

# Flood Bulletin

## Smithton & Culloden

November 2014

### Information for residents and businesses from The Highland Council

**WELCOME** to our 8<sup>th</sup> Flood Bulletin, an occasional bulletin to keep you informed of developments and work in progress for alleviation of flooding in Smithton and Culloden.

#### PHASE 3A WORKS COMPLETE

Works have recently been completed on Phase 3A of the Smithton & Culloden Flood Alleviation Scheme.

A new, 'coarse debris' trap has been constructed at Culloden Woods on the Culloden Burn West. During recent heavy rainfall, some large woody debris was trapped, preventing it blocking downstream culverts.



A similar coarse debris trap has also been constructed on the Tower Burn at Rowan Grove. The coarse debris traps consist of wooden poles projecting from a concrete base which will catch coarse debris such as tree trunks and branches that may cause blockages in culverts downstream. This will help reduce potential flooding.

A new headwall and security/debris screen has been installed at the Culloden Centre.

The new screen meets current design standards and prevent blockages of the culvert inlet whilst allowing safer and easier future maintenance of the screen.



The Council wish to thank the public for their patience during the works, which has caused some minor disruption to access. No flooding was recorded from the Culloden Burn West during the recent heavy rainfall, showing that the Phase 3A measures have worked well.

**RECENT FLOODING** in the Smithton and Culloden area has resulted in disruption to traffic, flooding to properties and affected pedestrian routes around the area.

#### BARN CHURCH ROAD

Flooding of Barn Church Road occurred on 8<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October. Flooding from the Culloden Burn East was caused by blockages both in and at the inlets to culverts. This resulted in large volumes of water flowing onto Barn Church Road near Cherry Park where ponding of water led to the road being closed by the Council's Community Services Team.

The Council carried out Emergency Works which opened up a section of the culvert and diverted flow back into the burn.

### SMITHTON BURN

Flooding occurred in Smithton on 8<sup>th</sup> October. Large quantities of gravel and stones from upstream areas of erosion were washed down through the culvert below Smithton Park. This material was deposited at the culvert outlet in the rear gardens of Murray Place resulting in a blockage of the culvert and backing up of flow.

From this, overland flow towards Smithton Road and also towards Murray Place took place, resulting in flooding to a number of properties.



Community Services acted swiftly to remove the build-up of gravel and sediment from the outlet area and have re-visited this stretch to remove material. Access to undertake any future works has also been improved.

A new temporary screen has been installed at Murray Road (upstream of Murray Place) to reduce the volume of sediment and debris which is transported down the Smithton Burn through the culvert at Smithton Park. This will reduce the flood risk in the short term until a new screen is installed as part of the Phase 3B works.

Major flooding to Murray Terrace was avoided when Community Services responded to alarms from the Smithton Burn monitor, removing a substantial quantity of gravel deposits and debris from the culvert inlet area.

### PHASE 3B CONSTRUCTION WORKS

Over the next few months you are likely to notice work taking place at various locations on the Smithton Burn. These works are part of a larger scheme of works, designed by JBA Consulting, which are proposed throughout Smithton & Culloden. We have just awarded Phase 3B to Pat Munro Ltd. who will be starting work in January 2015.

This contract includes the construction of a new, 'coarse debris' trap on the Smithton Burn, between Woodlands Park and Woodlands Crescent. This has been designed and located to capture large debris, limiting what is transported towards downstream culverts.

The remainder of the works (upstream of Tower Road and at the former Nursing Home, Murray Road) are designed to address the significant erosion which takes place in some areas resulting in the large quantities of sediment we have witnessed lately.

### PHASE 4 DESIGN WORKS

Designs are also being progressed by JBA Consulting for Phase 4 works which were identified at the public meeting in October 2012.

Consultation on the proposed measures in Phase 4 will be undertaken over the next few months. Stakeholder meetings and public consultation will be undertaken to share information with members and the public of proposals and seek feedback on the potential solutions.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT

For detailed information on how to contact the Council during an emergency or how to prepare for flooding, please go to [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and enter 'Managing Flood Risk in the Highlands' where you will get access to a useful download. Alternatively, contact us on the details below, and we can send you a copy by mail.

**The Highland Council Flood Risk Management Team**

☎ 01349 868800    ✉ [FRM@highland.gov.uk](mailto:FRM@highland.gov.uk)

**Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)**

☎ 0845 9881188 (Floodline) [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)