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## Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

### Briefing Note

29 July 24 Report by Brendan Frankgate

## QUEEN MARGARET RD/KELVINSIDE TERRACE SOUTH (SOUTH SECTION) EMBANKMENT & RETAINING WALL STABILITY

### Background

Due to concerns over the stability of the embankment and retaining wall on Queen Margaret Rd, Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) between the Sixty Steps and Doune Quadrant has been closed since September 2022 in the interests of public safety.

### Geotechnical Investigation

Due to concern caused by cracking beneath the road of Kelvinside Terrace South, GCC commissioned consultant RSK to investigate the cause. Two key aspects were assessed via drilling, visual assessment, geophysics and 6 months of inclinometer monitoring:-

1. The stability of the 10 metre high slope between Kelvin Walkway and the south section of Kelvinside Terrace South.
2. The condition of an old retaining wall at the top of the slope, along the southern margin of the road.

The outcome of the specialist assessment is:-

3. The slope can be considered stable i.e. the cracking is not indicative of a collapse of the entire slope.
4. Deterioration of the old retaining wall has caused some superficial disturbance to the road. It is capable of supporting light traffic such as pedestrians or cyclists along the southern road lane.
5. The northern road lane is safe for use by vehicular traffic.

The assessment confirms that the 60 Steps Retaining Wall and neighbouring properties remain safe and are unaffected by the slope or old retaining wall. Therefore, no slope stability or retaining wall works are proposed at this time as there is no safety risk. Also, it is noted that the cost to reinstate the slope and repair the retaining wall are cost prohibitive and unaffordable.

Instead, a traffic management and active travel solution will be implemented to re-open Kelvinside Terrace South (south section), relocate parking bays on Kelvinside Terrace South (north section) and improve east/west active travel connectivity.

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### **Traffic Management & Active Travel Solution**

#### Prohibition of Driving - refer to schematic on next page

Prohibits driving on Queen Margaret Road/Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) between the Sixty Steps and Doune Quadrant but will allow access for walking, wheeling and cycling.

A lockable gate is to be installed at Queen Margaret Road/Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) in case maintenance is required to the road surface, drainage, street lighting and public utilities. This is essentially the same situation as has existed since 2021.

The other end of Kelvinside Terrace (south section) will look similar to the island and kerbing as exists nearby in Doune Quadrant.

Parking bays currently marked along this section of Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) will be removed (refer to Traffic Management section below).

The parking bays currently sited along the north side of Kelvinside Terrace South, in front of the tenemental properties, will be relocated to the south side of the road as already requested by residents.

Vehicular access from Kelvinside Terrace South (north section) and Doune Gardens permits travel in both directions as the per the current arrangements.

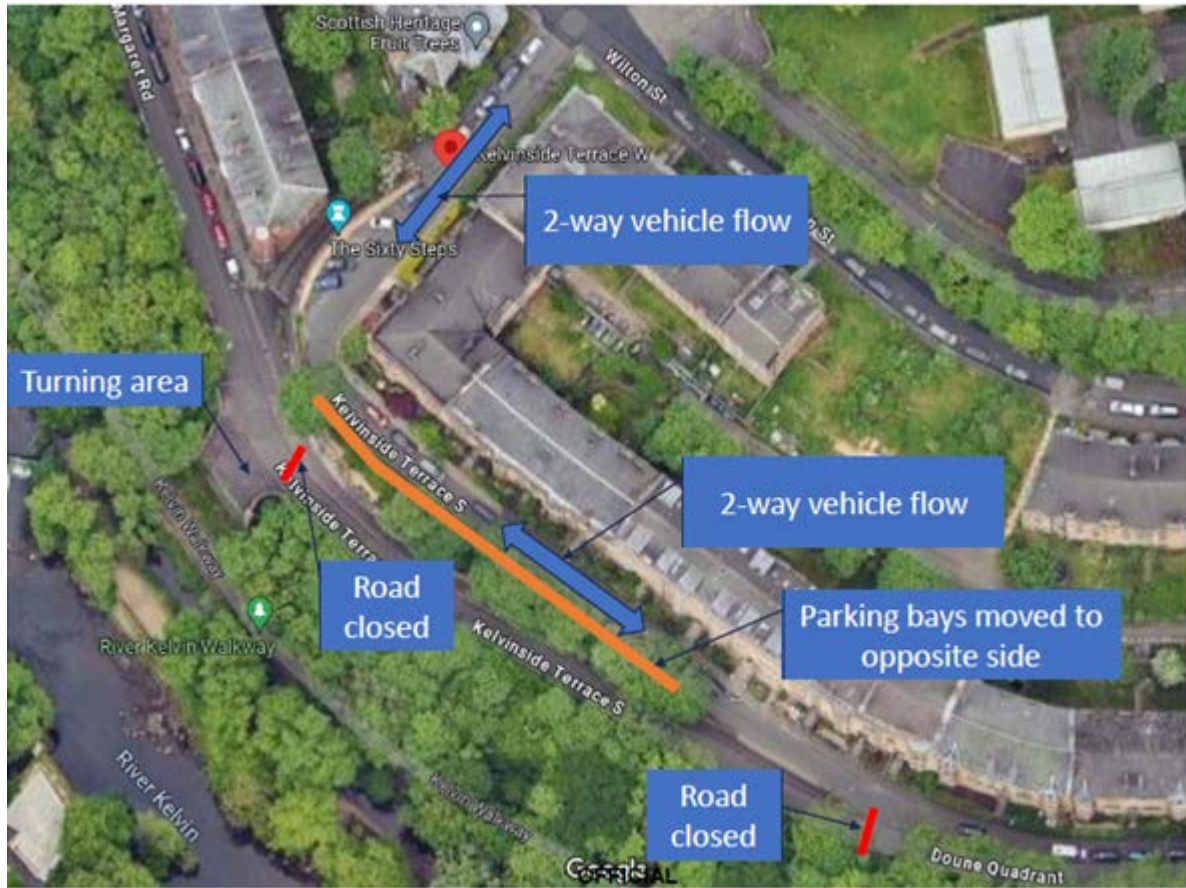
The solution assists east/west active travel - Queen Margaret Dr, Kelvinside Terrace South (south section), Doune Quadrant, Raeberry St to Connecting Woodside.

Also, discussions could be held with the local community to discuss options to improve the amenity of Kelvinside Terrace South (south section).

**Estimated cost = £24,000**

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**Traffic Management – Prohibition of Driving (walking, wheeling & cycling permitted)**



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### **Scottish Water Planned Works Kelvinside Terrace South**

Scottish Water (SW) require to replace an essential combined sewer pipe on Kelvinside Terrace West and Kelvinside Terrace South. During the works, these roads will be closed with access to Doune Quadrant available from Kelvinside Terrace South only. SW's works had been postponed pending the outcome of investigation into the Queen Margaret Rd/Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) embankment and retaining wall issues. SW have been advised that Queen Margaret Rd/Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) is safe and stable as long as vehicular traffic is kept on the north side away from the retaining wall and a safe working method is agreed.

NRS are liaising closely with SW and their appointed traffic management contractor to allow these works to be undertaken safely. NRS have confirmed that Queen Margaret Rd, Kelvinside Terrace South and Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) are safe for the sewer replacement. The SW works need to be completed prior to the above Traffic Management & Active Travel Solution being implemented to reduce the impact on local residents. The SW combined sewer replacement programme is still to be confirmed but it will not be completed before October 2024.

NRS will engage with SW with regards to resurfacing Kelvinside Terrace South (north section) and the installation of a new kerb/fence line so that these works are included in the sewer replacement programme.

### **Traffic Regulation Order – Prohibition of Driving**

The Prohibition of Driving (walking, wheeling and cycling permitted) would be introduced initially through the promotion of a temporary traffic regulation order (TTRO) for a period of up to 18 months not starting until after the completion of the above SW works.

Then the TTRO will be included in the permanent traffic regulation order (TRO) for the North Kelvin Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) Review. This Review is due to be implemented by April 2026, subject to the successful promotion of the required TRO.

#### The impact on parking spaces

The solution will result in approximately 9 parking spaces being permanently removed on Kelvinside Terrace South (south section). These 9 parking spaces are not directly adjacent to any residential properties and are often unoccupied as they are most likely used only as an overspill by residents that live within surrounding roads.

Queen Margaret Drive is close by and there are a significant number of parking spaces available for permit holders. There are regularly high numbers of available parking spaces throughout the day and night which residents could utilise as an overspill facility if required.

### **North Kelvin RPZ Review**

The Review will take account of minor amendments to parking spaces and a bigger discussion around chargeable hours. The discussion will consider standardisation of chargeable times (Monday – Sunday 8am to 10pm) across all existing parking zones, except the city centre, which is being reviewed separately.

NRS will engage with local elected members and community councils within the North Kelvin and North Woodside RPZ boundary by August 2024. A separate communication will be issued to elected members and community council regarding this.

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### Summary:

The Prohibition of Driving (walking, wheeling and cycling permitted) will be introduced by an 18-month TTRO. The TTRO will commence after the completion of the essential SW combined sewer works (eg 18 months maximum commencing sometime after October 2024).

The TTRO period aligns to the TRO Review programmed to be completed by April 2026.

The TTRO/TRO will allow access for walking, wheeling and cycling between Queen Margaret Road and Doune Quadrant. The gate will allow access to maintain existing street lighting, the road surface, drainage and any utility infrastructure.

The solution also has the potential to improve east/west quiet way active travel - Queen Margaret Dr - Kelvinside Terrace South (south section) - Doune Quadrant - Raeberry St to Connecting Woodside.

Local community engagement can take place regarding the amenity opportunity for the closed section of Kelvinside Terrace South (south section).

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