

Committee(s)	Dated: 16 th February 2021
Planning and Transportation Committee – for decision	
Subject: Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021-27	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 11, 12
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	n/a
Report of: Director of the Built Environment	For Decision
Report author: Holly Smith - Environmental Resilience Team	

Summary

The *Flood and Water Management Act 2010* assigns various responsibilities to Lead Local Flood Authorities including the requirement to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area - the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS). The City Corporation, as unitary authority for the Square Mile, is the Lead Local Flood Authority for the City.

This strategy identifies the approach the City Corporation is taking to the flood risks that affect the City, the actions that are underway or planned to reduce these risks and the processes by which this strategy will be kept up to date.

The City currently has a LFRMS that runs from 2014-2020. Substantial progress has been made in implementing the LFRMS 2014-2020 but there is still more to do, not least to address the impacts of climate change on flood risk in the City and to improve awareness of the actions that businesses, residents and visitors to the City can take to minimise the risks and consequences of flooding.

The Environmental Resilience Team have reviewed and updated the LFRMS for the period 2021-2027. The LFRMS was put out to consultation with risk management authorities in our area and the public as outlined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The strategy has also been linked to the Climate Action Strategy. The next step is to get committee approval for the revised strategy, so the measures can be implemented over the next 6 year.

Recommendation(s)

Planning and Transportation members are asked to:

- Adopt the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021 – 2027 (appendix 1).

Main Report

Background

1. The City Corporation, as unitary authority for the Square Mile, is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for the City. The *Flood and Water Management Act 2010* assigns various responsibilities to Lead Local Flood Authorities including the requirement to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area – the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS).
2. The City of London's LFRMS contains information on how the City Corporation plan to work together with communities, businesses and other Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to manage and mitigate local flood risk in our area (the Square Mile). This strategy identifies the approach the City Corporation is taking to the flood risks that affect the City, the actions that are underway or planned to reduce these risks and the processes by which this strategy will be kept up to date.
3. The City Corporation currently has a LFRMS that runs from 2014-2020. The second cycle of action under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is now due. This requires a review of the City of London LFRMS.

Current Position

4. There has been substantial progress in implementing the LFRMS 2014-2020, appendix 2 shows a review of the 2014-2020 measures that were to be implemented during this period. The majority of the measures have been completed or are on-going actions. All work to date relating to the LFRMS has been absorbed from current local risk resources.
5. But there is still more to do, not least to address the impacts of climate change on flood risk in the City and to improve awareness of the actions that businesses, residents and visitors to the City can take to minimise the risks and consequences of flooding.
6. The Environmental Resilience Team have reviewed and updated the LFRMS for the period 2021-2027, which includes how to implement the objectives and measures that form part of the Environment Agency's Flood Risk Management Plan for the Thames Basin. These objectives and measures were approved under delegated authority by the director of the Built Environment and presented at the September 2020 P&T Committee for information.
7. The draft LFRMS was approved to go out to consultation with risk management authorities in our area and the public as outlined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 by this committee in October 2020. This consultation period has ended and the LFRMS has been amended to reflect comments received.

8. Appendix 3 is a summary of all the comments received and alterations made. There were no major changes from the version presented to this committee in October.
9. The LFRMS is linked directly to the City of London's Climate Action Strategy, as many of the actions will help to implement climate resilience measures from the City of London's Climate Action Strategy.

Proposals

1. Appendix 1 is proposed Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for the period 2021-2027 as developed by the Environmental Resilience Team. This report is asking for the Planning and Transportation committee to adopt the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021-2027.
2. The measures in the strategy will be kept under review by the Environmental Resilience Team and periodical presented to the Planning and Transportation Committee for information.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

3. **Strategic implications** - The LFRMS is a statutory document that all LLFAs must produce under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The LFRMS links to the Corporate Plan outcomes 11 (*We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment*) and 12 (*Our spaces are secure, resilient and well-maintained*).
4. **Financial and Resource implications** – The LFRMS is heavily linked with the Climate Action strategy, with many measures from the LFRMS incorporated into the Climate Action Strategy. The Environmental Resilience Team in DBE has a remit to implement the LFRMS. As can be seen from appendix 2, the previous LFRMS was almost totally completed due to the Environmental Resilience Team's efforts. All work to date relating to the LFRMS has been absorbed from current local risk resources, there are no additional financial implications resulting from this report
5. **Legal implications** - No legal implications have been identified.
6. **Risk implications** – The LFRMS and associated outputs will form part of the evidence base that may change our approach to risk mitigations under CR30n (owned by Director of the Built Environment). Stuart Wright and Kate Smith were consulted on this risk and its links to the LFRMS.
7. **Equalities implications** - The LFRMS has been subject to an Equalities Assessment. Recommendations from this have been incorporated into the document.
8. **Climate implications** – the LFRMS is fully integrated into the climate action strategy with measures from the LFRMS included in the CAS action plan. The LFRMS has also been subject to a Strategic Environment Assessment. Recommendations from this have been incorporated into the document.

9. **Security implications** - There are no security implications which have been identified.

Conclusion

10. The Environmental Resilience Team have reviewed, consulted and updated the LFRMS for the period 2021-2027 that identifies the approach the City Corporation is taking to the flood risks that affect the City.
11. This report is asking for the Planning and Transportation committee to adopt the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2021-2027.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 –LFRMS 2021-2027 for Adoption
- Appendix 2 – LFRMS 2014-2020 Final Review
- Appendix 3 – LFRMS 2021-27 Consultation Responses

Background Papers

- Planning and Transportation Committee 8th September 2020. Agenda item 16.
- Planning and Transportation Committee 6th October 2020. Agenda item 9.

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