

# EXECUTIVE DECISION

## made by a Cabinet Member



### REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – DL05 25/26

Decision	
<b>1</b>	<b>Title of decision:</b> St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme business case change request
<b>2</b>	<b>Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title):</b> Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications) (Acting Leader)
<b>3</b>	<b>Report author and contact details:</b> Sarah Durbridge (Civil Engineer), Tel: 01752 308681, Email: <a href="mailto:sarah.durbridge@plymouth.gov.uk">sarah.durbridge@plymouth.gov.uk</a>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Decision to be taken:</b></p> <p>It is recommended that the Deputy Leader:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approves the Capital Business Case Change Request for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme;</li> <li>Approves the allocation of an additional £88,780.89 into the Capital Programme for the St Levan Park Flood Relief Scheme, funded by Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding.</li> </ol>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Reasons for decision:</b></p> <p>The business case sets out clear aims and objectives for the project and details how the Scheme is to be financed.</p> <p>To allocate sufficient funding into the Capital Programme in accordance with the funding sources set out in the report.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Alternative options considered and rejected:</b></p> <p><u>Do Nothing Option:</u> Do statutory minimum – Cease all expenditure (capital and revenue), undertake no further flood risk management activities and walk away.</p> <p>Discounted because not investing in the improved management of flooding in the St Levan Park area will result in the ongoing chronic flooding of homes and businesses. With climate change, the frequency of flooding will increase, resulting in properties becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned. This will inevitably result in significant social issues related to negative equity, loss of livelihood and homelessness. Decaying properties would also be a significant blight on the wider area's economic activity.</p> <p><u>Do Minimum Option:</u> Clean and rehabilitate the existing system.</p> <p>Discounted because not investing in the improved management of flooding in the St Levan Park area will result in the ongoing chronic flooding of homes and businesses. With climate change, the frequency of flooding will increase, resulting in properties becoming unviable and, therefore, abandoned. This will inevitably result in significant social issues related to negative equity, loss of livelihood and homelessness. Decaying properties would also be a significant blight on the wider area's economic activity.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Financial implications and risk:</b>

	Funding is entirely via the Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid allocation and UK Shared Prosperity Funding, with no cost implication or requirement for PCC.			
8	<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> <b>(Please contact <u>Democratic Support</u> for further advice)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</b>
		x		in the case of <b>capital</b> projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of <b>£3million</b> in total
		x		in the case of <b>revenue</b> projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of <b>£1million</b>
		x		is <b>significant</b> in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising <b>two or more</b> wards in the area of the local authority.
	<b>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the <u>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</u></b>	N/A		
9	<b>Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:</b>	<p>The Scheme will deliver the following Corporate Plan priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping children, young people and families safe</li> <li>• Green investment, jobs, skills, and better education</li> <li>• Spending money wisely</li> <li>• Focussing on prevention and early intervention</li> </ul> <p>The Scheme will support the Plymouth Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plymouth as a healthy city</li> <li>• Plymouth as a growing city</li> <li>• Plymouth as an international city</li> </ul> <p>It is relevant to the following sections of the Joint Local Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SO12 (Delivering infrastructure and investment)</li> <li>• SPT1 (Delivering sustainable development)</li> <li>• SPT2 (Sustainable linked neighbourhoods and sustainable rural communities)</li> <li>• SPT10 (Balanced transport strategy for growth and healthy and sustainable communities)</li> <li>• SPT12 (Strategic approach to the natural environment)</li> <li>• SPT13 (Strategic infrastructure measures to deliver the spatial strategy)</li> <li>• DEV1 (Protecting health and amenity)</li> <li>• DEV2 (Air, water, soil, noise, land and light)</li> <li>• DEV20 (Place shaping and the quality of the built environment)</li> <li>• DEV23 (Landscape character)</li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEV26 (Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation)</li> <li>• DEV27 (Green and play spaces)</li> <li>• DEV32 (Delivering low carbon development)</li> <li>• DEV 35 (Managing flood risk and water quality impacts)</li> </ul> <p>The Scheme also supports the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, the Green Minds Model and South West Water's plans for the city.</p>
<b>10</b>	<b>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</b>	<p><b>Climate impact assessment summary</b> A Climate Impact Assessment has been completed via the online tool (see Appendix C)</p> <p><b>Properties better protected from flooding</b> When the Scheme completes, it is anticipated that 113 properties will be better protected from flooding during a 1 in 100 year storm event. All the relevant households sit within the 21% to 40% most deprived areas of the country.</p> <p><b>Biodiversity net gain (BNG)</b> The Scheme will deliver BNG improvements of at least 10%.</p> <p><b>Additional flood risk reduction and ecological improvements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of sewerage spills within St Levan Park</li> <li>• Reduced risk of CSO spills in the River Tamar</li> <li>• Bathing water quality improvement in the River Tamar</li> </ul> <p><b>Amenity improvements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced risk of surface water flooding on St Levan Road</li> <li>• Better usage of St Levan Park during periods of heavy rainfall</li> </ul>

**Urgent decisions**

<b>11</b>	<b>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</b>	<b>No</b>		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support ( <a href="mailto:democratsupport@plymouth.gov.uk">democratsupport@plymouth.gov.uk</a> ) for advice)
		<b>No</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>(If no, go to section 13a)</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Reason for urgency:</b>			
<b>12 b</b>	<b>Scrutiny Chair Signature:</b>		<b>Date</b>	

	<b>Scrutiny Committee name:</b>			
	<b>Print Name:</b>			

**Consultation**

<b>I3a</b>	<b>Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	x		
		<b>No</b>		<b>(If no go to section 14)</b>	
<b>I3b</b>	<b>Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?</b>	Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) Councillor John Stephens (Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport)			
<b>I3c</b>	<b>Date Cabinet member consulted</b>	Councillor Briars-Delve has been regularly briefed, including 16/10/2025 Councillor Stephens was briefed on 26/08/2025			
<b>I4</b>	<b>Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?</b>	<b>Yes</b>		If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer	
		<b>No</b>	x		
<b>I5</b>	<b>Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?</b>	<b>Name</b>	Glenn Caplin-Grey		
		<b>Job title</b>	Strategic Director for Growth		
		<b>Date consulted</b>	8 December 2025		

**Sign-off**

<b>I6</b>	<b>Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:</b>	<b>Democratic Support (mandatory)</b>	JS45 25/26
		<b>Finance (mandatory)</b>	ITG.25.26.002
		<b>Legal (mandatory)</b>	LS/00001312/1/AC/29/4/25
		<b>Human Resources (if applicable)</b>	N/A
		<b>Corporate property (if applicable)</b>	N/A
		<b>Procurement (if applicable)</b>	N/A

**Appendices**

<b>I7</b>	<b>Ref.</b>	<b>Title of appendix</b>
	A	Capital Business Case Change Request
	B	Briefing Note

	C	Equalities Impact Assessment						
	D	Climate Impact Assessment						
<b>Confidential/exempt information</b>								
<b>18a</b> <b>Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in <b>18b</b> below.  (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)						
	<b>No</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>18b</b> <b>Confidential/exempt briefing report title:</b>								
<b>Background Papers</b>								
<b>19</b> Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.								
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>Title of background paper(s)</b>		<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b>						
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Signature</b>								
<b>20</b> I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.								
	<b>Signature</b>			<b>Date of decision</b>	18 December 2025			
<b>Print Name</b>	Councillor Jemima Laing, Acting Leader of Plymouth City Council							