

Coastal Management Policies



England's coastline is split up into different units, and each unit has one of the following management policies agreed.

Hold the line

Maintaining or changing the current standard of protection. Coastal defences protect a coastline against the impacts of sea level rise, coastal erosion and flooding. May either be soft or hard engineered.



Allowing the shoreline to move backwards or forwards, with management to control or limit movement. This includes reducing erosion or building new defences on the landward side of the original defences.

Managed realignment



Advance the line

Building new defences on the seaward side of the original defences. Use of this policy is limited to those policy units where significant land reclamation is considered.



Where there is no planned investment in coastal defences or operations. It would not be feasible to protect the area even if management schemes are already in place.

No active intervention

