

Report to: Essex Flood Partnership Board	Report Number: EFPB/07/19 AGENDA ITEM 5
Date of report: 03/04/2019	County Divisions affected by the decision: All
Title of report: 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 and the 2018/19 capital programme had an ambitious budget of £4.4 million for grants and projects. In order to deliver schemes on the Flood Programme, we are using a number of consultants and in house expertise to design and build individual projects.

2.2 The Capital Flood Programme is broken down into 3 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 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.

3. External funding update for capital schemes

3.1 Over the past couple of 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 been able to attract 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 Protection project

The Flood Team has generated a total of £1.57m worth of external funding as a result of the work we have carried out on this year's capital programme. The amount of income generated by the capital programme is 36% of our annual budget, which is above the 25% target that was set at the start of the year.

This is in addition to

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

3.2 Delivery programme

- Bas12 Basildon Hospital onsite (Sponge project) – This phase of the scheme is complete and fully operational. This scheme has generated funding from EA, EU and AW partners.
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- B3 Braintree – Work started on site in early February and is programmed to finish early April.
- W6 Witham – Bund construction was delayed as a result of additional structural surveys being required but work on site started in February and is progressing well. Works are programmed for completion by early May 2019.
- HAR6 Brays Grove phase 1 – This phase of the scheme is complete and fully operational.
- HAR6 Brays Grove phase 2 – This phase of the scheme is complete and fully operational.
- BAS17 Pitsea phase 1 – This phase of the scheme is complete and fully operational.
- EPP2 Hillyfields – The tender has been awarded, planning application has been approved and all conditions have been discharged but works have not started on site as we are finalising the legal agreement with Loughton PC and the Corporation of London.
- In addition to the large capital schemes mentioned above, the flood team have worked with external partners to deliver 9 Community Flood Improvement Fund schemes and 7 PLR installations.

3.3 The total number of properties benefitting from reduced surface water flood risk as a result of all completed schemes on the 2018/19 capital programme is 383; this exceeds the target of 377 that was set at the start of this financial year.

4 Flood programme summary

4.1 The flood programme has finished its 4th year. 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. 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.

By the end of the current programme it is estimated that over £6.0m pounds worth of external funding will have been realised through the delivery of schemes and reduced surface water flood risk to over 1300 residential properties.

The business plan for the 2019/20 floods capital programme has been authorised and has a budget of £3.7m. In terms of income generation this will be our biggest year with a forecast target of £2.1m. In order to achieve this target, we have worked extensively with our Environment Agency partners to align our programmes and deliver the schemes that most benefit the residents of Essex.

5. Recommendation

5.1 For Essex Flood Board Members to note the successes of the capital programme. Including this year's achievements we have reduced surface water flood risk to over 1000 properties and generated more than £3.9m 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.