SMP Policy Definitions

Hold the line: maintain or upgrade the level of protection provided by defences or natural coastline.	
Maintain / Replace	Where protection is currently provided by coastal defence structures / managed beaches and the intention is to retain defence along current alignment, replacing any failed defences as necessary and if justifiable. This can include modifying defence structures and altering the Standard of Protection.
New Defences	Where no defences currently exist but the intention is for new defences to be introduced, potentially following an NAI or MR policy.
Repair not Replace	Where protection is currently provided by coastal defence structures which might be maintained and repaired, but not replaced at failure or at the end of their life.
Temporary Intervention	Allow non-permanent/short-term measures that temporarily reduce flood or erosion risk (e.g. while transition measures / response plans are being established).
Local Activity Only	Where works to repair or construct short stretches of defences within a long length of otherwise NAI shoreline might be permitted to provide local protection (e.g. to a slipway, access point or isolated properties).
Natural Features	Where the intent is to maintain the integrity of the natural feature (e.g. dune, spit, shingle barrier) to provide a defence function rather than fix its position, by active management of the natural feature but not structural intervention.
Managed Realignment: manage the coastal processes to realign the 'natural' coastline configuration, either seaward or landward, in order to create a future sustainable shoreline position.	
Set Back Defence	Where the intent is to defend elsewhere in flood plain inland from present shoreline, or allow erosion/retreat to a defined alignment, where new defences could be constructed at that new location.
Slow Erosion	Where non-permanent/short-term measures would be permitted that slow, not stop, erosion of cliffs or soft backshore.
Remove Defences	Where defences are present and the intent is to remove them to allow the shoreline to begin to realign (erode, or flood to higher ground).
Placeholder	Situations where MR has been used as a placeholder due to lack of knowledge, for example where further studies were needed to confirm approach. Situations where MR has been used as a placeholder due to

	uncertainty on policy due to a dependency on other asset owners (e.g. to relocate a highway, golf course etc.), and where there was a need for measures to first be developed to relocate people. Situations where a MR policy has been set to deliver a suite of different actions across a management area. For future policy changes these would be reassigned as appropriate to the outcome of the further assessments.
Natural Features	Where the intent is to maintain the integrity of the natural feature (e.g. dune, spit, shingle barrier) to provide a defence function rather than fix its position, by active management of the natural feature but not structural intervention.
Repair not Replace	Where protection is currently provided by coastal defence structures which might be maintained and repaired, but not replaced at failure or at the end of their life.
Local Activity Only	Where works to repair or construct short stretches of defences within a long length of otherwise NAI shoreline might be permitted to provide local protection (e.g. to a slipway, access point or isolated properties).
No Active Intervention: a decision not to invest in providing or maintaining defences or natural coastline.	
No need to Defend	Where there are no assets at risk and no defences are present. There is no requirement or intention to introduce defences.
Do not Defend	Where no defences are present, and it would be technically/ environmentally unacceptable to introduce any due to the impact.
Cease to Maintain	Where defences are present, but the intent is that no further works are carried out to maintain them.
Local Activity Only	Where works to repair or construct short stretches of defences within a long length of otherwise NAI shoreline might be permitted to provide local protection (e.g. to a slipway, access point or isolated properties).
Remove Defences	Where defences are present and the intent is to remove them to allow the shoreline to begin to realign (erode, or flood to higher ground).
Advance the Line: Build new defences seaward of the existing defence line where significant land reclamation is considered. *Very rarely used – not on any MS4S locations.*	

Hold the Line

The intent of this policy option is to maintain defence to important assets or interests at the coast. This does not necessarily mean that the existing defences would be maintained in exactly the same form as they are at present. There may be a need to adjust the local alignment in the future or to replace or add structures. In this way, constructing cross shore or shore linked structures, such as groynes or breakwaters, may be the approach adopted in the future under this policy in specific cases. The proposed policy therefore sets the intent to maintain defence of the important features in an appropriate manner.

Managed Realignment

This policy option may arise from a series of different circumstances and objectives. The ethos of MR is that management of the shoreline would be improved by either allowing for and/or creating the conditions for the coast to realign. A very obvious example of this is in moving a sea wall back from the active coastal zone, providing a more secure position for such a defence while the shoreline re-adjusts. Other examples are where intervention at the coast may be less onerous if the coast is allowed to retreat before intervention is undertaken. This may, for example, create the opportunity to retain a beach in front of a set-back hard defence. In summary, MR is used to allow the shoreline to move backwards or forwards, with management to control or limit movement of the shoreline, so as to achieve a specific outcome.

No Active Intervention

The policy option of NAI has developed from two distinct set of circumstances. In the first, the SMP has identified the need for the coast to be allowed to develop naturally. Typically, it may be that erosion of a frontage is providing sediment to other sections of the coast and therefore, may be important that the coast is allowed to continue to erode if sustainable intervention is to be achieved elsewhere. Where this or some similar condition applies, this is discussed in the SMP. The other situation where the policy of NAI is defined may arise where it is unlikely that operating authorities would provide funding for defence. It may be that works have a cost/benefit ratio less than one, or there may not be priority funding. Where appropriate, the SMP introduces caveats to make this distinction. The SMP has identified that privately funded works may still be permissible, however, there may be conditions associated with this such that private works do not result in negative impacts on other interests.

Advance the Line

An ATL policy option may be adopted where advancement of the shoreline would assist in creating a more robust defensive position and provide additional opportunity for increased intertidal width and/or land reclaim. Advancement of the line may not necessarily require the construction of structures seaward of the existing shoreline. Examples include the construction of tidal barriers or outer harbour walls where this provides a more sustainable solution based on the objectives and core values of a given community or settlement. Alternatively, advancing the line can be used in order to introduce variation into the plan shape of a coastal frontage and encourage the accumulation of sediment and promote sustainable management of the intertidal width.