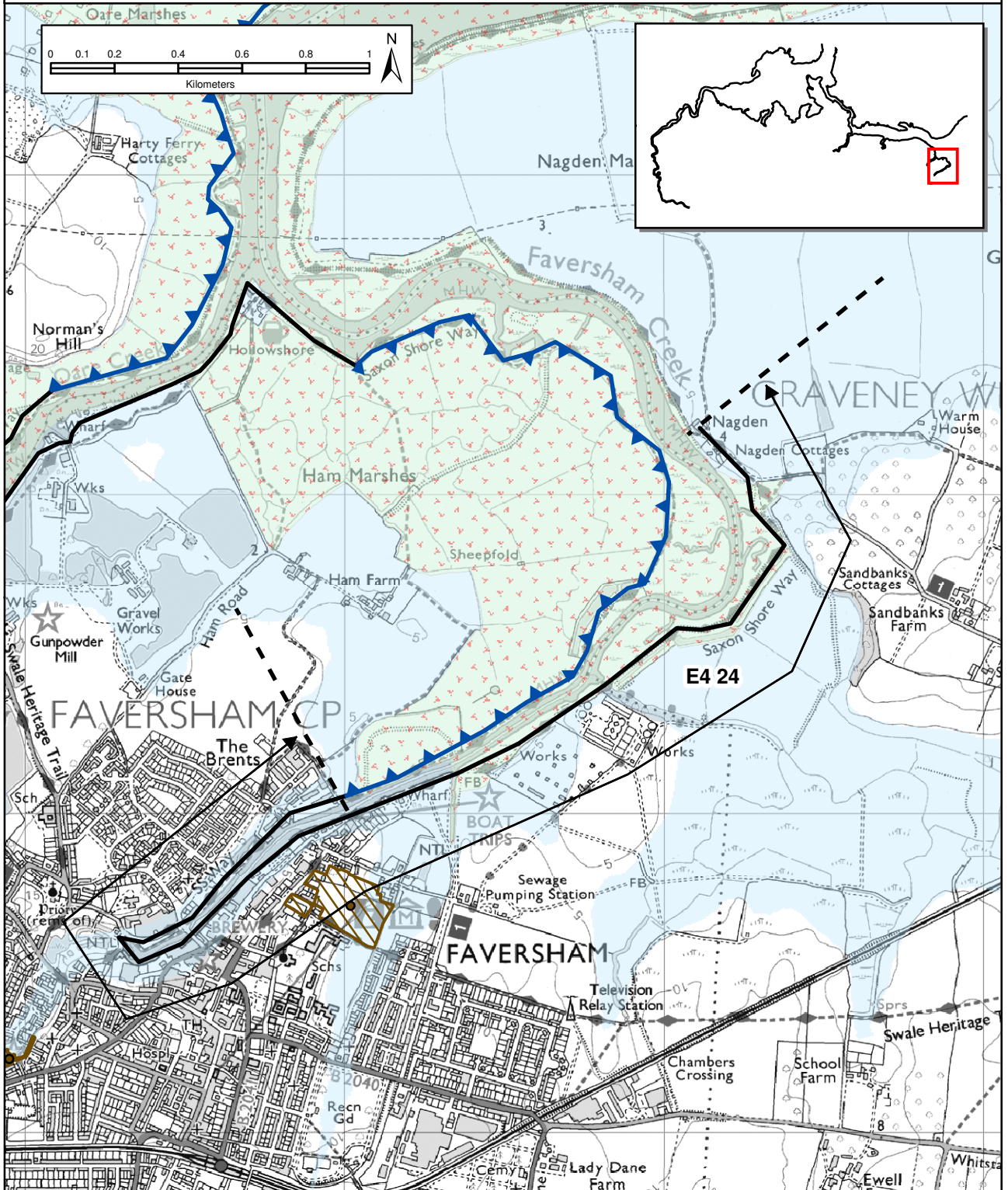





Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan


Policy Unit E4 24: Faversham to Nagden







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

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Location reference: Faversham to Nagden

Policy Unit reference: E4 24

SUMMARY OF THE PLAN AND JUSTIFICATION

Plan:

Faversham to Nagden marks the eastern landward limit of the Medway Estuary and Swale Shoreline Management Plan, and the interface between the Swale estuary and the open coast (Policy Unit 4a 07A: Faversham Creek to Sportsman Pub – Isle of Grain to South Foreland, SMP2. The preferred policies for this adjacent open coast frontage are Hold the Line in the short term, followed by Managed Realignment in the medium and long terms). The frontage incorporates the south of Faversham Creek and a short section of the eastern bank. A large number of industrial, commercial, residential and heritage assets are located along the southern sections of Faversham Creek, including the historic town of Faversham. The area is locally important for attracting visitors to the nationally important Conservation Area and Saxon Shore Way which extends along the banks of Faversham Creek. Intertidal habitats and a narrow section of creek bank are internationally designated for their ecological importance. The hinterland between Faversham and Nagden comprises agricultural land and a small area of industrial works adjacent to the creek.

The long term plan is to continue protecting the developments, including the residential, historic, commercial and industrial assets and agricultural land. This recommendation 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 Faversham to Nagden is to continue to **hold the line** by maintaining the existing defence to protect the significant assets contained within the historic town of Faversham and along the creek itself. This will be achieved by continuing to maintain the existing defences, which comprise rock revetments and embankments.

Intertidal areas are likely to be stable or accrete in this area, therefore there is expected to be very little change in estuary processes or impacts on evolution occurring within this epoch.

Medium-term: The medium term policy is to continue to **hold the line**. This will be achieved by maintaining and, at some point during this epoch, upgrading the defence structures. This will protect the significant built assets from sea level rise.

Intertidal areas are predicted to remain stable as sediment supply within the Swale estuary is expected to meet demand throughout this epoch.

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: Faversham to Nagden

Policy Unit reference: E4 24

Long-term: The significant built assets along this frontage dictate that the long-term policy is to **hold the line**. To accomplish this and to keep pace with sea level rise defences will need to be maintained and upgraded.

Despite ongoing sea level rise, erosion rates along this frontage are expected to remain low, although the potential for coastal squeeze may increase. The general character of this frontage is not expected to alter significantly.

Location reference: *Faversham to Nagden*

Policy Unit reference: *E4 24*

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 loss of internationally designated coastal grazing marsh or intertidal habitats (BAP habitats).	Potential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of residential or commercial properties or recreational facilities. Footpaths – Saxon Shore Way will remain.
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 loss of internationally designated coastal grazing marsh or intertidal habitats (BAP habitats).	Potential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of residential or commercial properties or recreational facilities. Footpaths – Saxon Shore Way will remain.
50-100 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 loss of internationally designated coastal grazing marsh or intertidal habitats (BAP habitats), however potential for coastal squeeze leading to a loss of intertidal habitat as sea levels rise.	Potential loss of unknown heritage buried in intertidal zone.	No loss of residential or commercial properties or recreational facilities. Footpaths – Saxon Shore Way will remain.

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.