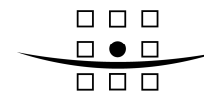


ROYAL HASKONING

Appendix B Stakeholder Engagement



Appendix B Stakeholder Engagement

B1	Introduction.....	1
B2	Membership lists	16
B2.1	Stakeholder Group.....	16
B3	Stakeholder Engagement Materials.....	18
B3.1	Initial Questionnaire	19
	Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point.....	19
B3.2	Invitation to Initial Stakeholder Meeting.....	24
B3.3	Invitation to the Second Stakeholder Meeting.....	25
B3.4	Invitation letter to Key Stakeholder Workshops.....	26
B3.4	Invitation letter to Key Stakeholder Workshops.....	26
B4	Project Management Group Review Materials	27
B4.1	Briefing Note for June 2008 Meeting regarding Setting Objectives/ Characterisation	28
Area 1:	Lowestoft – Lowestoft Ness to Pakefield Hall	32
	Definition	32
	Background.....	32
	Shoreline Management.....	35
	Key Values.....	37
	Stakeholder objectives.....	37
Area 2:	Kessingland and Covehithe - Kessingland to Easton Broad.....	38
	Definition	38
	Background.....	38
	Shoreline Management.....	40
	Key Values.....	42
	Stakeholder Objectives	43
Area 3:	Southwold and the Blyth Valley - Easton Bavents to Dunwich Cliffs	44
	Definition	44
	Background.....	44
	Shoreline Management.....	48
	Key Values.....	50
	Stakeholder objectives.....	50
Area 4:	Minsmere – Dunwich Cliff to Thorpeness.....	51

Definition	51
Background	51
Shoreline management.....	53
Key values.....	54
Stakeholder objectives.....	54
Area 5: Aldeburgh – Thorpeness to North Weir Point.....	55
Definition	55
Background.....	55
Shoreline management.....	59
Key values.....	60
Stakeholder objectives.....	61
Area 6: Deben Peninsula and valley – Shingle Street to Cobbold’s Point.....	62
Definition	62
Background.....	62
Shoreline management.....	65
Key values.....	67
Stakeholder objectives.....	67
Area 7: Felixstowe – Cobbold’s Point to Landguard	69
Definition	69
Background.....	69
Shoreline management.....	71
Key values.....	72
Stakeholder objectives.....	73
B4.2 Briefing Note and Figure for June 200* Meeting regarding Objective	
Evaluation / Assessment.....	79
Development of Policy	79
Introduction	79
Key Drivers and Objective Evaluation	81
Policy appraisal.....	83
B5 Key Stakeholder Consultation Report: consultation on the Draft SMP2 document	
85	
5.3 Revisions to the SMP2 document.....	86
B6.3 General Issues.....	86

Appendix 1 – Key Stakeholder Engagement: Consultation Report June 2009

Appendix 2 – Public Examination: Consultation Report November 2009

B1 Introduction

This appendix outlines the stakeholder consultation strategy for the development of the SMP and details how stakeholder involvement was achieved at each stage of the plan preparation/dissemination.

Three main groups were involved in the SMP development:

1. The Client Steering Group (CSG);
2. Representative Members Forum (RMF);
3. Key Stakeholders Forum (KSF);
4. Other Stakeholders.

The members of the CSG are outlined in Appendix A and included representatives from all the local authorities as well as Natural England, and the Environment Agency.

The involvement of Representative Members (RMF) in the process of proposal development reflects the "Cabinet" style approach to decision making operating in many local authorities. Politicians are involved from the beginning to minimise the risks of producing a draft document that does not meet the needs of the Operating Authorities. They are to be involved through a Forum, building trust and understanding between themselves, the CSG and Key Stakeholders.

Stakeholder consultation played an integral role in the development of the shoreline management policies. The lead authority Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) undertook to organise the stakeholder consultation throughout the SMP development. The stakeholder group comprised representatives from groups with local, regional and national interest in addition to site specific interests. Such a group was selected to try to achieve a 'holistic' consultation approach, taking consideration of all interests in the coast:

Stakeholder representatives included:

- County Councils
- Town Councils
- Parish/Ward Councils
- Residential Interest Groups eg. Suffolk Coasts Against Retreat (SCAR)
- Commercial interests eg. British Energy
- Conservation bodies eg. National Trust, RSPB
- Recreational groups
- Cultural and historic interest groups eg. English Heritage

The full membership list is included in Section B2.

A summary of the stakeholder engagement strategy is shown in Table B1.1.

Table B1.1 Summary of the Stakeholder Strategy

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 1: SMP Scope	Representative Members meeting	22 June 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform RMF that an SMP is being reviewed. • Explain the role of the Operating Authorities and the Anglian Authorities Coastal Group. • Explain the background to the Shoreline Management Plan, management policies and the processes of review and Stakeholder Engagement. • Obtain agreement on the Constitution and Terms of Reference of the RMF. • Obtain agreement on the roles and tasks of the RMF and CSG • To explain the management issues along the coastline. • Obtain agreement to process, method of stakeholder engagement and the timetable for the review. 	RMF: Three Member representatives from each of the Operating Authorities (Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency and one Member representative from Suffolk County Council	Meeting with presentations on (1) the roles and responsibilities of the RMF, CSG and KSF and (2) the flood risk, erosion risk, environmental and land use planning issues along the coast	Pre-meeting: An agenda via e-mail. Post meeting: Electronic version of the slides used during the meeting and Minutes.

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 1: SMP Scope (con't)	Issues identification	Oct 06 to Mar 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain views on features and issues for the SMP for inclusion in Issues table 	British Energy Natural England Suffolk Coasts & Heaths English Heritage Environment Agency SCC Archaeology SCDC/ WDC Planners	E-mail and one-to-one interviews	Draft issues table and explanatory note
	Initial Key Stakeholder contact	31 July 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform interested parties that an SMP is being reviewed by the Operating Authorities Obtain correct contact details Send draft issues table for information and comment 	Key Stakeholders	Letter	Draft Issues Table and questionnaire.
	Key stakeholder meeting	19 Sept 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain agreement on the roles and tasks of the KSF Obtain agreement on role of individual members To explain the management issues along the coastline Obtain agreement to process and timetable for the review Request information from interested parties Gather views on issues relating to the SMP Complete issues table 	Key Stakeholders	<p>Meeting/workshop with presentations on (1) the roles and responsibilities of the RMF, CSG and KSF and (2) the flood risk, erosion risk, environmental and planning issues along the coast.</p> <p>Follow-up telephone calls and e-mails.</p> <p>Meetings with key stakeholder groups.</p>	<p>Pre-meeting: An invitation letter; questionnaire on contact details, information held and issues of concern; an agenda.</p> <p>Post meeting: Electronic version of the slides used during the meeting and Minutes.</p>

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 2: Assessments to support policy	Issues table	16 Oct 2006	RMF asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that all issues included • Review the features identified • Check that benefits identified and all beneficiaries included • Check that the objectives are a good representation of the requirements of the beneficiaries • Agree format and style of consultation with key stakeholders 	Representative Members	Meeting and discussion	Draft Issues Table and explanatory note dispatched pre-meeting via e-mail
		27 Feb 2008	KSF asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that all relevant issues have been included • Review the features identified • Check that the benefits identified are correct and that all beneficiaries are included • Check that the objectives are a good representation of the requirements of the beneficiaries 	Key Stakeholders	Workshop	Draft Issues Table and explanatory note dispatched pre-meeting via e-mail
		27 Feb 2008	KSF members asked to review final issues table	Key Stakeholders	E-mail correspondence	Draft Issues Table & explanatory note
	Defining & Assessing objs	06 Nov 2007	To review and agree objectives in advance of consulting KSG	CSG and RMF	Meeting	Draft list of objectives
		27 Feb 2008	To review and agree objectives prepared by the Consultant	KSG	Email correspondence and meeting if required	Draft list of objectives

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 3: Policy Development	Policy Development	23 Sep 2008	RMF Meeting	RMF	Meeting	Agenda and Minutes
		10 Oct 2008	Members respond to Draft Policy	RMF	Email correspondence	Draft Policy
		31 Oct 2008	Royal Haskoning revise Draft Policy	RH	Email correspondence	RMF Comments
		07 Nov 2008	CSG Meeting	CSG	Meeting	Agenda and Minutes
		30 Nov 2008	CSG Respond to v6 Draft Policy	CSG	Email correspondence	Policy comments
		01 Dec 2008	Royal Haskoning amend Draft Policy	RH	Email correspondence	Draft Policy
		02 Dec 2008	CSG Agenda issued with final Draft Policy documents	Terry Oakes Associates Ltd. (TOAL)	Email correspondence	Agenda and final Draft Policy documents
		08 Dec 2008	Update Exec Summary & produce table to show how objectives are met by each possible policies.	CSG/RH	Email correspondence	Executive Summary
		10 Dec 2008	Produce guidance on WFD compliance, plus example	RH/EA	Email correspondence	WFD and example
		06 Jan 2009	Send out CSG Agenda	TOAL	Email correspondence	Agenda & Minutes, K/S letters
06 Jan 2009	Send out final Draft Policies to CSG	RH	Email correspondence	Final Draft Policies		

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Stakeholders involved	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 3: Policy Development (con't)	Policy Development (con't)	13 Jan 2009	CSG Meeting	CSG	Meeting	Agenda & Minutes
		13 Jan 2009	Approve Executive Summary	RMF/CSG	Email correspondence	Executive Summary
		04 Feb 2009	RMF Meeting	RMF/CSG	Email correspondence	Agenda and final Draft Policies
		25 Feb 2009	CSG Meeting to agree draft Policy Docs and prepare for K/S W/shops	CSG	Meeting	Agenda ad final Draft Policies Docs
		03 Mar 2009	Final draft Exec Summary PDZs sent to TOAL for website	RH	Email	Docs
		23 Mar 2009	Final pre-workshop draft PDZs to TOAL for uploading to website	RH	Email	PDZ 1 to 7 files
	Environmental Report	09 Dec 2008	Start draft Environmental Report	RH	Email correspondence	
		13 Jan 2009	Review draft SEA Scoping Report and provide comments	EA/NE	Email correspondence	Draft SEA Scoping Report
		20 Jan 2009	SEA Scoping Report to key consultees	RH	Email	Draft SEA Scoping Report
		23 Feb 2009	Draft SEA Scoping Report available	RH	Email	Draft Scoping Report

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 3: Policy Development (con't)	Consultation	05 Dec 2008	Draft Key Stakeholder cover letters	TOAL	Email correspondence	Draft Cover letters
		09 Dec 2008	CSG Meeting: Policy Discussion and Communications Strategy Agree format and presenters for each Forum day	CSG	Meeting Email correspondence	Agenda and Minutes
		15 Dec 2008	Book KSF venues, catering and sound.	TOAL	Phone and email	
		06 Jan 2009	Email draft Communications Plan to CSG	Sharon Bleese, EA	Email correspondence	Draft Communication Plan
		13 Jan 2009	CSG Meeting: Policy Discussion	CSG	Meeting	Agenda and Minutes
		15 Jan 2009	Complete and agree KSF Invitation List	CSG	Email correspondence	KSF Invitation List
		15 Jan 2009	Publish details of KSF on website	TOAL	Website	KSF details
		15 Feb 2009	Key Stakeholder list compiled into database for multi-purpose use	TOAL		Address database
		16 Feb 2009	Invitation letters sent to Key Stakeholders	TOAL	Email and post	Invitation letter
		25 Feb 2009	CSG Meeting: Review communications plan	CSG	Meeting	Communications Plan; Agenda and Minutes

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
Stage 3: Policy Development (con't)	Consultation (con't)	04 Mar 2009	Place Draft Policy documents on website for Key Stakeholders	TOAL	Website	Draft Policy documents
		05 Mar 2009	Inform Key Stakeholders that Draft Policies are available on website	TOAL	Email and post	Website address
		12 Mar 2009	Prepare draft Display Boards and Leaflets for KSF	RH		
		16 Mar 2009	CSG Meeting to discuss Key Messages, FAQs and Stakeholder workshops in general	CSG	Email correspondence	Agenda and Minutes
		16 Mar 2009	Establish LA requirements for approval of Draft SMP	PFP/TOAL/JB		
		16 Mar 2009	Share Key Messages and use these consistent lines in all media interviews, and in the workshops	RMF/CSG	Email correspondence	Key Messages
		16 Mar 2009	Prepare media contact list	TOAL/SCDC/WDCEA Comms Officers	Email correspondence	Media contact list
		17 Mar 2009	Pre-forum Briefing: Hollesley Bay	TOAL	Meeting	
		23 Mar 2009	Workshop presentations sent to TOAL Consultation Team for setup	TOAL	Email correspondence	Workshop presentations
		23 Mar 2009	Gather resources required for workshops	TOAL	Various	Workshop materials/equipm't

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Dates	Purpose of stakeholder involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information Sent
		25 Mar 2009	Pre-forum Briefing: Kessingland area	WDC/EA	Attend Kessingland PC meeting	
		31 Mar 2009	Workshop 1: PDZs 4 and 5 Riverside Centre, S/ford St Andrew	CSG/RMF/Key Stakeholders	Workshop	
		02 Apr 2009	Workshop 2: PDZs 1, 2 and 3 Southwold Pier	CSG/RMF/Key Stakeholders	Workshop	
		03 Apr 2009	Workshop 3: PDZs 6 and 7 Ufford Park Hotel, Melton	CSG/RMF/Key Stakeholders	Workshop	
		06 Apr 2009	Publish workshop presentations on website	TOAL	Website	W/shop presentations
		13 Apr 2009	Debrief workshop arrangements	RH/TOAL	Meeting	
		23 Apr 2009	CSG to review comments to date and prepare Consultation Report	CSG/RH	Meeting 22	Consultation report
		30 Apr 2009	Closing date for comments by KSF	RH	Post/Email correspondence	KSF Comments
		13 May 2009	RMF to receive report from CSG	RMF/CSG/RH	Email or Meeting, if necessary	Consultation report

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Date	Purpose of Stakeholder Involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information sent
Stage 4: Public Examination	Public Consultation	23 Apr 2009	Decide Roadshow venues	CSG	CSG Meeting 22	
		5 May 2009	Begin booking roadshow venues	TOAL		
		5 May 2009	Book display stands for exhibition materials.	TOAL		
		11 May 2009	Start draft text for exhibition materials, including leaflets	RH		
		13 May 2009	CSG Meeting to discuss Key Messages, FAQs and Stakeholder workshops in general	CSG	Email correspondence	Agenda and Minutes
		13 May 2009	RMF Meeting to approve policies	RMF	Email correspondence	Agenda and Minutes
		8 Jun 2009	TOAL access to updated Draft SMP	TOAL/RH	Email/FTP Transfer	Draft SMP
		10 June 2009	CSG Meeting to discuss roadshows	CSG	Email correspondence	Agenda and Minutes
		17 June 2009	Share Key Messages and use these consistent lines in all media interviews, and in the workshops	RMF/CSG		Key Messages
		22 Jun 2009	Print consultation documents			Consultation documents

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Date	Purpose of Stakeholder Involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information sent
		26 Jun 2009	Share Key Messages and use these consistent lines in all media interviews, and in the roadshows	RMF/CSG		Key Messages
		26 Jun 2009	Complete exhibition board texts	CSG	Email correspondence	Exhibition board texts
		26 Jun 2009	Deliver exhibition board texts to printers	RH		Exhibition board texts
		30 Jun 2009	Update web site	TOAL	Website	
		01 Jul 2009	SCDC, WDC and SCC Officers to advise deadline for Cabinet and Council approval of Final Draft SMP	PFP/TO/JB		
		01 Jul 2009	Send Draft SMP to EAQRP	TOAL		
		01 Jul 2009	Consultation Period Starts			
		01 Jul 2009	Press releases and media work	Comms Officers/CSG		
		02 Jul 2009	Regular website updates	TOAL	Website	
		02 Jul 2009	Regular FAQ updates	Comms Officers/CSG		
		02 Jul 2009	Draft Policy mailed to all Key Stakeholders	TOAL	Post/Email	Draft Policy
		04 Jul 2009	Roadshow 1 - Southwold	All 12 pm – 5 pm	Exhibition	Stella Peskett Hall
		07 Jul 2009	Roadshow 2 - Kessingland	All 2 pm – 7 pm	Exhibition	Church Hall
		08 Jul 2009	Roadshow 3 - Walberswick	All 2pm – 7 pm	Exhibition	Village Hall

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Date	Purpose of Stakeholder Involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information sent
		16 Jul 2009	Roadshow 4 – Bawdsey/Alderton/Hollesley	All 2pm – 7 pm	Exhibition	Hollesley VH
		17 Jul 2009	Roadshow 5 – Aldeburgh/Thorpeness	All 2 pm – 7 pm	Exhibition	Aldeburgh Church Hall
		18 Jul 2009	Roadshow 6 – Felixstowe - joint exhibition with Central Felixstowe PAR scheme	All 10 am – 2 pm	Exhibition	Felixstowe Town Hall Council Chamber
		03 Aug 2009	Review feedback from exhibitions	CSG	Email correspondence	Exhibition feedback
		31 Aug 2009	Review of initial responses sent to CSG	RH	Email	
		04 Sep 09	Send out Press Release to remind public and other stakeholders to make comments by 30 September	TOAL/SCDC Comms Team	Email	Press Release
		30 Sep 2009	End of Consultation	Minimum of three months recommended		

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Date	Purpose of Stakeholder Involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information sent
Stage 5: Finalise SMP	Determine revisions to Draft Policy	01 Oct 2009	Review output from public consultation.	CSG	Email correspondence	Summary of comments
		09 Oct 2009	Issue review of responses to CSG and RMF	RH	Email	
		09 Oct 2009	Develop Action Plan	CSG	To agree the Final Plan	
		19 Oct 2009	CSG Meeting to examine consultation responses	CSG	Meeting	
		26 Oct 2009	Production of Consultation Report	TOAL/CSG		
		16 Nov 2009	RMF Meeting to finalise plan	RMF	Meeting	
		30 Nov 2009	Final Draft Policy to EA External Affairs, LA Cabinets, SMP Quality Review Panel & RFDC	RH	Email	Draft Policy
		1 Dec 2009	Review of Final SMP	CSG/TOAL	Email/FTP Transfer	Draft Policy
		18 Dec 2009	Submit Final SMP to WDC, SCDC and EA	TOAL/RH	Print	Draft Policy
	Finalise SMP	Jan 2010	Prepare Final Draft SMP Documents	CSG		
		Jan 2010	SCDC, WDC and SCC Officers to submit Final Draft SMP to Cabinet and Council approval	PFP/TOAL/JB		

Stage of Plan Preparation	Activity	Date	Purpose of Stakeholder Involvement	Lead Organisations	Method of involvement	Information sent
Stage 5: Finalise SMP (con't)	Finalise SMP (con't)	Jan 2010	Final Plan to Partner Organisations for approval and adoption	WDC, SCDC, EA, NE	Officer led	Final SMP
		Feb 2010	Send Final Draft SMP document to EA for Special SMP Meeting.	KT/SB		
		26 Feb 2010	RFDC special SMP Meeting Agenda dispatched	EA	Email correspondence	Agenda
		Mar 2010	LAs and RFDC approve Final SMP	LAs/EA		
		Mar 2010	SoS IROPI approval of AA	CSG		
		Apr 2010	EAQRP approve Final SMP	CSG Officers	Internal meetings	
		Apr 2010	EA Regional Director signs off Final SMP	EA		
Stage 6: SMP Dissemination	Publish SMP	May 2010	To make stakeholders aware of the final plan	Wider public		
	Implementation	May2010	Implementation	LAs/EA		

B2 Membership lists

B2.1 Stakeholder Group

The stakeholder group comprised representatives from groups with local, regional and national interest in addition to site specific interests. Such a group was selected to try to achieve a 'holistic' consultation approach, taking consideration of all interests in the coast:

The following table indicates the organisation contacted during the Initial Stakeholder Engagement stage. Each organisation listed received the letter and questionnaire explaining that the SMP was being reviewed and requesting data and further information (refer B3 for sample letters and questionnaire).

Organisations	
Alde & Ore Estuary Planning Partnership	Hutchison Ports
Alde and Ore Association	Iken Parish Council
Aldeburgh Town Council	Ipswich & Suffolk Coastal Federation of Small Businesses
Alderton Hollesley & Bawdsey IDB	John Gummer MP
Alderton Parish Council	Andrew Hall
Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council	Kerr Farms
Associated British Ports	Kessingland Parish Council
Bailey Developments Ltd	Kirton & Falkenham Parish Council
Bawdsey Parish Council	Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council
Benacre Estate	Lowestoft & Waveney Chamber of Commerce
Benacre Parish Meeting	Marine Conservation Society
Blaxhall Parish Council	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
Blyford & Sotherton Parish Council	Martlesham Parish Council
Blythburgh Parish Council	Melton Parish Council
Blyth Estuary Group	Minsmere Levels Stakeholders Group
Bob Blizzard MP	National Farmers' Union
Blois Farms	National Trust
Boyton Hall Farms	Natural England
Boyton Parish Council	New Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
British Trust for Ornithology	Orford Businesses
Bromeswell Parish Council	Ramblers Association
Butley, Capel St Andrew & Wantisden Parish	Ramsholt Parish Meeting

Organisations	
Council	
CEFAS	GeoSuffolk
Easton Bavents Ltd	Reydon Parish Council
Waveney Chamber of Commerce	River Deben Association
Chillesford Parish Council	River Deben Estuary Partnership
Council for the Protection of Rural England	RNLI
Country Land and Business Association	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Covehithe Parish Council	Royal Yachting Association (Eastern Region)
Crown Estate	Suffolk Coastal District Council
Defra	Shingle Street Settlement Ltd.
Department for Transport	Shottisham Parish Council
Dunwich Parish Meeting	Snape Parish Council
East of England Business Group	Southwold Harbour & River Blyth Users Association
East of England Tourist Board	Sudbourne Parish Council
Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee	Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee	Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Easton Bavents Conservation	Suffolk County Council
English Heritage	Suffolk Coast Against Retreat (SCAR)
Environment Agency	Suffolk Preservation Society
Essex & Suffolk Water	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Farnham with Stratford St Andrew Parish Council	Sutton Parish Council
Federation of Small Businesses	Trinity House Lighthouse Services
Felixstowe Town Council	Tunstall Parish Council
Felixstowe Chamber of Trade and Commerce	Walberswick Parish Council
Friston Parish Council	Wangford with Henham Parish Council
Gisleham Parish Council	Waveney District Council
GO East	Waveney District Council
Harwich Haven Port Authority	Wenhaston & Mells Hamlet Parish Council
Hasketon Parish Council	Westleton Parish Council
Hemley Parish Council	Woodbridge Town Council
Henham Estate	Worldwide Fund for Nature
Hollesley Parish Council	Southwold Sailing Club

B3 Stakeholder Engagement Materials

The initial Stakeholder Engagement materials posted out are listed below and samples are provided in the following sections:

- A questionnaire and background text (refer B3.1)
- The invitation letter to the initial round of consultation (refer B3.2).
- The invitation letter to the second round of consultation (refer B3.3).
- The invitation letter to Key Stakeholder Workshops (refer B3.4)

Following this initial stakeholder consultation, the issues table and the objectives were developed. The second round of stakeholder consultation was then held to confirm the issues and objectives. The policy development process commenced once the objectives and values for the coast had been agreed. The Stakeholder Workshops were used to obtain feedback on the draft policies for the SMP.

B3.1 Initial Questionnaire

Questionnaire to Stakeholders

Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point

The aim of this questionnaire is to allow you or your organisation to express your interests or concerns about the coast.

While the questionnaire has been set up to help trigger comments and will help us to correctly collate responses, we do not wish to constrain your views. If there are other issues that do not fit within these questions, please feel free to write them separately on the issues sheets provided.

- The initial questions establish your contact details.
- These are followed by questions which allow you to identify any information you may have which may help us understand our coast better.
- The final section allows you to record your interests, concerns or use of the coast.

While the Shoreline Management Plan focuses on the management of coastal defences; the threat and consequence of coastal flooding and erosion, we need to gain as broad a perspective as possible as to how such issues may impact upon and influence your interests. It will not be possible to solve all concerns through the Shoreline Management Plan, it is however, important the defence management is undertaken with a sound knowledge of all interests, so that where possible we work with not just natural processes but also the interests of our communities.

Please answer the following questions and return by 1st October 2007.

We would appreciate your return of the questionnaire even if you do not wish to comment on the Shoreline Management Plan. Please use the enclosed pre-paid SAE.

CONTACT DETAILS	
1. Your name or name of your organisation or business	
2. Address	
3. Name of contact	
4. Position in organisation	

5. Address if different from 2	
6. Telephone No.	
7. Fax No.	
8. Email address	
9. Referring to the attached list of consultees – are there any other Stakeholders that you would recommend we contact?	

INFORMATION

Please let me know if you hold any of the following information, if so, in what format is it held and if you are willing to make it available to the Project Team.

Description (Please give brief details	Format		Availability	
	Hard copy	Digital	Yes	No
10. A map of your premises, site (s) or your area(s) of interest				
11. Any information or data about local coastal processes including photographs				
12. Study reports about coastal processes				
13. Flooding and erosion events.				
14. Design and construction of existing coastal defences				
15. Reports relating to the natural environment and ecology				
16. Reports relating to the built environment				
17. Land use mapping				
18. Coastal Industries				
19. Ports and harbours				
20. Agriculture				
21. Tourism and Amenity Usage of the coast				
22. Inshore Fisheries				

(Continue on reverse if necessary)

COMMENT

23. Is your organisation or business affected or potentially affected by the risk of coastal flooding or erosion? If so, please give brief details including any significant historic events.

24. What are the main issues relating to the way in which the coastline is managed and which you want to see being dealt with in the plan?

25. What objectives do you recommend for the future management of the coastline?

26. Do you have any views on the way in which the existing coastal defences have had an impact on the way in which the coastline has developed?

27. Do you have any views on changes that should be made to the existing coastal defences? What effect do you think this would have?

28. Do you have any views on changes that should be made to the existing coastal defences? What effect do you think this would have?

Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.

Yours Faithfully,

General Stakeholder Issues/Concerns

Reference No.	
Location:	
Issue:	
Why is this important?	

Reference No.	
Location:	
Issue:	
Why is this important?	

B3.2 Invitation to Initial Stakeholder Meeting

Dear Stakeholder
2007

31st July

INITIAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

I am writing to inform you that Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency are starting a review of the Shoreline Management Plan for the coastline between Lowestoft Ness and Felixstowe Landguard Point. These authorities recognise the importance of obtaining views from the broad range of organisations and individuals who have an interest in the management of the coastline. This initial consultation builds upon the work already carried out by the authorities in drawing together the issues and concerns expressed by people during the development of the several strategies, studies and on-going involvement with managing this section of the coast. However, we need to be confident that these views from stakeholders are still relevant and that we are not missing other issues or information that stakeholders may have.

To this end, I am pleased to attach to this letter the following documents:

1. The initial list of issues that have been identified to date, based on information provided in the past.
2. A questionnaire allowing stakeholders to express other views on the management of the coast and to comment on any information or specific interests they may have.
3. A list of consultees identified to date.

Both documents are available for downloading from the project's website, where additional information can also be found: www.suffolk.smp2.org.uk/.

We have set a date of the 1st October 2007 for the end of this initial consultation period. Towards the end of this period we have arranged a stakeholder forum meeting to which I am pleased to invite you. This meeting will be held at Snape Village Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday 19th September 2007. This meeting will be attended by Members and officers of the authorities. Also present will be representatives from Terry Oakes Associates Ltd, who are project managing the review, and Royal Haskoning, the consultants dealing with the technical elements of the project. This is an opportunity to review the issues and for people to discuss the process by which policy for future management of the shoreline will be developed.

I trust the information provided will assist you to become involved with the review of the shoreline management plan. If there are any matters arising before and to confirm your attendance at the initial consultation meeting please contact Terry Oakes on 01502 581822 (email: consult@terryoakes.com) who is project managing the review on behalf of the authorities.

Yours sincerely

B3.3 Invitation to the Second Stakeholder Meeting

21 December 2007

Dear Stakeholder

**FIRST REVIEW OF SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN –
LOWESTOFT NESS TO FELIXSTOWE LANDGUARD POINT
SECOND KEY STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION MEETING**

I am writing to invite you to the second Key Stakeholder Consultation meeting to be held at 7pm on Wednesday 27 February 2008, at the Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew, IP17 1LL (on the A12 between Woodbridge and Saxmundham).

For your information, following the receipt of comments made during the first consultation period, the officer Client Steering Group (CSG) has updated and clarified the definitions of “Issues”, “Features” and “Objectives” to be addressed during the review. The full table will be placed on the project website (www.suffolk.smp2.org.uk) early in 2008.

The purpose of the second meeting is to provide you with an opportunity to examine the results of the review of coastal processes behaviour and dynamics which will be used to develop the baseline scenarios, identify risks and test the response and implications of different management policy scenarios over the different timescales. The draft policies will not be presented, as their development is the next stage of the review.

This meeting will be attended by Members and officers of Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils and the Environment Agency. Also present will be representatives from Terry Oakes Associates Ltd, who are project managing the review, and Royal Haskoning, the consultants dealing with the technical elements of the project. If there are any matters arising before and to confirm your attendance at the second consultation meeting please contact Terry Oakes on 01502 581822 (email: consult@terryoakes.com) who is project managing the review.

Yours sincerely

B3.4 Invitation letter to Key Stakeholder Workshops

Mr/Mrs ?????
Address
Address
etc

16 February 2009

FIRST REVIEW OF SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN – LOWESTOFT NESS TO FELIXSTOWE LANDGUARD POINT

KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS

I am writing on behalf of the Review partners to invite you to attend one of the Key Stakeholder meetings to be held on 31st March, 2nd April and 3rd April 2009. Details of the venues, dates and programme are attached to this letter.

The partners - Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils, Suffolk County Council and the Environment Agency in conjunction with Natural England, and Royal Haskoning, the consultants dealing with the technical elements of the project – have arranged six half-day workshops scheduled to examine the proposed draft management policies for the Suffolk coastline. The programme of events is attached. You are invited to send representatives to any number of sessions as long as no more than two people attend each one.

Morning sessions will start at 10.00 am; afternoon sessions at 2.00 pm. In addition, each venue will feature a drop-in session in the evening from 5.00 pm until 7.00 pm for those unable to attend during the day.

The purpose of the workshops is to provide you with an opportunity to (1) review the process used to identify possible policy options for the management of the Suffolk coastline; (2) examine the proposed draft policies for each policy zone; (3) ask questions of the experts; and (4) challenge the decisions.

Each meeting will be attended by Members and officers of the Partner organisations, along with representatives from Terry Oakes Associates Ltd, who are project managing the review, and Royal Haskoning.

To confirm your attendance at a Key Stakeholder workshop meeting, please indicate by March 14th which sessions you wish to attend and confirm the names and contact details of those who will be attending by contact me on telephone 01502 581822; by email to smp2@terryoakes.com; or by writing to the address below.) Please contact me if there are any matters arising beforehand. A light lunch can be provided if requested in advance.

The review website (www.suffolksmp2.org.uk) contains further details of the review, including Issues Tables, each of which presents a list of the key features and issues along the coast, section by section, and why these are important to stakeholders. Policy Summaries for each section of the coast will be available for viewing and downloading after 2nd March 2009.

If you are unable to view or download any of these, please contact me and I will arrange printed copies for you.

Yours sincerely

B4 Project Management Group Review Materials

The Project Management Group Meetings were often used to review and discuss proposed methodologies and findings throughout the SMP development process. The Project Management Group provided feedback on a number of documents as summarised below:

Date of Meeting	Document reviewed/ discussed	Purpose	Document location
November 2007 – May 2008	Issues Table	To review issues for correct factual information and interpretation	Appendix E
	Briefing Note regarding Setting Objectives and Characterisation of the coast	To review and discuss Characterisation of the coast and the concept of overarching principles for setting objectives	B4.1
June 2005	Briefing Note regarding Objective Evaluation/ Assessment	To review and discuss proposed method of assessing and evaluating objectives without mathematical ranking system	B4.2
November 2005	Draft Policy Development Document	To review and discuss proposed policy development methodology and format.	
May 2009	Draft SMP	To review and discuss draft SMP document.	
December 2006	Consultation response	Consider responses and agree revisions to the SMP2	B5
February 2006	Review revisions and consider action plan	Ensure that revisions to the final SMP2 reflect issues raised during consultation. Agree proposed action plan	

B4.1 Briefing Note for June 2008 Meeting regarding Setting Objectives/ Characterisation

Setting Objectives

Sustainability

A shoreline management plan (SMP) identifies how the coast can be managed in a sustainable way in terms of managing and adapting to flood and coastal erosion risk in the light of future climate change and sea level rise. In addition to this, it also aims to deliver wider environmental and social benefits as part of the SMP policies.

As an overall principle it is adequate to take the definition provided by the original 1987 statement of sustainable development: *“development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*, subsequently amended and adopted in the Defra SMP guidance, in relation to defence management policy as avoiding: *“tying future generations into inflexible and expensive options for defence.”*

While this provided an initial intent, encapsulating the long term view being taken by the first review of the Shoreline Management Plan, it has to be realised that such a definition lacks (quite correctly, given its context) specific guidance as to the day to day, area by area management of individual sections of the coast or of risk. It is essential, therefore, to interpret this in relation to the actual situations that exist and the future that is envisaged.

There are two aspects to sustainability:

- the effort needed to deliver an outcome – such as pressure resulting from changing the coastal form, such as resisting erosion
- the harm or benefit resulting from the outcome - the vision of what is wanted of the coast

These have to take account of the issues in a particular area, for example: natural processes, ecology, homes, businesses, navigation or recreation.

The issues along the Suffolk coast have been identified from the following sources of information:

- earlier studies, such as the first SMP, strategies and scheme studies
- the first stakeholder meetings and discussions with the Representative Members Forum (RMF) and Client Steering Group (CSG)
- a review of policy documents, structure and local plans

Ideally, the most sustainable approach is not to intervene on the coast and to let it respond in a dynamic way to natural processes occurring in the North Sea. There is an increasing need to manage flood and erosion risk through

alternative methods, such as flood warnings and improving the resilience of individual properties, in an attempt to adapt to climate change and sea level rise.

This fits with the intentions of the European Water Framework Directive, which aims to restore water bodies (including coastal areas) to their natural state, unless there is a good reason not to. This can be done where there are no issues that need managing. However, the coast and hinterland are home to a wide variety of activities, features and issues often with complex interactions.

There are parts of the coast that people would not wish to change as the impact would have a detrimental effect on the sustainability of other issues or features elsewhere on the coast. These may be natural, man-made or social features that the present generation wants to pass on to future generations.

The right balance needs to be achieved between these two extremes, at the same time as making sure inflexible and expensive management plans are not passed on to future generations. Even where the coast is currently managed, future intervention may not be the right choice if it is likely that on-going management will have a detrimental effect on natural processes or impact on other parts of the coast long-term. It is likely that management in these places will increase in the future as the coast evolves or because of climate change. Careful consideration would therefore be needed to decide whether it would be sustainable to continue existing management practices rather than letting the coastline behave more naturally.

Principles and objectives

The SMP guidance indicates the following process for setting objectives:

- developing objectives for each feature in the ‘theme review’
- prioritising objectives within each theme
- identifying key policy drivers – features with associated objectives likely to have overriding influence.

The issues/features/objectives table identifies the aspects that this SMP should consider. This is on the website, and it will be updated as new information is received.

The ‘theme review’ looks at the features under each theme, such as the natural environment, built environment etc. It also goes on to discuss different sections of the coast in more detail and tries to explain how the features interact. It has been developed in the individual characterisation of each area attached to this paper.

Underlying principles and high level objectives specific to each area of the Suffolk coast have also been developed. These will influence the development of policies. How the coastline has been split for this exercise will not influence where future policy units will be. Each of these areas will interact to some degree with adjacent areas, so frontages that have strong

connections or overall values that we can draw together have been grouped. These could be amended in the light of comments from key stakeholders.

The approach of looking at each length of coastline and defining principles and over-arching objectives for them has been used.

Key principles

The following list of principles reflects the aspirations all stakeholders. It will be used together with stakeholder objectives identified for each area of the coast and will aid policy development and to identify specific objectives. These objectives have been developed by consulting the CSG, RMF and key stakeholders, and are presented as aggregated objectives for each area. It is important to note that these come from the values that stakeholders place on the issues and features in each area. Some of these objectives will therefore conflict with others. Because of this, the SMP will not be able to achieve all of these objectives. It should be noted that these principles have been set out in no particular order.

- To avoid the loss of life through flooding;
- To protect people's homes from flooding and erosion;
- To protect the local economy;
- To contribute to a sustainable and integrated approach to land use planning;
- To support adaptation by the local coastal communities;
- To avoid damage to and enhance the natural heritage;
- To support the historic environment and cultural heritage where possible;
- To maintain or improve landscape designations and features; and
- To reduce reliance on defence.

Overview of thematic review

For each area, we have described:

- the area or coastal frontage, including land use and the natural environment; summary of coastal behaviour, including a discussion of how coastal management may interact across each area; and
- key values and stakeholder objectives

Representatives along the Suffolk coast have been asked for their views on what the key local issues are for each section of coastline. The issues and features table contains a full list of all the issues identified from historical information, previous reports and stakeholder feedback.

Values have been aggregated together and a series of over-arching objectives for the whole coast have been developed as well as a series of specific objectives for each area.

Use of words

“Sustainability” has already been defined. In this paper and the issues and objectives table, other words have been used that are open to various interpretations. Below are the definitions:

Integrated – an approach that tries to take all issues and interests into account. In taking this approach, managing one issue adds value to the way another is dealt with.

Maintain – that the value of a feature is not allowed to deteriorate.

Enhance (improve) – the value of a feature increases

Sustain – refers to some function of a feature. A feature may change, but the function is not allowed to fail.

Adaptation – implies that there may be some actual change in the way a feature, such as a habitat or a community, functions. In supporting adaptation, management has to recognise certain principles:

- That adaptation may take time and may evolve slowly so that change to the overall community does not happen immediately.
- That management should not encourage a progressively more vulnerable situation to develop, where there is a sudden change from one condition to another.

Characterisation

The characterisation is set out in the following tables for each area considered. In addition to a general description and derivation of key values for an area, the key environmental designations are being identified, together with an initial identification of features at risk based on a policy of no further intervention. A brief synopsis is also provided of the degree to which the coast wishes to change; the inherent pressure any intervention on the coast would bring about.

Area 1: Lowestoft – Lowestoft Ness to Pakefield Hall

Chainage 0km – 10.5km

Definition

The area encompasses the town of Lowestoft, Kirkley village and the village of Pakefield which lies immediately to the south. The area is separated from Area 2, which lies to the south by the less developed cliffed section of the Kessingland Cliffs. Although it is recognised that there is a clear interaction between Lowestoft and Kessingland, particularly in terms of the A12 transport link which is set back from the coastline, there is a distinction made in their respective character and values in relation to shoreline management.

Lowestoft is the largest town in the SMP area and is also the most easterly town in the UK. The town is a regional economic hub and is in the process of undergoing major regeneration. Lowestoft is a good quality medium sized resort town appealing to young families and older adults. The award winning beaches are among the finest in the country. The town offers a good mixture of sailing and other maritime activities and also supports a number of other tourist establishments, attractions and events. The sea front is heavily dependent on artificial defences and strong management, most obviously at the harbour and in the area to the north. The following background overview takes in the whole of the Lowestoft area, extending to the north and beyond the boundary of this SMP in order to provide an effective overview.

Background

Overview

Lowestoft (population around 60 000) is the most easterly town in the UK, lying between the eastern edge of the Broads and the North Sea. It is divided by Lake Lothing and the harbour. There are residential and business areas on both banks of Lake Lothing, while the main shopping area is to be found on the north bank. Lowestoft station is centrally located within the town and provides services to Norwich, Ipswich and London (via Ipswich). Over the past few years, Lowestoft has undergone something of a facelift, with approximately £45 million being spent on the re-development of the town and the construction of a new relief road. Commercially, the area supports extensive mooring and quay areas, both commercial and recreational and includes the fish dock and several marinas. Critical land-based infrastructure includes the A12 road, which crosses Lake Lothing at the Lowestoft Bascule Bridge and the railway line, which runs along the north bank of Lake Lothing. Despite the new relief road further inland, the main road to the back of the sea front and the crossing at the Bascule Bridge are still heavily used and lie very much within the coastal zone. In addition, there is an international telecom cable landing site at Pakefield.

The town is also well renowned for its beaches, two of which are the holders of Quality Standards Blue Flag, while Corton Beach (part of which is a naturist beach) is located to the north of the town. The Esplanade runs along back of the South Beach and combines various indoor and outdoor attractions and facilities. The seafront has two

piers, Claremont Pier and South Pier, which is so called as it is on the south side of both the harbour and the river mouth. Claremont Pier is an integral part of the attraction of the promenade and Esplanade, while South Pier is more closely associated with the harbour, although it does form an important end feature to the whole southern sea front. Other tourist attractions within Area 1 include Pontin's holiday camp at Pakefield, Lowestoft Maritime Museum and the Euroscope (to the north of the harbour) and is also the home of Lowestoft seafront Air Festival which attracts around 400,000 visitors each year.

In the 1665, the Battle of Lowestoft (Second Dutch War) was fought between British and Dutch forces, while the town was used as a navigation point by German bombers during WWII. Lowestoft has also been subject to periodic flooding, the most severe being in January 1953, when the present day north Denes wall was outflanked by a North Sea swell driven by low pressure and a high tide caused overtopping of the defences and deluged most of the central town and beach area.

To the south of Lowestoft lies Pakefield (population around 6 900). In common with many other coastal settlements, Pakefield has a history of coastal erosion, with a number of development sites lost to the North Sea during the 19th Century. However at present, coastal deposition is ensuring that the village remains protected. Pakefield forms a different but important element of the Lowestoft characteristic area.

Land Use

The main land use feature of this area is the urban area of Lowestoft. Lowestoft is the largest urban centre in Waveney District and according to the Interim Waveney Local Plan 2004 (WDC, 2004) is the most sustainable locations for new development in the district. Lowestoft has however suffered from an economic decline and currently has unemployment levels above the national average and 'more social problems than any other town in Suffolk' (WDC, 2004). In response to this, the Council has focussed much of their regeneration efforts on promoting a renaissance in Lowestoft. The central feature of such regeneration has been to focus on building on the strengths of existing areas and promoting mixed use development. Key areas to support such a renaissance have been identified as the South Lowestoft area especially waterside areas such as the harbour and Lake Lothing. Allocations for employment and mixed uses have therefore been allocated in South Quay and throughout the eastern areas of the town. The central theme of future land use planning in this area (and the main thrust of district wide initiatives) is therefore concentrated on building on the strengths of Lowestoft to support regeneration and growth. In this respect, the waterside resources of Lowestoft, commercial, industrial, recreational and tourism related, are critical to the sustainable development of the District. Waterside land in Lowestoft is therefore of great importance to the District as a whole.

Natural Environment

Along the coastline of this area, the key environmental feature is Pakefield cliffs, an important geological site (although not a nationally designated SSSI feature). Directly south of Lowestoft, the shingle beach and cliffs are backed by some agricultural land and parkland. The designations associated with the Broads are located further inland to the east of Lowestoft but are still considered important context for the area. The Broads include freshwater lakes, fens and marshland and support numbers of internationally important breeding birds.

Site name	Qualifying feature
Broadland Ramsar	<p><i>Ramsar criterion 2</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 6</i> Species with peak counts in winter; Tundra swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>, Eurasian wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>, gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> and northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i></p>
The Broads SAC	<p>Primary reason for designation; Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp; natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i>-type vegetation; transition mires and quaking bogs; calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>; alkaline fens (priority feature); alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) (priority feature); Qualifying feature but not primary reason; <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>) <i>Annex II species</i> Primary reason for designation; Desmoulin`s whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>; fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i>; Qualifying feature but not primary reason; Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></p>
Broadland SPA	<p>ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>; Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> Over winter the area regularly supports: Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>; Bewick's swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>; Whooper swan <i>Cygnus Cygnus</i> ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION Over winter the area regularly supports: Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i></p>
Barnby Broad & Marshes SSSI	Large and varied area of open water, carr woodland, fen, grazing marsh and dykes.
Corton Cliffs SSSI	Geologically important because it is the type locality for the Anglian Cold Stage of the Pleistocene.

Shoreline Management



Physical Shoreline

The shoreline is heavily managed and with the exception of the area fronting Pakefield, is protected by substantial defences. To the north of the harbour, these generally comprise rock or concrete block revetments that extend from Lowestoft Ness through to the harbour. These defences, in addition to constraining erosion due to both strong flow and wave action, also act to provide flood protection to the low-lying hinterland. There is continuing erosion pressure on these defences, controlled very much by maintenance of the position of the Ness and the shoulder created by the Hamilton Dock walls. There is no significant beach, although Ness Point acts to retain the shape of the coast to the north, thereby maintaining North

Beach.

The harbour is formed around the artificial cut through at Lake Lothing to Oulton Broad. The defences within the harbour and inner harbour act as flood protection to the low-lying land on either side. While not being a natural feature, the flow into and out of the harbour, together with the direction of flow provided by the harbour piers, interacts with the nearshore banks and development of the offshore channels. The harbour and in particular the South Pier, have strongly influenced the shoreline to the south. Prior to the development and fixing of the Ness and the development of the harbour, the South



Beach was an area of erosion. Over the last century, this trend has been reversed or at least stabilised.

South Beach comprises a relatively wide sandy foreshore, developed between the harbour and the cliff headland at the northern end of Pakefield Cliffs. The sea walls landward of the beach support both the promenade and the wider Esplanade. The set back in the cliff line at this northern end of Pakefield has allowed the development of a beach comprised of vegetated shingle and backed by sand in front of the village. At present, there is a healthy width of upper beach across this headland; however, in the past, the waterline has pushed up against the sea wall at this point effectively dividing

South Beach from the beach at Pakefield.

In addition to the main coastal control points of the harbour and the Pakefield Cliff headland, the offshore banks and the channel between the shore and these banks play an important role in determining the width and health of the shoreline. Variation in the shape and position of these features results in cyclical periods of erosion and accretion along the whole southern section of the frontage.

Because of the long period of continued protection of South Beach and the modification at the harbour, the historical evidence of coastal trends sheds little light on future trends. The more recent trends have been for relative (although cyclic) stability, albeit with the need for the management of defences. At Pakefield, there are records of a

long-term trend of slow erosion at the cliff line; which is often associated with sporadic cliff falls, despite the otherwise healthy beach. When the beach does go through a period of erosion, the cliff becomes exposed and therefore has a tendency to erode. With increasing sea level rise, there will be increased pressure on all areas of the frontage; the influence and long term behaviour of the nearshore features will be critical to this and is currently poorly understood.

There is likely to be increased pressure and risk of overtopping along the section between the Ness and the harbour. The increase in water level will impose an increased risk of direct flooding and will constrain drainage into both the harbour and Lake Lothing. There will be increased pressure and potential reduction in the width of beach along South Beach and the potential for reactivation of cliff retreat along the Pakefield cliffs.

Interactions

To the northern section and within the harbour, the risk of flooding has a significant influence on the efforts for commercial regeneration within the important centre of Lowestoft. The threat of erosion has a more localised impact, but may be detrimental to key features such as the Euroscope (which in association with its position as the most easterly point of England is identified as a defining tourist interest to the town). Erosion would also result in loss of an important area of redevelopment and an essential element of the outer harbour.

The values of South Beach are associated with tourism and coastal recreation, although this merges to a high degree with the identified importance of the southern area of the harbour for allowing good quality waterfront development. The open ground of the Esplanade is used as a site for major attractions such as the annual air show, but is also an essential, more general entity of open ground, promenade, beach and pier, building on the identified core strength of Lowestoft as a coastal, seaside town and tourist centre. Efforts for regeneration of the town, but more immediately to the area of housing, accommodation and commercial properties to the rear of the Esplanade, are supported by this defended amenity area.

The section of promenade between South Beach and Pakefield is seen as a transition and route between the formal Esplanade and a more natural coastal environment to the south; both aspects are identified as being important to the diversity of the whole frontage. While economically significant, the properties along the cliff top of the Pakefield headland are seen as merely an extension of the hinterland development. It is recognised, however, that the open green area to the immediate south of the headland is locally significant to the community.

The Pakefield shoreline forms a distinct part of Pakefield village, although the main village is set back slightly. With the church and war memorial, together with the use of the beach for informal boat launching, this coastal area forms a local amenity and distinct cultural element of the village. In general, and notwithstanding Pakefield Cliffs,

the built environment dominates this overall area. Lowestoft is a centre for visiting and benefiting from the surrounding natural setting, rather than being integrated with the broader natural environment.

Key Values

Lowestoft is an important regional centre and tourist destination. Within a strongly managed environment, the key values vary along the shoreline from the highly developed commercially important area to the north and around the harbour, through the high value amenity frontage of South Beach of significant importance to the local tourism economy through its “Blue Flag” status, to the less formal Pakefield beach, with each section adding value to the overall character. The historic and extensive residential areas in south Lowestoft are dependent also on effective management of the beach and defences.

In particular, the economic regeneration of the harbour and those areas behind the Esplanade rely heavily upon appropriate management of the beach and promenade of South Beach. Additionally, the associated economic support derived from the harbour and the area immediately to the north means that shoreline management has to take account of overall and interrelated impacts on each of these areas. Pakefield has a distinct character and value which provides a transition to a more natural coastline to the south.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain Lowestoft as a viable commercial centre and tourist destination in a sustainable manner;
- To maintain critical transport links;
- To reduce flood and erosion risk to residential and commercial properties in Lowestoft;
- To protect the commercial and recreational use of Lowestoft harbour;
- To maintain navigation to Lowestoft harbour and associated areas;
- To maintain regeneration opportunities in and around Lowestoft;
- To maintain and enhance the overall amenity value of the frontage in general and in particular Lowestoft South Beach, its beach and open area behind;
- To maintain transport links in and around Lowestoft;
- To maintain the more informal character of Pakefield, retaining important cultural heritage;
- To maintain the geological value of Pakefield Cliffs; and
- To maintain access to and along the coastal path.

Area 2: Kessingland and Covehithe - Kessingland to Easton Broad

Chainage 10.5km – 21km

Definition

Although developed and defended, the village of Kessingland and the area immediately to the south is included within this area as it is fronted by the dominant and designated coastal feature of Benacre Ness. This stretch of coastline is primarily agricultural, with several features of conservation interest. The area to the south of Kessingland is dominated by environmental designations and reflects the rural character of this stretch of coastline. Even at Kessingland, the emphasis of a natural coastline is maintained through the width of vegetated backshore.

This area runs from Pakefield Hall through to Easton Broad.

Background

Overview

This stretch of coastline is predominantly agricultural, with several features of conservation interest. Pakefield Hall is now owned and operated by Pontins Holiday Parks Ltd. and lies to the north of Kessingland (population around 4 000), which is itself four miles south of Lowestoft. Once rumoured to be the richest village in England, the former fishing village now owes much of its popularity to the tourist industry. The area is popular with conservation enthusiasts and the Africa Alive attraction (to the south of Kessingland) was voted top Suffolk family attraction in 2003. Kessingland is also of interest for archaeologists, as palaeolithic and neolithic implements have been found here and the remains of an ancient forest lies buried on the seabed.

The area around the Kessingland levels is low-lying and consists of shingle beaches with secondary sea defence bunds built to reduce salt water inundation during times of tidal surge. The Hundred River runs through this zone and has an automatic pumping station to control water levels and maintain the fresh water balance. Directly behind the beach, grazing marshes flank the Hundred River, with the Suffolk Coast and Heaths path bisecting this. This area of coastline is eroding at a relatively high rate, with the area of erosion extending to the north as Benacre Ness has moved northwards. This change in erosion pattern at Benacre Ness is well illustrated where the pits created by gravel extraction are rapidly disappearing into the sea.

Further south are the villages of Benacre (population around 60), which is set well back from the shoreline and Covehithe (population around 28), which lies within 400 metres of the eroding cliffs. Both lie in the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Covehithe was highly prosperous in the Middle Ages through the trading of wool and cloth until its port was lost to coastal erosion. Erosion also caused the coastline at Covehithe to retreat by approximately 500 metres between the 1830s and 2001, with predictions indicating that the ruins of St. Andrews church are likely to fall into the sea by approximately 2050. An indication

of this is that Benacre Broad, which is now adjacent to the coast, was much further inland in the 1700's and has lost much of its original area. The coastal frontage is mainly divided between areas of cliff and low-lying broads, with Covehithe Broad and Easton Broad having been significantly reduced in extent through erosion. The Suffolk Heritage Coast commences to the south of Kessingland and continues south as far as Felixstowe.

The coastal path runs along the frontage at Kessingland, diverting inland behind each of the broads to re-emerge at the coast at Southwold. The main A12 road link runs inland of Kessingland, crossing the Hundred River upstream of the Kessingland Levels at Latymere Dam and then, remaining well back from the shoreline, down to Southwold. The B1127 runs from the A12 down to Reydon, crossing the upstream area of the Easton Broad at Potters Bridge, with only minor roads tending to run from these two north/south routes out towards specific villages and properties. The whole area is therefore accessed from the hinterland with no main coastal route which significantly adds to the relative remoteness of the area.

Land Use

The village of Kessingland is separated from Lowestoft by a rural coastal strip designated as Strategic Gap and Open Break in the Waveney Interim Local Plan. The provision of the designated gap will ensure that the Kessingland does not become absorbed into the wider urban area of Lowestoft to the north. Kessingland itself is a distinctly different settlement from Lowestoft and the Waveney Interim Local Plan describes it as being 'a separate community (from Lowestoft) with its own character' (WDC, 2004). In land use planning terms, Kessingland is surrounded to the north, south and east by a range of environmental designations which are intended to protect the foreshore and hinterland environments from urban encroachment. To the west lies an extensive area of agricultural land. Kessingland is dependent on Lowestoft for employment, but has its own limited commercial base which is focussed on tourism and use of the foreshore. The settlement is however is considered to be a centre which is capable of providing sustainable development and growth – a sustainable village. Kessingland is therefore important as an urban area in



ensuring that growth within the district proceeds in a sustainable manner. Despite its links with Lowestoft, Kessingland has its own policy base for regeneration, as the area is listed as a Suffolk Rural Priority Area. Regeneration will remain focussed on building on existing strengths of areas. In this instance, this would be likely to focus on the foreshore area in terms of coastally dependent commercial uses and also tourism and recreation. A stated objective of the Waveney Interim Local Plan relating to Kessingland is to 'safeguard and support the existing tourism industry by encouraging the redevelopment of existing facilities and the development of new facilities where appropriate' (WDC, 2004). Kessingland is therefore seen as an important component of the District's economic future.

Much of the Kessingland coastal development is set back a short distance from the crest of the cliffed shoreline. Only at Kessingland Beach, to the south of the main village, is there direct access to the shore, with a narrow strip development of housing and a road giving access to the holiday and caravan parks extending through to

<p>Kessingland Levels.</p> <p>The area south of Kessingland, including Covehithe is dominated by environmental policy designations which reflect its rural character.</p>
<p>Natural Environment</p> <p>The key environmental features include the shingle beach in the north, low cliffs around Easton Bavents and Covehithe and a series of saline lagoons with fringing reedbeds. The lagoons, which are included within the designations, are a series of percolation lagoons (the Denes, Benacre Broad, Covehithe Broad and Easton Broad) which formed behind shingle barriers and show a wide range of salinities, from nearly fully saline in South Pool, the Denes, to extremely low salinity at Easton Broad. Sea water enters the lagoons by percolation through the barriers or by overtopping them during storms and high spring tides.</p> <p>The area supports important populations of breeding birds, which are particularly associated with reedbed and shingle beach habitats. The reedbeds also support important numbers of Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> in winter. Little Terns <i>Sterna albifrons</i> feed substantially outside the Special Protection Area (SPA) in adjacent marine waters.</p>

Site name	Qualifying features
Benacre to Easton Lagoons SAC	Primary reason for designation; Coastal lagoons
Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA	ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> ; Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> ; Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
Pakefield to Easton Bavents SSSI	Geological exposures of the Lower Pleistocene Norwich Crag formations and associated Pleistocene vertebrate assemblages.
Benacre NNR	Reedbeds and lagoons of Benacre, Covehithe and Easton Broads, together with the woodlands and heathlands on the higher ground between them.
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB	The AONB protects heathland, reed beds, salt-marsh and mud-flats, a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes.

Shoreline Management

<p>Physical Shoreline</p> <p>Only in the northern section of this SMP area (adjacent to Kessingland) are hard defences present, with some flood protection being afforded to the Kessingland Levels and the Benacre pumping station. Over the main section of the coast there are no defences, although some action has historically been undertaken in the past to rebuild the shingle barriers in front of the broads. This management has, however, now largely ceased.</p> <p>To the northern end of the area, the dominant coastal feature is Benacre Ness, which has progressively moved north to expose areas of the south to erosion and thereby providing substantial protection to the coastline behind. There is some indication that</p>

sections of coastline immediately north of the Ness have suffered increased erosion as the Ness approaches.

The Ness is linked to the southern tail of the offshore bank system in front of Lowestoft, which extends further to the north. The movement of the Ness is thought to be intermittent with a slower underlying continuous trend. Such behaviour would be consistent with the cyclic behaviour of the nearshore banks. Currently the system means that there is some pressure on the cliffs to the north of Kessingland (at Gisleham and Pakefield), although this would be expected to reduce (with the threat of erosion moving to the north). Over the main Kessingland frontage, the massive shingle banks act to protect the sea wall, which in turn provides protection to the base of the cliffs. To the south of the Ness, however, the movement of the Ness has substantially increased erosion in front of the Kessingland Levels, threatening to bring both defences and the pumping station under pressure. Breach of the Kessingland Levels would allow saline intrusion on a regular basis potentially as far upstream as the A12, as well as radically altering the physical environment of this valley.

The cliffs over the main length of the area are continuing to erode and there is little significant structural or geological constraint on this, apart from the Southwold headland to the south in Area 3. This section of the coast is considered to respond as a drift aligned open coast, providing sediment to the south under the net wave energy. This release of sediment is the main feed of sediment, on occasion being drawn down the beach to a nearshore bar which has been identified as “fast tracking” sediment along the shoreline. The retreat of the cliffs is determining the retreat, overwash and rollback of the shingle barriers. There may be some additional feed to the overall system from the landfall of the nearshore bank system but it is uncertain to what degree. The system is seen, therefore, as being predominantly self-feeding, with the continuing pattern of erosion sustaining accretion in other areas.

Interactions

In relation to Kessingland, the area of erosion to the north of the Ness is potentially increasing erosion to the largely open ground between the village and the southern limits of Area 1. Several holiday parks are located here.

Over the main Kessingland frontage, the Ness provides substantial protection at present, although its movement could result in a return of direct pressure on the frontage in the long-term. This will pose the issue of protection and potential interference with the designated feature of the Ness. More immediately, this conflict will arise to the south of Kessingland in front of the Kessingland Beach and holiday parks and in the shorter term in relation to the management of the Kessingland Levels. In particular the issue of conflict between fresh and saline habitat is raised, in addition to the potential impact on farmland, properties and the strategically important A12 link which is less than one kilometre from the coast in the north of this area.



Over much of the rest of the area, this conflict between freshwater and marine habitats has already



developed, with the loss of the area of the broads being replaced by brackish and saline habitats. A potential area of freshwater habitat development was identified in the Coastal Habitat Management Plan as being within the Kessingland Levels. This is clearly an important possible interaction between management of different parts of this area.

The issues in relation to human land use are the loss of Covehithe and the culturally significant St. Andrews Church and the potential flood risk at Potters Bridge, to the rear of Easton Broad.

This section of coast also provides sediment to the Southwold frontage which must also be considered.

Key Values

Although in detail the area may be seen as the two distinct areas of Kessingland village and the Covehithe length of eroding cliffs and broads, there is direct linkage both in terms of management and overall character. The dominant theme is maintaining the varied but natural character of the area, within which there is a requirement to sustain tourism, existing facilities, coastal use, the natural environment and communities. The regeneration of Kessingland is a key component of this, as are the strengths of agriculture and the local community infrastructure. This combination of principal values is summarised as:

- Kessingland as a coastal village and tourist destination;
- Transport link from Kessingland to Lowestoft (A12);
- Strategic gap which delineates Kessingland from Lowestoft;
- Recreational use of the foreshore area;
- The agricultural economy;
- Community infrastructure;
- The natural and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the coastline; and
- Cultural heritage.

All of which are within a broader environmental value of the natural coast represented by:

- A highly dynamic and rapidly changing natural coastline;
- A wide range of interdependent and internationally important coastal brackish and freshwater habitats in the marshes and lagoons to the south of Kessingland; and
- The significant archaeological, geological and landscape features of the coast.

Stakeholder Objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain Kessingland as a viable commercial centre and tourist destination in a sustainable manner;
- To maintain a transport link from Lowestoft to Kessingland and throughout the area;
- To maintain a range of recreational opportunities along the foreshore;
- To support adaptation of rural industries and communities;
- To maintain biological and geological features in a favourable condition, subject to natural change;
- To maintain access to and along the coastal path; and
- To support appropriate ecological adaptation of habitats, in particular the important Easton Broad National Nature Reserve.

Area 3: Southwold and the Blyth Valley - Easton Bavents to Dunwich Cliffs

Chainage 21km – 30.5km

Definition

The area includes the coastal town of Southwold, extending to the north and including Easton Bavents, Dunwich village, the Blyth Estuary and the village of Walberswick. Southwold is a premier tourist centre in the SMP area and its character and appeal is closely associated with both the coast and estuary. Walberswick has a similar strong connection with the estuary, but also with the area of coastal marshes and lagoons down to Dunwich. During consultation this broader multi-aspect nature of the area around Walberswick and Dunwich was emphasised.

The area is important for its natural environment and the balance of freshwater, saline and marine habitats between the open and coast and estuary is highly significant.

Background

Overview

Southwold (population around 1 500) is an important tourist destination in Suffolk, both as a destination in its own right and as a hub for visitors to the countryside and villages in central Suffolk. The town is bounded by the North Sea to the east, by the River Blyth and Southwold harbour to the south and by Buss Creek to the north. In effect, the town is essentially an island, with only one road (A1095) in and out of the town. Development and the protection of Buss Creek have tended to draw Southwold closer to the neighbouring village of Reydon (population around 2,600). Southwold was mentioned in the Domesday Book as an important fishing port and received a town charter from Henry VII in 1489. Over the following centuries a shingle bar built up across the harbour mouth, which prevented the town from becoming a major port.



The harbour lies to the south of the town on the River Blyth and extends from the river mouth to approximately one mile upstream, serving both fishing and small pleasure boats. A foot ferry still runs between Southwold and Walberswick, although its main function is as a tourist attraction, being part of the circular route taking in the town, the village and estuary. There is also an RNLI station, a yacht club and a caravan park near the entrance to the harbour. The harbour is an integral part of the attraction of the town, as well as being a functioning harbour and a maintained haven of refuge. In 1659, a fire devastated most of the town and severely damaged St. Edmunds Church, whose original structure dated from the 12th century. However, this event was not totally detrimental, as the fire created a number of

open spaces ('greens') within the town which were never rebuilt.

Southwold Pier, which once functioned as a steamboat stop to London, had a major refurbishment in 2001 and is now an important tourist attraction. Southwold is also the home of the renowned Adnams brewery, which was rebuilt in 1890, having been in the same location since 1660.

The town's lighthouse, constructed in 1887, stands as a landmark in the centre of the town and replaced three earlier structures which were under serious threat from coastal erosion. On Gunhill green above the beach, six eighteen-pounder cannon commemorate the Battle of Sole Bay. This was an inconclusive battle in 1672 between the combined British and French fleets and the Dutch fleet which was fought adjacent to the town. During WWII, the cannons on Gun Hill ensured that Southwold gained the status of "fortified town"; however, despite the fact that these cannon were filled with concrete and therefore unable to fire, the town became the target of many Nazi bombing raids.

The town blue flag beach is a combination of sand and shingle, which had its protection upgraded in 2005/6 with a new coastal management scheme including beach nourishment, new traditional timber groynes on the south side of the pier and rock groynes to the north. The significant value of the Blue Flag beach was recognised in the economic assessment undertaken in justifying these works.

Walberswick, which lies to the south of Southwold, was once a thriving port. However, nowadays the village is a bustling tourist attraction in the summer months, with a very high proportion (though to be as much as half) of the properties being holiday homes. Further to the south lies the village of Dunwich, which was historically a large port, although coastal erosion caused much of it to be lost between the 13th and 16th centuries.

Today, Dunwich contains the ruins of a church and a friary, both of which are of national heritage importance. Small commercial fishing boats launch off the beach, although the fishing industry has declined in recent years. It is also thought that the Roman 'Stone Street' runs from Dunwich to Caistor St. Edmund near Norwich, indicating its historical significance.



The area between Walberswick and Dunwich is ecologically important but also provides a natural setting for the two villages. It has been identified as important for walking and painting, activities that reflect the character of the villages and form a major part of their tourist attraction.

The land around the estuary is important for agriculture, with fresh water abstraction allowing farming of the higher land around the estuary. There is also important water abstraction infrastructure and the concomitant aquifer which is reliant on the maintenance of defences. A golf course lies on the northern bank of the estuary close

to Southwold, which adds to the diversity of attractions in the area. The A12 crosses the Blyth further up the estuary at Blythburgh, forming a partial barrier across the coastal flood plain.

Land Use

The settlements of Reydon and Southwold (within Waveney District Council) and Walberswick and Dunwich (within Suffolk Coastal District Council) lie within this SMP policy unit.

Policy LP1 within the settlement strategy of the Waveney Interim Local Plan (WDC, 2004) also applies to Reydon and Southwold. These are therefore seen as areas which can absorb sustainable growth and are critically important to the growth of the district. Southwold is a buoyant tourism centre which attracts visitors from the UK and abroad. The tourism base is also underpinned by the famous Adnams brewery which is a major employer in Reydon and Southwold and is a contributory factor in attracting tourists. Reydon also supports an industrial base at Fountain Way, which is covered by the Council's policy on maintaining existing economic areas – Policy E2. The land use planning issues in these areas therefore relate to ensuring that sustainable growth is possible and that the key features of the town which support tourism (its historic core, harbour, brewery and waterside facilities) are protected. The environmental policy designations for the coastal strip and open space support this. Southwold is also recognised as being a retail based area, with high levels of confidence in the local economy. Accordingly, the Waveney Interim Local Plan (WDC, 2004) has provided objectives for the area to encourage new retail and leisure facilities within the town.

The significance of Southwold and Reydon to the local economy is recognised by Waveney District Council throughout the Waveney Interim Local Plan. The proposed Local Transport Action Plan for Southwold intends to ensure that the town is provided by a transport network sufficient to serve its tourism requirements.

Crossing the border into Suffolk Coastal District Council lies Southwold's neighbouring settlement of Walberswick. Walberswick provides a similar function to Southwold in land use planning terms, providing a buoyant tourism economy supported by the cultural values, built form and coastal location of the settlement. Policy AP66 of the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan – First Alteration: SCLP (SCDC, 2001) provides guidance on the intended planning approach to tourism areas. Walberswick and also Dunwich to the south are both specified in Policy AP66 as being key tourism areas which, in addition to the estuaries within this area, are intensively used during peak periods. The Council's response with regard to this policy is to ensure that the landscape and conservation values which support this activity are protected from new development. This recognises that Walberswick and Dunwich are important to the local economy, but that the foundations of the tourist industry need absolute protection.

Natural Environment

The shoreline outside of Southwold is remote, with a combination of sand and shingle along the beach which is being eroded and push back by natural processes. The key environmental features include extensive reedbeds, consisting largely of pure stands of reed *Phragmites australis* at Minsmere and Walberswick. The Minsmere-Walberswick designations include two large marshes, the tidal Blyth estuary and associated habitats. This composite coastal site contains a complex mosaic of habitats, notably areas of marsh with dykes, extensive reedbeds, mudflats, lagoons, shingle, woodland and areas of lowland heath. The SPA is actively managed to prevent scrub and tree invasion of the heathlands, grazing marshes and reedbeds.

Site	Features
Minsmere-Walberswick Ramsar	<i>Ramsar criterion 1</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 2;</i> Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> , Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> , Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> , Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> , Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> , Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> , Bearded Tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>
Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SAC	Qualifying feature but not primary reason; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; European dry heaths Primary reason for designation; Annual vegetation of drift lines
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA	ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> ; Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> ; Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> ; Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> ; Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> Over winter the area regularly supports: Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> ; Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> ; Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> Over winter the area regularly supports: Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> ; Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> ; White fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i>
Minsmere-Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SSSI	It contains a complex series of habitats, notably mudflats, shingle beach, reedbeds, heathland and grazing marsh
Pakefield to Easton Bavents SSSI	Important for the geological exposures of the Lower Pleistocene Norwich Crag formations and associated Pleistocene vertebrate assemblages, and the coastal geomorphology of Benacre Ness.
Suffolk Coast NNR	Walberswick, Hen Reedbed and Dingle Marshes exhibit many types of habitat including reedbed, fens, dykes, hay meadows, grazing marshes and a variety of woodlands. Hen Reedbed also holds a significant proportion of the UK's marsh harrier and bittern populations.
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB	The AONB protects heathland, reed beds, salt-marsh and mud-flats, a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes.

Shoreline Management

Physical Shoreline

Southwold acts primarily as a hard control point, anchoring the drift aligned (when coast develops parallel to the line of longshore drift, normally at an angle of 40 – 50° to the direction of wave approach) coastline to the north. This most immediately affects the cliffs of Easton Bavents by limiting their erosion in the long term, but potentially also allows the coast to align to net wave energy further to the north. Drift over the Southwold frontage, although net to the south, is also characterised by significant northerly movement of material under specific conditions.

To the south, Southwold's defended headland control is supplanted by the influence of the estuary and in particular by the presence of the harbour structures to the north and south of the entrance. While constraining the mouth and maintaining high flows and navigation, the structures also have a controlling influence on the shape of the coastline. A wide area of dunes has built to the north with material being retained through to the cliffs below the town. This has been an area of accretion since the construction of the north pier.

The entrance and its structures also act as the updrift control to the coast, the downdrift control being determined by the cliffs at Dunwich. Between, the coast comprises a curving narrow shingle ridge. Actual drift erosion of the ridge is relatively small, although there is significant northerly and southerly movement of sediment under specific wave conditions. Overall, the shoreline is considered to be swash aligned (where waves approach at approximately 90° and therefore there is not much longshore drift) and the primary movement is a process of overwash and roll back. The ridge has in the past been managed with breaching through to the low lying marsh behind being repaired. This has tended to make the system more fragile and more likely to breach. This practice has largely ceased, with overwash being more frequent as the system adjusts. In the vicinity of the harbour, the south pier acts to support (by reducing wave energy and allowing accretion) a narrow width of dunes which are located in the immediate south. Any change in the management of the harbour mouth will influence the behaviour of the coastline and any abandonment of the harbour structures will be likely to result in significant erosion affecting both the beach to the north and the alignment of the coast to the south. This would almost certainly increase the threat of erosion to Southwold and would potentially result in additional pressure to the retired flood defence line to Walberswick to the south. Continued management of the harbour mouth is strongly linked to the management of key areas within the estuary, most particularly the defence of Reydon marshes.



The Dunwich cliffs erode slowly and irregularly. In addition to the direct impact on the village, this tends to influence the alignment of the shingle bank to the north. There have been minor works to attempt to temporarily slow the erosion of the cliffs but this is seen as a short term measure.

Interactions

The importance of Southwold beach to the town is reflected by the fact that much effort has been expended over the past century and a half to control sediment movement through the use of groynes. This coastal management has also resulted in disagreement regarding both the form and impact of such structures, which is analogous with the overall sensitivity of the coastline, with discussion still occurring regarding the impact of the current scheme on the Easton Bavents cliffs. In part, this is also driven by the conflict in values between limiting erosion or allowing natural coastal change in the vicinity of the small community of Easton Bavents, the international designation and archeological interests in maintaining that erosion. The natural closure (albeit influenced by anthropogenic intervention) of Buss Creek may have influenced behaviour of this system. However, this area is currently defended, which maintains both properties and infrastructure, including the significant road link into Southwold.

The recent strategy for the Southwold frontage highlights the value of the beach to those visiting the town. However, it is equally recognised that this value goes well beyond the intrinsic value of just the beach. The future development of the town aims to build on its strengths as a tourism centre and therefore maintaining the beach is one significant element of this. A diverse range of activities and features add to this, including the historic character, the pier, the harbour and estuary and the highly valued natural setting.

In terms of the harbour, there is a duty on the harbour authority to maintain navigation as a harbour of refuge. The harbour is in effect a functioning community, gaining mutual benefit from Southwold and Walberswick. Management of the harbour area and its operation is dependent on the management of other areas, within the estuary in particular but also in relation to the coast. The continued management of the harbour also determines the structure and hence management of the coastal alignment.

Not least in this interaction is the impact on Walberswick and maintaining the flood defence protection to the village. The village in turns relies upon its broader character within the semi-natural setting of the estuary and coast to the south and the landscape values associated with this. There is a similar interaction between the threat to the village of Dunwich, due to possible flooding and continued erosion and the benefit gained to the village and its tourist attraction in maintaining its overall remote setting.

Underlying all this complexity is the basic national and international value of the mosaic of designations to a broader society and the underpinning agricultural contribution to the region and the important regional infrastructure in terms of the A12 road link, water supply and other industries.

Key Values

The overall values in this area are made up of a complexity of interrelated and interlinked issues, leading to potential conflicts but also opportunity for mutual benefit between individual sectors of interest. Underlying these individual elements are the internationally and nationally important aspects of the area:

- The Southwold / Walberswick / Dunwich area as a nationally valued destination for heritage and tourism;
- The national and international importance of the wide range of interdependent coastal, brackish and freshwater habitat in the cliffs, marshes, mudflats, lagoons and beaches of the coast and estuary; and
- The important characteristic landscape.

Within these broader values, specific values are seen in:

- Southwold (including Reydon) and Walberswick as coastal towns and tourist destinations, integral with the historic and functional aspects of the harbour and associated tourism activities and attractions within the broader area;
- Dunwich as a heritage centre and tourist destination;
- Recreational use of the harbour and foreshore area including the Blue Flag beach at Southwold;
- Geological interest and habitat of the cliffs (to the north of Southwold and south of Dunwich);
- The semi-natural and natural landscape; and
- Environmentally valuable areas of Dingle and Westwood Marshes.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain Southwold, Reydon and Walberswick as viable commercial centres and tourist destinations in a sustainable manner;
- To sustain recreational opportunities of beaches and associated facilities;
- To maintain the cultural value of Southwold and the Blyth Valley;
- To develop and maintain the Blue Flag beach;
- To maintain the character, commercial and recreational activities and navigation to Southwold Harbour and associated area;
- To maintain the regional transport link and transport links throughout the area;
- To support adaptation of the agricultural interest;
- To support adaptation by the local coastal communities, including Dunwich;
- To maintain Dunwich as a viable community;
- To support appropriate ecological adaptation of habitats, in particular the important Suffolk Coast National Nature Reserve;
- To maintain biological and geological features in a favourable condition, subject to natural change; and
- To maintain or enhance the high quality landscape.

Area 4: Minsmere – Dunwich Cliff to Thorpeness

Chainage 30.5km – 40km

Definition

This area is dominated by the presence of two nationally important features: Sizewell nuclear power station and Minsmere RSPB Reserve. The area also includes other valuable features such as Dunwich Heath and Sizewell village and beach front. The predominant nature of the foreshore is a relatively static shingle frontage which is supported by a range of environmental designations. This area also marks the start of the Suffolk heritage coast and the continuation of the coastal footpath.

Background

Overview

The only settlement along the coast is Sizewell (population around 300), although to the north and somewhat associated with this area is the village of Dunwich. Individual properties are present along the crest of Sizewell cliff to the south of the area and there is a caravan park and buildings associated with Dunwich Heath National Trust area.



To the north of Sizewell village is the power station, which is set back from the immediately active section of the shore, with outfall and inlet platforms situated within the nearshore zone. To the north of this is the internationally recognised RSPB site at Minsmere, which is a large expanse of freshwater habitat and marshes extending back from the coast some 2.5km within the valley of the Minsmere river. The shingle sand beach extends along the whole length of the coast in this area, acting as a flood bank for the lagoons and freshwater courses in the marshlands. The marshes drain through Minsmere sluice, which cuts across the beach and partially acts as a groyne. The Suffolk Coast and Heaths path maintains access both along the coastline and to the designated areas.

The village of Sizewell, whilst in the shadow of the nuclear power station, does attract a significant number of tourists. The shingle beach is accessible along the whole zone, even in areas directly in front of the power station. Sizewell power station is a big industrial site, with two nuclear plants, one of which is in the process of being decommissioned. Mitigation measures for Sizewell B included the regeneration of waste land into Sizewell Belts. Dunwich Heath similarly

<p>attracts a significant number of visitors, with the supporting infrastructure and properties lying typically some 70 metres from the actively eroding cliff line.</p> <p>To the south of the Sizewell area are a series of individual properties which are typically set back some 30 to 70 metres from the cliff line. To the southern end of the frontage is Thorpe Ness, a wider accumulation of sediment attached to the shore but also extending out within the nearshore zone. Beyond the Ness is the village of Thorpeness itself, which is discussed in Area 5.</p>
<p>Land use</p> <p>This area is provided with a range of policies which seek to protect the quality of the natural coastal environment. Lying within this outstanding landscape are the coastal town of Leiston (approximately 2.5km from the shoreline) and the village of Thorpeness to the south of the area, which is noted for its tourism interest. Additionally, Sizewell power station is located centrally within this area. Leiston is a designated 'town' within the SCLP (SCDC, 2001) and is therefore considered to be an urban area with a capacity to absorb housing based growth.</p>
<p>Natural environment</p> <p>The key environmental features of this area include the shingle beach backed by saline lagoons, wet meadows and reedbeds. From Minsmere cliffs to the south, the area is low lying with the shingle beach providing a protective barrier for the saline lagoons behind it. The designations include the coastal lagoons within Minsmere-Walberswick area and varied habitats between Sizewell and Aldeburgh. In addition to some areas of agricultural land, there are areas of woodland especially around the power station site. Thorpeness Meare, which is located to the south of Thorpeness, is a lake which supports large numbers of wildfowl and attracts high numbers of visitors.</p>

Site name	Qualifying features
Minsmere-Walberswick Ramsar	<i>Ramsar criterion 1</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 2;</i> Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> , Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> , Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> , Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> , Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> , Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> , Bearded tit <i>Panurus biarmicus</i>
Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SAC	Qualifying feature but not primary reason; Perennial vegetation of stony banks; European dry heaths. Primary reason for designation; Annual vegetation of drift lines.
Minsmere-Walberswick SPA	ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> ; Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> ; Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> ; Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> ; Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> Over winter the area regularly supports: Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> ; Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> ; Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> Over winter the area regularly supports: Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> ; Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> ; White fronted goose <i>Anser</i>

	<i>albifrons albifrons</i>
Sandlings SPA	ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> ; Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i>
Leiston-Aldeburgh SSSI	A rich mosaic of habitats including acid grassland, heath, scrub, woodland, fen, open water and vegetated shingle.
Minsmere-Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SSSI	Contains a complex series of habitats, notably mudflats, shingle beach, reedbeds, heathland and grazing marsh
Sizewell Marshes SSSI	Important for their large area of lowland, unimproved wet meadows which support outstanding assemblages of invertebrates and breeding birds.
Westleton Heath NNR	Part of the best remaining tract of heathland in Suffolk. Birds of open heath and light scrub are well represented here.
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB	The AONB protects heathland, reed beds, salt-marsh and mud-flats, a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes.

Shoreline management

Physical shoreline

The drift along the shore is weakly in a net southerly direction but with a higher degree of variation to both the north and south under specific wave conditions. Historically, the area between Minsmere and Thorpe Ness has been shown to be



stable, with periods of erosion and accretion. The cliffs to the north continue to erode but intermittently and at a relatively slow rate. Both these cliffs and Thorpe Ness are the main controls on this shoreline. In addition, the frontage gains a degree of protection from the offshore banks, where there is an indication of net northerly drift. There is also a depression in the height of these banks adjacent to Minsmere which is potentially associated with the old channel of the Minsmere River, although this association is unconfirmed by any geophysical information. This persistent lowering in the line of the banks is also aligned with the position of the sluice, which certainly acts to some degree as a groyne in terms of the upper beach.

There is more minor perturbation of the shoreline alignment caused by the outfall to the power station, while the beach to the southern end is relatively healthy and little erosion of the Sizewell Cliffs has been reported.

The whole system is seen as predominantly closed. Sediment is fed from the cliffs to the north and is distributed along the shore, where it appears to be fed back through the nearshore banks with the potential return of material to the shoreline. The rate of sediment supply and the degree of pressure on the lower lying frontages is to a degree dictated by the erosion of the cliffs. Thorpe Ness holds the overall structure of the system.

Clearly, with sea level rise the whole frontage would tend to roll back to some degree, largely determined by the retreat of the Thorpe Ness headland. The response of the nearshore banks is not easily determined and their behaviour would be significant in relation to the shoreline behaviour.

Interactions

The main interactions in terms of shoreline behaviour affect the power station, although more immediately the Minsmere reserve. There is increasing pressure for the shingle beach to roll back, potentially exposing the flood defences and increasing the risk of flooding to the reserve. The extent of flooding may also extend to the rear of the power station.

Key values

The core value of the area is its natural environment, although clearly the presence of the power station has to be recognised. Areas such as Dunwich Heath rely on the overall natural setting and the properties along the cliff top similarly benefit from this natural character of the coast. Sizewell village is locally important but also acts as a way point and access to the shore and coastal path. The elements of the key values of the area may therefore be set out as:

- The relatively natural coastal habitat and landscape including the different aspects of the shingle beaches, marshes and wet grassland and heathland;
- The national and international importance of the biological and geological interests of the coastline and hinterland;
- The nuclear power station at Sizewell; and
- Recreational use of the coastal area including the coastal path and access and facilities offered by Sizewell.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain the location and safe operation of Sizewell power station and any future development of the site;
- To maintain the tourism interest of this area;
- To maintain and enhance coastal biodiversity and ecology;
- To support appropriate ecological adaptation of this habitat and in particular the Minsmere RSPB reserve;
- To maintain a range of recreational activities along the foreshore;
- To support adaptation of the Sizewell community and individual interests along the frontage to any change; and
- To promote ways to maintain access to and along the coastal path.

Area 5: Aldeburgh – Thorpeness to North Weir Point

Chainage 40km – 62km

Definition

The main centre of this area is Aldeburgh, a small coastal town renowned for its artistic and musical heritage and located in a beautiful coastal setting. Although at a local scale quite distinct from the area around, Aldeburgh is closely associated with the village of Thorpeness to the north and the surrounding landscape. This includes the shingle backed bay between the two settlements, the hinterland of the Alde-Ore estuary with both its natural attraction and its recreational and core agricultural interests and the natural and remote magnificence of Orford Ness which extends some 15km to North Weir point and the mouth of the estuary.

Background

Overview

At the northern extent of the area is Thorpeness, a small rural village of about 400 people in winter but with a summer population of over 1 600 people. The village was originally a small fishing hamlet until it was bought by a Scottish barrister in 1910, who developed Thorpeness into a private fantasy holiday village, with many buildings being built in mock-Jacobean and Tudor styles. The town remained as a mostly privately-owned village until 1972, when many of the houses, the golf course and country club were sold to pay death duties.

To the south of Thorpeness is the strip development of Thorpeness Haven, built along the crest of the shingle ridge running to the south to Aldeburgh. This ridge continues a further 1.5km, acting as a barrier to low lying marshes to the rear. The main coastal road linking Thorpeness and Aldeburgh runs along the back of the natural ridge.



Aldeburgh is the main town of this area and was a leading port in the 16th century with a flourishing ship-building industry. Sir Francis Drake's ships Greyhound and Pelican (later renamed Golden Hind) were both built at Aldeburgh. When the mouth of the River Alde moved south and became more constrained, larger ships could not be accommodated and the area went into decline. Aldeburgh survived principally as a fishing village until the nineteenth century, when it became popular as a seaside resort. Limited numbers of fishing boats still launch off the beach at Aldeburgh for the small scale commercial fishing operation which still exists. However, this use of the steep shingle beach adds to the overall character of the town.

The Aldeburgh Moot Hall, which is over 400 years old, is a timber-framed building which has been used for council meetings since its construction. Aldeburgh is also famous for its fish and chip shop. Upstream on the Alde at the limit of the tidal influence within the estuary is the Snape Maltings. This is the venue for the Aldeburgh Festival, which is held every June and was founded by Benjamin Britten, Eric Crozier, and Peter Pears in 1948. Britten and Pears are buried in the churchyard of St Peter and St Paul's Church in Aldeburgh. The beach at Aldeburgh was awarded the Blue flag rural beach award in 2005 and on this beach, a short distance north of the town centre, stands a sculpture known as the "The Scallop", which is dedicated to Benjamin Britten who used to walk along the beach in the afternoons. The sculpture is meant to be enjoyed both visually and tactilely and people are encouraged to sit on it and watch the sea.

Aldeburgh also has a unique quatrefoil Martello Tower, untypical of the others found to the south. Just south of the beach at Aldeburgh is Orford Ness, a popular sea fishing spot, which can be reached by a track leading from Aldeburgh. The village of Slaughden, which lay to the south of Aldeburgh, has now succumbed to coastal erosion, as has the Martello Tower at Slaughden.



Orford Ness spit lies to the south of Aldeburgh and continues for 15km. There is a sense of remoteness about the area which complements Aldeburgh's historical character. A large proportion of the Ness and the fresh water marshes behind the shingle bank are now owned by the National Trust, which runs a limited number of walking trips to this remote area.

The most significant turning point in the history of the Ness was the arrival of part of the Central Flying School's Experimental Flying Section in 1915. This event ushered in a 70 year period of intense military experimentation, which as well as leaving a variety of physical traces has given the place what has been described as 'the mystique of secrecy'. At the height of the cold war, the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment and Royal Aircraft Establishment used Orford Ness for developmental work on the atomic bomb. The 'pagodas' which remain have become a well-known landmark on this part of the coast. Orford Ness was one of many large cold war experimental sites involved with the research and development of the British atomic bomb and is perhaps the most architecturally dramatic of all of these sites. Another relic of the cold war period is the huge, grey, steel structure which once housed a top secret Anglo-American radar project, code-named 'Cobra Mist', which now functions as a BBC World Service transmitting station.

Orford Ness lighthouse is situated at the most south-easterly point of Orford Ness, at a notoriously dangerous area for shipping. The first lighthouse was built at Orford Ness after a great storm in October 1627, when 32 ships were wrecked off the Ness and many lives were lost. The present lighthouse dates from 1792. The town of Orford lies inland on the River Ore and has a harbour and yacht club. Two other yacht clubs are located at Orford Haven and near Slaughden Quay (to the north) and

there is also a castle at Orford which dates back to 1165. Much of the estuary is now used for sailing and recreational use, including pleasure boat trips. Access to the open coast is through North Weir point, where there are massive continuously shifting shingle banks. Much of the flood plain of the Alde / Ore estuary is reclaimed and lies behind extensive flood defences. This provides an important agricultural base to the area in its own right but abstraction and storage of freshwater upon the lower marshes also allows use of the higher land around the estuary.

Havergate Island, owned by RSPB, now covers 267 acres and lies between Orford beach and the mainland. To the northwest, it is bounded by the Lower Gull and The Gull channels (part of the Ore), and to the southeast by The Narrows (part of the Alde). Havergate mostly lies below sea level but it is drained by a series of channels and is protected by dykes. It is a marshy nature reserve run by the RSPB, with large populations of avocets and terns. Originally the island was two gravel banks which later joined.

Land use

This area has a range of policies which seek to protect the quality of the natural coastal environment. Thorpeness is a tourist based settlement which is provided the same policy coverage as Walberswick. The factors which provide Thorpeness' tourism industry – its coastal features and landscape, will therefore be provided full protection under policy AP66.

Aldeburgh is identified as a town within the SCLP (SCDC, 2001) and is therefore an area that can expect to see sustainable levels of future growth. Aldeburgh is seen as a settlement with a key role to play in the future development of the district, especially in its role of offering new infill development in a rural coastal location. A suite of policies (AP124-132) forms the framework for this growth, whilst still protecting the character of the town. The town is surrounded by policy to protect the coastal and estuarine areas around Aldeburgh and the Blyth area.

Orford Ness benefits from a specific policy within the SCLP that seeks to ensure that the remote character of this area is protected from development (Policy AP 163 Deben Peninsular): Orford Ness and Havergate Island specifies that development will be resisted due to the need to protect the ecological, geological and landscape importance of the area. This 'catch-all' policy recognises the inherent social and environmental values of the area, which is of benefit to the district, without making a significant contribution to the local economy.

Natural environment

The key features in this area are the shingle beach between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh, Orfordness shingle spit and the Alde, Ore and Butley rivers. The shingle acts as a flood defence to the agricultural land backing it which covers a large amount of the unpopulated land in this area. To the south of Thorpeness lies Thorpeness Meare, which is a large lake supporting numbers of wildfowl and with high numbers of visitors and is part of the Leiston Aldeburgh SSSI.

The designated conservation areas are primarily centered around the River Alde and the Ore. The area is relatively natural, being largely undeveloped by man and with very limited industrial activity. The whole area, but particularly the 15km long spit is very remote due to limited access. The bar spit has been extending rapidly along the coast since 1530, pushing the mouth of the estuary progressively south-westwards. The Alde / Ore is relatively wide and shallow, with extensive intertidal mudflats on both

sides of the channel in its upper reaches and saltmarsh accreting along its fringes. Its diverse and species-rich intertidal sand and mudflat biotopes grade naturally along many lengths of the shore into vegetated or dynamic shingle habitat, saltmarsh, grassland and reedbed. The smaller Butley River, which has extensive areas of saltmarsh and a reedbed community bordering intertidal mudflats, flows into the Ore shortly after the latter divides around Havergate Island. The RSPB reserve at Havergate Island is an important breeding ground for avocets and tern, while the RSPB have a further reserve at North Warren.

Site name	Qualifying features
Alde-Ore Estuary Ramsar	<p><i>Ramsar criterion 2</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 3</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 6;</i></p> <p>Species regularly supported during the breeding season: Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i></p> <p>Species with peak counts in winter Common redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>; Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i></p>
Alde-Ore & Butley Estuaries SAC	<p><i>Annex I habitats</i></p> <p>Primary reason for designation; Estuaries</p> <p>Qualifying feature but not primary reason; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Atlantic saltmeadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</p>
Alde-Ore SPA	<p><i>ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION</i></p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>; Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>; Sandwich tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i></p> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports: Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i></p>
Orfordness-Shingle Street SAC	<p><i>Annex I Habitats</i></p> <p>Primary reason for designation; Coastal lagoons; Annual vegetation of drift lines; Perennial vegetation of stony banks;</p>
Crag Pit, Aldeburgh SSSI	<p>This site is of geological interest because it represents the most northerly existing exposure of Pliocene Coralline Crag.</p>
Leiston-Aldeburgh SSSI	<p>A rich mosaic of habitats including acid grassland, heath, scrub, woodland, fen, open water and vegetated shingle.</p>
Alde-Ore Estuary SSSI	<p>A number of coastal formations and estuarine features including mud-flats, saltmarsh, vegetated shingle and coastal lagoons which are of special botanical and ornithological value.</p>
Orfordness-Havergate NNR	<p>Large lichen and moss communities. Many plant species that are nationally rare are found here in abundance. The shingle supports a number of rare and scarce invertebrates - particularly beetles and spiders - and the site is also an important breeding place for many bird species including terns and avocets.</p>
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB	<p>The AONB protects heathland, reed beds, salt-marsh and mud-flats, a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes.</p>

Shoreline management

Physical shoreline



Thorpe Ness controls the alignment of the coast to both the north and the south. To the south, this links through to the currently defended shoreline position at the southern end of Aldeburgh, retaining a relatively stable curved bay between. The net drift over this bay is very low, although there is significant movement to both north and south on occasions. It is suggested through modelling that there is a slight northerly net drift at the north end of the bay towards Thorpeness. This in reality indicates a high degree of stability to the frontage, rather than indicating a drift divide resulting from the slight net drift further south. While stable in terms of drift, there can be quite high gross movement and the general trend is for the shingle to roll back. Occasionally, under extreme storm conditions such as 1953, there can be significant overwash of the ridge and this is shown by the shingle fans behind over the low lying area. This overwash may become relatively more common with sea level rise, putting some pressure on the road and influencing the ecological condition of the low lying areas.

Aldeburgh has suffered loss to the sea in the past. The frontage is now protected from erosion and flooding. The main defence is still the width of shingle beach in front of the hard defences. However, the main pressure on this defence is towards the southern end, where the sea wall can become exposed. At present, such exposure may be reversed from time to time with the movement of sediment from the beaches to either side. Further roll back of the natural defence or breaching at Slaughden is likely to increase pressure on this corner of hard defence.

Much of the north Orford Ness has suffered from slow erosion; recent measurements have been slightly distorted by the recycling of material and therefore show a more varied pattern of change. Whilst this general roll back is occurring (in certain areas by as much as 70m over the last 100 years) the frontage would appear to gain some protection from the nearshore banks.

At the actual Ness, erosion is higher and exceeds 100 metres over the last 100 years, with this increasing at ever more rapid a pace. The release of sediment from the massive shingle ridges tends to feed south, with accretion having occurred over the last decade. This is not, however, indicative of a long term trend. Wave conditions from the northeast sector will move sediment rapidly off the spit to feed Area 6 at Shingle Street.

Within the estuary, the system is relatively delicately poised. There is an ongoing loss of saltmarsh and some areas of defence are under pressure. However, changes in sea level or, possibly more significantly abandonment of existing defences would result in increased hydrodynamic pressure over much of the estuary. The situation at Slaughden and the narrowing of the ridge between coast

and estuary is principally due to coastal pressure, rather than the pressure of flow within the estuary significantly wishing to break seaward.

Interactions

This frontage is subject to slow erosion at Thorpeness, which may be likely to increase under rising sea levels, although the main pressure to the north of Aldeburgh is for roll back of the shingle ridge. The effect of both these factors will be to increase pressure on both Thorpeness and Thorpeness Haven. In addition to this, the predominant risk will be to the road and the low lying land behind.

Continuing erosion, which is likely to be exacerbated by sea level rise, will increase the pressure on Aldeburgh, especially at the southern end, in the vicinity of the beach. An additional key issue is the continued defence at Slaughden; although driven by pressure from coastal change, the major impacts would be on the form and function of the estuary. This interaction is currently being considered by another study and the conclusions of this need to be taken into account within the SMP. Further to this, the ongoing process of erosion at Orford Ness will continue to provide a release of sediment beneficial to other areas of the Suffolk coast.

Key values

The area demonstrates the need to balance the three integrated values of culture, ecology and economics. The strong cultural core is provided by Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Snape, Orford and even Orford Ness. These strong traditional characteristics provide a core to sustaining communities and encouraging future development, which is underpinned by a wide amenity base from sailing to walking, beach use and by the strong tourism, agricultural and (more limited) fishing industries. Equally important locally and regionally as well as with respect to the broader national value is the natural environment, from which the above values derive significant additional value. This combination of values is expressed below:

- Thorpeness as a coastal villages and tourist destination;
- The North Warren RSPB reserve;
- Aldeburgh as a coastal town, artistic community and tourist destination;
- Recreational use of the coastal area including the sailing activity to the south of Aldeburgh and generally within the estuary;
- The remote nature and 'wilderness' experience afforded by Orford Ness;
- Geological value of the area;
- Heritage values of the military installations on Orford Ness; and
- The national and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the coastline and estuaries, including vegetated shingle beaches, one of the largest shingle spits in the country and the estuarine areas of the rivers Ore, Alde and Butley.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain in a sustainable manner Thorpeness as viable coastal settlement and tourist destination recognising its cultural and heritage significance;
- To maintain in a sustainable manner Aldeburgh as viable commercial and tourism centre, recognising its cultural and heritage value;
- To maintain a range of recreational activities along the foreshore and within the estuary, including sailing and navigational access;
- To maintain Orford Ness as a designated site of international and European importance;
- To support the adaptation of local coastal communities;
- To support the adaptation of the local coastal farming communities;
- To maintain biological and geological features in a favourable condition, subject to natural change;
- To support appropriate ecological adaptation of habitats; and
- To promote ways to maintain access to and along the coastal path.

Area 6: Deben Peninsula and valley – Shingle Street to Cobbold’s Point

Chainage 62km – 73km

Definition

Relative to the remoteness of Orford Ness to the north, this area is a well visited, popular area of the coast, especially in the south. There are six Martello towers spanning this area of the coast that offer a unique insight into the history of Napoleonic era Britain. Much of the northern part of this area is agricultural, which contrasts with the more populous and recreational areas around the mouth of the Deben and along the coast of North Felixstowe. This area finishes at Cobbold’s Point and although well within the development of Felixstowe and recognised to be an important resource to Felixstowe, the area, from a coastal perspective, is considered to be different from the lower-lying sections of the town which sit on the coastal plain of the Orwell estuary.

Background

Overview

Shingle Street, which is in the north of this area, is a small coastal hamlet at the mouth of Orford Ness, between Orford and Bawdsey. This part of the coast is also known as Hollesley Bay, with a HM Young Offender Institution (Hollesley Bay Colony) being located nearby. Shingle Street was originally a home for fishermen and river pilots for the River Ore. Many of the original buildings date from this period, but several buildings were destroyed during WWII, including the hamlet’s pub.

During WWII, many strange happenings were reported to have taken place at Shingle Street, which include a supposed failed German Invasion. The village is sited on the back crest of a shingle ridge which runs down to and protects much of the low lying area behind. It is a strip development extending nearly 1km in length from the car park and Beacon Cottage at the mouth of the Ore to the first of a string of Martello Towers at the southern end of the village. Access to the village is along one narrow road; even so, the village is a well recognised visitor location both for the unusual nature of the village, the impressive bank system at the mouth of the estuary and the beach and surrounding countryside. There is also currently a coastguard station at Shingle Street.



Hollesley Bay runs a further 3km through to the rising land of Bawdsey Cliffs at East Lane. The designated area of the shingle bank over Hollesley Bay acts as the primary defence to an extensive area of farmland behind. However, there is also a

set back flood defence bank behind this shingle bank. At the southern end of the bay, East Lane is now a defended headland, which lies slightly to the north of a significant change in the alignment of the coast. The headland was created initially in defence of WWII fortifications, which contrasts with the older Napoleonic fortifications evidenced by the fourth of the Martello Towers along this section. The flood area to the rear of the bay extends to the outskirts of Bawdsey and Alderton villages, which lie some 1 – 1.5km in land. The flooding experienced during the storm surge of 1953 inundated parts of the Deben, cutting the only road between Bawdsey and Bawdsey Manor.

Bawdsey Manor was built in 1886 and enlarged in 1895 as the principal residence for Sir William Cuthbert Quilter. It was requisitioned by the Devonshire Regiment during WWI and was eventually purchased by the Air Ministry in 1936 for the establishment of a new research station for the development of radio direction finding (radar). Bawdsey Manor continued as an RAF base throughout the cold war, with Bloodhound missiles being sited on the cliffs until this force ceased operations in 1990. The station was finally closed in 1991. There is now a sailing school and the northern landing stage of the Felixstowe ferry on this side of the river. The ferry

forms the start of the coastal pathway and provides a popular link from Felixstowe to the Deben peninsula.



Across the river is Felixstowe Ferry, which boasts a church, two pubs, the Ferry Cafe, a boat yard, sailing club, fishermen's cottages, two Martello towers, a gallery and a golf course. The hamlet is divided either side of a flood defence embankment, with a substantial part remaining unprotected. Most of the properties in this area have been built on short brick stilts, which have been periodically replaced and raised. Much of the character of this part of the hamlet indeed comes from this feeling of living on the edge in addition to its wide variety of activities and interests.

Immediately upstream of the Felixstowe Ferry entrance, the estuary is quite broad with a considerable number of moorings. Recreational sailing and boat use are an important activity across the estuary as a whole. Further upstream, the river flows between embankments which protect extensive farmland, before becoming constrained by natural high ground. The channel passes several riverfront pubs including those at Ramsholt and Waldringfield before reaching Woodbridge. At Woodbridge, part of the town is defended from flooding and there are numerous boat related businesses, including a marina.

The most southerly town along the frontage is Felixstowe, which has been continuously settled since before the Norman conquest, eventually becoming a linchpin in England's defence, as proved when in 1667 Dutch soldiers landed and

failed to capture "Landguard Fort" (Area 7). From Cobbolds Point to Felixstowe Ferry (North Felixstowe) there is a walkway and path, although it is necessary to walk inland and to rejoin the coastal path at Jacobs Ladder, where the path then runs before beach huts and the golf course through to Felixstowe Ferry.



The frontage has been defended by a field of closely spaced groynes retaining a limited width of beach in front of different sections of sea wall. Even so (or potentially because of the compartmentalisation of the beach) the frontage is very popular with great demand for beach huts in the area.

At Cobbolds Point the coastal protection work now prevents pedestrian access along the beach, although at low tide from this walkway it is possible to glimpse the seaweed-covered remains of a Roman fort in the water about 50m from the coast.

Land use

Apart from Felixstowe in the south, settlements in this area are Felixstowe Ferry, Bawdsey, Alderton and Shingle Street. The Deben peninsula benefits from a range of policies within the SCLP, but the majority of these relate to non-coastal sites. Bawdsey is a settlement where development will be confined to the settlement boundary (under policy AP 27 SCLP (SCDC, 2001)) and so can only expect limited growth. Shingle Street is an area recognised for its unique location and appearance. The primary planning policy base for this area relates to environmental protection for the coastal and estuarine landscape and ecology. Policies relating to Felixstowe are provided under the following area.

Natural environment

The key environmental features include shingle banks around Shingle Street backed by coastal lagoons and perennial vegetation of stony banks. The designated sites include the land surrounding the Rivers Ore and Deben and inland geological features. Around Bawdsey there are approximately 2km of low cliffs which are of geological interest providing evidence of the Butleyan division of the Early Pleistocene Red Crag.

Site name	Qualifying features
Deben Estuary Ramsar	<i>Ramsar criterion 2</i> <i>Ramsar criterion 6</i> Species with peak counts in winter: Dark-bellied Brent goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i>
Alde-Ore & Butley Estuaries SAC	<i>Annex I habitats</i> Primary reason for designation; Estuaries Qualifying feature but not primary reason; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Atlantic saltmeadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)
Orfordness-Shingle Street SAC	<i>Annex I Habitats</i> Primary reason for designation; Coastal lagoons; annual vegetation of drift lines; perennial vegetation of stony banks;

Alde-Ore SPA	<p>ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports: Marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>; Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>; Sandwich tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i></p> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports: <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; <i>Philomachus pugnax</i></p>
Deben Estuary SPA	<p>ARTICLE 4.1 QUALIFICATION</p> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports: Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i></p> <p>ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION</p> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports: Dark-bellied Brent goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i></p>
Alde-Ore Estuary SSSI	Coastal formations and estuarine features including mud-flats, saltmarsh, vegetated shingle and coastal lagoons of botanical and ornithological value.
Bawdsey Cliff SSSI	The cliffs provide over 2km of section in the Butleyan division of the Early Pleistocene Red Crag.
Deben Estuary SSSI	Important for its populations of overwintering waders and wildfowl and also for its extensive and diverse saltmarsh communities.
Gedgrave Hall Pit SSSI	This site consists of two pits of geological importance for the study of the development and stratigraphy of Coralline Crag deposited in the Pliocene age.
Red House Farm Pit, Sudbourne SSSI	This pit is of geological interest for its exposure of Pliocene Coralline Crag.
Sandlings Forest SSSI	Coniferous woodland supporting internationally important populations of woodlark and nightjar.
Valley Farm Pit, Sudbourne SSSI	This pit is of geological interest for its exposure of Coralline Crag.
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB	The AONB protects heathland, reed beds, salt-marsh and mud-flats, a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes.

Shoreline management

Physical shoreline

This section of the coast benefits from a slightly shallower nearshore zone formed by the underlying Red Crag. The basic shape of Hollesley Bay is determined by the mouth of the Ore and the higher ground of Bawdsey Cliffs. This natural down drift headland has been supplanted by the defended headland of East Lane. East Lane, therefore, artificially maintains the line of the coast forward of where it would otherwise naturally be expected to be. Combating erosion at this location holds shingle over the whole curve of the bay though to Shingle Street. Sediment is derived from the erosion of Orford Spit and Ness. This supply is erratic and dependent upon storms from a north-easterly direction, which moves sediment along the shore beyond the periodic accumulation at Shingle Street. Over the last twenty years, this accumulation has allowed the beach at Shingle Street to expand by over 100 metres in places. A major release of sediment would depend on the breach on the Orford Spit side of North Weir Point.

Drift through the bay is in a net southerly direction, but is quite weak. In principle, the bay configuration is quite stable with an anticipated mechanism of roll back in response to sea level rise. East Lane acts to regulate rather than stop sediment drift to the south. Movement of sediment past the headland is to a degree matched by the drift of shingle beyond, down to the Deben.

At the Deben, the coastal sediment system interacts with the strong flows into and out of the estuary. This is reflected in the development of the Knolls banks, which provide a sporadic mechanism of transfer from the north across the estuary and on to the North Felixstowe Shoreline.



It has been demonstrated that despite the strong flows within the estuary entrance,

there is capacity to adjust to some increase of tidal prism within the estuary. Loss of control of this entrance or significant increase of tidal prism (such as might arise from withdrawal of defence to the lower estuary flood compartments) would have significant impact on the entrance configuration and disrupt the coastal sediment transfer system.



With transfer of sediment dependent on the cyclic breakdown and rebuilding of the knolls, the supply and therefore health of the beaches to North Felixstowe varies, with periods of low beaches and coastal pressure being balanced by periods when sediment is more abundant.

The overall message on this section of coast is that the sediment is finite with no significant new input. Supply from Orfordness is likely to continue well beyond the period of the SMP, in terms of hundreds of years, but the sediment that is present in the whole system is very much that which is available for coastal management.

Interactions

There are three primary sections of interaction with expectations for coastal management:

- i. Hollesley Bay where the sporadic supply of sediment and the control of the coastal alignment at East Lane dictate the future use of the coastal zone, with the defence of Shingle Street and the low lying area behind relying on both. Failure of East Lane would result in increased pressure on the natural beach and the flood defence to the rear, with the potential increased pressure on Shingle Street and therefore potential inundation of the area behind. The frontage has similarities with the situation south of Walberswick,

- with the development of a natural overwashed barrier system.
- ii. The mouth of the Deben; without management of the frontage and the maintenance of the constraint imposed by the entrance, the bank system may well fail with the Deben acting as a significant sediment sink, thereby increasing pressure on defence of Felixstowe Ferry and North Felixstowe.
 - iii. The North Felixstowe cliffs have a history of instability, relying on defence of the toe against erosion. Loss of this defence would lead to loss of the coastal road to Felixstowe Ferry, the golf course and a quantity of housing.

Key values

The area at the mouth of the Deben, including the North Felixstowe frontage, is an important amenity to the town of Felixstowe and a gateway to the more natural coastal environment to the north. Its significance goes beyond the local area, acting as an important tourist attraction for the region but also reflecting in Felixstowe Ferry an intrinsic value in terms of its unique combination of facilities, heritage and community. The same basic qualities are recognised in Shingle Street, combining a spirit of living within a fundamentally natural location with strong community values.

The area between has a strong link to rural agricultural activity, supporting local communities. Overall the area has a range of coastal heritage features such as the Martello Towers and the more recent links to the military defence of the nation. The heritage, community and recreational attributes are all set within a broader context of important ecological and geological value. These overall values are reflected in specific features:

- The strong recreational value of Felixstowe Ferry, represented by sailing and water sports, the golf course, the start of the coastal path and the foot ferry itself;
- The strong community identity of Felixstowe Ferry, Shingle Street and other villages within the area;
- The tourism and recreational features of the North Felixstowe seafront;
- The heritage value of the Martello Towers, the East Lane military defences and the historic use of Bawdsey Manor;
- The underpinning strength of agricultural activities, both within the Deben and along the coastal area;
- The national and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the Deben Estuary; and
- Coastal and estuarine habitat, in addition to natural and semi-natural environment.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To maintain the beach use of North Felixstowe;
- To maintain access to Felixstowe Ferry;
- To maintain the overall and specific recreational features associated with the entrance to the Deben, including the diversity of facilities such as the golf course and water sport activities;
- To maintain the character and community of Felixstowe Ferry and Bawdsey;
- To promote ways to maintain access to and along the coastal path;
- To maintain the core heritage value of the area;
- To support the adaptation of agricultural communities;
- To maintain transport links in the area;
- To maintain the semi natural and unique quality and community of Shingle Street;
- To support the other rural communities in the area and the underpinning agricultural activities; and
- To maintain biological and geological features in a favourable condition, subject to natural change.

Area 7: Felixstowe – Cobbold’s Point to Landguard

Chainage 73km – 84km

Definition

This area covers the main town and seafront of Felixstowe and also considers the port of Felixstowe, the UK’s largest container port, which is outside the boundary of this SMP.

Background

Overview

This section of Felixstowe has a strong association with its coastal frontage. During the late Victorian period, Felixstowe became a fashionable resort, which was initiated by the opening of Felixstowe railway station, the pier and a visit by the then German imperial family. In 1953, 38 people died when a storm surge hit the town. The recent planning permission for the expansion of the Port and the Felixstowe Futures work reflect the aspirations of the Town to both regenerate itself and expand its economic and social role

The frontage is centred on the pier at the apex of the bay, while to the north the frontage has a narrow promenade and road, with rising land behind. Along this length is the Spa Pavilion and associated formally laid out gardens. Other key features of this frontage include several restaurants and hotels. To the south of the pier, the land behind the promenade is lower lying, with a leisure centre, extensive housing and



caravan sites. This low lying land runs through to the docks. Further to the south, there are areas of open ground and car parking, with Manor Terrace properties and facilities.

During WWII, the majority of the pier, which at the time was one of the longest in the country, complete with its own train, was intentionally demolished by the Royal Engineers to negate its used as a landing point for enemy troops in the event of an invasion. However, unfortunately, after the war the damage was never repaired and the pier never regained its original length.

Nowadays, major tourism development has taken place around the landward end of the pier to enhance the area.

Felixstowe has a pebbly to sandy Blue Flag beach, which has suffered from erosion in recent years. The beach is an integral aspect of the sea front and its maintenance forms an important feature of the present strategy plan for coastal defence. To the lower lying southern end of the built frontage, the existing flood defence barrier has been constructed to the rear of the promenade to improve both the visual association of the frontage with the shore and to allow ease of access. Further south, the flood defence wall runs along the shingle crest before returning inland to close with the bank behind Landguard Common, providing flood defence to the residential property and the port. Landguard Common itself is a nature reserve with a bird observatory located at Landguard Fort.

Landguard Fort was built in 1718 near the site of 1540s fortifications on Landguard Point to protect the port of Harwich. It was later given support by the building of Harwich Redoubt in the early 19th century and was enlarged and strengthened in the 1870s as part of Lord Palmerstone's programme to protect the major sea ports. Historically this fort has secured its place in history as the site of the last opposed invasion of England in 1667 and the location of the first land battle of the Royal Marines. In common with the other parts of this coastline, there are also a number of Martello towers.

The town became a major port in 1886 and now ranks as the largest container port in the United Kingdom, dealing with approximately 35% of the UK's container cargo. In addition to this, Felixstowe is Europe's fourth busiest port, after Rotterdam, Hamburg and Antwerp and ranked 20th in the world (in terms of trade through) in 2002, being capable of handling over 3.7 million containers per year. As well as containerised traffic, the port also has a RO-RO terminal.

Land use

Along with Lowestoft, Felixstowe is one of the primary economic anchors of this region. The port operations of Felixstowe, coupled with the role of Felixstowe as a regional centre, are critically important to the regional and national economy. The recent planning permission for expansion of the Port and the Felixstowe Futures work reflect the aspirations of the Town to both regenerate itself and expand its economic and social role.

Natural environment

As the area is largely urbanised, the key environmental features are located around Landguard Common. Landguard Common is predominantly a sand and shingle spit, which protects the northern entrance to the haven ports of Harwich and Felixstowe. It consists of a loose shingle foreshore, which is backed by a stabilised, vegetated beach, earth banks and scrub. Pioneer shingle plants and vegetated shingle beaches are highly fragile and are a nationally scarce habitat type. The site is also of some ornithological interest as a landfall site for passage migrants and for breeding shorebirds, while the bare shingle is also used by nesting little tern and ringed plover.

Site name	Qualifying features
Landguard Common SSSI	The site is important for the loose shingle foreshore backed by a stabilized, vegetated beach, earth banks and scrub. Pioneer shingle plants and vegetated shingle beaches are fragile and nationally scarce habitat type.

Shoreline management

Physical shoreline

The area has a wide, yet shallow nearshore platform which has a significant volume of available sediment. Overall, the area is considered to be primarily a closed system with material being drawn offshore to the nearshore system and then returned on occasion to the shoreline. The general alignment of the frontage is relatively stable, although there is movement in both northerly and southerly directions during specific wave conditions. This pattern of limited drift tends to support the occasional accumulation of sediment in the area of the pier, although shingle can also be deposited on occasion towards the Landguard Common area, from whence it tends not to return northward. This accumulation does eventually spill around the Point and relatively small quantities of shingle are removed from the shore within the mouth of the estuary.

Some supply of sediment can be driven past Cobbolds Point, but finer material may tend to be deposited within the nearshore area. Coarser shingle material will tend to move along the shore.

Given the general stable alignment of the shore and the variability of drift under specific storms, the existing groyne system, which splits the shore into discrete units, has tended to restrict major realignment overall response. However, historically there has been a general loss in a cross-shore direction. The works at Cobbolds Point have created conditions which are more capable of retaining material under a range of conditions. However, this has also resulted in a readjustment of the material within the artificial bays created causing a draw down on beaches central to each bay against the back shore defences.

Notwithstanding the reduced maintenance of the groynes in the area of Manor Terrace, compared to work carried out further north, this section of the shore clearly stands forward of the overall natural alignment running through to Landguard Common and to a degree creates an division in the shoreline in terms of local drift behaviour.

A scheme is also underway in Felixstowe, which will see rock groynes and beach recharge being employed along the frontage between the War Memorial and Landguard Common. Planning permission for the scheme was granted in 2005 and subject to funding, construction of the scheme will commence in spring 2008 and be completed by autumn 2008.





Interactions

Maintaining a healthy backshore beach is fundamental, not only to the important tourism and hence regeneration of the sea front, but also in defence of the essential port infrastructure, local commerce and properties within an area of particular focus to regeneration of the town overall. Efforts towards regeneration rely on each of these aspects and, therefore, good sustainable coastal management underpins the future of the area.

Within this overall need, critical local areas with ongoing risk are those associated with the area south of Cobbolds Point and the management of the Manor Terrace area. In the former there is little width for manoeuvre from the defence of the immediate coastal use. In the latter location, land use associated with the transitional area between the valued natural frontage of Landguard Common and the southern limit of development to the town requires careful consideration regarding the balance between coastal defence and the value of land use.

The main threat to the whole frontage is that of sea level rise, which will be likely to create conditions of increasing pressure in the long term for roll back of the relatively stable shoreline. This is partially mitigated by the general closed nature of the system in terms of sediment.

Key values

Felixstowe is a regionally and nationally important economic centre and tourist destination, with recognised Blue Flag standards. This general value emphasises the integrated approach which will be needed when managing the coastal strip. The recent planning permission for the expansion of the port and the Felixstowe Futures work reflect the aspirations of the town to both regenerate itself and expand its economic and social role. The aspects to be considered include: regeneration; the development opportunities of the port and local commerce; reducing flood risk to core residential areas; enhancing the tourism opportunity; and maintaining and enhancing the limited areas of open land and the natural ecological function of such areas. Many of these are built upon the heritage interest of the area. The values of the area are very much those of looking forward to what can be achieved rather than purely maintaining what exists within the area. The key values for coastal management are:

- Enhancing the defence function of the shoreline;
- Protecting the nationally important asset of the Port of Felixstowe;
- The importance of an accessible and sustainable beach, supported by core facilities and vibrant coastal zone, supporting in turn essential tourism and employment;
- The historical heritage;

- The limited but important natural areas; and
- The national importance of the biological and geological diversity of the Landgurad Common SSSI.

Stakeholder objectives

The purpose of these objectives is to summarise the aspirations of key stakeholders and local residents. Management policies will satisfy these objectives where possible and seek opportunities to improve the human and natural environment in the context of the dynamic coastal environment.

- To improve Felixstowe as a viable commercial centre and tourist destination in a sustainable manner;
- To protect the Port of Felixstowe and provide opportunities for its development;
- To develop and maintain the Blue Flag beach;
- To maintain a high standard of ongoing defence to the area;
- To maintain existing facilities essential in supporting ongoing regeneration;
- To integrate maintenance of coastal defence, while promoting sustainable development of the hinterland;
- To maintain the historical heritage of the frontage; and
- To maintain biological and geological features of Landguard Common SSSI in a favourable condition.

Summary	
<p>Lowestoft to Pakefield Hall</p>	<p>Lowestoft is an important regional centre and tourist destination. Within a strongly managed environment, the key values vary along the shoreline from the highly developed commercially important area to the north and around the harbour, through the high value amenity frontage of South Beach of significant importance to the local tourism economy through its “Blue Flag” status, to the less formal Pakefield beach, with each section adding value to the overall character. The historic and extensive residential areas in south Lowestoft are dependent also on effective management of the beach and defences.</p> <p>In particular, with the economic regeneration of the harbour, areas behind the Esplanade and residential areas to the south of the pier, this is heavily reliant upon appropriate management of the beach and promenade of South Beach. Additionally, the associated economic support derived from the harbour and the area immediately to the north means that shoreline management has to take account of overall and interrelated impacts on each of these areas. Further to this, Pakefield has a distinct character and value which provides a transition to a more natural coastline to the south.</p>
<p>Kessingland to Easton Broad</p>	<p>Although in detail the area may be seen as the two distinct areas of Kessingland village and the Covehithe length of eroding cliffs and broads, there is both direct linkage both in terms of management and also overall character. The dominant theme is maintaining the varied but natural character of the area, within which there is a need to sustain tourism, existing facilities, coastal use, the natural environment and communities. The regeneration of Kessingland is a key component of this as are the strengths of agriculture and the local community infrastructure. This combination of key values is summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kessingland as a coastal town and tourist destination; • The transport link from Kessingland to Lowestoft (A12); • The strategic gap which delineates Kessingland from Lowestoft; • Recreational use of the foreshore area; • The agricultural economy; • Community infrastructure; • Cultural heritage; and • The national and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the coastline.

	<p>All of which are within a broader environmental value of the natural coast represented by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A highly dynamic and rapidly changing natural coastline; • A wide range of interdependent coastal brackish and freshwater habitats in the marshes and lagoons to the south of Kessingland; and • The significant archaeological and geological features of the coast.
<p>Easton Bavents to Dunwich Cliffs</p>	<p>The overall values within this area are made up of a complexity of interrelated and interlinked issues, leading to potential conflicts but also opportunity for mutual benefit between individual sectors of interest. Underlying these individual elements are the internationally and nationally important aspects of the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Southwold / Walberswick / Dunwich area as a nationally valued destination for heritage and tourism; • The national and international importance of the wide range of interdependent coastal, brackish and freshwater habitat in the cliffs, marshes, mudflats, lagoons and beaches of the coast and estuary; and • The important characteristic landscape. <p>Within these broader values, specific values are seen in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwold and Walberswick as coastal towns and tourist destinations, integral with the historic and functional aspects of the harbour and associated tourism activities and attractions within the broader area; • Dunwich as a heritage centre and tourist destination; • Recreational use of the harbour and foreshore area including the Blue Flag beach at Southwold; • Geological interest and habitat in the cliffs (to the north of Southwold and south of Dunwich); • The semi-natural and natural landscape; and <p>Environmentally valuable areas of Dingle and Westwood Marshes.</p>
<p>Dunwich Cliffs to Thorpeness</p>	<p>The core value of the area is its natural environment, although clearly the presence of the power station has to be recognised. Areas such as the Dunwich Heath rely on the overall natural setting and the properties along the cliff top similarly benefit from this natural character of the coast. Sizewell village forms a locally important community but also acts as a way point and access to the shore and coastal path. The elements of the key values of the area may therefore be set out as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relatively natural coastal habitat and landscape including the different aspects of the shingle beaches, marshes and wet grassland and Heathland;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The national and international importance of the biological and geological interests of the coastline and hinterland; • The nuclear power station at Sizewell; and • Recreational use of the coastal area including the coastal path and access and facilities offered by Sizewell.
<p>Thorpeness to North Weir Point</p>	<p>The area demonstrates the need to balance the three integrated values of culture, ecology and economics. The strong cultural core is provided by Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Snape, Orford and even Orford Ness. These strong traditional characteristics provide a core to sustaining communities and encouraging future development, which is underpinned by a wide amenity base from sailing to walking, beach use and by the strong tourism, agricultural and (more limited) fishing industries. Equally important locally and regionally as well as with respect to the broader national value is the natural environment, from which the above values derive significant additional value. This combination of values is expressed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorpeness as a coastal village and tourist destination; • The North Warren RSPB reserve; • Aldeburgh as a coastal town, artistic community and tourist destination; • Recreational use of the coastal area including the sailing activity to the south of Aldeburgh and generally within the estuary; • The remote nature and ‘wilderness’ experience afforded by Orfordness; • Heritage values of the military installations on Orfordness; and <p>The national and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the coastline and estuaries, including vegetated shingle beaches, one of the largest shingle spits in the country and the estuarine areas of the rivers Ore, Alde and Butley.</p>
<p>Shingle Street to Felixstowe Golf Course</p>	<p>The area at the mouth of the Deben, including the North Felixstowe frontage, is an important amenity to the town of Felixstowe and a gateway to the more natural coastal environment to the north. Its significance goes beyond the local area, acting as an important tourist attraction for the region but also reflecting in Felixstowe Ferry an intrinsic value in terms of its unique combination of facilities, heritage and community. The same basic qualities are recognised in relation to Shingle Street, combining a spirit of living within a fundamentally natural location with strong community values.</p> <p>The area between has a strong link to rural agricultural activity, supporting local communities. Overall the area has a range of coastal heritage features such as the Martello Towers and the more recent links to the military defence of the nation. The heritage, community and recreational attributes are all set within a broader context of important ecological and geological value. These overall values are reflected in specific features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strong recreational value of Felixstowe Ferry, represented by sailing and water sports, the golf course, the start of the

	<p>coastal path and the foot ferry itself;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strong community identity of Felixstowe Ferry, Shingle Street and other villages within the area; • The tourism and recreational features of the North Felixstowe seafront; • The Heritage value of the Martello Towers, the East Lane military defences and the historic use of Bawdsey Manor; • The underpinning strength of agricultural activities, both within the Deben and along the coastal area; • The national and international importance of the biological and geological diversity of the Deben Estuary; and <p>Coastal and estuarine habitat, in addition to natural and semi-natural environment.</p>
<p>Felixstowe Golf Course to Landguard Point</p>	<p>Felixstowe is a regionally and nationally important economic centre and tourist destination, with recognised Blue Flag standards. This general value emphasises the integrated approach which will be when managing the coastal strip. The recent planning permission for the expansion of the Port and the Felixstowe Futures work reflect the aspirations of the Town to both regenerate itself and expand its economic and social role. The aspects to be considered include: regeneration; the development opportunities of the port and local commerce; reducing flood risk to core residential areas; enhancing the tourism opportunity; and maintaining and enhancing the limited areas of open land and the natural ecological function of such areas. Many of these are built upon the heritage interest of the area. The values of the area are very much those of looking forward to what can be achieved rather than purely maintaining what exists within the area. The key values for coastal management are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the defence function of the shoreline; • Protecting the nationally important asset of the Port of Felixstowe; • The importance of an accessible and sustainable beach, supported by core facilities and vibrant coastal zone, supporting in turn essential tourism and employment; • The historical heritage; • The limited but important natural areas; and • The national importance of the biological and geological diversity of the Landgurad Common SSSI.

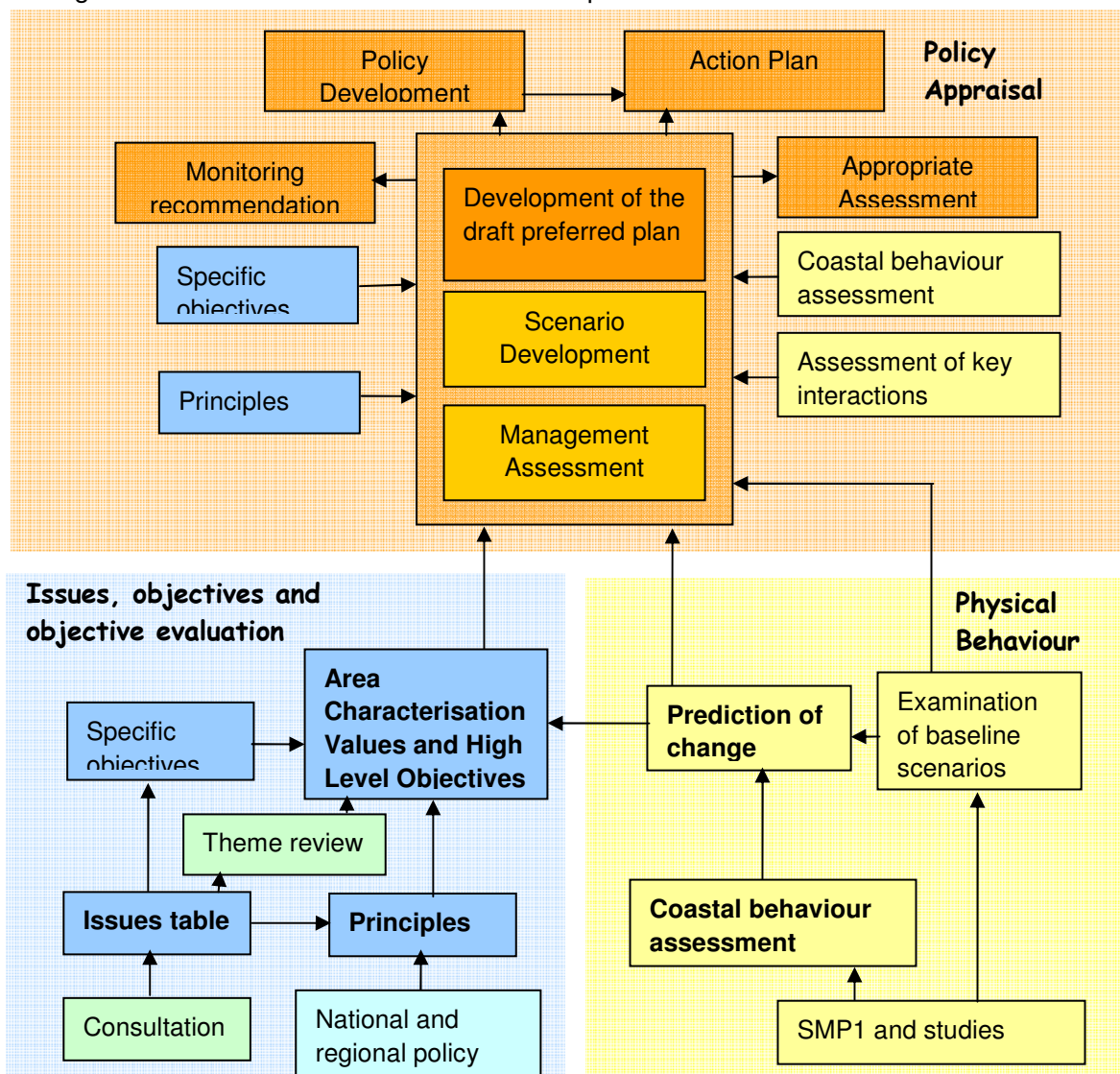
B4.2 Briefing Note and Figure for June 2008 Meeting regarding Objective Evaluation / Assessment

Development of Policy

Introduction

Following discussion at the Client Steering Group on the 4th June 2008, it was felt to be useful to set out in a simplified manner the process that has been undertaken in developing draft policy for the SMP2 area. This document sets out this process, relating this to the steps identified in the procedural guidance, the use of principles, objectives and the characterisation process. The aim of the document is to demonstrate the transparency of the process, how methods have been adapted to the specific situation of the Suffolk Coast and how different elements of the SMP procedure contribute to the policy selection.

The following diagram attempts to show how the various elements of the work fit together. The text that follows describes the process in more detail.



General principles for developing the SMP

The Shoreline Management Plan seeks to provide sustainable shoreline management, considering potential conflicting pressures on the coast and possible constraints on management. The SMP, therefore, seeks to provide an optimised plan, one which provides balanced sustainability, i.e it needs to consider people, nature, historic and socio-economic realities. The SMP2 process is one of review of the policies developed under SMP1; the process is, therefore, not one starting from first principles. However, this does involve questioning these initial policies; in particular considering the implications over the 100 year horizon. A guiding principle is, therefore, that the SMP2 needs to define a long term sustainable **plan**. This plan represents the long term vision, considering the interactions and implications across the whole SMP area. This preferred plan is achieved through the development of **policies** for individual areas over discrete timescales. The SMP does not set policy for anything other than coastal defence management. Nonetheless, it must be recognised that the policies being delivered by the SMP can have considerable implications for a large number of people. The SMP must take account of other existing planning initiatives and legislative requirements, and is intended to inform wider strategic planning. It is important that the plan is realistic and does not promise policies that cannot be delivered; there is no value in a long term plan which has policies that are driven by short term objectives.

General approach to policy development

The plan must address the problems that may exist in the future and has to be realistic. Despite obvious areas of uncertainty, developing policies for different epochs should not be used as an opportunity to defer difficult decisions. There has to be a robust analysis supporting policy decisions. The process by which key decisions are made has to be clear and with clear ownership. The process has to be clearly recorded.

In developing actual policy there are three primary factors that are central to the process.

- An appropriate evaluation process which considers the relative importance of issues /objectives and links this through to policy assessment.
- A focus on the analysis of policy scenarios, rather than individual policy options.
- An emphasis upon analysing shoreline interactions and response.

An important feature of the approach is that policy decisions are initially taken upon the appraisal of achievement of objectives, not on an economic appraisal. Economic assessments are only undertaken to provide a check on the viability of the selected preferred policies. This is an important factor in delivering the best sustainable solution, rather than a purely economically driven one.

Application of General Principles to the Suffolk SMP2

Principles and Objectives.

An initial report was prepared for consideration by the CSG setting out the approach and understanding of sustainability in relation to the Suffolk Coast (*Use of Objectives and Establishing Principles for Policy Development*). This document identified the need to consider two aspects sustainability in terms of the effort required to manage the coast and the intent to sustain key values of coastal interest and use.

The document set out the underpinning principles for management. Principles are defined as the high level aims for good management of the coast, notwithstanding the

recognition that at the specific level there is a need for balanced sustainability; as described in the SMP2 procedural guidance. These principles are based on the aims set out in national policy, incorporating regional aims identified in planning documents and agreed with the Representative Forum (RMF).

The document also sets out the approach taken to identifying and evaluation of objectives. Objectives relate to the specific issues associated with management of the Suffolk Coast and are identified through the thematic review, collating information:

- From earlier studies; such as the current Shoreline Management Plan, strategies and scheme appraisals;
- From the first round of stakeholder meetings and discussion with the RMF and the Client Steering Group (CSG);
- From a review of the various policy documents, structure or local plans.

At a more local level issues were identified initially by the CSG during the initial scoping work on the SMP and subsequently through development of the features and issues tables.

The issues tables and document setting out the principles has been reviewed by the RMF and KSF. Comments from both the RMF and KSF, together with comments from the CSG, have been incorporated within the tables and document. It is recognised that there are potential conflicts between some specific objectives and that not all specific objectives may not be achievable:

- due to constraints imposed by the realities of coastal management,
- and the underpinning principles for developing a sustainable plan.

However, the principles, issues and objectives are considered to reflect the aspirational intent of management against which the plan needs to be developed.

Physical Behaviour

Information as to the physical behaviour of the coast has been collated and analysis and prediction of future trends carried out. This has been undertaken assessing behaviour at an SMP scale and at a more local scale. The work identifies the overall linkages over the area and defines uncertainty. The basic approach to assessing future behaviour was presented to and discussed with the CSG. A report on the physical behaviour was prepared and issued to the CSG. Predicted behaviour of the coast has been mapped for the baseline scenarios and reviewed by the CSG. This information has been subsequently used in assessing management scenarios.

Key Drivers and Objective Evaluation

The aim of this process is to assess the relative importance of the specific objectives used in providing criteria for policy development. An initial assessment is made through use of the issues table. In this table, associated with each feature and issue is an identification of: to whom it is important and what benefits it generates, the scale of importance, whether there is enough of this benefit and to what degree this benefit may be substituted. This provides a degree of ranking of significance. However, it cannot be assumed that ranks between different themes are directly comparable nor that ranking can necessarily compare the value of several features in combination (e.g. one beach cannot necessarily be equated to two car parks.) The procedural guidance cautions against an overly prescriptive approach being taken.

The procedural guidance identifies the potential for key drivers in terms of management. These are defined as being features that have sufficient importance that they have an overriding influence upon selection of policy at the wider SMP scale. The benefits derived from such features will often be a key requirement at a national or regional level. These drivers would give firm direction to choice of possible policies both at that feature location and at other locations which are in some way interrelated. This assessment of key drivers becomes apparent through the assessment of both the significance of the feature and through the assessment of how management of that feature determines or influences coastal behaviour over the whole coast.

Application of Objective Evaluation and definition of Key Drivers to the Suffolk SMP2

Objective Evaluation.

Specific objectives and general principles were agreed with the RMF and KSF through use of the **issues/objectives tables** as discussed earlier. From previous SMP work the difficulty of identifying a sensible ranking of specific objectives was anticipated. In relation to the Suffolk Coast it was appreciated that with over 600 specific objectives identified by the CSG, RMF and KSF, the danger that focus on individual objectives may fail to identify the true interrelationship between these objectives and fail to provide suitable guidance in developing a sustainable plan for management of the shoreline. This was also a concern expressed directly by the RMF.

The issue was discussed within the CSG and an approach adopted whereby the individual issues being raised could be aggregated to provide an overall identification of essential values defining the intent of management. It was further recognised that because of the diverse nature of the coast, these core values would vary from section to section of the shoreline. Seven general areas were identified, within which high level objectives could be defined. These **high level objectives** were derived from the **specific objectives**, agreed by the RMF and KSF, providing overall criteria through which SMP policy might be developed. The approach provides an integrated approach to management, reflecting specific objectives and providing a mechanism for assessing the significance of those specific objectives in context of their broader contribution to management aims. Integration at a broader level of the SMP area as a whole is maintained through applying the underpinning principles agreed with the RMF. This characterisation of the coast; through identifying key values and high level objectives, was taken to the RMF and agreed through consultation with the KSF. This process has been documented in the Characterisation Document which along with the supporting issues/objectives tables and Thematic Review will be included as an appendix in the Draft SMP.

Key Drivers.

The aim of defining key policy drivers is to identify features which might have an overriding influence upon policy of the SMP area as a whole.

There are aspects of the Suffolk Coast, such as the overall balance of nature conservation interest, general socio-economic and economic factors; represented by the core towns and villages, tourism and agricultural industry, and national and regional policy, which have to be considered over the whole SMP area. These general drivers for management are reflected in the key principles agreed with the RMF and KSF.

Through the above characterisation process, key local drivers have been identified and these are reflected in the key values and high level objectives.

Prior to actual assessment of policy, a document was prepared for consideration by the CSG (*Policy Development, April 2008*). This report considered initially the physical linkage and control features of the coast over the whole SMP area. The document identified some 21 features; both natural and man made features of the coast, which might impose significant influence on coastal behaviour in general. Following an initial screening, it was concluded that there were 10 features where a high level decision as to policy might determine the subsequent development of policy over significant lengths of the coast. Objectives associated with these locations might, therefore, be considered as key policy drivers determining an approach to management elsewhere on the coast. These 10 locations were assessed in more detail.

Of these, five were natural features. Only at Benacre and Orford Ness, would management decisions significantly influence coastal development and, in both cases, it was concluded that overriding consideration of nature conservation interests, together with issues of technical sustainability, would dictate that a policy of No Active Intervention was most appropriate.

In the case of the five managed coastal features, it was concluded that at Lowestoft Ness and at Landguard Point there were key drivers (maintaining the overall values of Lowestoft and maintaining the nationally important navigation to the Port of Felixstowe and the sustainable management of the regionally important sea front of Felixstowe, respectively). In effect, at the SMP area level, this assessment confirmed the boundaries of the Cell 3c SMP. In other locations, regardless of the decision with respect to Southwold or in relation to the management of Cobbold's Point, the local choice would not, at a high level, dictate policy for the coast; irrespective of the local management decision these locations would still impose a long term natural control on coastal behaviour. At South Aldeburgh similarly, although associated with the high level objective to sustain Aldeburgh, this location could not be confirmed as a key policy driver for management, requiring as it did local consideration of how best to deliver objectives.

The assessment, combining both the analysis of the **physical behaviour** of the coast at an SMP level in combination with the assessment of **high level objectives**, gave firm direction to choice of possible policies at the feature location, defining also the key interrelationships with respect to other features. The assessment provided a rational for dividing the coast into policy development zones, within which policies could be determined taking account of specific objectives.

The assessment is recorded in the Policy Development document, which would be included within the Draft SMP.

Policy appraisal

The plan represents the long term vision, considering the interactions and implications across the whole SMP and identifies the changes required to achieve that. The policies are the means of achieving this plan at the local level over discrete timescales.

The approach for development of a sustainable plan is through the assessment of policy scenarios, rather than considering locations in isolation. The aim is to identify the appropriate combinations of policies to be appraised for the whole SMP frontage. The number of scenarios developed needs to reflect the range of policies that may be needed to sustain the SMP coastline and meet the stakeholders' aspirations. However, it is not necessary to attempt to appraise all possible combinations; rather the scenarios should be tailored to gain maximum understanding of the implications of alternative policies.

Application of Policy Appraisal to the Suffolk SMP2

Policy Development Zones.

The preceding analysis demonstrated the complex nature of the Suffolk Coast both in terms of the interrelationship between values associated with different areas of the coast and with respect to the local interaction of physical processes over relatively short sections. The overall assessment of physical behaviour and the identification of few key drivers at an SMP level has allowed sub-division of the coast into general zones, such that a more detailed assessment of policy is possible.

This local scale complexity within each zone, however, prevents any further sensible pre-emptive sub-division down to potential policy units. Each zone has to be considered initially as a whole; different management scenarios generating a different range of policy units. The derivation of a preferred scenario for the zone generates specific policies aimed at delivery of that scenario.

Baseline Scenarios.

Although developed initially at the level of the SMP, providing an overall assessment of interactions and prediction of coastal behaviour, the baseline scenarios also provide an initial starting point for examining management of each zone. The **With Present Management** (WPM) scenario, developed from the SMP1 policy and incorporating information from subsequent strategies and agreed schemes, in combination with the **No Active Intervention** scenario, provides that initial understanding of the implications of alternative policies. These baseline scenarios are tested with respect to the high level objectives, taking account of the overall principles in developing a long term sustainable plan.

Preferred Plan

Discussion of these management scenarios highlight areas where **high level objectives** are being met or where they are not met. It also highlights where there may be issues of sustainability and practical management. Based on this, alternative scenarios are able to be examined, looking at how management can better achieve a sustainable plan. In considering these alternatives, reference is made to the specific **issues/objectives**. This discussion has led to a proposed draft plan for shoreline management. This is defined in terms of policies, developed over the three epochs, to allow adaptation of management, recognising the changing nature of the coast. These policies are, where appropriate, combined as management areas, highlighting how individual policy units interact. An Appropriate Assessment is developed alongside the development of the preferred plan, being produced ultimately as a stand alone document. The preferred plan is developed around the aim to meet the high level objectives for each area but is also examined in relation to the specific issues and objectives.

B5 Key Stakeholder Consultation Report: consultation on the Draft SMP2 document

(Full Stakeholder Consultation Report is attached as an Appendix to this report) .

5.3 Revisions to the SMP2 document

All responses identified within the Key Stakeholder Report, together with further discussion on specific issues raised, were taken into consideration in preparing the final draft SMP2.

In many cases it was felt that the main issue was in a lack of clarity in what the draft SMP2 document was saying or in the intent of the policies. This has been addressed. This clarification may either be in providing a better explanation or in highlighting the importance of some aspect of the coast. This in some areas has resulted in additional objectives being identified.

In a few situations the actual policy was found not to fully address new issues that had been identified or situations where policy was influenced by new information becoming available during the consultation process. In such circumstances the policy has been reviewed and where necessary revised to reflect this new information.

The report in the Appendix set out the key issues raised during consultation. The responses identify whether issues were raised by individuals, by representative groups or by the steering group or national organisations. The report provides a brief comment on the issues and identify in what way the issues have influenced the final SMP2 document.

B6.3 General Issues

Where issues relate specifically to areas within the SMP2 frontage these have been addressed as set out above. However, there were two more general issues raised:

Social Justice. A number of stakeholders have raised the issue of 'Social Justice' in relation to an aspiration for coastal protection during the consultation phase of the draft Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2). A discussion of the issue has been added to section 3 of the SMP2 document, explaining how the issue has been acknowledged in the development of policy.

Strategic Environmental Assessment. The need for a "Strategic Environmental" (SEA) of the policies developed in the SMP2 was identified both by consultees and by Defra. A brief explanation of the purpose and requirement for the SEA is provided in section 2 of the SMP2 document. The full SEA process and conclusions is described in a new Appendix (appendix F) to the SMP2 document.

Appendix 1 - Stakeholder Engagement



**EAST
ANGLIA
COASTAL
GROUP
SUB-CELL 3C**

**SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUB-CELL 3C
LOWESTOFT NESS TO FELIXSTOWE LANDGUARD POINT**

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS

CONSULTATION REPORT

**v1.2
23rd June 2009**

**SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Blank page

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION and SUMMARY	1
THE WORKSHOPS	2
PURPOSE OF WORKSHOPS	2
WHAT WAS PRESENTED?	3
MANAGING THE EVENT	3
ATTENDANCE AT WORKSHOPS	6
COMMENTS RECEIVED	9
APPENDIX 1: VENUES, DATES AND TIMETABLE	62
APPENDIX 2: HALF-DAY SESSION PROGRAMME TIMETABLE	63
APPENDIX 3: KEY MESSAGES	64
APPENDIX 4: CSG ATTENDANCE AND ROLES AT WORKSHOPS.....	66
APPENDIX 5: GROUP LEADER TASKS	67
APPENDIX 6: GROUP RECORDER TASKS	68
APPENDIX 7: SCENES FROM THE FORUM WORKSHOPS	69

**SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Blank Page

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

INTRODUCTION and SUMMARY

The preparation of a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is the responsibility of the operating authorities responsible for managing the coastline. In Suffolk these organisations are Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC), Waveney District Council (WDC), British Energy (BE) and the Environment Agency (EA) – in association with Natural England (NE) and Suffolk County Council (SCC):

The first generation Shoreline Management Plan for the Suffolk coastline, between Lowestoft and Felixstowe, was completed in 1998, covering a length of coastline of approximately 72 km. This SMP is now being reviewed by Royal Haskoning UK Ltd for Suffolk Coastal District Council as lead authority for the operating authorities. Terry Oakes Associates Ltd (TOAL) is project managing the development of the new SMP on behalf of SCDC.

One important aspect of the SMP Review is a wide and comprehensive stakeholder consultation to obtain their views and to examine proposals during the process of determining the appropriate policies.

The Consultation measures also include the establishment of the Representative Members Forum (RMF) and the Key Stakeholder Forum (KSF) which assist the Officers' Client Steering Group (CSG) in developing the draft SMP in advance of it being made available for wider public consultation. The Client Steering Group has prepared an Engagement Plan to steer this aspect of the review.

The Key Stakeholder Forum acts as the focal point for this process, providing discussion and consultation throughout the project development. Membership of the key stakeholder forum provides broad representation of the primary interests within the study area, ensuring consideration of all interests during review of issues.

In late March/early April 2009, a series of workshops for key stakeholders was held at three locations in the area. All key stakeholders were invited to sessions which explained the approach used to review the issues and to seek their comments/feedback on the draft management policies. Drop-in sessions were also held on each evening of the workshops to enable those who could not attend during the day to view the proposals and to make comments.

During the workshops, great importance was placed on recording the full range of views and comments expressed about the methodology of the review, its issues and draft policy proposals.

It is important that Consultees should be able to recognise the issues which they have raised, and the way in which they have been considered, through a transparent process of recording them. This report consists of the record of the comments made by participants both during the workshop sessions and in subsequent written and verbal communications.

The next consultation stage will be a full public examination of the draft SMP in summer 2009.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

THE WORKSHOPS

A series of six half-day sessions were held on three days to examine the proposed draft management policies for the Suffolk coastline. Each half-day session concentrated solely on one (or two adjoining) Policy Development Zones (PDZs) - Appendix 1 contains the full programme of PDZs.

Morning sessions started at 10.00 am; afternoon sessions at 2.00 pm. In addition, each venue featured a drop-in session in the evening from 5.00 pm until 7.00 pm for those unable to attend during the day. The full timetable is appended as Appendix 2.

182 key stakeholders, groups and organisations were invited to send representatives to any number of sessions as long as no more than two people from each group attend each one.

Each meeting was attended by Members and officers of the Partner organisations, along with representatives from Terry Oakes Associates Ltd, who are project managing the review, and Royal Haskoning (RH), the Consultants undertaking the review.

PURPOSE OF WORKSHOPS

The defined purpose of the workshops was to provide key stakeholders with an opportunity to:

- (1) Review the process used to identify possible policy options for the management of the Suffolk coastline;
- (2) examine the proposed draft policies for each policy zone;
- (3) Ask questions of the experts.

The aim was to explain the approach used to review the issues, identify potential policy options and how the preferred option was selected – taking into account technical and social implications, so that stakeholders felt they know enough about what we have done to be able to question our approach and the outcome. In addition, the project team were aiming to show that they were prepared to listen and to change the draft policies – and not to defend the decisions to date.

Their comments/feedback were requested to help us validate our work so that we can develop the final draft management policy options before the full public examination in summer 2009.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

WHAT WAS PRESENTED?

The project team emphasised that they were presenting how they had identified the preferred options for comment and that they were not presenting the final draft options.

All stakeholders had been advised that the draft SMP policies for the Suffolk coastline were available for downloading from a public area on the website www.suffolksmp2.org.uk. Hard copies were sent on request.

Greg Guthrie, Royal Haskoning, presented a summary of the thinking behind the development of all options considered.

The documents are referred to as Policy Development Zone statements (PDZs). There are seven PDZs covering the Suffolk Coastline:

PDZ1: Lowestoft to Benacre Ness

PDZ2: Benacre Ness to Easton Broad

PDZ3: Easton Broad to Minsmere

PDZ4: Minsmere to Thorpeness

PDZ5: Thorpeness to Orford Ness

PDZ6: Orford Ness to Cobbold's Point

PDZ7: Cobbold's Point to Landguard Point

MANAGING THE EVENT

Role of Chair

Role performed by:

Mark Johnson (EA)	PDZs 4 and 5
Cllr. Ken Sale (WDC)	PDZs 1 and 2
Cllr. Bruce Provan (WDC)	PDZ 3
Cllr Andy Smith (SCDC)	PDZs 6 and 7

To welcome stakeholders.

To explain the purpose of the workshop events:

The approach used to review the issues, identify potential policy options and how the preferred option was selected - taking into account technical and social implications; so that stakeholders felt they know enough about what had been done to be able to question the approach and outcome.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

To seek their comments/feedback to help validate the work to date so that the project team can develop the final draft management policy options before the full public examination in summer 2009.

To ask people to understand what we have done and to give us constructive comment.

To present a “work in progress”, not the final draft options

To listen

To set the context of the SMP as one of many documents and frameworks developing policy on how the coast should be managed. It provides a broad assessment of the long-term risks at the coast and offers guidance on sustainable coastal defence policy options.

To introduce the Lead Officer

To manage time of the event throughout the day

Role of Lead Officer

Role performed by:

Karen Thomas (EA)	PDZs 4 and 5
Paul Patterson (WDC)	PDZs 1, 2 and 3
Keith Tyrrell (TOAL)	PDZs 6 and 7

The Lead Officer set the scene,

Outlined the process, purpose and format of the half-day session; explained the programme for the day (see appendix 2);

Explained the approach used to review the issues, identify potential policy options and how the preferred option was selected - taking into account technical and social implications;

Explained that that we have to abide by guidelines set down by Defra and to aspects of National and European legislation using the SEA approach;

Collected and collated the major points from individual group discussions and presented them at the plenary session.

Format of Group Sessions

Delegates allocated themselves to individual groups of between 6 and 8 people, although the project team requested that delegates attending from the same organisation chose different groups.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

A member of CSG acted as Group Leader for each group to manage time and discussion – see Appendix 5 for nominated officer roles and Appendix 6 for brief.

A member of CSG acted as Recorder - see Appendix 5 for nominated officer roles and Appendix 7 for brief.

Final Plenary Session

Chair managed the session

Microphones were used to record comments and ensure that others could hear. Recorders kept notes on flipchart paper that were displayed on walls after the plenary session.

The Lead Officer for the day then presented a summary of the major points emanating from the debates within each of the group breakout sessions.

Questionnaires were also available, for completion either on the day or to be submitted later.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

ATTENDANCE AT WORKSHOPS

Zone 1 & 2 Lowestoft Ness – Benacre Ness Benacre Ness – Easton Broad

Benacre Estate
Benacre Parish Meeting
Covehithe Parish Council
Dunwich Parish Meeting
East of England Business Group
Easton Bavents Association
Easton Bavents Ltd
English Heritage
Kessingland Parish Council
Kessingland Beach Wardens
Reydon Parish Council
RNLI
Scott Wilson
Southwold Sailing Club
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Unit
Walberswick Parish Council
Wangford with Henham Parish Council
Waveney District Council

Zone 3 Easton Broad - Minsmere

Benacre Parish Meeting
Blyth Estuary Group
Covehithe Parish Council
Dunwich Parish Meeting
Easton Bavents Conservation
English Heritage
National Farmers Union
National Trust
RNLI
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Southwold Harbour and River Blyth Users Association
Southwold Town Council
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Zone 4 Minsmere - Thorpeness

Alde & Ore Association
Alde & Ore Estuary Planning Partnership
Deben IDB
Dunwich Parish Meeting
English Heritage
GO East

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

John Kerr Farms
Leiston Town Council
Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group
Mr. Glen Ogilvie
National Farmers Union
National Trust
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Unit
Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Zone 5 Thorpeness – Orford Ness

Alde & Ore Estuary Planning Partnership
Country Landowners Association
Dunwich Parish Meeting
English Heritage
Fir Tree Farm, Blaxhall
GO East
Iken Parish Council
John Kerr Farms
National Farmers Union
National Trust
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Snape Parish Council
Sudbourne IDB
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Tunstall Parish Council

Zone 6 Orford Ness – Cobbold's Point

Bawdsey Parish Council
Capel St Andrew Farms
Dunwich Parish Meeting
English Heritage
Felixstowe Town Council
Kirton & Falkenham Parish Council
Mann Farms
National Farmers' Union
National Trust
River Deben Association
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Royal Yachting Association (Eastern Region)
Shottisham Parish Council
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk Coastal Against Realignment (SCAR)
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Suffolk Preservation Society
Sutton Parish Council
Woodbridge Town Council

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 7 Cobbold's Point – Landguard Point

Dunwich Parish Meeting
English Heritage
Felixstowe Town Council
Kirton & Falkenham Parish Council
National Farmers' Union
River Deben Association
Royal Yachting Association (Eastern Region)
Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Suffolk County Council
Suffolk Preservation Society
Woodbridge Town Council

COMMENTS RECEIVED

Receipt of Comments

Comments were received in one of four ways:

- Formal responses after the workshops, either on questionnaire forms or as letters or emails;
- At workshops during the Forums, as noted on flipcharts by group recorders;
- As recorded and presented by Lead Officers at the Forum plenary sessions, being a summary of the major points expressed in the workshops within each of the groups.
- Comments recorded by Royal Haskoning at the workshops.

Formal Responses

Each comment or set of comments received has been given a unique and sequential reference and entered into a database. All comments are listed below.

Ref No	00001
PDZ	General
Policy Unit	
Location	
Response Type	Questionnaire
Name	Peter Mann
Organisation	Mann Group/Suffolk Rivers IDB
Comment	General public should be made aware that the policies can and will only be enacted if funding is available and that there will be no expectation or guarantee that the policy must be enacted.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00002
PDZ 5
Policy Unit HOL16.5
Location Aldeburgh to Bawdsey
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Mann
Organisation Mann Group/Suffolk Rivers IDB
Comment East Lane has HTL but terminates at the old EA boundary. It should extend 300 metres south to incorporate the new defences of the Martello tower.

It is unrealistic to try to deliver the SMP in exclusion of the estuary. What happens within the estuary will have an enormous effect of the immediate shoreline with a knock on principle.

The change of policy at Slaughden to NAI from HTL is extraordinarily dangerous and would probably lead to destruction of the Alde river estuary, Sudbourne marshes and Iken marshes.

This is in no way a practical response to the continued defence and management of the East Coast.

See also ref 00001, 00003

Ref No 00003
PDZ 6
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Mann
Organisation Mann Group/Suffolk Rivers IDB
Comment Definitely agree with the proposed policy.

See also ref 00001, 00002.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00004
PDZ	General
Policy Unit	
Location	
Response Type	Questionnaire
Name	Peter Boggis
Organisation	Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment	<p>Disturbed at the mindset to accept destruction. Therefore we must act now. The sea has risen (approx 120m.) in the past 20,000 years often at rates far in excess of today's, without the (what is now classed as) sins of human population to cause it.</p> <p>Concerned that a committee consisting of largely Government employees who are forbidden to act in a way which is incompatible with the EC Human Rights act, have produced a draft plan, which proposes to abuse the HR of the people of Easton Bavents.</p> <p>Concerned that the decision of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of 11/3/08 ref NSAP37 appears to have been totally ignored.</p> <p>Draft Plan does not appear to take into account Article 6(3) of the 'Habitats' Directive.</p> <p>Great care should be taken to conserve the SAC and SPA value.</p> <p>Kindly give further considerable thought to the whole of the section between Kessingland and Southwold as your present draft plan is unacceptable, against the local people's and the national interest. It is an immoral recipe for disaster.</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00005
PDZ 4
Policy Unit Minsmere
Location
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Boggis
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment Imminent risk of release of explosives on to the sea bed at Minsmere, if the beach is allowed to rollback.

Ref No 00006
PDZ 2
Policy Unit
Location Benacre Sluice
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Boggis
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment Essential that the rocks at Benacre Sluice are consolidated including the flume support as the destruction of this rock mass would have serious effect on both Kessingland and Covehithe and also increase the rate of embayment of the coast to Southwold. Further to this, a Rock structure must be placed in front of the residential section of Covehithe the better, to retard the rate of erosion and give time to protect the village.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00007
PDZ
Policy Unit
Location Easton Bavents
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Boggis
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment Finds the proposals for Easton Bavents to Southwold abhorrent.

Ref No 00008
PDZ 3
Policy Unit Easton Farm Lane
Location Easton Farm Lane
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Peter Boggis
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment

The Secretary for the Environment and Halcrow agree there should be a Hard point at the end of Easton Farm Lane to help reduce the erosion rate to the north. NEIEN own consultant has suggested that a structure at this point is likely to reduce erosion rates by 50% for 1.5km to the North therefore helping to protect the SPA. These matters are not reflected in your Draft plan.

Essential that a continuity of defence should as far as possible be maintained for 1km north of the existing sea wall because any abrupt change in the coast line is likely to effect the sediment distribution to the Southwold beaches. This was proven, by a faulty groyne placing north of the pier in 1950, which dropped the beach level at Easton Bavents by over 2m, created havoc on the beach at Southwold. This material came ashore at the Denes and then completely blocked Southwold harbour to the degree that the harbour mouth had to be excavated for a period.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00009
PDZ	6
Policy Unit	
Location	
Response Type	Questionnaire
Name	JP & SJ Greenwell
Organisation	Capel St Andrew Farms
Comment	<p>Difficult to assess how they will be affected without the estuaries strategy along the Alde, Ore and Butley rivers. At least there are good intentions to protect Bawdsey and Shingle Street.</p> <p>£1 million has been spent on strategies in the last 15 years - this could have been spent on defence.</p> <p>Agree with policy where it is prepared to defend the shoreline; not where it isn't.</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00010
PDZ	General
Policy Unit	
Location	
Response Type	Questionnaire
Name	William Fletcher
Organisation	SCC Archaeology Service
Comment	<p>Issues tables are an inadequate picture of the true Historic Environment resource in the area covered. The number and scope of sites named in the issues table needs to be reviewed. A number of the sites and features that have been included do not have correct details and have insufficient priority ratings.</p> <p>Information on archaeological sites and priorities provided to the consultants by Archaeological Service appears to have been misinterpreted. Further work is required to provide a correct and accurate picture of the Historic Environment resource as depicted on the counties Historic Environment Record.</p> <p>Apparent general lack of understanding of the role which the Historic Environment has to play in the perception of the Suffolk coast, and the part it plays in our understanding of how the coast line has developed. Also a lack of understanding on specific issues and an apparent lack of knowledge regarding the broader concerns of the Historic Environment Sector.</p> <p>The lack of a Historic Environment specialist amongst the project team may account for these absences and this is something that needs to be addressed to ensure that the current issues do not perpetuate through to the next stages.</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00011
PDZ	General
Policy Unit	
Location	
Response Type	Letter
Name	S Rake
Organisation	SCC Archaeology Service
Comment	<p>The draft document as presented does not make it clear that historic environment issues were taken into account.</p> <p>The quality and extent of the heritage comments and the way in which the information has been interpreted and presented in the texts give the impression that historic environment issues have not been adequately consulted, nor that the relevant issues have been understood.</p> <p>It would be clearer if there was a specific list of historic environment (and other environmental) assets affected by the proposed policy, even if the rules do not allow a statement of the costs.</p> <p>There is no consistent historic environment/heritage objective throughout the plan or an understanding of the broader heritage issues relevant to this process</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00012
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Questionnaire
Name John Paton
Organisation Suffolk Preservation Society
Comment Continue to monitor offshore dredging to ascertain effect on the coast.

Ensure that all proposals do not harm agriculture or its water supplies. It is becoming more important that we grow as much of our own food as possible.

Ref No 00013
PDZ 1
Policy Unit LOW1, LOW2
Location Lowestoft Ness and Harbours
Response Type Letter
Name Chris Edwards
Organisation RYA Eastern Region
Comment Support the HTL designation. The economic and socio-economic importance of the harbour and its environs should be preserved. Access to and from the sea for commercial and increasingly more important recreational boating traffic and facilities, should be maintained.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00014
PDZ	3
Policy Unit	BLY09, BLY10
Location	The Denes to Walberswick
Response Type	Letter
Name	Chris Edwards
Organisation	RYA Eastern Region
Comment	<p>Extremely concerned at the poor prospects for Southwold Harbour. The Environment Agency Flood Plan for 20 years (predicts the loss of the existing harbour and widening and shallowing of the estuary mouth) will seriously impair recreational boating with a loss of economic and socio-economic benefits to the area and town. Current reports of the imminent failure of the North Harbour Wall will mean a complete blocking of the harbour and loss of all boating facilities, commercial and recreational, as well as the RNLI station.</p> <p>The need for local funding and action is agreed in the light of the withholding of Government Funds.</p>

Ref No	00015
PDZ	5
Policy Unit	ALB14, ORF15
Location	Thorpeness Haven to Aldeburgh, Martello Tower to
Response Type	Letter
Name	Chris Edwards
Organisation	RYA Eastern Region
Comment	<p>Proposed HTL to North Slaughden fine.</p> <p>NAI from 2025 for Martello Tower onwards produces concern that the sea wall will be breached on the bend, causing serious impacts and threat to recreational boating and both Slaughden Sailing Club and Aldeburgh Yacht Club.</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00016
PDZ 6
Policy Unit HOL6
Location Orford Ness to Bawdsey Hill
Response Type Letter
Name Chris Edwards
Organisation RYA Eastern Region
Comment Need to maintain access to the Ore at Shingle Street if recreational boating in and to the Ore/Alde is not to be detrimentally affected with loss of socio-economic benefits to the area.

Ref No 00017
PDZ 6
Policy Unit DEB17
Location Bawdsey Hill to mouth of the Deben
Response Type Letter
Name Chris Edwards
Organisation RYA Eastern Region
Comment HTL supported but concern that MR for Lower Estuary could impact seriously on recreational boating in and out of the Deben with a loss of socio-economic benefit to Woodbridge and whole estuary.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00018
PDZ 1
Policy Unit
Location Benacre
Response Type Letter
Name Edward Vere Nicoll
Organisation The Benacre Estate
Comment Feels that the future of the Benacre Shoreline has been decided, without any consultation with affected landowners and occupiers.

The approach to the Benacre shoreline is not only wrong but will also lead to:

i) Loss of the historic church and village of Covehithe; ii) Loss of the internationally important Benacre Nature Reserve and surrounding bird breeding areas; iii) Loss of agricultural land; and iv) The loss of one out of the two most used roads leading to/from Southwold at Potters Bridge.

Little account has been made of the effect on the sewage pumping station, residential homes and the Kessingland levels, if the Kessingland pumping station should be moved inland.

Similarly to the south, if the coastline is allowed to erode the defence of Southwold will be much more costly when the Easton Bavents shoreline has moved inland, which will result in a greater possibility of Southwold becoming an island.

Understand that detailed liaising with Natural England in regards to the 'impact of intervention' is of vital importance. The aspect of additional private and other funding has not been mentioned in the SMP 3 (sic) report and the Benacre Estate would expect to make a contribution if a suitable way forward can be agreed.

We would expect that the authors of future reports include the following paragraph:
'This policy does not preclude landowners in exercising an option to retain or slow coastal erosion by means of

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

private or other funding means.'

Accept coastal erosion will not disappear; but do not understand why SMP3 (sic) calls for a total capitulation along the Benacre shoreline. Feels that insufficient study has been made on the far cheaper option of 'soft' engineering measures along the coast and has been left with no option but to independently investigate this further.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00019

PDZ General

Policy Unit

Location

Response Type Email

Name Jen Heathcote

Organisation English Heritage

Comment Comments on the issues table:

Note that all designated assets (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings) lying within the Plan have been captured in the table. N.B. Searches for other designated assets i.e. Registered Parks & Gardens; Battlefields; Protected Wreck should also have been undertaken although in practice when I checked within the 500m zone back from MHW none lie within the study area so need not be of concern for 3c.

Conservation Areas should also be included. Details and the location of these will be held by the local authority, not English Heritage.

There is a discrepancy in the scale assigned to a number of the designated assets, with some national sites only being accorded regional significance. (Apologies for overlooking I reviewed the table earlier and will amend.)

The point of most concern to the sector is the incorporation of the non-designated assets of regional and local importance (understood to have been acquired from Suffolk CC).

I understand from Suffolk CC that they have not seen the revised version of the table late 2006/early 2007 and therefore can't be confident that it represents all relevant assets. English Heritage can't comment on these non-designated assets. I understand that William Fletcher of Suffolk CC archaeology service will be checking the table, together with the scale of significance and will be able to provide feedback soon.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00020
PDZ	3
Policy Unit	
Location	Southwold
Response Type	Email
Name	Sue Allen
Organisation	Blyth Estuary Group
Comment	<p>Why, when we are working towards a sustainability of 20/25 years for the estuary banks and BEG are submitting a planning application for the estuary and the harbour, does the SMP still include within this time scale - the failure of Robinsons bank and the re-alignment of the south training arm? Suggest apply similar text as that in low 3.1. Note that over history pier positions and channel width have not been constant.</p> <p>There was no support for a 100 year plan from all present. This needs to be conveyed to DEFRA. We have no option to change SMP guidance.</p> <p>The economic value of Southwold Harbour must not be underestimated. (Benefit for Southwold of some £25m per annum to much of East Suffolk. Not just the allure of the town itself; also the entirety of its geographical position as it is today. Southwold would not survive in the long term if it consisted of the town, the beach between the pier and the south of Gun Hill and the Common. There must be long commitment to the future of the Town. The local economy value will be considered in local Harbour use assessments.</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00021
PDZ	3
Policy Unit	
Location	Easton Bavents
Response Type	Email
Name	Sue Allen
Organisation	Blyth Estuary Group
Comment	<p>The preference for protection to the north of the pier is for a rock groyne extending approx. 150m. out to sea. Assuming that you are referring to the northern end of the EM seawall then we agree that this is likely to become a critical control point for future management of the Southwold frontage. We do not agree that a long groyne is the most appropriate form of defence.</p> <p>The loss of Easton marsh is unacceptable.</p> <p>Potters Bridge needs to be protected.</p> <p>SMP guidance requires policies to be based upon community aspiration and not to be limited by present day public purse funding constraints. BEG represents extremely wide community aspirations and we therefore feel our expectations should be included in the SMP.</p> <p>Also asked to point out that Greg used the word "uncertainty" more than any other during the afternoon, which we feel is good reason for including the community aspirations .</p>

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00022
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Anne Page
Organisation Shingle Street Settlement/SCAR
Comment Estuary strategies must be taken into account.

The national taxpayers' role in supporting the coast needs emphasis.

Ref No 00023
PDZ 2
Policy Unit
Location Kessingland
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Les Crossland
Organisation Kessingland Parish Council
Comment Concerned about apparent 'defence' line in the middle of Kessingland village.

Concerned that his views had not been taken into account after the site visit meeting as the maps had not changed. (Karen Thomas explained his views had been taken but the maps needed changing after KSF events.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00024
PDZ 5
Policy Unit
Location Slaughden
Response Type Letter
Name R B Skepper
Organisation Ferry Farm, Sudbourne
Comment All stakeholders unanimous about the necessity to prevent a breach at Slaughden.

The two biggest industries that support the economic activity of the aide estuary are TOURISM and AGRICULTURE.

It would completely destroy the unique safe sailing for which Aldeburgh is renowned , and the junior sailing activities that can safely occur.

The likely consequential widespread flooding would destroy much of the scenic beauty of the estuary.

The tidal river level will immediately rise up to 1.5 ft all the way to Snape. At the moment, the tide level in the river at Aldeburgh and Snape is about 1.5 ft lower than the same high tide in the sea. As there is currently only about 2ft of free board at Snape ,a huge wall would immediately have to be built around the £500m Snape Maltings Aldeburgh festival hall complex to protect it.

Another issue arising from the daily higher tidal levels in the upper river is that the existing saltings would be covered by all tides instead of just spring tides. They would disappear rapidly to become inert mud flats. As the entire estuary is a designated European S.P.A.and S.A.C, it requires by European Habitats Law to be protected, or alternate habitat has got be created elsewhere.

The immediate hinterland to the river Aide constitutes one of the most intensive horticultural and vegetable production areas of the U.K. - all totally dependent on irrigation waters from tbe underground acquifers adjacent to the coast.

From Aldeburgh South to SouthEssex a 300/400 metre wide

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

100 metre+ deep london clay strip creates a perfectly impermeable barrier to saline incursion from the seabed. The hill of crag overlying the clay where this farm sits contains a reservoir of above 150m gallons. Tbe three farms that use it ,ours ,Marshland estate and Stannay farm have licences to withdraw 75million gallons anually and even in dry years the water table hardly drops at all in spite of pumping full allocation.

If the sea water gets across the marshes into these sand aquifers it will go brackish for miles inland, wrecking all the underground irrigation of the hinterland and destroying the huge agricultural output.

There is only about 750 metres of narrow land South of the Martello tower until the Ness widens out to up to 1/2mile and this needs to be securely defended, then the whole 10 mile stretch to the South is secure.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00025
PDZ 6 and 7
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Questionnaire
Name Cllr Graham Newman
Organisation Suffolk County and Felixstowe Town Councillor
Comment Agrees with what the SMP is trying to deliver.

Agrees with the proposed policy.

Ref No 00026
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name David Andren
Organisation SCAR
Comment Wondering if there are any representatives of the real business interest along the coast. Does anybody represent business around this room? It is something that's deeply unsatisfactory about this process.

Ref No 00027
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Unknown
Organisation Unknown
Comment The very fact that the premise that we're accepting that this is a natural process, it has never been. This coast has always been managed for hundreds, if not thousands of years, and factors on the coastline have been managed and to leave it to nature is perhaps naive at best

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00028
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type
Name Unknown
Organisation Unknown
Comment No representation of the tourism industry this morning. But whatever the economic value of the tourism industry goes well back from the coast, in fact it goes right inland, probably taking up at least half of Suffolk or more. So I think that's a point that really has to be evaluated in the protection of this area.

Ref No 00029
PDZ 3, 4 and 5
Policy Unit
Location Sizewell
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Unknown
Organisation Unknown
Comment We haven't talked about the Sizewell new build. If they do bring in material from the sea then there's going to have to be new build there. What sort of effect is that going to have on natural processes? I'm particularly thinking of sediment accretion between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh which happens all the time now. Is it not feasible that if there is new build there and that is interfered with then you might get the shingle disappearing from that ridge? Is that being considered in the plan?

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00030
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Unknown
Organisation English Heritage
Comment From the heritage side that we recognise the aspiration that you have to try to balance the various interests. I think that so far you haven't achieved that through the documents presented. They are not taking on board the full range of assets that we know we've got here, whether they're heritage or tourist of whatever else. There's an attempt to do it but this plan is obviously still heavily led from an engineering and a geomorphological and a geological standpoint.

I would like to see you be slightly more balanced in trying to not claim that we're moving to a naturalised system when we've got Sizewell sitting there which is going to pull the whole modelling and position out from an attempt to come at something which is slightly more natural. I think that I'm pleased to see the evolution between SMP 1 and 2 as being something that is more mix and match rather than an extremist, absolutist policy of let natural processes take their course, that's artificial. It may have been economically driven, I couldn't possibly comment but the simple position is that we have always intervened in the coast.

What we need is an intelligent balancing of those interests and a debate which actually puts a proper value and a judgement on each of those decisions. And I think therefore what we want to see at the end of this process is a balancing of those interests and a costing of those interests not just in financial terms but in the other sorts of significances which we have to value - natural environment, manmade environment, tourism, economics. And I think that there's still a bit of a challenge there for you to get that balance right.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00031
PDZ 2
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name John Goldsmith
Organisation Cllr. Suffolk County Council
Comment Plus 100 years I think you're looking too far into the future. There is so much land, there is so much that can happen that would be irretrievable and I hate to think what in 100 years plus time this coastline is going to look like to think about doing anything about putting it right. You've got to keep what we've got now. I don't think anything else above that is acceptable.

Ref No 00032
PDZ 2
Policy Unit
Location Kessingland
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Liam Martin
Organisation Kessingland Parish Council (Chair)
Comment As the Chairman of Kessingland Parish Council, I am really concerned about the effects that this plan is going to have, particularly when you say that this part of the coast where Kessingland is one of the most vulnerable parts of the coast along this part of the East coast.

And I don't feel at the moment you're taking enough consideration in to protecting what is a most vulnerable part of the coastline and you've got a village, you've got people, you've got businesses and you've got a community - nothing I've read shows any consideration being taken of that at all. Plus there are other complicated issues which the District Council are aware of as far as Kessingland is concerned which is going to have a knock on effect if that's not considered in your plan either.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00033
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name John Huggins
Organisation RNLI
Comment Gained the impression that protection will be afforded to the more populated areas. More remote areas will be left for future generations to deal with.

Also expressed concern that protection will be provided by large concrete structures rather than lower cost 'softer' defences.

Ref No 00034
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Sue Allen
Organisation Blyth Estuary Group
Comment Expressed concern that the map which shows Southwold completely encircled by a flood-risk zone will reduce confidence to inward investment and its attractiveness to visitors.

Also would like to see the risk to Potters' Bridge on the B1127 emphasized in a similar manner to that at Wolsey Bridge, in recognition of the importance of the road.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00035
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Paul England
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment The managed realignment at Easton March will result in the loss of a large area of car parking. How well can the location of the natural beach to this frontage be predicted? What sort of control structures will be needed?

Ref No 00036
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Peter Boggis
Organisation Easton Bavents Conservation
Comment Feels that Easton Marsh frontage should benefit from the same quality of amenity beach as the Southwold Town frontage. The recent work to the groyne in front of the Easton Marsh wall has, in his opinion, contributed to the accelerated erosion of this beach, and the increased exposure of the sea wall itself.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00037
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Cllr John Goldsmith
Organisation Suffolk County Council
Comment Attempts to hold the northern end of the Easton Marsh frontage may well bring about conditions which lead to accelerated erosion of the Easton Baverns cliffs.

Ref No 00038
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Cllr Christine Block
Organisation Suffolk Coastal DC
Comment Would like to see mention somewhere within the SMP of the potential difficulties in securing public funding for some of the proposed options and the need to seek alternate forms of funding.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00039
PDZ 5
Policy Unit
Location Alde/Ore
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name David Andren
Organisation Alde/Ore Association
Comment Reference to Alde/Ore Estuary Plan should be replaced with the Thorpeness to Hollesley Coastal Strategy.

Feels that it's reasonable for property owners within a defended flood-risk area to make contributions towards the upkeep of those defences through, for example, s106 agreements.

Ref No 00040
PDZ 6 and 7
Policy Unit
Location Deben and Landguard Fort
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Cllr Graham Newman
Organisation Suffolk County Council
Comment There are instances in the draft plan where a proposal to hold the line will be compromised by a proposal in the neighbouring section (e.g. managed retreat for Landguard Common but hold the line at Landguard Fort; managed retreat for the lower estuary of the Deben, but hold the line for the Martello Tower).

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00041
PDZ 7
Policy Unit
Location Landguard Point
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Susan Robinson
Organisation Felixstowe Town Council (Town Clerk)
Comment I've looked at the stakeholder objective to do with what is described as the Landguard Common SSSI. Now that's only a small part of the Landguard Peninsula, the Landguard Peninsula is larger than the SSSI and within the Landguard Peninsula there is, over and beyond the SSSI, quite a lot of important bio-diversity and indeed rather further up the coast, towards Manor Terrace. I'm just a little bit concerned that this flexibility might take away some of the more interesting features outside the SSSI.

Ref No 00042
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Unknown
Organisation Unknown
Comment Consideration of the estuaries is not immediately apparent in the proposed SMP.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00043
PDZ 7
Policy Unit 20.1
Location Landguard Point
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Jen Heathcote
Organisation English Heritage
Comment Relating to management area 20.1, ie the west side of Landguard Point, note that the 100 year draft preferred policy line stops just shy of the jetty leaving - I do recognise that it is the hold the line policy down that stretch, but we do have some concerns about potential flood vulnerability round the back of the Fort.

Ref No 00044
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Neil Montgomery
Organisation Woodbridge Town Council
Comment Most of the proposals for holding the line are longitudinal, in that they going along the coast line. But if the problem is essentially one of erosion, why do you not also consider lateral protections, in other words modern groynes which have been used for hundreds of years and are pretty rickety rickety now in many cases but they do seem to have been effective.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00045
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Graham Henderson
Organisation SCAR
Comment I'm very concerned about how we put this information out to the public. Because to put the document out on its own to people in the Felixstowe is not going to tell them very much. So how far will the information be expanded in the public examination?

Ref No 00046
PDZ General
Policy Unit
Location
Response Type Forum Workshop
Name Unknown
Organisation Unknown
Comment Will an overarching view of the whole dynamic of the SMP down the coast be included? The interaction from cell to cell is enormously important.

Added note from Graham Henderson (SCAR): give out the fundamentals and tell people all this information is available in depth on the website or whatever.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00047
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Letter
Name Jennifer Hussell
Organisation Southwold Town Council
Comment Councillors were concerned that serious consideration was being given to accepting loss to the marshes and beaches to the north and south of the town, leading to considerable commercial loss though loss of visitor numbers and the possibility of the town's businesses being unsustainable.

Discussions with the EA and others may help preserve the river and harbour but will do nothing for the north of the town. The Council considers that a better option than a clay wall around the town would be a 150-metre rock groyne to the north and would welcome the project team's views on this.

Ref No 00048
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Letter
Name Jennifer Hussell
Organisation Southwold Town Council
Comment Concerned that the strategy appears to be based, at least in part, on figures from 1991. More up-to-date information should have been used for a strategy of this significance.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00049
PDZ 2
Policy Unit COV 7
Location
Response Type Letter
Name Mary Norden
Organisation RSPB
Comment They note that the loss of areas of the SAC (and SPA) are considered natural and point out that the anticipated habitat loss will nonetheless require appropriate assessment and provision of compensatory habitat.

Ref No 00050
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Southwold
Response Type Letter
Name Mary Norden
Organisation RSPB
Comment The RSPB is concerned that the proposed policy does not reduce the sediment input to the south of Southwold, impacting negatively on the SPA/SAC interest.

Ref No 00051
PDZ 3
Policy Unit
Location Dunwich
Response Type Letter
Name Mary Norden
Organisation RSPB
Comment In the summary paragraph under 'Plan', they suggest the wording 'habitat creation' be replaced by 'habitat change'.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No 00052
PDZ 4
Policy Unit MIN 12
Location Minsmere
Response Type Letter
Name Mary Norden
Organisation RSPB
Comment There appears to be some consistency between the text and the summary map. In zone 12.2 in 2105, NAI is proposed which the RSPB accepts. The map proposed MR - please clarify.

They agree with 12.1 and 2.3.

They suggest that 12.4 is altered to MR for all three epochs. Minor works may be required and this should be reflected in the option category.

At the southern end of 12.4, there appears to be an undefended gap between the 100-year shoreline and the indicative line of flood defence. They suggest that the extent of the latter be extended to provide adequate protection of the SPA.

Ref No 00053
PDZ 4
Policy Unit MIN 13
Location Minsmere
Response Type Letter
Name Mary Norden
Organisation RSPB
Comment re 13.1, obviously the HTL category will be maintained to protect the nuclear power stations. This must not be to the detriment of the adjacent designated sites and should be appropriately assessed with in the strategy.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Ref No	00054
PDZ	5
Policy Unit	ALD 14
Location	Aldeburgh
Response Type	Letter
Name	Mary Norden
Organisation	RSPB
Comment	Re zone 14.2 (directly in from of the RSPB North Warren reserve), the proposed category is MR - which the RSPB accepts but would query why the indicative lines of flood defence are proposed to the north and south. A retired line could placed behind the shingle beach to provide protection to Aldeburgh and Thorpeness but with a lesser length of defence needed.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Workshop Comments

These comments were written down by group recorders during the Forum breakout workshop sessions. Due to the nature of these workshops, they are not attributed to either an individual or an organisation.

PDZ 1 and 2 (Lowestoft Ness to Easton Broad)

Covehithe area = NAI. To contribute sediment to coast to South.

NAI policy unlikely to change?

Benacre estate will be affected.

Loss of offshore sandbank due to dredging by Crown Estates. Has affected coastal processes + protection to coast.

Erosion rates here therefore increased.

How will we prevent flooding in the south of PDZ2 (north of pier)?

Area around Benacre P/S may flood very suddenly as it is below sea level.

Why not defend this area?

Groynes in front of Kessingland altered the movement of Benacre Ness.

We are accepting destruction rather than having to stop it with more hard points.

Compensation/social justice?

Aspirational plan – is this affordable?

No objective about the historic environment

No table containing all historic environment assets in SMP area

Problems with re-creating lost habitats

What happens if the councils don't adopt the SMP?

What's the link with the LDFs?

Impact of Great Yarmouth harbour development should be explained/included/analysed

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

SMP-link LDF maps to show all nationally designated landscapes.

Historic landscapes categorisation should be used to help shape the policies.

What problems for smaller coastal communities today are going to increasingly become problems for larger urban coastal communities as time goes on.

More info needed on PDZ2 before we can say we are happy with this.

NAI/MR becomes more acceptable with good sustainable development plans/policies in place.

Kessingland sewage pumping station – effect on whole village

Not enough protection for Kessingland – fresh water flooding backing up

Historic environment inaccuracies

Coherent strategy across whole area.

Benacre sluice as groyne to anchor Kessingland beach.

Take account of linear coast path.

Easton Broad, Potters Bridge Road?

A12?

Compensation for loss of property not addressed

Are commercial costs assessed in plan, especially tourism, Kessingland holiday camps x2

Ground water salinity effects?

Deflect currents away from beaches.

Consultation – should visit communities

Should protect in situ – including land south of Benacre sluice

View of economics is too narrow, needs to include history and landscape

More input from the business community

Recognising where intervention, natural processes & other drivers (economic) interplay – balancing act.

Habitats – which do you keep/not keep.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Creating new habitats can be to the disadvantage of heritage sites – cost implications of this need to be acknowledged in the plan.

Why do we need to be looking 100 years ahead?

Too much uncertainty

Can we 'interfere' with nature?

Are there ways of using softer, more natural defences?

Heritage costs + implications need to be factored in (Covehithe)

There needs to be a connection of policies

LDF + other national research strategies/policies (EH-MORPHE) need to be linked in – fundamental.

Offshore dredging + its implications on erosion needs to be addressed.

Access + recreation – again joining up policies making sure that there is access to the coast and heritage sites

PDZ 3 (Easton Broad to Minsmere)

Links to Harbour/Harbour Plan – how would this work?

Negative perspective – do nothing as baseline.

Other aspects to climate change – not just SLR

100 year time scale too long

More about how the issues have been taken into account.

More information needed to inform land management response; confidence, threats + opportunities – blighting effect of plan

No consideration of Human Rights – issues re loss of properties

Easton Farm lane Hard point not planned?

Can't the bastions be made into a groyne to protect Mr Boggis properties and Southwold? No technical evidence why this is not acceptable.

Financial impact & Human Rights issues

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

SMP says 'allow failure' of Robinsons Marsh + tinkers marsh defences. Is this in conflict with BEG objectives?/why should local people be required to do this? Human Rights implications.

Status/role/function of the SMP. Is it set in stone? – guidance only.

How much flexibility for local proposals?

If plan is being reviewed in 10 years – how can proposals be considered over this short time frame?

How does this fit with long-term thinking?

How do we work with high degree of uncertainty?

Need not to abandon unless certain of need to.

Need to protect Southwold wall (Easton Marsh) for as long as possible.

Clarification of meaning of managed re-alignment – plan is inconsistent

Yellow lines on maps don't show up.

Beach stabilisation frontages at Easton – should be in the plan?

EN/NE predictions of erosion rates

Clarity needed for Easton

Consideration to defending coast is needed.

Not enough info provided to support some policies.

No reference to Dunwich(?) Pier outfall to the sea over 100 years.

Harbour Hydraulic design

Need to be assured the mouth is fully understood. Mouth needs to be maintained. If mouth is changed it will not work.

Do not agree with policy on Harbour Mouth. 1937 – Mouth blocked by shingle due to the works being done i.e. No harbour wall to keep the beach to one side. Harbour needs to be kept deep.

Opportunities need to be looked at if the Harbour Mouth was improved – increased value

Repair north wall & Harbour pier.

South needs to be maintained with policy.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

North bank agree with SMP policy

Houses on stilts – retreat - does that mean translocation or loss?

MR – feeds into Action Plan - LA's adaptation needs to be flagged up if policy does not change. Worried EH becoming liable for loss of structures.

Other heritage sites, Dunwich, Minsmere picked up in S.E.A.

Shingle Ridge – more on consequences of loss of fresh water habitats

MR – mitigation & compensation of habitats.

Don't want habitats sacrificed for housing.

Landscape character – type of HTL hard defences need to have design elements that fit in

Character elements of rural features.

Timescale of SMPs – funding in line with strategies may be an issues

Community Roll Back discussion needed government to deal with Rolling Back Communities.

Creation of new habitats need to be sympathetic – historically informed

Land usage – population 10 millions – food security

What is a legal requirement and what is an option – birds or food.

What is reason for leaving south side of harbour

Position of the Harbour Wall

Shingle bank – Dunwich to Walberswick

Houses on stilts – to possibly be designated

Landscape character – how does it change

Construction – need to know more info

N. Wall – historical construction single wall tied back/Walberswick side

SMP reflects historical construction

Harbour wall – concerns unusable on ebb tide. Any rise erosion increase difficult to navigate.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Harbour needs to be isolated to restrict flow/dam with sluice to maintain flow – navigation

Ebb flow now better for navigation.

Offshore dredging affects coastal processes and coastal protection. SMP should contain more info about this. Statement about impacts of offshore dredging on coast.

Possible human rights issues where properties may be lost in the future?

Flooding from Dunwich River – should be taken into account.

Should have obtained more local knowledge earlier in the SMP process.

Not enough communication about the SMP process. Too long between key stakeholder meetings.

PDZ 4 (Minsmere to Thorpeness)

Heritage

Impact of MR on Heritage is an issue for SMP partner authorities

Settlement rollback

More issues aside from engineering/geology

Sea bed Heritage – wrecks

Undesignated sites – Marine

Landscape assessed for areas

Sizewell C – potential for contribution to sluice

J Pethwick – report to Sizewell SMP

Natural coastline ?? (relative)

Leiston Sewage system

Sluice upgrade – pump

Offshore dredging – aggregates – impact of coastline

Availability of background docs on SMP

Link with estuary strategies?

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Link with CFMPs – Thorpeness, One Hundred River, Minsmere river

Who makes technical recommendations?

Importance of agricultural land re population increase

Minsmere central MR policy 12.3

RSPB not happy with this

12.3 and 12.4 – future of sluice- timeline

NAI? – need for minimal management

Leiston STW – outfall? / pumping station?

Managing water levels

Habitat creation – where will it go?

Impact of Dunwich humps down drift?

Clarity for landowners on impact on them

Compensation/adaptation for people?

Impacts of building power stations?

Sediment flow

Dredging impacts

(Coastal processes) Adequate funding for defences?

No mention of farming in area 4, impact of flooding on grazing

Links with landscape

Impacts on Aquifer – Salination on agriculture

How are timetables / plans of work decided?

12.3 – MR option (NAI) with minor works like 12.4

Sluice – what will happen? Pump?

Economic Evaluation (under-evaluation)

Land farming – changing values

Wider value of the coast i.e. Thorpeness

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Suffolk Coast Path

Tourism

Increased flood risk

Pollution of aquifers with salt water

Economic value of heritage

ICZM – wider approach

Process

Positive response to date.

Active network for consultation in communities

Lack of heritage specialist in team is a concern.

Not enough consultation on heritage issues

Omissions/clarifications

Not adequate weight given to heritage issues

Landscape character assessments included?

Site-specific Issues

Min North:

Proposed secondary defence to be fit for purpose (o/t and breach proof) to prepare freshwater environment

Management of shoreline to continue

Retain public access at shoreline

Arch. features to be identified

Min Central:

Future performance of sluice to sustain land drainage function is of concern. Pump.

Leiston drainage feeds into sluice.

Ensure proactive engagement with AW RE sewage treatment works

Min South:

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Archaeology: Assets at risk.

Clarify why policy for 12.3 & 12.4 is different?

PDZ 5 (Thorpeness to Orford Ness)

What weight does the SMP have?

14.2 Thorpeness – Aldeburgh flooding issues

- Sluice

- Flooding of more – where will water go?

Is it accreting here? EA maps.

Osmosis/saline

Seepage issues here?

Impact on tides of breach

Spring tides

Estuary c.f. sea

Effects on walls

(1 lower (G.G))

Have all types of defences been considered – geo textiles / rocks / etc?

Impact of two mouths on flows?

Impact of defences on Ness on Nature Conservation Values

Defence for Aldeburgh – fort green (coastguard look-out) – is it adequate now?

How is the increased flooding on the Ness addressed in the plan?

Where is the flooding (Kings Marches etc) coming from?

Impact of Salination on Alde aquifer – agricultural impacts

Relative impacts of surges and SLR

How does the plan compare/distinguish/take account of these?

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Part of jigsaw only – can't support until links with estuary strategy are established – social impacts not explored

Collaboration between SMP and Estuaries Study still required

Make reference to the changed name of the Estuaries Study (Aldeburgh coast and Estuaries Study)

Concerned about confidence of data/info provided (i.e. Water levels with and without breach at Slaughden)

Timescale of ICZM and how it works

Need to take account the severity of storm surges on potential breach.

Concerned about taking heritage into account and how this will feed back through policy decisions.

Need to feed all info available (i.e. Appendices) through to stakeholders

Have different options for protection at Slaughden been considered

Thorpeness sluice – as with Minsmere

LDF – timescales

Slaughden:

Breach

Values on land/properties

Impacts upon North Weir Point

Impacts upon Orford Ness South of Breach

Agreement of recycling

Impact upon designated sites within estuary

Economies of breach

Length of time this whole process is taking – how long until results?

What are the opportunities?

Increased surge tide levels as a result of the breach

If hold at Slaughden can IS.SM be funded?

Latest LIDAR Survey

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Process

Consultation docs are geo? & environment led

Heritage values not given sufficient weight

Presentation good

Maps are of appropriate detail and understandable – with local knowledge

Listed buildings and consideration areas not marked! Should be.

Site-specific Issues

ACB 14.1 Works to protect individual properties should not adversely affect adjacent coast

ACB 14.2 What is rationale for policy change? (GG)

Presentation of 'hinterland response' lines (GG)

ORF 15.1 Ensure sediment pathways to/from Orford Ness are properly described in doc.

Expand significance of national policy for Orford Ness

Shingle recycling from Orford Ness is short term. Note English Heritage interest

Ensure comprehensive stakeholder network – as SMP for Alde Ore Study

ORF 15.2 Orford Ness heritage designation about to change. Ensure that policy remains appropriate.

ACB 14.2 Habitat change notes as consideration of policy

PDZ 6 (Orford Ness to Cobbold's Point)

Action – access to SMP2 Guidance
Holesley sea bank maintenance

Economic drivers – Greg to explain figures

SMP Process after these events onto adoption; links to LDF

100-year timeframe; 10 year review; sea level rise

Holesley Sea Bank; explain pressures and intent of management

Economic data; more transparency needed; irrigation values

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Socio-economic impacts
people and property

Links with EA estuary plans

Erosion of Bawdsey Cliffs; impact on flood plain behind

Timing of estuary plans; difficult to draw conclusions in their absence

Continuation of draft plan; Broadsheets to everyone affected in coastal zone; LA newsletters

Role of East Lane Trust; more information on them in the SMP

How will issues identified today and after be taken into account?

What is the link between SMP and estuary strategies? What stage is the estuary strategy at? Wider economic impacts behind the coast

Recognition in the plan that if East Lane fails, it could run all the way through the Deben; needs more clarification in SMP

How can we fund implementation of the policies? Private funding?

Shingle Street first epoch is managed re-alignment – why? Then HTL in 2nd and 3rd epoch; clarification needed; intent needs to be clear to the reader

What is the status of the SMP? Links with planning system? LDF?

Can the SMP feed into the LDF?

16.6 English Heritage object because of impacts on Martello Tower in first epoch

16.3 Better explanation of intent

16.5 Reference to uncertainty around East Lane should be removed because it refers to intent (to UTL), not process.

Links between SMP and Marine Bill?

Issues over how it is broken down

Issue over PDZ influencing policies

Good information gleaned from website – easy to navigate – keep it simple – keep it layered

Historic/Heritage aspects (Orford Ness) have not been captured fully

Need to ensure cross-reference within SMP with estuary strategies

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Can we include link with ICZM and affect on SMP

Concern that estuaries have not been included in SMP

Happy with this proactive approach to engagement and opportunity to consult on policies

Concern over lack of resources able to manage the SMP process in wider scale

Need clarification over whose 'responsibility' it is to manage defences

What is relationship of forthcoming Marine Bill outcomes on SMP

East Lane – Bawdsey (NAI) – concern it is flawed due to sediment movement

Clearer explanation of policies – i.e. HTL/NAI/MR/ATL – glossary

Is East Lane holding back sediment that could recharge Knolls and North Felixstowe beach?

PDZ 7 (Cobbold's Point to Landguard Point)

T.B.A. This session attracted fewer numbers so the format of the Workshop was changed to a single, larger and longer and plenary session.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Plenary Sessions

These are comments presented by Lead Officers at the Forum plenary sessions and are a summary of the major points expressed in the workshops within each of the groups. They may, therefore, duplicate some of the comments recorded in the previous section.

Full transcripts of these sessions are attached as Appendix 8.

PDZ 1 and 2 (Lowestoft to Easton Broad)

The high flood and erosion risk to land at S of Kessingland village is news to community.

The impact of a set bank main flood bank on infrastructure and property is significant.

Why not resist erosion of beach and attempt to retain flood defence in present location.

Offshore dredging is a cause of erosion over this part of coast.

Why is defence of Kessingland to Easton Marsh considered inappropriate and unviable?

Coastal access must be considered and explicitly discussed.

Implication of policies upon landscape and heritage assets has not been adequately discussed.

A 100 yr plan life is excessive and unhelpful. Uncertainties associated with the 50-100 year forecast period are too great.

Need for demonstration of good integration of various coastal policy / management studies. This was raised by EH rep who mentioned a recent Eng Heritage study.

The impact of policy upon local tourism and business interests should be considered. Plan economic assessments should not be limited to GB plc.

It is a weakness of the plan that policies are aspirational and not certainly affordable / deliverable.

How are habitat change / relocation issues considered by the plan?

More info required on adaptation, compensation, social justice issues.

PDZ 3 (Easton Broad to Minsmere)

Time between baseline and Policy consultations is too long.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Proposed hard point at N end of Easton Marsh wall should be a long groyne.

More info required on consequences of habitat loss over Dun - Walberswick part.

Why is Robinson Marsh policy MR after findings of Ken Pye report and local self help works upstream?

A development roll back policy should be allowed to enable threatened communities to relocate locally and not in nearest settlement e.g. Easton Bavents.

Defending settlements on promontories e.g. Southwold and Kessingland will be more difficult if erosion is allowed to occur in between.

The risks / consequences of disruption to the Reydon / Wrentham highway at Potters Bride are not adequately discussed by the plan.

Status / role of SMP should be clarified in docs.

More experimental / low cost coast defence measures should be trialled to challenge benefit cost assumptions based upon heavy expensive works options.

Is GYOH and offshore dredging contributing to pressure on this part of coast?
Comment required in plan.

Southwold Harbour Plan is critical to policy. What is it and when will it be available?

Southwold Harbour North Wall in urgent need of urgent works. Would its failure have impacts upon the coast?

Navigation of the Blyth entrance is currently difficult due to fast water flows. This could be managed by embanking more marshes upstream.

Plan should consider landscape character changes as consequence of policy implementation.

Need for discussion of Human Rights impacts associated with policy options.

More discussion required on adaptation, blight and social justice.

Why no proposal for works to defend threatened properties at Easton Lane?

PDZ 4 (Minsmere to Thorpeness)

Need to find better routes into involving groups who are working with communities and with those who live and work on the coast.

Concerns about managed realignment:

Heritage considerations

Loss of freshwater habitats; have to be replaced somewhere else; costs and

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

implications

Agricultural land loss; saltwater intrusion; saltwater flooding and freshwater flooding caused by water not being to flow out

Individual property owners – what are there are options and what they will/won't be allowed to do

What happens to the plan when it has been finalised?

The effect of the legal requirements related to habitat

Issues related to Sizewell; the role of large developers on the coast and can they be contributing to local defences?

Agricultural issues and food security

Access to and along the coast

The need to take into account the wider economic issues

PDZ 5 (Thorpeness to Orford Ness)

Discussion about process: role, what weight does it have;

SMPs vs. Estuary Strategies v ICZM: Alde/Ore

Policy option around Slaughden; lot of discussion; difficulty to support the policy option without a lot more information

Wider issues:

- Managed realignment
- Freshwater habitat
- Impacts on agricultural land
- Saltwater infusion

Comments about individual property owners and what they could or couldn't do; two groups expressing opposing views – that owners should not take action that affects other coastal processes, and that they could.

HTL – particularly around Aldeburgh, what state are the defences in now; what is likely to happen

Positive feedback – good comments about the maps; several really good suggestions about how to improve the things that are displayed in the maps

Discussions about agencies and local authorities linking in with community groups

PDZ 6 (Orford Ness to Cobbold's Point)

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Importance of linking the SMP issues with those in the Local Framework Directive and the Estuary Strategies now under preparation by the Environment Agency.

The policies should have due regard to the means by which the ensuing implementation actions are to be funded.

Concern expressed about the narrow scope of benefit identification, even allowing for the necessarily coarse evaluation which is possible at the high level analysis within the SMP.

Difficulty of interpreting what is meant by “The Line” when considering the policy options. This is sometimes leading to confusion when the defence is affectively a zone – beach, wall, dunes and immediate hinterland.

Some questioning of the way in which anticipated sea level rise has been taken into account.

Failure to produce the “correct” policy options may lead to Bawdsey becoming an “island” in the future as the sea breaks through between East Lane and Shingle Street.

PDZ 7 (Cobbold’s Point to Landguard Point

T.B.A. This session attracted fewer numbers so the format of the workshop was changed to a single, larger and longer and plenary session.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Comments recorded by Royal Haskoning

The impact of a set bank main flood bank on infrastructure and property is significant.

Why not resist erosion of beach and attempt to retain flood defence in present location.

Offshore dredging is a cause of erosion over this part of coast.

Coastal access must be considered and explicitly discussed.

A 100 yr plan life is excessive and unhelpful. Uncertainties associated with the 50-100 year forecast period are too great.

Need for demonstration of good integration of various coastal policy / management studies. This was raised by EH rep who mentioned a recent Eng Heritage study.

The impact of policy upon local tourism and business interests should be considered. Plan economic assessments should not be limited to GB plc.

It is a weakness of the plan that policies are aspirational and not certainly affordable / deliverable.

How are habitat change / relocation issues considered by the plan?

More info required on adaptation, compensation, social justice issues.

Time between baseline and Policy consultations is too long.

Proposed hard point at N end of Easton Marsh wall should be a long groyne

More info required on consequences of habitat loss over Dunwich - Walberswick part.

A development roll back policy should be allowed to enable threatened communities to relocate locally and not in nearest settlement e.g. Easton Bavents.

Defending settlements on promontories e.g. Southwold and Kessingland will be more difficult if erosion is allowed to occur in between.

Status / role of SMP should be clarified in docs

More experimental / low cost coast defence measures should be trialled to challenge benefit cost assumptions based upon heavy expensive works options.

Is GYOH and offshore dredging contributing to pressure on this part of coast? Comment required in plan.

Southwold Harbour Plan is critical to policy. What is it and when will it be available?

Southwold Harbour North Wall in urgent need of urgent works. Would its failure have impacts upon the coast?

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Navigation of the Blyth entrance is currently difficult due to fast water flows. This could be managed by embanking more marshes upstream.

Plan should consider landscape character changes as consequence of policy implementation.

More discussion required on adaptation, blight and social justice.

**SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
CONSULTATION REPORT**

APPENDIX 1: VENUES, DATES AND TIMETABLE

Policy Development Zone	Section of Coastline	Venue	Date	Start time	Finish Time
1	Lowestoft to Benacre Ness	Southwold Pier	2 April 2009	10 am	1 pm
2	Benacre Ness to Easton Broad	Southwold Pier	2 April 2009	10 am	1 pm
3	Easton Broad to Minsmere	Southwold Pier	2 April 2009	2 pm	5 pm
4	Minsmere to Thorpeness	Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew	31 March 2009	10 am	1 pm
5	Thorpeness to Orford Ness	Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew	31 March 2009	2 pm	5 pm
6	Orford Ness to Bawdsey Manor	Waveney Room, Ufford Park Hotel	3 April 2009	10 am	1 pm
7	Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard Point	Waveney Room, Ufford Park Hotel	3 April 2009	2 pm	5 pm

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 2: HALF-DAY SESSION PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

10.00	Welcome by Chair
10.05	Introduction by Lead Officer
10:15	Overall Approach: Greg Guthrie (Royal Haskoning)
10:30	Policies for the Zone – Greg Guthrie (Royal Haskoning) <i>The options considered for the zone.</i>
11:00	Refreshments
11:15	Breakout session to workgroups <i>Opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions of an expert and to challenge the decisions taken</i> Draft Questions (to be developed): 1 Do you understand the review process? 2 Are there any major issues that haven't been taken into account which could change the outcome? 3 Do you require more information? 4 Do you support the preferred option?
12:15	Feedback session
12:30	Closing Session
12:45	LUNCH
14.00	Welcome by Chair
14.05	Introduction by Lead Officer
14:15	Overall Approach: Greg Guthrie (Royal Haskoning)
14:30	Policies for the Zone – Greg Guthrie (Royal Haskoning) <i>The options considered for the zone.</i>
15:00	Refreshments
15:15	Breakout session to workgroups <i>Opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions of an expert and to challenge the decisions taken</i> Draft Questions (to be developed): 1 Do you understand the review process? 2 Are there any major issues that haven't been taken into account which could change the outcome? 3 Do you require more information? 4 Do you support the preferred option?
16:15	Feedback session
16:30	Closing Session
17:00 -	Roadshow opens
19:00	Roadshow closes

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 3: KEY MESSAGES

Setting the scene

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council, the Environment Agency and other partners will work together with the community to make sure that everyone is aware of the effects of living and working in our dynamic coast.

We need a plan to help us deal with and manage change. We will involve people in the future of their coast and to increase their understanding of the potential options in terms of maintaining defences in a changing climate.

We have a continually changing low-lying coastline and people living and working here face increasing flood risk. This plan will show us how to manage this risk both in the short and long term.

Over the next 100 years sea level is likely to rise by up to 1 metre. This means the coast will inevitably change.

What is the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)?

The Suffolk SMP will identify the current situation on our coast and then consider how best to manage coastal flood and erosion risk for the future.

It is a strategic plan about how the Suffolk shoreline will be managed over the next 100 years.

It will show us how we can best manage increasing flood and erosion risk on the coast.

Who is involved in shaping the plan?

Those who have coastal management responsibilities from Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point are working together in partnership to shape the plan.

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency, other partners and communities will work together to make sure that everyone is aware of flood risk and to involve them in the future of their coast. We will take every opportunity to raise their understanding of what their options are in terms of maintaining defences in a changing climate.

Working together we will make sure everyone is aware of both the risks and opportunities arising from a changing coastline.

How will it reflect the needs of those who enjoy, live or work on the coastline?

We will involve those with an interest in the coast and raise awareness of the risks and opportunities that a changing coastline might bring.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

We will work with everyone, sharing local knowledge, to help develop a joint approach to managing change.

We want the plan to support and enhance people's enjoyment of the coast and work with the changing nature of the coast to maximise the social and economic benefits.

We want the plan to support and enhance people's enjoyment of the coast by maintaining and improving access.

How will we involve people?

We will involve the community and stakeholders early on in the process. We will be honest and open and will make every effort to avoid raising false expectations.

What happens next?

We will balance the interests of coastal users and look at approaches to managing flood and coastal erosion risk that allow us to adapt to the changing coast.

We will work together with communities to explore different approaches to managing the impacts of our dynamic coastline and adapting to climate change.

We will look at how we can work together to explore different approaches to managing flood risk and adapting to a changing coastline

We want to support people's ability to live work and enjoy the Suffolk coast.

Overarching key messages

Suffolk has a dynamic, continually changing coast. The low-lying nature means that people living and working in areas which are currently at flood risk will face increasing challenges in the future.

The Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan allows us to consider how best to manage flood and coastal erosion risks from Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point.

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency are working together with a range of partners, organisations and local groups to shape the plan for Suffolk. Working together we will make sure everyone is aware of both the risks and opportunities arising from a changing coastline.

We will work together with local stakeholders to balance the interests of coastal users to ensure we support local people's ability to work on, live near and enjoy the coast.

We will involve those with an interest in the coast and raise awareness of the risks and opportunities that adapting to a changing coastline might bring.

The SMP will be reviewed periodically, enabling the plan to adapt to changing circumstances and improvements in the science.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 4: CSG ATTENDANCE AND ROLES AT WORKSHOPS

NAME	Stratford St Andrew		Southwold Pier		Ufford Park Hotel	
	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm
John Jackson	GR	[GR]	GR	GR	√	√
A.N.Other (NE)	[GR]	GR	[GR]	GR	[GR]	[GR]
Karen Thomas	LO	LO	GL	GL	GL	GR
Gary Watson	GR	GL	[GL]	GL	GR	√
Stuart Barbrook			GL	GL		
Mike Steen						
Sharon Blease	√	√	GR	GR	√	√
Mark Johnson	Chair	Chair				
Ian Bliss					?	?
Paul Patterson	[GR]	GR	LO	LO		
Julie Hood			?	?[GR]		
Jane Burch	GL	GL	GL		GR	GL
Bill Parker	GL	GL	GL	GL	GR	[GL]
Bob Chamberlain	[GL]	[GL]			GL	GL
Terry Oakes	√	√	√	GR	[GL]	√
Keith Tyrrell	√	GR	GR	GL	LO	LO
Workshop Groups (as at 20/03/09)	2	3	4	5	3	2

Key:

GR	Group Recorder
[GR]	Standby Group Recorder
GL	Group Leader
[GL]	Standby Group Leader
LO	Lead Officer for the day
√	In attendance but no role allocated yet

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 5: GROUP LEADER TASKS

1. Reiterate the Chairs' comments from the start of the meeting that :
 - We are looking for their comments/feedback to help us validate our work so that we can develop the final draft management policy options before the full public examination in Summer 2009.
 - We want people to understand what we have done and to give us constructive comment.
 - We are not presenting the final draft options
 - We are prepared to listen
2. Make sure that the group agrees quickly the questions to be answered.
3. Please use your experience and knowledge of the issues to control and direct the discussion.
4. After discussion, allocate sufficient time for a summary of the discussion so that the Recorder can make representative notes.
5. It's important to keep to time.
6. Ensure full participation – control those trying to “hog the debate”.
7. Maintain an independent view but don't be afraid to be a devil's advocate.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 6: GROUP RECORDER TASKS

1. Ensure that you stop proceedings if you want to make notes.
2. Summarise what has been said on the flipchart.
3. Keep the notes orderly as they will be typed up afterwards.
4. Report back should be kept to 2 minutes maximum.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 7: SCENES FROM THE FORUM WORKSHOPS



SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT



SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 8: TRANSCRIPTS OF PLENNARY SESSIONS

Zones 1 and 2: Lowestoft – Benacre Ness – Easton Broad Southwold Pier, 2nd April 2009, AM

Q. John Goldsmith, County Councillor for Kessingland and Southwold

Greg, you made a remark just now about the 100 years wasn't long enough. At the rate of erosion that I've seen in my time as a Councillor which started in 1975, I've seen a lot of changes in that time. But to go plus 100 years I think you're looking too far into the future. There is so much land, there is so much that can happen that would be irretrievable and I hate to think what in 100 years plus time this coastline is going to look like to think about doing anything about putting it right. You've got to keep what we've got now. I don't think anything else above that is acceptable.

A. Greg Guthrie

I'm not saying that we should be hard about what's happening in 100 years. I'm not saying that we should decide that we're going to have a sea wall, or we're not, you know, but the overall way in which we're looking at the coast, we need to be aware of what is happening. The long term trends as well as the short term trends otherwise we get ourselves into problems.

Q. Liam Martin, Chairman Kessingland Parish Council

As the Chairman of Kessingland Parish Council I am really concerned about the effects that this plan is going to have, particularly when you say at the very beginning that this part of the coast where Kessingland is is one of the most vulnerable parts of the coast along this part of the East coast. And I don't feel at the moment and having what I've read your taking enough consideration in to protecting what is a most vulnerable part of the coastline and you've got a village, you've got people, you've got businesses and you've got a community and nothing I've read shows any consideration being taken of that at all. Plus there are other complicated issues which the District Council are aware of as far as Kessingland is concerned which is going to have a knock on effect if that's not considered in your plan either.

A. Greg Guthrie

One of the key objectives that we have defined from the various local issues is the importance of Kessingland to this area of the coast. We have set an objective that the integrity of the community should be maintained, that it should be maintained as a commercial, as a tourist centre, as a place to live and that is one of the objectives that we feel we are delivering through the policies. The intention is to allow Benacre Ness to move north and as it moves north over the bulk of Kessingland that will provide a sound defence for well over 100 years. But as it moves north the southern end of Kessingland does come under increasing pressure. It is mainly once **Sureness** moves north that it becomes one of, along with the whole section of coastline down past Covehithe, it becomes one of the fastest eroding sections of coast. But while Benacre Ness is in front of it it is one of the most best protected areas of coast. What we're saying is that we are looking to protect

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

the community of Kessingland, we are looking to how best to manage the defences as Benacre Ness moves south, in a way that will support the protection of Kessingland. Now there may be individual properties that it is not sensible, appropriate, that the funding just wouldn't be there, or it may constrain the better way of managing that section of coast. But throughout this section of what we have written, Kessingland is considered to be one of the key objectives.

Q. John Huggins, Southwold RNLi

Can I just ask why we're not dealing with the questions that we've actually raised at each of the stations?

A. Chair

I think it's a good idea to run through those actually.

Greg Guthrie

Yes, I'm quite happy.

Chair

Some have been answered.

Greg Guthrie

Yes we wanted to allow any more general questions to come out because we will be, there's the response sheets that you've got to record any other specific questions. But we will be taking all these and we will be addressing them and looking how to address them in the SMP. But if any of those specific questions, if you want to run through any others Paul?

Chair

I think I would put it back to you John really. Which issues do you think, in terms of the priority you have, which issues do you feel require further discussion now? The problem is that there are a number of issues raised over the three groups and there wouldn't be time within this space we've allocated today to discuss all those really through to completion.

John Huggins

If I may come in there. There is a way around this. When these are all evaluated and set out with answers and that we can, if we've got all your contact details, everybody here is entitled to see that.

Chair

Yes. I believe that is the intention is that correct?

Sharon Blears, Environment Agency

Yes. What we're actually going to be doing with Terry Oakes is the comments that were made on Tuesday and the comments that are been made today, and the comments that will be made on Friday dealing with all the policy development zones, all of them are going to be encapsulated into a report. And everybody that's come along, irrespective of the day, will actually

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

be able to see the collective comments so you'll be able to pick up the commonalities yourself. Is that helpful?

Chair

Thank you.

John Huggins

It doesn't help if you want to come back on any questions I don't feel the answer has been very ???.

Greg Guthrie

Then are there any specific issues that you feel that we should, because you've discussed them in groups, but this session now is really if there are people that feel that some of those points need to be discussed more generally. So if there are specific issues. I just picked out a few very general ones, I appreciate that so are there any specific issues that you would like to ...

?

Well I think those are a good selection.

John Huggins

Perhaps you would like to deal with those few that you did pick out. Particularly projecting the coastline as a whole rather than picking out highly populated areas and leaving the lesser populated areas to the next generation.

Greg Guthrie

Sorry can you be more specific on that.

John Huggins

To hold the line on the lesser populated areas which seem to have a far less priority and we're only off-putting the defences to those areas to the next generation.

Greg Guthrie

No, because what we're actually saying, if you take that issue on Covehithe that was raised and why don't we protect the whole of that frontage, we haven't got the money to do that. There just is not the justification for the sort of investment that you would need to protect the whole of that coastline down from Kessingland levels through to Eastern Broad. You would also in doing that you would have serious consequences on the nature conservation issues, you would also have a very serious consequence on Southwold. And that is, that's bluntly it. That we are trying to balance these things but inevitably there are areas that we are going to have to let this coast erode naturally in order to sustain other values. It is a fast eroding section of coastline now. Does that answer your question?

John Huggins

It does to a certain extent but are we tending to look towards huge concrete structures rather than lower cost protection to our beaches.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Greg Guthrie

In some areas you can get away with, I don't think there is a definitive line between soft engineering and hard engineering. In some places you have to put in hard engineering because that is the sort of pressure. I've tried to build sand fences where the sea doesn't want them and they have just washed away because the pressure is too much. But in other areas you can put in soft defences, you can put in a bit of recharge if, but you don't want to go recharging every year because the amount of effort, so every bit of defence has to be looked at in terms of what you're trying to deliver and the sort of pressures that you are trying to deal with. And that's what we've tried to consider on the coast. So if there are areas, take the Kessingland levels and what I'm saying there, if you try and manage a linear defence in the active zone instead of having a clay flood defence you will have to have a hard rock revetment. And putting in low level, low cost defences just will not work in that area. Once the Ness moves north that is going to be an area that is under considerable pressure. How we manage that frontage, because we're not saying we're walking away from management, we're saying that we're going to move the linear structure back to provide essential flood defence at the back, which gives us a width to start using more imaginative ways in which we can maintain a softer beach. But it's still means putting in effort, it's deciding where you're going to actually put in that effort in order to retain a more robust, softer defence.

Paul Patterson

Thank you Greg. Could I bring in Karen now at this time.

Karen Thomas

I just wanted to say that we have got time at lunchtime and also after this afternoon's session, there's staff here from all different organisations so I think we can have a lot more discussion on a one-to-one basis if that actually helps. Because obviously some of the issues, in terms of going into detail now, we're here to talk to you more but it might not be an awful lot of time left in this session for us to do that. That's why I'm just concerned about that.

Chair

I'll allow one more question. I thought it would be you Peter.

Q. Peter Boggis

Greg, we were talking about Kessingland a few moments ago, or people were and you were. I feel very strongly personally, that the strengthening of the rock revetment etc at Benacre Pumping Station is extremely important for the future of the beach protecting Kessingland. Excuse me if I leave it at that.

A. Greg Guthrie

If I can say in response to that, because one of the questions was the idea of a groyne which effectively is what you're saying. In managing the coast you actually don't destroy or create sediment. What you do is you move it around and try and use it to best advantage. And the best way of moving it around is letting natural processes move it around, if that gives you the right answer. If you actually put a groyne there, just as a groyne and then a linear defence to

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

the south, that area to the south, a little bit further to the south there over the last 20 years has been attempting to erode at about 5 metres a year. If you put a groyne in that actually starves sediment moving south of that groyne that rate of erosion would increase. You would be building quite a substantial structure at the moment and in the future, in 20 years time, you would have to build an even more substantial structure and it would become regularly, you wouldn't have beach in front of it. If in 50 years time it would be more like a key wall that you've got up at Lowestoft Ness. What I'm saying is, lets choose where we try and manage the defence of that coastline. Let's give it a bit of width, lets decide where the most appropriate place - I'm not in disagreement with the idea that we need to manage that section of coastline and where we do decide to manage we are taking on a long term investment. But what I'm saying is let us not be constrained by what is there at the moment and say we've got to defend the Pump Station. I'm saying let's decide where the best place to manage that coast is and give us a bit of width to do that and then we can actually make use of the natural processes rather than being in direct competition with them.

Peter Boggis (some without microphone so hard to hear)

What I'm concerned about in that advice is that if the Kessingland Pumping Station is revoked the embayment of the area will then tend to swing on the Kessingland coastal defences and will increase the length of the embayment off the coast, increase the erosion rates within the embayment and we shall have serious problems from, the closer together the hard points on the coast are the greater benefit it is to the coast even if there is erosion local to the groynes, to the rock reventment. I understand how it works very well. I have photographs of every groyne on this East coast.

Greg Guthrie

In some places groynes are very effective.

Peter Boggis

Yes I agree.

Greg Guthrie

And in some places creating harder controlled structures, or larger controlled structures, or putting in reefs, or managing in a different way is the most effective means of defence. What we're saying is that the intention is to hold onto the south end of Kessingland with some adjustment at that to take advantage of the way in which we can manage that and the section over the Kessingland levels needs to be part of our thinking so that we are actually creating a more stable embayment between there that will defend a flood defence to the weir of a more natural coastline.

Peter Boggis

Yes I understand your thoughts very well but as I say, the greater the distance between the hard points the more aggressive the erosion between them. That is what we're, or one of the things we're suffering from very badly at the moment.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Greg Guthrie

Where you have a narrow width in which to manage things you often have to close down the defences so that you are managing them in a very compartmentalised way. Where you have increased width and can allow a degree of erosion then you can take a more strategic approach to it and that is basically, but shall we take this discussion up over lunch.

Chair

I mean Paul has just got one point to make first and then we'll break for lunch.

Paul Patterson

Yes, I think that the discussions that we've had this morning reveal hopefully to you, the stakeholders, the difficulties that there are in trying to balance the great number of competing interests that do have to be considered in arriving at a policy. And I have to confess from walking around the room this morning, I don't think I've heard anything new, that there have been no surprises in terms of issues that have come forward. They have been issues that have been recognised by the team, considered by the team. They might not have been presented in a fashion that would meet the approval of everybody in the room but it does give me some comfort that I feel that the planning process so far has recognised the issues that need to be considered. That's it.

Chair

Right. I mean discussions can carry on. Lunch is now arriving. So you can carry on your discussions with staff here.

?

Sorry it's not a question. Just one simple thing. The lady at the back volunteered to make herself and other authorities to her, can we...

Chair

That's what I've said, that's what I've just explained that. So you're open to discussion.

Paul Patterson

Could members of the project team stand up please.

Chair

That's the lady you're talking about with the white scarf.

Greg Guthrie

And you have all got those response sheets have you so that, yes.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 3: Easton Broad - Minsmere Southwold Pier, 2nd April 2009, PM

Q. Sue Allen, Ward Councillor, Southwold and Reydon

I have two main problems I think Greg. One is the map on page 36 which shows Southwold surrounded by water. I think it's unacceptable. We all know what's going on to the south, there's a lot of talks going on in the background which are proceeding very well, but if you look at this map which shows Southwold completely surrounded by water the town won't work in the future. People come here for the whole panorama, they don't come here just for a few shops and a walk on the common. And I think the town is being discussed by a lot of people in the town. People will stop probably buying properties, they will stop buying shops because if they look at that map you've no beach except from the Pier to Scun Hill basically, or that's how it looks. I think we've got to look at this, also how we cope with Eastern Marsh. I think this is unacceptable to be honest and I think we've got to find, you engineers who understand these sort of things, have got to find another way around it.

The other thing which is to the north is also Potters Bridge. I think great consideration has got to be given to Potters Bridge. I know the roads have been mentioned but it's one of the, we've got threats to Wolsey Bridge but I think those are going to be overcome, but this is one it's a very, very busy road that.

A. Greg Guthrie

One of the difficulties is trying to portray a complex idea in a simple way and we would really appreciate any comments that you have on that or any, if you feel that you're not certain how it is represented then tell us and we'll try and think of a better way. If you take that map and I don't know how well you can see it, the blue area that is shaded just cross hatched is the area that is at flood risk. It is not necessarily the area that will be flooded. We are just identifying the flood risk there. Where we have shown it dotted we are saying that would be an area with increased flood risk. That doesn't mean to say that it would be standing water there. And this rear line here is nominally, it's a policy line. To the back of that the important assets would be protected, to the front the policy for increased flooding. And what we're trying to say is we recognise important assets including the road bridge that need to be protected. The shoreline would be there. That is where you would see the shoreline. The whole essence of what we're trying to get here is to maintain that continuity of the shore between Southwold and the cliffs to the north. Which is why we're saying we need to be managing the whole of this area but we need to be using width rather than being constrained to a very linear line of defence. As soon as you put in a linear line of defence then you haven't got the scope to actually maintain a decent beach. What we would see is with that defence, with the present defence in, and this is something from the strategy, with the present defence in place over time with sea level rise, or even without sea level rise, there would not be a beach there. You would have a defence with a rock revetment in front of it. What we're saying is from all the issues we've got, your beach area, your recreational space of the coastline is one of the important things that we need to deliver. And therefore

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

we should be allowing the width to actually maintain a decent beach in that area. But that beach would not be artificially maintained so you'd tend to get a shingle ridge there, but it would not be artificially maintained you wouldn't be building it up as an embankment which is the best way of destroying a shingle ridge in the longer term. You would actually allow it to overtop on more extreme events, it would perform naturally so it will have plenty of sediment coming down through it. It will perform naturally, there'll be a robustness to it but it will not provide that area behind with the same level of protection as a hard wall that you know the level of. And therefore we're saying you'll be able to get a natural beach there but let's move the flood defence back to where we're really concerned about having the flood defence.

Q. Paul England, Southwold

I understand completely what you're saying, incidentally Grey, but to create that beach to happen naturally means that we would lose a car park which is another scenario which I don't want to go into, but how would you stop, there must be an end to where the beach would be defined in its natural way. Is there a hard wall at that particular point because in another document you mention that it will have control points by the pier and by the north point. I understand you're not a man of detail, and I don't want you to but just conceptually.

A. Greg Guthrie

Yes conceptually what we're saying is that area needs to be a transition between the hard defence which we are talking about, we need to protect this area from erosion. This is the reason why we're doing it to protect Southwold and therefore you would need something here in terms of some sort of structure, improvements to the groynes or whatever. But you do not want that to become then, if you like, a square corner that you're forever chasing backwards. What you then need to do is impose some control on the way in which the coast behaves so it will be a naturally functioning beach but it will be controlled, it would need to be managed. Now whether you manage that with low level groynes or you manage that by putting a reef off-shore, or you manage that by putting some sort of structure where the current north end of the wall is, that needs to be explored in detail. Each of those approaches you could develop a perfectly sound manner in which to do it but that would need to be looked at in terms of the coast, it would need to be looked at in terms of the detailed impact. Your comment about the car park, in looking at who you maintain that, as I say, we are not thinking of that being a pond. It will be an area that overtops more frequently. Now there are plenty of areas on the coast where that sort of area, or part of that sort of area, is used during the summer as a car park. But what I'm saying is that we want to get away from the concept of this is the line. Allow the beach to develop the line.

Q. Peter Boggis

What concerns me in what has just been discussed is if Southwold can have a beach why shouldn't Eastern Marsh sea wall have a beach protecting its base. Why shouldn't this be maintained in the future and give us the social

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

beach that we've had in the past. The powers that be recently took out seven 70m groynes and replaced them with four only groynes of a length of somewhere around about 35m to 20m with absolutely disastrous effects on that section. We saw the lowest beach levels we have seen, well that there has ever been and at the moment it's a little easier. The reason why it's a little easier is because Waveney District Council, in opening up the coast to allow the recovery of the timber, have not put back the gate on the last groyne of the car park sea wall so the material is now escaping through there and feeding along into those groynes. Where under normal circumstances it passes around the end of the groyne and is swept out to sea leaving a complete dearth of material northwards from that groyne and it's presenting a very great problem to us all. It increased erosion rates initially on Eastern Cliffs nearly fivefold of the norm and people have said well give it time and it'll come, it hasn't come right our beaches are extremely depleted. Thank you.

A. **Greg Guthrie**

I'm not able to get down into the detail of that because I haven't seen the variation on the beach what I would say is that the rock groynes are there to protect the wall and whether you, we won't get into the detail of that, I'm saying that the wall is the problem.

Peter Boggis

No the wall is not the problem. The groyne systems have ??? because that problem was not dire in the past. It is only the changes that have been made ???.

Chair

Shall we move onto the next question.

Paul Patterson

Can I just give a brief comment on that. The policy in the SMP is to hold the line of the present wall for the first timeframe. I would expect that within that timeframe there will be further works required to manage the groynes over that part and hopefully when that review takes place then there will be measures put in place that will improve the situation that we find ourselves in at the moment. I think ...

Peter Boggis

??? very much look forward to that.

Paul Patterson

But I think the issue really is that this is an operational issue for today, or for the next five years and not necessarily an issue for the SMP I would suggest.

Peter Boggis

Yes, but in the meantime the wall is being damaged by its exposure.

Paul Patterson

Okay.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Peter Boggis

As soon as it's corrected the greater life that piece of wall will have and that piece of wall represents, on today's value, a very substantial investment.

Paul Patterson

Okay, thank you.

Greg Guthrie

Can I just take up one point on that from the strategy, the strategy says that at the northern end of the wall there would be a return as the coast erodes back from there, there would be a return structure sealing off the possibility of flooding within there.

Peter Boggis

There was one proposed within the sea originally at that point and various environment bods insisted that it was removed from the sea

Greg Guthrie

There is still, within the strategy, there is still the policy from the strategy is for that northern point that as that becomes exposed to build backwards to stop the flooding into Eastern Marsh. Over the next 20 years that erosion, there will be erosion there and there will be presumably works going round the northern end of that wall coming back out there. We've had discussion as to whether the SMP should be looking forward 100 years or not. What I'm saying is that if we accept these policies that what we are trying to do is actually return that area, not to a natural beach, but to a naturally functioning area but managed then instead of just chasing our tails round the back and forming that corner as a hard point corner that has to be beefed up, we should be looking each time and saying well how else can we defend this corner with the longer term vision that we are actually going to adapt the way in which we manage this frontage. So that we do not end up with a coast that does that.

Peter Boggis

It has done that in the past as ??? can tell you quite easily. The end of the sea wall there, one year he went along and suddenly found he had gone back 38 or 48m, I can't remember exactly which, and it is not unusual even for a period of 10 years to see a loss there in the order of 10m a year.

Greg Guthrie

Yes.

Peter Boggis

If we get that change of circumstances again now all the figures that are in the SMP for that area are utter nonsense. ???

Greg Guthrie

But the concept of having a corner there, as opposed to looking at how we manage that corner in a different way is valid. And that's what the SMP is saying.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Chair

I think you'll have to carry on that discussion outside this to give other people a chance. Do you have a different question or on the same issue?

?

No it's to add weight and a bit more to it.

Chair

Well no I think we'll leave that then sorry.

?

It's very important because people don't know what I'm now going to say. Mr Boggis is quite correct in everything he said, I think we all back him up on that. The wall to the north end was building in 1962. 1984/85 they extended it and they extended it and carried on that same line. It had already curved inwards. People who remember the three bungalows on the cliff that wall was already aiming for the centre one. Billy Nice owned that and I pointed it out to him and he come round the other side to look at it and he flogged his building. Now when they, the end of the 1962 wall was behind the cliff, it wasn't in front of it. It was way behind it and when they done the 1985 extension they had to dig that bit of cliff out to extend it to the length it is now. And that's then when the fun started because they hadn't finished that work, and I've got the photographs to prove it, that that wall, that cliff was already behind the end of that new sea wall by the time they'd done. Within a few months it was 37m because I measured it, today it hasn't gone much further. That route end, it shows you on that narrow piece where you come down, and that's about 40m now at this particular time. And the SSI is protected for 200m inland, I asked at the meeting that Ken Sale came with me and Peter Boggis, and I asked Natural England at this AGM of theirs at Oxford, what are they doing about the 200m, are we going to be allowed to do any developments or not? And they said no, there will be no developments at the SSSI. So where that wall finish that's it. A dog leg, if you put a dog leg in there you will make a wacking great cell, that's what will happen, and that will travel north and you'll have a damn sight more cliff going north of Eastern Bavants than what we've got now. And you want to realise that.

Chair

Thank you very much. I think we've got time for one more question if anyone has one. No, well all I can do then is say thank you all very much for coming and don't forget the feedback forms for any comments you might have in future. Thank you.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 4: Minsmere - Thorpeness Stratford St. Andrew, 31st March 2009, AM

Q. David Andren – SCAR

At earlier meetings I did comment that the general approach to taking into account wider economic impact on the local communities never seems to come through very well. I very much agree that we, and you, need to get through to people in local communities but there is another community out there, and I'm looking round, and I'd be quite interested to know now that Glen Ogilvie has left, whether at this particular meeting we have any representatives of what I would call the real business interest. There's not so much on this coast but does anybody represent business around this room. I pointed this out before, it is something that's deeply unsatisfactory about this process.

A. Mark Johnson

Okay well thanks for that, yes.

Q. ? (Doesn't state his name)

The gentlemen, I can't see him now, who was from English Heritage made a very good point and I agree with. Oh he's still here. The very fact that the premise that we're accepting that this is a natural process, it has never been. This coast has always been managed for hundreds, if not thousands of years, and factors on the coastline have been managed and to leave it to nature is perhaps naive at best.

If I could just come back to David's point that I could loosely be described as having an interest in local business because not only am I a farmer but I have property on the coast and I'm involved in the tourism industry. And particularly from the tourism industry I've heard no representation of the tourism industry this morning. It may well be in the papers because I didn't pre-read them I'm afraid because I didn't have them. But whatever the economic value of the tourism industry goes well back from the coast, in fact it goes right inland, probably taking up at least half of Suffolk or more. So I think that's a point that really has to be evaluated in the protection of this area.

A. Mark Johnson

Thank you. Can I ask Greg to respond to the first part of that question?

Greg Guthrie

In wandering around the groups I did hear this comment about natural processes and I would totally agree with you that much of the UK coast is managed, has been managed. What we're saying on this frontage is not let's just let natural processes happen. What we're saying on this frontage is that the best way, we believe, to defend the things that we value is not to interfere or to interfere as little as possible because as soon on this coastline you start putting in something that holds the line, that stops sediment coming into the system, that stops the natural what I call sloppiness of the coast, you are then

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

going to be forced down a line that you will have to. You'll interfere and then you'll interfere here and then before you know it you will have a heavily managed coast that will actually detract from the nature conservation interest, from the landscape and because of those two aspects you will also start affecting the tourism, you will start affecting the landscape and why people value this coast. There are other areas of this coastline where we are saying we should get a little bit heavy with the coast. We're not scared of intervening where there is good reason to do so. But to step in and mess around with the semi-natural, you know, and I take your point absolutely, the semi-natural processes, there are sections of the coast and this is one of them, where if we start moving in and doing that now we are going down a course of action that I believe my great-grandchildren will regret. We have to manage the present issues, we have to look at that but we don't want to start getting heavy with this section of coastline.

In terms of, you've raised the issues of taking in the broader economics, and I totally agree. The SMP is not ICZM, it is not able to take in the full value but what we have done, and this follows the national guidance, is not to allow the immediate economic to drive our long term policy. Which is why we are looking at trying to say what is it overall about this section of coastline that is valued? How do we manage that in a way that all those aspects can be managed to the best advantage? So, you know, in terms of a village like Thorpeness yes it would be a very different thing if the whole of Thorpeness were under threat, not just because there is more asset value but because we have identified as one of our objectives that Thorpeness as a community is an essential part of the coastline.

Q. Rob/Rod?

You've talked about interfering there, it's quite interesting, and I certainly take your points so what we haven't, I think, talked about here is, in great detail, is Sizewell new build. If they do, I think it came up in our group, if they do bring in material from the sea then there's going to have to be new build there. Now what sort of effect is that going to have on natural processes do you think? I'm particularly thinking of sediment accretion between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh which happens all the time now. Is it not feasible that if there is new build there and that is interfered with then you might get the shingle disappearing from that ridge? Is that being considered in the plan?

A. Greg Guthrie

At this stage the SMP is in advance of further development at Sizewell. What we have said is that the best way to manage this coastline is not to interfere with those natural processes. To allow, and the key points are sediment supply, allowing movement so that you aren't unduly trapping material by groyne or anything like that, which will disrupt that natural balance, maintaining the supply in from the north, maintaining the supply out from the south. In looking at any new development those are the key issues, you know things in the SMP, that would hopefully guide any future development at Sizewell. So if you like we are ahead of the process and we are saying this is how we want to manage the coast, anything new coming into this area should

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

recognise that and work within those constraints. So no we haven't looked specifically at what the impact of new development of Sizewell would be because we don't know what, so we're imposing, if you like, some constraints on how that should be added.

Mark Johnson

I think Karen wants to add a little bit more as well.

Karen Thomas

Can I just add to that. When Sizewell was put in in the first place they brought things in by sea. There's quite a lot of monitoring that has gone on both before and after that work was done so I think that if we've got any concerns about what may or may not happen and how they will do what, they'll probably follow a similar approach to what they did before. I know it involved, obviously, dredging an area so that boats could get in and obviously there is monitoring that's gone on behind that so we would be able to see what happened last time and I think we'd be able to learn from that as well. So I think in terms of the SMP and what's happened before we can be reasonably comfortable about what to expect if that helps.

Q. Didn't give name – English Heritage

From the heritage side that we recognise the aspiration that you have to try to balance the various interests. I think that so far you haven't achieved that through the documents presented. They are not taking on board the full range of assets that we know we've got here, whether they're heritage or tourist or whatever else. There's an attempt to do it but this plan is obviously still heavily led from an engineering and a geomorphological and a geological standpoint. I think that said that I would like to see you be slightly more balanced in trying to not claim that we're moving to a naturalised system when we've got Sizewell sitting there which is going to pull the whole modelling and position out from an attempt to come at something which is slightly more natural. I think that I'm pleased to see the evolution between SMP 1 and 2 as being something that is more mix and match rather than an extremist, absolutist policy of let natural processes take their course, that's artificial. It may have been economically driven, I couldn't possibly comment but the simple position is that we have always intervened in the coast. Two thousand years of coast protection schemes in this nation and this coast we will continue to intervene as we've heard today. What we need is an intelligent balancing of those interests and a debate which actually puts a proper value and a judgement on each of those decisions. And I think therefore what we want to see at the end of this process is a balancing of those interests and a costing of those interests not just in financial terms but in the other sorts of significances which we have to value - natural environment, manmade environment, tourism, economics. And I think that there's still a bit of a challenge there for you to get that balance right. I think there's a problem leading us down a line when you haven't got those things demonstrated in the document so far.

A. Mark Johnson

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

I think you made some very good points there actually, and it would be great, it's your area of expertise and if you could actually feed some of that, of your knowledge into what will be the next stage of the project that would be really, really appreciated. So thanks for your comments there.

Greg Guthrie

Certainly a lot of information on the heritage has been forthcoming and we've mapped that and looked at how that may be affected and a lot of it is identifying the risk. There is risk to various areas and we would value your feedback saying we can't accept that, that's part of this key stakeholder meeting. But I'm sure you accept that there are areas, I'm desperately trying to think of any, where I suppose some of the issues around Dunwich we're saying that we need, and you say it's driven by the geomorphology. Yes, underlying everything is the coastal processes and the geomorphology because that's where we've got to start from and make sure that we are not starting to put pressures into the system that we will later on regret. Then we have said and how does that affect everything else. Now we may not have captured all your issues and good, feedback to us on that, but you take somewhere like Dunwich and we're saying that the Abbey or the Monastery is at risk, yes. The alternative to that is that we defend that, that becomes a headland which affects the whole of the coast further south. Or, and this is where the dialogue between us needs to happen, you say well we need a certain amount of time, or society needs a certain amount of time to adjust to the fact that we're going to lose that and record things, that do you support us in the long term plan that we're going to have to accept that loss.

English Heritage

Can I just come back on that?. There's an interesting point to do with Dunwich. We haven't and we won't be making the case for the protection of Dunwich Priory up on the cliff there, that's not the position English Heritage is coming at when natural processes are taking course it's where actually active decisions are taken over realignment. In the case of Dunwich I think it's a salutary tale concerning the loss of the historic town and port in the whatever, fourteenth century or so, is that in fact whilst it was affected by individual storm events it was the failure to maintain the actual open harbour and the natural seabanks systems, sorry Medieval and Saxon seabank systems that resulted in the actual town going. Funnily enough, if you had maintained those systems, dredged out the port it's possible that the actual Medieval town would still be there. So I just think that you've got to not always assume that there is no intervention that is justifiable on the coast. On occasions there is.

Greg Guthrie

No. Maintaining natural processes is specifically not an objective. It is looking at the natural processes, trying to make maximum use of them in order to deliver the objectives for all the values.

Mark Johnson

Okay. I think thanks very much for your input on the heritage side of things, really appreciated and thanks for your responses, Greg as well. Are there

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

any other questions that people would like to raise or we've captured pretty much everything now, have we? Excellent. Well firstly can I thank you all for your inputs and again, appreciated. It will be captured, there will be a, Terry do you just want to say what the next steps and things are from here?

Terry Oakes

I'm Terry Oakes and we're project managing the preparation of the SMP on behalf of the partners. Following this series of workshops we'd like to receive your comments on any details that we have in the draft policy documents before the end of April so that we can get validation of what we've got in the draft policy documents. We'll then discuss those at the officer meeting, which is called the Client Steering Group, before revising, amending the documents as appropriate and putting those forward to the members, that's the councillors from Waveney and Suffolk Coastal and the members of the Regional Flood Defence Committee on behalf of the Environment Agency. Having done that process, which is the review process, we then go out to full public consultation in the summer, probably the 1 July onwards, for a three month period and that will be the draft SMP as developed following these workshops and reviewed by the members.

Mark Johnson

Thank you Terry, and you put a note in front of me just in terms of after you've had a bite to eat and a drink there are copies of the draft policies and what have you if you haven't got a copy or you want to take it away for a friend or someone who couldn't make it and there on that table over there and the feedback form. Does everyone have a copy of one or are they on the table Terry?

Terry Oakes

They are on the table Mark, we'll distribute them now if we could. They need to go to Suffolk Coastal District Council, Melton Hill, Woodbridge, IP12 1AU.

Mark Johnson

Many thanks, have something to eat and safe drive home. Thank you very much.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 5: Thorpeness to Orford Ness Stratford St. Andrew, 31st March 2009, PM

Q. David Andren – SCAR

You're still talking about an estuary plan. Stefan has now been round to me and I have said in all of this SMP document would you please refer to it, no longer as an estuary plan, it is an coast and estuary strategy which is being developed. Which I've also now remembered, I better not mention his name, Mark can guess who he is, was in the very early days when there was a separate Thorpeness to Hollesley Coastal Strategy, that that David is in effect mini SMP and to all intents and effects will be the SMP. And why I'm getting excited about this is you're actually now saying no there is a bigger SMP and there isn't a mini SMP. Would you please just refer to it throughout as ACES.

A. Karen Thomas

I had gotten it written down David but I just didn't say it out loud, so I'm sorry about that.

Mark Johnson

We normally get picked up for calling things like that, so Aldeburgh Coast and Estuary Strategy is fine.

Q. ?

This is actually not SMP but has there been much thought from the local authorities and Agency about if there are major developments, perhaps a nuclear power station or two, that they could access funds through the planning groups for the good of the local community sea defence work, etc. I didn't know if that had been looked at strongly or whether that's not a capital ...

A. Karen Thomas

We've got a contributions policy which is being looked at at the moment where effectively new development needs to be considering what wider benefit it can bring, either in terms of contributing towards flood defences or community funding because otherwise it can be seen that a developer is buying in to a piece of land behind a flood defence and getting, not a free flood defence, but you know. So I think that policy is there and we had some discussion this morning around the nuclear power station issue with Sizewell and obviously as part of the planning process for Sizewell then those are the sorts of discussions that various agencies and individuals even in the room can express to the people who are developing that power station that they would like to see some contribution locally as a result of it going in there. There is a big agenda on the coast at the moment, obviously for regeneration in coastal towns as well and there is funding coming from different routes for that. From our perspective we have to be very mindful of inappropriate development in the flood plain, but equally not blighting towns so they can't have any development or future jobs and prosperity in the future. So it is quite a big balancing act but it is something which we all consider when we're doing these plans.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

?

Because environmental lobby groups do get significant, there will be a terrific offset for the power stations in environmental terms that we take for granted ..

Mark Johnson

Well perhaps if I can partially answer the question in terms of the discussions we had this morning around Sizewell and around Minsmere Sluice and there was a number of people who said well if there is going to be a further power station at Sizewell if that is the case then perhaps they can look to fund an upgrade to the Minsmere Sluice and that could be well worth exploring, so they may be opportunities from those particular proposals and that's a very large and extreme example obviously.

Okay, Terry can I ask you just to, like I did this morning, just to sort of identify the next steps in terms of we've captured all this information, we've recorded it, there are feedback forms. Terry if you just want to explain the next.

Terry Oakes

My name is Terry Oakes, we're project managing the preparation of the SMP on behalf of Suffolk Coastal, the Environment Agency and Waveney District Council. The next step in the process is that hopefully you will return your comments on these draft policy documents to the Council at that address, to Suffolk Coastal District Council at the address on the flip chart, Suffolk SMP at the Council's main offices in Woodbridge. We do have a form available on the table if you haven't got one already which may help you formulate your comments. Each of these comments will be reviewed by the officer group of the local authorities and Environment Agency and they will assess how, if at all, and how best to amend the draft policies as they stand at the moment to take into account your comments. Those proposals will then go forward to what we call the members group which is the councillors from Waveney and Suffolk Coastal together with the members of the Environment Agency's Regional Flood Defence Committee and they are effectively the group that will agree and approve the document for the full public consultation which will start around 1 July. These workshops are to validate the work that has been done to date, make sure that through contact with key stakeholders, as we regard you, that we haven't missed anything, that we've essentially got things correct before we put them to the general public. There will be a three month consultation period over the summer period and there will be a series of roadshow and opportunities for the people to comment.

Mark Johnson

Thank you Terry. Last chance for any final point of clarification or any burning question and if I don't see any hands go up I'll close the – oh David, apart from you.

Q. David Andren – SCAR

Just one quick aside to our colleague on the right. We too, as the Alde and Ore Association, have been exploring widening the base for funding for flood defence. I mean, just on one example if somebody spends, as we know in Aldeburgh, something like £850,000 having brought a property for £425,000

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

converting it into a desirable marine residence in a flood risk area it does seem to some of us that a small contribution to flood defence would not be out of order and I think it's Section 106.

What I also just wanted to say, I'm not going to speak on behalf of everyone, it would be a bit presumptuous but that recently and particularly since Lord Chris Smith has become Chairman to the Environment Agency, and discussions particularly which the Alde and Ore Association have had with the Environment Agency and SCAR have also found this, we have found a much more helpful approach at the local level and we're working at a number of ways of carrying forward discussions with you and while we have our differences on certain issues we are very grateful for that and I know that some of my colleagues from the Alde and Ore Association will jump up and talk about sea level rise and the answer to this folks is, well it's set out in black and white in DEFRA guidance for all these SMP, estuaries, ACES, strategies, you all have to work within that guidance and we understand it very well. We don't particularly like the way that these SMPs are conducted but, again, there is very detailed guidance from DEFRA saying what is supposed to happen and I do understand the difficulties. So thank you very much and I personally do find these occasions extremely helpful for carrying forward our thinking.

A. Mark Johnson

Thank you David and I'm very glad that I let you have that last chance of the microphone. Excellent okay well thank you very much for coming and safe trip home so take care.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 6: Orford Ness – Bawdsey Manor Ufford Park Hotel, 3rd April 2009, AM

Andy Smith

Just picking up what was said about the interaction with Local Government Frameworks and the like, for example, there is a bigger issue currently rumbling away in Westminster by the name of the Marine Bill which is currently going through Parliament. And which will have many children, one of which will be something called the Marine Plan. Now we have little knowledge at the moment as to how detailed that will be but the Marine Plan will have, we're understanding, more authority than the Regional Spatial Strategy, the Local Development Framework and the Shoreline Management Plan and it will be a plan for the entire marine environment, right up to high water mark, right up to the tidal line on every estuary. And I think generally the coast defence business, which I include the EA and the consultants and all the rest of us, English Nature, I'm not sure collectively we've got our heads round what the implications of that are. I've had some exposure to that through something called the Local Government Association coastal group, which is all the Councils who have coastal interests. On the back of that I was able to talk face to face last week to a guy by the name of Steve Collins, whose putting that through Parliament and we actually have the Minister coming to see us for a couple of hours on Tuesday and we shall indicate to him very strongly that these things needs to be considered. But in particular for the larger bodies who are here today I would really strongly say, reflect up your chain to keep a very close eye on the Marine Bill itself and, possibly even more important, the raft of regulations and guidance that's going to be generated as its children, I won't use the word beginning with 'B'. Okay so that's just a wider point as to how that's all going to pan out over the next few years.

You must have some questions or some comments for Greg. Yes this gentleman here.

Q. ?

Just two questions really. Based on the report you produced or the consultation you've produced, would any of the panel have confidence in buying property on East Lane. And the second point is, does anybody have any idea of the costs so far of the report process and the consultation process and whether or not this report is going to be any different to the '95 report which quite a little bit of it hasn't actually sort of been implemented.

A. Greg Guthrie

In relation to East Lane and confidence of East Lane and, that really ties in with confidence about the use of the land behind Hollesley Bay. We had a lot of debate over these policies and whether we should actually have no policy for the 100 year over this frontage because of the uncertainties. What we decided was that we should actually put in, an uncomfortable word, an aspirational policy. If things, if the coast develops and evolves in the way in which all the evidence suggests it will, then we believe that it is realistic to hold East Lane and that holding East Lane is an important feature of managing that section of coast. That it's realistic to maintain the defences to the land behind, and it's realistic to maintain Shingle Street. But there is the

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

uncertainty and in many ways it's an uncertainty that we cannot resolve through further study. They a fundamental, geomorphological changes, there is uncertainties as to sea level rise and that was a point raised before, I am convinced that there is sea level rise over and above land sinking that is happening at the moment and that that is a real risk. I don't know in 100 years how much that sea level rise will be. We've looked in terms of the realistic estimates that are coming out, so not just one figure. We've said and what would happen if it was 30% greater than that, or 30% less than that and what we are suggesting still seems realistic. There is a recognition of the funding issue and that from a national pot there, certainly under the present funding regime, there isn't the money available and therefore we've got to be highlighting that there may be a need for a partnership approach. So there are all those uncertainties but we did not think that it was sensible to say because of the uncertainties we cannot make a decision as to what we want to do, what we realistically feel that we can. So the intention is the policy is for holding the line at East Lane, Hollesley Bay. There is uncertainty, if you were buying a property at East Lane you would have to make the judgement as to, and see whether you can resolve the uncertainties any better than we can.

?

The answer is yes.

Andy Smith

Can I just chip in on the national funding issue. One of the problems with the way the debate has been structured, both in terms of SMPs and crucially with a lot of focus for example the Blyth Estuary, is that Government funding is at the moment what it is. The natural perception of where coastal defence fits in the overall national priorities against anything else you'd care to name, is what it is and the EAs vanilla model for doing their strategies was we've got this sort of the money to spend for three years, where can we spend it? That becomes a 100 year strategy for an estuary. Well that's now widely accepted, including by the EA, that that's not an accepted route and we have been pressuring very hard, the EA and Government with the Blyth as an example, on that. One of the uncertainties, apart from geomorphological uncertainties, is the political uncertainty and part of our agenda at Suffolk Coastal, very strongly, is to pressure everywhere we can in partnership with other local councils round the coast, over time to raise the whole perception of coastal issues and the importance of the coast at Government level so that the funding pot, it's not going to happen now is it, it's not going to happen on account of the G20 summit, but over a longer period you get the national perception raised because, the sort of thing I say when I get the opportunity is, Government, the nation as a whole, should look at the coast as it were as the front garden of Great Britain plc. And people in Cambridge or Birmingham expect it to be there when they come there. So in that sense it's just as important, and I think the coast doesn't get the political clout that it needs, and there's a simple topological fact isn't there, there's fewer MPs round the coast than there are in the middle. But that is one of the uncertainties in the long term that we're trying, in that sense, to contribute to. I think on the question of the cost of the study and so on Terry might like to chip in on that?

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Terry Oakes

Yes thank you Andy. The contract started off at £150,000 to do this whole review from Lowestoft down to Felixstowe and the reason why it was a significant sum is the review was quite substantial in the fact that it had to consider a 100 year period instead of 50 years, which was the previous SMP1. Which changed the whole emphasis in terms of sea level rise and climate change and the second element was that we had to take more into account the whole question of sustainability. In other words the first SMP, as Greg said at the very beginning, was trying to come up with solutions for the 50 years which really meant how can we actually defend the coast, what works can be taken in the first 25 years and how will they be developed in the next 25, up to 50 year period. But this one is slightly different in that it got some aspirations in in that this is how we'd like to see the coast managed for the next 100 years and so there's a slightly different approach. Since we started the SMP we've actually had to seek additional funds because the EU legislation on water framework directive has kicked in, which we weren't aware of and we've also had to produce a strategic environmental assessment which is another piece of EU legislation to make sure that whatever we're doing doesn't have a major impact on EU designated habitats. And then as part of the preparation of the SMP we had a third variation which was to do additional work at the Blyth Estuary, which was a significant piece of work to make sure that whatever was coming out of the Strategy that the Environment Agency was producing of the estuary tied in with what we were proposing for the coast. So the coast has risen to just over £190,000 now.

Andy Smith

The point is that that's Government money, and one of the frustrations I've acquired over the years on this is that you can nearly always get Government money for reports and paper, it's much harder to get it for rocks and groynes. And I've jested a number of times if we could build groynes from reports with Haskoning on the cover it would all have been done long ago, but there you go. Any other questions?

Greg Guthrie

I was just going to say that if you actually take £10,000 a metre for defending the coast, the cost of this report over 85 kilometres of coast possibly doesn't seem quite as large.

Andy Smith

Any more substantive questions or comments. Come on there must be some. Well the break out session were obviously incredibly effective in that case. Graham you can't sit there and grin without saying something.

Q. Graham Henderson, SCAR

I'm pretty happy with what's proposed for this particular piece of coastline, given that one of the primary points I raised in the last consultancy on this particular subject, was that you should tie in the river or the estuary with the coast. Now Andy you made a very good point actually this morning, that if we get the SMP 2 established for that piece of coastline then that might in fact

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

put restrictions on what could be done in the estuary anyway. So, yes, I think that this particular piece of coastline stands fairly strong, providing what's been proposed is carried out. Other parts of the Suffolk Coast I think have different issues and they will no doubt roll on with significant fighting groups fighting their cause. Obviously there's a major problem coming up at Slaughden Gap and there's still the Blyth situation. But of course the whole thing is depending on money.

Andy Smith

I think that get a DSC within the Haskoning empire, if you can keep Graham Henderson of Suffolk Coastal Against Retreat happy you've distinctly earned a medal. Terry I think would like to chip in.

Q. Terry Oakes

If I can raise an issue for Greg that came out of our group in two ways. One is that the SMP is what we call aspirational, in other words it's showing the intent of how we want to manage the coastline in the future, and this is sort of like the point that Graham just raised. But the dilemma is where's all the funding coming from, and it's all very well having an intent, how can the local authorities and Environment Agency really deliver this and the call that came out of our Group was that they want the intent reinforced to show that this is really what they do want to do and if there's any uncertainty around the policies it's not the policy itself because that is well understood and that's what they want to do then certainty is associated with the funding to implement the policy. Is it possible within the document to sort of bring that over better.

A. Greg Guthrie

I think those issues do need to be clarified within the document, exactly what the intent is but also highlighting the funding uncertainty. There is also the uncertainty of the behaviour of the coast. You know, we are basing, we believe what we are putting forward as policy here is realistic if the funding can be put in place. But that you aren't driving yourself down a dead end in terms of sustainable management of the coast. If there are fundamental changes in the way in which the coast actually behaves compared to the way in which we think it should behave then that also needs to just be recognised. But we're confident that these are realistic policies but like everything if you want something then you've got to sort out how you're actually going to deliver it.

Andy Smith

Thank you Greg and I think assuming that Government we can persuade to see our SMP in the same way, it's a major step forward in, not necessarily next year or in the next five years, but in the future generating the funding. One in the front here please.

Q. ?

I was just wondering about the relationship between emergency works and maintenance work or policy work say in relationship to the Deben entrance where there's emergency work carried out, stone work, in relationship to a

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

channel which is actually getting closer and closer to the stone work and whether that conforms to your hold the line policy there.

A. Greg Guthrie

We've taken that into account and we've been advising on how the fairly hefty maintenance of the maintenance works should be undertaken. One of the troubles, and I'm sure Graham recognises this, is although we understand the overall processes of how the Deben entrance works in detail there can be variations in the way in which the banks work and the pressure that that puts on. Before that heavy maintenance work went on we had a look at in more detail and that plot I put up was part of that analysis. And we believe that again this is one of these phases that there is intense pressure on there now, we need to deal with that, and you can see this in several places. Like the concrete wall, I remember Reg Pernell of Defra or MAFF as it was then, saying yes you've got a concrete wall behind there why have you got it there, you've got 20m of shingle beach in front, or 50m of shingle beach in front, waste of money. But in that entrance you are always responding to local pressure but overall it's sensible to be managing that and it is important that we get it realistic so that the SMP feeds down into the strategies, feeds down into the schemes and also becomes the background against which people say right the policy here is hold the line therefore we need to commit to maintenance. And that is part of the ongoing process of managing the coast.

Andy Smith

Greg's last point there I think is the crucial one. I was going to make the point the reason the guys at EA can even consider, subject to budgets and everything else, doing the work at the Ferry at the moment or elsewhere, is because the SMP in being, which at the moment is SMP 1, says hold the line. If there was an emergency elsewhere where that wasn't the case they wouldn't, within their guidelines, be able broadly speaking, I mean they can always fiddle around the edges, but broadly speaking they wouldn't be able to commit funds to it. I think Christine waved her hand, the last one and then you're all invited to partake of a magnificent lunch at Government expense.

Q. Christine Block

Thank you Andy. I just wanted to stir the pot a little, if I might, over the funding issue, we've mentioned a lot this morning. While I personally have a deeply held, fundamental, kind of baseline view that the Government really ought to be responsible for our coasts and follow the guidance of a shoreline management plan, and be able to come up with the money, the reality is that that doesn't happen. We were incredibly lucky at East Lane with our public sort of private partnership which delivered the funding for the East Lane work. I recognise that it's not the job of the SMP to discuss other funding options, but I kind of half wonder whether at somewhere there should be some recognition that the brutal reality of having to think outside the box about where private funding, or sustainable income for maintenance of private defence work, where is it going to come from and how are we going to actually tackle that problem? Because with the East Lane situation, had the local community not been able to recognise that there had to be funding beyond Defra, I don't know whether we would have progressed. And the

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

understanding of communities that they can't always expect Government funding is a real core problem that I think we should be tackling.

A. **Greg Guthrie**

I think there are many, as we said management of the coast covers a very broad spectrum of things. There is mechanisms for funding for flooding, there is mechanisms for funding of coastal erosion, but in recognising the broader values of the coast there are people, there are areas of the coast that I think are living off coast protection funding where actually what is happening is possibly tourism funding or possibly other. I'm stepping outside the SMP here and I'm stepping into a more just me having seen a lot of experiences round the coast. I still like the coast protection model, the Coast Protection Act model where there was, and this really developed from the big debate that went on in 1906, where it was recognised that on the coast there are individuals who benefit and lose, there are communities or the coastal community that benefits or loses and also as Andy says, there is the nation that benefits and loses. And that under the coast protection model for funding it was that there was a recognition that there was the potential need for funding from all three of those sources. At the local level, at the national level and potentially at a private level depending on the benefits and how much benefit was got from different parties. As soon as you start putting it over 100% on the nation, then the nation has a right to determine how you should be defending your bit of coast and I think that removes the ownership of a lot of those broader issues as to how we want to manage the coast, rather than that very specific thing of the protection.

Andy Smith

Okay, thank you Greg. I think that draws to a close, if there's no other urgent hands to be waved, this morning's session. I think we should thank in particular Greg, who's done this four times already this is the fifth and he's going to be, I'm sure, ready, willing and able to do it again this afternoon. That's quite a tall order on his throat apart from any other parts of his anatomy. So thank you very much Greg for that. Thank you also to Terry and his team for organising today. I believe some lunch is due to appear in here any moment now. Let's use the opportunity now for networking and one on ones and thank you all for coming. And we watch this space for the full public consultation later on in the year roughly beginning of July.

Peter Boggis

??? very much look forward to that.

Paul Patterson

But I think the issue really is that this is an operational issue for today, or for the next five years and not necessarily an issue for the SMP I would suggest.

Peter Boggis

Yes, but in the meantime the wall is being damaged by its exposure.

Paul Patterson

Okay.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Peter Boggis

As soon as it's corrected the greater life that piece of wall will have and that piece of wall represents, on today's value, a very substantial investment.

Paul Patterson

Okay, thank you.

Greg Guthrie

Can I just take up one point on that from the strategy, the strategy says that at the northern end of the wall there would be a return as the coast erodes back from there, there would be a return structure sealing off the possibility of flooding within there.

Peter Boggis

There was one proposed within the sea originally at that point and various environment bods insisted that it was removed from the sea

Greg Guthrie

There is still, within the strategy, there is still the policy from the strategy is for that northern point that as that becomes exposed to build backwards to stop the flooding into Eastern Marsh. Over the next 20 years that erosion, there will be erosion there and there will be presumably works going round the northern end of that wall coming back out there. We've had discussion as to whether the SMP should be looking forward 100 years or not. What I'm saying is that if we accept these policies that what we are trying to do is actually return that area, not to a natural beach, but to a naturally functioning area but managed then instead of just chasing our tails round the back and forming that corner as a hard point corner that has to be beefed up, we should be looking each time and saying well how else can we defend this corner with the longer term vision that we are actually going to adapt the way in which we manage this frontage. So that we do not end up with a coast that does that.

Peter Boggis

It has done that in the past as ??? can tell you quite easily. The end of the sea wall there, one year he went along and suddenly found he had gone back 38 or 48m, I can't remember exactly which, and it is not unusual even for a period of 10 years to see a loss there in the order of 10m a year.

Greg Guthrie

Yes.

Peter Boggis

If we get that change of circumstances again now all the figures that are in the SMP for that area are utter nonsense. ???

Greg Guthrie

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

But the concept of having a corner there, as opposed to looking at how we manage that corner in a different way is valid. And that's what the SMP is saying.

Chair

I think you'll have to carry on that discussion outside this to give other people a chance. Do you have a different question or on the same issue?

?

No it's to add weight and a bit more to it.

Chair

Well no I think we'll leave that then sorry.

?

It's very important because people don't know what I'm now going to say. Mr Boggis is quite correct in everything he said, I think we all back him up on that. The wall to the north end was building in 1962. 1984/85 they extended it and they extended it and carried on that same line. It had already curved inwards. People who remember the three bungalows on the cliff that wall was already aiming for the centre one. Billy Nice owned that and I pointed it out to him and he come round the other side to look at it and he flogged his building. Now when they, the end of the 1962 wall was behind the cliff, it wasn't in front of it. It was way behind it and when they done the 1985 extension they had to dig that bit of cliff out to extend it to the length it is now. And that's then when the fun started because they hadn't finished that work, and I've got the photographs to prove it, that that wall, that cliff was already behind the end of that new sea wall by the time they'd done. Within a few months it was 37m because I measured it, today it hasn't gone much further. That route end, it shows you on that narrow piece where you come down, and that's about 40m now at this particular time. And the SSI is protected for 200m inland, I asked at the meeting that Ken Sale came with me and Peter Boggis, and I asked Natural England at this AGM of theirs at Oxford, what are they doing about the 200m, are we going to be allowed to do any developments or not? And they said no, there will be no developments at the SSSI. So where that wall finish that's it. A dog leg, if you put a dog leg in there you will make a wacking great cell, that's what will happen, and that will travel north and you'll have a damn sight more cliff going north of Eastern Bavants than what we've got now. And you want to realise that.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Chair

Thank you very much. I think we've got time for one more question if anyone has one. No, well all I can do then is say thank you all very much for coming and don't forget the feedback forms for any comments you might have in future. Thank you.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Zone 7: Felixstowe Ferry – Landguard Point Ufford Park Hotel, 3rd April 2009, PM

Q. Graham Newman

When you were talking about Landguard Common there you were saying managed retreat for Landguard Common but hold the line at Landguard Fort. And in the earlier part of the presentation you said much the same thing about the lower estuary of the Deben, where you would envisage managed retreat but the Martello Tower side you would want to hold the line. Well surely in both of those instances the one where you haven't held the line is actually compromised by not doing so.

A. Greg Guthrie

I think that's a very important point because what we are actually saying is managed realignment, not managed retreat. One of the definitions that we were very keen to make in the procedural guidance, when we were consulting on the procedural guidance for the SMP process, is that managed realignment is moving forward or backwards, moving the coast, managing the way in which we manage the coast to create a more sustainable position for providing defence. So it is not managed retreat for a start, it's managed realignment. And that isn't just a soft way of saying managed retreat, there is that fundamental difference. It is also difficult to squeeze what we're trying, often the complex processes or the intent of how we are intending to manage these things, into the simple, one-liner. We have in terms of policy, we have no active intervention, managed realignment, advance the line and hold the line. Those are the very simple, shorthand terms. What we're talking about in these two different areas, in terms of the Deben estuary we are saying that with respect to management of the coast we wish to hold the mouth of the estuary for the important values that that has and also for the important way in which the coast works in transferring sediment across the mouth of the estuary, which we feel is a sustainable way of managing a larger section of coast. Therefore, we have to look from a shoreline management perspective about how that could best be achieved within the estuary, accepting that you've got long lengths of flood defence in the estuary, but we don't want to substantially increase the tidal volume. The tidal volume, if the tidal volume became totally, everywhere was exposed you'd have this large, massive flows, there's still a bit of slack within the estuary at the moment but if you opened up all these areas you'd get flows going through there that would make it very difficult to hold the line at the mouth. Therefore, we're looking at the longer term that as sea level rise increases there is going to be an increased chance of flooding to the agricultural land either side. What we're saying is the way in which we need to be looking at how to manage that is we want to maintain these defences but accepting that it may not be possible to increase those defences necessarily all the time with sea level rise. Therefore there may be increased risk of overtopping. We need to look in the future, in the longer term, at how we manage that so that it may be a case of looking at having slightly lower levels of weirs that are specially designed to allow that overtopping so that you don't get wash out of the embankments, so that they don't suddenly overtop and you get the wash out and you lose the embankment. It may be looking at, in the longer term, how you can warp up

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

the land so that you are not actually, if you did then realign the defences you would not be immediately incurring the large volume. Now that needs to be looked at in the more detail in the estuary strategy. But we feel that there are realistic mechanisms, there are ways of doing this, and we're sort of saying to the estuary strategy we've got to be looking at that sort of approach to managing that lower area. You come down to Landguard Common and it's a very different situation, we are not talking about managed retreat of that frontage. What we're saying is you've got a substantial shingle bank there, that is your main frontline of defence. You've got a flood defence behind that, you do not want that flood defence to be on the front line, linear flood defences and variable coastal processes are something that you want to try and move away from because you want width in which to manage a coastal system. And therefore on that frontage we're not saying hold the line because that would imply that if that shingle moved back you would immediately step in and put in a rock revetment or something to stop the beach moving back, or you'd hard control that beach. We're saying that needs to function properly, if you hold on to Landguard Point, and you hold on to the South Felixstowe frontage down to Manor Terrace is it, then within that section you're not going to get vast amounts of movement but you allow that to develop naturally. And that's why also, we're highlighting that Manor Terrace as being an important area where, from a land use perspective, you don't really want to be developing a premier hotel right up against the sea front at that point because you want to have flexibility in the long term to may be adjust things in that, manage it in a different way, maintaining a bit of option for width so as to maintain that continuity between the two frontages. Does that ...?

Graham Newman

Yes that helps a lot.

Greg Guthrie

Good thank you.

Andy Smith

I think your concept of some flexibility, particularly in the estuaries, is refreshing because those of us who have been struggling with the vanilla version at least of the Blyth Estuary Strategy, it was all or nothing. You either built the wall up to be a 100% defence for a one in 200 year problem in 100 years time, or if you couldn't do that because of cost, you did nothing. Now that process has evolved and I think the recognition that the defence doesn't have to defend 100% of everything in the future, you need to prevent the routine flooding with one degree of certainty and the occasional event with a different degree of certainty. And I think that also applies to the Fort and I'm glad to hear what you say about recognising the set back defence line, for people who perhaps haven't thought about the flood defence line in the vicinity of the Fort, what stops the Dock or the south of Felixstowe flooding is a complex line through the Fort itself, the rifle butts and all of that leading to where the EA flood wall kicks back and that's always been perceived as the line of last resort to prevent another version of '53. But in all normal circumstances the common in being because the shingle beach seems to be

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

stable and the Harbour Board have it for their own interests to maintain the river frontage. I think perhaps the wording in here needs to bring that out more clearly for the coming years.

Greg Guthrie

Yes, if people feel, once they've had a chance to read through the vast quantities of verbiage that I've produced, if you don't feel that that is coming out clearly enough then highlight that to us and we will look at how we can express it. It is always difficult because I live and breathe coastal management engineering and I just assume that everyone else knows what I'm talking about.

Andy Smith

And there's one other aspect you hinted at in your reply and I've underlined in my stuff to send you, the what you've called the Manor Terrace which I think what you mean is the situation at the end of the Promenade where it kicks back to join the EA flood wall ...

Greg Guthrie

Yes.

Andy Smith

... where two sets of your professional colleagues who talked about that with us wanted to do something different there, but the crucial point is we have a major planning permission in being at that point and the options for the foreseeable future for that reason are limited. And I think again the wording needs to give I think at least passing, you are aware of the South Seafront project?

Greg Guthrie

Right, but not in detail.

Andy Smith

Okay, well perhaps we can make sure that we get you updated on that.

Greg Guthrie

Yes, and would be pleased to feedback on that.

Andy Smith

That seems to be an issue that perhaps has escaped through the net. Anymore questions or comments?

Q. Graham Henderson

May I come in there. I just want to clarify something really because you've sat there Greg and given us your views as to what should be with the last two points but that's your view, or SMP 2 Committee view. It's not an EA view is it?

A. Greg Guthrie

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

It's the, don't think of me as just being Greg Guthrie standing up here and telling you how to manage your coast, this has been a long process that we have pulled together the technical information and we've made suggestions to the Steering Group and that Steering Group has included Suffolk Coastal, it's included Waveney, Environment Agency and Natural England and there have been other people involved in the mix and we have thrashed out some of these issues and discussed whether we should be having managed realignment, or whether it should be called no active intervention and a lot of these issues. So what I'm presenting is the view of the Steering Group that is made up of all those bodies.

Andy Smith

Which to emphasise is a draft.

Greg Guthrie

Yes.

Graham Henderson

Okay fine thanks.

Andy Smith

I don't know whether Ian, he hasn't been involved in this process, but from the generality of the EA perspective on these things has got a comment on that. Ian Bliss, for those of you who don't know, who's a guest today in the sense that Ian is running for the EA and they're the lead partner in the Essex SMP, which as I've mentioned before is ...

Ian Bliss

Yes I work with Sue Brown who works for the Environment Agency and Sue does feed in all of the different input through functions within the Environment Agency, feeds that through the Client Steering Group who in actual fact steer the SMP forward, so we have had full engagement and input through the EA.

Greg Guthrie

And I might, while I'm on that point, we're also helping the Environment Agency on the Essex SMP and the guy doing it sits about two metres away from me and we do have a degree of connectivity both at the top through the Steering Groups, and at the bottom in arguing and Yak and I have some quite good fun discussing the philosophy of discussing SMPs ourselves.

Andy Smith

I'm not quite sure what was at the back of Graham's mind, far be it from me to delve, but of course at the end of this process, amongst other things that have to happen, the SMP has to be adopted by amongst others the three partner organisations, which includes Suffolk Coastal and Waveney. They have, or the EA has the advantage over those two organisations, they don't have elected members to deal with. And of course there's the precedent which I hope we don't follow but it exists, that North Norfolk despite having been partners in that one although I don't think they were the lead agency, North

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Norfolk as a Council rejected the SMP, declined to adopt it and the balloon went up and there were some lively discussions.

Ian Bliss

We do have to have the agreement from our Regional Flood Defence Committee though so that is, sort of, our, who will decide it on behalf of the Agency.

Andy Smith

Sort of, yes. Fair comment. Terry?

Terry Oakes

Greg is presenting the technical aspects of the study, because that's why Royal Haskoning were appointed, to look at the coastal processes, to look at the geomorphology and all those sorts of things, and what's happening in a physical sense down the coast and what would happen if you did one thing in terms of coastal impact in another area. The other side, which is why we've brought everybody here, is like the political decisions with a small 'p'. And they're much more subjective, like okay so we implement a policy what will that do to the community, what will that do to the environment. And this is where the members have come in and the officers from the local authorities and the Environment Agency giving this other angle and whilst we know it's going to be difficult for stakeholders to challenge the technical side because you're talking about engineering issues, we felt it was most appropriate that we should put the other political with a small 'p' issues to you, to see whether you felt comfortable with those. Because they will have impacts on the community, they will impact on the economy, impact upon the environment so Greg's presentation covers both aspects but he is really the engineering specialist.

Andy Smith

Anybody else. Susan?

Q. Susan ?

I'd just like to go back to Landguard and I've looked at the stakeholder objective to do with what is described as the Landguard Common SSSI. Now that's only a small part of the Landguard Peninsula, the Landguard Peninsula is larger than the SSSI and within the Landguard Peninsula there is, over and beyond the SSSI, quite a lot of important bio-diversity and indeed rather further up the coast, towards Manor Terrace. I'm just a little bit concerned that this flexibility might take away some of the more interesting features outside the SSSI.

Greg Guthrie

There is always difficulty in managing an actual system and maintaining the things that, what we're saying is with sea level rise you're likely to get roll back of that frontage. To actually stop that, to protect a specific feature, a biological feature, a botanical feature of that, actually would destroy the very thing that that is relying on. Our overall intent is that the whole of that section should be managed to allow it to function naturally, but actually we are

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

imposing harder control either side and yes I think we have to step outside the boundaries. The SSSI defines, if you like, the jewel in the crown of the area, but you have to recognise that it's connected in terms of bio-diversity and there are bio-diversity objectives within the SMP. And all that is looked at through the strategic environmental assessment process that goes alongside and will be reported within the SMP.

Susan ?

Thank you very much.

Q. Andy Smith

That points me along a line of thought I wish I'd thought of this morning. Going back to something that we briefly touched on in some of the previous member forums. Shingle banks generally, in the face of long term sea level rise, I think some of us tend to sort of think about sea level rise as if it were a permanent tidal surge, but it's not. If you have a shingle bank that's evolved naturally to this height, and 99 times out of 100, stay below it and a metre and a half surge comes along and it goes over the top, but that shingle bank, and I've stood down at the Ferry some times and looked at some of the knolls over there, at high tide and somebody's standing on the shore and there's another person or two's height, how did that shingle get there please. The point I'm making is that the sea naturally will build up shingle banks to higher than what you perceive as sea level. What is the overview in the profession, with sea level rise take either the bank at Shingle Street, as we were discussing this morning, or in our case the Landguard Bank, is it your view that that would actually gradually accrete to a higher stage along with the gradual sea level rise over the century, to any degree or not at all or completely?

A. Greg Guthrie

We've looked, in terms of how we've defined the erosion rates, we've taken use of the monitoring and of rates that have been recorded, but we've also looked at the, I think the response of a shingle bank very much depends on its bulk. If you just have a very narrow shingle bank, say up at Walberswick where we've been trying to build, maintain this shingle bank and each time it's a little bit less substantial, it becomes more vulnerable to flattening out. Where you've got a large accumulation of shingle, and our policy for Hollesley Bay is to try and maintain a good, substantial width of bank, then there's plenty of material for the sea to be working on and as sea level rise occurs you'll get it moving up so that you've got a fluctuation in tide here related to a level of a shingle bank there. As this moves gradually up to be working in that area, so the natural shingle bank will also tend to move up and move backwards in order to respond. But to do that it's got to have a good bulk. So your shingle beach, say along the central Felixstowe frontage, where it's actually quite a narrow beach is not, it's working almost as a flat fore beach. It hasn't really got that bulk to respond, it will try and roll back but then how you manage that defence behind it and the interaction is very important. You go down to Landguard Common and you've got a large chunk of shingle, and therefore that chunk of shingle is able to respond fully. So it depends on, and we've

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

looked at that as to whether there is substantial amounts of material or whether it's just a sort of veneer at the coastline.

Andy Smith

But when all's said and done, eight or nine centuries ago it wasn't there. It was created out of nothing by the sea.

Greg Guthrie

Yes, well over a period of several thousand years as it developed, yes. And one of the important things especially in this South Suffolk area is that the sediment that you have got in the area is very much the sediment that you are living with and are managing. There is no big supplies of sediment, what is feeding is Orford Ness and Orford Ness is eroding and it's feeding off itself in order to provide sediment further south. Orford Ness was a result of major sea level rise thousands of years ago that caused the erosion of large portions of the north sea coast and that came down as great drifts of sediment. What we've got now is relic sediment supply which is, and that's also why it's important to hold on to where we are still getting smaller supplies like Bawdsey Cliffs and the Covehithe Cliffs and things like that. We're very much managing what we've got.

Andy Smith

That's very illuminating. Anybody else.

Q. ?

You mentioned the consideration of the estuaries in your SMP plan but there is no mention, as far as I can see, anywhere of the document I've looked at, I haven't looked at them all I must admit, about what is happening on the coast. This extraction of gravel, millions of tonnes of gravel are being taken out and there is now a view that this is possibly having some effect. I know ten or fifteen years ago only one or two people were talking about it, now a lot of people are talking about this and it's interesting the Dutch buy 20% of the extracted material because they do not allow extraction off their own coast.

A. **Greg Guthrie**

On the dredging issue we've looked at various studies, studies such as Southern North Sea Sediment Transport Study, and the conclusion is that the aggregate dredging on the coast line is not having a significant impact on the coast. Obviously if you went and dredged right up against the coastline you would have an impact. But these sites are being selected and have to go through a very rigorous process of selection, and one of the things Southern North Sea Sediment Transport Study was doing was trying to look at whether banks were connected and whether the throughput of that bank system that moved sediment onto the shoreline and therefore if you were removing it you were stopping feed and the conclusion is that the aggregate dredging that is taking place is not having a significant impact on the behaviour direct at the coast. That is not to say that the shoreline banks, you go up to Lowestoft areas and places like that, there are shoreline banks that are having a significant impact but they are not banks that are being dredged. We've highlighted where the key interactions are and you mustn't consider the shoreline to be a line, it's an area that is both ???, but we have looked at that.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

I think it's a statement that needs to be made in the SMP from the concerns that have been expressed.

Andy Smith

Half of what you've said was sport on. Not many people were talking about it and now a lot of people are talking about it. Greg's answered in respect of aggregate dredging and I agree with that and I've picked up a lot of this stuff over time and I can't see any evidence. What I can speak personally for is, and I don't know whether you had in mind aggregate dredging or the shipping channel dredging, but a lot of people locally say it's all the fault of the channel and the port and the Harbour Board dredging it out, on the back of that, after a meeting we had with them, myself and another Councillor, John Goodwin, had one of the best perks I've ever had as a councillor, I had a day out on the dredger because they say, and I didn't disbelieve them, that there's nothing like seeing it for yourself. We went out for a day on the dredger and what they dredge out of the channel, both in the harbour and only small volumes out in the channel itself as it goes offshore, is the finest, finest, finest material. John Brian, the Harbour Engineer, talks about what he calls is north sea soup and I've often thought what's wrong with Felixstowe, you go to Scotland and you look off a jetty and you can see through 10 metres of water and you can see the starfish on the bottom. In Felixstowe you can't see your hand at the end of your arm and the sediment that's floating around in the whole of the southern north sea is the river sediment that's come, not so much from the Thames and the Humber, but in large measures from the Rhine and the Shelt. And the mechanism in the harbour is that the tide goes in, it dwells, it drops some of that and it goes out and incredibly for the area of the harbour off the quays where they need the channel for the big ships, they're taking a metre off there three times a year. But I've got a jar of this stuff at home and you can't feel it between your fingers, it's much finer than the sand on the beach. So what it isn't emphatically is shingle from the beach and I can speak personally for that. It is something that people naturally think but to just reinforce what Greg said, if you look at some of these charts where you have the seabed with a very compressed horizontal access, so that the troughs and dips look very exaggerated, and the shore is here and the channel is out there, the channel looks like a little dip like that and there are sort of much greater variations in between and you think well actually material isn't going to go between the two. So I'm personally, having been kicking around this stuff for quite a long time, as convinced as it's possible to be, that either set of dredging is not significant as far as the shore is concerned. And I think what Greg was saying about the geological timescale of Orford Ness is very interesting. You wanted a go?

Q. ?

It was just a question in relation to the new work on the sea front at Felixstowe and the recharge which has happened. How do you think that's going to develop because it is a specific recharge, do you think it's going to stabilise there?

A. **Greg Guthrie**

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

I've no reason to believe that it won't. We haven't, in the SMP process, we haven't gone down to, it isn't our remit to go down into that sort of detail. But it's been looked at in significant detail before it was developed and I'll hand over to someone who knows a lot more about it.

?

It's being monitored daily, weekly. There have been fluctuations in the early stages, and again it's that sort of down to natural processes but towards now it's starting to level out and it has what was predicted for that recharge. As far as we're concerned we're happy with the way it's progressed.

Andy Smith

Not wishing to detract from that at all, but for that scheme and I had a very lively debate with Terry and the consultant the other day who's doing the central Felixstowe, in both schemes there is a designed in, I think it was a 15 year cycle, 20 year cycle, of recharge. Now my personal view is that a scheme that's designed to need recharge is not a scheme that works because the traditional groynes for 100 years never needed recharge but having said that, touch wood, the beach that formed itself at south Felixstowe, virtually in one night after that surge very, very unusual, I don't know what was unusual, but it was certainly unusual surge tide in February, February 15 I think, overnight transformed that beach from all sorts of cliffs and stuff to an absolutely perfect beach. Far nicer than any bulldozer ever made. At Manor End itself we were getting quite worried, Terry was giving me reports that we could see the rocks that we'd put in three or four years back and it had cut away quite a lot. But that tide was the strangest thing because days after that it was that scar from the prom. And at the moment it seems stable, but what we haven't had of course is a sustained north easterly blow and that will be the crucial test. So I think nothing is certain as we keep saying.

?

I think that's one of the anomalies of sea level rise or climate change that one of the biggest effects is storminess, this change in weather patterns.

Greg Guthrie

Potentially. There is no hard evidence on change in storminess, that we know that storminess does occur in cycles and also that there is shifts in patterns of whether depressions are running through over Scotland or whether they're coming up the Channel and things like that. That is big, long term cyclic changes again that can affect weather patterns over decades. But that is not seen as being necessarily something that will, we don't know about the storminess aspect of climate change. There are certain indications that you may get higher energy coming in and that has to be taken into account. But you'll also get the higher energy coming in purely because you've got increased depth in water which just allows bigger waves to come in. And that's what we take into account when we look at how the coast performs.

Andy Smith

Sorry I don't know your name but the lady from English Heritage.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Q. Jenny ?

Relating to management area 20.1, ie the west side of Landguard Point, it's probably just a point in relation to the presentation within the document but I do note that the 100 year draft preferred policy line stops just shy of the jetty leaving, and I do recognise that it is the hold the line policy down that stretch, but we do have some concerns about potential flood vulnerability round the back of the Fort and the point that I would just like to make ...

Andy Smith

Could you just pause and tell us which page you're ...

Jenny ?

Page 22.

Andy Smith

Of which document.

Jenny?

Which document? Policy Zone 7, PDZ 7.

Andy Smith

That one. No that's 6.

Jenny ?

And it's the very last stretch.

Greg Guthrie

So this area in here.

Jenny ?

Yes, that's probably too small for everyone to see.

Greg Guthrie

That area in here and basically what, where this line finishes here. That is meant to tie in with the southern end of the port.

Jenny ?

Right okay, because currently the draft line stops right there.

Greg Guthrie

Does it?

Jenny ?

Yes, and so that bit ...

Greg Guthrie

Because this a copy from the draft document so, but again that policy unit goes all the way up to the southern end of the Port and ties in with the thing, but it's important that little inconsistencies, or apparent inconsistencies like

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

that are highlighted when, because it can cause enormous confusion when we go out to public consultation.

Andy smith

Are you familiar with, if I say Felixstowe South Reconfiguration does that mean anything to you?

Jenny ?

Yes.

Andy Smith

The point, which is really good news from the point of view of the Fort, is that when the Felixstowe Dock expansion is complete, which is called Felixstowe South Reconfiguration for those who aren't involved, that will bring the Dock Quay at a higher level than now, a one in 200 year, 100 year sea level rise level, down in front of most of the Fort frontage to where they will be creating a ferry berth. And that really will be very clear and obvious once it's built, the split between not only this policy line and that but between the Essex and Suffolk SMPs. The point being that the Dock Quay will then be a flood defence for as far into the future as anyone can see. But there will be then a very sharp transition to what we currently have south of that, but irrespective of exactly which fragment of line, or which map is concerned I think that's now clear between us and there has been some debate in the past month as to exactly where that line should be. But that's the concept. But once FSR2 is finished that is going to be a very clear and obvious boundary and that will actually cover that part of the frontage of the Fort that needed repair seven or eight years ago.

Jenny ?

A follow on point from that is that I note that although it is hold the line, I do note from that yellow line, the 100 year draft preferred policy line, that there is a retreat. It does move back actually from where the current foreshore is and colleagues have highlighted the fact that they do see that as a concern because it does imply that there is a level of erosion backwards.

Greg Guthrie

That line, the forward line, the greyer line that you see there is the mean high water. It's purely that we're saying that the yellow line is actually intended to represent the current defence line if you like

Jenny ?

Okay, so I can take the message back that there is no intention for a movement of that back towards the Fort.

Greg Guthrie

No, there is no intention. But in all these things improvement to that defence, it maybe that you want to actually spread that defence over a greater width, but all that needs to be looked at in detail. This is a policy that says hold the line, protect the important things that are behind it, one of the most important is flood risk to the thing, but any other assets that are in that area.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Andy Smith

And there will be a sheet pile return out to sea at that point which will provide protection for the new ferry berth so one has to assume that that will act as a groyne as well. Neil?

Q. Neil?

I'm essentially interested in the Deben estuary, but I'd like to ask a question if I may for my own information about the coastal aspect of the problem. I imagine that when SMP2 is finally approved and you reach a stage of implementation there will be some points which you will have identified as being areas that you're going to protect, almost at all costs and hold the line, they'll come into the hold the line category, and there you'll be looking I suppose from my limited technical understanding, at either recharging or by putting up some kind of hardened sea defence, concrete or rock from Norway. But it seems to me from what I've read and understood that most of these proposals for holding the line are longitudinal, in that they going along the coast line. But if the problem is essentially one of erosion why do you not also consider lateral protections, in other words modern groynes which have been used for hundreds of years and are pretty rickety rickety now in many cases but they do seem to have been effective. Because like many people I go to the beach and I like the beach and I quite like the protected area that you get down, literal drift steam so to the speak if I can use the jargon, of a groyne, you often get a very nice area of sand. Because the lighter sediments can tend to collect in the sort of back water area of a groyne. So my question is are you also considering extensions into the sea as well as hardening the shore?

A. Greg Guthrie

In doing the SMP we are focused on policy, we are not focused on the specific way in which that policy is delivered. That would come out of looking at it from a Strategy or looking at a specific scheme. So you'd take the mouth of the Deben and in holding the line for that area from Felixstowe Ferry going seaward, the way in which that is hold the line at the moment comprises effectively a defence system which is the bank behind, the shingle and the groyne structures that have been put in place in order to manage the flow over that frontage. In terms of hold the line that system, that width which is perhaps 50 metres wide, is actually the line. In another area hold the line may be in relation to an existing structure that is a sea wall. We avoided, there was some people said we should be defining the line, whether it was the back or the front of a sea wall, whether in the case of a dune was it the toe of the dune, or the back of the dune or the top of the dune depending on how you managed the dune, and most of us turned round and said don't be daft the line, we're talking about policy. The policy is the line is with the intent to deliver a defence to the important assets and the important use behind that. It is for the strategies and the schemes to actually develop how you deliver that policy in detail. There are many areas where it is more sensible to go as you say cross shore or even detached from the cross shore, we were talking yesterday about north of Southwold and we were saying that we wanted to manage an area, that we wanted to create width by moving the

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

flood defence back from the front line so that we can manage a bigger, a wider beach area. And we acknowledged that might be through key control points, it might be through reefs, it might be through breakwaters, we have in our heads how you could do that because we're delivering realistic policy. But it is not up to the SMP to then say and therefore there will be a concrete wall here or a groyne here. Does that ...

Andy Smith

I mean that's driven amongst other things by the equation of expense and what you're protecting. So for example the Felixstowe frontage is hold the line in SMP1 and is hold the line in SMP2 and you've got live examples there, we've just done rock groynes on the southern half and we're in a lively debate with the consultants, Terry and myself, at the moment about what we're going to do with the next stretch, War Memorial to Cobbolds Point, and the only issue there is should the groynes be rock or should they be timber, but groynes they will be. Conversely if you take East Lane, Bawdsey where we're doing the work in front of the Martello Tower the only conceivably, affordable, practical solution there was rock revetment buttress. In theory some of us would liked to have gone back 100 years and put in the groynes that used to be there. The hold the line doesn't in any way imply, like Greg said, what you put there but there are massive cost restraints on what you can do.

Q. Graham Henderson

Andy this isn't really SMP2 but I think it's relative in my mind, because I need to clarify my mind. We had Black and Veatch and Royal Haskoning do a north Felixstowe and a south Felixstowe presentation some time ago. Am I right?

Greg Guthrie

I certainly did a north Felixstowe investigation.

Andy Smith

Black and Veatch did the south.

Graham Henderson

We put in as a result of that, I think we then put in the hammer head groynes in south Felixstowe. We've now got another consultancy company in, Mock MacDonald, and they're proposing straight groynes, whether timber or rock. I just wonder whether you're going with the consultants obviously, but why haven't we got a unified view on the whole of the Felixstowe sea front. We appear to be trialling different methods having gone from hammerheads now to straight groynes. Am I right or wrong.

Andy Smith

There's a clear answer to that and I'll let either of the professionals answer it. But the seabed is much shallower on south Felixstowe than it is further to the north and the view, I'm told if you're talking rock groynes, is that the T head in the south is appropriate for that shallower frontage and the straight groyne in the north is appropriate for that deeper frontage. And I know myself from having been in both areas, whenever there's a big storm I tend to go and

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

poke about, the type of wave action you get at the south in the vicinity of the Fludgers is quite different. The south you tend to get an onshore rush of water, that's why all the beach huts get washed, at the slightest provocation they get washed back. Where my beach hut is opposite the Fludgers you tend to get much more of a huge breaking wave, energy expending itself against the sea wall. And I can only assume that that has to do with the different depths of water. But Terry.

Terry Oakes

The reason for the proposal for the straight groynes is one technical and another one for financial viability. Mock MacDonalds, that's the people doing the central Felixstowe frontage from War Memorial up to Jacobs Ladder, are saying that the orientation of that part of the beach because it goes round in a bay, would be better suited to straight groynes dealing with literal drift. Whereas the area south of the Pier down to Landguard which is much more open and straight facing the most, the north-easterly storms, then capturing the onshore/offshore shingle is better done by a T head. So that's the first reason. Mock MacDonalds are saying you could use T heads in central Felixstowe if you wanted to have them all looking identical but it probably isn't necessary. And if that's the case reducing the costs by not constructing that T in deeper water will save quite a bit of money and make the project more viable. So that's really the thinking behind it.

Andy Smith

And that's in the context that the viability of getting funding for that is balanced on a knife edge because of the way the outcomes measures work which is what the EA on Defra's behalf now use. The formula essentially doesn't do resort frontages, it does thousands of houses at Tewksbury or it would do hundreds of houses at south Felixstowe liable for flooding, but it doesn't do eroding resort frontages, it's very hard to get justification. Anybody else. Veronica?

Q. Veronica ?

How are the neep tides, the autumn and spring tides monitored in relation to getting your facts and figures for the various policies. I know it's a very elementary question but to me it's very important because the tides can be horrendous at times.

A. Andy Smith

Well being a very sad person most evenings I look at the website that displays that information.

Veronica ?

I want to know, there must be a technical way of monitoring.

Andy Smith

There is a tide gauge, an electrical tide gauge on Felixstowe Pier which gives the tide height every quarter of an hour and within just under 30 minutes generally you can see that plotted on the website. And there's a link to it from the Suffolk Coastal website, it's maintained by the National Tide and Sea

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Level Service and Proudman Oceanographic Laboratories, and I find it fascinating. And you have super-imposed there, you have the sign wave of the expected tide which is a sign wave and then the amplitude of that varies with the, if you look at a month's worth you can see the variable depth of the spring tides and neap tides. Then super-imposed on that on the plot you have, as I say, every quarter of an hour and when there's, if I get a tide warning come through on email from the EA you go and look and if it's going up the tide and the blue line, which is the prediction, no the red line which is the prediction is there and the plots are going up here and you're half way up the tide and you're a metre above there's a good chance that when you get to the top of the tide you're going to be a metre above. I'll send you the link, it's absolutely fascinating.

Veronica ?

Thank you, yes I'm sure it is.

Andy Smith

And you can get data back. I've actually had a couple of data sets you can pull down data, historically.

Veronica ?

And do the various bodies come into action if it gets pretty high?

Andy Smith

A tide gauge isn't much good for, action for defence but the EA issue flood warnings and surge warnings and they're getting, it has to be said from my perception, significantly more accurate all the time.

Greg Guthrie

And they're looking at the way in which the tide, the surge because you've got, as Andy says, the predicted tide driven by the heavenly bodies and then you've got the surge driven by the meteorological conditions and that develops often down the North Sea. So actually the Environment Agency is looking at gauges all the way down the East Coast to see how that surge is developing to be able to make the prediction at Felixstowe.

Andy Smith

Is that time then to move on and hand over to Terry and see if we can get a collective answer to some of the flip chart questions.

Terry Oakes

Just very quickly. We have been asking these questions at each of the workshops just for clarification really because the main purpose of the workshops was to validate the work that we've done to date. To test the thinking and to make sure that you as key stakeholders understood what we did and agreed with the outputs. So the first question is very simply do you understanding the review process, do you understand how we've gone about it, what we've done, the thinking behind the process, how we've taken forward all the information that we've gained? Is anybody uncomfortable, don't be

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

afraid to say so, is anybody not understand because we can come out individually. The second one relates to a piece of work we did right at the very beginning which is an issues document which is this A43 document. This contains, I'll just get any page, all the issues which were presented to us at the very beginning of the exercise when we went to stakeholders and said what would you like us to think about, what would you like us to take into account, what's important to you, what do you want us to think about and what do you want us to look after. This is on the website but it's available here. It's colour coded for the different categories, there are environmental issues, there are historic heritage issues which are the pink and then there are socio-economic community issues and what we intend to do with this is having identified the issues there's another part of the spreadsheet which will say what we've done to take them into account, or if we haven't taken them into account why we haven't taken them into account, have we affected them, have we helped them and if we haven't been able to do anything with them at all, or it's not within the SMP we'll say that as well. So anybody who wants to inspect that that's available. It's on the website but you can look at it certainly. These are the 500 issues that Keith referred to right at the very beginning. Because these are the things which are sort of been driving the policy as it were So what we're asking was that if you look at that or if you've heard something today which you think you're issue hasn't been taken into account then we'd like to know that as well now before we keep moving along. The other one is having heard everything today, having got the policy documents in front of you, is there any more information that you feel you need. Many of you represent organisations, you're welcome to take more of the documents with you if you'd like, they're readily available. If you feel as though it would be useful for us to come and talk to your organisation, we're happy to do that as well at this stage. Because what we don't want to do is go out to public consultation having missed a point or having got something wrong and then get to the end of the process and then somebody stand up and say well actually I don't agree with that, or you never came to see me or you didn't cover my issue. So there's an open invitation there if you want more information to let us know. And we've got some feedback forms, if we can hand these out, just hand those round. There's just some forms there, if you feel you want to say something or you want to ask any questions just fill them in and send them back to the Council Offices at Melton Hill and we'll pick them up. And then the last one is really the \$64,000 question, do you support the preferred options as we've developed them in the documents as they stand now. Are there any points that, any draft policies that you disagree with or you feel should be amended in any way. If you require more time to look at the policy documents because many of you only picked them up today, then please do that but could you feed back any comments you have by the end of April. As I say send them to Jeremy Schofield's secretary at Melton Hill and she'll pass them on to us.

Andy Smith

Terry you referred to the website there by which you mean the SMP website. Just perhaps remind people, unfortunately that address is not on any of these documents but it is on the email that people's presence here I think

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

demonstrates they had. So there's a lot more information on the website which is called ...

Terry Oakes

Suffolksmp2.org.uk. Yes all these documents are on the website but we know that not everyone's got access to the website. Certainly a lot of Parish Councils haven't got access to websites so we have offered to provide hard copies if they want them. So if you go out to your constituents or other organisations then just please let me know and we'll send some of these hard copies to them.

Andy Smith

Did you get your answer to the \$64,000 question.

Terry Oakes

No I didn't so I was just going to repeat the question.

Andy Smith

Let's get a bit of interaction on question 4.

Terry Oakes

On question 4, are there any preferred options as stated in the documents that's you're uncomfortable with that you've identified so far.

Andy Smith

I don't think you ought to waste all that rock, I think you ought to let it go.

Terry Oakes

Just let us know, by the end of the month if you can.

Andy Smith

Okay. Graham keeps the debate on the go. Thank you Graham.

Q. Graham Henderson

I'll just leave with a question. I'm very concerned about how we put this information out to the public and I was just wondering what you're thinking of doing. Because to put out to people in the Felixstowe are that document on its own is not going to tell them very much because there's an awful lot of background information that you know and probably I know that's not going to be there. So how far are you going to expand the information when you go to the public.

Andy Smith

I think that's a very good point and I was just having a mutter to Greg about that very point a moment ago.

Greg Guthrie

We do need to be discussing this with the Steering Group or the Steering Group need to be discussing, telling us what to do. But overall there will be a far more substantial document which will include appendices which will also

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

include the SEA, the appropriate assessment, it will cover, have an appendix on the coastal processes, it will have an appendix on the stakeholder engagement and when we've talked to people and responses and it'll have the assessment of those issues, whether we feel, it will have an overview of how the whole section of coast, how the preferred policy. My experience is that people generally do not read 700 page documents and therefore, which is a great pity because all this effort and they are fascinating bed time reading for some sad people like me. And we do try and tell a story but we're conscious of that. The documents will also have a front piece which explains the SMP process and things like that. What we need to be working, as a Steering Group, is looking at producing a none technical summary that doesn't go into all the heavy discussion here but does pull out those key points of what we're trying to deliver. Something that Andy said, those principles, those key principles that I put up there may be very useful in that sort of document. What is it that we see this SMP delivering. So trying to communicate in a different form. This is if you like an extract of the main document but we'll look at that.

Veronica ?

And definitely a glossary of all your abbreviations so that, and highlight that right at the beginning because otherwise people will get lost. If you leave it to the end, last page you've had it, you've lost them. You want it right at the start.

Q. ?

Are you also going to include an overarching view of the whole of the SMP down the coast, of what the dynamic is. Because I think the interaction from cell to cell is enormously important.

A. Greg Guthrie

We will have within this larger document both the appendix on the background coastal processes where we've pulled information together all that on a technical, we've also got a discussion document of why we have felt it sensible to break the coast down into these policy development zones and an analysis of how we went about that. And there's another appendix that discusses the overall approach and hopefully it will all be there but it will rely on people reading it.

?

I think the point I'm making is that it's answering really the question of when it goes out to public that an overview of the essential dynamics which obviously people aren't going to look into in enormous depth, but I think the thing that we're aware of just today is that for example at Orford Ness looking at the relationship between Shingle Street, Orford Ness and further south in the, it's very difficult to escape the context of a potential breach at Slaughden and the knock on effects and to gain a sense of the whole picture. I think the same thing goes for eastern and the Blyth and so on, that it is a symbiotic ...

Greg Guthrie

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

But you are actually expressing the very difficulty that we have. You are saying you want an overview of how this coast works. Well I put up an overview this morning saying there's a southerly drift here, Hollesley Bay tends to move like that and there's a southerly drift there. I then went down into a second level of detail which started talking about the individual estuary mouths, another level of detail was the potential of the Slaughden breach and all of sudden you have expanded, because of all these interactions, you've expanded that very simple overview into the document that is the explanation of the coastal processes. And we're always having this battle. You issue a summary document and someone says there isn't the background to this. You issue the full document and they say you don't really expect me to read that do you? Which is why I then get up on my hind legs and try and pull it all together but it's a lot easier to do that through speech than it is through writing it down.

Graham Henderson

But Greg there is a mid way, you give out the fundamentals that Simon has just mentioned and you tell people all this information is available in depth on a particular website or whatever.

Greg Guthrie

Could I just borrow this and you turn to page, overview, built environment, heritage, amenity, nature, conservation, principle features, further details are provided in appendix D. Stakeholder objectives, development of objectives is set out in Appendix B based on objectives based on Appendix E. That is exactly what we are trying to do and that information will be available in more detail.

?

It's really saying, in other sphere's one would call it a digest.

Greg Guthrie

And I could actually go on. This is to a degree a digest but we recognise that there needs to be a none technical summary, but in the physical processes the bit on the physical processes there is something that says where the appendix that that's covered in. We are very conscious of this difficulty of the coast is difficult especially this one. You've got to get down into the detail but if you provide too much detail no one will read it and there are layers.

Andy Smith

I think sufficient to say that a major task for the Client Steering Group and then for the members forum to have a look at is really at this publishing size, it's a huge challenge. The reality is it's complicated and it's a bit like writing electoral literature. The skill of getting something onto one page that you're prospective supporters will relate to is much more difficult than writing a book about it which they won't read so I think the publishing side is going to be crucial as this goes forward. I think we can take it that that point will be addressed with energy by Terry and the rest of the Group. Any other comments? There was, somebody else was after the mike a minute ago over here, who was that? No, we seem to be done then. Can I take this

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

opportunity not only for the end of this session but the end of the six sessions, to thank Greg in particular, who has done this six times and still manages to make it sound fresh and interesting and exciting.

Greg Guthrie

It is.

Andy Smith

And Terry and his colleagues who have done a vast amount of hard work to the put the events themselves on and so on and so forth. I think it's been a very, very useful, the two sessions I've done today, and I've heard some very complimentary anecdotes about the previous four sessions as well. So many thanks to the team, thanks to all of you who've come and we look forward hopefully to the next public stage and I think the good news is that this SMP2 as it's developing, having been cynical to the point of rudeness about it as Terry will tell you before it came along given the Government guidelines, I think is going very much in the right direction and hopefully will be something that is the right middle ground between the utopia which some of us would like and the minimal amount that certain parts of Defra would like. So we'll see how we come out on that but it seems to be going in the right direction at the moment so thank you all very much indeed and we await the next stage in the summer. Thank you.

**SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Appendix 2 - Public Examination



**EAST
ANGLIA
COASTAL
GROUP
SUB-CELL 3C**

**SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUB-CELL 3C
LOWESTOFT NESS TO FELIXSTOWE LANDGUARD POINT**

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION

CONSULTATION REPORT

v1.2

6th November 2009

**SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Blank page

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION and SUMMARY	1
2	THE CONSULTATION PROCESS	2
3	PRESS and MEDIA EVENTS.....	4
4	REPORTS TO COUNCIL	4
5	OTHER EVENTS	4
6	WEB SITE	4
7	EMAILS TO STAKEHOLDERS	4
8	COMMENTS RECEIVED.....	5
	APPENDIX 1: VENUES, DATES AND TIMETABLE	6
	APPENDIX 2: KEY MESSAGES	7
	APPENDIX 3: CSG ATTENDANCE AND ROLES AT EXHIBITIONS	9
	APPENDIX 4: MEDIA EVENTS.....	10
	APPENDIX 5: OTHER EVENTS.....	11
	APPENDIX 6: ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RETURNS	12

**SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Blank Page

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION and SUMMARY

- 1.1 The preparation of a Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is the responsibility of the operating authorities responsible for managing the coastline. In Suffolk these organisations are Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC), Waveney District Council (WDC), British Energy (BE) and the Environment Agency (EA) – in association with Natural England (NE) and Suffolk County Council (SCC):
- 1.2 The first generation Shoreline Management Plan for the Suffolk coastline, between Lowestoft and Felixstowe, was completed in 1998, covering a length of coastline of approximately 72 km. This SMP is now being reviewed by Royal Haskoning UK Ltd for Suffolk Coastal District Council as lead authority for the operating authorities. Terry Oakes Associates Ltd (TOAL) is project managing the development of the new SMP on behalf of SCDC.
- 1.3 One important aspect of the SMP Review is a wide and comprehensive public consultation to obtain their views and to examine proposals during the process of determining the appropriate policies.
- 1.4 The Consultation measures also include the establishment of the Representative Members Forum (RMF) and the Key Stakeholder Forum (KSF) which assist the Officers' Client Steering Group (CSG) in developing the draft SMP in advance of it being made available for the public consultation. The Client Steering Group has prepared an Engagement Plan to steer this aspect of the review.
- 1.5 In late March/early April 2009, a series of workshops for key stakeholders was held at three locations in the area. All key stakeholders were invited to sessions which explained the approach used to review the issues and to seek their comments/feedback on the draft management policies. Comments were analysed and changes made to the Draft SMP in the light of them.
- 1.6 The Public Consultation phase then ran from July 1st to 30th September 2009. Six public exhibitions (or drop-in sessions) were held at six locations along the coast, attended by CSG officers with a view to informing attendees about the plan and seeking their comments. People were also invited to view the Draft SMP and make comments via the website. Copies of the Draft SMP were additionally placed in relevant public libraries for examination.
- 1.7 This report consists of the record of the comments made by participants both during the exhibition sessions and in subsequent written and verbal communications.
- 1.8 This is the final consultation stage of the process.

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

2 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

2.1 EXHIBITIONS

2.1.1 A series of six events were held to show the proposed draft management policies for the Suffolk coastline. Each session focussed on one (or two adjoining) Policy Development Zones (PDZs) – although materials for the complete coastline were available for discussion at all sessions. Appendix 1 contains the full exhibition programme.

2.1.2 182 key stakeholders, groups and organisations were invited to send representatives to any or all exhibitions. A programme of posters, media events and media releases publicised the events to the wider public.

2.1.3 Each meeting was attended by Members and officers of the Partner organisations, along with representatives from Terry Oakes Associates Ltd, who are project managing the review, and Royal Haskoning (RH), the Consultants undertaking the review.

2.2 PURPOSE OF EXHIBITIONS

2.2.1 The defined purpose of the exhibitions was to provide the general public with an opportunity to:

- (1) review the process used to identify possible policy options for the management of the Suffolk coastline;
- (2) examine the proposed draft policies for each policy zone;
- (3) ask questions of the experts.

2.2.2 The aim was to explain the approach used to review the issues, identify potential policy options and how the preferred option was selected – taking into account technical and social implications, so that stakeholders felt they know enough about what we have done to be able to question our approach and the outcome. In addition, the project team were aiming to show that they were prepared to listen and to change the draft policies – and not to defend the decisions to date.

2.2.3 Their comments/feedback were requested to help us validate our work so that we can develop the final draft management policy options.

2.3 WHAT WAS PRESENTED?

2.3.1 The project team emphasised that they were presenting how they had identified the preferred options for comment and that they were not presenting the final draft options.

2.3.2 All attendees were advised that the draft SMP policies for the Suffolk coastline were available for downloading from a public area on the website www.suffolksmp2.org.uk as well as at public libraries along the coast.

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

2.3.3 The documents are referred to as Policy Development Zone statements (PDZs). There are seven PDZs covering the Suffolk Coastline:

PDZ1: Lowestoft to Benacre Ness

PDZ2: Benacre Ness to Easton Broad

PDZ3: Easton Broad to Minsmere

PDZ4: Minsmere to Thorpeness

PDZ5: Thorpeness to Orford Ness

PDZ6: Orford Ness to Cobbold's Point

PDZ7: Cobbold's Point to Landguard Point

2.4 EXHIBITION ARRANGEMENTS

2.4.1 Each event was run as an unstructured session, in which attendees were welcome to arrive at any time. A series of display boards was erected, explaining the SMP process and showing the maps for the area in question. All maps for other areas in the SMP, as well as both volumes of the complete Draft SMP, were laid out on tables for examination if required.

2.4.2 On arrival, each attendee was:

- welcomed and given leaflets explaining the SMP process and an explanation of the various display boards, as well as a questionnaire sheet which they were encouraged either to complete on the day or send in later;
- encouraged to ask questions of the experts.

2.4.3 Great attention was paid to ensuring that all attendees who wished to spent some time with one or more of the experts did so.

2.5 ATTENDANCE AT EXHIBITIONS

Venue	PDZs	Date	Time	Attendance
Kessingland	1, 2	7 th July	2 – 6 pm	75
Southwold	2, 3	4 th July	12 – 5 pm	41
Walberswick	3	8 th July	2 – 7 pm	77
Aldeburgh	4, 5	17 th July	11 am – 7 pm	106
Hollesley	6	16 th July	2 – 7 pm	36
Felixstowe*	7	18 th July	10 am – 2 pm	56

*held jointly with an exhibition about the Felixstowe Town Beach project

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

3 PRESS and MEDIA EVENTS

- 3.1 A full programme of media releases and events was arranged to publicise the consultation, both at the start of the consultation period and also as a refresher during the early weeks of September. Appendix 4 includes the full schedule of events.

4 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

- 4.1 Suffolk Coastal District Council Cabinet received a comprehensive report on the preparation of the draft SMP at its meeting on 1 September 2009 when it is supported the policies within the document.

5 OTHER EVENTS

- 5.1 Other publicity about the consultation was presented as and when opportunities arose, as detailed in Appendix 5.

6 WEB SITE

- 6.1 The SMP2 website (www.suffolksmp2.org.uk) contained full details of the consultation process, including:
- downloadable copies of all sections of the full Draft SMP;
 - the libraries at which copies of the full Draft SMP had been placed for inspection; and
 - The exhibition schedule.
- 6.2 The site also allowed respondents to complete an online form with their comments and send these directly to the consultation team.

7 EMAILS TO STAKEHOLDERS

- 7.1 All stakeholders identified in the Stakeholder Consultation phase were written to or emailed with details of the Public Consultation, including details of the website and the exhibition schedule.

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

8 COMMENTS RECEIVED

8.1 Receipt of Comments

8.1.1 Comments were received as formal responses after the workshops, either on questionnaire forms or as letters or emails.

8.1.2 82 comments were received in total: 64 as questionnaire responses; 18 as letters or other submissions.

8.1.3 A legal challenge to the SMP process has also been received from Parkinson Wright solicitors and is being dealt with externally to the consultation process.

8.2 Questionnaire Responses

8.2.1 Each comment or set of comments received has been given a unique and sequential reference and entered into a database. All comments are listed in Appendix 8, which has been published as a separate document.

8.3 Other Correspondence

8.3.1 Some correspondents elected to make comments outside the questionnaire framework. These have published separately as Appendix 9.

8.4 Analysis of Responses

8.4.1 Haskoning UK performed an analysis of each comment received and a proposed action for the Final SMP. This analysis has been published separately as Appendix 10, which consists of 9 PDF documents, covering each PDZ plus General comments and comments about the Draft SMP appendices.

8.4.2 Appendix 6 (in this document) also provides a graphical analysis of the responses, showing both the support or otherwise for the proposals and also a demographic analysis of respondees.

**SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION
CONSULTATION REPORT**

APPENDIX 1: VENUES, DATES AND TIMETABLE

Policy Development Zone	Section of Coastline	Venue	Date	Start time	Finish Time
1, 2	Lowestoft to Easton Broad	Kessingland Village Hall	7 th July 2009	2 pm	6 pm
2, 3	Benacre Ness to Minsmere	Southwold, Stella Peskett Millennium Hall	4 th July 2009	12 am	5 pm
3	Easton Broad to Minsmere	Walberswick, Suffolk Coast & Heaths Centre	8 th July 2009	2 pm	7 pm
4, 5	Minsmere to Orford Ness	Aldeburgh Church Hall	17 th July 2009	11 am	7 pm
6	Orford Ness to Bawdsey Manor	Hollesley Village Hall	16 th July 2009	2 pm	7 pm
7	Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard Point	Felixstowe Town Hall	18 th July 2009	10 am	2 pm

APPENDIX 2: KEY MESSAGES

Setting the scene

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council, the Environment Agency and other partners will work together with the community to make sure that everyone is aware of the effects of living and working in our dynamic coast.

We need a plan to help us deal with and manage change. We will involve people in the future of their coast and to increase their understanding of the potential options in terms of maintaining defences in a changing climate.

We have a continually changing low-lying coastline and people living and working here face increasing flood risk. This plan will show us how to manage this risk both in the short and long term.

Over the next 100 years sea level is likely to rise by up to 1 metre. This means the coast will inevitably change.

What is the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)?

The Suffolk SMP will identify the current situation on our coast and then consider how best to manage coastal flood and erosion risk for the future.

It is a strategic plan about how the Suffolk shoreline will be managed over the next 100 years.

It will show us how we can best manage increasing flood and erosion risk on the coast.

Who is involved in shaping the plan?

Those who have coastal management responsibilities from Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point are working together in partnership to shape the plan.

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency, other partners and communities will work together to make sure that everyone is aware of flood risk and to involve them in the future of their coast. We will take every opportunity to raise their understanding of what their options are in terms of maintaining defences in a changing climate.

Working together we will make sure everyone is aware of both the risks and opportunities arising from a changing coastline.

How will it reflect the needs of those who enjoy, live or work on the coastline?

We will involve those with an interest in the coast and raise awareness of the risks and opportunities that a changing coastline might bring.

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

We will work with everyone, sharing local knowledge, to help develop a joint approach to managing change.

We want the plan to support and enhance people's enjoyment of the coast and work with the changing nature of the coast to maximise the social and economic benefits.

We want the plan to support and enhance people's enjoyment of the coast by maintaining and improving access.

How will we involve people?

We will involve the community and stakeholders early on in the process. We will be honest and open and will make every effort to avoid raising false expectations.

What happens next?

We will balance the interests of coastal users and look at approaches to managing flood and coastal erosion risk that allow us to adapt to the changing coast.

We will work together with communities to explore different approaches to managing the impacts of our dynamic coastline and adapting to climate change.

We will look at how we can work together to explore different approaches to managing flood risk and adapting to a changing coastline

We want to support people's ability to live work and enjoy the Suffolk coast.

Overarching key messages

Suffolk has a dynamic, continually changing coast. The low-lying nature means that people living and working in areas which are currently at flood risk will face increasing challenges in the future.

The Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan allows us to consider how best to manage flood and coastal erosion risks from Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Landguard Point.

Suffolk Coastal District Council, Waveney District Council and the Environment Agency are working together with a range of partners, organisations and local groups to shape the plan for Suffolk. Working together we will make sure everyone is aware of both the risks and opportunities arising from a changing coastline.

We will work together with local stakeholders to balance the interests of coastal users to ensure we support local people's ability to work on, live near and enjoy the coast.

We will involve those with an interest in the coast and raise awareness of the risks and opportunities that adapting to a changing coastline might bring.

The SMP will be reviewed periodically, enabling the plan to adapt to changing circumstances and improvements in the science.

SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

APPENDIX 3: CSG ATTENDANCE AND ROLES AT EXHIBITIONS

NAME	Southwold	Kessingland	Walberswick	Hollesley	Aldeburgh	Felixstowe
	4 Jul	7 Jul	8 Jul	16 Jul	17 Jul	18 Jul
John Jackson	-	√	√	-	-	-
Gary Watson	-	√	-	√	-	-
Stuart Barbrook	√	-	√	-	-	-
Mike Steen	-	-	√	-	pm	√
Sharon Blease	√	-	√	-	pm	-
Mark Johnson	√	-	-	-	-	-
Amy Capon	-	√	-	-	-	-
Sue Brown	-	√	-	-	am	-
Isi Dow	-	-	-	√	am	√
Paul Patterson	√	√	-	-	-	-
Julie Hood	-	√	-	-	-	-
Bill Parker	-	√	√	√	√	-
Bob Chamberlain	-	-	√	√	√	-
Greg Guthrie	√	√	√	√	√	√
Stefan Lombardo	√	√	√	√	√	√
Terry Oakes	√	√	√	√	√	√
Alan Hallett	√	√	√	√	√	√

√ Attending
 - Not attending
 am 11 am to 3 pm
 pm 3 pm to 7 pm

**SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION
CONSULTATION REPORT**

APPENDIX 4: MEDIA EVENTS

Date	Event	Media	Who
1-Jul-09	Press Briefing (Lowestoft)	EDP, Beach Radio	M Johnson/ P Paterson
1-Jul-09	Press Briefing (Felixstowe)	Felixstowe Star, EADT	M Johnson/ Cllr Smith
1 st wk July	Radio Interview	Radio Suffolk	Cllr A. Smith
1 st wk July	Radio Interview	Radio Suffolk	MJ (EA)
1 st wk July	Article	Coastline	V Hotten
7-Sep-09	Radio interview	BBC Radio Suffolk	TO (TOAL)
11-Sep-09	Press Article	Coastal Advertiser, p.3	V Hotten

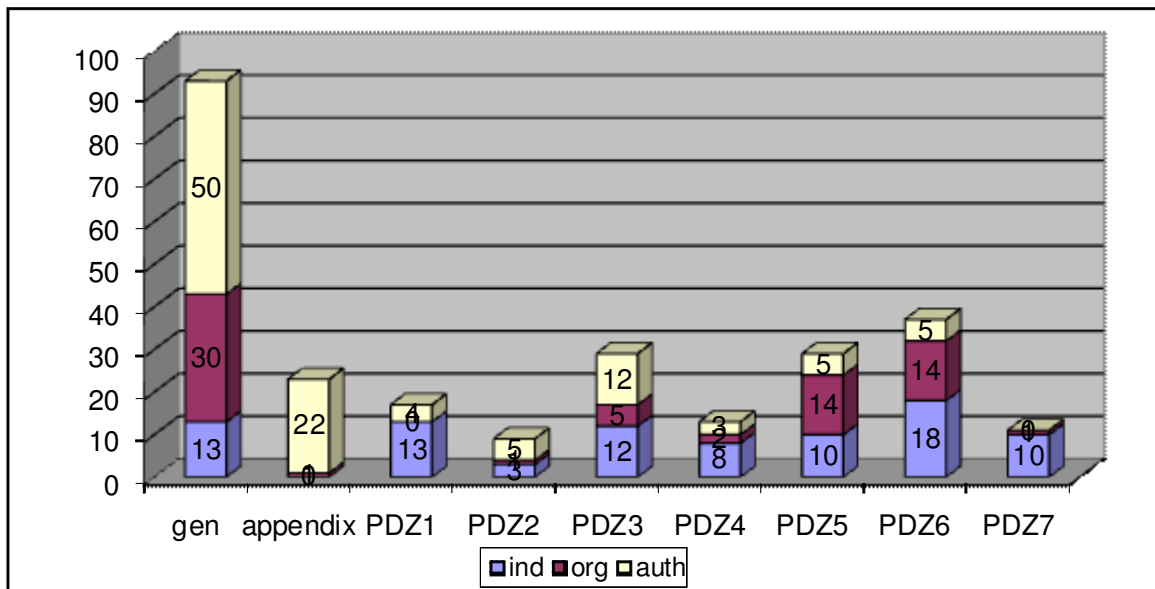
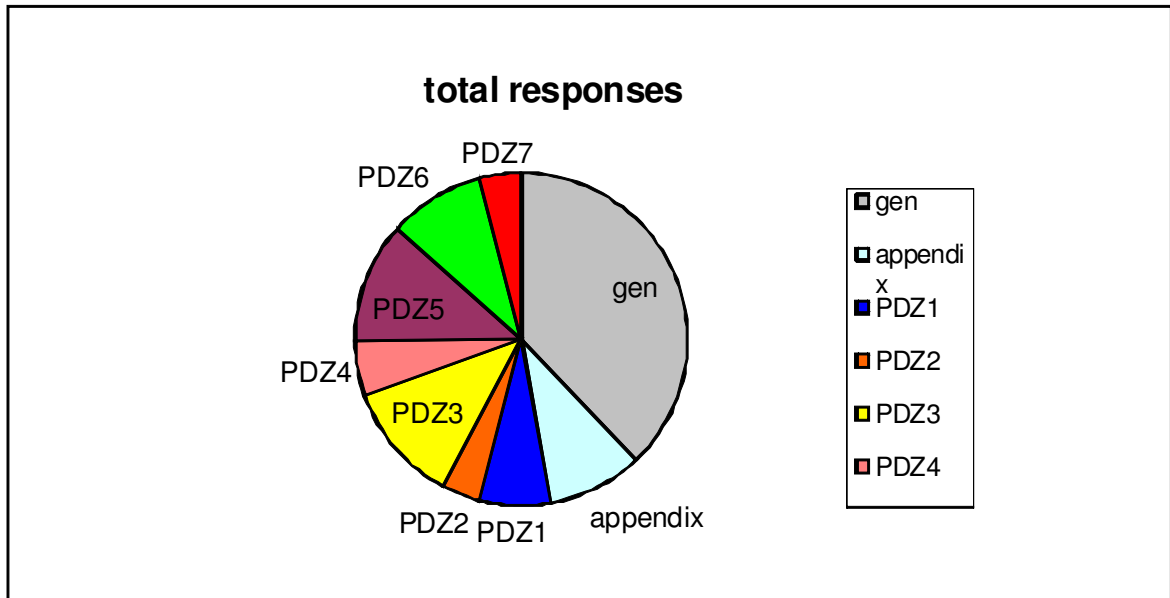
**SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION
CONSULTATION REPORT**

APPENDIX 5: OTHER EVENTS

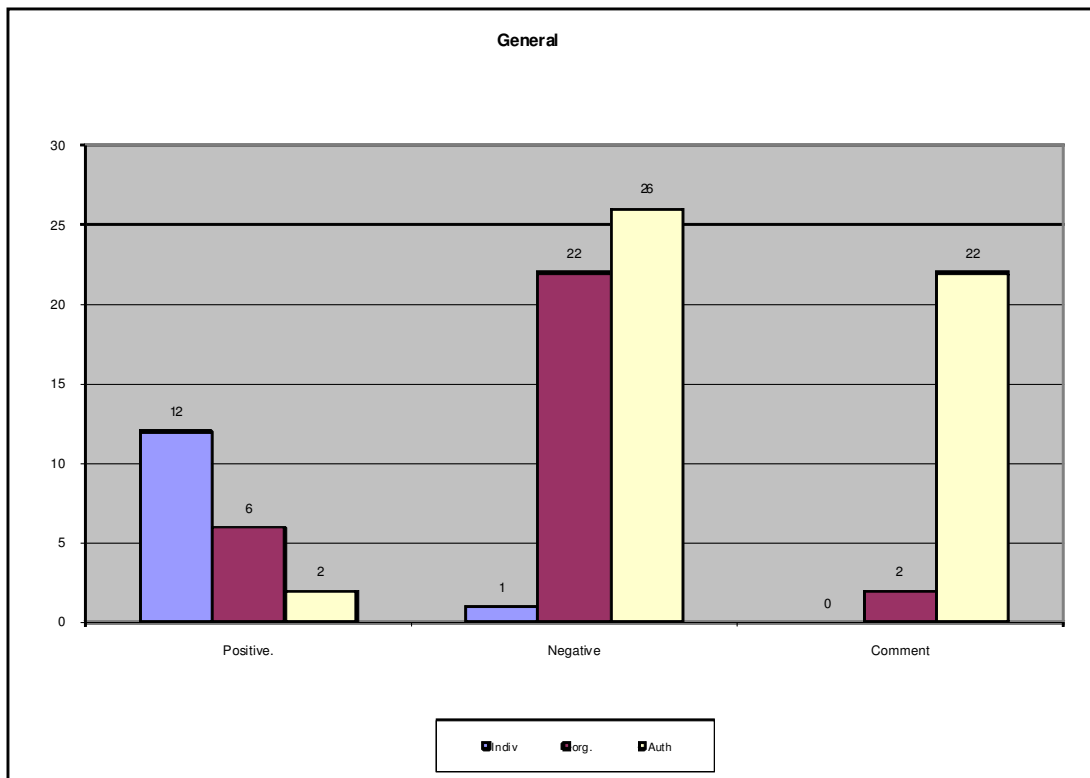
Date	Event	Involvement	Who
4-Sep-09	Alde & Ore Futures Community Conference at Snape Maltings	Display of Alde/Ore maps and other materials; Comment made about SMP review during proceedings by TO.	TO (TOAL)
18-Sep-09	Briefing with Bob Blizzard, MP for Waveney	One-to-one meeting about SMP draft policies for the coastline north of the Hundred River, Kessingland	TO (TOAL)
23-Sep-09	Kessingland Parish Council	Response to a request for discussion on the SMP2 proposals for low lying parts of Kessingland, including the sewage pumping station.	KT (TOAL) GG (HUK) PP (WDC)

APPENDIX 6: GRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RETURNS

General Analysis

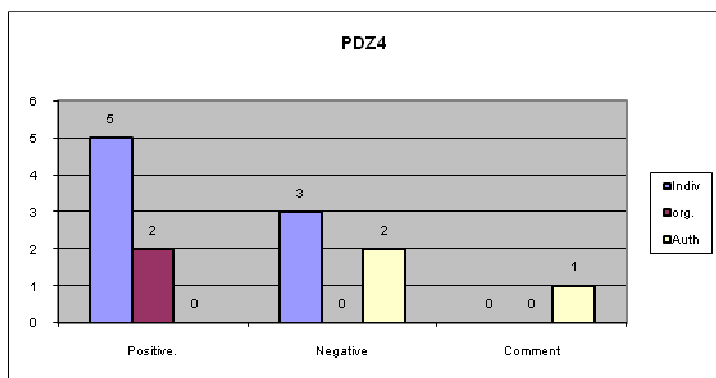
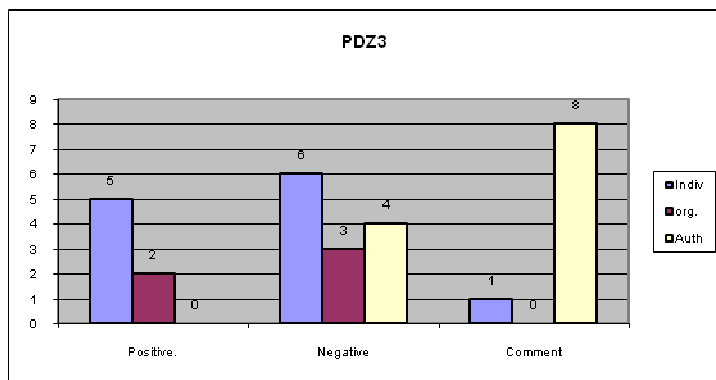
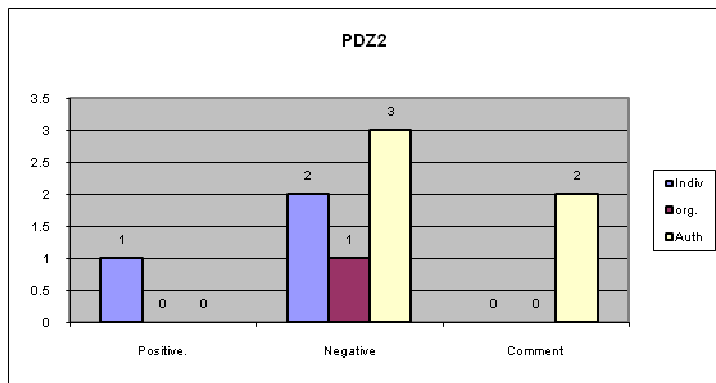
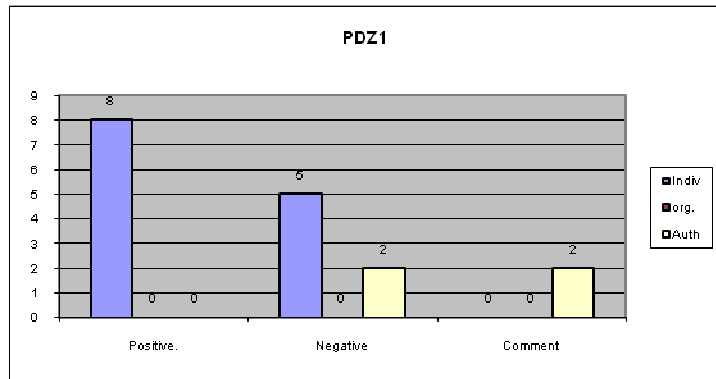


SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT

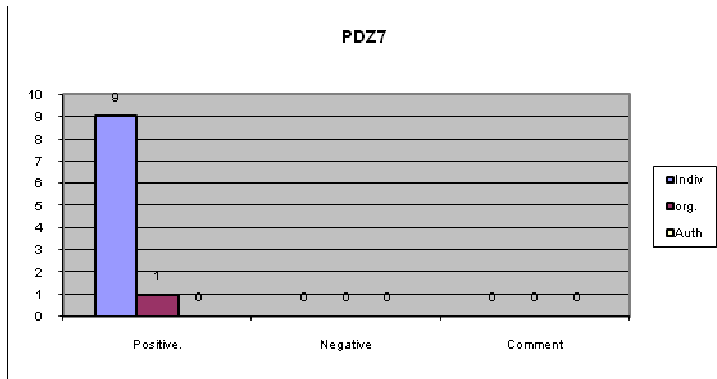
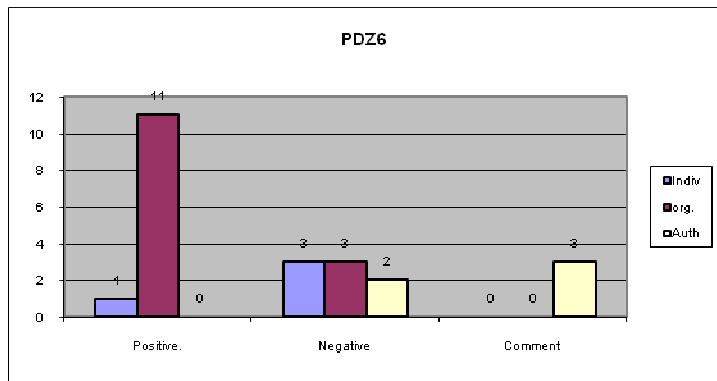
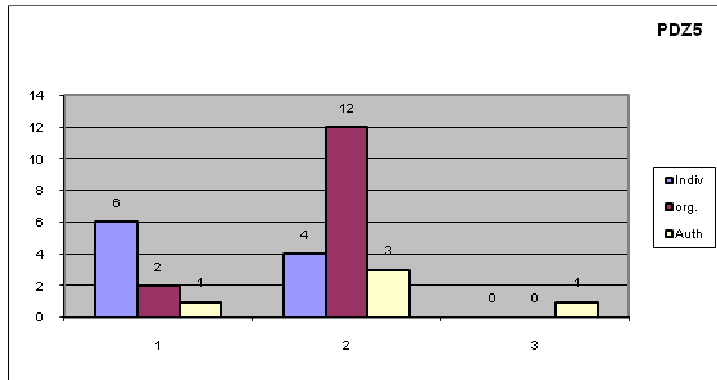


Analysis by PDZ

Responses were analysed in three groups (Individuals, Organisations and Authorities) to indicate whether the response was positive or negative and whether comments were also made.



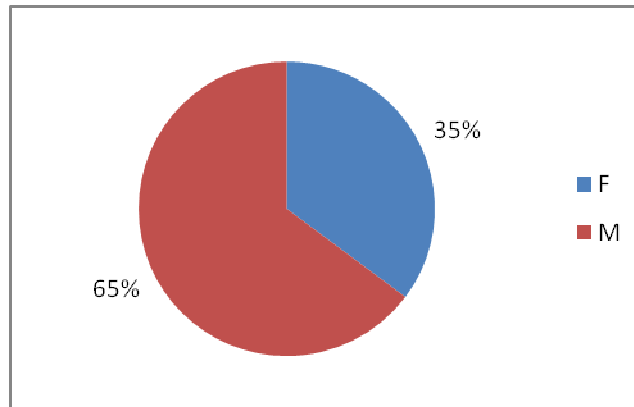
SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT



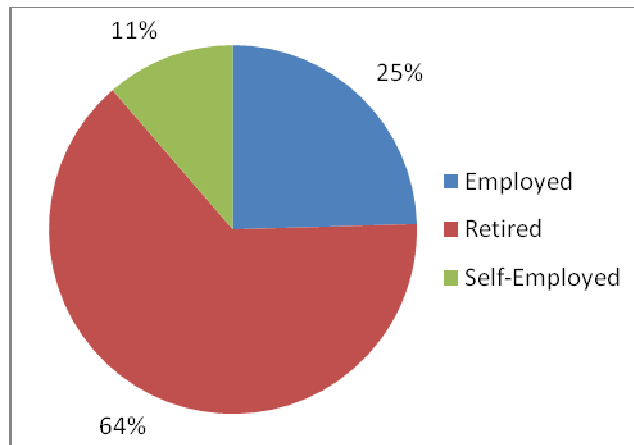
Demographic Analysis

Respondents who returned questionnaires were also asked to indicate their gender, age group, employment status and ethnicity. The following charts indicate the breakdown of all responses made in each group, excepting 'Rather Not Say' responses.

Gender



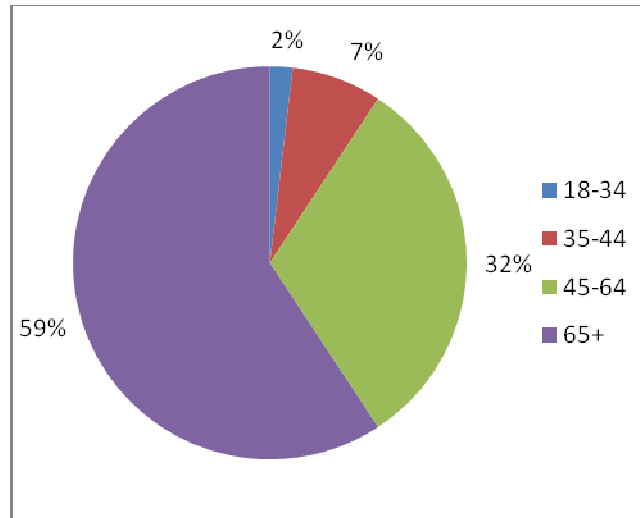
Employment Status



Other available responses were:

Unemployed
Student

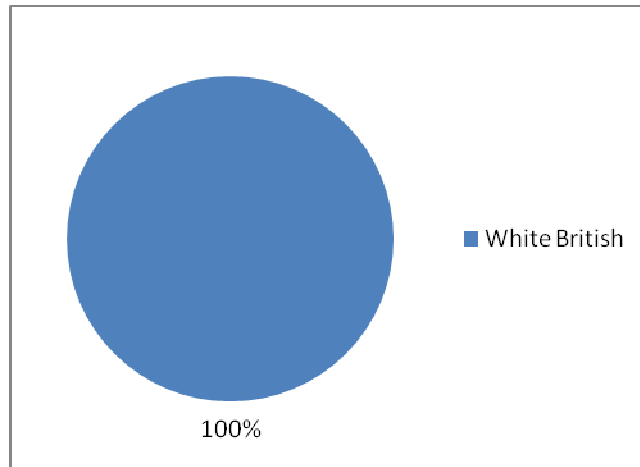
Age Group



Other available responses were:

Under 18

Ethnicity



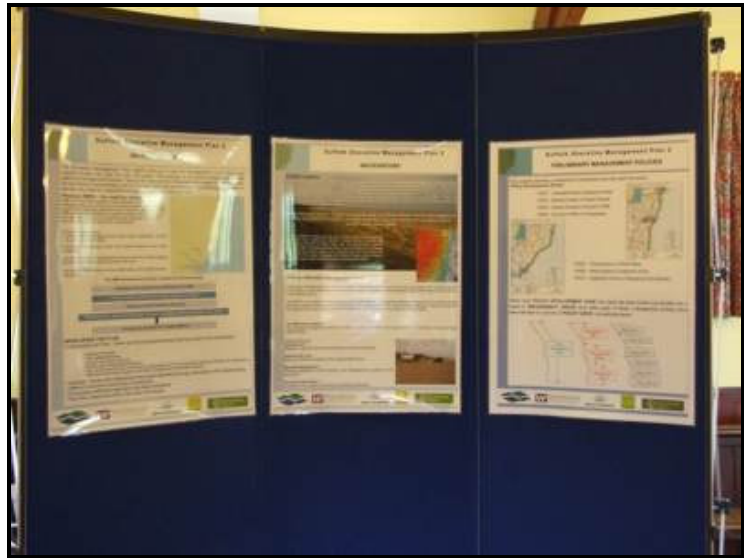
Other available responses were:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| White Other | Indian |
| Black – British | Pakistani |
| Black – Caribbean | Bangladeshi |
| Black – Asian | Chinese |
| Black – Other | Any Other |

APPENDIX 7: PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION



SMP3C PUBLIC EXAMINATION CONSULTATION REPORT



00001

PDZs

PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

Recent experience with beach promenade and even a building washed away seem to indicate no SMP prior to this exercise and nothing by any other name. This has led to gross errors, listed over, and in some cases waste of money perhaps worthy of audit commission investigation

Your Comments:

Why is there no space for specific comments? Eg1 - the 3 attempts to repair the footpath by the golf course are all hopeless. One was too small and too deep, another was too large and angular and the third too large. All 3 were dangerous to many types of users as any simple risk assessment would illustrate. This is money wasted. Please alert the Audit Commission to respond to myself. Eg2 - If public money is being spent on sea defences, the public should have a right of access over them. (See Parliamentary Bill.) What are you doing to negotiate access over the South End defences and those north of Cobbolds Point? Eg3 - The plethora of signs attached to the sea wall towards Landguard are an eyesore. If kids had spray-canned it, there would be an uproar. Remove all but one at each end and change the law! Eg4 - Why has it left the beach north of Cobbolds Point inaccessible except at low tide - why do we still have this gap in the timing of continuous access?

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

I agree that it is high time this issue was high on the priorities of all parties concerned. However, a fog of jargon and poor presentation, inconsistencies and other faults make much of your effort meaningless., sadly.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

See above. Eg why has the concrete just north of Cobbolds Point already disintegrated? How long has it been there? Not long enough surely?

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

but it is light years away from being either satisfactory or acceptable, for the reasons above

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

but only as an initial exchange of views and explanation of decisions already made. Therefore it is not a 'consultation', simply an explanation'.

00002

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Coastal Chart's tidal flows offshore dredging and changes of tidal flows. Any changes off shore line will have effects. Also coast charts should read maritime charts.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Not enough protection off coast. Time line is too long, work should start now! Floods off 1953 should have taught a lesson.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? No

Left me feeling frustrated and scared for future of Kessingland and area.

00003

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3

MA

PU

General Comments:

It would appear that a decision to sacrifice land has been taken without really considering the effect on the area concerned

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Because various dwellings and the magnificent church at Covehithe will be lost to the sea.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00004

PDZs PDZ2
MA
PU

General Comments:

The SMP Plan of no active intervention have ignored the problem of flooding on the main A12 route, also like PDZ2 is in an area classified by Natural England as a SSI area. It may be helpful to look at the schemes in Norfolk e.g. The rock reefs at Happisburgh which seems to be successful

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Possible loss of the A12 at Benacre marshes which has already been flooded several times due to Benacre Pumping Station unable to discharge the River Hundred at high water. Same problem Potters Bridge on B1127.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Cost cutting exercise.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? No

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00005

PDZs

PDZ5 PDZ6

MA

PU

General Comments:

There are some unknowns in the SMP, one major one is the implications of a breach at Slaughden. This would alter predictions for sediment etc in that zone, also affect the behaviour of the shingle spit at East Lane. The Slaughden question appears to be bringing on a certainty, it is a matter of when and how this is managed.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Our area in PDZ6/7, this is quite straightforward especially due to the acceptance of East Lane as a fait accompli. It is unclear what is likely to happen to the cliffs immediately south and the effect upon East Lane and Bawdsey Manor.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

This SMP strikes me as a moderate and considered document. It acknowledges control within uncertainty and goes to lengths to accommodate community perception.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

but there will be some impact from the Estuarine Strategies that could change the short/long term SMP.

00006

PDZs PDZ1

MA

PU

General Comments:

A very thorough process which is essential to inform the Action Plan. I visited the Walberswick exhibition and was grateful to be given a CD of the SMP. This enabled me to examine the plan in detail in my own time. (I'm not on broadband.) I intend to lend the CD to others to enable them to respond to the SMP. It appears to have been a thorough process with reports from specialists in all the various areas (geology, estuaries, habitats etc). I await the Action Plan with interest - please would you ensure that this is publicised?

Your Comments:

This is an exceptionally varied and beautiful stretch of coastline which is subject to constant change through the various processes examined in the appendices to the SMP. I would like to make three points:

1. This subcell should be managed as a whole entity because of the interaction between the various PDZs (e.g. erosion/deposition)
2. Minimum intervention should be a guiding principle - it would be easy to spoil the coastline by over-zealous intervention which would not be financially sustainable.
3. It is important to manage it as a 'living' entity safeguarding wildlife and human interests.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Nothing about funding! This may influence its implementation. Presumably will be addressed by the Action Plan.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

I would like to ensure that I receive a CD or hardcopy of the Action Plan.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

The representatives at Walberswick were very helpful. I happened to be working at Walberswick, otherwise I would have missed the consultation.

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

I would like to be notified of any future opportunities (either paper or in person) to discuss the Action Plan when this has been formulated.

00007

PDZs

PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

The Town council welcomes the SMP process which is an essential tool for coastal management.

Your Comments:

The Town council welcomes the policy for the Felixstowe frontage (PDZ7) and endorses the policy for the mouth of the Deben (PDZ6).

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00008

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

I know this is a high-level plan, but at some point we need to know what exactly 'managed realignment' means in particular places.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00009

PDZs

PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

A brave attempt to prepare for the uncertainties of the future of our coastline. As an amateur in these matters, i can only urge consistency of approach in specific areas.

Your Comments:

Section Brackenbury Cliff to Cobbold's Point. To extend the promenade eastward round the point is an excellent, if expensive, proposal. But to stop at Jacob's Ladder is silly: the retaining wall on the remaining section to Brackenbury is only 200 yards but is in very poor state and is exposed. If not done at the time of the proposed works, it will have to be done properly soon after to avoid scour and collapse of the cliff at the bottom of the Golf Rd properties.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

With reservations. I did not have time to examine documentation at the Town Hall exhibition and wonder whether the consultants had considered the effects of constant shipping channel dredging on shoreline material levels.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00010

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00011

PDZs		PDZ3
MA	WALB	
PU	WALB	

General Comments:

Robinsons Marsh. I understand that the river wall be maintained for 20 years. I also hear that wall heightening will be the last phase from Tinkers to the ferry. Surely this must be tackled first to protect those at the Lea. And where is tidal protection for Old Vicarage Cottage? Please remember that all these houses were badly flooded in 1953. Loss of human life has to be more important than bird protection.

Your Comments:

I met Adam Burrows of the Heritage Hut at Walberswick - he did his best to explain the recommendations. Most proposals seem sound. Only serious concern is for the Robinsons Marsh area. There was talk of a wall continuing across the road past Old Vicarage Cottage and across the marsh - tucking into the Old School Fields. I hope tis idea has not been thrown out. Generally yes, but protection of east end of Robinsons Marsh properties is paramount.

Accompanying letter: If the river walls are to be heightened and, we hope, the Robinsons Marshes will remain dry at the highest tide, there remains a problem. The tide will encroach from the quay up the road and surely will rush to fill up the marsh between Marsh View and Old Vicarage Cottage, possible undermining the buildings. The answer to this is to continue the earth wall across the road with a tidal gate and join the wall from the Ferry Hut.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Yes and No. I believe in fully serviced - heightened flood protection banks - apart from the shingle sea bank which I agree is unsustainable.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. See above.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00012

PDZs PDZ4
MA Sth of Frt Green, Aldeburgh
PU

General Comments:

A lot of excellent work has been carried out and I agree with most of the proposed plan. However, I am concerned about the area to the south of Aldeburgh.

Your Comments:

I am concerned that the possibility of permitting a breach of the river to the sea at Slaughden could be disastrous with unforeseen side effects which would change the economics of the River Alde at Aldeburgh. I think it essential that the shoreline south of Fort Green be stabilised on an ongoing basis.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00013

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

We need a national integrated plan to deal with rising sea levels and fewer consulting quangos that only delay matters beyond reason. Time is of the essence, action is needed to prepare for the effects of global warming.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

If you mean by agreement, its assessment of flood risk then yes.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

It appears a political fudge. Reference to maintaining current positions are hollow without assured funding. To try (to) save parts of the coastline alone will not be cost effective in the longer term and it is not being very honest.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Insofar as it highlights danger areas and makes us aware of the longer policy (undeclared), that due to political prevarication funding will not be available for a cohesive long term plan.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

but only to the extent that the plan covers. The wider issues are 'out of bounds'.

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

but the intended proposals are disappointing insofar as the whole truth is not openly discussed.

00014

PDZs PDZ1

MA

PU

General Comments:

As a resident of Kessingland I was surprised how few of my neighbours knew about the Shoreline Management Plan

Your Comments:

The information was OK as far as it went. However, it was not detailed enough and rather vague.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The situation in Kessingland is not detailed enough.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Everyone was most helpful.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

As far as it goes. We need more information.

00015

PDZs

PDZ6

MA

PU

General Comments:

Sub Cell 2C. There is confusion in the defined objectives. Some are not concerned with shoreline management. How do you propose to: to maintain biological and geological features ... To support (a weasel word) the adaptation of local communities to maintain the core heritage values of the area (what are they?)

Your Comments:

Although it may be politically difficult some attempt should be made to define the key areas of threat and the priorities to be attached to each one. On the entire coast I assume that the Slaughden Beach is the most vulnerable. What about the sea wall and inside wall at Minsmere? How does Walberswick rate against the above two areas?

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The key issue is available funding - if there is no money to be had the entire project becomes an intellectual exercise. It would be helpful if you were able to pay (word unclear) by e.g. 2025

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

The following projects will have been completed. The statement of policy does not go far enough.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00016

PDZs

PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

I would like to have the original geo-physical survey reports of 'Posford' in the 1980s, who rebuilt our cliff i.e. bore-hole analysis for hidden aquifers behind the cliff face. Slip-circle survey for stability coefficients.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00017

PDZs PDZ1
MA Pakefield to Kessingland
PU

General Comments:

The SMP does not make any comments on how the cost of defences is to be funded i.e. From Central Government, Local District or if Parish Councils can help via the rate (word not clear) or key local people whose property is affected.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The maps are several years out of date. There is no indication of the expected movement north of Benacre Ness.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

The 20-year window to protect southern Kessingland should be used in insure funding is available for its defence.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

The officers were helpful and well-informed with a positive attitude to the defence of Kessingland.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

Parish Councils and local people whose property is at risk should be informed on an ongoing basis.

00018

PDZs

PDZ4

MA

PU

General Comments:

Overall, the scheme is a well thought-out proposal prepared by competent scientists and engineers, who have considered a wide variety of possible future events.

With particular reference to PDZ4, have the Planners considered the effects of future sea-level rise in the Sizewell area. The new nuclear reactor will be required to operate until 2050+. Earlier replacement of Sizewell 'C' would be particularly expensive.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00019

PDZs PDZ2 PDZ3

MA

PU

General Comments:

Letter to follow

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

No. Accurate analysis of projected erosion rates on this area, as the past projections are far in excess of the in the SMP.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. It doesn't fulfill its original objects in relation to human habitat at Easton Bavents. It makes no provision for projected private sea defence at Covehythe. There is no public advantage in encouraging the ness to advance further westwards. It is already in its next protecting position

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Further discussions required.

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

I appreciate the changes between draft 7 and 8 in relationship to Easton Bavents but do not agree with future policy.

00020

PDZs PDZ1
MA Kessingland Beach area
PU KES 2,3,4

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00021

PDZs

PDZ4

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00022

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Much more hold the line needed

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Very

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Very

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

Very

00023

PDZs PDZ1
MA Carlton Colville
PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Thank you

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00024

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Very as we live in the area

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00025

PDZs PDZ3 PDZ4

MA

PU

General Comments:

I found the first review of SMP sub cell 2c to be comprehensive and in several areas authoritative. However, on a 50-year timescale, unless funds are made available in the region of £2 bn+ I do not think defences of Southwold or Aldeburgh are feasible as proposed and there are also long-term implications for the defence of present and future power stations at Sizewell.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Up to a point but I do not think the funding and political implications have been fully considered.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00026

PDZs

PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

Dredging should be stopped.

According to this plan Sizewell will become an island which I feel is dangerous.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

No. Maps out of date.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. Sizewell will become an island.

Has the consultation been useful? No

Not really

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00027

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

(Comments made to Stuart Barbrook)

Drainage through sea wall/promenad of flood water - Brudenell end. Clearance of (word unclear) needed. Wave action overtopping wall should be able to drain back rather than flooding of High Street. Jetting of town drains needed - should not be stopped.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00028

PDZs PDZ4
MA Aldeburgh
PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Interesting but rather complex.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

I think so! Financial consideration not on the display - I have not read the whole plan

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

But will it be implemented e.g. Money

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00029

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

The proposal for my area (Aldeburgh) is good in principle. BUT: I would need an assurance that local or central government support, practical and financially, is given such that the SMP can be implemented.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00030

PDZs

PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The SMP is correct in defining the range of interests (stakeholders) but it offers no way in which conflicting interests can be resolved.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Not clear what the proposed policy is. The SMP offers a series of possible actions but does not indicate how the conflicting interests can be lead to an agreed plan.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00031

PDZs

PDZ5

MA 14

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00032

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

I am a teacher at Leiston High School. We study in detail the local coastline from Key Stage 3 up to A level. Any further information about the planes and coastline with any available resources would be greatly appreciated!

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Vey much so.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00033

PDZs PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6
MA
PU

General Comments:

Teacher at local high school - any information about SMP gratefully received - coastal processes and management taught at GCSE and GCE geography. Students specifically study this coastline.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00034

PDZs

PDZ5

MA End of Leiston Rd, Aldeburgh

PU

General Comments:

Helpful and reassuring

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00035

PDZs

PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

As far as I can understand.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Interesting but not useful

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00036

PDZs

PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00037

PDZs

PDZ4 PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00038

PDZs PDZ4
MA Dunwich cliffs to Sizewell
PU

General Comments:

Even at this stage, there seems inadequate joined-up consultation/thinking between EA; British Energy/EDF ; RSPB ; National Trust; land and property owners to establish the full breadth of the impact of anticipated coastal degradation.

Your Comments:

The decision will be driven by financial factors and political sensitivities. For this area with low population (vote) levels the National interest factors need to be considered.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Indicative cost benefit studies should be included as effect the national economy/politics i.e. Sizewell nuclear site, (waste strategy/'B' power generation/'C' future site), RSPB, Minsmere substitution costs, tourist area (substituting overseas travel/trips etc.)

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. Until indicative cost/benefits are established which indicate other priorities "hold the line" should be the policy.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Helpful to concentrate minds on the present EA thinking.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

Marginally so

00039

PDZs

PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

Process appears to be well handled, although seeking funding from national fund sounds uncertain.

Your Comments:

<Responder offered comment about Felixstowe beach scheme - not entered here>

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00040

PDZs PDZ1

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Very

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

And it has been very helpful to speak to those who know about these things. I am especially interested in Benacre Ness and its movement north over tthe past 50 years.

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00041

PDZs PDZ1
MA Kessingland beach area
PU KESS 2,3,4

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00042

PDZs PDZ1

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

In part. Would need much longer study time to give fully formed opinion.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00043

PDZs

PDZ5

MA ORF 15

PU

General Comments:

The plan seeks to address the risks of (in my area) flooding. The issue is only will the policy increase flood risk (result - neutral); the issue MUST BE how to REDUCE flooding risk. This is not mentioned in the plan, but most certainly should be.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Whilst I broadly agree with the objectives of the plan, I think more emphasis should be placed on the potential ramifications for the people rather than the natural habitat. The Environmental lobby has been allowed to be too dominant.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. It is vital that there is no breach at Slaughden at any time in the future. The Alde/Ore estuary must remain secure as it is at present.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00044

PDZs

PDZ4 PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

If the Environment Agency/Government are not prepared to save our coastline then permission should be given to local residents to do it themselves. It isnt just the towns that need preserving but the whole habitat along the Suffolk coast.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. I think the coastline should be preserved as much as possible as it is in 2009.

Strengthening the shore by fencing (Dunwich) and placing soft groins (Dunwich) has made a difference and the cost is minimal compared with hard defencing. Also possible would be using old tyres. Forming or strengthening existing sand/shingle banks is effective too.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00045

PDZs PDZ6 PDZ7
MA Deben entrance to Landguard Point
PU

General Comments:

I am very supportive of the proactive approach taken to manage the coastline from the Deben entrance to Landguard Point. It is vital for the economic and social future of Felixstowe that the present shoreline is held and moreover that the present very dilapidated state of the defences and amenities from the war memorial to Landguard Point are tackled in a similar way to the successful South Beach works of 2008. Perhaps the SMP needs to emphasise the absolutely vital need to implement the now proposed Central Felixstowe defences within the next few years if Felixstowe is to remain economically viable.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Cross reference to present proposals for new Central Defences in Felixstowe would seem to be needed as these appear to supersede comments in the SMP and the SMP therefore appears out of date in not taking these proposals into account.

Also 2003 Halcrow report to SCDC was very critical of the performance of the fishtail groynes - this is not really picked up in the SMP which seems to accept them at face value.

It is very important the Felixstowe Ferry is fully protected as it is an integral part of the tourist attraction of the resort.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Agree - but would like to see work on fishtail groynes advanced to say 5 - 10 years time (ie to allow time to see effect of now proposed revetment wall).

Also the report focuses a little too much on the blue flag south beach as the principal tourist amenity for Felixstowe - in fact the beaches from the Spa Pavilion to Cobbold's point are far more popular with families and it is vital that proper investment is made to protect them.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00046

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5

MA

PU

General Comments:

In general I find these proposals disturbing, defeatist and negative e.g. in no instance is there a proposal to advance the line. I think the general policy should at least be to hold-the-line. I also disagree with the wishful thinking associated with Managed Retreat. For example, No Active Intervention or Managed Retreat at Easton Bavants, the Blyth Estuary, Dunwich, Minsmere will make the area surrounding Southwold and Sizewell (including the nuclear power stations) not viable. Transport links, a unique coastline and the recreational activities will be compromised and destroyed. In summary I think the Precautionary Principle should be adopted pending developments in environmental sciences and the fight against the affects of man-made global warming. We should be positive and not defeatist.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

No. I think the proposed policy of Managed Retreat is not honest or viable. There will be too many unforeseen consequences in letting segments of the coast go, re Southwold, the Blyth Estuary and Sizewell - see my comments above.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

It has made me think about the coastline and the factors that will affect its future

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00047

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

The minimum requirement is to "Hold the Line", we are already an overcrowded Island and it is not acceptable to loose more land. For this some joined up thinking is required and two strategies deployed.

Shorelien errosion would be reduced, probably to manageable levels, if the impact of wave attack were reduced. This could be achieved by having Wave acive power generators sited off shore. These are currently only at the development stage but should be available within the next two decades. These will generate electricity by extracting power from the waves. This in turn reduces the effect of the waves on the shore line and so reduces errosion.

The Rivers should be surge protected at their entrance. It is nonsense to try and protect the entire length of all the vulnerable rivers. This could be done by installing tidal flow generators coupled with suitable locking facilities for ships. With surge protection it is only necessary to delay the peak at the entrance to smooth out the effect inside the river.

Both these solutions are engineeringly possible. It only requires the political will to finance them.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? No

I doubt it. It is not proper consultation and I doubt if my proposals will be take into account.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00048

PDZs	PDZ3
MA	Easton Bavents
PU	Easton Lane

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. The maintenance of the defenses at Southwold rely on their effectiveness on the erosion of the Easton Bavents cliffs. These cliffs support my home at Four Winds, Easton Lane. I can see why the maintenance of numerous properties in Southwold should take preference over maintenance of a few at Easton Bavents. However, the fact remains that my home will be sacrificed for the benefit of others. If this is to be the case, what rcompense can I expect for this sacrifice? In the end I may become homeless, possibly at an advanced age. Will I be eligible for re-housing under the current procedures? Thank you.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? No

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

N/a

00049

PDZs

PDZ5

MA

PU ORF 15.1

General Comments:

There appears to be fundamental flaw in the manner in which the future of our coasts and estuaries is planned. Either proper estuary plans should be organised to be in place before an SMP is produced (so that it can take account of all the relevant issues) or, in their absence, an SMP should be tasked with itself identifying all the relevant issues necessary to properly determine the policies for the shoreline, no matter how remote from the shoreline the origin of some of the issues may turn out to be. To propose a policy which could have a significant impact on a population living a considerable distance behind a shoreline without first having fully understood the nature of that impact seems slipshod in the extrem (positively 'out of character' with the remainder of the SM). To then entrust or commit the review of that policy to a process (the ICZM), admitted by all and sundry to be experimental (i.e it may not happen), seems to me to be neither tenable or responsible.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

No. The SMP makes reference on PDZ 5:3 to the presence of Snape Maltings at the head of the Alde or Ore Estuary - I am not entirely clear why ... Because thereafter I can find no further mention of Suffolk's premier tourist attraction. "The stakeholder objectives" clearly indicate Snape Maltings has no "stake" in the SMP as its supreme cultural and heritage value is not recognised by the Plan which does not in any way bother itself with the implications for the Maltings of a breach st Slaughden.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. Even though the policy is passive - because it is premature. To have a policy at this stage of the consideration for the Alde & Ore is to put the cart before the horse. Frank Duent of Royal Haskoning has said with ref to teh ICZM that it is imoportant NOT to start witha plan - but the SMP is starting the process with a plan.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

But only vaguely.

Have the discussions been useful? No

Not really, because none of the so-called experts have properly and fully researched the issue to which I refer.

00050

PDZs PDZ3
MA Southwold - North of the pier
PU

General Comments:

I am in favour of "Hold the Line". My view is that the only threat to the Town Farm Marshes (to the north of Southwold Town) would come from a failure to maintain the sea defences between Easton Bavents cliffs and the sea wall to the north of Southwold Pier.

Your Comments:

Also see letter.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

However it is important that the beach levels are maintained and that the rock groynes and their effectiveness is regularly monitored. I do not agree that the properties in North Road, Southwold are in a major Flood Risk Area.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? No

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00051

PDZs

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00052

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3 PDZ4 PDZ5 PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

While I do not have a house perched on a cliff, I do feel that this matter of coastal protection is most important on this side of the UK and that although at the moment it does not seem economic to protect farming land we may get to the stage when any land will be at a premium.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

At Walberswick

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

I am interested as a result of working as a volunteer at the Education dept of the National trust at Dunwich Heath

00053

PDZs

PDZ7

MA

PU Waldringfield

General Comments:

It would be helpful if Waldringfield PC had a representative included in the process.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

We would have preferred more detail on the financial costs/benefits which are mentioned. There is no assessment of the area up River Deben from Ramsholt to Woodbridge. This is necessary.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

We are solely concerned with the area from Bawdsey to Felixstowe. We reluctantly support the "hold the line" policy. We cannot comment on the are upriver (Deben) at Waldringfield as this is not shown on the plan.

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Via a representative from Woodbridge.

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

Yes - prompted discussion of this important issue.

00054

PDZs

PDZ6 PDZ7

MA

PU

General Comments:

The SMP was generally accepted by the Committee. However it was commented on that a Plan incorporating Estuaries and Shoreline would be an improvement. It was also noted that no study was made of the effect of the Orwell Estuary on the adjacent Felixstowe Shoreline.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Investigation of the effect if any of the Orwell Estuary and its dredged deep water channel on the Felixstowe sea front. Felixstowe is a resort and unsightly and dangerous rock groynes do not aid tourism and reduce beach access. Future defence plans should consider this.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

One reservation was the increased probability in the Deben Estuary (p 46, PDZ 6 on pdf document). Another reservation was the treating of Estuaries & Shoreline separately.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00055

PDZs PDZ2

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Also see letter

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? No

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

Not sure - if there is the real possibility that the SMP will be revised in the light of the consultation responses - then yes.

00056

PDZs	PDZ3
MA	BLY09, DUN 11
PU	BLY10.1, DUN11.1, DUN11.2

General Comments:

Representing:
Walberswick Parish Council
Walberswick Common Lands Charity
Walberswick Sea Defence Group

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Proposed DIY measures to maintain flood banks in the Blyth Estuary have not been fully taken into account. Also, no mention is made of the proposal from the Walberswick Sea Defence Group that an existing small inner bank between Walberswick and Dunwich should be built up to provide additional protection to the National Nature Reserve.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. Overall the SMP2 preferred policies are far more palatable than those produced by the Environment Agency for the Blyth Estuary and the Walberswick to Dunwich frontage. Nevertheless it is believed that SMP2 needs to be challenged on the policy to withdraw maintenance from Tinkers marsh flood banks from the present day and in the medium term from the bank protecting Robinson Marsh. Should these marshes flood then the effect of the additional water flow on navigation and on the harbour mouth structures will be very damaging.

Given that it is intended to maintain the harbour mouth structures and the line of the south training arm, the maintenance of the dunes on the Walberswick side is very important. The policy for these dunes is "managed retreat" but at present there is no management at all and they are being damaged by too many "visitors".

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Although one appreciates what the SMP is trying to deliver, one seriously questions whether views and aspirations of local stakeholders have been properly included. These should have been established at the start of the process and consultants charged with providing explanations as to why they were unachievable.

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00057

PDZs PDZ3 PDZ4
MA
PU Dunwich

General Comments:

Dunwich Parish Meeting welcomes the recognition by the draft Shoreline Management Plan of the need to maintain Dunwich as a viable community, the Plan's appreciation that flood defences at Dunwich are both essential and sustainable, and its acknowledgement that there is scope for replacement of the experimental trial beach defence with similar but slightly more resilient low-lying groynes which could allow Dunwich to form as a slight headland. The Parish Meeting appreciates the positive and constructive approach taken by the Plan both towards the management of Dunwich's various sites of archaeological significance and towards the viability of the community as a whole.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00058

PDZs

PDZ6

MA

PU

HOL 16

General Comments:

The SMP puts across the issues and objectives well but does not explain how MR will really result in securing the objectives if they were threatened. Would the Plan respond by stepping up to HTL?

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The reference to damages is very concerning for those whose families would be affected. It is not clear what is, when it might be due and how it is calculated. The numbers themselves seem totally inadequate to support any affected family.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. I agree with the policy objectives to protect and maintain Shingle Street through management of the complex natural system, however, I fundamentally disagree that the 2025 Policy for Shingle Street should be Managed Retreat. The policy here should continue to be "Hold the Line" as recommended for the 2055 and 2105 periods. The important distinction should be that the line to be held should be in front of the village. This should provide a last point of action to protect the village and the whole outlying area and yet enable adaptable management up to this point. This is vital for those families who live in Shingle Street, who have bought property on the back of the previous SMP policy and have invested all they have in building and maintaining their homes and families in this village. The uncertainty and worry that this proposed new SMP policy presents these families is significant and is highly distressing. The published material talking of the possible loss of the village within our lifetimes brings the full consequences of the need for a very strong SMP and subsequent maintenance action vividly to life. The protection of these homes and the community, the natural environment loved and used by so many, the highly valuable and important agricultural land and the important cultural monuments in the landscape is so important to the county and country that the SMP should fully reflect the clear commitment it makes in its text with a full HTL policy for Shingle Street, East lane and Hollesley Bay (should its failure threaten the wider area). As described in the SMP document, the natural processes continually change, the necessity maybe to Hold a Line for just a few years until the natural processes again protect the land, as such the SMP should make clear provision for such a possibility.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

It has enabled me to make comment but I do not know yet how this consultation will be used?

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00059

PDZs PDZ6
MA
PU HOL 16

General Comments:

: The SMP puts across the issues and objectives well but does not explain how MR will really result in securing the objectives if they were threatened. Would the Plan respond by stepping up to HTL?

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

The reference to damages is very concerning for those whose families would be affected. It is not clear what is, when it might be due and how it is calculated. The numbers themselves seem totally inadequate to support any affected family.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. I agree with the policy objectives to protect and maintain Shingle Street through management of the complex natural system, however, I fundamentally disagree that the 2025 Policy for Shingle Street should be Managed Retreat. The policy here should continue to be "Hold the Line" as recommended for the 2055 and 2105 periods. The important distinction should be that the line to be held should be in front of the village. This should provide a last point of action to protect the village and the whole outlying area and yet enable adaptable management up to this point. This is vital for those families who live in Shingle Street, who have bought property on the back of the previous SMP policy and have invested all they have in building and maintaining their homes and families in this village. The uncertainty and worry that this proposed new SMP policy presents these families is significant and is highly distressing. The published material talking of the possible loss of the village within our lifetimes brings the full consequences of the need for a very strong SMP and subsequent maintenance action vividly to life. The protection of these homes and the community, the natural environment loved and used by so many, the highly valuable and important agricultural land and the important cultural monuments in the landscape is so important to the county and country that the SMP should fully reflect the clear commitment it makes in its text with a full HTL policy for Shingle Street, East lane and Hollesley Bay (should its failure threaten the wider area). As described in the SMP document, the natural processes continually change, the necessity maybe to Hold a Line for just a few years until the natural processes again protect the land, as such the SMP should make clear provision for such a possibility.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

It has enabled me to make comment but I do not know yet how this consultation will be used

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00060

PDZs PDZ3
MA Blythburgh
PU

General Comments:

At a meeting held on Monday 14 September 2009, Blythburgh Parish Council considered the First Review of Shoreline Management Plan Sub cell 3c Lowestoft Ness to Landguard Point. Section PDZ3 - Easton Broad to Dunwich Cliffs - is relevant to Blythburgh. The Parish Council approved the Key Principles listed under 1.1.3. The protection of people's homes from flooding and erosion, the avoidance of damage to and enhancement of the natural heritage, the support of the historic environment and cultural heritage, and the maintenance of landscape designation features are of particular importance to this community.

The Parish Council noted the conclusion that management upstream of the A12 had already been shown to have little overall influence of estuary behaviour and hence the Shoreline Strategy (Ref. PDZ3: 11 and 30). The document assumes that there will be an increased probability of flooding in the area of the estuary upstream of the A12. This is a most disappointing assumption. Given that the defence of the A12 has been identified as being essential (PDZ3: 30) the Parish Council believes that the impact on the upstream area of any work to defend the A12 must be considered. There are properties at risk in Blythburgh in Church Lane and on the seaward side of the A12. Key links in the Public Footpath network are already cut or are threatened.

The Parish Council notes that the Shoreline Strategy Document stresses the importance of the relationship between flows within the estuary and the defence of the shoreline. There is therefore conflict between the Environment Agency's policy to stop defending the estuary from flooding and the need to defend the shoreline (PDZ3:31). It is of paramount importance that an integrated approach to estuary and shoreline defence is taken. The Parish Council believes that the Environment Agency's economic criteria and assumptions about funding constraints must be further questioned in this wider context. The Parish Council is pleased to see that the work of the Blyth Estuary Group is recognised, and that the silt deposition study they commissioned has been taken into account. The recent approval of a planning application for an extended programme of work on the river banks must also now be recognised.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

Appendix 8: Questionnaire Responses

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00061

PDZs

PDZ5 PDZ6

MA

PU

General Comments:

The opening of the shingle bank near Aldeburgh Martello Tower will be a very silly thing to do!! (I was about for 1953 floods and so know how parts of the town were affected with water twice a day up and down their staircases for 6 weeks until the sandbag wall was built from commencement of riverwall round Slaughden Road, Park Road right round to near Saxmundham Road and the 9 breaches in wall were repaired & water on marshes pumped out & also we got back the sewage system*. Aldeburgh people will not want that again I am sure - national servicemen; airmen from both twin bases and volunteers built this bag wall. In 2007 river wall nearly gave way due to surge (very lucky!).

*Electric sub-station; gasometer; waterworks and sewage works were all flooded and took a long while to have services restored.

Your Comments:

The sea would come in there and I can see it rushing down towards the estuary cutting through marshlands; orford; Havergate and coming right through Shingle Street at the back to go past the Martello Tower at east Lane - be too much water to cope with especially at spring tides. The water going up the river to Snape will do the same and do as it did in the surge of 1953 - rivers merged together and East Anglian landscape looked like lakes with bits of islands sticking up. Look for report on BBC radio/TV made beginning of 1953 by the late Charles Gardiner. Do not let the sea in there for goodness sake. It would affect Shingle Street, & Bawdsey especially besides Aldeburgh.

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

A lot needs ironing out.

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

In some ways a long way to go

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Found Bill Parker and Bob Chamberlain extremely helpful at Hollesley Village Hall.

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

It is a pity that many missed it due to late bookings of the event.

00062

PDZs PDZ2 PDZ3

MA

PU

General Comments:

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

When will Southwold harbour be repaired? The whole scheme depends on it. (Urgent)

Do you agree with the proposed policy? Yes

Has the consultation been useful? Yes

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00063

PDZs

PDZ5 PDZ6

MA

PU

General Comments:

I think an HTL approach should be adopted both north and south of Aldeburgh. It is critical that there is no breach at Slaughden in the future. Once sea defences are breached habitat behind goes from fresh to salt so all biodiversity is lost.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. HTL should be adopted on all our coastline. This should only ever be changed if a proper compensation package as in Holland was to be adopted.

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Yes

Have the discussions been useful? Yes

00064

PDZs PDZ1 PDZ2 PDZ3

MA

PU

General Comments:

I reject the proposal of No Active Intervention on the coastline from Benacre Broad to Easton Broad including the village of Covehithe, on the stated basis that there is need for erosion to feed the long shore drift South. Even if this need is accepted, about which we are not clear, there is no proposal for compensation for those who live in Covehithe village or for the historic ruin, church and properties in the village.

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver?

No.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

No. I reject the proposal of No Active Intervention on the coastline from Benacre Broad to Easton Broad including the village of Covehithe, on the stated basis that there is need for erosion to feed the long shore drift South. Even if this need is accepted, about which we are not clear, there is no proposal for compensation for those who live in Covehithe village or for the historic ruin, church and properties in the village.

The Benacre Estate includes approximately 3 ½ miles of coastline, from the Kessingland Pumping station in the north to the Easton Broad in the south. The topography varies from low lying dunes in the north and around the broads, to high sand cliffs at Covehithe and Easton Wood. The coastline has been receding over many years; however this shoreline re-alignment has greatly accelerated over the last 5 to 7 years.

At the recent SMP3 meeting of landowners and affected parties at Southwold Pier details were given of the Environment Agency's proposal for the future Shoreline Management Plan for the area from Lowestoft Ness to Felixstowe Languard Point. It was stated by the main speaker that 'SMP3 was not written in stone' and that alterations could still be made before the document was formally published for Public Consultation. During the session it was confirmed that the 'Benacre shoreline' would not only be allowed to retreat inland, but that the compilers of SMP3 had concluded that there is no alternative to NAI, as the sediment from the Benacre stretch of coast is useful when allowed to wash south in order to 'protect' other more southerly areas, In other words a sacrifice, the future of the Benacre Shoreline had been decided, without any consultation with affected landowners and occupiers.

It is interesting that there is no proper or little mention in the SMP3 document of the effect of the surrounding community. The Evaluation document which forms part of the Full Draft SMP, refers to the issues at Covehithe, Easton and the Benacre area as 'Kessingland to Easton Bavents' and has made little mention of some of the

Appendix 8: Questionnaire Responses

fundamentally important issues and the effect on the surrounding community. These areas must come under their own headings and must include the following.

- 1) Farm land (commercial interests)
- 2) Agricultural Land Risk of loss / damage to land / livestock from flooding and erosion.
- 3) Water abstraction points
- 4) Mineral rights
- 5) Sand dunes
- 6) Sandy Grassland
- 7) Scrub woodland
- 8) Loss of habitat along the stretch
- 9) Loss of the internationally important Benacre Nature Reserve and surrounding bird breeding areas
- 10) Reed bed loss
- 11) River outfall
- 12) Heaths
- 13) Beach
- 14) Extensive high archaeological potential.
- 15) Human Rights to being forced to becoming a sacrifice.
- 16) Critical transport links
- 17) Benacre Pumping Station
- 18) Hundred River
- 19) Footpaths
- 20) Erosion of bunds
- 21) Cliffs at Covehithe
- 22) Covehithe Village
- 23) Residential property at Benacre, Covehithe and Easton
- 24) St Andrews Church, Covehithe Medieval (and possible early Anglo-Saxon) settlement evidence around Covehithe church. Crop marks and surface finds extend south to Broad. Finds prehistoric onwards from cliff erosion.
- 25) Important landscape features.
- 26) Timbers found in peat, possible site of Saxon boat find, and former harbour; medieval peat cutting; post medieval water meadow management system and duck decoy. High archaeological potential including waterlogged deposits.
- 27) High archaeological finds at Covehithe Cliffs
- 28) The Southwold to Wrentham highway at Potter's Bridge will be exposed to increasing levels of flood risk.
- 29) Tourism

If the Benacre pumping station should be moved inland little account has been made of the effect on the sewage pumping station, residential homes and the Kessingland levels. Similarly to the south if the coastline is allowed to erode the coastal defense of Southwold will be much more costly to maintain when the Easton Bavants shoreline has moved inland which will result in a greater possibility of Southwold becoming an island.

Proposal

It is the owner's and their adviser's view that "soft" engineering measures be implemented along the Benacre coast line. An inspection by Andrew Hawes from Stephen Hawes Associates in Aldeburgh, who specialize world-wide in the

Appendix 8: Questionnaire Responses

management of coastal erosion, has been completed. It is expressly hoped that any suggested solutions will be given proper consideration.

Conclusion.

It is understood that detailed liaising with Natural England in regards to the 'impact of intervention' is of vital importance. The aspect of additional private and other funding has not been mentioned in the SMP 3 report and the Benacre Estate would expect to make a contribution if a suitable way forward can be agreed. At a recent Coastal Communities at Risk meeting in Westminster I was told by a representative from Royal Haskoning that even if we found the funding ourselves to slow down the erosion upon the Benacre Shoreline, we would not be allowed to proceed as it had already been decided that we are to be a sacrifice as 'the sediment from the Benacre stretch of coast was useful when allowed to wash south in order to 'protect' other more southerly areas'. This reflects the comments as reflected in the SMP3 meeting of landowners and affected parties at Southwold Pier and is a fundamental u-turn. When originally discussed the issues were all of a purely financial nature and we were told that the costs would be too great. Benacre has potentially and subject to consultation, overcome this issue and is therefore now being told that it is not a financial issue, more of the cliffs being allowed to erode to allow the shift of sediment to the south. It is fairly obvious that the 'financial' argument was purely used as an excuse to stop the landowner in finding other solutions. This now brings to light the human rights of the landowners affected. It is important the above issues are recognized and are included in the SMP3 document. We would also expect that the authors of future reports include the following paragraph:

'This policy does not preclude landowners in exercising an option to retain or slow coastal erosion by means of private or other funding means.'

Unless large sums of money are spent on 1950s style sea walls, coastal erosion will continue along the Suffolk Coast Line. The owner and the advisers of the Benacre Estate accept coastal erosion will not disappear; however, it does not understand why SMP3 calls for a total capitulation along the Benacre shoreline. The Estate feels that insufficient study has been made on the far cheaper option of 'soft' engineering measures along the coast and has been left with no option but to independently investigate this further.

The Estate intends to share the conclusions from its advisers and experts with the authors of the SMP3 report and looks forward to working in a partnership with all those involved to reduce the annual erosion rate along the Benacre coast line.

Has the consultation been useful? No

No body has actually listened at all, you have made up your mind long ago, and it is on a purely fraudulent basis that the document is called a 'draft' .

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? Did not say

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

00065

PDZs

PDZ3

MA

PU

General Comments:

The language of the document is difficult to decipher. In general the lack of a clear decision about the long-term maintenance of Southwold harbour (south side) creates uncertainty re the historic buildings located in Ferry Road (and their current market value which runs into millions of pounds).

Your Comments:

Do you agree with what the SMP is trying to deliver? Yes

Partially. Indecision about south side of Southwold harbour walk will endanger valuable amenity land and historic properties.

Do you agree with the proposed policy?

On balance, is an improvement apart from the above point

Has the consultation been useful? Did not say

Have you had the opportunity to discuss your issues? No

Have the discussions been useful? Did not say

N/a

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 1

(transcribed from handwritten letter)

Dear Terry Oakes

With regard to the Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan review Sub-cell 3c Lowestoft Ness to Landguard Point, I should like to make a few comments.

Firstly, only the first two lines of 'Land and Property' make a clear and unambiguous statement in the whole document.

Secondly, there is no explanation of the 'constraints' provide by the SMP for the Deben estuary. The estuary strategy is not explained either.

Thirdly, in 'Nature Conservation', how is it possible to allow cliff erosion while maintaining cliff-top habitats? What 'balance' does the plan try to address?

Fourthly, what is meant by 'basic' control of man-made and natural features? – and the 'potential of low-lying areas'? These phrases are vague.

Re 'Implications for Landscape' how can the landscape character of the area be maintained if the policy is managed retreat or surrender to the sea?

The phrase 'resisting further encroachment of defence' is particularly unfortunate. It's the encroachment of the sea which is at issue.

Re 'Holding the Line' it seems unlikely that piecemeal defence of selected areas is a policy that will succeed in view of the power of coastal waters attacking from two or more sides.

Re 'Implications of the Historic Environment', I claim that it is not possible to assess the plan as it is written and give a verdict/opinion until the Action Plan is published. There simply isn't enough hard evidence but a lot of 'ifs' and 'buts'. I am a retired male British White teacher who is disappointed at the lack of progress & clear direction re coastal protection.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 2

Sent: 17 September 2009 09:42

To: Terry Oakes

Subject: Costal defences plan

Dear Mr Oakes,

I have been viewing the plan for defences on line. I live at 58 Pakefield Road opposite the car Park and overlooking the sea. I am heartened by the plans referral to the Pakefield road headland being seen as an important feature in defence plans and also that possible strengthening of this area is being considered. Would you be able to reassure me that I am in fact reading the data correctly for this piece of the plan and also advise what plans if any there might be for work on this area of defences? I have photographs from 1963 when I lived here with my parents and the difference in how things were kept and looked after aesthetically is huge. The area and the sea wall is quiet tired at present. As this is a major tourist area for Lowestoft it seems to me that not only would strengthening defences secure housing but also add value to the area in terms of it being a pleasant outlook. What is also noticeable about the photo from the 60's is that the sea was right up to the wall. Since then the beach has grown steadily and surely so that the addition even of Maram grass now shows a degree of semi permanence to the growth

Yours sincerely

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Shingle Street Settlement Company

FORMAL RESPONSE

FROM Shingle Street Settlement Company
TO THE SUFFOLK PROPOSALS
Shoreline Management Plan 2 Sub-cell 3c

September 2009

Introduction

The following note represents the formal response from the SSSCo to the proposals for SMP2 Sub-cell 3c, currently at the public consultation stage.

SSSCo was formed in May 1997: its members are the freeholders of Shingle Street. The purpose of the company is to maintain the open land around Shingle Street, to ensure public access to it, and to acquire any further such land. The company owns two large parcels of open land and several parts of the verge alongside the road.

General

1 SSSCo considers that the guidance DEFRA insists should be followed when drawing up Shoreline Management Plans should, but does not, take sufficient account of the social and economic importance of Britain's coast line and the possibility that any breach of our sea defences is likely to be irreversible.

The Suffolk Coast has historically receded and expanded, which has resulted in human intervention to defend it at many points and over long years. While recognising that the impact of Climate Change may result in sea-level rise, we are wholly unconvinced that there is yet any reason to abandon the current "Hold the Line" policy for the Suffolk coastline.

2 Notwithstanding the successful raising of adequate private funds to undertake vital works at East Lane Point, we believe that in principle, national government funds should be deployed in sufficient quantity to protect the coastal lands and people of the United Kingdom. The coastline belongs to all citizens, can be and is visited by all citizens, and should not be abandoned for reasons of cost. While we note the Plan's emphasis on innovation in fund-raising, especially from private sources, we maintain our right to a fair share of taxation for Suffolk's coastal defence, and urge the Environment Agency to maintain its debate with government to this effect.

Furthermore, we believe that money spent on programmed repair to current defences, towards a medium term life, will assist in protecting the coastline over the longer term and minimise the need for massive expenditure at infrequent intervals — or worse, the need to abandon land to the sea.

3 Sizewell 3 should be treated as a major development affecting the entire Suffolk coast, and not only its neighbourhood. Its safety is paramount to the welfare of the county. The business plan for the future development of the site should include provision for present and forward funding of coastal defences for the immediate and extended county coastline for a period well in excess of 100 years.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

4 The importance of Felixstowe Docks to Europe, the UK and East Anglia is incontrovertible, and their protection from sea and river flooding is vital. In return, their owners should be required to contribute to the sea and river defences for Felixstowe and Harwich, and the adjoining Essex and Suffolk coastline areas.

5 We would like to see some discussion of compensation for those likely to suffer from unchecked immediate, medium term or long term coastal erosion.

Shingle Street

6 We welcome and agree with the general objective of maintaining "the semi-natural and unique quality and community of Shingle Street" and of the surrounding agricultural value of the area, in a sustainable manner. We are unclear what "adaptation" is envisaged and would welcome further discussion of this.

7 Before any conclusions are reached for any part of the Alde and Ore area, including Shingle Street, we recommend awaiting completion of the work on the Estuary: ie the current Alde and Ore Futures, or Integrated Coastal Zone, Project.

We believe, in general, that Shoreline Management planning should not be divorced from possibly inter-related estuarine strategies and management, and that this is especially appropriate in Suffolk.

In particular, lying at the mouth of the Alde and Ore Rivers as it does, the Shingle Street environment is affected by both the river(s) and the sea. The Shoreline Management Plan should offer the chance for both the Government and the Environment Agency wholeheartedly to commit themselves to ensuring the future of:

Shingle Street's properties (including traditional Coastguard houses; Victorian fishermen's cottages and seaside villas; a Martello Tower; post World War II replacement housing; and a modernist home by the renowned Suffolk architect, John Penn.)

its uniquely wild setting, where visiting walkers, bird watchers, anglers and many others enjoy one of Europe's few vegetated beaches, with RAMSAR, SSSI and AONB status, *inter alia*.

8 We note the intention to continue to ensure warnings for Shingle Street residents of likely flooding, but would observe that the current system of flood warning is patchy, inconsistent, and alarmist in tone and advice, creating worry and confusion rather than action.

9 We desire, support and recommend prompt and continuous attention to the maintenance and increase of defences to Shingle Street. We expect and wish to see a commitment in the Plan to positive action, should tidal flows into and out of the estuary be increased ("managed realignment"); or should the need arise to "manage periodic loss of width to the beach" ("Hold the Line".)

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

10 We would be interested to join in any discussion of techniques for strengthening the shingle, especially in front of the houses, such as those which seem to have been used successfully in the Netherlands.

September 2009

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Graham Henderson, SCAR

September 1st 2009

To whom it may concern

FORMAL RESPONSE FROM SCAR TO THE SUFFOLK PROPOSALS SMP2 Sub-cell 3c

Please find the following formal response from Suffolk Coast Against Retreat (SCAR) to the proposals for SMP2 Sub-cell 3c currently at the public consultation stage.

SCAR consider that the guidance Defra insists should be followed when drawing up these plans is flawed as it does not take into full account of the economic importance of Britain's coast line and the possibility that any breach of our sea defences is likely to be irreversible. We do not accept there is any reason to abandon the current "Hold the Line" policy for the Suffolk coastline and we do not concur with several principles and proposals of SMP2 Sub-cell 3.

1. There is a lack of sensible co-ordination between coastline and estuarine strategies. Suffolk's estuaries are so integrated into the coastline that a shoreline strategy should only be finalized in concurrence with strategies for all four estuaries - the Blyth, Alde/Ore, Deben and Orwel/Stour together with additional relevant locations, such as Minsmere sluice. We note that the Essex SMP2 realistically combines coastal and estuarine strategies. The justification for a combined strategy is fully explained within the document Defra Coastal Change Policy recommendations for SMPs under the sub section 'Integration of estuaries'.
2. SCAR rejects the proposal of No Active Intervention on the coastline from Benacre Broad to Easton Broad including the village of Covehithe, on the stated basis that there is need for erosion to feed the long shore drift South. Even if this need is accepted, about which we are not clear, there is no proposal for compensation for those who live in Covehithe village or for the historic ruin, church and properties in the village.
3. Sizewell B should be treated as a major development affecting the entire Suffolk coast as its safety is paramount to the welfare of the county. There should be no question of creating a nuclear island. The business plan for the future development of the site should include provision for present and forward funding of coastal defences for the immediate and extended county coastline for a period well in excess of 100 years.
4. We consider there are other unsatisfactory issues in the plan as follows:

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

- The changing attitude at Easton Bavents as a result of current negotiations between Natural England, The Environment Agency, Waveney DC and Peter Boggis, alongside the human rights history as approved by the Secretary of State with regard to the Charles England appeal, requires more time before completion of the SMP2 decision for this part of the coast. Government policy must take into account the rights of the individual citizen.
- Blyth estuary funding and other outstanding matters of defence
- Slaughden -admitted in SMP2 draft as dependent on the estuarine policy
- Aide and Ore: Completion should be awaited of the current ICZM and ACES projects
- We consider that more time should be allowed for the generation of proposals for public/private funding
- The Government and Defra should clarify how 'food security' policies dovetail with the fact that 60 per cent of Grade 1 agricultural land lies below the five metre contour line.

For these reasons, we conclude that we cannot accept and therefore will not support the current SMP2 Sub-cell 3c in its present state and without the Government fulfilling its obligations under ED law on human rights. We recommend that both County and local District Councils should refuse to approve these proposals until further studies are completed. Where and when appropriate we shall make these facts known publically through meetings and the media.

Yours sincerely

Graham Henderson

Chairman

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Nick Collinson, Suffolk Coast and Heaths

From: Nick Collinson

Sent: 26 August 2009 16:53

Subject: RE: SMP natural environment & access stakeholder meeting

Dear all

Notes from the meeting this morning. Up to you obviously, how or if you use them, but I hope you all found it useful to exchange ideas.

Thanks to John for taking us through the SMP so informatively.

Generic concerns/issues:

- There needs to be a proper evaluation of ALL assets (not just economic ones), which there currently doesn't appear to be, whether this is undesignated wildlife habitat (Kessingland Levels), landscape or public access. We made no suggestion of preserving things in aspic, but simply to ensure decisions about change are made with full information to hand
- The biodiversity value of the coast is more than the sum of its parts. Numerous examples of species & people (tourists) that use the landscape rather than simply individual protected sites. The assets need to be considered at a landscape scale
- It isn't clear how Coastal Access is factored into the SMP. This needs to be clearer and we felt that there is probably enough information within the draft NE Coastal Access strategy to inform the SMP at this strategic policy level
- NAI policies on the coast make little sense if private investment and landowner action is to be allowed/encouraged. NAI policies effectively tie everyone's hands and prevents any schemes coming forward. If NAI is a flexible policy and allowing of private investment/action then NAI as a policy is meaningless
- BLY 10.1 is NAI, yet the Blyth Users Group application is effectively a HTL scheme. What is the role of the SMP if local action can fly in the face of SMP policies
- HTL should be used as the default 20 year epoch policy, wherever a sustainable or feasible option, to allow time for social and environmental adaptation. E.g. compensatory wildlife habitats take several years to find, buy and create.
- If the technical advice is that a breach is required somewhere on the Alde/Ore, although it is likely NOT to be at Slaughden, then the SMP should be more transparent about this, rather than being silent and leaving ACES to go public with the issue.
- The link with the forthcoming Deben Estuary Strategy needs to be more closely thought through. Current HTL policies in the mouth of the estuary, DEB 17.3/17.4, and resultant loss of salt marsh through coastal squeeze, will put a lot of pressure on the forthcoming strategy for realignment higher up the estuary. This effectively pre-determines what the strategy will need to say,

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

potentially pulling the rug from under the current land-owner based approach. Careful we don't have a Blyth Mk ii !!!

- 100 year epoch- so many things will change over this timescale- our coastal processes knowledge, our opinions, our politics. 100 years is a meaningless timescale over which to have SMP policies, particularly given the PDZs are new for SMP2, and it is therefore difficult to cross reference management units from SMP1 to SMP2
- There seems little review of SMP1, particularly which policies worked well, which didn't and which needed to be done differently.
- General concern that the Appropriate Assessment is not detailed enough
- Concern that SEA does not cover issues in enough depth, particularly landscape and access issues
- Part of the valuation of assets needs to be the value of the landscape to tourism. The total tourism value of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB in 2006 was £166 million (East of England Tourism). The effect of some of the policies on this value of the landscape in economic terms is missing. i.e. Aldeburgh to Thorpeness Road and SMP NAI policy. Again not about preserving this popular tourist route in aspic, but being FULLY aware of the consequences of change, even if over longer term.
- Landscape is not just about natural habitats. Its is about the footprint of man over centuries and millennia and how that has shaped the habitats into what we see today. Its about the cultural aspects of the area and its sense of place. Landscape change is ongoing and again there is no aspiration to preserve it is aspic, it never has been thus. However just like with wildlife habitat change/loss, there is a need to fully understand the value and richness of what is being changed/lost.
- Simple reference to the Countryside Commission document on Suffolk Coast and Heaths Landscape Assessment, would have helped enormously to better understand the landscape assets and the cultural importance of the SMP sub-cell
- Consequential upstream effects are not fully thought-through. E.g. Deben estuary (above). Also the SMP area at Kessingland only covers a fraction of the Levels. What is the plan for the upper Levels and what are the implications on the upper levels of the SMP policies? Freshwater is currently pumped from the Levels, are the upper reaches potential compensatory freshwater habitat?
- Policies need to be consistent. NAI and HTL are both considered beneficial for landscape at Easton Bavents and East Lane (Bawdsey) respectively. SMP can't have it both ways. Certainly concern that rock armour at east lane is considered beneficial for the landscape, in an area designated for its soft and dynamic coast.

Good to see you all, best wishes

Nick

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 3

Sent: 24 August 2009 16:56

Subject: Pakefield coastal protection and transport links

Hello

I am a local resident and a few major issues have come up recently on which I would like to know what you and your colleagues on Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils are proposing to do.

The first is the coastal defences. You will be aware of the recent consultation on the technical report which is proposing amendments to the current plan that has been in place for 10 years. There was a local meeting in Kessingland, but there was no meeting in Pakefield. My concern is that the proposals appear to be reducing the protection planned for Pakefield. It is a complex and lengthy document. If it would help I would be happy to send you the relevant extracts.

In short however, they are proposing that we accept that in the longer term (not that long) the loss of the parish Church.

I can see they are looking for savings, but I cannot think this is really a best plan. If we act now, especially as the defense of Pakefield would be a relatively cheap measure. It will be 'a stitch in time'. If we leave it, Pakefield will drop down the list of priorities and when the coastal threat gets worse, it will be too late for us.

Please advise on next steps and on your position on this issue.

Second transport

We really need good connections and an active political representation to achieve this.

Currently the Department of Transport transport strategy (<http://www.dft.gov.uk/about/strategy/transportstrategy/>) shows the whole of E. Anglia as off the strategic network. This is therefore the time to make a case for balancing out the strategic network and supporting economic development in this region.

Are you pressing for this? There are many very low cost improvements to the transport network that could help this area, eg, a rail link to Stansted from the Colchester line, road improvements, dualling the railway line as necessary to Ipswich.

At a time of recession, especially as this area has already been identified as at risk of a very slow recovery, now is the time to ask for useful, small improvements that could really help us here.

The newspapers are also reporting a plan to take away the direct rail service to Lowestoft from London. Is it true that this has been proposed? National Express only recently improved the service but they did it in such an incompetent way it is

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

hardly surprising they have not made a success of it. They are already under scrutiny for their failure with the East Coast line.

I would be grateful for your advice on what is happening and what the process for decision-making is going to be and also what role the County Council will take in discussions with the operator and the Department.

Best wishes

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 4

Dear Terry Oakes

Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) : Draft Consultation
Policy Development Zone 03 - Easton Broad to Dunwich Cliffs
Management Areas 08, 09 and 10 - Southwold and Southwold North - The Denes to
Walberswick including The Mouth of The Estuary - Blyth Inner Estuary

We attended the Shoreline Management Plan Review SMP2 exhibition on the 4 July in Southwold. In this submission we have considered document PDZ 03, as the main area of our interest.

In our submission to the Blyth Estuary Draft Strategy consultation we stated our view that the sea and river flood defences, The Denes, harbour structures, marsh drainage and sluices, are a comprehensive and interdependent flood defence infrastructure. These flood defences must be restored and maintained to original conditions and levels, as a complete flood defence system. This remains our view

1) Our primary concern is the SMP2 proposal to apply a 'managed realignment' of the shoreline along the line of the existing seawall frontage north of Southwold Pier. It is understood that the flood defence seawall concrete structure, apparently in a satisfactory condition, would be removed during the 'second epoch, 2025 to 2055', allowing the Easton Marsh area behind the sea wall to flood and become 'salt marsh'. This proposal would necessitate extensive flood defence works and maintenance control around the whole of the perimeter of the new salt marsh. Construction and maintenance of a 'significant structure' to 'heavily defend' the Southwold Town frontage just north of the Pier and the new 'shoreline frontage' will be necessary, together with 'some form of control over the northern section of the frontage' to stop outflanking.

The removal of the sea wall structure and provision and maintenance of the extensive new flood defences to property and roads would represent a considerable cost, far in excess of the retention, maintenance and extension of the existing seawall frontage. To maintain and extend the seawall, as a first line of flood defence, is in our view a preferred way to safeguard Southwold and Reydon. FRG oppose the SMP Review proposal.

2) The Denes sand dune flood defence system has clearly been a success. It should therefore be looked after. The following repair, maintenance and monitoring should be considered ;-

- (i) Repair the seaward face of the sand dunes.
- (ii) Plant Marram grass where necessary, fence off to exclude the public, to aid recovery and sand catching.
- (iii) Provide signs to inform walkers about the importance of the sand dune flood defences and to encourage the use of established paths and steps.
- (iv) Find a method for reducing the damage done by rabbits to the sand dune bank along Ferry Road.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

(v) Monitor the sand dune system annually and ensure that there is an ongoing maintenance programme.

I would be grateful for an acknowledgement of our submission and to know when the results of the consultation are to be published.

Yours sincerely

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From David Andren, Alde and Ore Association

ALDE AND ORE ASSOCIATION RESPONSE TO DRAFT PROPOSALS IN SHORLINE MANAGEMENT PLAN (SMP2) SUB-CELL 3c: Thorpeness to Shingle Street

This note responds to the request for comments on the draft shoreline plan SMP2 (Sub-cell 3c – Policy Units 5 and 6)).

The Alde and Ore Association seeks to preserve for the public benefit the Alde and Ore Estuary, the coast from Thorpeness to Shingle Street and the surrounding land area. The Association is a founder member and active supporter of SCAR (Suffolk Coast Against Retreat) and has already contributed to the response prepared by SCAR dated 1 September 2009. We also support the views expressed by Shingle Street Company in their separate response.

The Association has about 1,800 corporate and individual members equivalent to nearly 20 per cent of the permanent population of this part of the coast and the surrounding 17 parishes. Details of the Association's activities, including copies of our recent newsletters, can be found on the Association's web site at www.aldeandore.net.

1. Basis on which draft SMP2 proposals have been prepared

1.1 While welcoming the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' (DEFRA's) agreement to look at policy options for periods shorter than 100 years, the Association considers DEFRA guidance on SMPs to be fatally flawed. This guidance assumes that only some £50 million a year will be available to fund coastal and tidal river defences for the whole of England, fails to recognise that failure of the coastal defences can frequently prove irreversible and does not consider the wider economic consequences of abandoning defences for our coastal community.

1.2 The Association does not accept that it is yet necessary to abandon the Hold the Line Policy for the Suffolk Coast and believes that Government funding of coastal and tidal river defences is totally inadequate. We also strongly support the views expressed by Councillor Andy Smith (SCDC) in evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee (EFRASC) considering the present Government's proposed Flood and Water Management Bill. Like the Local Government Flood Forum we believe local councils and flood defences committees or boards should be given much greater discretion to formulate local flood defence policies and freedom to raise funds through local taxes and contributions such as the regional flood defence levy.

2. ACES and the integration of coastal and estuary management plans

2.1 When the Environment Agency first proposed the development of an Estuary Development Plan for the Alde and Ore in 1993 our Association argued that, because of the particular configuration of our coast, it was important to look at the management strategy for the coast as well as the estuary itself. This led to agreement that consultants (Halcrow) should prepare a separate study known as the

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Thorpeness to Hollesley Strategy described to us as “a mini-SMP” which would be more detailed than was normally the case with SMPs. With the support of the Alde and Ore Association the Environment Agency re-launched the Estuary Management Strategy earlier this year name under the new title “Aldeburgh and Coast Estuary Strategy” (ACES) and decided that Halcrow, rather than Black & Veatch, should be the lead consultants for this study.

2.2 At no point in the draft SMP dealing with our part of the coast and the Alde and Ore Estuary do Royal Haskoning specifically refer to ACES or the very detailed specification for this study prepared by the Environment Agency. Given that the specification prepared by Royal Haskoning for the Essex Coast, published in August 2009, covers both the Essex coast and estuaries we find this astonishing. We think it is nonsensical to try to prejudge decisions on the coast until the more detailed studies which Halcrow are now preparing are available. We have noted that other estuary groups and SCAR hold the same view.

3. Consultation

Royal Haskoning claim that there has been detailed consultation with the Community. Our Association participated in two discussions before the proposals were put into the public domain. We detect very little change to those proposals in the document now published despite our representations eg in relation to the ACES study. We think it important to note that at these meetings representatives of the local community made it clear that they could not support the draft proposals.

4. Alde and Ore Futures

Since the launch of SMP2 Suffolk Coastal District Council have launched a new initiative known as ‘Alde and Ore Futures’. Representatives of the Association attended the launch meeting on 4 September 2009. The objective is to draw up a preliminary mini-ICZM (Integrated Coastal Zone Management) Plan for the Alde and Ore Estuary, including the coast from Thorpeness and 17 parishes surrounding the Alde and Ore Estuary, by June 2010. Although we have some reservations we welcome this new initiative for the following reasons:

- it concentrates on a time period up to 2030 rather than 100 years while recognising that the risk of sea level rise in the longer term must be taken into account as we develop adaptation plans;
- it recognises the importance of defending the coast and the Alde and Ore estuary to the long term economic viability of the area and adopts a more holistic approach than is possible under current DEFRA guidance;
- it seeks to develop plans in close and genuine consultation with the local community.

5. Approval of the Shoreline Management Plan

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

We are advised by the consultants that they hope Suffolk and Waveney Coastal District Councils will be able to approve the proposals in the current SMP by December 2009. We and our members consider it would be totally inappropriate for the two Councils to be asked to approve the SMP until the results of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies are available. Given the agreed need to look at management of the coast and the estuary together we believe it is unreasonable to take decisions relating to the coast in isolation from decisions affecting the estuary.

6. Issues

6.1 The SMP frequently refers to the “estuary strategy” for the Alde and Ore rivers. While the SMP recognises that nothing can be agreed until the “estuary strategy” is available, it never the less proposes a preferred option of doing nothing south of Slaughden Martello Tower. We consider such a conclusion, however provisional, cannot be sustained or justified until the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies have been completed. We also believe the assumptions made about the likely impact of the breach need to be informed by knowledge of the strength of water flows within the estuary as well as along the coast. The SMP should not therefore make any recommendations for change however provisional.

6.2 The SMP focuses on the shore and ignores the fact that the major threat to the town of Aldeburgh is not just the incursion from the sea: it is also the incursion of the sea via the river over the river wall which runs due west from Slaughden, as happened in 1953. The calculations on costs also appear to have overlooked the need to maintain or strengthen this river wall if there is a breach in the coastal defences at or near Slaughden.

6.3 The Alde and Ore Association and the Environment Agency have agreed the basis on which over 1,750 properties at risk of flooding should be valued and we now have estimated values for 90 per cent of those properties. These values, excluding major hotels, publicly owned community assets, farms and agricultural land amount to some £500 million. The number of properties in the SMP said to be at risk of flooding and their value are grossly understated in the Report. We therefore consider it is unacceptable to endorse any of the conclusions in the SMP based on this earlier data.

6.4 As we have stated in previous submissions to the Environment Agency we believe that there is a case for improving sea defences south of Aldeburgh. In particular we think it is necessary to look at the case for increasing the height and looking at possibilities other than shingle recharge for protecting the relatively short section of the coast running from south of the Martello Tower up to the point at which the height of the shingle ridge begins to rise further south.

6.5 The Environment Agency has very recently undertaken a detailed crest level survey of the heights of our sea and river defences. We understand this will shortly be available to the Association and others. Since we have not yet seen this survey we assume that it cannot have been taken into account by the consultants when

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

drafting SMP2. We consider this indefensible and that engineering consultants need to be employed to assess its implications.

6.6 The authors of the Report appear to be unaware that the estuary area includes not just agricultural land but that that land is now a major vegetable producing area of the UK. It relies on the clean aquifers for irrigation. Breaching these river defences would allow these water sources to become brackish and subject to saline intrusion. As a result the UK would lose a significant resource to the detriment of its food supplies and work to reduce food transport to assist reducing the trend towards global warming.

6.7. It is not clear from the draft Report that the authors appreciate the fact that there are many miles of river which can be used safely by small sailing and other boats which make a major contribution to the area's economy. Without that safe sailing, which would largely go if a breach occurred, the economic loss would be high as most of the sailing would cease. This points again to the need for a full evaluation of the coast, the estuary and the area as it is a major contributor to the area's economic well being. This could usefully take as its starting point the 2003 economic survey of the Alde and Ore Estuary and the surrounding land area sponsored by the Alde and Ore Association, the East of England Development Agency, Suffolk Coastal District Council, the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Unit and others.

6.8 Further work is also needed to quantify the population numbers at risk of flooding. The Association considers that trying to base figures on just permanent residents is unacceptable and that the estimates which are being used for the SMP, ACES and Alde and Ore futures are too low. Over the last 30 years the towns (including Thorpeness) and countryside surrounding the Alde and Ore Estuary have attracted huge numbers of people with second homes and led to a large increase in the number of rental properties. In Aldeburgh, for example, the permanent population is thought to be about 2,000 but in summer months this can be as high as 7,000. In the case of second home owners there are people who may live most of the week in Suffolk but who have other homes, eg in London, which are formally declared for various reasons as their "main residence".

6.11 The plan makes no reference to innovative developments in coastal management which could affect their efficacy and cost. For example, the National Trust are trialling resin based injections into the shingle along the spit near Lantern Marsh, new artificial shingle banks or mounds are being tested at Dunwich so far with positive results, and there are new approaches and old forgotten, but effective, ideas being resurrected on different heights and angles of groynes. All these could be highly relevant to the estuary. When compared with the cost of losing the economic value of the river they are likely to prove well worth considering and feasible within the first 25 year period.

6.12 We believe that along certain sections of the coast there is a case for examining the benefits of beach and shoreline stabilization plans. Along the coast we think this should be looked at in relation to measures which could help prevent erosion of the cliffs at Thorpeness and the area south of the Slaughden Martello Tower up to and including the Orford Ness lighthouse.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

6.13 In our 2008 position statement entitled “Framework for the Future”, which was welcomed by Lord Chris Smith (chairman of the Environment Agency), we argued for public/private ventures to protect our coast and river defences. The SCAR response to the SMP also stresses the need, particularly in the light of initiative undertaken at East Lane (described in an article in our February 2009 newsletter available on our web site). During a wide ranging discussion with the Environment Agency in December 2008 we were promised a definitive statement on the scope for taking account of the availability of public and private finance from sources other than national Government. We received definitive DEFRA guidance on this subject on 11 September 2009. We will need to seek further clarification of the interpretation of this guidance as proposals develop during the course of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies. Nevertheless, our preliminary assessment is that in the case of an economically prosperous area such as ours this new approach based on joint public/private finance offers considerable scope for imaginative adaptation plans. We consider these need to be fully examined by all key stakeholders before any irrevocable decisions are taken to abandon any of our coast and tidal river defences.

6.14 Although the SMP does recognise the existence of many historic artefacts in the area, including the Orford Ness Lighthouse, we consider a much more detailed study of their importance, eg those constructed on Orford Ness during the Second World War, is needed. Another area at risk of flooding is Snape Maltings – an asset of enormous cultural, educational and historical significance which is of great importance nationally and to the local economy. Large amounts of public, eg from the Arts Council, and private finance have been contributed towards its development. This can now only be carried out as part of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies.

6.15 Finally, there are a number of points in the Report where points are asserted and not backed up either by facts or explanations. These include, in the Summary of Preferred Plan and Implications, paragraph 5.1 asserting that almost 100% of objectives are met in the first period but does not acknowledge the need for regular sound maintenance to avoid involuntary breaches. The same section then states that objectives are met assuming that these objectives are accepted. For example, the objective of supporting agriculture to adapt to changes is highly questionable as there may well be a case for ensuring as far as possible that aquifers are not allowed to become salinated.

7. Conclusion and summary

7.1 The Alde and Ore Association takes the view that until a complete Report involving the whole of the Alde and Ore Estuary and the surrounding land area has been completed as part of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies, it is not acceptable to decide whether or not to hold the line south of Slaughden. We believe that for the next 25 years, where the main risk is not from rising sea levels but a tidal surge, the policy should be to ‘hold the line’.

7.2 We also consider the Report:

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

- fails to recognise the environmental importance of protecting and sites designated under the EU habitats directives which attract large numbers of visitors with a diverse range of interests to the area who often then become permanent or semi-permanent residents;
- the value of the estuary to businesses in the area;
- the importance of our rivers to the boating fraternity which brings many visitors from the UK and other countries to an area which has been described as 'A North Sea Gem' unique to the East coast of England;
- the potential loss of nationally important historic and cultural sites such as Snape Maltings;
- new and potential developments in coastal management techniques which are likely to become much more cost effective than the construction of traditional 'hard' (concrete) defences;
- the need to maintain the river walls protecting the Aldeburgh marshes without which huge sums will need to be spent if there is an irreversible breach in the sea wall south of Slaughden in order to save Aldeburgh town from flooding.

7.3 The Association cannot therefore support the Report's draft conclusions and will be recommending our members write to their local councillors urging the Council not to approve this plan until the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies have been completed.

September, 2009

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 5

Sent: 29 September 2009 22:09:17
To: Terry Oakes Associates Ltd
Subject: A Ferry Road Submission

Dear Terry Oakes

Shoreline Management Plan Review (SMP2) : Draft Consultation
Policy Development Zone 03 - Easton Broad to Dunwich Cliffs
Management Areas 08, 09 and 10 - Southwold and Southwold North - The Denes to
Walberswick including The Mouth of The Estuary - Blyth Inner Estuary

We have lived on Ferry Road, Southwold for many years and before that my uncle lived there so our connection is very strong. It is a very distinct place, as is the surrounding Southwold, Covehithe, Walberswick and Dunwich area which needs to be maintained as a whole and protected from the sea, which has been done for 400 years. The policy of managed retreat proposed by the EA in 2007 would have had far-reaching consequences and was an unnecessary abandonment policy of this unique area. I consider the recent proposition to not maintain the existing concrete sea defence north of Southwold would make Southwold more vulnerable to the sea and it would be create a weakness to the whole area's sea defenses. It would not be economic either, to allow the sea to come in sooner, north of Southwold, as it would be more costly to remove the sea defence, once it had deteriorated, and then to build a new wall further back. It would be more sensible and cost effective to maintain it and to hold the line as is being done with the majority of the area.

The Denes in front of Ferry Road remains one of the main sea defenses for Ferry Road and although it has benefited from a build up of sand recently, the Denes itself could do with some maintenance to counter damage done by people walking on the very top of the precious bank that is the main defense on the seaward side of Ferry Road. We would like cost effective maintenance: planting and fencing to protect it while it establishes. Also paths established or directed away from the top of the bank to maintain its strength and height.

We are fully in agreement with and support the Ferry Road Group submission and hope you will take these points into consideration.

We look forward to a response.

Yours sincerely

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Sue Brown, Environment Agency

Draft Suffolk SMP Consultation comments

Presentation

We are slightly unhappy about the way in which the draft SMP has been presented to the public. The Royal Haskoning logo appears on every page of the document and appendices and there seem to be many pages in the document that are internal to RH and shouldn't have been included in the consultation documents. We feel this should have been sorted out before publishing the documents.

There was no section at the front of the draft SMP giving people information about the public consultation period, where the documents are available, where to return comments to etc. We shouldn't assume that everyone has access to the internet to be able to look at these documents on-line and obtain this information.

Following on from this, it would have been helpful to people who wished to comment on the draft policies to have produced a summary document that they could use instead of having to read through the main document.

It would also have been good to include a few more photos in the draft SMP to break up the very long pages of text. There are many cases of wrong spellings, incorrect words used, abbreviations etc throughout the documents that we're surprised the plain English editor didn't pick up.

Not sure what SCDC's policy is about size of font for public documents. Ours is that they should be in at least 12 point throughout the document. Section 4 seems to contain a lot of information in a smaller font than this.

Table 3.1 runs over two pages with the footnotes in between. The whole table and footnotes should appear on the same page.

Some of the tables seem inconsistent. For example, the table on page PDZ1.10 shows units in each row of col 2 when these could be shown in the column heading. This table also shows the units in the heading to col 4 and these also appear in the rows. This applies to the same table in each PDZ.

Content

There is no list of contents at the front of the printed document. The reader is therefore faced with a lot of numbered sections with no clue as to what they are until they look at each. It would also have been useful to include a list of figures and tables at the start of the draft SMP.

A list of abbreviations would have been useful.

Section 1.1.4 contains detailed explanations of three of the generic SMP policies, but not of advance the line.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Section 1.2.2 lists the appendices and what they contain. There should be an appendix showing the full policy appraisal, including why we didn't think it necessary to appraise every possible policy for each frontage (playing field).

Section 1.3.2, line 1 gives the wrong title for the East Anglian Coastal Group (EACG). Same section, para 2 on page 1.10 doesn't list Suffolk County Council as a member of the CSG.

On figure 1.1, the SMP for sub-cell 3b is called Kelling to Lowestoft Ness, not Norfolk.

Figure 3.1 says that it's not to scale. Not sure how a map isn't to scale?

Page 3.7, first para below the bullet points – there are a lot of abbreviations here that haven't been written out in full before this. Again, your plain English editor should have picked this up.

Section 3.1.3 – the second sub-head should read “Historic environment”, not “Heritage”. There are several instances throughout the documents where “heritage” has been used instead of “historic” [EH comment several months ago].
Section 3.2.2 – there are a couple of places in para 1 of this section, and others throughout the documents, where “defence” has been used instead of “risk management” or “management”. We've commented about this before.

Section 3.2.4, penultimate para – might have been useful to mention the current consultation about this subject.

Section 3.4 – it would have been helpful to have listed all the PDZs here indicating where they start and finish along the coast.

Tide and water levels tables in section 4 – can't see where the column headings have been explained. There is no list of abbreviations, so many people won't understand what these tables refer to.

PDZ1, section 4.1.2 refers to a CFMP P5 policy. It would be helpful to explain what this means.

PDZ1, WPM scenario box, para 2, line 8 – a sentence has been repeated here. It would also be useful to know what the CFMP says about flood risk management policies for the areas planned for regeneration. This also applies to some of the other PUs.

Economic assessment tables in all PDZs – the MDSF assessment part of these tables doesn't contain any numbers of properties or area of agricultural land potentially at risk of flooding in the future. We feel that these figures should appear in these tables so it's clear what's at risk over the SMP timescale.

KES05, page 1.53 seems to be a bit inconsistent. The first table says we plan to maintain defences, but the second table says that two of the four policy units are NAI.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

The first table would be better with more explanation about the intent of management for the whole PU.

COV07 – the changes from present management section says “No substantial change...” What does this mean? If there are changes, we should say what they are.

PDZ3, NAI box on page 15 – it’s not necessary to say what the WPM approach would do. This should be obvious in the WPM box.

PDZ06, overview box on page 3, last line – it would be useful to know how many SSSIs there are and what they are designated for.

PDZ07, overview box, heritage and amenity section, line 4 – “leisure” has been omitted from “Felixstowe leisure centre”.

Section 7 doesn’t contain much information about the action plan and how the partners will use it. Also, it would have been helpful to have another section letting people know what will happen next and how the partners will complete the SMP process.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From John Jackson, Natural England

Dear Terry,

Lowestoft Ness to Landguard Point Shoreline Management Plan Review

As discussed, please see our following comments at the public consultation stage. We look forward to further discussion at the next Client steering group in October.

Appropriate Assessment

Natural England agrees with the conclusion of the appropriate assessment that there will be an adverse effect on the integrity of a number of Natura 2000 sites.

This is because some areas* of freshwater habitat are not sustainable *in situ*, and therefore it is necessary to provide compensatory habitat or replacement habitat at sustainable locations inland. We understand, as described in the appropriate assessment, that suitable compensatory or replacement habitat will be provided through the Environment Agency's Regional Habitat Replacement Programme (RHCP), and that where areas of freshwater habitat remain vulnerable to flooding by the sea in the interim, then adaptive measures will be put in place to avoid deterioration of sites. We expect the detail of timings, extent, and location for habitat compensation/replacement to be explored in detail through the RHCP.

(*In the Blyth and Easton Valleys, at Walberswick, and in the Minsmere Valley.)

Monitoring requirements in the Action Plan

We support the approach of monitoring the coast to establish how the features are affected in response to SMP policy, for the Hollesley to East Lane management units, and we agree that a detailed study is needed here, to monitor the key elements of the wider area and to feed the results of this into the SMP3 process.

Furthermore, it is our view that a similar monitoring requirement exists for the Blyth Estuary, given the uncertainty about future estuary processes highlighted following the recent Blyth Sediment Study report, and that a further action is required to monitor the key elements of the Blyth Estuary and feed this into SMP 3.

Landscape

It is our view that the assessment of landscape character and landscape impacts given in the Strategic Environmental Assessment is currently weak. It does not offer a robust baseline of landscape character, with the consequence that any landscape impacts of policies cannot be explored.

A more detailed assessment is needed, which should be based on landscape evaluation criteria developed for the area, i.e.: The Landscape Character Study (Countryside Commission 1993), the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Landscape Character Guidelines (2003), and the Suffolk Landscape Characterisation (Suffolk County Council 2008). Once such an assessment is made, this could be used to identify and inform more detailed work, which might be identified as part of the Action Plan.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Legal Challenge

Thank you for forwarding the letter concerning a legal challenge to the SMP based on Habitats Regulations considerations. We are currently examining this letter, and will be in a position to report back to the steering group on 19 October.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of these points further.

Yours Sincerely,

John Jackson
Conservation Adviser

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Michael Hayes, Commodore, Aldeburgh Yacht Club

Dear Sirs,

Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan Review

We only propose to comment on the Policy Zone 5 of the Review.

We note that for ALB 14 Thorpeness Haven to Aldeburgh the plan is to “hold the line” for policy units 14.3 and 14.4 Aldeburgh and Slaughden respectively and we are encouraged that that this objective is being recommended.

However, we are deeply concerned that the report’s preferred approach for ORF-15.1 Sudbourne Beach is to allow a breach at or just south of Martello Tower. We have noted that the Report recognises the concerns that this policy would have on the estuary itself and therefore is prepared to recommend that the “line is held” only as an interim policy until 2025 but does not address how this done except through recharging. We note also that Natural England’s advice is that this practice is not sustainable. In our view this emphasizes the need to complete the study on the estuary before any irreversible commitment is made concerning the coast.

We do find it interesting that the possible effect of protecting the beach at Aldeburgh using manmade structures has some effect on Sudbourne Bay where the basic principle of minimising reliance on manmade structures is being proposed. If one is going to adopt this principle in one area and not in other adjacent areas, it is important that a suitable transition is developed to minimise the effect of one on the other. This has not been addressed in the report and adopting this approach may delay the occurrence of a natural breach or the need for a managed breach.

While the report discusses a breach in the shoreline, it is not apparent that the authors realise that any breach would result in the loss of some several miles of “safe sailing” which would impact not just on the leisure activities which would largely disappear but also significantly on the economy of the area..To see the practical effect of their preferred option, one only has to look at the Ore south of Dove Point or the mouth of the Blyth to see that neither of these two stretches of water can be classified as providing “safe sailing”, in particular for juniors.

Finally we would obviously prefer the policy to have the objective of defending the coast south of the Martello Tower in order to reduce the likelihood of a breach, which would affect the character of the estuary and would create a new island in place of the Orfordness spit as well as a complete change in the direction of tide flows in the estuary itself south of any breach.

We therefore oppose the preferred option. Changing policy from that of holding the line without taking account of the estuary is not justifiable. It could only be done if a full evaluation of the estuary, the shoreline and its neighbouring sections were

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

undertaken and that full evaluation found it to be the only option, because of the river side and sea side of the shoreline are inextricably linked.

Yours faithfully,
For and on behalf of Aldeburgh Yacht Club,
Michael Hayles
Commodore

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 6

Response to New Shoreline Management Plan for Lowestoft-Kessingland sub cells

Basis for comment:

1. Currently Head of Geography at 13-18 Suffolk Comprehensive school teaching sea defence as part of A-level Geography.
2. B.Sc. Geography (Hull University) including final year specialism in coastal geomorphology.
3. Worked for the Marine Geology Unit of British Geological Survey (1986)..
4. Local resident of Kessingland, living close to the beach.

Summary of response

1. There is no justification for any assumption that some areas of the coast need to be allowed to erode in order to provide sediment for other areas. The scientific evidence is clear that most beach sediment does NOT derive from coastal erosion.
2. There is evidence in terms of the geological origin of beach pebbles found at Kessingland of offshore movement of pebbles sized material that is both well beyond the breaker zone and from areas outside of the sediment cell. As such serious consideration should be given as to whether the dredging of aggregates offshore of Pakefield may be adversely affecting rates of coastal erosion.
3. There appears to be an assumption in the shoreline management plan that the retreat of the cliffs to the South of Pakefield is primarily due to coastal erosion, whereas the cliff profiles there suggest that sub aerial (weathering and mass movement processes) are more likely to be dominant with the sea removing collapsed material. As such a range of two cost slope stabilisation strategies may be possible, such as the lowering the slope angle and vegetating the slopes. These adjacent cliffs at Kessingland where similar actions were taken many years ago contrast markedly with those at Pakefield.
4. The position of the proposed new clay bank in South Kessingland will effectively abandon both the village sewage works and 2 streets of permanent residential housing to the sea. At the consultation in Kessingland, the environment agency manager assured me that this clay bank had been drawn on the map 'in the wrong place'. However, it would be appreciated if this could be confirmed in writing and a revised plan put in the final version of the new shoreline management plan.

Response to New Shoreline Management Plan

1. General comment:

There appears to be an assumption in some of the thinking behind the new shore line management plan that it is necessary for certain parts of the coast to be allowed to

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

erode in order to provide sediment that will form beaches in other areas. In response to this I would make the following comments:

1a) The scientific evidence is indisputable that a wide beach that absorbs wave energy is one the most effective forms of defence against coastal erosion.

b) However, this does NOT mean that in order for beaches to develop other areas of the coastline must be allowed to erode.

c) The scientific evidence in fact indicates very clearly that the overwhelming majority of beach material is NOT derived from erosion of the coast. Rather, it is the result of inland river erosion and sediment transport which is then carried out to sea via estuaries. I would draw your attention in particular to the work of H. Valentin (1954) who despite studying an area of the North Sea that had an erosion rate of 1.5m per year - one of the fastest erosion rates in the world - found that less than 3% of all the eroded material was contributed to adjacent beaches. The overwhelming majority of beach sediment was derived from river transport and erosion. Similarly, D.L Inman calculated that even where wave energy is highest in the world, less than 5% beach sediments result directly from cliff erosion. A similar conclusion is drawn by J. Pethick *An Introduction to Coastal Geomorphology* (London:Edward Arnold,1984):68 As such the assumption that there is value in leaving some areas with low economic importance to erode needs to be challenged.



d) There is also a significant drift along the coast of larger particles that originate at significant distances from the Suffolk Sediment sub cell. At Kessingland Ness (also commonly referred to as Benacre Ness, although it has now moved northwards entirely away from Benacre), the majority of the sediments above sand size are flint and chert, which are found in large quantities both in the nearby cliffs and inland

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

across East Anglia. However, there are also small quantities of other rocks that originate from much further afield. These include greensand up to 8cm across (photo 1) whose nearest source is Hunstanton in North West Norfolk; a highly fossiliferous limestone (photo 2), which could have come from a number of locations ranging from Peak District rivers draining into the Trent, to the North Yorkshire coast. There are also large pieces of a ferrous sandstone similar in appearance to the rock known in Norfolk as 'carrstone', which occurs inland in the locality around Downham Market in South West Norfolk, or which alternatively may have come from rivers draining the ferrous sandstone area of Northamptonshire (photo 3). Neither the greensand nor the ferrous sandstone could conceivably be glacial erratics as the location of these geological deposits in the UK is inconsistent with the known direction of travel of ice reaching East Anglia. As such serious consideration should be given as to whether the dredging of aggregates offshore may be adversely affecting rates of coastal erosion.

The presence of the ferrous sandstone (photo 3) also clearly supports the existing published scientific research that the overwhelming majority of beach sediment is derived from river erosion and transport and NOT from coastal erosion.

Photo 1 (above) Greensand pebbles from Kessingland beach (nearest outcrop is Hunstanton in North West Norfolk).



SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Photo 2 (above) fossiliferous limestone – most likely sources Peak district or North Yorkshire



Photo 3 ferrous sandstone - most likely source rivers draining into wash – either Downham Market area of NW Norfolk or ferrous sandstones in Northamptonshire) area.

2. Pakefield

I will make three points in respect of the recommendations made for Pakefield. Whilst it is accepted that some erosion of this stretch of shoreline has happened for many centuries and will continue to happen:

1. The stretch of coastline south of Pakefield church should not be allowed to erode simply on the pretext that it has a low economic value and there is a need to provide sediment for beaches further down the coast. The idea that some areas need to be left to erode to provide sediment for other areas further down the coast has little if any scientific support (see general comments above). Moreover, significant retreat of the cliff line around this part of Pakefield will ultimately threaten the residential area around Pakefield Street and surrounding roads.
2. Commercial dredging to extract aggregates currently operates off the coast of Pakefield. Further investigation of the impact of this on coastal erosion on the wider Suffolk coast is clearly needed. Here I will simply make two brief comments. a) There does appear to be an offshore movement of pebbles (as distinct from longshore drift which happens within the breaker zone). Beach

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

material originating well to the North West of the Suffolk sediment sub cell (Greensand and Ferrous Sandstone – both of which originate in the area of the Wash) is found on Kessingland Ness, a mass of shingle which, as the report observes, is moving within the breaker zone from the south to north at the rate of 30m per year. This clearly indicates that there must *also* be an offshore movement of shingle from North to South i.e. from North West Norfolk travelling around to Suffolk. Any offshore dredging to extract aggregate is therefore likely to remove sediment that would otherwise contribute to the formation of beaches on the Suffolk coast. b) There is ample evidence from other locations that offshore dredging can in some circumstances significantly increase the rate of coastal erosion. The classic example of this was the village of Hallsands in South Devon. Offshore dredging nearby began in the late nineteenth century in order to provide aggregates for an extension to Plymouth docks. Within twenty years coastal erosion rates had increased to such an extent that in 1917 the village of Hallsands had completely disappeared into the sea, having previously suffered to a much more limited extent from erosion.

3. a) There appears to be an assumption that the collapse and retreat of the cliffs South of Pakefield church is primarily due to coastal erosion. However, the shape of the cliff profile – a steep or vertical upper section with a less steep debris (talus) slope at the base (photo 4 - below)

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence



4. (Photo 4 above – steep upper section of Pakefield cliffs and lower debris slope indicates that weathering of the loosely consolidated sandy cliff rather than marine erosion is likely to be the primary cause of cliff collapse)

suggests that the primary cause of cliff retreat is likely to be a combination of sub aerial (weathering) processes and various types of mass movements, with the collapsed material being subsequently removed by the sea. If cliff collapse had been primarily due to coastal erosion one would expect to see a quite different cliff profile – one that would normally be characterised either by a wholly vertical cliff or one with some evidence of undercutting. Such cliff profiles do exist only a few miles down the coast e.g. at Covehithe, where coastal erosion clearly is the primary cause of cliff retreat. However, at Pakefield such vertical cliff profiles are largely absent. Instead, there are cliff profiles more typically characteristic of

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

weathering and slumping/rotational slip (i.e. sub aerial) processes being the main agent of cliff retreat.

b) This is extremely significant – as it means that cliff retreat can be controlled by a range of management approaches that have been demonstrated elsewhere to successfully slow and control rates of cliff collapse.

c) Such management approaches include at their most basic levels i) reduction in slope angle to produce a more stable slope ii) planting of vegetation on the slope iii) planting of marram grass at the base of the cliff in order to build up the beach and inhibit removal of collapse material by the sea.

d) The impact of such simple remedial measure can be clearly seen on the short stretch of coast between Kessingland and Pakefield. Towards the Kessingland end the cliff slopes are visibly gentler and vegetated. However, as soon as the vegetation ends part way between Kessingland and Pakefield, the cliffs become markedly steeper and clearly subject to more frequent collapse. (Photo 4 above and photo 5 below)



(Photo 5 Gentler and stabler cliff profiles at Kessingland end of the beach where the cliff slope is vegetated – thereby reducing the impact of sub aerial (weathering) processes on cliff collapse – compared with vertical/steep upper section and debris slope below on unvegetated cliffs at Pakefield end of beach).

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

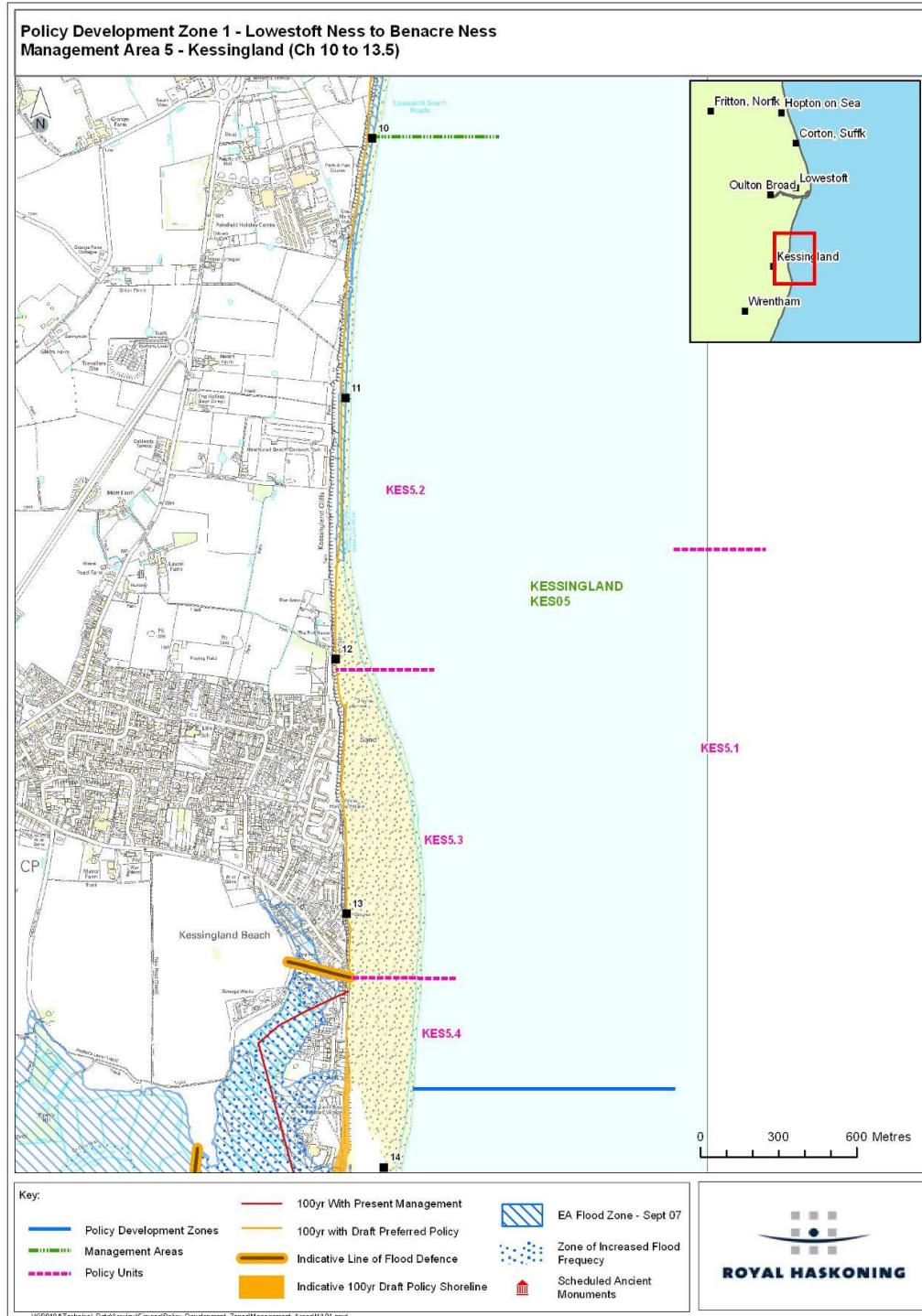
Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

3. Kessingland

4. The new shoreline management plan proposes a small amount of managed retreat around Benacre Sluice. The detail in the shoreline management plan suggests that this is little more than a technical realignment due to the gradual movement of 'Benacre Ness' towards Kessingland, thereby bringing the high water slightly more inland. However, there is one aspect related to this that does require careful rethinking. This is the sea defence clay wall that it is proposed will be built at the south east end of Kessingland. At the position on which this has been drawn on the Shore management plan map, this will effectively abandon both the residents of Holly Grange Road and Beach Road and the village sewage works to the sea. At the shoreline management plan consultation and exhibition held at Kessingland church hall on 7th July I was assured by the Environment Agency manager that the line had been drawn in the wrong place on the map. Whilst my own house in Kessingland is not one of those directly affected, I know that many residents of Kessingland would feel somewhat more reassured if the line could now be drawn on the right place on the map! It would therefore be appreciated if this could be confirmed in writing and a revised plan put in the final version of the new shoreline management plan which shows both the Kessingland sewage works and the houses on Holly Grange Road and Beach Road behind the proposed new clay bank.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

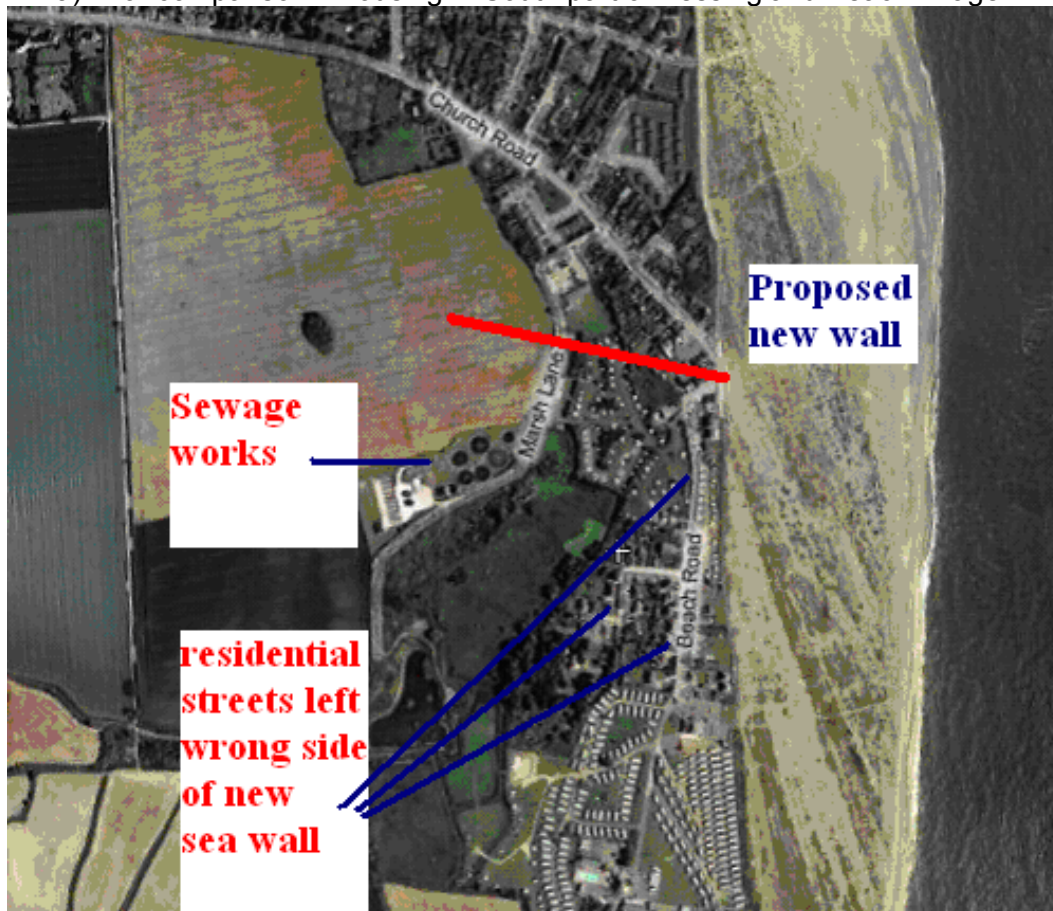
Appendix 9: Other Correspondence



**SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS
CONSULTATION REPORT**

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

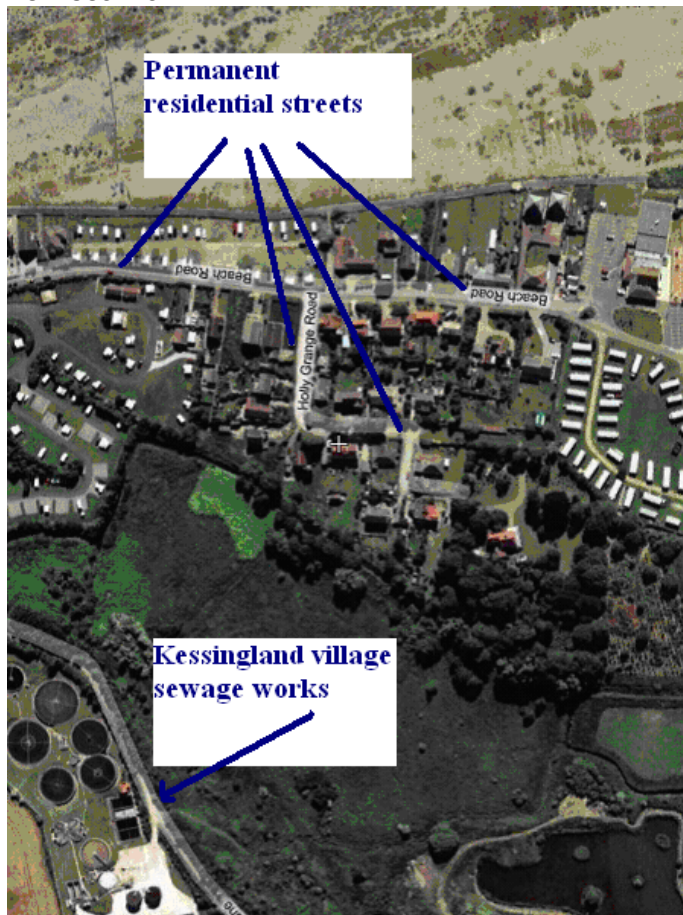
a) For comparison – housing in South part of Kessingland Beach village



SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Close up of Beach Road and Holly Grange Road and village sewage works – which the new shoreline management plan puts on the unprotected side of the proposed new sea wall.



References:

- D.L. Inman 'Shore processes' (1960) in Encyclopaedia of Science and Technology, New York:McGraw Hill
- J. Pethick *An Introduction to Coastal Geomorphology* (London:Edward Arnold,1984).
- H. Valentine 'Landloss in Holderness between 1852 and 1952' *Die Erde* 3, (1954) 296-315

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Suffolk Land Access Forum

DRAFT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

1. Introduction

The current Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Review updates the original SMP which was produced in 1998. It forms part of Defra's strategy for flood defences. Since then more detailed strategic studies have been undertaken on parts of the Suffolk Coast (e.g. The Blyth Estuary) and more information is also available on the likely effects of climate change on sea level rise etc. together with a stricter economic regime.

The review allows for the development of coherent policies for flood and erosion risk management along the Suffolk Coast which address the risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner and supports the Government aims set out in Defra's 2005 strategy "Making Space for Water"

- To reduce the threat of flooding and coastal erosion to people and their property
- To deliver the greatest environmental, social and economic benefit consistent with the Government's sustainable development principles

The following has been put together from leaflets obtained at one of the public exhibitions held in July.

2. Summary of the Conclusions of the Draft SMP Review for Land and Property

a) Lowestoft to Southwold

The main centres of Lowestoft, Kessingland and Southwold will remain defended by maintaining sediment supply to the beaches in front of the main settlements with the SMP also aiming to maintain the use of the harbour and harbour entrance at Southwold. However the SMP proposes that the linear flood defences be moved back from the shoreline. It also indicates some areas where defence is not justified with the most significant area being at Covehithe in the next 40 – 50 years. In the short term properties would be at risk at Easton Bavents and in the long term at Pakefield Cliff. However the plan puts forward an approach to management to establish a more robust defence of much of the Kessingland Levels. The SMP for the Blyth Estuary closely reflects the recently produced strategy.

b) Southwold to Aldeburgh

Defences at the main centres of Walberswick and Aldeburgh are maintained, whilst at Thorpeness and Dunwich, although the main areas of property will be defended, those currently undefended may be at risk in the long term. The plan does not however rule out local small scale intervention as long as this doesn't have a negative impact on coastal processes. For the Alde/Ore estuary the SMP recognises

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

there are many significant issues but at this stage only identifies the consequence of protection of the coast south of Slaughden leaving the finer detail to a more in-depth estuary strategy.

c) Aldeburgh to Landguard

Overall, the defence of the main centres of development including Felixstowe and the port are maintained, however in the long term the SMP indicates that there may be a need for adjustment to the approach to defence south of the built up area. The intent is also to protect Shingle Street and Felixstowe Ferry but there is likely to be increased risk of flooding in some areas and the possible loss of individual properties in the medium to long term. The plan also indicates that on this stretch of coast there is a potential loss of land from inundation or an impact on its value for agriculture due to increased risk of occasional flooding within the estuaries. Once again an estuary strategy needs to be undertaken for the Deben.

3. Summary of the conclusions of the Draft SMP implications on Nature Conservation, Landscape and the Historic Environment

Unlike the implications for land and property, these conclusions are less site-specific.

The review highlights the aim for designated nature conservation sites to allow erosion of cliffs whilst maintaining the habitat at the crest or to maintain the balance between the conservation of freshwater and coastal features. There appears to be little scope to create major areas of new inland habitat, but the plan does recommend restricting extending defences into undeveloped areas of the coast and to take advantage of the control imposed by natural or manmade structures to maintain the natural development of shingle banks and the potential low lying areas behind.

In terms of landscape the plan aims to maintain the landscape character of the area by restricting further encroachment of defences over undefended areas and where there are defences to offer less intrusive measures to maintain the hinterland/shoreline interface.

The Plan recognises that there are areas where historic coastal features will be lost as there is no scope for defending these areas. In these circumstances there will be the need to record these features before they disappear.

4. Next steps

Comments on the consultation phase of the Draft SMP Review need to be received by 30 September. Once the SMP has been finalised an Action Plan will be produced providing a focus and programme for future work around strategies, monitoring and works. The full plan can be viewed at www.suffolksmp2.org.uk

5. The Suffolk Local Access Forum's perspective

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Although the policies in the draft SMP will change see changes to the Suffolk coast over the next 100 years, it is noticeable that the effect of the plan on the current access for walkers, cyclists and horseriders through the rights of way network and particularly the Suffolk Coast Path is not considered. Neither are the likely effects on the local economy or agricultural land use.

As SLAF saw from its involvement in commenting on the Blyth Estuary Strategy and the subsequent site visit, an initial reaction to maintain the status quo may not on balance always be the best option and if a better and more sustainable coastline and coastal access route can be achieved through negotiation with landowners or as part of Natural England's national coast path project this would appear to be a better option than promoting and maintaining paths that may be subject to flooding in the short term or loss through erosion in the medium or long term.

The current approach to tackling coastal issues seems rather piecemeal, with the SMP lead being taken by Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils using Royal Haskoning as consultants with some input from Natural England and the Environment Agency whilst the strategies for the estuaries seem to be led by the Environment Agency using consultants. There is yet another partnership looking at these and other issues via the Suffolk Integrated Coastal Zone Management Initiative (ICZM) which has a wider brief to look at social, economic and environmental interests and includes not only the district councils, Natural England and the Environment Agency but other organisations such as the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Unit, East of England Development Agency and the Government Office for the Eastern Region.

Unfortunately this draft SMP does not cover the whole of the Suffolk shoreline, excluded is the coast north of Lowestoft and significantly the Orwell and Stour estuaries which are included within an Essex based SMP although the Environment Agency has produced a flood protection strategy for Ipswich.

As SLAF, our response can only relate to the need to ensure that whatever the draft SMP proposes for any section of coastline and estuary, due regard is taken to ensure that an adequate rights of way network exists and to ensure that in consultation with Natural England not only a suitable coast path is provided but also adequate opportunity is provided for cyclists and horseriders to also access the Suffolk coast in the future. There is also a need to ensure compatibility between the various coast and estuary related studies and it would seem advisable to start work on strategies for all the Suffolk estuaries as soon as possible in order that this can be achieved.

6. The Suffolk Local Access Forum's response

The Suffolk Local Access Forum:

- a) welcomes the draft update of the SMP
- b) would request that the effect of the proposals on the rights of way network and other public access within the coastal zone is given further consideration by SCDC within the SMP

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

- c) asks for a commitment from SCDC to replace or enhance PRowS threatened by the coastal change process
- d) wish to see the implications of the effect of the proposals on the proposed national Coast Path discussed with Natural England
- e) regrets that the shoreline north of Lowestoft and the Orwell and Stour estuaries are not included within the SMP
- f) would wish to see compatibility between the SMP, estuary strategies and the ICZM study

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Bawdsey Parish Council

Dear Mr. Oakes

Reference Shoreline Management Plan 2 Draft June 2009 – Sub Cell 3C

Bawdsey Parish Council (BPC) has monitored this document throughout its preparation, and has attended several review meetings and followed these up with review comments. At a meeting on 22 September Bawdsey Parish council considered the June 2009 final Draft and these are the comments arising from that meeting:

1. Bawdsey Parish Council is broadly in agreement with the SMP2, particularly as it relates to the Bawsdey Coastline. However, there are still a few issues we are concerned about which are made below.
2. The Council has concerns about finalising SMP2 before the conclusion and agreement of the Alde and Ore Estuary Study and the A and O Futures study. The link between these studies and SMP2 is particularly important in the case of Shingle Street where the effect of a breach at Slaughden, whether natural or man-made, on the protection provided by the river to the north end of Shingle Street is, in our view, underplayed. It should also be noted that the breakdown of river defences behind Shingle Street near the river mouth presents a possibly greater risk to the community than flooding from the sea.
3. The Council understands that during the first epoch the intent of the proposed policy of 'managed realignment' is to respond to any changed conditions in the river mouth in order to maintain 'the semi natural and unique quality and community of Shingle Street' as stated in the SMP2 objectives. The workings of this realignment policy should be made clearer. We do not think that this intention is presented strongly enough and that it should be emphasized in the policy summary.
4. The Council thinks that there should be a commitment to review the policy following publication and agreement of the estuary study, and to on-going reviews say every two years during epoch 1. A proposed timetable should be set out in the SMP.
5. The Council would welcome more details about the possible defences which may be put in place at Shingle Street. What are 'breastworks'? Several experiments are in hand for protection of shingle beaches both in Suffolk and Holland which are sympathetic to the environment.
6. Bawdsey Parish Council welcomes the designations of Hold the Line at East Lane and at Shingle Street for epochs 2 and 3 and effectively Holding the Entrance to the River Deben.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

7. The Council believes the document does not adequately stress the value of the agricultural land in this coastal area. The farms along the coastline are now significant producers of potatoes and salad crops. With food shortages likely to accompany global warming and continued population growth, this land could become extremely valuable to the country and yet it is usually dismissed as mere agricultural land.

8. In Section 3.2.2 Economic Sustainability – the document effectively states that the Country just cannot afford to protect coastal people. Coastal communities do not agree with this view, when they see billions spent on say defending the Falkland Islands or invading Iraq. The reality is that Government currently chooses not to protect coastal people, even though in reality they are not asking for miles of sea walls but for just a few key points to be protected. In the next section – 3.2.4 Social Justice – it hints at the unfairness in this position but states that Government powers to build sea defences are merely permissive and therefore they have no responsibility to protect coastal communities. This is clearly not social justice. If a government decides to build a motorway and you lose your house, you are compensated. If a government decides not to maintain an existing sea wall and you lose your home, you are (currently!) not compensated. The SMP as a major document about the Coast and its Communities should more clearly state the lack of natural justice in this current anomaly.

Yours sincerely

Louise Lennard (Mrs)
Clerk to Bawdsey Parish Council

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Suffolk County Council

Suffolk County Council response to the Draft Shoreline Management Plan Sub-Cell 3c (Lowestoft Ness to Languard Point)

General comments:

- Suffolk County Council strongly believes that the SMP cannot be regarded in isolation and that an integrated approach to managing the coastline, the estuaries and the hinterland is essential. The current Alde-Ore Futures (Integrated Coastal Zone Management) project is an example of the way forward. The SMP can only be regarded as one aspect of coastal management and must be sufficiently adaptable to take into account other plans and the objectives of local communities. We trust that the public consultation on this SMP will take heed of public concerns and policies will be amended accordingly.
- The County Council believes that a Hold the Line policy should be used as the default policy in the first epoch, wherever a feasible option exists, whether national funding would be available or not. This would allow time to find appropriate local solutions for social and environmental adaptation. Changes such as roll-back of properties/ communities and the creation of compensatory habitat will take many years to achieve.
- The County Council is concerned that whilst the stated SMP policy is Hold the Line or Managed Realignment, there is no guarantee of the funding to enact these policies. Policies must, therefore, be sufficiently flexible to encourage local and private action and investment.
- Where local action could be undertaken without adverse consequence elsewhere, a Hold the Line policy would make more sense (with the proviso that national funding is unlikely) rather than one of No Active Intervention. For example, BLY 10.1 has a No Active Intervention policy, yet current activities by local landowners and the Blyth Estuary Group is effectively a Hold the Line policy - at least in the short to medium term. The policy should be amended accordingly.
- The current SMP is clearly developed using guidance from Defra and linked to the current funding criteria for flood and coastal risk management. The guidance is flawed in that it looks at the coastline in isolation from the hinterland and fails to properly value the coastal assets in a wider context. Government policy and funding are ever-changing and it would be wrong to implement policies that cannot be reversed under different circumstances. As an example, the government is currently developing a new policy on food security in the light of climate change – which could affect the national view on losses of coastal agricultural land.
- The County Council expects the SMP to be reviewed and amended in response to actual changes over the 100 year timescale. There are many

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

assumptions underpinning the SMP which could change, and the policies must remain sufficiently flexible to allow amendment in the light of new knowledge of climate change and coastal processes, public or political opinions and associated funding. It is worth remembering that land once lost to the sea will never be recovered.

- The SMP does not appear to effectively identify and evaluate the nature or extent of **all** the assets within the study area. Whilst it shows a clear understanding of the national and internationally designated biodiversity assets, it is weak when considering the landscape and other biodiversity assets, as well as issues of access, the historic environment and the value of community assets. Before it becomes acceptable to the County Council the SMP must re-evaluate all assets on a Suffolk-wide basis and be clearer in the way it links with estuary, spatial and other objectives/plans. Such an overview must include valuation of undesignated habitat/historic assets, landscape impacts, loss of agricultural production capacity, tourism/access and the like, and include those parts of Suffolk being considered under the Essex SMP - in order to assess the countywide impact of the changes/losses resulting from the proposed policies.
- SCC recognises the importance of detailed discussions relating to the action plan and specific schemes related to the delivery of the SMP and will remain fully involved at all levels.

Links to Estuary plans

- There is a fundamental flaw in the production of the SMP, in that it fails to properly link the management of the shoreline with that of Suffolk's estuaries. SMP 3d (Essex) is being produced covering the coast and estuaries together, which is a much more integrated approach. The adoption of the Suffolk SMP should be delayed until the estuarine plans can be properly integrated with coastal management.
- For example, the Hold the Line policies in the mouth of the Deben (DEB 17.3/17.4), and the resultant loss of salt marsh through coastal squeeze, will put a lot of pressure on the forthcoming estuary strategy for realignment higher up the estuary. This effectively predetermines what the estuary strategy will need to say - which goes against the current landowner based approach being encouraged by all parties involved in the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project. Conversely, the estuary plan may drastically affect tidal flow and thus the ability to implement a Hold the Line policy at the mouth, thus the two must to be considered as a whole.
- The County Council welcomes the integrated approach being taken on the Alde/Ore in trying to assess the impacts of the SMP, estuary plans and wider community planning as a whole. The SMP recognises that a breach is likely somewhere on the Alde/Ore, and a community based decision to this is preferable to one being dictated by the SMP. It is imperative that nothing is

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

written in the SMP that cannot be amended in the light of this community work and the Aldeburgh Coast and Estuaries Strategy (ACES).

- It is not clear if the consequential upstream effects of coastal policies have been fully considered. For example, has there been proper integration of the SMP and catchment flood management plans in relation to the Minsmere and Kessingland levels?

Landscape, Biodiversity and the Area of Outstanding National Beauty (AONB)

- Landscape is not just about natural habitats. It is about the footprint of man over millennia and how that has shaped the habitats into what we see today. It is about the cultural aspects of the area and its sense of place. Landscape change is ongoing and whilst there is no aspiration to preserve it is aspic, it never has been thus. The SMP does not appear to fully understand the value and richness of what is being changed and or lost. (Refer to “*The Suffolk Coast and Heaths Landscape*” Countryside Commission 1993 and the *Waveney and Great Yarmouth Landscape Character Assessment 2008* the *Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment 2008* as well as a set of Landscape Guidance produced for the AONB unit in 2001.)
- The County Council recognises the difficult decisions needed in assessing whether policies are beneficial or not to the landscape. It is a subjective judgement whether additional rock armour at East Lane, that will protect the land behind the wider bay, is a positive contribution or not in an area designated for its soft and dynamic coast. Similarly it is hard to judge if allowing erosion at Easton Barents is positive given the loss of properties, agricultural land and historic assets. The result is that there appears to be contradictions within the SMP. The County Council feel it is imperative that the process to come to these conclusions is open and available to examination and that the SMP should be amended in the light of local views expressed in response to this public consultation.
- The County Council’s view is that it is inaccurate for the SMP to state that the proposed policies will be positive for the environment overall (Strategic Environmental Assessment, page 55). Parts of the designated AONB will be lost or changed forever. Freshwater habitats and agricultural land will be lost (or devalued by saltwater intrusion), small isolated communities will be more at risk and the visual appearance of the coast will change. These are all part of the environment and landscape and the reasons behind the AONB designation.
- For clearly understandable reasons the report has focused attention on the key internationally designated sites. However, this underplays the importance of capturing the contribution of other locally designated sites and non designated habitats to the biodiversity of study area. The close proximity of a wide range of habitats and landscape types means that the designated sites and the surrounding land have a wildlife value enhanced by heterogeneity.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

- Loss of designated freshwater habitats along the Suffolk coast (including areas included in the Essex SMP) is of particular concern for two reasons. Firstly, it is unlikely that these will be recreated in the coastal strip and thus the landscape will be less diverse, and secondly because of the potential impact on other valuable habitats/landscapes elsewhere.

Economy

- Suffolk's coastal economy is largely based on tourism, agriculture and numerous small local businesses. The County Council believes many assets have been undervalued and that the SMP fails to adequately assess the value of assets in a wider context. The total amount of land lost, through erosion or saline intrusion, may not be vast. However, the resulting impact on the landscape, transport infrastructure, tourism, local businesses, community assets and agricultural production may be significant. For example, a farm losing a proportion of its productive land may be rendered unviable and local production of specialist crops could end up being moved out of Suffolk – maybe overseas.
- The impact of the SMP policies on development of coastal towns and villages is uncertain. The Hold the Line policy around Lowestoft suggests a positive future for the town, but the SMP notes an increased flood risk and urges caution over residential development – which will be difficult for any planning authority to ignore. The changes proposed in the Communities and Local Government's new policy on planning and coastal development (updated PPS25) suggest a greater influence for the SMP and it is therefore necessary to ensure that SMP policies have regard to those within the Regional Spatial Strategy or Local Development Frameworks. The links between the SMP and statutory planning documents are not made clear in the document.
- In a number of places, coastal assets will need to be relocated – e.g. public rights of way and other informal access and car parks. It appears the costs and disruption involved in undertaking a managed realignment policy has not been properly assessed in the SMP development. This is an important part of the cost-benefit analysis needed to develop coastal policies.
- Saline intrusion of underground water sources is of serious concern as this could negatively impact on the ability to irrigate of high-value crops in the coastal strip. The accessibility of alternative sources and impacts of losing the existing ones needs to be factored into the assessment of the SMP.

Tourism and Public Access

- Part of the re-evaluation of assets needs to be the value of the landscape and access to tourism. The total tourism value of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Natural Beauty was £166 million (East of England Tourism, 2006). The effect of No Active Intervention or realignment policies on this value of the landscape in economic terms is missing. For example the value of the Aldeburgh to Thorpeness Road. This is not about preserving this popular

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

tourist route in aspic, but being fully aware of the costs and consequences of change.

- Public access to the coast and its hinterland is a key asset and part of the coastal infrastructure. Public rights of way and other informal access will be lost by managed realignment and any loss without alternative public access being put in place will have a detrimental effect on both the ability of local communities to enjoy their natural environment and the attraction of the area to tourists, with consequent negative effects on the local economy.
- The County Council expects a higher profile to be given to access within the SMP, and that a policy is established that where Public Rights of Way and other access are lost, measures are put in place to replace and where possible enhance the access, and appropriate compensation provided to land managers as part of the overall mitigation measures.
- The Suffolk Coast Path is an important asset both for the local community and visitors. If the coastline is to change, there will be a need for detailed discussions around re-routing this path and the associated costs.
- There is a need to clarify how Natural England's Coastal Access proposals are linked to the SMP. In many places, the SMP policies will make access more difficult.
- The following are area specific comments relating to public access routes which need to be properly assessed and considered in the SMP and resultant schemes:
 - PDZ2: Potters Bridge area. Access is already restricted at times due to flooding, and there is a need to seek improvements to the coastal path with potential diversion of route. Loss of key access links at Covehithe, a popular tourist route.
 - PDZ3: Loss of part of the network due to increased flooding around Dunwich river paths, Dingle Marshes, Corporation Marshes, Buss Creek and Tinkers Marsh which will need to be addressed.
 - PDZ4: Permanent realignment of path will be needed at Coney Hill cross bank in the future as the existing path is likely to be lost – the route would be as per the temporary diversion.
 - PDZ5: Potential loss of access to Alde and Ore Estuary routes and paths around Sudbourne Marshes, due to increased flooding. Realignment of beach route at Thorpeness maybe required.
 - PDZ6: Potential loss of rights of way network around Hollesley Bay and Deben estuary. Currently there is limited access at Bawdesy due to ongoing erosion issues which will worsen over time.

Archaeology and Historic Assets

- There is a serious gap in the national strategy for dealing with the loss of historic environment assets on the coast. No funding is available for mitigation – either the relocation of historic assets if feasible and/or their recording before loss.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

- The development of the SMP has severely undervalued the historic environment, failing to take into account the actual cost of relocating or recording the asset, as well as the cost to the local economy of the loss. For example, the recording of Covehithe (upstanding buildings including the medieval church and the below ground archaeology) plus Dunwich (the upstanding medieval Greyfriars Scheduled Ancient Monument and the below ground archaeological deposits) would cost £ millions. It is difficult to understand how the loss of these valuable assets can be reconciled with the fact that causing damage to a Scheduled Ancient Monument is a criminal offence!
- As a high level strategy the SMP identifies and gives some consideration to designated scheduled monuments, but there is no attempt to assess these monuments in their landscape setting or in relation to each other or to other less significant historic assets. Although the coastal grazing marshes are an essentially artificial landscape their significance as such seems not to be considered. For example, the landscape loss of Leiston first abbey is seen in landscape terms as the loss of a single 'small chapel' (SEA, 5.4.4) ignoring the relationship of the abbey site on its island with adjacent early reclaimed marshland.
- The County Council feels the SEA scoring system needs to be challenged with regard to the assessment of the historical environment. Within the document the destruction of regionally important assets has been allocated as a "minor positive" outcome. This is at odds to other similar assessments of our built heritage.
- The following should be noted in relation to historic assets and the SMP re-evaluated accordingly:-
 - PDZ 1: LOW 04 includes reference to the policy of No Active Intervention at Pakefield Cliffs encouraging fresh exposures for study. This should be in KES05, the site of the internationally important Palaeolithic material being south of the management area division. There is significant potential loss of a Roman site on the top of the cliff at the division between the areas LOW04 and KES05. This is a typical example of a site that is undesignated because it has not been archaeologically assessed.
 - PDZ2: This zone has been seriously undervalued in heritage terms, with no mention of heritage/historic environment in the stakeholder objectives and underscoring in the SEA, due largely to over-reliance on designation datasets. The northern part includes at least one archaeological site known only from surface finds. The southern part encompasses the loss of an entire medieval (and potentially earlier) settlement at Covehithe plus its likely harbor area on Covehithe Broad. Assessment is based solely on the upstanding features (church etc) and uncertainty as to whether erosion will reach this far in 100 years, resulting in a comment that the overall effect will be neutral. This fails to recognise the evidence that the settlement was formerly much larger and thus the archaeological deposits will be lost imminently.
 - PDZ3: At the north end there have been substantial medieval and prehistoric finds. PDZ3/PDZ4: At Dunwich there is a major omission in the Strategic Environmental Assessment as the nationally important Greyfriars Monastery

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

has been completely omitted, falling as it does just south of the PDZ3/PDZ4 line. The text refers to it (PDZ3:32) but only in terms of the upstanding ruin rather than the site as a whole. The estimated cost for full recording by excavation of this site was estimated at £1million, 10 years ago.

- *PDZ4*: Leiston first abbey is noted but without also noting that the marshland immediately to its south is also of historic importance.
- *PDZ5*: The importance of Slaughden Martello tower as a unique structure is recognised and if a breach is engineered it will be placed to protect this feature; presumably a natural breach might not be so well placed. This issue, and the impact of a breach on the estuarine sites and landscapes, needs further consideration. There appears to be no heritage assessment for the remainder of Orford Ness, despite the historic significance of the 20th century installations here.

Highways

- The economic impact of increased flooding of local roads, and thus the need to raise or reroute them, does not appear to have been properly considered within the appraisal. This was a fundamental flaw in the development of the Blyth Estuary Strategy and a mistake that should not be repeated elsewhere.
- The following roads appear to be impacted by increased flood risk:–

B1127 at Potters Bridge
Road into Southwold
C road between Dunwich and Blythburgh
Reckford Bridge at Middleton
B1122 into Sizewell
C346 at Bawdsey.

- As a rough guide Suffolk County Council Highways Department estimates that raising the B1127 would cost over £2million today, thus the overall impact of policies in the longer term could prove very costly.
- Flooding to highways is not just a local nuisance but can seriously impact economic activity as well as have safety implications. Even where it is not necessary to undertake major road-raising, increased flood risk will almost always result in additional costs of repair and clearing after a flood event.

I am happy to discuss any of these points further as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Burch
on behalf of Councillor Guy McGregor

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Response 7

With reference to Draft 8. SMP 2.

We appreciate the South Warren cliffs at Easton Bavents being upgraded to MR, it should be HTL to fulfil your primary stated intentions to protect human habitat at Easton Bavents. Thank you for the change, it helps, gives our homes a chance of a future.

Looking back at our letter of 17/4/09 many of the observations are still relevant and Points 1 to 8 are in no way resolved. The abuse of the HR of the owners of Thursley continues, it even appears that the whims of NE are now being used to nullify the owners right to pursue the matter by Appeal to the Minister. The abuse is sickening.

As some members of your committee know discussions have been taking place between NE, WDC, EA and ourselves. These are in an early stage but should produce a sustainable situation without detriment to adjacent areas.

Referring to point 2, the position of the owners of Benacre Estate has changed over recent times, due too certain sad events, which means a further urgent interest in the future now exists. This Gregor was made aware of prior to Draft 8. I was party to the conversation that took place at Westminster. Frustrating as it may be to yourselves, this should have been, but has not been taken into account. Your present draft deny the Benacre Estate owners, several major basic rights, it is already immoral to assure the destruction of this area and your proposals are unlawful in its present form.

Any destruction of this nation cannot be counted as conservation or sanely as a matter of outstanding public interest, for the love of destruction is the product of fanatical minds. In relationship to the Ness moving Northwards, it is now in the position of Max public benefit protecting Kessingland village, therefore a reduction in feed to it may help stabilize it in its present position. The village cannot be rolled back, caravan sites can, without risk to the built environment of Pakefield which appears to be adequately protected.

If Benacre remains subject to its present state of rapid erosion, without strengthening the protection of the sluice and partial protection of the cliffs damage will happen. The beach North of the sluice will be rapidly eroded, the protection of the low lying areas will be lost. Covehithe village will be lost in an unnecessary short time, let alone the loss to the owners and the nation of agricultural land and major damage and losses to the environment. Please do not block the future by classifying the area NAI.

Referring to point 3, you now have my solicitors letter, which may help to clarify the matter.

Referring to point 7, for some weeks the sheet toe piling has again been excessively exposed this is only September, one of the major intensions of modifying the Sea defence of the area was to safeguard this wall. Regrettable the work in this section has been unfit for purpose. In the early stages eight groynes were proposed for the

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Easton Marsh sea wall, when I enquired I was told that there would be one more than existed at the time, increasing the number from seven to eight. I have been asked to give it three years for the system to settle down and we have been exposed to up to fivefold increase in erosion rates. This is as urgent matter which should be exposed in the SMP and the system faults rectified, it won't just go away as some people hope, without a fight every inch of the way.

A further matter very relevant is the fact past projections of likely erosion rates were considerably greater than those projected in your Draft SMP. If the previous projections were right we are all being misled by your new projections, less may look nice on paper, any loss is a curse on the nation.

See also comment below, received later:

SMP an apology.

Dear Gregor

I accidentally made a mistake in my submission to Terry Oakes re the SMP in the 4th paragraph quoted below.

(Referring to point 2, the position of the owners of Benacre Estate has changed over recent times, due too certain sad events, which means a further urgent interest in the future now exists. This Gregor was made aware of prior to Draft 8. I was party to the conversation that took place at Westminster. Frustrating as it may be to yourselves, this should have been, but has not been taken into account. Your present draft deny the Benacre Estate owners, several major basic rights, it is already immoral to assure the destruction of this area and your proposals will be unlawful in its present form.)

I apologize for the error. You were not to my knowledge aware of the Estates decisions before Draft 8 was released. The meeting at Westminster was 2 days after I had viewed Draft 8.

Other than for this fact, the position is unchanged, the proposed SMP's has a drastic effect. If interested constant contact was maintained with the landowners and those who's future's are closely involved in the outcome of the SMP. It is possible that the urgent interest of all of us would be known earlier.

Sadly all the listening after decisions have been made, rarely help us, our words often fall on barren ground. This is terribly wrong, for unless action is taken in consideration of our rightful needs, our futures are dictated to us without the civilized right of defense

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From the RSPB

Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan2 – comment on draft policies October 5th 2009.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (the RSPB) is the charity that takes action for wild birds and the environment. We are the largest wildlife conservation organisation in Europe with over one million members and take a keen interest in coastal planning at all levels. We own or manage approximately over 12,000 hectares of land for nature conservation on 22 reserves in the East of England, including many coastal sites. We believe that sustainability should be at the heart of decision-making and is therefore commenting on each of the Shoreline Management Plans covering the East of England coastline.

A common problem with the Appropriate Assessment (AA) is that it does not identify habitat baselines; these should be added so that where a transition is expected this could be measured and reviewed. The AA should include the areas (ha) to be compensated by habitat and qualified in terms of International features. Considering all of the Policy Development Zones (PDZ) in detail, the RSPB has the following comments:

PDZ 2 Benacre to Easton Broad

The RSPB understands that the following is proposed for this area; Ben 6.1, HTL, MR and MR, 6.2 HTL, MR and MR – 3, MR , MR, MR . Set back defence by year 20, Kessingland levels defence would be moved back habitat creation opportunities on the Kessingland Levels for inter-tidal habitats and shingle. Anticipated loss of some brackish inter-tidal and saline lagoon habitats due to “natural change”.

The RSPB is supportive of MR in this location with inter-tidal habitat creation but considers that habitat restoration of high quality grazing marsh in the western part of this area should also be considered. Where there is unavoidable loss of European sites or interest features and there is no alternative solution, the RSPB expects that compensatory habitat should be provided. It is not sufficient to state that because the habitats are viewed as ephemeral and the policy promotes the natural behaviour of the coast that this is equivalent to no adverse effect on the integrity of the site. If there is no certainty that coastal lagoons will form naturally as part of the dynamic coastal environment, then compensatory measures should be undertaken to ensure that there is no net loss of the overall coastal lagoon resource.

Cov 7.1 and 7.2

The RSPB understands that the following is proposed for this area; greater increased probability of flooding in these zones with an NAI approach from the beginning. Much greater flood risk, under draft preferred policy. The loss of saline lagoons (SAC

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

feature) is part of “natural change” and therefore not an adverse effect on integrity of the site. The vegetated shingle ridge and little terns (part of the SPA and RAMSAR feature) should benefit from the proposed management, key concern is the loss of reedbed and impacts upon the SPA features associated with this namely bittern and marsh harrier. Compensatory habitat to be addressed through RHCP.

It is stated that the Benacre, Covehithe Broad and Easton saline lagoons may move landward, if there is no certainty that coastal lagoons will form naturally as part of the dynamic coastal environment, then compensatory measures should be undertaken to ensure that there is no net loss of the overall coastal lagoon resource.

Regarding the impact upon the freshwater reedbed, the EA should be quantifying how much is to be lost, exactly what features it supports and implementing sufficient compensation on alternative sites. The RSPB would argue the effect is already happening and it is an entirely predictable adverse effect occurring on the freshwater SPA habitats.

PDZ3 Easton Broad to Dunwich Cliffs

The RSPB understands that for Bly. 9.5 Walberswick dunes, Appropriate Assessment (AA) is proposed at a scheme level, the AA will ensure that MR in this location will not constrain the natural development of the shingle beach to the south. However, the RSPB view is that the assessment should not defer to the scheme level AA. In particular, the effect of the preferred options for the Southwold Harbour training walls should be assessed as we would expect that any change to these would have an adverse impact on the SPA frontage to the south, and consequent impacts upon the fresh and saline habitats behind.

The RSPB understand the following policies are proposed for this area; for Bly. 10.1 MR maintaining northern defences subject to funding; Bly 10.2 HTL improve defences and Bly 10.3 NAI.

The RSPB believes that the shift in habitat composition that has occurred on Tinkers Marsh (10.1) is a direct result of the flood defence decision not to repair river walls and that this should be adequately compensated. The habitat should be compensated from its original form, freshwater habitat with its associated features especially for breeding avocet.

HTL policy at 10.2 will cause a loss of inter-tidal habitat due to coastal squeeze, this will need to be compensated and it has been suggested that inter-tidal habitat is created at Tinkers Marsh. The RSPB is concerned this could be a significant area of

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

inter-tidal habitat to be lost and compensated for at Tinkers Marsh, detail is sought from the EA to qualify and quantify the impacts and the compensation proposed.

The RSPB is unclear as to exact proposals for Dunwich 11.2 Walberswick marshes 2025, 2055 and 2105, in the SMP it is stated as MR in accordance with the draft SMP March 09. However, in the Strategic Environmental Assessment an NAI approach is referred to and in the AA for Dun. 11.2, NAI is the proposed management.

The RSPB is supportive of MR in as much as this option allows for intervention to reduce the area impacted by saline incursion. MR is appropriate, as management is proposed for the landward side of the ridge in terms of the other works to the walls and in case there is any emergency work needed e.g. the Dunwich river fills with shingle. The RSPB is not supportive of NAI in this location.

The RSPB does not accept that the "the movement of the shingle ridge would lead to the loss of saline lagoons but this is considered acceptable in regard to enabling the natural evolution of the shingle areas and is considered loss through natural change". The saline lagoons support Annex 1 species of European importance associated with the Minsmere and Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SPA such as breeding avocet, as well as a waterfowl assemblage. The impact upon these interest features should be quantified and the need for appropriate compensatory habitat identified.. Furthermore the active withdrawal of management from the shingle ridge is already having a detrimental impact upon this habitat and may do so further as the ridge expands further. More proactive management of the Dunwich river (re-routing the river as we have previously advocated so that it does not become blocked with shingle, impeding drainage and causing additional inappropriate flooding of the marshes) may allow, at least temporarily, the evolution of the saline lagoons further inland. This would have the dual purpose of preventing unwanted flooding of the other habitats such as grazing marsh that also support birds associated with the SPA.

The plan states that the new defence line seaward of Westwood Marshes (Dunwich rear defences) will protect the freshwater features landward of this throughout epoch 3, but freshwater habitat seaward of this will be lost through epochs 1 and 2. It is the RSPB's understanding that the freshwater habitats of Point, East Hill and Old Town marshes would be maintained for the next 20 years exceeding epoch 1 until compensatory reedbed habitat is functioning. Loss during epoch 2 we have accepted as long as the compensatory habitat is functioning. The area (ha.) requiring compensation and the SPA features associated with this should be quantified in the AA and included within the SMP.

Finally, the protected reedbeds should remain freshwater in character, *Phragmites australis* may become tolerant of brackish conditions but bittern and their prey

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

species associated with the reedbeds are not. Therefore allowing any of the reedbeds to become brackish would be an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA.

PDZ 4 Dunwich Cliffs to Thorpeness

The RSPB understands that the proposed policies for the Minsmere Policy area are; 12.1 NAI for 2025, 2055 and 2105, for 12.2 MR for 2025, 2055 and NAI for 2105, for 12.3 and 12.4 MR for 2025, 2055 and 2105.

The AA tables (and possibly assessment?) have not been updated with the above proposed management approaches. The RSPBs understanding and acceptance of the preferred option for Minsmere Flood Risk Management Project is that North marsh is likely to remain in situ, with damage to the frontage repaired where practical, for the next 20 years. During this time, compensatory habitat will be sought by the EA and that this should be functioning before any damage is allowed to the freshwater habitat. We do not expect this unit 12.2 to be breached within the next 20 years, as the AA states. Also as part of the preferred option the RSPB expects that improvements will be made to Coney Hill Cross bank to ensure protection against flooding for at least a further 50 years to the rest of the reserve.

The RSPB is concerned that in the AA table, it is stated that “Managed realignment across the Minsmere valley Min 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4 may in epoch 3 lead to increased saline flooding and potential longer term breach throughout the Minsmere Valley leading to the loss of freshwater lagoons (bittern habitat)”. The RSPB would oppose larger scale realignment over Minsmere, unless it was demonstrated to be unavoidable, which it hasn't so far.

For Min13.1 HTL is proposed, the RSPB understands that the protection to the power stations is important but are concerned that indirect adverse effects are not caused to the SPA as a consequence of this policy. This should be considered as part of the AA.

PDZ 5 Ald 14.1 – 14.3 Thorpeness to Aldeburgh

The proposed policy at Slaughen (14.4) is currently HTL for all three epochs, the RSPB supports until the Alde and Ore Estuary Strategy is further evolved, however the inherent uncertainty of awaiting the outcome of the estuary strategy does not allow a conclusion of no adverse effect to be made.

Orf. 15.1 Sudbourne Beach to Orford Ness

AA and proposed policy section are not consistent, AA recommends no policy currently as to be informed by estuary strategy and concludes it cannot be

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

appropriately assessed. The policy section considers HTL until 2025 and NAI for 2055 and 2105. If the latter is correct, the RSPB is concerned about the unsustainable practice of removing shingle further south on Orford Ness to recharge this area of the Ness. This is potentially damaging to the Orford Ness Shingle Street SAC and birds associated with the Alde-Ore Estuary Ramsar and SPA and an adverse effect cannot be dismissed. Suitable compensatory habitat should be sought or an alternative source of shingle identified.

The RSPB views the evolving Alde to Ore strategy as being key in identifying the impacts upon the estuary relevant to this and the next section of coastline.

15.2 Orford Ness

Both NAI for 15.1 and 15.2 will allow for a greater risk of flooding to this section of the Ness and we accept that the NAI will allow for natural processes to erode and deposit shingle maintaining the site.

PDZ 6 Orford Ness to Cobbolds Point

The proposed policies for this section are:

- 16.1 Orford Beach, 2025 NAI, 2055 NAI, and 2105 NAI.
- 16.2 North Weir Point 2025 MR, 2055 MR and 2105 NAI
- 16.3 Shingle Street 2025 MR, 2055 HTL and 2105 HTL
- 16.4 Hollesley Bay 2025, MR, 2055 MR and 2105 MR
- 16.5 East Lane 2025 HTL, 2055 HTL and 2105 HTL
- 16.6 Bawdsey Hill 2025 NAI, 2055 NAI and 2105 NAI

16.1 Appears to be a continuation of 15.2 policy and does not reduce/alter the current coastline. However, the RSPB seeks clarity on the approach to Halvergate Island and the potential impacts upon the RSPB reserve.

16.3 Shingle Street proposed policy is linked closely to the management of East Lane 16.5 and specifically the maintenance of a control point at 16.5 which the RSPB would support. The AA does not identify any losses to the Orford Ness Shingle Street SAC (principally shingle and saline lagoon systems) although it acknowledges that this is a risk. The preventative measures to avoid an adverse effect, of a future site-specific study by the EA and NE to monitor the effects of policy 16.3 to 16.6 should be sufficient to respond to any changes. The RSPB would expect this to ensure no adverse effect upon both the shingle and saline lagoon features. No adverse effect cannot be concluded however at this stage by the SMP AA until a definite commitment to undertake and fund this study has been agreed.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

17. 3 Lower Estuary Deben

The proposed policy for this area (17.3) are; HTL for 2025 and 2055 and MR in 2105.

The AA has identified that an adverse effect upon the integrity of the Deben Estuary Ramsar and SPA, may be caused by the HTL approach in the first two epochs. It also refers to the need to consider the outcomes of the Deben Estuary Strategy, the RSPB's position is that any inter-tidal habitat loss should be compensated for in epoch 1 and 2 in advance of any loss of habitat. The AA currently states that losses in epoch 1 and 2 may be addressed through re-alignment within the upper and middles estuary during epoch 3, such incompatibility of timing would constitute an adverse effect.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From English Heritage

Dear Mr Oakes,

Thank you for consulting English Heritage regarding the draft revised Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2), dated July 2009.

English Heritage is the Government's principal adviser on all aspects of the historic environment, including historic buildings and areas, archaeology and the historic landscape, with responsibilities that extend to both the urban, rural and marine environments. Alongside our statutory duty to conserve the heritage, we are also required to advance its understanding and enjoyment by the public. As part of this function we manage an estate of over 400 historic properties open to visitors. English Heritage is sponsored by the Department for Culture Media and Sport, but our corporate objectives are now set jointly by DCMS, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs.

English Heritage has been involved in discussions with the consultants during writing of the SMP2 and we are grateful that a number of the points raised have been taken on board in the consultation draft. The policy decisions that entail the preservation of Martello Towers at Slaughden and Shingle Street are to be lauded, Section 3.1.4 is particularly well worded and, whilst containing a number of inconsistencies, there is good detail in Appendix E3.

Despite our earlier engagement in the process, we feel that the draft continues to fundamentally undervalue many key aspects of the historic environment, including its cultural, social and economic contribution to the Suffolk coast. It appears that the special characteristics of the historic environment have not been fully understood, leading to an unsatisfactory and flawed treatment of the rich variety of historic assets within the subject area. Most fundamentally, we feel that not enough importance has been placed on the finite and non-renewable nature of physical historic assets and the wider landscapes in which they sit. The treatment of landscapes as an aspect of the historic environment we feel is particularly weak in this document.

Furthermore, the plan fails to adequately highlight the likely high mitigation costs entailed by a number of the preferred policies. The poor economic assessment of historic assets is most evident in Appendix H which seriously undervalues or omits the monetary value of such sites, despite some costs being previously established following SMP1.

As a result of these failings, we do not consider that the historic environment issues have been adequately addressed, and we shall expect to see significant revisions before English Heritage is able to support the final SMP2 document. We suggest that a historic environment specialist would be best-placed to make these corrections. Please find some detailed comments appended to this letter, but please be advised that we feel the historic environment aspects of the plan need to be fundamentally readdressed in order for English Heritage to be able to give their support to the document.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

I hope you find these comments helpful. I would be pleased to discuss them in more detail, if this would be of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

John Ette

Inspector of Ancient Monuments
Team Leader Suffolk and Bedfordshire

Our detailed comments are as follows:

Glossary of Terms, p.ii

We would like to see 'heritage assets', 'historic environment' and 'mitigation' added, as these phrases capture key aspects of the SMP2; we would also like to see increased use of these phrases in the document, where appropriate.

Possible definitions are:

Heritage Assets "A building, monument, site or landscape of historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest whether designated or not. Designated assets may be World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park or Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas."

Historic Environment "All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed flora."

Mitigation "Practical measures taken to offset the impact of a policy upon physical assets. For the historic environment, this may be 'preservation by investigation' for archaeological features, or 'preservation by recording' followed by staged abandonment, demolition or re-location for listed buildings. There is no effective mitigation for the loss of historic landscapes."

Key principles, Section 1.1.3

To bring the statement in line with English Heritage policy, we would appreciate its rephrasing to state "To support the historic environment and cultural heritage where economically, technically and environmentally sustainable"

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Natural and Cultural Heritage, Section 3.1.3

This subsection is at present inadequate, and we would like to see significant revisions – most notably, much clearer reference to the inter-relatedness of geology, heritage, and natural features along the coastline.

Geology It should be noted that a number of key geologic sequences along the Suffolk coastline are also significant for their associated Palaeolithic remains.

Heritage This statement is at present extremely weak and does not reflect English Heritage's position on the importance of protecting heritages assets where at all sustainable. There is no listing of nationally designated heritage assets (for example, scheduled monuments and grade I, II* and II listed buildings along the coast), unlike Table 3.1 for the natural environment.

p.3.12 "Roman Saxon town" does not make sense and ask if the word 'and' needs to be inserted?

p.3.12 "sites or monuments" should be changed to 'designated heritage assets'.

p.3.12 The final paragraph is also extremely weak, since it fails to note that the historic environment is irreplaceable – or that designated heritage assets should be protected wherever this is sustainable. Both these points are key aspects of English Heritage's stance. In addition, we would like reference to be made to 'mitigation', rather than surveying and recording.

p.3.12 "the opportunity to sustain the historic environmental values in an appropriate manner" is a meaningless phrase. We would like greater clarity on this issue.

Landscape English Heritage feels strongly that consideration is given in this section to historic landscapes, for example the lengths of Heritage Coast covered by the SMP2. Also consideration should be given to the collective importance of historic patterns of settlement and land use, and their relationship to natural environment designations (notably, freshwater grazing marsh). We would like reference to be made to these aspects of the landscape. The final paragraph on p.3.14 hints at this, but the relationship between landscape value, both urban and rural, and historic environment should be stated more clearly, perhaps by referring to historic landscape characterisation.

Human (Socio-Economic) Environment and Activity, Section 3.1.4

p.3.15 "...heritage sites" ought to read "heritage assets"

English Heritage feels that it would be beneficial to mention the numerous clusters of listed buildings within coastal settlements, and the role of conservation areas in protecting larger areas of most commonly the historic built environment.

Natural Environment, Section 3.2.3

This subsection deals with sustainability issues directly affecting the natural environment. There is no equivalent subsection for the historic environment, which is also critical within the SMP2 as it is an irreplaceable asset. A separate subsection at

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

this stage would allow brief examination of the threats that the historic environment is subject to and how these may be mitigated (for example, whether by sea defence or loss preceded by survey, recording, demolition or rebuilding elsewhere). It would also be a good opportunity to highlight the often substantial costs entailed by mitigation and that, whilst specific features may be addressed, there is no effective mitigation for historic landscapes.

Benacre Ness to Easton Broad, Section 4.2

We would like to question why the historic environment has not been included within the stakeholder objectives. The historic qualities of the landscape have been recognised in the preceding 'Heritage and Amenity' overview, and therefore feel strongly that the historic environment should form one of the stakeholder objectives for this section. We feel this is symptomatic of the overall failing to see the historic environment as a key element of the plan.

p.PDZ2:13 The Economic Assessment table provides no indication for loss of historic assets, for which costs extend from mitigation of those assets to loss of tourist and amenity value. The likely cost of mitigation for Covehithe will be extremely high, and it is misleading to omit this from the table. This comment may be extended to the other PDZ sections.

p.PDZ2:14 The General Assessment of Objectives makes no mention to loss of historic assets, as a result of its omission from the stakeholder objectives for this PDZ.

Easton Broad to Dunwich Cliffs, Section 4.3

p.PDZ3:6 "Greyfriars Monastery" ought to read "Greyfriars Priory" and it is the "Hospital of **the Holy Trinity**"

Plan for balanced sustainability, Section 5.1

The paragraph regarding Covehithe (p.5.7), whilst acknowledging the historic importance of the village, states that "it is not considered sustainable or desirable to attempt to manage the erosion". Whilst erosion may be inevitable, the lack of any management of its advance would put great pressure on achieving sufficient mitigation, which would need to be extensive.

Predicted implications of the preferred plan, Section 5.2

There is not sufficient weight attached to the impact upon the historic environment, nor the likely cost of mitigation for some very significant historic assets.

Implications for landscape, Section 5.2.3

This subsection is vague, and landscape needs to be considered with the historic environment as an integrated whole.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Implications for historic environment, Section 5.2.4

At present, this one paragraph is completely inadequate and cannot be supported by English Heritage. A number of proposed policies in the SMP2 will have a significant impact upon historic assets, either through loss or indirectly through substantial changes in their setting. Historic assets are a finite and non-renewable resource. We would like to see complete rewriting, in particular a stronger emphasis upon the irreplaceable nature of historic assets and that they will be protected wherever it is sustainable.

Funding, Section 5.3.2

There is no discussion of the sizeable costs that will be entailed by mitigating the loss of numerous historic assets; most notably the villages of Covehithe and Dunwich, and Scheduled Monuments of Leiston Abbey and The Hospital of the Holy Trinity. Reference should be made to the continuing lack of agreement as to who is financially responsible for the indirect effects of policies that lead to coastal erosion. Whilst the SMP2 cannot be expected to resolve these serious issues, they should be clearly flagged.

Appendix D, Natural and Built Environment Baselines

Human and built environment characteristics, Section 6

This section would benefit from tabulated listings of the statutory designated historic assets found within each geographic subsection (e.g. Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens).

Appendix E, Issues and Objectives Evaluation

E1 Introduction

“...between the River Tyne and Flamborough Head,”; this requires correction.

E3 Issues and Objectives Table

All Listed Buildings across all three tiers of significance are recognised by the Secretary of State to be of national significance. This should be indicated clearly in the table.

“Heritage sites” should be rephrased as ‘heritage assets’.

Entries 244, 378, 9, 445 and 480 have inconsistency between Grade II* in the ‘Issues’ column, and Grade II in the ‘Benefits’ column.

Entry 488 should be indicated as being of national significance, as it is a Scheduled Monument.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

Appendix F, Strategic Environmental Assessment The Historic Environment, Section 3.3

There ought to be reference that, whilst designated historic assets provide an indication of the significance of historic environment along the coastline, many important archaeological features are not designated in the inter-tidal zone due to the dynamic setting. Similarly there is likely to be unknown and therefore undesignated archaeological sites in the area. The data in the SEA thus provides a guide, but is not comprehensive.

We welcome the reference to the scheduled monuments within the study area (p.20) and would like this to be extended to include historic assets that are protected by the other statutory designations.

Environmental Issues, Section 4.1

Reference to the "...North Norfolk coast." requires correcting.

Issue – maintenance of the archaeological and historical features of the Suffolk coast, Section 5.4.5

Whilst the losses of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity and Leiston Abbey are mentioned, there is no discussion of the village of Covehithe. All these losses are of great concern to English Heritage, since mitigation is never as good as preservation.

Investigation of coastal cultural and archaeological sites, Section 6.1.5

Like Section 5.4.5, this section also over-relies on reference to Scheduled Monuments when identifying likely major losses. We feel it is essential that the loss of Covehithe, and numerous significant but undesignated historic assets (notably, inter-tidal archaeology) is also flagged. It is, however, appreciated that the issue of funding has been raised in this part of the report.

SEA Assessment Tables, Appendix I

Table A2.6 The gradual/natural approach to realignment should, at best, be regarded as having a neutral impact upon the historic environment – due to provision of adequate time for mitigation. The presence of time does not convert the loss of historic assets into a positive or minor positive, as losses to the historic environment can never be fully overcome by mitigation. Indeed it states in the draft PPS15 in Policy HE13.1 that a documentary record is not as valuable as retaining the asset.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Robert Flatman, Anglia Water

In answer to a question: Does Anglian Water have any comments on the draft proposals for managing the coast south of Kessingland as stated in policies BEN 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 shown on pages PDZ2:26 and PDZ2:27 in the draft SMP?''.

With reference to your e-mail which has been passed to me for comment.

The proposals as detailed, do, as you state not immediately effect the Sewage Treatment Works (STW) but do risk flooding to some of the sewers and a pumping station that transfers flows to the STW. If the flooding were likely to happen infrequently and for short durations then Anglian Water (AW) would have no specific comments as we would deal with the flooding as part of our normal operations, as we currently do with flooding situations. We would probably look to isolate the flooded sections from the rest of the network, so as to prevent saline inundation of the STW, and use Road Tankers to maintain a service as required.

In the long term if the flooding were to be more frequent and longer lasting then AW would consider undertaking alteration works to secure the operation of our assets. This could include moving the pumping station to outside the flooded area or raising it above the flood level and the sealing of manhole and access covers to prevent water entering the network. To this end it would be useful to be kept informed of proposals. Also if you have any additional information (to that shown on page PDZ2:6) as to the predicted flood level, frequency, duration and the point in the future that this is likely to occur this would be useful as it would enable AW to better plan for any alteration work.

I hope this is sufficient for your needs but if you requires any further information please let me know.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Kessingland Parish Council

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW - CONSULTATION

The Parish Council is of the view that

- 1) The total non co-operation stance Anglian Water in refusing to get involved is plainly completely unacceptable. There is an enhanced threat here to the drainage and sewerage here that needs significant forward planning. Burying one's head in the sand is not an option. A way needs to be found to oblige Anglian Water to come to the table and establish how they will respond to their commitments and obligations both for now and in the foreseeable future. The extended development on the Pontin's site will further exacerbate an already unsatisfactory situation, and further add to the calamitous situation we already have to live with.
- 2) We note that these policies are to be incorporated in the L.D.F. (Local Development Framework) for consultation regarding planning development. What will this mean? Whose targets will have priority? It is also noted that Kessingland is a principle feature in the overview of Policy Development Zone 1, for Built Environment, Heritage and Amenity, and Nature Conservation, and a managed realignment policy, or more honestly, a "do nothing" policy, will put all these elements in grave danger and render many hectares of Kessingland and the surrounding area uninhabitable for man or beast.
- 3) With regard to funding – there appears to be none. Potentially and practically there is now no land in Kessingland for future development, so no potential income from Section 106 monies or any other obvious sources. However, we are fully aware that Government, District and County Councils are always readily taking money from residents and businesses by way of direct and indirect taxation, so it is quite reasonable to expect these bodies to support our Communities in their hour of need. Money always seems to be made available to support other countries in their hour of need when suffering from some natural calamity, so it is quite appropriate that Kessingland *et al* should be supported when we are likely to suffer in a similar situation.

We consider that Kessingland is the most vulnerable habituated point on the east coast; we accept that we need both protecting and guidance that will go beyond organisations and bodies shrugging their corporate shoulders and saying "it's not our problem. You will have to sort it out for yourselves." How?

Please ensure commitment to be more actively involved with the Parish Council in future discussion.

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

From Rob Wise, Country Land and Business Association

Response to the Consultation on the Draft Suffolk SMP - Subcell 3c

The CLA is the leading national organisation which represents and supports businesses in rural communities, covering all aspects of land use and management. We represent the breadth of the rural economy with 36,000 members in England and Wales. Together they own around 5 million hectares of rural land. Our members run many different types of businesses in rural areas including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, renewable energy, food, tourism, recreation and other rural businesses.

We set out our general comments on this draft SMP having consulted within our local membership some of whom will respond individually with specific local comments.

In our response to the initial consultation on this SMP in 2007 we said we believed that the fundamental approach underlying Shoreline Management Plans was flawed. We believe SMPs are intended to be a means of managing dynamic physical processes and guiding future decision making on the basis of community decisions about the value of various assets. However it appears to have become an exercise in the application of forcing policy to fit current funding conditions. This appears to be even more true today than it was two years ago.

Once a coastline is lost it is unlikely ever to be recovered and at the pace that sea level is rising practical defensive action taken now may be capable of protecting coastal land for up to 100 years to come. Cost benefit calculations that determine that Government should put off the task of securing the coastline until the last minute are inefficient and short-sighted. Once our defences have been neglected over a long period of time they will inevitably become much more costly to repair/replace – reducing the options available. The attitude should be ‘a stitch in time save nine’. However the effect of the current funding appraisal is to do the opposite, by undervaluing the long-term benefits in relation to the upfront costs.

Shoreline Management Plans cannot be credible in rural areas while the cost benefit analysis techniques used to develop the policy options undervalue heritage, commercial, infrastructure and community assets, and while the test discount rate declines so slowly that necessary long-term investment is made to appear uneconomic. We do, however, believe that private finance can be part of the equation. If local businesses and communities sufficiently value their assets they may be willing to find ways to ‘top up’ the public purse. We are encouraged by the progress that has been made in this regard with schemes at Bawdsey and what is planned to occur on the Blyth.

The CLA is conscious of long-term sea-level rise due to climate change which, on the east coast, compounds isostatic adjustment. However, there is a range of potential levels, and rates of sea-level rise, reflecting the range of possible future emissions scenarios and the lesson here is to develop flexible policies. If sea levels rise or erosion occurs faster than predicted a long-term reassessment may be necessary,

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

but this will occur over a period of many decades - generally beyond the life of any sea defence structures.

It is impossible to view the SMP in isolation without consideration of what is proposed within the Suffolk estuarine plans, spatial and other plans. The protection of coastal communities and agricultural land should be seen as key objectives, given equal priority to the protection of designated environmental sites. A sustainable future for the coastline requires economic and social/community assets to be given equal importance as environmental assets – something that is difficult to achieve in practice as much of the environment has legislative protection.

We repeat many of the points we made in the 2007 consultation, that in the CLA's view the SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:-

- **Households.** If in the long term loss of houses through erosion is unavoidable, homeowners should get proper help for relocation. We are encouraged by Defra's recent pathfinder consultation that this point is now being recognised. However the future budget for this will likely need to be significantly greater than the sums on offer under this initial consultation. In considering houses at risk, there should be emphasis on protecting vulnerable people (the infirm who are at risk of losing lives in the event of serious flooding) and listed buildings.
- **Agricultural land** The government undervalues agricultural land in its appraisal of flood and coastal risk management. Food and grown fuel production in the UK will be vitally important both to the UK economy and in the worldwide fight against climate change. The SMP should seek to protect this land and therefore the policies should universally favour hold the line. In addition, coastal grazing marshes provide both sustainable meat production and valuable biodiversity benefits, which cannot easily be relocated further inland, without massive investment – far greater than the cost of defending the land using soft engineering techniques.
- **Freshwater supplies** The Environment Agency recognise the Suffolk coastal area as being 'seriously water stressed' (*Water for People and Environments 2007*) with pressure from population growth/development, increasing demand and lack of available water. The local agricultural economy is heavily dependant on good supplies of fresh water and the SMP needs to ensure local water sources are kept free from sea-water contamination. For climatic reasons it is impossible to relocate the high-value irrigated vegetable crops from the coastal region to other inland UK areas. Thus if the supply of irrigation water is reduced through sea-water contamination, food-miles/carbon footprint will be increased and the local economy will suffer. Again this favours a universal hold the line approach.
- **Tourism** The value of tourism and recreation to both the economy of the Suffolk coastal area and the well-being of local residents cannot be underestimated. The SMP should ensure that our excellent Suffolk beaches

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

are not degraded and areas of public recreation and access are protected – or re-located inland if no alternative is available. Our historic buildings/sites form an integral part of the tourist economy and are highly valued by the local community – far beyond their monetary value. They should be protected as they can never be recreated once lost.

- **Natural Environments** Much of the local natural environment is designated as SSSI, SAC, etc and are, therefore, given legal protection. However recent decision making in relation to the Blyth estuary strategy suggests that this legal protection is open to interpretation. We need greater clarity in when the statutory authorities are entitled to walk away from protected sites versus being required to protect and maintain them.
- There is a growing feeling that the SMPs are being used to promote habitat recreation programmes without firm science or openness in the calculations behind habitat creation targets. If communities are to have confidence in the process of deciding between hold the line and managed realignment, greater transparency is needed in explaining how habitat recreation targets are calculated and then applied at a Subcell level.

The CLA's general presumption is that landowners should have the option to hold the line on their defences. In a time of budget constraints on the public purse we recognise that public funding may not be possible for this and therefore we recognise that landowners may need to cost share in this approach. The practical examples of where this has already occurred suggest that this is a valid approach for the entire Suffolk coast.

The logical conclusion of this is that we would seek to see the SMP favour a 'hold the line' policy prescription over the 'no active intervention' approach wherever the SMP is identifying interim policies that are dependant on the outcome of the development of estuary strategies.

The CLA has long advocated that the SMP and estuary strategy consultation process should be aligned. In the absence of this we believe the most precautionary approach should be taken in the SMP pending the outcome of the development of estuary management and investment plans. This is particularly pertinent for the Alde and Ore.

Our overall assessment of the proposed policies in this SMP is that they move faster in the direction of managed realignment than the existing evidence base for sea level rise justifies. Therefore we favour a more cautious approach. Managed realignment for the purposes of habitat creation should for the foreseeable future be market driven rather than coastal defences policy driven. Sites are coming forward and will continue to do so at a rate that is likely to keep pace with the real need to meet legislative habitats recreation targets.

In considering the appropriate assessment conducted for the SMP we are concerned about the methodology for assessing saltmarsh loss and the need for habitat

SMP3C KEY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS CONSULTATION REPORT

Appendix 9: Other Correspondence

recreation. This is a concern that the CLA has for the whole of East Anglia and not just for Suffolk.

While coastal squeeze does exist we are unconvinced that it is as significant as the government agencies contend - at least at the moment. There is much anecdotal evidence of saltmarsh gain in areas that have been designated as losing saltmarsh. Additionally the accuracy of the data sources used to calculate saltmarsh loss in the last fifty years is questionable. We therefore question the figures government agencies are working with to establish habitat recreation targets. This is creating an overemphasis in the SMP for managed realignment.

In considering the economic appraisal conducted for the SMP, we are heartened that, following guidelines these are to be taken as guideline values. More detailed appraisal would need to be conducted before any major change in policy was implemented. This will allow for the ever increasing amount of data on owner repair costs to be taken into account. Once these generally lower costs are taken into account the cost benefit analysis will shift in favour of hold the line policies.

It is interesting to note that the increasing evidence base and practical experience coming from owner repairs and maintenance works is helping the Environment Agency improve the cost basis of their own repair works.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft SMP and we look forward to with interested parties as the process of finalisation and implementation moves forward.

GENERAL												
Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggest	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
						Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS												
i15	N	1,2,3,4,5		Norman Castleton			•		In general I find these proposals disturbing, defeatist and negative e.g. in no instance is there a proposal to advance the line. I think the general policy should at least be to hold-the-line. I also disagree with the wishful thinking associated with Managed Retreat. For example, No Active Intervention or Managed Retreat at Easton Bavants, the Blyth Estuary, Dunwich, Minsmere will make the area surrounding Southwold and Sizewell (including the nuclear power stations) not viable. Transport links, a unique coastline and the recreational activities will be compromised and destroyed. In summary I think the Precautionary Principle should be adopted pending developments in environmental sciences and the fight against the affects of man-made global warming. We should be positive and not defeatist.		Views noted but the SMP has to be based on a realistic assessment of risks and management of risks. The policies take these into account.	
i19	Y			Mr K Allen			•		Coastal Chart's tidal flows offshore dredging and changes of tidal flows. Any changes off shore line will have effects. Also coast charts should read maritime charts. Not enough protection off coasts. Time line is too long, work should start now. Floods of 1953 should have taught a lesson.		Noted	
i20	Y	1		Janey Blachflower			•		This is an exceptionally varied and beautiful stretch of coastline which is subject to constant change through the various processes examined in the appendices to the SMP. I would like to make three points: 1. This sub cell should be managed as a whole entity because of the interaction between the various PDZs (e.g. erosion/deposition) 2. Minimum intervention should be a guiding principle - it would be easy to spoil the coastline by over-zealous intervention which would not be financially sustainable. 3. It is important to manage it as a 'living' entity safeguarding wildlife and human interests.		Points noted. We do intend to manage the coastline as a whole, hence the production of this SMP.	
i22	Y			Matthew Robertson			•		I know this is a high-level plan, but at some point we need to know what exactly 'management realignment' means in particular places.		Noted. Addressed in Action Plan.	
i23	Y			Lynda Robertson					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i24	Y	7		Rev R Moore			•		I would like to have the original geo-physical survey reports of 'Posford' in the 1980s, who rebuilt our cliff i.e. bore-hole analysis for hidden aquifers behind the cliff face. Slip-circle survey for stability coefficients.		Noted. We have looked for more detailed records. If further records are found, these will be passed to the consultees.	
i30	Y			D Persons					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i33	Y	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		D Harrod			•		I am a teacher at Leiston High School. We study in detail the local coastline from Key Stage 3 up to A level. Any further information about the planes and coastline with any available resources would be greatly appreciated!		All information is on the project website - http://www.suffolksmp2.org.uk/	
i34	Y	4,5,6		Martin Higginson			•		Teacher at a local school. Any information about the SMP gratefully received.		All information is on the project website - http://www.suffolksmp2.org.uk/	
i43	Y			Anon					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i44	Y	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		A J Francis			•		While I do not have a house perched on a cliff, I do feel that this matter of coastal protection is most important on this side of the UK and that although at the moment it does not seem economic to protect farming land we may get to the stage when any and will be at a premium.		Noted.	
i52	Y	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		Brian J Brackley			•		It appears a political fudge. Reference to maintaining current positions are hollow without assured funding. To try (to) save parts of the coastline alone will not be cost effective in the longer term and it is not being very honest.		The SMP is tasked with identifying a plan that delivers balanced sustainability. This recognises issues over funding.	
i54	Y			E W Stanford			•		Sub Cell 2C. There is confusion in the defined objectives. Some are not concerned with shoreline management. How do you propose to: to maintain biological and geological features. To support the adaption of local communities to maintain the core heritage values of the area (what are they?)		We will clarify the SMP position on this to explain that the objectives are those identified by stakeholders and how they relate to each other.	
GROUPS												

G1a	N		SCAR	Graham Henderson	No reason to move away from 'hold the line'	•			We do not accept there is any reason to abandon the current "Hold the Line" policy for the Suffolk coastline and we do not concur with several principles and proposals of SMP2 Sub-cell 3.		It is unclear as to what is meant by 'the current hold the line policy for Suffolk'. Under SMP 1 the largest extent of policy was Do Nothing. The SMP 2 sets out policy that in effect maintains protection to all the principal settlements. In other areas the SMP attempts to maintain the extremely important natural coast, while addressing agreed objectives defined by stakeholders where sustainable to do so.
G1b	N		SCAR	Graham Henderson	lack of sensible co-ordination between coastline and estuarine strategies.	•			Suffolk's estuaries are so integrated into the coastline that a shoreline strategy should only be finalized in concurrence with strategies for all four estuaries -the Blyth, Alde/Ore, Deben and Orwel/Stour together with additional relevant locations, such as Minsmere sluice.		SMP has highlighted the importance of taking an integrated approach and where appropriate provides guidance for integration with emerging estuary initiatives. We will seek to clarify this in the Action Plan.
G1i	N		SCAR	Graham Henderson	Time required to consider public funding	•			We consider that more time should be allowed for the generation of proposals for public/private funding		This is dependant on specific circumstances along the coast and would be reviewed. We will seek to clarify this position.
G1j	N		SCAR	Graham Henderson	Clarification of food security policies required.	•			The Government and Defra should clarify how 'food security' policies dovetail with the fact that 60 per cent of Grade 1 agricultural land lies below the five metre contour line.		We are unaware of any Grade 1 agricultural land put at increased risk due to SMP policies. We will confirm.
G2a	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	SMP needs to consider all assets not just economic based.	•			There needs to be a proper evaluation of ALL assets (not just economic ones), which there currently doesn't appear to be, whether this is undesignated wildlife habitat (Kessingland Levels), landscape or public access. We made no suggestion of preserving things in aspic, but simply to ensure decisions about change are made with full information to hand		As set out in SMP 2 guidance. The economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. This level of detail would be included at a Strategy Level and not in the SMP.
G2b	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	SMP needs to consider landscape value of the coast.	•			The biodiversity value of the coast is more than the sum of its parts. Numerous examples of species & people (tourists) that use the landscape rather than simply individual protected sites. The assets need to be considered at a landscape scale		Accepted and we will look to reinforce it in the SMP.
G2c	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	The SMP does not consider coastal access	•			It isn't clear how Coastal Access is factored into the SMP. This needs to be clearer and we felt that there is probably enough information within the draft NE Coastal Access strategy to inform the SMP at this strategic policy level		Local access has been considered and discussed. Will be identified in the action plan.
G2d	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	How can NAI policy give landowners opportunities to privately defend their land.	•			NAI policies on the coast make little sense if private investment and landowner action is to be allowed/encouraged. NAI policies effectively tie everyone's hands and prevents any schemes coming forward. If NAI is a flexible policy and allowing of private investment/action then NAI as a policy is meaningless		The SMP identifies areas that could be defended without having adverse affects on the coastal process, however would not be economically justified. Therefore privately funded defences would be acceptable. However there are other areas where private works would not be approved due to impact on other features of the coast. This has been highlighted.
G2f	Y		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	A default HTL policy should be adopted for short term to allow for options to develop.	•			HTL should be used as the default 20 year epoch policy, wherever a sustainable or feasible option, to allow time for social and environmental adaptation. E.g. compensatory wildlife habitats take several years to find, buy and create.		Agreed.
G2i	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	100 year timescale is too long a period to consider sensible management	•			100 year epoch- so many things will change over this timescale- our coastal processes knowledge, our opinions, our politics. 100 years is a meaningless timescale over which to have SMP policies, particularly given the PDZs are new for SMP2, and it is therefore difficult to cross reference management units from SMP1 to SMP2		The 100 year period is necessary to effectively manage the coast. We will seek to clarify the cross reference between SMP 1 units and SMP 2 units.
G2j	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	SMP1 has not been reviewed appropriately	•			There seems little review of SMP1, particularly which policies worked well, which didn't and which needed to be done differently.		This is discussed under the With Present Management scenario and only where there were issues with previous policy, have there been policy changes. We will seek to clarify this position.
G2k	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	AA is not detailed enough	•			General concern that the Appropriate Assessment is not detailed enough		AA has been carried out in accordance with guidance up to policy development stage, and has been agreed with EA and NE
G2l	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	SEA does not cover issues in depth	•			Concern that SEA does not cover issues in enough depth, particularly landscape and access issues		Same as AA. SEA has been deemed appropriate for this plan.
G2m	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	The impacts of NAI and MR on tourism and landscape need to be considered.	•			Part of the valuation of assets needs to be the value of the landscape to tourism. The total tourism value of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB in 2006 was £166 million (East of England Tourism). The effect of some of the policies on this value of the landscape in economic terms is missing. i.e. Aldeburgh to Thorpeness Road and SMP NAI policy. Again not about preserving this popular tourist route in aspic, but being FULLY aware of the consequences of change, even if over longer term		As set out in SMP 2 guidance. The economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. This level of detail would be included at a Strategy Level and not in the SMP.

G2n	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	The SMP does not emphasise the value of landscape	•		Landscape is not just about natural habitats. Its is about the footprint of man over centuries and millennia and how that has shaped the habitats into what we see today. Its about the cultural aspects of the area and its sense of place. Landscape change is ongoing and again there is no aspiration to preserve it is aspic, it never has been thus. However just like with wildlife habitat change/loss, there is a need to fully understand the value and richness of what is being changed/lost.		In section 3 of the SMP it states in many ways this .landscape quality draws together the many aspects and activities associated with the coastline. The SMP highlights the context within which present human values exist. The SMP also highlights the changing nature of the coast. All these aspects have been taken into account in developing policy.
G2o	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	Reference to Countryside Commission document would have help value landscape assets		•	Simple reference to the Countryside Commission document on Suffolk Coast and Heaths Landscape Assessment, would have helped enormously to better understand the landscape assets and the cultural importance of the SMP sub-cell		Noted
G2q	N		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	Policies need to be consistent along the coast.		•	Policies need to be consistent. NAI and HTL are both considered beneficial for landscape at Easton Bavents and East Lane (Bawdsey) respectively. SMP can't have it both ways. Certainly concern that rock armour at east lane is considered beneficial for the landscape, in an area designated for its soft and dynamic coast.		These are totally different areas. In the case of East Lane it has been identified that the sequence of Martello Towers in the context of the landscape are a significant feature. This comment seems to conflict with earlier comment with respect to cultural aspects of the area.
G3a	N		Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Considers Defra Guidance to be flawed in terms of funding available for defence.		•	While welcoming the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' (DEFRA's) agreement to look at policy options for periods shorter than 100 years, the Association considers DEFRA guidance on SMPs to be fatally flawed. This guidance assumes that only some £50 million a year will be available to fund coastal and tidal river defences for the whole of England, fails to recognise that failure of the coastal defences can frequently prove irreversible and does not consider the wider economic consequences of abandoning defences for our coastal community		The SMP has not been based on an "affordability" approach. The policies are those which will meet the stakeholder objectives in the most sustainable way. As set out in SMP 2 guidance, the economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. We would agree that failure of defence can lead to irreversible consequences. However, in addition to the point being made with respect to loss of land, it is also essential that future generations are not committed to ever increasing expenditure on defence where there are appropriate alternatives which we can work towards in the present.
G3b	N		Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	HTL policy should not be abandoned for the Suffolk Coast		•	The Association does not accept that is yet necessary to abandon the Hold the Line Policy for the Suffolk Coast and believes that Government funding of coastal and tidal river defences is totally inadequate. We also strongly support the views expressed by Councillor Andy Smith (SCDC) in evidence to the Parliamentary Select Committee (EFRASC) considering the present Government's proposed Flood and Water Management Bill. Like the Local Government Flood Forum we believe local councils and flood defences committees or boards should be given much greater discretion to formulate local flood defence policies and freedom to raise funds through local taxes and contributions such as the regional flood defence levy.		The policies are those which will meet the stakeholder objectives in the most sustainable way. The comments ref funding will be passed onto the EA , the Local Government Association and Defra.
G3m			Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	SMP has not made reference to the innovative methods of defence on the Suffolk Coast.	•		The plan makes no reference to innovative developments in coastal management which could affect their efficacy and cost. For example, the National Trust are trialling resin based injections into the shingle along the spit near Lantern Marsh, new artificial shingle banks or mounds are being tested at Dunwich so far with positive results, and there are new approaches and old forgotten, but effective, ideas being resurrected on different heights and angles of groynes. All these could be highly relevant to the estuary. When compared with the cost of losing the economic value of the river they are likely to prove well worth considering and feasible within the first 25 year period.		Noted. The SMP has made reference to the demonstration project at Dunwich. Where appropriate alternative, innovative methods of providing defence are not prohibited.
G3n			Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Beach stabilisation techniques could be explored within the SMP.		•	We believe that along certain sections of the coast there is a case for examining the benefits of beach and shoreline stabilization plans. Along the coast we think this should be looked at in relation to measures which could help prevent erosion of the cliffs at Thorpeness and the area south of the Slaughden Martello Tower up to and including the Orford Ness lighthouse.		Noted. But this does not overcome issues that beach stabilisation has the potential to reduce drift and may therefore have a negative impact on adjacent areas of the coast. Such approach can be considered in scheme development.

G3o	Y		Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Believe that there is a greater need for public and privately funded schemes to develop.		•		In our 2008 position statement entitled "Framework for the Future", which was welcomed by Lord Chris Smith (chairman of the Environment Agency), we argued for public/private ventures to protect our coast and river defences. The SCAR response to the SMP also stresses the need, particularly in the light of initiative undertaken at East Lane (described in an article in our February 2009 newsletter available on our web site). During a wide ranging discussion with the Environment Agency in December 2008 we were promised a definitive statement on the scope for taking account of the availability of public and private finance from sources other than national Government. We received definitive DEFRA guidance on this subject on 11 September 2009. We will need to seek further clarification of the interpretation of this guidance as proposals develop during the course of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies. Nevertheless, our preliminary assessment is that in the case of an economically prosperous area such as ours this new approach based on joint public/private finance offers considerable scope for		Noted. Where appropriate the SMP has encouraged this approach.
G3q	N		Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	SMP does not make reference to facts or explanations behind decisions.		•		Finally, there are a number of points in the Report where points are asserted and not backed up either by facts or explanations. These include, in the Summary of Preferred Plan and Implications, paragraph 5.1 asserting that almost 100% of objectives are met in the first period but does not acknowledge the need for regular sound maintenance to avoid involuntary breaches. The same section then states that objectives are met assuming that these objectives are accepted. For example, the objective of supporting agriculture to adapt to changes is highly questionable as there may well be a case for ensuring as far as possible that aquifers are not allowed to become salinated.		Clarification required on this response. We will ask the Alde and Ore Association for instances where the report is not backed up either by facts or explanations so that the SMP may be clarified.
G5	N		Suffolk Land Access Forum		SMP does not consider the effect on current access routes		•		Although the policies in the draft SMP will change see changes to the Suffolk coast over the next 100 years, it is noticeable that the effect of the plan on the current access for walkers, cyclists and horse riders through the rights of way network and particularly the Suffolk Coast Path is not considered. Neither are the likely effects on the local economy or agricultural land use.		Local access has been considered and discussed. Will be identified in the action plan.
G7a	N		Shingle Street Settlement Company		Guidance does not take into account social and economic importance		•		SSSCo considers that the guidance DEFRA insists should be followed when drawing up Shoreline Management Plans should, but does not, take sufficient account of the social and economic importance of Britain's coast line and the possibility that any breach of our sea defences is likely to be irreversible.		The SMP concurs with the point being made with respect to loss of land in socio-economic terms, it is also essential that future generations are not committed to ever increasing expenditure on defence where there are appropriate alternatives which we can work towards in the present.
G7b	N		Shingle Street Settlement Company		Do not see the need to move away from HTL.		•		The Suffolk Coast has historically receded and expanded, which has resulted in human intervention to defend it at many points and over long years. While recognising that the impact of Climate Change may result in sea-level rise, we are wholly unconvinced that there is yet any reason to abandon the current "Hold the Line" policy for the Suffolk coastline.		It is unclear as to what is meant by 'the current hold the line policy for Suffolk'. Under SMP 1 the largest extent of policy was Do Nothing. The SMP 2 sets out policy that in effect maintains protection to all the principal settlements. In other areas the SMP attempts to maintain the extremely important natural coast, while addressing agreed objectives defined by stakeholders where sustainable to do so.
G7c	Y		Shingle Street Settlement Company		Public funding should be made available for coastal protection		•		Notwithstanding the successful raising of adequate private funds to undertake vital works at East Lane Point, we believe that in principle, national government funds should be deployed in sufficient quantity to protect the coastal lands and people of the United Kingdom. The coastline belongs to all citizens, can be and is visited by all citizens, and should not be abandoned for reasons of cost. While we note the Plan's emphasis on innovation in fund-raising, especially from private sources, we maintain our right to a fair share of taxation for Suffolk's coastal defence, and urge the Environment Agency to maintain its debate with government to this effect.		Noted. The comments ref funding will be passed onto the EA, the Local Government Association and Defra.
G7f	Y		Shingle Street Settlement Company		Would welcome discussion on compensation for losses made in medium term.		•		We would like to see some discussion of compensation for those likely to suffer from unchecked immediate, medium term or long term coastal erosion		The comments ref compensation will be passed onto the EA, the Local Government Association and Defra.
G8d	Y		Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Regular reviews should be incorporated into the plan		•		The Council thinks that there should be a commitment to review the policy following publication and agreement of the estuary study, and to on-going reviews say every two years during epoch 1. A proposed timetable should be set out in the SMP		This will be included in the Action Plan.

G8i	Y		Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	More financial support from public purse is required.		•	In Section 3.2.2 Economic Sustainability – the document effectively states that the Country just cannot afford to protect coastal people. Coastal communities do not agree with this view, when they see billions spent on say defending the Falkland Islands or invading Iraq. The reality is that Government currently chooses not to protect coastal people, even though in reality they are not asking for miles of sea walls but for just a few key points to be protected. In the next section – 3.2.4 Social Justice – it hints at the unfairness in this position but states that Government powers to build sea defences are merely permissive and therefore they have no responsibility to protect coastal communities. This is clearly not social justice. If a government decides to build a motorway and you lose your house, you are compensated. If a government decides not to maintain an existing sea wall and you lose your home, you are (currently!) not compensated. The SMP as a major document about the Coast and its Communities should more clearly state the lack of natural justice in this current anomaly.		While this point is noted, it is not implied that the country cannot afford to protect coastal people. The policies are not based on a "what can we afford" approach, they are based on what is sustainable. Other points which lie outside the remit of the SMP will be passed onto the EA, Defra and the Local Government Association.
G9a	Y		CLA	Rob Wise			•	In our response to the initial consultation on this SMP in 2007 we said we believed that the fundamental approach underlying Shoreline Management Plans was flawed. We believe SMPs are intended to be a means of managing dynamic physical processes and guiding future decision making on the basis of community decisions about the value of various assets. However it appears to have become an exercise in the application of forcing policy to fit current funding conditions. This appears to be even more true today than it was two years ago.		The fundamental principle of the SMP is to advise on and develop a sustainable plan for the coast. Policy is then defined to deliver that plan. The approach taken, including policies where funding is uncertain reflects the emphasis placed by the SMP on meeting locally derived objectives for management. These take into account consideration of interaction with the hinterland. It is essential that policy put forward by the SMP should be realistic. Where we feel that through collaborative funding the community aspirations can be met without damaging impact on adjacent sections of the coast, then the SMP policy reflects this.
G9b	Y		CLA	Rob Wise			•	Once a coastline is lost it is unlikely ever to be recovered and at the pace that sea level is rising practical defensive action taken now may be capable of protecting coastal land for up to 100 years to come. Cost benefit calculations that determine that Government should put off the task of securing the coastline until the last minute are inefficient and short-sighted. Once our defences have been neglected over a long period of time they will inevitably become much more costly to repair/replace – reducing the options available. The attitude should be 'a stitch in time save nine'. However the effect of the current funding appraisal is to do the opposite, by undervaluing the long-term benefits in relation to the upfront costs.		The SMP acknowledges the initial point made. However, in addition to the point being made with respect to loss of land, it is also essential that future generations are not committed to ever increasing expenditure on defence where there are appropriate alternatives which we can work towards in the present.
G9c	Y		CLA	Rob Wise			•	Shoreline Management Plans cannot be credible in rural areas while the cost benefit analysis techniques used to develop the policy options undervalue heritage, commercial, infrastructure and community assets, and while the test discount rate declines so slowly that necessary long-term investment is made to appear uneconomic. We do, however, believe that private finance can be part of the equation. If local businesses and communities sufficiently value their assets they may be willing to find ways to 'top up' the public purse. We are encouraged by the progress that has been made in this regard with schemes at Bawdsey and what is planned to occur on the Blyth.		As set out in the SMP2 guidance, the economic assessment is carried out as a check on the viability of the preferred plan. In areas where economic factors are likely to be critical this is explored in more detail. As such the response on undervaluing assets and discount rates is not strictly relevant to the SMP process. In several areas the SMP is actively promoting the use of collaborative funding, as suggested by the response.
G9d	Y		CLA	Rob Wise			•	The CLA is conscious of long-term sea-level rise due to climate change which, on the east coast, compounds isostatic adjustment. However, there is a range of potential levels, and rates of sea-level rise, reflecting the range of possible future emissions scenarios and the lesson here is to develop flexible policies. If sea levels rise or erosion occurs faster than predicted a long-term reassessment may be necessary, but this will occur over a period of many decades - generally beyond the life of any sea defence structures.		This uncertainty has been taken into account in developing policy for the SMP.
G9e			CLA	Rob Wise			•	It is impossible to view the SMP in isolation without consideration of what is proposed within the Suffolk estuarine plans, spatial and other plans. The protection of coastal communities and agricultural land should be seen as key objectives, given equal priority to the protection of designated environmental sites. A sustainable future for the coastline requires economic and social/community assets to be given equal importance as environmental assets – something that is difficult to achieve in practice as much of the environment has legislative protection		Fully agree. SMP is not a statutory document, it is recommended that the planning process takes full regard of the SMP. The interaction between SMP and ICZM initiative is recorded and discussed in the SMP. It is however essential that the SMP gives clear statements from a coastal management perspective as to the consequence of different management scenarios and where appropriate defines sustainable policy.

G9f			CLA	Rob Wise	The SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:		•	Households. If in the long term loss of houses through erosion is unavoidable, homeowners should get proper help for relocation. We are encouraged by Defra's recent pathfinder consultation that this point is now being recognised. However the future budget for this will likely need to be significantly greater than the sums on offer under this initial consultation. In considering houses at risk, there should be emphasis on protecting vulnerable people (the infirm who are at risk of losing lives in the event of serious flooding) and listed buildings	This is an objective set out in the plan but has to be tempered by the realism of funding and the potential impact intervening on the coast may have on other values and on the ability to maintain appropriate defence elsewhere.
G9g			CLA	Rob Wise	The SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:		•	Agricultural land The government undervalues agricultural land in its appraisal of flood and coastal risk management. Food and grown fuel production in the UK will be vitally important both to the UK economy and in the worldwide fight against climate change. The SMP should seek to protect this land and therefore the policies should universally favour hold the line. In addition, coastal grazing marshes provide both sustainable meat production and valuable biodiversity benefits, which cannot easily be relocated further inland, without massive investment – far greater than the cost of defending the land using soft engineering techniques.	This is an objective set out in the plan but has to be tempered by the realism of funding and the potential impact intervening on the coast may have on other values and on the ability to maintain appropriate defence elsewhere.
G9h			CLA	Rob Wise	The SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:		•	Freshwater supplies The Environment Agency recognise the Suffolk coastal area as being 'seriously water stressed' (<i>Water for People and Environments 2007</i>) with pressure from population growth/development, increasing demand and lack of available water. The local agricultural economy is heavily dependant on good supplies of fresh water and the SMP needs to ensure local water sources are kept free from sea-water contamination. For climatic reasons it is impossible to relocate the high-value irrigated vegetable crops from the coastal region to other inland UK areas. Thus if the supply of irrigation water is reduced through sea-water contamination, food-miles/carbon footprint will be increased and the local economy will suffer. Again this favours a universal hold the line approach.	This issue is identified in the SMP.
G9i			CLA	Rob Wise	The SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:		•	Tourism The value of tourism and recreation to both the economy of the Suffolk coastal area and the well-being of local residents cannot be underestimated. The SMP should ensure that our excellent Suffolk beaches are not degraded and areas of public recreation and access are protected – or re-located inland if no alternative is available. Our historic buildings/sites form an integral part of the tourist economy and are highly valued by the local community – far beyond their monetary value. They should be protected as they can never be recreated once lost	The SMP has taken a broad approach to this issue. If specific cases are identified then the conclusions of the SMP would be revisited.
G9j			CLA	Rob Wise	The SMP should seek to value and do all it can to protect the following coastal assets:		•	Natural Environments Much of the local natural environment is designated as SSSI, SAC, etc and are, therefore, given legal protection. However recent decision making in relation to the Blyth estuary strategy suggests that this legal protection is open to interpretation. We need greater clarity in when the statutory authorities are entitled to walk away from protected sites versus being required to protect and maintain them. - There is a growing feeling that the SMPs are being used to promote habitat recreation programmes without firm science or openness in the calculations behind habitat creation targets. If communities are to have confidence in the process of deciding between hold the line and managed realignment, greater transparency is needed in explaining how habitat recreation targets are calculated and then applied at a Subcell level	The SMP has objectives to conserve important nature conservation interests. The SMP has been guided by the Suffolk Coastal Habitat Management Plan (CHaMP), information from various strategies and through associated processes of undertaking a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). All these documents are in the public domain.
G9k			CLA	Rob Wise			•	The CLA's general presumption is that landowners should have the option to hold the line on their defences. In a time of budget constraints on the public purse we recognise that public funding may not be possible for this and therefore we recognise that landowners may need to cost share in this approach. The practical examples of where this has already occurred suggest that this is a valid approach for the entire Suffolk coast. The logical conclusion of this is that we would seek to see the SMP favour a 'hold the line' policy prescription over the 'no active intervention' approach wherever the SMP is identifying interim policies that are dependant on the outcome of the development of estuary strategies	The general principle is that private owners may defend their land where this does not have a detrimental impact on adjacent areas of coast or estuary.
G9l			CLA	Rob Wise			•	The CLA has long advocated that the SMP and estuary strategy consultation process should be aligned. In the absence of this we believe the most precautionary approach should be taken in the SMP pending the outcome of the development of estuary management and investment plans. This is particularly pertinent for the Alde and Ore	SMP is not a statutory document, it is recommended that the planning process takes full regard of the SMP. The interaction between SMP and ICZM initiative is recorded and discussed in the SMP. It is however essential that the SMP gives clear statements from a coastal management perspective as to the consequence of different management scenarios and where appropriate defines sustainable policy.

G9m			CLA	Rob Wise			•		Our overall assessment of the proposed policies in this SMP is that they move faster in the direction of managed realignment than the existing evidence base for sea level rise justifies. Therefore we favour a more cautious approach. Managed realignment for the purposes of habitat creation should for the foreseeable future be market driven rather than coastal defences policy driven. Sites are coming forward and will continue to do so at a rate that is likely to keep pace with the real need to meet legislative habitats recreation targets		SMP policy is not solely driven by sea level rise. This is just one factor that has to be taken into account in managing this dynamic environment.	
G9q			CLA	Rob Wise			•		It is interesting to note that the increasing evidence base and practical experience coming from owner repairs and maintenance works is helping the Environment Agency improve the cost basis of their own repair works.		Noted.	
AUTHORITIES												
A1a			ORG	Stuart Rowe, Steve Jenkinson	This section sets out statements to represent how four policy options which are different to those in the guidance. Make NAI description clearer. 6.2 Tables require further explanation.		•		This section sets out statements to represent the four policy options which are different to those in the guidance. No Active Intervention (NAI) and Hold the Line (HTL) also include "natural coastline". Further, it would be helpful for the NAI description to make clear that this policy may be selected for technical, economic or environmental reasons. Also 6.2 Tables have Hold the Line on Retreated Alignment (HR), Habitat Replacement (HBR) &, Limited Intervention (LI) from SMP1 – these have not been explained in section 1.1.4 [SR] The statement for HTL includes the phrase "level of protection". This could be mis-interpreted to mean physical level as opposed to standard, as used in the SMP guidance. [SJ]	Can the team explain these statements, including why the references to natural coastline are considered beneficial? Also consider adding an explanation of other policy terms used in this plan. [SR] Could the project team consider amending the HTL definition? [SJ]	Clarification was sought from the Client Steering Group which confirmed that it felt that this is a more appropriate description of the policy option for the Suffolk coastline.	1.1.4
A1b			ORG	Emma Fisher	Further explanation needed in Appendix		•		There is little reporting of the impacts of the various policy scenarios on the coastal processes themselves, and there does not appear to be a Policy Appraisal appendix. Without this documentation, the SMP is without a transparent and auditable decision making process, which is key to having a valid plan.	It would be helpful to the reader to see an audit trail of the decision process behind the final preferred policies, perhaps in simple tabulated format. Also, No Active Intervention - With Present Management (WPM) reporting is included with the PDZ reports. It might be useful to move these to Appendix C for completeness.	As noted the PDZ reports address these issues. Due to the complex interactive nature of the frontage tables in appendices add very little value. The idea of moving the PDZ discussion to the appendix seems to detract from an audit trail. However, additional maps of erosion line under the different scenarios will be included in Appendix C; and a policy appraisal table will be prepared.	
A1c			ORG	Jim Hutchinson, Emma Fisher	Ore/Alde & Deben estuaries to be included? Explanation between the open coast and any sensitivity analyses to be made clear.		•		The separate report prepared by sub consultants on the estuaries gives the conclusion that the main estuaries need to be included with an open coast assessment but I could not see this in the main text of the main reports. It would help if more could be laid out in the report to explain the links with the open coast and what sensitivity analyses have been carried out in coming to the conclusions at these boundaries. [JH]. Why are Ore / Alde & Deben estuaries not included when S5 makes it clear there are important policy implications? [EF]	Can the team please set out how the estuaries have been assessed with the open coast and what sensitivities have been carried out to show that the conclusions are robust? [JH]. Team to review appropriateness of SMP boundaries adopted. Please look into including explanatory text in the front end document, and in the summary policy table in Section 6. [EF]	The issue of how estuaries are included will be discussed within the CSG. This is a difficult issue raised by consultees. Additional explanation to be added on the approach to the treatment and assessment of estuaries.	
A1m			ORG	Steve Jenkinson	Explain the interaction between the CFMP and the SMP.		•		The statement about CFMP (Catchment Flood Management Plan) policy appears to be left hanging with no explanation of its interaction with the SMP.	Could the project team provide some context for the CFMP policies where they are quoted like this, explaining the interaction with the SMP, or if this is included elsewhere in the report, to provide a link.	The CFMP statements are adapted directly from the CFMP documents. As such they are considered a clear statement of CF policy and these have been used in conjunction with SMP policy development. They are evidently compatible and we did not feel that they required further discussion.	4.1.2
A1t			ORG	Jim Hutchinson	Need clarity of any losses over the lifetime.		•		It was not clear where any losses over the lifetime of the plan is set out, e.g. property, businesses, agricultural land and other key environmental and heritage losses and when these may happen.	Can the team please set out what losses may result from a "no active intervention" case and clearly compare this with the preferred policy approach adopted in the plan?	Yes we can include this in section 5. This may assist in demonstrating that the SMP is not destroying the built fabric of the coast as implied by some consultees.	
A1v			ORG	Steve Jenkinson	Need to make stronger connections between spatial planning and the information being used. Section on how the SMP will link with statutory plans?		•		Strong links with spatial planning are important for an effective SMP. [SJ] There is a lack of connections made between the information being provided and the way that information will be used on the ground by planners. Some way of identifying the implications of the info for local planning officers would be useful. [MB] The basis for the development of the plan is well set out in Section 3. However, there are other issues that could usefully be explained here, such as a section on how SMP will link with statutory plans, e.g. RSS, LDF (Local Development Framework) and RBMPs (River Basin Management Plans) and other non statutory plans, including other local coastal plans, etc. [JH]	Could the project team comment on the level of integration with the spatial planning system, and whether any specific actions in this regard will be included in the Action Plan? [SJ] Could the project team please consider how this could be achieved? [MB] Can the team please explain what it plans to do on such issues? [JH]	Noted and will include in Action Plan	

A1w			QRG	Jim Hutchinson	Reference emergency planning issues and flood warning resulting from the estuaries.		•		There are major estuaries within the plan area which the relevant CFMP would have considered in some detail. There is no doubt significant flood risks in these estuaries but I see little reference to flood warning or emergency planning issues in the report.	Can the team please explain what the plan states on this and whether arrangements such as flood warning and emergency planning should be reviewed as a consequence of the findings in this SMP?	CFMP do not seem to have considered the main estuaries in any detail. But more general point made and will be addressed.	
A1x			QRG	Steward Rowe, Jim Hutchinson	Clarity on what the focus of the SMP2 is? Changes in policy or focus on what the new policy is? Need a more detailed assessment on the 1st generation findings.		•		Is the focus on change between SMP1 and SMP2 policy deliberate to reflect the changes in policy rather than focus on what the "new" policy is? If so it makes the document appear lightweight and indecisive. Has the document been deliberately written to reflect the changes rather than focus on what the policy now is? It's the emphasis which seems askew, is this because of political pressure (or local member/political influence)? [SR] There appears to be an assumption in the report that the policies as set out in SMP1 are correct and sustainable. Before the SMP1 policies can be compared to SMP2 policies, there needs to be an assessment on the 1st generation findings. [JH]	Could the team comment on this please? [SR] Can the team please explain which of the SMP1 policies met the definition of sustainability and which ones were likely to have been wrong in the first instance? [JH]	Comments accepted. But, the CSG wanted to highlight change so that consultees could clearly see this. SMP1 (modified by subsequent strategies) is the baseline With present management. We will review how this can be made more apparent with the use of a table and plan showing the policy changes from SMP1 and subsequent strategies with an assessment of the impact e.g. nr. of houses at risk of flooding/erosion and impact on habitats and heritage.	
A1af			QRG	Stewart Rowe	Consider points when developing policy options.		•		Experience suggests that the following points need to be considered when setting policy options: - inclusion of some comment on the role of the SMP2, how it will be used - ensure there is an auditable decision-making process, identifying which authority was primarily responsible for the policy selection, particularly where policy is determined by environmental constraints - the legal implications of policy decisions - the need to defend policy choices publicly	Could the project team comment on the robustness of the SMP and whether adequate audit trails are in place? (We require more cross referencing in the reports?)	Noted. This will be reinforced in Appendix B.	
A1ag			QRG	Jim Hutchinson	Replace figure 3.1 with 3.8. Look further into the effects of dredging on the coastal erosion area. See text to get the reference.		•		The figure 3.1 is useful in setting the context of the plan - but the figure in Appendix C numbered 3.8 shows more references inland and would be a better version to have here. The section on offshore dredging explains the background to the necessary studies that are carried out by commercial companies for such dredging and the concerns by many on "cause and effect" on the coastal erosion in the area. The document uses the North Sea Sediment Transport report to explain that this matter has already been investigated.	It would be useful to expand on the phrase on "significant impacts" to confirm clearly if there are any impacts? The inference is that there are some impacts, only less than significant? Can the team please clarify?	Noted. Clarification will be included.	
A1ak			QRG	Jim Hutchinson	SDCA has taken on the role of competent authority. Confirm their role with Defra.		•		it is noted that Suffolk Coastal District Council [SCDC] has taken on the role of "competent authority" on behalf of the CSG.	Can the team confirm that SCDC will deal with Defra direct on any AA (Appropriate Assessment) issues and that they have the necessary high level data available to be able to have this discussion in order to resolve the environmental/habitats issues?	Will amend text to acknowledge that the EA is the competent authority.	
A1as			QRG	Roger Morris	The identification of the Alde-Ore or Deben for habitat creation is not clear? The A12 seems to be in an unsustainable position and may be subject to sea level rise.		•		The identification of the Alde-Ore or Deben as locations specifically for habitat creation is not clear, although I would not dispute the possibility of FW habitat creation as an interim adaptation measure. Offsetting measures should be in a sustainable location for the long-term, and query the creation of FW habitats upstream of the A12 in combination with maintaining defences. The A12 appears in an unsustainable position and will become increasingly vulnerable to sea level rise. In terms of the locations upstream, these may be unsustainable in due course as the estuary as a whole is moving into an increasingly unfavourable form. Sub-Cell 3c. (PDZ3.31) – Good - thanks for highlighting NE concerns about the viability of habitat upstream of the A12.	Can the team please consider and review as required and confirm any amendments? No action	This has been discussed with NE during the SMP process and confirmation received that the wording is acceptable. Will strengthen to clarify the points.	Natural and built environment baseline 4.2.1, 4.3.1

A1au			QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Revisit economics and explain the decision making process where the costs of the preferred policy are close to the economic benefits.	•		<p>It is not clear to me how the outcome of the economic assessment influences the decision process regarding policy selection, from both benefit cost and funding aspects. The SMP should explain the decision-making where the economic costs of the preferred policy are close to or greater than the economic benefits.</p> <p>Also for example the reconciliation summary for Management Area. 09 comments briefly on the economic worth and likelihood of FCERM funding. Is the economic viability of the preferred options or the impact this may have on securing public funding discussed elsewhere? If FCERM funding is likely to be in doubt, is the SMP at risk of raising expectations if there is not a reasonable likelihood of other funding streams supporting the preferred option?</p> <p>(Note for team - the correct term that should be used in the plan is FCRM and not FCERM)</p>	<p>Could the project team explain where these issues have been considered in the report please? And to set out the risks if no funding can be obtained and how this will impact on the plan?</p>	<p>As set out in the SMP2 guidance, the economic assessment is carried out as a check on the viability of the preferred plan. In areas where economic factors are likely to be critical this is explored in more detail. We will provide additional comment in Appendix H as suggested.</p> <p>(Note. FCERM is used as an abbreviation as defined in the glossary, it is not an acronym or a term.) Some policies may not be fundable through FCERM budgets but this is well "caviated" in the text.</p>
A1av			QRG	Roger Morris	Thought to be given to geomorphological solutions, explain Cost-Benefit analysis of options.	•		<p>Previous studies on the Alde-Ore and Deben have shown that any work to the flood banks were considered largely uneconomic; so what has changed? My impression is that this SMP is developing a "hold the line" policy option for these estuaries that cannot be achieved using CBA (Cost Benefit Analysis). Thought needs to be given to geomorphological solutions, some of which may not be particularly palatable from a political viewpoint but they are when long-term economics is considered.</p>	<p>Explain cost-benefit analysis in relation to these options and justify shift in policy option.</p>	<p>There is no published strategy for the Alde/Ore beyond that provided in 2000. The SMP is not therefore able to make any assumption with respect to this based on available information. Because of this and that even indicative updated results were not available, also given the new initiative for an ICZM approach, the SMP believes that it would be inappropriate to define policy for the flood banks within the estuary; beyond those strictly associated with the shoreline. It is wrong to suggest that the SMP has developed a HTL policy throughout the Alde/Ore. This is a point of contention reported by consultees arguing exactly the opposite position to that presented. Yes, uneconomic in FCERM terms but may be fundable in wider terms e.g. through the ICZM/ACES initiative. The SMP recognises this possibility.</p>
A1ay			QRG	Jim Hutchinson, Emma Fisher, Steve Jenkinson	State where other or better or more up to date data has been used. Optimism bias and property values have not been stated in this appendix.	•		<p>The report states that it has used MDSF tool throughout, and its not clear where other better, or more up-to-date data where available has been used. [JH] Modelling and Decision Support Framework (MDSF) has been used to determine the costs/benefits for the NAI and WPM scenarios (also shown in the PDZ statements), however, it does not appear that appropriate scenario testing has been undertaken with appropriate sensitivity assessments. [EF] This appendix usefully sets out some key data (eg rates for capital works) but I did not see typical property values or indeed the Optimism Bias value. Also the use of existing strategy/project data is not clearly assigned [SJ]</p>	<p>Can the team please explain where other more up to date data has been used to supplement the MDSF tool and where there are close costs and benefits given, how the team has made its decisions on how best to manage the coast? [JH] MDSF should be run with preferred plan to assess the economic robustness of various options, not just HTL or NAI for the three epochs. Sensitivity testing and uncertainty analysis would add to this. [EF] Could the project team please consider more clarity with regard to data used in the plan? [SJ]</p>	<p>i) This will be clarified in App H. ii) As identified in earlier response, economic assessment is to demonstrate viability of the preferred plan. Not as a primary tools for selection of scenarios. The sensitivity is discussed in the PDZ statements. iii) Optimism Bias is included in the costs as set out in header to table. We will clarify where strategy information is used in assessment.</p>
A1ba			QRG	Steve Jenkinson, Roger Morris, Jim Hutchinson	The SMP appears to be setting a baseline for option development in the Deben Estuary and not providing strategic direction.	•		<p>Is it really economically viable to effectively "hold the line" throughout the Deben estuary in order to allow the mouth to continue to be pinned? Earlier work showed nearly all units not to be cost-effective, and his may be committing to a policy that is neither technically, economical nor environmentally sound. If private funding is required to achieve the SMP then the SMP has not been developed according to the economics and the geomorphological case. This seems to be a plan that is setting the baseline as accepting that the best option is to do what is sought locally rather than to set a strategic direction. This may lead to further problems in due course where communities find they cannot afford to maintain defences and look to public funds to meet aspirations. [RM]</p>		<p>(2) There is still significant scope for realignment in the estuary and for adaptive approach to where defences are held. Will clarify by adding an explanation on the approach to the treatment and assessment of estuaries. Furthermore, the SMP policy does not prevent estuary strategy proposing other policies. The Estuary Strategy can disagree with the SMP policy which says that there is a need to hold the estuary to manage coastline issues. The SMP is realistic in that it acknowledges that there are ways in which the upper part of the estuary can be managed to deliver/deal with the estuary issues. The SMP not imposing unrealistic policies on estuary strategy. The action plan will include developing a partnership approach to both management and funding in each of these areas.</p>

A1bb			QRG	Steve Jenkinson, Roger Morris, Jim Hutchinson	More description could be given on funding sources for the long term.	•			Sect 3 could usefully explain how the SMP will be funded in the future given the numerous references to 3rd party funding throughout the report. For example PU 17.2 indicates HTL for all 3 epochs and suggests this decision is dependant upon private finance. Its not clear what the impacts might be with no future funding, within the 1st epoch, but more importantly in epoch 2 and 3. [JH]		(3) In addition to the above the issues with respect to third party funding will be reviewed within Section 3 and further clarification added as required. The action plan will include developing a partnership approach to both management and funding in each of these areas.	
A1bc			QRG	Jim Hutchinson, Steve Jenkinson	List all reports and data in the report which were used to come to the conclusions made.	•			Listings of all the data and reports used to come to the conclusions should be set out in the report. I am aware of Heritage risk assessments that have been prepared and it would offer the reader of this plan some comfort to know that the up-to-date information has been used to make the long-term decisions as set out. [JH] The Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme managed by the EA provides valuable data. [SJ]	Can the team please explain the proposals for setting out the data/reports used in this SMP? [JH] Could the project team explain how this data has been used within this Plan? Are appropriate references and links to the Regional Monitoring programme included? [SJ]	This information is held as a database and would be one of the outputs of the SMP. A hard copy summary can be provided as part of the document.	
A1bd			QRG	Jim Hutchinson	Highways are mentioned throughout the report.	•			Highways are mentioned throughout the report, especially the key A12 trunk route, and port authorities, etc.	Can the team please explain the capacity the key agencies, eg Highways, sewerage, ports authorities and so on have been engaged in the development of this plan and whether they are likely to sign up to the conclusions of this plan?	All relevant organisations have been engaged as stakeholders and actions will be defined to develop further discussion in key areas.	
A1be			QRG	Jim Hutchinson	Draft action plan to be presented with this consultation SMP report.	•			The draft Action Plan has not been presented with this consultation SMP report.	Can the team please explain the reason for this and when this report will be available for the SMP Quality Review Group (QRG) to review? Will there be a need for further additional consultation to allow stakeholders and the public view the full set of reports at the same time?	Policy Guidance does not require Action Plan to be published with draft SMP; it is defined as part of Stage 5. Action Plan will be presented to RMF and then Key Stakeholders for comment before inclusion in the SMP. Publishing AP at same time as draft SMP might have given impression that policies already fixed.	
A1bf			QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Draft WFD baseline report will be submitted at the next stage.	•			There is no draft Water Framework Directive (WFD) baseline report submitted with the plan at this stage, so the Quality Review Group (QRG) cannot review it. The SMP notes that this work would be undertaken following from the public consultation.	Could the project team please advise when the WFD assessment will be available to QRG for review? Also, how stakeholders and the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the WFD report – will there be a need for further additional consultation? Is there a presumption here that the WFD assessment will have no real bearing on the outputs of the SMP?	WFD work completed. Gone through internal review. Will be presented to CSG for comment. WFD requirements will not change SMP policy.	
A1bg			QRG	Roger Morris	PPS9 and supporting documents needs to be quoted as the Gov. policy on the protection of Ramsar sites originates from it.	•			The Govt. policy line on the protection of Ramsar sites originates from PPS9 and supporting documentation - this probably ought to be the source quoted as other guidance may be queried by those concerned about protection of sites.	Can the team please check and quote correct source as appropriate?	Noted.	Natural and built environment baseline 2.1. page 6
A2a	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SMP cannot be regarded in isolation	•			Suffolk County Council strongly believes that the SMP cannot be regarded in isolation and that an integrated approach to managing the coastline, the estuaries and the hinterland is essential. The current Alde-Ore Futures (Integrated Coastal Zone Management) project is an example of the way forward. The SMP can only be regarded as one aspect of coastal management and must be sufficiently adaptable to take into account other plans and the objectives of local communities. We trust that the public consultation on this SMP will take heed of public concerns and policies will be amended accordingly.		Fully agree. SMP is not a statutory document, it is recommended that the planning process takes full regard of the SMP. The interaction between SMP and ICZM initiative is recorded and discussed in the SMP. It is however essential that the SMP gives clear statements from a coastal management perspective as to the consequence of different management scenarios and where appropriate defines sustainable policy.	
A2b	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC believe that HTL should be default option for first epoch	•			The County Council believes that a Hold the Line policy should be used as the default policy in the first epoch, wherever a feasible option exists, whether national funding would be available or not. This would allow time to find appropriate local solutions for social and environmental adaptation. Changes such as roll-back of properties/ communities and the creation of compensatory habitat will take many years to achieve.		This would only prolong management decisions and in some areas lead to further problems with regards to sustainability. HTL is not current management policy for all areas of the Suffolk coast.	
A2c	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC concerned about availability of funding for long term proposed policies.	•			The County Council is concerned that whilst the stated SMP policy is Hold the Line or Managed Realignment, there is no guarantee of the funding to enact these policies. Policies must, therefore, be sufficiently flexible to encourage local and private action and investment.		Caveats have been incorporated into the SMP where local funded schemes would be acceptable.	

A2e	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	DEFRA guidance does not take into consideration the changing government policy and funding arrangements.	•			The current SMP is clearly developed using guidance from Defra and linked to the current funding criteria for flood and coastal risk management. The guidance is flawed in that it looks at the coastline in isolation from the hinterland and fails to properly value the coastal assets in a wider context. Government policy and funding are ever-changing and it would be wrong to implement policies that cannot be reversed under different circumstances. As an example, the government is currently developing a new policy on food security in the light of climate change – which could affect the national view on losses of coastal agricultural land		The fundamental principle of the SMP is to advise on and develop a sustainable plan for the coast. Policy is then defined to deliver that plan. The approach taken, including policies where funding is uncertain reflects the emphasis placed by the SMP on meeting locally derived objectives for management. These take into account consideration of interaction with the hinterland. It is recognised that further work will be required to fully develop this integrated business case.
A2f	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The SMP policies should be more flexible to change if changes need to be made at next review stage.	•			The County Council expects the SMP to be reviewed and amended in response to actual changes over the 100 year timescale. There are many assumptions underpinning the SMP which could change, and the policies must remain sufficiently flexible to allow amendment in the light of new knowledge of climate change and coastal processes, public or political opinions and associated funding. It is worth remembering that land once lost to the sea will never be recovered.		The SMP concurs with this view and sets out a plan which is considered robust despite uncertainty. However, in addition to the point being made with respect to loss of land, it is also essential that future generations are not committed to ever increasing expenditure on defence where there are appropriate alternatives which we can work towards in the present.
A2g	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SMP needs to consider all assets and designations on the coast.	•			The SMP does not appear to effectively identify and evaluate the nature or extent of all the assets within the study area. Whilst it shows a clear understanding of the national and internationally designated biodiversity assets, it is weak when considering the landscape and other biodiversity assets, as well as issues of access, the historic environment and the value of community assets. Before it becomes acceptable to the County Council the SMP must re-evaluate all assets on a Suffolk-wide basis and be clearer in the way it links with estuary, spatial and other objectives/plans. Such an overview must include valuation of undesignated habitat/historic assets, landscape impacts, loss of agricultural production capacity, tourism/access and the like, and include those parts of Suffolk being considered under the Essex SMP - in order to assess the countywide impact of the changes/losses resulting from the proposed policies		We have received recently additional information on historic assets from English Heritage and the County Archaeologist which is being incorporated into the SMP. The SMP has attempted to contribute to the ICZM approach identified in this response. The plan only sets policy for coastal defence, recognising the need for planning to consider and determine policy with respect to many of the other issues raised. In taking this approach the SMP set high level objectives based on information contained within other plans and based on local features. These high level objectives, which the SMP has very largely met, were developed with the CSG and RMF. SCC were therefore involved with the setting of these objectives.
A2h	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC to be involved in development of action plan	•			SCC recognises the importance of detailed discussions relating to the action plan and specific schemes related to the delivery of the SMP and will remain fully involved at all levels.		Action plan will be published in draft after the Members meeting on 16 November 2009. Key stakeholders will be asked to comment before it is incorporated into the Plan. The Action Plan will identify actors for all partners, one of whom is SCC.
A2i	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Lack of integration between coast and estuaries	•			There is a fundamental flaw in the production of the SMP, in that it fails to properly link the management of the shoreline with that of Suffolk's estuaries. SMP 3d (Essex) is being produced covering the coast and estuaries together, which is a much more integrated approach. The adoption of the Suffolk SMP should be delayed until the estuarine plans can be properly integrated with coastal management.		This brief for this SMP was developed over two years ago at the time when the three estuaries had begun already. It was decided to proceed with the SMP on the understanding that the estuary study outputs would be available to the SMP. In the event, a delay in the completion of the estuary strategies meant that this was not possible. Nonetheless, the SMP aims to provide strong advice to the emerging initiatives being developed for the Suffolk estuaries.
A2l	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Has there been appropriate integration between CFMP and SMPs?	•			It is not clear if the consequential upstream effects of coastal policies have been fully considered. For example, has there been proper integration of the SMP and catchment flood management plans in relation to the Minsmere and Kessingland levels?		Yes
A2m	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The SMP does not emphasise the value of landscape	•			Landscape is not just about natural habitats. It is about the footprint of man over millennia and how that has shaped the habitats into what we see today. It is about the cultural aspects of the area and its sense of place. Landscape change is ongoing and whilst there is no aspiration to preserve it is aspic, it never has been thus. The SMP does not appear to fully understand the value and richness of what is being changed and or lost.		In section 3 of the SMP it states in many ways this. Landscape quality draws together the many aspects and activities associated with the coastline. The SMP highlights the context within which present human values exist. The SMP also highlights the changing nature of the coast. All these aspects have been taken into account in developing policy.

A2n	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The SMP process should be consistent in reaching conclusions	•			The County Council recognises the difficult decisions needed in assessing whether policies are beneficial or not to the landscape. It is a subjective judgement whether additional rock armour at East Lane, that will protect the land behind the wider bay, is a positive contribution or not in an area designated for its soft and dynamic coast. Similarly it is hard to judge if allowing erosion at Easton Bavents is positive given the loss of properties, agricultural land and historic assets. The result is that there appears to be contradictions within the SMP. The County Council feel it is imperative that the process to come to these conclusions is open and available to examination and that the SMP should be amended in the light of local views expressed in response to this public consultation.		The CSG have reviewed the coastal policies to ensure that a consistent approach has been adopted. However it is recognised that circumstances differ along the coast as the character of the coast changes. All responses will be considered and appropriate amendments made to the SMP.
A2p	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The SMP has not considered local designations and non-designated habitats.		•		For clearly understandable reasons the report has focused attention on the key internationally designated sites. However, this underplays the importance of capturing the contribution of other locally designated sites and non designated habitats to the biodiversity of study area. The close proximity of a wide range of habitats and landscape types means that the designated sites and the surrounding land have a wildlife value enhanced by heterogeneity.		The SMP recognises that the designated features do indeed sit within a broader mosaic of other habitats. NE's advice has been taken in assessing all impacts.
A2q	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Concern over loss of freshwater habitats.	•			Loss of designated freshwater habitats along the Suffolk coast (including areas included in the Essex SMP) is of particular concern for two reasons. Firstly, it is unlikely that these will be recreated in the coastal strip and thus the landscape will be less diverse, and secondly because of the potential impact on other valuable habitats/landscapes elsewhere.		Response noted. NE's advice has been taken in assessing this.
A2r	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC believe that the SMP does not regard the value of the assets on the Suffolk coastline	•			Suffolk's coastal economy is largely based on tourism, agriculture and numerous small local businesses. The County Council believes many assets have been undervalued and that the SMP fails to adequately assess the value of assets in a wider context. The total amount of land lost, through erosion or saline intrusion, may not be vast. However, the resulting impact on the landscape, transport infrastructure, tourism, local businesses, community assets and agricultural production may be significant. For example, a farm losing a proportion of its productive land may be rendered unviable and local production of specialist crops could end up being moved out of Suffolk – maybe overseas.		The SMP has taken a broad approach to this issue. If specific cases are identified then the conclusions of the SMP would be revisited.
A2t	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Details and costs of relocating assets have not been included into the SMP.		•		In a number of places, coastal assets will need to be relocated – e.g. public rights of way and other informal access and car parks. It appears the costs and disruption involved in undertaking a managed realignment policy has not been properly assessed in the SMP development. This is an important part of the cost-benefit analysis needed to develop coastal policies.		As set out in SMP 2 guidance. The economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. This level of detail would be included at a Strategy Level and not in the SMP.
A2v	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The impacts of NAI and MR on tourism and landscape need to be considered.		•		Part of the re-evaluation of assets needs to be the value of the landscape and access to tourism. The total tourism value of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Natural Beauty was £166 million (East of England Tourism, 2006). The effect of No Active Intervention or realignment policies on this value of the landscape in economic terms is missing. For example the value of the Aldeburgh to Thorpeness Road. This is not about preserving this popular tourist route in aspic, but being fully aware of the costs and consequences of change.		Noted and will include values within the text. The potential adverse impact on the future of the road will be assessed fully at the strategic and scheme level.
A2w	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Loss of public access and infrastructure will be detrimental to community.		•		Public access to the coast and its hinterland is a key asset and part of the coastal infrastructure. Public rights of way and other informal access will be lost by managed realignment and any loss without alternative public access being put in place will have a detrimental effect on both the ability of local communities to enjoy their natural environment and the attraction of the area to tourists, with consequent negative effects on the local economy.		Local access has been considered and discussed. The SMP text will be strengthened to reflect these comments. Will be identified in the action plan.
A2x	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Higher profile to be given in the SMP to Public Rights of way and compensation measures.	•			The County Council expects a higher profile to be given to access within the SMP, and that a policy is established that where Public Rights of Way and other access are lost, measures are put in place to replace and where possible enhance the access, and appropriate compensation provided to land managers as part of the overall mitigation measures.		Local access has been considered and discussed. The SMP text will be strengthened to reflect these comments. Will be identified in the action plan.
A2y	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Discussions required for re-routing the Suffolk Coast Path	•			The Suffolk Coast Path is an important asset both for the local community and visitors. If the coastline is to change, there will be a need for detailed discussions around re-routing this path and the associated costs.		Local access has been considered and discussed. The SMP text will be strengthened to reflect these comments. Will be identified in the action plan.
A2z	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Concern that policies will make NE access more difficult	•			There is a need to clarify how Natural England's Coastal Access proposals are linked to the SMP. In many places, the SMP policies will make access more difficult.		NE have been closely involved with the SMP process. Will be identified in the action plan.
A2ag	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Lack of national support for loss of historic environment		•		There is a serious gap in the national strategy for dealing with the loss of historic environment assets on the coast. No funding is available for mitigation – either the relocation of historic assets if feasible and/or their recording before loss.		Noted

A2ah	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Relocation or recording of Scheduled Ancient Monuments is extremely costly, which has not been incorporated into SMP.	•			The development of the SMP has severely undervalued the historic environment, failing to take into account the actual cost of relocating or recording the asset, as well as the cost to the local economy of the loss. For example, the recording of Covehithe (the upstanding buildings including the medieval church and the below ground archaeology) plus Dunwich (the upstanding medieval Greyfriars Scheduled Ancient Monument and the below ground archaeological deposits) would cost £ millions. It is difficult to understand how the loss of these valuable assets can be reconciled with the fact that causing damage to a Scheduled Ancient Monument is a criminal offence!		We have received recently additional information on historic assets from English Heritage and the County Archaeologist which is being incorporated into the SMP. Will check that these issues are included. The economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. This level of detail would be included at a Strategy Level and not in the SMP. Will be identified in the action plan.	
A2aq	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SMP does not consider detailed appraisal of re-routing or raising access routes.			•	The economic impact of increased flooding of local roads, and thus the need to raise or reroute them, does not appear to have been properly considered within the appraisal. This was a fundamental flaw in the development of the Blyth Estuary Strategy and a mistake that should not be repeated elsewhere.		Noted but the policies have been developed as set out in SMP 2 guidance. The economic assessment is meant to be a check of the viability of the preferred plan. In areas, where economic factors are likely to be critical, this is explained in more detail. This level of detail would be included at a Strategy Level and not in the SMP. The SMP has however considered the impact of loss of the roads.	
A2ar	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Access routes affected by flooding.			•	The following roads appear to be impacted by increased flood risk: B1127 at Potters Bridge, Road into Southwold, C road between Dunwich and Blythburgh, Reckford Bridge at Middleton, B1122 into Sizewell and C346 at Bawdsey.		All recorded in the SMP.	
A2as	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC highways estimate cost of raising B1127.			•	As a rough guide Suffolk County Council Highways Department estimates that raising the B1127 would cost over £2million today, thus the overall impact of policies in the longer term could prove very costly.		Noted	
A2at	N		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Flooding of access routes can impact local economy.			•	Flooding to highways is not just a local nuisance but can seriously impact economic activity as well as have safety implications. Even where it is not necessary to undertake major road-raising, increased flood risk will almost always result in additional costs of repair and clearing after a flood event.		Noted	
A3a	Y		EA	Sue Brown	General comments regarding presentation and content			•	General edits need to be made to the text and presentation.		Noted. Will amend text.	
A4a	Y		NE	John Jackson	NE agree with the conclusions of the SMP			•	NE agree the conclusions of the SMP and support the approach to monitor the coast for the Hollesley to East Lane area.		Noted	
A5a	Y		EH	John Ette	Definitions in Glossary.			•	We would like to see 'heritage assets', 'historic environment' and 'mitigation' added, as these phrases capture key aspects of the SMP2: we would also like to see increased use of these phrases in the document, where appropriate	Heritage Assets "A building, monument, site or landscape of historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest whether designated or not. Designated assets may be World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park or Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas." Historic Environment "All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed flora." Mitigation "Practical measures taken to offset the impact of a policy upon physical assets. For the historic environment, this may be 'preservation by investigation' for archaeological features, or 'preservation by recording' followed by staged abandonment, demolition or re-location for listed buildings. There is no effective mitigation for the loss of historic landscapes."	Noted. Will amend glossary.	
A5b	Y		EH	John Ette	Key Principle wording			•	To bring the statement in line with English Heritage policy, we would appreciate its rephrasing to state "To support the historic environment and cultural heritage where economically, technically and environmentally sustainable"		Noted. Text will be amended.	
A5c	Y		EH	John Ette	Natural and Cultural Heritage			•	This subsection is at present inadequate, and we would like to see significant revisions – most notably, much clearer reference to the inter-relatedness of geology, heritage, and natural features along the coastline.	Geology It should be noted that a number of key geologic sequences along the Suffolk coastline are also significant for their associated Palaeolithic remains.	Noted. Text will be amended.	

A5d	Y		EH	John Ette	Natural and Cultural Heritage		•		This subsection is at present inadequate, and we would like to see significant revisions – most notably, much clearer reference to the inter-relatedness of geology, heritage, and natural features along the coastline.	<i>Heritage</i> This statement is at present extremely weak and does not reflect English Heritage's position on the importance of protecting heritage assets where at all sustainable. There is no listing of nationally designated heritage assets (for example, scheduled monuments and grade I, II* and II listed buildings along the coast), unlike Table 3.1 for the natural environment, p.3.12 'Roman Saxon town' does not make sense and ask if the word 'and' needs to be inserted? p.3.12 'sites or monuments' should be changed to 'designated heritage assets'. p.3.12 The final paragraph is also extremely weak, since it fails to note that the historic environment is irreplaceable – or that designated heritage assets should be protected wherever this is sustainable. Both these points are key aspects of English Heritage's stance. In addition, we would like reference to be made to 'mitigation', rather than surveying and recording. p.3.12 "the opportunity to sustain the historic environmental values in an appropriate manner" is a meaningless phrase. We would like greater clarity	Noted. Text will be amended.	
A5e	Y		EH	John Ette	Natural and Cultural Heritage		•		This subsection is at present inadequate, and we would like to see significant revisions – most notably, much clearer reference to the inter-relatedness of geology, heritage, and natural features along the coastline.	<i>Landscape</i> English Heritage feels strongly that consideration is given in this section to historic landscapes, for example the lengths of Heritage Coast covered by the SMP2. Also consideration should be given to the collective importance of historic patterns of settlement and land use, and their relationship to natural environment designations (notably, freshwater grazing marsh). We would like reference to be made to these aspects of the landscape. The final paragraph on p.3.14 hints at this, but the relationship between landscape value, both urban and rural, and historic environment should be stated more clearly, perhaps by referring to historic landscape characterisation.	Noted. Text will be amended.	
A5f	Y		EH	John Ette	Human (Socio-Economic) Environment and Activity, Section 3.1.4		•		p.3.15 "...heritage sites" ought to read "heritage assets". English Heritage feels that it would be beneficial to mention the numerous clusters of listed buildings within coastal settlements, and the role of conservation areas in protecting larger areas of most commonly the historic built environment		Noted. Text will be amended.	
A5g	Y		EH	John Ette	Natural environment 3.2.3		•		This subsection deals with sustainability issues directly affecting the natural environment. There is no equivalent subsection for the historic environment, which is also critical within the SMP2 as it is an irreplaceable asset. A separate subsection at this stage would allow brief examination of the threats that the historic environment is subject to and how these may be mitigated (for example, whether by sea defence or loss preceded by survey, recording, demolition or rebuilding elsewhere). It would also be a good opportunity to highlight the often substantial costs entailed by mitigation and that, whilst specific features may be addressed, there is no effective mitigation for historic landscapes.		Noted. Text will be reviewed in this context.	
A5j	Y		EH	John Ette	Plan for balanced sustainability.		•		The paragraph regarding Covehithe (p.5.7), whilst acknowledging the historic importance of the village, states that "it is not considered sustainable or desirable to attempt to manage the erosion". Whilst erosion may be inevitable, the lack of any management of its advance would put great pressure on achieving sufficient mitigation, which would need to be extensive.		It is estimated that the village could be lost in 40 years time. We note the concern over the timescale of loss.	
A5k	Y		EH	John Ette	Predicted implications of preferred plan.		•		There is not sufficient weight attached to the impact upon the historic environment, nor the likely cost of mitigation for some very significant historic assets.		This can be addressed by elaborating on impacts of policies in sections 5.	
A5l	Y		EH	John Ette	Implications of landscape.		•		This subsection is vague, and landscape needs to be considered with the historic environment as an integrated whole.		Will review and amend as necessary.	
A5m	Y		EH	John Ette	Implications on Historic Environment.		•		At present, this one paragraph is completely inadequate and cannot be supported by English Heritage. A number of proposed policies in the SMP2 will have a significant impact upon historic assets, either through loss or indirectly through substantial changes in their setting. Historic assets are a finite and non-renewable resource. We would like to see complete rewriting, in particular a stronger emphasis upon the irreplaceable nature of historic assets and that they will be protected wherever it is sustainable		Section 5 is intended to provided a very brief summary of impacts. However we will review the text and amend as necessary.	

A5n			EH	John Ette	Funding		•	There is no discussion of the sizeable costs that will be entailed by mitigating the loss of numerous historic assets; most notably the villages of Covehithe and Dunwich, and Scheduled Monuments of Leiston Abbey and The Hospital of the Holy Trinity. Reference should be made to the continuing lack of agreement as to who is financially responsible for the indirect effects of policies that lead to coastal erosion. Whilst the SMP2 cannot be expected to resolve these serious issues, they should be clearly flagged.		Fully agree. We will include a section addressing this.	

APPENDICES

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggest	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
GROUPS															
G10a			Appendix J (AA)			RSPB		AA does not set out habitat baselines	•			A common problem with the Appropriate Assessment (AA) is that it does not identify habitat baselines; these should be added so that where a transition is expected this could be measured and reviewed. The AA should include the areas (ha) to be compensated by habitat and qualified in terms of International features. Considering all of the Policy Development Zones (PDZ) in detail, the RSPB has the following comments:		Noted. AA has been carried out in accordance with guidance up to policy development stage, and has been agreed with EA and NE. Comments provided to be addressed.	
G9n			Appendix J				CLA	Rob Wise		•		In considering the appropriate assessment conducted for the SMP we are concerned about the methodology for assessing saltmarsh loss and the need for habitat recreation. This is a concern that the CLA has for the whole of East Anglia and not just for Suffolk		Noted.	
G9o			Appendix J				CLA	Rob Wise		•		While coastal squeeze does exist we are unconvinced that it is as significant as the government agencies contend - at least at the moment. There is much anecdotal evidence of saltmarsh gain in areas that have been designated as loosing saltmarsh. Additionally the accuracy of the data sources used to calculate saltmarsh loss in the last fifty years is questionable. We therefore question the figures government agencies are working with to establish habitat recreation targets. This is creating an overemphasis in the SMP for managed realignment.		Noted. The SMP acknowledges this uncertainty. If there are specific locations where over emphasis of the need for managed realignment in the Suffolk SMP is identified, then this will be addressed.	
G9p			Appendix H				CLA	Rob Wise		•		In considering the economic appraisal conducted for the SMP, we are heartened that, following guidelines these are to be taken as guideline values. More detailed appraisal would need to be conducted before any major change in policy was implemented. This will allow for the ever increasing amount of data on owner repair costs to be taken into account. Once these generally lower costs are taken into account the cost benefit analysis will shift in favour of hold the line policies.		Noted. In some areas it is sustainability, impact on other areas of the coast and other values of the coast (as noted in CLA response) that has determined the appropriate policy put forward by the SMP. Therefore it is not seen as being likely that there will be a significant shift in favour of additional hold the line policies.	
AUTHORITIES															
A1e			Appendix C			QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Section 4 to be drafted.		•		This appendix discusses coastal processes and geomorphology in some detail leading to predictions of shoreline change, but it appears that Section 4 is yet to be drafted? Presumably this will set out clearly assumptions relating to flood risks and erosion rates.	Could the project team advise when Section 4 will be available for review. Also, it would be helpful to explain where in the report the shoreline change assessments are presented in map form.	Erosion rate maps will be included in Appendix C as section 4. The format is under discussion with GCG.	
A1f			Appendix C			QRG	Jim Hutchinson, Emma Fisher	Further information is needed in Appendix C. It is not clear where futurecoast forms the baseline and where information has changed.		•		The report sets out the other documentation that has been used in the process assessment, including Futurecoast and so on. It is not clear where Futurecoast forms the baseline, and where information has changed since then with new references. [JH]. The SMP Guidance Volume 2 (2006) recommends that a coastal defence assessment is undertaken, but a Coastal Defence Assessment is not included with Appendix C. [EF]	Can the team please confirm what information has been developed since SMP1 has been used, including all the estuary work, etc, and what this indicates? [JH]. Please review the text and add references in where appropriate. Could the team provide some background behind the decision not to include a coastal defence assessment? [EF]	We will provide further explanation of inclusion of information. With the very good information coming from the EA monitoring process, information from Futurecoast added little. All defence data is held within a database, updating NFCDD with LA data. Hard copy summaries can be include if the CSG feel this is worth while.	
A1g			Appendix C			QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Clarification on NFCDD data used to inform policy selection. Will the version used have an impact on the preferred options.	•			Was data from NFCDD used to inform policy selection, and if so which version? If latest version not used, what impact will this have on preferred policy options (eg. estimates of residual life of structures)?	Could the project team please advise? And confirm within the plan what the implications might be?	Most up to date form of NFCDD was used. This gave poor representation of LA defences and local information has been collated in a form suitable for up date to NFCDD. There seems to be uncertainty as to the future format of NFCDD.	

A1u					QRG	Emma Fisher	Need to mention the RMF in introductory text in section B.1.		•		<p>Section B.1 outlines that the three main groups involved in Stakeholder Engagement were: (i) Client Steering Group (CSG), (ii) KSF, and (iii) other stakeholders. There is no mention of the RMF in the introductory text in Section B.1.</p> <p>Section 1.1.3 indicates the three main groups were: (i) CSG, (ii) RMF (Representative Members Forum) and (ii) key stakeholders. [EF]</p> <p>Section B1 lists 3 key groups involved and the Representative Members Forum [RMF] is not listed suggesting that this group are not considered part of the engagement process? [JH]</p>	<p>Consistent terminology is required throughout the SMP to provide clarity and prevent confusion.</p> <p>Provide text on RMF in Section B.1. [EF]</p> <p>Can the team please explain why this is the case? And if the RMF needs to be added to this section to ensure its involvement is fully reflected in the overall process. [JH]</p>	Will clarify.
A1y					QRG	Roger Morris	Use the correct terminology and clarify certain terms.	•			<p>British Red Data Book - the definition is not correct. There are International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) guidelines that have been followed in some recent revisions of Red Data Books (RDB) statuses but many of the RDB are old and applied earlier definitions. This needs to be explained. Also, including birds of conservation concern under this term is probably confusing Annex 1 with RDB - the two are not the same.</p> <p>It appears that a new term to wrap up unfavourable condition has been introduced for this plan. SSSI not in favourable condition or unfavourable recovering should be cumulatively described as unfavourable condition not adverse condition. Staff member responsible - Natural England or Environment Agency?</p>	<p>Can the team please use correct terminology and clarify as appropriate.</p>	Noted and will modify text.
A1z					QRG	Roger Morris	Issue of coastal squeeze on N2k.	•			<p>Issue of coastal squeeze on N2k etc - pinning the coast at East Head cannot be interpreted from the Natura viewpoint as positive. There is no national policy to hold habitat in place if it does not want to be there. This tends towards the approach that it is necessary to prevent habitat loss to coastal processes when its unsustainable.</p>	<p>Can the team please revise in the context of NE conservation objectives for the area.</p>	Noted, but East Lane arguably sustains the natural function of the Natura 2000 site. The works are outside the Natura 2000 site. Wording under review to refer to the acknowledged uncertainty around the Hollesley Bay area. The explanation will be expanded in the document to confirm that East Lane point is being held for socio-economic reasons and impacts on adjacent habitats will be monitored through the AA and Action Plan to determine if the
A1aa					QRG	Roger Morris	Important links with CHaMP in banks being created needs to be clarified.	•			<p>Note - the concept of habitat banking is not a formally adopted concept but is one that is developing in the context of flood risk management policy. The important point about the banks being created for flood risk management is that they are intimately linked to the production of CHaMP (Coastal Habitat Management Plan) and estimation of the need for offsetting habitat.</p>	<p>Can the team please confirm that the CHaMP for the area is fully integrated in the plan?</p>	Confirmed.
A1ab		3, 4, 5, 6.			QRG	Roger Morris	The conservation target in not correct. Please use Natural England advice on management.	•			<p>The conservation target is not correct. Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) views on management are not the statutory advice; please use Natural England's (NE) advice only. Such advice from NE takes account of natural change and does not seek to fix systems in one place. Anything that prevents roll-back tends to exacerbate leakage and diminution of shingle supplies and exacerbates ageing and serial change on a dynamic system. Furthermore, the beach is clearly a part of the geomorphological features of the SSSI and this approach would not be compatible with maintaining the geomorphological interest.</p>	<p>Can the team please use correct conservation objectives set by the NE team and not JNCC interpretations and develop policies that are consistent with these. Is there any impact on the finding of the plan by taking NE's conservation objectives? .</p>	Terminology/definitions to be checked and amended.
A1ac			B		QRG	Steve Jenkinson and Emma Fisher	Address in Appendix B responses to stakeholders comment.	•			<p>This appendix records in good detail feedback from stakeholders at workshops. An equally important part of the consultation process is explaining how comments have been dealt with. [SJ]</p> <p>Appendix B clearly documents responses from the stakeholder meetings, but the responses to these comments have not been addressed in Appendix B. [EF]</p>	<p>Could the project team explain how responses to comments will be recorded and published? [SJ]</p> <p>Include documentation showing how stakeholder comments have been actioned to ensure transparency.[EF]</p>	<p>i) all response to the consultation will be addressed and include in final App B. ii) It is incorrect to sat that earlier responses have not been addressed. The SMP was presented in preliminary form to the KSG and all comments were addressed and changes recorded. The response from the formal consultation will be included in App B.</p>
A1ae			B Table B1.1		QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Change terminology under stakeholders involved, previously misleading.	•			<p>The summary table sets out in some detail the stakeholder engagement strategy. However, the focus prior to the consultation phase appears to have been on the KSF (Key Stakeholder Forum) and RMF.</p> <p>Also, it is a bit miss-leading to include TOAL and RH under the "Stakeholders involved" heading. For example "Invitation letters sent to Key Stakeholders" might be more accurately described as involving Key Stakeholders, not TOAL.</p>	<p>Could the project team clarify what activities were undertaken to inform and engage the public prior to the consultation phase?</p> <p>Also consider amending table to provide more clarity and take out superfluous items</p>	Point noted. The engagement strategy was focussed on KSF and RMF. This was the agreed approach.

A1ah		PDZ6:34			ORG	Roger Morris	Need to clarify increasing coastal stability as a benefit to the landscape.		•		The case that interpretation of increasing coastal stability as a benefit to the landscape is valid but is not clearly made. The landscape is one that is dominated by the dynamic nature of the coast and consequently the policy as it stands is likely to atrophy the coast.	Can the team please consider and set out a stronger more convincing case?	Noted and will clarify.	
A1aj				App Ass pg 30	ORG	Roger Morris	Use correct concept of coastal squeeze in para 6.3.5.	•			Para 6.3.5. - misinterpretation of coastal squeeze. Where shingle rolls back over adjacent wetland this is not coastal squeeze. Coastal squeeze is a distinct set of circumstances where inter-tidal habitat abuts man-made structures that prevent natural roll-over or roll-back.	Can the team please make sure correct use of the concept of coastal squeeze is applied throughout the plan and confirm that this has been done?	What is being put forward here seems to be a very narrow definition of coastal squeeze. The point highlights the danger of using short phrases to capture complex issues. Will clarify text in paragraph 6.3.5 in Appendix J.	
A1al			App Assessment pg 29		ORG	Roger Morris	Correct the interpretation of shingle vegetation.		•		I am concerned about the interpretation of shingle vegetation para 6.3.2. Perennial vegetation of stony banks varies hugely (e.g. from pioneer species such as Crambe maritime, through to scrub woodlands of Salix or indeed Ilex). Stability leads to a succession of habitats according to deposition of humus and where it is ancient this can lead to highly acidic healthy habitats. Thus, stable shingle habitats cannot be characterised as containing species that do not characterise stony banks. The shingle systems of Suffolk comprise both mobile (AVDL) and more stable (PVSB) and include some of the finest ridge vegetation in the UK - all because of stability.	Can the team please correct this, and provide some reassurance on this aspect of the AA?	Section to be rewritten to clarify approach.	
A1am			F 1.7		6ORG	Karl Fuller	Describe the relationship of the plan to other plans and programmes in the SEA report.		•		The SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) report does not include a description of the relationship of the plan to other plans and programmes. This is one of the required elements of an Environmental Report as well as being important to understanding how the plan is likely to 'fit' with other plans and policies relevant to the location.	Can the team please clarify whether an analysis of the relationship to other plans and policies was undertaken and indicate where this has been reported?	Other plans were considered, we will highlight and modify text.	
A1an			F, Table 2.1, Table 5.4		ORG	Karl Fuller		•			There are several concerns regarding the assessment of impacts: a) The separation of impacts into those that are considered minor, positive/negative and significant is welcome, but the criteria that determine whether an impact is significant or not is not clear. How is a significant impact determined? b) On a sample basis the assessment of some of the effects appears to be optimistic/best case. E.g. The first criteria for biodiversity refers to the sustainability of habitat management. For BLY 10.1-10.3 - the sustainability of the system is then used as the basis for claiming a minor positive impact on the condition of international sites and SSSIs (double counting?), despite identifying that the policy will contribute to ongoing decline in condition. The area of Bio-Diversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat is stated to remain the same, but a positive is identified (is neutral more appropriate?). The type of habitat is stated to change - are the habitat types of equal value?	a) Please clarify the basis for determining whether an impact is significant. b) Please check assessment tables to ensure double counting is avoided; assessments are appropriate to the criteria; and conclusions on significance are appropriate to the impact.	Clarification to be added.	
A1ao					6ORG	Roger Morris	Conclusions of the assessment need to be drawn up in context with the conservation objectives	•			Appropriate Assessment should refer directly to Conservation Objectives published by Natural England. The conclusions of the assessment therefore need to be revisited and drawn up in the context of the Conservation Objectives. As it stands at the moment it would not be possible to conclude no adverse affect. As indicated elsewhere in this review, maintaining a balance between static and dynamic shingle features for the purposes of the Habitats Directive is an incorrect interpretation of the Directive and of Policy in England. Likewise, assessment of the impact of managed realignment at East Lane as adverse to Natura would be an incorrect interpretation.	Can the team please comment on this statement and correct as required.	Under review, but unlikely to affect policy.	37-43
A1ap			App Assessment, Page 22.		ORG	Roger Morris	Consider points surrounding conservation objectives.		•		1). Conservation Objectives are not natural England's interpretation but do constitute advice on attributes that form the Natura interest and the measures needed to maintain favourable condition. In the case of European marine sites, this advice is statutory under Regulation 33 of The Habitats Regulations. As written, the text suggests that other interpretations could be used (and indeed have been in places). 2). Whilst there is a need to provide a generalised interpretation of conservation objectives, care needs to be taken to highlight the key qualifier that has been used in Reg. 33 packages; namely Subject to Natural Change. In that context it is important to remember that coastal processes are regarded as natural change and interference with them would not be regarded as necessary to maintain or to achieve favourable condition. The exception is where anthropogenic changes mean that change is ongoing but is constrained by structures such as erosion control, and sea level defence.	Can the team please consider the points and amend the reports as required.	Terminology/definitions to be checked and amended.	
A1aq					6ORG	Roger Morris	Changes to terminology	•			It is not correct to say that Appropriate Assessment is a requirement of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) (second para). AA is strictly a Habitats Directive issue.	Can the team please correct the issue.	Will correct.	

A1ar					6	QRG	Karl Fuller	Why the SEA only considers alternatives for four or more negative impacts? Mention the SEA in Figure 3.2? Has the SEA influenced the plan?		•		The SEA does not appear to have been used in such a way that it has influenced the plan. Figure 3.2 has no mention of the SEA and the SEA report only assesses alternatives for those areas where there are four or more negative impacts recorded (why four and why does this appear to disregard the significance of the effects?).	a) Please clarify whether and how the SEA has influenced the plan? b) Please explain the basis of the approach to the assessment of alternatives in the context of the requirements of the SEA regulations	The SMP has included the conclusions of the SEA. Will clarify.	21
A2o	N		App F (SEA)			SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC disagree with the statement that the proposed policies will have a positive affect on the environment.	•			The County Council's view is that it is inaccurate for the SMP to state that the proposed policies will be positive for the environment overall (Strategic Environmental Assessment, page 55). Parts of the designated AONB will be lost or changed forever. Freshwater habitats and agricultural land will be lost (or devalued by saltwater intrusion), small isolated communities will be more at risk and the visual appearance of the coast will change. These are all part of the environment and landscape and the reasons behind the AONB designation.		The SEA has been undertaken in consultation with all appropriate bodies. The SEA, in line with requirements, is set out in a transparent manner so that the rational behind all conclusions is clear and open. This response will be noted and clarification provided as necessary.	
A2ai	N		App F (SEA)			SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Landscape value of historic monuments has not been considered.		•		As a high level strategy the SMP identifies and gives some consideration to designated scheduled monuments, but there is no attempt to assess these monuments in their landscape setting or in relation to each other or to other less significant historic assets. Although the coastal grazing marshes are an essentially artificial landscape their significance as such seems not to be considered. For example, the landscape loss of Leiston first abbey is seen in landscape terms as the loss of a single 'small chapel' (SEA, 5.4.4) ignoring the relationship of the abbey site on its island with adjacent early reclaimed marshland.		Noted and will clarify.	
A2aj	N		App F (SEA)			SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SEA scoring system of historic environment is not clear.	•			The County Council feels the SEA scoring system needs to be challenged with regard to the assessment of the historical environment. Within the document the destruction of regionally important assets has been allocated as a "minor positive" outcome. This is at odds to other similar assessments of our built heritage.		Noted and will clarify.	
A2an	N		App F (SEA)			SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Greyfriars Monastery omitted from SEA.		•		PDZ3/PDZ4: At Dunwich there is a major omission in the Strategic Environmental Assessment as the nationally important Greyfriars Monastery has been completely omitted, falling as it does just south of the PDZ3/PDZ4 line. The text refers to it (PDZ3:32) but only in terms of the upstanding ruin rather than the site as a whole. The estimated cost for full recording by excavation of this site was estimated at £1million, 10 years ago.		Noted	
A5o			Appendix D			EH	John Eite	Natural and built environment. Section 6		•		This section would benefit from tabulated listings of the statutory designated historic assets found within each geographic subsection (e.g. Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens).			
A5p			Appendix E			EH	John Eite	Issues, Features and Objectives.		•		"...between the River Tyne and Flamborough Head,"; this requires correction.		Noted. This will be amended.	
A5q			Appendix E			EH	John Eite	Issues, Features and Objectives.		•		All Listed Buildings across all three tiers of significance are recognised by the Secretary of State to be of national significance. This should be indicated clearly in the table.	"Heritage sites" should be rephrased as 'heritage assets'. Entries 244, 378, 9, 445 and 480 have inconsistency between Grade II" in the 'Issues' column, and Grade II in the 'Benefits' column. Entry 488 should be indicated as being of national significance, as it is a Scheduled	Noted. This will be amended.	
A5r			Appendix F SEA			EH	John Eite	The Historic Env. 3.3		•		There ought to be reference that, whilst designated historic assets provide an indication of the significance of historic environment along the coastline, many important archaeological features are not designated in the inter-tidal zone due to the dynamic setting. Similarly there is likely to be unknown and therefore undesignated archaeological sites in the area. The data in the SEA thus provides a guide, but is not comprehensive.	We welcome the reference to the scheduled monuments within the study area (p.20) and would like this to be extended to include historic assets that are protected by the other statutory designations	Noted. This will be reviewed and clarification provided.	
A5s			Appendix F SEA			EH	John Eite	Environmental issues Sect 4.1		•		Reference to the "...North Norfolk coast." requires correcting		Noted. This will be amended.	
A5t			Appendix F SEA			EH	John Eite	Issue - maintenance of the archaeological and historical features of the Suffolk coast, Section 5.4.5		•		Whilst the losses of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity and Leiston Abbey are mentioned, there is no discussion of the village of Covehithe. All these losses are of great concern to English Heritage, since mitigation is never as good as preservation.			

A5u			Appendix F SEA			EH	John Ette	Investigation of coastal culture and archaeological sites.		•		Like Section 5.4.5, this section also over-relies on reference to Scheduled Monuments when identifying likely major losses. We feel it is essential that the loss of Covehithe, and numerous significant but undesignated historic assets (notably, inter-tidal archaeology) is also flagged. It is, however, appreciated that the issue of funding has been raised in this part of the report.		
A5v			Appendix F SEA			EH	John Ette	SEA assessment table, Appendix 1		•		Table A2.6 The gradual/natural approach to realignment should, at best, be regarded as having a neutral impact upon the historic environment – due to provision of adequate time for mitigation. The presence of time does not convert the loss of historic assets into a positive or minor positive, as losses to the historic environment can never be fully overcome by mitigation. Indeed it states in the draft PPS15 in Policy HE13.1 that a documentary record is not as valuable as retaining the asset.		
A5w			Appendix H			EH	John Ette	Poor economic assessment of Historic Assets		•		The poor economic assessment of historic assets is most evident in Appendix H which seriously undervalues or omits the monetary value of such sites, despite some costs being previously established following SMP1	Noted. This will be reviewed in revision to Appendix H.	

PDZ1									
Res.Ref	PDZ	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
INDIVIDUAL									
i26	1				K Sweetman	Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i29	1				Sonia Coleman	Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i40	1				Linda Clark	Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i41	1				Mrs P Sweetman	Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i42	1				Anon	Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i53	1				Mrs J A Ilen	The information was OK as far as it went. However, it was not detailed enough and rather vague.		Noted	
i55	1				Bernard Reader	The SMP does not make any comments on how the cost of defences is to be funded i.e. From Central Government, Local District or if Parish Councils can help via the rate (word not clear) or key local people whose property is affected.		We will look to clarify the SMP position on this.	
i65					Mike Betts	I have been viewing the plan for defences on line. I live at 58 Pakefield Road opposite the car Park and overlooking the sea. I am heartened by the plans referral to the Pakefield road headland being seen as an important feature in defence plans and also that possible strengthening of this area is being considered. Would you be able to reassure me that I am in fact reading the data correctly for this piece of the plan and also advise what plans if any there might be for work on this area of defences? I have photographs from 1963 and the difference in how things were kept and looked after aesthetically is huge. The area and the sea wall is quiet tired at present. As this is a major tourist area for Lowestoft it seems to me that not only would strengthening defences secure housing but also add value to the area in terms of it being a pleasant outlook. What is also noticeable about the photo from the 60's is that the sea was right up to the wall, which is different from the long beach and Maram grass now present.		Clarification will be provided,	
i67	1	LOW04	4.3		Dr Jane Boys	You will be aware of the recent consultation on the technical report which is proposing amendments to the current plan that has been in place for 10 years. There was a local meeting in Kessingland, but there was no meeting in Pakefield My concern is that the proposals appear to be reducing the protection planned for Pakefield. It is a complex and lengthy document. If it would help I would be happy to send you the relevant extracts		SMP policy strengthens the intent to maintain Pakefield.	
i68a					Dr Martin Parsons	There is no justification for any assumption that some areas of the coast need to be allowed to erode in order to provide sediment for other areas. The scientific evidence is clear that most beach sediment does NOT derive from coastal erosion		Clarification will be provided,	
i68b					Dr Martin Parsons	There is evidence in terms of the geological origin of beach pebbles found at Kessingland of offshore movement of pebbles sized material that is both well beyond the breaker zone and from areas outside of the sediment cell. As such serious consideration should be given as to whether the dredging of aggregates offshore of Pakefield may be adversely affecting rates of coastal erosion		Noted. The issue of dredging is discussed.	

i68c	1	LOW04	4.3		Dr Martin Parsons	There appears to be an assumption in the shoreline management plan that the retreat of the cliffs to the South of Pakefield is primarily due to coastal erosion, whereas the cliff profiles there suggest that sub aerial (weathering and mass movement processes) are more likely to be dominant with the sea removing collapsed material. As such a range of low cost slope stabilisation strategies may be possible, such as the lowering the slope angle and vegetating the slopes. These adjacent cliffs at Kessingland where similar actions were taken many years ago contrast markedly with those at Pakefield.		As noted the continued process of weathering is exacerbated by coastal erosion resulting in further recession of the cliff.	
i68d	2	BEN06	6.1		Dr Martin Parsons	The position of the proposed new clay bank in South Kessingland will effectively abandon both the village sewage works and 2 streets of permanent residential housing to the sea. At the consultation in Kessingland, the environment agency manager assured me that this clay bank had been drawn on the map 'in the wrong place'. However, it would be appreciated if this could be confirmed in writing and a revised plan put in the final version of the new shoreline management plan		Clarification will be provided on this issue.	
AUTHORITY									
A1k		BEN2		QRG	Stuart Rowe	Policy was NAI (SMP1) now in 4.2 its HTL, HTL + MR. How does this HTL fit with what was NAI (isn't this all new policy?)	Can the team please comment on this and explain the consequences of this?	This relates to adjacent policy providing greater protection to Pakefield. However there has to be long term consideration of realigning the frontage, moving away from the linear approach taken at present.	
A1aw	1. pg 33			QRG	Steve Jenkinson	The economic summary table does not include any costs.	In cases such as this where no costs are presented could the project team explain a) why there is no estimate set out in the report and b) how the economic viability of the preferred option has been assessed?	The SMP has clearly stated that risk management within this area needs to be developed within a framework for development. While the SMP concludes that flood risk management in the area is sustainable if this integrated approach is adopted, it is not sensible to attempt to place any costs on such manage. Will explain reasons in PDZ1 Page 33.	PDZ1:p33
A2s				SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The impact of the SMP policies on development of coastal towns and villages is uncertain. The Hold the Line policy around Lowestoft suggests a positive future for the town, but the SMP notes an increased flood risk and urges caution over residential development – which will be difficult for any planning authority to ignore. The changes proposed in the Communities and Local Government's new policy on planning and coastal development (updated PPS25) suggest a greater influence for the SMP and it is therefore necessary to ensure that SMP policies have regard to those within the Regional Spatial Strategy or Local Development Frameworks. The links between the SMP and statutory planning documents are not made clear in the document.		Throughout the policy development process, LDF's and RSS were obtained and reviewed. Meetings were also held with WDC and SCDC planners to discuss implications of various policies on planning issues. Planning issues have been included in development of policy. Planning guidance has been provided in management area statements. This will be reviewed and strengthened where necessary.	
A2ak	1	LOW4	4.3	SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	PDZ 1: LOW 04 includes reference to the policy of No Active Intervention at Pakefield Cliffs encouraging fresh exposures for study. This should be in KES05, the site of the internationally important Palaeolithic material being south of the management area division. There is significant potential loss of a Roman site on the top of the cliff at the division between the areas LOW04 and KES05. This is a typical example of a site that is undesignated because it has not been archaeologically assessed.		RH to change location of this detail.	

PDZ2

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i1	N	2					M W O'Connell				•	The SMP Plan of no active intervention have ignored the problem of flooding on the main A12 route, also like PDZ2 is in an area classified by Natural England as a SSI area. It may be helpful to look at the schemes in Norfolk e.g. The rock reefs at Happisburgh which seems to be successful.		SMP does include comment on A12 as a key objective. Will clarify importance of retaining strategic route.	
i28	Y	1, 2					J Horwood					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i15	N						Edward Vere Nicoll				•	I reject the proposal of No Active Intervention on the coastline from Benacre Broad to Easton Broad including the village of Covehithe, on the stated basis that there is need for erosion to feed the long shore drift South. Even if this need is accepted, about which we are not clear, there is no proposal for compensation for those who live in Covehithe village or for the historic ruin, church and properties in the village.		The policy is in line with the Coast Protection Act (1949). Under current Government Policy, payment of compensation is not permissible. No change of policy.	
i18	N	1,2,3					Unknown				•	It would appear that a decision to sacrifice land has been taken without really considering the effect on the area concerned. Do not agree with the policy because various dwellings and the magnificent church at Covehithe will be lost to the sea.		Noted.	
GROUPS															
G1c	N	2		Cov 07	7.1	SCAR	Graham Henderson	Disagree with NAI for Benacre Broad to Easton Broad.			•	SCAR rejects the proposal of No Active Intervention on the coastline from Benacre Broad to Easton Broad including the village of Covehithe, on the stated basis that there is need for erosion to feed the long shore drift South. Even if this need is accepted, about which we are not clear, there is no proposal for compensation for those who live in Covehithe village or for the historic ruin, church and properties in the village.		Sediment feed is essential to maintaining defences at Southwold. Compensation is a national issue that is being discussed at a national level, however at present SCAR is correct in identifying that there are no proposals for compensation.	PDZ2:39
AUTHORITIES															
A1o		2				QRG	Steve Jenkinson	Need to economically justify units BEN 6.1 and 6.2 from current withdrawal to HTL.			•	Units BEN 6.1 and 6.2 appear to be promoting a short-term change from current withdrawal to HTL for the first epoch, with no economic justification to do so.	Could the project team simply clarify the thinking behind this please?	This together with a discussion of the economics is presented in the SMP text. The WPM policy for 6.2 is HTL epoch 1 from EA strategy. This goes into more detail than covered by the SMP.	PDZ2:19,20
A1at						QRG	Roger Morris	Concerns over loss of freshwater environments.			•	Proposals for Kessingland Levels (Hundred River) seem to be both unimaginative and likely to lead to an unsustainable solution, with FW wetland being created behind a defended line that will probably need to go back further or could have gone back further in the first instance. This is an excellent opportunity to restore an estuary and to create a whole system approach to both restoration and to coastal management. I also query proposals to create a hard point to the south that would act against the Conservation Objectives for the SSSI, as well as disrupting sediment supplies to more southerly locations. This seems to be the antithesis of the management needed to secure holistic management of this section of coast.	Can the team please revisit and set out in the plan more sustainable solutions for Kessingland levels.	The comments are made from a single perspective of nature conservation and do not take account of the broader balanced sustainability issues as set out in the agreed objectives for the area. All issues considered and taken into account in the preparation of policies. Some issues will be considered in scheme development. Too detailed for SMP.	

A1az		1, 6			QRG	Steve Jenkinson, Roger Morris, Jim Hutchinson	Clarification on funding requirements.	•			The summary p. 39 notes that the plan might require funding beyond FCERM funding. The summary p. 45 notes that funding may be a significant issue with regard to achieving a robust plan. For PDZ 6 the SMP is clear that future works for some of these units may need to be funded from alternative sources. [SJ]	Could the project team comment on the messages that are being conveyed where it appears that the proposed policy options are unlikely to secure central government funding? Is there a reasonable expectation of alternative funding if it is required or is it purely speculative statements? What actions will be included in the Action Plan to establish the viability of the preferred policies? [SJ]	(1) The SMP does highlight the default policy if funding is not available. This will be reviewed and further clarification provided as necessary. Caveats have been included to this effect at Kessingland, the Blyth, East Lane and mouth of the Deben. The SMP has followed the intent of Making Space For Water, in identifying where there may be opportunity for joint collaborative funding to deliver sustainable risk management.
A2aa	N	2		COV7	7.2 SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Need to seek improvements to access at Potters Bridge	•			PDZ2: Potters Bridge area. Access is already restricted at times due to flooding, and there is a need to seek improvements to the coastal path with potential diversion of route. Loss of key access links at Covehithe, a popular tourist route.		SMP does not preclude local works of Potters Bridge. No action proposed.
A2al	N	2	App F (SEA)		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Area has been undervalued in terms of historic environment.	•			PDZ2: This zone has been seriously undervalued in heritage terms, with no mention of heritage/historic environment in the stakeholder objectives and underscoring in the SEA, due largely to over-reliance on designation datasets. The northern part includes at least one archaeological site known only from surface finds. The southern part encompasses the loss of an entire medieval (and potentially earlier) settlement at Covehithe plus its likely harbour area on Covehithe Broad. Assessment is based solely on the upstanding features (church etc) and uncertainty as to whether erosion will reach this far in 100 years, resulting in a comment that the overall effect will be neutral. This fails to recognise the evidence that the settlement was formerly much larger and thus the archaeological deposits will be lost imminently.		References made in the SMP document to the loss of former areas of Covehithe and the importance of the area will be strengthened. The further information provided by English Heritage will be incorporated into the SEA.
A5h	Y	2			EH	John Ette	Benacre Ness to Easton Broad Sect 4.2	•			We would like to question why the historic environment has not been included within the stakeholder objectives. The historic qualities of the landscape have been recognised in the preceding 'Heritage and Amenity' overview, and therefore feel strongly that the historic environment should form one of the stakeholder objectives for this section. We feel this is symptomatic of the overall failing to see the historic environment as a key element of the plan.	p.PDZ2:13 The Economic Assessment table provides no indication for loss of historic assets, for which costs extend from mitigation of those assets to loss of tourist and amenity value. The likely cost of mitigation for Covehithe will be extremely high, and it is misleading to omit this from the table. This comment may be extended to the other PDZ sections. p.PDZ2:14 The General Assessment of Objectives makes no mention to loss of historic assets, as a result of its omission from the stakeholder objectives for this PDZ.	

PDZ3

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i7	N	3					Laura Martin					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The maintenance of the defences at Southwold rely on their effectiveness on the erosion of the Easton Bavents cliffs. These cliffs support my home at Four Winds, Easton Lane. I can see why the maintenance of numerous properties in Southwold should take preference over maintenance of a few at Easton Bavents. However, the fact remains that my home will be sacrificed for the benefit of others. If this is to be the case, what recompense can I expect for this sacrifice? In the end I may become homeless, possibly at an advanced age. Will I be eligible for re-housing under the current procedures? 		The concerns are noted. The SMP approach recognises the potential loss. The policy is in line with the Coast Protection Act (1949). Under current Government Policy, payment of compensation is not permissible. No change of policy.	
i9	N	2,3					Peter Boggis					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. It doesn't fulfil its original objects in relation to human habitat at Easton Bavents. It makes no provision for projected private sea defence at Covehythe. There is no public advantage in encouraging the ness to advance further westwards. It is already in its next protecting position. 		Noted. These issues are discussed in the SMP.	
i11	N	3					David C B Webb					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not agree with the policy. Overall the SMP2 preferred policies are far more palatable than those produced by the Environment Agency for the Blyth Estuary and the Walberswick to Dunwich frontage. Nevertheless it is believed that SMP2 needs to be challenged on the policy to withdraw maintenance from Tinkers marsh flood banks from the present day and in the medium term from the bank protecting Robinson Marsh. Should these marshes flood then the affect of the additional water flow on navigation and on the harbour mouth structures will be very damaging. Given that it is intended to maintain the harbour mouth structures and the line of the south training arm, the maintenance of the dunes on the Walberswick side is very important. The policy for these dunes is "managed retreat" but at present there is no management at all and they are being damaged by too many "visitors". 		These issues are being addressed through the partnership approach involving the Blyth Estuary Group, EA and Local Authorities. The SMP sets an appropriate framework for these discussions. Will clarify issues relating to Walberswick Dunes and include action to monitor and manage human trampling.	
i17	N						Emily Whalley and Nicholas Pratt					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have lived on Ferry Road, Southwold for many years and before that my uncle lived there so our connection is very strong. It is a very distinct place, as is the surrounding Southwold, Covehythe, Walberswick and Dunwich area which needs to be maintained as a whole and protected from the sea, which has been done for 400 years. The policy of managed retreat proposed by the EA in 2007 would have had far-reaching consequences and was an unnecessary abandonment policy of this unique area. I consider the recent proposition to not maintain the existing concrete sea defence north of Southwold would make Southwold more vulnerable to the sea and it would be create a weakness to the whole area's sea defenses. It would not be economic either, to allow the sea to come in sooner, north of Southwold, as it would be more costly to remove the sea defence, once it had deteriorated, and then to build a new wall further back. It would be more sensible and cost effective to maintain it and to hold the line as is being done with the majority of the area. 		These issues have been considered in the SMP. The SMP approach allows for a more sustainable means of providing protection.	
i45	Y	3, 4					Dunwich Parish Meeting					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dunwich Parish Meeting welcomes the recognition by the draft shoreline management Plan of the need to maintain Dunwich as a viable community, the Plan's appreciation that flood defences at Dunwich are both essential and sustainable, and its acknowledgement that there is scope for replacement of the experimental trial beach defence with similar but slightly more resilient low-lying groynes which could allow Dunwich to form as a slight headland. The Parish Meeting appreciates the positive and constructive approach taken by the Plan both towards the management of Dunwich's various sites of archaeological significance and towards the viability of the community as a whole. 		Noted.	
i46	Y	2, 3					Mrs J M Hall					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When will Southwold harbour be repaired? The whole scheme depends on it. (Urgent). 		Concerns will be passed on to Waveney District Council. Action to be included in the Action Plan.	
i50	Y	3					T V Robinson					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I met Adam Burrows of the Heritage Hut at Walberswick - he did his best to explain the recommendations. Most proposals seem sound. Only serious concern is for the Robinsons Marsh area. There was talk of a wall continuing across the road past Old Vicarage Cottage and across the marsh - tucking into the Old School Fields. I hope this idea has not been thrown out. Generally yes, but protection of east end of Robinsons Marsh properties is paramount. Accompanying letter: If the river walls are to be heightened and, we hope, the Robinsons Marshes will remain dry at the highest tide, there remains a problem. The tide will encroach from the quay up the road and surely will rush to fill up the marsh between Marsh View and Old Vicarage Cottage, possibly undermining the buildings. The answer to this is to continue the earth wall across the road with a tidal gate and join the wall from the Ferry Hut. 		Noted. This will be considered at scheme level.	
i61	Y	3					Donald Sewell					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In favour of "Hold the Line". My view is that the only threat to the Town Farm Marshes (to the north of Southwold Town) would come from a failure to maintain the sea defences between Easton Bavents cliffs and the sea wall to the north of Southwold Pier. 		Noted. The SMP is putting forward a more sustainable means of defence in the area.	

i66a	N	3		SWD08	8.2		Peter & Margarita Osgood	Disagree with MR to the north of Southwold		•	Our primary concern is the SMP2 proposal to apply a 'managed realignment' of the shoreline along the line of the existing seawall frontage north of Southwold Pier. It is understood that the flood defence seawall concrete structure, apparently in a satisfactory condition, would be removed during the 'second epoch, 2025 to 2055', allowing the Easton Marsh area behind the sea wall to flood and become 'salt marsh'. This proposal would necessitate extensive flood defence works and maintenance control around the whole of the perimeter of the new salt marsh. Construction and maintenance of a 'significant structure' to 'heavily defend' the Southwold Town frontage just north of the Pier and the new 'shoreline frontage' will be necessary, together with 'some form of control over the northern section of the frontage' to stop outflanking.		Noted. The SMP is putting forward a more sustainable means of defence in the area.	
											The removal of the sea wall structure and provision and maintenance of the extensive new flood defences to property and roads would represent a considerable cost, far in excess of the retention, maintenance and extension of the existing seawall frontage. To maintain and extend the seawall, as a first line of flood defence, is in our view a preferred way to safeguard Southwold and Reydon. FRG oppose the SMP Review proposal.		Noted. The SMP is putting forward a more sustainable means of defence in the area.	
i66	Y	3		SWD9	9.1		Peter & Margarita Osgood	Maintenance of the Denes is critical		•	The Denes sand dune flood defence system has clearly been a success. It should therefore be looked after. The following repair, maintenance and monitoring should be considered : (i) Repair the seaward face of the sand dunes. (ii) Plant Marram grass where necessary, fence off to exclude the public, to aid recovery and sand catching. (iii) Provide signs to inform walkers about the importance of the sand dune flood defences and to encourage the use of established paths and steps. (iv) Find a method for reducing the damage done by rabbits to the sand dune bank along Ferry Road. (v) Monitor the sand dune system annually and ensure that there is an ongoing maintenance programme		Noted. Information will be passed on to the Environment Agency. Action included in Action Plan.	
GROUPS														
G1e	N	3		SWD08	8.1	SCAR	Graham Henderson	Time required to consider Easton Bawents Policy		•	The changing attitude at Easton Bawents as a result of current negotiations between Natural England, The Environment Agency, Waveney DC and Peter Boggis, alongside the human rights history as approved by the Secretary of State with regard to the Charles England appeal, requires more time before completion of the SMP2 decision for this part of the coast. Government policy must take into account the rights of the individual citizen.		This seems in line with the approach put forward in the SMP. Action included in Action Plan.	PDZ3:40
G1f	N	3		BLY 9 and 10		SCAR	Graham Henderson	Issues with Blyth estuary funding		•	Blyth estuary funding and other outstanding matters of defence		This is being taken forward in partnership with the Blyth Estuary Group, EA and local authorities. Action included in Action Plan.	
G2e	N	3		BLY10		Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	Why is there a NAI policy for the Blyth whilst the Blyth group have proposed HTL.		•	BLY 10.1 is NAI, yet the Blyth Users Group application is effectively a HTL scheme. What is the role of the SMP if local action can fly in the face of SMP policies		The SMP identifies areas that could be defended without having adverse effects on the coastal process, however would not be economically justified. Therefore privately funded defences would be acceptable. However there are other areas where private works would not be approved due to impact on other features of the coast. This has been highlighted.	
G6	Y	3		BLY10		Blythburgh with Bulcamp & Hinto		Concern that work carried out in the estuary will impact the A12.		•	The Parish Council noted the conclusion that management upstream of the A12 had already been shown to have little overall influence of estuary behaviour and hence the Shoreline Strategy (Ref. PDZ3: 11 and 30). The document assumes that there will be an increased probability of flooding in the area of the estuary upstream of the A12. This is a most disappointing assumption. Given that the defence of the A12 has been identified as being essential (PDZ3: 30) the Parish Council believes that the impact on the upstream area of any work to defend the A12 must be considered. There are properties at risk in Blythburgh in Church Lane and on the seaward side of the A12. Key links in the Public Footpath network are already cut or are threatened.		The function of the A12 would be maintained under the SMP policy. County Council funding proposed to reduce flood risk. Action included in Action Plan. Local risk to property is noted.	
AUTHORITIES														

A1h		3			ORG	Roger Morris	Clarification between Pye's description of trends and monitoring over the past 5 years. Reference being a reflection of available data.	•				It is not clear what is meant by the "apparent anomaly" between Pye's description of trends and monitoring over the past 5 years means. The reference to it being a reflection of available data is open-ended. Is the text saying that Pye is right and that the data over the past 5 years are too limited to infer erosion; or that actually Pye is working with limited long-term data and the extrapolation is not confirmed by observations in the past 5 years?	Can the team please clarify this text, and set out any implications of this on the final plan.	Will clarify "apparent anomaly" in text on Blyth Estuary.	3.11
A1i		3			ORG	Alison Baptiste	Further description required for policy unit BLY10.2 and DUN11.1&11.3	•				I couldn't find justification for the policy option HLT for policy unit BLY10.2 other than "the defence of the A12 has been identified as being essential. It is concluded that the policy here would be to 'Hold the Line.'" page 3-30. Similarly for policy unit DUN11.1 & 11.3. "Defences against flooding at Walberswick and Dunwich would need to be considered in detail but are considered essential and sustainable." page 3-32. There is no description of basic assumptions or justification for these statements. I don't disagree with them but the descriptions of the other policies are very thorough so these stand out as inadequate.	Please add a few additional sentences setting out reasons why these policies have been considered 'essential'.	Will add additional justification.	3.32
A1l			Section 5		ORG	Emma Fisher	Walberswick to Dunwich MR scheme to be mentioned in SS,p5.8	•				The SMP policy appears to tie in with the Walberswick to Dunwich MR scheme currently entering delivery phase, but the scheme should be mentioned in SS, p5.8.	Please review text relating to the Walberswick to Dunwich frontage.	Yes, the scheme does conform to SMP policy. Information about the scheme came after writing this section of the SMP documents.	
A1n		3		BEN5	ORG	Roger Morris	Concerns over the SMP allowing private defences which have previously been thought to be uneconomic.	•				The way this SMP has been constructed and phrased is quite different from other plans. It seems to give the green light to proposals for private defences and also accepts previous uneconomic pinning of the system (East Lane). As the SMP is non-statutory it could easily be ignored by planning authorities if people want to pin parts of the coast because they are prepared to pay for it themselves. This structure and approach is therefore likely to undermine the strategic objectives for the coast as a whole.	Can the project team please clarify whether the objective of the plan is to avoid creation of hardpoints and a wash-aligned shoreline or whether the plan is ambivalent about maintaining drift and interruption of processes?	Disagree. The SMP is quite clear on the impacts of defence in different areas. East Lane has in several strategies and appraisals shown to be economically viable, but not fundable and environmentally acceptable in terms of processes. East of England Plan says that development plans should have regard to SMP policies and, consequently SMP policies cannot be ignored. In fact, there is an indication that the planning process will have a greater regard to SMP	
A1p		3		BLY10	ORG	Roger Morris	Planning for the A12 needs to focus on adaptation and raising the roads above tide levels.	•				The technicalities of defending the A12 preclude improving defence in the long-term without some pretty hefty engineering. This and other locations suggest that the planning for the A12 needs to focus on adaptation and upon the need to raise roads above predicted tide levels - ideally on piles, or similar.	Can the team please give further consideration to the long-term strategy for key transport infrastructure in the face of sea level rise. Also state if the highway agency is in agreement.	The HTL policy refers to maintaining the function and position of the A12 as set out in the strategy. However the strategy considers this purely from an EA perspective. The SMP considers this from the national perspective. SCC has funds to either raise defences or provide defence by another means (eg. a sluice). EA is to contribute local levy funds to complete the works.	3.61
A1q		3			ORG	Steve Jenkinson	BLY 10.1 funding is an issue. Consistency with the policy of HTL from the 3 epochs for unit BLY 9.3 with the Blyth Strategy.	•				I understand that the policy of HTL for the 3 epochs for unit BLY 9.3 is not entirely consistent with the Blyth Strategy, recognised apparently through the comment regarding technical feasibility and economic justification. Also BLY 10.1 where the likelihood of funding appears to be an issue.	Could the project team comment on what actions are to be included in the Action Plan to establish technical feasibility and economic viability? Presumably the SMP will draw on feedback and conclusions from the from the existing strategy development?	This policy was agreed with the representative members, including the EA. The issue will be included in the action plan.	
A1r					ORG	Roger Morris	Uncertainty in the sustainability of the policy and the issues associated with the A12 as a result of widening the Blyth mouth. What if the harbour can't be maintained due to economic/technical reasons.?	•				It is unclear if the policy of maintaining the harbour and mouth of the Blyth is driven by technical or political judgements? How does such a decision impact on the long-term sustainability? What if it is found that the mouth and Harbour cannot be maintained for technical and economic reasons, does this make the plan unsustainable? It is not clear if coastal squeeze is the issue in the Blyth. There appears to be plenty of accommodation space upstream but in the lower reaches the constrained walls mean that ebb tides are particularly fierce and this in turn may lead to widening of the channel across remaining saltmarshes (if allowed to do so). Widening the mouth of the Blyth at the moment might	Please explain how this action can be achieved in economic terms and consider the implications on the long-term sustainability if funding for upgrades of the Harbour is not found. In short can the team set out robustness of this position. Consider justification for coastal squeeze in the Blyth and revise if in agreement with this analysis. Could the team please comment on this scenario?	SMP complements EA Estuary Strategy. 1) Blyth Mouth: Holding the mouth is considered essential for maintaining sustainable defence to Southwold, the defence of Walberswick and the operation of the harbour. These are fundamental objectives defined for the area. Will review text ref comments to a commitment to retaining harbour structures for coast protection purpose. 2) No, it is not clear whether coastal squeeze is an issue. This is why the precautionary approach is being taken to policy development, allowing future widening along the harbour reach. 3) The policy for the mouth has been agreed by the CSG as HTL, but text clearly highlights that overall function. The text goes on to highlight that actual management of the structures may need to be realigned (narrowed or widened).	

A1s		3				ORG	Roger Morris	Environmental implications and solutions from sediment build up resulting from the new hard point.		•		Creating a new hard point at the northern end of Southwold appears to disrupt sediment supplies and to have knock-on impacts elsewhere. It is also noted that sediment build up as a consequence is likely to reduce cliff erosion upstream. This in turn must surely reduce sediment input that will have implications for sediment loads within the Blyth estuary. Also, this sediment build-up is likely to obscure the geological Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), so a solution needs to be considered e.g. sediment by-pass. This appears to be discussed further on, but highlights the potential environmental seriousness of this issue.	Can the team please comment on this scenario particularly the potential wider environmental implications?	Evidence suggests that the existing linear flood defence has the potential to cause exactly this problem. The policy sets out to address this, but the precise manner in which this would be achieved goes beyond the level of the SMP. The concept of a hard point however demonstrates the basic principle of management over the length and width of shoreline. The environmental issues have been discussed with NE and conclusions drawn into the SEA and AA.	3.24.3.40
A2d	N	3		10	10.1	SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	The SMP should be allowing local land owners to carry out works where it will not have an affect on surrounding area.		•		Where local action could be undertaken without adverse consequence elsewhere, a Hold the Line policy would make more sense (with the proviso that national funding is unlikely) rather than one of No Active Intervention. For example, BLY 10.1 has a No Active Intervention policy, yet current activities by local landowners and the Blyth Estuary Group is effectively a Hold the Line policy - at least in the short to medium term. The policy should be amended accordingly.		In the case of this policy unit there is a clear statement from the EA that policy should be MPR from their perspective. However support is being provided where local landowners wish to provided private investment in defences.	
A2ab	N	3		BLY10	10.1	SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Loss of access around Blyth marshes needs to be clarified.		•		PDZ3: Loss of part of the network due to increased flooding around Dunwich river paths, Dingle Marshes, Corporation Marshes, Buss Creek and Tinkers Marsh which will need to addressed.		Local access has been considered and discussed in the SMP. There is a need to develop an action and management plan for the harbour area. This will be included in the action plan.	
A2am	N	3		SWD08		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Prehistoric finds at the northern end of zone		•		PDZ3: At the north end there have been substantial medieval and prehistoric finds.		The SMP is based on available information. The SEA will be reviewed and revised to take into account recently provided information from English Heritage.	
A5i	Y	3				EH	John Ette	Easton broad to dunwich cliffs - Greyfriars		•		p.PDZ3:6 "Greyfriars Monastery" ought to read "Greyfriars Priory" and it is the "Hospital of the Holy Trinity			

PDZ4

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i3	N	4					BE Ralph			•		Even at this stage, there seems inadequate joined-up consultation/thinking between EA; British Energy/EDF ; RSPB ; National Trust; land and property owners to establish the full breadth of the impact of anticipated coastal degradation.		Will be addressed in Action Plan.	
i4	N	4,5					G Smith			•		The coastline should be preserved as much as possible as it is in 2009. Strengthening the shore by fencing (Dunwich) and placing soft groins (Dunwich) has made a difference and the cost is minimal compared with hard defending. Also possible would be using old tyres. Forming or strengthening existing sand/shingle banks is effective too.		Noted. The SMP supports forms of low intervention defence. However any form of defence can result in reduction of drift and interference with coastal processes, which may then have a detrimental impact elsewhere.	
i25	Y	4					Charles Hughes			•		Overall, the scheme is a well thought-out proposal prepared by competent scientists and engineers, who have considered a wide variety of possible future events. With particular reference to PDZ4, have the Planners considered the effects of future sea-level rise in the Sizewell area. The new nuclear reactor will be required to operate until 2050+. Earlier replacement of Sizewell 'C' would be particularly expensive.		Noted. Yes, proposals will take account of potential impact of sea level rise.	
i27	Y	4					A J Francis					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i31	Y	4					Mrs Oliver			•		Interesting but rather complex. Financial consideration not on the display. Will the policy be implemented e.g. Money.		Noted.	
i38	Y	4, 5					Mrs J F Flick					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i51	N	4					Tony Bone			•		I am concerned that the possibility of permitting a breach of the river to the sea at Slaughden could be disastrous with unforeseen side effects which would change the economics of the River Alde at Aldeburgh. I think it essential that the shoreline south of Fort Green be stabilised on an ongoing basis.		These issues have been considered in the SMP and would be taken up through the estuary initiative. Action to be included in Action Plan.	
i56	Y	3, 4					Andrew Paige			•		I found the first review of SMP sub cell 2c to be comprehensive and in several areas authoritative. However, on a 50-year timescale, unless funds are made available in the region of £2 bn+ I do not think defences of Southwold or Aldeburgh are feasible as proposed and there are also long-term implications for the defence of present and future power stations at Sizewell.		Noted. Action to be included in Action Plan.	
i2	N	5					D R Barrick			•		Dredging should be stopped. According to this plan Sizewell will become an island which I feel is dangerous.		Sizewell will not become an island. Will clarify.	

GROUPS													
G1g	Y	4		ALB 14	14.4	SCAR	Graham Henderson	Concurs with what is stated in SMP	•			Slaughden -admitted in SMP2 draft as dependent on the estuarine policy	Noted.
G7d	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Plans for Sizewell should be more thorough and clear.	•			Sizewell 3 should be treated as a major development affecting the entire Suffolk coast, and not only its neighbourhood. Its safety is paramount to the welfare of the county. The business plan for the future development of the site should include provision for present and forward funding of coastal defences for the immediate and extended county coastline for a period well in excess of 100 years.	These issues have been considered in the SMP. Action to be included in Action Plan.
AUTHORITIES													
A2ao	N	4				SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Leiston Abby marshland has not been noted within the SMP		•		PDZ4: Leiston first abbey is noted but without also noting that the marshland immediately to its south is also of historic importance.	Noted. Will include comment in text as requested by English Heritage.
A1j		3,4				QRG	Jim Hutchinson	Change in policy from HTL to NAI for Thorpeness	•			<p>PU 13.3, 14.1 and 14.2 [in the Thorpeness village area] all had an SMP1 and Strategy policy of HTL, and now the plan is concluding NAI over the 3 epochs, and this may raise some local questions. A similar conclusion is made on PU 16.4 at Hollesley Bay.</p> <p>Can the team please explain how they have come to this conclusion given the findings of the earlier plans and strategies?</p>	Will clarify, but generally due to increased pressure, resulting from climate change.

PDZ5

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i6	N	5					Barrie Skelcher				•	The minimum requirement is to "Hold the Line", we are already an overcrowded Island and it is not acceptable to loose more land. For this some joined up thinking is required and two strategies deployed. Shoreline erosion would be reduced, probably to manageable levels, if the impact of wave attack were reduced. This could be achieved by having Wave active power generators sited off shore. These are currently only at the development stage but should be available within the next two decades. These will generate electricity by extracting power from the waves. This in turn reduces the effect of the waves on the shore line and so reduces erosion. The Rivers should be surge protected at their entrance. It is nonsense to try and protect the entire length of all the vulnerable rivers. This could be done by installing tidal flow generators coupled with suitable locking facilities for ships. With surge protection it is only necessary to delay the peak at the entrance to smooth out the effect inside the river. Both these solutions are engineering possible. It only requires the political will to finance them.		Any form of defence can result in reduction of drift and interference with coastal processes, which may then have a detrimental impact elsewhere. The SMP has to consider this together with the important aspects of the natural environment which has been highlighted as an essential value to the economy as well as having an inherent value.	
i8	N	5					Lindsay Clubb				•	There appears to be fundamental flaw in the manner in which the future of our coasts and estuaries is planned. Either proper estuary plans should be organised to be in place before an SMP is produced (so that it can take account of all the relevant issues) or, in their absence, an SMP should be tasked with itself identifying all the relevant issues necessary to properly determine the policies for the shoreline, no matter how remote from the shoreline the origin of some of the issues may turn out to be. To propose a policy which could have a significant impact on a population living a considerable distance behind a shoreline without first having fully understood the nature of that impact seems slipshod in the extreme (positively "out of character" with the remainder of the SM). To then entrust or commit the review of that policy to a process (the ICZM), admitted by all and sundry to be experimental (i.e it may not happen), seems to me to be neither tenable or reasonable.		Point noted, however the issues surrounding the estuaries are recognised to go well beyond the remit of the SMP. The SMP makes strong recommendations so that initiatives relating to the estuary have a good evidence base relating to the coast. Action included in Action Plan.	
i14	N	5,6					Richard Mann				•	I think an HTL approach should be adopted both north and south of Aldeburgh. It is critical that there is no breach at Slaughden in the future. Once sea defences are breached habitat behind goes from fresh to salt so all biodiversity is lost.		Noted.	
i32	Y	5					Peter Bell					Agreed with Policy.		Noted.	
i35	Y	5					Dr Anne Walton				•	Helpful and reassuring		Noted.	
i57	Y						S J L Oliver				•	The proposal for my area (Aldeburgh) is good in principle. BUT: I would need an assurance that local or central government support, practical and financially, is given such that the SMP can be implemented.		Noted.	
i58	Y	5					Ian Tait				•	Not clear what the proposed policy is. The SMP offers a series of possible actions but does not indicate how the conflicting interests can be lead to an agreed plan.		Some of these decisions will be addressed through the estuaries initiative. Action included in Action Plan.	
i59	Y	5		Orf 15			Charles Thompson				•	The plan seeks to address the risks of (in my area) flooding. The issue is only will the policy increase flood risk (result - neutral); the issue MUST BE how to REDUCE flooding risk. This is not mentioned in the plan, but most certainly should be.		We will see whether further clarification can be added with respect to flood risk in specific area.	
i64	Y	5, 6					Mrs Liz Mark				•	The opening of the shingle bank near Aldeburgh Martello Tower will be a very silly thing to do!! (I was about for 1953 floods and so know how parts of the town were affected with water twice a day up and down their staircases for 6 weeks until the sandbag wall was built from commencement of river wall round Slaughden Road, Park Road right round to near Saxmundham Road and the 9 breaches in wall were repaired & water on marshes pumped out & also we got back the sewage system". Aldeburgh people will not want that again I am sure - national servicemen; airmen from both twin bases and volunteers built this bag wall. In 2007 river wall nearly gave way due to surge (very lucky!). "Electric sub-station; gasometer; waterworks and sewage works were all flooded and took a long while to have services restored.		These issues would need to be considered in the event of a permanent breach.	
GROUPS															
G1h	Y	4				SCAR	Graham Henderson	Concurs with what is stated in SMP			•	Alde and Ore: Completion should be awaited of the current ICZM and ACES projects		Action included in Action Plan.	
G2g	N	5		ALB14	14.4	Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	SMP should clarify where the breach at Slaughden may be engineered.			•	If the technical advice is that a breach is required somewhere on the Alde/Ore, although it is likely NOT to be at Slaughden, then the SMP should be more transparent about this, rather than being silent and leaving ACES to go public with the issue.		This point has been made in the SMP that any breach at this location needs to be managed and will need to address issues within the estuary.	
G3c	N					Aide and Ore Association	David Andren				•	When the Environment Agency first proposed the development of an Estuary Development Plan for the Aide and Ore in 1993 our Association argued that, because of the particular configuration of our coast, it was important to look at the management strategy for the coast as well as the estuary itself. This led to agreement that consultants (Halcrow) should prepare a separate study known as the Thorpeness to Hollisley Strategy described to us as "a mini-SMP" which would be more detailed than was normally the case with SMPs. With the support of the Aide and Ore Association the Environment Agency re-launched the Estuary Management Strategy earlier this year name under the new title "Aldeburgh and Coast Estuary Strategy" (ACES) and decided that Halcrow, rather than Black & Veatch, should be the lead consultants for this study.		The SMP has taken evidence from the strategy identified in the response. This has been the basis for the SMP recommendations. The SMP also recognises that its recommendations are fed into the emerging ICZM initiative. Action included in Action Plan.	
G3d	N					Aide and Ore Association	David Andren	Incorporation of estuary reports into the SMP.			•	At no point in the draft SMP dealing with our part of the coast and the Aide and Ore Estuary do Royal Haskoning specifically refer to ACES or the very detailed specification for this study prepared by the Environment Agency. Given that the specification prepared by Royal Haskoning for the Essex Coast, published in August 2009, covers both the Essex coast and estuaries we find this astonishing. We think it is nonsensical to try to prejudge decisions on the coast until the more detailed studies which Halcrow are now preparing are available. We have noted that other estuary groups and SCAR hold the same view.		The SMP has taken evidence from the strategy identified in the response. This has been the basis for the SMP recommendations. The SMP also recognises that its recommendations are fed into the emerging ICZM initiative. Action included in Action Plan.	

G3e	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	SMP can not reach agreed policy until the outcomes of the ACES and Alde Ore Futures studies have been completed.		•		The SMP frequently refers to the "estuary strategy" for the Alde and Ore rivers. While the SMP recognises that nothing can be agreed until the "estuary strategy" is available, it never the less proposes a preferred option of doing nothing south of Slaughden Martello Tower. We consider such a conclusion, however provisional, cannot be sustained or justified verified until the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies have been completed. We also believe the assumptions made about the likely impact of the breach need to be informed by knowledge of the strength of water flows within the estuary as well as along the coast. The SMP should not therefore make any recommendations for change however provisional.		The SMP has taken evidence from the strategy identified in the response. This has been the basis for the SMP recommendations. The SMP also recognises that its recommendations are fed into the emerging ICZM initiative. We will seek to clarify this position with respect to existing modelling. Action included in Action Plan.
G3f	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	The SMP should also recognise that Aldeburgh is at risk from coastal inundation via the estuary.		•		The SMP focuses on the shore and ignores the fact that the major threat to the town of Aldeburgh is not just the incursion from the sea: it is also the incursion of the sea via the river over the river wall which runs due west from Slaughden, as happened in 1953. The calculations on costs also appear to have overlooked the need to maintain or strengthen this river wall if there is a breach in the coastal defences at or near Slaughden.		Noted. The issue is discussed in the SMP. Action included in Action Plan.
G3g	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Estimation of properties and values at risk are underestimated within the SMP		•		The Alde and Ore Association and the Environment Agency have agreed the basis on which over 1,750 properties at risk of flooding should be valued and we now have estimated values for 90 per cent of those properties. These values, excluding major hotels, publicly owned community assets, farms and agricultural land amount to some £500 million. The number of properties in the SMP said to be at risk of flooding and their value are grossly understated in the Report. We therefore consider it is unacceptable to endorse any of the conclusions in the SMP based on this earlier data.		We will seek further information from the EA. Action included in Action Plan.
G3h	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Defences south of Aldeburgh need to be considered.		•		As we have stated in previous submissions to the Environment Agency we believe that there is a case for improving sea defences south of Aldeburgh. In particular we think it is necessary to look at the case for increasing the height and looking at possibilities other than shingle recharge for protecting the relatively short section of the coast running from south of the Martello Tower up to the point at which the height of the shingle ridge begins to rise further south		Noted.
G3i	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	A detailed crest level of defences was recently carried out, and needs to be considered in SMP.		•		The Environment Agency has very recently undertaken a detailed crest level survey of the heights of our sea and river defences. We understand this will shortly be available to the Association and others. Since we have not yet seen this survey we assume that it cannot have been taken into account by the consultants when drafting SMP2. We consider this indefensible and that engineering consultants need to be employed to assess its implications.		Not relevant at the level of the SMP.
G3j	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	Breaching of the estuary will have considerable impacts on fresh water supplies and not just agricultural land.		•		The authors of the Report appear to be unaware that the estuary area includes not just agricultural land but that that land is now a major vegetable producing area of the UK. It relies on the clean aquifers for irrigation. Breaching these river defences would allow these water sources to become brackish and subject to saline intrusion. As a result the UK would lose a significant resource to the detriment of its food supplies and work to reduce food transport to assist reducing the trend towards global warming.		These issues have been highlighted in the SMP document on page PDZ5:16.
G3k	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	The SMP overlooks the recreational and economic benefit of the Alde/Ore south of Aldeburgh		•		It is not clear from the draft Report that the authors appreciate the fact that there are many miles of river which can be used safely by small sailing and other boats which make a major contribution to the area's economy. Without that safe sailing, which would largely go if a breach occurred, the economic loss would be high as most of the sailing would cease. This points again to the need for a full evaluation of the coast, the estuary and the area as it is a major contributor to the area's economic well being. This could usefully take as its starting point the 2003 economic survey of the Alde and Ore Estuary and the surrounding land area sponsored by the Alde and Ore Association, the East of England Development Agency, Suffolk Coastal District Council, the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Unit and others.		These issues have been highlighted in the SMP document on page PDZ5:16.
G3l	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	An improved assessment to identify flood risk is required.		•		Further work is also need to quantify the population numbers at risk of flooding. The Association considers that trying to base figures on just permanent residents is unacceptable and that the estimates which are being used for the SMP, ACES and Alde and Ore futures are too low. Over the last 30 years the towns (including Thorpeness) and countryside surrounding the Alde and Ore Estuary have attracted huge numbers of people with second homes and led to a large increase in the number of rental properties. In Aldeburgh, for example, the permanent population is thought to be about 2,000 but in summer months this can be as high as 7,000. In the case of second home owners there are people who may live most of the week in Suffolk but who have other homes, e.g. in London, which are formally declared for various reasons as their "main residence".		Noted. Information passed on to EA.
G3p	N					Alde and Ore Association	David Andren	SMP does not recognise historic artefacts at risk.		•		Although the SMP does recognise the existence of many historic artefacts in the area, including the Orford Ness Lighthouse, we consider a much more detailed study of their importance, e.g. those constructed on Orford Ness during the Second World War, is needed. Another area at risk of flooding is Snape Maltings – an asset of enormous cultural, educational and historical significance which is of great importance nationally and to the local economy. Large amounts of public, e.g. from the Arts Council, and private finance have been contributed towards its development. This can now only be carried out as part of the ACES and Alde and Ore Futures studies.		The SMP makes reference to the lighthouse within the issues and objectives table and within PDZ 5.
G4	Y	5		ALB14	14.3, 14.4	Aldeburgh Yacht Club	Michael Hayes	Concerned over a breach at Sudbourne Bay		•		Changing policy from that of holding the line without taking account of the estuary is not justifiable. It could only be done if a full evaluation of the estuary, the shoreline and its neighbouring sections were undertaken and that full evaluation found it to be the only option, because of the river side and sea side of the shoreline are inextricably linked.		This is the approach being taken by the SMP. Action in Action Plan.
AUTHORITIES														
A1d		5,6				ORG	Roger Morris	The formation of the Alde/Ore Estuary		•		I would disagree with the statement that the Alde-Ore is the only bar-built estuary in the UK with an extending bar - Pagham Harbour is currently extremely active, albeit of smaller extent.	To note and correct if agreed with.	Noted. Will check and amend if necessary.

A2k	Y					SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	SCC welcome the integration between the SMP and Alde/Ore estuary plan		•		The County Council welcomes the integrated approach being taken on the Alde/Ore in trying to assess the impacts of the SMP, estuary plans and wider community planning as a whole. The SMP recognises that a breach is likely somewhere on the Alde/Ore, and a community based decision to this is preferable to one being dictated by the SMP. It is imperative that nothing is written in the SMP that cannot be amended in the light of this community work and the Aldeburgh Coast and Estuaries Strategy (ACES).		Other initiatives are recognised within the SMP. The SMP clearly states that before coastal policy is implemented, integrated planning needs to be taken into account. Action in Action Plan.
A2u	N					SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Concerns over loss of freshwater sources.		•		Saline intrusion of underground water sources is of serious concern as this could negatively impact on the ability to irrigate high-value crops in the coastal strip. The accessibility of alternative sources and impacts of losing the existing ones needs to be factored into the assessment of the SMP.		Noted and is already highlighted in SMP.
A2ad	N	5		ALB14		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Potential loss of Aldeburgh access routes		•		PDZ5: Potential loss of access to Alde and Ore Estuary routes and paths around Sudbourne Marshes, due to increased flooding. Realignment of beach route at Thorpe Ness maybe required.		Noted. Will forward information to the Estuary Partnership.
A2ap	N	5		ALB14	14.4	SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Concerns over the loss of beach material protecting Slaughden Martello Tower. Lack of consideration for historical finds on Orford Ness.		•		PDZ5: The importance of Slaughden Martello tower as a unique structure is recognised and if a breach is engineered it will be placed to protect this feature; presumably a natural breach might not be so well placed. This issue, and the impact of a breach on the estuarine sites and landscapes, needs further consideration. There appears to be no heritage assessment for the remainder of Orford Ness, despite the historic significance of the 20th century installations here.		It is agreed that further detailed work is required prior to change in this area. Action in Action Plan.

PDZ6

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i12	N	6					Tim Green				•	No. I agree with the policy objectives to protect and maintain Shingle Street through management of the complex natural system, however, I fundamentally disagree that the 2025 Policy for Shingle Street should be Managed Retreat. The policy here should continue to be "Hold the Line" as recommended for the 2055 and 2105 periods. The important distinction should be that the line to be held should be in front of the village. This should provide a last point of action to protect the village and the whole outlying area and yet enable adaptable management up to this point. This is vital for those families who live in Shingle Street, who have bought property on the back of the previous SMP policy and have invested all they have in building and maintaining their homes and families in this village. The uncertainty and worry that this proposed new SMP policy presents these families is significant and is highly distressing. The published material talking of the possible loss of the village within our lifetimes brings the full consequences of the need for a very strong SMP and subsequent maintenance action vividly to life.		The SMP has a duty to highlight increased risk. The policy of managed realignment reflects the point being made that there needs to be adaptable management in order to sustain the village. Action in Action Plan.	
i13	N	6					Juliet Redding				•	See above comment		The SMP has a duty to highlight increased risk. The policy of managed realignment reflects the point being made that there needs to be adaptable management in order to sustain the village. Action in Action Plan.	
i16	N						Michael Laschet				•	Firstly, only the first two lines of 'Land and Property' make a clear and unambiguous statement. Secondly, there is no explanation of the 'constraints' provide by the SMP for the Deben estuary. The estuary strategy is not explained. Thirdly, in 'Nature Conservation', how is it possible to allow cliff erosion while maintaining cliff-top habitats? What 'balance' does the plan try to address? Fourthly, what is meant by 'basic' control of man-made and natural features? – and the 'potential of low-lying areas'? Re 'Implications for Landscape' how can the landscape character of the area be maintained if the policy is managed retreat or surrender to the sea? The phrase 'resisting further encroachment of defence' is particularly unfortunate. It's the encroachment of the sea which is at issue. Re 'Holding the Line' it seems unlikely that piecemeal defence of selected areas is a policy that will succeed in view of the power of coastal waters attacking from two or more sides. Re 'Implications of the Historic Environment', I claim that it is not possible to assess the plan as it is written and give a verdict/opinion until the Action Plan is published.		Noted. We will clarify the text in relation to these issues.	
i48	Y	5, 6					Simon Read				•	There are some unknowns in the SMP, one major one is the implications of a breach at Slaughden. This would alter predictions for sediment etc in that zone, also affect the behaviour of the shingle spit at East Lane. The Slaughden question appears to be bringing on a certainty, it is a matter of when and how this is managed.		Noted. Action to monitor in Action Plan.	
GROUPS															
G2p	N					Suffolk Coast and Heaths	Nick Collinson	Areas of SMP have not been fully considered, i.e., Deben estuary (upper) and upper Kessingland levels.			•	Consequential upstream effects are not fully thought-through. E.g. Deben estuary (above). Also the SMP area at Kessingland only covers a fraction of the Levels. What is the plan for the upper Levels and what are the implications on the upper levels of the SMP policies? Freshwater is currently pumped from the Levels, are the upper reaches potential compensatory freshwater habitat?		We will clarify the SMP position on this.	
G7g	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Further clarification required for adaptation of shingle street,			•	We welcome and agree with the general objective of maintaining "the semi-natural and unique quality and community of Shingle Street" and of the surrounding agricultural value of the area, in a sustainable manner. We are unclear what "adaptation" is envisaged and would welcome further discussion of this.		Noted. We will seek to clarify our position.	
G7h	N					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Agreement of estuary strategy before SMP conclusions are made.			•	Before any conclusions are reached for any part of the Alde and Ore area, including Shingle Street, we recommend awaiting completion of the work on the Estuary: ie the current Alde and Ore Futures, or Integrated Coastal Zone, Project. We believe, in general, that Shoreline Management planning should not be divorced from possibly inter-related estuarine strategies and management, and that this is especially appropriate in Suffolk.		Fully support this approach,	
G7i	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		The Government/EA should be considering funding for protection of the mouth of the Alde/Ore.			•	In particular, lying at the mouth of the Alde and Ore Rivers as it does, the Shingle Street environment is affected by both the river's) and the sea. The Shoreline Management Plan should offer the chance for both the Government and the Environment Agency wholeheartedly to commit themselves to ensuring the future of Shingle Street properties, historic environment and ANOB.		This lies outside the remit of the SMP.	
G7j	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Concerns over current flood warning system.			•	We note the intention to continue to ensure warnings for Shingle Street residents of likely flooding, but would observe that the current system of flood warning is patchy, inconsistent, and alarmist in tone and advice, creating worry and confusion rather than action.		Noted. This comment will be passed on to the EA.	
G7k	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Require maintenance and support for MR policy.			•	We desire, support and recommend prompt and continuous attention to the maintenance and increase of defences to Shingle Street. We expect and wish to see a commitment in the Plan to positive action, should tidal flows into and out of the estuary be increased ("managed realignment"); or should the need arise to "manage periodic loss of width to the beach" ("Hold the Line").		The policies will be taken forward in the Action Plan.	

G7i	Y					Shingle Street Settlement Company		Interested in joined up discussions with Dutch approach.		•		We would be interested to join in any discussion of techniques for strengthening the shingle, especially in front of the houses, such as those which seem to have been used successfully in the Netherlands		Noted. This will be put into the Action Plan.	
G8a	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Broadly in Agreement with SMP		•		Bawdsey Parish Council is broadly in agreement with the SMP2, particularly as it relates to the Bawdsey Coastline. However, there are still a few issues we are concerned about which are made below.		Noted.	
G8b	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Concerns over finalising SMP before Alde Ore strategy is complete	•			The Council has concerns about finalising SMP2 before the conclusion and agreement of the Alde and Ore Estuary Study and the A and O Futures study. The link between these studies and SMP2 is particularly important in the case of Shingle Street where the effect of a breach at Slaughden, whether natural or man-made, on the protection provided by the river to the north end of Shingle Street is, in our view, underplayed. It should also be noted that the breakdown of river defences behind Shingle Street near the river mouth presents a possibly greater risk to the community than flooding from the sea.		Noted. Comments to be passed on to EA. Action to be included in Action Plan.	
G8c	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Require clarification for MR at shingle street in first epoch.	•			The Council understands that during the first epoch the intent of the proposed policy of 'managed realignment' is to respond to any changed conditions in the river mouth in order to maintain 'the semi natural and unique quality and community of Shingle Street' as stated in the SMP2 objectives. The workings of this realignment policy should be made clearer. We do not think that this intention is presented strongly enough and that it should be emphasized in the policy summary		We will clarify the SMP position on this.	
G8e	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Require more details about proposed defences at Shingle Street.	•			The Council would welcome more details about the possible defences which may be put in place at Shingle Street. What are 'breastworks'? Several experiments are in hand for protection of shingle beaches both in Suffolk and Holland which are sympathetic to the environment.		We will clarify the SMP position on this.	
G8f	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	Welcome the policies for Shingle street, East Lane and Deben Estuary.		•		Bawdsey Parish Council welcomes the designations of Hold the Line at East Lane and at Shingle Street for epochs 2 and 3 and effectively Holding the Entrance to the River Deben		Noted.	
G8h	Y					Bawdsey PC	Louise Lennard	SMP does not emphasise the importance of agricultural land.	•			The Council believes the document does not adequately stress the value of the agricultural land in this coastal area. The farms along the coastline are now significant producers of potatoes and salad crops. With food shortages likely to accompany global warming and continued population growth, this land could become extremely valuable to the country and yet it is usually dismissed as mere agricultural land.		Noted.	
AUTHORITIES															
A1ad		6	HOL 17			QRG	Roger Morris	Disagreement that hold the line for East Lane is minor positive		•		Considering the overall policy to be neutral because it continues the status quo, and creating stability elsewhere as minor positive seems to be inappropriate given that the underpinning principles of SMP should rely on the way the system as a whole wants to develop rather than trying to hold the line where the economics don't appear to stack up.	Can the team please give further consideration to this issue and set out implications on long term sustainability?	Sustainability is considered in Appendix B and the principles for development of the plan set out and agreed by all parties. These are in line with the procedural guidance for SMP2. The local issue is under review. This question was discussed in detail with the RMF.	52-54
A1ai		6	HOL 17			QRG	Roger Morris	How will the policy will deal with environmental and economic concerns, if the policy is to pin the mouth?		•		How will the completion of the estuary strategy for the Deben resolve adverse affects on the Natura site? If the SMP policy is to pin the mouth then there will be a problem with realignments upstream and in turn this will mean that the estuary strategy is unlikely to be able to reconcile economic and environmental concerns - on the economic front the case is not there for defence of several cells; whilst on the environmental front there is a need for realignment. Yet, if the mouth is pinned the only strategy possible from a morphological viewpoint will be "hold the line".	Can the team please explain how this will resolve the problems I detailed in the plan?	No, disagree. There is still significant scope for realignment in the estuary and for adaptive approach to where defences are held. Additional explanation to be added on the approach to the treatment and assessment of Estuaries. SMP policy does not prevent estuary strategy proposing other policies. Strategy can disagree with SMP policy which says that it is necessary to hold estuary to manage coastline issues. SMP is realistic in that it acknowledges that there are ways in which the upper part of the estuary can be managed to deliver/deal with estuary issues. SMP is not imposing unrealistic policies on estuary strategy.	53-54
A1ax		6				QRG	Roger Morris	Holding the line at East Lane is not economically sustainable.	•			Is it correct to state that the economics of holding East Lane are demonstrated by the private defences already there? My understanding is that these works were funded by the sale of land for housing and previous reports had shown there was no economic justification for Government funding. Assuming that ultimately the national purse may be called upon in future shouldn't the policy be to make clear that such defences will not be maintained in the face of foreshore steepening? Holding this point will cost considerably more as foreshore profiles steepen and these in turn may affect onward sediment transport. This has the makings of a deflection point that would send sediment offshore. Or is there a long-term agreement with the defence owners to continue to pay for future maintenance?	Can the team please revisit and explain the decision in economic terms and clarify what agreements are in place to support future defence costs?	1) Economics: It has been repeatedly shown that holding East Lane is economically justified, just not fundable. The point being made in the SMP is that from a local or regional perspective defence of this area is not only justified, but has support of the local community. The East Lane Trust is in a position to provide additional funds for future maintenance and improvement. Refer to the caveats ref need for private funding. 2) Monitoring programme is in place to confirm that there is no foreshore steepening. Present 20 year period of monitoring shows no steepening. Action in Action Plan to continue monitoring with respect to Natura 2000 site. 3) There is no evidence to suggest that sediment would be deflected offshore at this point in such a manner that it is lost to the coastal system.	22, 29

A2j	N	6		DEB 17	17.3/17.4	SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Policies for mouth of Deben will put pressure on upcoming estuary strategy			•	The Hold the Line policies in the mouth of the Deben (DEB 17.3/17.4), and the resultant loss of salt marsh through coastal squeeze, will put a lot of pressure on the forthcoming estuary strategy for realignment higher up the estuary. This effectively predetermines what the estuary strategy will need to say - which goes against the current landowner based approach being encouraged by all parties involved in the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project. Conversely, the estuary plan may drastically affect tidal flow and thus the ability to implement a Hold the Line policy at the mouth, thus the two must be considered as a whole.		Holding the line at the mouth of the Deben is essential in meeting the objectives agreed within the SMP. The policy here does impose constraints on the manner in which the estuary is managed. Primarily with a respect to flood compartment within the lower estuary. Regardless of this policy information taken from the initial estuary strategy indicated a need for realignment in the upper estuary. The SMP is identifying the advantage of such an approach so that values in the coastal zone may be sustained.
A2ae	N	6		HOL16 & 17		SCC	Guy McGregor/Jane Burch	Potential loss of Hollesley Bay and Deben access routes			•	PDZ6: Potential loss of rights of way network around Hollesley Bay and Deben estuary. Currently there is limited access at Bawdesy due to ongoing erosion issues which will worsen over time.		Noted. Action in Action Plan.

Res.Ref	Accept SMP	PDZ	App	Management Area	Policy Unit	Organisation	Correspondence	Issues Raised	Response			Comment	Action Suggested	Comment/ Action in finalising SMP	Page No.
									Clarify	Info.	Policy				
INDIVIDUALS															
i21	Y	6, 7					Felixstowe Town Council				•	The Town council welcomes the SMP process which is an essential tool for coastal management.		Noted	
i36	Y	7					Anon					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i37	Y	7					Unknown					Agreed with policy.		Noted.	
i39	Y	7					Robert Dix				•	Process appears to be well handled, although seeking funding from national fund sounds uncertain.		Noted.	
i47	Y	6, 7					Peter Robinson				•	Eg1 - the 3 attempts to repair the footpath by the golf course are all hopeless. One was too small and too deep, another was to large and angular and the third too large. All 3 were dangerous to many types of users as any simple risk assessment would illustrate. This is money wasted. Please alert the Audit Commission to respond to myself. Eg2 - If public money is being spent on sea defences, the public should have a right of access over them. (See Parliamentary Bill.) What are you doing to negotiate access over the South End defences and those north of Cobbolds Point? Eg3 - The plethora of signs attached to the sea wall towards Landguard are an eyesore. If kids had spray-canned it, there would be an uproar. Remove all but one at each end and change the law! Eg4 - Why has it left the beach north of Cobbolds Point inaccessible except at low tide - why do we still have this gap in		These actions will be addressed at detailed scheme level.	
i49	Y						Mr KF Tricker				•	Section Brackenbury Cliff to Cobbold's Point. To extend the promenade eastward round the point is an excellent, if expensive, proposal. But to stop at Jacob's Ladder is silly: the retaining wall on the remaining section to Brackenbury is only 200 yards but is in very poor state and is exposed. If not done at the time of the proposed works, it will have to be done properly soon after to avoid scour and collapse of the cliff at the bottom of the Golf Rd properties.		Noted. This will be considered at scheme level.	
i60	Y	6, 7					Paul Marsh				•	Agree with the policy but would like to see work on fishtail groynes advanced to say 5 - 10 years time (ie to allow time to see effect of now proposed revetment wall). Also the report focuses a little too much on the blue flag south beach as the principal tourist amenity for Felixstowe - in fact the beaches from the Spa Pavilion to Cobbold's point are far more popular with families and it is vital that proper investment is made to protect them.		These issues are being addressed through the scheme appraisal.	
i62	Y	7					Jean Potter (Waldringfield PC)				•	We are solely concerned with the area from Bawdsey to Felixstowe. We reluctantly support the "hold the line" policy. We cannot comment on the are upriver (Deben) at Waldringfield as this is not shown on the plan.		Noted.	
i63	Y	6, 7					Geoff Christian (Kirtton & Falkenha)				•	The SMP was generally accepted by the Committee. However it was commented on that a Plan incorporating Estuaries and Shoreline would be an improvement. It was also noted that no study was made of the effect of the Orwell Estuary on the adjacent Felixstowe Shoreline.		Noted.	
GROUPS															
G7e	Y						Shingle Street Settlement Company	More co-operation and contribution to coastal and flood risk from Felixstowe Docks and EU.			•	The importance of Felixstowe Docks to Europe, the UK and East Anglia is incontrovertible, and their protection from sea and river flooding is vital. In return, their owners should be required to contribute to the sea and river defences for Felixstowe and Harwich, and the adjoining Essex and Suffolk coastline areas.		Noted	

