

B10.2.4.9 CONSULTATION FEEDBACK RESULTING IN CHANGES TO SMP POLICY AND / OR DOCUMENTATION – ALL REGIONS

Comment relates to	All Council Regions	Consultee	South East England Partnership Board	Response No	116
Revisions to SMP	Main SMP amended to clarify funding issues.				
Comment received		Client Steering Group Response			
The partnership welcomes the SMP but has concerns about the potential shortage of alternative funding opportunities.	Many thanks for your positive consultation response. Where necessary amendments have been made to the SMP documents as per your comments. The SMP is a high level strategic document that recommends broad-scale coastal flood and erosion risk management policy that will result in economically, socially and environmentally sustainable management of the shoreline. Whilst the SMP recommends policies of intent, such as Hold the Line or Managed Realignment, it does not guarantee or secure central government funding. Once all of the SMP's around the entire coast of the UK are completed central government will then be able to reassess national funding budgets and prioritise coastal defence expenditure to regions identified as being most at risk. The SMP has identified that coastal defence works are urgently needed along many stretches of the North Solent shoreline. Further detail on the expected levels of maintenance and improvement work required to defences and sources and likelihood of funding will need to be included in subsequent Coastal Defence Strategy Studies and/or Schemes, which will look at how to implement the final SMP policies. These issues have been included within the SMP Action Plan.				

Comment relates to	All Council Regions	Consultee	RSPB	Response No	153
Revisions to SMP					
All of the issues highlighted have been clarified in the Appropriate Assessment					
Comment received		Client Steering Group Response			
<p>In general welcomes extensive work undertaken on SMP. Concerned AA does not provide sufficient information that the integrity of European site network will be maintained. Draft AA does not show compensatory proposals or present IROPI. Question the principle of mitigating Portsmouth losses in adjacent SPA from increases in mudflat due to losses in saltmarsh. Recommends that the SMP should assess BAP losses and gains.</p>		<p>Thank you for your detailed consultation response. The draft AA assessed the draft policies proposed for consultation and provides an assessment of the impact per European sites. Details regarding compensation requirements will be included in the final AA when the final policies have been agreed and will provide more confidence that the integrity of the European site network will be maintained providing. The compensation requirements for the plan will be passed on to the Regional Habitat Creation Project for delivery. The case for Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest will be documented in the final AA. With regards to intertidal losses in Portsmouth Harbour the draft AA has calculated losses of 160ha of mudflat habitat concluding that the SMP will have an adverse impact on Portsmouth Harbour SPA and Ramsar site. Regarding the offset of Portsmouth losses within adjacent SPA when looking at the overall losses to all SPA sites, this will be clarified in the final report.</p>			