

Devon Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Communications

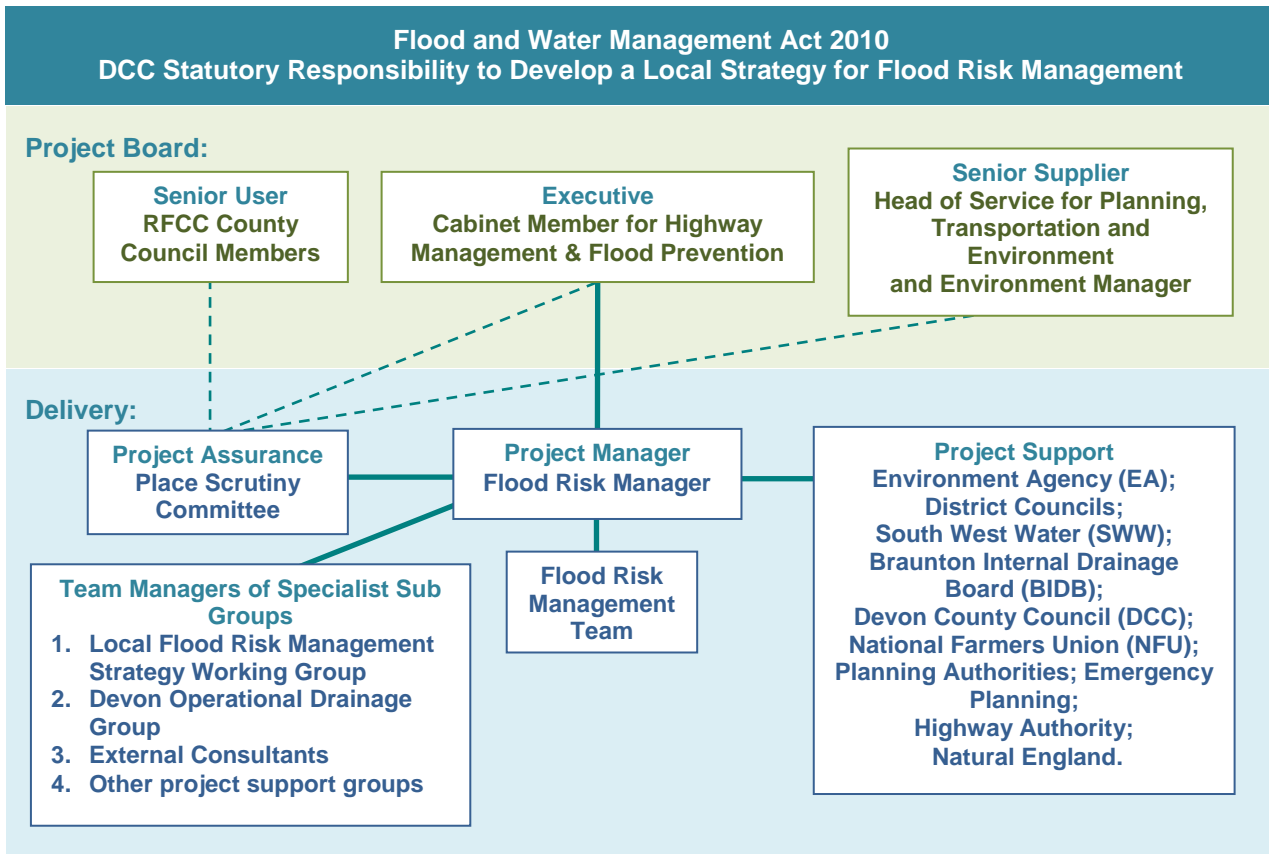


This communications strategy sets out how Devon County Council Flood Risk Management will continue to engage with and update its partners and the public about its flood risk management activities.

Flood Risk Management Strategic Partnership

The Strategic Partnership follows a governance structure where the project team delivers the strategy and reports to the project board. The project team presents to the board when any major developments take place such as approving the yearly Action Plan and document drafts. The board will be kept up to date on 6 monthly to annual basis depending on developments that have taken place.

The working groups within the partnership will be consulted with on any relevant work or projects to gain expert advice and knowledge to support the Strategy.



Flood incident investigations

Every time an investigation report is published under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, all relevant partners will be notified in addition to the local Elected Members and Parish and Town Councils. This will be done via an email containing the website link to the report. Local Parishes will also be contacted whilst compiling these reports to ensure accurate and up to date information.

Flood recovery

In the event of a flood requiring the Devon Recovery Co-ordination Group to be convened, an appropriate DCC officer will initially chair the group. Depending on the scale of the incident the chair of the recovery group may at some point transfer to the relevant District Council(s) at the appropriate time. During this time, the recovery group will liaise closely with the District Councils and other emergency responders through teleconferences, group emails and the use of Sharepoint.

Delivering local schemes and projects

When carrying out any flood schemes or where significant flood risk issues arise, Elected Members and Parish and Town Councils will be engaged with to ensure that they are aware of the local issues in their area.

Community engagement

Devon County Council Flood Risk Management will continue to engage with communities through the legacy of the Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder Project, helping communities to help themselves. Work will also continue with other Risk Management Authorities to engage with communities through Flood Forums, the media and through a twice yearly newsletter.

Strategy update newsletter

All of the duties under the Flood and Water Management Act and those responsibilities as a Lead Local Flood Authority are covered in a newsletter to be issued every April and October each year. This will give an update of progress made on various projects and will show how Devon County Council has been fulfilling its duties. This newsletter will be published online and sent to all Parish and Town Councils, Devon County Council Elected Members and the Devon Local Flood Risk Management Strategic Partnership.

Devon Operational Drainage Group

The Devon Operational Drainage Group provides a forum, attended by officers from all of the Risk Management Authorities in Devon as designated under the Flood and Water Management Act, to discuss current and future affairs and share best practice to aid the delivery of efficient and high quality flood risk management services in Devon. This group meets quarterly and is currently chaired by the Lead Local Flood Authority.

Addendums to the Strategy

The main Strategy document will be updated every 6 years with the next review in 2020. Any updates before this new publication will be shown as addendums on the Flood Risk Management website: devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/local-flood-risk-management-strategy/. When these addendums are updated, key partners will be consulted, including members of the Flood Risk Management Partnership and Project Board.