

**TITLE:** Prestwick Strategic Drainage Project: Stakeholder Meeting

**LOCATION:** Microsoft Teams Meeting

**DATE:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022



# Notes of Meeting

## Present:

Dr Philippa Whitford (PW)	MP for Central Ayrshire (Meeting Chair)
Siobhian Brown (SioB)	MSP for Ayr
Isabel Williamson (IW)	Assistant to Philippa Whitford
Ian Cochrane (IC)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Hugh Hunter (HH)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Cameron Ramsay	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Sid Brierley (SidB)	P-RAAF
Kevin Braidwood (KB)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Scott Greig (SG)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance & SAC Flood Risk
Craig Iles (CI)	Service Lead Planning and Building Standards
Kieran Downey (KD)	Scottish Water Flooding Manager
Georgie Reid (GR)	Scottish Water Stakeholder Manager
Grant Vanson (GV)	Scottish Water Flood Risk Management Team Lead
Arshid Karim (AK)	Scottish Water Catchment Planner
Martin Hagen (MH)	Scottish Water Intervention Manager
Fraser May (FM)	ARC Design Lead
Kris Elder (KE)	ARC Hydraulic Modeller

## ACTION LOG:

Item	Action	Owner
1	Put together an infographic that can be used by local groups to publicise the reporting of sewage flooding and sewage debris on beaches.	Georgie Reid
2	Put together a short summary and timeline of the project that can be used by elected representatives, community groups or South Ayrshire Council to publicise what the problem is and what work is being done to address it.	Georgie Reid
3	Newsletter to be issued in six months time to update Stakeholders.	Georgie Reid
4	Next Meeting of Stakeholder Group to be arranged for six months after the newsletter or earlier if required.	Georgie Reid

## Introduction

PW welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Cameron Ramsay and Craig Iles who were attending for the first time.

**Update on Actions from previous meeting**

An update on actions from previous meeting was provided. This is summarised below:

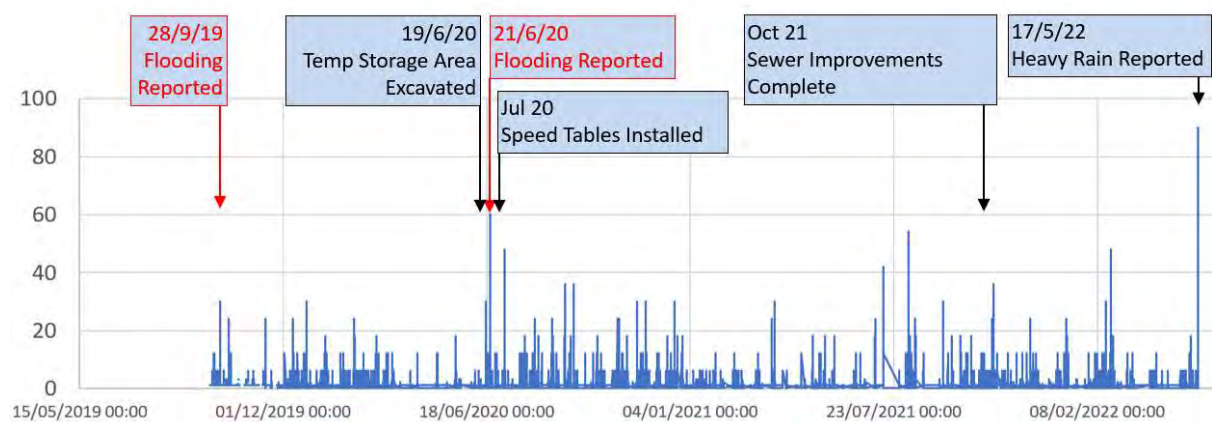
Item	Action	Owner	Update
1	Scottish Water to investigate reports of sewage debris on beach during recent warm weather (thought to be early June 2021) and whether this is connected to overflows during dry weather.	Arshid Karim	Review undertaken for the 2021-22 Period and no Environmental Pollution Incidents were logged against the Prestwick Drainage Operational Area. If sewage debris is reported to Scottish Water Customer Helpline 0800 0778778, then they will raise a Case Number and an Operator will be allocated a task to investigate. The Customer Helpline advisor will also inform the Customer of the Case Number so they can be updated on any progress or call in for an update.
2	Check with South Ayrshire Council's beach cleaning staff to determine if there are any known dates when sewage debris was encountered on the beach.	Ian Cochrane	Linked to action above
3	Discuss with Member Officer Working Group whether an educational leaflet to promote surface water management could be included in next year's Council Tax Notices sent to residents.	Julie Nicol	Julie Nicol has left SAC and Craig Iles has taken on this role. This action is noted as continuing whilst Craig identifies who within the team has been looking at this and will then provide an update.
4	South Ayrshire Council to present at next meeting around potential funding for surface water management and how this can be taken forward for public spaces and permeable paving.	Julie Nicol	Julie Nicol has left SAC and Craig Iles has taken on this role. This action is noted as continuing whilst Craig identifies who within the team has been looking at this and will then provide an update.
5	Scottish Water to meet with PRAAF to discuss sewer that runs along east side of railway between Maryborough Road and Grangemuir Road.	Bill Elliot	Bill Elliott arranged Microsoft Teams meeting with Sid Brierley of PRAAF on 8/12/21. Update on sewer provided which had been cleaned and roots removed. Scottish Water have promoted this sewer for relining and patch repairs.
6	Next Meeting of Stakeholder Group to be arranged after submission of Scottish Water's Outline Investment Decision Making Paper (forecast to be December 2021)	Bill Elliot	Outline Investment Decision Making Paper submitted and Georgie Reid arranged meeting for 27th May 2022.

## Update on Sewer Improvement Works

MH provided a brief update to note construction work to install permanent storage in Brandon Gardens and upsize sewer in St Nicholas Road was completed around Oct 2021. There is some ongoing snagging works being addressed around Brandon Gardens. Scottish Water have appointed Bell Ingram to manage the property owned by Scottish Water in Brandon Gardens.

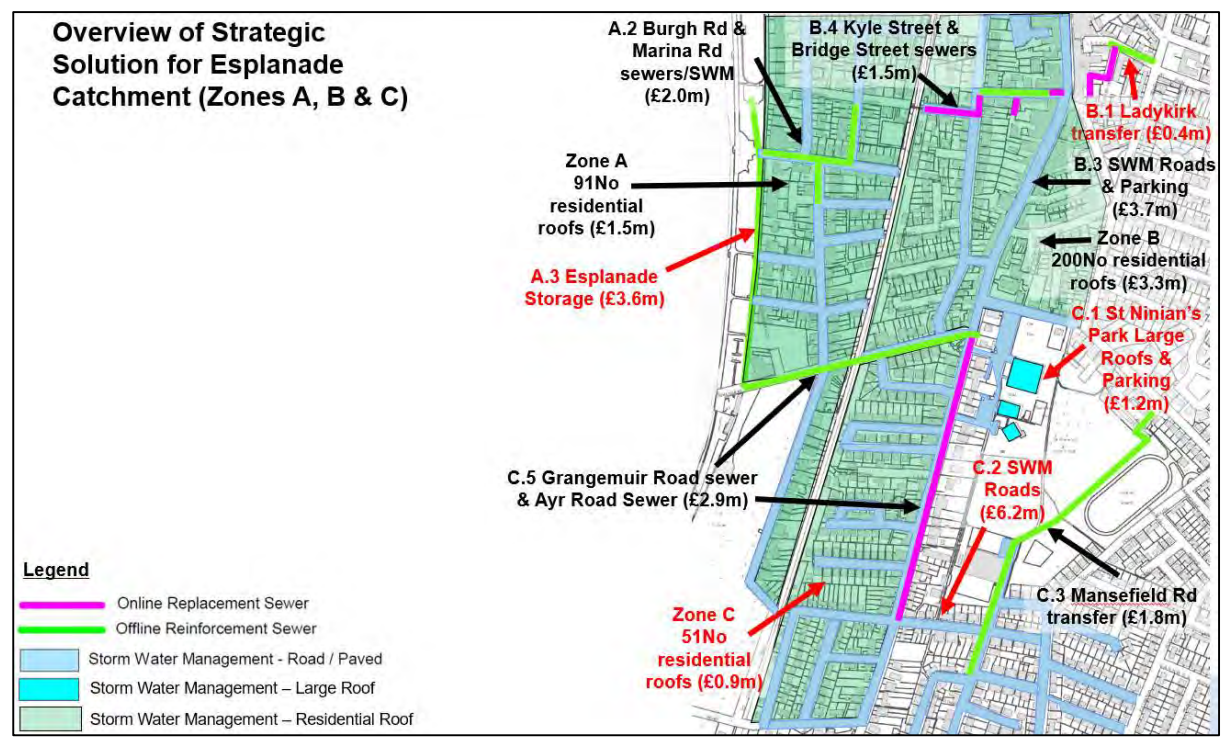
There were customer reports of heavy rain on 17<sup>th</sup> May with gullies at bottom of St Nicholas Road being close to overtopping. SidB confirmed that no flooding in Brandon Gardens and that gullies in St Nicholas Road were filled to the brim.

Scottish Water reviewed data from rain gauges. These recorded a peak rainfall of 90mm/hour on 17<sup>th</sup> May. The rain gauges have been in place for 2.5 years and this is the highest rainfall intensity recorded in that time. Scottish Water will continue to monitor data to understand the effectiveness of measures implemented to reduce flood risk.



## Update on Scottish Water's Investment Process

MH provided a reminder of the strategic solution.



### Zone D - MacIntyre Road

Attenuation of existing surface water system by construction of an attenuation basin upstream at Monkton Court.



## Overview of Standalone Solutions for Pow Burn Catchment

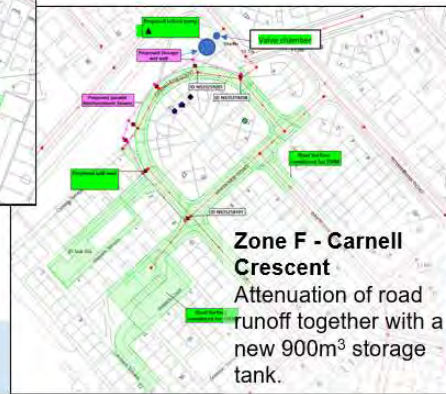
### Zone E - Boydfield Avenue

Separation and attenuation of surface water from roads together with a new reinforcement sewer running parallel to the existing sewer at the bottom end of the street.



### Zone F - Carnell Crescent

Attenuation of road runoff together with a new 900m<sup>3</sup> storage tank.

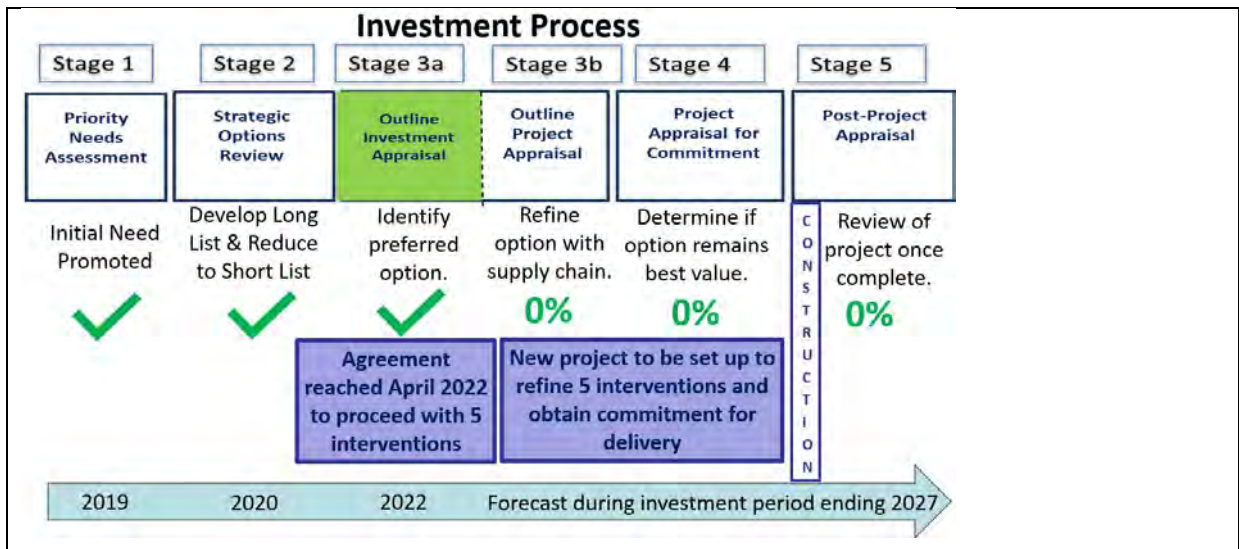


MH outlined progress of the strategic solution through Scottish Water's Investment Process. Project was presented at Scottish Water's Technical Design Review in Sept 2021 before production of Investment Reports and Papers that were presented to Scottish Water's Investment Group in Apr 2022. Agreement reached at Investment Group to progress 5No interventions further with an estimated capital cost of £12.3m. Intention is that other interventions would be progressed in future investment periods. 5No interventions agreed to be progressed during current investment period (2021 to 2027) are:

- C.1 - St Ninian's Park Large Roofs & Parking
- C.2 - SWM Roads
- C - 51No residential roofs
- A.3 - Esplanade Storage
- B.1 - Ladykirk transfer

There are currently six stages of project investment appraisal and to date we have completed the first three. The next stage is to set up a new project to further develop the design of the five interventions and engage our construction delivery partner.

These five interventions will then be presented to get commitment to proceed to construction. The intention would be to construct the 5No interventions during the current investment period. This will be subject to obtaining commitment to construct through the investment process and could be impacted by items such as ground conditions, utilities and third party agreements.



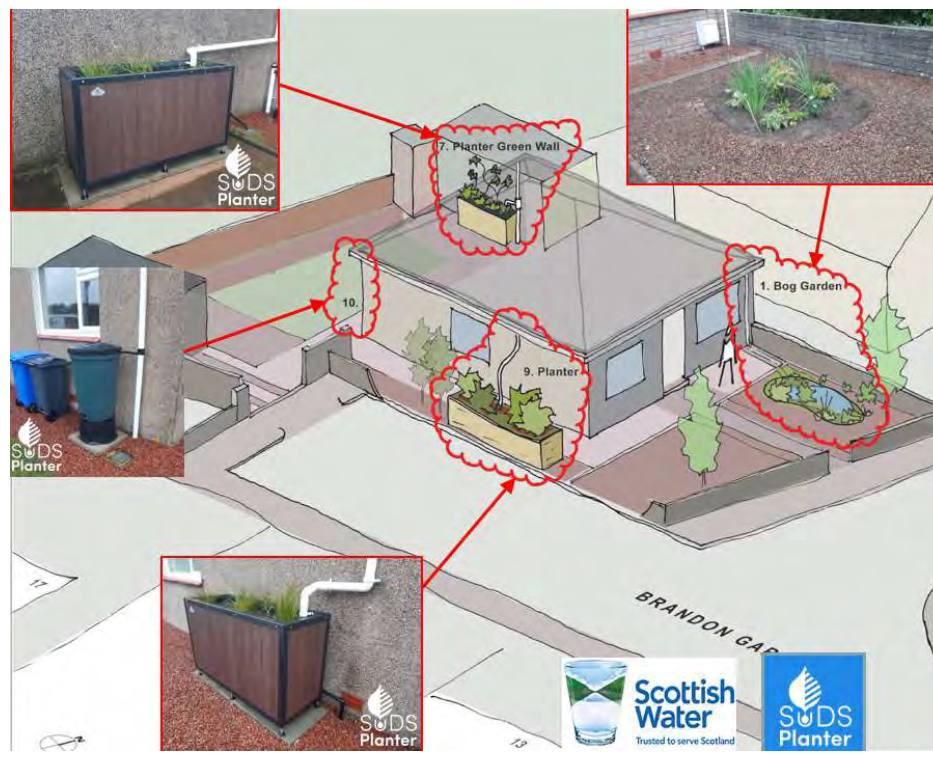
### Update on Surface Water Management Measures -Surface Water Management Pilot

MH provided update on surface water management measures.

#### Residential Properties

Scottish Water has agreed through their investment process to roll out and incentivise implementation of rain water attenuation measures at residential properties. Feedback from Trinity McQueen engagement last year will be used to develop strategy to incentivise and get participation of residents. Scottish Water's construction partner ClancyDocwra has been identified to help with this. Looking for equivalent of 51No properties between Grangemuir Road and Maryborough Road. This is equivalent to 30% of roofs in this area.

New rain garden planters fitted at property that Scottish Water own in Brandon Gardens. This together with other measures represent one of the 51No roofs.



### **St Ninian's Park**

Scottish Water investment process has agreed to progress the surface water management measures in St Ninian's Park. Need to get agreement from all owners and then design will be developed in line with this.

### **Discussion**

HH noted he is glad to be involved on the journey to reduce flooding, HH was sceptical at first but said the project team have done exceptionally well. HH noted that going forward their needs to be a formal timetable and publicity for any works particularly in the highway.

PW agreed that there needs to be plenty of notice to inform the public of any works and get their input where necessary. PW noted that elected representatives can help share any graphics on social media.

KB also thinks it is important to have indicative programme for design and sequencing of the works.

KD noted that the full intention is to share the programme. This will need to be put together with Stakeholders including Ayrshire Roads Alliance. KD stressed this is not just a Scottish Water plan but the group's plan. Programme will be shared once developed.

KD outlined that it is positive to progress the 5No interventions and also highlighted that we will still need to do all the other intervention identified to bring the full benefit in reducing flood risk. KD noted that it is not possible to do everything at the one time.

PW asked if some bullet points could be put together for sharing with the community. PW thinks educating the public is key and suggested whether a public meeting would help.

KD noted that Scottish Water have been looking at a plan for how to progress. This will need help from South Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire Roads Alliance. KD thinks we need some surface water management in streets before asking customer to attenuate their roofs. This would demonstrate commitment from public bodies to act as well as residents. KD noted that surface water management in public spaces will need community engagement and all parties will need to be committed to delivering.

PW noted the whole team have developed work to date I,e Ayrshire Roads Alliance with the speed tables and Scottish Water with the sewer improvements.

GR said she will manage community engagement and is in the process of planning this to ensure a joined up communication strategy. GR noted the hardest thing is to encourage behaviour change.

PW highlighted this behaviour change includes people being aware of the impact of using impermeable surfaces in front gardens.

SidB thinks we cannot continue to pave front and back gardens and that high level consultation within government is required to emphasise how this together with climate change affects us all. SidB thinks a campaign like Scottish Water's drinking water campaign is required to raise awareness across the country. PW agrees this would be good as drinking water campaign was very visible.

KD noted that Scottish Water cannot change behaviours on their own and their needs to be a collective effort by Government, Local Authorities and Scottish Water. This needs to educate and motivate people by sharing information and having targeted campaigns. KD noted the sewer system needs to be destressed to minimize the impact of climate changes.

PW thinks education will inform people so they understand their actions. They can then understand the impact if they were to chose an impermeable surface such as tarmac over an impermeable surface such as gravel. They will also understand the benefits for water management and the

choices which can increase greenery and biodiversity.

SioB asked if Scottish Water would pay for water management. MH noted that Scottish Water were looking to fund a pilot for residential roofs that would provide an example to be used nationally. KD explained Scottish Water were looking to fund a pilot for a targeted area in Prestwick to install measures to attenuate runoff from residential roofs. Scottish Water would fund installation but maintenance would be for home owners/residents. Going forward the lessons learned from the pilot would be used to assess what we do across the rest of the country. KD highlighted recycling as an example that has transformed behaviours.

PW noted that recycling is a good example and that the public were provided with new bins to encourage this. PW thinks there could be potential for bulk buying of surface water management items to help encourage behaviours. KD agreed that bulk buying is being considered.

GR said there could be a campaign such as 'Proud to be Part of'. Any successes from the Prestwick pilot could be used as a beacon to change behaviour across Scotland.

PW asked if CR or CI wanted to add anything as they are attending for the first time. CR was glad to have the opportunity to observe and learn and would be happy to contribute going forward. CI said it has been interesting to find out more about the work done to date and he has been impressed particularly around the simplicity of the speed tables and their impact. CI thinks education is key. Planning regulations can be used but are difficult to implement and can sometimes do more harm than good.

PW think enforcement is more for big developers. For individual customers then education is likely to be more effective. Need to get messages out locally but really need a national campaign.

SidB said that Planning needs to enforce greening of new developments with no hard surfaces. SidB noted a new development at Afton Ave/St Ninian's Primary where there appear to be hard surfaces.

SioB asked if Scottish Water had engaged with developers around flooding. KD replied that Scottish Water have a developer services team who require surface water to be dealt with separately. KD noted Scottish Water are always looking for anything implemented to be better than the current arrangement and to be the best and most sustainable option. KB noted that Ayrshire Roads Alliance are the flooding authority and assess the flooding impact of any development.

PW noted that to date we have done a lot of work and asked whether we need to continue having periodic stakeholder meetings or would a periodic newsletter be more appropriate with a meeting held when there is a decision point.

SidB agrees that we don't need regular stakeholder meetings and thinks six monthly or yearly update meetings would be appropriate. HH thinks meetings are useful and thinks six monthly frequency would be good to keep focus. PW noted that it had been around a year since the last meeting and did not think we need anything more frequent than that. MH said that Scottish Water could provide an update in six months and that a newsletter may be appropriate for that. KD noted Scottish Water would be working in the background to progress and could commit to six monthly newsletters and meetings when appropriate. PW thinks six monthly newsletter and annual meeting. PW thinks we should meet when the project moves into the commitment stage of Scottish Water's Investment process. GR suggested a newsletter in six months time with a meeting to follow six months later. GR noted the meeting could be brought forward if anything come up in the interim. GR will arrange a newsletter in six months and a meeting six months after or when the design has been developed further.

PW noted that we will also need meetings with the public in the future to inform them of plans once we move closer to construction. SioB said she is happy to help with public engagement. PW noted that this applies to all the elected representatives.

KD thanked everyone for their contribution and said collectively we have achieved more together than we could have alone. KD said that implementation of surface water management measures is new and it will be a learning process for everyone. KD also noted that we will also need grey/concrete solutions as well as surface water management.

PW noted that it took a while to move forward and come up with a strategy but it has highlighted the combined sewer floods during torrential rain and that we need to remove surface water. PW asked that information be provided to tell the story of where we have come from and what we have done to date and what we plan to do. This could be in the form of infographics or a newsletter.

SidB expressed his thanks to everyone involved in working together to address the flooding problems.

HH thanked Philippa for chairing the meeting and asked for a timeline to be produced that can be used by Ayrshire Roads Alliance and for the community.

GR will arrange for a short summary and timeline of the project that can be used by elected representatives, community groups or South Ayrshire Council to publicise what the problem is and what work is being done to address it.

CI noted that public awareness is key and that South Ayrshire Council can help in publicizing any info on their public website and twitter etc.

#### **Conclusion and Action Planning**

- Scottish Water to put together an infographic that can be used by local groups to publicise the reporting of sewage flooding and sewage debris on beaches.
- Scottish Water to put together a short summary and timeline of the project that can be used by elected representatives, community groups or South Ayrshire Council to publicise what the problem is and what work is being done to address it.
- Newsletter to be issued in six months time to update Stakeholders.
- Next Meeting of Stakeholder Group to be arranged for six months after the newsletter or earlier if required.
- PW brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.