



Doncaster Council

11th October 2021

To the Chair and Members of the Community & Environment Scrutiny Panel

Flood Risk Briefing & Update

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Mark Houlbrook - Portfolio Holder for Sustainability and Waste	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Panel is asked to give consideration to a presentation (attached in Appendix A), which will describe boroughs overall flood risk and provide an overview the authority's winter readiness. It will also discuss the challenges the authority faces in delivering flood alleviations' schemes specifically around the funding these projects.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. The report is not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Panel is asked to consider the information provided by the Flood Risk Team and the Director of Economy & Environment in the form of a presentation that will be delivered at the meeting.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. Reviewing such issues ensures the Panel is responding to important issues, which ultimately have an impact on residents across the borough.

BACKGROUND

5. Following the devastating floods that occurred in November 2019 where 811 properties were flooded. Doncaster Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to carry out a full

investigation of how the flooding occurred. The investigation will include “who is the responsible risk management authority and to look at recommendations for trying to reduce the risk of this happening again in the future”.

6. This report and presentation highlights the work carried out by the authorities Flood Risk team providing an update on progress on schemes and winter readiness since the November 2019 floods.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REASON FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

7. There are no specific options to consider within this report. It provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider the information provided in the presentation and provide feedback and comments.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL’S KEY OUTCOMES

8. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council’s key objectives by holding decision makers to account and reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the Borough.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>The presentation will describe the possible impacts Flooding has on local people, organisations and any implications for the role of the Local Authority</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster’s people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and 	

	sporting heritage	
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes 	
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance 	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

9. There are no risk and assumptions associated with this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (INITIALS: SRF DATE: 30.09.21)

10. Doncaster Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to carry out a full investigation of how the

previous flooding event occurred & to consider how future events can be prevented

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INITIALS: RT DATE:30.09.21)

11. There are no financial implications for Doncaster Council arising directly from this report

HUMAN RESOURCES (INITIALS: DK DATE: 30/09/2021)

12. There are no direct HR Imps in relation to this report, but if in future staff are affected or additional specialist resources are required then further consultation will need to take place with HR.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS (INITIALS: PW DATE:30/09/2021)

13. A Flood Management project is currently underway to improve data sharing, processes and technology as part of the response to a flooding event and/or other emergencies. The following key areas of development have been identified:

- Case/incident management system
- Recovery monitoring tool
- Solution to store and manage plans and procedures

14. Requirements have been captured, finalised and signed off and technical options are being considered by Digital Strategy & Solutions, with development work planned to start during October 21.

HEALTH IMPLICATIONS (INITIALS: CT DATE: 30/09/2021)

15. Often only the immediate health effects from flooding are recognised and recorded. It is not always easy to identify the longer-term health effects associated with flooding: displacement of the exposed population or time lag before health effects occur can make it difficult to definitively link an observed health effect at population level with a flood.

Qualitative evidence suggests that the negative effects on wellbeing may persist for months or even years after a flood incident and those at risk of repeated flooding may be particularly susceptible. The mental health impact of living through flooding of a home or a loss of livelihood can have a profound effect on a person's well-being.

The investigation will include who is the responsible risk management authority and look at recommendations for trying to reduce the risk of this happening again in the future. It will be a challenge that will require us to work together with flood planners, responders and communities.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS (CM DATE: 29/09/21)

16. Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

CONSULTATION

17. No specific consultation has been undertaken in respect of this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

18. Presentation attached in Appendix A.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

N/A

REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

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