

The Project Team Working Collaboratively

The Project Team, which is now based full time at the Main Site Compound, is composed of staff from RJ McLeod, CH2M Hill and CPE Consultancy (working on behalf of Scottish Borders Council):

- RJ McLeod is a Glasgow based civil engineering firm with responsibility for constructing the Scheme.
- CH2M Hill is a Colorado headquartered multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy who have designed the Scheme and have responsibility for supervising construction works.
- CPE Consultancy is an engineering and project management firm with responsibility for delivery of the Scheme.

The partnership approach adopted by CH2M Hill and CPE / SBC through the design stages is now being translated into a collaborative working approach that includes RJ McLeod.

It is felt that this approach has already yielded many benefits. The most significant is with the design and construction review currently being undertaken with Work Section 1 (WS-01) - the A708 Road Raising. This will be reported on in the next edition.

Contact Details

If you have any questions about the Scheme please contact one of the following in the first instance:

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Main Site Compound

Selkirk Flood Protection Scheme
 South Bridge Street
 Selkirk, TD7 5DR

Phone: 01750 725 448

Project Website

The Project has a website which gives details about the Selkirk FPS. This will be updated regularly with news & construction information:

www.selkirkfloodscheme.com

Advanced Works

The Advanced Works which have been ongoing since June 2014 are now on the verge of being complete. Works are still ongoing at Corbie Linn and Dunsdale Haugh.

Corbie Linn (diversion of all services):

- Gas, water, BT and electric at this location have been diverted.
- Final transfer of the power is currently being undertaken (i.e. during week commencing 6 April 2015).
- Two new crossings of the Long Philip Burn were successfully completed in late February to facilitate the diverted services being laid under the burn. All overhead services in this location have now been replaced with underground services.
- **Works on tidying up the area and returning the road to its normal route will begin from 13 April 2015.**

Dunsdale Haugh (diversion of Scottish Water sewer pipes):

- This major diversion of a triple sewer pipe from Raeburn Terrace to the WwTW has been ongoing since autumn 2014.
- The programme was elongated after difficult ground conditions were encountered in December 2014 forcing the road to be closed for a few weeks.
- **The works are now focused on the last section on front of the Oregon Timber main entrance.**



Above: River crossing for public utility diversions at Philiphaugh Cottages. This work is to move utilities off the bridge so it can be replaced.



Above: Public utility diversions crossing the Shaw Burn culvert outside Oregon Timber main entrance.

Main Works Newsletter — Issue No. 2 — April 2015

It should not have escaped your attention that there is now a major civil engineering construction site in Selkirk. It is my delight to be able to report that this project remains on programme and within budget at the end of the first quarter of the main construction works.

Since RJ McLeod were appointed the Main Works Contract in December they have been systematically scaling-up their deployment. Through January and into February this was almost exclusively desk-based planning and the establishment of a site compound at South Bridge Street. Thereafter site fences have been erected, the initial large machinery has arrived, and the triangle field adjacent the rugby club has been turned into a material processing facility. The scale of works will continue to expand through the second quarter with river-works being allowed to commence from June.

There have been notable issues during this period, particularly in relation to the proposed closure of the A708 at Work Section 1, however the Project Team have continued to engage and consult with stakeholders to resolve these challenges. WS-01 is currently on hold with a review of the proposed construction methodology being undertaken. An update on this is expected by June 2015.

This second issue of our Newsletter is being distributed to all properties within the Ettrick Catchment. It is intended provide you with a general update of the project, and to steer you to either the website at www.selkirkfloodscheme.com or the project team if you require additional information.

Conor Price, Senior Project Manager

Headlines

- The Project Team have now moved into the new site offices on South Bridge Street
- Preparations for Keller Geotechnique are complete along Riverside
- Works at St. Mary's Loch have commenced
- The road raising of the A708 at WS-01 is on hold and a full review of the construction methodology is being undertaken
- The Community Benefits Plan has been approved

Preparation for the seepage cut-off at Riverside

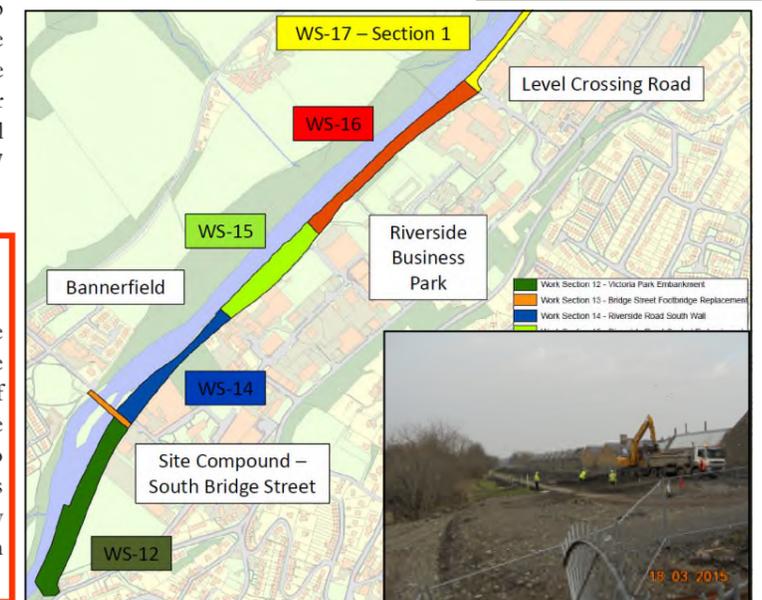
The new flood protection defences at Riverside will stretch from naturally occurring high ground adjacent to The Laundry, on Buccleuch Road, to connect into the A7 road embankment behind the Co-op building. This is approximately 2.1km of continuous protection along the river's edge.

These defences will consist of a combination of reinforced concrete flood walls and engineered earthen embankments. When complete the new wall / embankment will only compose the visible, above ground, element of the defences. Beneath the ground a new seepage cut-off, approx. 6m deep, will be sit below to restrict water moving through the highly permeable ground (mostly river gravels) when the river levels are high. The seepage cut-off (for the Riverside area) will be a bentonite slurry wall and will be installed by the specialist sub-contractor 'Keller Geotechnique'.

In mid-February RJ McLeod commenced setting up the site through Work Sections 14, 15 and 16 and have prepared this approximately 1km corridor for the seepage installation. Keller are due to commence their specialist works during week commencing 13 April 2015. RJ McLeod will move into WS-12 and WS-17 next to continue site preparations (for Keller).

Selkirk Common Riding

The Project Team are aware of the huge importance of the Selkirk Common Riding to the town. The Scheme itself has been designed to facilitate ease of movement of the horses from Riverside Road to the river, and the adjacent landscape is being tailored to enhance the views afforded to the crossing. Efforts are now ongoing to ensure that the work currently taking place through Riverside **DOES NOT** impact on this year's Common Riding.



What's Next? Overview of main works during the next quarter

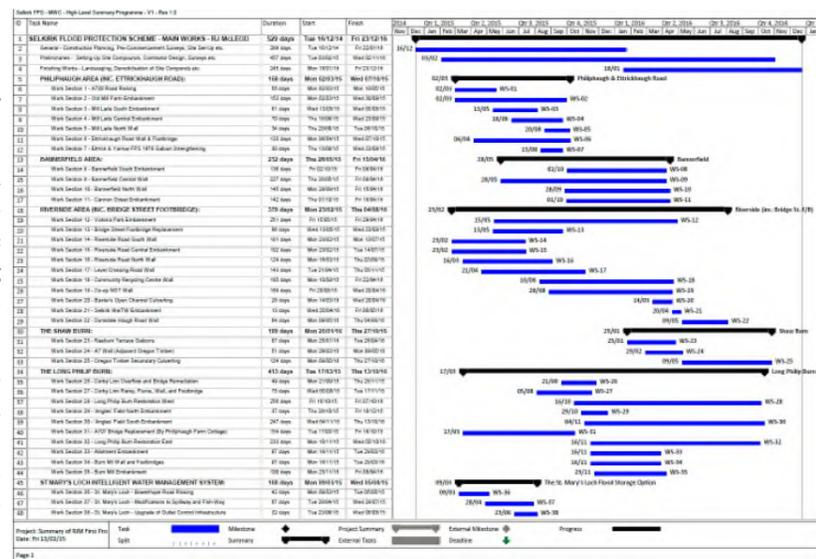
- Specialist sub-contractor, Keller, will install the bentonite seepage cut-off through the Riverside corridor from WS-16 to WS-14 (in that direction) and then at WS-12 and WS-17.
- Site preparation works will commence at WS-12 and WS-17. This will be similar to what happened at WS-14 to WS-16 with: pre-entry building condition surveys undertaken to adjacent buildings; boundary HERAS fences erected; pathways diverted; traffic management put-in place etc. This will then be followed by site clearance works which generally speaking consists of: trial holes to confirm underground public utility service locations; management / protection of any adjacent overhead cables / trees / cultural features; construction of site haul roads; topsoil stripping etc.
- The importation of embankment material will commence at WS-02.
- Site preparation, clearance and works will continue from WS-02 into WS-03 and WS-04.
- A satellite site compound will be established in the stables field on Ettrickhaugh Road and works will commence on WS-06 behind the houses on Ettrickhaugh Road.
- At St. Mary's Loch works will continue to replace a section of the Bowerhope access road, whilst preparations for the replacement of the Fish Pass with a Fish Way will continue. The detail designs of the new intelligent water management system are now also being prepared by RJ McLeod's specialist MEICA subcontractor, ENISCA.
- The A707 bridge (beside Leslie Cottage) will be replaced to improve its ability to take all traffic before the Philiphaugh Cottages Bridge is closed to facilitate it being removed and replaced.
- Preparation for the replacement of the Bridge Street Footbridge (WS-13) will continue. This bridge will be replaced during the summer of 2015. **The footbridge will close from mid-May for up to 20 weeks.**

Project Programme

The Main Works will last until December 2016 and consists of 38 Work Sections.

The works have been programmed such that impact is on the community is kept to an absolute minimum. That said, given the scale of the civil engineering works being undertaken disruption (road & path closures, noise, dust etc.) is unavoidable.

The high level programme is available to view on our website, which together with the *Construction Updates* (on the website) should help to ensure that the community is aware of where we are working and, perhaps more importantly, when.



Delivering benefits to the wider community

Scottish Borders Council recently appointed Community Benefits Co-ordinator John Mallin to develop and maximise community benefits as part of the procurement and commissioning of Council contracts and services.

Community benefits are social, economic or environmental gains through contracts with third parties. Examples could be employment, training or work experience opportunities for young people or those who are long-term unemployed; supporting the development of local micro and small businesses through supply chain opportunities; or enhancing local communities through the support of local events and projects or through sponsorship of community groups.

The Selkirk Flood Protection Scheme is the first major construction contract where community benefits have been made a contractual requirement by the council and were evaluated as part of the tendering process. **This contract is expected to deliver employment, training and work experience opportunities for local people as well as providing support and sponsorship for local school and community group projects.**

John said: "The Council has developed an 'Adding Value to Communities through Procurement' policy which aims to provide these kinds of additional benefits beyond the core purpose of a contract, which helps to maximise the impact of Council spending in local communities.

Challenging works at Ettrickhaugh Road

In mid-March Ettrickhaugh Road area Community Meeting No. 4 was held to bring to a conclusion a prolonged pre-construction consultation exercise to achieve a construction methodology that sought to minimise the impact to business, property and residents in this area.

This area is Work Section 6 (WS-06). It requires approximately 400m of new reinforced concrete flood defence wall to be constructed along the edge of the Mill Lade immediately behind the rear gardens of the 20 properties on the left-hand-side of the road (heading away from the town). This wall will sit on-top of a sheet-pile type seepage cut-off wall that will extend approximately 6m below the base of the wall.

The Project Team has long recognised that this is one of the most challenging sections of the Scheme. This is due to the constrained space, access difficulties and immediate proximity to residential dwellings.

The Project Team would like to thank the residents and businesses of this area for their substantial efforts in engaging with the Scheme's design and construction planning processes over the past number of years. It is hoped that the site compound and access arrangements agreed through this consultative process will minimise impact over the coming months of construction works.

This section is programme to be complete by the end of 2015.



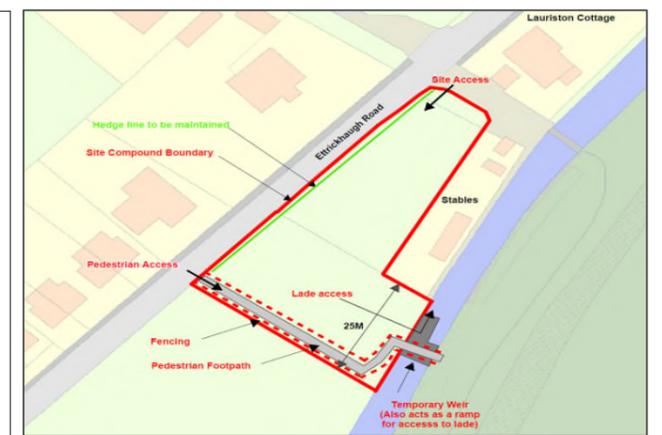
Above: Work Section 6 - corridor behind Ettrickhaugh Road houses.

Below: Work Section 6 - schematic of satellite compound in stables field.

St Mary's Loch commenced

The culvert at the outlet of St Mary's Loch (Work Section 36) has been installed and the pouring of the new headwalls took place in early April. Works will now continue to raise Bowerhope Road over the new culvert with surfacing operations to take place in the coming weeks. Once resurfaced the temporary access road will be removed and traffic re-directed onto the new section of road.

The junction of Bowerhope Road and the A708 will be resurfaced in late April. This work will take a couple of days and will require temporary traffic lights at the junction.



Above: Works progressing at Work Section 2 - Preparation for construction of Old Mill Farm flood defence embankment



Above: Panoramic Photo of Work Section 3 - After initial site preparation and before site clearance works commence