

Executive Board

29TH JULY 2019

Flood Risk Management Plan

Purpose:

This report sets out the Flood Risk Management Plan as a working operational document for prioritising and managing flood risk in relation to Carmarthenshire County Council owned or controlled assets.

Recommendations / key decisions required:

That the plan is agreed and accepted as a working strategy document for flood management and prioritisation purposes relating to assets owned or under the control of Carmarthenshire County Council.

Reasons:

The Flood Risk Management Plans were a requirement under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009. There was a statutory obligation for those Lead Local Flood Authorities identified as being in 'indicative flood risk areas' in the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments undertaken. While Carmarthenshire County Council and many other Welsh LLFAs were not identified as being in the indicative flood risk area category, Flood Risk Management Plans have been developed by all 22 LLFAs to identify areas at greatest flood risk and to allow councils to prioritise and focus resources on those areas. The document will serve as the operational strategic plan for mitigating flood risk as far as is practicable.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: N/A

Exec Board Decision Required Yes

Council Decision Required No

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr Hazel Evans (Environment Portfolio Holder)

Directorate Environment

Designations:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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29th July 2019

Flood Risk Management Plan

Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) highlight the hazards and risks of flooding from rivers, the sea, surface water, groundwater and reservoirs, and set out how Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) work together with communities to manage flood risk.

As a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) has a duty to coordinate and lead the management of flood risk arising from local sources within Carmarthenshire **namely surface water, ordinary watercourses and ground water**. As such, we have developed the plan to address that duty by identifying the areas at risk of flooding from these sources within the county. We have identified how we will manage the risks in different areas; seeking to ensure that those communities most at risk benefit the most. The underlying assessment is based on the currently available information and the measures we have put in place can be adapted as new information becomes available.

Part-1 of the FRMP provides a high level overview summary of flood risk areas on a community ward level basis. Part-2 utilises the Part 1 data and provides more specific information on prioritised risk areas within wards. Fifty locations/areas have been identified in Part 2 as having the greatest risk from local source flooding relating to Council owned assets or responsibilities (e.g. surface water and ordinary water courses), but excludes main river flooding. Part 2 of the FRMP will become a live document for flood risk management for the future and will be updated periodically to reflect actions taken and any new emerging risks.

Using best available information, the Flood Defence and Coastal Protection Team have sought to collate and update our understanding of the current and potential future level of flood risk from local flood sources for which Carmarthenshire County Council are specifically responsible for, namely surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses. Main river flooding sources are not specifically considered for Part 2 of this Flood Risk Management plan as they will form a multi-agency approach, with responsibility primarily sitting with the relevant Risk Management Authority. An example of this is the recent report on Storm Callum where main river flooding was one predominant factor and primacy rests with Natural Resources Wales for this specific causation factor, although in practical terms, there were multiple sources of flooding with different RMAs having their own responsibilities.

At a Community Ward level (Part-1) our measures / actions are based against the four themes of

- Prevent
- Prepare;
- Protect and
- Recover

Part-1 of the plan provides an overview of flood risk at ward level and concludes that a level of effort and resource will be required in raising awareness of flood risk, so that all residents can help the LLFA **prepare** for flooding events and manage levels of flood risk to acceptable levels. These typically will involve further activities to raise flood awareness within the community and work with partners to improve resilience within the community.

To help **protect** our communities we need to improve our understanding of the drainage systems, especially the highway and historic systems where records are not available. To achieve this we will carry out assessments to improve the level of understanding of the capacity of culverts across the area to convey floodwaters and review our inspection regime of culvert inlets and debris screens to ensure priority is being provided to those that have the greatest risk.

Measures to enable communities to **recover** following a flood event and to be more resilient in the future are also a priority. These typically will involve developing recovery plans for communities and infrastructure and learning lessons from flood events such as Storm Callum.

In total there are 103 preventative actions, 100 protection actions, 114 preparedness actions and 58 recovery & review actions emanating from Part-1 of the report.

Part-2 of the Flood Risk Management plan provides more refined and detailed information and identifies 50 areas in Carmarthenshire that present the greatest risk of local flooding from surface water sources (excluding main rivers). Each of the identified areas, entitled Policy Units, has a set of specific actions ranging from capital works, specific monitoring and surveys to partnership working and customer engagement.

A list of the Policy Unit areas and their actions is attached.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	Yes - Flood Risk Management Plan Part 1 & Part 2,
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors/Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: **Ruth Mullen** Director of Environment

Policy, Crime & Disorder & Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Wellbeing & Future Generations

Finance

Within Existing Budgets

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Ruth Mullen** Director of Environment

1. **Scrutiny Committee – N/A**

2. **Local Member(s)**

Communication will be undertaken to all local members that represent electoral wards that are impacted by the proposed plan.

3. **Community / Town Council – N/A**

4. **Relevant Partners - N/A**

5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A**

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
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