



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023 /24

**CLIMATE CHANGE, FRONTLINE SERVICES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

18th January 2024

**PRE-SCRUTINY OF THE REVISED LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT
STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN**

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

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To pre-scrutinise the Council's Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) and Action Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that: -

- 2.1 Members undertake pre scrutiny on the Council's Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Action Plan attached at Appendix A to this report, thus providing Scrutiny with an opportunity to contribute to this matter; and,
- 2.2 The Climate Change, Frontline Services & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee provide comment on the report which will form part of the reported feedback to Cabinet, at its meeting to be held on the 24th January 2024.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The need for Scrutiny to consider and scrutinise the proposed Council's Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Action Plan prior to formal consideration by Cabinet.
- 3.2 The need to advise Cabinet of the comments and observations of the Climate Change, Frontline Services & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee prior to their consideration of the Report.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 Under the FWMA 2010, Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for its administrative area. Under this legislation, RCTCBC has a duty to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management, i.e., a LFRMS.
- 4.2 RCTCBC published their first LFRMS in 2013, setting out the Council's overarching approach to managing local flood risk. Subsequently in 2015, RCTCBC then published a Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP), as required under the Flood Risk Regulations (2009). The FRMP developed the objectives and high-level measures outlined in the Local Strategy into a more detailed plan for managing the risk of flooding from local sources in our communities over the proceeding 6 years.
- 4.3 In October 2020, Welsh Government (WG) published the second iteration of the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion (FCERM). This places a duty on the Council under Section 10 (5) of the FWMA to review its current LFRMS and publish a revised version by October 2023. The latest version also requires the production of an Action Plan aligned to delivering the strategy.
- 4.4 This date has subsequently been revised to March 2024.

5. PRE SCRUTINY

- 5.1 Members are reminded that the purpose of pre scrutiny activity is to influence the decisions before they are made. The Council's Climate Change, Frontline Services & Prosperity Committee continues to have the opportunity to explore and comment on a number of reports in advance of the Cabinet's consideration to bring a different perspective to the decisions made and enabling Cabinet decisions to be more informed.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 It has been found that a full report is not required following consultation.

7. CONSULTATION/INVOLVEMENT

- 7.1 This is the final opportunity for Scrutiny Members to review and comment on the final Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Action Plan, and accompanying environmental assessments, as previously reviewed by Scrutiny

in [March](#) and [November 2023](#), before they are submitted to Cabinet and subsequently to the Welsh Government for Ministerial approval, as per the agreed programme presented to Cabinet on 15th May 2023.

8. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The costs associated to the review of the LFRMS and Action Plan, and to facilitate the consultations, is supported by Revenue grant funding provided by the WG.

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

- 9.1 The final LFRMS and Action Plan has identified how the detailed flood risk objectives, measures and actions align with local policies such as the Council's Corporate Plan "Making a Difference" 2020-2024 and the Council's former LFRMS and FRMP produced in 2013 and 2015, respectively. Furthermore, it reflects the sustainable development principles of the Well-being for Future Generations Act and will contribute to all seven national goals.
- 9.2 The final LFRMS and Action Plan has also identified opportunities to align with emerging local policies such as the Council's revised Local Development Plan, RCT's Local Nature Partnership – 'Action for Nature' Plan and the Council's Tackling Climate Change Strategy

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 Members of the Climate Change Frontline Services & Prosperity Scrutiny Committee are asked to pre scrutinise the Council's Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Action Plan which will form part of the reported feedback to Cabinet, at its meeting to be held on the 24th January 2024.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS:

**CLIMATE CHANGE FRONTLINE SERVICES & PROSPERITY SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Pre Scrutiny of the Revised Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Action Plan.

18th January 2024

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

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