

## Future direction for flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) in England - Summary of engagement to date

To start this initiative, in May 2017 the Environment Agency had a small number of conversations to help design an approach that would ensure our partners' advice, expertise, and practical support would be used efficiently and successfully.

This feedback confirmed the Environment Agency's own desire to make this an **open and collaborative process**, and to start that collaboration at the beginning of the work, at the scoping stage. This view is captured by these responses:

*"There is a thirst and desire and a wish to be involved—more than people have traditionally recognised or been prepared to accept."*

*"The scope is critically important and is where I'd want to make sure we get the depth and breadth in framing it."*

In response to this feedback, we are collaborating from the beginning of this work and are currently working on **agreeing the scope**: to identify the challenges that we want to address. To help do this we have discussed the scope at:

- The Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Stakeholder Forum events (Birmingham, 3 July and London, 13 November). The Forum was asked a number of questions in relation to developing a new strategic direction. Key points raised by Forum members include:
  - Understanding flood risk and the integrated nature of water.
  - Focussing on outcomes.
  - Joining up everything through partnerships, collaborations and engagement.
- A webinar and a face-to-face workshop in November 2017, with the following group of partners:

Organisation	Organisation
Defra	Thames Water
Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport (ADEPT)	Wyre Council, North West Coastal Group
JBA	CH2M
Aviva	Arup
National Flood Forum	National Farmers Union
Natural England	BAM Nutall
Mott Macdonald	Climate Change Committee
Association of Drainage Authorities	UK Flood Partnership
RSPB, Blueprint for Water	Water UK
Icarus—-independent facilitators	Highways England
Environment Agency	

The outputs from these discussions have provided an early indication of the scope and challenges this work could address. We are using this on-line survey as an opportunity to widen that conversation and get views on the ideas we have had so far.

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