

Scrutiny Committee – 2 July 2013

10. Somerset Flooding Summit – Draft final report

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Purpose of the Report

To present the draft final report of the Somerset Flooding Summit to members of the Scrutiny Committee for comment prior to consideration by District Executive. Appendix A (copy of the Powerpoint presentations from the Flooding Summit) has been omitted from the agenda as it is a large document – copies are available on request.

Actions Required

That Scrutiny Committee members consider the Somerset Flooding Summit draft report and recommend it to District Executive.

Background

The attached report outlines the process undertaken and the subsequent conclusions reached by the Countywide Joint Scrutiny review. Councillors Paul Maxwell and Dave Bulmer represented South Somerset on the Joint Steering Group.

This exercise was never about ‘solving’ the issue of flooding in Somerset, this has been and continues to be the subject of detailed and complex discussions at many levels. Instead, the Summit was an opportunity for Somerset residents, local agencies and the business community to come together and share experiences and suggestions for improved water management across Somerset. It was very much an evidence gathering exercise and the recommendations contained in the report reflect the information gathered as part of this Scrutiny process.

When this report has been considered by all six Somerset authorities, the Joint Steering Group will meet again to collate the responses and finalise the action plan and future monitoring arrangements.

The Somerset Leaders and Chief Executives have informally considered the report and were broadly supportive of the recommendations. They have agreed to produce a collective Executive response which will ensure consistency in going forward.
