
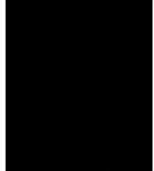







Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme – Schedule and Summary of General Representations

No.	Name	Address	Summary
G1		The Merrick, Creebridge, Newton Stewart, DG8 6NR	Restricted access to Creebridge properties. Health & Safety issues.
G2		19 Arthur Street, Newton Stewart	Property never flooded. Town flooding caused by single wall collapsing. No maintenance to drains. 1 in 200 not needed, Lack of detail on plans. Waste of Money. Adverse effect on views. Clean out river & debris. Restricting flows will damage Cree Bridge. Adverse effect on fishing.
G3 & G4		Villa Cree, Creebridge, Newton Stewart, DG8 6NR	Wall model is vastly over exaggerated and will be a life-threatening eyesore. Anglers will be trapped if river rises and a danger to life. Will be an ugly, dirty, neglected eyesore. Property protection only needed to a handful of houses. Money better spent elsewhere. Wall of 2.8m is ludicrous and dangerous. There should be a petition to get a balanced view of whether the Scheme is needed. Repair of the damaged wall and resiting of Sparling Bridge has already solved problem. Compensation needed for loss of views. Adverse effect on fishing.
G5 & G6		Waterside, Old Minnigaff, Newton Stewart, DG8 6PX	This is a representation asking for consideration to be given to having either a continuous wall, or embankment, adjacent to property (changes from one to the other at present).
G7		16 Duncree Terrace, Newton Stewart, DG8 5DG	Flooding was as a result of inadequate infrastructure. Rebuilt wall and re-siting of Sparling Bridge has taken away enough of the risk. Scheme too extensive than needed. Construction will cause disruption to businesses and be costly.

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			<p>Loss of town appeal for shoppers & tourists. Money better spent on improving town centre, roads, commercial & residential sites etc.</p>
G8	[REDACTED]	Gairland, Old Edinburgh Road, Minnigaff, Newton Stewart DG8 6PL	<p>This is a representation and offers advice on the species on the Cree such as bats, otters, birds and reptiles. Amendment (further email 12 June) Flood Management Preferred Option & Economics Appraisal. I note with horror sect 1.4 Geomorphology and Tree Loss P13 the proposal to remove and estimated 550 trees. Which I find absolutely appalling. Surely the carbon footprint of this project coupled with the removal of 550 trees at this time of Global Crisis is abhorrent and to be strongly discouraged. Have the designers looked at removing flood banks north of the town to fully re-instate the old flood plains. These banks stretch from Boreland farm, include the Wood of Cree, Larg Farm, Brighton and the Holm Farm. This would considerably increase the holding capacity of flood plains north of the town and removing the banks south of the town would also alleviate the surge tide effect and should at least be fully considered.</p>
G9	[REDACTED]	Oak cottage Mochrum Park Kirkcowan Newton Stewart DG8 0BX	<p>Mr Haley has Salmon fishing rights from the East Bank (SSSI) downstream. Scheme could negatively impact many people living near the river, businesses and angler's interests. Town only flooded when wall collapsed. All that is needed is strengthening and increasing height of this wall along to Aldi's. Some of the trees & gravel needs removing. Concrete structure in river (back of Home Hardware) needs removing to improve flows. Less forestry and restoration of bogs and peatlands. Use temporary barriers – a well drilled flood prevention team could install these in a few hours. Gates will be needed to access. Extreme care needed for Salmon – spawning gravel and pools. Open up flood plains and compensate farmers. Only a few gabion baskets are needed (20 metres) to fix the riverbank. Bottom line – collapse of old wall caused the town to flood and a stronger wall from the Weir to Aldi will be 98% of the solution.</p>
G10	[REDACTED]	Ivy Bank Creebridge Newton Stewart DG8 6PQ	<p>Wall will restrict daylight into property. Restricted access to river garden frontage for maintenance etc. Effect on recreational use and fishing. Loss of mature oak trees and beech hedge. Affect privacy. Loss of land/value of property.</p>
G11	[REDACTED]	Gairland Old Edinburgh Road	<p>Deep concern regarding the removal of trees and other forms of habitat. Natural environment has to pay the price for the benefit of a few humans.</p>


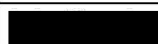

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		Old Minnigaff Newton Stewart DG8 6PL.	<p>Trees more essential than ever given the decline in bird, bat and insect populations due to man's interventions, including the exacerbation of climate change, to be axed to make way for man-made structures yet again. Urbanisation at a huge cost to flora and fauna yet one of the best natural flood and erosion preventers are trees. The preferred option indicates a pretty large removal of existing trees with their replacement and landscaping at an estimated cost of £60,000 when most of the existing trees are an invaluable, developed habitat with an anchoring effect of their root systems.</p> <p>Any replacements (if absolutely necessary) should be native broad-leaf and close scrutiny of any work an ongoing process as there is no opportunity, in such a natural environment, to rectify the damage that can be done by carelessness, after it's been done.</p>
G12 & G13		Flowerbank Guesthouse Millcroft Rd Minnigaff DG86PJ	<p>Due to the lack of detail presented regarding the proposed wall (height, position, and material construction) we are expressing our concerns. We have approximately 90 metres of river frontage and as such our house is the most affected in Newton Stewart/Minnigaff.</p> <p>Our main concerns are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Material construction and position of the wall. 2. Accessibility of the river for Guesthouse clientele and ourselves. We have certain fishing rights and many guests choose to step down into the water for various activities. 3. We have a minimum of 15 trees on the riverbank, all of which are protected by a conservation order. No details regarding these trees have been made available. 4. There is no detail in the proposal regarding maintenance of both sides of the wall and bank. 5. We are very concerned regarding the effect of the wall on our business. Guests enjoy sitting on the riverbank. It is important that we maintain the views which draw them to Minnigaff. <p>We look forward to being fully informed by the Management Team as and when more information and details become available.</p>
G14		Torfoot, Silver Street Creetown Nr Newton Stewart Dumfries & Galloway DG8 7HU	<p>I would like to strongly object to the proposed Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme. The Scheme will only benefit a small number of people and property owners. It will totally destroy the aesthetic appeal of the town and drive away tourists and visitors to the area who will then go elsewhere.</p> <p>This in turn will start an economic downturn to the area. It will affect every type of accommodation provider. Hotels and caravan sites etc. This in turn will obviously affect the turnover in all the local shops as well. People believe that to raise the height of existing walls slightly plus a few strategically placed additions would be adequate.</p> <p>I would also like to point out to you that this Scheme would have a vastly destructive effect on the banks of the river Cree and the riverbed. This will ruin angling in the area for Brown Trout, Sea Trout and Salmon. This would add to the economic downturn of the area as well as destroying the habitat and spawning areas for several native fish species.</p> <p>Let me make it clear to you that the Atlantic Salmon is now a declining and</p>


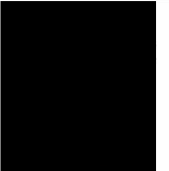

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			<p>threatened species which is protected by law. Vast amounts of work have been carried out locally to try to increase the numbers of these fish and to improve their habitat at no small investment of both time and money to those involved. Lampreys are also in decline and are a threatened species which are present in the river Cree. Sparlings are a declining and threatened species found in the river Cree as is the European Eel. Both of these are protected by law. It is very probably illegal to adversely affect or destroy the habitat or spawning areas of all these fish. The proposed Scheme would undoubtedly do this.</p> <p>If you were to actively ask people living in the Newton Stewart area, then you would find that very few want this Scheme to go ahead. Please do not destroy the ecology of the river Cree.</p>
G15	[REDACTED]	Torfoot, Silver Street Creetown Nr Newton Stewart Dumfries & Galloway DG8 7HU	<p>I should like to raise an objection to the flood protection proposed plans for the river Cree.</p> <p>In the interest of conservation of endangered species in the Cree these proposals are totally unacceptable.</p> <p>In the interests of safety what if a fisherman is fishing and it floods, they would not be able to get out.</p> <p>The plans do not take into consideration the social and economic impact on the town. Many visitors come to Newton Stewart, the sight of large stone walls and ugly screens blocking the lovely views, the ability to sit and have lunch by the river no longer an option is hardly inviting the visitors to come back.</p> <p>In these times of a cost-of-living crisis can spending this vast amount of money be justified, whilst children are hungry and nurses are using food banks, surely this money should be diverted to those in the area who need it far more than diverting a flood that happens occasionally.</p> <p>Please reconsider this decision and listen to the many reasons not to do this.</p>
G16	[REDACTED]	Mill Cottage Mill croft Road Newton Stewart DG8 6PJ	<p>I am writing to you as the owner and occupier of the above property.</p> <p>I object to the proposal to build an embankment / wall across the back of my garden, taking out an 8mts strip across its width of my property adjacent to the Penkiln Burn.</p> <p>This will destroy a natural wood land area I have created nurtured and planted since my family have been resident here. It will mean the loss and damage to many trees and woodland bulbs and bee nesting sites we have encouraged over the years.</p> <p>As well as adjacent to my property and this area is Meal Mill, which is inhabited with bats and includes special nesting boxes for them put in after its recent restoration of the building. My garden area here acts as a feeding ground for them and has been monitored by RSB for species type for which there are many.</p> <p>The Cree is the wildlife corridor for the wood of Cregan with many nesting sites and mammal life along it's banks. The destruction caused by these construction activities as well as its carbon footprint is unacceptable when the solution requires less evasive work up river where old flood plains should be restored.</p> <p>Compensation due for my loss of land will not make up for the destruction of the biosphere and who will be responsible for maintaining it / upkeep of this bank / wall? I will also be losing the fencing I have bordering my ground to keep the deer out from destroying my garden and vegetable patch.</p>
G17	[REDACTED]	6 Manse Lane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • objecting to the currently proposed scheme on the grounds that no provision has been made to protect my property which was flooded directly with river water in 2015.



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		Burntisland, Fife KY3 0BJ – RE Tudor Cree, King Street, Newton Stewart DG8 6DQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • barrier along the opposing bank of the river which will under flood conditions exacerbate the impact of flooding to my property
G18		Moorpark of Barr Newton Stewart DG8 6QE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No account taken of likely impacts on various natural aquatic habitats. Bound to have numerous impacts on the life in river, particularly salmon and freshwater mussels. Unintended disturbance to the riverbed and contamination of the water are likely during construction phase. Full riparian EIA should be carried out. 2. A walled in, glazed in, canal in the centre of the town could easily destroy the appeal of the place. The final detailed FPS plans need to be presented to everyone and comprehensive attitude survey of both residents and visitors undertaken. . . the fifty odd people who could be bothered to fill out the initial questionnaire . . . do not necessarily represent those of the many who will be detrimentally affected by the scheme. 3. The Main Street of Newton Stewart is slowly becoming derelict. If the council has £10 or £15 million to invest in the town it would be best spent renovating . . . the town. . . no point building flood defences for 1 in 200-year floods which can only affect a handful of properties.
G19		Woodrow Bank, Creebridge, Minnigaff, Newton Stewart DG86NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the scale, scope and cost of the scheme. In particular defences proposed for SE of Cree Bridge. Dec 2015 flood caused minimal damage to one property in this area and yet the proposed scheme hard defence up to 2m in height. • In April and Nov 2015 Kaya Consulting produced a report, with an Addendum following Dec 2015 flooding dated May 2017 - reports easy to understand and findings and proposed solutions appeared to be fair and reasonable. cannot find reference to that report being considered by the Council, or why the Council appeared to ignore this report and subsequently commissioned SWECO to produce a second report. What was the reason for that? Is it recorded within Council minutes? • Sweco report was exhaustive and examined a number of options, the Kaya report came up with pretty much the same conclusion, albeit with a lower level of protection. . . they seemed to be suggesting minimal works on the NW side of the Bridge of Cree, property level protection on NE bank, a wall on Riverside Road on SW bank and nothing on SE (Creebridge) side. They also suggested building a new wall on the road side of the existing wall along Riverside Road and making this road one way to compensate for the narrowing of the road. Seems to be a cheaper engineering option. • The costs and benefits as identified in both reports seemed to differ substantially with Kaya suggesting 1 in 200 year unlikely to be economically viable and unlikely to attract grant aid from the Scottish Government. One estimated cost was £25.8M (2016 figures) for a scheme perceived to be less substantial than that proposed by SWECO. . . given the present economic climate asking Scottish taxpayers to fund the scheme seems to me to be quite shameful. • I believe if D&G Council had repaired, strengthened and perhaps lengthened the wall alongside Riverside Road in the years prior to 2015 we would not be going through this process now. . . . flood damage in Victoria

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			<p>Street would probably have been quite minimal and the Kaya reports of 2015 possibly enacted upon. The consultation process, whilst following the protocol dictated by Government, was less than effective. The commercial property and house holders directly affected should have been much more directly involved in the process. The Regulations dictate that the Community should be heavily involved in whether a scheme goes ahead or not, and I do not believe that the part of the community most affected have been involved as much as they should have been. The 100 or so commercial and residential properties most at risk should have been much more involved than the wider community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FPS need improving, too extensive and costly currently. A smaller, more cost-effective FPS along the findings of the Kaya report should be revisited, ie minimal works NW of Bridge, property level protection NE bank of Bridge, wall on SW side (not 2metres in height, visual impact) and no measures need on SE side, other than perhaps individual mitigation measures should any householder request it. • Own property would be directly affected, albeit quite minimally, by the Scheme. The relevant land is the front garden of my property proposes embankment is to build on the land as part operations.
G20		Garden Cottage, Millcroft Road, Minnigaff, Newton Stewart, DG86PJ	<p>do not believe scheme will help or benefit the town of Newton Stewart with regards to Tourism or Wildlife Conservation and think less intrusive flood prevention ideas could be explored further upstream and possibly less expensive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wildlife corridor is definitely going to be massively affected. We have resident wildlife at the bottom of our garden • Tourism - why would people want to visit anymore? • The river - the walking on either side are one of the main things I see people doing when they get here. If it aesthetically ugly, why bother coming here? • Fishing - how will the locals be able to to do this? <p>I am not in favour at all. Also, you are asking the households directly affected but do not seem to have asked any other residents of Newton Stewart who may have valid opinions on how it would affect the whole look and ethos of the town.</p>
G21		Holmpark Holiday Cottages Holmpark Farm Minnigaff Newton Stewart DG8 6NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual impact on property • Disruption to Business • Loss of use of our land located along the banks of the river cree • Loss of land use in our field • Loss of soft landscaping and trees on the banks of river cree • Loss of access to river cree and Banks
G22		Hawthorn Cottage Old Edinburgh Road Newton Stewart DG8 6PL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removal of trees . . . will destroy an irreplaceable ecosystem which supports a wide range of animals and is invaluable recreational amenity for residents and visitors. • visual impact will be a disaster.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • area is key link in the chain of native woodland created by the Millenium "From Source to Sea" project, started by the RSPB in 2000 to create a corridor of native woodland the length of the river. • understand necessity of FPS but urge more far-sighted approach upstream.
G23		Tigh Na Cree, Creebridge, Newton Stewart DG8 6NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous flooding was caused by the rising river reaching above deck level of the Sparling, causing obstruction to the river flow. • Sparling bridge re-built to remove the previous damming properties. • Wall being built near the bend by the Villa Cree would cause restriction of access and obstruction to vehicles could potentially prohibit emergency vehicles from gaining access to the properties along the road from Villa Cree to Sparling Bridge area. • Potential height of wall (up to 2m) would detract from the natural environment for fishermen, withdrawing current easy access to the riverside for fishing rights. Measures proposed do not take adequate account of the potential damage to the integrity of the River Cree, or immediate and ongoing potential impact on species who's natural habitat is the river Cree. • Concerned at the lack of entry and exit points along the proposed works, gives rise to concerns for the safety of those using river recreationally. • Have an adverse effect on the enjoyment of those using wheelchairs, electric scooters etc that aid mobility, as the wall in parts would restrict their enjoyment and view of the riverside and embankment. • Make it less attractive to tourists and much needed income brought to the town from visitors • No clear indication on the diagrams or "fly through" of the exact positioning, or height of the wall. • "flythrough" gives impression of being a very wide and extensive grassed riverbank, which is not the reality. This further adds to the lack of clarify as the positioning of a wall or defence embankment. • Tigh-na-Cree was the only property on this road, with evidence of water flooding, amounting to a few inches. Subsequently, PFR fitted to protect the property. This would surely be a sensible flood prevention plan, more cost effective, and less intrusive to the environment, and impact on the locality and tourists. • Question: Has this option been considered, for properties by the river, as there is no evidence to this effect?
G24		8 Reid Terrace, Millcroft Road, Minnigaff, Newton Stewart DG8 6PH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns around height of the wall and depth of glass relating to our property. • understand that this level of detail is not yet being discussed at this stage. would like it recorded we are in principle happy for the overall scheme to go ahead, this is very much based on our property getting a proportionate amount of glass as not to obstruct or block our view with the river or reduce what little terrace space we currently have. • wall above in current position would completely spoil the aesthetics of the property and have a detrimental effect to its attraction as a self-catering holiday let and indeed as our home when we are there.