

Report to: Essex Flood Partnership Board	Report Number AGENDA ITEM 6 (EFPB/3/18)
Date of report: 25/01/2018	County Divisions affected by the decision: All
Title of report: Essex Community Flood Improvement Fund update	
Report by: Dipo Lafinhan Flood Partnerships Funding Co-ordinator	
Head of Service: John Meehan Head of Planning and Environment	
Enquiries to: Dipo Lafinhan Flood Partnerships Funding Co-ordinator - 03330 139512	

1. Background

- 1.1 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. The 2017/18 phase so far has included 13 applications with the potential to reduce the flood risk to 87 residential properties. These applications are from District and Parish Councils, Community Organizations, Developers, a Private Water company, a Housing Society and a Bowling Club. The total amount applied for so far total £643,500 (See Appendix 1 and 2 for more details)

2. Purpose of report

- 2.1 To highlight observations made during the implementation of the 17/18 phase of this grant with the view to incorporate changes which would further encourage increased take up and efficient delivery and implementation of future phases of the CFIF grant.

3. Issues

- 3.1 Increasing engagement with scheme beneficiaries as agreements between applicants such as Parish/Town councils/Landowners/Farmers and residents benefitting from the schemes need to be drafted and governed as flood assets need to be maintained as part of the grant process. As a corollary, the need for this engagement, drafted, re-drafting and agreeing to these agreements have the potential to delay the delivery of the schemes funded through this grant.

- 3.2 Furthermore, there has been a lot of involvement and officer time dedicated to supporting CFIF applicants in managing the delivery of the schemes. This support has been in the form of producing Outline Design Plans, accompanying contractors on site visits, assisting with public engagement and dealing with ancillary concerns such as foul drainage connections in surface water systems that need improving.
- 3.3 While officer time can be charged against the capital budget for the support provided above, there is the risk officers are increasingly taking a bigger role in schemes which applicants are meant to deliver.
- 3.4 There have been examples where District Councils have provided expertise to Parish Councils in managing their CFIF application. This is a model that could be replicated County-wide.

4. Applications received

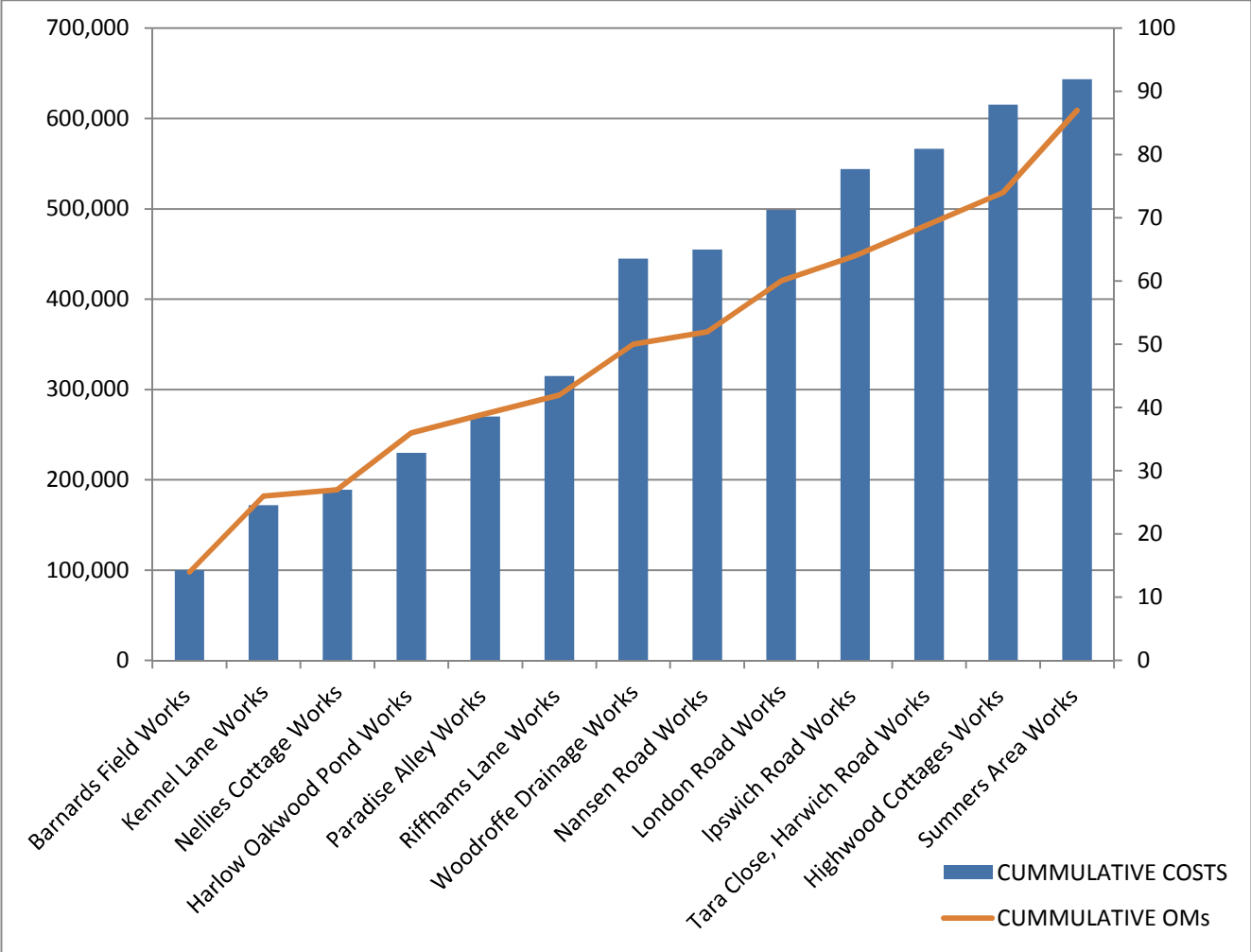
- 4.1 The 2017/18 CFIF grant phase has received the following applications:
- Radwinter Parish Council (Maple Lane Drainage Connection)
 - Anglian Water, Great Burstead (Kennel Lane Improvement Works)
 - Tendring District Council (Nansen Road Works and Ipswich Road SWAS scheme)
 - Crest Nicholson Eastern, Great Notley (Drainage improvements to London Road)
 - Mr. Horsnell, Ingatestone (Landowner, Highwood Cottages)
 - Bowling Club, Thorpe-Le-Soken (Paradise Alley Works)
 - Woodroffe Road Fund, Little Baddow (Fir Tree Lane Drainage Works)
 - Harlow District Council (Oakwood Pond Works and Sumners Area Works)
- 4.2 The total grant applied for is at £643,500 and the total number of properties to be protected from the proposed projects is estimated at 87 residential properties. If all applications are delivered, the total amount that would be spent reducing flood risk to each property would be approximately £7,396 per property.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Encourage our partners and other stakeholders in Essex to endeavor to continue to make more applications in order to provide relief to Essex residents affected by very frequent local flooding.
- 5.2 As a result of Environment Agency interest in the CFIF grant, an Outline Business Case for £50,000 contribution to the 17/18 CFIF fund would be submitted to the EA.

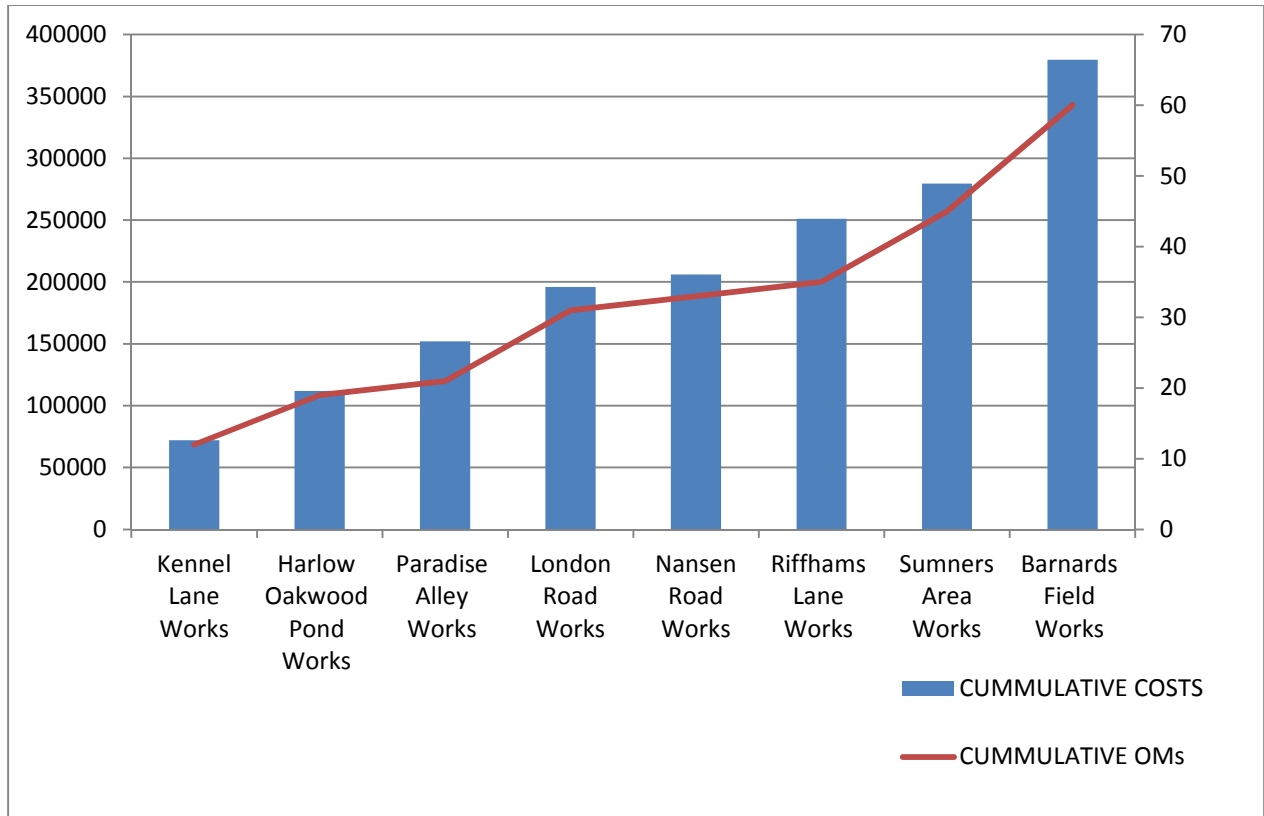
Appendix 1

Total number of applications received and total grants applied for



Appendix 2

Schemes started/completed



Appendix 3

Kennel Lane Great Burstead Works





Nansen Road Holland on Sea Works

