

Strategic Environmental Assessment Report of the City of London Local Flood Risk Management Strategy – Sept 2020

Non-Technical Summary

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been carried out on the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) to assess the impact of implementation of this strategy against social, environmental and economic objectives for the City.

The SEA considered the current flood risk for the City from all sources of flooding, reviewed other plans and programmes which may have impacts on flood risk alongside this strategy and assessed the potential impacts of each of the measures proposed against the following objectives.

1. To protect the health, wellbeing and safety of workers, residents and visitors
2. To enable social and economic inclusion for all
3. To protect and enhance biodiversity
4. To protect water quality and resources
5. To mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change
6. To minimise adverse impacts on the economy
7. To protect property and essential infrastructure
8. To protect the historic assets, archaeological heritage and landscape

The SEA concluded that the implementation of this strategy would have positive impacts for health safety and wellbeing of workers residents and visitors, which would extend beyond the City. Some clarification in wording was needed to ensure that the strategy enables social and economic inclusion for all, and that it fully takes account of biodiversity and the historic assets in the City. Positive impacts are expected for water resources and climate change adaptation from measures proposed in the strategy. The economic benefits of a flood resilient City were emphasised particularly compared with other global financial centres which are more vulnerable to flooding. Finally, protection of transport and utility infrastructure through implementation of the strategy will have positive benefits.

Minor changes have been made to the draft LFRMS to clarify the intention of each measure. The proposed LFRMS will have positive impacts on the social environmental and economic objectives for the Square Mile and positive wider impacts in some instances.

The full Strategic Environmental Assessment report for the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is available on request – please contact Janet.laban@cityoflondon.gov.uk