

**Name of meeting:** Overview and Scrutiny Management

**Date:** 9 March 2020

**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 <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u> ?	N/A Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	N/A
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Karl Battersby, 25 February 2020
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	N/A
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Cllr McBride

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** No consultations have been carried out

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes

## 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 emphasis since the 2019 review has been to focus on a smaller number of priority actions, presented in a simple 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 most appropriate priorities.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

The Strategy was refreshed in 2019 to provide an up to date evidence base to support the measures identified in the action plan. Actions completed since the 2013 Strategy, 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 "**Progress and Implementation Plan**" included in Appendix B, which summarises the work carried out in support of the Action Plan.

The Strategy summarises the duties, responsibilities and actions that the Council will embrace to manage local sources of flood risk. The emphasis in the early years of the Strategy was to establish data collection systems and to carry out flood risk assessments of the highest risk areas in the district. With this work complete, or well under way, the approach in the short-term will be to complete a 3 year community and member engagement programme and to identify locations where affordable flood risk mitigation measures can be implemented.

In response to a growing concern of uncontrolled storm water runoff from development sites a coordinated effort with Development Management Compliance Team will be established. The focus will be to ensure the delivery of the already established Kirklees Compliance Strategy. The Strategy sets out the procedures the Council adopts to regulate and monitor development and how it will communicate with residents, developers and businesses. It recognises the need to give clarity to residents of Kirklees on how to report suspected breaches and to developers in what to do if a breach of planning occurs. Overall the aim is to ensure development is undertaken appropriately in a way that preserve the environment and character of the areas within Kirklees.

## 3. Implications for the Council

- **Working with People**  
A key part of the Strategy is educating local residents. Many of the actions in the Strategy, under the umbrella of "Community Engagement", involve information exchange with residents, businesses and ward councillors, explanation of responsibilities and encouragement of self-help to enable house-holders and business to understand, and manage, the flood risk they face.
- **Working with Partners**  
The Council will continue to work proactively with other Risk Management Authorities, including the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water, to share information and good practice with neighbouring authorities, develop joint initiatives and provide clarity to communities on the responsibilities for the management of flood risk.
- **Place Based Working**  
The Strategy recognises the diversity of the district and the actions identified in the Strategy pay regard to the needs of each community. The assessment tool which has been developed to prioritise the areas at higher levels of flood risk recognises local infrastructure and prioritises

investment in deprived communities. The community engagement programme has been designed as a bespoke process, tailored to the requirements of a variety of communities.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

The Strategy, by definition, delivers a local approach to managing the impacts of climate change in relation to flooding. Flood mitigation improvement schemes, funded by national flood grant, include allowances for increased rainfall from the impact of future climate change.

Recommendations made through the planning process for drainage provision on new development sites also “future-proof” against climate change impacts.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

No impact.

- **Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

N/A

**Do you need an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)?**

N/A

**4. Consultees and their opinions**

No specific consultation has been carried out on this annual report. Extensive public, member and general stakeholder consultation was carried out for the original 2013 Strategy. Proportionate levels of consultation are carried out when implementing actions in the Strategy.

**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**

N/A

**8. Contact officer**

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**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**

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