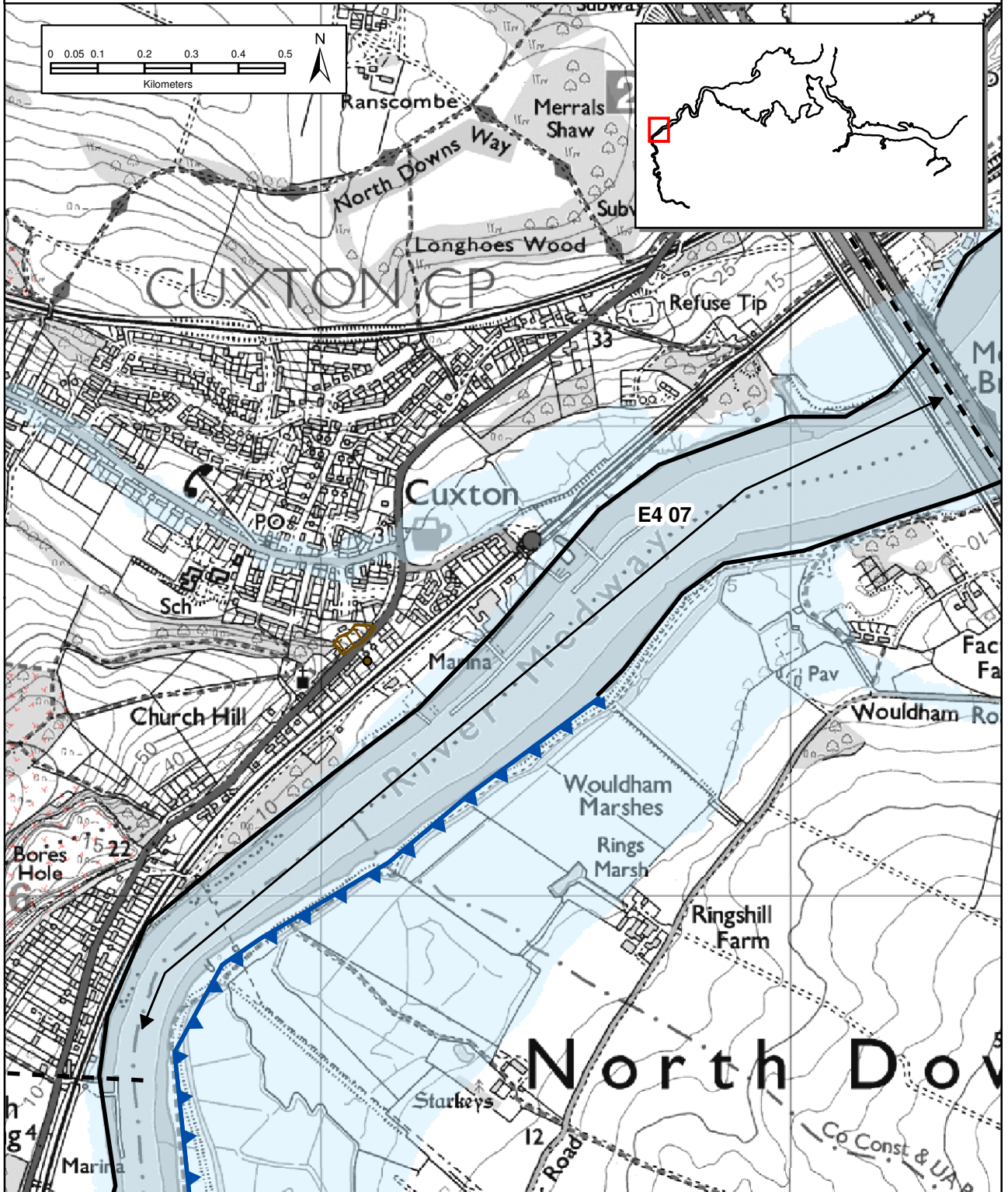





# Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan


## Policy Unit E4 07: Medway Bridge to North Halling







### Policy

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line

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

 Indicative realignment location\*

\* Actual realignment extent and location will be the subject of further studies.

-  Policy Unit Boundary
-  Policy Unit Extent
-  Current shoreline
-  Hold the Line (0-100 yrs)

### Environmental/Cultural Heritage

-  National Nature Conservation Designation
-  International Nature Conservation Designation
-  Important Heritage Sites (Scheduled Monuments)
-  2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Comptroller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Environment Agency, Licence number 100026380.2007.

**Location reference:**        **Medway Bridge to North Halling**

**Policy Unit reference:**    **E4 07**

### SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

**Plan:**

*The railway line, located close to the shoreline, follows the line of the frontage between Medway Bridge and North Halling. The railway line separates the residential communities of Cuxton and North Halling from the narrow Medway channel. The floodplain is restricted due to the presence of the railway line.*

*The long term plan is to continue protecting the built assets and infrastructure from flooding and erosion. Under this policy some localised coastal squeeze impacts will be experienced in later epochs. However, these are countered by habitat growth within the middle reaches of the estuary and the recommended policy is deemed technically and environmentally viable, for the duration of the Shoreline Management Plan.*

**Preferred policies to implement Plan:**

**From present day:** The present day policy for Medway Bridge to North Halling is **hold the line** by maintaining and upgrading existing defences to provide protection to built assets at Cuxton and North Halling and to infrastructure. Intertidal areas will remain stable as sediment supply is expected to meet demand in the Medway estuary throughout this epoch.

---

**Medium-term:** The medium term policy is to continue to **hold the line**. This will be implemented by maintaining and upgrading the current defence line along the majority of the frontage, ensuring continued protection to built assets and the railway line.

As sea levels rise and fluvial flows increase with climate change, the channel may deepen and erosion may become more prevalent, especially on the outside of meanders (at North Halling) and confined areas making defences more expensive to construct.

---

**Long-term:** The long-term policy is a continuation of **hold the line**. To accomplish this and to keep pace with sea level rise, defences will require periodic maintenance and upgrading with sea level rise and increased fluvial flows, to maintain the protection of built assets. Intertidal erosion may be exacerbated in confined sections of this frontage, leading to the potential undermining of defences making defences more expensive to construct.

---

*The above provides the local details in respect of the SMP-wide Plan; therefore the above must be read in the context of the wider-scale issues and policy implications, as presented in the preceding sections and Appendices to this Plan document.*

**Location reference:** *Medway Bridge to North Halling*

**Policy Unit reference:** *E4 07*

### IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION

Time Period	Management Activities	Material Assets, Infrastructure & Land Use	Landscape	Natural Environment	Historic Environment	Population (Amenity & Recreational Use and Human Health)
0-20 years	Undertake engineering works to hold the defence line.	Defences will continue to provide the appropriate standard of protection to built assets, infrastructure and agricultural land during this period.	Designated landscape of the industrial area maintained.	No nature conservation issues identified.  Potential coastal squeeze/ accelerated erosion in constrained reach of Medway Estuary, with associated failure of WFD objective 2, "no changes that will cause failure to meet surface water "good" ecological status or potential (where potential relates to HMWB or AWB) or result in a deterioration of surface water ecological status/potentials.	Potential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of recreational features or residential properties.
20-50 years	Undertake engineering works to hold the defence line.	Defences will continue to provide the appropriate standard of protection to built assets, infrastructure and agricultural land during this period.	Designated landscape of the industrial area maintained but with increased defences. Larger defences may affect landscape character.	No nature conservation issues identified  Potential coastal squeeze/ accelerated erosion in constrained reach of Medway Estuary, with associated failure of WFD	otential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of recreational features or residential properties.

*The above provides the local details in respect of the SMP-wide Plan; therefore the above must be read in the context of the wider-scale issues and policy implications, as presented in the preceding sections and Appendices to this Plan document.*

				objective 2, "no changes that will cause failure to meet surface water "good" ecological status or potential (where potential relates to HMWB or AWB) or result in a deterioration of surface water ecological status/potentials		
<b>50-100 years</b>	Undertake engineering works to hold the defence line.	Defences will continue to provide the appropriate standard of protection to built assets, infrastructure and agricultural land during this period.	Designated landscape of the industrial area maintained but with increased defences. Larger defences may affect landscape character.	No nature conservation issues identified.  Potential coastal squeeze/ accelerated erosion in constrained reach of Medway Estuary, with associated failure of WFD objective 2, "no changes that will cause failure to meet surface water "good" ecological status or potential (where potential relates to HMWB or AWB) or result in a deterioration of surface water ecological status/potentials.	Potential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of recreational features or residential properties.

---

*The above provides the local details in respect of the SMP-wide Plan; therefore the above must be read in the context of the wider-scale issues and policy implications, as presented in the preceding sections and Appendices to this Plan document.*