

CLIFF SLIPPAGE AT WILLIAM PITT, BRANSTY – LOCATION 2**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Cllr N Williams**LEAD OFFICER:** Mrs S Borwick**REPORT AUTHOR:** Mr C A Lloyd

Summary: This report advises Members of proposals to complete the remedial works required to stabilise the cliff at William Pitt, and seeks authority to undertake the works and utilise funding.

Recommendation:	Executive is asked to approve the action proposed, to agree to utilise the £100,000 funding already bid for 2007/8, and to agree to provide up to a further £50,000 to be used in the event that the full estimated costs are required, subject to legal opinion.
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Impact on delivering the Corporate Plan: None

Impact on other statutory objectives (e.g. crime & disorder, LA21): Action by the Council part is to address a legal liability.

Financial and human resource implications: External consultants have been appointed to design a solution, obtain prices and supervise the works. An urgent Action has been completed for this Executive (£125,000), however up to a further £150,000 is likely to be required (£100,000 of which is in a capital bid for 2007/8), Members are asked to approve funding from the retained receipt of £1.4m arising from the VAT sharing agreement from the Housing Stock Transfer, subject to the Budget report to Council being approved on 27th February.

Project & Risk Management: This is an unexpected occurrence requiring urgent remedial action. Current procedures used, including the Construction Design Management Regulations for safety aspects, and Urgent Action under Contract Standing Orders.

Key Decision Status

- **Financial:** None (over £75, but unforeseen and urgent)
- **Ward:** None

Other Ward Implications: None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following previous Executive approvals emergency works have been undertaken to the cliff at William Pitt to the rear of Cumbria Steelstock. These works include the formation of a catch trench at the base of the cliff, the erection of a steel tensioned fence adjacent to the warehouse and a tensioned steel mesh curtain placed against the cliff so that further loose material is

forced to roll downwards controlled by the steel as opposed to falling freely and so causing damage.

- 1.2 At the time of seeking approvals it was noted that the proposals related to emergency works and that further works and monitoring would be required once design had been completed for a permanent solution.
- 1.3 Executive has approved a budget of £125,000 for this work and to date costs are at £105,712, with some further fees and supervision costs to be confirmed. The budget is expected to underspend, with any balance to be handed back into reserves.
- 1.4 In order to secure funding, although the final design and work not confirmed a budget bid of £100,000 was made for 2007/8 for this further work.
- 1.5 Some further slippage has occurred to the South and temporary barriers have been put in place (within initial budget).
- 1.6 A further report has now been received that recommends intrusive investigation of the fill that exists on the top of the cliff. This is to determine the thickness of the fill and from that the likelihood and amount that could become displaced can be ascertained. The use of long reach excavators would then be required to draw back from the top of the cliff this fill to a point where there would be a safe angle of repose. The fill removed would probably need to be disposed off site. Once completed, pegs would be inserted at various points in the cliff to enable future monitoring of any movement. The actual cost cannot be given at the present time and will depend on the amount of fill to be removed. The consultant recommends a budget of £150,000 for this work (investigation £10,000, contractor works £100,000 and design and supervision which will require some periods of full time on site presence £40,000). The South cliff area of Cliff Slip 2 can be undertaken at the same time to reduce costs.
- 1.7 It is recommended that Cumbria Steelstock is approached and asked if it is prepared to contribute towards the funding of the emergency and future works.

2. PROCUREMENT

- 2.1 The first phase of the cliff remedial works has been undertaken by Richie, a specialist contractor that won the work in competition. At the time of tendering a schedule of rates was provided for these type of works. It is proposed that the Consultants negotiate with this contractor to undertake these further works based on the above.

3. CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 The implementation of the final phase of the remedial works will complete the Council response in dealing with this problem and address legal liability for maintenance of the cliff in its present condition.

List of Appendices

None

Relevant documents:

Project file, Atkins reports, Atkins tender documents
correspondence including with Cumbria Steelstock and

solicitors

List of Consultees:

Corporate Team
Health and Safety officer
Councillor N Williams