

Farnley Wood Beck – Flood Alleviation Scheme

Date: 25/08/2022

Report of: Flood Risk Management

Report to: Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

Farnley Wood Beck is a watercourse located in the West of Leeds and is a sub catchment of the larger Hol Beck catchment. The beck has caused flooding to 15 properties in Old Close Cottingley on several occasions most notably in 2005

Flooding to affected properties can be mitigated through flood alleviation works in the area. The recommended option from this is to de culvert a section of the beck between Old Road and Elland Road. This is the option proposed to be implemented and a design has been produced for this. This will be funded by local levy, Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and S106 funding.

The scheme received Highways Board approval in 2021 to incur £450,000 expenditure for the preparation of a design and business case and implement a flood alleviation scheme. This is now complete; a design has been produced and Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding is available for the scheme.

Recommendations

- a) Note the FDGiA £658k and £50k funding levy secured together with the Section 106 £300k giving total available funding of £1,058.0k to implement a flood alleviation scheme at Farnley Wood Beck and note the previous injection and authority to spend £450k approved in February 2021.
- b) Inject and give authority to incur further expenditure of £421,500 to fully implement the flood alleviation scheme at Farnley Wood Beck.

What is this report about?

- 1 Farnley Wood Beck is a watercourse located in the West of Leeds. This watercourse passes northeast to southwest eventually joining Wortley Beck. There was major flooding from the beck in 2005 internally flooding 15 properties in Old Close Cottingley.
- 2 A hydraulic modelling study was completed in 2020. The recommended option from this is to de-culvert a section of the beck between Old Road and Elland Road. This is the option proposed to be implemented.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 3 The proposed flood alleviation scheme will increase the capacity of the watercourse here reducing flood risk to 15 properties at Old Close

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing Inclusive Growth Zero Carbon

- 4 The proposed works will provide improvements to the community affected by reducing the risk of flooding to this area.
- 5 This scheme is in accordance with the Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and it is identified in the Strategy as a high priority in the list of proposed measures.
- 6 The proposed scheme at Farnley Wood Beck will help to reduce the impacts of flooding by providing protection up to a 1 in 100 year flood event and therefore deliver managed adaptation to the future impacts of climate change.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: Beeston & Holbeck

Have ward members been consulted? Yes No

- 7 Engagement with residents and ward members will be undertaken ahead of the start of works to provide detail of the planned work and road closures.
- 8 The scheme is included in the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management for Leeds City Council which is subject to an annual update report to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

What are the resource implications?

- 9 The works will be funded from £300,000 S106 funding, £658,000 Flood Defence Grant in Aid and £50,000 Local Levy. This gives total funding of £1,058,000 to implement a scheme here.
- 10 £182,300 has been spend to date developing the appraisal, business case and design. The completion of the scheme including LCC time and risk allowance will cost a further £689,200. The total cost for the work is £871,500
- 11 The works will be funded from S106 funding, Flood Defence Grant in Aid and Local Levy. This gives total funding of £1,058,000 to implement a scheme here.
- 12 A Section 106 agreement signed on 31st March 2015 provides a contribution of £50k towards a flood study and £250k to implement a flood alleviation downstream of a development at Gildersome. These sums have been drawn down and are available to use.

- 13 £658,000 Flood Defence Grant in Aid has been secured through submission of the business case for this scheme.
- 14 £100,000 local levy funding has been claimed and spent to fund the feasibility study into options for the scheme
- 15 The construction works will be provided by BAM Nuttall/Mott Macdonald Joint Venture (BMMjv) through their appointment as sole provider using the LCC/WEM Framework Contract.

What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 16 An allowance for risk and uncertainty in the costs has been included in the costs of the scheme. There is additional funding available through the FDGIA funding and as such there is a low risk of overspend in this phase of the work.
- 17 A risk register has been produced and will be maintained and reviewed with the contractor throughout delivery of the scheme. Key risks include delays to the work leading to work within watercourse at unfavourable time of year leading to increased costs and further delays

What are the legal implications?

- 18 The aim of the proposed flood alleviation scheme is to mitigate the flood risk from Farnley Wood Beck, this is consistent with the Council's statutory duty as the Lead Local Flood Risk Authority as set out in the Flood and water Management Act 2010 and the Council's policy as set out and approved in the Leeds Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- 19 The scheme will be undertaken using EA powers under Section 165 of the Water Resources Act 1991. LCC will be authorised to exercise these powers through a cooperation agreement with the EA.
- 20 The proposed scheme is within the permitted exemptions in the Town and Country Planning Act and therefore does not require an application for planning permission.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 21 Alternative options for the scheme included flood walls at Old Close and flood attenuation areas upstream of the railway. These options could deliver similar benefits but had a greater cost and were hence less economically viable.

How will success be measured?

- 22 Success will be measured through deliver of the scheme within the target cost and programme

What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 23 The Executive Manager for Flood Risk and Climate Change will be the responsible officer. A project manager for the scheme will be appointed when the work is commissioned
- 24 The programme for the works is shown in the table below:

Key Project milestone Summary

Activity	Planned Finish Date (P2)
Submit Outline Business Case	05/07/2022
Approval of Outline Business Case	19/08/2022
Finalise Contract/Task Order	01/09/2021
Construction Start	19/09/2022
Construction finish	18/11/2022

Appendices

25 None.

Background papers

26 None.