

DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
SCRUTINY TEAM	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	25 APRIL 2024	13
REQUEST - REVENUE GROWTH BUDGET ITEMS			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

RELEVANT LEAD MEMBER

This item is within the remit of the Lead Member for Environment - Councillor Tommy Threlfall

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To outline the recommendations made by the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 18 January 2024 regarding revenue budget contributions.

RECOVERABILITY

This decision is recoverable under section 7 of part 3 of the constitution.

RECOMMENDATION

- To consider making an annual financial contribution towards the Turning Tides Partnership to assist in the work to improve the quality of bathing waters.
- To consider establishing an annual revenue budget to carry out drainage surveys and site investigations in relation to flooding issues in the borough.

REPORT

- The Community Focus Scrutiny Committee (CFSC) at its meeting held on 18 January 2024 considered (i) an update of the water quality at the St Annes Bathing Waters locations following the 2023 bathing water season and (ii) the Flood & Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023.
- In terms of the Bathing Waters item, the CFSC Resolved:
“That the Executive Committee be requested to consider making an annual financial contribution towards the Turning Tides Partnership to assist in its work in improving the quality of bathing waters.”
- In terms of the Flood & Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023, the CFSC Resolved:
“That the Executive Committee be requested to consider establishing an annual revenue budget to enable drainage surveys and site investigations to be undertaken to deal with flooding issues in the borough”.
- The Flood & Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023 provided the CFSC with the opportunity to monitor progress with implementation and delivery of the flood risk and surface water management action

plan. It was recognised that significant progress had been made on the recommendations in the Flooding Review Report. Two areas that have required some investment from the council are drainage surveys and site investigations that are undertaken to address flooding issues in the borough. It was felt the Executive Committee could consider establishing a revenue budget to fund drainage surveys and site investigations in relation to flooding matters.

5. The CFSC received an update of the water quality at the two St Annes Bathing Water locations following the 2023 bathing water season and the committee considered the possible reasons for the deterioration in results and the actions to improve water quality. Officers from Technical Services, representatives of United Utilities and the Environment Agency addressed the committee on the matter.
6. Members were briefed on the work of the Turning Tides partnership, which includes the Environment Agency, United Utilities, Northwest Local Authorities, and the Rivers Trust, which aims to improve bathing waters across the region. The Head of Technical Services attends the Turning Tides meetings on behalf of the Council. An Action Plan produced by the Turning Tides Partnership was considered by the CFSC which considered the work to be beneficial to the coastal area and recommended; "That the Executive Committee be requested to consider making an annual financial contribution towards the Turning Tides Partnership to assist in its work in improving the quality of bathing waters."
7. The full reports and decision can be accessed in the 'previous decisions' section of this report. The Executive Committee is invited to consider both recommendations from the CFSC, as set out at the head of this report.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Economy - To create a vibrant and healthy economy	√
Environment - To deliver services customers expect	√
Efficiency - By spending money in the most efficient way	√
Tourism - To create a great place to live and visit	√

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There is currently no approved revenue budget in respect of the proposals as described within this report. If the proposals are to be adopted, the scale and method of funding would need to be considered as part of the budget-setting process for future years.
Legal	There are no direct legal implications that need to be brought to the attention of the committee.
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

[Community Focus Scrutiny Committee - 18 January 2024](#)

1. Flood & Surface Water Management Annual Report 2023

RESOLVED

1. That the Executive Committee be requested to consider establishing an annual revenue budget to enable drainage surveys and site investigations to be undertaken to deal with flooding issues in the borough.
2. That an interim report be presented (within a three-month time frame) to the scrutiny committee setting out the Council's arrangements for responding to flooding emergencies including any support to residents and businesses who may be affected.
3. That the above report also includes details of any enforcement action (including prosecutions) undertaken by the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authority (Lancashire County Council) in Fylde of riparian owners.

2. St Annes Bathing Waters 2023

RESOLVED

1. That the Executive Committee be requested to consider making an annual financial contribution towards the Turning Tides Partnership to assist in its work in improving the quality of bathing waters.
2. That an updated report be presented to the committee (within a three-month timeframe) detailing progress made of the actions identified in the report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS REVELANT TO THIS ITEM

Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Agenda and Minutes		Community Focus Scrutiny Committee - 18 January 2024 A Review of Flood Risk and Surface Water Management in Fylde Borough 14 October 2021

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
Lyndsey Lacey- Simone	Scrutiny@fylde.gov.uk Tel 01253 658504	April 2024