

External Funding Panel – 2 November 2016

Blackpill Flood Alleviation Scheme

Purpose:	To provide an update on Welsh Government Grant to support the design of Blackpill Flood Alleviation Scheme
Policy Framework:	Delivery of National Strategy for Flooding and Coastal Erosion Management in Wales
Reason for Decision:	To inform the External Funding Panel of the grant received from Welsh Government to proceed with the detailed design for the Blackpill Flood Alleviation Scheme.
Consultation:	Legal, Finance and Access to Service
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that the External Funding Panel endorses the grant to support the design for the scheme.
Report Author:	Mike Sweeney
Finance Officer:	Jayne James
Legal Officer:	Debbie Smith
Access to Services Officer:	Phil Couch

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The area of Blackpill has a long history of flooding and in 2004 a study was commissioned by the City and County of Swansea to undertake an appraisal of options to reduce flood risk to the local community from flooding from the Brockhole Stream. However, the scheme was not progressed at the time.
- 1.2 The Brockhole stream is classified as an ordinary watercourse which drains a small, partly urbanised area which starts from Clyne common and discharges into Swansea Bay passing through Clyne Gardens and Blackpill. As Lead Local Flood Authority the council have responsibility with flooding from this local source.

- 1.3 The local community has been subjected to frequent flooding problems over the last two decades. A total of 15 private properties, a public house, post office and local hall are considered to be at risk from fluvial flooding. When flooding occurs, the water from the Brockhole stream has overspilled from the watercourse with floodwater reaching the properties by flowing onto and along on both the Woodman Inn Carpark and Mumbles Road.
- 1.4 The Authority currently maintains the watercourse at this location which is given highest priority as being on the Authority's Red list for maintenance. However, even with this maintenance regime there are times when flooding cannot be prevented due to the flashy nature of the flood events which can cause the trash screens to blind in a short space of time.
- 1.5 Previous studies of this stream has also revealed that in addition to the limitations on flow conveyance imposed by blocked trash screens , the culvert system beneath Mumbles Road is the most critical component in restricting the hydraulic capacity of the watercourse.
- 1.6 Due to the extent of flood risk and frequency of flooding events at this location the study was revisited in October 2015 in order to review the economics contained within the previous report so that it could be resubmitted to Welsh Government for grant consideration. The intention to provide a more sustainable solution for providing protection to the properties affected by flooding from the Brockhole Stream and to ensure the continuing operation of the Mumbles Road dual carriageway during heavy rainfall events.
- 1.7 Following the positive review of the study by Welsh Government the Authority has been invited to submit an application under the Land Drainage Act 1991 to progress the scheme through to the next stage which effectively is to complete the design stage of the project and to obtain the necessary consents to allow further consideration to take the scheme through to construction stage.
- 1.8 Welsh Government have provided 85% grant to proceed with the detailed design for the scheme which needs to be claimed by March 15th 2017

2.0 Equality and Engagement Implications

- 2.1 Overall screening having been undertaken and indicating no requirement for a full EIA report at this stage
- 2.2 Little direct impact on public at this stage. The project itself will be screened separately on commencement.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 The total cost to continue with the next stage of the design process is £164k which will be funded by WG grant of £139k and the balance of £25k will be allocated from within existing budgets.

4.0 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The constitution requires that External Funding Panel approve the grant application.

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 It is recommended that the External Funding Panel endorses the grant to support the design for the scheme.

**Background Papers:
EFP 1**