

<b>Report to:</b> Essex Flood Partnership Board	<b>Report number:</b> AGENDA ITEM 5 (EFPB/2/18)
<b>Date of report:</b> 25/01/2018	<b>County Divisions affected by the decision:</b> All
<b>Title of report:</b> Essex Property Level Resilience update	
<b>Report by:</b> Dipo Lafinhan Flood Partnerships Funding Co-ordinator.	
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## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To highlight the progress of the delivery of the 2017/18 phase of the PLR project, outline the external funding secured and highlight the plans for the delivery of the 2018/19 phase including potential risks.

## 2. Background

- 2.1. Essex County Council set aside £600,000 for the delivery of 100 PLR installations to flooded residents of the County in 2017/18.
- 2.2. This is a £5,000 per property grant available for the installation of Property Level Resilience measures available to Essex residents who have been internally flooded in the past.
- 2.3. There have been 366 PLR applications received to date.
- 2.4. There is currently no Essex County Council funding allocated for the continuation of the PLR scheme in 2018/19 and beyond.

## 3. Issues

- 3.1. Securing funding for the 2018/19 phase of the PLR project in order to ensure the grant will continue to be available for Essex residents both those who have been flooded in the past and those who might get flooded in the future.
- 3.2. Seeking approval from Nicola Beach, Executive Director Infrastructure and Environment, to go out to procure the services of the preferred contractor to deliver the 2018/19 phase of the PLR project.
- 3.3. A potential risk in that the potential extension of the procurement process beyond the proposed 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 deadline. This has the risk to potentially delay the start date of the 2018/19 phase of the Essex PLR project.

#### **4. Project progress**

- 4.1. 115 pre-installation surveys have been completed during the 17/18 PLR phase. This has provided a very large pool of potential installations.
- 4.2. 104 PLR installations have been completed to date and total number of installations completed has surpassed the milestone of 100 PLR installations. These installations include property level resistance and resilience measures such as airbricks, sump pumps, flood barriers, water proofing properties, Non-return valves and flood doors.
- 4.3. £99,500 external funding from the Environment Agency has been secured. Another of a further £99,500 has been made. Therefore total sum of external funding for the 2017/18 phase of the PLR project is £199,000. This is in addition to the £145,000 secured during the 2016/17 PLR project.
- 4.4. An agreement has been made with Thurrock Council to deliver a number of PLR installations to its residents. Letters have been sent out to all 8 residential properties with 3 positive responses received, one resident is not interested and we are making further efforts to receive responses from the remainder residents.
- 4.5. The costs of the PLR installations would be recovered for Thurrock through a combination of Environment Agency and Anglian Water funding.

#### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1. Receive approval to tender for the selection of a preferred consultant to manage and deliver the 2018/19 phase of the PLR project.

- 5.2. 49 residential properties from the Anglian Water DG 5 records have been selected for PLR installations in 2018/19. An agreement would be made with Anglian Water to formalize this arrangement.
- 5.3. To make further grant applications to the Environment Agency in 2018/19 in order to provide funding for further Essex Flood Property Level Resilience projects not covered under the agreement with Anglian Water.

## **6. Looking Ahead**

- 6.1. All the Issues and recommendation are being discussed with and reported to the Flood Programme Board.
- 6.2. The PLR project has been successful in terms of delivering resistance and resilience measures to flooded Essex residents. It has also been successful in attracting external funding.
- 6.3. Proceeding with a 2018/19 phase ensures the Flood and Water Management team would deliver an economically self-sustaining scheme and also more Essex residents would be better protected from flooding.

## Appendices

### Number of Installations completed

