

Poole Bay



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Present day:
Years 0 - 20

Medium-term:
Years 20 - 50

Long-term:
Years 50 - 100

Poole Bay

Branksome Dene Chine
(Poole/Bournemouth
Borough boundary) to
Sandbanks.

Hold the Line – This length of coastline includes Branksome Dene Chine, Branksome Chine, Canford Cliffs Chine, Flag Head Chine, Shore Road and Sandbanks.

The main defence along this section is a sandy beach, which is protected from erosion by a series of rock groynes. The groynes do not completely eliminate the process of erosion so periodically the beach needs to be replenished.

With the exception of some parts of Sandbanks further protection against erosion is offered by a sea wall at the rear of the beach, and from Shore Road to Branksome Dene Chine there are cliffs. If the defences are not maintained the eroding beach will result in the undermining of the seawall and the cliff toe. Should the sea wall fail the cliffs will start to erode faster and properties will be lost.

If the defences are not maintained at Sandbanks there is an increasing risk of the peninsular being breached, potentially leading to the loss, damage and flooding of properties. If Sandbanks peninsular was to be breached there would be a far greater threat to the whole of Poole Harbour from flooding and erosion.

Thus there is economic justification to maintain the defences (or 'Hold the Line').

The SMP2 'Hold the Line' policy for this section of coast is the same as in the original 1999 SMP.

Poole Harbour



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Poole Harbour

Sandbanks to Lytchett Bay

Hold the Line – This length of Harbour coastline includes Evening Hill, Parkstone, Whitecliff, Baiter, the Town Quays, Holes Bay, Hamworthy and Rockley.

The north side of Poole Harbour is largely urbanised and it is suggested that the coastal defences should be maintained to protect property from flooding and erosion.

There are a number of different types of defences around this side of the harbour including concrete sea walls, rock revetments and quayside.

Many of these defences belong to various organisations such as Borough of Poole, Poole Harbour Commissioners and the Environment Agency; others are privately owned. If the defences are not maintained there is an increased risk of flooding damage and loss of property.

The SMP policy is to maintain these existing defences and 'Hold the Line'. Maintenance of this Hold the Line policy in the longer term may require these defences to be raised. New structures may also have to be built in the future to protect properties from flood damage and erosion loss.

The exception to this Hold the Line policy will be the relatively short lengths of coastline adjacent to Ham Common and Lytchett Bay. These unprotected sections will be allowed to erode naturally.

The SMP2 'Hold the Line' policy for this section of coast is the same as in the original SMP (1999).