

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

TRANSPORT, ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5 SEPTEMBER 2012

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT LOCAL STRATEGY: PROGRESS UPDATE

Report of the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress towards development of the North Yorkshire Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- 1.2 To provide background for a verbal update from the team leader for Flood Risk Management that will be provided at the meeting.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 North Yorkshire County Council is identified by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 as the Lead Local Flood Authority for the North Yorkshire administrative area.
- 2.2 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires Lead Local Flood Authorities to develop and deliver a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for their area.
- 2.3 As a minimum, the local strategy is required to cover flooding from ordinary watercourses (main rivers are the responsibility of the Environment Agency), surface water and ground water.

3.0 Key Features of our Proposed Local Strategy

- 3.1 The North Yorkshire County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is being developed with the following features, both in accordance with the requirements of the Act, and tailored to the specific flood risks faced by communities in North Yorkshire. It is intended that the local strategy will therefore:
 - o Cover all forms of flooding, including main rivers and coastal flood risk. We will achieve this by working closely with partner organisations to ensure that

- The strategy will contain policy statements relating to each of our key duties and responsibilities under the Act, and also a strategic management plan. The strategic management plan will assist with the identification of priority areas, and will form the basis of future funding and investment proposals.

4.0 Progress to date and key next steps

- 4.1 The data collection and review phase has commenced.
- 4.2 Interviews and workshops with key stakeholders have commenced.
- 4.3 Development of policy statements and processes has commenced.

5.0 Outline Timetable

- 5.1 The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has not set a specific timetable for the development and completion of the local strategy, and they acknowledge that it is a significant undertaking for local authorities. An outline timetable for the production of the North Yorkshire Flood Risk Management Strategy is set out below:

Data collection and review – June to October 2012

Initial stakeholder interviews and workshops – August to December 2012

Policy development and drafting – August 2012 to March 2013

Stakeholder reviews – March to May 2013

Formal consultation and sign off – June to July 2013

Adoption and publication – Autumn 2013

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Background Documents: None