

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Update Briefing Note for Mid Devon District Council

Introduction

On 19th November 2013 Martin Hutchings, Flood Risk Manager and Jessica Bott, Flood Risk Officer from Devon County Council attended Mid Devon District Council's 'Managing the Environment Policy Development Group' to bring to their attention the production of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and the forthcoming consultation.

Consultation Response

The consultation for the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy commenced on 27th November 2013 and was open for comments until 27th January 2014. During this period a total of 24 responses were received, which was considered relatively low compared with those in receipt of the document and as it was open to the general public, however this did generate over 170 specific comments.

In general the strategy was well received and comments that were raised sought further clarification and guidance on the content.

- There were strong messages from Parish Councils highlighting the key local role that they play in flood management and this will be addressed in the document.
- Land management and development control, including sustainable drainage was raised as a major concern and will be updated accordingly.
- Further clarification of roles and responsibilities was requested to ensure the reader fully understands who does what and who to contact.
- Many comments were parochial, indicating the need for a more robust explanation on the prioritisation criteria in order to manage expectations within the limited resources and funding opportunities.

These comments have now been review and assessed to see how relevant they are and how they can be used to improve the content and understanding of the Strategy.

What next?

Over the next week the Strategy document will be amended to take account of the comments raised and a full document including all of the tracked changes will be made available early March for viewing. This will be published together with a copy of all the submitted comments on the DCC website for a final review. The final document will then be presented to the DCC Cabinet on 9th April 2014 for formal approval.

Publication

Subject to approval from cabinet the final strategy report will be visually improved by the publications team prior to being printed and published electronically. This is scheduled for May 2014