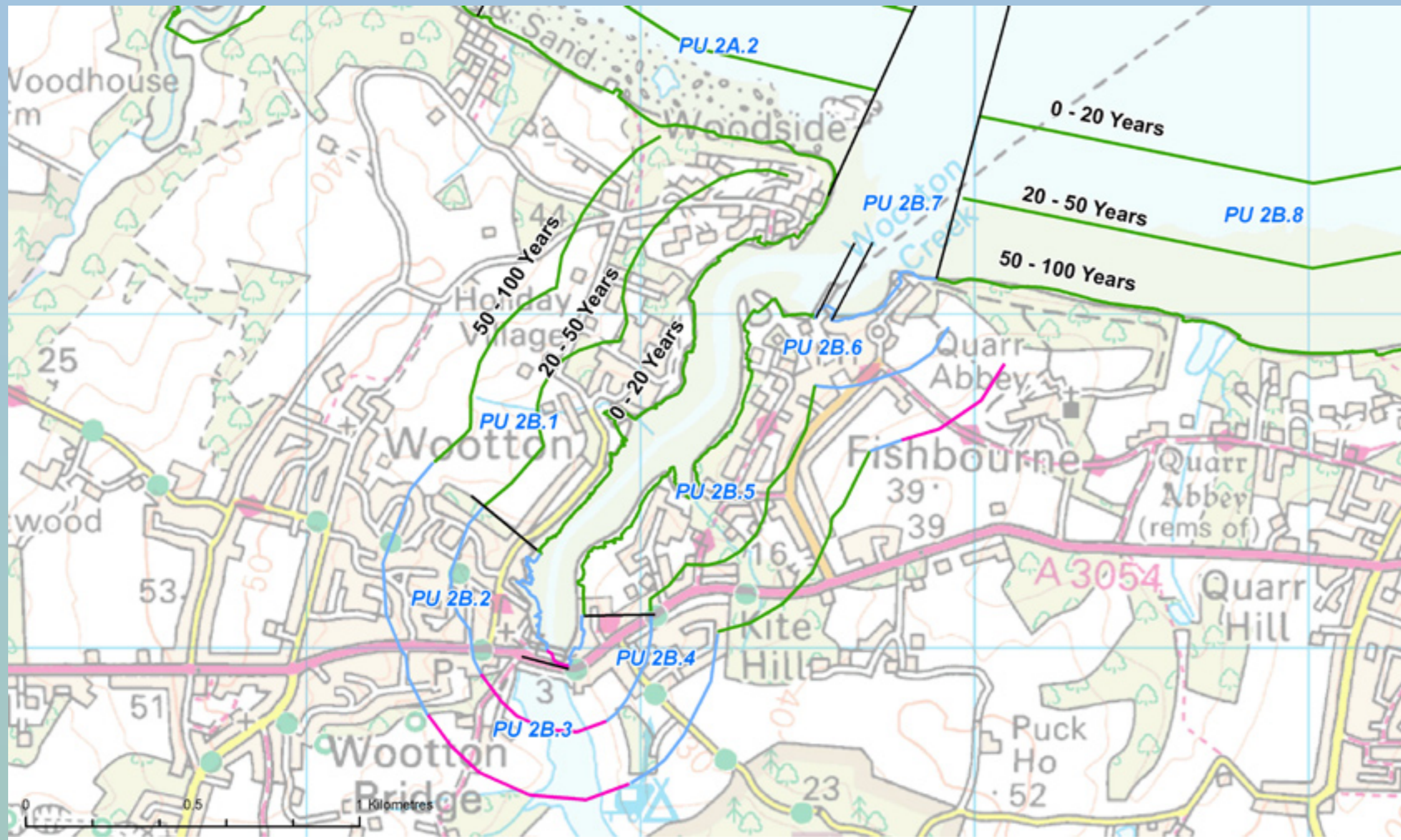
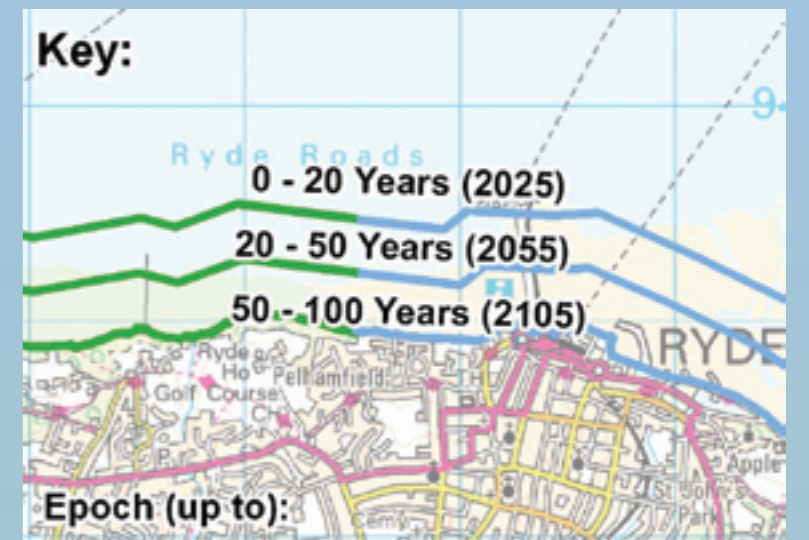
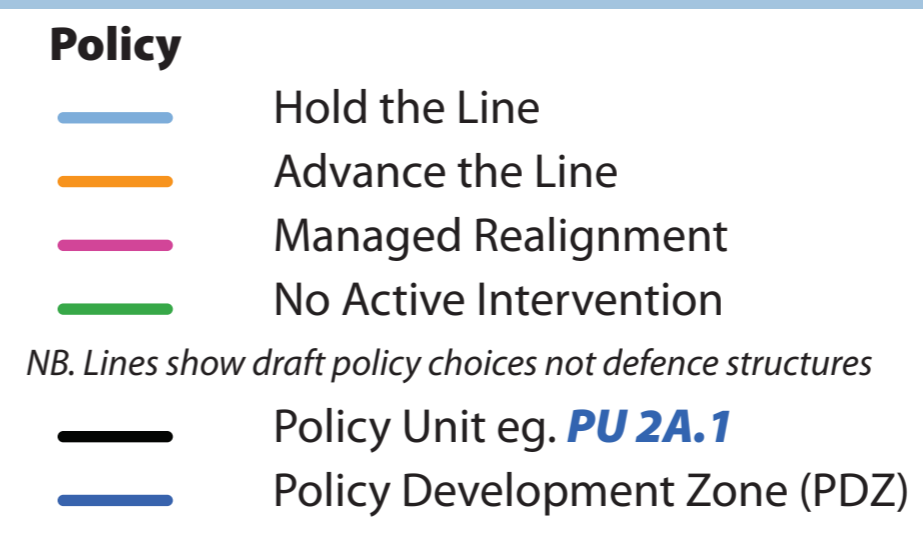


# Wootton Creek

Wootton Creek



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Wootton Creek

## Shoreline Management Plan - Proposed Policies:

The proposed SMP policies within Wootton Creek aim to maintain the important economic viability of the area by continuing to defend key built assets, and to allow the remainder of the area to adapt more naturally to future coastal change, leading to more sustainable long-term use of the shoreline.

A policy of no active intervention would be unacceptable for the whole of the creek given the location of important transport links to the mainland and properties at flood and erosion risk. However, within the majority of the creek, properties are generally set back from the coast rather than on the waterline.

Near the southern limit of the creek and along the outer-eastern creek there are waterfront properties at flood and erosion risk and the policy is to maintain these through public and private defences where it is economic to do so.

PDZ 2	Present day: Years 0 - 20	Medium-term: Years 20 - 50	Long-term: Years 50 - 100
<b>2B.1 &amp; 2B.5 Western &amp; Eastern Wootton Creek</b>	<b>No Active Intervention:</b> Along the western and eastern banks inside Wootton Creek the majority of properties are set back from the shoreline and are not in the flood risk zone. A policy of no active intervention along these frontages will not preclude maintenance of existing private defences and waterside access structures fronting the individual properties and gardens, subject to normal approvals. Wherever possible, allow the estuary to function naturally and allow realignment to occur as sea level rises. This will avoid increasing future assets within the flood risk zone and encourage planned retreat and adaptation.		
<b>2B.2 &amp; 2B.4 Southern Wootton Creek</b>	<b>Hold the Line:</b> At the inner end of Wootton Creek, the margins of Wootton and Fishbourne villages reach down to the waterside near Wootton Bridge, with properties at increasing risk of tidal flooding. The intent of the plan is to protect the community where economically viable to do so, through both private and public defences. A policy of hold the line is proposed to allow measures to reduce flood risk when required and where economically viable, including the maintenance of private defences. An important element of the plan is to maintain the functioning of the important Newport to Ryde road link which crosses the estuary at Wootton Bridge.		
<b>2B.3 Old Mill Pond</b>	<b>Managed Realignment:</b> Wootton Old Mill Pond is an important element in the character of the area. Historically, water levels have been controlled and are currently managed through a series of structures at Wootton Bridge to prevent flood risk. It is an aspiration of Natural England, Isle of Wight Council and the Environment Agency to return the Mill Pond to estuarine conditions in the long-term with inter tidal mud flats. However, there are a number of constraints to this including the potential effect downstream of the bridge, the visual effect of low tide conditions upstream of the bridge and the concerns of local businesses. The SMP supports gradual adaptation through a policy of managed realignment for the sluices and the mill pond, whilst maintaining the important road link. The intention of management is to move towards a more natural system in the medium term, allowing increased saline intrusion within the practicalities of the control structures and local management constraints. This needs to be gradual change, allowing time for habitat adaptation to support the nature conservation interest of the area. In the long term, the aspiration is to re-instate tidal conditions, although this will need careful consideration of whether reducing management would impact upon erosion or damage to property down stream.		
<b>2B.3 Fishbourne Ferry Terminal</b>	<b>Hold the Line:</b> At the mouth of the Creek at Fishbourne Ferry Terminal the intent is to hold the line with private defences. With increasing sea level rise, there is likely to be need for further defences to maintain this critical infrastructure for the Island in the medium to long term, although opportunities to retreat the defences should also be considered.		
<b>2B.7 Outer Eastern Creek</b>	<b>Hold the Line:</b> In the outer eastern section of the creek there are a number of properties at potential risk from erosion and flooding over the next 100 years. This area is currently defended and the SMP proposes allowing the maintenance of private and public defences in the short to medium term (where economic to do so), on the basis that in the long term risk levels will continue to increase and adaptation to coastal change will be necessary in the long term. The economic justification for defences is limited and road access to several properties is also at risk in the medium to long term. A policy of hold the line will maximise the benefit of the existing defences for the short and medium term.	<b>Managed Realignment:</b> In the long term we recommend looking at opportunities to retreat and realign the defences to the east of the terminal to adapt to ongoing coastal change and sea level rise. This would provide a transitional zone into Quarr and Binstead where the proposed policy is to allow natural retreat to occur.	

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