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**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 16 APRIL 2019**

**SUBJECT: FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT REVENUE BUDGET 2019-2020**

**BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To ask the Committee to agree the Flood Risk Management Schedule of Clearance and Repair for 2019/2020 and the programme of Capital works for Flood Risk Management and Harbours for 2019/2020.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (F) (19) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the function of the Council under Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 It is recommended that Committee agree:**

- (i) **the Flood Risk Management Schedule of Clearance and Repair for 2019/20; and**
- (ii) **the Capital programme of work for Flood Risk Management and Harbours for 2019/2020.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 (the Act) requires the Council to deliver the actions within the Local Flood Risk Management Plans for Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside, and North East Local Plan Districts.

**Revenue**

- 3.2 The Act places upon the Council a duty to assess relevant bodies of water (other than canals) in its area for the purpose of ascertaining whether the condition of any such body of water gives rise to a risk of flooding. Where a water body gives rise to flood risk, and the Council considers clearance and repair works would substantially reduce that risk, the Council must prepare a schedule of those works and carry them out.

### **Review of Progress in 2018/19**

- 3.3 Work has been ongoing throughout the year to deliver the Schedule of Clearance and Repair agreed for 2018/19. At the time of drafting this report, the current committed expenditure is £217,000. No significant over or underspend is expected.
- 3.4 General maintenance of the Council's flood schemes has been ongoing throughout the year. This year more significant maintenance was required at Lhanbryde, where we had to undertake repairs to the dam control structure and desilt the pond that acts as a sediment trap. Significant vegetation clearance was required at the control structure and the railway cutting embankment on the Burn of Mosset Flood Alleviation Scheme. .
- 3.5 The flood team monitors the operation of the flood schemes using telemetry and the contract for this has been successfully retendered and awarded for a further 3 years. The overall impact of the flood schemes on river morphology is monitored through aerial photography and a 3 year termed contract for aerial photographs was awarded this year.
- 3.6 The rolling programme of work to strengthen the seawall at Lossiemouth has now been completed,

### **Proposed work for 2019/20**

- 3.7 The 2019/20 Flood Risk Management annual revenue budget has been reduced by 5% to £282,000. This reduction will increase the pressure on budget to maintain the current flood protection schemes. This budget does not include an allowance for damage to assets or clearance and repairs following a significant flood event. Should such an event occur the position will be reviewed.
- 3.8 The proposed Schedule of Clearance and Repair is provided in **APPENDIX 1**. The Schedule includes specific works, recurrent works and reactive works, together with allowances for telemetry, surveys and support for Surface Water Management Plans. With continued development of our Asset Management System, we have a strong regime of risk based inspections that identify potential flooding issues. Reports from other sources such as the public continue to inform the Schedule. The Schedule will be published on the Council's website if the recommendations in this report are agreed by this Committee.
- 3.9 The Schedule includes the operation and maintenance of the flood schemes in accordance with their manuals. This covers schemes in Aberlour, Rothes, Elgin, Forres (2 schemes), Dallas, Newmill and Lhanbryde.

### **Capital**

#### **Review of Progress in 2018/19**

- 3.10 Flood studies for potential Flood Protection Schemes at Portgordon and Lossiemouth Seatown were progressed in 2018/19. The feasibility and option appraisal has been completed for each of these schemes and the findings will be reported to this Committee in June 2019.
- 3.11 Work to the North Pier of Buckie Harbour started in 2018/19 and is currently 80% complete. This work was subject to significant delays and damage was

caused to temporary works during a number of storm events. To reduce the risk of further damage and a potential increase in cost to the Council; this work was suspended in December 2018. This work is programmed to re-start in Spring 2019. Repairs to the sheet piles and jetty at the north pier at Burghead were programmed to be undertaken in 2018/19 but due to temporary staff shortages this work will now be undertaken in 2019/20.

**Proposed work for 2019/2020**

- 3.12 During 2019-20 the flood risk management team will undertake a number of capital projects as highlighted in **APPENDIX 2**. The capital projects include the continuation of the Buckie Harbour North Pier works, maintenance work at Burghead and Portknockie Harbours, and the Portknockie Landslip remediation.

**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.”

The works contained within Schedule will also help meet the LOIP outcome of “Confident, skilled and self-reliant communities where expectations and aspirations are raised and achieved”

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The proposal forms part of the Council’s statutory duties with regards to the Act. The Council has a 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**

No allowance has been made for dealing with the consequence of exceptional rainfall/flood events. This will need to be addressed if such events were to arise.

**(d) Risk Implications**

There are no risk implications as a result of this report other than to recognise that flooding and coastal issues are unpredictable and the items in the Schedule will be carried out in recognising this uncertainty.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

There are no staffing implications as a result of this report.

**(f) Property**

There are no property implications as a result of this report.

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

**(h) Consultations**

The Corporate Director Economic Development Planning and Infrastructure, Head of Direct Services, Legal Services Manager, P Connor, Principal Accountant, Development and Operations Manager for Harbours, L Rowan, Committee Services Officer and the Equal Opportunities Officer have been consulted and comments have been taken into account.

**5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Council has a duty under the Act to implement Flood Risk Management Plans including clearance and repair of water bodies. The proposed Allocations for 2019/2020 Flood Risk Management Revenue Budget take account of both. Capital works identified in the Capital Plan, for both Flood Risk Management assets and Harbours will be progressed in 2019/2020.**

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Background Papers:  
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