

North Tyneside Council

Report to Cabinet

Date: 9 April 2018

ITEM
Title: North Tyneside
Surface Water and
Drainage Partnership
Annual Update

Portfolio(s): Housing and Transport

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr John Harrison

Report from Service Area:

Environment, Housing and Leisure

Responsible Officer:

Phil Scott, Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure (Tel: (0191) 643 7295)

Wards affected:

All

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

The establishment of the Surface Water and Drainage Partnership (the Partnership), was approved by Cabinet to progress work identified by the Flooding Task and Finish Group which itself, was set up following the flooding events of 2012.

This report is intended to update Cabinet on the ongoing progress of the Partnership's work.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet receives the report and notes the progress made.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Twenty eight days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on **XXX**

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report is relevant to the following priorities set out in Our North Tyneside, the Council Plan 2016 to 2019:

- Our People will be listened to, and involved by responsive, enabling services
- Provide a clean, green, healthy, attractive and safe environment

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

On 14 January 2013 Cabinet considered the final report of the Flooding Task and Finish Group. In doing so, Cabinet agreed to the Partnership being established. On 10 June 2013, Cabinet considered the progress made by the Partnership to date, and agreed that the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport would act as the Chair of the Partnership.

1.5.2 The purpose of this report is for the Partnership to provide Cabinet with an annual update on progress, following its latest quarterly meetings.

1.5.3 The Partnership has met quarterly over the last 12 months and during the course of those meetings it oversaw the following progress:

- Updates on the Killingworth and Longbenton Sustainable Surface Drainage Project, for which works are progressing well on the partnership project between North Tyneside Council, Northumbrian Water and The Environment Agency;
- Progress of the Flood Risk Implementation Plan which provides information on the planned improvements, the progress of schemes and the works completed over the time;
- The work being carried out around community preparedness including ongoing communications and regular engagement with the wider community, key stakeholders and community flood wardens;
- Flood Alleviation spend

1.5.4 In addition, the following work has been delivered since the last update report to Cabinet:

- Fairfield Green, Monkseaton – Completion of a major scheme in Murton Gap to reduce the risk of flooding to nearby homes. The £1 million scheme involved installing large dry storage basins and a new ditch system
- Shiremoor and Wellfield – Completion of a major scheme in fields between Shiremoor and Wellfield. The £500,000 scheme involved the creation of a large holding pond to hold back surface water upstream of homes in Wellfield
- Oak Grove, Wallsend – Installation of property level protection (watertight doors etc) to residential properties at risk from flooding
- Killingworth & Longbenton Sustainable Drainage Project – Completion of phase 1 (watercourse diversion through Longbenton High School) and phase 2 (upstream storage areas at Killingworth Moor). Phase 3, the re-routing of drainage from Killingworth Lake and construction of a large storage basin at the south bank will commence this summer. The total value of the project is around £6 million.
- Briar Vale, Monkseaton – further development of a major flood risk reduction scheme which is expected to be complete in summer 2018.

1.6 Decision options:

As this report requests Cabinet to receive the report and note the progress made there are no other decision options.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

The report is intended to provide an update on the progress made by the Partnership.

1.8 Contact officers:

Phil Scott, Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure, tel. (0191) 643 7295
Jackie Laughton, Head of Corporate Strategy, tel. (0191) 643 7070
Mark Newlands, Highways & Infrastructure Manager, tel (0191) 643 6129
Alison Campbell, Senior Business Partner, tel. (0191) 643 7038

1.9 Background information:

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) [The Flood Risk Regulations 2009](#)
- (2) [Flood and Water Management Act 2010](#)
- (3) Flood Risk Implementation Plan (Exempt information)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

- 2.1.1 A four year allocation of capital funding for surface water improvement schemes totalling £4.5 million was made available through the Authority's Investment Plan. An allocation of £500,000 was made available for the 2017/18 financial year. This was the final year of the programme. Future work will be funded through a combination of revenue budgets and Environment Agency grants.

2.2 Legal

- 2.2.1 The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 translate the EU Floods Directive into law for England and Wales. The Regulations bring the Environment Agency, county councils and unitary authorities together with partners such as water companies to manage flood risk from all sources and to reduce the impact of flooding on human health, economic activity, cultural heritage and the environment.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is designed to put in place the changes recommended by Sir Michael Pitt in his review of the summer floods of 2007.

The 2009 Regulations and the 2010 Act carry with them duties for local authorities, including:

- the duty to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy;
- the duty to produce and maintain a register of assets which have a significant effect on the flood risk in the area. Such assets need to be designated and works to those assets subsequently controlled through a consent procedure;
- a responsibility to investigate and publish reports on flood incidents in their area; and

- the duty to establish a Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes (SuDS) approval body.

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Regulations made under that Act, Cabinet are responsible for considering and determining this matter.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal Consultation

The work undertaken and to be undertaken by the Partnership involves the Authority's Emergency Response Leadership Group and the Partnership's Community Preparedness sub-group. Both the Cabinet Members for Housing and Environment and Community Engagement are regularly briefed.

2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

The following external consultation and engagement activity has been undertaken:

- Regular articles on flood risk reduction have featured in the Our North Tyneside residents' magazine
- Publication of a leaflet called 'Reducing the Risk of Flooding in North Tyneside' which is distributed to North Tyneside residents
- There is ongoing engagement with ward members and residents in relation to flood risk reduction schemes
- An engagement event about the Killingworth & Longbenton Sustainable Drainage Project took place in October 2017 to agree plans with residents ahead of the work starting. 42 people attended the event including local residents, members of the lake user groups and flood wardens
- The Authority has worked close with the Environment Agency's local community engagement officer which is a new post covering all of Tyne & Wear. The officer has started working on priorities for North Tyneside, which include:
 - Enhancing the Authority's work with schools to engage children and young people
 - Developing links to local businesses
 - Expanding the community flood warden scheme
 - Working with residents in priority communities for surface water flooding
- The Authority's resilience team recently supported the local Street Pastors to deliver training to some of their volunteers who are interested in becoming Response Pastors in the context of flooding emergency response.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report

2.6 Risk management

Without this work, there is an increased risk that the Authority and its partners will not have adequate arrangements in place to deal with any future flooding events.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder issues arising from this report

2.8 Environment and sustainability

The work of the Partnership has a positive impact on the environment of North Tyneside and the sustainability of communities. Flood risk reduction schemes are designed in line with SuDS principles. New drainage assets such as wetlands and storage ponds require little maintenance and will often enhance the local environment and improve wildlife habitats. Designs also involve the removal of surface water from the Northumbrian Water main combined sewer system resulting in less sewage having to be treated at treatment plants, which then increases the capacity of these plants to service new building developments.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive

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- Head(s) of Service

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- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)

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- Chief Finance Officer

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- Monitoring Officer

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- Head of Corporate Strategy

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