

# **PINS NOTE 27/2011**

To: All Inspectors

Date of Issue: 2 August 2011

Currency: review at 6 months after issue

## **National flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England**

### **Background**

1. On 19 July 2011, Defra and the Environment Agency<sup>1</sup> formally issued the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England, following presentation to Parliament in May 2011. The full strategy has been published alongside a strategy summary and [statutory guidance on co-operation and requesting information](#).
2. The overall aim of the strategy is to ensure that flooding and coastal erosion risks are well managed and co-ordinated, so that their impacts are minimised. The strategy sets out the roles and responsibilities of Risk Management Authorities (RMA)<sup>2</sup> in relation to flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) and stresses the need for risk to be managed in a co-ordinated way across river catchments and along each stretch of the coast.
3. The strategy encourages government, RMAs and organisations, communities and people at risk to work together to:
  - Know where and when flooding and coastal erosion is likely to happen.
  - Make sure that any flood or coastal risk management plans use the most up to date information and raise awareness of these risks among affected communities.
  - Reduce the chance of harm to people and damage to the economy, environment and society by building, maintaining and improving flood and coastal erosion management and infrastructure systems, where it is affordable to do so.

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<sup>1</sup> s.7 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the Environment Agency to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for flood and coastal erosion in England.

<sup>2</sup> Government, certain authorities & organisations are 'Risk Management Authorities' as defined in Part 1 s.6(13) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

- Help communities understand the risks and take action to manage them or reduce the consequences.
- Avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood and coastal erosion risk.
- Improve the detection and forecasting of floods and how warnings are issued, plan for and co-ordinate a rapid response to flood emergencies and promote faster recovery from flooding.
- Take opportunities to work with and enhance communities, services and the natural environment.

## Action

4. Inspectors should be aware of the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England, particularly when dealing with development plans and casework where flood risk or coastal erosion may be an issue. The Strategy should be read in conjunction with PPS25 'Development & Flood Risk' and PPS25 Supplement 'Development and Coastal Change', and their respective practice guides.
5. PINS note 1193 is cancelled.
6. Please contact XXXX if you have any queries on this Note.

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Director of Quality, Strategy and Plans