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Date: *20 November 2009*

NOTIFICATION OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION(S)

On 20 November 2009, Cllr E J Heron, the Environment Portfolio Holder, made the following decision. Any member of the Council, who is not a Portfolio Holder, who considers that this decision should be reviewed should give notice to the Monitoring Officer (Grainne O'Rourke) (in writing or by e-mail) to be received **ON OR BY 5.15 P.M. ON FRIDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2009.**

Details of the documents the Portfolio Holder considered are attached.

DECISION:

To publish the draft North Solent Shoreline Management Plan for public consultation.

REASON(S):

As detailed in the report.

ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

As detailed in the Report

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED:

None

For Further Information Please Contact:

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ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

DRAFT NORTH SOLENT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. ITEM FOR DECISION

- 1.1 Revisions to policies and Policy Unit boundaries in the draft North Solent Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) to be proposed at public consultation.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As stated in the reports to the Environment Review Panel (17 June 2009) and Cabinet (6 July 2009), Officers need to report to Elected Members if the final proposed policies are different to those proposed in first draft, and prior to public consultation.
- 2.2 The Policy Units between Calshot and Sowley have been redefined, and the proposed policies amended following economic appraisal and environmental assessments, and changes in advice and guidance from different organisations.
- 2.3 The policies between Redbridge and Calshot Spit, and Sowley to Hurst Spit have not been affected and remain the same as initially proposed.
- 2.4 The Cabinet at their meeting on 6 July agreed 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. However, in view of the changes that have arisen, the Portfolio Holder is minded to make a formal decision to ensure the widest consultation.

3. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

- 3.1 Consultation and discussions have been undertaken with the Environment Agency, Natural England, the other Local Authority and County Council partners in the project with regard to the revisions. A summary of the revisions and rationale behind the revisions were presented to the Environment Review Panel meeting (12 November 2009) and are attached as appendix 1 to this report.
#
- 3.2 The public consultation period will run from 18 January – 9 April 2010.

4. ENVIRONMENT REVIEW PANEL COMMENTS

The Environment Review Panel at their meeting on 12 November considered the revisions to the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan in detail as set out in Report B to them. After discussion they supported the proposed revised Policy Unit Boundaries and policies and agreed that the SMP should now proceed to public consultation.

ENVIRONMENT REVIEW PANEL

NORTH SOLENT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To inform Elected Members of the revisions to the Policy Unit boundaries and draft proposed policies for the coastal frontage between Calshot and Sowley to be put forward to public consultation.
- 1.2. To recommend Elected Members that these revisions be approved in principle to proceed to consultation.
- 1.3. To inform Elected Members that, following the economic appraisal and environmental assessments, and changes in advice and guidance, the Draft SMP will be presented for public consultation in January 2010, if these revisions are approved.

2. REVISIONS TO DRAFT PROPOSED SMP POLICIES AND POLICY UNIT BOUNDARIES

- 2.1. Figure 1 presents the revised 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.
- 2.2. The frontages between Calshot Spit and Inchmery (new Policy unit Ref 5C16) are privately owned by individuals, large estates or leased by Hampshire County Council. The shoreline between Cadland and Inchmery, including the Lepe Country Park, is defended by a mixture of defences, the maintenance of which is managed and funded by the land owners. Hampshire County Council is already adapting to coastal change at the Country Park, by relocating facilities and amenities. Coastal processes are low energy but are expected to become more significant due to sea level rise and are important for allowing adaptation of environmental features. Erosion and flood risk to properties is considered low. The number and distribution of properties and other assets do not make publicly funded defences economically viable; therefore no public funding would be available to maintain or improve existing defences. Despite an NAI policy on these frontages, the rights of private owners to continue to maintain or have the option to maintain their defences remain. The SMP's Action Plan will identify the need for a Landowner Management Plan.
- 2.3. The frontage between Inchmery and Salternshill, which includes the majority of the tidal Beaulieu River (new Policy unit Ref 5C17) is privately owned by individuals and large estates. The shoreline is undefended. Natural estuary processes will continue to evolve, adapting to coastal change and sea level rise. Landscape quality will be retained and enhanced if remained undefended. The number and distribution of properties and other assets do not make publicly funded defences economically viable. However, in the medium to long-term flood risk to properties will increase, and although undefended at present, it may be appropriate to implement property level flood defences. Despite an NAI policy on these frontages, the rights of private owners to continue to maintain or have the option to maintain their defences remain. The SMP's Action Plan will identify the need for a Landowner Management Plan.

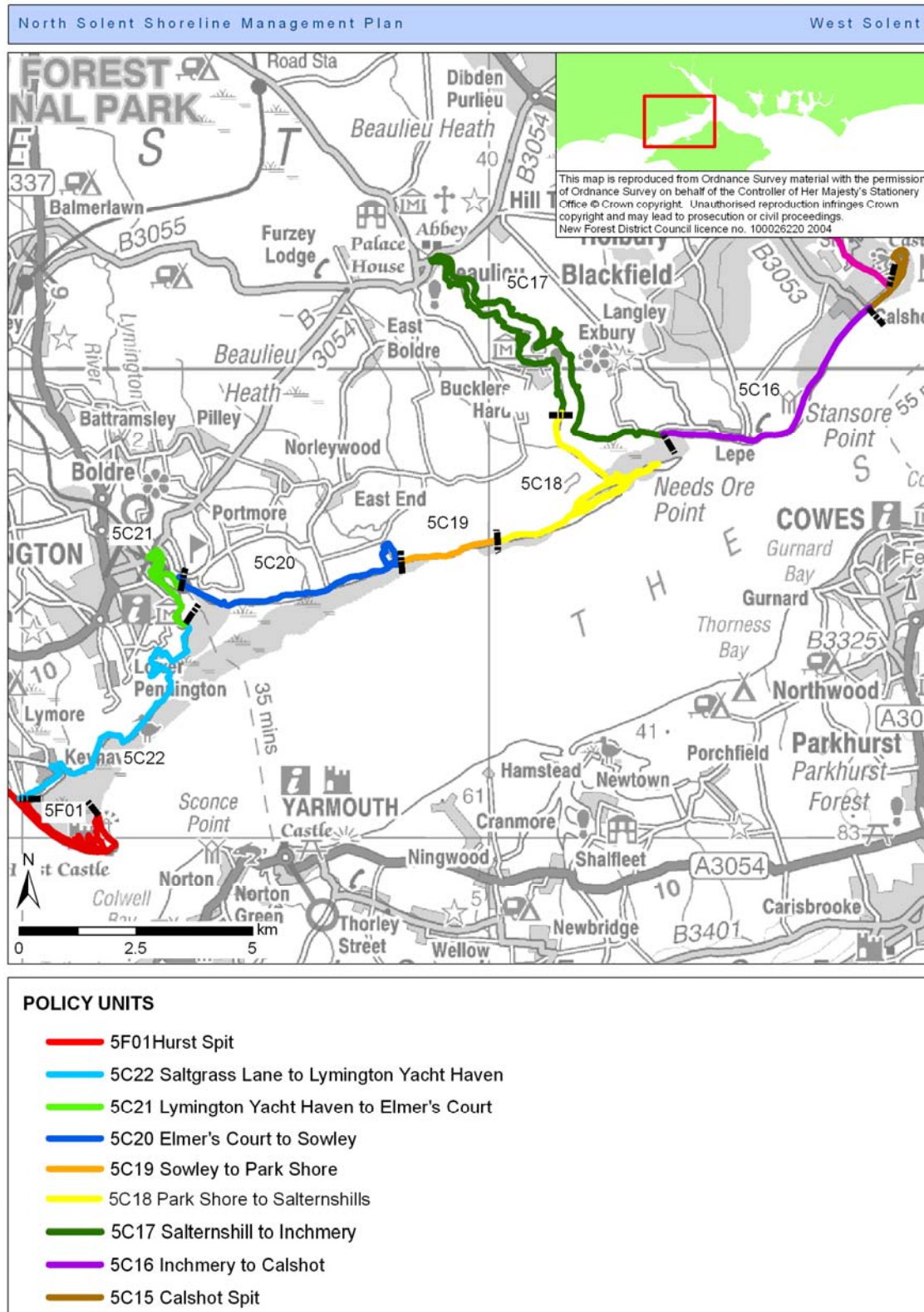
- 2.4. The frontage between Salternshill and Park Shore (new Policy unit Ref 5C18) is privately owned. The rights of private owners to continue to maintain or have the option to maintain their defences remain. The existing management of defences will need to be different in future due to increasing flood risk and coastal change. Studies, addressing economic, environmental and flood storage management issues of the area will be required, to determine type, location and timing of realigning defences. There may be opportunities to landowners to incorporate inter-tidal habitat creation with realignment of defences, although this will require coastal grazing marsh to be recreated elsewhere. Realignment of defences will need to be considered with adjacent policies to manage flood risk to residential properties along Park Shore. The SMP's Action Plan will identify the need for a Landowner Management Plan.
- 2.5. The frontage between Park Shore and Sowley (new Policy unit Ref 5C19) contains residential properties and private land, although they are situated within the flood risk area extending westward from Beaulieu River. The existing defences are privately owned and maintained. In the longer-term, there may be a possible requirement for secondary defences on the eastern end of this frontage to manage flood risk, with realignment of defences to be considered in conjunction with adjacent policies. Public funding may be available for maintenance of defences, but may also be considered affordable by private owners. The rights of private owners to continue to maintain or have the option to maintain their defences remain. The SMP's Action Plan will identify the need for a Landowner Management Plan.
- 2.6. Table 1 summarises the policies (including the revised policies) for the shoreline within NFDC, to be proposed for public consultation.

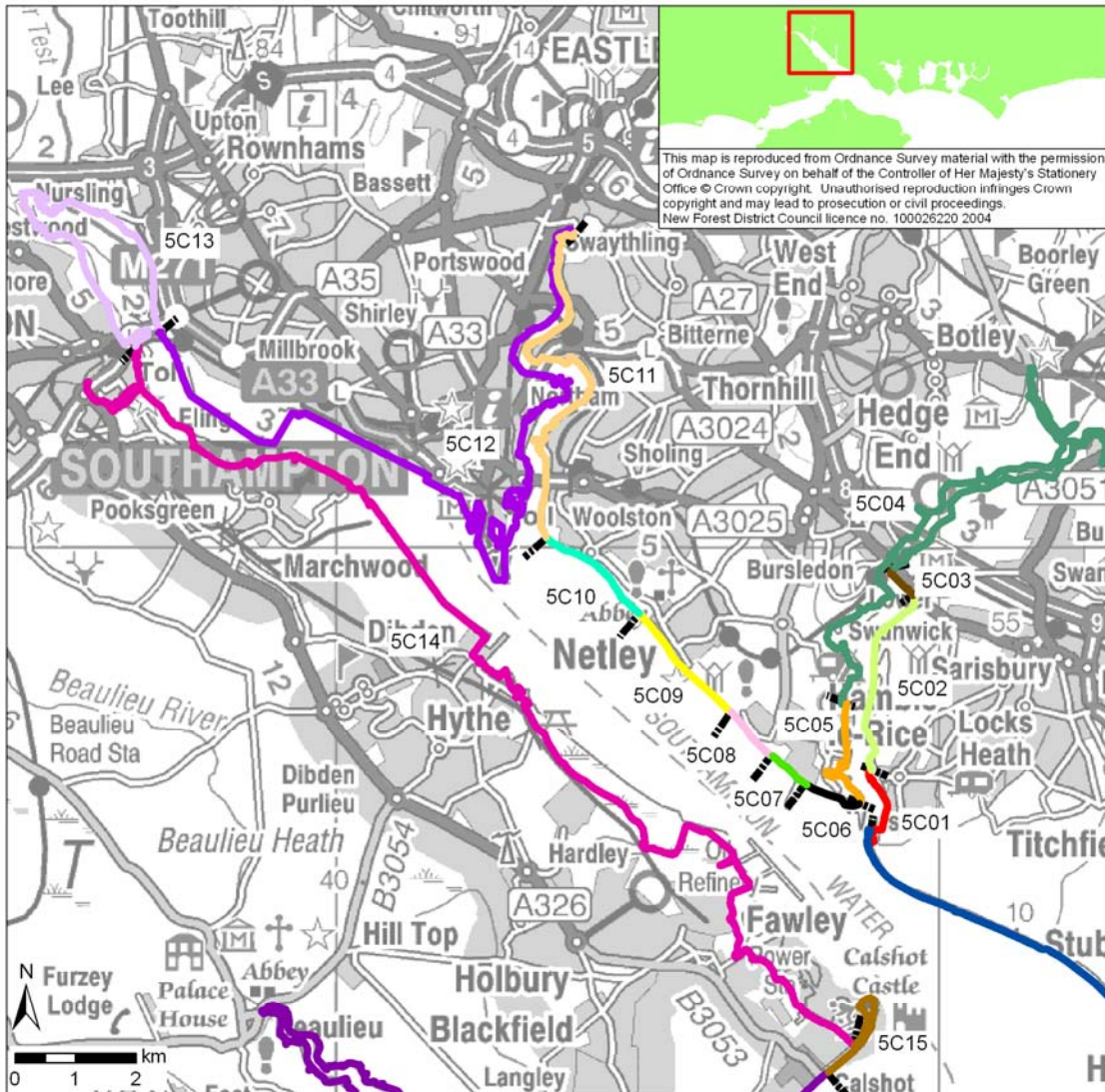
Table 1. Proposed draft SMP Policies October 2009

Policy Unit			Epoch 1 0-20yrs	Epoch 2 20-50yrs	Epoch 3 50-100 yrs
5C14	Redbridge	Calshot Spit	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	Hold the Line
5C15	Calshot Spit	Calshot Spit	Hold the Line	Hold the Line	No Active Intervention
5C16	Hillhead, Calshot	Inchmery	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention
5C17	Inchmery	Salternshill (Beaulieu River)	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention
5C18	Salternshill	Park Shore	Hold the Line	Hold the Line*	Managed Realignment
5C19	Park Shore	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

* = potential for realignment of defences, but requires further studies to confirm the future management of the site. This is likely to be a range of options from HTL to Managed Realignment. This is likely to result in doing something different, to recognise coastal change. The study will address the economic, environmental and social implications and flood management issues of the site. To be reflected in the implementation plan of strategy and Action plan of the SMP.

Figure 1. Revised draft proposed Policy Unit boundaries





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

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. 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.
- 3.2. 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.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. 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.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. None arising directly from this report.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. None arising directly from this report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1. That Elected Members be informed of the revisions to Policy Unit boundaries and policies for the coastal frontage between Calshot and Sowley, and these revisions be approved in principle to proceed to consultation.
- 7.2. That Elected Members be informed that, following the economic appraisal and environmental assessments, and changes in advice and guidance, the Draft SMP will be presented for public consultation in January 2010, if these revisions are approved.

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