

## **Flood Bulletin – Alyth**

The Council is producing bulletins aimed at keeping local communities informed of the developments and recovery work in progress following the flooding in their area.

This bulletin has been prepared specifically for residents affected by flooding in Alyth, primarily from the Alyth Burn.

We are aware of the impact that flooding can have and are grateful to those who took the time to tell us your stories and send us your photos of the flood. We have read and reviewed this evidence and would like to thank the community for their response.

We have been receiving a high volume of calls and e-mails from throughout Perth and Kinross following the flooding of 12 August. Unfortunately, it's not possible for us to respond to them all at once. This bulletin is intended to answer some of your questions.

### **Community Meetings and Future Updates**

The Council will be holding meetings with affected residents. This is complicated by the on-going coronavirus pandemic and so these meetings may be held online. We will advise you of the details shortly.

If you are interested in attending a future meeting and wish to receive future updates, please email your contact details to [flood@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:flood@pkc.gov.uk)

### **The Scottish Flood Forum**

The Scottish Flood Forum is an independent organisation which supports individuals and communities at risk from flooding. If you have not already done so, we would advise you to contact the Forum – their contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

The Forum were in Alyth on Thursday 27 August to offer support and provide information on property level protection measures that residents can take. The Forum will be back in Alyth on 17 September to conduct more property flood protection assessments and you can book an appointment through the Alyth Community Support Group – their contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

### **Flooding in Alyth**

This severe weather of 12 August resulted in widespread flooding across Tayside with approximately 165 properties affected. The Alyth Burn catchment was badly affected with approximately 18 properties being flooded and further impacts to a larger number of resident's gardens and outbuildings. The main areas that were flooded include; Bamff Road, James Street, David Street, Burnside Court Springbank and Springbank Road.

It was also reported that surface water runoff from Diamond Jubilee Park added to the flooding of properties on Mill Street and Springbank.

Further flooding issues were also experienced around the Doctor's Burn, affecting St Ninian's Road, Cambridge Street and Airlie Place.

The Council's Roads Maintenance Partnership attended site from 6:30am on 12 August when notified that water levels had significantly increased. When staff arrived on site, they instructed Tayside contracts to bring sand bags to Alyth, however the standby crew were working in Perth so there was an initial delay before the crew arrived at Alyth. 9 pallets of sand bags were delivered to Alyth; residents who took these sandbags are encouraged to retain them for future use. A further 2 pallets of sandbags have also been delivered to the Alyth Community Support Group.

Since the flood event on the 12 August 2020, Council officers have been on site and have spoken to residents to offer advice and support and to gain an understanding of their concerns and issues. The Council's Flooding Team also received 25 accounts of the flood, numerous photos, data from Rivertrack sensors and a list of suggested actions from the community.

### Current Priority Work

The Council has already undertaken works to clear woody debris brought down by the storm event in areas just upstream of the town.

The Council is aware that the flood resulted in a significant volume of sediment being deposited in the town stretches of the Alyth Burn. Works are currently being arranged to clear this material. This work will extend from the Den of Alyth to the downstream areas of the town (Springbank Road). We will provide further details shortly.

### Clearance and Repair Work

The Council carries out routine inspections of the Alyth Burn every 3 months and of the Doctors Burn every 6 months. We also respond to any reports of obstructions in these watercourses made by the public in the interim. As per our statutory duty, we will carry out clearance works (the removal of obstructions) or repair works (repairing artificial structures which form part of the bed or banks of the watercourse) where this will substantially reduce flood risk.

The Council will shortly be carrying out the priority clearance works noted above in this bulletin.

### Community Resilience

The Council has been working with the Alyth Community Support Group (ACSG), the Alyth Development Trust (ADT) and the Scottish Flood Forum to develop a community resilience plan. This includes a new community flood alerting tool called 'Rivertrack' and you can view it at <https://map.rivertrack.org/location/alyth-burn-alyth>.

The ACSG are working on the provision of sandbags and property flood products that the community can deploy in the event of flooding and we encourage you to support their work.

Residents are advised to take action to reduce the risk of flooding to their property. This could include having your own supply of sandbags available and fitting flood protection products to your property such as airbrick covers or door guards. Please refer to the Council's general flood bulletin (under '*What action can I take to protect my property from flooding?*') and FAQ's provided separately. Further information can also be found at [www.pkc.gov.uk/plp](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/plp).

The Council's Housing Service provided flood products for its properties some time ago; private residents are urged to invest in flood products for their properties as well.

### Future Action

The published Tay Local Flood Risk Management Plan includes a natural flood management study for the Alyth Burn. Consulting engineers are to be engaged to carry out this study and examine the potential natural flood management options for manage flood risk in the future. We will engage with the community during the course of this study which will not be completed until the 2021/22 financial year.

There has been a long history of flooding from the Alyth Burn. Flooding is a natural phenomenon and the risk of flooding cannot entirely be eliminated. Unfortunately, exceptional weather events are happening more often, and flooding is having increasing impact and effect across the whole country. There will always be limits as to what individual Council's and public sector agencies can achieve to prevent flooding.

### **Next Steps**

The Council will continue to progress the clearance works set out above and will progress the Alyth Burn Natural Flood Management Study.

The flooding situation was reported to the Council's Environment and Infrastructure Committee on 19 August and as a result the Council will be looking at what action needs to be taken to address future flood risk.

In the meantime, Perth & Kinross Council continues to work in partnership with a number of agencies including Scottish Water, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and the Scottish Flood Forum to assist with the recovery work. The Council and its partnership agencies are committed to providing ongoing support to those who need it as the recovery work continues.

The Council will advise you of the details of forthcoming meetings with residents shortly.

Further bulletins will follow.

## Further Information and Advice

In the meantime, please see the attached general Flood Bulletin and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). We hope that this may help to answer some of your questions.

Please also refer to the Council's Facebook and Twitter accounts and our online news articles:

<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/August2020flooding>

[www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21794/12-August-2020-Storm-Flood-Risk-Management-Update](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21794/12-August-2020-Storm-Flood-Risk-Management-Update)

[www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21793/Council-offers-support-to-flooded-residents](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21793/Council-offers-support-to-flooded-residents)

Further information and advice on flooding can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.pkc.gov.uk> and <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/frmplans>.

## Contact Details

Perth and Kinross Council:	Tel 01738 475000 (8.45am – 5pm) Tel 01738 476476 (out of hours emergencies) E-mail <a href="mailto:flood@pkc.gov.uk">flood@pkc.gov.uk</a>
Scottish Water:	Tel 0800 077 8778 (customer helpline)
Scottish Flood Forum:	Tel 01698 839021
SEPA Floodline	Tel 0345 988 1188
Alyth Community Support Group	Tel 07840 755 339 E-mail <a href="mailto:ACSG@alyth.online">ACSG@alyth.online</a>