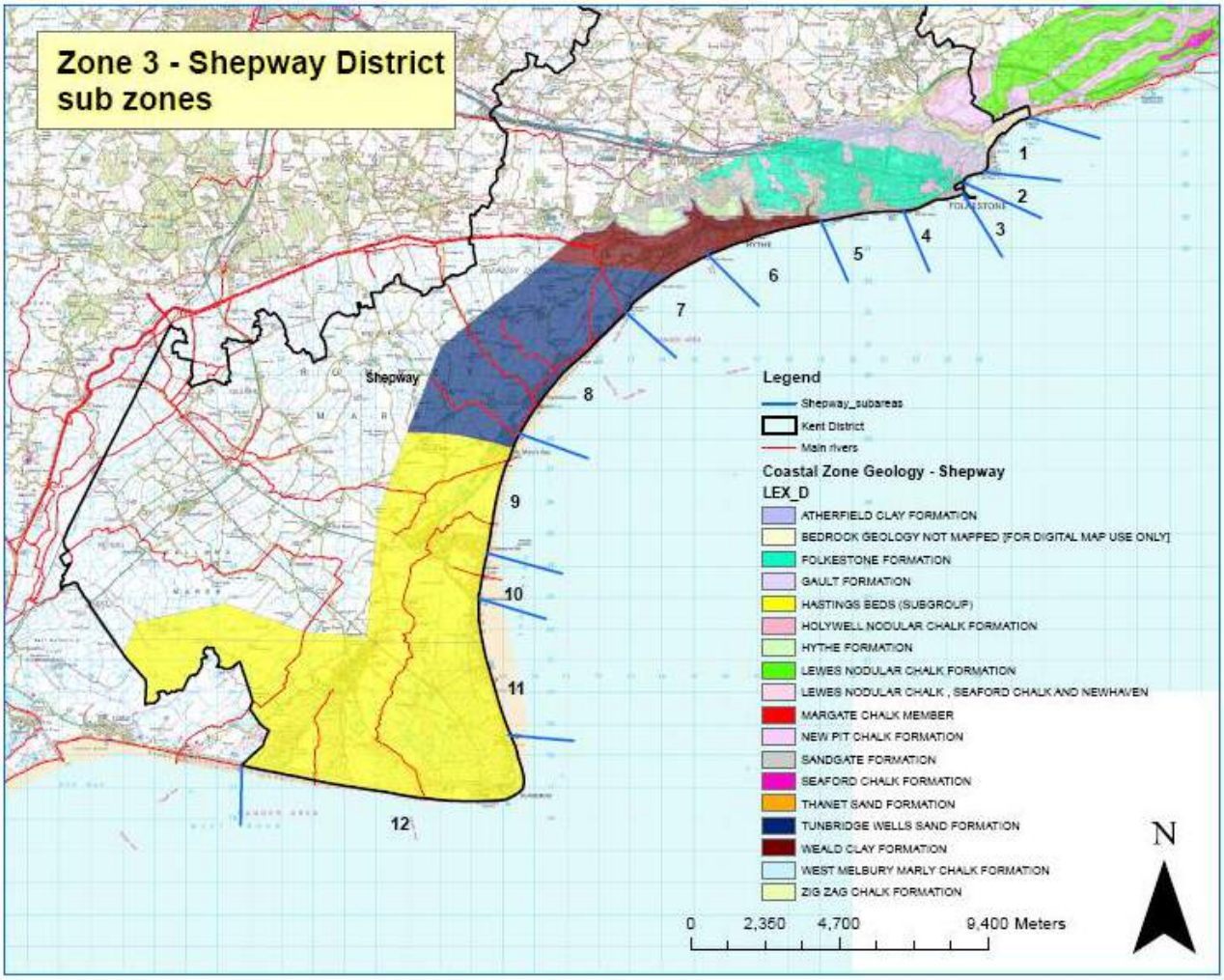
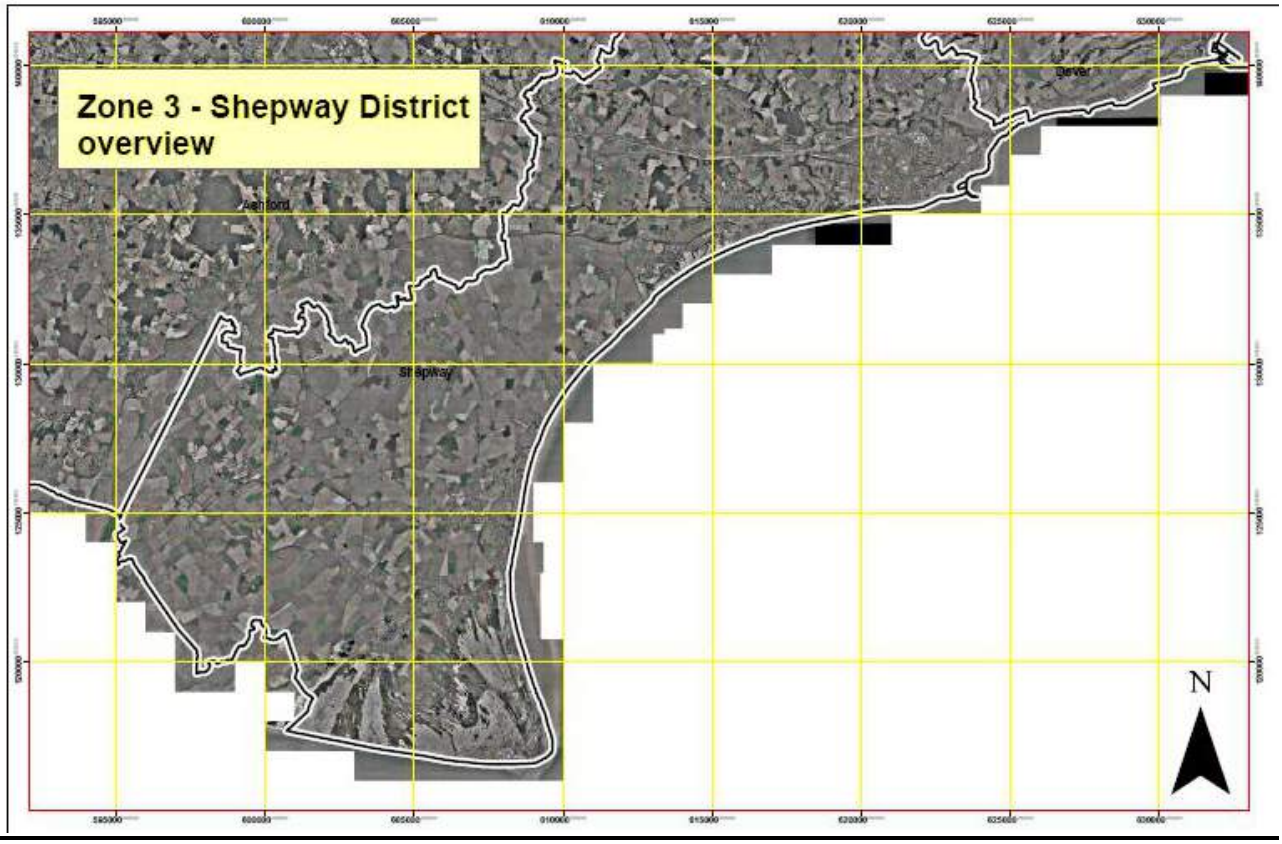
6.5 – SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL – CHANNEL FORESHORE (Zone 3 Folkestone Warren to Dungeness)

6.5.1 Ordnance Survey Landranger base



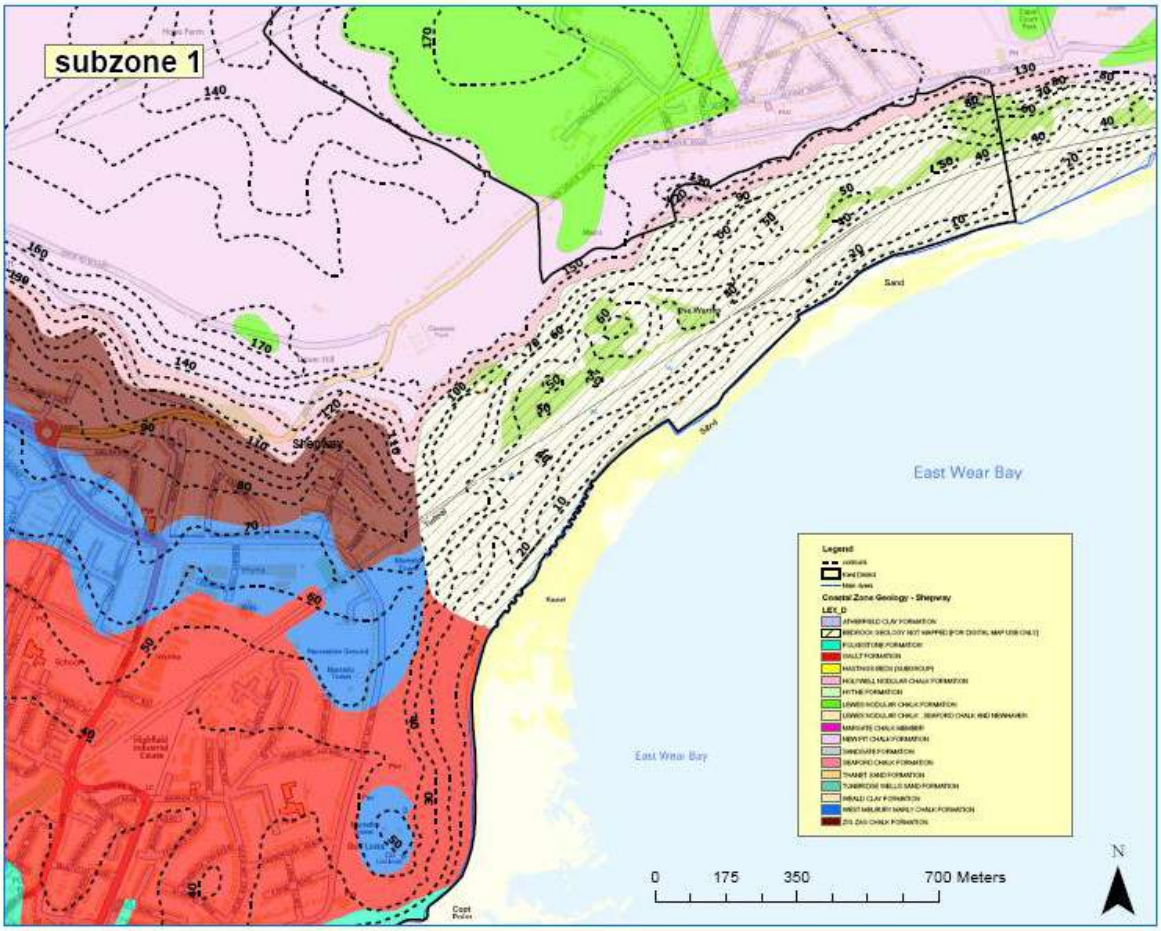
6.5.2 Ordnance Survey Aerial base

(Shepway District – Channel Zone 3)



6.6 – SHEPWAY ZONAL PLANS

6.6.1 Sub-zonal Plan 3.1 – The Warren, Folkestone


subzone 1
East Wear Bay
Shepway
Sand
Legend
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
0
175
350
700 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.1: The Warren, Folkestone (western extent).

Sub-zone 3.1: The Warren, Folkestone (eastern extent).

Zone: **The Warren, Folkestone**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.1**

General description of shoreline:

Sandy shoreline with timber break-waters backed by the Warren itself and chalk cliffs with a central section comprising concrete structural defences. A steep gradient profile is a feature of this sub-zone at 1:11.

The shoreline covers an area of 342356 square metres (incorporating an area of 323654 square metres between High and Low Water Mark) and is 2.508 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 625628.0E / 138114.0N and 624169.0E / 136420.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	High	Moderate
Summer	High	High	Moderate
Autumn	High	High	Moderate
Winter	High	Moderate	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Extreme care to be taken on natural substrates to avoid trampling or contamination: physical removal of oil and oiled debris, use of absorbants and reliance upon natural wave-action cleansing recommended.

No Pressure flushing of natural and semi-natural substrates i.e. cliffs, reefs, beach, landslip areas or breakwaters below High Water Mark. No mechanical removal or tearing up of vegetation within this zone.

Cordoning of open drainage channels within the concrete apron structure is recommended, as these may present a hazard to vehicles and pedestrian working in their vicinity.

The soft substrates on the sandy beach at the western extent of this zone may present a stranding threat to conventional vehicles and tracked vehicles are optimum solution.

Recommended: Early preventative intervention using sorbant mats / barriers to protect chalk cliffs, reefs, land-slip and boulder areas on inland edge of littoral zone. Follow storage and disposal instructions.

Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually from man-

made tidal defences and sand / shingle beach. Care should be taken to protect all semi-natural areas within this zone from contamination, trampling and disturbance.

Pressure flushing restricted to concrete apron area above high water mark. Any removal of heavily oiled vegetation must be achieved through cutting of bare minimum of material.

Access routes to foreshore:

From the junction of the A260 with the B2011 Dover Hill, follow A260 to the junction with Dover Road and Wear Bay Road. Follow Wear Bay Road and enter left on to the Shepway District Council private road that runs alongside the Martello Tower to the Warren campsite. Bear right when the private road forks at the campsite.

A barrier alongside the campsite is owned by Shepway District Council and is secured by a standard council padlock. Keys are available from Shepway District Council Engineering Section. The access is narrow and may have to be widened to accommodate large vehicles in the event of an oil pollution incident.

The access Road opens onto a concrete apron on the eastern side and onto a narrow section of sea wall on the western side. Shingle ramps may need to be constructed to allow machinery to access the beach. The sea defences are owned and maintained by Network Rail to protect the railway line to the north.

Ecology considerations:

Folkestone Warren been nationally designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and locally designated as a Local Nature Reserve. The site incorporates the range of marine and terrestrial habitats associated with the chalk cliffs, and with the underlying Gault clay and Lower Greensand. These habitats support outstanding assemblages of plants and invertebrates, together with individual species which are nationally uncommon. The Warren supports the only recorded UK site for the weevil *Hypera pastinaceae* and is one of the two recorded sites known to support the fiery clearwing moth *Pyropteron chrysidiformis*.

The range of geological substrata exposed on the shore provides a diversity of intertidal habitats and these are colonised by a wide variety of marine plants and animals in characteristic assemblages. Many species found here are nationally rare and reach their eastern limit of distribution in the Eastern Channel at this site. The chalk shore at Abbots Cliff and Shakespeare Cliff are among the best examples of their type in south east England. They possess full vertical shore zonations and plant and animal assemblages characteristic of the chalk are present on the wave cut platform and chalk boulder habitats, the latter being continually renewed from the unprotected cliff face. The wave exposed headland at Abbots Cliff Is animal dominated in contrast to the Shakespeare Cliff site with its luxuriant algal growths. The clay bands of the Lower Chalk form wave cut intertidal platforms between Shakespeare Cliff and Abbots Cliff, and in East Wear Bay These clays support characteristic and unusual assemblages of small algal species with many ephemerals and including rarities such as *Scinaia forcellata*, *Sphacellana* spp. and

Derbesia tenuissima, and species well outside their normal limits of distribution, such as *Chorda filum*.

Amenity impact:

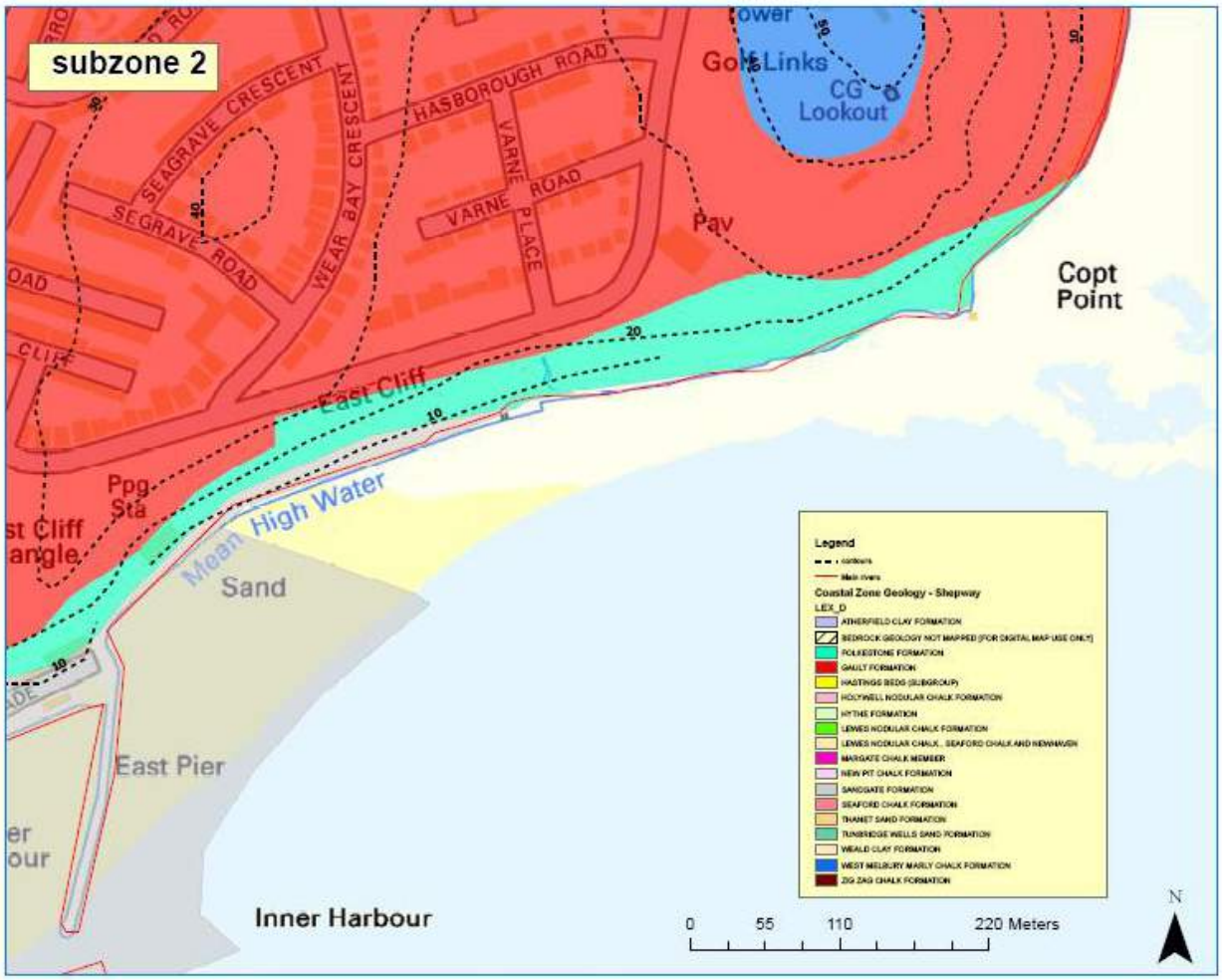
Folkestone Warren is an important nature conservation and informal recreation site, it is criss-crossed by public footpaths and includes parking and picnic areas. A private camping and caravanning site is located close to the access road and foreshore. The sandy beaches at the south east extent of this zone have a high amenity value. The railway line bisecting the site adds to this profile and visibility.

Industrial & economic implications:

The railway line linking Folkestone and Dover bisects Folkestone Warren. A private caravan site is located close to the foreshore and access road.

Other relevant information:

6.6.2 Sub-zonal Plan 3.2 – Coronation Parade, Folkestone


subzone 2
SEAGRAVE CRESCENT
WEAR BAY CRESCENT
HASBOROUGH ROAD
VARNE ROAD
VARNE PLACE
SEAGRAVE ROAD
Lower
Golf Links
CG
Lookout
Pav
Copt
Point
East Cliff
Ppg
Sta
Mean High Water
Sand
East Pier
Inner Harbour
Legend
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
0
55
110
220 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.2: Coronation Parade, Folkestone.

Zone: **Coronation Parade, Folkestone**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.2**

General description of shoreline:

Copt Point at the northern extent of the Coronation Parade zone forms part of the Folkestone Warren Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is formed principally of hard Lower Greensand, it is a unique geological feature and wildlife habitat for Kent and south east England. A relatively steep gradient profile is a feature of this sub-zone at 1:9.

The remainder of this zone comprises a sandy beach which forms an apron to masonry defences – featuring arched voids and a ramped walkway with railings.

The shoreline covers an area of 56800 square metres (all contained between High and Low Water Mark) and is 710 metres in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 624169.0E / 136420.0N and 623536.0E / 136175.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	High	Low
Summer	High	High	Low
Autumn	High	High	Low
Winter	High	High	Low

Clean-up recommendations:

Extreme care to be taken on natural substrates to avoid trampling or contamination: physical removal of oil and oiled debris, use of absorbants and reliance upon natural wave-action cleansing recommended.

No Pressure flushing of natural and semi-natural substrates i.e. cliffs, reefs, beach, landslip areas or defences below High Water Mark. No mechanical removal or tearing up of vegetation within this zone.

Recommended: Early preventative intervention using sorbant mats / barriers at Copt Point and arched masonry defences .

Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually from man-made tidal defences and sandy substrates. If bulk oil accumulates on the tidal defences low pressure seawater flushing may be effective. Re-mobilised oil must be collected and recovered using booms and skimmers operated from shallow draft vessels at high water.

Entrapment of oil between tides within voids in man-made defences is a potential complicating factor within this zone.

Access routes to foreshore:

Follow road signs to Folkestone Harbour. Upon approaching the harbour, the bottom of The Tram Road, turn left into Radnor Street (please note height restrictin of 12 ft 6 ins (3.81 metres) and follow The Stade to Coronation Parade. For larger vehicles the alternative route (avoiding the low bridge) is via Wear Bay Road, East Cliff and then The Durlocks.

At the eastern end of The Stade there is a turning area and concrete slipway leading to the beach. Along the promenade there are a number of flights of steps providing alternative pedestrian access.

Ecological considerations:

Copt point at the northern extent of this zone forms part of the Folkestone Warren Site of Special Scientific Interest. It supports algal assemblages more typical of northern and western England including the fucoid algae *Pelvetia canaliculata* and *Ascophyllum nodosum*, which are very rare on natural substrata in the south east. The intertidal fauna is unusual for south east England, being particularly species-rich. Man-made structures below High Water Mark also support a rich faunal assemblage.

The sandy beach supports a typical burrowing invertebrate fauna which becomes progressively richer lower on the beach. This fauna in turn attracts predation by fish and bird species. Strand-line debris supports an interesting invertebrate fauna – especially from the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

This stretch of sandy beach “Sunny Sands” is a premier bathing beach in summer and heavily used by walkers out of season.

Industrial & economic implications:

This stretch of beach with it high amenity value is of significant importance in terms of Folkestone’s tourism offer.

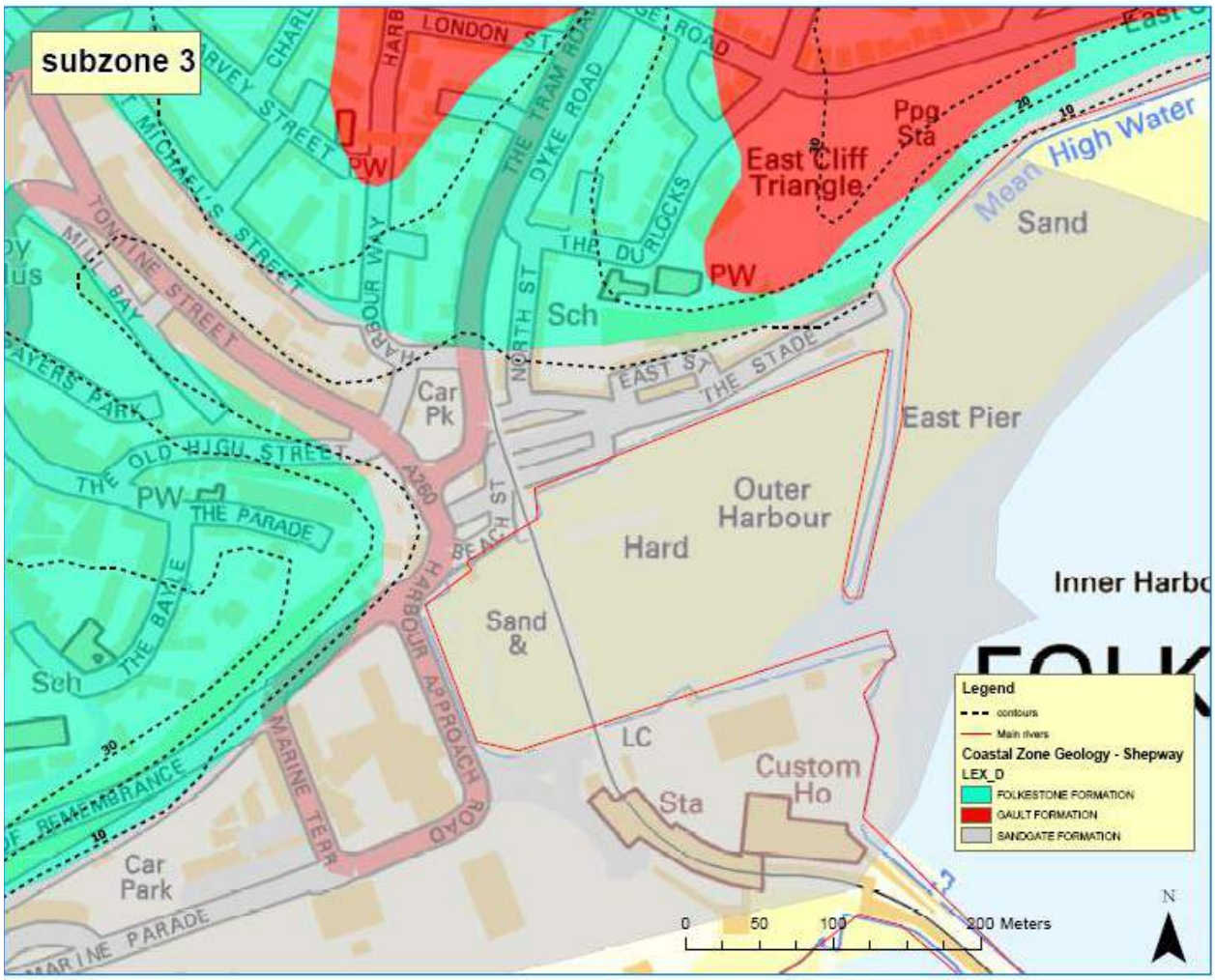
Other relevant information:

A small freshwater stream spills onto the beach at Baker’s Gap near Copt Point.

There is a pumping station to the rear of the eastern extent of the promenade . There is a pipeline running out to sea from the pumping station which may at times

be covered by a minimal depth of sand. The inspection chamber for the pipeline is located approximately 3.5 m east of the flight of steps leading onto the beach adjacent to the pumping station.

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.3 Folkestone Harbour


subzone 3
East Cliff Triangle
Ppg Sta
Mean High Water
Sand
East Pier
Outer Harbour
Hard
Sand &
Inner Harbo
Sch
Car Pk
PW
THE PARADE
THE OLD HIGH STREET
TONTINE STREET
MILL BAY
THE BAYLE
HARBOUR APPROACH ROAD
MARINE TERR
Car Park
MARINE PARADE
LC
Custom Ho
Sta
THE DURLOCKS
DYKE ROAD
THE TRAM ROAD
NORTH ST
EAST ST
THE STADE
BEACH ST
A260
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
LEX_D
FOLKESTONE FORMATION
GAULT FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
0
50
100
200 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.3: Folkestone Inner Harbour.

Sub-zone 3.3: Folkestone Outer Harbour.

Zone: **Folkestone Harbour**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.3**

General description of shoreline:

Bare mud completely exposed at low spring tides and 80% exposed at neap tides enclosed by man-made structures. Some small patches of sand and shingle persist adjacent to The Stade sea wall. A large area of firm mud and shell fragments exists behind an approximate line taken from the outer harbour slipway to the main harbour entrance. The freshwater Pent Stream discharges into the inner harbour adjacent to the concrete slipway. During and following heavy rain the flow can be considerable. The profile characteristic of the foreshore within this sub-zone is overwhelmingly level.

The shoreline covers an area of 48561 square metres (all contained between High and Low Water Mark) and is 320 metres in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 623400.0E / 136069.0N and 623255.0E / 135956.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Moderate	High
Summer	High	High	High
Autumn	High	Moderate	High
Winter	High	Moderate	High

Clean-up recommendations:

Do not enter exposed soft mud substrates as this habitat is sensitive to disturbance and damage. Leave oil to degrade naturally.
Recommended: Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually from man-made tidal defences and sandy and firm mud and shell substrates near The Stade sea wall and from outer harbour slipway to main harbour entrance. Re-mobilised oil must be collected and recovered using booms and skimmers operated from shallow draft vessels at high water. Seawater flushing of man-made structures above High Water Mark may need to be considered. Voids and pockets capable of trapping oil and allowing re-contamination are a feature of the East Pier and harbour walls. Therefore early barrier intervention using shoreline booms and sorbant materials to protect the harbour walls is recommended – the eastern profile of the inner harbour wall is particularly vulnerable from ingress by oil. Pro-active booming of the outer harbour entrance using the pre-installed boom fixing points may be feasible, dependent upon conditions, to reduce impact of contamination – in to or out of the harbour.

Access routes to foreshore:

Follow road signs to Folkestone Harbour. Upon approaching the harbour, at the bottom of The Tram Road and opposite the entrance to the public car park, turn left into Radnor Street under the bridge (height restriction 12 ft 6 ins or 3.81 metres)

and head towards The Stade. For larger vehicles an alternative route via Wear Bay Road, East Cliff and then The Durlocks is available.

To gain access to the outer harbour a concrete slipway leads down to a small area of sandy beach from the sea wall.

To gain access to the inner harbour a concrete slipway, adjacent to the retail stalls, leads down to the beach (adjacent to the Pent Stream outfall).

Ecology considerations:

The harbour mud support a typical crustacean, annelid and mollusc fauna - which in turn attracts predatory fish and bird species.

The outfall of the Pent Stream provides an interface between freshwater and marine habitats and supports luxuriant algal growth and a specialist invertebrate fauna. This freshwater outfall also attracts a range of sea birds – notably significant numbers of herring gull.

The East Pier and harbour walls support a significant biodiversity in their own right which is potentially vulnerable to oil or chemical pollution.

Amenity impact:

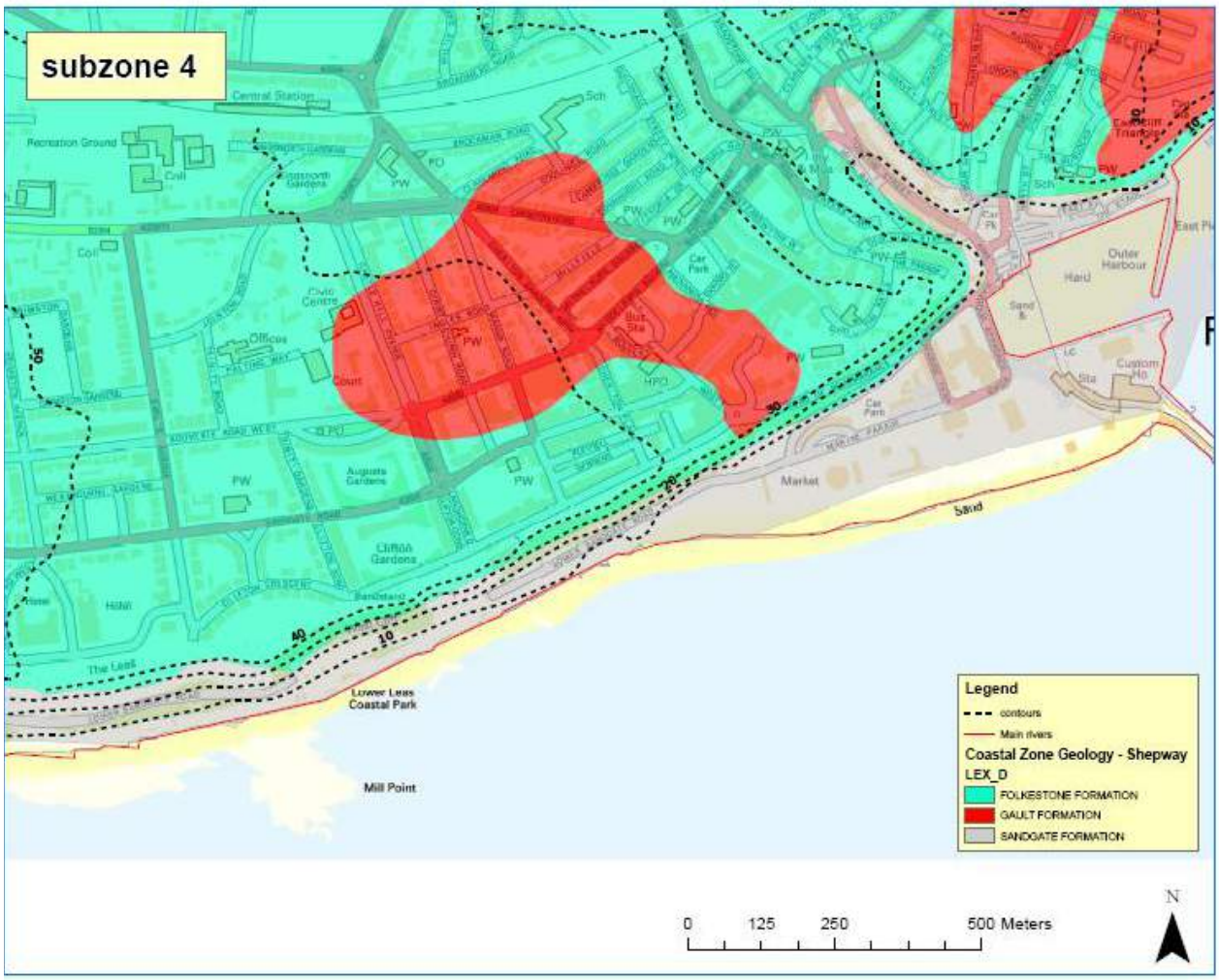
Folkestone Harbour is a focal point for the town and has a high profile in terms of the local tourism offer. Leisure craft also frequent the harbour.

Industrial & economic implications:

A working harbour important to the local small-scale fishing and sea angling industry. Potential regeneration projects may intensify use in future. High quality environment important to local tourism offer.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.4 The Leas, Folkestone


subzone 4
Central Station
Recreation Ground
Civic Centre
Offices
Augusta Gardens
Clifton Gardens
Bandstand
Lower Leas Coastal Park
Mill Point
Outer Harbour
Custom Ho.
Market
Sand
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
LEX_D
FOLKESTONE FORMATION
GAULT FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
0
125
250
500 Meters
N

Sub-Zone 3.4: The Leas, Folkestone.

Zone: **The Leas, Folkestone**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal plan **3.4**

General description of shoreline:

Foreshore comprises shingle with intermittent patches of sand and shingle. Rocky foreshore at Mill Point and occasional groynes formed from igneous rock. A relatively steep gradient profile for a shingle beach is a feature of this sub-zone at 1:9 at Marine Walk and a 1:5 slope to low water at Rotunda Beach.

The shoreline covers an area of 116196 square metres (with 85776 square metres between High and Low Water Mark) and is 1.98 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 623505.0E / 135750.0N and 621672.0E / 135167.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Summer	Moderate	High	Moderate
Autumn	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Winter	Moderate	Moderate	Low

Clean-up recommendations:

Rocky outcrop at Mill Point must not be pressure flushed with natural cleaning through wave action recommended. Oily debris may be hand-picked from rocky substrate.
Physical removal, absorbants and natural cleaning are recommended.

Pressure flushing restricted to man made structures above High Water Mark

Attention should be paid to potential for entrapment of oil and oily debris within rock groynes and early intervention with barriers and sorbent materials is recommended.

Access routes to foreshore:

Follow signs to Folkestone Harbour. At Harbour Approach Road continue to Marine Parade and Lower Sandgate Road.

The Rotunda Beach may be accessed via the Shepway District Council car park on Marine Parade.

Marine Walk Beach may be accessed from Lower Sandgate Road (height barriers at 2 metres secured by standard SDC padlock, with keys available from Engineeering or Parks Section staff). From Lower Sandgate Road there are two access slopes to the promenade, the second of which is reached from within the Coastal Park. All bollards currently have standard SDC padlocks. Shingle ramps may need to be constructed to get machinery from the promenade to the beach due to height differences of up to 3 metres. There is a further access slope to the

promenade which is reached by using the western section of Lower Sandgate Road via Radnor Cliff.

Ecological considerations:

The rocky outcrop at Mill Point supports considerable biodiversity interest.

The shingle beach being a mobile high energy environment is less sensitive to damage and disturbance than other stretches of coastline within Shepway District.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

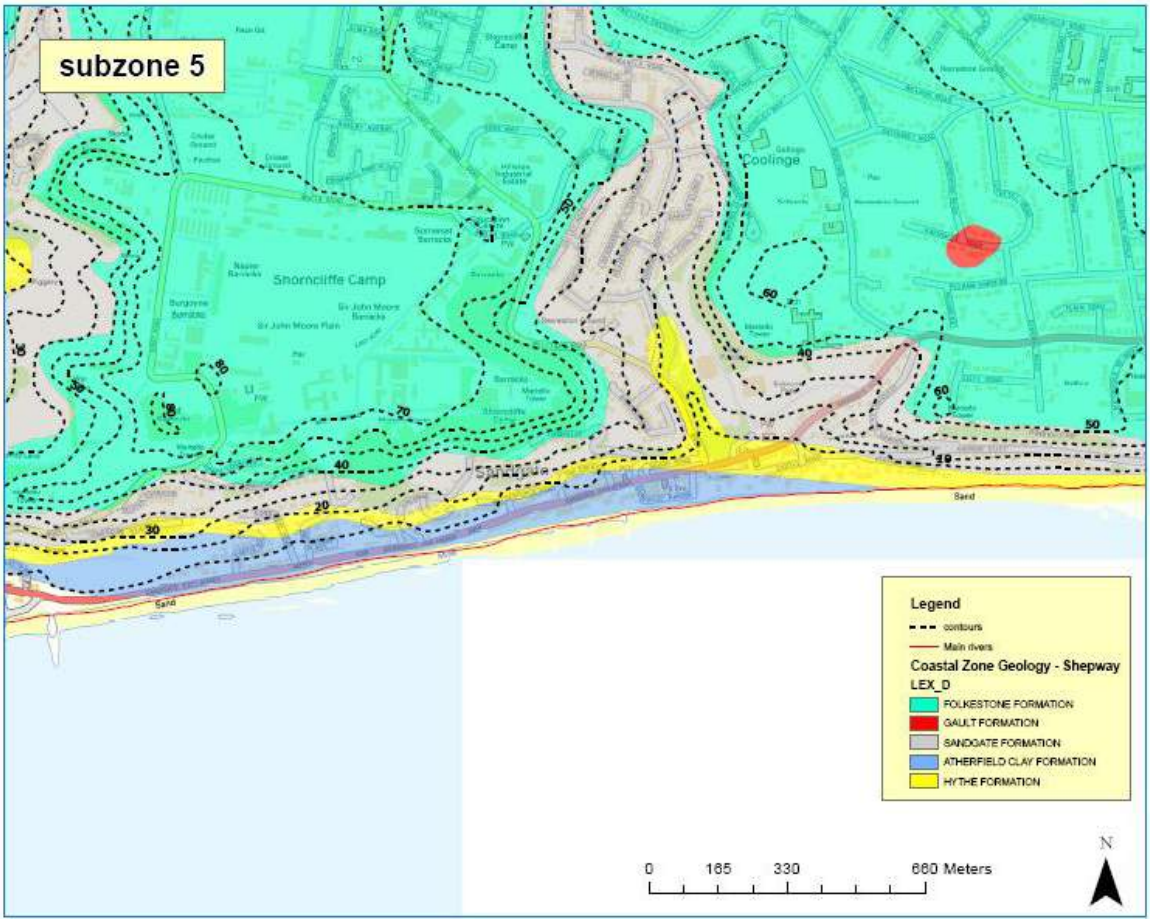
Proximity to The Lower Leas Coastal Park and local leisure and other commercial premises gives this stretch of shoreline a high profile.

Industrial & economic implications:

Significant implications for Folkestone's tourism offer may accrue from an oil pollution incident affecting this stretch of shoreline during the summer months.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.5 Sandgate


subzone 5
Shorncliffe Camp
Coolinge
Sand
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
LEX_D
FOLKESTONE FORMATION
GAULT FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HYTHE FORMATION
0
165
330
660 Meters
N

1
2
3

Sub-zone 3.5: Sandgate beach.

Zone: **Sandgate**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal plan **3.5**

General description of shoreline:

Extensive stretches of mobile shingle with patches of sand and shingle. A relatively steep gradient profile for a shingle beach is a feature of this sub-zone at 1:9.

The shoreline covers an area of 127666 square metres (with 88860 square metres between High and Low Water Mark) and is 2.7 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 621672.0E / 135167.0N and 618990.0E / 134873.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Summer	Moderate	High	Low
Autumn	Moderate	Moderate	Low
Winter	Moderate	Moderate	Low

Clean-up recommendations:

Pressure flushing restricted to man-made structures above High Water Mark.
Physical removal of oiled debris, absorbents and natural cleaning recommended all year round.

Access routes to foreshore:

For The Riviera follow A259 from Folkestone in the direction of Hythe. At Sandgate Hill turn left into Castle Road and head east and then turn right into The Riviera (a private road). A gate at the end of The Riviera leads onto the beach. The gate is rarely locked but, if it is, local residents hold keys.

For Sandgate Esplanade follow A259 from Folkestone in the direction of Hythe. At Sandgate High Street continue on to Sandgate Esplanade – identifiable by a recent concrete sea wall standing approximately one metre above sea level.

At Granville Parade shingle ramps may be needed to allow machinery onto the beach. Care must be taken to keep machinery away from the western half of the promenade due to the existence of pumping station chambers.

Ecological considerations:

Strandline debris support a typical invertebrate assemblage for this type of habitat.

Groynes and other manmade structures shelter invertebrates and support algal populations.

Sea birds and cetaceans (bottlenose dolphin Tursiops truncates and common porpoise Phocoena phocoena) are sporadically observed feeding in the shallows on

this stretch of coastline.

Amenity impact:

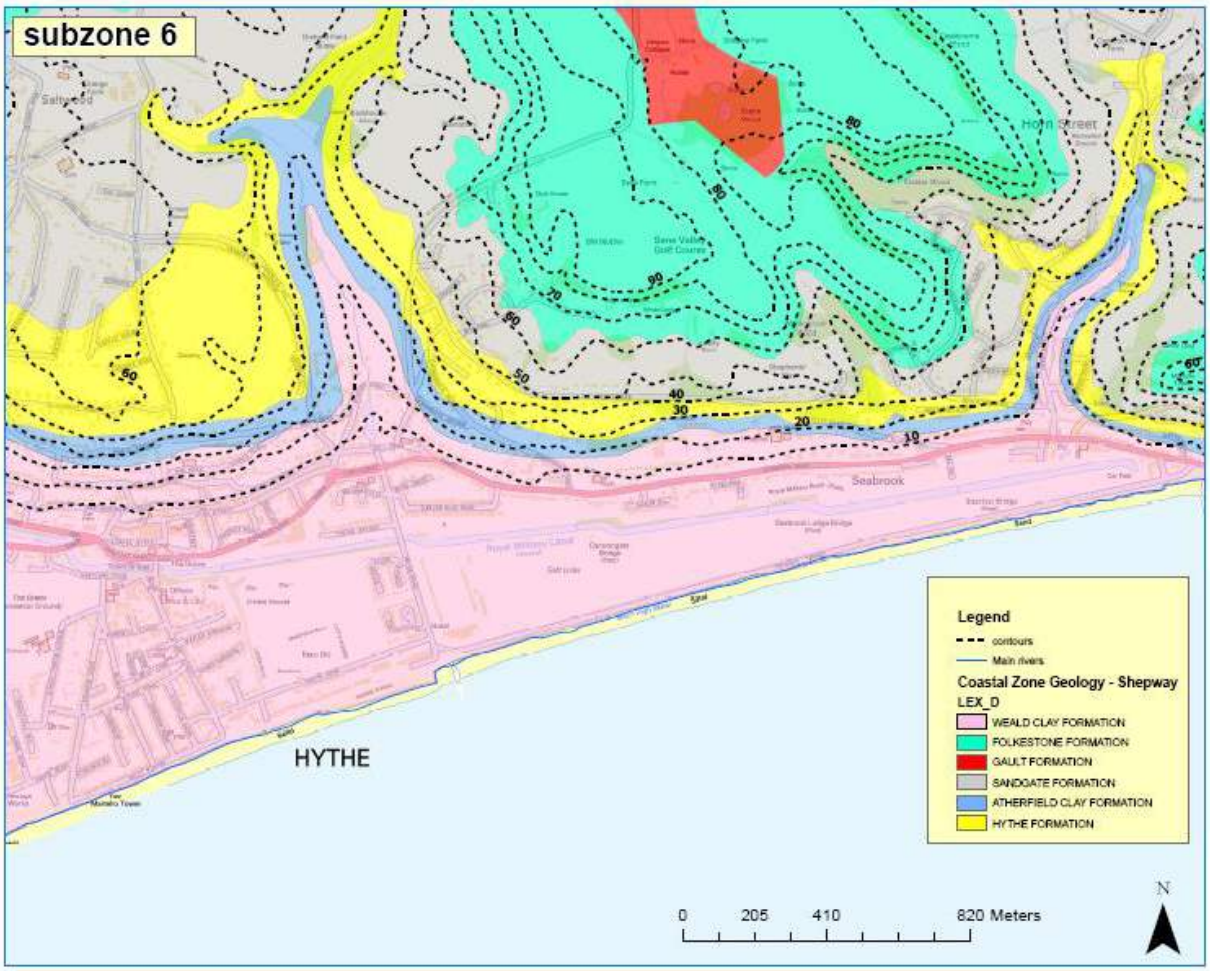
This stretch of shoreline attracts walkers and anglers year round and is of some significance for bathing during the summer months. Close proximity to residential and premises and highway infra-structure lends this zone a high public profile.

Industrial & economic implications:

Close proximity of highway infra-structure (including parking bays) and retail premises may be a practical consideration during the clean-up phase.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.6 Hythe


subzone 6
HYTHE
Seabrook
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Zone Geology - Shepway
LEX_D
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
FOLKESTONE FORMATION
GAULT FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HYTHE FORMATION
0
205
410
820 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.6: Hythe, Fishermans' Beach.

Zone: **Hythe**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.6**

General description of shoreline:

Shingle with occasional patches of shingle and sand. A relatively steep gradient profile for a shingle beach is a feature of this sub-zone with a range from 1:6 and 1:9.

The shoreline covers an area of 175852 square metres (with 133039 square metres between High and Low Water Mark) and is 3.55 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 618990.0E / 134873.0N and 615588.0E / 133870.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	Moderate	High	Moderate
Summer	Moderate	High	Moderate
Autumn	Moderate	High	Moderate
Winter	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Pressure flushing restricted to man-made structures above High Water Mark. Physical removal of oiled debris, absorbents and natural cleaning recommended all year round. Care should be taken to avoid trampling of stands of sea kale.

Access routes to foreshore:

At M20 junction 11 leave to take the short section of B2068 (Hythe) then A20 Ashford Road to the A261 Hythe Road. Follow the A261 to Hythe and bear left along the A261 to join the A259. Proceed along the A259 to East Street, then turn right along Twiss Road and go forward to the beach opposite the Hythe Imperial Hotel. Princes Parade is to the east. Marine Parade and West Parade to the west

To gain access to the beach at Princes Parade, Marine Parade and West Parade utilise the car park at Twiss Road, where there is a substantial concrete ramp leading onto the beach. Keys to the flood-gates (if locked) are available from Shepway District Council's Engineering Section staff. Please note that there is no low-loader access via the Twiss Road car park and as an alternative the car park at Battery Point, Seabrook, at the eastern end of Prices Parade, may be used.

For Fisherman's Beach a separate access is available from Range Road (off St.Leonard's Road) from which a left turn may be made into the track that leads to the beach.

Ecological considerations:

Strandline debris support a typical invertebrate assemblage for this type of habitat.

Groynes and other manmade structures shelter invertebrates and support algal populations.

Sea birds and cetaceans, bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncates) and common porpoise (Phocoena phocoena) are sporadically observed predating small fish in the shallows along this stretch of coastline.

Stands of sea kale (Crambe maritima) persists along the northern fringe of the beach within this sub-zone – especially along the fringe of the defences / promenade which contain the shingle beach.

Amenity impact:

This stretch of shoreline attracts walkers, wind-surfers and sea anglers year round and is of some significance for bathing during the summer months. Close proximity to residential, leisure, hotel and restaurant premises and pedestrian and vehicular highway infra-structure lends this zone a high public profile.

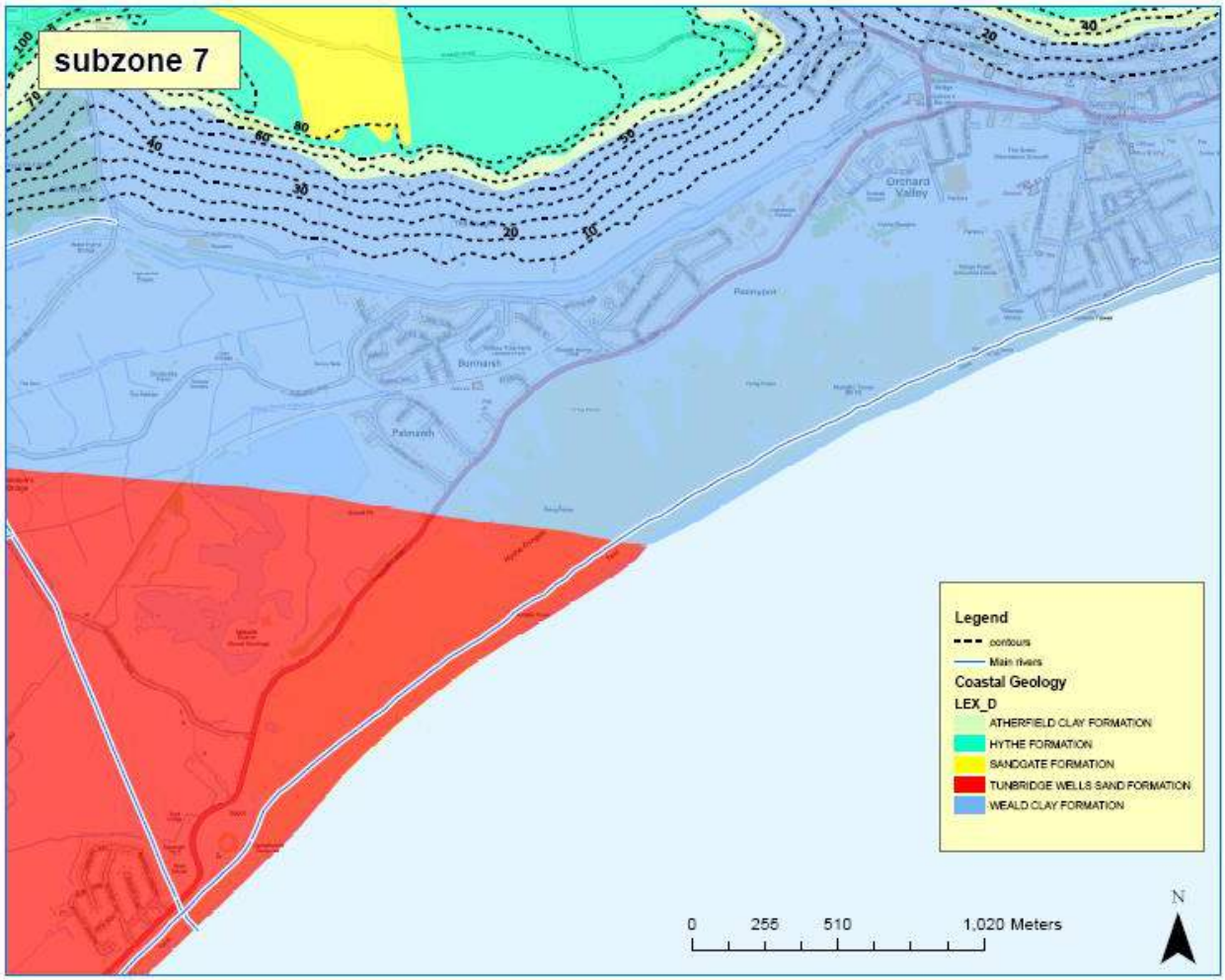
Industrial & economic implications:

Importance to Hythe's tourism offer and close proximity of commercial premises are key considerations. Private leisure craft and a small number of active commercial fishing boats operate out of Fisherman's Beach.

Other relevant information:

The Hythe Royal Military Canal sea outfall is located at Battery Point at the eastern extent of Princes Parade. The outfall discharges canal water at every mid to low tide and the large concrete outfall structure is visible at the Low Water Mark.

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.7 Hythe Ranges


subzone 7
Orchard Valley
Burnash
Palmarsh
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
255
510
1,020 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.7: Hythe Ranges

Zone: **Hythe Ranges**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal plan **3.7**

General description of shoreline:

Shingle with occasional patches of shingle and sand protected by frequent timber break-waters. A relatively steep gradient profile for a shingle beach is a feature of this sub-zone with a profile of 1:8. A sparsely vegetated shingle and earth bund, bearing a track, contains the beach and serves as a coastal defence.

The shoreline covers an area of 279596 square metres (with 207356 square metres between High and Low Water Mark) and is 3.44 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 615588.0E / 133870.0N and 612823.0E / 131888.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Low	Low
Summer	High	Low	Low
Autumn	High	Low	Low
Winter	High	Low	Low

Clean-up recommendations:

Pressure flushing restricted to man-made structures above High Water Mark. Physical removal of oiled debris, absorbents and natural cleaning recommended all year round. Care should be taken to avoid trampling of stands of natural substrates including exposed sand and vegetated shingle areas.

Access routes to foreshore:

At M20 junction 11 leave to take the short section of B2068 (Hythe) and then the A20 Ashford Road to the A261 Hythe Road. Follow the A261 to Hythe and at the traffic lights at Scanlons Bridge go straight through to turn right (no left turn) at the next traffic lights to join the A259 Dymchurch Road. Proceed west along the A259 for 1.2 km and turn left to gain access to the military firing ranges via the guarded entry gates.

A system of roads and tracks within the firing ranges lead to the foreshore. At the northern edge of the foreshore there is a track that runs along the top of a shingle and earth bund above the High Water Mark that extends the length of the beach. The bund has the capacity and width to allow the passage of vehicles and machinery. The bund has a rock revetment at intervals along its length on the seaward side. Shingle ramps may have to be built to allow machinery to gain access to the beach. It is possible to gain access to the foreshore al low tide via a concrete ramp situated immediately west of the Dymchurch Redoubt. Vehicles should travel westwards past the Hythe Ranges access gate on the A259 and upon reaching the western side of the Redoubt go through the gate on the bend of the A2259. Keys for the gate are available from the Environment Agency.

Ecology considerations:

The Hythe Ranges and the foreshore to the low water mark are designated by Kent Wildlife Trust as a County Wildlife Site (formerly known as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest).

The main biodiversity interest on the site is associated with the vegetated shingle on the landward edge of the beach. Hythe Ranges support a diverse and specialised flora which includes stands of sea pea (Lathyrus japonicus ssp. Maritimus), sea kale (Crambe maritime), Nottingham catchfly (Silene nutans) and horned poppy (Glaucium flavum) and other uncommon maritime plant species which support rare invertebrates including the weevil (Ethelcus verrucatus). Notable vertebrate species associated with this sub-zone include a nesting colony of little tern (Sterna albifrons). Great care must be taken during any clean-up within this sub-zone to cordon and protect from trampling and other damage this rare and specialised habitat.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

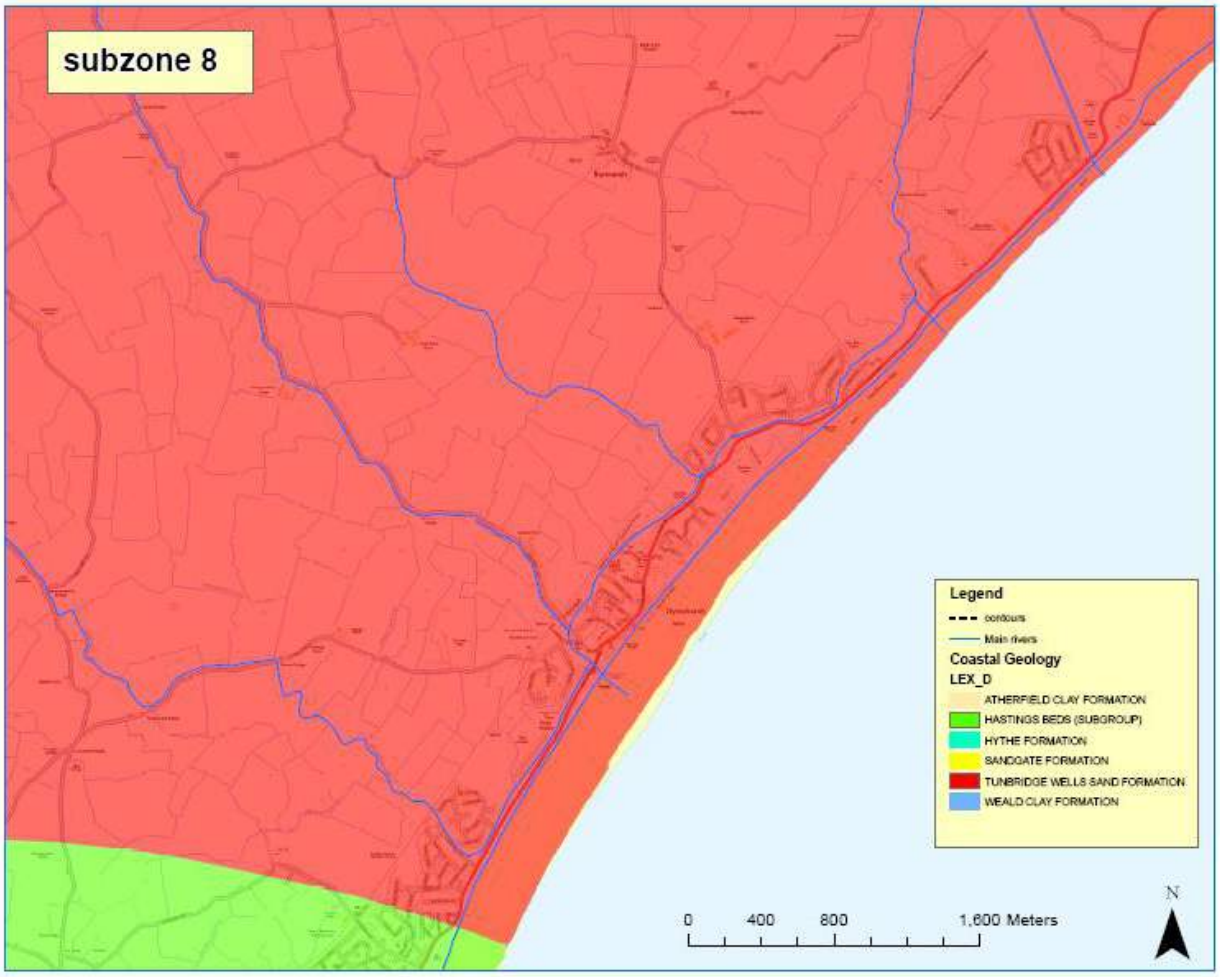
Limited amenity impact due to access prohibition and hazards related to military activity in this zone.

Industrial & economic implications:

A clean-up of this zone could result in significant disruption to military training activity.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.8 Dymchurch


subzone 8
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HASTINGS BEDS (SUBGROUP)
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
400
800
1,600 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.8: Dymchurch beach.

Sub-zone 3.8: Dymchurch beach (River Willop outfall).

Zone: **Dymchurch**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.8**

General description of shoreline:

Firm sand with some soft sand lower on foreshore with a profile of approximately 1:30. Some rocky and shingle outcrops. Occasional timber break-waters and drainage outflow infra-structure.

The shoreline covers an area of 1023184 square metres (all lying between the High and Low Water Mark) and is 5.18 km in length between OS grid co-ordinate reference points 612823.0E / 131888.0N and 609445.0E / 128022.0N.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	Moderate	High	Moderate
Summer	Moderate	High	Moderate
Autumn	Moderate	High	Moderate
Winter	Moderate	High	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Pressure flushing restricted to man-made structures above High Water Mark. Physical removal of oiled debris, absorbents and natural cleaning recommended all year round. Early intervention to achieve protection of structures with barrier / sorbent material recommended.

Access routes to foreshore:

At M20 junction 11 leave to take the short section of B2068 (Hythe) then A20 Ashford Road to the A261 Hythe Road. Follow the A261 to Hythe and at the traffic lights at Scanlons Bridge go straight through to turn right (no left turn) at the next traffic lights to join the A259 Dymchurch Road. Proceed west along the A259 towards Dymchurch and after 3.8 km arrive at Dymchurch Redoubt.

Beach access is from ramps that take vehicles from the A259 up to the promenade and then separate ramps from the promenade down to the beach. The ramps are controlled by the Environment Agency and some have locked gates. Contact the Environment Agency for keys at Willop Depot on the A259 west of New Beach Holiday Centre. Access to the beach from the promenade will be difficult in many areas due to the long and steeply sloping toe of the sea wall.

Ramps from the A259 to the promenade are located at:

1. Dymchurch Redoubt – includes a ramp to the beach.
2. River Willop outfall – includes ramp to beach.
3. A259 between Willop Depot and Martello no. 23 – no ramp at this location.
4. Martello Tower no. 23 – includes ramp to the beach.
5. Dymchurch Town – includes a ramp to the beach.

6. Martello Tower no. 25 car park – no ramp at this location.
7. There is an additional ramp to the beach from this promenade opposite Wraightsfield at Dymchurch but there is no access to this ramp from the A259.

Ecology considerations:

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda. Sandy substrates, particularly those lower on the beach, support assemblages of burrowing invertebrates which in turn attract predatory birds and fish. Man-made structures close to Low Water Mark provide a habitat for algal and invertebrate assemblages.

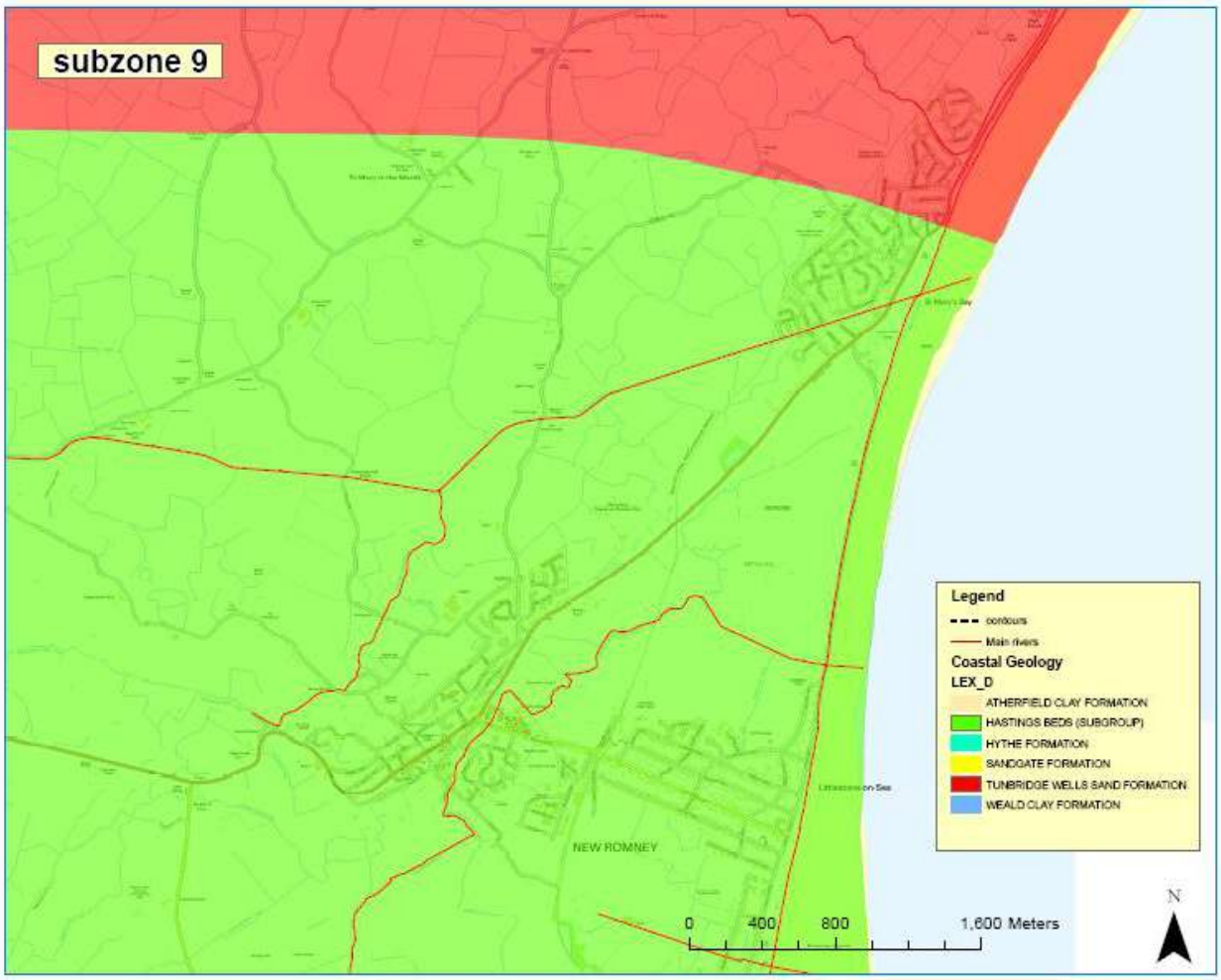
Amenity impact:

The broad sandy beach has a high amenity value and is a key element of the Dymchurch tourism offer. High numbers of visitors to the beach, particularly in the summer months, means that great care and use of cordons will be required during any clean-up operation.

Industrial & economic implications:

Proximity of Dymchurch town and holiday sites to the beach suggests that any oil pollution incident and subsequent clean up could inflict a significant negative economic impact upon the town.

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.9 St. Mary's Bay


subzone 9
NEW ROMNEY
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HASTINGS BEDS (SUBGROUP)
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
400
800
1,600 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.9: St. Mary's Bay beach.

Zone: **St. Mary's Bay**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.9**

General description of shoreline:

Sandy beach below bare and vegetated shingle, merging to sand and shingle towards the western extent of this sub-zone, with fine sand and mud at Low Water Mark. Timber breakwaters and a concrete and steel groyne structure are features of this sub-zone.

This sub-zone is 3.8 km in length between grid reference points 609445.0E / 128022.0N and 608491.0E / 124371.0N and the beach has a 1:7 profile and total area of 983240 square metres, all contained within the High and Low Water Marks.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Moderate	Moderate
Summer	High	High	Moderate
Autumn	High	Moderate	Moderate
Winter	High	Moderate	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Prohibited: Do not enter fine sand and mud at Low Water Mark as these areas are sensitive to disturbance and damage. Leave oil to degrade naturally within this lower section of the beach.

Recommended: Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually. Care should be taken to protect adjacent vegetated shingle areas behind the sandy beach. Early intervention utilising barriers and sorbent materials recommended, especially to protect man-made structures where oil may become trapped and coat surfaces. Seawater flushing of man-made structures at and above High Water Mark may need to be considered.

Access routes to foreshore:

At M20 junction 11 leave to take the short section of B2068 (Hythe) then A20 Ashford Road to the A261 Hythe Road. Follow the A261 to Hythe Road. Follow the A261 to Hythe and then join the A259 Dymvurch Road. Proceed west along the A259 and after passing through the town of Dymchurch arrive at St. Mary's Bay. The main car park entrance at St. Mary's Bay is opposite Spring Hollow.

Beach access is from ramps that take vehicles from the A259 up to the promenade and then separate ramps from the promenade down to the beach. The Environment Agency control the ramps and some have locked gates. Contact the Environment Agency at Willop Depot on the A259 west of the New Beach Holiday Centre.

Ramps from the A259 to the promenade are located at:

1. Opposite Highland Crescent, St. Mary's Bay – includes ramp to the beach.
2. River Jessons outfall – includes a ramp to the beach.
3. The Rugby Club camp site on the A259 at St. Mary's Bay.

4. Off Coast Drive at St. Mary's Bay. The promenade width becomes 2.0 m here through to Littlestone.
5. There is an Environment Agency gate through the sea wall at Littlestone on Coast Drive adjacent to the junction with Madeira Road.
6. At the point where Littestone Road meets Coast Drive there is machine access to the beach across the grass amenity area – a single rail barrier exists.

Ecology considerations:

The beach, foreshore and vegetated shingle within this sub-zone, west from Pirate Springs, is a designated by Natural England as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The main biodiversity interest on the site is associated with the vegetated shingle on the landward edge of the beach. St. Mary's Bay supports a nationally significant, diverse and specialised flora and fauna. Great care must be taken during any clean-up within this sub-zone to cordon and protect from trampling and other damage this rare and specialised habitat.

The fine sand and mud substrates at Low Water Mark are an important and easily damaged habitat where trampling and disturbance must be kept to a minimum.

Man-made structures within this sub-zone support algal and invertebrate assemblages, especially towards the Low Water Mark.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

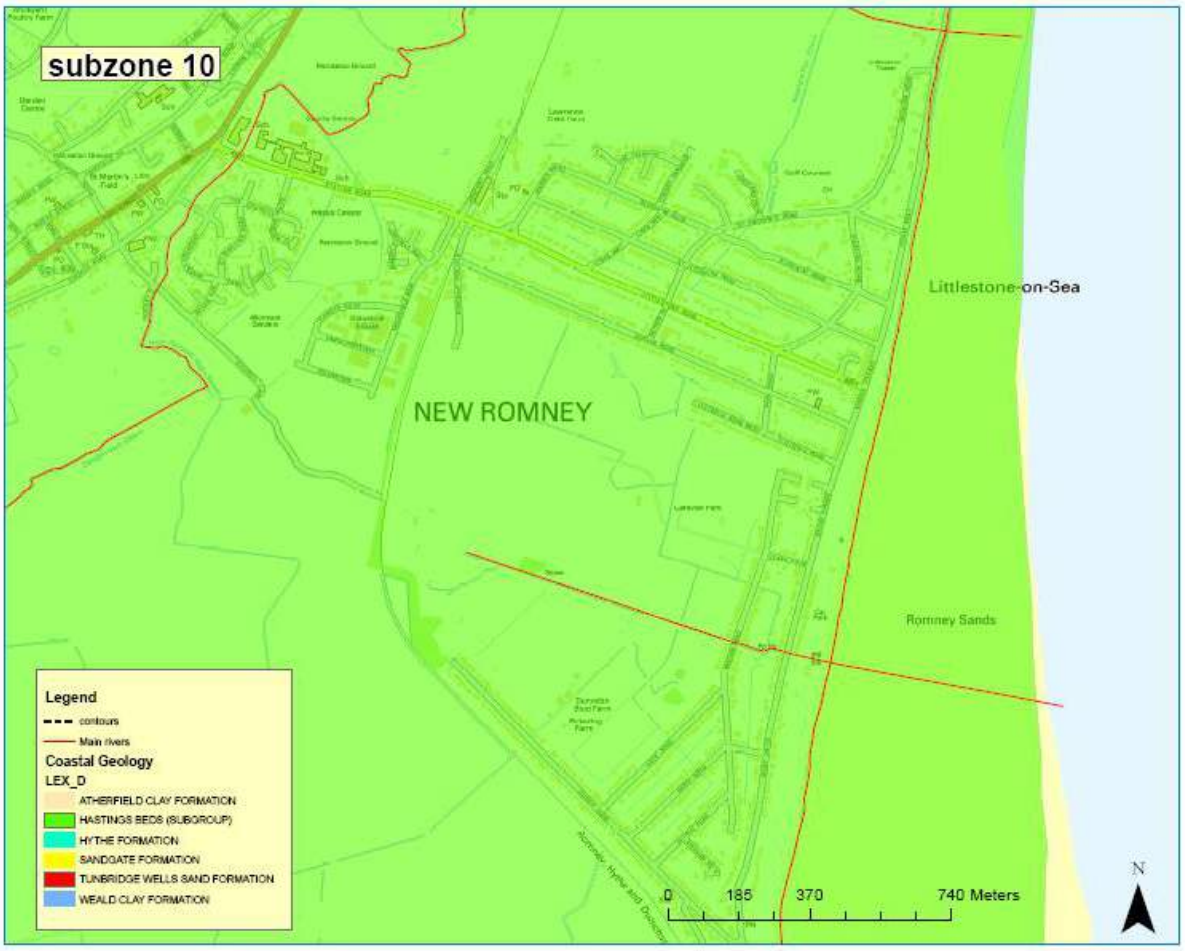
The beach at St.Mary's Bay is a popular walking spot throughout the year and bathing beach during the summer months.

Industrial & economic implications:

The popularity of the beach and proximity to holiday parks makes St. Mary's Bay significant in tourism and thus local economic terms.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.10 Littlestone


subzone 10
NEW ROMNEY
Littlestone-on-Sea
Romney Sands
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HASTINGS BEDS (SUBGROUP)
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
185
370
740 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.10: Littlestone beach.

Zone: **Littlestone**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.10**

General description of shoreline:

Sandy beach with a shingle berm at High Water Mark. Fine sand and mudflats extend to low water mark. Timber breakwaters are a feature of this sub-zone. An important complex of marram grass sand dune and vegetated shingle is located on the landward edge of the beach. A land drainage outfall is located adjacent to the Varne Boat Club. The outfall can carry a significant flow from twin pipes that are protected from seawater ingress at high tide by flap valves. Care should be taken to ensure that the flaps are not jammed in an open position.

This sub-zone is 1.48 km in length between grid reference points 608491.0E / 124371.0N and 608210.0E / 122921.0N and the beach has a 1:10 profile and total area of 768120 square metres, with 745920 square metres contained between the High and Low Water Marks.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Moderate	Moderate
Summer	High	High	Moderate
Autumn	High	Moderate	Moderate
Winter	High	Moderate	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Prohibited: Do not enter fine sand and mud at Low Water Mark as these areas are sensitive to disturbance and damage. Leave oil to degrade naturally within this lower section of the beach.

Recommended: Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually. Care should be taken to protect adjacent vegetated shingle and marram grass sand dune areas behind the sandy beach. Early intervention utilising barriers and sorbent materials recommended, especially to protect man-made structures where oil may become trapped and coat surfaces. Seawater flushing of man-made structures at and above High Water Mark may need to be considered.

Access routes to foreshore:

Leave M20 at Ashford (junction 10) to take the A2042 and then the A2070 to Brenzett. At Brenzett follow the A259 to New Romney and then the B2071 Littlestone Road which leads to the sea front.

The beach is accessible across the wide grass amenity area (known as The Green) opposite Littlestone Road. A single rail barrier will need to be removed or alternatively enter through the two Environment Agency gates. To the west there is access via the car park near to the beach huts. Access may also be gained at the Varne Boat Club, adjacent to Littlestone Lifeboat Station.

Ecology considerations:

The beach, foreshore, vegetated shingle and marram grass sand dune complex within this sub-zone is a designated by Natural England as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The main biodiversity interest on the site is associated with the vegetated shingle and sand dune complex on the landward edge of the beach. Littlestone supports a nationally significant, diverse and specialised flora and fauna. Great care must be taken during any clean-up within this sub-zone to cordon and protect from trampling and other damage this rare and specialised habitat.

The fine sand and mud substrates at Low Water Mark are an important and easily damaged habitat where trampling and disturbance must be kept to a minimum.

Man-made structures within this sub-zone support algal and invertebrate assemblages, especially towards the Low Water Mark.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

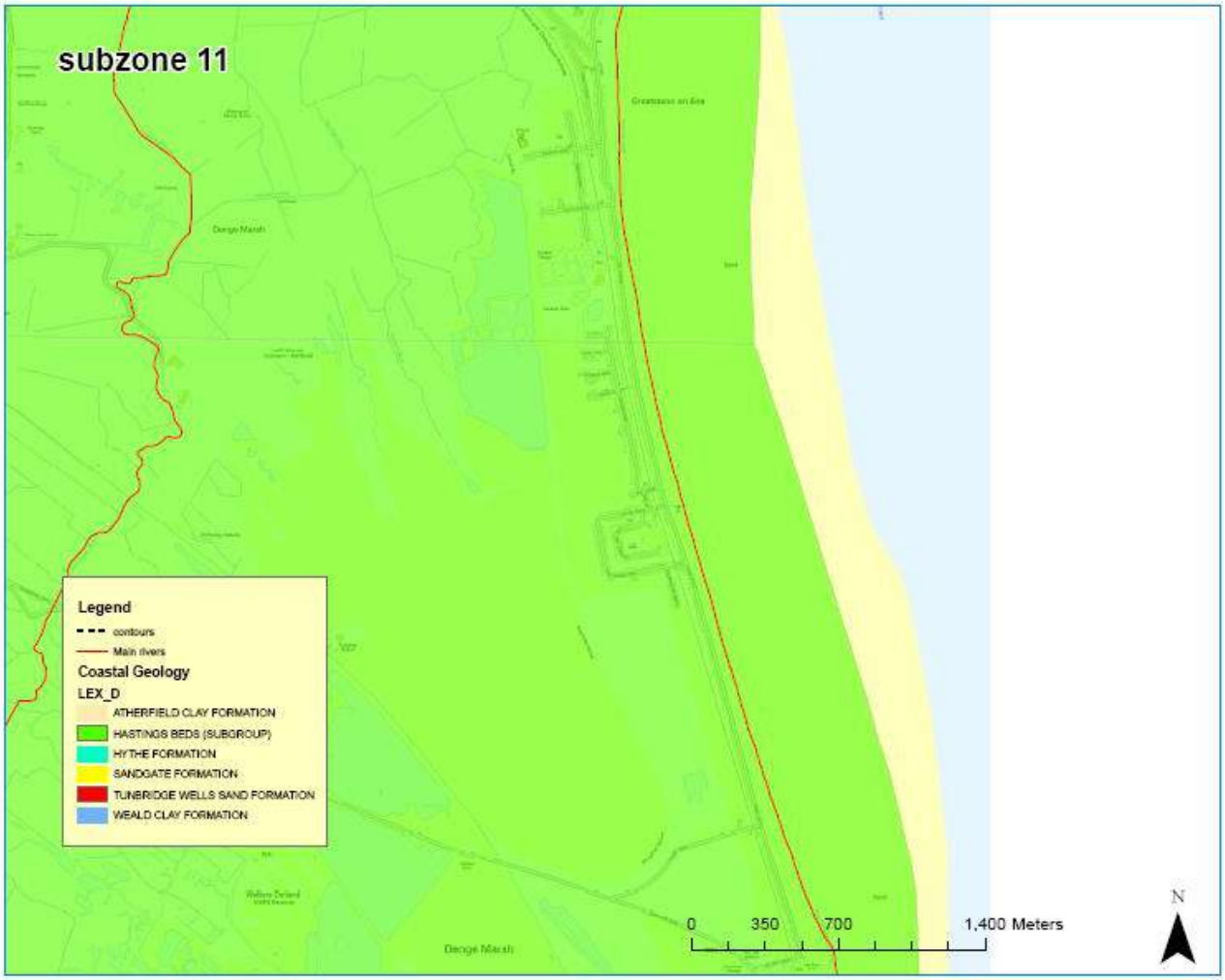
The beach at Littlestone is a popular walking spot throughout the year and bathing beach during the summer months. Boating activity associated with the Varne Boat Club is a further consideration within this sub-zone.

Industrial & economic implications:

The popularity of the beach and proximity to holiday parks makes Littlestone significant in tourism and thus local economic terms. The presence within this sub-zone of a small scale fishing boat operation, the Varne Boat Club and Littlestone Lifeboat Station is also significant.

Other relevant information:

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.11 Greatstone and Lydd-on-Sea


subzone 11
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HASTINGS BEDS (SUBGROUP)
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
350
700
1,400 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.11: Greatstone Beach.

Sub-zone 3.11: Greatstone beach with marram grass dune system in foreground.

Zone: **Greatstone and Lydd-on-Sea**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.11**

General description of shoreline:

Sandy beach with a ridged shingle berm at High Water Mark. Fine sand and mudflats extend to low water mark. Timber breakwaters are a feature of this sub-zone. An important complex of marram grass sand dune and vegetated shingle is located on the landward edge of the beach.

This sub-zone is 4.4 km in length between grid reference points 608210.0E / 122921.0N and 609233.0E / 118666.0N and the beach has a 1:10 profile and total area of 2223450 square metres, with 2089800 square metres contained between the High and Low Water Marks.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Moderate	Moderate
Summer	High	High	Moderate
Autumn	High	Moderate	Moderate
Winter	High	Moderate	Moderate

Clean-up recommendations:

Prohibited: Do not enter fine sand and mud at Low Water Mark as these areas are sensitive to disturbance and damage. Leave oil to degrade naturally within this lower section of the beach.

Recommended: Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually. Care should be taken to protect adjacent vegetated shingle and marram grass sand dune areas behind the sandy beach. Early intervention utilising barriers and sorbent materials recommended, especially to protect man-made structures where oil may become trapped and coat surfaces. Seawater flushing of man-made structures at and above High Water Mark may need to be considered.

Access routes to foreshore:

Leave M20 at Ashford (junction 10) to take the A2042 and then the A2070 to Brenzett. At Brenzett follow the A259 to New Romney and then the B2071 Littlestone Road which leads to the sea front. At the sea front turn right and follow the coast road to Greatstone.

Gaining access from Littlestone beach is recommended. There is easy access to Greatstone beach from the western section of the coast road starting from no. 71 The Parade, Greatstone. However, access is then via the foreshore which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and vulnerable to damage and disturbance.

Ecology considerations:

The beach, foreshore, vegetated shingle and marram grass sand dune complex within this sub-zone is a designated by Natural England as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The main biodiversity interest on the site is associated with the vegetated shingle and sand dune complex on the landward edge of the beach. Littlestone supports a nationally significant, diverse and specialised flora and fauna. Great care must be taken during any clean-up within this sub-zone to cordon and protect from trampling and other damage this rare and specialised habitat.

The fine sand and mud substrates at Low Water Mark are an important and easily damaged habitat where trampling and disturbance must be kept to a minimum.

Man-made structures within this sub-zone support algal and invertebrate assemblages, especially towards the Low Water Mark.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

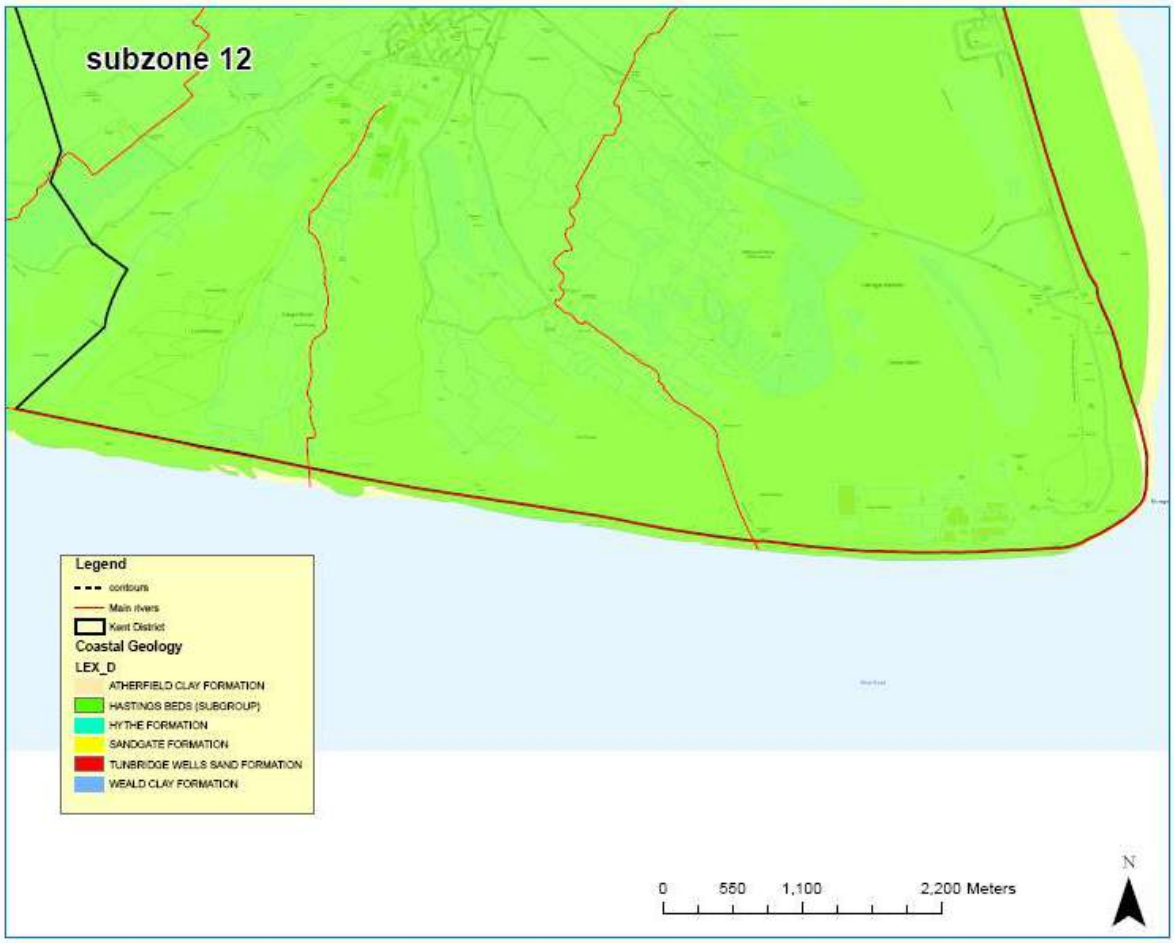
Amenity impact:

The beach at Littlestone is a popular walking spot throughout the year and bathing beach during the summer months.

Industrial & economic implications:

The popularity of the beach and proximity to holiday parks makes Littlestone significant in tourism and thus local economic terms.

6.6.3 Sub-zonal Plan 3.12 Dungeness


subzone 12
Legend
contours
Main rivers
Kent District
Coastal Geology
LEX_D
ATHERFIELD CLAY FORMATION
HASTINGS BEDS (SUBGROUP)
HYTHE FORMATION
SANDGATE FORMATION
TUNBRIDGE WELLS SAND FORMATION
WEALD CLAY FORMATION
0
550
1,100
2,200 Meters
N

Sub-zone 3.12: Dungeness beach (shingle substrate at high water mark).

Sub-zone 3.12: Dungeness beach (sand at Low Water Mark).

Sub-zone 3.12: Dungeness (showing nuclear power stations complex).

Zone: **Dungeness**
Shoreline section: Sub-zonal Plan **3.12**

General description of shoreline:

Steeply inclined shingle and shingle and sand beach with a ridged shingle berm at High Water Mark. Fine sand and mudflats extend to low water mark. An internationally significant and extensive complex of bare and vegetated shingle is located on the landward edge of the beach.

This sub-zone is 10.85 km in length between grid reference points 609233.0E / 118666.0N and 600728.0E / 117690.0N and the beach has a 1:8 profile and total area of 1090180 square metres, with 648730 square metres contained between the High and Low Water Marks.

Seasonal sensitivity (L=low, M=moderate, H=high):

	Conservation	Amenity	Industrial
Spring	High	Moderate	High
Summer	High	Moderate	High
Autumn	High	Moderate	High
Winter	High	Moderate	High

Clean-up recommendations:

Prohibited: Do not enter fine sand and mud at Low Water Mark as these areas are sensitive to disturbance and damage. Leave oil to degrade naturally within this lower section of the beach.

Recommended: Strandline oil and contaminated debris may be collected manually. Care should be taken to protect adjacent vegetated shingle and marram grass sand dune areas behind the sandy beach. Early intervention utilising barriers and sorbent materials recommended, especially to protect man-made structures where oil may become trapped and coat surfaces. Seawater flushing of man-made structures at and above High Water Mark may need to be considered.

Access routes to foreshore:

For the beach east of Dungeness nuclear power stations complex leave M20 at Ashford (junction 10) to take the A2042 and then the A2070 to Brenzett. At Brenzett follow the A259 in the direction of New Romney / Folkestone and then turn right onto the B2075 to Lydd. Upon entering Lydd and immediately after the humped bridge turn left and then at the roundabout turn left and follow to the coast. Before reaching The Pilot public house turn right into the road leading to the Dungeness estate area.

To gain vehicular access to the beach east of the Dungeness nuclear power stations a number of tracks exist leading from the estate road. Near to the Dungeness nuclear power stations complex a concrete roadway provides access to the eastern section of the beach. Liaison with the power stations complex security staff is required should this road be utilised.

For the beach west of the Dungeness nuclear power stations complex upon entering Lydd go over the humped bridge, turn left and at the roundabout go straight over. Follow the Dengemarsh Road straight ahead and proceed to the beach. The concrete road eventually deteriorates into a shingle track and may be unsuitable for lighter vehicles.

Ecology considerations:

The beach, foreshore and vegetated shingle complex within this sub-zone is a designated by Natural England as a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Much of the beach and inland shingle is National Nature Reserve. There is also a Royal Society for the Protection of Birds nature reserve at adjacent Denge Marsh.

The main biodiversity interest on the site is associated with the bare and vegetated shingle on the landward edge of the beach. Dungeness supports an internationally significant, diverse and specialised flora and fauna – with a number of records existing for plant and animal species unique within a UK context to this sub-zone. For example, local stands of the very rare plant Nottingham catchfly (Silene nutans) support the only UK population of the micro-moth Coleophora galbulipennella. Great care must be taken during any clean-up within this sub-zone to cordon and protect from trampling and other damage this rare and specialised habitat.

The fine sand and mud substrates at Low Water Mark are an important and easily damaged habitat where trampling and disturbance must be kept to a minimum.

Man-made structures within this sub-zone support algal and invertebrate assemblages, especially towards the Low Water Mark.

Strandline debris is a focus for invertebrate assemblages including the Orders: Diptera, Coleoptera and Isopoda.

Amenity impact:

This unique landscape attracts walkers and wildlife watchers.

Industrial & economic implications:

The proximity of the beach to Dungeness A and B nuclear power stations. The power stations complex is protected from the sea by a man-made shingle bund. The bund sits on land which is part of the licensed site under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (as amended). The power station extracts and returns cooling water from the sea at two intakes and outfalls – the resulting turbulence is visible out to sea and is within 100 metres of the Low Water Mark.

Visitors to Dungeness are economically important to local commercial premises.

Small-scale commercial fishing operates out of Dungeness.