

**Committee:** LDF Member Working Group

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 22 November 2012

**4**

**Title:** Water Cycle Study

**Portfolio Holder:**

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## Summary

1. A Water Cycle Study (WCS) is needed to ensure that water supply, water quality, sewerage and flood risk management issues can be addressed to enable growth to 2028 and beyond, whilst preserving and enhancing the water environment. The WCS will form a key part of the evidence base for the Local Plan, which will be submitted in 2013.
2. The purpose of this Detailed WCS report is to build on the work and update the conclusions of the Outline WCS Study completed for the District in 2008. Since then the Council has consulted on its preferred sites and therefore, this WCS is intended to inform the Council of the possible constraints and opportunities to the strategic sites.

## Recommendations

3. To note Stage 2 of the Water Cycle Study – Detailed Strategy.

## Financial Implications

4. There are no direct costs arising from the findings of this report:

## Background Papers

5. None

## Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	The WCS has been prepared in consultation with key stakeholders. The report will be available on the Council's website.
Community Safety	The reports warn where development may lead to issues of flooding.
Equalities	No issues
Health and Safety	The reports warn where development may

	lead to issues of flooding
Human Rights/Legal Implications	No issues
Sustainability	The report deals with development and wider environmental constraints.
Ward-specific impacts	Affects all wards
Workforce/Workplace	No issues

## Situation

7. Appended to this report is the Executive Summary of the Water Cycle Study, Chapter 12 – Constraints, Solutions and Opportunities Summary and Chapter 13 – Detailed Strategy Conclusions and Recommendations.
8. All development sites can be supplied with water without the need for major infrastructure upgrades. However, development management policies should required high levels of water efficiency. This is required by proposed policy EN2 – Environmental and Resource Management.
9. Where sites include land in Flood Zone 3 it is possible for the development to take place in Flood Zone 1. A number of the sites require developers to ensure that a suitable drainage design is devised to ensure there is sufficient storm water network capacity.
10. The WCS considers the capacity of the Waste Water Treatment Works (WwTW) and the Sewer Network. These are summarised in section 1.3 of the attached Executive Summary. There are particular issues in Saffron Walden; Great Dunmow; Newport; and Great Chesterford.
11. As explained in the Conclusions in Chapter 13 subject to the timing of development at Saffron Walden development is unlikely to significantly constrained. Great Dunmow WwTW is planned to be upgraded in 2014/15. However, at Newport the discharge consent and WwTW capacity could constrain the potential development within the Newport Catchment. At Great Chesterford further technical and financial assessment is required by the developers and Anglian Water to assess the viability of upgrading or installing new sewers.

## Risk Analysis

12.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
The WCS is not taken into	1. The WCS will be considered	The plan is not found	Consider the site allocation policies in

account in preparing the pre-submission local plan.	in the Report of Representations on the Site Allocations being presented to LDF Working Group.	sound because it is not based on evidence which could mean sites are not deliverable.	the light of the evidence and undertake further consultation with key stakeholders as appropriate.
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1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.