

By: Tony Harwood, Senior Emergency Planning Officer

To: Kent Flood Risk Management Committee. 21 November 2011

Subject: Kent Resilience Forum Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan

Classification: Unrestricted

For: Decision

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The Flood Risk Management Committee is requested to the note sign-off of the KCC Emergency Planning drafted KRF Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan (on 13/10/2011).

2. Background

2.1 Sir Michael Pitt, in his review of the flood-related emergencies during the summer floods of 2007, observed a lack of preparedness for a reservoir failure and made a number of recommendations for action. In October 2009 the Government published guidance providing information and advice informing contingency planning against the risk of reservoir inundation.

2.2 Responding to this agenda the KRF Severe Weather Sub-group initiated a Reservoir Inundation Task and Finish Group, chaired by the Environment Agency, supported by Kent County Council and tasked with production of a generic KRF Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan. KCC Emergency Planning drafted the plan. This Plan will be published electronically with these agenda papers in due course.

3. Proposal – Key Principles

3.1 The KRF Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan has followed the approach set out in the relevant Government guidance, A Framework for Reservoir Inundation Preparedness Planning.

3.2 A consultation exercise, across Kent Resilience Forum partners, and input gleaned from previous discussion of this plan by the KRF Executive has led to a range of refinements being introduced.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 It is considered that adoption of a KRF Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan can be accommodated within partners existing staffing and financial planning structures.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- a) Note the sign-off the KRF Off-site Reservoir Inundation Emergency Plan for use by Kent Resilience Forum partners.

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Background papers: None