

The Flood and Water Management Act in Nottinghamshire

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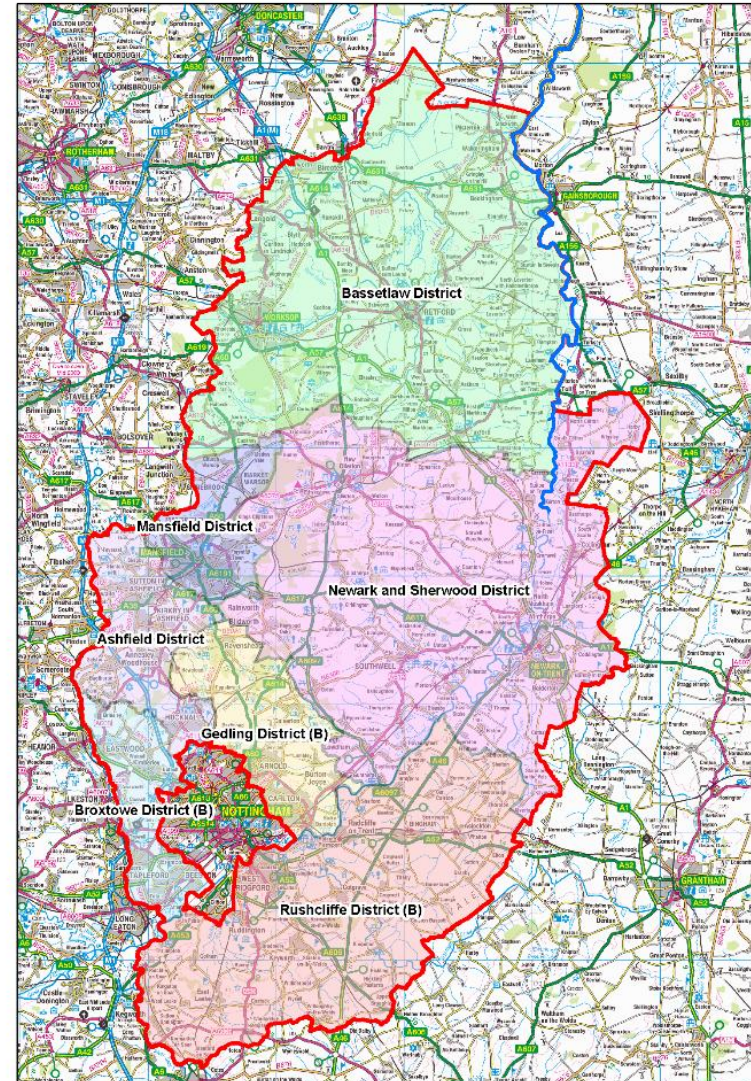
Nottinghamshire County Council

Agenda

1. Flooding in Nottinghamshire
2. Local Flood Risk Management drivers
3. Taking local FRM forward in Nottinghamshire
4. Further information and support

Welcome to Nottinghamshire

- 7 districts
- 11 Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)
- Nottingham surrounds
- Larger settlements include Newark, Worksop, Retford and Mansfield



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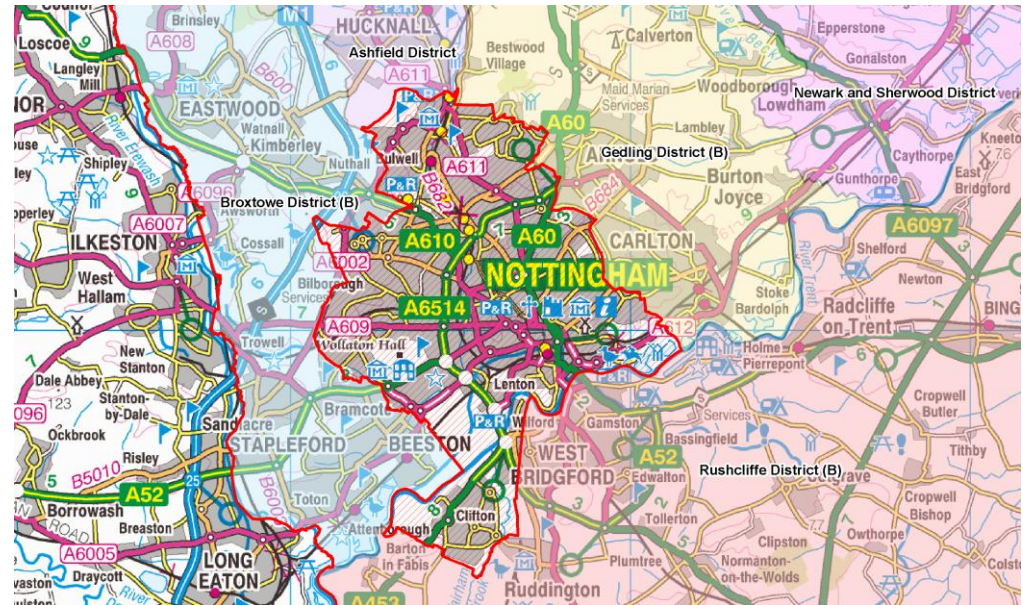
Flooding in Nottinghamshire

- Summer 2007
 - Over 1,400 properties
 - 100-200 businesses
 - Major impact in Lowdham, Retford and Worksop
- Notts recently ranked 14th nationally on flood risk



Culverted watercourses

- Rapid development
- Where are they?
- Who maintains them?



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Villages

- Split of responsibilities
- Upstream land use
- Community disruption
- Local flood action groups



Fragmented ownership

- Handover of rural and urban district councils and former water authority role
- Asset ownership: 70% surface water drainage of Ollerton unknown ownership
- Riparian rights and drainage authority powers

New Development

- Potential increase in localised flood risk
- Greater Nottingham Growth Point 46,000 new houses 2026
- Newark Growth Point: Balderton



DRIVERS FOR LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

Drivers for Local FRM

- Pitt Review (2008)
- Flood Risk Regs (2009)
- Flood and Water Management Act (2010)



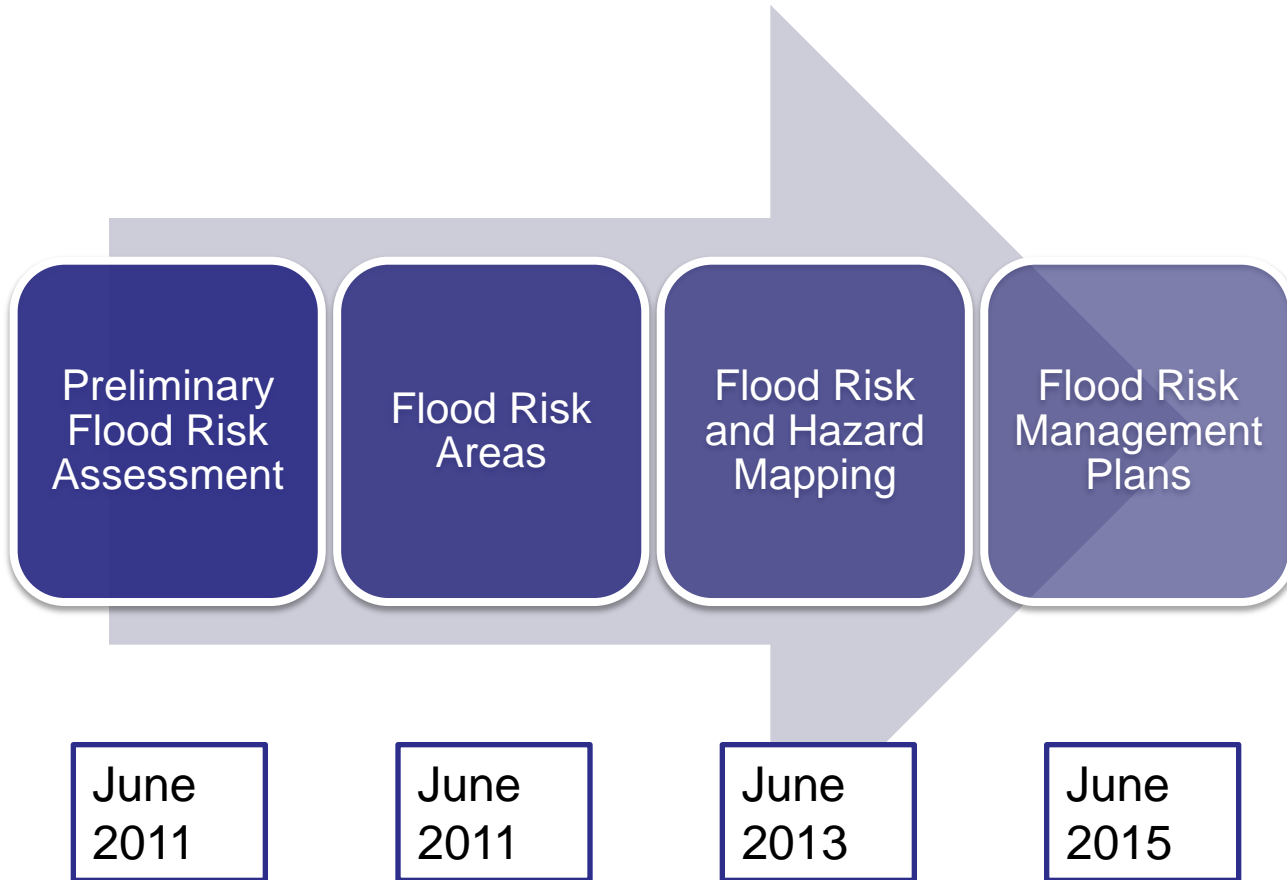
The Pitt Review: Mind the Gap

EA Main
River and
Sea

**Surface
water?
Ground
water?**

LA Ordinary
Watercourses

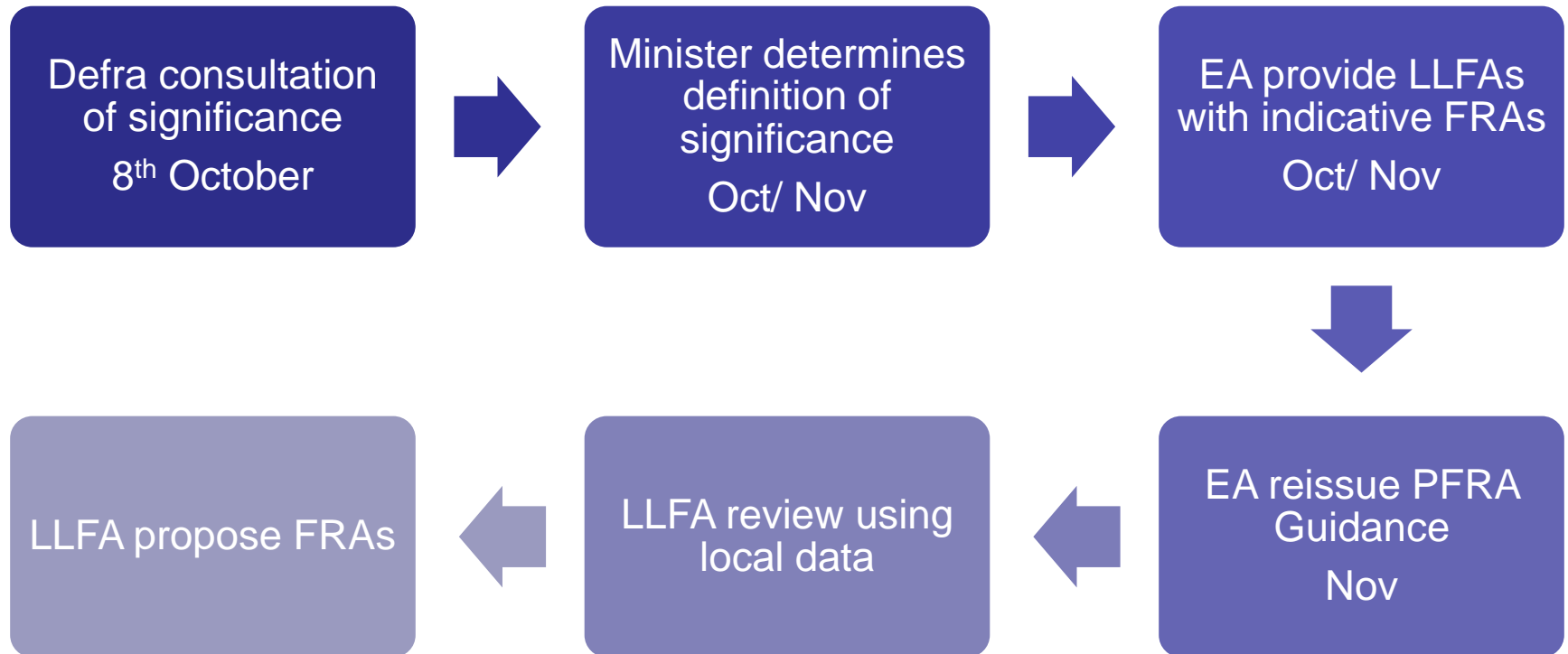
Flood Risk Regulations



PFRA Report

- High-level screening tool using existing data
- Collating info on past and future flooding and consequences
- Evidence to identify where flood risk is significant
- Must consider ordinary watercourses, surface water, ground water, canals, lakes, small reservoirs

Identifying Flood Risk Areas



FWM Act

- Definitions
- Statutory strategies and funding
- Regional flood and coastal committees
- General – sustainability and housekeeping
- Misc – suds reservoirs – water bans, etc
- Schedule 1 designation of features
- Schedule 2 amendment of other acts
- Schedule 3 sustainable drainage
- Schedule 4 reservoirs
- Schedule 5 Special Administration



Definitions

- “Flood – includes any case where land not normally covered by water becomes covered by water”
- Does not include flooding from burst water mains or flood from any part of a sewerage system unless caused by an increase in the volume of rainwater.
- Risk is probability x consequence

Local Flood Risk

- Surface runoff
- Groundwater
- Ordinary watercourses – includes lakes and ponds



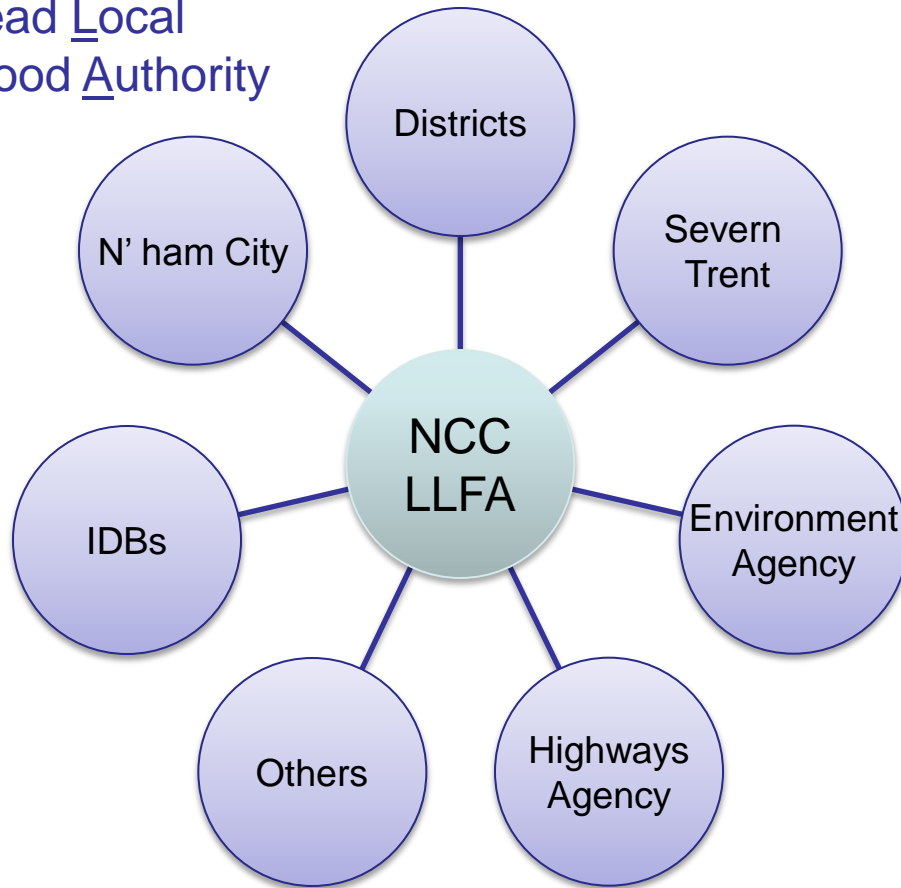
Flood and Water Management Act

Key aspects of the Act - responsibilities

Risk Management Authority (RMA)	Strategic Level	Operational Level
Environment Agency (EA)	National Strategy Reporting and general supervision	Main rivers Sea Reservoirs
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)	Input to national strategy Produce local strategy	Surface Water Groundwater
District Council Internal Drainage Board (LPA) (IDB)	Input to National and Local Strategies	Ordinary watercourse and Sea (with EA approval)



Notts is now a
Lead Local
Flood Authority



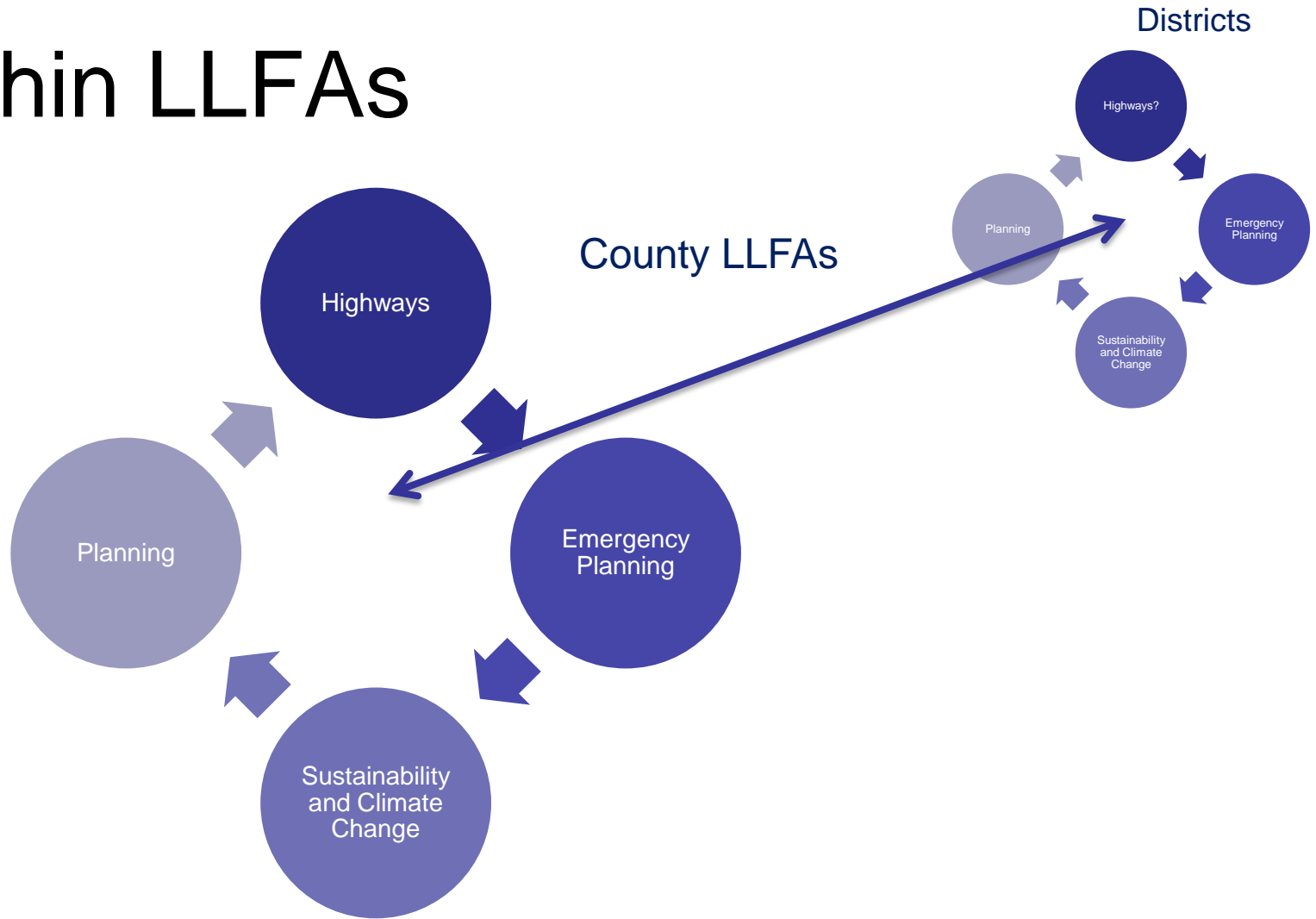
Working in
partnership is
essential to deliver
Local Flood Risk
Management in
Nottinghamshire

Risk Management
Authorities

Partnership

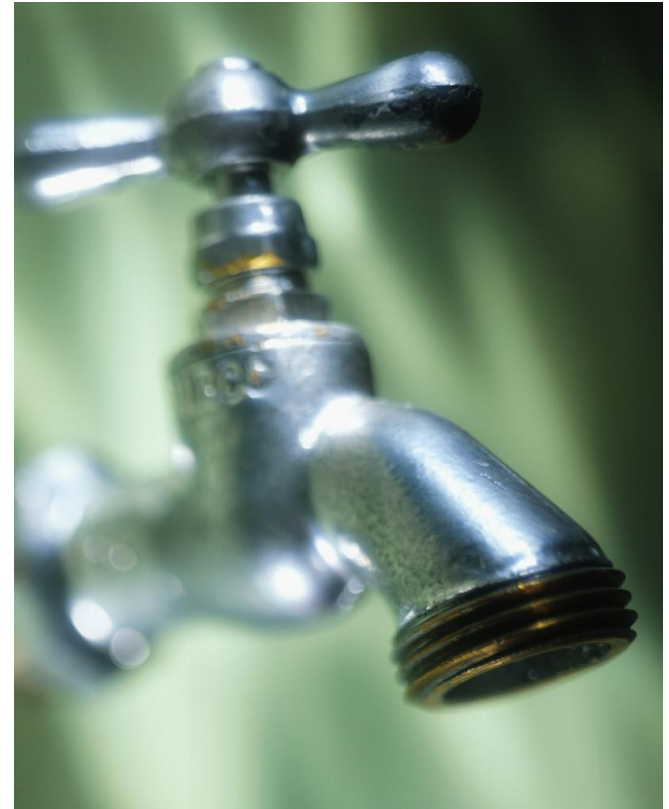
- Duty to co-operate and share information
- Delegate functions
- Acting consistently with strategies (except water companies)
- Ministerial directions
- Strategic Flood Risk Management Boards

Within LLFAs

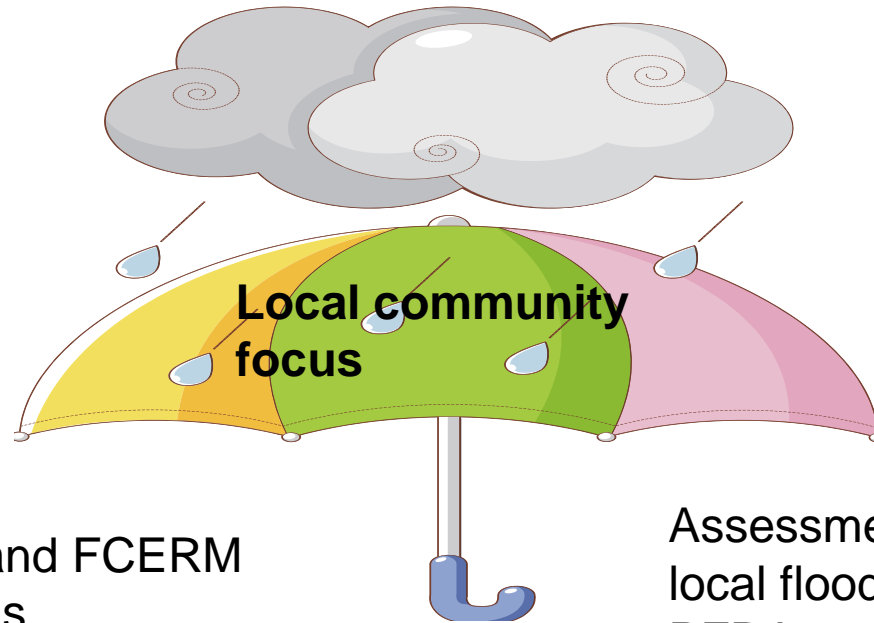


FWM Act: Water Companies

- Act consistently with National Strategy (FCERM function)
- Act with regard to local FRM strategy
- Duty to co-operate and provide information



Local FRM Strategy



RMAs and FCERM
functions

Assessment of
local flood risk:
PFRA

Flood Risk Areas
under the Flood
Risk Regulations

Surface Water
Management
Plans

Other areas:
objectives and
measures

Investigating flood incidents

- What was the cause of flooding?
- Which RMA is responsible?
- What have they done or intend to do?
- LLFA publish results



Assets

- Register of structures and features that have a significant effect on flood risk
 - Ownership
 - State of repair
 - Approved SUDS
- Designation of third party assets and enforcement

Powers to do works

- Manage flood risk from surface water and groundwater
- No change for ordinary watercourses
- Works for environmental benefit
- Sustainable development duty
- Consistency with local FRM strategy

Others

- Consenting role for ordinary watercourses
- Regional Flood and Coastal Committees – raise funds through local levy
- EA can continue to issue levies on LLFAs

LLFA as SUDS Approving Body

- Right to connect to sewer system amended
- Approval and adoption of SUDS built to new National Standards
- Joint with application for Planning Permission
- Defra/ EA consultation on new SUDS standards later this year
- Earliest start for SAB Autumn 2011, most likely Spring 2012

National SUDS standards

- Determining appropriate forms of drainage
- Design
- Construction
- Operation
- Maintenance



Reservoirs

- Large Raised Reservoirs $>10,000\text{m}^3$
- Risk based approach: how much regulation is suitable?
- Controls to be proportionate to risk
- LLFAs as reservoir owners
- Emergency Planning consideration

Overview and Scrutiny

- Role of LLFA in co-ordinating action by RMAs
- Public involvement in performance of all RMAs
- Technical background?
- Reactive response to flood events?

Funding

- Defra committed to funding all net new burdens inc SUDS adoption
- Defra/ LGA review panel
- Recent Defra consultation on funding and resourcing for LLFAs
- Committed funding for SWMPs and PFRAs
- Potential to raise additional local monies
- Will costs of FRM reduce over time? Benefit: Cost

Building Capacity

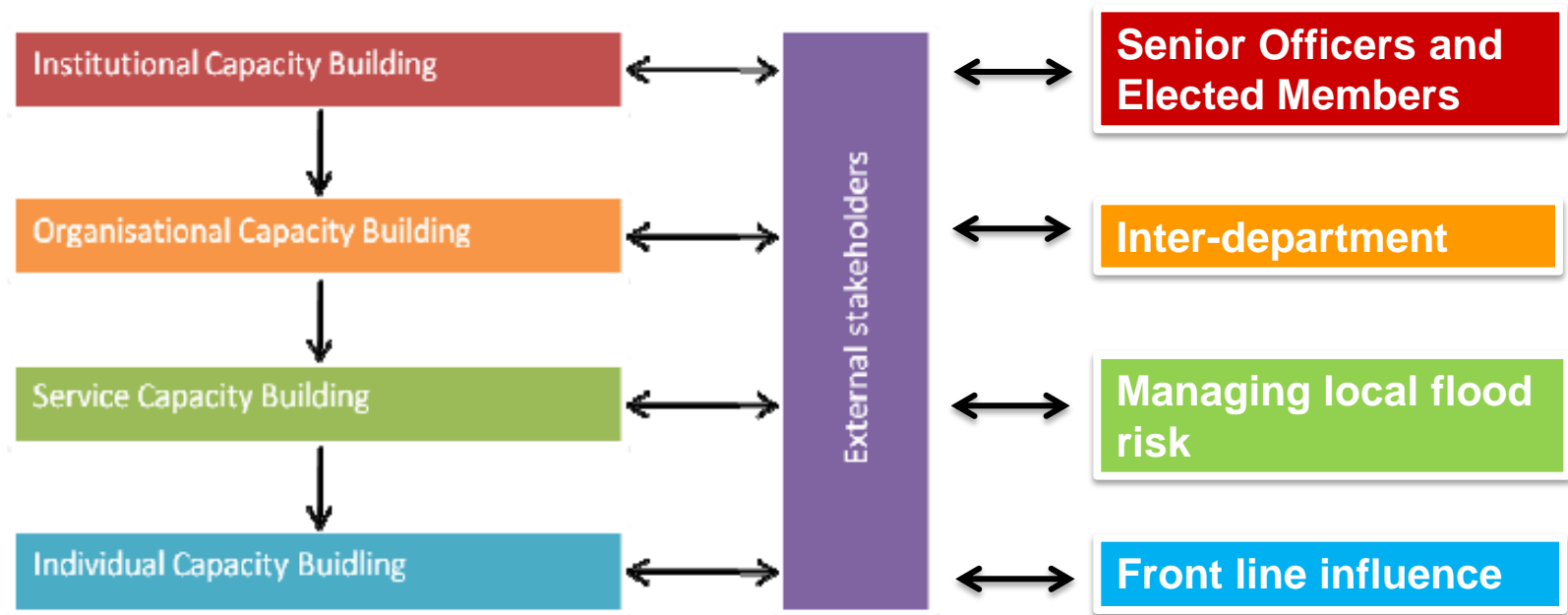
- Defra Strategy (2010)
 1. Knowledge and skills for existing staff
 2. Educational courses for new staff
 3. Information and tools

Where are we
now?

Where do we
need to get to?

How will we
get there?

Capacity building



FWM Act: commencement

- Parts of the Act commenced on October 1st
- Definitions and Local FRM Strategy
- Gives operating authorities the green light but without significant new burdens
- Flood Risk Regulations under umbrella of the FWM Act
- Further expected April 2011

Current focus of work

- PFRA can form the current focus for the strategy:
 - Brings everyone together in partnership
 - Assessment of local flood risk
 - Identifies areas for further action under the Flood Risk Regulations



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



Pitt Review

- Flood Risk Manager in Highways
- Investigations and works
 - Maintenance at pumping stations
 - Drain response vehicles
- Property resistance and resilience
 - Gunthorpe, Hoveringham
- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire LRF Flood Response Plan



Nottinghamshire PFRA

- Meeting with RMAs to establish:
 - Roles and responsibilities regards FRM
 - Skills and capacity
 - Partnership working and communications
 - Data
 - Tools and techniques
- Will feed into PFRA, local strategy and reviewing future FRM needs in Nottinghamshire

Flood Risk Areas in Nottinghamshire

- The importance of local knowledge
- Balance between urban and rural
- The tale of two villages
- Are the FRR or the Local FRM Strategy the best way forward?
- Cross boundary issues and the way forward
- Political will: reactive or proactive?

Local FRM across two tiers

- Resources, capacities and data vary across the county
- Political will and support for local FRM
- Functions are split across two tiers
 - Highways DC/ LPA DC
 - Emergency Planning Service Level Agreements
- Manage and Operate Partnership

Internal Drainage Boards

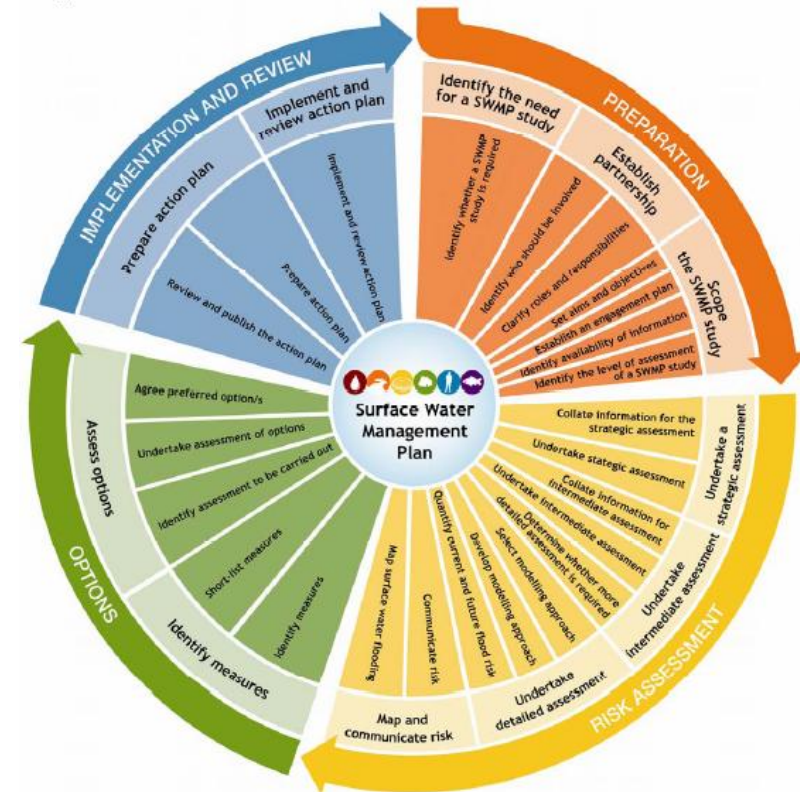
- Main focus is effective drainage
- Important role in maintaining
 - Watercourses and ditches
 - Productive agricultural land
 - Pumping stations
 - Sustainable rural communities
- Consortia or stand alone?
- Potential amalgamations

Developing a local strategy

- Assess flood risk – link to PFRA
- Clarify roles and responsibilities between RMAs
- Manage expectation
- Agree objectives, measures and priorities
- Consistent message to the public
- It will take time to get there

Surface Water Management Plans

- Delivering the strategy in critical locations
- Where is further investigation needed?
- Think forward to achievable actions
- Potential locations such as Balderton



Defra SWMP Guidance,
2010

Local Partnership

- Aiming towards Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Strategic Flood Risk Management Board
 1. Senior Officer level
 2. Officer level
- Use existing networks and relationships
 - LRF Flood Working Group?
 - Greater Nottingham SFRA Steering Group?

Asset management

- Highways Asset Management System CONFIRM (linked to MapInfo)
 - Unique Street Reference Number
 - Highways drainage assets
 - Customer service centre
 - GPS uploading by Highways Inspectors
- How can we expand this?
- Scale of this task at County level

Drainage investigations

- Asset ownership is a critical issue
- Working with multi-agency partnerships in a number of locations
 - Woodborough, Lambley, Sutton-on-Trent and many others
- Data onto HAMS

Case Study: Coddington

- Long-standing flooding to highway and playing field
- Clearing gullies only solved part of the problem
- Investigation of drainage records and on-site



Case Study: Coddington

- Blocked highway drains jetted out
- Abandoned foul system serving as leaking surface water system
- Everything now drains to watercourse
- Making records accessible and maintaining them
- Working in partnership



Taking forward Sustainable Drainage

- Currently reviewing S38 and S278 agreements to enable adoption of SUDS to be taken forward
- Sustainable drainage in 2 tiers



Further information

- Defra website
- Idea website
- Environment Agency PFRA Guidance
- Defra SWMP Guidance

Support for local FRM

- Defra Capacity Building Strategy
- Support networks
 - Midlands LLFA by EA
 - Local Government Flood Forum
 - Flownet
 - LANDFORM
- Chartered Institutes e.g. IHE, ICE, CIWEM

Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management

- Conferences and influencing policy
- Continuous Professional Development
- Rivers and Coastal Group
- WaPUG
- Midlands Branches
- www.ciwem.org



Forthcoming CIWEM events

- 26th Oct 'Introductions to...' Birmingham
- 10th-12th Nov WaPUG Conference
Blackpool
- 23rd Nov RCG Training Conference
Birmingham
- 27th Jan 2011 RCG Winter Meeting
London – delivering local FRM

Food for thought

- Will we achieve Integrated Flood Risk Management?
- How can we achieve more for less?
- How should we manage public expectation?

Thank you for listening

Any questions?

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