

Appendix 2

Responses to Public Consultation

Comments From Questionnaire	Response
Ecological measures which support tree planting to absorb run off. Increased restrictions on paving land which increases speed of run off, instead encouraging land covering which would reduce speed of run off.	<i>This is in accordance with the Council Aims & Policies of more green solutions to flood risk</i>
The measures appear to be reactionary rather than pre-emptive.	<i>There is a tendency to react to incidents of flooding, and there is a need for a more pro-active approach but this is dependent upon the resources being made available</i>
Ecosystems and Ecosystem services.	<i>A greener and more eco-friendly approach to flood risk is a key part of the Council's Aims & Policies</i>
Scheme S13, for Wakefield Rd in Garforth needs to be given greater priority as the problems with the current drainage system are posing a significant flooding risk to a significant number of residential properties in the area. We currently have an active flood warden system and a hotline to the environment agency but we are constantly living in fear of any heavy rainfall.	<i>There are many areas around the District that need flood alleviation schemes, the basis of prioritisation can and will be examined. These will be outlined within the Measures Appendix and updated on a regular basis</i>
You don't seem to actually be doing anything to directly reduce the impact of flooding on Leeds residents and businesses. It's all about collecting data and setting up groups; flooding isn't new: when are we actually going to take some action that will make a difference to someone?	<i>The Council has carried a number of flood alleviation projects in the last few years but is important that data is collected to ensure we prioritise the highest risk areas and carryout the correct schemes. There are several schemes the Council is promoting at present - incl Leeds FAS</i>
Working with developers to include features in new developments such as green roofs, porous outdoor surfaces and water butts to slow rainwater run-off in densely developed areas such as city centre	<i>This is a key part of the approach to flood risk and the Council is looking at such solutions on development as a matter of course.</i>
The "Wakefield Road" drainage problems in Garforth, addressed by Scheme S13 in the plan, are of particular concern to many local residents, and indeed the effect of the problems on one of the affected properties is clearly demonstrated in the top left hand picture on the front of Leed's draft flood risk brochure. As the document states that internal flooding is top of the priority list, then surely scheme S13 should be higher than "low priority".	<i>There are many areas around the District that need flood alleviation schemes, the basis of prioritisation can and will be examined.</i>
Stop new housing developments joining already inadequate/over-subscribed sewerage and drainage	<i>The Council looks at the drainage of all new developments very closely, with surface water flows limited so that improvements are achieved to the level of flood risk. In some cases it is only by allowing development that improvements can be achieved - many issues will never see any improvement otherwise.</i>
Not relating to Flood defence. But public transport infrastructure is poor, no tram or underground in such a big city. The congestion is not going to be solved by having trolley buses it needs new dedicated routes.	<i>These issues are not being considered as part of this Strategy but comments will be passed to the Transportation Strategy Team</i>

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<p>Reduction of combined sewers over time. Maintenance of sewerage infrastructure on a regular basis. Removal of obvious blockage hazards such as larger diameter pipes feeding into smaller ones. Looking into insurance possibilities. Raising awareness of the increased possibilities of flooding. Funding is always the big conundrum. A gradual progression towards an attainable end point must be the ultimate goal and a reasonable sum should be allocated from the rates annually along with bids for appropriate monies as they become available. Unexpected events should always receive priority and regular hotspots should be protected at the earliest opportunity followed by projects that benefit the greatest numbers of people. Communities should be encouraged to 'help themselves' rather than always sitting back and expecting the council to do 'everything'. New build monies should be used proportionately to provide for upgraded drainage, flood defences if deemed necessary and the installation of sustainable urban drainage systems.</p>	<p><i>All these comments are correct and it is important that the Council continues to address these issues - looking at whether further funding can be allocated to address the major problems communities face.</i></p>
<p>1) Combined sewage; 2) Keeping sewage systems up to date e.g. large pipes into small and vice versa; 3) Not overloading water and drainage and sewage systems with new builds etc. Must be capable of accepting added capacity.</p>	<p><i>The systems are being stretched at present and it is important that action is taken by the various agencies involved, especially with the predicted impact of Climate Change</i></p>
<p>That there should not be any new developments, be it residential, industrial, retail...etc, that border sites that are already prone to flooding.</p>	<p><i>The Council looks at the drainage of all new developments very closely, with surface water flows limited so that improvements are achieved to the level of flood risk. In some cases it is only by allowing development that improvements can be achieved - many issues will never see any improvement otherwise.</i></p>
<p>Encouraging people to be vigilant and take action to improve drainage and prevent blockages eg. Remove litter/leaves from gutters/gullies/drains in their locality; Ensuring council listens to local concerns about planning applications and local concerns for flood alleviation.</p>	<p><i>The only way communities can make a real impact with flood risk, is for all of the residents, businesses and the council to work together. It is only by such joint action that we will see the improvements everyone wishes to see.</i></p>
<p>The flood risk management is acceptable as far as it goes, but the strategy should include the necessity to prevent further development in areas already vulnerable to surface water flooding (3 developments in Garforth with a further application pending - this on top of a number having been completed in the past few years). Unless the Council and ultimately the S of S prevent developments the number of areas experiencing flooding will increase as rainfall increases and drainage is unable to cope.</p>	<p><i>The consideration of development is carried out against a rigid set of rules and policies. It is only possible to refuse development where it does not meet these rules and policies - however it is important that where development is allowed it is controlled to ensure flood risk is considered.</i></p>
<p>The measures are extremely vague and to use the same wording (i.e. cut and paste) does not help to promote any sense of understanding or reassurance that flood areas will be managed appropriately.</p>	<p><i>The document is intended to set down a strategy for all flood agencies to operate.</i></p>

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<p>Use the former open cast site St Aidens to take flood water to reduce flooding lower downstream at Allerton Bywater. As we were led to believe and promised.</p>	<p><i>The St Aidan's washland area will make a huge difference to the flood risk of the surrounding communities for years to come. However it is unfortunate that it cannot stop all flooding.</i></p>
<p>2.7 Local Development Framework: Policy EN5 managing flood risk. All eight proposals have obviously not been taken into account when Leeds Council granted permission for the building of residential buildings on Green Belt land on Wakefield Road, Garforth: an area Leeds Council have spent a lot of money on already and consider this a low risk area, however, should it not now be raised to high risk due to the large number of homes being built here, and no gypsy sites either please.</p>	<p><i>The development taking place in Garforth has been considered in line with the Planning Policies. The impact on surrounding areas is in all cases considered.</i></p>
<p>Personally I would like to see Wakefield Road Garforth upgraded to high as against low. This area is greatly underestimated at the number of households affected and also this affects the approach roads into Garforth via the Garforth Bridge area from Wakefield Leeds and the feeder roads to motorways this needs urgently in my opinion considering the schemes already being addressed for development in this area.</p>	<p><i>The specific issues about the priority of individual schemes will be assessed on an on-going basis</i></p>