

Flood and Water Management Team

Team purpose:

To deliver the statutory functions of the Council associated with Flood and the Water Environment and provide the necessary technical support and input as required to protect the Council's interests and support the Council's vision and priorities.

Team Capacity:

The team consist of two full time and one part time officers. One full time position is currently vacant.

Statutory Duties:

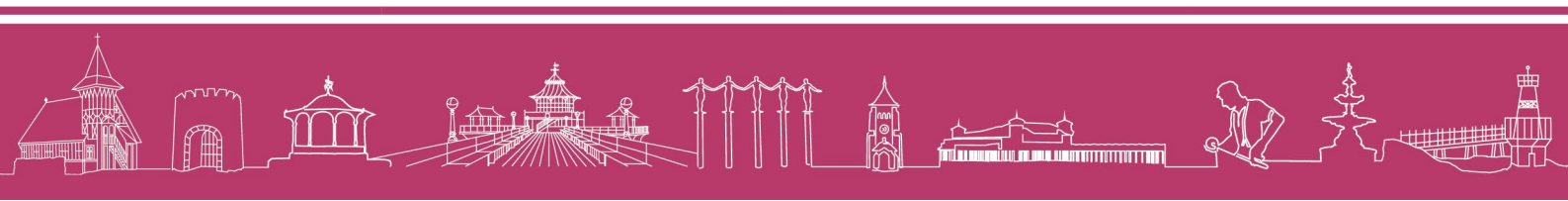
Must = indicates a statutory duty that North Somerset Council are required to fulfil. Powers and general responsibilities not shown for clarity.

Flood and Water Management Act 2010

- Must develop, maintain and apply a local flood risk management strategy for local flood risk (surface water runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses).
- Must co-operate with other risk management authorities.
- Must establish and maintain a register of structures or features that are likely to have a significant effect on a flood risk in its area. Record information including ownership and state of repair.
- Must investigate significant flooding.
- Future duty to approve, adopt and maintain sustainable drainage in new developments.

Flood Risk Regulations 2009

- Must (a) determine whether, in its opinion, there is a significant flood risk in its area, and (b) identify the part of the area affected by the risk (the "flood risk area").
- A lead local flood authority must prepare a flood risk management plan in relation to each relevant flood risk area (this must be completed every 6 years).
- The revised flood risk management plan must—
(a) take account of the likely impact of climate change on the occurrence of floods,



(b) include an assessment of the progress made towards implementing the measures under previous flood risk management plans), and
(c) if any measures proposed in the previous flood risk management plan have not been implemented, include a statement of the reasons why those measures have not been implemented.

Land Drainage Act 1991

- Must consent works for obstructions within a watercourse.
- Duty to further the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty and the conservation of flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest, when exercising any function of the Act.
- Duty to have regard to the desirability of protecting and conserving buildings, sites and objects of archaeological, architectural or historic interest.
- Duty to take into account any effect which the proposals would have on the beauty or amenity of any rural or urban area or on any such flora, fauna, features, buildings, sites or objects.
- Duty to have regard to the desirability of preserving for the public any freedom of access to areas of woodland, mountains, moor, heath, down, cliff or foreshore and other places of natural beauty.
- Duty to have regard to the desirability of maintaining the availability to the public of any facility for visiting or inspecting any building, site or object of archaeological, architectural or historic interest.
- Duty to take into account any effect which the proposals would have on any such freedom of access or on the availability of any such facility.
- Duty to consult with NE if undertaking any works that may affect a SSSI.

Coast protection Act 1949

- Must consent coast protection work other than maintenance or repair (flood defences consented by EA).
- Notice must be given to coast protection authorities of work undertaken by any organisation that does not require consent.
- Must enforce the prohibition of excavations of material on or under the seashore.
- Must attend coastal group meetings.

Reservoir Act 1975

- Must appoint panel engineer for construction and supervision of reservoirs for reservoirs greater than 25,000 cubic metres. This applies to the Haywood Reservoir (superpond) and potentially other locations due to proposed change in legislation.
- Must create, test and update onsite flood plan.

- Must undertake monthly recorded inspections of the reservoir and quarterly inspections of the control structures.
- Must undertake daily inspections of the reservoir if water flows over intake weir.

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

- Lead Local Flood Authority is a statutory consultee on major developments with surface water drainage.
- Local plans must take account of advice from the Lead Local Flood Authority.
- Lead Local Flood Authority is Statutory consultee on development consent orders.
- Must provide advice and support at appeals.

Water Industry Act 1991

- Must have the sewerage undertakers maps available for inspection by the public free of charge.

Common Law, NSC Risk Management and internal service provision

- Ensure that NSC fulfils its watercourse riparian responsibilities and duties under common law and ensuring compliance with Land Drainage Act 1991.
- Inspect, record, and manage NSC's coastal flood risk management assets.
- Inspect, record and manage NSC's flood risk assets.
- Provide advice and support to the Emergency Management Unit.
- Provide advice and support the Highway Authority.
- Provide advice and support to the seafront team about sand movements, coastal erosion, flood risk and emergency planning.
- Provide advice and respond to consultations related to water resources.

Resilience

- Must provide help and advice regarding property level resilience to businesses and residents as part of the Lead Local Flood Authority Role.

Partnerships and groups attended by Team Members

North Somerset Flood Risk Management Partnership (statutory)

- Essential for the delivery of a partnership approach to flood risk management. Requirement of Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (statutory)

- The Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) is a committee established by the Environment Agency under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

that brings together members appointed by Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) and independent members with relevant experience for 3 purposes:

- to ensure there are coherent plans for identifying, communicating and managing flood and coastal erosion risks across catchments and shorelines.
- to encourage efficient, targeted and risk-based investment in flood and coastal erosion risk management that represents value for money and benefits local communities.
- to provide a link between the Environment Agency, LLFAs, other risk management authorities, and other relevant bodies to build understanding of flood and coastal erosion risks in its area.

Severn Estuary Coastal Group (part statutory)

- Brings together a region's key partners in flood defence and coastal management – principally the coastal managers from maritime Local Authorities, Port Authorities and the Environment Agency. Other interested organisations, such as Natural England, English Heritage, landowners and Defra, will also be members.
- Creates, manages and maintains Shoreline Management Plans (SMP) that define the policy for coastal management over the next 100 years.
- Covers the NSC Coast down to Anchor Head.

South West Coastal Group (part statutory)

- As above but from Anchor Head south.

Severn Estuary Partnership

- An independent initiative, hosted by Cardiff University, to work with local stakeholders in promoting a sustainable approach to the planning, management, and development of the estuary.

Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (part statutory)

- Develop and maintain a single management scheme with an action plan for the Severn Estuary European Marine Site (EMS). ASERA has produced good practice guidance for responsible use of the estuary.
- Competent and Relevant Authorities bordering the Estuary have a statutory duty to manage their activities within the Severn Estuary EMS to minimise impacts and the associated deterioration of the European protected features. ASERA facilitates these Authorities to discharge their statutory duties in the most efficient and cost effective way possible.

Devon and Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (statutory)

- The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MaCAA) introduced a new framework for managing the marine environment and providing greater access to it.
- The Full Authority is comprised of 30 members drawn from relevant Local Authorities (Councillors), General Members (appointed to the Authority by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Statutory Appointees representing the MMO, the Environment Agency (EA) and Natural England (NE). D&S IFCA is funded via several different funding Authorities (councils) with an additional contribution from central government.

North Somerset Levels and Moors Partnership

- Partnership formed by Avon Wildlife Trust and includes the Environment Agency, Natural England, Wessex Water, North Somerset Council, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) and the Internal Drainage Board.
- Objective is to work with landowners to improve habitat management for wildlife and to promote soil management to help mitigate flooding, improve water quality, and increase habitat for wetland birds.

Bristol and Avon Catchment Partnership

- The Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership (BACP) comprises a range of organisations, groups, authorities and individuals dedicated to working together to improve the water environment and provide wider benefits for people and nature at a catchment scale – known as a Catchment Based Approach (CaBA).
- Formed in 2012 with support of central government, the partnership has produced a catchment plan to work towards achieving a better water environment for all.

South West Flood Risk Managers Group

- LLFA meeting of the Wessex Area plus Devon and Cornwall which meets to discuss the LLFA role, future strategies, resources and funding for LLFA's, group has links to National groups ADEPT, TAG, LGA and with DEFRA with opportunities to influence national policy.

Association of SuDs Authorities

- Formal association supporting the delivery of sustainable drainage.
- ASA is a member organisation whose aim is to promote and develop the use of sustainable drainage within all new developments.