



**FCERM Strategy 2050 Water Focused Decision Making Working Group
Webex – Thursday 7 June 2018**

Focus of meeting

- Providing stakeholders with an update on context of the FCERM Strategy
- Hearing stakeholder thoughts on what the FCERM Strategy should include on water focused decision making
- Outlining the working group (WG) processes and tasks.

Suggested new approaches/ways of working

- To achieve multiple-benefits, there is a need for
 - Buy in at City/ District level, with the vision and ambition driven from the highest level. Different approaches and tools are needed at different levels.
 - A collaborative and joint approach to ownership (and maintenance) and both the opportunities and risks that this brings.
- There needs to be a connection during higher education at the start of careers e.g. between courses on the built environment and environmental management.
- Need to consider how to combine different funding streams to fund projects with multiple objectives in the same location.
- Need to consider catchment based approaches, being realistic about not only capital but long-term funding needs.
- Looking back at how a catchment has evolved over time to inform management and communications approaches.
- There is a need for local authorities to take a leadership role in planning for integrated water solutions, as developers can take a reactive and piecemeal approach.
- Consider how learning from planning on the coast could be translated inland e.g. planning for long term change in river corridors.
- **Links to anchor points on statutory and non-statutory roles and resources, national housing targets, some development will be built in areas at risk, water not being seen as a constraint, water being considered early in plans, developing better places for people & the environment, Partnership Funding policy.**

Summary of evidence gaps/requirements

The key evidence gaps identified related to:

- Key messages, outcomes and methods on existing publications (CIRIA) regarding integrated water management and land use planning
- Review projects delivering integrated approaches on the ground

- Review examples of projects that have successfully utilised different funding streams to identify success factors
- Identify best practice, communications approaches and key considerations in relation to Natural Flood Management: hydrology, planning, funding and maintaining measures
- Pull out stories and key lessons learnt from examples of how landscape has evolved over time and how these influenced management approaches and communications
- Identify and share good practice in relation to water infrastructure planning at a strategic scale
- Identify and share approaches, best practice and success factors from adaptive planning for coastal change.

Annex 1 provides more detail on evidence gaps and how these will be addressed.

Agreed actions

ACTION	OWNER	DATE
Confirm July meeting details	EA	During meeting
Circulate scoping phase evidence base and 2 page summary for this Working Group before Face to Face meetings	EA	04/07/18
Confirm whether a meeting of all working groups will be held later in the year	EA	29/06/18
Circulate meeting notes, details of Strategy website and information for all Working Groups	EA	22/06/18
Review Evidence Packs (to be shared after WebEx) – what are the gaps? Discussions between attendees and within organisations/networks between now and face to face meeting.	Group	11/07/18
Review the information and questions provided – start to develop ideas for change and what solutions there might be. Discussions between attendees and within organisations/networks between now and face to face meeting.	Group	11/07/18
Send further information through where necessary on projects mentioned at the WebEx. These should be sent to FCERMStrategy@environment-agency.gov.uk	Group	ASAP

Implications for other working groups

Key issues for other WGs highlighted in the meeting were:

- Communities and Businesses – how people value their water environment and understanding how catchments have evolved over time to inform communications
- Roles and Responsibilities – integrating planning and managing the wider water environment at all levels.

Items to raise with Ambition Group

Catchment approaches, integrating planning and managing wider water environment strongly supported and should be a key feature of the overall vision.

Suggested Action points (i.e. those that may feed into the Strategy)

None identified

Questions asked (to feed into FAQs)

How will WGS share information between each other?

When will notes be available?

When will evidence pack for face to face meeting be available?

When are face to face meetings?

Will there be an opportunity for all WGs to get together during the development of the strategy?

Legislative / policy points raised to share with Defra

- There is currently a disconnect between the FCERM and land use planning communities, in part arising from a regulatory rather than a collaborative approach to spatial planning.
- The way that things are funded is a constraint to delivering multiple benefits. There is a need to combine funding streams for projects with multiple objectives because otherwise they can focus on delivering the objectives of the main funding stream and miss opportunities to efficiently deliver wider benefits. Separate funding streams can result in separate projects in the same location.

ANNEX 1: Further information on evidence gaps and potential approaches to address

Evidence gap	Analysis required	Potential data source	Desk based or further engagement?	Can evidence be obtained to inform strategy development? Yes/No	If yes, when can this be provided by?	If no, provide more detail, e.g. would this need to be a new research project?
Integrated water management and land use planning	Review key messages, outcomes and methods in existing publications	CIRIA C630 Sustainable water management in land use planning (2006) CIRIA C724 Creating water sensitive places - scoping the potential for Water Sensitive Urban Design in the UK (2013)	Desk based, but could discuss with Paul Schaffer at CIRIA regarding how these documents have been used and perceived barriers to uptake		End June, review documents End July, further discussion with CIRIA	
Experiences of delivering integrated projects on the ground	Identify lessons learnt and constraints for delivery	Upper Thames Catchment Partnership (Wild Project) Thames Water and United Utilities Integrated Catchment Management work University of Reading – Landwise project NERC Camillia Project (UCL)	Review published outputs and engage with Project Partners (online survey?)		End June, review documents End July, further engagement with project partners	

Evidence gap	Analysis required	Potential data source	Desk based or further engagement?	Can evidence be obtained to inform strategy development? Yes/No	If yes, when can this be provided by?	If no, provide more detail, e.g. would this need to be a new research project?
Applicability of funding streams to multi-objective projects	Identify examples of projects that have successfully utilised different funding streams and what the success factors were	UKWIR (2016) How best to align the funding processes with the various bodies involved in resolving flooding CIRIA SusDrain website case studies Also examples raised in meeting: Forest of Marston Vale SUDS	Desktop research and engagement with Project Partners	Yes	End June, review documents End July, further engagement with project partners	
Natural Flood Management: Hydrology, Planning, Funding and Maintaining measures	Identify best practice, comms approaches and key considerations	2017 Evidence base on NFM Other identified by attendees/ via 2017 evidence base	Desktop review and interviews with key stakeholders e.g. NFU	Yes	End June, review documents End July, further engagement with project partners	
Landscape evolution over time	Pull out stories and key lessons learnt from examples and how these influenced management	Historic England, Devon Stour Project Hillingdon culverted watercourse project	Desktop review and engagement with Project Partners	Yes	End June, review documents End July, further engagement with project partners	

Evidence gap	Analysis required	Potential data source	Desk based or further engagement?	Can evidence be obtained to inform strategy development? Yes/No	If yes, when can this be provided by?	If no, provide more detail, e.g. would this need to be a new research project?
	approaches and communications	Lost Rivers of Manchester book (Ashworth, 1987)				
Water Infrastructure Planning at a Strategic Scale	Identify and share Best Practice	London Plan Leeds City Region Green Infrastructure Plan	Desktop review	Yes	End June, review documents	
Adaptive planning for coastal change	Identify and share approaches, best practice and success factors	Work in Suffolk and Sefton Pilot work on SMP2 and planning implications led by Nick Hardiman, EA	Desktop review and engage with stakeholders	Yes	End June, review documents End July, further engagement with project partners	