

## Action plan for KCC Flood Risk Select Committee Recommendations

Drafted June 2008

Reviewed November 2008

	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Action(s)</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Review Nov 2008</b>
R1	That KCC look into setting up and resourcing a permanent Flood Risk Committee, in partnership with District Councils.	Flood risk standing committee to be established.  Existing groups relating to flood risk to be identified and communication between existing groups to be improved.	KCC (Members)  KCC – which dpt?	It is suggested that a new forum is not required as many of the listed actions for such are covered by established groups. Instead communication between these groups should be improved.	There is the need for one point of contact for flood risk within KCC. Currently responsibility lies with Natural Environment & Coast Team, KHS, Strategic Planning and Emergency Planning. To enable a more coordinated and cohesive approach it is suggested that dedicated Flood Risk Officer post be created.
R2	That there should be adequate, ring-fenced, direct government funding for flood risk management.	Lobby central government for additional funding for flood risk management.	KCC (Members) EA	Consider using the LGA coastal issues special interest group as lobbying mechanism.	LGA coastal issues SIG continues to lobby on flood risk management. Select Committee to advise on any issues they would like taken to this group.
R3	That KCC should lobby the government to consider re-designating the flood management arm of the	No action.		Recommendation objected to by EA. Suggest no further action.	No further action required.

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	Environment Agency as a dedicated flood risk agency.				
R4	That KCC promotes the further development of an Engineering Consultancy led by Canterbury City Council Engineers.	To offer support/ promotion where required.	KCC – NEC		A county-wide drainage team has been established within KHS.
R5	That KCC supports development in brownfield and other areas subject to the rigorous application of site specific sequential and exception tests of Planning Policy Statement 25 (PS25).	For KCC planners to note.	KCC – Planning	Already observed.	No further action required.
R6	That KCC oversee the development of further sub-regional flood risk assessments, based on river catchments, and undertakes to monitor this development.	Identify gaps in assessments and work with EA and districts to complete assessments for the county.	EA District authorities KCC – Planning		EA are leading on this work, with input from the district authorities.
R7	That KCC ensures that its E&W Team are sufficiently resourced to enable them to contribute to coastal flood risk management.		KCC – NEC	Coastal Officer post has already been secured.	Select Committee to consider the need for a dedicated post for flood risk. See comments under R1.
R8	That KCC should lead on the co-ordination of work with landowners and other agencies to identify options for the funding of changed land-use or buy-out to ensure that	KCC to convene meeting with EA and NE and other stakeholders to discuss current initiatives and identify way forward.	KCC – Planning & NEC	Work is already underway nationally to look at issues of blight associated with coastal policy (Defra).	No action taken to date. Awaiting outcomes of Defra work.

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	plans to achieve more naturally functioning flood plains and coastline in Kent are arrived at equitably.				
R9	That KCC works in partnership with the EA to ensure that RBMPs are fully integrated with existing CFMPs and SMPs.	Officers leading on management plans to ensure work is joined up.	KCC – Planning & NEC EA	KCC and EA are already working to ensure integration.	No further action required.
R10	That KHS and the EA seek to reconstitute Flood Liaison Advice Groups (FLAGS) in Kent.	KHS to convene initial meeting.	KCC - KHS EA		KHS are now working with KRF, with input from Emergency Planning.
R11	That KCC instigates discussions between local planning authorities, Southern Water and others on the feasibility, benefit and cost implications of using non-return valves/sealed sewage.	KCC to table suggestion for new developments at KPOG meeting.  KFRR to assess surface water and groundwater risk, identify at risk areas and provide recommendations.  KCC to discuss with Southern Water installation of valves at existing developments at risk.	KCC – Planning  KCC - KHS  KCC – Planning		Not yet tabled at KPOG.  KFRR study underway to assess flooding risk in Kent.  Discussions to be held on Minerals and Waste Development Framework (incl. waste water) with Southern and Thames Water early 2009.
R12	That KCC promotes the use of SUDS throughout Kent.	KPOG to discuss development of model policy on SUDS for LDF.	KCC – Planning	Kent Design Guide already promotes SUDS and includes a technical appendix.	No further action required.
R13	That Kent planning authorities adopt the requirement for Drainage Impact Assessments	Review the requirement of drainage impact assessment and feasibility for its inclusion.	KCC – Planning		Discussion needs to be held on this at the district level.

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	for all new developments, following the Canterbury model.				
R14	That the Fire & Rescue Service is included as an active partner in the planning process for new developments.	KFRS to discuss with Kent planning authorities.	KFRS KCC – Planning	Noted that district development control already liaise with KFRS.	No further action required.
R15	That the Kent Design guide is revised to include information on mitigating flood damage and makes reference to innovative designs for the future.	KCC to consider flood mitigation designs etc during next review of Kent Design Guide.	KCC – Planning	Next review will take place in 2010.	No action required in this period.
R16	That KCC lobbies government to produce a set of Building Regulations for use in flood risk areas so that planners are supported by increased but nationally consistent obligations to assist developers with a high level of flood proofing/ mitigation.	Lobby government for building regulations for flood risk areas.	KCC – Planning	Pitt Review also identified need for such building regulations – await outcomes of review before actioning recommendation.	Further assessment of Pitt Review required. Officer attending seminar on Pitt Review recommendations for Local Authorities 18th November 08.
R17	For KCC to work in partnership with the EA to publicise actions householders can take to increase the flood resilience of their homes.	Convene a meeting with EA to discuss coordination of information provision to householders in at risk areas (link with R30).  KFRR to provide recommendations on	KCC EA  KCC - KHS	KRF PRTFG looking at how to improve public readiness. KFRR to consult with this group.	The KRF Public Warning and Informing Group are currently producing a document on public readiness - appended to this is an annexe on measures to make homes more flood resilient.

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		promoting community awareness.			Recommendations from the KFRR will be included in the report due in Dec 08.
R18	That KCC specifically allocate funding to enable the proposed road gully cleansing work.	KFRR to review and identify maintenance priorities.	KCC – KHS		Budget for gully cleansing increased from £1.8 to £2.8 million.
R19	That KCC works in partnership to inform the public about road drainage cleansing activities.	KFRR to identify maintenance priorities and produce programme of work.	KCC – KHS		KHS will be developing website over next two years that will list programme of works.
R20	That the government should urgently consider the EA's request for funding to enable vital works to proceed at Jury's Gap, Camber.	EA to keep KCC, and other relevant parties, informed of developments relating to these works and others.	EA		This refers to the Broomhill area, between Jury's Gap and Camber. The EA have brought the works forward and are in the pre-planning design stage. This work is moving on in advance of the strategy approval because of immediate need.
R21	That the EA should encourage the input of local authority and IDB experts on local strategies and schemes; IDB represented on SE RFDC.	EA to consult relevant authorities and IDBs on local strategies and schemes.  EA to invite representative of IDB to SE RFDC.	EA	Consultation with relevant LAs already takes place.	In relation to the SE RFDC, IDBs are represented through the local authority representative, which has been agreed by the RFDC as the correct approach.

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R22	That the EA develop and implement a phased rolling programme of maintenance to include 'low risk' areas.		EA	Need to discuss with EA.	The year of the Select Committee, cuts were made to the rolling programme. These cuts are not reflected in this year's work and the maintenance programme is in place and includes areas classed as 'low risk'.
R23	That the EA prioritise clearance of waterways in the Romney Marsh Area.		EA	Need to discuss with EA.	Clearance work is carried out on a priority basis – most of Romney Marsh is classed as medium or high risk. Work is underway.
R24	That KRF SWG audit and promote the development of emergency flood plans for at risk areas and develop and generic flood plan for Kent.	Develop emergency flood plans and generic flood plan.	KRF SWG EA KCC – Emergency Planning		Emergency flood plans in development, with a multi-agency approach as recommended by Pitt Review. A draft plan was put out to consultation late summer/early autumn (08). EA are now working on incorporating comments received – final plan will be presented to KRF Executive Board at December 08 or February 09 meeting.

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R25	That the government consider placing a duty on the FRS to respond to a flood emergency and further considers designating FRS as the lead body in charge of a flood incident.	KRF to discuss and agree action.	KRF KCC – Emergency Planning		KRF established Pitt Review Task and Finish Group to look at recommendations. This was one of them. Currently awaiting government response to Pitt Review, due shortly.
R26	That the KRF SWG formulate and publicise an action plan to raise public confidence in Kent's preparedness for flood events. Consideration to be given to merging the SWG with the Flood Warning Planning Liaison Group.	KRF to develop and publicise flood action plan.  KRF and Flood Warning Planning Liaison Group to discuss merging.	KRF SWG  Flood Warning Planning Liaison Group		Flood plan in development (see R24). How plan will be publicised will be determined once it is completed.
R27	That KHS should send officers to work alongside local district colleagues in an emergency situation.	No action required.	KCC – KHS	Arrangements already exist for this.	No further action required.
R28	That the EA should ensure there is a systematic survey of critical infrastructure (location and flood defences) and through the SWG promote work with utility companies to ensure supplies can be protected and maintained during flood emergency situations.	KRF PRTFG to undertake survey of critical infrastructure and review, with utility companies, protection and maintenance of supplies.  KRF PRTFG to share results of review with KFRR.  KFRR to review vulnerability of critical infrastructure and	KRF PRTFG  KRF PRTFG  KCC – KHS		KRF are having ongoing discussions with the utilities to identify issues and necessary action.  KFRR undertaking review in relation to highways – due for completion Dec'08.

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		wider community.			
R29	That the KRF SWG liaise with partners in the KRF and east coast authorities to formulate an emergency response plan for an extreme coastal event; assess whether the current warning system/communication processes are adequate; and ensure that people are educated about what to do when they receive a flood warning.	As per recommendation.  KFRR to provide recommendations on flooding emergency response procedures for highways.	KRF		KRF PRTFG looking at how to improve public readiness. KFRR to consult with this group. This is part of the ongoing multi-agency flood plan work and action for high risk areas (see R24).  KFRR due for completion Dec 08.
R30	That KCC support the EA in raising flood risk awareness via town and parish councils and similar community groups.	KCC to meet with EA to discuss how they may assist with awareness raising (link with R17).  KFRR to provide recommendations on promoting community awareness.	KCC – Emergency Planning  KCC – KHS	KRF PRTFG developing plan for application of 'door knocking' flood warnings.	KRF are identifying communities at risk to develop awareness raising plan. EA made a presentation to the Local Authority Group on awareness raising work underway.  KHS liaison officers have been attending parish seminars. Suggested that a short note for circulation could be prepared by KHS – would need consultation with EA and KRF.

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