

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

7 February 2017

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities

**AMENDMENT TO THE 2014-15 CAPITAL PROGRAMME – WASH GREEN
PROPERTY LEVEL PROTECTION SCHEME**

- (1) **Purpose of Report** To seek Cabinet Member approval to amend the 2014-15 Capital Programme to increase the approved budget for the Wash Green Property Level Protection Scheme from £36,000 to £63,000.
- (2) **Information and Analysis** Wash Green, Wirksworth is predominantly a rural community, surrounded by a large steep sided catchment with the affected residential properties situated at a natural low point in relation to the surrounding land. The area has historically been impacted by a number of flooding events and, in 2014, six residential properties internally flooded. All properties are located within a Conservation Area and are subject to an Article 4 Direction, under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which places a restriction on the use of construction materials to meet the requirements of the conservation area. The Council has previously invested in a feasibility study to consider options to mitigate the impacts of flooding. The outcome of the option analysis identified Property Level Protection as the most cost beneficial approach.

On 20 January 2015, the Cabinet Member approved a report seeking approval to add the Wash Green project, totalling £24,000, to the 2014-15 Capital Programme (Minute No.7/15 refers).

The Flood Risk Management (FRM) Team appointed a consultant in Summer 2015 to undertake Property Level Protection surveys to identify the products required to secure the properties from flood water. This identified the works required to be an estimated cost of £36,000 for the six residential properties. This was higher than the anticipated £24,000.

In July 2016, the FRM Team sought quotations for the works and returns were again substantially higher than anticipated. The increased cost has been identified as due to the sensitive location of the properties (Article 4 Direction) and the requirement of the Local Conservation Officer (Derbyshire Dales District Council) for the doors to be like-for-like replacements. The original estimate was based on a replica plastic door.

The revised maximum cost for implementation of the scheme is now identified to be £63,000.

(3) **Financial Considerations** On 20 January 2015, Cabinet approved the addition of £24,000 to the 2014-15 Capital Programme for the Wash Green Property Level Protection Scheme works (Minute No. 7/15 refers). Additional investigations (Property Level Protection surveys) identified an estimated cost of £36,000.

On 25 November 2015, the FRM Team obtained approval from the Strategic Director to increase the value of the scheme from £24,000 to £36,000.

The financial contributions for the approved scheme are listed in the following table:

Contributor	Value of Contributions (£)
Derbyshire County Council	13,500
Derbyshire Dales District Council	5,000
Local Levy	16,500
County Councillor	1,000
Total	36,000

As described in Section 2 above, the total cost of the scheme has now substantially increased.

The FRM Team has approached the Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to request for an increase in Local Levy to cover the increase. The Committee agreed an increase of a maximum of £5,000 per property amounting to £30,000 on 24 January 2017.

It is proposed that the County Council's contribution should increase to cover the shortfall and funding has been identified in the 2016-17 Flood Management Revenue budget to meet this cost.

A requirement of the increased Local Levy contribution from the Trent Regional Flood and Coastal Committee was to secure a contribution from the affected constituents towards the scheme. Verbal agreement from all relevant property owners has been provided. The FRM Team is in the process of drawing up agreements with property owners to receive their contributions.

Contributor	Value of Contributions £
Derbyshire County Council	20,000
Derbyshire Dales District Council	5,000
Local Levy	30,000
County Councillor	1,000
Private contributions	7,000
Revised Total Budget	63,000

(4) **Legal Considerations** The works proposed are to install property level protection measures on private properties. A Legal Agreement has been drawn up by the County Council, which will be signed by the homeowner, prior to any construction works, making them aware that the Council will not maintain, repair or replace damaged products/works, provided as part of the scheme. The Agreement also covers a number of other legal considerations relating to the work on the private properties.

(5) **Environmental Health and Social Considerations** The works are to take place on properties located within an area covered by an Article 4 Direction. The FRM Team has liaised with the Derbyshire Dales District Council's Planning Team which has provided a written expectation of the works. This has been passed on to the contractor.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, health, property and transport considerations.

(6) **Key Decision** No.

(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(8) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Communities Department. Officer contact details – Victoria Coombes, extension 35487.

(9) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves:

9.1 The amendment of the Capital Programme 2014-15 to increase the budget of the Wash Green Property Level Protection Scheme from £36,000 to £63,000.

9.2 The acceptance of the Local Levy grant funding of £30,000, allocated for the Wash Green project.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities