

## **CABINET – 3 NOVEMBER 2011**

### **APPOINTMENT TO THE KENT FLOOD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Report of the: Director of Finance and Corporate Resources

Status: For Decision

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**This report supports the Key Aim** of the effective management of Council resources.

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. P Fleming

**Head of Service** Mrs Christine Nuttall - Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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**Recommendation:** That Councillor Scholey be appointed as the Council's representative on the Kent Flood Management Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

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#### **Introduction and Background**

1. The Council has been approached by Kent County Council to appoint a District Councillor to represent Sevenoaks on the Kent Flood Management Committee.
2. The Kent Flood Management Committee was set up to meet the requirements of recommendations 90 and 91 of the Pitt Review into the floods of Summer 2007. These recommendations are:

##### **RECOMMENDATION 90:**

All upper tier local authorities should establish Oversight and Scrutiny Committees to review work by public sector bodies and essential service providers in order to manage flood risk, underpinned by a legal requirement to co-operate and share information.

##### **RECOMMENDATION 91:**

Each Oversight and Scrutiny Committee should prepare an annual summary of actions taken locally to manage flood risk and implement this Review, and these reports should be public and reviewed by Government Offices and the Environment Agency.

3. The Kent Flood Management Committee held its inaugural meeting in January 2010. The Committee is chaired by Richard King and currently comprises eight County Members. Professional advice is provided by Kent County Council officers led by Max Tant (Flood Risk Management Officer), Tony Harwood (Senior Emergency Planning Officer) and Andrew Tait (Democratic Services Officer). The Committee is also attended by representatives from other agencies as dictated by specific agenda items.
4. Key areas of work delivered by the Committee to-date have included the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Local Multi-agency Flood Plans, Exercise Watermark and DEFRA Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments.

### **Sevenoaks District Council Representation on the Kent Flood Management Committee**

5. Kent County Council has decided that the Committee should benefit from a wider membership base and has invited the Kent District and Borough Councils and the Kent Association of Local Councils to nominate representatives.
6. Sevenoaks District Council has been invited to nominate a representative to serve on the Kent Flood Management Committee and the Leader of the Council is proposing that Councillor Scholey, who is the Council's representative on the Upper Medway Internal Drainage Board, should be appointed to sit on the Kent Flood Management Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

### **Key Implications**

#### Financial

6. None.

#### Community Impact and Outcomes

7. The Council's views will be represented on a Kent-wide body dealing with flood management issues to the benefit of the community.

#### Legal, Human Rights etc.

8. None

#### Value For Money and Asset Management

9. None

### **Conclusions**

10. The Cabinet is asked to agree to the appointment of Councillor Scholey to serve on the Kent Flood Management Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

**Sources of Information:** Correspondence with Kent County Council and  
“The Pitt Review: Lessons learned from the 2007  
Floods”

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