



The Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership

The Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership (MGSDP) is an innovative and collaborative venture between local authorities (Glasgow City Council leading), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water and Scottish Enterprise that will upgrade and modernise the Glasgow area's drainage and sewerage network, reduce flooding and support urban development requirements while improving water quality and the environment.

Two New Board Members for MGSDP



Gerry Gormal,
Executive Director
of Development and
Regeneration Services
(DRS) at Glasgow City
Council



Calum MacDonald,
Director of Operations
at Scottish Environment
Protection Agency.

The board of the MGSDP has welcomed two new members.

Gerry Gormal, Executive Director of Development and Regeneration Services (DRS) at Glasgow City Council, has taken over the chairmanship from his predecessor at the local authority Steve Inch.

Mr Inch retired from the council at the end of July after 30 years working in the field of regeneration in Glasgow. Mr Gormal was one of the Assistant Directors at DRS before his promotion.

The other new MGSDP board member is Calum MacDonald, Director of Operations at SEPA.

Mr MacDonald has worked with SEPA since its inception in 1996. His new role includes the work of the previous Environmental Protection and Improvement (EPI) directorate as well as SEPA's work in Land Use Planning, and Better Regulation.

Mr MacDonald has taken over the membership of the MGSDP board from Colin Bayes, the former director of EPI. Mr Bayes had worked with SEPA since 1996 and retired in May.

Dalmarnock WWTW Improvement Project under way

Scottish Water recently started the first phase of major improvement work to tackle odour issues at a key waste water treatment works in Glasgow which will help achieve the objectives of the MGSDP.

The £500,000 investment at the Dalmarnock WWTW in the East End of the city signals the start of work that Scottish Water said last year would be carried out in the 2010-15 investment period. About £6m will be invested by Scottish Water in odour improvement and capital maintenance work at the WWTW.

Mr Gary Caig, Scottish Water's team leader for waste water in the area, said: "Scottish Water is delighted to be starting the first phase of this important work which will improve our services from the Dalmarnock WWTW for local residents, businesses and the Commonwealth Games in 2014.

"Scottish Water recognises that tackling odour issues at Dalmarnock WWTW, which serves about 260,000 people across the East End of Glasgow and in the north east of the city, is important for residents and businesses in the vicinity of the WWTW and for encouraging development of the area.

"We also recognise that the Dalmarnock area will play a key role in the successful delivery of the Commonwealth Games. Scottish Water is committed to doing all it can to help ensure that the Games are successful and that the Games show the best of Glasgow and Scotland to the visiting Commonwealth states."

Clyde Gateway – New Solutions for Infrastructure Constraints to Regeneration

The MGSDP is establishing a close working relationship with Clyde Gateway, through shared partners and complimentary objectives for the Glasgow area. Here, Jim Clark, Senior Manager of Communications and Company Systems, talks about the work of the Clyde Gateway, the challenges it faces and the new developments it is supporting.

The legacy of a heavy industrial heritage has led to large parts of the Clyde Gateway area suffering from appalling land conditions including a mix of pollution, contamination and severe problems with water and sewerage capacities.

The site of the new National Indoor Sports Arena (NISA) and Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome just opposite Celtic Park gives an idea of the level of action required. More than £12m had to be spent on de-contaminating the site, over an 18-month period, before a single brick was laid. Among the action required was ground stabilisation, the removal and disposal of materials buried deep below the surface and the culverting and diversion of an underground drainage system.

But similar issues can be found all over the Clyde Gateway area.

Within south Dalmarnock, the plans are for a new mixed-use development incorporating business, industry, residential and retail. This opportunity has been taken during the development of the Masterplan for the area to incorporate an innovative strategic solution through the extensive use of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS). It will be Clyde Gateway's task to deliver investment in the SUDS schemes that minimises the risks being faced by investors and developers.



Shawfield from the air showing the location of the Shawfield Remediation Strategy.

On the other side of the Clyde, Shawfield faces even more substantial problems thanks to hot-spots where chromium contamination can be found – a legacy of the existence of a chemical works that closed its doors as long ago as 1967.

A multi-agency Shawfield Remediation Strategy is looking to provide the solutions, and acknowledges that a range of different actions, including engineering works on burns and watercourses that discharge into the Clyde, will be required.

The scale, depth and complexity of the infrastructure issues is a central reason for the creation of the Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company (URC). The momentum from the investment to date will be lost without cost-effective and deliverable solutions. The risk is that potential investors and developers begin to lose confidence.

Thankfully, the level of progress made thus far, added to a willingness of the partners and relevant agencies to work collectively over the long-run, is minimising this risk and everything remains on schedule to deliver a fresh legacy that will completely transform some of the most deprived communities in Scotland.

Clyde Gateway background

Clyde Gateway is the name given to an area that includes a large part of the East End of Glasgow, including Bridgeton, Dalmarnock and Parkhead plus Rutherglen and Shawfield in South Lanarkshire. It has been identified within the National Planning Framework as Scotland's top regeneration priority.

The Clyde Gateway Urban Regeneration Company (URC) was established in December 2007 to drive the massive investment programme that will take place in the area over a 20 year period. It is a partnership between Glasgow City Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Enterprise, with funding from the Scottish Government.

Large parts of the Clyde Gateway communities have suffered from decades of neglect in comparison to other areas of Glasgow and the West of Scotland. Much of this was down to the sheer scale of the complex problems caused by the legacy of the old industries, including land conditions, pollution and contamination.

Clyde Gateway is a whole new approach to regeneration - one that brings a shared vision from all of the partners, and one that is supported locally. There will be investment from the public and private sectors, which will bring new infrastructure, new offices and workspaces, new jobs, new houses and, over time, reverse the decline in population.

More information on the Clyde Gateway is available at www.clydegateway.com/

HRH The Prince of Wales attends Sustainable Glasgow Event

Efforts by Scottish Water and Glasgow City Council to help protect the environment in Scotland's biggest city were featured at an exhibition by companies and organisations promoting green-friendly aspects of their business which was attended by HRH The Prince of Wales on the first day of a week-long tour of Britain to promote his latest environmental project, Start, in early September.

Their work with the MGSDP was highlighted at one of about 15 stalls the Duke of Rothesay visited on the concourse at Central Station. Mr Stewart Stevenson, the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change, also attended.

Scottish Water's message at the Sustainable Glasgow initiative stall was that Scottish Water supports the Sustainable Glasgow initiative and is working with its partners to improve drainage, reduce the risk of flooding and improve the quality of the River Clyde.

At the same stall, the message from Glasgow City Council leader Councillor Gordon Matheson, was that the sustainable agenda is very important to Glasgow. He added that: "Over the next 10 years, our target, which we are determined to achieve, is to reduce our carbon emissions by 30%. That would make Glasgow the greenest and most sustainable city in Europe."

Mr Jim Conlin, Scottish Water's waste water strategy manager, said: "We were delighted to be able to participate in this important and high profile event and raise the profile of Scottish Water's work with our partners in the MGSDP, such as Glasgow City Council, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and Scottish Enterprise, which will help make Glasgow a more sustainable city."

Start is a national initiative by The Prince's Charities Foundation to promote and celebrate sustainable living. Its goal is to help people across the UK take clear, positive and practical steps towards a better future.

HRH The Prince of Wales has been a supporter of sustainable practices for many years. From ethical business to fair farming, social justice to rainforest protection, his charities unite under a common banner of decency, balance and respect for one another and our environment.

For more information on the Start initiative visit www.startuk.org/.

Clyde Project to Deliver Multiple Benefits to Water Quality

The Clyde Valley's water environment is to receive a boost after funding was secured to deliver improvements under river basin management planning (RBMP) targets.

SEPA and the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership commissioned a project, 'Ecological networks & RBMP - Clyde pilot study', to develop a methodology to identify where improvements for river basin planning can be delivered jointly with improving habitat networks.

The project identified many areas where enhancement to habitat networks can be combined with measures to improve the water environment, providing opportunities for delivering multiple benefits and greatest environmental improvement. The summary and full project report can be found at:



HRH The Prince of Wales at Sustainable Glasgow stall at Central Station, Glasgow in September.

www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning/area_advisory_groups/clyde.aspx

Funding to deliver detailed project briefs for some of the opportunity areas identified in the Clyde pilot has been secured from the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN) and a sub group of the Clyde area advisory group will take the work forward. The project will have a direct impact on the work of the MGSDP, contributing to achieving two of its objectives, river water quality improvement and habitat improvement.

More information on the Clyde Area Advisory group and management plan is also available on www.sepa.org.uk.

Scottish Water MGSDP Projects Continue Apace

Late summer 2010 was a busy period for Scottish Water, one of the MGSDP partners, as it continues to invest millions of pounds in projects throughout the area which will help achieve the MGSDP's main objectives: flood risk reduction, river water quality improvement, enabling economic development, habitat improvement and integrated investment planning.

In August, Scottish Water completed a major upgrade of Shieldhall Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW), one of the biggest in Scotland.

The £7.2m investment at the WWTW, in the Govan area of Glasgow, will help to protect the environment on a key stretch of the River Clyde.



Steven Fraser (left), Scottish Water's waste water operations manager in the west of Scotland, with Peter McCarthy, of the Linthouse Tenants' and Residents' Liaison Group, pictured at Shieldhall WWTW.

The WWTW serves about 400,000 people in the south of Glasgow, Newton Mearns and Renfrew areas. The upgrade included the installation of six new fine screens which are providing better screening of waste water before it re-enters the environment.

It also included the installation of a new central monitoring system, which will provide more efficient monitoring of the systems and processes, improving the life expectancy and serviceability of the WWTW.

Mr Steven Fraser, Scottish Water's waste water operations manager in the west of Scotland, said: "Scottish Water is delighted to have completed this major investment in the capital maintenance of a key facility in our waste water infrastructure in the Glasgow area.

"Scottish Water is committed to helping protect our natural environment and making Scotland's rivers, lochs and coastal waters cleaner than ever before."

The investment at Shieldhall WWTW, which follows the completion two years ago of a project to tackle odour there, was welcomed by Mr Peter McCarthy, of the Linthouse Tenants' and Residents' Liaison Group, which liaises with Scottish Water on behalf of local residents.

Mr McCarthy said: "We are delighted that further investment has been made to the Shieldhall WWTW. The investment to tackle odour issues has resulted in massive improvements to the quality of life of those living in the area. The completion of this latest environmental project will benefit the water quality in the River Clyde and that is also very welcome news."

Also in August, Scottish Water started the latest in a series of projects which will help improve the waste water network and protect the natural environment in and around burns in the East End of Glasgow.

The £1.6m project in Hunter Street, just off Duke Street, will modernise Scottish Water's infrastructure and help improve the water quality of the Molendinar Burn.

The Molendinar Burn flows into the River Clyde so our investment will also contribute towards improvements in its water quality.

The project, which is due to be completed in spring 2011, will involve the construction of a new underground storage chamber and associated works within a new development site on Hunter Street by Scottish Water's contractors Morrison Construction.

The storage chamber, which will be about 9 metres in diameter and 16 metres deep, will reduce waste water spillage during periods of heavy rainfall and will help reduce debris spilling from the waste water network into the Molendinar Burn, which is a largely culverted, or covered, watercourse.

Key East Dunbartonshire Project Completed

In September, Scottish Water completed an important project which has improved a key part of our waste water infrastructure in Twechar and will help protect the environmental quality of a local river.

The £300,000 project, which started in April, will improve the quality of the Board Burn by substantially reducing the possibility of discharges of untreated sewage from a stretch of waste water tunnel pipe into the burn.

The Board Burn flows into the River Kelvin, which is a tributary of the River Clyde, so both those watercourses will also benefit from the investment at Twechar.

Local councillor Stewart MacDonald said: "I am very pleased that Scottish Water has helped improve the environmental condition of the Board Burn with this substantial investment.

"I am also very pleased with the way Scottish Water worked with the community on this and how they addressed the community's concerns."



Local councillor Stewart MacDonald (second from right) with Scottish Water staff and a residents' association member at Twechar recently following the completion of a key project.

MGSDP Work Recognised at Prestigious Awards

The MGSDP was a finalist in a prestigious Water Industry Achievement Awards ceremony held by experts drawn from the industry.

The MGSDP was one of the finalists in the "SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage) & Flood Management Initiative of the Year" in the Water Industry Achievement Awards (WIAA) 2010.

Representatives of the MGSDP attended the awards ceremony at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham on May 20.

The awards are organised by journals WET (Water and Effluent Treatment) News and Water & Wastewater Treatment and are described as "a celebration of the outstanding and innovative thinking demonstrated by the UK water industry."

The organisers said of the category the MGSDP entered: "Severe flooding is becoming a common occurrence with Britain's conventional drainage system unable to cope with sudden and torrential downpours.

"This category will reward cutting-edge solutions or strategies for sustainable drainage and flood management."

Steve Inch, former chair of the MGSDP board, said: "I am proud that the MGSDP was a finalist in these prestigious awards. Being named among the finalists is recognition of the great work the MGSDP has done and is continuing to do and its commitment to delivering a strategic and co-ordinated approach to sustainable flood risk management."

Visit our website at www.mgsdp.org for more information on our work and previous briefing notes.

For additional information



www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk



www.clydegateway.com



www.scottishwater.co.uk



www.sepa.org.uk



www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk



www.glasgow.gov.uk

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