

ADEPT

Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

ACTION POINTS/ MINUTES OF THE FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP (FWMG)

MEETING

29/04/2022

10:00-13:00

Held via Microsoft Teams videoconferencing software

Present

Alexander Back – Derbyshire CC (AB)
Alex Lane, Jacobs (AL) (*Speaker*)
Alys Bishop, Central Bedfordshire C (ABi)
Andy Hardstaff, Hertfordshire CC, (AH)
Andrew Smallwood, Leicestershire CC (AS)
Anne Chataigne, FloodRE (AC)
Ashish Patel, Milton Keynes Council (AP)
Chloe Langley, Nottingham City Council (CL)
Daniel Lamb, Warwickshire CC (DL)
Dave Stewart, Torbay C (DST)
Eve Knapp, Leicestershire CC (EK) (*Minutes*)
Graham Smith, Nottinghamshire CC (GS)
Hilary Ellis, Cambridgeshire CC (HE)
Hilary Tanner, LGA (HT)
Ian Wilson, Barnsley C (IW)
Ian Titherington, City of Cardiff C (IT) (*Speaker*)
Jagjit Mahal, Warwickshire (JM)
Jessica Fox, Hull CC (JF)
Jessica Scarsbrook, (JS)
Joe Baker, (JB)
Joey Carter, Environment Agency (JC)
John Paul Lovey, Blockpool C (JPL)
Katherine Greig, Flood Re (KG)
Louise Walker, CIRIA (LW)
Mark Ogden, Norfolk CC (MO)
Max Tant, Kent CC, (MT) (*Chair*)
Mohamed Admani, Nottingham City C (MA)
Owen McGiven (OM)
Peter Henry, (PH)
Prince Frank, Luton BC (PF)
Revai Kinsella, East Sussex (RK)
Roger Nowell, Sheffield C (RN)
Ruth Burnham, West Northamptonshire C (RB)
Simon Curl, Suffolk CC (SC)
Steve Wragg, City of York Council (SW)
Sue Jaques, Nottinghamshire CC (SJ)
Victoria Coombes – Leicestershire CC (VC)
Will Barber, Leicestershire CC (WB)
Will Harrington, DEFRA (WH)

Apologies

David Strang, Water UK (DS)
Dermot Kehoe, Floodre (DK)
Gary Mcinally, Flood Re (GM)
Greenwood, Shirley, Environment Agency (SG)
Hannah Bartram, ADEPT / East Sussex C (HB)
Helen Smith, Somerset CC (HS)
Innes Thompson, ADA (IT)
James Blockley, Gloucestershire (JB)
James Harris, NIC (JH)
Jonathan Hunter, Environment Agency (JH)
Lucy Shepherd, Essex CC (LS)
Marc Inman, Essex CC (MI)
Martin Hutchings, Devon CC (MH)
Melanie Bright, Bedford BC (MB)
Neal Thomas, Coventry (NT)
Nick Claxton, (NC)
Paul Cobbing, National Flood Forum (PCb)
Richard Ward, Derbyshire (RW)
Richard Whelan, Cambridgeshire CC (RW)
Stephen Rimmer, Liverpool (SR)
Steven Tupper, Environment Agency (ST)
Tim Simpson, Essex CC (TS)
Vicki Westall, Hampshire (VW)

Item		Action	Action owners
1	Welcome & introductions	Apologies are as stated above.	
2	Actions and Minutes from the previous meeting	<p>The previous meeting was held on 25/01/2022. There were no comments on the previous Minutes.</p> <p>a) Closed – Action regarding Local Authority charging, to be picked up separately outside of this meeting.</p> <p>b) Closed – Action regarding Somerset River Authority and sharing information, was marked as closed, to be picked up separately.</p> <p>c) Ongoing – Action for volunteers to get involved in the review of DWMPs is ongoing.</p> <p>d) RE schedule 3, MT informed the group that the Schedule 3 in Wales review is progressing and there has been another workshop, MT stated that a decision is to be made by the end of the year with a view for work to take place this time next year. Update to be provided by MT.</p> <p>e) Ongoing - Action to share FRM Strategy Road Map and Action Plan, this is not currently at a stage to be shared but should be launched next month.</p> <p>f) Ongoing - MT referenced an action for Innes T to share details about IDB approach to collecting commuted sum charges. This action remains open as an update has not yet been received.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>DS</p> <p>ST</p> <p>IT</p>
3	SUDS and Schedule 3 in Wales – Ian Titherington (City Council of Cardiff)	<p><u>See the attached presentation.</u></p> <p> SuDS Schedule 3 Presentation 290422</p> <p>IT gave a summary of his role as a drainage design and maintenance specialist, as well as being a SuDS approval board officer.</p> <p>OM informed IT that NI are in the process of setting up a SuDS Approval Authority and asked if IT would be willing to attend a Surface Water Management meeting and present. IT agreed.</p> <p>Action: IT and OM to arrange.</p> <p>(CIRIA) are gathering data on the costs of SuDS, if anyone can provide any info at all that would be very helpful. There is a short google form here https://forms.gle/NYZzP27YddRdHgoM7 or you can email louise.walker@ciria.org.</p>	<p>IT/OM</p> <p>ALL</p>

4	SUDS Adoption – Neal Thomas	NT unavailable for update.	
5	Income Generation – Max Tant (Kent CC)	<p>Outcome of Slido Poll:</p> <p>If you charge for services, how is that income used? 9 83</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop new programmes - innovation material and projects - Drones, Sandbox, SUD's Models £30k a year income and funded FRM Trainee post ● supports team budget and lessens overall savings ● Don't charge yet but income would be used to training and/or recruitment ● Where we input to formal planning we get none back - unknown how LPA use it ● we charge for preapp and data requests - goes straight back into funding the staff that do stat consultee role ● Props up our staffing budget, and possibly CCTV work ● Goes into base budget ● Cover staffing costs ● It is used to partly fund some salaries <p>after enforcement, provision of access to models or data</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Currently running a pilot Augemented Reality Sandbox education programme. ● compliance checking (condition) ● nothing at present, but we keep thinking ● Hydraulic modelling for new developments ● Pre-app for planning Pre-app for land drainage consent ● Recovering cost after emergency enforcement would be good. We have recovered after traditional enforcement ● A ditch maintenance service - i.e. residents can use our contractor or opt in to annual maintenance using an hourly rate (would avoid LLFA repeat inspections/enforcement) ● Yes, access to models and data. <p>Action: SJ to present at future meetings on the use of drones for building inspections, asset inspections, as a semi commercial service.</p>	SJ
6	DEFRA Updates – Will Harrington	<p>WH informed that this is currently the pre-election period, with elections taking place next week. A Parliament session occurred yesterday (28.04), with the state opening taking place on Tuesday 10th May. The queen will be announcing the new legislative programme on May 10th.</p> <p>There was a debate around flooding in Westminster in July 2021.</p> <p>Action: WH to provide update at next meeting.</p> <p>Climate change allowances – the management catchment based rainfall allowances are coming in during May – these shift from the flat national rates for rainfall to specific amounts based on catchment.</p>	WH

		<p>FloodRE scheme – Recent changes to FloodRE made by the Government, increasing uptake of property flood resilience measures. Floodre are now able to include resilient repair in the budget, up to £10,000. 5 insurance companies are currently signed up.</p> <p>Asset Maintenance Review – DEFRA are committed to doing this as part on their policy statement published in 2020. The review looks at powers and responsibilities around asset maintenance, inspections, mapping, and monitoring. It was added that the review has begun, a contractor appointed, and it should last for around 2 years. There will be opportunities to join workshops and take part in training Action: WH to forward details when available.</p> <p>Surface Water – DEFRA are also looking to legislative powers and responsibilities, with a focus on surface water, coastal and riparian responsibilities. WH added that Hillary Ellis has joined the project steering group. Action: HE to keep group updated (at next meeting).</p>	<p>WH</p> <p>HE</p>
7	EA Updates – Joey Carter	<p>Strategy – JC updated the group on EA’s roadmaps. The EA are in the process of finalising internal and external actions. It is the intention of the EA for partners to assist with communications. Partners will be supplied with communication packs including social media content, FAQ’s, and articles. A steering group will be held with more information on these.</p> <p>Flood and Coastal Conference – JC informed the group that the Conference is on the 7th-9th June in Telford. The EAs external and internal roadmaps will be officially launched at this conference.</p> <p>Post Programme Assessment (2015-2021) – The target was to assist in the protection of 300,000 homes but this was surpassed by 14,000. Defra estimated that this programme saved the UK £28billion in damages. 850,000 defence projects have been completed. 580,000 acres of agricultural lands, thousands of businesses, communities, and infrastructure benefited from this programme.</p> <p>The Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme – the 25 RMA led projects are now in the process of submitting business cases to cover the full range of resilience action testing. EA are looking forward to working closely with ADEPT over the coming year to work out how we can best share learning and outputs from our projects. Please get in contact with Tom de la Rosa as Programme Manager if anyone has any queries or would like to find out more. Another part of this IR Programme is the Coastal Transition Accelerator Programme, with best practice being shared across other coastal areas.</p> <p>Update on Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) –</p> <p>Consultation summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FRMP’s consultation was launched on 22 October 2021 and ended on 21 January 2022. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA received responses from over 195 organisations and over 40 individuals. We had responses for each of the 10 FRMPs and several national responses. The main emerging themes from the consultation are: the value of partnerships and engagement, support for nature based solutions, emphasis on the catchment based approach, climate change and adaptation, identifying funding streams for FRMP delivery, land management (including agricultural) and accessible information. <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA now reviewing and analysing the comments received and are aiming to publish a factual ‘Summary of Responses’ in May 2022. This will not include how we will respond to points raised. LLFA approval is required by the end of June, Area teams are currently in discussions with LLFAs to gain this. EA will publish a ‘<i>You said we did document</i>’ in autumn 2022 alongside the final plans. This document will describe how EA will act on the points raised. Some of the issues raised by stakeholders will be taken forward by workstreams outside of FRMPs such as EAs work on mainstreaming NFM or be considered by Defra in their reform of Local Flood Risk Management Planning. <p>RBMP Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EA has co-ordinated the preparation of the draft FRMPs with draft RBMPs to deliver integrated outcomes and multiple benefits for managing flood risk and for the environment. The consultation on the draft river basin management plans (RBMPs) was also launched on 22 October 2021, to enable both plans to be read side by side. The RBMP consultation ended on 22 April 2022. Consultation responses are now being analysed and a summary of the responses is due to be published in summer 2022. 	
8	Data sharing between RMA’s – Alex Lane (Jacobs)	 <p>EA Data Sharing - ADEPT 29 April.pdf</p> <p>It was added that the EA will be taking this forward. The EA has been provided with EA specific recommendations to be able to take this forward.</p> <p>The EA have committed to reviewing DWMP survey from 2021.</p>	

9	ADA Updates – Innes Thomson	<p>IT unable to attend, written update provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ADA lobbying on policy reversal for the ending of exempt use of red diesel for IDBs and FCERM usage has returned a positive outcome, conditioned by an understanding that the sector will take active steps to reduce carbon emissions in line with government targets. b) ADA has a Board vacancy for a Local Authority Representative. Expressions of interest from either elected or officers of member Local Authorities are invited via Innes. c) ADA is hosting second summit on the subject of “Keeping our Rivers Flowing” Summit on 12th May at Stoneleigh Park in conjunction with the CLA, NFU, the EA and Defra. We have a top line-up of speakers and plenty time built in for debate and discussion. Defra’s Farming & Land Management teams will be present alongside our usual Defra Flood & Water colleagues. Cost is only £25 – register via the ADA website at www.ada.org.uk d) ADA’s Environmental Good Governance Guide for IDBs is being finalised and will be published shortly. e) ADA has just published a series of Educational Resources ADA in conjunction with LEAF Education for Key Stage 4 and 5 (GCSE/A Level) students. See resources on ADA website: https://www.ada.org.uk/knowledge/education/ f) ADA is currently working on a carbon reduction policy template for IDBs and carbon accounting guide to published shortly. g) ADA members have been working with Defra to provide information for the enacting of secondary legislation for the Environment Act to enable the expansion of IDD’s or the creation of new ones. Parliamentary process for this is expected in spring 2023. 	
10	Update from Chair	<p>There is currently one vacancy for a mapping and modelling theme lead. Volunteers to contact MT. In particular to input into SW mapping presentation and website The main areas of concern are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Issues with website and how it presents the information. - 20m buffer is an issue. - <u>Should not use map for individual properties, although there is a clear caveat to this effect, but is generally ignored by the viewer.</u> 	ALL
11	Recruitment – Andy Hardstaff (Hertfordshire CC)	<p><u>See presentation attached.</u></p> <p>AH presented slides on an overview of recruitment in Hertfordshire (LLFA).</p>	

		<p>SJ, HE and JM said their teams are fully staffed, with the majority reporting vacancies. JM said Warwickshire fully staffed by promoting internally to senior posts and bringing in junior staff to train.</p> <p>Current staff vacancies identified of between 2-4 staff per LLFA. Most identified internal procedural issues in recruitment as well as issues with finding candidates.</p> <p>Significant concern expressed over current lack of capacity in LLFAs in context of future increase in workloads associated with Schedule 3 and National/Local Strategy work. Action: MT agreed to take to DEFRA/EA to highlight issues with staffing/recruitment and identify as pressure on LLFAs in relation to the implementation of Sch 3.</p> <p>Action: AH update at next meeting to look further into recruitment options going forward.</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>AH</p>
12	AOB	<p>NIC Resilience Standards Roundtable – ABi mentioned NIC Resilience Standards Roundtable workshop held in March, suggested inviting a member of the NIC project team to the next meeting. In October 2021, the government asked the Commission to conduct a study of how responsible bodies can better manage and mitigate surface water flooding in England. The Commission is liaising with flood risk management authorities (RMAs) as it carries out the study, as well as consulting infrastructure providers, the engineering sector, and environmental NGOs to maximise the breadth of understanding and opportunities. A Call for Evidence to support initial scoping and research closed on 20 December 2021. The study will be published in November 2022, in advance of the second National Infrastructure Assessment which is due in November 2023. Action: Chair to invite member of NIC project team to July meeting.</p>	<p>MT</p>
13	Confirm Date of Next Meeting	<p>MT informed the group that the next meeting is 11th July, and will be face-face in London, with provisions for it to be a hybrid meeting possibly.</p>	