

## **TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL**

### **SCOPING DOCUMENT**

**Review on how the council responds to the issues of surface water flooding in the city – to include a plan that outlines the actions PCC would take in the event of extreme flooding from surface water in the city.**

#### **1. Background**

This topic was agreed by the Scrutiny Management Panel on 13 September 2011 and forms part of the Traffic, Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel's 2011/12 work programme.

#### **2. Objectives of the inquiry**

- To consider what surface water flooding is and what are the principal causes in Portsmouth
- To identify potential risk in Portsmouth and areas at most risk
- To understand the importance of gully clearing in the prevention of surface flooding and to gain an understanding of what measures are taken to ensure that gullies are kept clear
- To understand separation of surface water and sewage - how far have Southern Water progressed with their plans.
- To understand PCC's duties under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the flood risk regulations 2009
  - To understand what steps PCC has taken to ensure flood management strategies are in place
  - To understand powers, duties and responsibilities for managing flood risk at a national, regional and local level
- To consider what arrangements are in place in Portsmouth for agencies to work together to assess and manage flood risk from surface flooding and to plan for flooding emergencies and take preventative measures
- To consider the Transport and Environment Services Emergency Response Plan in relation to a City Wide flood event and whether the Panel wish to recommend any additions/changes to it
- To consider the approach of other local authorities to see if PCC could adopt measures which work elsewhere or learn lessons from their experience.

### **3. Possible witnesses**

- PCC Officers from the highways pfi, engineering and major contracts service
- Industry representatives – COLAS, Southern Water, Environment Agency
- Representatives from the local community

### **4. Work plan & proposed dates of future meetings**

- 27 September 2011 - Formal meeting to agree the overall aim of the review and to draft the scoping document (well defined and outcome focussed)
- 18 October 2011 – Formal meeting to hear from witnesses and receive presentations
- 8 November 2011 Formal meeting (*possibly half day*) – interview external witnesses and receive any presentations
- 29 November - Informal meeting– consider draft report
- Possible additional informal meeting to consider draft report
- 20 December - Final formal meeting – sign off report
- Cabinet meeting to consider the report – date tbc