



The Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership

Improved protection for flood blighted communities

The Scottish Parliament passed the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act in June this year. The Act will provide a sustainable approach to managing flooding, streamline development and improve coordination between the various agencies involved in reducing flood risk.

The Act was warmly received by the lead organisations of the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership (MGSDP), all of whom will be key players in the implementation of this much needed legislation.

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water and Glasgow City Council, who are members of the MGSDP, all supported the development of the Act by providing support and information on behalf of the partnership to the Parliamentary committee researching it.



Members of the Scottish Parliament Rural Affairs and Environment Committee discuss flooding with SEPA staff in 2007. SEPA.

The legislation identifies SEPA, Scottish Water and all Scottish local authorities as being responsible for delivering a more strategic and coordinated approach to flood risk management in future. This approach closely mirrors the holistic approach the MGSDP partners have been employing across metropolitan Glasgow to reduce flood risk since 2002.

SEPA has been given the role of coordinating the work of all organisations involved and its Director of Environmental Protection and Improvement, Colin Bayes, sits on the MGSDP Board. He is pleased that the MGSDP approach has been adopted by the Scottish Parliament for this Act:

“SEPA and the other partners of the MGSDP all agree that the legislation confirms the effectiveness of the approach used by us to deliver flood reduction measures around Glasgow. The MGSDP has established links with the other six councils within the metropolitan Glasgow area and will continue to work closely with them, and our other partners, in line with the bill. The challenge now is to deliver solutions on and in the ground.”



SEPA's Chairman David Sigsworth added: “This Act reinforces Scotland's need to have flood risk work carried out efficiently and cost effectively. We have been encouraging our development partners to align their own projects with each other to enhance flood risk planning and development for the metropolitan Glasgow area since the flood event in the east end of Glasgow in 2002.

The MGSDP will continue to lead the way by implementing flood risk reduction work that is sustainable and economically sound, while encouraging investment and protecting the surrounding environment at the same time.”

Scottish Water - working to achieve the objectives of the MGSDP

As one of the partners in the MGSDP, Scottish Water is continuing to invest millions of pounds in projects throughout the area which will help achieve the MGSDP's five main objectives: flood risk reduction, river water quality improvement, enabling economic development, habitat improvement, and integrated investment planning. Projects worth a total of more than £45m in the current investment period (2006-10) have been completed or are under way.

Flood risk management

Across Scotland, Scottish Water is investing to remove more than 450 families from its 'At Risk' of Sewer Flooding Register and this work includes many projects in the MGSDP area.

The Eckford Street area of Shettleston, Glasgow, suffered serious flooding on July 30, 2002. Since then, Scottish Water has upsized sewers and raised weirs to protect the area against a one-in-30 year storm. The project was completed in February 2008.

In August 2009, Scottish Water started a project to improve the sewer network in the Loch Achray Street area of Shettleston. The project, which is due to be completed in the spring of 2010, will substantially reduce the risk of properties being flooded due to the sewers being overloaded during heavy rainfall.



Loch Achray Street, Shettleston flood alleviation project. Scottish Water.

A flood alleviation project was carried out in Broomieknowe Gardens and Johnstone Drive, Rutherglen. The upsizing of sewers and installation of non-return valves was completed in February 2008.

Scottish Water completed a project in Strathblane Road, Milngavie, in March 2008 which involved the upsizing of a sewer. A project in Craighlaw Avenue, near Eaglesham, in which sewers were also upsized, was completed in September 2008.

A project to upgrade and increase the capacity of about 200 metres of sewer pipes and associated manholes in the Etive Crescent area of Bishopbriggs was completed in early 2009.

Scottish Water started a project in March 2009 to improve the sewer network in the Crowhill Road area of Bishopbriggs. The key element of the project, tank storage and a pumping station, means that the network now has the ability to mitigate the effects of many storms which have previously caused flooding.

In August 2009, Scottish Water started a project to improve the sewer network in part of Clydebank, near the junction of Dumbarton Road and Hall Street, and substantially reduce the risk of properties being flooded.

A flood alleviation study is under way in Airdrie town centre and major investment there is planned to begin construction in April 2010.

Enabling economic development

A £4.4m Scottish Water-led project to refurbish the Kinning Park pumping station, a strategic facility at the downstream end of the Shieldhall Waste Water Treatment Works catchment, was completed in summer 2009. The project involved overhauling the pumps to allow for development, including more than 2200 new houses in the Tradeston and Oatlands areas of Glasgow and commercial properties in the Rutherglen and Gorbals areas. The main elements of the project were the renovation of four pumps and screen installations which improved the pumping station's operability.



Aerial view of Shieldhall Waste Water Treatment Works. Scottish Water.

River quality and habitat improvement

In July 2009 Scottish Water began three major projects which will help improve the sewer network and protect the natural environment in and around two burns in the East End of Glasgow.

The projects include work in the Gallowgate and Forge Retail Park areas. They will modernise the infrastructure and help improve the waters of the Molendinar and Camlachie burns. Both the Molendinar and Camlachie burns flow into the River Clyde so the investment will also contribute towards water quality improvements in its waters.



Environmental improvement work beside Forge Retail Park in Parkhead. Scottish Water.

Previous investment in Greendykes Street, near Glasgow Green, included the installation by Scottish Water of a static screen at a storm overflow to improve the water quality of the Camlachie Burn in a project which was completed in March 2009.

Planned investment includes a project in Blochairn Road, where a newly constructed Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) chamber with mechanical screening will be provided. This will improve the quality of the Molendinar Burn.

In April 2009 Scottish Water completed a series of environmental improvements in the Newlands and Giffnock areas. The investment upgraded part of the local sewer network and improved the natural environment on a stretch of the Merry Burn by addressing the problem of aesthetic pollution caused by CSO storm discharges.

In December 2008 Scottish Water started major environmental improvements to more than 9km of

river in the Kirkintilloch and Lenzie areas. The scheme of eight projects will improve the water quality of the Luggie Water and Bothlin Burn - both tributaries of the River Kelvin, which flows into the Clyde estuary.



Environmental improvement work in the Kirkintilloch and Lenzie area. Scottish Water.

A programme of CSO improvement works is under way to improve the water quality of the Broom, Auldhous and Capelrig burns in parts of East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and the south of Glasgow.

Scottish Water is investing an initial £12.1m on Unsatisfactory Intermittent Discharge (UID) projects in the Airdrie and Coatbridge areas, with significant further investment planned. A UID is a spill from the network which can be caused by a choke or blockage in the sewer, storm conditions which overload the network, or under capacity in the network. A number of these projects have been completed and others are under way.

Other sites being considered include the major collection of CSO outfalls in Airdrie town centre to a central storage tank within the old Airdrie WWTW site and a new outfall to the North Calder. When undertaken this will significantly improve the water quality in the North Burn and Luggie Burn.

Also under consideration is investment at Summerlee Heritage Park and Glenmavis CSO.

Site works at Chapelhall have almost been completed. A new CSO with mechanical screen is operational. The new outfall to the North Calder Water has been completed. The projects will protect water quality in the North Calder and Kennel Burn.

Waste Water Treatment Works Investment

Daldowie WWTW near Uddingston, which serves predominantly North Lanarkshire, has seen a project completed in 2009 which has replaced storm screens, inlet screens, and installed a new bypass channel. This has made the WWTW more efficient and improved the quality of screening and the final effluent.

MGSDP - how we work

Delivering solutions through partnership working is a challenge and to ensure that all the organisations involved in the MGSDP do work together, a Board and working sub-groups have been set up. The roles of each group are very specific and are outlined below.

Board

Provide leadership and direction that will facilitate progress to achieve successful delivery of the MGSDP initiative and relevant associated projects.

Steering Group

Implement the direction of the Board in achieving successful delivery of the MGSDP initiative. Oversee all work that will enable satisfactory progress to help deliver the MGSDP initiative and relevant associated projects.

Technical Group

Implement the plans and instructions of the Steering Group in achieving successful delivery of the MGSDP initiative. To provide technical input and to oversee all project work that will enable satisfactory progress and delivery of the MGSDP initiative.

Communications Group

Oversee and deal with all aspects of communications and stakeholder management in relation to the MGSDP, both proactive and reactive, on behalf of the Board and Steering Group.

Project Management Office (PMO)

Provide leadership and direction to support the effective and efficient creation, management and delivery of an Executable Drainage Plan for the metropolitan Glasgow area.

Minister catches up with MGSDP work

The Steering Group of the MGSDP recently hosted a visit from Roseanna Cunningham, MSP and recently appointed Minister for the Environment. Ms Cunningham was a driving force behind the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act and had visited the MGSDP in her role of Convenor of the Scottish Parliament Committee for Rural Affairs and the Environment, while gathering evidence for the Act.

The Minister visited Glasgow City Council offices on 22 September 2009 and was given a presentation on work of the MGSDP and an opportunity to speak to the Steering Group on how it was managing to coordinate its workload.



L-R: Leo Petch (Scottish Water), Colin Bayes (SEPA), Minister for the Environment Roseanna Cunningham, and Steve Inch (Glasgow City Council).

Minister for Environment, Roseanna Cunningham said:

"The Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership is a pioneering example of the partnership approach required to deal with the complex issues of flooding and regeneration. What makes it so innovative is that the aim is not only to reduce flood risk but to support sustainable economic growth and improve the quality of life enjoyed by local residents.

"It is hardly surprising that this original approach has attracted interest from Europe and I was pleased to have the opportunity to visit and hear more about future plans. I watched the partnership's progress with interest as the previous Convener of the Rural Affairs and Environment Committee and will continue to do so in my Ministerial capacity."

Visit our website at www.mgsdp.org for more information on our work.

For additional information



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the CLYDE VALLEY
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Further update in Spring 2010



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