

From: Chris Hargraves
Sent: 16 January 2025 11:29
To: Loraine Harwood
Cc: Giles Hughes
Subject: Flooding in Witney & Local Plan 2041

Dear Loraine

I write in response to the attached letter from Sharon Groth which was recently sent to Giles Hughes regarding flooding in Witney and more generally within the emerging West Oxfordshire Local Plan.

I completely agree that this is a vitally important issue for us to address and the new local plan presents us with the opportunity to adopt a more robust approach than we have had in the past.

You are probably already aware but building on 2 previous stages of public consultation, as part of the preparation of the new local plan, we are planning to publish a series of preferred policy options for consultation in May 2025.

We would very much welcome your feedback at that point and hopefully you will support the general 'direction of travel' the plan is taking before it is worked up into a full draft later in the year.

By way of supporting evidence, the Council has commissioned a new Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) which will provide us with an up to date District-wide understanding of potential flood risk from all sources taking account of predicted climate change. This will be accompanied by other evidence covering different aspects of the water environment including water supply and waste water capacity etc.

Finally, I note your comments regarding the sandbags laid at Riverside Gardens and will pass those onto the relevant officer.

Do please feel free to get in touch again should you require any further information at this point in time.

Kind regards

Chris Hargraves



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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