

London Surface Water Strategic Group

Thursday 22 February 2024, 2pm-4pm

London Councils/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 Harrow, Ealing, Richmond Upon Thames and Hackney.
- Independent Members

Observers and members of the London Surface Water Officers Group

Representatives from:

- Environment Agency
- Thames Water
- Transport for London
- London Fire Brigade
- Greater London Authority
- Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- London Councils
- London Resilience Group

Meeting Items

1 Welcome & Declarations of Interest (Item No. 1)

Elizabeth Rapoport assumed the position of Chair of the London Surface Water Strategic Group at the beginning of the year. Elizabeth greeted the group and discussed how the meeting structure had been changed to encourage more discussion, including a final discussion that was open to members only. Moving forward, all agendas will include declarations of interest.

2 Strategy Development (Item No. 2)

WSP provided an update on the development of the Strategy thus far which included having boroughs belonging to 'catchments' that are determined by a hydrological approach:

- The group endorsed the basic principles in that the work can continue in its current form, but that an example of the catchments with the hotspots and interventions needs to be seen in March before full endorsement is given.
- 2 or 3 catchment examples are needed, including an example that does not fit in with existing boundaries to identify whether that is an easy fix or if it broadly works. Decision will then be made if there is endorsement for the entirety of London. WSP brought up the fact that in order to give the desired examples, a map of the entire city of London is needed.
- A few points were disputed by members; therefore, these need revisiting and responses to be provided on the feedback and questions asked.

ACTION: WSP to send examples of the catchments to the Strategic Group members.

3 Flood Reporting Proposal (Item No. 3)

The Strategic Group was presented the first phase of a proposal for a new flood reporting system:

- The group asked officers to continue developing the scope for this work.
- The group agrees that there should be more done on flood reporting, but since there isn't a brief, it isn't the right time to engage consultants. However, subject to funding, the group agreed that officers could pay for consultancy support should this become necessary in between meetings.

ACTION: Scope the flood reporting proposal further.

4 Business Planning Document (Item No. 4)

The Business Planning Document looked at potential courses for action for the next financial year. The Business Planning Document was parked for the Strategic Group member discussion.

ACTION: Examine the costs and sources for creating an independent website.

5 Any other business and forward look (Item No. 5)

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

6 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 18th April 2024