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| London Councils’ Transport & Environment Committee |
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| Flood Management and Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (TRFCC) | Item no: | 03 |
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| **Report by:** | Katharina Winbeck | **Job title:** | Head of Transport and Environment |
| **Date:** | 16 October 2014 |
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| **Summary:** | TEC considered flood management at its meeting on 16 October 2014. Members agreed that they needed to see a business case to make a more informed decision on the flood levy for the Thames catchment area. This report gives an update and presents the business case as requested.  |
| **Recommendations:** | The Committee is asked to:* Note the report
* Note and comment on the Business Case provided by the Environment Agency
* Note that Members of the Thames RFCC will determine on 21 January 2015 the investment programme and levy
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**Background**

* + 1. TEC received a report on flood management and flood levy at its 16 October meeting. Members discussed the report and stated that in order to have an informed discussion on flood management and flood levy for the Thames catchment area, a business case was required.
		2. This has been discussed with the Chair of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) and it was agreed that a business case will be prepared in time for the December TEC meeting, so that Members can have an informed discussion.
		3. The business case has been prepared by the Environment Agency and is presented in Appendix I. The business case explains the sources of funding for flood alleviation schemes, the current spend within the six year programme, how projects are assessed, the roles of the different stakeholders, options for the levy, the benefit cost ratio and a list of current projects.
		4. TEC Members are asked to note and comment on the business case presented in Appendix I.
		5. Members on the Thames RFCC will determine the investment programme and levy at their meeting on 21 January 2015.

**Levies in previous years**

* + 1. In 2013 the Thames RFCC voted to increase the flood levy payable by local authorities by 5 per cent for the financial year 2013/14, bringing the total flood levy payable by London boroughs to just over £6m. Table 1 below shows the historic breakdown of levy payable by borough and the cost for 2015/16 for a 0 per cent increase and a 1.99 per cent increase respectively.
		2. In 2014 the Thames RFCC voted to keep the levy as is with 0 per cent increase.

|  | **2011/12** | **2012/13** | **2013/14** | **2014/15** | **2014/15** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **London Boroughs** |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub-Committee**  | **Difference (£)** |
|  | **0% increase** | **Recommendation of 1.99% increase** |  |
| **Barking and Dagenham** | 102,700 | 102,700 | 108,729 | 108,729 | 108,729 | **110,893** | **2,164** |
| **Barnet** | 273,400 | 273,400 | 293,248 | 293,248 | 293,248 | **299,084** | **5,836** |
| **Bexley** | 63,022 | 63,022 | 66,067 | 66,067 | 66,067 | **67,382** | **1,315** |
| **Brent** | 191,867 | 191,867 | 201,532 | 201,532 | 201,532 | **205,542** | **4,010** |
| **Bromley** | 197,902 | 197,902 | 205,659 | 205,659 | 205,659 | **209,752** | **4,093** |
| **Camden** | 189,366 | 189,366 | 199,386 | 199,386 | 199,386 | **203,354** | **3,968** |
| **Croydon** | 251,688 | 251,688 | 264,512 | 264,512 | 264,512 | **269,776** | **5,264** |
| **Ealing** | 232,800 | 232,800 | 245,131 | 245,131 | 245,131 | **250,009** | **4,878** |
| **Enfield** | 218,115 | 218,115 | 226,155 | 226,155 | 226,155 | **230,655** | **4,500** |
| **Greenwich** | 144,083 | 144,083 | 153,732 | 153,732 | 153,732 | **156,791** | **3,059** |
| **Hackney** | 146,297 | 146,297 | 158,427 | 158,427 | 158,427 | **161,580** | **3,153** |
| **Hammersmith and Fulham** | 157,246 | 157,246 | 163,439 | 163,439 | 163,439 | **166,691** | **3,252** |
| **Haringey** | 169,586 | 169,586 | 178,145 | 178,145 | 178,145 | **181,690** | **3,545** |
| **Harrow** | 171,786 | 171,786 | 180,523 | 180,523 | 180,523 | **184,115** | **3,592** |
| **Havering** | 164,995 | 164,995 | 171,763 | 171,763 | 171,763 | **175,181** | **3,418** |
| **Hillingdon** | 194,840 | 194,840 | 205,297 | 205,297 | 205,297 | **209,382** | **4,085** |
| **Hounslow** | 171,506 | 171,506 | 179,623 | 179,623 | 179,623 | **183,197** | **3,574** |
| **Islington** | 171,381 | 171,381 | 183,886 | 183,886 | 183,886 | **187,545** | **3,659** |
| **Kensington and Chelsea** | 198,035 | 198,035 | 204,197 | 204,197 | 204,197 | **208,261** | **4,064** |
| **Kingston** | 123,142 | 123,142 | 129,377 | 129,377 | 129,377 | **131,952** | **2,575** |
| **Lambeth** | 206,259 | 206,259 | 222,272 | 222,272 | 222,272 | **226,695** | **4,423** |
| **Lewisham** | 174,048 | 174,048 | 183,142 | 183,142 | 183,142 | **186,787** | **3,645** |
| **Merton** | 147,694 | 147,694 | 153,233 | 153,233 | 153,233 | **156,282** | **3,049** |
| **Newham** | 148,388 | 148,388 | 157,768 | 157,768 | 157,768 | **160,908** | **3,140** |
| **Redbridge** | 179,763 | 179,763 | 186,728 | 186,728 | 186,728 | **190,444** | **3,716** |
| **Richmond** | 176,826 | 176,826 | 184,316 | 184,316 | 184,316 | **187,984** | **3,668** |
| **Southwark** | 191,791 | 191,791 | 204,878 | 204,878 | 204,878 | **208,955** | **4,077** |
| **Sutton** | 146,600 | 146,600 | 151,850 | 151,850 | 151,850 | **154,872** | **3,022** |
| **Tower Hamlets** | 167,770 | 167,770 | 186,028 | 186,028 | 186,028 | **189,730** | **3,702** |
| **Waltham Forest** | 150,109 | 150,109 | 158,257 | 158,257 | 158,257 | **161,406** | **3,149** |
| **Wandsworth** | 248,557 | 248,557 | 262,894 | 262,894 | 262,894 | **268,126** | **5,232** |
| **Westminster** | 257,737 | 257,737 | 269,143 | 269,143 | 269,143 | **274,499** | **5,356** |
| **Corporation of London** | 11,801 | 11,801 | 12,427 | 12,427 | 12,427 | **12,674** | **247** |
| **Total** | **5,741,099** | **5,741,099** | **6,051,764** | **6,051,764** | **6,051,764** |  **6,172,194**  | **120,430** |

**Recommendations**

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| * + 1. The Committee is asked to:
* Note the report
* Note and comment on the Business Case provided by the Environment Agency
* Note that Members of the Thames RFCC will determine on 21 January 2015 the investment programme and levy
 |

**Financial Implications**

* + 1. There are no financial implications to London Councils arising from this report.
		2. London boroughs will need to ensure adequate budget for 2015/16 is available based on the outcome of the TRFCC vote on 21 January 2015.

**Legal Implications**

* + 1. There are no legal implications to London Councils arising from this report.
		2. London boroughs have a legal duty as LLFAs to manage flood risk in their areas.

**Equalities Implications**

* + 1. There are no equalities implications to London Councils arising from this report.