

Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Flood Partnership Board (Private Meeting), held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Wednesday, 03 July 2019

Present:

Members of the Board:

Cllr Simon Walsh (Chairman)	Essex County Council
Peta Denham	Environment Agency
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
John Meehan	Essex County Council
Cllr Rose Moore	Chelmsford City Council
Cllr Sue White	Maldon District Council

Other persons present (having signed the attendance book)

Trevor Baker	Epping Forest District Council
Trudie Bragg	Castle Point Borough Council
David Chapman	Essex County Council
Jake Fell	Environment Agency
Neil Hoskins	Southend Borough Council
Stephanie Kober	Basildon Borough Council
James Mason	Environment Agency
Charlotte Palmer	Essex County Council
Matthew Phipps	Southend Borough Council
Cllr Mark Platt	Essex County Council
David Prudence	Essex Highways
Tim Simpson	Essex County Council
Lisa Siggins	Essex County Council – Democratic Services
Navtes Tung	Thurrock Council
Rob Wise	NFU

- 1 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**
 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest
 The report of the Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received, and It was noted that

1. Cllr Simon Hart is the new Castle Point representative

Cllr Rose Moore is new Chelmsford City Council representative
Cllr Jack Ferguson is the new Basildon Borough Council representative

The Chairman welcomed the new Board members and offered his thanks for the contribution made by the previous members

2. The following apologies were noted:

Councillor Wendy Schmitt – Braintree District Council
Graeme Kasselmann -Thames Water
Moira Bruin– Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor Arthur Williams – Rochford District Council
Councillor Nigel Avey – EFDC
Councillor Jack Ferguson – Basildon Borough Council
Rachel Keen EA- Jake Fell attending as a substitute
Councillor Simon Hart- Castle Point Borough Council
Paul Hayden – RFCC
Lucy Shepherd – Essex County Council

3. There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England

The Board received a presentation from Peta Denham, Flood and Coastal Risk Manager for the Environment Agency on the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy Consultation for England.

The presentation included:

- The evidence and opportunity, and what the strategy will offer
- How the draft strategy has been developed
- What the consultation is about
- How to respond to the consultation
- How and when the final strategy will be produced

Ms Denham advised that the consultation run for 8 weeks from 9th May to 4th July. She stressed the importance of being flood resilient and confirmed that it was hoped that a new Strategy would be published in 2020 but stressed that this was dependant on political factors.

The Board proceeded to discuss the strategy with Members stressing that it was important to be clear on the definition of “resilience”.

The Chairman thanked Ms Denham for her presentation.

The Board **NOTED** Report (**EFPB/08/19**) by Lucy Shepherd, Lead Local Flood Authority Manager which provided an overview of the Essex County Council response to the consultation for information. The consultation closed 04 July 2019.

4 Essex Property Level Resilience update

The Board received a report (**EFPB/09/19**) and presentation from Charlotte Palmer, Flood Investigation Engineer and Jake Fell, Herts and North London PSO Team for the Environment Agency, on the progress Property Level Resilience delivery in Essex and Stansted Mountfitchet.

The presentation from Miss Palmer focussed on the Customer journey for Essex County Council applicants and included:

- Details of the application process
- an independent survey
- recommended options and quote provided
- customer selection of their preferred option noting that they will have to contribute if the option they select is over the £5,000 grant limit (for Essex and AW customers).
- guidance for after care and opportunity to provide feedback

Mr Fell's presentation concerned Stansted Mountfitchet Property Flood Resilience Scheme and included:

- a map of the relevant area
- the rivers and the areas at risk of flooding
- options concerned
- details of the funding provided by RFCC to provided assistance to 51 properties
- engagement events in the area
- estimated completion March 2020

5 Essex Capital Flood Programme 2019-20 update

The Board received a report (**EFPB/10/19**) from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Capital Programme

The Board were reminded that the Capital Flood Programme has a £19 million ECC budget broken down over 5 years. 2019/20 capital programme has an ambitious budget of £3.7 million for projects with a view to obtain £2.1 million in external funding. In order to deliver schemes on the Flood

Programme, a number of consultants and in-house expertise is being used to design and build individual projects.

Mr Chapman highlighted the main issues from the report which included:

- funding challenges with external funding being obtained from a wide range of stakeholders including the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and District Councils
- confirmation of the receipt of £2.1m from the Environment Agency to support the £1.6m contribution from ECC thereby resulting in generating 65% of the annual capital budget from external funding.
- The total number of properties benefitting from reduced surface water flood risk as a result of the schemes on the 2019/20 capital programme is 337.

John Meehan advised the Board that he was more optimistic that capital funding may be available from ECC for 2020/21

The Board **NOTED** the report

6 Coggeshall and Chelmsford Schemes - Environment Agency update

The Board received a presentation from James Mason, Essex PSO Team Leader for the Environment Agency, on the progress of the Coggeshall Feering and Kelvedon Flood Alleviation Scheme

The presentation included:

- background
- how the Scheme has developed
- options considered
- Blackwater Aggregates initial offering
- dam location
- balance of scope
- the site and planning applications
- restoration objectives
- 4 phases- each 5 years
- summary and next steps

7 Any Other Business

Tim Simpson advised the Board that Lucy Shepherd would be on maternity leave from the end of September and that he would be covering her role.

8 Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 23rd October 2019, at 10.00am County Hall Chelmsford. This meeting might be replaced by a site visit and confirmation will be provided nearer to the date.

The meeting closed at 11.35am

Chairman