

Housing and Infrastructure Board

03 November 2022

Programme Approvals

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
Purpose of this report:	Funding Decision
Is this a Key Decision?	No
Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	No

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Gareth Sutton, Chief Finance Officer/s73 Officer

Report Author(s):

Sue Sykes – Assistant Director, Procurement, Contracts and Programme Controls
 Sue.sykes@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report requests approval for progression from SBC to BJC with the release of development funding for four schemes, subject to acceptance onto the pipeline.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

This report is seeking approval to progress business cases and enter into contract for a number of investment proposals which will support the MCA's aspirations.

Recommendations

The Board consider and approve:

1. Progression of "Bentley Flood Alleviation Scheme" project from SBC to BJC and the release of £0.05m of development cost funding to Doncaster Borough Council (DBC).
2. Release of £0.30m development cost funding for the three project mandates selected for developing their business cases at the Housing and Infrastructure Board meeting in August 2022. These are Fishlake Flood Risk Management Scheme (Doncaster), Worsbrough Reservoir (Barnsley) and Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2G (Rotherham).
3. Release of 0.15m funding from the Flood Gainshare contingency to contribute towards a programme manager post and development of a flood risk investment fund/GIS dashboard as set out in section 2.3.

4. Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes above.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel
Assurance Panel 19th August 2022

1. Background

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the progression of gainshare funded schemes and one change request for Brownfield Housing fund. The paper also requests delegated authority to enter into legal agreements for the named schemes which fall within the Housing and Infrastructure Boards remit.

2. Proposals and Justification

2.1 Bentley Flood Alleviation Scheme SBC to BJC - release of development costs

The applicant is seeking approval for £50k of funding towards project development costs and to proceed to OBC/FBC for £1m towards the subsequent construction costs of the scheme.

Bentley is a suburb of Doncaster that lies on the left bank of the River Don. Much of Bentley is within the low-lying basin and as such flood risk is dominated by the River Don to the south and Ea Beck to the north. Most of Bentley is designated as Flood Zone 3 on the Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning which is described as land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding.

Bentley has been affected by large scale flooding to residential, commercial and the highway network twice in the last 15 years, affecting the lives of over 2000 people locally and many more residents feeling the effects of the floods. The most recent event occurred in November 2019 where 326 properties experienced internal flooding. Flood events have been recorded at Bentley in 1854, 1932, 1939, 1947 and 2007.

Project development activities to be funded will lead to identification of the preferred option which best achieves the project objectives and value for money. Further details of the scheme and risks are included in the Assurance Summary at **Appendix A**.

2.2 Gainshare Flood Contingency

This paper seeks approval for the release of £0.10m development cost funding for each of the three project mandates which were selected for further business case development at the Housing and Infrastructure Board meeting in August 2022.

Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2G, Rotherham

This proposal is within the South Yorkshire Priority Flood and Infrastructure Resilience Programme and the Connected by Water Plan (action 2.33). It aims to deliver a new "outfall structure", enabling silt removal, and the safe removal of water overtopping flood defences. The £0.1m development funding requested will be used to accelerate the design stage work.

Worsbrough Reservoir, Barnsley

This scheme is within the South Yorkshire Priority Programme and the Connected by Water Plan (action 3.36). Key elements of the project are repair / replacement of an upstream draw-off release valve; review of flood estimates to determine if reservoir catchment areas are still sufficient; and further hydraulic modelling and investigation if required, and replacement of banking. The £0.1m requested funding is to accelerate the development of the scheme.

Fishlake Flood Risk Management Scheme, Doncaster

This scheme is within both the South Yorkshire Priority Flood and Infrastructure Resilience Programme and the Connected by Water Plan (action 2.24). The Environment Agency are considering their options in the area and this additional funding would help the viability of a joined-up approach between organisations. The funding ask is £0.1m will be utilised to enhance the existing feasibility study work by undertaking an asset rationalisation exercise and development of the preferred option to detailed design stage.

- 2.3 This paper seeks approval for the release of funding from the Gainshare Flood contingency:
- **Water Programme Manager (£0.1m)** - To enable the successful delivery of the £400m Connected by Water Plan, the partners have identified a requirement for dedicated officer resources. The Programme Manager post will sit within the Environment Agency (EA); however, will work on behalf of all partner organisations, including SYMCA, to lead and manage delivery of the Connected by Water Plan. Activities will include working with partners to develop business cases and undertaking other actions to support the development and delivery of capital schemes within the Plan.
 - **Development of a flood risk investment tool / GIS dashboard (£0.05)** - This will bring together the flood risk data and evidence held by different organisations into one online resource. The ability for partners to be able to easily access this information will play an integral part in informing future investment in flood risk management to ensure it is targeted to maximise flood risk benefits for both communities and businesses across South Yorkshire.

3. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Rejection of some, or all, of the recommendations in this report would mean the region foregoing the forecast benefits arising from the investment

3.2 Option 2

Approve all recommendations

3.3 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Approval of the schemes would require a commitment being made against the MCA's gainshare allocation.

3.4 Recommended Option

Option 2

4. Consultation on Proposal

Project sponsors are required to publish business cases on their own websites (or an appropriate summary of the submission) and must consider all comments received as part of the project development and delivery.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

Subject to the approval of the recommendations, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and Monitoring Officer will progress to enter into legal agreements with each promoter.

The promoter is responsible for the further development of projects that have gateway approval to the next stage of the MCA Assurance process

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

6.1 The proposed investments presented in this report are all fully funded and within budget.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

7.1 The legal implications of the projects have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer and included in the recommendations agreed within the Assurance Summaries as presented in the Appendices.

7.2 Prior to awarding the grants, the MCA shall ensure contracts are put in place to ensure the recipients comply with the grant conditions

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

N/A

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

Appropriate equality and diversity considerations are taken into account as part of the assurance of the project business cases

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

A number of the schemes include new and/or enhanced improvements to public and community infrastructure. This aims to deliver huge benefits for health and the prosperity of cities, positively contributing to the SYMCA's climate change aspirations.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

N/A

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

The approvals provide positive opportunities to highlight the difference the MCA's investments will make to people and passengers, businesses and places across South Yorkshire and how Members are taking action to support the region's recovery from COVID

List of Appendices Included*

A Assurance Summary – Bentley Flood Alleviation Scheme

Background Papers

None