

Committee recruitment

Do you want to play a lead role in flood and coastal management in your area?

We will soon be looking for new members to join our Regional Flood and Coastal Committees (RFCCs). Being a member of an RFCC is an exciting opportunity to help guide local flood and coastal management within river catchments and along the coast.

RFCCs are critical to achieving the new approaches to funding set out by Defra and the Welsh Government. They will play an important role in deciding on local priorities; raising local levies; approving programmes of work; and supporting us and Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs – county councils or unitary authorities) in working with communities and other partners.

The committees will have a key role in balancing local priorities and making sure that investment is co-ordinated at the river catchment and shoreline scale; and in promoting the consideration of climate change impacts in local decision-making.

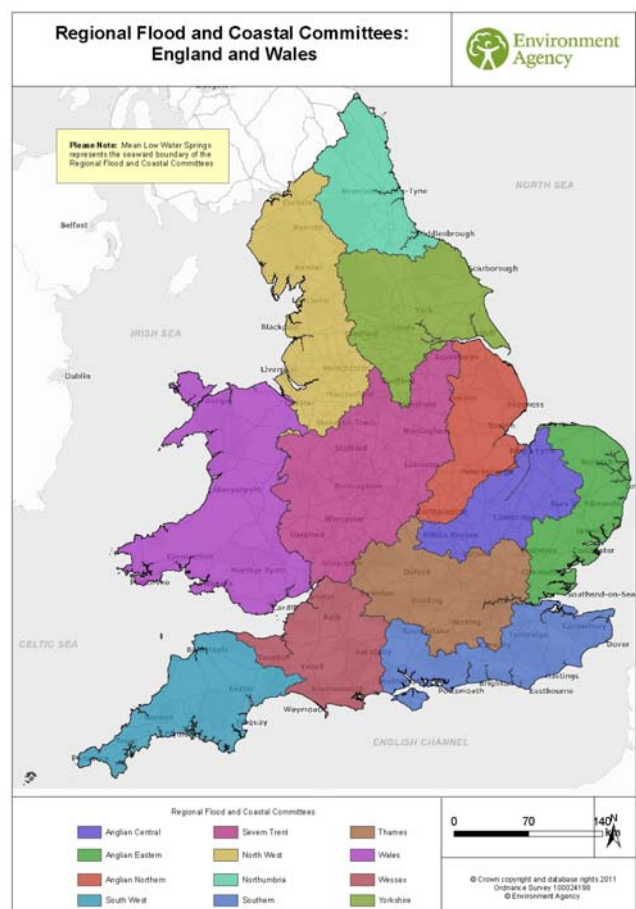
RFCCs were set up under the Floods & Water Management Act 2010. The committees have a chair appointed by Defra and the Welsh Government, members from LLFAs (allowing for local democratic input) and independent members recruited by the Environment Agency who have specialist skills or backgrounds.

There are 12 RFCCs in England and Wales and the areas they cover are based on river catchments. The map to the right shows the committees' areas.

We will soon be recruiting for a number of independent members for most of these committees. We will be looking for skilled and experienced individuals, with an interest in flood and coastal management. These are not paid roles, but reasonable expenses can be claimed. RFCCs meet four or five times a year, with occasional sub-committee work between official meetings.

Each of our committees must have at least one conservation expert and one coastal expert. RFCCs also need to have a balance of skills, knowledge and experience, which could include the following:

- Local community flood forums or action groups with experience of flooding
- Water and utility company background
- Understanding of surface water flooding issues
- Agriculture, farming and land management
- Managing resilience and recovery
- Social health and deprived communities
- Town and country planning
- Emergency planning
- Engineering and construction
- Financial and business experience
- Flood risk mapping and modelling
- Procurement skills
- Fluvial and coastal flooding knowledge
- Flood insurance
- Communications
- Water level management skills



It is important to note that we will appoint independent members in their own right, not as representatives of any particular organisation. Drawing on their sectoral and professional knowledge, they will be expected to bring impartiality to the committee, along with their personal skills and experience.

Independent members play a key role in ensuring the strategic aims and guiding principles of the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy are embodied within the committee's decisions and advice. They also help ensure consistency between strategic and local plans.

Please see the table below to see when we are recruiting to each committee and who to contact. You may apply to more than one RFCC, but cannot be appointed to more than one. If you would like to register your interest, then please notify the relevant person(s) listed below, who will let you know when recruitment begins.

RFCC	When we will be looking for applicants?	Contact for further information
Anglian (Eastern)	September 2011	Natalie Rothwell Email: natalie.rothwell@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01733 464428
Anglian (Northern)	September 2011	Natalie Rothwell Email: natalie.rothwell@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01733 464428
Anglian (Central)	September 2011	Natalie Rothwell Email: natalie.rothwell@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01733 464428
South West	October 2011	Sarah Harding Email: Sarah.harding@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01392 442184
Severn-Trent	Early 2012	Paul Lockhart Email: paul.lockhart@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 07799 133151
North West	September 2011	Jane Sansbury Email: jane.sansbury@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01925 542382
Northumbria	September 2011	Brian Marley Email: brian.marley@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01912 034049
Southern	September 2011	Dan Matthews Email: dan.matthews@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01189 535732
Thames	September 2011	Dan Matthews Email: dan.matthews@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01189 535732
Wales	Not recruiting at present	Sarah Daniel Email: sarah.daniel@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 07900 405236
Wessex	October 2011	Sarah Harding Email: Sarah.harding@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01392 442184
Yorkshire	September 2011	Brian Marley Email: brian.marley@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 01912 034049

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0845 988 1188

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