

Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan SMP

Appendix B – Stakeholder Engagement

Contents Amendment Record

This report has been issued and amended as follows:

Issue	Revision	Description	Date	Approved by
1	0	Consultation Draft	01/05/07	N Pontee
	1	Amendments following public consultation and QRG review	31/10/08	N Pontee
	2	Amendments following completion of retrospective SEA, WFD and AA	23/10/09	M Smith
2	2	Final	19/11/09	N Pontee

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Appendix B: Stakeholder Engagement

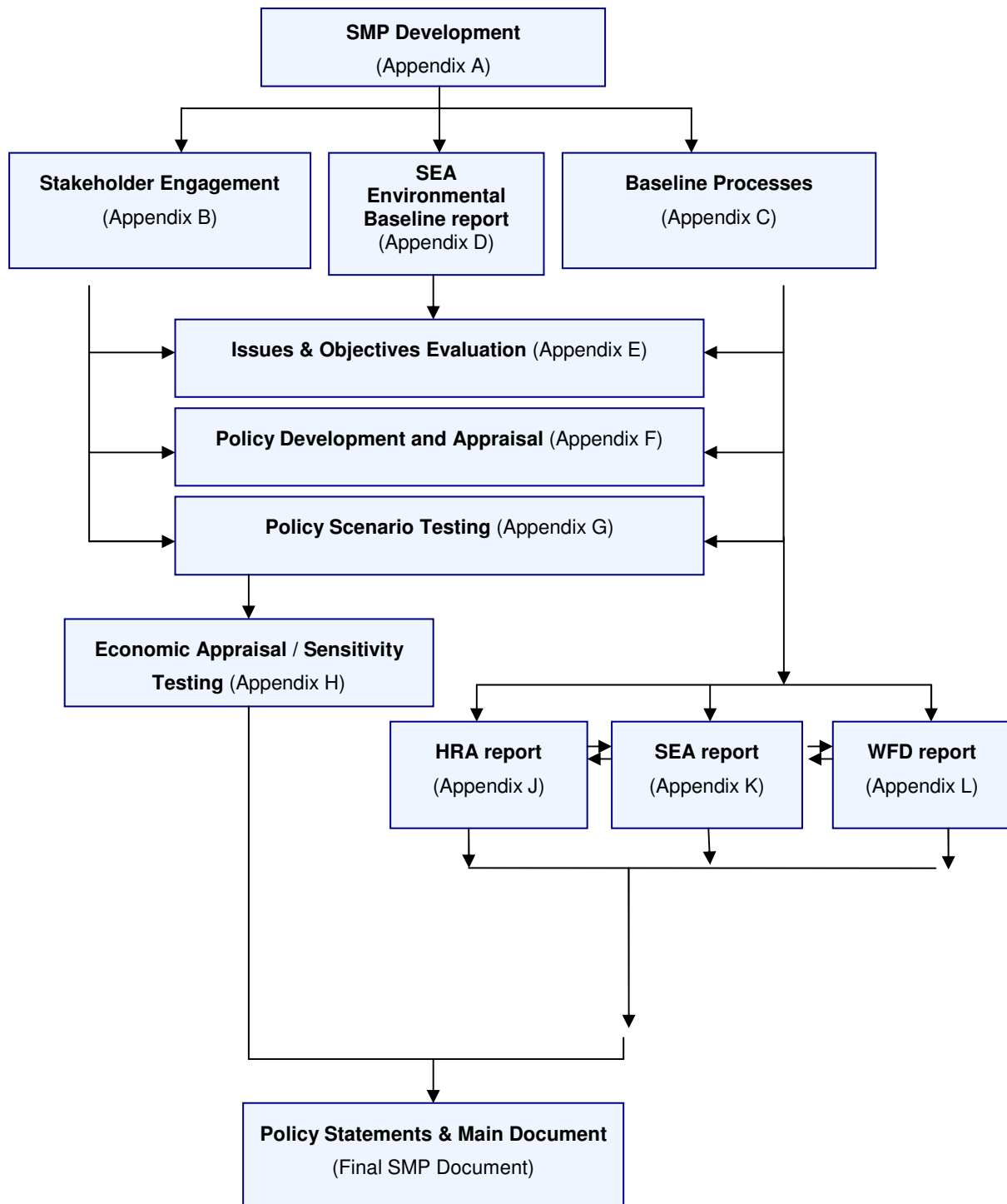
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The Supporting Appendices

This appendix and the accompanying documents provide all of the information required to support the Shoreline Management Plan. This is to ensure that there is clarity in the decision-making process and that the rationale behind the policies being promoted is both transparent and auditable. The appendices are:

A: SMP Development	This reports the history of development of the SMP, describing more fully the plan and policy decision-making process.
B: Stakeholder Engagement	All communications from the stakeholder process are provided here, together with information arising from the consultation process.
C: Baseline Process Understanding	Includes baseline process report, defence assessment, NAI and WPM assessments and summarises data used in assessments.
D: SEA Environmental Baseline Report (Theme Review)	This report identifies and evaluates the environmental features (natural environment, landscape character, historic environment, land use, infrastructure and material assets, and population and human health).
E: Issues & Objective Evaluation	Provides information on the issues and objectives identified as part of the Plan development, including appraisal of their importance.
F: Initial Policy Appraisal & Scenario Development	Presents the consideration of generic policy options for each frontage, identifying possible acceptable policies, and their combination into 'scenarios' for testing.
G: Scenario Testing	Presents the policy assessment and 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: Metadatabase and Bibliographic database	All supporting information used to develop the SMP is referenced for future examination and retrieval.
J: Habitat Regulations Assessment	Presents an assessment of the effect the plan will have on European sites.
K: Strategic Environmental Assessment	Presents the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Plan.
L: Water Framework Compliance	Presents a retrospective Water Framework Directive Assessment.

Within each appendix cross-referencing highlights the documents where related appraisals are presented. The broad relationships between the appendices are as below.



B1 Introduction

Four main groups were involved in development of the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan (SMP):

1. Client Steering Group (CSG);
2. Elected Members Forum (EMF);
3. Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF); and,
4. Other Stakeholders.

1. See **Appendix A** for details relating to the **Client Steering Group**.
2. The involvement of **Elected Members** in the process of proposal development reflects the "Cabinet" style approach to decision making operating in many local authorities. Democratically elected representatives are involved from the beginning to govern the production of the plan and champion the findings of the plan on behalf of their organisation. Involvement of elected members enhances public involvement in the plan and reduces the likelihood that the SMP will not be approved by individual authorities. They were involved through a Forum, building trust and understanding between Elected Members, the Client Steering Group and Key Stakeholders.
3. The **Key Stakeholder Forum** (KSF) acts as a focal point for discussion and consultation through development of the project. The membership of the group provides representation of the primary interests within the study area, ensuring consideration of all interests during review of issues. Inclusion of this group offers a more participatory process. This group was involved through workshops. The incorporation of this group provides direct feedback and information to the Consultant, and acts as a focal point for the consultation process. It is also possible to adopt more of a partnership approach to the KSF, by developing a collaborative decision-making forum. Under this approach certain responsibilities normally held by the Client Steering Group (CSG) may be shared by the KSF in order to increase the level of stakeholder ownership of the final decisions.
4. **Other Stakeholders**: There will always be large numbers of individuals and organisations who are likely to be affected by the decisions of the project. It is unlikely to ever be practical to involve all these stakeholders on one of the three groups outlined above, therefore there will remain a group of 'Other Stakeholders'. This group will be contacted directly by the project developers but will not be involved in its development, other than at the very start and as consultees on the draft decisions.

Both the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 were undertaken at the same time. Consequently, members of the CSG, EMF and KSF listed in this Appendix were involved in the stakeholder engagement for both SMPs and therefore some meetings / forums were jointly held for both SMPs.

B1.1 SUMMARY TABLE OF THE STAKEHOLDER STRATEGY

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Stakeholders involved	Method of involvement
Stage 1: SMP Scope	Initial Stakeholder contact	December 2005 to February 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform interested parties that an SMP is being prepared (on behalf of Defra and relevant local authorities) • Segregate the interested parties into three groups (Elected Members, Key Stakeholders and Stakeholders) • Request information from interested parties • Gather views on issues relating to the SMP coast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders • Stakeholders 	Letter and Questionnaire (different letters sent to different groups) Follow-up telephone calls
	Initial Elected Members and Key Stakeholders Forum held	February and March 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that all relevant issues have been included • Review the features identified • Check that the benefits identified are correct and that we have included all beneficiaries • Check that the objectives are a good representation of the requirements of the beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders 	Power point presentation Round-table meeting
Stage 2: Assessments to support policy	Draft Issues Table	December 2005	EMF and KSF members asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that all relevant issues have been included • Review the features identified • Check that the benefits identified are correct and that we have included all beneficiaries • Check that the objectives are a good representation of the requirements of the beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders 	Draft Issues Table and accompanying note sent via email and/or by post
	Draft Issues and Objectives Table	November 2003	EMF and KSF members asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check objectives set and ranking • Review information prior to meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders 	Draft Issues and Objectives Table sent as part of briefing note by email and/or post

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Stakeholders involved	Method of involvement
Stage 3: Policy Development	Second Key Stakeholders and Elected Members Forum	May 2006 and August 2006	The objectives of the forum were to establish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision(s) of the various stakeholders for the whole SMP shoreline over each epoch • Any 'overriding drivers' for directing future policy, and specific future policy options that the stakeholders wish to see tested • Agree the benefits • Areas of agreement and conflict i.e. main flood and erosion risks • Potential scope for compromise and acceptance of future change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders 	Briefing note sent out prior to meeting explaining role of meeting. Meeting involved a formal presentation followed by a number of round-table discussion sessions. Summary note sent out following meeting summarising key conclusions.
	Third Key Stakeholders and Elected Members Forum	January 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMF and KSF members were presented with the policy options examined • Discussion on proposed policy appropriateness • EMF and KSF members were invited to take a role in steering policy decisions along the coast. • Areas of agreement and conflict i.e. main flood and erosion risks • Potential scope for compromise and acceptance of future change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Members • Key Stakeholders 	Briefing note sent out prior to meeting explaining work to date on developing policies and role of meeting. Meeting involved a formal presentation followed by a number of round-table discussion sessions.
Stage 4: Public Examination	Public Consultation	May to September 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make stakeholders aware of the draft plan • To provide stakeholders with opportunities for support and objection and moving to resolve differences 	Wider public	Distribution of summary leaflet and SMP document made available for viewing.
Stage 5: Finalise SMP		October to December 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review output from public examination and theme the responses • Produce a Consultation Report on these findings • Meet with CSG to discuss the nature of feedback (amending the plan / policies if need be) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSG • EMF 	Proposed changes to draft plan, Consultation Report and Action Plan reviewed by CSG. Outcomes relayed to the EMF.

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Stakeholders involved	Method of involvement
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with EMF to discuss and agree the Final Plan (amend the plan / policies if need be) • Draft and agree Action Plan • Meet with CSG to discuss EMF, the Action Plan and finalisation of the plan • Update the Main Document and Appendices Present Members with the final plan 		
Stage 6: SMP Dissemination		January 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate to Local Authorities, Natural England, the Environment Agency and Defra • Update the SMP website: www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk • Inform stakeholders of the final plan 	Wider public	Hard copies and CD s. Information available to download in PDF format at www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk , Summary leaflets disseminated at Local Authorities discretion.

B2 Membership Lists

B2.1 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM (EMF)

Five meetings were held with the Elected Members: 6th March 2006, 2nd August 2006, 11th-12th January 2007 at the Town Hall, Canterbury, 24th October 2007 at Swale Council offices and 30th January 2008 at Canterbury City Council offices. Minutes from these meetings are included in Section B4. The Table below shows attendees at the meetings.

Name	Organisation	Attended 6 th March 2006 Forum	Attended 2 nd August 2006 Forum	Attended 11 th -12 th January 2007 Forum	Attended 24 th October 2007 Interim meeting	Attended 30 th January 2008 Forum
Cllr Gerry Lewin	Swale Borough Council	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Cllr Mike Patterson	Canterbury City Council	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Cllr Nicholas Kenton	Dover District Council	N	N	Y	N	Y
Cllr Andrew Bowles	Kent County Council	N	N	N	Y	Y
Cllr John Kirby	Thanet District Council	Y	N	Y	N	
Cllr Alistair Bruce	Thanet District Council					Y
Cllr Phil Filmer	Medway Council	Y	Y	Y	N	N
Cllr Mike Harrison (Chair)	Regional Flood Defence Committee/KCC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cllr Matthew Balfour	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	N	Y	Y	N	
Cllr Brian Luker	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council					Y

B2.2 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (KSF)

The KSF involved a select number of individuals with an interest in the preparation of the SMP or those likely to be affected by the SMP policies. Members of the KSF were selected through discussion with the CSG, comprising the Local Authorities, the Environment Agency and Natural England.

During the Initial Stakeholder Engagement exercise these individuals were invited to become members of the Key Stakeholders Forum, with the understanding that this would require greater involvement in the SMP preparation including attendance at meetings and reviewing documents. Not all KSF members were able to attend all of the Key Stakeholder workshops and through the course of the SMP development specific organisations were represented by alternative members if the original

member could not attend. The Table below records Key Stakeholder member attendance at the various meetings:

Name	Organisation	Attended KSF1 Meeting (Feb 2006)	Attended KSF2 Meeting (May 2006)	Attended KSF3 Meeting (Jan 07)
Simon Herrington	Herrington Consultancy	Y	Y	N
Anne Thurston	Environment Agency	N	Y	Y
Clive Older	Environment Agency	N	N	Y
Rebecca Smith	Environment Agency (CFMP)	N	Y	N
Lisa Lennox	Environment Agency (FRM)	Y	Y	N
Nigel Pye	Environment Agency (TE2100)	N	Y	N
Lorna Gustaffsen	Environment Agency (TE2100)	N	Y	N
Hannah Gribben	Environment Agency	N	Y	Y
Paula Wadsworth	Environment Agency	N	Y	Y
Carol Pierce	Environment Agency	Y	Y	Y
Ian Murrell	Environment Agency	Y	N	Y
Frank Chester	Environment Agency	Y	N	Y
Martin Tapp	Stour IDB	Y	Y	Y
Colin Carr	Sandwich Port and Haven Commission	Y	Y	Y
Colin Fitt	Thanet District Council	N	Y	N
Ian Lewis	Swale Borough Council	Y	Y	Y
Liz Holliday	Kent County Council	Y	Y	?
Cllr Mike Harrison	Kent County Council	Y	Y	N
Ingrid Chudleigh	English Nature	N	Y	Y
Bryony Chapman	Kent Wildlife Trust	N	Y	N
Richard Moyse	Kent Wildlife Trust	N	Y	Y
Alison Giacomelli	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	Y	Y	Y
George Crozer	Friend of the North Kent Marshes	Y	Y	N
Simon Ellis	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee	N	Y	N
John Bayes	Seasalter Shellfish	Y	Y	N
David Thorpe	Kent Wildfowlers	N	Y	N
Kevin Atwood	National Farmers Union	N	Y	N
Andrew Redsell	National Farmers Union	N	Y	Y
Michael Collins	Kent Ramblers	N	Y	Y
Tony Child	Thanet Coast Project	Y	Y	Y
Jodie McGregor	MSEP	N	Y	N

Name	Organisation	Attended KSF1 Meeting (Feb 2006)	Attended KSF2 Meeting (May 2006)	Attended KSF3 Meeting (Jan 07)
Bernie Lambert	Thanet District Council	Y	Y	N
Peter Starling	Rochester Oyster and Floating Fisheries	N	N	Y
Howard Moore	Highways Agency	N	N	N
Mike Mckeown	Southern Water	N	N	Y
Alex Homfray	Sport England	Y	N	N
Elaine Kirkaldi	Seasalter Shellfish	Y	N	N
Joss Wiggins	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee	Y	N	N
Mick Oliver	DEFRA Rural Development Service	N	N	N
Sarah Parker	Canterbury City Council	Y	N	N
Pete Dowling	Stour IDB	Y	N	N
Maggie Morgan	National Trust	N	N	N
Graham Birch	Network Rail	Y	N	N
Jo Anderson	SEEDA	N	N	N
David Partridge	Power Stations (Kingsnorth and Isle of Grain)	Y	N	N
Lis Dyson	Kent County Council	N	N	Y
Adrian Fox	Dover District Council	N	N	N
Stephen Fuller	Kent RIGS	Y	N	N
Cllr Andrew Bowles	RFDC	N	N	N
Steven Kemp	Environment Agency	Y	N	Y
Josh Peacock	Environment Agency	Y	N	N
Mike Watson	Upper and Lower Medway IDB	Y	N	N
Jo Scott	Pfizer Ltd	N	N	N
Behdad Haratbar	Kent Highway Services	N	N	N
Cllr Jim Cronk	Middle Deal and Sholden Coastal Cllr	N	N	N
Dominic Evans	Ramsgate Port	Y	N	Y
Gordon Harris	SEEDA	N	N	N
Robert Hinge	NFU Swale Region	N	N	Y
Harry Moulard	Landowner/NFU	N	N	Y
John Archer	National Farmers Union	Y	N	N
Brian Stone	NFU	Y	N	Y
Kevin Attwood	NFU	Y	N	Y
Steve Medlock	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council	N	N	Y
Phil Woodgate	Medway Ports	Y	N	Y
Dr Will Wright	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee	N	N	Y

Name	Organisation	Attended KSF1 Meeting (Feb 2006)	Attended KSF2 Meeting (May 2006)	Attended KSF3 Meeting (Jan 07)
Joan Dorwell	Friends of the North Kent Marshes	N	N	Y
Gill Moore	Friends of the North Kent Marshes	Y	N	Y
Mike Humber	Thanet DC	N	N	Y
Cllr John Bragg	Sandwich Town Council/Sandwich Port and Haven Commissioners/Royal St. Georges Golf Club	N	N	Y
Roger Walton	Dover DC	N	Y	Y
Peter Jackson	Whitstable Architect	N	N	N
Jeremy Watts	Sandwich Town Council	N	N	N
John Godden	Sandwich Port and Haven Commissioners	Y	N	N

B2.3 ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

The following Table indicates additional stakeholders contacted during the Initial Stakeholder Engagement stage: all these received the letter and questionnaire explaining that the SMP was being reviewed, as well as requesting data and further information (see Section B3 for sample letters and questionnaire).

Additional Stakeholder Organisations			
Royal St Georges Golf Club	Lynsted Parish Council	Friends of North Deal	Thanet Countryside Trust
Sandwich Bay Sailing Club	Frindsbury Extra Parish Council	City of Rochester Society	Margate Central Coastal Councillor
Seasalter Golf Club Ltd	Beresford Gap Waterski & Wakeboard Club	The Ramsgate Society	Kent Downs AONB Unit
Seasalter Sailing Club	River Medway Business Users Association	Maidstone Borough Council	Medway Yachting Association
South East England Tourist Board	Thanet Nature Conservation Umbrella Group	Oare Parish Council	Minster Beach Windsurf Club
Whitstable Library	Faversham Town Council	Iwade Parish Council	Lower Halstow Parish Council
Whitstable and District Angling Society	Monkton Parish Council	White Cliffs Country Tourism Association	Catermaran Yacht Club
Whitstable Museum	Sandwich Sailing and Motor Boat Club	Medway Ports	Viking Coastal Councillor
The Deal Society	Deal Town Council	Kent RIGS	Burden Bros. Contractors Ltd
Saxon Shore Residents Association	Eastcliff Coastal Councillor	Westgate-On-Sea Coastal Councillor	Birchington North Coastal Councillor
Sport England, South	Stoke Parish Council	Whitstable Oyster	N. Deal, Coastal

Additional Stakeholder Organisations			
East Region		Fisheries Co.	Councillor
Tonge Parish Council	Kent Ornithological Society	Central Harbour Coastal Councillor	Dickens Country Protection Society
Cliftonville West Coastal Councillor	Sandwich, Coastal Councillor	Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust	North Road Residents Association
White Cliffs Countryside Project	Kingfisher Angling Preservation Society	Kent Fisheries Consultative Association	Medway Chamber of Commerce
Canterbury Archaeological Trust	South Road Residents Association	The Margate Society	Dover Port
Foreness Water Ski Club	Country Land and Business Association (CLA)	Thanet Water Users Advisory Group	Christ Church University College, Fisheries GIS Unit
Luddenham Parish Council	Cliftonville Residents Association	Deal and Walmer Inshore Fishermans Association	Thanet Fishermans Association
The Crown Estate	Broadstairs and St. Peters Angling Society	Nayland Boat Sea Angling Society	Maidstone Museum
Cliffsend Residents Association	Seasalter Water Ski Club	Walmer & Kingsdown Golf Club	Warden/Oare Parish Councils
Herne Bay & Whitstable Water Safety Committee	ISAC 1871 Invicta Sub Aqua Club	Canterbury and Coastal Kent	Teynham Parish Council
Maidstone Borough Council	Queenborough Town Council	Margate Yacht Club	Bradstowe Coastal Councillor
Hoo St Werburgh Parish Council	Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group	Minnis Bay Sailing Club	Birchington Angling Sea Society
Deal and Walmer Fishing Association/National Federation of Sea Anglers South East Division	Minster on Sea Parish Council	Foreness Environmental Action	Herne Bay Angling Association
The Ramsgate and Broadstairs Civic Society	Birchington Parish Council	Groundwork Medway Swale	Friends of Faversham Creek
Isle of Sheppey Sailing Club	National Grid Company Plc	Sandwich Bay Sailing and Water Ski Club	British Marine Industries Federation
Kingsgate Coastal Councillor	JAWS	The Cruising Association	Campaign Protection of Rural England (CPRE)
HM Coastguard, MCA	St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe Parish Council	Broadstairs Sailing Club	Thanet Sports Council/Thanet Sub-Aqua Club
Newington Parish Council	Bobbing Parish Council	Herne Bay Sailing Club	Isle of Thanet Tourism Association
Sustrans	Cuxton Parish Council	Worth Parish Council	Acol Parish Council
Trust for Thanet Archaeology	St. Mildreds Bay Association	Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)	Sheppey Coastguard
Whitstable Society	North Kent Yachting Association	Kent Archaeological Society	Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust

Additional Stakeholder Organisations			
The Sandwich Society	Sir Moses Montefiore Coastal Councillor	HM Coastguard	Sandwich Bay Residents Association Ltd
Thanet 106 Sub-Aqua Club BSAC	Kent Wildfowling and Conservation Association	Graveney with Goodstone Parish Council	Westbrook Coastal Councillor
Arethusa Venture Centre	Walmer, Coastal Councillor	St. Margarets at Cliffe, Coastal Councillor	The Pier Yard, Royal Harbour
Seasalter Chalet Owners Association	Birchington North Coastal Councillor	Marine Conservation Society	Whitstable Yacht Club
Cliffsend and Pegwell Coastal Councillor	Kite Surfing (Minnis Bay Windsurfing Club)	Upnor Sailing Club	Sandwich Community Association
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Town Council	Ringwoud with Kingsdown, Coastal Councillor	Wellington Parade Residents Association	Medway Valley Countryside Partnership
Ramsgate Town Partnership	The Granville Cliffe Estate Company Ltd	Margate Town Partnership	Pegwell & District Association
Medway Valley Countryside Partnership	Kent Police Marine Unit	Leysdown Parish Council	Royal Yachting Association (RYA)
Cliftonville East Coastal Councillor	Sustainability Actions	Upchurch Parish Council	Sholden Parish Council
Ringwoud with Kingsdown Parish Council	Bradstowe Coastal Councillor	The Faversham Society (Faversham Society Planning Committee)	Planet Thanet
Ospringle Parish Council	Hernhill Parish Council	The Churches Conservation Trust	East Kent Maritime Trust
Queenborough Fishermen's Association	East Kent Friends of the Earth	Halling Parish Council	West Beach Caravan Site
Royal Yachting Association, SE Region	Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Eastern Division, Divisional Base East	Minnis Bay Windsurfing Club	North Foreland Estate Club
Manston Parish Council	The Downs Sailing Club	All Hallows Parish Council	The Broadstairs Civic Society
Thamesport	Royal Temple Yacht Club	Cliffsend Parish Council	Wildlife Sailing
Walmer Parish Council	Residents Association	Westgate and Westbrook Residents Association	East Kent Yachting Association
Eastchurch Parish Council	Birchington Angling Sea Society	St Mary Hoo Parish Council	Kent Federation of Amenity Societies
University of Sussex			

B3 Initial Stakeholder Engagement Materials

The Initial Stakeholder Engagement 'pack' sent out included:

1. An invitation letter: three variations of the invitation letter were produced and sent to the following categories of stakeholders (although it should be noted that there were a few duplications of the organisations being represented at both the Elected Member and Key Stakeholder level):
 - Members of the Elected Members Forum;
 - Members of the Key Stakeholder Forum; and,
 - Other stakeholders to whom a formal approach should be made. They are considered to be aware but not be familiar with SMP process. This could include: the general public, individual landowners and small businesses.
2. Information describing the background to the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 and the involvement of the Client Steering Group in the SMP process.
3. A questionnaire which requested basic contact details, the organisations interests and concerns with the coastline and the review of the SMP as well as whether they held or could provide any data/information.

B3.1 ELECTED MEMBER INVITATION LETTER (SAMPLE)

South East Coastal Group,
C/o Military Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1YW



www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

27th October 2005

Dear

Medway & Swale Estuaries and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plans.

We are writing to invite you/your organisation in the development of two strategic coastal flood and erosion plans for the north and east coast of Kent. These are (1) the Shoreline Management Plan for the Medway and Swale Estuaries and (2) the review of the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan.

During 2004 and 2005 Shepway District Council, acting on behalf of the South East Coastal Group, led the preparation of the South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). This SMP was one of three models which were tested for the UK shoreline. The South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan was unique in that a forum of Elected Members was involved throughout the development of the plan in debating and agreeing the terms of reference and outcomes on behalf of their own Authority.

The model developed during the production of the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP has received a good deal of positive response from both the national group overseeing the three alternative models and from the Elected Members themselves who were involved in the process. For this reason the South East Coastal Group intend to apply the same approach to the Medway and Swale Estuaries and Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plans.

Because of your Council's interest in this coastline, we would like to invite you to the initial meeting of the Elected Members Forum to be held on a date, probably around the end of January 2005. We shall write to you again to confirm the arrangements once they are finalised. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you would confirm your nomination to participate in the Forum.

It is anticipated that the Elected Members Forum would likely meet on three or four occasions during the next 18 months.

As a member of the Elected Members Forum you will have the opportunity to review the development of the plans and, in particular, comment on how the draft objectives and policies meet your Authorities needs and those of the residents you represent. It is important that the Elected Member is able to

agree the developing plan on behalf of the Authority in order that the policies contained in the plans are able to be ratified by the Authority in due course.

For your further information, we attach:

A map showing the area that the Plans cover

A brief summary of the SMP Process and the anticipated role of the Elected Members and Key Stakeholders Forum.

Full contact details of your local authority / Environment Agency representative on the Steering Group

A full list of other organisations invited to join the Key Stakeholders Forums

If you have any questions on the above please contact your Authorities representative on the Officer Steering Group in the first instance. You can find their details on the local Authority contact list.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your participation in the Elected Members Forum to Christina Bell on 01227 862575 or alternatively by email to christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Steve McFarland

South East Coastal Group (Chair)

B3.2 KEY STAKEHOLDER INVITATION LETTER (SAMPLE)

South East Coastal Group

c/o Military Road, Canterbury,

Kent, CT1 1YW

www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk



Dear

Shoreline Management Plans for Kent

We are writing to invite you/your organisations participation in the development of Shoreline Management Plans for Kent. One plan will cover the Medway Estuary and Swale and the other will cover the North and East Kent coast (the Isle of Grain to South Foreland, near Dover).

The South East Coastal Group is preparing these plans to consider flood and erosion risk management over the next 100 years. The Coastal Group members comprise organisations with responsibilities related to the management of coastal defences in the area. These organisations are Medway Council, Swale Borough Council¹²⁰, Canterbury City Council, Thanet District Council, Dover District Council, the Environment Agency, Kent County Council and English Nature.

These projects have been commissioned to take account of:

- Latest coastal studies (e.g. improved understanding of likely climate change impacts);
- Issues identified by most recent coastal management planning (e.g. coastal defence strategy plans and other coastal initiatives);
- Changes in legislation (e.g. European Union Habitats Directive);
- Changes in policy development procedures (new guidance prepared by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)).

Because of you/ your organisation's interest in this coastline, we are writing to invite you to the initial meeting of the Key Stakeholder Forum to be held on a date, yet to be finalised, at the end of January 2006. We shall write to you again to confirm the arrangements. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you would confirm your willingness to participate in the Forum. Participation would be likely to involve attendance at three meetings during the next 24 months

Furthermore, we would appreciate your help in providing any appropriate information you may hold which will improve the data on which the plans are prepared. We would like to learn too about those issues that you would want to see being addressed in the plans and any other comments that you feel the Coastal Authorities should be aware of during the preparation of the plans. To this end, would you please complete and return the enclosed questionnaire through which you can indicate your areas of interest, the form and type of information you may hold appropriate to the study of the coastline and what future contact arrangements we should make with your organisation. We have attached a list

displaying the data we already hold and the type of data we hope to obtain from you.

In summary, the role of these plans is to provide large-scale assessments of the risks associated with coastal and estuarine processes and to present a policy framework to reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner over the next 100 years. They determine the natural forces that are sculpting the shoreline and predict, as far as is possible, the way in which it will be shaped into the future. The plans then go on to identify the main issues of concern relating to erosion and flood risk, and the management of these natural processes. These issues will be obtained from those with an interest in the coast, be it as residents, businesses or those with a concern for the natural and built heritage. The issues are then brought together to determine the policies which should be applied to allow society's objectives to be achieved in full acknowledgement of the potential impact on the natural environment and likely environmental, financial and social costs involved.

The risk management policies to be considered are those defined by Defra.

These are:

- **Hold the existing defence line;**
- **Advance the existing defence line;**
- **Managed realignment** – allowing controlled retreat of the shoreline;
- **No active intervention** – a decision not to provide or maintain defences.

These policies relate to the provision of flood and erosion defences; however plan development and implementation is jointly undertaken by engineering and planning officers.

As a member of the Key Stakeholder Forum you will have the opportunity to review the development of the plans and, in particular, comment on how the draft objectives and policies meet your needs and those of others you represent.

For these reasons, we attach:

1. A note containing further information on Shoreline Management Plans;
2. A brief questionnaire and accompanying data list;
3. Contact details of the local authorities and the Environment Agency;
4. A full list of other organisations that are being contacted;
5. A map showing the areas that the Plans cover.

We would be extremely grateful if you would complete and return the enclosed questionnaire by December 12th 2005 to: **South East Coastal Group. c/o Christina Bell, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW**. Alternatively, you can download the questionnaire from: www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk and return it via e mail to christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk.

If you do not wish to be involved with the Shoreline Management Plan Review or to be contacted any further concerning this matter, please complete the enclosed slip and return it in the prepaid envelope enclosed. Alternatively contact Christina Bell on the e-mail address displayed above or by telephone: 01227 862575.

For information, the Environment Agency is also preparing plans for the management of flood risk from rivers in Kent. These are called Catchment Flood Management Plans and you may be contacted about these separately by the Environment Agency.

Yours sincerely

p. p Christina Bell

Steve McFarland
South East Coastal Group (Chair)
Direct dial 01227 862455

B3.3 OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVITATION LETTER (SAMPLE)

South East Coastal Group,
C/o Military Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1YW



www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

27th October 2005

Dear XXXXXXXXXXXX

Medway & Swale Estuaries and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plans.

We are writing to invite you/your organisation in the development of two strategic coastal flood and erosion plans for the north and east coast of Kent. These are (1) the Shoreline Management Plan for the Medway and Swale Estuaries and (2) the review of the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan.

During 2004 and 2005 Shepway District Council, acting on behalf of the South East Coastal Group, led the preparation of the South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). This SMP was one of three models which were tested for the UK shoreline. The South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan was unique in that a forum of Elected Members was involved throughout the development of the plan in debating and agreeing the terms of reference and outcomes on behalf of their own Authority.

The model developed during the production of the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP has received a good deal of positive response from both the national group overseeing the three alternative models and from the Elected Members themselves who were involved in the process. For this reason the South East Coastal Group intend to apply the same approach to the Medway and Swale Estuaries and Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plans.

Because of your Council's interest in this coastline, we would like to invite you to the initial meeting of the Elected Members Forum to be held on a date, probably around the end of January 2005. We shall write to you again to confirm the arrangements once they are finalised. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you would confirm your nomination to participate in the Forum.

It is anticipated that the Elected Members Forum would likely meet on three or four occasions during the next 18 months.

As a member of the Elected Members Forum you will have the opportunity to review the development of the plans and, in particular, comment on how the draft objectives and policies meet your Authorities

needs and those of the residents you represent. It is important that the Elected Member is able to agree the developing plan on behalf of the Authority in order that the policies contained in the plans are able to be ratified by the Authority in due course.

For your further information, we attach:

A map showing the area that the Plans cover

A brief summary of the SMP Process and the anticipated role of the Elected Members and Key Stakeholders Forum.

Full contact details of your local authority / Environment Agency representative on the Steering Group

A full list of other organisations invited to join the Key Stakeholders Forums

If you have any questions on the above please contact your Authorities representative on the Officer Steering Group in the first instance. You can find their details on the local Authority contact list.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your participation in the Elected Members Forum to Christina Bell on 01227 862575 or alternatively by email to christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Pp Christina Bell
Steve McFarland
South East Coastal Group (Chair)

B3.4 BACKGROUND OF SMPS: STAKEHOLDER INFORMATION

Summary of the Shoreline Management Plan Process

WHAT IS A SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal evolution and presents a policy framework to address the risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner.

The SMP is a non-statutory, policy document for coastal defence management planning. It takes account of other existing planning initiatives and legislative requirements and is intended to inform wider strategic planning. It does not set policy for anything other than coastal defence management.

BACKGROUND TO THE REVIEW OF THE ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND SMP

The original Shoreline Management Plan covered the open coastline from Isle of Grain to Dover Harbour and was completed in 1996. It defined coastal defence management policies for a 50 year time period based upon the Government guidance issued at that time. Since 1996, numerous coastal defence strategies and schemes have subsequently been developed based on the policies recommended in the SMP. A summary of the Isle of Grain to Dover Harbour SMP is available on the South East Coastal Group website:

<http://www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk/cgi-bin/buildpage.pl?mysql=83&mode=content>

The Government guidance for producing Shoreline Management Plans has been substantially revised in the last two years to take account of changes in legislation (e.g. the European Union Habitats Directive) and changes in national flood and coastal defence planning policy as set out in the Government's "Making Space for Water" Strategy.

The South East Coastal Group which comprises representatives of all the coastal management operating authorities in the southeast of England is responsible for coordinating the SMP review. These reviews will take account of the changes in government guidance outlined above and take advantage of the results of the latest coastal process studies and coastal defence strategies which have now been produced to cover most of the SMP area.

THE IGSF CLIENT STEERING GROUP

The coastline covered by this Plan comes within the boundaries of five district / unitary local authorities who together with the Environment Agency have certain permissive powers for defending the coast. Each of the five district / unitary local authorities, the Environment Agency and the County Council have one or more representatives on the client steering group drawn from the engineering and planning teams. English Nature and English Heritage are also represented on the client steering group to ensure that natural and historic built environment interests are taken into account. Defra also attend the steering group meetings as an observer to provide advice on the procedural guidance and central Government policy with respect to the SMP process.

Client steering group members for the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP are listed below:

Name	Representing
*Ron Bonner	Medway Council
*Ian Lewis	Swale Borough Council
*Steve McFarland (Project Manager)	Canterbury City Council (Lead Authority)
*Bernie Lambert	Thanet District Council
*Roger Walton	Dover District Council
*Elizabeth Holiday	Kent County Council
*Helen Dalton	Environment Agency (Southern Region)
*Lisa Lennox	Environment Agency (Kent Area)
*Susannah Peckham/Ingrid Chudleigh	English Nature
Peter Kendal	English Heritage
Yolanda Foote/Mark Smith	Environment Agency
Carol Pierce	Environment Agency
Anita Soloman	Medway Council (Planning)
Steve Bessant	Swale Borough Council (Planning)
Sarah Parker	Canterbury City Council (Planning)
Christina Bell	Canterbury City Council
Colin Fitt	Thanet District Council (Planning)
TBA	Dover District Council (Planning)
Sarah Draper	Medway / Swale Estuary Partnership
Stephen Jenkinson	DEFRA
Simon Herrington	Herrington Consulting
* Client steering group core members	
THE MEDWAY ESTUARY AND SWALE SMP	
<p>Only the outermost parts of the Medway and Swale Estuaries were included in the original “open coast” SMP when it was developed in 1996. This was in line with the guidance at that time. There is therefore no strategic framework for the management of flood and erosion risks in the Estuaries which is hindering decision making on long-term policies for the area. The Environment Agency who have permissive powers for undertaking flood defence works in the Estuaries wish to develop a strategic flood risk management plan for the area and have elected to develop this plan in line with the SMP guidance.</p>	

THE MSFP CLIENT STEERING GROUP

The Client Steering Group for the Estuary SMP comprises representatives of the Environment Agency as well as Swale, Medway and Kent Councils. English Nature, English Heritage, The Medway / Swale Estuary Partnership and DEFRA are also represented. In addition the Chairman of the Client Steering Group for the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP will attend the meetings to help ensure consistency across the boundaries of the two plans.

Client steering group members are listed below:

Name	Representing
*Ron Bonner	Medway Council
*Brian McCutcheon	Medway Council
*Ian Lewis	Swale Borough Council
*Elizabeth Holliday	Kent County Council
*Helen Dalton	Environment Agency (Southern Region)
*Susannah Peckham/Ingrid Chudleigh	Natural England
*Yolanda Foote/Mark Smith	Environment Agency (Lead Authority)
*Carol Pierce	Environment Agency
Steve McFarland	Canterbury City Council
Peter Kendal	English Heritage
Anita Soloman	Medway Council (Planning)
Steve Bessant	Swale Borough Council (Planning)
Sarah Draper	Medway / Swale Estuary Partnership
Stephen Jenkinson	DEFRA
Simon Herrington	Herrington Consulting
* Client steering group core members	

JOINT CLIENT STEERING GROUP

In order to encourage consistency across the two plans and make efficient use of the steering group member's time, it is intended to initially run the two groups as a joint steering group. This joint steering group will be responsible for overseeing the initiation of the two plans, agreeing the communication plan and overseeing the data collection process. Whether the two groups continue to act as a joint steering group or not depends on the progress of the individual plans and in particular the timescale for decision making.

ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM

During 2004 and 2005, Shepway District Council, acting on behalf of the South East Coastal Group, led the preparation of the South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan. This SMP was one of three models which were trialled for the UK shoreline. The South Foreland to Beachy Head Shoreline Management Plan was unique in the trials in that a forum of Elected Members was

involved throughout the development of the plan in debating and agreeing the terms of reference and outcomes on behalf of their own Authority.

The model developed during the production of the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP has received a good deal of positive response from both the national group overseeing the three alternative models and from the Elected Members themselves who were involved in the process. For this reason the South East Coastal Group are applying the same approach to the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan and the Environment Agency are also following a similar approach in the Medway and Swale Estuaries.

The Elected Members Forum will have the opportunity to review the development of the plans and, in particular, comment on how the draft objectives and policies meet their Authorities needs. It is important that the Elected Member is able to agree the developing plan on behalf of the Authority in order that the policies contained in the plans are able to be ratified by the Authority in due course.

Details of the Elected Members invited to attend the forum are listed below:

Name	Representing
Cllr John Wright	Swale Borough Council
Cllr Mike Patterson	Canterbury City Council
Cllr Nicholas Kenton	Dover District Council
Cllr John Kirby	Thanet District Council
Cllr A Prodger	Medway Council
Ms Ruth Kosmin	Regional Flood Defence Committee (RFDC)
To be advised	Kent County Council

As is the case with the Client Steering Groups, it is intended that the Elected Members Forum runs initially as a joint Forum with the Members themselves deciding on whether future forum meetings should be joint or plan specific.

STAKEHOLDERS

There will always be large numbers of individuals and organisations who are likely to be interested or potentially affected in some way by the decisions of the project. It is intended to contact as many such individuals and organisations as reasonably possible in the early stages of the plan development to ask for their views and data contributions where applicable.

Those stakeholders who confirm an interest will be contacted by email or letter with updates on the progress of the plans. Further information will be available on the South East Coastal Group Website.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

The Key Stakeholders Forum is a forum which is designed to act as a focal point for discussion and consultation at key stages during the development of the project. Because it is impractical to involve all stakeholders in the Key Stakeholder Forum meetings it is important that the membership of this

group should provide a fair representation of the primary interests within the study area, ensuring due consideration of all interests during the review process.

The Key Stakeholder Forum needs to include representatives of those who will be significantly affected by the outcomes of the SMP review process including appropriate representation of the public.

It is intended that the first Key Stakeholder Forum is a joint forum in which the whole SMP process is explained and initial views sought. Subsequent forum meetings are likely to be specific to the individual plans because of the large number of issues likely to arise for each of the two plans.

A list of the Stakeholders / Key Stakeholders will be maintained by the project managers and their consultants and will be available on the coastal group website*

B3.5 STAKEHOLDERS (OTHER) SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE

Shoreline Management Plans for Medway Estuary and Swale and North Kent Coast (Isle of Grain to South Foreland)

Please answer the following questions and return the completed questionnaire by the end of October 2005 to South East Coastal Group. We would appreciate your return of the questionnaire even if you do not wish to be further involved in the Plans.

Name of your organisation or business

Address

Name of contact

Position in organisation

Address if different from 2

Telephone No.

Fax No.

Email address

Referring to the attached list of consultees – are there any other stakeholders that you would recommend we contact?

COMMENTS

Is your organisation or business affected by the risk of coastal flooding or erosion? If so, please give brief details including any significant events.

What are the main issues relating to the way in which the coastline is managed and which you want to see being dealt with in the plan?

What objectives do you have for the future management of the coastline?

Do you have any views on the way in which the existing defences have had an impact on the way in which the coastline has developed?

Do you have any views on changes that should be made to the existing coastal defences? What effect do you think this would have?

INFORMATION

Please let us know if you hold information on any of the following aspects, if so, in what format it is held and are you are willing to make it available to the Project Team.

A map of your premises, site(s) or showing your area of interest

Local coastal processes

Flooding and erosion events

Design and construction of existing coastal defences

The natural environment and ecology

The built environment, coastal industries and land use

Ports and harbours

Agriculture

Tourism and amenity usage of the coast

Inshore fisheries

Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire

B4 Elected Members Materials

B4.1 INTRODUCTION

Below are a series of documents that were issued to the Elected Members prior to each of the forums and the minutes that were circulated thereafter.

B4.2 ELECTED MEMBER INVITATION LETTER TO EMF 1

South East Coastal Group,

C/o Military Road, Canterbury

Kent, CT1 1YW

www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk



Dear

Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan, Elected Members Forum.

Further to our letter to you, dated October 2005, and subsequent telephone conversations, we are pleased to confirm that the first meeting of the Elected Members Forum for the above Shoreline Management Plans will take place at 6.30pm on the evening of Monday 6th March 2006 at the Board Room, Canterbury City Council Offices, in Canterbury. Please find enclosed a location map, Meeting Agenda; draft Constitution for the group and a full list of the members of the forum, with contact details.

The Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan are strategic coastal flood and erosion plans for the north and east coasts of Kent. They will set out a policy framework for future management of the coastline and will have significant implications for current and future land use and the natural and built environment. Policy options available for management of flood and erosion risks comprise Hold the Line, Managed Realignment, No Active Intervention or Advance the Line.

As a member of the Elected Members Forum you will have the opportunity to debate and develop the plans and, in particular, comment on how the objectives and policies meet your Authority's needs and those of the residents you represent. It is important that you are in a position to 'agree' the developing plan on behalf of your Authority so that the Authority can ratify the policies contained in the final plans in due course.

It is programmed that the Elected Members Forum will meet three times during the development of the Shoreline Management Plans. The first meeting is a joint meeting for both plans and the group will decide whether they would like further meetings to be joint or separate in nature. In addition, the group will elect a chairperson – either one 'joint' chairperson for both plans, or separate chairs for each plan.

Draft flood and erosion risk management objectives for each section of coast will be sent to you for review closer to the meeting date. We then intend to discuss these during the meeting.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your attendance at the first meeting of the Elected Members Forum. Responses can be sent via email to: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk

Alternatively, any questions or queries can be sent by post to the: South East Coastal Group, c/o Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you at the first Forum in March 2006.

Yours Sincerely,

Steve McFarland

South East Coastal Group (Chair)

B4.3 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 1: THE REVIEW OF THE ISSUES TABLE

South East Coastal Group,
C/o Military Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1YW



www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

24th February 2006

Dear Cllr

Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan, Elected Members Forum – 6th March 2006

We have previously contacted you regarding the above projects, including by correspondence in October and December 2005. The most recent letter confirmed that the first meeting of the Elected Members Forum, which you are invited to join, will take place from **6pm to 9pm on Monday 6th March 2006** at the Canterbury City Council Offices. A location map and list of members of the forum was enclosed.

The letter also provided some background to the Shoreline Management Plan process and stated that draft flood and erosion risk management objectives for each section of coast would be sent to you for review closer to the meeting date, for discussion at the meeting.

These draft objectives have now be prepared and set out in the form of a table for each Shoreline Management Plan (i.e. Isle of Grain to South Foreland and Medway Estuary and Swale). The tables list the features of the coastline and potential issues associated with their current and future management, in relation to flood and erosion risks. The tables also summarise why the features are important, who benefits from them and suggest appropriate objectives. These objectives will form the basis for flood and erosion risk management decisions as the Shoreline Management Plans develop. The tables have initially been produced from available baseline information, some of which can be broad-brush in nature. It is very important that the tables are developed to comprehensively reflect the exact local circumstances for each section of coast and that specific objective are set. By providing feedback on these tables you, as elected members, will make a vital contribution to this process ensuring that all key issues associated with coastal management in the area are correctly addressed. As such, please find attached the draft Issues and Objectives table(s) for your areas of interest.

Please also find attached to this letter an agenda, and location map for the meeting on the 6th March 2006. For your information, the draft constitution will follow in due course. I look forward to meeting you at the Forum and making important progress in the development of these Shoreline Management Plans. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or Christina Bell on 01227

862575.

Yours sincerely

Steve McFarland
South East Coastal Group

B4.4 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 1: CONSTITUTION

Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and Medway Estuary & Swale Shoreline Management Plan

Draft CONSTITUTION

Introduction

The group of authorities responsible for the management of the shoreline between the Isle of Grain and South Foreland and the tidal River Medway (downstream of Allington Lock near Aylesford), Medway Estuary and Swale, are to set up a forum of elected members which, together with officers of the authorities, are to act as the principal decision-making body for development of two Shoreline Management Plans. Key stakeholders will be invited to participate in a Stakeholder Forum to be convened at appropriate times to provide information and comment as the plan develops.

This document sets out the Constitution for the Elected Members Forum and the Officers Steering Group.

1. Objectives and Remit - Elected Members Forum (EMF)

- 1.1 To ratify the overall scope of the SMP.
- 1.2 To ratify the stakeholder strategy and the key stakeholder representation.
- 1.3 To agree the issues to be dealt with by the SMP.
- 1.4 To agree the priority of the issues.
- 1.5 To agree the objectives for the SMP.
- 1.6 To agree draft proposals from the Contractor.
- 1.7 To agree the activities of the Steering Group.
- 1.8 To agree the policies to be contained within the draft SMP.
- 1.9 To seek ratification of the SMP policies from their respective authorities.

2. Objectives and Remit – Officers Steering Group

- 2.1 To provide Client expertise in deciding the scope and extent of the SMP.
- 2.2 To agree the proposals of the consultant before their submission to the EMF.
- 2.3 To convene meetings of the Elected Members Forum and Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF).
- 2.4 To provide the secretariat and support for the Elected Members Forum.
- 2.5 To report back to their respective authorities.
- 2.6 To direct consultation with stakeholders.
- 2.7 To oversee the public consultation exercise.
- 2.8 To provide listing of initial consultee's to Contractor.
- 2.9 To seek ratification of SMP policies through the Elected Members Forum.

3. Membership of Elected Members Forum

- 3.1 Each local authority having responsibility for any length of shoreline within the defined plan areas will nominate one elected member to represent it on the EMF.

- 3.2 The Southern Region Flood Defence Committee of the Environment Agency will nominate a member to represent them on the EMF.
- 3.3 Kent County Council will nominate a member to represent them on the EMF.
- 3.4 The membership of the EMF may co-opt additional elected members from time to time by agreement.
- 3.5 Members of the EMF may nominate a substitute to attend in their place if they are unable to attend a meeting

4. Management of the Elected Members Forum

- 4.1 The Forum will elect a Chairperson from amongst its membership. Replacement of the Chairperson will similarly be as the result of a majority vote.
- 4.2 A Deputy Chairperson may be nominated in case of non-availability of the Chairperson.
- 4.2 Officers from the lead authority for the production of the SMPs (Canterbury City Council and the Environment Agency) will provide the secretariat for the Forum.

5. Meetings of the Elected Members Forum

- 5.1 At the first meeting of the Forum members will agree the stages of SMP production when they wish to meet. The secretariat will then propose provisional dates for those meetings. Each agenda will conclude with a confirmation or amendment of the date, time and venue of the next meeting.
- 5.2 All the business of the meeting will be recorded in the minutes and shall normally be a matter of public record. In accordance with normal confidentiality requirements of public authorities the Chairperson may declare a matter "confidential" with the reasons being set out in the minutes.
- 5.3 Agendas for each meeting will be sent out at least five working days in advance of each meeting. Minutes of each meeting will be available within ten working days of each meeting.
- 5.4 The Chairperson will agree with the EMF Secretariat the need for the Contractor to attend any particular meeting.

6. Decision making process

- 6.1 Matters to be agreed by the EMF will be presented to its meeting by relevant officers with a clear recommendation of the matters to be decided.
- 6.2 Decision-making will be, where possible, by consensus. Where this is unattainable a majority vote will secure the decision. Each authority in attendance at the meeting will have one vote. In the event of a tie the Chairperson will have a casting vote in their own right (i.e. a vote in addition to that which they lodged as a representative of their own authority).
- 6.3 The Chairperson may decide to defer a vote if an authority has been unable to be represented at a relevant meeting.
- 6.4 Matters of conflict during the plan preparation will be resolved by officers within the Steering group. Where this has not proved possible the matter of dispute will be presented to the EMF supported by the relevant arguments. The process outlined in 6.2 above will again be used to determine the matter.
- 6.5 All decisions made by the EMF will be recorded in the minutes together with supporting reasons for the decision outcome. The minutes will be a matter of public record.

6.6 It will be deemed that each representative, including any substitute, on the EMF has the authority to make decisions on behalf of their relevant authority in accordance with the objectives set out in section 1 above. In exceptional circumstances, the Chairperson may defer a decision to allow members to consult with colleagues.

6.7 The Lead Authorities will have a right of veto on any matter which directly affects their contractual relationship with the Contractor.

7. Funding

7.1 The cost of administering and supporting meetings of the EMF will be borne by the Lead Authorities who will recover the costs through the grant aiding mechanism.

7.2 All costs and expenses attributed to individual members of the EMF will be borne by their relevant authorities.

B4.5 MEMBERSHIP OF ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM

Title / Name / Surname	Job Title	Organisation
Cllr. Gerry Lewin	Elected Member Representative	Swale Borough Council
Cllr. Mike Patterson	Elected Member Representative	Canterbury City Council
Cllr. Nicholas Kenton	Elected Member Representative	Dover District Council
Cllr. Andrew Bowles	Elected Member Representative	Kent County Council
Cllr. John Kirby	Elected Member Representative	Thanet District Council
Cllr. Phil Filmer	Elected Member Representative	Medway Council
Cllr. Mike Harrison	Elected Member Representative	Regional Flood Defence Committee/KCC
Cllr. Matthew Balfour	Elected Member Representative	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

B4.6 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 1: AGENDA AND TIMETABLE**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY ESTUARY & SWALE****SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS****Elected Members Forum Meeting**

Monday 6th March, 2006, 6.30pm, Board Room, Canterbury City Council Offices, Canterbury

AGENDA & TIMETABLE (with notes for Chair)

We have set the agenda against a timetable as there are quite a few items to get through in this first meeting. If we finish more quickly that's obviously fine, but it will be important that ample opportunity is afforded for comment on the draft issues (half an hour is allowed at present).

7:00 Welcome from South East Coastal Group (Steve McFarland, Canterbury CC)

Steve will open the meeting, giving a brief background to the SMP and the South East Coastal Group. He will then invite the attendees to briefly introduce themselves, for the benefit of all attending.

7:05 Introductions from EMF Representatives

Brief statement of who, what organisation, position (e.g. Portfolio holder), and interest in the coast.

7:15 Elect Chairperson

Cllr? of ? has nominated Cllr? of ? to act as Chairperson. To receive any other nominations. *Steve will ask Cllr? to confirm their nomination of Cllr ?, then ask if there are any other nominations. If none, then assume a quick show of hands from Elected members (i.e. not Officers, etc) to confirm – if others are nominated then will need a more formal vote. Once Cllr? has been confirmed as Chair it will be appropriate to ask if any of the delegates have anything else they want to discuss at the meeting, if there is an opportunity.*

7:20 Declaration of Interests

The Cabinet Member and any officers present should disclose personal or prejudicial interest/s in any item/s on this agenda. Anyone with a personal interest must describe and give details of the interest. Unless the personal interest amounts to a prejudicial interest, he/she may participate fully in the meeting.

A prejudicial interest is one that a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice a

member's judgement of the public interest. Anyone with a prejudicial interest must, unless an exception applies or a dispensation has been issued, withdraw from the meeting room.

7:25 Background to Shoreline Management Plans and Stakeholder Engagement

(Steve McFarland, Canterbury CC)

Presentation outlining the aims of the SMP, then the role of the Elected Members Forum and raising some points for the Delegates to discuss/agree. Final slide will present points for agreement

7:40 Agree Constitution/Terms of Reference of the EMF and Stakeholder Involvement Strategy

Opportunity to question study team on approach being taken, raise potential changes to the Constitution/ToR, and finally agree the approach taken. Show of hands to confirm agreement.

7:50 Issues facing future management of the coast (Adam Hosking, Halcrow Group)

Presentation briefly identifying key issues relating to shoreline management, focusing on the future impacts of climate change on coastal risks.

8:00 SMP Process and approach to issues identification (Adam Hosking, Halcrow Group)

Presentation briefly describing the SMP development process and timetable, then focusing on the approach to identifying the issues presented in the tables circulated ahead of the meeting. Stressing the importance of issues/objectives in policy definition.

8:15 Discussion and Agreement of Issues (as presented in circulated document)

Opportunity for Members to comment upon the draft issues presented in the document sent to them. It should be noted, that the issues tables already include comments provided by the project Steering Group and Key Stakeholders Forum.

It will be important that this discussion is kept at the level appropriate to the SMP (i.e. not embroiled in the detail of an individual house or seawall, but looking at the broader issues at each location that SMP policies should be looking to address). The previous presentation will stress the importance of considering issues at this 'strategic' level.

Once issues have been discussed, and agreement made to changes/additions, the intention is to get agreement to the issues. Again, a show of hands is probably best way.

If the Members feel they can't give agreement as the issues need a significant reworking, or they haven't had sufficient opportunity to review, then I think we need to set a deadline of the following Friday (17 March) for responses, with their agreement that the study team will make necessary changes based on their comments. This would be a last resort as we really don't want to incur a delay.

If little or no discussion is forthcoming (how this half hour will go is very difficult to pre-judge – it will probably depend on whether members have reviewed the document sent to them), we can move on to the next item more quickly, leaving time at the end to discuss any of the 'other' items raised previously by Members.

8:45 **'What next?' in the SMP (Adam Hosking)**

Brief presentation on taking issues forward to define and rank shoreline management objectives for the SMP.

8:50 **Any other business**

8:55 **Next Meeting** (provisionally set for Thursday 25th May 2006)

The study team has a significant amount of work to do now to identify the risks to features and the priorities of the objectives. Once this has been completed in draft it is intended to circulate to members ahead of a second meeting of the forum. A provisional meeting date of 25 May is set. Adam Hosking will update on this proposed date. May be 1st June if attendees would like documents 2 weeks in advance again (1 week if 25/05/06).

If we are ahead of time this will provide an opportunity to discuss any other items Members have raised.

9:00 **Close**

Thanks to all for giving up their evening to attend.

B4.7 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 1: MINUTES**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY ESTUARY & SWALE****SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS****Elected Members Forum Meeting**

Monday 6th March, 2006, 6.30pm, Board Room, Canterbury City Council Offices, Canterbury

MINUTES**Present:**

Adam Hosking (Halcrow Group)
Steve McFarland (CCC)
Christina Bell (CCC)
Cllr Mike Patterson (CCC)
Liz Holliday (KCC)
Cllr Roger Manning (KCC)
Cllr Mike Harrison (KCC/RFDC)
Cllr John Kirby (TDC)
Bernie Lambert (TDC)
Cllr John Wright (SBC)
Cllr Angela Prodger (Medway)

Apologies:

Cllr Nicholas Kenton (DDC)
Helen Dalton (EA)

1. Welcome from the South East Coastal Group

SMcF opened the meeting with a brief introduction to the Shoreline Management Plans (SMP's) and the South East Coastal Group (SECG).

2. Introductions from EMF Representatives

It was requested by SMCF that all attendees briefly introduce themselves with details of their organisation, and interest in the coastline for the benefit of all those attending the Forum.

SMCF delivered a presentation to the group explaining exactly what the SMP process involves and why it needs to take place.

- JK then questioned the level of input that the Elected Members will have in setting the policies derived from the SMP process. SMCF explained that Elected Members are involved in the plans to aid the process of setting the policies and strategies developed; therefore they will have a large stake in the process.
- RM and AP similarly commented that the plans should provide coastal managers with specific solutions and policies so that these can be readily implemented along the Open Coast (Isle of Grain to South Foreland) and Estuary (Medway and Swale) areas involved. SMCF

commented here that this was to be further explained in the latter part of the presentation.

- MH referred to the Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF) of which he attended at this point. It was suggested to the group that they should feel comforted by such high attendance and interest levels at this meeting from many important individuals/organisations, as they will help to define the real issues and subsequent solutions within the SMP process.
- SMCF noted here that it would be helpful for the Elected Members group if a full list of Key Stakeholders was to be issued to them for information and reference purposes. Action to be carried out by CB.
- AH answered general questions on Elected Member/Key Stakeholder Involvement within the plans, whilst a projector fault was dealt with.

3. Election of a Chairperson

MH was nominated by RM, for the reason that he has had much experience and involvement within Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management. All Elected Members agreed this motion.

MH was subsequently elected Chairman of the Elected Members Forums.

4. Declaration of Interests

None

5. Background to Shoreline Management Plans and Stakeholder Engagement

SMCF delivered the second half of presentation outlining the aims of the SMP, explaining the Management Model and roles of the Key Stakeholders/Elected Members Forums. The final slide presented points for agreement by the Elected Members

6. Agreement of Constitution/Terms of Reference of the EMF and Stakeholder Involvement Strategy

All agreed that this should be named 'Terms of Reference', and all were satisfied with terms utilised within it.

AP asked if plan would have any real 'teeth' to implement the policies. MH commented that Elected Members present have influence to have policies incorporated into their local plans, that is where the 'teeth' will come in.

7. Issues Facing Future Management of the Coast

Presentation delivered by AH, identifying Key Issues relating to Shoreline Management, including 2 main potential scenarios of; 'No active Intervention', and, 'With Present Management'. Future impact of climate change on coastal risks was also focused upon here.

- RM posed the question to AH as to whether the idea of the SMPs is to protect all residential property at all costs. AH responded by explaining that the defence of 'everything' in whatever asset form along the coastline is neither feasible nor possible for these plans. It is therefore the Role of the Issues tables (to be explained in later presentation by AH) to determine the Key areas of concern, and to identify possible alternative management policies with a long-term time frame in mind. Shoreline Management Plans promote the shift from coastal defence to coastal risk management; therefore making the public aware of the SMP process is of vital

importance for this reason as the objectives can be applied to local plans.

AH delivered latter part of presentation explaining Key Stages of the SMP development process, including possible policies to be adopted, workflow and the development/use of the Issues and Objectives Tables

8. Discussion and Agreement of Issues

Copies of the Issues Tables for both plans (in amended format after initial input from Steering Group and Key Stakeholders) were provided at the meeting. AH explained that the aim of this part of the Forum was to give Elected Members the opportunity to comment upon draft Issues and Objectives, with a view to keeping the level of discussion appropriate to the SMP (i.e. not highly local details at this stage). It was also explained that if the group felt that more time was needed to review the tables, a deadline could be set for this.

- MH requested that any amendments made after review should be clearly marked
- SMCF requested that feedback is given to the Elected Members individual technical officer at their local authority and then passed onto the consultant, all agreed to CB.
- JW enquired about the level of feedback required. AH responded that amendments should be made according to what is actually present along the coastline, and why these features are important. At this stage fine details are not required.
- RM noted that prioritising within the tables is important, but asked how this information will be utilised for the next stage of the SMP. AH responded with 'What Next?' presentation, details displayed below.

9. What Next? In the SMP

- AH delivered presentation explaining Issue and Objective identification and prioritisation, distinction between rural and urban issues, and lastly the conversion of issues to objectives and policy appraisal.
- LH requested deadline for feedback, SMCF suggested 20th March 2006, all agreed.

10. Any Other Business

MH asked if Project Team Members would be available to attend individual authorities Cabinet meetings to explain the process if required, all present said yes.

For information, KCC are holding their Local Board Meeting regarding water in Whitstable on the 28th April for anyone who wishes to attend.

Thames Gateway involvement to be investigated by CB.

11. Next Meeting

8th June 2006, 6.30pm in Boardroom, Canterbury City Council, Canterbury.

Refreshments will be available from 6pm

12. Close of Meeting

SMCF thanked all those present for attending.

- MH asked for every effort to be made by all to attend subsequent meetings, be it from the Elected Member themselves or a representative of their interests.

B4.8 LETTER TO EMF AHEAD OF ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 2**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY ESTUARY & SWALE****SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS**

30th May 2006

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR KENT - ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 2, 8TH JUNE 2006

Dear Elected Member,

The next Elected Members Forum for the Shoreline Management Plans for Kent will be held on Thursday 8th June 2006, at 6.30pm. Refreshments will be available from 6pm however.

The venue for the meeting is the Boardroom at the Canterbury City Council Offices. If you are travelling to Canterbury by car, please park in the new visitor's car park on Military Road. Then make your way to the front entrance of the building where a project team member will be waiting to show you to the Boardroom.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Briefing Note (including the agenda) for the meeting. A Summary note of the events of the second Key Stakeholders Forum has also been enclosed for your information, along with the revised Issues and Objectives Tables, to be reviewed at the meeting. Amendments to these tables have been highlighted in red.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your attendance to this meeting if you have not already done so to Christina Bell: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk or 01227 862575. Similarly, if you have any queries or questions regarding this meeting do not hesitate to make contact.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on 8th June

Yours Sincerely,

Steve McFarland

South East Coastal Group (Chair)

B4.9 ELECTED MEMBER FORUM 2: AGENDA AND TIMETABLE**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY ESTUARY AND SWALE SHORELINE
MANAGEMENT PLANS****Elected Members Forum Meeting 2**

Thursday 8th June 2006, 6 for 6.30pm, Boardroom, Canterbury City Council Offices, Canterbury

Agenda and Timetable

Paperwork needed for the meeting: Revised Issues Tables with Ranking, Key Stakeholders Forum 2 Summary Note, Briefing Note.

Refreshments will be available from 6pm

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Update the Elected Member Forum of the progress of the two projects
- Ensure that the forum is aware of the coastal changes and risks
- Ensure that 'people' focussed issues are well represented in the SMP development

6:30 Brief Welcome and Introductions (as a reminder)

6:40 Update on revision of Issues Tables (Rhian Jones) – including new columns added for Ranking and Comments from Steering Group and Key Stakeholders from second Forum. Any further comments regarding the amendment of the Issues Tables can be raised here.

6:50 Brief Presentation on events of Key Stakeholders Forum 2 and the key issues arising from the workshop (Christina Bell)

7:00 Discussion of areas of stakeholder agreement & conflict This part of the meeting will be focussed on highlighting some of the areas of the coastline that are likely to change along with the risks and benefits associated with such change. The EMF will be encouraged to take an active part in highlighting any key issues along their individual frontage that the KSF has not already addressed.

7:45 Presentation on what happens at the next stage of the plans (Simon Herrington)

7:55 Any Other Business Coastal Adaptation Project

Date of Next Meeting

8:00 Close Thank you to all for giving up their evening to attend.

B4.10 ELECTED MEMBER FORUM 2: LETTER SUPPORTING BRIEFING NOTE

Dear Cllr

Please find attached the Minutes from the Elected Members Meeting for the Shoreline Management Plans for Kent, held on 6th June 2006.

As discussed at the meeting, it would be much appreciated if you could pass on your comments regarding the revised Issues and Objectives Tables to your Local Authority Officer, within the next 2 weeks.

Please note that further developments regarding the SMP, and the date and details of the next Elected Members Meeting will be sent to you as soon as they have been finalised.

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact Christina Bell either via e mail: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk , or alternatively by telephone: 01227 862575.

Kind Regards

Steve McFarland

B4.11 ELECTED MEMBER FORUM 2: BRIEFING NOTE (22ND APRIL 2004)

Venue: Boardroom, Canterbury City Council, Canterbury

Date Held: 8th June 2006

Present:

Cllr Mike Patterson (Canterbury City Council), Cllr Mike Harrison (Regional Flood Defence Committee/Kent County Council), Cllr John Wright (Swale Borough Council), Cllr Roger Manning (Kent County Council), Cllr John Kirby (Thanet District Council), Cllr Nicholas Kenton (Dover District Council), Roger Walton (Dover District Council), Liz Holliday (Kent County Council), Bernie Lambert (Thanet District Council), Ian Lewis (Swale Borough Council), Mark Smith (Environment Agency), Helen Dalton (Environment Agency), Steve McFarland (Canterbury City Council), Christina Bell (Canterbury City Council), Simon Herrington (Herrington Consulting), Rhian Jones (Halcrow Group)

Apologies: None

1. Welcome from the South East Coastal Group

Cllr Mike Patterson opened the meeting with a welcome to the members of the forum and an introduction to the current recognition of the importance of Shoreline Management Plans.

2. Introductions from EMF Representatives

It was requested by MP that all attendees briefly introduce themselves with details of their organisation for the benefit of all those attending the Forum.

3. Update on revision of Issues Tables

Rhian Jones delivered a presentation to the group updating them on the work undertaken for the revision of the Issues and Objectives tables. This included an explanation of the new columns added for Ranking of the Objectives, which will ultimately guide the Policy direction. Members of the Forum were invited to suggest specific changes to the tables, which will be incorporated into the revision of the Tables. Additional comments are to be forwarded to Christina Bell, and then passed onto Halcrow.

Cllr John Wright recommended clarification that the Saxon Shore way around Barksore marshes deviates from the defence line out of the coastal plain in this location.

Cllr John Kirby detailed that Thanet DC/ National Trust investigations have confirmed that some Pegwell Bay defences contain contaminated material and that the investigations concluded that the best option of management is that the material remains in situ.

Cllr Mike Harrison recommended that the tables include reference to Whitstable as it currently isn't covered.

Ian Lewis recommended that the A249 Road Bridge to Sheppey be considered for 11 ranking rather than 12.

Action: RJ to update Issues and Objectives table in light of comments received during and after the meeting.

4. Presentation on events of Key Stakeholders Forum 2

Christina Bell delivered a presentation on the events of the Key Stakeholder Forum held on the 4th May 2006. There was a good representation of interest groups at the forum, however due to unforeseen circumstances the Infrastructures representative was unable to attend.

CB explained the activities of Breakout Session 1, which divided the KSF into groups of individuals with similar interests of disciplines. This resulted in each group providing a practical vision for the SMP coastlines over each of the three epochs (0-20 years, 20-50 years and 50-100 years). Breakout Session 2 divided the KSF into different groups of individuals, split by geographical area. Each group were asked to seek a level of agreement on key drivers/policy options than need to underpin scenario testing for specific sections of the coast.

The presentation explained the generic policy options as defined by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs namely; 'Hold the existing defence line', 'Advance the existing defence line', 'Managed realignment' and 'No Active intervention'. Steve McFarland highlighted the implications of no protection to the coast, particularly to beach sediments, and the long term implications of climate change.

5. Discussion of areas of stakeholder agreement & conflict

Steve McFarland and Mark Smith talked through the Policy Options suggested at the Key Stakeholders Forum as presented on a map of the SMPs. It was emphasised that at this stage, the policy options for specific sections of the coast were not finalised and further Policy Scenario Assessment will be undertaken, taking account of Coastal Processes and other technical influences.

Action: Elected Members to consult Officers on the key issues on their individual frontage that has not been addressed at the Key Stakeholder Forum. Comments to be forwarded to Christina Bell

Additional comments on the Policy Options will be sought from Elected Members once Scenario testing has taken place.

A brief discussion took place on the ranking of Environmental interests against each other. Action: RJ to provide additional information on Ranking of themes.

6. Next Stage of the plans

Simon Herrington explained the next Key Stages of the SMP development process, including possible policies to be adopted, workflow and the development/use of the Issues and Objectives Tables. SH explained that EMF3 will be a very important meeting as it is the last EMF for these SMPs. The preferred policies formed within the SMP production would be presented and considered in detail for

agreement / refinement

7. Any Other Business

Steve McFarland informed the group that there was a proposal to hold a Conference for Elected Members taking place in October 2006. This will inform Elected Members and others on current projects/initiatives occurring on the coastline.

Cllr Mike Harrison recommended the use of Kent life for articles.

8. Next Meeting

Date and venue of the next meeting are to be confirmed by Christina Bell. Liz Holliday suggested that the next meeting should be longer in order for more detailed discussions to take place. It was suggested that it would be beneficial for Council Officers to attend, and a representative from English Nature be present.

9. Close of Meeting

MH thanked all those present for attending.

B4.12 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 3: AGENDA 12/01/2007

Location: Guildhall, Canterbury

Chair: Cllr Mike Harrison (RFDC)

Start: 9.30am

Introduction and previous minutes (Cllr Harrison) 10 mins

Update Presentation (Mark Smith-Environment Agency) 20 mins

Introduction to the day, review of the work done on the SMPs to date and set out the mechanics of the 3rd meeting of the forum (agreement to public consultation on policies).

Unit by Unit discussion of preferred policies (Halcrow - 1 hour, 45 mins)

Unit by Unit justification and discussion of the preferred SMP policies - this will include reference to the outputs of Key Stakeholders Forum 3.

11:45-12:00 BREAK

Unit by Unit discussion of preferred policies (Halcrow - 1 hour)

Unit by Unit justification and discussion of the preferred SMP policies where the policy was deemed acceptable by the Key Stakeholders at Forum 3.

Outstanding Issues Session (Halcrow & Chair - 20 mins)

An opportunity to capture any additional feedback from the SMP policy discussions.

Future Consultation (Halcrow & Mark Smith - 20mins)

Discussion of future public consultation – best methods, local communication networks, venues.

Next Steps in SMP and Future Meeting Needs (Halcrow & Mark Smith - 10mins)

Outline next stages of SMP, Elected Member's Responsibilities and determine future meeting needs.

AOB & DONM (10mins)

14:00: CLOSE

B4.13 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 3: MINUTES

Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan

Elected Members form 3

Venue: Guildhall, Canterbury

Date Held: 12th January 2007

Present:

Cllr Mike Harrison (RFDC/Kent County Council), Helen Dalton (Environment Agency), Liz Holliday (Kent County Council), Cllr Gerry Lewin (Swale Borough Council), Ian Lewis (Swale Borough Council), Bryan Geake (Medway Council), Hannah Gribben (Environment Agency), Ingrid Chudleigh (Natural England), Dave Rogers (Natural England), Nigel Pontee (Halcrow Project Manager), Sam Box (Halcrow), Andrea Richmond (Halcrow), Mark Smith (Environment Agency), Steve McFarland (Canterbury City Council), Christina Bell (Canterbury City Council)

Apologies:

Cllr Matthew Balfour (Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council), Cllr Andrew Bowles (Kent County Council), Brian McCutcheon (Medway Council), Cllr Filmer (Medway Council)

1. Introduction

Cllr Harrison opened the meeting with a brief introduction. It was requested by Cllr Harrison that all attendees briefly introduce themselves and their organisation for the benefit of all those attending the Forum.

It was agreed by all to omit item 4 from the agenda.

2. Update Presentation

MS delivered a presentation to the group explaining what an SMP is and where it fits in the hierarchy of strategic coastal defence plans. MS explained the aim of the meeting and the role of Elected Members in the SMP process. MS then gave an overview of the 4 generic SMP policies.

3. Unit by Unit discussion on the preferred policies

Proposed policies for future management of this shoreline have been derived from a series of analysis. Proposed policies were previously presented to the Client Steering Group, a technical group of local experts, who with their site specific knowledge refined the proposed policies to preferred policy options. The preferred policies were recently presented to a group of representative stakeholders, namely organizations with an interest in the coast (KSF 3 – 8th January 2007). Their feedback on the preferred policies has been incorporated and these along with the preferred policies were presented to the Elected Members over a two day forum (11th-12th January 2007). This meeting covers the

individual units and corresponding preferred policies for the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 (from the Isle of Grain to Shell Ness) and the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP.

NP presented the individual management units and corresponding policies, highlighting the justification for each policy and any comments / objections made by the Key Stakeholders at KSF 3.

Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2

4b 06 – Leysdown-on-Sea to Shell Ness (MR/MR/MR)

NP explained the feedback from Key Stakeholder Forum 3 (KSF3).

NP explained how issues such as the recording of archaeological artefacts is not in the remit of the SMP although such tasks can be recommended actions made for relevant authorities/ future strategies.

NP stated that the slide showed the hypothetical maximum extent of a realignment in this location.

Cllr Lewin questioned how MR would be described in the SMP document and which MR extent is used to estimate costs? As the SMP document will be used by others to substantiate funding in the future, the description of MR should not be simplistic, and the MR extent used should be clear, e.g. the maximum MR extent, in the policy unit statement and supporting mapping.

Cllr Harrison agreed that MR extents should be made clear in the SMP document.

MS added that MR extents are only a 'guestimate' at SMP level, costing for exact MR extents are not in the remit of SMP's, however an assessment of economic viability is in the limits of the SMP.

NP pointed out that MR along this frontage (for both this SMP and the Shell Ness to Sayes Court frontage in the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP) would mean that properties at Shell Ness would not be protected.

4b 05 – Warden Point to Leysdown-on-Sea (HTL/HTL/MR)

Cllr Harrison questioned whether it is possible to include an overarching statement in the document covering the generic issues raised by the Agricultural, Rights of Way and Archaeological representatives at KSF3 with respect to managed realignment.

AR confirmed that statements to this affect could be added into the main document and supporting Appendices.

Liz Holliday commented that as the new sea defences in Warden Bay have been given the go ahead, the SMP would need to recognise this. Halcrow will take these defences into consideration when drafting the policy unit statements. IL confirmed that these defences will be compatible with the policies in units either side.

4b 04 – Minster Slopes to Warden Point (NAI/NAI/NAI)

Cllr Lewin noted that this area is partly a SSSI and therefore the cliffs are allowed to erode naturally, which causes problems for walkers.

Cllr Harrison requested on behalf of the Elected Members a list of all the environmental designations within the study areas (covered by both SMPs) on a unit by unit basis (Halcrow to action).

4b 03 – Minster Town (HTL/HTL/HTL)

Cllr Harrison questioned whether the boundary has been moved so the undefended section is included in the previous unit.

AR confirmed that the boundary had been moved for this reason.

4b 02 – Garrison Point to Minster (HTL/HTL/HTL)

Cllr Lewin asked for clarification that the shingle bank at Minster is included in this unit.

NP and AR confirmed that it was.

Liz Holliday noted that the Medway Ports consultation regarding the site at Garrison Point could potentially be Advance the Line which could cause implications in this area. KCC agreed to inform the contractors of the SMP policies in this area.

4b 01 – All Hallows-on-Sea to Grain (HTL/MR/MR)

Cllr Lewin queried the purpose of the shading on the map in the presentation.

NP explained that it represented the largest possible extent of MR, however this line is not fixed and that the MR extent will be refined and defined at Strategy level.

Cllr Harrison asked if a MR this large would be undertaken by a natural realignment or a breach in the defences?

NP suggested that without the details, it would most likely be the latter, where new realigned defences would be constructed first before a breach was made in the current defences. NP and AR highlighted that the MR would take place at any point within the 2nd Epoch, however it would take time to come to fruition.

IL questioned how TE2100 policies would affect the Swale and Medway estuaries, e.g. a new Thames Barrier. IL went on to explain that an experimental closure of the Barrier last year caused a considerable increase in water levels in the Medway. NP explained that at this stage different options are still being considered in TE2100 and therefore have not been specifically tested in the SMP's. IL expressed his concern regarding channelisation in the Thames Estuary and the resulting implications for the Medway and Swale estuaries. MS reiterated that we are working closely with the TE2100 team to ensure consistency and that TE2100 had made a statement that they were not looking at changing the Thames Barrier for at least another 30 years.

Cllr Harrison recommended that future Thames Barrier relocations consider integrating a 3rd Thames crossing

On behalf of their cabinet, the Elected Members have agreed the above preferred policies to take to public consultation.

Medway Estuary and Swale SMP

E4 29 – Rushenden to Sheerness (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments

E4 28 – Kingsferry Bridge to Rushenden (HTL/MR/MR)

Cllr Lewin noted that a large regeneration project is proposed in this area. Cllr Lewin questioned how internationally important habitats are managed with MR, as there has already been a compensation scheme for loss of habitat in this area when the second crossing to Sheppey was built.

HD questioned the sustainability of MR in this area as the original defence position would be a shorter length than a realigned defence.

NP explained that if the realigned position went to high land a defence would not necessarily be needed, also although SMP economics are crude, they should flag up a potential for any cost saving.

Cllr Lewin commented that there are navigation rights along the Swale through to the Medway. The sharp bend remains self dredging if the channel is kept at the same width therefore there may be navigation issues if the channel is widened in this location. MR may limit water movement, may reduce flows and increase siltation therefore impacts of MR will need to be assessed.

NP accepted Cllr Lewin's comments agreeing that impacts would have to be investigated before MR was implemented.

E4 27 – North Elmley Island to Kingsferry Bridge (HTL/MR/MR)

Cllr Lewin noted that MR would result in significant habitat impacts in this area.

DR reiterated that habitat loss will require habitat compensation, as these are large areas that may potentially be lost, this will be an issue.

E4 26 – Sayes Court to North Elmley Island (MR/MR/MR)

NP explained that the map on the presentation represented the largest extent / maximum MR. As the MR extent goes to high land in many places the defence length may be shorter, but this will result in a massive loss of land. It may be more sustainable therefore in reality to realign in smaller areas.

Cllr Lewin made comment on how MR will affect tidal flows in the Swale and reiterated the potential for increased siltation. Cllr Lewin also suggested that the Drainage Board should be consulted as pumps may be required instead of sluices in the new defences. This will also apply to the south of the Swale.

NP reassured the Members that any MR would be subject to detailed study and modelling before any schemes would go ahead.

Cllr Lewin again highlighted the internationally designated freshwater habitat.

NP and MS explained that the dotted lines on the map are just an illustration of possible MR positions to give a more realistic / sustainable line of change and that in reality the MR line may be able to use existing secondary defences.

IC noted that saltmarsh in this area, which is also internationally designated, is also eroding, which would benefit from MR.

DR added that re-creation of freshwater habitats is possible in this location which could provide compensatory habitat for losses elsewhere on Sheppey, so this also needs to be taken into consideration.

LH stressed that when the plan is put out to consultation the MR extents should be illustrated carefully. Maybe it would be useful to go back to the NFU and discuss acceptable MR extents.

MS added that It is likely that the maximum extents could be excessive in some locations and need to be balanced so as not to unduly worry people affected.

NP suggested that the visual presentation of MR on maps for use in the public consultation and in the plan should be discussed during item 5 on the agenda.

E4 25 – Shell Ness to Sayes Court (MR/MR/MR)

Cllr Lewin noted the value of the internationally designated freshwater habitat.

LH confirmed with Cllr Lewin that his comment is not an objection, but recognition that there may be problems associated with compensatory habitat.

DR reassured the Councillor that much of this habitat is owned by Natural England and so Habitat's Regulations would be adhered to regarding habitat compensation.

MS added that the Appropriate Assessment, which comes under the Habitat's Regulations, will help manage habitat issues. A balanced assessment will be required to ensure Habitat integrity on both sides of defences.

IL noted the effect a large scale MR would have on sediment accretion and tidal flows in the Swale.

NP reassured the Members that they would be taken into consideration. Some analysis has already taken place in the SMP but this will be followed up in more detail at Strategy level.

Cllr Harrison questioned the volumes of water associated with MR in the Swale.

NP explained that marshes were originally reclaimed at MHWS levels and so are now slightly lower. MR in these locations would therefore mean that habitat would not always be inundated on every tide. Over time new channels would form. Large scale MR in the outer estuary could however raise water levels in the inner estuary. Therefore any MR scheme would require hydrodynamic modelling.

E4 24 – Faversham to Nagden (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 23 – Murston Pits to Faversham (HTL/ MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

Cllr Harison reiterated the need for careful presentation of maps regarding extents of MR.

Cllr Lewin noted the adverse effects MR could cause on designated habitats and the estuary system, e.g. Tenge Flats are ground nesting sites, and effects on siltation and drainage.

E4 22 – Milton Creek (HTL/HTL/HTL)

Cllr Lewin noted that the Creek has historic navigation rights and that there are plans to put in a new road crossing to the north.

IL added that the southern end of the creek is subject to a large regeneration scheme.

E4 21 – Kingsferry Bridge to Milton Creek (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 20 – Chetney Marshes (MR/MR/MR)

NP explained that in some areas of Chetney Marshes the lengths of defences could be shortened, however if MR took place over the whole area the pylons would require protection.

DR added that the power lines are buried from the tip of Chetney Marshes across the estuary.

Cllr Lewin noted that the marshes contain European designated freshwater habitats.

Cllr Lewin also commented that Deadmans Island is consecrated land where many bodies are buried and that there are substantial volumes of bird species on the marshes. Any loss of habitat would require compensatory habitat creation elsewhere. Guidance would be required concerning the loss of this large area of importance and therefore is tending toward raising an objection in this location.

IC agreed that the freshwater grazing is important, but the intertidal is internationally designated and is therefore equally important. Before any freshwater habitat is lost compensatory habitat would have to be in place. Therefore if none is found MR would not take place.

MS reiterated that the MR extent shown on the presentation is essentially the worse case scenario. In reality the extent will be determined by additional studies which may be staged over time. A smaller MR may balance the losses and gains and be a more economical line of defence.

Cllr Harrison made note that an area of Chetney Marshes is already compensatory habitat for the A249 road crossing to Sheppey.

DR added that Chetney was chosen as compensatory habitat for the A249 under Habitat's Regulations, therefore the site supports just about the correct bird numbers. Creation of habitat is not difficult but the question is whether it will support the bird and invertebrate species.

The Highways Agency is currently paying for monitoring here.

LH questioned whether Cllr Lewin's potential objection still stands assuming MR does not affect large amounts of freshwater habitat?

Cllr Lewin withdrew the potential objection but requested that his comments be noted.

E4 19 – Funton to Raspberry Hill (NAI/NAI/NAI)

Cllr Lewin commented that it is important that the road be retained as a commercial route (i.e. to the brickworks), therefore loss will put commercial assets at risk, and as a place to view the estuary, however defending it may not be the answer. The road is also used as a 'rat-run' and needs to be retained as is (it floods approximately 4-8 times a year) for safety reasons.

NP noted that this frontage is NAI at present.

IL and LH commented that the Highways Agency has been informed of the proposed policy of NAI and have been asked for comments, but are still awaiting their comments.

Cllr Harrison added that this is a Highways issue and made note that in the light that no comments have been received from the Highways Agency the Elected Members will recommend that the policy of NAI be put forward for public consultation in this location.

LH requests an estimate as to when the road will be lost, with regards to erosion (also Thanet).

E4 18 – Barksore Marshes (MR/NAI/NAI)

Cllr Lewin commented on the fact that the western side of the marshes are privately defended by the landowner and that the northern section was used historically as a dredging disposal site.

Cllr Harrison added that the private defences were illegal.

MS noted that the Environment Agency manages the defences in some of this area. The dredging disposal site now represents high ground at the northern tip of the marshes.

E4 17 – East of Upchurch to east Lower Halstow (MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

NP explained the concept of MR with localised HTL to the Members.

Cllr Harrison suggested that Management Units 17, 16 and 15 should be discussed in one go and questioned whether flooding in unit 15 would encroach into unit 16?

MS assured the Councillor that highland in unit 16 would not be affected by flooding in the adjacent unit.

Cllr Lewin highlighted that the boundary between units 16 and 17 is also a boundary between Parish Councils and that some properties, located right on the NAI line, are subject to overtopping at present. There are also houseboats in the area and wharfage at Ham Green which could potentially present a problem.

E4 16 – Ham Green to East of Upchurch (NAI/NAI/NAI)

Cllr Lewin noted that in some areas defences are missing already and others are in variable states of repair.

MS added that the current Environment Agency policy along this frontage is reactive and that HTL may not be economically viable in the future.

HG noted that more information was requested regarding erosion rates along this frontage at the KSF 3 meeting.

Members have requested the quantity of potential properties that may be lost through erosion.

E4 15 – Motney Hill to Ham Green (MR with localised HTL/ MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

DR commented on the importance of habitat in this area. Part of the frontage is designated as a SSSI/SPA/Ramsar while the tip is not designated. A large compensatory habitat area will be required if this habitat is lost.

MS reiterated that the MR extent shown is only for illustrative purposes.

Cllr Harrison clarified that the only objection raised at KSF 3 was from the NFU.

Cllr Harrison expressed concern over illustrating such large areas of realignment on the maps and suggested showing the 'most likely' extent.

DR questioned whether the eastern tip of Motney Hill has been considered for realignment?

MS recognised that this area could be considered as a potential MR site and that more detailed lines may be added later.

E4 14 – The Strand to West Motney Hill (HTL/MR/MR)

Cllr Harrison made note that this frontage is under the jurisdiction of Medway Council. As no Medway Councillors (or Tonbridge and Malling representatives) are present at this meeting, an additional meeting will be required with Medway Councillors and Tonbridge and Malling Councillors to brief them on the policies along their representative frontages and the outcomes of the Forum.

LH questioned whether MR would include the loss of the visitor centre and Country Park as it is a huge recreation resource.

MS reassured the Members that the economic analysis would be key to the realignment position and that any interest feature would be managed.

Cllr Lewin and BG suggested possible objections from Medway Councillors due to this area being identified as an important recreation buffer area for the urban areas of the Medway Towns.

MS again added that MR will allow for flexibility where the line will be fixed by the assets protected, in reality MR there may only take place at Horrid Hill.

Cllr Harrison noted that the land is important in this area so any change needs to be looked at carefully.

It is noted that comments from Medway Councillors need to be taken into account at a further meeting.

E4 13 – St Mary's Island to The Strand (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 12 – Medway Bridge to West St Mary's Island (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 11 – Wouldham Marshes (MR/MR/MR)

Cllr Lewin commented that the new link adjacent to the M2 will need to be shown on the maps.

LH asked for clarification regarding the thinking behind the pockets of MR along the Medway and highlighted the opportunities to amend the policy unit boundaries if required.

MS explained that with increases in sea level rise and increased storminess the estuary will become more constrained and will be put under increased pressure. It will only be justifiable to have shorter lengths of defences in the long term therefore areas of MR will be necessary where the estuary is overly narrow at present. In the long term there will be large areas of rural land where HTL is not justifiable.

NP added that small MR sections have been indicated on the presentation on meanders. The impacts of MR on water levels and flows in the estuary will however need to be modelled and studied to assess potential benefits, before any MR takes place.

Cllr Harrison asked whether flooding was experienced in this area in 2001?

MS noted that possibly Halling and Holborough experienced flooding in 2001 and added that with climate change the situation will become more aggressive with the current defence alignment.

Cllr Lewin made note that the Medway channel west of the Medway Bridge is a navigable channel.

E4 10 – Allington Lock to North Wouldham (HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

Cllr Harrison commented that MR in the locations in the presentation would mean whole bends disappearing at HW but would remain at LW.

NP explained that MR in these locations would mean a shorter defence length, however the net impact of multiple realignments along this section of the Medway needs to be investigated with further study.

DR noted that the Holborough to Burham Marshes SSSI covers management units 8, 9 and 10.

MS reassured the meeting that any interest features will be managed under a MR policy.

LH suggested that it may be more appropriate to split the Management Unit into two along this frontage, i.e. northern section – MR with localised HTL and south section – HTL with localised MR.

MS suggested that this can be discussed at the next CSG meeting.

E4 09 – Snodland to Allington Lock (HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

NP welcomed the Member's views on the policy title 'MR with localised HTL'.

Cllr Harrison suggested that the title needs more clarification and the use of it should be consistent across the whole SMP.

MS explained that the choice of wording was discussed in great detail at the CSG 5 meeting and was chosen as the best way of getting the correct message across.

E4 08 – North Halling to Snodland (MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

Members agreed to the policies subject to defining the locations of localised HTL.

IC noted that unlike the adjoining units the policy for Epoch 1 is also MR with localised HTL as a MR scheme at Halling already exists.

E4 07 – Medway Bridge to North Halling (HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

NP explained that potentially only a small area along this frontage is suitable for MR, and therefore welcomed any comments on use of the policy title 'MR with localised HTL' for this location.

MS explained that the choice of wording was discussed in great detail at the CSG 5 meeting and was chosen as the best way of getting the correct message across.

E4 06 – Lower Upnor to Medway Bridge (HTL/HTL/HTL)

Cllr Lewin questioned whether it was possible to close off Whitewall Creek (barge wrecks located in the creek) to save on defence costs?

BG noted that Whitewall Creek is important for Tentacle Lagoon Worms.

E4 05 – Hoo Marina to Lower Upnor (NAI/NAI/NAI)

No comments.

E4 04 – Power Station to Cockham Wood (MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

BG noted that there is an onshore sand and gravel extraction operation and wetland restoration scheme in the vicinity of east Hoo St Werburg.

E4 03 – Kingsnorth Power Station (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 02 – Colemouth Creek to Bee Ness Jetty (MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL/MR with localised HTL)

Cllr Lewin noted that the estuarine area is a breeding ground for Bass.

NP added that MR can be beneficial to fisheries also.

E4 01 – North Grain to Colemouth Creek (HTL/HTL/HTL)

No comments.

E4 30 – Medway Islands (NAI with monitoring/NAI with monitoring/NAI with monitoring)

MS noted that there will be an issue of Medway Ports managing bunds around the islands they use for dredging disposal with a policy of NAI.

Cllr Lewin commented that Hoo Ness Island is a dredging disposal site and that the islands north of Horrid Hill are owned by the RSPB. These are important for their flora and fauna and will eventually disappear.

HD made note of current monitoring in the area which should keep an eye on what is happening to the islands.

MS added that the Medway estuary is accreting as a whole; however there is erosion in some locations which will influence the management of the heritage assets and disposal sites.

Cllr Lewin also commented that recreational users of the estuary should also be taken into consideration.

LH questioned the use of 'with monitoring' with the NAI policy in this location as monitoring should happen anyway with a policy of NAI. If it is only mentioned in this management unit it looks like this area is more important than the other NAI frontages.

MS explained that due to the number of uncertainties regarding the islands in the future the KSF and CSG requested adding 'with monitoring'. However to keep the SMP consistent and clear the policy should just read NAI.

Cllr Harrison concluded that the SMP's will be used hugely and therefore the comments made are vital in the completion of the plans.

On behalf of their cabinet, the Elected Members present agreed to proceed to public consultation with the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP policies as they stand, subject to providing the further information on E416. Feedback from the Medway and Tonbridge and Malling Councillors debriefing will be addressed if critical.

Cllr Harrison invited any Members present to attend this meeting if they wished.

4. Outstanding Issues Session

There were no outstanding issues raised.

5. Future Consultation

MS outlined potential mediums / methods for public consultation:

- Publish Plan on SE Coastal Group website
- Make hard copies available at local libraries, Council offices & EA offices
- Local Authority Publications and websites
- Press releases in local newspapers

- Hold local meetings to peruse the plan and discuss policies (5 or 6 locations around the SMP area)
- Other interest group websites highlighted at KSF 3

MS invited comments from Members.

IL suggested the need for a formal press briefing to help get the right message across, otherwise MR could be sensationalised where there are potential for large extents of MR.

Cllr Harrison added that it will be essential that the press are informed of these meetings that are taking place with Key Stakeholders and Elected Members, no detail should be given at present, just that the plans will be going to consultation. (To be actioned by CCC and EA).

Cllr Harrison informed the meeting that the SMP's will not be able to go to public consultation until the local elections have taken place at the beginning of May 2007. Therefore the 12 weeks of consultation should begin from the second week of May 2007.

6. Next Steps in SMP and Future Meeting Needs

MS highlighted the need for a further CSG meeting to formally discuss methods of public consultation.

Cllr Harrison called a meeting to discuss the draft document with Elected Members and Officers, which is provisionally scheduled for the 12th March 2007.

Councils will be able to formally respond to the plans during public consultation. After which the EMF will discuss the results of the consultation and formally adopt the plans.

7. Any Other Business

No other business.

8. Next Meeting

12th March 2007 (venue and date to be confirmed).

9. Close of Meeting

Cllr Harrison thanked all those present for attending.

B4.14 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 4: MINUTES**Shoreline Management Plans for Kent****ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND/MEDWAY ESTUARY AND SWALE****MEETING AT SWALE COUNCIL****24th October 2007****Attendees:**

Cllr Harrison (Regional Flood Defence Committee)

Cllr Bowles (Kent County Council)

Cllr Lewin (Swale Borough Council)

Ingrid Chudleigh (Natural England)

Elizabeth Holliday (Kent County Council)

Philippa Harrison (Environment Agency)

Ian Lewis (Swale Borough Council)

Mark Smith (Environment Agency)

Steve McFarland (SM) (Canterbury City Council)

1. Introductions/Apologies

Introduction and welcome to the meeting from Cllr Harrison. Primary aim of the meeting was to discuss the consultation feedback and agree the recommended responses and any changes to the policies put forward by the client steering group. The meeting covered general comments on the SMP and those specific to the Swale Council frontage.

2. Consultation

MS gave a presentation giving a brief overview of the comments received during public consultation, with regards to 'response themes'. These issues were as recorded in the consultation response documents as circulated ahead of the meeting. SM remarked that the major issues arising from the responses were related to 4 topics.

Loss of Agricultural Land

Loss of designated freshwater marshes

Compensation and blight for those with property in the "shaded" realignment zones

The effectiveness of the consultation process

Cllr Harrison asked whether CPRE had previously been involved in the process and what contributions they had made given their detailed response to the consultation at this stage.

Cllrs Harrison and Lewin requested clarification on how we would respond to queries relating to future responsibilities and standards of protection of defences. (SMF ACTION) MS explained that the response would be under the generic 'Defences' section of the consultation report and would state

that the SMP does not define these issues and only sets coastal management policy. The consultation report will explain that this feedback will feed into the action plan to set the scope for future works.

MS explained the CSG agreement to provide separate responses to the consultation feedback provided by SE Coastal Group Members. Areas of lessons learned will be fed back to Defra for future updates of the SMP procedural guidance and coastal management planning structure.

Contentious Areas

Faversham Creek to Seasalter – Policy Unit 4a 07

SM provided an overview of the issues along the frontage and explained that around 50% of all consultation responses to the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP related to this frontage. A public meeting was held, attended by approximately 130 people and a petition has been signed by 1400 people.

SM had explained to the CSG that there now appears to be a strong case for considering the east and west sections of this unit separately:

East (between the Blue Anchor and the Sportsman) a strip of coastal properties and caravan parks along the side of Faversham Road, to the rear of which are internationally designated marshes.

West (between the Sportsman and Faversham Creek) a seawall protecting mainly productive agricultural land with local and national conservation designations.

The consultant had re-assessed the objective assessment for both the east and western frontages. The results for the west were very similar to the original assessment where MR and HTL met / partially met most objectives. The results for the east showed HTL meeting most objectives in all 3 epochs. However it was noted that with the majority of properties being sited on the seaward side of the defences it would be difficult to defend these assets under the sea level rise projections for the third epoch. The more detailed economics carried out by Canterbury City Council supported this. The CSG agreed to:

split the frontage into two sub-units (division point is at the Sportsman Pub);
keep the policies the same for the western unit (HTL/MR/MR) but add that there are opportunities for MR, for habitat creation, in the first epoch subject to further studies;
Change the policies for the eastern unit to (HTL/HTL/MR) and note that the recommended policy for the 2nd and 3rd epochs is kept under review.

These changes were supported by those present at the meeting

Further studies will be required to investigate realignment and habitat creation along this sub-unit, as well as, and in combination with other areas along the Swale frontage. Reference to these studies should be included in both the Isle of Grain to south Foreland Action Plan and Estuary Action Plan. It was noted that there was currently no strong push to create intertidal habitat in the Swale Estuary vicinity and that the seawall was in reasonable condition and serviceable for a number of years.

Southern shoreline of the Isle of Sheppey - Policy Units E4 25, 26 and 27

MS gave an overview of the concerns and objections raised during public consultation:

Concern over the extents of MR shown;
Concern of MR over internationally designated habitat;
Concern over the reality of finding compensatory habitat;
Loss of large expanses of agricultural land is unacceptable; and,
Questionable justification of MR in short to medium term, no ecological or economic justification.

MS reiterated that the extents shown are only indicative (actual extents are not defined at this stage) and the details of any realignment will therefore be assessed in further studies. These studies will also need to look at the implications of MR throughout the Swale to inform people and the Environment Agency and to feed into FRMS. The CFMP will identify areas for habitat creation. The CHaMP will investigate gains and losses of habitat. The Action Plan will identify the further studies and monitoring required.

IL noted that despite targeted letters and a local meeting, there have been no responses from residents at Shell Ness. All agreed that sufficient effort had been made to consult.

Elizabeth Holiday suggested that it should be made clear on each map and policy statement that the managed realignment positions were indicative only. (HALCROW ACTION)

The Client Steering Group recommendation was accepted by those present.

Other comments

The NFU letter and Defra's response was discussed. Cllr Bowles asked for details of those who represented NFU and ADA on Defra's national flood and coastal defence stakeholder forum (SMF ACTION).

3. Action Plans

MS gave an introduction to the Action Plans, explaining their purpose as a Resourced Programme of Works to Implement the SMP and describing the range of information contained within the Plans.

The client steering group will be commenting on the action plans in November and updated copies would be passed to all elected member representatives in December.

4. Press/ Publicity

Cllr Harrision and SMcF discussed an article nearing publication in the Whitstable times.

SMcF has been invited to present at a CPRE Climate Change & Impact on Local Communities conference. All agreed that any presentation should be SMP generic and not field any queries on local SMPs. (SMF ACTION)

5. Agree Action Plans

MS highlighted that the Action Plan is a key part of the commitment the Elected Members make on behalf of their respective organisation. (ALL ACTION)

The process by which the SMP would be adopted by Local Authorities and others was discussed. Following a suggestion by Elisabeth Holliday it was agreed that a generic committee report would be prepared which each authority could adapt to their frontages. (MS / SMF ACTION)

6. Finalise & Disseminate SMPs

The action plans will be developed, the plan amended and the consultation response report publicised between November and December. (HALCROW ACTION)

EMF5 will be held in early January to agree the action plan and agree the route for each authority for adopting the SMPs. EMF5 to be scheduled asap. (HALCROW ACTION)

The final SMPs are scheduled to be presented to the EA Regional Flood Defence Committee in January. (Cllr HARRISON / MS ACTION)

Cllr in requested a hard copy of any further documents. (HALCROW ACTION)

7. AOB

Cllr Harrison clarified that, in concluding EMF4 with the representatives wishing to be present in attendance, the EMF are satisfied that the content of the plans are agreed and there should be no further major changes. (ALL ACTION)

B4.15 ELECTED MEMBERS FORUM 5: MINUTES**Shoreline Management Plans for Kent****Isle of Grain to South Foreland/Medway Estuary and Swale**

Elected Member's Forum 5

30th January 2008

Board Room, Canterbury City Council, Canterbury.

Attendees:

Chair: Cllr Mike Harrison (Kent CC/RFDC)
Cllr Andrew Bowles (Kent CC)
Liz Holiday (Kent CC)
Cllr Alistair Bruce (Thanet DC)
Mike Humber (Thanet DC)
Cllr Gerry Lewin (Swale BC)
Ian Lewis (Swale BC)
Cllr Mike Patterson (Canterbury CC)
Sarah Parker (Canterbury CC)
Cllr Nicholas Kenton (Dover DC)
Roger Walton (Dover DC)
Brian McCutcheon (Medway DC)
Cllr Brian Luker (Tonbridge and Malling BC)
Ingrid Chudleigh (Natural England)
Hannah Gribben (Environment Agency)
Mark Smith (Environment Agency)
Phillipa Harrison (Environment Agency)
Steve McFarland (Canterbury CC)
Nigel Pontee (Halcrow)
Sam Box (Halcrow)

Apologies:

Cllr Roger Latchford (Thanet DC)
Cllr Phil Filmer (Medway DC)
Bryan Geake (Medway DC)
Steve Medlock (Tonbridge & Malling BC)
Anne Thurston (Environment Agency)

1. Introductions/Apologies

The chair (MH) opened the meeting. Introductions were given by all attendees present. MH explained the aim of the meeting and gave a brief overview of the status of the SMPs to date.

2. Progress update

MS gave a brief introduction to the day and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to agree the Action Plans and how these actions should be delivered. MS explained how the Action Plans had been developed since the last EMF in conjunction with the Local Authority officers. MS went on to clarify that each Local Authority with a frontage within the SMP boundaries needs to adopt the plan before the final SMPs are ratified by the Environment Agency Regional Director (formerly the role of the Defra Regional Engineer).

MS gave an update on the status of the Consultation Reports. The Consultation Reports for both SMPs are drafted and ready to be uploaded onto the South East Coastal Group's website. Respondees will be informed when they are both on the website. SMF reiterated that each Local Authority should be familiar with the responses agreed by the steering group, recorded in the Consultation reports, which relate to their frontage, so they are prepared if further questions arise. SMF went on to say that the Consultation Reports would be re-circulated to Local Authorities if required, before they are uploaded onto the web.

MH requested that an updated Briefing document/ handbook be prepared to create a handbook for all officers and Elected members on the SMPs. (MS/ SB/ SMF)

MH asked whether the past weather has created anything unexpected along the SMP coastlines. MS & SMF replied that there had not.

3. Action Plan Approval

SMF explained that the SMPs set out recommended policies and the Action Plan sets out how these policies should be implemented. The Action Plan should be discussed at coastal group meetings and progress should be reported against each action. Each action is given a high (H), medium (M) or low (L) priority and some actions will need to be promoted by more than one Local Authority. Therefore it is important to decide who will do what.

SMF explained that the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP will be going to Canterbury Full Council in February 2008 to recommend that the Council approves all that is recommended in the Action Plan to tie in with council procedures. However, this timescale may not be achievable for all Local Authorities involved.

SMF went on to highlight and explain the main actions in the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP to the Elected Members, for their discussion and agreement:

Table 6.1 – Study Requirements

- The clash between preservation of freshwater habitats and the creation of intertidal habitat is a problem highlighted in both SMPs. Therefore a high priority action is to initiate a study to look at the balance of habitats and to inform appropriate places and extents of realignments. MS

explained that an Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken by the Environment Agency in conjunction with Natural England for the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP. On the Medway Estuary & Swale SMP, this has resulted in the removal of the 'Indicative Realignment Extents' and change in annotation (agreed with Client Steering Group) of the managed realignment policies (described later). The decision making in the appropriate assessment has been assured in consultation with Defra who are satisfied that the SMP policies will not cause adverse affect on habitats if further studies inform the future realignments. The Open Coast Appropriate Assessment is underway, learning lessons from this work done, and similar issues may arise. Text will be added to the action plans for both SMPs showing the link between the action and regional and national habitat programmes. (MS/SB)

- The development of a communications plan will tie in with the potential adaptation process. SMF went on to say that he had spoken with Jim Hutchinson (Defra) about this and that there is a report due to be published, as part of Defra Making Space for Water – 'Adaptation Tool Kit' project, which will include the consideration of compensation and adaptation measures for coastal communities. SMF and LH are also looking into funding sources for liaising with schools and developing websites etc. In the mean time, each Local Authority (LA) will need to look at who will be affected by the plans and how each LA will deal with affected people. MH suggested that a generic press release / information pack for LA's to use would be helpful.
- SMF highlighted the other study requirements identified in the Action Plan.

Table 6.2: Defence management, monitoring and study requirements by policy unit.

- Requirement for strategy reviews, details of works required and specific study and monitoring requirements are common to each policy unit.
- MH expressed his concern that no costs are included or whether the priority relates to the Environment Agency or engineering or where finance will be coming from. SMF explained that the priorities given are specific to the SMP and relate to time periods i.e. High = within the next 5 years, Medium = within the next 10 years and Low = within the next 20 years. The Action Plan itself is designed to only cover the next 20 year period. With regards to engineering and maintenance actions, actions where defences have a long residual life have been given a low priority. This does still mean that maintenance activities will still be undertaken. MS suggested a form of words to add to the tables to clarify that the SMP assumes all necessary maintenance is undertaken where defences exist (MS/SB). MP agreed that extra words would help in the case of Faversham Road, where there is already concern that protection to houses will not be maintained, so this would help clarify things.
- IL questioned how the Swale Strategy review would be undertaken, would it be joint between the Environment Agency and Local Authority? SMF clarified that where a LA is involved in a frontage then an agreement between the EA and LA will need to be made as to how the strategy will be funded and who will take the lead on the project.
- E4 04 - study requirements include an exit plan. The Defra erosion mapping project will help inform the situation along the north of the Isle of Sheppey. The LA need to understand what their responsibility is to the residents. IL explained that if NAI is already the policy then essentially

there is no responsibility for the LA to undertake further actions. SMF added that he will try and get some legal advice on these points as in other areas of the country some LA's were informing local people of their levels of risk with respect to flood and erosion risk. NP explained that the National Assessment of Coastal Erosion project will inform this.

- 4a 07A & B – SMF highlighted that people in this area still feel that the SMP is too narrow in scope and does not look at social wellbeing of residents affected. SMF went on to suggest that the strategy review should engage with these people right from the offset to involve them in the process from the start.
- 4a 14 – There is still a concern on the impact of a realignment in this location. The action plan therefore highlights that a detailed study is required before anything is progressed. Again the action plan needs to clarify that there will still be defence spending in the 1st epoch. MS additional words should cover this.
- 4a15 – A Coastal risk assessment is recommended to clarify issues where there are no defences around Thanet.
- 4b 20 & 21 – Consultation responses reflect that residents do not believe that the SMP responds to flood risk in the River Stour, they are worried that flooding will occur by the 'back door'. RW suggests that additional words need to be added to the Action Plan to explain how the SMP, CFMP and strategy all tie together (SB). NK explained that the Stour CFMP (2007) goes up to the sea and that this ties in with the Pegwell Bay Strategy which is due to be approved. MS added that the links between these projects is already explained in the consultation report. MS to send NK, RW and SMF the note explaining the links between the strategy, the CFMP and the SMP (MS). NK explained that there are concerns regarding flooding by the 'back door' at Cliffsend. MH added that the SMP recommends Hold the Line in that location and that the works in the action plan are a low priority which should be ok. RW the strategies need to be cross referenced in the Action Plan (SB).
- GL raised that question of where the issue of erosion is discussed in relation to a policy change from HTL to NAI along adjacent units (e.g. at Warden Bay)? SMF explained that these issues of transition between different policy units have been assessed generally in the SMP but the detail of how they are managed will be picked up and assessed in the strategy reviews. For example, at Warden Bay the programme of maintenance works at the site of the new revetment includes for managing the boundary between the rock defences and the eroding cliff.

MS highlighted and explained the main actions in the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP to the Elected Members, for their discussion and agreement:

Table 6.1: Study Requirements

- MS explained that study requirements are similar to those in the open coast Action Plan. The only addition is the assessment of erosion and flooding impacts between Aylesford and Rochester. MS also highlighted that following AA recommendations, the managed realignment extents on the policy unit maps have been changed. Managed realignment is shown by a line with arrows, indicating potential locations where a realignment could be implemented.

Table 6.2: Defence management, monitoring and study requirements by policy unit.

- E401 – IC explained that the only works taking place at Thamesport at present is the expansion of the jetty. BM added that Medway Ports are also undertaking channel deepening, and that relationships with the Thames Estuary 2100 project are still important. MS reiterated that the outcomes of the TE2100 project so far are consistent with the SMP recommendations.
- E404 – Residential Marine refers to the owner company of Hoo Marina.
- E416 & 19 – NAI is recommended therefore there is a need to engage with affected parties.
- E4 19 – add KCC Highway Authority to ‘actions to be promoted by’ (SB).
- E430 – Medway Islands, NAI is recommended therefore regular monitoring will be required.

SMF highlighted the actions identified in both SMPs for spatial planning.

Table 6.3: Actions for Spatial Planning

- 1 & 2 - SEERA and SEEDA should be informed of the SMPs. There may be opportunity for them to become members of the coastal group.
- MH and all other Elected Members requested a copy of the membership of the south east coastal group (SMF). SMF explained that Defra is looking at the future of coastal groups. At present Elected Members are outside of this group. Defra would like the coastal groups to become larger and more strategic. The South East Coastal Group would be amalgamated with the South Downs Coastal group to form a new coastal group. MH explained that there were worries that this approach will lead to more general agendas and additional travel for members leading to members becoming disinterested. Therefore it is suggested that SMP sub-groups are formed to progress the action plans. Questions still remain about the role of the Elected Members in this process. MH argued that this format will not work and will lead to regionalisation where individual districts will not be represented. AB added that local knowledge will be lost. LH mentioned that the Elected Members involved in the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP wrote to Defra to explain how well the process went. SMF and LH agreed to draft a letter for Cllr Harrison to Defra to state the feelings of the Elected Members regarding this point (SMF/LH).
- 3 - A presentation will be given to the Kent Planning Officers Group (KPOG). POST NOTE also KPPF where the planning officers themselves are more likely to be found.
- 5 - BM suggested that the inclusion of the SMP as a section or annex to the Local Development Framework documents is unrealistic. The text needs to be reworded in the Action Plan (SB). The words should therefore refer to the fact that the SMP will become part of the reference base to each local plan.
- 6 - ‘Policy risk zones’ should be replaced with the words ‘Strategic Flood Risk Assessment’ (SB). RW also indicated that we are duplicating what is written in PPG 25, so we should instead refer to PPG 25 in the action.

- 7 – This should be tied into adaptation.

MS highlighted the further actions identified in both SMP action plans.

Comments on Table 6.4: Further actions

- The Coastal Group represents all of the Local Authorities.
- Remove action 6 in the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Action Plan as it is already complete (SB).
- Action 10 – (IGSF action plan) & Action 9 (MES action plan) add the Environment Agency into the responsibility section (SB).
- BL Questioned why the interaction between flooding and water storage (i.e. between river and coastal flooding) on the floodplain is not specifically included in the action plan and no reference is made to development control. On the first point, MS explained that this is considered in CFMPs and that the local CFMP had been developed in close consultation with our teams. SMPs and CFMPs inform each other but there should also be a formal link between the two. PH agreed that there is always a boundary issue, however this issue should be made clear in the SMP (SB). SMF added that both SMPs need to be checked to ensure that there are specific comments in each policy unit where this applies, e.g. realignment over marsh areas and water courses. MS suggested that words were already in the Action Plan reflecting that coastal management should not affect flood storage (Table 6.1) and regarding development control (Table 6.3). All agreed the wording, the clarity of the development control references will be checked (SB/MS/SMF).

MH invited any other comments regarding the Action Plans. No further comments were put forward. The Elected Members therefore formally agreed to the amended Action Plans for both SMPs.

4. Approval of full final plan

SMF explained that it is important for each Local Authority to formally adopt the SMPs. Canterbury CC see it as a key decision and are therefore going to full council to adopt the plan on 21st February. Elected Members were asked for their timetables for LA adoption of the SMPs:

Thanet DC (Mike Humber) – cabinet on the 31st January 2008 and full council on the 28th February 2008.

Swale BC (Ian Lewis) – cabinet on the 19th of March 2008 and assuming a change in policy, full council on May 14th 2008.

Medway C (Brian McCutcheon) – will write a letter explaining that the SMP has been formally agreed and adopted by the council (BM). Any more formal approval requirements will be investigated and a programme confirmed if required.

Canterbury CC (Cllr Mike Patterson) – full council on 21st February 2008.

Tonbridge and Malling BC (Cllr Brian Luker) – planning committee on 25th February 2008 and council on the 2nd April 2008.

Dover DC (Roger Walton) – cabinet in March 2008 and full council in May 2008.

Kent CC (Cllr Andrew Bowles) – cabinet date to be confirmed.

Environment Agency –Regional Flood Defence Committee (RFDC) on the 9th April 2008.

Natural England – are ready to sign of the Medway Estuary and Swale SMP and will be ready to sign off the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP conditional on the Appropriate Assessment.

MS reiterated that the plans have been developed by the lead authorities (EA and CCC) on behalf of the south east coastal group. The ownership of the plans lies with the Local Authorities. Before Defra can approve the plans they have to be approved by the local Authorities. Medway will need to go through some kind of approval before going to Defra. A letter to that extent will be required to formally sign the plans off (BM).

Following SMP adoption by the LA's the SMPs will be sent to a national review group to check consistency and then to the Environment Agency Regional Director (formerly the role of the Defra Regional Engineer) for approval. The timescales for this are probably any time from late summer onwards.

5. Links with planning

Links with planning were discussed previously in the meeting.

BM reiterated that there would be a slot for a presentation to KPOG, potentially in March. Also it may be advantageous to give a presentation to the Kent Technical Officers (see group above also) association to feed to engineering staff. BM to arrange and confirm as agenda items for these groups (BM).

6. AOB

The Elected Members raised concerns over the regionalisation of the coastal groups as their role is very important and the groups are already a significant size to administrate. All EMs agreed to back a letter to Defra to highlight their concerns. LH/SMF/MH to draft. MH to sign on behalf of the Elected Members Forum.

7. Close

MH thanked officers past and present for all their hard work and team effort. Officers and members have been given the opportunity to be involved throughout the SMP process. The Elected Members should assist Officers in moving the plans forward. MH questioned the requirement for another meeting in the Autumn to catch up on progress in order to keep everyone informed. SMF suggested that an SMP or coastal group meeting could be arranged to provide an update on the SMP adoption process. All agreed that a meeting should be arranged for the Autumn, potentially as part of a coastal group meeting to be updated on the SMPs and other wider coastal issues. South East Coastal group officers to lead (All coastal group officers).

Author: Sam Box

Copy: All invitees

B5 Key Stakeholders Materials

B5.1 INTRODUCTION

Below are a series of documents that were issued to the Key Stakeholders prior to each of the forums and the minutes that were circulated thereafter.

B5.2 INVITATION LETTER TO KSF1

South East Coastal Group,

C/o Military Road, Canterbury

Kent, CT1 1YW

www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

22nd December 2005

Dear

Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan
Key Stakeholders Forum

Further to our letter to you, dated 27th October 2005, we are pleased to confirm that the first meeting of the Key Stakeholders Forum for the above Shoreline Management Plans will take place from 9.30am to 1pm on Wednesday 8th February 2006 at the Guildhall in Canterbury. Please find enclosed a location map and a full list of the members of the forum.

The Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review and the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan are strategic coastal flood and erosion plans for the north and east coasts of Kent. They will set out a policy framework for future management of the coastline and will have significant implications for current and future land use and the natural and built environment. Policy options available for management of flood and erosion risks comprise Hold the Line, Managed Realignment, No Active Intervention or Advance the Line.

As a member of the Key Stakeholders Forum you will have the opportunity to debate and develop the plans and, in particular, comment on how the objectives and policies meet your needs and those of the organisations and interests you represent.

It is programmed that the Key Stakeholders Forum will meet three times during the development of the Shoreline Management Plans. The first meeting is a joint meeting for both plans. For the second and third meetings it may be appropriate to have separate meetings for each plan in order to consider the information in appropriate detail.

Draft flood and erosion risk management objectives for each section of coast will be sent to you for review closer to the meeting date. We then intend to discuss these during the meeting.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your attendance at the first meeting of the Key Stakeholders Forum. Responses can be sent via email to: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk , or by telephone: Direct Dial 01227 862575.

Alternatively, any questions or queries can be sent by post to the: South East Coastal Group, c/o Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.

We look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you at the first Forum in February 2006.

Yours Sincerely

S. McFarland

B5.3 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 1: AGENDA**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY ESTUARY AND SWALE****SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLANS****Key Stakeholders Meeting**

Wednesday 8th February 2006, 9:30am, Guildhall, Canterbury, Kent

AGENDA**1. Welcome from South East Coastal Group (Steve McFarland, Canterbury City Council)**

Welcome from Chairman, with brief background to the SMP and the South East Coastal Group.

2. Introductions from KSF Representatives (Attendees)

A brief statement of who, what organisation, position and why interested in coast; for the benefit of all attending.

3. Background to Shoreline Management Plans (Adam Hosking, Halcrow)

Presentation outlining the aims and approach to development of the SMPs and the key drivers in setting shoreline management policies.

4. SMP Stakeholder Involvement Strategy (Christina Bell, Canterbury City Council)

Presentation outlining the role of the Key Stakeholders Forum and the other groups to be involved in the development of the plans.

5. Approach to Issue and Objective Identification (Philippa Harrison, Halcrow)

Presentation briefly identifying how the study team has gone about identifying the Issues/Objectives presented in the tables circulated to attendees ahead of the meeting. Explanation of the importance of the objectives in policy selection.

6. Break Out Session

Attendees will break into groups to consider the flood and erosion risk management issues. This will be informed by the draft issues tables, but will focus upon what the stakeholders consider to be important to the future management of the coast. Attendees will be divided into groups based upon a combination of geographical areas (e. g Medway Estuary) and Interests (e. g nature conservation and fisheries)

7. Feedback from Groups and Discussion

Feedback on the Issues identified by each group and discussion of areas of potential conflict and agreement arising.

8. 'What Next' in the SMP? (Adam Hosking, Halcrow)

Presentation on how the Issues/Objectives will be taken forward to appraise their importance and ultimately to define shoreline management policies. Also details of proposed future involvement of the Key Stakeholders

9. Next Meeting**10. Any Other Business****11. Close**

B5.4 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 1: MINUTES

MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY AND IGSF OPEN COAST SMPs		
KEY STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM: 8/2/06		
GROUP 1		
Group Members	Adam Hosking (AH) Mark Smith (MS) Claire Munday (CM) Ingrid Chudleigh (IC) Alison Giacomeli (AG) Bryony Chapman (BC) Harry Moulard (HM) David Thorpe (DT)	Halcrow Environment Agency (EA) Environment Agency Natural England (NE) RSPB Kent Wildlife Trust National Farmers Union (NFU) Kent Wildfowlers Association.
Question 1	<p>For the features currently listed in the draft Issues and Objectives Tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are they described correctly? - Are the issues, benefits and beneficiaries correctly identified? - Has an appropriate objective been set? <p>Initially OK but would like more time to assess – will respond individually within 2 weeks</p>	
Question 2	<p>Are there any features that have been missed? If so, please add them to the table or list here.</p> <p>HM (50yrs) & DT (5yrs) have observed vertical erosion of islands, mainly within the Medway, but coastal wide through natural estuary processes. Beneficial reuse of dredging has been discussed at length with respective authorities and NE.</p> <p>Surge effect of Thames Barrier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Opportunities for used N. Kent coast for lower standard of protection areas (flood storage). – Effect on defences – Differing water levels being worked to <p>BP/ Medway LPA proposal for wind farm around Allhallows</p> <p>Yantlett creek near Allhallows is a potential realignment site from IC's (NE) perspective.</p>	

	<p>Elmley Marshes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - potential intertidal habitat opportunities - compensation (freshwater) opportunity towards east around Harty marshes (arable reversion) - Elmley is v. important for birds - Freshwater compensation should be in sustainable locations not defended tidal floodplains. <p>Graveney and Pegwell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Realignment opportunity IC (NE) – Offshore windfarm infrastructure has allowed for realignment within defended floodplain (location of stations & protection of cables) – <p>Managed realignment opportunity at Reculver to Minnis Bay (NE)</p> <p>North Sheppey cliffs should have no defences – RSPB/ EN/ KWT</p> <p>Intertidal wave cut platforms (SAC) around the Isle of Thanet should be recognised and protected.</p> <p>Faversham Oyster Fishery should be a stakeholder.</p>
<p>Question 3</p>	<p>What do your group consider to be the most important features and issues for future management of the shoreline?</p> <p>There should be NO net loss of either inter-tidal or freshwater designated sites (net area). All freshwater loss will require like for like compensation in local sustainable locations – all</p> <p>Any inter-tidal habitat creation should include appropriate compensation for landowners & leased users. (HM & DT). Agri-environment schemes seem to have provided a good mechanism for this in Essex (HM) although landowners would prefer direct compensation such as in road/ rail schemes (comp. Purchase)</p> <p>Freshwater habitat creation for compensation will be required in advance of any inter-tidal schemes to prepare for works – links to CFMP/ T2100 are very important</p> <p>General – links to CFMP/ T2100 are very important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - compensation land - tidal surge allowance - defence lowering for Thames/ upstream benefit - new Thames barrier effects & 100yr planning

Question 4	<p>Have you identified areas of agreement and conflict between objectives, if so what are these?</p> <p>Yantlett creek realignment opportunity and current (power stations etc.) and proposed (Windfarm) infrastructure.</p>
<p>MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY AND IGSF OPEN COAST SMPs</p> <p>KEY STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM: 8/2/06</p> <p>GROUP 2</p>	
Group Members	Andrew Bowles, Iain Murell, Helen Dalton, Graham Birch, Mike McKeown
Introduction	<p>Suggest spend 30 minutes on questions 1 and 2. You are provided with copies of the draft Issues and Objectives Tables for both plans, which can be marked up with comments. Suggest spend at least 30 minutes on questions 3 and 4. Please continue on separate sheets as necessary. You will be asked to feedback on these questions.</p>
Question 1	<p>For the features currently listed in the draft Issues and Objectives Tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are they described correctly? - Are the issues, benefits and beneficiaries correctly identified? - Has an appropriate objective been set? <p>This will be checked and comments fed back by the 15th</p>
Question 2	<p>Are there any features that have been missed? If so, please add them to the table or list here.</p> <p>The following features arose in conversation, although they may already be on the table:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Stour freshwater system. Managed by the IDB, water levels are managed for abstraction. Consideration needs to be given to the impact of policy on the tidal sluices. • Outfalls, abstraction locations will be identified by Mike McKeown (Southern Water) and he will send through a GIS layer with all abstraction points etc. • Brackish water is a problem at Lidden Marshes. • LMIDB – there is a proposal for a new pumping station to be built at Kelmsey Marshes (just outside of the creek) due to increased infrastructure. • Mud accretion along the north bank of the Swale and at Queenborough the creeks are silting up. Andrew reported that the outfalls are becoming blocked and appear to be moving further from the shore with mudflat and saltmarsh accretion. • English-French power distribution line extends across the North Kent marshes. Refer EDF energy for more information. • Substation (proposed?) for London Array windfarm in Nagden Marshes, towards the back of Cleve Hill. This location is closest to the distribution line. • Another distribution line is proposed to run to Richborough (Sp?). This will

	<p>supply energy from the Kentish Flats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed barrage at Sandwich Bay.
Question 3	<p>What do your group consider to be the most important features and issues for future management of the shoreline?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to protect railways Infrastructure is required for economic growth, which is important for Thames Gateway and zones of changes. Because of these developments, transport routes are only going to be improved. Graham noted that the exception to this is the railway at Folkestone Warren. Milton Creek is a zone of change, although it is at risk of flooding. Kenuaf (cement factory/paper mills), is a huge employer in the area and the railway is also present here – this needs to be protected. Seasalter, Emley, Nagden and Or marshes are all important areas of green tourism and recreation. Burham marshes and Downs are freshwater marshes – potential conflict if wish to re-introduce saline water. With exception to the proposed pumping station noted above, the existing infrastructure will be used in conjunction with the Thames Gateway and Zones of Change.
Question 4	<p>Have you identified areas of agreement and conflict between objectives, if so what are these?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas of regeneration are located in the flood plain, which goes against the idea to create a more sustainable coastline. Conflict between enhancement of environment and the need for agricultural land. Loss of freshwater habitat vs. creation of inter-tidal habitat Railways are located in potential realignment areas. River Stour freshwater system: managed realignment of these areas will impact on the internal management of the freshwater system. Farmers also hold licences under the water act to manage the water flow, which are time limited. The length of the licenses (which extend to 2016-worth checking!) could impact on the timing of policy change. Should the licences be cut short, compensation would be required. Compensation would be required by the farmers for land lost due to realignment. Should infrastructure, such as sewerage works at Seasalter require relocation as part of the long-term plan, consideration should be given to the fact that the implementation of this would be dependent on approvals and the provision of funding. Railway embankments should not be confused with coastal defences. They are not built of sufficient materials to protect against flooding and erosion, so new embankments should be built. Embankments are also susceptible to instability as a result of rising groundwater, and oppositely land drainage, where settlement of the embankments will occur. Graham would like to see the railways protected since the costs of relocation are very expensive. Helen noted need to look at requirements for compensation at two levels, locally and also regionally, i.e. sites of potential realignment need to be identified for the purpose of the south coast as a region (as part of BAP habitats, and need to create 40ha per year). Need to ensure that the SMP does not conflict with the CFMP.

B5.5 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 2: INVITATION LETTER

South East Coastal Group,
C/o Military Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1YW
www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

26th April 2006

Dear

Medway & Swale Estuaries and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plans – Key Stakeholders Forum 2, 4th May 2006

I am writing to invite you to the second Key Stakeholders Forum for the Shoreline Management Plans for Kent, to be held on **Thursday 4th May 2006**.

Similar to the previous meeting, this Forum will be held at the **Guildhall in Canterbury** (location map enclosed), **commencing at 9.30am**. Refreshments will be available from 9am. Please note that it is advised to allow plenty of time for traffic congestion, as Canterbury experiences high levels at this time.

At this meeting, we intend to provide details of progress on the SMPs but also invite you to take part in 2 Group discussion sessions essential to the next stage of the development of the SMP. Details of these are all included in the enclosed agenda.

I have also enclosed copies of the revised and expanded Issues and Objectives Tables to be reviewed by you prior to the meeting. Copies of the original tables showing your feedback from the first Key Stakeholders Forum can also be viewed on the South East Coastal Group Website: www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk.

It would be much appreciated if you could confirm your attendance to this meeting either via e mail: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk, or alternatively by phone: 01227 862575. Similarly if you have any questions or queries regarding the Forum do not hesitate to contact Christina on 01227 862575 or myself on the number below.

I look forward to seeing you at the Forum on the 4th May

Kind Regards

Steve McFarland

Southeast Coastal Group Chair

B5.6 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 2: AGENDA**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN****Key Stakeholders Forum 2****4th May 2006****AGENDA****9.30am: Welcome****1. Introduction and presentation of the activities to date. (15mins)**

Introduction to the day and review of the role of the KSF. Summary of work undertaken to date and present position.

2. Presentation of the risks and baseline scenarios. (25 mins)

Overview of the extent of potential risk and illustration of how the coast would look under the two baseline cases: 'no active intervention', i.e. letting defences fail, and 'maintain present management', i.e. retaining all existing defences.

3. Breakout Session 1. (60 mins)

The KSF will be divided into groups of individuals with broadly similar interests or disciplines (e.g. nature conservation, property, commerce, etc). Each group will be asked to provide a practical vision for the SMP coastline for its given discipline over each of the three epochs, taking account of the information on defined issues and risks. Each group will also be asked to identify possible areas for compromise and establish how accepting of change they can be, especially when considering how the importance of issues might change over time.

4. Group discussion of conclusions from Breakout Session 1. (40 mins)

The conclusions of each group are to be fed back to the rest of the KSF. This will be followed by discussion on key points to see where we have a degree of consensus and where conflict exists between different groups.

12.00 – 12.45: LUNCH**5. Breakout Session 2. (60 mins)**

The KSF will be divided into different groups (nominally 5) of individuals, with a mix of interests/disciplines in each. Each group will focus upon a separate section of the coast. Groups will be asked to consider the different viewpoints from the morning session and seek a level of agreement on what should be the key drivers/policy options that need to underpin scenario testing for that area. Again consideration needs to be given to any potential change in the issues over time.

6. Group discussion of conclusions from Breakout Session 2. (40 mins)

The conclusions of each group are to be fed back to the rest of the KSF, highlighting areas of

agreement and conflict. This will be followed by discussion to give an opportunity to others outside that particular group to add further comment.

7. Summing up. (5 mins)

Discussion and summary of the main points arising from the day; areas of agreement and areas of conflict. We will not attempt to have resolution of all conflicts on the day – if necessary, subsequent meetings with the interested parties may be required.

2.30: CLOSE

B5.7 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 2: BRIEFING NOTE**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN****Key Stakeholders Forum 2****4th May 2006****Aim and Objectives of the Workshop****Aim of the workshop**

Future coastal defence policies for the North Kent shoreline need to be driven by the stakeholders: it is your Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). Therefore, the aim of the Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF) workshop on the 4th May 06 is to involve the stakeholders in the setting of future shoreline management policies by:

- developing an understanding of the issues and the risks;
- establishing an appreciation of each others' viewpoints;
- starting to develop a vision of the future of this shoreline.

The workshop will use the draft Issues and Objectives Table, previously sent to you by Christina Bell, which lists all issues identified within the SMP areas, the associated benefits, an objective for each benefit and a theme-specific rank for that objective.

This stage of decision-making is one more step in the development of the SMPs. The workshop will identify potential policies and ideals that could be developed into scenarios and tested; it should not be viewed as defining the final preferred policies themselves. These will be established through the testing process, reviewed against objectives and coastal processes, and then discussed at a subsequent KSF workshop (September/October 2006).

Workshop objectives

The objectives of the workshop are to establish:

- the vision(s) of the various stakeholders for the whole SMP shoreline over each epoch, i.e. the next 20 years, 50 years, and 100 plus years;
- any 'overriding drivers' for directing future policy and specific future policy options that the stakeholders wish to see tested;
- areas of agreement and conflict;
- potential scope for compromise and acceptance of future change.

In order to direct the development of future policy, the involvement of stakeholders is essential.

Introduction

This document summarises the key comments and conclusions from the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF) workshop held on 4th May 2006 at the Guildhall, Canterbury.

The aim of the KSF workshop was to involve the stakeholders of the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review, in the setting of future shoreline management policies through bringing together an understanding of the issues, the risks and an appreciation of each other's viewpoints.

Meeting Attendees

Name	Organisation	Breakout Session 1	Breakout Session 2
Adam Hosking	Halcrow	Env	4 & 5
Nigel Pontee	Halcrow	Eng	2 & 6
Emma Fisher	Halcrow	Eng	3
Andrea Richmond	Halcrow	Tour	1
Rhian Jones	Halcrow	Plan	4 & 5
Sam Box	Halcrow	Agri	2 & 6
Simon Herrington	Herrington Consultancy	Plan	1
Steve McFarland	Canterbury City Council	Agri	3
Christina Bell	Canterbury City Council		4 & 5
Mark Smith	Environment Agency	Infra	2 & 6
Anne Thurston	Environment Agency	Eng	3
Rebecca Smith	Environment Agency (CFMP)	Eng	2 & 6
Lisa Lennox	Environment Agency (FRM)	Eng	2 & 6
Nigel Pye	Environment Agency (TE2100)	Eng	3
Lorna Gustaffsen	Environment Agency (TE2100)	Plan	2 & 6
Hannah Gribben	Environment Agency	Env	1
Paula Wadsworth	Environment Agency	Env	3
Carol Pierce	Environment Agency	Env	1
Martin Tapp	Stour IDB	Eng	5
Colin Carr	Sandwich Port and Haven Commission	Plan	1
Colin Fitt	Thanet District Council	Plan	5
Ian Lewis	Swale Borough Council	Plan	3
Liz Holliday	Kent County Council	Env	1
Cllr Mike Harrison	Kent County Council	Plan	4
Ingrid Chudleigh	English Nature	Env	2 & 6

Bryony Chapman	Kent Wildlife Trust	Env	4
Richard Moyse	Kent Wildlife Trust	Env	2 & 6
Alison Giacomelli	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	Env	1
George Crozer	Friend of the North Kent Marshes	Env	3
Simon Ellis	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee	Agri	5
John Bayes	Seasalter Shellfish	Agri	4
David Thorpe	Kent Wildfowlers	Agri	4
Kevin Atwood	National Farmers Union	Agri	2 & 6
Tony Redsell	National Farmers Union	Agri	5
Michael Collins	Kent Ramblers	Tour	5
Tony Child	Thanet Coast Project	Tour	4
Jodie McGregor	MSEP	Tour	2 & 6
Bernie Lambert	Thanet District Council	Eng	
Absences			
Ian Murrell	Environment Agency (Water Resources)		
Howard Moore	Highways Agency		
Mike Mckeown	Southern Water		
Alex Homfray	Sport England		
Apologies			
Elaine Kirkaldi	Seasalter Shellfish		
Joss Wiggins	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee		
Mick Oliver	DEFRA Rural Development Service		
Sarah Parker	Canterbury City Council		
Pete Dowling	Stour IDB		
Maggie Morgan	National Trust		
Graham Birch	Network Rail		
Jo Anderson	SEEDA		
David Partridge	Power Stations (Kingsnorth and Isle of Grain)		
Lis Dyson	Kent County Council		
Adrian Fox	Dover District Council		
Stephen Fuller	Kent RIGS		
Cllr Andrew Bowles	RFDC		
Steve Kemp	Environment Agency		
Josh Peacock	Environment Agency		
Mike Watson	Upper and Lower Medway IDB		

Jo Scott	Pfizer Ltd		
Behdad Haratbar	Kent Highway Services		
Cllr Jim Cronk	Middle Deal and Sholden Coastal Cllr		
Dominic Evans	Ramsgate Port		
Gordon Harris	SEEDA		
Session 1: Eng = Engineering Plan = Planning, Property & Development Env = Environment Infra = Infrastructure Agri = Agriculture, Aquaculture & Wildfowling Tour = Tourism & Recreation		Session 2: 1 = Sandwich to South Foreland 2 = Outer Medway and Swale Estuaries 3 = Whitstable to Isle of Grain 4 = Faversham to Isle of Thanet 5 = Isle of Thanet to Sandwich 6 = Medway Estuary to Rochester and Medway Towns	

Outline of KSF Workshop Activities

Presentation by Halcrow

This outlined the role of the SMP and summarised activities to date. There was also an overview of the extent of potential risks and illustration of how the coast would look under the two baseline cases: 'No Active Intervention', i.e. letting defences fail, and 'with present management', i.e. retaining all existing forms of defences.

Breakout Session 1

The KSF was divided into six groups of individuals with broadly similar interests or disciplines (see table above). Each group were asked to provide a practical vision for the SMP coastlines over each of the three epochs (0-20 years, 20-50 years and 50-100 years), taking account of the information on defined issues and risks. The conclusions from each group were fed back to the rest of the KSF attendees and there was a brief discussion of the main points.

Breakout Session 2

The KSF was divided into different groups of individuals, split by geographical area. Each group was asked to consider the different viewpoints highlighted from the morning session and seek a level of agreement on what should be the key drivers/policy options that need to underpin scenario testing for specific sections of coast. The conclusions of each group were fed back to the rest of the KSF attendees, highlighting areas of agreement and conflict.

Summary of Conclusions from Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session 1

The policy options identified in breakout sessions 1 and 2 have been mutually agreed upon as those the KSF wish to see tested at the Policy Scenario Assessment stage. It should be noted however that during Policy Scenario Assessment, other influences such as process benefits or technical issues may

mean other options may also need to be tested.

Engineering

- Developments were identified; Thames Gateway housing at Allington, Large development by Medway Lanes and Peters Pit development. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) will pay for defences. Hold the Line is suitable for highly developed areas, including Medway Towns, north Sheppey, Sittingbourne, Faversham, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Margate and Deal.
- The power stations on the Isle of Grain and Kings North are important. Investment and development by ODPM at Sheerness, e.g. Kingsferry Bridge. However long term sustainability is questionable when protecting small amounts of houses.
- The group identified opportunities for realignment at Chetney, south Sheppey, south Swale and Graveney Marshes.
- Managed Realignment versus Hold the Line costs need to be weighed up at Thanet Way and the A299 road. Land is subsiding at this location so will need large amounts of fill to continue to Hold the Line. Will sea level rise reduce sand supply to Margate Hook sand bank, and consequently protection to the coast?
- The group asked if the beaches at Margate sands will continue to be replenished as sea levels rise (SLR)? Chalk wave cut platforms at Grenham Bay are lowering, this could increase in the future making Hold the Line a less economical option (depending on maintenance costs of defences in the 2nd epoch).
- At the Margate headland Southern Water provide their own protection to their pipe. The North Foreland Estate is currently unprotected therefore No Active Intervention would be suitable.
- Pegwell Bay to Deal No Active Intervention (Sandwich Bay Strategy, April 2007). Sewerage works and landfill are somewhat landwards. What is the barriers' impact on the Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP)? At Pegwell the sandbanks are still accreting, will this continue with SLR? North of Deal there is localised opportunities for Managed Realignment.
- There is recognition that maintenance of Thanet sea defences is expensive so there is scope for a potential change in policy in the long term, due to the beach.
- There is potential for Kings North and Grain Power Stations to be lost in the last epoch. However there are cables into the Isle of Grain, essential infrastructure and the land is potentially contaminated which needs to be taken into consideration when deciding on future management policies.
- High ground in the south of Isle of Grain: ODPM is considering development in this location as part of the Thames Gateway; however realignment to the east of this at Lower Stoke is a possibility as a future policy.

Planning, Property & Development

- The basic infrastructure needs to be maintained to the Isle of Thanet, i.e. roads including the Thanet Way dual carriageway and railway line, do not want to let it become an island. Transport links are important for education/work/tourism. Managed retreat at Seasalter marshes would mean inundation up to the main Thanet to London railway line. This line is not possible to relocate so would it be protected if with a Managed Realignment policy?
- Infrastructure to the Isle of Sheppey and the Isle of Grain are equally important. The railway/road bridge onto the Isle of Sheppey is the only link to the mainland. The road is effectively on a causeway from the bridge; how long will it act as a defence? Commercial infrastructure includes the Liquid natural gas terminal located on the Isle of Grain.

- What are the gains if the Wantsum channel was opened? The value of land lost should be balanced against the environmental habitats created as well as the costs of relocating infrastructure.
- At what risk is keeping the integrity of the towns? All coastal towns are important assets for their heritage, character and tourism. What is the future for development in these areas? It is recognised that there are smaller scattered villages on the floodplain, i.e. Wantsum Channel. There is an uncertainty regarding these flood risk areas therefore the worst case scenario should be considered. What is the link between development control and risk management plans?
- Ports – Ridham Port has a commercially active dock as has Whitstable. They employ a number of people and have been identified for huge regeneration. The development needs to be fit for purpose in 100 yr+ therefore Hold the Line is needed. Richborough Port has the potential to be re-opened in the future.
- Beaches - The sandy beach is important at Thanet. Will there be increased development along this coast due to tourism potential? Implications of caravan park developments/holiday chalets/commercial enterprises near the beach may potentially result in damage to the beach. Increased storminess and sea level rise will have to be taken into consideration when identifying policy.
- Commercial developments – include the liquid natural gas terminal at Grain and the Pfizer development.
- Areas of derelict/brown field land along the Sandwich corridor have been identified for future economic development and investment. New infrastructure would also need to be taken into consideration.
- Medway Towns areas – are highly developed areas commercial and residential. New and potential developments include Thames Gateway developments, Shellhaven and Rochester Riverside development which are currently having new defences installed.
- Margate is experiencing extensive development; however there is limited development potential on surrounding green field land.
- What will drive policy?
 - Thanets slowly eroding cliff line
 - Developments on top of cliffs
 - The road at Epple Bay is under threat
 - Areas that are undefended at present
 - Characteristics of towns, e.g. Whitstable
 - Sheerness is below sea level
 - Deal High Street is below sea level
 - Waste water treatment sites
 - Power stations/gas facilities and other commercial activities
 - The need to preserve developed areas
 - Cost

Environment

- All Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) are not included on the maps.
- RSPB - The key thing is for international sites to maintain the 'coherence' of the network. If habitat is lost then there has to be compensatory habitat in place before the losses are incurred. The extent of inter-tidal losses needs to be known to enable an informed decision to be made.
- Kent Wildlife Trust – The ultimate goal if no other issues are present is to remove defences and allow the coast to function naturally, but this is not feasible in reality. As well as looking at minimising loss, maximising gain should be as important. When considering realignment, it needs to be definite that habitats that will be lost will be compensated for.
- Environment Agency – There are large areas of the Isle of Sheppey which could be realigned, the issue here is that a large part of it is freshwater Special Protection Area (SPA) so will need to be compensated for. There is a possibility for realignment in low-lying areas/ intensive arable/grassland.
- It would be useful to have a worst case scenario for accretion rates, for example is loss of all saltmarsh possible in places?
- A study on water beetle communities has shown that communities varied between all locations, this will pose an issue for compensation. Wantsum and Romney Marsh may provide possible areas for compensation. Inland compensation sites will work for some features but not others. Functions and features will have to be looked at on an individual basis.
- Information on possible compensation areas needs to be investigated. Would this be done through Appropriate Assessment? How strategic would the assessment need to be? Is the criticality of species considered? Gains and losses need to be weighed-up, if 1ha is lost then it should be compensated with 2ha.
- A trial site for Managed Realignment would be useful to see if it works, and could examples from elsewhere be looked at? Possible realignment opportunities include Wantsum Channel, Cleave Hill, Yantlet Creek, and upstream of Rochester (SNCI Warden Marshes).
- Thanet chalk reef will be lost; therefore it is necessary that this habitat is not lost from other places that are undefended. However rollback of chalk grassland is acceptable.
- We need to accept that the next level (scheme implementation) policy options may change. However at this stage we need to try and agree the best policy option with the information we currently have.

Infrastructure

- No representatives were at the forum therefore infrastructure issues were discussed within other groups.

Agriculture, Aquaculture & Wildfowling

- Kent Wildfowling wanted it known that their land ownership was not mentioned in the issues and objectives table.
- Between Grain and Kings North Hold the Line policy is needed to protect agricultural land. Land is important for capital/farming value, Isle of Grain is important for vegetable production. The Medway is important for grazing.
- The soil type is also important along with the long term strategic value of land. In the long term food issues may be an issue. If there are shortages in other countries/areas then production will have to increase locally. The implications of this need to be considered when choosing policies.
- Shellfishery and wildfowling perspective is to remove defences to create breaches, encouraging recreation of saltmarsh habitats. Flooding will benefit the river by allowing it to find its natural

form. A small breach may create erosion problems in other areas therefore the complete removal of defences is recommended with a Managed Realignment policy.

- The Isle of Thanet/Wantsum Channel is an important fertile strip of land of high class quality and value (Grade 1). Arable farming is conducted in the north and fruit growing towards the south. This high quality land needs to be protected. 150-250 species of bird are found in this area. There has also been huge investment into this area which needs to be taken into account when deciding on policies.
- Looking at the wider perspective, when identifying land for retreat, unit value of the original area of land is important. Therefore, if a section of land is identified for realignment the unit value of the remaining land may be reduced further. There is therefore a wider impact than just the area immediately affected by retreat. There is a long recovery period when good land is temporarily flooded. Retreat should not contaminate reservoirs or streams.
- The oyster shellfishery at Recover is of national importance and is recognised as a research facility. This however could possibly be relocated.
- There is a varied emotional attachment to farming land; sometimes it is purely business with no emotional attachment but other times the land may be passed down from family to family and therefore has emotional attachments associated with it.
- Conflicts arise between agriculture and fishery view points and between the value of land verses the long term need.
- Low value agricultural land is identified between Pegwell Bay and Deal and at Graveney Marshes. Graveney Marshes is identified as a possible site for realignment as it would be the least damaging in this location.

Tourism & Recreation

- The Heritage Coast between South foreland and Kingsdown is actively eroding. Therefore 'No Active Intervention' policy was agreed, providing the Saxon Shore Way was re-routed. This option would help to preserve the landscape and retain public access to the coastline, but it may be in conflict with the landowner (of the golf course).
- 'Hold the Line' between Kingsdown and Deal to protect recreation assets and heritage sites such as castles, the town of Deal itself, the pier (used by anglers) and to maintain the beach (by beach recharge).
- Sandown Castle to Sandwich Bay Estate – The nationally/internationally important golf course is acknowledged but the group agreed there was potential for a 'No Active Intervention' policy, albeit with active erosion monitoring. If erosion became an issue, then the group suggested considering a managed retreat option – which would essentially involve recycling material. Under either scenario the Saxon Shore Way would be re-routed.
- Pegwell and Sandwich Bays 'No-Active Intervention' was suggested because this section of the coast contains Kent's largest National Nature Reserve (NNR), environmental designations, bird watching area, environmental centre as well as Cliffs End Eco-Hub.
- Ramsgate is regarded as an important tourist area, promoted by Kent Tourism association and Thanet District Council. The group would like to see a shift from a fully managed coastline to a coastline which has 'pockets' of unmanaged stretches – where there is potential.
- Ramsgate to Minnis Bay, the group suggested hold the line in the short term, as properties along this stretch of the coastline are deemed important assets in the short term. A balance between nature and tourism/property is needed / called for in the medium term, therefore the group suggested that a combination of Hold the Line and Managed Realignment (where there is

scope). The group felt that more information is required to propose a policy in the long term, due to the complex shoreline interactions i.e. sand is building up in Botany Bay and an erosion hot spot exists at Westgate-on-Sea.

- Minnis Bay to Herne bay, important tourism and recreation features: used as a cycle route/tourist attraction, Caravan Park, also has heritage aspects and a commercial oyster farm. Holds the Line suggested in the short term, maintaining the seawall, but research the feasibility of realignment in the medium/long term.
- Herne Bay to Whitstable, Hold the Line for all three epochs, was suggested, as the towns are important for tourism and property assets. However there may be realignment potential at Swalecliffe and Seasalter.
- Seasalter to Sittingbourne, house boats at Faversham noted as important feature (therefore hold in the short term) but the group felt that this area had potential for realignment in the medium to long term.
- Isle of Sheppey, nature tourism important on the south coast especially bird watching. Possible areas suitable for realignment include Emley Island and between Warden Point to Swanley farm, elsewhere Hold the Line due to property assets etc. The group noted that Twydall tourist centre is an important tourist hotspot for boats, walkers and cyclists therefore Hold the Line suitable.
- Isle of Grain - Hold the Line along with flood compartments – look for realignment options where possible.
- Upstream of Rochester, Hold the Line with opportunities for realignment/flood compartments in various locations.

Breakout Session 2

The policy options identified in breakout sessions 1 and 2 have been mutually agreed upon as those the KSF wish to see tested at the Policy Scenario Assessment stage. It should be noted however that during Policy Scenario Assessment, other influences such as process benefits or technical issues may mean other options may also need to be tested.

Isle of Grain to South Foreland

South Foreland to St Margaret's

(0 – 20 years) - **No active intervention**

(20 – 50 years) - **No active intervention**

(50 - 100 years) - **No active intervention**

St Margaret's

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line**

St Margaret's to Oldstairs Bay

(0 – 20 years) - **No active intervention**

Saxon Shore way is an important asset to the coastline in this area. Legislation is needed to ensure the recreation feature is maintained. No intervention should be the policy where the chalk and reefs are designated in the SAC.

(20 – 50 years) **No active intervention**

(50 - 100 years) **No active intervention**

Oldstairs Bay to Deal

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line/Managed realignment/no active intervention** should all be tested.

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/Managed realignment/no active intervention**

Deal

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Lydden Valley to Sandwich Bay Estate

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line/managed realignment** potential for saltmarsh creation under sea level rise. Compensation of habitat should be recognised in the SMP to account for no net loss of habitat.

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/managed realignment**

Sandwich Bay Estate to Pegwell Bay

(0 – 20 years) - **No active intervention/managed realignment/hold the line** should be tested although managed realignment is the preferred policy. Sand dunes are designated in this area and the coast is accreting. It is vital to maintain the infrastructure to Thanet, Deal and Herne Bay.

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line/managed realignment** potential for saltmarsh creation under sea level rise.

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/managed realignment**

The group also discussed:

- Habitat compensation, i.e. freshwater loss verses inter-tidal gain.
- What happens after the SMP time frame, i.e. if hold the line is kept at St Margarets, it will eventually form a promontory.
- Uncertainties regarding shoreline response to sea level rise and climate change.
- Key policy drivers: they need to be marked on a map so it can be seen how they affect management up and down drift.
- The recognition of the involvement and awareness of other strategy schemes, but to not let the

SMP be dictated by these.

Sandwich to Isle of Thanet

Pegwell Bay to Ramsgate (East cliff)

Ramsgate has extensive areas of important commercial/residential/tourism assets. A future advance the line option is potentially viable at Ramsgate Harbour.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Ramsgate (East cliff) to Dumpton Gap

Chalk cliffs and platforms are designated so need to be able to erode naturally.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 - 50 years) - **No Active Intervention**

(50 - 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Dumpton Gap to North Foreland (including Broadstairs)

Extensive areas of important commercial/residential/tourism assets.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line**

North Foreland to Cliftonville

Chalk cliffs and platforms are designated so need to be able to erode naturally.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 - 50 years) - **No Active Intervention**

(50 - 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Margate

Extensive areas of important commercial/residential/tourism assets. Chalk cliffs and platforms are designated so need to be able to erode naturally therefore no active intervention is applicable in these locations.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

Westgate on Sea to Birchington (Minnis Bay)

Areas have assets that need protection however, chalk cliffs and platforms are designated so need to be able to erode naturally therefore no active intervention is applicable in these locations.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention** - designated chalk cliffs

Minnis Bay to Reculver

Area consists of high value agricultural land. Seasalter Shellfish nursery is also important. The railway line extends the length of the unit, inland. A no active intervention/managed realignment policy would have to take into consideration the rail track, e.g. defence of the line, relocation etc.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) – **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Reculver

Residential properties therefore hold the line is needed.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Reculver to Bishopstone

Area designated as SSSI.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 - 50 years) - **No Active Intervention**

(50 - 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Beltinge

Minor protection is given by the mud/sand foreshore. No active intervention should be considered in certain places.

(0 – 20 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

(20 - 50 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

(50 - 100 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

Herne Bay

It is important to protect properties/assets close to the coastal frontage, although the town does not

depend on the seafront. Hampton has been identified as a potential site for managed realignment.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line /Managed Realignment at Hampton**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line/Managed Realignment at Hampton**

Studd Hill to Swalecliffe

Area of Swalecliffe is designated as an inter-tidal SPA, Ramsar and SSSI. Managed realignment where the caravans occupy land up to Studd Hill should be considered in the second epoch as the natural bay should be allowed to retreat.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) - **Managed Realignment**

Swalecliffe to Seasalter (Whitstable)

It is difficult to separate the two. The area has expensive properties, second homes, young families are moving into the area. The character of the town needs keeping, the beach is integral to this character, and therefore replenishment may be necessary in the future. Seasalter levels, extensive area of natural sand/mud is poor quality land but is designated as a European SPA. The inter-tidal area is important and therefore may need localised protection of the frontage. Infrastructure needs protection.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Whitstable to Isle of Grain

Whitstable to Faversham Creek – including Graveney Marshes (east), Cleve Marshes and Nagden Marshes.

No shore erosion along this shoreline, designated SPA although land is of low agricultural value. There are plans to create a park/nature reserve at Nagden Marshes, if this is the case there may be scope for managed realignment. Managed realignment will potentially provide huge environmental benefits. It is noted however that the railway line and high voltage cables cut across the marshes which may present problems with managed realignment.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Leysdown marshes (Isle of Sheppey)

Policy chosen will be dependent on policy decisions in the south of Sheppey. NAI/managed Realignment may open up the mouth of the Swale which could potentially have up estuary impacts, i.e. erosion.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line/No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line/ No Active Intervention/ Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line/ No Active Intervention/ Managed Realignment**

Leysdown on Sea

High economic value, i.e. holiday housing, business on higher ground, beaches high recreational value, however risk of rapid erosion in this area. Potential to realign in the third epoch.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line/ Managed Realignment**

Leysdown to Warden

A discrete flood area, possibility of earth bund inland with managed realignment which will environmentally enhance the area by increasing BAP species such as bees/voles/plants. Beach recharge may also be a possibility.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line/Managed Realignment**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line/ Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line/ Managed Realignment**

Warden

Consists of around 300+ properties. Opening up this area may allow flooding to the east (outflanking) therefore need to test both NAI and Hold the line policies at this location.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line/No Active Intervention**

Warden to Minster

Clay cliffs are geologically important. There may be potential for house relocation if no active intervention policy is adopted.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 – 50 years) - **No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Sheerness

Infrastructure and housing assets/investments around the town and docks. The shingle banks from Sheerness to Bartons Point are recharged every 2 years. High level land in this area although there may be a remote risk of 'back door' flooding.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Elfinstone Point to Grain

Power station at Grain, therefore it is important to defend this section.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the line**

Grain to All Hallows

Area identified for potential housing development and a potential new site for a new power station. The whole area is designated SPA. BAP habitat is quite achievable to relocate therefore there is potential for realignment. Includes the A228 road and pipeline to Heathrow and Gatwick.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line** will become more difficult to justify with time.

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the line/Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) – **Hold the line/Managed Realignment**

Outer Medway & Swale Estuaries and Medway Estuary to Rochester & Medway Towns

The group proposed the following policies to be tested:

Grain to Kingsnorth.

Middle Stoke Marshes is an accreting area therefore habitat is not a driver here. Important infrastructure, i.e road, gas pipes landward of saltmarsh is located in this section. Defences are not maintained at present therefore No Active Intervention needs to be looked at as an alternative policy in the 20-50 and 50-100 year epochs.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line/No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line/No Active Intervention**

Kingsnorth to Lower Upnor.

The area consists of villages and Kingsnorth Power Station.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Cockham Wood

The Ancient woodland is a SSSI and Cockham wood Fort is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). There is a No Active Intervention policy at present, however there is a possibility that English Heritage may wish to defend the Fort in the future.

(0 – 20 years) – **Do Nothing**

(20 – 50 years) - **Do Nothing**

(50 – 100 years) - **Do Nothing**

Upper Upnor/Rochester/Chatham/Gillingham Towns

These towns have important assets, property, businesses, infrastructure, docks etc, therefore Hold the Line is the only option to consider.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Rochester to North Halling

The shoreline is bordered by the railway line, the A228 road and housing, therefore Hold the Line is the chosen policy.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Halling Marshes

The marshes are owned by the Kent Wildfowlers, this area has potential for No Active Intervention and possible Managed Realignment.

(0 – 20 years) – **Do Nothing/Managed Realignment**

(20 – 50 years) - **Do Nothing/Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) - **Do Nothing/Managed Realignment**

Halling to Snodland

The Holborough Marshes SSSI is a UK BAP priority habitat and Kent Wildlife Trust reserve and extends along both sides of the river. Managed Realignment is a possibility in the long term subject to replacement of habitat locally.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Additional information **Laybourne Lakes Country Park** needs to be sought regarding this site before investigating policies to test. The railway line extends across the country park and property assets fringe the area. The park is designated as an SNCI local wildlife site. Abbey Mead Lake is part of the Holborough to Burham SSSI.

(0 – 20 years) – No policy decided for this frontage

(20 – 50 years) – No policy decided for this frontage

(50 – 100 years) – No policy decided for this frontage

New Hythe to Allington to Paper mill

It is important to Hold the Line due to infrastructure, business and property assets.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Paper Mill to Burham Court

The area consists of agricultural land and freshwater grazing marsh SNCI. Burham Marshes is a SSSI and UK BAP priority habitat.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 – 50 years) - **No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Wouldham Marshes

The land is low grade MOD land therefore No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment should be considered.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

(20 – 50 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Barkshore Marshes

Barkshore Marshes is a SSSI therefore there is a need to protect the habitat in the first and second epochs.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Chetney Marshes

Chetney Marshes is internationally designated as an SPA in part. It forms part of a compensation project for the construction of the A249. Intertidal habitats are UK BAP priority habitats. If potential replacement grazing marsh is identified, then there is potential for a No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment policy in the third epoch.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Kingsferry Bridge to Sittingbourne

Infrastructure and industry are located along this shoreline, i.e. Ridham Dock, paper mill etc.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Murston Pits to Faversham Creek

The area consists of Murston Pits, and coastal grazing marsh that is agriculturally managed to enhance the SSSI. Defences are justifiable in the short and medium terms to protect the habitat, however there is potential for No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment policies in the last epoch to allow time to find habitat compensation areas.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Shellness to Elmley Island

The land is low quality agricultural land and coastal grazing marsh (SSSI and SPA). There is potential for No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment policies in the last epoch to allow time to find habitat compensation areas.

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) – **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention/Managed Realignment**

Elmley Island

Elmley Island is a National Nature Reserve and RSPB reserve bordered by higher ground behind. It has been identified as a potential location for saltmarsh creation.

(0 – 20 years) – **Managed Realignment**

(20 – 50 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Elmley Island to Rushenden disposal site

(0 – 20 years) – **Hold the Line**

(20 – 50 years) - **Hold the Line**

(50 – 100 years) - **Hold the Line**

Rushenden disposal site to Sheerness

Land is relatively high at the disposal site therefore a No Active Intervention policy is possible.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(20 – 50 years) – **No Active Intervention**

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention**

Medway Islands

The islands are accreting but are in an unfavourable status. The island complex needs to be maintained as important bird breeding areas. Beneficial recharge from dredging to build up the islands may be a possibility as sea levels rise. Monitoring will help policy choice in the future.

(0 – 20 years) – **No Active Intervention** with monitoring

(20 – 50 years) – **No Active Intervention** with monitoring

(50 – 100 years) - **No Active Intervention** with monitoring

Each group presented their findings for potential policies along both the Medway and Swale estuaries and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland coastlines. There was a consensus of agreement by all stakeholders regarding the proposed policies to be tested.

A question regarding the involvement of the 'other' stakeholders was raised. Halcrow explained that following on from the recent pilot SMPs for North Norfolk, South Foreland to Beachy Head and South Downs, the approach taken on involving 'other stakeholders' was to incorporate their feedback into the Issues and Objectives table. Thereafter, the opinion of these 'other' stakeholders would be sought during the consultation period (which ran for 3 months during the pilot SMPs). It was proposed that comments provided during the consultation period would be put into a database, including details of

who the comment came from and the nature of the comment. It was suggested that invites to the third KSF, be sent out in good time as the invitations to the second KSF were sent out only a week before the meeting.

What Next?

Halcrow will complete the baseline studies (coastal processes, existing defences report, No Active Intervention and With Present Management), the issues and objectives tables and the SEA Environmental Baseline Report (Theme Review). The completion of these reports along with the discussion and outputs from both the Key Stakeholders and Elected Members Forum, determine the identification of Key Policy Drivers for each of the SMPs. Their identification is fundamental to the next stage; the definition of possible policy options and scenarios.

For each possible policy option and scenario, the shoreline interactions and responses will be reviewed and an assessment made against the issues and objectives.

A preferred scenario will then be defined and a broad economic review will be completed for those options. It should be noted that the economic review will not influence policy decisions.

B5.8 KEY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 3: INVITATION LETTER

South East Coastal Group,

C/O Canterbury City Council

Military Road, Canterbury

Kent, CT1 1YW

www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

7th November 2006

Isle of Grain to South Foreland and Medway Estuary & Swale Shoreline Management Plans for Kent – Key Stakeholders Forum 3

Dear

I am writing to invite you to the third Key Stakeholders Forum for the Shoreline Management Plans for Kent.

This meeting will be held on **Monday 8th January 2007**, at the **Guildhall in Canterbury**. Please find enclosed a location map of this venue for your information. The meeting will **commence at 9.30 am**, refreshments will be served from 9am however.

At this Forum the project team will be presenting the preferred policies and the geographical areas covered by those policies. Following this there will be an opportunity to discuss them in detail to gain feedback on the following:

- a) The acceptability of the policies
- b) The balance of the policies
- c) Raise issues that could have missed
- d) Gain an understanding of the best way of putting the policies into practice.

Enclosed is an information sheet, to update you on the work that has been carried out since the last Key Stakeholders Forum, what we intend to gain from the third forum, and the work that needs to be carried out for the duration of the plans. A brief agenda for the meeting is also included within this.

Also enclosed are the draft Proposed Preferred Policies Tables. Please review these ahead of the Meeting. Please focus on the units local to yourself and those where your interests may be affected by the recommended policies.

Finally, I enclose a reply slip for you to confirm your attendance to this meeting. Please complete and return this in the envelope provided, as soon as possible.

If you have any queries or questions regarding this meeting, or any other aspect of the Shoreline Management Plans for Kent, please do not hesitate to contact Christina Bell via e mail: christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk, or by telephone: 01227 862575.

I look forward to hearing from you/seeing you at the meeting

Yours Sincerely

Steve McFarland

SECG Chair

B5.9 KEY STAKEHOLDER FORUM 3: AGENDA**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN****Key Stakeholders Forum 3: 8th January 2007****AGENDA****AGENDA FOR THE NORTH KENT SMPS KEY STAKEHOLDER'S FORUM 3*****Morning Session: Medway & Swale SMP Area******Start: 9.30am (arrive for coffee from 9am)***

8. Introduction and presentation (20mins)

Introduction to the day, review of the work done on the SMPs to date and set out the mechanics of the 3rd meeting of the forum. Overview of SMP policies, how the current preferred policies have been developed and how they may differ from the record of KSF2

9. Unit by Unit discussion of preferred policies (2 hours, 20 mins)

Unit by Unit justification and discussion of the preferred SMP policies. These will be referenced to the policies determined by the Key Stakeholders at Forum 2.

10. Outstanding Issues Session (30 mins)

An opportunity to capture any additional feedback from the SMP policy discussions

11. Break for Lunch/ Future Consultation (15 mins)

For parties not wishing to stay for the afternoon session, discussion of future public consultation – Our proposed method. Feedback on improved methods, local communication networks, venues

12.30 – 13:30 : LUNCH***Afternoon Session: Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 Area******Start: 13.30pm (Arrive for lunch from 13:00pm)***

12. IF REQUIRED - Recap Introduction and presentation (20mins)

Introduction to the day, review of the work done on the SMPs to date and set out the mechanics of the 3rd meeting of the forum. Overview of SMP policies, how the current

preferred policies have been developed and how they may differ from the record of KSF2

13. Unit by Unit discussion of preferred policies (2 hours)

Unit by Unit justification and discussion of the preferred SMP policies. These will be referenced to the policies determined by the Key Stakeholders at Forum 2.

14. Outstanding Issues Session (40 mins)

An opportunity to capture any additional feedback from the SMP policy discussions

15. Future Consultation (30 mins)

Discussion of future public consultation – Our proposed method. Feedback on improved methods, local communication networks, venues

17:00: CLOSE

B5.10 KEY STAKEHOLDER FORUM 3: BRIEFING NOTE**ISLE OF GRAIN TO SOUTH FORELAND AND MEDWAY & SWALE ESTUARY
SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN****Key Stakeholders Forum 3: 8th January 2007****Introduction**

This document summarises the key comments and conclusions from the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan 2 Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF) 3 meeting held on 8th January 2007 at West Gat Hall, Canterbury.

The aim of the KSF 3 meeting was to present, discuss and obtain feedback from the key stakeholders on the Preferred Policies put forward for both the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan, and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan Review.

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Nigel Pontee	Halcrow (Project Manager)
Sam Box	Halcrow (Deputy Project Manager)
Rhian Jones	Halcrow (Senior Environmental Scientist)
Steve McFarland	Canterbury City Council (Project Manager)
Christina Bell	Canterbury City Council
Mark Smith	Environment Agency (Project Manager)
Anne Thurston	Environment Agency
Carol Peirce	Environment Agency
Clive Older	Environment Agency
Hannah Gribben	Environment Agency
Paula Wadsworth	Environment Agency
Ian Murrell	Environment Agency (Water Resources)
Ian Lewis	Swale Borough Council
Peter Starling	Rochester Oyster and Floating Fisheries
Frank Chester	Environment Agency
Robert Hinge	NFU Swale Region
Harry Mouland	Landowner/NFU
Brian Stone	NFU
Kevin Attwood	NFU
Steve Medlock	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

Richard Moyes	Kent Wildlife Trust
Michael Collins	Kent Ramblers
Phil Woodgate	Medway Ports
Martin Tapp	Stour IDB
Ingrid Chudleigh	Natural England
Alison Giacomelli	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Tony Child	Thanet Coast Project
Andrew Redsell	National Farmers Union
Lis Dyson	Kent County Council (Archaeology)
Dr Will Wright	Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee
Dominic Evans	Ramsgate Port (Left 12.05)
Mike Mckeown	Southern Water
Colin Carr	Sandwich Port and Haven Commissioners
Joan Dorwell	Friends of the North Kent Marshes
Gill Moore	Friends of the North Kent Marshes
Mike Humber	Thanet DC (pm only)
Cllr John Bragg	Sandwich Town Council/Sandwich Port and Haven Commissioners/Royal St. Georges Golf Club
Roger Walton	Dover DC (pm only)
Adrian Fox	Dover DC
Apologies	
Cllr Mike Harrison	Kent County Council
Peter Jackson	Whitstable Architect
John Bayes	Seasalter Shellfish
Jeremy Watts	Sandwich Town Council
Stephen Kemp	Environment Agency
John Godden	Sandwich Port and Haven Commissioners
Elaine Kirkaldi	Seasalter Shellfish
John Archer	National Farmers Union
Maggie Morgan	National Trust
Josh Peacock	Environment Agency
Lorna Gustavsen	Environment Agency – TE2100
Graham Birch	Network Rail

Outline of KSF 3 Activities

Morning Session: Medway and Swale SMP Area**Introduction and Presentation - Mark Smith (Environment Agency)**

This outlined the role of the SMP and Key Stakeholders, summarised activities to date and gave an overview of the four generic SMP policy options (Hold the Line, Advance the Line, Managed Realignment and No Active Intervention).

Unit by Unit Discussion of preferred Policies – Nigel Pontee (Halcrow)

This outlined the preferred policies by unit, with reference to policies identified for testing from KSF 2, and included the justification for the policies presented.

Outstanding Issues Session

This session captured any additional feedback from the SMP policy discussions.

Future Consultation

This session outlined and discussed potential consultation methods for future public consultation.

Afternoon Session: Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP 2 Area**Re-cap Introduction and Presentation – Steve McFarland (Canterbury City Council)**

This outlined the role of the SMP and Key Stakeholders, summarized activities to date and gave an overview of the four generic SMP policy options (Hold the Line, Advance the Line, Managed Realignment and No Active Intervention), for those Key Stakeholders who did not attend the morning session.

Unit by Unit Discussion of preferred Policies – Steve McFarland (Canterbury City Council), Nigel Pontee (Halcrow)

This outlined the preferred policies by unit, with reference to policies identified for testing from KSF 2, and included the justification for the policies presented.

Outstanding Issues Session

This session captured any additional feedback from the SMP policy discussions.

Future Consultation

This session outlined and discussed potential consultation methods for future public consultation

Medway Estuary and Swale SMP - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
(HTL – Hold the Line, ATL – Advance the Line, MR – Managed Realignment, NAI – No Active Intervention)				
Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
E4 01 North Grain to Colemouth Creek	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 02 Colemouth Creek to Bee Ness Jetty	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p><u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of land.</p> <p><u>Kent Wildlife Trust</u> – Policy promoted, subject to AA, as it moves toward a more natural coastline.</p> <p>Is MR proposed purely for economic reasons? <i>No, it may be unsustainable to HTL in the same position, economics should not be the main driver however we are bound by the system we have to work to and the policy therefore has to be affordable.</i></p> <p>How do you define affordable? <i>We should be looking at ‘economically justifiable’ not just ‘affordability’, the policy is economically justifiable where the assets are more valuable than the cost of defences, however other factors also need to be considered for example, technical acceptability.</i></p> <p><u>NFU / Landowners</u> – Compensation is needed if land is lost. . – current Government approach is insufficient.</p> <p>MS explained that the SMP has to be developed within the current Government Framework with this issue normally managed through Agri-Environment Schemes MR is more expensive as a new line of defence needs to be constructed.</p> <p>MS explained that the plan covers 100year timescale, whereas any defence has a maximum design life of 50years. Any defence will require expensive reconstruction during the life of the plan, MR offers opportunities to determine not only, the most Economically sustainable line but the most technically & environmentally sustainable line also. It appears that everything has been decided behind closed doors.</p> <p><i>MS explained that the policies have been fully appraised before the meeting, and the documents can be reviewed on the SE Coastal Group website.</i></p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p>More information is needed to make an informed decision, for example regarding the specific extents and positions of MR.</p> <p><i>MS – It is not the place of the SMP to define extents of MR.</i></p> <p><i>NP – Strategies look into extents of MR</i></p> <p><u>RSPB</u> –</p> <p>If MR is over internationally designated sites the loss of habitat would have to be compensated for elsewhere.</p> <p>Has the Appropriate Assessment happened yet? How much intertidal will be lost to sea level rise? What is the balance sheet of gains and losses?</p> <p><i>MS – the AA will be undertaken once the policies have been set.</i></p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> –</p> <p>MR will cause a negative affect on the landscape and heritage features so is mitigation decided at policy stage?</p> <p><i>MR allows the flexibility of the line of defence, standard of protection of the defence is determined by what is being protected and can change. Heritage issues will be clearly identified and brought in at the strategic stage.</i></p> <p>Will the Strategy Plan require an Environmental Impact assessment?</p> <p>Yes.</p>
E4 03 Kingsnorth Power Station	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 04 Power Station to Cockham Wood	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of land. Kent Ramblers – Mitgation required (relocate footpath)
E4 05 Hoo Marina to Lower Upnor	NAI	NAI	NAI	<u>Kent Ramblers</u> – objection due to loss of footpaths, however, mitigation regarding realignment of footpaths over time would be acceptable. <u>Kent County Council</u> – objection due to loss of Cockham wood Fort.

Medway Estuary and Swale SMP - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p><u>Kent County Council</u> – If features are going to be lost, will money be available to record and monitor these features? <i>No. English Heritage has stated that in this location loss of the heritage feature is acceptable.</i></p> <p>What happens where three consecutive management units have policies of HTL, NAI and HTL? <i>MS - In a coastal setting headlands will form, however estuaries are different as it is very difficult to predict where the shoreline will be in the future. Defences would be constructed to stop outflanking of defences in management units adjacent to the NAI unit. In this location the management unit consists of high land and hard geology.</i></p>
E4 06 Lower Upnor to Medway Bridge	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 07 Medway Bridge to North Halling	HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p>Phill Woodgate – objection due to cost already spent in this area combined with the cost effectiveness of MR in this small area.</p> <p><u>Kent Wildlife Trust</u> - Invertebrates are found in the Saline Lagoons under the Medway Bridge. <u>Kent County Council</u> – MR may not be acceptable due to loss of unknown heritage features, more detail is needed first. The SMP should make it clear that monitoring of these features should take place. <i>MR is only a concept in the SMP and does not go into any specific details, it just flags up the potential of MR along the frontage.</i></p>
E4 08 North Halling to	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p>Kent Ramblers – Mitigation required (relocate footpath) <u>Harry Moulard</u> –</p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
Snodland				<p>Epoch 1 should be HTL to allow for discussion and other studies to be carried out. <i>MS - 20 years is a long time and some defences may need replacement before 20 years, therefore a decision needs to be made before the end of the first epoch.</i></p> <p><u>Kent Wildlife trust</u> –</p> <p>Is land value and replacement value taken into account for MR? <i>No, the economics are very broad as the MR line is not specified.</i></p> <p>There is a need to phase in the MR, to allow time to find replacement habitat etc. <i>'Managed' means a more flexible line and means that finding compensation habitat will also be managed in a responsible manner. It may be that only the process starts in the first epoch, MR may not actually take place until epoch 2.</i></p>
E4 09 Snodland to Allington Lock	HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p>
E4 10 Allington Lock to north Wouldham	HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p>A new Medway bridge and development (Peter's Village) have been given the go ahead in this location. The realignment will need to include management of these features.</p>
E4 11 Wouldham Marshes	MR	MR	MR	<p><u>NFU</u> – Possible objection due to loss of land in a potential farming area. Compensation details and economics are needed before decisions are made.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p>
E4 12	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
Medway Bridge to west St Mary's Island				Management Unit should be renamed as 'Medway Bridge to west St Mary's Island.
E4 13 St Mary's Island to the Strand	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 14 The Strand to west Motney Hill	HTL	MR	MR	<p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p>HTL in first epoch to allow for further investigation into MR due to possible contamination issues.</p>
E4 15 Motney Hill to Ham Green	MR with opportunities for HTL	MR with opportunities for HTL	MR with opportunities for HTL	<p><u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of land and conservation interests.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Natural England</u> –</p> <p>Horsham Marsh is internationally designated and MR would require compensatory habitat.</p> <p><u>Friends of North Kent Marshes</u> –</p> <p>Express concerns regarding the position of compensatory habitat as compensatory habitat needs to be close to the lost habitat for the bird life.</p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p>Does compensatory habitat need to be close to where the loss occurs? <i>It is desirable but also has to be sustainable.</i></p> <p>How many locations have been identified for compensatory habitat creation? <i>Natural England’s advice will be sought, also there is a national study and the CFMP should identify potential areas.</i></p>
E4 16 Ham Green to east of Upchurch	NAI	NAI	NAI	<p>NFU – objection due to loss of land. Harry Mouland (landowner) – objection due to loss of land. Kent Ramblers – objection due to loss of paths. – Mitigation could overcome objection Kent County Council – Object unless Heritage features mitigated, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Ian Lewis</u> – <i>**Requested likely erosion rates for different soils where NAI has been proposed</i></p> <p><u>NFU</u> - The orchards are of great importance and should not be lost. <u>Harry Mouland.</u> – Are there provisions for compensation to landowners with a NAI policy? <i>No, the Government have no obligation to keep defences if lives are not affected.</i> <i>**Guidance on compensation to be provided to the Harry Newland (Landowner)</i></p> <p><u>NFU</u> – It is not always possible to relocate paths due to private / farm land issues. <u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Costs to relocate footpaths is an issue as well as relocating over farmland.</p>
E4 17 East of Upchurch	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p>NFU – objection due to loss of agricultural land. Exact realignment details are needed.</p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
to east Lower Halstow				<p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p>
E4 18 Barksore Marshes	MR	NAI	NAI	<p><u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of agricultural land.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p>Compensatory habitat will be required.</p> <p>The northern section of the marshes may be contaminated.</p> <p><i>MS – HTL in epoch 1 has been proposed to help manage any contamination issues.</i></p> <p>NP asked CO about the EA perspective regarding sustainability of defences.</p> <p><i>CO – stated that if defences are not sustainable in the future the justification of defending the frontage will have to be looked at in the long run.</i></p>
E4 19 Funtton to Raspberry Hill	NAI	NAI	NAI	<p><u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of agricultural land.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – objection due to possible loss of paths.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Object unless Heritage features mitigated, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Harry Moulard</u> –</p> <p>The road is already impassable due to flooding on very high tides therefore under NAI the road would have to be abandoned. If the road was lost, the 2 mile journey along this coastal road would turn into a 10 mile journey.</p> <p><i>CO – It would be up to the Highways Agency to relocate the road.</i></p> <p><i>Ian Lewis – The Highways Agency have been contacted but no response has been given thus far.</i></p>
E4 20 Chetney Marshes	MR	MR	MR	<p><u>NFU</u> – objection due to loss of agricultural land.</p> <p>Friends of North Kent Marshes – raised an interest due to location of</p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p>compensatory habitat.</p> <p><u>RSPB</u> – Seaward end of Chetney is not as designated as the rest of the marsh. Compensation habitat will be required along with appropriate management.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Would be happy with a realignment here.</p>
E4 21 Kingsferry Bridge to Milton Creek	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 22 Milton Creek	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 23 Murston Pits to Faversham	HTL	MR with localised HTL	MR with localised HTL	<p><u>NFU</u> – Possible objection to policy in epochs 2 and 3 due to loss of land.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Heritage features, e.g. Gunpowder Works, need mitigation, i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p>Extensive areas of freshwater habitat here which would need to be managed through the AA.</p> <p><u>Kent Wildlife Trust</u> – Happy with these policies.</p>
E4 24 Faversham to Nagden	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 25 Shell Ness to	MR	MR	MR	<u>NFU</u> – Strong objection due to large amount of land lost and scale of MR. The frontage consists of a large area of low-lying agricultural (arable and livestock) and environmentally designated land which is very vulnerable.

Medway Estuary and Swale SMP - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
(HTL – Hold the Line, ATL – Advance the Line, MR – Managed Realignment, NAI – No Active Intervention)				
Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
Sayes Court				<p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Objection due to loss of heritage features (early aircraft industry location) and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> - Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p>
E4 26 Sayes Court to north Elmley Island	MR	MR	MR	<p>NFU – Strong objection due to potential for large amount of land lost. Level of objection dependant scale of MR. The frontage consists of a large area of low-lying agricultural (arable and livestock) and environmentally designated land which is very vulnerable.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Objection due to loss of heritage features (early aircraft industry location) and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>Kent Ramblers</u> - Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Objection due to loss of unknown heritage features and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p><u>RSPB & Friends of North Kent Marshes</u> – Area is very important for breeding birds. Therefore the RSPB would be very concerned with the scale of MR. It will be very difficult and time consuming to mitigate / compensate for loss of habitat.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – The cost of mitigation of heritage features with MR in a large area would be huge.</p> <p><u>Kent Wildlife Trust</u> – The effect of sea level rise on defences and sustainability must be considered.</p> <p><u>RSPB</u> – Swale is accreting and therefore is not as susceptible to sea level rise.</p> <p><u>Natural England</u> – Swale is accreting in the west, and eroding elsewhere. We must also consider the loss of intertidal habitat with coastal squeeze.</p>

Medway Estuary and Swale SMP - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p><i>MS – MR could mean only a small change in defence position and not necessarily a large change.</i></p> <p><i>Friends of North Kent Marshes –</i></p> <p><i>Could we state that the MR should be ‘small scale’ in the SMP?</i></p> <p><i>Detailed analysis needs to be undertaken first regarding a realignment position.</i></p>
E4 27 North Elmley Island to Kingsferry Bridge	HTL	MR	MR	<p>NFU – possible objection to MR in 2nd and 3rd epochs due to loss of agricultural land.</p> <p>Kent County Council – Objection due to loss of unknown heritage features and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p>Kent Ramblers - Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p>
E4 28 Kingsferry Bridge to Rushenden	HTL	MR	MR	<p>NFU – possible objection to MR in 2nd and 3rd epochs due to loss of agricultural land.</p> <p>Kent County Council – Objection due to loss of unknown heritage features and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p>
E4 29 Rushenden to Sheerness	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comments - Policies Agreed.
E4 30 Medway Islands	NAI with monitoring	NAI with monitoring	NAI with monitoring	<p>Kent County Council – Objection due to loss of heritage features and degradation of the landscape as a whole. Any loss of features would require mitigation i.e. monitoring and recording.</p> <p>Medway Ports – Raised concern as they manage a form of defences around the dredging disposal islands. NAI should not preclude the practical operation of these dredging sites.</p> <p><i>Harry Mouland –</i></p> <p><i>There are deposits of trace dredging in the area, but more work should be done on</i></p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				<p>the possibility of ‘salting’ the islands with more dredging as some are eroding at a fast rate. This may serve two purposes, one as a disposal site and two to help maintain the islands. Can we advise that work needs to be done to maintain the islands in the SMP?</p> <p><i>NP – No, this is not in the remit of the SMP.</i></p>

Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
(HTL – Hold the Line, ATL – Advance the Line, MR – Managed Realignment, NAI – No Active Intervention)				
Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
4b 01 Allhallows-on-Sea to Grain	HTL	MR	MR	<p><u>NFU/Landowners</u> – Objection due to potential to loose farmland, concerns raised regarding extent of MR – additional information required specific landuse and compensation issues.</p> <p><u>Kent County Council</u> – Objection due to potential loss of heritage features. Need to record and monitor heritage features and mitigate in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Ramblers</u> – Note Would prefer HTL in epochs 2 and 3, however will agree to MR if Footpaths are realigned; therefore a suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>NFU</u> – Strategic Agricultural Interest in this area has evolved over the past 12 months due to rising cost of commodities and potential impact of Climate Change</p> <p><u>Friends of the North Kent Marshes</u> - Commented on the Beach at Allhallows on Sea and low lying properties and therefore MR may not be appropriate.</p> <p><u>RSPB</u> – Internationally important habitat landward side of seawall and – need for compensation for losses?</p>
4b 02 Garrison Point to Minster	HTL	HTL	HTL	<p>Policies Agreed</p> <p><u>Ian Lewis (Swale Borough Council)</u> - Note the Port has been taken over by a developer - that may also look to other options on the North Coast, i.e. ATL, if ATL is not the policy is it completely ruled out?</p> <p><u>Steve McFarland</u> – <i>No not completely, if ATL is proposed by the developer it would need to be assessed separately.</i></p>

Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
(HTL – Hold the Line, ATL – Advance the Line, MR – Managed Realignment, NAI – No Active Intervention)				
Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				HTL is the best option for managing coastal defences
4b 03 Minster Town (chalet park to Royal Oak Pub)	HTL	HTL	HTL	No Comment - Policies Agreed Note minor adjustment to the boundary of the Unit
4b 04 Minster Slopes to Warden Point	NAI	NAI	NAI	Policies Agreed <u>Kent County Council</u> – Note heritage concern about lack of recording and the need to monitor. Note a recent study on Warden Bay has been undertaken – the outcomes of the Study are due to improve Sea Defences in Warden Village in Summer 2007 leading to the protection of 100 properties. Cliffsof special geological interest – no new sea defences and currently undefended area therefore: Adjust boundary to edge of permanent development with caravan sites within 4b04 not 4b05 Whole coastline is SSSI – Note that Coastal Erosion is taking place at a rate of 1M per year (landscapes) although it occurs as landslides rather than at a steady rate.
4b 05 Warden Point to Leysdown-on- Sea	HTL	HTL	MR	Policies Agreed subject to detail of MR in due course. <u>Kent Ramblers</u> – Note that footpaths will need to be realigned in the 3rd Epoch; therefore a suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP. Locally important landscapes Main town assets and - protect existing Sea Defence

Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP2 - Summary Sheet of Comments from KSF 3				
(HTL – Hold the Line, ATL – Advance the Line, MR – Managed Realignment, NAI – No Active Intervention)				
Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
4b 06 Leysdown-on-Sea to Shell Ness	MR	MR	MR	<p>MR would result in property losses at Shell Ness.</p> <p>NFU – Objection due to land loss.</p> <p>Kent County Council – Objection due to loss of heritage features. Need to record and monitor heritage features. If not feasible – excavations and monitoring **Check funding availability from Defra and policy with English Heritage (Peter Murphy)</p> <p>Kent Ramblers – Objection due to loss of footpaths. Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore a suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p><u>Ian Lewis (Swale Borough Council) –</u> Should the management of heritage assets come out of MR funding? <u>Steve McFarland: Property and asset Loss – no compensation at present.</u> <u>Cardiff University are undertaking work ‘Coastal Adaptation Study’ on impacts on populations in vulnerable sites, e.g. Purchasing property, Compensation issue for communities but no conclusions and unlikely to be straight financial compensation</u></p> <p><u>RSPB –</u> Habitat could be created without losing freshwater habitat, dependant on the MR position.</p>
4b 07 Faversham Creek to Seasalter	HTL	MR	MR	<p>NFU objected to loss of farmland/Heritage Issues</p> <p>Kent Ramblers – Would accept MR as long as the footpaths are realigned, i.e. provisions made for mitigation in the SMP.</p> <p>Detailed Strategy in this area which would mark realignment at railway line.</p> <p><u>NFU –</u></p>

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				MR should be concentrated where defences are inadequate / failing. <u>Steve McFarland</u> – The beach and foundations of defences are subject to erosion and potential undermining even though structures are otherwise ok. Approximately 60 properties would be in advance of the defended line and likely to be lost over a 100 year period
4b 08 Seasalter to Whitstable Town	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 09 Whitstable Town to Whitstable Harbour	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 10 Whitstable Harbour (east) to Swalecliffe	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 11 Swalecliffe to Herne Bay Breakwater	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 12 Herne Bay Breakwater to Bishopstone Manor	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 13 Reculver Country	NAI	NAI	NAI	Policies Agreed Heritage concerns – managed as a retreating site

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
Park				
4b 14 Reculver Towers to Minnis Bay	HTL	MR	MR	<p>NFU - objection due to loss of high value and quality agricultural land and cost of moving Sea Wall to a longer length. Should be HTL in epochs 2 and 3.</p> <p>Ramblers – Objection due to possible loss of paths. Would like to see HTL in all three epochs in this area. Footpaths will need to be realigned; therefore a suitable mitigation should be included in the SMP.</p> <p>Kent County Council – Heritage concerns. Need to manage risk to key heritage features. If not feasible – excavations and monitoring.</p> <p>In 1953 the railway line was flooded/ breached</p> <p>Loss of intertidal habitat could be compensated using land/the chalk wall in front of the railway. Parts of the existing line would need to be used to provide shelter otherwise there would be no saltmarsh formation due to the aggressive wave climate.</p> <p><u>Steve McFarland</u> –</p> <p>Coastal squeeze is going to be more of a problem as sea levels rise. Beach management is likely to be costly in this area as time goes on</p> <p><u>RSPB</u> –</p> <p>Good area to create intertidal habitat due to loss of agricultural land.</p>
4b 15 Minnis Bay to Westgate-on-Sea	HTL	HTL	HTL	<p>Policies Agreed</p> <p>Localised opportunities for NAI. No new defences where currently undefended</p>
4b 16 Margate	HTL	HTL	HTL	<p>No comment - Policies Agreed –although no new defences where currently undefended</p>

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
4b 17 Cliftonville (Fulsam Rock to White Ness)	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed –although no new defences where currently undefended
4b 18 White Ness to Ramsgate	HTL	HTL	HTL	Policies Agreed <u>Steve McFarland</u> – Although HTL, Defra states this is still subject to funding and affordability, there may be a delay until funding is available or if funding is unavailable the policy may not be upheld. Noted that the SMP makes policy recommendations at this stage – but does not guarantee future action (dependent on funding etc). Make clear within the policy for local opportunities for NAI
4b 19 Ramsgate Harbour	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed –although no new defences where currently undefended
4b 20 West Cliff (Ramsgate western harbour arm to north of the River Stour)	HTL	HTL	HTL	Note Policy Boundary Changed District Council and Environment Agency are working on the Pegwell Bay Strategy . Also Sandwich Bay Strategy which goes up the Stour. ** Need to check policy with strategies and CFMP, needs to be made clear how the SMP policies relate to and tie in with the strategies. Clarification needs to be made as to the form of defences for HTL. Some sections are NAI at present so why has HTL been proposed? Requirement to look are this area in more detail – note importance of Geological sites (RIGS) and SSSIs where cliffs should not be protected and need to be exposed. <u>Cllr Bragg</u> – There are no formal defences at Abbsfleet at present, where the road (is the defence) is fronted by mudflats and floods during very high tides.

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
				Note the West Site is a Waste Disposal Site Former Hooverport land has potential contamination issues <u>Cllr Bragg</u> – If this area floods it would mean wide scale flooding up to Sandwich.
4b 21 Pegwell Bay (south of the River Stour to Sandwich Bay Estate north)	NAI	NAI	NAI	<u>Cllr Bragg / Colin Carr</u> – Objection due to concern regarding the sufficient protection of the railway line and Sandwich, which will be worse with sea level rise. <u>Natural England</u> – Sandunes are a natural, adequate coastal defence. <u>Cllr Bragg</u> – <i>Does not agree that they will protect Sandwich.</i> <u>Dover DC</u> – Expressed concern over the management of dunes. If the dunes breached or are damaged then under NAI would it be expected that remediation works would be carried out to gain the original standard of protection? **Clarification is needed regarding the Pegwell Bay Strategy <u>Cllr Bragg</u> – requires hydrological and other evidence that the area will not be subject to flooding Reservations of the integrity of the natural flood defences. Clarification sought with Strategy Note – shingle is encroaching into the previous Policy Unit i.e. feeding the beach north of this unit.
4b 22 Sandwich Bay Estate (south) to Sandown Castle (remains of)	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed

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Policy Unit	Epoch 1 0-20 Years	Epoch 2 20-50 Years	Epoch 3 50-100 Years	Comments
4b 23 Sandown Castle (remains of) to Oldstairs Bay	HTL	HTL	HTL	No comment - Policies Agreed
4b 24 Oldstairs Bay to St Margaret's	NAI	NAI	NAI	Policies Agreed There are around 20/30 homes on the top of the cliff that may be at risk. Note the Nature and Environmental importance of having an actively eroding Cliff Halcrow to check erosion contours.
4b 25 St Margaret's	HTL	HTL	HTL	Policies Agreed Note defences on the bottom of the Cliff
4b 26 South Foreland	NAI	NAI	NAI	No comment - Policies Agreed

Additional Comments and Questions:

What is the driver for NAI?

Economics, environmental reasons

Landowners will not find NAI acceptable due to loss of land, no compensation available and loss of properties.

Steve McFarland – HTL does not mean the coastline will look the same as it does now, it is very difficult to predict how the coast will look in the future but likely to see a loss of intertidal area and beaches in many locations.

Detailed information on impacts on the estuary, and indeed parts of the open coast do not exist as yet, the SMP will need to highlight the other work / studies that need to be undertaken, reasons why defending may not be sustainable in the future and areas where change may occur.

Mark Smith – The economic assessment in the SMP is only a rough assessment, more detailed economics are included at Strategy level.

Kent Ramblers – Sea levels have been increasing over the past 500 years and we have been able to keep it at bay, why should we stop defending now?

NP – Coastal squeeze will become more of a problem as sea levels rise, defences will become more vulnerable to wave attack, become more expensive and technically difficult to maintain as sea level rise becomes more rapid.

The final plan should be based on the latest maps, e.g. there is now a second bridge over the Medway in this location which does not show on the current map.

The new LNG facility in MU E4 01 is also missing on the map.

Is HTL proposed for protection of Socio/Economic reasons?

Is MR proposed to relieve coastal squeeze?

Note that MR is not a fixed line. MR allows the flexibility of the line of defence, standard of protection of the defence is determined by what is being protected and can change.

B6 Other Materials

South East Coastal Group,
C/o Military Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1YW
www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk

Dear

Following my letter of November 2005, I am writing with an update on the two Shoreline Management Plans for Kent that are currently being undertaken (The Isle of Grain to South Foreland Shoreline Management Plan and the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan).

In November, we asked if you could help us by completing a questionnaire regarding your opinions of the current situation along the sections of coastline where these plans are being developed. We also asked that you provide us with any relevant data or site specific information you might have relating to your coastline which may influence the way in which it is managed in the future.

An excellent range of responses were received, allowing us to begin the process of identifying what assets at the coastline are important and why. This information has been compiled into a series of tables (the Issues and Objectives Tables), the latest versions of which can be viewed on the South East Coastal Group website: www.se-coastalgroup.org.uk.

The initial versions of the Issues and Objectives tables were reviewed by the Key Stakeholder Group (a group of people and organisations who are providing representation for a range of interests along the coastline). The Key Stakeholders attended a special meeting on February 8th 2006, where they received presentations on Shoreline Management Plans and climate change implications. Following the presentations the Key Stakeholders, through discussion groups, provided further comments on the Issues and Objectives tables. Copies of the presentations to the Key Stakeholders and the minutes of the meeting are on the SECG website.

Next, the Elected Members (Councillors representing each of the affected local authorities and the Environment Agency's Regional Flood Defence Committee) attended a Forum held on March 6th. At this meeting, they were introduced to the Shoreline Management Plan process, and were invited to provide any further feedback for the development of the Issues tables. At this stage, it is the role of the Elected Members to agree the Issues tables contents prior to next stage of the process being undertaken.

The Next Stage.

The next stage is to **prioritise** the features that are listed within the Issues and Objectives tables. This task will be carried out at the next Key Stakeholders Forum, to be held on May 4th 2006, and the results agreed at the next Elected Members Forum, to be held on June 8th 2006.

In the meantime, all relevant information for the plans will be available on the South East Coastal Group website for your information.

If you have any queries or questions, please contact me at christina.bell@canterbury.gov.uk or 01227 862575. Alternatively, contact the relevant Steering Group/Elected member you wish to speak to, details of these people are attached.

Yours Sincerely,

Steve McFarland

South East Coastal Group (Chair)

