

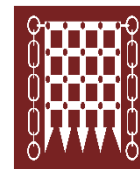
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Next steps for tackling flooding and coastal erosion in England

Timing: Morning, Monday, 29th June 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Brown, Chair, Adaptation Committee, Climate Change Committee
- 9.05 **The Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy - assessing progress and priorities**
Julie Foley, Director, Flood Risk Management Strategy and National Adaptation, Environment Agency
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **Flood defence and resilience - priorities for infrastructure investment, funding and delivery**
approaches to optimising funding allocations between asset maintenance and new infrastructure | FCERM funding reform and scheme prioritisation | implications of simplified funding models for local investment | incorporating social vulnerability and risk factors alongside financial metrics | mitigating risks of large-scale schemes | strategies for attracting private capital | addressing surface flood risk, upgrading sewerage and drainage infrastructure | alignment of Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans with flooding risk objectives | implications of the Water White Paper for infrastructure investment, maintenance and renewal | use of digital tools and AI for asset management and early warning | supporting innovation and natural flood management
Mike Madine, Head, Wastewater Transformation, Northumbrian Water Group
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, drainage
Senior representative, infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 **Assessing the UK's preparedness for climate risks - key findings from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee**
Jayne Kirkham MP, Member, Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs Select Committee
- 10.35 **Adapting to flood and coastal risk - community preparedness, land use, resilience and insurance**
options for encouraging property resilience, including the Property Flood Resilience Repair Grant scheme and flood insurance schemes | lessons from the Flood Re scheme and priorities for transition in the UK insurance market | strengthening property flood resilience measures | strategies for supporting vulnerable groups | implications of revisions to the NPPF for land use | integration of Land Use Framework priorities into development decisions | progress of Coastal Adaptation Pilots and options for adaptation | improving awareness and preparedness in communities
Jaap Flikweert, Director, Water Governance and Strategy, Haskoning; Coastal Representative, Anglian Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
Karen Thomas, Strategic Lead, Coastal Management and Adaptation, East Suffolk Council; and Head, Coastal Partnership, Norfolk Coast Partnership
Luci Isaacson, Director, Climate Change Risk Manager, Climate Vision
Senior speaker confirmed from **Intact Insurance**
- 10.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness Brown, Chair, Adaptation Committee, Climate Change Committee
- 11.25 Break
- 11.35 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness McIntosh, Member, Environment and Climate Change Committee
- 11.40 **Nature-based flood defences - considerations for investment, scaling up and delivery**
Claudine Blamey, Chief Sustainability Organiser, Aviva; and Chair, FloodAction Coalition
- 11.50 **Governance of the water environment - catchment-based approaches and system coordination**
governance for a strategic, system-wide approach | roles, responsibilities across and coordination across national and regional delivery partners | strengthening arrangements for oversight and accountability | supporting catchment-based approaches and integrated water management | implications of reform to water governance and regulation for coordination and collaboration | priorities for natural flood management schemes | demonstrating value and maximising benefits, including climate adaptation and resilience, biodiversity, and water security | supporting targets in the Environmental Improvement Plan | alignment of flood policy and objectives with the National Adaptation Programme
Stephen Elderkin, Director, Environmental Sustainability, National Highways
Matthew Doran, Land Use Policy Adviser, Climate and Natural Resources, Country Land and Business Association
Senior representative, flood authority
Senior representative, regional water authority
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Flood and coastal risk policy - priorities going forward**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 13.05 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Baroness McIntosh, member, Environment and Climate Change Committee
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum