

CABINET MEETING

19TH FEBRUARY 2024

THE FLOOD AND COASTAL EROSION RISK MANAGEMENT LOCAL STRATEGY

Purpose:

S10.7 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires all Local Authorities to publish their local flood risk management strategy and plan.

The strategy, supported by a more tactical plan, will clarify where we are now in terms of flood and coastal erosion risk management, where we want to be in 2030 and how we will get there.

This is the local strategy; a plan will be produced in Q4.

Recommendations / key decisions required:

The strategy will need full council approval prior to publishing.

Reasons:

The report is a statutory requirement and will need to be published online

Cabinet Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required YES

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr Aled Vaughan Owen: Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Decarbonisation and Sustainability

Directorate:

Name of Head of Service:

Rhodri Griffiths

Report Author:

Ben Kathrens

Designations:

Head of Place and Sustainability

Flood Defence and Coastal Adaption Manager

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**CABINET
19TH FEBRUARY 2024**

THE FLOOD AND COASTAL EROSION RISK MANAGEMENT LOCAL STRATEGY

We published our first Local Strategy in May 2013, setting out our overarching approach to managing flood risk in Carmarthenshire.

Alongside our strategy, we developed and published a flood risk management plan (the FRMP). The FRMP was a more detailed evaluation on an electoral ward level and from this analysis, fifty-five high risk areas were further evaluated.

This document is our second strategy. It will explain how flooding will be managed across Carmarthenshire, consistent with local objectives, measures policies and our cooperate and national strategies. This strategy also provides some background information on FCERM at both a local and national level.

There are chapters that cover how our FCERM duties and plans respond to climate change and how we align with other strategies. It provides insight into the roles and responsibilities pertaining to FCERM in Carmarthenshire and provides an update on our process since our first FRMP in 2018.

The primary purpose of the report is to set out our strategic assessment of flood risk in Carmarthenshire where we have 12,600 addresses at risk of flooding.

Secondly, it aims to formalise and agree our strategic aim which is
“to reduce the number of dwellings and businesses at risk of flooding”

Thirdly, it aims formalise five strategic objectives, and how they align with the national objectives.

- ***Modernise and develop a risk based, thematic approach to flood and coastal risk management.***
- ***Become data and information rich.***
- ***Champion NFM, sustainable drainage and nature based solutions;***
- ***Educate, advise and empower our communities to become more resilient.***
- ***Promote and support community adaption and partnership working.***

Finally, agree the 10 measures which will in turn deliver the 5 strategic objectives above.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

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: Rhodri Griffiths

Head of Place & Sustainability

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets	Bio-diversity & Climate Change
NONE	YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES

2. Legal

S10.7 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires all Local Authorities to publish their local flood risk management strategy and plan.

'The local flood risk management strategy and plan is a Council function'

Linda Rees-Jones (26 Sept 2023)

3. Finance

The finance element and costings will be delivered as a part of the tactical Flood Risk Management Plan. It is proposed that this is brought to CMT in early summer (April / May)

The £225k annual WG revenue grant will be lost in 2025-26 to the RSG.

4. ICT

ICT will play a key role in managing flood risk and adapting our communities to better manage the affects of climate change.

One of our 5 objectives is to become data rich. That will need both the systems to capture that information, but also systems to store and interrogate that data.

Measure 1 of 10 is to adopt and implement a risk based, thematic incident management system. We would view this as a priority both in terms of ensuring that services are delivered efficiently and prioritised accordingly but also in maximising the customer experience and affording operational departments the necessary data to develop robust business cases for future funding.

7. Staffing Implications

The staffing implications will be tabled as a part of the tactical Flood Risk Management Plan. It is proposed that this is brought to CMT in early summer (April / May)

8. Biodiversity and Climate Change

Chapter-3 in the attached details how this report will seek to address climate change

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Rhodri D Griffiths

Head of Place & Sustainability

1. Scrutiny Committee request for pre-determination

NO

If yes include the following information: -

2. Local Member(s) - N/A

3. Community / Town Council - N/A

4. Relevant Partners - N/A

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

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED

YES

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE