

Report to:	Policy and Performance Advisory Committee
Date:	1 December 2022
Title:	Natural Flood Management within the Ouse and Eastern Adur catchment
Report of:	Tim Whelan, Director of Service Delivery
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of Cabinet report:	This report sets out the next steps for Natural Flood Management in Lewes district, which encompasses the Ouse and Eastern Adur catchments.
Officer recommendations to the Cabinet:	<p>(1) That Cabinet approves the strategic approach presented and agrees as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To continue to provide governance, support and resource to the Natural Flood Management (NFM) programme beyond the current end date of March 2023 and to delegate authority to the Director of Service Delivery in consultation with the Cabinet member for waste and recycling to negotiate the terms of and enter into any necessary agreements to facilitate this provision. b) To build upon the NFM approach (as outlined in this report) and support inter-linked projects with partners and stakeholders such as habitat restoration and nature recovery in the Ouse catchment. <p>(2) That Cabinet endorses the approach set out at Appendix 1 ‘Lewes District Council (LDC) Briefing: Natural Flood Management within the Ouse and Eastern Adur catchment’ and Appendix 2 ‘Wilder Ouse, Vision & Targets’.</p> <p>(3) Approve a waiver to the Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) as set out in paragraph 2.4.1 (a) of the CPR to enable the Council to enter into agreements with partners in relation to this strategic approach.</p>
Recommendations to the Committee	The recommendations are detailed at 1.3 of this report
Reasons for recommendations to the Committee:	To provide a critical friend challenge to the Cabinet decision and policy making process.

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1 Introduction

1.1 In its role as a provider of public scrutiny and as critical friend, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee has a duty to provide a challenge to the executive decision and policy makers.

1.2 The Policy and Performance Advisory Committee is able to provide this challenge through the inclusion of the Council's Forward Plan of Decisions as a standing item on each of the Committee's agendas, allowing the Committee to request the inclusion of reports due for consideration by the Cabinet on its agenda and by asking that the relevant officers, heads of service or directors, attend the Committee meetings and discuss the content of the reports.

1.3 Following consideration of each item, where the Members will be able to ask questions of the relevant officers, heads of service, directors and other stakeholders, the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee will provide one of the following three recommendations to the Cabinet:

- 1) To support the recommendations in the report in full; or
- 2) To support the recommendation in the report subject to the consideration by the Cabinet of any amendments agreed by Committee; or
- 3) To not support the recommendations in the report and give reasons.

1.4 The Cabinet will be provided with the recommendations from the Policy and Performance Advisory Committee when it considers the main report.

2 Financial / Legal / Risk Management / Equality Analysis/ Environmental Sustainability Implications/ Background Papers

2.1 All implications are addressed in the Cabinet report attached at Appendix 1.

- Appendix 1 – **Natural Flood Management within the Ouse and Eastern Adur catchment**