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**PART B: RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES**

**DATE: 3 FEBRUARY 2022**

**REPORT OF THE: HEAD OF WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT  
BECKIE BENNETT**

**TITLE OF REPORT: REPORT ON A MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL  
FLOOD MANAGEMENT - CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS  
YORKSHIRE WATER PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR  
NORTON**

**WARDS AFFECTED: NORTON**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a response to a motion referred to Policy and Resources Committee by Council on 18 February 2021 (minute number 77) relating to the Council committing funding in partnership towards permanent solutions to reduce flood risk. The funding extract from the motion reads as follows:

*We call on Council to commit up to £2.5 million of reserves to contribute to partnership funding a permanent pumping solution for Norton to prevent surface water and sewer flooding occurring when water levels in the River Derwent are high.*

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the motion is amended as follows:

- (i) To delete:  
We call on Council to commit up to £2.5 million of reserves to contribute to partnership funding a permanent pumping solution for Norton to prevent surface water and sewer flooding occurring when water levels in the River Derwent are high.

And replace with:

It is recommended that the Council agrees a contribution towards the Yorkshire Water Permanent Scheme for Norton of 20% of the total scheme costs to a maximum of £152,000 (based on total costs of £760,000). This funding will be allocated within the capital budget for 2022/23.

### **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To enable the Council to support a permanent solution being delivered by Yorkshire Water for the community of Norton which mitigates against flood risk affecting 517 properties which is a recommendation agreed at the Flood Management Working Party on 9 December 2021.

### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS**

- 4.1 There is a risk that Yorkshire Water do not progress with the implementation of a permanent solution for Norton if there is a funding shortfall and a financial contribution from the Council will seek to mitigate this risk.
- 4.2 There are no significant risks in considering the recommendation although without permanent solutions 517 properties in Norton are at risk of recurring flooding impacts and investing in reducing flood risk will save money for the Council and partners in the long term.

### **5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The recommendations support the Council Plan priorities Our Environment – a sustainable, safe and clean place to live; to reduce flooding risk by investing in flood alleviation measures and working with partners to provide an emergency response.

## **REPORT**

### **6.0 REPORT DETAILS**

- 6.1 A motion to Council on 18 February 2021 (Minute 77) was referred to Policy and Resources Committee under Council Procedure Rule 11.4, which was referred to the Flood Management Working Party on 29 June 2021:

*Major flood defences in Malton, Norton and Old Malton protect hundreds of properties adjacent to the River Derwent, but in January 2021 Norton on Derwent has yet again been affected by serious and significant flooding.*

*In 2000 this Council agreed to abandon badly needed major improvements to permanent flood protection for Norton when agreeing to NYCC plans to protect Malton and Old Malton. Recent events illustrate that this was an unsound decision.*

*We call on Council to commit up to £2.5 million of reserves to contribute to partnership funding a permanent pumping solution for Norton to prevent surface water and sewer flooding occurring when water levels in the River Derwent are high.*

*The ARUP report of 2015 identified and costed the work required to protect homes and businesses in Norton and must now need to be acted on.*

*We further call on Council to request that officers enter into immediate talks with Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency and NYCC to seek funding contributions towards the scheme that will be required to build a permanent pumping solution.*

*Following recent events in Norton, when flood waters were only kept out of homes and businesses by 24/7 pumping, and property was yet again surrounded by raw sewage – this matter to be considered urgent and requiring immediate action.*

- 6.2 On 16 September, Yorkshire Water representatives attended the Flood Management Working Party to provide an update on their future actions and investment plans.
- 6.3 Following the significant flooding event which occurred in December 2020 and January/February 2021, Yorkshire Water have commissioned an area study to survey the drainage systems in the Castlegate area of Malton and the area around Church Street, Welham Road and St Nicholas Street in Norton. The outcome from this study with potential options for future solutions is expected by Spring 2022.
- 6.4 In addition to this drainage study, Yorkshire Water have also identified a permanent solution for Norton to improve the response to flooding affecting 517 properties in this area and are progressing with this scheme through their internal governance processes.
- 6.5 The Yorkshire Water Scheme costs for Norton are estimated at £760,000 which is based on a full worst case scenario. The scheme involves installing a permanent pump which will automatically operate when water levels reach a trigger level instead of requiring the deployment of portable pumps when flooding affects the area, therefore providing improved protection to 517 properties in Norton which are at risk of flooding.
- 6.6 Yorkshire Water are now progressing with more detailed investigation and design work to understand the feasibility of the scheme and produce more accurate scheme costs.
- 6.7 At the Flood Management Working Party on 9 December 2021 a recommendation to Policy and Resources Committee was agreed which was based on a previous Council decision to contribute towards the Malton, Norton and Old Malton flood alleviation scheme as follows:

*It is recommended that the Council agrees a contribution towards the Yorkshire Water Permanent Scheme for Norton of 20% of the total scheme costs to a maximum of £152,000 (based on total costs of £760,000). This contribution to be funded from the flooding contingency capital budget.*

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The following implications have been identified:

- a) Financial  
Subject to approval, the maximum contribution of £152,000 (20% of the total scheme cost of £760,000) will be funded from the capital budget for 2022/23. Investment in permanent flood alleviation solutions will also reduce the Council's future costs associated with the emergency response to flooding.
- b) Legal  
There are no significant legal issues in considering this report.
- c) Other  
There are no significant other issues in considering this report.

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**Background Papers:** Motion to Council 18 February 2021 – Minute 77