

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills,  
Executive Director Responsible for Democratic Services**

Report to:	<b>Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>23 October 2017</b>
Subject:	<b>Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee Work Programme</b>

**Summary:**

This item enables the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit. Members are encouraged to highlight items that could be included for consideration in the work programme (Appendix A).

The work programme will be reviewed at each meeting of the Committee to ensure that its contents are still relevant and will add value to the work of the Council and its partners.

Following the review of overview and scrutiny and decisions of the County Council, the Committee's the terms of reference are set out in Appendix B.

**Actions Required:**

The Committee is invited to:

- (1) review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A to this report;
- (2) highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme; and note the terms of reference of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee, as agreed by the County Council.

**1. Background**

Overview and Scrutiny should be positive, constructive, independent, fair and open. The scrutiny process should be challenging, as its aim is to identify areas for improvement. Scrutiny activity should be targeted, focused and timely and include issues of corporate and local importance, where scrutiny activity can influence and add value.

Overview and scrutiny committees should not, as a general rule, involve themselves in relatively minor matters or individual cases, particularly where there are other processes, which can handle these issues more effectively.

All members of overview and scrutiny committees are encouraged to bring forward important items of community interest to the committee whilst recognising that not all items will be taken up depending on available resource.

### **Purpose of Scrutiny Activity**

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the items on the Committee Work Programme:

Policy Development - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

Policy Review - The Committee is reviewing the implementation of policy, to consider the success, impact, outcomes and performance.

Performance Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

Consultation - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to) respond to a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes pre-consultation engagement.

Requests for specific items for information should be dealt with by other means, for instance briefing papers to members.

### **Identifying Topics**

Selecting the right topics where scrutiny can add value is essential in order for scrutiny to be a positive influence on the work of the Council. Members may wish to consider the following questions when highlighting potential topics for discussion to the committee:-

- Will Scrutiny input add value?  
*Is there a clear objective for scrutinising the topic, what are the identifiable benefits and what is the likelihood of achieving a desired outcome?*
- Is the topic a concern to local residents?  
*Does the topic have a potential impact for one or more section(s) of the local population?*
- Is the topic a Council or partner priority area?  
*Does the topic relate to council corporate priority areas and is there a high level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area?*

- Are there relevant external factors relating to the issue?  
*Is the topic a central government priority area or is it a result of new government guidance or legislation?*

### **Scrutiny Review Activity**

Where a topic requires more in-depth consideration, the Committee may commission a Scrutiny Panel to undertake a Scrutiny Review, subject to the availability of resources and approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. The Committee may also establish a maximum of two working groups at any one time, comprising a group of members from the committee.

Work Programme items on scrutiny review activity can include discussion on possible scrutiny review items; finalising the scoping for the review; consideration and approval of the final report; the response to the report; and monitoring outcomes of previous reviews.

### Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee were considered as part of the review of overview and scrutiny undertaken by the County Council during 2016.

### Membership

The County Council will determine the number of members of the Council who will serve on the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee along with seven co-opted non-executive district councillors, one to be nominated by each of Lincolnshire's seven district councils.

The seven co-opted district councillors will have full voting rights on the Committee and replacement members will be permitted, as set out in the scheme adopted by the County Council in accordance with paragraphs 11-13 of Schedule A1 of the Local Government Act 2000.

The Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee will meet as frequently as is required to perform its role.

### Terms of Reference

The Flood and Water Management Committee will be authorised to consider the following:

- The development and delivery of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; including the delivery of the Lincolnshire Common Works Programme.
- The effectiveness of the Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Partnership and related partnership developments.
- Lincolnshire County Council's delivery of its local leadership role in relation to flood and water management.

- The work of all flood risk management authorities operating within Lincolnshire.
- The local implementation of the Environment Agency-led National Strategy for Flood Risk and Coastal Erosion.
- Action plans relating to all relevant plans and strategies, such as (but not exclusively) Shoreline Management Plans and Catchment Flood Management Plans (main rivers).
- All major strategic initiatives relating to water management.
- The Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership's Water Management Board, including the development and implementation of its Water Management Plan.
- Any other matter with particular relevance to flood risk and water management within Lincolnshire or likely to affect Lincolnshire.

## 2. Conclusion

The Committee's work programme for the coming year is attached at Appendix A to this report.

Members of the Committee are invited to review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

Consideration should be given to the items included in the work programme as well as any 'items to be programmed' listed.

## 3. Consultation

### a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

### b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

## 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

## 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 Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 01522 552102 or via email [Daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk) ,