

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

**LOCATION:** Microsoft Teams Meeting (due to Covid-19 Pandemic)

**DATE:** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Jun 2021



# Notes of Meeting

## Present:

Dr Philippa Whitford (PW)	MP for Central Ayrshire (Meeting Chair)
Siobhian Brown (SioB)	MSP for Ayr
Helen Moonie (HM)	Provost – South Ayrshire Council
Ian Cochrane (IC)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Margaret Toner (MT)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
Hugh Hunter (HH)	Councillor – South Ayrshire Council
John Park (JP)	Prestwick South Community Council
Sid Brierley (SidB)	P-RAAF
Alun Wheatley (AW)	P-RAAF
Kevin Braidwood (KB)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Scott Greig (SG)	Ayrshire Roads Alliance & SAC Flood Risk
Julie Nicol (JN)	Service Lead Planning and Building Standards
Neil Beveridge (NB)	Scottish Water Value & Benefits Team
Kieran Downey (KD)	Scottish Water Flooding Manager
Bill Elliot (BE)	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
Kenny Falconer (KF)	ARC Design Engineer
<b>Apologies:</b> Hugh Hunter (Councillor – South Ayrshire Council); Derek Hart (Prestwick North Community Council); Kris Elder (ARC Hydraulic Modeller)	

## ACTION LOG:

Item	Action	Owner
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
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

Item	Action	Owner
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
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
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
4	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

### Introduction

PW welcomed everyone to the meeting especially SioB and AW who were attending for the first time.

No comments were raised on minutes from the previous meeting and are considered to be a fair reflection of the discussions.

### Update on Actions from previous meeting

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

Item	Action	Owner	Update
1	Provide current Planning Department position on implementing green infrastructure and if there are any mechanisms to restrict creation of impermeable surfaces in areas such as driveways.	Julie Nicol	Local Development Plan is under review and Open Space Guidance is being expanded. Development Plan will promote need for new developments to support active travel, active play and sustainable drainage. Council can help with mitigations where they own land and this is being looked at through ground maintenance and streetscaping. Tree planting is also planned. Generally paving of driveways is permitted development and difficult to control. Best approach is to tackle at planning application stage and possible removal of permitted development. Article 4 can remove permitted development rights but is generally used for conservation areas and has never been used before for private driveways. Any change would require consultation with other local authorities and would need Scottish Government approval.
2	Provide response on potential funding for solution and whether	Kieran Downey	Formal response sent to PRAAF and copied to Philippa Whitford and John Scott.

	current Scottish Water cash at bank noted in public accounts could be utilised for Prestwick.		Further details on investment appraisals and funding approval will be presented as part of this meeting.
3	Confirm if flooding at Adamton Road will be reduced by proposed solution.	Fraser May	Proposed Solution does not reduce flooding at Adamton Road North. This is in the Pow Burn catchment area and reducing flooding would likely need an independent solution. Scottish Water are investigating this flooding issue further. Survey work planned.
4	Next Meeting of Stakeholder Group to be arranged for May/June 2021.	Bill Elliot	Complete. Meeting arranged for 25th June 2021

### Initial Discussion following Action Update

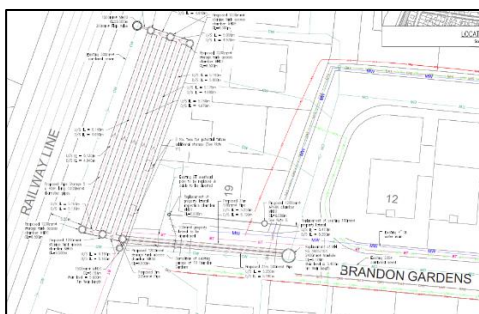
PW queried whether we could have public campaign on driveways rather than removing permitted development e.g. education via newspapers or local media. JN agreed that education to raise public awareness would be a good step to take.

### Update on Mitigations

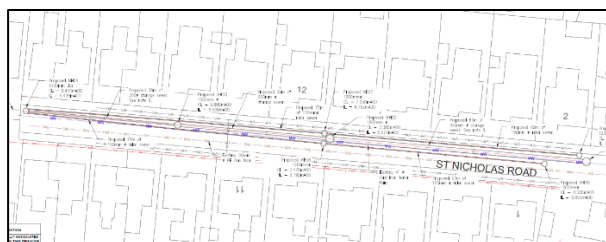
MH provided a brief update on construction work to install permanent storage in Brandon Gardens and upsize sewer in St Nicholas Road. ABV commenced construction January 2021 and originally expected to be on site for around 6 months (to July 2021). Work is taking longer than originally anticipated due to unforeseen circumstances and Scottish Water acknowledge concerns on rate of progress and the negative impact this has had on our customers. ABV is working to address any issues and minimise disruption. Current forecast is that work will be complete September 2021.

St Nicholas Road - 60m of pipeline still to install, as well as 2 manholes to construct.

Brandon Gardens - The pipe nest is at the final stage of construction. Manholes and pipelines in road still to be completed. This work programmed until August.



Storage in Brandon Gardens



Upsize sewer in St Nicholas Road

### Project Timeline

MH provided an update on the project timeline. Since last meeting in February costing of solution has been reviewed and updated in line with latest guidance. High level phasing assessment of solution has been undertaken to help with investment discussions. Details of solution have been put together for Flood Risk Management (FRM) Strategies submission to the council/ Government. This means the outputs from the study will be included with the national FRM Strategies going forward.

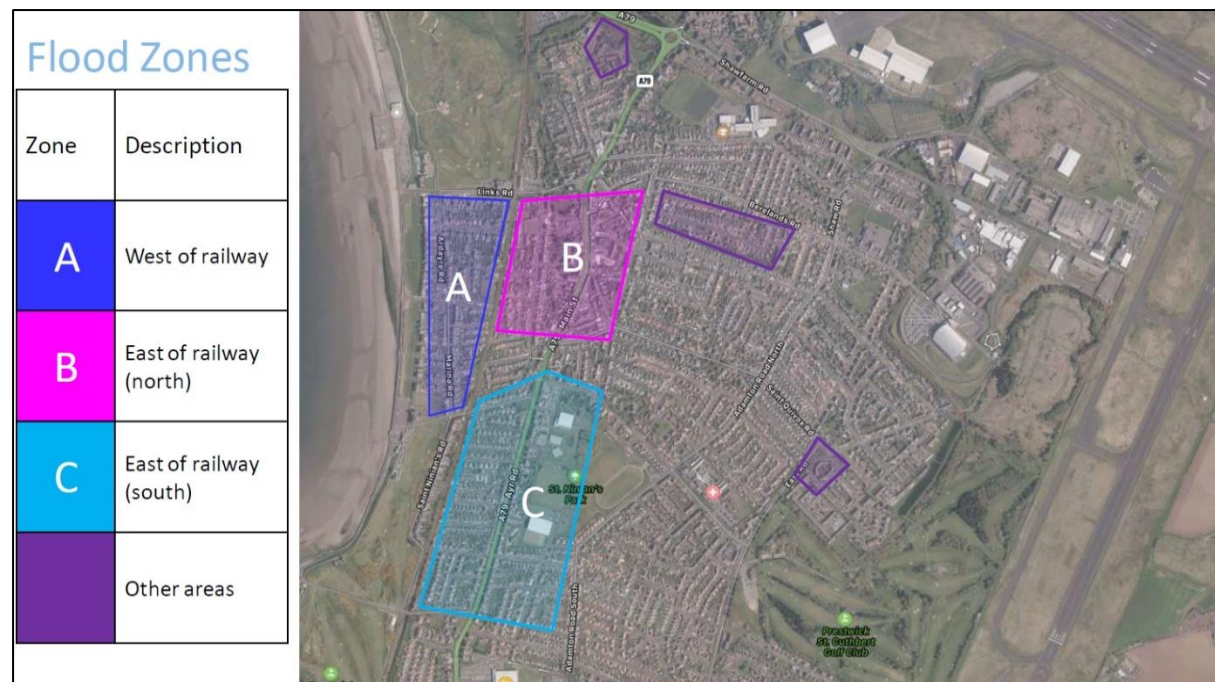
## Prestwick Strategic Study Current Timeline

	2019				2020												2021						
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Surveys																							
Flow Survey		★																					
Model Maintenance																							
Model Predictions/Hydraulic Review																							
Optioneering – Long List						★																	
Optioneering – Short List and additional assessments for Surface Water Management										★				★									
Costing of Options																							
Evaluation of interventions to form Preferred Solution																		★					
Prepare draft details of Preferred Solution for Flood Risk Management (FRM) Strategies submission																							
Discuss/Agree Preferred Solution with Stakeholders and final FRM Strategies submission																						★	

★ Proposed Stakeholder meetings

### The Existing Network

FM provided a recap on the existing sewer network and flooding zones.



SioB asked if there is flooding elsewhere. PW noted that flooding occurs due to heavy rainfall and doesn't happen all the time.

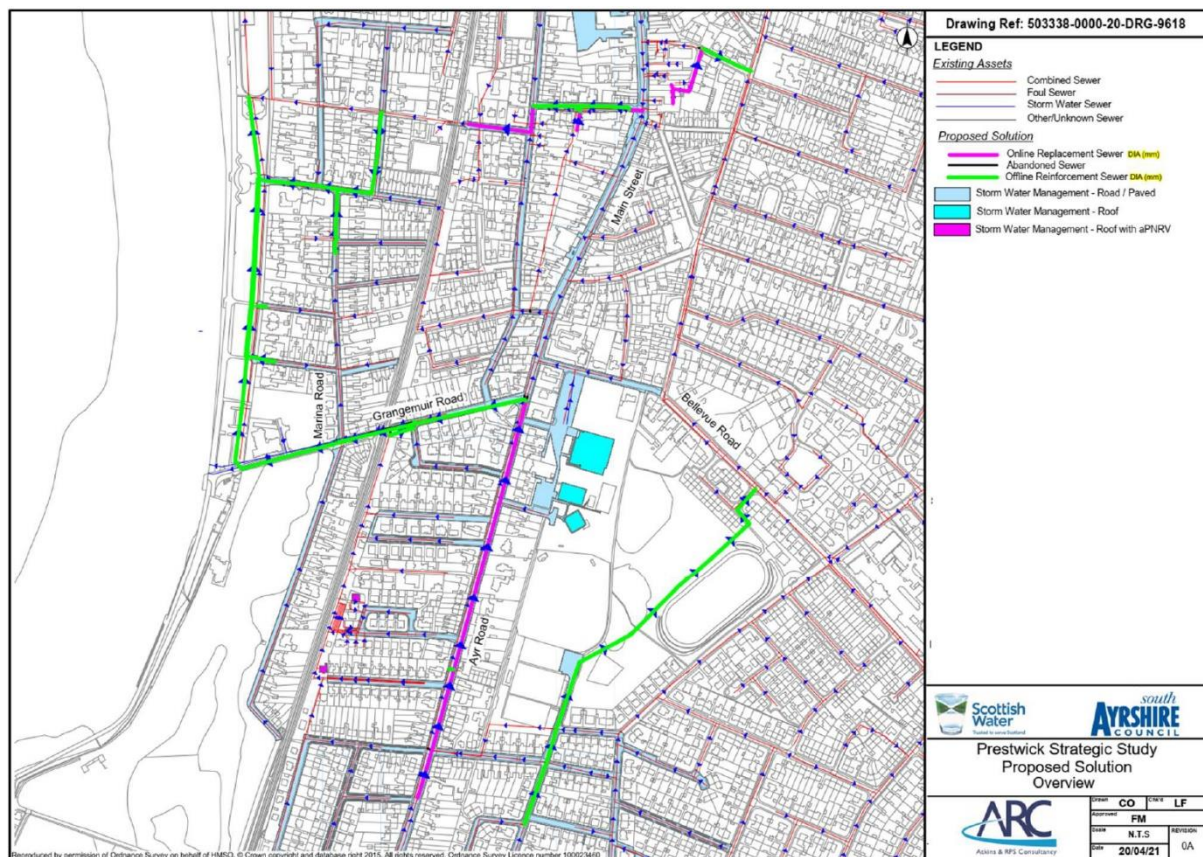
HM queried whether there are any discharges from the sewer network during dry weather. HM noted that this was previously the case before work was undertaken on the pumping station wet well. KD replied that the only discharges during dry weather should be immediately after wet weather when the system is full or in the case of a power or pump failure. FM noted that during the flow survey last year there was no indication of any spills during dry weather. HM acknowledged that wet well has been modified and the issue may have been fixed.



JP noted that there have been recent reports of sewage debris on the beach. FM asked if the locations were known. IC noted that it was directly in front of Queens Nursing Home and was thought to have been on a Sunday during good weather. KD asked if the date was known as this would help with investigating. IC did not know the exact date but PW suggested it may have been the first Sunday in June when the weather was sunny. PW also noted in Troon, sewage debris on the beach was previously found to have come from wrong connections rather than discharges from an overflow. Scottish Water will investigate to determine whether there were any discharges during dry weather. IC mentioned that South Ayrshire Council undertake a daily beach clean. IC will check with the team to find out if a date is known for sewage debris on beach.

### Review of the Preferred Solution

FM talked through drawings put together for the preferred solution.



### Pass Forward and Storage on Esplanade

Main item is large storage pipework on Esplanade but also new pipework in Allanvale Road, Marina Road and Burgh Road. Connections also made from Ailsa Street and Park Avenue. This new infrastructure provides capacity to accept greater flows from Zone B and Zone C.

### Pass forward from Zone B to Zone A and Transfer from Main St To Pow Burn Catchment

Looking to address flooding on Main Street, Midton Road and the lane that runs to the rear of properties on Midton Road. New parallel sewer on Kyle Street where there is expected to be enough room and upsized sewers replacing the existing ones on Bridge Street, Salisbury Place and Ladykirk Road where road is congested with other utilities.

IC noted that Ladykirk Road topography rises towards the east and drawing appears to show flow going uphill in that direction. FM explained the flow direction on drawing refers to the underground pipework rather than above ground flow. The underground pipework is able to fall to the sewer in

Caerlaverock Road which is deeper.

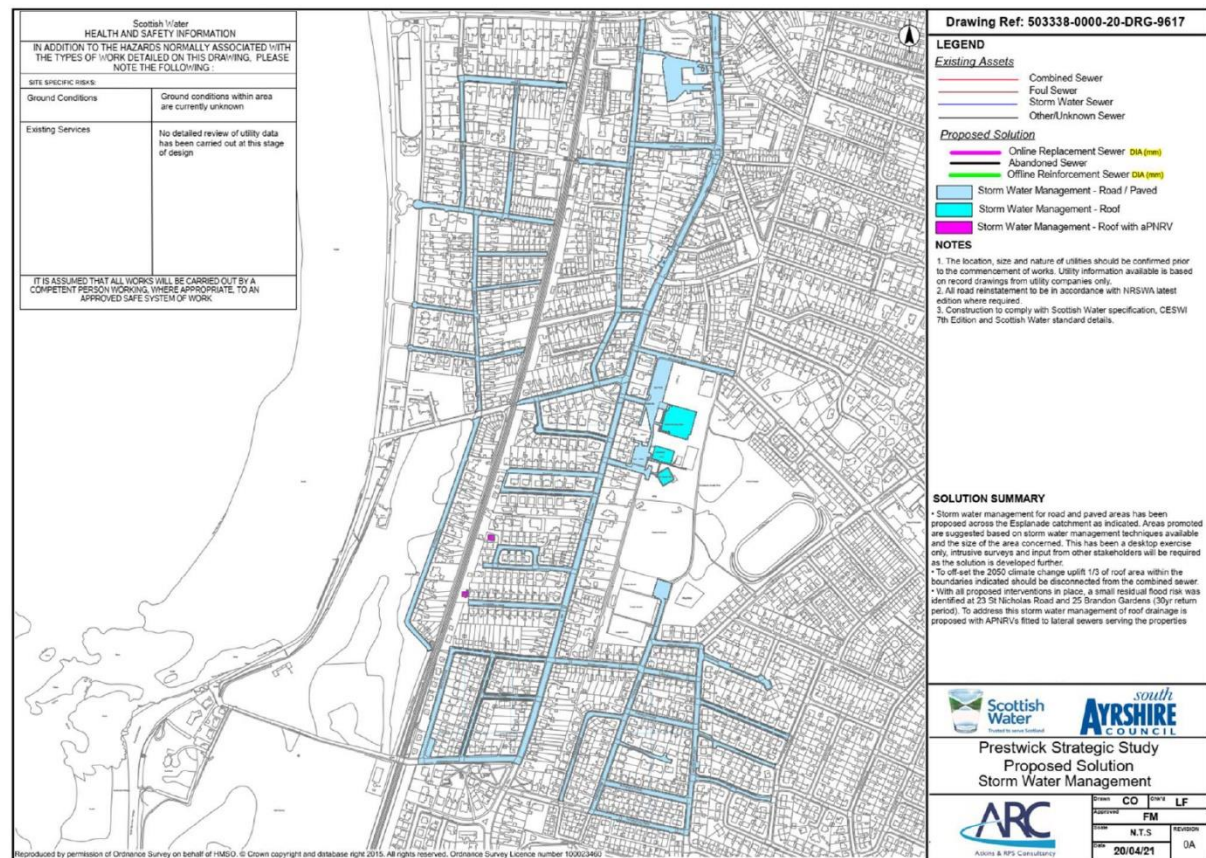
### Pass Forward from Zone C to Zone A

Main items are upsizing one of the existing sewers in Ayr Road and transferring flows to a new sewer in Grangemuir Road that will connect into the Esplanade Storage. Ayr Road is very congested with existing utilities and requires the sewer to be upsized as there is no space for a new sewer. The downstream end of the sewer alongside the railway would also be upsized and diverted into the Southpark Avenue sewer. Removal of a bifurcation in Bank Street is also required.

### Transfer to Pow Burn from Mansfield Road

New sewer through St Ninian's Park to take flow to Bellevue Road where there is spare capacity in the Pow Burn Catchment. Also new sewer in Mansfield Road.

### Inhibiting Surface Water



Areas identified across the whole town where inhibiting surface water will be required. This would involve removing or attenuating flows from selected roads and large roofs. Removal or attenuating surface water from residential properties will also be required to address increases due to climate change.

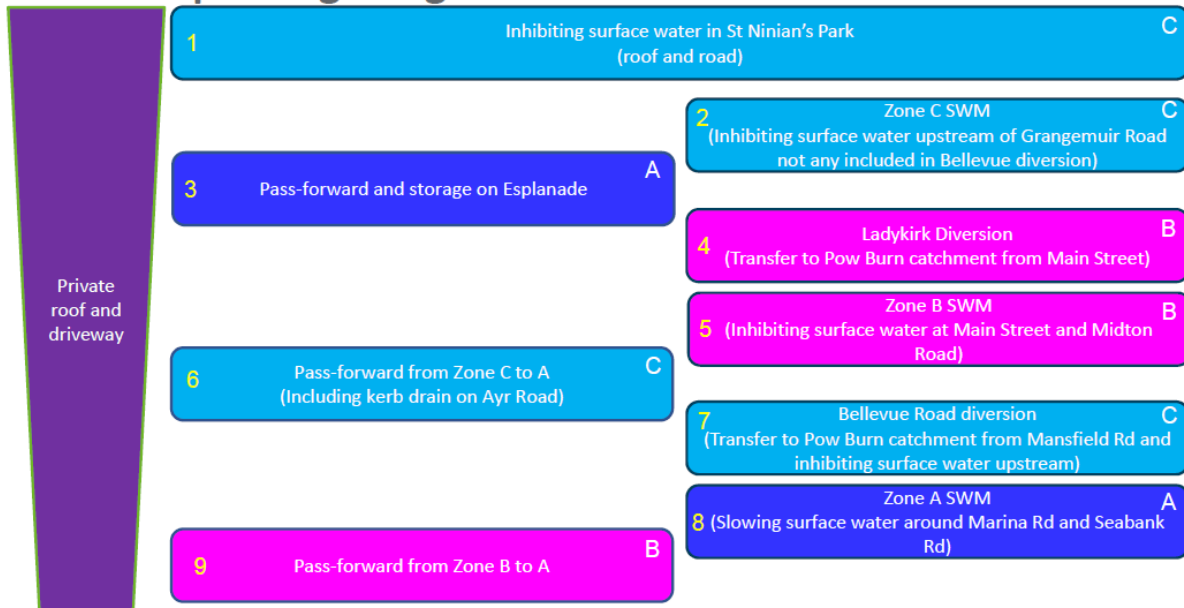
### Phasing of Solution

MH provided an overview of prioritisation following previous meeting where Zone C was rated the highest priority followed by Zone B then Zone A. It was noted that the Esplanade Storage in Zone A would need to be constructed before any flow could be passed forward from either Zone C or Zone B.

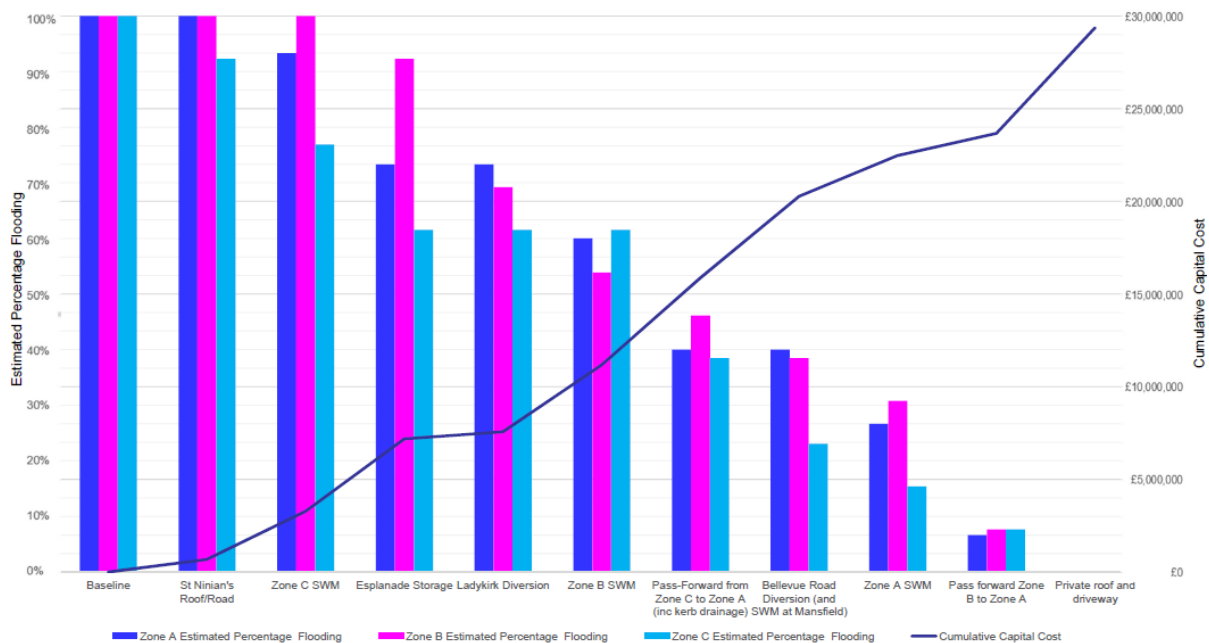
MH talked through one phasing scenario for the solution to show the indicative benefits over time. The Strategic Solution has been broken down into 10 phases with each element providing an

incremental reduction in flooding. There are some elements of the phasing that are hydraulically independent and could be constructed in any order. Scottish Water will use the information to build the business case for progressing the solution.

## Potential phasing of agreed shortlist



Prestwick Strategic Solution – Indicative Estimates of Phasing Benefits

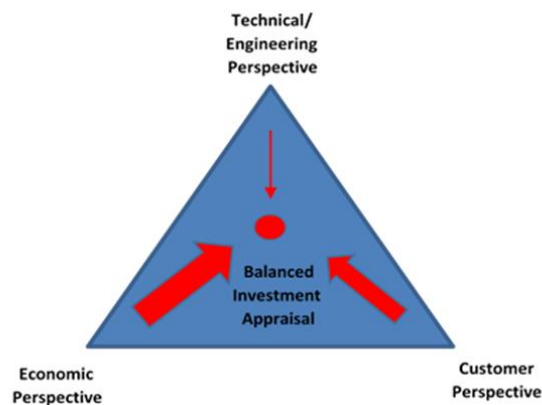


## Overview of Scottish Water's Investment Process

MH provided an overview of Scottish Water's Investment Process. Historically Scottish Water operated within each regulatory period with the budget constrained on meeting regulatory requirements. This resulted in a focus on technical and least-cost engineering solutions. Scottish Water has worked with their regulators to adapt the regulatory framework to allow for a balanced investment appraisal taking on board customer perspective as well as economic perspective and technical/engineering perspective. This will allow for wider benefits to be considered in investment

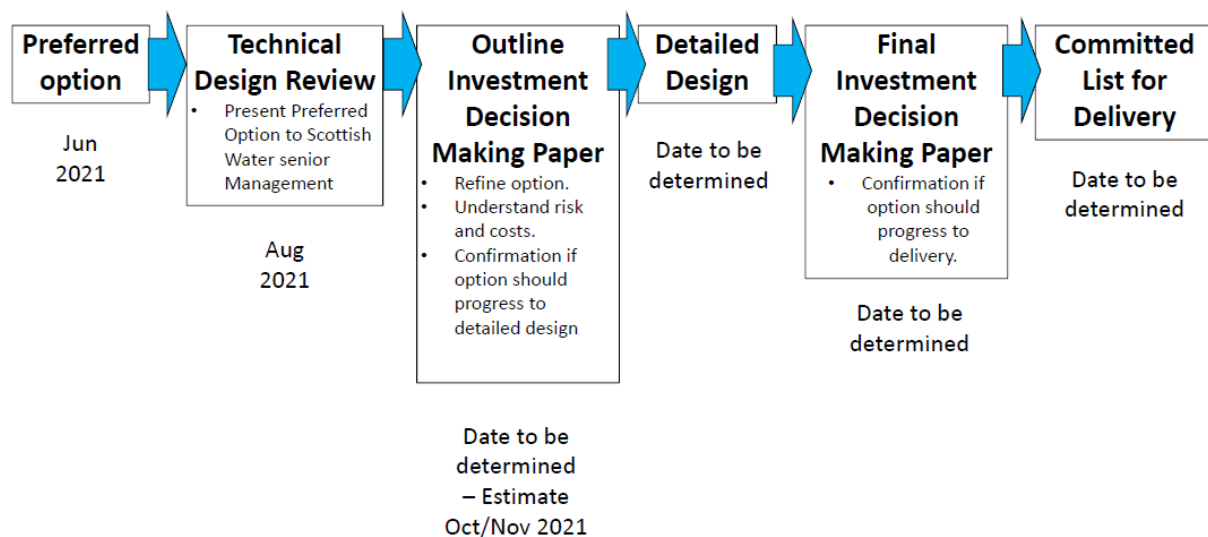


decisions and ensure investment is made in a way that maximises long-term value.



MH explained that once a solution has been identified it would be presented to Scottish Water’s Senior Management before preparation and submission of an Outline Investment Decision Making Paper. A decision would then be made on whether the solution would progress to detailed design. Upon completion of detailed design a Final Investment Decision Making Paper would then be prepared to allow a decision to be made on whether it would be added to the Committed Delivery List.

### What does this mean for the Prestwick Strategic Study?



MH noted that the current plan is to present the solution to Scottish Water’s Senior Management at a Technical Design Review in August. It is then forecast that the Outline Investment Decision Making Paper would be submitted in October or November. Future dates will be determined by the response to the Outline Investment Decision Making Paper. The intention is to provide an update to the Stakeholder Group once feedback is received on the Outline Investment Decision Making Paper. It is expected this would be around December time.

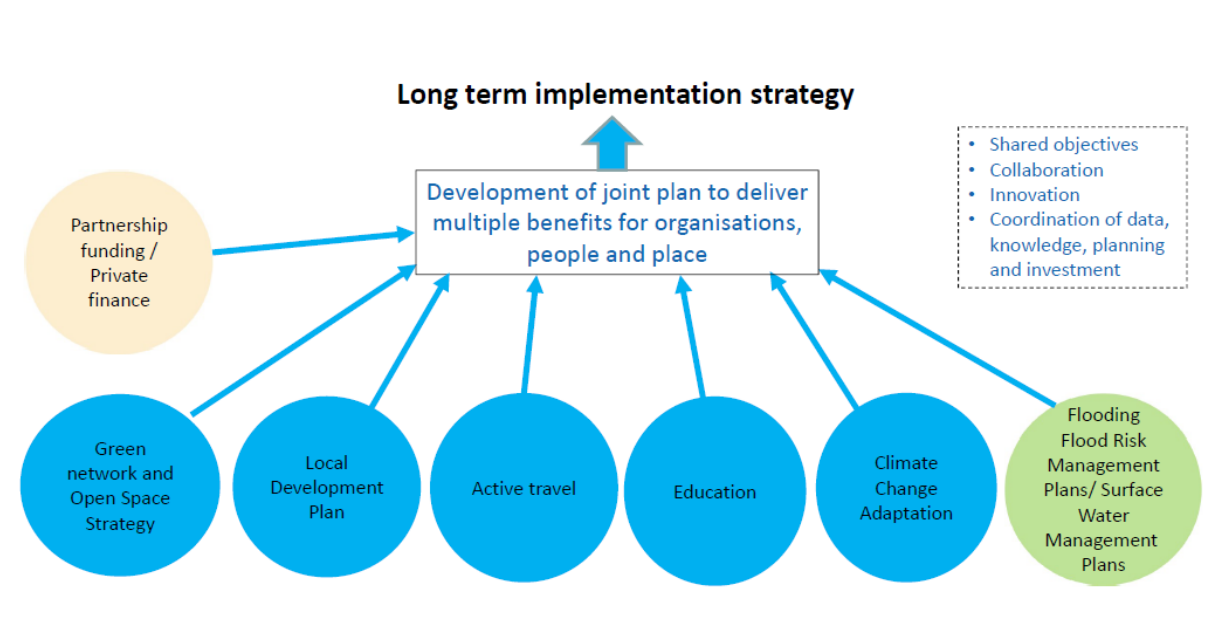
GV provided an overview of Flood Risk Management(FRM) Capital Grant Funding from the Scottish Government. This is funding for work not generally covered by the remit of Scottish Water such as river flooding or pluvial flooding. £42 million per year has already been allocated over a 10 year period from 2016 to 2026. There are two years worth of funding left for the period 2026 to 2028. GV noted that over 60 schemes proposed to be prioritised nationally for this funding and that historically this funding is not awarded to surface water management schemes. GV highlighted it is unlikely we will be able to attract any of this funding for Prestwick surface water management but



there are other potential funding opportunities available.

GV highlighted that opportunities for funding may be available from sources where we are able to demonstrate multiple benefits which require collaboration and deliver shared objectives. Some examples could be Placemaking, Active Travel, Climate Change Adaptation, Surface Water Management Plans. These will be investigated to establish if funding can be obtained to help with surface water management for Prestwick.

GV noted that Scottish Government have published a policy framework document titled Water Resilient Places and are keen to support the implementation of blue-green infrastructure. (Post Meeting Note: a copy of this document can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/water-resilient-places-policy-framework-surface-water-management-blue-green-infrastructure/> )



**Update on Surface Water Management Measures**

**Surface Water Management Pilot**

MH provided an update on the ongoing surface water management pilot. Trinity McQueen engaged with residents, businesses and stakeholders during March to discuss Surface Water Management/Blue-Green Solutions and get views on what these would mean for Prestwick. Three different Blue Green solution types which included both communal solutions and residential property level solutions were tested with residents and businesses.

Porous driveways	Rain planters and ponds	Communal solutions
		
		

Generally the feedback on Blue Green solution is that they need to feel relevant and fit with lifestyles, homes and businesses. Customers felt they would need to understand why they should adopt. The feedback on porous driveways is that porous bitumen/porous blocks would be preferred. Concerns with gravel driveways around weeding and grass driveways considered high maintenance. People were generally more receptive to rain planters and ponds as long as they were in keeping with their property. Communal solutions were widely accepted as felt there would be no requirement for individuals to maintain.

Generally the biggest barriers to adoption of surface water management measures would be cost, maintenance and aesthetics. Scottish Water will continue with the surface water management pilot to promote and hopefully implement measures. MH shared a visualisation of what a typical house could look like if surface water management measures were implemented.



PW asked if there should be education to promote the uptake of surface water management measures. MH replied that Scottish Water are looking to provide education as part of the Prestwick



pilot with the intention this would eventually be rolled out nationwide. KD noted that a collaborative approach would be required also involving Scottish Government, Local Authorities and the Public. GV noted that Scottish Government are keen to support national co-ordinated communications and that this is a recommendation from the Water Resilient Places policy framework document.

JN noted we need good examples of surface water management to share with developers and help collaboration with them. JN also noted that South Ayrshire Council are willing to collaborate on surface water management and there are opportunities to implement this as part of sustainable development partnerships.

PW noted that educating the public is important as surface area for residential roofs is far greater than the surface area of any buildings under public control. HM highlighted there is a significant cumulative effect of single houses acting on their own and combining to increase surface water runoff in Prestwick. HM noted there is an ongoing issue with paving of driveways and there is currently no mechanism to stop this. HM feels that public bodies can lead by example but individuals also need to take responsibility. PW noted there is a general lack of knowledge of among the general public and people are unaware of the impact of paving driveways on surface water runoff.

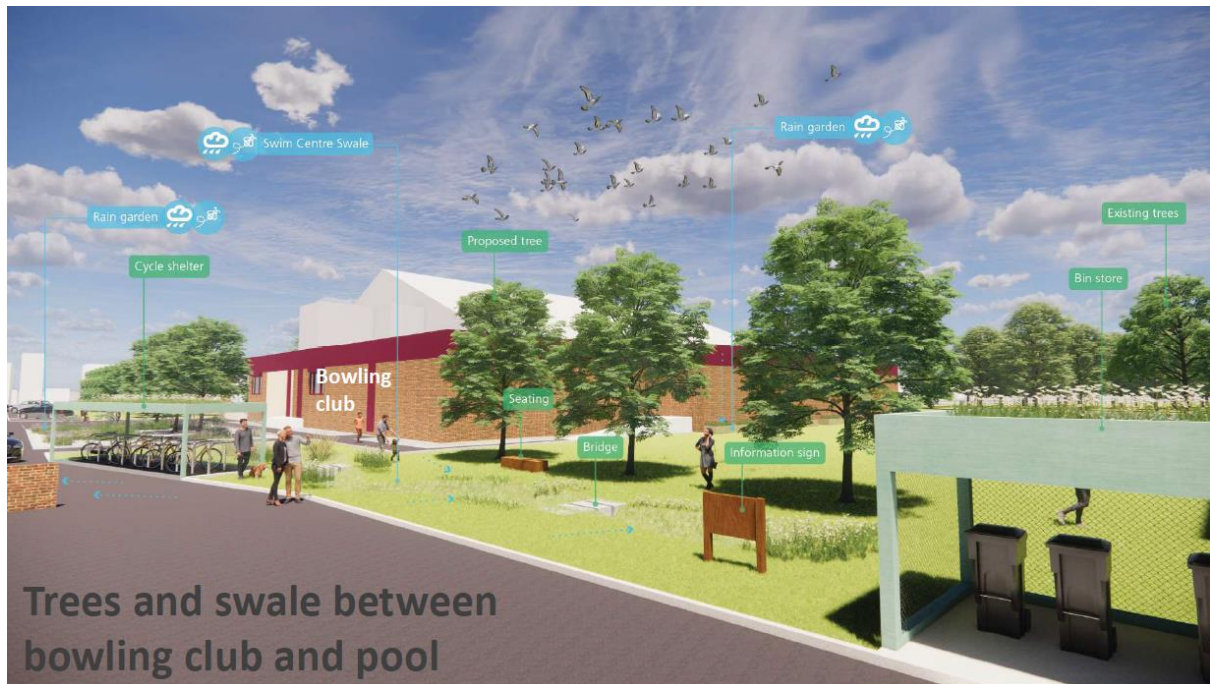
### **Opportunities in St Ninian's Park**

FM talked through the ideas that have been developed for surface water management in St Ninian's Park which include separating/attenuating surface water from large roofs and the car park. These have been developed together with ARC landscape architects and initial ideas have been shared with groups in South Ayrshire Council together with the Ambassador Bowling Club.



FM explained the measures in St Ninian's Park help reduce surface water getting into the combined

sewer and also reduces surface water flowing overland to Ayr Road. This will help reduce flood risk on Ayr Road and adjoining streets. FM shared some of the visualisations prepared for this.



SidB noted that funding needs to be secured for the wider scheme and asked whether work in St Ninian's Park would be funded separately. MH replied that we are looking to undertake the work in St Ninian's Park as early as possible and are investigating funding mechanisms for this. PW asked if South Ayrshire Council could help fund. JN replied that there is an opportunity for Placemaking funding particularly if we can demonstrate partnership working and multiple benefits.

### Opportunities across Prestwick

FM discussed other opportunities across Prestwick to manage surface water. A couple of the most prominent opportunities identified in the strategic solution is (1) the car park behind B&M Store and (2) the road carriageway in Main Street. Other non-residential areas highlighted include (3) Station



car park and (4) Prestwick Community Centre.



PW summarised that the main issue is the speed at which surface water gets into the drainage system which can result in flooding during intense rainfall. PW asked if there was any update on the speed tables and if there was any notable difference on flood reduction since they were installed. SidB reported that there has been no major flooding experienced since they were installed. SidB noted that there has been no 'monsoon' type rain during that time. SidB also noted that there had been no objections from locals on installation of speed tables. PW noted that they may not have been fully tested. FM agreed there may not have been any major storms in the area since they were installed.

IC noted that flood water at railway station bridge was previously tested and found to be due to high water table. PW noted that in Troon the high water table manifests itself in flooding of fields and that we need to consider where we are taking any water too.

## Discussion

SidB asked if Scottish Water funding would be available to take forward the findings of the Strategic Study. KD outlined that it would go through Scottish Water's Investment Appraisal Process to determine if funding can be allocated. KD noted that around £200m has been allocated by Scottish Water for flooding projects across the whole of Scotland in the next six years. KD thinks it is unlikely we will get £30m for Prestwick but the hope is we will get some money to take forward the findings from the Strategic Study. KD also noted that some measures could be implemented in partnership with South Ayrshire Council if other funding sources can be obtained.

SidB asked if MP, MSP and Councillors could press South Ayrshire Council to get funding as well as pressing Scottish Water. PW replied that MP, MSP, Councillors, South Ayrshire Council, Scottish Water were all engaged to progress this and there is no wish to see the work and progress wasted. PW noted that all parties would have to fight to secure funding. SidB noted she would work at Government level to push this forward.

SidB highlighted that education was critical for the management of surface water and this would need to be done nationally as well as locally. SidB asked if there was any opportunity for South Ayrshire Council to include a leaflet promoting surface water management as part of annual council tax notices. JN will discuss this at South Ayrshire Council's Member Officer Working Group.

SidB asked if upgrade of the sewer along the east of the railway from Maryborough Road to

Grangemuir Road can be added to the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. MH noted the strategic solution has been developed so reduce load on this sewer so that it does not need to be upsized. KD suggested that Scottish Water meet with SidB to discuss the sewer east of the railway rather than adding to the agenda of the next meeting. Scottish Water will arrange this in conjunction with SidB.

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

- 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.
- IC to 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.
- JN to 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.
- 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.
- Scottish Water to meet with PRAAF to discuss sewer that runs along east side of railway between Maryborough Road and Grangemuir Road.
- Next Meeting of Stakeholder Group to be arranged after submission of Scottish Water's Outline Investment Decision Making Paper (forecast to be December 2021)
- PW brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.