

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
25th OCTOBER 2007

Refresh of Flood Defence Policy

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME	Improved Health and Wellbeing
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enabling Community Wellbeing
KEY PRIORITY:	Housing
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Mrs. A.T. Hingley
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health and Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Richard Osborne – Ext. 2564 Richard.Osborne@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
APPENDICES	Appendix 1 Flood Defence Policy 2007

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present a current, revised Flood Defence Policy and advise on the process to carry out a full review of this policy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The CABINET is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 The Flood Defence Policy 2007 be adopted pending a review of flooding issues in the District during the next year.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Flooding has become a matter of significant local, regional and national concern following the two flood events in June and July 2007. Concerns include the potential for increased frequency of extreme weather events due to Climate Change.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Officers have been involved already and will continue to be involved in jointly reviewing with other Agencies the recent flooding and implications thereof. Officers are meeting with representatives of other Worcestershire Authorities (District and County), the Environment Agency, local organisations such as the Bewdley Residents Flood Defence Committee, Severn Trent Water and others to discuss many issues that arise from the flooding events. Following this working with partner organisations and the

carrying out of investigations on a local level, the policy will undergo a full review and consultation process.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Possible financial implications will be examined as part of the revision of the policy and set before members in due course. Finances are available from existing budgets and funding from Government in response to the recent flooding that will assist in investigatory works to inform the revision of the policy.
- 5.2 Through the use of this policy it is hoped to minimise or mitigate the potential damage from future flooding incidents.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The work regarding flooding and land drainage in the area is in response to statutory duties and powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 This policy informs the Emergency Planning function of the Council.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Flooding is an important issue and the Council needs to ensure an up to date policy is in place to inform and ensure an appropriate response to the issue.

9. CONSULTEES

- 9.1 Andrew Dickens, CLACS

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None