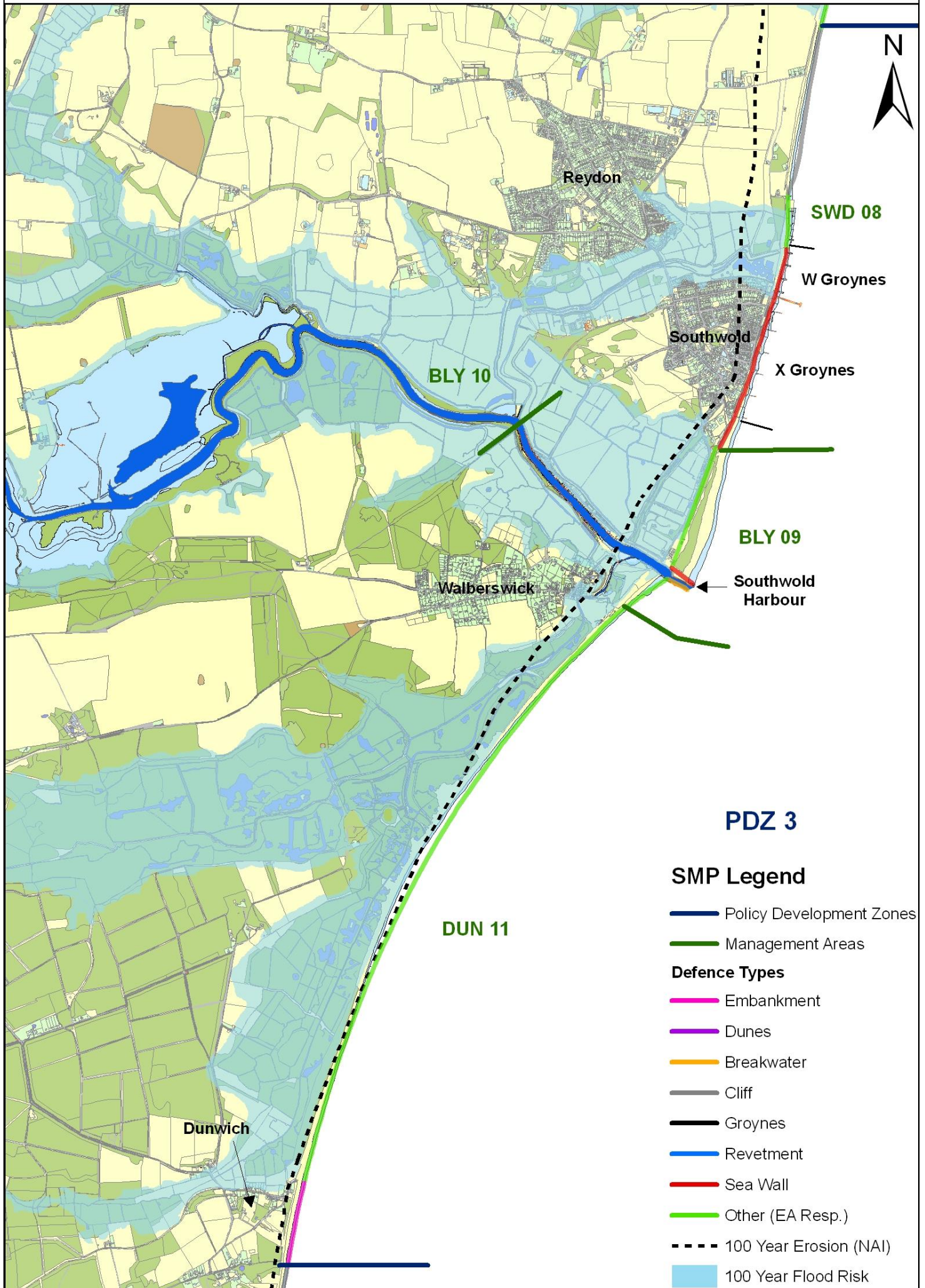
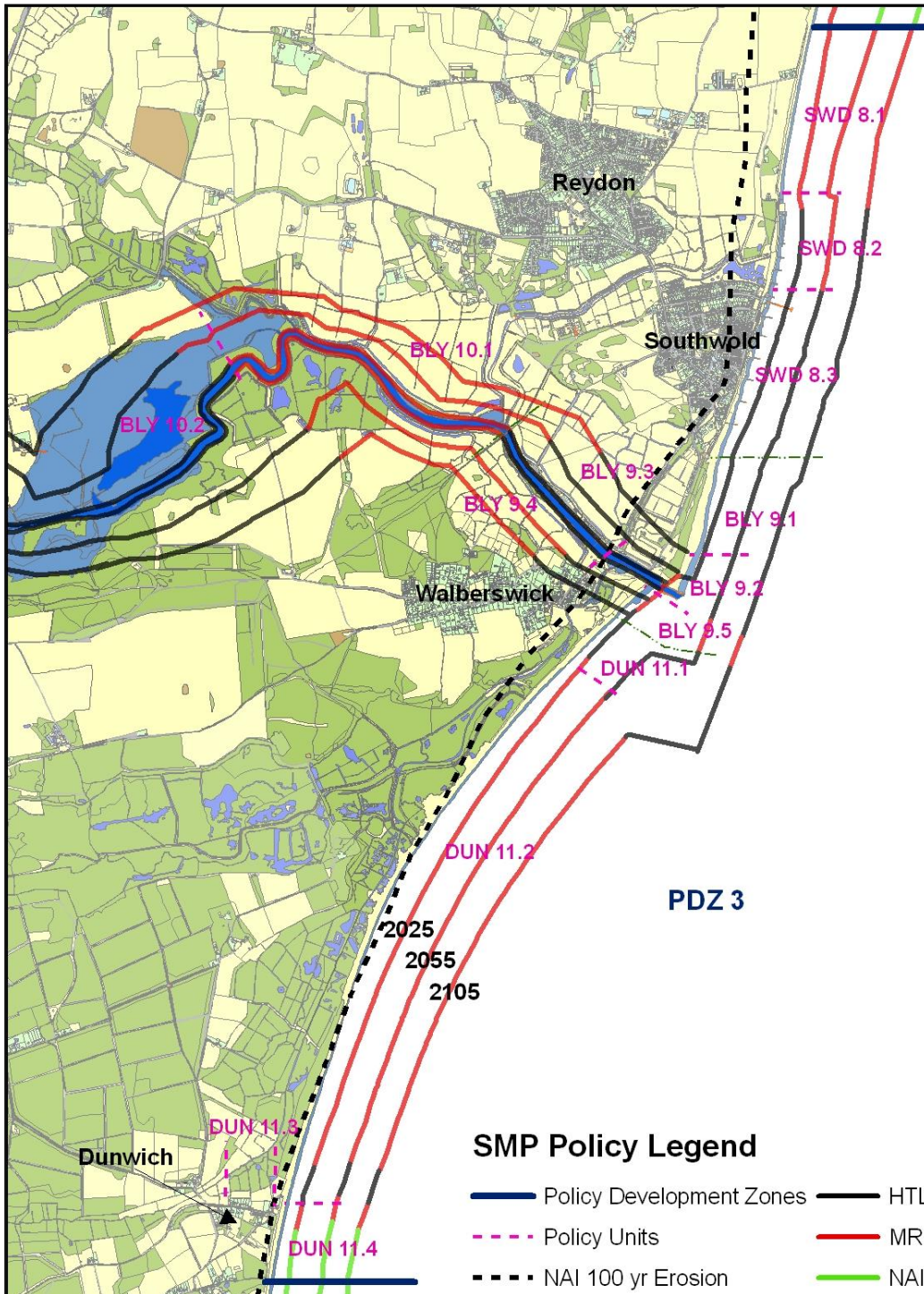


# SMP7 Summary - Southwold to Dunwich





## Management Responsibilities

WDC/SCDC: Swd 8.1; Swd 8.3; Bly 9.2; Dun 11.4

WDC/SCDC Assets:

Swd 8.3 Concrete sea wall with steel sheet piled toe and concrete apron, timber groynes with rock armour protection,  
 Bly 9.2 Concrete wall with rock revetment and concrete armour units, steel pile and timber fender  
 Bly 9.5 Concrete recurved wall  
 Dun 11.4 Groynes comprising sand bags wrapped in geotextile

EA: Swd 8.2; Bly 9.1; Bly 9.3 to Dun 11.3

EA Assets:

Swd 8.2 Easton Marshes recurved sea wall with stepped apron

## SMP Information

Area vulnerable to flood risk: Approx. 15,947,000m<sup>2</sup>

No. of properties vulnerable to flooding: 191

Area vulnerable to erosion: Approx. 1,830,000m<sup>2</sup> (2105 prediction – no defences)

No. of properties vulnerable to erosion: 527

Vulnerable infrastructure / assets:

Buss Creek, Boating lake, Southwold Pier, Lighthouse, Havenbeach marshes, Caravan Park, Alfred Corey Museum, Southwold harbour/North Pier, RNLI station, Blyth Estuary, Westwood/Dingle marshes, Greyfriars Wood / Priory, Dunwich cliffs

## SMP Objectives

- To maintain Southwold, Reydon and Walberswick as viable commercial centres and tourist destinations in a sustainable manner;
- To develop and maintain Southwold's Blue Flag beach;
- To sustain recreational opportunities of beaches and associated facilities;
- To maintain the character, commercial and recreational activities, and navigation to Southwold Harbour and associated area;
- To maintain the cultural value of Southwold and the Blyth Valley;
- To support adaptation by the local coastal communities, including Dunwich;
- To maintain Dunwich as a viable community;
- To maintain the regional transport link and transport links throughout the area;
- To support adaptation of agricultural interest;
- To maintain important heritage and archaeological value
- To maintain biological and geological features in a favourable condition, subject to natural change and in the context of a dynamic coastal environment;
- To support appropriate ecological adaptation of habitats.

## **SMP Policy Legend**

- |  |                          |  |     |
|--|--------------------------|--|-----|
|  | Policy Development Zones |  | HTL |
|  | Policy Units             |  | MR  |
|  | NAI 100 yr Erosion       |  | NAI |



Policy Unit ID	Policy Unit Name (Location)	Current Policy 0-20 yrs Short	Current Policy 20-50 yrs Medium	Current Policy 50-100 yrs Long	Policy Comments	Action Reference	Action Description	Activity	Theme	Action Lead Organisation	Key Partners	Primary Action Objective	Epoch for Action Delivery	Priority	Funding Source	Estimated Funding Requirement (£'000)	Implementation Cycle	Target Start Date (financial year)	Actual Start Date (financial year)	Target End Date (financial year)	Action Progress Status 2016/17	Action Progress Supporting Information 2016/17
Work Underway																						
SWD 8.2 and 8.3	Easton Marsh and Southwold Town	HTL	HTL	HTL	None	34	Southwold Town and Easton Marsh PAR & works to improve groyne performance along Southwold frontage by creating a wider more stable beach.	Asset Management and Maintenance	Protection	Waveney DC	Natural England, Environment Agency	Economic	0-20 yrs Short	High	FDGIA	2000	Cycle 2 2015-2021	2017/18	2019/20	Progressing	Beach performance study reported in 2016. There is an urgent need for works over N part. Risk over southern majority is currently low. A bid for capital works over EA and WDC frontages will be developed in 2017.	
BLY 9.2	Harbour Entrance	HTL	HTL	HTL	Maintain and improve the harbour structures in line with use and development of the harbour.	45	Develop action and management plan for future sustainable use and regeneration of harbour. It is proposed that the role of Harbour Authority is taken by the Southwold Harbour Trust by mid 2010	Development planning and adaptation	Prevention	Waveney DC	Natural England, Southwold Harbour Trust, Suffolk Coastal DC, Environment Agency, Blyth Estuary Group	Economic	0-20 yrs Short	High			Cycle 1 2012-2015	2013/14		Progressing	There are ongoing discussions between stakeholders to determine a sustainable approach to management and funding.	
BLY 09 BLY 10	Estuary Mouth and Inner Harbour				Bly 9.2: Maintain and improve the harbour structures in line with use and development of the harbour. BLY 9.3: Improve defence and raise in 50 years in line with harbour use. Policy will have to be reviewed if not technically feasible and/or economically justifiable using private funding. BLY 9.4: Redevelop defences in line with harbour use but maintain defence to Walberswick. BLY 10.1: Maintaining the northern defences, subject to confirmation of funding. BLY 10.2: Improve defence.	46	River bank renewal and maintenance. Works proposed by BEG	Asset Management and Maintenance	Protection	Blyth Estuary Group.	Landowners , Waveney DC, Environment Agency, Natural England	Economic	0-20 yrs Short	High			Cycle 1 2012-2015	2012/13		Progressing	BEG are working with EA and SCC to deliver an ongoing programme of flood defence works.	
Proposed future activity																						
SWD 8.2	Easton Marsh	HTL	MR	HTL	Retired flood defence and transitional control at northern end	30	Develop realignment plan for Easton Marsh, subject to long term defence and beach monitoring.	Studies, Assessments and Plans	Preparedness	Environment Agency	Waveney DC, Natural England, Landowners	Environmental		Low	FDGIA	20	Cycle 3 2021-2027	2025/26	2026/27	Planned / Programmed	An evaluation in the form of an appropriate assessment will be completed to determine the species that require compensation.	
BLY 9.2	Harbour Entrance	HTL	HTL	HTL	Maintain and improve the harbour structures in line with use and development of the harbour.	44	Southwold Frontage - Harbour North pier terminal groyne refurbishment. Under terms of Blyth StAR 2.4.6, conditional on joint funding. See table 2.4a.	Asset Management and Maintenance	Protection	Waveney DC	Natural England, Southwold Harbour Trust, Suffolk Coastal DC, Environment Agency	Economic	20-50 yrs Medium	Low			Cycle 4 2027-2033	2025/26	2030/31	On Hold	Terminal groyne is currently stable however fender requires major works. Funding options for harbour entrance structures is under review by Harbour Authority.	
BLY 09 BLY 10	Estuary Mouth and Inner Harbour				Bly 9.2: Maintain and improve the harbour structures in line with use and development of the harbour. BLY 9.3: Improve defence and raise in 50 years in line with harbour use. Policy will have to be reviewed if not technically feasible and/or economically justifiable using private funding. BLY 9.4: Redevelop defences in line with harbour use but maintain defence to Walberswick. BLY 10.1: Maintaining the northern defences, subject to confirmation of funding. BLY 10.2: Improve defence.	47	Blyth Estuary Strategy Implementation following formal approval of the Estuary Strategy	Asset Management and Maintenance	Protection	Environment Agency	Suffolk Coastal DC, Waveney DC, Suffolk County Council, Natural England, Blyth Estuary Group, RSPB	Environmental	0-20 yrs Short	Medium	FDGIA	1650	Cycle 1 2012-2015	2012/13	2013/14	2031/32	Planned / Programmed	Robinsons wall works undertaken insofar as possible. Further Blyth Estuary works in MTP for future long term (6yrs+) delivery as per BES subject to funding

ABP Associated British Ports, AOA Aide & Ore Association, AW, Anglian Water, BE Benacre Estates, BEG, Blyth Estuary Group, BM Bawdsey Manor, CG Community Groups, DEP Deben Estuary Partnership, EA Environment Agency, EH English Heritage, EPP Estuary Planning Partnership, GYBC Great Yarmouth Borough Council, KC Kessingland Community, LO Landowners, LPA Local Residents Association, NE Natural England, NNDC North Norfolk District Council, NT National Trust, RSPB Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, SCC Suffolk County Council, SCDC Suffolk Coastal District Council, SCF Suffolk Coast Forum, SCH Suffolk Coast & Heaths, SHT Southwold Harbour Trust, SSSC Shingle Street Settlement Company, SWT Suffolk Wildlife Trust, WDC Waveney District Council

# **Southwold to Dunwich**

## ***Summary Discussion***

There is still on-going discussion as to the detailed management of the Blyth Estuary. The SMP has highlighted the key issues in relation to this. In particular, the SMP confirms the significance of the use of the estuary in terms of the harbour and has also highlighted the importance of management of the harbour entrance in management of the coast. The SMP puts forward a plan that allows adaption of defence within the estuary in line with the intent to maintain use of the harbour and the coast. In developing the policies, the SMP recognises the clear need to make decisions as to the future use of the harbour.

The SMP plan is to maintain defence to Southwold. Defence of this area is very reliant on sediment entering the local system from the north. The plan sets out an approach to management of the area to the north of the town. This plan allows a sensible transition from the policies of no active intervention further north, through to the Hold the Line policy in front of the town. As seen at Kessingland Levels, one of the key components of this approach is to separate out the need for flood defence to important assets of the town. There is a need to develop a frontage that works well with the alignment of the coast at Southwold. This separation of flood and erosion management provides the opportunity to maintain a functioning shoreline. The main change, as identified by the strategy for the area, is likely to be required in the second epoch. Meanwhile it is crucial that local management, which would not be precluded under the plan, needs to be undertaken in a manner which supports the long term intent.

It is vital to appreciate that the proposed approach is not one that would result in Southwold becoming an island. The aim is to maintain, through management, the alignment of the coast to that at present. The essential difference is that the beach would be allowed to function as a beach and shingle ridge without the constraint of maintaining a hard line. Without such an adaptive approach there would be a real risk that Southwold would lose its northern beach.

The SMP plan similarly recognises the need to maintain a shoreline between Walberswick and Dunwich. This area has been actively managed in the past such that the shingle bank has become increasingly vulnerable to major breaches. The plan recommends that the shingle bank is allowed to act more naturally. This maintains the overall landscape of the frontage but accepts that this will increase the risk of flooding behind. This is taken into account in the SMP. While the existing trial defences at Dunwich seem to provide some slowing of the erosion in this area, the long term plan is to allow erosion in this area. This is important in relation to management of sediment to the coast to the south. This will result in loss of assets within the village. Although this means that some property will be directly lost, there is still scope within this to maintain the village and adapt use of areas such as the car park and associated visitor area. There are significant designated heritage assets within the village which will become at risk. Investigation and recording of these assets will be required in mitigation. As at Covehithe, there will be a need for major investment for research upon the heritage assets at risk. The main changes from the previous SMP are in identifying the need to manage change throughout the zone in a way that sustains the key features, use and character of the area. As such significant changes are made from No Active Intervention to a policy of managed realignment.