

ADEPT

Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

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

MEETING
02/09/2020

14:00-16:00

Held at via Microsoft Teams videoconferencing software

Attendees	Apologies
Alys Bishop, Central Bedfordshire Council (ABi)	Bronwyn Buntine, Kent County Council
Dave Stewart, Torbay Council, (DS)	David Hickman, Lincolnshire County Council
Hannah Bartram, ADEPT, (HB)	David Strang, Water UK
Helen Smith, Somerset County Council, (HS)	Hilary Chipping, SEMLEP
Hilary Tanner, LGA, (HT)	Katarzyna Wysocka, Luton Borough Council
Innes Thomson, ADA, (IT)	Patricia Cuervo, RB of Kensington & Chelsea
Jagjit Mahal, Warwickshire County Council, (JM)	Neal Thomas, Coventry City Council
James Perkins, DEFRA, (JP)	
Joely Norris, Peterborough City Council, (JN)	
John Rumble, Hertfordshire County Council, (JR)	
Julia Beeden, Cambridgeshire County Council, (JB)	
Katherine Grieg, Flood Re, (KG)	
Karen Fisher, Buckinghamshire County Council, (KF)	
Martin Hutchings, Devon County Council, (MH)	
Max Tant, Kent, (MT)	
Melanie Bright, Bedford Borough Council, (MB)	
Paul Cobbing, Flood Forum, (PC)	
Phil Jones, Northamptonshire CC, (PJ)	
Robin McCartney, Northumberland CC, (RM)	
Simon Curl, Suffolk County Council, (SC)	
Tim Simpson, Essex County Council, (TS)	
Wendy Brooks, EA, (WB)	
Will Barber, Coventry City Council, (WB)	
William Harrington, DEFRA, (WH)	
Vicki Westall, Hampshire County Council, (VW)	

Item No.	Item	Action	Action owners
1	Welcome & secretariat	Helen Smith noting action points	HS
2	Update on minutes and actions from previous meetings		

	Actions completed unless listed below or picked up later in agenda		
	Access and Egress guidance	Abi to arrange telecon with Sam Kipling and JB to discuss how to ensure guidance is used by LPAs in conjunction with NPPF. PC was going to talk to Sam so Abi to catch up with PC to see if this happened.	Abi/PC
	East Riding of Yorkshire's FRMP	BK to consider a future case study for ADEPT on their work/FRMP project in early 2020.	BK
	Defra Surface Water and Drainage Assets- Review of Responsibilities	All to review the publication and ready for discussion about next steps. Need to decide if we wish to issue a formal reply to it. Feedback on report to be sent to JB.	All/JB/MT
	LGA Funding Research – Hillary Tanner	All to feedback to LGA re thoughts on LLFA funding to support CSR discussions with ministers. Issues being looked at: funding for LLFAs, supposed to be taken up by business rates next financial year but no more info – will push for it to continue to be funded until rates come in; Impact of Covid; want adaptation funding to be made available for Councils; impact of funding from the FCERM strategy and request for clarity on how councils will be supported to take that strategy forward. EFRA enquiry is looking at flood risk.	All
	COVID-19 impacts	All to respond to JB with summary of any significant impacts COVID-19 had on their LLFA work/projects/team	All
	EA update	WB confirmed she will add Natalia to the EA stakeholder updates so that they can be circulated to ADEPT regularly.	
	Non statutory technical standards review	Group to consider what biodiversity net gain or water quality type benefits should be brought into the National Standards and let John know (especially if you have good evidence).	All
	Flood Risk Management Plans – Jonathan Hunter	Decision to be made by LLFAs re whether to get approval for the actions before SEA measure freeze and again afterwards when plan draft ready for consultation, or to just seek approval afterwards. LLFAs to get FRMP on their forward plans if taking to Committee or Scrutiny. JH needs LLFAs to tell him if we can think of any legal risks the FRMP timetable presents to us. No one could think of any at meeting. Task group meeting is on 9 th September.	All All All
3	EA and Defra update – James Perkins and Wendy Brooks	ADEPT task and finish group has been set up for 2 nd cycle of FRMP's to provide clarity on what LLFA's need to cover. Hannah Coogan is working with the group and will share final national once measures, Martin H has shared a draft doc with LLFA comments. £200m Resilience Programme ('Funding opportunity: Innovative Flood and Coastal Resilience Programme') – letters going to Chief Execs to invite bids. Only LLFAs and coastal authorities can apply, EA can work with us. Paul Cobbing raised opportunity for local authorities to partner on projects. Webinars to be held late September for those interested.	All All

		<p>Offers for future updates: ELMS, skills survey for RMAs, SMP update.</p> <p>JR: Request EA reissue surface water maps and shapefiles as the information help locally differs from that available nationally. Group advised and link circulated to Defra data platform (https://environment.data.gov.uk/).</p> <p>Defra policy statement issued (July) alongside EA strategy – 5 policies and 40 supporting actions – extra money (£175m announced to accelerate flood defence schemes in addition to the 5.2bn announced in the budget.) - Spending review is pending.</p> <p>David Jenkins surface water review published – 12 have been automatically accepted, others not yet taken forward – but overall positive about the review 29 actions in total.</p> <p>James P no longer representing at ADEPT - Will Harrington taking over James’ role going forward.</p>	<p>WB</p> <p>All</p>
4	National Strategy next steps – Wendy Brooks	<p>Group urged to read the strategy if not already done so - 3 ambitions, long term vision to the end of century currently with parliament. Action plan to be published Spring 2021. Seeking practical actions for first 5 years. Action plan looking to be web based so all can see what partners have committed to deliver.</p> <p>Riparian responsibilities – address as a group – action to set up a workshop?</p> <p>LGA invites discussion on the strategy and actions and the need for LLFA’s to have local flood risk strategy guidance. JR expressed concern about the guidance being too prescriptive, and should be more strategic and ensure it relates clearly to other strategies and initiatives (DWMPs) to plan time and resource. Action on group to email JB about where LLFA’s are in the local FRM strategy process.</p> <p>Set up workshop around prioritising most urgent actions.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>WB/JB</p> <p>All</p> <p>WB/JB</p>
5	Nutrient Neutrality – Max Tant	<p>Presentation highlighting issue of nutrient neutrality – primarily a water quality issue but linked to Habitat Regulations. Has the potential to hold up development. Assessment has to be undertaken to understand impact of development on Nitrate and Phosphorous levels on designated aquatic sites before development can proceed – must demonstrate nutrient neutrality. Issues with lack of leadership and guidance on the matter. Currently impacting Solent and Kent, Somerset and other areas also impacted. Lack of monitoring means impacts aren’t all currently known. Presentation to be forwarded to the group for awareness.</p>	<p>MT</p>
6	Planning White Paper consultation	<p>Big change for current planning system, focussing on front loading local plans – implications for S106, environmental assessments and appraisals, and no reference to all sources of flood risk. Appears to lack alignment with Defra</p>	

		<p>environmental ambitions and 25 Year Environment Plan and focusses on national standardisation and design codes.</p> <p>It was agreed that each LLFA would contribute to their own council's response and also forward key flood risk comments on the white paper to Julia for inclusion in the ADEPT Sustainable Growth group response.</p> <p>Consultation ends 29th October but JB to confirm the deadline for comments for the ADEPT response.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>JB</p>
7	ADEPT Environment Board update	To be issued by email as appropriate	
8	ADA update	<p>Gave evidence to EFRA yesterday</p> <p>Will be responding to the planning white paper in due course</p>	
9	Working group updates	To be issued by email as appropriate	
10	AOB	<p>T&C planning webinar and action to send link to all.</p> <p>Feedback to group on Nafra2 workshops, which are being held in September.</p> <p>IT advised that ADA working with IDB and EA – GIS shapefiles for all IDB's not available. Also raised that during winter floods IDB fell through gaps in terms of emergency funding (Bellwin?)</p> <p>MH shared that the EA have introduced a facility that we can have a local report done that gets accepted by the LLFA – it will come up with a warning saying information available for this site and will downgrade the flood risk. All to consider going forward.</p>	<p>KG</p> <p>ABi</p>
11	Next meeting date	6 th October 10:00-12:30	
12	Forward plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Re - Performance Certificate Concept (Oct) • Woods Hardwick – Blue Roof project (Oct) • David Strang - Right to connect review (Oct) • Discussion re response to David Jenkins' Surface water asset review and how it will be embedded in to SW management (Oct) • PJ & SW - PFR Pathfinder update (Jan) • BK's contact - Urban modelling project • CIRIA - NFM project • Policy Connect - SuDS guidance? • Local progress on DWMPs – 2021? 	