

**AGENDA ITEM NO.**

**TO: ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**13<sup>th</sup> January 2004**

**SUBJECT: REVIEW PREPARATION OF FLOOD ALLEVIATION MEASURES.**

**FROM: PLANNING and ENGINEERING**

---

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

**1.1** As part of the Committees 2003/04 work plan this report is to inform Members about the progress of the Watercourse / Flood Management Work Programme for the period between September 2002 and October 2004.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

**2.1** Members will recall that the Watercourse / Flood Management work programme for 2002/03 was attached as Appendix A, to the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2002, Environment Scrutiny report.

**2.2** The work programme 2003/04, now attached as Appendix 1 to the report, has been updated with a short commentary to demonstrate how each task has progressed against the original 2002/03 programme, in-conjunction with current and forthcoming projects.

**3.0 POLICY and BUDGET FRAMEWORK.**

**3.1** The undertaking of the Watercourse Management work programme is in compliance with the Council's Community Plan, the Council's Flood Defence Plan and the Environmental Service Plan. Further links can be found within the EMAS corporate environmental priorities and indicators. The Capital schemes identified conform with parts of the Council's Capital Strategy and the other works are financed through Revenue Budget code 222.

**4.0 OUTCOME REQUIRED**

**4.1** As part of the Committees on going work plan, Members are requested to note the report and decide how they would wish to scrutinise projects already undertaken, those in progress and those programmed for the future.

**R. JEWSBURY**  
**GROUP MANAGER - ENGINEERING**

**Background Papers**

Environment Scrutiny - 9<sup>th</sup> October 2001, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2002, 3rd April 2002, 26th July 2002 and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2002

**Areas in District Affected:** All.

**Executive Portfolio Area and Holder :** Environmental Services, Cllr Mrs M Begg.

**Contact Officer:** R. Jewsbury (01926-456320) >e= mail [rjewsbury@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:rjewsbury@warwickdc.gov.uk)

## WATERCOURSE MANAGEMENT / FLOOD WORK PROGRAMME 2003/04

Ref.	Task	Target Date	Progress
WM 1	Pingle Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme in Cubbington <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Scheme</li> </ul>	30 Sep 02	<b>Completion 22nd Nov 2002.</b> Total scheme costs are within the allocated Capital budget. This scheme provides a 1 in 100 year level of protection for 36 properties. Delays to completion were due to inclement weather towards the end of the muck shifting operation.
AD 1	Ladycroft, Foul Relief Sewer, Cubbington <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Scheme</li> </ul>	Not originally Programmed	This scheme emanated from a decision by the Executive following an Ombudsman complaint where the Council was found guilty of failing to take action where it had identified a statutory nuisance for a public health risk that was likely to recur. The executive recommended that the nuisance should be abated and instructed Engineering to resolve the problem quickly. The solution was the construction of a foul relief sewer and storage tank which was designed, tendered and constructed in 12 weeks. Construction was <b>completed in early December 2002</b> and the customer satisfaction evaluation survey of the finished works concluded that residents were very satisfied with the construction and management of the works.
WM 2	St. Marys Lands - Saltisford & Hill Close Gardens Flood Alleviation Scheme in Warwick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete Scheme</li> </ul>	30 Oct 03	<b>Completion 9th Oct 2003.</b> Total scheme costs are within the allocated Capital budget. This scheme provides a 1 in 100 year level of protection for 44 properties and highway infrastructure. It has also allowed for the future development of residential properties on the site of the existing stables off Bread and Meat Close. The customer satisfaction evaluation survey of the finished works also concluded that residents were very satisfied with the construction and management of the works.
WM 3	St. Marys Lands - Gog Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility</li> <li>Design</li> <li>Start Construction</li> <li>Complete Construction</li> </ul>	13 Aug 02 31 Oct 02 25 Feb 03 30 July 03	<p>This scheme was intentionally slipped, partly due to a 3 month delay as a result of the Ladycroft scheme, but more importantly in order to bring it in line with the master implementation programme for the overall St Mary's Lands Project.</p> <p>The feasibility and detail design has been completed to the Planning application stage. The Planning application was submitted on the 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2003. It is hoped that Planning approval will be granted at the end of Jan 2004. The completion of the scheme is now targeted for Nov 2004 in time for the planting season.</p> <p>On completion of the scheme it will provide a 1 in 100 year level of protection to 46 properties and highway infrastructure. It will also allow for the development of the new stables and car parking off Hampton Road and further provided two new full size football pitches from the deposition of the excavated spoil on site.</p>
WM 4	DEFRA High Level Target 4B (National Inland Flood Defence Database)	31 Dec 02	<b>Completed by the target date.</b> The information has been forwarded to the Environment Agency. The information gathered was for a National Defence Database for the Condition & Risk Assessment of all Structures on 'Critical Watercourses'. The risk assessment of the assets was undertaken in conjunction with officers from the Environment Agency.

# WATERCOURSE MANAGEMENT / FLOOD WORK PROGRAMME 2003/04

Ref.	Task	Target Date	Progress
WM 5	Emergency Plan - Flood Response Plan to link with WDC and County Council Emergency Plan.	31 Oct 02	<b>Draft working document operational but not complete. Due for publishing in Oct 04.</b> The plan is an operational document and is being produced to supplement the authorities Emergency Plan. It will formally agree with WCC Emergency Planning Unit and the Emergency Services a framework whereby the Council's services can be quickly and effectively marshaled and developed in response to flooding incidents which fall outside the scope of normal service delivery. The Plan is primarily for the Urban areas where the potential for flood risk covers a wider and more densely populated area. Rural areas have also been considered and it is intended that rural Parish flood plans will be integrated into the Plan. A meeting with WCC's, EPU and key emergency partners was held on 18/6/ 02. Following this an initial 'draft' Warwick District Flood Response Plan has been prepared. Partnership working with WCC's, EPU on the production of specific 'Parish Flood Plans' has also been completed. Training of staff to deal with a Flood Emergency scenario 'exercise Tempest' was organised by the Environment Agency and undertaken in Jan 2002. In house training of staff has also been undertaken in December 2003 for basic flood response awareness.
WM 6	Surface Water Drainage Forum	Ongoing	<p>A meeting of the forum was held on the 24/9/02 and discussions at this meeting provided the updates on the Kenilworth area and the identified drainage problems in the Warwick area, their cause and a proposed course of action. A lot of work was undertaken on their rectification of previously known highway drainage problems in all parts of the District before the termination of the Highways Agency in March 2003. As a result of the impetus from WDC Drainage Forum a Kenilworth Strategic Sewerage Forum was formed in April 2003. The Key partners are STW for sewers, WCC for highway drainage, WDC for land drainage and watercourses and Railtrack for major culverts under the Kenilworth rail network. These partners have been working on their individual areas of responsibilities under the co-ordination of the Kenilworth Strategy Forum. In October 2003 members of WDC Drainage Forum and Environment Portfolio holder, WCC Warwick Area Committee, Kenilworth Town Council and Andy King MP were given a presentation on the Kenilworth Flood Alleviation Strategy following STW public announcement that they were to spend £9 million on improving the sewerage systems in Kenilworth. A further meeting of key partners is also to be held in January 04 just prior to STW commencing their works on site.</p> <p>Engineering and Leisure staff also had a public meeting in Nov 03 with the residents of Brookside Avenue, all the Ward Councillors and Environment Agency. The implication of works required on the privately owned watercourse known as Fishponds Brook are necessary to improve water flows and quality as part of the overall strategy for Kenilworth. Engineering will be undertaking the works in parts, whilst also co-ordinating private riparian owners work to ensure the correct hydraulic solution and uniformity of approach. WDC Leisure Department are one of those substantial landowners. Works are likely to commence in April 04 after topographic and further hydraulic modeling has been undertaken.</p> <p>Initial meeting between officers of STW and WDC have also commenced over known drainage flooding 'hot spots' in Warwick and work in the Emscote Road area has already taken place. Other areas under discussion are in the vicinity of Millars Road.</p>

## WATERCOURSE MANAGEMENT / FLOOD WORK PROGRAMME 2003/04

Ref.	Task	Target Date	Progress
WM 7	Cyclic Watercourse Maintenance Inspections	Ongoing	Monthly inspection undertaken with a 97% achievement for the Sept 03 half year. Figures are reported as part of Engineering's local performance indicator, ref EM 4.
	Improvements to Maintenance to Meet BVR Action Plan	April 03	Subject to additional revenue bids which were unsuccessful in Oct 2002. Again bids for additional resources to meet the BV Action Plan have been made as part of the Service Plan process from Nov 2003 onwards.
WM 8	Liaison over Kenilworth Flood Alleviation Scheme.	Ongoing	A meeting with Elliott Morley MP with Andy King MP, officers from EA, English Heritage, WDC, Kenilworth District and Town Councillors was held in Sept 02 with the objective of trying to resolve the difficulties over the securing of the scheme between English Heritage and the Environment Agency due to the substantial cost implication on both parties as a result of the requirements of the Reservoirs Act. The outcome was for the EA to re-examine the cost benefit analysis and then provide a technically acceptable scheme in light of a revised approach with English Heritage. The scheme would still need to be prioritised in relation to resources and commitments elsewhere. Andy King MP has chaired meetings in June and Oct 03 with a view to moving the scheme forward. The scheme has now reached a stage where a final report has been prepared by the Environment Agency identifying two options which have cost benefits of between 7 and 8. It is now a case of waiting for the Government threshold to be reduced from the current 20+ , to 5 to 10, which is not expected for the next 3 to 4 years, if at all. As a result the Town Council are going to explore the possibilities of obtaining European funding for the scheme through WCC and if successful the scheme could be constructed outside of the Government funding criteria.
WM 9	Tanyard Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme, Kenilworth.		Very preliminary feasibility and desk top study work for this scheme has started. Topographical surveys have also been undertaken.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feasibility</li> <li>• Report to Executive</li> <li>• Design</li> <li>• Start Construction</li> <li>• Complete Construction</li> </ul>	5 April 04 July 04 2 Aug 04 28 Feb 05 30 Sept 05	<p>This scheme will form part of the Kenilworth Drainage Strategy which involves a co-ordinated approach with key partners like STW, WCC and Railtrack to mitigate flooding within Kenilworth.</p> <p>It is hoped that the scheme will be able to provide the ABI minimum standard of 1 in 75 year level of protection to 54 properties and highway infrastructure. Unfortunately we are unable to provide the normal 100year protection level due to the enormity of the problem and the space available for improvements to be undertaken on this land locked stream 95% of which is in private householders riparian ownership.</p>