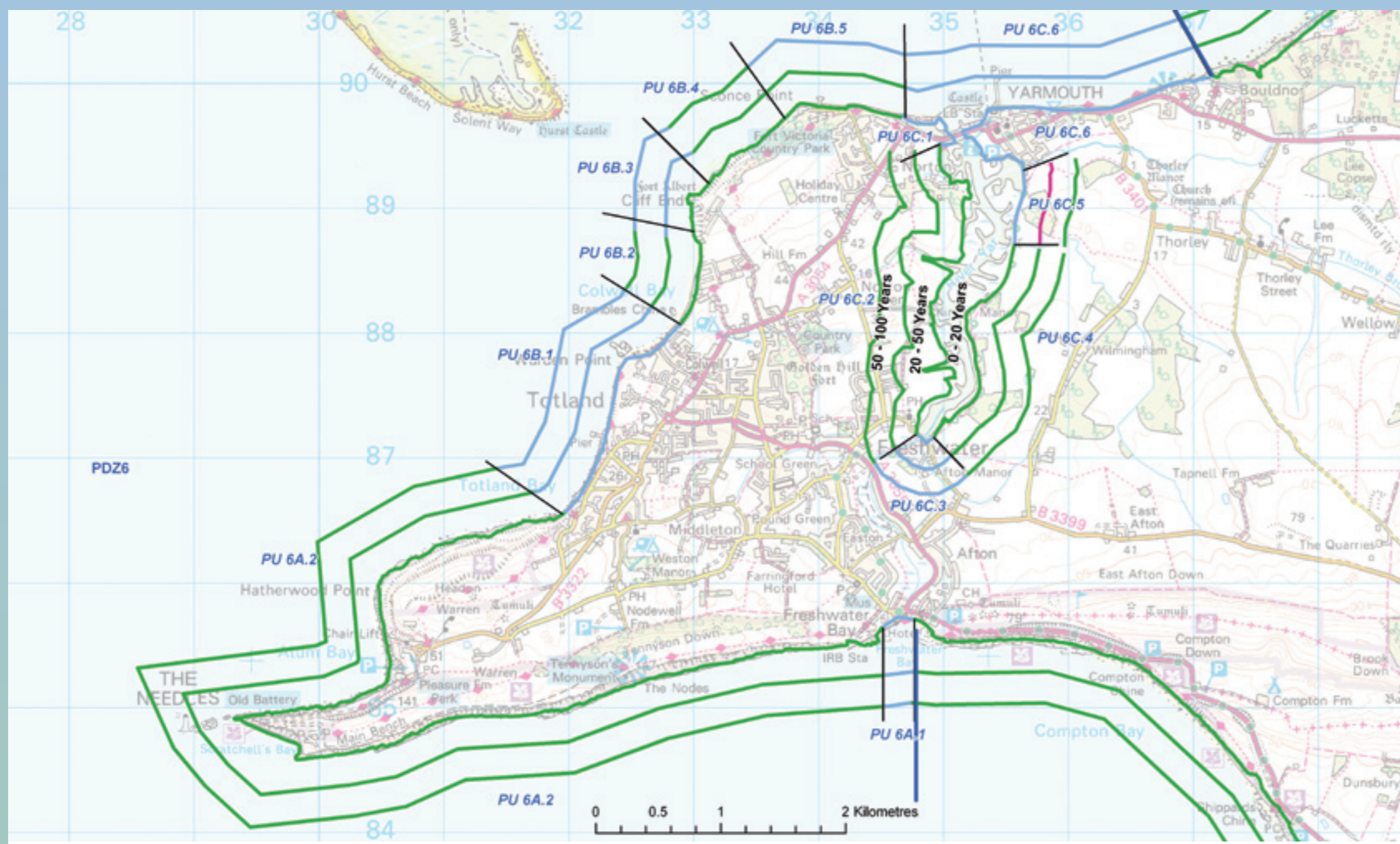
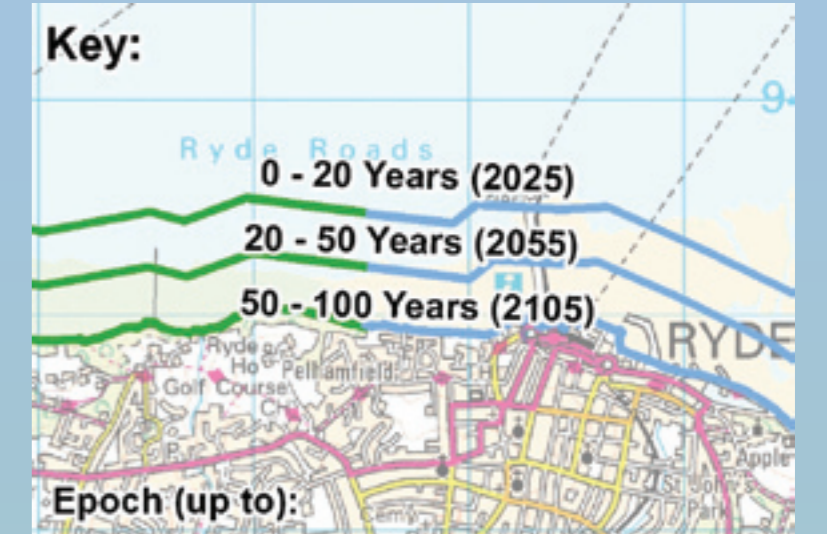


West Wight: Freshwater, Totland, Colwell and Norton

Needles Headland



- Policy**
- Hold the Line
 - Advance the Line
 - Managed Realignment
 - No Active Intervention
- NB. Lines show draft policy choices not defence structures
- Policy Unit eg. **PU 2A.1**
 - Policy Development Zone (PDZ)



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Shoreline Management Plan - Proposed Policies:

It is important to preserve the spectacular natural coastline of Tennyson Down, Alum Bay and Headon Warren by allowing coastal erosion to occur.

To the north, the coastline from Totland to Norton is characterised by a mixture of defended headlands and undefended bays of retreating weak cliffs.

In this area the proposed plan is to maximise the benefit of the existing defence structures, then to

adapt to a more natural coastline over the medium to longer term. This will minimise future reliance on coastal defences and avoid long-term increased embayment of retreating bays between fixed headlands. The intention is to avoid the fragmented approach likely to result from previous shoreline management policies (which were set for 50 years) and transfer to a more sustainable approach between 50 and 100 years time.

Where development is relatively sparse the plan is to transfer to a policy of no active intervention in the medium to long term on this rapidly changing coastline. Although the general intention is to adapt to future change, the specific intention of the proposed plan is to allow maintenance of existing defended frontages in the short to medium term for the benefit of the local communities, and to allow time for the areas to adapt.

PDZ 6	Present day: Years 0 - 20	Medium-term: Years 20 - 50	Long-term: Years 50 - 100
6A.1 Freshwater Bay	Hold the Line: At Freshwater Bay the seawall provides flood defence for Freshwater and the low-lying Western Yar Valley. The intention is to maintain and raise the level of the existing flood defences, to maintain the road and support or enhance the protective beach. This defence needs to be managed in conjunction with Western Yar Estuary to prevent tidal breach through from the south coast of the Island to the Estuary in the medium to long term. This will preserve transport links crossing the valley which are essential to sustaining effective communities in Totland and the West Wight.		
6A.2 Tennyson Down, Alum Bay, Headon Warren	No Active Intervention: This area is very important in terms of nature conservation interest, unspoilt landscape and tourism and amenity use. The intent of management is to maintain this natural character through a continuous policy of no active intervention along the high undefended cliff lines, with continuing coastal erosion and cliff retreat. There is no economic justification or requirement for an alternative approach. There will be the need to adapt to continuing coastal change throughout the next 100 years.		
6B.1 Totland & Colwell	Hold the Line: Defences fronting Totland, Warden Point and southern Colwell Bay should be replaced to maintain the community and seafront access, where it is economic to do so. In this area, erosion would retreat back through a number of coastal properties and on into the developed areas behind, as the weak cliffs are at risk of landslip and retreat. Maintaining the defences will reduce the risk of cliff failures but it should be recognised that the coastline will still be vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including winter rainfall destabilising the weak cliffs. There are not proposals to extend the current defences.		
6B.2 Central Colwell Bay	No Active Intervention: Erosion and retreat of the cliffs will continue, providing sediment to the beaches, allowing natural adaptation of the habitats, and maintaining the geological interest and landscape.		
6B.3 Fort Albert	Hold the Line: Existing coastal defence structures that are currently relied upon can be maintained to extend their life into the medium term, to maximise their benefit for protecting Fort Albert, cliff top residences and holiday developments and access to the Fort. Erosion and retreat of the adjacent shorelines to the north and south will continue.	No Active Intervention: Transfer to a more sustainable approach in the long-term, allowing the local community time to adapt to co-exist with a more natural retreating coastline.	
6B.4 Fort Victoria Country Park	No Active Intervention: Erosion and retreat of the cliffs will continue, providing sediment to the beaches, allowing natural adaptation of the habitats, and maintaining the geological interest and landscape.		
6B.5 Fort Victoria & Norton	Hold the Line: Sections of the defences along this unit are already in poor condition, with more recent defences in the east of the unit, fronting grassed areas. Existing structures can be maintained to extend their life through the next 20 years.	No Active Intervention: This area does not have the same economic justification for defences as intensively developed frontages elsewhere on the Island, although local facilities provided in the area are important. The intent is to gradually reduce the influence of management in the medium to long term. Transfer to a policy of no active intervention would not preclude maintenance of private defences. Adaptation of the access to Fort Victoria and use of the area should be considered in the short to medium term.	

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