

# ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

**Committee: Scrutiny Committee**

**Meeting date: 22 November 2012**

**Relevant Corporate Director: Arthur W Owen**

**Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Bob Parry**

## **Flood Risk Management – Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To gain Scrutiny approval for the Draft Flood Risk Management Strategy.

### **2.0 Issues for Scrutiny**

2.1 To consider the contents of this strategic document, in particular as regards the requirements of this authority.

### **3.0 Background**

3.1 Isle of Anglesey County Council, by virtue of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010, is now the Lead Local Flood Authority for Anglesey. A requirement of the Act is that the Authority prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. This document has been prepared by working in collaboration with Conwy County Borough Council.

3.2 The designation of the Isle of Anglesey County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority has brought with it a number of new, statutory functions. The Strategy sets out how the Authority proposes to carry out these functions.

3.3 Staff resources and funding will be required for the Authority to successfully carry out the functions proposed within the Strategy. Failure to do so would put the Authority at risk of breaching the requirements of the Flood & Water Management Act.

3.4 Due to the time constraints imposed by the Welsh Government, the size of the document and the potential for further changes it has not been possible

to translate the main document, however there is a Welsh version of the Executive Summary attached. The main document will be translated after approval.

**Name: Dewi R Williams**

**Job Title: Head of Service (Highways and Waste Management) Service**

**Department: Sustainable Development Department**

*Date 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012*

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**Appendices –**

Draft Anglesey Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

**Previous Relevant Council or Executive Decisions or Local Service Board**

No previous relevant decisions

**Background Papers – None**

Officer Contact: E Rowland Thomas



# Anglesey Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Executive Summary

November 2012  
Isle of Anglesey County Council



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Executive Summary

**Mott MacDonald**

November 2012

Isle of Anglesey County Council



### Introduction

This Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) begins a new chapter for flood and coastal erosion risk management in Anglesey which will work towards understanding and managing flood risk within the County. It highlights the steps that are to be taken to improve knowledge of flood risk on the island, to work better with organisations and the public towards reducing those risks whilst aiming to balance the need of communities, the economy and the environment. This strategy will highlight the steps that are to be taken to ensure this happens.

Isle of Anglesey County Council (IoACC), as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) will principally look to tackle 'local flood risk', i.e. flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses such as ditches and streams. Until now there has been little co-ordinated work to address these forms of flood risk; however this strategy will look to address this.

The strategy starts with information on the legislation that underpins flood and coastal Erosion risk management. It then pulls together all available information on flooding in Anglesey so that it is more easily accessible for those trying to understand more about flood risk in the county. Subsequently, it goes on to identify the authorities and organisations involved and what part each will play in helping reduce the risk of flooding and what householders and businesses need to do to protect their properties.

The next section will describe the strategic objectives for managing flood risk and the measures that might be implemented to achieve them. This will be supplemented by annual action plans in order to give a more detailed overview of what IoACC want to achieve that year and how it will be undertaken. These will be reviewed as more information has been collated about where the greatest risk is and what funding can be attained.

### Guiding Principles

The following are the guiding principles which flood and coastal erosion risk management in Anglesey will be based on:

- Floods are natural events and will continue to occur, regardless of any efforts to prevent them. The danger from flooding will never be eliminated and therefore it is important to focus as much on reducing the disruption that flooding causes as on measures to prevent it;
- There are opportunities to derive significant benefits in the wider context of sustainability, environmental and social improvement in the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management function;
- The public and private costs created from flood damage can be reduced in the long term by effective flood risk management;
- The decisions on where local resources are focused should be evidence-based and made against clear justifiable criteria;
- The level of knowledge about flood risk across all stakeholders needs to be improved;
- To ensure the long term success of flood risk management across Anglesey, all relevant organisations and public funded bodies will have to work collectively to manage the risks of flooding;
- No organisation is able to ensure that all households and businesses are safe from flooding. Householders and business holders have responsibility for protecting their assets, but the relevant

public organisation has a duty to inform property owners of their risk and advise what steps they can take to make their property more resilient;

- Encourage an increase in total investment in flood risk management beyond levels provided by the Welsh Government (WG) alone;
- New developments should look not only to ensure that there is no increase in flood risk but where practical, it should reduce the flood risk currently there;
- The cumulative impact of small developments on flood risk shall be assessed with a similar significance as major developments, to ensure the threat of flood risk doesn't increase; and
- Climate change and how it could affect future flood and erosion risk needs greater understanding and all options should be appraised to enable adaptation to changing risk.

### **What should be included within the LFRMS?**

Under the terms of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) this Local Strategy is required to identify:

- The Risk Management Authorities in the Authority's area;
- The flood and coastal erosion risk management functions that may be exercised by those Authorities in relation to the area;
- The objectives for managing local flood risk;
- The measures proposed to achieve those objectives;
- How and when the measures are expected to be implemented;
- The costs and benefits of those measures, and how they are to be paid for;
- The assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy;
- How and when the strategy is to be reviewed; and
- How the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental objectives.

### **The Risk Management Authorities in Anglesey**

Managing local flood risk is the responsibility of IoACC as an LLFA. The Local Strategy must set out who the other Risk Management Authorities are in the area that have legal responsibilities for the management of flood risk, these have been identified as:



Asiantaeth yr  
Amgylchedd Cymru  
Environment  
Agency Wales

**Environment Agency Wales** is responsible for managing flood risk from **main rivers, reservoirs** and **coastal** flooding, and also has a strategic overview role over all flood and coastal erosion risk management. EAW also has a key role in providing flood warnings to the public.

**Isle of Anglesey County Council** as a lead local flood authority, is responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from all local sources, including **surface water, groundwater** and **ordinary watercourses**.



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

**Dwr Cymru – Welsh Water** (DCWW) is the regional water and sewage treatment company serving the Anglesey area. DCWW is responsible for flood risk from **sewers** and **burst pipes**.



Dwr Cymru  
Welsh Water

**Isle of Anglesey County Council as a Highways Authority** is responsible for managing flood risk on roads and **highways** within the area. Local Authorities in Wales act as highway authorities in respect of local roads.

### IoACC as Lead Local Flood Authority

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 places a number of statutory duties on the Isle of Anglesey County Council in their new role as LLFA including:

- A duty to develop, maintain, apply, and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management;
- A duty to ensure the strategy is consistent with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for Wales;
- A duty to co-operate with other authorities, including sharing data;



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- A duty to co-operate with other authorities, including sharing data; within its area, insofar as a LLFA consider it necessary or appropriate;
- A duty to maintain a register of structures and features likely to affect flood risk;
- A duty to contribute to sustainable development.

In addition to these each LLFA has a number of what are called permissive powers. These are powers that allow them to do something, but do not compel them to and include:

- Powers to request a person for any information relating to flood or coastal erosion risk management responsibilities;
- Powers to designate structures and features relating to flood risk, other than from “Main River”;
- The expansion of powers to undertake works to include broader risk management actions; and

IoACC will also be required to take on two other roles:

- SuDS Approval Body (SAB) to approve, adopt and maintain SuDS on new development sites which serve more than one property; and
- Taking responsibility for consenting works on ordinary watercourses.

## Objectives of the Strategy

### Ten Objectives for Isle of Anglesey County Council

1. **To improve the understanding of local flood (surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses) and coastal risks;**
2. **Increasing individual and community awareness and preparedness for flood and coastal erosion events and the impacts of climate change on flood risk;**
3. **To work together (both FRMA, stakeholders and public) to reduce flood and coastal risks, sharing data and resources to the greatest benefit;**
4. **To reduce the impact and consequences for individuals, communities, businesses and the environment from flooding and coastal erosion;**
5. **To ensure that planning decisions are properly informed by flooding issues and the impact future planning may have on flood risk management and long term developments;**
6. **Take a sustainable approach to flood risk management balancing economic, environmental and social benefits;**
7. **Increase approaches that utilise the natural environment;**
8. **Ensure the development of skills required to implement effective and innovative flood risk management measures;**
9. **Encourage maintenance of privately owned flood defences and ordinary watercourses, and minimise unnecessary constrictions in watercourses; and**
10. **Work together with other Flood Risk Authorities to reduce the loading of combined sewers.**

## Review of the Strategy

The strategy is a “living document” which will develop as new information, expertise and resources influence the delivery of the measures outlined in the strategy. There will also be substantial changes in the next few years, with changes to the planning system and the requirements for sustainable drainage; and in

the provision of flood insurance. IoACC will take account of these changes and consider the implications in respect to the strategy and make annual on-going adjustments as necessary.

It is proposed that a formal review of the local strategy should take place in 2017 following the review of the National Strategy in 2016, and to coincide with the review of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) as required by the Flood Risk Regulations (FFR). The strategy should then continue to be reviewed every six years in conjunction with the review of the PFRA, unless circumstances dictate a more frequent review.

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