

PLACES SCRUTINY PANEL

17th July 2014

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Report of the Director for Places (Environment, Planning & Transport)

STRATEGIC AIM:	Creating a Sustained Environment
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1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Places Scrutiny Panel on the requirement to produce a Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) and the processes and timescales involved.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Places Scrutiny Panel notes the requirement for the Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority to produce a Flood Risk Management Strategy.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (the Act) defines unitary councils such as Rutland as Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA). The Act requires that LLFAs must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area. Local flood risk is defined as flood risk from:

- a) surface runoff;
- b) groundwater; and
- c) ordinary watercourses.

- 3.2 Flood risk from main rivers is managed by the Environment Agency (EA). Appendix 1 shows how rivers are classified in Rutland.

- 3.3 In December 2010 Cabinet received a report on the Act and approved the amendment of the terms of reference of the Community Services (Now Places) Scrutiny Panel to include the overview and scrutiny of flood risk management.

4 PRELIMINARY FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT (PFRA)

- 4.1 In August 2011 the Council submitted a PFRA to the Environment Agency (EA). The PFRA was a requirement of the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 (the Regulations). This document gives an overview of flood risk in Rutland and provides the basis for developing an FRMS.

- 4.2 As no 'Flood Risk Areas' were identified in Rutland there is no requirement under the Regulations to prepare flood risk and flood hazard maps or flood

management plans. However, in order to fulfil its role as a LLFA under the Act RCC must develop, maintain and monitor an FRMS.

5 FRMS CONTENTS

5.1 The Act requires the FRMS to specify the following:

- d) the risk management authorities in the authority's area;
- e) the flood risk management functions that may be exercised by those authorities in relation to the area;
- f) the assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy;
- g) the objectives for managing local flood risk;
- h) the measures proposed to achieve those objectives;
- i) how and when the measures are expected to be implemented;
- j) the costs and benefits of those measures, and how they are to be paid for;
- k) how and when the strategy is to be reviewed; and
- l) how the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental objectives.

5.2 In addition the strategy must be consistent with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England. The EA, public and water companies must be consulted and a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) must be carried out.

6 TIMESCALE

6.1 There is no deadline for producing the FRMS. The proposed programme is shown in the Gantt chart in Appendix 2.

6.2 It is proposed to coordinate the production of the FRMS with the work of the EA who are producing regional flood risk management plans.

7 RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	IMPACT	
Time	L	There is no statutory deadline for producing an FRMS.
Viability	L	No issues have been identified.
Finance	L	This work will be carried out within existing budgets.
Profile	M	As flood risk is low in Rutland it is unlikely to attract significant public or media interest.
Equality and Diversity	L	No impact has been identified.

Background Papers

Cabinet Report No 252/2010 Flood and Water Management Act 2010
 Cabinet Report 92/2011 Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment

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A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.