



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 5 NOVEMBER 2019**

**SUBJECT: PRIORITISATION OF PROPOSED WORKS FOR THE 2021
FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

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

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the Flood Risk Management actions being put forward for prioritisation in the 2021 Flood Risk Management Strategies.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (F) (19) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to exercise the functions of the Council under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- (i) agree to the list of proposed works put forward to SEPA for prioritisation in the Flood Risk Management Strategies; and**
- (ii) note that the prioritisation will determine if and when Government Grant Funding will be made available and that it may not be within the 2022 to 2028 Flood Risk Management cycle for works.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 3 May 2016 a meeting of this Committee agreed the Flood Risk Management Plans for the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Plan District and the North East Local Plan District (para 7 of the Minute refers). These plans included actions to undertake Flood Studies at Lossiemouth Seatown and Portgordon; and Surface Water Management Plans (SWMP) at Elgin, Buckie, Keith, Rothes, Aberlour and Forres. Actions to reduce flood risk were identified during the development of these studies and SWMPs.
- 3.2 Under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, SEPA is required to produce Flood Risk Management Strategies with prioritised actions, for each Flood Risk Management Planning cycle. These actions then form the basis of Flood Risk Management Plans, which Moray Council produces in partnership

with other responsible authorities for the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside and North East Local Plan Districts.

- 3.3 The proposed works identified during the development of the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside Local Flood Risk Management Plan and the North East Local Flood Risk Management Plan are provided in the table below. This table does not include proposed surface water mitigation works for Forres. To date the proposed SWMP for Forres has not been progressed as the modelling being undertaken by Scottish water has not been completed. The modelling is programmed for completion by end of December 2019. If the SWMP for Forres is sufficiently progressed to identify fresh evidence of significant reductions in flood risk before December 2020, it may be possible to include actions to address this flood risk in the final prioritisation.

Flood Study / SWMP	Local Plan District	Proposed Works
Seatown and Lossiemouth Flood Study. Coastal and Pluvial.	Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside	Undertake works identified within Lossiemouth and Seatown Flood Study.
Elgin Surface Water Management Plan. Fluvial Study.	Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside	Undertake works identified at Surface Water Management Plan hot spot areas within Elgin
Roths Surface Water Management Plan.	Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside	Undertake works identified at Surface Water Management Plan hot spot areas within Roths
Buckie Surface Water Management Plan.	North East	Undertake works identified at Surface Water Management Plan hot spot areas within Buckie
Portessie Flood Study	North East	Undertake works identified within Portessie Flood Study.

- 3.4 The prioritisation within the Strategies does not, at this stage, commit Moray Council to take these proposed works forward. If the works are prioritised and funding is confirmed, only then would they be included as actions in the Local Flood Risk Management Plans, subject to committee approval. It should be noted that a second round of prioritisation may be undertaken to address any significant issues raised during the consultation on the Strategies, or if fresh evidence of significant flood risk is produced. As such, funding will not be confirmed until this process is complete.
- 3.5 If these schemes are not included in the prioritisation within the Strategies, they will not be considered for Scottish Government Grant funding.
- 3.6 On completion of the initial prioritisation, SEPA will produce Draft National Strategies for the fourteen Local Plan District Areas. The Draft Strategies for the Findhorn, Nairn and Speyside and North East Local Plan Districts will be brought to a meeting of this committee, before being published by SEPA in December 2021

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

Flood Risk Management is a key action in the Service Plan. “Protecting our Community from effects and fear of flooding”

(b) Policy and Legal

Under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, Moray Council has a duty to deliver the actions set out in the Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation in this report. It should be noted that prioritisation of the Schemes does not automatically mean grant funding will be made available. These schemes will not be progressed until grant funding has been confirmed.

(d) Risk Implications

There are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications related to the recommendations in this report.

(f) Property

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

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no equalities implications related to the recommendations in this report because they do not affect groups of people in different ways. SEPA will be undertaking an Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment in response to the Strategies.

(h) Consultations

The Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development), the Legal Services Manager, P Connor, Principal Accountant, 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 list of actions issued for prioritisation within the Strategies will form the basis of the actions within the next Local Flood Risk Management Plan.

- 5.2 Prioritisation within the Strategies does not mean that funding for proposed Schemes has been agreed. The second round of prioritisation will allocate available funding.**
- 5.3 No works will be undertaken unless the Schemes have been allocated funding from Scottish Government.**
- 5.4 The Flood Risk Management Strategies will be published by SEPA in December 2021.**

Author of Report: Will Burnish
Background Papers:
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