

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021-26

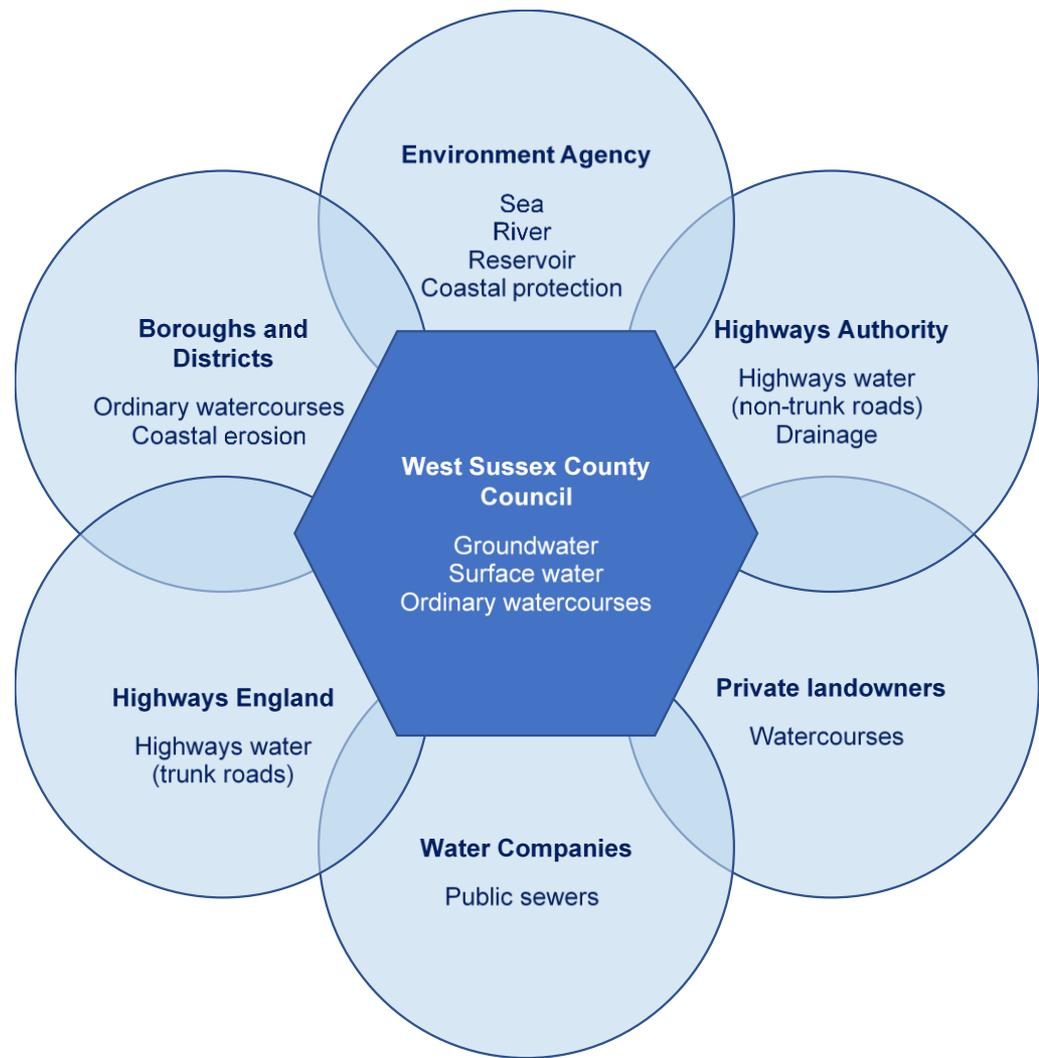
Communities, Highways & Environment Scrutiny Committee

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30 September 2021

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

- Flood and Water Management Act 2010 created a new statutory role for the County Council as 'Lead Local Flood Authority' (LLFA):
 - One of the statutory duties is to '*develop, maintain, apply and monitor*' a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) for its area
- Current LFRMS (adopted in 2013) is being reviewed and updated to set out the County Council's strategic approach for the next five years (2021 to 2026):
 - Sets out how flooding is managed in West Sussex with focus on local flood risk from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses
 - Defines roles and responsibilities of the designated risk management bodies and riparian (private) owners

Roles and Responsibilities



Development of the LFRMS (1)

- Development has been overseen by a partnership of the Risk Management Authorities (RMA) in West Sussex:
 - WSCC, Environment Agency, Southern Water, Thames Water, districts and borough councils, and South Downs National Park Authority
- Since the previous strategy, there have not been county-wide flood events of the scale experienced in 2012 (although there have been some significant localised events)
- Learning since adoption of current Strategy in 2013:
 - development of Surface Water Management Plans; improved surface water flood mapping; Community Pathfinder Scheme; continued development of asset register; Culvert and Surface Water Management Policy; implementation of Operation Watershed

Development of the LFRMS (2)

- Significant improvements in available datasets and computational power has enabled more accurate mapping of number of properties at risk of surface water flooding
- Previous strategy was based on 1 in 200-year (0.5% AEP) storm event
- New strategy is based on 1 in 30-year (3.3% AEP), the 1 in 100-year (1% AEP), and 1 in 1,000-year (0.1% AEP) storm events
- Climate change allowances taken into consideration for any new development and any mitigation works identified during the life of the strategy
- 25 Priority Areas identified using the 'Risk of Flooding from Surface Water' mapping

Aims and Objectives of the LFRMS (1)

- Principal aims continues to be to oversee direct reduction in local flood risk for residents and to make communities more resilient to future flood risk.
- Local objectives, which reflects Government's strategic objectives, are:
 1. **Adaptation:** work with communities to implement adaptive approaches to enhance the natural and built environment
 2. **Resilience:** support communities to help them to become more resilient to future flood risk
 3. **Collaboration:** work with all Risk Management Authorities and stakeholders to achieve a consistent, co-ordinated and risk-based approach to flood risk management

Aims and Objectives of the LFRMS (2)

4. **Opportunities:** Seek opportunities (including funding and research and development) from existing and new sources to invest in making communities resilient to flooding
 5. **Evidence:** develop a strategic understanding of flood risk from all sources
 6. **Sustainability:** contribute positively to sustainable growth and support environmental net gain by influencing wider development, redevelopment and regeneration plans to deliver flood risk benefits
- Key actions have been identified to deliver the objectives. Delivery will require support from the other Risk Management Authorities:
 - Below is an example from the 'Action Plan' (Appendix I), which sets out how we intend to meet our objectives.

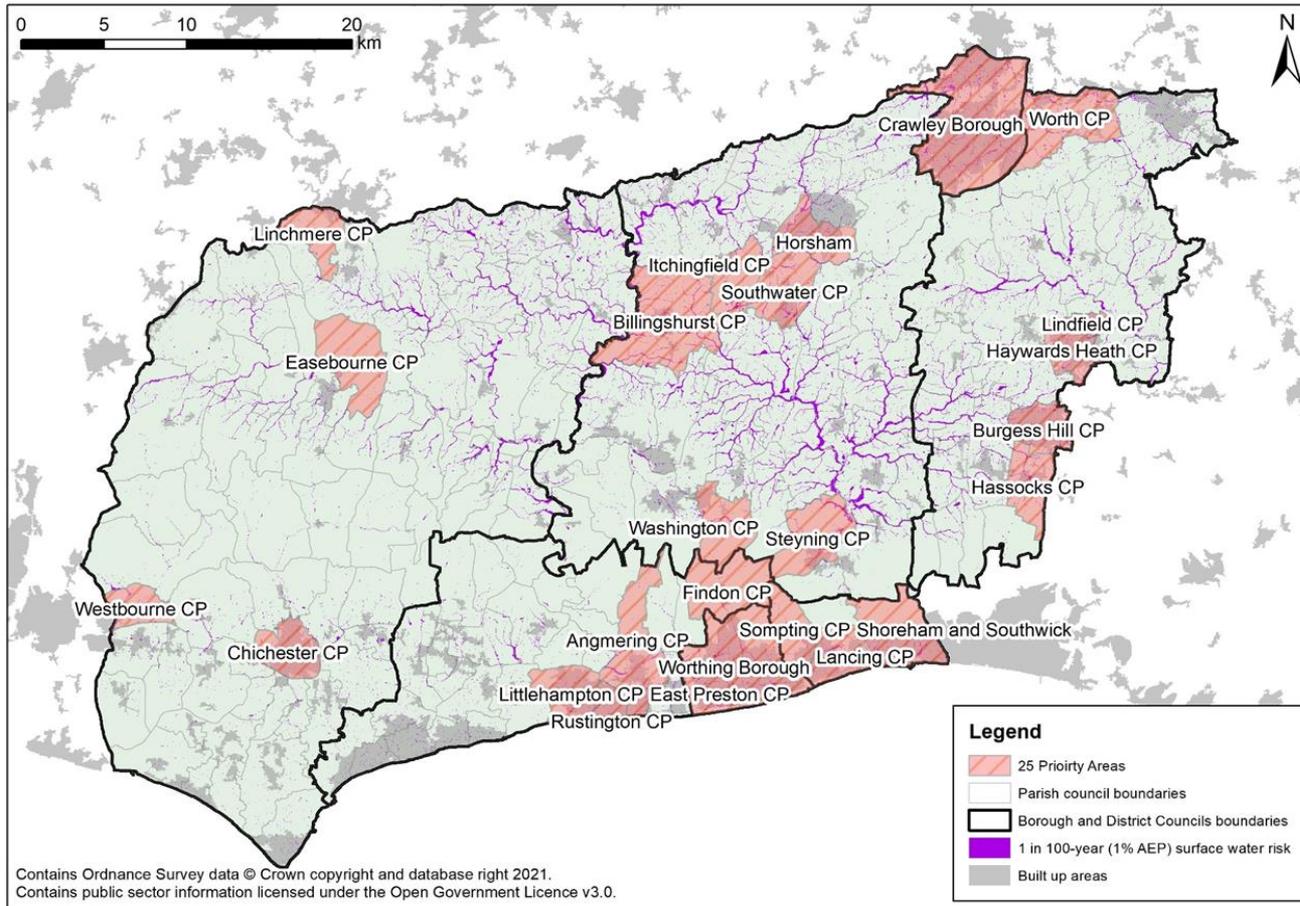
The Strategy Action Plan

Actions	Delivery Partner(s)	Other Partner(s)	Timescale	Funding source(s)
Partners:		Funding sources:		
B+Ds: Borough and Districts	B+Ds: Borough and Districts			
EA: Environment Agency	DWMP: Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (Southern Water)			
SDPNA: South Downs National Park Authority	FDGiA: Flood Defence Grant in Aid			
SRF: Sussex Resilience Forum	LL: Local Levy			
TC/PC: Town Council / Parish Council	WaSC: Water and Sewerage Companies			
WaSC: Water and Sewerage Companies	WSCC: West Sussex County Council			
WSCC: West Sussex County Council				
Objective 1 – Adaptation: Work with communities to implement adaptive approaches to enhance the natural and built environment				
1A - Take the lead on improving the awareness and understanding of using natural processes to manage local flood risk in West Sussex	WSCC, EA	B+Ds, SDNPA, TC/PC, Local Flood Groups	Ongoing	WSCC
1B - Explore the feasibility and benefits of diverting rooftop drainage over the sea wall for waterfront developments	WSCC	WaSC	2021	WSCC, LL
1C - Continue to assess and identify the risk and work with highways and RMAs towards the overall improvement of surface water drainage risk across the county	WSCC	WaSC, B+Ds, SDNPA	Ongoing	WSCC
1D - Raise community awareness of local drainage assets and encourage communities to take a more proactive role in flood monitoring and maintenance work	WSCC	B+Ds, SDNPA, TC/PC, Local Flood Groups	Ongoing	WSCC, B&D

25 Priority Areas across West Sussex (1)

- Most at risk areas of flooding from surface water based on enhanced dataset:
 - Selection of the Priority Areas scrutinised by partner organisations
 - Parish Councils understand the selection process for the priority areas and are happy with the proposed approach to focus on 25 Priority Areas during the life of the strategy
- Main focus of Strategy will be addressing flood risk in the 25 Priority Areas:
 - Study five areas each year, starting with those most at risk of flooding
 - Identify actions, which may include new physical infrastructure, but will also include supporting communities to adapt and become more resilient
 - Will inform development of capital programme and provide evidence for funding bids
 - Studies and delivery of actions will require support from partners

25 Priority Areas across West Sussex (2)



Implementation, Monitoring, and Review

- Detailed work programme for the next five years will be developed:
 - main focus will be on studying Priority Areas and delivering actions
 - work will be done in-house but may need external expertise
- Development of capital programme will result from work on Priority Areas and other identified priorities in the Strategy:
 - business cases to be developed on a project-by-project basis
- Operations Group (involving partners) will oversee delivery
- Monitoring will be on-going to check that the objectives and actions remain appropriate, taking account of any changing circumstances
- Formal review will take place in five years

Consultation

- Public consultation ran for six weeks from 16 August 2021 to today (30 September 2021):
 - Draft strategy promoted with Parish Councils and partner authorities, and advertised through the media and website
- Key issues raised during the consultation (to date):
 - Coastal flooding and coastal erosion; sea defences and sea level rise; development in floodplain, lack of Local Plans (controls on development in areas at risk of flooding); responsibility for sewage discharge and associated flood risk; cleansing of road gullies; and riparian responsibilities and enforcement
- No significant changes likely to be required as a result of the consultation