

## Scope of the Review

The purpose of this task and finish group is to bring together the expertise of flood risk management authorities, community-based groups, and residents to better understand how the Borough Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and all other flood risk management authorities to inform the Flood Risk Management Strategy.

The strategy assesses local flood risk within the Borough and sets objectives for managing this risk. It will detail mechanisms for achieving the objectives and seeks to reduce the risk of flooding to residential properties, businesses and the highway infrastructure.

## Terms of Reference

The purpose is to:

- Monitor progress against the objectives set out in the 2017 Flood Risk Strategy and update these with a set of recommendations in a proportionate way.
- Scrutinise the effectiveness of current policies and procedures to mitigate effects of surface flooding.
- To consider if there are more lessons that can be learned from recent flooding events to minimise the impact of flooding.

Line of questioning:

- How much land drainage and work on sewage systems has been done since 2017?
- How has flooding across the Borough been dealt with since 2017, and with what success have the 2017 Flood Risk Strategy objectives been implemented?
- Have the partnership arrangements improved?
- What preventative work is taking place?

Indicators of success:

- An evaluation of how well the 2017 Flood Risk Strategy objectives were achieved.
- Clear recommendations to Cabinet which would be monitored by Climate and Environment Scrutiny and Improvement Committee.

In-scope:

- The whole Borough, but particular focus on the areas that are at high risk of flooding as per the 2017 Flood Risk Strategy.
- Compliance with requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

- Northumbrian Water update on Investment Strategy.
- Surface water flooding.
- Damage to residential and commercial properties.
- Private land water run-off.
- Impact of coastal erosion.
- Communication across the Borough.

#### Excluded from scope:

- Global climate change.

#### Timescales:

- Review start date: July 2023
- Anticipated review end date: October 2024
- Frequency of meetings: Every 3 weeks

## Local flood risk management strategies: England

(1) A lead local flood authority for an area in England must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area (a “local flood risk management strategy”).

(2) In subsection (1) “local flood risk” means flood risk from—

- (a) surface runoff,
- (b) groundwater, and

(c) ordinary watercourses.

(3) In subsection (2)(c) the reference to an ordinary watercourse includes a reference to a lake, pond or other area of water which flows into an ordinary watercourse.

(4) The strategy must specify—

- (a) the risk management authorities in the authority's area,
- (b) the flood and coastal erosion risk management functions that may be exercised by those authorities in relation to the area,
- (c) the objectives for managing local flood risk (including any objectives included in the authority's flood risk management plan prepared in accordance with the Flood Risk Regulations 2009),
- (d) the measures proposed to achieve those objectives,
- (e) how and when the measures are expected to be implemented,
- (f) the costs and benefits of those measures, and how they are to be paid for,
- (g) the assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy,
- (h) how and when the strategy is to be reviewed, and
- (i) how the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental objectives.

(5) The strategy must be consistent with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England under section 7. Please see link to the [NFCERM Environment Agency – National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/404222/NFCERM_Environment_Agency_-_National_Flood_and_Coastal_Erosion_Risk_Management_Strategy_for_England_(publishing.service.gov.uk).pdf)

(6) A lead local flood authority must consult the following about its local flood risk management strategy—

(a) risk management authorities that may be affected by the strategy (including risk management authorities in Wales), and

(b) the public.

(7) A lead local flood authority must publish a summary of its local flood risk management strategy (including guidance about the availability of relevant information).

(8) A lead local flood authority may issue guidance about the application of the local flood risk management strategy in its area.

(9) A lead local flood authority must have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State about—

(a) the local flood risk management strategy, and

(b) guidance under subsection (8).