

<b>Report title: 2019/20 Essex Capital Flood Programme update</b>	
<b>Report to: Essex Flood Partnership Board</b>	
<b>Report author: David Chapman Project Delivery Manager</b>	
<b>Date: 30 January 2020</b>	<b>For: Discussion</b>
<b>Enquiries to: John Meehan Head of Sustainability and Resilience</b> <a href="mailto:john.meehan@essex.gov.uk">john.meehan@essex.gov.uk</a> , 07827 976397	
<b>County Divisions affected: 'All Essex'</b>	

## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To update the Flood Board on the 2019/20 Capital Flood Programme.

## 2. Background

2.1 The Capital Flood Programme has a £19 million ECC budget broken down over 5 years. The 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, we are using several consultants and in-house expertise to design and build individual projects.

2.2 The Capital Flood Programme is broken down into two elements:

- 1) Property Flood Resilience (PFR) 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) Capital funded Flood Alleviation Schemes (FAS) form 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 completed four years of the programme, we have developed strong working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders such as the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and Borough/District and City Councils. During this process the Flood and Water Management team has been able to attract external contributions and income to support several functions, these include

- Feasibility and assessment studies
- Delivery of capital flood alleviation schemes

- Delivery of the Property Flood Resilience projects

We have a target of generating 25% of our annual budget from external stakeholders such as those mentioned above. The difference in 2019/20 is that we were tasked with increasing external contributions, I'm pleased to report that we have been able to secure £2.1m from our Environment Agency colleagues to support the £1.6m contribution from ECC thereby resulting in generating 65% of our annual capital budget from external funding. The contributions received so far this year are as follows:

- Flood Defense Grant in Aid and Local Levy £542k
- EU grants £85k
- External stakeholder contributions £165k

This is in addition to

- £125,771 generated in 2014/15
- £225,227 generated in 2015/16
- £436,490 generated in 2016/17
- £1.63m generated in 2017/18
- £1.57m contributions secured in 2018/19

### 3.2 Delivery programme

- B3 Braintree – This scheme is complete and fully operational. This project has generated funding from our EA partners.
- W6 Witham – This scheme is complete and fully operational. This project has generated funding from our EA partners.
- West Mersea – The Community Emergency Group has been set up. The planning application has been submitted.
- West Horndon – Delivery is on hold until the legal agreement has been signed. This scheme is likely to continue in to 2020/21.
- BAS17 Pitsea phase 2 – Planning has been approved and work is scheduled to start in February.
- EPP2 Hillyfields – This scheme is complete and fully operational. This project has generated funding from our EA partners.
- River Slade – The site clearance work is complete and construction is scheduled to start in March.
- MAL2 Maldon Central – Work is scheduled to start in late January 2020.

3.3 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. So far this year 95 properties have benefitted from the completed schemes.

## 4 Flood programme summary

4.1 During the current programme we have demonstrated 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.

4.2 Unfortunately the Basildon Hospital scheme did not win either of the 2 awards it was nominated for but we will continue to promote our schemes.

## **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, rising to £6m by the end of this financial year. 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.