

Location reference:	Shaldon (The Ness) to Petit Tor Point
Policy Unit reference:	6b36 to 6b40
SUMMARY OF PREFERRED PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND JUSTIFICATION	
Plan:	
<p>This section of mostly undefended coast is characterised by cliffs of geological and geomorphological value and lies within the English Riviera Geopark. The only defences along this stretch occur within the small pocket embayments at Maidencombe and Watcombe where there are some short lengths of wall associated with provision of facilities located at the back of the small pocket beaches.</p> <p>The long term vision for this section of coast is to allow it to evolve naturally over the next 100 years. As the rate of sediment supply from cliff erosion is unlikely to be sufficient to maintain the small pocket beaches that indent this coast as sea levels rise, it is likely that many of these beaches could be lost in the longer-term.</p> <p>Under this plan the small lengths of wall at Maidencombe and Watcombe would eventually fail. However, as sea levels rise and sediment supply to the beach from cliff erosion is unlikely to keep pace, this beach is likely to be lost in the longer term and the requirement to provide beach access related facilities will change.</p> <p>There is also potential for parts of the South West Coast Path to be lost to erosion in the future, depending upon the location of future cliff failure events.</p>	
Preferred policies to implement Plan:	
From present day (short term):	<p>The short term policy is for No Active Intervention along this predominantly undefended stretch of cliffed coastline. The cliffs are comprised of relatively resistant rock that has eroded very little over the past century and this will continue to be the case.</p> <p>Narrow beaches may be retained as small pocket beaches that indent this section, if there is sufficient local sediment input from the sandstone cliffs.</p> <p>There are some short lengths of wall, associated with provision of facilities, located at the back of the small pocket beaches at Maidencombe and Watcombe. Although maintenance of these would be unlikely to attract public funds, if alternative funds were available, then there is no reason not to permit the retention of the structures as the potential impacts upon wider coastal processes will be negligible.</p>
Medium term:	<p>The medium term policy is for No Active Intervention.</p> <p>As sea levels rise some of the pocket beaches could become submerged as the rate of cliff erosion does not keep pace with the accelerated rate of sea level rise. Other beaches may remain if there is sufficient local erosion.</p> <p>The short lengths of defences at Maidencombe and Watcombe would fail (unless maintained through private funding – refer also to Section 5.2.2 'Private Defences'), but the slow erosion of the backing cliffs, combined with rising sea levels, will mean that the beaches at these locations will gradually narrow; therefore, provision of the associated amenity facilities may no longer be viable.</p>
Longer-term:	<p>The long term policy is for No Active Intervention along this predominantly undefended section of cliffed coastline, which would be allowed to continue to evolve naturally. Erosion of the cliff line is predicted to be up to 10-25m by 2105.</p> <p>Many of the small pocket beaches, including Maidencombe and Watcombe will</p>

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have become submerged due to accelerated sea level rise meaning that cliffs here will be exposed directly to the sea.

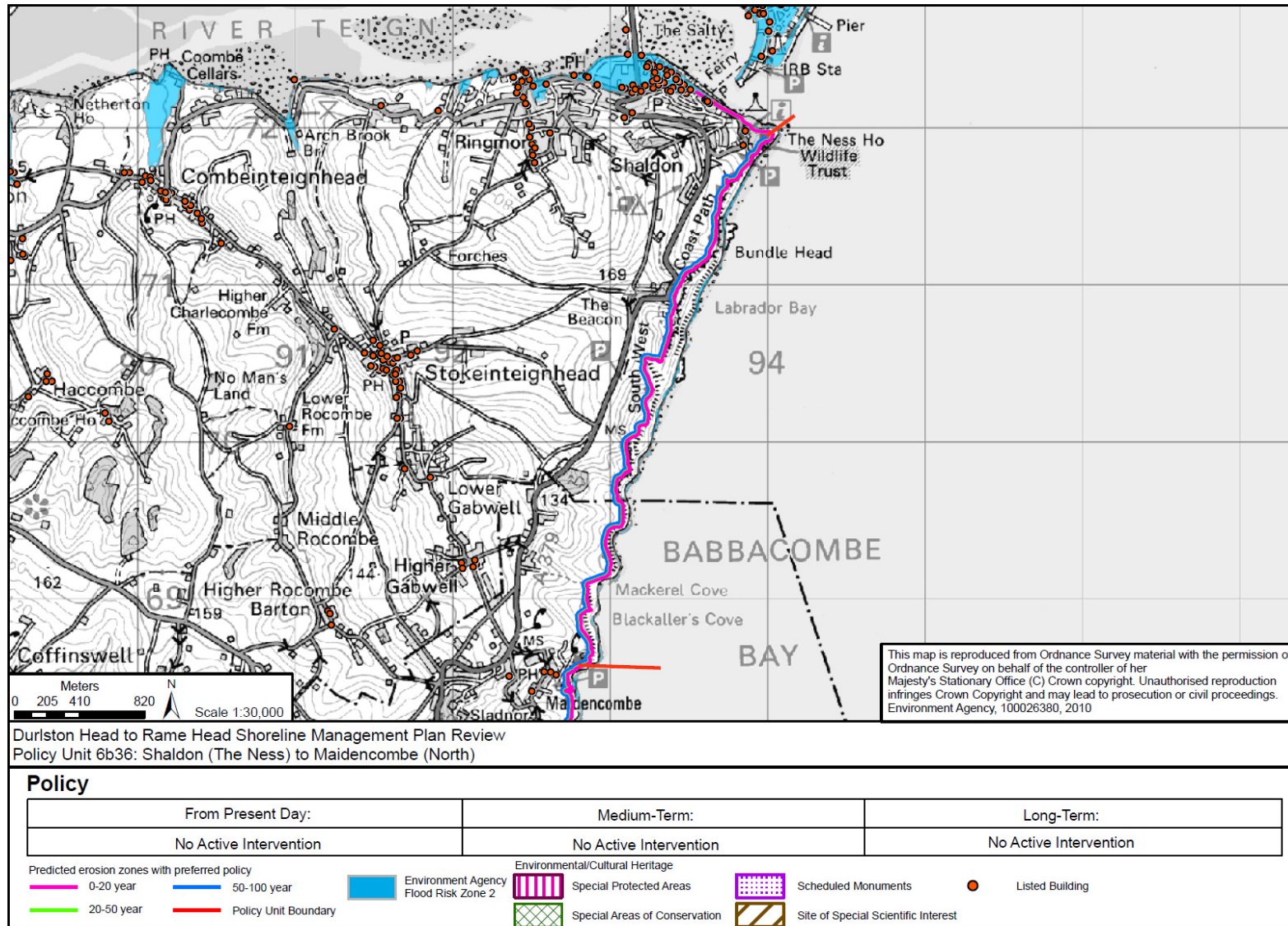
Summary of Specific Policies

Policy Unit		Preferred Policies		
		Short term	Medium term	Long term
6b36	Shaldon (The Ness) to Maidencombe (North)	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.
6b37	Maidencombe	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.
6b38	Maidencombe (South) to Watcombe Head	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.
6b39	Watcombe	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.
6b40	Watcombe to Petit Tor Point	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.	Allow natural coastal evolution to continue through No Active Intervention.

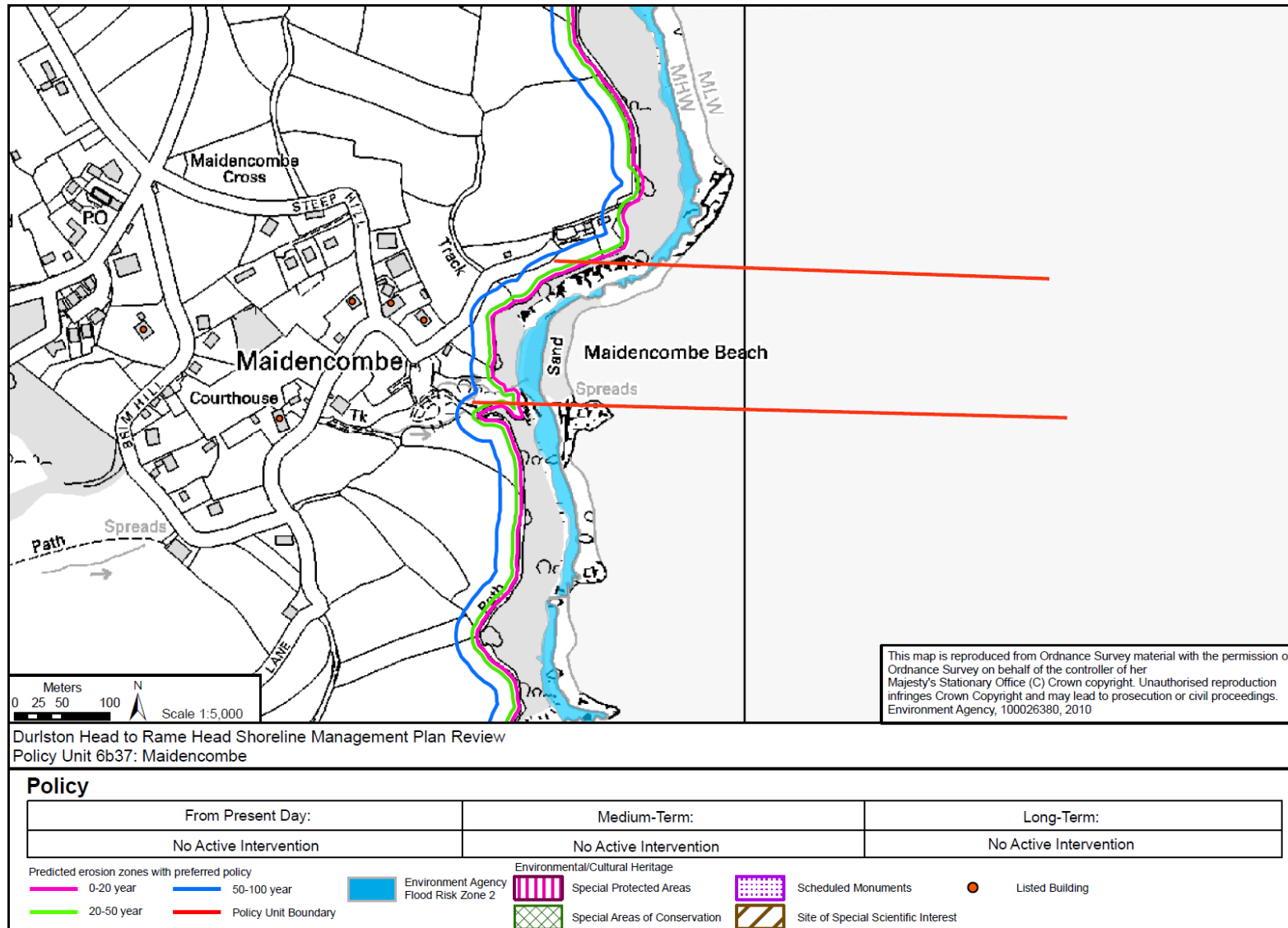
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IMPLICATIONS OF THE PREFERRED PLAN FOR THIS LOCATION								
Time Period	Management Activities	Property, Population and Human Health	Land Use, Infrastructure and Material Assets	Historic Environment	Landscape Character and Visual Amenity	Earth Heritage, Soils and Geology	Water	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna
2005 – 2025	Continued slow cliffline retreat. Maintenance of the small lengths of wall associated at Maidencombe and Watcombe, if private funds available.	Isolated properties at risk of erosion in the vicinity of Watcombe Head, Maidencombe and between Maidencombe and Shaldon. South West Coast at Risk from erosion in some areas. Potential for localised cliff recession to impact on golf courses.	Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 Agricultural land at risk of erosion in some areas	Grade 2 listed buildings potentially at risk from erosion.	Minor changes in landscape character may occur as a result of an eroding coastline – but not considered detrimental as this is a natural process.	NAI along the majority of this coastal section would allow natural erosion to continue and would maintain the English Riviera Geopark and geological SSSIs.	No known impacts on water quality.	No known impacts on biodiversity, flora or fauna.
2025 – 2055	Continued slow cliffline retreat. No management activities along majority of coast. Possible private maintenance of defences at Maidencombe and Watcombe, if still viable.	Isolated properties at risk of erosion in the vicinity of Watcombe Head. Maidencombe and between Maidencombe and Shaldon. South West Coast at Risk from erosion in some areas Potential for localised cliff recession to impact on golf courses.	Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 Agricultural land at risk of erosion in some areas	Grade 2 listed buildings potentially at risk from erosion.	Minor changes in landscape character may occur as a result of an eroding coastline – but not considered detrimental as this is a natural process.	NAI along the majority of this coastal section would allow natural erosion to continue and would maintain the English Riviera Geopark and geological SSSIs. One historic landfill site (Sladnor Park) potentially at risk of erosion at Maidencombe, though risk is small due to slow rate of erosion.	Potential impacts on water quality due to potential erosion of landfill site – see soils and geology.	No known impacts on biodiversity, flora or fauna.
2055 – 2105	Continued slow cliffline retreat. No management activities along majority of coast. Possible private maintenance of defences at Maidencombe and Watcombe, if still viable.	Isolated properties at risk of erosion in the vicinity of Watcombe Head, Maidencombe and between Maidencombe and Shaldon – South West Coast at Risk from erosion in some areas. Potential for localised cliff recession to impact on golf courses.	Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 Agricultural land at risk of erosion in some areas	Grade 2 listed buildings potentially at risk from erosion	Minor changes in landscape character may occur as a result of an eroding coastline – but not considered detrimental as this is a natural process.	NAI along the majority of this coastal section would allow natural erosion to continue and would maintain the English Riviera Geopark and geological SSSIs. One historic landfill site (Sladnor Park) potentially at risk of erosion at Maidencombe, though risk is small due to slow rate of erosion.	Potential impacts on water quality due to potential medium and long term erosion of landfill site – see soils and geology.	No known impacts on biodiversity, flora or fauna.

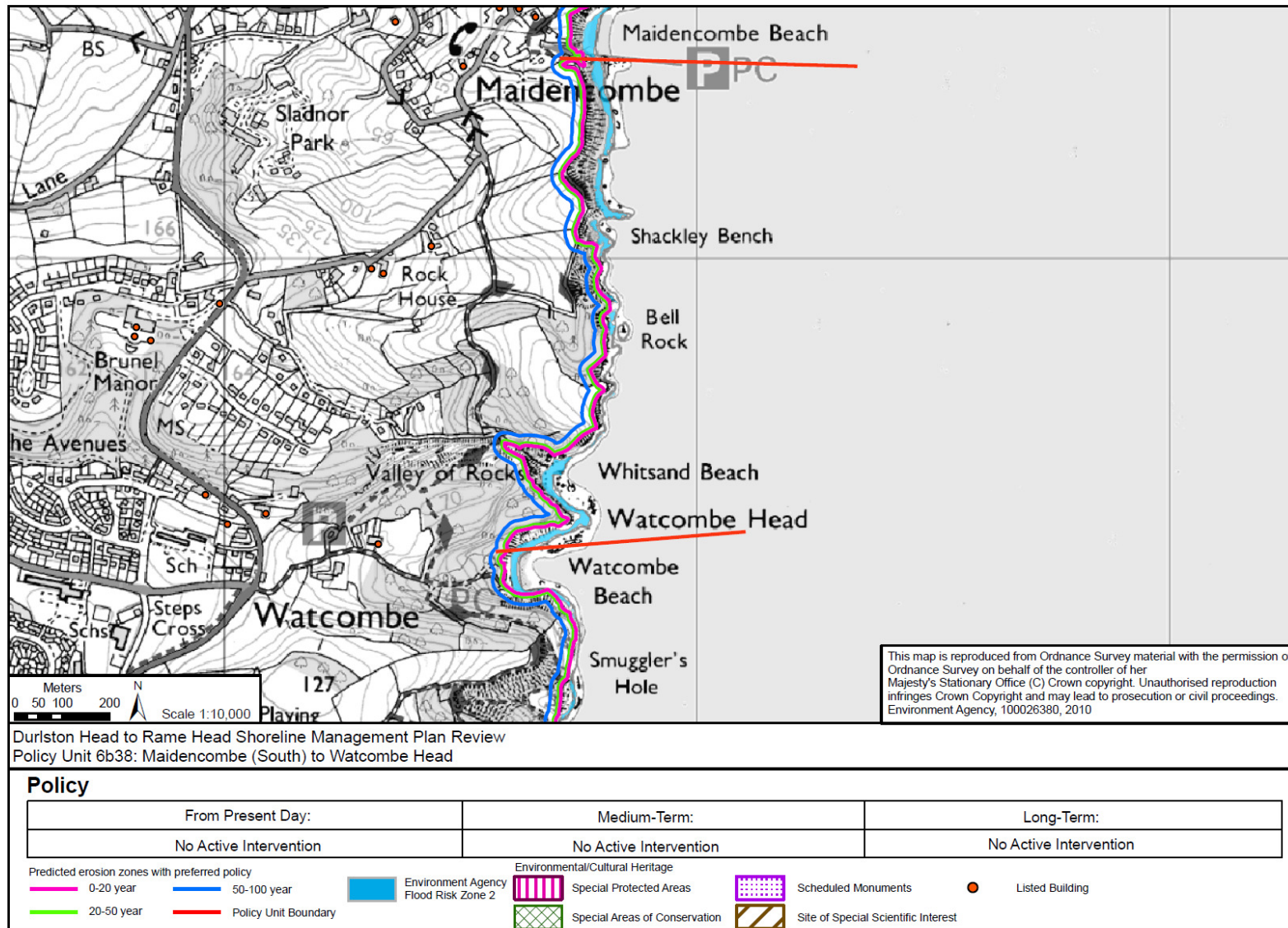
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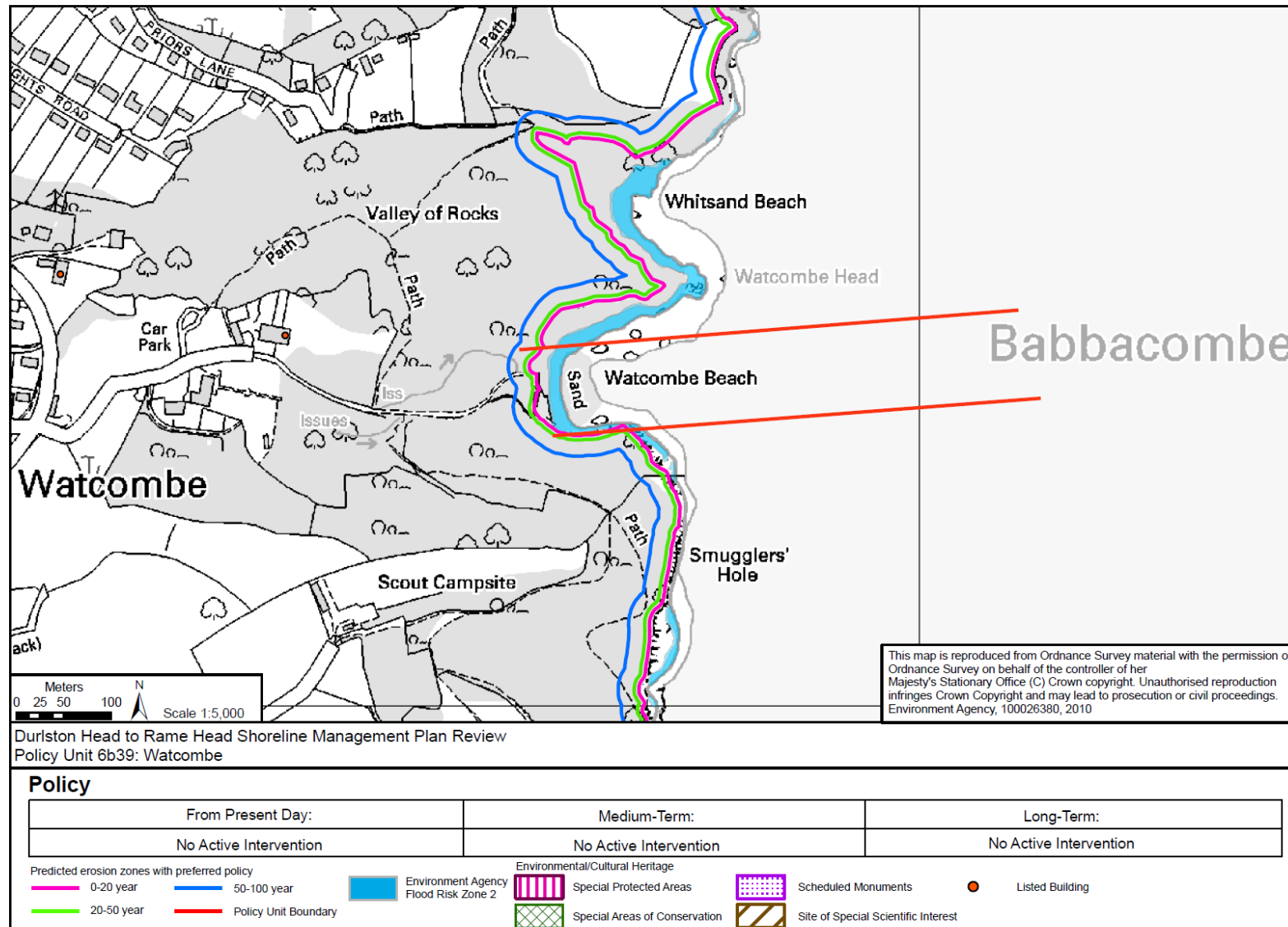
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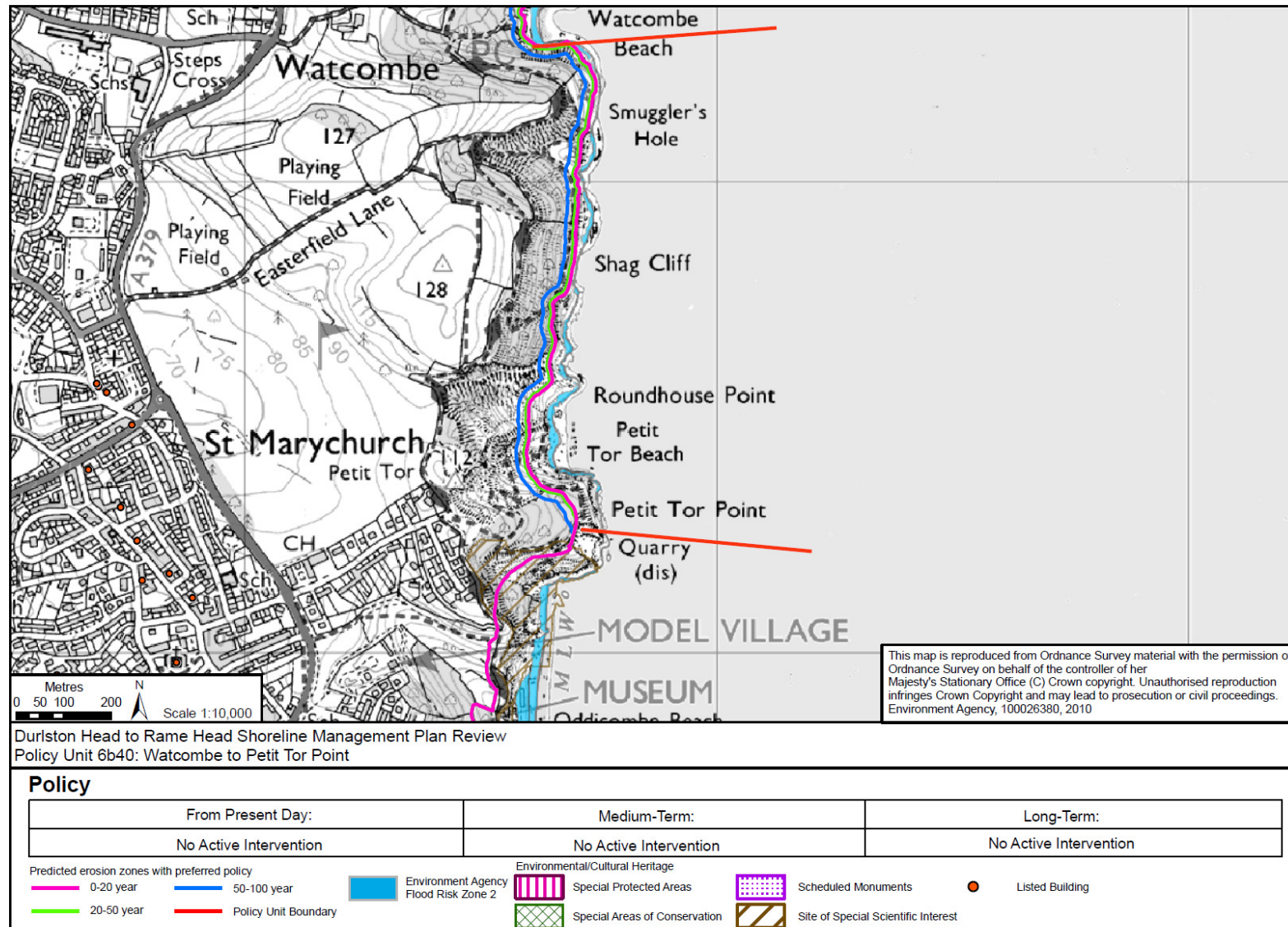
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