

Report to	Cabinet
Date of meeting	26 th May 2020
Lead Member / Officer	Julian Thompson Hill
Report author	Steve Gadd, Head of Finance and Property
Title	Approval of Strategic Investment Group (SIG) Recommendations

1. What is the report about?

The report sets out the details of two grant funded projects that have been reviewed by SIG and recommended for approval to the design stage only.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for two Business Cases relating to the Design Phases of Coastal Defence Schemes in Rhyl and Prestatyn as both design stages will cost over £1m (funded by WG).

3. What are the Recommendations?

3.1 That Members approve the design stage of the Central Prestatyn Coastal Defence Scheme, which will be 100% grant funded by the Welsh Government, on the understanding that there is no risk to the Council and that this does not commit the authority to the construction stage and further funding (see Section 4.2 and Appendix 1).

3.2 That Members approve the design stage of the Central Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme, which will be 100% grant funded by the Welsh Government, on the understanding that there is no risk to the Council and that this does not commit the authority to the construction stage and further funding (see Section 4.3 and Appendix 2).

4. Report details

4.1 SIG have reviewed both schemes and are happy to recommend approval based on no financial risk to the authority, and that proceeding with the design phase does not commit the authority to the construction phase and subsequent further funding. The schemes are summarised below and detailed in Appendix 1 and 2.

4.2 Central Prestatyn Coastal Defence Scheme

The scheme would provide a 1 in 200 year standard of protection to 2,045 residential and 62 non-residential properties plus additional protection against predicted sea level rise for the next 100 years. Approval required to commence design and development of scheme with an estimated cost of £1,487,180. A grant submission has been made to Welsh Government for this element and it is expected that WG will fund @ 100%.

4.3 Central Rhyl Coastal Defence Scheme

The scheme would provide a 1 in 200 year standard of protection to 548 residential and 44 non-residential properties plus additional protection against predicted sea level rise for the next 100 years. Approval required to commence design and development of the scheme with an estimated cost of £2,550,950. A grant submission has been made to Welsh Government for this element and it is expected that WG will fund @ 100%.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

It is a key part of achieving the Environment element of the current Corporate Plan to reduce the number of properties at risk of flooding in Denbighshire.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The financial impact is detailed in the body of the report (see Section 4).

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

No Well Being Impact Assessments have been completed at this stage.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

The Lead member, the Council's biodiversity officer, Section 151 Officer, County Landlord, Welsh Government and the Strategic Investment Group have been fully consulted in the development of these proposals.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

The proposals to approve the design stages of these 100% grant funded part of the schemes, on the understanding that there is no risk to the Council and that this does not commit the authority to the construction stage and further funding, is fully supported. Decisions about future funding will need to be made when the full financial impact of the current pandemic emergency becomes more clear.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

The SIG Business Cases attached detail the risks and mitigations.

11. Power to make the decision

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

s2 Local government Act 2000