

Newton Stewart

FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

Newsletter

Issue No 4

Welcome to our fourth newsletter which provides an update on the Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme and the installation of a new pedestrian bridge to replace the Sparling Bridge.

Flood Protection Scheme

In November 2017 the Newton Stewart Project Team held a VM2 meeting with various stakeholders to consider the short list of 10 options to address flooding in Newton Stewart (which had been taken forward from an initial list of 24 options).

Details of these 10 options were presented and discussed, with the outcome being that the option which had the greatest benefit, and will provide the optimum solution for flooding in Newton Stewart, was Option 6 - Construction of Direct Defences.

It was also found that Option 7, Increase Flow Area beneath the A75 Bridge, and Option 24, Reprofile Land around Scottish Water Pumping Station, whilst not a solution in themselves, do work in conjunction with the preferred option and may result in the reduction in height of the direct defences.

Public Engagement Event

A public engagement event was held in Newton Stewart from 30 November to 2 December 2017. The event included a number of display boards and plans. Members of the Project Team were on hand to discuss the scheme and answer any questions.

We'd like to thank all 107 people who attended over the three days, especially those who completed questionnaires and left feedback on the proposals. The main points taken from this feedback was;

- 100% want to see a Flood Protection Scheme provided in Newton Stewart.
- 86% agreed with the approach we are taking in developing a scheme.
- 77% agreed that all the available options to address the flooding have been included and considered.



Attendees at Public Engagement Event

Committee Approval

At the meeting of the Council's Economy, Environment and Infrastructure Committee on 23 January 2018 Members agreed the decisions made at the VM2 meeting and agreed to take forward the preferred option of the construction of direct defences (together with supporting options of increasing the flow under the A75 bridge and reprofiling the land adjacent to the Scottish Water pumping station), to the outline design stage.

Full details of the VM2 process, engagement event and feedback, along with the Economy, Environment and Infrastructure Committee report, are available on the Council's project webpage at:

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/17043/Newton-Stewart-Flood-Protection-Scheme>



Attendees at Public Engagement Event

The preferred options will now be subject to further geotechnical investigation, modelling and outline design.

Current Timeline

- January/February 2018 - Site and ground investigations. Outline design of preferred option (including Environmental Assessment and VM3 meeting).
 - March 2018 - Update report to EEI Committee on the preferred option (Outline design).
 - April 2018 - Public engagement event
 - May 2018 - Refine preferred option
 - May 2018 - Report to EEI Committee to seek approval to publicise the scheme
 - May 2018 - Final scheme documents and drawings
 - June 2018 - Publish flood order
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Proposed Replacement of Sparling Bridge

Sweco, who are the Principal Designers for the flood defence scheme, have now been appointed to also undertake the design work on the replacement bridge.

Ground investigations at the new site have been completed and design work is well underway. The Council and Sweco are working closely with Sustrans on the design as the new bridge will accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists.

A planning application has now been submitted and this can be viewed on the Council's planning portal; <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/planning>

It is hoped that the design will be completed in April 2018, followed by a tender process to construct the new bridge in May 2018 with completion programmed for August 2018.

Further information

If you require further information on the project please go to the Council's website at www.dumgal.gov.uk

Alternatively you can email the Project Team at newtonstewartFPS@dumgal.gov.uk

Or telephone **030 33 33 3000**.