



## Agency Board Meeting 26 July 2022

Board Report Number: SEPA 27/22

### Chief Executive's Report to the Board

<b>Summary:</b>	This report provides an update for Board members on some of the work we are currently undertaking.
<b>Risks:</b>	There are no risks highlighted in this report
<b>Resource and Staffing Implications:</b>	Staff updates are included in the Organisation section of the report.
<b>Equalities:</b>	Equality considerations have been built into decision making in several areas noted in this report.  An update on the Equality and Human Right - oversight group is included in the Organisation section of the report.
<b>Environmental and Carbon Impact:</b>	There are no updates relating to our environmental and carbon impact
<b>Purpose and audience of the report:</b>	The Agency Board is asked to note the report.  Agency Board, Scottish Government, Public
<b>Report Author:</b>	John Kenny, Chief Operating Officer, People and Property Roisin Lochrin-Hopkins, Senior Business Consultant Craig Ballantyne, Junior Business Consultant
<b>Appendices:</b>	None



# Chief Executive's Report

July 2022

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## 1. Introduction

We have been working with Police Scotland and partners on disruptive interventions targeted at waste crime and undertaken enforcement action resulting in a custodial sentence.

In partnership with the Met Office, we launched a test version of a new three-day Scottish Flood Forecast.

While maintaining the focus on delivery, we have continued prioritising and progressing the phased reopening of our workspaces, and other work to support staff.

**John Kenny**

**Acting Chief Executive Officer**

## 2. Regulation

### 2.1 Large scale fly-tipping conviction

#### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

We recently worked with Police Scotland in the detection and disruption of a significant waste offence. This resulted in an individual receiving an 11-month prison sentence at Glasgow Sheriff Court on 8 June. They were convicted of large-scale fly-tipping offences carried out across the city, particularly in the Drumchapel and Gartloch areas.

On 21 April, the individual pleaded guilty to dumping more than 51 tonnes of tyres and household waste. The waste was dumped at several sites between June and October 2020. We hope this custodial sentence will act as a deterrent for others.

The outcomes of this case demonstrate the benefits of collaborative partnership working in the delivery of Scotland's Serious Crime Strategy using the 4D's (Deter, Divert, Disrupt, Detect) interventions approach.

### 2.2 Multi-agency road stops (Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)

We took part in two multi-agency road stops during May and June to target illegal cross-border transportation of waste.

The first took place for one week from 9 May when we joined HMRC and Police Scotland in targeted evening port checks at Cairnryan. Ten vehicles were stopped, two of which triggered follow-up investigations. The police officers involved in the checks used skills we have shared while working with them. This included confirming waste carrier registrations as part of their standard checks.

The second road stops were during the week of 13 June. These included carrying out road stops at Gretna Services with Police Scotland, HMRC, the Environment Agency, and members of the Joint Unit for Waste Crime. Around 12 vehicles were stopped. This triggered one investigation that we and the Environment Agency are now following up.

## **2.3 Illegal dumping and site clearance**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

We have recently worked with Councils to clear the following waste:

- an abandoned articulated trailer in Airdrie containing around 21 tonnes of construction demolition waste and household-controlled wastes;
- several hundred vehicle tyres, garden waste, asbestos, waste oils and domestic waste deposited at a roundabout in Inverness. CCTV is now installed as a deterrent to local fly-tippers in the area.

We are also carrying out investigations into wider criminality surrounding the abandonment of trailers containing waste as well as investigations into other fly-tipping activity.

## **2.4 Appeal decision: Shuna marine pen fish farm**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

Scottish Sea Farms Limited appealed against eight conditions of a marine pen fish farm authorisation related to medicine use, notifications, and reporting requirements. We granted the authorisation, which used our new marine pen fish farm template, in August 2021. This was the first appeal against the new template's conditions.

In May, the Reporter upheld all the conditions we had set out, except for directing a small amendment be made to the event notification condition. This was to clarify what was meant by 'event'. The Reporter also made some amendments to conditions to reflect changes which we had agreed to during the appeal.

## **2.5 Dhoon Bay investigation into ‘poor’ bathing water**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

Dhoon Bay in Dumfries and Galloway was classified as Scotland’s only ‘poor’ bathing water in 2021. We took samples at the beach and the adjacent freshwater input outside the bathing water season. This was to help us understand what was happening in the water catchment. The sample results showed pollution impacts in the upper water catchment area. We investigated this and found poor farm management practices arising from treading by livestock. This had caused significant damage to bankside vegetation and soil, known as poaching, with run-off to a small burn. We gathered evidence which demonstrated a clear non-compliance with the rules that we have a duty to enforce.

In May we took enforcement action by imposing a Fixed Monetary Penalty on a farmer to address the breach. Payment was received for the Fixed Monetary Penalty in June. This investigation highlights the need for full compliance. It also highlights the importance of land managers paying attention to detail in the management of their livestock.

We have been working with the farming community for several years. This includes working with them to reduce risks from keeping livestock, the management of farm slurries and manure.

## **2.6 Bathing waters season launch**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan and David Pirie)**

Scotland’s bathing water season began on 1 June. This season, two new locations have been designated – Barassie in South Ayrshire and Lower Largo in Fife. This brings the total number of official bathing waters for the 2022 season to 87, the highest number of designated beaches recorded.

Of the 85 bathing waters we sampled last year, 99% are classified as sufficient or better for 2022. Thirty-two (38%) are rated as ‘excellent’.

We sample designated bathing waters regularly during the season, which runs until 15 September, and publish the results online. Our network of 29 bathing water signs shows daily water quality information so visitors can decide whether they participate in water or land-based activities. Predictions are also published on our website.

This year, we will be installing six new bathing water information signs at five locations in the Southwest - replacing the original units from 2003.

- Ayr (two signs)
- Irvine
- Prestwick
- Troon
- Saltcoats and Ardrossan

## **2.7 Water environment fund (Lead AMT Member: David Harley)**

### **2.7.1 Fish pass installation at Mid Calder Weir, West Lothian**

We worked with West Lothian Council and the Forth Rivers Trust, in the installation of a new fish pass at the Mid Calder Weir on the River Almond. We administered the Scottish Government funds for this project and provided scientific input. This support has enabled West Lothian Council to ease fish passage at the redundant weir.

This is the sixth of seven local authority weirs between Cramond and Livingston where work is being carried out. The aim of the work is to reopen 298 kilometres of the River Almond to native migrating fish including salmon, eels, sea trout, and lamprey.



Figure 1 – Mid Calder Weir before (left) and after fish pass installation.

### **2.7.2 Board Members site visit to Tollcross Burn – Sandyhills Park project**

On 7 June, some of our Board members visited the Sandyhills Park project. Our case officers and staff from Glasgow City Council gave an overview into the project. They emphasised the importance of partnership working and community engagement. They also noted the input from across the organisation in delivering this successful project.

The project was funded by the Glasgow City Deal, the Water Environment Fund and Scottish Water. Work was carried out to restore 525 metres of the Tollcross Burn. The Burn was previously diverted into a below ground culvert. It had not been visible in the park for around 70 years.

The restoration provides benefits to the local urban community. This is through enhanced path and bridge access, amenity greenspace, as well as natural flood management, climate resilience and enhanced habitat and biodiversity.

The project is a good example of the use of nature-based solutions to create a valuable and lasting resource for the whole community.

Further information on the project can be found [on our website](#).



Figure 2 - Board members site visit to Tollcross burn - Sandyhills Park Project.

### **2.7.3 Garrell Burn success recognised by Minister for Environment and Land Reform**

The work we have carried out with partners to restore urban rivers has been recognised by the Minister for Environment and Land Reform, Mairi McAllan. She noted that it is a good example of a Water Environment Fund success story. This was following a briefing to the Minister by the Scottish Government, Water Environment Team. They updated the Minister on the successful migration of salmon into the Garrel Burn at Kilsyth.

North Lanarkshire Council, with support and funding from us and the Scottish Government, through the Water Environment Fund has restored the Garrel Burn to a more natural condition. They have also installed two fish passes for migrating wild fish.

This is the first time in around 100 years that salmon have been found in the Burn in Kilsyth upstream of the weirs.

## **2.8 Guidance to farmers for silage making in 2022**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

The National Farmers Union of Scotland contacted us about concerns in the livestock sector regarding very wet silage being made in May and June. Farmers were reporting structural issues with their silage pits. They also reported that there were higher than normal volumes of silage effluent to manage.

The cool damp weather in early 2022 delayed the first cut silage in some areas. This meant there was a heavier than normal grass crop and the production of silage effluent was causing difficulties. This also led to ensiled grass slumping and in some cases, it had to be removed from silage pits. Other issues raised were the risks of air pockets. This could spoil the ensiled crop as well as create the potential for overfilling silos. In turn this increases the risk of structural failure and may lead to pollution occurring.

We were asked to draft guidance to share with the National Farmers Union of Scotland and their membership. This guidance provided advice on how to comply and reduce risks. It was shared with the Farm Advisory Service and Farming and Water Scotland. They then shared the guidance on their social media platforms. We also shared the guidance with our local teams.

## **2.9 Updates to SEPA guidance and application forms for discharges to the water environment**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

Following a detailed review, we published updated versions of two regulatory methods: [Sewage discharges to surface waters](#) (WAT-RM-03) and [Indirect sewage discharges to groundwater](#) (WAT-RM-04). The updated versions are now [on our website](#). They relate to authorising discharges to surface water and groundwater.

These new versions make it easier for staff assessing applications. They will also help applicants to identify drainage options which we will be able to approve.

We have also improved the application forms for registration level discharges. These improvements will make it easier for applicants to complete the forms. They will also help us to streamline the assessment of applications.

## **2.10 Scottish Parliament - Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee (Lead AMT Member: David Harley)**

We were invited to give evidence to a Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee panel session. This session was part of the [inquiry](#) into the role of local government and partners into the financing and delivery of a net zero Scotland. The session can be [viewed](#) in full and the official report is on [the Scottish Parliament's website](#).

During the session we emphasised the interconnected nature of the net zero challenge. We highlighted that there needs to be more collaboration between public bodies and local authorities on net zero issues.

We provided the Grangemouth complex as an example of public and private sector working together within an innovative governance framework to advance Just Transition. We explained it is at risk of flooding, contributes to climate crisis and required a unique Just Transition plan.

A [Just Transition](#) means greening the economy in a way that is as fair and inclusive as possible to everyone concerned, creating good work opportunities, and leaving no one behind. A Just Transition involves maximising the social and economic opportunities of climate action, while minimising and carefully managing any challenges – including through effective social dialogue.

## **2.11 Oil and gas decommissioning (Lead AMT Member: David Harley)**

On 18 May, we attended the Decom North Sea Event at the P&J Live Conference Centre in Aberdeen. We were invited as part of the Decommissioning Regulatory Hub ([DecomRegHub](#)) initiative to host an exhibition stand. This allowed us to share and highlight the importance of understanding the regulatory framework governing the oil and gas decommissioning sector.

Other attendees included late-life oil and gas asset owners, supply chain stakeholders and regulators. During the event discussions took place on the opportunities and challenges the sector faces as it delivers compliance while supporting energy transition, and establishment of a healthy circular economy.

## 2.12 VIBES - Scottish Environment Business Awards

### (Lead AMT Member: David Harley)

This year, the [VIBES – Scottish Environment Business Awards](#) received over 400 nominations. Entries were received from a wide variety of businesses from across Scotland. Seventy-one per cent of the entries were from businesses entering the awards for the first time.

Partner organisations scored the applications and agreed on the 45 finalists. A team of three judges will now either attend a site visit or interview finalists through MS Teams. Following training, an additional 43 staff from partner organisation, including 14 members of our staff will be part of the judging process. The Awards ceremony is scheduled to be held as a hybrid event on the 1 November.

The Awards are a partnership between us, The Scottish Government, Energy Saving Trust, Highland & Islands Enterprise, Scottish Enterprise, South of Scotland Enterprise, Scottish Water, Zero Waste Scotland and NatureScot.

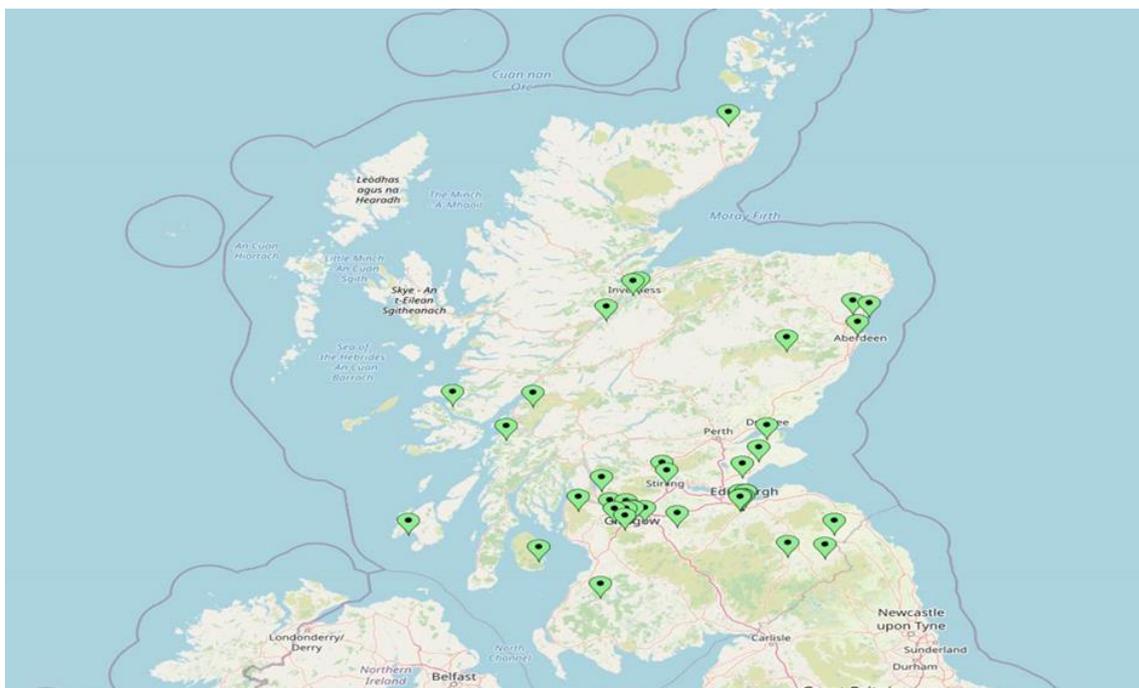


Figure 3 - Geographic spread of VIBE finalists

## **2.13 Training events with Forestry and Land Scotland**

### **(Lead AMT Member: Ian Buchanan)**

Forestry and Land Scotland has asked us to, once more, support training workshops they have arranged. These will follow the successful workshops held in 2021. Staff from Scottish Water are also involved.

The training focuses on diffuse pollution regulations, good forestry practice, and how to protect sensitive areas such as drinking water catchments. Forestry activities have the potential to impact public or private drinking water supplies. This can lead to us carrying out investigations. Proactive training like this raises awareness of the need to protect the water environment, improve industry practice, and improve compliance.

The training includes a classroom session and outdoor site visits. The sessions are running from May to September. It is anticipated about 150 forestry staff will attend the training. The central Scotland session was held in May 2022. This session provided the opportunity for six of our new staff members to take part and learn about rural land use, diffuse pollution, and problem resolution.

### 3. Flooding

#### 3.1 Water Scarcity (AMT Lead Member: David Pirie)

Many areas in the east of Scotland continued to get drier throughout June and into the start of July. The Firth of Tay and the Ythan catchments are at moderate water scarcity, with many eastern areas at the Alert level. We have been engaging with abstractors (for example, agricultural irrigators, distilleries, hatcheries, golf course managers and Scottish Water) in these areas. We continue to issue [weekly update reports](#) on water scarcity, [media statements](#) and interviews.

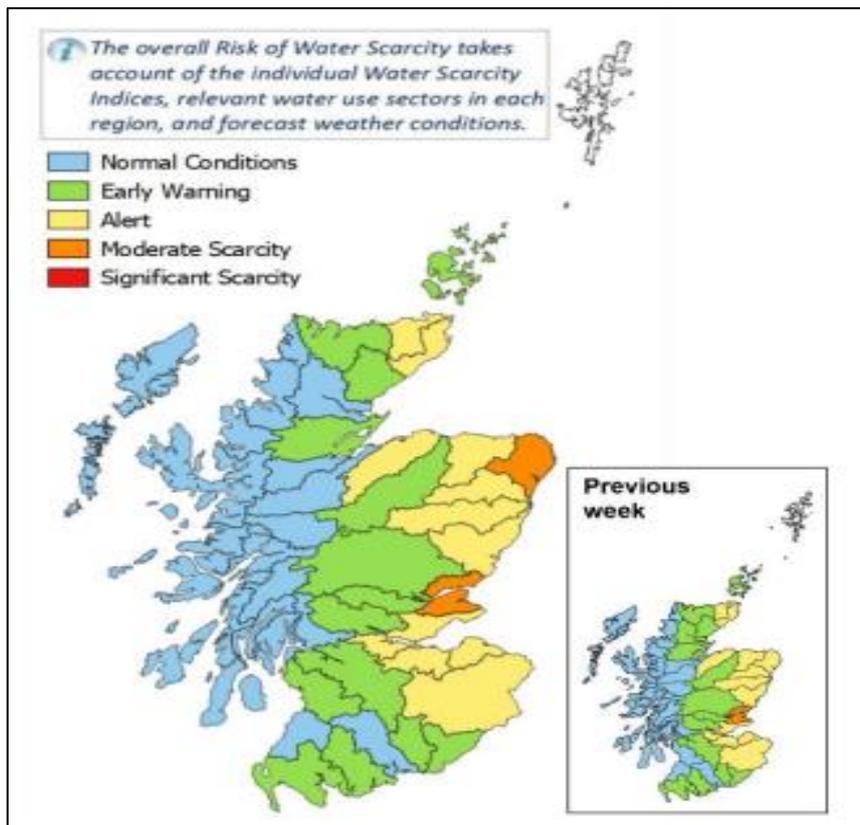


Figure 4 - Map indicating risk of water scarcity across Scotland

## 3.2 Improving our network stations

### (Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)

We are continuing to upgrade and improve our network of gauging stations across Scotland. This is to ensure they can meet future demands. In the northwest of the country, we completed a new gauging station upgrade at New Kelso.

This build incorporated cladding made from recycled plastic. This type of cladding will need less maintenance. We are also looking into techniques which, in some circumstances, may allow us to substantially reduce the volume of concrete and associated CO2 emissions required for future station builds.



Figure 5 - New Kelso gauging station

## 3.3 Site visit to Smithton and Culloden flood scheme

### (Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)

On 15 June, the Head of Flood Risk Management at The Highland Council, provided a tour of the Council's recently completed flood scheme. The scheme addresses flooding from several small, urbanised watercourses through the towns of Smithton and Culloden, to the east of Inverness.

The works covered a range of measures to address the causes of flooding. This included restoration of open channel sections of watercourse from long culverts. As well as the conversion of two existing football pitch areas into multifunctional flood storage spaces.

We had the opportunity during the tour to discuss the range of benefits that the scheme has delivered for local communities. Particularly how the community was engaged through the consultation and design process. The tour also allowed us to see first-hand how beneficial the scheme is to the local area.

The Highland Council has produced a short video giving an overview of the scheme. The video is available on [their YouTube channel](#).

### **3.4 Women in Flood Risk Management (Scotland) - mentoring programme (Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)**

Women in Flood Risk Management (Scotland) is a networking group of professionals. The group was set up to support and connect women working across the flood risk management sector. We have recently set up a mentoring programme which will be launching soon.

The mentoring programme connects people who have a particular skill set (mentor) with a small group of individuals (mentees). The programme provides learning opportunities for all involved. It aims to build strong relationships with the mentor and the mentees. This enables everyone to feel comfortable, supported, and confident in sharing issues and concerns. We are helping to co-ordinate and drive this forward in Scotland while connecting with the mentoring programme network in England.

### **3.5 Developing new surface water flood maps for Scotland (Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)**

Our development of new high resolution surface water flood maps for Scotland are well underway. We are using the latest data on current and future rainfall with our delivery partner JBA Consulting. In May we led a public webinar with JBA Consulting to introduce the project. More than 200 attendees joined the webinar.

Following a successful pilot stage to develop modelling and mapping methodologies in 2021. The project is now rolling out the agreed approaches nationally. This roll out is taking place in a sequence of 11 geographical phases. Along with our partner organisations, we have recently received the first set of draft flood maps for review. The review process is being supported by our Hydrology and Flooding staff, as well as 10 volunteers who responded to a flexible deployment request to support the project.

### 3.6 Scottish Flood Forecasting Service: Ipsos Mori survey

**(Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)**

In February this year, we were involved in sending out a detailed survey to around 900 professional customers of the Scottish Flood Forecasting Service. The survey was sent to those receiving our daily Flood Guidance Statement - the Met Office (UK) and the Flood Forecasting Service (England and Wales).

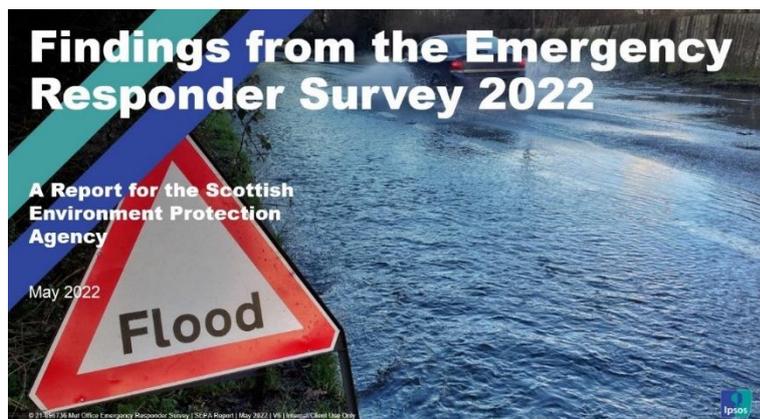


Figure 6 Emergency Responder Survey 2022 findings

This survey is being used to monitor trends and measure satisfaction among emergency responders with weather and flood services. Ipsos Mori has conducted the survey since 2012. A total 708 interviews were conducted with UK responders, out of a possible 10,000. This was a lower participation rate than normal.

Key feedback about our Flood Guidance Statement included:

Product satisfaction:

- 81% of responders were satisfied. This is a drop in those 'very' satisfied with the Flood Guidance Statement since 2019;
- 85% of responders said that clarity, accuracy and the right level of detail in the Flood Guidance Statement are essential or very important to allow them to take appropriate actions;
- 77% said that the Flood Guidance Statement provides sufficient information to take appropriate actions on all or most occasions;
- 74% said that information is provided in a timely manner on all or most occasions, allowing them to take appropriate action; and
- half of responders who see the all-green five-day Flood Guidance Statement maps would take no action and assume there is nothing of immediate or forthcoming concern.

Access (channel and device):

- 71% prefer a direct email from us;
- 36% would prefer to access via Met Office Hazard Manager;
- 23% would prefer the ability to access via an app.
- 76% tend to use a laptop (home working during the pandemic is thought to be a significant influence here); and
- 29% of responders say they are more likely to access the Flood Guidance Statement in future via a mobile device than is currently the case.

Results from this survey will be analysed further. This will inform future customer-focused improvements to our flood forecasting and warning service.

### **3.7 Scottish Flood Forecast: public beta release**

#### **(Lead AMT Member: David Pirie)**

As one of the commitments made in our [climate change statement](#), and in partnership with the Met Office. We launched a beta version of a new three-day Scottish Flood Forecast to members of the public on 12 May.

#### **What is the Scottish Flood Forecast?**

Through our Scottish Flood Forecasting partnership with the Met Office, we will produce the forecast and make it available on our website. It will be a public-friendly version of the Flood Guidance Statement currently issued to emergency responders.

Anyone interested in finding out whether flooding is likely to happen across Scotland over the next three days can use the Scottish Flood Forecast. They can then prepare to act if needed. It uses maps and the colours yellow, amber, and red to indicate whether flooding is likely to happen, along with a description of the possible or likely impacts.

## **Designing the Scottish Flood Forecast**

We have followed the Scottish Government endorsed service design approach to develop the Scottish Flood Forecast. This has involved extensive user research with the public, community flood groups, emergency responders, partner organisations, us, and Met Office employees. The findings identified a need for flood information to be provided earlier, in a simple and clear way, with the ability to check where no significant flooding is expected.

We have also worked closely with the Met Office accessibility tester to make sure the content is accessible to all. It adheres to our own accessibility checklist and complies with the Public Sector Bodies (websites and mobile applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

### **How it will be produced?**

We have worked closely with our contractor, HTK, to develop a new web hosting and production platform. We will use this to produce the new Scottish Flood Forecast at the same time as our existing daily Flood Guidance Statement.

### **Public beta release**

The Scottish Flood Forecast was made available for the public to preview online from 12 May. This is the first step towards providing communities with improved flood information.

We will gather public feedback from now until Autumn this year. This will inform the next steps, refine the design, and include more elements. We expect that the forecast will be finalised and fully launched later this year.

## 4. Organisation

### 4.1 Equality and Human Rights - oversight group

#### (Lead AMT Member: John Kenny)

In June we held the first meeting of our Equality and Human Rights- oversight group. The group will help us create an organisation where all staff can excel at work. Where our services meet all our customers' needs and where we value diversity. It will assist the Agency Management Team, providing oversight on the progress of our equality outcomes during 2022-2023.

The group includes senior leaders and individuals who work on equality across the organisation. They will:

- review the progress we are making in relation to the equality outcomes;
- provide feedback and develop initiatives and actions. This will make it easier for people to engage with our services and workplace; and
- help us to embed equality at the outset of everything we do. This will enable us to show that equality is a central focus in all our work practices across the organisation

There are four Equality Outcomes covering the period 2022 – 2026. We are developing a clear and focused programme of activity to deliver these equality outcomes until 2026:

- **Equality outcome 1** - We have increased the number of people from currently underrepresented groups in our applicants, our staff and those who progress within the organisation.
- **Equality outcome 2** - People with lived experience of inequality, related to a protected characteristic or socioeconomic status, access, and use SEPA's services without barriers.
- **Equality outcome 3** - Staff with lived experience of inequality and barriers, and with a wide variety of needs, feel listened to and respected as SEPA meets those needs.
- **Equality outcome 4** – We have decreased our gender pay gap and occupational segregation related to gender, disability, and ethnicity.

## 4.2 Future of Work (Lead AMT Member: John Kenny)

Our Future of Work Vision is fully aligned to the Scottish Government's '[Investing in Scotland's Future: Resource Spending Review](#)' and associated updates to the Scottish Public Finance Manual property policies.

In June we made significant progress with the reopening of our buildings. Galashiels reopened to staff on 20 June. Our Balloch, Thurso, Lochgilphead and Perth offices are scheduled to re-open in mid-July. Our Aberdeen and Angus Smith Buildings will be opened further in early July. This will give more staff the option of hybrid working. Public access to these offices is restricted to arranged access only, no drop ins are currently permitted. Five more buildings have been prioritised for re-opening activities from July 2022.

While some of our buildings remain closed, as we continue to recover from the pandemic and cyber-attack, public sector partners (Nature Scot, the Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise) have provided access to their buildings for several staff who find it difficult to work from home.

Short term lease extensions have been approved by Ministers for Silvan House, Edinburgh and Strathearn House, Perth. These extensions will allow time to assess the impact of hybrid working on building occupancy levels as we work through our future service delivery needs.

## 4.3 Staff wellbeing (Lead AMT Member: John Kenny)

We continue to monitor staff wellbeing at regular intervals via Pulse health and wellbeing surveys. This is helping us to understand how people feel and how wellbeing can change over time. The surveys help to identify any extra support we can provide for staff.

They also help to track the impact of health and wellbeing resources and materials that we are producing.

We continue to promote the range of resources available for staff and managers on our SharePoint health and wellbeing pages. In June as part of our wellbeing support, we provided two interactive 'Introduction to Mindfulness' sessions. Two members of staff who are also qualified Mindfulness teachers led these sessions.

#### **4.4 Cycle to work scheme (Lead AMT Member: John Kenny)**

In early May we launched our new Cycle to work scheme with Cycle Solutions. The scheme works on a salary sacrifice basis. Staff can access a range of bikes, including e-bikes and adaptive bikes for disabilities as well as cycling accessories. There has been a steady uptake since the scheme was launched. We also took the opportunity to publicise the scheme again during National Bike week in early June.

#### **4.5 Risk (Lead AMT Member: Bridget Marshall)**

As we move out of Covid restrictions a full programme of statutory and non-statutory training, testing, and exercises are being scheduled and delivered. As a Category 1 agency we are fully engaged in the regional Risk Preparedness Assessment process and the workstreams that flow from this. We will support the partnership to improve the multi-agency understanding and response. We will do this in two areas, surface water flooding and the response to reservoir emergencies.

We recently participated in the 'no notice' national marine pollution exercise - Phoenix. This exercise tested the [National Contingency Plan](#) and looked at an offshore event close to Shetland. In May we supported a statutory modular exercise at Dounreay, testing the Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell.

Annual tests were recently held at the Grangemouth complex. This consisted of three elements: live play, table-top and presentations. We were involved in the planning and development and took an active part in attending the exercise elements.

Staff attended an MS Teams awareness presentation delivered by the local Emergency Planner. The presentation covered Grangemouth complex production and emergency response processes.

We are planning further internal training and exercises. These include an exercise for the Agency Management Team in September. This will cover the consequences of a national power outage. We have also established working groups to improve our response to the control of major accident hazards, nuclear, and animal health events.

## 4.6 Pharmaceutical Data Visualisation Tool

### (Lead AMT Members: Bridget Marshall and David Pirie)

On 13 June we launched a new data visualisation tool on behalf of the [One Health Breakthrough Partnership](#). This tool will help researchers better understand the effects medicines have on Scotland's environment. '[Pharmaceuticals in the Water Environment](#)' is the first open access interactive tool in the UK to combine national environmental and prescribing data. With data for 60 medicines detected in river water, raw wastewater, and treated wastewater it is designed to help researchers, academics, health professionals and environmental scientists develop a better understanding of the link between medicine use and the presence of pharmaceuticals in the environment.

The successful launch of the tool was achieved due to collaboration with the One Health Breakthrough Partnership partners and internal cross portfolio working.

## 4.7 Rebuild on our financial system

### (Lead AMT Member: Stuart McGregor)

#### 4.7.1 Phase four of our finance and staff data system build

This is almost complete with the staff active directory now in the final stages. This has not progressed as quickly as we intended due to the availability of internal resources. We are currently addressing this. Financial reporting is now available to budget managers and training has been provided.

#### 4.7.2 Procurement update

Significant work has been undertaken to prepare a procurement pipeline document. This procurement pipeline details upcoming procurements over future financial years. It is expected that a redacted version will be made public in late 2022. This document will help to inform potential suppliers of upcoming contract opportunities.

Work is underway on the 2021-2022 Annual Procurement Report.

Major contracts have been awarded for:

- Agresso systems support;
- network switches; and
- works at Bronie Burn Weir.

The following major contracts are currently out to tender or are being evaluated:

- Stack emissions monitoring.
- Next generation telemetry.
- Works at Gateside Mills.