

## **Item: 12**

**Development and Infrastructure Committee: 6 September 2022.**

**Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan.**

**Report by Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure.**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

To consider the list of actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the period 2022 to 2028, following consultation.

### **2. Recommendations**

The Committee is invited to note:

#### **2.1.**

That, on 8 June 2021, when considering the draft list of actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the period 2022 to 2028, the Development and Infrastructure Committee recommended:

- That the local list of proposed actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2022 to 2028, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, be approved for public consultation.
- That the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure should review the local list of draft actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2022 to 2028, following consultation feedback, and thereafter submit a report to the Committee, detailing the actions for inclusion in the Plan.

#### **2.2.**

That, from July to October 2021, the actions proposed within the Local Flood Risk Management Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, were subject to a joint public consultation exercise with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency on the Flood Risk Management Strategy and Local Flood Risk Management Plan for Orkney.

**It is recommended:**

#### **2.3.**

That the local list of actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2022 to 2028, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved.

## **3. Background**

### **3.1.**

Under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (the Act), the lead local authority for each flooding local plan district must prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Plan to supplement the relevant Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy), which is prepared by SEPA for the same district.

### **3.2.**

Orkney forms a complete local plan district on its own so the preparation of the Local Flood Risk Management Plan (the Local Plan) is a requirement placed on the Council by the Act. A revision of the Plan for Orkney must be prepared every six years.

### **3.3.**

The Local Plan supports the (national) Plan (produced by SEPA) which coordinates the actions of all organisations that tackle flooding, be that in town or country or from surface water, watercourses or the sea. The national Plan identifies where the risk of flooding and benefits of investment are greatest, while the Local Plan details the prioritised actions.

### **3.4.**

The first Local Plan for Orkney was published in 2016 and describes the actions to reduce flood risk during the period 2016 to 2022. A progress update on the first Local Plan was published in 2019.

## **4. Next Stage**

### **4.1.**

The second Local Flood Risk Management Plan for Orkney is currently being developed to cover the period from 2022 to 2028. It will detail the actions to be adopted to reduce the damage, distress and costly impact of flooding in Orkney during this next six year period.

### **4.2.**

The actions in the Plan are based on agreed objectives for tackling floods in highest risk areas. The actions rely on the best evidence available on the causes and consequences of flooding and make clear the practical ambition of responsible authorities, including the Council, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Scottish Water.

### **4.3.**

On 8 June 2021, when considering the draft list of actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the period 2022 to 2028, the Development and Infrastructure Committee recommended:

- That the local list of proposed actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2022 to 2028, attached as Appendix 1 to the report by the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure, be approved for public consultation.
- That the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure should review the local list of draft actions for inclusion in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2022 to 2028, following consultation feedback, and thereafter submit a report to the Committee, detailing the actions for inclusion in the Plan.

#### **4.4.**

From July to October 2021, the actions proposed within the Local Flood Risk Management Plan, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, were subject to a joint public consultation exercise with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) on the Flood Risk Management Strategy and Local Flood Risk Management Plan for Orkney.

#### **4.5.**

In December 2021, SEPA published the actions proposed for the Plan, by all responsible parties, as part of a joint public consultation exercise on both the (national) Plan and the Local Plan actions. The recommendation of this report covers only the actions for which the Council would be responsible. These are detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.

## **5. Local Projects**

### **5.1.**

Draft actions relating to flood risk identified at specific sites include the following:

- A Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). This is a strategic level assessment which sets out management policies for the short, medium and long terms, taking account of natural processes and the risks to people, property, transport and service infrastructure and how that changes with time, including climate change.
- A flood study into the coastal flooding in St Mary's.
- Completion of the St Margaret's Hope Flood Study.
- Completion of the Churchill Barrier No 2 Flood Study.
- Development of the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan.
- Maintenance of the Kirkwall Harbour Flood Prevention Scheme.

### **5.2.**

The proposed SMP would supersede actions within the 2016 Plan to prepare flood studies for Whitehall, Pierowall and the Ayre (Hoy and Walls). It would set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches to managing the risks to the entire coast of Orkney.

### **5.3.**

The SMP would further provide a detailed understanding of flood risk at sites identified as being highly vulnerable, including Stromness, Stronsay, Westray, Sanday, Burray, Dingieshowe, Graemeshall and Little Ayre (Walls), and their associated infrastructure, along with sites of historic and natural importance.

### **5.4.**

In addition to the location-specific actions described above, the Council, as a Responsible Authority under the Act, also has the following ongoing duties with regard to flood risk management:

- Awareness raising to allow communities and organisations to be prepared for flooding.
- Maintenance of Council assets vulnerable to flooding and erosion.
- Planning policies and their implementation.
- Emergency plans/response.

## **6. Environmental Implications**

A Strategic Environmental Assessment screening report, attached as Appendix 2 to this report, has been prepared and submitted to the SEA Gateway for consideration by the consultation authorities.

## **7. Links to Council Plan**

### **7.1.**

The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the Council Plan strategic priority theme of Quality of Life.

### **7.2.**

The proposals in this report relate directly to Priority 5.18, Engage with the Scottish Government and Scottish Water to seek to identify viable solutions to reduce risk of flooding to communities: St Margaret's Hope; St Marys; Stronsay including Whitehall and Kirkwall, of the Council Delivery Plan.

## **8. Links to Local Outcomes Improvement Plan**

The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan under the priorities of Community Wellbeing and Sustainable Recovery.

## **9. Financial Implications**

### **9.1.**

An annual allowance of £50,000 is included in the roads revenue budget to cover the cost of current duties required under the Act.

## **9.2.**

Some of the actions contained within the Plan, including preparation of an Orkney Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), will require the input of external specialists and therefore additional budgets will need to be identified and allocated for this work. As a guide, other local authorities have prepared Shoreline Management Plans using external consultants for around £150,000.

## **9.3.**

Preparation of a SMP will require LiDAR (airbourne laser) surveys of the vulnerable parts of the Orkney coastline which will provide 3d point cloud data and aerial photography that will be used to produce a Digital Terrain Model (DTM). In March 2022 the Council were awarded £160,000 general capital grant from the Scottish Government under Coastal Change Adaptation which is to be used during the current financial year, ie 2022/23 for coastal adaptation planning. This funding has been allocated for the procurement of LiDAR surveys and preparation of a DTM.

## **9.4.**

Some of the proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Actions are continuations of 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle actions, such as the next phase of the Kirkwall Surface Water Management Plan, for which £50,000 was previously allocated at P&R on 26 November 2019. Other 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle Actions, like maintenance and operation of the Kirkwall Harbour Flood Defence Scheme, are already funded through the Roads revenue budget.

## **9.5.**

Indicative costs are included in Appendix 1 to this report. There may be scope to assist or joint-fund the Shoreline Management Plan from other funding streams, including the Crown Estate Fund.

# **10. Legal Aspects**

## **10.1.**

The Council has a duty under section 34 of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (“the Act”) to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Plan, with the first Plan having been published in 2016 and covering the period up to 2022.

## **10.2.**

Preparing a new Local Flood Risk Management Plan in respect of the period 2022 until 2028 will ensure that the Council continues to discharge its statutory duty under the Act.

# **11. Contact Officers**

Hayley Green, Corporate Director for Neighbourhood Services and Infrastructure, extension 2309, Email [hayley.green@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:hayley.green@orkney.gov.uk)

Lorna Richardson, Interim Head of Neighbourhood Services, extension 2322, Email [lorna.richardson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:lorna.richardson@orkney.gov.uk)

David Custer, Service Manager (Engineering), extension 2328, Email [david.custer@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:david.custer@orkney.gov.uk)

## **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1: Summary of Proposed Actions.

Appendix 2: Environmental Assessment Screening Report.

## Appendix 1.

### Summary of Proposed Actions.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
A960 Deerness.	1.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). The impacts of coastal flood risk and erosion on the A960 causeway are to be assessed as part of the Shoreline Management Plan. Monitoring and data collection activities may be included.	£140,000 to obtain LiDAR survey data for adaptive shoreline management plan.  £150,000 for coastal adaptive plan modelling and reporting by external consultants.	LiDAR survey costs covered using Scottish Government coastal adaptation planning funding.  Funding for coastal adaptive plan to be identified.	LiDAR Surveys 2022/23.  Coastal Adaptive Plan 2023/24.
Burray Village.	2.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). The Plan should consider the significance of Barrier No 4 in the connectivity between South Ronaldsay and Mainland.			
Churchill Barrier No 2.	3.	Flood Study.	Completion of flood study to develop understanding of the impacts of climate change and sea level rise on the safe operation of the causeways carried by the Churchill Barriers. Further consideration of options to manage the expected increase in number of closures of the barriers and the need for an adaptation plan for the Churchill Barriers is required.	£15,000.	To be identified.	Ongoing.
Churchill Barriers.	4.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A shoreline management plan for Orkney is to be developed. The shoreline management plan is to set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risk in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). For the Churchill Barriers it will be important to understand the	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.



Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			impacts of increased flooding and erosion on road and other infrastructure connections between the linked south isles and the Orkney mainland. Monitoring and data collection activities may be required.			
Graemeshall.	5.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). For Graemeshall, it will be important to understand the impacts of increased flooding and erosion on road connections between east mainland and the rest of Mainland.	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.
Kirkwall.	6.	Surface Water Management Plan.	Orkney Islands Council to commission flood modelling to inform spatial planning, work closely with Scottish Water to implement the Surface Water Management Plan and identify opportunities for joint working. The impacts of climate change on flood risk should be considered. Opportunities to remove surface water from the sewerage system should be	£50,000 Funding allocated at November 2019 Policy and Resources Committee Meeting.	£50,000 Funding allocated at November 2019 Policy and Resources Committee Meeting.	Ongoing.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			identified. The impacts of tide locking of the Peedie Sea need to be considered.			
Kirkwall.	7.	Flood defence maintenance.	The Kirkwall Harbour Flood Prevention Scheme needs to be maintained. Regular exercises should be carried out to deploy the flood gates, to ensure an efficient process is in place.	£14,000 pa over the period 2022 to 2028.	Revenue – Roads Operations.	Ongoing.
Little Ayre (Walls).	8.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). The impacts to the transport links between Hoy and South Walls should be considered.	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.
Pierowall.	9.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	1st Cycle action to undertake a flood study for Pierowall to be superseded by a new action to develop a shoreline management plan for Orkney in Cycle 2. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years).			
Sanday.	10.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	<p>A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). Monitoring and data collection activities may be included.</p> <p>The impacts of coastal flood risk and erosion on the low-lying softer parts of the Sanday shoreline are to be assessed as part of the Shoreline Management Plan.</p>	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.
St Margaret's Hope.	11.	Flood Study.	The flood study for St Margaret's Hope should be progressed to preferred option. A range of options should be considered. The impacts of climate change on flood risk should be fully considered. Coastal erosion may also need to be considered. Given the anticipated significant impacts of sea level rise on flood risk, consideration of how flood risk management might need to develop over	£15,000.	To be identified.	2023/24.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			time and an adaptation plan is likely to be required.			
St Mary's.	12.	Flood study.	Complete the Cycle 1 St Mary's Flood Study and identify actions to address A961 vulnerability near the post office. In particular, the effects of climate change on sea level, wave conditions, erosion and frequency of flooding or damage from wave action should be considered. The need for an adaptation plan to be assessed as part of a Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney in Cycle 2.	£30,000.	Funding allocated through CPAM October 2020.	2023/24.
St Mary's.	13.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). For St Mary's, it will be important to understand the impacts of increased flooding and erosion on road and other infrastructure connections between the linked south isles and the Orkney mainland.	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
Stromness.	14.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	<p>A Shoreline Management Plan for Orkney is to be developed. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years).</p> <p>For Stromness, it will be important to understand the effects of increased flooding and erosion on the settlement and surrounding infrastructure.</p>	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.
The Ayre (Hoy to South Walls).	15.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	<p>1st Cycle action to undertake a flood study for the Ayre to be superseded by a new action to develop a shoreline management plan for Orkney in Cycle 2. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years). Monitoring and data collection activities may be required.</p>	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2022/24.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
Whitehall.	16.	Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan).	1st Cycle action to undertake a flood study for Whitehall is to be superseded by a new action to develop a shoreline management plan for Orkney in Cycle 2. The Shoreline Management Plan will set the strategic policy direction for coastal management and identify the most sustainable approaches for managing coastal flood and erosion risks in the short term (0 to 20 years), medium term (20 to 50 years) and long term (50 to 100 years).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	Included in OIC Action Ref 1 (above).	2023/24.
Orkney-wide.	17.	Awareness Raising.	Raising awareness of roles, responsibilities and sources of information relating to flooding and flood preparedness.	No additional cost.	Engineering staff budget (Flood Risk Management).	2022/23.
Orkney-wide.	18.	Planning Policies.	The Council, as Planning Authority, will ensure that appropriate policies and measures are put in place through the Local Development Plan and associated guidance is in place to take account of the objective of a reduction in flood risk.	No additional cost.	OIC Planning and OIC Engineering staff budgets.	2022/23.
Orkney-wide.	19.	Maintenance.	In common with other Responsible Authorities and asset owners, the Council must inspect and maintain the assets for which it has responsibility. In addition, where a risk is	£481,000.	Roads revenue.	2022/23.

Location.	OIC Action Ref.	Proposed Action.	Detail.	Indicative Cost (2022 to 2028).	Funding.	Start (Year).
			identified, the Council will co-ordinate with other Responsible Authorities and carry out works.			
Orkney-wide.	20.	Emergency Plans/Response.	Like many other organisations, the Council has a responsibility to provide an emergency response to flooding when it happens. Effective management of an emergency response relies on emergency plans prepared under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 by Category 1 and 2 responders. The response by these organisations in the event of flooding is co-ordinated by Orkney Local Emergency Co-ordinating Group (OLECG).	No additional cost.	Existing staff budget (Planning, Engineering and Civil Contingencies).	2022/23.

Local Flood Risk Management Plan  
Orkney Local Plan District  
2022 to 2028

# **SCREENING REPORT**



## STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN

**Responsible Authority:**

Box 1

**Orkney Islands Council**

**Title of the plan:**

Box 2.

Local Flood Risk Management Plan – Orkney Local Plan District – 2022 to 2028

**What prompted the plan:**

(e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)

Box 3.

The **Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009** requires local authorities to manage and reduce flood risk and to promote sustainable flood risk management. Preparation of **Local Flood Risk Management Plans** is a major element in promoting and achieving sustainable flood Risk Management across local plan districts.

**Plan subject:**

(e.g. transport)

Box 4.

Flood risk management

**Screening** is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:

**An SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**An SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**Contact details:**

Peter Woodward – Civil Engineer  
Engineering Services  
Council Offices  
School Place  
Kirkwall  
Orkney. KW15 1NY  
Email: peter.woodward@orkney.gov.uk

**Date:**

27<sup>th</sup> May 2022



## STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

### Context of the Plan:

Box 5.

The production of a Local Flood Risk Management Plan (LFRMP) for Orkney is a requirement of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 and a responsibility of Orkney Islands Council. It provides a local plan for the management of flood risk, developing in more detail the proposed actions from the national plan prepared by SEPA.

The LFRMP covers all of Orkney and aims to establish long term, sustainable and positive effects in relation to flood risk in respect of population and human health, climatic factors and material assets. Improved understanding of sites should assist in planning future actions to ensure that possible neutral or mixed impacts on biodiversity, water, cultural heritage and landscape are positive.

The LFRMP is part of a framework of flood risk strategy, i.e.:

- The national Flood Risk Management Plan has identified the main flood hazards and impacts, set out objectives for reducing risk and best combination of measures to achieve this.
- The Orkney LFRMP sets out in more detail how these measures will be carried out and what the timescales may be.
- Some of the measures in the LFRMP may then result in future proposed works which could have significant environmental effects, although these would be subject to their own further environmental assessments.

The LFRMP influences national plans as information gathered may better inform higher level actions included in future national Flood Risk Management Plans.

The LFRMP has a role to play in other plans such as the Council's development plans, planning policies and climate change strategies, as well as plans associated with other organisations such as SEPA's River Basin Management Plan.

The LFRMP aims to promote sustainable development through the reduction of flood risk to people and property.

The LFRMP may have a positive effect on material assets through the protection of existing material assets from flooding including the built environment, transport network and community facilities.

The LFRMP should also streamline the Development Planning application process and support a better integrated and informed decision making process in relation to flood risk.

The LFRMP is updated on a 6 year cycle, this cycle will run from 2022 to 2028.

**Description of the Plan:**

Box 6.

The LFRMP provides detail on how Responsible Authorities plan to deliver, fund and coordinate actions to address the hazards identified in the national Flood Risk Management plan across the Orkney Local Plan District. When published, the 2022 Orkney LFRMP will supersede the 2016 Orkney LFRMP.

The 2022 LFRMP will continue the plan-led approach from the 2016 document and describes how the actions set out in the national FRMP for the Orkney Local Plan District will be delivered in the most sustainable way.

**What are the key components of the plan?**

Box 7.

The key components of the plan are:

- The collection of information to provide the best basis from which flood risk can be assessed and effective, sustainable actions can be planned.
- Planning actions to address flood risk. These may take the form of adaptation, improved warning or physical works over a range of scales.
- Ensuring that local planning, development and emergency procedures take full account of flood risk.
- Continuing to raise awareness of flood risk issues and measures which can be taken to reduce the impact of flooding and aid recovery.
- Ensuring that the anticipated impacts of climate change on flood risk is taken account of in planning and development.

**Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?**

Box 8.

The actions proposed for the Orkney LFRMP also form part of SEPA's national FRMP for which an SEA was carried out with the report published in July 2021.

The actions in the new LFRMP further develop actions included in the 2016 LFRMP which was SEA screened in 2015/2016.

**In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan that are likely to require screening:**

Box 9.

All the actions planned for the period 2022 to 2028 are classified as either Data Collection, Planning and Resilience or Flood Studies. There are no schemes planned for implementation within this period and environmental impacts from the proposed actions are unlikely to be significant. No actions planned for the Orkney LFRMP should be screened in.

**STEP 3 – IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND  
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS (Box 10)**

Plan Components	Environmental Topic Areas										Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues		
Data Collection	✓	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	<p>Data collection will have no physical impact on topic areas. Information gathered may lead to future actions with the following impacts/effects:</p> <p>Potential positive impacts on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health, Water, Climatic Factors, Material Assets and Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Potential negative effects on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population, Water.</p>	<p>Data collection will not involve any physical works so will not have any direct positive or negative impacts.</p> <p>Data collected will inform studies which will be used to direct future actions and give opportunities for benefits to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and human health, Water, Climatic Factors, Material Assets, Cultural Heritage through identifying sustainable flood risk reduction actions where possible.</p>
Flood Studies	✓	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	<p>Flood studies will have no physical impact on topic areas. Information gathered may lead to future actions with the following impacts/effects:</p> <p>Potential positive impacts on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health,</p>	<p>Flood studies will not involve any physical works so will not have any direct positive or negative impacts.</p> <p>Outputs from the studies will be used to direct future actions and give opportunities for benefits to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and human health,</p>

											<p>Water, Climatic Factors, Material Assets and Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Potential negative effects on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population, Water.</p>	<p>Water, Climatic Factors, Material Assets, Cultural Heritage through identifying sustainable flood risk reduction actions where possible.</p> <p>Outputs will also give positive effects on Council policy and procedures related to flood risk, development and climate change.</p> <p>Potential negative effects would be expected to be limited to short term impacts during any future construction work, but any future schemes involving works would be assessed individually as they are developed.</p>
<p>Planning and Resilience</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Actions will have no physical impact on any issues. Direction may be given on future actions with:</p> <p>Potential positive impacts on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and human health, Water, Climatic factors, Material Assets and Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Potential negative effects on: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Water.</p>	<p>These actions will not involve any significant physical works so will not have any direct positive or negative impacts.</p> <p>Actions will result in input into Council policy and procedures related to flood risk, development and climate change to give opportunities for positive effects, or minimising of negative effects, to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and human health, Water, Climatic Factors, Material assets, Cultural Heritage through identifying sustainable flood risk and procedures.</p>

## STEP 4 – STATEMENT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SCREENING

### **Summary of interactions with the environment and statement of the findings of the Screening:**

(Including an outline of the likely significance of any interactions, positive or negative, and explanation of conclusion of the screening exercise.)

Box 11.

Following consideration of the above, Orkney Islands Council does not expect the anticipated environmental effects of the Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan to be significant.

Orkney Islands Council therefore concludes that a SEA of the impact of the Orkney Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the period 2022 to 2028 is not required.

When completed send to: [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

## Completion guidance (Please delete before submission)

Link to SEA Guidance: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/08/3355>

Box 1	<p>Name of the organisation that is responsible for the plan.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The responsible Authority is any person, body or office holder exercising functions of a public Character. Where more than one authority is responsible for a plan they should reach an agreement as to who is responsible for the SEA. Where an agreement cannot be reached, the Scottish Ministers can make the determination (Extract from SEA Guidance: Glossary (Page 50)).</p>
Box 2	<p>Name of the plan.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The 2005 Act applies to plans which relate to matters of a public character. The term 'plan' within guidance also covers policy, programme and strategy (Extract from SEA Guidance: Glossary (Page 50)).</p>
Box 3	<p>In terms of screening, knowing why a plan is being produced is one of the key components in understanding whether the plan falls into Section 5(3) or 5(4) of the 2005 Act.</p>
Box 4	<p>The 2005 Act outlines the sectors as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town &amp; country planning and land use.</p>
Box 5	<p>As well as briefly describing what the plan is intended to do and how it will achieve it, it is important to outline whether the plan sits within a hierarchy and its relationships with other plans and policies.</p> <p>Schedule 2 part 1 of the 2005 Act details criteria relating to a plan setting a framework for projects and other activities, and influencing other plans including those in a hierarchy.</p> <p>In terms of screening for likely environmental effects, knowing the context of a plan and where it will sit in a hierarchy of other plans is a key component in understanding the likely scope and remit of the plan and where the most appropriate assessment should take place. The description of the context should build on the information provided for Box 3 and contain sufficient information to allow those reading the screening report to understand the role of the plan in the wider policy context. Brief descriptive information such the relationship of the plan with overarching policy, links with other plans, and the influence on and from overarching ambitions or objectives should be considerations. This type of information can help paint a clear screening picture and whether an SEA of the plan is suitable in the circumstances.</p>
Box 6	<p>The description of the plan being screened has to contain sufficient information to allow those reading the notification to understand the objectives of the plan and how the Responsible Authority aims to deliver them. This may differ between spatial plans, policy based plans and aspirational plans (or a mix of these). The description should include:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus and direction of the plans – Including the ‘powers’ it will have, the direction, status and importance it may bring, the ‘targets’ it will set, the legislation it will initiate, etc.</li> <li>• Its spatial scope - i.e. will it be nationally, regionally or locally focused, will there be specific area, location or boundary outlined.</li> <li>• Its temporal scope – i.e. will it be introduced for a set period of time before the next iteration?</li> <li>• The individual components of the plan – Including policy areas and plan components that it will cover (e.g. the sectors covered in a plan, specific technologies that will be considered, any new restrictions to be introduced, or measures that could be considered intrinsic mitigations).</li> <li>• Any new powers the plan may be given or may give to other activities</li> <li>• The vision, objectives and aims of the plan where these are clear.</li> </ul> <p>It may also prove helpful to include other information in a summary, such as whether the plan is expected to improve or strengthen the current approach, the reason the plan is being prepared, who it would apply to and the timescale for delivery. This type of information should build upon that provided for Box 5 and can help paint a clear picture of whether screening is suitable in the circumstances.</p>
Box 7	<p>Information included in this section should clearly set out the components of the plan (e.g. policy areas covered or the relevant likely sections of the plan) and allow the reader to see which components of the plan are being considered in the screening process.</p>
Box 8	<p>Are you confident that all significant environmental effects arising from this plan have already been covered in earlier SEA work?</p> <p>Most plans sit in a wider policy hierarchy, influenced by and/or influencing other plans and policies within the hierarchy. In many cases, previous SEA work is likely to have been undertaken on other plans and policies, and these may be of relevance to the consideration of the likelihood of significant environment effects associated with the development of the plan.</p> <p>These assessments may have considered components of the plan, and in some cases, there may be the possibility of screening out certain components of a plan as these have been previously assessed (e.g. through SEA of an overarching policy, or assessment of a previous plan that includes several components duplicated within the current plan). It is essential to have full confidence that components have been previously assessed, to an appropriate level, prior to its removal from further consideration. Even a small deviation from previously assessed policy, changes in the sensitivity or knowledge of environmental receptors affected, and length of time since assessment are likely to result in the need for new assessment.</p> <p>Information included in this section should clearly identify the plan components and refer to the previous assessment work undertaken to demonstrate that they have been ‘captured’ in the SEA process in accordance with the requirements of the 2005 Act and the satisfaction of the Consultation Authorities.</p>

Box 9	<p>Based upon the content of Boxes 7 and 8, this section should identify the components of the plan that require screening. These components can then be taken forward into the next section of the screening process.</p>
Box 10	<p>Is the plan, and its components, likely to have potential interactions with the environment, either direct or indirectly?</p> <p>The next step in this approach is identifying the potential for interactions of the plan with the environment. A table such as that provided could aid in identifying the likely interactions of the policy and its components against each of the environmental topic areas set out in Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act. This step is aimed at helping Responsible Authorities to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the 2005 Act and transparency in reaching their conclusions of the screening process.</p> <p>Note that the Responsible Authority should refer to and, where appropriate, address the criteria outlined within Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act in determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. Therefore, it is recommended that the Responsible Authority consider the probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, magnitude and spatial extent of any potential effects; the cumulative and transboundary nature of effects; the value and vulnerability of the area(s) likely to be affected; and risk to human health and the environment; amongst others. Further explanation of the criteria detail in Sections 1(a) – 1(e) and 2(a) – 2(g) is provided in the Scottish Government’s SEA Guidance (Section 3.3: Making a Screening Determination, Available at <a href="http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/08/3355/3">http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/08/3355/3</a>).</p> <p>Note the 2005 Act does not distinguish between positive and negative environmental effects and either, if significant, could trigger an SEA.</p>
Box 11	<p>Upon consideration of the previous sections, a Responsible Authority should make a finding on whether there is the likelihood of significant environmental effects associated with adoption of the plan.</p> <p>The information in this section should provide a summary of the likely interactions of the plan with the environment, and conclude whether the Responsible Authority consider that an SEA is required or not.</p> <p>If likely significant effects are identified by a Responsible Authority, then an SEA must be undertaken and the decision to do this advertised. The information presented at screening and Consultation Authority views on this can also help to inform the next stage of the SEA process (Scoping). Similarly, if no significant effects are identified a determination to that effect must be undertaken and then advertised.</p>