



Terms of Reference – updated June 2013

The Suffolk Flood Risk Management Partnership (SFRMP) will be responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of any actions required as a result of the Floods and Water Management Act 2010 (the Act) and the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 (the Regulations).

The key role of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Partnership will be to

Lead, co-ordinate and monitor the delivery of flood management as set out in the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy by:

- Ensuring development in flood risk areas is in accordance with national planning guidance.
- Creating and sharing a county-wide flood risk map considering all sources of flooding.
- Investigating those flooding incidents considered to be “significant”, as defined in the Strategy, establishing ownership and responsibility for each incident.
- Producing and delivering actions arising from Surface Water Management Plans as relevant.
- Agreeing and implementing a cost effective process to approve Sustainable Drainage (SuDs) applications (following Government guidance) and promote their use to reduce flooding.
- Establishing ownership and maintenance of key flood risk assets and SuDS and encouraging them to be kept in good condition.
- Ensuring the Partnership has the appropriate technical capability to deliver local flood risk management.
- Working with local communities and businesses to help them understand and thus take suitable measures to manage their flood risk.

The Suffolk Flood Risk Partnership will establish the extent, risk and potential impact of flooding from all sources (tidal, river, surface water) across the county to enable strategic decisions to be made about the level of acceptable risk and the extent of resources to be allocated to reduce this risk.

Membership will include;

- Suffolk County Council (Lead Local Flood Authority)
- Highways authorities in Suffolk
- Babergh District Council
- Forest Heath District Council
- Ipswich Borough Council
- Mid Suffolk District Council
- St. Edmundsbury Borough Council
- Suffolk Coastal District Council
- Waveney District Council
- Anglian Water
- Environment Agency (1 rep covering Anglian Eastern & Central areas)
- Essex & Suffolk Water
- Highways Agency
- Ely Group of Internal Drainage Boards+
- East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board
- Waveney, Lothingland & Yare Internal Drainage Board
- Suffolk Resilience Forum
- Broads Authority
- National Farmers' Union

The Chairman of the Anglian (Eastern) RFCC, also representing the Anglian (Central) RFCC, will be invited to attend all meetings

Members of the Suffolk Flood Risk Joint Scrutiny Sub-Committee will be invited to observe the Partnership meetings.

Guidelines for working

The work of the Partnership is overseen by a Suffolk Flood Risk Joint Scrutiny Sub-Committee comprising councillors from the county council and all district/borough councils.

The Partnership will report progress to the Suffolk – Creating the Greenest County Board.

All joint working and publications will use the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Partnership logo.

All partners have a duty to share relevant information and co-operate to facilitate the management of flood risk as outlined in the Regulations, the Act and the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Strategy.

All members of the SFRMP should have the responsibility and authority to represent their organisation/department and should relay information as relevant to others within their organisation.

The SFRMP will meet quarterly or as needed. Partners should make every effort to attend the meetings or send an appropriate substitute.

Sub groups/working groups maybe created by the Partnership to undertake specific tasks or in specific locations (e.g. working with communities at risk). The membership and scope of these groups will be agreed by the Partnership. These groups will report progress to the quarterly Partnership meetings and any decisions required will be taken by the full Partnership.

Political Guidance

In addition to the Joint Scrutiny Sub-Committee above, there is also an informal political group to consider the strategic direction of the partnership. This comprises:-

- all local authority Portfolio Holders with responsibility for flood risk management, emergency flood and planning matters
- local authority members on the Regional Flood and Coastal Committees.

This group, lead by Suffolk County Council's Flood Portfolio Holder, meets on an *ad hoc* basis to review progress of the Partnership and to provide guidance on issues as needed. The Partnership will be required to take account of any guidance or advice given by this political group.

The diagram below illustrates some of the key linkages with the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Partnership.

