

Minutes

RESIDENTS' AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

23 March 2016



Meeting held at Committee Room 5 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	<p>Committee Members Present: Councillors Michael White (Chairman), Teji Barnes, Mohinder Birah, Peter Davis, Patricia Jackson, Kuldeep Lakhmana (Labour Lead), Judy Kelly, Brian Stead, Jas Dhot</p> <p>LBH Officers Present: Vicky Boorman (Flood and Water Management Specialist), Peter Oliver (Drainage Officer) and Alex Quayle (Democratic Services Officer)</p>	
54.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>None.</p>	
55.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>None.</p>	
56.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT ANY ITEMS MARKED PART 2 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>All items were considered in Part 1.</p>	
57.	<p>TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>The minutes to the meeting held 24 February were agreed.</p>	
58.	<p>LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>Vicky Boorman and Peter Oliver attended the meeting to present the report and answer questions from the Committee.</p> <p>Officers informed the Committee that the length of the document was a result of government policy stipulations of the content. Local authorities led on ground and surface water, but main rivers are not within the remit of the Council. The report included modelling work to examine what might happen in certain circumstances, and appropriate risk mitigation or counteraction measures.</p> <p>The report was not aimed at residents, but was only the first step in establishing the strategy, and the responsibilities for the Council, Thames Water and other parties such as the Highways Agency. However, the report did include direction for finding information</p>	<p>Action by</p>

	<p>relevant for residents, and the current information of the website would be adapted as the strategy was implemented. The strategy had been through a consultation with the public, and had been recently approved by the Cabinet.</p> <p>Members enquired about what was expected from the general public, to which officers reported that they hoped residents would use the information to understand whether they lived in an area considered at risk, and what information is available. Members raised the point that though the resources available on the website were highly beneficial, residents may not know that they were there or not be internet users, and requested that consideration be given to pre-emptively providing information in a different format, for example in Hillingdon People or more localised information for at risk areas.</p> <p>A Member of the Committee enquired as to how lessons from recent major flooding were incorporated, to which Officers responded that reports from these areas had been circulated and considered. However, in practice they had only limited relevance because they were in rural areas of steep valleys, whereas Hillingdon is a relatively flat, urban environment. Hillingdon was did not have large areas that were particularly at risk of flooding, but rather small pockets within lots of different communities.</p> <p>In response to a query regarding the impact of building in the borough and in particular increased developments with basements, officers informed the Committee that though this did represent a potential problem, there were already measures taken by the Council in communication with Thames Water and the Environment Agency to anticipate this and mitigate any problems.</p>	<p>Vicky Boorman</p>
<p>59.</p>	<p>RESIDENTS' & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE - MAJOR REVIEW 2015/16 - MECHANISMS FOR REVIEWING MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BOROUGH AND IDENTIFYING LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FOR THE PLANNING PROCESS (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>This item was deferred to the next meeting, though Members were invited to contact Alex Quayle with any comments on the draft circulated.</p>	<p>Action by</p>
<p>60.</p>	<p>FORWARD PLAN (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>Noted.</p>	<p>Action by</p>
<p>61.</p>	<p>WORK PROGRAMME (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>The Committee additionally discussed inviting a report on weed control in public green spaces in the Borough, and how refuse collection is timed to coincide with street litter picking.</p>	<p>Action by</p>
<p>The meeting, which commenced at 5.30 pm, closed at 6.11 pm.</p>		

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Alex Quayle on 01895 250692. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.