

 EXECUTIVE 10 June 2009		Agenda Item No.
Title:	Scrutiny of Flooding: Clarification and Development of New Protocols in Liaison with Severn Trent and British Waterways	
For further information about this report please contact	John Edwards-Tel. 456541 John.edwards@warwickdc.gov.uk	
Service Area	PLANNING SERVICES	
Wards of the District directly affected	ALL	
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	NO	
Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number	EXECUTIVE 03.09.2008 MINUTE 392 – SCRUTINY OF FLOODING	
Background Papers		

Contrary to the policy framework:	No
Contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)	No

Officer/Councillor Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports <u>must</u> be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance, Legal Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Relevant Director	15.5.09	Bill Hunt
Chief Executive		
CMT	21.5.09	
Section 151 Officer		
Legal	21.5.09	Peter Oliver
Finance	21.5.09	Marcus Miskinis
Portfolio Holder(s)	18.5.09	Cllr Bernard Kirton
Consultation Undertaken		
Please insert details of any consultation undertaken with regard to this report.		
Final Decision?		Yes/No
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 The need for this report arises from work undertaken by a joint WDC and WCC Scrutiny Committee set up to review the services to householders(including vulnerable people), businesses and the impact to transportation routes following the severe weather of June/July 2007 which led to the flooding of homes and businesses in Warwick District
- 1.1.2 The working party formulated their recommendations following a series of meetings with partner agencies including Severn Trent and British Waterways. These recommendations were reported to the Executive and the relevant Executive minute states (in part). "That the planning department liaise with Severn Trent and British Waterways to clarify and develop new protocols and report back in six months time".

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Executive note the existing arrangements that are in place for the involvement of statutory and other relevant authorities in scrutinising planning applications that have implications for flood risk.

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Current arrangements for involvement of partner agencies in the scrutiny of planning applications which may have flood risk implications are well developed and for the most part, set out in statutory regulations.
- 3.2 British Waterways is a statutory consultee in relation to planning applications and they are formally notified of all applications within 150 metres of the canal. Similarly, the Environment Agency are also a statutory consultee and formal protocols are in place for consultation on planning applications with the agency.(The Agency recently launched their revised advice and guidance to local authorities at a seminar held at WDC and provided a useful recent training session for Planning Committee members on Flooding issues as part of Committee training).
- 3.3 In relation to Severn Trent, although not a statutory consultee, the current arrangement is that the weekly list of planning applications is forwarded to them and comments are received on cases where they have an interest. Where drainage conditions are imposed as a result of a Severn Trent request, it is practice to consult them on those details.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTION CONSIDERED

- 4.1 This report sets out the protocols and consultation arrangements currently in place for members' information. In view of the existence of structured arrangements for the involvement of key agencies in assessment of flood risk in relation to new development, the alternative option of developing new protocols has not been pursued.

5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

- 5.1 No budgetary implications arise from this report

6. **POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 6.1 This report sets out existing arrangements and does not give rise to policy implications. The planning policy framework for the assessment of flood risk is well developed at the national and local level, with PPS 25 “Development and Flood Risk” providing the national context and policy DP10 of the Warwick District Local Plan 1996-2011 being the key development plan policy.