

<b>Report to:</b> Essex Flood Partnership Board	<b>AGENDA ITEM 6</b>  <b>Report Number:</b> EFPB/08/18
<b>Date of report:</b> 22/06/2018	<b>County Divisions affected by the decision:</b> All
<b>Title of report:</b> 2018/19 Essex Capital Flood Programme update	
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## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To update the Flood Board on the 2018/19 Capital Flood Programme.

## 2. Background

**2.1** The Capital Flood Programme has a £19 million ECC budget broken down over 5 years. It has an ambitious programme in 2018/19 of £4.5 million for grants and projects. To deliver schemes on the Flood Programme, a variety of consultants and in house expertise are being employed to design and build individual projects.

**2.2** The Capital Flood Programme is broken down into three elements:

- 1) Property Level Resilience (PLR) 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) The Community Flood Improvement Fund (CFIF) is aimed at assisting other authorities, charities, community groups, farmers or landowners committed to delivering projects resulting in the reduction of flooding to Essex resident's properties.
- 3) Capital funded Flood Alleviation Schemes (FAS) forms the bulk of the programme; this 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.

### **3. External funding update**

3.1 Over the past three years, as a result of partnership working with a wide range of stakeholders such as the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and district councils, the Flood and Water Management team has attracted external contributions and income to support a number of functions. These include

- Feasibility and assessment studies
- Delivery of capital flood alleviation schemes
- Delivery of the Property Level Resilience projects

Each year as part of the capital programme, we have a target to achieve 25% of the budget through external contributions. So far in the first three months of the 2018/19 capital programme £517k worth of income has been generated from external partners. The contributions are as follows:

- HAR10 Nettleswell capital scheme £127k
- Ashdon feasibility study £35k
- Clacton SWMP £55k
- Outline Business Case's £300k

This is in addition to

- £125,771 generated in 2014/15;
- £225,227 generated in 2015/16;
- £436,490 generated in 2016/17 and;

- £1.63m generated in 2017/18

### **3.2 Delivery programme**

- COL2B The Hythe – Due to weather and ground condition issues this scheme is now forecast for completion on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- HAR2 Kingsmoor – Due to bad weather and problems in sourcing suitable material for the bund construction the scheme is now forecast for completion on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- HAR10 Nettleswell – Work is now complete.
- HAR6 Brays Grove phase 1 – Work is ongoing.
- HAR6 Brays Grove phase 2 – Work is ongoing.
- ROC7 Ashingdon – Additional ecology issues have been identified on this scheme and delivery has been postponed until mid-2018.
- MAL2 Maldon Central – The scheme has been redesigned and is awaiting approval from Highways for new drainage to be installed in the carriageway. If Highway approval is not given, a section 50 license is being discussed with Maldon District Council.
- BAS17 Pitsea – Ground investigations and designs are complete. Planning application will be submitted by the end of July 2018.
- B3 Braintree – Ground investigations and designs are complete. Planning application was submitted in June 2018.
- W6 Witham - Ground investigations and designs are complete. Planning application will be submitted by the end of July 2018.
- EPP2 Loughton – Designs and land owner consultation is ongoing with a view to finalising the preferred scheme design by mid July 2018.
- Sponge project – Designs are complete and contract awarded to Swift Landscapes for the onsite works and is forecast to start W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018. Ground investigations and designs are

complete for the offsite work. Tender due for issue by the end of July 2018.

#### **4. Community Flood Improvement Fund (CFIF) - Update**

4.1 Each year £400k of the capital budget is set aside to fund CFIF schemes. At present there are four potential schemes being progressed with the applicants, these schemes are as follows:

- Ipswich Road, Tendring;
- Wickham Bishops;
- Thrift Green and:
- Hardy's Green

The total value of these applications is £200k. The team are working with more applicants to finalise future CFIF applications.

#### **5. Future flood programme**

5.1 The flood programme is currently in the fourth year of a five year programme. During the current programme we hope to demonstrate 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.

Unfortunately, not all potential sites on the list will be investigated before the end of the current programme. To continue with this valuable work it is planned to produce a business plan for a future five year flood capital programme.

The new business plan will outline outstanding sites on the list and include new sites raised through the Clacton and Sawbridgeworth Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) that are being carried out this year.

By the end of the current programme it is hoped over £4.5m pounds worth of external funding will have been realised through the delivery of schemes, 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 properties.

Despite the successes of the programme, it is worth noting all future capital funded projects at ECC will be under scrutiny, due to the size and cost of the Capital Programme. It is likely the overall Capital budget will reduce in 2019/20 and projects going forward will be expected to project substantial returns on investment.

ECC officers will be highlighting the funding generated so far from this programme and the importance of this work to Essex residents at risk from flooding to secure longevity.

## **6. Recommendation**

6.1 For Essex Flood Board Members to note the successes of the capital programme and that 2018/19 is the biggest in terms of budget so far. In the three completed years the programme has been running, we have reduced surface water flood risk to over 700 properties and generated more than £2.4m worth external income. Using the lessons learned, combined with developing stronger partnership working 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.