

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan

REPORT OF Matthew Gladstone, Executive Director - Place

BARNSELY LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is for Cabinet to approve the Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to become the framework to deliver the effective management of flood risk in Barnsley.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 **Cabinet approves the strategy as the framework to deliver the effective management of flood risk in Barnsley.**

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The Flood & Water Management Act 2010 requires each Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for flood risk management in its area.
- 3.2 Local flood risk includes surface run-off, groundwater and ordinary watercourses (including lakes, canals and ponds).
- 3.3 The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy) is prepared within the context of a national strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) prepared by the Environment Agency. The content of the strategy is set out in the legislation and can be summarised as:
- Assessment of local flood risk
 - Setting out objectives for managing local flood risk
 - Listing costs and benefits of measures proposed to meet these objectives, and how the measures will be funded
- 3.4 Following approval of the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for consultation (Cab.5.11.2014/7), the Council consulted stakeholders on the draft Strategy. This Strategy is prepared following the consultation exercise carried out and feedback is summarised in Appendix E of the Strategy. The Strategy is also

mindful of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Flooding Task and Finish Group recommendations (Cab.5.4.2017/9) and Service response (Cab.14.6.2017/13).

- 3.5 The assessment of local flood risk was set out in the Council's Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) (July 2011). The measures proposed to meet the objectives of the Strategy will be compiled from work already undertaken and will be set out in an objectives Strategic Implementation Plan after the Strategy has been approved (see hierarchy of flood risk management in Figure 1 of the Strategy).
- 3.6 The Environment Agency in Yorkshire has supported each LLFA in the preparation of its LFRMS to ensure consistency with both the national FRCEM and across all 14 LLFAs in the Yorkshire & Humberside Region. Barnsley's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is included at Appendix 1.
- 3.7 The aim of the Strategy is to reduce the impact of flooding in Barnsley and to promote the Borough as a safe place to live, work and visit, supporting future sustainable growth. The Strategy sets out a four part approach to flood risk management in the borough:
- Prevention
 - Management
 - Response & Recovery
 - Lessons Identified and Review
- 3.8 Following the floods of June 2007, in which 352 properties flooded, many of these neighbourhoods had not experienced flooding before and were poorly prepared for responding to flooding. A total of 48 separate localities in Barnsley were affected by the flood where many properties were flooded twice in quick succession. Six distinct communities were severely affected, these being Darton, Lundwood, Darfield Bridge and Bolton-on-Deerne on the River Dearne together with Low Valley and Aldham Bridge on the River Dove.
- 3.9 The Council supports these residents by helping them to prepare and implement their own individual home flood plan, whilst facilitating the development and activation of community-level flood response plans. To help residents, it has made equipment available at strategically positioned flood stores (in Darton, Low Barugh, Low Valley and Darfield Bridge) for householders that are at risk of flooding. The flood stores will be reviewed on an ongoing basis, with communities and the views of communities taken into account regarding their continued provision and use.
- 3.10 Since the floods of 2007 Barnsley MBC has put in place a number of measures to manage flood risk by putting actions in place to manage the frequency and/or the impact of flooding when it does occur by:
- Building a flood protection scheme to reduce the probability of flooding to a community (e.g. Darton Village and Low Valley)
 - Introducing a property-level protection scheme to existing houses at risk of flooding, where flood resistance measures such as flood doors and/or air

brick covers can stop flood water entering homes (e.g. Lundwood and Bolton-on-Dearne)

- Setting up a warden service and support the worst affected communities to develop other response plans to help residents to reduce the impact of a flood.

3.11 This Strategy has been prepared taking into account lessons learned from the Boxing Day Floods 2015.

4. PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICATION

4.1 The Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is attached at Appendix 1.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

5.1 No alternative approaches have been considered, as the preparation of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is a statutory requirement.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE/SERVICE USERS

6.1 There are no immediate implications on local people arising from this report, but the Strategy will provide the framework for future planning and mitigation of local flood risk.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Consultations have taken place with representatives of the Service Director, Finance (S151 Officer).

7.2 As the report is only to adopt a specific strategy there are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any costs associated with works relating to flood defense improvements will be considered as part of the Council's normal capital programme approval process.

8. EMPLOYEE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no direct employee implications arising from the report.

9. COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Following approval of the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for consultation (Cab.5.11.2014/7), the Council has consulted stakeholders on the draft Strategy. Following adoption of the Strategy a series of implementation plans will be developed including a comprehensive Communications Strategy to raise awareness in communities.

10. CONSULTATIONS

10.1 Consultations were carried out on the draft Strategy in February 2014 and feedback is summarised in Appendix E of the Strategy.

11. GLOSSARY

FCERM Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
LFRMS Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
LLFA Lead Local Flood Authority

12. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Published Works:

- Flood & Water Management Act 2010;
- Barnsley MBC Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, available for inspection in the Place Directorate, Westgate Plaza 1, Barnsley. Telephone (01226) 772182.

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Financial Implications/Consultation



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(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer where no financial implications)