

# North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Cllr John Harrison Date: 8 December 2014

Title: North Tyneside  
Surface Water and  
Drainage Partnership  
Quarterly Update

Portfolio(s): Housing and  
Environment

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr John Harrison

Report from Service Area:

Surface Water and Drainage Partnership

Responsible Officer:

Phil Scott

(Tel: (0191) 643  
7295)

Wards affected:

All

## PART 1

### 1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of the report is to update Cabinet on the progress of the North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership (the Partnership).

### 1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet

- (1) agree the latest progress made and to make appropriate comment on North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership Quarterly Update.

### 1.3 Forward Plan:

28 days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 15 April 2014.

### 1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

This report relates to the following priorities in the 2014/18 Our Council Plan

- (1) Our Places theme

### 1.5 Information:

#### 1.5.1 Background

On 14 January 2013 Cabinet considered the final report which of the Flooding Task and Finish Group which had been established after the flooding events in 2012.

In doing so, Cabinet agreed to establish the Partnership.

On 10 June 2013, Cabinet considered the progress made to date by the Partnership and agreed that the Cabinet Member for Housing and Environment would act as the chair of the Partnership.

1.5.2 This report is the progress update from the Partnership, following its meeting on 15 October 2014.

## **1.6 North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership – Progress Update**

1.6.1 At its meeting on 15 October the Partnership made the following progress:

- noted the formal adoption of North Tyneside Flood Risk Management Strategy
- noted the progress of the Flood Risk Implementation Plan which highlighted the major and minor projects that have been completed, or are work in progress
- received a report giving an update of the Flooding Community Preparedness sub – group including on the first cohort of flood wardens, now active in their roles
- received a presentation on the Killingworth and Longbenton Sustainable Sewerage Project; a joint project between Northumbrian Water, North Tyneside Council and the Environment Agency

1.6.2 A copy of the draft minutes from this meeting is attached at Appendix 1.

## **1.7 Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

### Option 1

agree the latest progress made and to make appropriate comment on the North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

## **1.8 Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

so that the work of the Partnership can progress.

## **1.9 Appendices:**

Appendix 1: North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership Draft minutes of meeting held on 15 October 2014

## **1.10 Contact officers:**

Phil Scott, Head of Environmental Services, tel. (0191) 643 7295  
Jackie Laughton, Head of Corporate Strategy, tel. (0191) 643 7070

Alison Campbell, Finance Business Manager, tel. (0191) 643 7038

### **1.11 Background information:**

The following background papers/information have been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the office of the author:

- (1) [The Flood Risk Regulations 2009](#)
- (2) [Flood and Water Management Act 2010](#)

## **PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING**

### **2.1 Finance and other resources**

2.1.1 The 2013-14 Financial Planning & Budget setting process saw the approval of a three year capital scheme for Surface Water Management Improvements (Flooding). This scheme was extended as part of the 2014-18 Budget setting process, with £1.0m available in 2014/15. There is currently £0.2m of residual monies allocated to flooding held within the New Homes Bonus balances available to fund future expenditure.

### **2.2 Legal**

2.2.1 The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 translate the EU Floods Directive into law for England and Wales. The Regulations bring the Environment Agency, County Councils and Unitary Authorities together with partners such as water companies to manage flood risk from all sources and to reduce the consequences of flooding on human health, economic activity, cultural heritage and the environment.

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is designed to put in place the changes recommended by Sir Michael Pitt in his review of the summer floods of 2007.

The 2009 Regulations and the 2010 Act carry with them some new duties for local authorities, including:

- The duty to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- The duty to produce and maintain a register of assets which have a significant effect on the flood risk in the area. Such assets need to be designated and works to those assets subsequently controlled through a consent procedure
- A responsibility to investigate and publish reports on flood incidents in their area and
- The duty to establish a Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes approval body.

### **2.3 Consultation/community engagement**

#### **2.3.1 Internal Consultation**

The work undertaken and to be undertaken by the Partnership involves the Authority's Emergency Response Leadership Group and the Partnership's Community

Preparedness sub-group. Both the Cabinet Members for Housing and Environment and Community Engagement are regularly briefed.

### 2.3.2 External Consultation/Engagement

The Council and its partners are committed to ensuring the public are informed about, and involved in, the development of flood mitigations schemes. Capita, the Council's technical partner leads on this activity and produces individual materials and engagement opportunities on each scheme. This supplements the ongoing awareness raising which includes quarterly update reports from Capita. The engagement/ consultation activities involve both residents and members, who also receive regular updates on engineering activities directly from Capita/

Residents are also able to raise any concerns, or ask questions on the borough's flooding preparations or engineering schemes , at any of its engagement opportunities, which at a strategic level includes Mayor's Listening Events and Community Conversations.

Recent consultation with residents, particularly with those in flood risk areas, has resulted in the recruitment of a team of community flood wardens who will act as key community links, able to ensure residents are better informed. . A handbook has been produced in consultation with potential flood wardens

The first two cohorts of volunteer flood wardens have been recruited and trained. Communication of weather warnings is regular, and feedback is being received.

## 2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

## 2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report

## 2.6 Risk management

Without this work, there is an increased risk that the Council and its partners will not have adequate arrangements to deal with any future flooding events.

## 2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder issues arising from this report

## 2.8 Environment and sustainability

The work of the North Tyneside Surface Water and Drainage Partnership has a positive impact on the environment of North Tyneside, and the sustainability of communities.

## PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Deputy Chief Executive



- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s)
- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Head of Corporate Strategy