



North

Yorkshire County Council

# Local Flood Risk Strategy



## Section 2: Action Plan

Business and Environmental Services

A responsive County Council providing excellent and efficient local services

## **2. The North Yorkshire Local Flood Risk Strategy Action Plan**

### **2.1 What is the Action Plan?**

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan sets out the practical measures that the county council and partners will deliver to help manage flood risk. It is the first action plan produced by the county council as a specific element of the Local Strategy, and as such it captures many of the tasks and activities associated with developing and setting up our Flood Risk Management functions.

This Action Plan builds upon the policy framework set out in the accompanying document 'Managing North Yorkshire's Flood Risk', and is a living document which is regularly updated and amended to reflect the progress we are making and other necessary changes to the way we deliver flood risk management services.

### **2.2 How will updates to the action plan be managed?**

Regular updates to the Action Plan will be carried out to reflect significant progress or changes to specific actions. Interim reviews of both the Action Plan and the Policy Framework will also be performed annually, with a comprehensive review of both the action plan and policy framework carried out in line with the six-year cycle set out in the Flood Risk Regulations.

The action plan will also be reviewed and revised in response to the action plans and investment plans of other risk management authorities. For example, the Environment Agency will be publishing their Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) in 2015, and we will update our action plans to ensure that they remain fully aligned and complement one another.

## 2.3 How is the action plan structured?

The action plan has been developed and structured such that it links together and coordinates the actions of all risk management authorities. Each action is linked to our objectives, and is also related to the measures identified in the EU Floods Directive.

## 2.4 Integration with EA Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP)

The first edition of this Action Plan precedes the full development, consultation process and publication of the FRMPs produced by the EA for compliance with the European Union Floods Directive (the directive transposed in to UK Law by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009).

The county council has identified considerable benefits from aligning our Local Strategy flood risk management action plan with those required for the Flood Risk Management Plans, particularly in terms of resource and investment planning. A review of our action plan will therefore be scheduled to coincide with the end of the Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) consultation period (expected to be early in 2015).

## 2.5 Actions for managing flood risk

There are different approaches to managing flood risk depending on the probability and consequences, as well as the technical nature of the risk. We have used the same structure that is used in the EU Floods Directive and that is being used in the development of the FRMPs. This will help with the integration of solutions, and make feedback and monitoring more efficient. The following terms are used to group and describe the kind of actions that can be pursued:

- **Prevention of risk:** for example, by not building homes in areas that can be flooded we can prevent risks from arising in the first instance.
- **Protection from risk:** for example, by using water proof boards over doors and airbricks people can protect their properties from the damage caused by flood water.
- **Preparing for risk:** for example, by improving awareness of flood risk, or by providing warning and forecasting for floods, people can take precautions to safeguard their property.
- **Recovery and Review of risk:** for example, by improving access to tradesman and other services, recovery after flooding can be improved.

To manage flood risk effectively it can take a single action, or a combination of actions, and this depends on many factors. This includes the complexity of the risk, what's at risk, and also affordability of the action. All these factors need to be considered before actions can be implemented effectively. In order to ensure that all of these factors have been properly assessed, and to ensure the most equitable and effective distribution of resources, it is important to ensure that appropriate mechanisms for information capture, assessment, prioritisation and delivery are in place.

## 2.6 Our Priority Objectives

This plan focuses on the development and delivery of those sources of information and delivery mechanisms, relating each action to the four broad categories of measures above, and to the six North Yorkshire Flood Risk Management priority objectives:

1. A greater role for communities in managing flood risk
2. Improved knowledge and understanding of flood risk and management responsibilities for all stakeholders, communities and the media
3. Sustainable and appropriate development
4. Improved knowledge of watercourse networks and drainage infrastructure
5. Flood risk management measures that deliver social, economic and environmental benefits
6. Best use of all potential funding opportunities to deliver flood risk management measures

Details about our priority objectives can be found in the [Policy Framework in Section 1](#) our Flood Risk Strategy.

2.7 Local Flood Risk Strategy Actions

	Source	Relevant Local Strategy Objective/s	Action	Timescale	Priority	Lead Organisation	Support Organisation (s)	Estimated cost range
Prevention	Surface water (SW)	4	Collate and analyse data on local flood risk. Use this real life information to validate and augment most recently EA modelling data	Ongoing	High	NYCC	EA	£25-100k per annum
	SW	3 and 5	Develop standards, guidance and processes required to implement Schedule 3 of FWMA (SuDS and SABs)	2011 - 2015	High	NYCC	District Councils	£250k
	Surface water, ground water & ordinary water courses (SW/GW/OWC)	3 and 5	Provide input to Local Development Plans. Respond to requests for input on planning consultations	Ongoing	Mod	Local Planning Authorities	NYCC as LLFA	£5k

	Source	Relevant Local Strategy Objective/s	Action	Timescale	Priority	Lead Organisation	Support Organisation (s)	Estimated cost range
Protection	SW/GW/OWC	6	Maintain a prioritised programme of flood alleviation projects in the context of the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Medium Term (6 year) programme	2014 onwards Annually reviewed	High	LLFA	RFCC/EA	£50k
	SW/GW/OWC	6 and 5	Deliver a programme of prioritised catchment level flood risk management projects	2015-2020	High	LLFA	EA/ District Councils	TBC (£50million programme over 10 years identified)
	SW/GW/OWC	4	Develop a protocol and process for the recording and monitoring of assets implicated in significant local flood risk	2014/15	Med	LLFA	All RMAs	£50k

	Source	Relevant Local Strategy Objective/s	Action	Timescale	Priority	Lead Organisation	Support Organisation (s)	Estimated cost range
Preparedness	All sources	2 and 4	Create Catchment Plans – providing a high level assessment of flood risk and potential risk management actions/measures for each catchment within NYCC authority area	2013 - 2015	High	EA	NYCC	£50k
	All sources	2 and 4	Work with neighbouring LLFAs to Create/provide input to Catchment Plans for those catchments which cross into other authority areas – providing a high level assessment of flood risk and potential risk management actions as appropriate	2014 - 2020	High	LLFA	EA / Neighbouring authorities	£20k
	All sources	2	Provide support and updates to the Local Resilience Forum Response Plans	Ongoing	Med	LLFA	All RMAs	£5k per annum
	All sources	1	Develop a Flood Risk Management Toolkit of practical measures that can be used to support local communities to manage flood risk	2014/15	Med	LLFA	All RMAs	£30k
	All sources	1 and 5	Develop a programme of rollout of the Flood Risk Management Toolkit to communities across the authority area	2015 – 2020	Med	LLFA	All RMAs	£50k per annum
	All sources	1 and 5	Support Schools and other educational facilities to increase public awareness of flood anticipation, preparation and resilience	Ongoing	Med	LLFA	Emergency Planning / EA	£2k per annum
	All sources	1	Improve and maintain the LLFA Flood Risk Management web pages with the NYCC website – with relevant information and links to partner organisations	Ongoing	Med	LLFA		£2k per annum
	Ground Water (GW)	2 and 4	Develop a pilot monitoring and warning system for Ground water flood risk - with a view to deployment at appropriate key locations across the county	2014/16	Med	LLFA	EA / District LA	£30k

	Source	Relevant Local Strategy Objective/s	Action	Timescale	Priority	Lead Organisation	Support Organisation (s)	Estimated cost range
Recovery & Review	All sources	2	Develop clear protocols and processes for the assessment and investigation of flooding incidents	2014/15	High	LLFA	All RMAs	£10k
	All sources	2	Embed the protocols and processes for the assessment and investigation of flooding incidents within the authority	2014/15	High	LLFA	Highway Authority	£20k
	SW/GW/OWC	2 and 4	Refine data capture protocols and processes for capture and strategic analysis of flood incident data – including gather of information from other RMAs where appropriate	2014/15	High	LLFA	All RMAs	£30k