

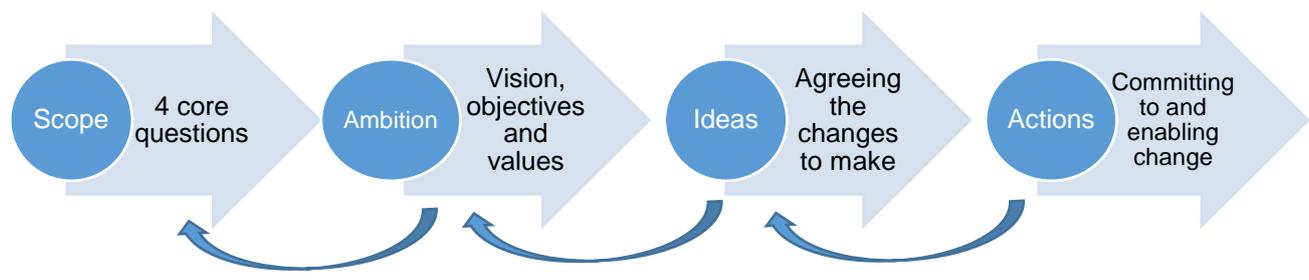
## Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy What's it all about?

The future is going to be challenging. Our climate is changing with increased risk of stormy weather and rainfall. Our population is growing. And society has high expectations. Between us we will face difficult decisions about how to manage the impact of this on flood and coastal erosion risk. We need a vision for the future - a strategy – to help us make those decisions in the right way.

### How can you get involved?

People from across the flood and coastal community are coming together to discuss, develop and influence the strategy. We have widened our engagement out from our initial scoping group and now is the time to have your say!

We want to know: What is your **ambition** for flood and coastal erosion risk management in the future? What are your **ideas** for changes the flood family could make to help achieve that ambition? And what **actions** can you or others take to help deliver those ideas?



### What have we done so far?

The government committed in its 25 year Environment Plan that the Environment Agency will revise the national flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) strategy in 2019. The Environment Agency is doing that through collaboration with the very people who will be affected by it or play a part in its delivery, be that flood risk or coastal erosion. Our short-hand for this is the ‘flood family’.

We began this collaboration in 2017, working with a small group of partners from across the flood family to scope the questions we need to ask of ourselves. The group synthesised this into four core questions.



What do we all want to protect and how collectively can we fund it?



How can we all put water at the heart of everyone's decision making?



What part do individuals, communities and businesses play? What should our expectations be of each other? How can we improve the way we work together?



How do we develop the current roles and responsibilities of professional partners to be effective, simple and clear?

## What's next?

The challenge is for us all to work collectively to identify what we want to change and how we might achieve it.

We want to think about three time horizons:

- Long-term: We will set an ambition for 2050. One that spans parliamentary terms and is long enough to take account of climate change.
- Short term: It will be underpinned by an action plan for the next 5-10 years of the things we – the flood family – will commit to doing to move us towards that ambition. In that short-term our actions have to be viable within the current legislative and policy framework. But we also need an eye to more innovative or challenging ideas to explore now so they are ready for later years.
- Future-proofing: We will test all actions against a vision of the future in 2100, so we can be confident our actions are robust whatever the future brings.

Our focus has to be on things we can do within the current legislative and policy framework; particularly when it comes to the short-term actions to meet our ambitions. There may be legislation, policies and facts we can't change in the near future – we call these factors our 'anchor points'.

If you want to get involved or find out more please contact:

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