



# North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

**26 April 2024**

# Agenda Item 2

Minutes of the RFCC meeting  
held on 19 January 2024 and  
matters arising

# Agenda Item 3

## Recent Flooding Incidents

# Agenda Item 4

## FCRM Successes 2023/24

Presented by EA Area Flood Risk Managers and  
Local Authority Officers

# Cumbria

# Kendal Flood Risk Management Scheme

- Over 2,200 properties flooded in Kendal, Burneside, Staveley and Ings during Storm Desmond.
- Strategic scheme consists of Kendal Town linear defences and pumping station, catchment drain, upstream storage and linear defences for villages.
- £76 million scheme will deliver environmental improvements to 1.9km of improved riverine habitat, 5ha of floodplain and 50ha of upland blanket bog and will plant over 15,000 trees.



- Kendal Town construction underway with almost 50% of reaches completed.
- December 2025 target completion for Kendal Town.
- Other phases are currently in development.

# Flimby flood alleviation scheme

- 100 homes affected in 2015 (Storm Desmond)
- 159 properties at risk
- Scheme improves the level of protection
- Work included: culvert diversion, installation of culvert headwall, embankment construction and NFM (leaky dams)



Culvert diversion



Embankment construction



Leaky dams (NFM)

# North Road, Holme Flood Alleviation Scheme

- Works involved installation of a new drainage system to ensure sub-surface groundwater and overland surface water paths during heavy rainfall are intercepted, and installation of additional road gullies to support removal of surface water from the main traffic route through the village.





# Cumbria Quick Wins 2023-24

Small-scale flood alleviation measures at:

- Stainburn, Workington
- South Street, Cockermouth
- Ghyll House, Papcastle

Investigative work to increase knowledge of flood risk and/or inform future capital projects at:

- Norbeck Park, Cleator Moor
- Burgh by Sands, Carlisle
- Parton, Whitehaven

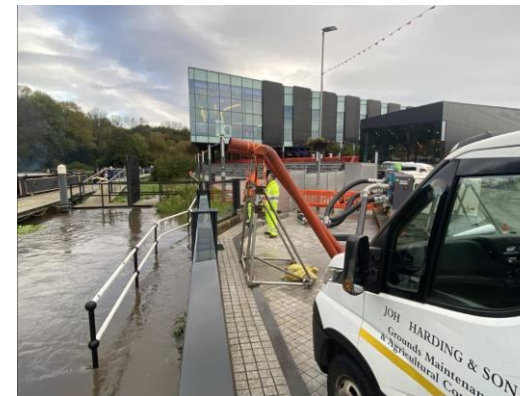
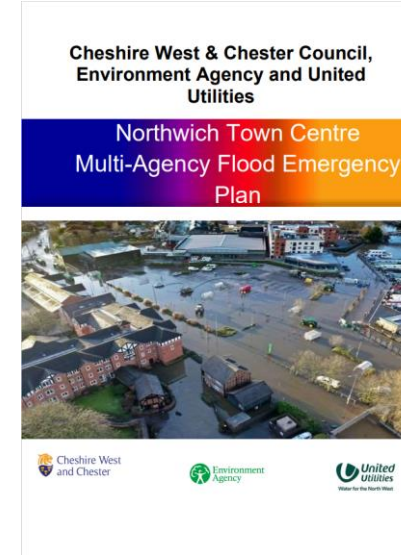


- Modelling of a flooding issue at Hall Brow, Workington  
- part of the larger Workington Gateway capital project

# Cheshire Mid Mersey

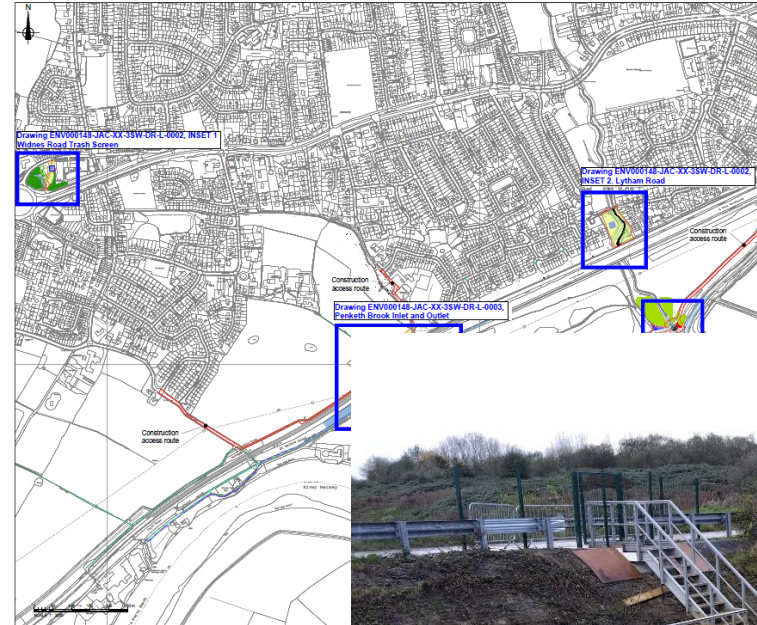
# Northwich Multi-Agency Emergency Plan

- Section 19 recommendation from Storm Christoph (Jan 2021).
- It built on the good work and communications between the partners.
- Contains partners' specific plans but brings the integrated parts into one place for shared understanding.
- Specifies contingency activities (e.g. over-pumping, road closures, evacuation etc) and trigger points
- Routinely checked but fully tested successfully during Storm Babet (Oct 23).



# Penketh and Whittle scheme, Warrington

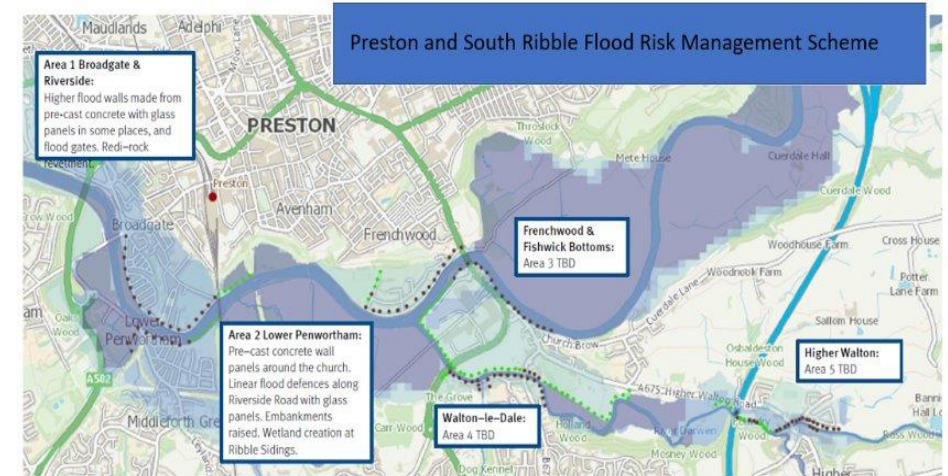
- Engineering works completed December 2023 and assets are now operational
- During Storm Babet, the river levels in Penketh Brook and Whittle Brook rose substantially which meant the new culvert and tunnel under the canal and railway operated, successfully reducing the potential impact of flooding



# Lancashire

# Preston and South Ribble Scheme

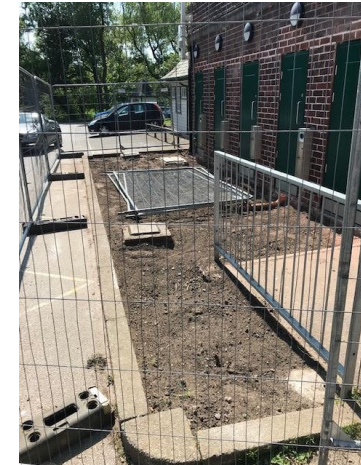
- Over 500m of flood wall constructed
- Broadgate Gardens compound/public space being handed back to Preston City Council with enhanced planting at a formal event on 16 April (with media presence).



# Lancashire Quick Wins projects

## Stanley Park Toilets (Blackpool)

- SuDS features installed - green roof and rain bed to capture and slow/store rainwater as well as permeable resin-bound gravel allowing natural absorption



## Fisher's Field (Blackpool)

- SuDS features installed – rain beds



# Merseyside







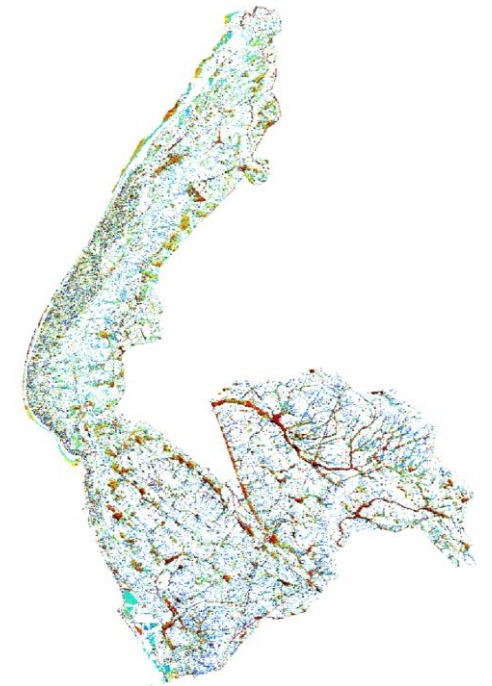
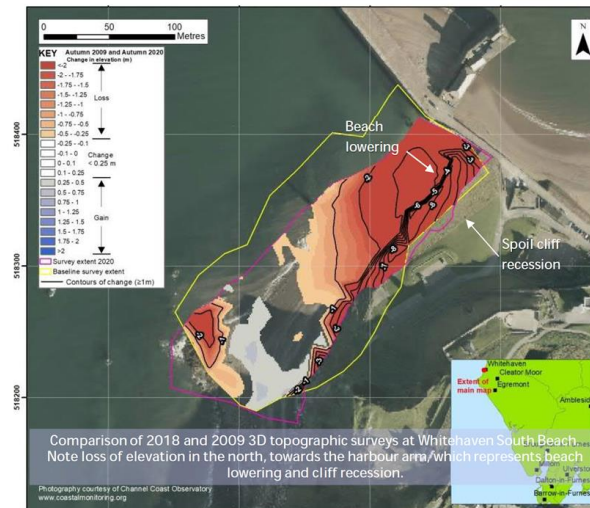
## Wirral Council - West Kirby Flood Alleviation Scheme



- Risk of tidal flooding when extreme tidal levels combine with large waves. Tidal flooding in December 2013 caused damage to seawalls and property boundary walls, and several properties suffered internal flooding.
- First LA coastal flood defence scheme in the North West to be delivered under the Environment Agency's Collaborative Delivery Framework.
- Constructed new pre-cast concrete flood wall with integrated seating
- Scheme designers, AECOM, won the award for Best Landscape Project, nominated by the public.
- Scheme tested with flood gates deployed ahead of high tides w/c 10th March. Flood event on 13th March fully contained by gates and wall.

# Sefton Successes

- **Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme** – Collecting coastal topographic and process data since 2011 (~£1m per year). Has provided evidence to support over £200m investment in coastal defences.
- **Surface Water Management Plan** – Updated modelling with latest information, combining funding sources to extend area of modelling to deliver efficiencies. Has identified various SuDS options and fed into River Alt NFM bid.



# Greater Manchester

# Horwich Town Centre Flood Alleviation Scheme

- Bolton Council, Bell Munro Consulting and Eric Wright collaborated on design
- Flood alleviation detention basin constructed, play area relocated, and highway drainage upgraded. Basin serves as green space during non-flood periods.
- Nominated for an ICE award



# Rochdale & Littleborough Flood Alleviation Scheme

- Phase 1A complete
- Included widening of river channel and replacement of a bridge with a flood wall to increase flow capacity under bridge, increasing height of current flood defences, and installing steel pillars to prevent large debris entering a culvert and blocking a highway



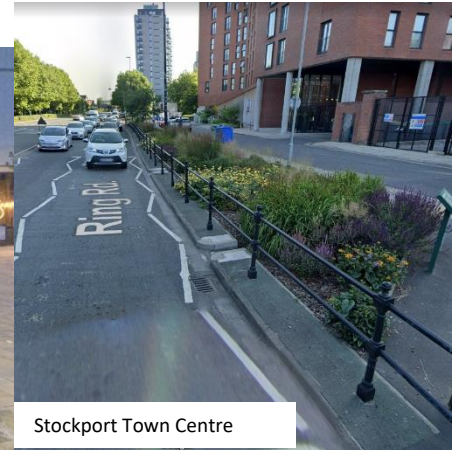
# Quick Win: Lavington Avenue, Stockport

- Surface water flooding on site and in surrounding gardens.
- Created filter strip, swale, and detention basin



# Integrating SuDS into streets and highways in GM

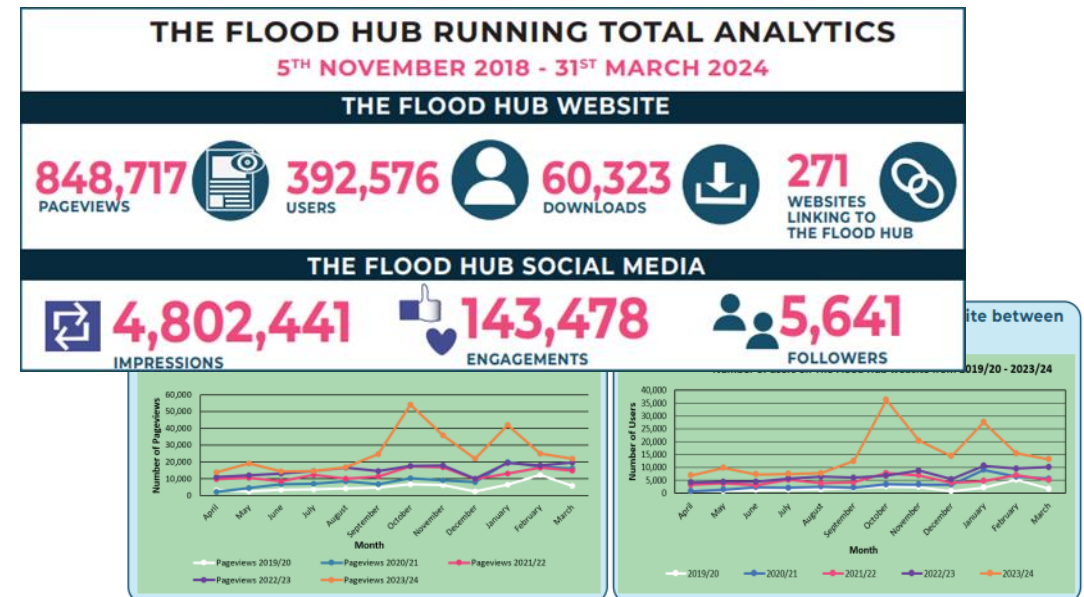
- Urban regeneration and retrofit of raingardens alongside new active travel routes (Salford, Stockport)
- Howard Street SuDS-enabled tree pits (Salford)
- Oldham town centre regeneration plan – Includes rain gardens, expansion of cycling and walking infrastructure, new greenspaces, SuDS-enabled street trees and raingardens alongside highways and public realm improvements, and conversion of car park to large park and attenuation/infiltration feature.





# RFCC Business Plan successes

Highlights coming later in the agenda...





# Agenda Item 5

## Flood & Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme (FCRIP) - National Overview

Presented by Tom de la Rosa (Environment Agency)



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment  
Agency

Flood and coastal innovation programmes

# Flood and coastal innovation programmes: Partnership, growth and technology

Tom de la Rosa – Programme manager  
April 2024



# Agenda

- (Re)Introduce programmes
- Adaptation Pathways – what are they?
- Share some early learning across 3 key themes:
  - Community partnership and governance
  - Growth and finance
  - Monitoring and technology
- Discussion and questions

# Programmes breakdown



## Adaptation pathways programme

Supporting 5 strategic locations in England to develop long term investment plans for climate adaptation. The development of these plans will help policy makers and practitioners improve how we adapt to future flood risk and plan for end of century options.

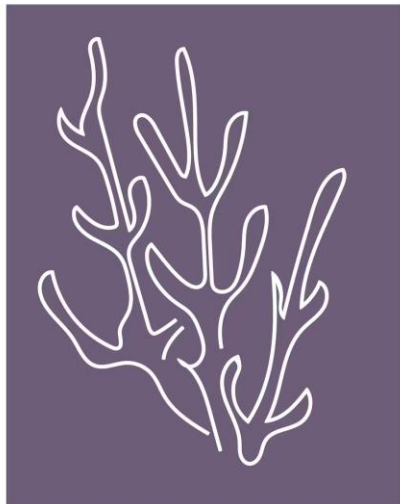
## Coastal transition accelerator programme

Testing and developing new ways to support communities at significant risk of coastal erosion to transition and adapt to climate change.

## Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme

Testing and developing new ways to support communities at significant risk of coastal erosion to transition and adapt to climate change.

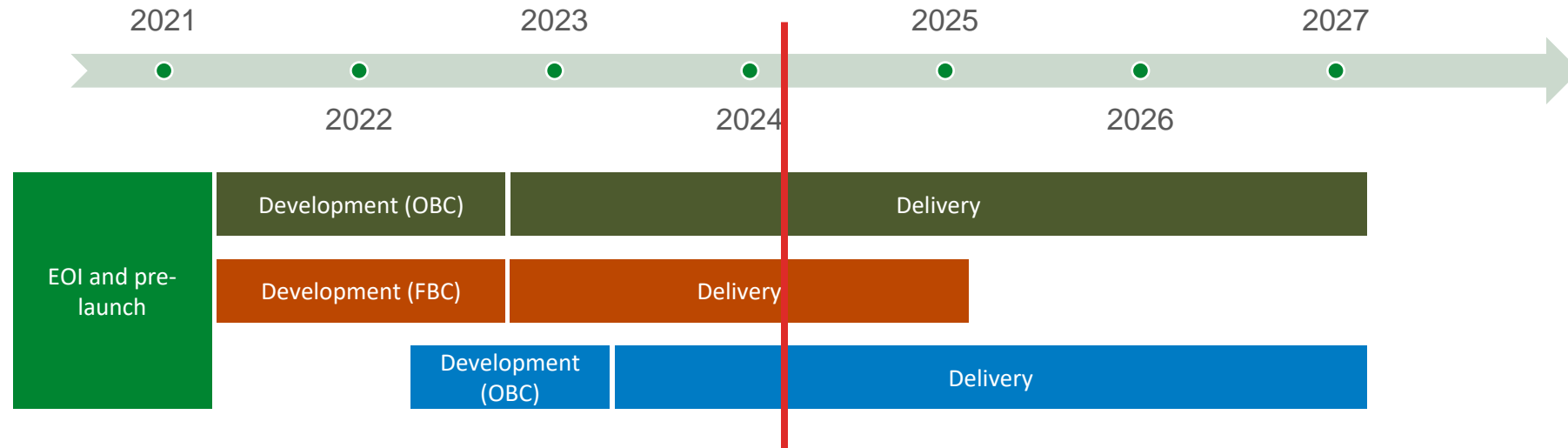
**Delivering practical action | Capturing evidence | Sharing learning**



## OUR FUTURE COAST



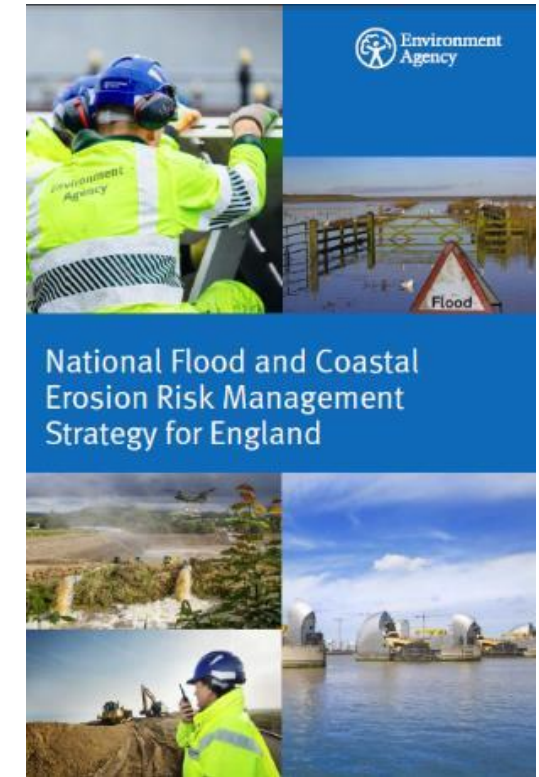
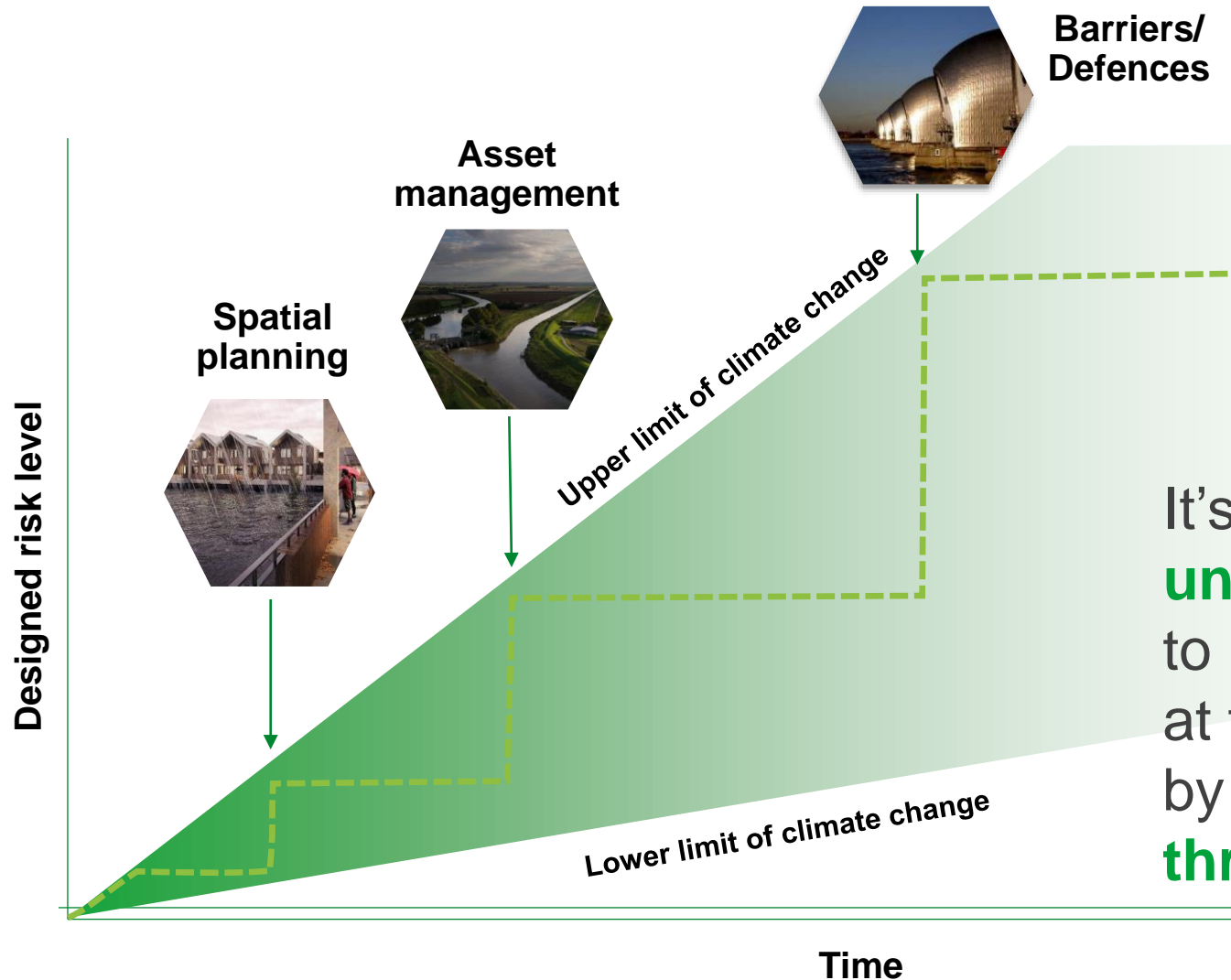
# Story so far



- Project teams mobilised and delivering – 300+ partners
- Assured business cases and project plans
- Publishing early engagement and training resources

# Adaptation Pathways

What adaptation pathways mean for FCERM

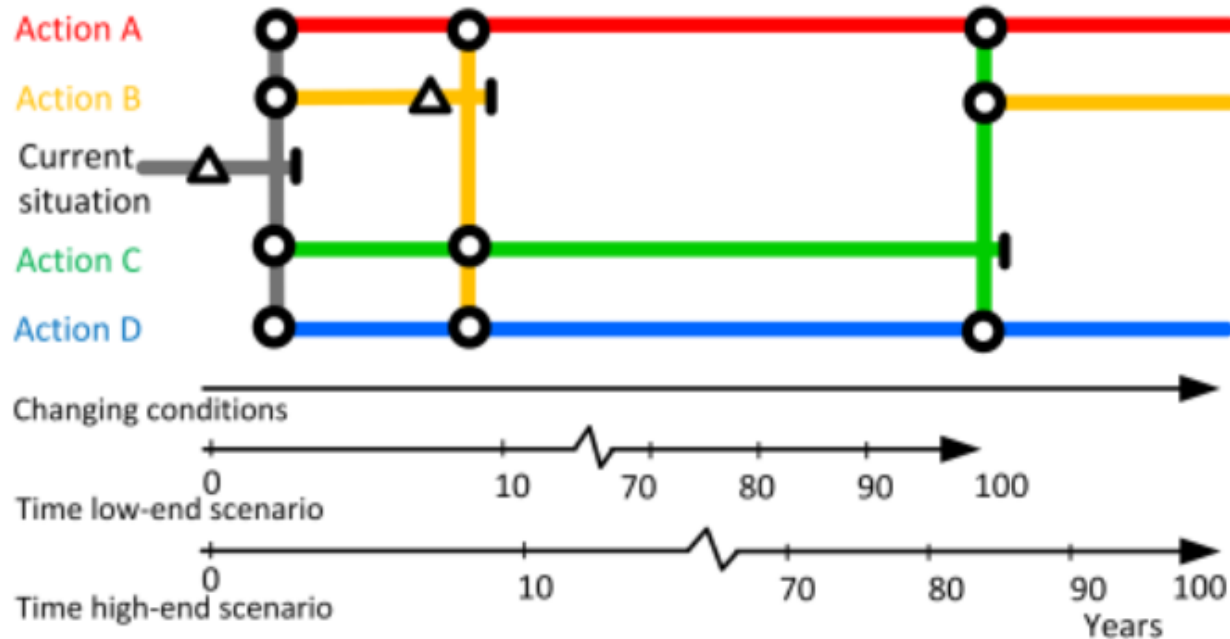


It's an approach to **managing uncertainty** in future FCERM changes to make the **best investment** decisions, at the **right time**, for **maximum benefit**, by **monitoring** changes and keeping **thresholds** under review

# Adaptation Pathways

What adaptation pathways mean for FCERM

Adaptation Pathways Map



*The approach is based on steps in the BS8631:2001 “Adaptation to climate change — Using adaptation pathways for decision making – Guide”*

[AP Knowledge Hub](#)

- Resources and explainer videos





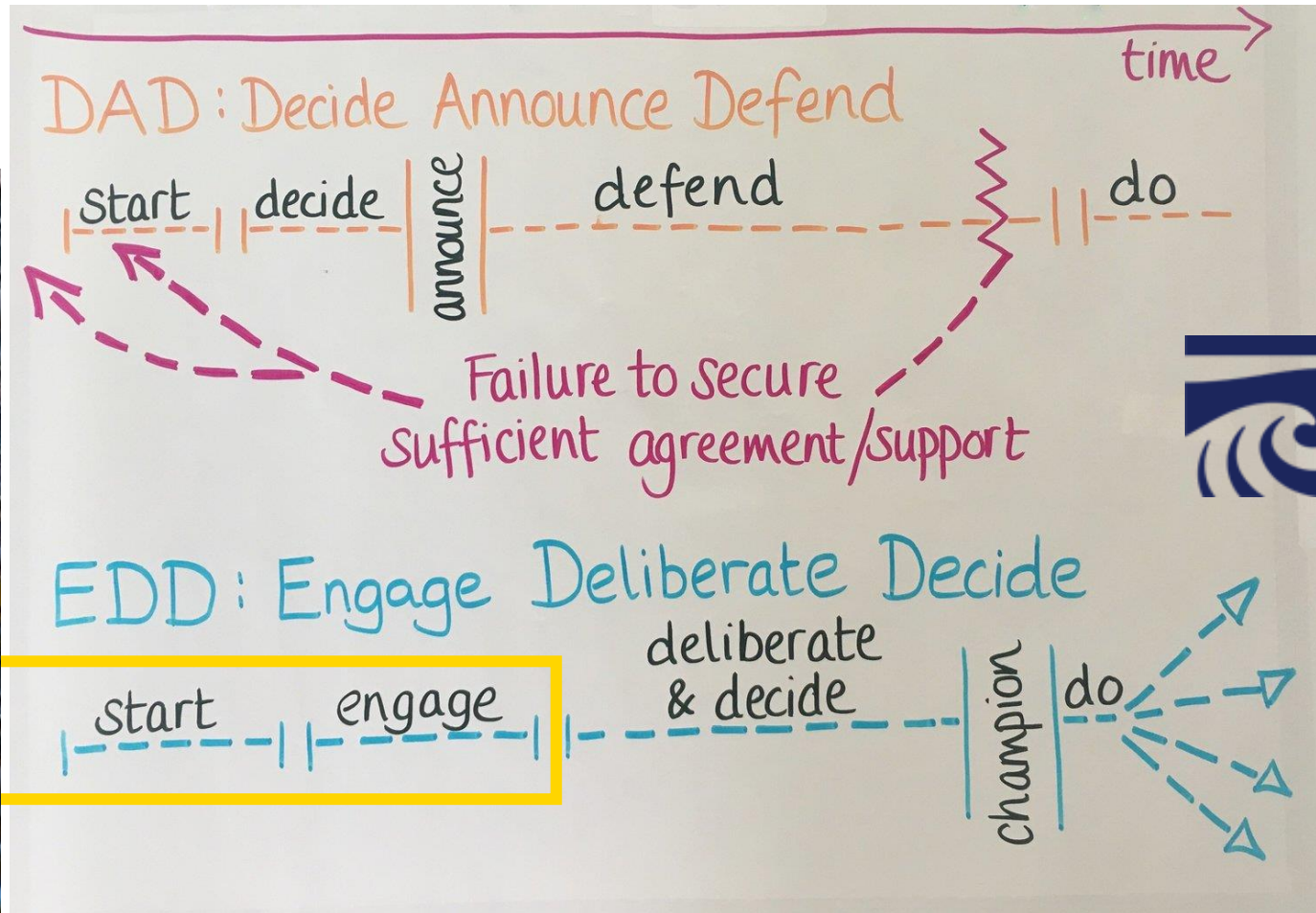
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# Community partnership and governance

# The engagement baseline



# Partnerships have economic value





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# Growth and finance

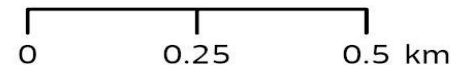


**GIS GERMS Maximum Groundwater Depth (m)**

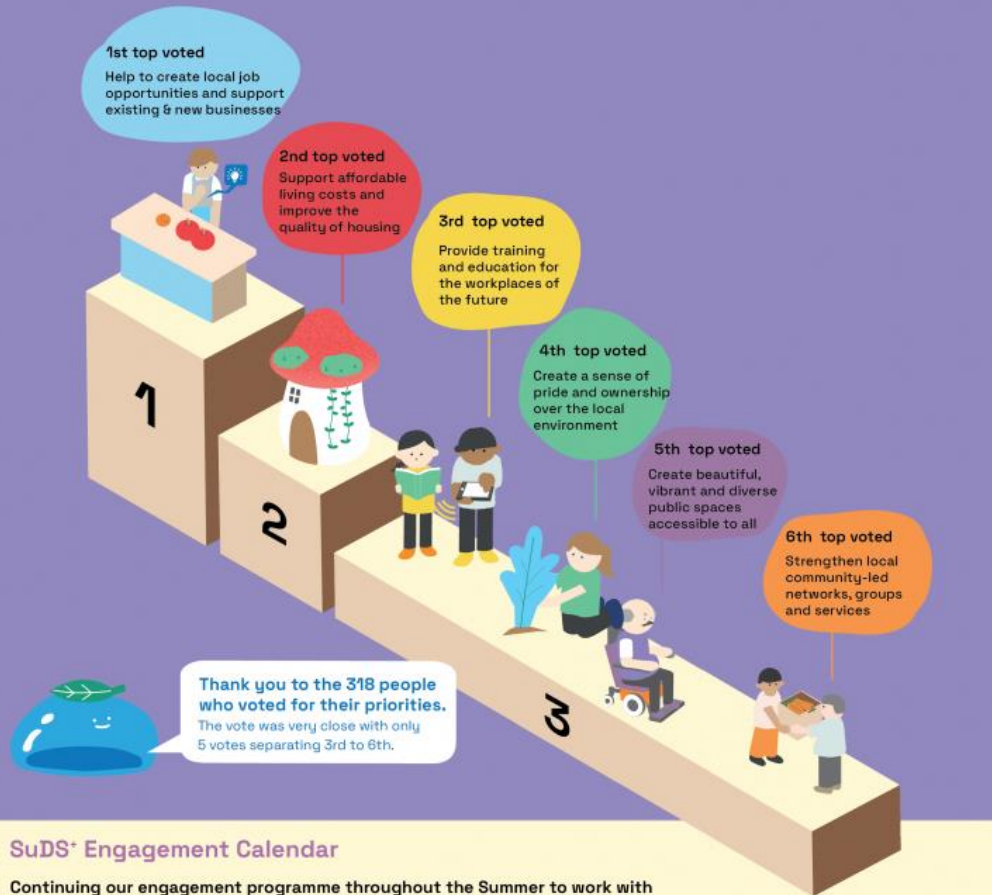
- ≤ 0.1
- ≤ 0.3
- ≤ 0.5
- ≤ 1.0
- > 1.0

**Groundwater Depth Below Ground Level**

- Groundwater lower than 2m below ground
- Groundwater within 2m of ground level
- Groundwater above ground level



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### SuDS+ Engagement Calendar

Continuing our engagement programme throughout the Summer to work with residents on the future of Stanley



## Community Fund

### Why do we have a Community Fund?

Some of the challenges of climate change and sustainability can only be addressed by international agreements, governments, and new technologies.

But there are positive things that we can all do, which will make a difference – as individuals, households and communities.

Our Community Fund helps these important activities happen in Eastbourne and southern Wealden.

### What do we fund?

We help local people try out new ideas or expand existing activities.

We're interested in proposals that:

- help manage flooding or drought
- reduce the impact of climate change
- increase sustainability
- protect and share the natural environment

What you decide to do is based on your group's interests and needs. It can be simple or imaginative.

If you're not sure whether your idea is eligible, let's chat about it. If we can't fund it, we may know someone else who could!



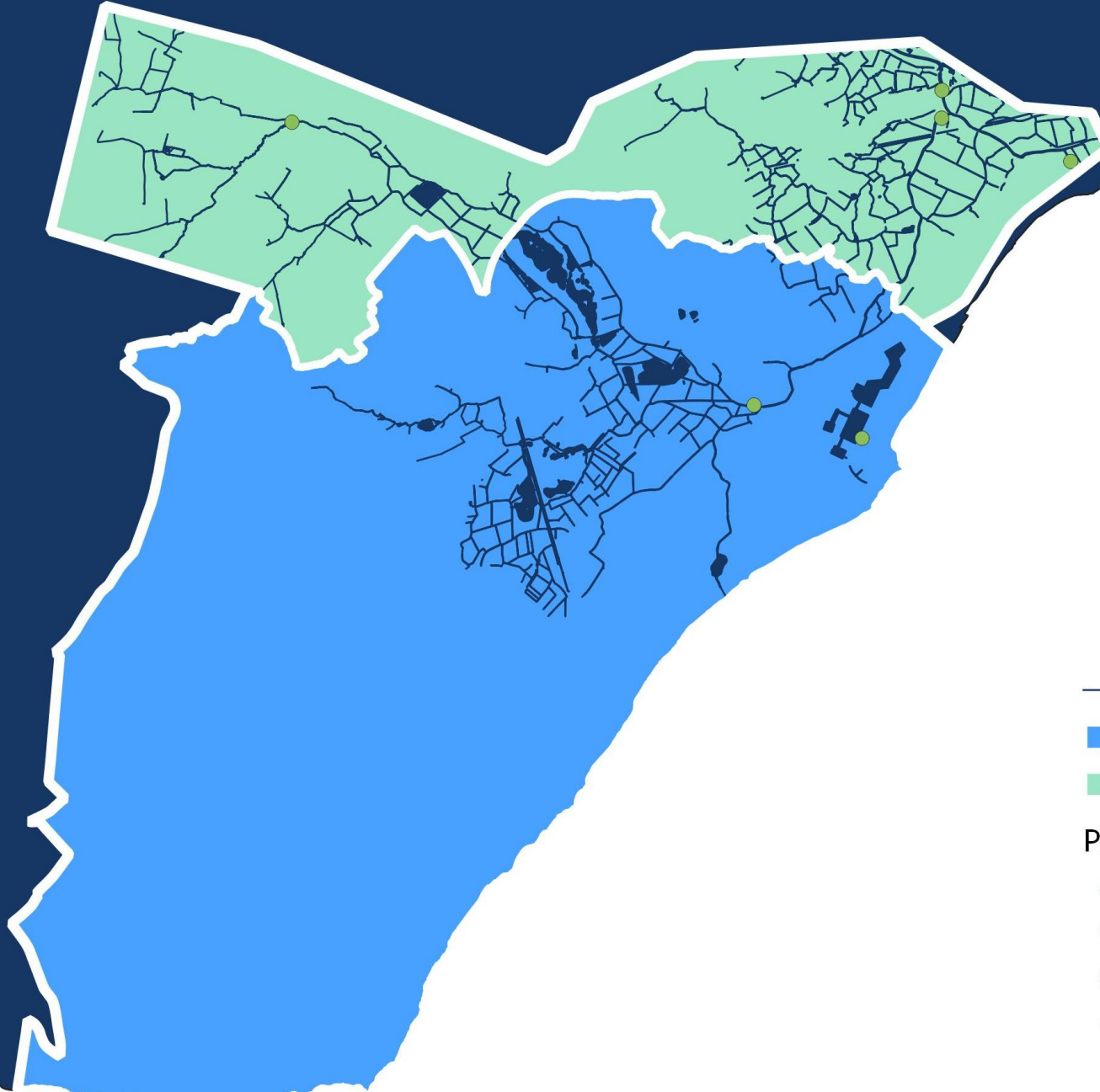
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# Monitoring and technology

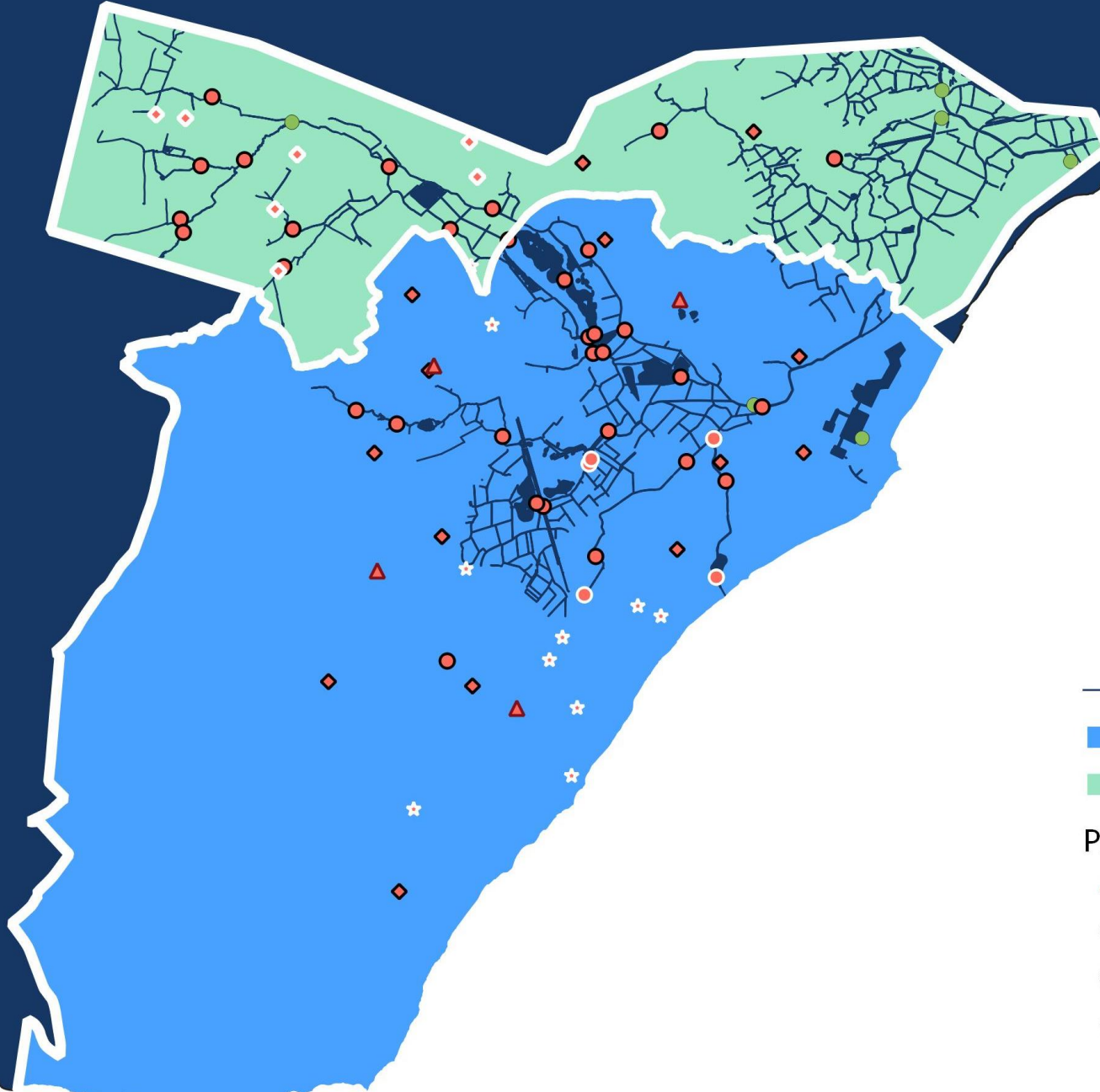
# What are we doing?



- Watercourses
- Eastbourne Borough Council
- Wealden District Council
- Proposed monitoring locations
  - ▲ Raingauge
  - ◆ Borehole
  - Fluvial
  - ★ Surface water



# What are we doing?



- Watercourses
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**NORTH NORFOLK CTAP**  
 INTERNAL MONITORING, EVALUATION AND  
 LEARNING FRAMEWORK  
 MARCH 2023

|  |  |  |  |   |  |              |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--------------|
|  |  |  | based solutions  |   |  |              |
| Historic environment                       | Adaptation and coastal change on a monitored and managed way could enable evidence on historic environment to be captured rather than lost | Not valued   | Captured under value at-risk   | Not valued  | Number of historically designated assets better prepared; Number of historically designated assets registered. | TP/PP.C. 2-4 |
| Landscape                                  | Captured under value potential   | N/a  | Potential to move to a more naturally functioning coastline with improved landscape benefits.  | Community benefits from a nicer environment associated with naturalised coast linked to Social Value Bank* value of £319 per household for improving open space   | Number of FCERM assets prepared for decommissioning; Ha of naturalised coast created or enhanced.              | PA.C.3-4     |
| <b>Social impacts (individual, family)</b> |  |  |  |   |  |              |
| Way of life                                | Adaptation will change way-of-life but in a way that individuals are more in control   | Rollback costs (based on individuals getting the appropriate permissions to enable rollback and cost of rollback (rebuild of property) – this is considered covered by adaptation fund so has £0 costs in project) | Community adaptation facilitation process will help individuals see how and why adaptation can benefit them, reducing uncertainty<br><br>Improved resilience of individual property owners to future erosion delivered through development and | Benefits related to empowerment of individuals from increased feeling of control from 0.1 increase in score (£15,894 x 0.1) = £1,589 per property (assumes is once-off benefit to reflect impact of change – but benefit is actually likely to persist for some time so assumption it is one-off is likely to under-estimate) (Social Value Bank* and Green | Readiness Assessments; Stakeholder feedback.   | PP.B.1-5     |

# Programme resources

Learning for local authorities on adaptation pathway approaches

Supporting local authorities to plan and adapt

# ADEPT

Association of Directors of  
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

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Adaptation Pathway  
Programme  
APP

Adaptation Pathway Programme



Programme aims  
The Adaptation Pathway Programme aims to develop adaptation pathways in four key locations of national significance: [Thames Estuary](#), [2100](#), [Humber](#), [Straggs](#), [River Severn](#), [Partnerships](#), [South](#) and [West](#) [Yorkshire](#).

Knowledge hub - a bank of best practice and digital tools



Follow us!

[Sign up for updates](#)

Important links

[Defra Flood and coastal erosion risk management policy statement](#)

[National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England](#)

## ADAPTATION PATHWAY GUIDANCE

...we will also link to LA Climate Service hub

Adaptation Pathways - Welcome to the Knowledge Hub

Grant, Hattie  
Advisor

Welcome to our Adaptation Pathways knowledge hub!

This is the place to learn about adaptation pathways, what they are and how to use them.

This knowledge hub provides a bank of best practice and digital tools to equip risk management authorities to embed adaptive approaches to flooding and coastal change into their projects, investments and strategic plans. The page includes information on:

- What adaptation pathways are and what they are trying to achieve
- Briefings, guidance and tools
- Case studies examples of where adaptation pathways are being used

We are learning by doing. We do not have all the answers and there are challenges for risk management authorities in adopting an adaptation pathway approach for long term strategies and plans. We will continue to keep this knowledge hub updated as new evidence emerges, gradually bolstering the knowledge base and increasing certainty for practitioners.

For any queries, feedback and ideas of further content you would like to see please email:

[AdaptationPathwaysProg@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:AdaptationPathwaysProg@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[Adaptation Pathways - Welcome to the Knowledge Hub \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

[Adaptation Pathway Programme | Engage Environment Agency \(engagementhq.com\)](#)

# Discussion

- Are these challenges / opportunities recognised?
- Where are there chances across EA to linkup / support each other?

# Agenda Item 6

## FCRIP

# Cumbria Innovative Flood Resilience Project Overview (CiFR)

Presented by Carolyn Otley and Dave Kennedy



**Emma Simons**

Westmorland and Furness Council

**Dave Kennedy**

Environment Agency

**Carolyn Otley**

Cumbria CVS



Westmorland  
& Furness  
Council

Working for **Cumberland Council** and  
**Westmorland & Furness Council**



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Environment  
Agency



# What is CiFR trying to achieve?

**Improve the overall flood and climate resilience of small, rural communities that have suffered repeated flooding**

Combine existing strengths around natural flood management and community action to deliver solutions rooted in place

Gather the evidence needed to achieve changes in policy and practice and make a lasting difference





# Why is that tricky?

**Traditional, “hard” flood defences are expensive, and not financially viable for small communities**

NFM has the potential to significantly reduce flood risk – if done in a targeted way – but this is hard to fund via existing routes

Funding package needs to be attractive to farmers and landowners, as targeted NFM work is often on prime agricultural land

There’s always a residual flood risk.....



# What is our Approach?

## Project Delivery

- Modelling and Monitoring
- Farming and Community Officers
- Blended Finance
- Community Resilience

## Strategic Evaluation and Influence

- Key part of CiFR – change policy & practice
- Timescales will extend beyond project



# Where are we working?

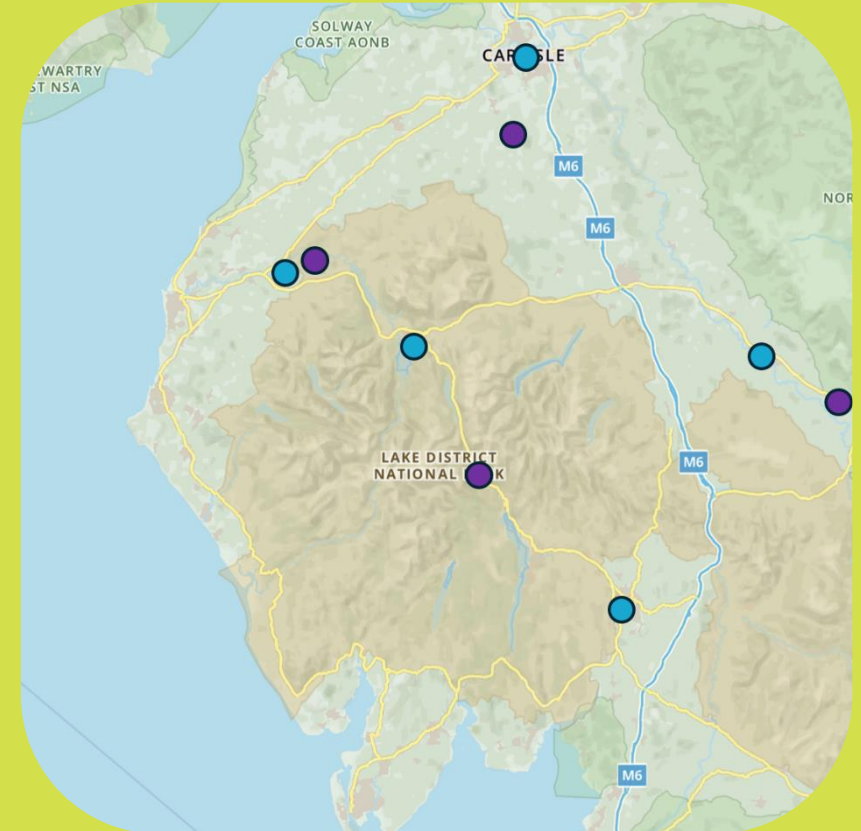
## NFM work ●

(plus Community Resilience)

- Grasmere
- Stockdalewath
- Warcop
- Crummock/Tom Rudd Beck & Bitter Beck

## Community Resilience only ●

- Kendal
- Carlisle
- Appleby
- Cockermouth
- Keswick



# What does it look like in Grasmere?

**Potential NFM interventions identified, impacts modelled, and monitoring in place**

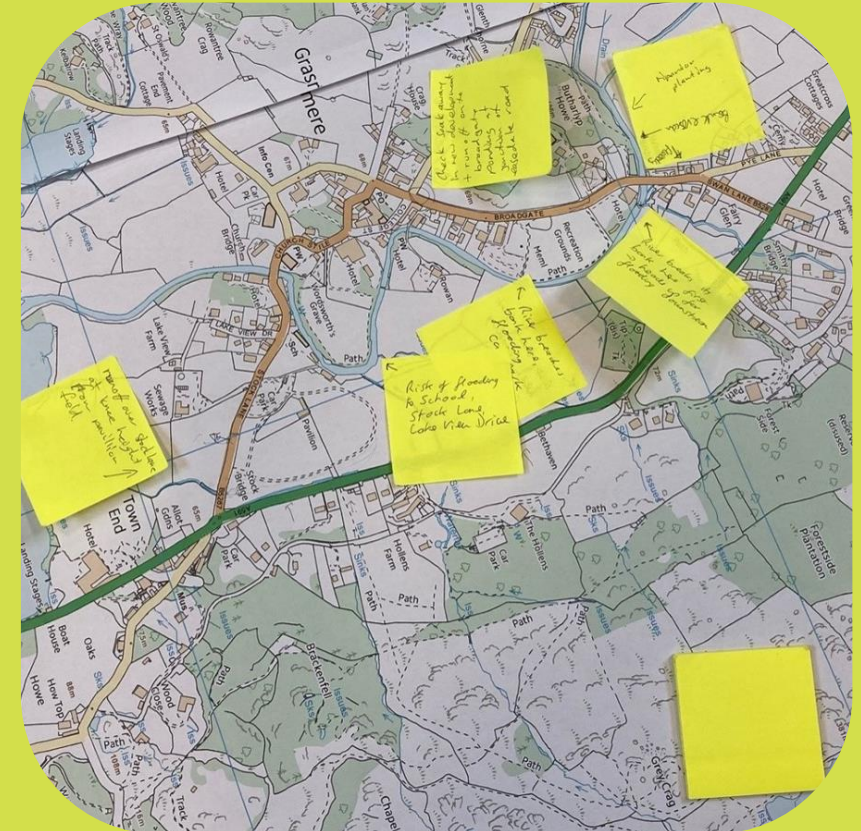
**Engagement with farmers and landowners to determine willingness to engage**

**NFM interventions now underway**

- Some completed via Countryside Stewardship
- Contractor appointed for Phase 1 NFM works
- Will be an iterative process as confidence grows

**Community Engagement and Resilience**

- Drop In Event
- Support to Grasmere Emergencies Group
- Activities at Grasmere School



# What's changed over the first 3 years?

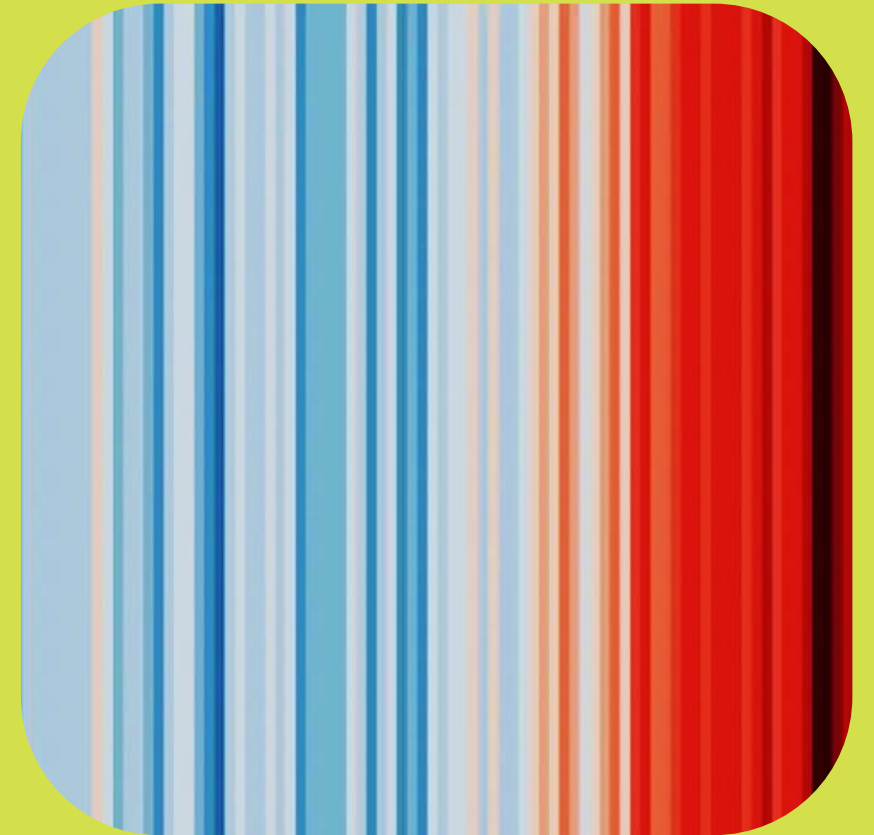
**Climate Change** is increasingly mentioned by communities

**Water Quality** has become a “hot topic” particularly in relation to Windermere

**ELMS** changes have made it far more attractive for landowners to use land to store flood water

**National Resilience Framework** has increased the focus on “whole of society resilience”

**Interim Review** to capture learning from the first three years, and inform the next three



# Learning and Challenges

**In order to innovate, it's been important to:**

Be comfortable with complexity and risk

Involve the right people, build the team, and make a focussed effort to overcome barriers

Have a clear vision, but maintain flexibility in the detail

Have the ability to navigate the processes

**But that's hard work.....the system's designed for service delivery, not innovation!**

Skills, attitudes  
and behaviours  
that fuel public  
innovation

A guide to getting the most from Nesta's  
Competency Framework for Experimenting  
and Public Problem Solving



*“Innovation needs to  
out-pace and out-think  
climate change”*



# Agenda Item 7

## FCRIP

### Our Future Coast Project

Presented by Susannah Bleakley, Bea Beggs and Carl Green



# OUR FUTURE COAST

**Delivering Nature-based Solutions**

***Innovative and partnership delivery leading the way in mainstreaming nature-based solutions.***






- Objectives and scope
- Progress and learning to date
- Forward Look
- Legacy and RFCC involvement.

# **Message from Carl Green**

## **Chair of the North West and North Wales Coastal Group**

 [OFC RFCC April 2024-20240416\\_185451-Meeting Recording.mp4](#)

# Challenges

- Resistance to change and new ways of working
- Limited pool of skilled project managers
- Delays in appointing Project Manager 1 and Project Manager 2 – lack of capacity
- Low readiness; limited development of individual projects; no prior engagement; structures not in place



# Progress

- 4 Sites set to complete by 2027.
- Additional 4 sites with possibilities of delivery being worked through.
- 2 Learning sites influence the methodology and objectives of other OFC sites.
- 3 further sites are developing and will form legacy pipeline.
- CoastSense (previously Marlan) radar 8 deployments.
- Engagement processes tested at all live sites



**62**

Engagement events



**2214**

People involved

**153 attendees**

Grange Climate Conference



**561**

School children engaged in salt marsh workshops

**80 people**  
Busiest community drop in  
(Jenny Brown's Point)



**40**

Volunteers involved

**18 community engagement sessions**

**14 Task Group meetings**

**8 partner meetings**

**7 talks / public presentations**

**6 conferences**

**4 co-design workshops**

**2 citizen science events**

**1 display/exhibition**

# OUR FUTURE COAST ENGAGEMENT PRIORITIES

1. TAKE A SITE SPECIFIC APPROACH 
2. SEEK EARLY ENGAGEMENT 
3. BUILD TRUST 
4. PRIORITISE THOSE WITH THE GREATEST STAKE 
5. CONSIDER WHO ELSE TO ENGAGE 
6. FAIRNESS AND EQUITY ALWAYS 
7. COMMUNICATE REGULARLY 

8. BE CLEAR, SPEAK OFTEN 
9. LISTEN TO CONCERNS 
10. SUPPORT AND GUIDE 
11. WORK TOGETHER 
12. BE RESPONSIVE AND ADAPT 
13. SHARE LIMITATIONS HONESTLY 
14. CO-DESIGN, TEST, SHARE RESULTS 

# Key Learning Engagement

- Engagement needs long-term resources
- Embed engagement from the beginning in project planning
- Testing varied processes to site needs
- Bring agencies, council and stakeholders together.
- Turning conversations from anxiety to hope
- Mid point evaluation





# Key Learning Wider Project

- Engagement for these projects ideally needed to start 2 years prior
- Aspects of planning could facilitate coastal management but are not being fully utilized
- The current policy framework calculator does not reflect climate change mitigation factors or environmental objectives
- Report evaluating ecology of Fylde managed sand dunes



# Next Steps...

- Continue work with stakeholders to co-design, co-plan and where possible, co-deliver.
- Finalise delivery sites – complete option scoping, begin capital works.
- Develop a series of project plans to form a legacy pipeline.
- Monitoring review to explore gaps in learning.
- Continue to partner with CoastSense including Saltmarsh AI project.
- Research with University of Lancaster on adaptation pathways for bridging the gap between the SMP and the community experience.
- FCRIP projects working jointly on policy change.



# Legacy

- All local authorities and partners involved with Our Future Coast will have proactively developed nature based solution coastal projects.
- Suite of case studies for coastal practitioners and policy change discussion both locally and nationally.
- Broad and innovatively collated monitoring data set. eg Radar
- Pipeline of projects ready to deliver and prioritised against the SMP and EA asset management schedules.
- Increased skills and normalised NBS and early engagement.



# RFCC and Our Future Coast

We can:

- Share case studies, learning and data
- Maintain aligned objectives, particularly around skills development
- Collaborate on pipeline
- Contribute to or collaborate on RFCC events
- Provide valuable insights for the Floodhub expansion plans through our use of Floodhub for our Project website

RFCC could:

- Help us spread the word – councillors and MPs
- Share contacts who may help us
- Consider OFC in collaboration opportunities



# RFCC and Our Future Coast

- Acknowledge scale of future challenge
- Appropriately resource engagement
- Seek buy-in from decision makers
- Support long-term funding for adaptation

Adaptation requires long term funding to support long term engagement

Support from elected members for SMP policies



# Agenda Item 8



## Report from the RFCC Finance & Business Assurance Sub-group

Presented by Neville Elstone and Andy Tester and Sally Whiting

# 2023/24 Capital Programme Update

## Capital Programme Overview:





|                            |                       |                 | £ £ £   |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|
|                            | <b>Properties to be better protected</b>   | <b>Partnership funding</b>   | <b>Efficiency savings</b>   |
| <b>National Overview</b>   | We are investing over £5 billion over six years to better protect hundreds of thousands of properties. | We have secured approximately £1.5 billion of partnership funding contributions                  | £49 millions of efficiency savings (for 22/23 and at Q3 23/24 to date) against a cumulative target of £132 million            |
| <b>North West Overview</b> | 3,383 properties forecast to be better protected in 2023-24.   | Approximately 10% of the North West <u>six year</u> Programme is made up of partnership funding. | £7,310,010 of efficiency savings (for 22/23 and at Q3 23/24 to date) against a cumulative target in the region of £20 million |

# North West RFCC Investment Programme Overview: 2023-24




## What outcomes are we delivering?

|   |   |                                      |                                      |   |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
|  |  | <b>2023-24<br/>* Target</b><br>3,598 | <b>2023-24<br/>Forecast</b><br>3,383 | <b>2023-24 Actuals<br/>at the end of Jan</b><br>2,930 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|

*\*No official RFCC target. Targets are split by Area.*

## Are we spending the funding we have secured?

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <b>Capital funding<br/>available</b><br>£109.2 million | <b>Capital forecast</b><br>£98.5 million |
|--|--|--|



# Challenges throughout 2023-24



- We still have £22.2 million to be claimed in the last month of the year.
- There have been 9 named storm events between September 2023-January 2024, which has caused disruption to delivery of the capital programme (Storms: Agnes – September, Babet – October, Ciaran and Debi – November, Elin, Fergus and Gerrit – December and Henk and Isha – January)
- Adverse weather conditions during the winter months have delayed delivery of all programmes.
- Resources (all RMAs) – resources availability in LA continues to be a challenge.

# 2023-24 EA Resource Maintenance Programme



North West  
Regional  
Flood &  
Coastal  
Committee

## EA Resource Programme financial summary 2023-24

| <b>Resource Programme, inc.<br/>Maintenance, Staff Costs and Resource<br/>Projects</b> | <b>Budget<br/>£k</b> | <b>Forecast<br/>£k</b> | <b>Forecast<br/>Variance to<br/>Budget £k</b> |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| Cumbria & Lancashire   | 12,016               | 15,376                 | -3,359  |
| Greater Manchester, Merseyside &<br>Cheshire   | 10,399               | 12,059                 | -1,659  |
| EA Total FCRM GiA Resource   | 22,415               | 27,435                 | -5,018  |

# 2024-25 Capital and Resource Programme



- The Northwest Grant in Aid indicative capital allocation for 2024-25 (£98.6 million) has now been confirmed and approved by the Environment Agency Board.
- This figure is for capital maintenance, defence & property level resilience schemes. It also includes the enabling & support programme including Asset Reconditioning.
- The Resource Programme has not yet received its final allocation for 2024-25.

## FCRM GiA Resource Maintenance Indicative Allocation

| RFCC       | 2023/24<br>Final allocation<br>(£m) | 2024/25 current<br>Indicative allocation<br>(£m) |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| North West | 11.8                                | 12.1   |

# Risks to the Capital Programme for 2024-25



- We are continuing to see partnership funding gaps increase across many schemes, which may delay progress or stop the scheme all together.
- The transition of frameworks being rolled out into operation, may have an impact on delivery in the first two quarters of 2024/25.
- Resources continue to be stretched into next year's programme.
- Adverse weather conditions during Autumn and winter months might delay delivery of all programmes.

# North West NFM Projects successful in obtaining funding through the National NFM Programme



- Cheshire Wildlife Trust: Meols NFM scheme
- City of Trees Trust: Crompton Moor Slow the Flow Leaky Dams
- Community Forest Trust: Whitewell Brook NFM
- Mersey Rivers Trust: Alt catchment NFM
- National Trust: Poynton and Micker (Norbury) catchment plan (Headwaters)
- Ribble Catchment Conservation Trust Ltd.: Ribble Revival: Darwen community catchment
- Ribble Catchment Conservation Trust Ltd.: Ribble Revival: Wrea Green community catchment
- Ribble Catchment Conservation Trust Ltd.: Ribble Revival: Clitheroe community catchment
- Woodland Trust: Smithills Estate NFM 2024
- Wyre River Trust: Wyre Catchment resilience programme
- Brampton 2 Zero CiC, Brampton Natural Flood Management Project
- National Trust, Common Farm Hydrological Restoration
- National Trust, Resilient Coledale

[Natural flood management programme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

# North West RFCC Local Levy programme for 2023-24 and beyond



| <b>2023-24</b>  |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Local Levy income and allocation summary (£ million)</b> |          |
| Cash balance at start of year                               | 12.216 * |
| Local Levy income   | 4.412    |
| Total available balance                                     | 16.628   |
| Allocation  | 8.153    |
| Forecast  | 6.392    |
| Variance to allocation                                      | 1.761    |
| Expected remaining cash balance at year end                 | 10.236   |

\* Cash balance has been updated to include interest earned on balances at the end of 2022/23 which was £216k.

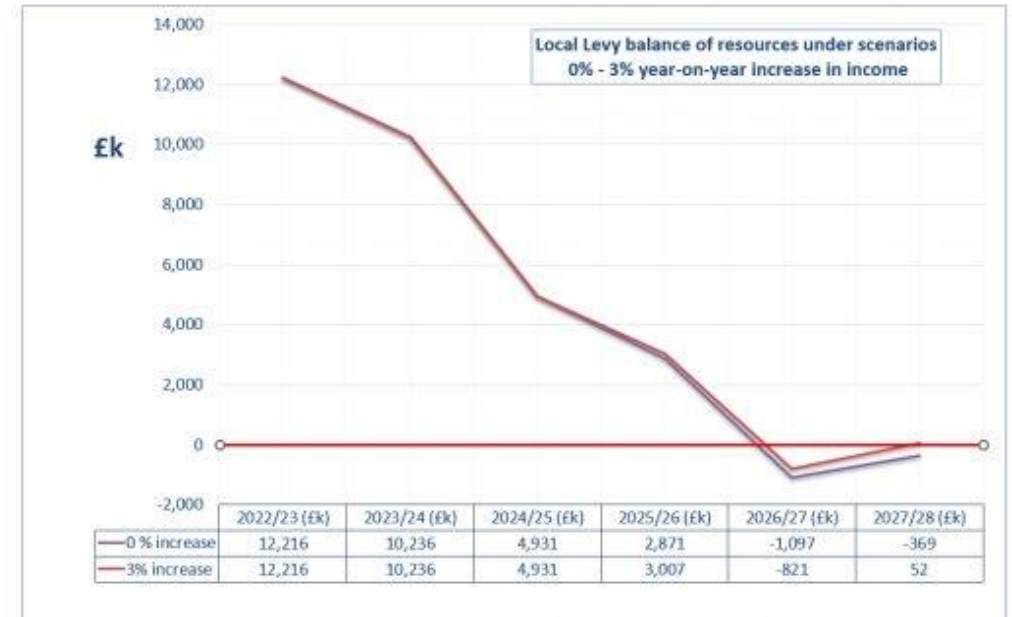
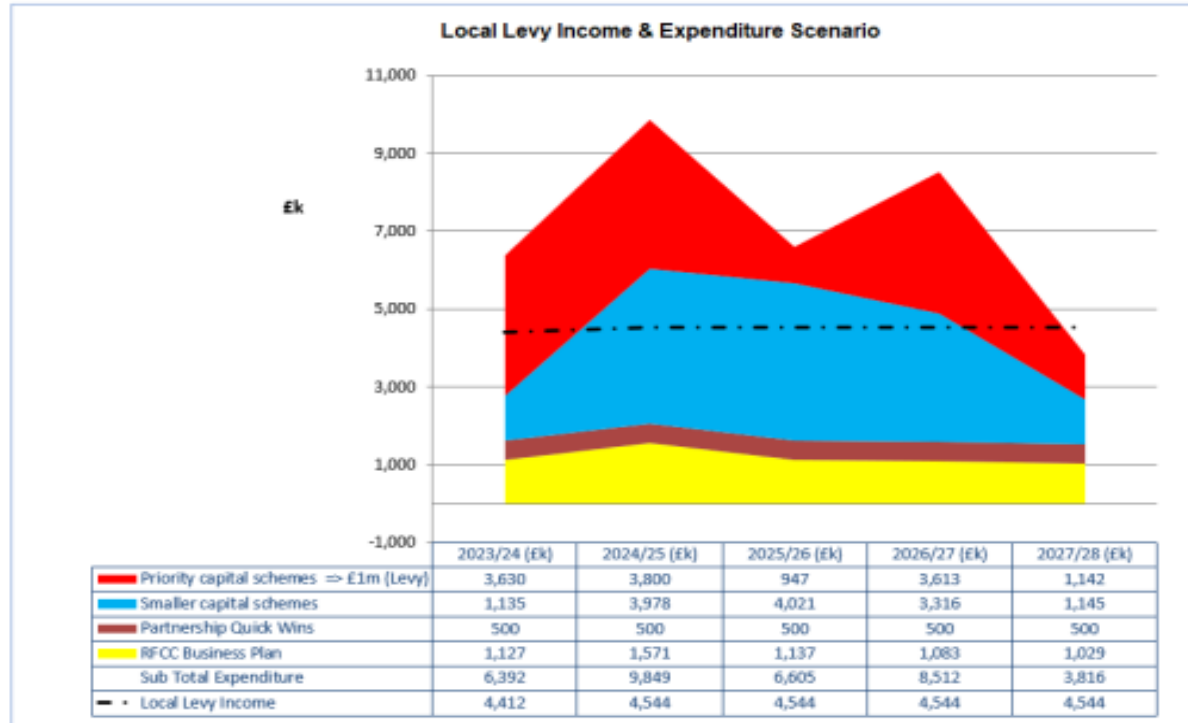
# Local Levy Income and Allocation for 2024-25



| <b>2024-25</b>  |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Local Levy income and allocation summary (£ million)</b> |              |
| Cash balance at start of year (expected)                    | 10.236       |
| Expected interest from 2023/24                              | 0.520 (tbc)* |
| Local Levy income (4.412 + 3%)                              | 4.544        |
| Total available balance                                     | 15.300       |
| Latest forecast   | 9.849        |
| Expected remaining cash balance at year end                 | 5.451 *      |

\* Including expected interest from 2023/24 balances.

# Local Levy Income and Expenditure Scenario



\* Local Levy balances above exclude interest expected on balances in future years



# Local Levy Requests

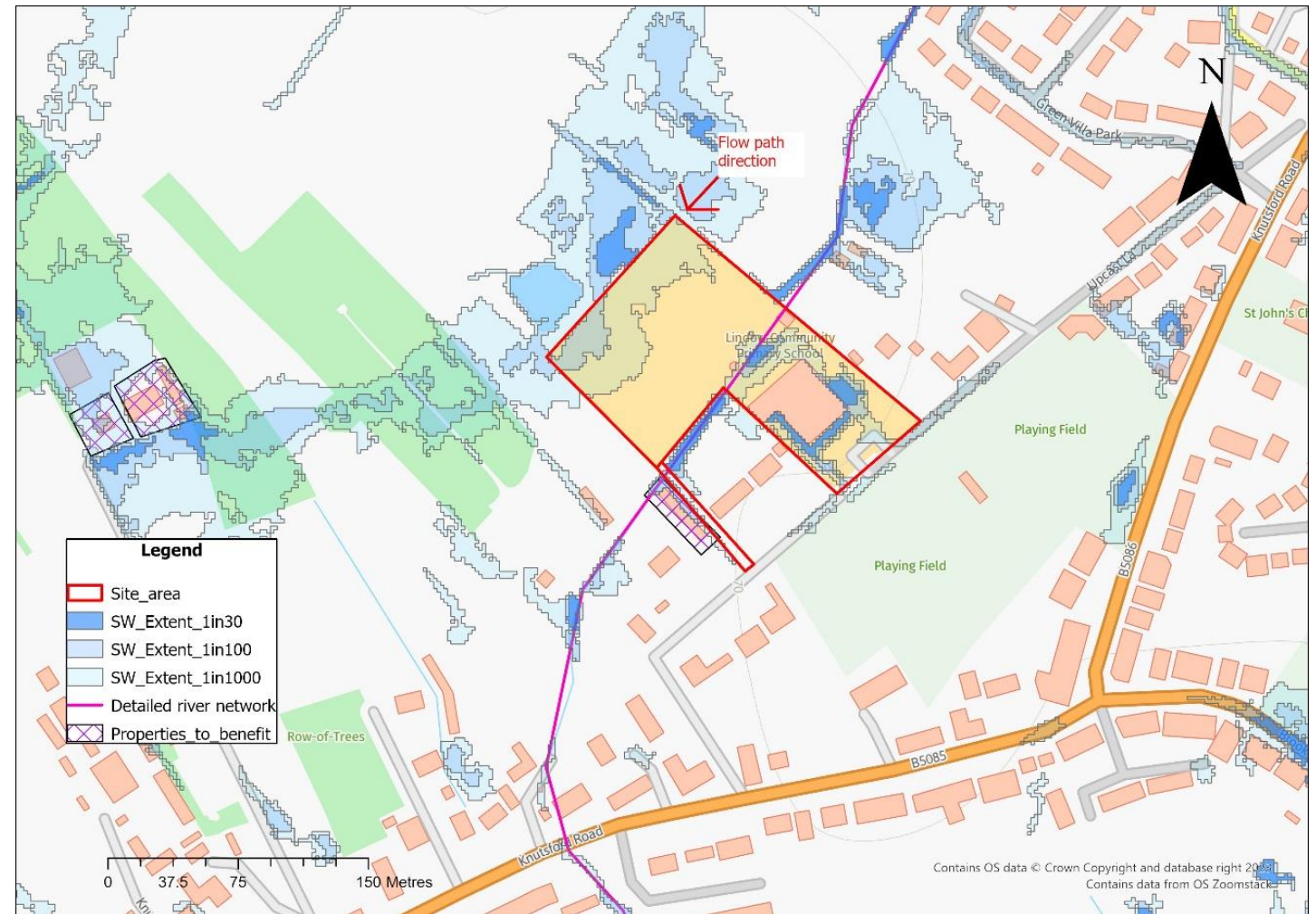
# Lindow Community Primary School: NFM and SuDS

RFCC contribution requested:  
£30k

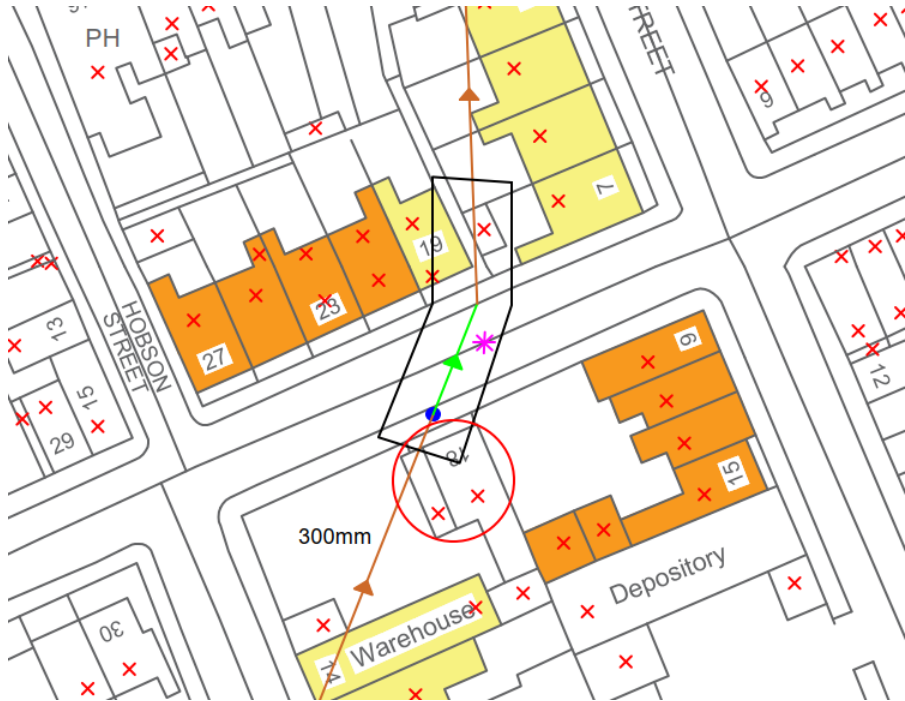
Benefits: school & 3 residential  
properties at reduced flood risk;  
and environmental habitat  
creation

Council will contribute £15k

DforE and NFM grant  
applications unsuccessful



# Ryles Pool ordinary watercourse: culvert upgrade



- Total cost: £175k
- RFCC contribution requested: £120k
- Benefits: 10 properties at reduced flood risk
- Council previously spent £150k on emergency works and will contribute a further £10k.



# Recommendations



## To:

- **Note the current Local Levy position and latest spend forecast**
- **Approve the Local Levy funding requests for:**
  - **Lindow Community Primary School Flood Alleviation Scheme (£30k)**
  - **Ryles Pool Ordinary Watercourse Improvement Works (£120k)**

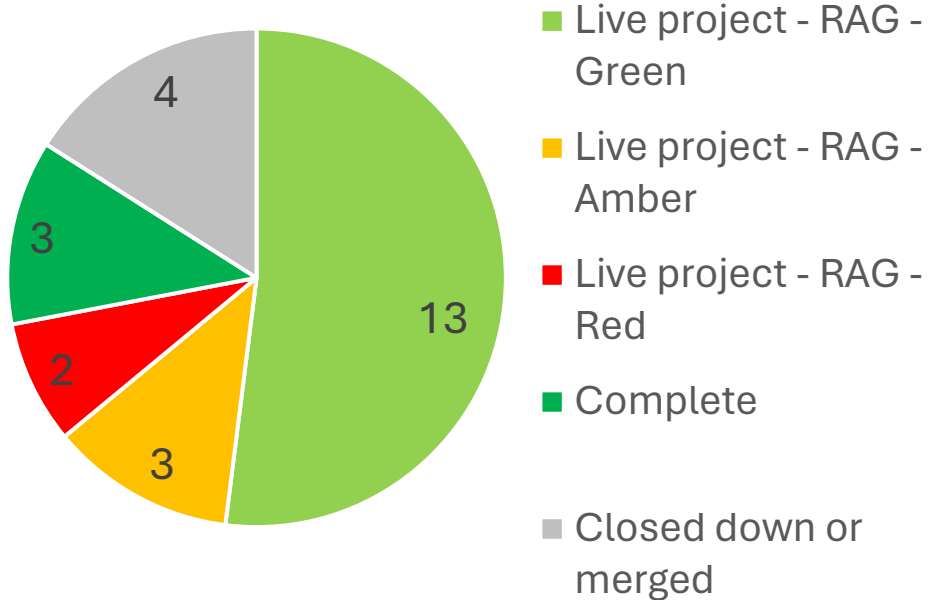


# **RFCC Business Plan Update**

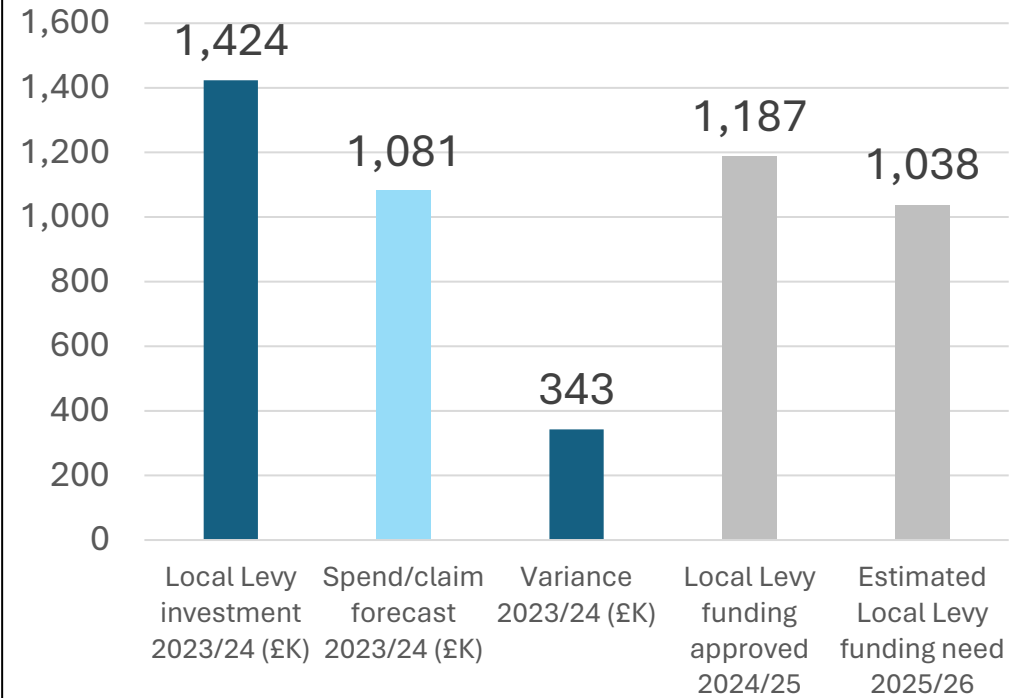
**Presented by Sally Whiting**

# RFCC Business Plan - Overview

## Project Status & RAG Summary

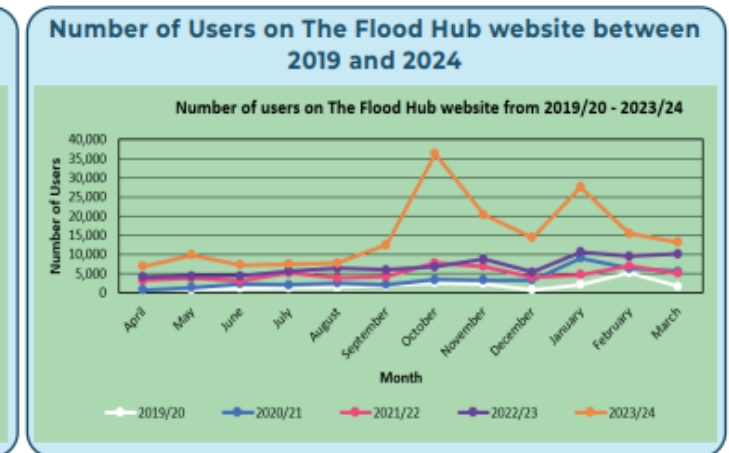
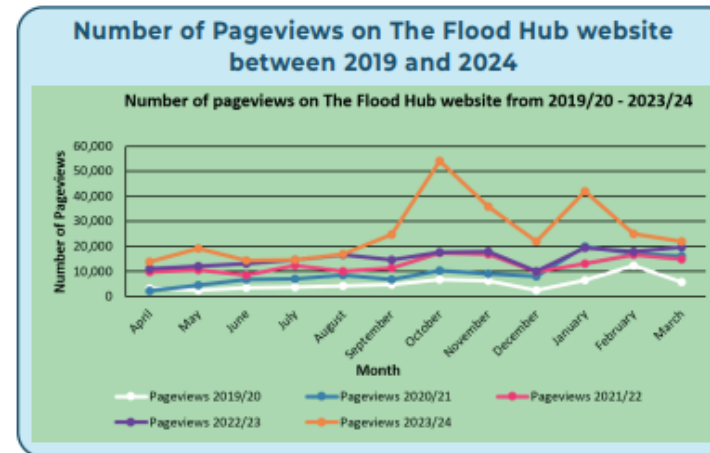
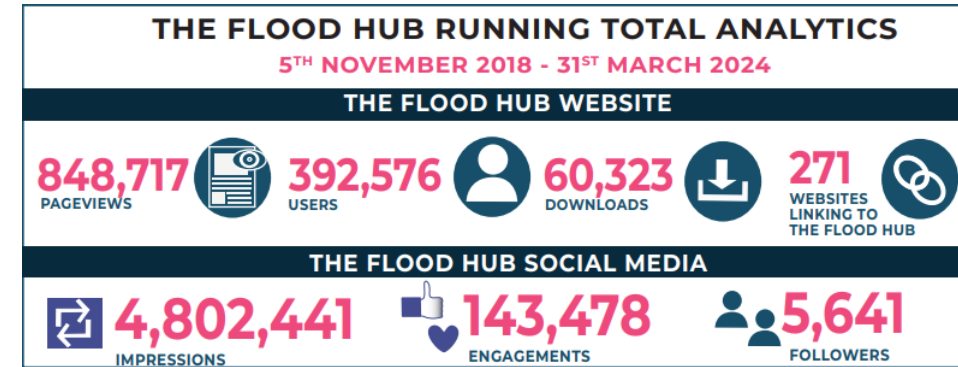


## Programme Investment Profile



# The Flood Hub (ID5) goes from strength to strength

- Pageviews up by 65% and users up by 117% on last year's totals. Since September 2023, pageviews per month has exceeded 20,000 (record).
- Lots of new content and resources continues to be developed



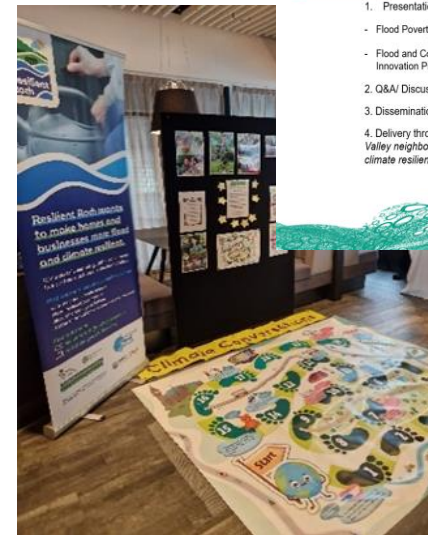
# Knowledge development projects completed

- Greater Manchester Integrated Water Management Plan development (ID9)
- Flood Poverty project (ID8)
- Presentations provided to January RFCC meeting
- Ongoing knowledge share (workshops, conferences etc)

NW RFCC MEETING – 19 JANUARY 2024 - AGENDA ITEM 5  
**KEY INGREDIENTS to developing an  
 INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
 Lessons Learned From Greater Manchester



| Agenda  |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Presentation   |  |
| - Flood Poverty Project<br>- Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme                |  |
| 2. Q&A/ Discussion  |  |
| 3. Dissemination  |  |
| 4. Delivery through FCRIIP – Roch Valley neighbourhood flood and climate resilience programme |  |





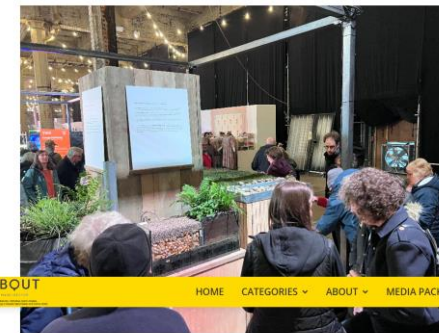
# 'Unpave the Way' features at RHS Urban Show (ID12)

- Project officially named 'Unpave the Way'
- Secured contract with multi RHS Gold Medal-winning garden designer Leon Davis for RHS Tatton garden and RHS Urban Show
- Planning for show feature garden for RHS Tatton show in July well underway
- Exhibit at the new RHS Urban Show at Mayfield Depot in Manchester last weekend. Really well received. Lots of useful feedback.



Rainwater Capture Cube at RHS Urban Show  
'inside the box' to tackle flooding

By About Manchester - April 19, 2024



FOLLOW



ABOUT HOME CATEGORIES ABOUT MEDIA PACK CONTACT

As partners within the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (North West RFCC), the Environment Agency, United Utilities, and Lancashire County Council are proud to be featuring at the brand new RHS Urban show.



# Action for close-down

- ID3 Wider benefits of FCERM schemes - Original scope no longer current and insufficient partnership capacity to review and progress

# New project proposal – NFM Pipeline (Cumbria)

- Objectives**
- To develop a pipeline of NFM projects that have the potential to significantly reduce all types of flood risk that are “business case ready”. Other benefits including water quality and climate adaptations will be integrated where possible.
  - To develop a template and methodology to allow other partnerships to develop a similar pipeline

**Lead Partner** - Environment Agency

**Partners** - Cumberland Council, Westmorland and Furness Council (including CiFR), United Utilities, Rivers Trusts, Network Rail, Natural England and others

**Cost** - £220k total  
£70k Partnership funding secured  
**£150k Local Levy request** (£90k Yr 1, £60k Yr 2)

**Estimated Duration** - 18 months (June 2024 – December 2025)



Working for Cumberland Council and  
Westmorland & Furness Council

# Recommendations

The recommendations from the Finance & Business Assurance Sub Group are to:

- **Approve:**
  - o The formal close-down of ID3 Wider benefits of FCERM schemes
  - o Local Levy investment of £150K in the NFM Pipeline Development project for Cumbria but
- **Note** the Sub Group's approval of a budget flexibility request for ID12 Front Gardens project (up to £10K)



# **Partnership Co-ordinator Contribution Review**

**Presented by Neville Elstone**

# Revised proposal

- £37K per partnership per year (up from £30K per year) for three years to March 2027
- £5K additional sum to support partnership operating costs
  - With provisos but fewer rules around eligible uses, now based on principles

## Basis

- Above average standard level of on-costs (50%) on top of Basic Salary
- Assumed salary increases of 4.5% in 2023/24 and 3% in 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27
- Provides a 50% RFCC contribution to the average estimated cost of the roles
- Also accounts for shortfall in funding in 2023/24

## Increase in RFCC contribution

- £60K per year

# Recommendations



**The recommendation from the Finance & Business Assurance Sub Group is to approve the proposal for the RFCC to contribute:**

- £37K per partnership per year, for three years to March 2027
- £5K additional sum to support partnership operating costs

# Agenda Item 9

# Local Levy Strategy

Presented by Sally Whiting



# Agenda Item 10

## United Utilities Update

Provided by Perry Hobbs

# Agenda Item 11

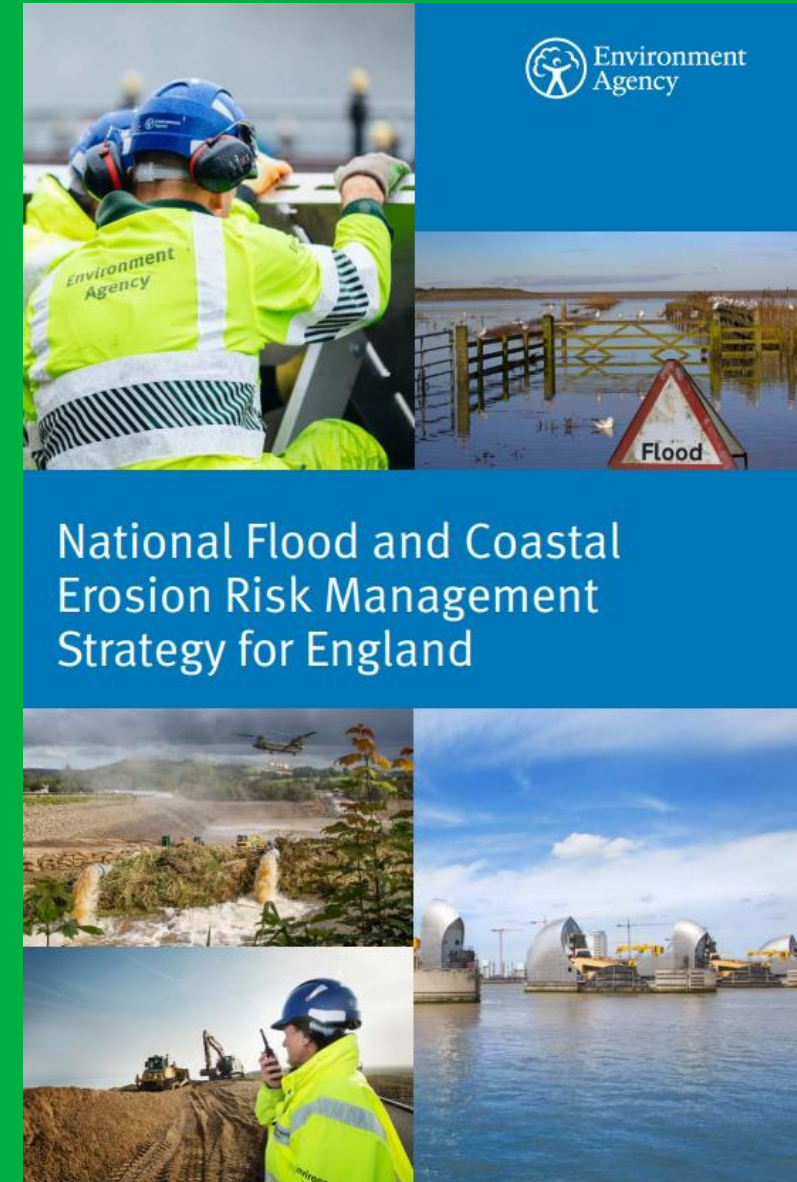
## New National Flood Risk Assessment (NaFRA2)

Presented by Chris Scott (Environment Agency)

# NaFRA2 is central to our FCERM Strategy

From 2024, the Environment Agency will produce a new national assessment of flood risk that will help places better plan and adapt to future risks from flooding from rivers, the sea and surface water

(National FCERM Strategy, 2020).



National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England

# Flood risk assessment

## Why do we need a national flood risk assessment?

Enables us and others to make risk-based decisions

- Focus efforts on the places with greatest risk (as opposed to reacting after it's too late)
- Reductions in flood risk (damages avoided) are the main economic benefit of investment

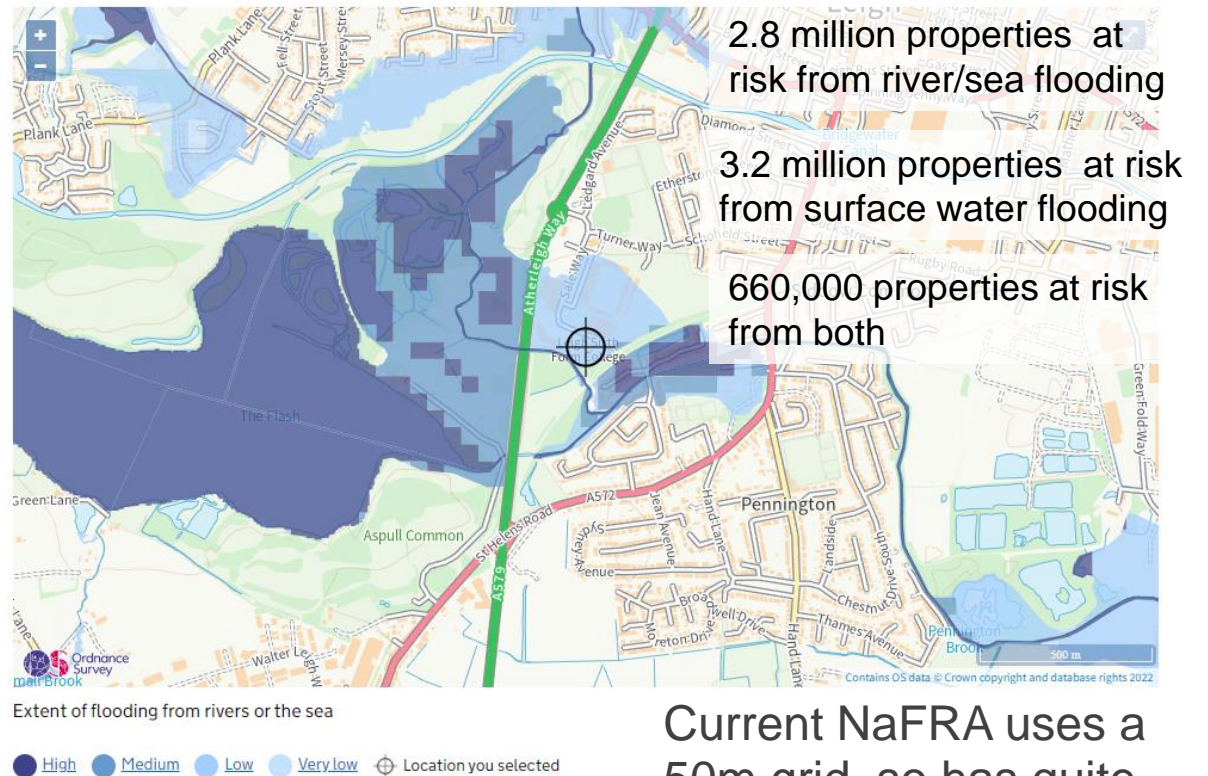
Who makes risk-based decisions

- Environment Agency and other Risk Management Authorities (Lead Local Flood Authorities etc)
- Planning roles (spatial planning, investment planning) and emergency response
- Public awareness of both risk and the appropriate actions to reduce it
- Insurance – to ensure the right level of cover
- Infrastructure operators – to improve the resilience of sites and networks

The Flood & Water Management Act requires the Environment Agency to assess and manage risk and gives us responsibility for taking a 'strategic overview' of management of all sources of flood risk.

# Our current national flood risk assessment

- Assesses present day flood risk from rivers and the sea (does not include climate change)
- Describes the risk that remains after considering the effects of flood defences
- Uses a national model to assess risk (not as reliable as detailed local risk assessments)
- Is difficult to update: the last national updates was completed in 2018
- Provides the risk assessment information for gov.uk [‘check your long term flood risk’](#)
- Is combined with local information for use on gov.uk [‘flood map for planning’](#)
- Is available for free on Defra’s [‘Data Services Platform’](#) and widely used by flood partners
- Is combined with local info and used for incident plans and flood warning areas.
- Is used to build capital programme pipeline, agree partnership funding, make maintenance allocations and provide info to government, media and other national and local partners.



Current NaFRA uses a 50m grid, so has quite a ‘blocky’ outline

# What will NaFRA2 produce?

## NaFRA2 published flood risk assessment products (aiming for end 2024)

- Meets the FCERM Strategy Objective
- Updated Flood Zones for Flood Map for Planning (FMfP), Risk of Flooding for Rivers and Sea (RoFRS), Risk of Flooding from Surface Water (RoFSW)
- Enhanced to include additional information such as climate change and flood depths

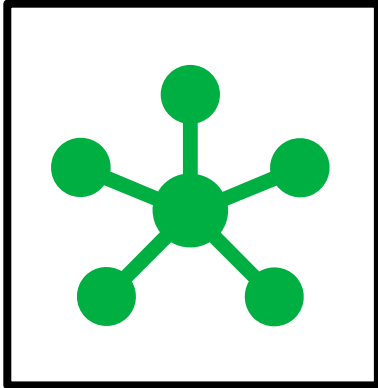
## NaFRA2 System (From April 2025)

- Will support quarterly updates to published products
- Allows user to interact with data and a wider range of bespoke outputs
- Will include additional functionality
- Beta testing throughout 2024 for smaller group

## Continual improvement in products and system

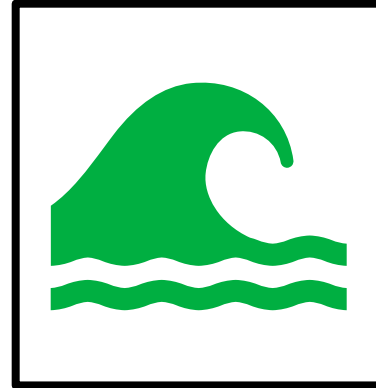
- Once quarterly updates to published flood risk products are established, they will use our ever-improving stock of local flood models in MapEdit and draw on latest info on asset condition from AIMS:OM
- Ongoing data and method improvements mean that the quality of the published products and other outputs from the system will improve over time.

# Improvements to our national flood risk information



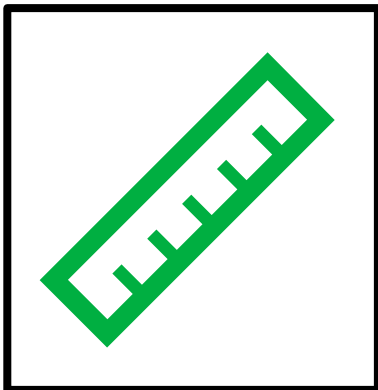
## Greater consistency

- ✓ single source of data for all national products
- ✓ same answers locally and nationally



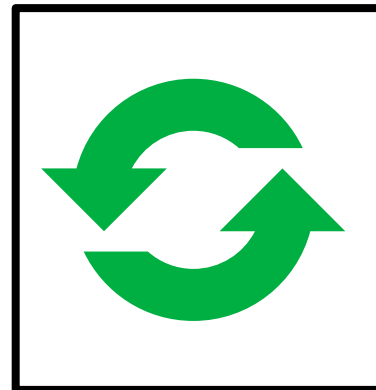
## Greater range of information

- ✓ climate change scenarios
- ✓ depths and velocities
- ✓ greater assessment of impacts



## Greater accuracy and precision

- ✓ New National Model
- ✓ integrating local models

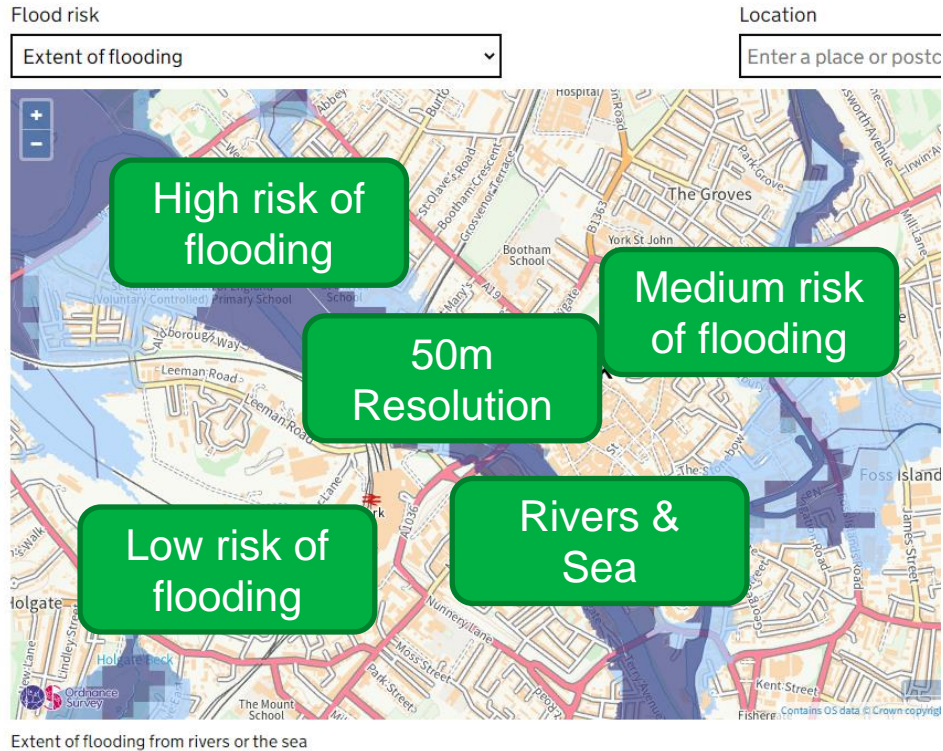


## Greater flexibility and efficiency

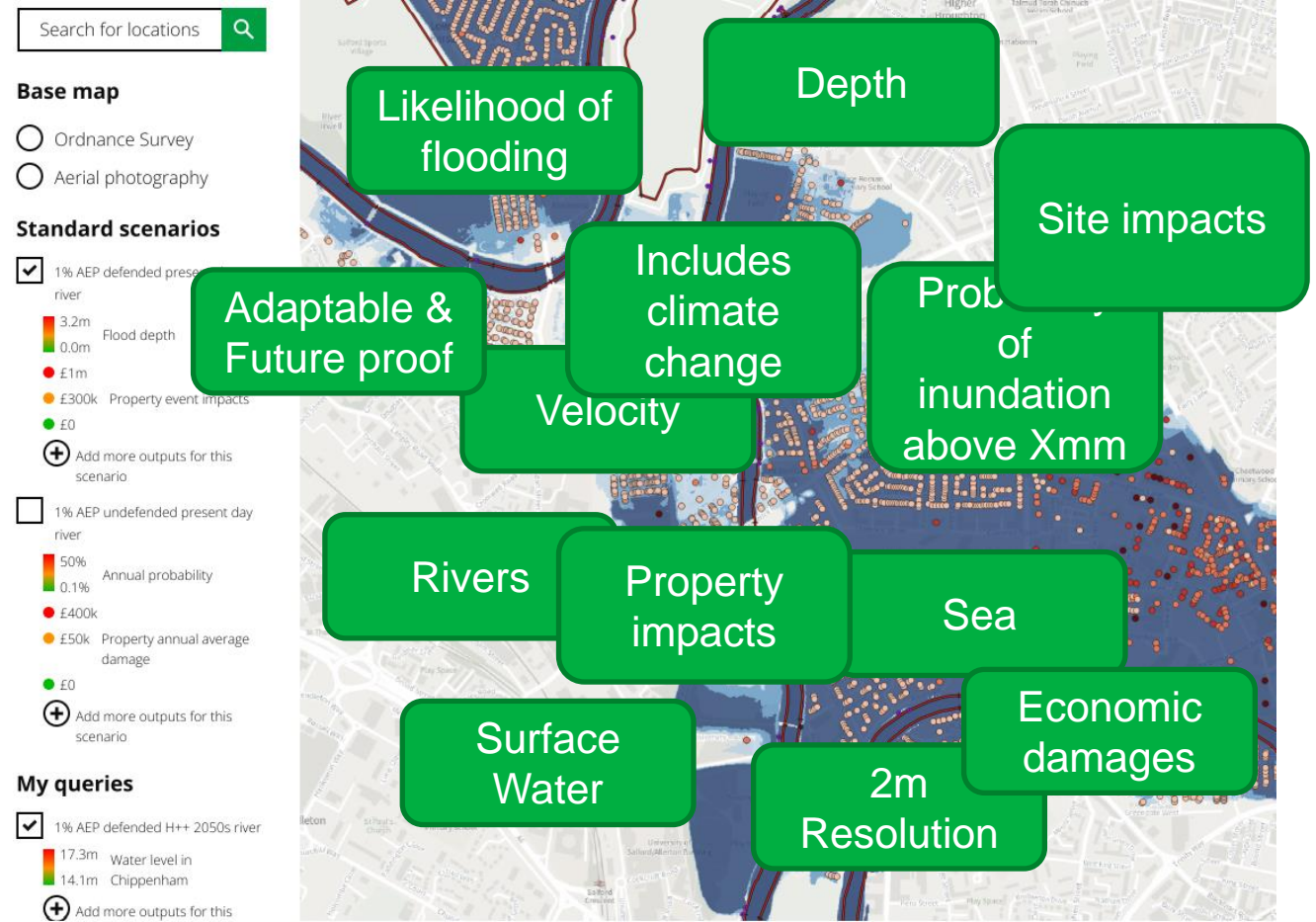
- ✓ interpolation and indexing
- ✓ adapt system to meet needs
- ✓ update single system

# How will NaFRA2 compare to existing NaFRA?

NaFRA



NaFRA2





# Agenda Item 12

## Any Other Business