

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Enterprise Planning and Infrastructure
DATE	6 November 2012
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	City Wide Flooding Issues
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/12/240

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Committee on recent city wide flooding incidents and to outline the ongoing work necessary to assess and manage the risk of flooding.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Notes :-

- a) The extent of the flooding problem as experienced on 25 August.
- b) The progress made to investigate and alleviate the causes of flooding.

2.2 Approves :-

- c) That a briefing session is arranged to update elected members on the national and local strategy to risk manage and alleviate flooding.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Minor works to improve drainage and flood protection are funded from existing revenue and capital budgets.

At present flood prevention schemes with a capital value up to £2M do not attract grant funding from the Scottish Government. Approved schemes in excess of this value can attract 80% funding. The continuation of this threshold could disadvantage the City.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a statutory obligation to work in partnership with the North East Local Plan District (NELPD), SEPA, Scottish Water and others to develop a Local Plan for Flood Risk Management. The plan will include prioritised schemes for flood management. The deadline for publishing the first draft plan is December 2014. Some schemes, particularly major schemes, will be eligible for grant funding. An explanation of this strategy and partnership working will be the subject of a briefing session for elected members.

5.0 BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Flooding Events – 25 August

Heavy rain on 25 August caused a large number of flooding incidents city wide, affecting both domestic and commercial properties, as well as disrupting travel. A full list of the incidents reported to the flood management team is given in appendix A. The appendix also details progress to date to mitigate recurrences of these incidents. Some of the issues can be dealt with locally; others require a robust understanding of the watercourse and drainage system to allow development of a solution, some of which may involve major capital works.

The rain on the 25th was localised, intense and of relatively short duration, because of this, no official measurement of the rainfall is available. However it is assessed that up to 30mm fell within one hour, placing the downpour in excess of a 1 in 100 year event. It should be noted however that the 1 in 100 year event is based on statistical analysis of limited historical records. If increased rainfall, as has been experienced in recent years, is the product of climate change, then the intensity of the predicted 1 in 100 year event will increase, as will the frequency of flooding.

6.0 IMPACT

There is considerable public interest in this, particularly from those affected by flooding issues and from the media.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- a) Potentially Vulnerable Area Data Sheets 06/15-19 available at - http://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding/flood_risk_management/national_flood_risk_assessment/datasheets.aspx.
- b) Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans available at - http://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding/flood_risk_management/national_flood_risk_assessment.aspx.
- c) Aberdeen Integrated Catchment Study – report to 31 May 2012 EP&I Committee.
- d) Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 – Governance Arrangements for the North East Local Plan District (NELPD) – report to 12 September 2012 EP&I Committee

8.0 REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Alan Robertson – Structures, Flooding and Coastal Engineering
Manager

Tel: (01224) 538072

Email: alanr@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Appendix A

Record of Flooding Incidents for Saturday 25th August 2012

Incident Number	Location	Description of Incident	Action Taken
1	Jack Brae	Denburn – out of channel flow – resulting in flooding of garage & yard. This is an area of repeat problems. Work has already been carried out to prevent flood water flowing down Jack's Brae an into Denburn car park etc.	Survey carried out 28/08/12. Owner requested meeting with ACC / SW / Lawyer Discussed with SW & Planning 03/09/12. Meeting with Owners 17/09/12 & 01/10/12. Lower trash screen removed 21/09/12. ACC to carry out work to adjust wall heights and driveway levels as soon as budgets permit. Owner to fit non-return valves to drains. Owner to propose alterations to burn walls and ACC to facilitate meeting with Conservation Team to discuss Sandbags issued to homeowner on 12/10/12
2	Braeside Avenue	Flooding in rear garden. Blocked Culvert.	CCTV survey carried out. discussed with SW 03/09/12. Blockage Cleared.
3	Golf Road / Accommodation Road	Social club flooded. Manhole surcharged at junction of Pittodrie Street. Overloading of combined sewer due to rainfall	Raised with SW 03/09/12. Social club to discuss with SW. Discussed with SW on 15/10/12 – problem a result of ceased valve at York Street pumping station – valve has been repaired.
4	Kirk Brae	Culvert unable to cope with volume of water	Scheme to be implemented by ACC as soon as resources permit.
5	Fountainhall Road / Albert Lane	Property flooded - water coming from Denburn overtopping in private lane & surface water on Fountainhall Road. The Denburn had reached capacity where it flows under Fountainhall Road. Detailed assessment of Denburn Capacity Required.	Survey carried out 29/08/12. Consultant employed by local businesses. Meeting with Consultant on 17/09/12. Meeting with Councillor Jennifer Stewart & affected proprietors Temporary sand bag wall built 24/09/12 –to be replaced with permanent masonry wall – masonry wall completed by 11/10/12. Sandbags issued on 12/10/12 Meeting arranged with SW for 15/10/12 to discuss joint survey of sewers and drains in area. Joint survey agreed.
6	Jesmond Place	Manhole surcharged, lifting road surface	Manhole reset - waiting on a vented cover to replace existing cover. Discussed with SW on 03/09/12. SW responsibility.
7	Langstracht	a) Flood Waters	Survey required - Large runoff from Garden centre. Gullies don't connect directly into carrier drains. It is assumed that the outlets are blocked / silted up. - To be investigated.
		b) School flooded	CCTV required to inspect condition of Springhill culvert. The SW combined sewer may not have had capacity. Discussed with SW on 15/10/12 – SW to look at improving details on combined sewer.

		c) Rear garden flooded	Met with owner 30/08/12. Gullies have been cleaned & members enquiry responded to. Langstracht scheme required to alleviate future flood incidents.
		d) Eday Walk - property flooded	Langstracht scheme.
8	Abbotswell Road	a) Water run off from ACC road	Awaiting materials to programme works. ACC to repair gully / possibly add another large capacity gully.
		b) Property flooded twice	Awaiting materials to programme works. ACC to repair gully. Drainage channel to be installed – to Tullos burn.
9	Monymusk Terrace	Flooded greenhouse	ACC have cleared blockage under Craigbuckler Avenue - Replied to Councillor Greig.
10	North Deeside Road	a) Flooding at Bairds Brae	Either SW or private matter.
		b) Muddy water coming up the toilet & bath / surface water from road	SW to fit non-return valves.
11	Westholme Avenue	Partial blockage of culvert	Burn cleared of vegetation etc upstream of bridge.
12	Midstocket Road	Flooding in garden	Owner given advice on how to protect property with flood boards and vent covers.
13	Den of Cults	a) Flooding from Cults burn has damaged road surface	Private road / burn - Owners to repair.
		b) Flooding from Cults burn has damaged road surface	Private road / burn - Owners to repair.
		c) Flooded garden & damage to boundary retaining wall	Private road / burn - Owners to repair.
14	Greenbank Road	Flooding of yard	Owner is arranging the cleaning of internal drains.
15	Abbotshall Gardens	Water in back garden	Survey carried out 26/09/12 Lack of road drainage - run off into gardens. Being investigated. Possible regarding of road.
16	Derbeth Grange	Water surfacing between fence line of two properties	Investigation ongoing - Site drawings obtained from developer.
17	Deeside Gardens	Flooding in back garden	Discussed with SW 03/09/12. No reported flooding on 25/08/12 therefore improvement works by owner may have been effective.
18	Craigieburn Park	a) Silt & foam in pond	ACC met Chair of residents association on 18/09/12. Advice given on how to protect pond from silting & responded to Councillor Greig.
		b) Dip in road & lifting of carriageway	SW responsibility
19	Culter House Road	Water running down Culter House Road	ACC cleared blocked drain near Bellend Walk.

20	Pitfodels Station Road	Water running into garden from road during heavy rain.	ACC met with owner on 06/09/12. Arranged to get gullies cleaned. The land profile has been altered. ACC issued letter to owner's agent.
21	Greenwell Road	Standing water at dip in road	Tullos cleared two gullies in dip of road.
22	Countesswell Is Road	Ground water / Retaining wall	Council Engineer visited on 04/09/12. Owner to discuss with solicitor
23	Earlspark Crescent	Standing water at boundary wall	Council Engineer met with owner 12/09/12 Upstand to be installed.
24	Springfield Road	Manhole on footpath nr. Braeside Ave	SW to fix manhole - road inspector to check.
25	Sycamore Place	Road flooding	Gullies cleaned
26	Dubford Park	Water running between property & sub station	New gully to be installed.
27	Manor Drive	Edge of carriageway & footway lifted by flood water	Site investigation carried out 27/09/12. Evidence of water issuing from SW manhole on the combined sewer on Manor Drive.
28	Springfield Place		SW responsibility.
29	Hazledene Road	Flooding to warehousing etc on Council owned site.	Culvert size inadequate. Situation could be improved by larger culvert or removal of culvert and reinstatement of open channel. To be discussed with tenant.