

Herefordshire Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan

Action ID	Strategy Objective	Proposed Action	Details of Action	Outcome	Timeframe for Implementation	Update September 2018
001	Objective 1: Understand flood risks throughout Herefordshire.	Collate and analyse existing historic flood records held by Herefordshire Council.	Review historic flood records by the Council. Combine multiple data sources into a single location or into a single format that is compatible with other flood records. Analyse flood records to illustrate properties and communities at greatest risk. Produce mapped outputs of analysis.	To collate existing data into a format that can be used to gain improved understanding of flood risk.	December 2016	Action complete. Historic flood records have been reviewed as part of the Herefordshire Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) update (2017). All records are now in one location. Further work is to be carried out to ensure all available information for each record is correctly recorded. These flood records have been analysed (as part of the PFRA update) and this has prompted the need for investigating flood events and producing the requisite Section 19 reports (see Action ID 004).
002		Review, develop and implement a comprehensive system to record future flood events that occur throughout Herefordshire.	Evaluate the methods by which flood events are currently recorded. Develop a comprehensive, appropriate and consistent system for the recording of future flood events. Agree and implement minimum 'core' information required for all flood events, and additional data that should be collected for more significant flood events.	To have a consistent and user-friendly method for the recording and review of flooding events.	December 2016 Review annually	Table 4 in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy sets out the information required for flood events (dependent upon size and impact). If Herefordshire Council receive calls regarding internal flooding, the public are directed to fill out the form on the Herefordshire Council website. This is the method for capturing flood information. Occasionally, calls received in regards to highway flooding do not get captured in the same way. Highway flood events are directed to our Drainage Technicians who investigate the flood further and record the flood event in our main database. The flooding episodes reported on the website are reviewed and the GIS layer is then updated. We have enquired about obtaining flood information from 999 calls. Due to data sharing issues, Hereford and Worcester fire rescue service were reluctant to release flood data. In addition to this, it was also made clear that the flood events caused by burst pipes are not separated from fluvial/surface water flood events.
003		Review and, where necessary, improve the sharing of flood event data between the key risk management authorities.	Review current data sharing arrangements and, where appropriate, improve the sharing of flood event data associated with Section 19 flood events with the Environment Agency, Welsh Water and Severn Trent Water to develop and agree a standardised approach.	To improve awareness of significant flooding events from non-local sources of flooding and to help to identify opportunities for collaborative working.	December 2016 Review annually	Meetings with other Risk Management Authorities (RMA) are on-going (EA – quarterly, DCWW – bi-annually, STW – annually).
004		Continue to investigate significant flooding events in accordance with Section 19 of the Act	Ensure 'significant' flood events are investigated in accordance with Section 19 of the Act using the standardised investigation template developed by the Council.	To improve understanding and awareness of significant flooding events from local sources of flooding, and to better inform the decision making process.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	We are presently undertaking investigations and producing Section 19 reports.
005		Publish Section 19 Investigations in accordance with Section 19 of the Act.	Make the key findings of Section 19 Investigations available to other risk management authorities, stakeholders and the public. Develop an appropriate process to implement this to protect potentially sensitive information.	To improve understanding and awareness of significant flooding events from local sources of flooding, and to better inform the decision making process.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	It has been identified that some further (historic) Section 19 reports need to be produced. Once completed, these reports will be shared with the relevant RMAs and public where necessary. We are aware of the sensitivity of the data.
006		Use Section 19 Investigations to improve understanding of flood risk and prioritisation process	Link Section 19 Investigations to historic flood records for the purpose of highlighting the location of events considered to be 'significant', identifying those communities at greatest risk of flooding and informing the prioritisation process.	To identify communities likely to be at greatest risk of flooding.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	Once the Section 19 reports have been completed, these will contribute towards our analysis of the prioritisation of the communities at greatest risk of flooding.
007		Continue to improve and share understanding of flood characteristics and mechanisms.	Update and publish the Herefordshire SFRA.	To ensure the most up to date flood data is made available to all relevant stakeholders and used in the delivery of all flood risk management activities	May 2017	The Herefordshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1 is nearing completion.
008		Investigate and implement improved methods of communication.	Review the Council's website and, where appropriate, implement initiatives to raise awareness of flooding within communities at greatest risk, such as promotion of community resilience groups, strengthening the role of the Parish Council and maintaining the Locality Stewards and Lengthsman Scheme initiative.	To ensure that the most vulnerable of communities are aware of the risks of flooding within their locality.	April 2017 Review annually	A Natural Flood Management Project Officer has been appointed by Herefordshire Council. We believe this will aid in promoting flood awareness in communities and with landowners.

Herefordshire Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan

Action ID	Strategy Objective	Proposed Action	Details of Action	Outcome	Timeframe for Implementation	Update September 2018
009		Ensure consistency in communication	Review the Council's website and, where necessary, ensure that the website is aligned with the current processes and procedures as set out within the LFRMS.	To ensure consistency in the management of flood risk.	December 2016	Flood elements on the Herefordshire Council website were reviewed in 2017 and will continue to be updated as and when required.
010	Objective 2: Manage the likelihood and impacts of flooding.	Maintain and improve communication with key risk management authorities	Maintain regular communication with the Environment Agency (quarterly) and Welsh Water (bi-annually), and implement similar systems of communication with Severn Trent Water (annually) and the IDBs (bi-annually).	To improve communication and collaboration between risk management authorities.	underway: Review annually	We are continuing to meet with the Risk Management Authorities (EA - quarterly, DCWW – bi-annually). We have been in contact with the Internal Drainage Boards. It has been established that the Lower Severn IDB have no assets in Herefordshire. We are aware that they undertake maintenance on watercourses between Ledbury and Bosbury. We consult with the River Lugg IDB on an ongoing basis.
011		Develop a register of assets that are considered to have a significant effect on a flood risk	Review and, where necessary, enhance the Council's existing register of assets for which the Council are responsible. Where assets are recorded elsewhere, ensure that the information held within alternative records is appropriate. Ensure key assets are included within the register(s), most notably those assets that are considered most important to flood risk management or that could pose greatest risk of they were to fail.	To identify those assets which are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk, and to inform proactive maintenance of these assets.	December 2016	We have produced a register of flood risk assets and input this into AMX.
012		Maintain a register of assets that are considered to have a significant effect on a flood risk	Continue to add assets that are considered important for flood risk management to the asset register. Review and, where appropriate, include assets that are within the ownership of other Council departments or in private ownership but that are considered likely to have a significant effect on flood risk.	To identify those assets which are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk, and to inform proactive maintenance of these assets.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	Our asset register is continually being updated and enhanced as new assets are reviewed. Assets are added following review of historic records and following site visits. The inspection frequency of each asset has been assessed and updated to reflect the associated risk. This varies from 6 months to 5 years.
013		Ensure other risk management authorities are maintaining a register of assets that are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk	Ensure that the register of assets held by other key risk management authorities is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act.	To identify those assets which are considered to have a significant effect on flood risk, and to inform proactive maintenance of these assets.	April 2017 Review annually	We have received the updated Welsh Water asset database and will continue to receive the updated quarterly. This includes 'Highway Flood Risk Assets' and 'Non-Highway Flood Risk Assets'. We have also receive Severn Trent Water's asset database.
014		Continue to undertake proactive maintenance of assets that are considered to have a significant effect on a flood risk	Continue to undertake maintenance activities and, where appropriate, review the current system of prioritising proactive maintenance to identify any opportunities for improvement, building on the current methods of planning cyclical maintenance activities.	To continually improve the planning of maintenance works for the benefit of improved flood risk management.	April 2017	Maintenance of flood risk assets is undertaken as necessary. This may be raised in a public enquiry or by a Locality Steward. Critical assets are inspected for the annual cleanse each autumn.
015		Implement a clear and transparent system for the prioritisation of communities and infrastructure at risk of flooding.	Undertake a review of available flood risk data sources. Implement the proposed principles of prioritisation to identify those communities considered to be at greatest risk of flooding or that may experience the greatest consequences should a flood event occur, and to inform the selection of appropriate measures.	To ensure a fair and transparent process for the assessment and implementation of flood management measures.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	Once the additional Section 19 reports have been completed, these will be used to contribute towards the prioritisation of sites at risk of flooding.
016	Objective 3: Help the community help	Raise awareness and enforce riparian ownership responsibilities.	Continue to raise awareness of riparian ownership responsibilities and, where necessary, take enforcement action to ensure riparian owners undertake the necessary maintenance of their assets and do not undertake works that may increase flood risk to properties, the highway or surrounding land.	To ensure that local communities take responsibility for managing flood risk.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	Our 'Ditches and Drainage in Herefordshire Guidance on Landowner Responsibilities' was updated in September 2018. We have reminded our Locality Stewards to 'spread the word'.
017		Promote the role of Community Resilience Groups.	Continue to actively promote communities at risk of flooding to form a Community Resilience Group and, if necessary, prepare and implement a Community Resilience Plan and/or Personal Flood Plan in consultation with the Parish Council and relevant Locality Steward.	To raise awareness of flooding within local communities and encourage communities to be better prepared.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	There are presently only two flood action groups within Herefordshire - Bodenham and Brimfield. BBLP have reminded Locality Stewards to 'spread the word'.

Herefordshire Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan

Action ID	Strategy Objective	Proposed Action	Details of Action	Outcome	Timeframe for Implementation	Update September 2018
018	Community help themselves.	Investigate and implement improved methods of communication.	Investigate and, where appropriate, implement initiatives to improve communication during a flooding event such as using local media, better use of the Council's website and linking with national websites.	To improve knowledge of flooding throughout Herefordshire and thus reduce the risks associated with flooding.	April 2017 Review annually	Flood elements on the Herefordshire Council website were reviewed in 2017 and will continue to be updated as and when required. Further information to be added about our Natural Flood Management Project.
022		Promote the Flood Recovery Framework.	Raise awareness of the scheme to those impacted by flooding in Herefordshire and admininster recovery grants and council tax/business rates relief.	To help support residents and businesses who experienced severe damages from the flooding.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	-
023		Promote the Property Flood Resilience Recovery Support Scheme 2020.	Raise awareness of the scheme to those property owners in Herefordshire affected by flooding from storms Ciara and Dennis in February 2020. The scheme provides up to £5,000 (inclusive of VAT) per eligible property to help make them more resilient to future floods.	To help support residents and businesses who experienced severe damages from the flooding event to become more resilient to the impacts of flooding and reduce the length of time needed for recovery, if flooding were to re-occur.	December 2021	-
019	Objective 4: Manage flood warning, response and recovery.	Improve local flood warning systems and road closure information.	Investigate opportunities to compare river gauge data with anecdotal evidence to better predict when local communities may be at risk of flooding from local sources and when road closures may need to be enforced.	To ensure that communities can be better informed of flood risks and local road closures.	April 2017	We are seeking to capture river gauge data that will allow us to refine the information that can be used for this task.
020	Objective 5: Promote sustainable and appropriate development.	Improve the management of surface water runoff.	Implement the newly published Local SUDS Handbook to promote the appropriate management of surface water runoff through the planning approval process.	To identify and encourage opportunities to manage runoff to prevent increased flood risk and reduce existing flood risk.	On-going throughout delivery of Strategy	The Local SuDS Handbook is being promoted (through email signature) and is being implemented through our planning permission responses.
021		Implement robust and appropriate planning policy.	Complete the Herefordshire SFRA and implement appropriate policies in the Local Plan, Neighbourhood Plans and NPPF.	To encourage a best practice approach for land use planning and development design.	December 2016	Herefordshire SFRA Level 1 is nearing completion. The Level 2 SFRAs (Land at Hardwick Bank in Bromyard BY2, Land North of the Viaduct in Ledbury LB2, Leominster Urban Expansion LO2, Land at Hildersley in Ross-on-Wye RW2) are underway. This is based on modelling prepared by the Environment Agency.