



Appendix 1 – schedule of motions and proposed executive responses

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
12 July 2019	Community Infrastructure Levy	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That this Council asks the executive to investigate the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy as a matter of urgency, ensuring it is implemented for Herefordshire no later than January 2021.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>The Government's changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in December 2024 and the introduction of mandatory housing targets has necessitated Herefordshire Council to produce a new Local Plan. The level of growth imposed by the mandatory housing target was too significant an increase (69%) to be accommodated by the Regulation 18 Plan that was consulted upon in Spring 2024.</p> <p>The Community Infrastructure Levy requires the Local Planning Authority (Charging Authority) to produce a charging schedule. Charging schedules should be consistent with, and support the implementation of, up-to-date relevant plans.</p> <p>The Council is producing a new Local Plan to address the level of growth set out by the Government. A Charging Schedule will be developed alongside this plan. Charging schedules are not formally part of the relevant plan but charging schedules and relevant plans should inform and be generally consistent with each other. Where practical, there are benefits to undertaking infrastructure planning for the purpose of plan making and setting the levy at the same time. A charging authority may use a draft plan if they are proposing a joint examination of their relevant plan and their levy charging schedule.</p> <p>The evidence base for a charging schedule is examined in public prior to the adoption of the levy. The charging authority should have regard to the actual and expected cost of infrastructure, the viability of development, other actual or expected sources of funding for infrastructure and the actual and expected administrative expenses in connection with the levy. This information will only be known as the Local Plan is developed. All available resources will be prioritised to develop the Local Plan and Charging Schedule.</p>		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
6 March 2020	20 mph speed limits	<p>RESOLVED: That Herefordshire Council recognises the benefits associated with a 20 miles per hour speed limit in residential areas rather than a default of 30 mph which exists in most parts of the town and County.</p> <p>There are fewer fatalities and injuries, greater survivability in traffic collisions, improved air quality, reduced fuel use and greater willingness of the population to walk or cycle – which has associated health benefits.</p> <p>Many councils have or are in the process of implementing area-wide 20mph speed limits on residential and urban roads without traffic calming.</p> <p>Many bodies with a remit for public health support a reduction in speed limits to 20mph on residential streets.</p> <p>Area-wide 20mph limits rarely need traffic calming measures. They are an affordable way to improve health equality by creating child, disability, elderly and dementia friendly streetscapes that help reduce inactivity, obesity and isolation.</p> <p>This Council requests that the executive undertakes an investigation concerning the introduction of area-wide 20mph speed limits across Herefordshire's towns and major villages.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>The Council is in the process of introducing advisory 20mph zones around specific schools in Hereford as part of our Safer School Streets programme and would be happy to consider further locations outside of schools across the county. The Council does not currently have any plans for the introduction of area-wide 20mph zones and does not support this as a policy going forward. Looking at accident statistics across Herefordshire our highest concern remains on high-speed rural roads where we have the highest incidents of killed and seriously injured casualties.</p>		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
17 July 2020	Tree Strategy	<p>RESOLVED: We call upon the executive to expedite the delivery of a detailed tree strategy for the county. A 2014 draft document exists that might provide the basis for a new strategy which will reinforce our commitment to the environment and align with our declaration of a climate emergency.</p> <p>The Government is currently consulting on an England Tree Strategy and we ask for the council to respond to this consultation.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the interim and as a matter of urgency, we ask the executive to consider what can be done to protect existing trees and to take immediate action by planting, maintaining and protecting trees in order to have established growth by 2030.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>The Council is currently finalising a new countywide 'Herefordshire Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy, (h-THAWS). This has been developed by LUC and informed by a public consultation, key stakeholder workshop, new national guidance and best practice.</p> <p>The draft strategy was developed based on the 'Trees and Woodland Strategy Toolkit' produced by the Tree Council in partnership with DEFRA and the Forestry Commission.</p> <p>This new countywide strategy will be added to the forward plan shortly for adoption in Q1 of 2025/26 and the aims of the strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Deliver an appropriately managed increase in trees and hedgerows b) Ensure the better management of trees, hedgerows, woodlands and orchards across the county c) And to support the development of new projects and funding applications to deliver this. <p>Additionally, as Herefordshire Council manages a significant stock of trees and hedgerows across both the public realm and wider estate a review was undertaken in 2014 to update its own approach to tree and hedgerow management.</p>		

This review was led by the Built & Natural Environment team, takes into account both highways and environmental legislation and was widely consulted and co-developed with all relevant service areas. This included Highways, Open Spaces, Estates and Facilities Management team, in addition to being shared with all of our public partners including BBLP and Hoople to ensure that it is applied consistently.

This review was concluded in June 2024 where the Council adopted a new Tree and Hedgerow Code of Practice Herefordshire Council.

This code of practice is available [via this link to our website](#) and includes consideration of all statutory and regulatory requirements including 'The Management of Hedgerows (England) Regulations 2024'.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
8 October 2021	Decline in hedgehog population	RESOLVED: That – A recent study has shown that the UK population of Hedgehogs has declined from around 30 million to only 1 million. Whilst it is not yet a European Protected Species it is a British mammal where the population is in steep decline and I am calling upon our executive to please consider ways in which Herefordshire Council can include measures for adaptation, mitigation and for the protection of Hedgehogs to a level comparable to that required for European Protected Species.
Executive response: Highlighted as a priority action within Nature Strategy. Hedgehogs prioritised within planning ecology response. Hedgehog habitat project recently undertaken as part of joint project to increase biodiversity with highways, delivering hedgehog habitats to primary schools across the county with information packs to educate students.		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
8 October 2021	Belmont	<p>RESOLVED: That –</p> <p>That in recognising the importance and potential of Belmont, this Council calls on the Executive to appraise Belmont for designation as a new Conservation Area to include the House, Abbey and Park on the south side of the River and the adjacent hamlets of Warham and Breinton on the north side, seeking funding to support this work; and</p> <p>This council calls upon the executive to appraise all sites of significant historic interest that are not currently conservation areas with a view to reviewing whether more conservation areas should be approved.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>Through the first phase of this project historic mapping surveys, desktop archaeological surveys and initial fieldwork were all undertaken which resulted in three non-designated heritage assets being identified. These have been added to the Council's Historic Environment Record database. The historic evidence extant on site is limited leading to the conclusion that it may not be worthy of conservation area designation.</p> <p>Unfortunately due to significant workload pressures, financial constraints and the need to prioritise the planning application consultations the Council is currently unable to resource the review of additional sites at this time.</p>		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
8 October 2021	Wye and Lugg Bathing Water	<p>RESOLVED: That –</p> <p>This Council therefore resolves to call upon the executive to:</p> <p>Investigate seeking designation of appropriate stretches of the Wye and Lugg to be officially identified as bathing water;</p> <p>Urge concerned residents to support the River Action petition, which asks the English and Welsh governments to double the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales's regulatory budgets so that they can more effectively enforce the existing legal protections for the Wye and Lugg;</p>

		<p>Forward this resolution to the Members of Parliament in Herefordshire, to ask them to support the campaign by River Action for increased funding for the Environment Agency;</p> <p>Forward this resolution to other English and Welsh councils in the Wye Valley to ask them to support the campaigns for bathing water status and for increases in regulatory budgets.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>The request to designate parts of the Rivers Wye and Lugg as bathing waters was not undertaken due to financial constraints. A business case for £35,000 in additional staffing for 2023/24 was declined, as bathing water designation is not a statutory duty for local authorities. Consequently, the evaluation work was not included in the budget or regulatory work-plan. Monitoring river water quality remains the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Efforts to lobby for more funding from the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales, and local MPs have been fulfilled through the Nutrient Management Board and the Cabinet Commission on Phosphates.</p>		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
28 January 2022	Water Protection Zone for River Wye System	<p>RESOLVED: That –</p> <p>So this Council urges the executive to press-engage with both the EA and NRW, consulting Powys and Monmouthshire CCs and other interested parties as necessary, to press for nothing less than a Water Protection Zone (WPZ*) for the whole of the River Wye system.</p> <p>This should include pushing both Agencies for work to start asap on detailed modelling to demonstrate the need for a WPZ, in order to put a business case to DEFRA; Also for funding for this work to go ahead; And for the Executive to provide regular reports to Council on progress.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>The ability to designate an area as a Water Protection Zone rests with the Secretary of State as part of an evidenced recommendation made by DEFRA and it is not within the remit of the Council to issue this designation.</p>		

The Council has twice formally requested the introduction of a Water Protection Zone both as an individual Council and as a Member of the Nutrient Management Board.

The Environment Agency (EA) have stated that it must be demonstrated that all other options have been exhausted before a WPZ will be considered. The development of a Diffuse Water Pollution Plan by the Environment Agency, due to be finalised in June 2025 has been developed in response to the legal challenge that the Environment Agency are not meeting their duties in respect of the Habitats Regulations for the River Wye. This document should evidence all potential measures that could be employed to return the river to favourable conservation status including potentially a Water Protection Zone as the final measure.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
28 January 2022	Fireworks and animal welfare	<p>RESOLVED: That –</p> <p>This Council therefore resolves to ask the executive to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage organisers of public firework displays to use ‘silent’ fireworks, and where large displays are planned, to notify Herefordshire Council’s Safety Advisory Group at least two months in advance to allow for advertisement in the interest of public protection and animal welfare. 2. Actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks. 3. Write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays and for fireworks to specify noise levels on their labelling. 4. Encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock ‘silent’ fireworks for public display. 5. Investigate the feasibility of implementing a formal consent regime for the use of fireworks on sites in council ownership.
<p>Executive Response:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Safety Advisory Group (SAG) are aware of the motion’s request for organisers of public firework displays to use ‘silent’ fireworks and of the need to pre-notify the SAG in advance. However, although encouraged this cannot be legally required as the group is an advisory one and cannot therefore enforce or formally require such notifications are made. 		

2. The Communications Team are aware of the need to promote the use of silent and/or quiet fireworks and to forewarn neighbours of such events. Such publicity is usually best made through social media and is always timed before likely firework events, such as 5th November, New Year and other national celebrations as they arise.
3. A letter to the government's Office of Product Safety and Standards requesting tighter controls over the noise specification of fireworks has been sent although no acknowledgement was ever received in reply.
4. A similar letter to the local suppliers was also sent, although this is of course only advisory and cannot be enforced.
5. Property Services are aware of the request for there being a formal consent regime for fireworks and to make such enquiries of potential hirers of Council land.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
4 March 2022	Ukraine	This motion calls on the executive to consider and put in place whatever facilities as may be reasonably expected to receive Ukrainian refugees, subject to direction from national government and an evaluation of council resources required, to ensure that schooling and health services are alerted and to inform the government in Westminster, immediately, that Herefordshire will not be found wanting in our welcome. And to extend a wider request to our residents to be willing to welcome any refugees that they can into their homes, and to be ready to facilitate such organisation and support as these actions may require.

Executive response:

The Government launched the Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme on the 18th March 2022. There has been an extraordinary response to the scheme and the wider plight of Ukrainian people from communities across Herefordshire.

Herefordshire Council successfully established a local sponsorship scheme under the Homes for Ukraine programme, fully meeting the commitments outlined in the Council motion. The operations team continues to lead on all the essential checks that are required on sponsors and their families, including DBS and home checks to make sure that the host accommodation is safe. The team also ensure that all the prescribed payments are made to both hosts and guests as they arrive. In addition, the team ensures that adult guests are promptly supported with essential integration steps, including registering with a GP, understanding how to manage rent and household bills (particularly in private accommodation), and accessing education both for themselves and their children. The Council has also worked in partnership with local stakeholders to actively encourage residents across Herefordshire to open their homes to Ukrainian guests. This has been achieved through coordinated social media campaigns and community engagement events. Close collaboration with the county's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) ensures that vulnerable arrivals receive targeted support. This includes, but is not limited to, pregnant women, young children, individuals with disabilities, and those experiencing mental health challenges. The team has also contributed to the successful

integration of Ukrainian guests in the county by supporting and participating in local events organised in partnership with key stakeholders. These have included celebrations such as Ukraine Independence Day and activities during Refugee Week, which have helped to foster community connections and cultural understanding.

Herefordshire Council receives government funding of £10,500 per guest for arrivals on or before 31 December 2022, and £5,900 for arrivals from 1 January 2023 onward. Of this sum £200 is paid to each individual arriving as an initial payment. The remaining £10,300 or £5,700 is used to cover costs incurred by the local authority as a result of the scheme and to facilitate and extend community-based support and integration through voluntary, community and public sector organisations. The cabinet decision for the spend proposal of this grant funding has been approved [Decision - Support for Ukraine - Herefordshire Council](#)

The [Community Integration Grant Scheme](#) is live for voluntary and not for profit community groups who are supporting Ukrainian arrivals and their sponsors.

As at 13 May 2025;

- 316 unique sponsors registered since the beginning of the Scheme
- 899 unique guests registered since the beginning of the Scheme
- 227 current/pending sponsors
- 604 current guests (sponsored by 191 sponsors)
- 191 guests are still living in sponsored accommodation
- 212 guests are now in private rental
- 51 guests are in social housing
- 71 guests are in social housing (LAHF properties)
- 30 guests are living at farms
- 23 guests are in other types of temporary accommodation
- 26 guests are in unknown locations

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
4 March 2022	Award scheme for the built environment	RESOLVED: Council requests the Executive to investigate setting up a County of Herefordshire award scheme to encourage and recognise exemplary work in the areas of design, conservation and sustainability for the built environment.
Executive response: Following a successful engagement event which was held in partnership with the Hereford Civic Society at the Town Hall on Friday the 16 th May, the Council's Building Conservation team is convening a new steering group to review feedback and to refine the proposed categories and criteria. This new award scheme will be launched early next year.		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
4 March 2022	Rural impact assessment and rural proofing	RESOLVED: This motion asks to refer to the executive at Herefordshire Council consideration of the undertaking of a Rural Impact Assessment from the outset of every budget and contract whether for service or products, which includes engagement with rural stakeholders. The results of the Rural Impact Assessment (RIA) are to be included in all future reports. Rural proofing will ensure the needs of rural communities will become transparent and would demonstrate whether Government or local policies address the needs of rural communities and rural economies like Herefordshire. It is the first step towards developing a Rural Strategy for Herefordshire. This motion considers a reformed approach to rural proofing should be introduced and that the executive should take into account the following during its considerations:

		<p>a) A rural assessment should take place at the start of the policy process, including engagement with rural stakeholders, and be treated as integral, rather than as an adjunct to urban-focused policy. No budget or service should be brought forward without an accompanying rural assessment statement;</p> <p>b) The impact of new policies on rural areas should be systematically and consistently monitored as they are implemented. This would include an update on the performance of rural proofing across Herefordshire Council;</p> <p>c) The executive at Herefordshire Council is required to monitor and report annually on the rural impacts of relevant policies and services, and to encourage its strategic partners to do the same; and</p> <p>d) The executive at Herefordshire Council agrees to write to the Government and MPs in response to this motion that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government should put in place the appropriate structures to facilitate a more robust rural proofing regime; and • Government needs comprehensively to rethink and reform the rural proofing process across Government, to ensure that relevant policies and legislation are attuned to the needs of rural communities and rural economies like Herefordshire.
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Executive response:

The rural impact assessment has been drafted and consulted on and we are committed to building this into our service planning, budgeting and commissioning moving forward. We will be delivering a focused leadership group workshop specific to service planning and rural impact assessment this summer to support and enable implementation across the organisation.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution:
9 December 2022	Multi-storey car park (Bus Station)	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>Subject to a satisfactory scheme being approved for a new Transport Hub at the railway station, Council urgently considers the construction of a multi-storey car park on the present bus station site.</p> <p>There is a general shortage of car parking spaces in that area and one of our main concerns is that medical staff coming off shifts, late at night, have to walk along poorly lit streets to the Garrick House car park. Sadly, we will all be aware of a number</p>

		<p>of very serious sexual assaults on females around the City in recent times. It would be right and proper for one of the floors to be allocated solely for the use of medical staff. Visitors from adjoining counties and locals are frequently complaining that at times it takes them an excess of an hour to find suitable parking.</p> <p>It goes without saying this will eventually have a detrimental effect on our many small businesses.</p> <p>I am confident that the majority of members will support these proposals because when this project has been previously discussed that has been the outcome.</p> <p>The Council, therefore, calls on the Executive to explore the construction of a new multi-storey car park on the current bus station site to serve the needs of Hospital Staff, visitors and contractors as well as to provide additional car parking capacity to support the railway station and town centre.</p>
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>As part of bringing the Merton Meadow car parks forward for development, PJA were commissioned and have provided a report detailing the current use patterns across the City's car parks, and have identified a mitigation provision of circa 400 spaces . Due to the pattern of car park utilisation The Bus station is the recommended mitigation location. They have provided 3 MSCP options from 389 to 599 spaces dependant on whether a bus station offer is retained. These options will be investigated further as part of a wider car parking strategy review, but the principle of a MSCP on the Bus station will form part of the mitigation strategy for Merton and be indicated in the Outline planning application for the wider Merton Development.</p>		

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution
3 March 2023	River Wye byelaws	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>This motion calls upon the executive to consider making an application to the UK government to recognise a byelaw drafted by Herefordshire Council to invest the River Wye and tributaries within the county of Herefordshire with the following rights from the rights of rivers declaration.</p>

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| | | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The right to be free from pollution 2. The right to perform essential functions within its ecosystem 3. The right to flow 4. The right to feed and be fed by sustainable aquifers, 5. The right to native biodiversity 6. The right to regeneration and restoration 7. With an additional right to be protected from physical damage. |
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Executive response:

The introduction of bylaws to protect the River Wye has been explored as an option by the legal team. Officers were advised that bylaws are not the appropriate tool for this purpose.

Officers have therefore considered alternative options available to serve the purpose of the Council's commitment to protect the river as set out in the Council Plan.

In addition to current planning policy within the Local Plan and supporting published guidance, the Council put forward a recommendation to the Nutrient Management Board to create an additional member to represent the Voice of the River, this recommendation has been adopted with Dr Louise Bodnar now having taken up this role with voting rights on the board.

Also under development is a recommendation to both English and Welsh government for the creation of a new role in the form of a Commissioner for Nature to represent biodiversity and ensure it is properly considered in all forthcoming legislation and guidance.

The concept of a River Charter, similar to the one recently adopted by Lewes Council, will also be discussed with the Phosphate Commission which incorporates the wider Local Authorities Monmouthshire, Powys, Forest of Dean and Bannau Brycheiniog.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution
8 December 2023	Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request the cabinet develop a programme to deliver an ambitious number of units of social housing, market-rent lifetime tenancies, affordable home ownership and market sale properties, funded through the prudent use of borrowing, capital receipts and the management of council assets in time for this to be agreed by Council as part of next year's capital programme. Request that the Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee undertake a review of good practice in housing delivery provided directly by local authorities and make recommendations to Cabinet by June 2024. Request that the Leader of the Council to provide an update on housing delivery at each meeting of the Council.
<p>Executive response:</p> <p>Three Dragons have completed their review of good practice in affordable housing delivery, and the information was presented to the Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee on 13th November. The recommendation was for the council to proceed with a 'development company or an arm's length company'. This will be further considered by the cross party housing working group in order to make recommendations on the way forward to Cabinet.</p> <p>Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee carried out its review of good practice at its meeting on 13 November 2024 and made the following recommendations to the portfolio holder (rather than Cabinet)</p> <p>Herefordshire Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress at pace a pilot project to develop smaller sites owned by Herefordshire Council, subject to planning conditions and business plan. Identify and begin the process of setting up a development company, using the lessons learned from other local authorities identified in the report. Consider prioritising phosphate credits for developments with a higher percentage of social or affordable housing, such as those in the pilot project. Explore Local Government Pension Scheme options for funding the delivery of affordable housing. 		

- Report these recommendations to the council's housing development working group.

Date of meeting	Motion	Resolution
11 October 2024	Flooding and drainage	<p>Recent heavy rainfall has highlighted significant drainage issues around the County. It has become evident the current maintenance schedule for drains, gullies and culverts needs major improvement and this motion calls upon the Executive Council to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ensure all drains, gullies and culverts that fall under the responsibility of Herefordshire Council are accurately mapped 2) Undertake an urgent programme of rectifying and repairing drains, gullies and culverts where they have been damaged by the recent unprecedented period of rainfall 3) Develop a full Countywide maintenance schedule that anticipates the likelihood of heavier rainfall in the future 4) Publish the maintenance schedule so that ward members, city, town and parish councils and local people can have confidence in the plans 5) Ensure that areas most at risk of flooding are prioritised for maintenance
Executive response: Flooding and drainage motion fulfilled as not more we can add as now day to day activity.		

1. Ensure all drains, gullies and culverts that fall under the responsibility of Herefordshire Council are accurately mapped

As a result of the motion to Full Council, officers have created a public facing map that shows gullies that we currently have recorded <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/flooding-2/flood-management/5>.

The mapping will continue to be updated as further assets are collected through cleansing/investigation works and through work that Parish/Town Councils undertook in 2024/25 through a £445,000 investment in the Parish Drainage Grant scheme.

Longer term, officers are investigating the opportunity of procuring a full end to end gully management software system that will provide greater detail and information to the public.

2. Undertake an urgent programme of rectifying and repairing drains, gullies and culverts where they have been damaged by the recent unprecedented period of rainfall

Where assets have been identified for repair following the recent flood events then they are being repaired using existing drainage budgets and the additional £2 million of investment that was made available for 2024/25 and 2025/26.

In 2024/25, Parish/Town Councils were invited to provide submissions to access grants for drainage work from £445,000 of funding. Similar funding is to be made available during 2025/26.

3. Develop a full Countywide maintenance schedule that anticipates the likelihood of heavier rainfall in the future

As a result of the motion to Full Council, during 2025/26 Balfour Beatty will be expanding the drainage service to include a more extensive programmed cleanse of all gullies on the A, B and C roads. This forms the pre-emptive element of drainage works and is in addition to our existing reactive gully (drain) cleaning service which attends gullies that have been identified by inspections or defect reporting and our network rehabilitation service that attends gullies and systems where inspections or reactive works identify more significant work is required. The programme is currently being developed with the supply chain and further detail will be published as this finalised.

As part of the preparation for the new Public Realm Contract, Officers are reviewing the arrangements that are required for gully emptying in the future to ensure that the programme is correct for Herefordshire.

4. Publish the maintenance schedule so that ward members, city, town and parish councils and local people can have confidence in the plans

As a result of the motion to Full Council, the maintenance schedule for gully emptying has been added to <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/flooding-2/flood-management/5>.

5. Ensure that areas most at risk of flooding are prioritised for maintenance

Where assets have been identified for repair following the recent flood events then they are being repaired using existing drainage budgets together with further capital investment. Those areas requiring more substantive works are being taken forward into a development stage to understand and prepare the necessary aspects of the scheme so that they can be included in further programmes.