

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE BOARD: AGENDA ITEM 8 - LOCAL PLAN UPDATE 1 (PUBLICATION DRAFT) – PAGE 135 OF PUBLISHED AGENDA PACK WITHIN APPENDIX 1 TO ITEM 8

The Government amended the Planning Practice Guidance on 25th August 2022 by clarifying that in circumstances where a failure of flood risk management infrastructure would result in flooding with a speed-of-onset that would not allow sufficient time for safe access and escape, an internally accessible place of safety, capable of accommodating the likely number of occupants or users of the proposed development should be provided. To be in line with this aspect of national guidance changes to Draft Local Plan Update Policy WATER 6A are proposed in advance of any public consultation.

These changes have been considered to not warrant amendments to wider Publication Draft documentation, including the Sustainability Appraisal.

The revised Policy 6A below is proposed to replace existing Policy 6A at page 135 of the published agenda pack, as featured within Appendix 1 to Agenda Item 8 (Local Plan Update 1 (Publication Draft)). No further changes are proposed to the supplementary text of the Policy.

WATER 6A: SAFE ACCESS AND ESCAPE

1. Developments located in areas at risk of flooding, which have satisfied flood risk sequential and exception tests where relevant, must ensure residual risks are appropriately managed for the lifetime of the development and that safe access and escape is provided by the submission of an appropriate emergency plan. The emergency plan must demonstrate:
 - i. Safe access and escape routes are included
 - ii. Voluntary and free movement for people will be available during a design flood taking into account climate change
 - iii. There is potential for evacuation before a more extreme flood (0.1% AEP) taking into account climate change
 - iv. Appropriate evacuation procedures and flood response infrastructure will be in place
2. If safe access and escape routes for people are not possible, development is unlikely to be supported other than in exceptional circumstances, depending on the vulnerability of the land use.
3. In all cases, where achievable, development should aim to provide a 'dry' access and escape route located above the design flood level including an allowance for climate change.
4. The Flood Evacuation Plan shall be based on the latest available Environment Agency guidance.