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| Location reference: | Berry Head to Kingswear (South) |
| Policy Unit reference: | 6b62 and 6b63 |
| SUMMARY OF PREFERRED PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND JUSTIFICATION | |
| Plan: | |
| <p>This stretch of undefended coast, which extends into the outermost part of the Dart Estuary, is characterised by cliffs of outstanding landscape value. The long term vision is therefore to allow this to continue to evolve naturally over the next 100 years.</p> <p>The cliffs vary in geology and in places there is a risk of small, localised landslide events. Therefore, with this plan a number of cliff top assets might become at risk from erosion, including: two scheduled monuments, parts of a Registered Park and Garden and a number of listed building located along parts of the cliff top, as well as a number of properties and tourism related facilities along the cliff top area within St Mary's Bay. There is uncertainty over the timing of loss as this will depend upon the occurrence of landslide events, which it is not possible to predict with any certainty. Therefore, some of the aforementioned may not be lost over the next century.</p> | |
| Preferred policies to implement Plan: | |
| From present day (short term): | <p>The short term policy is to allow natural retreat, through No Active Intervention along this undefended stretch of coast.</p> <p>The cliffs along this section vary in character and small scale landslide events occur about every 10-100 years within the shale cliffs. Cliff erosion along this stretch would continue during this period at varying rates, with up to 10m possible locally by 2025.</p> <p>Isolated pocket beaches, such as at St Mary's Bay, will continue to be supplied with sediment only from local cliff erosion as they are separated by rocky headlands and there is no other sediment source available.</p> |
| Medium term: | <p>No Active Intervention will remain the medium term policy along this undefended stretch of coast. Total erosion of between 7 and 10m is predicted along St Mary's Bay by 2055. Erosion of the shale cliffs is driven by both marine erosion of the toe and heavy rain, so they are sensitive to both changes in precipitation and sea level. However, due to uncertainty in the possible future changes in precipitation, no direct account has been taken of this in the recession predictions.</p> <p>Sea level rise could also result in the narrowing and steepening of the majority of the small pocket beaches along this section as it is unlikely that sufficient sediment would be released from the relatively resistant backing cliffs.</p> <p>At Man Sands, beach narrowing could result in more frequent localised flooding of the low-lying area behind. However, in St Mary's Bay the increased rate of cliff erosion could release beach material to this area which will help to counter coastal squeeze and should ensure that a narrow beach remains.</p> |
| Longer-term: | <p>The long term policy is for No Active Intervention. Cliff erosion would continue at variable rates due to local geological characteristics. The more erodible shale cliffs that occur along St Mary's Bay are more sensitive to both sea level rise and any increase in precipitation, both of which could increase the rate of erosion along this stretch.</p> <p>As sea levels rise, the small pocket beaches along this stretch could narrow further and ultimately could be lost where they are backed by steep resistant</p> |

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cliffs. At Man Sands, there could be some rollback possible in front of the low-lying hinterland, but beach narrowing may result in more frequent localised flooding of this low-lying area behind. Within St Mary's Bay, the beach may narrow with increased erosion of the backing cliffs which, in turn, will release beach sediment and reduce cliff exposure. This may slow erosion locally, but it is still likely to be at a greater rate than historically, due to the acceleration of sea level rise predicted during this period.

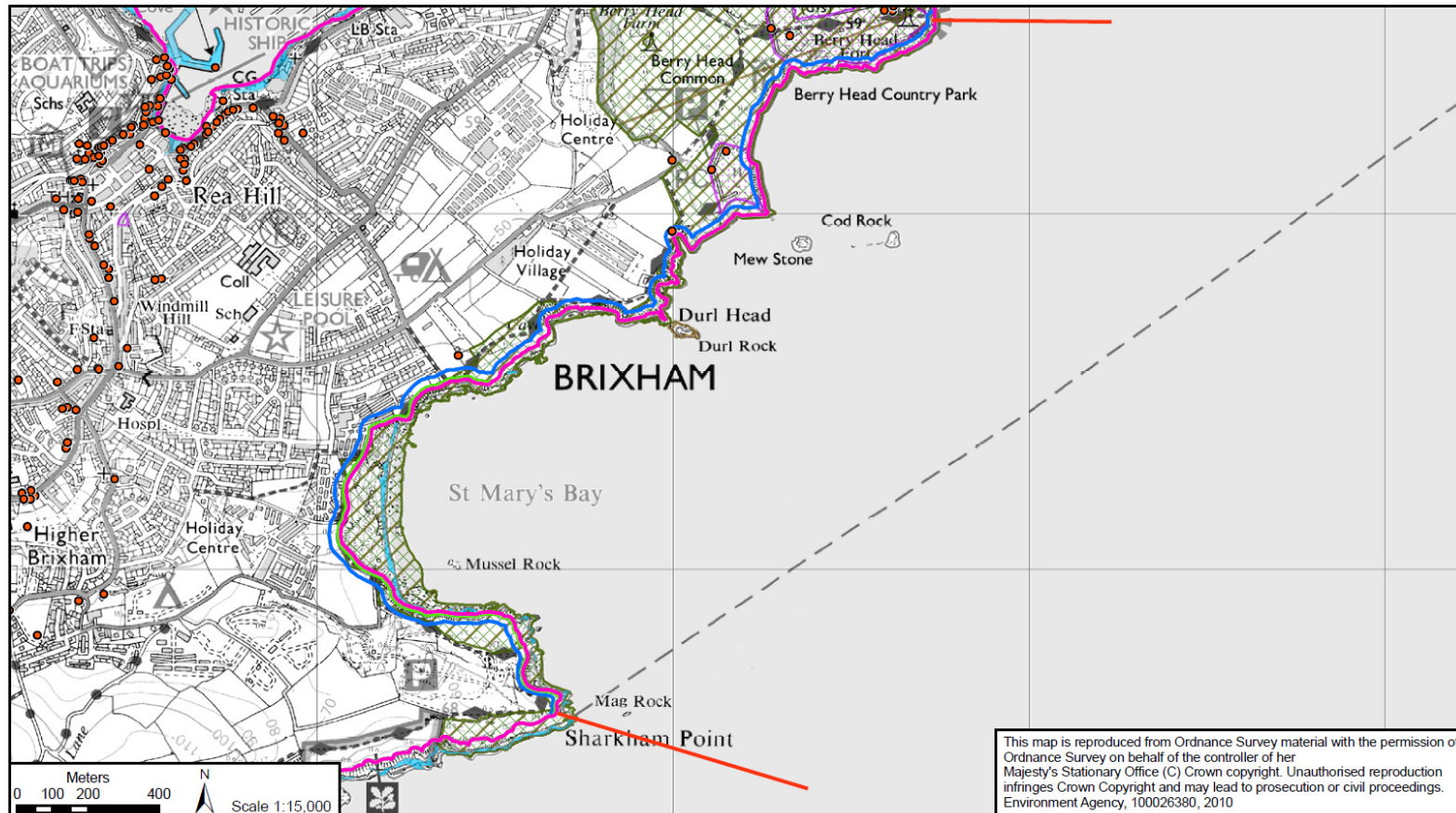
Summary of Specific Policies

| Policy Unit | | Preferred Policies | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | Short term | Medium term | Long term |
| 6b62 | Berry Head to Sharkham 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. |
| 6b63 | Sharkham Point to Kingswear (South) | 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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|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
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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 cliffline retreat. No management activities. | Potential localised loss of parts of the South West Coast path due to erosion – but erosion rates are likely to be low (<10m), therefore potential for relocation. | Limited loss of Grades 3 and 4 agricultural land from erosion (<10m recession predicted). | Potential loss to erosion of a number of Grade 2 and a Grade 1 listed buildings and part of a Registered Parks and Garden. | Little or no change in landscape character of South Devon AONB. | Continuation of natural processes is key to the integrity of the English Riviera Geopark; NAI between Berry Head and Sharkham Point would continue to maintain these features. | No known impacts on water quality. | Sea level rise may accelerate natural erosion patterns resulting in the loss of cliff/ledge top grassland habitats at South Hams SAC and Froward Point SSSI. As this would not be a result of a change in SMP policy, there would be no significant impacts on this European site. Minimal erosion of caves and sea cliffs at Berry Head to Sharkham Point SSSI and Berry Head (Southern Redoubt) ASP |
| 2025 – 2055 | Continued cliffline retreat. No management activities. | Potential localised loss of parts of the South West Coast path due to erosion – but erosion rates are likely to be low (<10m), therefore potential for relocation. Potential loss of some properties, including holiday accommodation, due to erosion at St Marys Bay in medium to long term | Limited loss of Grades 3 and 4 agricultural land from erosion (<10m recession predicted). | Potential loss to erosion of a number of Grade 2 and a Grade 1 listed buildings and part of a Registered Parks and Garden. | Little or no change in landscape character of South Devon AONB. | Continuation of natural processes is key to the integrity of the English Riviera Geopark; NAI between Berry Head and Sharkham Point would continue to maintain these features. Sharkham Point tip at risk of erosion in the medium and long term. | Potential impacts on water quality due to a No Active Intervention policy potentially affecting landfill sites – see soils and geology. | Sea level rise may accelerate natural erosion patterns resulting in the loss of cliff/ledge top grassland habitats at South Hams SAC and Froward Point SSSI. As this would not be a result of a change in SMP policy there would be no significant impacts on this European site. Minimal erosion of caves and sea cliffs at Berry Head to Sharkham Point SSSI and Berry Head (Southern Redoubt) ASP |
| 2055 – 2105 | Continued cliffline retreat. No management activities. | Potential localised loss of parts of the South West Coast path due to erosion – but erosion rates are likely to be low (<10m), therefore potential for relocation. Potential loss of some properties, including holiday accommodation, due to erosion at St Marys Bay in medium to long term | Limited loss of Grades 3 and 4 agricultural land from erosion (<10m recession predicted). | Potential loss to erosion of a number of Grade 2 and a Grade 1 listed buildings and part of a Registered Parks and Garden. | Little or no change in landscape character of South Devon AONB. | Continuation of natural processes is key to the integrity of the English Riviera Geopark; NAI between Berry Head and Sharkham Point would continue to maintain these features. Sharkham Point tip at risk of erosion in the medium and long term. | Potential impacts on water quality due to a No Active Intervention policy potentially affecting landfill sites – see soils and geology. | Sea level rise may accelerate natural erosion patterns resulting in the loss of cliff/ledge top grassland habitats at South Hams SAC and Froward Point SSSI. As this would not be a result of a change in SMP policy there would be no significant impacts on this European site. Minimal erosion of caves and sea cliffs at Berry Head to Sharkham Point SSSI and Berry Head (Southern Redoubt) ASP |

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Durlston Head to Rame Head Shoreline Management Plan Review
Policy Unit 6b62: Berry Head to Sharkham Point

Policy

| From Present Day: | Medium-Term: | Long-Term: |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| No Active Intervention | No Active Intervention | No Active Intervention |

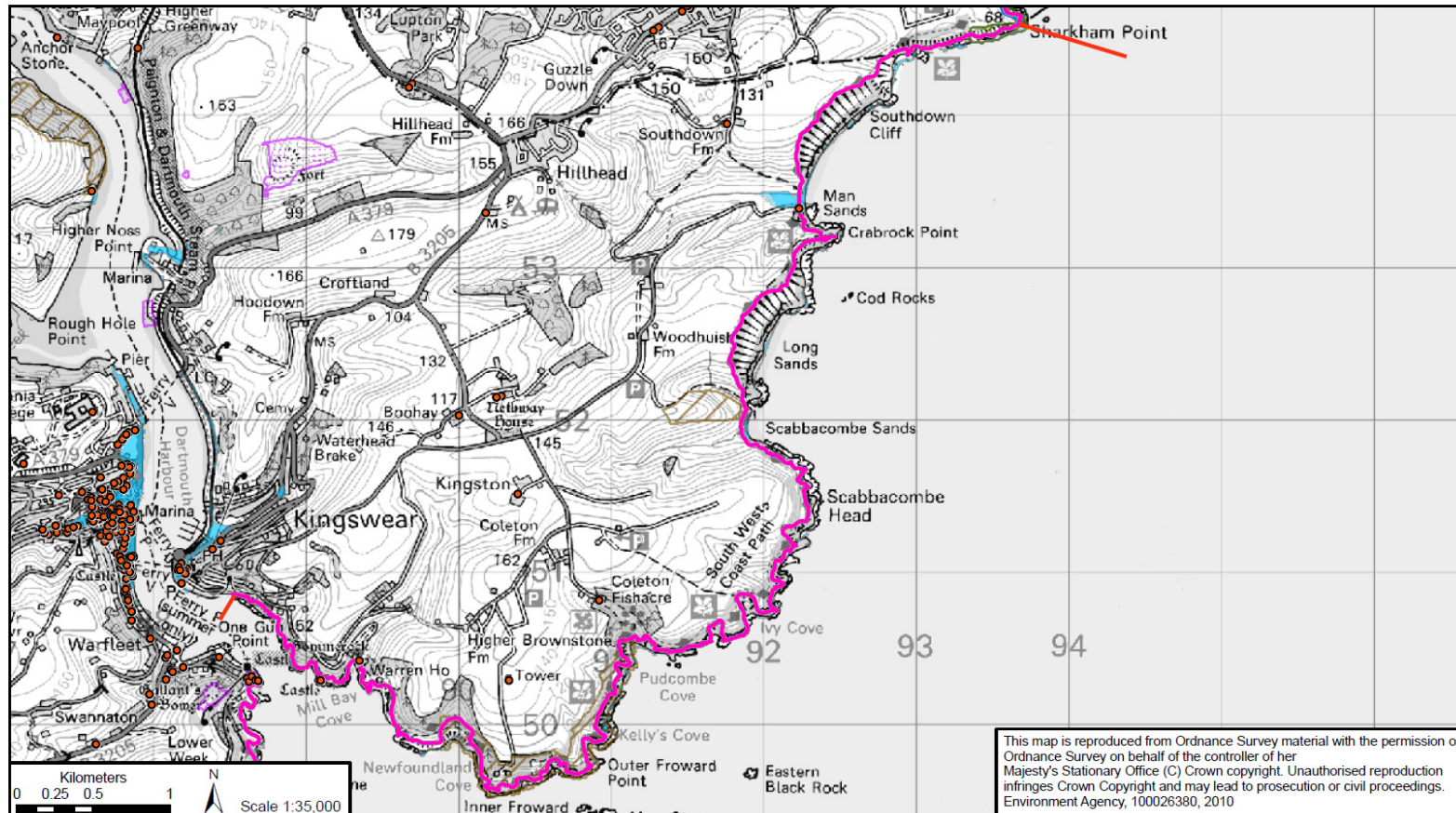
Predicted erosion zones with preferred policy

- 0-20 year (Pink line)
- 20-50 year (Green line)
- 50-100 year (Blue line)
- Policy Unit Boundary (Red line)

Environmental/Cultural Heritage

- Environment Agency Flood Risk Zone 2 (Blue shaded area)
- Special Protected Areas (Purple hatched area)
- Special Areas of Conservation (Green hatched area)
- Scheduled Monuments (Purple grid pattern)
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (Brown hatched area)
- Listed Building (Orange dot)

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Durlston Head to Rame Head Shoreline Management Plan Review
Policy Unit 6b63: Sharkham Point to Kingswear (South)

| Policy | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| From Present Day: | Medium-Term: | Long-Term: |
| No Active Intervention | No Active Intervention | No Active Intervention |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Predicted erosion zones with preferred policy | Environment Agency Flood Risk Zone 2 | Environmental/Cultural Heritage | Listed Building |
| 0-20 year | 50-100 year | Special Protected Areas | |
| 20-50 year | Policy Unit Boundary | Special Areas of Conservation | Scheduled Monuments |
| | | Site of Special Scientific Interest | |

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