



FLOODING SCRUTINY PANEL

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To: Councillors Bottomley, Goode, Harper-Davies (Chair), Haynes, Matthews and Maynard (For attention)

All other members of the Council
(For information)

You are requested to attend the meeting of the Flooding Scrutiny Panel to be held in Committee Room 1, at the Council Offices, Southfields, Loughborough on Tuesday, 12th March 2024 at 6.00 pm for the following business.

Chief Executive

Southfields
Loughborough

4th March 2024

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES
2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTRABLE AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

For information, disclosable pecuniary interests and registrable interests relate to entries that are included or should be included, on a councillor's Register of Interests. Non-registrable interests relate to any other matters.

3. DECLARATIONS OF THE PARTY WHIP

4. QUESTIONS UNDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROCEDURE 11.16

5. SCRUTINY SCOPING DOCUMENT

3 - 5

To note the Scrutiny Scoping Document for the Panel, agreed by the Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 5th February 2024.

6. THE ROLES OF DIFFERENT AGENCIES

A briefing by the Head of Contracts: Leisure, Waste and Environment to provide information on the roles of different agencies for flooding incidents and prevention, (to include the role of the Borough Council).

7. WORK PROGRAMME AND KEY TASK PLANNING

6

To schedule the key tasks in the scrutiny scoping document to be considered at the next meeting of the Panel and to consider any work to be allocated to members of the Panel in advance of the next meeting. Further scheduled meetings of the Panel are:

16 April 2024
21 May 2024
09 July 2024
20 August 2024
01 October 2024



REVIEW TITLE: Scrutinising flooding

SCOPE OF ITEM / TERMS OF REFERENCE

This review will focus on:

Understanding which agencies are involved and their roles

The difference between prevention and response/recovery

Consider the draft LLFA Flood Risk Management Strategy

Co-ordination and interaction with agencies

- Police
- Leicestershire County Council as lead Flood Authority
- Leicestershire County Council as highways authority
- Canals and Rivers Trust
- Water and Sewerage Companies
- Environment Agency
- Town and Parish Councils
- Severn Trent

Flood Preparedness

- Alerts and Warnings

Communication

- Did we communicate sufficiently with affected residents and businesses?
- Are the methods of communication right?
- Were the communications with elected members effective?

Flood risk management

- EA maintenance of existing defences
- EA/Gov investment in new/improved defences
- Flood risk management and sustainable development

Property Flood Resilience Measures

- Review the information available to private homeowners on how to protect their homes from flooding
- How can we make our own Council properties flood resilient?

Lessons learned

- What lessons have been learned from recent incidents of flooding?
- A 'light touch' review of the Charnwood Borough Council Scrutiny Panel findings from 2014

REASON FOR SCRUTINY

It is likely that extreme weather events will become more frequent in future and therefore the borough may suffer more regular, significant flooding events which will have a harmful impact on our communities.

Preventing and responding to flooding is the responsibility of many different agencies. The Council, along with other partners and agencies, can learn from the flooding affect in Leicestershire in January 2024 and help plan for the future to help better protect local people and businesses.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP

Councillor Harper-Davies (Chair)
Councillors Bottomley, Goode, Haynes, Matthews, Maynard

WHAT WILL BE INCLUDED

The Panel will consider the roles of Leicestershire County Council as the lead local flood authority, the Environment agency and other agencies as listed above. The Panel will focus on the partnership working between all agencies involved in the Local Resilience Forum and will focus predominately on flood protection.

WHAT WILL BE EXCLUDED

Investigating why the floods occurred. The Panel may suggest that the LLFA should investigate in line with their remit and powers.

KEY TASKS ** including consideration of efficiency savings

- To receive a multi-agency briefing setting out the approach to responding to flooding events
- To obtain targeted evidence from those affected by flooding

STAKEHOLDERS, OUTSIDE AGENCIES, OTHER ORGANISATIONS *

- Charnwood Borough Council officers with responsibility for preparing for and responding to flooding events.

Key agencies:

- Police
- Leicestershire County Council as lead Flood Authority
- Leicestershire County Council as highways authority
- Canals and Rivers Trust
- Water and Sewerage Companies
- Environment Agency
- Town and Parish Councils
- Severn Trent
- Representatives from affected communities including Town and Parish Councils

Equality / Diversity issues relating to this review will be considered as part of any work undertaken.

An impact needs assessment will be considered at the Panels penultimate meeting.

LINKS/OVERLAPS TO OTHER REVIEWS

None

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

The Panel will require the co-operation of the external agencies described above.

Support from Democratic Services can be accommodated.

Anticipate 7/8 meetings.

REPORT REQUIREMENTS (Officer information)

None (at this stage)

REVIEW COMMENCEMENT DATE

February 2024

COMPLETION DATE FOR DRAFT REPORT

October 2024

* Key tasks and stakeholders may be subject to change as the review progresses.

PROGRESS OF PANEL WORK

MEETING DATE	PROGRESS TO DATE
<p>NOTE: To facilitate witness attendance, it is anticipated that times of the meetings will be a mix of daytime and early evening.</p> <p>Meetings can be held online/hybrid.</p> <p>The final recommendation formulisation meeting must be held in person</p>	
12 March 2024	
REPORT SUBMITTED TO SCRUTINY COMMISSION	
Feb 2024	

Flooding Scrutiny Panel Work Programme

Meeting Date	Item	Scope	Invitees/Officers	Notes
Meeting 1 12th March 2024	Work Programme & Key Task Planning	To provisionally decide on agenda contents for upcoming meetings		standing item
Meeting 1 12th March 2024	Roles of different Agencies	To provide an understanding of the role of each agency involved in flooding incidents and prevention, including the Borough Council	M. Bradford	
Meeting 2 16th April 2024				
Meeting 3 21st May 2024				
Meeting 4 9th July 2024				
Meeting 5 20th August 2024				
Meeting 6 1st October 2024				