

WIRRAL FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

STRATEGY AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. LOCAL PARTNERSHIP

The Flood and Water Management Act 2011 enables the development of local partnerships to be formed between the Lead Local Flood Authority (Wirral MBC) and Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) – defined in the Act as the Environment Agency, District Councils, Internal Drainage Boards (ITBs), Highway Authorities and Water Companies (United Utilities).

The Act does not stipulate the form that these arrangements should take. Wirral was already in a favourable position in so much that there was an existing Flood Working Group, of which many of the agencies and organisations suggested by the Act to form a local partnership were already represented.

The Act requires the relevant authorities to co-operate with each other and also empowers the LLFA (or the Environment Agency) to acquire information from others that may be needed for their flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) functions.

2. FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Act requires the LLFA to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood and coastal erosion risk management. The LLFA will be responsible for ensuring the local strategy is put in place but it will be developed in agreement with relevant local partners. The Act sets out the minimum that a local strategy must contain:

- The risk management authorities in the relevant area.
- The FCERM functions that may be exercised by those authorities in relation to the area.
- The objectives for managing local flood risk and the measures proposed to achieve those objectives.
- How and when the measures are expected to be implemented.
- The costs and benefits of those measures, and how they are to be paid for.
- The assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy.
- How and when the strategy is to be reviewed.
- How the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental impacts.

Any strategy must be consistent with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England (under development by the Environment Agency) and the LLFA must consult with the RMAs that may be affected by the strategy and the public. The local strategy will be the key means to harnessing all flood and coastal erosion risk management powers and creating coherent planning in surface water management across the country.

WIRRAL FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Purpose of the Wirral Flood and Water Management Partnership

The main purpose of the partnership is to achieve through joint working an effective response to flooding and coastal erosion incidents on Wirral; to take such collective measures in order to minimise the potential impact of such incidents; and to seek the implementation of more permanent and sustainable solutions to the mitigation or alleviation of flooding and coastal erosion.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 This partnership has been developed to provide the Wirral response to the Flood and Water Management Act, the Flood Risk Regulations and ensure that the strategy development for flood and coastal erosion risk management on Wirral is coordinated and integrated.
- 2.2 The Partnership will strive to ensure that effective flood and coastal erosion risk management and resilience is built into service delivery in a manner which delivers better protection from flood risk for the communities and key infrastructure of Wirral.
- 2.3 The Partnership will involve providing a single voice on Wirral's flood and coastal erosion risk management matters across all levels – local, sub-national and national; providing the key point of contact for local authority scrutiny; and providing strategic oversight of all flood and coastal erosion risk and drainage matters in the Borough.

3. Wirral Flood and Water Management Partners

The principal partners of the Partnership are:

Wirral MBC	(LLFA) Chairperson, Mark Camborne, Health, Safety & Resilience Operations Manager
Wirral MBC	Cross Party Working Group Representatives x 3 Councillor John Hale (Conservative Group) Councillor David Mitchell (Lib Dem Group) Councillor Harry Smith (Labour Group)
Wirral MBC	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation Services Councillor Leslie Rennie
Wirral MBC	Technical Services, Mark Smith, Interim Head of Technical Services
Wirral MBC	Highways Shaun Brady Highways Asset Manager
Wirral MBC	Coastal Protection, Neil Thomas, Principal Assistant Engineer
Wirral MBC	Development Control, Matthew Rushton, Principal Planning Officer
Wirral MBC	Forward Planning, John Entwistle, Principal Planning Officer (Fwd Planning)
Wirral MBC	Investment Strategy Richard Lewis, Investment Strategy Manager
Wirral MBC	Drainage, John Baker, Drainage Team Leader, Chair of Operational Flood Group
Wirral MBC	Building Control, Paul Grey, Assistant Director, Building Control
Wirral MBC	Emergency Planning, Aimee Conroy, Emergency Planning Officer,
Wirral MBC	PR, Marketing & Community Engagement, Laura Furlong.
Wirral MBC	Climate Change Officer, Hazel Edwards
Wirral MBC	Legal Section, Surjit Tour, Head of Legal & Member Services
Voluntary and Community Action Wirral (VCAW)	tbc

United Utilities Scott Green, Wastewater Network Manager
Emma Dennett, Catchment Manager (Asset Management & Delivery).
Welsh Water Roger Cragg
Environment Agency Ian Hale
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service tbc
Merseyside Police tbc
Wirral NHS tbc

The Partnership will allow for representation of other agencies, organisations and community and third sector representatives on an 'as and when' basis.

4. Aims of the Partnership

- 4.1 Funding and skills – to identify new funding opportunities, more cost effective methods of joint working and ensure the core skills, competencies and resources are safeguarded.
- 4.2 Cooperation – to share data, skills and best practice throughout Wirral to ensure that flood and coastal erosion risk management delivery is feasible, proportionate and sustainable.
- 4.3 Lobbying – to provide a unified voice for flood and coastal erosion risk and drainage matters on national policy and funding matters.
- 4.4 Awareness – to ensure that the general public is aware of the flood risk responsibilities and that partner organisations are familiar with their respective roles, responsibilities and duties and that work programmes are aligned accordingly.
- 4.5 Oversight – to receive reports on and provide strategic input and direction to the development of plans, policies and programmes of work developed to manage flood and coastal erosion risk across the Borough.
- 4.6 Conflict Resolution – addressing specific issues affecting delivery or collaborative working as they arise.
- 4.7 Reporting – to assist in the reporting of flood and coastal erosion risk management activity and programmes to respective Partners' Oversight and Scrutiny Committees (or equivalent).
- 4.8 Delivery – to establish suitable working groups to deliver flood and coastal erosion risk management measures and provide advice to Local Planning Authorities, developers and other bodies as needed. As a body representing all Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) in the area, the Partnership will identify strategic priorities and risks and opportunities for funding.
- 4.9 Communication – to promote activities engaging and educating the communities of Wirral on flood and coastal erosion risk issues, including the responsibilities of landowners and tenants in flood and coastal erosion risk management.

5. Organisation of Meetings

- 5.1 The meeting will be chaired and administered by Wirral MBC as the LLFA.

- 5.2 Meetings will be held twice a year in April and October to best fit with reporting and budget cycles and seasonal issues (Spring and Winter)
 - 5.3 The Operational Flood Group will continue to meet on a monthly basis driving forward any actions or plans and will provide a status report to each meeting of the Partnership.
-