

<b>NORTHERN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GROUP (NEPG) MULTI AGENCY FLOOD PLAN</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT</b>	
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
<b>Outcome</b>	Preparedness in the event of an Emergency
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Bryan Edgar
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	N/A

## **Background**

The Northern Emergency Preparedness Group (NEPG) has completed a Multi-Agency Flood Plan for flooding impacting on communities in the Borough Council areas of Antrim and Newtownabbey, Mid and East Antrim and Causeway Coast and Glens. In recent times there have been significant improvement in multi-agency Emergency Planning and co-ordination by local and central government departments.

The plan aims to detail the pre-planned response, as a result of a Met Office Weather Warning for rainfall being issued resulting in significant flooding impacts. A major flooding event is defined “as one where there is widespread flooding that is beyond the response capability of the three drainage agencies.”

Multi Agency local level and regional Co-ordination arrangements is outlined in the plan alongside organisational Roles and Responsibilities during escalation phase. During localised flooding the Council has a key role in facilitating local level Co-ordination among relevant partners. The joined up approach ensures deployment of resources on the ground are achieved alongside providing the necessary assistance to local communities and businesses in a time of need.

The most recent widespread flooding event occurred in early 2016 during Storm Desmond and Frank impacting mainly on local communities around the Lough Neagh.

During a Flooding event the Public are advised to contact the Flood Incident Line directly on **0300 2000 100**, this service is available all year round.

The Council is working closely with the Rivers Agency and relevant multi agency partners to identify vulnerable flooding locations.

A wide range of mitigation measures have been put in place within local communities living in a flood risk area via Regional Community Resilience Group to help make local communities more resilient.

Overall the Multi Agency Flood Plan provides a concept that all Multi Agency partners are prepared to co-ordinate together an effective multi-agency response should a flooding event occur in our area.