

<b>REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE</b>		Report No. <a href="#">12</a>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2008	
<b>Title of Report</b>	Wiltshire Flood Plan	
<b>Portfolio</b>	Community & Wellbeing	
Link to Corporate Priorities	<b>To protect and enhance the local environment</b>	
Key Decision	No	
Executive Workplan Ref	N/A	
Public Report	Yes	

**Summary of Report**

For the Executive to consider the Wiltshire Flood Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 which has been compiled by the Wiltshire Emergency Planning Local Resilience Forum Sub Group. The Report provides a summary of the roles and responsibilities of the different agencies involved in flooding and also sets out a sandbag protocol for adoption by the four District Councils in Wiltshire.

**Officer Recommendations**

**That the Executive endorse and approve the Wiltshire Flood Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.**

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
No	No	Yes	No	No

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Wiltshire Flood Plan has been developed by the Emergency Planning Officers at Wiltshire County Council and Emergency Planning Co-ordinators from the four District Councils. In view of the problems with flooding, particularly over the last year, the Group has worked to provide a Wiltshire Flood Plan identifying roles and responsibilities of the relevant bodies and also to provide a consistent sandbag policy, which can be adopted by all the local authorities involved.

## **2. Options and Options Appraisal**

- 2.1 Option 1: Members accept the Flood Plan.
- 2.2 Option 2: Members do not accept the Flood Plan.

## **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 The Emergency Planning Co-ordinators from each District Council and the Emergency Planning Officers from Wiltshire County Council meet on a quarterly basis as an Emergency Planning Sub Group of the Local Resilience Forum. The Group meet to ensure that there is a consistent approach to emergency planning across the County. In the past the group has been involved in bringing together other important Emergency Planning documentation e.g.: the Wiltshire Council and District Council Major Incident Plan (CADMRP).
- 3.2 Due to the problems of flooding throughout the County experienced over the last few years, the group considered that it would help to provide a consistent approach throughout the County if a Wiltshire Flood Plan was devised. This work has been carried out over the last year and has involved other major agencies e.g.: Environment Agency, Wiltshire Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Service, Wiltshire Primary Care Trust and the major utility companies.
- 3.3 There has been inconsistency on how sandbags have been issued by the County Council and the District Councils and the plan seeks to establish a protocol. The protocol sets out priorities and criteria, however, the protocol does also allow for flexibility in allowing Officers to make individual judgements having regard to the circumstance of each incident. The plan as detailed in Appendix 1, is also being presented to the other Councils in Wiltshire for consideration, with a recommendation that the plan be approved.
- 3.4 Some authorities have considered making a charge for the provision of sandbags, however, at this present time it is not being put forward as a recommendation and will be a matter that the new Council may wish to consider in the future.
- 3.5 The plan will be the subject of review on an annual basis to take into account any changes with regard to local circumstances and direction from Central Government.
- 3.6 If the plan is approved by the Executive then it will be published on the Council's website and Town and Parish Councils will be notified of the document.

#### 4. Community and Environment Implications

- 4.1 The Plan provides helpful information on flooding to the public and businesses in Wiltshire and defines roles for the relevant agencies. It also provides Cleansing and Amenities Teams in the District Councils with guidelines on prioritising the issue of a limited number of sandbags to local communities.

#### 5. Risk Analysis

- 5.1 If the plan is not adopted it could lead to inconsistencies with regard to flood for residents living in Wiltshire.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Appendix 1 - Wiltshire Flood Plan</b></li></ul>
<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Please list any background documents or state None.</b></li></ul>

#### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

<b>Report</b>	<b>Committee &amp; Date</b>	<b>Minute Reference</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Please list any previous reports or state None.</b></li></ul>		