

**RECORD OF EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY OFFICER PURSUANT TO
REGULATION 13 OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS)
(MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 &
THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014**

<u>SUBJECT OF DECISION</u>	
Procurement of a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – Level 1 (with the potential for a later Level 2 Assessment).	
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	<u>SOURCE OF AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE</u> (i.e. Committee/ Constitution/Minute No. etc).
DO/101/2026 (LH)	<p>2025/26 - Council meeting on 19th February 2025, resolved in the minutes number CL56.</p> <p>2026/27 - Council meeting on 25th February 2026, resolved in the minutes number CL70 vi)</p> <p>3D.1 b) Take any action on matters relating to the day to day administration of services within their unit.</p> <p>3D.1 c) Take any action to maintain the operation and effectiveness of services within their unit.</p>
<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	<u>DECISION MAKER (Name and Job Title)</u>
2 nd March 2026	 <p>Louise Hryniw Assistant Director for Planning</p>

RECORD OF THE DECISION

a) The issue

The aim and purpose of this proposed Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – Level 1 is to provide Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of flood risk in the Borough. The findings of the study will provide the Council with an understanding of which areas, within the Borough, are at least risk of flooding and in turn, more appropriate locations for allocating strategic housing or employment sites.

b) The Decision

To procure a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – Level 1, with the potential for a later Level 2 Assessment.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (December 2024) requires Local Planning Authorities to produce a SFRA to inform strategic policies, in their Local Plans. In accordance with the NPPF (December 2024) and transitional arrangements within paragraphs 234-237, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council is required to commence an immediate further review now the Borough Plan Review (2021-2039) has been adopted. This further review, in the form of a new Local Plan, will need to address the shortfall between the Borough Plan Review housing requirement of 545 dwellings per annum and the government's new standard method requirement of 756 dwellings per annum. The SFRA – Level 1 will be a vital piece of evidence to enable the selection of the most appropriate locations for growth in the next Local Plan.

It is also anticipated that there will be a need to undertake a more detailed, site-specific Level 2 Assessment, as the next Local Plan progresses. This will form the SFRA – Level 2. The Level 2 Assessment will need to provide site-specific recommendations for identified development opportunities for the next Local Plan, considering all sources of flood risk.

The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment – Level 1 (and potentially a later Level 2) would be best produced by professionals with knowledge and experience of producing these assessments, which is not available within the Planning Policy team. Therefore, this piece of work is best outsourced.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IN MAKING THE DECISION

Employing a Critical Friend was considered and rejected due to resource pressures, the new proposed 30-month timescale for Local Plan delivery, and the Assessment's role as an integral piece of evidence for the next Local Plan.

WARD RELEVANCE

All.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Level 1 - £20k
Level 2 – £40k

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN WITH MEMBERS/OFFICERS

- Borough Plan Committee Members.
- Portfolio Holder – Planning and Regulation.
- Assistant Director for Planning.

ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY ANY MEMBER CONSULTED

N/A.

IN RESPECT OF ANY DECLARED CONFLICT BY A CABINET MEMBER, ANY DISPENSATION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE (Note if the decision is a non-executive decision, no dispensation can be given).

N/A.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS (including any Equality Impact Assessment)

The successful supplier would be expected to comply with the Equality Act (2010).

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Covered under financial and budget implications.

HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

None.

SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Council has committed itself through the Local Development Scheme (December 2025) to an immediate, subsequent review of the Borough Plan Review, in line with the NPPF (December 2024). The SFRA Level 1 will form an important part of the evidence base for the next Local Plan, which could be found unsound by the Planning Inspectorate, if it is not consistent with the NPPF. This would mean that the next Local Plan could be at risk of non-adoption.

The Council could also be at risk of speculative applications which we would be unable to defend without robust, up-to-date evidence.

SME (SMALL/MEDIUM ENTERPRISES) & LOCAL ECONOMY IMPLICATIONS

The required contract is SME friendly.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The Specification outlines environmental requirements that the contractor is expected to support.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS

N/A.

PLEASE RETURN TO THE MONITORING OFFICER AS SOON AS A DECISION IS MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER