

## **6 DIGHTY RESTORATION PROJECT (AN22-2023)**

The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) have identified three lengths of the Dighty watercourse as having potential for restoration. These lengths of the Dighty watercourse are as described below:

- north of Harestane Road from Harestane House, 88 Harestane Road to Emmock Road;
- east of Millburn Gardens and upstream of the Trottick Ponds; and
- between Fintry Road and Baldovie Road.

The river restoration work would aim to deliver significant ecological improvements, enhance biodiversity, and expand the natural habitat of the Dighty whilst also creating a multiuse recreational area that is accessible to everyone in the community to provide multisensory experiences and educational opportunities. The incorporation of other multiple benefits will also be considered as the project is developed.

SEPA have subsequently approached Dundee City Council to gauge if there would be interest in developing a Dighty river restoration project. Subject to a successful SEPA internal funding application, it is proposed that the SEPA Water Environment Fund would provide the primary funding for the project.

The project will assist with delivery of the Dundee City Council plans and policies: City Plan; Climate Action Plan, Greenspace/Green Networks, and Biodiversity Action Plan.

It is proposed that Dundee City Council lead the project with support from SEPA. Dundee City Council resource costs associated with the initial development of the project will be contained within the City Engineer's existing Flood Risk Management Revenue Budget. Future phases of the project, including the development of the project brief, design development and construction, would be funded through a successful SEPA internal funding application to their Water Environment Fund. The project would be delivered over several years, with construction work expected to commence in 2028.

Committee is asked to agree that the City Engineer develops the project with support from SEPA and other partners.