

## **UPDATE ON FLOOD PREVENTION PLANNING INFORMATION FOR KEMNAY**

### **PREPARED FOR KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Introduction-** The following information pack has been gathered together to assist members of the Council and others about what is happening at the present time in the way of planning by Aberdeenshire Council and SEPA for flood prevention measures in Kemnay. The following list identifies the key reports, websites and links to further reading which need to be consulted in order to understand where we are at present and what will happen next in the planning process.

- 1. National Flood Risk Assessment maps-** The first paper in the pack explains how to access the NFRA maps on the SEPA website and provides links to further reading of materials prepared by SEPA. These papers explain how the NFRA exercise was carried out and their justification for the grading of certain areas of Kemnay as being High, Medium or Low risk of flooding within the new Kemnay PVA.
- 2. SEPA map showing High, Medium and Low risk areas in Kemnay PVA-** The darker brown colours on the map show the high-risk areas in the Kemnay PVA. Please note Kembhill Park and Bremner Way have been designated as being at Medium risk whereas other parts of the village which were not flooded have been given a high-risk status.
- 3. Google street map and satellite overlay** – Using the SEPA NFRA data the next two overlays prepared by KPFG show in greater detail the division between the high and medium risk areas in Kemnay. The maps can be viewed on the KPFG website at [www.kpfg.org.uk](http://www.kpfg.org.uk) under the heading “Useful Resources”.
- 4. NFRA “storybook”-** In order to explain how the NFRA process was carried out and how SEPA arrived at their conclusions they produced an online “storybook” which can be accessed using the following links-  
<https://www.sepa.org.uk/media/399172/nfra-faq.pdf>  
<https://sepaweb.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=323ae6e6abcf4f859acabca202c30f9b>

- 5. List of PVAs in Aberdeenshire-** This information comes from an e-mail from SEPA listing all the PVAs in Aberdeenshire as a result of the 2018 NFRA exercise. Previously there were 19, now there are 23. It should be noted that Aberdeenshire is only one part of the North East Scotland Local Planning District committee which is responsible for flood prevention and planning in the area. Moray and Aberdeen City are also represented on this body and have their own list of PVAs.
- 6. Map showing PVAs in Aberdeenshire-** This map can be accessed online at the SEPA website and following the steps outlined in my paper above at item one.
- 7. Map showing extent of Kemnay PVA-** This map can also be accessed online at the SEPA website and following the steps outlined in my paper above at item one.
- 8. SEPA map showing potential flooding from River Don-** This map can also be accessed online at the SEPA website and has been updated to take account of the 2016 floods. It should be noted that the PVA information on these maps have not been updated as yet so do not show the result of the 2018 NFRA exercise.
- 9. Implementation of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009-** This report from the Scottish Government which runs to thirty pages outlines what has been done at local and national level to better plan for flood prevention work across Scotland. There are important sections which outline what “responsible” authorities should take into consideration when planning for the next cycle of works due to start in 2022. See in particular section five. This report can be accessed on the Scottish Government website under the “publications” heading.
- 10. Flood protection appraisals: guidance for SEPA and responsible authorities-** Following on from the previous report this Scottish Government report gives detailed guidance on what factors should be taken into account in planning for the next cycle of public works. Again this report is available in full on the Scottish Government website under the heading “publications”.

- 11. Report to Infrastructure Services Committee- 24 January 2019-** This report which runs to well over 400 pages gives the most up to date information on what Aberdeenshire Council and SEPA have been doing during the 2016 to 2022 cycle in the way of flood protection work and planning. The report can be viewed on the Council website under the Council and Democracy/Committees and Meetings heading.
- 12. Page 303 from above report-** Paragraph 4.4 from this report gives an indication of when the Council require to submit plans to SEPA for works to be carried out during the next six year work cycle starting in 2022. The deadline for submissions is December 2019. It would appear that if work in Kemnay is to be included in the next work cycle that decisions will require to be made by the Council before December of this year.
- 13. Page 382 from above report-** This page has been selected for illustrative purposes and gives a summary of progress which has been made thus far on work at Inch in relation to their Flood Study and gives timescales for submission to the Scottish Government of preferred options for flood protection works. These options will require to be submitted by the Autumn of 2019. Similar information is given in the report on each of the other priority areas currently receiving attention. These are Port Elphinstone/Inverurie, Ellon, Stonehaven and Ballater.
- 14. Page 484 from the above report-** Section 56 on this page is interesting as it gives Aberdeenshire Council the power to manage flood risk in communities which may not be covered by the Flood Risk Management Plan. It is unlikely that the Council would choose to make use of this provision but it is interesting to note that they have this power.
- 15. Noah Prioritisation Tool-** This tool is used by the Council to decide on what areas within Aberdeenshire should be given priority when decisions require to be made for flood protection planning and works. The tool contains various criteria which Council staff require to consider when making their decisions. The full report can be downloaded from the Council website under reports to the Infrastructure Services Committee, 29/01/2015

**16. Flood Risk and Coast Protection Works 2018/19-** This appendix to the above report gives the spending on all projects currently in hand in Aberdeenshire. Under the Revenue heading £15,000 has been allocated annually for the retention of a standby contractor to be available to deploy the Watergate barrier at Kembhill Park should it ever be needed for the protection of houses in the scheme and around Bremner Way.

**17. Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016-2022-** This report was published by Aberdeenshire Council in June 2016 and gives the background to the current situation as far as flood protection works and planning for the North East of Scotland. The report is available on the Council website and is essential reading for anyone wanting to find out why we are where we are at the present time and what is likely to happen for the future.

**18. History of Alehousewells development-** Community Council members may already be familiar with the history of the Kembhill Park area but in the event that this is not the case I have included this paper by way of information. Most of the early part of the document is taken from the KCC website whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

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