

# **Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**

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**Wednesday 30 November 2016 at 5.00 pm**

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillors Steve Wilson (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Penny Baker, Lisa Banes, Neale Gibson, Dianne Hurst, Talib Hussain, Abdul Khayum, Helen Mirfin-Boukouris, Ben Miskell, Robert Murphy, Andy Nash, Chris Peace, Martin Smith and Paul Wood

## **Substitute Members**

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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The Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of service performance and other issues in respect of the area of Council activity relating to planning and economic development, wider environmental issues, culture, leisure, skills and training, and the quality of life in the City.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)

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## **FACILITIES**

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLBEING SCRUTINY AND POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
30 NOVEMBER 2016**

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**Order of Business**

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- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**  
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 1 - 4)  
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 10)  
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2016
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**  
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Protecting Sheffield From Flooding** (Pages 11 - 42)  
Presentation by Jim Fletcher, Flood and Water Management  
With Councillor Bryan Lodge, Cabinet Member for Environment and James Mead, Environment Agency in attendance  
  
With further contributions from:-
  - (a) Yorkshire Water – Head of Asset Strategy
  - (b) Moors for the Future Partnership – John Scot, Director of Conservation and Planning, Peak District National Park
  - (c) Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust – Liz Ballard, Chief Executive and Nicky Rivers
- 8. Economic Landscape Task Group Draft Scope** (Pages 43 - 44)  
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer
- 9. Work Programme 2016/17** (Pages 45 - 52)

Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, at 5.00 pm, in the Town Hall

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period\* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
  - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
  - (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email [gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk).

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**Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development  
Committee**

**Meeting held 26 October 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Steve Wilson (Chair), Ian Auckland (Deputy Chair), Penny Baker, Lisa Banes, Neale Gibson, Dianne Hurst, Talib Hussain, Abdul Khayum, Robert Murphy, Chris Peace, Martin Smith, Paul Wood and Adam Hanrahan (Substitute Member)

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Mirfin-Boukouris and Andy Nash, with Councillor Adam Hanrahan attending the meeting as Councillor Nash's substitute.

**2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3.1 In relation to Agenda Item 7 (Business Rates - Changes, Risks and Opportunities for Sheffield), Councillors Neale Gibson, Abdul Khayum and Paul Wood declared personal interests as business rate payers in the City.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2016, were approved as a correct record, subject to the amendment of (a) paragraph 4.1.11, by the substitution of the words 'based on her own experiences and feedback that her fellow Ward Councillors had received from customers' for the words 'based on the level of customer feedback she had received' and (b) paragraph 4.1.13, by the substitution of the words 'for reasons of commercial confidentiality' for the words 'for data protection purposes' and, arising therefrom:-.

4.2 RESOLVED: That the Committee requests the Chair writes to Stephen Edwards, Executive Director, SYPTE, requesting a written explanation, on behalf of the Sheffield Bus Partnership, on the points raised in (i) to (iii) in paragraph 4.1.15 (b), together with a response to the query now raised by Councillor Paul Wood in terms of what progress had been made by the Partnership in terms of utilising low emission vehicles in areas of the City with high pollution levels.

**5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**

5.1 There were no questions raised or petitions submitted from members of the public.

## **6. BUSINESS RATES - CHANGES, RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHEFFIELD**

- 6.1 The Committee received a report of the Interim Executive Director of Resources providing an overview of the major changes that would be taking place to the Business Rate system over the coming years, including the implementation of a revaluation of rateable values in April 2017. The report referred to the Government's announcement to fully localise Business Rates to English councils in 2020. Under the current system, local councils retained 50% of locally generated Business Rates, with the other 50% going back to Government, who would then redistribute that money to councils, through grants. From 2020, it was proposed that councils would keep 100% of their locally generated Business Rates, and the Government intended to phase out the main Revenue Support Grant (RSG) which Councils currently received, at that point. The Government's stated intention was for councils to be further incentivised to increase economic growth and become less reliant on funding from Whitehall. The proposals represented a fundamental policy and financial change for local government, and was the first step towards local fiscal reform in England.
- 6.2 The report was supported by a presentation from Laurie Brennan, Policy and Improvement Manager, and Mike Thomas, Acting Assistant Director, Strategic Finance.
- 6.3 Laurie Brennan provided a brief overview of the three major changes to the Business Rate system, relating to appeals and Business Rates for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), revaluation and Business Rate localisation. He pointed out that this was a very complex change and that full localisation of Business Rates was a developing policy and thus, further details would be announced by Government over the coming years, ahead of 2020.
- 6.4 Mike Thomas reported, in more detail, on the changes regarding the appeals system and rate reliefs for SMEs. He stated that the Government had recognised that there were huge challenges with the appeals system, and that there was a general acceptance that the system was in need of major reform. Although the new system, to be known as '*Check, Challenge, Appeal*', was to be implemented in April 2017, following consultation, this element of the process still remained a major area of uncertainty. Mr Thomas also reported on the proposals with regard to revaluation, together with details of the impact of this on Sheffield, and on Business Rate localisation, from 2020, including details of how the changes would affect businesses and Councils.
- 6.5 Laurie Brennan concluded by reporting on the impact and longer term growth ambitions, referring to the next steps and the implications, in terms of both opportunities and risks, for Sheffield and the Sheffield City Region (SCR).
- 6.6 Members of the Committee raised questions and the following responses were provided:-

- There were obvious concerns in terms of the Business Rate system being hugely inequitable, and needing a strong redistribution mechanism. The Council was strongly in favour of the distribution, as well as a tariff and top-up mechanism, and was making a strong case for this, as well as for a partial reset. Officers were also working alongside the Local Government Association (LGA) and the Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities (SIGOMA) to ensure the new redistribution method was fair. Whilst the Council was aware of the risks associated with the changes, specifically with regard to future development prospects for the City, there was hope that there were positive signs in terms of growth prospects, particularly with regard to the new retail quarter and out of town retail developments. It was noted that the busy Parliamentary timetable meant that implementing the proposed reforms to Business Rates would be tight for Government, but officers were continuing to influence the working groups that the Government and the LGA had established to shape how the new system would work.
- The Government would publish a 'ready reckoner' online, which would enable businesses to work out how the revaluation of Business Rates from 2017 would affect them. The Government was consulting on the multiplier that would be used to calculate how much a business would pay in Business Rates. It was expected that the Council would receive a final indication of the City's likely Business Rate by early 2017.
- Revenue Support Grant (RSG) would be removed from councils when 100% Business Rates were implemented. The system of top-ups and tariffs would remain in place, which meant that the Business Rates councils received could be "topped-up" or "tariffed", based on an assessment of their local needs. The assessment of need would be done at intervals (resets), where Government would look at the whole Business Rate system, and re-adjust top-ups and tariffs to make sure councils would be able to retain any growth in their Business Rates base. The Council was still waiting for confirmation from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) about how often resets would occur.
- At present, the Government's proposal was for Business Rates localisation to be to councils, and not to Combined Authorities or city regions. This was because Business Rates were part of core funding for local authorities, and like Council Tax, helped pay for vital core services.
- Government have agreed a series of 100% localisation pilots, including Chester, Manchester, Merseyside and West Midlands, and whilst the pilots were Combined Authority areas, they involved all the local authorities in those areas, and not looking at Business Rates as a whole city region. Sheffield City Region (SCR) had been discussing a pilot with the Government, with such talks ongoing.
- In terms of making arrangements to prepare for localisation, officers were in dialogue, at a number of different levels, with the DCLG, as well as supporting, and sharing views with, colleagues from other local authorities.

Officers would be making sure that the Council's views were being considered to ensure that the City benefited from the proposed changes. Every effort was being made to ensure that the Council had representation at meetings of the various steering groups, and the Council was consulting with as many stakeholders as possible, including the Business Advisory Panel, which represented the business community in the City. In addition, the Policy and Improvement Manager had supported, and would continue to support, the Council Leader by providing regular updates on the changes. The Treasurers of all the Core Cities met regularly to discuss the Business Rate element, making representations to the DCLG.

- Sheffield still compared favourably with the other Core Cities in terms of its income through Business Rates.
- Nearly all the Core Cities received a Business Rate top-up grant. Details on this would be forwarded to Members of the Committee.
- Statistics in terms of Sheffield's ranking in overall Business Rates yield would be forwarded to Members of the Committee.
- It was very difficult at this stage to provide any level of detail in terms of how the changes to the system could affect the Council's spending priorities in the future, mainly due to the number of variables. However, officers would be working on this, by looking at the cost drivers in each of the Council Services.
- Government wanted the system to be "fiscally neutral", in that the change would not cost any more, and was simply moving control of Business Rates money to councils. Reset periods enabled the Government to re-assess how much top-up or tariff a council would get. Thus, between resets, councils had an opportunity to increase their Business Rates income.
- Representatives in a number of other local authorities had expressed concerns with regard to the potential for councils to pursue development solely for the purpose of increasing its income in terms of Business Rates. It was stressed that the Council had a number of checks and balances in place, including Planning legislation, to ensure that wider considerations were taken into account when development proposals were made.
- One potential risk area involved academies as when status changed from a school to an academy. Academy schools were entitled to 80% relief in terms of its Business Rates, therefore the more schools changing status would result in a reduction in Business Rates for the City.
- Whilst there were no details in respect of the precise number of outstanding appeals for Sheffield, it was believed that there were a high number still outstanding, which included a considerable number outstanding from 2010. The high number, and the need to determine such appeals, remained a major concern nationwide. The LGA was currently lobbying hard for the Government to underwrite appeals going into 2020. Details of the precise

number of outstanding appeals for Sheffield would be forwarded to Members of the Committee.

- Rate relief under the new arrangements would be payable with effect from 1st April 2017.
- Whilst there was an argument that all businesses should pay Business Rates regardless of their size, the Government would compensate Sheffield for the loss of Business Rate income from providing rate relief to SMEs.

6.7 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, the information reported as part of the presentation, and the responses to the questions raised;
- (b) thanks Laurie Brennan and Mike Thomas for attending the meeting and making the presentation, and responding to Members' questions, and welcomes the work being undertaken by them, and their colleagues, in terms of speaking up for Sheffield in connection with what was one of the biggest changes to local government funding for a very long time; and
- (c) requests Laurie Brennan and Mike Thomas to attend a future meeting of the Committee, in around six months' time, to report on any future developments with regard to the changes to the Business Rate system.

## **7. ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS (RSA) - INCLUSIVE GROWTH COMMISSION - UPDATE**

7.1 The Committee received a report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Communications providing a brief update on the interim report published by the Inclusive Growth Commission of the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) in September 2016.

7.2 In attendance for this item was Laurie Brennan, Policy and Improvement Manager.

7.3 The report set out information on the background to the RSA City Growth Commission, the key findings of the Commission's interim report, the recommendations emerging from the report and details of current activity.

7.4 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted; and
- (b) requests that a report providing a further update on the RSA City Growth Commission be submitted to a future meeting.

## **8. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

- 8.1 The Policy and Improvement Officer (Alice Nicholson) submitted a report attaching the Committee's draft Work Programme for 2016/17.
- 8.2 Ms Nicholson referred to a number of suggested changes to the Programme, including moving consideration of the item on Sheffield Trees and Woodland Strategy from the meeting in November 2016, to the meeting in January 2017, and having the item on Protecting Sheffield from Flooding as the only main item on the agenda for the meeting in November 2016.
- 8.3 Members of the Committee also raised suggestions, including the need to receive reports/updates on the Chinese Investment Deal, the New Retail Quarter and the changes to the Business Rate system.
- 8.4 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-
- (a) notes the contents of the report now submitted, together with the comments now made; and
  - (b) subject to the amendments and suggestions now reported, which the Policy and Improvement Officer, in consultation with the Chair, would look to incorporate, approves the draft Work Programme for 2016/17 now submitted.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 9.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016, at 5.00 pm, in the Town Hall.



# PROTECTINGsheffield

FROM FLOODING

James Fletcher, Flood and Water Manager,  
Sheffield City Council



# Our Problem

- 2007 saw devastating city floods
- The anniversary is fast approaching
- The risk of a repeat is increasing – came close in 2012 and just this month
- Sheffield is vulnerable to fast flowing rivers
- Impact on property and lives
- Impact on economy and growth
- Doing nothing isn't an option

The Wicker under floodwaters in June 2007



# Sheffield communities at risk



Hillsborough under floodwater - 2007



protectingsheffield  
FROM FLOODING

Look what happened in Cumbria, Leeds and York last winter – we don't want a repeat in Sheffield !



The River Sheaf came very close to bursting its banks just this last month



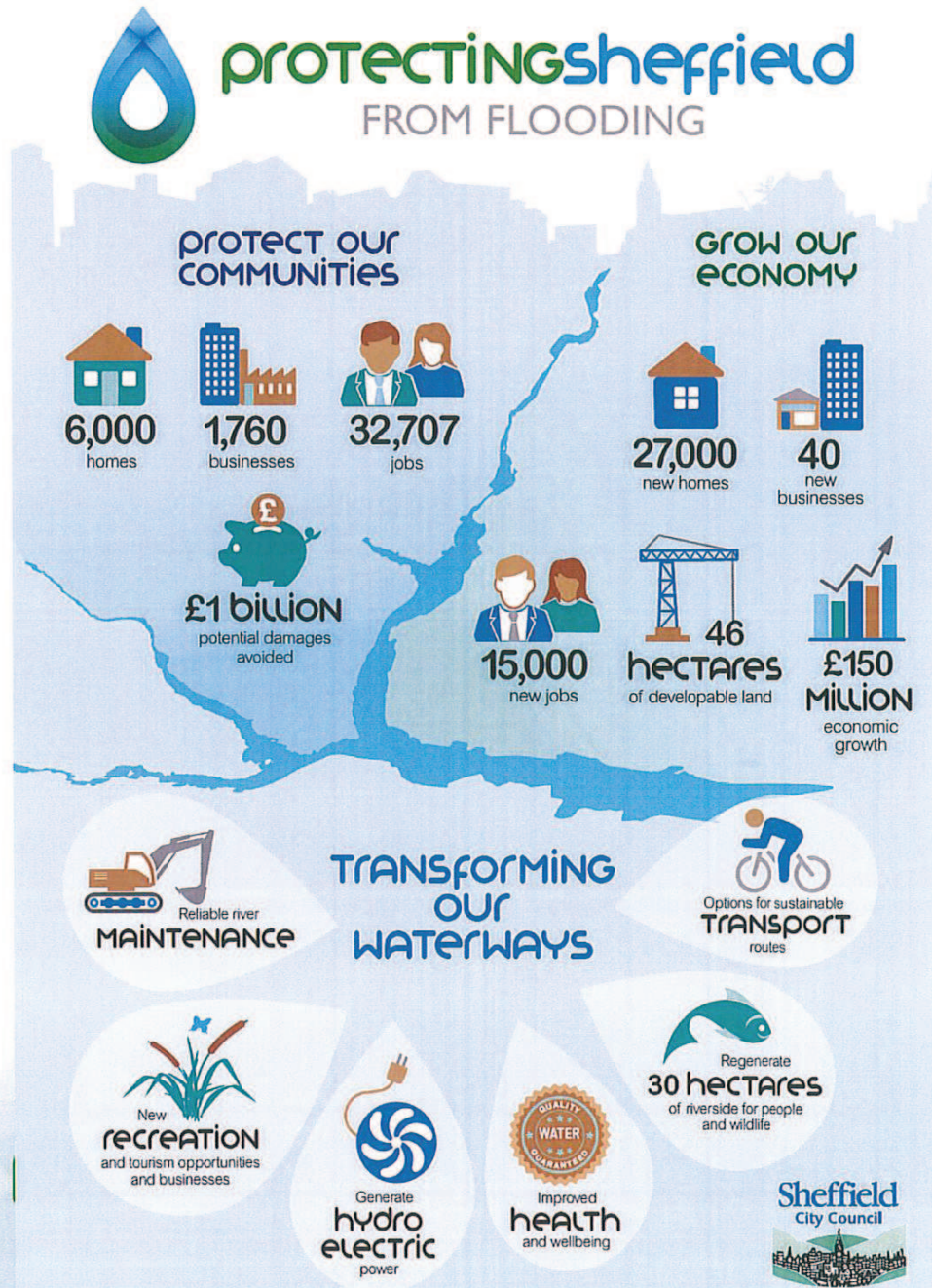
protectingsheffield

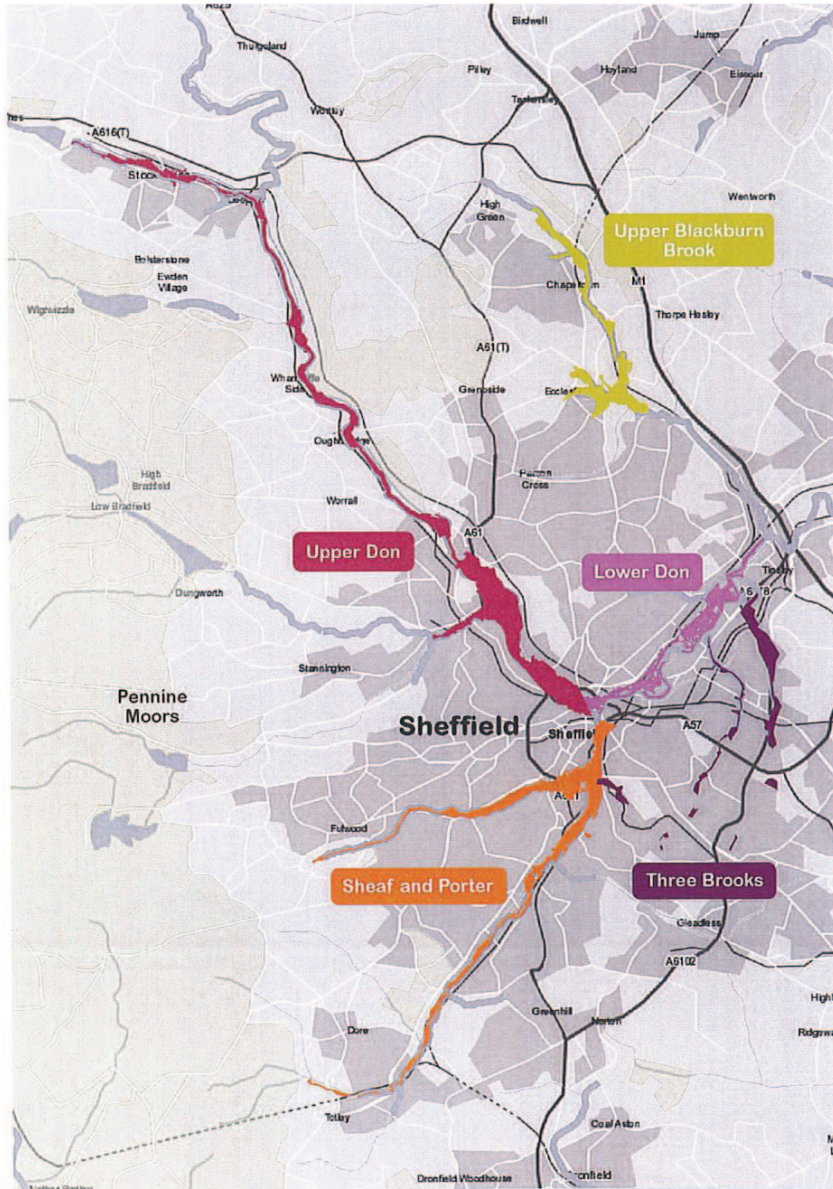
FROM FLOODING

# Our Aims - more than a flood programme

81% of public responses support our objective to protect communities

Page 15





## Our Solution

- £83 million capital investment programme to 2021
- Once a generation opportunity
- Now is the time to invest and protect the city



**protectingsheffield**

FROM FLOODING

# Where are we now?

- Building defences in the Lower Don Valley
- Complete Summer 2017



protectingsheffield

FROM FLOODING

# Where are we now?

- Started delivering the larger programme
- Met with Government – funding is identified
- Sheffield chosen to be the pilot core city for protection
- Consulted public on options – July to October 2016
- No detailed designs are in place
- Programme completion – 2021



protectingsheffield

FROM FLOODING

# Our Approach

Catchment-wide measures -

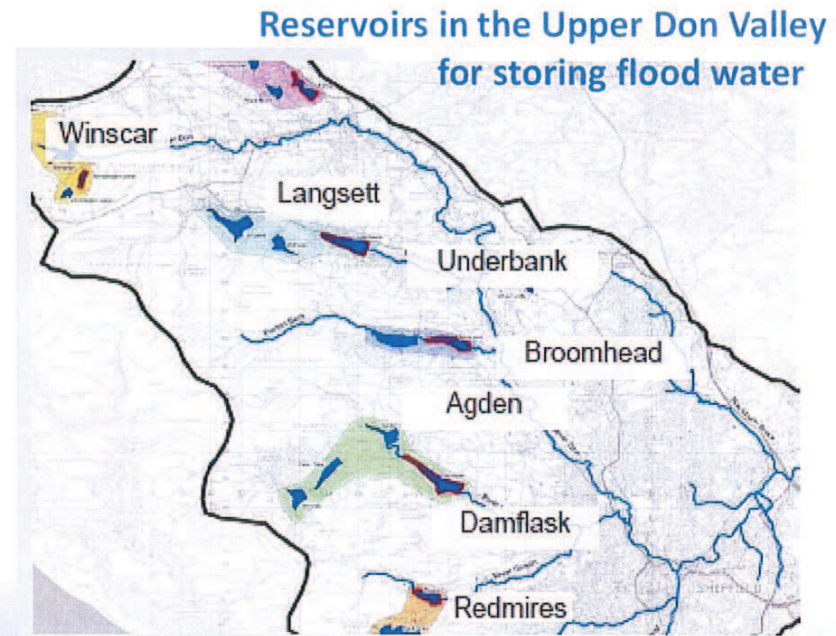
1. Keep the floodwater out of the city
2. Store floodwater temporarily in the city's open spaces
3. Contain in the river
4. Resilience
5. As few as 32% of responses disagreed with our approach



protectingsheffield  
FROM FLOODING

# 1 - Keep floodwater out of the city

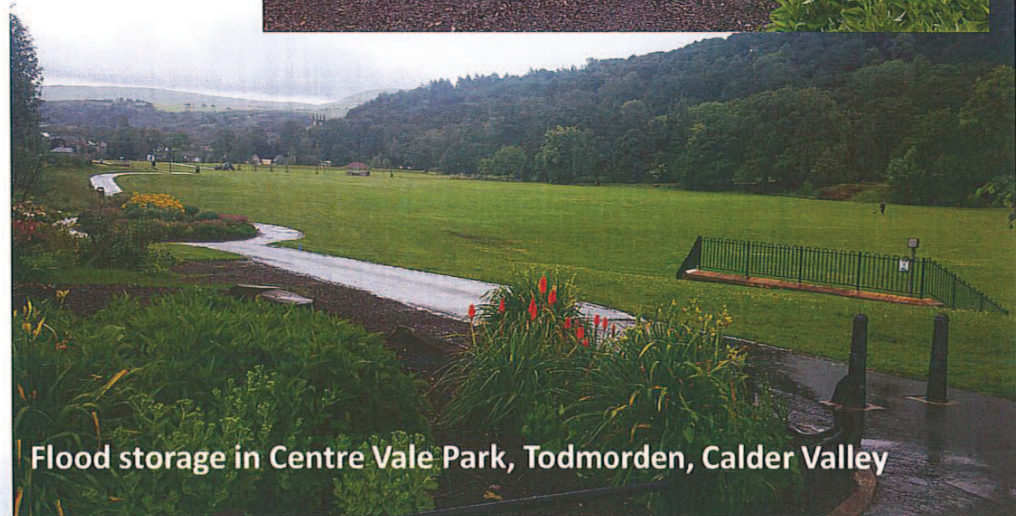
- Upland management
  - Natural flood management
- } • Early evidence shows marginal effectiveness  
• Part of the programme  
• Longer term measures to combat climate change effects
- Hold in the reservoirs





## 2 - Store floodwater temporarily in the city's open spaces

- Creating temporary flood storage areas in the floodplains deliver considerable protection benefits by 'slowing the flow'
- Options are in parks, woodland, and river valleys
- Consulted on storage options
- Capital investment now to protect communities by 2021

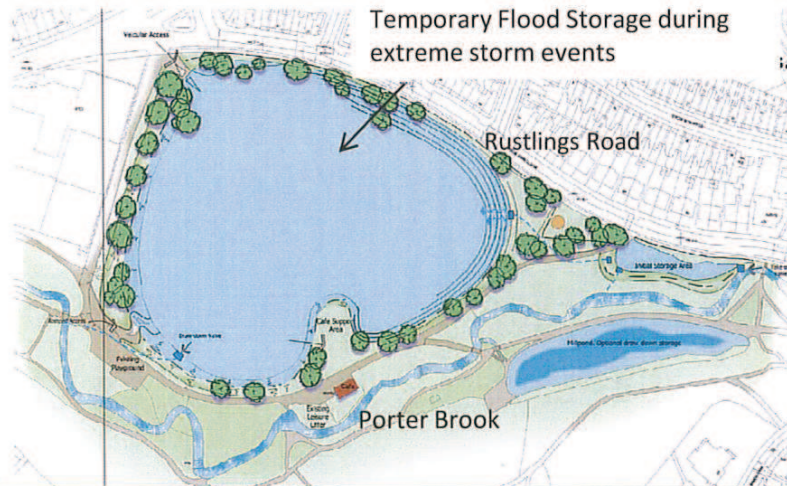


Flood storage in Centre Vale Park, Todmorden, Calder Valley



protectingsheffield  
FROM FLOODING

# Option to store floodwater in Endcliffe Park



- ... and improve the Park
- soft re-landscaping
  - better drainage;
  - improved facilities



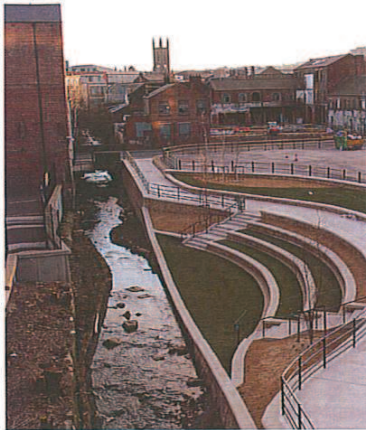
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FROM FLOODING

## 3 – Contain in the river

- Build more defences that enhance the riverside -

Matilda Street defences (2015)



Nursery Street defences (2012)



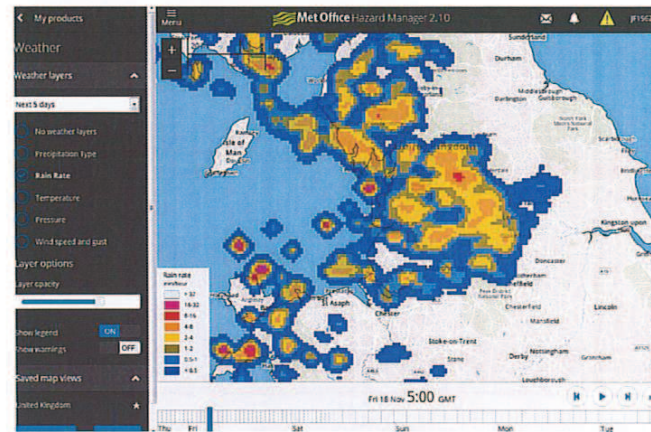
- Remove obstructions to flow
- Capital investment now to protect communities by 2021
- Consulted on defence options



protectingsheffield  
FROM FLOODING

# 4 – Resilience

- Reduce the impact when flooding happens
- Improved ‘business as usual’ plus new measures
- Emergency planning and response
- Warning systems
- Keep the rivers clear and well maintained
- Resilient properties



# The Next Steps

- Decide on options by **January 2017**
- Work with interested groups and affected parties to develop options in **early 2017**
- Case for investment to Government - **Summer 2017**
- Develop detailed proposals and consult the public – **2018**
- Construction : **2019 - 2021**



**protectingsheffield**

FROM FLOODING

# We need your support



**protectingsheffield**  
FROM FLOODING

## PROTECT OUR COMMUNITIES



**6,000**  
homes



**1,760**  
businesses



**32,707**  
jobs



**£1 billion**  
potential damages  
avoided



**15,000**  
new jobs

## GROW OUR ECONOMY



**27,000**  
new homes



**40**  
new  
businesses



**46**  
hectares  
of developable land



**£150**  
MILLION  
economic  
growth



Reliable river  
**MAINTENANCE**

## TRANSFORMING OUR WATERWAYS



Options for sustainable  
**TRANSPORT**  
routes



New  
**recreation**  
and tourism opportunities  
and businesses



Generate  
**hydro  
electric**  
power



Improved  
**health**  
and wellbeing



Regenerate  
**30 hectares**  
of riverside for people  
and wildlife



# Questions



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# Natural Flood Management

An appraisal of current evidence from the Defra-funded  
Multi-Objective Demonstration projects

February 2016

Prepared for the Environment Agency by the Moors for the Future Partnership

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*Suggested Citation: Pilkington, M<sup>1</sup>, Mount, D<sup>1</sup>, Walker, J<sup>1</sup>, Allott, T<sup>2</sup>, Ashton-Waird, R<sup>3</sup>, Evans, M<sup>2</sup>, Hammond, G<sup>4</sup>, Huggett, D<sup>5</sup>, Nisbet, T<sup>6</sup>, Rose, S<sup>7</sup>. (2015) Natural Flood Management; an appraisal of current status. Moors for the Future Partnership, Edale, Derbyshire, UK.*

<sup>1</sup>Moors for the Future Partnership, The Moorland Centre, Edale, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S33 7ZA  
T: 01629 816 585 E: [moors@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:moors@peakdistrict.gov.uk) [www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk](http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk)

<sup>2</sup>University of Manchester, <sup>3</sup>Defra, <sup>4</sup>Penny Anderson Associates, <sup>5</sup>Environment Agency, <sup>6</sup>Forest Research <sup>7</sup>JBA Consulting

# An appraisal of the Defra Multi-Objective Flood Management Projects

This is an appraisal of Natural Flood Management (NFM) based on the most recent results of three Defra-funded multi-objective flood management demonstration projects that were initiated in 2009 as part of Defra's response to the Pitt Review of the 2007 floods.

The aim of these projects was to generate evidence to demonstrate how integrated land management change; working with natural processes and partnership working can contribute to reducing local flood risk while producing wider benefits for the environment and communities.

## The Demonstration Projects

The three projects are:

### ***From Source to Sea***

(National Trust, Holnicote. Somerset);

[http://issuu.com/jbaconsulting/docs/holnicote\\_report\\_final](http://issuu.com/jbaconsulting/docs/holnicote_report_final)

### ***Making Space for Water***

(Moors for the Future Partnership, Peak District);

[www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/making-space-water-2](http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/making-space-water-2)

### ***Slowing the Flow at Pickering***

(Forest Research, North Yorkshire)

[www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/slowingtheflow](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/slowingtheflow)

- The projects have been running now for 5 years.
- All three projects were within or bordered on upland areas, with high rainfall and rapid runoff; catchment sizes range from 18 -90 km<sup>2</sup>.
- The project in the Peak District (Derbyshire) was located in a catchment dominated by blanket bog, much of which was severely degraded.
- The catchments in North Yorkshire and Somerset included areas of moorland, woodland, improved grassland and arable land.



## Natural Flood Management

Natural Flood Management (NFM) involves implementing a range of land management interventions with the aim of decreasing peak flood levels experienced by properties and other assets downstream. The aim is to slow the rate of flow and / or store more flood water in the upstream catchment. Between them, a range of NFM measures was implemented in the three demonstration catchments, including:

- Establishing flood storage areas formed by clay or earth banks (“bunds”) or by timber walls. The capacity of these banded areas ranged from 1,300 m<sup>3</sup> to 120,000 m<sup>3</sup>
- Creating ‘leaky’ woody dams both within channels and in woodland areas alongside streams
- Planting riparian and farm woodland
- Restoring degraded moorland by blocking gullies and drainage ditches, by stabilisation and re-vegetation of bare peat, and by establishing no-burn buffer zones alongside watercourse
- Diverting water away from moorland paths and tracks and onto the rough moorland surface, so slowing rapid surface runoff
- Improved management of woodland and farmland, including use of soil protection measures and the establishment of buffer zones

## Headline findings

Two summary documents<sup>1</sup> published in 2011–2012 present a balanced view of the position at that time regarding NFM. New evidence emerging from these Demonstration Projects since then indicates:

### 1. NFM techniques can reduce flood risk

The contribution of several NFM measures has been confirmed, for example:

- Carefully designed and positioned flood storage areas resulted in a measurable decrease in peak flood flow and height downstream.
- Statistically validated empirical evidence from replicated mini-catchments show that increased surface roughness of re-vegetated bare peat slows overland flow leading to delayed and reduced peak discharge.
- It has been shown that water is effectively held back and slowed by a series of leaky woody dams, either in-channel or as an element of adjacent wet woodland.



A woody dam (North Yorkshire project)

<sup>1</sup> POSTnote no. 396 (Dec. 2011) *Natural Flood Management*, Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology  
[www.parliament.uk/briefing-papers/POST-PN-396.pdf](http://www.parliament.uk/briefing-papers/POST-PN-396.pdf)

Upland Hydrology Group (Feb. 2012) *Flood risk, water resource and the uplands*  
[http://www.uplandhydrology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Runoff-and-the-uplands-Feb-2012\\_0.pdf](http://www.uplandhydrology.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Runoff-and-the-uplands-Feb-2012_0.pdf)

Extrapolation of the measured local effects of a variety of these techniques has shown that flood peak heights may be reduced by 4% or more on a 9 km<sup>2</sup> catchment scale in the Derbyshire project, by 4% on a 69 km<sup>2</sup> scale in the North Yorkshire project and by 25% on an 18 km<sup>2</sup> scale in the Somerset project. These estimated effects apply to significant sized flood peaks in the order of 1 in 25 annual chance of occurring.

Multiple (or more intense single) NFM measures (carefully-planned and catchment-specific) are more likely to exert a larger positive cumulative effect. More detailed information about the impact of individual measures used by the three projects is published here: <http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/sites/default/files/MS4WSymposiumHeadlines.pdf>

## **2. NFM techniques provide a wide range of additional benefits, including:**

- Erosion control; sediment trapping; reduced loss of soil/peat particles; carbon sequestration and improved water quality downstream.
- Creation of new habitat, biodiversity gains, aesthetic appreciation, wildlife interest etc.
- Increased understanding amongst communities of the many wider benefits of good land management.

It can be shown that the total value of the flood risk reduction and other benefits arising from these projects substantially outweigh the total costs involved in implementation.

## **3. NFM techniques can be effective in catchments up to 100 km<sup>2</sup>**

Previous research had shown that NFM interventions can be effective in catchments of up to 10 km<sup>2</sup>. The Demonstration Projects provide evidence that the use of NFM measures can reduce flood flows within catchments of up to 100 km<sup>2</sup>. This finding is based on: hydrological data collected in small sub-catchments; up-scaling of these findings through modelling work; and anecdotal evidence from local communities.

However, predicting the effect of NFM interventions in catchments up to 100 km<sup>2</sup> is complicated by the increasing risk of 'synchronisation'; i.e. meeting-up of peak flows from individual rivers and streams. For example locating interventions downstream in the main channel are more likely to cause a meeting-up of peak flows from other sub-catchments upstream of the intervention. Also, slowing down a previously fast-draining downstream tributary catchment would have the same effect. On the other hand, such catchments may also provide opportunities to locate and target interventions to *desynchronise* tributary catchment flows.

## **4. Local communities can become powerful advocates of NFM techniques**

In catchments where flooding is a major issue for local residents, and where a range of assets are at risk, these projects have shown that it is possible, with due care, to successfully engage with land-holders, win their support in implementing various measures, and also raise community awareness of the relationships between land management and flood risk.



Stone gully blocks and early stage re-vegetation (Derbyshire project)

## Application of NFM techniques

**Smaller catchments (<100 km<sup>2</sup>):** Carefully planned and catchment-specific NFM techniques are likely to have a role to play in most catchments of up to 100 km<sup>2</sup>, by storing flood flows, and releasing them slowly, as part of a wider risk management approach.

**Larger catchments (>100 km<sup>2</sup>):** Opportunities for NFM to contribute may be more limited in catchments greater than 100 km<sup>2</sup> due to the practicality and timescale for achieving large-scale change, although there will still be scope for constructing large flood storage areas and planting floodplain woodland.

**Catchments with small communities at risk from flooding:** Small communities provide a particular challenge, where the flood risk benefits may not justify the costs of either hard defences or other measures. However, NFM measures can also provide additional 'services' such as clean drinking water, carbon sequestration, recreation, tourism etc. - additional benefits which if properly accounted for can make NFM a cost-effective solution.

**Most storm events:** While some NFM techniques are likely to become swamped with increasing size of flood event, those that work by increasing surface roughness such as re-vegetation of bare peat on blanket bogs and establishing trees on floodplains will continue to contribute to flood mitigation under most storm conditions.

**Part of a Flood Risk Management (FRM) tool-kit:** NFM techniques that are carefully planned and implemented on a catchment by catchment basis are a valuable approach alongside more traditional flood risk management techniques.



A flood storage area (Somerset project)

## Limitations of NFM

NFM techniques, like other approaches to flood risk management, are not a panacea.

The overall contribution of NFM, as in other approaches, is likely to decline once storm size exceeds a critical threshold.

NFM should be seen as one part of a wider flood risk management approach including engineered hard defences, increasing the resilience of assets vulnerable to flooding, but also steering development away from sites which are most at risk.

The complexity of factors within any natural catchment means that it is very difficult to measure and accurately model the contribution of NFM measures at the catchment scale.

NFM impacts cannot therefore at present be evaluated in the purely quantitative way we might assess an engineering intervention.

### Some further points...

1. **Wider application of NFM:** All catchments are different and the wider application of these techniques should be done with care. However, it should now be possible to carry out a form of NFM 'priority mapping': identifying catchments upstream of communities at risk where NFM interventions would almost certainly be worthwhile, intermediate sites which merit further investigation, and situations where reviewing the possibility of such interventions would probably be a waste of time.

Identifying priority catchments would initially involve a combination of mapping and local knowledge, followed by scientific modelling and an analysis of cost effectiveness to plan and implement where different NFM measures might be best located to make a difference.

2. **Catchment sensitivities:** Although NFM techniques generally provide a wide range of other benefits, they will need to be integrated carefully with other land use interests and sensitivities/designations; good partnership working and planning are vital, both at the local and strategic level.
3. **Profitability:** In some cases, NFM measures will have an impact on profitability and land-holders will seek financial support before they will engage. Other measures can be accomplished without resulting in loss of income or any other detrimental effect, indeed NFM works will often lead to benefits both to the land-holder and the wider community.
4. **Advocacy:** NFM needs local advocates on the ground and needs to be explained to land-holders and others in plain language. Much of the information relating to NFM at the moment is aimed at specialist or professional audiences.

#### Further information on the Demonstration Catchments

A number of reports and detailed background information are available online:

"From Source to Sea" - Holnicote, Somerset

<http://bit.ly/1Zpc9u8>

"Making Space for Water", Derbyshire

<http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/making-space-water-2>

"Slowing the Flow at Pickering" – Yorkshire

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/slowingtheflow>

**The content of this note is based on discussions at a seminar organised by Moors for the Future Partnership and hosted by the University of Manchester in November 2015.**

**The participants were:**

The National Trust Holnicote Project

Gene Hammond, Penny Anderson Associates

Steve Rose, JBA Consulting

Making Space for Water in the Upper Derwent Valley

Mike Pilkington, Moors for the Future Partnership

Tim Allott, University of Manchester

Martin Evans, University of Manchester

Slowing the Flow at Pickering

Tom Nisbet, Forest Research

Defra and the Environment Agency

Duncan Huggett, Environment Agency

Ruth Ashton-Ward, Defra

Facilitator

David Mount, Countryside Training Partnership

Moors for the Future Partnership  
The Moorland Centre, Edale,  
Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S33 7ZA


T: 01629 816 585  
E: [moors@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:moors@peakdistrict.gov.uk)  
[www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk](http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk)





# Landscape Flood Management

- Slowing overland flow
  - Increasing surface roughness: woodland, heathland, *Sphagnum*
  - Leaky wooden debris dams
  - Revegetating bare peat
  - Taking water off pathways and tracks
  - Reducing compaction adjacent to watercourses
- Making space for water
  - Creating areas for water storage
  - Blocking grips and gullies to create temporary storage
  - Revegetating bare peat – reducing sediment into system



**The three Defra-funded projects**  
**Making Space for Water (Kinder Scout, Derbyshire)**  
**Slowing the Flow (Pickering, North Yorkshire)**  
**From Source to Sea (Exmoor, Somerset)**

**Main message from the three projects**  
Landscape Flood Management (NFM)  
techniques are effective and should be used  
together with engineered hard defences

# Making Space for Water

## Key Messages



- Peat restoration slows delivery of water from the headwaters
  - lag times increased by c.20 minutes (100%)
  - c.30% reductions in peak discharge of large storms
- Pronounced benefit from re-vegetation of bare peat, additional benefit from gully blocking
- Restoration can contribute to downstream flood risk reduction
  - Issue now is scale of the contribution

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21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust Briefing Note for the Sheffield City Council Scrutiny Panel meeting 30/11/16 on Sheffield Flood Prevention**



**Sheffield & Rotherham**

The Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust (SRWT) submitted a detailed 11 page response to the Sheffield Flood Prevention consultation in October. This is publically available via the SRWT website. This briefing note is a summary of our response for the purposes of the SCC Scrutiny meeting on the subject.

SRWT have considerable experience over many years of creating and managing natural areas that deliver for wildlife, reduce flood risk and benefit local people e.g. Centenary Riverside, Catcliffe river restoration and Kilnhurst lngs (working with Local Authorities and the Environment Agency) – we call this **natural engineering**. We have been partners on the Sheffield Waterways Strategy Group since its inception, we formed the River Stewardship Company with SCC and Groundwork after the 2007 Sheffield floods, we run the Living Don Partnership, which co-ordinates like-minded groups working across the area, and we are leading on a large new £4M landscape partnership project in the north-west catchment of Sheffield.

**Key Points**

- **We welcome SCC and EA investing in flood prevention measures for Sheffield** to protect homes, businesses and communities.
- **There is too much of a focus on hard engineering solutions and contract delivery.** The SCC Highways Dept are managing the overall programme and have appointed Arup (“*an independent firm of designers, planners, engineers, consultants and technical specialists*”) as consultants on the Don and Sheaf Flood Prevention project. Their focus is on large hard engineering solutions to deliver the flood prevention programme eg dams, walls, channelisation.
- **There are opportunities for natural flood risk management and greater community involvement that are being missed.** Whilst we don’t disagree with the needs for some hard engineering solutions in the right place, we believe that SCC/Arup are overlooking other important opportunities. For example, applying natural flood risk management solutions, delivering ‘natural engineering’ schemes, working with external partners and working across SCC’s own departments to create a more strategic city-wide programme. Working in this way has the potential to ensure that Sheffield is better protected from flooding and is an exemplar in innovative win-win flood defence solutions in line with national and local strategies.
- **There is a lack of information in the consultation.** This prevents people from understanding the different cost/benefits of schemes and the number of schemes required to keep Sheffield protected – and for what level of event. There is very little information about what the proposals would truly look like or what the impacts will be. The term ‘slowing the flow’ has been mis-used – currently there are no proposals within the consultation that are considered to be ‘slow the flow’ schemes.
- **There is a lack of awareness about the consultation.** The current plans risk upsetting and alienating a large number of people in Sheffield who use the valleys and woodlands that would be permanently changed by the proposals under consideration. Local land owners have not been approached about proposals to change their land use. Many of the users of these spaces are not even yet aware of the proposals due to lack of publicity at these places.
- **Specific proposals have major impacts on the local natural environment and people’s ability to access green spaces without clearly demonstrating that they are the only feasible solution.** Key proposals will also have a negative impact on sites identified as

key to Sheffield's Outdoor Economy. We are particularly concerned about the suggestion of building large permanent embankments in ancient woodlands and across sensitive valleys designated as local wildlife sites. These are key corridors for ecology, heritage, fish passage and people and the damage in our opinion, would be unacceptable.



**Sheffield &  
Rotherham**

• **Alternative innovative win-win solutions need serious further consideration:**

1. There is a need for more upper catchment Natural Flood Management, which, despite its multiple benefits, seems to have been largely dismissed. SRWT has just secured a £4M project working over the next 6-7 years across most of the Upper Don catchment. We have already been working with major land owners, farmers, the local community and the EA to consider natural flood risk management projects and opportunities. Is there not an opportunity here for better collaboration?
2. There are three successful 'slowing the flow' pilot schemes in England. One of the pilots, Moors for the Future, is on our doorstep and represented at this meeting. With their expertise, upland flood risk management needs to be considered further.
3. The potential use of appropriate reservoirs as a contribution to the programme.
4. Could there be more use of natural engineering to create floodable natural reserves/ green spaces? Centenary Riverside was built as part of the Rotherham flood defence scheme and is managed by SRWT. The site is now a haven for wildlife, visitors and nearby workers.
5. Could there be more multi-functional urban green infrastructure designed to hold flood water – such as Nursery Street pocket park and the Matilda Street project? Simon Ogden – City Regeneration Division Manager and now chair of the Sheffield Waterways Strategy Group- has shown excellent leadership in such schemes.
6. (linked to 2. & 3.) Could there be more consideration of whether any riparian land currently designated for development could either be allocated for a flood prevention scheme, or have flood prevention measures incorporated into development e.g. SUDS, Green Roofs, other permeable features and green infrastructure? This would require working with developers and strengthening policies.
7. Could there be more consideration of creating underground storage tanks (which has precedent in Millhouses and Endcliffe Parks) under low lying area e.g. large car parks?
8. Are SCC missing opportunities with the Streets Ahead contract which could use more permeable surfaces in certain situations?

Overall, it is our opinion that a re-think of whether a larger number of smaller solutions (in many cases natural) along the lengths of the catchment could reduce the need for such a large number of significant hard engineering schemes. In this way we could work with the river systems (in line with the Sheffield Waterways Strategy) and not against it and would achieve additional multiple benefits. We also encourage SCC to continue dialogue with the many specialist and local groups who, between them, can bring enormous knowledge and expertise to the process.



## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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**Report of:** Policy & Improvement Officer

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**Subject:** Economic Landscape in Sheffield – proposed Task and Finish Group 2017

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**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
[alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)  
0114 273 5065

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The Committee agreed to a task group on Economic Landscape in Sheffield. The draft outline suggested is a multi approach to consider: what are business needs in Sheffield within the economic landscape; and the city's economic role in Sheffield City Region.

The draft scope and further areas for exploration need to be considered along with membership of the task and finish group. Terms of reference that might be considered are: Is Sheffield serving the needs of business/developers? Gather evidence on recent gains for the city; any lessons for the future; and comparison with Core Cities and other cities. To gather this information would include hearing from stakeholders, for example, Creative Sheffield, Sheffield City Region along with business, development companies and a call for evidence.

A proposed timeline would be:

- An inception meeting, including topic briefing - January 2017;
- Calls for evidence sessions – suggest two February 2017;
- Wrap up/recommendations meeting - March 2017;
- Task Group Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee – April 2017.

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Agree membership of Economic Landscape in Sheffield task and finish group
- Provide comment / feedback on task and finish group scope areas for exploration and timeline
- Identify potential stakeholders
- Agree to a call for evidence

**Category of Report:** OPEN

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## Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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**Report of:** Policy & Improvement Officer

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**Subject:** Work Programme 2016/17

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**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
[alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)  
0114 273 5065

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A work programme for 2016/17 is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion.

The aim is to focus the work programme on a small number of issues, in depth. This means that the Committee should prioritise which issues will be included on formal meeting agendas. In doing this, the Committee may wish to reflect on the prioritisation principles attached at Appendix 3 to ensure that scrutiny activity is focussed where it can add most value. Appendix 2 provides a log of the issues looked at in 2014/16 & 2015/16

Where an issue is not appropriate for inclusion on a meeting agenda, but there is significant interest from members, the Committee can choose to request a written briefing.

The work programme remains a live document and will be shared / discussed at each committee meeting.

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17
- Provide comment / feedback on the draft work programme
- Identify priority topics for inclusion in the work programme

**Category of Report:** OPEN



## Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

## Work Programme 2016/17

Last updated: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Please note: the work programme is a live document and so is subject to change.

Possible Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Contact	Proposed scrutiny style	Priority
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b>			
<i>Sheffield Bus Partnership (SBP) review</i>	<i>This is the SBP scheduled review report to the SCR Combined Authority Transport Committee that this Committee asked to see following the buses agenda item March 2016</i>	<i>Representatives of Sheffield Bus Partnership</i>	<i>One-off agenda item</i>	
<i>Draft Work Programme</i>	<i>Committee to agree work programme 2016/17 – within framework of selecting scrutiny topics &amp; remit</i>	<i>Policy &amp; Improvement Officer</i>	<i>ongoing agenda item</i>	
<i>Bus Services Bill – briefing</i>	<i>An early look at the headlines of the Bus Services Bill introduced into the House of Lords on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 – legislation and regulations that are integral to devolution deals and powers for Combined Authority Mayors expected to be elected May 2017</i>	<i>For information – no attendees</i>	<i>Initial Briefing - to be followed up in depth once on the statute books and how Combined Authority can make best use of the powers</i>	

Possible Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Contact	Proposed scrutiny style	Priority
<b>Wednesday 26th October 5-8pm</b>				
<i>Business Rates</i>	<i>A look at government policy agenda; implications and shape in Sheffield of Business Rates; revaluation applicable from April 2017; next steps in Sheffield</i>	<i>Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy &amp; Improvement; Mike Thomas, Strategic Finance;</i>	<i>One off agenda item</i>	
<i>Inclusive Growth</i>	<i>An update on RSA Inclusive Growth Commission emerging findings - pre information item to a deeper look at Inclusive Growth in Sheffield at a later date</i>	<i>Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy &amp; Improvement</i>	<i>update/briefing item - to be followed at a later date buy in depth consideration</i>	
<i>Work Programme 2016/17</i>	<i>To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17</i>	<i>Alice Nicholson - Policy &amp; Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Standard Agenda Item</i>	
<b>Wednesday 30th November 5-8pm</b>				
<i>Protecting Sheffield from flooding</i>	<p>To receive a presentation by Jim Fletcher, Flood and Water Management. Also attending Cllr Bryan Lodge, Cabinet Member, Environment.</p> <p>To hear from the following organisations in connection with protecting Sheffield from Flooding: A) Yorkshire Water - Head of Asset Strategy; B) Moors for the Future Partnership - represented by John Scot Director of Conservation and Planning, Peak District National Park; C) Sheffield &amp; Rotherham Wildlife Trust - Liz Ballard, Chief Executive and Nicky Rivers.</p>	<i>Presentation - Jim Fletcher, Flood and Water Management, Place; Yorkshire Water - statement; Moors for the Future - Natural Flood Management - an appraisal of current evidence and summary slidepack; Wildlife Trust - Briefing Note</i>	<i>single agenda item</i>	
<i>Economic Landscape Task Group draft scope</i>	<i>To consider and agree scope for the task group topic</i>	<i>Alice Nicholson - Policy &amp; Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>	

Possible Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Contact	Proposed scrutiny style	Priority
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item	
<b>Wednesday 25th January 5-8pm</b>				
Sheffield Trees and Woodland Strategy	overview of responses to consultation (closes 01.12.2016); overview of strategy and how that might change following consultation	Lead officer - Chris Heeley, Head of Countryside and Environment; Cabinet Member	one-off agenda item	
Brexit	Policy briefing - impact in Sheffield - activity & briefings from SCC, SCR etc...government policy and repeal bill	TBC	single agenda item	
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider the Committee's work programme 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item	
<b>Wednesday 22nd February 5-8pm</b>				
Economic Landscape - evidence session - business needs	A parliamentary select committee style evidence gathering session on business needs	Development businesses in the Sheffield area	Agenda Item	
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item	
<b>Wednesday 26th April 5-8pm</b>				
Bus Services Bill – part 2	An in depth follow up once on the statute books and how Combined Authority can make best use of the powers	SYPT, SCR CA, Sheffield Bus Partnership	in depth agenda item	
Economic Landscape Task Group draft report	To consider draft task group report	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Agenda Item	
Work Programme 2016/17	To consider and discuss the committees work programme for 2016/17	Alice Nicholson - Policy & Improvement Officer	Standard Agenda Item	

Possible Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Contact	Proposed scrutiny style	Priority
<b>Task Group</b>				
Economic Landscape	A task group topic item 2016/17 - Multi approach of business needs, city's economic role in SCR: Scope and sub-group membership agreed November; Inception meet x1 (Jan) and topic briefing; calls for evidence sessions x2 (Feb) wrap up/recommendations meet x1 (Feb/Mar) report to full Committee (Apr)	TBC - Sheffield City Region, Creative Sheffield, Executive Director, Place and external calls for evidence, including development companies	<i>Part year Task Group &amp; call for evidence: Jan-17</i>	
<b>Future items to be scheduled - scope and when to be determined</b>				
Chinese Investment Deal				
Sheffield Retail Quarter – key decisions and announcements – update Jan/Feb				
Update on Business Rates	April or May 2017: Technical consultation out - December	Laurie Brennan, Acting Head of Policy & Improvement; Mike Thomas, Strategic Finance; Cabinet Member - Ben Curran		for information
Waste Management	On the horizon item	TBC		



## Sheffield Council Scrutiny Selecting Scrutiny topics

This tool is designed to assist the Scrutiny Committees focus on the topics most appropriate for their scrutiny.

- **P**ublic Interest  
The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
- **A**bility to Change / Impact  
Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically have an impact on, and that will influence decision makers;
- **P**erformance  
Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other organisations (public or private) are not performing well;
- **E**xtent  
Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the city (geographical or communities of interest);
- **R**eplication / other approaches  
Work programmes must take account of what else is happening (or has happened) in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort. Alternatively, could another body, agency, or approach (e.g. briefing paper) more appropriately deal with the topic

### Other influencing factors

- **Cross-party** - There is the potential to reach cross-party agreement on a report and recommendations.
- **Resources**. Members with the Policy & Improvement Officer can complete the work needed in a reasonable time to achieve the required outcome