

# Coastal Management and Adaptation in East Anglia

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# Defra FCERM Policy Statement



- **To create a nation more resilient to future flood and coastal erosion risk. In doing so, reduce the risk of harm to people, the environment and the economy.**
  1. Harnessing the power of nature to reduce flood and coastal erosion risk and achieve multiple benefits
  2. Better preparing communities
  3. Enabling more resilient places through a catchment based approach

# National FCERM Strategy



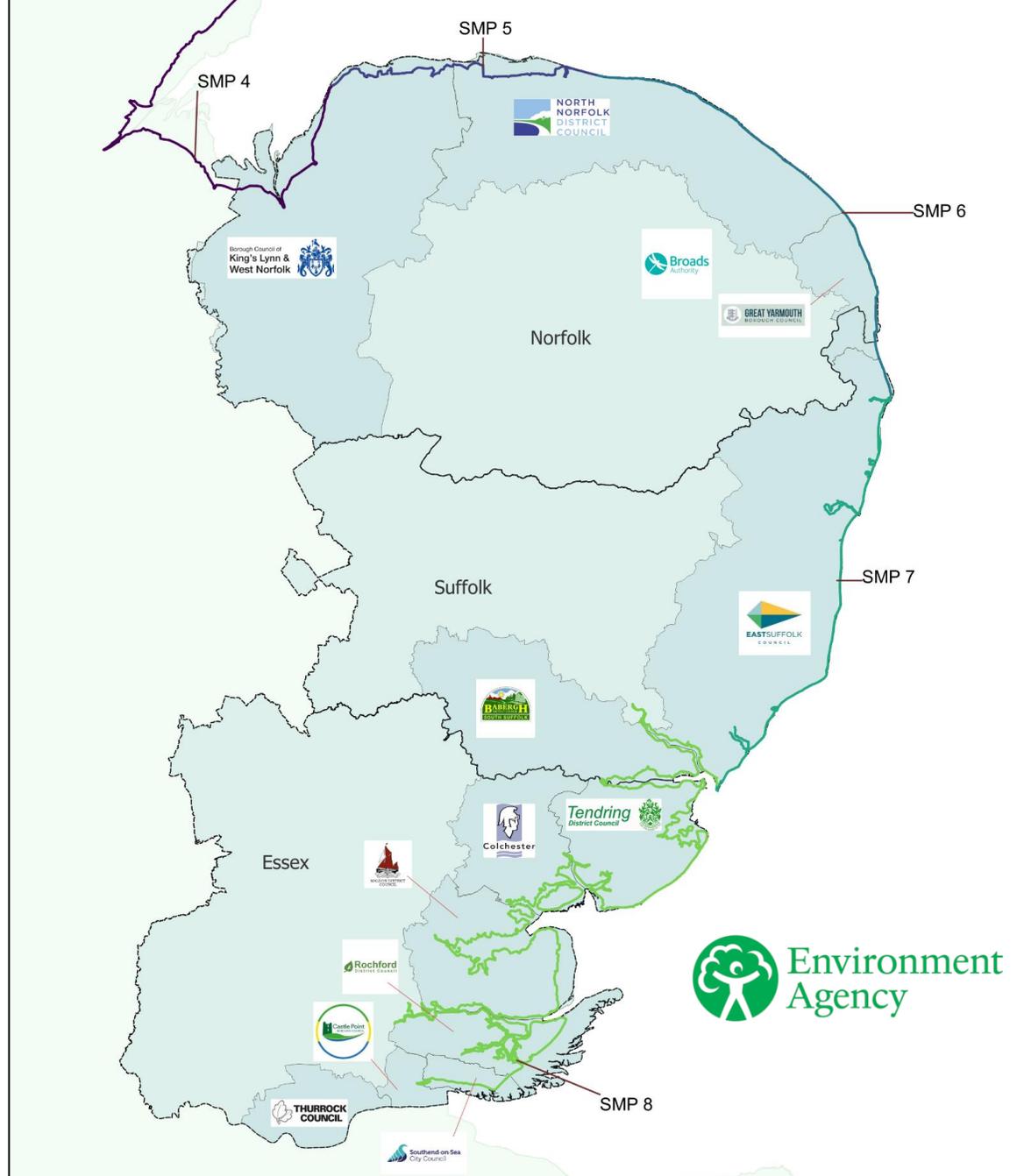
In some places the scale and pace of change may be very significant that over a period of **time risk management authorities will need to support communities to transition and adapt to a changing climate.** In these places, the focus of resilience both now and in the future, will be on keeping people safe from harm and to **develop resilience actions** that minimise the impacts of flooding and coastal change on communities.

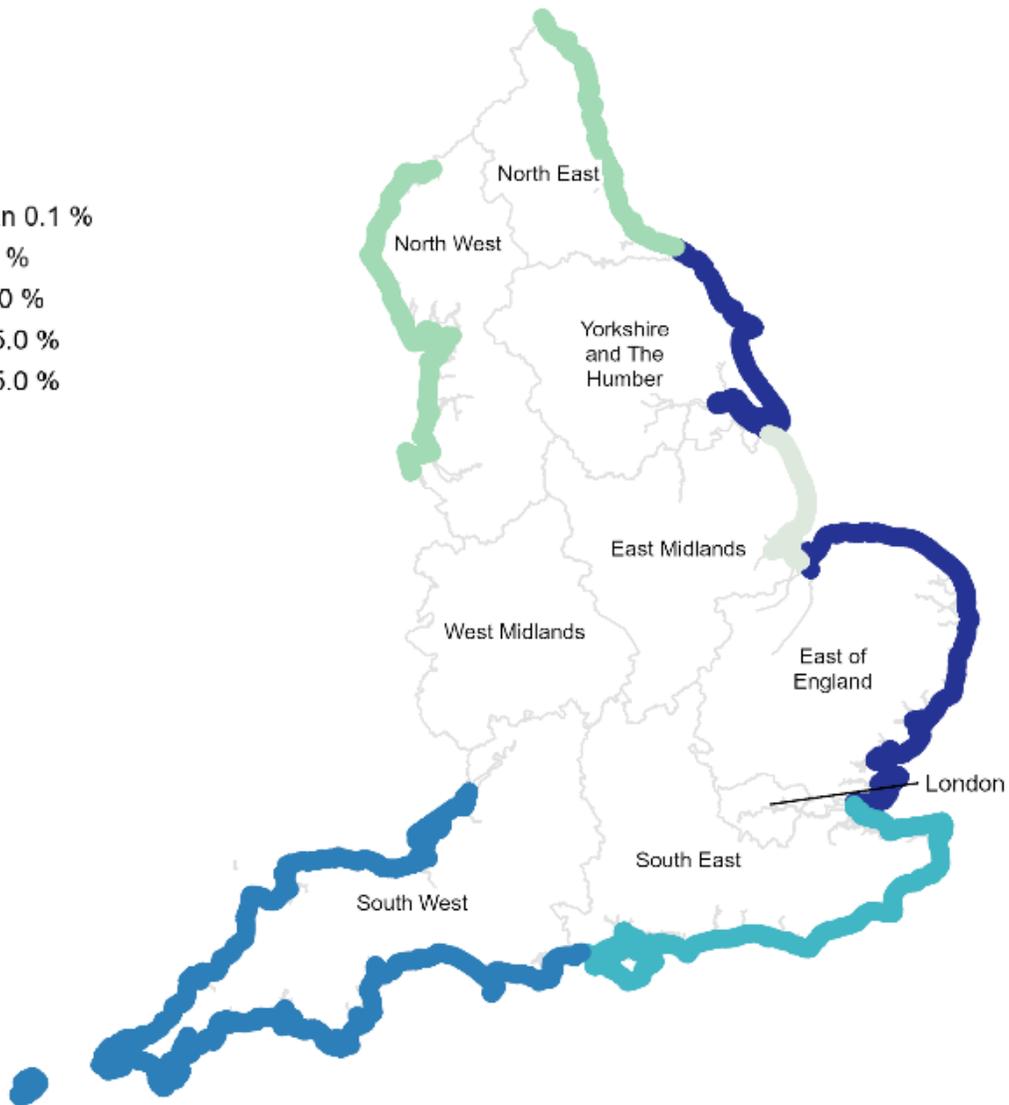
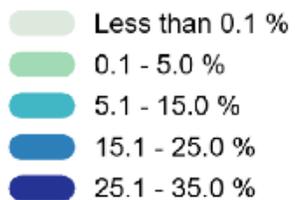
**Strategic objective 1.3: Between now and 2050 risk management authorities will help coastal communities transition and adapt to a changing climate.**

# Environment Agency Strategic Overview

The Environment Agency exercises strategic leadership for all sources of flooding and coastal change.







**Above: Properties in areas at risk of coastal erosion to 2105, as a percentage of total properties in areas at coastal erosion risk in England**

**Right: Environment Agency Risk of Flooding from Rivers and the Sea**





# Shoreline Management Plans

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a document which sets out proposed policies for the future management of coastal erosion and flooding risk.

They are non-statutory documents aimed at guiding coastal management policy.

The first generation of SMPs were generated in the 1990s, with the second generation between 2003 and 2010.

# Shoreline Management Plans

SMPs are developed by Local Authorities and the Environment Agency working together in a partnership of other organisations in Coastal Groups.

Draft plans are agreed after having engaged with interested groups and local communities. The draft plans then undergo public consultation, and are commented on and reviewed, before being published.



URGENT!

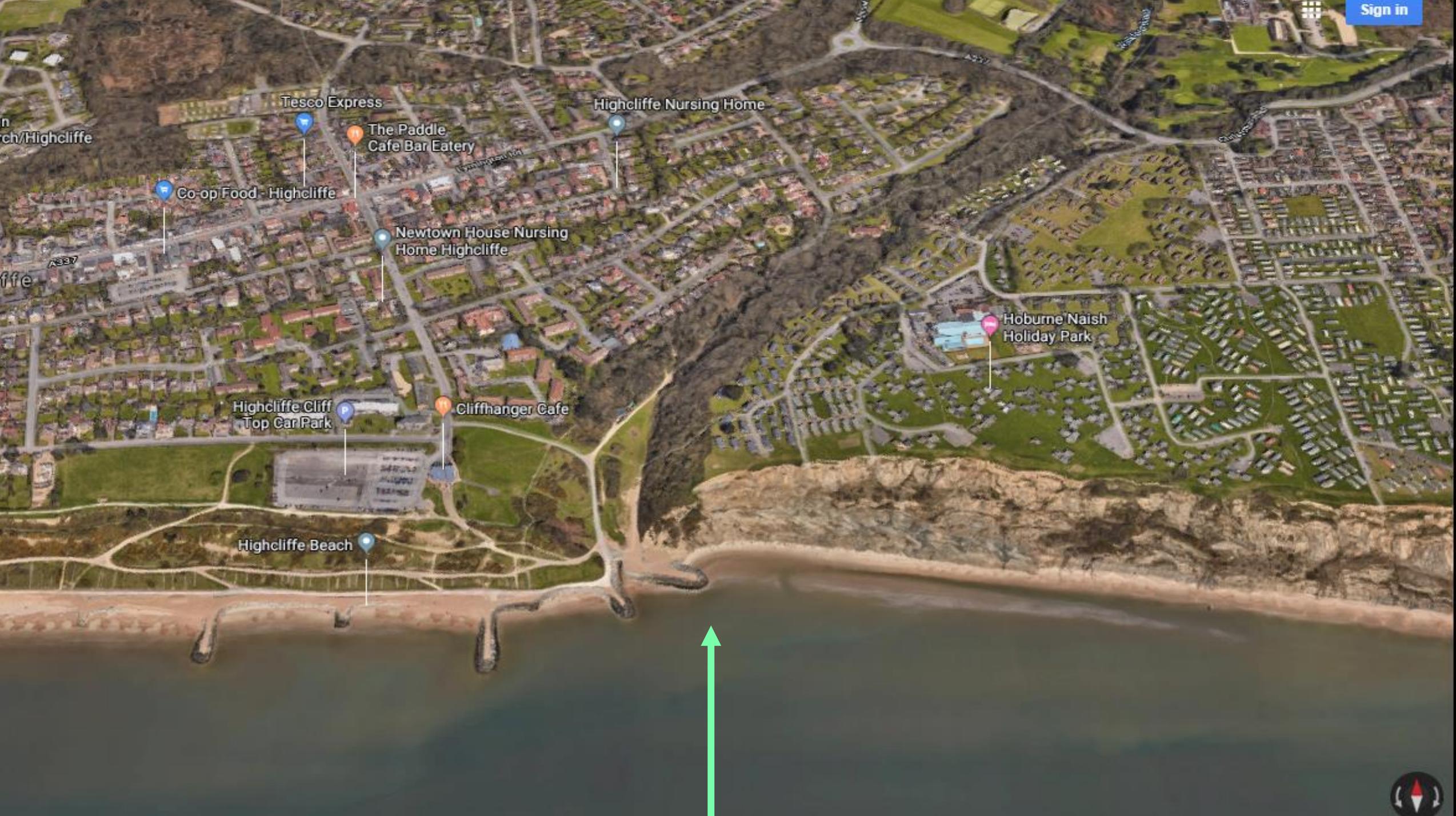
# Shoreline Management Plans

The plans are 'live' documents based on existing information and are designed to be updated as knowledge of the coastal processes involved increases.

The SMPs suggest a policy decision for each sub-cell over three time periods. There are four generic coastal management options which have been considered for each management unit.

# Shoreline Management Plans

<b><u>Strategic Coastal Management Options</u></b>	
<b>Hold the Line</b>	By maintaining or changing the standard of protection.
<b>Advance the Line</b>	By reclaiming land or building new structures on the seaward side of the original protective structures.
<b>Managed Realignment</b>	By allowing the shoreline to accrete or erode with management to control or limit risk.
<b>No Active Intervention</b>	Where there is no investment in coastal risk management structures. However, warning and monitoring continues.



Tesco Express

Highcliffe Nursing Home

The Paddle  
Cafe Bar Eatery

Co-op Food - Highcliffe

Newtown House Nursing  
Home Highcliffe

Hoburne Naish  
Holiday Park

Highcliffe Cliff  
Top Car Park

Cliffhanger Cafe

Highcliffe Beach

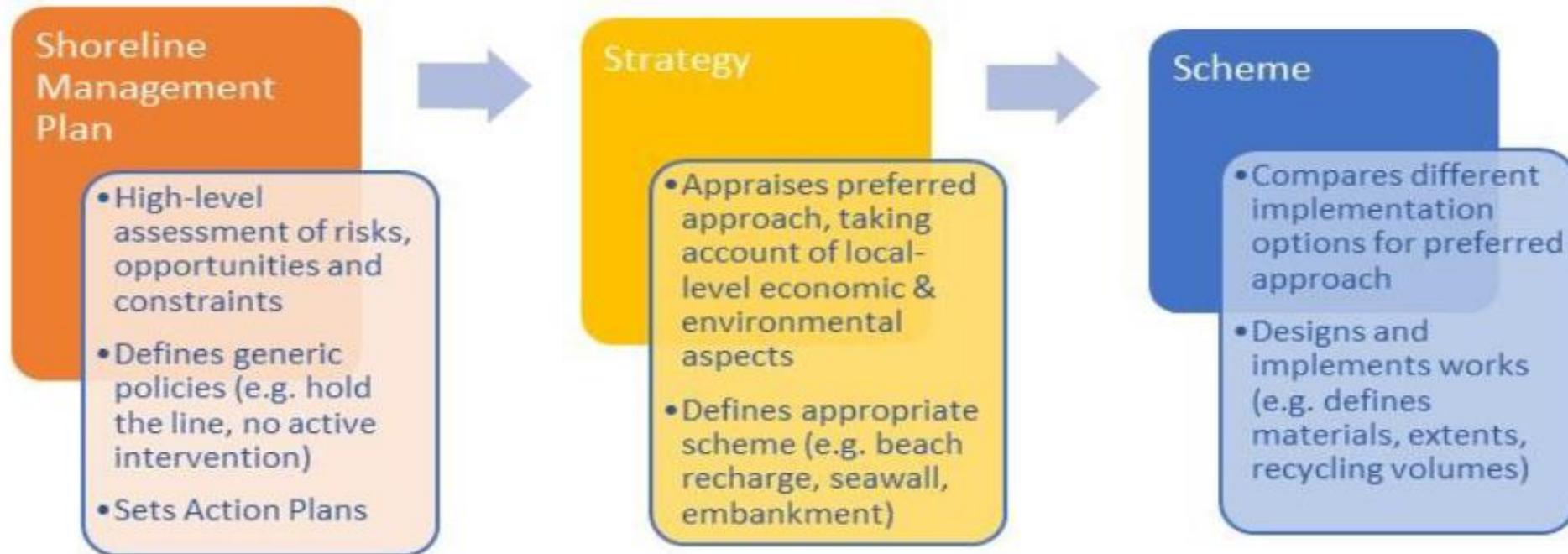


# Shoreline Management Plans

The plans aim to inform strategic coastal management but do not inform the methods of how these objectives are achieved.

Where a policy is defined for a sub-cell this can be realised by individual projects and schemes which achieve our coastal management objectives as laid out by the SMP.

# Shoreline Management Plans



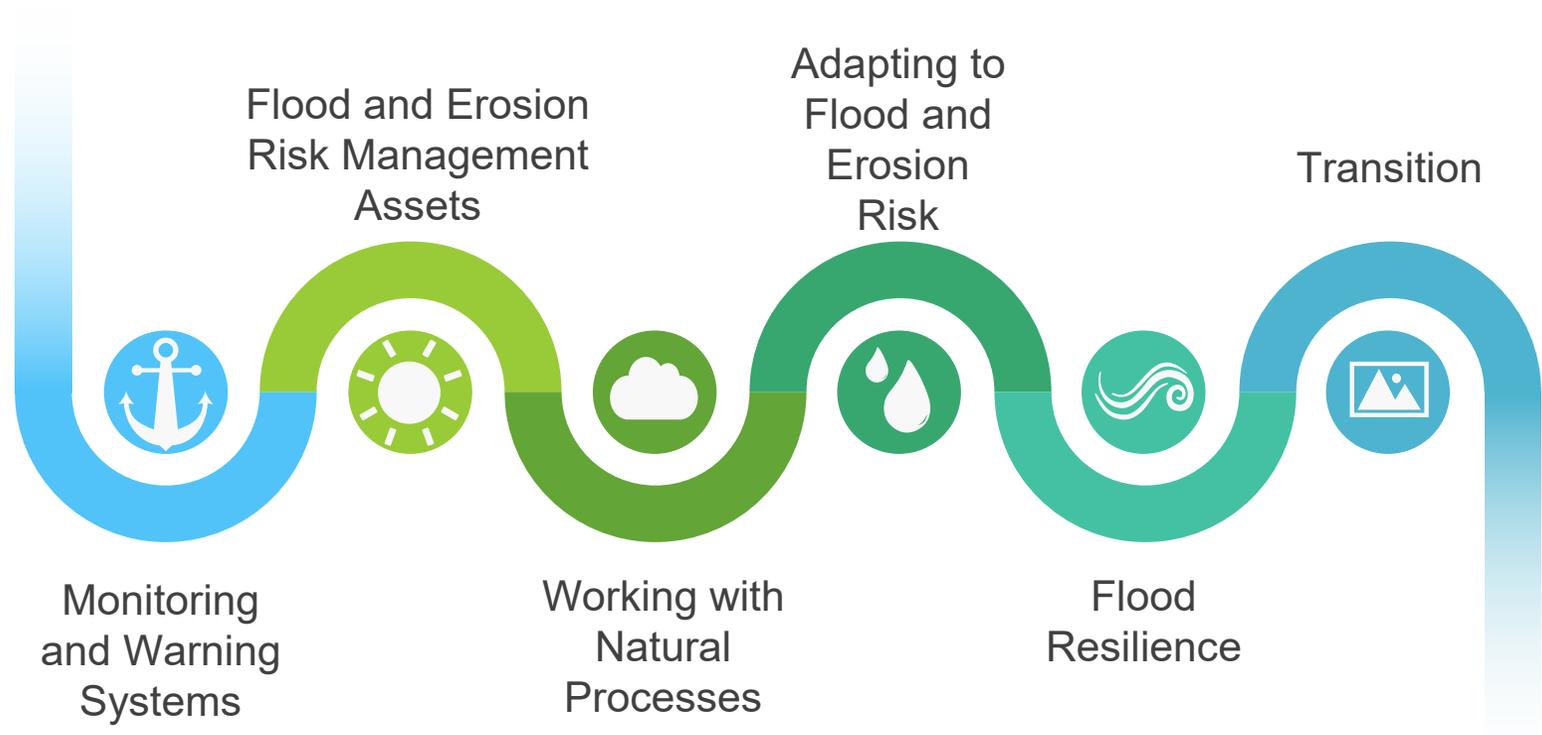
# Shoreline Management Plans

In the UK there is no statutory responsibility to provide or maintain flood and erosion risk management structures.

The Environment Agency and the maritime local authorities only have powers to do so, and they need to work within the limited budgets available.

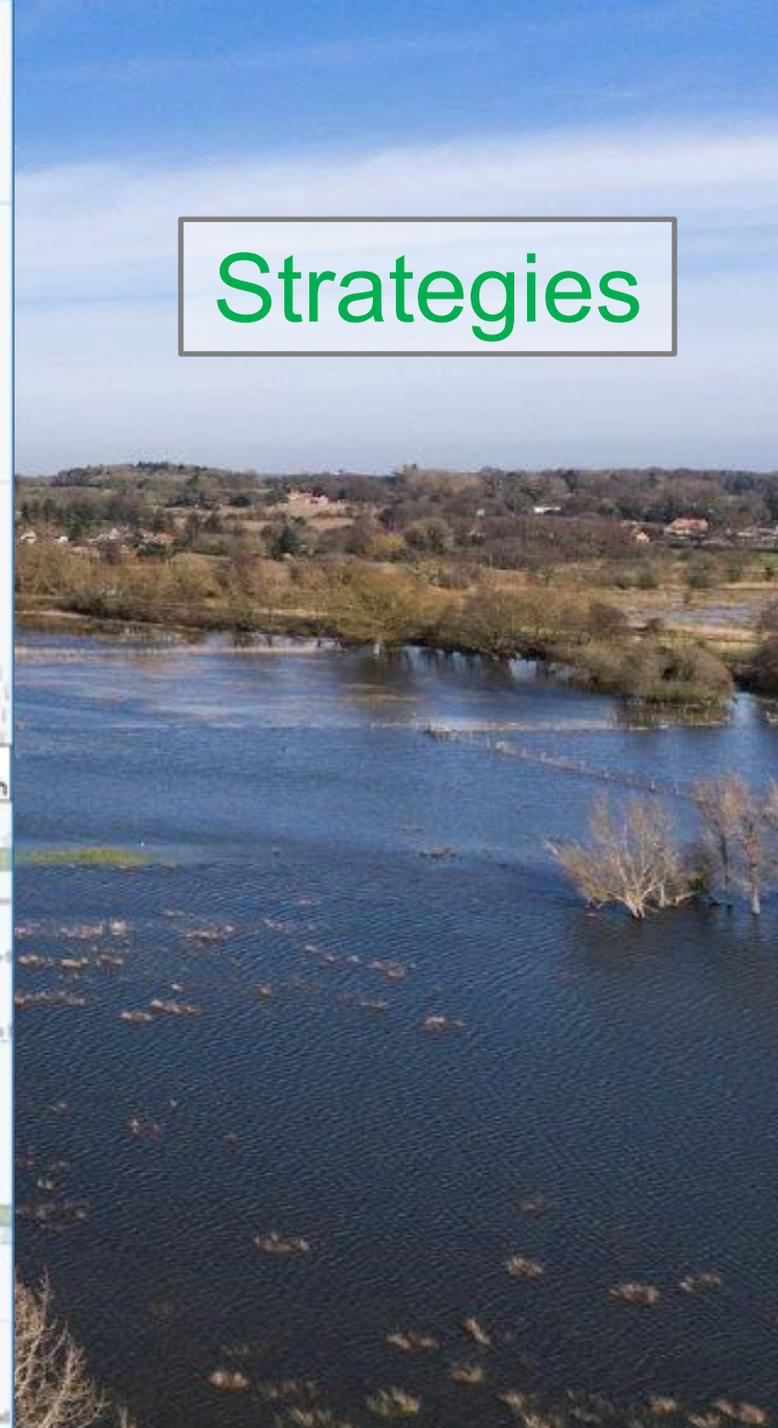
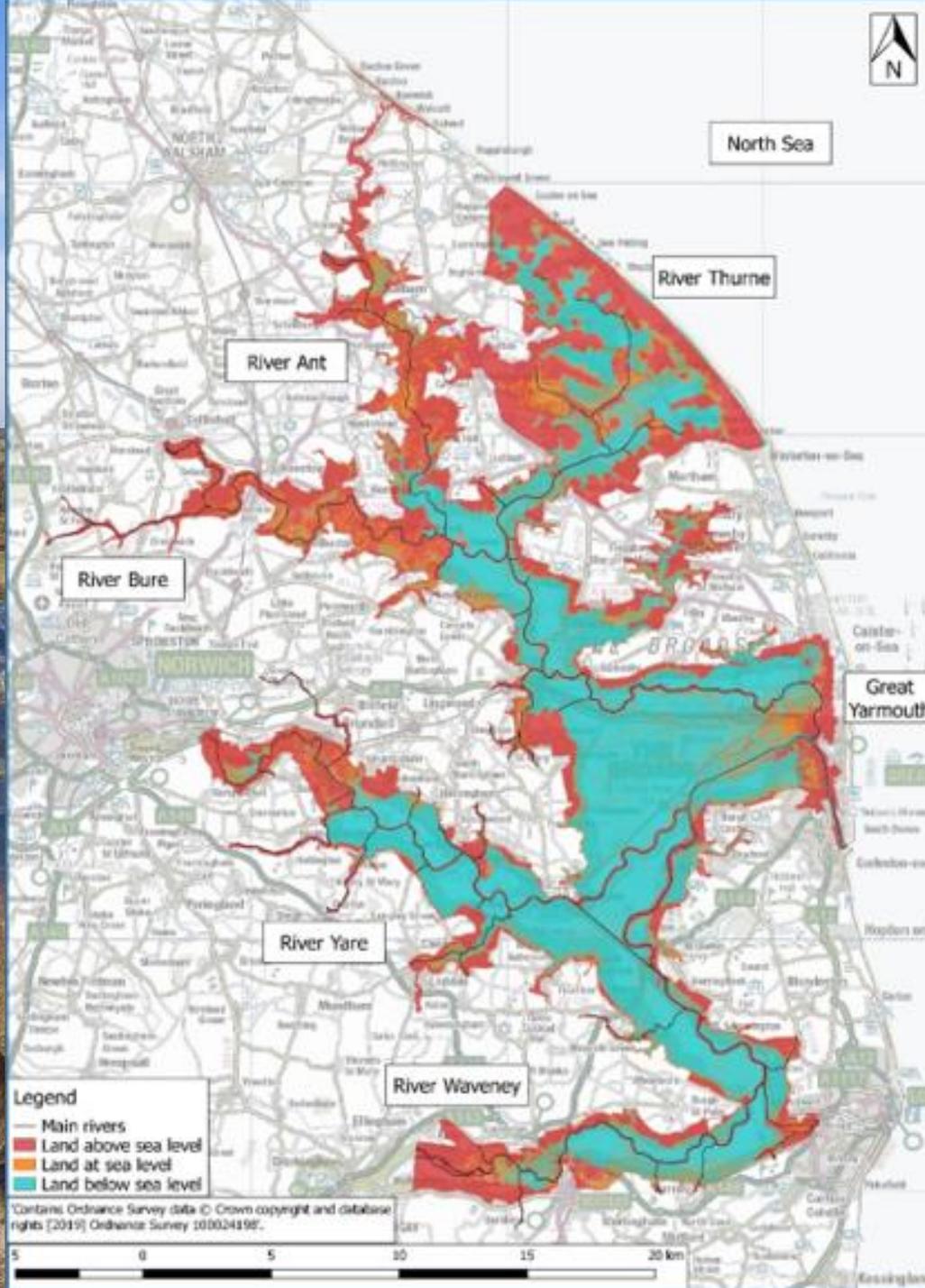
Therefore, implementing SMP policies will depend on funding being available.

# Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Options





Assets



# Strategies

Broadland  
Futures Initiative



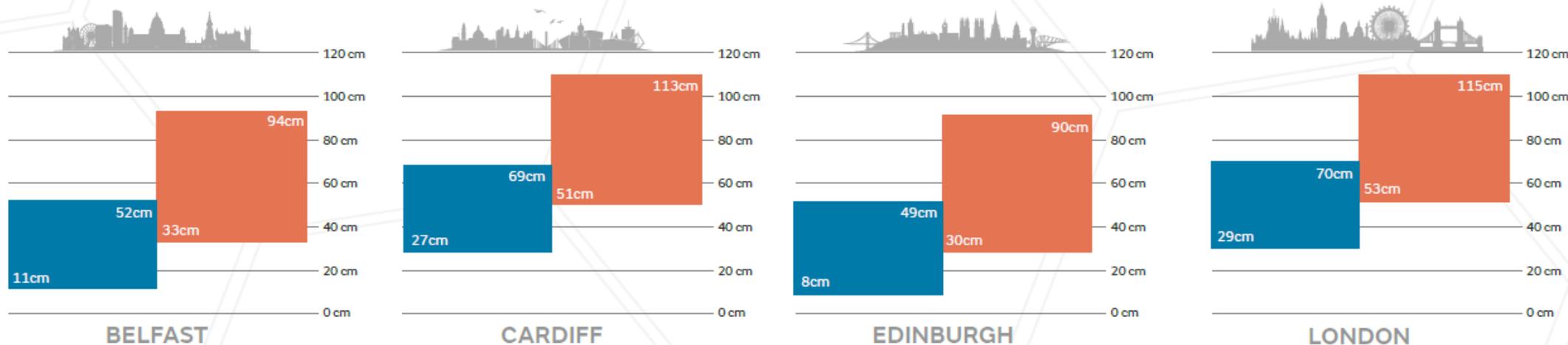
Habitat Creation

# Adaptation

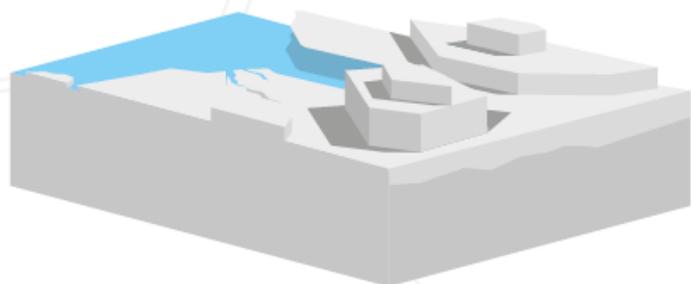


## How much will sea levels rise in the UK?

Projected sea level rise projections at four UK capital cities by 2100 relative to 1981-2000. The range for a low emission scenario (blue) and high emission scenario (red) are shown\*: (For reference, UK sea levels have risen by 16 cm since the start of the 20th century.)



\*RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 are the low and high emission scenarios used, as in IPCC AR5. The range is very likely (5th-95th percentile).



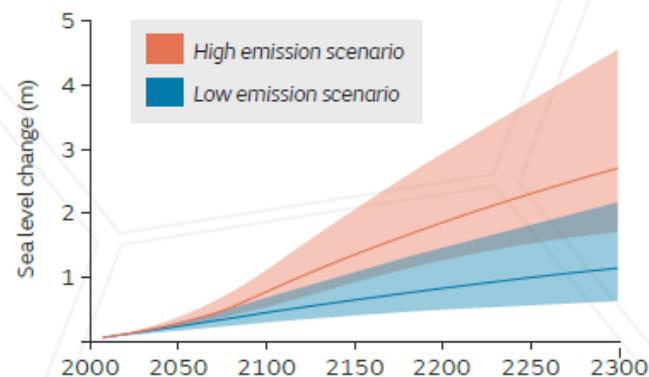
### Ice sheets

Sea levels could rise further if there is additional large-scale melting of ice sheets. Future melting of Antarctic ice sheets is particularly uncertain.



### Sea level extremes

Risk of coastal flooding from storm surges and high tides will increase as sea levels rise.



### Sea levels beyond 2100

Sea levels will continue to rise beyond 2100, however the uncertainty also increases further into the future.

## Overview

**6.3 million homes and businesses in England are at risk from flooding.** With climate change, the total number of properties at risk from flooding could increase to 8 million by the middle of the century – or around one in four properties. Around 3,500 properties are at risk of being lost to coastal erosion by 2055.

**We have a bold strategic vision for the future to transform our approach to investing in resilience to flood and coastal erosion.** The objectives of the new investment framework are for it to be simple, flexible, and strategic to deliver timely interventions and build national resilience.

**This consultation is asking for feedback on two main proposals:**

- The first is on our proposed simplified approach to funding new flood resilience projects
- The second is on our proposed approach to prioritise flood resilience projects

The consultation also includes a **call for evidence on two wider floods investment areas** - seeking views on alternative sources of funding to enable government funding to go further as well as exploring opportunities for English devolution to support flood risk management.

Closes 29 Jul 2025

Opened 3 Jun 2025

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**Contact**

[flood.reports@defra.gov.uk](mailto:flood.reports@defra.gov.uk)

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<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/floods-and-water/reforming-our-approach-to-floods-funding/>

# Questions?

