REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL & AGENDA ITEM: 6

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

DATE OF 17th APRIL, 2008 **CATEGORY: MEETING: DELEGATED**

CLLR. NEIL ATKIN REPORT FROM: OPEN

CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY

MEMBERS MARK ALFLAT DOC:

CONTACT POINT: s:\cent_serv\committee DIRECTOR OF reports\environmental &

COMMUNITY SERVICES development\17 april 2008\overview & scrutiny report - flooding.doc

(Ext. 5712)

REF: MA/PMW SUBJECT: **REPORT FROM OVERVIEW &**

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE -

FLOODING

WARD(S) ALL TERMS OF EDS01

AFFECTED: REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Members approve the following recommendations in the reports attached at Annexe A:-
 - Residents at risk to be invited to events where emergency planning agencies can promote their services / products and encourage them to plan and prepare for flooding.
 - To implement the SDDC Emergency Plan and establish an Emergency Planning Co-ordination Team (to be chaired by either the Chief Executive or a member of the CMT) should a situation like this happen again.
 - To ensure that SDDC emergency systems work, regular exercises / evacuations should be run to identify key personnel, their responsibilities and their state of readiness.
 - Urge the DEFRA & EA to pursue continuity of funding for the prevention of flooding in the SDDC catchment and to support the work of independent advice for those at risk / victims of flooding.
 - That all agencies (EA, SDDC, DCC, STW & BW) consider how communications can be improved, share information on resources held & work activities being done.

- Improve the forecasting of flooding on lesser waterways once the proposed modeling is completed.
- Review initiatives such as information leaflets / flood fairs to raise the awareness
 of residents at risk to the possible dangers of flooding.
- The Planning Department to continue to demand sustainable drainage.
- Environmental Services to review the use of floodboards and other means of defence.
- The Director of Community Services is to bring the matter of Emergency Planning to the attention of County Council during times of potential flooding.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 The Scrutiny Committee was asked by the Environmental & Development Services Committee to look at flooding issues in the South Derbyshire area and to provide recommendations to improve how these issues are dealt with in the future.

3.0 Detail

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee has interviewed members of staff, together with representatives of Severn Trent Water and the Environment Agency, as part of this review. The resultant reports are attached for the Committee's consideration.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None.

5.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 Recommendations affecting South Derbyshire staff and working practices will be led by the Director of Community Services.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 Flooding issues have impacted on South Derbyshire's residents in the past and will almost certainly do so again in the future. Any improvements that the Council can facilitate will be of benefit to our residents.