

PITT REVIEW ON FLOODING- TASK AND FINISH PANEL : TERMS OF REFERENCE

Origin:

Cabinet (minute 177 - 10 March 2008) " That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be invited to consider the implications for the Council arising from the final report of the Pitt Review, expected to be published in the summer of 2008."

The final report has now been published and the Government has published its response to the Pitt Review recommendations.

The District does suffer from river and other water courses (fluvial) and surface water (pluvial) flooding in various locations.

The Council has a proactive approach to addressing flooding issues. It has maintained a Land Drainage Section since the 1970s and continues to invest in flood risk management.

Term of Reference:

1. To establish a Task and Finish Panel to consider and make recommendations on the implications for the Council arising from the recommendations of the review by Sir Michael Pitt following the flooding of 2007 (The Pitt Review).
2. To consider the number of flood risk assets within the District, some public infrastructure and residential properties that remain at a high risk of flooding.
3. To consider how the proposed changes in legislation would improve the management of flood risk and communication between various organisations.
4. To ensure that the Council fully understands and participates in the early stages of the implementation of the new legislation to gain maximum benefits for its residents.
5. To consider the recommendations within the Pitt Review that place additional responsibilities on Local Authorities in respect of management and coordination of all forms of flooding.
6. The District also implements Planning Policy Statement 25 'Development Control and Flood Risk' which seeks to reduce the impact of new build. The Panel to consider the changes proposed in the Pitt Review to further improve the work being done under this policy.
7. To note that County Councils are recognised as the lead authorities, working in partnership with Districts where appropriate, for those matters affecting local authorities within the Pitt Review Recommendations. Essex County Council have not, so far, indicated the likely split of responsibilities between County and Districts but it is reasonable to assume that Districts will have a role to play in implementing the recommendations, specially a District like EFDC which takes flood risk management seriously. To consider the implications of this split responsibilities to the District and to its emergency planning provisions.

Aims and Objectives:

To gather evidence and information in relation to the topics through the receipt of data, presentations and by participation in fact finding visits;

To consult with Partners, Agencies, Stakeholders and Users of the services under review, to establish key issues and future need;

PITT REVIEW ON FLOODING- TASK AND FINISH PANEL : TERMS OF REFERENCE

To evaluate all relevant facts in relation to the topics under review in an objective way and to produce recommendations for future action accordingly;

To establish whether there are any resource implications arising out of the topics under review and advise Cabinet for inclusion in the Budget Process 2009/10; and

To report back to Overview and Scrutiny Committee at appropriate intervals and to submit any final reports in the proposed Corporate Format for consideration by O & S, the Cabinet and Council.

TIMESCALE	ESTIMATED	ACTUAL
Commencement	July 2009	
<u>Finish</u> 1. Interim report to include any budgetary items for the next budget round. 2. As a time limited review - to end by January 2010.	By October 2009 January 2010	
Reports.		