



# 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, Scottish Enterprise, Clyde Gateway and Scottish Canals 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.

## Successful partnership working: 10 years on

On 30 July 2002 Glasgow's average monthly rainfall fell in just 10 hours. This led to significant flooding as the ageing drainage systems struggled to cope with the extreme weather conditions.

Marking the 10 year anniversary of the Glasgow floods, which were the catalyst for the development of the MGSDP, we reflect on the achievements we've made by taking a co-ordinated and proactive approach to tackling our shared problems.



Image: July 2002, Ardgay-Street

### A leading model

By working across the seven local authority areas which make up metropolitan Glasgow, the MGSDP can tackle issues across the urban drainage system which includes a complex network of sewer pipes, gullies, burns and culverts.

As members of the MGSDP we work together towards the shared, common objectives of reducing flood risk, improving the quality of our river water, contributing to economic development, improving the natural environment and integrating investment planning.

### Making a difference in metropolitan Glasgow

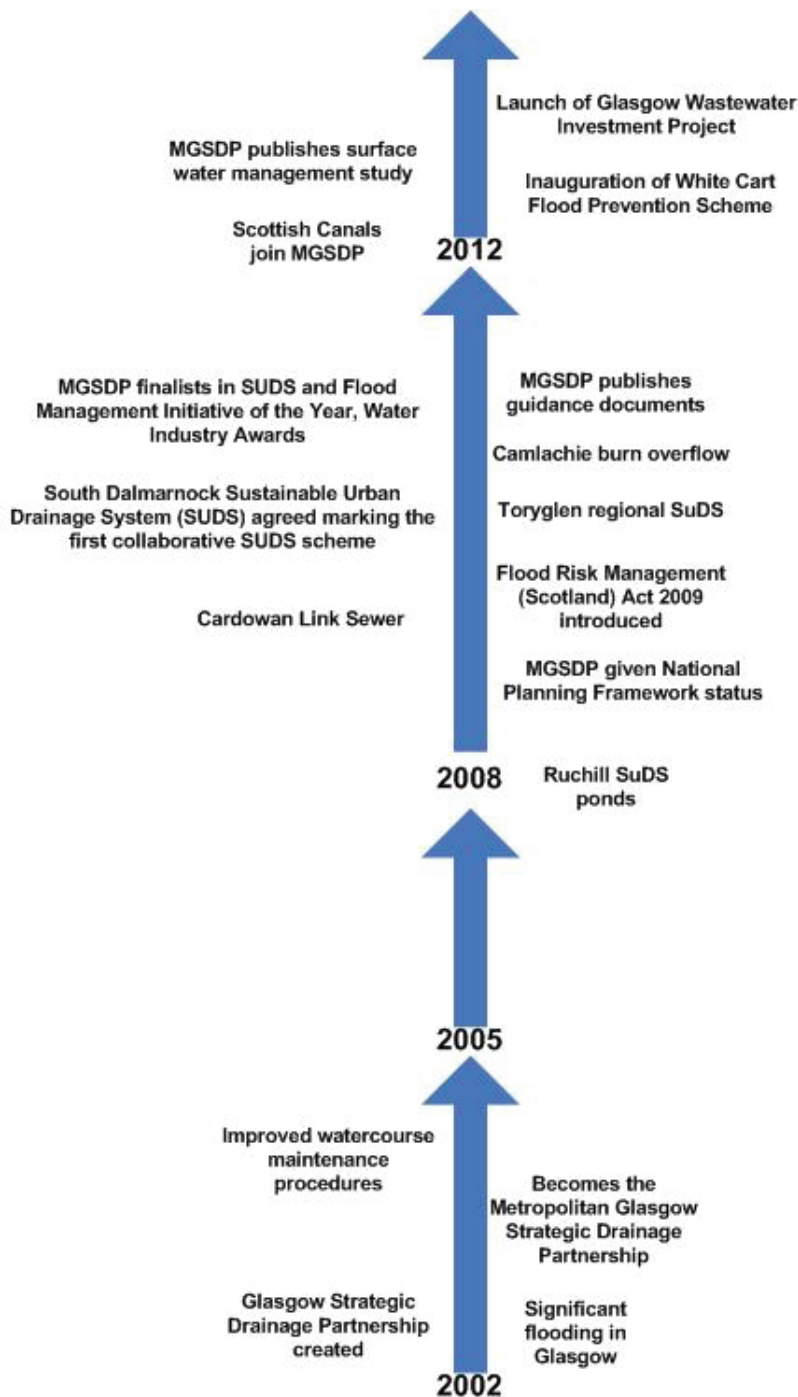
By working together and investing in major projects, the MGSDP has helped to contribute to economic growth, improve river water quality and reduce the impacts of flooding on our communities. In particular, the MGSDP has helped to:

- ✓ Significantly reduce the risk of flooding to 7000 properties.
- ✓ Protect hundreds of homes and businesses in the south side of Glasgow through the White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme.
- ✓ Improve and protect environmental water quality by investing over £40 million in combined sewer overflows and replacing lengths of sewers.



Image: Implementation of White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme

# MGSDP: Working together to tackle drainage and sewerage problems



Throughout our 10 year history the MGSDP has made significant achievements towards managing drainage and sewer problems across the greater Glasgow area by advancing our knowledge of the problems, creating new partnerships and developing new ways to tackle our shared problems.

## National Planning Framework status

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is a strategy for Scotland's long-term spatial and economic development. Early in 2008, the NPF process initially identified the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games infrastructure, Clyde Gateway and the MGSDP as three essential national developments that would be required for Scotland's future, highlighting the importance of the MGSDP in a national context.

## White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme

As Scotland's largest flood prevention scheme, the White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme has reduced potential flood damage by over £100 million by helping to protect 6700 homes and business from the impacts of flooding. The scheme also aims to enhance Glasgow's biodiversity and wildlife habitat by creating an area the equivalent of 15 football pitches of rich and diverse wetland. The White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme has been a success story, recognised by the British Construction Industry in winning the Environment Category Award 2012. The scheme has also won a Commendation in the 2011 Saltire Awards and the Flood Risk Management Category of the 2012 Waterways Renaissance Awards.

## MGSDP produces guidance documents to support Scottish Government

The MGSDP, through the work of their Project Management Office consisting of industry-leading technical experts, produced a suite of guidance documents which together, provide a robust framework for existing practices to be used in a way that produces consistent data and enables fair comparison of projects. The guidance, Carbon Accounting Guidelines, Cost Estimating Guidelines and Climate Change Technical Guidance was used by the Scottish Government to inform their guidance on flood management projects.

## Glasgow Surface Water Management Study

The Glasgow Surface Water Management Study (GSWMS), a project which was procured by Scottish Water on behalf of the MGSDP, provides strategic direction to drainage improvements across the metropolitan Glasgow area so that the most sustainable choices are made between managing surface water at source, improving sewerage capacity, improving watercourse capacity and managing surface water above ground in different parts of the area. The outputs of this study will provide a valuable resource for the development of Surface Water Management Plans in Glasgow and for drainage projects generally.





# Our vision for the future

**The MGSDP has begun work on its 50 year vision to transform how the city region thinks about and manages rainfall to end uncontrolled flooding and improve water quality.**

This 2060 vision comes on the 10 year anniversary of the MGSDP following the devastating floods of 2002 in the east end of Glasgow.

It is hoped that it will help provide the MGSDP with the flexibility to respond to other changes in the city region, which has been recognised as being important by the Future Glasgow report “A 50 Year Vision for the Future”.

The vision will be realised through partnership working shaped by the following guiding principles:

- **Enhancement of our urban landscape**
- **Reconnection to our waterways**
- **Design for the severity of the rain**
- **Presumption that water will be kept on the surface**
- **Creation of an integrated network of blue-green corridors**
- **Urban masterplanning**
- **Sustainable and affordable solutions**
- **Climate change ready**

Over the first 10 years of the MGSDP, a great deal of work has been carried out by the partners to understand and mitigate the effects of flooding on homes throughout the city, enable growth and improve the water quality of the River Clyde and its tributaries. But now, through the MGSDP renewed vision, we can create and plan for the needs of metropolitan Glasgow over the next 50 years.

The MGSDP will lead the planning for a surface water management network it hopes will meet the demands of climate change and be adaptable to the needs of the people living in and around the city of Glasgow.

Over the next 50 years, climate change is predicted to increase city’s vulnerability to increased rainfall intensity and storms. The MGSDP cannot prevent or completely eliminate floods but the partners believe that through this renewed vision, we can reduce the risk and impacts of flooding through proactive management of surface water and simultaneously deliver a number of additional benefits to residents and communities.

Visit our website at [www.mgsdp.org](http://www.mgsdp.org) for more information on our work and previous briefing notes.

For additional information



[www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk](http://www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk)



[www.scottishwater.co.uk](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk)



[www.clydegateway.com](http://www.clydegateway.com)



[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)



[www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)

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