

### **Capital Items Referred to the Budget Process**

The following items have been referred to the budget process which the Council is asked to provide a decision on whether they wish to take these projects further:

#### **Council – 11 December 2024**

##### **Notice of Motion by Councillor Boulton**

“That the Council agrees to:

- (1) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to refer details of the funding required to develop further detailed studies for a flooding solution as described by the WSP consultants to provide protection for The Paddock, Peterculter to the budget process;
- (2) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to refer details of the funding required to develop further detailed studies for a flooding solution as described by the WSP consultants to provide protection for Millside and Culter Den, Peterculter for a 1 in 200 and a 1 in 30 flooding event to the budget process; and
- (3) Instruct the Chief Officer - Operations to continue engagement with local residents, Culter Community Council and the Community Resilience Group on the progress in relation to these flood prevention schemes, subject to funding being awarded to support future activity, and to report these outcomes to a future meeting of the Net Zero, Environment and Transport Committee.”

Decision:

**to refer the notice of motion to the budget process.**

Following the flooding in January 2016 ACC investigated the flood risk under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. A flood alleviation scheme feasibility study was conducted in 2016 to identify a list of flood alleviation options to reduce the risk of flooding to residential properties at both The Paddock and Millside. The preferred option in terms of flood alleviation consisted of a combination of new flood walls with seepage cut-off, raising the Millside Street Bridge, flap valves to river outfalls, retaining wall repairs and construction of a flood storage basin upstream at Inverord. The Study was submitted to the Scottish Government for prioritization for funding in 2019, however, given the very low Cost Benefit Ratio it was considered unlikely to receive any. The indicative initial cost was £3.5 million. The scheme was ranked very low compared to similar schemes in Scotland and did not attract funding from the Scottish Government.

An addendum was completed in 2024 to assess if by separating the options for Millside and the Paddock, a viable solution could be found for either area. This work identified options which have the potential to reduce the risk of flooding but did not identify solutions likely to receive Scottish Government funding.

A public meeting for the residents affected by flooding at Peterculter-Millside and The Paddock was held on 30th of October 2024. The meeting was hosted by Aberdeen City Council Flooding Team and WSP who are the Consultants for the Culter Burn Flood Study.

The likelihood of attracting funding from the Scottish Government for any scheme is extremely low therefore any funding will have to come from existing budgets or the

Capital programme within ACC. No other known community benefits have been identified that would attract other funding streams.

The options identified as having the potential to reduce flood risk will have to be taken through the outline design phase to confirm that the proposals modelled are structurally sound and constructable. If this stage identifies viable options these will need to be taken to detailed design stage.

The high level cost estimates for these stages have determined the following, should members wish to progress this project:

**Outline design: £150,000**

**Detailed design: £600,000**