

FLOODING IN CAMPBELTOWN – POTENTIAL REMEDIAL WORKS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a list of remedial works currently under consideration which will reduce the effects of flooding in Campbeltown; it also lists initiatives which have already been implemented. New initiatives under consideration include temporary pumping, kerb realignment and physical protection at properties. Members are advised that, in the longer term, the flood prevention scheme report produced by Halcrow will be reviewed by Design Services with a view to promoting a flood prevention scheme should funding be identified. The appendix to this report provides likely timescales for these initiatives; it is anticipated that further advice will be provided to Members regarding the outcome of the design review by September of this year. It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

FLOODING IN CAMPBELTOWN – POTENTIAL REMEDIAL WORKS

1. INTRODUCTION

Surface water flooding occurs infrequently in Campbeltown during times of extremely heavy rainfall. This report provides information to Members on potential works which may reduce the effects of flooding in the town.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members note this report.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Surface water flooding in Campbeltown has generally occurred after overtopping of surface water at Millknowe. On these occasions, water flows onto the A83 public road to the low point at Saddell Street and John Street causing flooding.

3.2 In October 2008, Halcrow Group Ltd produced an 'engineering and benefit cost' report which listed engineering solutions to resolve the problem of flooding in the town, however, a source of funding has never been identified. Costs for carrying out works highlighted in the Halcrow report are estimated to run to several million pounds.

4. DETAIL

4.1 On the basis that flooding will continue to occur from time to time, options will be considered, which could reduce the effects of flooding in Campbeltown. Members are asked to note that, should additional funding be required to implement any of the following initiatives, a further report will require to be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee for their consideration. Options fall into three broad categories:-

- Pumping – Temporary or permanent pipework and pump to remove flood water from the Saddell Street and John Street area to the Esplanade.
- Vertical Realignment of footway / carriageway – A survey will be carried out at Saddell Street and John Street, the low point in the town, to ascertain if a change in kerb levels could divert water away from properties.
- Physical protection of properties – Advice will be provided to property owners regarding possible measures which could be taken to protect properties.

4.2 A programme is attached to this report in Appendix A which provides the likely timeline for investigating the above options.

4.3 As well as the above potential options under consideration, the following measures will be in place:-

4.3.1 Further meetings will be arranged with emergency services to discuss management arrangements during flooding in the town to ensure that these incidents are dealt with as efficiently as possible.

4.3.2 A site meeting will be held with Members to review flooding locations.

4.3.3 A plan will be prepared to detail problem water courses, areas being flooded and the direction and route of flood water.

4.3.4 The Scottish Flood Forum has been active in Campbeltown; meetings have been held with affected residents, information on flood resilience and the physical protection of properties has been made available to residents.

4.3.5 The sewerage system has limited capacity. Surface water enters the combined sewerage system through road gullies and, at times of intense rainfall, the sewerage system can become inundated causing further flooding in the centre of the town. Various meetings have been held with Scottish Water in the past and information on pumping in the town has been made readily available by Scottish Water.

4.3.6 All road gullies around the Saddell Street and John Street areas will be checked out and jetted forthwith.

4.4 To date, the following initiatives have been put in place:-

4.4.1 Telemetry has been installed at culvert entrances – this provides information on rainfall and intake levels.

4.4.2 Text alarms are sent to key staff when water levels hit a pre-set trigger.

4.4.3 Entry grilles are checked regularly and always following a receipt of heavy rainfall.

4.4.4 CCTV surveys and jetting has been carried out on the Milknowe / High Street surface water culvert at regular intervals.

4.4.5 Officers from both 'Roads' and SEPA have met with businesses at Snipefield Industrial Estate to warn against littering from packaging materials due to the threat this causes at culvert grilles.

4.5 The three options listed in 4.1 above will not stop flooding in Campbeltown, but they will provide some protection against the effects of flooding. The installation of physical barriers at properties will provide some protection against flood water whilst the realignment of footways and pumping should affect water levels at property frontages and reduce the threat of flooding.

4.6 In the longer term, whilst these options are being considered, further assessment of the Halcrow Report will be carried out by Design Services. Consideration can then be given to promoting a flood prevention scheme using central government funding.

4.7 Council staff will continue to maintain and monitor the existing surface water system to ensure that it is capable of working at its optimum capacity.

4.8 The National Flood Forum has provided support to residents affected by flooding and steps will be taken to ensure that ongoing support is available where required (see details in Appendix B).

5. CONCLUSION

This report provides information on action to be taken to reduce the effects of surface water flooding in Campbeltown.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	The Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act empowers the Council, for the purpose of preventing the flooding of land, to maintain any watercourse or ancillary apparatus.
6.2	Financial	Funding for any related works, following investigations mentioned in this report, will have to be identified.
6.3	Legal	None
6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	None
6.6	Risk	The works considered in this report will not reduce the risk of flooding, but will reduce the effects of flooding.
6.7	Customer Services	None

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Head of Roads & Amenity Services: Jim Smith

19 January 2015

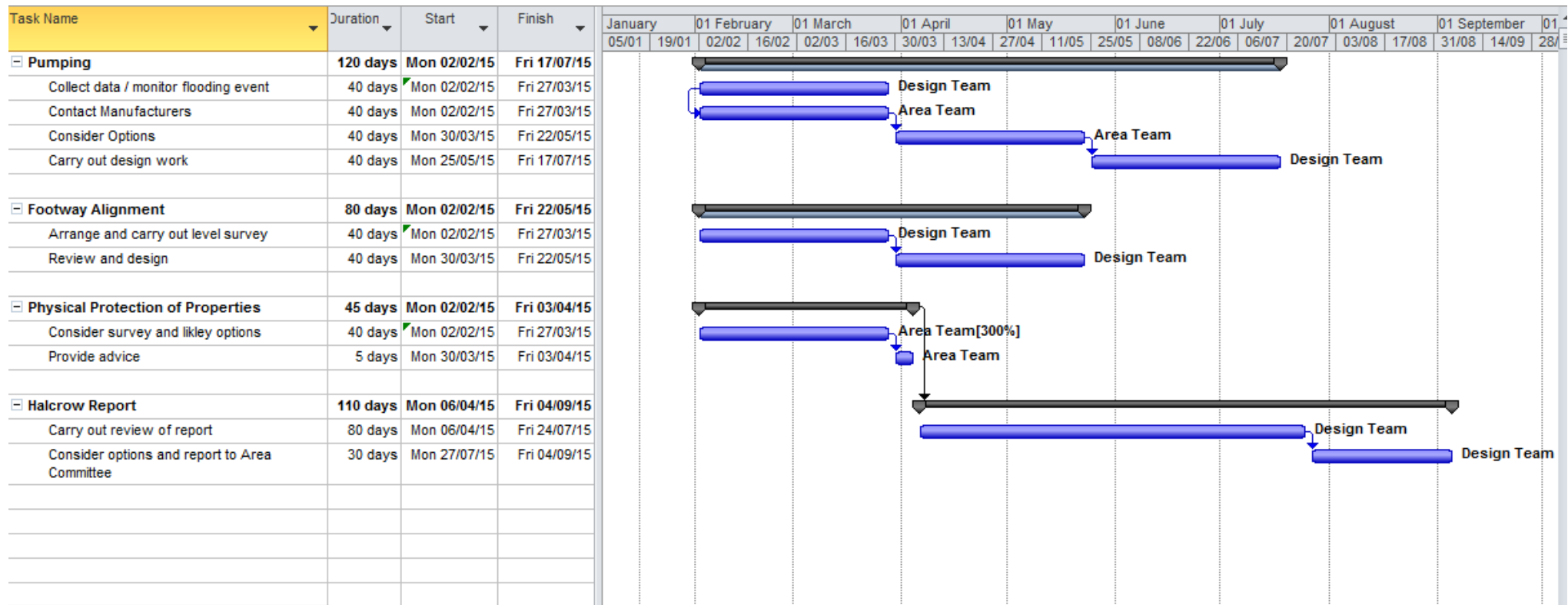
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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Delivery programme

Appendix B – Scottish Flood Forum note

APPENDIX A



Overall Programme

APPENDIX B

SCOTTISH FLOOD FORUM NOTE

Interim recovery report – Kintyre – Scottish Flood Forum Engagement.

The Scottish Flood Forum is a charitable organisation dedicated to supporting flood risk communities in Scotland and is funded by the Scottish Government. They assist people to recognise, understand and reduce their flood risks and support communities in partnership with respective Local Authorities, Voluntary sector and others to recover following a flood event. They have been working throughout Scotland for the past 6 years.

The Scottish Flood Form was invited to meet with Argyll & Bute Council (ABC) on 14 November 2014. To discuss options to best engage with communities and individuals in Kintyre that had been affected by the recently flooding.

Partnership Outcomes were:

- A regular weekly flood 'drop-in' surgery to be established to provide relevant support and advice to both business and home owners in the Aqualibrium leisure complex.
- Immediate visitation / contact of all affected properties in Campbeltown with appropriate flood recovery guidance documentation
- Respond to all enquiries regarding the flood events in other areas as appropriate
- Provide relevant information regarding the drying and repair process to properties
- Act as an independent assessor to ensure that drying of property and repairs were done correctly by the appointed builder
- To advise on property Insurance issues and renewal
- Recognise flooding can be for those affected a traumatic time, we would seek to provide appropriate emotional support and guidance
- Encourage the take up of appropriate property flood protection products to reduce the future risk of flooding

Response:

Following the launch of the 'drop-in' surgery – enquiries were received from property owners across Kintyre, predominately Campbeltown and Clachan. These were responded to within 24 hours and no longer than 7 days.

Direct specific relevant enquiries to the appropriate ABC department

All flooded properties (54 visits) or those adjacent to the flood area in Campbeltown and Clachan were visited and appropriate recovery material left. (This included Business premises in Campbeltown).

Maintain regular contact and support with people who have been in touch either via the drop-in surgery or by telephone (19 visits).

Promotion of Property flood protection (best solution and most cost effective) in ensuring flood risk is mitigated as far as is possible (12 visits).

Development of a more flood resilient community by establishing a local community resilience group

Insurance (and re-insurance) continues to be a concern (enquiries 6).

Recommendations:

Argyll and Bute Council has already been in contact with community councils in Kintyre to discuss community resilience plans. Together, in partnership with ABC, further discussions will be held with relevant community councils in Kintyre to promote and develop specific plans for flooding incidents.

A multi-agency planning meeting has been held (15 Dec 2014) to look at developing a resilience programme in Campbeltown by Susan Donnelly (Resilience Officer)

It is planned to hold a number of property flood protection events (Campbeltown, Clachan, Lochgilphead and Tarbert) – to display and demonstrate suitable products to protect property against flooding.

These events will enable us to engage directly with the local communities to identify support and resources in establishing a resilience group and subsequent community emergency plan.

The events have been programmed for the first four Mondays in February 2015.

To support the promotion of property flood protection measures – a free property flood protection survey will be offered to all affected or those adjacent to the flood risk areas.

Finally – the Scottish Flood Forum deeply appreciated the resources and support provided by the Argyll & Bute Council without which none of the above would have been possible.

Paul Hendy, Operations Director, Scottish Flood Forum

17 Jan 2015