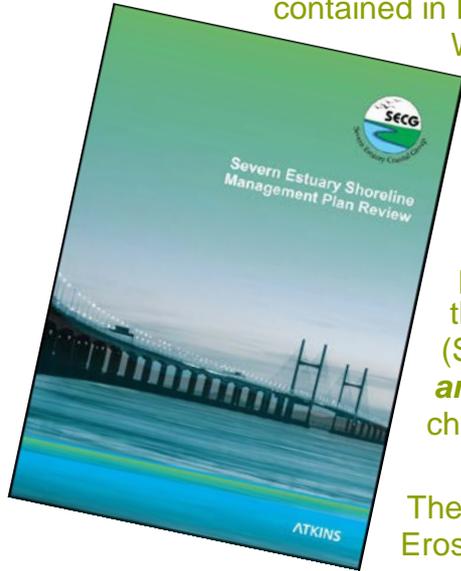


# Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan

## What does it mean for planning in Newport?

### Coastal planning

Welsh Ministers are responsible for planning policy in Wales. Welsh planning policy is contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and Minerals Planning Policy Wales (MPPW) with practical advice and support in Technical Advice Notes (TANs), clarification letters and other guidance issued by the Welsh Government.



Chapter 5 of Planning Policy Wales, TAN 14 (Coastal Planning) and TAN 15 (Development and Flood Risk) provide guidance on planning in coastal areas and other areas at risk of flooding. All three documents make reference to Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) and the **need to SMPs into local authority plan making and development control** to take account of the risk from physical changes and risks at the coast.

The Welsh Government National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management recognises that it is not possible to completely prevent flooding or stop coastal erosion. **Local Authority land use planning and development control have important roles to play in delivering the strategy.**

## Your local Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)

### What is an SMP for?

SMPs provide important information for **planners** and **regulators** to **plan for and manage** the way that the shoreline changes over time, including:

- An assessment of the way that the coast will change over time – taking account of sea level rise and climate change
- Identifying the risks to people, property, the natural and historic environment as the coast changes
- Policies for each stretch of coastline (Policy Unit) to manage the risks in a sustainable way
- Looking ahead at the short term (0 – 20 year), medium term (20 – 50 years) and long term (50 – 100 years)

SMP's have been developed by Local Authorities, Natural Resources Wales and the Environment Agency with other coastal stakeholders and through public consultation. They have been developed for the whole of the Welsh and English coastline.

The **Newport** coast is covered by the **Severn Estuary SMP** ([www.severnestuary.net/secg](http://www.severnestuary.net/secg)). Newport falls within **7 SMP Policy Units**. The SMP recommends mainly HTL policies, with potential for MR in the long term upstream on the River Usk. **A HTL policy does not guarantee the defences will be maintained or raised in line with climate change.**

**Hold the Line (HTL):**  
keeping the line of defence in approximately the same location as it is now

**No Active Intervention (NAI):**  
no maintenance, repair or replacement of existing defence structures, or building of new structures

**Managed Realignment (MR):**  
landward moving of defences, giving up some land to the sea to create a more sustainable defence in the long term

**Advance the Line (ATL):**  
reclaim land from the sea by building new defences further seaward

## How does the SMP work with the Local Development Plan?

The SMP supports and influences a whole range of regional, national and international policies, frameworks and strategies, not just those connected with managing the shoreline.

**SMP to LDP:** SMPs are non-statutory plans. They rely on the statutory planning process to help their implementation.

The policies in the SMP do not contain specific details for schemes – what they will be made of or the standard of protection. This will come from NRW and Local Authority flood risk management plans, the LDP, and other local development aspirations.

Coastal protection and planning are inextricably linked. The SMP can help Local Authority planning departments to **understand the risks in coastal areas** and take those risks into consideration when **developing Local Development Plans** and making **development control decisions**.

SMP's are developed through an understanding of coastal processes and defence needs, environmental considerations, planning issues and current and future land use.

Local Development Plans are a key statutory function of local planning authorities and set the context for decision making in line with national planning policy and the Wales Spatial Plan. Development plans set out objectives for the development and use of land, with policies to implement them. They should be effective in delivering local aspirations and guide growth within the context of sustainable development while protecting and enhancing local character and sensitive environments.

**LDP to SMP:** The SMP process is designed to inform local development plans and be informed by them.

In order to manage risks at the coast, Newport County Council should use the SMP in conjunction with its LDP, Planning Policy Wales, TAN 14 and TAN 15 to help it to provide advice to others on how they may undertake works affecting the coastline, without conflicting with the Plans.

The SMP will help Newport Council look beyond the LDP time horizon to plan up to 2105.

By using SMPs, local planning authorities can help ensure that:

- Adequate **provisions for flood and coastal erosion risk are included in LDPs** and development consents
- Current and future **communities are not at an increased risk** of coastal flooding and erosion
- Future generations are not burdened with **unsustainable defence costs**.

Although SMP2 policies are set out in specific Policy Units and timeframes ('epochs'), these should be seen as **guide to aid in planning for long term change**. The transition from one policy to the next should be a process that takes account of the physical characteristics of the coast and responds to the gradual changes at the coast over time. Change may take place earlier or later than set out in the SMP2 if it is appropriate to do so and is in accordance with the overall intent of the policies.

## Where can I find the SMP?

The Severn Estuary Coastal Group (SECG) has produced the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) for the Severn Estuary. The SMP and information on the coastal group can be found on the SECG website at: <http://www.severnestuary.net/secg/>

For more information on how Newport County Council has been involved with the development of the SMP please contact Lindsay Christian [lindsay.christian@newport.gov.uk](mailto:lindsay.christian@newport.gov.uk)



## Newport – the nature of the coast and associated risk

**Newport** crosses 7 policy units in 3 different theme areas - 'Wentlooge', 'Newport, the River Usk and surrounding area' and 'Caldicot Levels'.



**Coastal Flooding** - Defences will need to be replaced as they reach the end of their servicable life. Replacement will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.

**Coastal erosion** - There is limited erosion in most areas (NEW1 - 5), however erosion is likely in some areas as sea levels rise (WEN2).

**Ecological Habitats** - Coastal squeeze will result in the loss of intertidal habitats in some areas (WEN2, NEW1, CALD1). Opportunities to create habitat through MR should be investigated (WEN2, CALD1).

Local Area	SMP2 Theme Area	SMP2 Policy Unit	SMP Policy						
			0 – 20	20 – 50	50 - 100				
Peterstone	Wentlooge	WEN2	HTL	HTL	HTL				
Marshfield									
Castleton									
Coedkernew									
St. Brides									
Tredegar									
Duffryn									
Tredegar	Newport, the River Usk and surrounding area	NEW1	HTL	HTL	HTL				
Maesglas									
Pillwenlly									
Stow Hill									
Allt-yr-yn									
Barrack Hill									
Brynglas						NEW2	HTL	HTL	HTL
Caerleon						NEW3	NAI	NAI	MR
Bullmore						NEW4	HTL	HTL	HTL
Christchurch									
St. Julians									
St. Julians									
Banardtown	NEW5	HTL	HTL	HTL					
Maindee									
Somerton									
Liswerry									
Pye Corner									
Nash	Caldicot Levels	CALD1	HTL	HTL	HTL				
Uskmouth									
Nash									
Goldcliffe									
Whitson									
Redwick									
Llandavenny									

# SMP policies for Newport

The area	SMP approach	Potential planning issues
<b>WEN2</b> Sluice House Farm to the River Ebbw (west bank) at Maesglas Railway Bridge	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . The existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life in 20-50 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences. Opportunities to create habitat and help manage the impacts of sea level rise through MR should be investigated with stakeholders.
<b>NEW1</b> River Ebbw (east bank) at Maesglas Railway Bridge to River Usk at the transporter bridge (west bank)	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . The existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life within 20 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.
<b>NEW2</b> River Usk at the transporter bridge (west bank) to River Usk at M4 crossing (west bank)	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . Some existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life within 20 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.
<b>NEW3</b> River Usk (both banks) at M4 crossing to Newbridge on Usk	The short and medium term policy is <b>no active intervention</b> . The long term policy is <b>managed realignment</b> , with new realigned defences.	Construction of new, realigned defences. Planning to use appropriate development controls and conditions to help manage the risk to businesses and residents and consider long term realignment.
<b>NEW4</b> River Usk (east bank) at M4 crossing to Spytty Pill (north of A48 crossing)	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . Some existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life within 20 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.
<b>NEW5</b> River Usk (east bank) at Spytty Pill (north of A48 crossing) to Uskmouth Power Station point	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . Some existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life within 20 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.
<b>CALD1</b> Uskmouth Power Station point to Sudbrook point (north of M4 crossing)	The short, medium and long term policy is <b>hold the line</b> . Existing defences are expected to come to the end of their serviceable life within 20 years.	Replacement and maintenance of defences. Opportunities to create habitat and help manage the impacts of sea level rise through MR should be investigated with stakeholders.