
Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	4 September 2014
Report By:	Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	ERC/ENV/IM/14.202
Contact Officer:	Robert Graham	Contact No:	4827
Subject:	Flooding Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Committee following the Council's successful bid for flood alleviation funds from the Scottish Government and the proposed way forward for flood protection schemes in Inverclyde.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Committee will be aware that a revised bid for funding which focussed on support for flood prevention works for the Central Greenock area only was requested by the Scottish Government and funding approved on 30 June 2014.
- 2.2 A grant of £1,743,466 has been awarded which represents 79% of the estimated project total of £2,200,000. The balance of the project total of £456,534 will come from the £1,000,000 Flood Action Plan funding previously approved by Committee.
- 2.3 The Central Greenock project funding will be used to complete works at the following locations:

Location

Lady Alice Pond, Inverkip Road, Greenock
Rankin Park, Inverkip Road, Greenock
West Station, Newton Street, Greenock
Drumfrochar Road/Mearns Street, Greenock
Crescent Street, Greenock
Aberfoyle Road, Greenock
Cartsburn Street, Greenock
Brougham Street, Greenock
Kings Glen, Greenock
Drumfrochar Road, Greenock

- 2.4 This leaves the Council with £543,000 to invest in flooding alleviation works. A prerequisite for prioritising flood prevention schemes has been to target the remaining funding at resolving the maximum number of business and residential property flooding issues.
- 2.5 Before determining which schemes are allocated funding officers require to firm up project costs, land ownership and 3rd party contribution issues. It is proposed to bring a report back to the January meeting of the Committee recommending the projects which could use the balance of the £1 million and also to advise Committee of an estimated sum to complete the projects in paragraph 4.5.

- 2.6 The proposals outlined within this report will not resolve all of the flooding within Inverclyde as some of the on-going issues relate to responsibilities of third parties such as Transport Scotland, Scottish Water and private landowners. Officers are working with all parties where possible on an on-going basis.
- 2.7 Flooding of the trunk road has caused significant disruption to commuters and businesses in the area and officers are in discussion with Transport Scotland to determine what contribution can be made to assist with funding for priority trunk road flood alleviation schemes.
- 2.8 Officers are also considering if there is potential for an adaptation/flooding project which may be able to access external funding and specifically to assist replacement of the culvert at Market Place in Kilmacolm. Contact has been made with the Community Council to determine if there will be a willingness to proceed with an application for funding as the grant application must be through a community organisation.
- 2.9 Officers have had initial discussions with Scottish Water to consider the possibility of undertaking an Integrated Catchment Study in partnership with Inverclyde Council to review the joint impact of flooding from sewers and watercourses. It is proposed to bring a report back to a future meeting of the Committee with potential costs and recommendations for the way forward.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 3.1 Note the award of £1,743,466 from the Scottish Government for the Central Greenock area of the flood protection funding bid following extensive discussions with COSLA and Scottish Government.
- 3.2 Note that a report will be submitted to the January Committee providing more detail on the projects in 4.5 and highlighting any financial implications.
- 3.3 Note the discussions with Scottish Water to consider an Integrated Catchment Study and that a report will be submitted to a future Committee with appropriate recommendations.

Ian Moffat
Head of Environmental and Commercial Services

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Scottish Government has confirmed that grant funding of £1,743,466 is being awarded to Inverclyde Council to support the Central Greenock Flood Prevention Scheme. This represents 79% of the estimated project total of £2,200,000. The balance of funding towards the overall project total will be sourced from the £1,000,000 Flood Action Plan budget.
- 4.2 Scottish Government has been advised by another Council that their grant aided flood project is likely to be less than the original estimate and therefore they will not require the full grant awarded to them. Any grant not taken up will be re-allocated to the Central Greenock project to top up the grant to the full £1,760,000.
- 4.3 The works required at the following locations are summarised below:

Location	Works
Lady Alice Pond, Inverkip Road, Greenock	Installation of an automated trash screen
Rankin Park, Inverkip Road, Greenock	Installation of an automated trash screen
West Station, Newton Street, Greenock	Install high capacity linear drainage system which is sufficient to convey excess overland flow into adjacent culvert
Drumfrochar Road/Mearns Street, Greenock	Install flow control device
Crescent Street, Greenock	Improve culvert entrance hydraulics and install an automated trash screen
Aberfoyle Road, Greenock	Divert excess flows from the Western Tributary of Lady Burn to Carts Burn
Crescent Street, Greenock	Provide additional culvert capacity
Brougham Street, Greenock	Provide increased road drainage and flood relief pipe
Kings Glen, Greenock	Formalise attenuation storage
Drumfrochar Road, Greenock	Repair culvert

- 4.4 Following a tendering exercise, a contract has been awarded to Grontmij consultants for £34,502 to complete the detailed design and construction contract preparation. The costs for the detailed design are included within the overall project total.
- 4.5 This leaves the Council with £543,000 to invest in flooding alleviation works. A prerequisite for prioritising flood prevention schemes has been to target the remaining funding at resolving the maximum number of business and residential property flooding issues. Officers have identified the following schemes which meet these criteria:
1. High Street/West Stewart Street and Dalrymple Street (Oak Mall), Greenock
 2. Quarriers Village (Gotter Water)
 3. Market Place and Gowkhouse Road, Kilmacolm
 4. Lower Bouverie Street, Port Glasgow
 5. Steel Street, Gourrock
- 4.6 Before determining which schemes are allocated funding officers require to firm up project costs, land ownership and 3rd party contribution issues. It is proposed to bring a report back to the January meeting of the Committee recommending the projects which could use the balance of the £1 million and also to advise Committee of an estimated sum to complete the projects in 4.5 above.
- 4.7 Discussions have been initiated with Transport Scotland to determine what contribution can be made to support the flood protection proposals where there is an impact on the trunk road, particularly at Cartsburn Street, West Station and High Street adjacent to the Oak Mall. Other locations where flooding affects the trunk road have also been discussed with Transport

Scotland, including East Hamilton Street and Newark Roundabout, to ensure that the commitment to resolve trunk road flooding is extended outwith the Central Greenock area.

- 4.8 Discussions have also taken place with Scottish Water in relation to the flooding in the Oak Mall which may have been partially caused by a problem with under capacity within the sewer network. Scottish Water has commenced its own investigations and information is being shared between all parties.
- 4.9 Officers are considering if there is potential for an adaptation/flooding project for Kilmacolm which may comply with the guidelines of the Climate Challenge Fund. A meeting took place with the Climate Challenge Fund Manager in June to determine if this would be a viable additional funding source. The initial indications were positive, although any formal application would have to be made through the Community Council.
- 4.10 The proposals outlined within this report will not resolve all of the flooding within Inverclyde as some of the on-going issues relate to responsibilities of third parties such as Transport Scotland, Scottish Water and private landowners. Officers are working with all parties where possible on an on-going basis.
- 4.11 Officers have had initial discussions with Scottish Water to consider the possibility of undertaking an Integrated Catchment Study in partnership with Inverclyde Council to review the joint impact of flooding from sewers and watercourses. These discussions are at a very early stage and there is currently insufficient information to form an opinion on whether this would be a worthwhile investment.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 5.1 Financial Implications:
One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Flooding Strategy	Capital Grant	2015/16	(1,743)		Match funding to Scottish Government contribution of £2.2m
	Central Greenock Flood Prevention Scheme	2013/16	2,200		
	Priority Flood Alleviation Schemes	2013/16	543		Remainder for IC priority schemes

Annually Recurring Costs / (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
Roads	Minor Works	2015/16	(£3)		Savings to be retained in the overall budget to improve flooding maintenance work in other areas

5.2 Legal

This report has no legal implications.

5.3 Human Resources

This report has no implications for Human Resources.

5.4 Equalities

This report has no implications for the Council's equality and diversity policies. However, any flood prevention activity will have a positive impact on the groups of people who are disproportionately affected by flooding issues. These groups include the elderly, people with disabilities, and low income families with children where there is increased reliance on public transport and local services.

5.5 Repopulation

Continued flooding on the main transport routes through Inverclyde will have a negative impact on the area's attractiveness and businesses and as such will have an adverse impact on the Council's efforts to stabilise and grow the area's population.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 Financial Services have been consulted on this report.

6.2 The Head of Legal and Property Services has been consulted on the contents of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

Appendix A

Estimated Timescales and Costs

Location	Description	Projected Spend 2014/15 (£,000)	Projected Spend 2015/16 (£,000)
Crescent Street, Greenock	Improve culvert entrance hydraulics and install an automated trash screen	80	
Kings Glen, Greenock	Formalise attenuation storage	188	
Aberfoyle Road, Greenock	Divert excess flows from the Western Tributary of Lady Burn to Carts Burn	21	152
Rankin Park, Inverkip Road, Greenock	Installation of an automated trash screen		80
Crescent Street, Greenock	Provide additional culvert capacity		596
Drumfrochar Road/Mearns Street, Greenock	Install flow control device		73
Lady Alice Pond, Inverkip Road, Greenock	Installation of an automated trash screen		80
West Station, Newton Street, Greenock	Install high capacity linear drainage system which is sufficient to convey excess overland flow into adjacent culvert		207
Brougham Street, Greenock	Provide increased road drainage and flood relief pipe		573
Drumfrochar Road, Greenock	Repair culvert		150
Totals		289	1911