

Report Title	Earby Beck FAS Phase 3 Update
Meeting	West Craven Committee
Meeting Date	7 th October 2025
Report Author	S. C. Whalley
Directorate	Resources
Lead Executive Member(s)	Councillor David Whipp
Wards Affected	Earby and Coates
Public. Part Exempt, or Fully Exempt	Public
Appendices (if any)	Appendix 1 - Earby Beck FAS Phase 3 – Stage 2 Long List to Short List Appendix 2 - Report to Executive December 2023 – Earby Flood Alleviation Phase 3 – Flood Storage Area at Wentcliffe Brook

1. Executive Summary

1.1 To inform Members of the Committee on progress to date.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, COMMITTEE NAME is recommended to:

2.1 That Members of the Committee note the progress of the scheme development towards EA Full Business Case Stage

3. Information: the Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations

3.1 AECOM were appointed as Consultants to develop the outline proposals for a flood storage area on Wentcliffe Brook to the Environment Agency's Full Business Case.

3.1 The current work being undertaken by AECOM and the Flood Alleviation Scheme, should it come to fruition, are fully funded by the Environment Agency's Frequently Flooded Communities Funding. This project has been allocated £2.5 Million, with further Environment Agency Grant in Aid Funding available if required.

3.2 £200k has been made available for the feasibility and development of the scheme to Full Business Case being undertaken by AECOM.

3.3 The work being carried out by AECOM consists of 3 stages with a gateway review at the end of each stage.

- 3.4 The works are currently within Stage 2 of the 3 stages and the Long List of Schemes has been reduced to a Short List of schemes – see Appendix 1
- 3.5 The Short List of Schemes will be derived from those highlighted as Possible and Likely in the Long List.
- 3.6 The Likely schemes include Natural Flood Management options in the upper catchment. Natural Flood Management is a cost-effective way of reducing flood risk but it is difficult to quantify the benefit. It also needs landowner buy-in and there are potential issues with future maintenance.
- 3.7 Possible options are the creation of an online storage facility above the waterfalls playground and enhanced property resilience.
- 3.8 The online storage facility would likely have a storage capacity less than 10,000m³ and as such would not fall under the Reservoirs Act 1975
- 3.9 Property Resilience is already in place but could be further developed but would be seen as complimentary to a larger scheme.

4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (Providing High Quality Services and Facilities, Proud and Connected Communities and Places, Good Growth and Housing and Healthy Communities)

- 4.1 The scheme sits within priority 2: Proud and Connected Communities and Places. Minimising flood risk in Earby would help to create a safer, cleaner and greener environment.

5. Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

None

5.2 Legal and Governance Implications

None

5.3 Climate and Biodiversity Implications

The risk of flooding is likely to increase in the future due to predicted climate change.

5.5 Human Resources Implications

None

5.6 Equality and Diversity Implications

None

6. Consultation

- 6.1 Affected landowners are being consulted as part of the scheme development process.

7. Alternative Options Considered

N/A

8. Statutory Officer Sign off (please put an x in the relevant box below)

Section 151 Officer	x
Monitoring Officer	x

9. Background Documents

None

Contact Officers

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