

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)

Date: 23 April 2013

Subject: Scrutiny Inquiry – Flood risk management

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. At its meeting in October 2012, the Scrutiny Board received a briefing on the statutory role of the local authority in relation to flood risk management, including the scrutiny role, as defined within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. As a result of this briefing the Board decided that it would be appropriate to carry out an inquiry focusing on the work of the council and its partners to address flood risk in Leeds.
2. The attached terms of reference for the inquiry were agreed by the Board in November 2012 (Appendix 1).
3. The inquiry will take place at this meeting. The following reports from the Director of City Development and the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods are attached providing evidence for the inquiry in line with the terms of reference:
 - Background report – Appendix 2
 - Outline of flood risk policies and procedures (Planning) – Appendix 3
 - Gully Cleaning and Maintenance – Appendix 4
4. Executive Members and officers from the relevant council services will be at the meeting to respond to members' questions and comments. A representative from the Garforth Flood Support Group has also been invited to attend the Board as an example of partnership working at a local level.
5. In line with the evidence required for the second session of the inquiry, representatives from Yorkshire Water and the Environment Agency will attend to discuss the role and contribution of these partners in managing flood risk in Leeds.

Recommendation

6. The board is requested to consider the issues raised by the inquiry.

Background documents¹

None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.