

North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

23 January 2026

Agenda Item 1

Welcome and apologies for absence

Agenda Item 2

Minutes of RFCC meeting – 24 October 2025 and matters arising

Presented by Adrian Lythgo

Agenda Item 3

Recent Flooding Incidents

Presented by Adrian Lythgo

Agenda Item 4

Reflection on 10 Years since storms Desmond and Eva (December 2015)

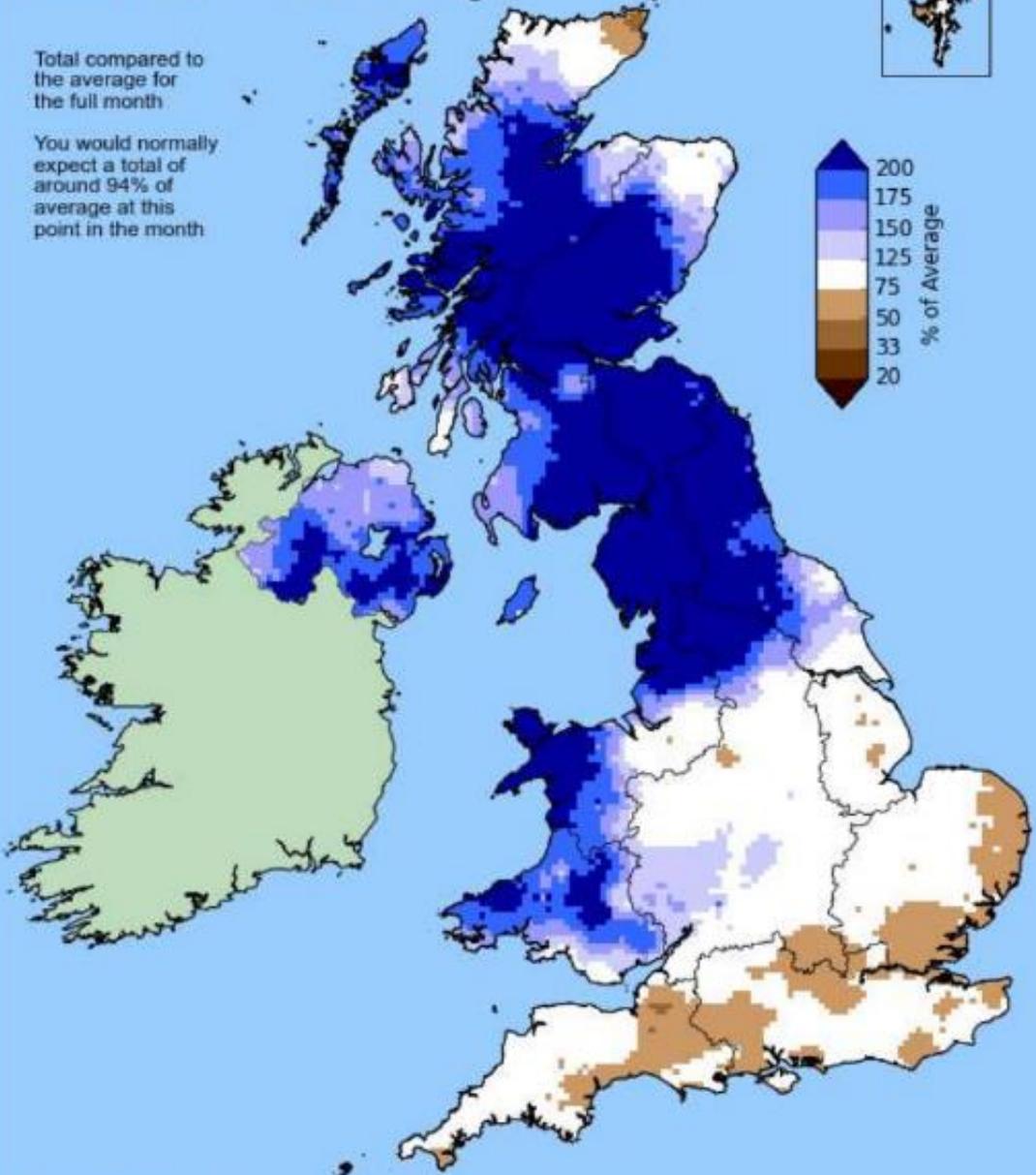
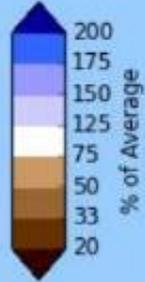
Presented by Nick Pearson and Richard Knight



01-29 December 2015
Rainfall Amount
% of 1981-2010 Average

Total compared to
the average for
the full month

You would normally
expect a total of
around 94% of
average at this
point in the month



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Winter Floods 2015 10 years on

Cumbria and
Lancashire

North of England floods: 5 December 2015 to 6 January 2016

Record rainfall



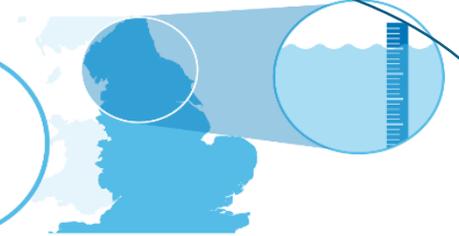
December was the wettest month ever recorded*

341.4
mm



Highest 24 hour rainfall - Honister Pass, Cumbria

14



Catchments experienced their highest ever river flow

12,500
(Desmond)



10,900
(Eva)

Properties protected during storms Desmond and Eva

Around
13,000
households



Around
4,000
businesses

Properties flooded**

Over
350



Communities visited by flood support officers

92



Severe Flood Warnings issued

2,300



Metres of temporary barriers used to protect communities

Around
650



Flood risk assets needing repair









In Cumbria, the torrents caused the historic Pooley Bridge to collapse



West Coast Main Line north of Carlisle.





This is Cockermouth with Rory Stewart, and although the defences were overtopped, the fact that they were in place resulted in far less water in the town than in 2009, and therefore far less damage. Many residents are saying that one of the biggest factors was that very little silt and debris came into their properties due to the defences. This has speeded up the recovery process.

Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

Investment Programme 2015 – 2026 Since Storm Desmond

Cumbria & Lancashire

**Data includes planned delivery for 25/26 financial year and area-wide projects benefitting both counties*



£617.5m
Total Expenditure

£565.6m
Grant in Aid

£27.7m
Contributions

599
Projects
EA: 440 / LA: 159

£24.3m
Local Levy

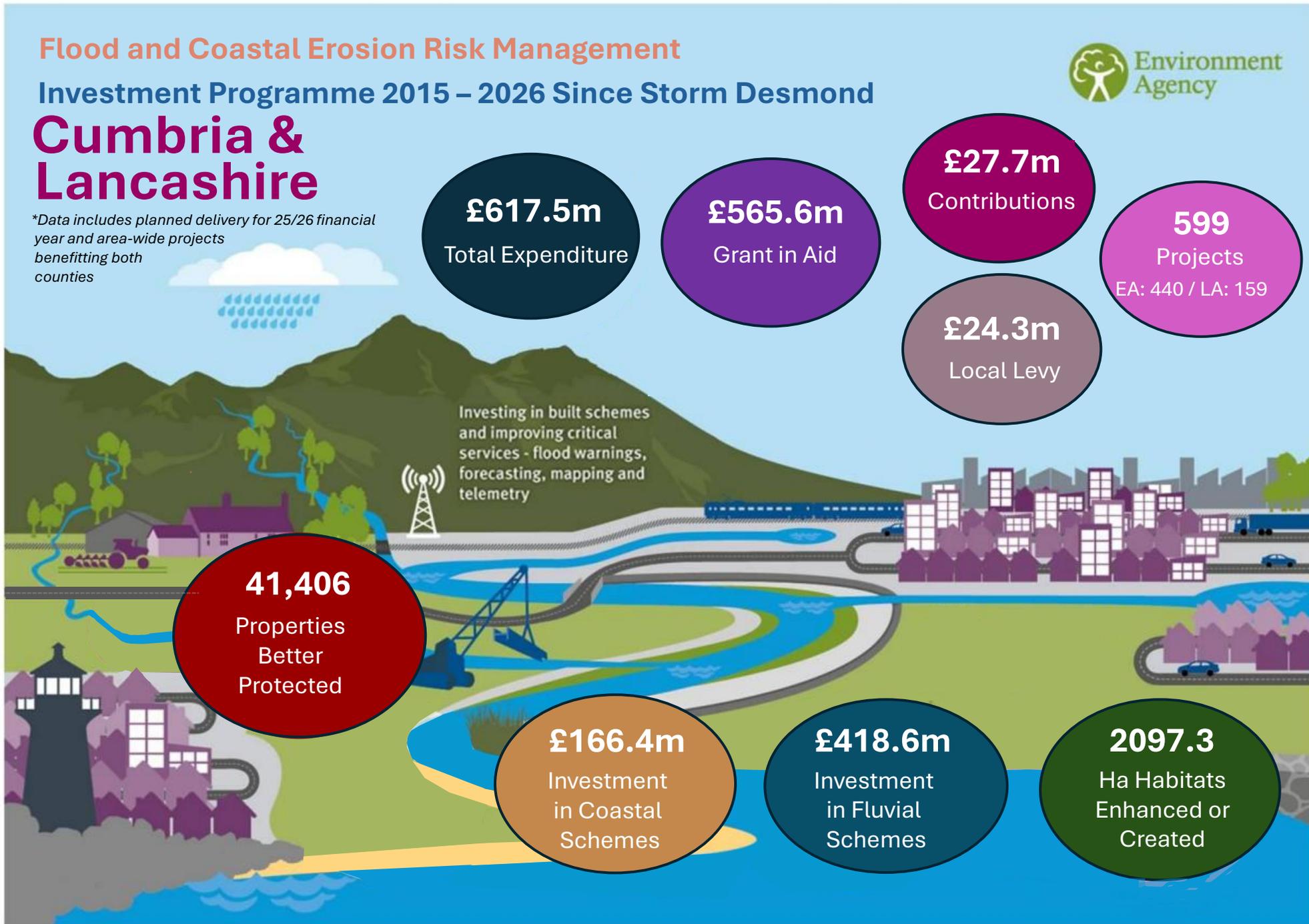
Investing in built schemes and improving critical services - flood warnings, forecasting, mapping and telemetry

41,406
Properties Better Protected

£166.4m
Investment in Coastal Schemes

£418.6m
Investment in Fluvial Schemes

2097.3
Ha Habitats Enhanced or Created



Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

Investment Programme 2015 – 2026 Since Storm Desmond



Lancashire

**Data includes planned delivery for 25/26 financial year. An additional £52.1m has been invested in area-wide projects benefitting both Cumbria and Lancashire*

£319.7m

Total Expenditure

£294.2m

Grant in Aid

£13.7m

Contributions

196

Projects

EA: 134 / LA: 62

£11.9m

Local Levy

Investing in built schemes and improving critical services - flood warnings, forecasting, mapping and telemetry

37,224

Properties Better Protected

£162.2m

Investment in Coastal Schemes

£148.3m

Investment in Fluvial Schemes

5.15

Ha Habitats Enhanced or Created

Lancashire projects completed since 2015



- Caton Road, Lancaster (Lancaster City Council)
- Morecambe Wave Reflection Wall (Lancaster Council)
- Fairhaven coastal scheme (Fylde Council)
- Rossall Coastal Defence Scheme (Wyre Council)
- Anchorholme coastal scheme (Blackpool council)
- Lentworth Drive, Lancaster (Environment Agency)
- Croston flood storage basin (Environment Agency)
- East Lytham Flood Risk Management Scheme (EA)
- Churchtown bund (FLAG and Environment Agency)
- Jansons Pool (EA)
- Lunt Meadows (EA)
- Jacks Key NFM (EA)



Lancashire projects in construction

- Wyre Beach Management Scheme (Wyre Borough Council)
- Starr Hill Sand Dunes Environmental Works (Blackpool & Fylde councils, Lancashire Wildlife Trust)
- Preston & South Ribble (EA)
- Padiham (EA)
- Garstang Gates (EA)
- Wyre catchment readiness programme (NW RFCC & EA)
- Trawden NFM (EA)

Lancashire projects in design

Partners

- Bispham coastal scheme (Blackpool Borough Council)
- Blackpool beach nourishment (Blackpool Borough Council)
- Anchorsholme Coast Protection Scheme (groynes phase) - (Blackpool Borough Council)
- Darwen Central (Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council)
- Brecon Road (Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council)

EA

- Thurnham PFR (EA)
- Hambleton (EA)
- Burrow Beck, Lancaster (EA)
- Glasson Dock (EA)
- Ribchester NFM (EA & FLAG)
- Morecambe Coastal Strategy (Lancaster City Council in partnership with Wyre & Westmorland & Furness)
- Fleetwood & Copse Brook (EA pipeline)
- Whalley & Billington (EA pipeline)

Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management

Investment Programme 2015 – 2026 Since Storm Desmond



Cumbria

**Data includes planned delivery for 25/26 financial year. An additional £52.1m has been invested in area-wide projects benefitting both Cumbria and Lancashire*

£245.7m
Total Expenditure

£220.7m
Grant in Aid

£13.8m
Contributions

250
Projects
EA: 161 / LA: 89

£11.2m
Local Levy

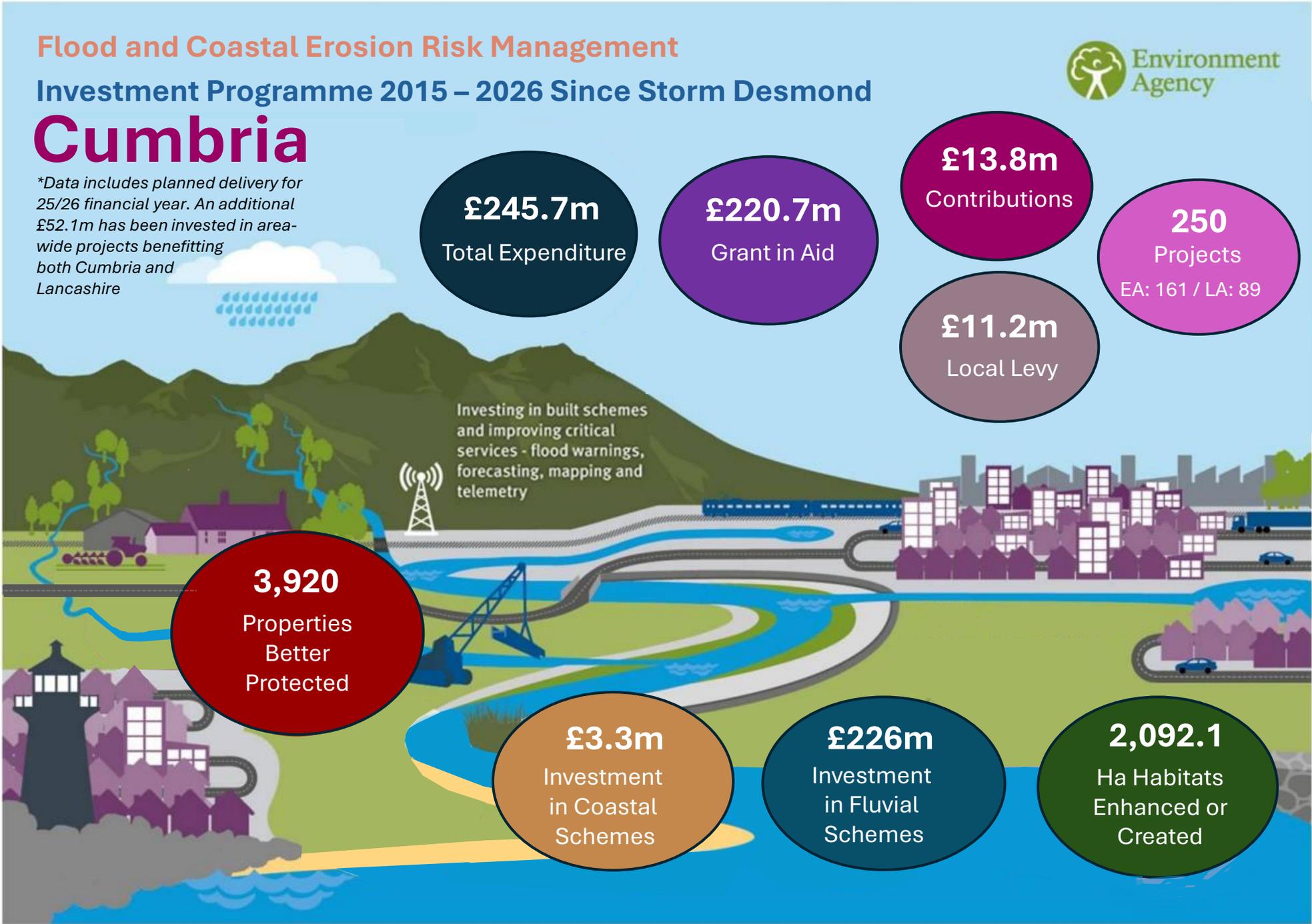
Investing in built schemes and improving critical services - flood warnings, forecasting, mapping and telemetry

3,920
Properties Better Protected

£3.3m
Investment in Coastal Schemes

£226m
Investment in Fluvial Schemes

2,092.1
Ha Habitats Enhanced or Created



Cumbria projects completed since 2015



- Carlisle phase 1, 1a, 1b and 2. Rickerby Park (EA)
- Carlisle, Gosling Sike (EA)
- Warwick Bridge PFR (EA)
- Egremont, Skirting Beck (EA)
- Ulverston, Town Beck (EA)
- Glenridding (EA)
- Keswick, Elliot Park Pumping Station (LA)
- Keswick, Penrith Road (LA)
- Low Crosby (EA) Warwick Bridge PFR (EA)
- Winster Embankment (EA)
- Gategill Beck, Threlkeld (EA)
- Troutbeck Bridge PLP (LA)
- North Road, Holme Village Flood Alleviation (LA)



Cumbria projects in construction

- Kendal phase 1
- Appleby, Doomgate Pumping Station

Cumbria projects in design

Partners

- Millom
- Low Crosby Pump
- Maryport Flood Gates
- Renwick

EA

- Kendal phase 2 (upstream storage)
- Cockermouth Asset Reconditioning Programme

Storm Eva – Boxing Day 2015

10 years on.....

In Greater Manchester 70-100mm of rain fell in 24hrs leading to 37 of 44 river gauges recording their highest ever levels

Over 2250 residential properties flooded internally

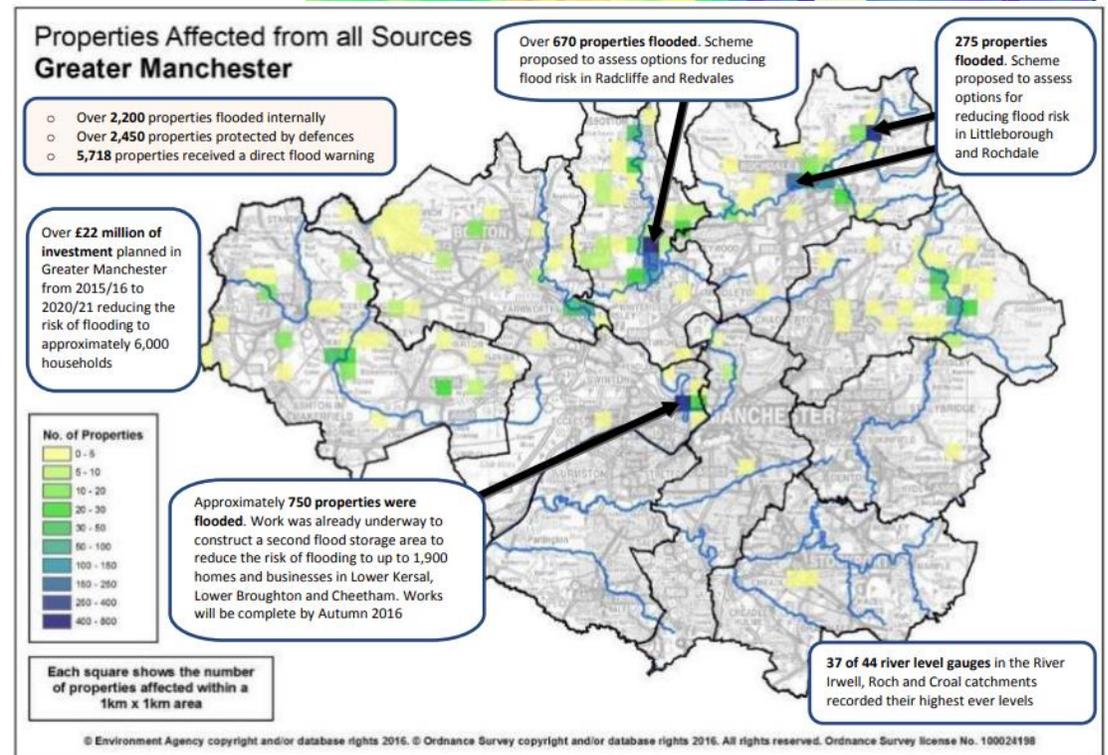
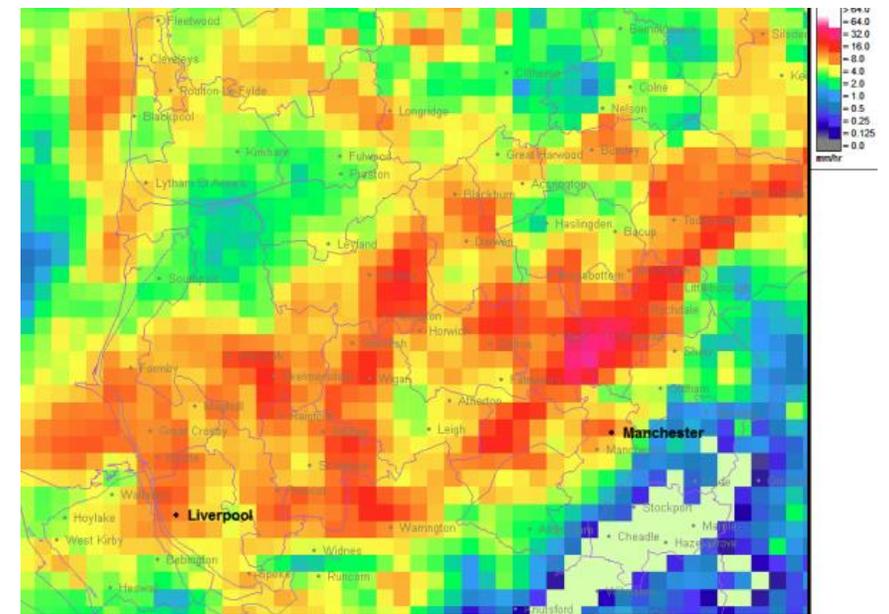
500 business properties flooded

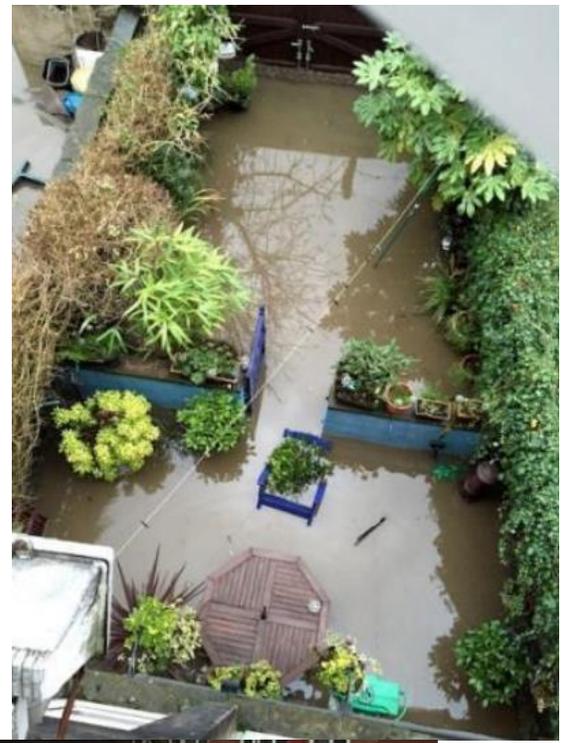
7 electricity substations were damaged

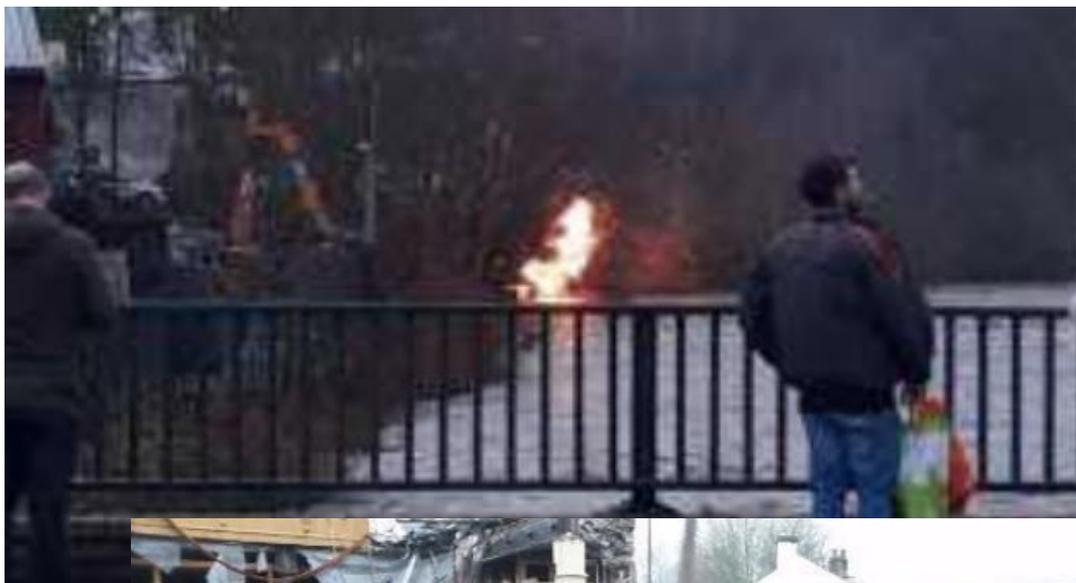
31,200 properties were left without power

This was across 65 communities in 8 of Greater Manchester's Local Authorities

2454 properties were protected by raised flood defences









670 properties flooded in Bury which led to the Radcliffe and Redvales Flood Risk Management Scheme

275 properties flooded in Rochdale and Littleborough leading to the Rochdale & Little FRM Scheme

750 properties flooded in Salford – work was already underway to construct a second flood storage basin

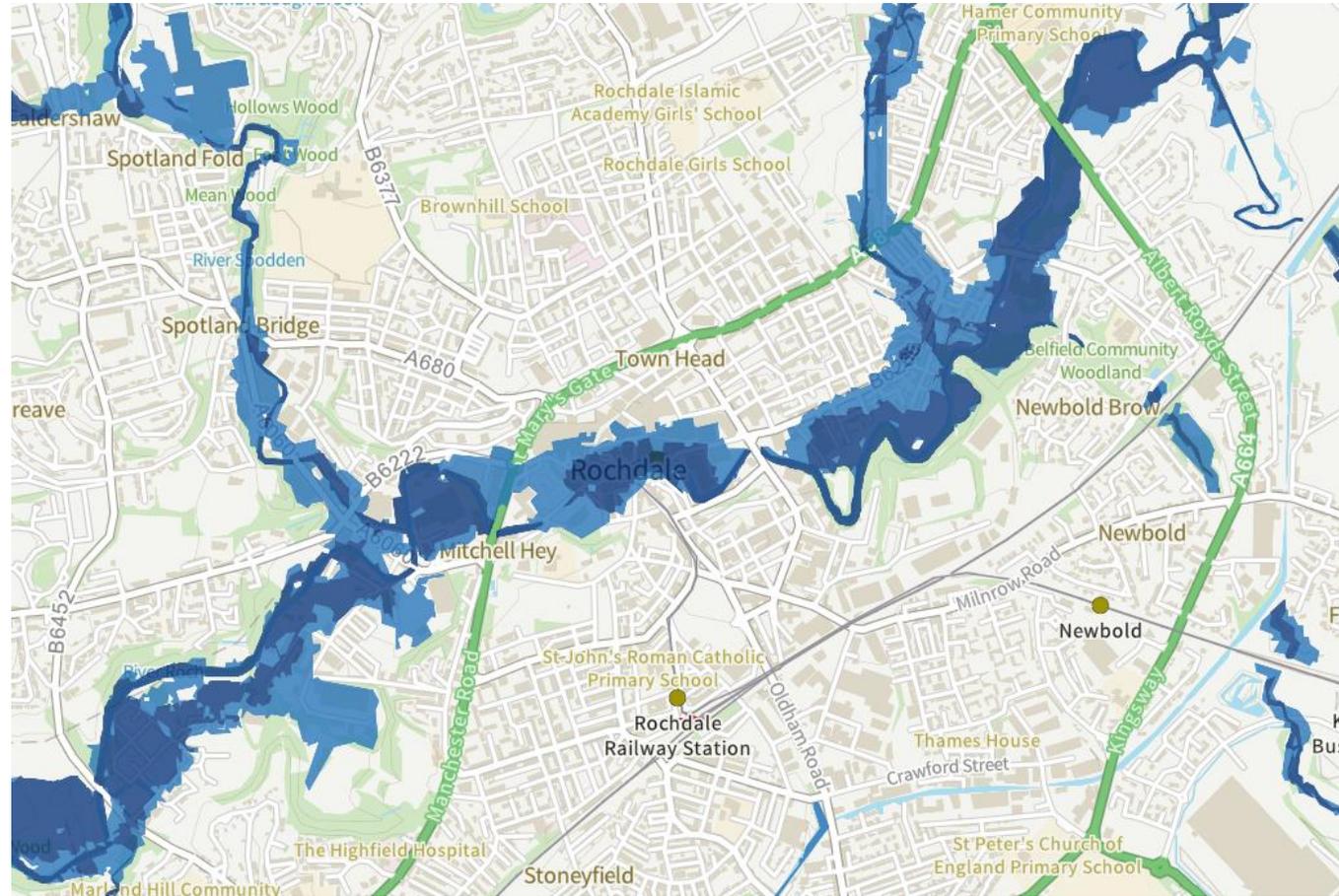
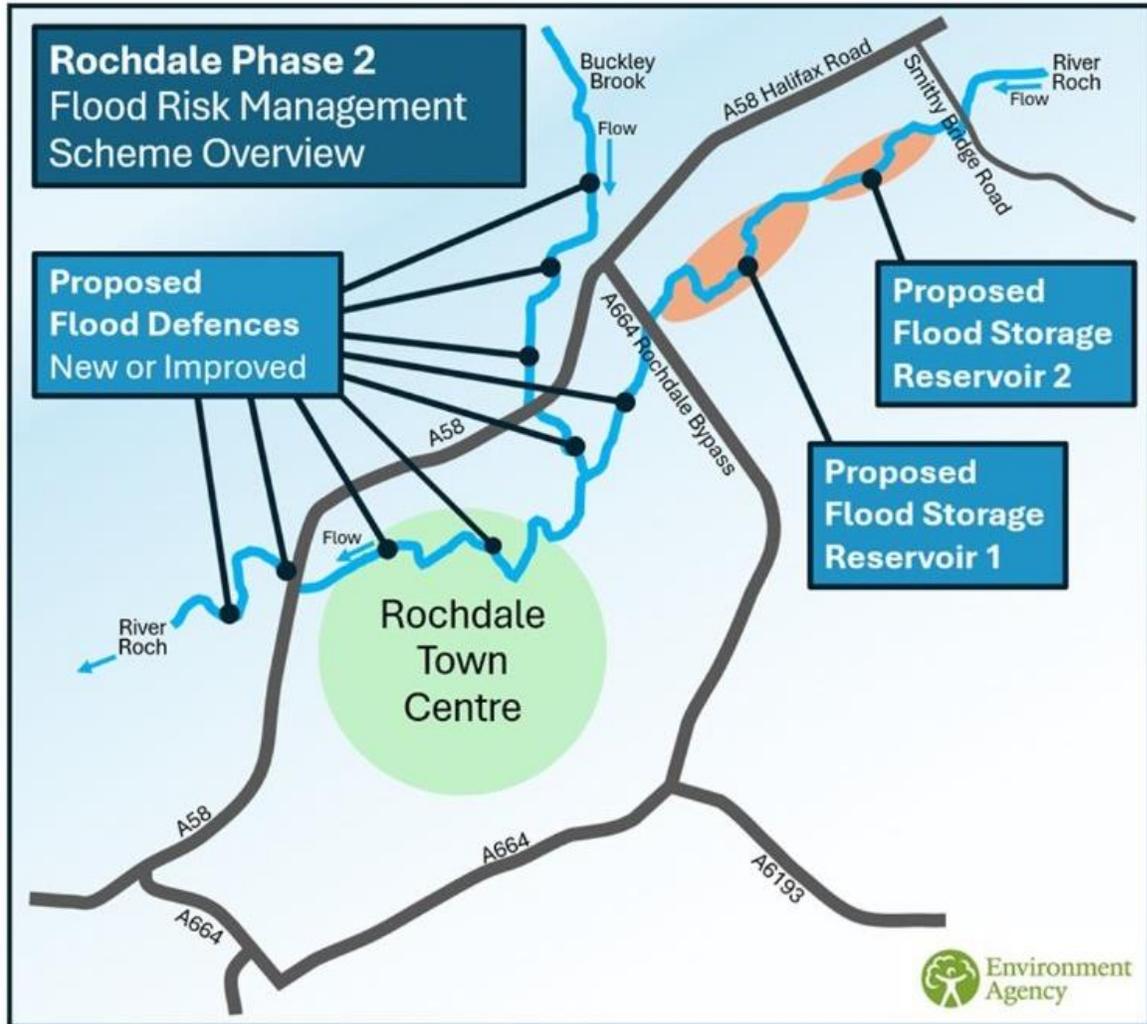
Littleborough Phase 1A – complete 2023



Littleborough Phase 1B- in construction



Rochdale Phase 2- in design development



R&R Phase 2 – Completed 2024



Salford 2nd Basin



Looking ahead in GMMC

- Hindley (Wigan)/Leigh East/Poise Brook (Stockport) /South Manchester Strategy
- New Funding policy
- Flood Warning/Incident Management
- Community Engagement and Resilience



Agenda Item 5

Report from the RFCC Finance and Business Assurance Sub-Group

Introduced by Terri McMillan and presented by Adam Walsh and Sally Whiting

Investment and Resource Maintenance Programmes 2025-26

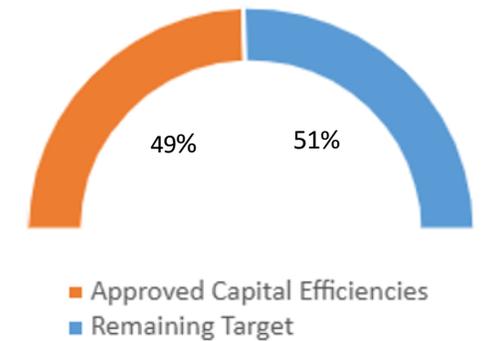


- The investment programme forecast is currently showing an underspend of £7.2m against the TPE allocation of £135.03m but we anticipate further forecast increases and opportunities in Q4 to bring the programme back to allocation by year-end
- Forecasts show 6,756 properties will be better protected this year (exceeding the target), maintaining a green RAG status. The environmental outcomes (rOM4a/b) forecast are close to completion
- The resource maintenance programme is progressing well and forecasting to deliver to budget (£14,875,872) by year-end
- GMMC are close to achieving their asset condition target, currently 93% against a target of 93.4% (7 assets requiring improvement), with CLA below target at 97% against a target of 97.7% (35 assets requiring improvement). The national target is 92%.
- Latest local levy forecasts show we are spending 93% (£7.586m) of the allocation this year

Risks to the Investment Programme 2025-26

- Currently forecasting below the investment programme allocation and we are aiming to increase mainly CDEL spend closer to allocation by year end, which may be challenging in the last quarter
- Efficiency savings remain significantly below target at roughly half, risking future funding
- Not all projects received the funding they requested for next year, and this will delay some schemes from progressing impacting spend and delivery this year

NW Overall Programme Capital Efficiency Countdown



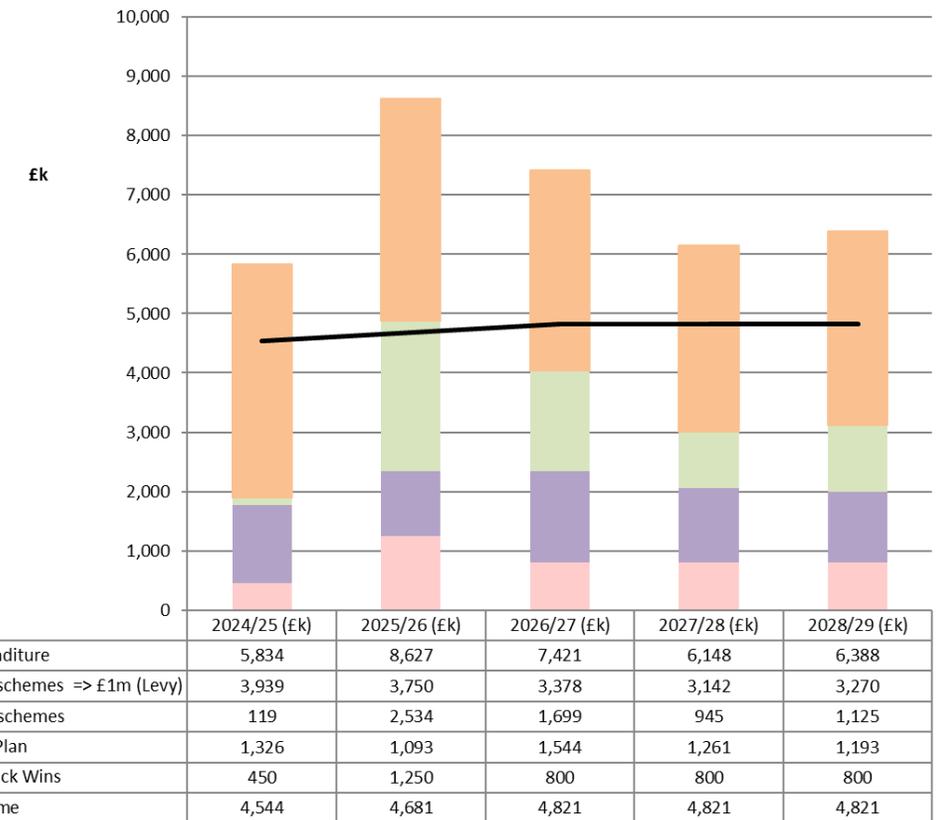
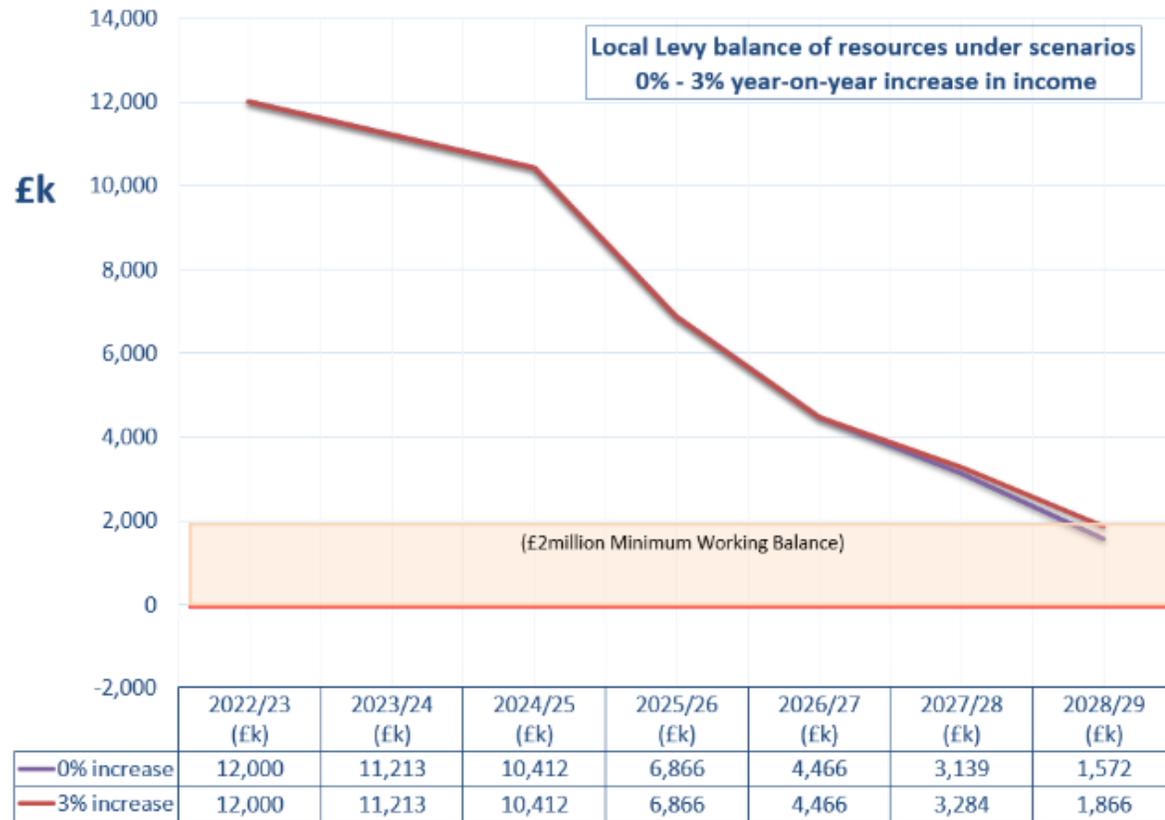
Local Levy Income and Expenditure Scenario

Local Levy income and allocation summary (£ million)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 (indicative)
Cash balance at start of year	11.213	10.412	6.866
Local Levy income	4.544*	4.681	4.821
Interest earned	0.489	0.400**	0.200**
Total available balance	16.246	15.493	11.887
Total Actuals/Forecast	5.835	8.627	7.421
Remaining cash balance at year end	10.412	6.866	4.466

* Correction to Levy income for 2024-25

**Interest is to be confirmed.

Local Levy Income and Expenditure Scenario

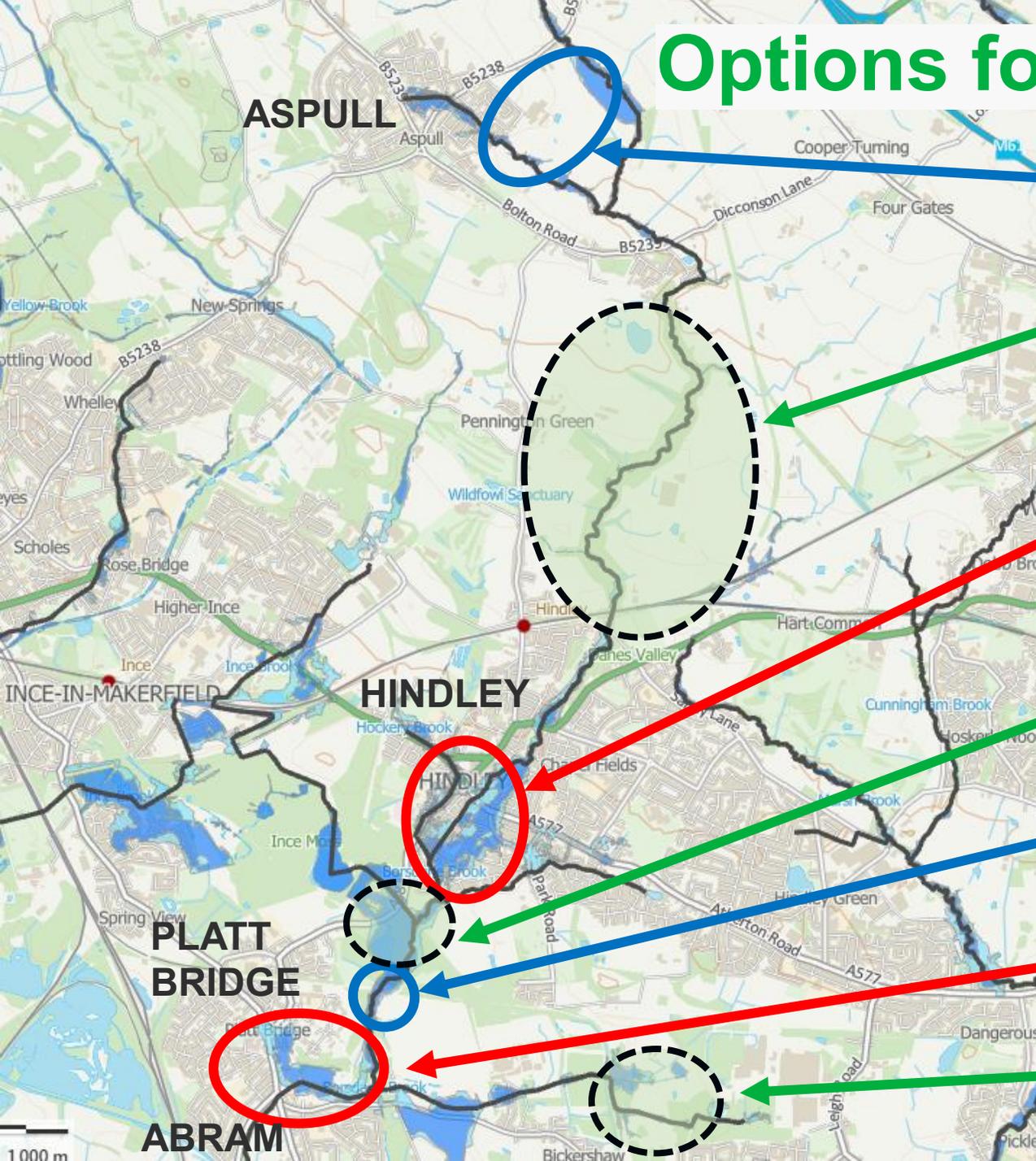


Low Hall Flash and Victoria Fields Local Levy Contribution (Recommendation)

- (2015) Hindley 44 homes and businesses flooded
- (2025) Platt Bridge 56 homes and businesses flooded

Platt Bridge nr Wigan, Lancashire

Options for reducing river flood risk



Flood Storage Reservoir and nfm at Aspull

Natural Flood Management at Borsdane Woods

Flood walls
Channel Improvements like replacing footbridges
Property level protection
Improved surface water drainage

River restoration and nfm in Low Hall Flash Nature Reserve with Lancs Wildlife Trust

Potential flood storage downstream of Low Hall Flash Nature Reserve

Flood walls
Improved surface water drainage

NFM Flood storage at Victoria Fields by Lancs Wildlife Trust



Costs

- Wigan Greenheart Project £4.7 million of capital improvements and £31 million of maintenance over 20 years.
- Low Hall Flash £21,238
- Victoria Fields £71,561
- Total capital cost **£92,799**
- Wigan Council Contribution £21,000
- Request for £71,799 Local Levy for summer 2026
- The maintenance costs of £171,000 over 20 years are funded by LRS

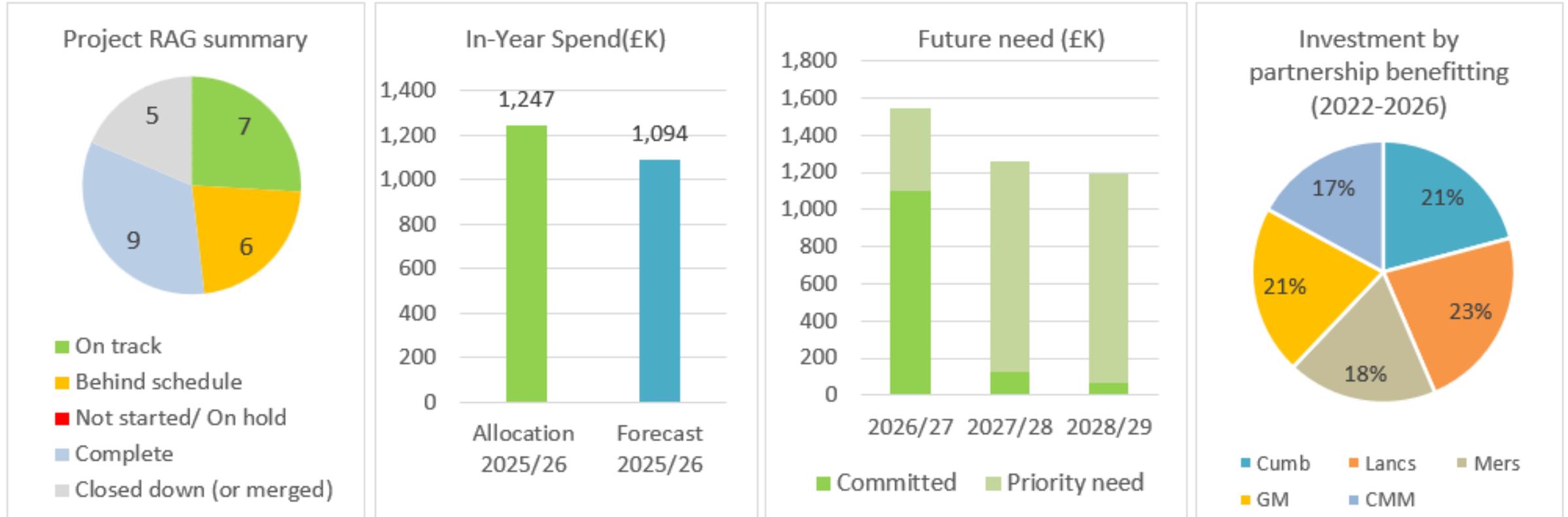
Subgroup recommendations for the RFCC

(Local Levy Programme)



- **VOTE:** To approve an allocation of £71,799 of Local Levy in 2026-27 for Low Hall Flash and Victoria Fields NFM

RFCC Business Plan Dashboard



Amber projects:

- The Flood Hub and community flood resilience work (4 projects: ID5/5a/6/7): Contractual changes and delays
- Unpave the Way (ID12): Resource constraints
- NFM Pipeline (Cumbria) (ID22): Review of scope and approach

Continued investment proposals (Recommendations)

- **Building community resilience (inc The Flood Hub) (3 projects: ID5/6/7)**
 - Support recommended for another 3 years of funding to 2029. Local Levy funding: £818K
 - Project/initiative ongoing since 2016.
 - Highly respected and valued by risk management authorities and communities.
 - Current supplier is Newground CIC. Fully funds 5FTEs supporting NW RMAs.
 - Procurement and future contractual arrangements to be led by GMCA.
- **Natural Flood Management (NFM) Technical Appraisal and Delivery Manager resource (ID9A)**
 - Support recommended for another 4 years of funding to 2030. Local Levy funding: £163K
 - Project/initiative ongoing in current form since 2022.
 - Resource sits in Mersey Forest and is match funded by them.
 - Support is available to all North West risk management authorities.
 - Has enabled and supported significant NFM delivery in the North West and has contributed to the North West securing significant national funding for NFM.

New project proposal (Recommendation)

- **Upper Irwell integrated water management and nature-based solutions strategy**
 - £100K of Local Levy funding.
 - Multiple catchment partners and other funding contributions.
 - Innovative approach developed in conjunction with Manchester University to use existing tools and data in new ways which help target and value/justify specific NFM inventions.
 - Will play a key role in securing future national funding for NFM.
 - Has broad applicability to other areas/catchments.

Local Levy Proposed Programme 2026-27



Partnership	2026/27 Proposed Allocation (£k)
Cumbria	480
Lancashire	3,235
Merseyside	273
Greater Manchester	807
Cheshire Mid Mersey	462
Cross Partnership	675
RFCC Business Plan	1,490
PROGRAMME TOTAL	7,421

Subgroup recommendations for the RFCC

(RFCC Business Plan and Proposed Local Levy Programme 2026-27)

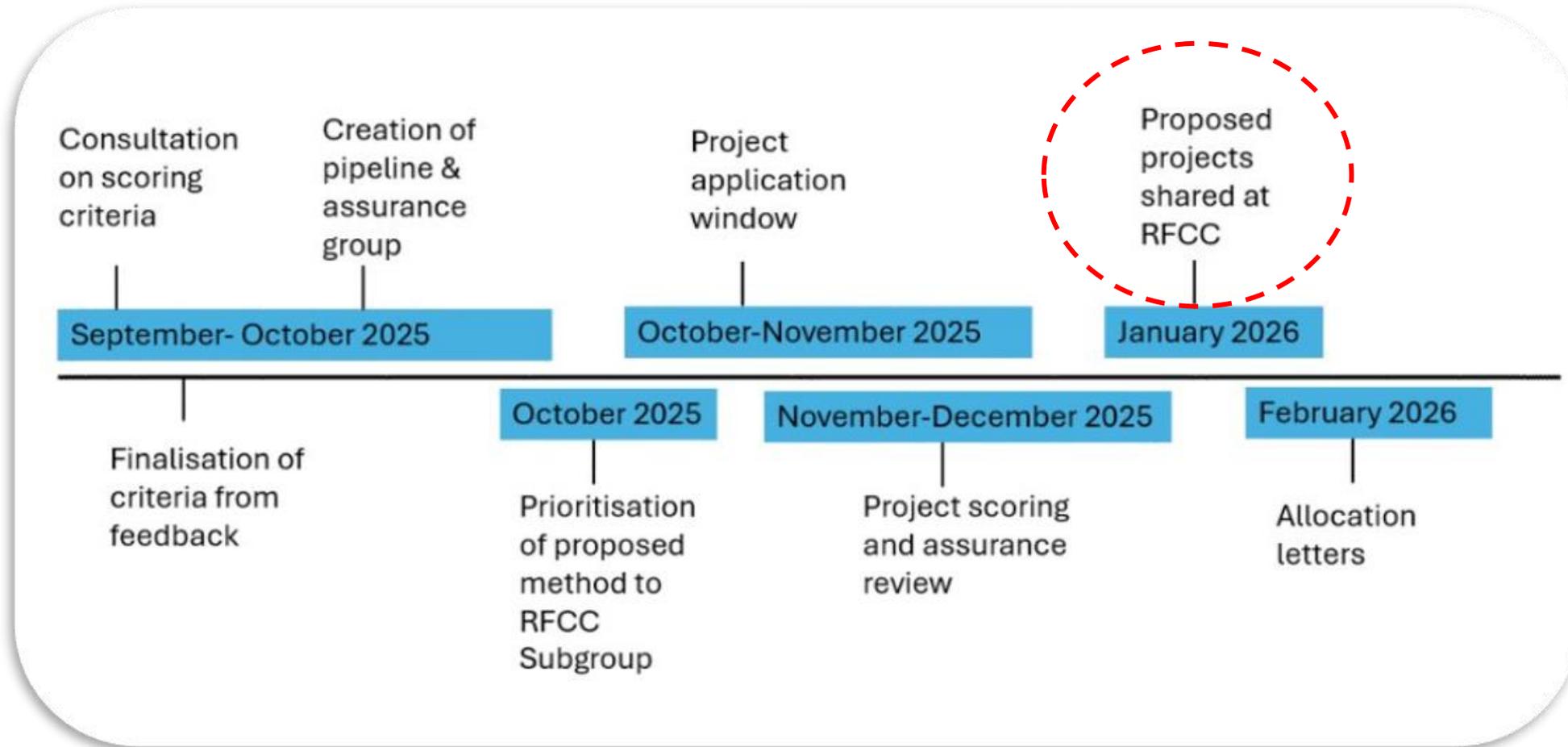
The FBASG recommendations are for the RFCC to:

- **VOTE:** Approve continued Local Levy funding for Building Community Resilience for a further 3 years (£817.8K)
- **VOTE:** Approve continued funding for the NFM Technical Appraisal and Delivery Manager resource for a further 4 years (£163K)
- **VOTE:** Approve Local Levy funding of £100K for the Upper Irwell integrated water management and nature-based solutions strategy.
- **VOTE:** Approve the proposed Local Levy allocations for 2026-27, totalling £7.421 million, including for Business Plan projects (Appendix K)

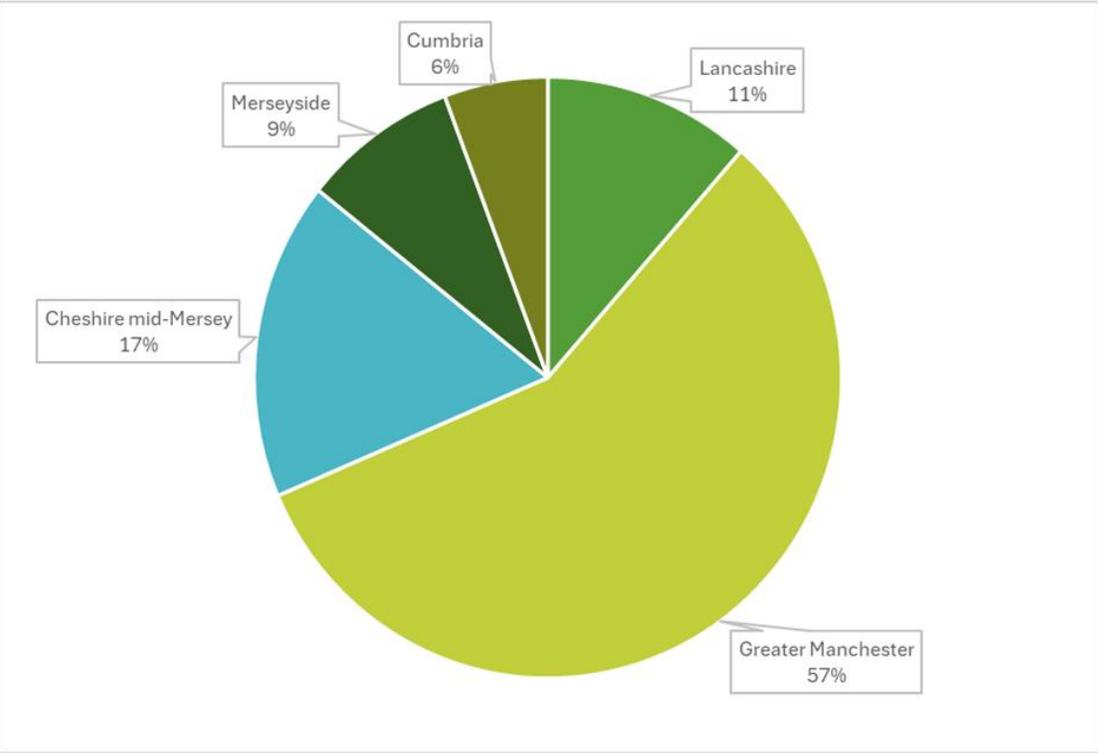
Property Flood Resilience (Local Levy funded programme) - Project allocation proposals

Presented by Shannon Gunning

Recent Activities



NW Bid Summary



Partnership area	Total value of bids	Number of projects	Number of local authorities submitting bids
Cumbria	£285,00	2	1
Lancashire	£270,00	4	2
Greater Manchester	£4,470,00	20	3
Merseyside	£255,000	3	1
Cheshire	£585,000	6	3
Total	£5,865,000	35	10

Proposed project funding allocations (2026/27)

Partnership area	Name	Organisation	Cost (£)	Total cost (£)
Cumbria	Naddle Gate, Burn Banks	Westmorland and Furness Council	£ 35,000	£135,000
	Stockdalewath PFR	Environment Agency	£100,000	
Lancashire	Bacup	Environment Agency	£120,000	£120,000
Greater Manchester	Bolton House Road	Wigan Council	£90,000	£165,000
	Carville Grove	Wigan Council	£75,000	
Cheshire Mid Mersey	Ashton Hayes	Cheshire West and Chester Council	£195,000	£195,000
Merseyside	Maghull	Environment Agency	£60,000	£60,000
Total				£675,000

Next Steps

- Allocation letters to successful projects
- Monitoring delivery throughout
- Lessons learnt
- Updated guidance for bidding period for 27/28
- Considerations of how the funding can support PFR under the new funding guidelines i.e. partially funding schemes to aid in unlocking GiA

Subgroup recommendations for the RFCC

- **VOTE:** To endorse the flexible use of the PFR Local Levy funding allocation across the three years
- **VOTE:** To approve the funding allocation towards the proposed 7 schemes

Agenda Item 6

Investment and Resource Maintenance Programmes 2026/27 – for Consent

Presented by Adam Walsh

Investment and Resource Maintenance Programmes (GiA) for 2026-27

- Indicative allocations shared with all RMAs in early October
- Programmes, following local choices, were endorsed by the FBASG (on behalf of the RFCC) on 28 November
- Final allocations received **9th January**:
 - Investment Programme - £160.3m
 - Resource Maintenance Programme – £14.91m
- The investment programme will better protect 9,698 properties next year
- 2026-27 is the first year of the government's 3-year £4.2 billion investment programme

Investment Programme 2026/27 Allocation

Date	Paper	Schemes (CM, DEF, PFR) + Enabling and Support Programme*	Additional Resource (RDEL)**	Capital Salaries	Total	Total with Capital Salaries Included	Reason for Differences between Report Dates
28 November 2025	NW Report to the FBASG	£157.90	£1.15	Not included	£159.05	£160.27	
09 January 2026	NW Report to the FBASG	£157.90	£1.15	Not included	£159.05	£160.27	No change to the total allocation when capital salaries are included.
09 January 2026	National Final Allocations Paper	£157.90	£1.15	£1.22	£160.27	£160.27	No change to the total allocation when capital salaries are included.

All figures are Grant-in-Aid Only (£m)

* The enabling and support programme includes, Bridges, Hydrometry & Telemetry, Modelling & Forecasting, REC, Studies, Strategies

** Additional resource funding for early scheme development

Investment Programme 2026/27

Properties Better Protected

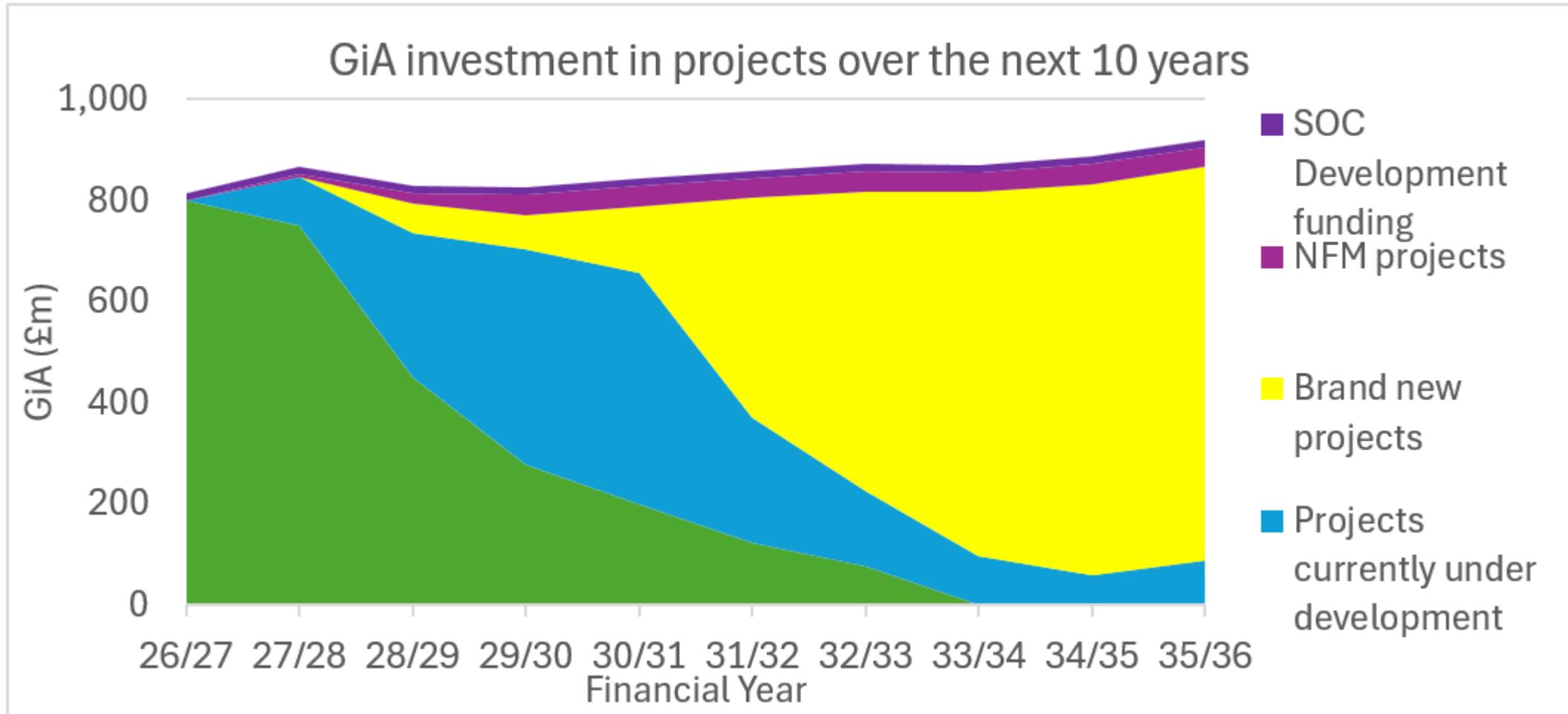
Date	Paper	Properties Better Protected	Reason for Differences between Report Dates
28 November 2025	NW Report to the FBASG	10,534	
09 January 2026	NW Report to the FBASG	9,698	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Roch reduced by 733, forecast now in 27/28 • Radcliffe & Redvales 120 reduction in forecast (now 787) • Shaw, Cringle, Ley and Willow Brook, increased by 32 (now 42) • Wyre Catchment Readiness Project (was 15 now 0. Not appropriate to claim under current funding rules. Will be reviewing if these 15 properties can be claimed under new funding rules).
09 January 2026	National Final Allocations Paper	10,519	<p>The current forecast of 9,698 noted above is the current position and incorporates latest forecast updates to the years in which properties will be better protected. The changes between the 28 November 2025 and the final allocations paper only included the reduction of 15 properties associated with the Wyre Catchment Readiness Project. This project was updated just prior to the local choices submission to national on 12 December 2025, with other forecasts updated after this date.</p>

Resource Maintenance Programme 2026/27 Allocation

Date	Paper	(RDEL) for Asset Maintenance	Reason for Differences between Dates
28 November 2025	NW Report to the FBASG	£14.82	
09 January 2026	NW Report to the FBASG	£14.82	No change
09 January 2026	National Final Allocations Paper	£14.91	Difference is an additional £94k. This is the NW allocation from the additional £5.5m available Nationally as noted in Section 6.1 of the National Final Allocations Paper.

All figures are Grant-in-Aid Only (£m)

Modelled 10-year spend profile showing transition from current programme projects to new



Asks of the RFCC

(2026/27 Investment and Resource Maintenance Programmes)

- **VOTE:** Consent to the implementation of the North West investment and resource maintenance programmes for 2026-27

Break – 15 minutes

Agenda Item 7

Asset Data Sharing and Mapping - Update on exploring project recommendations

Presented by Sarah Wardle and Jill Holden

Collaborative approach to asset management and maintenance

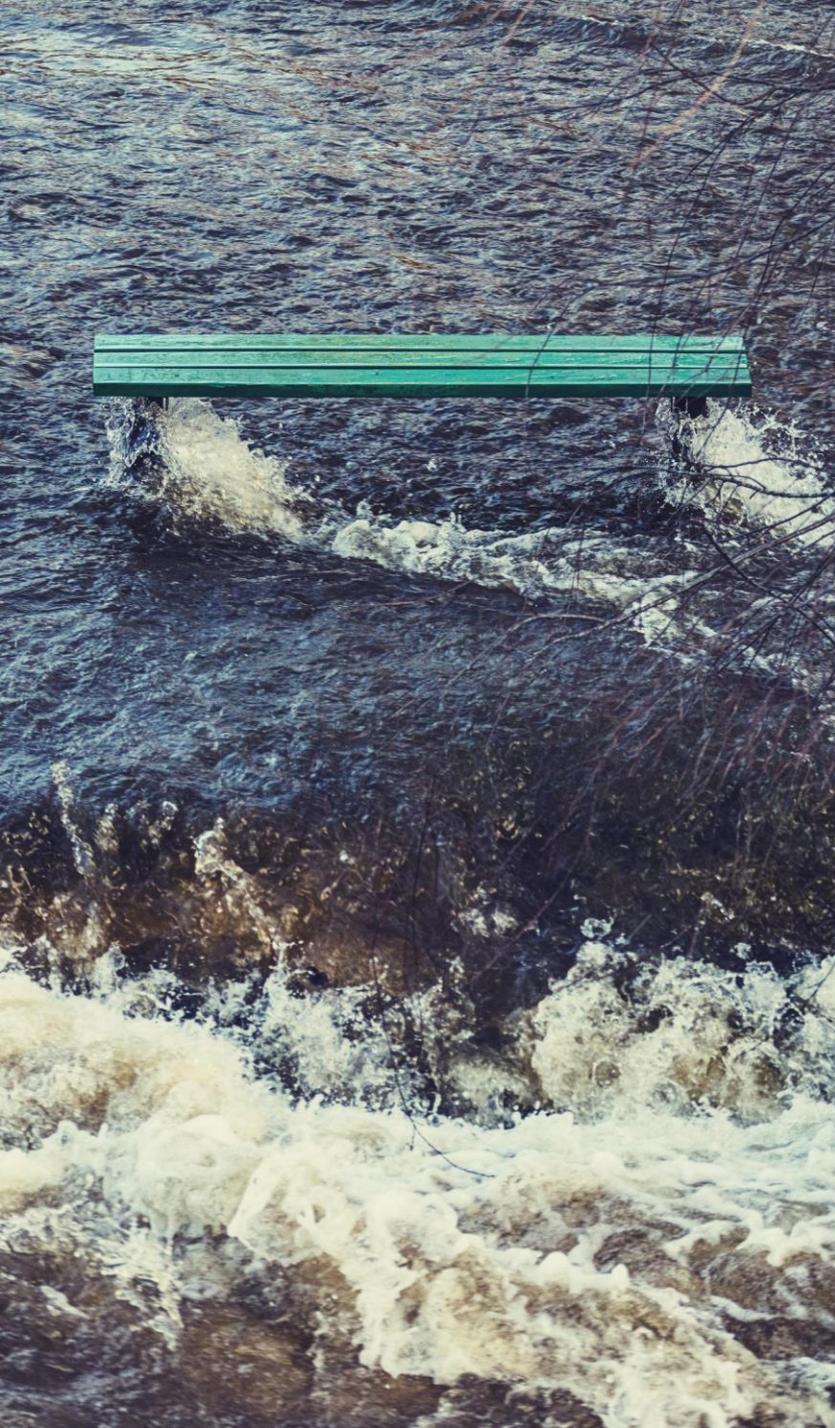
Presented by:

Sarah Wardle, Merseyside Partnership Coordinator

Jill Holden, Greater Manchester Flood and Water Management Programme Manager



GMCA ARUP 



WHY THIS MATTERS

Ageing, High-Risk Infrastructure

Assets were not designed for today's climate and are harder and costlier to maintain.

Fragmented Asset Data

Data held in different systems, at different quality levels, leading to reactive working and inefficiencies.

Clear Case for Change

Phase 3 shows the current fragmented approach isn't sustainable — we need a shared, consistent way of working.

Why Now

Increasing climate pressures, tighter budgets, and statutory duties make action urgent.

Stakeholder Engagement is Critical

Success depends on partners understanding the benefits and being willing to participate.

Economic & Resilience Benefits

Better data could reduce flood incidents by 10–15%, saving millions and improving long-term resilience.

KEY FINDINGS

Data Quality Gaps

Inconsistent, incomplete data across watercourse and SuDS assets; maturity varies widely.

Collaboration & Trust Issues

Fragmented ownership, unclear responsibilities, and siloed systems make coordination difficult.

These issues also highlight missed opportunities for more collaborative working and joint funding approaches.

Stakeholder Engagement Insights

Engagement shows partners work differently, trust levels vary, and readiness is mixed — **buy-in is essential** for moving forward.

Strong Case for Change (Phase 3)

Phase 3 confirms that current fragmented approaches are not sustainable.

A shared view and more consistent standards are needed.

Economic & Social Benefits

Better data could reduce flood incidents by 10–15%, saving millions and improving resilience.

Recommended Next Step

Start small with a **simple GIS shared view layer** — councils keep their own systems but gain a shared picture.

Jan 2026



NEXT STEPS



Stakeholder Engagement – Critical First Step

Essential to build confidence, address concerns, and support a collaborative approach to ensure we have a strong partner buy-in.

- **Initial light touch engagement** (questionnaire) to help identify stakeholders and to inform the pilot approach.
- **Form project steering group** to scope/finalise the pilot project.

Pilot Project – consultants will be asked to:

- **Build on the initial engagement** working with stakeholders, to identify key users and their needs in respect to managing asset data, and to shape and define the Regional Data Lead Role (Strategic role). This role will drive data improvement, consistency, and collaboration.
- **Develop a shared system and test shared access** to asset data using a simple GIS view layer and identify future maintenance and development costs. Builds trust and proves feasibility.
- **Develop governance framework & MoUs including** data-sharing agreements, access controls, dispute resolution, and GDPR processes. Early clarity is vital for trust and consistency.

Long-Term Data Institution (Dependent on national direction (eg NUAR)

Explore a trusted regional body for long-term stewardship, standards, and collaboration — moving from short-term fixes to a sustainable, future-ready model.

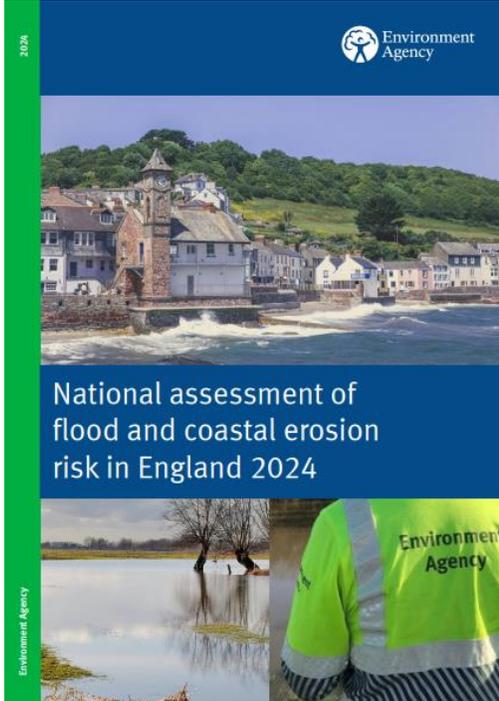
QUESTIONS?

Agenda Item 8

NaFRA2 Update

Presented by Marina Powell-Currie

New National Flood Risk Assessment (NaFRA2): Recap



Updated National Coastal Erosion Risk Map (NCERM)



Rivers and the sea

Yearly chance of flooding

Flood area (extent)

Yearly chance of flooding between 2036 and 2069

Flood area (extent)

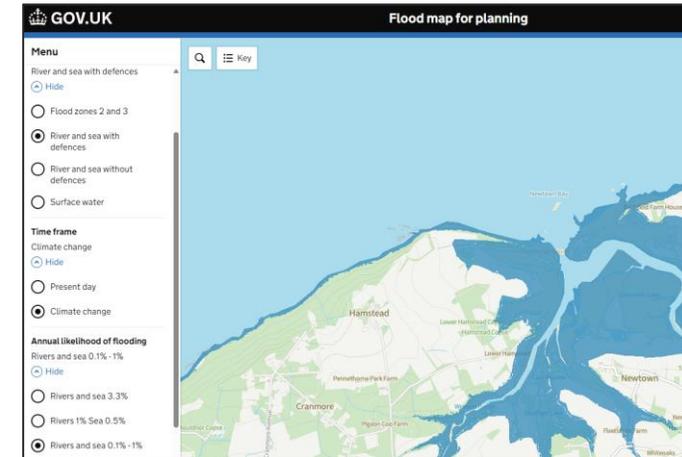
- High chance
- Medium chance
- Low chance
- Very low chance

Map details

Show flooding

Selected address

We included some older, retained, data in about 10% of areas where the new data was not yet ready to publish.



We published a report explaining how flood and coastal erosion risk is changing across England and why.

17 December 2024

We published the data on GOV.UK and updated our digital services - 'Check Your Long-Term Flood Risk' and 'Check coastal erosion risk for an area in England'.

28 January 2025

We published updated Flood Zones and added new data to 'Flood Map for Planning'.

25 March 2025

Why our new assessment of risk looks different?



Much better data – We are now using the most up to date national and local flood risk modelling for surface water and rivers and the sea. The new national coastal erosion risk map uses 10 years of data from the Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes.



Improved modelling methodologies – Updated topographical data and improved modelling methods provide us with a much more detailed and accurate map of England. Computational power has also advanced, so our national modelling is more accurate and makes it possible to provide risk mapping on a 2-metre grid.



Improved property and infrastructure assessment – We can account for a wider range of residential and non-residential properties as well as other infrastructure assets. We have also factored in new building development since our last analysis.



Climate change projections - We are now able to incorporate the UK Climate Projections 2018 (UKCP18) future warming scenarios from the Met Office.

Improving our National Flood Risk Assessment

Aims for 2026

- Publish the new risk information everywhere by Summer 2026
- Build confidence in NaFRA2 and our ability to explain outputs to customers
- Establish regular quarterly updates so we continually improve with new evidence

Milestones

- First update of Risk of Flooding from Surface Water published 17th September 2025
- First update of Flood Zones published 28th November 2025
- First update of Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea published 7th January 2026
- Second update for Flood Zones and Rivers and Sea scheduled Spring 2026
- Third update scheduled late Summer 2026
- Quarterly updates to follow with exact schedule to be determined based on experience

Opportunities

- Making use of NaFRA2 data, alongside other evidence, in investment decision making
- Making better use of 3rd party modelling evidence from Flood Risk Assessments
- Extending use of Local Authority Surface Water models

Agenda Item 9

United Utilities Update

Presented by Amy Cooper and Megan Creek



Asset Management



Water for the North West

DWMP update

23 January 2026

Agenda

- What is the DWMP?
- How we fit within the wider UU puzzle
- Long-term ambition, priorities and vision for the North West
- Future engagement with the RFCC



**Asset
Management**

What is the DWMP?

Overview of the second DWMP for 2030 – 2055



AM

Key Focus:

- 25-year wastewater strategic plan
- Evidence base for all wastewater elements of PR29 Business Plan
- Through Section 79 of the Environment Act 2021, it is a **statutory requirement** under section 94A of the Water Industry Act 1991

Final cycle 2 guidance released: 3 March 2025

Draft DWMP: 1 November 2027

Draft DWMP consultation: 12-week public consultation

Final DWMP: 31 August 2028

Engagement commitment:

*“Stakeholder engagement is **key to developing a robust plan** that meets the needs of the customers, the environment and the communities that we serve”.*

The DWMP must address:

- The capacity of the drainage and sewerage system
- An assessment of the current and future demands
- The resilience of the drainage and sewerage system
- The measures we intend to take or continue, in order to meet statutory obligations
- The likely sequencing and timing of such measures
- Relevant environmental risks and how those risks are to be mitigated

You said, we did

You championed **embracing blue-green infrastructure**, such as sustainable drainage systems, we incorporated into the plan.

You cared about **flooding of open spaces**, we incorporated into the plan.

You **helped to build our options hierarchy**, we used it to develop a Best Value plan for the North West.

You asked for a simple way to **share and identify mutual risks and opportunities**, we developed the Partnership Opportunities Pipeline.

The DWMP has shaped our investment plan for 2025- 2030



AM



Secured **£50 million** targeted investment to be used for flood risk



Unlocked **£300 Million** of innovative investment for smarter rainwater management



Committed **£3.1 billion** to reduce spills from over 400 overflows

You can access the DWMP23 on the website: [Drainage and wastewater management plan](#)

Stages of the DWMP



Timeline to delivery



AM

- Annual Progress report – the first was published in August 2025.
- **Draft DWMP:** by 01 November 2027
- 12-week public consultation: November 2027- February 2028
- **Final DWMP:** by 31 August 2028

This is the final stage and is a collation of the actions and results from the previous stages to form the plan. It will be continually reviewed and updated to provide transparency.

6 Reporting and review

1 Strategic context

This stage defines the performance indicators, value framework and future trends that are likely to affect the plan.

This stage is currently underway. Stakeholder and customer engagement is in progress.
Anticipated publication of the Strategic Context in Spring 2026.

2 Understanding the past

This stage assesses historical and current demand on systems, using various analysis tools, to understand how this impacts performance.

This stage is currently in progress and due to be complete in Winter 2026.
Assessments are underway to understand the present view of risks and opportunities across the North West.

3 Understanding the future

This stage assesses the impact of future growth and climate change on future demand, systems and performance.

This stage is currently in planning in parallel with Stage 2, and is due to be complete in Autumn 2026.
Once the present day view of risks and opportunities are understood, we can then assess how the region may change over the 25 year period.

4 Options development

This stage considers various scenarios and a range of interventions that could be used to address current or future risk.

This stage is currently in scoping and planning, and is due to commence in Spring 2026.

5 Preferred plan

This stage considers how the proposed interventions come together to form a best value 25-year plan.

This stage is due to commence in late 2026.



**Asset
Management**



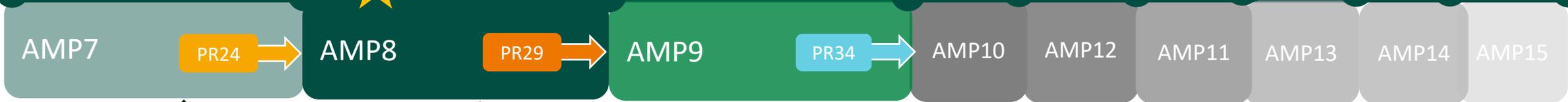
How we fit within the wider UU puzzle

Strategic programmes



AM

2020 2025 2030 2035 2040 2045 2050 2055 2060 2065



We are here



Programmes integral to the development of PR24 and AMP8

The 5 strategic programmes driving PR29 & AMP9, building on PR24 & AMP8 insights

Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) planning horizon 2025 - 2050

Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan (SODRP) planning horizon 2025 - 2050

Drainage and Wastewater Management plan (DWMP28) planning horizon 2025 - 2055

Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP29) planning horizon 2025 - 2090

Integrated Water Management (Place-Based Planning) long-term planning horizon

WINEP Planning horizon 2020 - 2050

DWMP23 planning horizon 2025 - 2050

WRMP24 planning horizon 2020 - 2085



Asset Management

Long-term ambition, priorities and vision for the North West



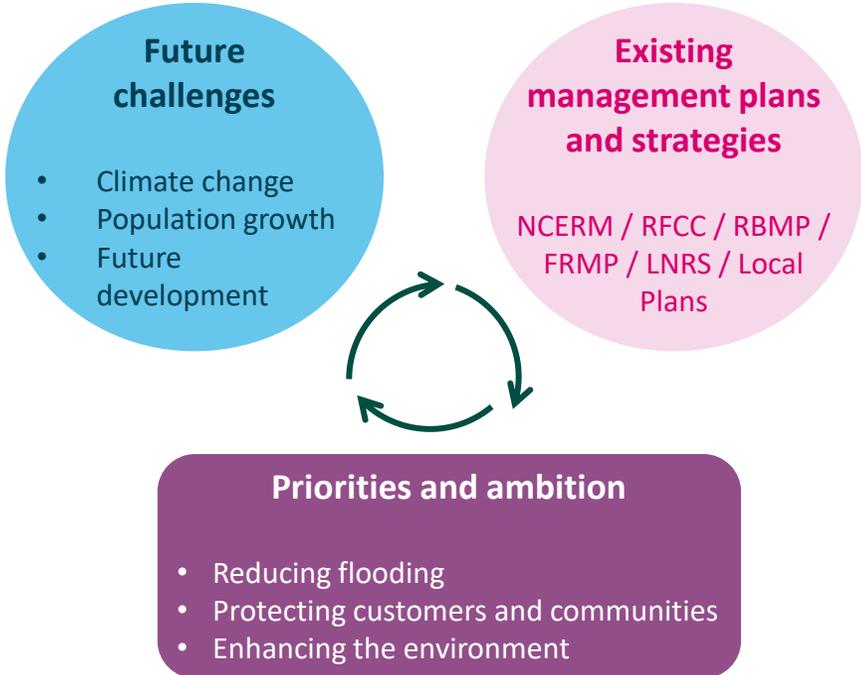
Understanding your long-term priorities

		2021 Top 10 priorities	2025 Top 10 priorities
High	Zero pollution incidents by 2050	1 st	→ ??
	We will comply with legislation	2 nd	→ ??
	Improving overflow performance	3 rd	→ ??
Medium	Reduce internal flooding risk	4 th	→ ??
	Reduce flooding incidents in open spaces and highways	5 th	→ ??
	100% compliance with permits (including sludge)	6 th	→ ??
Low	Risk of 1 in 50 year storm	7 th	→ ??
	Reduce the number of sewer collapses	8 th	→ ??
	Reduce external flooding incidents	9 th	→ ??
	Successfully treat and recycle biosolids	10 th	→ ??

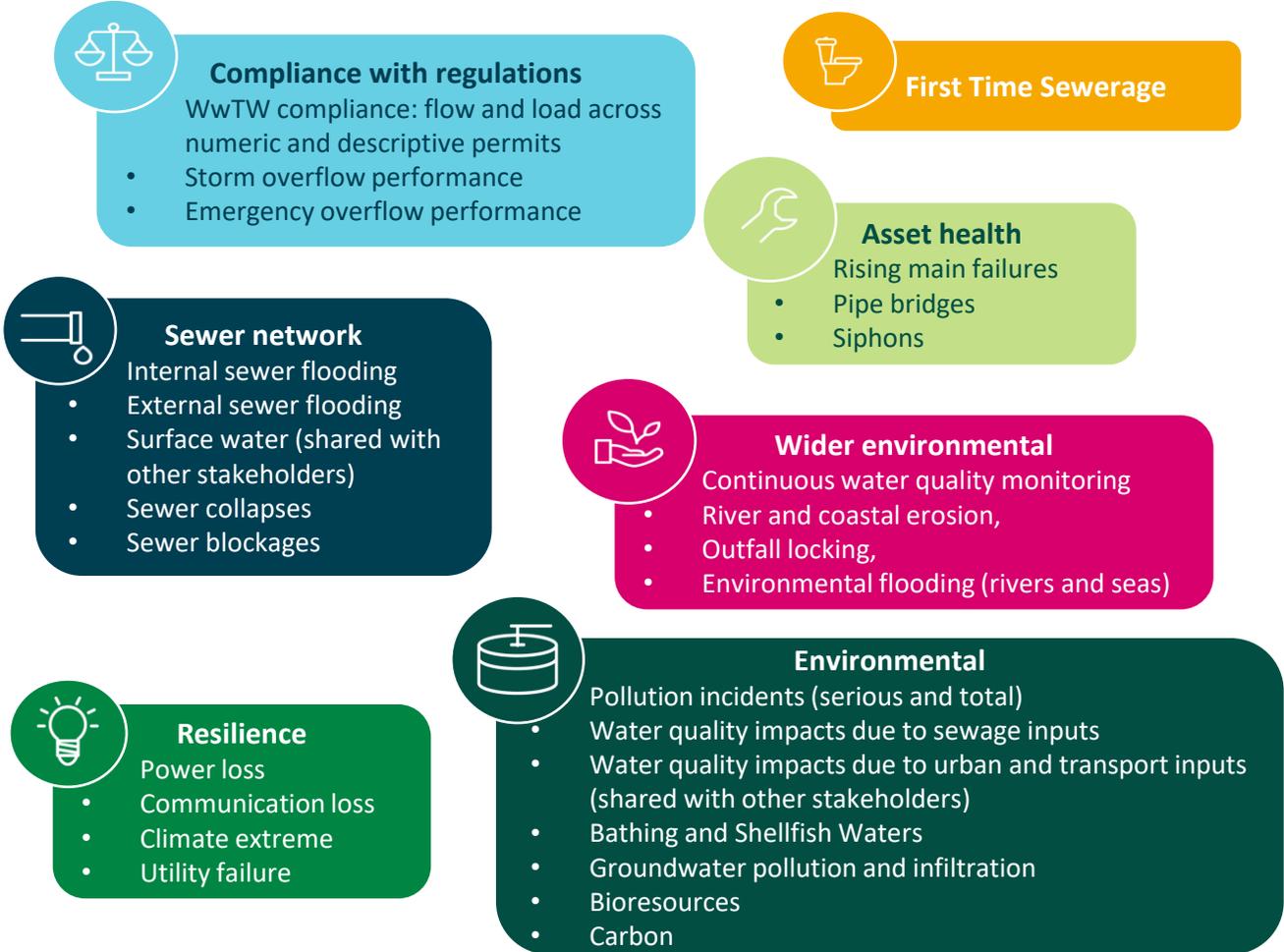


Long-term ambition, priorities and vision for the North West

What do we need to consider?



What will the DWMP cover?





AM

Long-term ambition, priorities and vision for the North West

Reduce flood risk e.g. internal and external

Improve storm overflow performance

Improve Bathing Water and Shellfish Water quality

Improve resilience to coastal and river erosion

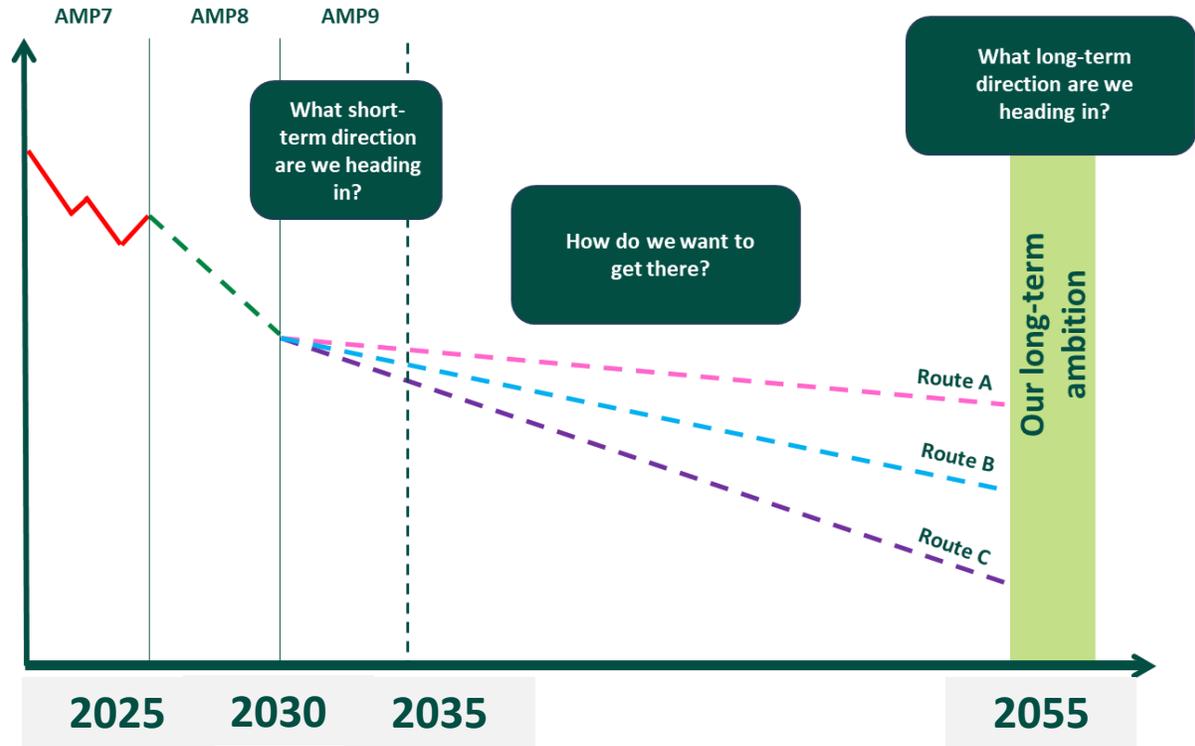
Reduce customer disruption e.g. sewer blockages and collapses

Improve river water quality

Reduce pollution incidents

Investigate opportunities for First Time Sewerage

Successfully treat and recycle Biosolids



Have your say: [DWMP priorities survey](#)



**Asset
Management**

Future engagement with the RFCC

Future engagement with the RFCC

The DWMP is one plan for all, customers, communities and the environment, across the North West

Stakeholder and customer engagement is at the heart of plan development

We would like to co-develop the DWMP and to ensure that the plan balances the needs across the region.

We are looking for volunteers to be part of the **North West DWMP group** to join members across:

- Economic and environmental regulators;
- Independent Challenge Group (YourVoice); and
- **Local authorities**

Purpose: To help set the strategic direction of the DWMP and value of impacts on customers, the environment, recreation and local economy.

Cumbria	<p>We are looking for representatives across our five counties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would you like to be a member of the North West DWMP group? • Do you know anyone who might want to be included? <p>Email us at: DWMP@uuplc.co.uk</p>
Lancs	
Merseyside	
G. Manc	
Cheshire	

Potential key areas for collaboration



Agenda Item 10

Coastal Update

Presented by Susannah Bleakley and Katie Eckford

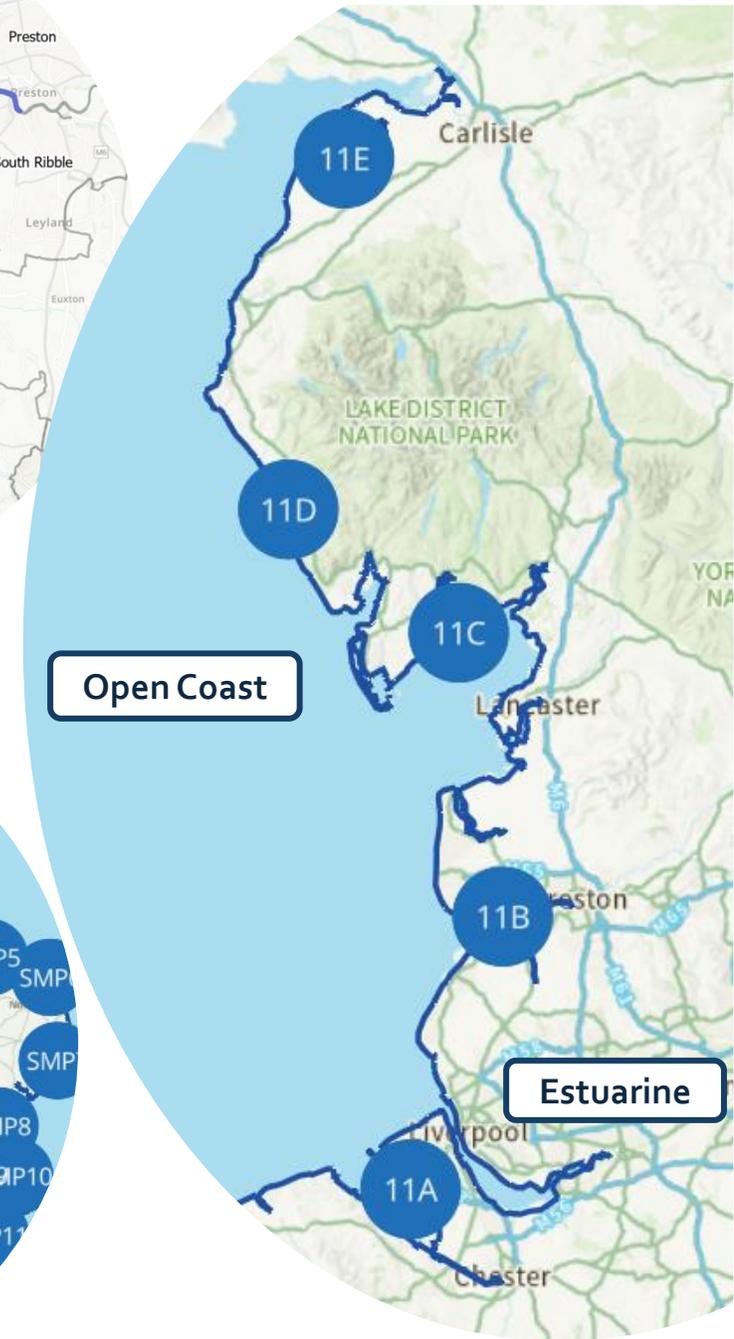
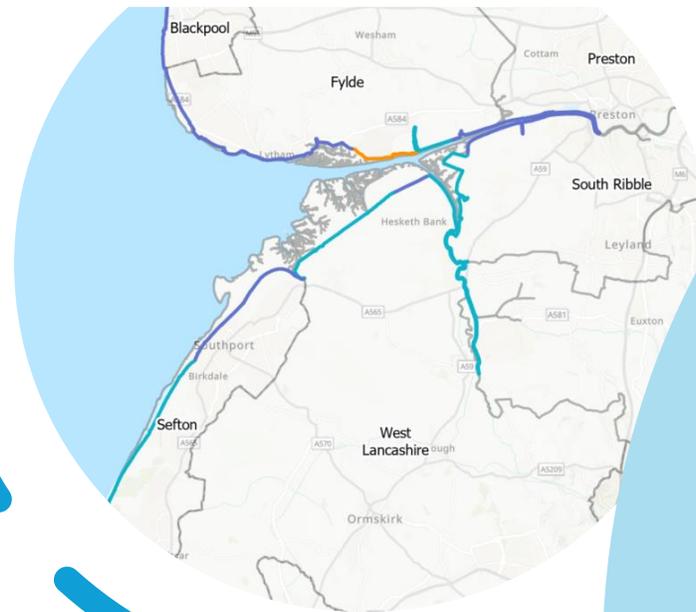


North West North Wales Coastal Group Update

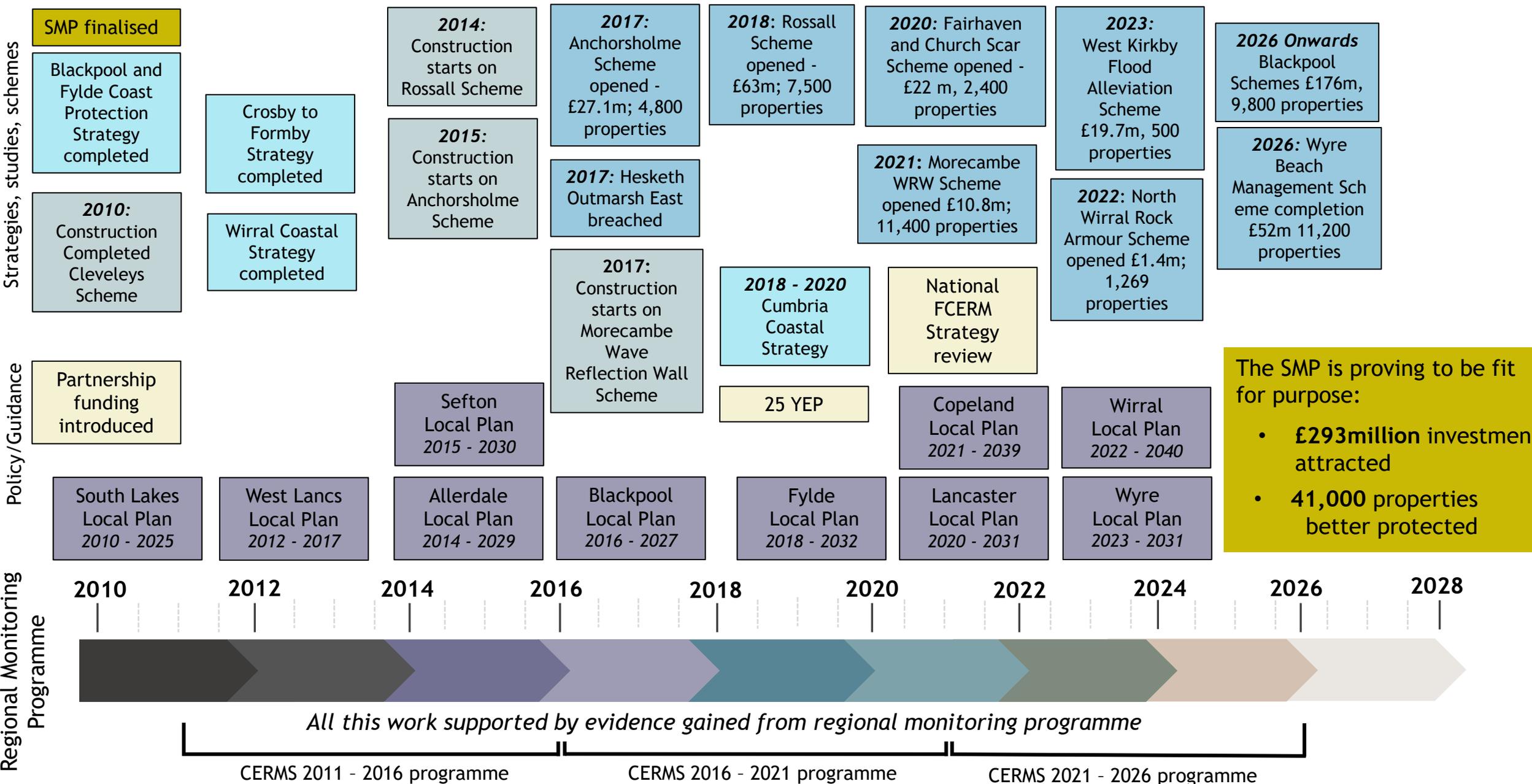
23 January 2026

Shoreline Management Plans

- 100-year plan for managing coastal flooding and erosion
- Helps protect people, places, nature, and the economy
- Not statutory, but a key planning tool for councils and communities
- Supports long-term decisions and investment
- Covers the open coast and estuaries



SMP – Plans, Strategies and Schemes



Innovation through Bespoke Funding

2021-2027

From Millom to Merseyside:

- Nearly 5,000 people engaged face to face
- Over 1,000 player messages for Hello Coast
- 14 days with the community and Coastal Group Partners making or deploying Nature Based Solutions
- 7 Local Authorities
- 6 NGOs
- 6 Task Groups
- 5 Schools
- 1 University



Delivery Challenges in the North West

**Delivery blocked
by complexity and
uncertainty**

**Some SMP policies
undeliverable with
current capacity or
resources**

**Mixture of roles
and
Responsibilities**

**No funding
Mechanism for
Adaptation**

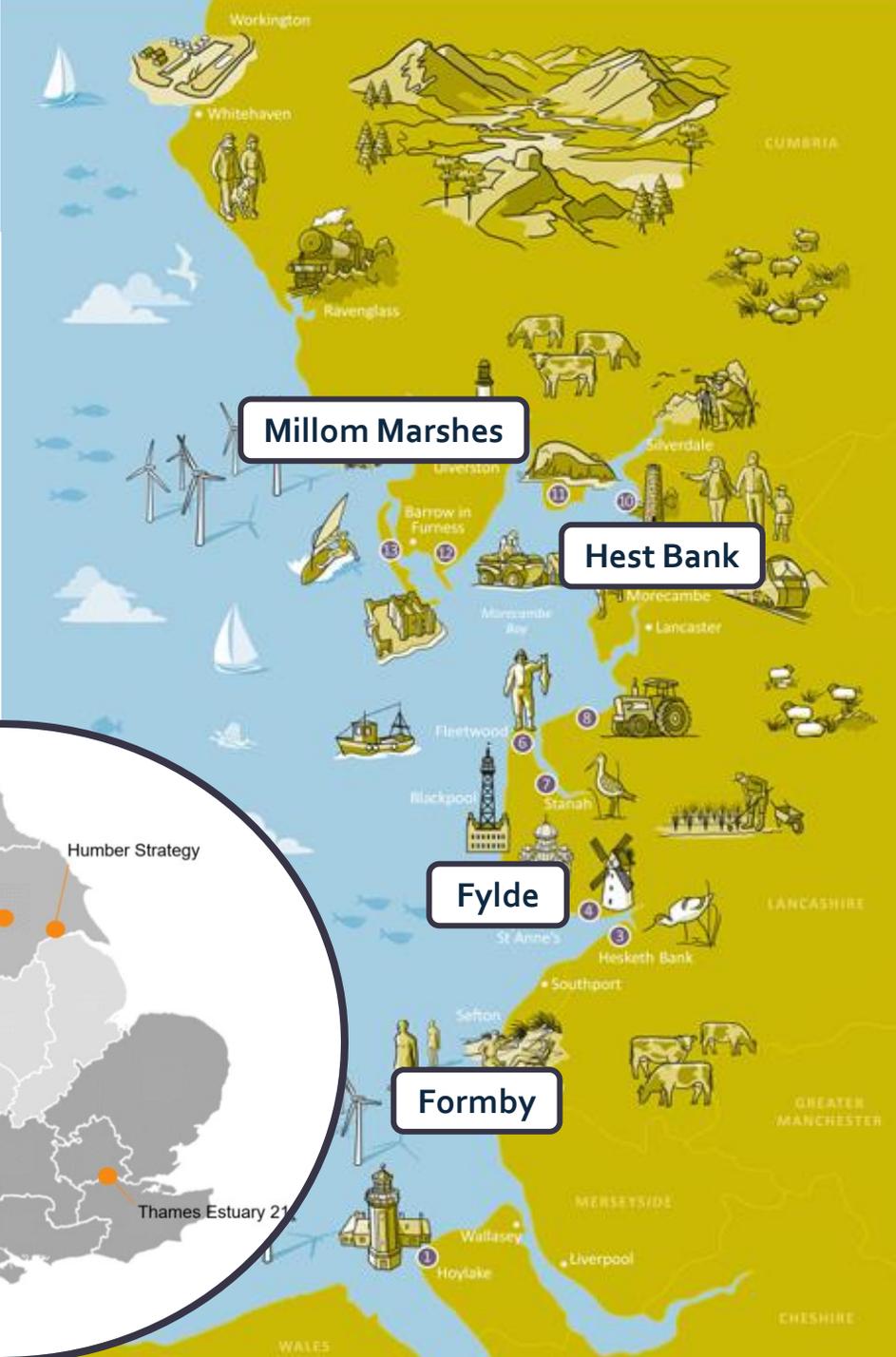
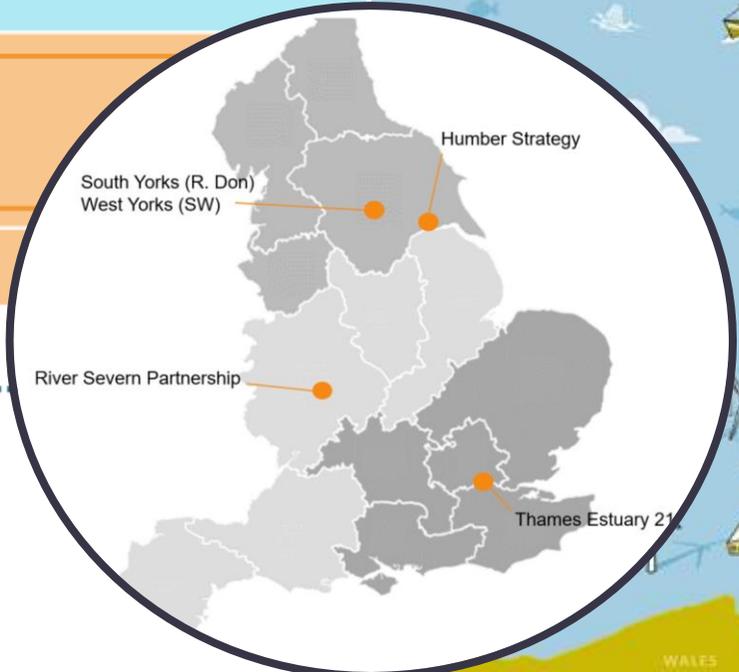
**Fragmented
capacity, skills and
expertise across
authorities**

**No funding for long
term community
engagement**

Introducing Adaptive Pathways

Hold The Line:	<p>Hold the Line Maintain/replace Adopted</p>	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>	<p>Hold the Line, Maintain/replace Adopted</p>
Triggers	<p>Existing defences viable</p>	<p>Critical infrastructure at risk</p>	<p>Long-term funding secured</p>
Managed Realignment:	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>	<p>Managed Realignment, Set back defence Adopted</p>	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>
Triggers	<p>Accelerated erosion undermines the stability of defences</p>	<p>SLR > 0.3m, community agreement</p>	<p>Habitat creation goals</p>
No Active intervention:	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>	<p><i>Alternative</i></p>
Triggers	<p>Maintaining or realigning defences is no longer economically viable.</p>	<p>No investment available</p>	<p></p>

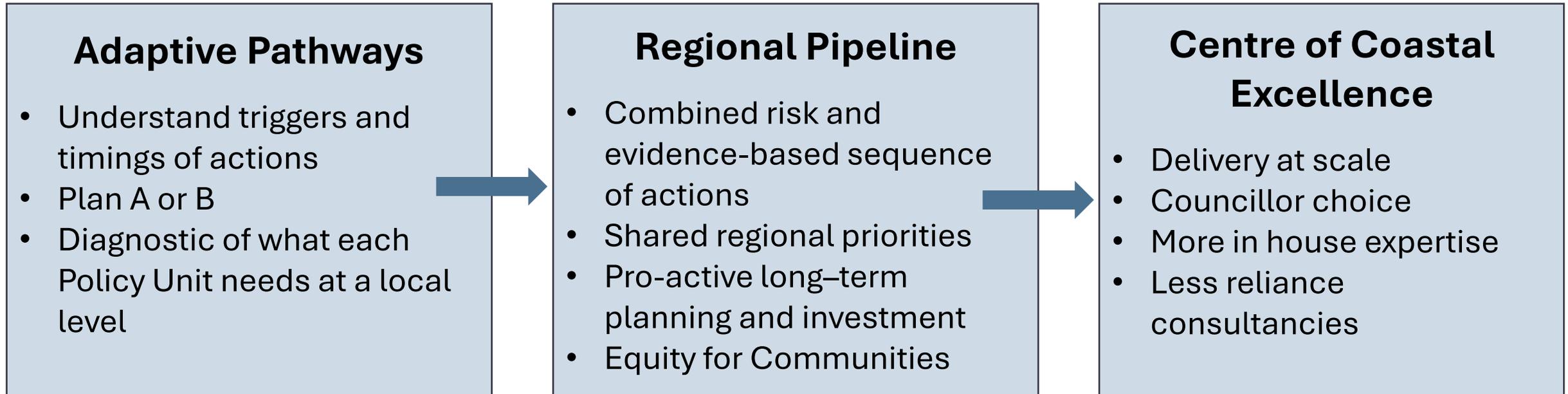
Adopted Path - →



From Pathways to a Regional Pipeline



Where the Centre of Coastal Excellence Fits



Centre of Coastal Excellence - Scoping



- **RFCC business plan (2022-25)**
- **Funded by RFCC & OFC**



Centre of Coastal Excellence seeks to:

Address Coastal FCERM challenges:

- Ensure co-ordinated delivery
- Build local authority capacity (coastal mgt)
- Reduce delivery blockages and reliance on consultants.

Activity in Summer 2025 included consultation workshops, now developing pilots looking at:

- Morecambe Bay Strategy
- Pipeline development
- Engagement and Governance



Morecambe Bay Study seeks to:

- Identify flood and coastal erosion risk wider than properties – looking at loss of habitat and infrastructure
- Develop prioritised pipeline of highest priority works
 - Considering infrastructure resilience
 - Risk assessment under different scenarios
 - Including community aspirations (from M' Bay visioning work)
- Identify funding and delivery mechanisms

Value to RFCC and Local Authorities

- Councillors have opportunity to input into the prioritisation of pipeline actions
- The Coastal group would have projects ready to go when funding opportunities arise to deliver NBS and Adaptation
- Working together across LAs at every opportunity.
- In house pools of skilled staff, reducing the reliance on consultant.

Call to Action

- Continue support of development of the Centre of Coastal Excellence
- Interim support in building a regional pipeline
- Enable coordinated action to build resilience across the North West coast



Agenda Item 11

Any other business

Presented by Adrian Lythgo