

Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

This report was generated on 13/06/22. Overall 32 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 20 codes.

Do you agree that this draft strategy sets out the most significant flood risk issues for North Yorkshire?



If No, please state why:

We live on the fearby/Leyburn Road junction opposite the site of the old auction mart in Mahsam. Fearby road regularly floods when the river burn bursts its banks and our home has fallen victim to serious flooding twice. There is a planning application in progress for housing to be built over on the old auction mart site yet no strategy to protect existing properties on lfearby road and Leyburn Road as the site has acted as a soak away for many years.

The draft strategy cites watercourses and surface water flooding, pluvial, but largely concentrates of watercourse associated events. I speak from experience at Fily where there is no watercourse but suffered significant flooding from aricultural surface water run off in 2002 and 2007.

It doesn't include coastal flooding (I know that it does not say this is in its remit, but coastal flooding will be an increasing problem.)

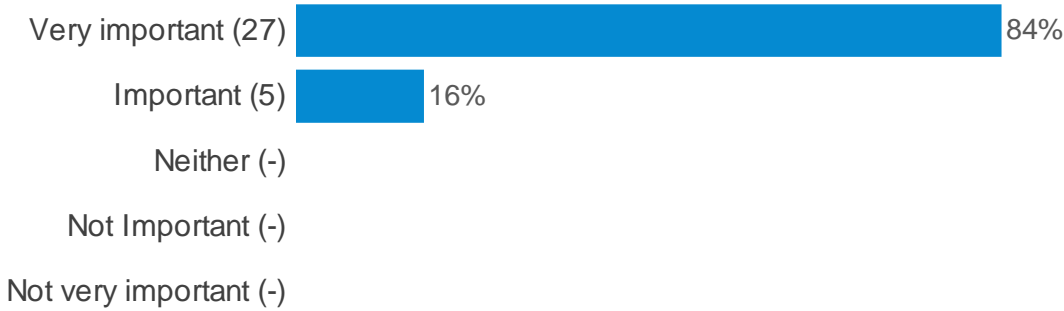
Some flooding is a result of freak natural excess rainfall. Some flooding is due to adverse conditions created by poor planning which shifts excess water from one risk area to another area not previously known as risk area.

The Council welcomes Section 1.4. which sets out six objectives to help secure effective flood risk management for communities and businesses in North Yorkshire. Of particular interest is objective 1.4.1: A greater role for communities in managing flood risk. The document is lengthy and goes to great lengths in describing flood risks across North Yorkshire. However, the document only mentions the river Wharfe once and then only to say where it enters the river Ouse at Caywood. It is extremely disappointing that Tadcaster is not mentioned at all in Section 2 in any of the Action Plans which covers projects up to 2027.. This being despite of the major Boxing Day 2015 flooding of the town (highest ever recorded river height and subsequent collateral damage to property and businesses in the town) and partial collapse of the road bridge which caused major disruption in the town for over a year. This event necessitated a Section 19 Report which concluded that the flood defences in the town had to be increased. Since then there have been several 'near misses' and, in spite of warnings that there was a strong risk of the river overtopping again, it did so on 21 February this year. We understand a further Section 19 Report on this event is pending. In late 2019, Central Govt. allocated £11.5m to fund the Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme, yet there is no mention of this project in the Action Plans. There is nothing about any temporary measures, following the 2022 flooding, whilst projects elsewhere in the County are cited. According to this document, as it stands, Tadcaster does not have a flood risk worthy of note.

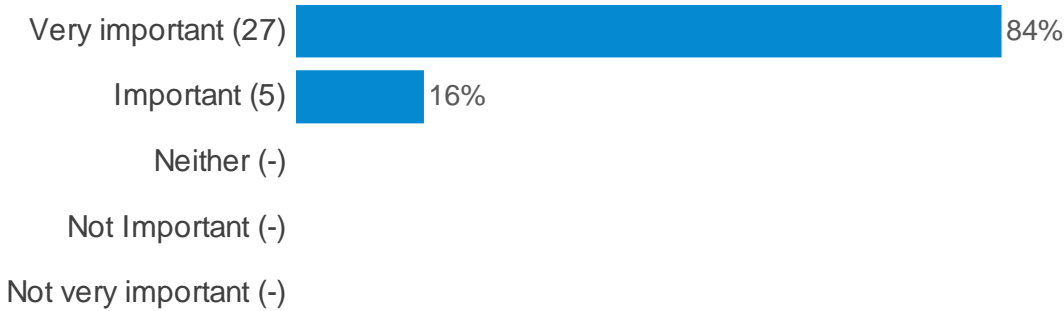
Such a large county that some areas have not been considered

Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

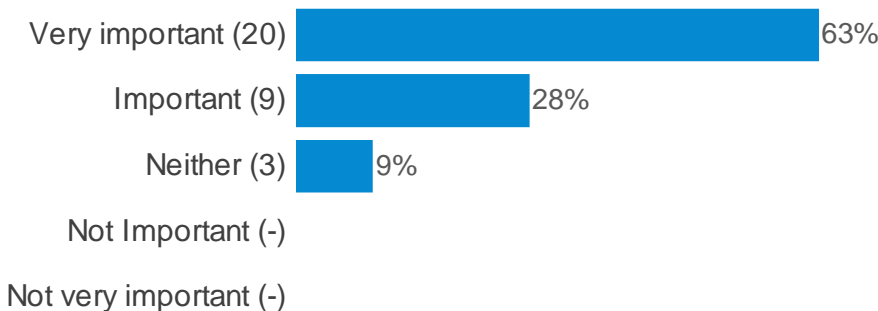
From your opinion of the strategy, how important are the following key themes for managing the risk of flooding in North Yorkshire? (The use of Natural Flood Management (NFM) measures)



From your opinion of the strategy, how important are the following key themes for managing the risk of flooding in North Yorkshire? (Promotion of Sustainable Development (including use of SuDS))

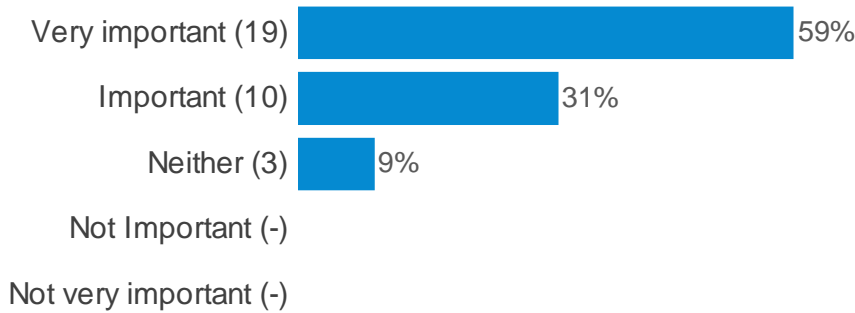


From your opinion of the strategy, how important are the following key themes for managing the risk of flooding in North Yorkshire? (Climate Change)



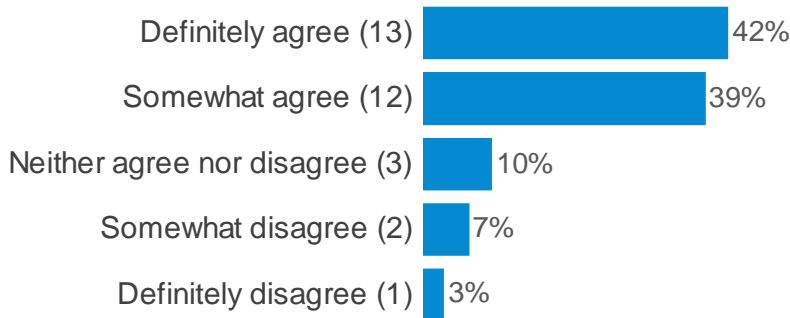
Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

From your opinion of the strategy, how important are the following key themes for managing the risk of flooding in North Yorkshire? (Community Involvement)



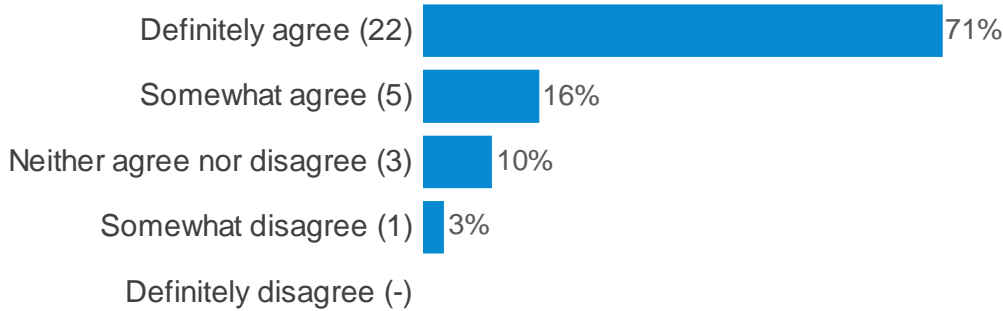
The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (A greater role for communities in managing flood risk)



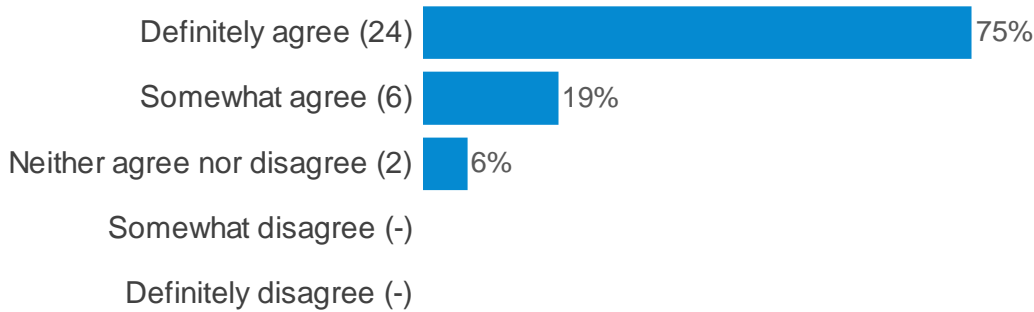
The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (Improved knowledge and understanding of flood risk and management responsibilities within North Yorkshire County Council and amongst partners, stakeholders, communities and the media)



The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

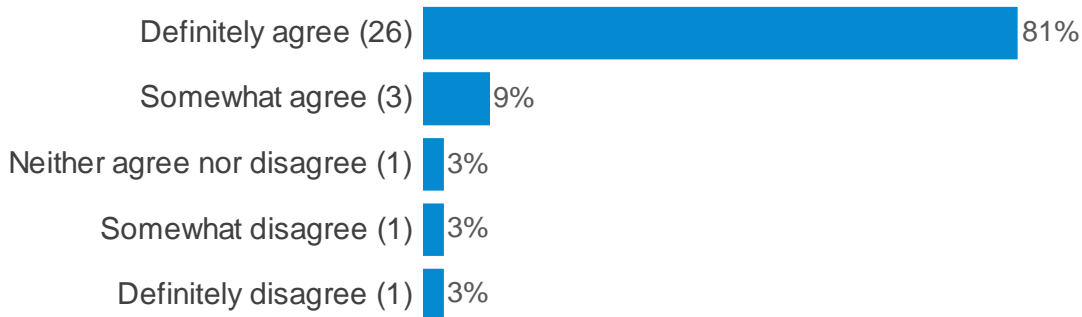
How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (Sustainable and appropriate development utilising sustainable drainage where ever possible)



Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

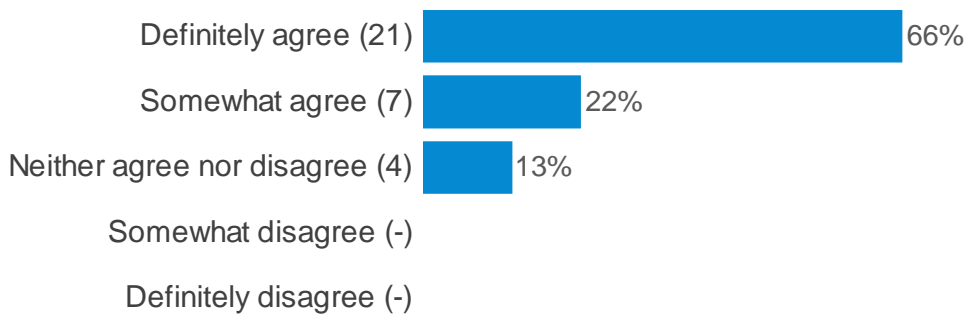
The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (Improved knowledge of watercourse network and drainage infrastructure)



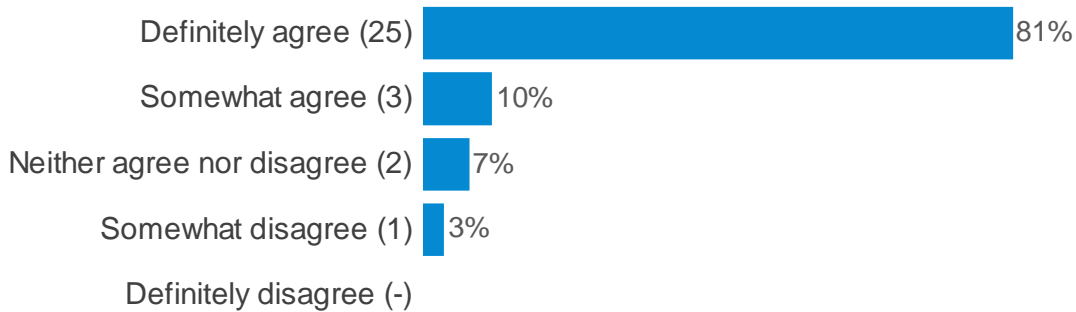
The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (Flood risk management measures that deliver social, economic and environmental benefits)



The draft strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk (please see Section 1 of the Strategy).

How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives? (Best use of all potential funding opportunities to deliver flood risk management measures)



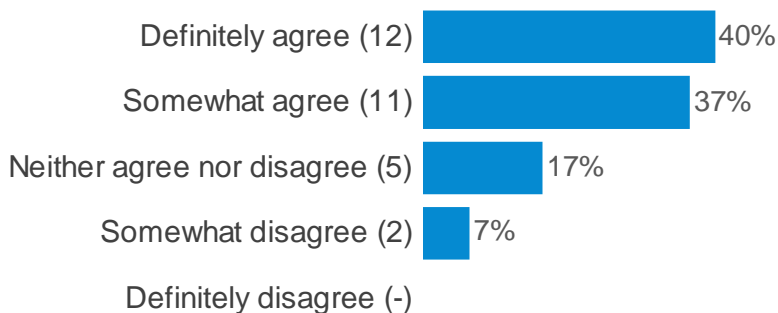
If you disagree, please state which ones and why:

It should not be up to communities to manage flood risk which they may have no input to.

"Improving drainage infrastructure" seems to be just moving the problems downstream. I believe that the priority should be on altering land use and slowing the flow from the catchment areas, for example through tree planting where appropriate or by allowing more space for rivers to overspill and meander naturally. Banning the draining of moorland would be a good start.

In section 2 of the draft strategy we set out proposed actions to meet the objectives and so manage the risk of flooding in North Yorkshire.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with these actions? (In section 2 of the draft strategy we set out proposed ac...)



Please make any comments or suggestions about the proposed actions:

There needs to be consultation with local communities effected by flooding - they often know the area better than anyone else and can work together with the local authority. I live in Birstwith - an area with increased levels of flooding in recent years - several times i have seen professionals come to look at the river and leave unsure about what to do next, hence no action is taken. Community action plans need to be drawn up and communities involved in the change. Local residents would be willing to support with any activity and this would support with budget issues. Also a greater awareness of what support is available to houses effected by flooding and financial support e.g. for flood doors and the increase in home insurance costs.

The strategy continues to manage flood risk in a proportionate manner, subject to the constraints of funding and resource availability.

There is not enough emphasis on prevention. I can't see practical proposals which will empower local communities to be involved in the response either.

You appear to have covered all the bases - but see later comments.

Living in Thirsk i have noted that the beck is clogged in numerous places , especially around the main bridges in the town centre, these have become clogged with silt and now the majority of area underneath these bridges is blocked up with grass and weeds growing, in fact the main bridge on one way system into town only has one section left where water freely flows , the others have now been closed off by grassy areas growing, in times of flood this means there is less area for free flowing water to stay within the confines of the beck and more chance of flooding into town and nearby road areas. An easy action would be to remove all of this probably with much less cost involved than any flood defence.

Make use of tree planting as a long term flood mitigation measure

must involve the Swale and Ure Drainage Board who are undertaking an hydrology report. While the IDB actively maintain - dredge all of the water ways in their area the Enviromental Agency have taken control of the Wiske from Northallerton to the Swale . The EA have many rolls and maintenance of their bit of Wiske (critical for the movement of water) is not high on their agenda. The have not manitaned or give permiision to dredge the Wiske . This used to be done regularly when the IDB looked after the river. Riparian land owners are now seeing increased flooding to their businesses for longer periods of time.

I am generally happy with the proposals

I agree for the need to develop a more integrated system, with all the stakeholders involved. Communities need one point of contact. People need trained personnel who they can turn to for guidance and leadership. I live in a small village, Appersett, that has now formed a community group to try and improve flood resilience. The process of seeking help has been extremely difficult, stressful and for months unproductive. I agree that communities need to be more proactive in flood prevention measures to their homes/properties, but I believe there is a need for professional guidance and a coordinated response to incidents of flooding. After a serious incidence of flooding in November 2020, preceded by 3 less serious incidences of flooding since 2016, we have struggled to navigate through all the agencies and organisations that we believed could help with the measures we are considering. These range from individual property protection, flood warnings, unmaintained drainage system in the village, NFM measures upstream, repair of damaged wall adjacent to Widdale Beck and all the permissions that would entail. Communities that have experienced flooding need one point of contact and some one to liaise with on improving future risk. Funding streams is another area to navigate and many sources of funding are only available to professional bodies e.g. FCERM grants. If communities fall between the cracks for lead responsibility then they are left very much on their own. Our main problem is that a section of our small beck is classed as a main river therefore not under the jurisdiction of NYCC FRMT. As a result we have been omitted from recent initiatives that can benefit small hamlets and villages and addressed collectively to warrant the spend. This of course appears to still be the case in the new proposed strategy for 2022-2027 and NYCC only deal with watercourses, not main rivers, even if it is a watercourse a few yards upstream.

Please make any comments or suggestions about the proposed actions:

Planning consents which shift flood risks to alternative properties must always be avoided. AfterAll when another areas floodwater is shifted to innocent properties which were not built on flood plains and thus affect thier value and insurability then this must be avoided as a paramount importance

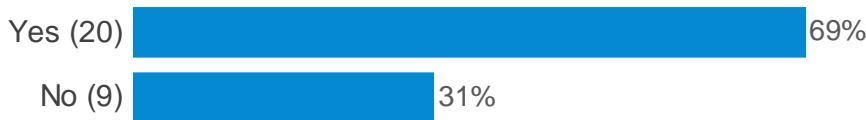
Unclear and unspecific and no sign of any significant change on what has already been done in major flood areas in the past. The strategy continues to ignore regular small scale flooding events.

No building on flood plains nor change of use.

Engaging the community is key - not just paying lip service but they should influence decision making

These Local Flood Risk Strategy actions are an excellent idea. However, the Local Council should have 'teeth' that they can use to enforce Housing / Business Developers to conform to regulations! In approving planning for Housing or Business development, Flood Risk Assessment should be completed and approved PRIOR to any other planning approval. (It is no good approving plans, and then say '...oh we will deal with the flooding problem and drainage thereof later on') New Housing Developments : Local Planning departments should seriously investigate any flood risk, especially Surface Water Flood Risk, given that in most cases local residents have more historical flood data and understanding the underlying cause of flooding, than they are given credit for! Currently, Housing Developers have been granted planning permission, due to the Local Council planning departments being threatened with Appeals should they turn a planning application down!

Is there anything you feel is missing from the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy that you think should be included?



If Yes, please provide more information here:

I think ditches on private land should be cleared more often around rural areas. This diverts water away from properties. The local shooting moor near Bentham never clears it's ditches.

Further consultation with individual communities and individualised action plans drawn up. Further support for those effected by flooding (not just the financial implications but also the emotional impact and stress levels that increase with the water levels!).

Proper dredging of rivers and waterways to help relieve excess water.

The council needs to protect the people living here by challenging national government on its planning laws, on its failures to adopt a robust strategy for carbon zero and its destructive land use subsidies, all of which are contributing hugely to the problems we are having here in Yorkshire.

as described , use mother nature to sort half the issues instead of expensive flood defense which just moves the problem downstream.

Permaculture methodologies.

Look at introduction of beavers in upper reaches of rivers

must include the Swale and Ure Drainage Board who are undertaking an hydrology report and all the IDBs in North Yorkshire using their knowledge and skills .

Far more work on the topography of north Yorkshire where there are no watercourses, again I cite my expeience of the devastating flloods at Filey

If Yes, please provide more information here:

Need to ensure that watercourses near New build housing estates have adequate drainage to prevent run off into the housing developments. Need to ensure that NYCC Highways are cleaning and maintaining these water courses, so they are free from rubbish/trees etc

In Section 1, it may be useful to mention the Internal Drainage Boards as another authority with permissive powers alongside NYCC. In Section 5, we would like local Land Drainage Byelaws to be included in the references to legislation, as these apply in IDB areas and have specific requirements for work affecting watercourses. These have an impact on new developments and are therefore worth signposting at this stage, perhaps with information pointing to our website for full details.

Do not provide planning consent which shifts the lie of flood water to innocent property

The Council welcome Section 1.4. which sets out six objectives to help secure effective flood risk management for communities and businesses in North Yorkshire. Of particular interest is objective 1.4.1: A greater role for communities in managing flood risk. The document is lengthy and goes to great lengths in describing flood risks across North Yorkshire. However, the document only mentions the river Wharfe once and then only to say where it enters the river Ouse at Caywood. It is extremely disappointing that Tadcaster is not mentioned at all in Section 2 in any of the Action Plans which covers projects up to 2027.. This being despite of the major Boxing Day 2015 flooding of the town (highest ever recorded river height and subsequent collateral damage to property and businesses in the town) and partial collapse of the road bridge which caused major disruption in the town for over a year. This event necessitated a Section 19 Report which concluded that the flood defences in the town had to be increased. Since then there have been several 'near misses' and, in spite of warnings that there was a strong risk of the river overtopping again, it did so on 21 February this year. We understand a further Section 19 Report on this event is pending. In late 2019, Central Govt. allocated £11.5m to fund the Tadcaster Flood Alleviation Scheme, yet there is no mention of this project in the Action Plans. There is nothing about any temporary measures, following the 2022 flooding, whilst projects elsewhere in the County are cited. According to this document, as it stands, Tadcaster does not have a flood risk worthy of note.

You need to focus on areas where known flooding occurs regularly regardless of number of houses and other buildings etc affected. You are merely following EA guidance in insisting on action being taken only where large numbers of properties are affected. You also need to build into the strategy emergency relocation plans and direct assistance to be provided to people in the event of extreme flooding. This is not at all clear in any of your documentation.

Referring to sections 1.4.4, 4.6 and 6.4. Although I agree with the broad aims of this strategy, I feel [and know] that it will not be effective in my village, Bradleys Both. The strategy seems to be a wish list of grand aims which may or may not receive funding. I don't think anything has changed since the last NYCC report into the Boxing Day flooding of 2015. Global warming, for us, tends to mean that many rain storms carry a far larger volume of water in a shorter space of time than we have been used to. We can only hope to mitigate the effects of potential flooding. I think that small focussed works will give far better value for money. To my mind this means making better use of our existing surface water drainage from the public highways. In Bradley we have an excellent system of drainage which has never been properly maintained by NYCC highways area 5. Records of the routes have been lost or discarded, responsibility is passed around via Yorkshire Water, and the record keeping of the infrequent gulley emptying is confusing and contradictory. The supervision of the private contractors has been poor. None of the french drains, roadside verges, nor the numerous catchpits on the steep roads leading down to the centre of the village have recently been maintained or cleaned out. Our PC has complained numerous times, but to no avail. We have local knowledge, but nobody is willing to use it; we just have to be content with the so called routine gulley emptying. There will always be budgetary restraints, but I think better management and allocating resources now to look after what we already have will be cheaper than the cost of dealing with what could be more extensive flooding.

Any engagement of the community and subsequent action must involve taking on board their views , opinions and experience

If Yes, please provide more information here:

Responsibility of Developers

Are there any other actions that you think should be included?

If so please explain what they are and why they should be included.

Please say who should be responsible for these measures. (Are there any other actions that you think should be included? If so please explain what they are and why they should be included. Please say who should be responsible for these measures.)

See above. In relation to Birstwith - it is clear that there is a blockage in one of the bridge arches that needs to be cleared - over the years this has had a direct impact on the flow of the river and is directing the water closer to houses - local council should be responsible for talking to us about this.

The reference to 'Living on the Edge' needs to be updated to reflect the new title for the Guidance 'Owning a Watercourse' in the section for Riparian Owners. The hyperlinks for the IDB's do not work and need to be reinstated.

The council also needs to strengthen and act on its own climate change strategy. This is a climate emergency - Councillors must take the long term view on their responsibilities.

Your documents mention, several times, community involvement. I feel that this is essential because local communities can make a real difference to controlling their own specific local flooding issues. An example of this was the work done, earlier this year, by Luttons Parish Council (LPC), whereby the Gypsy Race (GR), at West Lutton, was cleared of a number of years of silt build up. The PC was assisted by NYCC who undertook the clearance of the under roadway watercourse crossings - for which they are responsible. The outcome of this work has been that the GR, within West Lutton, is now flowing as freely as anyone can remember, and that wildlife, not seen for some years, has returned. The point being that LPC took the initiative to undertake this work in an effort to alleviate a local flooding issue adjacent to Luttons Church - and for a stretch of road approx 400m westwards from there. Finance for the works was from the PC's own budget together with a grant from NYCC. The PC's intention is to continue with a similar exercise, year on year, along the length of the GR (within LPC's domain) in order to try and restore the flow of the watercourse along its length and, by doing so, hoping to alleviate local flooding. If other PC's did the same then one does wonder what could be achieved to the benefit of all!

as described, clear the rivers of debris and when waters are high it remains contained.

Clear watercourses

Have permaculture methods/principles been explored? ...taking into account topography of the land, implementing trees, swales and such to retain water, prevent flooding and maximising the use of water that can be captured/harvested.

More tree planting

The IDBs are critical. Maintenance, management of water ways is important to moving floodwater. There seems to be a line now of holding flood water up stream - my view is that that makes for more problems. "keep the water moving". Riparian land owners of waterways should be involved.

Investigation of potential areas likely to suffer surface water run off where there are no watercourses. Involve "Joe Public" who will have far more practical knowledge of the area in which they have lived for many years. Don't just rely on the advice, theoretical knowledge of officers and consultants. NYCC and then NYC i.e. a One Stop Shop

Are there any other actions that you think should be included?

If so please explain what they are and why they should be included.

Please say who should be responsible for these measures. (Are there any other actions that you think should be included? If so please explain what they are and why they should be included. Please say who should be responsible for these measures.)

The criteria in Section 3.2 of the strategy is extremely woolley. I would welcome clarity on the wording : 'limited internal property impact', 'several internal properties impacted', 'relatively frequent occurences' If levels of response is being judged on this criteria it needs to be quantifiable. For example in our case 10 out of 23 properties in the village had water ingress on most recent occasion (Nov 2020). This was preceded by 3 properties having water ingress on 3 occasions over the previous 4 years. What would the response be if it was classed as a watercourse? Is it down to numbers of properties, percentage of the community, domestic or business dwellings?

In Section 6, we would ask that Land Drainage Consent for certain actions in IDB areas is referenced, such as the requirement for consent for any construction with 9 metres of a watercourse or any new discharge. Again it would be useful for signpost our website for full details. Finally, we would ask that developers in IDB areas consult with the IDB at an early stage in relation to drainage design, as this helps ensure sustainable drainage solutions are promoted at an early stage in the process.

Emergency relief for those affected by extreme flooding including temporary accommodation and recovery of their properties.

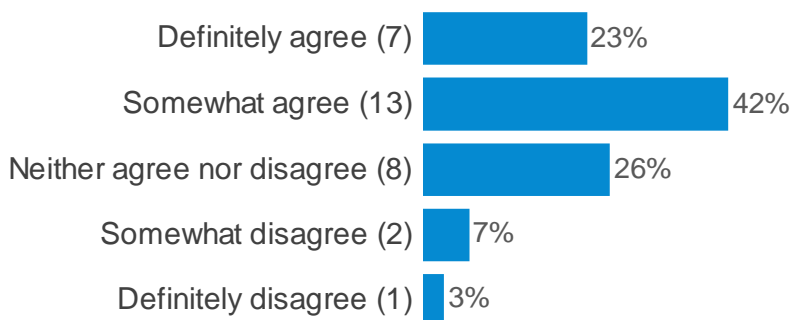
There should be more [legal?] pressure on riparian owners to keep the waterways clear of obstructions.

Much more interaction with local areas who understand the flooding better

Representatives from the community across all affected areas should be involved to the point where the strategy can be changed for the greater good

Ensure that the Developers are responsible for any subsequent flooding of local residents, where the flooding should have been stopped, should they ignore any actions advised in this Strategy.

Do you feel that the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will help to reduce local flood risk?



Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Please explain why you feel this way:

i would need to see a clear action plan about what is being done to address specific areas where flooding near residential properties is a concern.

The LFRMS sets out clearly how the Risk Management Authorities (RMA's) should work together to manage flood risk, and the achievements of the previous strategy demonstrate how effective this can be.

There are a great number of words - how many will be translated into actions?

We continue to underestimate the scale of the change which our climate is undergoing and the sort of response which is needed. I am worried that some of the infrastructure based "solutions" could actually make the problems worse.

You appear to have covered all the bases.

doing something about it!

Difficult to comment when I am do not know what the strategy is. Flooding is increasing ,

I feel the necessary steps in flood risk management are being addressed

Any work will be of benefit

It should have a positive impact IF everyone works together and in the knowledge of what each of the interested agencies are doing. Currently I feel everyone is working in individual pockets in a less coordinated way.

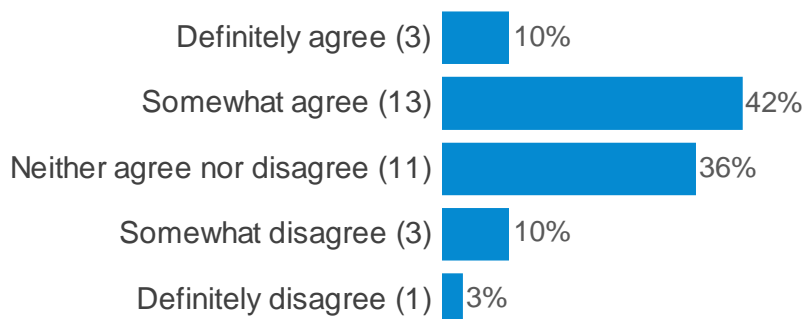
The report in 2007 and the subsequent act in 2010 has resulted in little or no change to people affected by regular flooding in knaresborough. Correspondence with NYCC since the flooding in 2015 has resulted in no action being taken and all other requests for changes to local laws regarding the control and management of local reservoirs have been ignored or dismissed. I see nothing in this strategy that will mean any change for the people of knaresborough.

See previous comments

Lack of community engagement - community engagement should not be a nominal tick box exercise - real engagement , involvement and an absolute influence on policy is key. This will need professional and competent facilitators

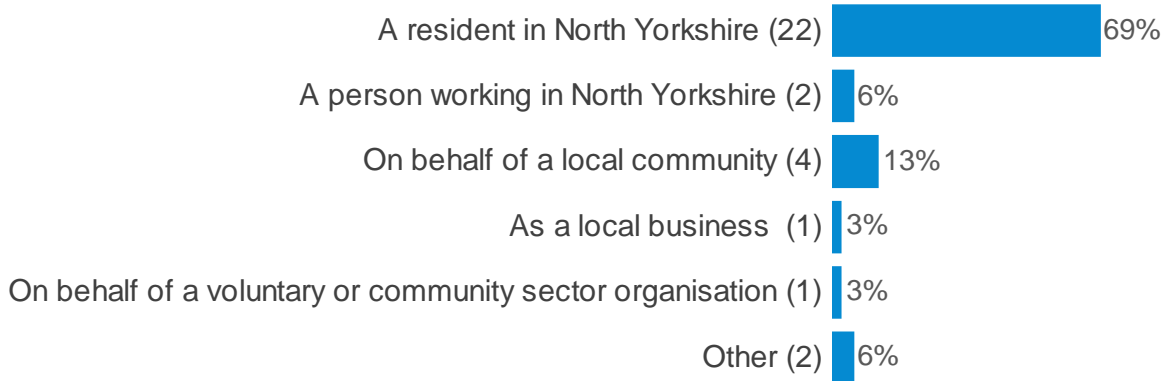
It will help if Planners and Developers take heed!

Do you feel that the strategy addresses the potential impacts of climate change sufficiently? (Do you feel that the strategy addresses the potential imp...)



Consultation on Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Please tell us whether you are responding to this survey as an individual or as an organisation to allow us to understand the views and concerns of different groups of respondents.



If responding as part of a group or organisation please tell us its name?

- _____
Luttons Parish Council
- _____
Chair of Filey Working Group from 2002 until the construction of the Filey Flood Alleviation Scheme
- _____
I am chair of Appersett Flood Group but have answered as an individual.
- _____
Yorkshire and Humber Drainage Boards (group of Internal Drainage Boards)
- _____
Settle Town Council
- _____
Tadcaster Town Council
- _____
Knaresborough flood committee
- _____
Chairman of Bradleys Both PC