



Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place

Report to:	Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee
Date:	22 February 2021
Subject:	Development Fund - Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs

Summary:

This report informs the Committee of the Development Fund for Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs and its progress. The Governance Document and Programme of Works were approved by the Executive on 2 February 2021.

Actions Required:

The Committee is invited to review and comment on the progress with the Development Fund for Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs.

1. Background

Funding to the value of £2.2 million (capital £2m, revenue £200k) has been made available to address drainage and flooding issues in Lincolnshire. A programme of works is being developed in collaboration between the Floods Team and Highways. Implementation of this additional investment has been identified as £1.1 million per annum for both financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22 with overall spend to be completed by March 2022.

This report provides a progress update with the governance arrangements and works programme for the Development Fund – Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs. It is the intention to provide regular updates to the Committee as the works programme is delivered leading to its conclusion in March 2022.

Governance and Works Programme

The following provides the latest position on delivery of drainage investigations and flood repairs through the development fund programme. These works are being delivered alongside the wider highways drainage programme, and other key flood related activities, which provide a more extensive picture of the range of works in progress.

Programme Governance

A governance structure has been established to facilitate the delivery of the works programme and the latest version can be found in Appendix A. In summary, day to day programme management will be undertaken by the highways asset and maintenance teams with support from technical services partnership for certain projects. Members of the Floods team (located within the environment team) will oversee the overall programme delivery and provide effective reporting on key developments and milestones. Currently monthly meetings are taking place with the Programme Delivery Board and Programme Manager with the option to increase these to fortnightly as work intensity increases. Regular updates will be provided to the Project Sponsor as well as formal reporting channels to both senior managers and members.

Programme Delivery

A programme incorporating all drainage works, including those allocated against the Development Fund budget is being monitored in parallel with each other, but specifically the projects identified within the development fund allocation can be found in Appendix B. This spreadsheet details all works within the drainage programme and where these are currently allocated for delivery. There is a full and active programme of drainage works taking place in the county being delivered through the Highways teams, some of which have been completed, with the remainder to be programmed for 2021/22 and those discussions have begun with the term contractor Balfour Beatty. These combined with all other highway works will enable the contractor to develop and deliver a workable programme for the financial year 2021/22. This programme is subject to change depending on the outcome of investigations for example, but updates will be reported regularly as per the governance document.

The below table shows that there is a variety of funding over the next two years that highways have been working on (including the Development Fund) as follows;

Drainage Funding 2020 to 2022	Budget	Year
Capital Maintenance Drainage - Works	£300,000	2020/21
Capital Maintenance Drainage - Works	£300,000	2021/22
DF Drainage Funding - Works	£1,000,000	2020/21
DF Drainage Funding - Works	£1,000,000	2021/22
Community Maintenance Gangs - Drainage	£1,000,000	2020/21
	£3,600,000	
DF Drainage Funding - Design	£100,000	2020/21
DF Drainage Funding - Design	£100,000	2021/22
	£200,000	
Total Budget	£3,800,000	

The information is summarised in the programme attached with current expenditure figures as below for 2020/21;

2020/21 Drainage Works	Allocation
Capital maintenance drainage schemes completed works	£155,000
Development Fund drainage Bid schemes completed works	£225,000
Capital maintenance drainage schemes on-going schemes planned	£130,000
Capital Maintenance Emergency Works expected	£150,000
Community maintenance drainage gangs planned expenditure	£1,000,000
Total Expenditure 2020/21	£1,660,000

Next steps

As of mid-January 2021, in addition to works already completed by highways asset and maintenance teams, six further schemes have been completed or are ongoing against the development fund budget totalling around £341,000. In addition to this is the contribution of £150,000 to the River Steeping catchment work which is supporting the very successful maintenance and delivery programme against key parts of the Catchment Action Plan for that area following severe flooding in June 2019.

A further 34 schemes and projects are planned to be delivered as part of the development fund drainage repairs and flood investigation programme with initial scoping work, topographical surveys and design work having commenced in some cases. This includes eight schemes which technical services partnership drainage engineers have commenced data gathering and investigations which is anticipated to be completed by the end of March 2021. This will be followed by a detailed design which is anticipated to be completed by April 2021. Schemes identified in the current programme are subject to change as investigation and design work may influence the size and scale of the project delivered and/or which schemes may progress to delivery. The governance document sets out the clear lines of reporting and regular updates on project delivery and spend will ensure budget pressures are maintained within the scope of the Development Fund allocation.

2. Conclusion

The approval of the Governance Document by the Executive allows for a structured and effective reporting mechanism for the spend and delivery of the drainage investigation and flood repairs programme.

The Executive approved the delegation to the Executive Director – Place, in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT and the Executive Councillor for Economy and Place, the taking of decisions to proceed with individual schemes and the terms of entering into any contractual documents

to give effect to the scheme. Working within the governance structure, this allows officers to continue to carry out the necessary investigations and design work (where appropriate) for the schemes identified within the attached programme spreadsheet extract (see Appendix B). This approval will be the start of more regular reporting on the development of the Development Fund Programme for Drainage Investigation and Flood Repair works between now and conclusion of the programme in March 2022.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

The programme for the Development Fund - Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs will be monitored throughout its duration as per the governance document attached.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Development Fund - Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs Governance Structure
Appendix B	Development Fund - Drainage Investigations and Flood Repairs Programme of Work

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Matthew Harrison, who can be contacted on 07771 837565 or matthew.harrison@lincolnshire.gov.uk.