

**CAMPBELTOWN FLOODING**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report provides the Committee with an outline of the current position with alleviating flood risk in Campbeltown.
- 1.2 It is recommended that Members note the report.

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report provides the Committee with an outline of the current position with alleviating flood risk in Campbeltown.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note the report.

**4.0 DETAIL**

- 4.1 There has been a history of flooding in Campbeltown and in recent years this has mainly been at Millknowe and Dalaruan burns with the culverts unable to take the flow. This results in water overtopping the culvert headwalls and flowing along the public roads.
- 4.2 The position was exacerbated when Scottish Water made changes to the sewerage system in the 2000s, preventing the burn water entering what had been historically the natural flow paths to the sea. This gradually became culverted as the town developed and in a bid to reduce flows into the Scottish Water system (and subsequent treatment works) access to the sewerage network was closed off. No alternative provision was provided to take the water that previously could use the Scottish Water system. Consequently, the existing fresh water culvert in Dalaruan/High Street could not cope with flows, and overtopping occurs in periods of heavy rainfall.
- 4.3 In 2008 a report was completed for the Council by Halcrow and it identified potential solutions. For both Millknowe and Dalaruan watercourses the options were to attenuate flows higher up in each catchment and/or increase pipe sizes to cope with the anticipated flows. The report did include some Benefit/Cost figures which have allowed the scheme to be included in the “works” category in the national Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- 4.4 In June 2016 the Local Flood Risk Management Plans were published by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA). This included the Campbeltown Scheme and is the only one in Argyll and Bute in the national strategy listed for actual works – compared with studies and Surface Water Management Plans.

- 4.5 Campbeltown is included as works in the first of the 6 year cycles that are about to start to reduce flood risk in Scotland. If the scheme is successful in terms of estimated costs/benefits, permissions and consents together with budget being allocated and it progresses to actual construction it is expected that a site start could be made about 2021. The value of the project is currently expected to be circa £9m. The first step is to engage a consultant (Aecom were appointed on 16 March) to review and update the Halcrow report and identify the current options to reduce the flood risk in Campbeltown. With the expectation that there will be options that are worth further preliminary design work, these will be taken forward.
- 4.6 There are many unknowns with regard to what might affect the options and these will have to be investigated further for the viable solutions. These include land ownership, public utilities and suitable hydraulic solutions. Legal powers to construct any works would need to be obtained, followed by full detailed design of the chosen scheme, procurement of a contractor and finally construction. It is currently expected that construction would be in 5 to 6 years' time depending on suitable finance being made available both from the Council and the Scottish Government. It is expected that the project could cost in the region of £9m and the Council receive 80% funding through the Scottish Government flooding allocation. The Scottish Government has provided £80k as a first allocation to start the project work. The Council has yet to consider how it will provide its (20%) share of the project.
- 4.7 A number meetings and short term measures have also been carried out to improve the issues, these include:
- A public meeting was held advising on personal property protection measures that could be taken. Equipment was on show and advice given from Paul Hendy of the Scottish Flood forum.
  - Investigation has taken place of the drainage systems from Lochend Street to the sea.
  - A topographical survey of the whole flood area has been carried out.
  - An initial assessment of extent of the flooding and possible measures that could be made to reduce the flooding risk.
  - A meeting has taken place to which Ward 1 Councillors were invited to discuss these options. The available options were either not feasible, increased the risk to other properties or are currently unaffordable.

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The Scottish Government has provided £80k of funding to initiate action through the Local Flood Risk Management Plan. This is expected to provide some options for further and more detailed investigation which may lead to a formal flood scheme, full detailed design and construction of works. The Council has yet to consider how it will provide its (20%) share of the project which could be circa £9m (total cost) over the next 6 years. The design works will inform the bid for physical works to be carried out. The allocation of funding for the actual works is expected to be determined on a cost/benefit basis. The next step will be to present the information to the Asset Management Board for consideration of potential future inclusion in the capital programme.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

6.1	Policy	None
6.2	Financial	The Council has yet to consider how it will afford its contribution (20%) of the total scheme costs.
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	None known
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	The current main risk relates to the Council's funding commitment to the project.
6.7	Customer Services	None known

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