

Medway catchment update

Kent County Council Planning, Highways, Transport & Waste Cabinet Committee

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15th June 2017

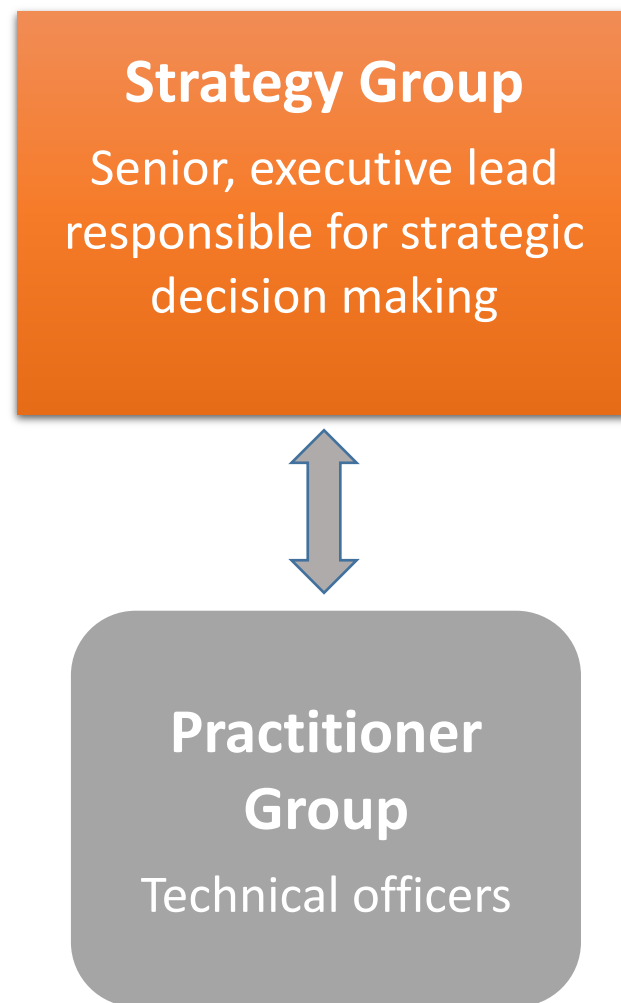
Background



- The River Medway catchment has over 3,000 properties at risk of flooding
- There are 17 flood warning areas and 17,016 users registered for flood alerts
- The most recent widespread flooding occurred in winter 2013/14, flooding 938 properties
- The Environment Agency has the 'strategic overview' of flood risk
- Lead Local Flood Authorities, Internal Drainage Boards, water companies and landowners also have responsibilities for flood risk management

Why create a Medway Flood Partnership?

- We all have a role to play in managing the risk of flooding and helping homes and businesses be better prepared for flooding
- It is a complex problem that can only be solved by working in partnership
- Communities have high expectations and want to see coordinated action
- The Medway Flood Partnership is bringing together the work of all organisations acting to reduce flood risk in the catchment
- Announced in Parliament in November 2016 – sponsored by Tom Tugendhat MP



Partnership benefits

We have already:

- Developed a **better understanding** of each other's organisational priorities and where these overlap
- Identified where we have **information and tools** we can share that help us all
- Identified opportunities for **joining up our activities** so we can deliver more for local communities

This will enable us to:

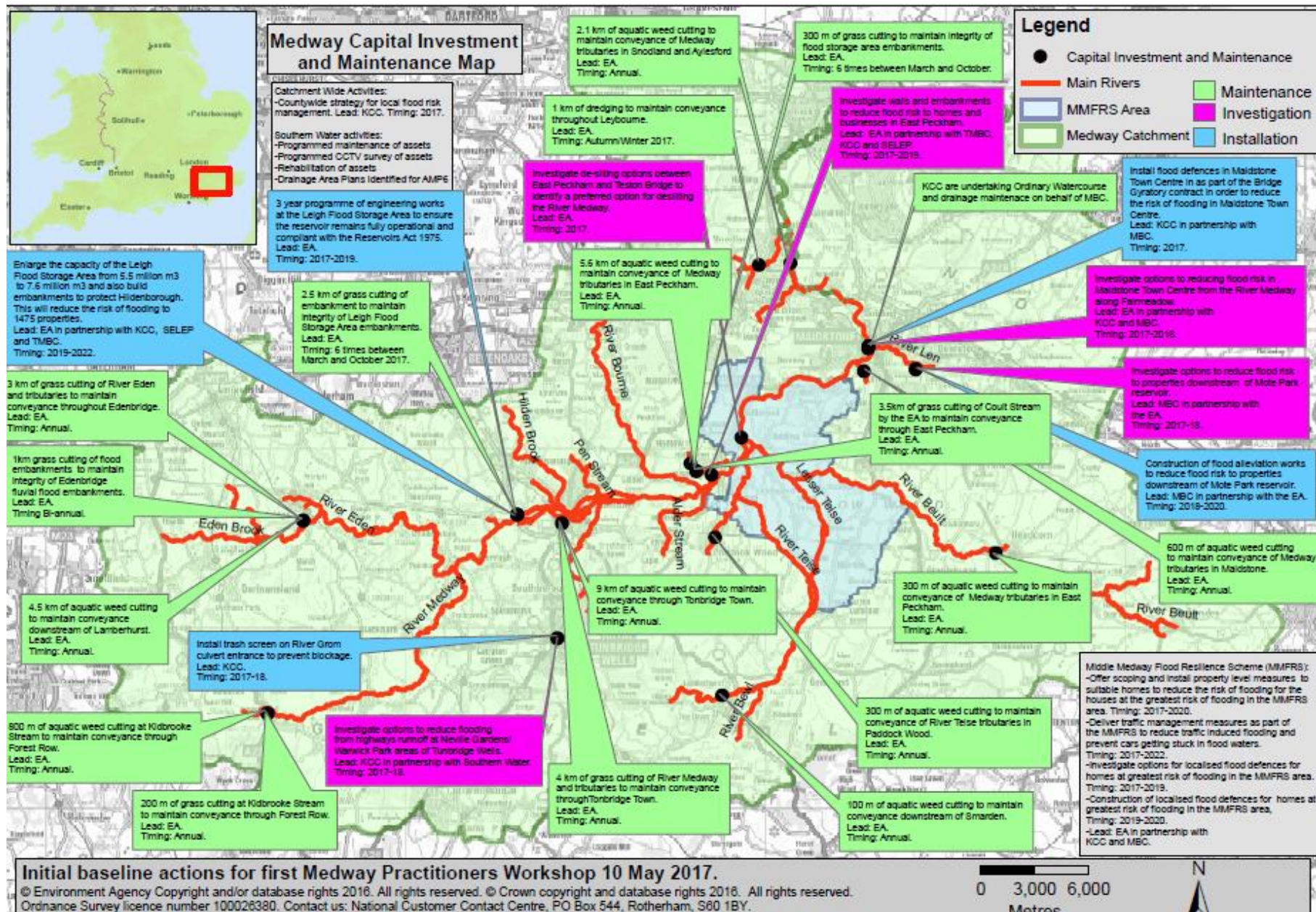
- Improve **communications and engagement** by adopting a joined up approach to engagement with communities, government and politicians
- **Broker strategic solutions** to problems identified through the partnership

Capital investment & maintenance

Natural Flood Management

Community resilience

Developing the Medway Flood Action Plan



Medway Capital Investment and Maintenance Map

Catchment Wide Activities:
 -Countywide strategy for local flood risk management. Lead: KCC. Timing: 2017.

Southern Water activities:
 -Programmed maintenance of assets
 -Programmed CCTV survey of assets
 -Rehabilitation of assets
 -Drainage Area Plans identified for AMFE

3 year programme of engineering works at the Leigh Flood Storage Area to ensure the reservoir remains fully operational and compliant with the Reservoirs Act 1975. Lead: EA. Timing: 2017-2019.

Enlarge the capacity of the Leigh Flood Storage Area from 5.5 million m3 to 7.6 million m3 and also build embankments to protect Hildenborough. This will reduce the risk of flooding to 1475 properties. Lead: EA in partnership with KCC, SELEP and TMBC. Timing: 2019-2022.

3 km of grass cutting of River Eder and tributaries to maintain conveyance throughout Edenbridge. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

1km grass cutting of flood embankments to maintain integrity of Edenbridge fluvial flood embankments. Lead: EA. Timing: Bi-annual.

4.5 km of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance downstream of Lambhurst. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

800 m of aquatic weed cutting at Kidbrooke Stream to maintain conveyance through Forest Row. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

300 m of grass cutting at Kidbrooke Stream to maintain conveyance through Forest Row. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

2.5 km of grass cutting of embankment to maintain integrity of Leigh Flood Storage Area embankments. Lead: EA. Timing: 5 times between March and October 2017.

2.1 km of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance of Medway tributaries in Snodland and Aylesford. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

1 km of dredging to maintain conveyance throughout Leybourne. Lead: EA. Timing: Autumn/Winter 2017.

5.5 km of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance of Medway tributaries in East Peckham. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

9 km of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance through Tonbridge Town. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

4 km of grass cutting of River Medway and tributaries to maintain conveyance through Tonbridge Town. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

300 m of grass cutting to maintain integrity of flood storage area embankments. Lead: EA. Timing: 5 times between March and October.

Investigate walls and embankments to reduce flood risk to homes and businesses in East Peckham. Lead: EA in partnership with TMBC, KCC and SELEP. Timing: 2017-2019.

Investigate desilting options between East Peckham and Teston Bridge to identify a preferred option for desilting the River Medway. Lead: EA. Timing: 2017.

KCC are undertaking Ordinary Watercourse and drainage maintenance on behalf of MBC.

Install flood defences in Maidstone Town Centre in as part of the Bridge Gyrotory contract in order to reduce the risk of flooding in Maidstone Town Centre. Lead: KCC in partnership with MBC. Timing: 2017.

Investigate options to reduce flood risk in Maidstone Town Centre from the River Medway along Farmmeadow. Lead: EA in partnership with KCC and MBC. Timing: 2017-2019.

Investigate options to reduce flood risk to properties downstream of Mole Park reservoir. Lead: MBC in partnership with the EA. Timing: 2017-19.

Construction of flood alleviation works to reduce flood risk to properties downstream of Mole Park reservoir. Lead: MBC in partnership with the EA. Timing: 2019-2020.

3.5km of grass cutting of Coult Stream by the EA to maintain conveyance through East Peckham. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

300 m of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance of Medway tributaries in East Peckham. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

300 m of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance of River Teise tributaries in Paddock Wood. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

100 m of aquatic weed cutting to maintain conveyance downstream of Smarden. Lead: EA. Timing: Annual.

Middle Medway Flood Resilience Scheme (MMFRS):
 -Offer scoping and install property level measures to suitable homes to reduce the risk of flooding for the houses at the greatest risk of flooding in the MMFRS area. Timing: 2017-2020.
 -Deliver traffic management measures as part of the MMFRS to reduce traffic induced flooding and prevent cars getting stuck in flood waters. Timing: 2017-2022.
 -Investigate options for localised flood defences for homes at greatest risk of flooding in the MMFRS area. Timing: 2017-2019.
 -Construction of localised flood defences for homes at greatest risk of flooding in the MMFRS area. Timing: 2019-2020.
 -Lead: EA in partnership with KCC and MBC.



Next steps

Develop a **shared action plan** for the next 5 years, and a 25 year vision for the future

Summer

- Draft short term actions (next 5 years)
- Draft 25 year vision and pathway to getting there
- July Strategic Group meeting



Autumn

- Final draft action plan
- Agree monitoring & reporting process
- September Strategy Group meeting



Dec 2017

- Publish Medway Flood Action Plan