

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	Communities Housing and Infrastructure
DATE	29/08/17
REPORT TITLE	Flood Mitigation Projects- Update
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/17/165
INTERIM DIRECTOR	Bernadette Marjoram
REPORT AUTHOR	Will Burnish

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on flood mitigation projects.

**2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:

- a) Appoint a City Flooding Representative – Elected Member (FMR)
- b) Appoint the Flooding Representative – Elected Member to the BEGIN steering committee
- c) Adopt the Dyce Surface Water Management Plan (Appendix A)
- d) Use of Council Land to build the Maidencraig natural wet land project ( Appendix B)

**3. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

To ensure proper governance of flooding related projects a Flooding Project Board has been established.

At present the board is made up of the following officers:

Flooding and Coastal Manager  
Roads Infrastructure Manager  
Planning and Environment Policy Manager  
Environmental Manager

The composition of the board will be reviewed regularly to ensure that the appropriate mix of experience is represented.

**Flooding Representative – Elected Member :**

The Committee is asked to appoint an elected member as the Cities Flooding Representative – Elected Member . The role involves:-

- Being a member of the North East Local Plan District Steering Group (Required by FRM (Scotland) Act 2009)
- Attending appropriate meetings to discuss flood risk
- Promoting flood awareness amongst elected members
- Promoting flood awareness across the City
- Where required, joining steering committees on externally funded flood projects (Currently BEGIN and SCORE)
- Attending flood awareness meetings with local communities

Note: This project related position is representative and therefore deemed to be low risk. As the Elected Member will be acting in the Council's interests, they will be covered by the Council's insurance policy. The position will not likely be for the full term of office. For these reasons, it is considered that this post does not fall into the Policy on Appointment of Elected Members to Outside Bodies and the post does not need to go on to the Outside Bodies Register. It is therefore considered that this Committee can agree the appointment.

Key Project updates:-

Dee View Court Flood Protection Scheme	Construction work has started to install flood gates at Bridge of Dee Court. The gates will significantly reduce the flood risk. The gate will be operational around Christmas 2017. We are also working with SEPA to have a standalone flood warning for the gate.
Peterculter Flood Protection Scheme	The study is at an advanced stage. There have, however been delays. These relate to the difficulties in identifying and agreeing rainfall intensity. It has now been possible to model the flood events relating them to the actual flood levels/extents and assign return periods to the events. Initial SEPA agreement with the methodology has been obtained.
Footdee Flood Study	A flood study has begun to determine the flood risk at Footdee due to wave overtopping. The results of the phase 1 desktop study are programmed to be complete at the end of November 2017.
BEGIN	Maidencraig:- The works have begun on flood modelling the new wetland habitat as well as the realignment of the watercourse. Design works are anticipated to be completed in August 2017 with Elected Member

	<p>consultation and wider public consultation in the Autumn.</p> <p>Summerhill:- Design works have been completed for the new swale along Stronsay Drive and into Stronsay Park to allow for increased discharge from Fernielea School, Gairsay Drive and the former Summerhill Academy. The work will be completed in 2018. The Gairsay flood protection work is currently under construction.</p> <p>Fernielea School:- Initial scoping works have been done to identify mitigation measures. Significant work has been done on engagement with the school, including the creation of water safety leaflets, engineering presentations and engagement around the need for sustainable drainage. It is planned to have the design work completed in 2017 with consultation in early 2018.</p> <p>BEGIN Steering Committee Member:- As part of the BEGIN agreement, ACC are asked to provide a representative to the steering group. It is recommended that the Flooding Representative – Elected Member is asked to adopt this role. The role is to support the project aims and interact with other project partners. They will be required to attend a minimum of one meeting per year at one of the partner cities.</p>
North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan	The flooding team is currently working on the delivery of the Glashie Burn flood study with particular emphasis on the Jesmond Drive issues.
Property Level Protection Grant Scheme	The Property Level Grant scheme during 2017 so far has had a slow uptake. This was likely due to the minimal rainfall we have had. We are reviewing the areas which are at risk with the view of doing some more localised community engagement.
Merchant Quarter	Work to identify a preferred option for a flood protection scheme is ongoing. The possible options have been reduced from a long list to a short list and it is anticipated that the preferred option will be identified by the end of August 2017. Delivery of the scheme will depend upon funding. A progress report will be presented to Committee

### Surface Water Management Plans

The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (the FRM Act) establishes a flood risk management planning process for the assessment and sustainable management of flood risks with the aim of reducing the adverse consequences of flooding from all sources, including surface water flooding.

The surface water management plan will help to deliver the Scottish Government's outcomes for sustainable flood risk management:

1. A reduction in the number of people, homes and property at risk of flooding as a result of public funds being invested in actions that protect the most vulnerable and those areas at greatest risk of flooding
2. Rural and urban landscapes with space to store water and slow down the progress of floods
3. Integrated drainage that decreases burdens on our sewer systems while also delivering reduced flood risk and an improved water environment
4. A well informed public who understand flood risk and adopt actions to protect themselves, their property or their businesses

The purpose of a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) is to provide sufficient information to support the development of an agreed strategic approach to the management of surface water flood risk within a given geographical area by ensuring the most sustainable measures are identified (i.e. the most economically, socially and environmentally beneficial measures). SWMPs can be implemented at any scale and should follow a risk based approach, where most effort should be focused in areas of highest risk and where the most complex problems exist. SWMPs can therefore vary in detail to suit local requirements and the amount of detail that a SWMP contains should be proportionate to the surface water flood risk and the complexity of the problem.

Within Aberdeen City it has been identified that there should be 9 SWMPs and their location can be seen in Appendix A. Because Dyce is one of the simpler plans to develop it has been used as the pilot and hopefully the template for the others. The plan can be found in Appendix A.

Further plans will be submitted to Committee for approval.

## **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

All works that are highlighted within this report have budget allocated in the Capital Plan or revenue budgets.

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The recommendations and information highlighted in the report form part of our 6 monthly reporting on flood risk in the City. The recommendations, if not approved, may affect the way in which the City meets its obligations under the Flood Risk Management Act.

## **6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK**

### **6.1 Financial**

Financial Risk will be covered within the existing current budget. If current funding from the Scottish Government for flooding changes, then the current proposed works will be reviewed by the Flooding Board to prioritise works within the revised budget.

### **6.2 Employee**

Current plans have been resourced to deliver the NELFRMP (North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan). If there is significant change to priorities with regard to flooding in the city, the resourcing required will be revised by the flooding board to ensure full deployment of internal staff.

### **6.3 Customer / Citizen**

This report poses no changing risk to Customers/Citizens.

### **6.4 Environmental**

When works are proposed to mitigate environmental risk, scoping environmental appraisals will be undertaken as part of the scheme feasibility.

### **6.5 Technological**

Currently there are no technological risks which could affect the delivery of the NELFRMP, however this will be revised as the plan is delivered.

### **6.6 Legal.**

There are no legal risk which are currently affecting the delivery of the NELFRMP, however if there are changes to budgets or resources then this may affect our delivery of the statutory duty within the FRM 2009 act.

### **6.7 Reputational**

Reputational issue to ACC with regard to flood risk will be managed by increased community engagement and information as part of the NELFRMP.

## 7. IMPACT

### **Economy –**

The works undertaken by the flood team will reduce the overall level of repairs required due to flooding and the SWMP will help ACC target the risk areas for maintenance and response during a flood event.

### **People –**

The work that the flooding team do will have a significant impact on the public experience as it will highlight the risk of flooding, identify at risk areas and inform how the public can develop self-help strategies. The works highlighted in this report will also lead to a significant reduction of flooding in the city, which will improve the customer experience.

### **Technology-**

This project is not using technology at this stage.

### **Place-**

This report will be beneficial to the public as it is an update of ACC's progress delivering the North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan. An EHRA is not required for the report. See supporting documentation.

## 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Flood Risk Management Act Prioritisation	<a href="#">CHI/15/161</a>
Begin Project	<a href="#">CHI-15-207</a>

## 9. APPENDICES

Dyce Surface Water Management Plan	Appendix A
Maidencraig Land Boundary	Appendix B

## 10. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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