

Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Outcome Measures

Progress report for FCRM outcomes over the Spending Review 2010 period, covering delivery between 2011/12 and 2014/15 in England by the Environment Agency, Local Authorities and Internal Drainage Boards



Quarter 1 2013/14

		Actual & Status	2013/14 Forecast (cumulative)	SR10 Forecast [§]	Comments
	The ratio of the whole life present value benefits (Pvb) to the whole life present value costs (Pvc) from projects in the FDGiA capital investment programme	1 9.2:1	8:1	8:1	Three schemes delivering Outcome Measures were completed in Q1. The whole life benefit-cost ratio for schemes delivered to date remains at 12:1, and the whole programme benefit-cost ratio at 9.2:1. We continue to seek evidence of the benefit of the 'non scheme' work we do and are confident that the whole programme SR10 forecast of 8:1 will be achieved.
River & Sea Flooding	Number of households moved out of any flood probability category to a lower probability category	2 98,803	128,800	156,700	Schemes completed during Q1 provided improved protection to 68 households, of which 35 were in the highest risk areas although none in deprived locations. The small numbers this quarter were part of the normal variation that can be expected throughout the spending review period, and development work continues to progress schemes through the various gateways until they reach delivery. We are ahead of profile for OM2 and 2b and remain confident that we will meet these delivery forecasts by March 2015. We expect to meet our OM2c delivery forecast, although this is heavily dependent on schemes completing in 2014/15.
	Of the above, households moved out of the very sig & sig flood risk categories to moderate or low	2b 44,337	62,400	79,100	
	Of the above, households in the 20% most deprived areas moved out of the v. sig & sig. categories	2c 5,693	10,290	23,800	
Coastal Erosion	Households with reduced risk of coastal erosion	3 5,286	8,800	9,900	There were no schemes completed this quarter that provided improved protection from coastal erosion. Similar to OM2, this is part of the normal variation that can be expected throughout the spending review period, and development work continues to progress schemes through the various gateways until they reach delivery. We are ahead of profile for OM3 and 3b and remain confident that we will meet these delivery forecasts by March 2015. OM3c is dependent on the Withernsea Groyne Field Improvements project and there is a risk that this scheme will be not be completed until the next spending review period.
	Of the above, those protected from loss within 20 years	3b 1,256	1,800	2,100	
	Of the above, those in the 20% most deprived areas protected from loss within 20 years	3c 63	250	400	
Water Framework Directive	Hectares of water-dependent habitat created or improved	4a 4,968	6,500	6,900	137 Ha of water dependant habitat have been created and 50 km of protected river improved during Q1. The majority of the planned OM4a habitat improvements scheduled for 2013/14 are likely to be deferred to 2014/15 as a result of extreme weather conditions last winter, leading to increased risk in meeting the forecast. Our current 'medium risk' forecast for OM4b is 350Ha. The risks associated with the completion of two major schemes in the spending review period indicate amber status. There is a risk of not meeting the OM4c forecast due to the limited number of Natura 2000 sites where we can make improvements.
	Hectares of intertidal habitat created	4b 25	200	350	
	Kilometres of river protected under the EU Habitats or Birds Directive	4c 67	200	200	
	The proportion of households and businesses in highest risk areas that receive the Floodline Warnings Direct (FWD) service	5 61.4%	TBC	TBC	Directors are considering changes to the measure in light of the reduced number of households with landline telephones. An update will be provided for the Q2 report.
	Proportion of residential units within planning decisions where the application has been refused or has been amended in line with Environment Agency advice	6 99.8%	95%	95%*	During Q1 99.8% of residential planning applications were decided in line with Environment Agency flood risk advice against a target of 95%.

[§] SR10 Forecast figures reflect the medium risk of delivery programme

* Figures reflect Environment Agency targets as opposed to forecasts

Environment Agency Flood and Coastal Risk Management

Guidance notes to accompany the spending review progress report



From 1st April 2011, a new suite of outcome measures have replaced those used since April 2008. The new suite, agreed with Defra during the 2010 spending review process, maintain some similarities to the original set whilst including specific measures for coastal erosion schemes and actions required under the Water Framework Directive. Unlike the previous suite, the revised measures do not have specific targets. However, we have set targets internally as part of our Corporate Plan, which has been approved by ministers. As before, we have overall responsibility to deliver and report on the measures, but other operating authorities including local authorities (LAs) and internal drainage boards (IDBs) make contributions to measures one to four.

1

Outcome measure one has been included to demonstrate that we continue to develop projects that deliver significant economic benefits over their lives, and therefore represent value for money for the taxpayer. It measures the ratio of the benefits to costs from all projects in our capital investment programme, where the benefits are measured against a 'do nothing' scenario. Both benefits and costs are measured over the whole life of the project and are adjusted to present value. During the spending review period, we will report data on just our major capital schemes, which will generally result in a higher BCR. However, at the end of each year, this will be adjusted to include other smaller projects, and capital spend on items other than schemes.

2

Outcome measure two tracks the number of households benefiting from improved protection from flooding as a result of Environment Agency, local authority and internal drainage board capital projects. It is reported in three sections; the total number of households moving from any flood probability category to a lower category (2), the number of households moving from the very significant or significant to the moderate or low flood risk categories (2b), and of those, the number that are located in the 20% most deprived areas of the country (2c). The four flood probability categories that we use to measure risk are very significant (> 5% annual probability of flooding), significant (5% to 1.33%), moderate (1.33% to 0.5%) and low (<0.5%). The 20% most deprived areas are identified using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation at Super Output Area (SOA) level. There are a total of 32,482 SOAs across the country, which means that those ranked between 1 and 6,496 are considered the 20% most deprived.

3

Outcome measure three tracks the number of households benefiting from reduced risk of coastal erosion as a result of Environment Agency, local authority and internal drainage board capital projects. It is reported in three sections; the total number of households with reduced risk of coastal erosion (3), the number of households protected from loss from coastal erosion within 20 years (3b), and of those, the number that are located in the 20% most deprived areas of the country (3c). Coastal erosion risk categories used are time periods for expected loss due to coastal erosion: short (<10 years), short/medium (10 to 20 years), medium (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 200 years).

4

Outcome measure four tracks progress in delivering the statutory environmental obligations outlined by the water framework directive. It is split into three sections; the number of hectares of water dependant habitat created or improved (4a), the number of hectares of intertidal habitat created (4b) and, the number of kilometres of rivers protected under the EU habitats or birds directive that are improved (4c).

5

Outcome measure five reflects the coverage of the Environment Agency floodline warnings direct service. In February 2010 we introduced an opt-out service whereby we automatically register properties at risk with the service, and then provide them with the option to opt-out if they wish. Continued improvements to this service will see increased coverage across the country over the four years of the spending review period.

6

Outcome measure six monitors the amount of inappropriate development allowed within applications at flood risk. It tracks the proportion of residential units within planning applications where the application has been amended or refused in line with Environment Agency advice, against the total number of residential units where the Environment Agency lodged an objection. It is likely that this measure will be modified during 2012/13 as a result of changes to the planning system.

CONTACT:

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