

Committee: Local Plan Leadership Group
Title: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment update
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Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress regarding the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), which will support the Local Plan. A Level 1 SFRA Report is appended.

Recommendations

2. That the Group notes the content of the Level 1 SFRA Report and its implications for plan-making.

Financial Implications

3. None.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and appendices (Appendix A interactive mapping to follow)

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	The SFRA will be published alongside other evidence, to support the Regulation 18 consultation on the Draft Local Plan in Spring 2022.
Community Safety	The SFRA will help ensure that the Local Plan properly addresses flooding, based on a thorough understanding of risk.
Equalities	N/A
Health and Safety	N/A

Human Rights/Legal Implications	N/A
Sustainability	Addressing flood risk is an important part of achieving sustainable development.
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	N/A

Situation

6. The Level 1 SFRA has been prepared by the council's consultants, JBA. It provides a comprehensive and robust evidence base on flood risk issues, to support the production of the new Local Plan.
7. The SFRA ensures that the spatial strategy can be prepared on the basis of a sound understanding of flood risk issues. For example, development sites can be allocated in locations which are known to be at the lowest risk of flooding.
8. It should be noted that there may be no requirement for a Level 2 SFRA, which will only be necessary if the council considers that it needs to allocate land for development in areas at risk of flooding. The Level 1 SFRA indicates that the district is relatively unconstrained in terms of flood risk, such that it should be possible to allocate sites outside such areas.
9. In addition to supporting the allocation of development sites, the Level 1 SFRA provides recommendations on policy requirements (e.g. a drainage strategy for phased developments) and guidance on site-specific flood risk assessments which can be followed by developers and used as an assessment tool by planners considering individual planning applications.

Risk Analysis

10.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
If the Council does not have an NPPF compliant evidence base, the plan could be found unsound.	2	4 – delays in adopting the Local Plan	Professional evidence developed in line with the NPPF and PPG. Local Plan risks are assessed and managed through the Local Plan project management process.

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.