

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting21st April 2016

1. Title of Item/Report

Flood & Water Management - Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 required that every Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for its area.

Stockton's strategy set out how the Authority was meeting the requirements of the Act and other legislation. The strategy detailed the history of flooding in the Borough and how the Authority was working in partnership to achieve its objectives for future management of flood risk with other risk management authorities.

The Authority had a number of statutory duties and responsibilities relating to flood risk management which were also detailed in the strategy, along with objectives to manage flood risk in the Borough and potential funding streams.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 required Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA's) to undertake a number of new statutory duties and other related functions to manage flood risk in their areas, including the production of a local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The vision: To work with partners in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees to reduce the risk of flooding to residents and business and ensure that flood risk is managed in the most effective and sustainable way.

Stockton had suffered from significant flooding in recent years, over 200 residents and businesses had suffered from damage amounting to millions of pounds, and disruption from severe weather events in September 2012, May 2013, September 2013 and December 2013.

Following the severe flooding events, the Borough had been fortunate to receive funding for two major schemes at Port Clarence and Lustrum Beck, to reduce the risk from river flooding but other areas of risk still

remained and flooding from surface water would become increasingly common, as we see more intense rainfall events.

The strategy set out the history and details the risk of flooding from various sources in the Borough. It also set out the functions of each risk management authority and the partnership working between them, along with details of national policy to which it was aligned.

The strategy sets out five key objectives for managing flood risk in the Borough:-

- a. Reducing flood risk to communities severely affected by recent flooding.
- b. Reducing the incidence of surface water flooding.
- c. Ensuring flood risk is managed in new development.
- d. Keeping our highways safe and passable.
- e. Delivering wider benefits.

Each of these objectives had a number of tasks attached to it, which would all contribute to achieving that objective along with other duties and powers under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and Land Drainage Act 1991.

The strategy considered opportunities for the use of green infrastructure and natural flood risk management for reducing run off. Phase 2 of the Lustrum Beck scheme would use these techniques in a pioneering approach to flood risk reduction.

The new statutory consultee to planning role and the use of sustainable drainage systems were key drivers in management of surface water on and around new development.

The Tees Valley authorities had produced a technical design guide for developers considering using sustainable drainage systems to allow consistency between the Boroughs.

The approach to future maintenance of sustainable drainage systems was detailed both in the strategy and was subject to a separate Cabinet report.

The strategy would be reviewed on a five yearly cycle, continually monitored and any new legislation or response to flooding considered.

Stockton hosted the Tees Valley Strategic Flood Risk Partnership, which was attended by Officers from all the Tees Valley Authorities, TVU, Emergency Planning, the Environment Agency and Northumbrian Water.

A copy of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy was attached to the report.

RESOLVED that the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and its objectives for the future management of flood risk within the Borough be approved.

3. Reasons for the Decision

1. The Lead local Flood Authority (LLFA) has a statutory duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for its area.

2. To ensure flood risk is managed throughout the Borough to reduce the risk to residents and business.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 29th April 2016

Proper Officer
25 April 2016