

Summary of consultation responses

The consultation for the Local FRM Strategy was conducted through summer 2024. This involved the following:

- Heads up to the parish/town councils that the consultation was due to be published in advance of the start date.
- Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit updated to provide links to the Let's Talk pages
- Draft Local Strategy sent to other Risk Management Authorities in advance (District and City council, Environment Agency, Thames Water)
- News item on the main OCC website with relevant links
- Email to County Councillors to provide them with advance warning
- Internal teams were consulted via email with Draft document and action plan.

Public consultation

The consultation ran from 28th June 2024 to 23rd August 2024 and included the Draft Local FRM Strategy document, the Draft Action plan and summary of previous strategy action plan.

A survey was prepared inviting responders to say if they agree or disagree with the objectives and measures, whether they had any specific comments on those or whether they thought anything was missing from the strategy.

We also received email responses separately from a number of organisations as follows:

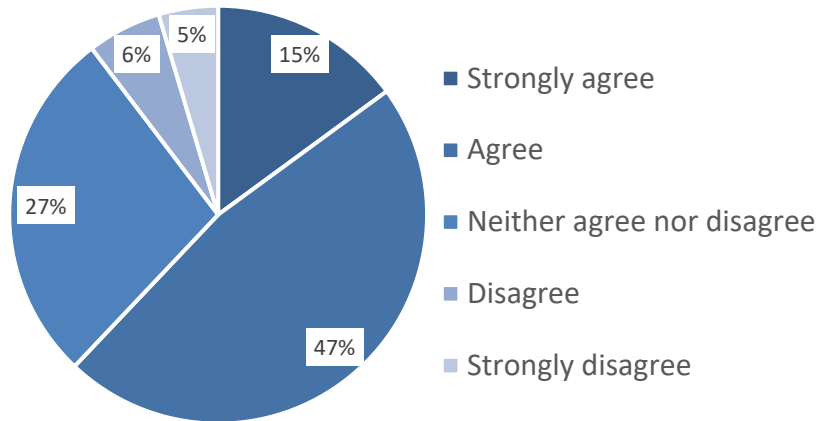
- Environment Agency
- Oxford Flood Alliance
- Witney Flood Group
- West Oxfordshire District Council

Feedback responses

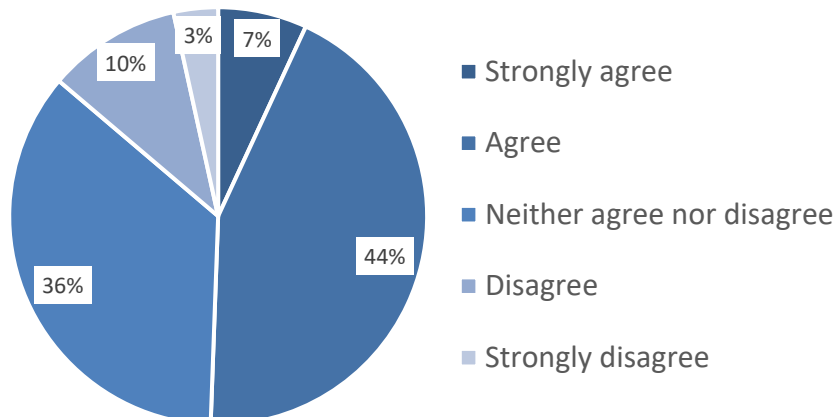
From the Lets Talk page we received 92 responses. 62 of these were from residents of Oxfordshire, 22 were from a local authority/ County Councillor, 5 were on behalf of a local group or charity. The remaining responses were marked as 'other' or were from businesses or OCC employees. A summary of these responses are given below.

General Questions about the Strategy

Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree that it is clear in the Strategy which Risk Management Authorities are responsible for managing which sources of flooding?

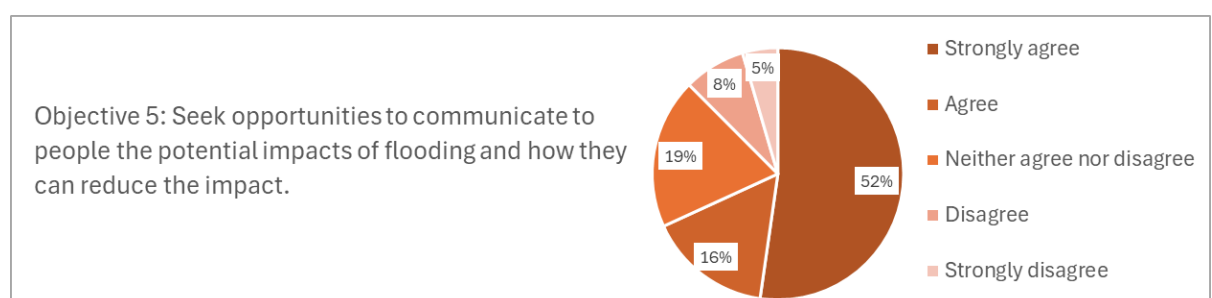
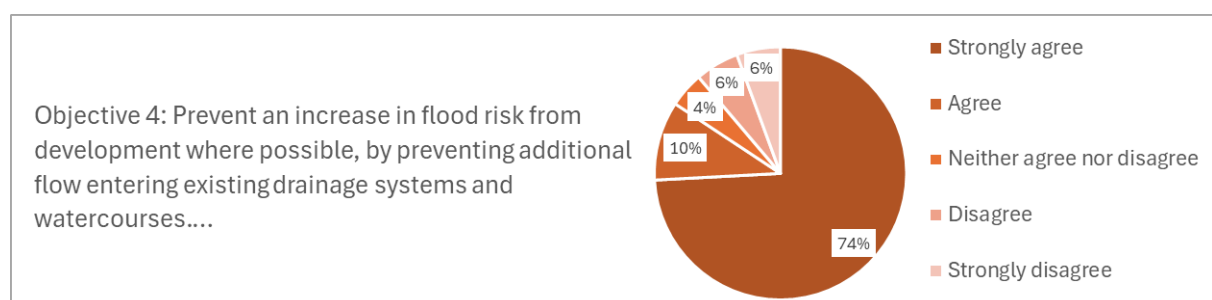
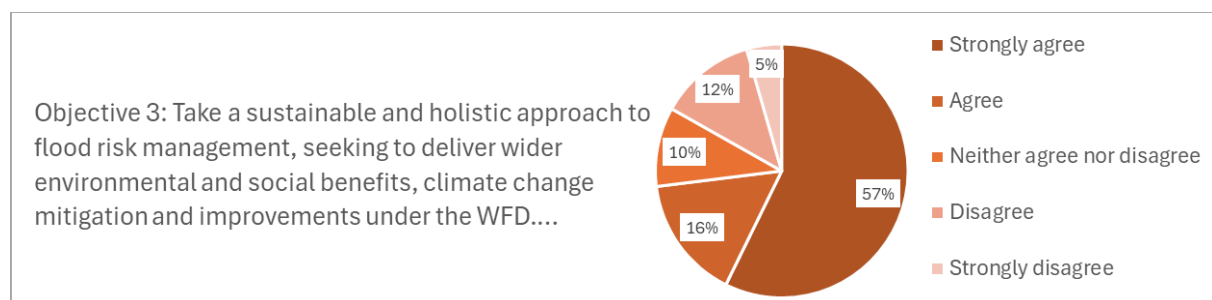
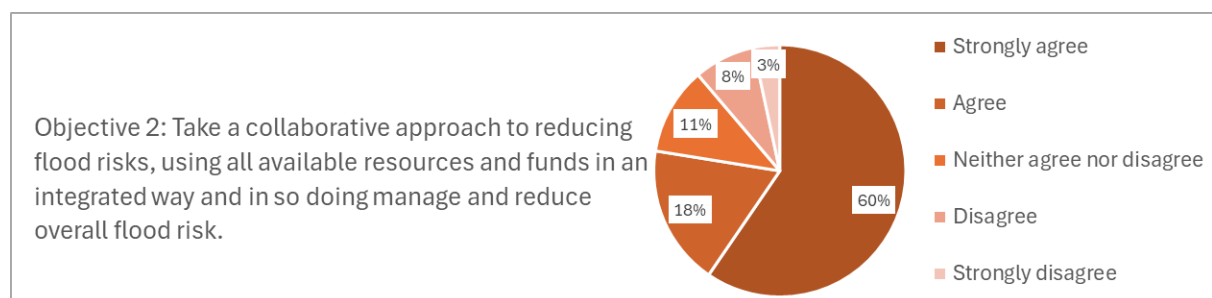
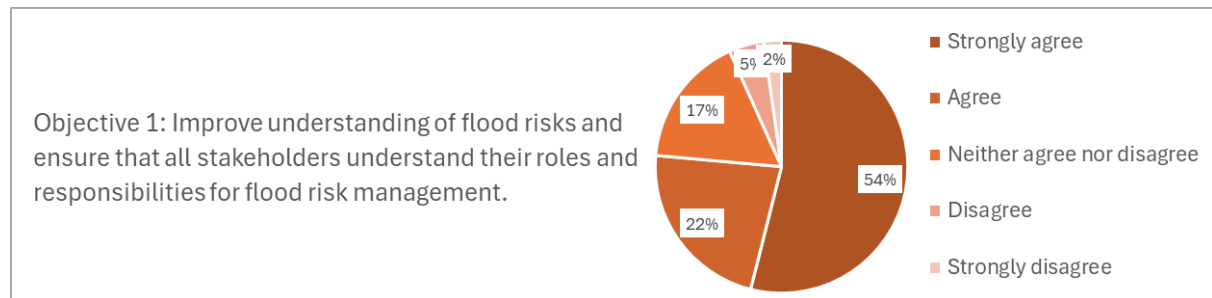


Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree that the information about sources of funding for flood risk management is clear within the strategy?

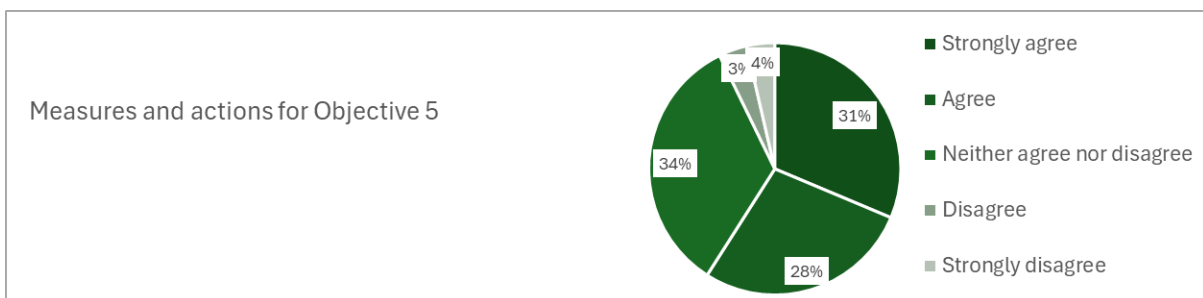
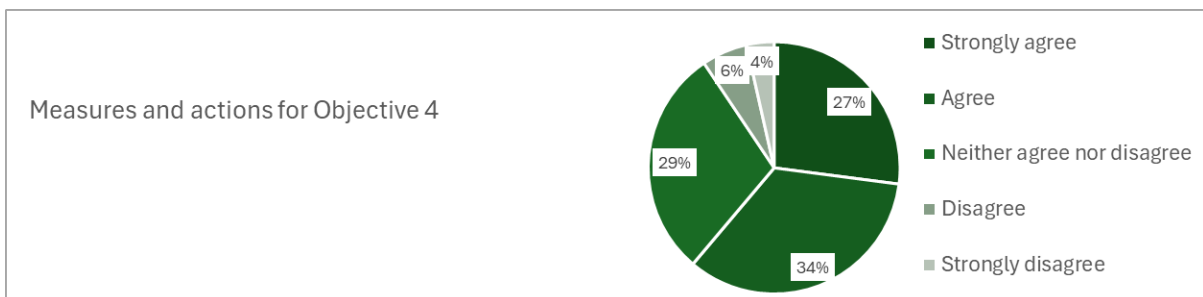
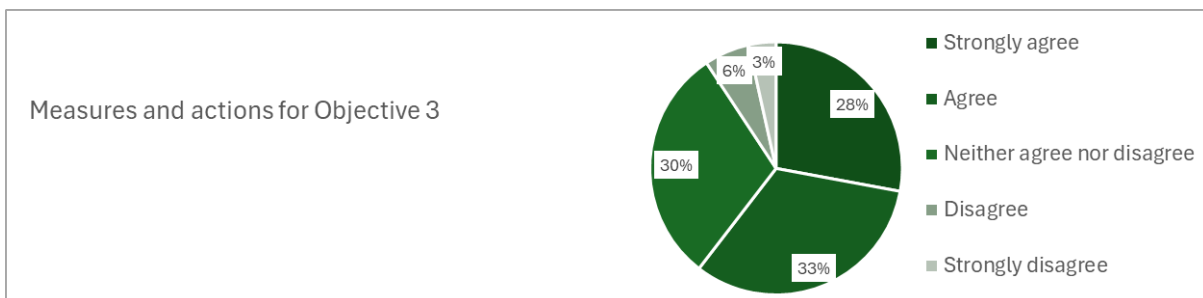
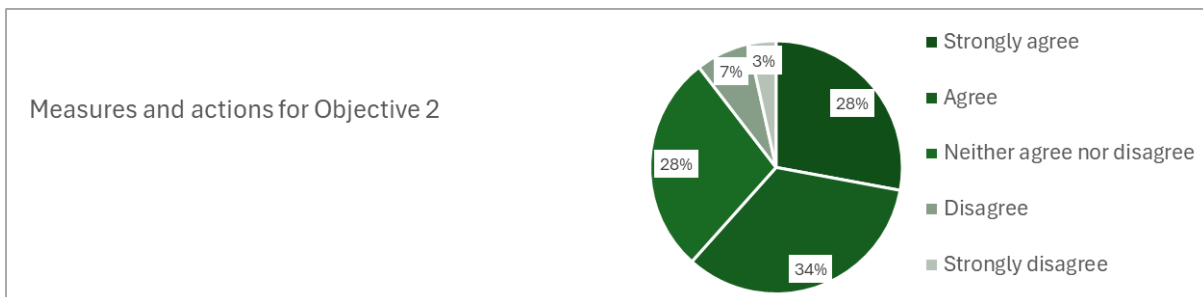
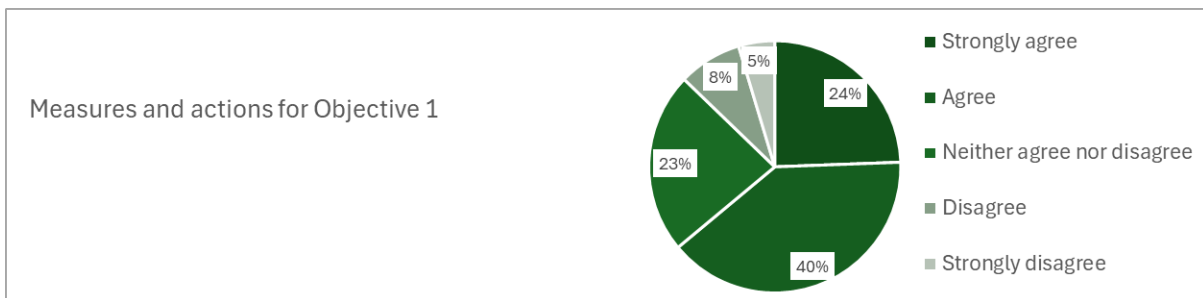


Objectives

The Strategy sets out objectives for managing local flood risk. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following objectives?



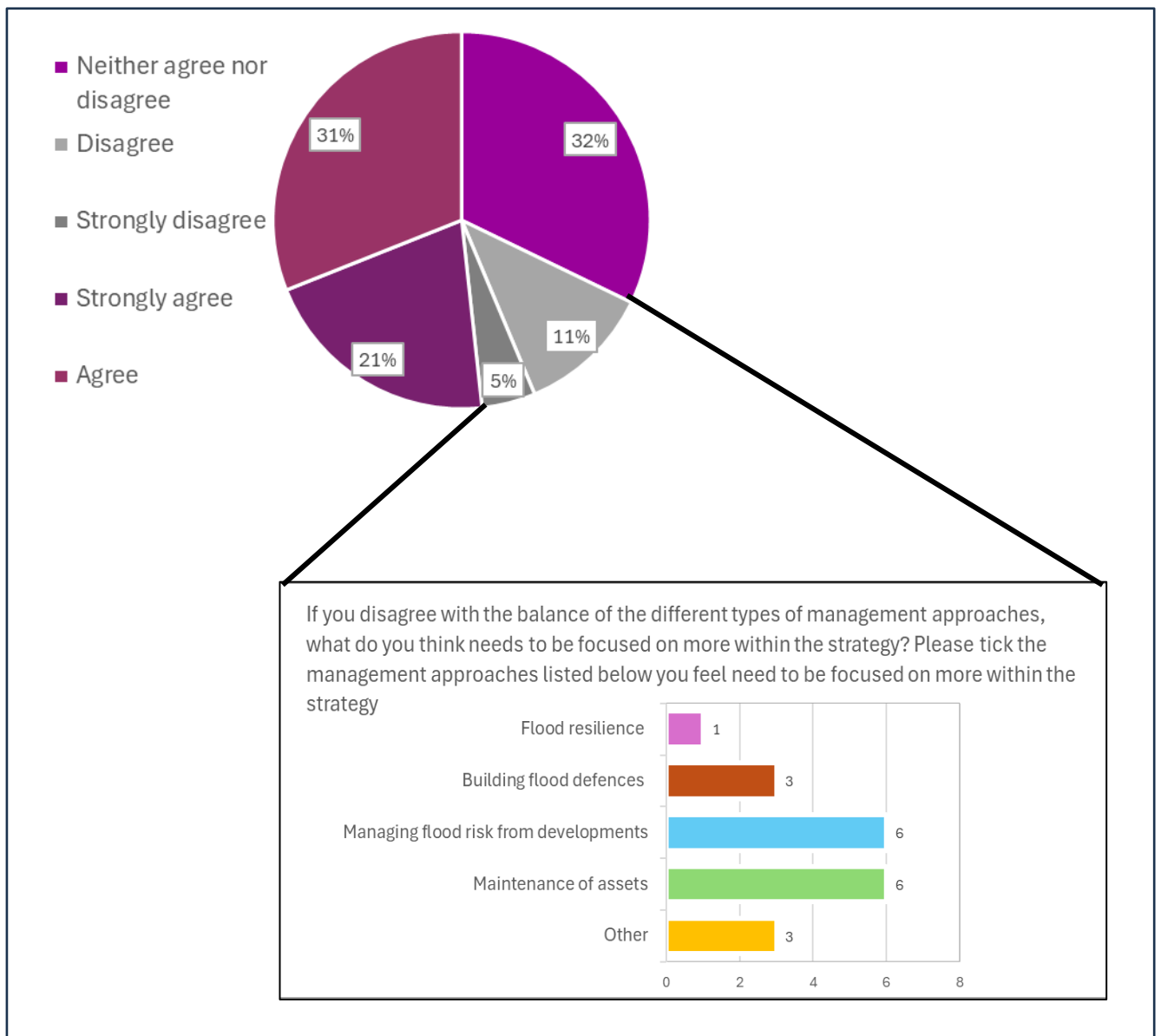
The Strategy sets out the measures and actions we propose to take to meet the objectives. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree that the measures and actions are appropriate for each objective?



Balance of measures

Flood risk can be managed in a number of different ways, these can include flood warning and resilience, maintenance of assets, managing flood risk from development and building flood defences.

Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree that the Strategy balances these different types of management approaches?



Analysis

Over 70% of respondents definitely or somewhat agreed with all objectives, which is positive response. When measures and actions are considered for each of these objectives this falls to 60% and is likely to be reflective of the more specific nature of measures, however this was still positive. There was less certainty on whether measures and actions were suitable.

Generally there were 80% of respondents who strongly agreed or agreed with the information on funding sources and 74% agreed that the information on which risk management authorities were involved in flood risk management was clear. Those agreeing with the balance of measures was above 60% there was however 21% that could not agree or disagree to the balance. Of those that disagreed managing flood risk from developments and maintaining assets was suggested should have more focus, but overall those that disagreed was 16%.

Detailed responses

There were a number of responses that referred to specific locations or issues. These are not relevant for strategy consultation, but were passed to the relevant organisation to be able to respond.

The more detailed comments were categorised into a number of themes that were not directly related or were important to note but would not alter the strategy content.

Theme	Comments	Response
Planning and the planning of new development	More emphasis on new development reducing flood risk and being directed to other areas. More control on new development locations.	The LFRMS is not the mechanism to allocate land or set policy on new developments. The NPPF and Local Planning policies as well as the evidence base such as the SFRA are used to determine the most appropriate location. The LLFA are a statutory consultee in the planning process in surface water drainage for major developments. The LFRMS sets out how we are managing this role and inputting into this process.
Highway drainage	There were a number of comments around the maintenance of highways drainage and gullies in both general terms and specific area examples.	Our objectives include working with the highway team to improve flood resilience on their assets and identify areas that have specific issues.
Role of parish councils	Comments in relation to the role and whether we had misrepresented their input in terms of funding and ability to	Although we have not proposed to change any wording we are reviewing this to ensure we have not misrepresented them. As part of the collaboration work we are doing we are aiming to engage and collaborate more with communities.

	deliver flood resilience work	
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Changes to the strategy text as a result of the consultation.

There were a number of responses which included typographical changes which have been updated. More detailed responses resulted in some amendments to the text in order for clarification, these are listed below but do not change the Local Flood Risk Management strategy fundamentally.

Section	Comment	Response
7.2 Funding	the available funding sources are not very clear and would be better in something like a table eg “ Funding source available “, amount if known, how to access, what can be bid for/claimed etc	
General Comment	Consider adding a section on other OCC strategies/plans. For example LNRS, Climate Adaption Route Map, Climate Engagement Route Map, Climate Vulnerability Assessment etc. with a link to them?	
Measure 2.4	Reword a measure to make it more encompassing. <i>Continue to work with other RMAs and others in order to take a collaborative approach to managing flood risk.</i> This will need updating on all documents.	
Page 22 sec 4.2	We have a number of groups either formal or informal flood groups so we need to include them in more general terms and consider how we keep an upto date list.	
General Comment	Need to include within the strategy reference to Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans (DWMPs). These plans are now a statutory duty for water companies. The Environment Act 2021 allows the Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans to be made statutory. The government will implement the relevant provisions during the next Drainage and Wastewater Management planning cycle (2023-2028) Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan (publishing.service.gov.uk)	

