

## **London Surface Water Strategic Group**

**Wednesday 24 July 2024, 13:00-15:00**

**Kensington Town Hall / Microsoft Teams**

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees**

#### **Members**

Representatives from:

- Environment Agency
- Thames Water
- Transport for London
- London Fire Brigade
- Greater London Authority
- London Councils
- London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames, Lambeth, and Kensington and Chelsea
- Independent Members

#### **Observers and members of the London Surface Water Officers Group**

Representatives from:

- Environment Agency
- Thames Water
- Transport for London
- Greater London Authority
- Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- London Councils
- WSP

#### **Meeting Items**

##### **1 Welcome (Item No. 1)**

As Chair of the London Surface Water Strategic Group, Elizabeth Rapoport greeted the group and introduced new members.

## **2 RB Kensington & Chelsea Surface Water Showcase (Item No. 2)**

A representative from RB Kensington & Chelsea provided an overview of the approach to surface water flood risk management in Kensington and Chelsea to the group.

## **3 Strategy - July Interim Document (Item No. 3)**

The Chair thanked the group for their recent contributions to the development of the Interim Document. It was commented that the Interim Document provides the Strategic Group with a clear framework and gives a compelling narrative on surface water flooding.

The Chair questioned whether the Strategic Group members were content with approving the Interim Document for publication. The Strategic Group gave their approval for the publication of the Interim Document

**ACTION: Interim Document to be published**

## **4 General Updates (Item No. 4)**

Recruitment Update:

- An update was given that recruitment is ongoing for two new roles which will support the London Surface Water Strategy.

Publishing and Comms Update:

- There was an update that the Annual Monitoring Report and the Interim Document will be circulated between stakeholders involved in surface water flooding.
- Attendees questioned the possibility of conducting media-facing activities alongside the publication of the Interim Document. It was decided that media-facing activity would not be taking place as the final name and branding for the Strategy has not yet been confirmed.

## **5 2024 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) (Item No. 5)**

- The 2024 AMR highlights the progress made since the reviews that were conducted after the 2021 flooding events.

- It was confirmed this will be the final AMR in this form as monitoring activity will take place as part of the Strategy in future.
- The Chair questioned whether the Strategic Group members were content with approving the AMR for publication. The Strategic Group gave their approval for the publication of the AMR.

**ACTION: AMR to be published**

## **6 Discussion on next steps (Item No. 6)**

An open discussion took place concerning the future development and direction of the Strategy.

- It was clarified that the final Strategy will be presented via 3 separate documents of varying technical detail.
- The Strategic Group agreed that the Strategy would likely operate for 3 to 5 years.
- The group emphasised the importance of the use of the catchment-based approach within the Strategy but also commented that there should be flexibility regarding how this approach is applied.
- The group felt that the Strategy should focus on engagement and identify the wider benefits to individuals and businesses.

## **7 Any other business and forward look (Item No. 7)**

No other business or forward-looking items were brought up. The chair adjourned the meeting.

## **8 Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024