

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetscene & Engineering Cabinet Board

25 May 2018

Report of the Head of Streetcare

M. Roberts

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All Wards

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide an update of the progress made in delivering the flood risk reduction measures specified in the Authority's Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP), available at <https://www.npt.gov.uk/6789>.
- 2 To provide a summary of the actions associated with the FRMP that are programmed to be undertaken during the 2018/19 financial year.

Executive Summary

- 3 This report provides an update on the flood risk reduction measures that have been undertaken to date in line with the Authority's FRMP along with those that are programmed to be undertaken throughout the 2018/19 financial year.

Background

- 4 The FRMP was prepared by NPTCBC and published in December 2015, in consultation with its flood risk partners in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to provide a coordinated response to flood risk within our communities.
- 5 The plan was the final process in a series of actions laid out under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 which required the preparation of:

- A Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
 - Flood Hazard and Flood Risk Maps
 - A Flood Risk Management Plan
- 6 The plan sets out how NPTCBC will, in conjunction with stakeholders as appropriate, manage flood risk over the next 6 years to ensure that economic, social and environmental benefits are maximised against the context of available resources.
- 7 The plan highlights the areas most at risk of flooding from surface water and ordinary watercourses within the County Borough, draws conclusions from these risks, and sets out the proposed flood risk mitigation measures.
- 8 The flood risk mitigation measures are categorised as follows:
- County wide actions - The Authority recognises that the risk of flooding is greater in some areas than others, however the FRMP illustrates that the risk of flooding exists within all communities in Neath Port Talbot. Therefore it is essential that actions are undertaken to manage this risk on a county wide scale.
 - Local community level actions - Local level actions are identified within the FRMP for each electoral ward. These actions are undertaken on a priority basis, with the areas identified as being at highest risk, ranking as the highest priority.
 - Statutory duties – In addition to measures selected by the Authority to manage flood risk, there are specific duties under The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) that are undertaken in line with the FRMP to reduce flood risk.
 - Flood risk reduction schemes – Drainage construction schemes are undertaken when informed by investigation work.

Progress made in the implementation of measures to date

County wide actions

- 9 The FRMP identifies 7 specific measures that can be implemented across the Borough. Below is a list of those measures with a brief update on the work that has been undertaken to implement them to date.

- a. Flood warning service – Officers have worked closely with the Authority’s contracted weather forecasters to set up catchments for which rainfall levels can be forecasted. Investigations are now ongoing as to the best way to provide warnings to the public through this system.
- b. Survey work – This is a measure that is undertaken continuously by officers when new or unmapped drainage infrastructure is identified.
- c. Derive hydrology for catchments – Officers have undertaken this measure within a number of communities to date as it fits in with the local level survey work and flood risk assessments that are being undertaken in the communities at highest risk of flooding (see below).
- d. Carry out investigations of accumulations of surface water – A desktop exercise has been undertaken by officers to review areas indicated to be at risk of flooding by the updated flood map for surface water. Where the level of flood risk was unexpected further field investigations have been undertaken to examine the level of risk and gain a better understanding of the flooding mechanisms.
- e. Flood asset inspections – Asset condition inspections have been undertaken and will continue to be undertaken on the Authority’s critical and high priority flood defence structures.
- f. Flood asset maintenance – The Highway and Drainage Section continue to undertake both proactive and reactive maintenance of drainage assets within the Borough.
- g. Liaison with owners of significant flood assets – Upon becoming aware of a significant flood asset that is not owned by the Authority, officers have liaised closely with owners to ensure that they are aware of their responsibility and where appropriate, a maintenance schedule is in place.

Local community level actions

- 10 Table 1 below identifies the progress that has been made in delivering the local level actions and subsequent production of flood risk assessments in the wards that have over 200 people at

risk of being flooded (according to the flood risk and hazard maps upon which the FRMP is based).

Table 1 - Local Level Actions and Flood Risk Assessment Progress

Wards	Survey Work Progress	Flood Risk Assessment Progress
ABERAVON	Completed	Completed
NEATH EAST	Completed	Completed
GLYNNEATH	Near Completion	In Progress
NEATH NORTH	Not Started	Not Started
TAIBACH	Not Started	Not Started
BAGLAN	Partially Complete	Not Started
BLAENGWRACH	Near Completion	Not Started
BRITON FERRY W	Near Completion	Not Started
BRITON FERRY E	Completed	In Progress
YSTALYFERA	Partially Complete	Not Started
BRYN & CWMAVON	Not Started	Not Started
BRYNCOCH SOUTH	Not Started	Not Started
GLYNCORRWG	Near Completion	Not Started

Statutory duties

- 11 Section 21 of the FWMA places a duty on the Authority to maintain a register of structures and features that have a significant impact on flood risk. Officers have dedicated time to surveying these structures and created a comprehensive database. This database has been made available to all officers of the Council.
- 12 Section 19 of the FWMA requires the Authority to undertake investigations into significant flooding. A significant amount of officer time has been dedicated to investigating the flood event of 3rd September 2016 which affected numerous communities throughout the Borough. Three Section 19 flood investigation

reports have since been published on the Authority's website, available at <https://www.npt.gov.uk/8057>.

Flood risk reduction schemes

- 13 There are a number of different types of flood risk reduction schemes that the Highways and Drainage Section have delivered since the adoption of the FRMP:
- a. Flood and coastal erosion risk management grant funded schemes – The Authority prepared 9 project appraisal reports for various high risk locations that were identified by the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment in 2011. Since 2015, these have been updated to account for updated and improved flood risk mapping. Through this process, 4 of the 9 have proved to have low benefit cost ratios and are therefore no longer financially viable schemes. The remaining 5 schemes are being taken forward for either further investigation or schematic design.
 - b. To date, the Authority has been successful in obtaining grant monies to part fund and complete 4 small scale schemes, those being Jersey Park Neath Abbey (Phase 1 and 2), Old Road Neath Abbey and Woodland Park Glynneath.
 - c. A number of capital drainage schemes have been completed each year since 2015. These have been informed by the FRMP and undertaking in areas at high risk of flooding.

2018/19 Implementation Plan

- 14 Since the completion of the FRMP document in 2015, each year the Highways and Drainage Section have produced an annual Flood Risk Management Delivery Plan. The plan sets out the measures that are programmed to be implemented in the particular financial year. Outlined below is a summary of the measures that are programmed to be implemented during the 2018/19 financial year.

County wide actions

A continuation of work in relation to:

- Flood Warning Service
- Survey Work
- Flood Asset Inspections

- Flood Asset Maintenance
- Liaison with Owners of Significant Flood Assets

Local community level actions

- 15 The focus for this financial year is to ensure that the local actions and survey work are completed in as many of the communities listed in Table 1 as possible, and the subsequent flood risk assessments are undertaken and reports produced. The survey work that is required to complete the local level actions and produce flood risk assessments is time consuming and can be problematic, especially in urban areas where traffic management can be an issue. Therefore, as we have found in previous years, it can be difficult to estimate the time that it will take to complete them. If resources and work priorities do not allow for the work set out in the programme to be completed, the highest priority actions will be undertaken first in line with the FRMP, that is:
- Glynneath – Complete Survey and Flood Risk Assessment
 - Baglan – Complete Survey
 - Blaengwrach – Complete Survey and Flood Risk Assessment
 - Briton Ferry West - Complete Survey and Flood Risk Assessment
 - Briton Ferry East – Complete Flood Risk Assessment

Statutory duties

- 16 The two duties under the Act that may require implementation this financial year are:
- Schedule 1 Designation of Features - Upon identification of a third party structure/feature which is deemed as having significant flood defence value, the process outlined under Schedule 1 of the Act will be undertaken. The features that require designation will become more apparent as a result of the local community level actions.
 - Section 19 Investigation of Significant Flood Events - This process involves carrying out and publishing flood event investigations as detailed in Section 19 of the FWMA 2010.

Flood risk reduction schemes

- 17 There are a number of different types of flood risk reduction schemes that are programmed to be undertaken this financial year. They are:
- a. 2 No. flood and coastal erosion risk management grant funded schemes have had funding awarded and are to be taken to the end of the design stage –
 - Rock Street, Glynneath.
 - Grandison Brook, Briton Ferry.
 - b. 2 No. small scale grant funded schemes will be delivered should the grant applications be successful –
 - Varteg Road, Ystlayfera property level protection scheme.
 - Graig Road, Cilmaengwyn culvert improvement scheme.
 - c. 9 No. drainage capital programme schemes are programmed for delivery –
 - B4282 Bryn to Cwmavon - upgrading works to drainage systems.
 - A4107 at Cynonville - upgrading works to drainage systems.
 - A4109 Glynneath Bank - upgrading works to drainage systems.
 - 316 Heol y Gors, Cwmgors - culvert & headwall upgrade.
 - Gellionen Road, Pontardawe - culvert, headwall & carriageway upgrade.
 - A474 Rhydyfro to Cwmgors - upgrading works to drainage systems.
 - 37 Commercial Road, Rhydyfro - culvert re-lining works.
 - A474 at Ty'n y Cwm Lane, Rhos - culvert & headwalls upgrade.
 - Ystalyfera Bypass - upgrading works to drainage systems.
 - d Various minor drainage improvement schemes will be undertaken. The number that are able to be completed will also be dependent on resource availability.

Financial Impact

- 18 There are no financial impacts associated with the recommendations of this report

Equality Impact Assessment

19 There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Workforce Impact

20 There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impact

21 There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management

22 There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Officer Contact

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