

Lancashire County Council

Scrutiny Committee

Friday, 13th February, 2015 at 10.30 am in Cabinet Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston

Agenda

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

No. Item

1. **Apologies**

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Members are asked to consider any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests they may have to disclose to the meeting in relation to matters under consideration on the Agenda.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 January 2015** (Pages 1 - 6)

4. **Environment Agency: Bathing Water and Alt-Crossens Land Drainage** (Pages 7 - 16)

5. **Work Plan and Task Group Update** (Pages 17 - 20)

6. **Urgent Business**

An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.

7. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee will be held on Friday 13 March at 10:30am at the County Hall, Preston.

I Young
County Secretary and Solicitor

County Hall

Preston

Agenda Item 3

Lancashire County Council

Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, 16th January, 2015 at 10.30 am in Cabinet Room 'B' - The Diamond Jubilee Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Bill Winlow (Chair)

County Councillors

A Barnes	M Parkinson
D Clifford	A Schofield
C Crompton	V Taylor
R Newman-Thompson	C Wakeford
Mrs L Oades	D Watts
D O'Toole	G Wilkins

County Councillors Darren Clifford and Alan Schofield replaced County Councillors Clare Pritchard and John Shedwick respectively.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None were disclosed.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 December 2014

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Domestic Abuse - Collaboration with Health Services

The Chair welcomed Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health, to the meeting. A report was presented to the Committee on Domestic Abuse and collaboration with Health Services. The report provided an update to an earlier report to Scrutiny Committee about the partnership response to domestic abuse, particularly concentrating on working with NHS organisations.

The Committee was informed that work was ongoing with health bodies, principally representatives of the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), to

improve the development, delivery and consideration of domestic abuse in mainstream service provision.

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) had produced public health guidance, 'Domestic Violence and Abuse: How Health Services, Social Care and the Organisations They Work with can Respond Effectively' which had been used as the basis for discussion with health colleagues.

The guidance was targeted at health and social care commissioners, specialist domestic violence and abuse staff and others whose work might bring them into contact with people who experience or perpetrate domestic violence and abuse.

Many of the health bodies were already working to improve their response to domestic abuse, utilising the NICE guidance as a benchmark.

A Domestic Violence and Abuse Workshop had been held on 23 October 2014 with representatives of the CCGs to consider the guidance in terms of current provision, and to identify where improvements could be made. The key areas for further development and improvement were considered to be:

- Effective partnership working – strategic and operationally
- Integrated care pathways
- Workforce development – across all agencies
- Sustainability of domestic abuse services

Ongoing engagement with health services was planned in order to agree a mutual action plan as the basis of future joint working.

The CCGs in Lancashire had agreed representation at the Lancashire Chief Executives Group, which had adopted the statutory function of Community Safety Strategy Group for the County. This forum provided strategic direction for community safety, including domestic abuse issues.

Councillors were invited to ask questions and raise any comments in relation to the report, a summary of which is provided below:

- Members enquired about the training in place for NHS staff in dealing with domestic abuse victims. It was noted that this was a complex area, with many victims of abuse being reluctant to report abuse for a wide range of reasons. It was confirmed that there are systems in place to help staff identify vulnerable people at risk, including in A&E. It was acknowledged that work in this area was further advanced in relation to recognising vulnerable children than other groups, but that this was being addressed.
- It was noted that Domestic Abuse was an issue that cut across a range of different partners outside the council and services within the council. The Organisational Transformation currently underway in the council would bring many of these services together under the Director for Public Health.

- The Community Safety Partnership was leading a campaign to improve awareness of abuse issues and services which were available to victims. It was noted that raising awareness amongst both victims and the various professionals to help them recognise and deal with abuse was crucial.
- In relation to the NICE guidance, it was explained that this was guidance only and not a mandatory set of standards or practices. It was, however, being followed in Lancashire as the model of service for Domestic Abuse. It was accepted that the challenging financial environment meant that resources had to be carefully managed to ensure the guidance was being met.
- The impact of this activity and how its success would be measured was raised. The main process for this was through the commissioning of these services. The commissioning plan had service specification and this specification had key performance indicators which would allow the success of the services to be assessed. There was also a NHS outcome framework which was nationally set which would pick up on the higher population outcome which would show the link between the service procured and whether this had an impact on the outcome.
- Members commented that the service mapping exercise was very useful as it produced information where there might be gaps but might also produce information where there might be duplication. There was a clear need to strengthen engagement with the NHS and the third sector in connecting with their existing pathways to the services commissioned through other partnerships.
- Councillors requested contact points and details to point them to the right place to find assistance and help for members of the public contacting them about Domestic Abuse, given their involvement with their communities. They requested they be linked to all the correct connections to contact. Dr Karunanithi reassured the Committee that these contacts would be made available to Councillors.
- Members queried the degree to which different partners were integrated on these issues, particularly given the need for clinical confidentiality and compatibility of information systems. It was confirmed that the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was successfully getting the services to integrate, although there would always be some issues around the technological integration of the different partners' IT systems and the appropriateness of maintaining patient confidentiality where appropriate. Members felt a visit to MASH would prove useful.
- Members were informed that the NHS had a very strong system for safeguarding and assuring itself safeguarding systems were in place. The issue was how this information was shared with a wider set of partners.

Safeguarding was one of the key issues for the NHS to assure NHS England and the Department of Health.

- Members requested that there be ongoing robust scrutiny of domestic abuse. It was recognised that some of the issues raised came within the remit of the Health Scrutiny Committee, and that working between the committees would be important and beneficial. The strong and ongoing support received by both committees from the Director of Public Health and his team was recognised.
- Concerns were raised around the people who suffered domestic violence who had a mental health condition. The results from the Domestic Violence and Abuse Workshop identified that services for these people were poor and patchy and Members enquired what would be done about this. This was a strategic priority within the NHS regarding mental health.

Resolved: That,

1. The report be noted
2. A joint meeting with Health Scrutiny and Children and Young People be held in one year's time with the Scrutiny Committee.
3. The Committee arrange to visit the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in the next few months.

5. Work Plan and Task Group Update

A report was presented summarising the work to be undertaken by the Committee in the coming months, including an update on task group work.

The Committee recognised the need to take a strong role in scrutinising the impact of service changes introduced in the budget in the context of reducing financial resources. It was agreed that a report should come to a future committee on the initial finding of the adult social care transformation project, as well as an update on services for adults with learning disabilities. In addition, a report on progress on discussion with districts about bus services and bus subsidies was requested.

Concerns were raised regarding consultations on the budget and also the transport plans and that these consultations were being done through LALC. Many Parish and Town Councils were not members of LALC and were not receiving the information from LALC. It was felt that this may have meant that fewer responses to the budget consultation that might be expected had been received from parish and town councils. Councillors asked for reassurance that all Parish Council had been contacted directly about the proposals now agreed for formal consultation by cabinet.

Resolved: That

1. The work plan be updated to include items on adult social care transformation; services for adults with learning disabilities; and bus services and subsidies
2. A visit to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) be added to the work plan, as agreed under the previous item
3. The report be noted.

6. Urgent Business

None.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be on Friday 13 February 2015, at 10.30 at the County Hall, Preston.

I Young
County Secretary and Solicitor

County Hall
Preston

Agenda Item 4

Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Friday 13 February 2015

Electoral Division affected: None

Environment Agency: Bathing Water and Alt-Crossens Land Drainage (Appendices A and B refer)

Contact for further information:

Josh Mynott, (01772) 534580, Office of the Chief Executive,
Josh.mynott@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

Following recent reports to the Committee on Flood Risk Management issues, it was resolved to request the Environment Agency (EA) to attend a meeting to discuss the role and responsibilities of the EA, particularly in reference to Bathing Water quality and land drainage in the Alt Crossens Catchment.

Representatives of the EA will attend to present the report and answer questions from the Committee.

Recommendation

That the Committee consider the report and comment as appropriate

Background and Advice

In October 2014, the Committee received a report from County Council officers on a number of issues connected to Flood risk Management. Amongst the issues considered were bathing water quality and land drainage in the Alt-Crossens catchment.

It was recognised that many of the issues discussed were the responsibility wholly or partly of the Environment Agency (EA), and it was agreed that, to aid the committee's understanding of the issues and allow them to consider the role of the EA, representatives of the EA should be invited to a future meeting.

Representatives of the EA will attend to present the report and answer questions from the Committee, and papers from the EA on bathing water and Alt-Crossens are attached as appendices A and B respectively.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are no significant risk management implications.

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
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N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Update On Bathing Water In Lancashire

Briefing Note - Lancashire County Council Scrutiny Committee

13 February 2015

Are signs going up on Fylde Bathing Water beaches (specifically signs that close beaches)?

Under the revised EU Bathing Water Directive (rBWD), a bathing water must meet at least the 'sufficient' standard at the end of the 2015 bathing season. If this does not happen, a sign will be posted the following year advising against bathing. Please note this is advice against bathing, not that the beach is closed.

After five consecutive failing years, the water will be de-listed and permanent advice against bathing at that water will be posted.

Using the results we have to date for the Fylde bathing waters we know that Blackpool North will be classified as Poor at the end of 2015. Therefore a sign will need to be placed at this bathing water in advance of the 2016 season. It will need to describe the reasons why the quality is Poor.

It is likely several other bathing waters will also be classified as Poor at the end of the 2015 bathing season and therefore will also need signs advising against bathing.

What are we doing?

There are a number of actions across the Fylde area designed to improve and raise awareness of the bathing water quality issues:

- Partnership Working

Fylde Borough Council, Blackpool Borough Council and Wyre Borough Council are working with the Fylde Peninsula Water Management Group (FPWMG) to reduce the pollution that ends up in the sea on the Fylde Coast. In addition they participate on the Turning Tides Partnership set up across the North West.

The LOVEmyBEACH campaign is active in the Fylde area through a local co-ordinator delivering Keep Britain Tidy's BeachCare project working with the FPWMG ([www.lovemybeach.org](http://www lovemybeach.org)). LOVEmyBEACH engages local communities, businesses, schools, farmers and visitors to do their bit for cleaner seas.

- Discharges from the local wastewater treatment works

United Utilities (UU) completed a huge programme of improvement work in the Ribble catchment to improve St Annes, St Annes North and Blackpool South bathing waters. A large storage tunnel was completed early in 2014 close to the Preston City Centre (also known as the Preston Tunnels, or the Preston 7) to hold storm water and sewage and reduce overflows to the River Ribble during heavy rainfall. Other improvement schemes included the Preston 32 package of works along with ultra-violet (UV) sewage treatment to significantly reduce bacteria in the water at Blackburn Wastewater Treatment Works. Further storm sewage storage are planned at Preston, Blackburn and Chorley Wastewater Treatment Works under PR14.

Fleetwood, Cleveleys, Bispham, Blackpool North, Blackpool Central and Blackpool South bathing waters are affected by storm sewage discharges as a result of rainfall on the Fylde Coast. We are working with UU to reduce the impact of discharges on bathing water quality, particularly from Chatsworth Avenue, Anchorholme and Manchester Square Pumping Stations. This work forms a key component of the 'Fylde Strategy' that UU is developing to address bathing water issues we have across the Fylde Coast.

UU recently finished installing ultra-violet (UV) treatment at Garstang Wastewater Treatment Works, and have completed improvements to intermittent discharges in the Poulton area, which will have a positive effect on Fleetwood's bathing water.

- Misconnections

UU are investigating contaminated surface waters across the Fylde, particularly in the Rossall and Fleetwood areas. Where misconnections have been found they are working with householders to correct these.

- Local drainage systems

Schemes are being identified to reduce the amount of clean surface water which enters the combined drainage systems on the Fylde.

- Run-off from agricultural land

Natural England advises farmers on how they can help water quality within the River Ribble and Wyre catchments under Defra's Catchment Sensitive Farming Initiative.

- Grazing animals on the salt marsh

This can influence bathing water quality during high spring equinox tides when the animal faeces can be washed off the salt marsh around the Ribble and Wyre estuaries into the water and up on the shoreline. We are setting up a system for 2015 to issue pollution risk forecasts when this happens.

- Pollution Risk Forecasting System

All three coastal local authorities are participating in the pollution risk forecasting system for all bathing waters on the Fylde. Signs are placed at the beach when there is likely to be reduced water quality. This normally takes around 24 to 48 hours to clear. If certain conditions are met, some sample results may be discounted.

Further Information

Please contact Elinor Smith (Environmental Planning Specialist) on 01768 215774, or by e-mail at inforequests.cmblc@environment-agency.gov.uk.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

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0345 988 1188
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Update On Land Drainage In The Alt-Crossens Catchment

Briefing Note - Lancashire County Council Scrutiny Committee

13 February 2015



Figure 1 – Alt-Crossens Catchment

Background

The Alt-Crossens catchment (see Figure 1) covers some 39,600 hectares of land in North-West England, from the northern edge of Liverpool to Southport and bounded by higher ground to the east and the towns of Kirkby, Ormskirk, and Burscough. The catchment is approximately 60% Grade 1 and 2 farmland, with much of that farmland situated within a flat, low-lying area (below 5 metres above sea level) reliant on pumping for its drainage (area outlined in green – Figure 1).

We currently own and operate a network of eleven 'satellite' pumping stations in the catchment, which pump water to two larger pumping stations at Crossens (near Southport) and Altmouth (south of Formby) and subsequently out into the Irish Sea.

We also carry out watercourse maintenance using our permissive powers to selected stretches of main river in the catchment as revenue budgets, priorities and staff resources allow.

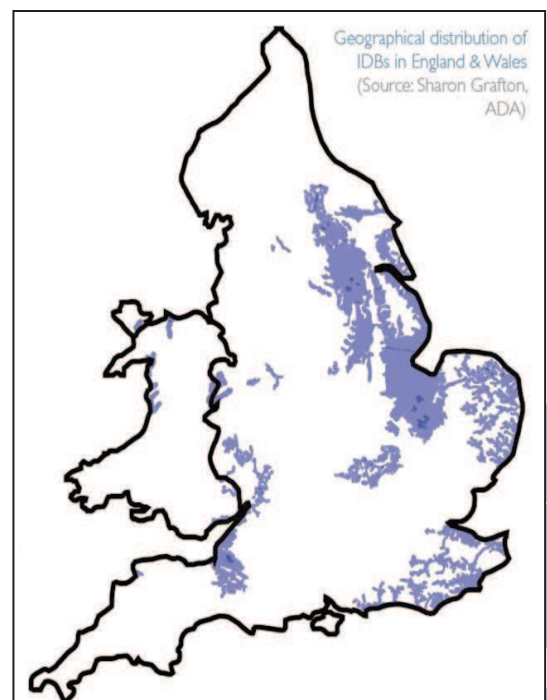
History

From the 1930s up until the early 1980s, land drainage in the north of the Alt-Crossens catchment was managed by the River Crossens Drainage Board. This board derived its income from 'drainage rates' paid by farmers and landowners, and 'special levy' grants paid by local authorities for other benefits to infrastructure. Privately-run drainage boards managed drainage in the south of the catchment covering the Altcarr Estate and land owned by the Church Commissioners.

Those boards were all disbanded by the early 1980s along with all other drainage boards in the North West, with their role passed to the Rivers Division of the newly-formed North West Water Authority. This was unusual as drainage boards in other areas of the country remained in place, and still exist to this day (see Figure 2).

The National Rivers Authority upon formation in 1989 then assumed the role of land drainage in the North West, prior to our taking this role on in the region upon our formation in 1996.

Figure 2 – Internal Drainage Boards in England & Wales



Since the abolition of the North West drainage boards, farmers / landowners and local authorities are no longer required to contribute drainage rates or special levy for the benefits they receive from river maintenance and pumping in the area.

The North West is therefore unusual in comparison with other English regions in having no internal drainage boards (IDBs). We have filled their role up to now in carrying out land drainage activities within the region.

Issues

- Government Policy

Given DEFRA priorities on protecting human life and residential properties from flooding, and taking into account our reduced revenue budgets and staff resources, our previous levels of pumping and watercourse maintenance in the flat, low-lying area of the catchment have become unsustainable.

- Flood Risk Revenue Spend

Due to the large amount of pumping required to drain the area, the Alt-Crossens catchment requires significant expenditure in order to drain the flat, low-lying area. In 2010, it was estimated that our revenue spend in the catchment totalled around £3 million per annum, despite residential property flood risk from main rivers being comparatively low (around 300 properties in the flat, low-lying area) in relation to other parts of Lancashire.

How do we prioritise our flood risk revenue spend in Lancashire?

In order to determine the level of watercourse maintenance and pumping which we can justify within each part of Lancashire, the county is separated into individual areas called 'asset systems' (see Figure 3).

Undefended flood risk within each asset system is evaluated, before damages from that risk are calculated in line with Government valuations provided by the Treasury's Green Book and Multi-Coloured Manual. Those damages are compared with the cost of our current flood defence maintenance, watercourse maintenance and pumping within each system. We then generate a benefit-cost ratio of those activities.

During 2013/14, asset systems within the North West required a benefit-cost ratio of greater than 15 to receive part-funding, with systems with a ratio of 30 or more attracting full funding for all watercourse maintenance and pumping activities. For the flat, low-lying parts of the Alt-Crossens catchment, the relevant asset systems all have a benefit-cost ratio of less than 15, indicating that current expenditure in those areas is too high. Revenue savings must therefore be made so that funds for high-priority activities in those systems can be secured going forward.



Figure 3 – EA Asset Systems In South-West Lancashire

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
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- What This Means Locally

As a result, in 2013/14 it is estimated that we were only able to maintain around 40% of main rivers in the Alt-Crossens catchment. The watercourses maintained are prioritised based on those posing the greatest risk of flooding to properties, or to honour legal obligations that we may have inherited.

In addition, modelling work has suggested that the key purpose of the smaller 'satellite' pumps is to drain farmland. The majority of residential property flood risk in the catchment is effectively managed by Altmouth and Crossens pumping stations, the operation of which we are fully committed to going forward.

In response to the above issues, we are currently preparing to serve two years' notice under the Environment Agency / DEFRA Asset Maintenance Protocol on a number of pumping stations in the catchment. These notices will inform those who benefit from the pumps of our intention to no longer operate them at the end of the notice period. The pumps on which notice will be served are those which do not appear to benefit flood risk to residential properties, and which do not have legal obligations attached to their operation.

We are open-minded about the future of those pumps on which we will be serving notice, and have been working with partners, including local farmers, on future options. One possibility is that others could choose to operate the pumps under alternative arrangements. We would then transfer ownership of the pumps as needed and help with any transitional arrangements. If no one was willing to take over operating the pumps, we would begin steps to decommission them at the end of the two years' notice.

- Similar Areas Elsewhere In The North West

Given the lack of drainage boards in the North West since the early 1980s, the issues affecting the Alt-Crossens catchment are not unique in the region. Extensive discussions on successor arrangements for pumping and watercourse maintenance have also taken place in the Lyth Valley (South Lakeland) and Waver-Wampool (Allerdale) areas of Cumbria, where we have served notice on a number of land drainage pumping stations. In addition, local arrangements to carry on operating two of our pumping stations and maintain watercourses which drain land in the area of Ince and Frodsham Marshes in Cheshire have been discussed.

Advisory Group

In Summer 2012, on the advice of the Lancashire County Council Scrutiny Committee, an Alt-Crossens Advisory Group formed. The purpose of the Group was to oversee and guide our engagement with those affected by decisions in the catchment, rather than to act as a decision-making body for future arrangements.

The Group is chaired by County Councillor Janice Hanson, and comprises officers and representatives from the following organisations:

- Environment Agency
- United Utilities
- National Farmers Union (including two representative local farmers)
- Country Land & Business Association
- West Lancashire Borough Council (including two nominated Elected Members)
- Sefton Borough Council (including one nominated Elected Member)
- Lancashire County Council (including two nominated Elected Members)
- Knowsley Borough Council

The Group has met on eleven separate occasions since September 2012, and will continue to meet until all engagement activities are complete.

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Engagement Activities

Since 2012, the Advisory Group has overseen and approved the approach for engagement on issues affecting the catchment.

During Summer 2013, an intensive period of work amongst the partner organisations took place to develop a common understanding of the issues and solutions. Following this, a partner website (www.altcrossens.org) was developed, which went live in early January 2014.

During late January / early February 2014, a series of five public information events hosted by the partner organisations took place across the catchment, to raise awareness of the issues surrounding land drainage activities and highlighting all the potential future options that the partner organisations had discussed.

Press releases to publicise both these events and the partner website were sent to local newspapers, with the National Farmers Union and Country Land & Business Association sending invites to their members from the catchment. Invites were also sent by post to any properties within the flat, low-lying area. Further such events will be held to update the wider community later in 2015.

In July 2014, the partner organisations involved in the Alt-Crossens discussions attended a meeting in Westminster with the Defra Floods Minister, Dan Rogerson MP. The Minister endorsed our approach in directing our resources to those areas where the benefits in line with Government priorities were greatest, and encouraged us to continue working locally towards a solution.

We have held drop-in events with the National Farmers Union in 2013 and 2014 to highlight which watercourses would receive maintenance by us, so that farmers and landowners could choose to carry out maintenance themselves as riparian owners. To assist with this, a pilot approach has been trialled in the catchment to allow landowners to carry out some desilting activities without requiring our written consent.

Engagement with a range of other organisations within the catchment on possible future arrangements for pumping and watercourse maintenance, including Martin Mere (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust), Natural England, Network Rail, and the Canal & Rivers Trust, has also taken place.

We have also sent out newsletters to the local community and other interested groups on an adhoc basis when we have had updates for them.

Partnership Working Group

In December 2012, the Advisory Group recommended the formation of an officer-led Partnership Working Group. The purpose of the working group was to identify options to manage water levels in the catchment going forward. We were a member of the Working Group and explained to the rest of the group that we would have to serve notice on some of the pumps to meet government guidelines on how we prioritise our flood risk management work. However, beyond that, we were completely open to suggestions from others on the future management of land drainage in the area, including options for the future management of the pumps.

The Working Group comprised a similar membership to the Advisory Group, but without elected member representation. The Partnership Working Group met on nine occasions between January 2013 and October 2014, and its work to identify preferred options is now complete.

Preferred Options

The preferred technical option of the majority of the working group was the formation of a new internal drainage board (IDB) covering the flat, low-lying area, to take over the operation of pumping stations and carry out watercourse maintenance across the area. The board would be a statutory public body, whose work would be funded by drainage rates paid by farmers and special levy paid by lower-tier local authorities.

However, the lower-tier local authorities covered by the proposed board felt it would be difficult to contribute the necessary 'special levy' funding to the board in the current financial climate, especially without the funding assistance that is provided by Government to drainage boards elsewhere in England.

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On this subject, West Lancashire Borough Council considered the matter and voted against providing special levy funding towards the proposed IDB during a meeting of the full council in December 2013.

A more fragmented, scaled-down IDB option has also been looked into to reflect our upcoming decisions on specific pumps. This may be more affordable for local authorities who would be required to contribute under the current IDB funding legislation. This option is not the preferred approach of the farming and landowner representatives, who believe the flat, low-lying area should be treated as one complete system.

In addition, the partners considered more local arrangements, with farmers and landowners co-ordinating maintenance and pumping within their local area. However, this approach would not offer a co-ordinated approach across the flat, low-lying area.

Moving Forward

The Advisory Group will continue to oversee and approve the approach for engagement activities, to ensure that those affected by changes in land drainage arrangements are kept aware of progress.

Following the serving of notice on those pumps in the catchment that we cannot justify operating in future, work will continue amongst the partner organisations, including ourselves, on potential ways of managing land drainage in the area. This will include looking at successor arrangements to take over the operation of the pumps.

While this is happening, we will work in parallel to identify our scope of work to either:

- Bring pumping stations up to a sufficient standard to be handed over to others.
- Identify the work required to decommission the pumps in the event of no one coming forward to take over operating them.

Lessons will also be learnt on setting up alternative arrangements from the areas in Cumbria (Lyth Valley, Waver-Wampool) where the same issues to Alt-Crossens exist, and where similar challenges regarding the formation and funding of new drainage boards are shared.

The partner organisations remain committed to reaching a successful resolution on this matter, and we would be happy to update the committee in future on progress.

Further Information

Please contact Matthew Connor (Alt-Crossens Project Manager) on 01772 714102, or by e-mail at matthew.connor@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Agenda Item 5

Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on 13 February 2015

Electoral Division affected: None

Work Plan and Task Group Update

(Appendix A refers)

Contact for further information:

Josh Mynott (01772) 534580 , Office of the Chief Executive,

josh.mynott@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

The plan at Appendix 'A' summarises the work to be undertaken by the Committee in the coming months, including an update of task group work. The statement will be updated and presented to each meeting of the Committee for information.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the report.

Background and Advice

A statement of the current status of work being undertaken by the Committee is presented to each meeting for information.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

There are not significant risk management implications.

Financial, Legal, Equality and Diversity, Human Rights, Crime and Disorder, Personnel, Property Asset Management, Procurement, Traffic Management, CIA (policies and strategies only):

N/A

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
N/A	N/A	N/A
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2014/15

16 Jan 15		Health response to Domestic Abuse issues	Sakthi Karunanithi / NHS representatives	Follow up on item considered at June 2014 meeting
13 Feb 15		Environment Agency	EA Reps	Flood risk management and water quality
13 Mar 15		Growth Deal	Becky Joyce	
17 Apr 15		Transforming Social Care	Tony Pounder	Considering the initial finding from Newtons.
15 May 15		Learning Disabilities	Tony Pounder	
		CAMHS	Mark Warren	Outcomes of the review of CAMHS by the Health & Wellbeing Board
19 Jun 15		Safeguarding Children	LSCB / Louise	Update from the meeting held in December 2015

			Taylor / Police	
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Future Topics: not yet scheduled

- Bus Services and Subsidies: To consider outcomes of discussions with districts and next steps.
- Visit to MASH

Task Groups

The following task and finish groups are ongoing or have recently been established:

- Planning Matters: Interface between upper and lower tiers authorities in making the right decisions on planning applications (esp.flood management and educational provision)
- Fire Prevention Measures in Schools
- TAMP