

Sustainability Committee

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Sustainability Committee Inquiry into Flooding: Draft Terms of Reference

Purpose

1. This paper invites Members to consider the terms of reference for the Committee's scrutiny inquiry into Flooding.

Background

2. At its meeting on 29 January 2009, the Committee considered a scoping paper on flooding and agreed to consider flooding as the topic for their next scrutiny inquiry.

3. The following terms of reference, which focus on a citizen focused approach, are proposed for the inquiry:

To look at the effects of flooding on individuals, communities and businesses in Wales and the mechanisms in place before, during and after a flooding event to help them.

To make recommendations to the Welsh Assembly Government and any other appropriate bodies.

The inquiry will cover:

The current extent of flooding and flood risk in Wales and the potential future flooding threats using various climate change scenarios;

The effects of recent flooding episodes on individuals and communities and their attitudes to the risks of and responses to flooding threat;

The effectiveness of Technical Advice Note (TAN)15 (Development and Flood Risk);

The response of the insurance industry to properties and land at risk of flooding and to flooding events;

The response to flooding events, focussing on roles and responsibilities both during and after the events;

The effectiveness of the Environment Strategy Action Plans 2006 - 2008 and 2008 - 2011 actions on flooding.

Recommendation

4. Members are invited to agree the terms of reference for their flooding inquiry.