

Report to: Essex Flood Partnership Board	Report Number AGENDA ITEM 5 (EFPB/06/18)
Date of report: 05/04/2018	County Divisions affected by the decision: All
Title of report: Essex Community Flood Improvement Fund and Property Level Resilience grant update	
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1. Background

- 1.1 In 2017/18 Essex County Council set aside £400,000 of its Capital Flood Prevention Programme to provide a Community Flood Improvement Fund grants to other flood risk management authorities, charities, community groups, farmers and or landowners committed to delivering projects resulting in the reduction of flood risk to Essex residents.
- 1.2 In 2017/18 Essex County Council set aside £600,000 for the delivery of 100 PLR installations to flooded residents of the County in 2017/18. 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. Purpose of report

- 2.1 To highlight the progress made during the implementation of the 17/18 phase of the CFIF and PLR grant schemes and to outline the progress in the procurement process for the delivery of the 2018/19 phase of the PLP grant.

3. Project Progress

- 3.1 During the 2017/18 CFIF phase, 8 flood risk management scheme have been completed while an additional 2 have started and are expected to be complete within a few weeks. These schemes will contribute towards the protection of 122 residential properties from the risk of flooding at a cost of £454,500. These schemes have been delivered by various applicants including District and Parish Councils, Community Organizations, Developers, a

Private Water company, a Housing Society and a Bowling Club (please see Appendix 1 for more details)

- 3.2 During the delivery of the 2017/18 phase of the PLR grant scheme, a total of 114 pre-installation surveys were conducted, 123 product surveys completed and 111 installations have been completed. The number of installations has surpassed the initial milestone of 100 installations. A total of 42 new PLR applications have been received in 2017/18, this is in addition to 8 properties from Thurrock. Total expenditure on the project is estimated at £677,000 while this is above the initial grant budget, this overspend has been offset by additional funding received from grants received in the 2017/18 phase which total £199,000.
- 3.3 Procurement for the 2018/19 phase of the PLR grant has gone out to tender. The terms of the project have been set for the completion of a minimum of 40 PLR installations at a cost of £268,000. This is the total project cost that has been agreed with Anglian Water for the delivery of PLR installations to DG5 properties. It is however expected that total number of PLP installations in 2018/19 will exceed the minimum of 40 specified in the tender. The delivery of the additional PLR applications received would be funded through EA grants already received and future applications to be made in 2018/19.

4 Issues

- 4.1 Partnership working with Anglian Water has contributed to the extension of the PLR grant into 2018/19. At least 40 flooded Essex residents who reported their flooding to Anglian Water will be getting PLR installations in 2018/19, those who reported theirs to Thames Water cannot, at the moment, be afforded such opportunity. A major factor for this has been the inability in getting Thames Water to agree to a Data Sharing Agreement. Therefore highlighting this concern to the RFCC level and taking collective action along with other LLFAs might result in a change of approach from Thames Water.

5. Looking Forward

- 5.1 Encourage our partners and other stakeholders in Essex to endeavor to continue to make more CFIF applications in order to provide relief to Essex residents affected by very frequent local flooding.
- 5.2 It is anticipated that the 2018/19 phase of the PLP scheme would begin in June 2018 with the scope to extend the contract for further grant phases in 2019/20 and 2020/21

Appendix 1

CFIF Schemes started/completed

