



Essex County Council

# Essex Flood Partnership Board

<b>10:00</b>	<b>Wednesday, 26 January 2022</b>	<b>Online Meeting</b>
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Please do not attend County Hall as no one connected with this meeting will be present.

**For information about the meeting please ask for:**

Lisa Siggins, Democratic Services Officer

**Telephone:** 033301 34575

**Email:** democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

## Essex County Council and Committees Information

This meeting is **not** open to the public and the press although the agenda is available on the [Essex County Council website](#) and by then following the links from [Running the Council](#) or you can go directly to the [Meetings Calendar](#) to see what is happening this month.

## Accessing Documents

If you have a need for documents in, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Democratic Services Officer before the meeting takes place. For further information about how you can access this meeting, contact the Democratic Services Officer.

		<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Online meeting protocol and software functionality</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>4 - 4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes from the previous meeting</b>	<b>5 - 8</b>

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2021.

**4 Water UK: A Legal and Policy Introduction**

To receive a presentation from David Strang, Senior Legal and Policy Adviser at Water UK

(<https://www.water.org.uk/>)

The Water UK team engages with companies and regulators to ensure customers receive high quality tap water at a reasonable price and that our environment is protected and improved. David will be available for a Q&A after an introductory presentation.

**5 Water Resources East (WRE): Regional and Local Strategies**

To receive a presentation from Water Resources East

(<https://wre.org.uk/>)

regarding the ongoing Regional Strategy and leading Local Water Resource Strategies.

**6 2021-22 Essex Capital Flood Programme update**

**9 - 12**

To receive a report **EFPB/01/22** from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Floods Capital Programme.

**7 Land Drainage Law and Watercourse Regulation Case Studies**

To receive a presentation from Lucy Shepherd and Glenn Shaw from the Lead Local Flood Authority Team to provide a recap on the requirements of Land Drainage Act responsibilities and visiting some recent case studies from across the County.

**8 Development and Flood Risk. Sustainable Drainage Team Update**

To receive a presentation from Tim Simpson, Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Manager, on Essex County Council's statutory role as a consultee for Sustainable Drainage.

**9 Any Other Business**

**10 Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 10 am online.

## **Exempt Items**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

**That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.**

## Agenda item 1

**Committee:** Essex Flood Partnership Board

**Enquiries to:** Lisa Siggins, Democratic Services Officer

### Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

#### Recommendations:

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

Membership	
Cllr Lee Scott	Essex County Council
John Meehan	Essex County Council
Lucy Shepherd	Essex County Council
Peter Massie	Essex County Council
Peta Denham	Environment Agency
Rachel Keen	Environment Agency
Carl Smith	Thames Water
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
Mark Eaglestone	Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Cllr Richard Moore	Basildon Borough Council
Cllr Wendy Schmitt	Braintree District Council
Cllr Jon Cloke	Brentwood Borough Council
Cllr Simon Hart	Castle Point Borough Council
Cllr Mike Mackrory	Chelmsford City Council
Cllr Simon Crow	Colchester Borough Council
Cllr Nigel Avey	Epping Forest District Council
Cllr Nicky Purse	Harlow District Council
Cllr tbc	Maldon District Council
Cllr David Sperring.	Rochford District Council
Cllr Nick Turner	Tendring District Council
Cllr Gary Collins	Thurrock Council
Cllr Carole Mulroney	Southend on Sea Borough Council
Cllr Richard Pavitt	Uttlesford District Council

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Flood Partnership Board (Private Meeting), held Online on Tuesday, 23 November 2021****Present:****Members of the Board:**

Cllr Mark Platt	Essex County Council
Cllr Nigel Avey	Epping Forest District Council
Cllr Gary Collins	Thurrock Council
Jonathan Glerum	Anglian Water
Cllr Simon Hart	Castle Point Borough Council
Rachel Keen	Environment Agency
Cllr Richard Moore	Basildon Borough Council
Cllr Carole Mulrone	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Cllr Richard Pavitt	Uttlesford District Council
Cllr Wendy Schmitt	Braintree District Council
Cllr Dave Sperring	Rochford District Council
Cllr Nick Turner	Tendring District Council

**Also present:**

Alison Bielecka	Essex County Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Graham Brown	Environment Agency
Trudie Bragg	Castle Point Borough Council
James Ennos	Tendring District Council
Laura Driver	Environment Agency
Damien Ghela	Maldon District Council
Chris Holmes	Essex County Council
Tom Moat	Essex County Council
Tom Palmer	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
David Prudence	Essex Highways
Lee Sencier	Essex County Council
Dave Chapman	Essex County Council
Tim Simpson	Essex County Council
Lisa Siggins	Essex County Council – Democratic Services
Jeff Stacey	Rochford District Council
Mandy Thompson	Epping Forest District Council

**1 Online meeting protocol and software functionality**

Councillor Platt explained the online meeting protocol and software functionality.

**2 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

The report of the Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received.

Apologies had been received from:

Councillor Lee Scott– ECC- Cllr Mark Platt acted as chair in place of Cllr Scott

Rachel Keen- EA – Graham Brown substituting

John Meehan - ECC

Lucy Shepherd

No declarations of interest were made.

**3 Minutes:18.02.21**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 2021 were approved as a correct record.

**4 Flood Risk Management Plans**

The Board received a presentation from Florence Lovatt, Environment Agency on the second cycle of the Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMP) 2021-2027

This was followed by a presentation from Lee Sencier, Surface water engineer regarding the latest update on regional Flood Risk Management Plans Cycle 2.

In response to a question raise by Councillor Turner, Ms Lovatt explained how the FRMP ties in with the Shoreline Management plans.

Board Members were asked to submit any comments/ suggestions regarding FRMP Measure 0208805002, relating to the future updating of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and what should be included in this. Following the meeting the contact details for this were shared with Members.

The Board proceeded to discuss the importance of maintenance of drains and watercourses.

The presentation from Florence Lovatt can be found [here](#).

The presentation from Lee Sencier can be found

**5 Catchment to Coast Project Update**

The Board received a presentation from Tom Palmer, Southend on Sea Borough Council, regarding the Catchment to Coast Project which was awarded approximately £6 million from the Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme.

In response to a question raised by Cllr Hart regarding incorporating a water butt scheme, Mr Palmer advised that this may be considered. He confirmed that the project is at an early stage and it is hoped that a local engagement officer will be engaged.

Cllr Collins advised that there had been recent changing regarding insurance policies with increases to excesses. He stressed the importance of maintenance in all areas. Dave Chapman mentioned to the existence of a Government run scheme. Following the meetings details and the [link](#) were provided to Members.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

**6 Essex Floods Capital Programme**

The Board received a report (**EFPB/03/21**) from Dave Chapman, Project Delivery Manager, on the progress of schemes in the Capital Programme. This was followed by a presentation on the progress of the Essex Forestry Initiative (EFI)

Mr Chapman advised the Board of the good news in that funding for 2022/23 had been approved, additionally for the following two years the request to make savings of 20% was no longer necessary.

Following the presentation in respect of the EFI, Cllr Platt enquired as to the success rate regarding the trees already planted. Mr Moat advised that the planting at each site is bespoke, but that approximately 20-30% of trees planted do die which is to be expected when there is planting in such large numbers. Cllr Hart pointed out that smaller trees are more vulnerable- It was confirmed that the planting of semi mature trees was being looked into.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

**7 Essex Climate Action Commission: Research Findings**

The Board received a presentation from Chris Holmes, Commercial Research Analyst, on the findings of a research project led by the Essex Climate Action Commission.

Councillor Moore thanked Mr Holmes for his presentation and stated that unfortunately many residents do not feel that climate issues are their responsibility.

It was confirmed that relevant contact details were contained in the presentation.

The presentation can be found [here](#).

## **8 Local Nature Partnership**

The Board received a presentation from Tim Simpson, Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Drainage Manager, on the progress of the Local Nature Partnership development.

Cllr Mulroney stated that she was very keen on the partnership but felt that it was very important that the public were educated on key issues such as keeping lawns clipped.

In response to a question from Cllr Schmitt, it was confirmed that the partnership should commence very soon with the aim being to have the first meeting in January. There was a list of key contacts already in place and it is proposed that there will be general representation which would include both an online Forum and representation at a senior level.

The presentation can be found [here](#)

## **9 Any Other Business**

Councillor raised the following issues:

- He requested a more concise leaflet on riparian owner responsibilities – Dave Chapman confirmed that he would look into this and contact Cllr Turner
- He was experiencing issues with Anglian Water, who were not responding to contact made by him. Jonathan Glerum confirmed that he would provide specific contact details to Cllr Turner
- He requested that an update on Water Recycling Centres be provided to the Board in the near future.
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## **10 Date of Next Meeting**

The Board noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 26th January at 10am, to be held online.

The meeting closed at 12.12 pm

**Chairman**



**Agenda item 6  
EFPB/01/22**

<b>Report title:</b> 2021/22 Essex Capital Flood Programme update	
<b>Report to:</b> Essex Flood Board	
<b>Report author:</b> David Chapman Project Delivery Manager	
<b>Date:</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	<b>For:</b> Discussion
<b>Enquiries to:</b> John Meehan (Head of Environment and Climate Action) <a href="mailto:john.meehan@essex.gov.uk">john.meehan@essex.gov.uk</a> David Chapman (Project Delivery Manager) <a href="mailto:dave.chapman@essex.gov.uk">dave.chapman@essex.gov.uk</a>	
<b>County Divisions affected:</b> All Essex	

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. To update the Flood Board on the 2021/22 Capital Flood Programme

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 For Essex Flood Board Members to note the successes of the capital programme. Using the lessons learned, combined with developing stronger partnerships, 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.

**3. Summary of issue**

3.1 The initial 7 years of the capital programme is now complete. Over this period, we have delivered several projects ranging in size and complexity, been nominated and won awards but we continue to push the boundaries in terms of design interventions and achievable benefits.

3.2 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.

3.3 By the end of the current programme, we will have generated £7.2m pounds worth of external funding will have been realised through the delivery of schemes on the capital programme and reduced surface water flood risk to over 1400 residential properties.

3.4 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. To deliver schemes on the Flood Programme, we are using several consultants and in-house expertise to design and build individual projects.

### 3.5 The Capital Flood Programme is broken down into 2 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) 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.

- West Mersea – Construction work continues with temporary barriers in place that provide a defence against tidal influences and a raised pedestrian walkway for access.
- Brent D Ursuline School – Vegetation clearance is complete and all pre start ecology surveys have been carried out. Due to planning conditions and school access requirements, construction work will now start w/c 7<sup>th</sup> February.
- 7 new optimisation projects have been started and will be complete by the end of March 2022. These projects will then move into delivery for the 2022/23 financial year.

To note this programme will contribute towards ECC's ambitions to meet climate change commitments by delivering schemes that offer flood mitigation, Green Infrastructure, habitat creation and biodiversity net gain. The following strategic policies will also be met when delivering the floods capital programme;

- Improve the health of people in Essex
- Help to secure stronger, safer, and more unneighbourly communities
- Help to secure sustainable development and protect the environment
- Facilitate growing communities and new homes
- Develop the capability, performance, and engagement of our people

## 4. Links to Essex Vision

### 4.1 This report links to the following aims in the Essex Vision

- Strengthen communities through participation
- Develop our County sustainably
- Connect us to each other and the world
- Share prosperity with everyone

For more information visit [www.essexfuture.org.uk](http://www.essexfuture.org.uk)

4.2 This links to the following strategic aims in the Organisational Plan:

- Help create great places to grow up, live and work
- Transform the council to achieve more with less

## **5. Financial implications**

5.1 Over the completed 7 years of the programme, we have developed strong working relationships with a wide range of stakeholders such as the Environment Agency, Anglian Water and District 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 Property Flood Resilience projects

5.2 We have a target of generating 25% of our annual budget from external stakeholders, but this year we aim to raise this to 50%.

Previous contributions to the flood programme are as follows;

- £125,771 contributions secured in 2014/15
- £225,227 contributions secured in 2015/16
- £436,490 contributions and income secured in 2016/17
- £1.63m contributions secured in 2017/18
- £1.57m contributions secured in 2018/19
- £1.53m contributions secured in 2019/20
- £1.68m contributions secured in 2020/21

## **6. Equality and Diversity implications**

6.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:

- (a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc. on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
- (b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- (c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

6.2 The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief,

gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).

- 6.3 The equality impact assessment indicates that the proposals in this report will not have a disproportionately adverse impact on any people with a particular characteristic. *(Describe the specific equality and diversity implications of the proposal, any adverse findings from the equality impact assessment and your proposed mitigation measures)*

## 7. List of appendices

- Equality Impact Assessment

## 8. List of Background papers

- 2020/21 FBC

<b>I approve the above recommendations set out above for the reasons set out in the report.</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Councillor Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport</b>	
<b>Andrew Cook interim Executive Director for Place &amp; Public Health</b>	