

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)**

**DATE: 22 SEPTEMBER 2017**



**LEAD OFFICER: TOR PEEBLES, FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS TEAM LEADER**

**SUBJECT: UPDATE – FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES IN TANDRIDGE**

**DIVISION: ALL TANDRIDGE**

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Tandridge district is at risk of flooding from surface water, ground water and both main and ordinary watercourses. Flooding often occurs in the winter months but has also occurred during intense rainfall events in the summer periods. This report focuses on two flood risk management schemes in Tandridge District.

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy sets out the activities and priority of activities in the strategy's objectives and can be found on the county council's website<sup>1</sup>.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the work being carried out by the authorities on the Project Board for Caterham on the Hill and Smallfield reported in this paper.
- (ii) Note the submission by Tandridge District Council for a catchment study on both areas and the appetite for holistic management of flood risk through this approach.
- (iii) Be prepared to receive and review the recommendations of the studies.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The project boards for both locations are working with consultants to develop options for reducing the risk of flooding. These studies are due to be completed by the end of October. Therefore the recommendation is to note the content of this report and be prepared to receive and review the recommendations of the studies at a future meeting.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/136724/Surrey-Local-Flood-Risk-Management-Strategy-FINAL\\_v2.pdf](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/136724/Surrey-Local-Flood-Risk-Management-Strategy-FINAL_v2.pdf)

<b>1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:</b>
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### **Caterham on the Hill**

- 1.1 On the 7 June 2016, over 90 properties in Caterham on the Hill were flooded by a severe storm event which exceeded the capacity of the private and publically owned drainage systems within the catchment. The flood followed the pattern indicated by the surface water flood risk model (published by the Environment Agency - <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/map> ).
- 1.2 Initial maintenance of the highway drainage network and the Thames Water network was carried out prior to December 2016. At the same time clearance of the soakaway and storage chamber known as the Money Pit situated on a small part of the site of a large pond took place.
- 1.3 A Project Board of Risk Management Authorities and consultants was formed in the autumn of 2016 to develop options for managing flood risk in Caterham on the Hill and ensure all aspects of flood risk are considered.
- 1.4 A Flood Action Group was formed from affected residents with the support of the National Flood Forum; they held their first multi-agency meeting in December 2016. The Group have been the mechanism for the Authorities communicating with the community. In May 2017 the Group held a successful information and data capturing event in the village to support the study.
- 1.5 The project's consultant is currently refining the potential flood scheme options and at the time of writing this report Surrey County Council (SCC) are hopeful to have a published study that analyses the viability of these options by the 26 September 2017.

### **Smallfield Flood Alleviation Scheme**

- 1.6 Smallfield has been affected by minor and significant flooding linked to ground water, surface water and flooding from watercourses on a number of occasions in recent years and most notably in the winter of 2014. These floods have affected properties (both internally and externally), the highway and the sewage network. A Smallfield Flood Alleviation Scheme is currently in development and a briefing on this can be found in **Annex A**.
- 1.7 Aside from the capital scheme in Smallfield there are a significant number of local issues regarding maintenance in the catchment. This includes ditches and piped sections of watercourse, much of which are the responsibility of the adjoining land owners.
- 1.8 The creation of a project board for Smallfield sets the conditions for addressing the other aspects of the flood risk in this area, such as maintenance of watercourses. To integrate the community into this flood risk management work, the National Flood Forum is establishing a Flood Action Group to facilitate the Authorities' communication with residents. It is through this group that the authorities will promote maintenance on the privately owned watercourses.

**2. ANALYSIS:**

- 2.1 The actions being taken by the risk management authorities are in line with the principles and objectives of the Surrey Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- 2.2 The aim of the authorities' actions is to reduce the risk of flooding where possible and the impact of flooding where reducing the risk is not possible.

**3. OPTIONS:**

- 3.1 Options from both schemes will be reported to the responsible authorities on completion of each phase of work by the consultants. Detailed options will be presented to the Local Committee at a future meeting.

**4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 All Risk Management Authorities are members of the project board for both projects. The officers on the project boards are tasked to communicate progress and additional tasks to the relevant officers with their authority.
- 4.2 For both studies the reports will be discussed and any recommendations agreed by the project board prior to requesting additional grant funding from the Environment Agency (Grant in Aid funding) and from the partner authorities.
- 4.3 Work not forming part of the Smallfield study has been circulated in the form of a third party works list and the next project board meeting will set out the approach the authorities will take with these individuals or organisations.

**5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1 Flood and Coastal Erosion Grant in Aid funding is covering the development of initial assessments and outline business cases for both schemes.
- 5.2 Grant in Aid funding does not cover incidental or maintenance work carried out by the authorities.

**6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 There are no equality or diversity matters associated with this report.

**7. LOCALISM:**

- 7.1 The activities being carried out by these two project boards actively promote community engagement by all authorities and seek to reduce the impact of flooding. Engagement with the community is being channelled through the community groups where possible in order to promote self-reliance and community resilience.

**8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications arising from this report

Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report

## **9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

9.1 The projects boards for Caterham on the Hill and Smallfield are progressing works in line with the Flood Risk Management Strategy.

9.2 **The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the work being carried out by the authorities on the Project board for the two areas reported in this report.
- (ii) Note the submission by Tandridge District Council for a catchment study on both areas and the appetite for holistic management of flood risk through this approach.
- (iii) Be prepared to receive and review the recommendations of the studies.

## **10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

10.1 The next milestone in the Caterham on the Hill and Smallfield projects are the presentation of the feasibility study at the end of September and October respectively.

### **Contact Officer:**

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### **Annexes:**

Annex A Smallfield Flood Alleviation Scheme report.

### **Sources/background papers:**

None.