

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5TH JULY 2019

STORM CALLUM SECTION 19 FLOOD REPORT

To consider and comment on the following issues:

To agree and endorse the 55 recommendations/actions set out in the report as a result of the investigations undertaken (refer to S19 Actions document). The recommendations/actions are grouped as follows:

- 33 are CCC actions split between Flood Defence and Coastal Protections (17 actions), Highways (11 actions), Civil Contingency (3 actions); Property (1 action) and Media & Marketing and Delta Wellbeing (1 action).
- 2 actions require collaborative working with NRW
- 2 actions require collaborative working between the Highways Authority (CCC) and DCWW.
- 2 actions require collaborative working with Ceredigion and NRW.
- 16 actions are divided amongst the external partners.

Reasons:

This is a statutory requirement on Carmarthenshire as a Lead Local Flood Authority under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The report has to be published on the Council's web site and therefore has the requirement to be a public document.

To be referred to the Executive Board- YES
Council for decision: No

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holders:

Cllr. Hazel Evans (Environment)

Directorate:
Environment

Name of Head of Service:
Ainsley Williams

Report Author:
Ben Kathrens

Designations:

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5TH JULY 2019

STORM CALLUM SECTION 19 FLOOD REPORT

An investigation has been undertaken by Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) in response to the flooding that occurred across Carmarthenshire on the 12-14th October 2018, as a result of Storm Callum. This report is a summary of the investigation and includes relevant information required to meet the statutory requirements placed on the Authority by Section 19 of The Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Under section 19 of The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Carmarthenshire County Council Carmarthenshire, as a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate:

- (a) Which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions, and
- (b) Whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.

Where an Authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1) it must publish the results of its investigation, and notify any relevant risk management authorities.

Further guidance from Welsh Government has stipulated that reports should be produced for flooding incidents where twenty or more properties experience internal flooding. On that basis, Carmarthenshire County Council will undertake a full report on the flooding that affected the following communities:

- Johnstown (Carmarthen).
- Pensarn (Carmarthen).
- Llanybydder.
- Llandysul / Pont Tyweli.

Other areas of the County did experience flooding, but the numbers affected were below the stipulated threshold. There are also examples where two authorities are involved relating to incidents at County boundaries, and one of the authorities will take on the role of LLFA; this is the case in terms of Newcastle Emlyn, where the majority of internal flooding affected houses in Ceredigion, so Ceredigion County Council will take on the LLFA function. There is a reciprocal arrangement in place for investigations in Llanybydder where Carmarthenshire County Council has taken on the role of LLFA.

The report does not provide firm recommendations and conclusions in relation to the implementation of capital works that may be appropriate in terms of flood alleviation in future, but the report will set out a series of actions that will inform the debate about the feasibility and viability of future flood alleviation capital works where appropriate. Furthermore, the report does set out the need to map out and set out maintenance responsibilities and arrangements for drainage infrastructure assets in future. The actions and recommendations are set out in the Storm Callum Section 19 Flood Report and a summary of recommendations/actions is also provided for ease of reference within the appendices of the Section 19 report.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

**Yes -
(full Storm Callum Section 19 Flood Report and Action Plan
Summary).**

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: **Ainsley Williams**

Head of Waste & Environmental Services

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

Finance

In order to implement the actions tabled in the report there is a requirement on the Flood Defence and Coastal protection team and Highways Authority (CCC) to commission contractors to undertake surveys and investigations.

In Llanybydder there is a recommendation for capital works on a Council owned asset under the highway which, if feasible, will need to be funded accordingly. This will be the subject of future capital bids and/or Welsh Government (WG) grant.

The Highways Authority have recently received a Welsh Government (WG) payment to address issues arising from Storm Callum, but this in the main is to rectify damage to the highway network and associated structures.

The Flood Defence and Coastal Protection Team have also been successful in bidding for £30k of WG Capital funding to undertake a feasibility study / outline business case to evaluate the flood risk and mitigation at Pensarn.

Bids for further potential capital works to County Council owned assets that may be identified from ongoing feasibility work will be set out as part of the internal capital bid process.

Risk Management

Risks to Authority:

There is likely to be public perception that the report will provide solutions to the flooding. This report does not necessarily provide firm recommendations and conclusions in relation to the implementation of capital works that may be appropriate in terms of flood alleviation, but the report will set out a series of actions that will inform the debate about the feasibility and viability of future flood alleviation capital works where appropriate.

The report highlights gaps in the knowledge and maintenance of drainage infrastructure.

The report highlights that as an Authority our knowledge of historical flooding is largely anecdotal and little detail exists on a searchable, shareable datasets. This is partly due to the division of flood risk management across a number of organisations historically. More work is required to look at how we effectively capture and share flood data both internally and externally with partner organisations.

Risk to public:

The report highlights areas that have been flooded and areas that are at risk of flooding. The detail is not provided on an individual property level and as such there will be dwellings and business in these areas that have not been flooded.

7. Physical Assets

The report has highlighted the physical flood alleviation and water conveyance assets/infrastructure in each of the identified flood areas and their respective owners / maintainers.

In Johnstown DWCC and NRW are the primary risk management authorities managing the majority of the infrastructure that manages flood risk.

However in Pensarn the drainage infrastructure is largely private, but also includes some assets owned by CCC as the Highway Authority. As such both CCC and private land owners are likely to be responsible for repairs that are necessary in some locations to their respective assets.

In Llanybydder and Pont Tyweli there are no existing flood risk management assets as such, only the highway infrastructure and DCWW drainage systems. Further flood modelling work is required in these two specific areas to establish if potential solutions are both feasible and viable.

The report highlights the general need to gather better information on our assets. Specifically records of asset structural and service standards in addition to understanding their capacity is key to planning for exceedance in future.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Ainsley Williams

Head of Waste & Environmental Services

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny - 5th July 2019

2. Local Member(s)

Communication with members of affected electoral wards will be undertaken to inform of the recommendations of the report.

3. **Community / Town Council** - N/A

4. Relevant Partners

Relevant partners (risk management authorities) undertaken as part of drafting the report.

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