



**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham,
Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of Resources**

Report to:	Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee
Date:	19 February 2024
Subject:	Working Group on Storms Impact (2023/24)

Summary:

On 27 November 2023, the Committee agreed to establish a working group focusing on the impacts of Storm Babet, which occurred in October 2023. Since that date there have been further storms, including Storm Henk, which have led to further flooding events in Lincolnshire.

This item enables the Committee to formalise its arrangements for the working group, including its remit and timetable.

Actions Required:

- (1) That the terms of reference be approved, as set out in Appendix A, which includes the following remit (subject to any comments from the first meeting of the working group), which includes the following remit for the working group:
 - (a) To consider the impact of Storm Babet and Storm Henk in late 2023 and early 2024 including the responses from partner organisations in relation to floods and incidents in Lincolnshire.
 - (b) To submit a report to the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee by October 2024 on the Working Group's findings, considering good practice, lessons learned and future action to be taken, including (but not limited to) possible recommendations both to partner agencies and Lincolnshire County Council.
 - (c) To aim to be satisfied by its conclusion that all findings have been considered, including the work completed by the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee on Section 19 report findings, whilst taking into account any financial implications that may arise out of any actions.
 - (d) To consider addressing the concerns raised by the public and stakeholders around information available to communities.

- (2) That in addition to the working group meeting which took place on 16 February 2024, a further five meetings be programmed, with a view to finalising the working group’s report by 30 September 2024.

1. Background

Establishment of Working Group

On 27 November 2023, the Committee considered a detailed item on the impacts of Storm Babet, with contributions from representatives from various partner agencies. The Committee agreed to establish a working to look in greater detail at the impact of Storm Babet and the responses made. Since November, there have been further named storms, including Storm Henk, which have led to flooding in Lincolnshire. About sixty of the properties flooded by Storm Babet were again flooded by Storm Henk. For this reason it is proposed to broaden the remit of the working group beyond Storm Babet to include other storms during the 2023/24 storm season.

Terms of Reference and Working Arrangements

Terms of reference and working arrangements have been drafted and are attached at Appendix A for the Committee’s consideration and approval. This document is also being considered by the first meeting of the working group on 16 February 2023.

1.1 - Planned Meeting Dates

The following schedule of meetings is planned. For each the dates the planned items are indicated. Other items may be added provided they meet the working group’s remit. Similarly, some of the items may be considered on different dates, depending on the availability of the contributor.

Date	Activity / Contributor
16 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference • Internal Drainage Boards
15 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Resilience Forum • District Councils
5 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 19 Investigations (Lincolnshire County Council)
10 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglian Water
24 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Agency

Date	Activity / Contributor
7 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Evidence Received and Themes for Final Report of the Working Group

2. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to consider and approve the Storms Impact Working Group Terms of Reference, as set out in Appendix A of the report.

3. Appendices

These are listed below and attached to the back of the report	
Appendix A	Storms Impact Working Group – Proposed Terms of Reference

4. 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 Nicola Calver, Democratic Services Manager, who can be contacted at Nicola.Calver@lincolnshire.gov.uk and, Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted at Simon.Evans@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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