

Title of report: Executive response to the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan Review by General Scrutiny Committee

Decision maker: Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport

Decision date: 18 November 2021

Report by: Directorate services team leader

Classification

Open

Decision type

Non-key

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

To approve the executive response to the report from General Scrutiny Committee concerning the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan Review. The committee made 13 recommendations.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- a) **The response to the General Scrutiny committee's recommendations regarding the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan Review, as attached at appendix 1 is approved.**

Alternative options

1. None proposed. It is a statutory requirement to provide a response to recommendations made by general scrutiny committee. It is open to the executive to accept, partially accept or reject a recommendation from scrutiny committee, should a recommendation not be accepted an explanation should be provided.

Key considerations

2. One of the duties arising from the introduction of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 was for all Lead Local Flood Authorities (Herefordshire Council for this area) to prepare a [Local Flood Risk Management Strategy](#) (LFRMS).
3. The LFRMS was reviewed by the Committee in July 2017 and adopted by Cabinet in September 2017. It outlines the approach the council and other agencies will take with regard to flood risk management and contains an Action Plan (reviewed annually) that sets out how the council will deliver the LFRMS.
4. The general scrutiny committee met on 22 March 2021 to agree the LFRMS Action Plan and made 13 recommendations.
5. The executive has considered these recommendations and their response is set out in Appendix 1 of this report

Community impact

6. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts and encourages constructive challenge and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review.

Environmental Impact

7. The resulting improvements from these recommendations will contribute towards the 'Environment' ambition of our County Plan (2020 – 2024) and increasing flood resilience.

Equality duty

8. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:
A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –
 - a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
9. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of

policies and in the delivery of services. This decision will have a positive impact on communities which have been impacted by flooding.

Resource implications

10. The recommendations largely reflect actions that are already underway and will be managed from within existing resources within Highways and Transportation. Where further decisions are required upon completion of the recommendations, any resource requirements will be considered in future reports.

Legal implications

11. There are no legal issues to bring to the attention of the decision-maker.

Risk management

12. There are no risks associated with agreeing the content of this report as the Executive response provides information and indicates how the work is being taken forward.

Consultees

13. None.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Executive response to the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan Review by General Scrutiny Committee

Background papers

None identified.

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

LFRMS Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Report Reviewers Used for appraising this report:

Governance	John Coleman	Date 29/06/2021
Finance	Louise Devlin	Date 29/06/2021

Legal	Guy Goodman	Date 29/06/2021
Communications	Luenne Featherstone	Date 29/06/2021
Equality Duty	Carol Trachonitis	Date 29/06/2021
Procurement	Mark Cage	Date 29/06/2021
Risk	Kevin Lloyd	Date 29/06/2021

Approved by	Neil Taylor	Date 10/11/2021
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