

B10.2.4.8 CONSULTATION FEEDBACK RESULTING IN CHANGES TO SMP POLICY AND / OR DOCUMENTATION – NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Private Individual	Response No	5
Revisions to SMP	Further details added to Draft SMP. Issue included on action plan.				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>5C22 Lymington Yacht Haven to Saltgrass Lane It is encouraging to see that the HTL is considered to be economically viable, but more detail on the expected level of maintenance and/or improvement of sea defences would be useful in the longer term.</p> <p>5F01 Hurst Spit As above: the regional importance of the Spit seems to be recognised.</p>			<p>Many thanks for your comments. The SMP is a high level strategic document that recommends coastal defence policy. Further detail on the expected levels of maintenance and improvement work required will be included in subsequent Coastal Defence Strategy Studies and/or Schemes, which will look at how to implement the recommended policies. This issue has been included within the Action Plan.</p>		

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	New Forest Group Ramblers	Response No	8
Revisions to SMP	Further details added to Draft SMP. Issue included on action plan.				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>The SMP should take account of the work now going on through Natural England and HCC (HCAF under the MCA Act 2009), this will create a coastal walking route through the area considered by the SMP within the next few years. The coastal path will need to be maintained or rolled back. The SMP should say this. The foreshore is particularly important for walking and other recreational interest, as well as wildlife. The foreshore from Lymington to Calshot is particularly valuable for walking, especially the</p>			<p>Your comments have been noted. The SMP recognises the importance of coastal access and the natural environment, both of which have been considered during the objective-led policy appraisal process. Coastal flood and erosion risk management are the primary concerns of the SMP and the most economically, socially and environmentally sustainable defence policies have been proposed. The provision and rerouting of coastal access in response to coastal and climate change will need to be integrated within subsequent</p>		

almost accessible length along the Pyleworth Estate. This length needs to be extended eastwards and westwards. This needs to be taken into account in HTL and MR. Where there are properties on or close to the existing sea defences outside generally developed areas, they should not be rebuilt for the inland area [original text unclear] existing location becomes too expensive to defend, unless the rebuild is existing townships.	Coastal Defence Strategy Studies and/or Schemes, which will determine how to implement the recommended coastal flood and erosion risk management policies. This issue has been included within the Action Plan. Specific details on coastal access will be addressed through the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
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Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Private Individual	Response No	10
Revisions to SMP	Further details added to Draft SMP. Issue included on action plan. Factual errors corrected. Changes applied in Appendix C and H.				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>The documents contain factual errors in respect of the present sea defences for Hythe village. In Appendix C - C3 (Baseline Case 1 - no active intervention) the table includes the following statement regarding coastline section FAW7: "...the concrete sea wall behind the promenade probably provides adequate protection for the majority of this epoch." This is incorrect because the promenade wall only fronts part of the village. North and south of the promenade, there are several points on the sea defences where the existing sea defence level is below the advisory level of 3.0mAOD, which was set by the Environment Agency. In recent years, the present defences have been overtopped by tidal surges on several occasions and in 2008 flooding of properties was narrowly averted. Therefore, the present defences do not provide adequate protection now, let alone for the remainder of the first epoch. Similarly, in Appendix H -H4 Economic appraisal final summary table, for coastal section 5c14 it is stated that maintenance of the present defences will be adequate for the first epoch. That is clearly not correct because some raising of the defences is necessary now.</p>			<p>Thank you for your comments, which have been passed on to the Environment Agency and New Forest District Council's Coastal Team. Amendments have been made in the final SMP documents where necessary. Shoreline and defence ownership along the Southampton Water frontage is complicated. The details of the design and maintenance of the defences along this frontage will be determined in subsequent Coastal Defence Strategy Studies and/or Schemes, which will determine how to implement the recommended coastal flood and erosion risk management policies. This issue has been included within the Action Plan.</p>		

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Private Individual	Response No	17
Revisions to SMP	Further details added to Draft SMP, RTE clarified. Issue added to action plan.				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>Could you please give me more information about the Regulated Tidal Exchange suggested for the Lymington Reed beds in 5C21? Thank you.</p>			<p>Thank you for your response. The 'Regulated Tidal Exchange' at the Lymington reedbeds is in connection with the proposals for modifications to the design and operation of the tidal sluice gates for the Lymington Reedbed Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) site, which is deteriorating. To help restore the site, the Environment Agency, Natural England and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust are implementing the recommendations of a Water Level Management Plan for the SSSI. One of three existing tidal flaps (designed to exclude seawater from the upper estuary) will be replaced with a self-regulating tidal gate, as part of a two-year reversible trial. The two year trial, anticipated to commence in Spring 2010, will be accompanied by monitoring that will aim to record any changes to the habitat over the two years. This data will allow the partners to maximise the overall environmental benefits of the plan by making any adjustments to the gate opening frequency and will be evaluated to inform any long-term decision on the management of the site. For all questions about this water level management plan, please contact Helen Clayton, Environment Agency, tel. 01794 832759 helen.clayton@environment-agency.gov.uk or James Walton, Environment Agency, 01794 832721, james.walton@environment-agency.gov.uk</p>		

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Beaulieu Settled Estate	Response No	108
Revisions to SMP	Change in final policy 5C18. Changed to HTL/HTL/HTL				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>5C17 Inchmery to Salternshill: With regard to the shoreline between Inchmery and Salternshill it is not correct to state that "The shoreline is undefended". Parts of the shoreline are defended in case of a risk of flooding of the shoreline throughout this Policy unit, the Hold the Line Policy Option should be adopted for the whole of this Policy unit for all three Epochs to enable those property owners who currently defend their property to continue to do so. 5C18 Salternshill to Park Shore: I wish to object to the proposal to alter the policy for the 50 - 100 year epoch (Epoch 3). It should remain as "Hold the Line" as the landowner is responsible for maintaining defences and happy to do so. There is no proven reason at present why this strategy should alter into the future. To do so would be equivalent to a freeholder of land agreeing to reduce his interest in the land to a 20 or 30 year lease in respect of a covenant of a reduced ability to defend the land. The Policy should remain the same in each Epoch- HOLD THE LINE. 5C20 Sowley to Elmer's Court: This shoreline is not undefended; the current defence is simply the declining salt marsh. This policy unit should therefore be given a "Hold the Line" policy for all three epochs to enable those owners who wish to defend their property to apply to do so by some alternative means to saltmarsh.</p>			<p>Thank you for your comments and response. Your objection to the proposed Managed Realignment between Salternshill and Park Shore has been noted and the final policy will be altered to reflect landowner's intentions. The SMP team acknowledge that the vast majority of the private landowners in the West Solent maintain their defences at their own expense and intend to continue to maintain them over the long-term. The process for the development of the SMP sought this information and we are grateful for the responses received from landowners. Owners of defences have rights to maintain defences and protect property and the SMP policies do not conflict with these rights. Improvements or extensions to existing defences will require planning permissions and consents, as is currently the case and is not a new requirement. The intention is that undefended lengths of shoreline will remain undefended. We welcome the opportunity to explore coastal planning issues with landowners and external partners.</p>		

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Solent Protection Society	Response No	147
Revisions to SMP	Issue added to action plan.				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>Concerned about the predicted loss of saltmarsh as a result of the SMP. Would like to see reference to other practical regeneration schemes which are cheaper than MR. Also would like confirmation and clarification on the rights of landowners to improve standard of their defences.</p>			<p>Thank for your response. The SMP team have been involved in research into beneficial use of dredgings, quantifying saltmarsh loss and inter-tidal habitat creation methods and identification of potential sites and have long advocated trials of various saltmarsh restoration and stabilisation techniques. The SMP aims to recommend management policy rather than the detail of implementation and funding, which will need to be determined through more detailed Coastal Defence Strategy studies. The Appropriate Assessment is a detailed investigation into quantification of saltmarsh and mudflat loss and identified potential habitat creation sites for mitigating and compensating for inter-tidal habitat losses. The Regional Habitat Creation Programme is tasked with delivery of necessary compensation habitat requirements. The Action Plan has identified the need for further investigations into opportunities for making beneficial use of dredged materials for beach recharge and saltmarsh stabilisation, and the continuation of developing opportunities for habitat creation between authorities and with external partners.</p>		

Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Beaulieu Estate	Response No	173
Revisions to SMP	Change in final policy 5C18. Changed to HTL/HTL/HTL				
Comment received			Client Steering Group Response		
<p>The Policy unit for the Beaulieu estate foreshore should remain as HTL for all 3 epochs. We also believe the policy for the whole section from Lymington to Calshot should be HTL for all 3 epochs. Please</p>			<p>Thank you for your comments and response. The SMP team acknowledge that many of the private landowners in the West Solent protect their landholding and maintain their defences at their own</p>		

<p>alter the designation for the section from Park shore to Salternshill to HTL for the 3rd epoch 50-100 years and if possible all the others to HTL throughout from Lymington to Calshot.</p>	<p>expense and intend to continue to maintain them over the long-term. The process for the development of the SMP sought this information and we are grateful for the responses received from landowners. Owners of defences have rights to maintain defences and protect property and the SMP policies do not conflict or remove these rights. Improvements or extensions to existing defences will require planning permissions and consents, as is currently the case and is not a new requirement. The division of the West Solent shoreline into the separate lengths aims to reflect the differences in management and processes acting on these shorelines. The intention is that unmanaged and undefended lengths of shoreline will remain undefended. We welcome the opportunity to explore coastal planning issues with landowners and external partners.</p>
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Comment relates to	New Forest District Council	Consultee	Beaulieu Estate	Response No	3
Revisions to SMP	Change in final policy 5C18. Changed to HTL/HTL/HTL				
Comment received		Client Steering Group Response			
<p>Objection to change in policy from HTL at 5c18 Salternshill and Park Shore. Intention is to maintain defences and not allow realignment.</p>		<p>Many thanks for your response. Your objection to the proposed Managed Realignment policy is noted along with your intention to continue to maintain your defences. As stated during previous consultations, the policy for the frontage between Salternshill and Park Shore will be amended to reflect your comments and will revert to Hold the Line, with a clear statement that no public funding (from Grant Aid for flood defence and coastal protection) is likely to be available for the continued maintenance of the existing defences. Further detail on the expected levels of maintenance and improvement work required to defences will be included in subsequent Coastal Defence Strategy Studies and/or Schemes, which will look at how to implement the final SMP policies. This issue has been included within the Action Plan.</p>			