

Officer Non Key Executive Decision

Relevant Chief Officer (Decision Maker):	John Blackledge, Director of Community and Environmental Services
Relevant Cabinet Member (for consultation purposes):	Councillor Fred Jackson, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and Climate Change
Report Author (Officer name and title):	Clare Nolan-Barnes, Head of Coastal and Environmental Partnerships
Implementation Date of Decision:	1 October 2019

SECTION 19 REPORT IN RESPECT OF FLOODING IN ANCHORSHOLME AND BISPHAM NOVEMBER 2017

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Blackpool Council to discharge its statutory duty under the Flood and Water management Act (2010) Section 19, which is attached to investigate significant local flooding incidents, and to publish the report into the significant flooding incident in Blackpool on the 22 November 2017 in line with its policy on investigation.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 It is recommended that the attached Section 19 report, Investigation into flooding on 22 November 2017, is now published as required by the Statutory duty under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010).
- 2.2 To agree to carry-out studies in the areas highlighted in the Section 19 report recommendations in the Anchorsholme and Bispham areas to ultimately better understand improvements required or resilience measures, utilising funding sought and achieved from the Environment Agency and United Utilities of £110,000 (£55,000 from each).

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 Blackpool Council is required to cooperate with other Risk Management authorities in the preparation of the investigation of flooding, which includes where necessary providing evidence from other risk management authorities. Following extensive discussions with United Utilities Blackpool Council now consider that the report is

complete to the best of its knowledge taking into account the evidence provided by United Utilities.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Blackpool would be in breach of its statutory duty under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) if this report is not published.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience".

5.0 Background Information

5.1 On the 22 November 2017, flooding occurred in a number of locations in Blackpool namely in the Anchorsholme and Bispham wards. 300 properties were reported to have been impacted by the flooding, 74 with suffering internal property level flooding.

5.2 Blackpool Council has worked closely with United Utilities in preparing this section 19 report and collating the data provided in respect of flooding and potential causes.

5.3 The report provides a number of recommendations, in particular that a study, investigations and modelling are carried out to better understand improvements or resilience measures that can be provided to prevent or protect properties from flooding in these areas in future. Applications have been made to the Environment Agency for partnership funding which will be matched with United Utilities to fund this study.

5.4 In relation to the studies and modelling to better understand improvements required or resilience measures, as recommended in the Section 19 report in the Anchorsholme and Bispham areas. Funding has been sought and agreed from the Environment Agency and United Utilities of £110,000- £55,000 from each) to progress the related recommendations.

5.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix A: Section 19 report into flooding on 22 November 2017.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Investigation requirement of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) Section 19 satisfied.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 The recommendation of the Section 19 report states that funding should be sought from the Environment Agency to carry out further investigations, study and modelling into the causes of flooding and any potential mitigation measures. Partnership funding has now been allocated in the sum of £55,000 from the Environment Agency and £55,000 match funding from United Utilities.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The investigation/study will provide options for flood risk management in Anchorsholme and Bispham.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The Section 19 report has been shared internally with the Head of Highways and Externally with United Utilities.

13.0 Decision of Chief Officer

- 13.1 That the attached Section 19 report, Investigation into flooding on 22 November 2017, is now published as required by the Statutory duty under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act (2010).
- 13.2 To agree to carry-out studies in the areas highlighted in the Section 19 report recommendations in the Anchorsholme and Bispham areas to ultimately better understand improvements required or resilience measures, utilising funding sought and achieved from the Environment Agency and United Utilities of £110,000 (£55,000 from each).

14.0 Reasons for the Decision of the Chief Officer

- 14.1 Blackpool Council is required to cooperate with other Risk Management authorities in the preparation of the investigation of flooding, which includes where necessary providing evidence from other risk management authorities. Following extensive discussions with United Utilities Blackpool Council now consider that the report is complete to the best of its knowledge taking into account the evidence provided by United Utilities.