PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

Craigie Burn FPS

Community Consultation

Q & A Report



GENERAL

Tackling climate change

Perth and Kinross Council – Environment and Infrastructure
Craigie Burn Flood Protection Scheme
Community Consultation: Question and Answer Report

Introduction

Perth and Kinross Council have been developing proposals for a Flood Protection Scheme (FPS) for the Craigie Burn in Perth. In September 2026, the Council engaged with the local community on:

- the risk of flooding in the Craigie Burn area;
- the history of the work done in the area in relation to flooding;
- the Council's proposals for the FPS and the progress made to date; and
- other actions to raise awareness of flood risk and improve flood resilience.

Draft proposals for the FPS were shared with the public at a community exhibition and were also made available on the Council's Consultation Hub from 25 September 2026 to 16 October 2026 (at https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/craigieburnfloodscheme/). Residents were encouraged to complete the online form provided to record their comments and views.

The community exhibition was held at the Moncreiffe Church Halls in Perth on Wednesday 30 September 2026.

This offered residents an opportunity to view the draft proposals and speak directly with Council officers, AMEY (design consultants), Scottish Water, SEPA and Perth Community Flood Aid.

The Council would like to thank those that took the time to provide comments and attend the community exhibition.

This report collates the comments received and provides the Council's response to those questions.

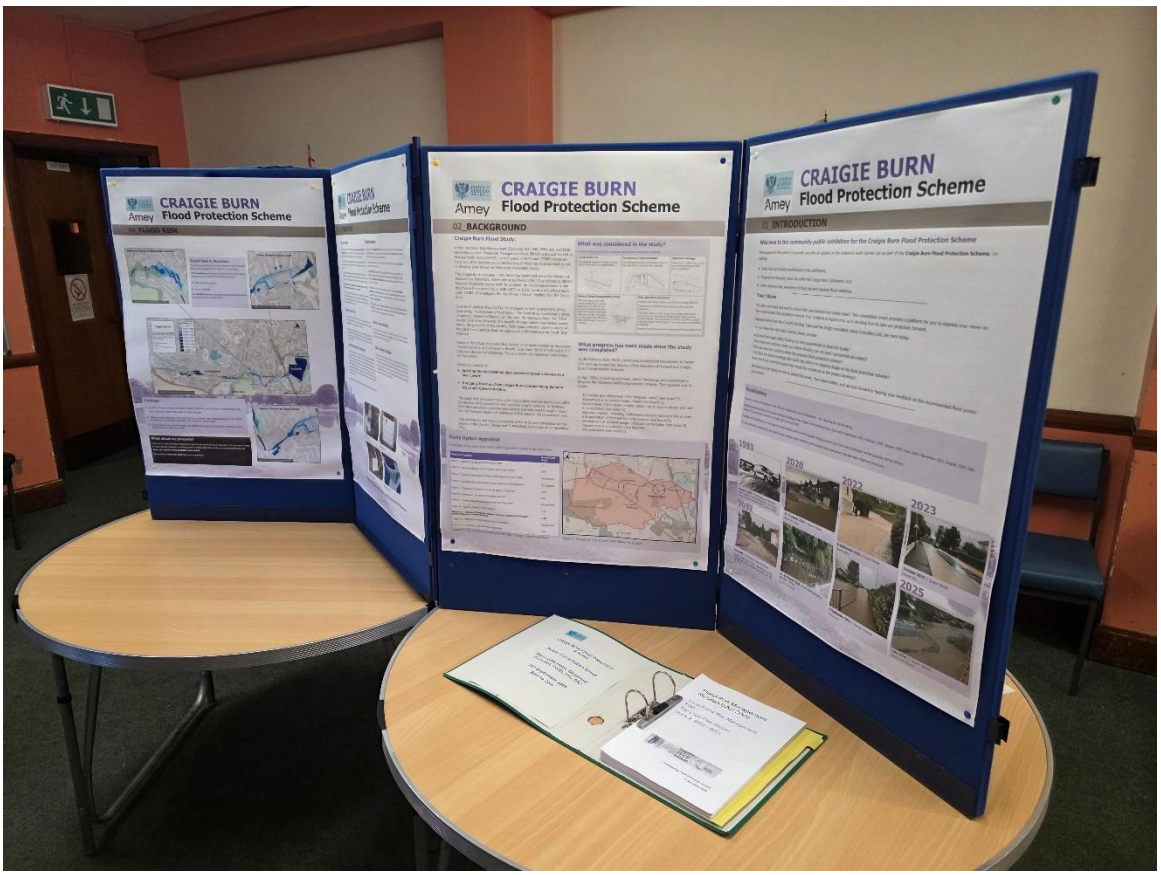


Figure 1 - Community exhibition event held in Moncreiffe Church Halls in Perth

Community Response

A total of 13 people attended the community exhibition and 7 submitted comment forms during the consultation period, including local councillors. In general, the impression received from the community was positive and a number of different concerns were raised.

A summary of the general feedback received was as follows:

- Residents were supportive of efforts to reduce flood risk in the scheme area and were keen to see the proposed scheme implemented; particularly those living in Queens Avenue and Queens Court and other residents who had suffered flooding frequently in the past.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the limited scope of the scheme and residents asked if other measures could be implemented elsewhere in the Craigie Burn area to reduce flood risk.
- Residents questioned the efficacy of the existing trash screen at the culvert downstream of the scheme at the roundabout at Queens Avenue and Craigie Knowes Road.

- Residents were worried about the potential health impacts caused by the exceedance of Scottish Water's sewer system at South Inch and Croft Park during flood events.
- The local community flood group asked to be notified prior to construction to limit disruption to their water level gauges in the scheme area.
- Some residents were concerned about ongoing maintenance of gullies and the watercourse in general.
- Queries were made in relation to how access would be maintained for the residents at Queens Court during construction.
- A comment queried how the stability of the banks of the Craigie Burn may be affected by the proposed sediment management works.

Appendix A (below) provides a summary of the main questions received during the consultation process along with the Council's response. Those submitting forms have not been named for confidentiality reasons. This report will be published on the Council's Consultation Hub (at the web address detailed above) and distributed to local Councillors and members of the community that registered attendance at the community exhibition or provided a consultation response.

Next Steps

The Council will now present the Craigie Burn FPS proposals to the next available Climate Change and Sustainability Committee. Thereafter, the Council will begin the process of obtaining the necessary statutory approvals and permissions required under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, before preparing detailed design information for construction. The Council will carry out further consultation with the community as proposals are further developed.

If you require any further information on the Craigie Burn FPS proposals, please contact:

Flooding Team
Perth and Kinross Council
Pullar House
35 Kinnoull Street
Perth PH1 5GD
Email: flood@pkc.gov.uk

Appendix A – Questions and Answers

Scope of Scheme

Q1. Have other options elsewhere in the Craigie Burn area been considered and why have these not been taken forward as part of the proposed flood protection scheme?

A detailed options appraisal was carried out during the Craigie Burn Flood Study which preceded the scheme. The flood study considered a range of options for managing flood risk across the wider Craigie Burn area including: upsizing of culverts, additional storage and attenuation, flood embankments and walls and modification of existing walls and flood gates at various locations along the watercourse. However, the benefit of these options was limited mainly due to the presence of the existing Perth flood protection scheme assets in the catchment, such as flood storage ponds at Broxden and South Inch reservoir.

The study concluded that the only feasible option was the upsizing of the Queens Court culvert and channel modification in the immediate area. The conclusions and recommendations of the study were approved by the Climate Change & Sustainability Committee on 27 November 2023 and have since been developed into the recommended flood protection scheme presented during the recent community consultation.

The Council are investigating other potential small scale flood mitigation improvement opportunities in the Craigie Burn area and will engage with the local residents at appropriate times. However, these projects are subject to the availability of budget and staff resources.

Q2. Why was upsizing the culvert beneath Craigie Knowes Road not considered as well?

The hydraulic model indicates that this culvert has a much higher flow capacity than the vastly undersized culvert at the access to Queens Court. Increasing the size and capacity of the culvert at Queens Court is not predicted to increase flood risk further downstream, as this culvert still provides the control on flows being conveyed downstream.

Upsizing the Craigie Knowes Road culvert would require further downstream mitigations, such as upsizing of downstream culverts, and potentially new/raised flood defences at Windsor Terrace and Croft Park. This was considered and discounted during the Craigie Burn Flood Study due to the high anticipated costs exceeding any benefits.

Q3. The existing trash screen at the roundabout at Queens Avenue and Craigie Knowes Road is often blocked by debris during flood events. Is this being investigated as part of the proposed scheme?

It is noted that there is a propensity for debris to trap on the existing culvert inlet trash screen at this location. Trash-screens are designed to prevent debris becoming trapped within the culvert increasing flood risk. However, large accumulations of debris around this screen is typical after high flow events. As such, as part of the development of the proposed flood protection scheme PKC commissioned design consultants AMEY to carry out design checks on the current layout, size and bar spacing of this screen. Upgrades to this screen, along with further debris management upstream of Queens Avenue, will be considered as part of the proposed scheme subject to budget availability.

Q4. Will the proposed sediment management and channel modification carried out as part of the scheme and elsewhere on the Craigie Burn mean that the banks and bed of the watercourse will need to be stabilised in these locations?

The Craigie Burn is an urbanised watercourse and consists of sections of manmade channel and bank modification. The sections of the burn that form part of the proposed scheme sediment management and channel modification have retaining walls on one or both banks. The condition, construction type, dimensions, and foundation of the retaining walls will be investigated during upcoming ground investigation works. The data gathered will be used to inform the design of the scheme and ensure the proposed scheme sediment management and channel modification will not compromise the integrity of the retaining walls. Where retaining walls are not present bank and bed stabilisation will be investigated during the upcoming detailed design phase of the scheme.

Sediment management works carried out elsewhere on the Craigie Burn as part of routine maintenance of the watercourse is done to ensure that bank stabilisation measures are not required, primarily by way of limiting the depth of the works to that of the natural bed level.

Maintenance

Q5. There is often vegetation growing within sections of the Craigie Burn. Is the watercourse inspected and maintained?

Riparian landowners have a responsibility to maintain the bed and banks of any watercourse as it passes through their property. This includes preventing any material entering the watercourse that could become an obstruction to the flow of water and/or cause a flood risk elsewhere. It is also expected of the riparian landowner to remove any such debris from their section of the watercourse even if it has been transported downstream from another property. A licence from SEPA may be required before proceeding.

Under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act, the Council carries out 6 monthly watercourse inspections of the Craigie Burn and the condition of the watercourse is assessed with respect to flood risk. If it is found that the condition of the burn gives risk to a risk of flooding, and clearance and repair works would substantially reduce that risk, then a schedule of those works will be prepared, and the Council will carry them out if the riparian landowner fails to do so. Any identified works are carried out in order of priority and as budgets allow. It is important to note that heavy vegetation does not always constitute a significant increase in flood risk and will often die back during colder winter months.

Q6. The gullies are prone to being blocked in places in the Craigie Burn area, particularly at the footpath at Croft Park/ South Inch. Are the roads and footpath gullies regularly inspected and cleared?

Drainage systems are only able to cope with a certain volume of water and can be quickly overwhelmed during high rainfall. This does not always mean that the drains are blocked. Surface water systems across the Craigie Burn area of Perth connect into the watercourse or the combined sewer network, which is a common situation across all towns/cities. When the sewer and watercourse are at capacity, surface water has nowhere to drain and will temporarily pond on the surface until capacity returns to drain it away.

The Roads Maintenance Partnership (RMP) are responsible for over 40,000 gullies, all of which are cleaned out over a 2-year period. Further details on the Council's gully cleansing programme and interactive schedule map can be found on the following webpage: https://www.pkc.gov.uk/drainsandspillages.

If a resident is concerned about the condition of any existing road drainage, please contact pkc_rmp@pkc.gov.uk to help the Council identify any areas which may require urgent repairs. Note that you can also report a blocked gully/drain at the webpage noted above.

Other Queries

Q7. When the sewer system backs up during flood events sewage often flows into the South Inch and the surrounding footpaths, what can be done in this regard to reduce the health hazard presented by this?

Scottish Water are the asset owner of the sewer network and are responsible for its maintenance. Any issues involving sewage should be reported to Scottish Water who will investigate and arrange for effected areas to be decontaminated where required. Any question relating to the health hazards related to this should be directed to Scottish Water.

To report sewer flooding or sewage pollution contact Scottish Water on 0800 0778 778 or online at: https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/In-Your-Area/Flooding-Information/Report-a-Flooding-Incident

Q8. What should we do in the meantime until the recommended option is progressed?

Flooding is a natural phenomenon that can never be entirely prevented. However, action can be taken to reduce the risk of flooding and its impact.

Check if your property is at risk – flooding can affect more than just your property, it may impact on your community or your route to work. Use SEPA's Flood Maps to find out if you're in an area at risk of flooding.

Check you are flood insured – if you find it difficult to obtain flood insurance that meets your needs, contact Flood Re - see http://www.floodre.co.uk/homeowner/

They may be able to provide affordable insurance to households at the highest risk of flooding.

Follow the 6 steps to prepare:

1. Sign up to Floodline to receive advance notice of when and where flooding might happen – see link below.
2. Sign up to Met Office – see details below. This provides alerts for heavy rainfall that may be more relevant for residents that can be impacted by flash flooding.
3. Prepare a flood plan and put a flood kit together so that everyone knows what to do if flooding happens.
4. Familiarise yourself with how to shut off gas, electricity and water supplies.
5. Keep a list of useful contact numbers, including your insurance company and utility providers.
6. Consider flood protection products (including sandbags) for your property and ensure your insurance provides adequate cover for flood damage. www.pkc.gov.uk/plp

The Met Office also provide a free notification service when they have issued weather warnings and information can be found at www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/what/met-office-weather-app. This service will provide early warnings of severe weather that may not be covered by SEPA's Floodline but could still impact your property enabling you to take appropriate action.

SEPA and the Met office now offer a 3-day flood forecast as part of the Scottish Flood Forecast - see http://www.sepa.org.uk/scottishfloodforecast/

Additionally, a grant has been made available within Perth & Kinross to support the implementation of Property Flood Resilience (PFR) measures where appropriate. The grant is funded and operated by Perth & Kinross Council and can include up to £5,000 per property for approved measures to help those who have experienced flooding previously or are able to demonstrate their property is at risk by floodwater reaching their property walls. Details on the PFRG can be found here but operate on a first come, first served basis until the grant is exhausted: https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/25402/Property-Flood-Resilience-Grant

The Scottish Flood Forum (SFF) is an independent organisation which supports individuals and communities at risk from flooding. You can contact SFF on 0131 563 9392. See their website at https://scottishfloodforum.org/

More advice is available on the following websites:

- Perth and Kinross Council www.pkc.gov.uk/flooding
- Scottish Water www.scottishwater.co.uk/your-home/your-waste-water/sewer-flooding
- Floodline (SEPA) Tel 0345 988 1188; https://myfloodline.sepa.scot/register
- Flood Re www.floodre.co.uk
- Perth Community Flood Aid https://floodingperth.org.uk/

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You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

BSL users can contact us via Contact Scotland BSL, the online British Sign Language video relay interpreting service. Find out more on the Contact Scotland BSL website https://contactscotland-bsl.org