



**Water Focused Decision Making Working Group - How can we all put water at the heart of everyone's decision making?  
Evidence Pack – July 2018**

**Current Risk**

Over 5 million properties at risk of flooding and 40% coastline at risk of coastal erosion. Major flood events most years with a disproportionate effect on those least able to plan, prepare, respond and recover.

**Future risk**

Climate change will lead to more extreme weather events that, combined with more development resulting from a growing population, is likely to increase flood and coastal erosion risk.

**Controlled development**



**Uncontrolled development**



*Even without climate change, development on the flood plain will increase the number of properties at risk in the future*

2065

**Current approach**

**9% of new dwellings in high flood risk areas (2015-16)**

**11% of new homes built in flood risk areas since 2000**

**17,000 houses built in flood risk areas 2015-16**

Local planning decisions are undertaken by Local Planning Authorities in line with local and national planning policy

Plans and Strategies tend to focus on either flooding, water resources, water treatment or water quality independently, although there can be some cross over

There are overlapping plans, for the same area on different sources of flood risk and also at different spatial scales, from Local FRM Strategies to River Basin FRM Plans

**Areas for improvement**

New development in high risk areas is increasing

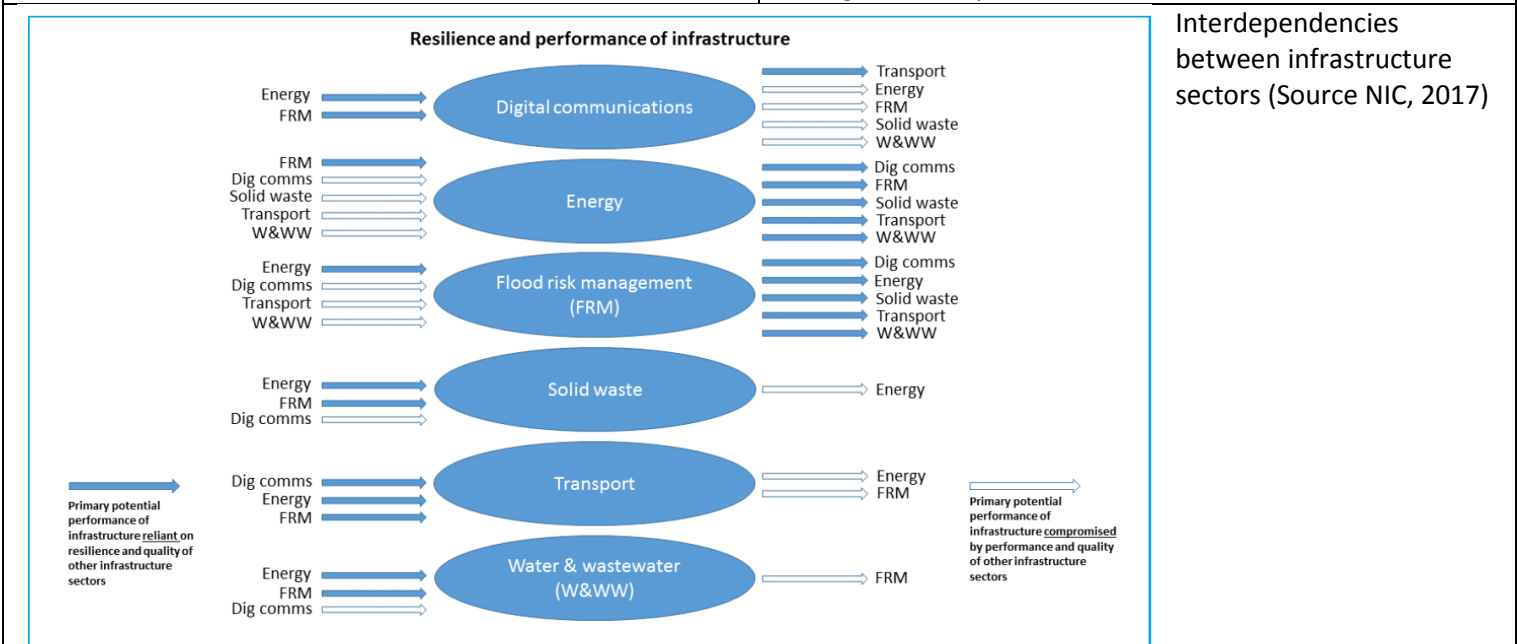
**Lack of willingness to adopt managed adaptive FCERM measures over precautionary measures**

Ability to plan for an uncertain future: climate, demographic, socio-economic, development change

**Appraisal/Green book approach promotes fragmented solutions that focus on present day benefits whereas longer term benefits will be achieved from catchment approaches that can be adapted over time**

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<p>Shoreline Management Plans are managed and implemented by coastal groups to manage coastal erosion and flooding</p>	<p>How to communicate and address the big long-term messages e.g. potential for relocation of major population centres</p>
<p><b>Successes</b></p> <p><b>2016 to 2017, over 98% of residential units in planning decisions were in line with Environment Agency advice</b></p> <p>151 of 160 local authority-led development plans incorporated a sequential approach to development of sites within the floodplain</p> <p><b>Local detailed models cover 76% of the fluvial and coastal floodplain in England - models used to support the development of FRM schemes and to better define the Flood Zones used for spatial planning (£100m invested)</b></p>	<p><b>FCERM conducted in a planned and managed way evidenced by plan development, but are these sufficiently assessed/monitored in relation to outcomes rather than process</b></p> <p>How to move to a catchment scale view to see what needs to be done to build plans and actions across all sectors – where does RFCC fit in with the strategy development?</p> <p><b>National assessment of SMPs - March 2017 identified management policy units where special attention ('be aware') or a change in approach ('consider further') may be needed</b></p> <p>Lead Local Flood Authorities have funding and capacity issues for their Statutory Consultee role on surface water management responses</p>



- What are the evidence gaps?**
- Interdependencies between infrastructure sectors e.g. impacts of flood risk for power and power failure for flood risk management
  - 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

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- 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.

<p><b>Good practice examples (UK and abroad)</b></p> <p>Susdrain UK case studies</p> <p><b>Welsh Water work in Cardiff and Llanelli to disconnect surface water sewers</b></p> <p>Regeneration led flood alleviation schemes e.g. Rugeley, Staffs and Lowestoft, Suffolk</p> <p><b>International examples from the US e.g. Portland and Australia</b></p> <p>Emerging approaches to living with water in the Netherlands</p>	<p><b>What do we need to do better to achieve success now and in the future?</b></p> <p><b>Long term planning facilitates realisation of benefits, Natural Flood Management etc, but need to look at whole catchments</b></p> <p>Consider macro-scale/spatial planning to increase investment e.g. via enabling, unlocking development</p> <p><b>Capitalise upon the contribution FCERM provides to economic development to secure more investment</b></p> <p>Better recognise costs and beneficiaries of FCERM e.g. pay farmers for FCERM services enabling Natural Flood Management - CAP reform should achieve better outcomes</p>
<p><b>Further Information</b></p> <p>Integrated water management and land use planning guidance</p> <p>Example projects from Project Stakeholders</p> <p>Research on and examples of the applicability of funding streams to multi-objective projects</p> <p>Pilot work on SMP2 and planning implications</p>	