

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER, 2008
title: FLOOD RISK POSITION PAPER – LDF CORE STRATEGY
submitted by STEWART BAILEY - DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
principal author PHIL DAGNALL

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform the Council regarding the above document, which will form a part of the evidence base required to justify policies within the developing Local Development Framework Core Strategy.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions – The document that is the subject of this report, as part of the LDF Core Strategy, relates to Council ambitions of making people's lives safer and healthier and also helping to protect and enhance the local environment.
- Community Objectives – The matters covered in this report will contribute to the objectives of building safer communities, and ensuring that there is a suitable supply of sites for employment and appropriate housing
- Corporate Priorities – This paper will help improve the evidence base of the Local Development Framework thereby assisting performance and consistency.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 INFORMATION

2.1 This Position Paper summarises the current situation regarding national, regional, sub-regional and local flood risk related spatial planning policy (rather than other flood related policies which involve the Authority, such as emergency planning) as it affects the Borough directly and indirectly. It describes the current state of various strategies reports and policy documents, some already in existence, others currently in production, by a variety of bodies that will affect the Borough in the near and medium term. It deals in some detail with the most important, PPS25 Development and Flood Risk. It will form a part of the evidence lying behind future flood risk policy in the Borough within the developing LDF Core Strategy and will inform the forthcoming production of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) study, as required by government. The SFRA will be the subject of a future report.

2.2 The Core Strategy is a central document within the Local Development Framework (LDF) and will contain policies relating to flooding which will affect the location and design of future development in the area. The forthcoming SFRA will provide the evidence that will underpin future flood related development control and other decisions.

2.3 LDF policies will have to be underpinned by solid evidence and will be tested through a Planning Inspectorate Examination. Policies which cannot be justified by a credible evidence base could be found unsound and deleted from the LDF.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

For further information please ask for Phil Dagnall, extension 4570.