

## Help shape future flood plans – join your local Flood and Coastal Committee

We are currently recruiting two new members, one of whom will lead on conservation, for the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (SRFCC), to help shape local flood and coastal management plans and influence the future of the environment. We have one of the biggest programmes of works in the country, which reflects the level of risk being faced by the region, so this is an exciting opportunity for someone to support us and the Lead Local Flood Authorities by scrutinising the programme, identifying new partnerships which fund and deliver projects for communities at risk, and ensuring we are communicating well with all stakeholders.

The Southern RFCC oversees the delivery of locally and nationally significant schemes and projects across large parts of Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Sussex and Kent, including a significant coastline from Hurst Spit to the North Kent coast and parts of the Thames estuary.



**Medmerry Managed Realignment Scheme**

Some examples where the Committee has shaped and influenced plans are Medmerry Managed Realignment Scheme and Coronation Parade Works, Folkestone. The SRFCC also continues to fund innovative and partner-led projects, such as Coastal Communities 2150.

*“I applied to the RFCC as an Engineer working in flood and coastal defence. My technical, local knowledge and input to the Committee is valued by other Members and contributes to the important decisions the Committee makes. I enjoy the Committee work, which also contributes to my professional development.”*  
**Bill Symons, Committee member**

### What are we looking for?

We are looking for individuals with enthusiasm and new ideas from one or more of the following backgrounds:

- Conservation
- Agriculture & Land Management
- Community Engagement and/or Flood Incident Management
- Partnership Funding & Contributions, Infrastructure and the Economy
- Media, Public Relations & Communications

Applicants do not need to be technical experts in flood and coastal risk management, though some understanding of the processes and impacts of flooding are desirable. More importantly, we need people who can think strategically; know how to engage and influence individuals, communities and networks; and understand the need for innovation and efficiency.

*“As the Conservation Member for the Southern RFCC I was able to highlight the role that natural approaches to flood risk management can play in helping communities at risk of flooding, as well as helping promote the conservation sector as a source of knowledge and potential partnership support. At the same time, I learnt a great deal about the way in which flood risk is managed in the south, which is tremendous advantage when considering how the environment can both benefit and play its part”* **Diane Millis, former Conservation Lead**

### How do you apply?

The Committee meets four times a year, though there may be additional meetings, workshops and site visits. These are unpaid roles but reasonable expenses, including travel, can be claimed. Our members are all appointed as impartial individuals in their own right and not as representatives of any particular organisation. We want to ensure our Committee represents the communities we serve and we welcome applicants from all walks of life.

More information on the SRFCC can be found on our Gov.uk page [here](#). If you are interested in helping to make a difference in your local area, contact the SRFCC Secretariat on 0203 025 7124 or email [SouthernRFCC@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:SouthernRFCC@environment-agency.gov.uk) to request an application pack. The closing date for applications is **Friday 24 February 2017**.