

Managing cross boundary environmental issues

The Lincolnshire Coastal Study

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Overview of presentation

- Lincolnshire Coastal Study - 'Big Society' themes
- Project methodology
- Outcomes of the project – Principles for sustainable spatial development
- Implementing the Principles – 'localism' and managing cross-boundary issues

'Big Society' themes

- Lincolnshire Coastal Study carried out under previous government (Jan 2009 – April 2010)
- But provides a case study of some of the principles of 'Big Society'
 - Partnership working (and funding)
 - Lead role of local authorities in flood risk management
- 'Big Society' poses challenges to implementing findings of the Lincolnshire Coastal Study
 - Fragmented policy across local authorities

Background to Lincolnshire Coastal Study



Rationale for Study

- Need to reconcile present and future tidal flood risk with the need for development and economic regeneration
- Recognised by Review Panel of East Midlands Regional Plan (2007):
 - *“No new development (beyond existing commitments) in the three coastal districts until a coastal strategy is agreed”*
- Study Aim – to develop Principles for spatial development which would allow communities to develop and have a viable and prosperous future
- Coastal Study Group set up to oversee project

Partnership working: Lincolnshire Coastal Study group



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Flood hazard scenarios

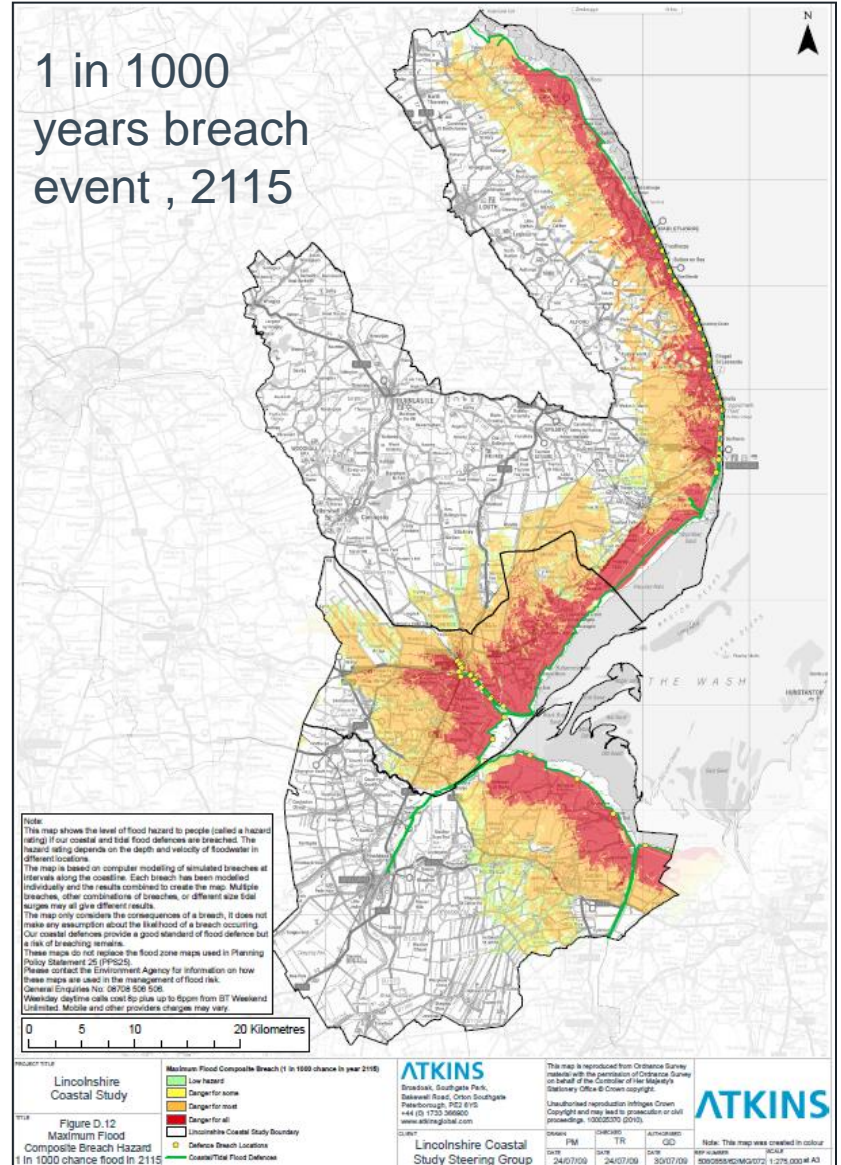
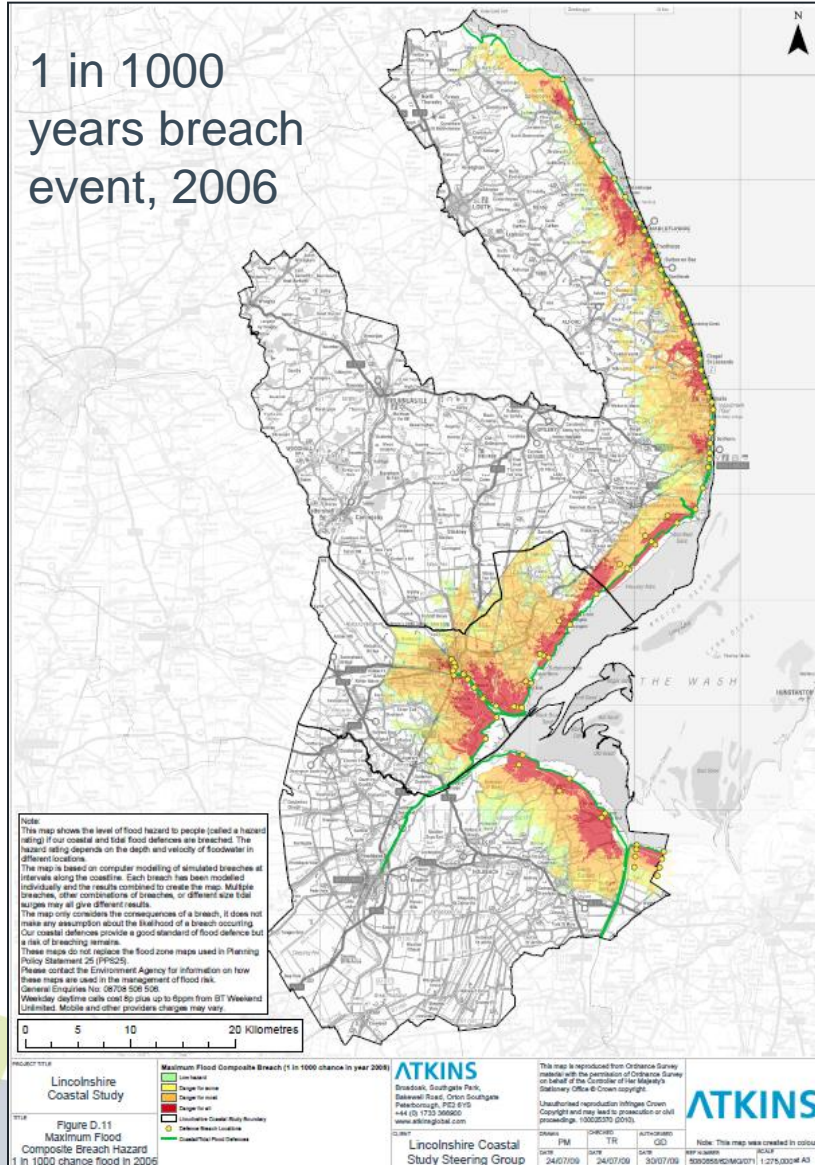
- Tidal and estuary flooding
- 1 in 200 year event and 1 in 1000 year event
- Overtopping - defences remain intact, water flows over the top
- Breaching - a section of the defence fails, water passes through a gap
- Present day (2006) and future including climate change (2115)



Flood hazard mapping: hazard zones

Degree of hazard	Hazard rating	Colour on map	Description of flood water	Description of hazard
None	Little or no hazard	White	Outside of modelled flood extent	Little or no hazard (from coastal flooding)
Low	Low Hazard	Green	Shallow flowing or deep standing water	Caution, low hazard to people
Moderate	Danger to some	Yellow	Fast flowing or deep standing water	Hazard to the vulnerable e.g. children, the elderly and the infirm
Significant	Danger for most	Orange	Fast flowing and deep water with some debris	Hazard to most, including the general public
Extreme	Danger for all	Red	Fast flowing deep water with significant debris	Extreme hazard, danger to all, including the emergency services

Flood hazard maps



Stakeholder engagement

- Flood hazard maps presented
- Stakeholders asked to consider what they want the Study Area to be like in future and how planning should facilitate that
- Workshops with:
 - Project Steering Group
 - Technical Group - local authority officers, government agencies, NGOs
 - Elected members in each district
 - Private sector – construction companies, tourism businesses, land owners
- Outcome – three Principles for sustainable development

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Principles for sustainable spatial development

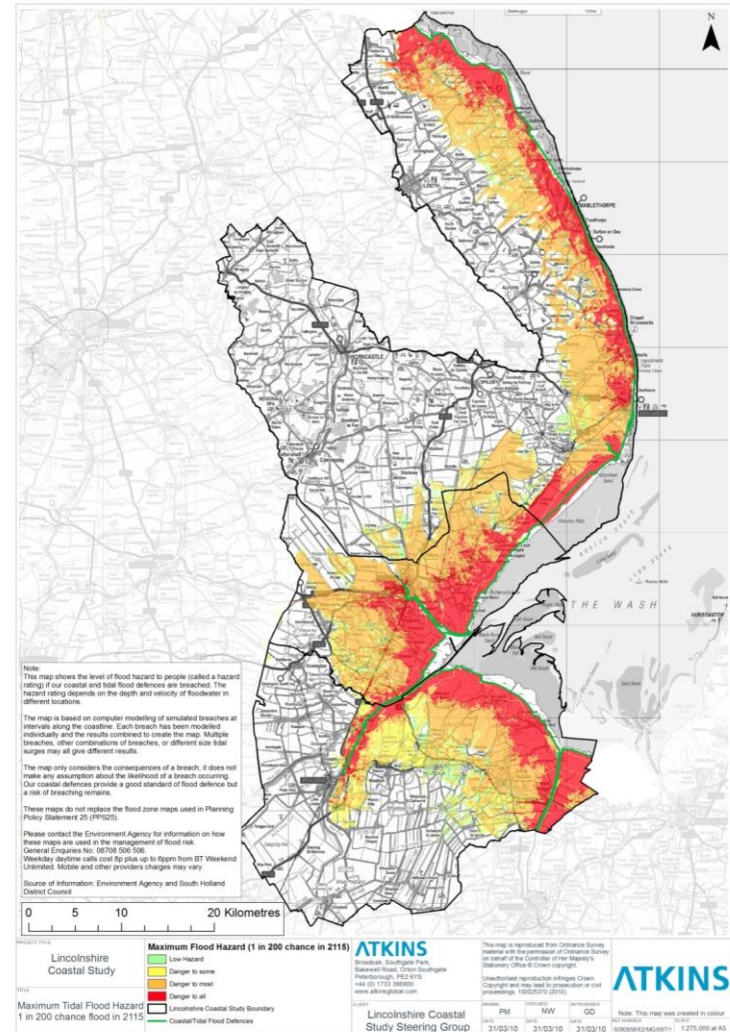
Principle 1

Red, orange and yellow zones:

- Major development (> 10 dwellings) will be business or employment related
- Exceptionally, development to meet local housing needs may continue

Green zone:

- Major development may be permitted



Principles (continued)

All zones:

- New and replacement community buildings may be permitted
- New caravan sites or extensions to existing sites may be allowed for short-let tourist use, Apr - Sept
- Development of buildings and infrastructure for use in emergencies may be permitted
- Development subject to flood risk being mitigated through flood resilient design and emergency planning

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Implementing the Principles

- Mar 2010 - Revised Draft East Midlands Regional Plan submitted to Secretary of State
 - Policy 5a and 5b informed by the Lincolnshire Coastal Study Principles
- Jul 2010 – Regional Strategies revoked
- Aug 2010 – Joint statement by Lincolnshire Coastal Study group
 - East Lindsey District Council resolved to produce an Interim Housing Policy based on the draft Lincolnshire Coastal Strategy
 - Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council will consider the Lincolnshire Coastal Study in developing a Joint LDF

Implementing the Principles in the 'Big Society'

- Regional planning had shortcomings
- But risk that lack of strategic planning will lead to fragmented approach to issues such as flood risk
- Duty to Co-operate - requires local authorities and public bodies critical to plan making (e.g. Environment Agency, Natural England) to co-operate
- But does not include a specific duty to consider undertaking joint planning or challenge failure to consider joint planning
- 'Co-operation' (or failure to co-operate) is not defined

Written evidence to the CLG Committee from the Town and Country Planning Association

“The East Midlands RSS Partial Review (Lincolnshire Coastal Strategy) was an excellent example of strategic planning which successfully brought together all of the key players at regional and local levels. The fact that the RSS Partial Review will not now proceed leaves this piece of work in limbo. It is to be hoped that the consensus will hold together and it can be used to inform LDFs but there is no guarantee that this will be the case.

The key conclusion of the group aimed to shape development that was resilient to climate change across a whole coastal area. It is unlikely that such a project would have taken place in absence of strategic planning body with the resources to do so. The future of the project is now uncertain.”

TCPA, 2010

Lincolnshire Coastal Study Reports and Joint Statement available at:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coastalstudy

Revised Draft East Midlands Regional Plan available at:

www.emregionalstrategy.co.uk