

Delegated Executive Office Key Decision Report

Decision Maker: Emma Barton,
Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth

Date of Decision: 19th May 2022

Subject: Grant Acceptance: Environment Agency Grant in Aid –
Golburn Clough, Greenfield

Report Author: Eleanor Sykes

Ward (s): Saddleworth South

Reason for the decision: Oldham Council has secured funding from the following source:

- Environment Agency – Grant in Aid

The purpose of this report is to confirm the value of the grant currently available to Oldham of £269,941 (a £180,668 contingency is also available if required funded by Grant in Aid and Local Levy Fund) and to notify the Portfolio Holder of the intention to bring this additional resource into the transport capital programme to commence delivery of the scheme.

Summary: Oldham Council secured Environment Agency Grant in Aid of £53k in late-2020 for the purpose of progressing detailed investigation and design work for a flood management scheme at Golburn Clough in Greenfield where properties in the vicinity had experienced flooding.

In 2021 Oldham Council and Unity Partnership commissioned AECOM to prepare a business case for a flood alleviation scheme in the Golburn Clough area, Greenfield. The area had been identified as a local priority area for a flood risk management scheme to reduce the risk of flooding to

properties in the area. This business case was submitted to the Environment Agency in December 2021 with funding approved to deliver a flood alleviation scheme during 2022/23.

What are the alternative option(s) to be considered? Please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s):

There are two options:

Option 1: accept the grant offer and deliver the above scheme in an appropriate timescale.

Option 2: do not accept the grant offer and therefore do not deliver the above scheme.

Recommendation(s):

Option 1: accept the grant offer and deliver the above scheme in an appropriate timescale.

Implications:

What are the financial implications?

The cost of the delivery of the flood alleviation scheme within the Golburn Clough area is not expected to exceed £507.6k (including contingency) and will be capital expenditure.

This will be funded from a local contribution (£57k), Grant in Aid (£49.4k), Local Levy Fund (£131.3k) and the additional £269.9k Environment Agency – Grant in Aid award detailed within this report.

(John Edisbury)

What are the procurement implications?

The grant funding conditions – section 26 – competitive tendering, contracts, and procurement, provide clear detail of the mandatory measures that must be adhered in relation to the sourcing of all goods, services, and works, and are embedded below.



Grant
memorandum 2020.

The procurement of Surveys, Topos, CCTV, Detailed Design, and Construction Works must be procured inline with the above grant funding conditions and have suitable contracts put in place with risk and liability suitably apportioned to protect the Council from unnecessary risk – Risk

and Insurance, and Legal Teams will need to be engaged.

Dan Cheetham, Procurement.

What are the **legal** implications?

None (A Evans)

What are the **Human Resources** implications?

None

Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment attached or not required because (please give reason)

N/A

What are the **property** implications

None

Risks:

Should the Council not accept the grant the flooding will continue at the location. In accepting the grant the Council will have to deliver in the timescale specified in the grant condition and the cost estimated or it risks financing further expenditure from its own resources

(Mark Stenson)

Co-operative agenda

The Transport Capital Programme is determined and approved centrally (involving Council officers at a senior level and the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods) so that schemes meet the Council's statutory duties and wider transport strategy objectives. In the light of decreasing levels of funding, the development of the programme reflects a co-operative approach, ensuring that where possible schemes meet multiple objectives and complement other capital and revenue programmes such as regeneration. Wherever possible additional relevant funding is bid for to extend the amount of work that can be carried out in Oldham. This approach can often result in composite schemes comprising carriageway maintenance, safety enhancements, public realm, pedestrian, and cycle improvements, which achieves better value for money.

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution?

Yes

Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget?

Yes

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? No

Reason why this Is a Key Decision (1) to result in the local authority incurring expenditure or the making of savings which are, significant (over £250k) having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates.

The Key Decision made as a result of this report will be published within **48 hours** and cannot be actioned until **five working days** have elapsed from the publication date of the decision.

This item has been included on the Forward Plan under reference NC-02-22.

There are no background papers for this report

Report Author Sign-off:	Eleanor Sykes
Date:	26 th April 2022

Background:

There is a history of ordinary watercourse and surface water flooding within Greenfield. Notable recent flood events include Storm Eva in December 2015, in addition to incidents resulting from intense periods of rainfall during September 2016, November 2016 and September 2017.

The Golburn Clough is a tributary of the River Tame, a main river. The watercourse drains a steep rural catchment with its headwaters in the steep hills above of the village of Greenfield. The watercourse is heavily modified with culverted sections that pass beneath the urban area, with the latter section being approximately 400m in length. The lower extent of this culverted watercourse is heavily interconnected with the local highway drainage and surface water sewer network present beneath Wellington Road. Historically, flood flow conditions have resulted in a surcharging of the culvert and the associated drainage network, leading to internal flooding of the residential and commercial properties located on Wellington Road and Arthurs Lane.

In the absence of a formal Flood Alleviation Scheme, flooding will continue to impact local properties in the area. The consequence of flooding will worsen over time due to the anticipated effects of climate change in conjunction with the deteriorating condition of the existing culvert. Flood events are expected to become more frequent and severe in the absence of any further intervention.

Proposals:

The preferred option includes diverting two culverted watercourses from the existing network to discharge directly into the River Tame. In addition, the scheme will complete land drainage works to a section of the Pennine Bridleway and a detention basin.

The outcomes/benefits of the scheme are reducing the flood risk to 15 residential and 9 non-residential properties and businesses in the locality.

Conclusions:

The funding approved is as follows:

Project Summary	Estimated Cost
Total Project Value	£507,645
Less Oldham Council Contribution	£57,036*
Less Contingency	£180,668**
Total approved funding allocation	£269,941

* This contribution was agreed via a Delegated Cabinet Member report in November 2021 utilising underspend across the transport capital programme and represents an 11% local contribution to the scheme.

This precedent of an ~10% local contribution was set during the previous 6-year (2015-21) EA Flood Management Programme through which we have delivered three major flood management schemes across the borough utilising £1.46m of external funding.

**The £180,668 contingency is funded by £49,367 Grant in Aid and £131,301 Local Levy Fund. A separate process is followed to access the contingency funding for scheme delivery if need be. The costs of the scheme will be firmed up during the detailed design/tender stage and the contingency accessed at this stage if required.

Signed : _____



Date: 5 May 2022