

Name of meeting: Overview and Scrutiny Management
Date: 15 April 2019
Title of report: Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy -
 Annual Review of Progress against the Action Plan

Purpose of report

To consider annual progress against the action plan of the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy), approved by Cabinet on 15 January 2013 and updated in November 2016 and February 2019

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards? | N/A |
| Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?) | N/A |
| The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny? | N/A |
| Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name | |
| Is it also signed off by the Service Director (Finance)? | N/A |
| Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning? | N/A |
| Cabinet member portfolio | Cllr Peter McBride |

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

1. Summary

The Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, has a legal duty to produce, implement and monitor a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. Progress against the Strategy's actions has been monitored by the Councils Scrutiny and Overview process since 2013, through an annual report. Many of the initial actions have been addressed and are now embedded into routine business and the opportunity has been taken for the 2019 review to focus on a smaller number of priority actions, presented in a new format which is more focused on what needs to be done, how it will be done and what has been done.

Members views on the Strategy and, in particular, the associated Progress and Implementation Plan, will be helpful in directing resources towards the right priorities.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

The Strategy has recently been refreshed to provide an up to date evidence base to support the measures identified in the action plan. Actions completed since the 2013 Strategy, and now embedded in routine processes, have been removed from the current Strategy, which now focuses on delivering 11 revised actions (See Appendix A for a summary of the Strategy). The rationale behind this and details of progress against the action plan are outlined in a new “**Progress and Implementation Plan**” included in Appendix B, which summarises the work carried out in support of the Action Plan. The 2019/20 Plan summarises work carried out and progress made since the 2013 Strategy. It is intended that future annual plans will be more concise, reporting on the previous 12 month period.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Working with People**

It's clear from area flood studies carried out in the last 5 years that many flood mitigation measures are unaffordable and that individual property owners are best-placed to manage the risk to their property themselves. The Council is committed to working with such owners through an extensive, long-term, community engagement programme to improve their understanding and awareness of local flood risk.

3.2 **Working with Partners**

The council has established constructive relationships with the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water to maximise the benefits from complementary work programmes.

3.3 **Place Based Working**

Area flood studies carried out over the last 5 years have been prioritised on the level of flood risk. We now have a good understanding of the source and extent of flood risk in these areas and bespoke community engagement plans for each area will be developed.

3.4 **Improving outcomes for children**

No impact.

3.5 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

The actions identified to deliver the strategy will be delivered within existing council budgets supported by external grants where possible.

4. **Consultees and their opinions**
No opinions have been sought.
5. **Next steps and timelines**
To continue to progress the measures in the action plan and to consider the views expressed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**
Members are asked to note the progress of the actions in the Kirklees Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**
Cllr McBride: I fully endorse the strategy which features helping residents to take effective precautions and via Planning reducing likelihood of run off problems. Additionally, measures taken upstream by the Combined Authority will in the long term reduce the risk
8. **Contact officer**
Tom Ghee, Flood Manager, Investment and Infrastructure
Email: tom.ghee@kirklees.gov.uk
Tel: 01484 221000
9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
Original Strategy <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/flooding-and-drainage/pdf/FloodRiskStrategy.pdf>
10. **Service Director responsible**
Naz Parkar, Service Director for Growth and Housing
Email: Naz.parkar@kirklees.gov.uk
Tel: 01484 221000