

Title of Report:	Severe weather, winter 2013/14
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	11 September 2014

Purpose of Report: To introduce to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission the process to be followed for its continuing review into the severe weather events of the winter of 2013/14.

Recommended Action: It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission continues to examine the effect on and response to the severe winter weather events of the winter of 2013/14 by communities, in order to identify recommendations for consideration by the Executive.

Key background documentation: Winter Floods & Storms 2013/2014 Debrief Report

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Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting of 25 February 2014 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission (OSMC) agreed to carry out a review into the severe weather events experienced in West Berkshire over the winter of 2013/14.
- 1.2 This report reminds the members of the Commission of the Terms of Reference and methodology subsequently agreed by the Commission on 1 July 2014, sets out the broad review schedule and provides specific detail for the consideration of how the weather affected, and the response that was made by, communities.

2. Terms of Reference

- 2.1 The Commission agreed that a review would be undertaken into the effects of and response to the severe weather that affected West Berkshire during the winter of 2013/2014, in order to ensure that the appropriate lessons are learnt and measures put in place to mitigate the effect of future severe weather events. In particular the review will seek to
- (1) Understand what happened and why
 - (2) Determine whether the plans in place prior to the flooding were effective
 - (3) Identify the lessons that should be learnt
 - (4) Assess the future severe weather risks to the District and the extent to which they might be managed
 - (5) Report to the Executive and others with recommendations as appropriate.

3. Methodology

- 3.1 The review is being undertaken by the full Commission over the course of a series of public meetings. In outline, the meetings have been structured as set out in the table below.

Date	Times	Meeting focus
1 September 2014	1100 – 1645	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Events overview• Council response
5 September 2014	0900 – 1630	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response by other agencies
11 September 2014	1330 – 1745	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effect on and response by communities
15 September 2014	1400 – 1630	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawing conclusions
30 September 2014	1830 – 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sign off of recommendations

- 3.2 Recommendations identified by the Commission will be included as part of a wider and composite debrief report, a working draft of which was provided to the Commission at its meeting of 1 September 2014, for consideration by the Executive in due course.

4. Conduct of the 11 September meeting

4.1 The meeting of 11 September is structured as shown in the table below.

Times	Topic	Witness(es)
13:30 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The community self-help model• Public understanding• Survey results	Carolyn Richardson – Civil Contingencies Manager Stuart Clark – Principal Engineer
15:00 – 15:15	Break	
15:15 – 16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The impact on vulnerable people (Adult Social Care)	Tandra Forster – Head of Adult Social Care Stephen Stace – Adult Social Care, Service Manager
16:30 – 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pang Valley Flood Forum case study	Brian Connorton Mark Richardson Kay Stacey

4.2 Briefs to support these items are available at Appendices A to E. As outlined in the table above, representatives will be in attendance at the meeting to provide amplification on these reports.

5. Recommendation

5.1 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission continues to examine the effect on and response to the severe winter weather events of the winter of 2013/14 by communities, in order to identify recommendations for consideration by the Executive.

Appendices

Appendix A	Residents Survey v1
Appendix B	Flood Wardens, Ward Members and Parish Council Survey v1
Appendix C	Business Survey v1
Appendix D	Adult Social Care submission
Appendix E	Lambourn Valley – resident feedback form