
REPORT TO:	OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 8
DATE OF MEETING:	1 AUGUST 2007	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	John Porter (01283) 595780	DOC:
SUBJECT:	Background information - Flooding issues within the district of South Derbyshire	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with some background information regarding flooding issues in South Derbyshire.

2.0 Detail

- 2.1 At the previous meeting of this Committee on the 27th June 2007, (Minute Ref: OYS/3), it was agreed to invite the Director of Community Services to this meeting in order to discuss this issue. However, this has not been possible, because he is away on leave.
- 2.2 Therefore, this report seeks to provide Members with some background information, in order to consider the best way to proceed on:
- the role of the Flood Liaison Committee;
 - flood prevention measures in South Derbyshire; and,
 - programmed flood prevention works by the Council.
- 2.3 Details can found attached at Appendix A
- 2.4 A further report on emergency planning issues, in particular to flooding matters will be prepared, and submitted to Members for consideration at a future meeting.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 None arising from this report.

Appendix A

ROLE OF THE FLOOD LIAISON COMMITTEE

1. Following the widespread flooding within South Derbyshire in November, 2000 a meeting was held in December, 2000 with members of relevant Parish Councils District Councillors and SDDC officers. The purpose of this was to exchange information relating to flood areas and to identify works that could be implemented to reduce the risk of a recurrence. Attendees of the meeting agreed that it had proved to be positive and a resolution was made to hold meetings every six months.
2. Some of the flood issues raised were found to be the responsibility of The Environment Agency (EA), Severn Trent Water (STW), Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Highways and DCC Emergency Planning, it was therefore resolved to invite their representatives. The Member of Parliament for South Derbyshire was also to be invited.
3. As planned the meetings have taken place every six months in April and October, the next meeting is scheduled for October, 2007. They are chaired by the Director of Community Services and SDDC are represented by the Engineering Technician.
4. Each agency gives a report on investigations and works carried out to prevent flooding. Parish and District Councillors raise questions relating to flooding issues and to watercourse and flood defence maintenance.
5. The EA have given presentations on changes to their Flood Warning Procedures and other flood related issue, they also answer questions on their future programmes for flood defence.
6. SDDC have given presentations including details of Planning Policy Statement 25 which relates to development in areas vulnerable to flooding.
7. We feel at SDDC that these meetings are a success for the following reasons -
 - There is an exchange of information between SDDC officers, agencies and Councillors.
 - They create a network with individuals who 'own' flooding problems and so encourage a sound working relationship between SDDC and the agencies to resolve flooding issues.
 - They fully involve Parish Councils and let them relate concerns within their communities.
 - They help prepare for flood events by identifying areas at risk.
 - DCC Emergency Planning acknowledge that our meetings give a positive approach to flood prevention, it is the only Parish Council liaison group of its kind in Derbyshire.

FLOOD PREVENTION MEASURES IN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

1. The Environment Agency (EA) oversee the maintenance of main rivers within South Derbyshire these include the Rivers Dove, Trent, Derwent and Mease. Also included are the larger watercourses such as Repton Brook, Hilton Brook, Egginton Brook and Hooborough Brook. Flood prevention works to these main rivers are

therefore implemented by the EA, they also carry out maintenance to existing flood defences.

2. Their works are particularly important within South Derbyshire because many of our communities are affected by flooding from main rivers notably Hatton, Willington, Barrow on Trent, Twyford, Swarkestone and Shardlow.
3. The EA have commissioned River Trent and River Dove Scoping Reports for Flood Risk Management Strategy. The aim is to identify a policy for sustainable flood risk management for the coming years. We now await conclusions from these studies but when last consulted they did not expect to have funding for major works within the foreseeable future.
4. SDDC are responsible for all other watercourses in the district, maintenance to these is seen as an essential part of flood prevention and is carried out throughout the year (*please see the current Flood Prevention Works attached as Appendix B*).
5. Landowners are usually given notice as Riparian Owners (those with a watercourse on their property) to carry out works but SDDC has a small budget for land drainage works, which in some circumstances is used for this.
6. DEFRA funding was gained by SDDC for the £550,000 Hatton Flood Alleviation Works in 2005. The scheme provided a vital flood defence for Hatton where severe flooding occurred in November, 2000. We may have the opportunity to apply for funding regarding future flood alleviation schemes but DEFRA have a priority system for which we do not at the moment qualify.
7. Many flooding problems have in the past been caused by developers who have not made adequate provision for surface water drainage or who have filled in watercourses and ditchcourses. To prevent this in future, and to provide a proactive approach to flood prevention, the SDDC Engineering Technician works closely with Development Control Officers to ensure that watercourses are protected or improved during development and that surface water storage is provided where a need is identified.
8. SDDC are now working with the EA to encourage Parish Councils to create flood warden schemes within their communities, Shardlow already have one in place. Wardens would monitor potential flood situations, organise a local sandbag supply, and contact vulnerable householders. These schemes are not intended to replace EA and SDDC flood relief activities but to supplement them.

APPENDIX B

PROGRAMMED FLOOD PREVENTION WORKS BY SDDC - (Position as at July 2007)

SCHEME	STATUS
Aston on Trent - Investigation to establish condition of surface water culvert, which is causing flooding problems.	Preliminary investigation complete. Detailed investigation to be undertaken Autumn 2007. Service Development Bid to be prepared cover the costs of a detailed study
Castle Gresley , Wilson Homes development - liaison with developer to ensure that surface	Work in progress - To be completed Summer 2007

water balancing area is constructed in accordance with planning conditions.	
Egginton, Main Street - recutting ditchcourse to prevent flooding to Brookside Cottage.	To be undertaken and completed by August 2007
Findern, Doles Lane - Excavation of new ditchcourse to prevent flooding to three houses.	Awaiting land owner permission, but works programmed for completion Summer 2007
Findern, Heath Lane - regrading and clearing of watercourse, which is restricting the public surface water outlet and so causing flooding from it.	Works not yet started. Work programmed for completion end-September 2007
Hartshorne, Woodville Road - watercourse maintenance on land up to Manchester Lane to prevent flooding to four houses.	Ongoing - Works programmed for completion September 2007
Hilton, Egginton Road - regrading watercourse, which is restricting the public surface water sewer outlet and so causing flooding from it.	Ongoing liaison with Derbyshire County Council concerning ownership of watercourse. Anticipate completion of works by late-November 2007
Newhall, Almond Grove - desilting and regrading of watercourse, which is restricting the public surface water sewer outlet and so causing flooding from it.	Work programmed for completion end-August 2007
Scropton, Watery Lane - Investigation of A50 surface water storage area, which does not appear to be preventing flooding in Watery Lane as intended.	Awaiting results of investigatory work undertaken.
Stanton - regrading of watercourse off Park Road to prevent flooding to Rifle Club.	Work programmed to be completed by end-August 2007
Woodville, Kiln Way - Liaison with Severn Trent Water to replace Surface Water Sewers that are causing flooding to GeGa Lotz Ltd works.	Programme to be completed by Severn Trent Water Ltd in October 2007
Woodville Woodlands , Taylor Wimpey Development - liaison with developer to ensure that surface water balancing tanks are constructed in accordance with planning conditions.	Currently work under construction, for completion by August 2007