

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET
18th DECEMBER 2008

Recommendations from the Community Services Scrutiny Committee 3rd December 2008

Implications of the Pitt Review on Flooding and Recommendations from the joint County and District Review of the Summer 2007 Floods

The Committee considered the recommendations from the joint County and District Review of the summer 2007 floods and a briefing paper from the Watercourse Officer advising of the proposed comments of the Head of Planning, Health and Environment and Head of Property and Operational Services in response to the recommendations contained in the Pitt Report.

At the meeting 17 members of the public, two Parish Council representatives and one Town Council representative attended to put forward views relating to these items.

Many of the questions put forward to the Committee concerned emergency planning and the role of volunteers in an emergency situation. The Committee noted that no formal training was provided to volunteers, in matters such as clearing watercourses. Whilst it was acknowledged that the Council did not have the expertise to provide training in this area Members felt that the Environment Agency should be approached to ascertain if they were able to provide training to volunteers.

The Committee noted that the funding arrangements for flooding had not been included in the Queens speech.

Recommended to Cabinet:

- 1. That the report on the Implications of the Pitt Review on Flooding take account of recommendations from the Joint Scrutiny Exercise. Consideration be given to recommendations from the exercise and the officers proposed responses to the Pitt Review in so far as they relate to the District Council.**
- 2. A letter be written to the Environment Agency supporting voluntary groups requests for training and the provision of insurance.**
- 3. A letter be written to the local MP expressing concern that the Queens speech did not include details on funding provision for flooding.**