BROADLAND FUTURES INTIATIVE September 2019 Issue 1



Progress Newsletter

UPDATE TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

IN THIS ISSUE: 'A BIG THANK YOU' –
'PLANNED WORK' – 'WHO IS WHO IN THE
BROADLAND FUTURES INITIATIVE'

A big thank you

We are really pleased by the number of responses and the contributions people made, from offers of venues, supporting the project, to sharing knowledge and concerns.

Back in May we opened up our electronic survey to gain your views in a hope to better determine:

- What local interests are likely to be affected by changing flood risk.
- Which organisations you think are involved with managing flood risk.
- The information local communities might need to know about flood risk and climate change.
- What local knowledge and resources might be available to help the Initiative as it progresses.

Why your views are important?

Using the information you have provided we will confirm our core scope of work. We will refine the specification to be

clear with our stakeholders what we will and won't be able to cover in the Initiative.

We will analyse the answers to gain an appreciation of how aware you and others are of the existing situation and what additional information will be needed.

We also saw many visits to our website and Facebook page where we will continue to share content and update as the project develops.

What did we learn?

On a scale of 1-10 (1 being not at all, 10 being extremely) how concerned are you with regards to climate change and its flood risk impacts for you or your local area?

80%

80% of you responded between 7-10 to this question.

On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being not at all and 10 being extremely) how important do you believe it is to reduce flood risk in your area?

82%

82% of you responded between 7-10 to this question.

We learnt that a huge number of you felt that residential properties, businesses, infrastructure and wildlife habitats were the most crucial to protect in your area.

Other important features included roads and railways, businesses, farming and agricultural land, footpaths and bridleways, boating facilities and water based recreation, all of which were deemed high on the agenda to protect.



We also wanted to appreciate your views around the potential impacts of flooding, and which impacts you were most aware of or concerned by. Many of you stated damage to property, road closures, saltwater intrusion, sewage pollution and wildlife habitat destruction as impacts you're most concerned by.

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We have been really grateful for your participation and we want to stay connected as the project develops.



In terms of preference for communication, most of the responses indicate that email, webpages and electronic newsletters are the preferred methods of contact at this stage.

Whilst we are preparing some of our baseline material around technical, environmental and economic factors influencing the Broadland Futures Initiative we hope to keep in contact with stakeholders through these popular channels.

We are aiming to host a number of drop in events in Broadland area in the summer 2020. We are mindful that the drop in sessions must be informative and give stakeholders the best opportunities to share their views, therefore, this timing should allow sufficient time for the collation of ample material to make the most of the sessions.



Planned Work

Apart from the survey, the Initiative project team have also started on other pieces of work. We will be investigating the sources and nature of flood risk in Broadland and then defining our project area. This is important because we want to consider coastal processes and all sources of flood risk: surface water, river and sea flooding.

By investigating this in more detail we will be able to define the impacts of flooding, which helps the Initiative and our stakeholders to understand which flood and coastal risk management (FCRM) options may be needed in the long term.

We also want to understand the potential impacts of climate change on our area, which will help inform any future computer flood modelling. Flood



modelling helps us understand what could happen, and what we could do, to help us cope with large flood events like tidal surges.

Once we have consolidated the specification of the work and identified potential FCRM options, we will investigate which approaches could work best and we will discuss those with you.



Who is who in the **Broadland Futures** Initiative?

The Environment Agency have the lead responsibility and will be working with Natural England, County and District Councils, Internal Drainage Boards, Broads Authority, National Farmers Union and voluntary bodies. The Broads Authority will support the Initiative Project Team and governance arrangements.

This will be a democratic process, with local politicians making the core decisions in order to agree a framework for future flood risk management that better copes with our changing climate.

Broadland Futures Initiative

CONTACT US

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BFI WEBSITE

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