

CORPORATE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

MONDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 2021

At 7.00 pm

by

GREY ROOM - YORK HOUSE, WINDSOR AND ON RBWM YOUTUBE

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

PART I

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Agenda Item 3

Invest £10m on flooding prevention within Datchet, Horton and Wraysbury, and Old Windsor wards, working in partnership with the Environment Agency. Alongside further investment, borough-wide, in protection against surface water flooding as part of delivering our climate adaptation plan.

Where is the detailed plan and associated consultation prior to this £10m expenditure?

The joint RBWM and EA press release from July 2021 sets out the current position and notes that consultation will be a key element of the scheme as it develops:

Council and Environment Agency work together on flood alleviation for east of Royal Borough | Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (rbwm.gov.uk)

What is the process that ensures riparian owners remain unsubsidised?

Ordinary Watercourses: Riparian owners have a duty to maintain watercourses for which they are responsible. Under the Land Drainage Act 1991 the Council has the powers to serve notice on riparian owners, for the removal of any blockage to an ordinary watercourse. Should the riparian owner fail to do so, the Council has powers to undertake the work themselves and recharge the costs to the riparian owner. The Council will try to resolve problems through discussion with the owners in the first instance and enforcement of legislation will only be used as the last resort.

Main River Watercourses: The overall responsibility for maintenance of Main Rivers lies with the riparian owner. The Environment Agency has permissive powers to carry out works of maintenance and improvement on Main Rivers where required. This can include any structure or appliance for controlling or regulating flow of water into or out of the channel.

If any joint scheme were to offer an element of funding to riparian owners that would be a matter for those funding the scheme.

