

Meeting with Residents of Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road 5th September 2019

Location: Prestwick Ambassador Bowling Club, Bellevue Road, Prestwick

Attending from Scottish Water

- Mark McEwan – General Manager Customer service
- Kieran Downey – Flooding Manager
- Bill Elliott – Corporate Affairs Manager
- Martin Hagen – Intervention Manager

Attending from Ayrshire Roads Alliance

- Stewart Turner – Head of Roads
- Kevin Braidwood – Operations Manager

Introduction

- Meeting began with an introduction to the session outlining Scottish Water's reason for being there; to give an update on proposals for tackling flooding at Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road.
- Scottish Water representatives were introduced as were representatives from Ayrshire Roads Alliance.
- An introduction was given to Kerri McClymont from Heriot Watt University who is researching future flood resilience and is holding an open session in Prestwick on Thursday 12th September.

Presentation

- The attached slides were presented at the meeting.

Actions

- Scottish Water to hold further community session to give an update once proposals discussed at this meeting have been further developed.
- Scottish Water to develop an offering to residents of Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road for provision of water butts.
- Scottish Water to implement Non Return Valves (NRVs) in properties where this has being identified to bring some benefit.
- Scottish Water to purchase land and create temporary flood storage area alongside the railway at rear of 19 Brandon Gardens.
- Ayrshire Roads Alliance in conjunction with Scottish Water to create speed tables on the roads identified.
- Scottish Water will provide a summary of the discussion points raised at the meeting as well as a copy of the slides.

Questions Raised During Meeting

What do the acronyms SPS, CSO, WWTW and EO mean?	
Response	KD – Explained the meaning of each acronym and it was noted that a key of acronyms should be included in future presentations. The acronyms are: SPS – Sewage Pumping Station CSO – Combined Sewer Overflow WWTW – Waste Water Treatment Works EO – Emergency Overflow
Are Scottish Water sure that temporary flood area to rear of 19 Brandon Gardens will drain after a flood event?	
Response	KD: A connection would be created from drainage area to the existing sewer to allow it to drain by gravity after a storm subsides. Scottish Water will attend after any flooding events to clean up.
How Long will it take to implement speed tables?	
Response	KB: It was outlined that Ayrshire Roads Alliance will submit a road application to construct the speed tables. The determination period for each road application is three months and this will allow the speed tables to be constructed in December. The speed tables will take around 1week to complete at each location. Construction will be planned to ensure access to each street will be maintained whilst they are being installed.
Will speed tables help reduce sewage flooding in St Nicholas Road?	
Response	KD: It was explained that speed tables would help reduce overland flow from Ayr Road, and therefore reduce the overall flood risk, but would have no material difference to sewer flooding out of manholes in St Nicholas Road. This is because the overland flow from Ayr Road is currently unable to get into the combined sewer during flooding events as it is overloaded. Reducing overland flow will therefore have no impact on sewer flooding out of manholes.
How long will temporary mitigations be in place?	
Response	KD: It was explained that Scottish Water should have used the term ‘interim’ mitigations rather than ‘temporary’ mitigations. The interim mitigations would be implemented to provide relief in the short term and these would be retained and incorporated into medium term and longer mitigations as necessary.
Where will the Non Return Valves (NRVs) be installed?	
Response	KD: In the immediate term Scottish Water will install NRVs at around 7 houses in Brandon Gardens and this will be discussed directly with the customers affected. NRVs will be located to ensure no detriment to others. It was explained that an NRV is usually installed within the property boundary on the sewer connection pipe. It may be necessary to reconstruct the disconnection chamber in some cases where the disconnection chamber is not large enough to accept the NRV – in such cases we will make good the surface.
Where will flow from proposed new storage go if the sewer is already overloaded?	
Response	KD: It is recognised that the downstream sewer gets overloaded during heavy rainfall. The proposed pipes would provide additional storage to reduce the amount of flooding from the sewer. This water will drain back into the main sewer after storm events when capacity has returned.
What benefits would be provided by Water Butts?	
Response	KD: The combined sewer that serves most of Prestwick can be influenced by surface water from house roofs and driveways. Water butts can help reduce the amount of surface water getting into sewers from house roofs which in turn would help reduce the impact (frequency & volume) of sewer flooding. If enough properties were to install water butts then the combined effect could have a noticeable effect on flood volumes.

	<p>Scottish Water planning to make a demonstration of water butts at no.19 Brandon Gardens and also looking to make an offering of water butts to residents in Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road.</p> <p>Note: Ian Cochrane (Councillor for Prestwick) mentioned tree pits were being used in areas of Glasgow to help reduce surface contributions to the combined sewer.</p>
What will happen to No.19 Brandon Gardens?	
Response	MM: No decision has been made on what to do with the house at No.19 and no decision will be made without consulting the community. It is acknowledged that some people have made clear representation that they do not want the house at No.19 to be demolished.
What is the timescale for implementing medium term measures?	
Response	KD: Template timescales for implementing proposed storage in Brandon Gardens and St Nicholas Road forecast it would take around 18months to design and construct. Scottish Water are committed to investigating potential opportunities to reduce these timescales with a view to completing the construction works in a shorter timescale. Risks to the delivery include work adjacent to the railway and the permissions required to satisfy Network Rail, particularly if ground conditions are not favourable.
If Scottish Water knew there was a long term flooding problem in Prestwick, why did they not act sooner to develop a Strategic Study?	
Response	MM: Explained that he did not have an answer for why the Strategic Study was not started earlier but stated that Scottish Water are committed to undertaking the Prestwick Study that is currently ongoing and working through actions as quickly as they can be completed.
What solution will be identified by the Strategic Study?	
Response	<p>MM: The final solution will not be known until the Strategic Study is complete. Findings from the Strategic Study will be used to influence Scottish Water's future business plans. Scottish Water remains committed to developing solutions in conjunction with South Ayrshire Council, and the Prestwick Stakeholder Group.</p> <p>KD: If any easy and inexpensive measures are identified during the course of the Strategic Study then Scottish Water will aim to implement these ahead of the final findings where possible.</p>
There are plans to build 500 houses in Monkton. Can Scottish Water confirm that no more surface water from this development will go into the combined sewer?	
Response	MM – Scottish Water confirm that no new surface water will be allowed into the combined sewer from the development. This is in line with Scottish Water's policy that no more surface water will be added into our combined sewers. The developer will be responsible for taking measures to manage surface water from the site. If this involves discharge to a watercourse they will need agreement from SEPA and the local authority.
Will the developer of 500 houses in Monkton be given permission to discharge foul flow into the combined sewer in Prestwick?	
Response	MM: Developer would need to apply to Scottish Water for permission to discharge to the sewer. Modelling of their proposals would take place to identify if there is spare capacity or if upgrades to the sewer network would be required. Permission would only be granted if there is spare capacity or subject to any identified upgrades to mitigate predicted impacts. Discharge of new foul flows to the combined sewer would not happen until any identified upgrades were in place.
Some roots were found in the sewer around Midton Road during recent investigations. Is there a maintenance plan in place at this location?	
Response	MM: If there are flooding areas identified that are vulnerable to siltation or root ingress then these would generally be subject to a maintenance plan. If details of the location are provided to Scottish Water then this will be investigated further.

Will land alongside the railway at the rear of Brandon Gardens ever be released for building new houses?

Response	MM: Scottish Water are in negotiations with the land owner to purchase this area of land to create a temporary flood area and in the future underground storage. This land will be retained by Scottish Water for accessing and maintaining our assets and will not be sold on for housing.
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