Thames Water

West Oxfordshire Drainage Strategies

24th March 2016

www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/18904.htm

What is a Drainage Strategy?

A strategic approach to drainage planning, ensuring that:

- Current issues with TW owned drainage systems are identified and quantified
- Economic growth is supported
- Environment continues to be protected
- Impacts of climate change are considered

There are a number of stakeholders who, like us, have important drainage responsibilities and therefore, play an essential role in alleviating sewer flooding in our region.

Environment Agency

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thames Water

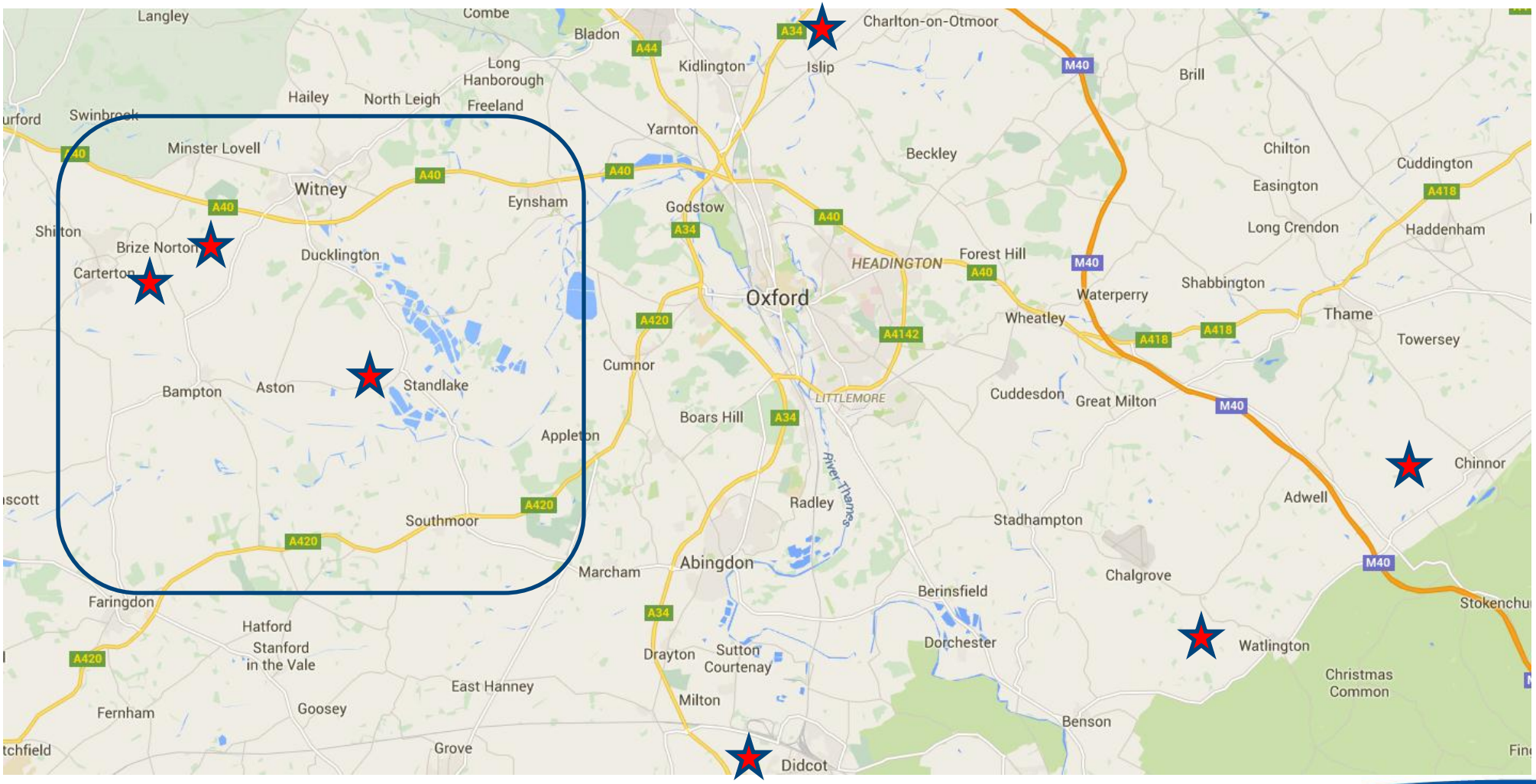
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Thames Water

What is a Drainage Strategy?

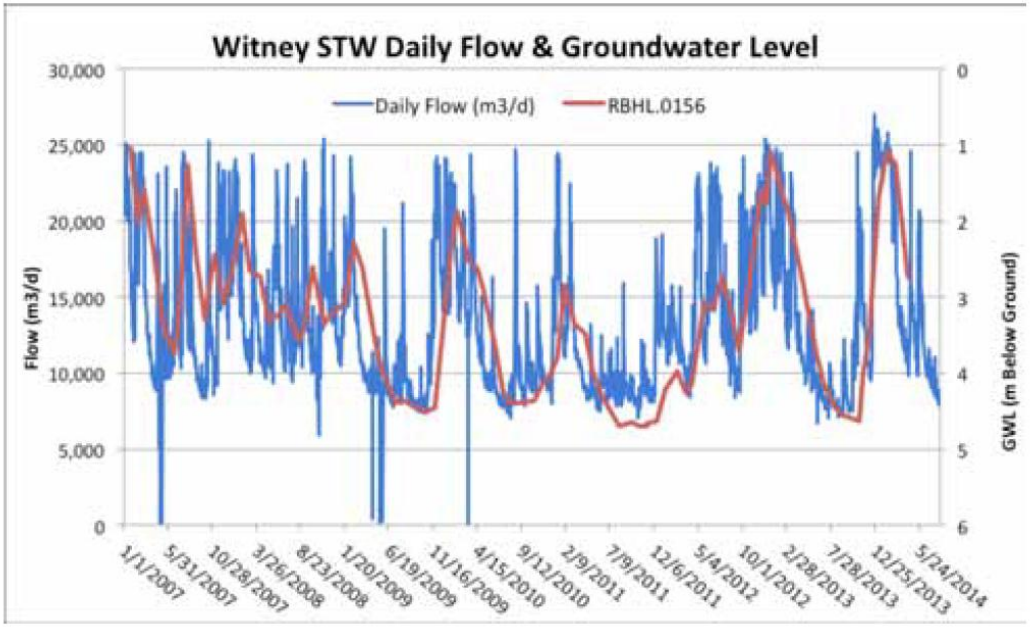
- Primary focus on foul, combined, and storm water sewers owned by TW.
- Help customers understand how the water company intends to deliver its statutory functions over the long term
- Outline how this will be achieved in conjunction with other stakeholders.
- Less reactive and more proactive in providing what customers and the environment requires.

Study Locations



Study Drivers / Issues

- Pluvial flooding
- Fluvial flooding
- High Ground water > Infiltration
- Misconnections
- Overland flow



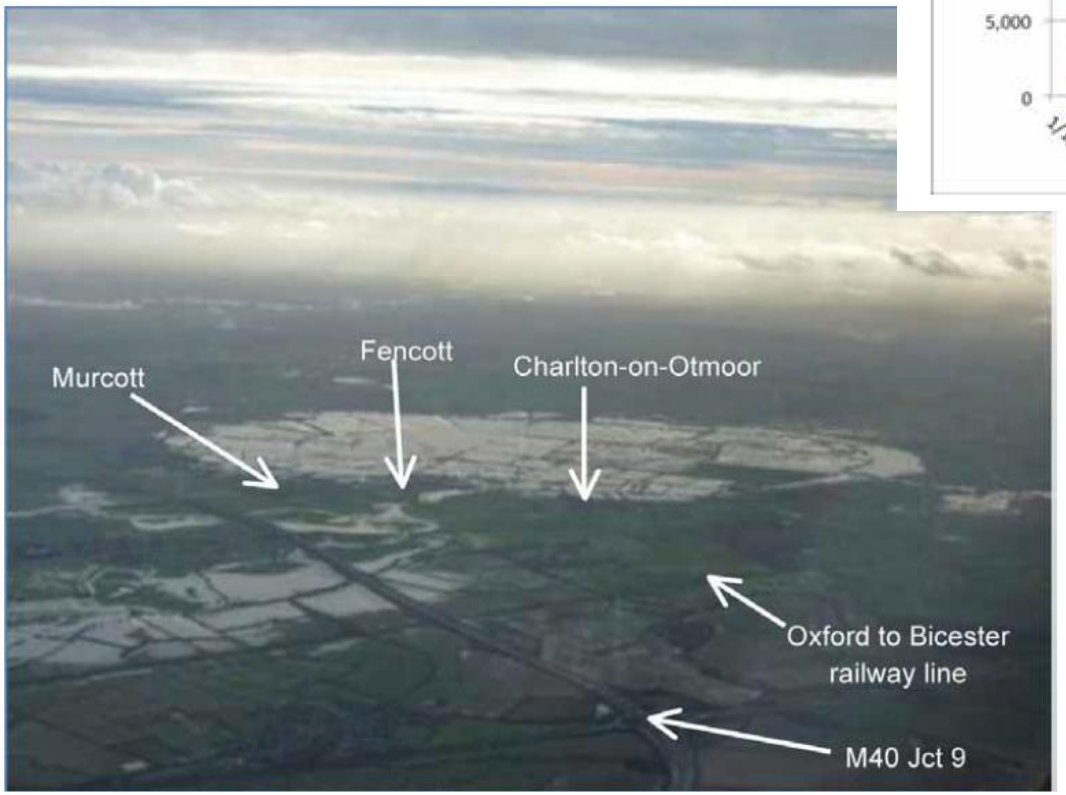


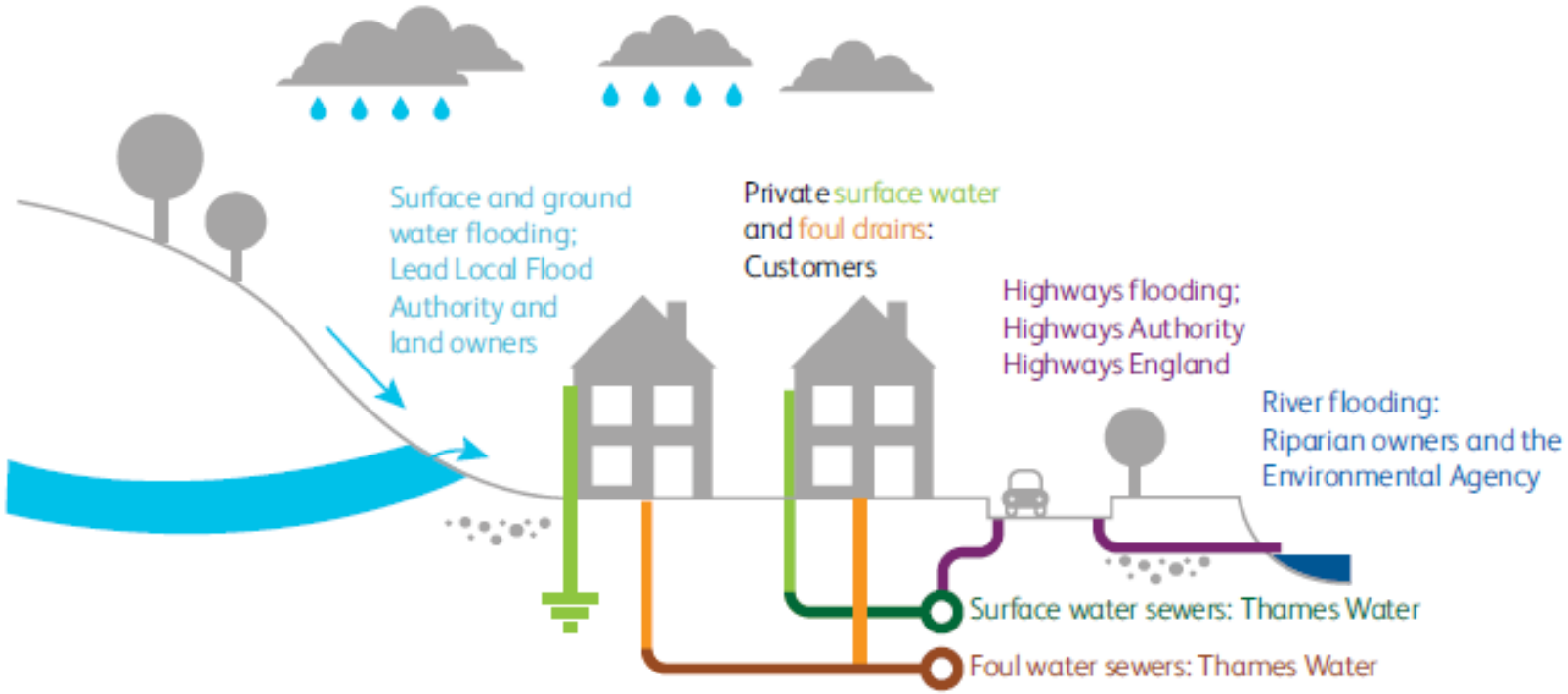
Photo 1 – Aerial photograph of Charlton-on-Otmoor during January 2014 showing extent of groundwater flooding

- Operational issues e.g. pipe failure, sedimentation, SPS failure.

- Development
- Climate Change

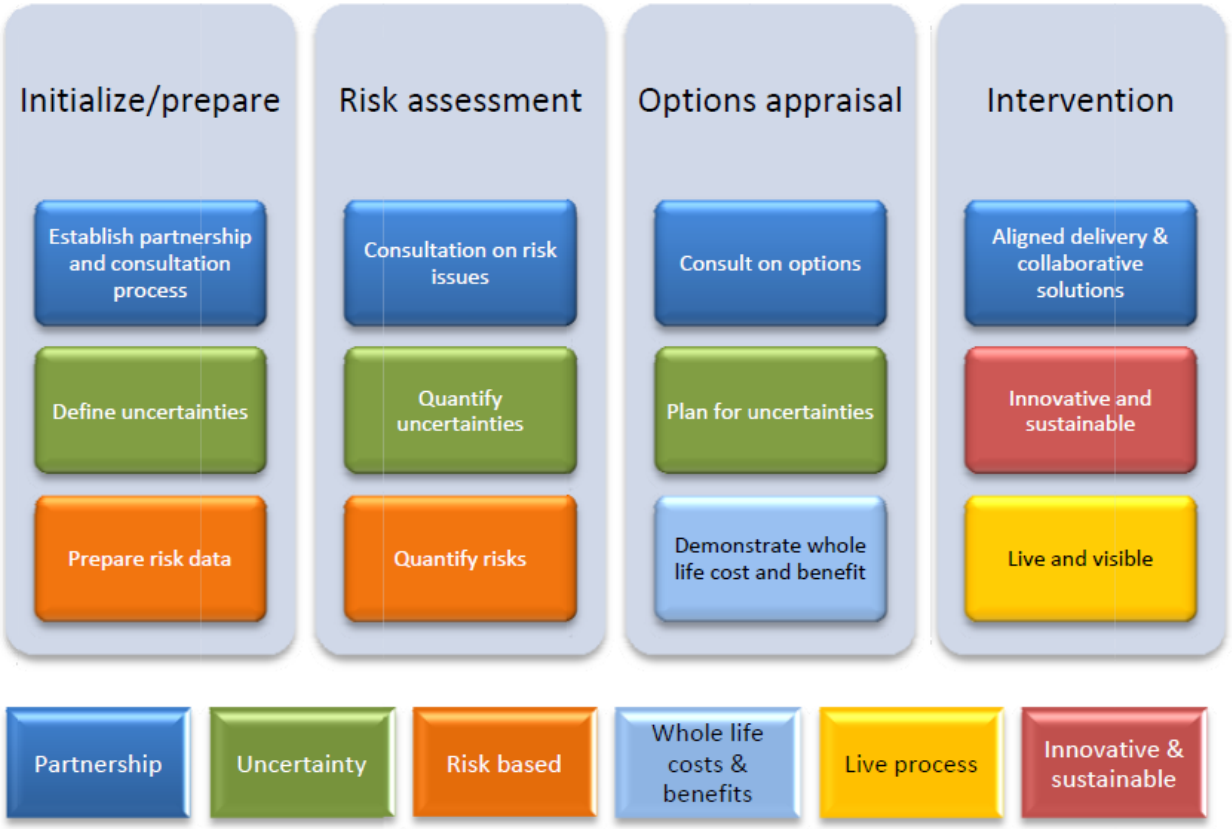
Collaborative Working

- Different partners have different responsibilities



Strategy Development

- EA/Ofwat Drainage Strategy Framework identifies 4 key stages:
- We are currently at Stage 1



Drainage Strategy – Included Elements

- Catchment description with illustrated drainage network
- Outline company aims and outcomes and how they relate to the drainage system – over the next 5 years, there is a commitment to work towards:
  - Asset Health
  - Properties and public areas protected from sewer flooding
  - River water quality meets expectations
- Summarise wider drainage issues within the catchment
- Describe catchment pressures
  - Population change
  - New development
  - Asset deterioration
- Do nothing assessment
- Alternative strategies/Preferred strategy
- Stakeholder engagement

Potential Outcomes - Examples

- Maintain existing asset health to provide for the long term
- Properties and public areas protected from flooding
- River water quality meets customer and regulatory expectations
- Reduce carbon footprint

Engagement

- Already have good relationships with Council Offices for West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council, Environment Agency and TW Operations as a result of other studies

- To date
  - Seek to Understand Meeting – 14th March 2016 with TW Ops
- Planned
  - Parish council consultations

Next steps

- Undertake 1000+ sewer flooding questionnaires.
- Identify and meet stakeholders e.g. flood groups, parish councils etc
- Physical Surveys.
- Modelling – possibly Integrated Catchment Models.