



REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 13 OCTOBER 2009

SUBJECT: FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIRS – SEPTEMBER 2009

BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with further information on the extent of non-housing repairs required following the flooding on 3rd and 4th September 2009.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to:
- i) the functions of the Council as Roads Authority, and;
 - ii) the functions of the Council in relation to Parks, Open Spaces and Tree/Woodland management and maintenance.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the details provided in this report and agree the actions being taken by Officers to carry out the repairs necessary.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Initial details of repairs and costs associated were presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 22nd September 2009 by the Chief Financial Officer (item 9 of the draft Minute refers).
- 3.2 A schedule of repairs to assets affected by the flooding and managed by Environmental Services has been compiled, and is summarised in the Appendix A to this report.
- 3.3 The initial assessment of costs presented to Members indicated the following range of costs:

	Cost Range	
	£000	
Initial response (Council staff and contractors)	75	- 150
Road and pathway repairs	300	- 400
Bridge repairs (minor)	100	- 200
Bridge Replacement (West Street, Fochabers)	500	- 700
TOTAL	975	1,450

A further £300,000 is estimated to install a trash screen on the Fochabers Burn. The benefits from installing this screen will be examined and reported to the Flood Alleviation Sub-Committee in due course. The initial response costs above include works undertaken by other services in responding to the event.

- 3.4 The Chief Financial Officer has advised Scottish Ministers of the financial consequences of this flood damage, and has indicated to Members that possible funding sources are:

- 1) Bellwin Scheme
- 2) Additional Capital Grant
- 3) Council Resources

- 3.5 Until there is confirmation of funding, flood damage repairs are being undertaken on a priority basis so that the additional financial burden to the Council is minimised, and in some cases prioritised against other planned work. The highest priority has been given to the replacement of the West Street Bridge, Fochabers so that normal access to the secondary school can be re-instated.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) **Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**

This report supports:

Local Outcome 3 - Moray will benefit from an improved and safer transportation infrastructure.

Local Outcome 20 - Our communities will be resilient to emergencies.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

The Council has a duty to maintain the roads infrastructure.

(c) **Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**

Dealt with in the body of the report.

(d) **Consultations**

Lorraine Paisey, Principal Accountant has been consulted and is in agreement with the contents of this report.

5. **CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 Moray experienced a severe rainfall event that caused widespread minor damage and a number of major significant structural damage to the non-housing infrastructure asset. The repairs are progressing on a priority basis to minimise the additional financial burden on the Council.
- 5.2 Officers are also having to deal with a significant number of enquiries and complaints from organisations and the general public in the aftermath of the incident. This is inevitably placing pressure on the ability of the department to progress the repairs.

Author of Report: Alexander Ritchie, Head of Direct Services

Background Papers:

Ref:

Signature:



Date : October 2009

Designation: Director of Environmental Services

Name: Robert A Stewart