

Clyde Catchment Conference: Living and Working with the River

Friday 13th December 2002

The Teacher Building, 14 St Enoch Square, Glasgow G1 4DB

09:30 Registration and Coffee

10:00 Opening address *Lady Isabel Glasgow*

10:15 Learning to Live with Rivers *Professor George Fleming*

10:35 Clyde reBuilt, An Economic and Social Strategy *Steven McGarva*

10:55 Discussion and Questions

11:15 Coffee

11:30 Water Framework Directive *Callum Sinclair*

11.50 Forward Thinking in Catchment Management: *Iain Macnab*

12:10 Discussion and Questions

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Predicting Water Levels in the Clyde *Professor Alan Ervine*

13:50 The Cost of Keeping Dry: An Insurance Perspective *Professor David Crichton*

14:10 Discussion and Questions

14:30 Coffee

14:45 Workshops

15:30 Plenary Session

16:00 Close

The Speakers

George Fleming is Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Strathclyde and Managing Director of EnviroCentre. George recently chaired the Institution of Civil Engineers Presidential Review of Flood Risk Management and will combine the findings of this national review with his local knowledge of the Clyde.

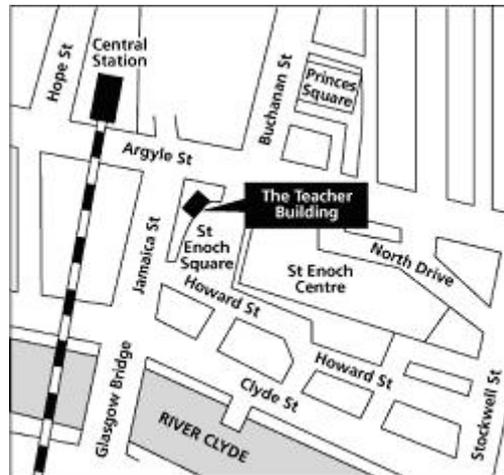
Steven McGarva has worked for Scottish Enterprise for eight years. He is Project Director for the Clyde Waterfront and is responsible for the development of a framework and action plan which will lead to the holistic and sustainable regeneration of the Clyde.

Callum Sinclair is part of the SEPA Water Framework Directive project team involved in River Basin Management Planning, catchment planning and engineering activity regulation. He has a background in fresh water fisheries management and habitat restoration.

Iain Macnab works for Glasgow City Council's Development and Regeneration Services and manages the team responsible for water course maintenance and flood mitigation measures within the City under the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1997. One leading scheme is the White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme delivering flood prevention to a highly populated urban sub-catchment of the Clyde.

Alan Ervine is Professor of Water Engineering at Glasgow University. He is an expert in river flood analysis and leads the UK Network on Flood Conveyance in River Floodplain Systems.

David Crichton is an Honorary Visiting Professor at the Middlesex University Flood Hazard Research Centre and an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Dundee. David is an economist with nearly 30 years experience in the insurance industry and provides advice to the Association of British Insurers (ABI) on climate change issues.



WORKSHOPS

Aim: To allow representatives and stakeholders from a range of backgrounds to identify and debate the key issues and problems arising in the Clyde catchment as a result of economic, social and environmental changes and to identify sustainable, practical and balanced solutions to these issues.

Five workgroups are planned, each focussing on different aspects of the management of the Clyde basin. All groups will address the following basics points

- Defining the present conditions.
- Identify best practice and whether this is happening in the Clyde catchment.
- Is there a need for a catchment wide forum for the strategic management of the Clyde?
- If yes, what would this forum look like ? Who would/should be members?

In addition the following questions relate directly to specific workgroups.

Heritage and Amenity Planning

- Are there areas where economic development is in direct conflict with heritage and amenity value?
- What are the potential solutions to these conflicts?
- Should planning and redevelopment issues relating to the Clyde be considered by an independent body?

Biodiversity, Water Quality and Fisheries

- How will the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plans affect the Clyde?
- Are there opportunities for economic development (e.g fisheries) and/or increased amenity value as a result of improved water quality and increased biodiversity? How can these opportunities be maximised at minimal cost to the environment?

- What is the potential for flood risk management schemes to be combined with habitat enhancement schemes?

Sustainable Economic Development

- Are there areas where economic development is seen as unsustainable or to be in direct conflict with environmental and/or social issues?
- Should developments within flood plains be subject to some form of tax or levy to contribute to the costs of building and maintaining flood defences or what would be an alternative approach?
- Should the long term effects of new developments on existing businesses and communities be considered more carefully?

Flood Risk Management

- Is flood risk management strategic enough?
- How can the Water Environment and Water Service (Scotland) Bill improve flood risk management?
- Should Local Authorities maintain responsibility for flood defences or should an overarching strategic body have this responsibility to ensure a coherent approach?

Flood Awareness for Community and Business Groups

- How aware are businesses and communities of flood risk and climate change issues?
- Is insurance becoming a problem in the catchment and how do groups envisage coping with increased premiums in the future?
- What are the most effective ways to raise awareness of flood related issues and to increase flood preparedness?

Results of the workgroup sessions and a report on the days events will be available here.



Friday, 13 December 2002

The Firth of Clyde Forum, EnviroCentre and The Clyde Heritage Trust are holding an important conference to explore the challenges faced in managing the Clyde catchment today, to maximise sustainable economic development along the Clyde and to promote and protect the river and estuary. By necessity, those living and working alongside the river are becoming increasingly aware of social, economic and environmental changes and their potential impact upon daily life, one area of particular concern being increased flood risk due to climate change. Key speakers will present a range of topics affecting the Clyde today and investigate how a strategic Clyde wide catchment management approach could provide a mutual benefit to all stakeholders working and living alongside the river.

Clyde Catchment Conference: Living and Working with the River promises to be a thought-provoking one day conference which should further stimulate interest and debate as to how the Clyde should be managed to achieve a sustainable balance between exciting new economic development opportunities and environmental change. I would like to take this

opportunity to invite you, your colleagues and/or friends to this conference. More details are available from the conference flyer which is available to download [here](#) (58kb).