

Seagrove Bay



## The four policies choices

There are four generic policies that can be considered within the Shoreline Management Plan. These are defined by the Defra Shoreline Management Plan guidance of March 2006 and are as follows:

- Hold the line
- Advance the line
- Managed realignment
- No active intervention

These policies refer to the 'line' of current coastal defence structures or the current shoreline. One of these four policies must be assigned to three different time periods or epochs: 0 to 20 years, 20 to 50 years and 50 to 100 years. The policies can change between each time period to support the long term management intent. Although the policies are the preferred options for managing the coast, their implementation is dependent on funding being available.

### *Hold the line*

Defences are maintained and upgraded or replaced in their current position where funding permits. Renewed defences refers to the construction of new, more robust defences. There may be some residual risk in holding the line as foreshore steepening and narrowing beaches could make this policy unsustainable sooner than anticipated.

The aim of this is to retain the existing character and form of the coast with minimal disruption, while maintaining all existing assets.

### *Advance the line*

New defences are built seaward of existing defences, involving a significant reclamation of land in the process.

### *Managed realignment*

This policy allows realignment (forwards or backwards) of the shoreline with management to control or limit the movement. Any increase of flood risk will also be managed. Although this policy typically applies to low-lying areas at risk of flooding it can equally apply to cliffed areas, where management intervention slows cliff recession for a period of time.

### *No active intervention*

This is a policy decision not to invest in providing or maintaining any defences. Where there are presently no defences, this policy means that the shoreline will continue to evolve naturally.

This policy can also apply to areas that are currently defended but may not be defended in the future. These areas will evolve more naturally, which may include an increased risk of flooding or coastal erosion.

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