

## Perth & Kinross Council – Communities Service

### Perth Flood Study (Feus Road) - Community Drop-In Session Summary of Questions & Answers

#### Introduction

Perth & Kinross Council and Scottish Water recently carried out a flood study to investigate the risk of surface water flooding in the vicinity of Feus Road, Perth. In November 2022, the Council and Scottish Water held a community drop-in session to:

- Summarise the study work carried out;
- Highlight the identified flood risk;
- Discuss the options considered and study recommendations; and
- Raise awareness of other ongoing actions.

This session was held at the Caley Bowling Club, Feus Road on Tuesday 1 November 2022 from 3pm until 7:30pm – see Figure 1 below. The event was attended by representatives from the Council, Scottish Water, ARC (consulting engineers) and the Scottish Flood Forum. Residents were encouraged to ask questions and to complete the online form provided to record their comments and views.

The information was also made available on the Council’s consultation hub (at <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/feusroad>) from 7 to 30 November 2022.

The Council would like to thank those that took the time to provide comments and attend the drop-in session.

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



Figure 1 – Photographs from Community Drop-in Sessions

## **Community Response**

A total of 14 people attended the community drop-in session and 5 submitted comment forms during the consultation period. Most comments focussed on closing Feus Road during a flood event, which was covered by the exhibition display material. A more detailed comment was provided querying how the economic assessment was carried out and also providing some further insight into the flooding mechanisms. This resulted in Scottish Water carrying out further engagement with the resident and neighbouring properties, to inform their investment appraisal process.

Appendix A (below) provides a list of all the questions 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) for residents to access.

## **The Next Steps**

The Council will now report the conclusions of the study to the next available Climate Change and Sustainability Committee. Thereafter, the Council will implement the recommendations of the report.

If you require any further information on the Perth Flood Study – Feus Road, please contact:

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## **Appendix A – Questions and Answers**

### **Q1. Why isn't Feus Road closed in timely fashion when flooding occurs?**

The exhibition displays covered this topic.

Only the Police have the powers to close the road in an emergency. The Council can authorise a road closure, and this is requested by Council or Scottish Water staff once in attendance at site. However, during a flood event, Council (and Scottish Water's) resources are often stretched and therefore we cannot guarantee attendance at Feus Road during every flood event.

### **Q2. When the road is closed, can signage be placed that indicates businesses remain open?**

The comment was passed to the Council's Roads Maintenance Partnership for their awareness and to try and facilitate this, where possible. However, as noted in Q1, resources are often stretched during flooding, particularly where it is widespread. The Council therefore cannot guarantee that such signage will be available for deployment at Feus Road when required.

### **Q.3. Was the impact of flooding on the nearby railway line considered as part of the economic appraisal of the options?**

The impact on the railway was not factored into the economic appraisal. This was because the flooding of the railway is not linked to the flooding mechanisms at Feus Road. The options considered at Feus Road would therefore not have an impact on the existing flood risk to the railway line.

### **Q.4. Is the economic case the deciding factor on whether or not to take forward an option for further assessment?**

In managing flood risk, Perth & Kinross Council is required to have regard to the economic impact of its actions. This means the cost of building a flood scheme must not exceed the benefits, i.e., the benefit/cost ratio must be greater than 1.0. If this criterion is not met, then this would also limit the Council's ability to attract the necessary funding to deliver any improvements.

The potential solution identified by the study also provided a limited level of protection, and so there would still be a significant residual risk of flooding at Feus Road. This was another reason the Council does not view the option as feasible.

Scottish Water have different drivers to the Council and are continuing to take the option through their Project Investment Appraisal process. They hope to conclude this in Autumn 2023 and report the outcome to residents at that time.