



COUNCIL MEETING

22 September 2016

**STRATEGIC REVIEW OF FLOODING RESPONSE AND
DISTRIBUTION OF SANDBAGS**

Mike Barker, Acting Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to inform of the findings and outcomes from a Strategic Review of Flooding Response and to seek approval of a Sandbag Policy for Gateshead.
2. Gateshead experiences severe weather on a frequent basis, most recently heavy rain and subsequent flooding in January 2016. As this type of incident can occur at any time there needs to be an assurance to the public that the Council has the capability and capacity in place to respond to flooding incidents within Gateshead, including having a clear and concise policy on the approach to sandbags.
3. Following severe weather experienced in 2008 a sandbag allocation and distribution protocol was developed but this has now been reviewed and updated and is detailed in Appendix 3 of the attached report.
4. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that Council approve the Sandbag Policy for Gateshead as set out in Appendix 3 of the attached report.