

# Knowsley Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

## *Summary Note*

### **Background**

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 introduced new powers, duties and responsibilities and made Knowsley Council a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) responsible for managing 'local' flood risk within Knowsley.

Knowsley's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is a statutory document, produced under Section 9 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

#### **Section 9, Flood and Water Management Act 2010**

*'The Lead Local Flood Authority must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a Strategy for local flood risk management.'*

It is an important document to help individuals, communities, businesses and authorities understand and manage flood risk in Knowsley.

The Strategy focuses on 'local' flood risk, which is the risk of flooding from surface water, groundwater and from ordinary watercourses. It also looks at interactions between local flood risk and other flood risks.

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Flooding may occur from a variety or a multiple of sources, occurring over short and long timespans. It is therefore necessary to work closely with other organisations responsible for managing other sources of flooding to successfully manage local flood risk in Knowsley.

The Knowsley Local Flood Risk Management Strategy sets out:

- **What local flood risk is, what the local flood risks are and how we will continue to build our understanding of flood risk in Knowsley.**
- **How flood risks will be managed, by whom, and how we work in partnership.**
- **Our approach to investing in flood risk systems and infrastructure.**

Flooding may not be entirely preventable, but we can learn lessons from past events and take positive actions to prepare for and reduce the impacts and consequences of floods.

This Summary Note highlights key parts of the Strategy. You can access the full Knowsley Local Flood Risk Management Strategy via: [INSERT WEB LINK](#).

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### What are the different types of flooding in Knowsley?

There are five key types of flood risk in Knowsley which are summarised below:

Type of Flood Risk	Description
<b>Watercourse Flooding (Fluvial)</b>	Occurs when a river or stream cannot cope with the water draining into it from the surrounding land.
<b>Surface Water Flooding (Pluvial)</b>	Occurs when rainwater does not drain away through the normal drainage system or when rainwater does not soak into the ground but lies on or flows over the ground instead. This type of flooding is often difficult to predict and pinpoint.
<b>Groundwater Flooding</b>	Occurs when levels of water in the ground rise above the surface. It is most likely to happen in areas where the ground contains aquifers which are permeable rocks that water can soak into or pass through.
<b>Sewer Flooding</b>	<p>Occurs when sewers are overloaded by heavy rainfall or when they become blocked. The chance of flooding depends on the capacity of the local sewage system and amount of rain that falls during a period of time.</p> <p>Land and property can be flooded with water contaminated with raw sewage as a result. Sewers that overflow can also pollute rivers and ditches.</p>
<b>Reservoir Flooding</b>	Reservoirs hold large volumes of water above ground level, contained by walls or dams. Although the safety record for reservoirs in England is excellent, it is still possible that a dam could fail and cause flooding.

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### Who is responsible for different types of flood risk?

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 defines a number of flood ‘risk management authorities’ which have clearly defined responsibilities:

Flood Source	Environment Agency	Lead Local Flood Authority <i>Knowsley Council</i>	United Utilities	Highway Authority <i>Knowsley Council</i>
<b>WATERCOURSE</b>				
Main River	✓			
Ordinary Watercourse		✓		
<b>SURFACE WATER RUNOFF</b>				
Surface Water		✓		
Surface Water from or to the Adopted Highway				✓
<b>OTHER</b>				
Sewer Flooding			✓	
Groundwater		✓		
Reservoirs	✓		✓	

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***The aim of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is to ensure that the overall context of the National Strategy is met through Knowsley's management of local flood risk.***

We will do this through the delivery of our six key objectives:

<b>Objective 1</b>	To develop a collective understanding of the local flood risk within Knowsley to a sufficient level whereby studies and schemes can be identified and to put in place long-term plans to manage these risks and to make sure that other plans take account of them.
<b>Objective 2</b>	To work in partnership with other risk management authorities, key stakeholders, partners, organisations and the community, to reduce the risk of flooding to communities, the economy and the environment from all sources.
<b>Objective 3</b>	To support the delivery of flood-appropriate sustainable development and ensure that the guiding principles for sustainable development are applied and inappropriate development is avoided in existing and future areas at risk of flooding.
<b>Objective 4</b>	To increase public awareness of the effects of climate change and the implications for an increase in flood risk, engage with people specifically at risk of flooding, to empower them and encourage them to accept their flood risk, to become resilient communities by taking action to manage and/or mitigate the risks that they face.
<b>Objective 5</b>	To support and assist those bodies responsible for improving the detection, forecasting and issue of warnings of flooding. Plan for and co-ordinate a rapid response to flood emergencies and promote faster recovery from flooding.
<b>Objective 6</b>	Where viable, build, maintain and improve local flood risk management infrastructure and systems to mitigate or reduce the likelihood of harm to people and damage to the economy; environment (natural, historic, built and social) and society as a whole.

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### **How we will deliver our Strategy**

The Flood Risk Action Plan sets out how we will deliver our aim and objectives, who will lead each task and when it must be delivered by. This provides a clear framework against which we can monitor our progress. It can be found in Appendix 3 of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

### **Monitoring the Delivery of our Strategy**

Knowsley Council will monitor the delivery of the Flood Risk Action Plan through the Knowsley Operational 'Making Space for Water' Group.

Progress of the delivery of the Flood Risk Action Plan will be also subject to scrutiny by the Cabinet Lead Member for Regeneration and Economic Development and through Knowsley's Economic Growth and Prosperity Committee.

### **Updating our Strategy**

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is intended to be a 'living document', with published reviews every 3 years.