

9. Administration Reports

9.1. Middleton Floods Update

The General Manager Infrastructure advised that the table in Item 9.1 – Middleton Floods Update was revised to include an additional column displaying the allocated budget, as per Council resolution C24504. The updated table was distributed to all Council Members via email and hard copy prior to this meeting and the agenda has been updated on the Council website.

The General Manager also advised of the receipt of correspondence in January 2025 from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, regarding the possibility of a Middleton Bypass.

C033/02/25

Moved Cr Craig Maidment seconded Cr Milli Livingston

That Council receive and note the revised Middleton Flood Update report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Administration Reports

9.1. Middleton Floods Update

Information Report

Responsible Officer: Alan Harvey, General Manager Infrastructure

Report Author: Alan Harvey, General Manager Infrastructure

Previous Decisions: July 24 C24356, August 24 C24400 & C24401, September 24 C24440 & C24441, October 24 C24504

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a further update on the progress of the resolved outcomes from the Middleton Floods Council report on the 15 July 2024, building on the update provided in October 2024.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Middleton Flood Update report.

Background

On 12 November 2022, South Australia experienced a major storm event which included widespread impacts, disruption and damage across the greater Adelaide and regional areas.

Flooding occurred within the township of Middleton which affected a large portion of the town with at least 28 properties and businesses significantly affected with approximately 80 properties impacted. Many of the properties and businesses affected, experienced a rapid on set of running water, with many suffering inundation to various degrees. At the peak of the flood, inundation caused residents to rapidly evacuate their properties and businesses, causing blocking of roads and damage to community assets and infrastructure.

Through discussions with the community and learnings of the flood behaviour on the 12 November 2022, it was clear that several independent elements of work could be investigated and potentially implemented. These were reported to Council on 15 July 2024 along with details of the event and other recommendations to assist with flood mitigation and ongoing storm water management.

Discussion

The resolved recommendations from the 15 July 2024 meeting are provided below with an update on their progress, noting the updates build on those provided in October 2024.

Recommendation	Progress	Allocated budget
Receives a report by September 2024 on the scope, resourcing and budget required to develop a high- level Alexandrina Community Recovery and Resilience Plan. Ensuring that Council draws on sector experience and best practice.	Ongoing. Funding approved at Quarter 1 budget review in November 2024. Consultant engaged to develop a project scope for an "Alexandrina Community Recovery and Resilience Plan.	\$5,000 (Operational)

Approves the General Manager Community to engage with and seek support from other organisations to offer emergency management, recovery and resilience training to Council staff and the Alexandrina community.	Completed. SES have completed a catchment plan for Middleton Creek. This is an internal SES document and is not for publication. This plan provides sources of information and outlines the arrangements to ensure an integrated and coordinated approach to the management of flood events in the Middleton Creek Catchment area by the control agency (SES) and support agencies (CFS, Council, State Government, SA Pol etc), in order to reduce the impact and consequences of these events on the community, infrastructure and services.	\$nil
Receives a report by September 2024 on the scope, resourcing and budget required to develop a Stormwater Management Plan that builds on the work that has been undertaken, includes the Middleton township and advises the opportunities for support from the State Government.	Ongoing. Funding approved at Quarter 1 budget review in November 2024. Separate report provided in this Council Agenda (17 February 2025) for consideration.	\$5,000 (Operational)
Approves the General Manager Infrastructure to investigate the possibility of a new BOM weather station, providing sub daily weather data within the region's coastal area.	Ongoing. Investigations continuing along with engagement with BOM, Landscape Board and Department of Environment and Water. Initial estimates have been received and the opportunities for grant funding are being explored. This will be the subject of a separate report to Council once the investigation has been concluded.	\$nil
Approves the General Manager Infrastructure to investigate the possibility of a level gauge within the Middleton Creek, to provide more localised data on water levels.	Ongoing. Investigations continuing along with engagement with the Department of Environment and Water. Initial estimates have been received and the opportunities for grant funding are being explored. This will be the subject of a separate report to Council once the investigation has been concluded.	\$nil
Approves the General Manager Infrastructure to: write to the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board to progress the opportunity to collaborate with private landowners on inspection and clearing of the creek line and explore a more structured approach to the ongoing management of the creek. write to Crown Lands, with a view to working with them on the clearing of the creek within the vicinity of the railway line embankment crossing.	Completed. Letter sent to Department of Environment and Water and awaiting response.	\$nil

Approves the General Manager Infrastructure to write to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and request the enlargement or replacement of culverts that cross the Goolwa Road within the Middleton township.	Completed. Verbal discussions have taken place with the Minister around the integration of stormwater management within any future Middletown Bypass i.e. retention dams. Formal response received 10 February 2025 from DIT advising that "The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) has reviewed the report referenced in your correspondence, including the hydrological and hydraulic models produced by Tonkin. Our assessment shows that the Goolwa Road culvert meets the required level of service, providing a 20 to 50 year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) (5% to 2% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP)) level of service. This meets the Department's Master Specification RD-DK-D1, which requires a minimum 20 year ARI (5% AEP) level of service. The culvert was last inspected in February 2022, and was assessed to be in good condition, with a current reconstruction year of 2040.". DIT have offered however contact with their drainage engineer if needed.	\$nil
Approves the General Manager Infrastructure to write to SteamRanger and request the enlargement of or increased number of stormwater pipes and culverts under the SteamRanger railway embankment adjacent to the Middleton township.	Completed. Letter sent to Department of Infrastructure and Transport and awaiting a formal response, however verbal discussions have taken place around the integration of stormwater management within any future Middletown Bypass i.e. retention dams.	\$nil
Receives a report by August 2024 on the budget required to engage specialist consultants to deliver a concept design and high-level costings for a new stormwater system along Mill Terrace from the Goolwa Road to the creek, working closely with local community Department of Infrastructure and Transport and SteamRanger	Ongoing. Due to the highly technical specification required for a specialist to deliver concepts and estimated costs, a Tender Specification is being developed externally and will be ready for tendering in the next couple of weeks. Tendering is expected to commence at the end of February.	\$55,000 (Operational)
Receives a report by August 2024 on the budget required to engage specialist consultants to deliver a concept design and high-level costings on improvements in the stormwater system along Flagstaff Hill including stormwater coming from and crossing Airport Road, working closely with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.	Ongoing. Due to the highly technical specification required for a specialist to deliver concepts and estimated costs, a Tender Specification is being developed externally and will be ready for tendering in the next couple of weeks. Tendering is expected to commence at the end of February.	\$85,500 (Operational)

With the support of the Landscape Board, we have submitted an EOI for Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) grant money for Middleton, which is a 50% Co-contribution Grant. The EOI includes the Stream Level Gauge Station, Early Warning / Community Preparedness and Green Infrastructure, such as small catchment ponds and vegetation, with the aim of slowing down the stormwater flows to provide larger Advanced Warning time. The Green infrastructure will also further help protect the water course embankments and existing land areas.

Further updates on milestone outcomes will be provided to Council Members via the portal or email, with updates made to the MySay projects page dedicated to the Middleton Floods Project.

Financial Implications

In accordance with the Alexandrina Council's Adopted Budget / Long Term Financial Plan, the financial implications of adopting this recommendation are considered low as this is an information report.

Risk Implications

In accordance with Alexandrina Council's Risk Assessment Matrix, the risk of adopting this recommendation is considered low as this is an information report.

Attachments

Nil