



Report

Formal Meeting of Cabinet Member for Engineering and Transport

Part 1

19 October 2005

Item No 2

Subject **Application for Welsh Assembly Land Drainage Grant**

Purpose **To advise the Cabinet Member for Transport and Sustainable Development of the proposal to apply for Welsh Assembly Land Drainage Grant for land drainage flood alleviation schemes at Ponthir Road, Caerleon & Llanwern Village.**

Author Highways and Drainage Maintenance Manager

Ward Caerleon & Llanwern

Summary Ponthir Road, Caerleon.

In 2001/2002 Newport City Council identified Ponthir Road and adjoining commercial / industrial properties of being flooded in the past and at risk of being flooded in the future. Funding was successfully secured from the Welsh Assembly Government to undertake a flood defence pre feasibility study.

Llanwern Village

In 2001/2002 Newport City Council identified Llanwern Village, particularly residential properties of being flooded in the past and at risk of being flooded in the future. Funding was successfully secured from the Welsh Assembly Government to undertake a flood defence pre feasibility study.

Proposal To apply for Welsh Assembly Land Drainage Grant for flood alleviation works at Ponthir Road, Caerleon and Llanwern Village. The grant application if successful will be for 85% of the total flood alleviation scheme costs. The remaining 15% will require funding from existing revenue sources.

Ponthir Road Scheme Cost (Preliminary subject to detailed design etc) - £150,000.

Llanwern Village Scheme Cost (Preliminary subject to detailed design etc) - £190,000.

Contact Mark Davies 01633 232637 mark.davies@newport.gov.uk
Action by Head of Engineering and Construction
Timetable Immediate

Signed

1 Background

1.1. In 2000 Newport City Council experienced exceptional flooding occurrences throughout the City resulting in a considerable number of properties being flooded from natural drainage and watercourses.

1.2. Ponthir Road

- 1.2.1 In January 2002 the Welsh Assembly Government approved funding for a pre feasibility study.
- 1.2.2 In September 2002 a Pre Feasibility Report was submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 1.2.3 A Project Appraisal Report a requirement for submission for land drainage grant has been undertaken. The Project appraisal indicates a cost benefit ratio in favour of the scheme enabling progression forward for submission for full grant funding from the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 1.2.4 The proposed scheme will reduce the frequency of carriageway flooding and flooding of commercial / industrial properties, provide a cost benefit ratio of 1.03 and resolve flooding from storm events in excess of 1 in 30 year return period.
- 1.2.5 Failure to carry out the scheme will leave the highway and commercial / industrial units at risk of flooding every 2 years

1.3 Llanwern Village

- 1.3.1 In January 2002 the Welsh Assembly Government approved funding for a pre feasibility study.
- 1.3.2 In September 2002 a Pre Feasibility Report was submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 1.3.3 A Project Appraisal Report a requirement for submission for land drainage grant has been undertaken. The Project appraisal indicates a cost benefit ratio in favour of the scheme enabling progression forward for submission for full grant funding from the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 1.3.4 The proposed scheme will reduce the frequency of the village flooding, provide a cost benefit ratio of 10.64 and resolve flooding from storm events in excess of 1 in 10 year return period

2 Options Considered

- 2.1. To submit a grant application for the two named schemes and if successful fund the balance (15%) from existing revenue sources.
- 2.2 To proceed with the two named schemes without grant funding
- 2.3 Do nothing.

3 Preferred choice

- 3.1 Option 2.1 is the preferred choice as funding from existing stretched revenue sources will be minimised.

4 Proposals

- 4.1. To apply for Welsh Assembly Land Drainage Grant for flood alleviation works at Ponthir Road, Caerleon and Llanwern Village. The grant application if successful will be for 85% of the total flood alleviation scheme costs. The remaining 15% will require funding from existing revenue sources.

Ponthir Road Scheme Cost (Preliminary subject to detailed design etc) - £150,000.

Llanwern Village Scheme Cost (Preliminary subject to detailed design etc) - £190,000.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 Notices under the Land Drainage Act 1991 will be served on private landowners at the appropriate time.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1. This is a capital scheme and a capital grant. The Council's revenue budget will bear the cost of the match funding of an estimated £51,000. This will be accommodated from existing allocations in the Environmental Services Drainage budget which will contribute to the capital expenditure.

7 Staff Implications

- 7.1. The project will be serviced by existing staff resources and consultants employed under the Council's Framework Agreement.

8 Sustainability and Environmental Issues

- 8.1 Improved flood protection is a benefit to local residents.

9 Equalities Impact

- 9.1 All residents within the local flood risk areas will benefit from the scheme.

10 Crime Prevention Impact

- 10.1 Not applicable.

11 Comments of Head of Law and Standards - Monitoring Officer

- 11.1 I would support the proposed action which is in accordance with the Council's Land Drainage Powers. The areas concerned have been identified as susceptible to flooding and these measures will help to alleviate the problem. Because the Council would need to contribute 15% of the costs of the scheme, then the approval of the Leader should be obtained before the grant application is submitted to the Assembly, in accordance with the Constitution.

12 Comments of Chief Financial Officer

- 12.1 I support the proposal to bid for substantial grant funding towards the finance of these two important schemes.

13 Comments of Ward Members

- 13.1 The Caerleon and Llanwern Ward Members support the application to the Welsh Assembly Government.

14 Comments of the Leader of the Council

- 14.1 The Leader supports the application to the Welsh Assembly Government.

15. Consultation with Non-Executive Members

- 15.1 No comments were received