



Democratic Services

Location: Phase II
Ext: 0636
DDI: 01895 250636
CMD No: 1005

**To: COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS' SERVICES**

c.c. All Members of the Residents' Services Select Committee
c.c. Michael Naughton – Place
c.c. Perry Scott – Corporate Director of Place
c.c. Ward Councillors for Ruislip

Date: 22 December 2023

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

Capital Release for Design Services and Surveys (Phase 1) for the Flood Risk Mitigation Measures at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive), Ruislip (Release No 1)

Dear Cabinet Member,

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Thursday 04 January 2024** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Amy Helps
Senior Technical Support Officer

Title of Report: Capital Release for Design Services and Surveys (Phase 1) for the Flood Risk Mitigation Measures at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive), Ruislip (Release No 1)

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed Date.....

Cabinet Member for Finance / Cabinet Member for Residents' Services

CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT (December 2023)

DEPARTMENT: Place

SERVICE AREA / PROGRAMME: Flood Mitigation at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive), Ruislip

RELEASE NO: 1

Cabinet Members	Councillor Martin Goddard Councillor Eddie Lavery
Cabinet Portfolios	Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Residents' Services
Officer Contact	Michael Naughton – Place
Papers with report	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval

HEADLINES

Summary	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds for the flood risk (phase 1) mitigation measures at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive), Ruislip.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports our ambitions for residents / the Council of: Be / feel safe from harm and Enjoy Access to Green Spaces, leisure activities, culture and arts This report supports our commitments to residents of: Safe and Strong Communities
Financial Cost	This report seeks the release of £76k for the Phase 1 Flood Risk Mitigation Measures at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive), Ruislip. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion October 2024.
Relevant Select Committee	Residents' Services
Relevant Ward(s)	Ruislip

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Residents' Services agree:

1. to a new flood risk mitigation measures project at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive);

2. the reallocation of £68k Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park Budget towards Pinn Meadow Flood Mitigation scheme; and
3. the capital release request for £8k and reallocation of £68k of previously released funding from the Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park 2023/24 budget to fund the Phase 1 Flood Risk Mitigation Measures at Pinn Meadows, Brook Drive (Appendix A)

Reasons for recommendations

Flooding within this area has become too common and, without intervention, residents will continue to experience flooding in their homes and park. Resolving this issue will ensure residents can continue to live and use the park safely.

Alternative options considered

Not to progress with the works will lead to a recurrence of the issue of flooding, which occurs every year, resulting in ongoing residents' claims against the Council.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

The River Pinn flows through Pinn Meadows, Ruislip.

The river has experienced significant flooding issues over the past years, which have been attributed to erosion and sedimentation issues within the channel. The worst flooding has been experienced around Brook Drive and between St Martin's Approach and King's College Road.

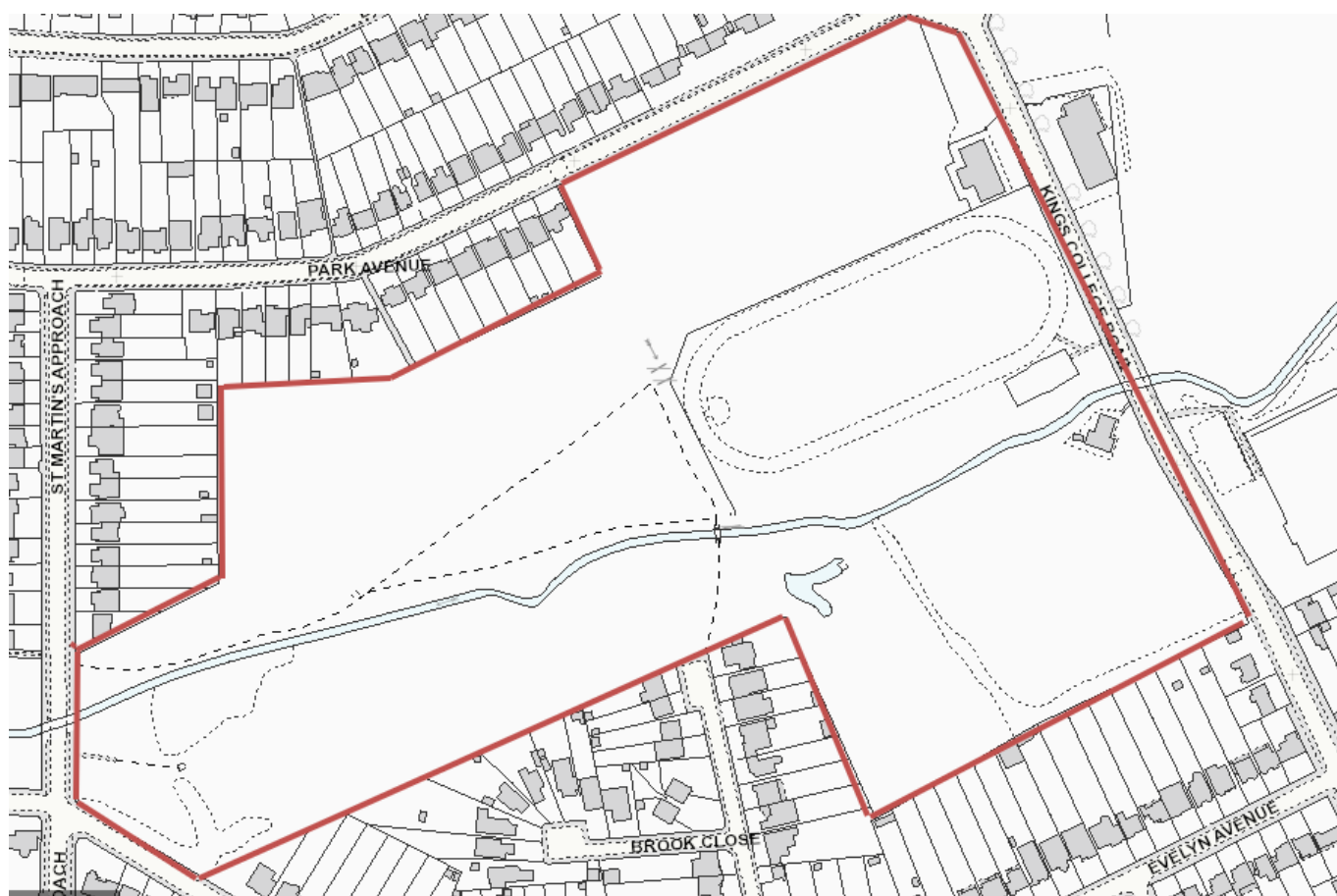
Flooding along the River Pinn has been an ongoing issue that has progressively worsened over recent years. Officers have put in measures to reduce the flooding in this area; however, Pinn Meadows is still experiencing localised flooding.

Flooding can be allowed to cover the sports pitches without excavation or remoulding of the landscape. The flooding ideally needs to be contained within the boundary of Pinn Meadows that starts at St Martin's Approach and ends at King's College Road. This will form Phase One of several phases, dependant on funding sources and statutory responsibilities.

Capturing rainwater coming from the Thames Water system before it reaches the river would be appropriate as this has worked well in similar situations. It is thought the flooding is partly driven by springs that appear in the park and, in some cases, under homes and gardens but will require Ground Monitoring information and flood design modelling to confirm this. It is envisaged that the temporary rainwater attenuation will hold back a substantial volume protecting Ruislip from

flooding. The current schemes cannot work in a real peak flow situation of torrential rainfall in a very short period, with the most recent significant breach occurring on 20th October 2023. The previous Employers Agent Metis Consultants are working as the Council's Flood Officers and a direct conflict of interest would exist if they were employed to design the scheme and they have demonstrated they do not have the in-house resources for the services required. A new consultant is to be procured to provide a simple and affordable design.

Flooding Area



The exact area of works will be determined once the design is complete.

Phase 1 Proposal

Phase One design works are to be completed winter 2023/24, in advance of the Phase Two long-term solution construction works.

Costs

Amount requested up to and including design stage:

Item Nr.	Item Description	Budget (£)	Release Request (£)
1	Enabling Works	150,000	

2	External Fees	20,000	20,000
3	Internal Capital Programme Fees	10,000	10,000
4	Surveys and Investigations	35,000	35,000
5	Potential Asbestos and Site Contamination	6,000	6,000
6	Project Contingency	15,000	5,000
	Total	£236,000	£76,000

Financial Implications

Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park 2023/24 Revised Budget £130k, Previously Released £104k, Capital Release Requested £8k – Appendix A

The 2023/24 capital programme, approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2023, included a budget of £105k for the Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget, funded from Council resources. In June 2023, Cabinet approved the re-phasing of £87k unspent funds from 2022/23 into 2023/24 for schemes completing this year. In December 2023, Cabinet approved the rephasing of the General Fund capital budgets into next year for works continuing into next year and this included £62k for Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget; following these approvals the revised 2023/24 2022/23 Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget as at month 9 is £130k.

The report requests the reallocation and capital release of £76k from the Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget towards the Pinn Meadows Flood Mitigation scheme. The reallocation of £68k of previously released funding within Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget is based on underspend on the Elephant Park Flood Alleviation project. The underspend has been achieved because of value engineering in the scope of works and some risk items such as asbestos and ground conditions that were not needed, which was allowed for in the budget.

The cost plan for the project is based on quotations and includes external fees, surveys & investigation fees, internal capital programme team fees and contingency at 7% and 10% respectively.

The remaining £18k of the Flood Alleviation - Bessingby Park budget is subject to the capital release process.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities

Without the issue of flooding being properly addressed, residents will continue to experience flooding and park and Lido users will not be able to access and use park facilities.

Consultation carried out or required

None at this time.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance concurs with the financial implications above, noting that the proposed works will be funded from the 2023-24 Flood Alleviation – Bessingby Park budget within the General Fund approved capital programme, and noting that the initial design and surveys at Pinn Meadows will be funded from Council resources.

Legal

Legal Services confirm that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to section 9 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which requires the Council to develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area. The Council's current strategy, which the Council is responsible for applying, is entitled 'Local Authority's Flood Risk Management Strategy 2015'. Thus, there are no legal impediments to following the recommendations in this report, namely approving a new flood risk mitigation project at Pinn Meadows, reallocating budget towards the Pinn Meadow flood mitigation scheme, and making the capital release requested for the flood mitigation project. Although, any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

Infrastructure / Asset Management

This report was authored by the Capital Programme Works Service.

Capital Release Protocol

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.

APPENDIX A

2023/24 - Flood Mitigation Works at Pinn Meadows (Brook Drive) Ruislip (CR 1)

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000s	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Ruislip	Flood Mitigation Works	Pinn Meadows	76			
		Reallocation of previously released funds	(68)			
Total seeking release			8			
Previously released			104			
Budget			130			
Remaining budget			18			