



Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee

Tuesday, 24 August 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the **Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee** is to be held at **Various Locations** via Video-Conference, on **Tuesday, 24 August 2021** at **09:30**.

BUSINESS

1. **Sederunt**
2. **Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests ***
3. **Resolution**
Consider, and if so decide, adopt the following resolution:
"That under Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting for Items 16 - 18 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act."
4. **Minute of Meeting of 8 June 2021** **7 - 18**
5. **Written Questions ****
6. **Revenue Budget Monitoring 30 June 2021** **19 - 42**
Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance)
7. **Capital Plan 2021-22** **43 - 66**
Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance)

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| 8. Marine Safety Q1 2021-2022 | 67 - 76 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 9. Free After 3 | 77 - 80 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
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| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 11. Population Analysis | 225 - 234 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 12. Moray Start-Up Grants | 235 - 242 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 13. Housing and Property Budget Report to 31 March 2021 | 243 - 250 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 14. Housing and Property Budget Report to 30 June 2021 | 251 - 258 |
| Report by Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) | |
| 15. Question Time *** | |
| Consider any oral question on matters delegated to the Committee in terms of the Council's Scheme of Administration. | |
| Item(s) which the Committee may wish to consider with the Press and Public excluded | |
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| 16. Learning Estate Improvement Programme - Phase 3 Submission Consultancy Support [Para 8 and 9] | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on proposed terms and/or expenditure to be incurred by the Authority; | |
| 17. Sale of Land Buckie [Para 8 and 9] | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on proposed terms and/or expenditure to be incurred by the Authority; | |

18. DLO Budget Monitoring to 30 June 2021 [Para 9]

- Information on terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the Authority;

Moray Council Committee meetings are currently being held virtually due to Covid-19. If you wish to watch the webcast of the meeting please go to:
http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_43661.html
to watch the meeting live.

* **Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests** - The Chair of the meeting shall seek declarations from any individual or political group at the beginning of a meeting whether any prior decision has been reached on how the individual or members of the group will vote on any item(s) of business on the Agenda, and if so on which item(s). A prior decision shall be one that the individual or the group deems to be mandatory on the individual or the group members such that the individual or the group members will be subject to sanctions should they not vote in accordance with the prior decision. Any such prior decisions will be recorded in the Minute of the meeting.

** **Written Questions** - Any Member can put one written question about any relevant and competent business within the specified remits not already on the agenda, to the Chair provided it is received by the Proper Officer or Committee Services by 12 noon two working days prior to the day of the meeting. A copy of any written answer provided by the Chair will be tabled at the start of the relevant section of the meeting. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than 10 minutes after the Council has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he or she can submit it in writing to the Proper Officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within 7 working days.

*** **Question Time** - At each ordinary meeting of the Committee ten minutes will be allowed for Members questions when any Member of the Committee can put a question to the Chair on any business within the remit of that Section of the Committee. The Member who has put the question may, after the answer has been given, ask one supplementary question directly related to the subject matter, but no discussion will be allowed.

No supplementary question can be put or answered more than ten minutes after the Committee has started on the relevant item of business, except with the consent of the Chair. If a Member does not have the opportunity to put a supplementary question because no time remains, then he/she can submit it in writing to the proper officer who will arrange for a written answer to be provided within seven working days.

THE MORAY COUNCIL

Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee

SEDERUNT

Councillor Graham Leadbitter (Chair)
Councillor Louise Nicol (Depute Chair)

Councillor David Bremner (Member)
Councillor Theresa Coull (Member)
Councillor John Cowe (Member)
Councillor Gordon Cowie (Member)
Councillor John Divers (Member)
Councillor Tim Eagle (Member)
Councillor Ryan Edwards (Member)
Councillor Donald Gatt (Member)
Councillor Marc Macrae (Member)
Councillor Maria McLean (Member)
Councillor Ray McLean (Member)
Councillor Walter Wilson (Member)

Clerk Name:	Lissa Rowan
Clerk Telephone:	07765 741754
Clerk Email:	committee.services@moray.gov.uk

Minute of Meeting of the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee

Tuesday 8 June 2021

Remote Locations via Video-Conference

PRESENT

Councillor David Bremner, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor John Cowe, Councillor Gordon Cowie, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Marc Macrae, Councillor Maria McLean, Councillor Louise Nicol

APOLOGIES

Councillor Ray McLean, Councillor Walter Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), Head of Environmental and Commercial Services, Head of Development Services, Acting Head of Housing and Property Services, Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Manager, Transportation Manager, Estates Manager, Payments Manager, Legal Services Manager, Mrs F Geddes, Senior Housing Officer (Strategy) and Mrs L Rowan, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee.

1 Chair

Councillor Leadbitter, being Chair of the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee, chaired the meeting.

2 Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3 Resolution

The Meeting resolved that under Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting for Items 22 and 23 of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the relevant Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Paragraph Number of Minute	Paragraph Number of Schedule 7a and Reason
21	9
22	6, 8, and 9

4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings of the Communities Appointments Committee dated 26 March 2021, Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee dated 13 April 2021 and the Communities Appointments Committee dated 11 May 2021 were submitted and approved.

5 Written Questions

The Committee noted that no written questions had been submitted.

6 Notice of Motion by Councillors Gatt and Powell

A Notice of Motion was submitted by Councillor Gatt, seconded by Councillor Powell in the following terms:-

That the Committee considers and agrees to call for a report to this committee to consider the statutory process under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 to adopt the undermentioned roads:

Cullen, Port Long Road; from where the current adopted road ends to a point X metres past the entrance to the Moray Council Recycling Centre, to enable the turning of a long-articulated vehicle. As indicated on the accompanying map at Annex A.

Portknockie, Seafield Terrace – Geddes Avenue; from the end of the current adopted road at Seafield Terrace eastwards past the Moray Council owned McBoyle Hall to where the adopted road restarts at Geddes Avenue / Logie Drive. As indicated on the accompanying map at Annex B.

Reason

The roads mentioned have become anomalies in the Moray Roads network in that over time local people have assumed that the roads are the responsibility of the Moray Council when they are not. This causes consternation among local people who, report the roads as having defects which need repair, and are informed that the roads are not adopted and not the responsibility of the Moray Council.

In the case of Port Long Road, Cullen; the current state of the disrepair of the road has been caused by vehicles servicing the Moray Council Recycling Centre and the contractors who repaired the Cullen Harbour wall.

In the case of Seafield Terrace – Geddes Avenue, Portknockie; this is a through road and the logical main vehicular access for those residents living in the east part of the town.

We respectfully ask all Councillors to consider and agree this Notice of Motion.

During his introduction, Councillor Gatt outlined the purpose of his Notice of Motion which was to rectify, in his opinion, 2 anomalies in Moray's roads network.

The Committee noted that Councillor Powell had seconded the Notice of Motion however it was pointed out that, in terms of Standing Order 34b), the Notice of Motion should be seconded by a member of the Committee. Following consideration, Councillor Eagle agreed to second Councillor Gatt's Notice of Motion.

The Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) advised that it would not be possible to make an exception to the current policy for the 2 roads mentioned in the Notice of Motion and that the policy would need to be revised and criteria identified which might support adoption of these roads but which all unadopted roads would also then have to be assessed against.

The Head of Environmental and Commercial Services advised that currently, before the Council will take responsibility for an unadopted road, it required to be brought up to a specific standard by frontagers. He further pointed out that there were many unadopted roads in Moray and if each road was to be assessed against new criteria, this would be a considerable piece of work.

The Chair noted the comments from the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services in relation to the number of unadopted roads in Moray, many of which are in a poor standard and acknowledged the cost to the Council in terms of Officer time to assess each road against new criteria. Councillor Leadbitter therefore moved, as an amendment, that the Committee note the issues raised in the Notice of Motion and maintain the current process for unadopted roads. This was seconded by Councillor Bremner.

On a division there voted:

For the Motion (5):	Councillors Gatt, Eagle, Edwards, Macrae and M McLean
For the Amendment (7):	Councillors Leadbitter, Bremner, Coull, Cowe, Cowie, Divers and Nicol
Abstention (0):	Nil

Accordingly, the amendment became the finding of the Committee and it was agreed to note the issues raised in the Notice of Motion and maintain the Council's current process for unadopted roads.

7 Notice of Motion by Councillors Eagle and Macrae

A Notice of Motion was submitted by Councillor Eagle, seconded by Councillor Macrae in the following terms:-

This motion seeks for council to agree to a change in the charging mechanism for non-resident burial fees within Moray.

Currently the non-Moray resident fee is applied to any person who is not a resident in Moray at the time of their death, unless:

they were receiving any assessment for, or provision of, Community Care services from The Moray Council – including if this resulted in the Council providing new accommodation outside Moray, e.g. community care placement in Aberdeenshire.

The deceased continued to hold a residence in Moray at the time of their death.

We believe the policy leaves a gap for residents who have lived and worked in Moray for large part of their lives but require to leave for care reasons.

We propose the policy is amended to include another 2 bullet points, which read;

They have left Moray for medical or care reasons prior to their death – including elderly care by family.

Those whose death occurs within 2 years of leaving Moray and wish to be buried in the area.

The council is asked to adopt this change to the policy and agree that rebates on charges of people who fall into these categories within the last 18 months will be given.

Councillor Eagle outlined the terms of his Notice of Motion and stated that, following discussion with Officers, he had been asked to link the 2 proposed amendments to the policy by adding the word "and" and asked that Officers outline their reasons for this during the debate. He further stated that Officers had suggested that a webpage be set up in order to facilitate the rebate process and that this would be live for 3 months and thereafter closed, and that he was happy to accept this within his Notice of Motion.

In response, the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services advised that the reason for asking that the 2 amendments to the policy be linked is that there is no time limit mentioned in the first amendment whereas there was a period of 2 years mentioned in the second amendment.

The Chair further queried whether Councillor Eagle would consider amending the last paragraph of his motion to reflect "that rebates on charges for people who fall into these categories within the last 18 months will be given *on application*", with an opportunity for a rebate ending in 3 months to aid the administration of the rebate.

With regard to the wording of the amendments to the policy which referenced the elderly, it was noted that anyone may need to leave Moray for medical and care reasons and not just elderly people and it was suggested that this be changed from "elderly" to "personal" care needs.

On considering the requests from Officers, the Chair and the Committee, Councillor Eagle agreed to amend his motion as follows:

1. The policy is amended to include those who have left Moray for personal medical or care reasons prior to their death and whose death occurs within 2 years of leaving Moray and wish to be buried in the area; and
2. that rebates on charges of people who fall into these categories within the last 18 months will be given to those who apply within 3 months following an advert/page setting out the new policy and rebate on the Council website.

Councillor Macrae agreed to second the revised version of the motion.

There being no-one otherwise minded, the Committee agreed that:

1. the policy is amended to include those who have left Moray for personal medical or care reasons prior to their death and whose death occurs within 2 years of leaving Moray and wish to be buried in the area; and
2. rebates on charges of people who fall into these categories within the last 18 months will be given to those who apply within 3 months following an advert/page setting out the new policy and rebate on the Council website.

8 Notice of Motion by Councillors Eagle and Gatt

A Notice of Motion was submitted by Councillor Eagle, seconded by Councillor Gatt in the following terms:-

Electric cars are becoming more abundant on Moray's roads with every passing year. Both the UK and Scottish Government have pledged to phase out the need for new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030.

We have concerns that we have not reviewed the electric vehicle charging policy since 2014. At present we are the only council to continue to charge a flat rate fee.

We are also keen to review our network of chargers and how we are moving forward with providing a wider network across the region.

We have concerns that the flat rate fee is detrimental to local users who require just short period of charging rather than full charges.

This motion seeks to ask council to agree to a full review paper being presented to the next meeting of the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee.

The paper is to include a review on payment options for charging and a current position statement on our network of charging units, future plans and options to increase the network.

Councillor Eagle outlined the purpose of his Notice of Motion which was seconded by Councillor Gatt.

The Head of Environmental and Commercial Services advised that, at the meeting of Moray Council on 12 May 2021, as part of the Improvement and Modernisation Programme report, the Council had agreed funding to appoint Consultants to consider the infrastructure required to encourage the use of electric vehicles in Moray and that this report would include consideration of an appropriate charging profile and that it was hoped that this report would be brought to a future meeting by the end of the year.

After considering the advice from the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services and his assurance that the charging policy for electric vehicles will also be included within the report for consideration, Councillors Eagle and Gatt agreed to withdraw their Notice of Motion.

9 Order of Business

The Chair sought the agreement of the Committee to vary the order of business and take Item 13 Marine Safety Performance Review Q4 2020-21 Update and Item 18 Performance Report (Environmental and Commercial Services) – Period to March 2021, at this point in the meeting. This was agreed.

10 Marine Safety Performance Review Q4 2020-21 Update

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee dated 20 March 2018, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee with regard to matters of Marine Safety and compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) for the fourth quarter of 2020/21.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the contents of this report as the Duty Holder on matters of marine safety.

11 Performance Report (Environmental and Commercial Services) - Period to March 2021

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period to the end of March 2021.

During discussion surrounding parks and open spaces, Councillor Divers stated that he had been approached by some members of the public in relation to litter in Cooper Park and it was queried whether there was a need for more bins.

In response, the Environmental Protection Manager advised that litter within parks and open spaces is carefully monitored however agreed to liaise with the Parks Management Team to identify any issues in regard to litter.

Following further discussion where Officers answered questions from the Committee in relation to the uptake of school meals and quality of open spaces, the Committee joined the Chair in commending the smaller groups in Moray for their efforts in keeping Moray litter free and the Service, particularly in relation to the reduction in complaints, and thereafter agreed to:

1. note performance in the areas of Service Planning, Service Performance and other related data to the end of March 2021;
2. note the actions being taken to improve performance where required;
3. approve suggested changes to indicators for the 2021/22 reporting period; and
4. that the Environmental Protection Manager will liaise with the Parks Management Team to identify any issues in regard to litter.

12 Procurement Strategy 2021-2022

Under reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 8 May 2018, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) sought approval of the Procurement Strategy 2021/2022.

The Committee joined the Chair in commending the work of the Payments Manager and her wider team in the preparation of the revised Procurement Strategy and thereafter agreed to approve the Procurement Strategy 2021/2022 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

13 Forres Common Good - Transition Town Forres

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of an application from Transition Town Forres for financial assistance from Forres Common Good Fund to fund a second year's rental of the ground at Bogton Road following a rental review in March 2020.

The Chair stated that an email had been circulated to the Committee from Transition Town Forres at very short notice and that Officers had not had an opportunity to verify its contents. He stated that Members may feel they have enough information within the report to make a decision however should there be any doubt, the report could be deferred to allow further Officer input.

The Legal Services Manager further advised that the additional information that had been circulated to Members did not form part of the papers available to members of the public and that members should consider whether they feel there is sufficient information within the report to make a decision.

Councillor Eagle was of the view that there was enough information within the report however stated that he would have liked to hear the views of ward members prior to making any decision.

Councillor Nicol stated that Transition Town Forres is an excellent organisation that helps a lot of people in the community and moved that the funding request from Transition Town Forres be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Leadbitter.

During further discussion, it was noted that the organisation had not made a profit in 2018-2021 and it was queried, should financial assistance from Forres Common Good fund be provided, whether there was any assurance that the organisation would be able to pay the rent thereafter.

In response, the Chief Financial Officer advised that she did not have that level of information available.

Having considered the debate, Councillor Eagle moved as an amendment, that the Committee defer this report to the meeting of Moray Council on 30 June 2021 so that the views of ward members can be heard and further information can be obtained from Transition Town Forres in relation to its future financial plan. This was seconded by Councillor Cowe.

After listening to the debate and on hearing advice from Officers, Councillor Nicol withdrew her motion and Councillor Leadbitter agreed to withdrawal.

There being no-one otherwise minded, the Committee agreed to defer this report to the meeting of Moray Council on 30 June 2021 so that the views of ward members can be heard and further information can be obtained from Transition Town Forres in relation to its future financial plan.

14 Common Good Funds - Summary Expenditure for 2020-21 and Estimated Disposable Income for 2021-22

Under reference to paragraph 12 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 2 September 2008, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the final position of Common Good Funds at 31 March 2021 and the estimated income available for disbursement in 2021/22.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:

1. to note the disbursements approved for 2020/21 for each of the Common Good Funds shown in Appendix 1 to the report;
2. to approve the carry forward of the undisbursed balances for 2020/21 for the Buckie, Dufftown, Elgin, Forres, Portknockie, Keith and Findochty Funds to be made available in 2021/22;
3. the estimated Income available for disbursement in 2021/22 shown in Appendix 2 of the report; and
4. to note Common Good Fund asset register as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.

15 Community Asset Transfer Request (2015 Act) - Findhorn Beach Toilets

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) invited the Committee to consider an asset transfer request made under Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the transfer of two public toilets and the site of a former public toilet, all located at Findhorn Beach.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to:

1. approve the request to transfer ownership of:
 - a) the north and south public toilets, West Dunes, Findhorn, and
 - b) the site of the former public toilet, East Beach, Findhorn,to the Findhorn Village Conservation Company Ltd, all subject to the terms and conditions set out in para 5.1 of the report; and
2. note that, if approved and unless otherwise agreed with the Company, it will have 6 months from the date of the decision notice to submit a formal offer to purchase the properties, failing which the agreement will have no further effect and the statutory asset transfer process will end.

16 Allocations Policy Annual Performance Report 2020-21

Under reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of the Communities Committee dated 28 May 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the Council's Allocations Policy during 2020/21.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:

1. to note the performance identified within the report; and
2. the allocations quotas for 2021/22 detailed at Paragraph 5.4 of the report.

17 The Moray Affordable Housing Programme

Under reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee dated 1 December 2020, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of progress on the Affordable Housing Programme in Moray.

The Committee joined the Chair in commending the Housing and Property Service for their efforts in the provision of affordable housing in Moray and thereafter agreed:

1. to note the outturns on the Moray Affordable Housing Programme 2020/21;
2. to note the Moray Resource Planning Assumption for 2021/22;
3. to note the Moray Strategic Local Programme 2021/22 programme;
4. to note progress on the delivery of the Council's new build programme;
5. to note progress on delivery of housing at Bilbohall, Elgin; and
6. that further reports on programme progress will be presented to this Committee.

18 Performance Report (Housing and Property Services) - Period to March 2021

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2021.

Following consideration, during which Officers answered questions from the Committee in relation to the Change Management Plan and the future use of prefabricated housing, the Committee joined the Chair in commending Building Services for their nomination as a finalist for the Best Building Maintenance Provider UK award and thereafter agreed to note:

1. performance in the areas of Service Planning, Service Performance and other related data to the end of March 2021; and
2. the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

19 Performance Report (Economic Growth and Development) - Period to March 2021

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2021.

The Committee joined the Chair in commending the Service for achieving their targets despite the difficulties surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic and thereafter agreed to note:

1. performance in the areas of Service Planning, Service Performance and other related data to the end of March 2021; and
2. the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

20 Performance Report (Financial Services) - Period to March 2021

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021.

The Committee joined the Chair in commending the Service for having no performance indicators below target and thereafter agreed to note:

1. performance in the areas of Service Planning, Service Performance and other related data to the end of March 2021; and
2. the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

21 Question Time ***

Councillor Divers asked that a report on Free after 3 car parking over the Christmas and New Year period be brought to the next Committee for consideration as the Christmas Lights are scheduled to be switched on on Saturday 20 November 2021. Councillor Divers further asked that this annual report be brought to Committee as an information report thereafter for noting.

In response, the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) advised that this report was already scheduled to come to the next Committee meeting and that a recommendation will be included to reflect that it comes as an information report thereafter.

With regard to the information report on the agenda in relation to the Street Lighting LED Invest to Save Project, Councillor Nicol highlighted how this project

had reduced the Council's carbon footprint by 5000 tonnes which was excellent news.

The Chair further commended the Service for the delivery of the project which was completed ahead of time and under budget and will continue to provide savings in the future.

22 Building Services Trading Operation Budget 2021-22 [Para 9]

Under reference to paragraph 25 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee dated 6 October 2020, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) presented the Building Services Trading and Operation Budget for 2021/22.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note:

1. the proposed Building Services Trading Operation Budget for 2021/22, as detailed in Appendix I of the report;
2. the service development proposals at a cost of £112K as detailed in section 6 of the report;
3. the 2021/22 Building Services operating performance targets highlighted in section 7 of the report; and
4. the unaudited financial information for the period to 31 March 2021, as detailed in section 8 and Appendix I of the report.

23 Proposed Sale of Land at Pinefield Industrial Estate, Elgin [Para 6, 8 and 9]

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance) asked the Committee to approve the main terms for the sale of land at Pinefield Industrial Estate, Elgin.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to:

1. to approve the main terms of sale outlined in paragraph 5.2 of this report; and
2. to authorise the Estates Manager and the Legal Services Manager to conclude the transaction.



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING TO 30 JUNE 2021

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the revenue budget monitoring position to 30 June 2021.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (para 9 of the minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee considers and notes:

- (i) the budget monitoring position of £1,123,000 over budget for 2021/22 as at 30 June 2021;**
- (ii) that this position consists of an underspend on Devolved School budgets of £434,000, an underspend of £728,000 on Children's services, an overspend on Social Care services delivered on behalf of the Moray Integration Joint Board (MIJB) of £761,000 and an overspend on other services of £1,524,000;**
- (iii) movement of £3,578,000 in the General Revenue Grant, as detailed in paragraph 3.4;**
- (iv) emerging budget pressures as summarised in paragraph 6.1;**

2.2 It is recommended that the Council approves:

- (i) the use of ear-marked reserves for transformation of Council services to fund expenditure of £100,000 as detailed in paragraph 6.3**

and use of free general reserves of £30,373 as detailed in paragraph 8.3.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 When the revenue budget for 2021/22 was approved by Moray Council on 3 March 2021 (paragraph 5 of the minute refers), General Revenue Grant of £167,832,000 was estimated for the year, based on the latest amount notified to the Council and including estimates for further distributions of grant during the year. BRIS retention totalling £1,859,000 was included in funding. Council Tax receipts of £44,405,000 were anticipated. Budgeted expenditure of £214,106,000 was agreed, and this required projected use of £10,000 of the Council's General Reserves and use of financial flexibilities totalling £1,251,000 to balance the budget.
- 3.2 On 30 June 2021 Council approved adjustments to the base budget to reflect variances during 2020/21 which were projected to continue into 2021/22. The net effect of these adjustments was to increase budgeted expenditure by £242,000. On 12 May 2021 and 30 June 2021 Council approved additional expenditure of £191,000 to be funded from General Reserves. The majority of these adjustments have been posted to departments during quarter 1. The slippage on Economic Recovery projects and Moray Growth Deal (MGD) approved to be funded from reserves totalling £53,000 will be actioned for the quarter 2 budget monitoring report.
- 3.3 In addition to the Council's core budget, monies allocated to schools through the Devolved School Management (DSM) scheme and not spent are brought forward from previous years. The DSM balance brought forward in 2021/22 is £1,342,000 (2020/21 £683,000). Unused funding of £802,000 received in 2020/21 for the Pupil Equity funding and £599,000 for Early Learning and Childcare has been carried forward into 2021/22 in accordance with the grant conditions.
- 3.4 Variations to General Revenue Grant (GRG) amounting to £3,578,000 have been notified. This consists of mainly of additional funding for Covid agreed by Scottish Government: £1,056,000 for pandemic support payments; £981,000 Education recovery; £256,000 summer activities funding; £36,000 self isolation grant, offset by a reduction of £88,000 due to the approved allocation for Free School Meals (FSM) provision during the pandemic being remitted twice in 2020/21. In addition, funding for Scottish Government priorities has been allocated as follows: £562,000 living wage shortfall funding and £775,000 for the extension of free school meals to P4. As at 30 June 2021 the funding for summer activities has been drawn down and £128,000 has been drawn down for free school meals over the summer vacation, to match expenditure in quarter 1.
- 3.5 With these adjustments the Council's overall General Services revenue budget currently stands at £231,621,000.
- 3.6 Funding of £7,211,000 for the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) was included in base budget. Grant funding of £9,139,000 has been notified for 2021/22 and the budget will be adjusted by £1,928,000 to reflect

this additional funding. ELC is funded by specific grant, but for transparency it is included in the government grant figure in **APPENDIX 2**.

- 3.7 Reconciliation of the movements in the base budget from that which was approved by the Moray Council on 2 March 2021 is shown in **APPENDIX 2** and allocations to departments from the provisions for Inflation and Contingencies, Additional Costs and Savings are listed in **APPENDIX 3**.

4. BUDGET POSITION

- 4.1 **APPENDIX 1** summarises the current position for each service area, comparing the actual expenditure for the year to 30 June 2021 with the budget to 30 June 2021.
- 4.2 Overall the budget position at 30 June 2021 is expenditure over budget to date of £1,123,000 or 2.1% of budget to date (including services delivered on behalf of the Moray Integrated Joint Board).
- 4.3 The principal areas of overspend and underspend across the Council are summarised below:
- 4.3.1 In Children's Services, there is an underspend of £728,000 primarily due to less spend to date on out of area costs totalling £526,000; a contract for residential care for children with disabilities has ended giving an underspend of £148,000, and £28,000 relating to adoption placements, allowances and legal fees .
- 4.3.2 Devolved School budgets are underspent by £434,000 at the end of the first quarter, £180,000 in primary schools and £254,000 secondary schools.
- 4.3.3 The MIJB is reporting an overspend across both Council and NHS services during quarter 1 of £1,100,000. The figures included in this report relate purely to the services delivered by Moray Council on behalf of the MIJB and amount to an overspend of £761,000.
- 4.3.4 The impact of the Covid pandemic and lockdown measures that have been put in place are continuing to have significant impact on the budgets during the first quarter. All services are seeing less income than expected in the first quarter totalling £450,000. This includes loss of leisure income, catering income, car parking income, planning and building control fees. There is also a loss of internal revenue income due to roads DLO staff time being unable to be recharged to capital totalling £1,700,000 for the first quarter.
- 4.3.5 This is partially offset by underspends in some services in the core service expenditure due to works and spend being unable to be incurred or completed. The main service variances total £626,000, which includes repairs and maintenance, roads core service, building services DLO, and corporate training.
- 4.3.6 There is also directly related Covid expenditure totalling £466,000. This is made up of £302,000 in Education, relating to costs of supply teachers payments, payment for summer free school payment, hardship payments and

sanitiser; £2,000 in Housing, mainly relating to the setting up of temporary accommodation and agency costs and £162,000 in Environmental and Commercial services for relief staff and agency staff payments covering staff who are self-isolating.

- 4.3.7 Details of Covid expenditure and the use of the earmarked Covid reserve will be included in the report on the update of the short to medium term financial planning, to Council on 15 September 2021.

- 4.4 **APPENDIX 7** gives details of budget monitoring for Environmental and Commercial services and Economic Growth and Development services that are usually reported to the Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee, and are included with this report.

5. BUDGET PRESSURES

- 5.1 Budget pressures recognised when the budget was approved on 3 March 2021 are released when the pressure crystallises to the extent that it can be accurately quantified. Provisions to meet budget pressures and new duties totalling £5,141,000,000 have been released in quarter 1 and these are itemised in **APPENDIX 3**.
- 5.2 Provisions still held centrally at the end of quarter 1 total £13,879,000 and are detailed in **APPENDIX 4** and given a RAG assessment for likelihood of requirement.
- 5.3 Two provisions are assessed as amber, for uncertainty of requirement: additional whole life costing for Lossiemouth High School (£40,000) and clearance of Bilbohall site for housing development (£120,000). Lossiemouth High School life cycle requirements will be reviewed in quarter 2 to ascertain if this is still required as the budget pressure was based on an early estimate. The clearance of Bilbohall site is not yet required due to uncertainties in the wider construction sector resulting in no response to the invitation to tender, which is currently being reviewed with the intention of repackaging the work requested
- 5.4 Two provisions that are classed as green have drawn down more than the original allocation. Linkwood primary school running costs were estimated at £275,000 but the actual budget provision drawn down based on the school roll was £282,000. The budget pressure for school meals due to changes in regulations was £371,000 split over 2 financial years, originally 2020/21 and 2021/22, revised to 2021/22 and 2022/23. However the implementation of the regulations was rescheduled for April 2021, and the full budget pressure has been drawn down in 2021/22.
- 5.5 All other provisions are expected to be required in full at this juncture.

6. EMERGING BUDGET PRESSURES

- 6.1 Emerging budget pressures are noted throughout the year as they are identified. Pressures that were identified during quarter 1 are listed in the table below:

	Para Ref	Estimated full year effect £000s
Learning Estate Team	6.2	243
Provision for service developments	6.3	100
Estimated underprovision for SJC pay award	6.4	700
Community Council Elections	6.5	14
		1,057
		=====

- 6.2 The Learning Estate Team is the cost of the new team that will be taking the Learning Estate Strategy forward as agreed at Committee on 9 October 2021 (para 4 of the minute refers)
- 6.3 Following reflection on the process for allocating reserves held for Transformation, it is recommended that a provision is made for services to bid into for modest service improvements or developments in response to changing circumstances or to help create greater resilience within the Council. A provision of £100,000 is recommended to be funded from the ear marked reserve for Transformation of services in 2021/22 and thereafter recognised as a budget pressure when the budget for 2022/23 is considered. There is still a requirement for more significant investment in transformation of services to ensure the long-term financial stability of the Council and consideration of that issue will form part of a report on the Council's short to medium term financial strategy to the meeting of Council on 15 September 2021.
- 6.4 When the budget for 2021/22 was approved provision was made for a flat rate pay award of 2%. Since then Scottish Government have approved a public sector pay policy based on a banded pay award. It is estimated that this would cost £700,000 more than the provision allowed in the budget for non-teaching staff. Negotiations continue and the issue of pay award is the most uncertain of the many uncertainties facing the Council at this time. However, it is considered prudent to recognise that additional recurring funding is likely to be required.
- 6.5 There is no budget provision for Community Council elections and based on the costs of previous elections, a budget pressure of £14,000 was agreed at Committee on 30 June 2021 (para 23 of the minute refers)
- 6.6 The budget will continue to be reviewed for any emerging pressures and further recommendations will be made to future Committees when required.

7. SAVINGS

- 7.1 Savings of £2,585,000 were approved when the budget was set on 3 March 2021. These savings comprised increased income of £25,000 from inflationary uplifts to charges for services; one-off savings of £143,000, and other permanent savings of £2,417,000.

- 7.2 To date budgets for charges have been adjusted in full. Temporary savings of £63,000 have been posted to departmental budgets. The balance relates to the Grampian Valuation Joint Board refund, the amount of which will be confirmed when the accounts are audited and approved by the Board at the meeting when the audited accounts are approved – the expected date of this has not yet been confirmed with Audit Scotland. The projected saving will be posted in quarter 2.
- 7.3 Of the originally approved permanent savings, a balance of £439,000 remains in central provisions as at the end of June. These are detailed in **APPENDIX 5** and given a RAG assessment for anticipated achievement.
- 7.3.1 One saving totalling £94,000 is assessed as red. The savings relating to the Improvement and Modernisation programme Stream 2: ICT & Digital – schools admin is unlikely to be achieved in 2021/22 since the review is not expected to be completed until March 2022. This saving will be carried forward to 2022/23
- 7.3.2 One saving totalling £20,000 is assessed as amber. The balance of the saving relating to the relocation of staff from Auchernack and Forres community centre is delayed, this related primarily to NDR saving and will not be achievable until the building is disposed of, so part of the saving may be achievable in 2021/22.
- 7.3.3 The other unposted savings are assessed as green - these are expected to be achieved or substantially achieved during this financial year.

8. FREE GENERAL RESERVES

- 8.1 The balance on general reserves (excluding DSM and ear-marked reserves) as at 1 April 2021 was £15,349,000. Use of reserves totalling £10,000 as approved when the 2021/22 budget was set (**Appendix 6**).
- 8.2 Moray Council on 12 May 2021 approved an additional use of reserves totalling £30,000, as detailed in paragraph 3.9 in the report on Living Wage Consolidation (paragraph 14 of the [minute](#) refers). Moray Council on 30 June 2021 approved an additional use of reserves totalling £161,000, as listed in paragraph 3.23, and a net budget increase of £242,000 relating to continuing variances as reported in the outturn report, as detailed in paragraph 3.21 (paragraph 17 of the draft minute refers). Moray Council on 1 July 2021 approved an additional use of reserves totalling £430,00 for UK Levelling up fund as detailed in paragraph 6c (paragraph 31 of the draft minute refers).
- 8.3 The impact of the above, leaves an estimated free balance of £14,476,000 at 31 March 2022. Additional budget pressures noted above will also reduce this balance if and when they crystallise.
- 8.4 The Home Office provides funding for Syrian refugees, over a five year period. Of the funding received to date £30,373 was unspent at 31 March 2021. The underspend has been committed to assist the refugees with their settlement costs and provide English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes for the adults. Consequently it is recommended that this amount is funded

from reserves. If approved this will reduce the estimate free balance to £14,446,000

9. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Effective budget management is an essential component of delivery of council priorities on a sustainable basis.

(b) Policy and Legal

No policy or legal implications arise directly from the contents of this report.

(c) Financial implications

The financial implications are addressed throughout the report.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report. Budget managers are aware of their responsibilities for managing their budgets in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. There is a risk to the Council arising from the agreement that if the Moray Integrated Joint Board overspends the Council will meet 37% of the additional costs incurred.

(e) Staffing Implications

No staffing implications arise directly from this report.

(f) Property

No property implications arise directly from this report.

(g) Equalities

No equalities implications arise directly from this report.

(h) Consultations

Consultation concerning Revenue Budget Monitoring is an on-going process with budget managers across the Council. CMT and Heads of Service have also been consulted in the preparation of this report and any comments incorporated.

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 The financial position of the Council at the end of June 2021 is an overspend against General Services Revenue Budget of £1,123,000 (including services delivered on behalf of the Moray Integration Joint Board).

10.2 Variations in General Revenue Grant totalling £3,578,000 have been notified to the council.

- 10.3 There are additional budget pressures of £1,057,000 noted for Council services at quarter 1.**
- 10.4 The Council has approved use of £873,000 from free general reserves. With a potential further £130,373 required.**

Author of Report: Deborah O'Shea, Principal Accountant
Background Papers: Held by author
Ref:

MORAY COUNCIL - APPENDIX 1

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

QUARTER 1 to 30 JUNE 2021

Service	Revised Budget 2021/22 £000s	Budget to 30 June 2021 £000s	Actual & Committed to 30 June 2021 £000s	Year to date variance £000s
Education, Resources & Community	26,456	7,071	7,182	(111)
Childrens Services	19,364	5,256	4,528	728
Education	63,546	17,483	16,985	498
General Services Housing & Property	3,136	901	682	219
Environmental & Commercial Services	23,359	4,621	6,115	(1,494)
Economic Growth & Development Services	4,181	1,213	1,363	(150)
HR, ICT & Organisational Development	5,410	1,983	1,967	16
Financial Services	1,727	562	544	18
Governance, Strategy & Performance	5,528	2,248	2,329	(81)
Other Services	2,430	665	672	(7)
SERVICES excl HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	155,137	42,003	42,367	(364)
Health & Social Care (IJB)	45,939	10,318	11,079	(761)
Health & Social Care (Non IJB)	141	34	33	1
TOTAL SERVICES incl HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	201,217	52,356	53,479	(1,123)
Loans Charges	13,707	0	0	0
Provision for Contingencies and Inflation	3,003	0	0	0
Additional Costs	5,597	0	0	0
Covid & Transformation Reserves	8,283	0	0	0
Unallocated Savings	(187)	0	0	0
TOTAL PROVISIONS	16,696	0	0	0
TOTAL GENERAL SERVICES EXPENDITURE	231,620	52,356	53,479	(1,123)

Commentary on Quarter 1 Performance

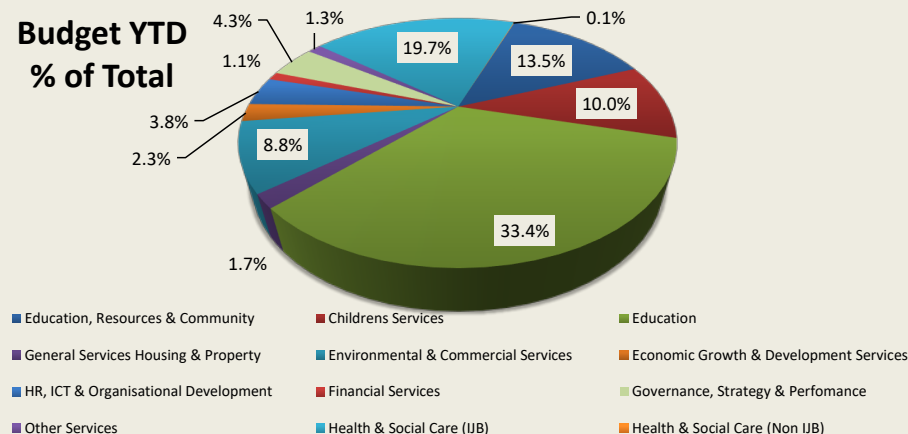
Childrens' Services: there is an underspend of £526,000 on OOA and additional resource packages. Contract for residential unit in Forres ended in March 2021 which has generated an underspend of £148,000 to date

Education: Devolved School budgets are underspent by £608,000 at the end of the first quarter, £180,000 in Primary and £254,000 in Secondary schools.

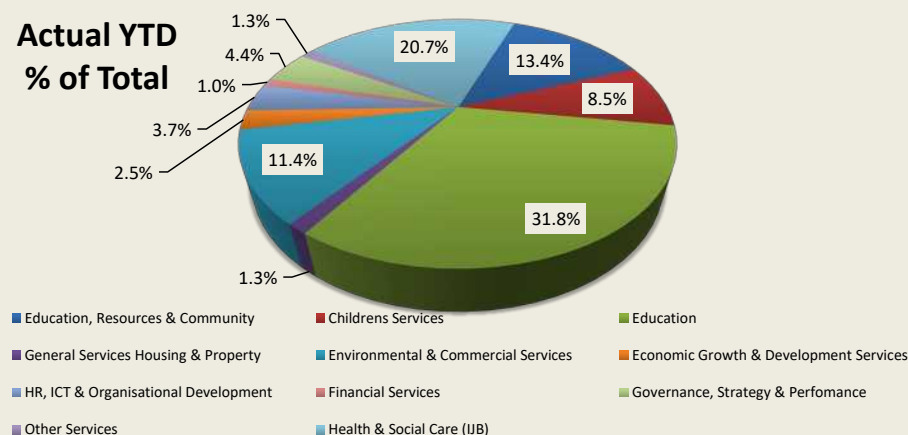
Env & Commercial Services: The impact of the Covid pandemic has reduced car parking income by £117,000. Roads £1,174,000 overspend - recharges to capital £1,400,000m and revenue £300,000 under charged, offset by reduced costs of £500,000

Economic Growth & Dev: planning and control fee income less than budgeted due to covid

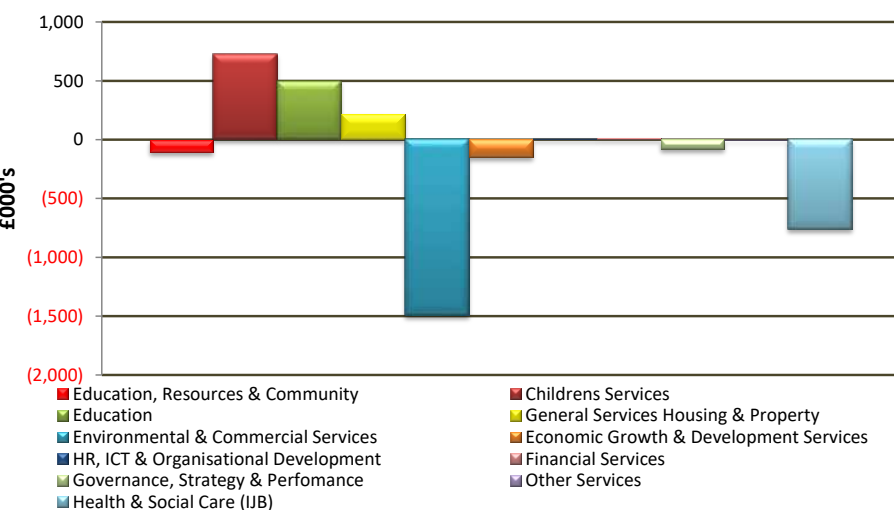
Budget YTD % of Total



Actual YTD % of Total



YTD Actual Variance to Budget (excl Loans & Provisions)



APPENDIX 2

	Allocated Budget	Provisions for Contingencies and Inflation	Additional costs	Savings	Budget	Loan Charges	Depreciation	Total Budget
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
3 March 2021	194,303	3,530	3,651	(2,585)	198,899	15,207		214,106
School carry forwards	1,342				1,342			1,342
PEF carry forwards	828				828			828
ELC carry forwards	573				573			573
Funded from reserves - approved MC 30/06/20	138				138			138
Funded from Transformation Earmarked Reserves	5,161				5,161			5,161
Funded from Covid Earmarked Reserves	6,038				6,038			6,038
Additional GRG	3,579		0		3,579			3,579
Adjustment 1	(10,742)	(467)	10,168	2,541	1,500	(1,500)		0
EGH&ES 24 Aug 21	<u>201,220</u>	<u>3,063</u>	<u>13,819</u>	<u>(44)</u>	<u>218,058</u>	<u>13,707</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>231,765</u>

ALLOCATIONS FROM PROVISIONS**Provision for Contingencies and Inflation**

	Committee reference	£000s	£000s
Approved when budget set:			3,530
GVJB uplift	N/A	(24)	
Landfil tax: increase in rate	N/A	(63)	
Other contract Increases	N/A	(279)	
Pay award	N/A	(47)	
Maximum Basic Scale (MBS) Primary & Secondary	N/A	(18)	
Other	N/A	(36)	
		<u>(467)</u>	
Balance at 30 June 2021			3,063

Additional Costs

	£000s	£000s
Approved when budget set:		3,651
Movements in General Revenue Grant		
Free School Meals Extension	775	
Living Wage Shortfall Funding	562	
Amendments to opening position (ELC)	<u>1,928</u>	
Additional Covid-19 funding		
Reduction in GRG due to FSM overpayment	(88)	
Pandemic Support Payments	1,056	
Education Recovery (Share of £60m)	981	
Self Isolation Grant	36	
Summer Activities Funding	256	
		5,506

Budget pressures approved when budget set

Social work children in transition	MC 03/03/21	(200)	
Social work social care package	MC 03/03/21	(267)	
Social work H&SC funding per settlement letter	MC 03/03/21	(1,383)	
Additional support for learning	MC 03/03/21	(174)	
Linkwood primary school running costs	MC 03/03/21	(282)	
School roll numbers	MC 03/03/21	(111)	
School meals changes in legislation	MC 03/03/21	(371)	
Industrial estate loss of income due to disposals	MC 03/03/21	(25)	
Microsoft licences	MC 03/03/21	(43)	
Itrent contract renewal	MC 03/03/21	(23)	
climate change response	MC 03/03/21	(185)	
Loan Charges	MC 03/03/21	<u>1,500</u>	(1,564)

Additional Budget Pressures approved

Reduction in music instruction charges	MC 18/02/21	(47)	
Additional solicitor post	MC 12/05/21	(55)	
Outturn variance report adjustments	MC 30/06/21	(263)	(365)

Funded from Transformation ear marked reserves

Transformation projects	5,305	
Learning estate	(145)	5,160

Funded from Covid ear marked reserve

Covid costs	4,499	
Economic recovery plan	(88)	
Recurring costs of ICT equipment	(31)	
Recurring costs of building cleaning	(309)	
Fogging canisters for PTU minibuses	(36)	
Reduction in leisure income post pandemic	(500)	
Staycation spend	(85)	
Discretionary fund	(1,171)	
Education	(157)	
General business grant administration funding	(32)	
Community mental health & wellbeing	(275)	1,815

Additional funding allocated

Living Wage Shortfall Funding	(128)	
Summer Activities Funding	(256)	(384)

Balance at 30 June 2021 **13,819**

Savings & Charges

Committee reference £000s £000s

Approved when budget set: **(2,585)**

Permanent savings approved when budget set:

Purchasing card rebate	MC 03/03/21	10
Accounts Payable forensics	MC 03/03/21	10
ICT contract review	MC 03/03/21	7
Members Support reduction in hours	MC 03/03/21	13
increase in budget for garden waste permits	MC 03/03/21	57
Discretionary charging for building standards	MC 03/03/21	10
Homelessness allocations	MC 03/03/21	11
Charge cost of SQA music tuition to schools	MC 03/03/21	3
Childrens services recurring savings from 2020/21	MC 03/03/21	744
Increase in NI threshold	MC 03/03/21	8
Financial flexibilities	MC 03/03/21	1,251
Childrens Services Head of Service	MC 03/03/21	53

Additional Savings Identified:

School transport contract	157
Catering & Cleaning management restructure	21
Staff travel budget savings	11
Brumley Brae rent	42
LED lighting in sports halls etc	24
Council Tax penalty income / Sheriff Officer fees	21
	<u>2,453</u>

Charges for service -Annual Review	MC 03/03/21	25
One-off savings	MC 03/03/21	63
		<u>2,541</u>

Balance at 30 June 2021 **(44)**

BUDGET PRESSURES

Ref	Description	Para Ref	Amount £000s	Status	Committee reference	Reasons
RECOGNISED WHEN BUDGET SET						
	Education Resources & Communities					
	Additional Support For Learning		84			The balance will be drawn down in quarter 2 to fund ASN allocations in schools.
	Education					
	Linkwood primary school running costs		(7)			The figure was an estimate based on a forecasted roll which has come in higher - Pupils have transferred from other Elgin primaries which has resulted in less required from school rolls.
	School roll numbers		664			There will be another draw down in October based on the new roll numbers for the next academic year
	Additional whole life costing Lossiemouth High School		40			Will review in quarter 2
	School meals (change in regulations)		(139)			The original budget pressure was £371k split over 2 years, the £139k in 2020/21 wasn't drawn down due to the change in regs being delayed until April
	Cross Service					
	Clearance of Bilbohall Site for Housing Development (Loans Charges)		120			Previously advised that this will not be drawn down at this point due to uncertainties in the wider construction sector
	Total		762			
Funded from Covid Earmarked Reserves						
	Budget Pressures Associated with Economic Recovery Plan (MC 28/10/20)		109			Expected to be required

	Recurring Costs of ICT Equipment		6			Expected to be required
	Recurring Costs of Building Cleaning		143			Expected to be required
	Temp ICT staff		293			Expected to be required
	Education		2,351			Expected to be required
	EHO		17			Expected to be required
	Annual Maintenance of automatic bollards		7			Expected to be required
	General Business Grant Administration Funding		196			Expected to be required
	Total		3,122			
Funded from Transformation Earmarked Reserves						
	PMO		1,340			Expected to be required
	Poverty		264			Expected to be required
	Participatory Budgeting		107			Expected to be required
	Climate Change		130			Expected to be required
	BIM		20			Expected to be required
	Education Investment		3,200			Expected to be required
	Service Developments		100			Expected to be required
	Learning estate		(1)			Expected to be required
	Total		5,160			
ADDITIONAL BUDGETS APPROVED						
	Reduction in Music Instruction charges		(47)			drawn down
	Additional 1 fte Solicitor post		(55)			drawn down
	MC outturn report		(263)			drawn down
	Total		(365)			
FUNDING FOR NEW DUTIES						
	Appropriate Adult Funding		18			Held
	Reduction in GRG due to FSM overpayment		-88			Will be offset against GRG budget
	Pandemic Support Payments		1,056			Held
	Education Recovery (Share of £60m)		981			Held
	Self Isolation Grant		36			Held
	Free School Meals Extension		647			Held
	Living Wage Shortfall Funding		562			Held

	Total		3,212			
	ELC Specific Grant		1,928			Held
	Total		13,819			

SAVINGS			APPENDIX 5	
Ref	Description	Amount £000s	Committee reference	Update Qtr1
Approved for 2020/21 budget:				
	Environmental & Commercial Services			
	Transportation Management Restructure	(7)		Expected to still be achieved
	Savings associated with moving towards a cashless car parking system	(9)	EGHES 6/10/2020	Expected to still be achieved
	Education Resources & Communities			
	Relocate staff from Auchernack plus Forres Community Centre staff restructure	(20)	MC 27/02/2019	The majority of the remaining budget is NDR. Until the building is disposed of, we will still incur these costs and savings will not be realised
	Cross Service			
	Increase in NI threshold	(8)	MC 27/02/2019	Will be taken in qtr 2
	Vacancy targets	(114)	MC 02/09/2020	Will be taken in qtr 2
	Indicative Savings from I&M programme			
	Stream 2: ICT & Digital - Schools Admin	(94)	MC 26/09/2019	Unlikely to achieve any savings in 21/22 - review due to be completed by March 2022
	Stream 4: Review & Expansion of Flexible Working	(44)		Expected to still be achieved
	Total	(296)		
Temporary Savings:				
	GVJB refund	(80)		Expected to still be achieved
Balances from roundings:				
	Savings	2		

Additional Savings Identified :			
Children Services HoS Saving	53		
School Transport Contract saving Linkwood Primary	70		
Reduction of School transport days - 194 to 190	88		
MC 12/2/20 Cleaning and Catering management restructure (posted after budget rolled)	21		
Staff travel budget savings	11		
Brumley Brae Rent	42		
Halls LED Lighting	4		
LED Lighting Schools	11		
Elgin Library LED Lighting	9		
MC outturn report (CT collection)	21		
	330		
	(44)		

APPENDIX 6

General Reserves	Committee reference	Approved £000s	Budget released £000s
General Reserves @ 1 April 2021		15,349	
Less commitments against reserves when budget was set:			
Summer activities	MC 03/03/21	(10)	
Budget reduction from variance report	MC 30/06/21	(242)	(242)
Funding from reserves approved in 2021/22:			
Living wage consolidation consultancy	MC 12/05/21	(30)	(30)
Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP)	MC 30/06/21	(97)	(97)
Community Planning Partner projects	MC 30/06/21	(11)	(11)
Pop up shops	MC 30/06/21	(11)	
Local Growth Accelerator programme	MC 30/06/21	(19)	
Moray Growth Deal	MC 30/06/21	(23)	
		(191)	(138)
Levelling Up Fund	MC 01/07/21	(430)	
Approved use of reserves		(873)	
Free balance @ 30 June 2021		14,476	

ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICES REVENUE BUDGET PERIOD TO 30 JUNE 2021

Environmental & Commercial Services actual and committed budget has an overall overspend to budget, of £1,494,000 for the period to 30 June 2021.

Service	Budget to Jun 2021 £000's	Actual to Jun 2021 £000's	Variance 2021-22 £000's
Building Cleaning & Catering	1,368	1,373	(5)
Waste Management	906	917	(11)
Direct Services Admin/Quality Assurance	112	112	0
Lands and Parks/Countryside Amenities/Access	313	371	(58)
Roads Management	1,141	2,315	(1,174)
Fleet Services	(454)	(436)	(18)
Traffic & Transportation Mgmt	847	968	(121)
Engineering Design	204	315	(111)
Unallocated Efficiency Savings	0	0	0
Direct Services Directorate	46	43	3
Emergency Planning	6	7	(1)
Direct Services Covid 19	132	130	2
TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICES	4,621	6,115	(1,494)

Major variances:-

- **Lands and Parks** has an overspend of £58,000 resulting from an under achievement of income from burial grounds of £26,000 coupled with various minor overspends in other areas amounting to £32,000
- **Roads Management** has an overspend of £1,174,000 due mainly to a loss of income from charging to roads capital projects which have been disrupted as a result of Covid-19 pandemic, coupled with a reduction in revenue of £300,000. These have been partially offset by cost savings of £500,000.
- **Engineering Design** has an overspend of £111,000 due mainly to Flood Coastal Protection £63,000 project slippages, recharge to capital and bridges being £18,000 overspent
- **Traffic & Transport** overspend driven mainly by loss of car parking income due to reduced footfall of £117,000

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BUDGET PERIOD TO 30 JUNE 2021

Economic Growth and Development Service actual and committed budget has a minor overall overspend to budget, of £150,000 for the period to 30 June 2021.

Service	Budget to Jun 2021 £000's	Actual to Jun 2021 £000's	Variance 2021-22 £000's
Economic Growth & Development	1,213	1,363	(150)

- Planning and Control fee income less than budgeted due to Covid impact



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: CAPITAL PLAN 2021/22

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT &
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the expenditure to 30 June 2021 under the capital plan for financial year 2021/22 and of estimates of projected expenditure profiled into quarters.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (para 9 of the minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) considers and notes expenditure to 30 June 2021 of £5,481,000;
- (ii) considers and notes the current projected expenditure of £43,663,000 for 2021/22 profiled into quarters, as set out in APPENDIX 1;
- (iii) considers and notes the projected overall expenditure for projects spanning more than one financial year, as set out in APPENDIX 2;
- (iv) consider and note the budget monitoring information contained in Appendix 3, which replaced the separate monitoring report to Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee on Capital Expenditure falling within its remit; and
- (v) approves amendments to the 2021/22 and 2022/23 capital plan as detailed in section 6.1 of this report.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The capital plan for 2021/22 totalling £37,322,000 was approved by Moray Council on 3 March 2021 (paragraph 3 of the Minute refers). Amendments approved by the Council at its meeting on 30 June 2021 (paragraph 17 of the Minute refers) have been incorporated to give a current approved capital plan for 2021/22 totalling £45,786,000. The current projected expenditure is £43,663,000, but this estimate should be treated with caution due to volatile conditions within the Construction Industry and in supply chains of materials. These issues are resulting in contractors declining to tender for works or increasing prices significantly above estimates. Budget managers were asked to consider projects in order to determine if there was any scope for deferment until market conditions improved and areas identified are described in section 5 of this report. Further work will be undertaken to ascertain if there is scope for further deferments and this will be reflected in future capital monitoring reports. Priority for expenditure will be given to areas where there is time-limited external funding and to spend on health and safety or other legislative requirements.
- 3.2 Policy and Resources Committee on 10 May 2016 agreed to amendments to the information provided in response to the Audit Scotland report “Major Capital Investment in Councils” (paragraph 7 of the Minute refers). Accordingly this report includes a separate **APPENDIX 2**, giving details of expenditure on projects which span more than one financial year.

4. CAPITAL PLAN 2021/22

- 4.1 A copy of the summary capital plan is included as **APPENDIX 1** showing actual expenditure to 30 June of £5,481,000. This is just under 12% of the currently approved Capital Plan. General Capital Grant of £2,096,000 has been received from the Scottish Government. Other grants and contributions of £104,000 have been received, consisting of a grant for part of the cost of design work for a Moray Growth Deal project and the use of Developers Contribution to fund the purchase of leisure equipment. In addition to this, Developer Obligations yet to be used totalling £521,000 have been received in quarter 1 of this financial year and capital receipts of £51,000 for the sale of assets. Capital receipts would normally be used as funding for the Capital Plan but the Council is taking advantage of the time-limited concession given by Scottish Government to use capital receipts to fund transformation of services where this results in financial savings and consequently this sum is not included in the summary at **APPENDIX 1**.
- 4.2 Expenditure on land and buildings to 30 June 2021 totals £4,361,000. The main item of expenditure is £2,626,000 for the Council's contribution to the construction of the NESS Energy for Waste plant. Other items of expenditure include £458,000 on works to bring the school estate to BB standard, and £853,000 on the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare, mainly at Keith. The expansion of Early Learning and Childcare is funded by capital grant from the Scottish Government.

- 4.3 Expenditure on infrastructure assets to 30 June totals £701,000. The main item of expenditure was £371,000 on works to various bridges throughout the council area.
- 4.4 Expenditure on vehicles, plant and equipment to 30 June totals £419,000. The main item of expenditure was £305,000 on the Vehicle & Plant Replacement Programme.

5. **PROJECTED OUTTURN AND PROJECT DEFERRALS**

- 5.1 Budget managers have been requested to update projected estimates of expenditure on capital projects in 2021/22. Projects are graded for confidence of achieving projected expenditure with high confidence rated as green, medium confidence as amber and low confidence as red. A summary of the ratings is given in the table below.

Risk Status	RAG	No of Projects	Projected Expenditure 2021/22 £000
High confidence of spend to estimate	G	70	28,392
Medium confidence of spend to estimate	A	32	8,984
Low confidence of spend to estimate	R	6	6,287
		109	43,663

- 5.2 The spend projections provided by budget managers are based on the best information available at this time. There are various unknowns surrounding the impact that the situation in the wider construction industry and in supply chains will have and this is reflected in the value of projected expenditure in amber and red.

5.3 **Red rating**

A red status highlights areas where there is low level of confidence in estimated expenditure. The following have been identified by budget managers as having a red status:

Project	Projected Expenditure 2021/22 £000s
Land and Buildings	
Early Learning Childcare Expansion	2,423
Libraries and Leisure – swimming pool refurbishment	300
Parks & Open Spaces (2 projects)	19
Infrastructure	
Timber traffic structural work	500
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	
Vehicle and Plant Replacement Programme	3,045
TOTAL	6,287

5.4 Capital spend to enable the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare is almost complete. However final costs for works in Keith are yet to be established – additional costs were incurred because of ground conditions on site which became apparent after works had commenced. The final remaining project, which is yet to commence, is refurbishment of nursery accommodation in Aberlour Primary School and cost estimates for this are being made. Given the current state of the construction market it may be deemed prudent to delay the work until a later stage. Work on swimming pools is dependent on conditions surveys, which are to be carried out later this year, thereafter feasibility studies, business cases and design work. Similarly work arising from tree surveys is dependent on survey results. It is now planned to defer all but essential work on lands and parks to meet health and safety requirements but there is no guarantee that further urgent works will not be required. The type of work to be deferred includes works associated with tree survey, cemetery and open space infrastructure and play areas. The department recommend postponing timber traffic structural work until 2022/23 as the schemes put forward for Scottish Government funding have not been successful to date and it seems unlikely that this match-funding component of the Capital Plan will be needed this year. The lead time for vehicle replacements is very long due to issues with the supply of small components to complete vehicles. There is therefore a high degree of uncertainty as to when vehicles will be delivered.

5.5 **Amber rating**

An amber rating of confidence to spend budget highlights areas where there are issues impacting on the ability to project spend – generally indicating factors outwith the budget manager's control. The following have been identified by budget managers as having an amber status:

Budget heading	Projected Expenditure 2021/22 £000s
Land & Buildings	
School BB Works (16 projects)	4,727
Findrassie Primary School	450
Cemetery Provision in Moray	80
Infrastructure	
Road Safety Provision	247
Cycling, Walking, Safer Streets (CWSS)	421
Road Improvements – Drainage Works	460
Street Lighting – Replacement Columns and Lights	550
Shougle Bridge	240
Wards Road Junction Improvements	250
Findochty Pontoons	600
Buckie Harbour Infrastructure – Ice Plant	104
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	
Orchard Road Signals	28
Chemical Waste Disposal Points	170
Children's Play Areas	235
Schools ICT Strategy	239
Telephony/Contact Centre System	183

Budget heading	Projected Expenditure 2021/22 £000s
TOTAL	8,984

- 5.6 The Covid-19 pandemic restrictions on contractors working practices have resulted in an increase in costs of construction. The impact of Brexit has also seen material and equipment costs increase and we are experiencing procurement delays. The resultant cost increases to the BB Schools programme are being managed by regular review of the scope of works but continued variance on the components of this programme of work is anticipated. Planned spend on Findrassie Primary School in 2021/22 is for consultation on the design brief and initial design work. There is a degree of uncertainty as to how far this will be completed within the financial year. The timing of spend on cemeteries has also been varied from that originally planned.
- 5.7 Projects allocated to road safety provision and CWSS are being reviewed so as to maximise CWSS spend, as this is time-limited specific grant funded. Drainage works are planned to be carried out after the majority of roads capital spend has taken place and are therefore vulnerable to an early onset of cold weather, as the teams will then be reallocated to gritting. Street lighting column replacement has been highlighted as amber because of the interdependence between this programme and the higher priority LED replacement programme. Shougle Bridge is rated amber because of potential delays – negotiations with landowners are currently underway; Findochty pontoons because of delays getting the requisite Marine Scotland licence; Buckie ice plant because of delays in delivery of the plant and requirement for the contractor (based in Holland) to self-isolate for 14 days before and after the site visit – now that this has been reduced to 10 days work will begin on 9 August 2021.
- 5.8 Orchard Road traffic signals experienced difficulties in tendering and will now be carried out in-house with uncertainty as to how much spend will be achieved this financial year. The installation of chemical waste disposal points was delayed due to procurement difficulties. Play area upgrade design is being carried out in conjunction with local communities and some delay may be experienced as a result of the process. Schools ICT strategy commenced slightly later in the year than in previous years as the budget is a carry forward from previous years and consequently not approved until 30 June 2021. Telephony requirements are changing due to staff working from home and the revised requirements are unlikely to be established until staff return to office working.
- 5.9 A summary of the projected variances as June 2021 from the current approved capital programme, summarised in **APPENDIX 1**, is set out below:

Description	Ref	Underspend/ (Overspend) £000s
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Description	Ref	Underspend/ (Overspend) £000s
Land and Buildings		
Schools BB Works	5.10	(72)
Lossiemouth High School	5.11	921
Findrassie Primary School	5.12	48
Resurface & Rejuvenate 3G Pitches	5.13	130
Early Learning Childcare Expansion	5.14	(1,538)
Moycroft	5.15	(174)
Cemetery Provision in Moray	5.16	(70)
Tree Survey Operational Works	5.17	40
Parks & Opens Spaces Infrastructure	5.18	179
Infrastructure		
A95 Meikle Cantlay Landslip	5.19	693
Street Lighting – Replacement Columns and Lights	5.20	250
Road Safety – Disability Adaptations	5.21	26
Road Safety Provision	5.22	30
MacDowall Bridge	5.23	67
Wards Road Junction Improvements	5.24	122
Findhorn Flood Alleviation	5.25	(52)
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		
Vehicle and Plant Replacement Programme	5.26	527
Orchard Road Signals	5.27	192
Upgrade Recycling Centres	5.28	275
TOTAL		1,344

Land and Buildings

- 5.10 **Schools BB Projects** – The Covid-19 pandemic restrictions on contractors working practices has resulted in an increase in costs. The impact of Brexit has also seen material and equipment costs increase and we are experiencing procurement delays. Because of these issues, the scope of works are regularly reviewed and, as a result, may be subject to change. The projections are based on the best information currently available.
- 5.11 **Lossiemouth High School** – The projected underspend is a result of timing differences. During 2020/21, budget was carried forward to 2021/22 based on the planned programme of works at that point. However, works were able to progress quicker than anticipated which created an overspend in 20/21 and a projected underspend in 2021/22. These two variances cancel each other out. Under the terms of the contract, the contractor was entitled to recover reasonable costs due to the delays experienced following Covid-19 government restrictions. Negotiations on these additional costs have concluded between the Council and hub North Scotland. The Scottish Government have been contacted to request assistance with the additional costs with full evidence of costs claimed being provided to assist their determination. The outcome of this will be reported when Scottish Government have responded.

- 5.12 **Findrassie Primary School** – Contractor engagement has been delayed to facilitate community consultation on the design brief, which is to be completed by October 2021. The consultation was delayed due to the pandemic. Contractor supported Stage 2 design is now due to commence in November 2021. Stage 2 is timed to take up to six months it is therefore likely this will extend into 2022/23. The impact on the project of this delay would be low as this is being mitigated with planned early supplier engagement.
- 5.13 **Resurface & Rejuvenate 3G Pitches** – It is currently proposed to resurface the 3G pitch at Buckie in the current financial year, with the remaining balance used to resurface the pitch at either Keith or Speyside in 2022/23. Decisions on these projects are pending a report to the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Committee on 11th August.
- 5.14 **Early Learning Childcare Expansion** – Most projects have been completed but there remains uncertainty over the cost of works in Keith, where additional work above that originally anticipated was incurred due to the condition of drainage (which was not apparent until work had commenced) and work related to roads access. Final costs are being calculated. The cost of refurbishment of the nursery accommodation at Aberlour Primary School is being revised and given the current issues for the construction industry may be delayed until the market settles down.
- 5.15 **Moycroft** – The overspend in quarter 1 is a result of legacy costs from 2020/21. Scottish Water and Covid disruption costs are still yet to be confirmed, however, initial estimates have indicated that these could be in the region of £85,000. An invoice that was submitted late and now allocated to this year is for £45,000. Final invoices have still to be submitted and may vary the final cost of the project up or down.
- 5.16 **Cemetery Provision in Moray** – The original projected expenditure in 2021/22 of £10,000 was to cover internal project management costs for the new Elgin Cemetery. The timing of the project has been advanced and specialist technical and design services to progress this project to the next stage are being tendered for. It is recommended that budget of £70,000 is brought forward from 2022/23 to cover this increase in expenditure in the year.
- 5.17 **Tree Survey Operational Works** – No works have commenced under this budget allocation of £40,000. Following a request for departments to consider capital budgets for deferral it is therefore proposed that the full budget allocation of £40,000 be deferred to 2022/23.
- 5.18 **Parks & Opens Spaces Infrastructure** – It is currently only planned to carry out priority and health safety works under this heading, resulting in £21,000 spend against a budget of £200,000. It is proposed that the resulting underspend of £179,000 be deferred to 2022/23.

Infrastructure

- 5.19 **Meikle Cantlay Landslip** – Only one tender was received for this project, and it was significantly higher than originally forecast. Other suppliers did not

submit a tender due to having large volumes of other works and no capacity to deliver the project. This project will therefore be deferred until 2022/23 and it is therefore requested to carry forward the full budget of £693,000.

- 5.20 **Street Lighting Replacement Columns & Lights** – The priority within the department is to complete the LED Lighting Programme in 2021/22. In previous years other staff from within roads have supported the column replacement works, however, increased roads budget will result in these staff being deployed in this area throughout the year. It is therefore requested that the budget is reduced by £250,000 to £550,000.
- 5.21 **Road Safety Disability Adaptations** – Expenditure on this heading is planned to be on essential disabled bay lining plus work outstanding where orders have already been raised. Following a request for departments to consider capital budgets for deferral in response to construction industry supply chain issues, the balance of £26,000 is recommended for deferral to 2022/23. Deferral will allow effective consultations regarding the best locations for dropped kerbs to be re-established, following the easing of pandemic restrictions.
- 5.22 **Road Safety Provision** – This heading is projecting to underspend by £30,000 due to the fact that the Roads department are not going to be undertaking anti-skid treatment works this year due to surveys not identifying any priority areas requiring treatment.
- 5.23 **MacDowall Bridge** – The budget for this project was estimated based on the best information available at the time. As is good practice, it included an element for issues such as risk allowance and unforeseen circumstances. The project is nearing completion and the allowances for these factors have not been required, creating an underspend on the project. The budget in 2021/22 is recommended to be reduced by the projected underspend of £67,000.
- 5.24 **Wards Junction Improvements** – This scheme is fully funded by s75 developer obligations held by the Council. It is possible that the scheme will come in under budget, and should this happen the balance of monies will be returned to the developer in line with the requirements of the underpinning legal agreement.
- 5.25 **Findhorn Flood Alleviation** – Expenditure of £165,000 has been incurred on to outstanding land compensation claims against a budget of £113,000 to the end of quarter 1. The balance of the budget for compensation claims is held in future years and it is recommended that budget of £52,000 is brought forward to cover the overspend in 2021/22.

Vehicles, Plant and Equipment

- 5.26 **Vehicle and Plant Replacement Programme** – The vehicle supply market is currently experiencing worldwide problems with the supply of small components to complete vehicles so lead times are currently very long. Fleet Services will be able to commit the capital but delivery and payment times are difficult to predict at the moment. Updates on this situation will be reported in

future monitoring reports. No amendments to the budget are proposed at this time.

- 5.27 **Orchard Road Signals** – This project has experienced difficulties in awarding tenders and it is now likely that the work will be undertaken by the Council's Roads department. There are competing priorities and limited resources within the department and it is now anticipated that the project will slip to early in 2022/23. It is therefore proposed to carry forward the amount of the projected underspend to 2022/23 to allow the project to be completed. This project is fully funded by Developer Contributions.
- 5.28 **Upgrade Recycling Centres** – The budget of £275,000 against this heading was originally earmarked for upgrades to Gollachy Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC). This has been deferred previously due to uncertainty over the life of the facility. The detail of the work to be undertaken is still be scoped so it is recommended that the full budget of £275,000 is deferred 2022/23 until market conditions in the construction industry improve.

6. **AMENDMENTS TO CAPITAL PLAN**

- 6.1 The following amendments to the capital plan are proposed:

Amendments	Para	2021/22 £000s	2022/23 £000s
Land & Buildings			
Cemetery Provision in Moray	5.16	70	(70)
Tree Survey Operational Works	5.17	(40)	40
Parks and Open Space Infrastructure	5.18	(179)	179
Infrastructure			
A95 Meikle Cantlay Landslip	5.19	(693)	693
Street Lighting Replacement Columns and Lights	5.20	(250)	-
Road Safety Disability Adaptations	5.21	(26)	26
Road Safety Provision	5.22	(30)	30
MacDowall Bridge	5.23	(67)	-
Ward Road Junction Improvements	5.24	(122)	-
Findhorn Flood Alleviation	5.25	52	-
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment			
Orchard Road Signals	5.27	(192)	192
Upgrade Recycling Centres	5.28	(275)	275
Other Amendments			
Place Based Investment Programme	6.2	770	-
Committee Services Hybrid ICT System	6.3	70	-
School Learning Estate	6.4	25	-
Moray Growth Deal – Digital Health Project	6.5	954	-
Funding			
Grant funding	6.2 6.5	(1,724)	
CFCR	6.3	(70)	
TOTAL		(1,727)	1,365

- 6.2 **Place Based Investment Programme** – At a meeting of Moray Council on 30 June (item 11 of the Minute refers) a report on the Place Based Investment Programme recommended a plan of expenditure which meets the Programme's main objectives. This was approved and the capital plan has been amended to reflect additional expenditure of £770,000 which is fully funded by a grant from the Scottish Government.
- 6.3 **Committee Services Hybrid ICT System** – At a meeting of Moray Council on 30 June (item 23 of the Minute refers) a report on Committee Governance recommended the purchase of an IT system to enable hybrid meetings to take place. The costs of this system meet the definition of capital expenditure and will be funded as Capital from Current Revenue (CFCR) from covid ear-marked reserves.
- 6.4 **School Learning Estate** – The Council is currently working on various aspects of the Learning Estate Strategy to ascertain future capital requirements. As part of this, there is the opportunity to submit a bid for funding as part of the third phase of the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP). To enable bids to be prepared it is requested that budget of £25,000 be brought forward from future years of the capital plan.
- 6.5 **Moray Growth Deal Digital Health Project** – The Council has received advance notification from the Scottish Government of their intention to award a specific capital grant of £954,327 in 2021/22 to support the delivery of the Rural Centre of Excellence for Digital Health and Care Innovation Project. This is part of the Moray Growth Deal. The capital plan will be amended to reflect expenditure of this amount, which will be fully funded by the Grant.

7. RISK AND EMERGING ISSUES

- 7.1 Budget managers have been requested to identify any specific areas of risk for the projects in the capital plan for which they are responsible.
- 7.2 A new and emerging risk to the capital plan is a forecast increase in the cost of materials. Scotland Excel have informed the Council of unavoidable increases to costs on two of their frameworks and intelligence is coming from a number of sources that materials may be difficult to source and costlier if they are available. This is partly a world-wide reaction to the pandemic, and partly due to Brexit. The construction industry is also over-heated and recent procurement exercises have stalled. Budget managers have been asked to identify where construction works can be deferred and deferrals have been recommended above, with further areas likely to be identified.
- 7.3 The Council is currently seeking to establish whether the Scottish Government will contribute to the additional costs due to Covid-19 in respect of both the Lossiemouth High School and Linkwood Primary School new build projects. Should the Council have to bear either all or a proportion of these costs, it would be necessary to consider the options available to meet or contain the costs and these would depend on the funding gap the Council had to address.

- 7.4 There is a risk that contract inflation might increase the eventual cost of projects in future years of the capital plan and a risk that any deferment of projects relating to asset condition might result in element failure, potentially incurring unbudgeted costs.
- 7.5 The main risk for the vehicle replacement programme is manufacturers failing to deliver to agreed timescales and this risk is heightened at this time.
- 7.6 Projects can be subject to risks which are outwith the direct control of the Council, such as poor weather conditions.
- 7.7 Lack of staff resources and staff turnover can impact on project timescales and other emerging work priorities can impact in scheduled works and this is reflected in delays where work planned to be out-sourced is being brought in-house as a result of poor response to tender requests.
- 7.8 There is a risk that time-limited funding is not spent within time-frame and that the Council therefore loses the opportunity to improve or create assets at no cost to the Council.
- 7.9 Looking to the future there is a need to invest significantly in our infrastructure to underpin the Council's priorities of Our People, Our Place, Our Future and work will be brought forward in early course to look at potential capital requirements and how this might best be funded, with a potential call on reserves to support this.
- 7.10 No other project risks have been specifically identified by budget managers.

8. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Effective budget management is an essential component of delivery of Council priorities on a sustainable basis.

The capital plan is one of the vehicles through which the Council's priorities can be delivered. The approved capital plan for 2021/22 and the outline ten year plan incorporates measures designed to address the LOIP priorities of building a better future for our children and young people, empowering and connecting communities and developing a diverse, inclusive and sustainable economy.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy or legal implications arising directly from this report.

(c) Financial implications

The financial implications are highlighted within the report and **Appendices 1 and 2** to the report.

(d) Risk Implications

Budget managers are aware of their responsibilities for managing budget allocations and approval for variance will be sought from Council in line with the financial regulations. Risks specific to items within the capital plan are highlighted in paragraph 7 of this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising directly from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities issues arising from this report

(h) Consultations

All capital budget managers have been consulted in the development of estimated actuals as part of the preparation of this report. Members of the Asset Management Working Group, all Heads of Service and the Corporate Management Team have been consulted and any comments incorporated in the report.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1 Capital expenditure in the first quarter of the year amounts to £5,481,000 to the end of June 2021.

9.2 Capital expenditure is currently projected to be £1,344,000 lower than the approved capital plan for 2021/22 but with a high degree of uncertainty due to current construction industry conditions and other external factors.

9.3 Amendments to the Capital Plan amounting to a decrease of £1,727,000 (after taking into account additional funding) in 2021/22 and an increase of £1,365,000 in 2022/23 are recommended.

Author of Report:	Laurie Milne, Senior Accountant
Background Papers:	
Ref:	LM/LJC

Moray Council Capital Programme 2020/21
As at 30th June 2021

	Capital Plan 2021/22 £000	Actual £000	Projected Expenditure				Total Projected Expenditure £000
			Q1 £000	Q2 £000	Q3 £000	Q4 £000	
Land and Buildings							
Children and Young People's Services Committee	11,035	1,532	1,528	4,390	3,377	2,251	11,546
Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee	17,168	2,828	2,828	2,987	5,853	5,496	17,164
Policy and Resources Committee	237	1	1	0	117	119	237
Infrastructure							
Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee	11,356	701	691	2,965	3,595	2,469	9,720
Vehicles Plant and Equipment							
Children and Young People's Services Committee	109	53	50	0	32	27	109
Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee	4,659	340	317	977	1,173	1,198	3,665
Policy and Resources Committee	1,222	26	23	24	497	678	1,222
	45,786	5,481	5,438	11,343	14,644	12,238	43,663
Funding							
Prudential Borrowing	34,852	3,282					
General Capital Grant (exc PSHG and CYP)	8,224	2,096					
Other Grants & Contributions	308	103					
CFCR - ELC Expansion	885						
CWSS	420						
Elgin Transport Strategy	372						
Town Centre Initiative Fund	725						
	45,786	5,481	0	0	0	0	0

Major Capital Projects spanning more than 1 financial year (as at 30 June 2021)

APPENDIX 2

Description	Approved Total Budget	Total Expenditure in previous financial years	Current Budget 2021-22	Actual spend 2020-21	Remaining Budget 2020-21	Project Life Spend to 31/12/21	Projected Future Years Budget Required	Estimated Final Cost	Projected Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
New Lossiemouth High School	43,000	41,673	3,827	208	3,619	41,881	0	45,500	-2,500
Early Years Learning & Childcare	7,143	7,513	885	853	32	8,366	0	8,398	-1,255
LED Street lighting replacement programme	5,000	3,860	200	0	200	3,860	940	5,000	0
NESS Energy from Waste	27,224	14,343	10,784	2,626	8,158	16,969	2,097	27,224	0
Total	82,367	67,389	15,696	3,687	12,009	71,076	3,037	86,122	-3,755

APPENDIX 3**ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGET TO 30 JUNE 2021**

- 1.1 The table below details the Direct Services Capital Budget position to 30 June 2021. The total Capital Plan budget of £21.308 million has an actual spend at the end of December 2020 of £7.577 million.

	Capital Plan 2021/22	Actual Expenditure 30 June 2021	Projected Expenditure 2021/22
	£000	£000	£000
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	4,635	316	3,641
Land & Buildings	12,781	2,805	12,647
Infrastructure	11,080	725	11,187
TOTAL	28,496	3,846	27,475

- 2.1 The following table shows the programme within the Capital Budget

	Capital Plan 2020/21	Actual Expenditure 31 June 2021	Projected Expenditure 2021/22	RAG
	£000	£000	£000	
Land and Buildings				
Car Parks	842	112	842	
Waste Management	11,589	2,693	11,633	
Cemetery Provision in Moray	10	-	80	
Cemetery Provision in Moray - Infrastructure	100	-	73	
Operational Work – Tree Surveys	40	-	-	
Parks & Open Spaces – Infrastructure	200	-	19	
	12,781	2,805	12,647	
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment				
Vehicle & Plant Replacement Programme	3,572	305	3,045	
Orchard Road Signals	220	-	28	
Traffic	43	1	43	
Waste Management	395	2	120	

Chemical Waste Disposal Points	170	1	170	
Lands and Parks Play Equipment	235	7	235	
	4,635	316	3,641	
Infrastructure				
Road Safety	328	11	302	
Road Safety	698	12	668	
Road Improvements				
Carriageway Resurfacing	3,456	2	3,456	
Drainage	460	18	460	
Footways	300	2	300	
Kerb Edge Replacement	50	-	50	
Timber Traffic Structural Works	500	-	-	
Portknockie Landslip	15	-	15	
A95 Meikle Cantlay Landslip	693	-	-	
Street Lighting		-	1,057	
LED Replacement Programme	257	-	257	
Replacement Columns and Lights	800	-	550	
Bridges	1,601	371	1,534	
Flood Risk Management & Coastal Protection	113	165	165	
Wards Road Junction Improvements	372	1	250	
Sustainable Travel (Grant Funded)	-	9	-	
Harbours	1,713	109	1,713	
Facilities Management Equipment	24	1	24	
Charge Points – Ashgrove (Grant Funded)	-	23	-	
	11,080	725	11,187	
TOTAL	21,308	7,577	20,873	

Land and Buildings

Car parks -

Waste Management - The overspend on Moycroft in quarter 1 is a result of legacy costs from 2020/21. Scottish Water and Covid disruption costs are still yet to be confirmed, however, initial estimates have indicated that these could be in the region of £85,000. An invoice that was submitted late and now allocated to this year is for £45,000. Final invoices have still to be submitted and may vary the final cost of the project up or down. Spend of £2,626,000

has been incurred on the Council's contribution to the NESS Energy for Waste Plant and £23,000 on cell capping at Dallachy Landfill Site. Both these projects are anticipated to fully spend the budget allocation by 31st March.

Cemetery Provision in Moray – The original projected expenditure in 2021/22 of £10,000 was to cover internal project management costs for the new Elgin Cemetery. The timing of the project has been advanced and specialist technical and design services to progress this project to the next stage are currently being tendered for which will require an estimated £70,000 in this financial year.

Cemetery Provision in Moray Infrastructure – The projected spend against this line is to undertake Health and Safety works. Currently expenditure in 2021/22 is estimated to be £84.5k however should other priority works emerge this year's allocated could be committed in full.

Tree Survey Operational Works – No works have commenced under this budget allocation of £40,000. It is proposed to defer expenditure in response to construction industry supply chain issues, plans and designs for future works could be developed at minimal cost so it is therefore proposed that the majority of this budget allocation be deferred to 2022/23.

Parks & Opens Spaces Infrastructure – It is currently only planned to carry out priority and health safety works under this heading, resulting in c. £20k spend against a budget of £200,000. It is proposed that the resulting underspend of £181,000 be deferred to 2022/23 with any further expenditure in this year limited to priority health and safety works only.

Vehicles, Plant and Equipment

Vehicle & Plant Replacement Programme – Expenditure of £3,045,000 is projected by 31 March 2022. However, suppliers are experiencing extreme difficulties in being able to predict delivery dates due to the ongoing effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on vehicle factory production levels and also the availability of small components such as semi conductors. 2021/22 spend will be dependent on how factories recover and small components come back on stream.

Orchard Road Signals - There were difficulties in tendering Orchard Road signals, and this will now be carried out in-house with uncertainty as to how much spend will be achieved this financial year

Waste Management - £2,000 has been spent to 30th June on the purchase of Domestic and Trade Waste bins. Worldwide shortages of plastics have seen lead times for deliveries extended, and also the costs of bins increase and it is anticipated to fully spend the budget of £100,000. The budget of £275,000 against this heading was originally earmarked for upgrades to Gollachy Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC). This has been deferred previously due to uncertainty over the life of the facility. The detail of the work to be undertaken is still be scoped so it is recommended that the full budget of £275,000 is deferred 2022/23 until market conditions in the construction industry improve.

Chemical Waste Disposal Points – Delays have occurred during phase 1 of this project in the procuring of waste points. This has now been resolved and the remaining elements of the project are on track.

Play Equipment – play area upgrades are currently being developed for 4 play areas (Rothies, Logie, Findochty and Mannachie). Upgrades and designs are being carried out in conjunction with local communities with some progressing external grant funding applications to further enhance the scope of works. Delays to the delivery of this programme is being experienced as a result of the process with only one play area facility likely to complete a tendering exercise and commit spend (of up to £50k) in this financial year. Other expenditure on materials and equipment for other sites is estimated at £20k. Therefore, expenditure in this financial year is estimated to be £70k with the remainder expected to be carried forward into 2022/23. The Council has also been recently notified that it will receive an allocation of £92,000 as part of the Scottish Government's 'Capital Allocation for Renewal of Play Parks 2021/22'. Further guidance is awaited on this funding and the timelines for expenditure, however there may be an opportunity to prioritise spend against the government funding allocation and to defer the Council's capital allocation.

Infrastructure

Road Safety - Projects allocated to road safety provision and CWSS are being reviewed so as to maximise CWSS spend, as this is time-limited specific grant funded. The Wards Road scheme is developer obligation funded, and is still programmed for delivery before November 2021, but has been delayed because of Covid and the subsequent impact on availability within the construction sector.

Road Improvements – Carriageway resurfacings/ reconstruction /surface dressing / drainage/footways/ kerbs have an actual expenditure of £22,000 against a total capital plan allocation of £5,474,000. Our annual surface dressing programme of over £1m has successfully been delivered to date. Programmes of work have been developed for the individual items of work referenced above and these are on plan to be successfully delivered this financial year. Works are currently progressing on site with our edge strengthening works and resurfacing programmes.

Road Improvements – A95 Landslip River Isla Unfortunately, following a recent tender exercise it needs to be reported that the return has been disappointingly very low, in that the Council received only one bid. The returned bid has also come with a number of issues that make it challenging for the Council to accept, which include: Works won't be completed until 9/2/22, works estimated to be completed 2 months later than the SEPA controlled activity regulations (CAR licence) will allow and tendered value is significantly higher than the initial budget estimated. It is therefore suggested that these works are put on hold, with the intention of undertaking a re-tendering exercise next year.

Street Lighting – Work is progressing to complete the small number of outstanding SOX and SON street lights with energy efficient LED units and £0 has been spent to date replacing lighting columns beyond their design life. It is anticipated both programmes will be completed this financial year.

Bridges – Works are progressing on 7 bridge refurbishment and repair projects with an actual spend of £365,000 and a projected combined full budget spend of £1,476,000 by 31 March 2022. £153,000 has been spent on Lossiemouth bridge replacement, which has a total budget of £1,800,000. A total budget allocation of £92,000 is available for non network bridges and this is projected to be spent by 31 March 2022.

Flood Risk Management & Coastal Protection - The Scheme at Forres (River Findhorn and Pilmuir) is operational but there are compensation claims that need to be agreed before this budget can be closed and £163,500 expenditure has occurred so far this year.

Harbours replacement of life expired elements and upgrades - works to replace Findochty pontoons have been delayed due to COVID and the Marine Licence application process. The installation of the pontoons is now programmed to start mid September 2021, with a total budget of £600,000. Work to repair the inner basin at Portknockie and the sheet piles at Burghead carried over from last year are now complete with an actual spend of £186,000, the total budget for this work was £652,000. The contract to replace the timber piles at Cullen Harbour has been awarded and works are programmed to start in September 2021. This work has a total budget of £200,000, which is projected to be spent by 31 March 2022.



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: MARINE SAFETY Q1 2021-2022

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee with regard to matters of Marine Safety and compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) for the first quarter of 2021/22.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (para 9 of the minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **Committee is asked to consider and note the safety performance, fulfilling their function as Duty Holder under the Port Marine Safety Code.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A report was submitted to the meeting of the Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee on the 20 March 2018, with the subject Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC).
- 3.2 Paragraph 6 of the minute of that meeting instructs officers to report quarterly to this Committee, as the Duty Holder, on matters of marine safety.

4. COMMITMENT TO THE PMSC

- 4.1 Moray Council, in its capacity as a Statutory Harbour Authority, is committed to undertaking and regulating marine operations to safeguard all its harbour areas, the users, the public and the environment.

- 4.2 The aim of the harbour team is to manage operations safely, efficiently, sustainably and as a benefit to all of the users and wider communities.
- 4.3 The team are committed to:
- a) full compliance with all legal requirements in harbour operations while seeking to meet the changing needs of all harbour users.
 - b) ensuring that all personnel are well trained, engaged and committed to improving safety in all processes. Competent skilled personnel backed by an active safety culture are key to a positive safety record.
 - c) undertaking hazard identification and risk assessments when required and implementing improvement measures where necessary.
- 4.4 The team expect that all harbour users recognise the effect that they can have on the harbours operation and reputation and must work to our standards as a minimum. A Permit to Work system is in place to maintain control over hazardous work. The team will ensure that any contractors or others management systems fully support the same commitment to health, safety and environmental performance.

5. VESSEL MOVEMENTS

- 5.1 In the first quarter of 2021/22 there were 23 cargo movements (arrival and departure) at Buckie. This included 14 acts of pilotage, 9 in and 5 out, with 1 of the operations being during the hours of darkness.
- 5.2 There were 6 imports of Malt and 1 of soya. There was also 1 vessel which discharged several large heavy components for the Blackhillock power station which were transported from Buckie. There were 2 ships in to collect fabricated items from Forsyth's yard including distillation and offshore oil items.
- 5.3 There was an inconsistent level of fish landings during Q1 with a moderate density of traffic using Burghead and Buckie as some vessel owners remain on Furlough and lower prices for prawns decreased the economic viability of smaller trawlers working at this time. This level of inconsistency had improved toward the end of the quarter with numbers increasing and some larger trawlers visiting for short landings. Within the smaller harbours and the creel boat market sparse numbers of crabs and lobsters during the last quarter have resulted in lower landing numbers.
- 5.4 Vessels continued to arrive consistently at Buckie for maintenance work at Macduff Shipyards including fish farm vessels, small ferries and various fishing boats. The shipyard have kept a steady amount of work coming through the harbour and during the quarter they launched their latest new fishing boat which is now being fitted out on pier 4.

6. CONSERVANCY

- 6.1 Dredging started at the beginning of May with the focus being the channel at Buckie and the entrance of Burghead. The channel at Buckie was cleared to

2.1m and a relevant notice to mariners was shared with harbour users. The next stage is to continue dredging the south west area of the channel to achieve a navigable channel with water depth of 2.5 m below chart datum by September. In Burghead the plan involves tackling the sand bank situated to the west of the harbour entrance producing a good navigation corridor into the harbour entrance.

- 6.2 Several digs were carried out in Findochty but due to the levels and the lack of under keel clearance Selkie was not able to work in the area of the new pontoons until more digging had been carried out. Due to dredging licence limits the amount of spoil that could be moved was limited therefore it was decided that land dredging was a viable option to maximise the benefits of the dredging.
- 6.3 The dredging was carried out with land based equipment to remove spoil from the inner basin to the outer basin. This allowed Selkie to access it and remove to spoil grounds offshore. Strath Civil completed the job to a high standard as can be seen by the additional water in the harbour at low tide. There remains some spoil still, which, was put to the outer basin to be moved. This will be removed in due course by Selkie as part of the overall dredging plans.
- 6.4 Due to the positioning of Selkie while removing the spoil the west and east piers had to be closed to the general public. This was due to members of the public jumping into the prop wash from the quayside and was a matter of health and safety to avoid potential injuries.
- 6.5 The priority areas for dredging remain Burghead (sand bank approaching harbour entrance) and Buckie (entrance channel). Other dredging requirements include:
 - Findochty: when tides allow go in and remove the rest of the spoil and maximise the dredging allowance.
 - Hopeman: When dredging in Burghead over the spring tides if the weather is suitable Selkie will go to Hopeman.
 - Cullen: removal of sand from the beach side of the basin.
 - Portknockie: no major issues at this time.

7. GENERAL SAFETY MATTERS

Buckie

- 7.1 Multiple areas including pontoon walkways and quayside cleaned and treated with algae cleaner. This maintains the materials ensuring more stable structures and reduces trip and slip hazards.
- 7.2 Several electrical issues identified and rectified with some additional repairs to the protection cupboards.
- 7.3 North pier gate had to be closed due to damage to the pier surface making it unsafe to walk or drive on. Access for work purposes is still allowed with

harbour staff briefing those requiring access of the hazards. Repair works are being commissioned and are anticipated to be completed by the end of October.

- 7.4 Rope ladder building continued as and when time allowed providing better and safer access.
- 7.5 Coxswain and pilot training continues increasing resilience which will improve safety and efficiency of the harbour allowing increased pilot knowledge and skills as well as less workload for individuals.
- 7.6 Exercises were carried out with the RNLI including a deadship towing exercise with the pilot vessel. This exercise helped to improve response to breakdowns in the coastal waters and around the harbour as well as improving communication and collaboration between the Harbour and the RNLI station.

Burghead

- 7.7 Pressure washing and algae treatment carried out throughout the quarter. This was focussed on the quayside and around chill and ice machine areas reducing slip hazards for users.
- 7.8 Control of weeds was also managed by staff by mechanical and chemical means fully controlled by COSHH and risk assessment. This provided clearer access both at the quayside for boat owners reducing trip risks as well as in general for public use on footways again reducing trip hazards. The control of weeds also ensures management of the quay and pier structure ensuring that root encroachment does not progress potentially leading to stresses and cracks in walkways piers and quays.
- 7.9 Several issues with general public jumping in the harbour for recreation activities. Discussions held with individuals on how unsafe this can be. This is difficult to manage as the general public attitude is that harbours are free to use for leisure regardless of the potential consequences. This links to the new work on water safety being done collaboratively with coastal partners (see Para 10 below).

Hopeman

- 7.10 The rope ladder project of replacement continued and is nearing completion with only a few left to change over. This provides safer access to the basin from the quays for harbour users.
- 7.11 Rescue ladders were fitted to the pontoons providing extra means of access and or escape from the pontoons and water.

Findochty

- 7.12 Life ring holder was moved from a standalone position at the road side where it was in a position of remote access to a safer location away from road traffic where it is better protected and next to existing harbour amenities making it easier to locate.

- 7.13 Ladder handrails fitted provide additional support and safety points of contact for users.
- 7.14 Old pontoon anchor chains and moorings which could provide a navigational hazard were removed from the harbour basin.

Portknockie

- 7.15 Planned Capital works were near completion which included the reinforcement of the North Pier ensuring increased protection from wind/wave erosion thus improving safety for users of the pier. Handrails will be reinstated in the coming few weeks to complete this project.
- 7.16 Work carried out on the pontoons securing fingers in place.
- 7.17 Cleaned and treated the slip with algicide ensuring slip hazard removed and the structure of the slipway is protected from erosion as algae encroaches.
- 7.18 Replaced life ring holder at paddling pool which had been removed ensuring the paddling pool area was safe to use given its popularity and time of year this was critical. The circumstances regarding the removal of the life ring are unknown and this appears to have been an act of vandalism.

Cullen

- 7.19 No major safety issues or updates to be reported.

8. INCIDENT STATISTICS

Injuries:

- 8.1 There were no injuries to harbour staff during the quarter.
- 8.2 There was 1 reported injury to a crew member of a fishing vessel which occurred during an incident outlined below.

Incidents:

- 8.3 There were 2 groundings in the channel of Buckie harbour, 1 in May and 1 in June.
- 8.4 The first incident occurred when a tug taking out a barge had not factored in the pressure variation on the tide. Unfortunately even with a passage plan taking into account tide and weather and a reporting of draft and under-keel clearance considerations due to unusually high pressure this had the effect of pressing down on the tide lowering the available water. The master waited a short time and once floating again continued to make his way out with no other issues.
- 8.5 The second grounding occurred during extremely low visibility below 100m with a relatively unfamiliar watchman on duty. The vessel made the approach without confirmation of the depth in the channel either confirmed or agreed.

This lack of formal communication contributed to the grounding as the vessel chose to enter the harbour without confirmation of available water depth.

- 8.6 While waiting to float again an incident occurred in which a crew member of the vessel was injured by a grapple hook being used as an attempt to aid the grounded vessel.
- 8.7 Due to these groundings and the resulting injury as well as another groundings in December of last year it was felt prudent to ask the designated person (Marex Marine) to carry out an external investigation on our behalf.
- 8.8 This was carried out with several action items identified. The main one is a change in the ' communication with vessels when calling to enter or depart: it is now mandatory to confirm the vessels draft and inform them of the depth in the channel so they can make the decision on whether it is safe for them to continue. This protocol is logged and all harbour assistants and watchmen have signed a document agreeing with the new reporting procedure.
- 8.9 A new system of checklists to ensure documentation of communications between vessels and the harbour staff has been put in place for arrivals and departures.

Near Misses:

- 8.10 None.

9. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Pilotage

- 9.1 Pilotage is not compulsory at Buckie harbour, and therefore not all cargo movements require the services of a pilot. The number of pilotage acts carried out in the first quarter of 2021/22 was 14, in relation to 11 vessel movements in and out of the harbour.

Aids to Navigation

- 9.2 As a Local Lighthouse Authority, Moray Council is required to report the availability of all its navigational lights to the Northern Lighthouse Board in March of each year. The following table gives the detail that is reported on an annual basis. This is the table submitted in March 2020.

Table 1: Availability of Navigation Lights

IALA Category	No Of Aids	Total Hours	No Of Failures	OOS Hours	MTTR	MTBF	Availability	Target Availability
Moray Council								
CAT 1	1	26,304	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	100.00 %	99.80 %
CAT 2	15	394,560	4	26403:25	6600:51	92039:09	93.31 %	99.00 %
CAT 3	4	105,216	1	18350:00	18350:00	86866:00	82.56 %	97.00 %
No Category	0	0	0	0:00	0:00	0:00	0.00 %	0.00 %
Totals	20							

Key to headings:

IALA International Association of Marine Aids to the Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities
OOS hours Out of service
MTTR Mean Time To Repair
MTBF Mean Time Between Failures

9.3 The low Availability shown in Table 1 for the Cat 2 and 3 lights was principally due to the old and unreliable lights at Cullen and Portknockie. These have now been replaced with new solar units.

9.4 Table 2 lists all the navigation aids currently managed by the Council. There is only one Category 1 light, which is located on the West Mucks at Buckie harbour, principally to aid cargo vessel movements. There are eleven Category 2 lights and four Category 3 lights of which two are unlit beacons.

Table 2: Moray Council - Aids to Navigation						
ALLFS No.	AtoN No.	Aton Name	Aton Type	Character	Range	IALA Cat
A3396.1	3396.1	Buckie Harbour. Cliff Terrace.	Sector Light	Iso WG 2s	16	CAT 2
A3394	3394	Buckie Harbour. N Pier. Lts in line 096. Rear. 60m from front	Leading Light	Oc R 10s	15	CAT 2
A3392	3392	Buckie Harbour. North Pier Lts in Line 096. Front	Leading Light	2 F R(vert)	9	CAT 2
A3396	3396	Buckie Harbour. W Pier. Elbow	Light	2 F G(vert)	4	CAT 2
A3391	3391	Buckie Harbour. West Muck	Light	Q R	7	CAT 1
A3429.	3429.	Burghead Harbour. Entrance Groyne	Light	Fl G 5s	1	CAT 2
A3428.5		Burghead Harbour. Fishing Transit Light	Light	FG	1	CAT 3
A3424	3424	Burghead Harbour. N Pier. Head	Light	Oc W 8s	5	CAT 2
A3428	3428	Burghead Harbour. S Pier. Head	Light	Q G	5	CAT 2
A3426	3426	Burghead Harbour. Spur. Head	Light	Q R	5	CAT 2
	3383U	Cullen Harbour. North Pier.	Unlit Beacon			CAT 3
A3372	3372	Cullen Harbour. Outer Basin.	Light	Fl G	2	CAT 3

A3385	3385	Findochty. Ldg Lts 166deg. Front.	Leading Light	F R	3	CAT 2
A3385.1	3385.1	Findochty. Ldg Lts. Rear. Harbour Road. 30m from front	Leading Light	F R	3	CAT 2
	3386U	Findochty. West Pier	Unlit Beacon			CAT 3
A3418.1	3418.1	Hopeman Harbour. Ldg Lts 081deg. Rear. 10m from Front	Leading Light	F R	4	CAT 2
A3418	3418	Hopeman Harbour. N Quay. Elbow. Ldg Lts 081deg.Front	Leading Light	F R	4	CAT 2
A3416	3416	Hopeman Harbour. W Pier. Head	Light	Oc G 4s	4	CAT 2
A3382.1	3382.1	Portknockie Harbour. Ldg Lts 150 30' (Rear)	Leading Light	Fl G	2	CAT 2
A3382.	3382.	Portknockie Harbour. Ldg Lts. 150 30' (Front)	Leading Light	Fl G	2	CAT 2

- 9.5 Local Lighthouse Authorities are required to manage their Aids to Navigation within international guidelines as determined by the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA). Aids to Navigation (AtoN) are categorised according to their navigational importance with their 'availability' requirements reflecting this:

Availability	Objective	Definition
Category 1	99.8%	AtoN considered to be of primary navigational significance
Category 2	99.0%	AtoN considered to be of navigational significance
Category 3	97.0%	AtoN considered to be of less navigational significance

- 9.6 The 'Availability Objective' is calculated over a rolling 3-year period. This means that over this period a Cat 1 AtoN needs to be functional for 99.8% of the time.

10. **GENERAL COMMENTARY**

Water safety

- 10.1 In May there began to be an increase in the numbers of people using the harbours for watersports activities including swimming, paddle boarding and kayaking.
- 10.2 The increased traffic in the harbours has caused a concern among regular harbour users as there are instances where vessels, particularly non-motorised vessels, do not comply with the conventions around navigation within harbours.
- 10.3 As we move into summer there are increasing number of leisure and non-motorised users in the harbour environment, increasing the levels of concern. Harbour staff have been educating people whenever possible in relation to the risks in and around the working harbours, however it is unfortunate that sometimes this information is ignored or worse staff are verbally abused.

- 10.4 The harbourmaster has made contact with the coastguard officer and lifeboat coxswain to consider a multi-agency approach to water safety. The discussion progressed to a liaison with RNLI Water Safety Lead for Scotland who in turn made contact with the harbourmaster with some suggestions.
- 10.5 With the Harbourmaster as lead there has since formed a water safety group comprising of the RNLI, MCA, Fire Brigade, water sports companies, fishermen, harbour staff and users and other council staff who work in or around water.
- 10.6 This initiative is not just coastal focussed, it also includes all inland water areas in Moray.
- 10.7 A Water Safety Group has been formed, with the first meeting programmed early in Q2 (July 2021). The remit for the group will be to discuss various safety issues and look to improve all aspects of water safety.
- 10.8 Education will be the key focus and both the RNLI and MCA will help to promote the initiative with plans for school visits and visits to other organisations and events.

Signage

- 10.9 There has been a full audit identifying new signs required around the harbours including, 4 signs to restrict general access to the pontoons as well as general harbour operations signs designating visitor berths, operational speed restrictions in the harbours warnings and keep slipway clear signs.

11. FUTURE OBJECTIVES AND PLANS

11.1 Objectives identified for 2021 and beyond include the following:

- Review of the Safety Management System: the SMS is currently under routine review and a revised SMS will be presented to a future meeting of this committee this will include emergency response and preparedness review, full risk assessment and health and safety reviewing and updating.
- Monitor consistent incident reporting, including potential incidents.
- Implement new KPIs.
- Undertake further reviews of Marine Policy, SMS and training requirements.
- Maintain momentum of Pilot training and accreditation.

12. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Sustainable harbours maintained to operate safely and efficiently contribute to the economic development of Moray.

(b) Policy and Legal

Non-compliance with the Code will have legal implications.

(c) Financial implications

Non-compliance of the Code may have financial implications.

(d) Risk Implications

Prosecution of the authority may result from the failure to comply with the Port Marine Safety Code.

(e) Staffing Implications

No staffing implications arise from this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no specific equalities matters, however, the Equalities Officer has been consulted and comments incorporated into this report.

(h) Consultations

The Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), Legal Services Manager, Principal Accountant, Committee Services Officer (L Rowan), and Equalities Officer have all been consulted and their comments incorporated into this report.

13. CONCLUSION

13.1 The Council is currently deemed to be compliant with the PMSC, however, work to maintain a safe environment remains an ongoing matter in an operating environment.

Author of Report: Stuart Akass, Harbours Development and Operations Manager

Background Papers:

Ref: SPMAN-524642768-481



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: FREE AFTER 3

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the opportunity to provide a Free After 3 parking promotion in December 2021.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 Committee is asked to consider and agree:

- (i) the provision of 'Free After 3' parking in the St Giles Centre Multi Storey Car Park from the switching on of the Christmas lights to Saturday 1 January 2022 (inclusive); and
- (ii) giving delegated authority to the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services to implement Free After 3 for future years as outlined in this report unless Officers consider that circumstances have changed which would then prompt a report to this Committee for reconsideration.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 For the last six years the Council has offered free parking in certain car parks after 3pm in the run up to Christmas.
- 3.2 The initial trial in 2015 was for an extended period of 6 months starting in June 2015. In 2015 the parking ticket machines were altered to issue a nil-value ticket so the quantum of use could be assessed.
- 3.3 Following the first year the findings of officers was that the scheme did not generate sufficient economic benefits to offset the financial impact to the Council to warrant maintaining the scheme on a permanent basis (report to Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee on 8 March 2016, para 9 of the minute refers).

- 3.4 An evaluation report by Elgin Business Improvement District in 2016 gave only three quantitative examples of impact on either footfall or transactions, which did not incorporate other factors that could impact on footfall, such as weather or annual economic growth / decline. It was, however, clear from the evaluation report that the campaign was positively received. At the time the occupancy of the car parks in the scheme increased, however, occupancy of car parks not included in the scheme decreased.
- 3.5 For the last five years the car park ticket machines have not been reprogrammed in order to mitigate the cost of the scheme. This means that there is no data available to demonstrate the financial impact of 'Free After 3'. Based on the 2015 scheme, there was a direct cost to Council in relation to loss of car parking income up to £2,500. As the decision was taken in 2016 to minimise costs by not reprogramming the ticket machines, this can only be an estimate.
- 3.6 In line with previous years and given the financial impact, it is recommended that the scheme is promoted for the St Giles Multi Storey Car Park only.
- 3.7 It is recommended that the Free After 3 campaign is introduced from the switching on of the Christmas lights to Saturday 1 January 2022 (inclusive).

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**
The proposals relate to the Corporate Plan priority of Sustainable Economic Development by promoting and developing infrastructure.
- (b) **Policy and Legal**
There are no policy or legal implications.
- (c) **Financial implications**
If the additional spend (loss of income) recommended in this report is approved, this will increase the savings targets by up to £2,500. While in isolation these figures may not be significant, the cumulative impact of all new pressures will require to be taken into account for future years. If the committee recommends additional budget to be allocated this recommendation will be considered in the next quarterly budget monitoring report in the context of the current overall financial position of the council and in particular in the overall context of spend beyond affordable limits that impinges on the Council's reserves policy position.
- (d) **Risk Implications**
There are no material risks in relation to this proposal.
- (e) **Staffing Implications**
There are no staffing implications arising from this report.
- (f) **Property**
There are no property implications.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities implications and no material socio-economic impacts.

(h) Consultations

The Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), Legal Services Manager, Equalities Officer, Principal Accountant (P Connor), and Committee Services Officer (L Rowan) have been consulted and their comments incorporated into this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Committee is asked to consider a Free After 3 promotion for 2021 restricted to St Giles Multi storey carpark, and for future years.

Author of Report: Nicola Moss, Transportation Manager
Background Papers:
Ref: SPMAN-524642768-479



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND PLANS

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the proposed response to the consultation on the Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans for Cycle 2 and Flood Risk Management funding issues.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this Committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (para 9 of the minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Committee agree:

- (i) the proposed consultation response on the draft Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans for Cycle 2; and**
- (ii) to note the position on grant funding for Flood Protection Schemes planned for Cycle 2.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At a meeting of the Committee on 1 December 2020, it was agreed that Moray Council would publish the draft Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District for consultation on 21 March 2021. It was also agreed that officers would be granted delegated powers to respond to the Flood Risk Management Strategies in December 2020 and March 2021 (paragraph 20 of the minute refers).

- 3.2 On 21 December 2020 SEPA published high level data on the Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) and Objective Target Areas (OTAs) for each Local Plan District (LPD). This publication was for information only and there was no mechanism to make representation.
- 3.3 The second part of the consultation was programmed for publication on 21 March 2021. This part of the consultation contains details of the Objectives and Actions that will be undertaken in the PVAs and OTAs. On 24 December 2020 SEPA was subject to a cyber-attack, which left it without access to its computer network, data and files for several months. A consequence of the attack was the planned publication of the second part of the consultation was delayed until 31 July 2021.
- 3.4 There are a total of 10 PVAs in the Moray area, 8 are in the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside LPD (Burghead to Lossiemouth, Spynie, Lhanbryde, Kingston and Garmouth, Elgin, Forres, Dallas, and Rothes and Aberlour) for which Moray Council is the Lead Local Authority and 2 are in the North East LPD (Portgordon and Buckie, and Keith and Newmill) for which Aberdeenshire Council is the Lead Local Authority.
- 3.5 The Strategies and Plans include Actions that cover the whole LPD and Actions that are specific to the PVAs. Full copies of the Strategies and Plans can be accessed at https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/frmplans/consult_view/.
- 3.6 Actions identified for the whole LPD include flood assessment, mapping and warning; awareness raising; land use planning and maintenance. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. Details of these actions are provided in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.7 Actions identified in the PVAs generally include maintenance of flood schemes, adaptation planning, assessment of sewer flooding and mapping improvements. Flood Protection Schemes have been identified at Lossiemouth Seatown and Portessie. Surface Water Management works have been identified for Elgin, Rothes and Aberlour, and Buckie. Details of all of the Actions identified for the PVAs in Moray are provided in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.8 The consultation on the Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans started on 31 July 2021 and will close on 31 October 2021. This is an online consultation that can be accessed at https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/frmplans/consult_view/.
- 3.9 Moray Council officers have drafted a response to the consultation, which is provided in **Appendix 3**. The response is generally in agreement with the contents of the Strategies and Plans but does make the following comments.
- Advice is provided on the increased flood frequency at Garmouth, which was not available at the time of drafting the Strategies and Plans.
 - Advice is provided on the outcome of the updated flood modelling for the Schemes at Lhanbryde and Forres.

- Confirmation that no Flood Protection Schemes will be progressed in Moray until funding for Cycle 2 has been agreed with Scottish Government and COSLA.
- Advice on the potential impact of the A96 Dualling on Flood Risk in Moray.

Funding

- 3.10 Flood Protection Schemes identified in the Strategies and Plans are subject to prioritisation for grant funding from Scottish Government. In Cycle 1 (2016 to 2022) the available funding matched demand. When funding was first allocated some of the proposed Schemes were at a very early stage of development. As these Schemes were developed the estimated costs increased.
- 3.11 On 4 December 2018, at a meeting of Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee, members were advised that Scottish Government had extended the funding period for Cycle 1 until 2026, to cover the increase in cost of Schemes for this Cycle. This extension would use money that would have been available to fund Schemes in Cycle 2, (para 11 of the minute and section 3.9 of the report refers).
- 3.12 Since 2018, the costs for some of the Schemes in Cycle 1 have increased further. Scottish Government has increased the funding available for the Schemes planned for Cycle 1 but there is still a significant funding gap. COSLA is currently considering how to manage this situation and should be in a position to advise how this will affect funding for Schemes planned for Cycle 2 towards the end of August 2021.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Flood Risk Management is a key priority in the 10 year plan “Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray.”

(b) Policy and Legal

Under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, the Council has a statutory duty to implement the Actions from the Local Flood Risk Management Plans. The Council can do works not included in the Plans that will manage flood risk, provided it does not affect the delivery of those Actions in the Plan.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

(d) Risk Implications

There is a risk that the flood protection works planned for Cycle 2 could be delayed because of funding issues associated with the increased cost of Schemes committed to in Cycle 1.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications associated with this report

(f) Property

There are no property implications associated with this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

(h) Consultations

Depute Chief Executive (Economy Environment & Finance), Head of Economic Growth & Development, Chief Financial Officer, Legal Services Manager and Lissa Rowan, Committee Services Officer have been consulted and their comments incorporated into the report.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The statutory consultation on the Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans for Cycle 2 opened on 31 July 2021 and will close on 31 October 2021.

5.2 Moray Council will submit a response to this consultation, subject to agreement by this Committee.

5.3 Funding issues associated with the Flood Protection Schemes committed to in Cycle 1 may impact on the grant funding available for Schemes planned for Cycle 2.

Author of Report: Debbie Halliday, Consultancy Manager
Background Papers:
Ref: SPMAN-524642768-476



Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District (LPD 5)

Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028

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If you wish to post your comments, please mark them for the attention of FRM consultation and send them to:

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ML1 4WQ

This document has been produced in collaboration with:



Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District (LPD 5) Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028



The Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District covers an area of around 4,800km² and has a population of approximately 100,000 people. It includes the low-lying coastal areas around Nairn and Lossiemouth in the north and the steeper, more rugged landscape of the Cairngorms National Park in the south.

The area is largely rural with the main land cover including heather grassland, bog, coniferous woodland and agricultural land. The main rivers are the River Spey, the River Findhorn and the River Nairn. The coastline is approximately 70km long and includes rocky shorelines and extensive beaches.

There is river, surface water and coastal flood risk in the Local Plan District, with the main risk coming from river and surface water flooding. The area has been affected by several large floods. In December 2012 a storm led to coastal flooding in Lossiemouth and Kingston and in August 2018 ex-hurricane Bertha caused widespread river flooding with Elgin and Dallas particularly affected.

Currently it is estimated that there are 11,000 people and 7,300 homes and businesses at risk from flooding. This is estimated to increase to 15,000 people and 9,900 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change. The annual cost of flooding is approximately £8.2 million. Note however that flooding from wave overtopping is not fully represented in the assessment of flood risk and the impact of coastal flooding may be underestimated.

SEPA lead development of the Flood Risk Management Strategies for Scotland and delivery of flood warning services. Local flood risk management planning is led by The Moray Council who is the lead authority. Other responsible authorities include The Highland Council, Cairngorms National Park Authority and Scottish Water. They are supported by

Scottish Government agencies including Forestry and Land Scotland, Scottish Forestry and Transport Scotland.

Within this Local Plan District, actions are regularly carried out by SEPA and responsible authorities to help prepare communities for potential flooding and reduce the impact of any flooding that does occur.

Actions across the Local Plan District

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas of the Local Plan District which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. The following actions are due to take place over the next six years, and most of these are carried out on an ongoing basis.

	Awareness raising
Action	<p>SEPA the responsible authorities and other organisations such as the Scottish Flood Forum work together to help communities understand the risk of flooding and what actions individuals can take through national and local initiatives. Improved awareness of flood risk and actions that prepare individuals, homes and businesses for flooding can reduce the overall impact of flooding.</p> <p>Local authorities undertake additional awareness raising activities when developing any specific project proposals and will engage with community resilience groups and local communities.</p> <p>Scottish Flood Forum support flood risk communities by raising community awareness, promoting self-help, developing community groups and establish a recovery support programme after a flood.</p>

Emergency response and plans	
Action	<p>Many organisations, including local authorities, the emergency services and SEPA provide an emergency response to flooding. Emergency plans are prepared and maintained under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 by Category 1 and 2 Responders and are coordinated through regional and local resilience partnerships, often supported by voluntary organisations. They set out the steps to be taken to maximise safety and minimise impacts during flooding. Emergency plans may also be prepared by individuals, businesses, organisations or communities. Scottish Water is a Category 2 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and will support regional and local resilience partnerships as required.</p>

Flood forecasting	
Action	<p>The Scottish Flood Forecasting Service is a partnership between SEPA and the Met Office. The service continues to produce a daily, national flood guidance statement, issued to emergency responders, local authorities and other organisations with flood risk management duties. As the flood warning authority for Scotland SEPA continues to provide its flood warning service issuing flood alerts and warnings when required, giving people a better chance of reducing the impact of flooding on their home or business.</p>

Flood Warning Development Framework	
Action	<p>SEPA will publish a new Flood Warning Development Framework by March 2022, which will detail its ambitions and strategic actions to maintain and improve our flood warning service across Scotland.</p> <p>SEPA will continue to develop the Scottish Flood Forecast, a 3 day forecast of flood risk across Scotland and bring together all live information such as flood warnings, river levels and rainfall data into a central hub easily accessible for the public.</p> <p>Working in close partnership with the Met Office through the Scottish Flood Forecasting Service, SEPA will develop its capability in surface water flooding forecasting, focusing initially on the transport sector to support climate-ready infrastructure. SEPA will also undertake a prioritised improvement programme of existing river and coastal flood warning schemes to provide more accurate forecast with improved lead time.</p>

	Guidance development
Action	<p>The Scottish Government and SEPA will develop and update guidance to inform flood risk management projects. This guidance will be produced by June 2022 and will look at how best to adapt to the long-term impacts of climate change and the most appropriate methods of assessing the benefits of flood risk management actions.</p> <p>Technical guidance to support flood risk management partners will also be reviewed and updated by SEPA where required.</p>

	Hazard mapping updates
Action	<p>An understanding of flooding is essential to develop a plan led risk-based approach to flood risk management. SEPA will continue to update their national hazard mapping, which shows the likelihood of flooding in Scotland from different flooding sources. (Flood Maps link) SEPA will continue to develop the hazard mapping viewer to make it easier for the public, partners and stakeholders to access data on the likelihood of flooding.</p>

	Land use planning
Action	<p>National planning policies set out the Scottish Ministers' priorities for the operation of the planning system and for the development and use of land. Under this approach, new development in areas with medium to high likelihood of flooding should generally be avoided. Current national planning policies, the Scottish Planning Policy and accompanying Planning Advice notes restrict development within the floodplain and limit exposure of new receptors to flood risk. Local planning policies may place further requirements within their area of operation to restrict inappropriate development and prevent unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Local authorities, SEPA and Scottish Water all have a role to support sustainable development.</p>

	Maintenance
Action	<p>Local authorities have a duty to assess bodies of water and to carry out clearance and repair works where such works would substantially reduce flood risk. Local authorities are also responsible for the drainage of roads. In addition, local authorities may also be responsible for maintenance of any existing flood protection schemes or works.</p> <p>Scottish Water will continue to undertake risk-based inspection, maintenance and repair on the public sewer network.</p> <p>Asset owners and riparian landowners are responsible for the maintenance and management of their own assets including those which help to reduce flood risk.</p>

	Natural flood management mapping
Action	SEPA will review and update the opportunities mapping for natural flood management. This work will focus on the suburban environment and look at linking blue-green infrastructure with the surrounding natural catchment. Natural flood management seeks to store or slow down flood waters through measures such as the planting of woodlands, wetland creation, river restoration, or the creation of intertidal habitats. In addition to flooding benefits, natural flood management measures can also provide many additional benefits to biodiversity, water quality and recreation.

	National flood risk assessment
Action	Understanding the future impacts of climate change remains a central theme of SEPA's flood risk management activity. SEPA will use the latest UK information on climate change to support an improved understanding of the changes in flood risk across the 21 st century. SEPA will use the most suitable data to develop the National Flood Risk Assessment 2024. This assessment will be used to identify future Potentially Vulnerable Areas.

	National surface water mapping
Action	The National Flood Risk Assessment 2018 identified that surface water flooding has the potential to impact more properties in Scotland than any other source of flooding. Over the next six-year cycle SEPA will look to vastly improve its national understanding of surface flood risk by undertaking a wholesale update of the national surface water maps to reflect developments in data and understanding, including the impact of climate change.

	Reservoirs
Action	SEPA will continue to develop its assessment of flood risk from dam failure and use these assessments to direct a proportionate regulatory approach to ensure reservoir safety. Over the next management cycle we will implement further developments of our flood warning capabilities in the unlikely event of reservoir failure.

	Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database
Action	We are in a global climate emergency. The evidence is clear. In Scotland one of the main impacts of climate change will be increased flooding. SEPA will push forward the development of adaptation planning within Scotland. This work will start by reviewing and developing our understand of how and when Scotland's flood defence assets can be adapted to continue to provide vital protection from flooding in the future.

	Self help
Action	<p>Everyone is responsible for protecting themselves and their property from flooding. Property and business owners can take simple steps to reduce damage and disruption to their homes and businesses should flooding happen. This includes preparing a flood plan and flood kit, installing property flood resilience measures, signing up to Floodline, engaging with their local flood group, and ensuring that properties and businesses are insured against flood damage.</p> <p>Responsible authorities and SEPA will continue to develop the understanding of flood risk to communities and promote measures to help individuals and businesses to reduce their risk.</p>

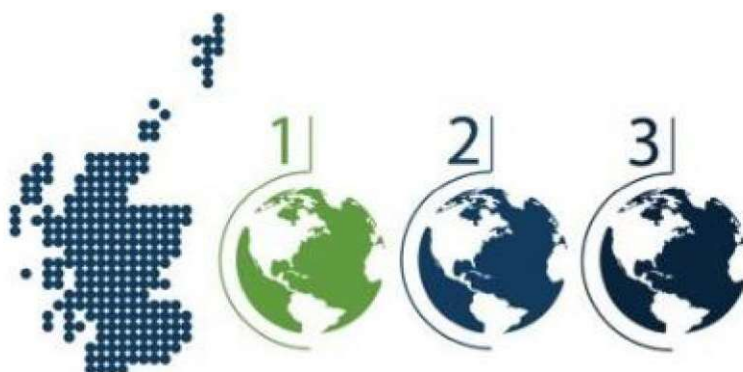


North East Local Plan District (LPD 6)

Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028

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This document has been produced in collaboration with:

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL



CAIRNGORMS
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
ÙGH DARRAS PÀIRC NÀISEANTA A'
MHONAIDH RUAIDH



North East Local Plan District (LPD 6)

Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028

The North East Local Plan District covers an area of around 6,500km² and has a population of approximately 500,000 people. It covers part of the north-east of Scotland from the central and eastern Grampians, north to the Outer Moray Firth and east to the Aberdeenshire coastline.

Within the Cairngorms National Park, heather and montane habitats dominate. Elsewhere, land use is typically arable, horticultural farmland and improved grasslands. The main urban area is around Aberdeen City. The River Dee, River Don, River Deveron and the River Ythan are the main rivers in the area. There are a few large lochs in the area including Loch

Muick, Loch of Strathbeg, Loch of Skene and Loch Kinord. The coastline is approximately 220km in length with variable extents of beach and hard rock.

There is river, surface water and coastal flood risk in the Local Plan District, with the main risk coming from river and surface water flooding. The area has been affected by several large floods, including in December 2015 when Storm Frank caused considerable damage throughout Deeside, most notably in Ballater. Subsequent storms in January 2016 caused significant damage throughout the area including in Inverurie, Port Elphinstone, Kemnay, Kintore and Ellon. Significant flooding from the sea and from smaller watercourses and surface water has also occurred, most notably in Aberdeen and Stonehaven, with many towns and villages also affected by flooding.

Currently it is estimated that there are 51,000 people and 30,000 homes and businesses at risk from flooding. This is estimated to increase to 64,000 people and 38,000 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change. The annual cost of flooding is approximately £26 million. Note however that flooding from wave overtopping is not fully represented in the assessment of flood risk and the impact of coastal flooding may be underestimated.

SEPA lead development of the Flood Risk Management Strategies for Scotland and delivery of flood warning services. Local flood risk management planning is led by Aberdeenshire Council who is the lead authority. Other responsible authorities include Aberdeen City Council, Moray Council, Cairngorms National Park Authority and Scottish Water. They are supported by Scottish Government agencies including Forestry and Land Scotland, Scottish Forestry and Transport Scotland.

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	Hazard mapping updates
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	Maintenance
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	Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database
Action	We are in a global climate emergency. The evidence is clear. In Scotland one of the main impacts of climate change will be increased flooding. SEPA will push forward the development of adaptation planning within Scotland. This work will start by reviewing and developing our understand of how and when Scotland's flood defence assets can be adapted to continue to provide vital protection from flooding in the future.

	Self help
Action	<p>Everyone is responsible for protecting themselves and their property from flooding. Property and business owners can take simple steps to reduce damage and disruption to their homes and businesses should flooding happen. This includes preparing a flood plan and flood kit, installing property flood resilience measures, signing up to Floodline, engaging with their local flood group, and ensuring that properties and businesses are insured against flood damage.</p> <p>Responsible authorities and SEPA will continue to develop the understanding of flood risk to communities and promote measures to help individuals and businesses to reduce their risk.</p>

Flood Risk Management Glossary

July 2021

Term	Definition
Accretion	Accumulation of sediment.
Actions	Activities undertaken to reduce the impact of flooding. Actions describe where and how flood risk will be managed. These actions have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. Selection of actions to deliver the agreed objectives has been based on a detailed assessment and comparison of economic, social and environmental criteria.
Annual Average Damages (AAD)	Depending on its size or severity each flood will cause a different amount of damage to a given area. Annual Average Damages are the theoretical average economic damages caused by flooding when considered over a very long period of time. It does not mean that damage will occur every year: in many years there will be no damages, in some years minor damages and in a few years major damages may occur. High likelihood events, which occur more regularly, contribute proportionally more to AADs than rarer events. Within the Flood Risk Management Strategies AADs incorporate economic damages to the following receptors: residential properties, non-residential properties, vehicles, emergency services, agriculture and roads. They have been calculated based on the principles set out in the Flood Hazard Research Centre Multi-Coloured Handbook (2010).
Appraisal	Appraisal is the process of defining objectives, examining options and weighing up costs, benefits, risks and uncertainties before a decision is made. The FRM Strategy appraisal method is designed to set objectives and identify the most sustainable combination of actions to tackle flooding from rivers, the sea and surface water.
Appraisal baseline	Defines the existing level of flood risk under the current flood risk management regime.
Awareness raising	Public awareness, participation and community support are essential components of sustainable flood risk management. SEPA and the responsible authorities have a duty to raise public awareness of flood risk. This is undertaken both individually and collaboratively by a range of organisations. Improved awareness of flood risk and actions that prepare individuals, homes and businesses for flooding can reduce overall impact.
Bathing waters	Bathing waters are classed as protected areas under Annex IV of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). There are 84 designated bathing waters in Scotland.

Term	Definition
Benefit cost ratio (BCR)	A benefit cost ratio summarises the overall value for money of an action or project. It is expressed as the ratio of benefits to costs (both expressed as present value monetary values). A ratio of greater than 1:1 indicates that the economic benefits associated with an action are greater than the economic costs of implementation; therefore this is taken as the threshold of economic viability. It should be acknowledged that it is not always possible to accurately estimate economic values for all elements of benefit, and BCR is just one a number of techniques used in appraisal.
Blue infrastructure	Blue infrastructure is often complementary to 'green infrastructure' and includes sustainable drainage systems, swales (shallow, broad and vegetated channels designed to store and/or convey runoff and remove pollutants), wetlands, rivers, canals (and their banks) and all watercourses.
Catchment	All the land drained by a river and its tributaries.
Category 1 and 2 responders (Cat 1 / 2)	Category 1 and 2 Responders are defined as part of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 which seeks to minimise disruption in the event of an emergency. Category 1 Responders are 'core' responders: local authorities, police, fire and rescue services, ambulance service, NHS health boards, SEPA and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Category 2 Responders are key co-operating responders in support of Category 1 Responders. These include gas and electricity companies, rail and air transport operators, harbour authorities, telecommunications providers, Scottish Water, the Health and Safety Executive and NHS National Services Scotland.
Channel improvement	Where work has been carried out on the river's channel allowing an increase in the volume of water it can carry.
Characterisation	Provides a description of the natural characteristics of catchments, coastlines and urban areas in terms of hydrology, geomorphology, topography and land use. It also includes the characterisation of existing levels of flood risk and existing flood risk management activity.
Coastal flooding	Flooding that results from high sea levels or a combination of high sea levels and stormy conditions. The term coastal flooding is used under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, but in some areas it is also referred to as tidal flooding and covers areas such as estuaries and river channels that are influenced by tidal flows.
Combined sewer	Combined sewers transport sewage from homes and industry as well as carrying surface water runoff from gutters, drains and some highways. Heavy or prolonged rainfall can rapidly increase the flow in a combined sewer until the amount of water exceeds sewer capacity.
Combined sewer (overflow) (CSO)	Combined sewer overflows are purposely designed structures to ensure any excess water from sewerage systems is discharged in a controlled way and at a specific managed location.

Term	Definition
Community facility	Within the FRM Strategies this term includes: Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Coastguard, and Mountain Rescue) Educational Buildings (crèche, nursery, primary, secondary, further, higher and special education premises) Healthcare facilities: hospitals, health centres and residential care homes.
Community flood action groups	Community flood action groups are community based resilience groups which, on behalf of local residents and business, help to prepare for and minimise the effects of flooding. They reflect the interests of their local communities and may differ in composition and remit. There are over 60 groups already established in Scotland. The Scottish Flood Forum provides support for both new and existing groups.
Confluence	Where two or more rivers meet.
Conveyance	Conveyance is a measure of the carrying capacity of a watercourse. Increasing conveyance enables flow to pass more rapidly and reducing conveyance slows flow down. Both actions can be effective in managing flood risk depending on local conditions.
Cross Border Advisory Group (CBAG)	The Cross Border Advisory Group is a statutory group made up of representatives from the Environment Agency, SEPA, Scottish Water and the four lead local flood authorities located within the Solway Tweed River Basin District.
Cultural heritage site	Historic Environment Scotland maintains lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest; these buildings are referred to as 'listed buildings'. The highest level of designation is a World Heritage Site. Other designations included in this assessment are scheduled monuments, gardens and designed landscapes, and battlefields.
Culvert	A pipe, channel or tunnel used for the conveyance of a watercourse or surface drainage water under a road, railway, canal or other obstacle.
Damages	<p>Flood damages are categorised as direct or indirect i.e. as a result of the flood water itself, or subsequent knock on effects. Damage to buildings and contents caused by flood water are an example of direct damages, whilst loss of industrial production, travel disruption or stress and anxiety are indirect. Some damages can be quantified in monetary terms, and others can only be described.</p> <p>The potential damages avoided by implementation of a flood risk management action are commonly referred to as the benefits of that action. When comparing the effectiveness of different actions, it is useful to consider estimated damages and damages avoided across the lifespan of the action. Within the FRM Strategies, a 100 year appraisal period has been used as standard. This allows costs, damages and benefits across this time frame to be compared in present value terms.</p> <p>See also 'Annual Average Damages'</p>

Demountable defences	A temporary flood barrier is one that is only installed when the need arises, that is, when flooding is forecast. A demountable flood defence is a particular type of temporary defence that requires built-in parts and therefore can only be deployed in one specific location.
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Term	Definition
Deposition	A natural process leading to an accumulation of sediment on a river bed, floodplain or coastline.
Economic Impact	An assessment of the economic value of the positive and negative effects of flooding and/or the actions taken to manage floods.
Embankment	Flood embankments are engineered earthfill structures designed to contain high river levels or protect against coastal flooding. They are commonly grass-covered, but may need additional protection against erosion by swiftly flowing water, waves or overtopping.
Emergency plans / response	Emergency response plans are applicable for all types of flooding. They set out the steps to be taken during flooding in order to maximise safety and minimise impacts where possible. Under the Civil Contingencies Act, Category 1 Responders have a duty to maintain emergency plans. Emergency plans may also be prepared by individuals, businesses, organisations or communities.
Environmental Impact	A change in the environment as a result of an action or activity. Impacts can be positive or negative and may vary in significance, scale and duration.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process which identifies the potential environmental impacts, both negative and positive, of a proposal.
Environmental sites / environmental designated areas/ environmentally designated sites	Areas formally designated for environmental importance, such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).
Episodic erosion	Erosion induced by a single event, such as a storm.
Erosion	A natural process leading to the removal of sediment from a river bed, bank, floodplain or coastline.
Estuarine surge attenuation	A reduction in the wave energy caused by storm surge. Breakwaters (barriers built out into the sea to protect a coast or harbour from the force of waves) or habitats such as saltmarsh can slow down and reduce the inland impact of storm surges (the rising of the sea due to wind and atmospheric pressure changes associated with storms), thereby reducing coastal flood risk.
Estuary	A coastal body of water usually found where a river meets the sea; the part of the river that is affected by tides.
Fault (fault line)	A break or fracture in the earth's crust as a result of the displacement of one side with respect to the other. In Scotland the Great Glen Fault is a major geological fault line cutting diagonally across the Highlands from Fort William to Inverness.

Flash flood	A flood that occurs a short period of time after high intensity rainfall or a sudden snow melt. A sudden increase in the level and velocity of the water body is often characteristic of these events, leaving a short time for warning or actions.
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Term	Definition
Flashy watercourse	A 'flashy' river or watercourse has a short lag time (the delay between peak rainfall intensity and peak river discharge), high peak discharge, and quickly returns to average flow. Rivers with these characteristics can be prone to flooding and leave a short time for warning or actions.
Flood	In the terms of the FRM Act, 'flood' means a temporary covering by water, from any source, of land not normally covered by water. This does not include a flood solely from a sewerage system, as a result of normal weather or infrastructure drainage. A flood can cause significant adverse impacts on people, property and the environment.
Flood bund	A constructed retaining wall, embankment or dyke designed to protect against flooding to a specified standard of protection.
Flood defence	Infrastructure, such as flood walls and embankments, intended to protect an area against flooding, to a specified standard of protection.
Flood extent	The area that has been affected by flooding, or is at risk of flooding from one or more sources for a particular likelihood.
Flood forecasting	SEPA operates a network of over 250 rainfall, river and coastal monitoring stations throughout Scotland that generate data 24 hours a day. This hydrological information is combined with meteorological information from the Met Office. A team of experts then predict the likelihood and timing of river, coastal and surface water flooding. This joint initiative between SEPA and the Met Office forms the Scottish Flood Forecasting Service.
Flood frequency	The probability that a particular size/severity of flood will occur in a given year (see likelihood).
Flood gate	An adjustable, sometimes temporary, barrier used as a flood defence to control the flow of water within a water system or during a flood. Flood gates can also be part of operational flood defences or protect individual buildings or sites.
Flood guard	Flood guards cover a variety of types of door and window barriers that can be fitted to individual properties and operated by the owners / occupiers prior to a flood event. They act as a physical barrier to water entering the property and can provide protection against frequent and relatively shallow flooding.
Flood hazard	In terms of the FRM Act, hazard refers to the characteristics (extent, depth, velocity) of a flood.
Flood hazard map	Flood hazard maps are required by the FRM Act to show information that describes the nature of a flood in terms of the source, extent, water level or depth and, where appropriate, velocity of water. Flood hazard and risk maps are referred to collectively as flood maps and are available on the SEPA website.

Flood Prevention Scheme / Flood Protection Scheme (FPS)	A flood protection scheme, as defined by the FRM Act, is a scheme by a local authority for the management of flood risk within the authority area. This includes defence measures (flood prevention schemes) formerly promoted under the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961.
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Term	Definition
Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961	The Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961 gave local authorities discretionary powers to make and build flood prevention schemes. It was superseded by the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
Flood protection study	Flood protection studies aim to refine understanding of the hazard and risk associated with flooding in a particular area, catchment or coastline. They will involve detailed assessment of flood hazard and / or risk and may develop options for managing flood risk.
Flood protection works	Flood protection works can include the same flood defence measures that would make up a formal Flood Protection Scheme but without the legal process, protections and requirements that would come by delivering the works as a scheme.
Flood risk	A measure of the combination of the likelihood of flooding occurring and the associated impacts on people, the economy and the environment.
Flood Risk Assessment	Flood Risk Assessments are detailed studies of an area where flood risk may be present. These are often used to inform planning decisions, may help to develop flood schemes and have also contributed to the National Flood Risk Assessment.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (FRM Act)	The flood risk management legislation for Scotland. It transposes the EC Floods Directive into Scots Law and aims to reduce the adverse consequences of flooding on communities, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
Flood risk management cycle	Under the FRM Act flood risk management planning is undertaken in six year cycles. The first planning cycle is 2015 – 2021. The first delivery cycle is lagged by approximately 6 months and is from 2016/2022.
Flood Risk Management Local Advisory Groups	FRM Local Advisory Groups are stakeholder groups convened to advise SEPA and lead local authorities in the preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans. SEPA and lead local authorities must have regard to the advice they provide.
Flood Risk Management Plan (FRM Plans)	A term used in the FRM Act. FRM Plans set out the actions that will be taken to reduce flood risk in a Local Plan District. They comprise Flood Risk Management Strategies, developed by SEPA, and Local Flood Risk Management Plans produced by lead local authorities.
Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRM Strategy)	Sets out a long-term vision for the overall reduction of flood risk. They contain a summary of flood risk in each Local Plan District, together with information on catchment characteristics and a summary of objectives and actions for Potentially Vulnerable Areas.

Flood risk map	Complements the flood hazard maps published on the SEPA website providing detail on the impacts of flooding on people, the economy and the environment. Flood hazard and risk maps are referred to collectively as flood maps and are available on the SEPA website.
Flood wall	A flood defence feature used to defend an area from flood water to a specified standard of protection.
Flood Warning Area (FWA)	A Flood Warning area is where SEPA operates a formal Flood Monitoring Scheme to issue targeted Flood Warning messages for properties located in the area.

Term	Definition
Flood warning scheme	A flood warning scheme is the network of monitoring on a coastal stretch or river, which provides SEPA with the ability to issue Flood Warnings.
Floods directive	European Directive 2007/60/EC on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks builds on and is closely related to the Water Framework Directive (see river basin management planning). It was transposed into Scots Law by the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. The Directive requires Member States to assess if all watercourses and coastlines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent, assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.
Floodplain	Area of land that borders a watercourse, an estuary or the sea, over which water flows in time of flood, or would flow but for the presence of flood defences and other structures where they exist.
Floodplain storage	Floodplains naturally store water during high flows. Storage can be increased through natural or man-made features to increase flood depth or slow flows in order to reduce flooding elsewhere.
Fluvial flooding	Flooding from a river or other watercourse.
Gabion	A metal cage filled with rocks often used in river bank protection.
Green infrastructure	The European Commission defines green infrastructure as “the use of ecosystems, green spaces and water in strategic land use planning to deliver environmental and quality of life benefits. It includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, wetlands, road verges, allotments and private gardens. Green infrastructure can contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, natural disaster risk mitigation, protection against flooding and erosion as well as biodiversity conservation.” See also ‘blue infrastructure’.
Groundwater flooding	This type of flooding is caused by water rising up from underlying rocks or flowing from springs. In Scotland groundwater is generally a contributing factor to flooding rather than the primary source.
Integrated catchment study (ICS)	In urban areas, the causes of flooding are complex because of the interactions between rivers, surface water drainage and combined sewer systems and tidal waters. Scottish Water works with SEPA and local authorities to assess these interactions through detailed studies.

Land use planning (LUP)	The process undertaken by public authorities to identify, evaluate and decide on different options for the use of land, including consideration of long term economic, social and environmental objectives and the implications for different communities and interest groups.
Lead local authority	A local authority responsible for leading the production, consultation, publication and review of a Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

Term	Definition
Likelihood of flooding	<p>The chance of flooding occurring.</p> <p>High likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every ten years (1:10). Or a 10% chance of happening in any one year.</p> <p>Medium likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every two hundred years (1:200). Or a 0.5% chance of happening in any one year.</p> <p>Low likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every thousand years (1:1000). Or a 0.1% chance of happening in any one year.</p>
Local Flood Risk Management Plans (Local FRM Plan)	Local Flood Risk Management Plans, produced by lead local authorities, will take forward the objectives and actions set out in Flood Risk Management Strategies. They will provide detail on the funding, timeline of delivery, arrangements and co-ordination of actions at the local level during each six year FRM planning cycle.
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	A Local Nature Reserve is a protected area of land designated by a local authority because of its local special natural interest and / or educational value. Local authorities select and designate local nature reserves using their powers under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
Local Plan District	Geographical areas for the purposes of flood risk management planning. There are 14 of Local Plan Districts in Scotland.
Local Plan District Partnerships	Each LPD has established a local partnership comprised of local authorities, SEPA and Scottish Water and others as appropriate. These partnerships are distinct from the FRM Local Advisory Groups and they retain clear responsibility for delivery of the FRM actions set out in the Local Flood Risk Management Plans. It is the local partnership that makes decisions and supports the delivery of these plans.
Maintenance	Sections 18 and 59 of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 put duties of watercourse inspection, clearance and repair on local authorities. In addition, local authorities may also be responsible for maintenance of existing flood protection schemes or defences.
Montane habitat	This habitat encompasses a range of natural or near-natural vegetation occurring in the montane zone, lying above or beyond the natural tree-line.

National Flood Management Advisory Group (NFMAG)	The National Flood Management Advisory Group provides advice and support to SEPA and, where required, Scottish Water, local authorities and other responsible authorities on the production of FRM Strategies and Local FRM Plans.
National Flood Risk Assessment (NFRA)	A national analysis of flood risk from all sources of flooding which also considers climate change impacts. First published in December 2011 this provides the information required to undertake a strategic approach to flood management that identifies areas at flood risk that require further appraisal. The NFRA will be reviewed and updated for the second cycle of FRM Planning by December 2018.

Term	Definition
Natural flood management (NFM)	A set of flood management techniques that aim to work with natural processes (or nature) to manage flood risk.
Non-residential properties	Properties that are not used for people to live in, such as shops or other public, commercial or industrial buildings
Objectives	Objectives provide a common goal and shared ambition for managing floods. These objectives have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. They were identified through an assessment of the underlying evidence of the causes and impacts of flooding.
One in 200 year flood	See 'likelihood of flooding' and 'return period'.
Planning policies	Current national planning policies, Scottish Planning Policy and accompanying Planning Advice notes restrict development within the floodplain and limit exposure of new receptors to flood risk. In addition to national policies, local planning policies may place further requirements within their area of operation to restrict inappropriate development and prevent unacceptable risk.
Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA)	Catchments identified as being at risk of flooding and where the impact of flooding is sufficient to justify further assessment and appraisal. There were 243 PVAs identified by SEPA in the 2011 National Flood Risk Assessment and were the focus of the first FRM planning cycle. There are 233 PVAs identified for the 2018 National Flood Risk Assessment.
Property level protection	Property level protection includes flood gates, sandbags and other temporary barriers that can be used to prevent water from entering individual properties during a flood.
Property level protection scheme	Some responsible authorities may have a formal scheme to provide, install and maintain property level protection for properties.
Ramsar sites	Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention.
Receptor	Refers to the entity that may be impacted by flooding (a person, property, infrastructure or habitat). The vulnerability of a receptor can be reduced by increasing its resilience to flooding.

Residual risk	The risk which remains after risk management and mitigation. This may include risk due to very severe (above design standard) storms or risks from unforeseen hazards.
Resilience	The ability of an individual, community or system to recover from flooding.
Responsible authority	Designated under the FRM (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated legislation as local authorities, Scottish Water and, from 21 December 2013, the National Park Authorities and Forestry Commission Scotland. Responsible authorities, along with SEPA and Scottish Ministers, have specific duties in relation to their flood risk related functions.
Return period	A measure of the rarity of a flood event. It is the statistical average length of time separating flood events of a similar size. (see likelihood)

Term	Definition
Revetment	Sloping structures placed on banks or at the foot of cliffs in such a way as to deflect the energy of incoming water.
Riparian	The riparian area is the interface between land and a river or stream. For the purposes of FRM this commonly refers to the riparian owner, which denotes ownership of the land area beside a river or stream.
River basin management planning (RBMP)	The Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 transposed the European Water Framework Directive into Scots law. The Act created the River Basin Management Planning process to achieve environmental improvements to protect and improve our water environment. It also provided the framework for regulations to control the negative impacts of all activities likely to have an impact on the water environment.
Runoff reduction	Actions within a catchment or sub-catchment to reduce the amount of runoff during rainfall events. This can include intercepting rainfall, storing water, diverting flows or encouraging infiltration.
Scottish Advisory and Implementation Forum for Flooding (SAIFF)	The stakeholder forum on flooding set up by the Scottish Government to ensure legislative and policy aims are met and to provide a platform for sharing expertise and developing common aspirations and approaches to reducing the impact of flooding on Scotland's communities, environment, cultural heritage and economy.
Sediment balance	Within a river where erosion and deposition processes are equal over the medium to long-term resulting in channel dimensions (width, depth, slope) that are relatively stable.
Sediment management	Sediment management covers a wide range of activities that includes anything from the small scale removal of dry gravels to the dredging of whole river channels and the reintroduction of removed sediment into the water environment. Historically, sediment management has been carried out for several reasons, including reducing flood risk, reducing bank erosion, for use as aggregate and to improve land drainage.

Self help	Self help actions can be undertaken by any individuals, businesses, organisations or communities at risk of flooding. They are applicable to all sources, frequency and scales of flooding. They focus on awareness raising and understanding of flood risk.
Sewer flooding (and other artificial drainage system flooding)	Flooding as a result of the sewer or other artificial drainage system (e.g. road drainage) capacity being exceeded by rainfall runoff or when the drainage system cannot discharge water at the outfall due to high water levels (river and sea levels) in receiving waters.
Site protection plans	Site protection plans are developed to identify whether normal operation of a facility can be maintained during a flood. This may be due to existing protection or resilience of the facility or the network.
Shoreline management Plan (SMP)	A Shoreline Management Plan is a large scale assessment of the coastal flood and erosion risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment. It sets out a long-term framework for the management of these risks in a sustainable manner.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites of Special Scientific Interest are protected by law under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 to conserve their plants, animals and habitats, rocks and landforms

Term	Definition
Source of flooding	The type of flooding. This can be coastal, river, surface water or groundwater.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Special Areas of Conservation are strictly protected sites designated under the European Habitats Directive. The Directive requires the establishment of a European network of protected areas which are internationally important for threatened habitats and species
Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Special Protection Areas are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with the European Birds Directive. They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds (as listed in the Directive), and for regularly occurring migratory species
Standard of protection (SoP)	All flood protection structures are designed to be effective up to a specified flood likelihood (Standard of Protection). For events beyond this standard, flooding will occur. The chosen Standard of Protection will determine the required defence height and / or capacity.
Storage area	A feature that can be used to store floodwater, this can be natural in the form of low lying land or manmade such as a reservoir or modified landform.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A process for the early identification and assessment of the likely significant environmental effects, positive and negative, of activities. Often considered before actions are approved or adopted.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is designed for the purposes of specifically informing the Development Plan Process. A SFRA involves the collection, analysis and presentation of all existing and readily available flood risk information (from any source) for the area of interest. It constitutes a strategic overview of flood risk.

Strategic mapping and modelling	Strategic mapping and modelling actions have been identified in locations where SEPA is planning to undertake additional modelling or analysis of catchments and coastlines, working collaboratively with local authorities where appropriate, to improve the national understanding of flood risk.
Surcharge	Watercourses and culverts can carry a limited amount of water. When they can no longer cope, they overflow, or 'surcharge'.
Surface water flooding	Flooding that occurs when rainwater does not drain away through the normal drainage systems or soak into the ground, but lies on or flows over the ground instead
Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)	A plan that takes an integrated approach to drainage accounting for all aspects of urban drainage systems and produces long term and sustainable actions. The aim is to ensure that during a flood the flows created can be managed in a way that will cause minimum harm to people, buildings, the environment and business.
Surface water plan / study	The management of flooding from surface water sewers, drains, small watercourses and ditches that occurs, primarily in urban areas, during heavy rainfall. FRM Strategy actions in this category include: Surface Water Management Plans, Integrated Catchment Studies and assessment of flood risk from sewerage systems (FRM Act Section 16) by Scottish Water. These have been selected as appropriate for each Potentially Vulnerable Area.
Term	Definition
Sustainable flood risk management	The sustainable flood risk management approach aims to meet human needs, whilst preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for future generations. The delivery of sustainable development is generally recognised to reconcile three pillars of sustainability – environmental, social and economic.
Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)	A set of techniques designed to slow the flow of water. They can contribute to reducing flood risk by absorbing some of the initial rainfall and then releasing it gradually, thereby reducing the flood peak and helping to mitigate downstream problems. SuDS encourage us to take account of quality, quantity and amenity / biodiversity.
Target area	Target areas are based on communities at risk of flooding. These are situated within Potentially Vulnerable Areas and should benefit from actions to reduce flood risk. To benefit the community, actions may apply to outside the target area. National flood risk management efforts and funding should be targeted to benefit these target areas.
UK Climate Change Projections (UKCP09)	The leading source of climate change information for the UK. It can help users to assess their climate risks and plan how to adapt to a changing climate. The high emissions scenario refers to the SRES A1F1 emission scenario. See Annex 1 of the UKCP09 Climate change projections report for details.
Utility assets	Within the FRM Strategies this refers to electricity sub stations, mineral and fuel extraction sites, telephone assets, television and radio assets.

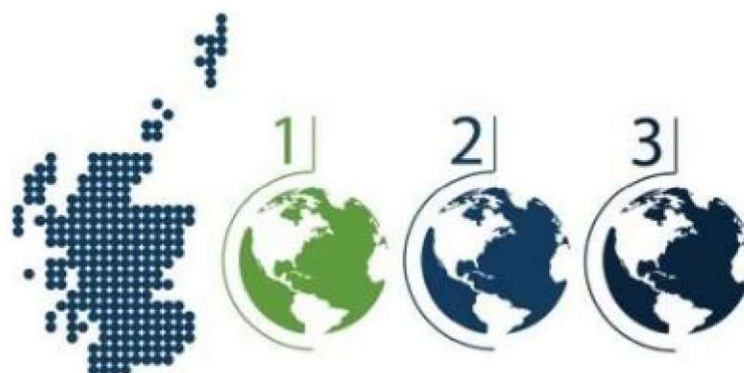
Voe	A dialect term, common in place names and used to refer to a small bay or creek in Orkney or Shetland.
Vulnerability	A measure of how likely someone or something is to suffer long-term damage as a result of flooding. It is a combination of the likelihood of suffering harm or damage during a flood (susceptibility) and the ability to recover following a flood (resilience).
Wave energy dissipation	Process by which a wave loses its energy.
Wave overtopping	Wave overtopping occurs when water passes over a flood wall or other structure as a result of wave action. Wave overtopping may lead to flooding particularly in exposed coastal locations.



Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District (LPD 5)

Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028

Every day SEPA works to protect and enhance Scotland's environment, helping communities and businesses thrive within the resources of our planet.



We call this **One Planet Prosperity**

Potentially Vulnerable Areas

Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) were designated in 2018 based on the potential current or future risk from all sources of flooding. This designation was informed by the National Flood Risk Assessment ([link](#)). As part of continued analysis of flood risk, the National Flood Risk Assessment and Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) will be reviewed every six years to take on board any new information. There are 15 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) in this Local Plan District. Following sections provide more information on these areas.

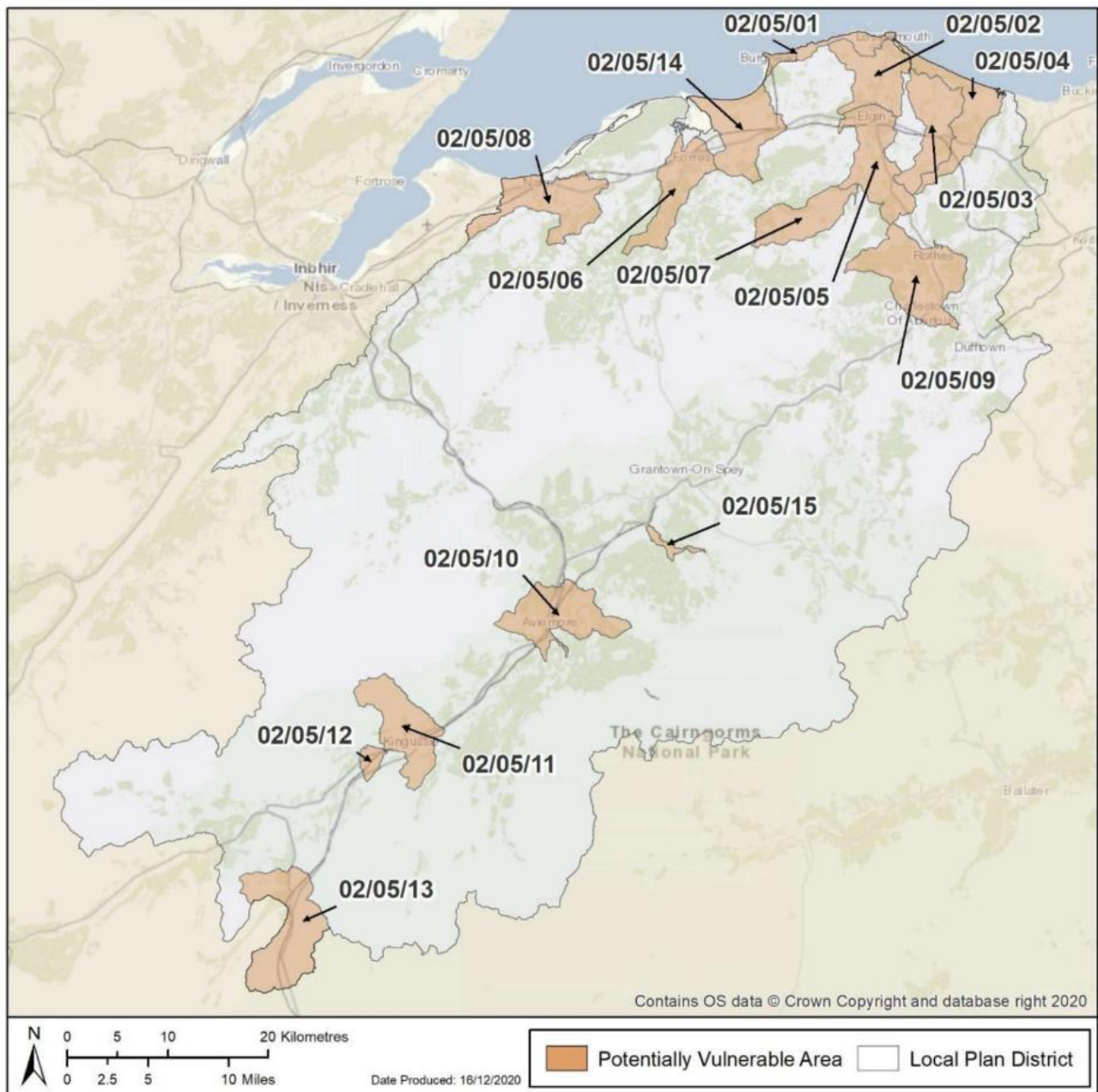


Figure 1. Potentially Vulnerable Areas in Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District

LPD 5 Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside - table of contents

Click the [blue text](#) to select your area of interest

PVA Ref	PVA NAME	Local authority
02/05/01	Burghead to Lossiemouth	Moray
02/05/02	Spynie	Moray
02/05/03	Lhanbryde	Moray
02/05/04	Kingston and Garmouth	Moray
02/05/05	Elgin	Moray
02/05/06	Forres	Moray
02/05/07	Dallas	Moray
02/05/08	Nairn	Highland
02/05/09	Rothes and Aberlour	Moray
02/05/10	Aviemore	Highland
02/05/11	Kingussie	Highland
02/05/12	Newtonmore	Highland
02/05/13	Dalwhinnie	Highland
02/05/14	Kinloss	Moray
02/05/15	Nethy Bridge	Highland

02/05/01 (Burghead to Lossiemouth)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of surface water flooding to Hopeman.

There are 2 areas in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which have been the focus of further assessment, these are listed below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

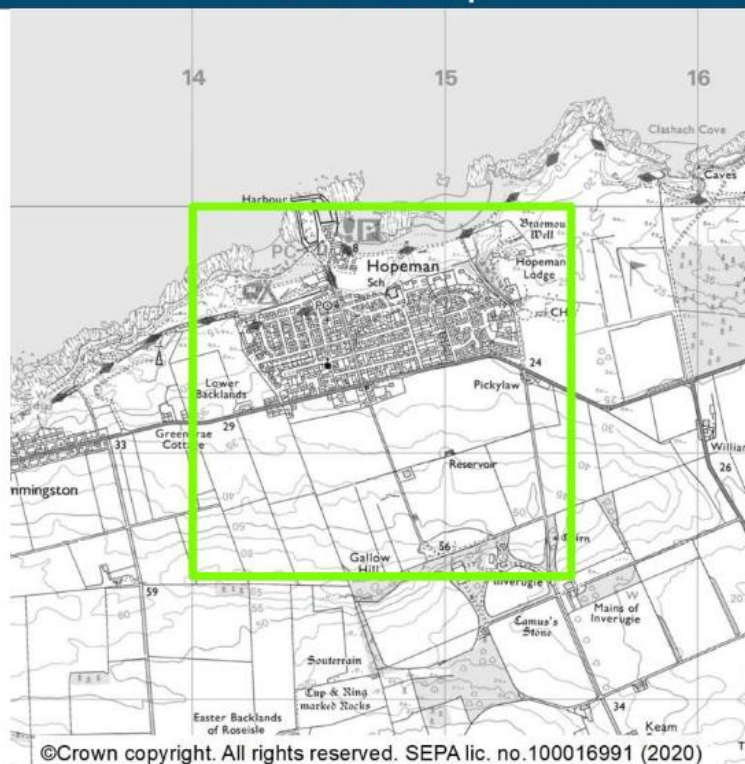
Hopeman	(target area 389)
Lossiemouth	(target area 391)

Hopeman (target area 389)

Summary

Hopeman is located along the southern shore of the Moray Firth and is within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in the area is surface water flooding. There are approximately 180 people and 110 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 240 people and 150 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources, and this national assessment has highlighted the risk of surface water flooding in this target area. Hopeman has therefore been identified as a new target area for the 2021 flood risk management plans. The national assessment is improved for surface water flooding by the development of private works to reduce the risk of surface water flooding in the Hopeman area. Heavy rainfall is known to run off the steep surrounding hills overwhelming the local drainage systems. There are frequent records of surface water flooding in Hopeman, including floods during August and October 2014.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3891	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Hopeman.
3892	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of flood protection works at Hopeman.
3893	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the flood protection asset in Hopeman.
3894	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Hopeman.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 38901)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the flood protection works at Hopeman. The scheme is to be maintained by the current landowner.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 38902)	
Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Lossiemouth sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 38903)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Lossiemouth (target area 391)

Summary

Lossiemouth is located on the southern shore of the Moray Firth south and is within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Lossiemouth is coastal flooding. There are approximately 140 people and 90 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is estimated to increase to 200 people and 130 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for coastal flooding by the development and operation of the Moray Firth flood warning scheme. There is a long history of coastal flooding in Lossiemouth.

The Dynamic coast project has shown that parts of the shoreline in or adjacent to this target area are subject to erosion at present or are considered likely to erode in the future. Consideration should be given to how erosion might impact flood risk. Any actions taken should aim to support building natural resilience to flooding and not lead to an increase in erosion.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3911	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Lossiemouth.
3912	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Lossiemouth.
3913	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of coastal flooding to Lossiemouth.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 39101)	
Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Lossiemouth sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Strategic mapping improvements (Ref: 39102)	
Action	SEPA will continue to update flood maps based on new information.
Action detail	SEPA has undertaken improved coastal modelling in this target area including taking account of the impact of waves on coastal flooding. We will complete and publish the outcomes of this modelling work to inform decision making with respect to flooding at the coast.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39103)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/05/02 (Spynie)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of coastal flooding to the Seatown area of Lossiemouth. There is a history of flooding in the area, recently caused by combined coastal and river flooding.

There is 1 area in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which has been the focus of further assessment, this is identified below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

Seatown (target area 9991)

Seatown, Lossiemouth (target area 9991)

Summary

Seatown is an area of Lossiemouth, facing onto the River Lossie estuary, in the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Seatown is coastal flooding. There are approximately 390 people and 200 homes and businesses currently at risk of flooding. This is likely to increase to 490 people and 250 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for coastal flooding by the Lossiemouth Coastal Flood Study. There are records of coastal flooding in the Seatown area of Lossiemouth including floods in December 2012.

The Dynamic coast project has shown that parts of the shoreline in or adjacent to this target area are subject to erosion at present or are considered likely to erode in the future. Consideration should be given to how erosion might impact flood risk. Any actions taken should aim to support building natural resilience to flooding and not lead to an increase in erosion.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
99911	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in the Seatown area of Lossiemouth.
99912	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in the Seatown area of Lossiemouth.
99913	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of coastal flooding to the Seatown area of Lossiemouth.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood scheme or works design (Ref: 999101)	
Action	The selected preferred approach for managing flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Further development of the preferred option will be required prior to commencing with the detailed design. This is to address current and future flood risk. The need for an adaptation plan should also be assessed. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works implementation (Ref: 999102)	
Action	The flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales.
Action detail	Progress the Seatown Flood Protection Scheme based on the detailed design. As built drawings should be made available to SEPA, for consideration in the Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database, flood map improvements and flood warning scheme updates. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Community engagement (Ref: 999103)	
Action	Community engagement is to continue to be carried out in the area by the responsible authorities to raise awareness of flood risk.
Action detail	The responsible authorities to continue to engage with the community, with particular focus on the detailed design of the flood protection scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 999104)

Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Lossiemouth sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 999105)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Strategic mapping improvements (Ref: 999106)

Action	SEPA will continue to update flood maps based on new information.
Action detail	SEPA has undertaken improved coastal modelling in this target area including taking account of the impact of waves on coastal flooding. We will complete and publish the outcomes of this modelling work to inform decision making with respect to flooding at the coast.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/05/03 (Lhanbryde)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of river flooding in Lhanbryde. This is managed by the Lhanbryde flood alleviation scheme. There are no recent records of river flooding in Lhanbryde.

There is 1 area in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which has been the focus of further assessment, this is identified below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

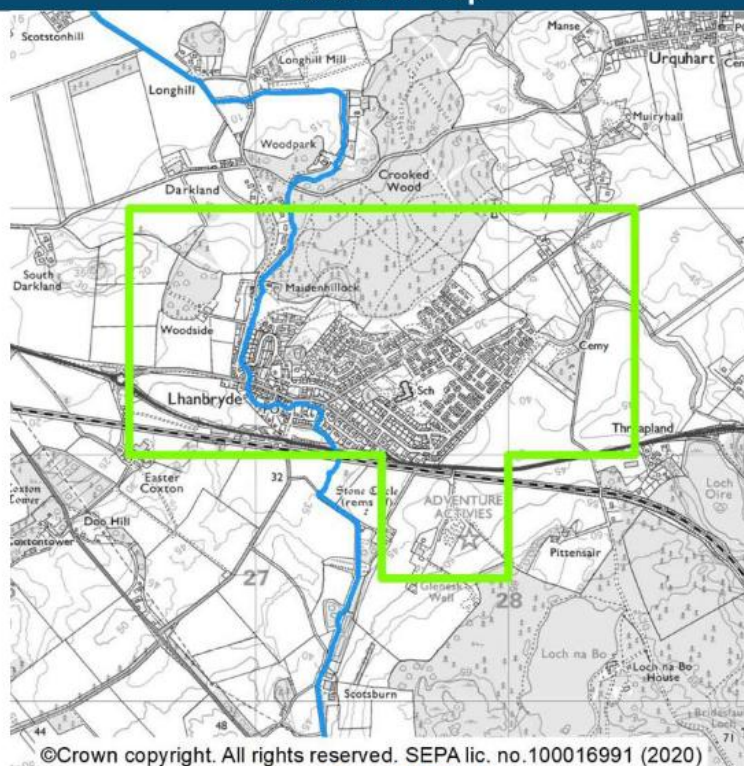
Lhanbryde (target area 390)

Lhanbryde (target area 390)

Summary

Lhanbryde is located east of Elgin in the Moray Council area. The national assessment estimates that there are approximately 180 people and 100 homes and businesses at risk from flooding. The Lhanbryde Flood Protection Scheme benefits an estimated 30 homes and 5 businesses up to a 1 in 100 year standard of protection. The number of people, homes and businesses at risk is expected to increase by approximately 10% by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is underpinned for river flooding by the design of the Lhanbryde Flood Protection Scheme (2005) and is improved for surface water flooding by a sewer flood risk assessment. There were frequent records of flooding prior to completion of the flood scheme including notable floods in 1997. Since completion, surface water flooding has been recorded, and there are also records of floods in nearby areas not protected by the scheme.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3901	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Lhanbryde Flood Alleviation Scheme.
3902	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Lhanbryde.
3903	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the Lhanbryde Flood Alleviation Scheme.
3904	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Lhanbryde.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 39001)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	The Lhanbryde Flood Alleviation Scheme should be maintained as per the design requirements in order to continue to reliably provide the appropriate level of protection.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 39002)	
Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the Lhanbryde Flood Alleviation Scheme. This is because our understanding of hydrology and climate change has improved since the construction of the scheme in 2005. The need for an adaptation plan should be evaluated. The impact of the sediment trap on the channel should be assessed as part of this.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 39003)	
Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Lossiemouth sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/05/04 (Kingston and Garmouth)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of coastal flooding to Garmouth and Kingston. Sea level rise as a result of climate change is expected to increase the risk of flooding. Recent flooding has been caused by river and coastal flooding.

There are 2 areas in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which have been the focus of further assessment, these are listed below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

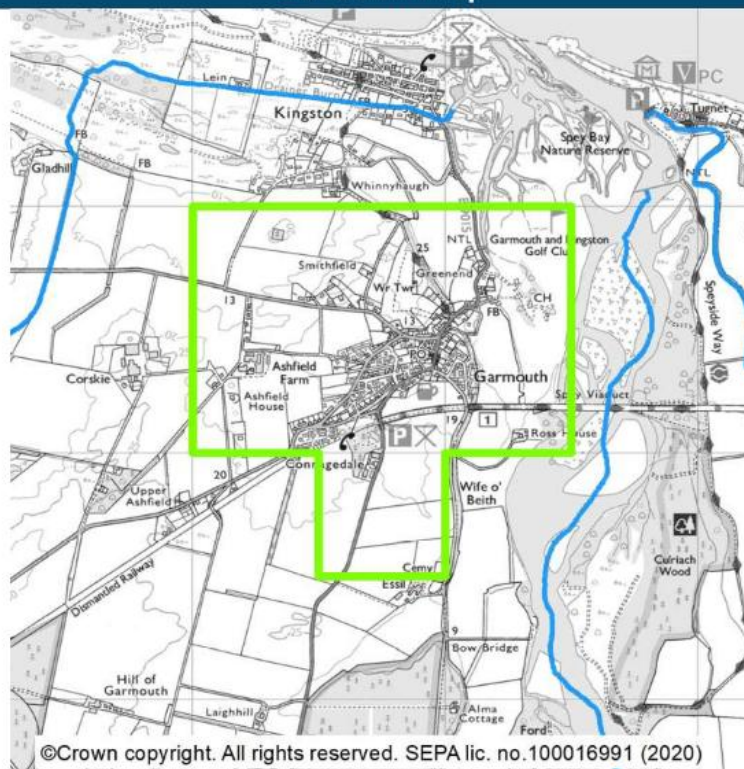
Garmouth	(target area 393)
Kingston	(target area 463)

Garmouth (target area 393)

Summary

Garmouth is located near the mouth of the River Spey within in the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Garmouth is the River Spey. There is also a risk of surface water and coastal flooding. Combined river and coastal flooding may also be an issue. There are approximately 80 people and 50 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. A local assessment indicates that this may be over-estimated. This is estimated to increase to 90 people and 60 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved by studies and inspections carried out by Moray Council. Understanding of both river and coastal flooding is improved by the development and operation of the Moray Firth and the River Spey flood warning schemes. The understanding of surface water flooding is improved by a sewer flood risk assessment. There are frequent records of flooding in Garmouth.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3931	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Garmouth.
3932	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Garmouth.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Adaptation plan (Ref: 39301)	
Action	Information on climate change is to be used to develop an adaptation plan to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	An adaptation plan should be developed in conjunction with community engagement. The plan should consider the current and future flood risk to receptors and assets and consider how they can be modified to manage the flood risk or removed from the flood risk.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39302)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Spey and the Moray Firth coastal flood warning schemes.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39303)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should investigate improvements to the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

There is potential to work with SEPA's River Basin Management team to improve the physical condition of the water environment.

Kingston (target area 463)

Summary

Kingston is located on the Moray Firth by the west bank of the River Spey as it flows into Spey Bay. It is in the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Kingston is coastal flooding. The area is particularly vulnerable to erosion and the River mouth shifts periodically. There are approximately 30 people and 20 homes and businesses currently at risk of flooding. Based on a local assessment, this may be overestimated. This is likely to increase to 70 people and 40 homes and businesses by the 2080's due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for coastal flood risk by the Moray Firth flood warning scheme. The understanding of flood risk is also being improved by monitoring of the shingle bank in front of Kingston. There are frequent records of coastal flooding. The access roads are often affected, resulting in Kingston being cut off from the surrounding area.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4631	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Kingston.
4632	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Kingston.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Data collection (Ref: 46301)	
Action	Equipment that measures rainfall, river levels, erosion, ground levels or wave height may be installed and maintained to improve our understanding of flood risk. This can be done over short term or to measure longer term impacts.
Action detail	The shingle bank in front of Kingston should be monitored in line with the study recommendations. Once the bank is within 25m of the landline, the actions outlined in the adaptation plan (to be developed) should be implemented.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Adaptation plan (Ref: 46302)	
Action	Information on climate change is to be used to develop an adaptation plan to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Climate change is expected to cause rising sea levels and changes to storm patterns. This could lead to flooding happening more often and changes to erosion. It is important to plan for this and ensure future risk to communities and infrastructure is managed appropriately. An adaptation plan should be developed in conjunction with community engagement and the monitoring strategy for the shingle bank. The plan should consider the current and future flood risk to receptors and assets and consider how they can be modified to manage the flood risk or removed from the flood risk.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 46303)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Spey and the Moray Firth coastal flood warning schemes.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 46304)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should investigate improvements to the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/05/05 (Elgin)

Elgin is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of river and surface water flooding. The Elgin flood protection scheme benefits over 800 properties. Recent flooding occurred in August 2019 as a result of surface water flooding.

There is 1 area in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which has been the focus of further assessment, this is identified below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

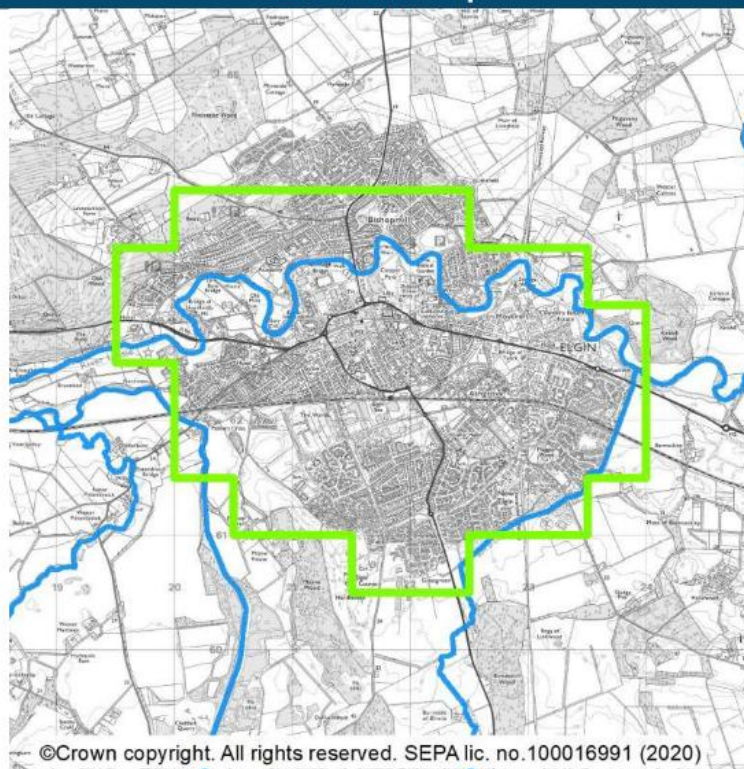
Elgin (target area 392)

Elgin (target area 392)

Summary

Elgin is located in the north of Scotland on the banks of the River Lossie in the Moray Council area. The main sources of flooding in Elgin are river and surface water flooding. There are approximately 1,200 people and 780 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 3,400 people and 2,000 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for flooding from the River Lossie due to the development of the Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme and the River Lossie flood warning scheme. The understanding of surface water flood risk is improved by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. There is a long history of river flooding in the Elgin target area including notable floods prior to the construction of the flood scheme in July 1997 and in November 2002. There are also records of surface water flooding, including recent flash floods in August 2019.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3921	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Elgin Flood Protection Scheme.
3922	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Elgin.
3923	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the flood protection assets in Elgin.
3924	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Elgin.
3925	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Elgin.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 39201)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 39202)	
Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the Elgin Flood Alleviation Scheme. This is because new climate change data has become available since the construction of the scheme. The need for an adaptation plan should be evaluated.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works design (Ref: 39203)	
Action	The selected preferred approach for managing flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Works are proposed to address flood risk from surface water in Elgin. Further work may be required to determine business case prior to progressing to detailed design. The detailed design for the flood works identified in the surface water management plan should be progressed. Proposals could include development of new overland flood paths, installation of non-return valves and road reprofiling. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Community engagement (Ref: 39204)

Action	Community engagement is to continue to be carried out in the area by the responsible authorities to raise awareness of flood risk.
Action detail	The responsible authorities to continue to engage with the community, with particular focus on the detailed design of works identified in the surface water management plan.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works implementation (Ref: 39205)

Action	The flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales.
Action detail	Progress the flood works based on the detailed design to reduce surface water flood risk in Elgin. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 39206)

Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Lossiemouth sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 39207)

Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system are to be identified. These priority areas will provide a baseline for the identification of next steps in managing water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Continue to develop and implement the surface water management plan, working with Scottish Water as appropriate.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39208)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Lossie flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/05/06 (Forres)

Forres is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to the risk of river and surface water flooding. Forres benefits from two flood protection schemes, one on the Burn of Mosset and the other on the River Findhorn.

There is 1 area in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which has been the focus of further assessment, this is identified below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

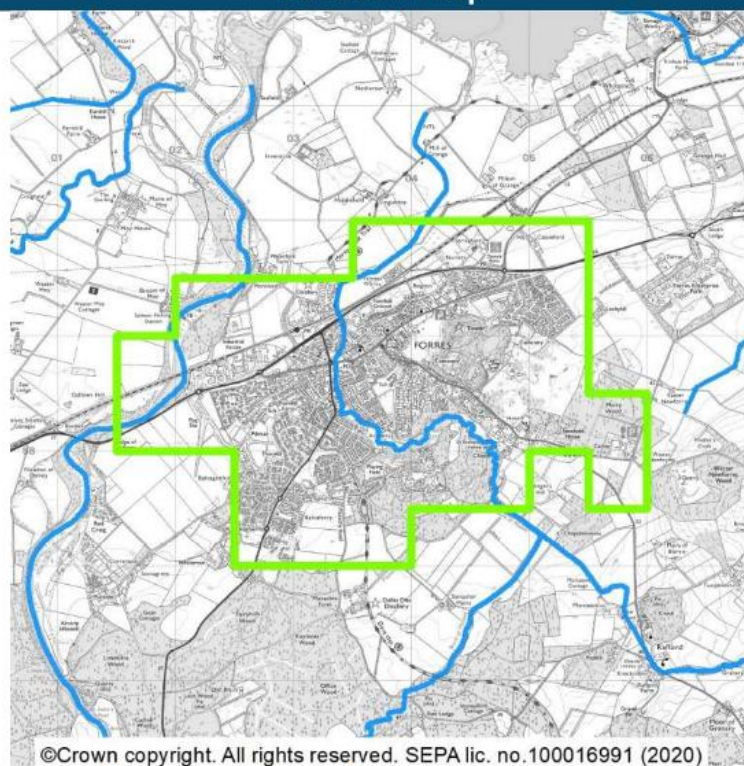
Forres (target area 427)

Forres (target area 427)

Summary

Forres is located in the north east of Scotland and is within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Forres is surface water flooding. However there is also a risk of river flooding, which is largely managed by the 2 flood schemes. There are approximately 2,000 people and 1,000 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 2,400 people and 1,200 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for river flooding by the studies to develop the Forres (River Findhorn and Pilmuir) and the Forres (Burn of Mosset) Flood Alleviation Schemes. The understanding of surface water flood risk is improved by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. Prior to the development of the flood protection schemes there was a long history of river flooding in Forres, including notable flooding in 1997 when the Burn of Mosset burst its banks. There are frequent records of surface water flooding.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4271	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Forres (Burn of Mosset) Flood Prevention Scheme 2005 and the Forres (Findhorn and Pilmuir) Flood Prevention Scheme 2008.
4272	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Forres.
4273	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the flood protection assets in Forres.
4274	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Forres.
4275	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Forres.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 42701)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the Forres (Burn of Mosset, 2005) Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Forres (Findhorn and Pilmuir, 2008) Flood Alleviation Scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 42702)	
Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Forres sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 42703)	
Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system are to be identified. These priority areas will provide a baseline for the identification of next steps in managing water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Continue to develop and implement the surface water management plan, working with Scottish Water as appropriate.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordinated with Scottish Water.

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 42704)

Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the Forres (Burn of Mosset, 2005) Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Forres (Findhorn and Pilmuir, 2008) Flood Alleviation Scheme. This is because new climate change data has become available since the construction of the scheme. The need for an adaptation plan should be evaluated.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 42705)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Findhorn flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

There is potential to work with SEPA's River Basin Management team to improve the physical condition of the water environment.

02/05/07 (Dallas)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to a large proportion of Dallas being at risk of flooding from the River Lossie. Recent floods have occurred as a result of river flooding. Moray Council delivered flood protection works to benefit properties, however, roads remain at risk of flooding.

There is 1 area in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which has been the focus of further assessment, this is identified below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

Dallas (target area 421)

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4211	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Dallas.
4212	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Dallas Flood Prevention Scheme.
4213	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the flood protection asset in Dallas.
4214	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Dallas.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 42101)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the existing flood defences in Dallas.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 42103)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Lossie flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 42102)	
Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the existing flood defences in Dallas. The impacts of climate change on flood risk should also be considered. As built drawings should be made available to SEPA, for inclusion in the Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

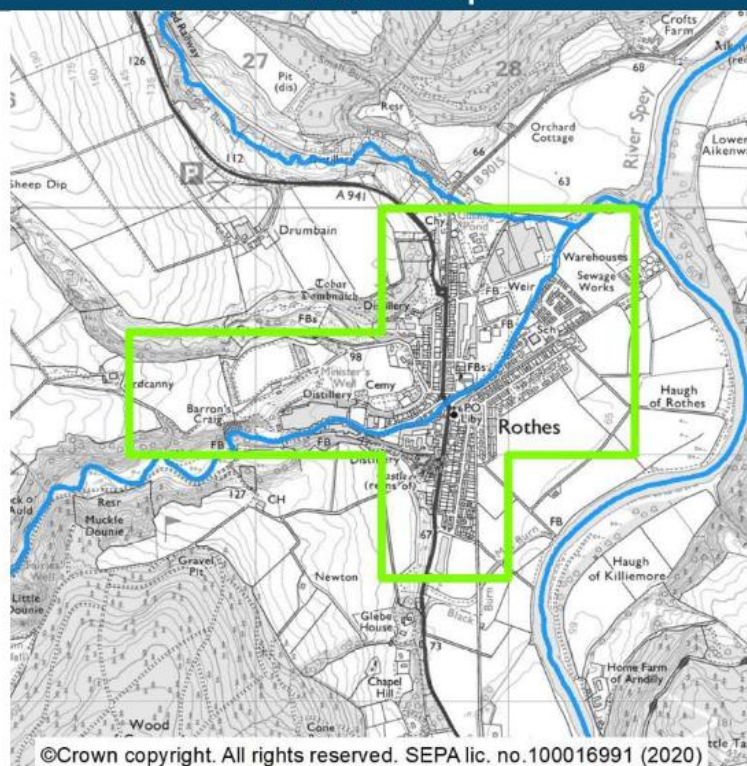
Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Roths (target area 397)

Summary

Roths is on the banks of the River Spey and is within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Roths is from surface water flooding, however there is also a risk from river flooding. There are approximately 780 people and 520 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding, which is a significant proportion of the community. This is likely to increase to 830 people and 560 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for surface water by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. The understanding of flood risk from the Burn of Roth, Back Burn and Black Burn is underpinned by the studies to develop the Roth Flood Protection Scheme. The understanding of flood risk from the River Spey is improved by the development and operation of the Spey flood warning scheme. There is a long history of flooding in Roth, including notable flooding in September 2009 from the River Spey, the Back Burn and the Burn of Roth, prior to the completion of the Roth Flood Protection Scheme.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3971	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Rothes.
3972	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Rothes Flood Prevention Schemes.
3973	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the flood protection assets in Rothes.
3974	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Rothes.
3975	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding to Rothes.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood scheme or works design (Ref: 39701)	
Action	The selected preferred approach for managing flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	The selected preferred approach for managing Surface Water flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Community engagement (Ref: 39702)	
Action	Community engagement is to continue to be carried out in the area by the responsible authorities to raise awareness of flood risk.
Action detail	The responsible authorities to continue to engage with the community, with particular focus on the detailed design of works identified in the surface water management plan.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works implementation (Ref: 39703)	
Action	The flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales.
Action detail	The Surface Water flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 39704)

Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the Rothes Flood Protection Scheme (2011).
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 39705)

Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the Rothes Flood Protection Scheme (2011). This is because new climate change data has become available since the construction of the scheme. The need for an adaptation plan should be evaluated.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39706)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39707)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should investigate improvements to the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

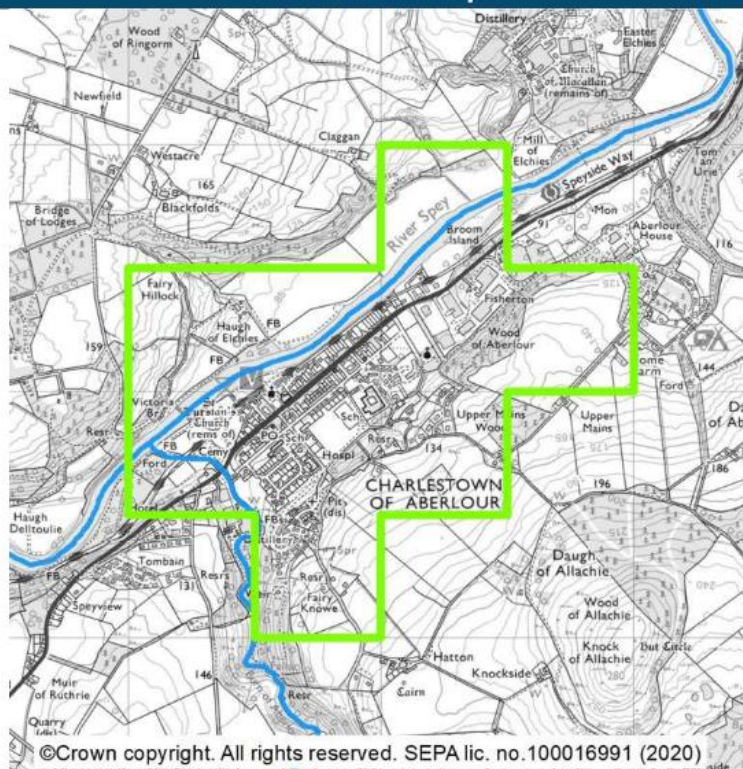
SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Location map

Aberlour lies 20km south of Elgin and is within the Moray Council Area. The main source of flooding in Aberlour is surface water flooding, however there is also risk of river flooding. There are approximately 130 people and 90 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 140 people and 110 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for surface water flooding by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. Understanding is improved for river flooding by the development and operation of the River Spey flood warning scheme. There is a long history of flooding in the Aberlour target area.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4321	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Aberlour - Moray Flood Prevention Scheme 1984.
4322	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Aberlour.
4323	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the Aberlour - Moray Flood Prevention Scheme 1984.
4324	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Aberlour.
4325	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding to Aberlour.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood study (existing flood defences) (Ref: 43201)	
Action	The performance and condition of the existing flood defences are to be evaluated, including consideration of the likely impacts of climate change. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Assess the performance of the Aberlour Flood Protection Scheme. The scheme was designed in the 1980s. Since then new modelling techniques and data have emerged. The impacts of climate change on flood risk should also be considered. The need for an adaptation plan should be evaluated.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 43202)	
Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system have been identified. Next steps in managing such water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems have been identified and should be implemented. The plan is to be reviewed and updated as needed.
Action detail	Implement the surface water management plan, working with Scottish Water as appropriate. This may be progressed further as part of the flood study and a wider adaptation plan for Aberlour.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 43203)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the Aberlour Flood Protection Scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 43204)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 43205)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should investigate improvements to the River Spey flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

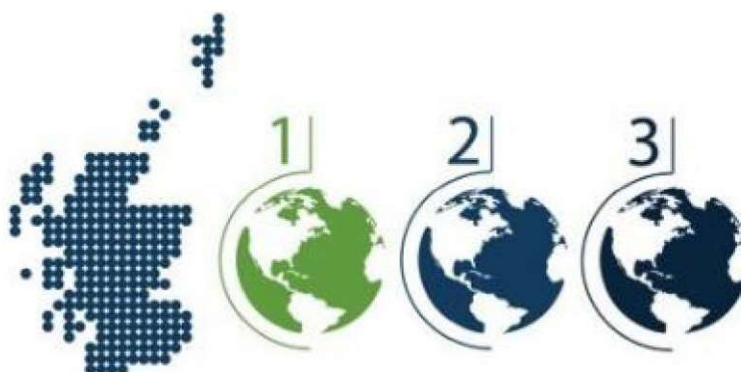


North East Local Plan District (LPD 6)

Draft flood risk management plans 2022-2028

Every day SEPA works to protect and enhance Scotland's environment, helping communities and businesses thrive within the resources of our planet.

We call this **One Planet Prosperity**



Potentially Vulnerable Areas

Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) were designated in 2018 based on the potential current or future risk from all sources of flooding. This designation was informed by the National Flood Risk Assessment ([link](#)). As part of continued analysis of flood risk, the National Flood Risk Assessment and Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) will be reviewed every six years to take on board any new information. There are 26 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) in this Local Plan District. Following sections provide more information on these areas.

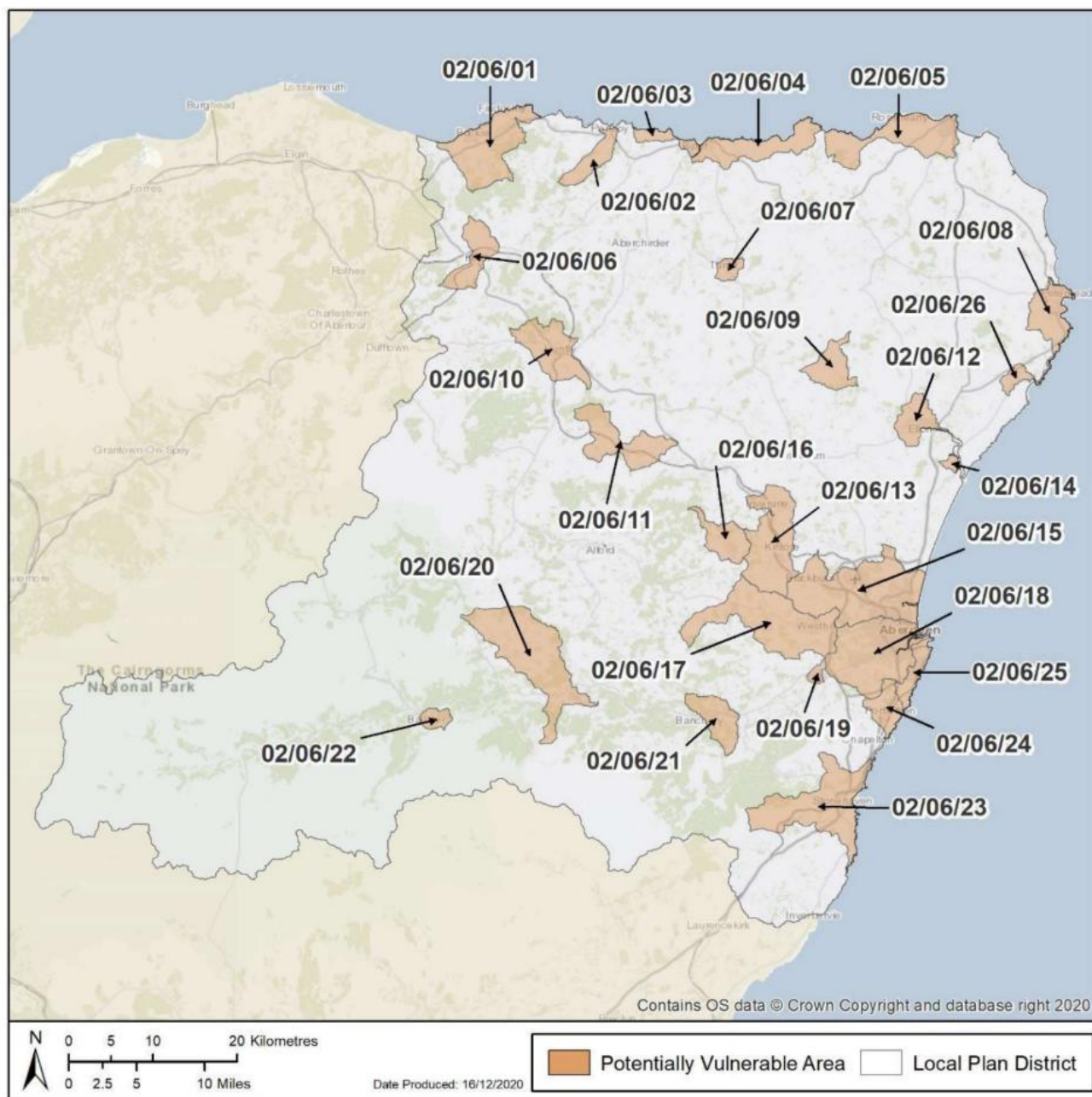


Figure 1. Potentially Vulnerable Areas in North East Local Plan District

LPD 6 North East - table of contents

Click the [blue text](#) to select your area of interest

PVA Ref	PVA NAME	Local authority
02/06/01	Portgordon and Buckie	Moray
02/06/02	Portsoy	Aberdeenshire
02/06/03	Banff and Whitehills	Aberdeenshire
02/06/04	Macduff	Aberdeenshire
02/06/05	Fraserburgh and Rosehearty	Aberdeenshire
02/06/06	Keith and Newmill	Moray
02/06/07	Turriff	Aberdeenshire
02/06/08	Peterhead	Aberdeenshire
02/06/09	Methlick	Aberdeenshire
02/06/10	Huntly	Aberdeenshire
02/06/11	Insch	Aberdeenshire
02/06/12	Ellon	Aberdeenshire
02/06/13	Inverurie and Kintore	Aberdeenshire
02/06/14	Newburgh	Aberdeenshire
02/06/15	Aberdeen City - North	Aberdeen City
02/06/16	Kemnay	Aberdeenshire
02/06/17	Westhill	Aberdeenshire
02/06/18	Aberdeen City - South	Aberdeen City

PVA Ref	PVA NAME	Local authority
02/06/19	Peterculter	Aberdeen City
02/06/20	Aboyne	Aberdeenshire
02/06/21	Banchory	Aberdeenshire
02/06/22	Ballater	Aberdeenshire
02/06/23	Stonehaven	Aberdeenshire
02/06/24	Portlethen	Aberdeenshire
02/06/25	Cove and Nigg Bay	Aberdeen City
02/06/26	Cruden Bay	Aberdeenshire

02/06/01 (Portgordon and Buckie)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to Buckie and Portgordon being at risk of coastal and surface water flooding. Due to climate change induced sea-level rise, this flood risk is expected to increase. Recent flooding has occurred due to coastal, river and surface water flooding.

There are 2 areas in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which have been the focus of further assessment, these are listed below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

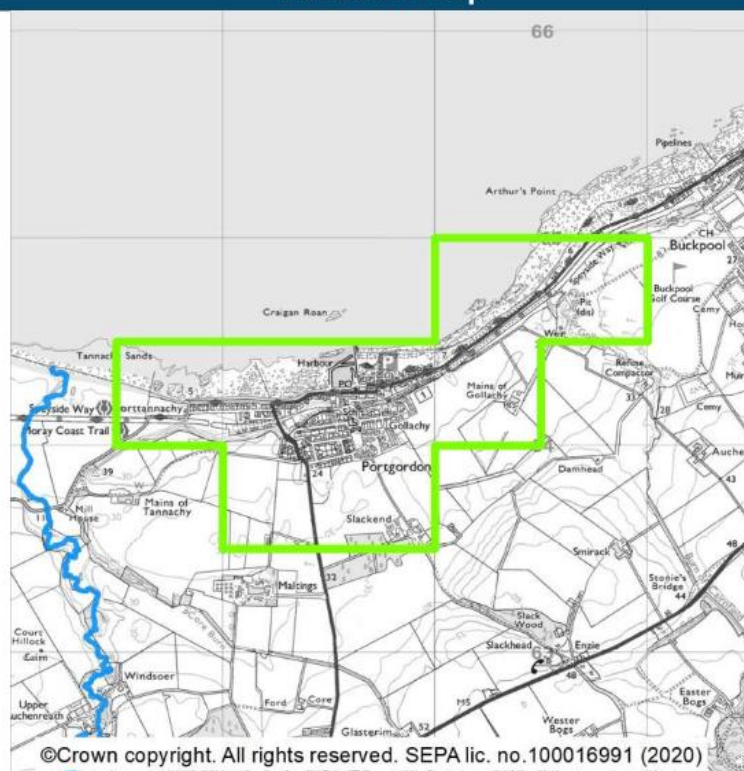
Portgordon	(target area 398)
Buckie and Portessie	(target area 455)

Portgordon (target area 398)

Summary

Portgordon lies 2km south west of Buckie, in the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Portgordon is surface water flooding, however there is also risk of coastal flooding. The risk of coastal flooding is underestimated as wave overtopping is not currently accounted for in the SEPA strategic mapping. There are approximately 100 people and 50 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 120 people and 70 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for coastal flooding by the Portgordon Flood Study (2019). The understanding of surface water flooding is improved by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. There is a long history of coastal flooding in the Portgordon target area including notable flooding during the North Sea flood of January 1953. There are also periodic records of surface water flooding.

The Dynamic coast project has shown that parts of the shoreline in or adjacent to this target area are subject to erosion at present or are considered likely to erode in the future. Consideration should be given to how erosion might impact flood risk. Any actions taken should aim to support building natural resilience to flooding and not lead to an increase in erosion.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
3981	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Portgordon.
3982	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Portgordon.
3983	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Portgordon.
3984	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of coastal flooding in Portgordon.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Strategic mapping improvements (Ref: 39801)	
Action	SEPA will continue to update flood maps based on new information.
Action detail	SEPA has undertaken improved coastal modelling in this target area including taking account of the impact of waves on coastal flooding. We will complete and publish the outcomes of this modelling work to inform decision making with respect to flooding at the coast.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 39802)	
Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Buckie Moray East sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 39803)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Maintenance of the existing coastal defences should continue and updates to the maintenance regime be made based on the findings of the flood study. The surface water management plan did not make any recommendations for improvement works in Portgordon.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 39804)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Adaptation plan (Ref: 39805)	
Action	Information on climate change is to be used to develop an adaptation plan to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Consider how the improved understanding of long term flood risk can be managed in the area through an adaptation plan.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

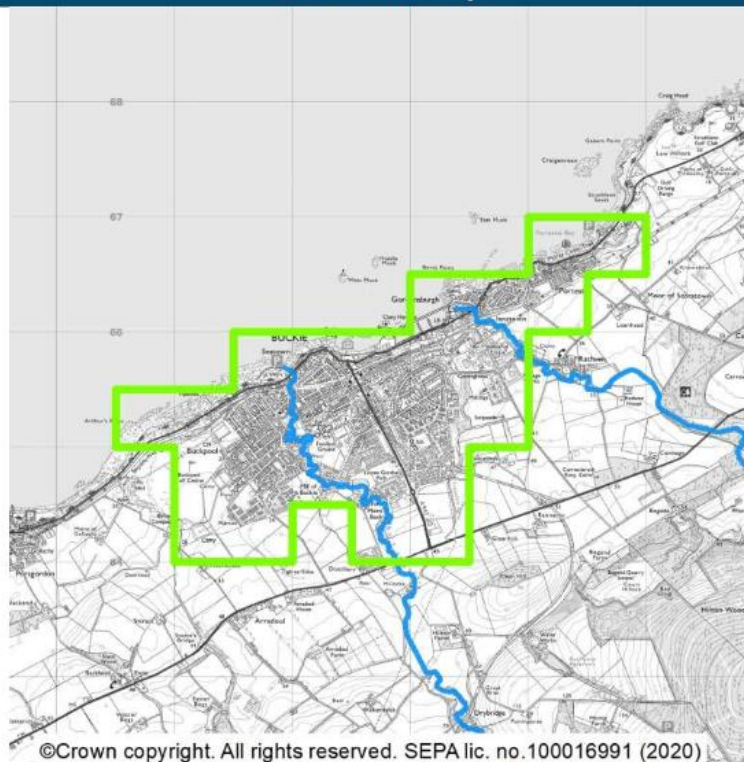
Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Buckie and Portessie (target area 455)

Summary

Buckie and Portessie front onto Spey Bay on the south coast of the Moray Firth in the Moray Council area. The main sources of flooding are coastal and surface water flooding. The flood maps currently don't include the impact of waves. As a result, the assessment of coastal flood risk is considered to be an underestimate. There are approximately 520 people and 300 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 810 people and 460 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for surface water by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan which includes Buckie as a priority area. The understanding of coastal flooding is improved in Portessie by the coastal flood risk assessment completed in 2016 and is improved across the target area by the development and operation of the Moray Firth flood warning scheme. There is a long history of flooding in the Buckie and Portessie area including notable coastal flooding during the North Sea flood of January 1953. There are also frequent records of surface water flooding in Buckie. The Dynamic coast project has shown that parts of the shoreline in or adjacent to this target area are subject to erosion at present or are considered likely to erode in the future. Consideration should be given to how erosion might impact flood risk. Any actions taken should aim to support building natural resilience to flooding and not lead to an increase in erosion.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4551	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Buckie and Portessie.
4552	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Buckie and Portessie.
4553	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of coastal flooding in Portessie.
4554	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Buckie and Portessie.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood scheme or works design (Ref: 45501)	
Action	The selected preferred approach for managing flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	The detailed design for the coastal flood works identified in the Portessie Options Appraisal Report (2016) should be progressed. It is proposed that the existing setback wall is rebuilt to a greater height. This option would provide a 200yr (0.5% annual exceedance probability) event plus climate change standard of protection. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works implementation (Ref: 45502)	
Action	The flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales.
Action detail	Progress the coastal Portessie Flood Protection Scheme based on the detailed design. As built drawings should be made available to SEPA, for consideration in the Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database, flood map updates and flood warning scheme updates. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood scheme or works design (Ref: 45503)

Action	The selected preferred approach for managing flood risk is to be designed following the completion of the flood study, including consideration of the long-term impacts of climate change. These can include small scale works or works to improve catchment management. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Further work may be required to determine business case prior to progressing to detailed design. The detailed design for the flood works identified in the surface water management plan should be progressed. The preferred options for surface water management in Buckie provides a 30 year (3.33% annual exceedance probability) event standard of protection and consists of drainage improvements, including a new combined sewer overflow, flap valves and an interception trench. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Flood scheme or works implementation (Ref: 45504)

Action	The flood scheme/works is to be built following agreement of the design, costs and timescales.
Action detail	Progress the flood works identified in the surface water management plan based on the detailed design. As built drawings should be made available to SEPA, for consideration in the Scottish Flood Defence Asset Database, flood map updates and flood warning scheme updates. The responsible authority proposes this action as the best viable option for managing flood risk in this community. The delivery of this action is subject to capital funding being made available.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Community engagement (Ref: 45505)

Action	Community engagement is to continue to be carried out in the area by the responsible authorities to raise awareness of flood risk.
Action detail	The responsible authorities to continue to engage with the community, with particular focus on the detailed design of the Portessie Flood Protection Scheme and the works identified in the surface water management plan for Buckie.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Sewer flood risk assessment (Ref: 45506)

Action	The volume of water that would overwhelm the sewer system and cause flooding from man-holes or inside our homes is to be assessed, to support understanding of the performance of the urban drainage network
Action detail	Scottish Water will carry out an assessment of sewer flood risk within the highest priority sewer catchments, which includes Buckie Moray East sewer catchment in this target area. This will help to improve knowledge and understanding of potential surface water flood risk. Funding for this action is secured through Scottish Water's strategic planning commitments.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Scottish Water in coordination with the local authority and SEPA.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 45507)

Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system have been identified. Next steps in managing such water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems have been identified and should be implemented. The plan is to be reviewed and updated as needed.
Action detail	The surface water management plan will be implemented. It should regularly be updated and reviewed.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

Strategic mapping improvements (Ref: 45508)

Action	SEPA will continue to update flood maps based on new information.
Action detail	SEPA has undertaken improved coastal modelling in this target area including taking account of the impact of waves on coastal flooding. We will complete and publish the outcomes of this modelling work to inform decision making with respect to flooding at the coast.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 45509)

Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Rosehearty (target area 462)

Summary

Rosehearty is located on the southern shore of the Moray Firth in the Aberdeenshire Council area. The main source of flood risk in Rosehearty is from surface water flooding. However, there is also a risk from coastal flooding, which is not reflected in SEPA's flood maps. There are approximately 90 people and 50 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to increase to 60 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for coastal flood risk through the development and operation of the Moray Firth flood warning scheme. Understanding of surface water flooding is improving through the development of a surface water management plan for Rosehearty and Fraserburgh. A sewer flood risk assessment has also been completed. There are periodic records of coastal and surface water flooding in Rosehearty.

The Dynamic coast project has shown that parts of the shoreline in or adjacent to this target area are subject to erosion at present or are considered likely to erode in the future. Consideration should be given to how erosion might impact flood risk. Any actions taken should aim to support building natural resilience to flooding and not lead to an increase in erosion.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4621	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Rosehearty.
4622	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the risk of coastal flooding including the impacts of climate change in Rosehearty.
4623	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Rosehearty.
4624	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Rosehearty.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Strategic mapping improvements (Ref: 46201)	
Action	SEPA will continue to update flood maps based on new information.
Action detail	SEPA has undertaken improved coastal modelling in this target area including taking account of the impact of waves on coastal flooding. We will complete and publish the outcomes of this modelling work to inform decision making with respect to flooding at the coast.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 46202)	
Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system are to be identified. These priority areas will provide a baseline for the identification of next steps in managing water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems. This should guide adaptive planning to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Progress the surface water management plan. The results from Scottish Waters sewer flood risk assessment should be incorporated. The impacts of climate change on flood risk should be considered. Interactions with coastal flooding should be noted.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Aberdeenshire Council in coordination with Scottish Water and other actions in the area.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 46203)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the Moray Firth coastal flood warning scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Shoreline Management Plan (Coastal Adaptive Plan) (Ref: 46204)	
Action	An assessment of coastal flood and erosion risk is to be carried out. The plan should include assessment of climate change and develop adaptive approaches to allow for the impacts of climate change to be monitored, understood and managed.
Action detail	Prepare a shoreline management plan. In particular this should identify locations at risk of flooding and coastal erosion. The impacts of climate change on sea level rise, coastal flood risk and erosion should be considered. The need for an adaptation plan should be assessed.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is Aberdeenshire Council in coordination with SEPA. Any other coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

02/06/06 (Keith and Newmill)

This area is designated as a Potentially Vulnerable Area due to surface water flood risk in Keith and Newmill. Newmill benefits from a flood scheme, which reduces the risk of flooding from surface water and the Burn of Kimminitie at Low Road.

There are 2 areas in this Potentially Vulnerable Area, which have been the focus of further assessment, these are listed below. Further information on the proposed objectives and actions to manage flood risk within this area is provided below.

List of target areas

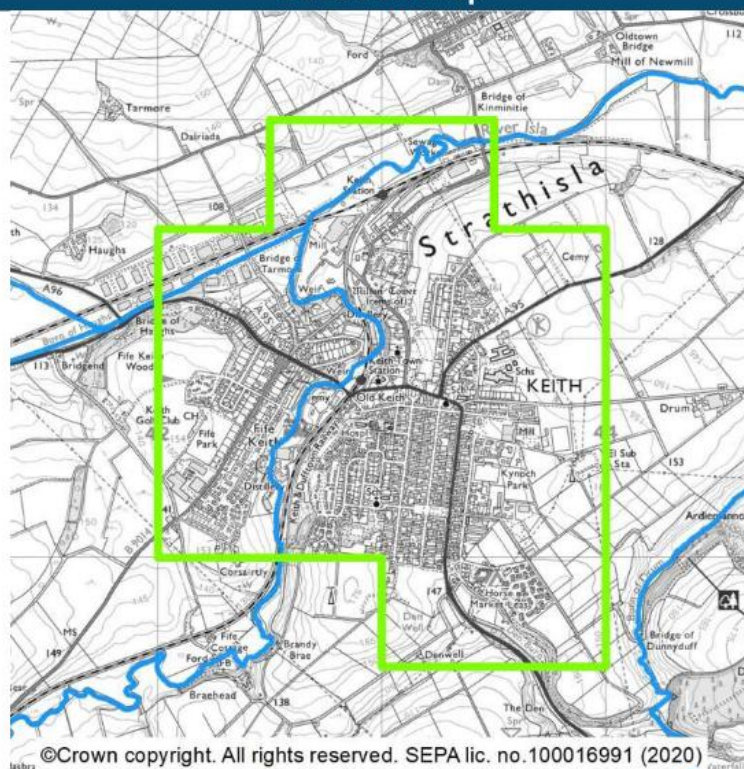
Keith	(target area 404)
Newmill (Keith)	(target area 444)

Keith (target area 404)

Summary

Keith is located in north east Scotland within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Keith is from surface water flooding. There are approximately 60 people and 70 homes and businesses currently at risk from flooding. This is likely to remain the same by the 2080s due to climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources, and this national assessment has highlighted the risk of surface water flooding. Keith has therefore been identified as a new target area for the 2021 flood risk management plans. The national assessment is improved for surface water by the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. The understanding of river flooding is improved by the operation of the River Deveron flood warning scheme. There are records of surface water flooding in the Keith target area.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4041	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Keith.
4042	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Keith.
4043	Reduce flood risk	Reduce the risk of surface water flooding in Keith.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 40401)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Deveron flood warning scheme. The scheme should be investigated for improvement and/or recalibration.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Actions proposed after June 2028

The following actions are proposed to take place after June 2028. These will be reviewed in 2026, considering added information at that time, to ensure they are still the most appropriate actions for the community.

Surface water management plan (Ref: 40402)	
Action	Areas at risk of heavy or prolonged rainfall causing flooding due to water ponding on man-made surfaces or overwhelming the drainage system have been identified. Next steps in managing such water ponding or over-whelmed drainage systems have been identified and should be implemented. The plan is to be reviewed and updated as needed.
Action detail	Implement the surface water management plan, working with Scottish Water as appropriate. This may include further assessments of surface water flood risk.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council in coordination with Scottish Water.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

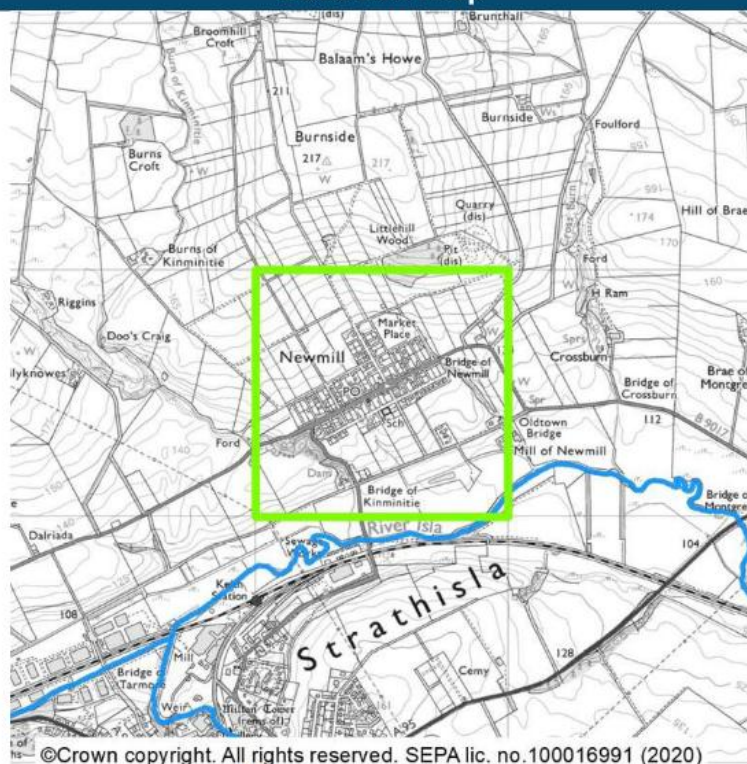
Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Newmill (Keith) (target area 444)

Summary

Newmill lies just north of the town of Keith and is within the Moray Council area. The main source of flooding in Newmill is from surface water flooding. There are approximately 40 people and 20 homes and businesses at risk of flooding. This is expected to remain the same by the 2080s, despite the impact of climate change.

Location map



What is the current understanding of flood risk?

This section provides a summary of information, which has helped to develop an understanding of flood risk in the area. Since 2011 SEPA has developed and updated national level assessments of flooding from rivers, surface water and coastal sources. The national level assessment is improved for surface water by the studies to develop the Newmill Flood Protection Scheme (2016) and the development of the Moray Surface Water Management Plan. Prior to the construction of the flood protection scheme there are records of periodic flooding from surface water including notable flooding in September 2009 and September 2013. Flooding was also recorded in June 2017 when surface water flooding damaged flood defences.

What are the objectives for the area?

In each target area, SEPA and the responsible authorities have set objectives for the management of flood risk. In some locations, the objectives provide a short-term direction that will be reviewed and updated when more information is available. In others they provide a long-term direction for the management of flooding within a community. The objectives along with the current understanding of flood risk help to identify the actions that are required in the short and long term. It may take several years or multiple 6 year cycles to achieve the identified objectives, but they set a common goal for multiple agencies. The following package of objectives have been established for this area. The objectives must be considered alongside national principles to manage flood risk. These include:

- Take a long term, risk-based approach to flood risk management decisions and one that considers the impacts of and adaptability to climate change.
- Deliver coordinated and integrated flood risk management by engaging with communities and working in partnership, sharing data, expertise, services, and resources.
- Consider whole catchments and coastlines and work with natural processes and the environment to deliver multiple outcomes.

Objective ref	Objective type	Objective description
4441	Avoid flood risk	Avoid inappropriate development that increases flood risk in Newmill.
4442	Avoid flood risk	Avoid an increase in flood risk by the appropriate management and maintenance of the Newmill flood protection scheme.
4443	Improve data and understanding	Improve data and understanding of the performance of the Newmill flood protection scheme.
4444	Prepare for flooding	Prepare for current flood risk and future flooding as a result of climate change in Newmill.

What actions are proposed for this area?

This section provides information on the draft proposed actions for this target area. The proposed actions take account of the understanding of flood risk and the package of objectives set for the area. Actions will be coordinated to achieve maximum benefit; this will be determined once the actions have been finalised. The proposed actions are draft for consultation and are provided for comment. Your comments will help shape future flood risk management. The delivery of the proposed actions is subject to available funding and resources.

Actions proposed to start before June 2028

Flood defence maintenance (Ref: 44401)	
Action	The existing flood defences are to be maintained by the asset owner to ensure they are in good condition.
Action detail	Continue to maintain the Newmill Flood Protection Scheme.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is The Moray Council and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

Flood warning maintenance (Ref: 44402)	
Action	The Floodline flood warning service is to be kept operational through maintenance to the existing system and updates being undertaken as required.
Action detail	SEPA should maintain the River Deveron flood warning scheme. The scheme should be investigated for improvement and/or recalibration.
Coordination	The action delivery lead is SEPA and coordination will be determined once the actions have been finalised.

SEPA and responsible authorities carry out actions in all areas which help to manage current and future flooding. These actions help to ensure that key aspects of flood risk management are taken forward in all locations. They ensure that for example new housing developments occur in the right places, and that critical flood risk information is developed and updated for all areas. A description of these actions is included in the Local Plan District section at the start of this document.

What are the opportunities for joint working?

Working in partnership is at the heart of flood risk management, responsible authorities and SEPA regularly work together in all areas to improve the coordination of flood management. Working across organisations and groups contributes to sustainable ways of managing current and future flood risk in a community. The potential for joint working will be further explored following the consultation feedback.

Flood Risk Management Glossary

July 2021

Term	Definition
Accretion	Accumulation of sediment.
Actions	Activities undertaken to reduce the impact of flooding. Actions describe where and how flood risk will be managed. These actions have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. Selection of actions to deliver the agreed objectives has been based on a detailed assessment and comparison of economic, social and environmental criteria.
Annual Average Damages (AAD)	Depending on its size or severity each flood will cause a different amount of damage to a given area. Annual Average Damages are the theoretical average economic damages caused by flooding when considered over a very long period of time. It does not mean that damage will occur every year: in many years there will be no damages, in some years minor damages and in a few years major damages may occur. High likelihood events, which occur more regularly, contribute proportionally more to AADs than rarer events. Within the Flood Risk Management Strategies AADs incorporate economic damages to the following receptors: residential properties, non-residential properties, vehicles, emergency services, agriculture and roads. They have been calculated based on the principles set out in the Flood Hazard Research Centre Multi-Coloured Handbook (2010).
Appraisal	Appraisal is the process of defining objectives, examining options and weighing up costs, benefits, risks and uncertainties before a decision is made. The FRM Strategy appraisal method is designed to set objectives and identify the most sustainable combination of actions to tackle flooding from rivers, the sea and surface water.
Appraisal baseline	Defines the existing level of flood risk under the current flood risk management regime.
Awareness raising	Public awareness, participation and community support are essential components of sustainable flood risk management. SEPA and the responsible authorities have a duty to raise public awareness of flood risk. This is undertaken both individually and collaboratively by a range of organisations. Improved awareness of flood risk and actions that prepare individuals, homes and businesses for flooding can reduce overall impact.
Bathing waters	Bathing waters are classed as protected areas under Annex IV of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). There are 84 designated bathing waters in Scotland.

Term	Definition
Benefit cost ratio (BCR)	A benefit cost ratio summarises the overall value for money of an action or project. It is expressed as the ratio of benefits to costs (both expressed as present value monetary values). A ratio of greater than 1:1 indicates that the economic benefits associated with an action are greater than the economic costs of implementation; therefore this is taken as the threshold of economic viability. It should be acknowledged that it is not always possible to accurately estimate economic values for all elements of benefit, and BCR is just one a number of techniques used in appraisal.
Blue infrastructure	Blue infrastructure is often complementary to 'green infrastructure' and includes sustainable drainage systems, swales (shallow, broad and vegetated channels designed to store and/or convey runoff and remove pollutants), wetlands, rivers, canals (and their banks) and all watercourses.
Catchment	All the land drained by a river and its tributaries.
Category 1 and 2 responders (Cat 1 / 2)	Category 1 and 2 Responders are defined as part of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 which seeks to minimise disruption in the event of an emergency. Category 1 Responders are 'core' responders: local authorities, police, fire and rescue services, ambulance service, NHS health boards, SEPA and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Category 2 Responders are key co-operating responders in support of Category 1 Responders. These include gas and electricity companies, rail and air transport operators, harbour authorities, telecommunications providers, Scottish Water, the Health and Safety Executive and NHS National Services Scotland.
Channel improvement	Where work has been carried out on the river's channel allowing an increase in the volume of water it can carry.
Characterisation	Provides a description of the natural characteristics of catchments, coastlines and urban areas in terms of hydrology, geomorphology, topography and land use. It also includes the characterisation of existing levels of flood risk and existing flood risk management activity.
Coastal flooding	Flooding that results from high sea levels or a combination of high sea levels and stormy conditions. The term coastal flooding is used under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, but in some areas it is also referred to as tidal flooding and covers areas such as estuaries and river channels that are influenced by tidal flows.
Combined sewer	Combined sewers transport sewage from homes and industry as well as carrying surface water runoff from gutters, drains and some highways. Heavy or prolonged rainfall can rapidly increase the flow in a combined sewer until the amount of water exceeds sewer capacity.
Combined sewer (overflow) (CSO)	Combined sewer overflows are purposely designed structures to ensure any excess water from sewerage systems is discharged in a controlled way and at a specific managed location.

Term	Definition
Community facility	Within the FRM Strategies this term includes: Emergency Services (Police, Fire, Ambulance, Coastguard, and Mountain Rescue) Educational Buildings (crèche, nursery, primary, secondary, further, higher and special education premises) Healthcare facilities: hospitals, health centres and residential care homes.
Community flood action groups	Community flood action groups are community based resilience groups which, on behalf of local residents and business, help to prepare for and minimise the effects of flooding. They reflect the interests of their local communities and may differ in composition and remit. There are over 60 groups already established in Scotland. The Scottish Flood Forum provides support for both new and existing groups.
Confluence	Where two or more rivers meet.
Conveyance	Conveyance is a measure of the carrying capacity of a watercourse. Increasing conveyance enables flow to pass more rapidly and reducing conveyance slows flow down. Both actions can be effective in managing flood risk depending on local conditions.
Cross Border Advisory Group (CBAG)	The Cross Border Advisory Group is a statutory group made up of representatives from the Environment Agency, SEPA, Scottish Water and the four lead local flood authorities located within the Solway Tweed River Basin District.
Cultural heritage site	Historic Environment Scotland maintains lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest; these buildings are referred to as 'listed buildings'. The highest level of designation is a World Heritage Site. Other designations included in this assessment are scheduled monuments, gardens and designed landscapes, and battlefields.
Culvert	A pipe, channel or tunnel used for the conveyance of a watercourse or surface drainage water under a road, railway, canal or other obstacle.
Damages	<p>Flood damages are categorised as direct or indirect i.e. as a result of the flood water itself, or subsequent knock on effects. Damage to buildings and contents caused by flood water are an example of direct damages, whilst loss of industrial production, travel disruption or stress and anxiety are indirect. Some damages can be quantified in monetary terms, and others can only be described.</p> <p>The potential damages avoided by implementation of a flood risk management action are commonly referred to as the benefits of that action. When comparing the effectiveness of different actions, it is useful to consider estimated damages and damages avoided across the lifespan of the action. Within the FRM Strategies, a 100 year appraisal period has been used as standard. This allows costs, damages and benefits across this time frame to be compared in present value terms.</p> <p>See also 'Annual Average Damages'</p>

Demountable defences	A temporary flood barrier is one that is only installed when the need arises, that is, when flooding is forecast. A demountable flood defence is a particular type of temporary defence that requires built-in parts and therefore can only be deployed in one specific location.
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Term	Definition
Deposition	A natural process leading to an accumulation of sediment on a river bed, floodplain or coastline.
Economic Impact	An assessment of the economic value of the positive and negative effects of flooding and/or the actions taken to manage floods.
Embankment	Flood embankments are engineered earthfill structures designed to contain high river levels or protect against coastal flooding. They are commonly grass-covered, but may need additional protection against erosion by swiftly flowing water, waves or overtopping.
Emergency plans / response	Emergency response plans are applicable for all types of flooding. They set out the steps to be taken during flooding in order to maximise safety and minimise impacts where possible. Under the Civil Contingencies Act, Category 1 Responders have a duty to maintain emergency plans. Emergency plans may also be prepared by individuals, businesses, organisations or communities.
Environmental Impact	A change in the environment as a result of an action or activity. Impacts can be positive or negative and may vary in significance, scale and duration.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process which identifies the potential environmental impacts, both negative and positive, of a proposal.
Environmental sites / environmental designated areas/ environmentally designated sites	Areas formally designated for environmental importance, such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).
Episodic erosion	Erosion induced by a single event, such as a storm.
Erosion	A natural process leading to the removal of sediment from a river bed, bank, floodplain or coastline.
Estuarine surge attenuation	A reduction in the wave energy caused by storm surge. Breakwaters (barriers built out into the sea to protect a coast or harbour from the force of waves) or habitats such as saltmarsh can slow down and reduce the inland impact of storm surges (the rising of the sea due to wind and atmospheric pressure changes associated with storms), thereby reducing coastal flood risk.
Estuary	A coastal body of water usually found where a river meets the sea; the part of the river that is affected by tides.
Fault (fault line)	A break or fracture in the earth's crust as a result of the displacement of one side with respect to the other. In Scotland the Great Glen Fault is a major geological fault line cutting diagonally across the Highlands from Fort William to Inverness.

Flash flood	A flood that occurs a short period of time after high intensity rainfall or a sudden snow melt. A sudden increase in the level and velocity of the water body is often characteristic of these events, leaving a short time for warning or actions.
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Term	Definition
Flashy watercourse	A 'flashy' river or watercourse has a short lag time (the delay between peak rainfall intensity and peak river discharge), high peak discharge, and quickly returns to average flow. Rivers with these characteristics can be prone to flooding and leave a short time for warning or actions.
Flood	In the terms of the FRM Act, 'flood' means a temporary covering by water, from any source, of land not normally covered by water. This does not include a flood solely from a sewerage system, as a result of normal weather or infrastructure drainage. A flood can cause significant adverse impacts on people, property and the environment.
Flood bund	A constructed retaining wall, embankment or dyke designed to protect against flooding to a specified standard of protection.
Flood defence	Infrastructure, such as flood walls and embankments, intended to protect an area against flooding, to a specified standard of protection.
Flood extent	The area that has been affected by flooding, or is at risk of flooding from one or more sources for a particular likelihood.
Flood forecasting	SEPA operates a network of over 250 rainfall, river and coastal monitoring stations throughout Scotland that generate data 24 hours a day. This hydrological information is combined with meteorological information from the Met Office. A team of experts then predict the likelihood and timing of river, coastal and surface water flooding. This joint initiative between SEPA and the Met Office forms the Scottish Flood Forecasting Service.
Flood frequency	The probability that a particular size/severity of flood will occur in a given year (see likelihood).
Flood gate	An adjustable, sometimes temporary, barrier used as a flood defence to control the flow of water within a water system or during a flood. Flood gates can also be part of operational flood defences or protect individual buildings or sites.
Flood guard	Flood guards cover a variety of types of door and window barriers that can be fitted to individual properties and operated by the owners / occupiers prior to a flood event. They act as a physical barrier to water entering the property and can provide protection against frequent and relatively shallow flooding.
Flood hazard	In terms of the FRM Act, hazard refers to the characteristics (extent, depth, velocity) of a flood.
Flood hazard map	Flood hazard maps are required by the FRM Act to show information that describes the nature of a flood in terms of the source, extent, water level or depth and, where appropriate, velocity of water. Flood hazard and risk maps are referred to collectively as flood maps and are available on the SEPA website.

Flood Prevention Scheme / Flood Protection Scheme (FPS)	A flood protection scheme, as defined by the FRM Act, is a scheme by a local authority for the management of flood risk within the authority area. This includes defence measures (flood prevention schemes) formerly promoted under the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961.
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Term	Definition
Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961	The Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961 gave local authorities discretionary powers to make and build flood prevention schemes. It was superseded by the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.
Flood protection study	Flood protection studies aim to refine understanding of the hazard and risk associated with flooding in a particular area, catchment or coastline. They will involve detailed assessment of flood hazard and / or risk and may develop options for managing flood risk.
Flood protection works	Flood protection works can include the same flood defence measures that would make up a formal Flood Protection Scheme but without the legal process, protections and requirements that would come by delivering the works as a scheme.
Flood risk	A measure of the combination of the likelihood of flooding occurring and the associated impacts on people, the economy and the environment.
Flood Risk Assessment	Flood Risk Assessments are detailed studies of an area where flood risk may be present. These are often used to inform planning decisions, may help to develop flood schemes and have also contributed to the National Flood Risk Assessment.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (FRM Act)	The flood risk management legislation for Scotland. It transposes the EC Floods Directive into Scots Law and aims to reduce the adverse consequences of flooding on communities, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
Flood risk management cycle	Under the FRM Act flood risk management planning is undertaken in six year cycles. The first planning cycle is 2015 – 2021. The first delivery cycle is lagged by approximately 6 months and is from 2016/2022.
Flood Risk Management Local Advisory Groups	FRM Local Advisory Groups are stakeholder groups convened to advise SEPA and lead local authorities in the preparation of Flood Risk Management Plans. SEPA and lead local authorities must have regard to the advice they provide.
Flood Risk Management Plan (FRM Plans)	A term used in the FRM Act. FRM Plans set out the actions that will be taken to reduce flood risk in a Local Plan District. They comprise Flood Risk Management Strategies, developed by SEPA, and Local Flood Risk Management Plans produced by lead local authorities.
Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRM Strategy)	Sets out a long-term vision for the overall reduction of flood risk. They contain a summary of flood risk in each Local Plan District, together with information on catchment characteristics and a summary of objectives and actions for Potentially Vulnerable Areas.

Flood risk map	Complements the flood hazard maps published on the SEPA website providing detail on the impacts of flooding on people, the economy and the environment. Flood hazard and risk maps are referred to collectively as flood maps and are available on the SEPA website.
Flood wall	A flood defence feature used to defend an area from flood water to a specified standard of protection.
Flood Warning Area (FWA)	A Flood Warning area is where SEPA operates a formal Flood Monitoring Scheme to issue targeted Flood Warning messages for properties located in the area.

Term	Definition
Flood warning scheme	A flood warning scheme is the network of monitoring on a coastal stretch or river, which provides SEPA with the ability to issue Flood Warnings.
Floods directive	European Directive 2007/60/EC on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks builds on and is closely related to the Water Framework Directive (see river basin management planning). It was transposed into Scots Law by the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009. The Directive requires Member States to assess if all watercourses and coastlines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent, assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.
Floodplain	Area of land that borders a watercourse, an estuary or the sea, over which water flows in time of flood, or would flow but for the presence of flood defences and other structures where they exist.
Floodplain storage	Floodplains naturally store water during high flows. Storage can be increased through natural or man-made features to increase flood depth or slow flows in order to reduce flooding elsewhere.
Fluvial flooding	Flooding from a river or other watercourse.
Gabion	A metal cage filled with rocks often used in river bank protection.
Green infrastructure	The European Commission defines green infrastructure as “the use of ecosystems, green spaces and water in strategic land use planning to deliver environmental and quality of life benefits. It includes parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, wetlands, road verges, allotments and private gardens. Green infrastructure can contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, natural disaster risk mitigation, protection against flooding and erosion as well as biodiversity conservation.” See also ‘blue infrastructure’.
Groundwater flooding	This type of flooding is caused by water rising up from underlying rocks or flowing from springs. In Scotland groundwater is generally a contributing factor to flooding rather than the primary source.
Integrated catchment study (ICS)	In urban areas, the causes of flooding are complex because of the interactions between rivers, surface water drainage and combined sewer systems and tidal waters. Scottish Water works with SEPA and local authorities to assess these interactions through detailed studies.

Land use planning (LUP)	The process undertaken by public authorities to identify, evaluate and decide on different options for the use of land, including consideration of long term economic, social and environmental objectives and the implications for different communities and interest groups.
Lead local authority	A local authority responsible for leading the production, consultation, publication and review of a Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

Term	Definition
Likelihood of flooding	<p>The chance of flooding occurring.</p> <p>High likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every ten years (1:10). Or a 10% chance of happening in any one year.</p> <p>Medium likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every two hundred years (1:200). Or a 0.5% chance of happening in any one year.</p> <p>Low likelihood: A flood event is likely in the defined area on average once in every thousand years (1:1000). Or a 0.1% chance of happening in any one year.</p>
Local Flood Risk Management Plans (Local FRM Plan)	Local Flood Risk Management Plans, produced by lead local authorities, will take forward the objectives and actions set out in Flood Risk Management Strategies. They will provide detail on the funding, timeline of delivery, arrangements and co-ordination of actions at the local level during each six year FRM planning cycle.
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	A Local Nature Reserve is a protected area of land designated by a local authority because of its local special natural interest and / or educational value. Local authorities select and designate local nature reserves using their powers under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
Local Plan District	Geographical areas for the purposes of flood risk management planning. There are 14 of Local Plan Districts in Scotland.
Local Plan District Partnerships	Each LPD has established a local partnership comprised of local authorities, SEPA and Scottish Water and others as appropriate. These partnerships are distinct from the FRM Local Advisory Groups and they retain clear responsibility for delivery of the FRM actions set out in the Local Flood Risk Management Plans. It is the local partnership that makes decisions and supports the delivery of these plans.
Maintenance	Sections 18 and 59 of the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 put duties of watercourse inspection, clearance and repair on local authorities. In addition, local authorities may also be responsible for maintenance of existing flood protection schemes or defences.
Montane habitat	This habitat encompasses a range of natural or near-natural vegetation occurring in the montane zone, lying above or beyond the natural tree-line.

National Flood Management Advisory Group (NFMAG)	The National Flood Management Advisory Group provides advice and support to SEPA and, where required, Scottish Water, local authorities and other responsible authorities on the production of FRM Strategies and Local FRM Plans.
National Flood Risk Assessment (NFRA)	A national analysis of flood risk from all sources of flooding which also considers climate change impacts. First published in December 2011 this provides the information required to undertake a strategic approach to flood management that identifies areas at flood risk that require further appraisal. The NFRA will be reviewed and updated for the second cycle of FRM Planning by December 2018.

Term	Definition
Natural flood management (NFM)	A set of flood management techniques that aim to work with natural processes (or nature) to manage flood risk.
Non-residential properties	Properties that are not used for people to live in, such as shops or other public, commercial or industrial buildings
Objectives	Objectives provide a common goal and shared ambition for managing floods. These objectives have been set by SEPA and agreed with flood risk management authorities following consultation. They were identified through an assessment of the underlying evidence of the causes and impacts of flooding.
One in 200 year flood	See 'likelihood of flooding' and 'return period'.
Planning policies	Current national planning policies, Scottish Planning Policy and accompanying Planning Advice notes restrict development within the floodplain and limit exposure of new receptors to flood risk. In addition to national policies, local planning policies may place further requirements within their area of operation to restrict inappropriate development and prevent unacceptable risk.
Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA)	Catchments identified as being at risk of flooding and where the impact of flooding is sufficient to justify further assessment and appraisal. There were 243 PVAs identified by SEPA in the 2011 National Flood Risk Assessment and were the focus of the first FRM planning cycle. There are 233 PVAs identified for the 2018 National Flood Risk Assessment.
Property level protection	Property level protection includes flood gates, sandbags and other temporary barriers that can be used to prevent water from entering individual properties during a flood.
Property level protection scheme	Some responsible authorities may have a formal scheme to provide, install and maintain property level protection for properties.
Ramsar sites	Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention.
Receptor	Refers to the entity that may be impacted by flooding (a person, property, infrastructure or habitat). The vulnerability of a receptor can be reduced by increasing its resilience to flooding.

Residual risk	The risk which remains after risk management and mitigation. This may include risk due to very severe (above design standard) storms or risks from unforeseen hazards.
Resilience	The ability of an individual, community or system to recover from flooding.
Responsible authority	Designated under the FRM (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated legislation as local authorities, Scottish Water and, from 21 December 2013, the National Park Authorities and Forestry Commission Scotland. Responsible authorities, along with SEPA and Scottish Ministers, have specific duties in relation to their flood risk related functions.
Return period	A measure of the rarity of a flood event. It is the statistical average length of time separating flood events of a similar size. (see likelihood)

Term	Definition
Revetment	Sloping structures placed on banks or at the foot of cliffs in such a way as to deflect the energy of incoming water.
Riparian	The riparian area is the interface between land and a river or stream. For the purposes of FRM this commonly refers to the riparian owner, which denotes ownership of the land area beside a river or stream.
River basin management planning (RBMP)	The Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 transposed the European Water Framework Directive into Scots law. The Act created the River Basin Management Planning process to achieve environmental improvements to protect and improve our water environment. It also provided the framework for regulations to control the negative impacts of all activities likely to have an impact on the water environment.
Runoff reduction	Actions within a catchment or sub-catchment to reduce the amount of runoff during rainfall events. This can include intercepting rainfall, storing water, diverting flows or encouraging infiltration.
Scottish Advisory and Implementation Forum for Flooding (SAIFF)	The stakeholder forum on flooding set up by the Scottish Government to ensure legislative and policy aims are met and to provide a platform for sharing expertise and developing common aspirations and approaches to reducing the impact of flooding on Scotland's communities, environment, cultural heritage and economy.
Sediment balance	Within a river where erosion and deposition processes are equal over the medium to long-term resulting in channel dimensions (width, depth, slope) that are relatively stable.
Sediment management	Sediment management covers a wide range of activities that includes anything from the small scale removal of dry gravels to the dredging of whole river channels and the reintroduction of removed sediment into the water environment. Historically, sediment management has been carried out for several reasons, including reducing flood risk, reducing bank erosion, for use as aggregate and to improve land drainage.

Self help	Self help actions can be undertaken by any individuals, businesses, organisations or communities at risk of flooding. They are applicable to all sources, frequency and scales of flooding. They focus on awareness raising and understanding of flood risk.
Sewer flooding (and other artificial drainage system flooding)	Flooding as a result of the sewer or other artificial drainage system (e.g. road drainage) capacity being exceeded by rainfall runoff or when the drainage system cannot discharge water at the outfall due to high water levels (river and sea levels) in receiving waters.
Site protection plans	Site protection plans are developed to identify whether normal operation of a facility can be maintained during a flood. This may be due to existing protection or resilience of the facility or the network.
Shoreline management Plan (SMP)	A Shoreline Management Plan is a large scale assessment of the coastal flood and erosion risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment. It sets out a long-term framework for the management of these risks in a sustainable manner.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Sites of Special Scientific Interest are protected by law under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 to conserve their plants, animals and habitats, rocks and landforms

Term	Definition
Source of flooding	The type of flooding. This can be coastal, river, surface water or groundwater.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Special Areas of Conservation are strictly protected sites designated under the European Habitats Directive. The Directive requires the establishment of a European network of protected areas which are internationally important for threatened habitats and species
Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Special Protection Areas are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with the European Birds Directive. They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds (as listed in the Directive), and for regularly occurring migratory species
Standard of protection (SoP)	All flood protection structures are designed to be effective up to a specified flood likelihood (Standard of Protection). For events beyond this standard, flooding will occur. The chosen Standard of Protection will determine the required defence height and / or capacity.
Storage area	A feature that can be used to store floodwater, this can be natural in the form of low lying land or manmade such as a reservoir or modified landform.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A process for the early identification and assessment of the likely significant environmental effects, positive and negative, of activities. Often considered before actions are approved or adopted.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is designed for the purposes of specifically informing the Development Plan Process. A SFRA involves the collection, analysis and presentation of all existing and readily available flood risk information (from any source) for the area of interest. It constitutes a strategic overview of flood risk.

Strategic mapping and modelling	Strategic mapping and modelling actions have been identified in locations where SEPA is planning to undertake additional modelling or analysis of catchments and coastlines, working collaboratively with local authorities where appropriate, to improve the national understanding of flood risk.
Surcharge	Watercourses and culverts can carry a limited amount of water. When they can no longer cope, they overflow, or 'surcharge'.
Surface water flooding	Flooding that occurs when rainwater does not drain away through the normal drainage systems or soak into the ground, but lies on or flows over the ground instead
Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)	A plan that takes an integrated approach to drainage accounting for all aspects of urban drainage systems and produces long term and sustainable actions. The aim is to ensure that during a flood the flows created can be managed in a way that will cause minimum harm to people, buildings, the environment and business.
Surface water plan / study	The management of flooding from surface water sewers, drains, small watercourses and ditches that occurs, primarily in urban areas, during heavy rainfall. FRM Strategy actions in this category include: Surface Water Management Plans, Integrated Catchment Studies and assessment of flood risk from sewerage systems (FRM Act Section 16) by Scottish Water. These have been selected as appropriate for each Potentially Vulnerable Area.
Term	Definition
Sustainable flood risk management	The sustainable flood risk management approach aims to meet human needs, whilst preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for future generations. The delivery of sustainable development is generally recognised to reconcile three pillars of sustainability – environmental, social and economic.
Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)	A set of techniques designed to slow the flow of water. They can contribute to reducing flood risk by absorbing some of the initial rainfall and then releasing it gradually, thereby reducing the flood peak and helping to mitigate downstream problems. SuDS encourage us to take account of quality, quantity and amenity / biodiversity.
Target area	Target areas are based on communities at risk of flooding. These are situated within Potentially Vulnerable Areas and should benefit from actions to reduce flood risk. To benefit the community, actions may apply to outside the target area. National flood risk management efforts and funding should be targeted to benefit these target areas.
UK Climate Change Projections (UKCP09)	The leading source of climate change information for the UK. It can help users to assess their climate risks and plan how to adapt to a changing climate. The high emissions scenario refers to the SRES A1F1 emission scenario. See Annex 1 of the UKCP09 Climate change projections report for details.
Utility assets	Within the FRM Strategies this refers to electricity sub stations, mineral and fuel extraction sites, telephone assets, television and radio assets.

Voe	A dialect term, common in place names and used to refer to a small bay or creek in Orkney or Shetland.
Vulnerability	A measure of how likely someone or something is to suffer long-term damage as a result of flooding. It is a combination of the likelihood of suffering harm or damage during a flood (susceptibility) and the ability to recover following a flood (resilience).
Wave energy dissipation	Process by which a wave loses its energy.
Wave overtopping	Wave overtopping occurs when water passes over a flood wall or other structure as a result of wave action. Wave overtopping may lead to flooding particularly in exposed coastal locations.

Flood Risk Management Plan: Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District consultation

Closes 31 Oct 2021

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1. What is your name?

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Email

Flooding@Moray.gov.uk

3. What is your interest in this consultation? Are you responding on behalf of:

- ☒ Local authority

- ☐ Scottish Government
- ☐ Community body
- ☐ Local business
- ☐ Community group
- ☐ Member of the public
- ☐ Other organisation

Organisation

Moray Council

4. This is a joint consultation with local authorities. Are you happy for your responses to be shared with the local authority?

- ☒ Yes, I am happy for my responses to be shared in full
- ☐ Yes, I am happy for my responses to be shared anonymously
- ☐ No, I don't want my responses to be passed to the local authority

If you are a local authority making a representation on behalf of an individual, please confirm consent for publication of response.

- ☒ Yes, I have permission to share all this response with SEPA.
- ☐ No, I do not have permission to share this response with SEPA. (If you do not have permission, SEPA will not consider this response in its decision making.)

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Flood Risk Management Plan: Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District consultation

Closes 31 Oct 2021

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Findhorn - Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District (LPD 5)

The Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District covers an area of around 4,800km² and has a population of approximately 100,000 people. It includes the low-lying coastal areas around Nairn and Lossiemouth in the north and the steeper, more rugged landscape of the Cairngorms National Park in the south.

The area is largely rural with the main land cover including heather grassland, bog, coniferous woodland and agricultural land. The main rivers are the River Spey, the River Findhorn and the River Nairn. The coastline is approximately 70km long and includes rocky shorelines and extensive beaches.

There is river, surface water and coastal flood risk in the Local Plan District, with the main risk coming from river and surface water flooding. The area has been affected by several large floods. In December 2012 a storm led to coastal flooding in Lossiemouth and Kingston and in August 2018 ex-hurricane Bertha caused widespread river flooding with Elgin and Dallas particularly affected.

Currently it is estimated that there are 11,000 people and 7,300 homes and businesses at risk from flooding. This is estimated to increase to 15,000 people and 9,900 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change. The annual cost of

flooding is approximately £8.2 million. Note however that flooding from wave overtopping is not fully represented in the assessment of flood risk and the impact of coastal flooding may be underestimated.

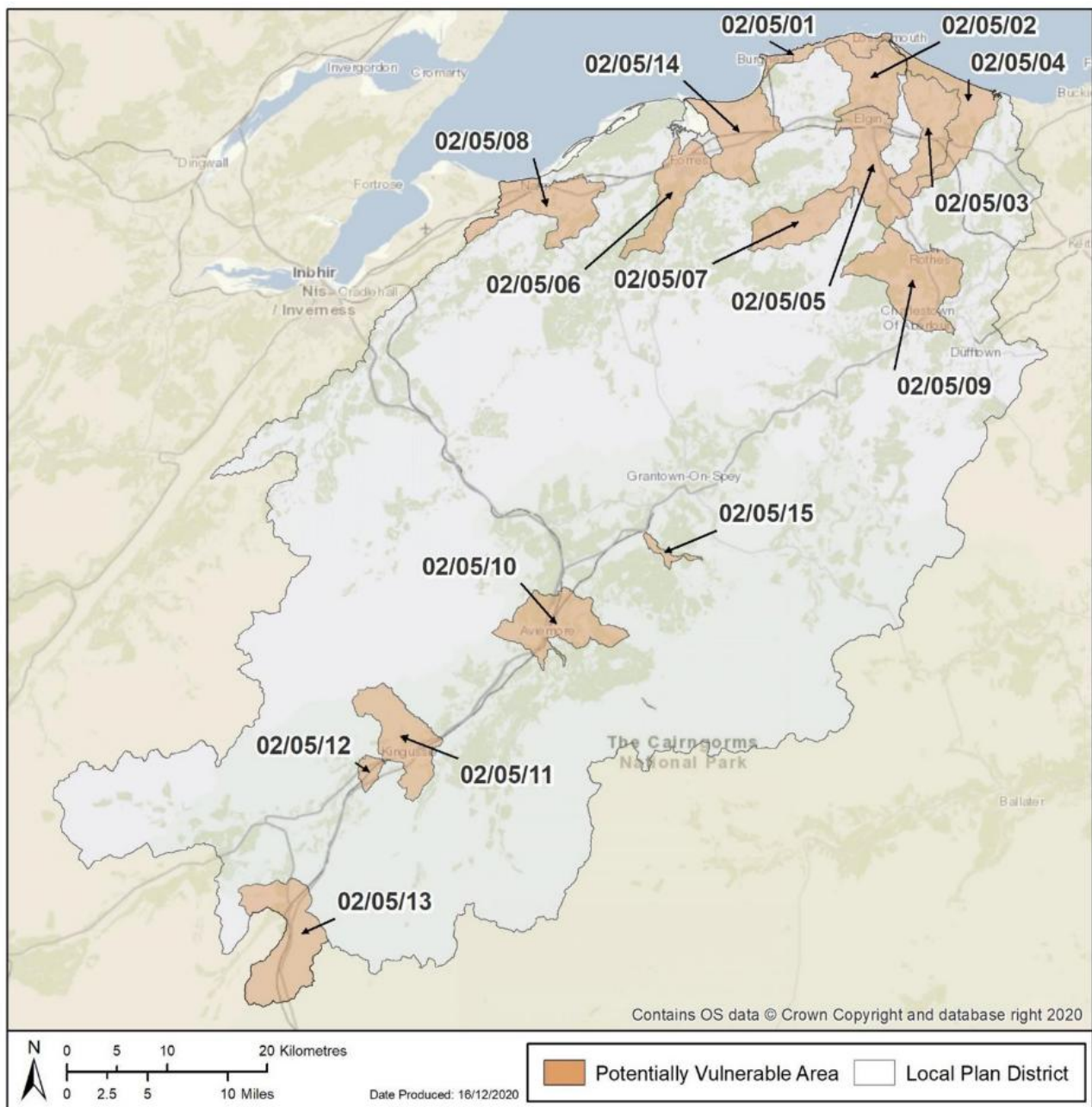
SEPA lead development of the Flood Risk Management Plans for Scotland and delivery of flood warning services. Local flood risk management planning is led by The Moray Council who is the lead authority. Other responsible authorities include The Highland Council, Cairngorms National Park Authority and Scottish Water. They are supported by Scottish Government agencies including Forestry and Land Scotland, Scottish Forestry and Transport Scotland.

Within this Local Plan District, actions are regularly carried out by SEPA and responsible authorities to help prepare communities for potential flooding and reduce the impact of any flooding that does occur.

This document ([user_uploads/lpd5-findhorn--nairn-and-speyside-full-frmp-consultation-document-1.pdf](#)) shows the actions that are due to take place over the next six years, and most of these are carried out on an ongoing basis.

Specific local actions to manage flood risk in target areas are detailed in the Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) sections that follow.

▼ Figure 1. Potentially Vulnerable Areas in Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District



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Flood Risk Management Plan: Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District consultation

Closes 31 Oct 2021

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Potentially Vulnerable Areas

Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) were designated in 2018 based on the potential current or future risk from all sources of flooding. This designation was informed by the National Flood Risk Assessment (<https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/nfra2018/>). As part of continued analysis of flood risk, the National Flood Risk Assessment and Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) will be reviewed every six years to take on board any new information.

There are 15 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) in this Local Plan District. Following sections provide more information on these areas.

Click below to see the list of the potentially vulnerable areas and the main communities and infrastructure (target areas) where objectives and actions have been set. Further information on what is planned within target areas can be accessed by clicking on the target area name.

Please note, all links will open in the current tab, and it is recommended that you right click on the name and select to 'open in a new tab' to allow you to return to the consultation questions easily. If you open the link in the same tab, you will have to go back (using the arrow in the top left-hand corner) to return to the consultation.

▼ List of potentially vulnerable areas, and the target areas

List of potentially vulnerable areas, and the target areas included, in this plan are:

Burghead to Lossiemouth, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/01)

- Hopeman (target area 389) (user_uploads/ota-389_hopeman.pdf)
- Lossiemouth (target area 391) (user_uploads/ota-391_lossiemouth.pdf)

Spynie, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/02)

- Seatown, Lossiemouth (target area 9991) (user_uploads/ota-9991_seatown--lossiemouth.pdf)

Lhanbryde, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/03)

- Lhanbryde (target area 390) (user_uploads/ota-390_lhanbryde.pdf)

Kingston and Garmouth, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/04)

- Garmouth (target area 393) (user_uploads/ota-393_garmouth.pdf)
- Kingston (target area 463) (user_uploads/ota-463_kingston.pdf)

Elgin, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/05)

- Elgin (target area 392) (user_uploads/ota-392_elgin.pdf)

Forres, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/06)

- Forres (target area 427) (user_uploads/ota-427_forres.pdf)

Dallas, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/07)

- Dallas (target area 421) (user_uploads/ota-421_dallas.pdf)

Nairn, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/08)

- Nairn (target area 428) (user_uploads/ota-428_nairn.pdf)

- Newmill (Nairn) (target area 9992) (user_uploads/ota-9992_newmill--nairn-.pdf)

Roths and Aberlour, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/09)

- Roths (target area 397) (user_uploads/ota-397_roths.pdf)
- Aberlour (target area 432) (user_uploads/ota-432_aberlour.pdf)

Aviemore, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/10)

- Aviemore (target area 396) (user_uploads/ota-396_aviemore.pdf)

Kingussie, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/11)

- Kingussie (target area 395) (user_uploads/ota-395_kingussie.pdf)

Newtonmore, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/12)

- Newtonmore (target area 443) (user_uploads/ota-443_newtonmore.pdf)

Dalwhinnie, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/13)

- Dalwhinnie (target area 394) (user_uploads/ota-394_dalwhinnie.pdf)

Kinloss, Moray (PVA no. 02/05/14)

- Kinloss (target area 420) (user_uploads/ota-420_kinloss.pdf)

Nethy Bridge, Highland (PVA no. 02/05/15)

- Nethy Bridge (target area 434) (user_uploads/ota-434_nethy-bridge.pdf)

within the Findhorn - Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

The areas which have been highlighted are areas of either known flood risk or where climate change will have significant impact.

6. Are you responding on behalf of a Scottish local authority, or other public sector flooding partner?

(Required)

- ☒ Yes - this response will take you to question 7
- ☐ No - this response will take you to question 12

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Flood Risk Management Plan: Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District consultation

Closes 31 Oct 2021

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Partner engagement

7. Which local authority or partner body do you represent?

Add your organisation title in the box below

Moray Council

8. What target areas objectives and actions are you responding to?

- ☐ All of them
- ☒ Hopeman (target area 389)
- ☒ Lossiemouth (target area 391)
- ☒ Seatown (target area 9991)
- ☒ Lhanbryde (target area 390)
- ☒ Garmouth (target area 393)
- ☒ Kingston (target area 463)
- ☒ Elgin (target area 392)

- ☒ Forres (target area 427)
- ☒ Dallas (target area 421)
- ☐ Nairn (target area 428)
- ☐ Newmill (Nairn) (target area 9992)
- ☒ Rothes (target area 397)
- ☒ Aberlour (target area 432)
- ☐ Aviemore (target area 396)
- ☐ Kingussie (target area 395)
- ☐ Newtonmore (target area 443)
- ☐ Dalwhinnie (target area 394)
- ☒ Kinloss (target area 420)
- ☐ Nethy Bridge (target area 434)

9. Do you agree with the objectives set for each of the target areas you have identified above?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

The objective set for each area are proportionate to the risk and deliverable within the next flood risk management cycle subject to Capital funding from Scottish Government/Cosla being available to allow the delivery of those action which would lead to flood scheme being built.

Garmouth (target area 393): Since the drafting of the objective and actions for Garmouth it should be noted that the frequency of flooding has increased due to river erosion, but the number of properties and depth has not.

Lhanbryde (target area 390): Update modelling of the these schemes in this target areas has been completed and can be shared as part of this consultation

Forres (target area 427) Update modelling of the these schemes in this target areas has

been completed and can be shared as part of this consultation

10. Do you agree with the proposed actions for the target areas you have identified above?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

The objective set for each area are proportionate to the risk and deliverable within the next flood risk management cycle subject to Capital funding from Scottish Government/Cosla being available to allow the delivery of those action which would lead to flood scheme being built.

Garmouth (target area 393): Since the drafting of the objective and actions for Garmouth it should be noted that the frequency of flooding has increased due to river erosion, but the number of properties and depth has not.

Lhanbryde (target area 390): Update modelling of the these schemes in this target areas has been completed and can be shared as part of this consultation

Forres (target area 427) Update modelling of the these schemes in this target areas has been completed and can be shared as part of this consultation

11. Can you tell us any other organisations you think we should be working with on these plans?

As part of Flood Risk Management the following groups are key to the implementation of these plans:-

Local Community Councils and Elected Members

Scottish Water

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Flood Risk Management Plan: North East Local Plan District consultation

Closes 31 Oct 2021

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About you

1. What is your name?

Name

Moray Council

2. What is your email address?

If you enter your email address then you will automatically receive an acknowledgement email when you submit your response.

Email

Flooding@Moray.gov.uk

3. What is your interest in this consultation? Are you responding on behalf of:

☒ Local authority

- ☐ Scottish Government
- ☐ Community body
- ☐ Local business
- ☐ Community group
- ☐ Member of the public
- ☐ Other organisation

Organisation

Moray Council

4. This is a joint consultation with local authorities. Are you happy for your responses to be shared with the local authority?

- ☒ Yes, I am happy for my responses to be shared in full
- ☐ Yes, I am happy for my responses to be shared anonymously
- ☐ No, I don't want my responses to be passed to the local authority

If you are a local authority making a representation on behalf of an individual, please confirm consent for publication of response.

- ☒ Yes, I have permission to share all this response with SEPA.
- ☐ No, I do not have permission to share this response with SEPA. (If you do not have permission, SEPA will not consider this response in its decision making.)

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Flood Risk Management Plan: North East Local Plan District consultation

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North East Local Plan District (LPD 6)

The North East Local Plan District covers an area of around 6,500km² and has a population of approximately 500,000 people. It covers part of the north-east of Scotland from the central and eastern Grampians, north to the Outer Moray Firth and east to the Aberdeenshire coastline.

Within the Cairngorms National Park, heather and montane habitats dominate. Elsewhere, land use is typically arable, horticultural farmland and improved grasslands. The main urban area is around Aberdeen City. The River Dee, River Don, River Deveron and the River Ythan are the main rivers in the area. There are a few large lochs in the area including Loch

Muick, Loch of Strathbeg, Loch of Skene and Loch Kinord. The coastline is approximately 220km in length with variable extents of beach and hard rock.

There is river, surface water and coastal flood risk in the Local Plan District, with the main risk coming from river and surface water flooding. The area has been affected by several large floods, including in December 2015 when Storm Frank caused considerable damage throughout Deeside, most notably in Ballater. Subsequent storms in January 2016 caused significant damage throughout the area including in Inverurie, Port Elphinstone, Kemnay, Kintore and Ellon. Significant

flooding from the sea and from smaller watercourses and surface water has also occurred, most notably in Aberdeen and Stonehaven, with many towns and villages also affected by flooding.

Currently it is estimated that there are 51,000 people and 30,000 homes and businesses at risk from flooding. This is estimated to increase to 64,000 people and 38,000 homes and businesses by the 2080s due to climate change. The annual cost of flooding is approximately £26 million. Note however that flooding from wave overtopping is not fully represented in the assessment of flood risk and the impact of coastal flooding may be underestimated.

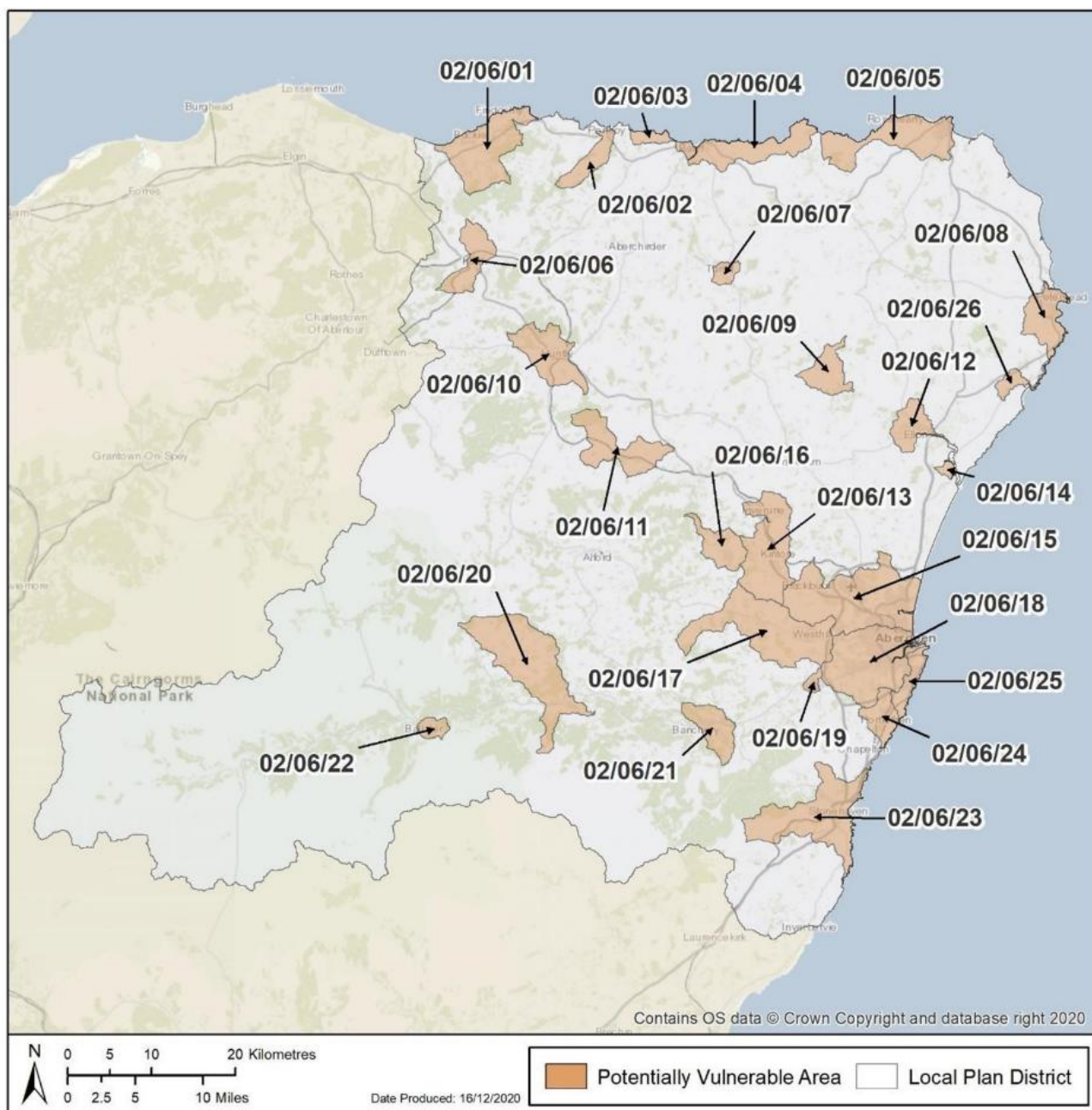
SEPA lead development of the Flood Risk Management Plans for Scotland and delivery of flood warning services. Local flood risk management planning is led by Aberdeenshire Council who is the lead authority. Other responsible authorities include Aberdeen City Council, Moray Council, Cairngorms National Park Authority and Scottish Water. They are supported by Scottish Government agencies including Forestry and Land Scotland, Scottish Forestry and Transport Scotland.

Within this Local Plan District, actions are regularly carried out by SEPA and responsible authorities to help prepare communities for potential flooding and reduce the impact of any flooding that does occur.

This document ([user_uploads/lpd6-north-east-full-frmp-consultation-document-1.pdf](#)) shows the actions that are due to take place over the next six years, and most of these are carried out on an ongoing basis.

Specific local actions to manage flood risk in target areas are detailed in the Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) sections that follow.

▼ Figure 1. Potentially Vulnerable Areas in North East Local Plan District



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Potentially Vulnerable Areas

Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) were designated in 2018 based on the potential current or future risk from all sources of flooding. This designation was informed by the National Flood Risk Assessment. (<https://www.sepa.org.uk/data-visualisation/nfra2018/>) As part of continued analysis of flood risk, the National Flood Risk Assessment and Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) will be reviewed every six years to take on board any new information.

There are 26 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) in this Local Plan District. Following sections provide more information on these areas.

Click below to see the list of the potentially vulnerable areas and the main communities and infrastructure (target areas) where objectives and actions have been set. Further information on what is planned within target areas can be accessed by clicking on the target area name.

Please note, all links will open in the current tab, and it is recommended that you right click on the name and select to 'open in a new tab' to allow you to return to the consultation questions easily. If you open the link in the same tab, you will have to go back (using the arrow in the top left-hand corner) to return to the consultation.

List of potentially vulnerable areas, and the target areas included, in this plan are:

Portgordon and Buckie, Moray (PVA no. 02/06/01)

- Portgordon (target area 398) (user_uploads/ota-398_portgordon.pdf)
- Buckie and Portessie (target area 455) (user_uploads/ota-455_buckie-and-portessie.pdf)

Portsoy, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/02)

- Portsoy (target area 399) (user_uploads/ota-399_portsoy.pdf)

Banff and Whitehills, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/03)

- Banff (target area 400) (user_uploads/ota-400_banff.pdf)
- Whitehills (target area 401) (user_uploads/ota-401_whitehills.pdf)

Macduff, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/04)

- Macduff (target area 402) (user_uploads/ota-402_macduff.pdf)
- Gardenstown (target area 458) (user_uploads/ota-458_gardenstown.pdf)
- Crovie (target area 459) (user_uploads/ota-459_crovie.pdf)

Fraserburgh and Rosehearty, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/05)

- Fraserburgh (target area 408) (user_uploads/ota-408_fraserburgh.pdf)
- Pennan (target area 460) (user_uploads/ota-460_pennan.pdf)
- Sandhaven (target area 461) (user_uploads/ota-461_sandhaven.pdf)
- Rosehearty (target area 462) (user_uploads/ota-462_rosehearty.pdf)

Keith and Newmill, Moray (PVA no. 02/06/06)

- Keith (target area 404) (user_uploads/ota-404_keith.pdf)
- Newmill (Keith) (target area 444) (user_uploads/ota-444_newmill--keith-.pdf)

Turriff, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/07)

- Turriff (target area 449) (user_uploads/ota-449_turriff.pdf)

Peterhead, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/08)

- Boddam (target area 406) (user_uploads/ota-406_boddam.pdf)
- Peterhead (target area 407) (user_uploads/ota-407_peterhead.pdf)

Methlick, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/09)

- Methlick (target area 450) (user_uploads/ota-450_methlick.pdf)

Huntly, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/10)

- Huntly (target area 403) (user_uploads/ota-403_huntly.pdf)

Insch, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/11)

- Insch (target area 411) (user_uploads/ota-411_insch.pdf)

Ellon, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/12)

- Ellon (target area 405) (user_uploads/ota-405_ellon.pdf)

Inverurie and Kintore, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/13)

- Inverurie (target area 409) (user_uploads/ota-409_inverurie.pdf)
- Kintore (target area 410) (user_uploads/ota-410_kintore.pdf)

Newburgh, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/14)

- Newburgh (Aberdeenshire) (target area 423) (user_uploads/ota-423_newburgh--aberdeenshire-.pdf)

Aberdeen City - North, Aberdeen City (PVA no. 02/06/15)

- Bridge of Don (target area 412) (user_uploads/ota-412_bridge-of-don.pdf)
- Dyce (target area 430) (user_uploads/ota-430_dyce.pdf)

- Kingswells (north) (target area 445) (user_uploads/ota-445_kingswells--north-.pdf)

Kemnay, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/16)

- Kemnay (target area 422) (user_uploads/ota-422_kemnay.pdf)

Westhill, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/17)

- Westhill (target area 416) (user_uploads/ota-416_westhill.pdf)

Aberdeen City - South, Aberdeen City (PVA no. 02/06/18)

- Aberdeen Central (target area 413) (user_uploads/ota-413_aberdeen-central.pdf)

Peterculter, Aberdeen City (PVA no. 02/06/19)

- Peterculter (target area 415) (user_uploads/ota-415_peterculter.pdf)

Aboyne, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/20)

- Aboyne (target area 417) (user_uploads/ota-417_aboyne.pdf)
- Tarland (target area 418) (user_uploads/ota-418_tarland.pdf)

Banchory, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/21)

- Banchory (target area 433) (user_uploads/ota-433_banchory.pdf)

Ballater, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/22)

- Ballater (target area 414) (user_uploads/ota-414_ballater.pdf)

Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/23)

- Stonehaven (target area 419) (user_uploads/ota-419_stonehaven.pdf)

Portlethen, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/24)

- Portlethen (target area 425) (user_uploads/ota-425_portlethen.pdf)

Cove and Nigg Bay, Aberdeen City (PVA no. 02/06/25)

- Cove Bay (target area 424) (user_uploads/ota-424_cove-bay.pdf)
- Nigg Bay (target area 426) (user_uploads/ota-426_nigg-bay.pdf)

Cruden Bay, Aberdeenshire (PVA no. 02/06/26)

- Cruden Bay (target area 447) (user_uploads/ota-447_cruden-bay.pdf)

5. Do you agree that we have identified the main communities and infrastructure that required flood risk management objectives and actions within the North East Local Plan District?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

The areas which have been highlighted are areas of either known flood risk or where climate change will have significant impact.

6. Are you responding on behalf of a Scottish local authority, or other public sector flooding partner?

(Required)

- ☒ Yes - this response will take you to question 7
- ☐ No - this response will take you to question 12

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Flood Risk Management Plan: North East Local Plan District consultation

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Partner engagement

7. Which local authority or partner body do you represent?

Add your organisation title in the box below

Moray Council

8. What target areas objectives and actions are you responding to?

- ☐ All of them
- ☒ Portgordon (target area 398)
- ☒ Buckie and Portessie (target area 455)
- ☐ Portsoy (target area 399)
- ☐ Banff (target area 400)
- ☐ Whitehills (target area 401)
- ☐ Macduff (target area 402)
- ☐ Gardenstown (target area 458)

- ☐ Crovie (target area 459)
- ☐ Fraserburgh (target area 408)
- ☐ Pennan (target area 460)
- ☐ Sandhaven (target area 461)
- ☐ Rosehearty (target area 462)
- ☒ Keith (target area 404)
- ☒ Newmill (Keith) (target area 444)
- ☐ Turriff (target area 449)
- ☐ Boddam (target area 406)
- ☐ Peterhead (target area 407)
- ☐ Methlick (target area 450)
- ☐ Huntly (target area 403)
- ☐ Inch (target area 411)
- ☐ Ellon (target area 405)
- ☐ Inverurie (target area 409)
- ☐ Kintore (target area 410)
- ☐ Newburgh (Aberdeenshire) (target area 423)
- ☐ Bridge of Don (target area 412)
- ☐ Dyce (target area 430)
- ☐ Kingswells (north) (target area 445)
- ☐ Kemnay (target area 422)
- ☐ Westhill (target area 416)
- ☐ Aberdeen Central (target area 413)
- ☐ Peterculter (target area 415)
- ☐ Aboyne (target area 417)
- ☐ Tarland (target area 418)
- ☐ Banchory (target area 433)
- ☐ Ballater (target area 414)
- ☐ Stonehaven (target area 419)

- ☐ Portlethen (target area 425)
- ☐ Cove Bay (target area 424)
- ☐ Nigg Bay (target area 426)
- ☐ Cruden Bay (target area 447)

9. Do you agree with the objectives set for each of the target areas you have identified above?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

The objectives which have been set for this areas are appropriate and proportionate to the issues within them. It should be noted that objectives which may lead to schemes will be subject to funding from Scottish Government\Cosla.

10. Do you agree with the proposed actions for the target areas you have identified above?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ No

Share your views with us

These actions are correct and deliverable within the 6 year time frame . It should be noted that actions which lead to schemes will be subject to funding from Scottish Government\Cosla.

11. Can you tell us any other organisations you think we should be working with on these plan?

As part of Flood Risk Management the following groups are key to the implementation of these plans:-

Local Community Councils and Elected Members

Scottish Water

Crown Estates Scotland

Scottish Flood Forum

« First

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**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: POPULATION ANALYSIS

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the most up to date population projections for Moray, aligning different sources of information and to examine the confidence decision makers can have in the projections when developing strategy. The report does not examine in detail the implications of the projections for Moray Council services and the wider economy.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this committee the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (para 9 of the minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee note that the inherent flaws in the methodology for population projections mean they can only be relied upon to inform policy and decision making following publication of the next census. Local knowledge related to MOD activities and the housing market can help to provide a better context of the local forecasts and members should note the actions outlined in paragraphs 3.3-3.6.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The demographic trajectory of Moray is of particular interest to Moray Council and its partners. The composition of the population affects a range of issues from how future service delivery is planned to how both the public and private sector will be able to employ the skills they require to operate.
- 3.2 Much of the focus is on young people and how to attract and retain them to the area. This is identified as a key area for concern as youth out-migration is a well-documented issue in both Moray and the wider Highlands and Islands

and population projections often show this to be the case. The implication is that the region will go into decline as businesses cannot invest here as they cannot access the workforce they need and the sectors that will look after the elderly population will not be able to get the workforce they require. Unless we actively work to sustain the population through opportunity and talent attraction and grow the economy the predictions of decline will become a reality.

3.3 According to population projections the population of the UK and Scotland has been largely stable however a post COVID economic slump and stricter immigration rules post Brexit may cause a decline in the population over time. The implication of this is that an active strategy of talent attraction and retention may be required in what will be an ever more competitive internal market for skills. These issues form part of the LOIP and Moray Economic Strategy and Moray Growth Deal to deliver actions that will promote the retention of young people and talent attraction

3.4 On 15 March 2021 the Scottish Government published their population strategy '*A Scotland for the future: opportunities and challenges of Scotland's changing population*'. The strategy has a national focus and is not designed to specifically focus on rural depopulation issues. The strategy can be accessed at the following link <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotland-future-opportunities-challenges-scotlands-changing-population/documents/>

3.5 The strategy focuses on 5 key themes.

1. Family Friendly
2. Healthy living
3. Migration
4. Balance
5. Building engagement and evidence

3.6 There are 36 actions to achieve these themes. 8 of these actions specifically require local authority participation to deliver. These 8 actions are detailed below with a description of the work ongoing to deliver these.

1. *We commit to build more affordable homes as well as shared equity schemes for those who really need to buy a home*

The Council has committed to a programme of affordable homes through the strategic housing investment plan.

There may be further need in relation to certain sectors and talent attraction to find ways to incentivise migration to Moray in the future and housing opportunities may play a part in this.

2. *We will ensure our housing options allow our population to live independently at home for longer*

The Moray Growth Deal Digital Health project led by the Digital Health and Care Innovation Centre aims to support more people to live independent lives in their own homes for longer. This is in addition to creating test bed 'living labs' in Moray to trial new technology. This

project will partner with the Housing Mix project to deliver more homes that will enable this.

3. *We will work with local government partners to develop proposals for a remote and rural migration service pilot to present to the UK Government*

Moray Council influences this work through the Convention of the Highlands and Islands where population has been on the agenda of the past 2 meetings. The Council Leader and Chief Executive attend these meetings. The work focusses on 5 key themes which are:

1. Live Local – Work Global: Public Sector Jobs Dispersal
2. Influence Partners to Ensure Infrastructure and Housing Provision
3. Development of New Interventions
4. Grow Access to Higher Education (HE) and Further Education (FE)
5. Evidence Gathering

4. *We will champion the call for regional models of economic development and recovery and ensure place is at the forefront of all Government developments*

Moray Council influences this work through the Convention of the Highlands and Islands as set out above.

5. *We will continue to drive forward planning reform to improve how we plan our future places and support local government in considering planning as a strategic tool to respond to population change.*

The Moray Local Development Plan 2020(MDLP2020) has endeavoured to reflect strategic themes emerging from the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 regarding quality placemaking, infrastructure co-ordination and the role of planners as enablers. National Planning Framework 4. A Draft is expected to be published Autumn 2021 and will provide guidance on these themes and push net zero ambitions.

MLDP2020 has strong policies and processes to create high quality places which help to attract business and people to Moray, it plans and secures sites and developer obligations towards new health, education and transport infrastructure, which contributes towards Moray being an attractive place to live and work and safeguards Moray's diverse natural and cultural heritage. The Council are also actively working with partners on Town Centre Regeneration projects, aiming to increase the number of people living in Town Centres, regenerating vacant and derelict sites and increasing their attractiveness for investment.

6. *We will consider community work hubs for people to work in who may no longer need to work in offices every day, but to reduce the impact of home working*

The Council is reviewing the property asset management strategy, working styles and estate footprint as part of the recovery plan from COVID 19.

7. *We will consider the role of our anchor institutions and national partners and ensure their work is aligned to the population programme*

The Council is looking at its role as an anchor institution through work being undertaken by the recently appointed Community Wealth Building Officer as well as through the Moray Economic Partnership where partners have agreed to embed Community Wealth Building in their work. Anchor institutions are one of the five pillars of Community Wealth Building.

8. *We will explore opportunities to support Local Authorities in the short-term deal with the demographic pressures of the present*

As with actions 3 and 4 Moray Council influences this work through the Convention of the Highlands and Islands. In addition to this there is a talent attraction sub group of the Moray Economic Partnership and a dedicated media budget to promote the area with the aim of attracting people to live, work and invest in the region.

4. DATA

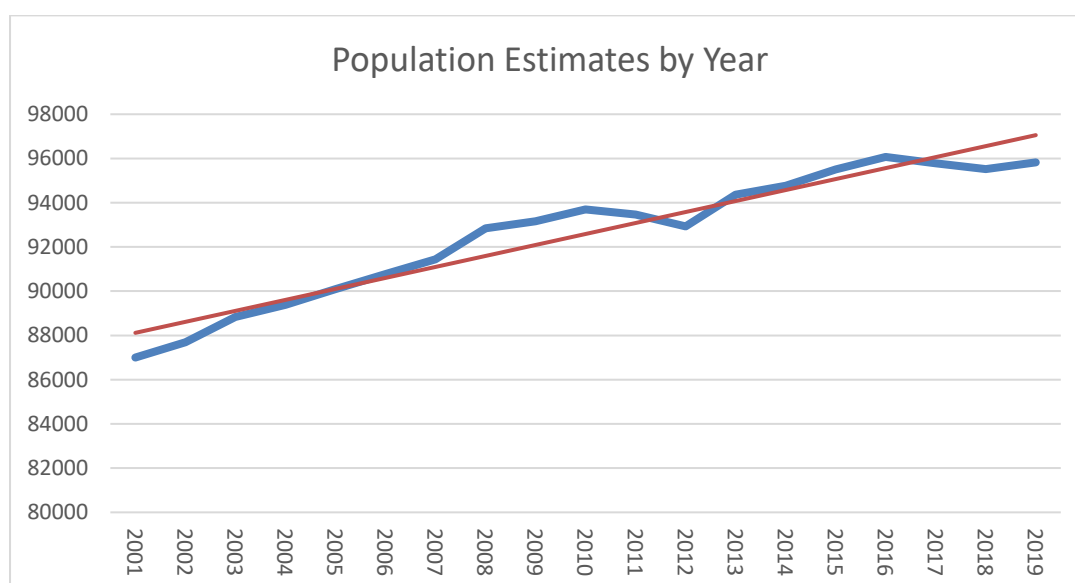
- 4.1 Both population estimates and projections are compiled by the National Records of Scotland at the Local Authority and health board level. At the national level population estimates and projections are compiled by the Office for National Statistics.
- 4.2 These estimates and projections both use census data as their starting point, so all population estimates and projections are currently based on 2011 census data.
- 4.3 Both national and sub national datasets for population estimates use the Cohort Component Method summarised below:
1. Take the previous mid-year resident population estimate and age by one year.
 2. Then estimate the population change between 1 July and 30 June.
 3. Then add births occurring during the year
 4. Then remove deaths occurring during the year
 5. Make adjustments for internal and international migration.
- 4.4 It is important to note that the estimates and projections are cumulative from the 2011 start point and therefore the errors in original census data and projections are also cumulative. The implication of this is that with the 2021 census due (but delayed) we are now at the most inaccurate year of estimate and projections.
- 4.5 An area of specific importance to Moray is the calculation of what is termed special populations, which includes armed forces. This is calculated by

removing armed forces personnel before step 1 in 3.3 and adding them back in after step 5 in 3.3. The numbers are updated by statistics provided by the ministry of Defence.

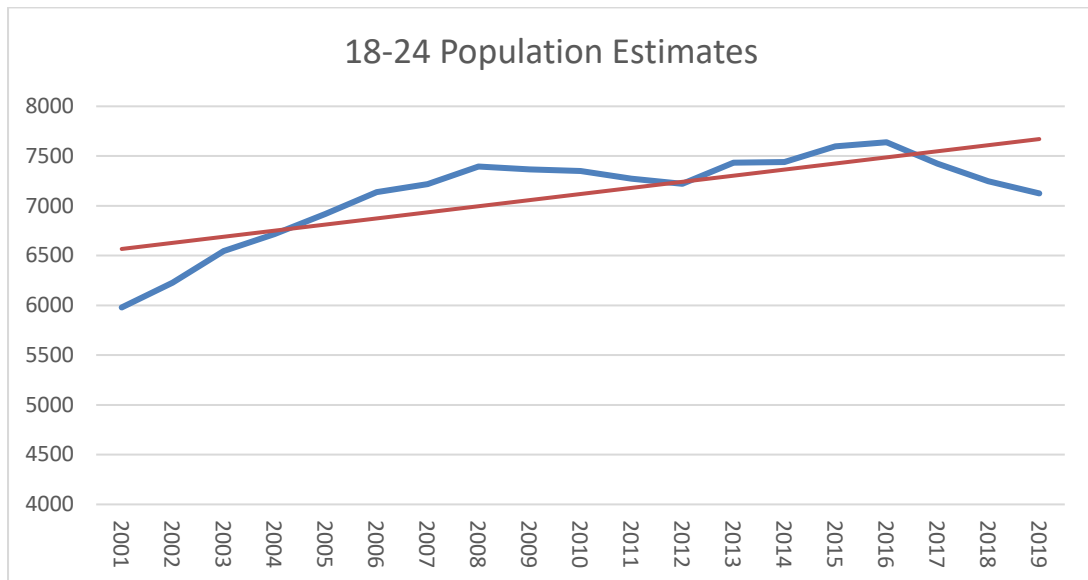
- 4.6 When looking at projections for population the method is slightly different. Each year's armed forces population is an average of the previous 5 years. The implication of this is that the figures are likely to become static over time. This is because the NRS make the assumption that armed forces numbers are themselves static over time, which is why they are removed and then added during the cohort component method.
- 4.7 As an example the 2019 population projection would include an average of the number of armed forces personnel in Moray over the 2014-18 period, which itself would be an estimate of the 2011 data which is combined with the Ministry of Defence data discussed in 3.5.
- 4.8 The NRS update their population projections every 2 years with the next projection set based on 2020 to be released in 2022. This will not include 2021 census data.

5. **NRS POPULATION ESTIMATES**

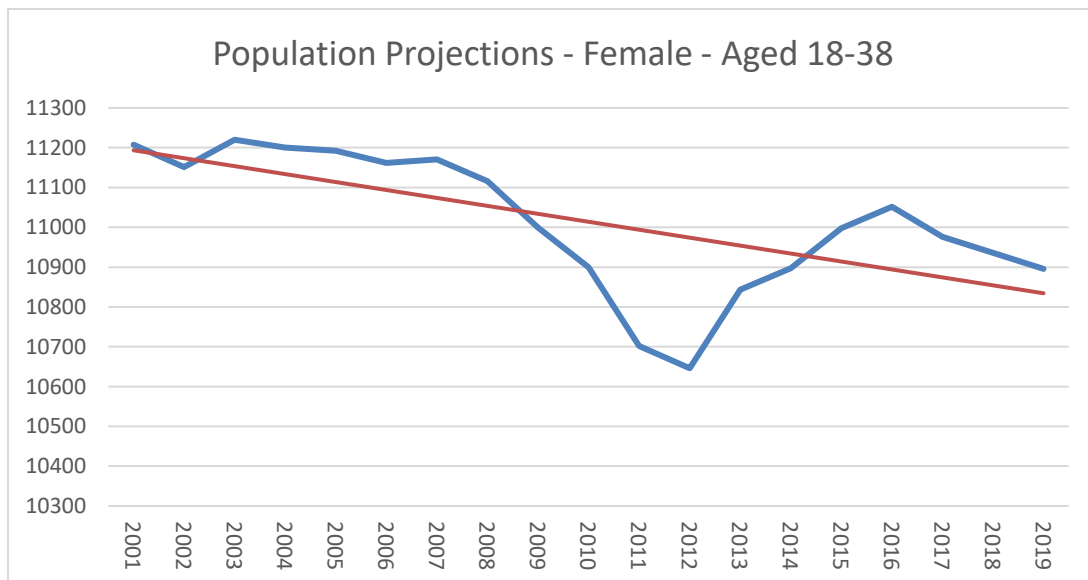
- 5.1 Population projections for Moray from 2001 to the present are as shown in this graph. It is important to distinguish between population estimates which are annual and retrospective and population projections which are based on the estimates and look into the future.



- 5.2 The trend line in red shows a large increase in population over the period from 2001. Although conclusions can't be based on one event alone it does show that the post 2011 census correction on estimated population was not large. Post 2011 census the projected growth is clearly less than was the case between the 2001-2011 census periods.
- 5.3 The below graph shows the populations projection for the same period as 5.1 for the 18-24 population:

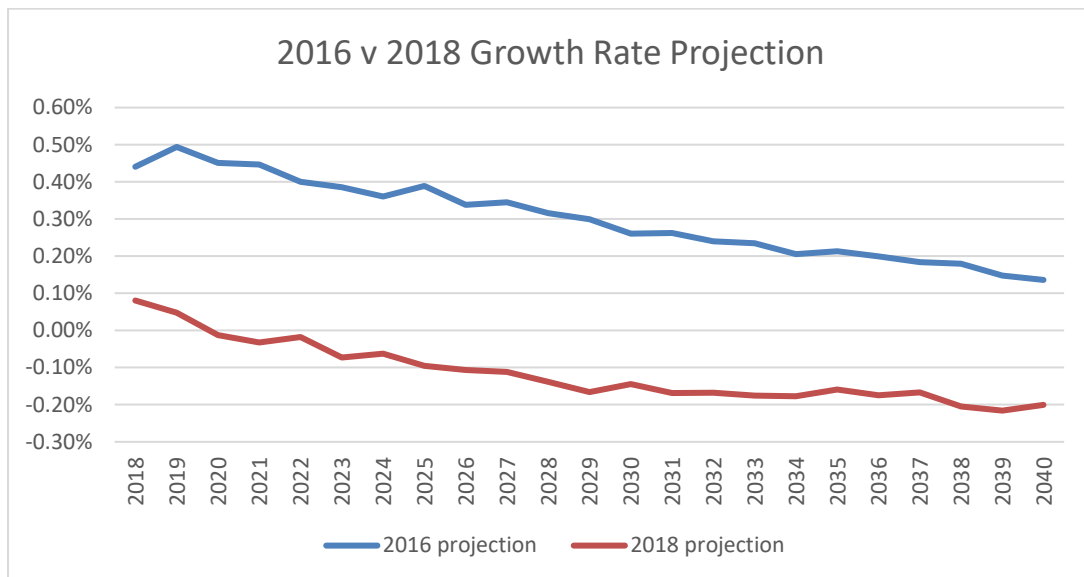


- 5.4 The general direction of travel for this age group is similar to that of the population as a whole, with a small correction after the 2011 Census. It is worth noting that for this age group the estimates have been showing a decline since 2016. The following graphs shows the trend for women aged 18-38 which has a direct impact on the birth rate (not the fertility rate).

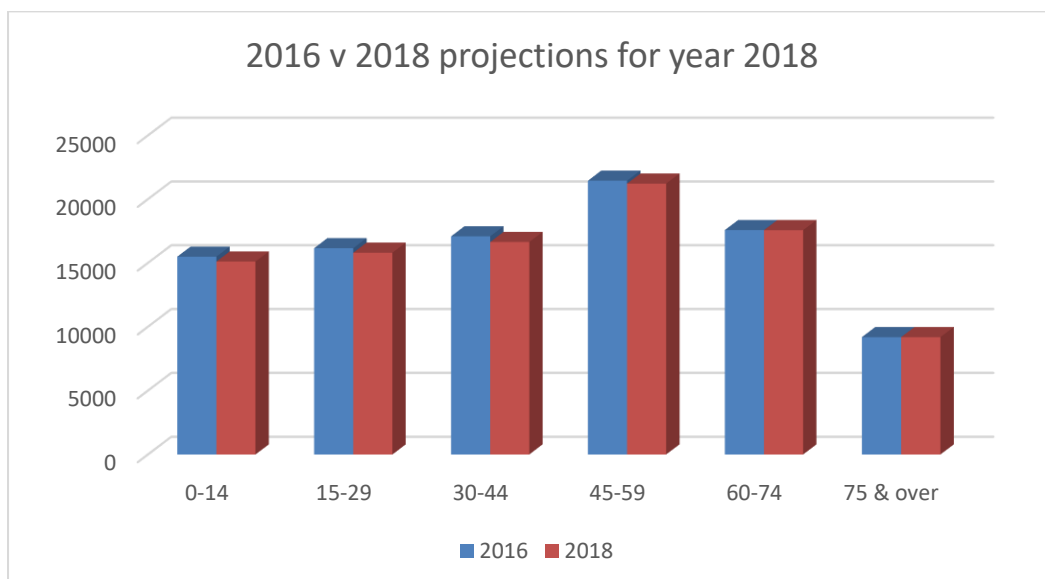


6. POPULATION PROJECTIONS

- 6.1 The most recent 2018 based population projections from NRS have caused concern and confusion due to significant changes in the projected population of Moray over a 25 year period. The changes in growth rate projection are shown in the below graph:



- 6.2 What the projections have in common is that both project a declining trend in the population over time. The difference is the 2018 projection shows growth turning negative in 2020 whereas the 2016 projection had a declining but positive growth rate.
- 6.3 It appears that the main factor that has changed these projections is an assumption that the population estimates were inflated in the years preceding the estimate period. In other words since the 2011 census NRS believe that the population has been over estimated year on year. This is shown in the below graph which has the 2018 projections for 2018 lower than was the case when projections were based on the 2016 estimates.



- 6.4 To clarify why these changes have occurred officers contacted the National Records of Scotland. The main reason for the downward revision are covered in the sections 6.5 - 6.8 below.

- 6.5 At the Scotland level the fertility rate fell, life expectancy stalled and net migration decreased. These factors all had implications for the Moray estimates.
- 6.6 At the Moray level the fertility rate was revised downwards based on a 5 year average of births. This then feeds into the projections to 2040. There were also more deaths than anticipated.
- 6.7 Net migration at the Moray level is now projected to be 50% lower to 2028 than was projected in 2016. This may be related to Brexit however it will be influenced at the national level.
- 6.8 Due to the nature of calculating special populations (Armed Forces) using a 5 year average the projections have the number of armed forces personnel in Moray declining every year to 2028. This is something that is known to be incorrect. It is estimated that when personnel, their families and civilian jobs are taken into account this will total around 1500 people moving to the region.
- 6.9 This means that both the population projections and the data used in the Scottish Government Population Strategy, which is based on the projections, are misleading and arguably underestimate the number of working age people who are and will be located in Moray. The upcoming census will provide an accurate picture to guide policy however until then the activity outlined in section 3.6 will form the basis of Moray Councils talent attraction and retention activity.

7. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

Population increase in the 16-29 age category is a key measure of success in the economic development element of the corporate plan. Demographic pressures are an important consideration in future service delivery also.

(b) Policy and Legal

The activity outlined in section 3.6 states how Moray Council will contribute to the Scottish Government population strategy. The analysis of population statistics shows how they should be used in influencing policy in the Moray Economic Strategy.

(c) Financial implications

If budgeting is done on the basis of a declining population based on incorrect projections this could cause pressures on Council services if the population is in fact growing.

(d) Risk Implications

None

(e) Staffing Implications

None

(f) Property

None

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

None

(h) Consultations

Consultation has taken place with the Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, the Legal Services Manager, the Equal Opportunities Officer, and Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer) have been consulted and comments received have been incorporated into the report.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 The 2018 population projections for Moray have been revised downwards and now show a declining population.

8.2 This has been influenced by a lower birth rate, less migration and a predicted declining armed forces population

8.3 The decline in the projected armed forces personnel is known to be incorrect. We believe the error is an underestimate of 1500 people.

8.4 Until the Census in 2022 the population projections cannot safely be used by policy makers to influence decision making.

Author of Report

Michael O'Donnell – Senior Officer for Economic Strategy and Growth

Background Papers:

Ref: [SPMAN-813460984-124](#)



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

SUBJECT: MORAY BUSINESS START-UP GRANTS

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval from Committee to launch a Business Start-up Grant fund for small businesses to aid the economic recovery.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified Committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this Committee, the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (paragraph 9 of the Minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) **authorise the launch of a Moray Business Start-up grants scheme for this financial year;**
- (i) **agree that savings from the Business Gateway services are utilised to fund this scheme, resulting in no additional cost to the Council; and**
- (ii) **note the offer of match grant funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Business Gateway service aims to stimulate local economic activity by supporting individuals to turn ideas into commercial reality. As we start to emerge from the impact of the COVID-19 crisis, it is critical that Business Gateway, an integral part of the Council Economic Growth and Regeneration Team, is in a position to deliver targeted support to stimulate and encourage new Small and Medium Enterprises (businesses employing between 10 and 100 people) and new Micro businesses

- 3.2 Based on the wide range of enquiries received in recent months from individuals thinking about starting a new business and feedback from Moray stakeholder partners, there is a demand for financial assistance in particular as High street banks are reluctant to provide any aid. As Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) and Bounce Back Loans are now having to be repaid, it's difficult for existing and new businesses to borrow.
- 3.3 Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) have committed to provide a grant of £37,500, which will be matched by the Council contribution of £37,500 – creating a total fund of £75,000. The Council contribution will come from existing Moray Business Gateway LGAP Funds underspend which were approved to be carried forward in June by council, into the current financial year (£19,000). In addition a portion of the BG the budget (£18,500) planned to deliver larger events in 2021/22 such as the Moray Showcase Event and the Annual Fundraising Event would also be committed to this fund. Given that COVID restrictions have only recently been relaxed, this does not allow enough time to plan events of this scale with stakeholder partners and deliver them in this financial year. No additional budget is being requested.
- 3.4 The overarching aims, objectives and rationale for this fund are for new businesses to have access to some finance, that will ensure ideas and concepts are converted into new ventures. A start up grant of £1,500 would be awarded to successful applicants and will be open to all sectors. It will result in the following:
- To respond to the unprecedented effects of the Covid-19 crisis on new business start-up rates in Moray
 - To enable Business Gateway Moray to continue to provide relevant support, specific to the changing needs of the business community.
 - To mitigate and plan for a potential increase in furloughed employees not being retained once the scheme ends in September 2021 – many of those starting new ventures are likely to require additional financial support
 - To help new start businesses with any costs related to starting a new business venture, where they meet key eligibility criteria.
 - To offset the reluctance of support from the financial sector for new start-up businesses
- 3.5 The draft guidelines and criteria is attached as **APPENDIX I**. If the proposal is approved, it is anticipated that the Moray Business Start-Up grants will be launched in September 2021 and end in March 2022 or earlier should the funds be exhausted. The MEP in October 2020 concluded that business continuity and resilience should be at the heart of the recovery process in establishing actions to accelerate economic recovery. We have looked at and reviewed the options proposed at that time and have concluded with HIE that funds should applied for a Business start-up fund given the continuing challenges facing those seeking to start-up a new venture at this time.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The proposal will contribute to achieving the corporate plan priority to promote economic development and growth, also the LOIP priority of a growing and sustainable economy.

(b) Policy and Legal

The Council considers support for economic development issues on their merits, against the objective to facilitate sustainable economic growth and the desired outcomes of the Ten Year Plan and Corporate Plan. Reference has also been made to the Economic Recovery strategy and due consideration has been given to other options recommended by the MEP before concluding this financial support package is the right way forward.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications as it is proposed to utilise 19k Local Growth Accelerator Programme returned ERDF funds (approved by Council in June). In 2021/22 some of the BG budget was planned to deliver the Moray Business Showcase event and other large events. We propose that the original allocation of £18,500 from the BG budget for this should now be put into the Moray Business start-up Fund.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no risks arising from this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

The Moray Business Start-Up Grants will be delivered in-house by the Business Gateway team assisted by Moray Council Economic Growth and Regeneration colleagues and can be accommodated within existing staff resources.

(f) Property

There are no property implications.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

The Moray Business Start-up grant scheme will bring economic investment into Moray areas, some of which some are characterised by low wages, low rates of full-time employment, wealth deprivation and child poverty.

(h) Consultations

Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment and Finance), the Head of Economic Growth and Development, the Legal Services Manager, Paul Connor (Principal Accountant), the Equal Opportunities Officer and Tracey Sutherland (Committee Services Officer) have been consulted and their comments incorporated.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Moray Business Start-up Grants will provide much needed financial support to entrepreneurs seeking to launch new ventures in Moray and it will help to recover from the unprecedented effects of the Covid-19 crisis on new business.**
- 5.2 This is an opportunity for the Council in partnership with HIE to lead on an initiative that will deliver targeted support to stimulate and encourage new Micros and SME's.**

Author of Report: Craig Robertson, Business Gateway Manager
Background Papers: Documents on file in Economic Growth & Regeneration section
Ref: Economic Recovery Report October 2020



MORAY BUSINESS START-UP GRANT (Guidelines & Process)

Introduction

Business Gateway service aims to stimulate local economic activity by supporting individuals to turn ideas into commercial reality. As we start to emerge from the impact of the COVID-19 crisis we offer in partnership with Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) targeted support to stimulate and encourage new Small Medium Enterprises (SME's employing between 10 and 100 people) and new Micro businesses.

A fund of £75,000 is available to provide grants of £1,500 until end of March 2022 or earlier should the funds be exhausted.

Criteria:

- Who can apply
- Eligibility
- Application Process
- Terms & conditions

All applications must come through Business Gateway Moray and applicants should have taken part in either a Start-up workshop or webinar or accessed 1-2-1 support from the Business Gateway service prior to submission.

Who can apply?

- Individuals (Pre-Start); Sole Trader; Partnerships or Limited Companies.
- All sectors can apply
- Applicants must be located within the Moray Council area. UK residents and those 'granted leave to remain' in the UK are eligible to apply for support. Evidence may be required, e.g. a passport or a letter from the Home Office granting leave to remain.

Successful applicants must be able to demonstrate that the new business is commercially viable therefore applications for assistance must be accompanied by a **robust business plan and cashflow forecast** which should include the following:

- Background of the individual and proposed business
- Overview of the relevant sector or area of activity
- Proposed trading structure
- Description of the proposed business
- Benefits of the business to the local economy
- Employee details
- Analysis of your market or area of activity
- Details of your competition
- Start-up costs – include both capital and revenue expenditure
- Other funding sources identified
- Financial projections in year one. The cash flow should be prepared monthly.

- Proposed start-up date
- Specify what the grant will be used for

Business Gateway Moray can assist with the information required and provide business plan & cashflow templates.

Eligibility:

The purpose of the Moray Business Start –Up Grant is to encourage entrepreneurs to start up their own business, leading to stability and diversity in the local economy.

Individuals applying for the Moray Business Start –Up Grant will be expected to demonstrate that at least two of the following primary outcomes can realistically be achieved:

- Creation of a new business
- Creation of new jobs (including owner)
- Development of a new, innovative or improved product or service
- New market development
- Export or import development

The following costs are also **ineligible** for grant assistance:

- Costs which have already been incurred or committed to
- Intellectual property rights, i.e. patents and copyright
- Legal fees / Statutory elements / Standard Industry requirements
- Wage subsidies
- Debt repayment
- Vehicles
- Direct replacement of existing assets
- Acquisition of an existing business, or a management buyout
- Property purchase

Application process

In the first instance, applicants will contact with Business Gateway Moray to check the eligibility of their proposed new venture. They should have accessed BG support such as:

- Business skills training webinars
- 1-2-1 Business Advice
- Advice on funding opportunities
- Access to national information and market research services

Applicants will be asked to submit:

- Completed application form
- Business Plan
- Financial projections
- All other supporting evidence requested

All applications will be assessed and verified against the grant criteria by Business Gateway Moray and successful applicants will be informed by letter of offer. All decisions on assistance under this scheme will be made at the discretion of the Business Gateway Manager and are subject to the availability of funds.

Details of payments made will be recorded and shared with HIE on a regular basis

Terms & Conditions

- *This section details the conditions that will apply to all funding prior to applicants receiving and accepting an offer of grant assistance. A breach of any of these conditions may lead to Moray Council seeking repayment of the grant in full.*
- *Applicants must not commit to any expenditure which is the subject of an application for financial assistance before receiving a formal offer of grant from Moray Council. This includes the payment of invoices.*
- *Any expenditure so committed will be deemed **ineligible** for grant assistance.*
- *The grant payment must be claimed by the date specified in the letter of offer otherwise it will be deemed lapsed and no payments will be made.*
- *All applicants will maintain and operate their premises, machinery and equipment in such a way as to conform to the satisfaction of Moray Council, with relevant Food, Health and Safety at Work and other trading legislation.*
- *All applicants must have appropriate insurance in place to cover premises, equipment, stock and public and employment liability. Applicants must be able to produce evidence of insurance if and when requested by Moray Council.*
- *Moray Council are obliged to make details of all grant approvals under this scheme available to the public and Moray Council funding for the start-up must be acknowledged in relevant reports and PR and logos provided. Publicity any subsequent publicity will include the notation that the successful business has been supported by Moray Business Start-up grant.*
- *Applicants must register their business with HMRC once trading has commenced.*
- *All grants will be paid via business or applicant bank account*
- *The grant must be repaid in full if the business ceases to operate within one year of payment being received by the applicant*



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

**SUBJECT: HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICES – UNAUDITED OUTTURN
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents the unaudited outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and General Services Other Housing Budget for the period up to 31 March 2021.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this Committee, the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (paragraph 9 of the Minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee considers and notes the unaudited outturn for 2020/21 for the period to 31 March 2021.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council agreed the HRA Budget for 2020/21 at a Moray Council meeting on 12 February 2020 (paragraph 12 of the Minute refers). Housing and Property budget monitoring reports are presented to each cycle of meetings.
- 3.2 The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lock down period has impacted on the budget spend as the service concentrated on responding to the immediate crisis.

4. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 31 MARCH 2021

- 4.1 **APPENDIX I** details the provisional and unaudited HRA budget position to 31 March 2021.
- 4.2 The main expenditure variances relate to:–

- 4.2.1 **Supervision and management** – there are a range of variations within this budget resulting in a net underspend of £243k. The main underspends were in staffing (£211k), due to unfilled vacancies and central support services/shared accommodation (£167k). There were also underspends in software (£23k), insurance premiums (£21k) following a change in provider, training (£8k) and more minor cumulative underspends (£4k) on other headings within this budget. This was reduced by overspends in void rent loss (£128k), expenditure on laptops for homeworking (£21k), software costs for the new housing register system (£34k) and Council Tax on empty properties (£8k).
- 4.2.2 **Sheltered Housing** – there was an overspend of £5k arising from energy, repairs & maintenance costs.
- 4.2.3 **Repairs and maintenance** – there was an underspend of £170k net in the repairs and maintenance budgets, which comprised of similar proportions planned/cyclical (£958k) and response repairs (£929k) and to a lesser extent voids (£144k). The net position incorporates an overspend of £1,861k relating to the year end deficit for the Building services DLO, which arose from costs incurred during the pandemic response whilst service delivery was inhibited by restrictions.
- 4.2.4 **Financing Costs** – there was an overspend of £36k due to the higher than anticipated cost of borrowing.
- 4.2.5 **Bad and doubtful debts** – there was an underspend of £54k, arising from lower write-offs and following a previous increase in bad debt provision.
- 4.2.6 **CFCR** – There was an underspend of £253k arising from reduced revenue contributions for funding capital expenditure.
- 4.2.7 **Downsizing Incentive Scheme** – there was an underspend of £38k with fewer transfers than expected completed during the year, with a number of moves suspended due to COVID-19 and prioritisation of lets to homeless households in line with Scottish Government guidance.
- 4.2.8 **Service Developments** – there was an underspend of £29k in relation to software upgrades
- 4.2.9 The income at 31 March 2021 was £492k lower than expected. This is due mainly to revenue from new build housing being delayed due to restriction of works, as well as lower interest rates and fewer reactive repairs.
- 4.2.10 The estimated HRA surplus at 31 March 2021 was £254k, increasing the HRA balance to £2.401m. This compares with a projected outturn at Q3 of £2.219m (£182k favourable variance).

5 OTHER HOUSING BUDGET

- 5.1 **APPENDIX II** provides details of the provisional and unaudited budget position to 31 March 2021.
- 5.2 **Planning and Development** consists of Improvement Grants and Affordable Housing budgets. There was an overspend of £164k arising from less capital grant than budgeted for, due to Covid restriction implications on the service. Discretionary grants are given to homeowners for disabled adaptations with this budget now managed by the Moray Integration Joint Board.
- 5.3 **Housing Management** relates to the Gypsy/Traveller budget. This shows an underspend of £8k due to reduced staffing expenditure (£4k) and reduced expenditure on supplies and services (£4k).
- 5.4 **Homelessness/Allocations** comprises of Homelessness and Housing Support services. There were variations across a range of budgets within this heading resulting in an overspend of £85k in this budget. The most significant component was temporary accommodation (£70k), relating to void costs, staffing and furniture, with sheltered housing (£6k), housing support provider payments (£6k) and £3k of other expenditure also contributing.
- 5.5 **Miscellaneous General Services Housing** comprises of House Loans, a maintenance bond from Grampian Housing Association and the new complex needs development at Urquhart Place, Lhanbryde. There was an underspend of £27k across these three budgets. The main reason for this was lower than anticipated repairs and maintenance costs relating to Urquhart Place (£27k), whilst an underspend in rental income for the property of £7k was offset by an overspend in the maintenance bond (£7k), which is now exhausted.
- 5.6 **The Building Services Budget** is reported in detail separately on this Committee's agenda.
- 5.7 **The Property Services Budget** includes the budgets for the Design and Property Resources. There was an underspend of £179k at year end, arising primarily from central repairs and maintenance (£384k), with energy costs in shared buildings (£13k), other miscellany (£11k) and energy efficiency (£8k) also underspending. This was partially offset by overspends in industrial estates (£86k), of which £49k relates to Islabank fire damage works and £32k bad debt provision, as well as £151k in property services fee income.
- 5.8 **Housing and Property Savings** – Staffing savings (£301k) above target were achieved by year end. These savings applied mainly to unfilled vacancies.
- 5.9 **Housing and Property Allocations** – there was an overspend (£43k) primarily due to less income than budgeted for shared building service recharges-
- 5.10 **COVID-19** – there was a service overspend of £125k attributable to the pandemic including temporary accommodation furniture (£48k), agency staff costs (£46k) and building alterations (£32k).

5.11 As at 31 March 2021, the Other Housing Budget shows an unaudited net overspend of £67k.

6 SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The provision of new affordable housing, the maintenance of the Council's housing stock and dealing with homelessness are priorities identified within the Corporate Plan, the Council's Local Housing Strategy, the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) and the Housing and Property Service Plan.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy or legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Financial Implications

The financial implications of this report are considered in Sections 4 and 5 of this report and detailed in **APPENDICES I and II**.

(d) Risk Implications

Budget Managers are aware of their responsibilities for managing budget allocations and approval for variance will be sought from the Committee in line with Financial Regulations.

(e) Staffing implications

None.

(f) Property

None.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities/socio economic impacts arising from this report.

(h) Consultations

This report has been prepared in close consultation with Finance staff. Consultation on this report has been carried out with Deborah O'Shea (Principal Accountant), Aileen Scott (Legal Services Manager), Senior Managers within Housing and Property Services, and Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer) who all agree the content of the report where it relates to their area of responsibility.

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 This report sets out the provisional and unaudited budget position for the HRA and General Services Housing budgets to 31 March 2021 and also comments on the variances on these budgets.

Author of Report:	Edward Thomas, Head of Housing and Property
Background Papers:	Held by author
Ref:	SPMAN-1285234812-887

Budget Monitoring to 31st March 2021

Service Description	Annual Budget 2020-21	Actual to 31st March 2021	Variance to 31st March 2021
Expenditure	£,000	£,000	£,000
Supervision & Management	4,239	3,996	243
Sheltered Housing	22	27	(5)
Repairs and Maintenance	6,981	6,811	170
Financing Costs	4,236	4,272	(36)
Bad & Doubtful Debts	250	196	54
CFCR	4,793	4,540	253
Downsizing Incentive Scheme	72	34	38
Service Development	50	21	29
Total Gross Expenditure	20,643	19,897	746
Income	£,000	£,000	£,000
Non-dwelling rents	227	226	(1)
House rents	20,217	19,790	(427)
IORB	37	3	(34)
Other income	90	60	(30)
Total Income	20,571	20,079	(492)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(72)	182	254
Accumulated Surplus Balance brought forward		2,219	
Estimated Surplus Balance at 31st March		2,401	

Monitoring to 31st March 2021

Service Description	Annual Budget 2020-21	Actual & Comm to 31st March 2021	Variance at 31st March 2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Planning & Development	248	412	(164)
Housing Management	17	9	8
Homelessness / Allocations	1930	2015	(85)
Miscellaneous General Services Housing	(20)	(47)	27
Building Services	(128)	(97)	(31)
Property Services	656	477	179
General Services Housing & Property Savings	301	0	301
General Services Housing & Property Allocations	(169)	(126)	(43)
Covid 19 - GS Housing & Prop	0	125	(125)
General Services Housing & Property Total	2835	2768	67



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC GROWTH, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ON 24 AUGUST 2021**

**SUBJECT: HOUSING AND PROPERTY SERVICES BUDGET MONITORING –
30 JUNE 2021**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 This report presents the budget position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and General Services Other Housing Budget for the period up to 30 June 2021.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to the Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability Committee following a decision of Moray Council on 17 June 2020 to agree a simplified committee structure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the case of this Committee, the combining of the delegated responsibilities of Economic Development and Infrastructure, Community Services (Housing and Property) and Finance (budget, capital and revenue monitoring) (paragraph 9 of the Minute refers).

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee considers and notes the budget monitoring report for the period to 30 June 2021.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council agreed the HRA Budget for 2021/22 at a Moray Council meeting on 18 February 2021 (paragraph 7 of the Minute refers). Housing and Property budget monitoring reports are presented to each cycle of meetings.
- 3.2 The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lock down period has impacted on the budget spend as the service concentrated on responding to the immediate crisis.

4. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT TO 30 JUNE 2021

- 4.1 **APPENDIX I** details the HRA budget position to 30 June 2021.
- 4.2 The main expenditure variances relate to:–

- 4.2.1 **Supervision and management** – there are a range of variations within this budget resulting in a net underspend of £38k. This includes underspends in staffing (£65k), arising from vacancies and the budget provision for pay award not being paid yet and was partially offset by an overspend in relation to voids (£25k).
- 4.2.2 **Repairs and maintenance** – there was an underspend of £349k in the repairs and maintenance budget. Underspends include planned maintenance (£174k), response repairs (£38k) and voids (£137k).
- 4.2.4 **Bad and doubtful debts** – there was an underspend of £14k against provision for bad & doubtful debts.
- 4.2.5 **Downsizing Incentive Scheme** – there was an underspend of £16k, with fewer transfers taking place.
- 4.2.6 **Service Developments** – there is an underspend of £24k, with £10k arising from a vacancy that has not yet been filled, £11k on consultancy allocated for the Business Plan, Housing Need & Demand Assessment and Tenant Satisfaction Survey, as well as £3k for software costs.
- 4.2.7 The income at 30 June 2021 was £17k lower than expected. This is due mainly to fewer rechargeable repairs being invoiced.

5. **OTHER HOUSING BUDGET**

- 5.1 **APPENDIX II** provides details of the budget position to 30 June 2021.
- 5.2 **Planning and Development** - consists of Improvement Grants and Affordable Housing budgets. The position at 30 June 2021 shows an underspend of £27k. This budget is administered by the Integrated Joint Board and activity levels have been lower as a consequence of the pandemic.
- 5.3 **Housing Management** - relates to the Gypsy/Traveller budget. The position at 30 June 2021 shows an underspend of £9k mainly due to staffing.
- 5.4 **Homelessness/Allocations** - comprises of Homelessness and Housing Support services. There was an overspend of £3k in this budget. Homelessness is a “high risk” budget and pressures can quickly arise if homelessness increases. Service Managers continue to closely monitor this budget.
- 5.5 **Miscellaneous General Services Housing** - comprises of House Loans, a maintenance bond from Grampian Housing Association and the new complex needs development at Urquhart Place, Lhanbryde. The budget is showing an overall underspend of £7k which is attributable to an underspend of £9k in repairs & maintenance for the property and a £2k overspend due to the maintenance bond being exhausted.
- 5.6 **The Building Services Budget** - is reported in detail separately on this Committee’s agenda and any surplus achieved or deficit will return to the HRA.

- 5.7 **The Property Services Budget** - includes the budgets for the Design Team and Property Resources. There was an underspend of £52k to date with underspends in Central Repairs and Maintenance (£21k), Shared Buildings (£11k) mainly due to energy costs and industrial estates rental income (£20k).
- 5.8 The service has also incurred £2k of expenditure to date directly relating to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This relates to building alterations/recommissioning works.
- 5.9 As at 30 June 2021, the Other Housing budget shows a net underspend of £219k.

6. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The provision of new affordable housing, the maintenance of the Council's housing stock and dealing with homelessness are priorities identified within the Corporate Plan, the Council's Local Housing Strategy, the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) and the Housing and Property Service Plan.

(b) Policy and Legal

There are no policy or legal implications arising from this report.

(c) Financial Implications

The financial implications of this report are considered in Sections 4 and 5 of this report and detailed in **APPENDICES I and II**.

(d) Risk Implications

Budget Managers are aware of their responsibilities for managing budget allocations and approval for variance will be sought from the Committee in line with Financial Regulations.

(e) Staffing implications

None.

(f) Property

None.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities/socio economic impacts arising from this report.

(h) Consultations

This report has been prepared in close consultation with Finance staff. Consultation on this report has been carried out with Deborah O'Shea (Principal Accountant), Aileen Scott (Legal Services Manager), Senior Managers within Housing and Property Services, and Lissa Rowan (Committee Services Officer) who all agree the content of the report where it relates to their area of responsibility.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 This report sets out the budget position for the HRA and General Services Housing budgets to 30 June 2021 and also comments on the variances on these budgets.**

Author of Report:	Edward Thomas, Head of Housing and Property
Background Papers:	Held by author
Ref:	SPMAN-1285234812-888

Budget Monitoring to 30th June 2021

Service Description	Annual Budget 2021-22	Budget to 30th June 2021	Actual to 30th June 2021	Variance to 30th June 2021
Expenditure	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Supervision & Management	4,297	874	836	38
Sheltered Housing	22	4	3	1
Repairs and Maintenance	7,678	1,296	947	349
Financing Costs	3,880	0	0	0
Bad & Doubtful Debts	225	19	5	14
CFCR	4,910	0	0	0
Downsizing Incentive Scheme	72	18	2	16
Service Development	119	47	23	24
Total Gross Expenditure	21,203	2,258	1,816	442
Income	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Non-dwelling rents	229	74	76	2
House rents	20,880	5,606	5,606	0
IORB	4	0	0	0
Other income	90	21	2	(19)
Total Income	21,203	5,701	5,684	(17)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(0)	3,443	3,868	425
Accumulated Surplus Balance brought forward			2,401	
Estimated Surplus Balance at 31st March			2,401	

Monitoring to 30th June 2021

Service Description	Annual Budget 2021-22 £'000	Budget to 30th June 2021 £'000	Actual & Committed to 30th June 2021 £'000	Variance at 30th June 2021 £'000
Planning & Development	283	136	109	27
Housing Management	17	9	0	9
Homelessness / Allocations	2166	554	557	(3)
Miscellaneous General Services Housing	(21)	(5)	(12)	7
Building Services	0	134	5	129
Property Services	1199	73	21	52
General Services Housing & Property Savings	(347)	0	0	0
General Services Housing & Property Allocations	(161)	0	0	0
Covid 19 - GS Housing & Property	0	0	2	(2)
General Services Housing & Property Total	3136	901	682	219

