



**Cyfoeth
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Wales



Managing the risk of flooding in the Western Wales River Basin District

What's being planned and when

On 1 April 2013, Natural Resources Wales brought together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales, as well as some functions of the Welsh Government. Our purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, used and enhanced, now and in the future.

We will work for the communities of Wales to protect people and their homes as much as possible from environmental incidents like flooding and pollution. We will provide opportunities for them to learn, use and benefit from Wales' natural resources.

We will work for Wales' economy and enable the sustainable use of natural resources to support jobs & enterprise. We will help businesses and developers to understand and consider environmental limits when they make important decisions.

We will work to maintain and improve the quality of the environment for everyone. We will work towards making the environment and natural resources more resilient to climate change and other pressures.

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Foreword

Over the next two years, Natural Resources Wales 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 direct important decisions, target considerable investment and start actions to deliver significant benefits to both society and the environment.

RBMPs identify the current condition of, and pressures upon, 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 then set out objectives and measures for managing that risk. They collate information about all sources of flooding, and coastal erosion where appropriate, to better inform prioritisation, decision making and work programming.

Natural Resources Wales, Lead Local Flood Authorities and Water Companies 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 flood risk maps and flood hazard maps that show the areas that get flooded and what is affected by the flooding, allowing improved understanding of flood risk. 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 Natural Resources Wales and Lead Local Flood Authorities are already doing in partnership, and now Natural Resources Wales are setting out plans for flood risk management across each river basin district. River basin districts (RBDs) are areas identified to manage the water environment effectively. Each RBD has a defined drainage area independent of one another. This document covers the Western Wales RBD.

This document is not a consultation, but rather highlights the scope of the FRMPs: which sources of flooding are included and the consultation Natural Resources Wales and Lead Local Flood Authorities are carrying out.

Natural Resources Wales will be consulting on a draft flood risk management plan for the whole of the Western Wales 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.

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

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

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



Graham Hillier
Executive Director
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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 floods and help to reduce their impact.

Box 1. The purpose of this document

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 flood risk.

The document 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 and Wales

The roles and responsibilities of different flood risk management authorities (RMAs) in England¹ and Wales² are set out in the Flood and Water Management Act, 2010³. This act also requires the Welsh Government to set out the approach to managing flood and coastal erosion risk in Wales through the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales⁴. This aims to improve flood and coastal erosion risk management for communities and businesses, and deliver greater environmental gain.

European requirements

In addition, the European Floods Directive⁵ aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe. The Directive is implemented through the Flood Risk Regulations 2009⁶ 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 consultation⁷ on the approach to developing Flood Risk Management Plans in England and Wales considered options for delivering FRMPs. The preferred approach to FRMPs is for Natural Resources Wales to prepare joint FRMPs in partnership with others. For this first cycle of FRMPs, joint FRMPs are not being pursued in Wales.

In parallel with 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 will co-ordinate effectively with River Basin Management Planning so that plans are joined up and that we and others can deliver more for the environment.

Box 2. Co-ordinating with River Basin Management Planning

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) lead on the development of River Basin Management Plans that set out how we and others plan to protect and improve the water environment in Wales.

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 the Natural Resources Wales website⁸ for plans covering Wales.

The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy in Wales provides the National framework for all Risk Management Authorities to work within. A hierarchy of strategic and delivery plans establish the approach for the various RMAs to deliver the aims and objectives of the national strategy. Over time, FRMPs will consolidate and replace many of the main plans produced by RMAs.

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
National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management ⁴	Sets out the policies on flood and coastal erosion risk management in Wales.	Statutory requirement under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.	Welsh Government.
Flood Risk Management Plans in Wales ⁹	To manage flooding from rivers, the sea, reservoirs, surface water and groundwater.	Required under the European Floods Directive; implemented by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.	Lead Local Flood Authorities for flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. Natural Resources Wales for flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs.
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Sets out responsibilities for managing flooding in each Lead Local Flood Authority, 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.
Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMPs)	Current and future inland flood risk management across all catchments. These plans set out preferred policies for river flooding in England and Wales.	Voluntary plans. Published in 2009-10.	Natural Resources Wales.
Shoreline Management Plans	Current and future coastal flood and coastal	Voluntary plans.	Coastal Groups (comprising LLFAs,

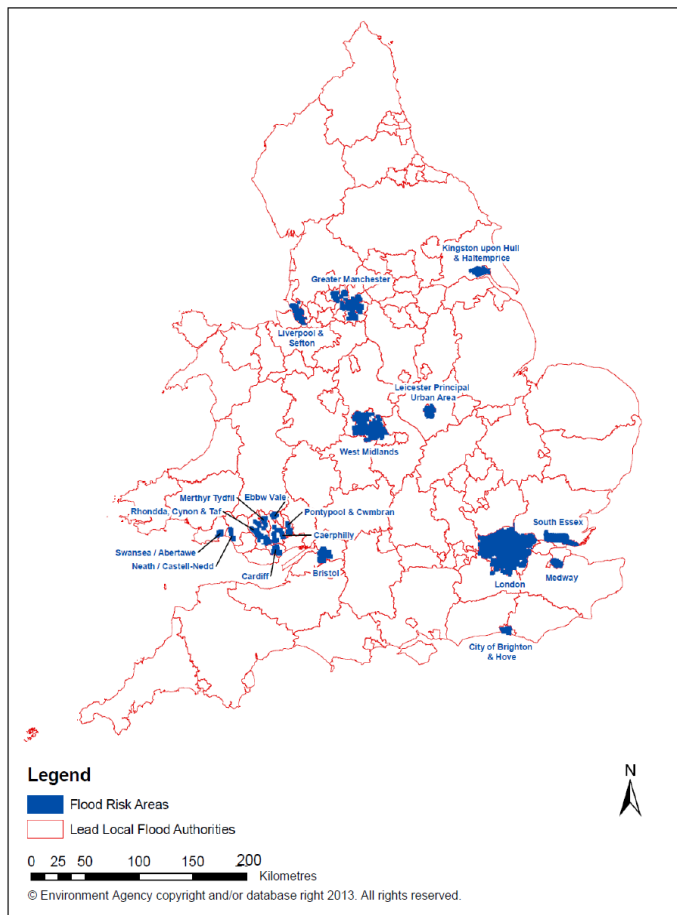
(SMPs)	erosion risk management. These plans set out preferred policies for the coastline of England and Wales.	Second round of SMPs published in 2010-13.	NRW, EA and others).
River, estuary and coastal strategies	Outline investment proposals for flood and coastal erosion risk management. Prepared to support an investment proposal for funding.	Voluntary plans.	Risk Management Authorities.
Water Level Management Plans (WLMPs)	Approach to managing water levels in environmentally sensitive areas. These plans are developed to enable agreement between different users of water.	Voluntary plans.	Natural Resources Wales, Drainage Authorities and land owners
Reservoir Flood plans in Wales	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. 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.	Voluntary plans.	On-site Flood Plans are developed by the owners of the reservoir. Off-site Flood Plans are developed by the Local Resilience Forums.
System Asset Management Plans	Plans that set out the maintenance regime for asset systems.	Voluntary plans.	Owners and operators of assets.

3. What planning is happening now

Flood risk management planning is something that risk management authorities (RMAs) do already, but new European legislation, the Floods Directive, has formalised this. 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 surface water flooding for the 10 Flood Risk Areas¹ 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 in England and Wales 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 (for surface water flooding risk only) in England and Wales

¹ 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 guidance¹⁰).

4. What this means for the Western Wales River Basin District

Overview

Natural Resources Wales will produce the Western Wales RBD Flood Risk Management Plan for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs and the sea.

The LLFAs that fall within the Western Wales RBD have already produced their Local Flood Risk Management Strategies to meet the requirements of the Floods and Water Management Act, covering local sources of flood risk. There are two LLFAs with flood risk areas designated under the Flood Risk Regulations who will be producing separate FRMPs to meet the Flood Risk Regulations requirements (Swansea City Council and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council). The remaining LLFAs in the Western Wales RBD have made the commitment on a voluntary basis to produce FRMPs despite not having flood risk areas as designated under the Flood Risk Regulations, as this will supplement their Local Flood Risk Management Strategies. These will be produced to a timetable determined by each LLFA.

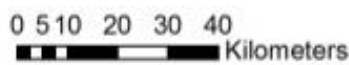
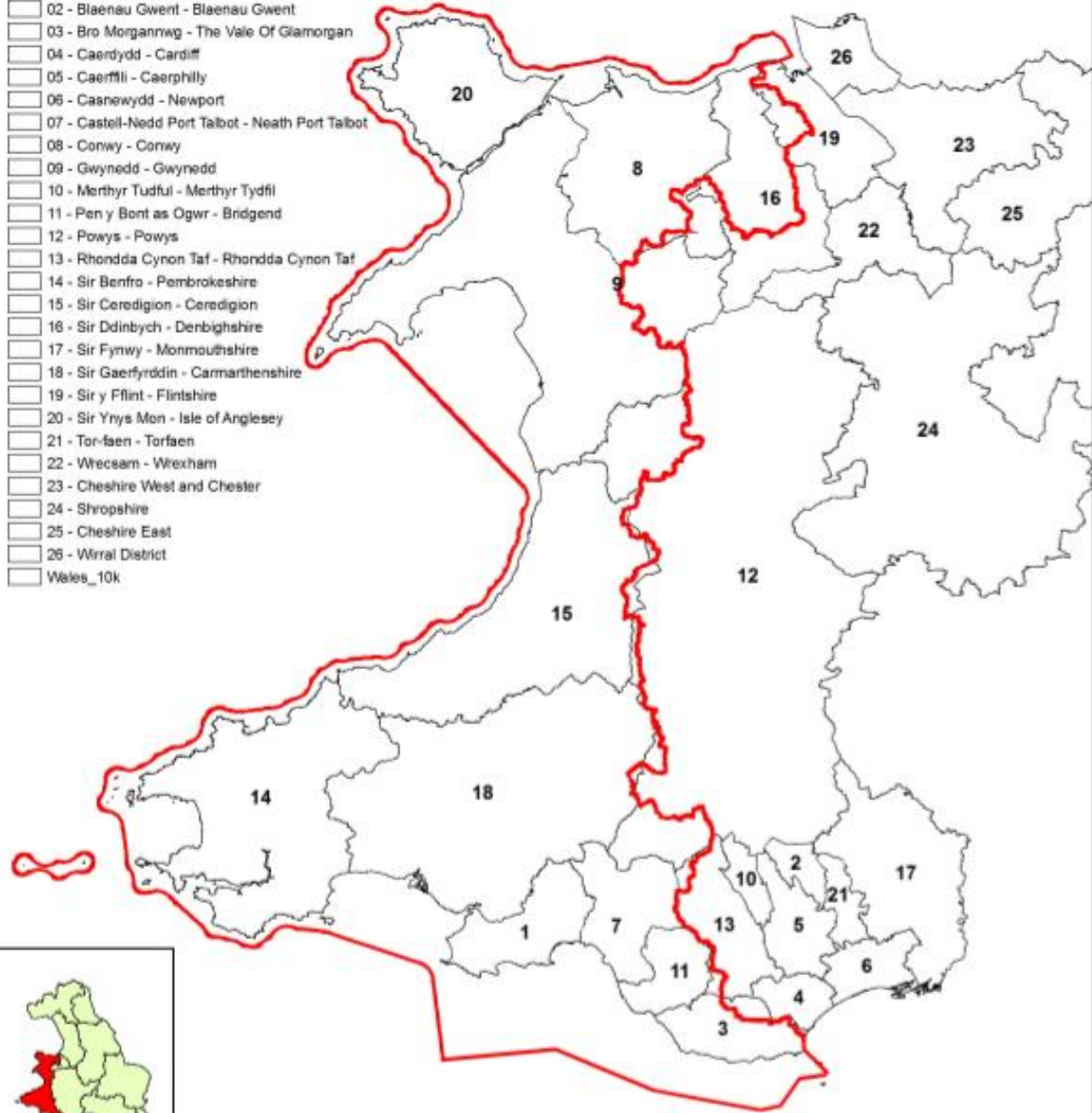
Lead Local Flood Authority areas are shown in Figure 2.

Legend

- Western Wales RBD
- Lead_Local_Authorities**
- <all other values>

LABEL

- 01- Abertawe - Swansea
- 02 - Blaenau Gwent - Blaenau Gwent
- 03 - Bro Morgannwg - The Vale Of Glamorgan
- 04 - Caerdydd - Cardiff
- 05 - Caerffili - Caerphilly
- 06 - Casnewydd - Newport
- 07 - Castell-Nedd Port Talbot - Neath Port Talbot
- 08 - Conwy - Conwy
- 09 - Gwynedd - Gwynedd
- 10 - Merthyr Tudful - Merthyr Tydfil
- 11 - Pen y Bont as Ogwr - Bridgend
- 12 - Powys - Powys
- 13 - Rhondda Cynon Taf - Rhondda Cynon Taf
- 14 - Sir Benfro - Pembrokeshire
- 15 - Sir Ceredigion - Ceredigion
- 16 - Sir Ddinbych - Denbighshire
- 17 - Sir Fynwy - Monmouthshire
- 18 - Sir Gaerfyrddin - Carmarthenshire
- 19 - Sir y Fflint - Flintshire
- 20 - Sir Ynys Mon - Isle of Anglesey
- 21 - Tor-faen - Torfaen
- 22 - Wrecsam - Wrexham
- 23 - Cheshire West and Chester
- 24 - Shropshire
- 25 - Cheshire East
- 26 - Wirral District
- Wales_10k



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Figure 2: Lead Local Flood Authorities in the Western Wales River Basin District

Box 3, and Figure 3 below, shows the LLFAs within the Western Wales River Basin District (RBD) which have to produce FRMPs on a statutory basis and those that will produce FRMPs on a voluntary basis. They also show what will be covered by Natural Resources Wales.

Annex 1 lists the plans and strategies that will be drawn from to develop the draft FRMP for the Western Wales RBD, and the dates of previous consultation.

Box 3. FRMPs in the Western Wales RBD being prepared and consulted on

Within the Western Wales 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 Western Wales RBD that covers:

- flooding from main rivers, the sea and reservoirs for the RBD (as a statutory requirement).

PLUS

Consultation on separate draft Flood Risk Management Plans that cover only local sources of flooding for the following areas:

- City and County of Swansea (statutory);
- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (statutory);
- Vale of Glamorgan County Council (voluntary);
- Bridgend County Borough Council (voluntary);
- Carmarthenshire County Council (voluntary);
- Pembrokeshire County Council (voluntary);
- Ceredigion County Council (voluntary);
- Powys County Council (voluntary);
- Gwynedd Council (voluntary);
- Conwy County Borough Council (voluntary);
- Isle of Anglesey County Council (voluntary);
- Flintshire County Council (voluntary);
- Denbighshire County Council (voluntary).

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

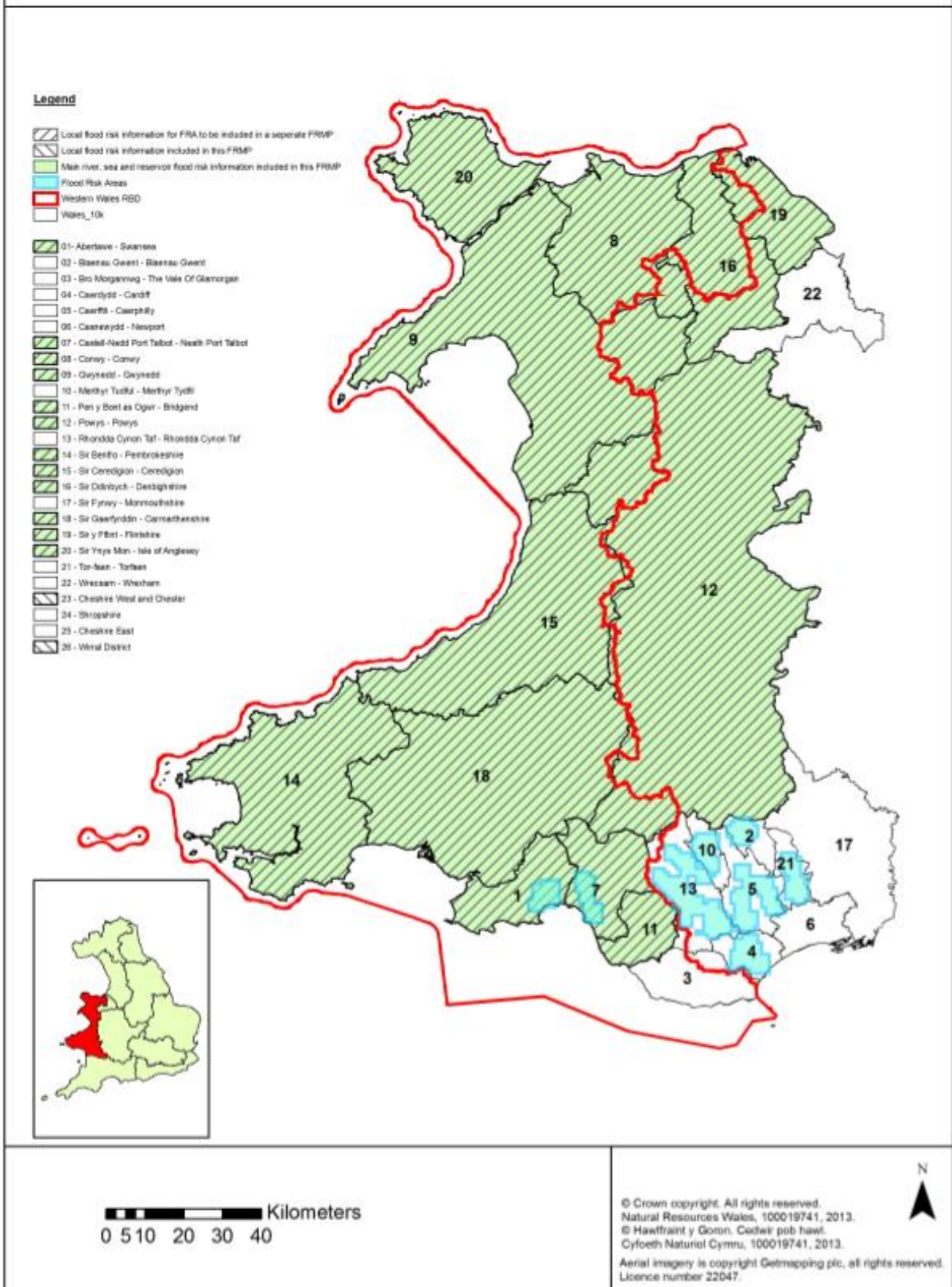


Figure 3: Scope of Flood Risk Management Planning for the Western Wales River Basin District

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 SEA¹¹.

The FRMP for each River Basin District is intended to consolidate information from a number of existing and developing 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. We propose that FRMP SEA will need to include:

- a summary of baseline information covering environmental and social indicators of current status and trends for the Western Wales RBD;
- a summary of other policies and plans that will have an influence on the objectives of the FRMP or will be influenced by it;
- a cumulative assessment of all existing SEA reports in relation to their aggregated effects on the RBD baseline of environmental and social indicators plus their contribution or impact on other policies and plans relevant to the RBD spatial scale;
- a cumulative assessment of the measures assigned in the FRMP;
- a detailed assessment of any measure transferred from existing plans where this is scoped in;
- a detailed assessment of any new measure (derived, for example, through our work with communities at risk) where this is scoped in.

Other policies and plans

We have set out the plans that we consider to be relevant to the FRMP 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.

Environmental effects and baseline

Water environments provide a range of benefits which the FRMPs seek to protect and enhance, including economic, social and environmental benefits. There is a strong link between these benefits and the environmental factors that we will address as part of the SEA. Additionally, we will assess the significant effects on the wider environment.

The SEA regulations set out a number of environmental factors to be considered during the assessment. In our assessment we want to focus on those effects that are likely to be significant, whether positive or negative. The following table sets out the environmental issues referred to in the regulations along with key baseline information for the River Basin District and indicates whether we intend to address the issue as part of the assessment.

Table 2: Scoping environmental topics

Environmental topic	Baseline facts and figures	To be addressed by the SEA?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 70% of the Welsh Coast is designated as either a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a Special Protection Areas (SPA) with a range of habitats such as coastal saltmarsh, grazing marsh, mudflats, reedbeds, cliffs, dunes and shingle. • There are 7 Ramsar sites within or near the River Basin District. • Of the European sites present in the district 60 of the SACs and 12 of the SPAs are water dependent. Many of the Sites of Special Scientific Interest also have close links with the water environment. • The district contains many rivers that support salmon and trout (498 Freshwater Fish Waters), and the rivers of Wales account for more than half of the Sea Trout caught in England and Wales. • The district supports a number of protected species such as Otters, Allis and Twaite shad, Water Voles, Freshwater White Clawed Crayfish, and Depressed River Mussels. • Invasive species in the district include Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and North American Signal Crayfish. • Skomer and Lundy Islands, off the Pembrokeshire coast are designated as Marine Nature Reserves. 	Yes
Population and human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population of the district is around 1.3 million, and the principle urban centres are Swansea, Bangor and Aberystwyth. Generally, the populations of Local Authority areas in the district are increasing but some rural coastal areas are decreasing. The population is projected to get gradually older, and the number of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase by around 35% by 2023. • There are some health inequalities evidenced by greater social deprivation along the North Wales coast, northern Anglesey, northwest Gwynedd, parts of Ceredigion, southern Pembrokeshire and the Swansea valleys. • A number of outstanding recreational opportunities exist within the district which contribute to people's quality of life, provide employment and other potential economic benefits. 	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism is a major part of the local economy for the majority of the district, especially within Pembrokeshire, the Brecon Beacons, Snowdonia Anglesey and the Gower. The Wales Coastal Path attracted approximately 3 million people within the first 12 months of it opening. 	
Geology & Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bedrock geology is varied across the district including sandstone, limestone and igneous bedrock as well as a range of important superficial deposits. • Coal and metal mining has been important to the district historically, which has left a legacy of pollution. The South Wales coalfield, lead and silver in mid Wales, copper was mined in Snowdonia and at Parys Mountain on Anglesey, whilst gold was exploited around Dolgellau and Pumpsaint. A number of other metals (zinc, arsenic, antimony and manganese) have also been historically mined across Wales. • Fforest Fawr Geopark is within the Brecon Beacons National Park and its geological heritage is of European significance. • Within the district there are approximately 450 SSSIs designated for geology and earth science features. • Soil types are strongly influenced by topography. Soil quality has been adversely affected by inappropriate management, reliance on pesticides and loss of nutrients and organic wastes from agricultural sources, all of which also impact on water. Some soils are also vulnerable to acidification. • Parts of the district have areas of peatland habitat (eg upland blanket bogs). When in good condition these areas are valuable for biodiversity, carbon storage and sequestration, regulation of stream base flows, water runoff and nutrient regulation and retention. 	Yes
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district has 100 beaches which are EC designated bathing waters and attract many visitors to Wales each year, contributing millions of pounds to the Welsh economy. • There are 814 water bodies across the district comprising rivers, coastal waters, lakes, groundwater and estuaries. In 2009, 29% of the water bodies were “good” status, this rose to 35% in 2013. • Significant water issues identified for the Western Wales River Basin District are: Physical modifications, pollution from sewage and waste water, pollution from towns, cities and transport, pollution from rural areas, pollution from mines and invasive non native species. 	Yes

Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While individual actions may have a 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. 	No
Climatic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UKCIP predicts that, by the 2050s, temperatures across Wales could rise by 1.1 to 4.1°C. Annual average rainfall in Wales is predicted to remain roughly the same as present, but there is likely to be a large difference in the patterns of summer and winter rainfall. Increased winter rainfall is expected as a result of increased storminess, leading to intense, but short-lived, rainfall events. Summer rainfall may decrease and short duration droughts (12-18months) are likely to become more frequent. Future sea level rise along Wales' coast is likely to result in more severe coastal erosion and inundation events in low-lying coastal areas. The relative sea level rise around Wales is predicted to be 36cm by the 2080s. 	Yes
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes railways (eg the mainline from London to Swansea that continues to Pembroke Dock), roads (including the M4 and A55), energy infrastructure (such as power stations on the Pembrokeshire Coast and Wylfa on Anglesey), ports and ferry terminals (including Holyhead, Pembroke Dock, Milford Haven, Port Talbot and Swansea) and industrial and commercial development (such as oil and steel). Wales has a larger manufacturing sector than the UK average. Sea Fishing, salmon net fisheries, mussel fisheries (such as Menai Strait) and cockle beds (such as Burry Inlet) are important to the local economy, with 25 areas designated as Shellfish Waters in the district. Recently there has been an increasing demand for hydropower, with over 100 sites being investigated. Flood defences on rivers, estuaries and along the coast protect homes, businesses, industry and farmland. Agriculture is an important part of the rural economy. Lower grades of agricultural land are predominant and grazing of sheep and cattle dominates over arable crops. Woodland covers 14% of the land area in Wales, most of which is conifer woodland or native woodland. 	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling rates have increased but continuing waste production and limited landfill capacity in the district means waste management is an ongoing challenge. 	
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd (four sites: Beaumaris, Caernarfon, Harlech and Conwy) is a World Heritage Site. The seas around Wales contain an immense wealth of archaeological sites and remains and many coastal sites and wrecks have been scheduled and some are protected under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. There are more than 2,500 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, approximately 200 registered park and gardens and numerous listed buildings and heritage sites. A large number of Wales' 58 Landscapes of Historic Interest fall within the district, covering over 300,000ha. Many structures directly associated with the water environment have listed status e.g. mills, bridges, weirs and sluices. Archaeological features associated with the flood plain and land saturated by groundwater can be put at risk from drying out, erosion or inundation. 	Yes
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landscape of the district varies considerably from the mountains and lakes of Snowdonia and the estuaries of the mid-Wales coast, to the beaches and cliffs of Pembrokeshire, and the industrial heritage of the South Wales Valleys. A large proportion of the district, particularly around mid Wales and the coast is considered to be a tranquil area. With traffic, settlements and industry disturbance being mainly in the South and North extremities of Wales. There are three National Parks covering 287,830ha (17%) of the district: Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The Brecon Beacons were awarded international dark sky status in February 2013, one of only 5 places in the world to hold this designation. There are substantial areas of the district (65, 926ha, 4%) designated as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). These include the Llyn Peninsula, Gower, Anglesey and part of the Clwydian Range. Approximately 500km of the Welsh Coast is designated as Heritage Coast. 	Yes

The Approach to FRMP and its associated SEA

SMP2 policies, having recently been developed, will remain current and actions will be taken forward in the FRMP, where they correspond with those communities at greatest risk from flooding. The CFMP's are more dated and contain a number of completed actions. The CFMP policy units will be taken forward along with any incomplete actions that are still relevant into the FRMP. The SEA will identify whether such transition actions included in the FRMP are likely to have significant environmental effects.

The Communities at Risk Register is a tool that has been produced in Wales to allow prioritisation of flood risk management operations for rivers and the sea using a risk based approach. This tool targets actions for managing flood risk to those locations at greatest risk. This can include actions to improve flood warning and undertake awareness raising activities, as well as operations on the ground to actively reduce flood risk. The Communities at Risk Register will be developed further and used for community scale actions within the Western Wales FRMP. The SEA will require screening of the measures from the Communities at Risk Register to ensure the SEA is focussed on those that could have a positive or negative environmental effect.

How the SEA assessments 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

Content of the FRMP	Will it be considered in the SEA?
Flood risk maps	No, this provides factual information
Flood risk management objectives	Yes, we will assess the likely impacts of our objectives. This will be a high-level assessment at a River Basin District scale.
Flood risk management measures transferred from existing plans	Yes, we will provide a summary of the significant environmental effects and use this to help identify cumulative impacts. The existing Environmental Report can be used to provide evidence and information.
New flood risk management measures (e.g. from communities at risk register)	A scoping exercise will be undertaken to consider whether new measures are likely to have significant environmental effects. The scoping exercise will be clearly documented in the Environmental Report.
Flood Risk Area FRMP	Yes, we will provide a summary of the significant environmental effects and use this to help identify cumulative impacts.

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 remain valid and the need for new assessments will depend upon whether there are new actions included in the FRMP.

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.

Environmental Report and draft FRMP

An Environmental Report will be published with the draft FRMP for consultation. 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 Natural Resources Wales 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. GOV UK - Flood risk management: information for flood risk management authorities, asset owners and local authorities
2. Welsh Government - Flood and Water Management Act 2010
3. Legislation UK - Flood and Water Management Act 2010
4. Welsh Government – National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales
5. European Commission – A new EU Floods Directive
6. Legislation UK - The Flood Risk Regulations 2009
7. Environment Agency - Consultation on the approach to Flood Risk Management Plans in England and Wales
8. Natural Resources Wales – The Water Framework Directive
9. Natural Resources Wales – Flood Risk Management Plans
10. Defra - Selecting and reviewing Flood Risk Areas for local sources of flooding
11. Legislation UK - The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004

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 RBD 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 Western Wales River Basin District.

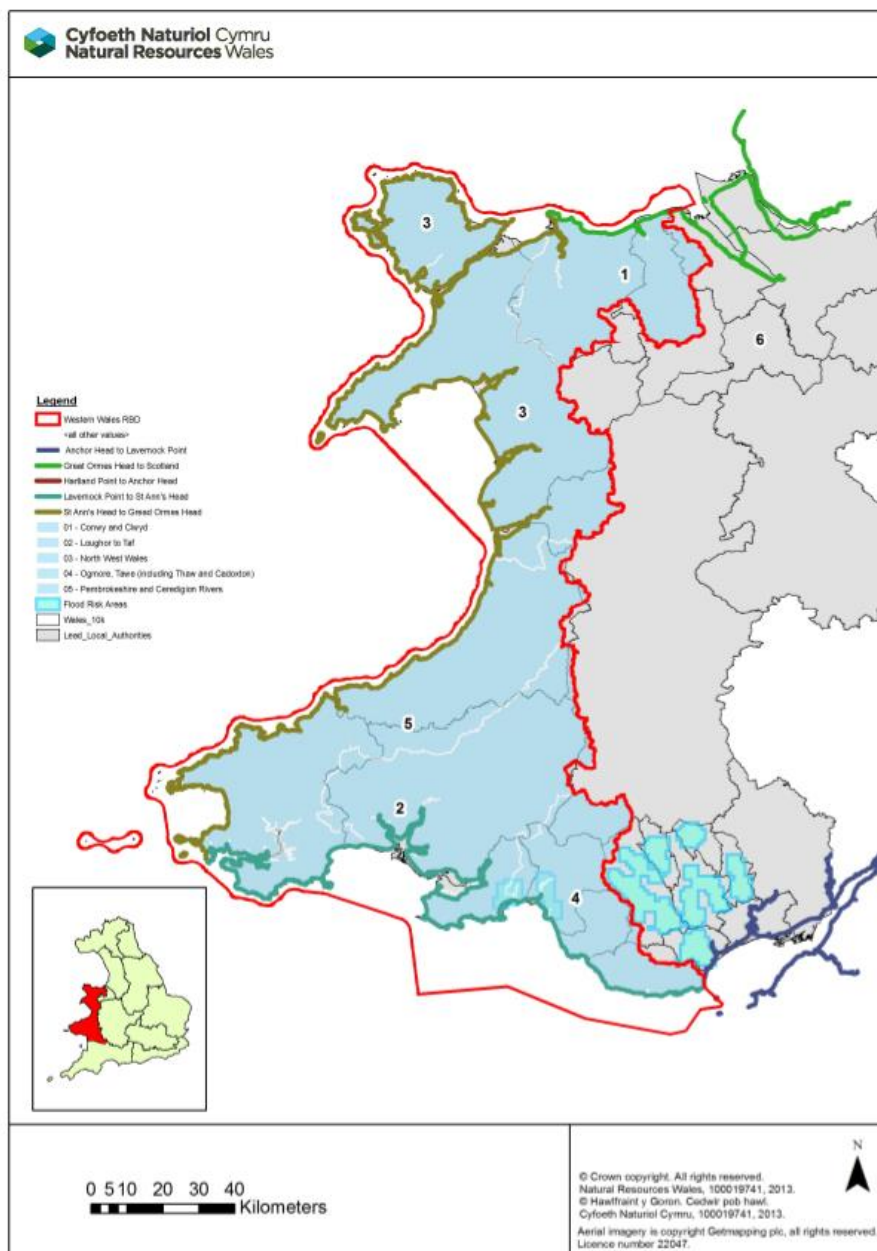


Figure 4: CFMPs and SMPs in the Western Wales River Basin District

Tables A1 and B1 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 how we intend to use existing plans as we 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 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)

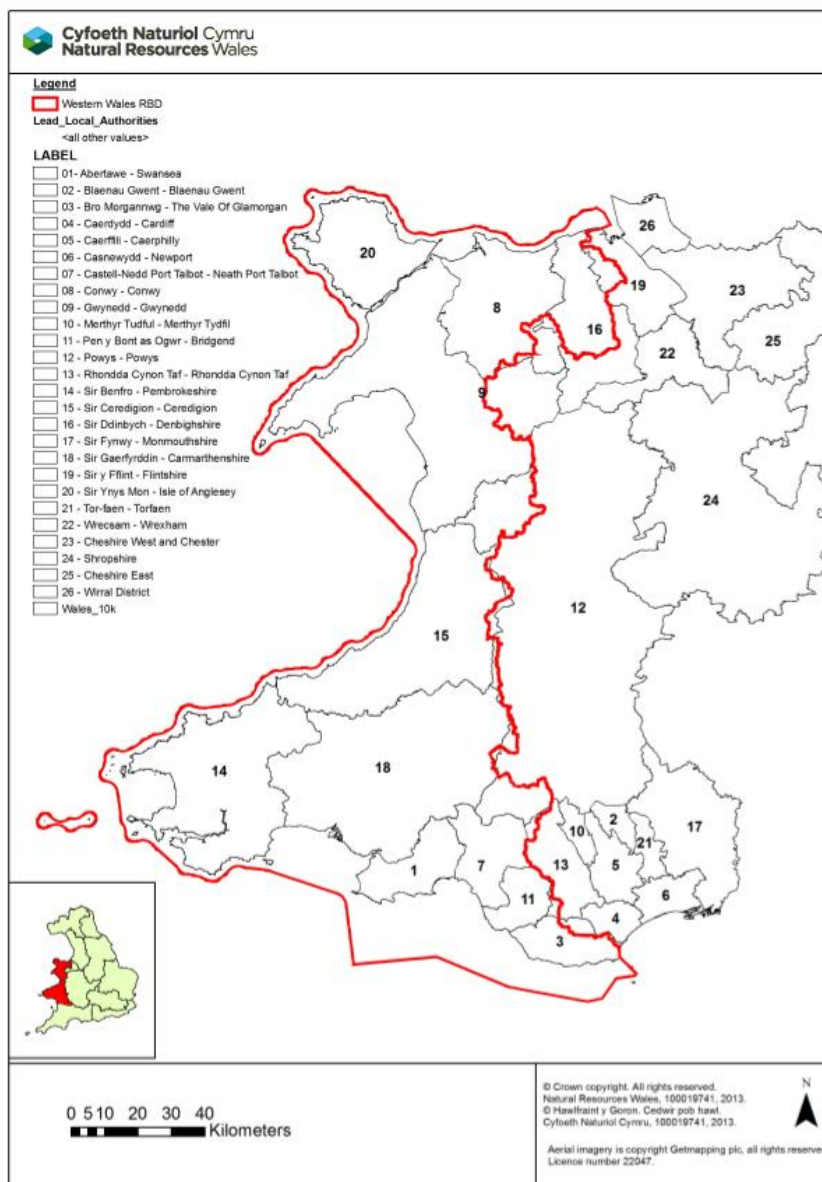


Figure 5: LLFAs in the Western Wales River Basin District

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	Sources of risk drawn from plan	Status of information in FRMP (statutory or voluntary)	Comments on proposed changes to the information contained in the original plan for inclusion in the 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:											
4	Ogmore to Tawe	Flooding from main rivers	statutory: this information informs the statutory requirements for Flood Risk Management Plans under the Flood Risk Regulations	We will retain the CFMP Policy Units and agreed strategic direction for management of flood risk (current and future) as set out in the Catchment Flood Management Plans. We will take forward any ongoing or planned CFMP actions that are still appropriate and relevant. We will supplement those actions with more specific community level actions that are targeted at those communities of greatest risk.	02/10/08 until 28/12/08	Yes	Yes	Stage 3	No	Mar-09	Natural Resources Wales: General enquiries on: 0300 065 3000 or email: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
2	Loughor to Taf				02/10/08 until 30/12/08	Yes	Yes	Stage 3	No	Mar-09	
5	Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion				09/10/08 until 31/12/08	Yes	Yes	Stage 2	No	Mar-09	
3	North West Wales				02/10/08 until 29/12/08	Yes	Yes	Stage 3	No	Mar-09	
1	Conwy and Clywd				23/10/08 until 31/12/08	Yes	Yes	Stage 3	No	Mar-09	
Information from the following Inland, coastal and estuary strategies and plans:											
	Clywd Tidal Strategy	Flooding from main rivers and the sea	statutory: this information informs the statutory requirements for Flood Risk Management Plans under the Flood Risk Regulations	We will not be making changes to the existing Dee estuary strategy. We will take forward any actions that are appropriate and coincide with those communities of greatest risk within the River Basin District.	10/11/09 until 10/01/2010	Yes	Yes - screening only	No	No	Jan-12	Natural Resources Wales: General enquiries on: 0300 065 3000 or email: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk
Information from the following Shoreline Management Plans:											
	SMP 20: Swansea and Carmarthen Bay (Lavernock Point to St Ann's Head)	Flooding from the sea	statutory: this information informs the statutory requirements for Flood Risk Management Plans under the Flood Risk Regulations	We will not be making changes to the existing shoreline management plans. We will retain the SMP Policy Units and agreed strategic direction for the management of the coast. The Shoreline Management Plans and associated action plans will remain as plans in their own right but we will bring in agreed actions in relation to flooding from the sea where they correspond with those communities of greatest risk from flooding.	06/09/2010 until 06/12/10	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (case awaiting agreement from WG)	Final plan approved by Local Authorities, submitted to WG December 2012, awaiting sign off.	Carmarthenshire County Council General enquiries on: 01267 234567 or Email: direct@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
	SMP 21: West of Wales (St Ann's Head to Great Orme's Head)				06/05/11 until 08/08/11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (case awaiting agreement from WG)	Final plan approved by Local Authorities, submitted to WG May 2013, awaiting sign off.	Pembrokeshire County Council Contact: General enquiries on: (01437) 764551 or Email: enquiries@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
	SMP 22: North West and North Wales (Great Orme's Head to Scotland)				Oct 09 until Feb 10	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (case awaiting agreement from WG, DEFRA agreement in place)	Final plan approved by Local Authorities, submitted to WG late 2011, awaiting	Blackpool Borough Council General enquiries on: 01253 477477 or email: customer.first@blackpool.gov.uk

Table B1. Information compiled by Lead Local Flood Authorities related to 'local' sources of flooding (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?	Is local flood risk information included in Western Wales RBD FRMP?	Will the LLFA be producing a separate FRMP?	Local Strategy progress (as of December 2013)	Lead Authority (Who to contact for further information)
3	Vale of Glamorgan County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	In progress. Consultation complete. Sign off expected Jan 14.	Vale of Glamorgan Council Tel: 01446 700111
11	Bridgend County Borough Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Bridgend County Borough Council Tel: 01656 643643 Email: talktous@bridgend.gov.uk
7	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council	Local	No	No	Yes - statutory	In progress. Awaiting WG approval.	Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Tel: (01639) 686868 Email: contactus@npt.gov.uk
1	City and County of Swansea	Local	No	No	Yes - statutory	Completed.	City and County of Swansea Tel: 01792 636000 Email: contact@swansea.gov.uk
18	Carmarthenshire County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Carmarthenshire County Council Tel: 01267 234567 Email: direct@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
14	Pembrokeshire County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	In progress. Consultation expected Jan 14.	Pembrokeshire County Council Tel: (01437) 764551 Email: enquiries@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
15	Ceredigion County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	In progress. Expected completion Feb 2014.	Ceredigion County Council Tel: 01545 570881 Email: reception@ceredigion.gov.uk
12	Powys County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	In progress. Consultation complete. Sign off expected Jan 14.	Powys County Council Tel: 0845 602 7030 Email: customer@powys.gov.uk
9	Gwynedd Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Gwynedd Council Tel: 01766 771000
20	Isle of Anglesey County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Isle of Anglesey County Council Tel: (01248) 750057
8	Conwy County Borough Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Conwy County Borough Council Tel: 01492 574000 Email: information@conwy.gov.uk
16	Denbighshire County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	In progress.	Denbighshire County Council Tel: 01824 706101
19	Flintshire County Council	Local	No	No	Yes - voluntary	Completed.	Flintshire County Council Tel: 01352 752121

Annex 2: Policies, plans and programmes to be considered by the Strategic Environmental Assessment

Table A2 sets out the national plans, policies and programmes and Table B2 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 A2: National plans, policies and programmes to be considered in the SEA

Policy / Plan / Programme	Year	Published by
People, Places, Future – The Wales Spatial Plan	2008	Welsh Government
Planning Policy Wales (including Technical advice Notes: Nature Conservation and Planning, Design, Tourism, Development and Flood Risk, Transport, Waste, Renewable Energy, Coastal Planning)	2012	Welsh Government
Environment Strategy for Wales	2006	Welsh Government
Wales Biodiversity Framework	2010	Wales Biodiversity Partnership
Welsh Assembly Government (2008) One Wales One Planet: The Sustainable Development Scheme for Wales (Consultation)	2008	Welsh Government
Sustaining a Living Wales: A Green Paper on a New Approach to Natural Resource Management in Wales	2012	Welsh Government
Wales Fisheries Strategy	2008	Welsh Government
The Welsh Government Strategy for Tourism 2013 – 2020. Partnership for Growth	2013	Welsh Government
Climbing Higher – The Welsh Government’s 20 year strategy for sport and physical activity in Wales	2005	Welsh Government
Metal Mines Strategy for Wales	2002	Environment Agency Wales
Wales Soils Action Plan (Consultation)	2008	Welsh Government
Welsh Government Strategic Policy Position on Water	2011	Welsh Government
A Water Strategy for Wales (Consultation)	2014	Welsh Government
Low Carbon Wales	2010	Welsh Government
Climate Change Strategy for Wales	2010	Welsh Government
Low Carbon Revolution – the Welsh Government Energy Policy Statement	2010	Welsh Government

Preparing Wales for Climate Change. Energy Wales A Low Carbon Transition	2012	Welsh Government
Minerals Planning Policy Wales	2001	Welsh Government
Farming, Food and Countryside: Building a Secure future – A New Strategy for Farming	2009	Welsh Government
Wales Transport Strategy	2008	Welsh Government
National Waste Strategy for Wales: Towards Zero Waste 2009- 2050	2010	Welsh Government
Rural Development Plan for Wales (2007- 2013 and 2014-2020)	2010	Welsh Government
Woodland Strategy for Wales	2009	Forestry Commission Wales
Valuing the Welsh Historic Environment	2010	Valuing Our Environment Partnership
Making the Most of Wales' Coast: The ICZ Management Strategy for Wales	2007	Welsh Assembly Government
Wales Sustainable Development Scheme: One Wales, One Planet	2009	Welsh Assembly Government
Emerging Welsh Marine Spatial Plan	-	Welsh Government
Drought Plan	2012	Environment Agency Wales

Whilst 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 B2: Plans, policies and programmes relevant to the Western Wales RBD

Policy / Plan / Programme	Year	Published by
Unitary Development Plans / Local Development Plans (Various)	Various	Local Authorities - Various
Minerals and Waste Plans	Various	Local Authorities - Various
Snowdonia National Park Management Plan 2010-15	2010	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Brecon Beacons National Park Management Plan 2010- 2015	2010	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Management Plan 2009 – 2013	2009	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Shoreline Management Plans: – 20 Lavernock Point to St Ann’s Head (South Wales) – 21 St Ann’s Head to the Great Orme (West Wales) – 22 Great Ormes Head to Scotland (North West England and North Wales)	2010 / 11	Coastal Group partnerships
Western Wales Catchment Salmon Action Plan	1997	Environment Agency Wales
Penrhyn Llŷn AONB Management Plan 2010-15		Gwynedd Council and partners
AONB Management Plans: – Gower AONB Management Plan – Anglesey AONB Management Plan 2009-2014 – The Clwydian Range AONB Management Plan 2009 – 2014	2006 2009 2009	City and County of Swansea Anglesey AONB Clwydian Range AONB
Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) Water Abstraction Getting the Balance Right (Various)	Various	Environment Agency Wales
Western Wales Catchment Flood Management Plans: Ogmere to Tawe; Loughor to Taf; Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion Rivers; North West Wales; Conwy and Clwyd; River Dee.	2009	Environment Agency Wales
Surface Water Management Strategies (Various)	Various	Local Authorities - various
Water Resources Management Plan 2011-13	2011	Welsh Water
Revised Draft Water Resources Management Plan	2013	Severn Trent

Water Resources Management Plan	2009	United Utilities
Draft Water Resources Management Plan	2014	Bristol Water
Drought Plans	To be confirmed 2012	Welsh Water Environment Agency Wales
Eel Management plans for the United Kingdom: Western Wales River Basin District	2010	Defra
Emerging Western Wales, Dee, North West and Severn River Basin Management Plans	2014	Natural Resources Wales Environment Agency