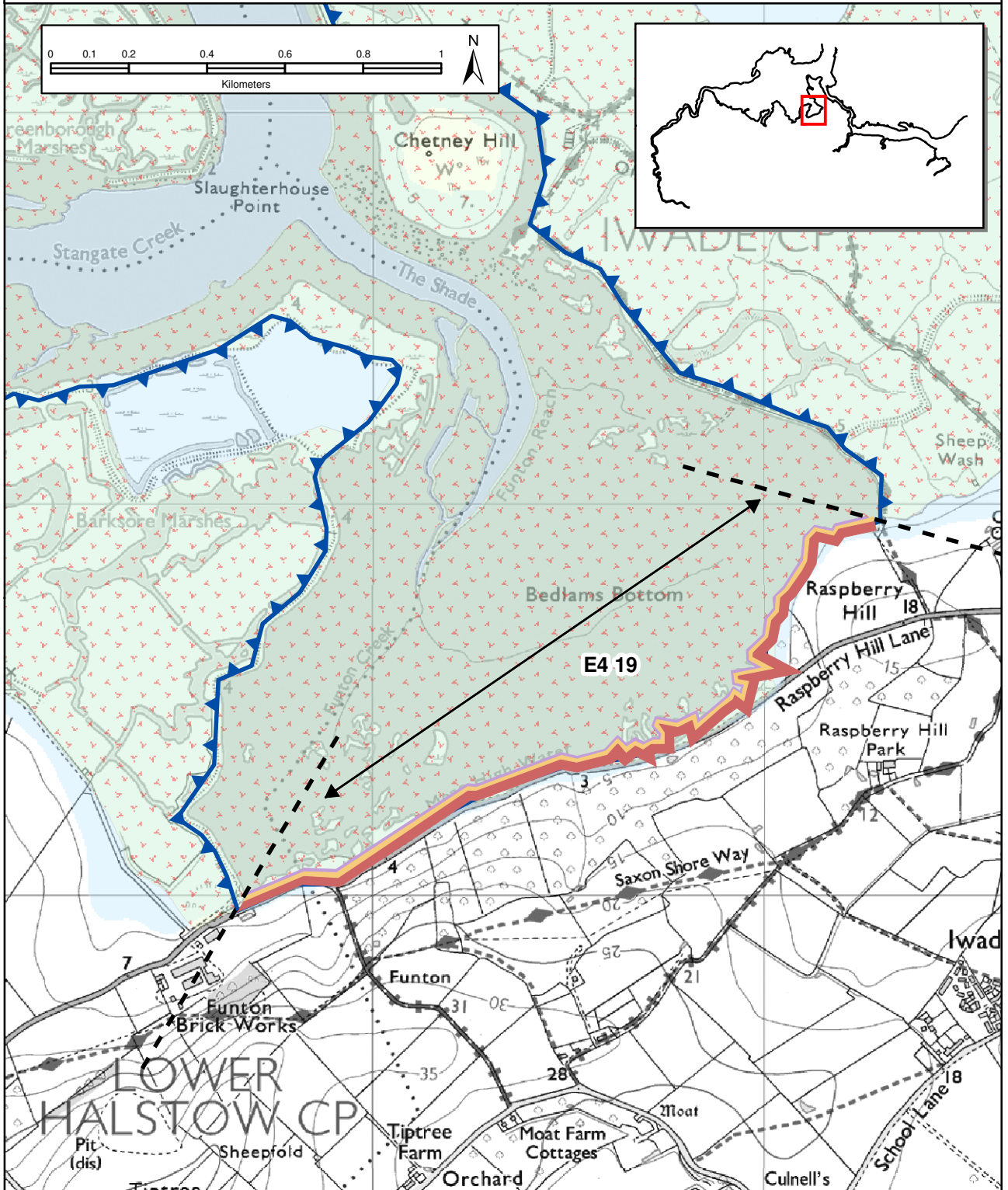





# Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan


## Policy Unit E4 19: Funton to Raspberry Hill




### Policy


From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention

-  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

### Environmental/Cultural Heritage

-  National Nature Conservation Designation
-  International Nature Conservation Designation

 Important Heritage Sites (Scheduled Monuments)

 2005 Indicative floodplain © Environment Agency

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**Location reference:** Funton to Raspberry Hill

**Policy Unit reference:** E4 19

### SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

**Plan:**

*The short length of frontage between Funton and Raspberry Hill comprises a small local road, running alongside the shoreline, backed by orchards. Intertidal habitats seaward of defences are nationally and internationally designated for their ecological importance.*

*The long term policy for this unit is to allow natural erosion of the frontage. As the flood plain is very narrow and there are very few built assets along this frontage, it is considered unsustainable and uneconomic to continue to protect the road in the long term.*

**Preferred policies to implement Plan:**

**From present day:** The present day policy for Funton to Raspberry Hill is **no active intervention** to allow natural processes. This will maintain the ecological value of intertidal habitats and result in a free functioning shoreline.

The evolution of intertidal areas will be dependant on sediment supply. It is predicted that in this section of the estuary, Bedlams Bottom will continue to experience accretion and Funton Creek will remain stable, as sediment supply in the estuary is expected to meet demand throughout this epoch.

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**Medium-term:** The medium term policy is to continue allowing natural processes under a policy of **no active intervention**. The road will become more exposed with sea level rise and increased storminess, and the road is likely to be flooded more often.

The evolution of intertidal areas will continue as per the previous epoch, remaining stable as sediment supply is expected to be able to meet demand throughout this epoch. However, erosion may become more prevalent along the seaward edge of the marshes as sea levels rise.

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**Long-term:** The long term policy is **no active intervention**. This policy will allow the shoreline to continue to function and evolve freely, maintaining the ecological value of the fronting marshes. The road will be at increased risk of erosion during this period as sea levels rise, with the potential for eventual loss of the feature in the long term.

It is expected that intertidal areas may be subject to increased erosion as sea

**Location reference:**        **Funton to Raspberry Hill**

**Policy Unit reference:**    **E4 19**

levels rise and sediment supply in the Medway decreases over this epoch.

**Location reference:** *Funton to Raspberry Hill*

**Policy Unit reference:** *E4 19*

#### 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	Natural erosion of defences and higher land.	Damage to road with more frequent periods of inundation.	Designated estuary landscape will be maintained. However, some features will change through no active intervention.	No net loss of internationally designated intertidal habitat and nationally important (BAP) habitat.	Potential loss of buried unknown heritage.	No loss of properties No loss of amenity and recreation features.
20-50 years	Natural erosion of higher land.	Damage to road with more frequent periods of inundation and increased erosion.	Designated landscape will be maintained.	No net loss of internationally designated intertidal habitat and nationally important (BAP) habitat. However, potential for erosion on the seaward edge of saltmarsh as sea levels rise.	Potential loss of buried unknown heritage.	No loss of properties Damage to access to estuary viewing locations.
50-100 years	Natural erosion of higher land.	Loss of road due to erosion.	Designated landscape will be maintained.	Effect on saltmarsh with coastal squeeze as sea levels rise.	Potential loss of buried unknown heritage.	No loss of properties Loss of access to estuary viewing locations.

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.