

External Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 1 March 2022

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Climate Change and Flood Risk in Lancashire (Appendices A to E refer)

Corporate Priorities:
Protecting our environment;

Contact for further information:

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Brief Summary

This report aims to provide members of the External Scrutiny Committee with an understanding of the climate change and flood risk management in Lancashire. An update on the previous scrutiny review, 'Strengthening flood risk management and preparedness' is also included.

Recommendation

The External Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

1. Consider and determine how it can add value to current activities undertaken by the Lancashire Risk Management Authorities present on climate change and flood risk.
2. Note and comment on the progress report on the implementation of agreed actions following the recommendations of the 'Strengthening flood risk management and preparedness' task and finish group report as set out at Appendix E.

Detail

This report contains five appendices which aim to provide members of the External Scrutiny Committee with an understanding of the climate change and flood risk management agenda in Lancashire. The appendices cover the following areas:

Appendix A - Organisational response and resilience:

- Climate change, weather conditions and flood risk in Lancashire;
- An overview of the Lancashire Risk Management Authorities (RMAs);
- National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Investment Programme;
- Emergency planning/Lancashire Resilience Forum.

Appendix B - Lancashire County Council Highways:

- Highways/£5m additional investment & future direction on highway drainage;
- Future-proofing the highway asset.

Appendix C - The role of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) in planning:

- National Planning Policy Framework;
- Planning authority local plans and policies;
- LLFA advice on local plans, policies, and applications;
- Overview of other consultees' input to planning process in relation to flood risk.

Appendix D - Personal/household response and resilience:

- Watercourses/riparian responsibilities;
- Flood Action Groups and other community resilience groups;
- The Flood Hub;
- Flood insurance/Flood Re scheme;
- Property-level resilience/protection.

Appendix E - Progress report on the implementation of agreed actions following the recommendations of the 'Strengthening flood risk management and preparedness' task and finish group report.

The original draft task and finish group report along with the findings report from the scrutiny inquiry session on the future of flood action groups in Lancashire was presented to the External Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on [21 January 2020](#). A copy of the final task and finish group report along with the formal written responses to the recommendations from the former Cabinet Member for Technical Services, Rural Affairs and Waste Management were presented to the committee at its meeting held on [31 July 2020](#). Subsequent updates on progress on the implementation of agreed actions were reported to the committee at its meetings held on [12 January](#) and [16 March 2021](#).

Officers from Lancashire County Council, LLFA and Highway Authority, and the Environment Agency will attend the meeting to present on the climate change and flood risk management agenda in Lancashire.

The External Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and determine how it can add value to current activities undertaken by the Lancashire Risk Management Authorities present on climate change and flood risk. In addition, the committee is asked to note and comment on the progress report on the implementation of agreed actions following the recommendations of the 'Strengthening flood risk management and preparedness' task and finish group report as set out at Appendix E.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

This report has no significant risk implications.

Legal

In considering how to add value committee will be aware that the authority powers are set out in statutory provisions and matters considered will need to be within said functions.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A