

Flood Risk Management and Riparian Land Ownership Task and Finish Group

1. Membership

6 elected members – representatives appointed by each of the Council's Member Area Groups

2. Officer Input

Officers from the Council's Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services department, along with representatives from Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and representatives of the farming/landowners e.g. NFU, FUW, CLA (see proposed list at the end of this document)

3. Purpose of the Study

To explore potential methods for strengthening communication channels and building effective working relationships between all parties and organisations that have responsibilities for managing flood risk from rivers and watercourses across Denbighshire.

4. Sphere of Study

To:

- (i) examine and review the effectiveness of all public flood risk authorities' current communication channels and information sharing practices in relation to flood risk management across Denbighshire
- (ii) engage with riparian landowners and tenants to seek their views on how interaction and working relationships between public flood risk management authorities and them can be strengthened in a bid to ensure that all parties understand their individual responsibilities in relation to flood risk management; and
- (iii) foster a level of mutual trust between all parties, where advice and support can be easily sought and accessed in order to find practical and workable flood risk maintenance solutions, with a view to reducing the risk of flooding in future by ensuring the unobstructed flow of water through the land under their guardianship

5. Timescales

The Task and Finish Group will determine its timescale for undertaking the work and inform Communities Scrutiny Committee of the anticipated timeframe. In doing so it will aim to be in a position to report to the Committee on its work to date by late 2021 [this may be an update, its recommendations or its final report]

6. Governance

Upon the conclusion of its work the Task and Finish Group will report its findings, conclusions and any proposed recommendations to Communities Scrutiny Committee in due course.

7. Administration

An officer from Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services will provide administrative support to the Task and Finish Group. They will be responsible for keeping an appropriate record of the Group's proceedings which shall be made available upon request to elected members and/or Democratic Services staff.

Elected Members:

[To be completed once each MAG has appointed its representative]

Officer Support to the Group:

Tony Ward (Head of Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services)/Tim Towers (Section Manager – Network Management, Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services)

Wayne Hope (Flood Risk Manager)

Representative of Denbighshire County Council's Planning Service

Appropriate Representative Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Appropriate Representative Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water(DCWW)

Agricultural/Landowners Representatives Administrative Support (Highways, Facilities and Environmental Services)

*Lead Member(s) can be invited as expert witness(es)