

## INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
HEAD OF TECHNICAL SERVICES	ENVIRONMENT HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	24 January 2023	13
<b>FLOODING AND SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The Committee at its meeting in November 2020 agreed that a member working group be established to review flood risk and surface water management across the Borough. The review was concluded in October 2021 with the publication of flooding review report which made recommendations to improve flooding and surface water management including an annual progress report to the committee.

### SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Head of Technical Services in consultation with lead officers and key stakeholders.

### WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

At the Environment Health and Housing Committee of 14 October 2021 It was RESOLVED  
To comply with the action to produce an annual report on progress for the committee.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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### Background

The Committee at its meeting in November 2020 agreed that a member working group be established to review flood risk and surface water management. The Committee then subsequently agreed the terms of reference, methodology and work plan for the review at its meeting in January 2021. An information report was brought to committee in June 2021 on progress to date. A final flooding review report was presented to the committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 outlining 30 recommendations.

Responsibility for surface water management and its impact rests with several bodies and organisations the review was carried out to better understand the interface between the different stakeholders and establish what the council can do to directly deliver outcomes or facilitate delivery through the responsible partner organisations.

The working group proposed additional staffing resource at Fylde to:

- Act as community leader addressing flooding and surface water management issues in Fylde
- Investigate, inspect, and survey local flooding problems
- Facilitate projects, submit funding bids, and manage schemes to alleviate flooding and improve surface water management
- Assist with enforcement of surface water matters to ensure correct implementation of planning conditions
- Advise local landowners on flooding and surface water management issues
- Liaise with other risk management authorities over local issues

### **Performance Overview**

During the year significant progress has been made on the recommendations in the Flooding Review Report (Appendix 1 to this report).

From the 1 April 2022 the funding provided by this Committee has enabled the Councils Principal Civil Engineer to focus on drainage issues with a Civil Engineering Apprentice post commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.

In partnership with Lancashire County Council's highways team and United Utilities (UU), work has been undertaken to unblock existing drains, install new gullies, remove misconnections of stormwater to the combined public sewer, and to improve the drainage system in historically problematic locations.

Flood 'hotspots' are being logged with evidence obtained during flood events, this is an ongoing activity that relies on close working with commercial and community partners. The condition of, and issues with, main watercourses such as Pool Stream, Liggard Brook and Main Drain have been inspected with actions for the relevant agencies identified. Several septic tanks that discharge into ordinary and main river water courses have been addressed in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA) and Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).

Engagement and discussion with Housing Developers, Planning Enforcement, residents, and statutory agencies has led to water surface and drainage improvement in several locations including, Wesham, Freckleton, Warton East, Shepherd Rd, the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone, Clifton and Newton. This is again an ongoing activity.

Networking and engagement with partners on flooding, stormwater and climate issues include the UU Drainage Water Management Plan (DWMP) for the Rivers Ribble & Wyre and, UU Water Resilience Management Plan (WRMP), EA Bathing Water Quality (Wave 1) Group, Biodiversity Net Gain & Nature Recovery for LPA's, Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Natural Flood Management (NFM), Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Call for Evidence, EA Sub-Cell 11b Action Plan, Lancashire Strategic Flood Risk Partnership, EA Catchment Consultation Planning, Changing Tides, Fylde Making Space for Water and more. These provide the opportunity to champion the issues and concerns at Fylde, to be 'round the table' with a dedicated resource. The council is represented on the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) Sustainable Drainage Strategy (SuDS) Task Group which developed the NW SuDS Pro Forma for developers.

Working with Northwest Coastal Group, funding has been secured to create wetland on Lytham Moss. The project will help protect 30 properties including an industrial estate by improving flooding and water management infrastructure resilience (sewer network). The project will ensure farmers and land managers responsible for ongoing maintenance are supported by realizing the commercial benefit of natural flood management.

The team lead on drainage schemes delivered by the council which have included the crematorium; phases 1 and 2, Blackpool Playing Fields and Park View Playing Fields. Further plans to alleviate flooding on other playing fields are being drafted and technical assistance has been given to the Staining Flood Action Group, Lytham Hall, Green Drive Golf Club and St Annes Old Links

Further potential in Fylde Council's own assets to mitigate flood risk using sustainable drainage systems, and by removing surface water discharge connections into the combined public sewers are emerging projects.

**Attached:**

**Appendix 1 – Flooding and Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023**