

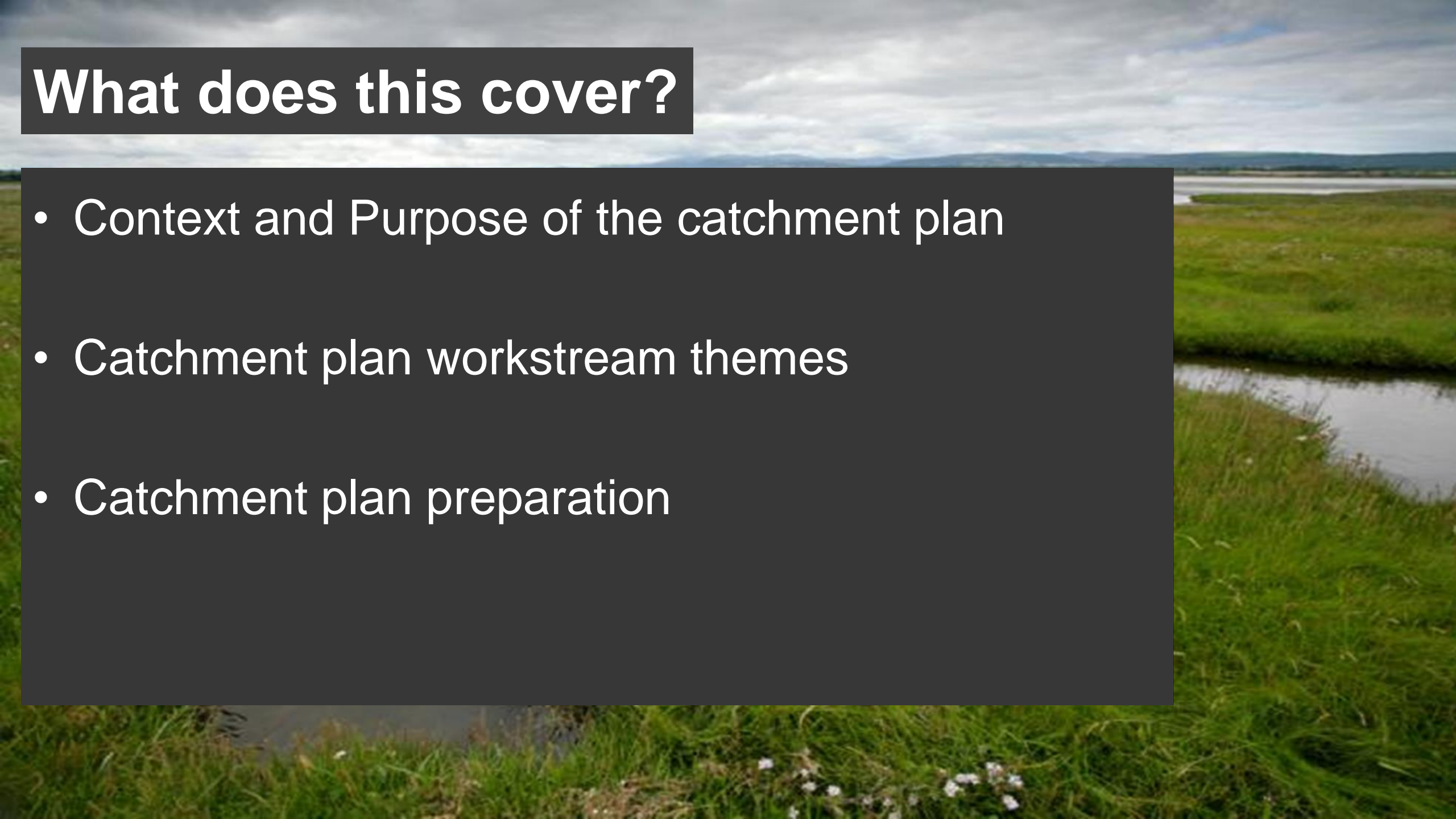
South Yorkshire Catchment Approach

Catchment Plan Update September 2021



What does this cover?

- Context and Purpose of the catchment plan
- Catchment plan workstream themes
- Catchment plan preparation



Catchment plan context

- South Yorkshire suffered catastrophic flooding in November 2019. 1600 properties were flooded and there was extensive damage to infrastructure and the economy.
- Climate change is impacting the severity and frequency of flooding.
- Nature based solutions to reduce flood risk will be an important part of the solution as well as 'hard' defences.
- The catchment is an integrated environmental system which requires a whole catchment approach
- Working in partnership across South Yorkshire creates opportunities to build a stronger case for investment, to support and learn from each other, to be strategic and to identify efficiencies.
- Work has progressed this year with a range of partners around 4 key themes, with the Catchment Plan purpose and emerging outputs being outlined as follows.

Catchment plan purpose

- A 'living document' to **facilitate the development of a long term strategy** for flood risk management and climate resilience, capturing current partner actions to reduce flood risk and build climate resilience.
- Place-based, emphasising how South Yorkshire is connected and defined by it's network of rivers and habitats
 - Provide investors with a clear programme of well developed projects to secure the remaining investment that is required to deliver the capital programme
 - Create and drive opportunities to respond strategically to the climate and nature emergencies as part of a national pilot for long term strategic planning
 - Increase community awareness of flood risk and showcase projects to build community and political confidence in our progress and collective commitment to reduce flood risk and increase resilience.

Introduction

Catchment Plan Introduction will include:

- Brief outline of the context of flooding in South Yorkshire and the expected future increase in risk due to the impact of climate change.
- The purpose of the plan, governance and delivery mechanisms.
- The case for investing in flood risk and resilience, including examples of the wider economic, environmental and social benefits.
- A high level summary of the current capital programme of priority schemes across South Yorkshire and the funding 'gaps' still required to deliver the programme.
- Case studies of successful projects which have been completed or are currently under construction to demonstrate a strong track record of project delivery, partnership working and innovation from the delivery partners.

Theme 1

Theme 1: Responding to the climate emergency

- Flood risk driven but responding to the wider climate and nature emergency.
- Reducing flood risk at source and building climate resilience.
- Using nature based solutions to reduce flood risk, aid nature recovery and support the transition to net zero carbon.
- Contributing to a climate adaptive planning process.

Example action:

‘Carry out further economics assessment and wider natural capital analysis to support development and ongoing Nature Based Solutions investment in the catchment.’

Theme 2

Theme 2: SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-based) investment

- Ensure all flood risk investment is prioritised, SMART and driven by the best available data, intelligence and evidence.
- Bring together information from stakeholders across South Yorkshire to map opportunities and unlock potential funding.
- Use information to enable flood risk management schemes to become 'shovel ready'.

Example action:

'Investment Tool: Create and develop a draft web tool, to bring together data from all flood risk management authorities to enable us to more easily plan where investment should be prioritised.'

Theme 3

Theme 3: Strengthening the use of technology and operational management

- Streamlining operational activities across different sectors and partners, so we can all work together more effectively on an operational basis.
- Strengthening the use of technology, sharing information and best practice in our operational activities.

Example actions:

‘Research and investigate the feasibility of developing a GIS capable of capturing and displaying asset and other stakeholder information on a map format. This will offer one true source of data that can be used during times of flood response.

Collated information could include : Telemetry, pumping stations, gullies, sewers, critical infrastructure, main river regulators, evacuation centres, hostile areas / people, communities at risk, vulnerable peoples etc.’

Theme 4

Theme 4: Community engagement and resilience:

- Work collaboratively across all partners ensuring a 'one joined up voice' and promoting community leadership.

Example actions:

'Develop a South Yorkshire engagement strategy for public facing engagement on climate change and future risk supporting engagement on climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience.'

'Co-ordinating the production of landscape visioning products to show places where the risk of flooding could potentially be reduced through nature-based techniques, and multiple benefits to people and the environment realised.'

Catchment plan Preparation

Jan - Mar: Initial Theme Development

- Individual theme development work, by each task and finish groups. With each LA championing one theme, working with the EA, MCA & YW.

April: Wider engagement on themes

- Workshop for local authorities to build awareness of and support for the Catchment Plan and secure input from wider sectors e.g planning, economic development, carbon

May - June: Strategic check-in

- Reporting on the initial theme development work and seeking support for progress so far and next steps from SY CEX, SYFRP and MCA H&I Board

June - Oct: Create brand and draft

- Draft content through the task and finish groups, and bring in wider partners, organisations and communities.
- Finalise brand for catchment approach

Oct - Nov: Leadership review draft Plan

- Sharing draft Plan for review, comment and supportt from SY CEX, SYFRP and MCA H&I Board

Nov - Jan: Finalise and launch

- Consideration and adoption of Plan
- Public launch to promote and build wider engagement
- A 'living plan' to be reviewed and updated. Delivery scrutinised, challenged and championed