

## 5 Policy statements

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section contains a series of statements and maps presenting the policy, and the implications for individual locations. These are to provide local detail to support the SMP-wide Plan presented in Section 4, and consider locally-specific issues and objectives. Consequently, these statements must be read in conjunction with those and in the context of the wider-scale issues and policy implications as reported therein.

### 5.2 CONTENT

Each Policy Statement contains the following:

**Location reference** This provides the general name used for reference to each policy unit and a number identifier which is sequential along the shoreline from north to south.

**Summary of the Plan recommendations and justification** This is a statement summarising the Plan and describing the rationale behind it. These focus upon the long-term Plan but also note any different short-term requirements.

**Policies to implement the Plan** This describes the policies and activities that will be undertaken in the short, medium, and long-term to implement the Plan. In this respect, ‘from present day’ is broadly representative of the next 20 years, “Medium-term” 20 to 50 years, and “Long-term” 50 to 100 plus years. These timescales should not be taken as definitive, however, but should instead be considered as phases in the management of a location.

**Predicted implications of the Plan for this location** This Table summarises the consequences *at this location only* resulting from the policies. These are categorised as “Property & Land Use”, “Nature Conservation”, “Landscape”, “Historic Environment” and “Amenity & Recreational Use” (which are being used nationally for the SMPs). The implications have been assessed for the situation by years 2025, 2055 and 2105, again to provide a nationally consistent picture. *Broad estimates* of potential residential and commercial losses have been included.

#### 5.2.1 Policy units

Statements are provided for the following Policy Units:

<i>3b01 Kelling Hard to Sheringham</i>	<i>3b09 Mundesley to Bacton Gas Terminal</i>	<i>3b17 Great Yarmouth</i>
<i>3b02 Sheringham</i>	<i>3b10 Bacton Gas Terminal</i>	<i>3b18 Gorleston</i>
<i>3b03 Sheringham to Cromer</i>	<i>3b11 Bacton, Walcott and Ostend</i>	<i>3b19 Gorleston to Hopton</i>
<i>3b04 Cromer</i>	<i>3b12 Ostend to Eccles</i>	<i>3b20 Hopton</i>
<i>3b05 Cromer to Overstrand</i>	<i>3b13 Eccles to Winterton Beach Road</i>	<i>3b21 Hopton to Corton</i>
<i>3b06 Overstrand</i>	<i>3b14 Winterton to Scratby</i>	<i>3b22 Corton</i>
<i>3b07 Overstrand to Mundesley</i>	<i>3b15 California to Caister-on-Sea</i>	<i>3b23 Corton to Lowestoft</i>
<i>3b08 Mundesley</i>	<i>3b16 Caister-on-Sea</i>	<i>3b24 Lowestoft North (to Ness Point)</i>

**Location reference:** Mundesley

**Policy Unit reference:** 3b08

### **SUMMARY OF PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND JUSTIFICATION**

#### **Plan:**

*Although there might be justification for continuing to defend most of the property and facilities in Mundesley, this is marginal in the longer-term. However, the position of the town on the coast means that potentially it could block up to 70% of the sediment supply for the entire SMP area from reaching beaches here and downdrift if it became a headland promontory, with much of this material potentially being lost offshore. This is a critical supply, without which erosion elsewhere may be accelerated, leading to more rapid loss of property and destruction of natural habitats. Due to the significance of this, the long-term Plan is to allow the cliffs to retreat. However, it should be recognised that this long-term Plan is only viable if reciprocated at Bacton Gas Terminal.*

*This Plan would result in the loss of a considerable number of socio-economic assets at Mundesley and such dramatic changes will require full consideration of the practicality and cost of all alternative technical options (e.g. sediment bypassing), together with the approach, timing, and any measures that would need to be put in place to manage any risk and mitigate the displacement of people and the loss of property and assets. However, at this point in time it is anticipated that it is still some years before this area creates this major interruption to sediment supply, therefore for the immediate future the Plan is that the defences be maintained as long as is technically acceptable and economically sustainable, whilst these investigations are undertaken.*

#### **Policies to implement Plan:**

**From present day:** The present-day policy is to **hold the line** to protect assets within the town through maintaining existing defences, where this can be economically justified. This would include maintenance and any reconstruction of seawalls and groynes, and maintaining/replacing the erosion-slowing structures such as timber revetments as necessary, although reconstruction of the latter may need to be in a retreated position.

*Due to the rapid response of this shoreline to erode and resume a natural position once defences are no longer in place, this shorter term policy is not considered to be detrimental to the long-term Plan.*

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**Medium-term:** In the medium-term, the policy is to maintain the existing defences for as long as is technically possible, through a **hold the line** policy; this is expected to be beyond the next 50 years (i.e. this period). However, to comply with the long-term Plan, the policy would be to not to replace these structures as they reach the end of their effective life even should defences begin to fail. It is probable that the groynes will fail in the medium-term and would not be replaced as they would cease to be effective as the beach narrows through natural processes.

During this period measures will need to be put in place to determine how to manage the future erosion situation, both in terms of risk management and appropriate relocation of people, properties and facilities.

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**Long-term:** The long-term policy is to allow retreat along this frontage to avoid exacerbating

problems elsewhere by allowing a supply of sand to help sustain beaches downdrift. This will deliver technical and environmental benefits, but a substantial number of assets will be lost to erosion. Therefore measures to manage losses, including erosion-slowing defences, need to be implemented, therefore the policy is **managed realignment**.

To achieve the Plan the shoreline needs to reach a position generally in line with the shoreline either side. Once the shoreline attains this position, beaches should be healthier and it is likely that erosion rates will slow. As a result, management of the shoreline might be more easily achieved, through measures such as groynes, without being detrimental to other parts of the SMP frontage.

As the shoreline erodes towards that position, there is likely to be justification for occasional intervention to help manage the retreat. Defence measures that temporarily slow (rather than halt) erosion are likely to be acceptable, provided that these do not prevent the alongshore transport of beach sediment and do not result in the development of this area as a promontory, i.e. phases of retreat should be allowed for.

**Location reference:** *Mundesley*

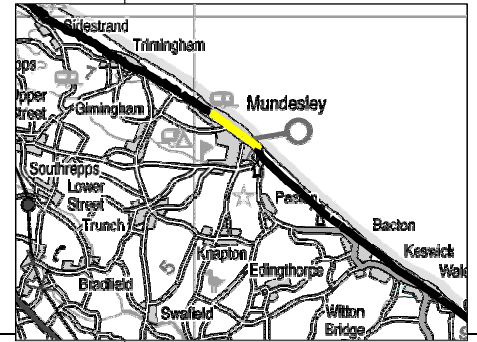
**Policy Unit reference:** 3b08

**PREDICTED IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION**

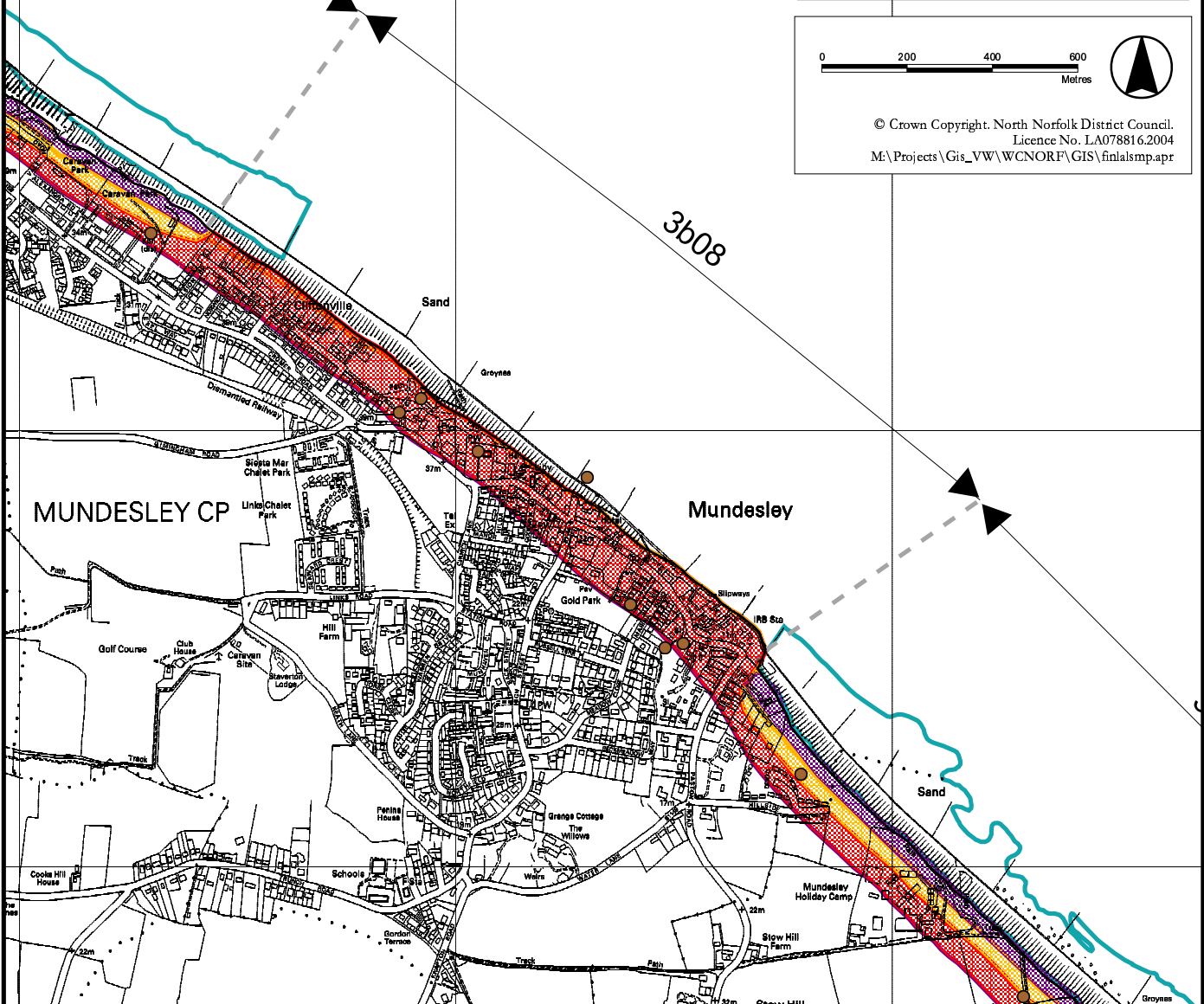
<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Property &amp; Land Use</b>	<b>Nature Conservation</b>	<b>Landscape</b>	<b>Historic Environment</b>	<b>Amenity &amp; Recreational Use</b>
<b>By 2025</b>	No loss of property or land behind the existing defences at Mundesley. Loss of less than 5 properties along the Cliftonville frontage.	No nature conservation gains.	No change to landscape character of seafront.	No loss of heritage sites landward of defences.	No loss of community or recreational facilities landward of defences. Narrow beach retained.
<b>By 2055</b>	No further loss of property or land behind the defences.	No nature conservation gains.	Landscape character of seafront may change due to greater defence works.	No loss of heritage sites landward of defences.	No loss of community or recreational facilities landward of defences. Little or no beach. Lifeboat Station will remain, but possible launching issues.
<b>By 2105</b>	Cumulative loss of up to circa 215 houses and up to circa 35 commercial properties and associated infrastructure/ services. Loss of main road links, including section of B1159.	Some loss of cliff top grassland CWS (unless allowed to relocate inland). Improved exposure of cliffs.	Landscape character of seafront may change due to greater defence works.	Loss of some heritage sites.	Loss of some community facilities. Narrow beach present. Lifeboat Station will remain, but possible launching issues.

# Kelling to Lowestoft Ness Shoreline Management Plan

## Policy Unit 3b08: Mundesley



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### POLICY (FOR FULL DETAILS SEE RELEVANT POLICY STATEMENT)

From Present Day:	Medium-Term:	Long-Term:
Hold the line through maintaining/replacing existing defences	Hold the line through maintaining existing defences until failure then managed realignment	Allow retreat through managed realignment

- Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2015
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2055
- Policy Unit boundary
- Environmental/Cultural Heritage
- National Nature Conservation Designation
- Important Heritage Sites
- International and National Nature Conservation Designation
- 2003 Indicative Floodplain © Environment Agency