

**Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson,
Interim Executive Director of Place**

Report to:	Flood & Water Management Scrutiny
Date:	11 February 2019
Subject:	To report progress on the investigations made in the County under Section 19 of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA)

Summary:

This is a standing item to inform the Committee of the position of all current S.19 flood investigations in the County.

Actions Required:

Members of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the investigations undertaken in the County under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA).

Members are asked to view the current S.19 spreadsheets online (also included at Appendix A) and inform Democratic Services in advance if they wish to highlight any particular sites at the forthcoming Scrutiny Committee meeting.

Link - <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/floodrisk-management/flood-investigations/117780.article>

1. Background

This is a standing item to inform the Committee on the position of all current Section 19 investigations in the County, which are listed in Appendix A. It will be noted that in some cases the investigation is marked as being completed, but the flood incident will remain on Appendix A as there may be outstanding works arising from the investigation which have not yet been completed or programmed by the relevant Risk Management Authority.

Monthly figures from the Environment Agency indicate that, despite December rainfall being well above the long-term average, overall total rainfall in the last three months of 2018 was average. There were no new S.19 investigations started in the same period. This is the second quarter running during which no flood investigations were commenced. This is of course to be welcomed, and gives the

opportunity to work towards the timely completion of the current workload of flood investigations which is outlined in Appendix A.

The committee will be aware that the County Council became Lead Local Flood Authority in April 2012, since when it has completed 199 flood investigations affecting around 440 properties. The committee may be interested to know how these investigations are distributed through the year, which sets the context for the operational resources required to manage the initial response and subsequent investigation.

Table 1 below illustrates the monthly distribution of the total number of flood investigations undertaken since April 2012. Almost all of the flood events under investigation relate to surface water following rainfall events, as opposed to groundwater or river flooding. Note that the table does not include the tidal surge in December 2013. As can be seen, the distribution shows a greater concentration of flood events in the summer months; in fact, 82% of flood events requiring an investigation occurred during June, July or August. As might be expected, this simple analysis suggests that the convection-type localised heavy storms associated with warm, humid conditions are more likely to overwhelm drainage systems than the typically steady and less intense precipitation at other times of year, leading to increased flood risk from surface water.

Month	Flood events requiring investigation
January	3
February	0
March	5
April	4
May	15
June	86
July	38
August	39
September	2
October	1
November	3
December	3

Table 1: monthly distribution of flood investigations April 2012 to date

2. Conclusion

Members of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee are invited to review the investigations undertaken in the County under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA).

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Record of current flood investigations in the County carried out in accordance with S.19 FWMA.

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Paul Brookes, County Flood Risk Manager, who can be contacted on (01522) 782070 or paul.brookes@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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