

Contact Details

The SMP review is being led by a Client Steering Group, the members of which are:

Bournemouth Borough Council - Lead Authority

Dr David Harlow
Coast Protection Manager
Tel: 01202 451389
Email: david.harlow@bournemouth.gov.uk

Christchurch Borough Council

Steve Woolard
Senior Engineer - Flooding & Coastal Management
Tel: 01202 495095
Email: s.woolard@christchurch.gov.uk

Environment Agency

Andrew Gill
Flood Risk Mapping & Data Management Team Leader
Tel: 01258 483356
Email: andrew.gill@environment-agency.gov.uk

National Trust

Tony Flux
Dorset Coastal Zone Project Manager
Tel: 07919 585859
Email: tony.flux@nationaltrust.org.uk

Natural England

Richard Caldwell
Maritime Adviser
Tel: 01929 557450
Email: richard.caldow@naturalengland.org.uk

New Forest District Council

Steve Cook
Assistant Engineer
Tel: 02380 285648
Email: steve.cook@nfdc.gov.uk

Borough of Poole

Dave Robson
Senior Engineer
Tel: 01202 261306
Email: d.robson@poole.gov.uk

Poole Harbour Commissioners

Andy Ramsbottom
Harbour Engineer
Tel: 01202 440234
Email: andyramsbottom@phc.co.uk

Purbeck District Council

Mike Goater
District Engineer
Tel: 01929 557271
Email: mikegoater@purbeck-dc.gov.uk

For further information, or to register as a stakeholder and complete a questionnaire, please either:
Tel: 01202 451323
Email: shorelinemanagementplan@nfdc.gov.uk
Visit: www.twobays.net

Other formats & translations

We can supply this information in large print, on audio tape or in your own language. Please call **01202 451323**

Why do we need a Management Plan?

The coastline is under increasing pressure and threat. The scenery and the recreational potential draw large numbers of visitors, especially in the summer.

Increasing human impact and influence is creating a range of pressures that threaten to change the special character, and the natural balance of your coast.

Effective management of the coastline will take into consideration local businesses, tourism, public amenity, land use and planning issues.

Balancing these needs effectively is crucial in order to design a plan that is to operate for the next 100 years.



Leisure Activities in Poole Harbour



Port of Poole



Properties near the cliff edge at Naish

SMP Review

Since the first SMP was produced in 1999, new and updated guidance has been produced by the Government. SMPs need:

- More emphasis on improved links with the planning system
- More consideration of effects on the environment longer-term
- Longer term coastal defence policies for a 100 year period

There is also a greater need to ensure that stakeholders have the opportunity to be fully involved in the review of the SMP.

Your chance to be involved - Stakeholder Consultation

Various stakeholders, interested groups and the general public are being asked for their input into the development of this SMP.

The map in this leaflet illustrates the SMP area and some of the issues to be considered.

Your views are important to the development and review of the SMP.

If you wish to make any comments or provide any further information, then please complete a questionnaire.

Questionnaires can be obtained from any of the addresses listed on the contact page, or from the website: www.twobays.net



Nature Conservation

The diverse coastline within this SMP area supports a particularly rich natural environment which is recognised and designated as being of national and international importance for a range of habitats and species.

These special places are highly valued for their natural beauty and include some of our best known landmarks along the Dorset coast.

In order to sustain rich and diverse coastal habitats that are able to adapt to coastal change, the SMP will need to take a long term perspective on the way the coast is managed.

The environmental effects of all policies will be thoroughly assessed before deciding which policy to adopt



Barton cliffs have an abundance of fossils



Studland Sand Dunes



Bar-tailed Godwit



Oystercatcher



Sanderling



Adders are a protected species*

Climate Change

Factors associated with climate change include:

- Higher sea levels
- Increased storms
- Larger waves
- Increased winter rainfall
- Changes in temperature

All these factors must be considered when designing flood and coastal defences.



Cliff failure, Barton on Sea 2007



Stormy seas at Milford in 2007

Poole & Christchurch Bays Shoreline Management Plan

REVIEW

Hurst Spit to Durlston Head

We need your input to identify the issues that concern you about the future of **YOUR** coast. Have **YOUR** say!



Spring 2008
www.twobays.net

Shoreline Management Plans

A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) is a non statutory document that provides a broad assessment of the long term risks associated with coastal processes in order to reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment.

The Poole and Christchurch Bays SMP considers coastal defence policies for the area from Hurst Spit to Durlston Head, including Poole and Christchurch Harbours.

The shoreline is divided into a series of management units, defined by coastal processes, headlands or estuaries.

The management policy for each management unit is defined through the SMP as one of the following:

- **Hold the existing defence line** by maintaining or changing the standard of protection.
- **Advance the existing defence line** by building new defences on the seaward side of the original defences.
- **Managed Realignment** by allowing the shoreline to move backwards or forwards.
- **No active intervention** where there is no investment in coastal defences or operations.

Careful consideration has to be given to all the different types of coastline and land usage along the SMP area. The SMP will be instrumental in planning these considerations for the next 100 years.



SMP Objectives

An SMP should provide the basis for policies for a length of coastline and set the framework for managing risks along the coastline in the future.

Some of the objectives are to:

- Set out the risks from flooding and coastal erosion, and have a sustainable and adaptive approach to climate change
- Identify opportunities to maintain and improve the environment
- Identify the consequences of putting the preferred policies into practice
- Inform others so that future land use takes account of the risks

Poole Harbour is among the world's largest natural harbours and contains a regionally significant port. The conurbation of Poole forms its northern boundary and it is a popular recreation destination. The harbour's sheltered shallow waters and islands comprise a mosaic of intertidal habitats fringed with heathland, freshwater marshes and reedbeds. These sites are nationally and internationally designated and provide important habitats which support thousands of migrant, wintering and breeding birds.



Brownsea Island is owned and managed by the National Trust, and is home to butterflies, wintering and migrant birds, reptiles, red squirrel, sika deer and peacocks. Habitats on Brownsea include a brackish lagoon, freshwater lakes, mixed woodlands, pinewoods and heath.



Poole's shoreline will require replenishment over the next 100 years in order to maintain protective beach levels and widths.



Bournemouth beach has been the subject of 4 major recharge campaigns, in 1970, 1974/75, 1988/90 and 2006/07.



An artificial surfing reef is to be constructed just east of Boscombe Pier, to form an integral part of a larger redevelopment scheme to regenerate the Boscombe seafront area. The reef will be built from large geotextile bags filled with sand, some up to 30 m long.



Studland is a popular tourist destination, with long sandy beaches, and an internationally recognised wildlife interest. It is a National Nature Reserve, managed and owned by the National Trust. It is at risk from coastal erosion, and the low soft cliffs can erode quite rapidly during storm events.



Swanage Bay faces east and is protected from the major southwesterly storms. It is a popular holiday and tourist destination, with its attractive promenade, beaches and views. It is also important geologically, and occasionally dinosaur remains have been found in the alluvial chalk strata.

Durlston Head



The high limestone cliffs which characterise Durlston Head are undefended and provide a great habitat for birds and animals. They also provide a great vantage point for spotting pods of dolphins out at sea which are frequent visitors to the Dorset coastline. Being undefended, it allows for natural coastal processes to take place without interference.

Continuing erosion of the chalk cliffs has produced a series of embayments and stacks that define the prominent headland known as Old Harry Rocks.



Christchurch Harbour is an important ecological nature reserve with numerous national and international conservation designations. It is an important habitat for breeding, migrant and wintering wetland birds. The risk of increased flooding from either a breach of Hengistbury Head or Mudeford Spit will be considered by the SMP.



Christchurch Harbour

Christchurch Bay

Hengistbury Head



Hengistbury Head is an important historic feature, and nature reserve for many species of flora and fauna. It forms a natural defence for Christchurch Harbour. The SMP will consider the risk of a breach of the Hengistbury Head peninsular and take this into account when setting the management policies for this section of coast.

Due to underlying geology (interbedded sand and clay overlaid by gravel) Barton on Sea is subjected to erosion. Over the years, extensive coast protection work has been carried out, including new revetment, rock groynes and cliff drainage work.



Hurst Spit is an important coastal defence, as it shelters the Western Solent from the effect of wave impact during storm events. Major work was undertaken in 1996 to replenish Hurst Spit with shingle, and construct a rock breakwater and new rock revetment.

Photos courtesy of Poole Harbour Commissioners, Dr D Harlow, Bournemouth Borough Council, Borough of Poole, Purbeck District Council & New Forest District Council, unless otherwise stated.

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Bird photos courtesy of Alan Hayden, Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Group.

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