

## **POOLE & CHRISTCHURCH BAYS SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1. To inform Elected Members of the draft proposed policies from the emerging draft Poole & Christchurch Bays Shoreline Management Plan.
- 1.2. To recommend Elected Members approve in principle the policies prior to public consultation.
- 1.3. To recommend Elected Members approve in principle that the draft SMP progress to public consultation.
- 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 future flood and erosion risk 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:

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 the shoreline to retreat or advance in a controlled or managed way
No Active Intervention (NAI)	Not to invest in providing or maintaining defences

### **3. POOLE & CHRISTCHURCH BAYS SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

3.1. The Poole & Christchurch Bays SMP is the first revision to the Poole & Christchurch Bays SMP completed in 1999. The coastline covered by this Plan extends from Hurst Spit in the east, through to Durlston Head in the west, and includes Christchurch and Poole 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 erosion risk mapping and tidal flood risk mapping that covers the NFDC frontage, under two scenarios – (1) if existing defences were not maintained and failed (No Active Intervention - NAI); and (2) if the existing defences and management practices were continued. (With Present Management - WPM)

3.4. Annex 3 presents the proposed policies for the NFDC coastal frontage.

3.5. The Poole & Christchurch Bays SMP review has been undertaken by the consultant Royal Haskoning, under contract to Bournemouth Borough Council.

3.6. The Client Steering Group of the Poole & Christchurch Bays 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:-

- Bournemouth Borough Council (Lead Authority)
- New Forest District Council
- Christchurch Borough Council
- Borough of Poole
- Purbeck District Council
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- National Trust
- Poole Harbour Commissioners
- Dorset County Council
- Hampshire County Council
- English Heritage

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).

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, Archaeologists and Heritage Officers, Key Stakeholders, Environmental and Ecological Officers and the public 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 Poole & Christchurch Bays SMP covers the NFDC frontage between Hurst Spit and Chewton Bunny (the boundary between NFDC and Christchurch Borough Council) and the North Solent SMP covers the NFDC frontage between Hurst Spit and Redbridge.

#### 4. PROPOSED SMP POLICIES

4.1. Table 1 presents the proposed SMP policies to go forward to public consultation.

		Epoch 1 0-20yrs	Epoch 2 20-50yrs	Epoch 3 50-100 yrs
<b>Management Area Hurst Spit &amp; Milford-on-Sea - CBYA</b>				
CBY.A.1	Hurst Spit	HTL	HTL	HTL
CBY.A.2	Milford seafront	HTL	MR	MR
CBY.A.3	Rook Cliff	HTL	HTL	HTL
CBY.A.4	Cliff Road	MR	MR	MR
<b>Management Area Hordle Cliff to Chewton Bunny CBYB</b>				
CBY.B.1	Hordle Cliff to Barton	NAI	NAI	NAI
CBY.B.2	Barton-on-Sea - Marine Drive East	MR	MR	MR
CBY.B.3	Barton-on-Sea - Marine Drive & Marine Drive West	MR	MR	MR
CBY.B.4	Naish Cliff	MR	MR	MR
Key:- NAI – No Active Intervention    HTL – Hold The Line    MR – Managed Realignment				

**Table 1. Proposed SMP Policies**

4.2. **Hurst Spit & Milford-on-Sea (CBYA)** - The underlying intent of the plan for this area is to maintain the core values of Milford-on-Sea but in such a way as to provide continuity with the management of Hurst Spit and allowing some increased exposure of the designated geology, while maintaining control of the development of the shoreline. Management of the Spit would be controlled by holding the line at Hurst Castle and through maintaining the eastern end of the rock revetment and the groyne. Although the spit beyond the Castle would be allowed to develop naturally, the intent would be to recycle material from that section back on to the central section of the spit. As such this Hurst Spit section is defined as one policy unit.

At present there is increasing pressure on the main sea frontage to the town. The intent here would be to manage the frontage through control of erosion in front of the White House and through retaining a beach in front of the old sea wall. This would require drawing the natural alignment forward, potentially through the use of offshore structures. It is recognised that this approach may not meet funding requirements and that such an approach would, therefore, need to identify collaborative funding streams. As a default, should collaborative funding not be put in place, it may be necessary to consider realigning the defence line backwards to create the space to maintain a sustainable defence and area of beach.

The intent is to maintain defence through to Rook Cliff, but focussing defence at key locations. This creates an opportunity for a more sustainable defence and allows some further erosion of the cliff face. This would be in a controlled manner. To the west of Rook Cliff, through holding the line at the apex of the cliff and thereby protecting the closest point of the road, the intent would be to allow controlled erosion of the cliff line. The intent would be to maintain the coastal road at least over the next 50 years. Through monitoring erosion rates and sea level rise, decisions would be deferred as to the degree of further control that might be required and sustainable in managing this western frontage. At present it is considered that during the final epoch, there may be a need to realign the road and that over the final epoch there may be some loss of properties along this section of the frontage. The intent behind this is to allow development of a more substantial beach area, providing protection to the realigned road and properties further back from the cliff line.

<b>PREFERRED POLICY TO IMPLEMENT PLAN:</b>	
<b>From present day</b>	Maintain existing defence practice to Hurst Spit. To undertake detailed study of management in front of Milford seafront with the intent to develop more localised hard points and beach control structures rather than reliance on the existing linear defence approach. Continue recharge and recycling.
<b>Medium term</b>	Maintain existing defence as above. Construct a new offshore control in front of Milford sea front, subject to funding. To adapt use of open space to the west of Rook Cliff. Continue recharge and recycling
<b>Long term</b>	Maintain existing and new defence as above. Re-assess potential control along the frontage west of Rook Cliff with the intent for further managed realignment, subject to monitoring. Continue recharge and recycling

**4.3. Hordle Cliff to Chewton Bunny (CBYB)** - The intent of the plan is to develop a long term readjustment of defence approach to the area:-

- Protecting the eastern seafront development of Barton-on-Sea from coastal erosion (Marine Drive East), while maintaining the important open space of the cliff and coastal slope. Works would be undertaken to improve stability of the coastal slope but accepting further loss due to cliff crest recession, particularly over the steep crest cliff.
- Allow continued cliff crest recession to the western end of the town allowing adaption to loss of property and progressive loss of the holiday park (Naish Cliff). The intent would be to maintain a degree of control through adaption of existing defences and drainage so as to reduce the rate of loss of assets and to provide some transition between Naish Cliff and the defended section to the east. This might be supported by limited recharge to the frontage but the intent would not be to provide long term defence to Naish Cliff.
- To develop a transitional approach to management between the eastern frontage of Barton-on-Sea and Barton Cliffs to the east but with the intention not to extend defence further east but to allow natural erosion and recession of the coastline through to Hordle Cliff.

<b>PREFERRED POLICY TO IMPLEMENT PLAN:</b>	
<b>From present day</b>	Maintain defence to central and east Barton-on-Sea and to undertake minimal readjustment of defence further to the west. Maintain drainage. To investigate minimising defence east of Barton-on-Sea
<b>Medium term</b>	Maintain defence to east Barton-on-Sea and work with communities to develop a plan for loss of properties to the western end
<b>Long term</b>	Maintain defence to central and east Barton-on-Sea and work with communities to develop a plan for loss of properties to the western end

Table 2 details the number of properties potentially at risk from erosion under two scenarios, No Active Intervention (NAI) and With Present Management (WPM).

<b>Location</b>	<b>NAI 0-20 years</b>	<b>NAI 20-50 years</b>	<b>NAI 50-100 years</b>	<b>WPM 0-20 years</b>	<b>WPM 20-50 years</b>	<b>WPM 50-100 years</b>
Hurst Spit	0	0	0	0	0	0
Milford-on-Sea	0	40	484	0	0	164
Hordle Cliff	0	0	1	0	0	1
Barton-on-Sea	1	7	323	1	7	323
Naish	0	252	97	0	252	97

**Table 2. Properties at Risk**

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. 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. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1. The Poole & Christchurch Bays 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.

## **7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

7.1. None arising directly from this report

## **8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. None arising directly from this report

## **9. REVIEW PANEL COMMENTS**

9.1 To be tabled. (Environment Review Panel meets on 2 November)

## **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, if appropriate, 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.

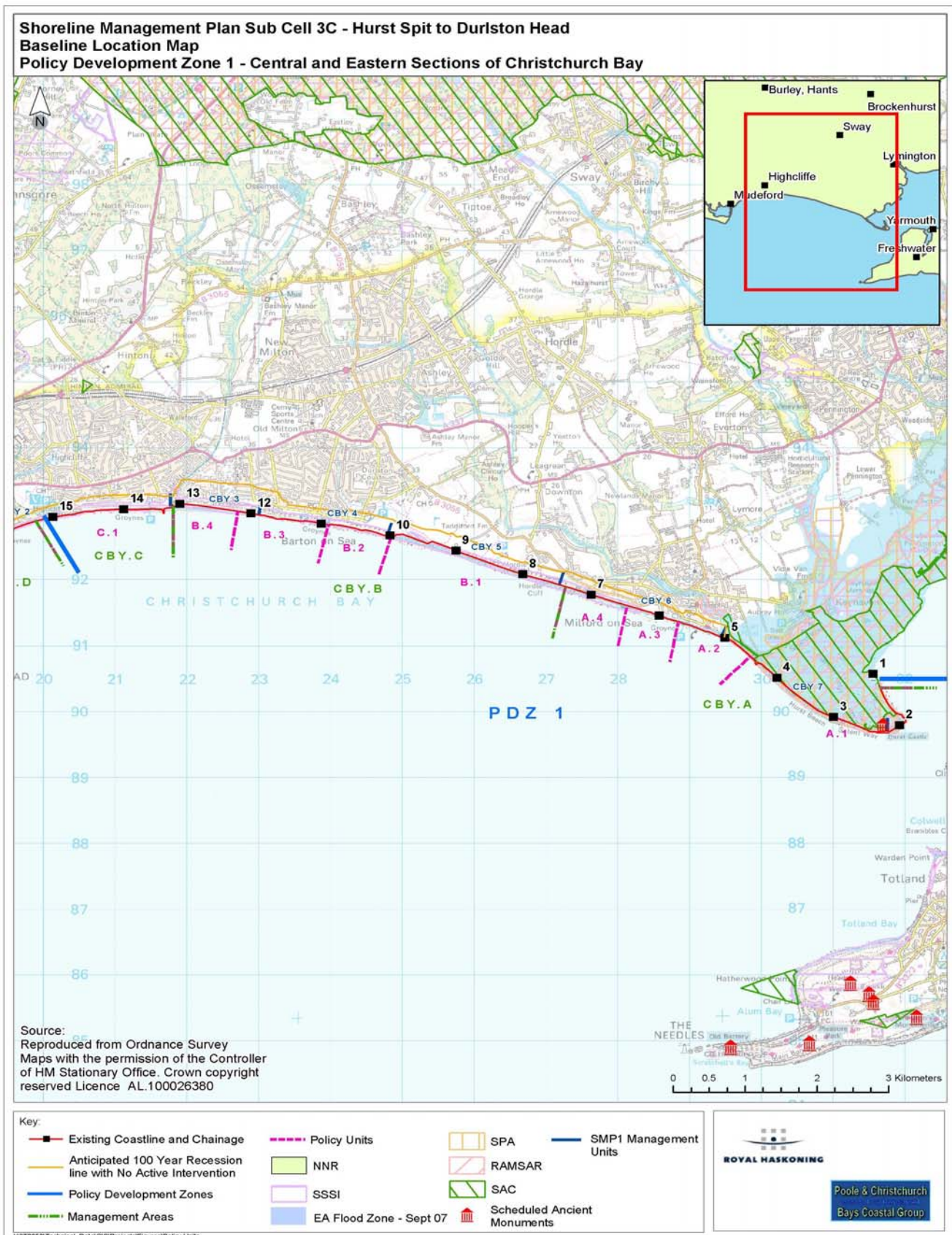
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### **Background Papers:**

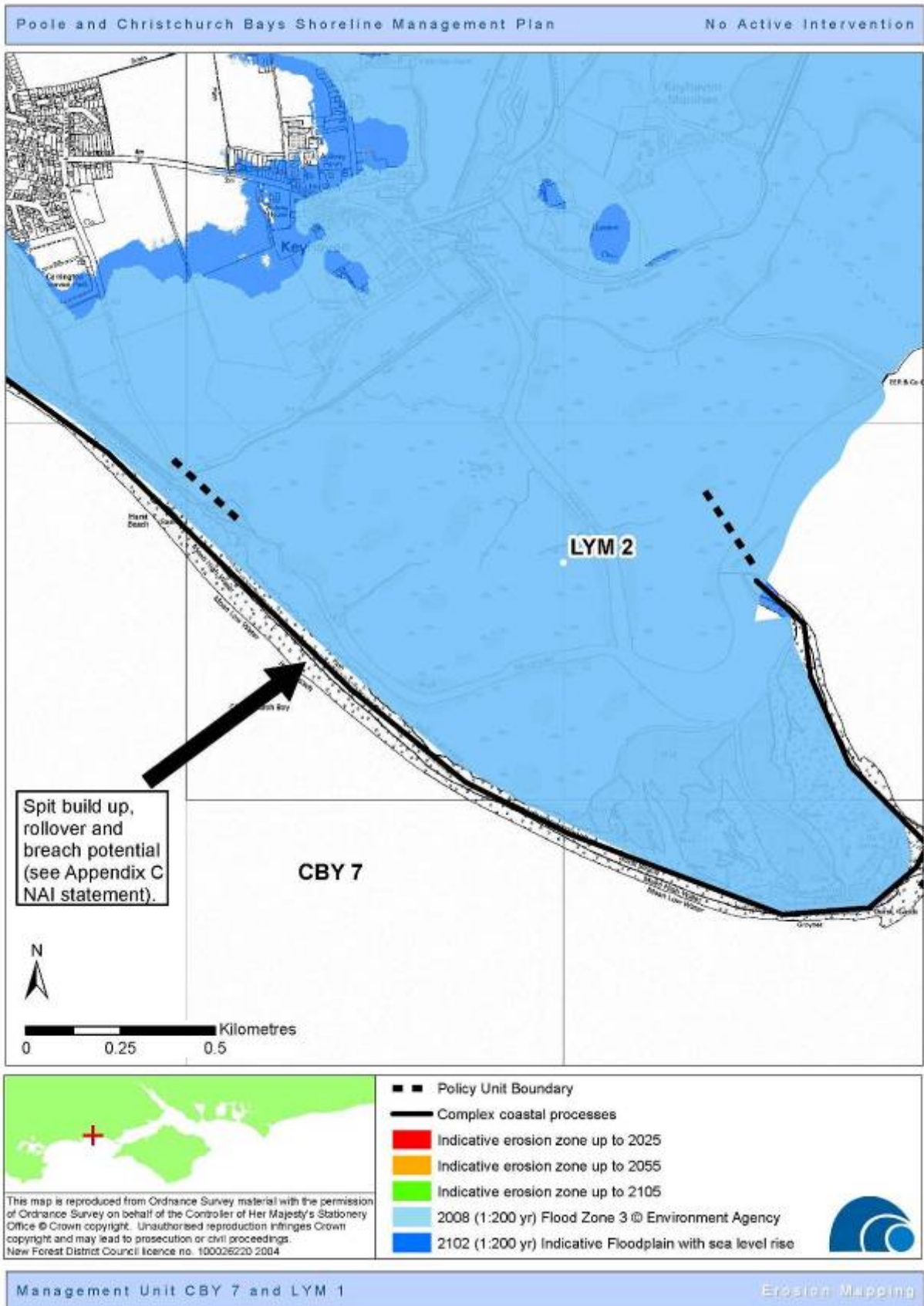
Published Documents

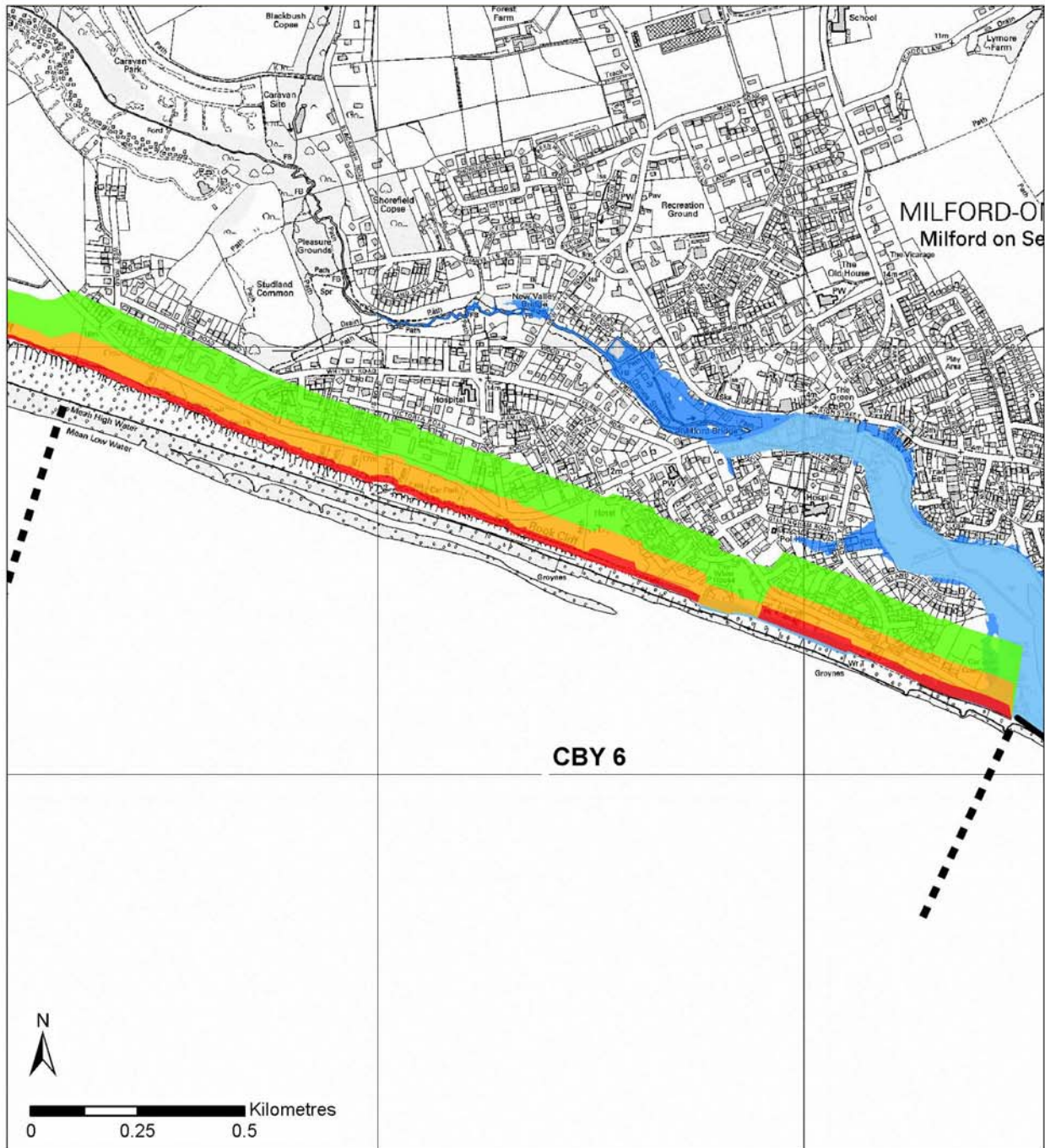
# Annex 1 – Policy Unit Boundaries






## Annex 2 – Erosion and Flood Risk Mapping No Active intervention

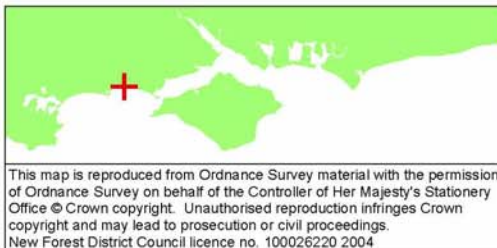
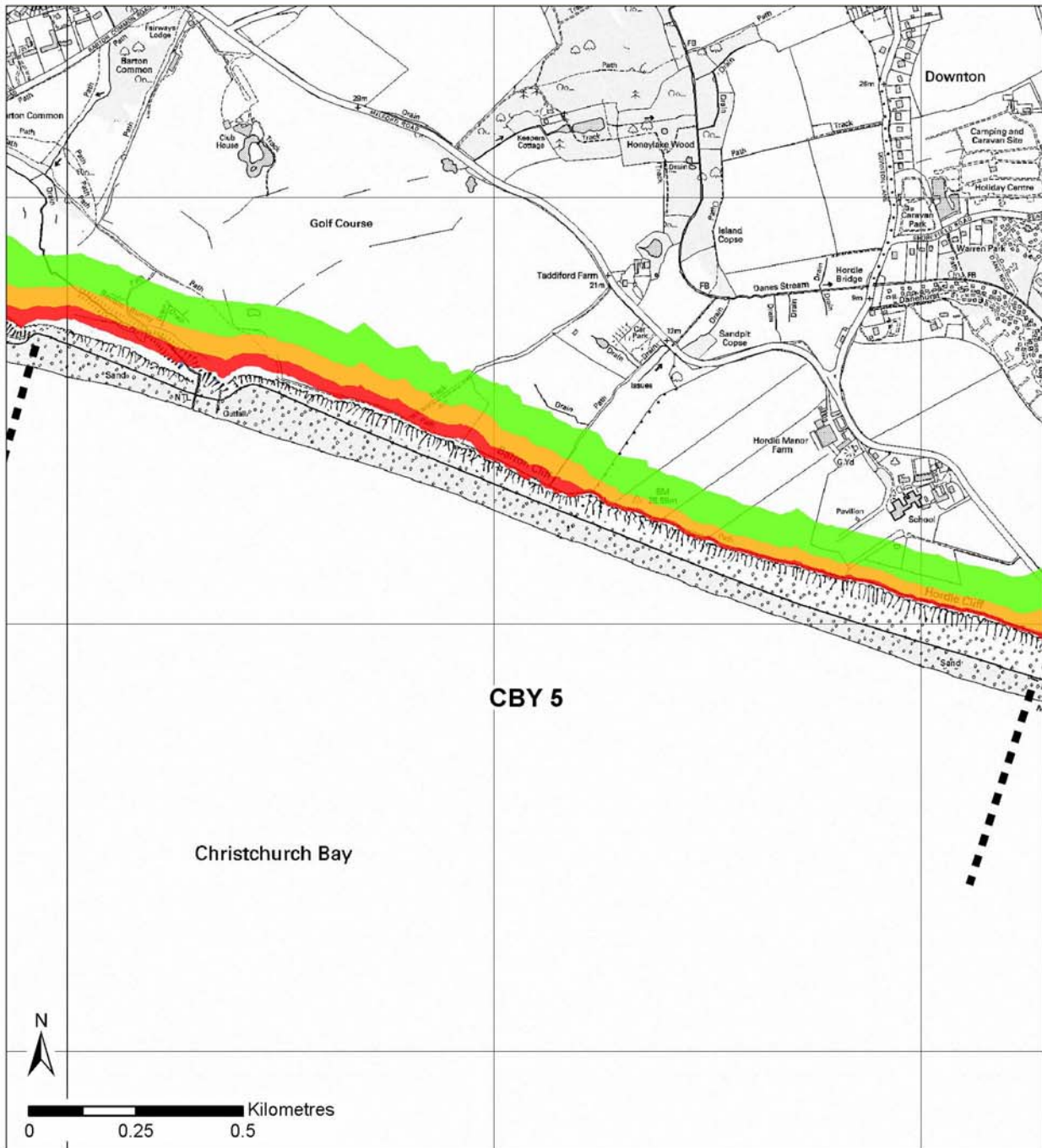




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- ■ ■ Policy Unit Boundary
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2055
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2105
- 2008 (1:200 yr) Flood Zone 3 © Environment Agency
- 2102 (1:200 yr) Indicative Floodplain with sea level rise

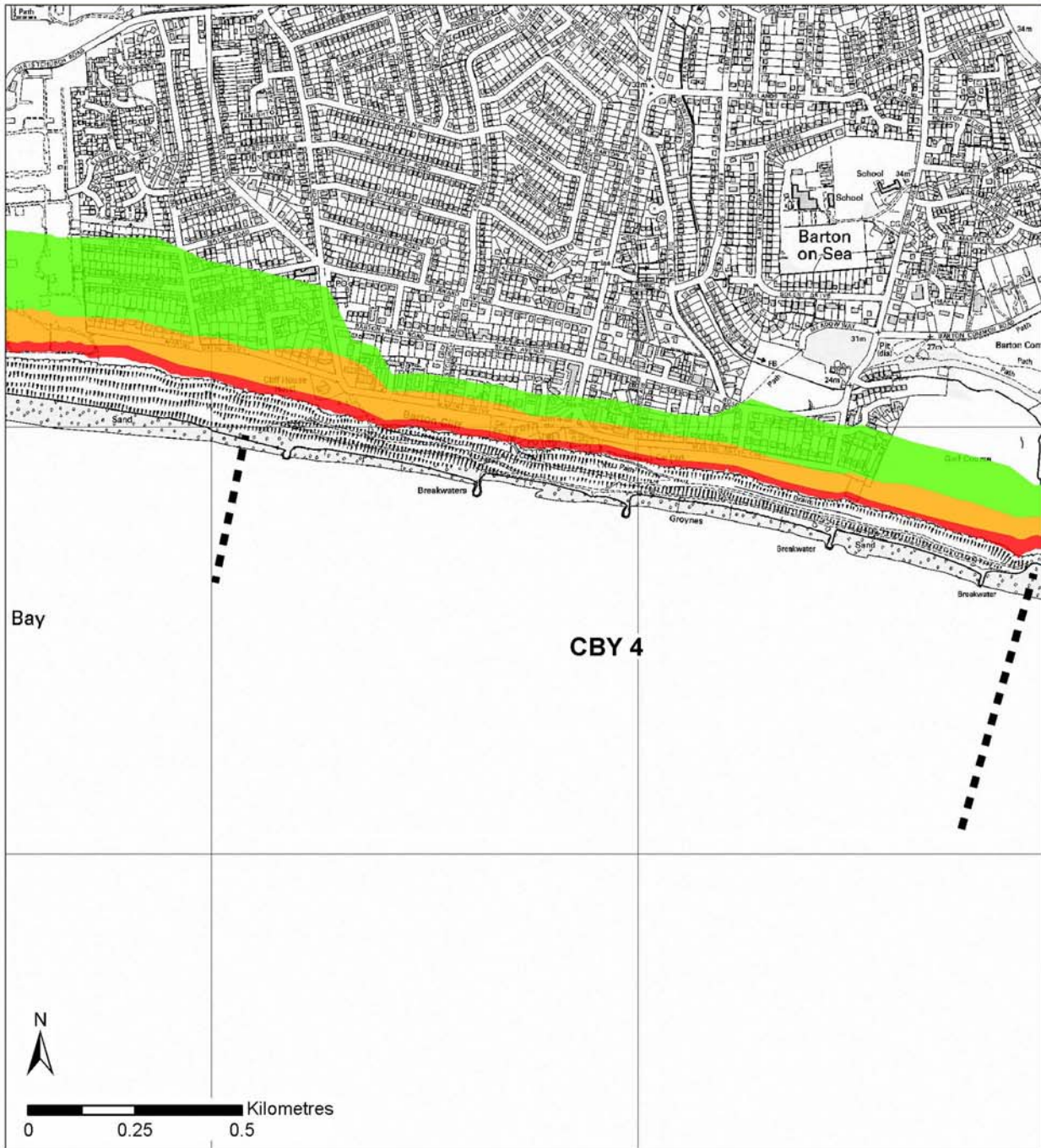




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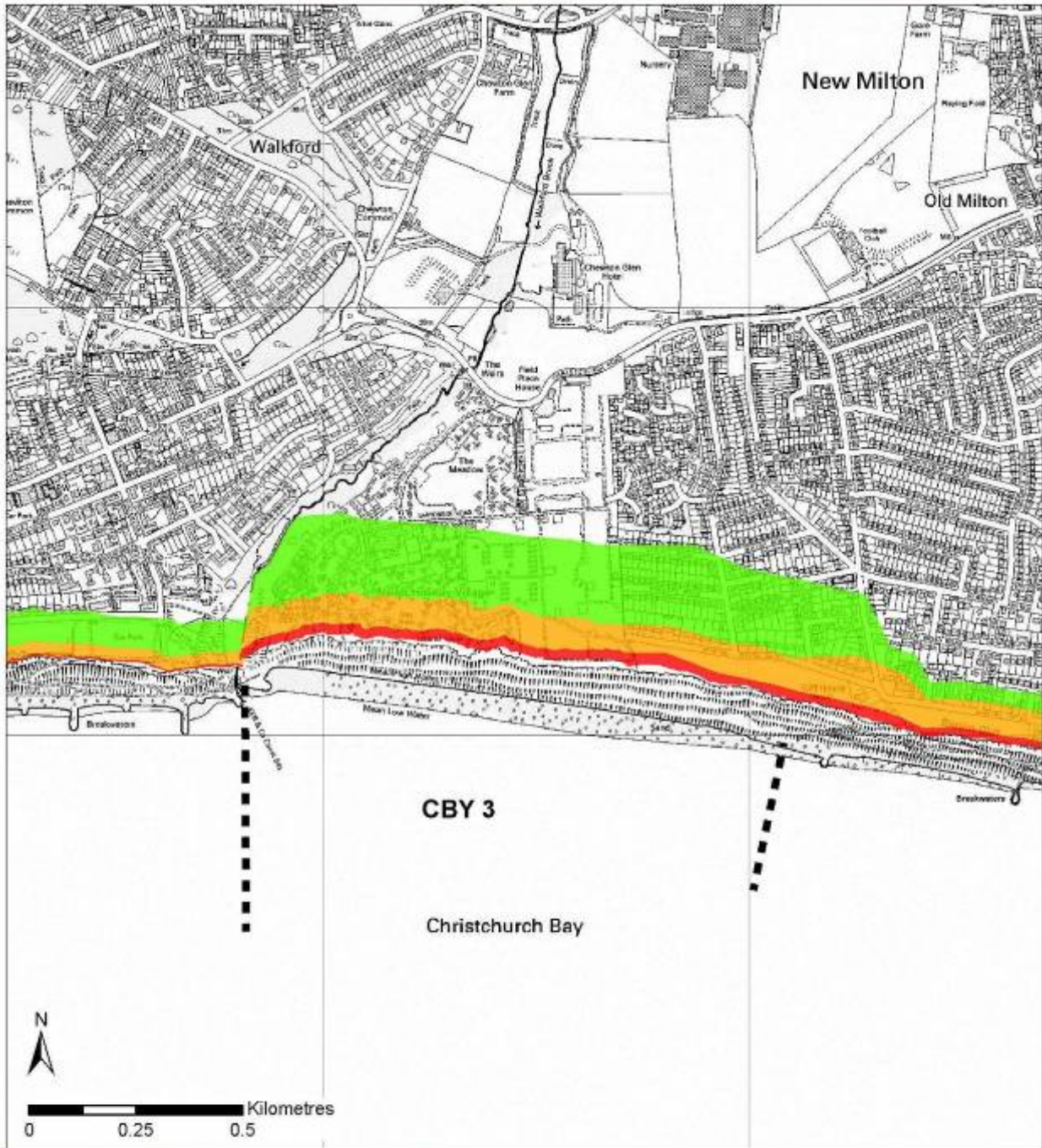


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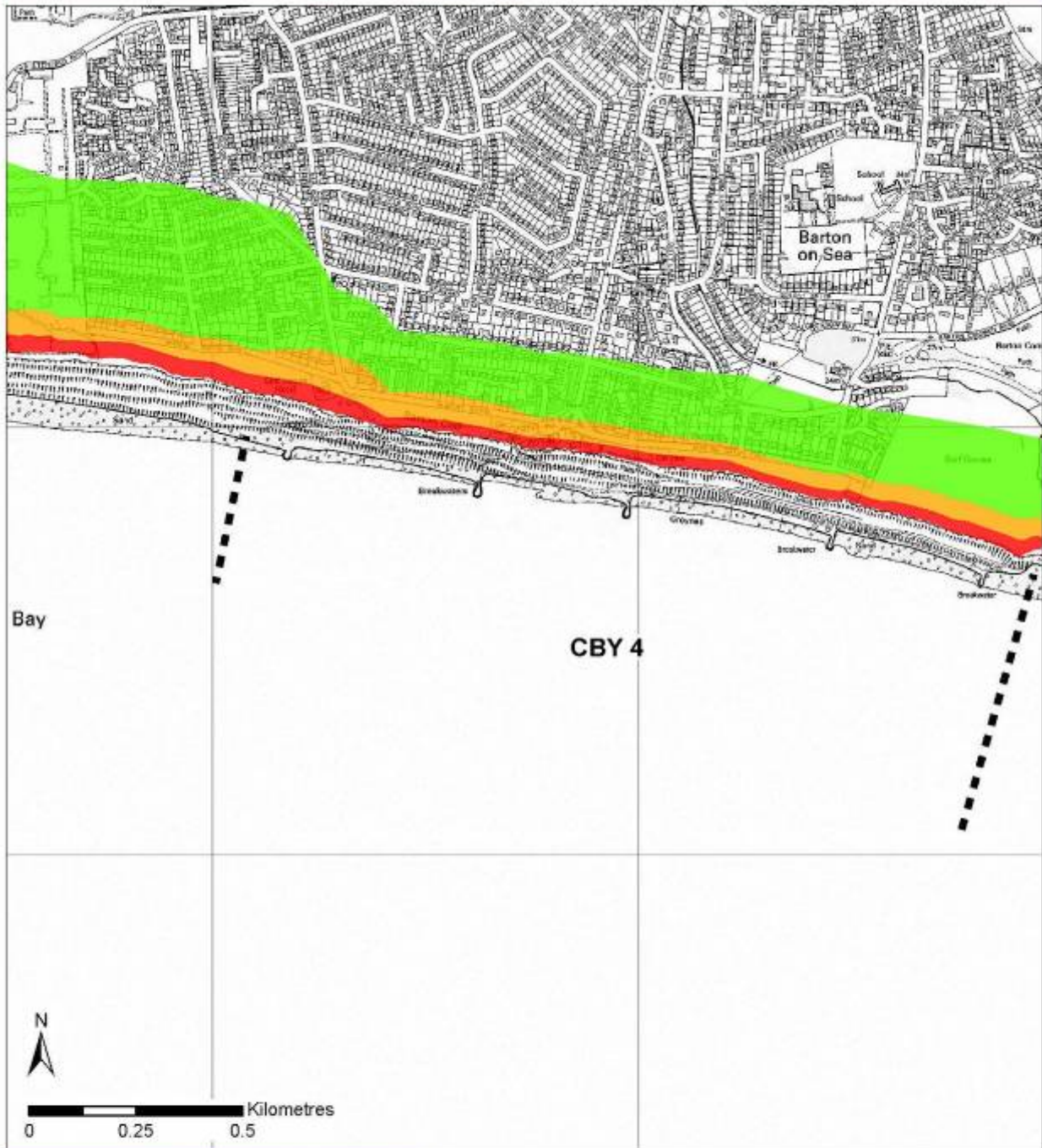


**Lower Erosion Rate**



	Policy Unit Boundary
	Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
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2008 (1:200 yr) Flood Zone 3 © Environment Agency	
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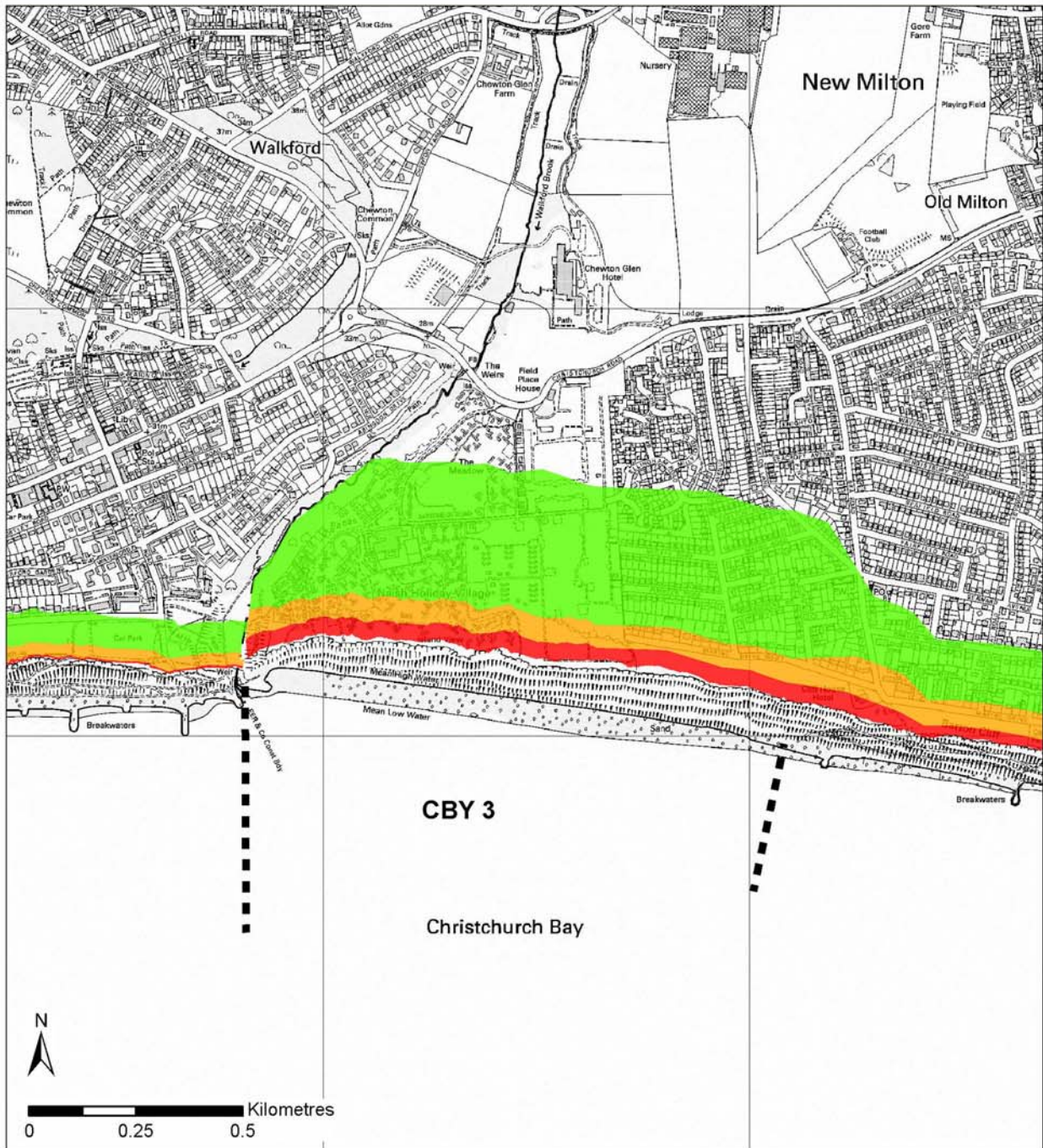
**Lower Erosion Rate**



	<p>■ ■ ■ Policy Unit Boundary</p>
	<p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2025</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2055</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2105</p> <p>■ 2008 (1:200 yr) Flood Zone 3 © Environment Agency</p> <p>■ 2102 (1:200 yr) Indicative Floodplain with sea level rise</p>

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### Upper Erosion Rate

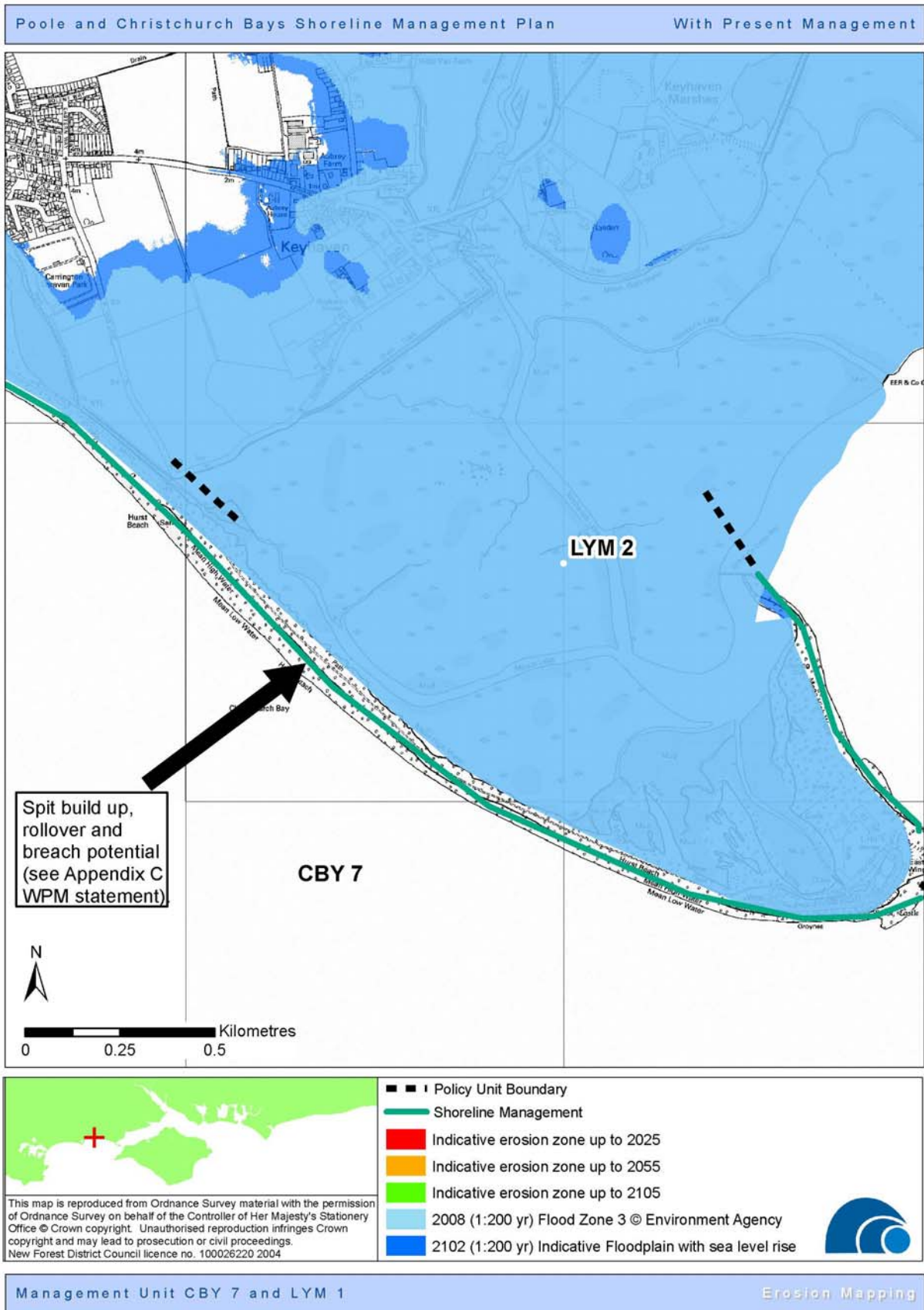


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2102 (1:200 yr) Indicative Floodplain with sea level rise	

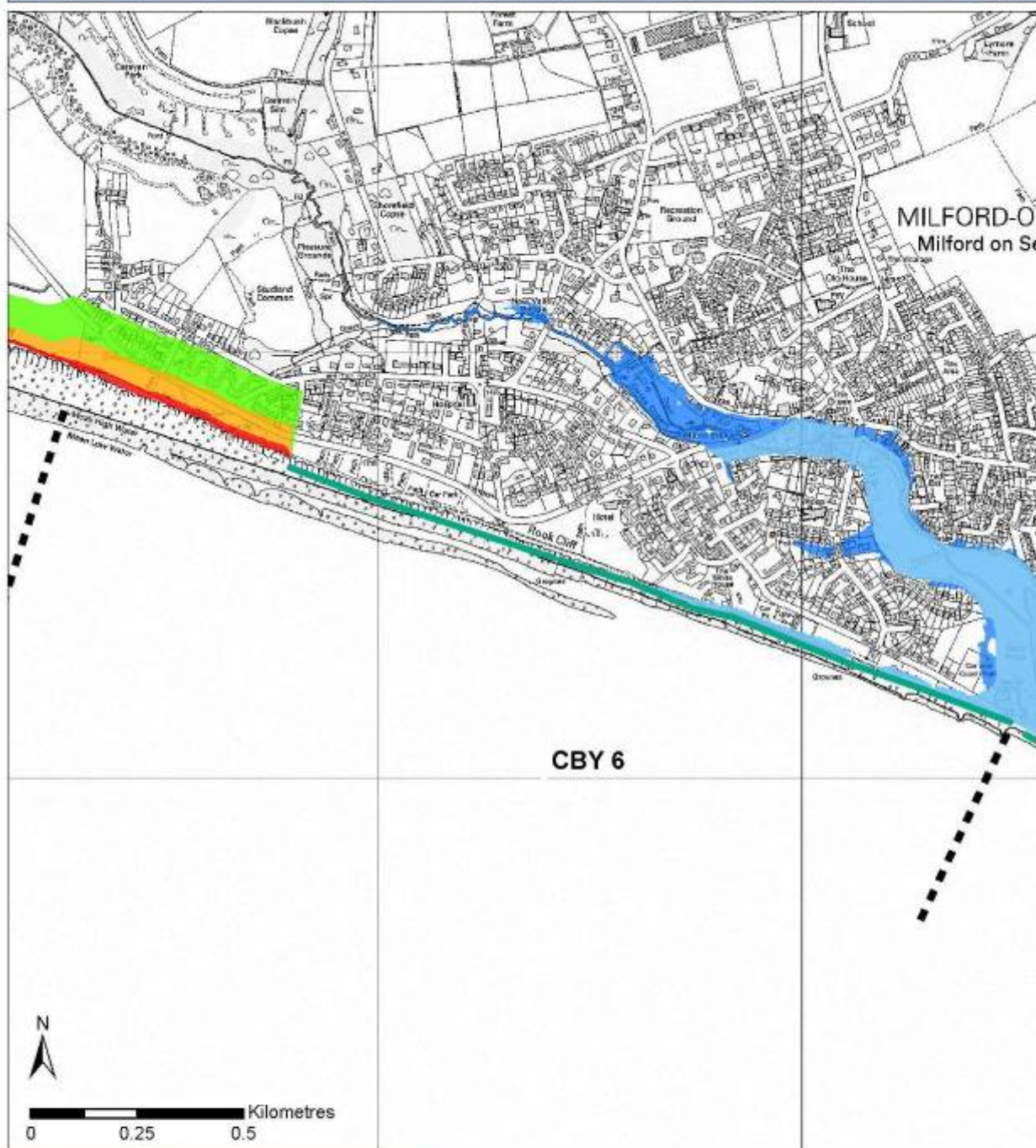
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Upper Erosion Rate

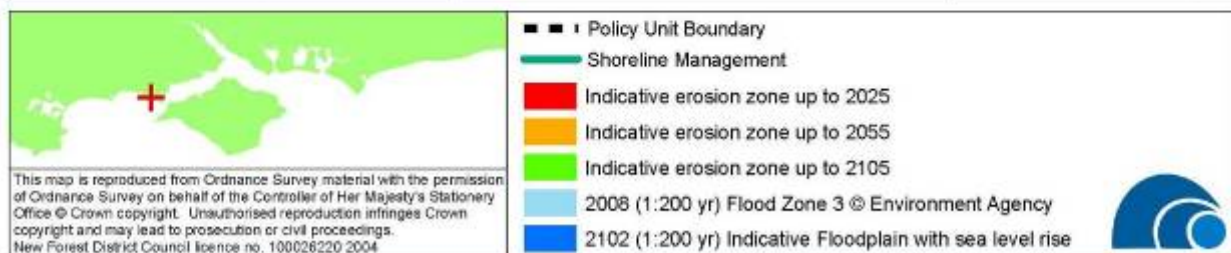
# With Present Management

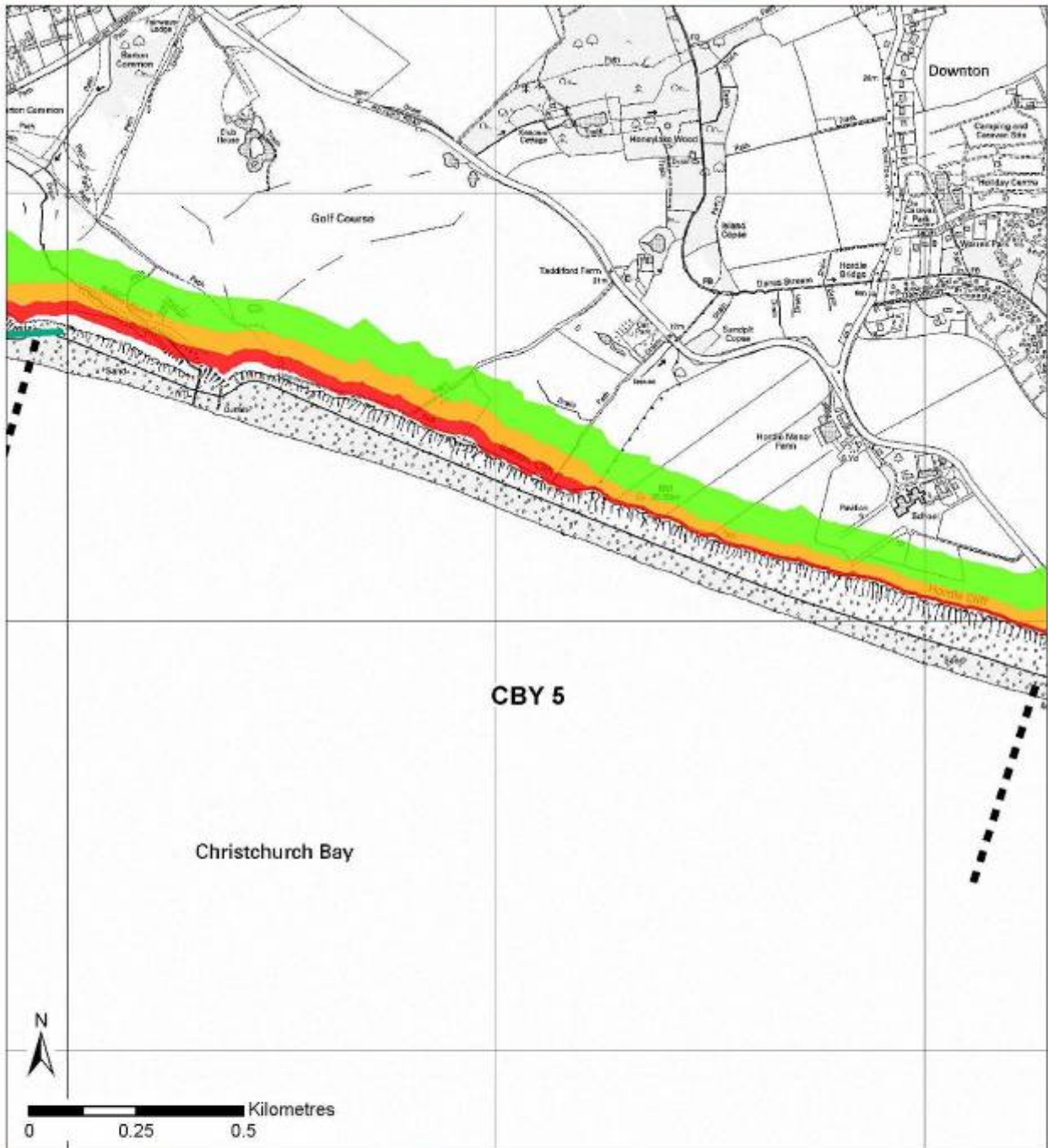







CBY 6

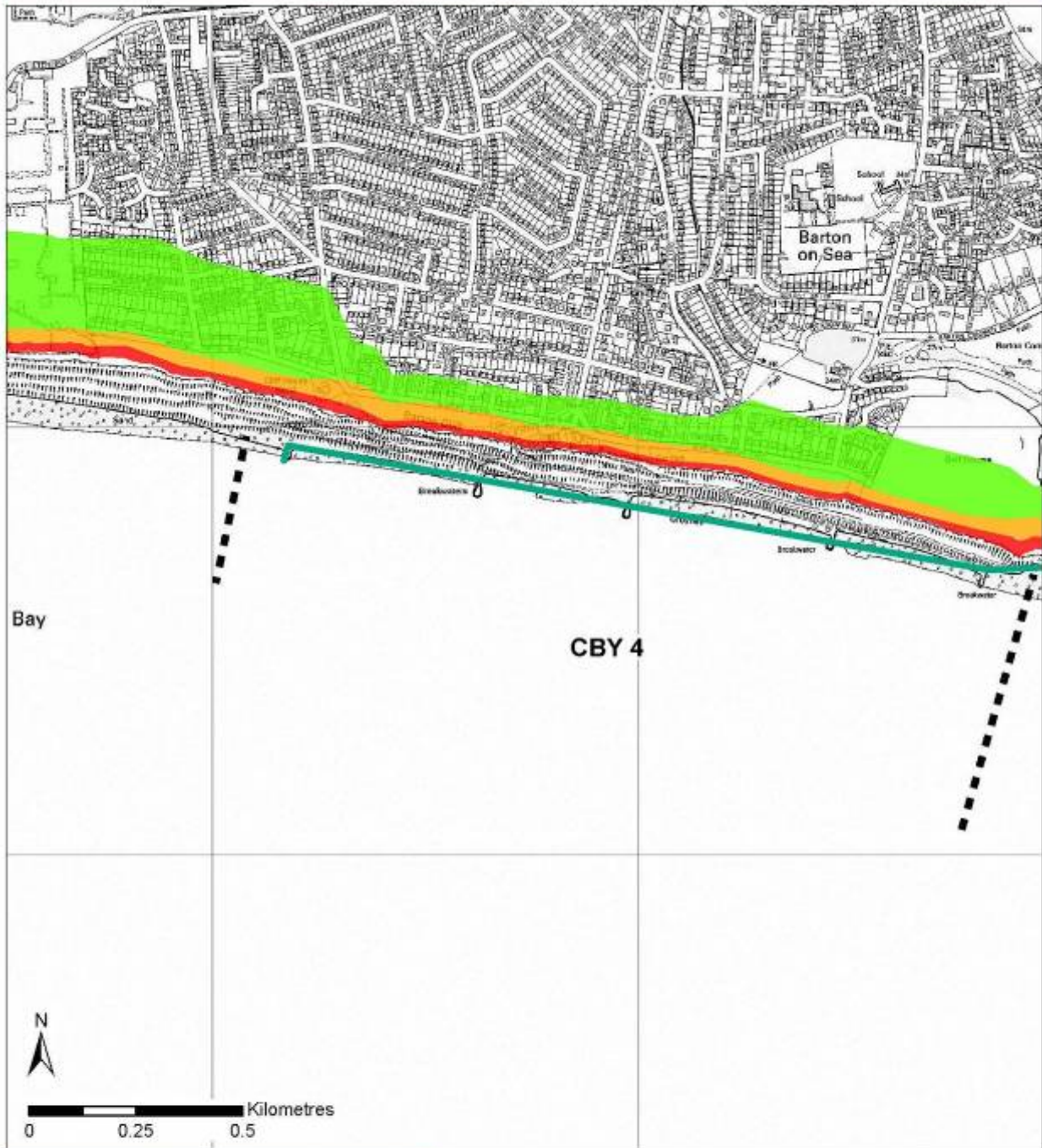




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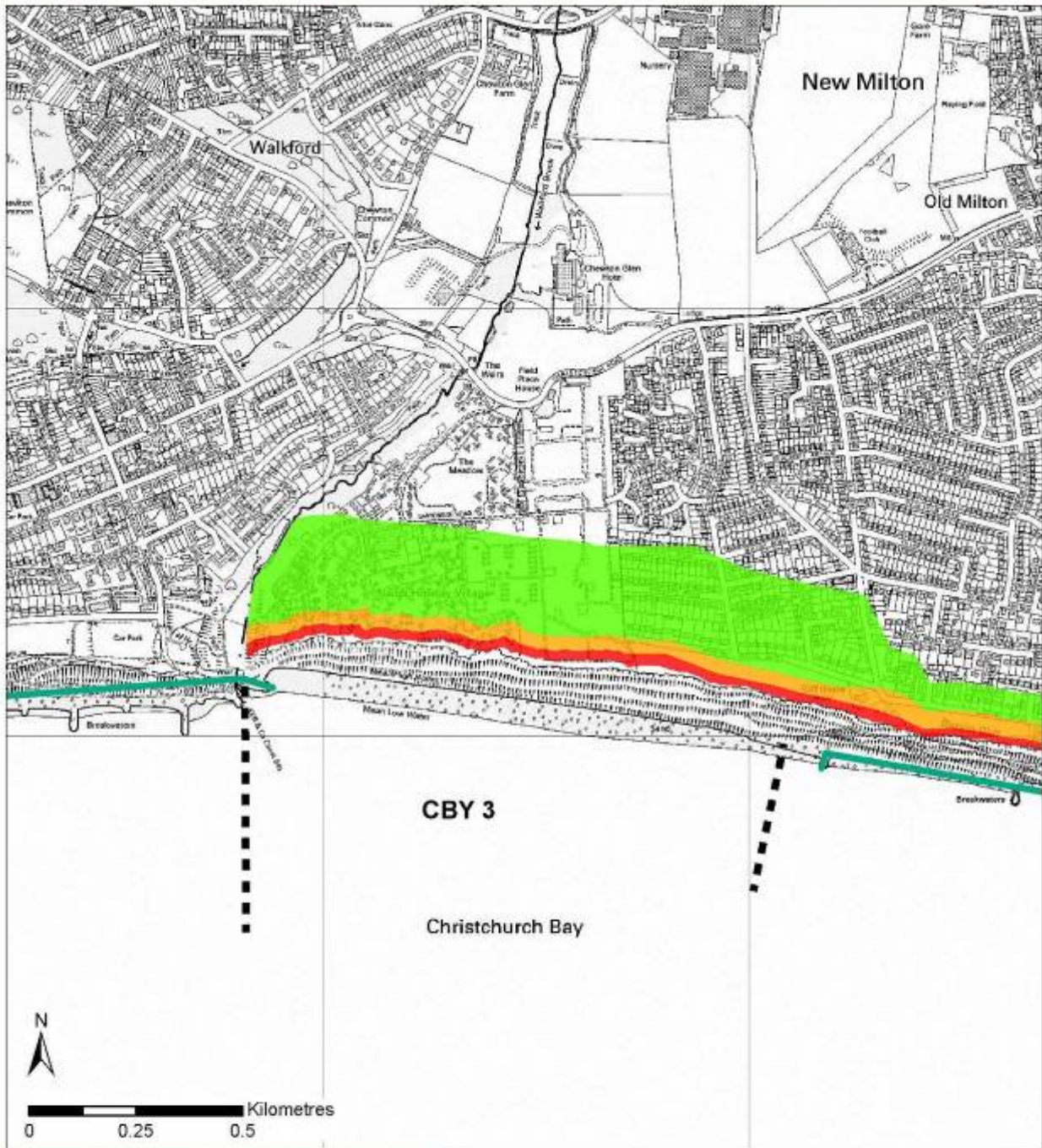




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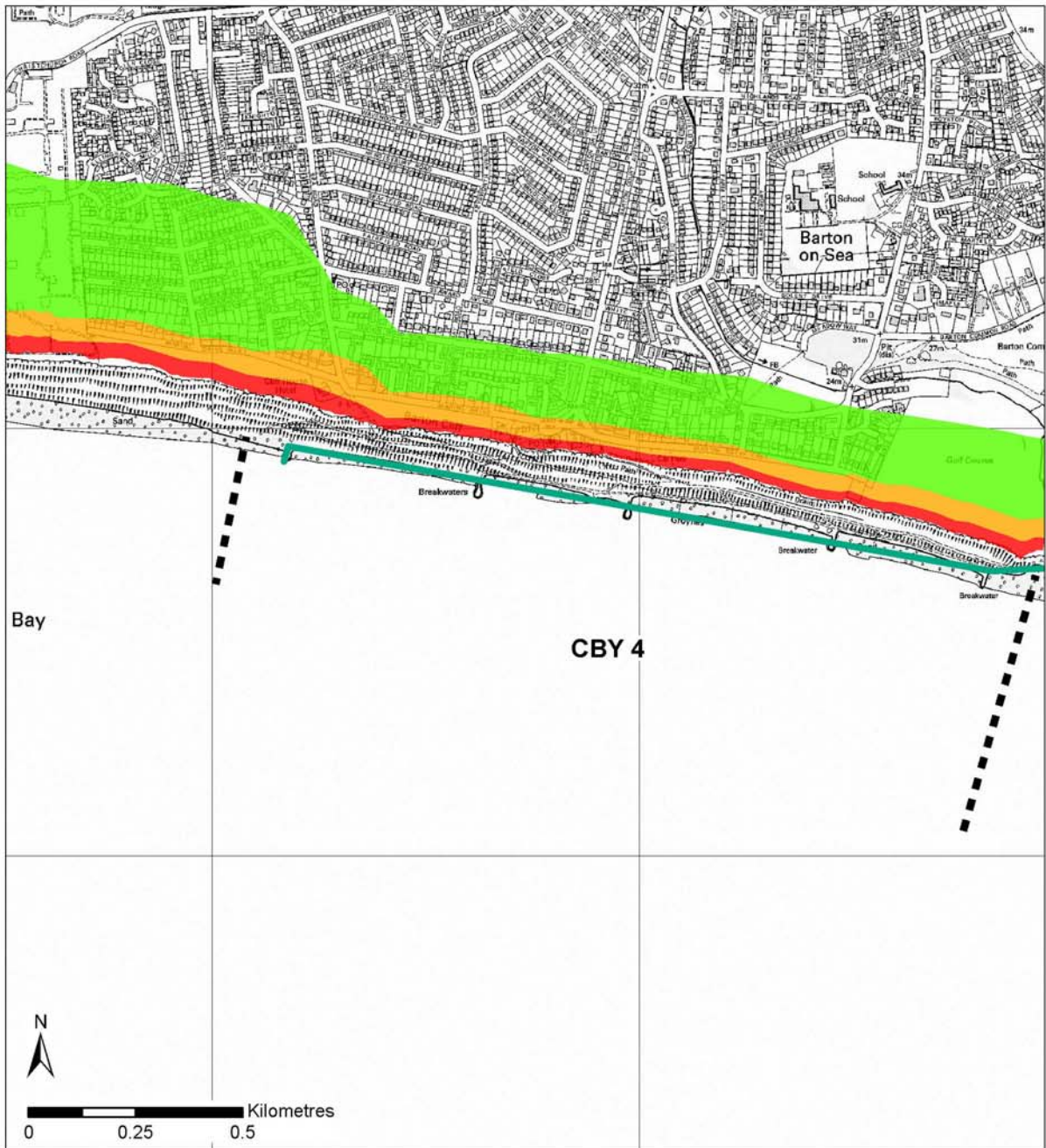
**Lower Erosion Rate**



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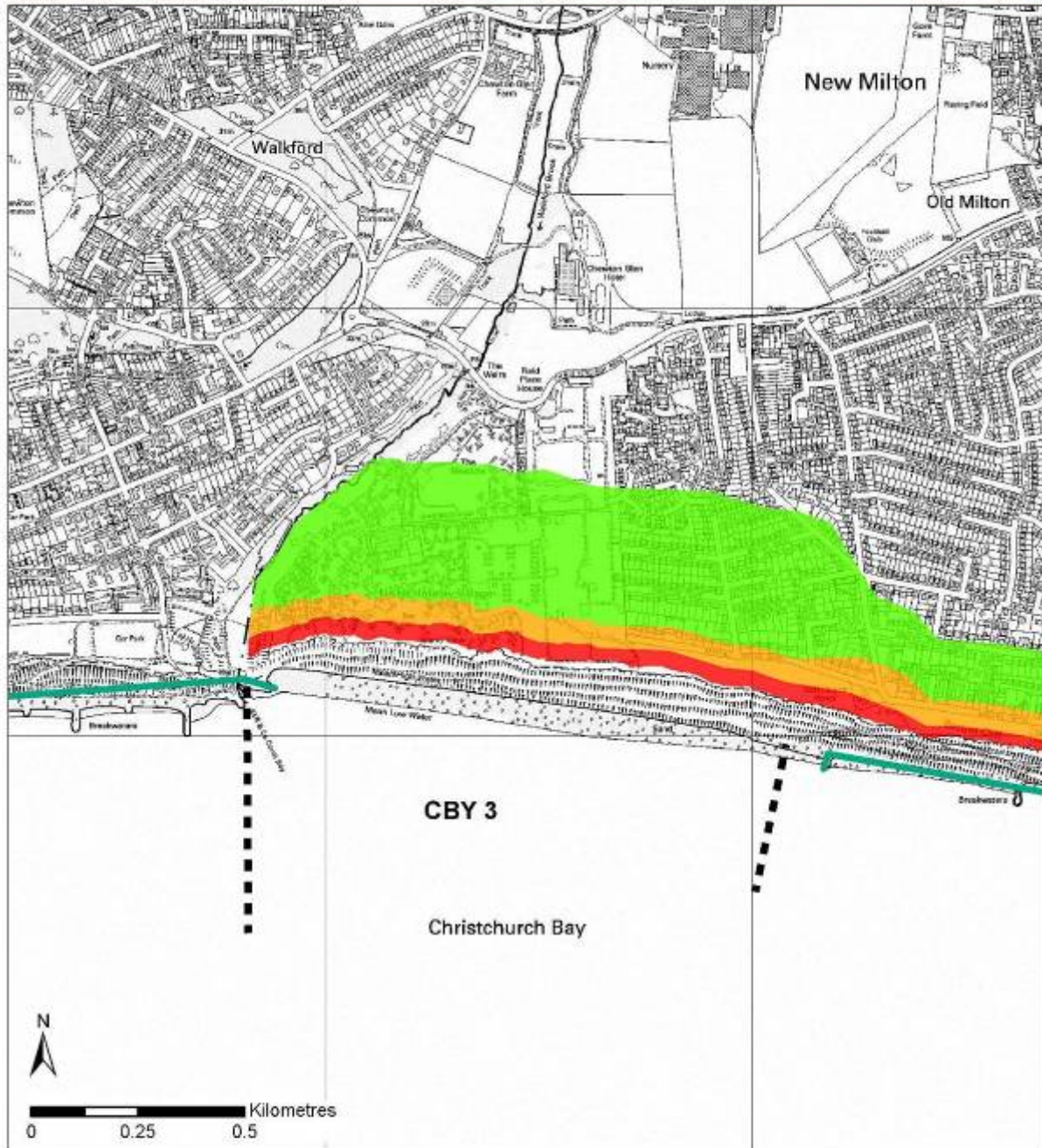
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**Lower Erosion Rate**



	<p>■ ■ ■ Policy Unit Boundary</p> <p>— Shoreline Management</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2025</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2055</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2105</p> <p>■ 2008 (1:200 yr) Flood Zone 3 © Environment Agency</p> <p>■ 2102 (1:200 yr) Indicative Floodplain with sea level rise</p>	
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### Upper Erosion Rate



	<p>■   Policy Unit Boundary</p> <p>— Shoreline Management</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2025</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2055</p> <p>■ Indicative erosion zone up to 2105</p> <p>■ 2008 (1:200 yr) Flood Zone 3 @ Environment Agency</p> <p>■ 2102 (1:200 yr) Indicative Floodplain with sea level rise</p>	
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### Upper Erosion Rate

# Annex 3 Policy Summary

