

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Objectives, targets and themes**

## Objective 1

Take an integrated approach for the whole estuary so that a common approach, which relates to other studies and strategies, may be considered and any works will not have damaging effects elsewhere.

### THEMES

#### Reduced flood risk

It is important to remember that although this strategy is concerned with flood risk in and around the estuary, the options could impact on other areas.

Therefore, we recommend that the strategy links directly with other related ongoing studies, primarily:

- the Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy,
- habitat creation investigations,
- Parrett Catchment Flood Management Plan,
- Regional Spatial Strategy and cascading plans and policies for local development,

#### A better quality of life

Reduced flood risk results in reduced stress from fear of flooding.

It is important to ensure that nationally important local and regional businesses remain viable. The options will support the redevelopment of Bridgwater and have been developed in consultation with Sedgemoor District Council.

#### Enhanced environment for wildlife

An integrated approach will enable us to provide habitat enhancement and opportunities for the public to enjoy these environments.

### TARGETS

#### Meet Defra guidance, such as Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance (FCDPAG).

A strategic integrated approach is a requirement of this guidance and we have prepared our strategy accordingly.

**75% of residents in flood risk areas will take effective action during a flood.**

**70% of urban defences will be classed as good or better.**

**Contribute to preventing 100 percent of inappropriate development in the floodplain.**

**Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 80% of properties at risk.**

**Contribute to the reduction of flood risk for 3,000 homes in the South West Region by 2011.**

An integrated approach will ensure the sustainability of our contributions to these targets, by making sure that we do not create a problem elsewhere through our actions within the Strategy area.

## Objective 2

Reduce flood risk via flood warnings and sustainable defences to minimise risk to life, injury, distress and property damage within the Study Area.

### THEMES

#### **Reduced flood risk**

This objective is a primary aim of the strategy.

#### **A better quality of life.**

A better quality of life through reduced flood risk and relief of the stress associated with living with this risk.

### TARGETS

#### **Meet Defra guidance, such as Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance (FCDPAG).**

A strategic integrated approach is a requirement of this guidance and we have prepared our strategy accordingly.

#### **75% of residents in flood risk areas will take effective action during a flood.**

Flood warning will enable this.

#### **70% of urban defences will be classed as good or better.**

This will be done by creating an effective management plan as part of this strategy.

#### **Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 80% of properties at risk.**

This strategy will identify those areas and properties at risk that would benefit from timely flood warning.

#### **Contribute to the reduction of flood risk for 3,000 homes in the South West Region by 2011.**

An integrated approach will ensure the sustainability of our contributions to these targets, by making sure that we do not create a problem elsewhere through our actions within the Strategy area.

### Objective 3

Develop a sustainable coastal flood risk management plan for the next 100 years

#### THEMES

##### **Reduced flood risk**

A maintenance and management plan will ensure continuity of flood protection.

##### **Wiser, sustainable use of natural resources**

Our sustainable approach will ensure that we wisely use the natural resources available to us.

##### **Limiting and adapting to climate change**

Our solutions take account of the impacts of climate change. Our biggest challenge is to take account of sea level rise to ensure protection continues into the future. We have used current Defra guidance on sea level rise figures and have incorporated them into our calculations.

##### **A better quality of life.**

Reduction and planned management of flood risk will reduce the stress associate with flooding.

#### TARGETS

##### **Meet Defra guidance, such as Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance (FCDPAG).**

A sustainable approach is in line with the recommendations of the FCDPAG.

##### **70% of urban defences will be classed as good or better.**

A sustainable approach will ensure that urban flood defences are maintained and a plan is in place to ensure a continuity of defence into the future.

##### **Contribute to the reduction of flood risk for 3,000 homes in the South West Region by 2011.**

Many homes are protected from tidal flooding in our strategy area. This strategy will reduce the flood risk for many of these homes in the short term. It will also ensure that an acceptable standard of defence is maintained as sea levels rise in to the future.

## Objective 4

Provide flood management solutions that:

- are technically achievable;
- are economically viable;
- are compatible with objectives for biodiversity;
- are adaptive to climate change, notably sea level rise and increased storminess;
- maintain, or enhance, social opportunities, livelihoods, recreation and amenity; and
- take account of likely future geomorphological change.

### THEMES

#### **Reduced flood risk**

Robust flood management solutions will reduce flood risk in the short term through planned works and will put plans in place to ensure the standard of protection is not reduced to unacceptable levels by the effects of sea level rise and degradation of the defences.

#### **Enhanced environment for wildlife**

Our solutions will not detrimentally affect the biodiversity of the environment. We have also looked for and included opportunities to enhance the biodiversity of the environment.

#### **Improved and protected inland and coastal waters**

We are very aware that in terms of movement of sands and muds this estuary is a very sensitive system. Our solutions are robust and aim to ensure that the coastal/estuary system continues to function in a near natural balance whilst maintaining an acceptable level of flood protection.

#### **Restored, protected land with healthier soils**

The land behind the defences will be better protected from the effects of saline flooding and the dangerous effects of uncontrolled breaching.

#### **Limiting and adapting to climate change**

Our solutions plan a future for the flood defence of the estuary which takes account of the estimated effects of climate change as advised by Defra.

#### **A better quality of life**

By giving the urban areas a more secure future in terms of flood risk we are providing a better quality of life and improving social opportunities. When we do carry out works we will endeavour to include opportunities for public recreation.

## TARGETS

### Meet Defra guidance, such as Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance (FCDPAG)

Our approach is in line with this guidance.

**75% of residents in flood risk areas will take effective action during a flood.**

**70% of urban defences will be classed as good or better.**

**Contribute to preventing 100 percent of inappropriate development in the floodplain.**

**Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 80% of properties at risk.**

**Contribute to the reduction of flood risk for 3,000 homes in the South West Region by 2011.**

Our [options](#) have been developed and tested to ensure that they will contribute to each of the above targets.

## Objective 5

Maintain the discharge of surface water to the estuary through outfall structures.

## THEMES

### Reduced flood risk

Maintenance of discharge of surface water will continue to effectively manage the incidence of localised freshwater flooding behind the defences.

### Restored, protected land with healthier soils

We will ensure that the opportunities for land drainage are maintained.

## TARGETS

### Meet Defra guidance, such as Flood and Coastal Defence Project Appraisal Guidance (FCDPAG).

**Contribute to the reduction of flood risk for 3,000 homes in the South West Region by 2011.**

Our solutions will not exacerbate flood risk from surface water.

## Objective 6

Manage risks of saline intrusion to wildlife and farming interests.

### THEMES

#### Enhanced environment for wildlife

#### Restored, protected land with healthier soils

Our solutions will manage these risks behind the defences and upstream on the Somerset Levels and Moors. We have tested our solutions and there are no discernable effects on the water levels upstream on the Somerset Levels and Moors.

### TARGETS

NA