

POLICY REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL REPORT

REPORT TO:	Environment & Community Panel Report		
DATE:	5 th September 2017		
TITLE:	Surface Water Management		
TYPE OF REPORT:	Update		
PORTFOLIO(S):	Environment		
REPORT AUTHOR:	D Robson		
OPEN/EXEMPT	Open	WILL BE SUBJECT TO A FUTURE CABINET REPORT:	NO

REPORT SUMMARY/COVER PAGE

PURPOSE OF REPORT/SUMMARY:
Members have asked for a brief update regarding the roles and responsibilities relating to surface water flooding
RECOMMENDATIONS:
Members are asked to note roles and responsibilities

REPORT DETAIL

1. Introduction

Members have asked for an update regarding the roles and responsibilities relating to surface water flooding.

2. Surface Water Management

There are three common sources of surface water flooding:

- Runoff of rainwater from impermeable surfaces such as roads, roofs and patios
- Groundwater flooding from prolonged and heavy rainfall raising ground water table
- Flooding from small streams, drainage ditches, or surcharging drains or sewers following heavy and prolonged rainfall (but excludes main rivers that are managed by the Environment Agency)

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/types-of-flooding>

3. Roles and Responsibilities

Norfolk County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority(LLFA) is responsible for:

- Developing, maintaining, applying and monitoring of a strategy for local flood risk management <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/flood-and-water-management-policies/local-flood-risk-management-strategy>
- Looking at the causes of surface water flooding and its consequences, in order to learn lessons and help predict potential future flooding and minimise

its effects by developing a Surface Water Management Plan which utilise historical flood records and detailed models of potential future floods
<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/flood-and-water-management-policies/surface-water-management-plans/kings-lynn-and-west-norfolk-settlements-swmp>

- Joint working and co-ordination of all relevant organisations through the “Norfolk Water Management Partnership”
- Investigating flooding incidents and publishing the results, especially about which authorities have relevant flood risk management responsibilities and what they have done or intend to do <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/flood-investigations>
- Maintaining a register of structures or features which have a significant effect on flood risk in our area
- Designating specific features as flood risk management assets, which give a degree of protection from damage or removal. The power to undertake works to manage flood risk from surface runoff and groundwater
- The power to undertake works to manage flood risk from surface runoff, ordinary watercourses and groundwater
- acting as a statutory consultee on planning applications for major developments with surface water drainage
<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/information-for-developers>

Environment Agency

The Environment Agency is responsible for coastal management in Norfolk, managing the risk of flooding from main rivers and regulating reservoirs. The Agency has a duty to contribute to sustainable development when delivering its statutory functions.

Anglian Water

Water and Sewerage Companies manage the supply and quality of drinking water, as well as the disposal and treatment of sewage and, in urban areas, the disposal of surface water runoff from properties.

New roles and responsibilities under recent legislation include

- acting consistently with the national strategy and having regard to local strategies when carrying out flood risk management functions
- complying with Lead Local Flood Authorities’ requests and recommendations in respect of their flood risk management functions
- adopting of private sewers

Internal Drainage Boards

Internal drainage boards are responsible for ordinary watercourses within their boundaries. They manage an extensive network of drainage channels, pumps and sluices which combine to maintain low-lying, high-quality agricultural land, as well as managing water levels across large areas of the district.

New roles and responsibilities include:

- Designating structures and features that affect flooding or coastal erosion

- Working consistently with local and national flood risk management strategies
- Complying with the Lead Local Flood Authority's requests and recommendations in respect of their flood risk management functions
- Establishing consortia with other IDBs
- Acting as a secondary consultee on planning applications for major developments with surface water drainage

BCKLWN

- Considers surface water flooding as part of the planning application process
- Permissive power to designate structures and features that affect flooding or coastal erosion
- Assist the LLFA in flood investigations
- As land owner the BCKLWN has riparian owner responsibilities to maintain ditches, dykes and culverts. This role is split between Property Services and Public Open Space
- The Community Safety and Neighbourhood Nuisance Team deal with public health drainage service requests which can sometimes include an element of surface water flooding or vice versa. If there is a public health issue, the CSNNT have powers deal with the issue, however if the matter is surface water flooding related, the matter is past to LLFA
- Permissive powers for drainage of small areas

4. Corporate Priorities

None

5. Financial Implications

None identified

6. Any other Implications/Risks

None identified

7. Equal Opportunity Considerations

None identified

8. Consultation

Peter Jermamy – Water Management Officer

Mark Whitmore – Community Safety & Neighbourhood Nuisance Team

9. Conclusion

Members note the content of the above report

10. Background Papers

Surface Water Management File

King's Lynn & West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan