

REPORT OF INTERIM SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval to go to public consultation on the Flood Risk Management Strategy for Nottinghamshire.

Information

2. In its role as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) the County Council has permissive powers and statutory duties to manage and co-ordinate local flood risk management activities in Nottinghamshire. Local flood risk means flooding from surface water (overland runoff), groundwater and smaller watercourses (known as Ordinary Watercourses). Main River watercourses, as defined by Defra, are the preserve of the Environment Agency.

General update

3. The County Council has developed a draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy which it is required to do under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Accompanying the strategy is an Action Plan that identifies key objectives to shape the delivery of the flood risk management services in Nottinghamshire in partnership with the other Risk Management Authorities. The document also identifies flood risk locations across the County (see table 3.6 in Strategy – these include Southwell, Hucknall, Lowdham, Calverton, Mansfield, Retford, East Bridgford, Carlton, Thurgarton, Newthorpe, Sutton in Ashfield, West Bridgford, Kimberly, Arnold, Ravenshead and Worksop), prioritises these and puts forward appropriate actions, which include Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs) for high risk locations with complex flood risk issues. Longer-term schemes will also be developed as a result of SWMPs. For areas where the risk is lower, working with communities to improve resilience will be critical.
4. The consultation will run from Friday 7th January until Thursday 31st March 2016. The Flood Risk Management Draft Strategy, the associated appendices and the

accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment are available to view and download from the County Council's website via the following link: <http://ws43-0029.nottsc.gov.uk/dmsadmin/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/3704/Committee/491/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx> Comments and views concerning the strategy can be made by letter, on-line form, email or dedicated phone number.

Statutory and Policy Implications

5. The County Council has a number of new statutory duties and powers under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) and the Flood Risk Regulations (2009). This report is intended to enable the County Council to comply with these new duties and powers.
6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

7. The Flood Risk Management Strategy and its accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment have been prepared by the Flood Risk Management Team with support from external consultants and costs have been contained within the existing staffing and Flood Risk Management budgets.
8. The Strategy document by its very nature identifies potential areas for future flood risk management projects which will require funding. These potential projects will be subject to consideration and approval or otherwise through the committee system.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is RECOMMENDED that the Committee approve the proposal to consult on the Draft Flood Risk Management Strategy.

Neil Hodgson
Interim Service Director Highways

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments [SLB 03/12/2015]

Transport and Highways Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Finance Comments

The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report.

Background Paper

Strategic Environmental Assessment for Nottinghamshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy July 2015.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All