the flood plain to function naturally. The site is primarily one of nature conservation and habitat diversity. The feature is described as being of consistently high importance to the Gloucester area over the next 100 years.

1.4.12 Gloucester to Sharpness

Rural economy was indicated to be of upmost importance in the region due to the high quality of land, as a large employer and links to businesses.

The stakeholders identified numerous features of natural and conservation value to be important, for example Hock Cliff Geological site and Slimbridge WWT. Slimbridge Wildlife Trust site is regarded with the highest importance by the stakeholders in the present and is expected to be of similar importance in the future. Hock Cliff is considered less important by the stakeholder for the foreseeable future.

Key facilities within the theme area for which the objective is to prevent loss or damage due to erosion or flooding are; Sharpness Dock, Purton Water Treatment Works and Frampton Landfill. Such facilities are of minimum regional strategic importance, with Slimbridge WWT considered by the stakeholders to be of national importance. Purton water treatment works supplies the water for Bristol residents; as such it is of utmost importance to the region over the next 100 years.

1.4.13 Sharpness to Severn Crossings

Agriculture is of utmost importance in the region due to the high productivity of the land, as a large employer in the region and support provided to linked businesses.

Aust Parish includes settlements at Aust and Littleton and scattered farm premises. Flooding (as in 1981) would have an impact on local farming economy. Whale Wharf, within Aust Parish, is of particular concern as it is situated on the shoreline. It has the potential to contain ~600 people. The shoreline of Aust Parish is observed by stakeholders to be accumulating sediment rather than undergoing net erosion.

The existing residential properties are important to the local community. The key objective for those properties is to prevent loss or damage due to erosion. Stakeholders would like to see the presence of existing properties influence the SMP policies.

Oldbury on Severn is difficult to protect from freshwater flooding, this is of more concern than coastal flooding.

Stakeholders expressed a wish to prevent loss or damage from flood or erosion to Berkeley Nuclear Power Station due to concerns over pollution and possible health risks, the present level of defence should be maintained or improved. Stakeholders have expressed the opinion that the protection of Berkeley from flooding and erosion is decreasing in importance over time. It is also currently an important site for the local economy as a large employer.

For heritage purposes and preservation of historic monuments Berkeley Castle was noted by the stakeholders. It is a grade 1 listed building, an important tourist asset of high regional importance over the next 100 years.

Aust Cliff fossil beds are considered to be extremely important to preserve over the next 100 years. They are designated a SSSI and of national geological importance.

1.4.14 Severnside to Bristol and Avonmouth

Seabank Power Station and essential transport links within the Theme Area are of national strategic importance to the stakeholders. The objective for these key features is to prevent loss or damage due to erosion or flooding.

Stakeholders noted the need to protect essential water assets as discussed in the Pitt Report (2008). Wessex Water have a range of strategic and smaller scale assets along the shoreline between Porlock in the south and Berkeley in the North, this includes the shoreline of Severnside, Bristol and Avonmouth.

The importance of the archaeology that can be found in the region has been highlighted during consultation. The preservation of archaeological sites is important to stakeholders.

1.4.15 Portishead and Clevedon

Wessex Water have a range of strategic and smaller scale assets along the shoreline between Porlock in the south and Berkeley in the North, this includes the shoreline from Portishead to Clevedon.

1.4.16 Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay

Wessex Water have a range of strategic and smaller scale assets along the shoreline between Porlock in the south and Berkeley in the North, this includes the shoreline between Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay.

1.4.17 The Holms

Flat Holm was noted by the EA as a key conservation site for flora and fauna. The maritime grassland benefits tourists and local environmental heritage. The site also is important for education resource. The site is of national high importance over the next 100 years. The primary objective of the stakeholders for Flat Holm is to reduce risk of habitat loss and enhance existing habitats.

1.5 Post Event Consultation

1.5.1 Stakeholder Concerns

A water treatment company expressed concern for the range of strategic and smaller scale assets along the shoreline at Berkeley, they will require further discussion to assess the impact and agree appropriate measures to safeguard services. The specific location of the water management and treatment sites was requested of the key contact. As a result water assets have been successfully mapped across stretches of coast.

Following contact with a water company, Atkins have made contact with others and received the locations of their assets. With the necessary data the critical infrastructure managing water supply will be considered in the following stages of the SMP Review.

There has been some detailed post stakeholder event consultation over missing information in relation to non-designated historic environment assets within the study area. It has been suggested to the PMG that it is advisable to include the likes of EH, CCW and GGAT on the PMG. Having EH/CADW on board with the PMG may help the team to identify what heritage features are important and need to be protected and what is of upmost importance in the short, medium, and long term etc.

Having EH/CADW on the PMG may enable joint ownership of the decisions for future coastal management which will make decisions for the FRMS and implementation of individual projects a lot easier. There does remain uncertainty over whether such organisations are seen to have any SMP2 “sign off” authority. This is currently being assessed.

1.6 Ongoing consultation

There was a high level of interest in the study as shown in the attendance at the initial consultation events. This led to more feedback on the issues, features and objectives for each Theme Area, highlighting the features of the shoreline that are important to the stakeholders.

The information presented at the stakeholder events was made available online (at <http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/smpr.html>) so those unable to attend an event were able to make comments on the issues important to them along the Severn Estuary shoreline.

2. Heritage Workshop (April 2009)

2.1 Introduction

Due to the issue of under representation of historic environment in the SMP2 (as highlighted by the Review Features, Benefits and Issues Consultation events) and the lack of information being made available on these matters during Stage 1 of the project, a Heritage Workshop was held to tackle the stakeholder concerns (See Annex D). This reflected the request and Guidance set out by Defra/English Heritage should the need for this situation arise.

The purpose of the Heritage Workshop was to establish the risks to the historic environment of the estuary posed by the current coastal processes and projected shoreline movement over the three temporal epochs, 0-20 years, 20-50 years, 50-100 years considered by the SMP2.

2.2 Findings

At the Heritage Workshop Event it was evident that the Severn Estuary is particularly rich in its variety and extent of historic environment. The palaeo-environmental evidence from the estuary and the maritime history is recognised as being of exceptional (international) significance.

At a strategic level the designated sites of historic importance were initially considered, however, the attendees of the heritage workshop indicated that many sites of high historic environment value are not recognised under a national or international designation.

The threat to the historic environment is the reduction in research opportunities following large-scale inundation as a result of removing or realigning defences for habitat creation. However, the exact risk posed to some sites is still largely unknown, as the effect of saltwater inundation on historic environment assets was flagged up as an unknown risk for certain areas. Additionally, the possibility of additional impacts was considered, e.g. from changing weather patterns causing more storms and creating greater run-off from the land.

The Heritage Workshop attendees considered adjustment of regional research strategies to prioritise information gathering at areas of greatest flood risk to take account of imminent coastal flooding threat; thus adapting to change at the shoreline.

2.3 Summary of Findings

There is still a major lack of knowledge and understanding of the historic environment of the estuary, balanced by a recognised high level of importance at various levels (i.e. local, regional).

As the Severn Estuary is recognised as rich in its variety and extent of its historic environment, it is essential to ensure the Historic Environment remains a key element of the SECG agenda and is given appropriate standing in SMP.

3. SEA / AA Workshop (April 2009)

3.1 Overview to the Event

An event was arranged in light of specific cross border related issues that appear not to have been addressed in other SMP2 commissions. Some complex issues were discussed and actions agreed upon.

4. Policy Development Consultation – June, 2009

4.1 Approach

Two events were held by the SECG and Atkins to enable people that live and work around the Severn Estuary to get involved with the SMP2.

Events were arranged for:

- Monday 8 June – Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon – 2pm – 6pm
- Wednesday 10 June – Paget Rooms, Penarth – 2pm – 6pm

The particular purpose of the June 2009 events was to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to review the progress of the SMP2 so far, and in particular; to consider the set objectives for the shoreline; reach an agreement/communicate any conflicted opinions on the relative importance of objectives; and review the proposed policies for the shoreline.

In order to gather information from the stakeholders in attendance and receive the review of objectives and policies proposed so far the events were furnished with the following:

- Information leaflets for each Theme Area, outlining the identified key assets, coastal processes and defence data, and the outlined objectives;
- Policy leaflets for each Theme Area, defining policy options and indicating policies to be appraised for each Policy Unit within the Theme Area;
- Maps detailing flood and erosion risk under a No Active Intervention scenario;
- And questionnaires (Annex F) designed to guide stakeholders through a review of the information supplied regarding the objectives and policies.

4.2 Attendance

The number of attendees at each event was high – with approximately 75 in attendance at the Clevedon event, and 40 at the later Penarth event (Annex B).

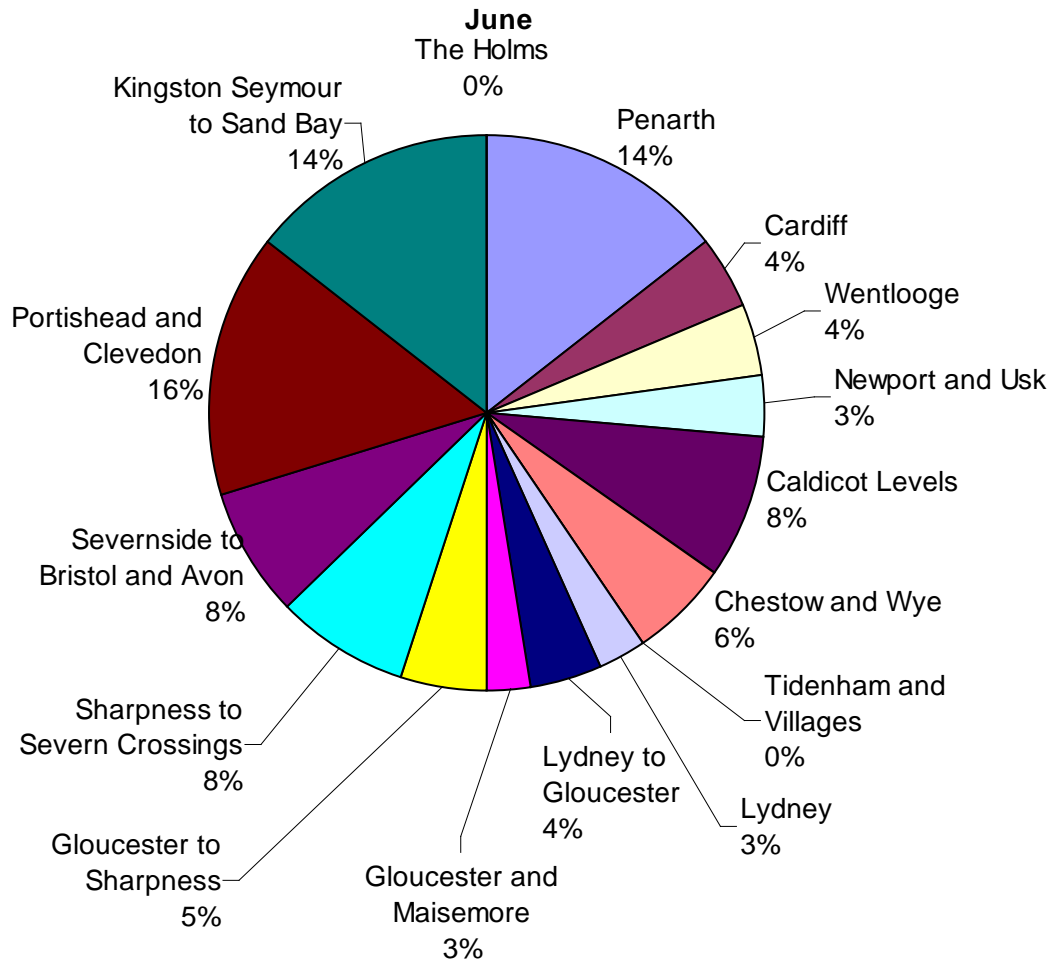
4.3 Response

Questionnaires were completed at the events and returned to facilitators. Additional questionnaires were returned to Atkins via email following the publication of the questionnaires and other informative material online. A total of 97 questionnaires detailing opinions on the objectives and policies proposed by the SMP2 progress so far were returned by the deadline set – Friday 26th, June.

Returned questionnaires indicated that review of the progress of the SMP2 (in particular comment on the objectives and proposed policies across both events) was spatially biased (Fig.11.1), with the majority of questionnaires returned indicating concern for the downstream reaches of the estuary. Overall, there was sufficient attendance and subsequent review of objectives and policies for Theme Areas up to Sharpness, on the left bank, and up to Chepstow and Wye on the right bank.

Figure 11.1 – Spatial Representation of Policy Development Consultation Attendance

Spatial Representation of Questionnaire Responses by Friday 26th,



4.4 Objective and Policy Review

4.4.1 Response and Review across the Estuary

Through the questionnaire stakeholders were asked if they agree with the objectives set for their area of concern. The results of the objectives and policy review (Fig.11.2.a and b) indicate mixed success across the estuary shoreline of the presented SMP2 objectives meeting the needs and expectations of the stakeholders.

Figure 11.2a – Stakeholder Objective Review

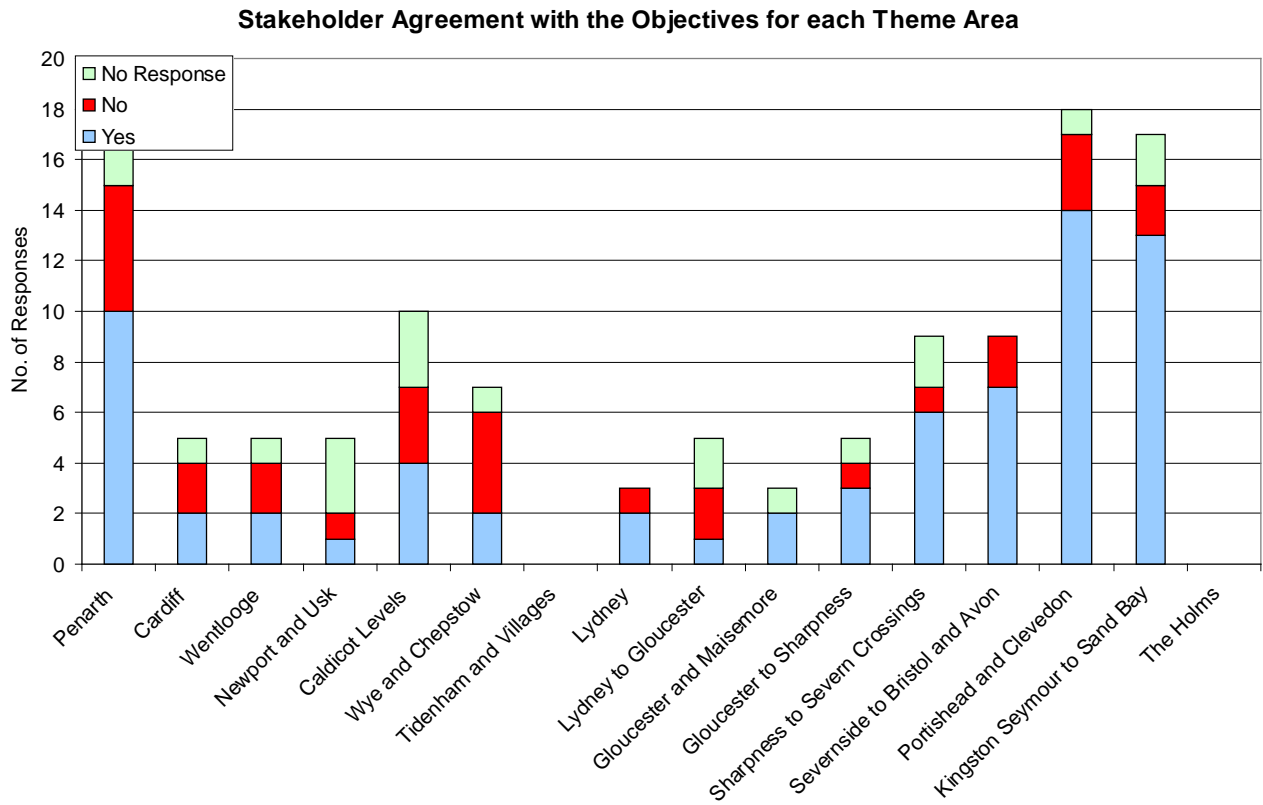
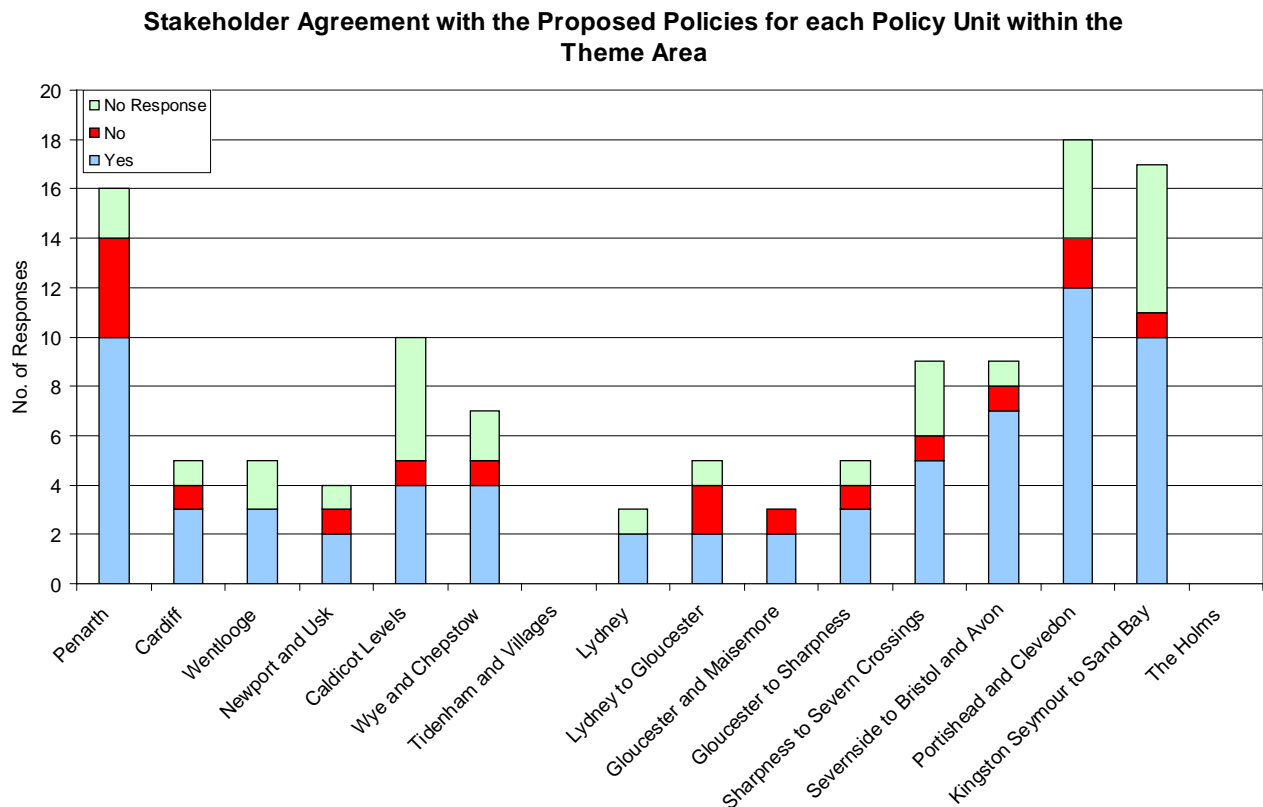


Figure 11.2b – Stakeholder Policy Review



4.4.2 Penarth

The attendance of stakeholders and response from those with particular interest in the Penarth Theme Area was good, and 75% indicated that they were satisfied with the objectives proposed. There was particular reference and agreement with the objectives to manage the erosion risk to residential properties, and to maintain the integrity of internationally designated conservation sites – two potentially conflicting objectives.

The objective disagreements arose from the following:

- Royal Yachting Association representatives were dissatisfied with the objective “to manage the risk of flooding to key community, recreational and amenity facilities” in that it does not apply to marine recreation. An additional objective is desired making reference to maintaining access to the shoreline and allowance for mooring of recreational craft. (*This issue and disagreement with the objectives applies to all theme areas excluding Wentlooge, Caldicot Levels, Tidenham and Villages, and Gloucester to Haw Bridge.*);
- The objectives should make reference to the listed buildings and Victorian drains (still in use) close to the shoreline and seemingly at risk of erosion;
- Disagreement with the current objective to allow natural processes and maintain visibility of cliff face. The preferred objective indicated by some stakeholders is for the base of the cliff to link Penarth with Cardiff through provision of a cliff base walkway from pier to barrage thus decreasing further erosion risk.

A preferred objective expressed was to allow for the development of tourism and to protect the esplanade – not to ‘Do Nothing’

Particular concern for Housing Association properties at Bradford Place was raised at stakeholder consultation. The dwellings have recently been developed and intended to be used for residential housing over the SMP2 timeframe. There was additional concern for the erosion rates of the Lavernock Point to Esplanade cliff line. A realigned path and fence has been necessary in 2009 to accommodate the natural processes and maintain usability of the cliffs for recreation.

Hold the Line was indicated to be the overall preferred objective for the Penarth Theme Area, although No Active Intervention was also considered. Advance the Line and Managed Realignment as Policy options were not considered by the stakeholders – no returned questionnaire indicated these to be a preferred approach to shoreline management.

At the consultation events members of the town council verbally expressed favour of the Penarth Headland Link Path proposal (since rejected) for its potential defence of the cliff toe at Penarth Head and the economic benefit of easy links with Cardiff’s commercial and tourist hub. This proposal would marginally Advance the Line.

4.4.3 Cardiff

There were limited responses reviewing the objectives set for the Cardiff area specific to the Theme Area, responses were more general for larger stretches of the estuary.

The objective disagreements with reference to Cardiff arose from:

- A request for more clarity in the maintenance of the sea wall. The objectives for Cardiff read that they are “to manage the risk” rather than “to remove the risk” – the latter being the preferred objective;
- The lack of specific reference to marine recreation (see Royal Yachting Association comment for Penarth).

Only minor alterations to the objectives would be necessary to meet to desires of the stakeholders and achieve 100% satisfaction with the objectives based on the responses received.

Hold the Line was the only Policy Option preferred by the stakeholders of the Cardiff Theme Area.

4.4.4 Wentlooge

There were limited responses reviewing the objectives set for the Wentlooge specific to the Theme Area, responses were more general for larger stretches of the estuary. Those responses specific to the Wentlooge Theme Area indicated agreement with the objectives, with particular favour for the objective to protect residential properties.

An additional objective proposed for Wentlooge was:

- Is the preservation of the marshland for wildlife and for recreation? The objective disagreements for the Wentlooge Theme Area arose from:
- Enhanced clarity in the objective wording is required, with specific reference to food security, defined infrastructure, heritage, environment and tourism features;
- Proposal to set objective preserving the buried archaeological remains at Peterstone and Goldcliff.

To Advance the Line was indicated as the preferred policy for the Wentlooge Theme Area, Hold the Line was also considered as a Policy Option for the shoreline.

4.4.5 Newport and River Usk

There were limited responses reviewing the objectives set for the Newport section of the Theme Area, responses were more general for larger stretches of the estuary. Stakeholders in attendance at the events indicated that they agreed with the objectives for Newport aside from:

- The lack of specific reference to marine recreation (see Royal Yachting Association comment for Penarth).

Many returned questionnaires did not specifically make reference to the set objectives to indicate agreement or disagreement.

Verbally, it was expressed by stakeholders that the continued defence of Uskmouth Power Station to be essential nationally, the power station reportedly supplies West Wales with 75% of the required power.

Hold the Line was the only Policy Option preferred by the stakeholders of the Newport and River Usk Theme Area.

4.4.6 Caldicot

There was a strong response from the stakeholders of the Caldicot Theme Area regarding the set objectives presented at the June Objective and Policy Review events with the majority indicating agreement with the objectives. Those questionnaires returned specifically regarding the Caldicot Levels noted particular approval of the objectives concerning the management of flood and erosion risk to transport infrastructure, local community assets and the sites of historic value, and the preservation of the nature conservation sites.

Where stakeholders indicated that they did not agree with the objectives, the following reasons/improvement proposals were given:

- More emphasis on food production and green fuel potential;
- Increased recognition of the importance of agricultural land;
- Enhanced clarity in the objective wording is required, with specific reference to food security, defined infrastructure, heritage, environment and tourism features;
- Specific objectives were proposed to preserve the buried archaeological remains at Goldcliff and other sites under the historic landscape designations of the Gwent Levels.
- The preferred policy for the Caldicot Levels was indicated to be Hold the Line, although there was some preference for Advance the Line and Managed Realignment.
- The option of No Active Intervention was not favoured by the stakeholders.

4.4.7 Chepstow and the River Wye

The objective disagreements arose from:

- A request for enhanced clarity in the objective wording, with specific reference to food security, defined infrastructure, heritage, environment and tourism features;
- The lack of specific reference to marine recreation (see Royal Yachting Association comment for Penarth),

Other respondents, although in agreement with the objectives requested further reference to recreational locations, nature conservation sites specific to the Wye Valley (Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and sites of historic interest (Lower Wye Valley Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales).

The preferred Policies for Units of the Chepstow and River Wye Theme Area were indicated to be No Active Intervention (WYE2) and Hold the Line.

4.4.8 Tidenham and Villages (formally Chepstow to Lydney)

No stakeholders returned questionnaires or written responses that made specific reference to the Tidenham and Villages Area giving no preferred Objectives and/or Policies.

4.4.9 Lydney Harbour

One questionnaire was returned with reference specific to Lydney, other returns were general to many Theme Areas of the estuary.

The stakeholder expressed key concerns regarding the scattered residential developments and infrastructure and communications network, in particular the railway, which links key development along the Severn Estuary Shoreline.

The preferred Policy Option for the Lydney Theme Area was indicated to be Hold the Line.

4.4.10 Lydney to Gloucester

Stakeholders from Lydney to Gloucester highlighted several key features, the best interests of which should drive policy:

- the railway and A48 are noted as an important part of the infrastructure;
- the unique site of Westbury Court and Gardens Dutch Water Garden;
- Residential developments;
- Agricultural land.

Stakeholders propose that the objectives should directly refer to the key features to guide shoreline management.

Although Hold the Line is the preferred Policy Options of the stakeholders for the Lydney to Gloucester Theme Area Shoreline, Managed Realignment is also considered as a potential Policy Option for the shoreline by some stakeholders. Managed Realignment would allow for the protection of key sites highlighted through stakeholder engagement, and allow for landscape adaptation to sea level rise.

4.4.11 Gloucester to Haw Bridge

There was limited response from stakeholders of the Gloucester to Haw Bridge Area. Respondents indicated residential, commercial and industrial properties to be the key drivers of policy within the theme area.

The indicated preferred Policy Option for Gloucester to Haw Bridge is Hold the Line, other Policy Options of No Active Intervention, Managed Realignment or Advance the Line are not considered by stakeholders.

4.4.12 Gloucester to Sharpness

There was limited response via the questionnaires from Gloucester to Sharpness stakeholders. Those who did respond indicated general agreement with the objectives and policies proposed.

Additionally responses with specific reference to the Gloucester to Sharpness Theme Area were received via email in written format. These respondents detailed the importance of:

- Public footpaths for recreation;
- Frampton nature conservation sites;
- The Gloucester to Sharpness Canal within this Theme Area for recreational use and for a future enhanced role in communications and transport.

A high level of concern over the flood and erosion risk was evident in responses from all sources. Sites within the Theme Area have witnessed multiple flood events in recent years; there is a general consensus that water management (from fluvial and coastal sources) needs to be improved.

Questionnaire respondents indicated a preferred policy of Hold the Line. Additional responses urged consideration of Managed Realignment, although recognised the potential conflicting impacts of this approach to shoreline management.

4.4.13 Sharpness to Severn Crossings

The returned questionnaires and additional responses with specific reference to the Sharpness to Severn Crossings Theme Area (received via email in written format) stressed the importance of:

- Oldbury and Berkeley Power Station within the Theme Area;

- The industrial assets and marine operations at Sharpness Docks;
- A large employer within the flood cells – the Berkeley Engineering Centre;
- Berkeley Castle and surrounding infrastructure.

The features identified as Key Policy Drivers within the Theme Area by the stakeholders will be reconsidered to ensure the objectives and Key Policy Drivers reflect these interests. A Policy in the best interests of the identified features will be sought.

The interaction of coastal management alongside the risk of fluvial flooding is a concern for residential developments where fluvial flooding is frequent. There is the concern that coastal flood defences will prevent drainage of fluvial flood waters.

The overwhelming majority of responses indicated a preferred Policy option of Hold the Line.

4.4.14 Severnside to Bristol and Avonmouth

A total of 9 stakeholders responded through the questionnaires with specific reference to the Severnside, Bristol and Avonmouth Theme Area. The majority of respondents identified Hold the Line as their preferred Policy Option, but Advance the Line was also favoured. No respondents indicated Realignment of the existing line or No Active Intervention to be a preferred scenario for this region.

Additional comments on returned questionnaires revealed more detail of current and future land use, and environmental quality:

- A large number of new dwellings are under construction between Portishead Docks and Sheepway;

The Bristol Port Company stated a preference for “Advance the Line” in the vicinity of Avonmouth and Portbury Docks, in order to:

- improve flood protection to manage the risk of flooding to Avonmouth and Portbury Docks;
- manage the risk of erosion in the vicinity of the port; and
- gain land for sustainable port development to meet commercial demands.

It is however noted that this Policy Option conflicts with the nature conservation objectives for the Severn Estuary, and the Advance the Line option at Avonmouth would be dependant upon approval and construction of the Bristol Deep Sea Container Terminal (BDSCT) which would provide improved flood protection (decision Autumn 2009).

4.4.15 Portishead and Clevedon

The overwhelming majority of stakeholders approved of the objectives and policies set for the Portishead and Clevedon area. Features of nature conservation, residential property and recreational assets were indicated to be the favoured policy drivers along the Portishead to Clevedon Shoreline.

Detailed comments proposed amendments to the objectives and highlighted more detail of current features and future land use:

- Oil delivered to Bristol Docks is pumped to the large oil storage tanks located at the shoreline at Portishead. The oil is supplied from storage to major airports and for MOD requirements – heightening importance of the feature to nationally significant and identifying it as a Key Policy Driver;

- Portishead Docks has ~450 berths and new lock gates indicating it's intended continued future development;
- The open air pool at Battery Point is currently under refurbishment – recreational assets are being improved at the shoreline.

The returned questionnaires indicated Hold the Line to be the 100% preferred response from those who responded.

4.4.16 Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay

Preferred key objectives indicated were:

- To manage the risk of flooding to people and property and agricultural land – residential properties at risk include the smaller developments of Wick St. Laurence and the larger development of Weston-Super-Mare due to the extensive tidal flood cells from the low lying forefront at Kingston Seymour;
- Protect transport infrastructure – railway is a key asset in this area;
- Shoreline access to be preserved for recreational purposes

The indicated preferred policy from the Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay respondents was Hold the Line, although there were also preferences for Advance the Line, No Active Intervention and Managed Realignment expressed.

Following review of the stakeholder responses regarding the Theme Area Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay the highlighted key concerns have been included within the objectives and under Key Policy Drivers. Earlier documentation has also been amended to make reference to key features.

4.4.17 The Holms

No stakeholders returned questionnaires or written responses that made specific reference to the Holms with preferred Objectives and/or Policies.

4.5 Key Stakeholder Concerns Highlighted Through Consultation

4.5.1 More Reference to Key Assets and Sites

A reoccurring theme of the stakeholder objective review questionnaire responses was the lack of detail within the objectives. The objectives set are high level objectives designed for the estuary as a whole system; therefore objectives remain the same across the estuary and refrain from making reference to specific features. However, additional Key Policy Drivers have been identified through stakeholder consultation and considered in the same manner as objectives. Key Policy Drivers are those features highlighted within each policy unit that are of chief importance and may override the policy indicated to be favourable by the objectives in some cases.

4.5.2 Clarity of Objectives

Stakeholders expressed concerned on the clarity of objectives set, as a result the objective wording had been altered to directly highlight the preferred objective outcome, e.g. “to manage adverse impacts on conservation sites” has been altered to read “to reduce adverse impacts on conservation sites.” The approach to assessment of meeting

the objectives allows weighting to illustrate to what extent each policy option is expected to meet the objective.

4.5.3 Agricultural Assets

In response to the stakeholder concerns we have increased the clarity in our overarching estuary objective 'to reduce the flood and erosion risk to commercial assets' to specifically note agricultural land as a key economic asset. It has been recognised that to be of increasing importance over the SMP2 timeframe for the following reasons:

- Future food security, potentially challenged by a changing climate;
- Economic value of future independence;
- The production of bio-fuels to meet the UK's international CO₂ / Greenhouse Gas Emission reductions and renewable energy targets.

In recognition of the above, regions where large areas of high grade agricultural land are present have been included as a Key Policy Driver within the Policy Assessment against the objectives. Key Policy Drivers are those features highlighted within each policy unit that are of chief importance and may override the policy indicated to be favourable by the objectives in some cases.

4.6 Ongoing consultation

The review of progress, particularly on the objectives for the shoreline and the policies set, will guide further progress into Stage 3 of the Severn Estuary SMP2 process.

Where disagreement with the objectives and/or proposed policy has been indicated, the Policy Drivers, estuary objectives and forefront information has been reviewed to ensure all features and levels of significance applied in the SMP2 process match that considered by the stakeholders of the Severn Estuary.

The information presented at the June stakeholder events was made available online (at <http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/smpr.html>). Those unable to attend an event were welcomed to make comments on the draft objectives and policies proposed for appraisal along the shoreline.

5. Key Stakeholder Event – Gloucester (Aug 09)

As a result of low attendance from stakeholders of the Upper Severn Estuary, the decision was made to hold a further event (Annex G). This decision was based on the fact that spatially biased attendance was likely due to the location of the events or the presentation of material in reference to the ‘estuary’ and ‘tidal flooding’. It is more likely that the stakeholders located in the Gloucester area are more concerned over fluvial flooding. The presentation material and marketing of the event was altered to attract more stakeholders thus a more thorough review of proposed policy and objectives.

5.1 Attendance

There were approximately 20 stakeholders in attendance at the Upper Severn Estuary Event held in Gloucester. All stakeholders indicated themselves to be interested in the Gloucester to Haw Bridge area, with some commenting on Lydney to Gloucester and Sharpness to Gloucester also.

5.2 Key Stakeholder Concerns Highlighted Through Subsequent Consultation Event

5.2.1 Habitat Creation Opportunities

Stakeholders of the Upper Severn Estuary have expressed concerns for the loss of habitat as a result of coastal squeeze along the shoreline. As a result of these concerns, managed realignment has been expressed as the preferred policy for numerous locations.

The channel bank immediately south of Gloucester and the shoreline at Westbury-on-Severn have been highlighted by stakeholders as possible sites for managed realignment. Managed realignment at Westbury on Severn is suggested primarily in order to allow for the creation of habitat potential opportunities.

The proposal for managed realignment south of Gloucester has been proposed for alternative reasons – to alleviate flooding where a fluvial flood event has coincided with a high tide.

5.2.2 Fluvial Flooding Exacerbated by High Tides

Many stakeholders highlighted their concerns for a high tide event coinciding with fluvial flooding.

As the SMP considers tidal flood risk, and the (Catchment Flood Management Plan) CFMP considers fluvial flood risk, there appears to be a hole in the data and our understanding of the requirements of the upper estuaries where fluvial flooding can be exacerbated by tidal processes and visa versa.

5.3 Action Following Highlighted Issues

The following actions are taken in the SMP2 in response to the concerns highlighted through consultation with the stakeholders:

- In the upstream reaches of the Severn Estuary, where fluvial processes dominate, the CFMP policies will be considered and will override SMP policy where no tidal flood or erosion risk is apparent.
- The SMP2 will recommend in the action plan for dredging of the Upper Estuary Channel to be considered following proposals from several stakeholders during consultation.

PART C: Public Consultation Phase

1. Preparation and Initial Agreement to the Draft SMP2

The initial draft of the SMP2 was reviewed, edited and agreed upon by the PMG prior to the public consultation process will commence on the 5th October 2009.

The PMG considered the preferred policies based on economics and policy driver objectives to ensure the SMP2 complemented Local Development Plans and local interests. This consultation led to decisions being made on political grounds as well as economics and policy driver objectives.

The appendices to the SMP2 were reviewed and edited where appropriate, before being finalised for public consultation.

2. Public Consultation

Following the preparation and initial agreement to the Draft SMP2, the public consultation process will commence on the 5th October 2009 for a period of 3 months, ending on 10th January 2010. The draft plan together with supporting information will be established on the SMP2 website.

<http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/>

All stakeholders were notified via email and public press announcements of the consultation process.

Meetings were held with Local Authorities to allow discussion of the plan, and presentations of the draft plan were given to all stakeholders who wished to attend at the following locations between 14:00 and 18:00:

- Paget Rooms, Penarth, 11th November 2009;

- Bristol Council Social Club, 12th November 2009;
- Gloucester City Council, North Warehouse, Gloucester Docks, 13th November 2009.

Prior to each consultation event (at approx. 12:00) the EMF had the opportunity to be presented with the findings of the Severn Estuary SMP2 and have the opportunity to comment on the preferred policies.

2.1 Raising Awareness

2.1.1 Public Media

Various attempts were made to pursue feedback and to raise awareness to the public. Whilst 9% response rate appears very low, this appears to mirror the response rates for other second generation SMP2s around the English coastline. Every effort was made by PMG members to raise awareness of the process and many different approaches were adopted to engage stakeholders. In addition to the purposely created project website, where stakeholders could reply and comment on specifically designed questionnaires online, PMG members assisting in engaging the local press and media in an attempt to reach the general public. The following local media groups were provided with a formal press release by members of the PMG:

- ENDS
- BBC
- BBC Online
- Sky
- Channel 4 News (Midlands Bureau)
- Midlands Today
- Western Daily Press Bristol
- The Citizen (Gloucester)
- Metro (Bristol & Bath)
- Sunday Mercury (Birmingham)
- BBC Radio Gloucestershire
- Heart (Gloucester)
- Gold (774)
- Heart Digital
- BBC TV West
- ITV West
- Gloucester and Cheltenham News Series
- Independent Series (Gloucestershire)
- Gloucestershire Echo
- Star 107.5 FM
- Points West
- Gloucester and Cheltenham News Series
- Independent Series (Gloucestershire)

Furthermore, summary project details and event information was distributed to local libraries bordering the Severn estuary shoreline.

2.1.2 EA Internal Publicity

The draft SMP and details of the consultation were circulated widely internally within EA by emails, briefing notes, noticeboards and electronic displays.

Papers (including extracts from SMP) were submitted to the EA Midlands Regional Flood Defence Committee, and members were encouraged to participate individually as well as encourage their local authorities to do so.

The EA Midlands RFDC Chairman (Tim Farr) convened a special cross-committee meeting, consisting of members of all three of the Agency's statutory committees, specifically to discuss the SMP consultation and to formulate a response. The Chairman should have submitted a response.

IDBs were advised of the SMP2 Consultation at Annual IDB Liaison Meeting and encouraged to participate.

2.2 Respondents

The Stage 4 consultation period lasted 3 months and was concluded on 11 January 2010. The process successfully engaged and received feedback from a total of 87 responses from the 952 stakeholders consulted; a response rate of 9%. Responding stakeholders were in the majority large organisations affected by the SMP2, from a variety of backgrounds, including:

- Local Authorities;
- Utility / Port / Rail
- Environmental Group
- Internal Drainage Board;
- Town / Parish Council;
- Agriculture; and
- Heritage Groups.

Responses were in the form of hard copy written letters, addressing particular areas of concern, or completed on line questionnaires. Three separate public consultation events held in November 2009 helped also to capture comments from attendees.

2.3 Key Areas of Concern

There have been several general themes, overarching issues and concerns that were highlighted during the Stage 4 consultation process which Atkins are now seeking to clarify during Stage 5:

- **Layout of the document** – some improvements needed to reduce repetition between appendices;
- **Inconsistencies** – some inconsistencies occur between statements made in the various appendices. A new process of report quality assessment shall be undertaken prior to despatch to the Quality Review Group (QRG) in June 2010;
- **Policy Wording** – confusion remains over the exact meaning of HTL. There is a need to clarify the position on SoP and HTL and ensure definition is consistent between appendices. A third package of documents (April 2010) has been produced by the SMP2 QRG which seek to address this issue and these shall need to be assessed for relevance to the Severn Estuary situation to adhere to a nationally consistent approach;
- **Key Policy Drivers**
 - **Agricultural land** – Several stakeholders have commented on the lack of priority put on agricultural land and the potential impact of recent government statements on food security;

- **Nature Conservation** – Given that most national nature conservation designations (e.g. NNR and SSSI's) are subject to UK legislation, which must be equivalent to national policy and guidance, it seems inconsistent that they are not considered to be Key Policy Drivers. Atkins are reviewing this issue, however, most NNRs and SSSIs are relatively small, compared with internationally protected sites. They therefore tend to fall within a single Policy Unit. Key Policy Drivers are those features / issues of such significance that they have an influence on the choice of policy at a large scale, in more than one Policy Unit or possibly across the whole SMP2 area. SSSIs that are considered of international importance are generally also designated as EU / internationally protected sites. Features (including nature conservation sites) that are not Key Policy Drivers are not ignored. They are considered and have an influence on the choice of policy option in the Policy Unit where they occur, but do not influence the choice of policy option in other areas.
 - **Property, Land Use & Human Health** - concern that the Key Policy Driver is limited to larger communities with populations of over 10,000. Much of the SMP area is made up of numbers of smaller, diffuse communities and individual land holdings;
 - **Landscape Character & Visual Amenity** – The Historic Landscape of the Gwent Levels is widely considered to be of international significance and again it seems inconsistent that this is not considered to be a Key Policy Driver;
- **Climate change** – It is noted that climate change sea level rise assessments have used UKCIP02 figures which are substantially different from those stated in the recent UKCP09. Atkins made it clear at the outset of the project that UKCIP02 statistics would have to be used in the absence of published UKCIP09 predictions;
- **Policy Statements** – Where NAI was followed by MR, many stakeholder responses (mainly the EA) would prefer to see MR moved forward into the 1st Epoch. This may have a knock on effect on the economic delivery of that policy which Atkins are reviewing;
- **Flooding Interactions** – greater clarity of wording is needed to ensure that the impacts of in combination flood events are better communicated, with clearer links to the policies set for the CFMP;
- **Maps and Figures** – Improvements shall be made to some maps and figures to increase clarity where needed;
- **SEA/HRA** – Comments were received on the accuracy of the baseline data used to help support the creation of the SEA/HRA.

2.4 Suggested Policy Option Amendments

Policy Unit	Stakeholder Name	Proposed Change	Atkins View (April 2010)
WYE1-2	Monmouthshire County Council	New Policy Unit between WYE1 and WYE2 HTL not NAI for short length of coast (approx 0.7km) at Lower Chepstow – from the railway bridge to the cliff just below the Castle on the right bank (looking downstream of the Wentlooge). Existing defences there defend 35 properties from high tides and surges.	No change to policy option – economics do not suggest that this would be economically viable. Suggest that a more detailed economic assessment is undertaken to investigate if HTL would be feasible for very short lengths, or if other actions could be implemented e.g. individual property defences
WYE2	Monmouthshire County Council	Segment Policy Unit WYE2 – incorporate a HTL sub-unit within NAI Needs to be HTL (not NAI) for the length of coast from the Wye Valley Hotel to and including Tintern Abbey.	No change to policy option – economics do not suggest that this would be economically viable. Suggest that a more detailed economic assessment is undertaken to investigate if HTL would be feasible for very short lengths, or if other actions could be implemented e.g. individual property defences
GLO1	Midlands RFDC	Change Policy from NAI to HTL or MR. GLO1 – NAI is not adequate for this unit due to the risk to the railway line and the water treatment facility at risk from flooding and erosion.	No change to policy option – more mention should be made of the proximity of the water treatment facility and railway line, however, this is not deemed at risk from flooding in the first or second epoch. Action Plan should consider saltmarsh and mudflat monitoring and management in the area.
NEW2-3	Newport Council	Extend NEW2 into NEW3 – HTL up to Caerleon Bridge Planned flood defence improvements at Home Farm Caerleon. The defences lie in the proposed policy unit of NEW3, for which NAI is the proposed policy across all 3 epochs. Newport Council would like to see an extension of the NEW2 policy unit from it's current position at the M4 road bridge up to Caerleon Bridge, approximately 4.5km upstream.	No change to policy option - NEW1/NEW2 are linked in terms of flood risk whereas NEW3 is more tidally dominated. Therefore for consistency, Atkins cannot accept an extension to NEW2. Instead, flood risk management for NEW3 is probably better managed through the CFMP. The relevant CFMP is the Wye & Usk CFMP, Policy Unit 7 which is to 'take action to reduce flood risk'. These defences are individual defences for the development, rather than for the shoreline. They do not affect or conflict with the policy option.
BRIS6	Portishead and North Weston Town Council	Policy Unit Assessment Update The BRIS6 policy unit assessment in the Severn Estuary SMP2 documents does not include the	No change to proposed policy options – HTL policy would enable new and older defences to be maintained

		'recently' completed development and sea defences.	
WEN1 and WEN2	RSPB	Proposed Change in Policy from HTL to NAI or MR The RSPB do not support a preferred policy of HTL in these policy units due to considerable potential to restore intertidal habitats.	No change to policy option - This issue has been raised by others. SECG discussed the issue at length with WAG and agreed that the policy option should remain as proposed but that supporting text makes it clear that when new defences are considered, opportunities for MR are investigated. The Action Plan to include the need for a study to investigate where / how MR could be achieved in the longer term to create a more sustainable defence line.
CALD1 AND CALD2	RSPB	Proposed Change in Policy from HTL to NAI or MR The RSPB do not support a preferred policy of HTL in these policy units due to considerable potential to restore intertidal habitats.	No change to policy option - This issue has been raised by others. SECG discussed the issue at length with WAG and agreed that the policy option should remain as proposed but that supporting text makes it clear that when new defences are considered, opportunities for MR are investigated. The Action Plan to include the need for a study to investigate where / how MR could be achieved in the longer term to create a more sustainable defence line.

Annex A – List of Key Stakeholders

List of key stakeholders

Associated British Ports, Cardiff	British Surfing Association
Associated British Ports, Newport	British Telecom
Association of British Insurers (ABI)	British Waterways, Sharpness
Avon Wildlife Trust	BT
Barry Yacht Club	Business West
Black Rock Lave Net Heritage Fishery	C F Spencer and Co Ltd
Blackdown Consultants	Cadw
Brean Land Yacht Club	Caldicot Moors Enclosures Committee - Clerk
Bridgwater & Pawlett District Drainage Board	Caldicot & Wentlooge IDB
Bridgwater Port Harbour Authority (Sedgemoor DC)	Cardiff City Council
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society	Cardiff Harbour Authority
Bristol Channel Counter Pollution Assoc	Cardiff Naturalists Society
Bristol Channel Federation of Sea Anglers	Cardiff University
Bristol Channel Yachting Assoc	CBI
Bristol City Council	CBI, Wales
Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery	CCW
Bristol Cruising Club	Celtic Energy Ltd
Bristol Marina Ltd	Cemex
Bristol Port Company	Cheltenham & Gloucester College
Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre	Chepstow Town Council
Bristol University	Churchill PC
Bristol Water plc	Clevedon Civic Society
British Association of Shooting and Conservation	Clevedon Town Council
British Canoe Union	CoastNET
British Dredging Aggregates Ltd.	Corus, Llanwern
British Dredging Limited	Council for the Protection of Rural England
British Energy	Council for the Protection of Rural Wales
British Gas	Country Landowners Association; Regional Secretary (Dorset, Somerset, Wilts)
British Horse Society	Country Landowners Association; Regional Secretary (Glos, Worcs, Herefordshire)
British Marine Aggregates Producers Association	Country Landowners Association; Regional Secretary (South and West Wales)
	Crest Nicholson Marina's Ltd

Crown Estate Commissioners
Department of Communities and Local Government
Department of Energy and Climate Change
English Heritage
English Tourist Board
Environment Agency (Midlands, South West, Wales)
Exmoor National Park
Fairweather Co Ltd
Farmers Union of Wales
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)
Forest of Dean District Council
Forestry Commission
Friends of the Earth – National Level
Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
Gloucester City Council
Gloucester Harbour Trustees
Gloucestershire County Council
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council
Gloucestershire University
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
GO South West
Gordano Footpath Group
Government Office for the South West
Great Western Railtrack Plc
Greenpeace – National Level
Gwent Ornithological Society
Gwent Wildlife Trust
Hanson Aggregates Marine
Health & Safety Executive
Health Protection Agency
Highways Agency
Hill Parish Meeting
Hinkley A
Hinkley Point B
HM Coastguard
Inland Waterways Association
Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers

Landmark Trust
Llanelli Sand Dredging
Llanwern Community Council
Local AMs / MPs / MEPs
Long Ashton
Lower Axe Internal Drainage Board
Lower Brue Internal Drainage Board
Lower Severn IDB
Lydney Town Council
Magnor with Undy Community Council
Magnox Electric Plc
Marine & Fisheries Agency - England
Marine Conservation Society
Mathern Community Council
Midlands Electricity
MOD - DEO Conservation
Monmouthshire County Council
Nailsea Town Council
National Association of Boat Owners
National Flood Forum
National Grid
National Monuments Record Centre
National Power
National School Sailing Assoc
National Trust
Natural England
Network Rail
Newport City Council
Newport Harbour Commissioners
Newport Wildfowling & Gun Club
NFU – South West
NFU - Wales
North Devon & Somerset Coastal Group
North Somerset and Gordano Valley IDB
North Somerset District Council
Nuclear Electric
Oldbury Power Station
Oldbury Village History Group
Parents Concerned about Hinkley

Parliamentary Maritime Group
Paul Fairweather Co Ltd
Penarth Town Council
Portishead and North Weston Town Council
Portishead Cruising Club
Portskewett Community Council
PowerGen
Ramblers Association
Regional Flood Defence Committees
Rogiet Community Council
Royal Yachting Association
RSPB
Rural Development Service
Seaview Lads Fishing Club
Sedgemoor District Council
Severn Estuary Conservation Group
Severn Estuary Levels Research Committee
Severn Estuary Net & Fixed Engines Fishermen's Association
Severn Estuary Research Group
Severn Princess Preservation Group
Severn Sands
Severn Tidal Power Group
Severn Trent Water
Severn Wetland Partnership
Severn Wildfowlers Association
Severnside Airport
Sir Robert McAlpine
Somerset County Council
Somerset Wildlife Trust
South Gloucestershire Council
South & West Fishing Communities Ltd
South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
South West Electricity Board
South West of England Regional Development Agency
South West Tourism
Sport England
Sports Council for Wales

Stockland District Drainage Board
Stroud District Council
Stroud Flood Forum
Sully Community Council
Sustrans
SWALEC
SWRDA
Telewest
Tewkesbury Borough Council
Transco
Trinity House Lighthouse Service
Trust for the Promotion of Environmental Awareness
United Marine Dredging
University of Glamorgan
University of Reading
University of the West of England
University of Wales College, Newport
Uskmouth Power Station
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Visit Wales
WAG Agriculture
WAG DE&T
WAG DESH - Matthew Quinn
WAG Fisheries - Graham Rees
WAG Marine Consents Unit
Wales and West Utilities
Wales Coastal & Maritime Partnership
Welsh Federation of Coarse Anglers
Welsh Historic Gardens Trust
Welsh Water / Dŵr Cymru
Welsh Yachting Association
Wentlooge Community Council
Wentlooge Wildfowling & Conservation Assoc
Wessex Water
West Mendip Internal Drainage Board
West Somerset District Council
Western Power Distribution
Westminster Dredging Company Ltd

Weston Bay Yachting Club Ltd
Weston-super-Mare Town Council
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
World Wide Fund for Nature
Wye Valley AONB

Annex B – Event Attendance

Severn Estuary Coastal Group

Shoreline Management Plan 2 Stakeholder Workshop

27/01/09

Attendance Register



NAME	ORGANISATION
John Inman	North Somerset Council
Steve Edwards	Vale of Glamorgan
Sue Hughes	Glamorgan – Gwent Archaeological Trust
Dave Flew	InfoMap Surveys
Richard Flew	InfoMap Surveys
Dave James	InfoMap Surveys
Gerald Robbins	Rogiet Community Council
Lindsay Christian	Newport City Council
Sarah Vincent-piper	Environment Agency Wales
Natalie Newton	Environment Agency Wales
Mike Jones	Environment Agency
Eleri Harris	Environment Agency
Deborah Dunsford	Environment Agency
Alan Thomas	Associated British Ports
David Robins	North Somerset Council
Geoff Cox	Vale of Glamorgan
Graham Quarrier	Environment Agency
W. N. Waters	Caldicot and Wentlooge IDB
L. H. Attewell	Caldicot Flood Defence Alliance
Zoe Banks	Cardiff Council
A. Chapman	Forest of Dean District Council
Max Wallis	MARINET
Matt Hamilton	Avon Biodiversity Partnership
Rhoda Ballinger	Cardiff University
Tim Stojanovic	Cardiff University
Chris Weave	John Griffiths AM
Mike Phillips	SMU
Matthew Lewis	Monmouthshire County Council

Severn Estuary Coastal Group

Shoreline Management Plan 2 Stakeholder Workshop

29/01/09

Attendance Register



NAME	ORGANISATION
C Evers	Westbury-on-Severn PC
M. J. Hawkins	Aust D.C.
R. Marshall Ball	BASC
S. Foster	EON
I. J. Todd	EON Engineering
M. Lynden	Oldbury PC
Cllr C Price	Bristol CC
Cllr J Price	Bristol CC
B Turner	Oldbury-on-Severn PC
S Munns	Environment Agency
Richard Bullo	Bristol CC
C Brown	Bristol CC
B Tait	Stroud D.C.
Cllr B. M. Lewis	Bristol CC
V Phillips	British Waterways
Harry Cursham	CPRE
John Buttivant	Environment Agency
Keith Nursey	Environment Agency
Adrian Chadwick	Gloucestershire CC Archaeology
Toby Catchpole	Gloucestershire CC Archaeology
Deborah Dunsford	NEAS EA
Keith Reed	BCFSA
Don Metcalfe	BCFSA
Rob Niblett	Gloucestershire CC
Haydn Jones	Gloucestershire Wildfowlers Association
Jeremy Chamberlayne	NFU
Keith Badsey	British Waterways
John Loosley	Bristol and Glos Archaeological society
Graham Littleton	Stroud DC Lower Severn IDB
David Ogborne	Wessex Water
Peter Gilbert	Stroud D.C.
Cllr Peter Tyzack	Chair SEP South Gloucestershire Council
B. G. Booker	Gloucestershire C. C. Gloucestershire Harbour Trustees
Vanessa Straker	English Heritage

Severn Estuary Coastal Group

Shoreline Management Plan 2 Objective & Policy Review

08/06/09

Attendance Register



NAME	ORGANISATION
Don Metcalfe	Bristol Channel Federation of Sea Anglers
Tony Flusc	National Trust
Ed Frost	RES
Carolyn Shibbs	Trust for the promotion of environmental awareness
Jeremy Eaton	Network Rail
Anonymous	Green World Trust
Anne	Green World Trust
Colin Rogers	Green World Trust
CJ Connett	Coby Environmental
John Cox	Rambler
Judy Cox	Rambler
Nick Somers	Rambler
Richard Greenland	Tenons
Malcolm Lynden	Oldbury and Severn PC
Barry Turner	Oldbury and Severn PC
James Thomas	Lower Severn IDB
James Druett	Lower Severn IDB
Stuart Hubbards	Clevedon Wildfowlers Assoc
John Cordwell	Gloucestershire County Council
KP Silverthorne	S House Farm Berkeley Gloucestershire
SM Tarr	Portbury Parish Council
G Lee-Jones	Portishead resident
Margaret Rutherford	Christon Parish Council
RB Rutherford	Christon Parish Council
Simon Colinson	Christon Parish Council
Bob Cook	N Somerset Council
Richard Nancekivell	David James and Son
Stewart Plant	Tickenham Court Farm Co Ltd
William Weaver	David James and Partners
Penny Wriole	Ham and Stone Parish Council?
Robin Marshall-Ball	BASC
Jo Hamilton	Kingston Seymour Parish Council
Peter Tysack	S Gloucestershire Council

NAME	ORGANISATION
Marylynn Addis	Long Aston Parish Council
Chris Bowen	Black and Veatch
PG Fox	Portbury
Mark Gale	Wick St Laurence Weston Super Mare
Don Sutherland	RYA
Gillian V Harris	Clerk N Somerset IDB
Andrew Tyler	Resident
R Hull	RA
T Harris	Kingston Seymour
John Parsons	Wicks St Laurence Weston Super Mare
Doug Stone	Clevedon Resident
Pat Stone	Clevedon resident
Chris Ambrose	Wraxham and Rawland PC
Paul Wills	N Somerset Council
Ann-Marie Wood	N Somerset Council
Catherine M Gunnery	Bristol Resident
John Gunnery	Bristol Resident
Aran Rogers	Clevedon
Mike Blade	Clevedon
L Fowler	CPRE Avonside
Rosemary Dowie	Environment Network of North Somerset
Westley Jones	NFU
L. M. Brooks	Clevedon
GF Brooks	Clevedon
Leonard Dowie	Weston Super Mare
Ann Holtham	Kenn Parish Council
T Raines	North Somerset Local Access Forum
John B Dixon	Portfield Resident
Bob Garner	NSC Clevedon North Ward
Chris Hayes	EA
R Hughes	Tenons
G Fees	Brockely Parish Council
Griffin	Venn PC
Sue Mona	Portishead Town Council
Mike Perrott	Clevedon Canoe Club
LA Hindswell	Clevedon Canoe Club
T Bird	Clevedon Mercury
S Fullard	Resident
J Horbury	Resident
J Mel	Portishead Town Council
J Carpenter	North Somerset Friends of the Earth

Severn Estuary Coastal Group

Shoreline Management Plan 2 Objective & Policy Review

10/06/09

Attendance Register



NAME	ORGANISATION
James Harris	Monmouthshire County Council
Simon Jones	University of Glamorgan
Richard Garman	Cardiff Ramblers
Mat Holloway	Wentlooge Wildfowlers
R Sheppard	Wick County Council
June Watts	Resident
Carole Newberry	CCW
Sarah Revill	CCW
Daphne Kobble	Penarth Society
Toby Catchpole	Gloucester County Council
Gwyn Kemp-Phillip	Marshfield County Council
June Scott	Resident
Tony Scott	Resident
Colin Travis	Resident
D Ogborne	Wessex Water
L Christian	Newport County Council
S Lynch	Newport County Council
A Bukowski	Resident
Mr J P Rees	Local Resident
Mrs J P Rees	Local Resident
Cllr C. J. Williams	Vale of Glamorgan
Pete Bonar	Cardiff County Council
Graham Clark	Country Land & Business Association (CLA)
W. Neville Waters	Caldicot & Wentlooge IDB
A. Arutchun	Barry Resident
Mr Cooper	Cowbridge Resident
TL Oliver	Resident
Rich Turner	Ceder
David Carpenter	St Athan Community Council
Pete William	Calidcot and Wentlooge IDB
Peter Stealy	Penarth resident
David G. Bailey	Clerk, Peterson Super-Ely, Community Council
Chris Perkins	Vale of Glamorgan Council Group Manager
S. Williams	St Athan Community Council
Jacqueline Loughan	St Athan Community Council
John Fraser	Penarth Town Council

NAME	ORGANISATION
G Wainwright	Penarth Resident
Alwyn Evan	Penarth Residents Association Secretary
Vinny Mott	Sustrans
Peter Hatts	Sully resident
DR Herbert	Penarth resident
R Horney	Cardiff Harbour Authority



Severn Estuary Coastal Group Shoreline Management Plan 2 PMG

Attendance Register

12/08/2009



NAME	ORGANISATION	EMAIL:
John Rhodes	Flooded resident	
Chris Hayes	EA	
Julian Wain	Gloucester City	
Alastair ?	CPRE	
David lesser		
Chris Eldridge	Stockport FOE	
Nicky Eldridge		
J R Chamberlayne		
Paul Rutter	National Trust	
A J Drake	Ramblers	
Alan Shelley	Gloucestershire Access Forum	
Douglas Hoaster	Ramblers	
Cllr C Witts	Gloucester City Council	
Cllr S Witts	Gloucester City Council	
Penny Ward	Resident	
Penny Clewer	Resident	
Simon Hannich	Glos NFU	
Sheila Lisster	Green Party & Stroud Town Council	
Ann Greaves	Parish Council	
Mary ?	Glos FOE Network	

Annex C – January Key Stakeholder Responses

C.1 Meeting Responses

Area	Features	Is this still important?	Who benefits?	Importance			Scale of importance - local/regional /international	Other details	Draft Objective
				2005 2025	2025 2050	2050 2100			
Penarth to River Wye	Wildlife areas, SSSIs, archaeological sites								
Gwent Levels	residential properties from Goldcliff to Mathern	yes- home dwellers		5	5	5	Local		Satisfy particular legislative requirements. Protect homes - prioritising farm houses (!)
Gwent Levels	Power station, industrial and commercial warehouses, out of town shopping precincts, farm land, sewage works, land drainage	yes- service users, including tourists		5	5	5	regional		protect industrial/commercial economy
Gwent Levels	Rifle Range, public houses, moors walk, Rogiet Countryside Park, play areas		General public, military (rifle range) and tourists.	3	3	3	regional		protect activity sites where possible, but could be positioned elsewhere
Gwent Levels	M4 - land road link Ireland to Europe. Welsh rail.	yes	industry, commerce	5	5	5	local and international		
Cardiff	SSSI on Rumney	Yes -	flora and fauna and general public	5	5	4	Regional/International		Maintain habitats
Cardiff	Boat access to Boyt Atlantic Wharf	Yes - to commercial industry	to commercial industry	5	5	4	local/regional		Maintain coastal path
Cardiff	Cardiff Bay and Wales Coastal Path	Yes - pedestrian and cycle access throughout the bay and to Penarth and Newport	residents and tourists	5	5	4	local/regional		Maintain barrage for flood protection, social amenity and tourist use
Wentlooge and Caldicot	High grade farmland	Yes - GB only produces 60% of food it requires, this figure is reducing, we need to maintain highly productive ground	local community, businesses	5	5	5	National	Tides can be 2m above land level. Sea defences have been maintained.	Maintain and improve the sea defences and internal drainage system

Area	Features	Is this still important?	Who benefits?	Importance			Scale of importance -	Other details	Draft Objective
Wentlooge and Caldicot	Industry (50% of levels)	Yes -	Local industry, residents employment				regional		Maintain and improve the sea defences and internal drainage system
Wentlooge and Caldicot	Railway - Cardiff to Newport	Yes	Locals, tourists, industry				Regional		Maintain and improve the sea defences and internal drainage system
Wentlooge and Caldicot	Electricity supply network	Yes	region residents, industry, businesses				Regional		Maintain and improve the sea defences and internal drainage system
Caldicot	Residential properties. In excess of 7,000 residential properties are in this area (Caldicot).	Yes - residents		5	5	5	Local / Regional		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	Much of the area consists of high quality agricultural land. With the UK needing to become more self sufficient for food, maintaining this capability is essential.	Yes – the people of the UK		5	5	5	Local / National		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	Within several areas of SSSI, in the area, we are aware that much of the wildlife within the area is not salt water tolerant. Large scale ingress of water from the Severn Estuary is potentially disastrous for these SSSI areas.	Yes - Flora and Fauna + the people of the UK who appreciate the necessity of maintaining our unique infrastructure.		5	5	5	National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	There are Industrial, warehousing, distribution facilities and a major Retail Park within the area. The loss of these facilities would be disastrous for South Wales.	Yes – The people of the UK and in some cases the EU.		5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	The main arteries into South Wales (the Motorway M4 & the railway line linking London to Cardiff) pass through this area. Loss of the M4 link will have EU implications as this route is the designated trunk route linking Ireland and the European Community			5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.

Area	Features	Is this still important?	Who benefits?	Importance			Scale of importance -	Other details	Draft Objective
Caldicot	Sewage Pumping Stations and Electrical Distribution Stations and pylons serving the area and the surrounding areas are located within the flood plain. Also, the main sewage processing facility for South East Wales is within the area at Nash.			5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	Within several areas of SSSI, in the area, we are aware that much of the wildlife within the area is not salt water tolerant. Large scale ingress of water from the Severn Estuary is potentially disastrous for these SSSI areas. This includes the Magor Marsh reserve	Yes - Flora and Fauna + the people of the UK who appreciate the necessity of maintaining our unique infrastructure.		5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	The Magor Brewery operated by Inbev UK Ltd. is not within the Flood Risk area. However, the effluent pumping station that serves this facility is within the Flood Risk Area.	Yes – The UK economy. Potential loss of 300 + jobs and loss of significant revenue to HM Government. (See covering letter)		5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Caldicot	Sewage Pumping Stations and Electrical Distribution Stations and pylons serving the area and the surrounding areas are located within the flood plain. Also, the main sewage processing facility for South East Wales is within the area at Nash.			5	5	5	Local / National / International		To maintain and increase the height of the Sea Defences to reduce flood risk to the area.
Gloucester	Gloucester - Sharpness Canal	Yes - important recreational asset and for water management	local community, businesses, tourists	4	4	4	Regional	Currently protected by accreting saltmarsh and/or flood banks	None given

Area	Features	Is this still important?	Who benefits?	Importance			Scale of importance -	Other details	Draft Objective
Gloucester	Gloucester Wildlife Trust Strategic Nature Areas Project	Yes - adjacent to Severn for slowing run-off whilst increasing habitat diversity	environment, local community, tourists				Regional		None given
Sharpness to Severn Crossings	Industrial Developments - Land in the vicinity of Oldbury Power Station	Yes – Local / Regional / National communities		5	5	5	Local / Regional / National		Maintain existing standard of coastal flood and erosion defence
Avon	RA has a general interest in maintaining the quality and diversity of the estuarine environment, both on the shoreline and inland.								
Avon	Particular interest in maintaining the integrity of the shoreline paths and in maintaining and where possible extending those Rights of Way and permissive paths which give shoreline access.						In the case of 'managed realignment' it would expect that the integrity of the shoreline path would be fully restored. Proposed legislation under the Marine Bill would make this relatively straightforward, <i>seaward</i> of the Severn Crossings. However, <i>inland</i> of this point, the provisions of the Bill may well not apply, and path reinstatement would, legally, be significantly more difficult.		Provision for 'other users' (principally cyclists, horse-riders) on the shoreline is currently poor, and it would be good if this could be improved where possible. • Car-parking provision down by the shoreline is also rather restricted in the Avon area. Disabled access is also limited. Information boards, enabling people to appreciate the history and ecology of the Estuary are rare. maintaining and where possible extending those Rights of Way and permissive paths which give shoreline access
Flat Holm	Flat Holm maritime grassland	Yes - landscape flora and fauna	Tourism	5	5	5	Regional/International		Reduce risk to habitat loss and maintain and enhance habitats
Flat Holm	Island itself	Yes -	community, tourism, industry	5	5	5	local, regional and international		
Flat Holm	Flat Holm Scheduled Monuments	Yes - cultural landscape	Tourists	5	5	5	local, regional and international		Maintain Monuments

C.2 Letter Responses

Interest	Affected by risk?	Main issues	Objectives	Views on defences	Views on changes
industry and commerce, landowner	yes - operate port of Newport of which some of the estate falls within the flood risk area		To protect the port operation and safeguard our customers	no	none yet
water sports	Close to coast, suggested first building to be affected. Damage to tied down yachts also could cause significant financial damage	Concerns regarding managed realignment option 2. the financial effects of the barrage must be included	none	none	Impact of barrage would be good to know. Changes to tides. Possible cost saving on defences
industry	Not at present.	full regard to the need to protect critical infrastructure as discussed in Pitt report	protection for critical infrastructure		
marine aggregates	Not directly. Soft defence works will require marine aggregates.	Explanation of the processes currently taking place, how climate change will alter these and what the implications are. Wider stakeholders do not understand what processes are driving the changes they see.			
farming and agriculture, landowner	Represent landowners and businesses across rural England and Wales. Any members along the coast will be affected	adequate defences and funding for these either directly by government or through schemes in which landowners can participate backed up with funding to compensate for loss of agricultural or other land to cover costs of sharing up coastal defences	To provide adequate defences from catastrophic flooding/sea level rise. Provide funding for owners/occupiers to participate in provision/maintenance of flood defences/managed realignment. Adequate compensation for effects of decisions which result in damage/loss of properties.		
none specified	Potentially. Owner of tidal land, also industrial land around Avonmouth. No adverse affects to date	associated effects on port of Bristol./ Operations, sediment regimes in the channel and probabilities of construction of land/coast defences on crown land	No formal objectives	no	no but would like to have opportunity to comment on any proposals going forward
conservation/envi ronment	projects on flood plain + landowner	over drainage for agri - more emphasis on ecosystem services	60% flood plain managed for wildlife + wetland creation	defences prevent saltmarsh expansion and escape of water that has overtopped	realignment / remove defences to allow flood plain to function more naturally
industry and commerce	nuclear power station concerns of risk of coastal flooding and erosion	recognition of the pressure of radioactive material and other hazardous material on site	To manage the risk of radionuclide and other hazardous materials released	No	No, provided the risk described is not increased by changes to existing coastal defences

Interest	Affected by risk?	Main issues	Objectives	Views on defences	Views on changes
farming and agriculture, conservation/Environment	many farm land in estuary affected by flooding, particularly upstream from Minsterworth - 1947, 2000, 2007	defence banks should be relocated away from the river channel, river bank trees cut to compensate for obstructions (hemsted tip switching stations, road and rail banks in the flood plain)	For the area U/S of Longley all man made obstruction in the floodplain - roads, railways, Hempstead tip and defence banks should be reviewed and defence bank realignment undertaken - to protect Gloucester and Tewkesbury and accommodate enhanced run-off from development.	in the upstream part, they have reduced to natural flood flow capacity of the river	They should be re-aligned ~100m, from the channel and a low berm created between the channel and the defence bank.
conservation/environment	yes, many of our members farm on Gwent levels	flood prevention and sea wall maintenance/improvements to protect the levels	To ensure that adequate sea defences are maintained	Adequate defences have been maintained in the past	Lack of maintenance and improvements that result in failure breach of the sea wall will have devastating effects on the community farmland and infrastructure of the Gwent levels
Fishing			sustainable development		
industry and commerce	lighthouses owned in exposed locations and bays within the estuary	avoid damage to properties from coastal processes and flooding			
Stat body	yes - responsible for land drainage		protect the area as far as practicable	need to be maintained / improved to protect land	grave concerns relating to managed realignment or no active intervention
	no	possible implications for biodiversity within the AONB and the southern end of the River Wye	none	none	not familiar enough with existing coastal defences to comment
water sports, clubs and societies	minimal risk to land in Barry Dock and Harbour	maintenance of inlets used for leisure craft and navigation obstructions		Siltation of Barry Harbour - cut off west to east lateral drift which has left beaches depleted to east of Barry	dredged material could be used to replenish inshore areas - to raise tidal foreshore and reduce wave action on sea walls
ramblers, water sports, clubs and societies, fishing, landowner, tourism, farming, conservation					
museums, conservation/environment	yes, where archaeological sites affected	protection of historic and archaeological sites	protection of historic and archaeological sites	None	None
horse riders/ramblers		Estuary should be open for horse riding as it used to be. The need for off road riding gets more urgent as traffic increases and horse tourism could help			

Interest	Affected by risk?	Main issues	Objectives	Views on defences	Views on changes
		rural business.			
AM					
conservation/envi ronment		protection of vulnerable settlements and farmland			
	constituency bounded to west by the River Severn	Environmental and ecologically important site for heritage, natural and man made.		encourage regular maintenance of shoreline to lessen the impact of flooding	
not stated	no comment	no comment	no comment	no comment	no comment
museums, industry and commerce, ramblers, water sports, clubs etc, fishing, tourism, conservation, public interest	see brochure	see brochure	see brochure	see brochure	
	business concerned but not directly affected	key desire for estuary shoreline to be "user friendly" for craft to navigate	enhance natural resource, improve accessibility and safety	would like to see defences with multiple purpose, not just primary goal of defence	defences should embrace leisure activities and encourage public access and promote tourism
local health	30year releases from Hinkley Point AGR were recoded, local reports of leukaemia and other cancers followed concerns of the locals. It is feared that the mud flats are contaminated with the risk that erosion would release contamination downstream.	In the light of the LLRC studies of sedimentology and the Bugley Report Protecting the Area from...	To reduce the possible pollution from Hinkley by reducing the disturbance of the sediment. To reduce the worst affect of storm surge	Construction and destruction of the old marine lake of Burnham caused changes in beach level. The present sea wall seems to have stabilised the beach	An outer reef R! Would reduce erosion and disturbance. If the Hansen report worst case scenario is correct we need sea defences to the benefit of millions of homes and thousands of businesses
search and rescue	lifeboats stations on shoreline at risk from flooding and erosion				
farming and agriculture, landowner, conservation	illegible	climate change/coastal squeeze intertidal habitat - affects salt marsh habitat and socio-economic benefits of tourism	feasibility study being undertaken at Slimbridge		

Interest	Affected by risk?	Main issues	Objectives	Views on defences	Views on changes
clubs and societies, landowner, conservation/environment	Owners and leasees of more than 30miles of foreshore and hinterland. Significant areas subject to regular tidal inundation	wish to protect wetland environment where possible and use soft defences to develop/enhance further wetland			focus on soft defences where possible to enhance conservation whilst achieving flood defence
water sports, public interest	no	concerns over development of airport alongside other development proposals	A lagoon between the island and the shore will protect an estimated 3 miles of coastline. The lagoon was for power generation	none	barrage would solve any issues, no further changes would be necessary, but concerns for the ecology that would be destroyed
conservation/environment	erosion of marshes	barrage, erosion, coastal access			
critical national infrastructure	Major electricity substations within area at risk from tidal inundation from Severn Estuary. Loss of these would have major societal impact on local people	1. Confirmation of adequacy of existing flood defences to be at least 1/200 year return period. 2. Investment to achieve above if not already	maintenance of defences to 1/200 year standard minimal		Improved defences as described in necessary. The EA investment criteria should be aligned with the Treasury Green Book criteria, and not artificially constrained in impact assessment as at present.
public interest group	locations in the Gwent levels	increased tide height, global warming	protect homes, industrial parks, retail park, jobs, agricultural land	sea wall has not been maintained	increase sea wall height to counter sea level rise
conservation/environment					
city council	properties within city boundary suffered flooding				
fishing, industry and commerce, conservation, farming, public interest	the Somerset levels and vulnerable to even small rises in the estuary	sea rise prediction and storm surges would affect millions of homes and businesses	to reduce the worst affects of surges up the estuary	Huge amounts of money spent on burnham sea defences while the back dunes were deliberately removed to extend a golf course. Making a small harbour at S. esplanade would improve the economy and sea defences	Would lie to see outer reef solutions to calm seas. A breach in Lavernock barrage would cause disastrous flooding. Reduce dune erosion at tourist and honey pot sites, construction of R1 tidal power station offshore reef to reduce erosion and flood risk
farming / landowner	yes - flooding between Magor Pill & Colistar Pill	need to raise sea wall	protect land in ownership		raise defences by 1.5m to protect Gwent Levels
parish / town council	Area is in the Levels - affected by overtopping. At risk from sea level rise. EA have rejected planning applications because of flood risk	increased tide height, global warming	protect homes, industrial parks, retail park, jobs, agricultural land	sea wall has not been maintained	increase sea wall height to counter sea level rise

Interest	Affected by risk?	Main issues	Objectives	Views on defences	Views on changes
county council region	infrastructure of south east Wales, food chain, national grid, Severn tunnel, various overtopping of sea defences		advance the line, build sea defences, need land for food production, tourism and coastal path	The coastline is poorly managed at present. Too much consultation, no building defences	Defences should be raised
parish / town council	moorland - erosion over last 50 years	to make provision for surge tide and sea level rise	none	defences not able to cope with surge tide and erosion	Raise sea walls to protect against sea level rise. Protect agricultural land and M4
conservation/environment	no	Environment. Flooding	promote physical environment as defence rather than hard defences	none	none

Annex D – Heritage Workshop Event

Agenda



ATKINS

Severn Estuary SMP2 Review

Historic Environment Workshop – 21/04/09

Agenda

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 12:30 | Working Lunch |
| 12:45 | Introduction to the Meeting |
| 12:50 | Planning on the coast - What are Shoreline Management Plans? |
| 13:00 | Work completed to date |
| 13:10 | Discussion 1 – What is strategically significant about the historic environment of the Severn Estuary? |
| 13:40 | Discussion 2 - What are the risks to the historic environment? |
| 14:10: | Discussion 3 - What are the implications of changing shoreline management policy on the historic environment? |
| 14:40 | Discussion 4 - What should be the objectives and priorities for the historic environment? |
| 15:10 | Recap |
| 15:30 | End |

Attending (confirmed):

- Jonathan McCue (Head of Coastal Management, Atkins)
- Kath Winnard (Deputy Project Manager, Atkins)
- Rob Woodside (Principal Heritage Consultant, Atkins)
- Phil Bethell (Senior Heritage Consultant, Atkins)
- Ed Wilson (Environment Agency)
- Vanessa Straker (English Heritage)
- David Haigh (South Gloucestershire Council)
- Toby Catchpole (Gloucestershire County Council)
- Peter Insole (Bristol City Council)
- Andy Marvell (GGAT)
- Deanna Groom (RCAHMMW)

Also invited:

- Peter Murphy (English Heritage)
- Martin Bell (Reading University)
- Stephen Rippon (Exeter University)
- Vince Russett (North Somerset Council)
- Richard Kelly (CCW)

Questionnaire



Discussion 1: What is strategically significant about the historic environment of the Severn Estuary?

- **Where is it?**
- **Why is it significant?**
- **Who for?**

Discussion 2 – What are the risks to the historic environment?

- **What is at risk?**
- **What are the implications of this risk?**

Discussion 3 – What are the implications of changing shoreline management policy on the historic environment? What would an Action Plan for this look like and what should it entail?

No Active Intervention –

Hold the Line –

Managed Realignment –

Discussion 4 – What are the priorities and key objectives for the historic environment in the Severn Estuary?

Minutes

Project:	Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2)
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Subject:	Historic Environment Workshop – Assistance towards Tasks 2.3 and 2.4 of the SMP2		
Date & Time:	21st April 2009 (12:30 – 16:00)	Meeting No:	1
Meeting Place:	Atkins Office, The Hub, Bristol	Minutes By:	Philip Bethell (Atkins Heritage)
Present:	Vanessa Straker (VS) David Haigh (DH) Deanna Groom (DG) Peter Insole (PI) Toby Catchpole (TB) Andrew Marvell (AM) Jonathan McCue (JM) Kath Winnard (KW) Karen Hills (KH) Rob Woodside (RW) Phil Bethell (PB)	Representing	English Heritage South Gloucestershire Council RCAHMW Bristol City Council Gloucester County Council Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Atkins Project Manager Atkins Deputy Project Manager Atkins SEA Manager Atkins Heritage Atkins Heritage

Item		ACTION
	<p><i>These notes are intended as a record of the meeting rather than as a minute. They incorporate summaries of the written answers that delegates were asked to provide as part of specific exercises during the event.</i></p>	
	<p>JM introduced the session, stressing the strategic nature of the exercise, and the need to understand the risks to the cultural heritage of the estuary from the projected sea-level rises.</p> <p>JM explained what the SMP is, and outlined how the review process is following English Heritage guidelines for SMP2 review relating to cultural heritage. The existing SMP is nearly 9 years old.</p> <p>JM described SMP review as an iterative process, and that all those invited to the meeting represented key stakeholders/groups in that process. There would be input required from all at the Action Plan stage of the process (Stage 5).</p> <p>JM also described how the SMP is designed to work across three temporal epochs, 0-20 years, 20-50 years, 50-100 years.</p>	
	<p>KW gave an outline of the work to date on the review, including defining some of the technical language.</p> <p>The tasks have included the identification of features at risk. KW explained that features can be anything of significance, historic, natural, man-made. A sensitivity measure is then applied to each feature. KW gave the example of a coastal path: a man-made feature, but how sensitive is it to moving/alteration/loss? Can the same benefit be gained if has to be moved inland?</p> <p>The focus of the SMP is on risk management, as there cannot be an engineered solution to every risk.</p> <p>KW illustrated the potential for flood risk across the whole estuary, and in finer detail for the Wentlooge levels in Gwent. It was made clear that 90% of the flood risk will operate in the first epoch (0-20 years) so the timescale for action is relatively short.</p> <p>KW showed a map of the Theme Areas into which the estuary had been divided, and explained that these were not necessarily the policy units which will be included in the final version of the SMP. The Theme Areas have been created primarily to reflect where there are concentrations of people, as these will be the most likely centres for intervention. The creation of SMP2 specific Policy Units shall be carried out and consulted upon by the end of May 2009.</p> <p>The SMP works within a framework of 4 preferred policies, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold The Line • Managed Realignment • No Active Intervention • Advance The Line (not likely to be considered in the case of the Estuary) 	

Item		ACTION
	<p>The implication of these policies on future management of heritage resources was stressed as a key factor for stakeholders to consider now.</p>	
	<p>EW stressed that the key to the successful integration of Historic Environment input to the SMP2 is to ensure that it is appropriate to the scale of consideration. EW suggested that consideration of individual monuments was not appropriate to the scale of the SMP. He also suggested that local people could make an important contribution to understanding the significance of particular aspects of the Historic Environment.</p>	
	<p>Discussion 1 – What is strategically significant about the historic environment of the Severn Estuary?</p> <p>RW led a discussion on what is important in the Historic Environment, in relation to the SMP. The following points were raised/discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Severn Estuary is particularly rich in its variety and extent of cultural heritage resources. • There is a need to define more clearly what we mean by a strategic level, so that this is understood by all respondents • It was suggested that equivalents from the nature conservation/ecology area could be used as models, for example a group of related monuments, or an area of specific historic landscape value could count as features at the strategic level. • The palaeo-environmental evidence from the estuary and the maritime history is recognised as being of exceptional (international) significance. <p>Respondents were requested to provide textual descriptions of the significance of features rather than mapped plots. Details of all responses are attached to this minute of meeting.</p> <p>Key Findings are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be recognition of the balance between rural and urban cultural heritage – for example listed buildings might be concentrated in urban areas, but rural areas might hold more significant information. • There is still a major lack of knowledge and understanding of the cultural heritage resources of the estuary, balanced by a recognised high potential. • Consideration of designated sites (e.g. Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings) is not enough – so much of value is not designated. <p>During the course of the discussions delegates were asked to write down their thoughts relating to more specific questions prior to each discussion point. A summary of these written answers to the above question follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Landscape Character; • Palaeo-environmental sequence; • Maritime historical significance as trade routes; 	

Item		ACTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterlogged settlement sites; • The collective Historic Environment assets which illustrate the Severn’s function (through time) as a transport/trade route, both from inland to the sea, and across the estuary (including underwater assets); • Fishing industry, salt industry, modern industries; • The history of settlement and land-use in a shifting environment (flooding episodes are nothing new); • Historic coastline management features; • Record of climate change preserved in the sediments; • The cultural heritage resource of the intertidal zone; • The length and scale and quality of the resource – a function of the particular environment of the estuary - is of international significance; • The urban areas along the estuary shoreline; • Its role as the dividing line between two countries. 	
	<p>Discussion 2 – What is at risk? What are the implications of that risk?</p> <p>RW led a discussion on the external risks that are seen as important in the Historic Environment, in relation to the SMP. The following points were raised/discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The accuracy of the modelling and assumptions was raised, and it was suggested that no substantial variation is expected over the epochs considered; • It was reiterated that 90%+ of the flood risk events will take place by the 20-year delineated line, but extent within that epoch could not be measured (i.e. not known if a steady progression or a series of erratic transgressions); • The effect of saltwater inundation on heritage assets was flagged up as an unknown risk for certain areas; • Is the risk primarily of erosion or destruction of cultural heritage assets, or of a reduction in access to the information? • There was some discussion about the nature of impacts in the intertidal zone, and it was recognised that this was the zone of likely maximum future change (and volatility), as the effects of erosion and inundation would be combined at this area. <p>It was recognised as vital that we understand the nature of the potential impacts on the Historic Environment, and this was still an area of uncertainty. It was suggested that the ASIDOHL methodology developed in Wales for assessing the impacts of development on historic landscapes might be adapted for the purpose of measuring impacts and their effects.</p> <p>The possibility of additional impacts was considered, e.g. from changing weather patterns causing more storms and creating greater run-off from the land.</p>	

Item		ACTION
	<p>During the course of the discussions delegates were asked to write down their thoughts relating to more specific questions prior to each discussion point. A summary of these written answers to the above question follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resource is not effectively mapped, and this may lead to false assumptions of significance; • Research opportunities will be reduced following large-scale inundation; • Inadequate resources are available for mitigation; • Risk of increased erosion in places outside of where defences will be improved/increased (i.e. urban areas protected, rural not); • Loss of specific assets and historic landscape units; • Loss of historic group value; • Lack of consensus on significance may lead to lack of action within timescale; • Change in land use beyond new tidal limits may alter landscape. 	
	<p>Discussion 3 – What are the implications of changing shoreline management policy on the Historic Environment?</p> <p>JM led a discussion on the implications of changing SMP2 policies over time. A broad ranging discussion ensued, through the discussion of the implications of changes in shoreline management policy in the Historic Environment was not conclusive. It was very apparent that details within the SMP2 Action Plan will need to be developed between Atkins and the participants of the event to determine the most appropriate approach for future management of sites.</p> <p>Summary of written answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>No Active Intervention</u>: Loss of both designated and undesignated sites to erosion and inundation; creation of new exposures requiring recording and investigation; short space of time to record known resource/understand potential; short space of time to gather resources (money) for action; • <u>Hold The Existing Line</u>: Buys time for increasing understanding of cultural heritage resource in currently non-flooded area; increased development pressure behind the line may increase destruction/alteration of cultural heritage assets; possible increase in flooding/intertidal zone activity further down the coast; loss of assets in current intertidal zone to inundation; • <u>Managed Realignment</u>: Might enable preservation of known significant resources while sacrificing other areas, but this depends on level of understanding and engineering approach to be adopted (as proposed within the SFRMS); create disproportionate loss to certain assets as some areas of inundation may be extended inland. 	
	<p>Discussion 4: Action Plan – priorities and key objectives</p> <p>JM led a discussion on the key priorities and key objectives for the Severn Estuary. The following discussion points were raised:</p>	

Item		ACTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no formally accepted objective set for the Severn Estuary (between English Heritage and CADW). • The existing regional research strategies for the Historic Environment would need to be examined for policies relevant to the SMP. • It was concluded that the area under threat was the key area of interest, and the sooner this could be defined for the Historic Environment stakeholders, the sooner they could contribute more detail to the SMP. <p>Summary of written answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of Historic Landscape Characterisation work for whole affected area (and characterisation of urban areas) is needed; • Adjustment of regional research strategies to take account of imminent coastal flooding threat; • Prioritise information gathering at areas of greatest flood risk; • Carry out urgent work to understand the estuarine processes and their potential impacts; • Understand in detail the areas at risk of flooding and the reliability of the predictions; • Develop suite of appropriate mitigation measures and techniques; • Direct available resources into improving understanding of the Historic Environment of the estuary; • Ensure Historic Environment remains key element of SECG agenda and is given appropriate standing in SMP; • Ensure SMP2 Action Plan has options to cope with changing circumstances. 	<p>Ed Wilson to forward to Atkins all existing objectives known for the area.</p>
	<p>JM outlined the mechanism for continued involvement was primarily through the SECG (Severn Estuary Control Group) and its website www.severnestuary.net/secg was the primary forum for gathering consensus and agreement.</p> <p>Other more general stakeholder fora are to take place on the 8th June in Clevedon and 10th June in Penarth.</p>	

Annex E – SEA/Habitats Regulation Assessment Workshop

Meeting Minutes

Project:	Severn Estuary SMP2		
Subject:	Habitat Regulations Assessment Workshop		
Date & Time:	22nd April 2009 10am - 2.30pm	Meeting No:	1
Meeting Place:	Atkins, The Hub, Bristol	Minutes By:	Janet Shaw
Present:	Karen Hills Kath Winnard Janet Shaw Nicky Rimmington Kerry Rogers Ceri Seaton Barry Phillips - am only Charlotte Pagendam Deborah Dunsford Vicky Schlottmann Ken Tatum - pm only	Representing:	Atkins Atkins Atkins CCW CCW CCW NE NE EA EA EA
Apologies:	Eleri Harris		EA

Introductory Note

The event was arranged in light of specific cross border related issues that appear not to have been addressed in other SMP2 commissions. Some complex issues were discussed and actions agreed upon. The Minutes may not have captured all the comments accurately and so these do not represent a formal Minute for wide circulation/ Subsequent review and feedback are welcome at this time.

Item		ACTION
	<p>Introductions and Process Overview Discussions</p> <p>Introductions</p> <p>All provided introductions and KH outlined the agenda and aims for the meeting. The main aim was to understand and agree an approach for the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and to begin thinking about which sites and policies/plans need to be scoped into the assessment.</p> <p>KW provided a brief update on the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) 2 project. The project is subject to the Defra deadline of March 2010 because part of the SMP is in England. The coastal steering group are starting to define objectives and identify the policy units. The HRA and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) are requirements of the SMP process. There needs to be a 12 week public consultation process before final SMP documents are drafted and signed off. The HRA and SEA drafts need to be complete by end of September 2009 in order to provide sufficient time for public consultation.</p> <p>Approach</p> <p>CCW expressed concerns over the tight timetable to get the drafts ready for public consultation. They were more concerned about the HRA than the SEA and could foresee that CCW/NE responses may lead to new 'complex – interaction' issues which may complicate the process and lead to possible time delays. Both CCW and NE expressed concern that they would need to be comfortable with the content of the HRA in order to sign off the SMP.</p> <p>KH expressed that she hoped to be able to progress the HRA and SEA in parallel and develop the documents alongside the SMP2. The draft Assessments would need to be re-visited as and when changes were made to the SMP2.</p> <p>It was agreed that sign off of the HRA would not be required until after public consultation. CCW and NE will have involvement in the draft HRA stages, in an iterative manner and so would be familiar the HRA and the decisions made as it evolves. This should help to minimise delays at sign off stage. NE and CCW to clarify who within their organisation has responsibility for signing of the HRA.</p> <p>Project Extension?</p> <p>KW confirmed that the Severn Estuary Coastal Steering Group was aware of the tight timescales for the HRA and that they were not able to move the March 2010 deadline. There was a discussion of whether the Severn Estuary SMP2 was a special case (because the whole area is a cSAC) and that this may justify the need for an extension of the deadline from Defra. NE did not think this a necessary approach (at this stage) and suggested that if legal advice was required to aid the process, then at that time an extension could be sought.</p>	<p>KW to raise these concerns at the coastal steering group</p> <p>NE and CCW to clarify who within their organisation has responsibility for approving the HRA</p>

Item		ACTION
	<p>Sign-off?</p> <p>Questions arose over who was the competent authority to sign off the SMP2/HRA? The Competent Authority (CA) has responsibility for signing off the HRA. As the Coastal Group Chair, Monmouthshire is the CA though they do not consider they have the technical competency in-house they will need to nominate someone to do it on their behalf. This is considered likely to be the EA in a similar approach to that adopted for the RBMP.</p> <p>Ken Tatum confirmed that the lead competent authority for the SMP as a whole was the Environment Agency. It was therefore their responsibility to sign off the SMP2. Once the CSG are happy the SMP steering group will approve the document which then needs to be signed off by all 3 Regional Directors. The LA's will be required to adopt its policies once they to have signed it off.</p> <p>Defra has a responsibility to facilitate/arbitrate if the members of the CSG fail to achieve consensus on the plan</p>	<p>VS to confirm SEA sign off procedure with Liz Galloway.</p> <p><i>NB :KRH to attend EA workshop re SEA/SMP in late May</i></p>
	<p>Spatial Scope of the HRA – which sites do we include?</p> <p>Initial search</p> <p>KH presented a list of suggested sites to include (as a starting point) in the HRA. The sites were selected based on being within the SMP boundary or with a 10km radial search (spatial buffer) of the boundary. She suggested that further filters should then take place to eliminate sites, for example if they had no hydrological connectivity or had no connection to the coastal processes.</p> <p>NE and CCW did not agree with the use of buffers to select sites and wanted sites selected based on whether the SMP/coastal processes could affect them. The use of a process based approach would lead to a more robust list of sites to then be refined. For example, NE thought that River Severn upstream sites might need to be included because of salmon migration activity.</p> <p>Consideration of SSSIs</p> <p>NE wanted to make sure that SSSI's were to be considered within the impact assessment process in line with duties under the CRoW Act and to ensure future opportunity to further conservation in these units was not impeded. KH questioned if this should be written as an integral part of the SEA process or whether it could be a standalone section. NE/ CCW did not express a preference, however stated that the process should be adequate and transparent.</p> <p>ACTION: An approach to be discussed and agreed with NE/CCW at a later date.</p>	<p>KH to make sure that approach to incorporating SSSIs is agreed with NE and CCW.</p>
	<p>Data – what we (Atkins) have & what else do we need?</p> <p>Atkins require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTION: Conservation Objectives for the English SMP component sites – CP is to send these through (She confirmed that section 2 of the new Reg 33 docs for Severn Estuary designations provided 	<p>CP to provide data</p>

Item		ACTION
	<p>a more recent version than was on the JNCC website).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTION: Regulation 33 Data – CP – to send through. (This will not be signed off until Mid May but she was to try and get it released to the SMP coastal steering group earlier). • ASERA Bid summary data (<i>Data is 2 years old</i>). KRH to check what Atkins already have • Webs count data (<i>Annual – bird numbers by sector</i>) • Review of consents data <p>ACTION: NE and CCW to send through any further data or details on the sites that they think necessary for further consideration as part of the HRA and development of the SMP2 as a whole. NR stated biotopes data already held by Atkins might also be useful in undertaking HRA</p>	<p>CP to provide data</p> <p>KRH to check</p> <p>VS to follow up</p> <p>NE and CCW to consider and action as appropriate</p>
	<p>Approach – Assessment of Likely Significant Effect (ALSE) and Appropriate Assessment</p> <p>ALSE</p> <p>KRH stated that no ASLE has yet been undertaken as the consideration of all possible options for all policy units would make an unworkable and largely irrelevant document. It is likely that the ALSE will consider the top two prioritised policy options. (<i>Note – KW stated that policy units had not yet been defined and that currently the area was divided into thematic areas</i>).</p> <p>KW stated that although in general a single policy would be applied to a policy unit; local issues may require a special case deviation from the general policy. This would be captured in the SMP2 Action Plan.</p> <p>SEA and HRA links</p> <p>KH suggested that the SEA assessment would include a matrix to consider all options for all policy units. The preferred options could then be looked at in more detail. This matrix could then be referred to from the HRA to prevent duplication of assessment of the full range of options.</p> <p>CCW were concerned that this approach could lead to a challenge because the SEA should consider ‘all viable options in detail’. This part of the approach needs to be thought about and agreed with NE and CCW.</p> <p>Appropriate Assessment</p> <p>It was agreed that the HRA would be undertaken on a site by site basis and not on a policy unit basis. All agreed that this would be the easiest method to follow.</p> <p>The Assessment would focus on conservation objectives and features and how these would be affected by the preferred option.</p> <p>KR confirmed that the HRA does not have to look at all of the alternatives just assess the preferred option. It was noted however that the actual HRA process including the ALSE would feed into the selection of a preferred option. All were happy with this approach.</p>	

Item		ACTION
	<p>It was agreed that only the ‘necessary’ effects should be taken through to the Appropriate Assessment (Stage 3 of the HRA). Within the ALSE the consideration of policy options should include measures to cancel out, reduce or mitigate effects wherever possible. This will allow the HRA Stage 3 to focus on residue impacts that can’t be addressed any other way.</p> <p>Future Uncertainty/Change</p> <p>KH queried the approach to considering impacts in the 2nd and 3rd epochs. If the baseline for the future is change, how do we decide what is an unacceptable impact to SSSIs/N2Ks sites when the features themselves would change over time? It was agreed that the SMP should consider what is ‘reasonable to achieve’, and that the level of uncertainty especially in the 3rd epoch should be acknowledged. The assessment should identify potential changes/issues and not set a framework that prevents them being addressed in the future.</p> <p>The HRA should consider what impacts would be caused over and above natural change. Discussion to be furthered at a later appropriate stage in the project.</p> <p>HRA Terminology/Legalities</p> <p>Terminology was considered by the group to be crucial when discussing how to lessen the effects of measures however some clarification is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCW and NE were keen that ‘mitigate’ should not be used in association with habitat creation as this is seen more as compensation and has implications in terms of IROPI. • Avoidance/Cancellation means that no impact occurs; mitigation will reduce an impact to an acceptable level but may still give rise to in combination effects • Compensatory measures only become relevant under regulation 85E and are designed to ensure the coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected where adverse effects on site integrity cannot be ruled out, no alternative solutions are available and it has been demonstrated that the plan must proceed for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (regulation 85C) <p>CCW stated that they did not usually approve of reference to down the line assessments, however in this instance it might be more appropriate to defer specific measure to avoid effects (where appropriate) to the Strategy (FRMS) or project stage.</p> <p>Seek to use phrases such as <i>“any deviations from this policy will not be permitted if they may have a negative effect on the SAC/SPA”</i>.</p> <p>All to confirm interpretation of terminology is correct and acceptable</p> <p>The Habitat Creation Delivery Plan creates new sites to offset negative</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p>NE/CCW to talk to David Tildersley/ others to seek feedback on and advice</p> <p>EA to talk to NEAS colleagues from</p>

Item		ACTION
	<p>impacts at other sites. A debate followed as to whether habitat creation was acceptable as mitigation or whether it should be considered as a compensation measure. If compensatory habitat is being proposed then it means that a project has had an LSE on a European site and therefore has had to pass through the IROPI test (and SoS) before habitat compensation can be applied. This could have serious consequences for the project programme.</p> <p>NE suggested that the wording of the Assessment should refer to the ecosystem being estuary wide and that at certain pinch points negative impacts could not be lessened at those particular points. And that the Habitat Creation Delivery Plan is part of the overall avoidance plan.</p> <p>There is also a potential issue associated with habitat creation outside of the site boundary. Within the site boundary the group thought that the term avoidance should be used, and outside of the boundary compensation should be used.</p> <p>NE and CCW to seek further guidance regarding this position.</p> <p>KW to speak to Natalie to see how this is being addressed for other SMPs</p> <p>DD is to talk to Tim Collins (a NE employee seconded to Defra) and/or Richard Handley.</p> <p>HRA : Format of Report and discussion</p> <p>DD indicated she did not like the tick box summary approach for the consideration of hazards because it lacked detail of why decisions were being made.</p> <p>It was agreed that the EA hazard based methodology would not be followed for this HRA as it would lead to the approach and document becoming overly complex. This was considered acceptable as the SMP2 and HRA process was not owned by the EA but the CSG.</p> <p>The following suggestions were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That a generic list of potential impacts could be drawn up for each of the four policy options. • DD showed an example of the Tamar CFMP HRA which considered impacts by site and then did a summary by policy unit. • That each of the environmental components of the sites (i.e. reasons for site designation) could be gone through and the impacts on each of these recorded. <p>All agreed that a simple approach would be best taking the above ideas into account.</p> <p>Overlap of SAC with adjacent SMP</p> <p>The issue of overlap with the North Devon group's SMP (because one SAC overlaps the two SMPs) needs to be taken account of. Steve Knowles needs to be involved in HRA discussions to work out how this</p>	<p>other regions to see how this is being dealt with elsewhere</p> <p>KW</p> <p>DD to talk to Tim Collins</p> <p>VS/KW to make sure Steve Knowles is involved via CSG and information fed through to KRH</p>

Item		ACTION
	issue should be managed.	
	<p>Consideration of In combination Effects</p> <p>KH showed a list of potential polices/plans that she thought appropriate to be considered.</p> <p>The following should be changed;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine spatial planning should replace the Marine Bill. • Regional transport plan, National Transport Plans, UK Ports Strategy, and Waste Strategy for England and Wales should be added. • Proposed nuclear sites, and the Severn Barrage need also to be included if the government makes decisions on these and provides documentation on preferred option in time (NB this is considered unlikely) . • Access to the coast projects (All Wales Coastal Path and English Public access to the coast) needs to be added to the assessment. <p>To identify any other developments the planners from the Councils should be asked. Assessment should be restricted to projects of a similar strategic scale with enough information available to assess potential impacts.</p> <p>Further ideas and decisions taken in relation to in-combination effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impacts of the plans and polices on the SMP2 need to be taken into account, as well as considering the impacts of the SMP2 on other plans/polices. SMP must not sterilise other projects • It was agreed that the cut off period for not taking a plan/policy into account would be once the period for public consultation opens. • Focus should be given to those plans/policies that cause physical change rather than those that detail strategic outcomes. If developments have already gone ahead impact they can't act in combination. If they are yet to be put in place they ought to be considered in combination in the assessment. • If there are uncertainties regarding future outcomes of plans/projects the assessment will need to identify assumptions made or what the most likely scenario is. <p>Also need to consider links to other adjacent SMPs : Bridgwater Bay , Swansea Bay (see above)</p> <p>KP to send a list of projects to be included (from draft CCW document) to KRH</p>	<p>NR to provide further details. Actioned 27/04/09</p> <p>KW to submit request to CSG</p> <p>KP to send list – actioned 23/04/09</p>
	<p>Programme</p> <p>The HRA of LSE will take place in May / June (in parallel to the development of policy options).</p> <p>The draft Appropriate Assessment (Stage 3 of HRA) will take place in July.</p>	

Item		ACTION
	<p>Public consultation will take place towards the end of September 2009.</p> <p>Project Risks</p> <p>Risks to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to factor in LA timings and that committee meetings are required before sign –off. • If the HRA has to go through the IROPI process, this will affect programme • The General Election may delay the sign off of the plan. 	

Annex F – Policy Development Consultation

Questionnaire

The Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2)

Your Views

In order to set appropriate policy the knowledge and opinions of the stakeholders is essential.

All the information you need to complete the questionnaire and express your views can be found in the information leaflets available. Please respond by **Friday, 26th June**.

About you

Name:.....

Address:

Email:.....

Telephone Number:.....

(We will use this information to ensure that you are on the contact list for future events. It will not be published or used elsewhere.)

Theme Area Objectives

Please indicate one Theme Area within the SMP2 study area that is of most relevance to you.

Penarth <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Cardiff <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Wentlooge <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Newport and River Usk <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Caldicot Levels <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Chepstow and River Wye <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Tidenham and Villages <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Lydney <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	Lydney to Gloucester <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Gloucester to Haw Bridge <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Gloucester to Sharpness <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Sharpness to Severn Crossings <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Severnside and River Avon <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Portishead to Clevedon <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/> The Holms <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>
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Do you agree with the set objectives for the Theme Area of concern? (See leaflet for objectives)

Yes

No

If No, which objectives do you disagree with?

.....

What are your preferred objectives?

.....
 Does your preferred objective conflict with other objectives?

Yes

No

Details.....

Setting Policy

Which Policy Unit within the selected Theme Area is of most relevance to you? (See available maps)

.....
 Do you agree with the proposed policy for the Unit of concern? (See policy appraisal)

Yes

No

What do you consider to be the policy drivers within this Policy Unit?

(Either indicate the single most important or rank the features in order of importance, 1 being the highest)

Agriculture/countryside	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial properties	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community assets	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial land	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heritage features	<input type="checkbox"/>
Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>

Nature conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Port related industry	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational sites	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourist attractions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other

Name and Location of Specific policy drivers:

.....
 Does the proposed policy for the Unit adequately manage the risk to the policy drivers you consider most important?

Yes

No

How do you propose the shoreline be managed to best manage the risks to the policy drivers?

Advance the Line	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hold the Line	<input type="checkbox"/>

No Active Intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>
Realignment of the existing line	<input type="checkbox"/>

Does your preferred management option conflict with the interests of other policy drivers of the Policy Unit? (See policy appraisal insert)

Yes

No

Details

Any other comments?

Please return the completed questionnaire to the address below by Friday, 26th June!

Kath Winnard, Akins, West Glamorgan House, 12 Orchard Street, Swansea, SA1 5AD

Questionnaire Responses

Questionnaire Number	Theme Area	Agree With Theme Area Objectives?	Unit of Concern	Agree Proposed Policy of Unit?	Does Policy manage risk to drivers?	Does preferred option conflict with interest of other policy drivers in the unit?	Details Provided?	Comments Provided?	Proposed best way to manage the risks of policy drivers	Additional Comments
1	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	All	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
2	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 1	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
3	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 4	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
4	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	KIN 1	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
5	Portishead to Clevedon, Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN 3	Yes	x	No	x	x	Hold the line	
6	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes		x	x	No	x	x	Hold the line	
7	Portishead to Clevedon, Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	PORT 4	Yes	x	x	x	x	Hold the line	
9	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 4	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
10	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	x	Hold the line	Conservation key
11	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 4	x	x	x	x	Yes	x	Oil pipeline pumped from the docks to large storage tanks at southern end of Portishead close to coast. From storage to major airports of MOD use. New dwellings in Portishead between docks and Sheepway. Docks now marine with 450 berths and new lock gate
12	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 4	Yes	Yes	No	x	Yes	Hold the line	
13	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes	PORT 4	Yes	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
14	Portishead to Clevedon	Yes		x	x	x	x	x	x	
15	Portishead to Clevedon	No	PORT 4	x	Yes	No	x	x	Hold the line	
16	Portishead to Clevedon	No	PORT 4	No	No	No	x	Yes	Hold the line	Recreational access to the estuary is important.
17	Portishead to Clevedon	-	ALL ?	No	x	x	x	Yes	Hold the line	
24	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN 1	No	No	No	No	No	Hold the line	
25	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	ALL	Yes	No	No	No	No	Hold the line	
26	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	ALL	x	x	x	No	Yes	Advance the line	Agricultural land will have increasing importance in the future – there is a need to consider the requirement of agriculture.
27	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Advance the line	
28	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN1	Yes	Yes	x	No	Yes	Hold the line	Wick St. Laurence Parish Council – extensive flooding suffered in the past. Failure to protect sections of coastline will put North Somerset at

Questionnaire Number	Theme Area	Agree With Theme Area Objectives?	Unit of Concern	Agree Proposed Policy of Unit?	Does Policy manage risk to drivers?	Does preferred option conflict with interest of other policy drivers in the unit?	Details Provided?	Comments Provided?	Proposed best way to manage the risks of policy drivers	Additional Comments
										risk as a result of interlinked flood cells. A Severn Barrage would save much costly defence improvements.
29	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	No	ALL	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Protection of railway required
30	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	x	x	x	x	x	No	No	Hold the line	
31	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	x	x	x	x	Yes	No	No	Hold the line	
32	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN1	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Residential properties are reliant on the coastal defences – a breach would be detrimental also to commercial and transport facilities.
33	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	x	x	x	x	No	No	z	
34	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	Sand bay to Weston	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No active intervention	Reduce further flood risk to River Yeo
35	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	X	x	Yes	x	No	No	Hold the line	
36	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	Flooding Assessments	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Reinforcement of dune at Sand Bay. Particular interest in recreation at the shoreline.
37	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN1	x	Yes	x	No	Yes	Hold the line	Manage the risk of flooding to people and property. A Severn Barrage would allow line to be held.
38	Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	KIN1	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Realignment of the existing line	
43	Cardiff	1	All	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Protection of railway required
44	Chepstow and River Wye	1	All	No	No	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Protection of railway required
45	Lydney to Gloucester	2	GLO1-4 & GLO8	Yes	Yes	x	No	Yes	Hold the line	
46	Caldicot Levels	1	ALL	No	No	x	No	Yes	Hold the line	Protection of railway required
47	Gloucester to Haw Bridge	1	ALL	Yes	x	x	No	Yes	Hold the line	Protection of railway required
48	Caldicot Levels	Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
49	Caldicot Levels	Yes	x	x	x	x	x	Yes	x	Consider Denny Island – conservation requirements
50	Gloucester to Sharpness, Sharpness to Severn Crossings, Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay	Yes	SHA4,5,6,7/K IN1,2 SEV1,2,3	Yes	Yes	x	x	x	x	
51	Penarth, Cardiff, Newport and River Usk, Chepstow and River Wye, Lydney, Lydney to Gloucester, Gloucester to Sharpness, Sharpness to Severn Crossings, Severnside to River Avon. Portishead to	No	ALL	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Recreational facilities improved. Specific objective relating to coastal access is welcomed.

Questionnaire Number	Theme Area	Agree With Theme Area Objectives?	Unit of Concern	Agree Proposed Policy of Unit?	Does Policy manage risk to drivers?	Does preferred option conflict with interest of other policy drivers in the unit?	Details Provided?	Comments Provided?	Proposed best way to manage the risks of policy drivers	Additional Comments
	Clevedon, Kingston Seymour to Sand Bay, The Holms									
52	Gloucester to Maisemore	Yes	ALL	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	Lower Parting to Rea to right bank (Hempstead)
53	Gloucester to Sharpness	Yes	ALL	Yes	x	x	x	x	x	
54	Bristol and Severnside	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	BRI 1 and BRI 2 – waste tips and chemical processing plant now gone – mix of other industry now in its place, incl. recycling plant.
55	Penarth	No	ALL	No	Yes	No	No	No	Hold the line	
56	Penarth	Yes	PEN2	x	Yes	No	No	Yes	Hold the line	To allow natural processes etc to maintain integrity of internationally designated sites.
57	Penarth	No	ALL	x	No	x	Yes	No	Hold the line	
58	Penarth	Yes	ALL	Yes	x	x	No	No	x	
59	Penarth	Yes	PEN1	Yes	Yes	x	No	No	No active intervention	
60	Penarth	Yes	ALL	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Hold the line	
61	Penarth	Yes	PEN1/2	Yes	x	Yes	No	No	x	
62	Penarth	Yes	PEN2	Yes	x	x	No	Yes	x	
63	Penarth	No	ALL	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Hold the line	Some objectives missing – listing buildings and Victorian drains are close to the shoreline edge. Defences are required to slow advances of erosion.
64	Penarth	Yes	ALL	Yes	Yes	x	No	No	Hold the line	
65	Penarth	Yes	PEN2	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Hold the line	
66	Penarth	Yes	PEN2	Yes	x	x	No	No	Hold the line	
67	Penarth	Yes	PEN2	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Hold the line/realignment of the existing line	
68	Caldicot levels	Yes	CALD1	Yes	x	Yes			Hold/Realign ment combination	
69	Caldicot Levels	No	ALL	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hold the Line and improve	Highly productive land of the Caldicot Levels is of increasing importance in the SMP2 timeframe.

Questionnaire Number	Theme Area	Agree With Theme Area Objectives?	Unit of Concern	Agree Proposed Policy of Unit?	Does Policy manage risk to drivers?	Does preferred option conflict with interest of other policy drivers in the unit?	Details Provided?	Comments Provided?	Proposed best way to manage the risks of policy drivers	Additional Comments
										Nature conservation is conflicting objective. Realignment of the existing line too costly. Defences need improvement.
73	Any Wastewater assets along the shoreline	Yes	?	x	x	x	Yes	Yes	hold the line	Manage flood risk to critical infrastructure – water transport.
75	Chepstow and River Wye	Yes	WYE3	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	hold the line	
76	Penarth, Cardiff, Wentlooge, Newport and River Usk, Caldicot Levels, Chepstow and River Wye	No	Heritage Landscape	x	x	x	Yes	Yes	x	Objective to preserve the marsh for wildlife (incl wildfowl) both for conservation and for recreation.
77	Cardiff, Wentlooge, Newport and River Usk, Caldicot Levels	No	ALL?	No	No	No	No	No	hold the line	
78	All Welsh Theme Areas	x	?	x	x	x	Yes	Yes	x	Sustrans is Keen to improve choice in sustainable transport. Maintain or improve cycle paths. Increase sustainable travel.
80	Penarth	Yes	PEN1	Yes	Yes	No	No	no	Hold the Line	
81	Lydney to Gloucester, Gloucester to Sharpness, Sharpness to Severn Crossings	Yes	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
82	Chepstow and River Wye, Tidenham and Villages, Lydney to Gloucester	Yes	x	No	Yes	x	Yes	Yes	Hold the Line	Mainline railway is not adequately protecting south of Lydney or at Minsterworth. DO Nothing only sufficient to achieve railway protect at Awre peninsular.
83	Lydney to Gloucester	x	GLO2, GLO5, GLO7, GLO8	No	x	Yes	Yes	No	Hold the Line	Residential key policy driver (incl rural), then infrastructure (A48) and agriculture.
84	Lydney	Yes	LYD1	Yes	Yes	x	x	x	Hold the Line	Residential and Infrastructure - railway - key policy drivers
85	Gloucester to Haw Bridge	x	MAI	No	No		Yes		Hold the Line	Residential and Agricultural are key drivers of policy
86	Gloucester to Sharpness	x	SHAR	No	x	Yes	Yes	No	Hold the Line	
90	Penarth, Cardiff	Yes	x	x	x	x			Hold the Line	
91	Penarth	x	PEN	No			Yes		Hold the Line	Publicly owned assets at Penarth Dock most important
92	Lydney to Gloucester	x	GLO5	No			Yes	Yes	Managed Realignment	Westbury Court Gardens
93	Chepstow and River Wye	No	Wye2	Yes	Yes	no	Yes	Yes	No active intervention	Additional note - Wye AONB and Lower Wye Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Recreation

Questionnaire Number	Theme Area	Agree With Theme Area Objectives?	Unit of Concern	Agree Proposed Policy of Unit?	Does Policy manage risk to drivers?	Does preferred option conflict with interest of other policy drivers in the unit?	Details Provided?	Comments Provided?	Proposed best way to manage the risks of policy drivers	Additional Comments
95	Chepstow and River Wye	No	Wye	x	x	x	Yes	Yes	x	Recreation objective - noted in source documents more.
96	Caldicot Levels	No	x	x	x	x	yes	yes	x	Historic landscape designation of the Gwent levels. Need to include local nature designations. Add to issues and features the black rock picnic site.

Annex G – Community Engagement

The Severn Estuary SMP2 on completion will guide the future management of the shoreline. The shoreline is used by the entire community in various ways, and therefore it was essential to engage all members of the community in the SMP2 process.

In order to ensure the community was widely engaged Atkins targeted ease of access to information from a variety of sources at multiple opportunities.

Initial Stakeholder Engagement began in January, 2009, with the objective to raise awareness of the Severn Estuary SMP2 process and to gain initial feedback on the identified key features of the shoreline in the categories of Nature Conservation, Historic Environment and Current and Future Land Use. The Objective and Policy Review of June, 2009, followed a similar path to the Initial Stakeholder Engagement.

Stakeholder Method of Contact

For the January and June stakeholder engagement events, Key Stakeholders were contacted with invitations and/or questionnaires through email and post. The mix of traditional contact methods and digital allowed for varied engagement of stakeholders. Detailed information regarding the progress of the SMP2 was made available online (<http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/smpr.html>) throughout the process and also in hard copy at the scheduled events.

Presentation of Information

To engage all members of the community effectively it was essential to consider the presentation of materials.

The visual display of information was considered against its suitability for those with colour blindness. To achieve clarity of visual materials various methods of display were trialled.

Integral documents online and at stakeholder engagement events were translated into Welsh to ensure stakeholders from either nationality the SMP covers were able to absorb the information in their preferred language.

Spatially and Temporally Varied Events

Spatially and temporally varied events for the Initial Stakeholder Engagement (27th and 29th January, 2009) and the Policy Development Review (8th and 10th June, 2009) ensured attendees would have the opportunity to select the most appropriate events to suit them.

Through record of attendees area of primary concern we were able to identify areas of the estuary that were under represented. As spatially biased attendance was likely to be due to the location of public consultation events or the presentation of material in reference to the 'estuary' and 'tidal flooding' where fluvial flooding is dominant although not all encompassing, we altered the material and marketing of the event to attract more stakeholders thus a more thorough review of proposed policy and objectives.

Appropriate Venues

The venues within the suitable locations for the Stakeholder Engagement Events were selected specifically for their disabled access, parking facilities and size of venue.

Annex H – EA Wales SMP2 Consultation



Asiantaeth yr
Amgylchedd Cymru
Environment
Agency Wales

Severn Estuary SMP2

Environment Agency Wales Consultation

1. Purpose of this Document

The consultation process for the Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan was managed in a coordinated manner by Atkins and the Severn Estuary Partnership on behalf of the Coastal Group. As well as this general consultation process, each organisation of the Coastal Group consulted to internal departments and personnel as necessary.

This document describes the overall consultation process for Environment Agency Wales and highlights specific issues of relevance to this Shoreline Management Plan.

2. Consultees

For the purpose of planning and managing the consultation process, we identified our internal teams. These were split into two categories; Regional and Area teams. These teams, through their own actions and operations or via working together are involved in delivering flood risk management changes. These are outlined below:

Regional Teams:

- Flood Risk Management Executive Manager
- Flood Risk Management Programme Manager
- Strategic Environmental Planning Manager: Water and Environment
- Regional Document Interchange Architecture Manager
- Regional Incidents and Emergencies Planning Manager
- Strategic Environmental Planning Manager: Waste
- Climate Change Policy Advisor
- Communications Manager
- Corporate Affairs Manager
- National Capital Programme Management Service
- National Environmental Assessment Service

Area Teams:

- Area Flood Risk Manager
- Assets System Management
- Data Mapping
- Planning Liaison
- Flood Incident Management
- Biodiversity

Environmental Planning
Development Control
Strategic and Development Planning

3. Consultation Process

The Draft SMP was released for consultation on October 5th 2009 for a minimum of 3 months

3.1 Briefing Notes

All consultees were aware of the ongoing SMP2 development, the stages involved and the possible outcomes. A briefing note with key details and dates was sent out to all Area and Regional teams in August 2009.

3.2 Emails

All consultees were kept up to date of the public consultation progress. Regular emails were sent with details of the consultation, details of the SMP2 and where to find the plan.

6th October 2009

This email indicated the start of the public consultation. Attached was a leaflet for the SMP2. This contained highlights from the plan, the draft policies and where to find further information as well as details of the 3 public consultation events.

27th October 2009

Further information on the Severn Estuary SMP2, links to the website, structure of the document and dates of the three public consultation events. We also directed each team to a suggested part of the plan they should concentrate their comments on, as time and resources seemed an issue for most.

This email detailed an internal deadline for comments of 11th December 2009 to give us time to collate all comments received.

23rd November 2009

An update email to all teams reminding them of the consultation and our internal deadline. We also attached the Draft Action Plan document for additional comments.

11th December 2009

A reminder email on the day our internal comments were due for further comments.

3.3 Meetings

We had a meeting with our Area Flood Risk Manager on 7th September 2009. This was to discuss the draft policies before the release of the plan for public consultation in order for us to put forward any major issues or changes before the plan was released.

4. Responses Received

Responses were received from the following Environment Agency Wales teams:

Strategic and Development Planning
Environmental Planning
Planning Liaison
National Environmental Assessment Service

llinell gwasanethu cwsmeriaid
customer service line

08708 506 506

www.asiantaeth-amgylchedd.cymru.gov.uk

llinell argyfwng
incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

www.environment-agency.wales.gov.uk

floodline

08456 988 1188