



**Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson - Executive Director of Place**

Report to:	<b>Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>29 November 2021</b>
Subject:	<b>Consultation on the second cycle Flood Risk Management Plans</b>

**Summary:**

The Environment Agency (EA) have commenced a public consultation on the second cycle Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) covering the period 2021-2027. This report is to provide an overview of the plans and consultation exercise in advance of a formal response being provided by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC).

**Actions Required:**

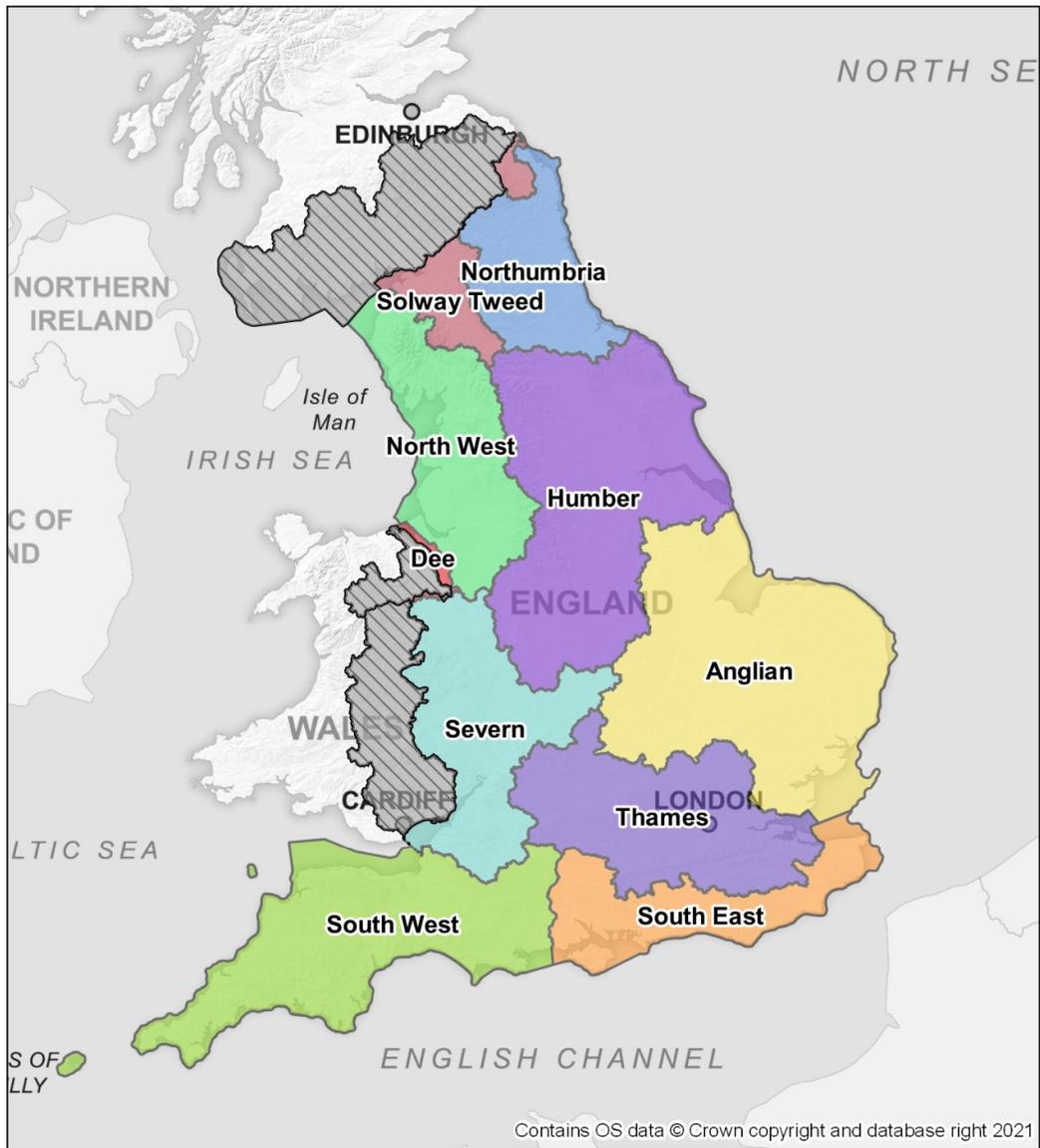
Comments and guidance are requested from members of the committee on the consultation of the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) prior to a formal response being provided by the authority in advance of the consultation deadline of 21 January 2022.

## **1. Background**

The Environment Agency (EA) have produced draft Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) for England to cover the period from 2021 – 2027. This second cycle of FRMPs now form part of a 3-month public consultation, which is now open and will run from 22 October 2021 to 21 January 2022. The FRMP consultation can be found on the [Environment Agency's online consultation hub](#).

FRMPs are strategic plans that set out how to manage flood risk in nationally identified Flood Risk Areas (FRAs) for the period 2021-2027, and are statutory plans required by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009. They have measures for the FRAs identified in 2017 for surface water flooding and in 2018, for main river and sea flooding. The EA worked together with Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) and Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to produce them and are now seeking views as part of the consultation. This will inform a final set of plans that will set out actions to manage flood risk between 2021-2027.

There are 10 draft FRMPs, one for each river basin district.



**Legend**

River Basin Districts (RBDs)	Humber	Severn	South West
Anglian	North West	Solway Tweed	Thames
Dee	Northumbria	South East	RBDs outside of England

As can be seen from the above map, Lincolnshire falls into two River basin areas, the Humber and Anglian.

There are a number of new features for FRMPs 2021 to 2027:

- Strategic. They are strategic and focus on areas where the risk of flooding has been identified as nationally significant. These areas are FRAs, where there is the potential for significant risk or impacts should major flooding occur from surface water, main rivers, and the sea. The EA continue to work with other RMA's to manage flood risk outside of FRAs for other communities.
- Accessible. They aim to be more accessible and easier to use for our stakeholders and the public than the 2015-2021 FRMPs, with greater use of online mapping.
- Flood plan explorer. The measures will be displayed on an online map-based tool called flood plan explorer. This will show what flood risk management measures are proposed at a national and local scale and how they are progressing. Flood plan explorer can be found on [DATA.GOV](https://data.gov).
- National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England. They aim to support and contribute to the delivery of the ambitions in the [National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England](#) (FCERM Strategy), such as nature-based solutions, and longer term adaptive approaches for taking action at the right time.

The FRMPs will also help to inform and drive existing programmes of work, such as the Programme of flood and coastal erosion risk management schemes (FCERM). The plans will explore wider resilience measures like nature-based solutions for flood and water, and to set longer term adaptive approaches for taking action at the right time.

#### Developing measures for Lincolnshire

In preparation for developing the consultation on FRMPs EA colleagues have engaged with officers of the Floods Team at LCC to discuss the approach and assist in developing measures in our role as LLFA. It should be clarified at this point that LCC, in its role as LLFA, has no designated Flood Risk Areas within the County (for surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses). However, the EA do have designated FRAs in their role as RMA in both the Humber and Anglian River basin District (Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Area) as follows;

Humber RBD area;

Louth

Anglian RBD area;

- Boston
- Horncastle
- Lincoln
- Mablethorpe
- Skegness

- Spalding

These areas are identified as at risk from river and/or coastal flooding.

Although it is not a statutory obligation for LCC to prepare FRMPs, not having any designated FRAs identified in the preliminary flood risk assessment (PFRA), this was still seen as an opportunity to support the wider aspiration of the FRMP process to develop measures that collectively support a joint approach to addressing all sources of flooding in the County.

Taking a strategic approach, it was identified that the recently adopted Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk & Water Management Strategy 2019-2050 aligns with the aspirations of the themes in both the national FCERM strategy and those put forward under the river basin district areas for developing the second cycle of FRMPs. Acknowledging the FRAs that have been identified in the County by the EA in their role as RMA officers at LCC took the approach to concentrate on these areas in developing new measures in our role as LLFA. Specific schemes were not required to be identified but an approach to identify how measures would align with addressing different types of flood risk and addressing key themes.

The agreed measures to be incorporated into the FRMPs in our role as LLFA were the local flood risk management strategy and the Communities at Risk tool which will allow us to develop projects within our own framework to demonstrate we are considering all sources of flood risk. Four surface water measures were also identified for Lincoln, Louth, Horncastle, and Spalding which were chosen to link into areas identified within the EA's specified Flood Risk Areas, therefore demonstrating a partnership approach. These four areas already have pipeline schemes as a result of S.19 investigations, but it was refrained from identifying specific projects to allow the flexibility in developing schemes during the period of the FRMP process during 2021-2027.

## **2. Conclusion**

Officers will be reviewing and responding to the consultation on the second cycle of FRMPs for the Humber and Anglian River basin areas which cover Lincolnshire. The content of the consultation includes objectives, measures, and the maps of FRAs and the questions also cover what is new for the second cycle FRMPs, such as Flood Plan Explorer (FPE) and supporting the National FCERM Strategy. Comments and guidance from members of this committee would be welcomed in preparation for the submission deadline of 21 January 2022.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

This is part of a national public consultation by the Environment Agency for which LCC will provide a response in its role as LLFA. There are no risks or impacts either financially

or as a result of any specific practical measures that may arise from the consultation exercise.

#### **4. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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