

Theme	Key Challenges
<p>Theme 1: Roles and responsibilities Still confusion/lack of understanding about aspects of roles and responsibilities</p>	<p>Confusion on responsibility for surface water, groundwater, ordinary watercourses or areas where both surface water and river flooding interact—among both authorities and communities/public</p> <p>Lack of clarity about responsibility for ‘residual’ risk</p> <p>Role of regional flood and coastal committee governance, lead local flood authority scrutiny role and Environment Agency strategic overview needs to be clarified</p> <p>Lack of clarity on the role of non-risk management authorities, including businesses, local enterprise partnerships, insurance and finance sector</p> <p>Community of practice generally effective in achieving risk reduction, but may not be as efficient as it could be in time or cost</p> <p>Greater clarity required on responsibilities for provision and maintenance of assets</p> <p>Issues raised about roles and responsibility for community resilience, riparian owners, flood recovery and flood rescue</p> <p>Inconsistency in strategic cross-sector coordination to create high quality community of practice</p>
<p>Theme 2: Joined up thinking/management Need to build on best practice to connect and integrate different agendas, coordinate activities and link priorities at all scales</p>	<p>Need to improve connection of spatial planning for housing, economic development, national infrastructure development</p> <p>Improve join up across water quality, water resource and flood management</p> <p>Stronger join up between surface water flooding and drainage, but also wider pressures such as pollution and water quality</p> <p>Inconsistent approach to surface water flooding and SUDS (sustainable urban drainage)</p> <p>Need to align across a range of policies and delivery—food and farming; recreation and wellbeing; rail, road, power and telecom resilience; land use and land management</p> <p>Growing focus on natural flood management but need to plan across whole catchments</p>

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Theme 3: Planning horizons Flood and coastal erosion risk will increase over the long-term unless we have an effective long-term response	Greater focus on adaptation for the future rather than repairing to maintain status quo – need a long-term planning approach learning from the shoreline management planning approach and applying inland Spatial planning policy and plans need to balance population growth with resilient, sustainable development Opportunity to align different planning cycles more effectively Could funding approach and targets be longer term or allow longer term planning horizons? Need for strategic water company wastewater plans Spatial planning needs to be better integrated with coastal change Have to deal with legacy issues that hamper view of what is needed for future solutions—eg assets where costs now outweigh the benefits
Theme 4: Finance Need to make the most of all sources of funding while making good choices on where to invest	Scale of investment needed to tackle increasing risk of surface water flooding has not been assessed Does the partnership funding formula mean that some communities are left behind? No clear long-term strategy for the level of flood protection that the Government is seeking to achieve Should we revisit approach to what we value when making flood and coastal investments? How can we better incentivise property level resilience? Who pays for what – balance between Government/citizens/beneficiaries funding schemes?
Theme 5: Operations Is day to day flood and coastal management on track to reduce the potential risks from climate change and inappropriate development?	Recovery times are still significant after a flood, and resilience measure uptake is far from sufficient to track increasing risk from climate change Lack of innovation in designing solutions for new or upgraded schemes Development in areas at high risk of flooding has increased

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	<p>At a local level, flood management can exist in a silo separate from housing, planning and economic development</p> <p>How do we move from separate outputs to shared outcomes in an area?</p> <p>Need to intervene earlier in asset management to improve efficiency</p> <p>Are the authorities maximising the opportunities to work with civil society for flood and coastal delivery</p> <p>Are we ready to turn best practice into standard practice, eg natural flood management, partnership planning and delivery, take good working in incident management into strategic planning?</p> <p>Big difference in maintenance investment between Environment Agency, local authority and 3rd party assets</p> <p>Can more be done to help public understand and be prepared for surface water warnings?</p> <p>Do we have the best strategy on use of supply chain and military resources across all sources of flooding?</p>
<p>Theme 6: Awareness, communication and education</p> <p>How can we communicate effectively with all at risk and help them be best prepared?</p>	<p>Still need to overcome ‘it won’t happen to me’</p> <p>Challenge to communicate with wider public as many organisations use different language</p> <p>Easier to have “meaningful” discussions in areas where there have been recent experiences of flooding. Where there is flood risk, but no recent history of flooding, discussions on options to mitigate those risks are hard to initiate</p> <p>How can risk management authorities better hear societal choices—and help them make those choices?</p> <p>Need to make sure that our communication and awareness activities can be picked up and used through others activities and decision making</p> <p>Need better ways to share lessons, so that we can learn from each other</p> <p>Improvement in information sharing—currently disjointed across many websites</p>

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<p>Theme 7: Ways of working How do we ensure we provide an effective and efficient service across all partners?</p>	<p>The success of partnerships depends on the maturity of the groups/structures. In other places engagement is minimal</p> <p>Regional flood and coastal committees need higher visibility to the public in their role</p> <p>Flood authorities and Environment Agency need a way of communicating at both a strategic and local level</p> <p>Balancing partnership working and delivery of outcomes</p> <p>Greater assurance of plans and preparedness</p> <p>Too many constraints and processes?</p>
<p>Theme 8: Skills and capacity Capacity issues are sometimes as great (if not greater) than funding ones</p>	<p>Government investment in research should be maintained especially evaluating the long-term benefits of natural flood management</p> <p>Capacity issues in key organisations and voluntary sector</p> <p>Development of all partners: understanding, involvement, collaboration and training</p> <p>Need for a coordinated approach to R&D with all other research groups</p> <p>Need to make full use of NGO and academic expertise and data</p> <p>Need to improve skills around surface water forecasting</p>