

Meeting Agenda

Name of meeting		Flood and Water Management Group Meeting	
Location		MS Teams	
Date		08/04/25	
Time/Duration		10.00-12.00	
Chairperson		Doug Hill	
Agenda Items:			
Time	Item No	Item	Presenter
Welcome/Introductions			
10:00	1	Intros, tech	DH
Chair/ADEPT Updates			
10:05	2	General updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting/Group updatesFlood Recovery Taskforce <p>ADEPT President Ann Carruthers attended the Flood Resilience Taskforce meeting. Discussion on how to improve things including Partnership funding. Met with Sebastian Kudowski– Director for flood risk management at DEFRA. Interested in what the LLFA’s have to say. Devolving decision making around GiA funding to a regional local level. Next step is setting up smaller task groups, we can recommend people to take part in that.</p> <p>CIWEM joint webinars coming up. First one is a workshop on barriers, challenges and enablers for Nature based solutions.</p> <p>Nature based solution project. Keen to engage with Local authorities. Particularly interested in SuDS and NFM. Thinking about organising a lunch and learn. They also have a Policy and Implementation Board with Senior decision makers. They meet every 4 months. They do not have a local authority voice which they would like. Looking for a volunteer.</p> <p>Action 1 – Volunteer for someone to sit on this board. If anyone is interested, please email Doug, Emily, and Kylie</p> <p>Action – To be discussed at theme lead meeting</p> <p>Flood and Coast conference in June. CIWEM are putting it together. LA’s can have a mini store for anyone that wants to come along. Free to have a stand for any LA’s wanting to showcase what they are doing. 10 free delegate passes as well.</p> <p>Action 2 – KR to send email to EF for circulation.</p>	DH/KR

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		<p>Update from Environment Board. Consultation on the Land use framework until 25th April. David Dale coordinating that. Responded to the DEFRA consultation on Development and Nature Recovery.</p> <p>Two workshops have been held for LA's from the Committee on climate change, one on adaptation and one on mitigation. Louise Marricks Evans from the Committee on Climate Change come and talk at the Climate Change Board. The 7th carbon budget and local authorities report, which includes flood risk.</p> <p>Specific webinars that ADEPT are doing on devolution and LGR. We have just had one on LGR. There is another planned for the 1st of May on devolution. Link to be sent out to everyone. There will be sector specific webinars including Environment coming soon.</p> <p>Action – KR to send out webinar details.</p> <p>Consultation called Independent Water Commission – call for evidence. Deadline is 23rd April. Independent Water Commission – Call for Evidence - Defra - Citizen Space</p> <p>FWMG will a separate meeting to go through it when published.</p> <p>ADEPT Spring conference is on 2nd May in London.</p>	
10:15	3	<p>FWMG Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme leads <p>Theme Lead volunteers for monthly meetings:</p> <p>Martin Hutchings – support on programme and funding and Environment</p> <p>Ben Kirby - support on programme and funding</p> <p>Sian Hoare - support on Resources and Training and Resilience</p> <p>Victoria Coombes – support on Programme and Funding</p> <p>Rachel Kilgallon – Comms Lead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication/Newsletter options <p>Knowledge Hub to be set up instead of forwarding emails.</p> <p>Action 3 – EF to set up meeting with RK and DH to discuss creating knowledge hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report proposal 	DH

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		Action - To be carried forward to next meeting	
Partner Updates			
10:25	4	<p>EA – NaFRA2 update</p> <p>Becky George has taken over from Sarah Smith as the rep for this group.</p> <p>See slides. Lots of engagement in the drop-in sessions. Feedback from LLFA Commission Engagement Advisory Group. Changed format of sessions slightly following this. Feedback on where further support is needed. If anyone wants to provide feedback, form can be found here short feedback survey Next drop-in session planned for June 2025.</p> <p>Proposal to offer for training about the methods used to create the risk of flooding from surface water map and about commissioning local compatible modelling – EA are deciding whether this is something that will be provided.</p> <p>It would be helpful to have some drop-in sessions for the Flood Risk Map for Planning.</p> <p>Any further suggestions to be emailed to Becky George or the risk of flooding from surface water e-mail address.</p>	BG
10:35	5	<p>Defra update</p> <p>Announcement last week on 2025-2026 funding schemes. Part of our £2.65 billion, two-year investment to protect communities and flooding. Supporting over 1000 schemes that will protect, build and repair homes/businesses from danger of flooding. Read this on gov.uk for further information.</p> <p>Flood funding consultation – To be launched in spring review/evaluate existing formula. Looking at challenges currently faced by rural and coastal communities. Consultation aiming for May 2025. Will include devolution chapter and potential opportunities this brings. Will also include planning, partnerships, and funding. Should run for approximately 20 weeks.</p> <p>SuDS – Committed to standardising SuDS in new developments. Update to the 2015 non-statutory technical standards, planned for Summer 2025. Will continue to be non-statutory. Will get Defra’s SuDS team to next meeting to answer further questions around schedule 3 and update to non-statutory standards.</p> <p>Training and transition period would be useful. ASA would like to coordinate with Defra on that.</p> <p>Action – KM to ask her SuDS colleagues to attend next FWMG meeting.</p> <p>Action – KM to ask SuDS colleagues to contact Glen Westmore co-chair of ASA to coordinate training and transition to updates.</p>	KM

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		<p>Proposal for ADEPT FWMG and ASA to write letter to Secretary of State to get clarification on status of SAB/Schedule 3.</p> <p>Action – DH and GW to link up to write letter as outlined above.</p> <p>Defra engaged with MHCLG to ensure flood risk is covered in new Planning and Infrastructure Bill legislation.</p> <p>IBD fund would receive extra £16 million in funding bringing total to £91 million.</p> <p>S19 guidance work on delivering guidance will be published on gov.uk imminently.</p>	
10:45	6	<p>LGA</p> <p>Meeting this month across LGA boards, to discuss severe weather. If anyone wants to feed into that please let HTan know.</p> <p>Action – HTan to send out email regarding severe weather meeting.</p> <p>FloodRe launched Academy where they offer training. See link below.</p> <p>Flood Re launches Academy as part of market education drive - Flood Re</p>	HTan
10:55	7	ADA – Unable to attend (See update in email)	IT
Matters For Discussion			
11.00	8	<p>Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation</p> <p>Discussion to identify Opportunities and threats, the role of RFCC's and LLFA's</p> <p>Strategic Authorities will develop regional spatial strategies and eventually nature recovery strategies. The White Paper states 'opportunities for devolution and partnership working will be explored with strategic authorities. These could include issues like water management, circular economy, pollution, or flood resilience.' See slides for opportunities and questions to think about.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p><u>Positives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business funding and PFR works well • Doesn't affect the flooding side of things too much • LPA sits in the same authority making planning a lot more streamlined. Communication a lot easier, has improved the relationship between LLFA and LPA. • Policies are a lot easier to implement 	HTan

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Yorkshire Flood Innovation Programme – 5 authorities joined together to share resources <p><u>Challenges</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams and workload are more condensed. Takes time to settle. Things get missed/overlooked in the transition period. Pre-app fees are not coming the team Give out a lot more local flood risk advice rather than statutory advice. Quite difficult to ascertain what resources you need in the beginning and put some metrics against it as starting from scratch <p><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding/money being devolved Opportunity for strategic planning or a holistic approach for dealing with flooding and water Ability to ask for and implement the things that need to change Land Drainage Consent fees Ability to link up with RFCC's and other bodies Ability to break down barriers <p><u>Concerns</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resourcing – small teams being divided in two or more unitaries. Will we be able to provide our statutory duties to the same standard? Will we be able to have time to train and progress the less experienced members of team? What roles will the RFCC's have? Will Defra give them more responsibility? How will they manage this? 	
11:30	9	<p>Flood Recovery Framework</p> <p>Identify lessons and potential improvements to report back to Flood Recovery Taskgroup</p> <p>On 5th of February 2025, the National Flood Resilience Taskforce set the following action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHCLG to lead an Action Group of task force members on improving public awareness of how the flood recovery framework is managed and present conclusions to a future task force meeting. 	WB

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		<p>ADEPT president Ann Carruthers will be attend the first meeting of the Action Group this coming Friday along with James Buckley from Gloucestershire.</p> <p>Feedback of potential improvements sent to Will Barber to carry forward to the Action Group. See Table.</p>	
Matters Arising from Previous Minutes			
11.50		<p>AOB</p> <p>CIWEM Flood and Coast conference</p> <p>ADEPT face to face meeting</p> <p>Email from Matthew Harrison informing us that water companies serving notes on them to disconnect highway drainage going into their system. Has anyone else had experience of that? We can circulate that e-mail to people and say any sort of thoughts on that get back to us.</p>	DH
Next Meeting			
11.55	8	Confirm date of next meeting and close.	