

Report To: Environment & Regeneration Committee **Date:** 14 January 2021

Report By: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources **Report No:** ERC/RT/GMcF/18.623

Contact Officer: Gail MacFarlane **Contact No:** 714828

Subject: A8 Trunk Road-East Hamilton Street - Flooding Report

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee on the progress to find a solution to flooding on the A8 trunk road at East Hamilton Street.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The A8 trunk road at East Hamilton Street has been subject to road closures and lane closures as a result of ongoing flooded incidences. This in turn can cause major travel disruption throughout the local area.
- 2.2 A liaison group which includes Inverclyde Council, Transport Scotland and Scottish Water was set up to look at the possible causes and solutions to this ongoing flooding issue. These meetings have resulted in short term and long term solutions.
- 2.3 The impact of flooding incidences have reduced significantly from past events to passable lane closures instead of full road closures. This is the result of works completed by Transport Scotland and Scottish Water as detailed in section 4.3.
- 2.4 Transport Scotland and Scottish Water are currently working on long term proposals to reduce flooding incidences as detailed in section 4.4.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee notes the current progress and the reduction of flooding on the A8.

Gail MacFarlane
Head of Service – Roads & Transportation

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The A8 trunk road at East Hamilton Street has been subject to road closures and lane closures as a result of ongoing flooded incidences. This in turn can cause major travel disruption throughout the local area.
- 4.2 A liaison group which includes Inverclyde Council, Transport Scotland and Scottish Water was set up to look at the possible causes and solutions to this ongoing flooding issue. These meetings have resulted in short term and long term solutions.
- 4.3 The impact and frequency of flooding incidences have reduced significantly from past events to passable lane closures instead of full road closures. This is the result of works completed by Scottish Water and Transport Scotland as detailed below.
- Scottish Water have completed major upgrade works to the sewer network and have constructed a new CSO (combined sewer overflow) and by pass facility at High Street Greenock and the Bullring Roundabout. This was primarily to reduce the risk of flooding at the Oak Mall, and also created additional capacity in the sewer network to reduce the surcharging from the sewers at East Hamilton Street.
 - Transport Scotland have completed extensive survey and investigation works to the roads drainage network system and have carried out additional maintenance works to the carrier pipes and gullies between Sinclair Street and Pottery Street.

These measures have improved the overall drainage network and conditions at Lady Burn.

- 4.4 Transport Scotland and Scottish Water are currently working on measures that will further reduce flooding incidences. These measures will take significant planning and investment from Transport Scotland and Scottish Water to understand the complex nature of the flooding and also design and install a solution that will reduce these events.
- During initial site investigate Transport Scotland found that the carrier pipe to the gullies at the old railway bridge have been damaged. Transport Scotland are now looking at a short term by pass solution that will assist with flooding on the west bound inside lane.
 - Transport Scotland are also investigating a long term solution that may involve a new carrier pipe system.
 - Scottish Water as part of their ongoing optioneering study for the sewer flooding on the A8, have now identified a preferred solution following the consideration of 9 separate options to reduce the risk of sewer flooding at this location. The preferred solution will involve the construction of a new CSO (combined sewer overflow) outfall to the Lady Burn. This will require large scale engineering works, as well as significant investment.
 - Due to the scale of investment Scottish Water are progressing through the appraisal and approval process which may take a few months to complete. If the proposal is approved, the project due to scale and complexity of the design and construction methods may take up to 2 years to complete on site.
 - Scottish Water given the sensitive location will require engagement and approvals from SEPA for the outfall, and with Transport Scotland and Inverclyde Council for the coordination of traffic management arrangements. Construction is also likely to require works within private land, so landowner engagement and approval will also be required. Transport Scotland and Inverclyde Council continue to be consulted throughout the process.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance: none

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed spend this report (£000s)	Virement from	Other comments
N/A					

Annually recurring costs:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed spend this report (£000s)	Virement from	Other comments
N/A					

5.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.3 Human Resources

There are no specific HR implications arising from this report.

5.4 Equalities

(a) There are no equalities implications in this report.

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

5.5 Repopulation

The delivery of the projects identified in this report will assist in making Inverclyde a more attractive place to live and hence contribute to the Council's repopulation agenda.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, and the Corporate Procurement Manager have been consulted on the contents of this report.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.