

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2026

What is a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy?

Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, MCC has been established as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for its administrative area. This Act requires all 22 LLFAs in Wales to produce, develop, maintain, apply and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for their area.

Different Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) in Wales are responsible for different sources of flood risk. As a LLFA, MCC are responsible for “local flood risk” which is defined as flood risk from:

- Surface water runoff
- Groundwater
- Ordinary watercourses (generally smaller watercourses)

This Local Strategy focuses on these local sources of flood risk within Monmouthshire but acknowledges and considers other sources of flood risk (including main rivers, sea, and sewers) and associated responsible RMAs.

Current MCC Local Strategy and Plan, and the National Strategy



Monmouthshire County Council

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy



Tidal Flooding at Tintern, 2012.

FINAL
April 2013

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monmouthshire
sir fynwy



Monmouthshire County Council

Flood Risk Management Plan



Final Version
February 2016



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales

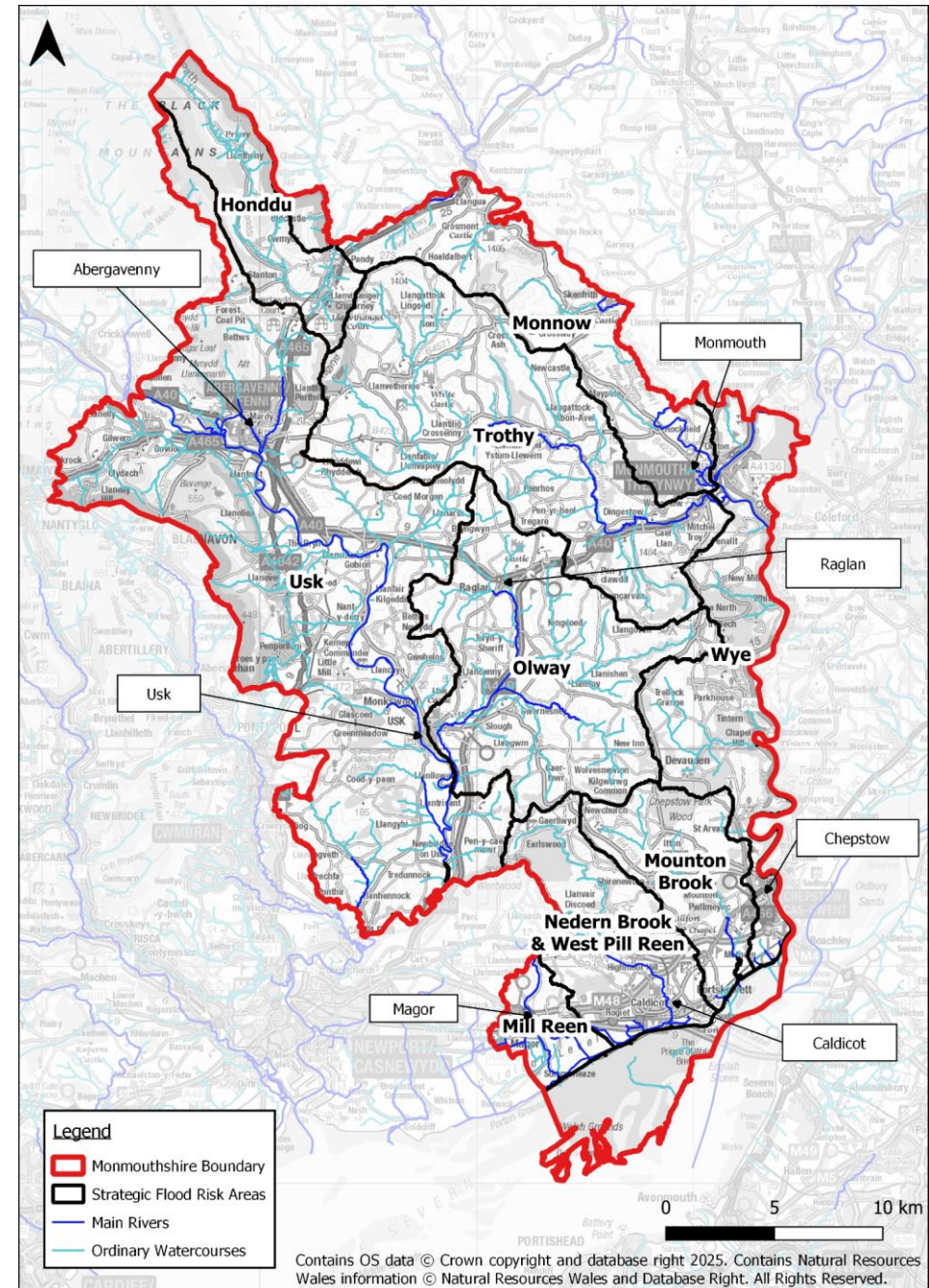
October 2020

How we assess flood risk?

Flood risk across Monmouthshire has been assessed on a catchment basis using identified Strategic Flood Risk Areas (SFRAs).

These SFRAs mirror the catchments of larger watercourses and breakdown the county into suitable areas whereby local flood risk can be considered in a holistic way along with all other sources of flooding.

This approach also helps to highlight areas at greatest risk and their interconnected potential for mitigation on a catchment basis, whilst also maximising the potential for identifying flood risk management opportunities across a range of LLFA responsibilities and duties.



How is local flood risk managed?

Definitions of the Objectives, Measures and Actions for Delivering MCC's Local Strategy

Objectives

- Overarching targets or outcomes of flood risk management during, or beyond, the Local Strategy cycle.
- Statements of Local Authority ambition for flood risk management.
- Specific to the Local Authority but linked to the National Strategy Objectives.

Measures

- Broad activities and ways of working to meet the Objectives.
- Typically apply to the Local Authority area rather than specific communities/locations within it.
- Are loosely time-bound and are measurable at a high-level, with indicative costs and benefits.

Actions

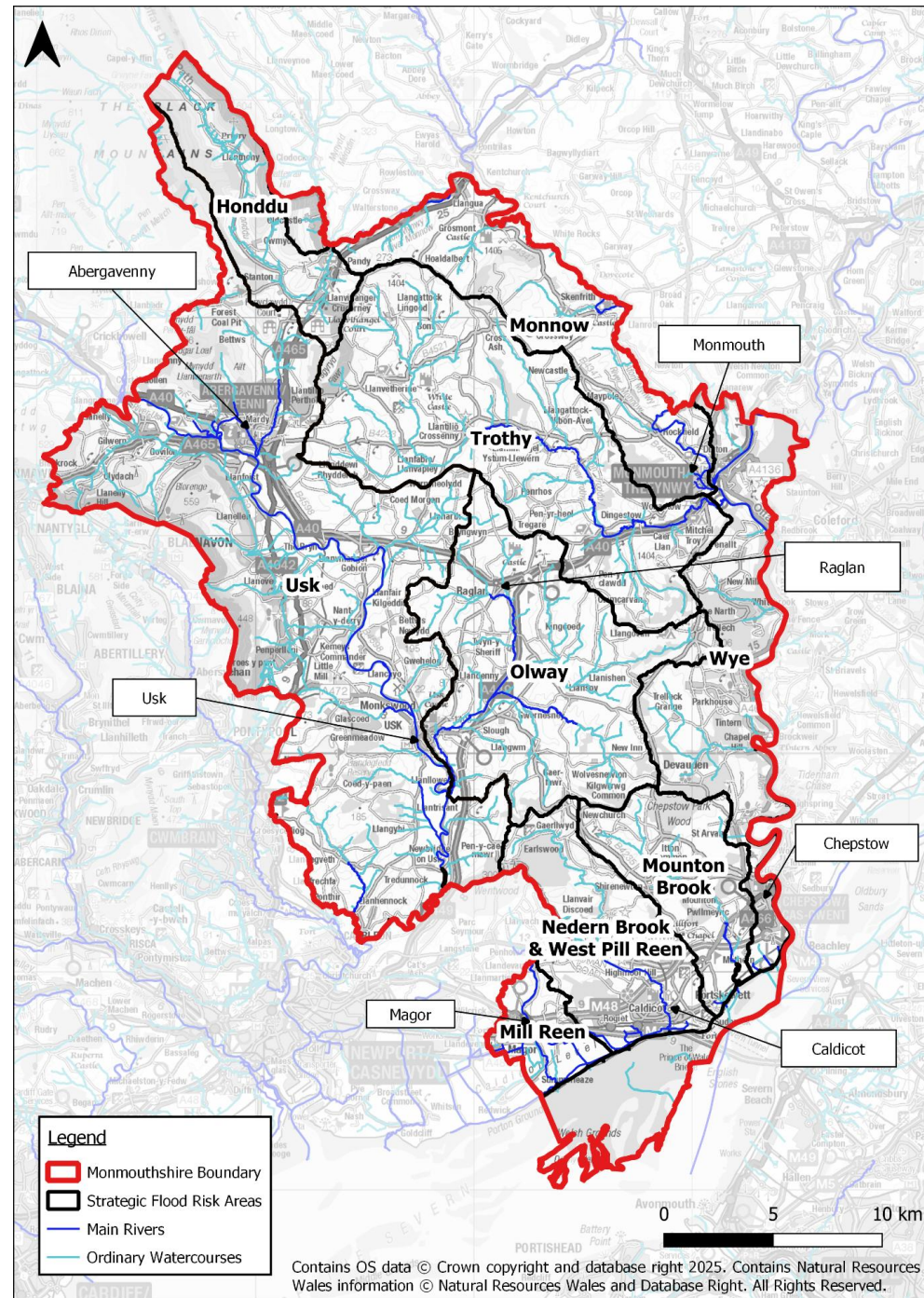
- Specific tasks, activities or initiatives, planned and tracked, to meet the Measures.
- Reviewed and updated on a regular basis, reporting on progress every 3 years.
- Short, medium and long term with clearly defined outputs/outcomes.
- Typically location-specific within the local authority area.

Flood Action Plan

This Flood Action Plan sets out the local flood risk management actions required to meet the objectives and measures identified in MCC's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. These actions include those that have already commenced, as well as new and future actions identified to help manage the risk of flooding from local sources.

The list of Flood Action Plans is as follows:

- **Monmouthshire** Flood Action Plan
- **Honddu** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Monnow** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Trothy** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Wye** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Olway** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Usk** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Mounton Brook** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Nedern Brook & West Pill Reen** SFRA Flood Action Plan
- **Mill Reen** SFRA Flood Action Plan



Consultation

- Flood and Water Management Act 2010 – requires Lead Local Flood Authorities to consult with the following:
 - a) risk management authorities that may be affected by the strategy
 - b) the public.
- The revised Local Strategy and Flood Action Plan has been informed by the results of a non-statutory public engagement exercise, in the form of an online survey, which was undertaken prior to the drafting of the revised Local Strategy, between 25th July 2023 and 28th August 2023. The online survey received 90 responses to 19 questions, which focussed on individuals' awareness, knowledge and understanding of flood risk.
- The statutory consultation survey was hosted on the 'Lets Talk Monmouthshire' platform for a period of 8 weeks, from 1st August 2025 to 26th September 2025.
- The Flood Risk Management team hosted drop-in sessions in Community Hubs at the following times:
 - 20th August, 9am – 5pm at Abergavenny Community Hub
 - 26th August, 9am – 5pm at Monmouth Community Hub
 - 28th August, 9am – 5pm at Usk Community Hub
 - 10th September, 9am – 5pm at Chepstow
 - 11th September, 9am – 5pm at Caldicot Community Hub

Consultation - Outcomes

- The total number of attendees to the public drop-in sessions was 36.
- The statutory consultation received a total of 80 responses comprising 65 online survey responses, 10 paper survey responses and 5 email responses.
- As result of the overall feedback received over 20 amendments / additions to the Local Strategy and 30 amendments / additions to the Action Plan have been made.
- The main amendments to the Local Strategy are as follows:
 - Additional references to relevant pieces of legislation and other strategies and policies.
 - Statutory consultation details updated.
 - Additional wording added on psychological impacts of flooding following feedback from Business Cabinet in 2025.
 - Internal Drainage District and Reservoir Flooding lines added to 'Sources of Flooding' Figure.
 - Additional links added to relevant sources of information.
 - Climate Change section updated with additional detail and links.
 - Reference to flooding to Public Rights of Way added.
 - Statutory consultation outcomes added.
 - References to Storm Claudia and the resulting flooding that occurred in November 2025 added.

Consultation - Outcomes

- The main amendments to the Flood Action Plan are as follows:
 - Monmouthshire Flood Action Plan: 2 new Actions added.
 - Monnow Flood Action Plan: 3 new Actions added.
 - Trothey Flood Action Plan: 1 new Actions added.
 - Usk Flood Action Plan: 3 new Actions added.
 - Mounton Brook Flood Action Plan: 4 new Actions and additional catchment detail added.
 - References to Storm Claudia and the resulting flooding that occurred in November 2025 added.
- The Habitats Regulations Assessment has been updated with 3 amendments.
- The Strategic Environmental Assessment has also been updated with 15 amendments following comments received from Natural Resources Wales.

Indicative Timeline to Publication

- **June 2025:** Cabinet briefing on purpose & content of the Local Strategy
- Completion of draft Local Strategy and Environmental Assessments
- **July 2025:** Place Scrutiny Committee - present final draft of LFRMS prior to public consultation
- **August / September 2025** – Public Consultation
- 2025/26 Winter Flooding
- **23rd June 2026:** SLT Update
- **14th July 2026:** Business Cabinet
- **30th July 2026:** Place Scrutiny Committee
- **16th September 2026:** Cabinet - report to be considered to adopt the Local Strategy and submit to WG for approval
- **September 2026:** Submit the Local Strategy and accompanying reports to Welsh Government for Ministerial approval