



# Managing the risk of flooding in the Thames River Basin District

What's being planned and when

We are the Environment Agency. We protect and improve the environment and make it a better place for people and wildlife.

We operate at the place where environmental change has its greatest impact on people's lives. We reduce the risks to people and properties from flooding; make sure there is enough water for people and wildlife; protect and improve air, land and water quality and apply the environmental standards within which industry can operate.

Acting to reduce climate change and helping people and wildlife adapt to its consequences are at the heart of all that we do.

We cannot do this alone. We work closely with a wide range of partners including government, business, local authorities, other agencies, civil society groups and the communities we serve.

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# Foreword

Over the next two years, the Environment Agency will be undertaking considerable planning work, culminating in the publication of Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) and updated River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs). Together, these plans will shape important decisions, direct considerable investment and action and deliver significant benefits to society and the environment.

RBMPs identify the state of, and pressures on, the water environment. They consider the technical and economic viability of beneficial actions, set objectives and coordinate/monitor delivery of agreed actions. In so doing they set direction to maintain and improve the quality of all surface, ground water and coastal waters.

FRMPs identify the risk from flooding and set out objectives and measures for managing that risk. In so doing, they aggregate information about all sources of flooding - and coastal erosion where appropriate - to better inform prioritisation, decision making and work programming.

The Environment Agency, Local Authorities, Water Companies, and Highways Authorities carry out a 'Risk Management Authority' role in relation to flooding. We all work together to help communities and businesses understand their flood risk, deliver solutions to minimise this and support them to adapt to flooding and become more resilient, if the worst should happen.

Recently published information about the areas that get flooded and what's affected by the flooding means that understanding of flood risk is improving. We and other risk management authorities are in a good position to set out, with communities, how best to manage the risk of flooding. Planning to manage flood risk is something that the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authorities are already doing in partnership but now the Environment Agency is setting out plans for flood risk management across each river basin district. These river basin districts (RBDs) are areas identified to manage the water environment effectively. Each RBD has a defined drainage area so that what happens in one RBD is independent of another: this document covers the Thames RBD.

This document is not a consultation, but it highlights the scope of those plans: what sources of flooding are included and what consultation the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authorities are carrying out on those draft plans.

The Environment Agency will be consulting on a draft flood risk management plan for the whole of Thames RBD that sets out the objectives and measures we are proposing to manage flood risk. The draft plan will also include objectives and measures that some Lead Local Flood Authorities are also proposing. The draft plan will include:

- flooding issues for main rivers, the sea and reservoirs across the whole of the RBD
- flooding issues for local sources (ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater) for 32 Lead Local Flood Authority areas as a statutory requirement
- flooding issues for local sources (ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater) for 6 Lead Local Flood Authority areas included on voluntary basis

Consultation on the draft FRMP will be from September 2014 to December 2014. We will publish the final FRMPs in December 2015.

In addition, the following Lead Local Flood Authorities will prepare separate FRMPs as a statutory requirement, covering local sources of flooding and consult on those as set out below.

- London Borough of Greenwich: consulting October 2014 to December 2014.
- London Borough of Lambeth: consulting July 2014 to September 2014.

This Scoping Report sets out the approach to the Strategic Environmental Assessment and we have consulted the statutory environmental bodies in developing it.

We hope that in understanding what plans are being developed, by whom and when, you will be able to join us in shaping those flood risk management plans, and be part of a more resilient country.

Howard Davidson

Director of Operations South East, Environment Agency

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# 1. Why produce this document

The impacts of flooding on homes and businesses, the communities directly affected, are clear, but flooding can have a much wider indirect effect. We want communities to be actively involved in planning for managing the risk posed by floods.

## **Box 1. The purpose of this document**

1. This document is not a consultation. It sets out:

- what flood risk planning is going on across the river basin district
- the timing of specific consultations
- which organisations lead on those consultations

By highlighting these activities early on we hope that you will get involved in shaping the plans and be part of managing the risk from floods.

The document also includes the proposed scope of the strategic environmental assessments for the plan that we are preparing. We are sharing our proposals with statutory environmental bodies so they can help shape our proposed approach.

## 2. How we plan for flood and coastal erosion risk

### Legislation and strategy in England

The [roles and responsibilities](#) of different flood risk management authorities (RMAs) in England and Wales are set out in the [Flood and Water Management Act, 2010](#). This act also requires the Environment Agency to set out the approach to managing flood and coastal erosion risk in England in a [National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England](#). This strategy aims to improve flood and coastal erosion risk management for communities and businesses, and deliver greater environmental gain. The Strategy also establishes ways of working for risk management authorities:

- focusing on communities and working in partnership
- co-ordinating across management catchments and coastlines
- considering sustainability issues
- taking a proportional, risk-based approach
- seeking to deliver multiple benefits
- encouraging beneficiaries to contribute to invest in flood risk management

### European requirements

In addition, the [European Floods Directive](#) aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe. The Directive is implemented through the [Flood Risk Regulations 2009](#) and we are currently in the first cycle of planning which means Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) need to be prepared by December 2015.

### How we are delivering Flood Risk Management Plans

Our [previous consultation](#)<sup>6</sup> on the approach to developing Flood Risk Management Plans in England and Wales considered options for delivering FRMPs. See the [findings from that consultation](#)<sup>7</sup>. In parallel to flood risk management planning, we also work with others to improve the quality of the water environment through River Basin Management Planning. As we develop FRMPs we aim to co-ordinate effectively with the River Basin Management Planning so we and others can deliver more for the environment.

#### **Box 2. Co-ordinating flood risk management planning with river basin management planning**

The Environment Agency leads on the development of Flood Risk Management Plans and River Basin Management Plans.

We aim to co-ordinate our work effectively, and support others to do the same, so that we can do more for the environment when we manage flooding.

If you want to know more about River Basin Planning, or get involved, visit our [web site](#)<sup>9</sup>.

The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England provides a national framework for all Risk Management Authorities to work within. A hierarchy of strategic and tactical plans then establish the governance and approach for the various RMAs to delivering the aims and objectives of the national strategy.

The table below summarises the main plans and who leads on them.

**Table 1: Flood and coastal erosion risk management plans and strategies**

Plan or Strategy	Purpose and scope of plan or strategy	Drivers	Lead authority
<a href="#">The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England</a> <sup>18</sup>	The approach to managing flood and coastal erosion risk in England.	Statutory requirement under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	Environment Agency.
<a href="#">Flood Risk Management Plans</a> <sup>10</sup> (FRMPs)	To manage the risk of flooding from rivers, the sea, reservoirs, surface water and groundwater.  These may be separate plans for Flood Risk Areas that need to be co-ordinated across each river basin district in the whole of England.	Required under the European Floods Directive; implemented in England by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.  FRMPs for this first cycle of planning must be published by December 2015.	Lead Local Flood Authorities for flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.  Environment Agency for flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs.
<a href="#">Local Flood Risk Management Strategy</a> <sup>11</sup>	To manage local flood risk in each Lead Local Flood Authority across the whole of England. These also include objectives and measures for the management of local flood risk (i.e. from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses).	Statutory requirement under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.  No statutory deadline for production.	All Lead Local Flood Authorities must prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
<a href="#">Surface Water Management Plans</a> <sup>12</sup> (SWMPs)	To establish preferred approach to managing surface water flooding.	Voluntary plans for co-ordinated measures to manage surface water flooding.	Likely to be Lead Local Flood Authorities, in partnership with others.
<a href="#">Catchment Flood Management Plans</a> <sup>13</sup> (CFMPs)	Current and future inland flood risk management across all catchments.  These plans set out preferred policies for inland flooding in England and Wales.	Voluntary plans.  Published in 2009-10.	Environment Agency

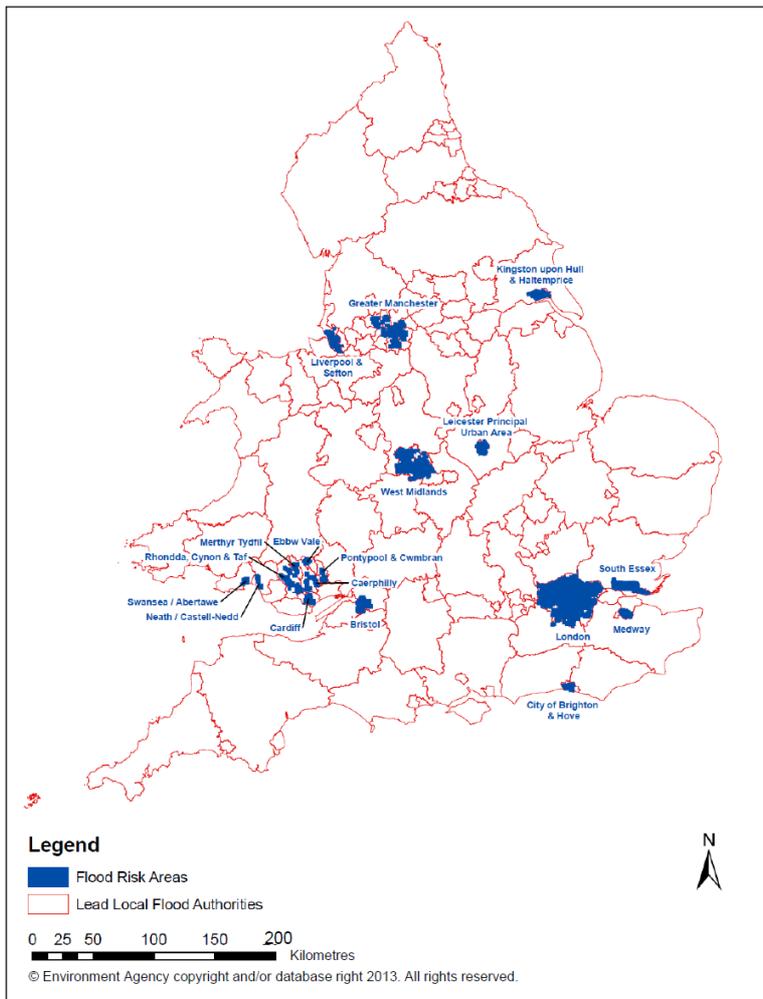
<a href="#">Shoreline Management Plans</a> <sup>14</sup> (SMPs)	<p>Current and future flood and coastal erosion risk management along the coastline.</p> <p>These plans set out preferred policies for the coastline of England and Wales.</p>	<p>Voluntary plans.</p> <p>Second round of SMPs published in 2010-13.</p>	<p>Coastal Groups.</p>
Other <a href="#">river, estuary and coastal investment strategies</a> <sup>15</sup>	<p>Outline investment proposals for flood and coastal erosion risk management. Prepared to support an investment proposal for funding.</p>	<p>Voluntary plans.</p>	<p>Operating authorities.</p>
<b>Water Level Management Plans (WLMPs)</b>	<p>Approach to managing water levels in environmentally sensitive areas. These plans are developed to enable agreement between different users of water.</p>	<p>Voluntary plans.</p>	<p>Drainage Boards, other operating authorities and land owners</p>
<a href="#">Reservoir Flood Plans</a> <sup>16</sup>	<p>These include on-site and off-site flood plans that set out procedures for the management of flood risk in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>On-site plans deal with the management of the on-site risk and off-site plans deal with the risk in areas adjacent to the reservoir.</p>	<p>Voluntary plans.</p>	<p>On-site Flood Plans are developed by the owners of the reservoir.</p> <p>Off-site Flood Plans are developed by the Local Resilience Forums.</p>
<a href="#">Long-Term Investment Strategy</a> <sup>17</sup>	<p>Long-term strategic assessment of funding scenarios for flood and coastal erosion risk management. This evidence is used to support government's decision making on funding as part of periodic spending reviews.</p>	<p>Voluntary plans.</p>	<p>Environment Agency.</p>

### 3. What planning is happening now

Flood risk management planning is something that Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) do already, domestic legislation, in particular the Flood and Water management Act 2010 supports this, as does new European Floods Directive. The Floods Directive aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe. The Directive is implemented through the Flood Risk Regulations and we are currently in the first cycle of planning which means Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) need to be prepared by December 2015.

For this cycle of plans, Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) need to prepare Flood Risk Management Plans that cover local sources of flooding (ie from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses) for the 10 Flood Risk Areas<sup>1</sup> in England and eight in Wales (see Figure 1). The Environment Agency, and Natural Resources Wales need to prepare FRMPs, for main rivers the sea and reservoirs covering the whole of England and Wales.

FRMPs are important because they set out how risk management authorities and communities will work together to reduce the impacts of flooding.



*Note:*

*All Lead Local Flood Authorities (upper tier and single tier authorities) under took a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in 2011 to prioritise planning for flood risk management. They determined a number of areas where local flooding was particularly significant (Figure 1). The priority for the first planning cycle under the Flood Risk Regulations is to prepare FRMPs by December 2015 for these "Flood Risk Areas".*

*All Lead Local Flood Authorities also need to prepare Local Flood Risk Management Strategies but there is no statutory deadline to develop these.*

**Figure 1: Flood Risk Areas in England and Wales**

<sup>1</sup> Flood Risk Areas have been identified through a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment published in December 2011. In this first cycle of planning, to 2015, LLFAs are only required to prepare FRMPs in Flood Risk Areas (as described in [Government guidance](#)).

# 4. What this means for the Thames River Basin District

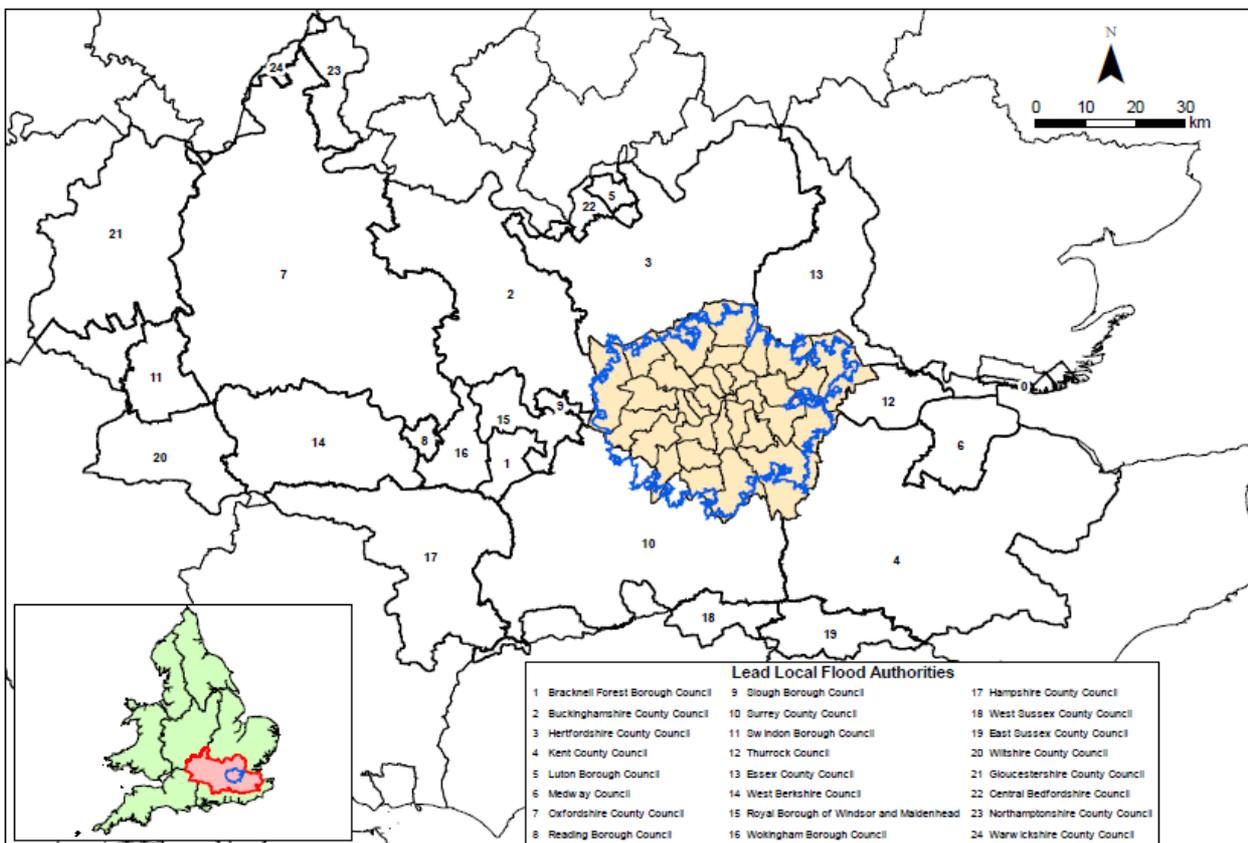
## Overview

The Environment Agency and LLFAs can develop separate plans for managing the risk from the various sources of flooding for which each is responsible. This means that LLFAs can prepare FRMPs that deal with flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses, while the Environment Agency will prepare FRMPs that deal with flooding from main rivers the sea and reservoirs. Alternatively, LLFAs can decide to prepare FRMPs jointly with the Environment Agency so that, in those areas, the plans cover all sources of flood risk.

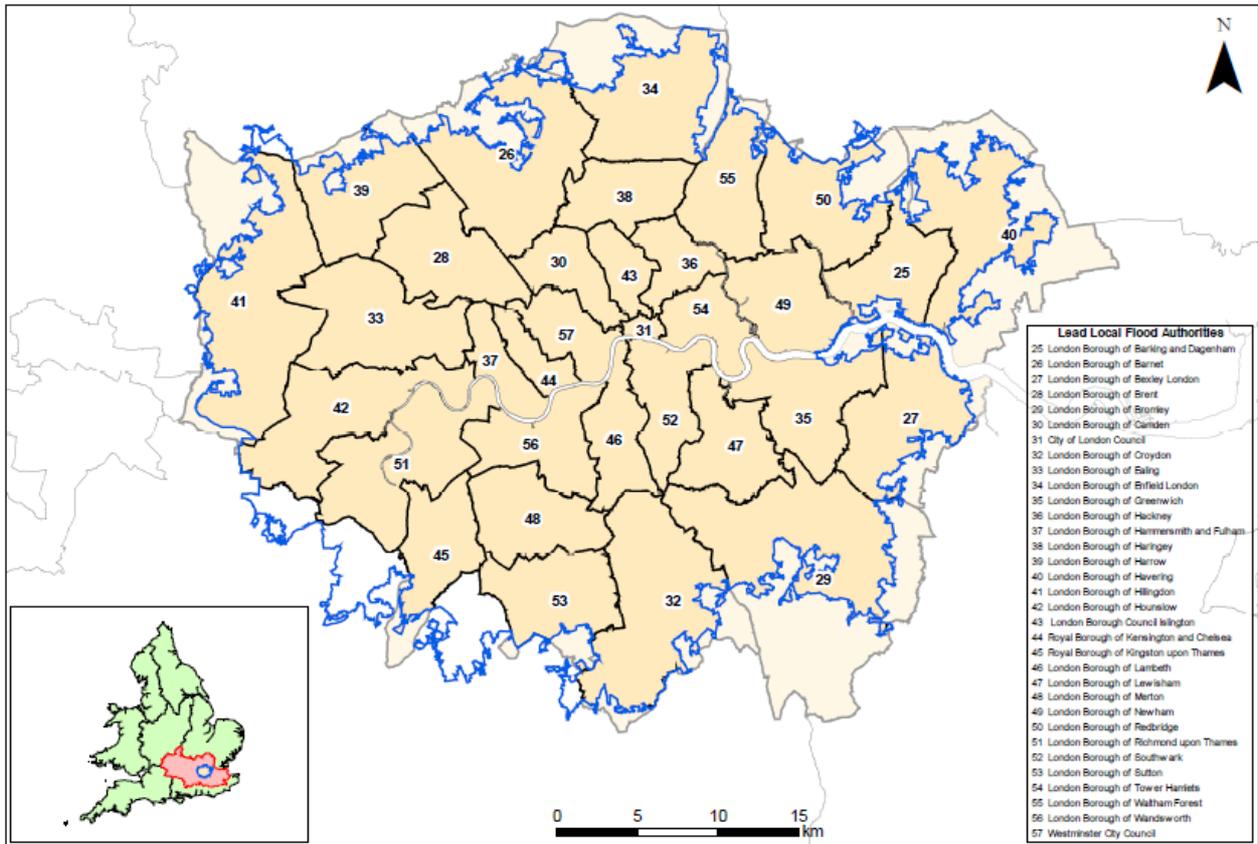
While the Flood Risk Regulations only require LLFAs to prepare FRMPs by December 2015 for areas defined as Flood Risk Areas (see Figure 1), all LLFAs are already required under the Flood and Water Management Act to prepare Local Flood Risk Management (FRM) Strategies for their area (see Table 1). These Local FRM Strategies also need to consider the management of flooding from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses. The Environment Agency has to prepare FRMPs for the whole of each river basin district.

Some LLFAs outside significant Flood Risk Areas have chosen to prepare FRMPs jointly with the Environment Agency, on a voluntary basis. These LLFAs are using their Local FRM Strategies and sharing a more complete picture of flood and coastal erosion risk management by including flooding from all sources.

Lead Local Flood Authority areas are shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2a: Lead Local Flood Authorities in the Thames River Basin District - excluding London Boroughs**



**Figure 2b: Lead Local Flood Authorities in the Thames River Basin District - London Boroughs**

Box 3, and Figure 3 below, shows the LLFAs within the Thames River Basin District (RBD) which have included within the FRMP for the Thames RBD the management of flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses as well as flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs included by the Environment Agency. They also show the Flood Risk Areas for which two separate FRMPs will be prepared by LLFAs.

The South Essex Flood Risk Area crosses into the Thames River Basin District, but is reported under the Anglian River Basin District in which it predominantly sits.

In developing Flood Risk Management Plans, we would also like to include information about coastal erosion risk management that is set out within Shoreline Management Plans. In this way, risk management authorities can share information about all sources of flooding and coastal erosion risk management in one place, in a way that is more accessible to the various authorities involved in planning, as well as interested communities and the public.

Annex 1 lists the plans and strategies that have been drawn from to develop the draft FRMP for the Thames RBD, and the dates of previous consultation.

### **Box 3. FRMPs in the Thames RBD being prepared and consulted on**

For the Thames River Basin District, for the first cycle of planning under the Flood Risk Regulations, risk management authorities will prepare the following plans and consult the public on draft plans during the dates set out below:

#### **Consultation from September 2014 to December 2014 on a draft single Flood Risk Management Plan for the Thames RBD that covers:**

- flooding from main rivers the sea and reservoirs for the RBD (as a statutory requirement)
- coastal erosion risk management (as voluntary information)
- all sources of flooding for the following areas:
  - Medway (as Statutory requirement)
  - Surrey County Council (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Barnet (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Bexley (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Brent (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Bromley (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Camden (as Statutory requirement)
  - City of London Council (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Croydon (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Ealing (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Enfield (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Hackney (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Haringey (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Harrow (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Havering (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Hillingdon (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Hounslow (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Islington (as Statutory requirement)
  - Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (as Statutory requirement)
  - Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Merton (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Newham (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Redbridge (as Statutory requirement)
  - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (as Statutory requirement)

- London Borough of Southwark (as Statutory requirement)
- London Borough of Sutton (as Statutory requirement)
- London Borough of Tower Hamlets (as Statutory requirement)
- London Borough of Waltham Forest (as Statutory requirement)
- London Borough of Wandsworth (as Statutory requirement)
- Westminster City Council (as Statutory requirement)
- Essex County Council (as Voluntary information)
- Northamptonshire County Council (as Voluntary information)
- Slough Borough Council (as Voluntary information)
- Swindon Borough Council (as Voluntary information)
- Thurrock Council (as Voluntary information)
- West Sussex Council (as Voluntary information)

**PLUS**

**Consultation from October 2014 to December 2014 on a separate draft Flood Risk Management Plan that covers only local sources of flooding for the following areas:**

- London Borough of Greenwich (as Statutory requirement)
- London Borough of Lambeth (as Statutory requirement)

These areas and sources of flood risk are shown in Figure 3.

Information for the South Essex Flood Risk Area will be reported within the Anglian River Basin District FRMP in which it predominantly sits.

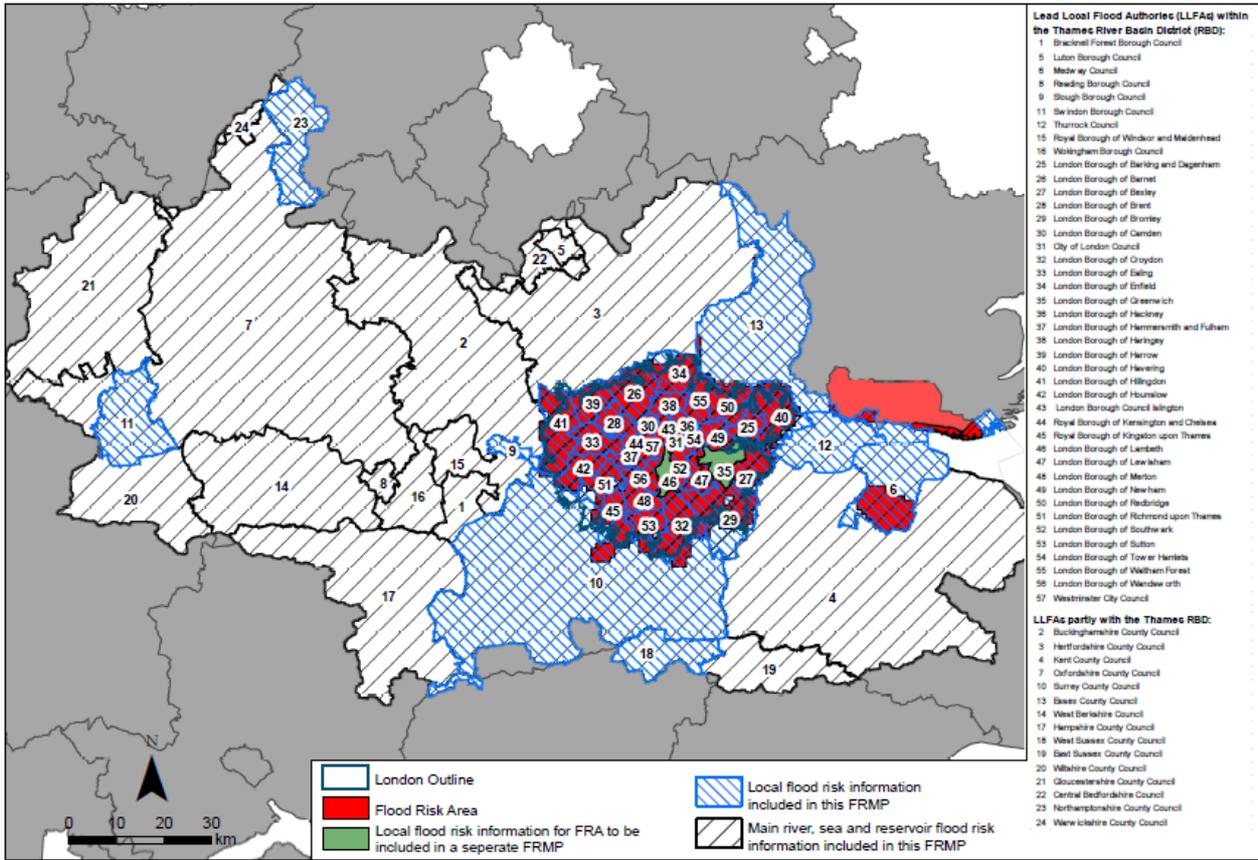


Figure 3: Scope of Flood Risk Management Planning for Thames River Basin District

## 5. Strategic environmental assessment

The primary purpose of a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is to ensure that wider environmental effects are considered during the development of a plan. SEA aims to contribute to a higher level of protection of the environment and promote sustainable development. The relevant legislation sets out the [requirements for SEA](#)<sup>19</sup>.

The FRMP for each river basin district is intended to bring together information from a number of plans covering different sources of risk, prepared by different authorities across the river basin district. A list of the plans from which information has been drawn to compile the FRMP, alongside a record of any SEA reports, is shown in Annex 1.

SEA is a statutory requirement under the SEA Regulations for FRMPs. For the joint information brought together in the FRMP from Risk Management Authorities, the Environment Agency proposes that the scope will need to include:

1. a high level assessment at the river basin district scale of all objectives and measures brought together in the draft FRMP
2. a detailed assessment at a more local scale of any new measures or changes to measures in existing plans where they may have significant effects on the wider environment

As the lead for the FRMP, the Environment Agency will consider the effects of the plan at the catchment scale to ensure that we consider how any nationally designated environmental features would be affected. We consider it more appropriate that local designations are considered at lower tiers of planning or within projects.

We will refine our approach to SEA by taking into consideration the views of statutory bodies in response to scoping letters and will continue to work with them on this.

### A high level assessment of the FRMP for each RBD

The high level assessment covering the RBD will consist of:

- a summary of baseline information covering environmental and social indicators of current status and trends for the Thames RBD, and we will take into account any significant changes that might influence decisions that had been taken in previous plans. See Annex 4.
- a summary of other policies and plans that will have an influence on the objectives of the FRMP or will be influenced by it. See Annex 3.
- a high level assessment of the appropriate objectives, measures and actions included in the FRMP

### Detailed assessment of flood risk management measures

Risk Management Authorities will be responsible for considering if the high-level assessment of the whole FRMP is sufficient for the information they are proposing in the FRMP or if further more detailed assessment is required. As part of this consideration, a scoping exercise may be applied to any changes to a measure or action drawn from an existing plan and to any new measures included in the FRMP, for example from an analysis of communities at risk. This would identify whether such measures are likely to have significant environmental effect and will need a more detailed environmental assessment. The results of the first stage of the scoping exercise undertaken on Environment Agency information is set out in Table A2, Annex 2.

## How the SEA high level and detailed assessment relate to the FRMP content

Table 3 outlines the content of the draft FRMP and describes the parts of the FRMP that will be included in the SEA.

**Table 3: Proposed scope of the assessment**

<b>Content of the FRMP</b>	<b>Will it be considered in the high level SEA i.e. for the whole plan?</b>	<b>Will a more detailed assessment be required i.e. at the measure level?</b>
<b>Flood risk maps</b>	No, this provides factual information	No
<b>Flood risk management objectives</b>	Yes, we will assess the likely impacts of our objectives. This will be a high-level assessment at a river basin district scale.	No
<b>Flood risk management measures</b>	Yes, we will provide a summary of the significant environmental effects and use this to help identify cumulative impacts.	A scoping exercise will be undertaken to consider whether measures are likely to have significant environmental effects and consider existing evidence. If significant environmental effects are likely then a more detailed assessment will be carried out. If significant environmental effects are not likely then they will not be included in the assessment. The scoping exercise will be clearly documented in the Environmental Report.
<b>Flood Risk Area FRMP</b>	Yes, we will provide a summary of the significant environmental effects and use this to help identify cumulative impacts.	Plan owner to decide.

### Other policies and plans

We have set out the plans that we consider to be relevant to the River Basin District in Annex 3 to this document. We will be producing an Environmental Report to be published with the draft Flood Risk Management Plan, that will provide a brief commentary of the key issues arising from the plans, policies and programmes and how we have taken them into account.

### Habitats Regulations Assessment

We will undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) as the FRMP is developed. At this stage, it is likely that HRAs undertaken for existing plans will be used to provide information for an HRA for the FRMP at the River Basin District scale. We will discuss HRA requirements with Natural England and Natural Resources Wales as the FRMP is formulated.

### **Water Framework Directive Assessment**

The FRMP will be closely aligned with the River Basin Management Plan. As the plans are both being prepared at the river basin district scale and following the same timescales, we will use much of the same information (environmental baseline and contextual information) for the SEAs. Opportunities for the FRMP to contribute to WFD objectives will be explored as part of the FRMP preparation process and will be highlighted in the Environmental Report.

WFD compliance assessment requirements will be incorporated into the SEA and reported in the Environmental Report.

### **The SEA Environmental Report and draft FRMP**

The SEA process will deliver an Environmental Report to be published with the draft FRMP for consultation (from September to December 2014). It will describe the environmental baseline of the river basin district, explain how the environmental assessment was carried out, identify the environmental impacts of the plan along with mitigation measures and set out our proposals for monitoring.

### **Statement of Environmental Particulars and Final FRMP**

Feedback from consultation on the draft FRMP and Environmental Report will be reviewed and taken into account by the Environment Agency and the LLFAs contributing to the FRMP. The draft FRMP will then be finalised and published alongside a Statement of Environmental Particulars that will include how feedback on the draft plan and Environmental Report have been taken into account and how environmental impacts will be monitored.

# References

1. [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/flood\\_risk/](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/flood_risk/)
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18. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flood-and-coastal-erosion-risk-management-strategy-for-england>
19. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made>

# Annex 1: A summary of information for inclusion in the Flood Risk Management Plan

This annex sets out the information that will be drawn from other flood and coastal erosion risk management plans in order to develop the FRMP. Of particular relevance are the Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs) and Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) that have been developed for the whole of England and Wales. Figure 4 shows which of these plans are relevant for the Thames River Basin District.

Proportionate measures for managing flood risk from reservoirs are likely to comprise the preparation of on-site and off-site Reservoir Plans. In some cases, such plans have already been developed and the FRMP will aim to broadly set out if these measures are already established and propose where such measures need to be developed by reservoir owners and Local Resilience Forums (details will be subject to further discussion from security services).

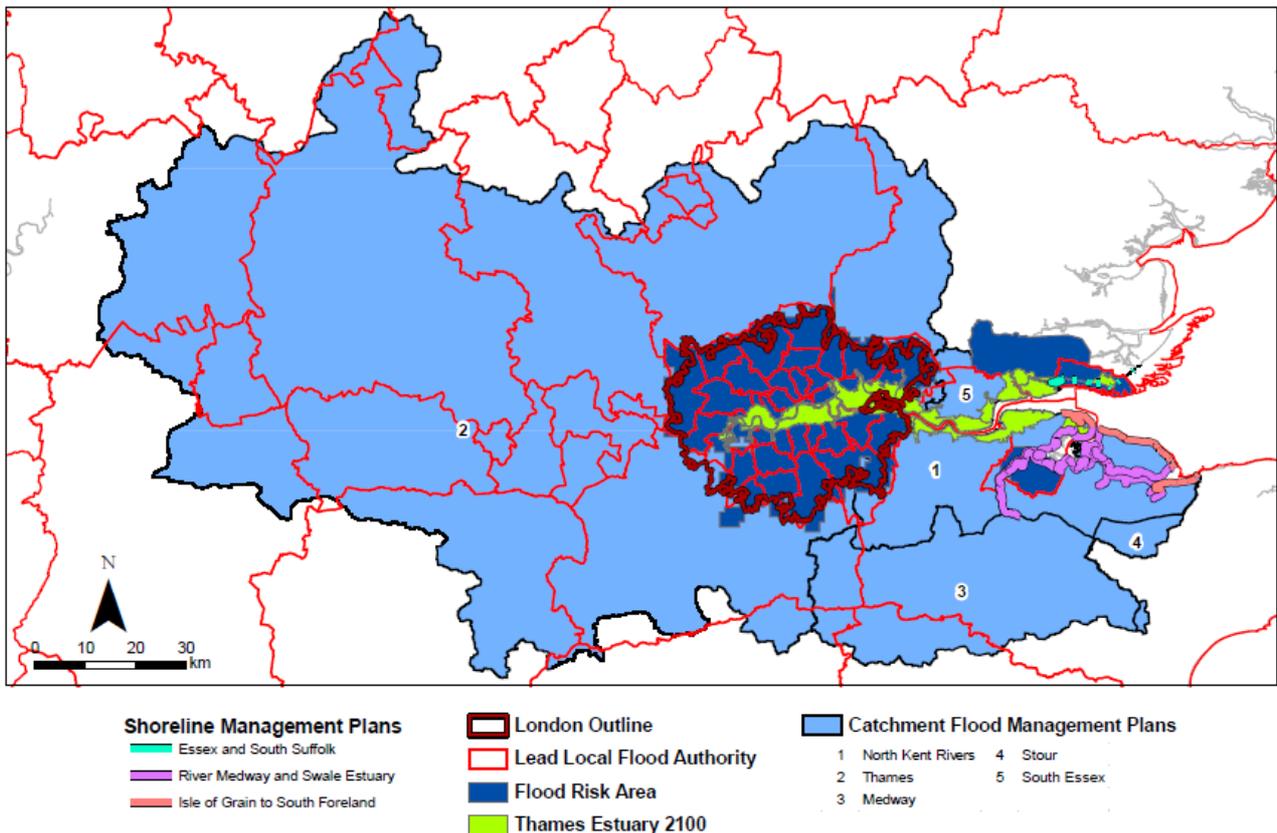
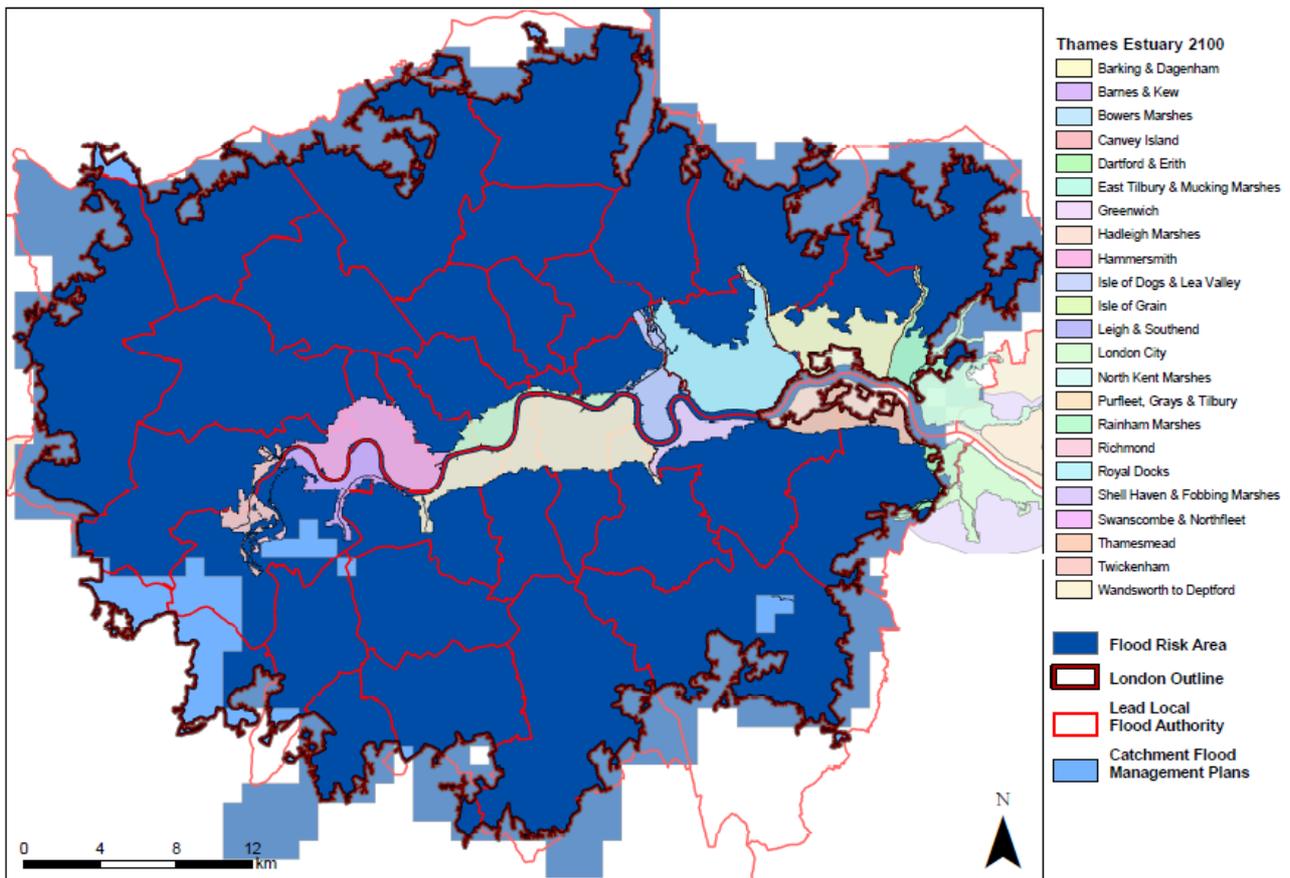


Figure 4a: CFMPs and SMPs in Thames River Basin District



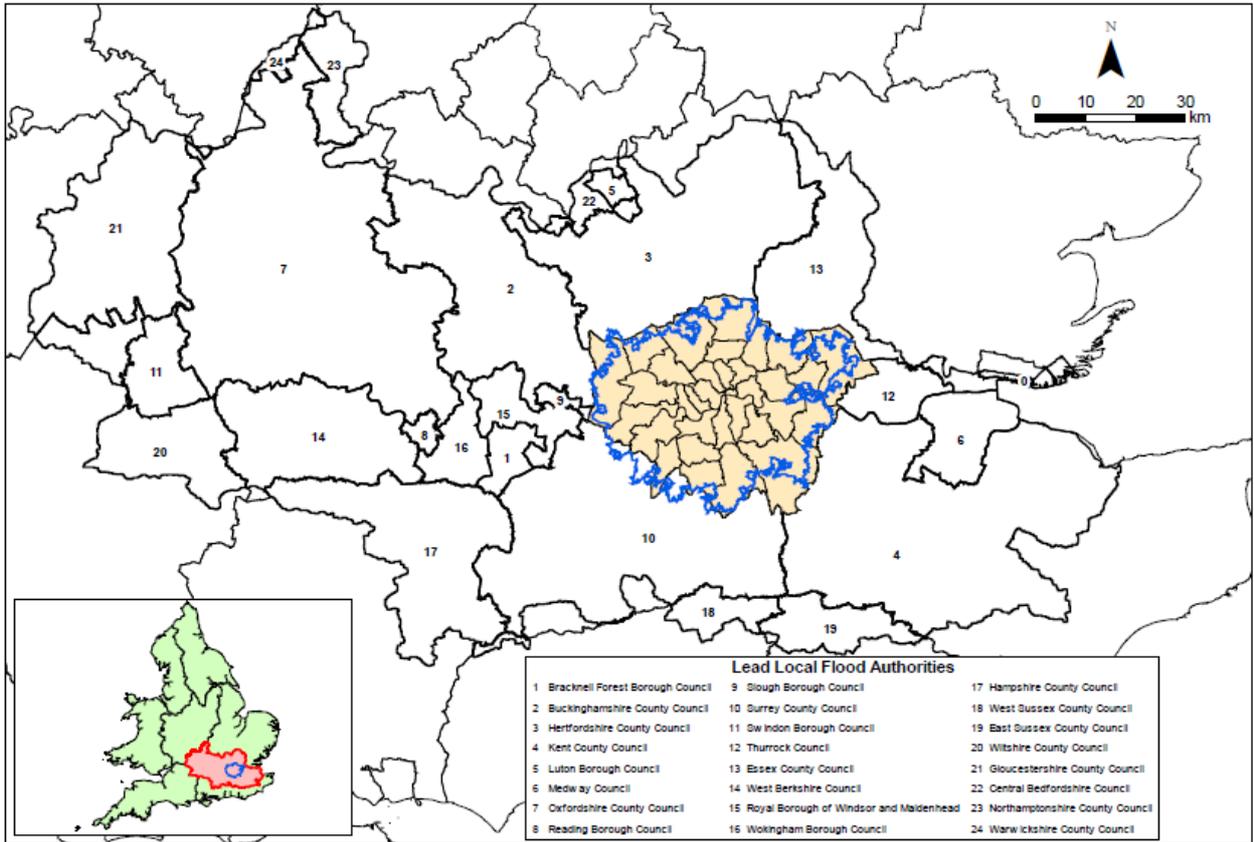
**Figure 4b: Thames Estuary 2100 policy areas**

Tables A1 and A2 list the plans that risk management authorities are specifically drawing on and where previous consultation has been undertaken. They also show, if environmental assessment has been undertaken and any assessment related to the Habitats Regulations. The table also highlights the major changes we propose to make (if any) to those plans as we use the information to develop FRMPs.

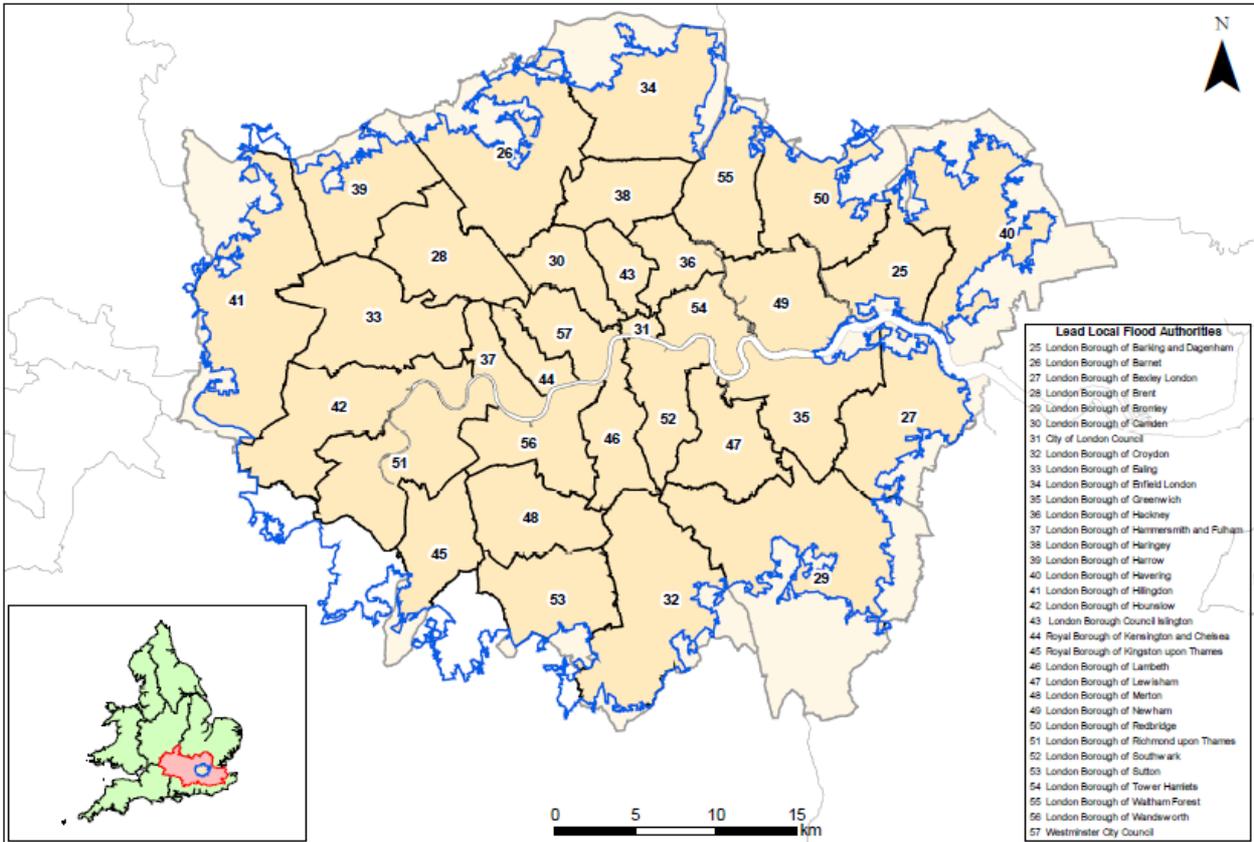
Importantly, both tables also show if the information being used is for statutory purposes (used to fulfil a legal requirement of the FRMP), or voluntarily by the RMA to help present a more complete picture of flood and coastal erosion risk for the river basin district.

Contact details for the lead authorities are also included in the table so that the public can contact the relevant authorities should they want further information about specific plans.

Of particular importance for FRMPs and Local FRM Strategies are the Lead Local Flood Authorities (see figure 5 below). We also welcome inclusion of objectives and measures developed by other risk management authorities, such as Water and Sewerage Companies.



**Figure 5a: Lead Local Flood Authorities in Thames River Basin District - excluding London Boroughs**



**Figure 5b: Lead Local Flood Authorities in Thames River Basin District - London Boroughs**

Table A1. Information compiled by the Environment Agency related to flooding from rivers, the sea and reservoirs, and by local authorities related to coastal erosion risk management

No. on CFMP / SMP map	Title of plan used to develop draft FRMP	Dates of consultation on draft plan	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Publication date of final plan	Lead Authority(Who to contact for further information)
Information from the following Catchment Flood Management Plans:								
1	North Kent Rivers	March to June 2008	Yes, a voluntary Environmental Report was prepared to accompany the draft plan and consulted on at the same time.	Yes	Yes	Where Stage 3 assessment was required, the broad conclusion was one of uncertainty and that lower tier strategies and projects would need to undertake full HRA /AA to consider specific local circumstances. This would then lead to consideration of compensatory habitat requirement.	September 2008	Environment Agency
2	Thames	January to April 2007		Yes	Yes		July 2008	Environment Agency
3	Medway	January to March 2004		Yes	No		September 2008	Environment Agency
4	Stour	September to December 2006		Yes	Yes		September 2008	Environment Agency
5	South Essex	June - September 2007		Yes	Yes		No	September 2008
Information from the following Inland, coastal and estuary strategies and plans:								
	Thames Estuary 2100	March-July 2009	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	November 2012	Environment Agency
	Lower Lee Flood Risk Management strategy	2006 and 2008	Yes	No	No	No	July 2011	Environment Agency
	River Roding Flood Risk Management strategy	2006 and 2011	Yes	No	No	No	July 2012	Environment Agency
	Luton Flood Risk Management Strategy	2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2012	Environment Agency
	River Wey Draft Flood Risk management Strategy	2010	Yes	No	No	N/A	n/a	Environment Agency
	Oxford Flood Risk Management Strategy	2009	Yes	No	No	N/A	2009	Environment Agency
	Churn Strategy	2008	Yes	No	No	N/A	April 2009	Environment Agency
	Lower Thames Strategy	2009	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	2010	Environment Agency
	Middle Medway Strategy	2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2010	Environment Agency

No. on CFMP / SMP map	Title of plan used to develop draft FRMP	Dates of consultation on draft plan	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Publication date of final plan	Lead Authority(Who to contact for further information)
Information from the following Shoreline Management Plans:								
	Isle of Grain to South Foreland	April 2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	August 2010	Canterbury County Council
	Medway Estuary and Swale	April 2009	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	August 2010	Environment Agency
	Essex and South Suffolk	March - June 2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	October 2010	Environment Agency
Information from the following Shoreline Management Plans:								
	Isle of Grain to South Foreland	April 2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	August 2010	Canterbury County Council
	Medway Estuary and Swale	April 2009	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	August 2010	Environment Agency
	Essex and South Suffolk	March - June 2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	October 2010	Environment Agency

Table B1. Information compiled by Lead Local Flood Authorities related to 'local' sources of flooding (ie flooding surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses)

Number on LLFA map	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Thames RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
1	Bracknell Forest Borough Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	No	Bracknell Forest Borough Council
2	Buckinghamshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Buckinghamshire County Council
3	Central Bedfordshire Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Public consultation in progress or complete	N/A	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Central Bedfordshire Council
4	East Sussex County Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	No	No	No	East Sussex County Council
5	Essex County Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	Summary of strategy published	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	No	No	Essex County Council
		Surface water from relevant SWMPs				N/A	None	No	No	No	No	
6	Gloucestershire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Gloucestershire County Council
7	Hampshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Hampshire County Council
8	Hertfordshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	No	Hertfordshire County Council

Number on LLFA map	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Thames RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
9	Kent County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Summary of strategy published	N/A	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Kent County Council
10	Luton Borough Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Luton Borough Council
11	Medway Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	No	No	Medway Council
12	Northamptonshire County Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	Summary of strategy published	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	No	No	Northamptonshire County Council
13	Oxfordshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Oxfordshire County Council
14	Reading Borough Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Reading Borough Council
15	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
16	Slough Borough Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	Summary of strategy published	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Slough Borough Council

Number on LLFA map	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Thames RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
17	Surrey County Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	Surrey County Council
18	Swindon Borough Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Swindon Borough Council
19	Thurrock Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Thurrock Council
20	Warwickshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Warwickshire County Council
21	West Berkshire Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	Public consultation in progress or complete	N/A	Yes	Yes	No	No	West Berkshire Council
22	West Sussex County Council	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	No	Yes	Voluntary	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	Yes	Yes	In progress	Unknown	West Sussex County Council

Number on LLFA map	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Thames RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
23	Wiltshire County Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Wiltshire County Council
24	Wokingham Borough Council	N/A	No	No	N/A	In progress	N/A	In progress	In progress	In progress	In progress	Wokingham Borough Council
25	London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
26	London Borough of Barnet		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress		In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Barnet
27	London Borough of Bexley London		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress		In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Bexley London
28	London Borough of Brent		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress		In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Brent
29	London Borough of Bromley		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress		In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Bromley
30	London Borough of Camden		Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete		In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Camden
31	City of London Council		Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete		Yes	No	No	No	City of London Council

Number on LLFA maps 2 & 3	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Southern RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
32	London Borough of Croydon	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Croydon
33	London Borough of Ealing		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Ealing
34	London Borough of Enfield London		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Enfield London
35	London Borough of Greenwich		Yes	No	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Greenwich
36	London Borough of Hackney		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Hackney
37	London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Number on LLFA maps 2 & 3	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Southern RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
38	London Borough of Haringey	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Haringey
39	London Borough of Harrow		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Harrow
40	London Borough of Havering		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Havering
41	London Borough of Hillingdon		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Hillingdon
42	London Borough of Hounslow		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Hounslow

Number on LLFA maps 2 & 3	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Southern RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
43	London Borough Council Islington	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough Council Islington
44	Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea		Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
45	Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames
46	London Borough of Lambeth		Yes	No	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Lambeth
47	London Borough of Lewisham		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Lewisham

Number on LLFA maps 2 & 3	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Southern RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
48	London Borough of Merton	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Merton
49	London Borough of Newham		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Newham
50	London Borough of Redbridge		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Redbridge
51	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
52	London Borough of Southwark		Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Southwark

Number on LLFA maps 2 & 3	Lead Local Flood Authority	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Within a Flood Risk Area identified in the PFRA? (Yes/No)	Is local flood risk information included in Southern RBD FRMP?	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Local Strategy progress (as of March 2014)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the FRMP	Was an Environmental Assessment of the plan undertaken?	Was a Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken?	Was an Appropriate Assessment (under the Habitats Regulations) undertaken?	Was compensatory habitat needed (and a case agreed with the relevant Minister(s))?	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
53	London Borough of Sutton	Local Flood Risk From Local FRM Strategy	Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Sutton
54	London Borough of Tower Hamlets		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
55	London Borough of Waltham Forest		Yes	Yes	Statutory	Public consultation in progress or complete	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Waltham Forest
56	London Borough of Wandsworth		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	London Borough of Wandsworth
57	Westminster City Council		Yes	Yes	Statutory	In progress	None, relevant actions will be drawn from the Local Strategy into the FRMP	In progress	In progress	In progress	N/A	Westminster City Council

# Annex 2 Results of SEA scoping process

Table A2 provides the results of an early review of the proposed Environment Agency information for the FRMP. It identifies whether the objectives/measures/actions included are from existing plans and are likely to change as they are brought into the FRMP. It also identifies if new objectives/measures/actions are being proposed. This is important because it determines whether such information is adequately covered by existing SEA reports or if this information requires a further detailed level of environmental assessment (note all objectives/measures/actions will be scoped into the high level environmental assessment). SEA scoping is an ongoing process and table A2 is subject to future change.

**Table A2: Summary of the SEA scoping for detailed assessment**

Plan or Community at Risk	Level of changes for FRMP	Outcome of plan review	Initial SEA scoping results
<b>Thames CFMP</b>	43 policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>North Kent Rivers CFMP</b>	6 policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>River Medway CFMP</b>	9 policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>River Stour CFMP</b>	1 policy unit, unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>South Essex CFMP</b>	3 Policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP</b>	10 Policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
	UNCLASSIFIED		

<b>River Medway and Swale Estuary SMP</b>	30 policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>Essex and South Suffolk SMP</b>	1 policy unit, unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>Thames Estuary 2100</b>	23 policy units all unchanged	All policies and actions retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>EA Flood Risk Management Strategies</b>	All sub-catchment level actions unchanged	All action retained	Scoped into the high level assessment only
<b>Any new EA 'proposed' measures and analysis</b>	New in FRMP. Uncertain number of Communities at Risk and actions	Uncertain number of Communities at Risk actions	Actions will be preliminary so will be scoped out of detailed assessment all actions will be scoped into the high level assessment

# Annex 3: Policies, plans and programmes to be considered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Table A3 sets out the national plans, policies and programmes and Table B3 those that are only relevant to the catchment or River Basin District. Rather than identify every possible plan or programme we intend to focus on those that are likely to significantly influence the plan or our consideration of the environmental effects.

**Table A3: National plans, policies and programmes to be considered in the SEA**

Policy / Plan / Programme	Published by	Year
Water white paper: Water for life	Defra	2011
Water for people and the environment: Water resources strategy for England and Wales	Environment Agency	2009
National Planning Policy Framework	Communities & Local Government (CLG)	2012
Natural environment white paper: The natural choice: Securing the value of nature	Defra	2012
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services	Defra	2012
Government Forestry & Woodlands Policy Statement	Defra	2013
The invasive and non-native species framework strategy for Great Britain	Defra, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government	2008
Coastal squeeze: Implications for flood management. The requirements of The European Birds and Habitats Directives. Defra policy guidance.	Defra	2005
Safeguarding our soils: A strategy for England	Defra	2009
Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: The national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England	Defra & Environment Agency	2011
UK Marine Policy Statement	HMG, NI Executive, Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly Government	2011
National Policy Statements (Overarching Energy, Renewable Energy, Fossil Fuels, Oil and Gas Supply and Storage, Electricity Networks, Nuclear Power, Ports, Hazardous Waste, Waste Water Treatment)	HMG	2011-12
Managing the Environment in a Changing Climate	Environment Agency	2010
The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010	HMG	2010
All Landscapes Matter	Natural England	2009

When identifying plans, policies and programmes relevant to the RBD, we have concentrated on those plans that are similar in scale to the River Basin Management Plan or are likely to directly impact on the catchments within the RBD. We anticipate that as plans and projects are implemented, the implications of any local plans will also be considered. There are some plans that provide comprehensive coverage across the RBD, for example local authority core strategies. Rather than list these individually, we have identified the type of plan, and when we undertake the assessment we will consider all of the plans of this type that are relevant to the RBD.

**Table B3: Plans, policies and programmes relevant to the Thames RBD**

Policy / Plan / Programme	Published by	Year
River Kennet SSSI Restoration Plan	Environment Agency	2013
River Lambourn SSSI Restoration Plan	Environment Agency	2013
River Beult SSSI Restoration Plan	Environment Agency	2013
Heritage at Risk 2012: South East	English Heritage	2012
South East Region Drought Plan	Environment Agency	2012
Thames Salmon Action Plan	Environment Agency	2011
Thames Eel Management Plan	DEFRA	2009
Water Resources strategy: Regional Actions Plan for South East Region	Environment Agency	2012
Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (Cherwell, Cherwell Thame and Wye, Colne, Cotwold, Darrent and Cray, Kennet and Pang, Loddon, London, Medway, Maidenhead to Sunbury, Mole, Roding Beam and Ingrebourne, Thame and South Chiltern, Thames Corridor, Upper Lee, Vale of White Horse, Wey).	Environment Agency	Various
Catchment Flood Management Plans: (River Medway, River Stour, North Kent Rivers, River Thames, South Essex.)	Environment Agency	2008
Shoreline Management Plans: (Isle of Grain to South Foreland, Essex and South Suffolk, River Medway and Swale Estuary.)	South East Coastal Group	2010
Estuary Management Plans: Thames Estuary 2100 Management Plan	Environment Agency	2012
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategies: Lower Lee, River Roding, Luton, River Wey (draft), Oxford, Churn, Lower Thames, Middle Medway.	Environment Agency	Various
Core Strategies, District Authorities: Bracknell Forest, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Luton, Medway, Oxfordshire, Reading, Slough, Surrey, Swindon, Thurrock, West Berkshire, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham, London Boroughs.	Local authorities	Various
South Marine Plan Area Plans South East inshore plan	Marine Management Organisation	
Minerals and Waste Plans	Local authorities	Various
Local Flood Risk Management Strategies	Local authorities	Various

# Annex 4: Environmental Baseline Summary to be considered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment

The SEA regulations set out a number of environmental factors to be considered during the assessment. In this FRMP assessment we want to focus on those effects that are likely to be significant, whether positive or negative at the scale of the plan which is for the river basin district. The following table sets out the environmental topics referred to in the regulations along with key baseline information for the river basin district and indicates whether we intend to consider it within the high level assessment

**Table A4: Range of environmental topics for consideration in the high level assessment**

Environmental topic	Baseline facts and figures	To be considered by the high level assessment?
<b>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecologically diverse range of habitat from lowland hay meadow and river corridor habitat, to extensive coastal estuarine systems;</li> <li>• 26 Natura 2000 sites, comprising 11 water dependent Special Areas of Conservation and 5 water dependent Special Protection areas;</li> <li>• 826 Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Many of these sites are dependent on water quality, water levels and provide habitat for protected species;</li> <li>• Numerous Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats;</li> <li>• The presence of numerous aquatic, riparian and terrestrial invasive species is an issue across the river basin district.</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Population and human health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The river basin covers an area of approximately 16,000km<sup>2</sup> and comprises 17 catchments, from the Thames Estuary to the limestone hills of the Cotswolds. It has one of the highest concentrations of people at risk from flooding in the country;</li> <li>• In places the river basin is heavily urbanised and home to 15 million people. This is expected to rise to 16 million by 2025. Key population growth areas include Slough, Milton Keynes and London;</li> <li>• Although one of the most highly populated parts of the UK, agriculture is one of the most important industries in the district;</li> <li>• The River Thames is an important recreation resource including boating, canoeing fishing and walking. The Thames National Trail provides access to these activities which help to support health and</li> </ul>	Yes

	<p>wellbeing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In terms of public health obesity is an issue with levels in the London part of the river basin higher than the national average. Life expectancy is however slightly above the national average.</li> </ul>	
<b>Soil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The geology of the mid and West river basin is predominantly outcrop chalk and outcrop limestone respectively;</li> <li>In Eastern parts of the district clay is more common, overlain with alluvial gravels in flood plain areas;</li> <li>The calcareous geology of the western and mid catchment generally absorbs rainfall more readily, with surface runoff from rainfall events in this part of the catchment occurring only under extreme rainfall conditions;</li> <li>Conversely the clay rich geology of the East of the river basin is less permeable than in the West and along with higher rates of urbanisation this mean the nature of flooding is more flashy and frequent in occurrence</li> <li>Intensive agricultural land use in rural parts o the catchment contributes to high increase sediment loads in rural rivers which can reduce capacity of rivers.</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 17 Catchments with 552 surface water bodies and 46 ground water bodies;</li> <li>Water as a resource is under pressure from high domestic, agricultural and commercial demand and from heavy urbanisation and dense transport networks in parts of the river basin;</li> <li>Additionally the river basin is one of driest in the UK, with rainfall levels significantly below the national average;</li> <li>Flooding, particularly in heavily urbanised areas, can occur, through a number of mechanisms, including: groundwater, surface water, river and coastal flooding;</li> <li>In terms of water quality, urban diffuse and point source pollution is an issue, as is diffuse agricultural pollution.</li> <li>Many urban rivers are physically modified to regulate their flow and manage their levels for navigation or flood prevention purposes.</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Air</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While individual actions may have small localised impact on air quality, at a strategic level it is very unlikely that the Flood Risk Management Plan would have a significant effect on air quality within the river basin district.</li> </ul>	No
<b>Climatic factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to UKCIP, by 2050 temperatures in the Thames River Basin are expected to rise by 2 to 4 degrees Celsius by 2050;</li> <li>Seasonal changes in rainfall patterns could increase</li> </ul>	Yes

	<p>winter rainfall by 18% whilst reducing summer rainfall by 15%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This may lead to lower summer river levels and droughts and more increased flooding potential during the winter months.</li> </ul>	
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The river basin has one of the highest concentrations of vital infrastructure in the country, including:</li> <li>• Airports of national importance such as London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted and London City airports;</li> <li>• Sea ports and associated facilities such as Tilbury Docks and the London Gateway currently being built;</li> <li>• Major Roads including the M4, M3, M25 and M1, other major roads, railway lines, power stations and infrastructure systems such as the London underground.</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Cultural heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A diverse range of heritage assets including: World Heritage Sites; Scheduled Monuments; Listed Buildings; and Registered Parks and Gardens; many including water related features. Many of these sites are vulnerable to flooding due to their proximity to watercourses;</li> <li>• Approximately 2200 Designated Scheduled Monuments;</li> <li>• A wealth of other heritage assets including many structures that are synonymous with the water environment such as mills, weirs, sluices and locks.</li> <li>• World Heritage Sites including, Kew Royal Botanical Gardens, Stonehenge, Maritime Greenwich, Palace of Westminster, Tower of London, Blenheim Palace.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Landscape</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A diverse landscape largely rural in western parts of the river basin, generally becoming more heavily urbanised towards London and the East;</li> <li>• Several Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty within and on the borders of the river basin district such as the North Wessex Downs, Chilterns, Surrey Hills;</li> <li>• Numerous National Character Areas within the South East &amp; London and East of England regional character areas.</li> </ul>	Yes

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