



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022 /23

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27TH MARCH 2023

**'A PICTURE OF FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT - REPORT OF THE AUDITOR
GENERAL FOR WALES'**

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform scrutiny of flood risk management across Wales and to seek Committee's comments in respect of the presentation of information contained within Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members: -

- 2.1 Acknowledge the information contained within Appendix 1; and,
- 2.2 For Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to understand how flood risk management works and to help inform any future scrutiny relating to these key issues.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The need for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be informed of Flood Risk Management and to comment on the presentation and formatting of the report in Appendix 1

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 In recent years, Wales has suffered devastating impacts from flooding. Despite continued investment, flooding continues to present significant risks to the country.
- 4.2 Flood risk management has been the subject of several reviews over the past ten years. The Welsh Government and partners are improving their approach to flooding and coastal erosion risk management, although further improvements are needed.
- 4.3 Appendix 1 provides Members with the opportunity to be informed of Flood Risk Management, in line with the Committee's Terms of Reference, and also to consider how the information it provides informs future scrutiny meetings involving these key issues.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no Equality and Diversity implications arising from this report.

6. CONSULTATION/INVOLVEMENT

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications as a result of the recommendations set out in the report.

8. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 8.1 The updates contained within Appendix 1 will strengthen the Council's response to its Flood Risk Management Policy, in line with the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.
- 8.2 Appendix 1 will also make a significant positive contribution to the seven goals set out in the Well-Being of Future Generations Act, with particular focus on the goal of a more resilient Wales, which in turn supports a stronger social economic and healthier Wales.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Auditor General for Wales relayed the following:

“We are not expecting local authorities to provide a formal response to our flooding report, or to table the report for a committee meeting, but we are hoping it will provide useful context to inform scrutiny of flood risk management. We would be grateful if you could share our report with relevant scrutiny committees, and if they have any general feedback on whether it has been useful for them, or whether it has driven them to consider flood risk management in future meetings”.

- 9.2 In line with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference, Members have been tasked with understanding how flood risk management works and to use this information to inform future scrutiny meetings relating to these key issues.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS:

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