



Subject:	Strategic Drainage Board – Update Paper 1
Date:	22 April 2015
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To update the Committee on strategic drainage issues facing the City and the approach from DRD to address these matters including the role of BCC.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	To note the issues and progress regarding strategic drainage and the implications for city growth.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	A Strategic Drainage Infrastructure Programme Board has been established by DRD and has now held two meetings.
3.2	In essence the Board has been established to address major drainage infrastructure issues. The future economic development of Northern Ireland and the Greater Belfast area cannot continue without a significant improvement in the capacity of its drainage infrastructure. The existing wastewater infrastructure, including the Duncrue Wastewater Treatment Works, is not sufficient to allow for a significant level of new development whether commercial or housing.

3.3	The inaugural meeting was concerned with introduction to the subject, details of challenges including future growth and demographics, climate change and protection of the environment, flooding risk as well as funding and the increasing likelihood of infraction of EU legislation and consequent fines.
3.4	To resolve the issue in Belfast means funding of an overall scale of around £750m broken down into 1% for a Strategic Plan 9% Design & Supervision and 90% Delivery of Works which will be over a 10 year period. There is some scope in reduction of this with new technologies being trialled in Dublin and Glasgow but still a £500m plus programme.
3.5	The Programme Board is charged with devising a <u>plan</u> with no commitment to any capital funding from organisations represented.
3.6	Current representation on the Board includes DRD, NIW, Rivers Agency, DOE, Transport NI, SIB as well as Council. Invitations will also be extended to DETI/INI due to potential impact on economic development. If Corporation Tax reform is implemented and acts as a stimulant to investment this become more critical.
3.7	The second meeting considered a draft Terms of Reference and a Project Initiation Document which were accepted as working agreements subject to change as the project develops.
3.8	In summary, 15 work packages have been identified (see Appendix 1 attached) which highlights lead organisations and others who need to be involved. BCC is not a lead organisation on any work package but will provide input to many packages (at least 8 No as things stand).
3.9	The Council's input is particularly related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="355 1664 935 1697">• Preparation of Local Development Plans<li data-bbox="355 1720 627 1753">• Planning Control<li data-bbox="355 1776 823 1809">• Management of the Lagan Weir<li data-bbox="355 1832 1390 1910">• Management of the River Lagan aeration system (which degrades pollution entering the Lagan)<li data-bbox="355 1933 1390 1966">• Off Street Car Parks (which may need to be modified to contribute to storm

	<p>separation and /or include storm attenuation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation and Access (parks may require modification to provide flood pathways, flood storage, flood barriers) • Ownership of other lands • Public engagement and communication <p>3.10 Obviously the upgrading of this infrastructure along with other major items such as the electrical grid and transport is a fairly fundamental aspect of any successful city. All of these issues can restrict or support economic growth.</p> <p>3.11 Even if sufficient funding is raised the implementation of works and consequent economic disruption will need carefully handled. It is therefore important that we already have this recognised on our Plan on a Page and can add further detail as things develop.</p> <p>3.12 The role of the Council in this issue will in my view only grow and involve a range of directorates in the existing and any new Council arrangements. Committee is asked to note that infrastructure is a key component of any successful City and is noted on the City Council's Plan on a Page (see section 6.1 of Appendix 2) and needs serious consideration in any future proposals for City growth and regeneration.</p> <p>3.13 <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> None</p> <p>3.14 <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None</p>
4.0	Appendices/Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 Strategic Drainage Board - DRD Work Packages</p> <p>Appendix 2 Strategic Drainage Board - Emerging City VCM; Plan on a Page</p>