Derby City Council

Council Cabinet
13 March 2012

ITEM 8

Report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods

Surface Water Management Plan

SUMMARY

1.1 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) and The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 (FRR), places new statutory responsibilities on Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) to understand, coordinate and manage local flood risk in their respective areas.

1.2 As LLFA for this area, the authority must develop a 'Local Flood Risk Management Strategy' (LFRMS), which is consistent with the 'National Flood Risk Strategy'.

1.3 Defra made funding available for those 77 authorities identified as being at the greatest risk from flooding, to prepare a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for their districts.

1.4 Derby was deemed to be the 22nd highest authority out of the list of 77 local authorities, which Defra considered to be at the greatest risk of experiencing a major flooding event.

1.5 In March 2010, the authority received confirmation that it was to receive a grant allocation from Defra to fund completion of the SWMP for this area.

1.6 The SWMP is now complete and will form the evidence base for future flood management plans required under the FWMA.
The SWMP is available in the Members room and on the Council Meeting Information Systems CMIS.

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To approve the SWMP and delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods to implement the measures outlined in it.

2.2 To ask officers to investigate further those areas identified as being at significant flood risk.

2.3 To ask officers to assess options to mitigate the risk in those areas identified in the SWMP as being most at risk of flooding as part of a flood risk strategy.

2.4 To give the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods delegated authority to implement the proposals to alleviate future flooding identified in a flood risk strategy.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The outputs of the SWMP will contribute toward the content of the authority's LLFRMS.

3.2 The SWMP outlines future works and studies as part of the overall flood risk mitigation proposals for the alleviation of flood risk in those areas identified at being at risk.

3.2 The SWMP will inform local communities in understanding the size and nature of the flood risk in their centres.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 A key action from the Pitt Review, following the 2007 flood events, was that local authorities complete SWMP's for their areas.

4.2 The SWMP is a plan which outlines the preferred surface water management strategy for a given area to address surface water flooding. Surface water flooding includes flooding from sewers, drains, groundwater, run-off from land, small watercourses and ditches that occurs as a result of heavy rainfall.

4.3 The SWMP has been undertaken in consultation with key local stakeholder partners who are responsible for surface water management and drainage in their area. The plan has been developed based on a detailed analysis of flood risk data held by the key partners, other appropriate sources and watercourse modelling where available.

4.4 This plan has been prepared following a detailed assessment of surface water flood risk data. The assessment identifies solution options and proposes an action plan for future works and studies as part of the authority's flood risk management strategy.

4.5 The SWMP will provide appropriate guidance for future investments and developments, drainage maintenance strategies, land-use planning and emergency planning issues.

4.6 The SWMP contains information that gives the authority:
● Better understanding of the risks and consequences of surface water flooding in authority so that this can be shared and used as part of an evidence base for 'Local Development Frameworks', Emergency Management Planning, and the 'Local Flood Risk Management Strategy'
● To meet or significantly assist in meeting some of the requirements on the authorities responsibility as LLFA under the FWMA, specifically that of producing a LFRMS.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No other options were considered. Production of the report was a requirement of the Defra funding allocation.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer **Financial officer** **Human Resources officer** **Service Director(s)** **Other(s)**	

For more information contact:	Name 01332 641789 e-mail Kevin.tozer@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 The authority received a grant allocation from Defra to complete the SWMP.

Legal

2.1 SWMP Will be used to provide the evidence base for the LFRMS.

Personnel

3.1 The report has been completed using the authority's internal staff from the Projects Water & Flood Risk Management Team. Use of internal staff to write the SWMP produces tangible benefits for the authority as the knowledge gained in respect to the causes of potential flood risk in Derby, remains within the team who will be required to further investigate solutions to alleviate flood risk in the city.

Equalities Impact

4.1 Vulnerable residents within the indicative flood areas would be mostly affected following a flooding incident. Any future FRMS would be subject to a Diversity and Equalities Impact Assessment

Health and Safety

5.1 Flooding has clear implications for health and safety of the more vulnerable residents, employees and property owners in Derby within the flood risk area.

Environmental Sustainability

6.1 There is clear scientific evidence that global climate change is happening now, and the consequences cannot be ignored. Over the past century around the UK we have seen sea levels rise and more of our winter rain falling in intense wetter spells. Seasonal rainfall is highly variable with summer storms becoming more intense. The latest UK climate projections (UKCP09) are that there could be around three times as many days in winter with heavy rainfall (defined as more than 25mm in a day). Summer rainfall storms are likely to be far sharper and more intense, leading to flashy runoff events.
More intense rainfall causes more surface runoff, increases localised flooding and In turn, increases pressure on drains, sewers.

Asset Management

7.1 The authority has a large number of Flood Defence assets throughout the city, which the PWFRM team manage, these include :

- an estimated 40 kilometres of highways and watercourse culvert , the majority of which run under the streets of the City, and a substantial proportion of which are in excess of 150 years old
- five kilometres of 7 metre wide culverted watercourses, a large part of which is in excess of 100 years old
- several large stilling ponds together with large concrete weirs, overflows and spillways at Markeaton Park that are over 75 years old
- 7 Highways pumping stations, some of which protect critical highways routes into the city.

A number of these assets are known to have reached the end of their planned structural life and are in need of major refurbishment or replacement.

Risk Management

8.1 Derby is considered to be the 22nd highest ranked authority in the country, in terms of properties and residents being at risk from flooding.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

9.1 According to Defra's National Rank Order of Settlements Susceptible to Surface Water Flooding, the total number of properties deemed to be at risk from surface water flooding to a depth of between 0.1m and 0.3m is 24900 in the Derby area. Of these a total number of properties deemed to be at risk of inundation to a depth greater than 0.3m is 7300.