



Essex County Council

Essex Flood Partnership Board

10:00	Tuesday, 23 November 2021	Online Meeting
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Please do not attend County Hall as no one connected with this meeting will be present.

For information about the meeting please ask for:

Lisa Siggins, Democratic Services Officer

Telephone: 033301 34575

Email: democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

Essex County Council and Committees Information

This meeting is **not** open to the public and the press although the agenda is available on the [Essex County Council website](#) and by then following the links from [Running the Council](#) or you can go directly to the [Meetings Calendar](#) to see what is happening this month.

Accessing Documents

If you have a need for documents in, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Democratic Services Officer before the meeting takes place. For further information about how you can access this meeting, contact the Democratic Services Officer.

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To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 February.

- 4 Flood Risk Management Plans**
- To receive a presentation from Florence Lovatt, Environment Agency, regarding the latest update on regional Flood Risk Management Plans Cycle 2.
- 5 Catchment to Coast Project Update**
- To receive a presentation led by Joanne Matthews, Southend on Sea Borough Council, regarding the Catchment to Coast Project which was awarded approximately £6 million from the Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme.
- 6 Essex Floods Capital Programme** **10 - 22**
- To receive a report **EFPB/03/21** from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Capital Programme. This will be followed by a presentation from Tom Moat, Forestry & Woodland Officer on the progress of the Essex Forestry Initiative.
- 7 Essex Climate Action Commission: Research Findings**
- To receive a presentation from Chris Holmes, Commercial Research Analyst, on the findings of a research project led by the Essex Climate Action Commission.
- 8 Local Nature Partnership**
- To receive a presentation from Tim Simpson, Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Manager, on the progress of the Local Nature Partnership development.
- 9 Any Other Business**
- 10 Date of Next Meeting**
- To note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 26 January 2022 online.

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A

of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.

Agenda item 1

Committee: Essex Flood Partnership Board

Enquiries to: Lisa Siggins, Democratic Services Officer

Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

Recommendations:

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

Membership	
Cllr Lee Scott	Essex County Council
John Meehan	Essex County Council
Lucy Shepherd	Essex County Council
Peter Massie	Essex County Council
Peta Denham	Environment Agency
Rachel Keen	Environment Agency
Carl Smith	Thames Water
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
Mark Eaglestone	Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Cllr Richard Moore	Basildon Borough Council
Cllr Wendy Schmitt	Braintree District Council
Cllr Jon Cloke	Brentwood Borough Council
Cllr Simon Hart	Castle Point Borough Council
Cllr Mike Mackrory	Chelmsford City Council
Cllr Lee Scordis	Colchester Borough Council
Cllr Nigel Avey	Epping Forest District Council
Cllr Alastair Gunn	Harlow District Council
Cllr Stephen Nunn	Maldon District Council
Cllr David Sperring.	Rochford District Council
Cllr Nick Turner	Tendring District Council
Cllr Gary Collins	Thurrock Council
Cllr Carole Mulronev	Southend on Sea Borough Council
Cllr Richard Pavitt	Uttlesford District Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Flood Partnership Board (Private Meeting), held Online on Thursday, 18 February 2021**Present:****Members of the Board:**

Cllr Simon Walsh (Chairman)	Essex County Council
Cllr Andrew Sheldon	Castle Point Borough Council
John Meehan	Essex County Council
Peta Denham	Environment Agency
Rachel Keen	Environment Agency
James Mason	Environment Agency
Cllr Stephen Nunn	Maldon District Council
Lucy Shepherd	Essex County Council
Cllr Nick Turner	Tendring District Council
Cllr Arthur Williams	Rochford District Council
Cllr Neil Reeve	Uttlesford District Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Honor Drummond	Anglian Water
James Ennos	Tendring District Council
Damien Ghela	Maldon District Council
Martyn Hare	Essex Fire and Rescue
James Mason	Environment Agency
Max Marcheselli	Essex County Council
Gavin Montella	Southend Borough Council
David Prudence	Essex Highways
Lee Sencier	Essex County Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Tim Simpson	Essex County Council
Lisa Siggins	Essex County Council – Democratic Services
Mandy Thompson	Epping Forest District Council
Navtej Tung	Thurrock Council
Rob Wise	NFU

1 Online meeting protocol and software functionality

Lucy Shepherd explained the online meeting protocol and software

functionality.

2 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

The report of the Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received, and it was noted that Councillor Stephen Nunn was the new member for Maldon District Council.

Apologies had been received from:
Councillor Gary Collins– Thurrock Council
Jonathan Glerum- Anglian Water
Peter Massie - ECC

No declarations of interest were made.

3 Minutes 15.10.20

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2020 were approved as a correct record.

4 Flood Incidents and Investigations

The Board received a presentation from Charlotte Palmer, Flood Investigation Engineer regarding the recent flooding incidents in Essex and recap Essex County Council's Flood Investigation responsibilities as Lead Local Flood Authority.

The presentation focused on Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 which states that “On becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate....”. The presentation gave details of ECC's criteria, the flood investigation process, and details of a case study.

In response to a Member question, Charlotte Palmer gave some clarification regarding responsibilities for blocked ditches. This included the use of historic mapping, with Martyn Hare from Essex Fire and Rescue offering to provide assistance in this regard.

Councillor Sheldon asked for advice in the case where a District Authority's asset mapping is not up to date, Ms Palmer advised that ECC's mapping officer could pass on information regarding the digitisation of mapping.

The presentation can be found [here](#).

The Chairman offered his personal thanks to Charlotte and all those involved for all their hard work.

Enquiries regarding local issues were dealt with following the meeting.

5 Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans (DWMPs)

The Board received a presentation from Honor Drummond, Anglian Water

regarding progress with Drainage and Wastewater Management Plans.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

6 **2020-21 Essex Capital Flood Programme update**

The Board received a report (EFPB/01/21) and a presentation from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Capital Programme.

The PowerPoint presentation gave pictorial examples of two completed schemes. The presentation can be found [here](#)

The Chairman asked for clarification regarding the funding contribution provided by ECC during the five-year programme. Mr Chapman confirmed that it was £19.4m and that £9m had been received from external grant funding.

The Board **NOTED** the report

7 **Innovative Resilience Programme Essex EOI Bid**

To receive Report (EFPB/02/21) and a presentation from John Meehan Head of Sustainability & Resilience and partners, Sustainability and Resilience Team, regarding the Innovative Resilience funding expression of interest, which is being made by ECC and key partners.

The Board were advised that this was a scheme being promoted by the Environment Agency. The programme will allocate £150 million of the £200million to 25 areas in England. Each of the selected partnership projects will receive on average £6 million between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2027.

Details of the bid submitted by ECC were set out in the above-mentioned report and in the presentation.

In response to a Member's question, John Meehan, and Peta Denham (Environment Agency) explained the overall aim which is to add new ideas and ways of working to make the County more resilient.

John Meehan confirmed that the Board would be updated with any developments with its bid.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

The Board **NOTED** the report

8 **Essex Climate Action Commission Update**

The Essex Climate Action Commission has set up 5 Special Interest Groups to bring forward recommendations. The Land Use & Green Infrastructure Special Interest Group has been meeting since July 2020 and has developed recommendations for a Land Use & Green Infrastructure Climate Action programme, covering both the whole County and a Climate Focus Area within the County.

The objective of the Land Use & Green Infrastructure Climate Action (LUGICA) programme is to achieve a transformation in land management in Essex that delivers net zero carbon as quickly as possible and to do it in a way that also delivers multiple benefits such as net gain for biodiversity, improved soil health, improved air quality, reduced flooding, reduced urban heat island effect, and improved amenity, liveability and wellbeing of Essex communities.

John Meehan who chairs the land Use and Green Infrastructure Special Interest Group presented the Recommendations of the Group as part of a presentation which can be found [here](#).

Councillor Reeve enquired as to how Districts can work collaboratively with the Commission, with it being confirmed that going forward there would be involvement with District authorities.

The Chairman also confirmed that he chaired a meeting of Environmental leaders, with representatives from all Districts.

Councillor Nunn raised the issue of the proposed power station at Bradwell-on-Sea. This was clarified by Samantha Kennedy who is explained that this was not in fact considered by the Commission, as it is in fact a decision that is being taken by Government.

In response to a point raised by Councillor Turner, there followed a discussion regarding agriculture and land use.

9 Any Other Business

None

10 Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 29th April at 10 am, likely to be held online.

The meeting closed at noon.

Chairman

Report title: Essex Floods Capital Programme		EFPB/03/21
		AGENDA ITEM 6
Report to: Essex Flood Board		
Report author: David Chapman Project Delivery Manager		
Date: 20 th October 2021		For: Discussion
Enquiries to: John Meehan (Head of Environment and Climate Action) john.meehan@essex.gov.uk David Chapman (Project Delivery Manager) dave.chapman@essex.gov.uk		
County Divisions affected: All Essex		

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To update the Flood Board on the 2020/21 Capital Flood Programme

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 For Essex Flood Board Members to note the successes of the capital programme. Using the lessons learned, combined with developing stronger partnerships, the aim is to continue the upwards trend and we hope to retain this level of service, and where possible improve it for future years.

3. Summary of issue

3.1 The initial 6 years of the capital programme is now complete. Over this period, we have delivered several projects ranging in size and complexity, been nominated and won awards but we continue to push the boundaries in terms of design interventions and achievable benefits.

3.2 During the current programme we have demonstrated the success achieved and the benefits delivered to residents of Essex. The current programme has seen over 75 sites investigated for the potential to deliver capital schemes.

3.3 By the end of the current programme, we will have generated £7.2m pounds worth of external funding will have been realised through the delivery of schemes on the capital programme and reduced surface water flood risk to over 1400 residential properties.

3.4 The knowledge gained from these projects will help to unlock more funding in the future and reduce the risk of surface water flooding to more residential properties in Essex. To deliver schemes on the Flood Programme, we are using several consultants and in-house expertise to design and build individual projects.

3.5 The Capital Flood Programme is broken down into 2 elements

- 1) Property Flood Resilience (PFR) is a scheme that offers residents of previously flooded properties an opportunity to apply for individual property protection. The applications are then vetted and prioritised.
- 2) Capital funded Flood Alleviation Schemes (FAS) forms the bulk of our programme; this area focuses on delivering projects on the ground in the areas most at risk of surface water flooding.

Below is more specific detail on the Capital Programme FAS.

- West Mersea – Works have started on the delivery of the temporary defence barrier scheme. Site compound and ancillary works are complete with a start date for main construction of the 8th November 2021.
- River Slade – Construction is now complete, and the scheme is fully operational. Phase 2 of the project is being looked at with a view to being delivered in conjunction with planned highway improvements in 2023/24.
- Brent D Ursuline School – Planning has been approved, subject to conditions and a provisional start date of November 2021 has been agreed.
- Make rain happy project – This project is now complete and fully operational.
- 7 new optimisation projects have been started and will be complete by the end of February 2022. These projects will then move into delivery for the 2022/23 financial year.

To note this project will contribute towards ECC's ambitions to meet climate change commitments by delivering schemes that offer flood mitigation, Green Infrastructure, habitat creation and biodiversity net gain. The following strategic policies will also be met when delivering the floods capital programme;

- Improve the health of people in Essex
- Help to secure stronger, safer, and more unneighbourly communities
- Help to secure sustainable development and protect the environment
- Facilitate growing communities and new homes
- Develop the capability, performance, and engagement of our people

4. Links to Essex Vision

4.1 This report links to the following aims in the Essex Vision

- Strengthen communities through participation
- Develop our County sustainably
- Connect us to each other and the world

- Share prosperity with everyone

For more information visit www.essexfuture.org.uk

4.2 This links to the following strategic aims in the Organisational Plan:

- Help create great places to grow up, live and work
- Transform the council to achieve more with less

5. Financial implications

5.1 Over the completed six years of the programme, we have developed strong working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders such as the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and District Councils. During this process the Flood and Water Management team has been able to attract external contributions and income to support several functions, these include

- Feasibility and assessment studies
- Delivery of capital flood alleviation schemes
- Delivery of the Property Level Protection project

5.2 We have a target of generating 25% of our annual budget from external stakeholders, but this year we aim to raise this to 50%.

Previous contributions to the flood programme are as follows;

- £125,771 contributions secured in 2014/15
- £225,227 contributions secured in 2015/16
- £436,490 contributions and income secured in 2016/17
- £1.63m contributions secured in 2017/18
- £1.57m contributions secured in 2018/19
- £1.53m contributions secured in 2019/20

6. Equality and Diversity implications

6.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:

- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
- (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

- 6.2 The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).
- 6.3 The equality impact assessment indicates that the proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic. *(Describe the specific equality and diversity implications of the proposal, any adverse findings from the equality impact assessment and your proposed mitigation measures)*

7. List of appendices

- Equality Impact Assessment

8. List of Background papers

- 2020/21 FBC

I approve the above recommendations set out above for the reasons set out in the report.	Date
Councillor Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport	
Andrew Cook interim Executive Director for Place & Public Health	

Equality Impact Assessment

Context

1. under s.149 of the Equality Act 2010, when making decisions, Essex County Council must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, ie have due regard to:
 - eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and other conduct prohibited by the Act,
 - advancing equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not,
 - fostering good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
2. The characteristics protected by the Equality Act are:
 - age
 - disability
 - gender reassignment
 - marriage/civil partnership
 - pregnancy/maternity
 - race
 - religion/belief
 - gender and sexual orientation.
3. In addition to the above protected characteristics you should consider the cross-cutting elements of the proposed policy, namely the social, economic and environmental impact (including rurality) as part of this assessment. These cross-cutting elements are not a characteristic protected by law but are regarded as good practice to include.
4. The Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) document should be used as a tool to test and analyse the nature and impact of either what we do or are planning to do in the future. It can be used flexibly for reviewing existing arrangements but in particular should enable identification where further consultation, engagement and data is required.
5. Use the questions in this document to record your findings. This should include the nature and extent of the impact on those likely to be affected by the proposed policy.
6. Where this EqIA relates to a continuing project, it must be reviewed and updated at each stage of the decision.
7. The EqIA will be published at:
<http://cmis.essexcc.gov.uk/essexcmis5/BusinessManager.aspx>
8. All **Cabinet Member Actions, Chief Officer Actions, Key Decisions** and **Cabinet Reports** must be accompanied by an EqIA.
9. For further information, refer to the EqIA guidance for staff.
10. For advice, contact:
Shammi Jalota shammi.jalota@essex.gov.uk
Head of Equality and Diversity
Corporate Law & Assurance
Tel 0330 134592 or 07740 901114



Section 1: Identifying details

Your function, service area and team: Climate Action and Mitigation

If you are submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team, specify the originating function, service area or team: N/A

Title of policy or decision: Flood Capital Outline Business Case

Officer completing the EqlA: David Chapman Tel: 03330136740 Email: dave.chapman@essex.gov.uk

Date of completing the assessment: 22/07/2021

Section 2: Policy to be analysed

2.1	Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project? No
2.2	<p>Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): The main aim is to reduce the number of properties at risk of flooding in Essex. Our realistic ambition is that, over the life of the programme, the number of properties at risk of flooding in Essex is reduced. Community assets will be improved across wider Essex rather than the council's own assets.</p> <p>The objective will be complete when new community 'flood assets' have been built and successfully adopted and communities are better equipped to help themselves.</p> <p>What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve (ie decommissioning or commissioning a service)? Commissioning a flood prevention capital programme that reduces preventable flood incidents.</p>
2.3	<p>Does or will the policy or decision affect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• service users• employees• the wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities? <p>It may affect all of the above in a positive way. The programme is targeted at properties ie households at risk of flooding and not at particular groups.</p> <p>Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate? No</p>
2.4	<p>Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources? No</p>
2.5	<p>Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies and how, if applicable, does the proposed policy support corporate</p>



	<p>outcomes?</p> <p>Link to 7 key Corporate Outcomes</p> <p>The primary link is to the outcome 'People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment'. ECC has set out strategic actions against the outcome indicator 'Preventable flood incidents' within the associated commissioning strategy, including: 'Taking an increasingly preventative approach to flood incidents including a programme of capital and revenue projects, as agreed by the Essex Partnership for Flood Management'. And: 'Delivering a flood risk management programme. In doing so, enable communities to get the help they need in a flood incident and to protect themselves in future. This will reduce demand on services so that we may focus on preventing flood incidents'.</p> <p>There is a link with sustainable economic growth. Vulnerable people find it harder to recover from flood incidents. So there are additional links with outcomes for good health and wellbeing and safer communities. There is a strategic alignment with at least four ECC commissioning strategies.</p>
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Section 3: Evidence/data about the user population and consultation¹

As a minimum you must consider what is known about the population likely to be affected which will support your understanding of the impact of the policy, eg service uptake/usage, customer satisfaction surveys, staffing data, performance data, research information (national, regional and local data sources).

3.1	<p>What does the information tell you about those groups identified?</p> <p>Particular communities are more likely to be under threat from flooding because of where they live. The districts with projects proposed are: Brentwood, Basildon, Chelmsford, Tendring. Chelmsford are in the middle bracket for % of older people (65 years+) Basildon is in the top three districts with the highest proportion of 0-15 year olds. We can therefore conclude that the areas at risk of flooding do not have a disproportionate representation of different age groups.</p> <p>Basildon, has great ethnic diversity compared to the Essex average. We therefore conclude that flooding does not disproportionately impact on particular ethnic groups.</p> <p>We do not hold information relating to the other protected characteristics and we do not expect there to be a disproportionate threat based upon the other protected characteristics.</p> <p>The data was made available from Local Portraits and the appendix 1 of the Groups at Risk of Disadvantage JSNA chapter. These documents are available here: http://www.essexinsight.org.uk/Viewpage.aspx?C=basket&BasketID=35 http://www.essexinsight.org.uk/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=1113</p>
3.2	<p>Have you consulted or involved those groups that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision you want to implement? If so, what were their views and how have their views influenced your decision?</p> <p>Consultation and engagement with both the Executive Officers and the Essex Flood Partnership Board has influenced the schemes. The overall outcome is to reduce the impact of flood incidents on Essex residents. This aligns with the commisioning strategy 'People in Essex experience a high quality and sustainable environment'.</p>
3.3	<p>If you have not consulted or engaged with communities that are likely to be affected by the policy or decision, give details about when you intend to carry out consultation or provide reasons for why you feel this is not necessary:</p> <p>Consultation will be undertaken on a case by case basis when schemes are developed throughout the life of the programme.</p>

¹ Data sources within EEC. Refer to Essex Insight:
<http://www.essexinsight.org.uk/mainmenu.aspx?cookieCheck=true>
 with links to JSNA and 2011 Census.

Section 4: Impact of policy or decision

Use this section to assess any potential impact on equality groups based on what you now know.

Description of impact	Nature of impact Positive, neutral, adverse (explain why)	Extent of impact Low, medium, high (use L, M or H)
Age	Positive – we recognise that three districts benefiting from this decision has a disproportionate proportion of older people and three with a high proportion of children and young people and therefore will benefit different age groups.	M
Disability	Positive – Castle Point has the second highest proportion of people with long-term health problems or disabilities. Therefore, the inclusion of Castle Point will have a positive protection for disabled people.	L
Gender	Neutral – we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Gender reassignment	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Marriage/civil partnership	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Pregnancy/maternity	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Race	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Religion/belief	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L
Sexual orientation	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this protected characteristic.	L

Cross-cutting themes

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Description of impact	Nature of impact Positive, neutral, adverse (explain why)	Extent of impact Low, medium, high (use L, M or H)
Socio-economic	Neutral - we do not think flooding will disproportionately impact on this group	H
Environmental, eg housing, transport links/rural isolation	Positive	H

Section 5: Conclusion

		Tick Yes/No as appropriate	
5.1	Does the EqlA in Section 4 indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	If ' YES ', use the action plan at Section 6 to describe the adverse impacts and what mitigating actions you could put in place.

Section 6: Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

What are the potential adverse impacts?	What are the mitigating actions?	Date they will be achieved.

Section 7: Sign off

**I confirm that this initial analysis has been completed appropriately.
(A typed signature is sufficient.)**

Signature of Head of Service: John Meehan

Date:

Signature of person completing the EqlA: David Chapman

Date: 22/07/21

Advice

Keep your director informed of all equality & diversity issues. We recommend that you forward a copy of every EqlA you undertake to the director responsible for the service area. Retain a copy of this EqlA for your records. If this EqlA relates to a continuing project, ensure this document is kept under review and updated, eg after a consultation has been undertaken.

