

NORTH SOLENT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Elected Members of the draft proposed policies from the emerging draft North Solent Shoreline Management Plan
- 1.2 To recommend Elected Members approve in principle that the draft SMP progress to public consultation
- 1.3 To recommend Elected Members approve in principle the policies prior to public consultation (but be minded that final SMP policies may be different to those proposed due to further economic and environmental assessments).
- 1.4 To inform Elected Members that the key purpose of the SMP process is to inform Defra of the potential future flood and coastal defence requirements and the associated potential financial requirements, for the England and Wales shoreline covered by each of the SMPs that are being prepared nationally, which in turn will indicate the at a national scale.

2. WHAT IS A SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

- 2.1 SMPs are an important component of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' (Defra) strategic framework for the future management of coastal erosion and tidal flood risks to people, the developed and natural environments and require economic, environmental and technical assessments to demonstrate the viability of any proposed policy.
- 2.2 SMPs must take account of existing planning initiatives and legislative requirements, make use of the best available data and science, and inform, and be supported by, the statutory planning process.
- 2.3 A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a non-statutory document that aims:
 - to balance the management of coastal flooding and erosion risks, with natural processes, and the consequences of climate change
 - to determine technically, economically and environmentally sustainable policies for management of the shoreline over 3 epochs:
 - present day (0-20 years);
 - medium-term (20-50 years);
 - long-term (50-100 years).
- 2.4 Due to the current legislative and funding arrangements, climate change and environmental considerations, it may not be possible to protect, or continue to defend land or property from flooding or erosion.

2.5 Discrete lengths of coastline have been defined based on natural sediment movements and coastal processes, and the assets and features potentially at risk of flooding and/or erosion within the coastal zone, rather than administrative boundaries; these are termed Policy Units. A single policy has been applied per epoch per Policy Unit.

2.6 The SMP policies as defined by Defra are:

Policy	Comment
Hold the Line (HTL)	Maintain or upgrade level of protection provided by defences
Advance the Line (ATL)	Build new defences seaward of existing defences
Managed Realignment (MR)	Allowing retreat of shoreline with management to control or limit movement
No Active Intervention (NAI)	Not to invest in providing or maintaining defences

3. NORTH SOLENT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

3.1 The North Solent SMP is the first revision to the Western Solent and Southampton Water SMP and the East Solent and Harbours SMP, completed in 1998 and 1997, respectively. The coastline covered by this Plan extends from Selsey Bill, in the east, to Hurst Spit, in the west, and includes Portsmouth, Langstone and Chichester Harbours.

3.2 Annex 1 presents the draft Policy Unit boundaries, which have been determined after consideration of the coastal processes, environmental designations and requirements, as well as the pertinent features and issues along that coastal frontage within the tidal flood risk and coastal erosion risk zones.

3.3 Annex 2 presents the tidal flood risk mapping that covers the NFDC frontage, and details the number and type of properties potentially at risk assuming existing defences were not maintained, and failed.

3.4 Annex 3 presents the erosion risk mapping that covers the NFDC frontage, and details the number of properties potentially at risk from erosion, under two scenarios – (1) if existing defences were not maintained and failed; and (2) if the existing defences and management practices were continued.

3.5 The North Solent shoreline is atypical of much of the UK in that:

- Approx. 80% is defended or has active beach management
- Approx. 60% of the shoreline is privately owned
- Approx. 80% is covered by one or more International and/or European nature conservation designations.

These factors necessitate that there is a significant requirement for compensatory habitats to be created to off set losses or damage to these designated sites. Compensatory habitat is required when European Designated Sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) & Special Protection Areas (SPA), and also includes Ramsar Sites) are damaged or experience

loss due to flood risk management works or coastal squeeze. (Coastal squeeze is the term for when coastal habitats are prevented from migrating landwards under rising sea levels by fixed defences, i.e. these habitats are being squeezed and eroded). The North Solent SMP has been a key contributor to the development and continued evolution of the Environment Agency Regional Habitat Creation Programme (see section 5).

3.6 The Client Steering Group of the North Solent SMP is a partnership of local, regional and national authorities and agencies that have various responsibilities and powers for managing the coast; these are listed below:-

- New Forest District Council (Lead Authority)
- Test Valley Borough Council
- Southampton City Council
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Winchester City Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Gosport Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Chichester District Council
- Environment Agency (Southern Region; Solent & South Downs Area)
- Hampshire County Council
- West Sussex County Council
- New Forest National Park Authority
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Natural England
- neighbouring SMP Groups
Isle of Wight SMP;
Hurst Spit to Durlston Head SMP; &
Beachy Head to Selsey Bill SMP

3.7 The Environment Agency has permissive powers to undertake works to protect low-lying land from flooding (flood defence) and to manage flood risk. Maritime Local Authorities have certain permissive powers to undertake works to defend the coastline from erosion by the sea (coast protection). A number of the Local Authorities within the Solent are unusual in that they are also responsible for many sea defences to protect low lying land against flooding by the sea.

3.8 Elected Member representatives from each of the authorities have been involved throughout the development of the SMP and have been consulted at various stages to comment and approve specific outputs, such as tidal flood risk and erosion risk maps and analysis.

3.9 Stakeholder involvement in the preparation of the second round of SMPs is of key importance. Workshops with Planners and Development Control, Archaeologists and Heritage Officers, Key Stakeholders, Landowners, Environmental and Ecological Officers have been held and various issues and concerns have been raised and discussed, and considered in the various assessments.

3.10 The NFDC shoreline is covered by two Shoreline Management Plans. The North Solent SMP covers the NFDC frontage between Hurst Spit and Redbridge, and the Hurst Spit to Durlston Head SMP covers the NFDC frontage between Hurst Spit and Chewton Bunny (the boundary between NFDC and Christchurch Borough Council).

4. FIRST DRAFT PROPOSED SMP POLICIES

- 4.1 Table 1 presents the first draft proposed SMP policies. Please note that policies may be subject to change following further economic appraisal and environmental assessments, and the Appropriate Assessment.
- 4.2 The frontage between Redbridge and Calshot (5C16) is largely defended from flooding, privately owned industrial frontages, with relatively small numbers of residential properties at risk. There are minimal opportunities for environmental enhancement.
- 4.3 Calshot Spit (5C17) is a relatively stable shingle spit that has been 'fixed' by access road that is relatively frequently affected by flood events (e.g. storm or tidal surges combined with high spring tides). There are significant nationally important recreation and heritage features on the spit. Analysis of sediment transport and Defra sea level rise allowances indicate that the spit would be breached even if the existing coastal erosion defences were maintained. Maintaining defences and monitoring the impacts of sea level rise will allow facilities to be utilised, and SMP policies can be reviewed accordingly in the future. A NAI policy in for 50-100 years indicates that it will become technically unfeasible or unsustainable to continue to defend, and the spit will become increasingly vulnerable; the need to relocate facilities and assets in the long-term will become increasingly likely.
- 4.4 The frontages between Calshot and Sowley (5C18 and 19) are privately owned, by individuals, large estates or Hampshire County Council. The shoreline between Cadland and Inchmery (including the Lepe Country Park), and Gravelly House to Sowley is defended, by a mixture of defences, largely in poor condition; the maintenance of which is managed and funded by the land owners. Coastal processes are not significant. Only a small number of properties are at risk from flooding. No public funding would be available to maintain or improve existing defences. A HTL policy for the three epochs on these frontages allows private owners to continue to maintain or have the option to maintain their defences.
- 4.5 The frontage between Sowley and Elmer's Court (5C20) is undefended and undeveloped, except for two individual properties, both of which have relatively new flood defences. Coastal processes are insignificant currently but the degree of shoreline erosion will increase as the fronting saltmarshes are eroded and become less effective as a natural flood defence. Therefore a NAI policy has been determined for the three epochs.
- 4.6 The frontage between Elmer's Court and Hurst Spit (5C21 and 22) includes the Lymington River, and is currently defended by flood defences in good/ok condition and, with continued maintenance and minor improvements will continue to provide protection to the residential properties, commercial and industrial assets, heritage features and areas of importance for nature conservation. There are localised opportunities for environmental enhancements. HTL policies have been determined for all three epochs.
- 4.7 Hurst Spit (5F01) provides substantial flood protection not only to Keyhaven and Lymington, but throughout the west Solent and potentially at Lee-on-the-Solent. The spit is a locally/regionally important amenity site and has nationally important heritage features. The policy of HTL will continue, and include dredging the accreting beach material from the tip of the North Point and recycling it back onto the main body of the spit.

- 4.8 Officers will report to Elected Members if the final preferred policies are different to those proposed in first draft, due to further assessment and analysis.
- 4.9 Officers will inform Elected Members of the final preferred SMP policies, prior to public consultation, which is programmed for September to November 2009.

Policy Unit			Epoch 1 0-20yrs	Epoch 2 20-50yrs	Epoch 3 50-100 yrs
5C16	Redbridge	Calshot Spit	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5C17	Calshot Spit	Calshot Spit	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	No Active Intervention
5C18	Hillhead, Calshot	Gins Farm	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5C19	Gins Farm	Sowley	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5C20	Sowley	Elmer's Court	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention
5C21	Elmer's Court	Lymington Yacht Haven	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5C22	Lymington Yacht Haven	Saltgrass Lane	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5F01	Hurst Spit	Hurst Spit	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line

Table 1. First draft proposed SMP Policies

5. REGIONAL HABITAT CREATION PROGRAMME

- 5.1 The Regional Habitat Creation Programme (RHCP), which has been developed in close consultation with Natural England and Local Authorities, aims to provide a strategic and proactive approach for the provision and delivery of compensatory habitats. (Defra have also set the Environment Agency Outcome Measures for Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat creation and remedies for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in unfavourable condition). The processes by which new habitat can be created, funded and assessed are complex, therefore the programme will be updated as new information becomes available.
- 5.2 The benefits of taking a strategic approach by the Habitat Creation Programme:-
- provides a framework within which site acquisition can be undertaken proactively
 - allows opportunities to be realised as they arise
 - habitats will be created before they are lost
 - land can be purchased at a fair price
 - larger, more ecologically robust sites, can be created to offset a number of small scale losses
 - provides a delivery mechanism for the habitat requirements of flood risk management plans and projects enabling timely approvals

- 5.3 Habitat Creation programmes are Government's (Defra) recommended vehicle for delivering strategic habitat compensation and are funded in advance of engineering works that cause damage. The Habitat Creation Programme compiles the compensatory habitat creation needs for the Region from the Appropriate Assessments carried out for the different SMPs in the Region. Habitat needs are therefore based on the estimated impacts of approved SMP policies for all frontages, including Local Authority and third party frontages. It is not necessary for the anticipated compensatory habitats to be in place at the time that the SMP is approved, but only when the damage is likely to occur. The Programme therefore aims to secure sites and develop habitat in a timely manner in advance of damage occurring. The RHCP will be identified within the Appropriate Assessment as the proposed delivery vehicle for compensating for habitat losses, so parties agreeing to the SMP are also agreeing to the method for compensating for its impacts.
- 5.4 The Southern Regional Habitat Creation Programme has provisionally included the following habitat needs for the North Solent, based on the findings of the Solent Dynamic Coast Project:
- Epoch 1 (0-20 years) 153ha intertidal habitat & 463ha grazing marsh
 - Epoch 2 (20-50 years) 148.5ha intertidal habitat & 70ha grazing marsh
 - Epoch 3 (50-100 years) 88.5ha intertidal habitat
- These figures will be updated once the policies for the SMP have been agreed and the Appropriate Assessment carried out.
- 5.5 Delivery of the Habitat Creation Programme will involve partnership working between the Environment Agency, Natural England, Local Authorities and private landowners to ensure that habitat creation sites are secured and developed as efficiently as possible to enable timely delivery of flood and coastal erosion risk management projects for the benefit of all parties.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None arising directly from this report. A Coastal Defence Strategy (CDS) will follow the SMP to investigate and assess how the SMP's policies can be sustainably implemented. Individual schemes arising from the CDS will then be proposed. For NFDC owned or maintained defences, works will only progress on receipt of national funding, as detailed in the NFDC's Coast Protection Strategy 2001.
- 6.2 Compensation Habitat requirements will be financed and secured through the EA's Regional Habitat Creation Programme. Currently there are no NFDC-owned landholdings that have been identified as potential habitat creation sites.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The North Solent Shoreline Management Plan fully considers environmental implications at all stages of policy development; the process includes an Appropriate Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment, and Water Framework Directive Assessment.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 None arising directly from this report.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising directly from this report.

10. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

10.1 The Environment Portfolio Holder supports the recommendations. He is grateful for all the hard work of officers in the production of this plan and would encourage all interested parties to engage with the forthcoming consultation.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That the draft proposed Shoreline Management Plan policies be approved in principle;

11.2 That the Environment Portfolio Holder be delegated authority to make any subsequent changes required to the draft Shoreline Management Plan policies prior to public consultation;

11.3 That officers make representation to the Environment Agency to request that the compensatory habitat requirements identified in the Appropriate Assessment be secured and delivered through the Regional Habitat Creation Programme; and.

11.4 That, following public consultation, the final Shoreline Management Plan be presented to Cabinet and Council for adoption.

Further Information

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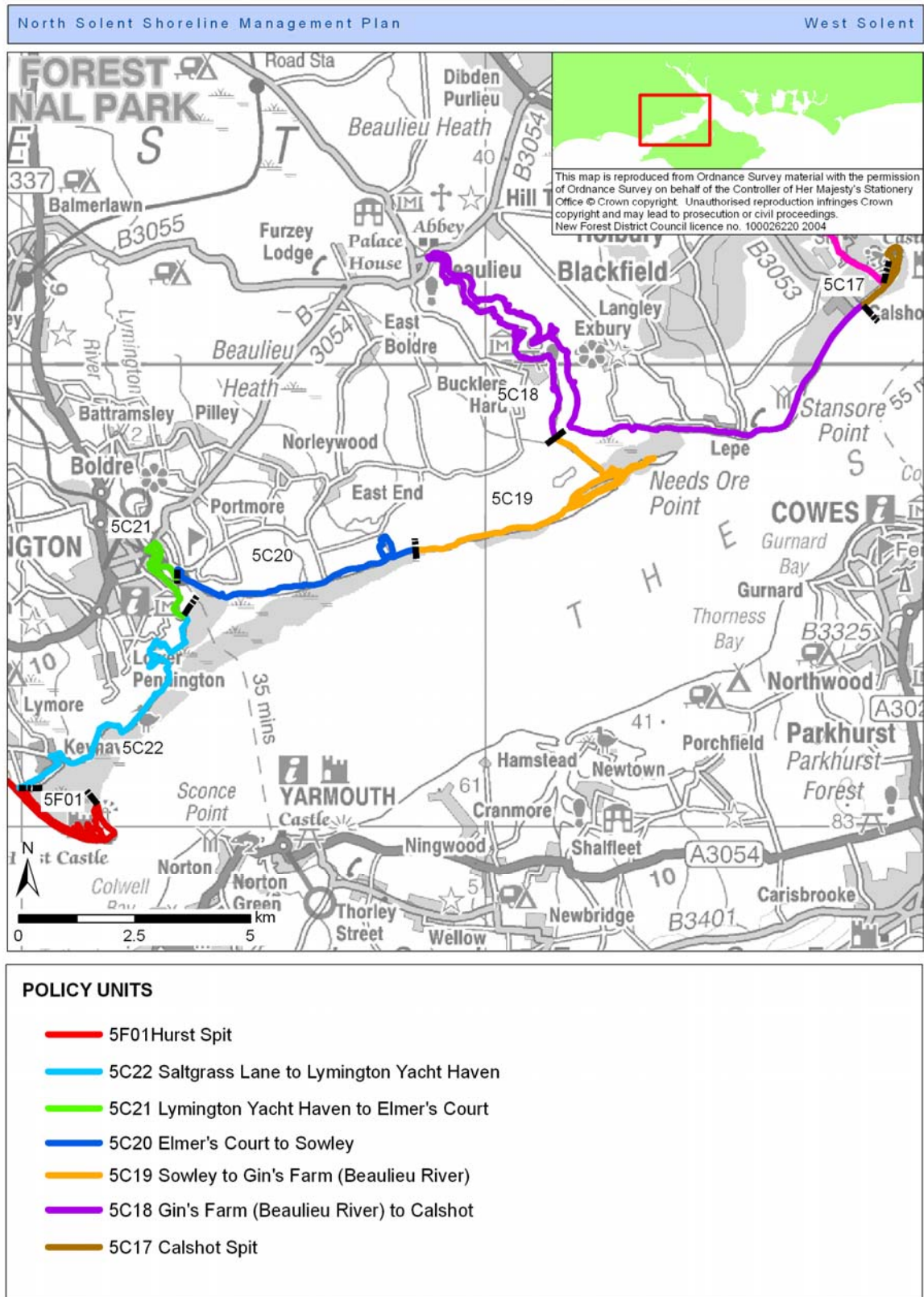
www.northsolentsmp.co.uk

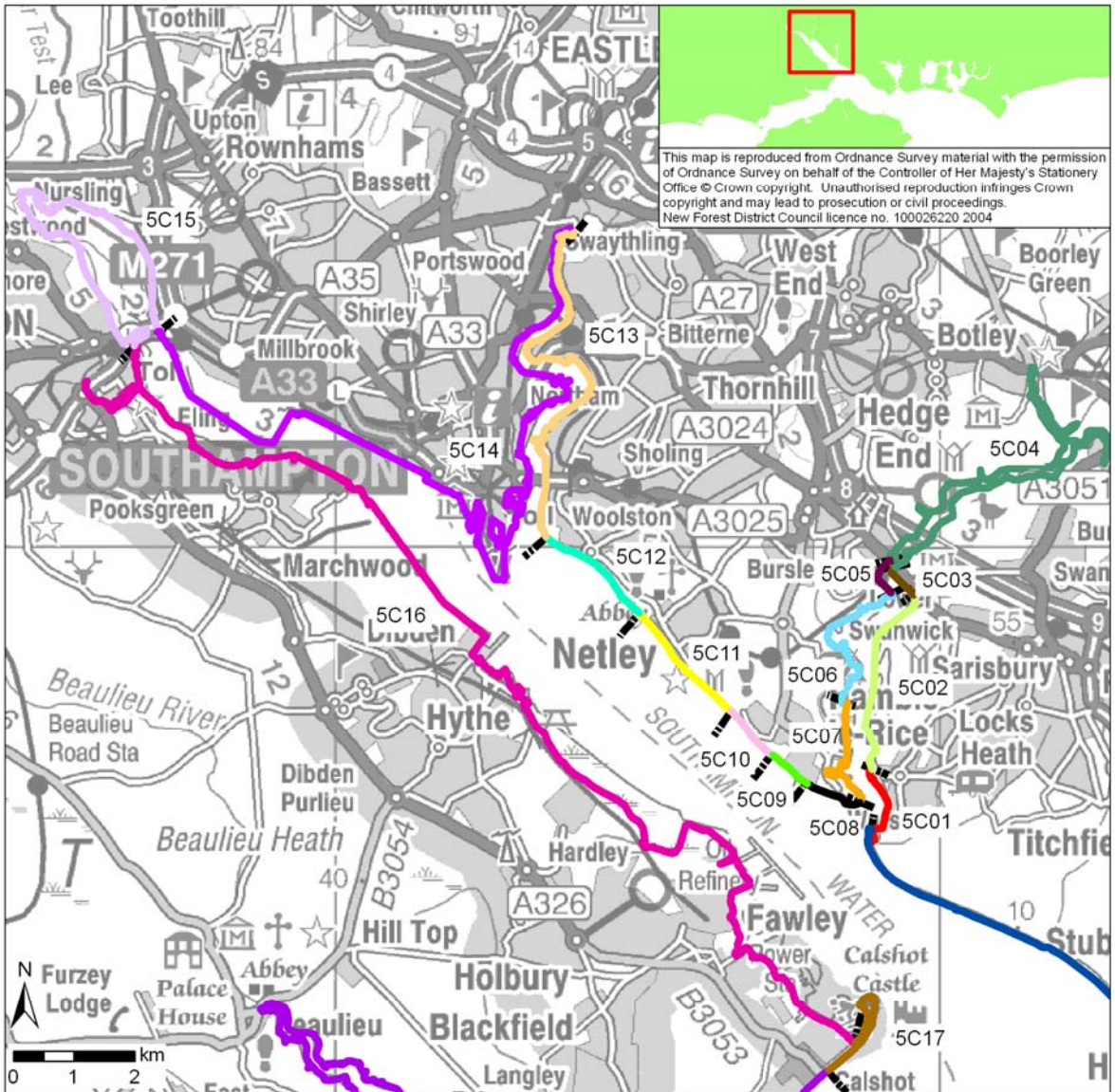
Annex 1. Maps of Policy Units

Annex 2. Tidal Flood Risk Maps and Analysis

Annex 3. Coastal Erosion Risk Maps and Analysis

Annex 1. Map of Policy Units for the NFDC shoreline





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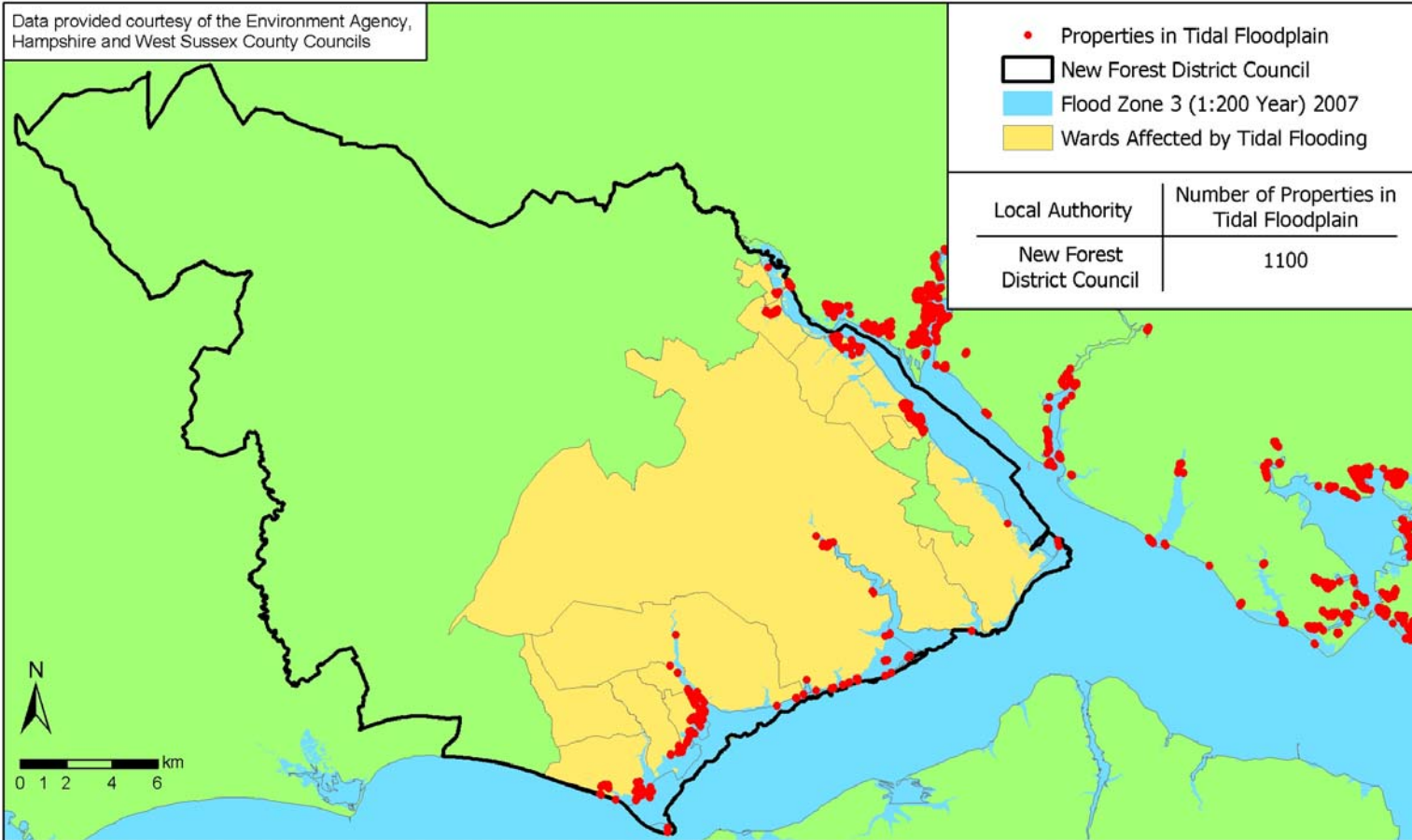
POLICY UNITS	
5C17 Calshot Spit	5C09 Ensign Industrial Park to Hamble Oil Terminal
5C16 Calshot Spit to Redbridge	5C08 Hamble Oil Terminal to Hamble Common Point
5C15 Lower Test Valley	5C07 Hamble Common Point to Satchell Marshes
5C14 Redbridge to Woodmill Lane	5C06 Satchell Marshes to Lands End Lane
5C13 Woodmill Lane to Weston Point	5C05 Lands End Lane to Bursledon Bridge
5C12 Weston Point to Netley Castle	5C04 Bursledon Bridge to Botley to Bursledon Bridge
5C11 Netley Castle to Cliff House	5C03 Bursledon Bridge to Swanwick Shore Rd
5C10 Cliff House to Ensign Industrial Park	5C02 Swanwick Shore Rd to Warsash North
	5C01 Swanwick Shore Rd to Hook Park

Annex 2. Tidal Flood Risk Maps and Analysis

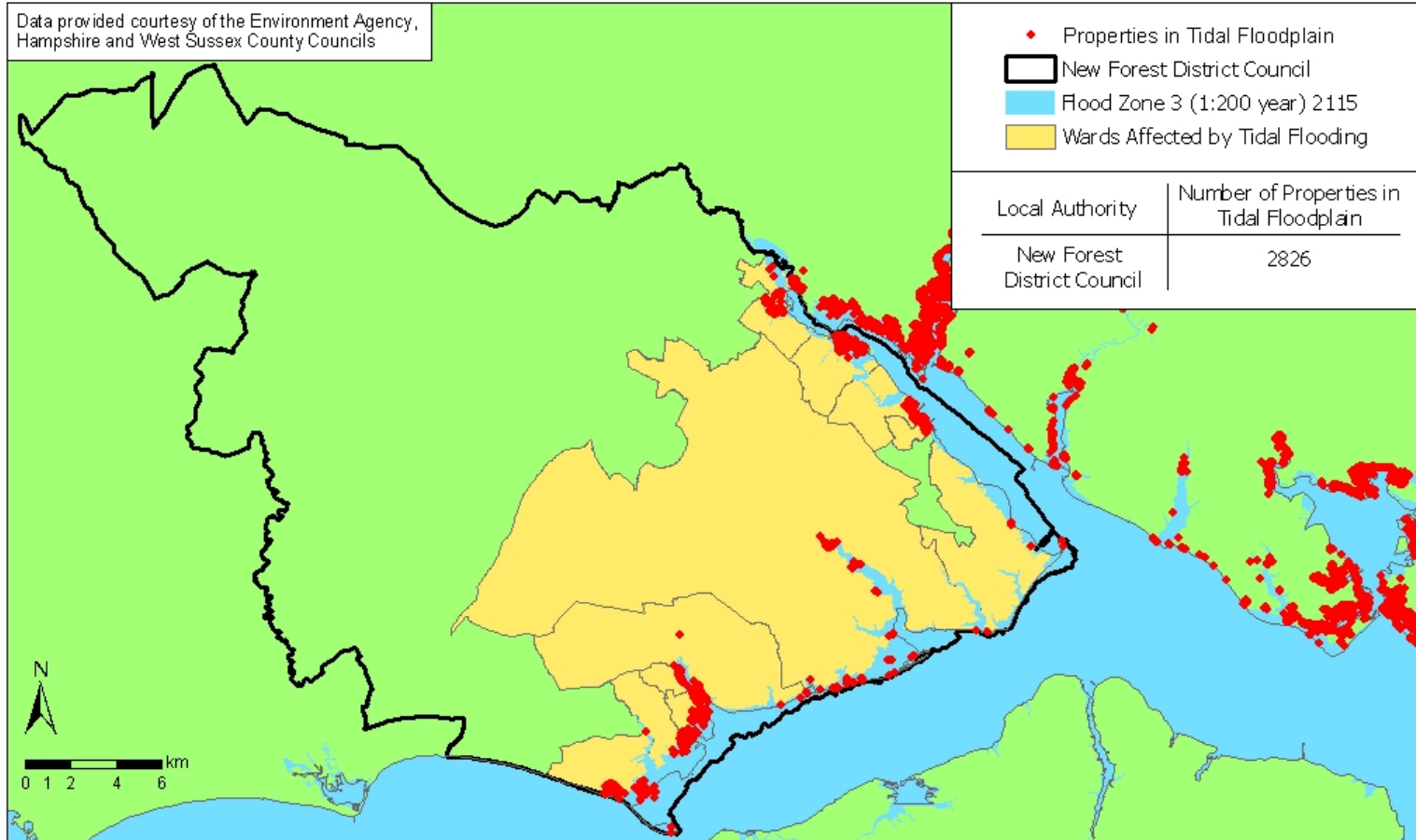
Local Authority	Electoral Ward	Number of properties in tidal flood-plain from a 1 in 200 year event		Commercial		Residential	
		2007	2115	2007	2115	2007	2115
New Forest District Council	Boldre & Sway	20	39	4	5	16	34
	Brockenhurst & Forest South East	54	91	5	10	49	81
	Buckland	2	121	1	15	1	106
	Dibden and Hythe East	187	479	109	171	78	308
	Fawley, Blackfield & Langley	3	8	2	5	1	3
	Hordle	0	2	0	0	0	2
	Hythe West & Langdown	199	405	3	4	196	401
	Lymington Town	166	569	32	52	134	517
	Marchwood	171	403	18	66	153	337
	Milford	160	272	11	28	149	244
	Pennington	10	17	2	3	8	14
	Totton East	24	110	13	26	11	84
	Totton South	104	310	5	6	99	304

	Number of properties in tidal floodplain from a 1 in 200 year event		Commercial		Residential	
	2007	2115	2007	2115	2007	2115
Chichester District	2,404	5,140	91	174	2,313	4,966
Havant Borough	1,171	3,382	61	136	1,110	3,246
Portsmouth City	15,217	29,241	1,142	1,668	13,900	27,573
Gosport Borough	810	4,203	53	298	757	3,905
Fareham Borough	793	1,957	130	228	660	1,729
Winchester City	4	4	1	1	3	3
Eastleigh Borough	80	104	51	36	29	68
Southampton City	2,559	7,060	684	913	1,875	6,147
Test Valley Borough	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Forest District	1,100	2,826	205	391	895	2,435
Total	24,138	53,917	2,422	3,845	21,931	50,072

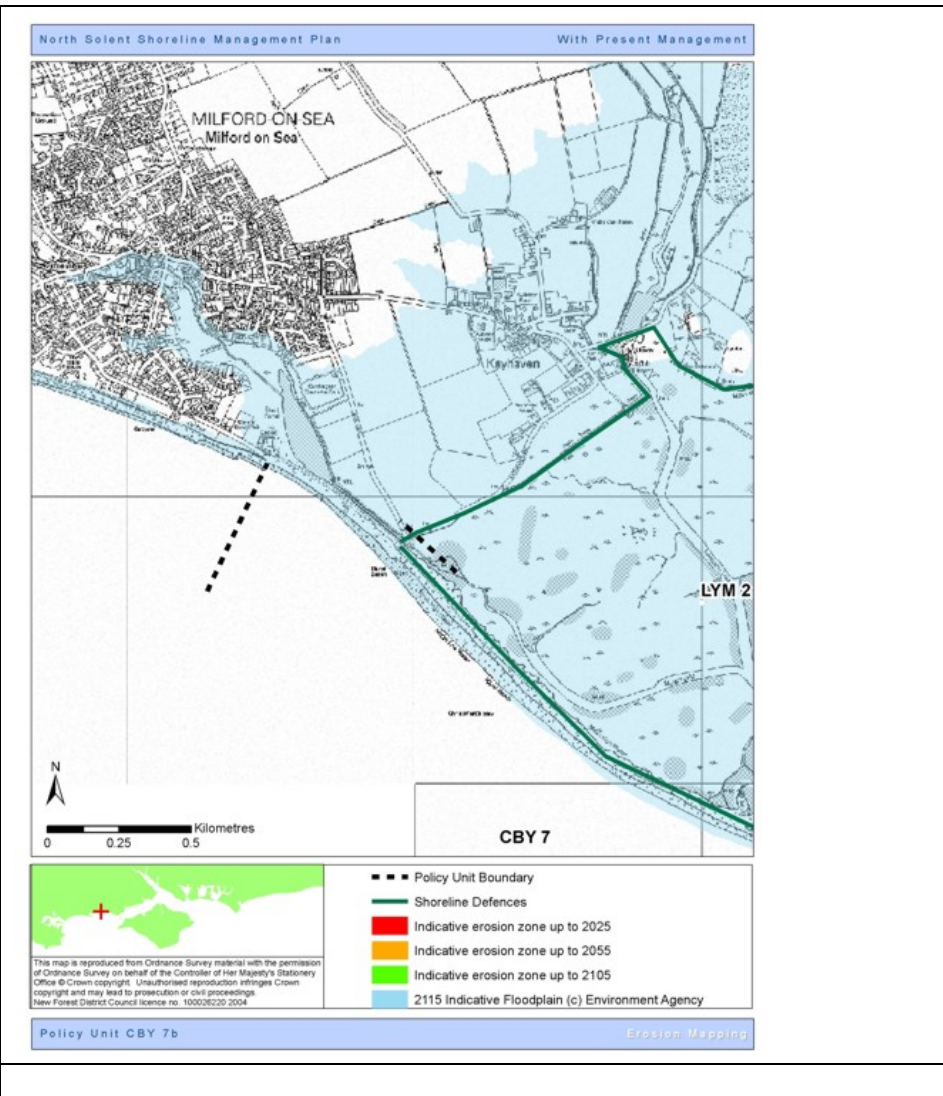
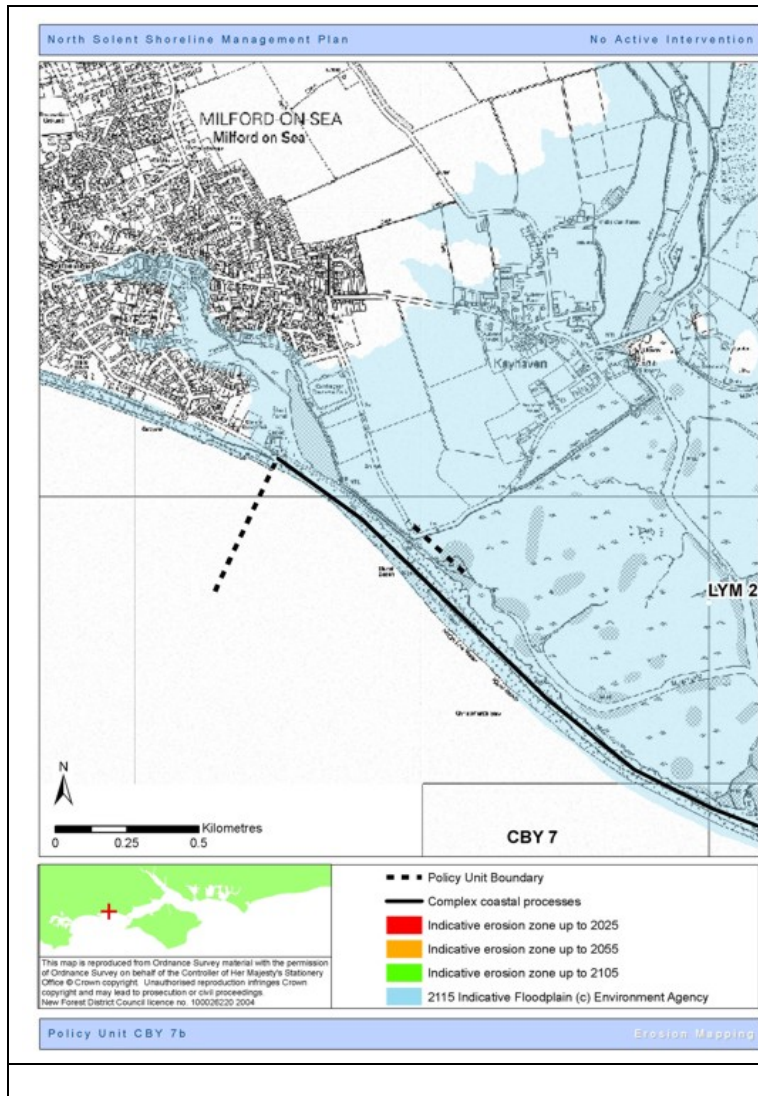
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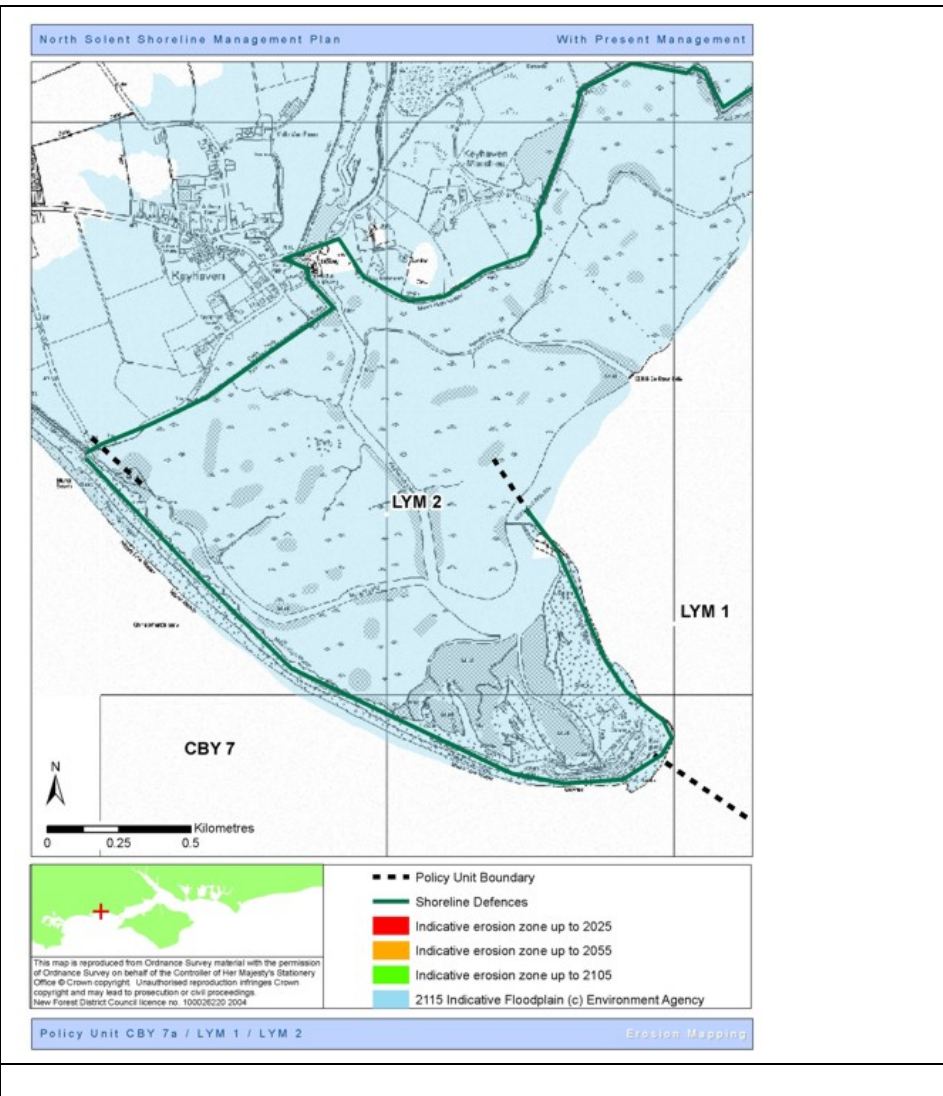
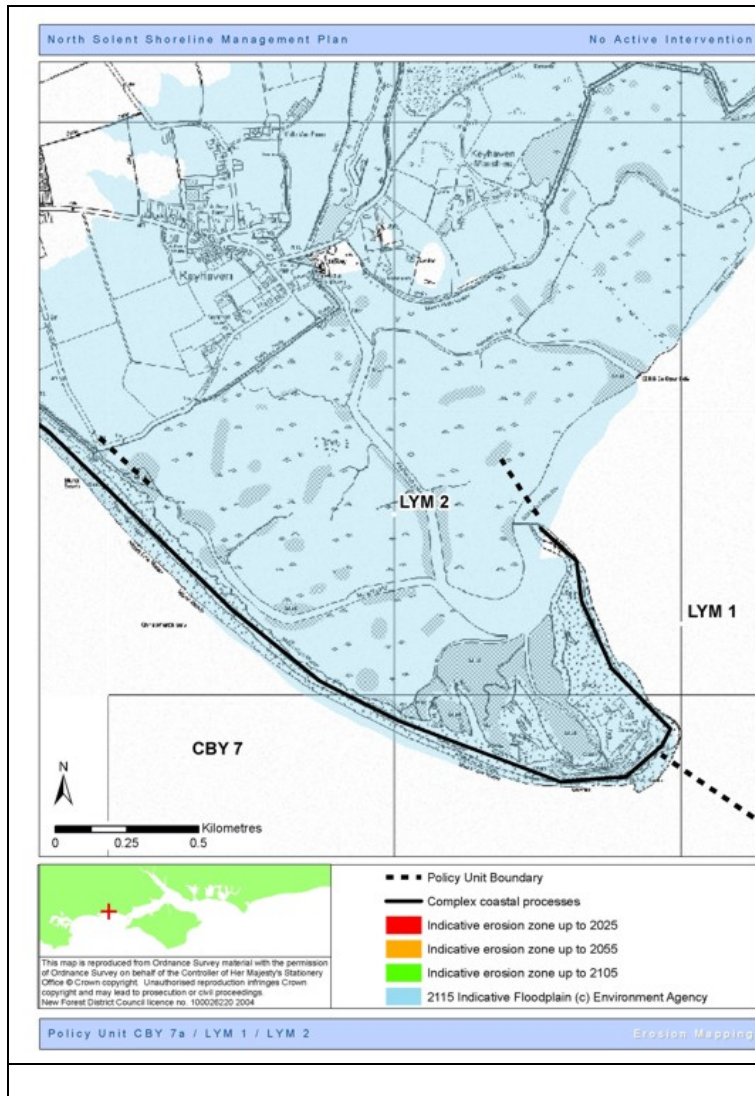


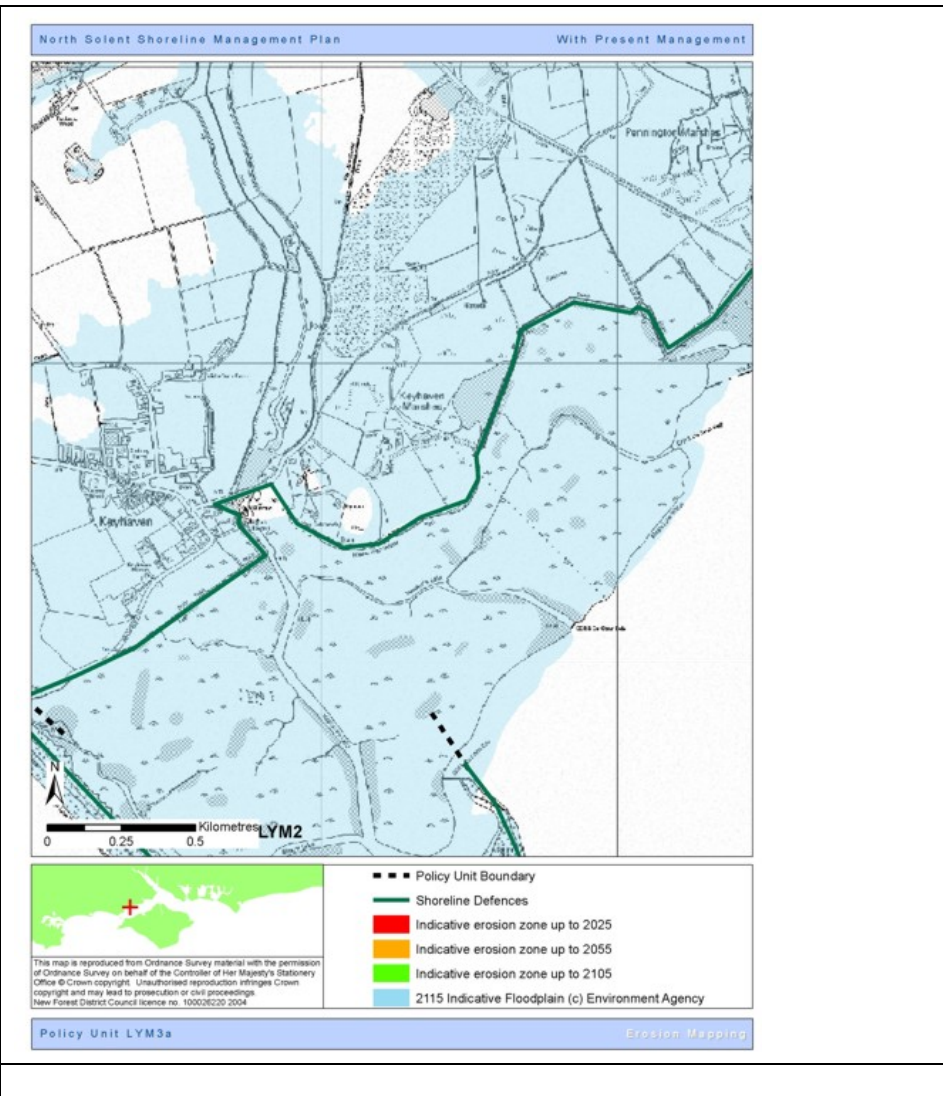
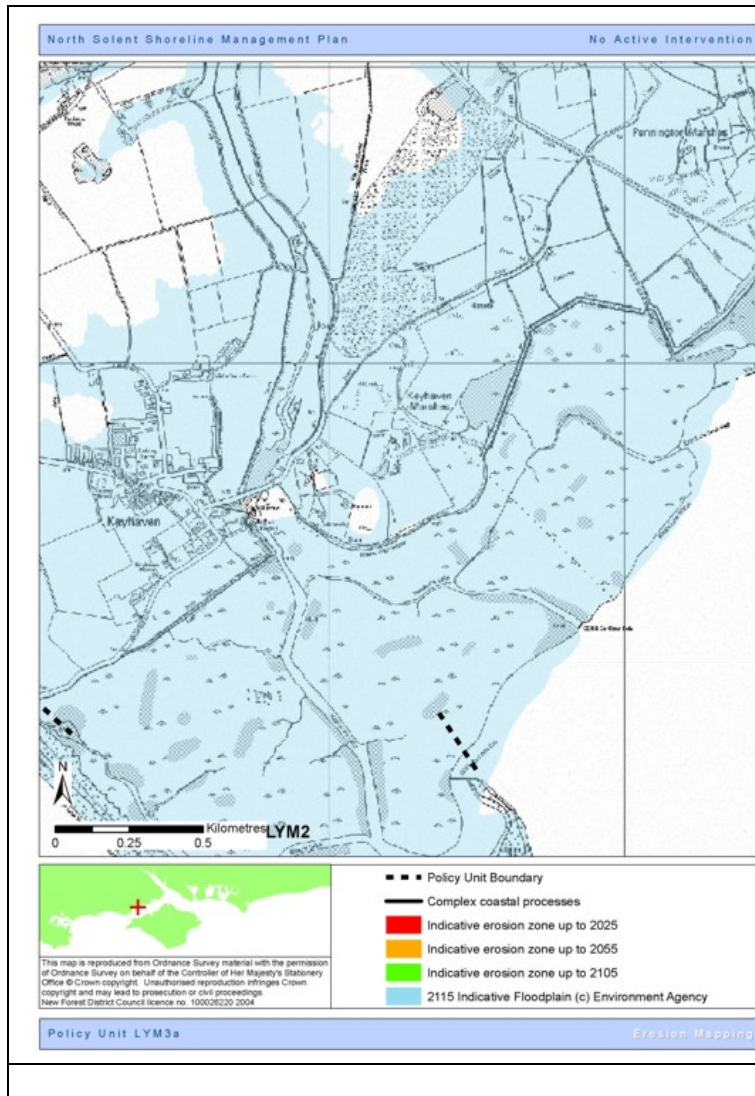
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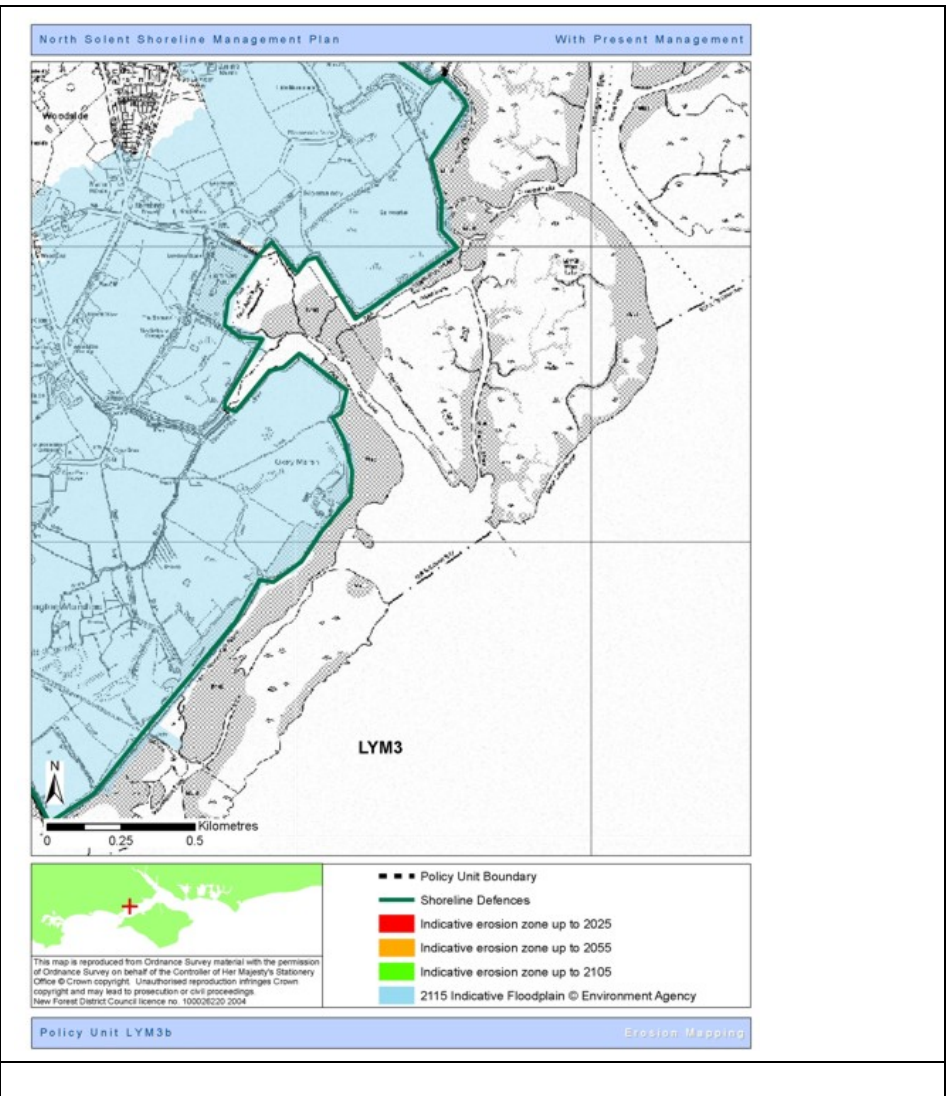
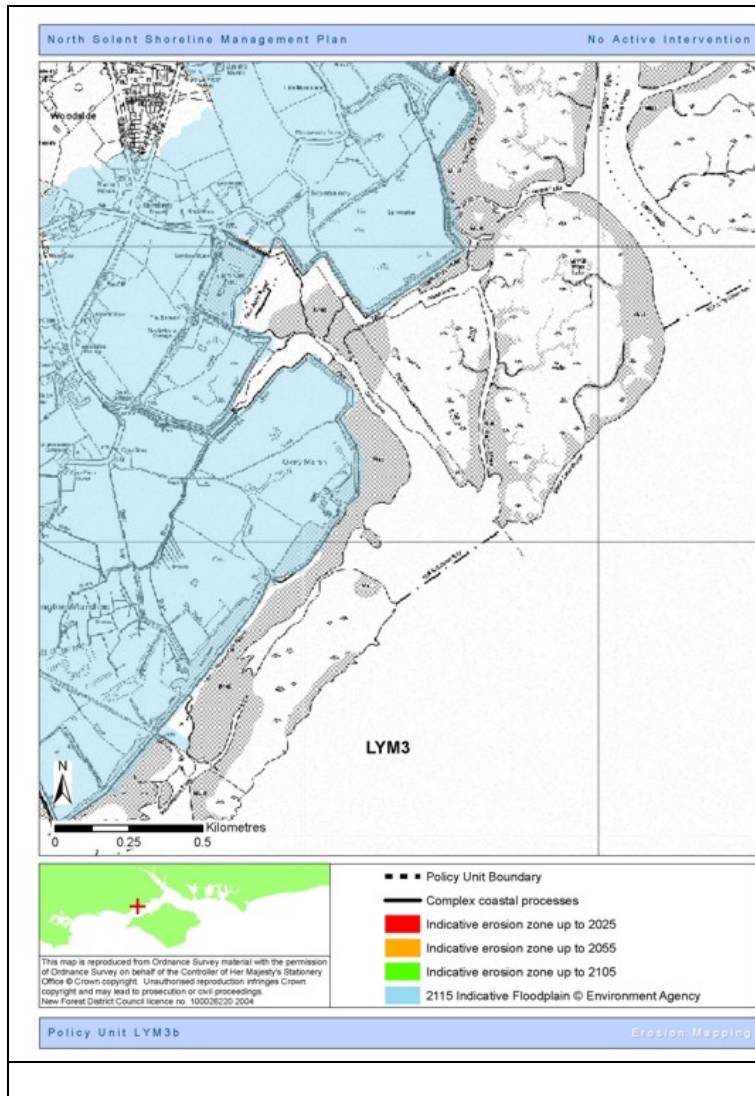


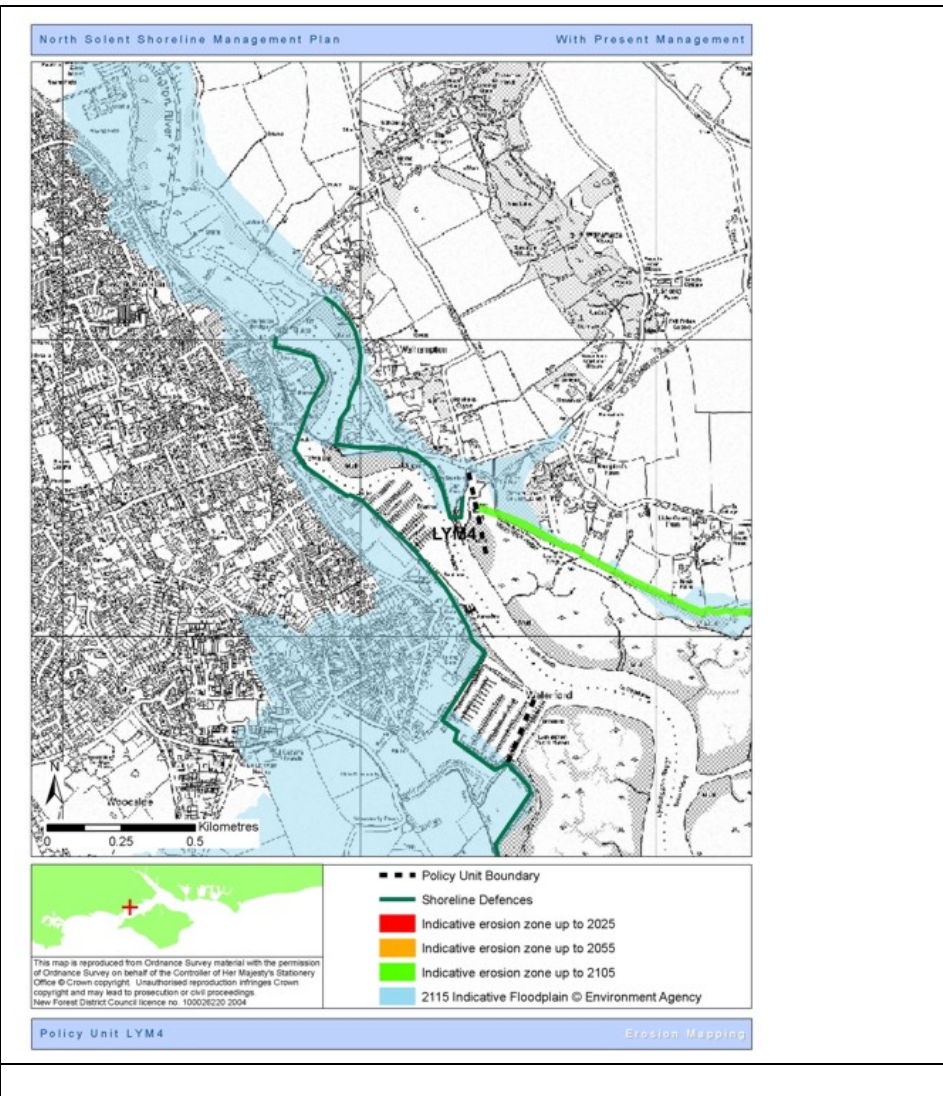
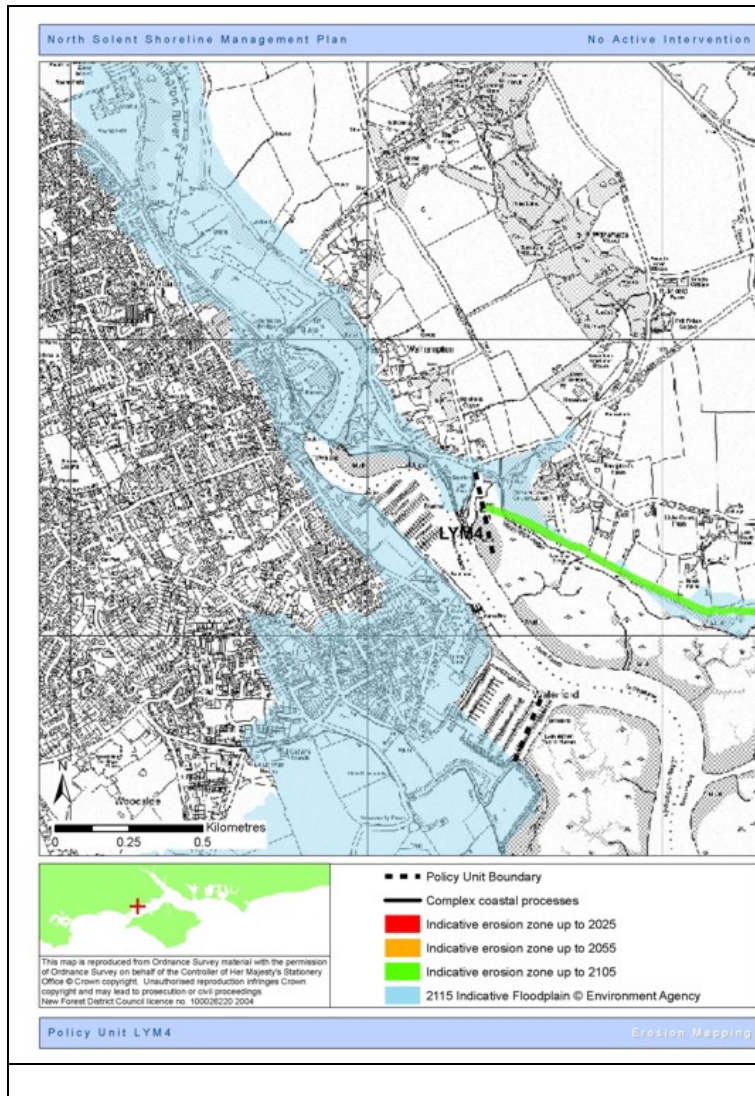
Annex 3. Coastal Erosion Risk Maps and Analysis

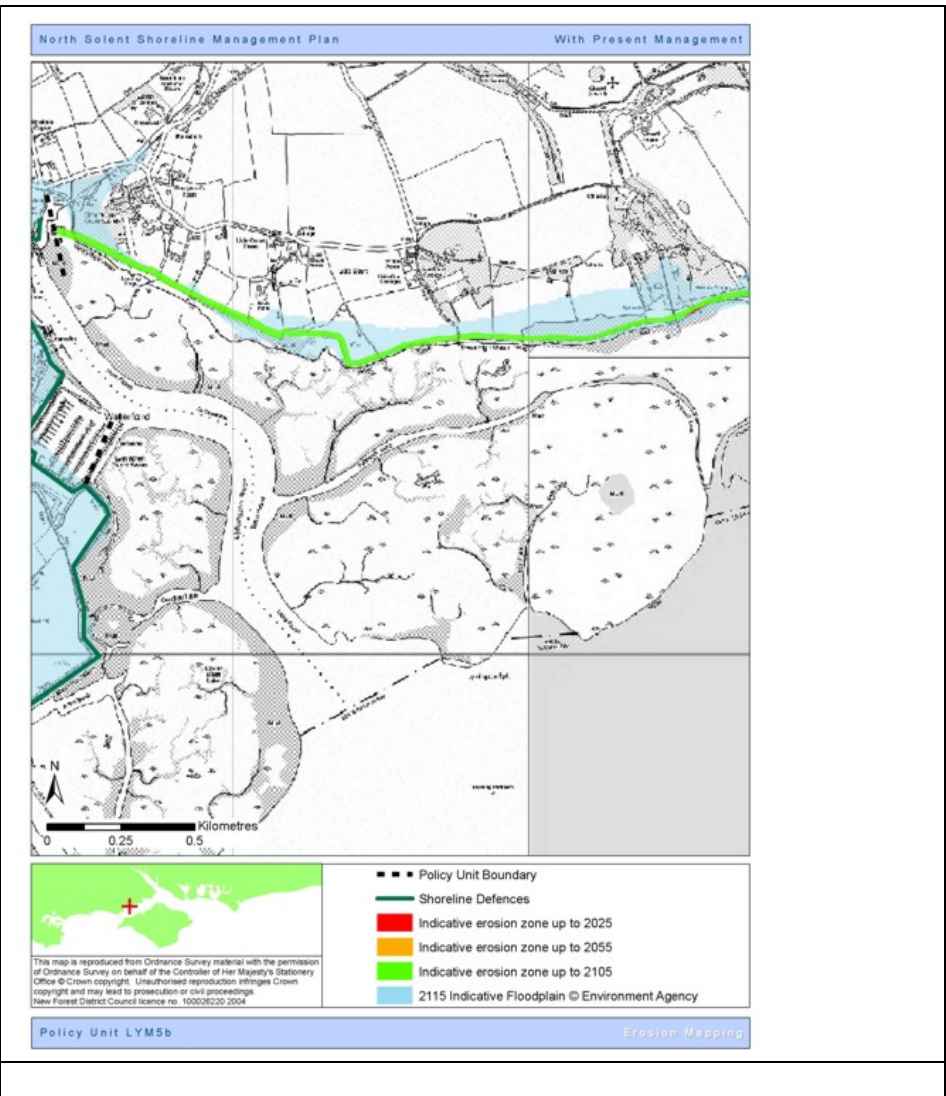
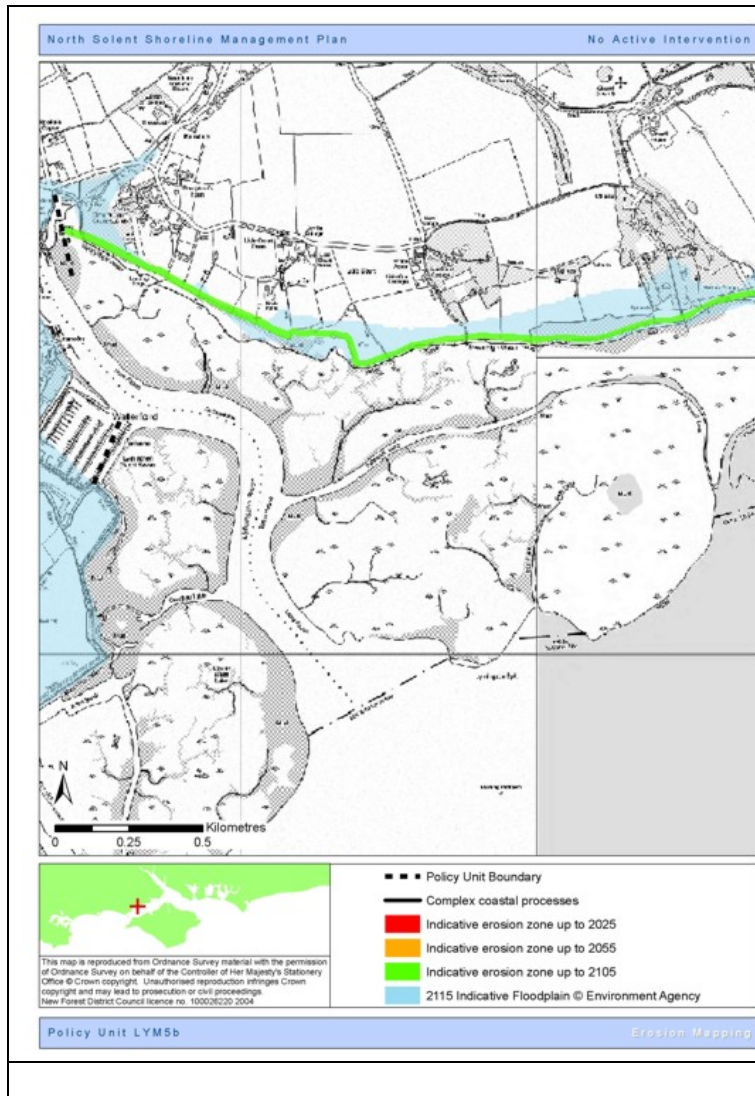


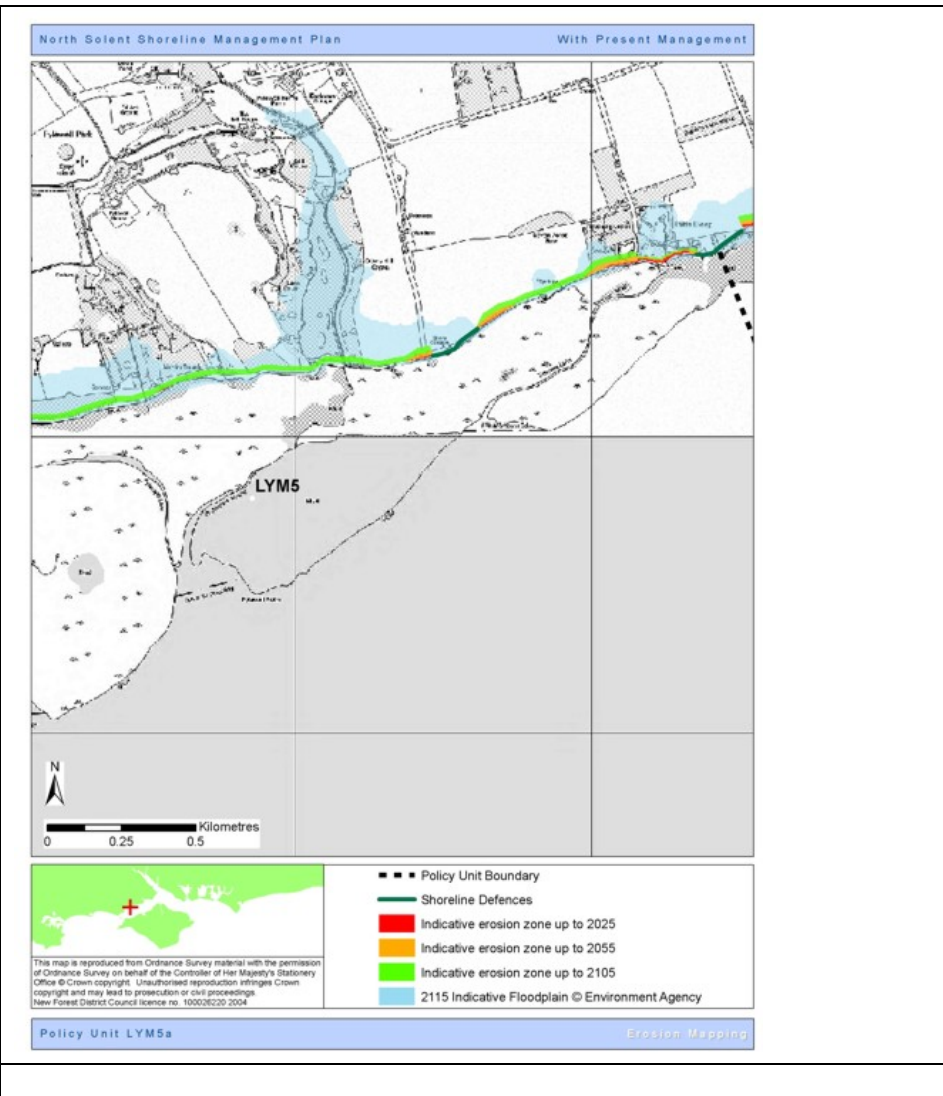
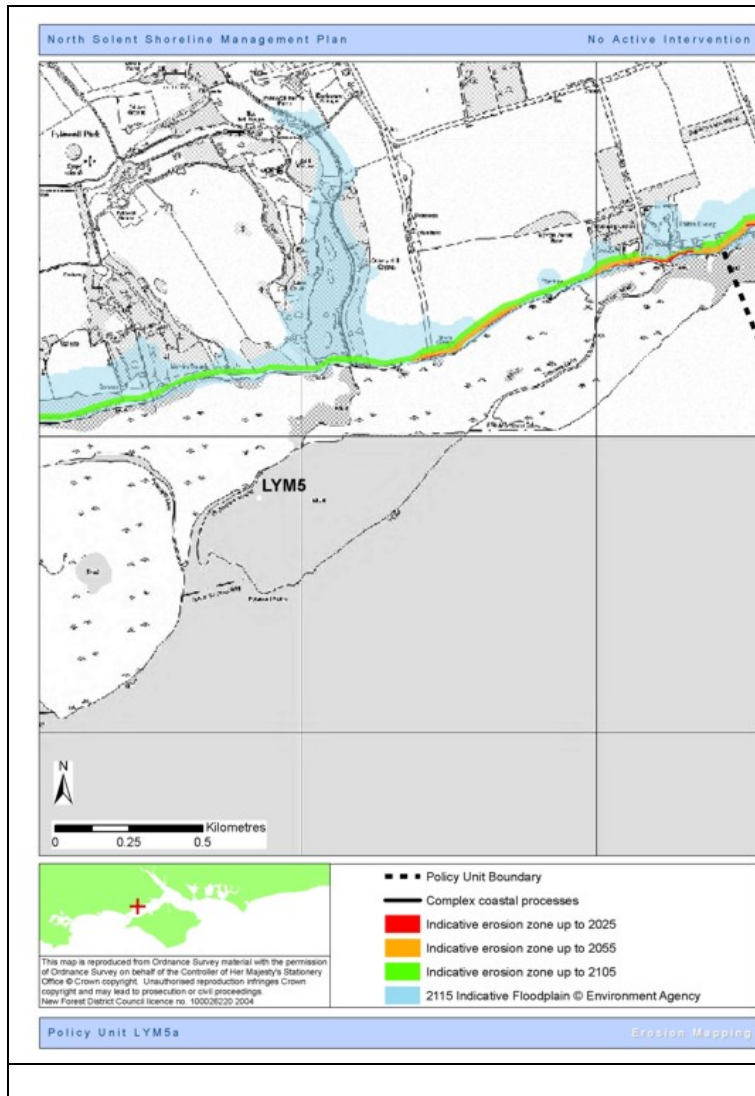


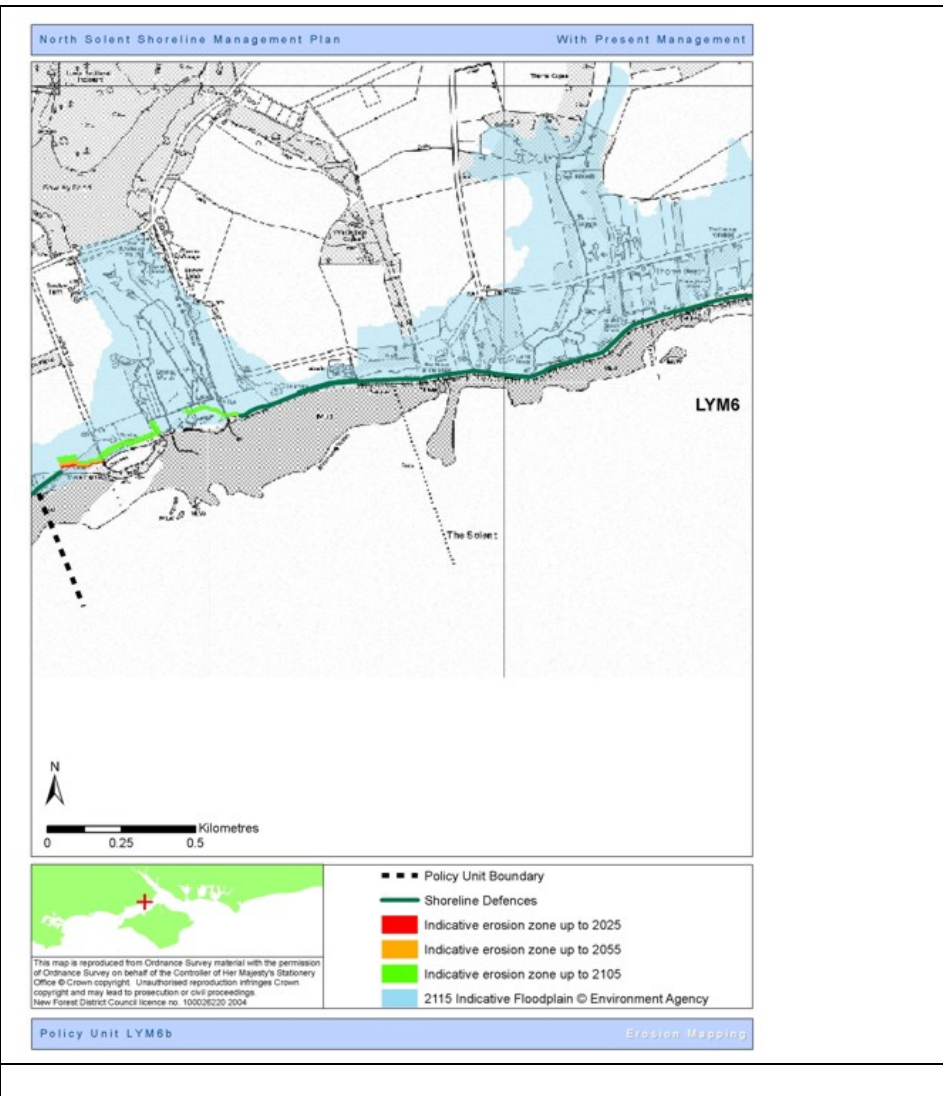
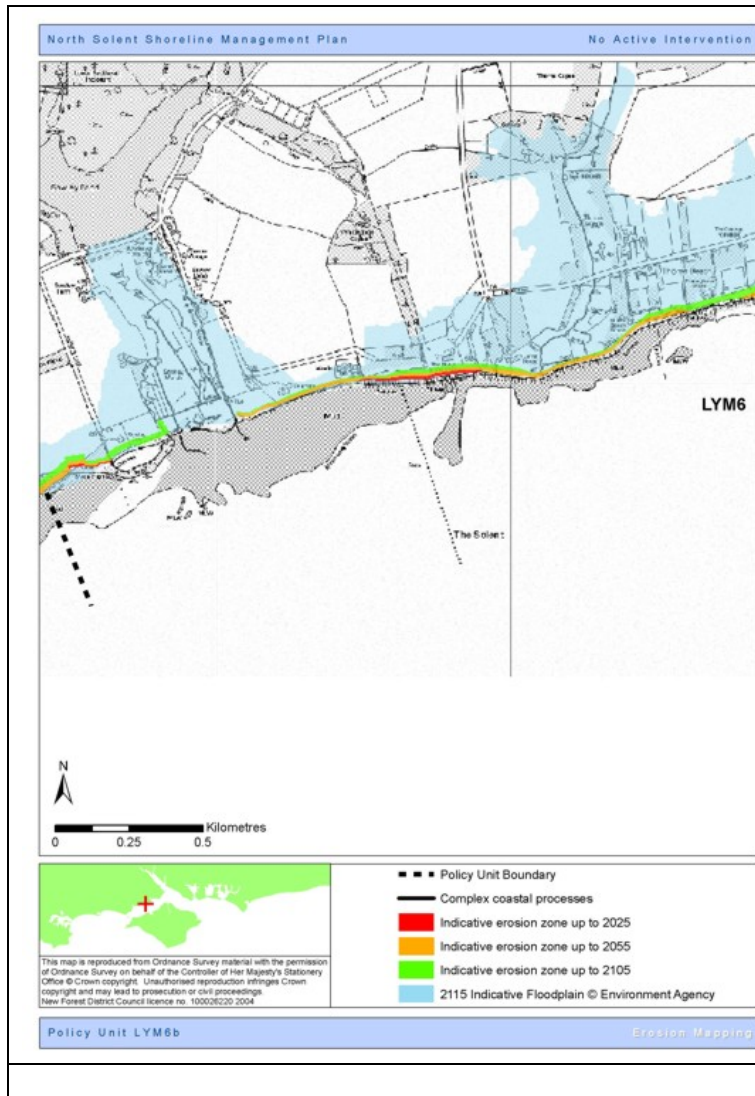


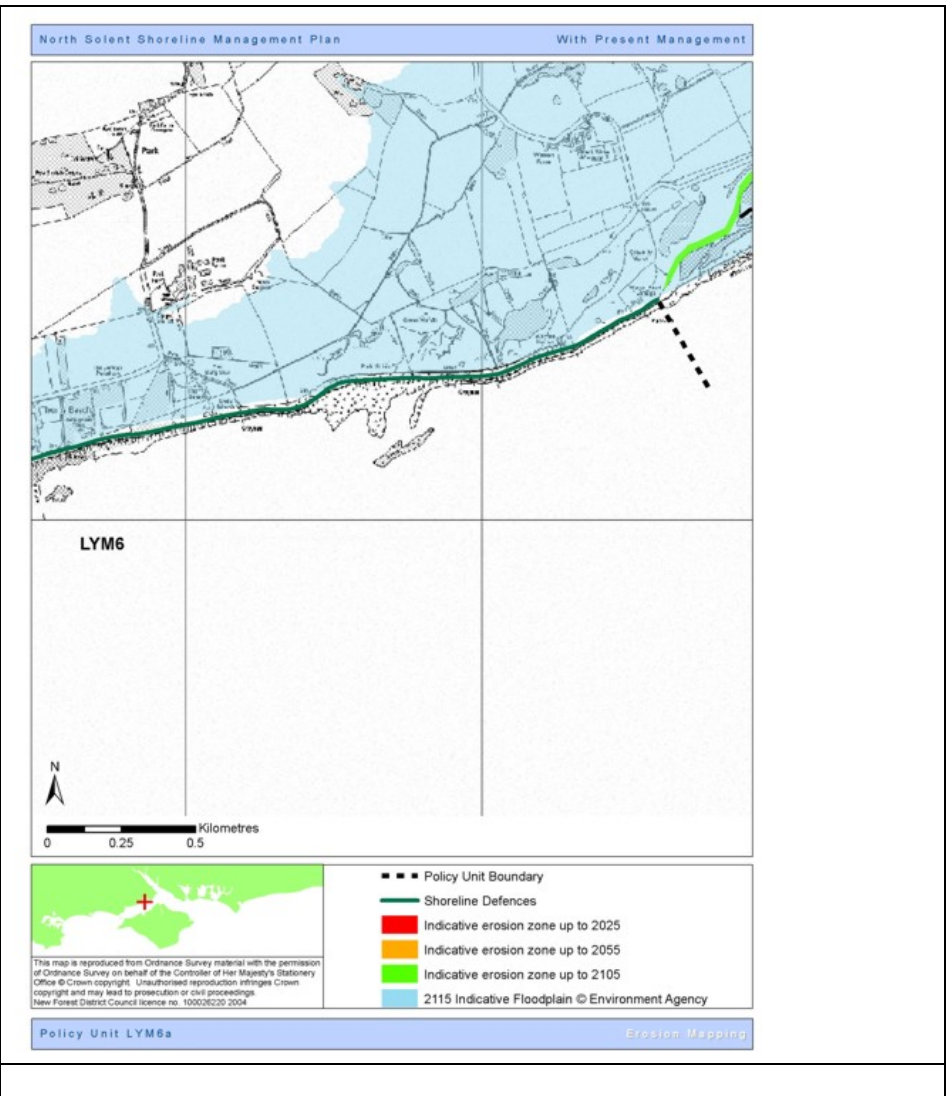
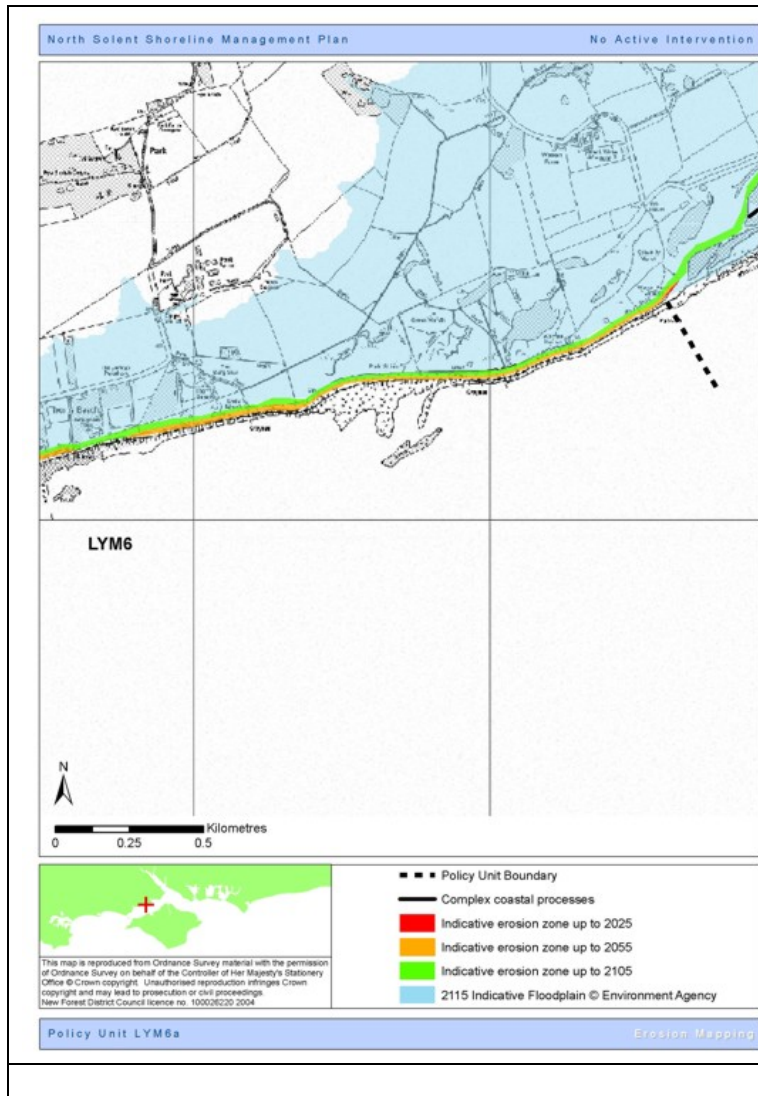


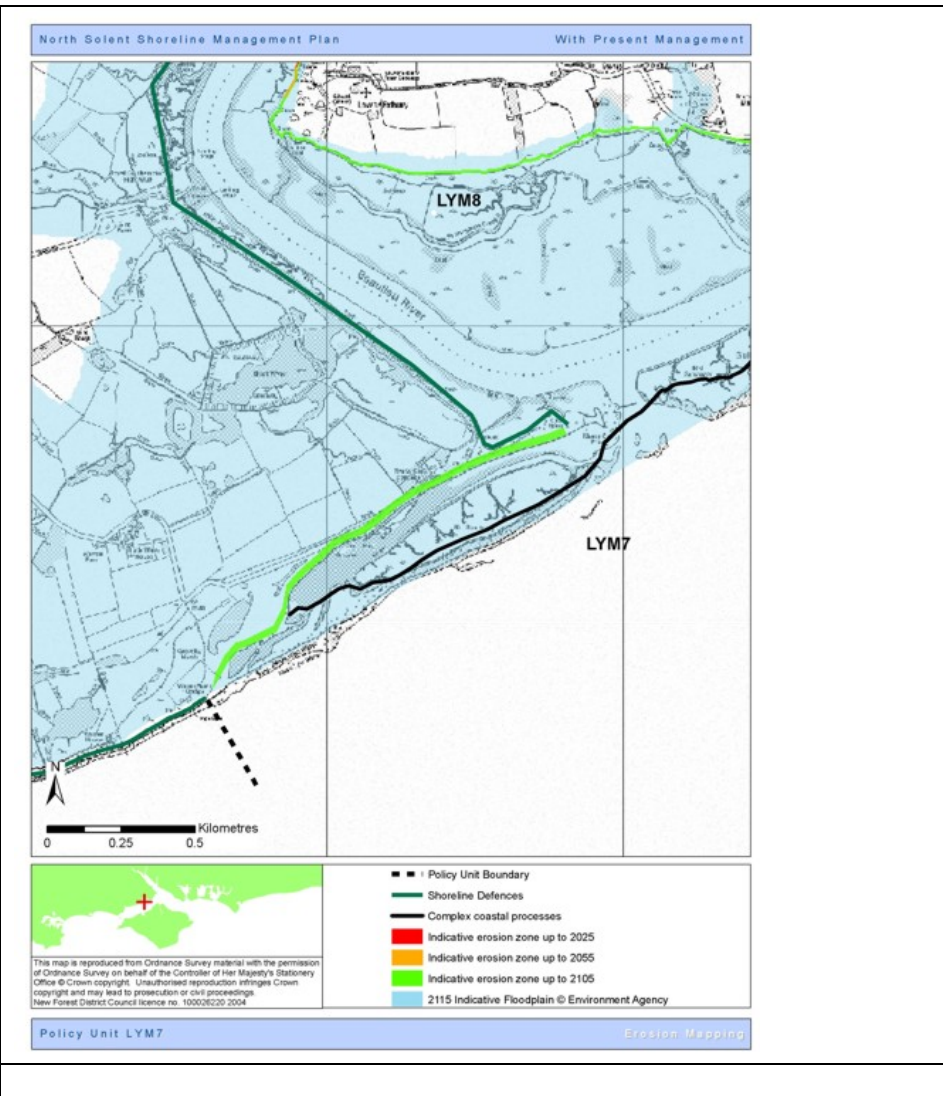
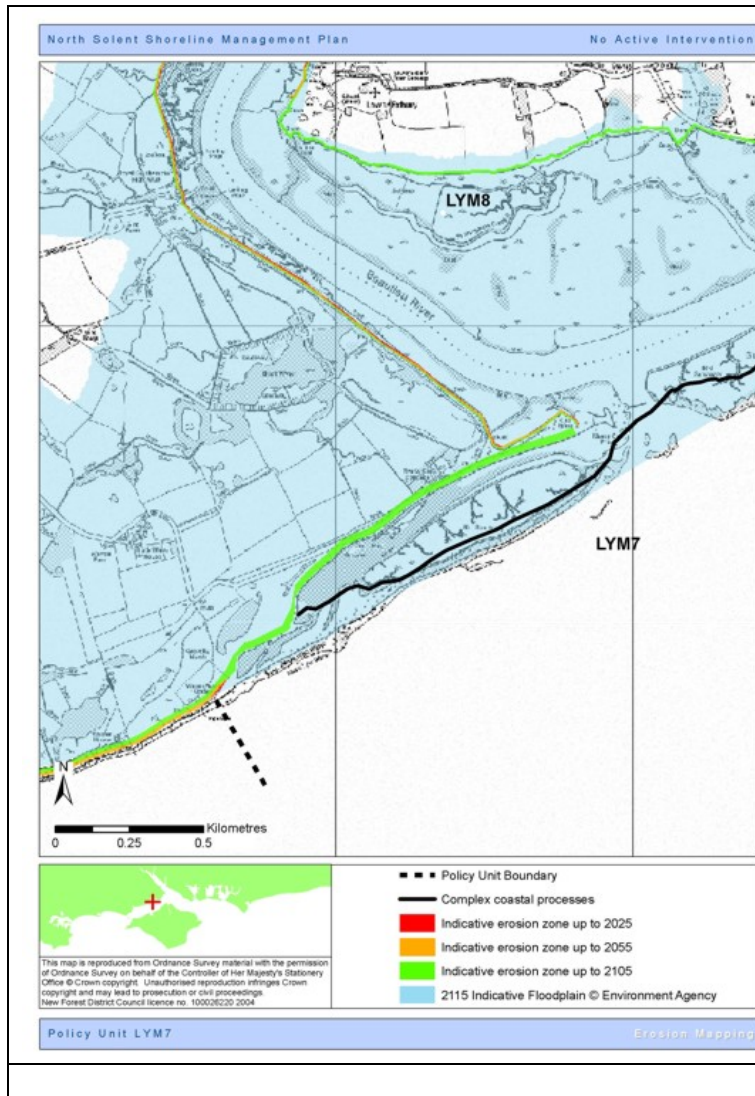


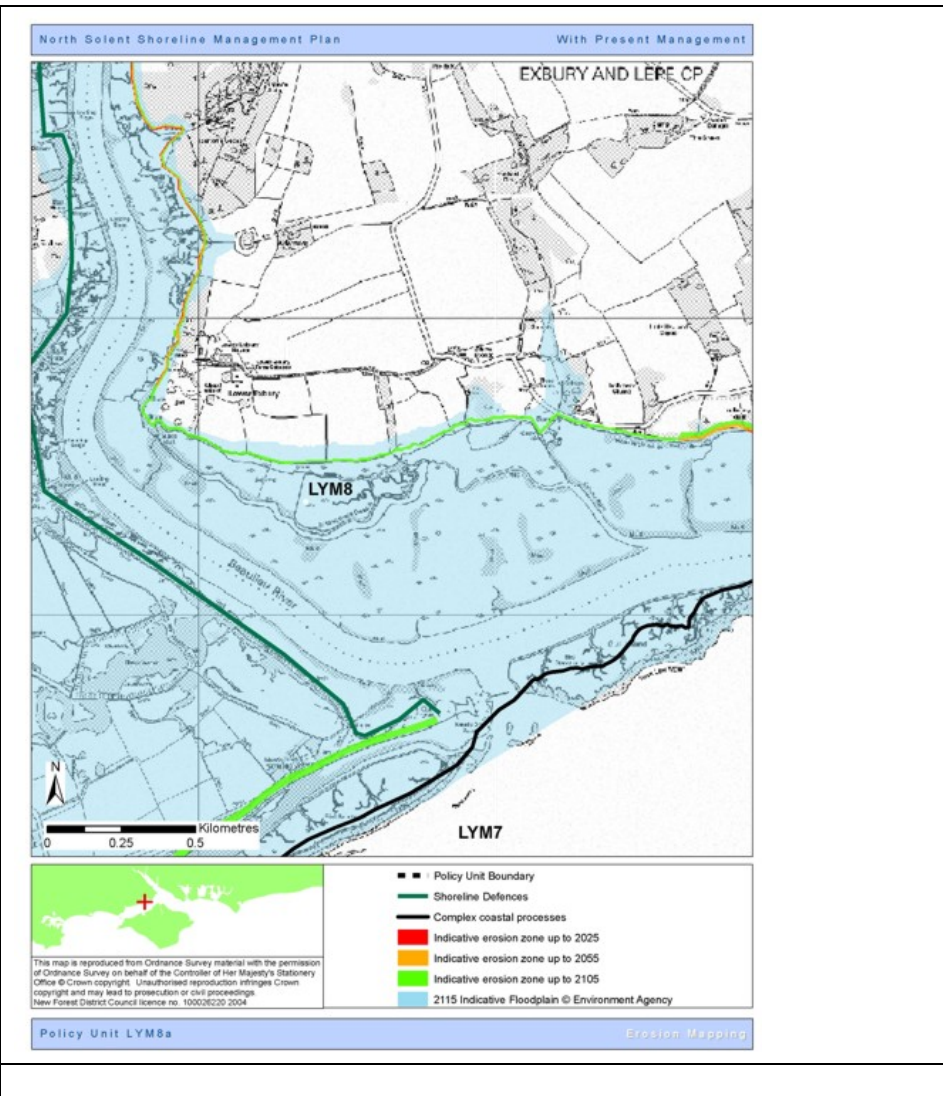
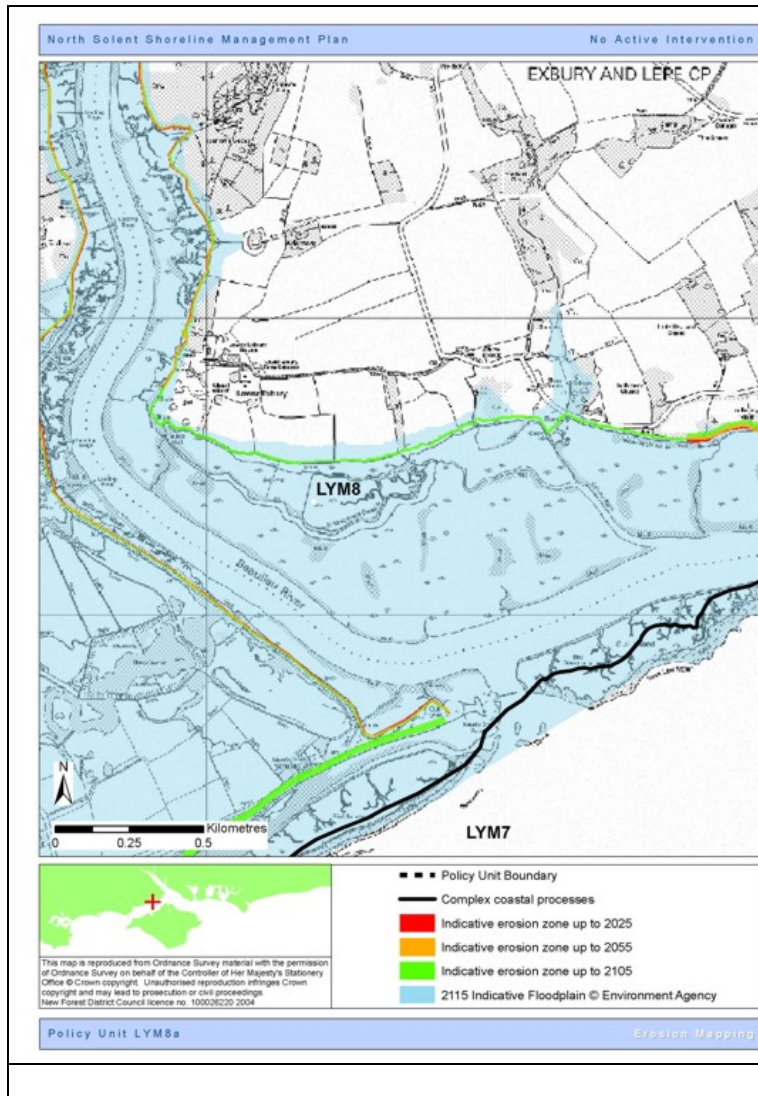


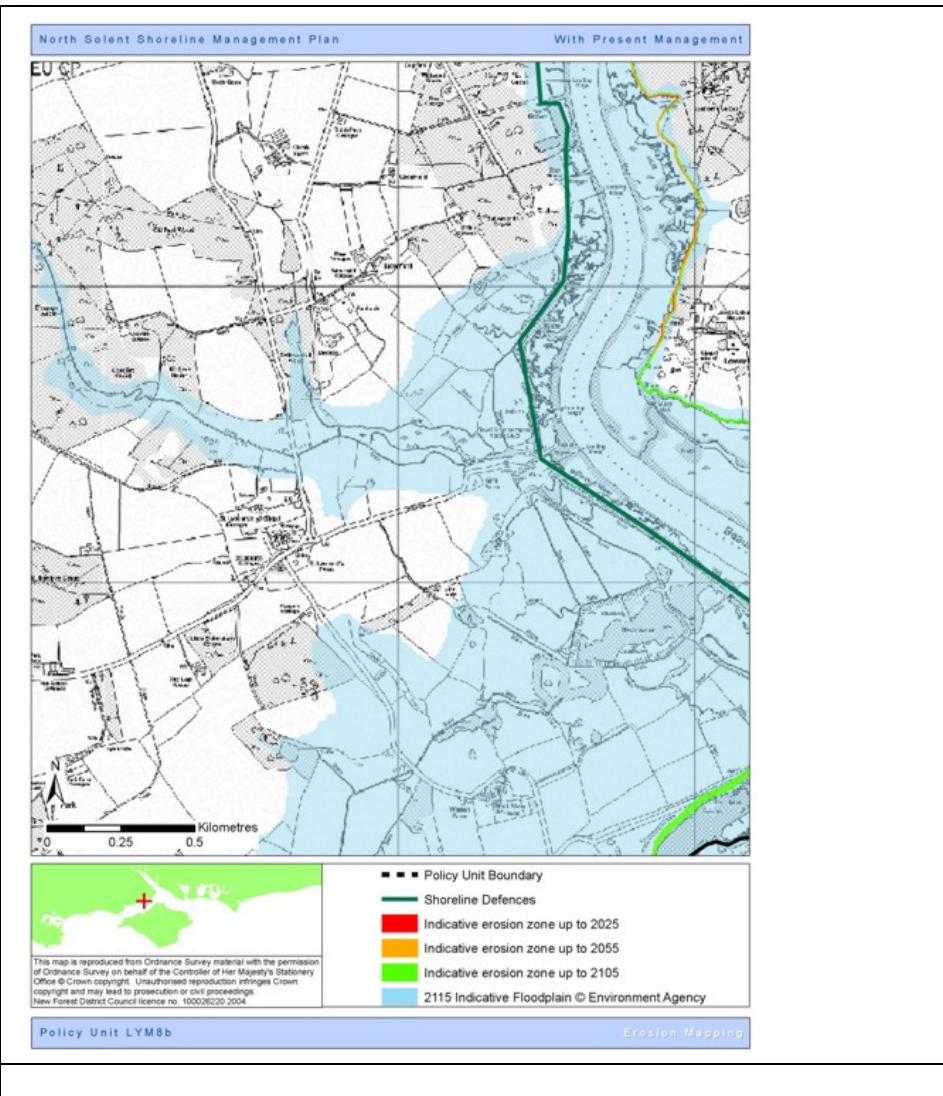
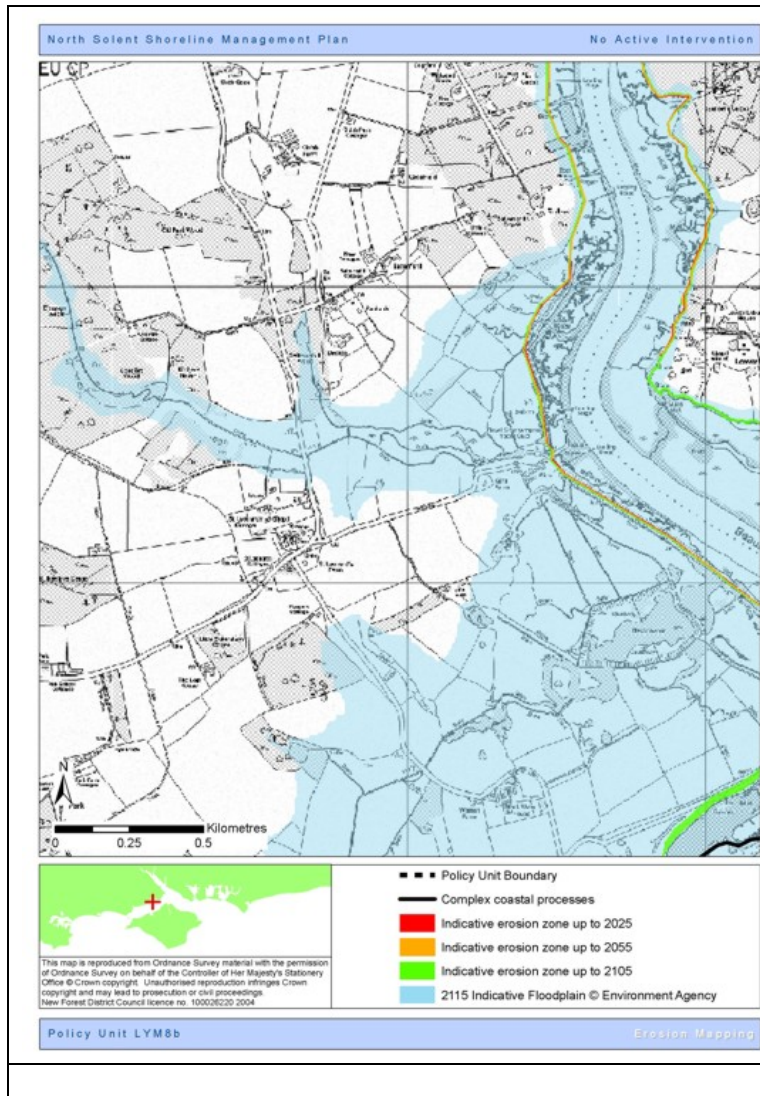


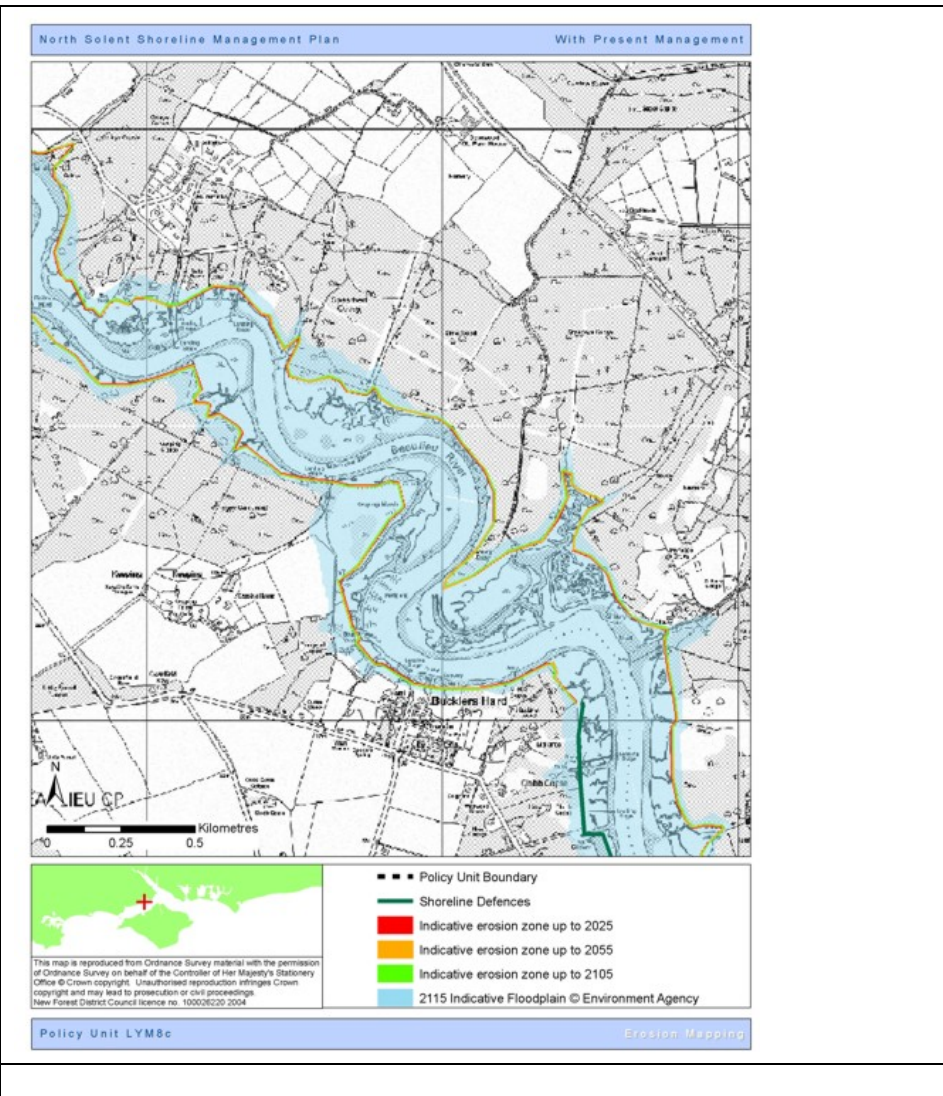
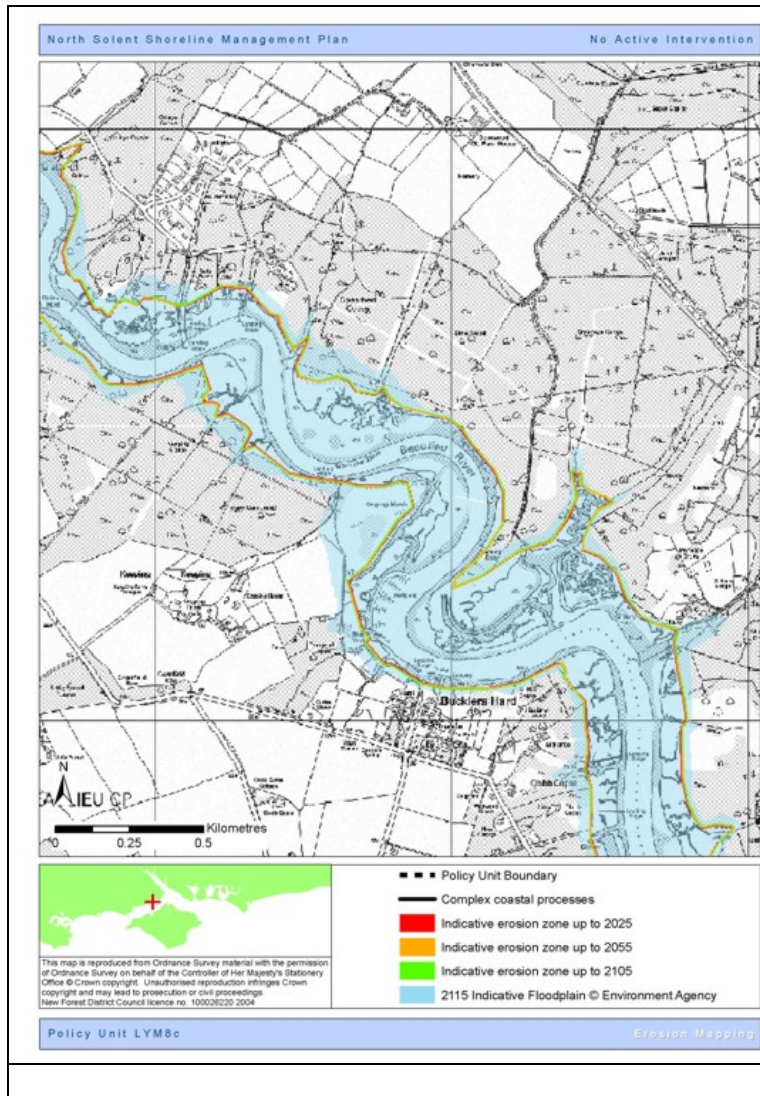


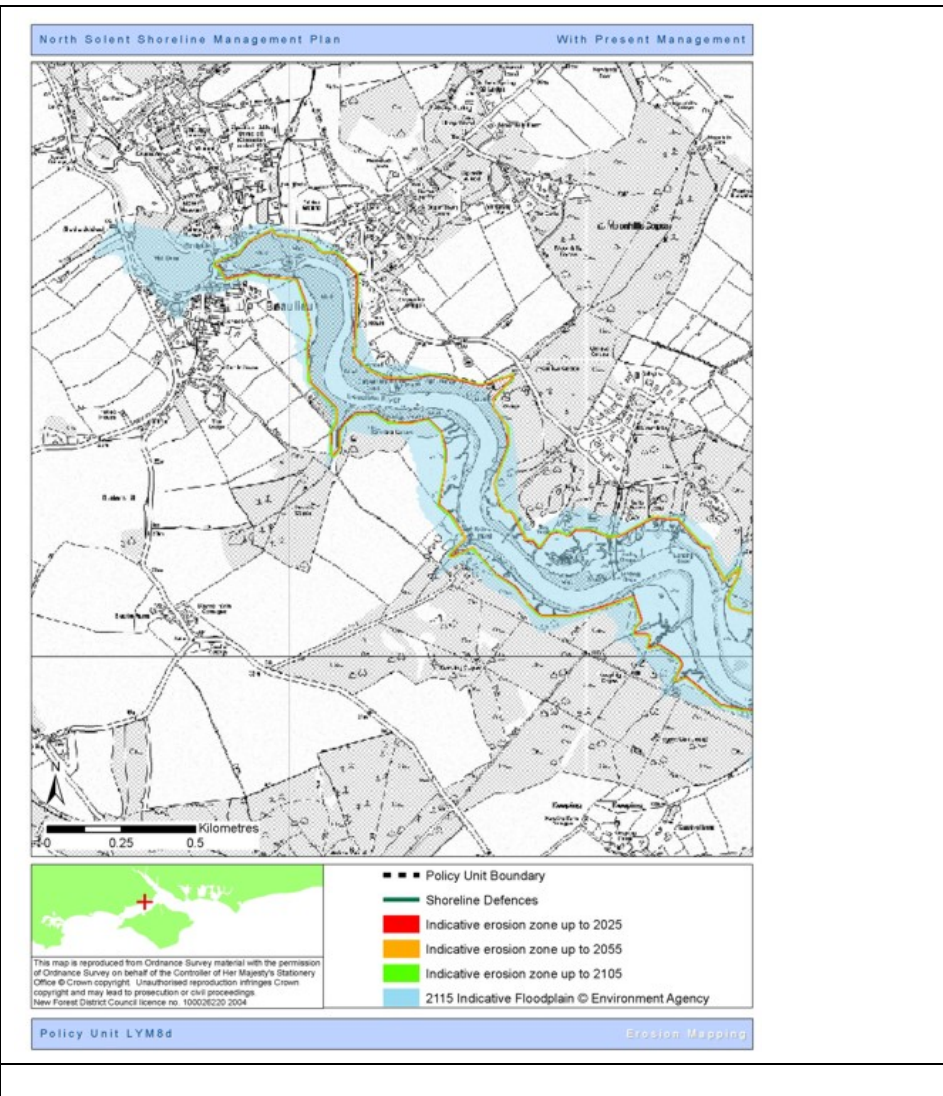
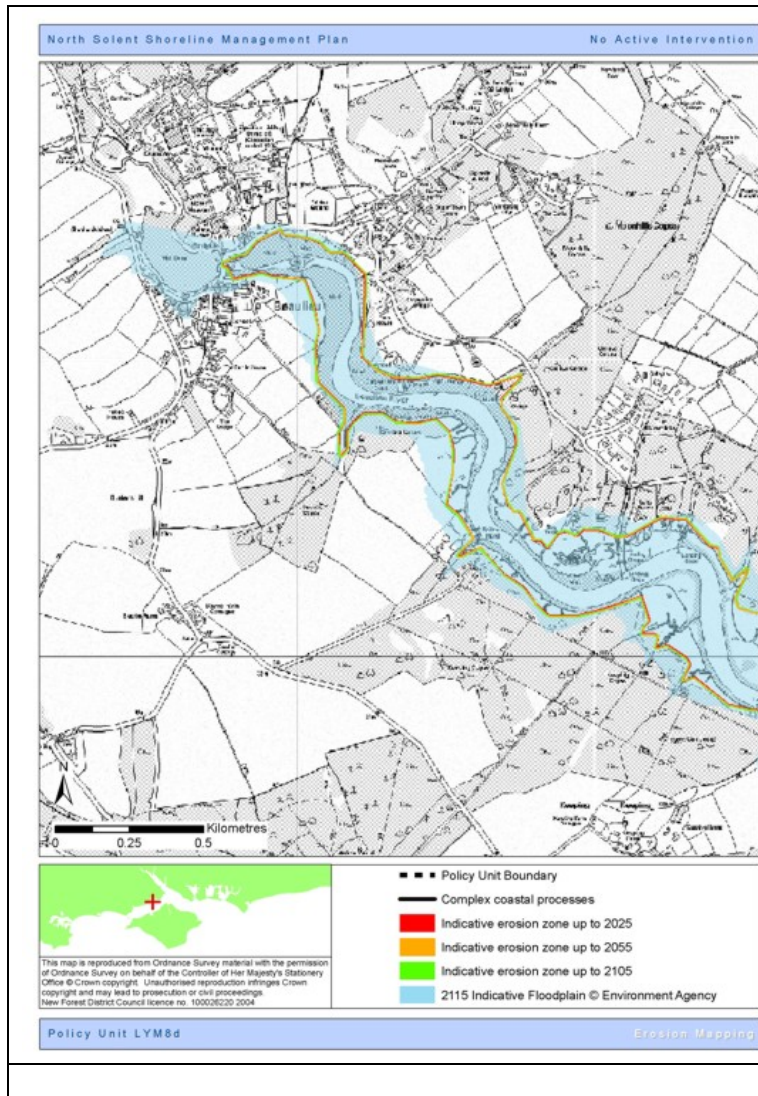


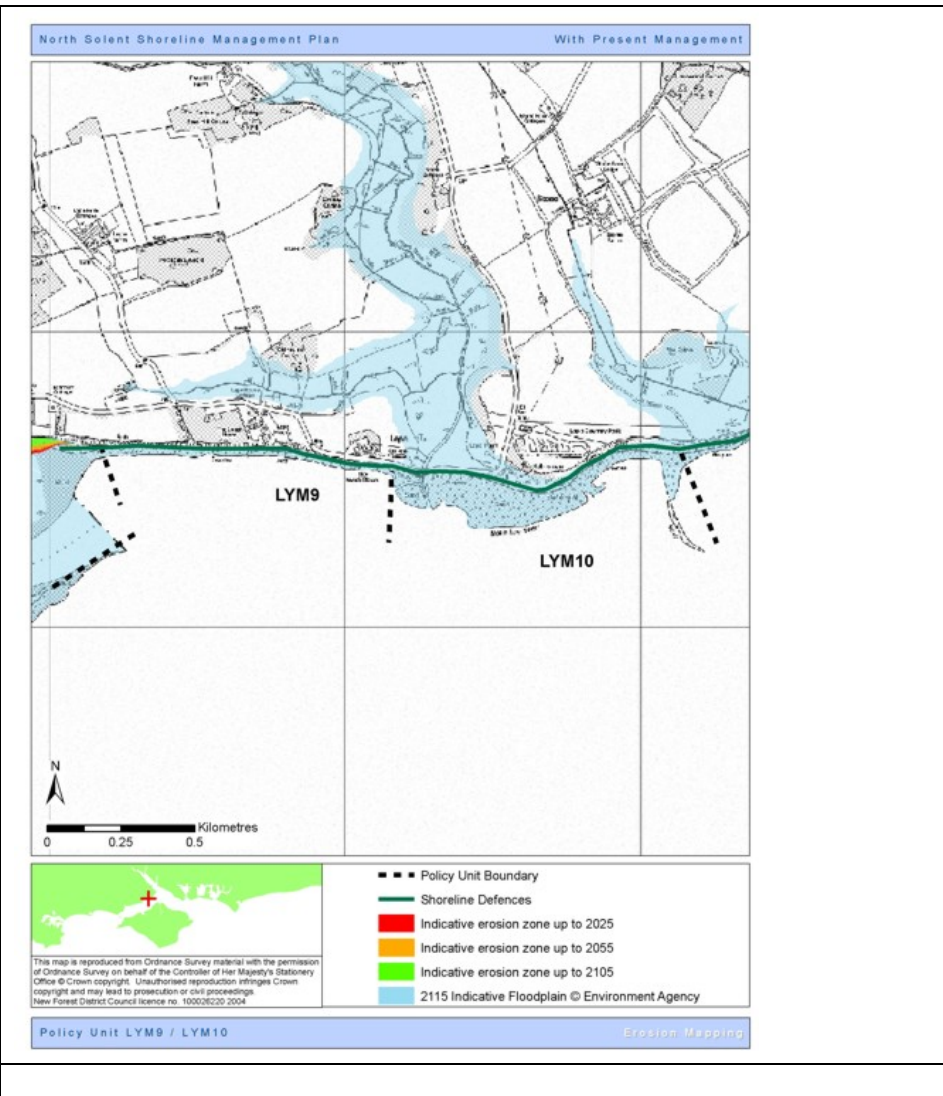
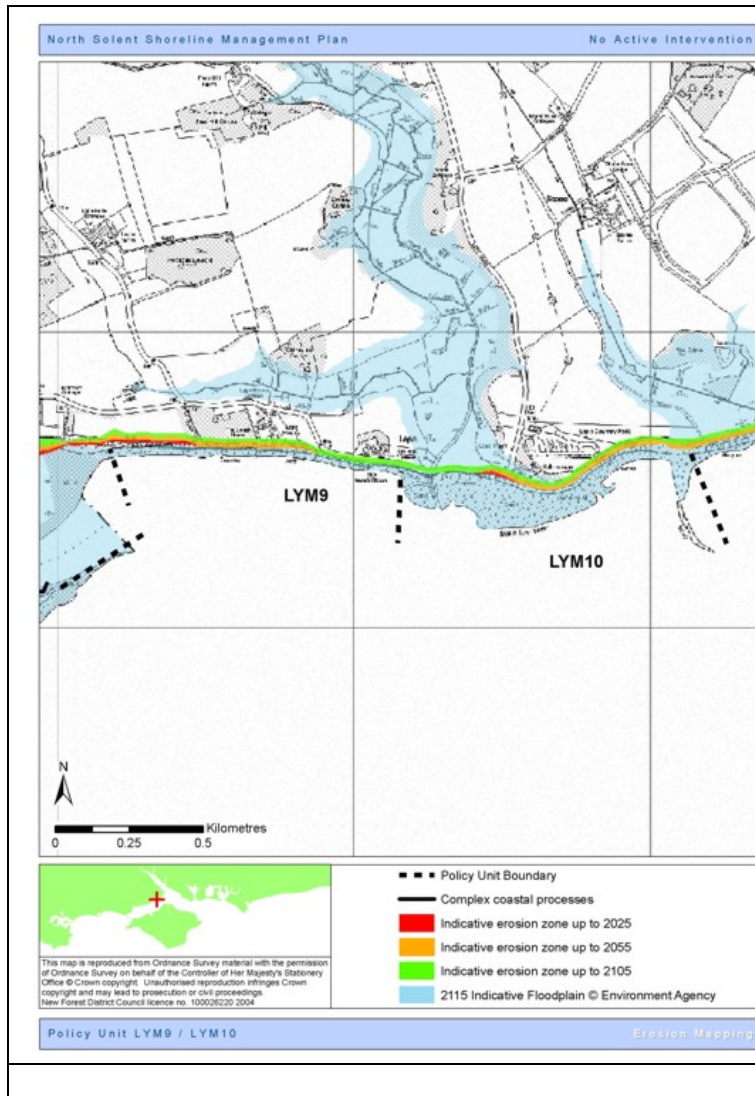


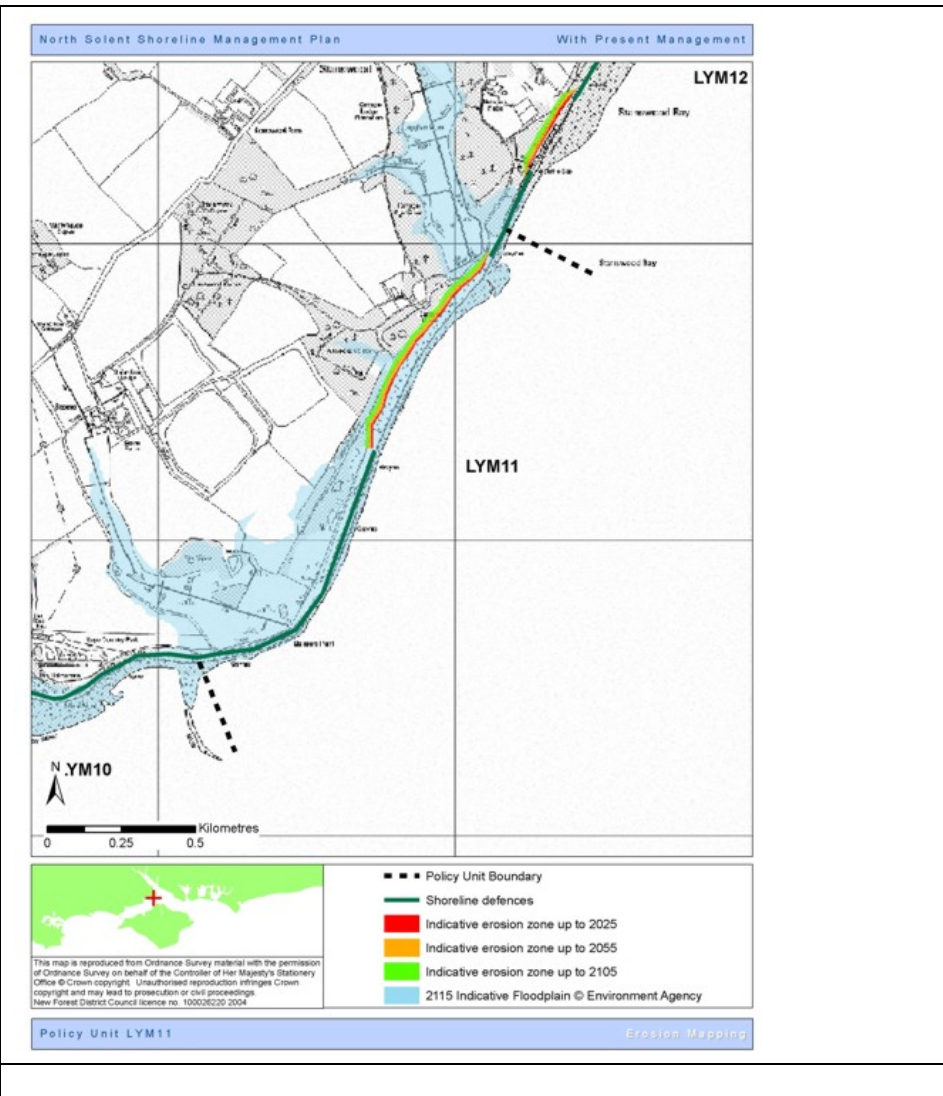
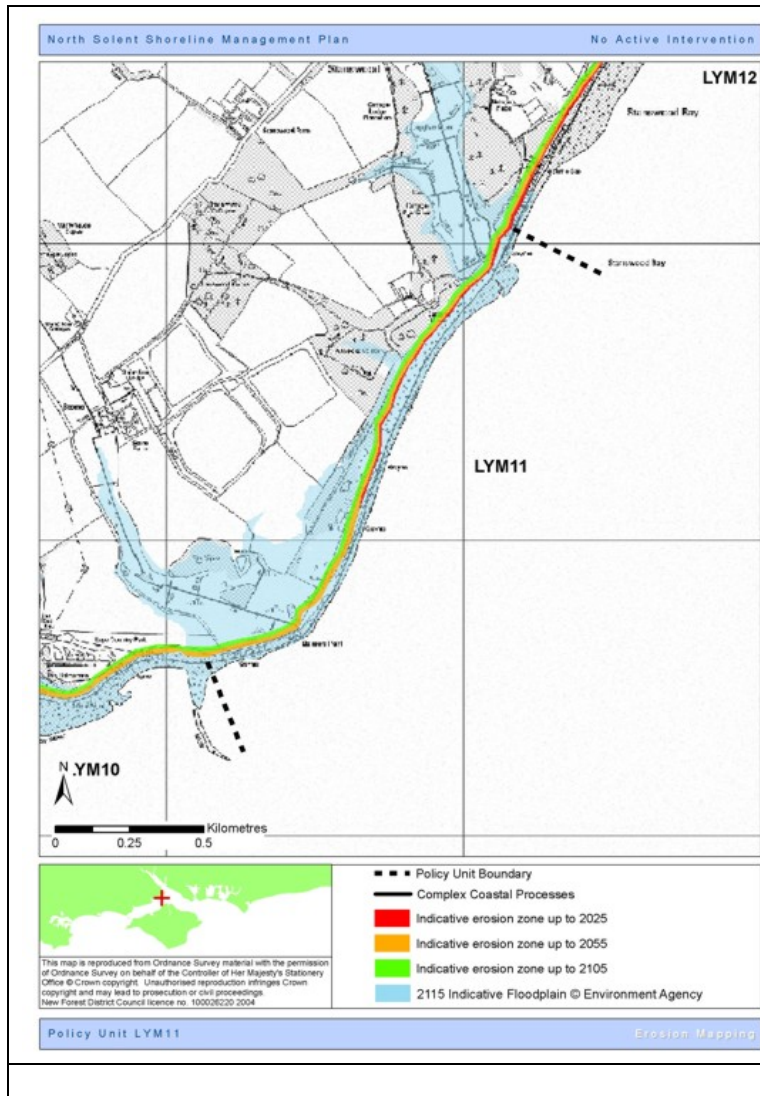


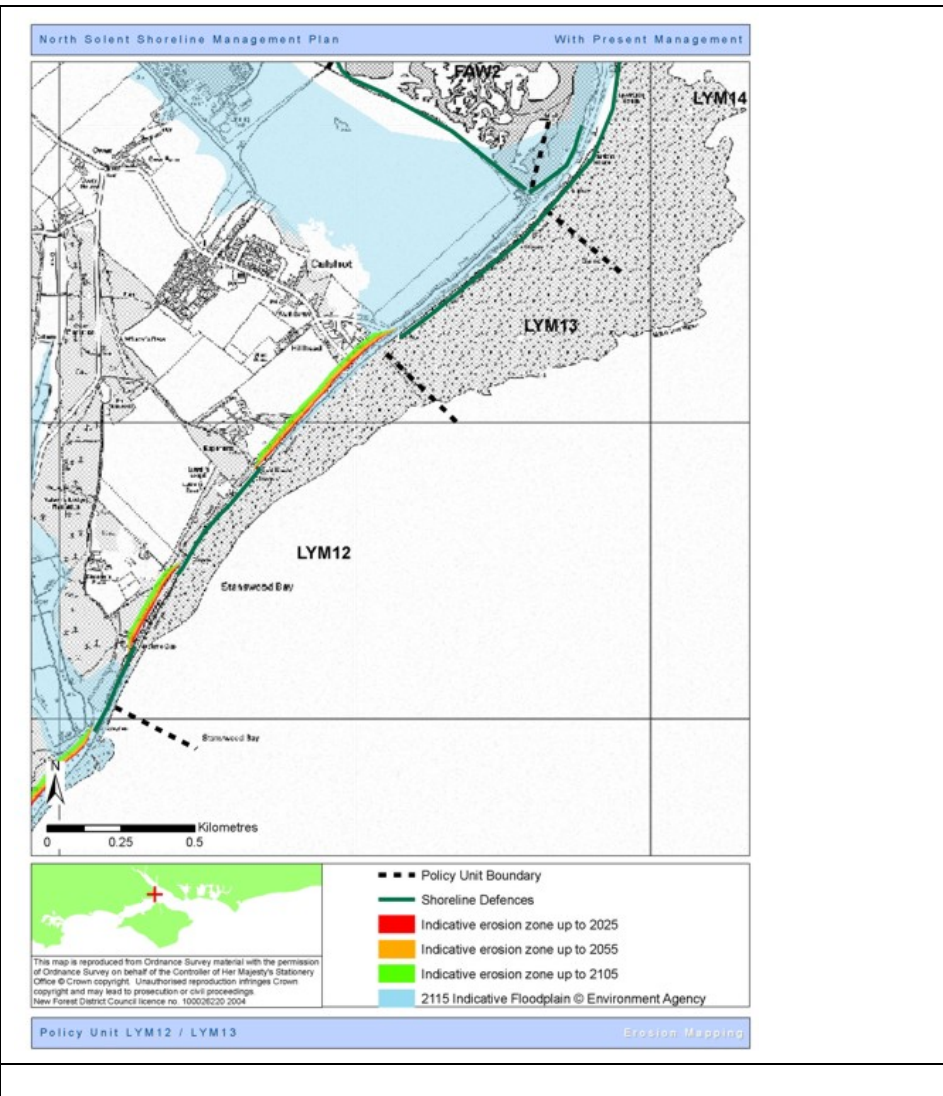
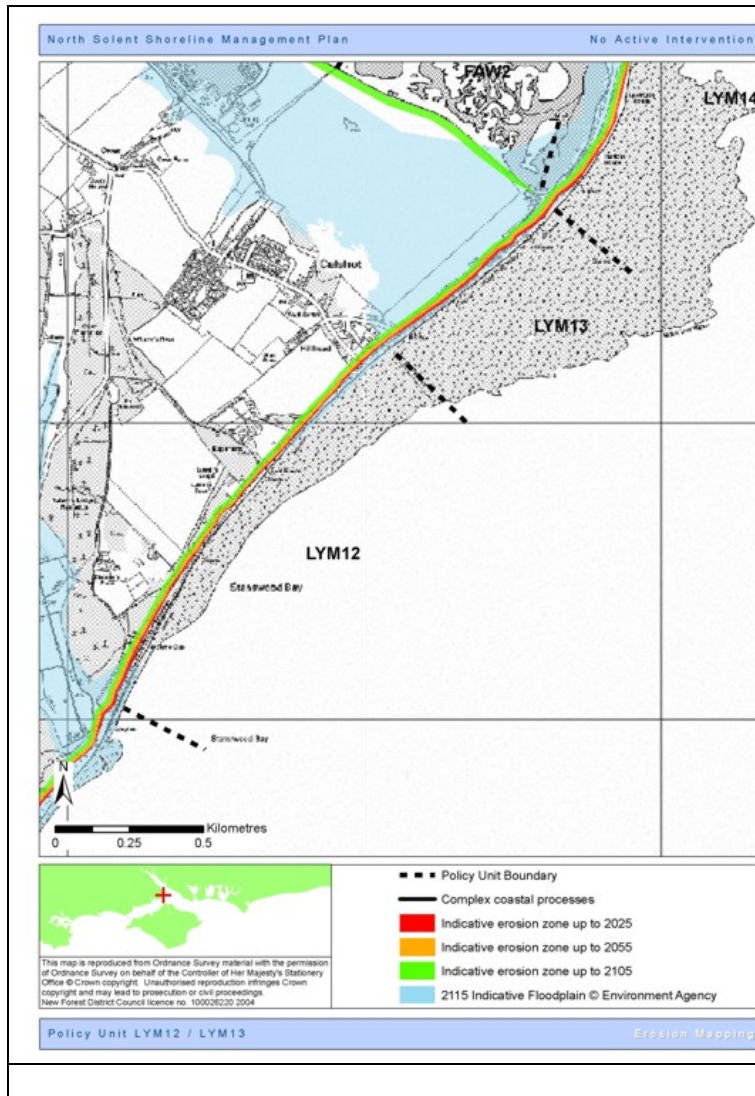


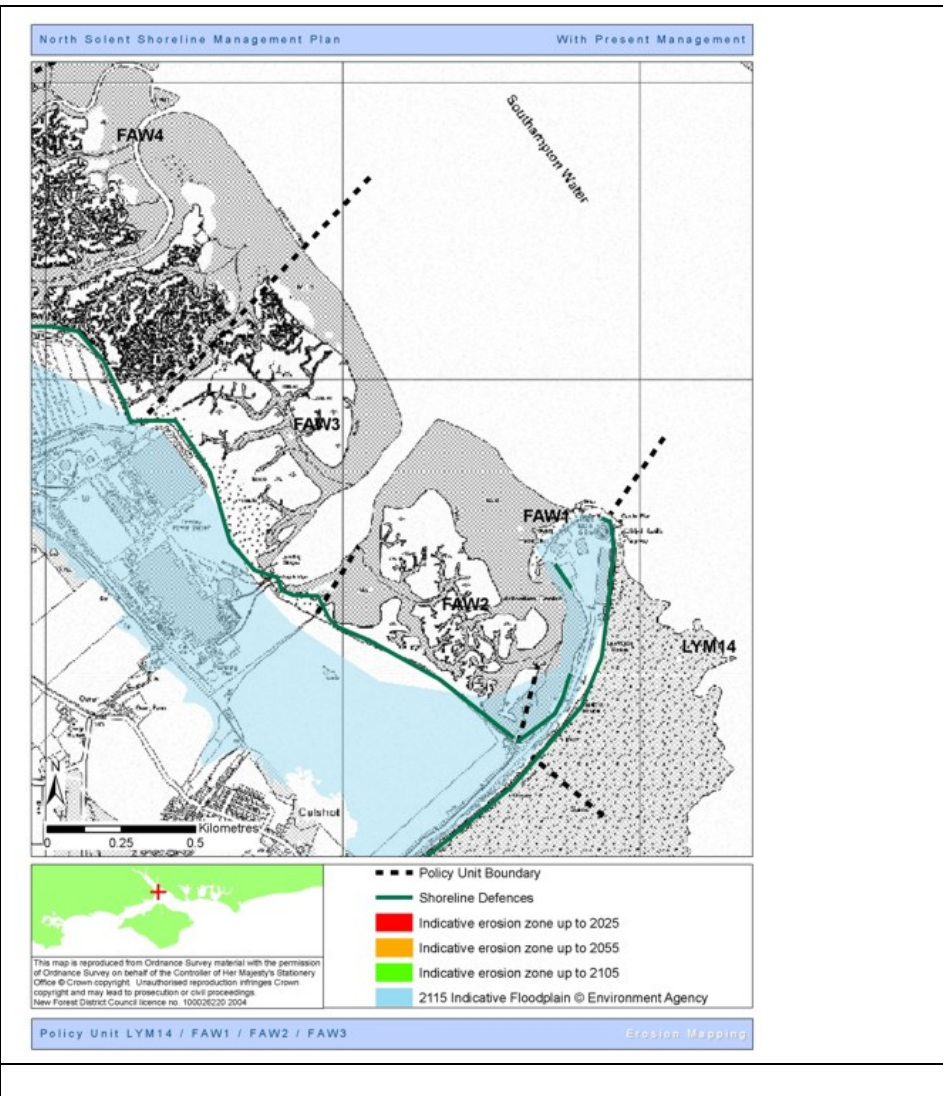
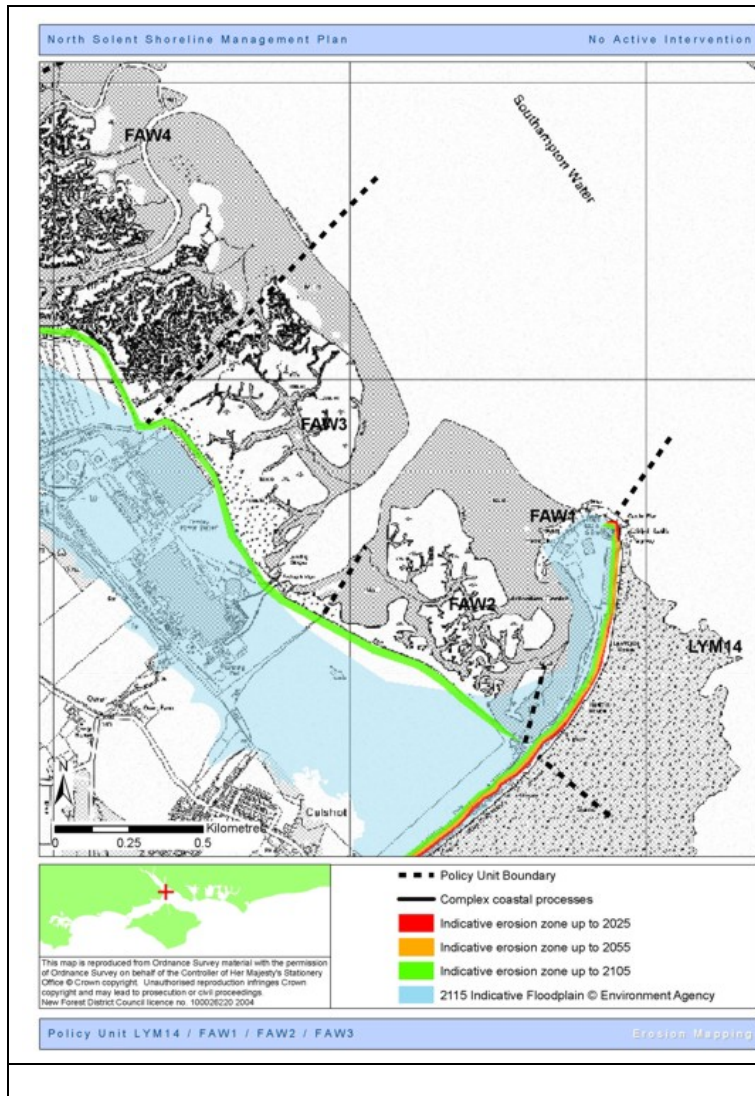


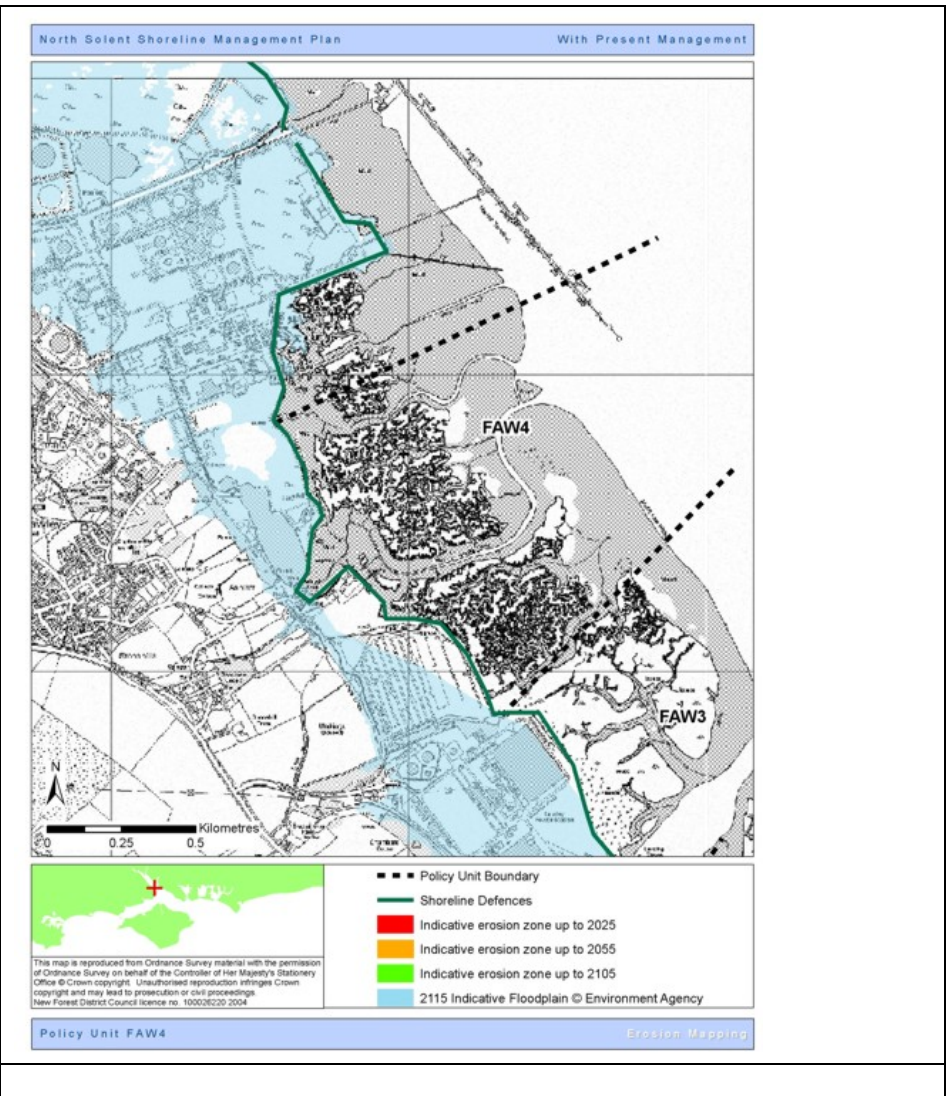
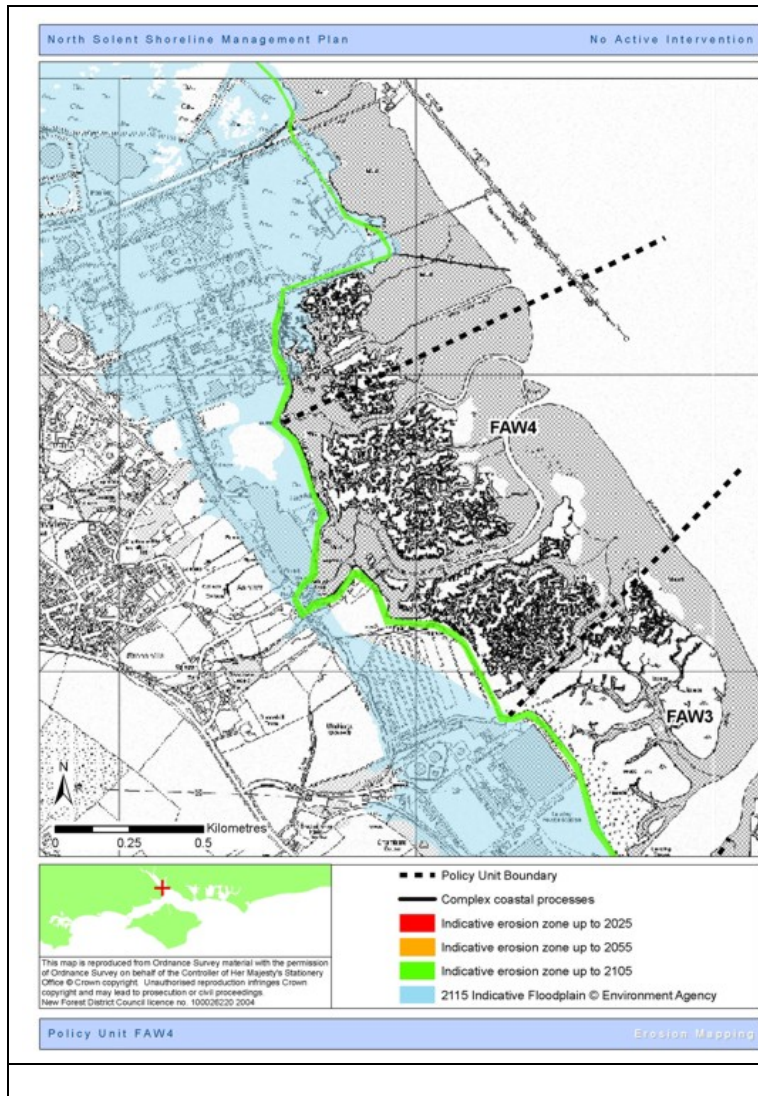


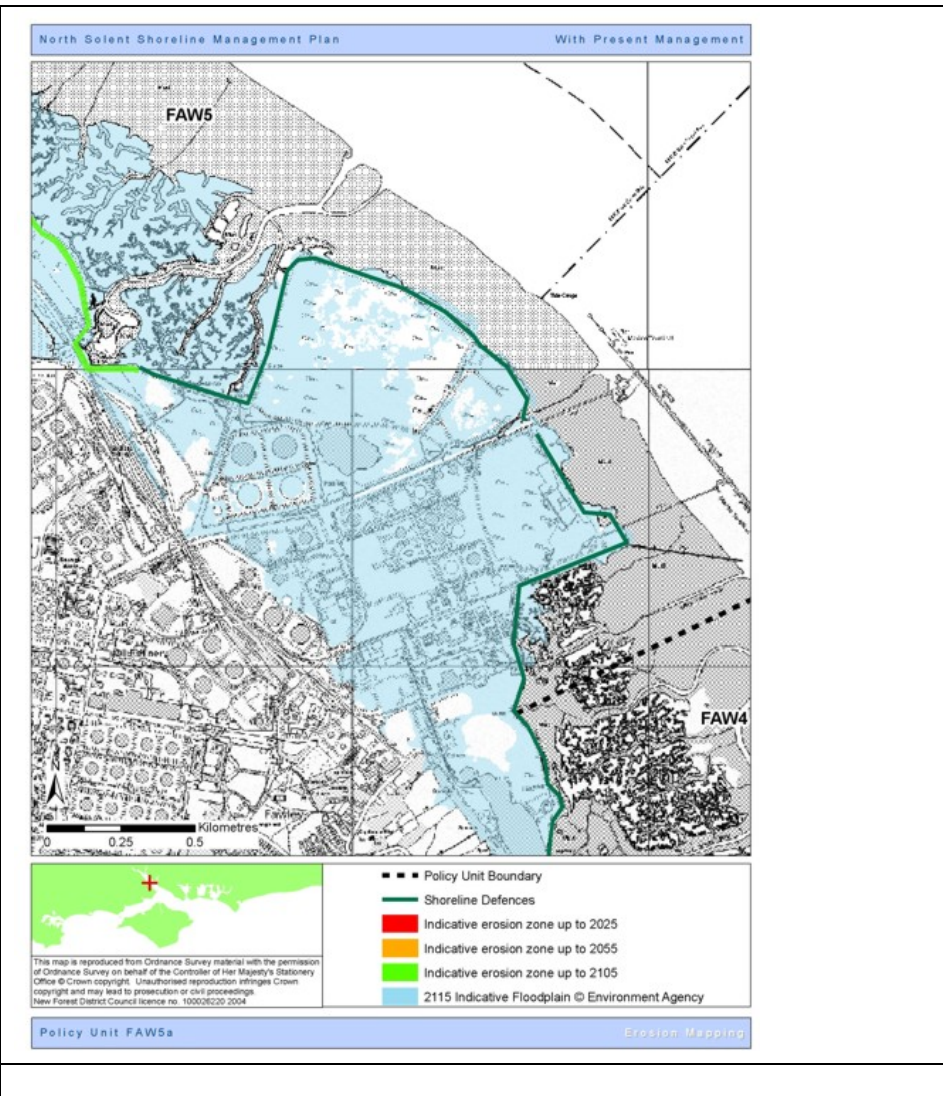
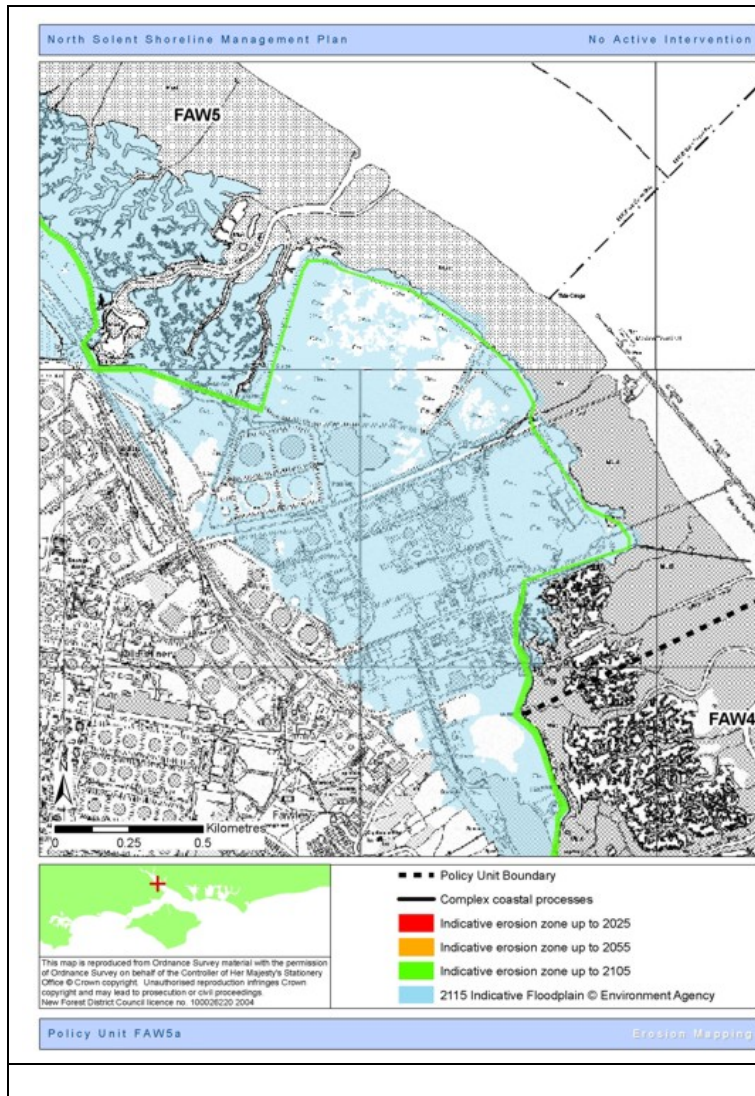


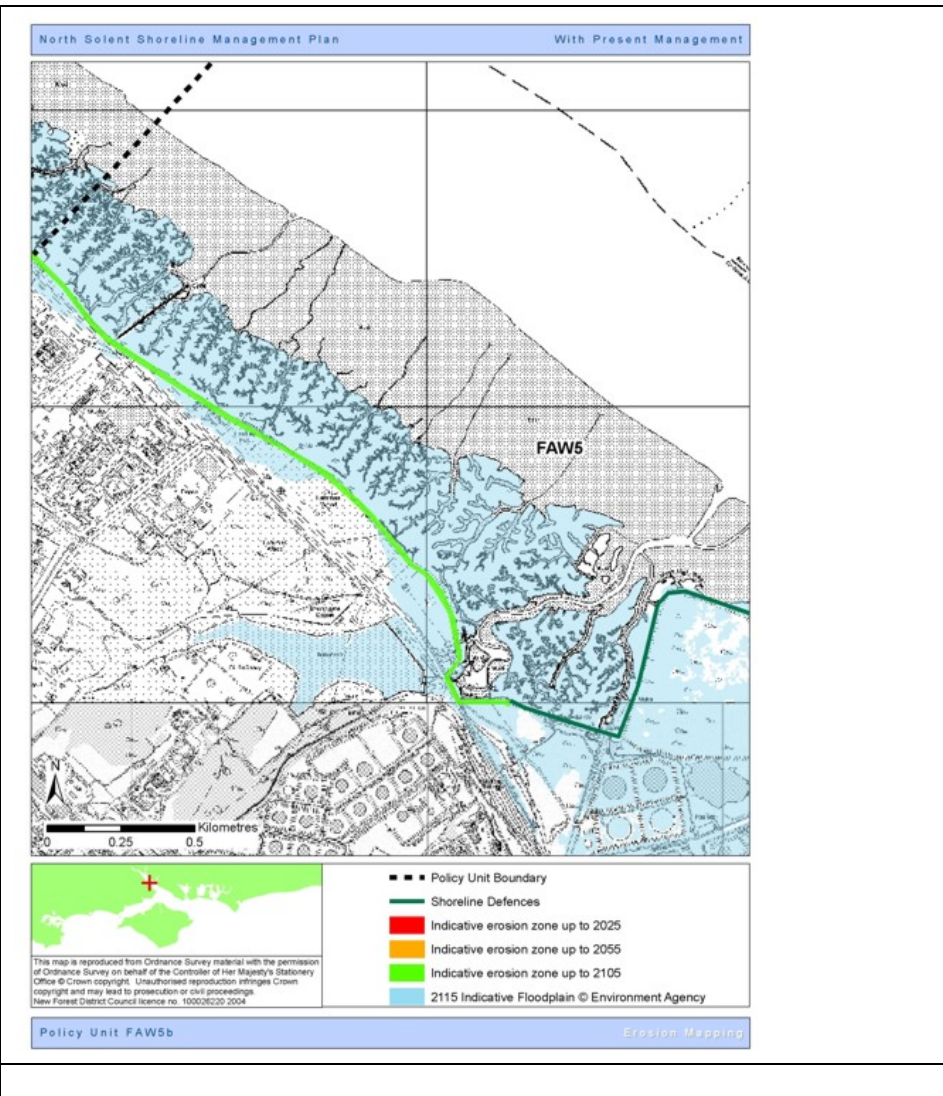
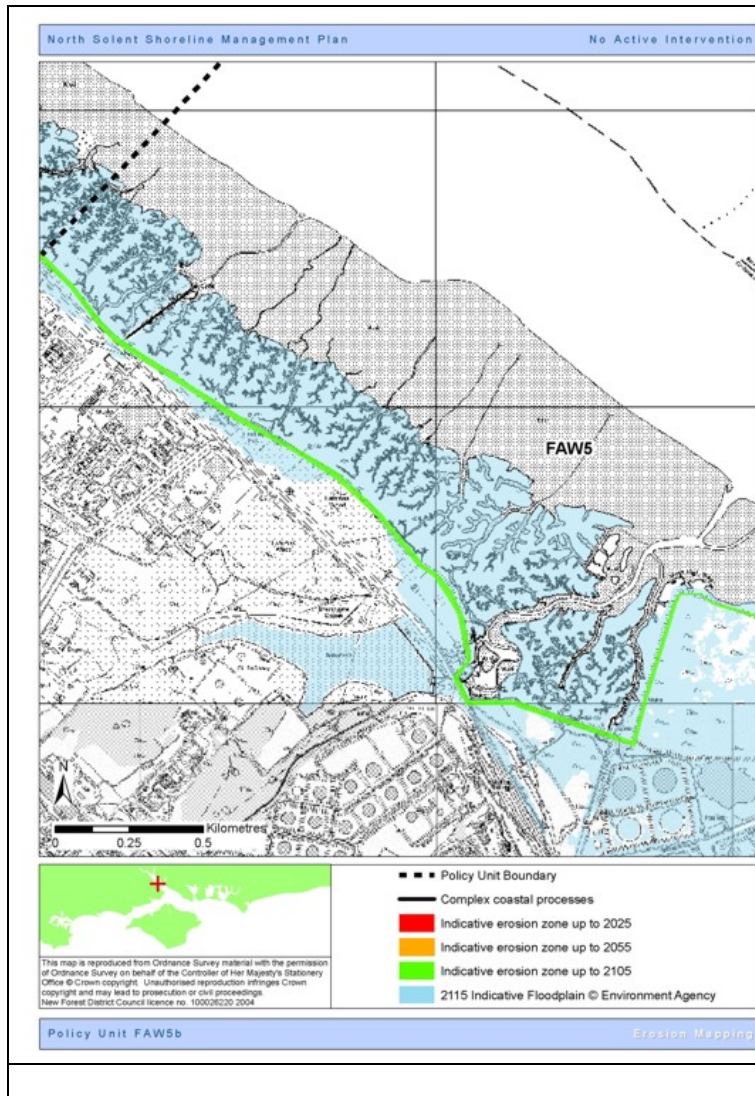


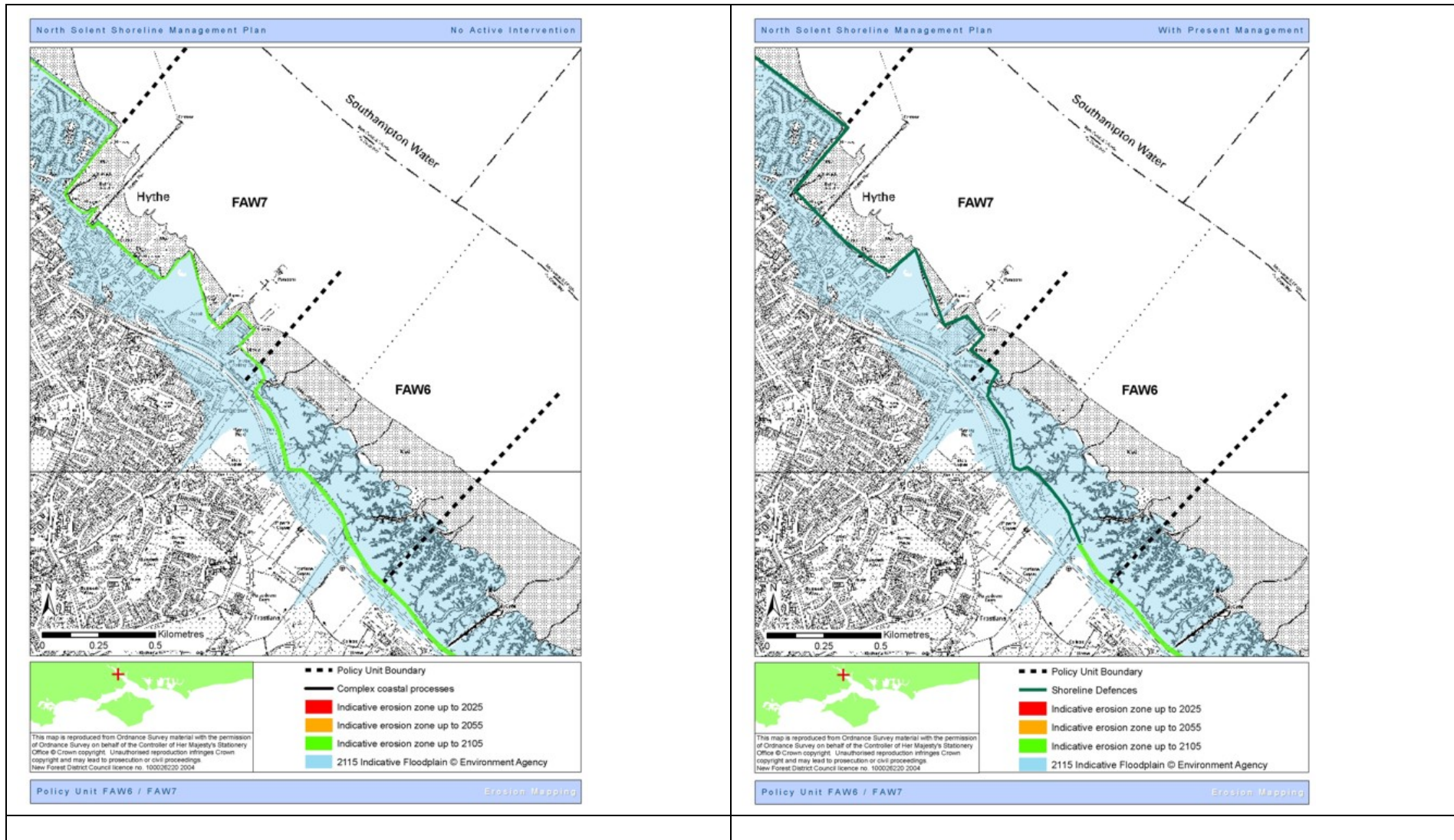


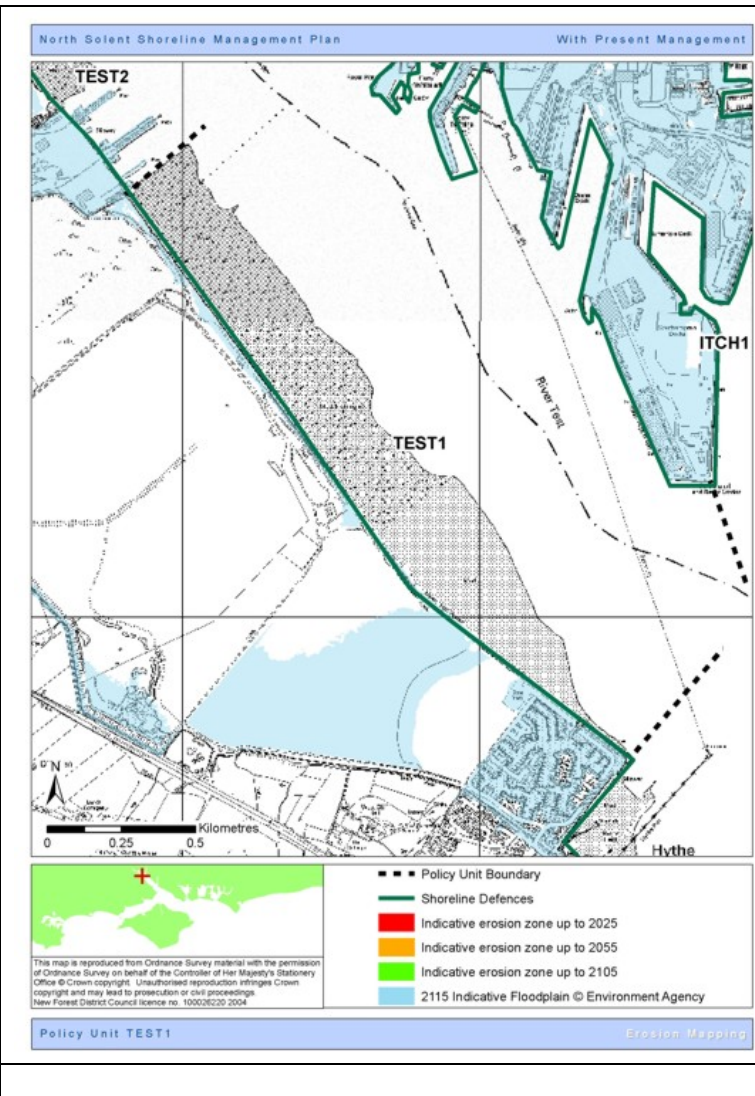
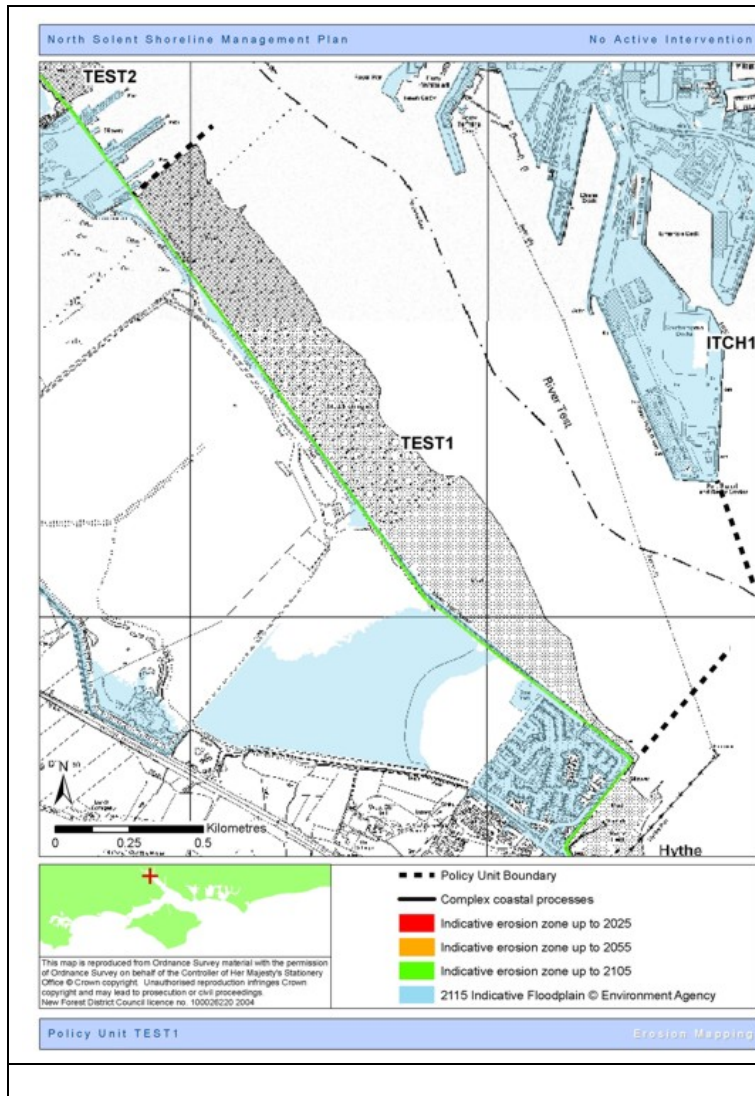


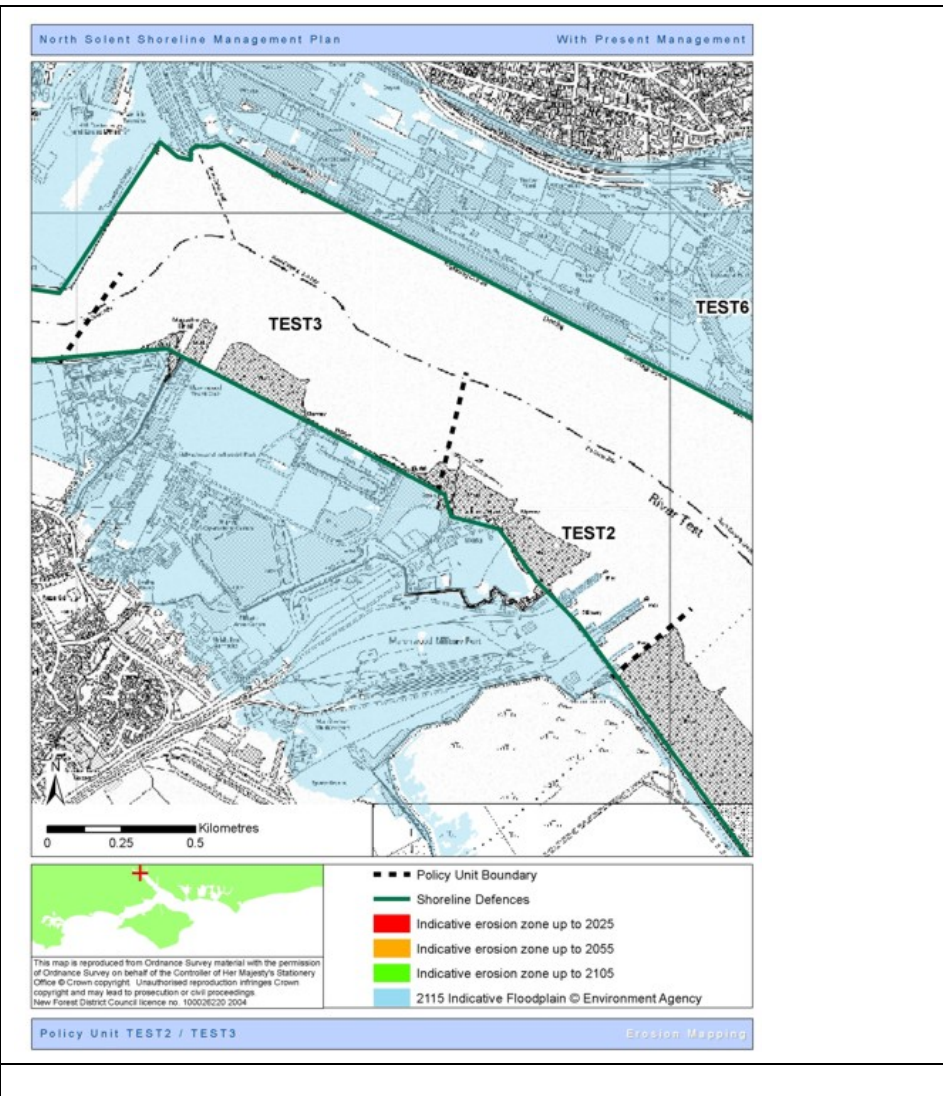
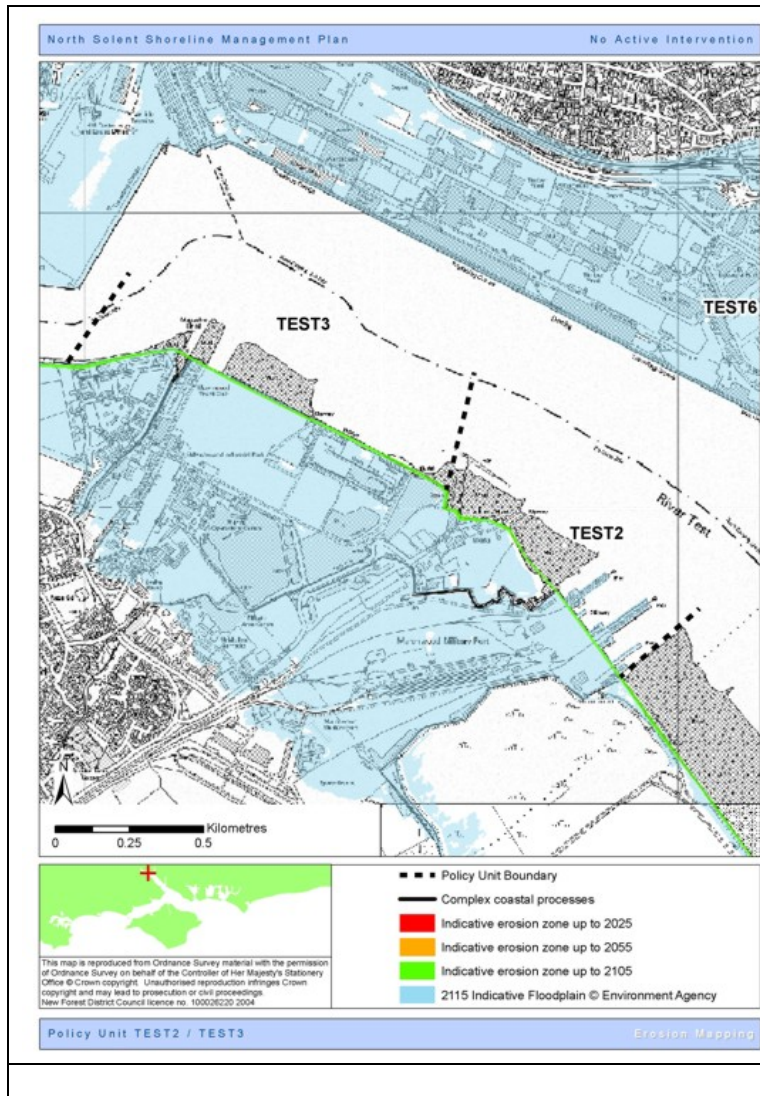


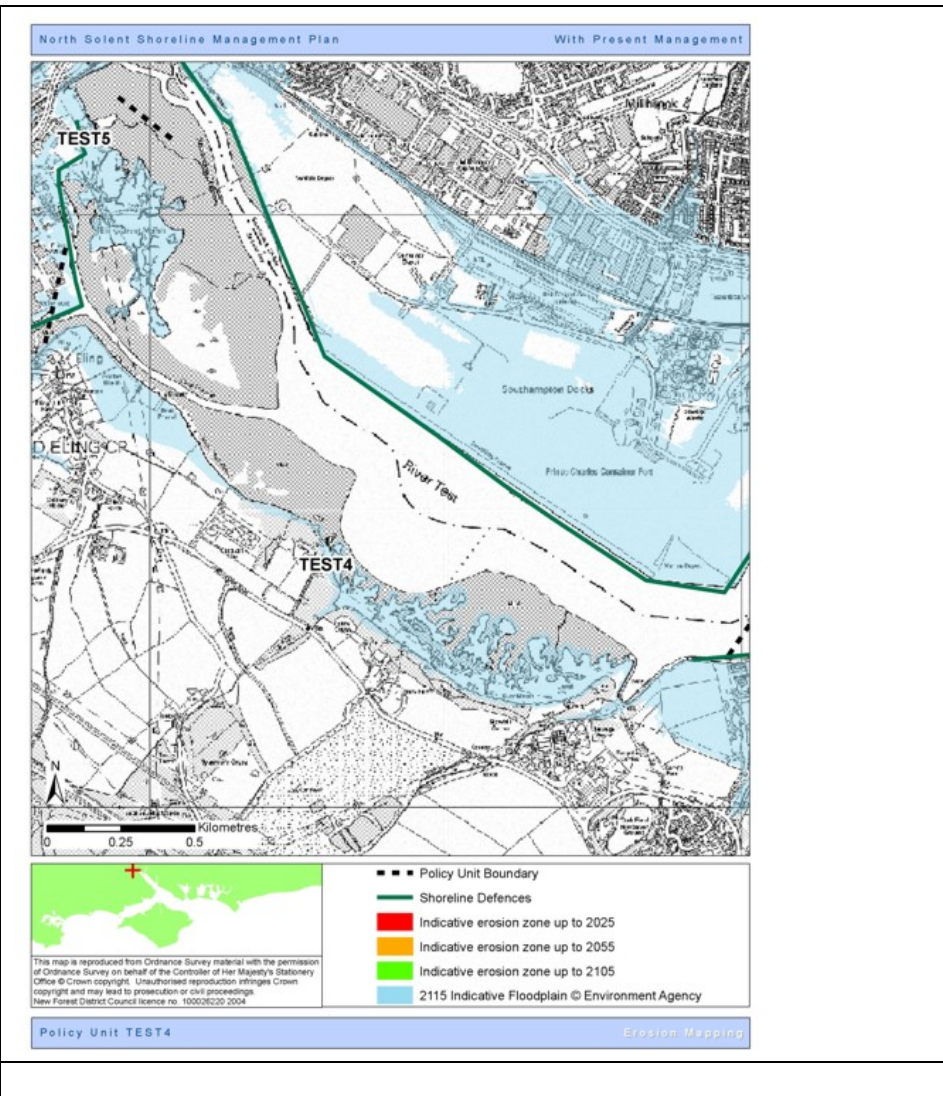
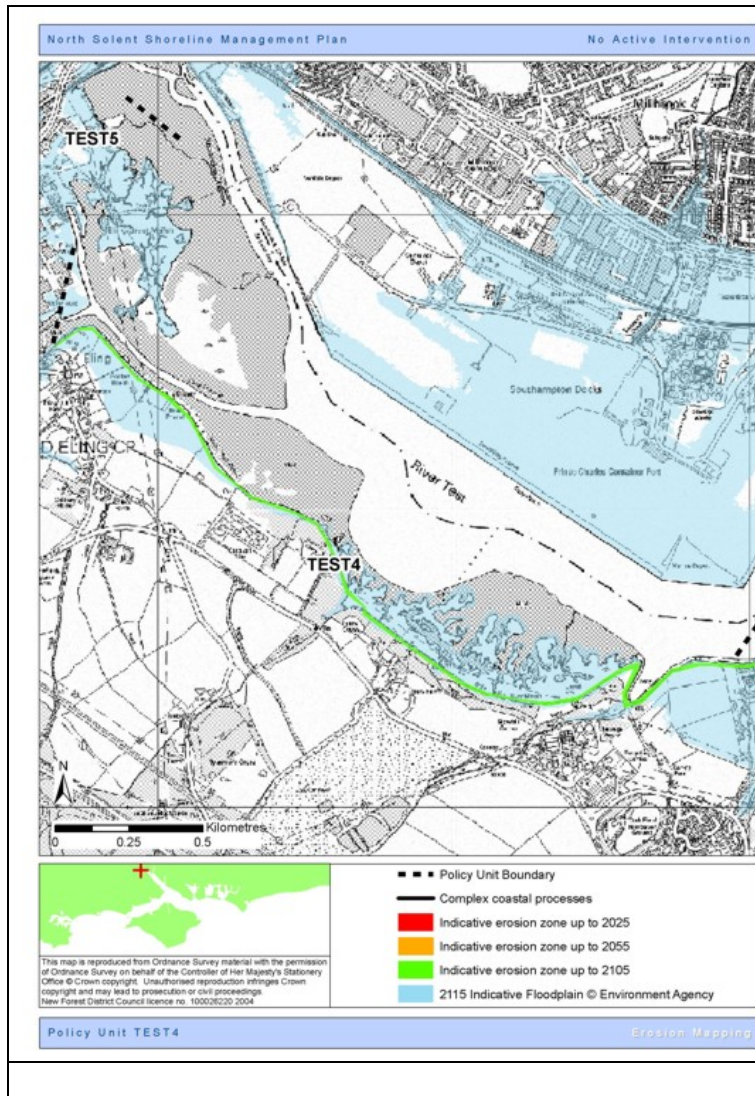


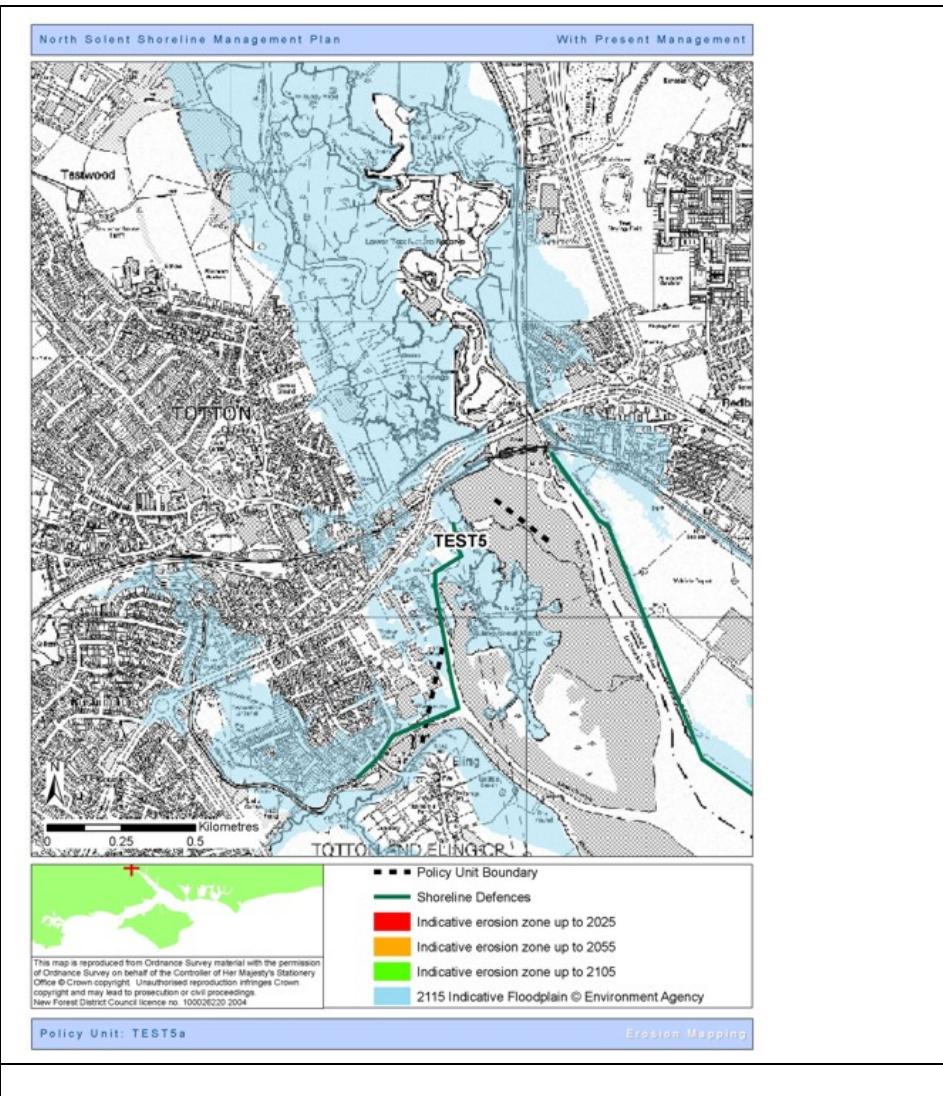
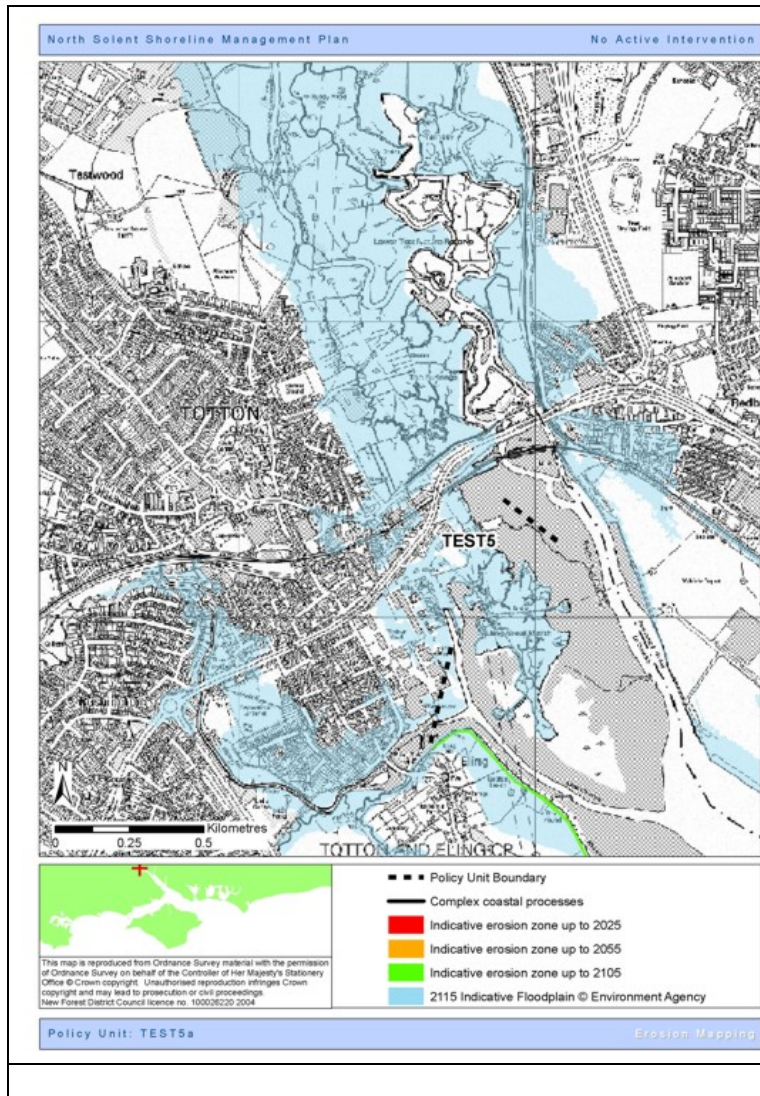












Local Authority	Electoral Ward	Number of properties in erosion risk zones per epoch under No Active Intervention scenario		
		Epoch 1 (0-20 years)	Epoch 2 (20-50 years)	Epoch 3 (50-100 years)
New Forest District Council	Boldre & Sway	0	2	0
	Brockenhurst & Forest South East	1	0	11
	Dibden and Hythe East	0	0	11
	Fawley, Blackfield & Langlely	0	0	5
	Marchwood	0	0	3
LA Total		1	2	30

Local Authority	Electoral Ward	Number of properties in erosion risk zones per epoch under With Present Management scenario		
		Epoch 1 (0-20 years)	Epoch 2 (20-50 years)	Epoch 3 (50-100 years)
New Forest District Council	Boldre & Sway	0	0	0
	Brockenhurst & Forest South East	1	0	4
	Dibden and Hythe East	0	0	0
	Fawley, Blackfield & Langlely	0	0	2
	Marchwood	0	0	0
LA Total		1	0	6

Local Authority	Number of properties in erosion risk zones per epoch (not cumulative)					
	No Active Intervention scenario	With Present Management scenario	No Active Intervention scenario	With Present Management scenario	No Active Intervention scenario	With Present Management scenario
	Epoch 1 (0-20 years)		Epoch 2 (20-50 years)		Epoch 3 (50-100 years)	
Chichester District	76	0	383	1	805	0
Havant Borough	0	0	271	0	455	0
Portsmouth City	14	0	8	0	66	0
Gosport Borough	1	0	6	0	11	0
Fareham Borough	3	0	34	32	39	4
Winchester City	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastleigh Borough	4	1	1	0	22	1
Southampton City	0	0	4	0	94	2
Test Valley Borough	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Forest District	1	1	2	0	30	6
SMP Total	99	2	709	33	1522	13