

| Bath & North East Somerset Council | | |
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| MEETING: | Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel | |
| MEETING DATE: | 11 January 2016 | EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: |
| TITLE: | River Safety - an overview and update | |
| WARD: | All | |
| AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM | | |
| List of attachments to this report: | | |
| Presentation will be made available to Panel | | |

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report invites the Panel to hear about the achievements of the River Safety Group in managing the risks presented by the River Avon in Bath & North East Somerset.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel notes the information presented, which outlines the progress which has been made to date to prevent accidents and the collaborative work which has taken place to educate vulnerable groups about river safety.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 Costs associated with these works are managed within the existing capital programme budget for river corridor safety works and improvements.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Since 2009, 8 fatalities have occurred in the River Avon in Bath. The Council together with its partners, wanted to understand why these deaths were occurring and what could be done to prevent them in the future. As no one agency or landowner has overall responsibility for the river, the multi-agency River Safety Group has been created to deliver a collaborative approach to reviewing any incidents which occur and recommending improvements to mitigate risks.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The presentation will provide details on the work of the River Safety Group including:

- Statistics of reported water-related incidents since 2009.
- The reports which have been commissioned to identify recommendations and improvements.
- Examples of the hierarchy of measures which have been implemented to mitigate risks e.g. fencing.
- Educational campaigns.
- Examples of innovation which have been implemented in Bath & North East Somerset.

6 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 None.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Finance Manager for Place has had the opportunity to input to this report and has cleared it for publication.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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| Contact person | <i>Cathryn Humphries, Team Manager for Licensing and Environmental Protection 01225 477645</i> |
| Background papers | <i>None.</i> |
| Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format | |