

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN
MEETING: Strong Communities Select Committee
DATE: 14 September 2015
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

To provide an update on the Local Flood Risk Management strategy and other matters relating to flooding in Monmouthshire

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 To note the contents of the report

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 Local Flood Risk Management Plan

3.1.1 Members may recall that it was a requirement for the Council to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy by April 2013. This requirement was set out in the Flood & Water Management Act of 2010 (F&WMAct) when Monmouthshire was also designated as an LLFA or Lead Local Flood Authority. It was also identified as a requirement in the Welsh Governments National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in December of 2011. A draft strategy was considered by this Committee in the Autumn of 2012 and revised to take account of comments made. It was also subjected to a public consultation period in Jan to February of 2013 before being reported to Cabinet on 3 April 2013. Following Cabinet approval it was submitted to Welsh Government for Ministerial approval and that was received in late April 2014. The Strategy was then published, as required, on the Council's web page. Members can view this as follows: <http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/flooding>

3.1.2 As part of producing the Strategy it was a requirement to develop a series of objectives and measures (actions) and these are summarized in a spreadsheet format and can be viewed at Table 3 in Paragraph 3.4 below A review of progress on the various actions has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the Flood Risk Management Plan.

3.3 Flood Risk Management Plan

3.3.1 As part of the F&WMAct we also have to prepare a Flood Risk Management Plan which will incorporate Flood Hazard and Flood Risk maps. The timescale

for this was to be published by Dec 2015. The first Guidance was provided in May 2014 and subsequently a Template for the Plan document being produced in Wales was provided through the regional Flood Groups, revised in December 2014. The mapping data required to do the analyses provided by the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales was delayed due to its translation into the formats needed and that also arrived in December 2014.

3.3.2 The preparation has required substantial work and review of mapping layers for surface water flooding areas, as well as other flooding types, including both velocity and depths of flood water to assess risk and hazard. Much of this Plan has drawn upon the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment done in 2011 and the Local Strategy completed in April 2013. Following discussion with WLGA and NRW colleagues we have been able to establish that it would not require a further Strategic Environmental Assessment to be done or a Habitats Risk Assessment provided we retain the Objectives and Measures set out in the Strategy. This has avoided substantial costs and some time the timescale has been challenging. The table below sets out the main stages and an indicative timescale.

Stage	Indicative Timescale	Period
Preparation of Draft FRMP	Apr to Sep 2015	
Strong Communities Select Committee - Update	Sep 2015	6 weeks
Internal Consultation and revise with comments	Sep 2015-Nov 2015	
Strong Communities Select Committee – Pre Consultation version	Nov/Dec 2015	
Revise Draft from Select comments	Dec 2015	
Public Consultation Stage +WG/EA/CCW/ etc.	Jan-Feb 2016	6 weeks min
Revise Draft with comments from public consultation	March/Apr 2016	
Submit to Cabinet for approval	Apr/ May 2016	
Submit to NRW for approval	May 2016	
Revise following NRW approval – if necessary	May 2016	
Publish	June 2016	

3.3.3. A working draft has now been developed but there is still some data to be identified and added before it is ready for Internal Consultation. A copy of the latest draft will be emailed to Members before the meeting and some hard copies will also be available. The digital mapping showing flood risk areas will be available at the meeting and a short demonstration of this will be given. The format of the report is such that the overall issues are covered in the early sections. Then each community (based on the Town and Community Council Areas) has a separate section, with a description of the area, the flood risk issues and numbers of properties / residents at risk together with a map showing the flood risk areas. These show high risk, medium risk and low risk areas shaded in dark to lighter blue accordingly. The risk levels equate to 1 in 30 years return periods (high risk), 1 in 100 years return period (medium risk) and 1 in 1000 years return period (low risk). It should be noted however that any of these events could happen at any time so the risk is real and those areas at risk do need to be aware they are at risk

**Table 1: Properties & Residents at Risk of Flooding
– Whole County Totals**

Surface Water Flood Risk – No Depth Threshold			
Risk	1:30(High)	1:100 (Medium)	1:1000 (Low)
Properties	231	341	2035
Residents	543	801	4782
Surface Water Flood Risk – Depth 200mm or More			
Risk	1:30(High)	1:100 (Medium)	1:1000 (Low)
Properties	87	205	868
Residents	204	482	2040
Rivers and the Sea			
Risk			1:1000 (Low)
Properties			5241
Residents			12316

3.3.4. One of the key issues required in the guidance was to identify the number and location of residential properties and residents at risk of flooding. The totals for Monmouthshire are given above in Table 1. We have identified the ten town & community areas with the highest numbers at risk. Table 2 below provides this data. These equate approximately 5.2% of the population at risk of flooding from surface water and 13.5% of the population at risk of flooding from main rivers and / or the sea. Only the Low Risk for Rivers and the Sea has been calculated as this is part of the Severn FRMP being developed by Natural Resources Wales.

Table 2: Communities with Highest Numbers of Residents/ Properties at Risk of Flooding

Community	Surface Water Low (1 in 1000yr)	Rivers & the Sea Low (1 in 1000yr)
Caldicot	1159 (493)	1377 (586)
Abergavenny	1135 (483)	2392 (1018)
Chepstow	947 (403)	395 (168)
Monmouth	663 (282)	3472 (1473)
Magor with Undy	472 (201)	952 (405)
Llantilio Pertholey	207 (88)	75 (32)
Llanfoist Fawr	169 (72)	157 (67)
Usk	169 (72)	1661 (707)
Llanelly	139 (59)	45 (19)
Portskewett	120 (51)	63 (22)

Resident & Property No's in Brackets and ranked by Surface Water Flood Risk.

3.3.5. In parallel to the preparation of the Monmouthshire Flood Risk Management Plan the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales are preparing the

second version of the Severn River Basin Management Plan. They are also producing a Severn Flood Risk Management Plan that will cover the flooding risks from the main rivers and the sea. Drafts were circulated for consultation earlier this year and final versions are to be published by December 2015. Once these documents are completed a link to them will be added. Relevant extracts from the consultation draft versions of those documents have been included within this document for information and subject to change once the final versions are out.

Flooding at Caldicot Country Park 2012/13



3.4 Measures for achieving objectives

A summary of the Objectives and Measures from the Strategy (LFRMS) is shown below with the current position regarding implementation. Each measure in Table 2 below is categorised according to the Implementation Phase.

Table 3: Measure Implementation Category

Category	Description	Colour
On-going actions	those actions already being implemented or completed	Green
Agreed actions	those actions that are agreed for implementation (i.e. funding is approved), and will be implemented	Yellow
Planned actions	Those actions that are being proposed as part of the FRMP. These measures can include proposed changes to operational measures (e.g. the withdrawal of maintenance).	Blue

Table 4: Summary of Objectives and Measures

Delivery Theme	Ref	Measure	Overarching Objective	Measure Type	EU Reporting Code
Development Planning & Adaptation	1.1	Sustainable & Strategic Development Planning, LDP	A1	Prevention	M21
	1.2	SFRA / SFCA	A1	Prevention	M21
	1.3	Water Cycle Strategy	A1	Prevention	M24
	1.4	Relocation	A1	Prevention	M22
	1.5	Minerals & Waste Plan	A1	Prevention	M21
	1.6	Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDS)	A1	Prevention	M23
Flood Forecasting & Response	2.1	Flood Awareness	A2	Preparedness	M43
	2.2 & 2.3	Flood Forecasting And Warning	A1 & A2	Preparedness	M43
	2.4	Emergency Response Plans	A1	Preparedness	M42
	2.5	Community Flood Plans	A1 & A2	Preparedness	M44
	2.6	Multi Agency Flood Plans	A1	Preparedness	M42
Land, Cultural & Environmental Management	3.1	Land Management	A1	Prevention	M23
	3.2	Resilience	A1 & A3	Preparedness	M23
	3.3	Resistance	A2 & A3	Protection	M23
	3.4	Restoration	A3	Recovery & Review	M51
	3.5	Environmental Enhancement	A4	Prevention	M31
	3.6	Habitat Creation	A4	Protection	M31
Asset Management & Maintenance	4.1	Asset Management Plans	A4	Protection	M35
	4.2	Defence / Structure Management	A1 & A4	Protection	M24
	4.3	Channel Maintenance	A1	Prevention	M24
	4.4	Culvert Maintenance	A1	Prevention	M24
Studies, Assessments & Plans	5.1	Investigation	A1 & A4	Recovery & Review	M53
	5.2	Risk Assessments	A1, A2 & A4	Preparedness	M44
	5.3	Strategy Plan	A1	Preparedness	M44
	5.4	Local Property Level flood mitigation - resilience	A1, A2 & A3	Preparedness	M35
	5.5	Local Property Level flood mitigation - resistance	A1, A2 & A3	Protection	M35
	5.6	Pre-Feasibility Studies / Feasibility Studies	A1 & A4	Protection	M24
	5.7	Project Plans - Option Appraisals	A1 & A4	Protection	M24
	5.8	Flood Risk Management Plans	A1 & A4	Protection	M24
High Level Awareness & Engagement	6.1	Partnership Working	A1, A2 & A4	Preparedness	M44
Monitoring	7.1	Monitoring - Waves, Beaches, Aerial Photography and Topographical Surveys	A1 & A2	Preparedness	M44
	7.2	Habitats Monitoring	A1	Protection	M31

4 REASONS:

4.1 The work is required by the new Flood & Water Management Act and by the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management. issued in December 2011. It will provide a framework with measures and actions in preparation for future Flood Risk Plans.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The work has and will require us to draw on knowledge and information held both in records and officers personal knowledge as well as considerable analysis. The Welsh Government have made available grant funding of some £100,000 in the 2013/14 year and further funding of £50,000 in the 2014/15 financial year to fund all the requirements of the new Act, which includes preparing the Flood Risk Management Plan. Funding for the current year and future years is subject to bids being made to Welsh Government. A bid has been made for a sum of £62,000 to meet all the obligations Welsh Government have required us to deliver.

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

There were No significant equality impacts identified in the assessment (Appendix 1)

The actual impacts from this report's recommendations will be reviewed every 6 years in line with the Welsh Government plan for such documents and the criteria for monitoring and review will include:

- The number of properties in Monmouthshire at risk of flooding from surface Water
- The number of properties removed from flood risk

7. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

NONE

8. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team

County Councillor B Jones, Cabinet Member for County Operations

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010,
The National Strategy for Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management and,
Guidance on the preparation of Local Flood Risk Management Plans.

10. AUTHOR:

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The “Equality Initial Challenge”

Name: Dave Harris Service area: Operations Date completed: 21 August 2015		Please give a brief description of what you are aiming to do. Develop a Flood Risk Management Plan for Monmouthshire in line with Welsh Government guidance	
Protected characteristic	Potential Negative impact Please give details	Potential Neutral impact Please give details	Potential Positive Impact Please give details
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Marriage + Civil Partnership		X	
Pregnancy and maternity		X	
Race		X	
Religion or Belief		X	
Sex (was Gender)		X	
Sexual Orientation		X	
Transgender		X	
Welsh Language		X	

Please give details about any potential negative Impacts.	How do you propose to MITIGATE these negative impacts
➤	➤

➤	➤
➤	➤
➤	➤

Signed *DJ Harris*

Designation: Senior Project Engineer

Dated: 21 August 2015

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

What are you impact assessing	Service area
The risk of flooding to residents in Monmouthshire	Land Drainage & Flood Risk
Policy author / service lead	Name of assessor and date
Dave Harris	Dave Harris

1. What are you proposing to do?

Produce a Flood Risk Management Plan in accordance with Welsh Government Guidance

2. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics in a **negative** way? If **YES** please tick appropriate boxes below.

Age	No	Race	No
Disability	No	Religion or Belief	No
Gender reassignment	No	Sex	No
Marriage or civil partnership	No	Sexual Orientation	No
Pregnancy and maternity	No	Welsh Language	No

3. Please give details of the negative impact

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4. Did you take any actions to mitigate your proposal? Please give details below including any consultation or engagement.

5. Please list the data that has been used to develop this proposal?
6. eg Household survey data, Welsh Govt data, ONS data, MCC service user data, Staff personnel data etc..

Welsh Government Data and data from the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales

Signed...*D J Harris*.....

Designation: Senior Project Engineer...**Dated:** 21 Aug 2015.....

The “Sustainability Challenge”

Name of the Officer completing “the Sustainability challenge” Dave Harris		Please give a brief description of the aims proposed policy or service reconfiguration Delivery of the Flood Risk Management Plan for Monmouthshire	
Name of the Division or service area Operations / Land Drainage		Date “Challenge” form completed 21 August 2015	
Aspect of sustainability affected	Negative impact Please give details	Neutral impact Please give details	Positive Impact Please give details
PEOPLE			
Ensure that more people have access to healthy food		X	
Improve housing quality and provision			Yes – Better information of flood risk and potential to avoid development in flood risk areas
Reduce ill health and improve healthcare provision			Yes – Better information of flood risk and potential to avoid development in flood risk areas
Promote independence		X	
Encourage community participation/action			Yes – involvement in developing and using Community

and voluntary work			Flood Plans
Targets socially excluded		X	
Help reduce crime and fear of crime		X	
Improve access to education and training		X	
Have a positive impact on people and places in other countries		X	
PLANET			
Reduce, reuse and recycle waste and water		X	
Reduce carbon dioxide emissions		X	None
Prevent or reduce pollution of the air, land and water			Yes –Reducing flooding of properties
Protect or enhance wildlife habitats (e.g. trees, hedgerows, open spaces)			Yes- better management of watercourses
Protect or enhance visual appearance of environment			Yes- better management of watercourses and reduction of watercourse culverting
PROFIT			

Protect local shops and services		X	
Link local production with local consumption		X	
Improve environmental awareness of local businesses			Yes – greater awareness of flood risk
Increase employment for local people		X	
Preserve and enhance local identity and culture		X	
Consider ethical purchasing issues, such as Fairtrade, sustainable timber (FSC logo) etc		X	
Increase and improve access to leisure, recreation or cultural facilities		X	

What are the potential negative Impacts	Ideas as to how we can look to MITIGATE the negative impacts (include any reasonable adjustments)
➤	➤
➤	➤

➤	➤
➤	➤

The Next Steps

- If you have assessed the proposal/s as having
- a **positive impact please give full details** below

Yes – Reducing the risk of flooding to properties in Monmouthshire, better awareness of flood risk and reduction of new properties open to flood risk

- If you have assessed the proposal/s as having
- a **Negative Impact** could you please provide us with details of what
 - you propose to do to mitigate the negative impact:

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Signed

D J Harris

Dated: 21 August 2015