

Pitt Review Task & Finish Panel

Tuesday 22nd September 2009

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(Number of slides 12, approx 15 minutes)

This is what it is all about



Flood Risk Management - Overview



- Focus on fluvial & coastal
 - EA website shows 1 in 100 & 1000 risk
 - July 2007: 40% fluvial & 60% Surface Water
 - Pitt Review
 - Holistic approach to flood risk management
 - Data: availability, gathering, transfer & modelling
 - Floods & Water Bill Consultation
- National modelling indicates within Epping Forest District there are **1900** properties at 'significant' risk of flooding.
- EFDC's own assessment from GIS mapping of historical flooding events estimate: **823** properties at risk from Ordinary Water courses (fluvial) and **1882** properties at risk from rivers and other watercourses (fluvial).

Future Roles and Responsibilities



- **EA - overview of all flooding**
- **County/Unitary/(Districts etc ?) – local lead for surface water flooding**

- **EA – main river, sea and coastal**
- **County/Unitary Authorities – surface water and ground water**
- **District/Unitary Authorities/Internal Drainage Boards – ordinary water courses**

Pitt Recommendations – Local Government

Gov steer = ‘implementing Pitt doesn’t need to wait for the Bill’



- RECOMMENDATION 14: Local authorities should **lead** on the management of **local flood risk**
- RECOMMENDATION 15: Local authorities should **positively tackle local problems** of flooding by working with all **relevant parties**, establishing ownership and legal responsibility.
- RECOMMENDATION 16: Local authorities should **collate** and **map** the main flood risk management and drainage assets (over and underground), including a record of their ownership and condition.
- RECOMMENDATION 17: All relevant organisations (Utilities) should have a duty to **share information** and cooperate with **local authorities** and the Environment Agency to facilitate the management of flood risk.

Pitt Recommendations – Local Government Gov steer = ‘implementing Pitt doesn’t need wait for the Bill’



- RECOMMENDATION 18: Local **Surface Water Management Plans** to be **coordinated** by **local authorities**, should provide the basis for managing all local flood risk (Funding?).
- RECOMMENDATION 19: Local authorities should assess and, if appropriate, enhance their technical capabilities to deliver a wide range of responsibilities in relation to local flood risk management (Resources?).
- RECOMMENDATION 20: The Government should resolve the issue of which organisations should be responsible for the ownership and maintenance of sustainable drainage systems (Local Agreements?).

Delivery of Recommendations

- **Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)**

‘is a framework through which key local partners with responsibility for surface water and drainage in their area work together to understand the causes of surface water flooding and agree the most cost effective way of managing surface water flood risk’.

- **Ability to share information across organisations.**
- **Council to lead – Tier 1 or Tier 2.**
- **Modelling – extent of?**



Delivery of Recommendations

- **Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)**

Holistic view on flooding (fluvial, pluvial, sewerage, highway drainage & ground water).

- **Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)**
 - *Right to connect to sewers will be conditional*
 - *LAs to adopt and maintain SUDS*
 - *SUDS national standards*
 - *National sewer standards*



Data collection

- Surveys/Asset Register/Geographical Information System (GIS) based.
- Obtain data from multiple organisations securely.
- Promote & stimulate discussion with all stakeholders.



Pitt Recommendations - Emergency planning



- RECOMMENDATION 36: **The Environment Agency** should make relevant flood visualisation **data**, available **online** to Gold and Silver Commands.
- RECOMMENDATION 41: **Upper tier local authorities** should be the **lead responders** in relation to **multi agency planning** for severe weather emergencies
- RECOMMENDATION 42: Where a **Gold Command** is established for **severe weather events**, the **police**, unless agreed otherwise locally, should convene and lead the **multi-agency response**.
- RECOMMENDATION 68: **Council leaders** and **chief executives** should play a prominent role in **public reassurance** through the **local media** during a flooding emergency, as part of a coordinated effort overseen by Gold Commanders.

Summary – where we are

- **Flooding is an issue for EFDC.**
- **We support the Pitt Recommendations.**
- **EFDC currently offers an Out of Hours emergency response to flooding**
- **Some limited Geographical Information System (GIS) data and systems already in place.**
- **Proactively implements PPS 25 (Planning Policy Statement 25 – Development and Flood Risk).**
- **Developing relationships with EA and other professional partners.**



What next?

- Engage with ECC & EA
- Establish with ECC the potential of responsibility that could/would rest with EFDC
- Consider extension of Out of Hours emergency response for flooding.
- Geographical Information System (GIS) – establish scale of work required.
- Joint up working
 - North East Thames Surface Water Alliance (NETSWA)
 - Essex Land Drainage Working Partnership

