

Section 5 (i) - Potential impacts the works may have (including details of areas of concern e.g designated conservation and shellfish harvesting areas) and proposed mitigation in response to potential impacts (continue on separate sheet if necessary):

The Water Environment

The Water Environment that may potentially be impacted by the works includes the River Kelvin (situated beneath the structure / works area), the River Clyde (approx. 365m southwest from structure) and the groundwater underlying the site. No other surface waters other than those mentioned are located within close proximity to the site. It should be noted that no in-water or works below MHWS are part of the scope of works, and no breaking ground is required.

To protect the Water Environment, Story will carry out all works in strict accordance with any applicable General Binding Rule (GBR), including GBR 9, as outlined in SEPA's 'The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (as amended) - A Practical Guide document (June, 2023). No additional authorisations by SEPA are required.

Story will also carry out all works in line with all relevant SEPA / NetRegs Guidance for Pollution Prevention (GPP) documents, in particular GPP 5 (Works and Maintenance in or near water), GPP 6 (Working on construction and demolition sites), and GPP 21 (Pollution Incident Response Planning).

All environmental mitigation measures shall be outlined in Story's Environmental & Social Management Plan (ESMP), subject to approval by our client Network Rail. All environmental mitigation measures shall be communicated to the site team by Story's Site Manager via the site induction for all staff and subcontractors, as well as through daily briefings and toolbox talks.

To ensure all works are carried out in accordance with our ESMP and relevant legislation, regulations and best practice guidelines for the duration of the construction phase, our internal environmental team will carry out regular environmental site audits (i.e. on a monthly basis, or as agreed with the Client). Story is also subject to external site environmental audits by our client Network Rail.

As preventing spills is essential to protecting the Water Environment, every measure will be taken to avoid a spill incident, including carrying out all works in accordance with SEPA best practice guidelines (i.e. GPP 2 - Above ground oil storage tanks) and COSHH regulations (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002 (as amended)). However, in the event of a spill, a spill kit will be available on site at all times to contain and manage any minor spills. For any major spills that may require remedial or ongoing monitoring works, a 24/7 contact number for our nationwide emergency spill response contractor (RSK Raw) will be available in the site office. RSK Raw has a Glasgow office and shall be able to respond quickly in the event of an emergency spill.

Local Biodiversity and Surrounding Habitats

To determine any potential and confirmed ecological features that may be a constraint to the proposed refurbishment works, Story appointed environmental consultants IKM Consulting Ltd (IKM) to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) survey at UB 240/131, which was carried out on 24/02/23. The full report (ref: 19752 - 230124 - UB 240 131 Viaduct Condition Led Repairs and Painting PEA) has been appended to this application and the findings and recommended mitigation measures are summarised as follows:

- The works site is not located within any statutory designated sites.
- There are two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and two Local Nature Reserves (LNR) within 5km of the site (the closest being 2.33km NW from the structure). Any works at this structure are not expected to result in any direct or indirect impacts on any of the designated sites within 5km, as they are not structurally or functionally connected to the structure.
- One area of Ancient Woodland was identified within 1km of the structure, approximately 0.76km from the structure. Given the distance between the structure and the Ancient Woodland, the works on the structure are not expected to result in any direct or indirect impacts.
- It was deemed that the structure does not provide suitable habitat for protected badger, reptiles, otters, or water voles.
- No obvious suitable features for bat roosting were identified on the deck, however there are gaps in between the sandstone brickwork at the top of western-most piers, which could be suitable for single or small numbers of roosting bats. However, the structure was assessed as Low potential for active roosting and Negligible potential for winter seasons hibernation.
- A follow-up bat survey (see document ref: 20140 UB240-131 Viaduct Bat Activity Survey Report appended to this application) was carried out in August 2023, with the survey area including the structure and the immediate surrounds within 50m. No roosting bats were identified within UB 240/131 and therefore it has been deemed that no further bat surveys are required at the structure at this stage.
- Contractor to maintain awareness that the larger survey area may provide opportunities to support populations of protected bats or reptiles. Therefore, Story shall use suitable worksite lighting and a suitably qualified ecologist shall be contacted if any bats or reptiles are observed at the site during works.
- Works commencing across March to August should have a suitably qualified ecologist undertake a nesting bird check as the structure and surroundings offer opportunity to support avian habitation.
- Structure inspections identified potential of roosting or nesting for feral pigeon which can nest all year round, but no evidence of nesting birds was identified on the structure. It should be noted that artificial bird boxes were scattered in the immature trees within the area of amenity grassland to the South of Survey Area.
- Dead stems of Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) were noted on the eastern bank of the River Kelvin and the northwest corner of the structure. The extent of these infestations could not be determined. Buddleia plants were also noted growing within the Survey Area.
- Fish Habitat findings: The PEA mentions that there is potential for juvenile fish to be present from overhanging trees and roots that could provide shade for both juvenile fish and adult fish. The River Kelvin also provides suitable habitat for migratory diadromous fish, such as Atlantic salmon, sea trout, eel and lampreys. However, it should be noted that no works will be carried out in-water or below MHWS, and therefore there will be no obstruction to fish passage or significant disturbance of fish. Should the scope of works change to include any works that may impact fish populations, Story will notify Marine Scotland and any other relevant authority and stakeholders such as local fishing groups and the Clyde River Foundation, with specific mitigation measures to be advised by a qualified fish ecologist. There is no DSFB for the River Kelvin.

Mitigation Measures:

Designated sites: As the works on the structure are not expected impact any designated sites, no mitigation measures are required.

Habitats: The habitats within the Survey Area are common and widespread within the wider landscape but if any trees are to be lost to accommodate the works, this will result in a high impact, given the time it takes to reach maturity. All trees should be retained where possible. It is recommended that for any temporary compound and laydown areas to be utilised for the works, areas of existing hardstanding are utilised, or suitable measures are put in place to re-instate the land to as before values either through ground protection (i.e., temporary roadway or protection matting) to allow full re-establishment in the shortest time possible.

If any vegetation removal is required within the recognised breeding season (March to August, inclusive) a nesting bird check must be carried out of all areas to be cleared, no more than 48 hours ahead of the clearance, by a suitably qualified ecologist. If nesting birds are confirmed to be present, then all works in the vicinity of any nest must be delayed until the young have fledged, and that an ecologist has confirmed the nest is no longer in use. An appropriate exclusion area will also be put in place, which will be species dependent and influenced by the topography on the ground. This will be determined by the ecologist at the time of the discovery.

Fish mitigation measures: As no in-water works or works below the MHWS will be carried, no specific fish mitigation measures are required. Other mitigation relating to protecting the Water Environment and SEPA pollution prevention measures (i.e. relevant GBRs and GPPs) shall be implemented.

Bat Mitigation measures: No roosting bats were identified at UB 240/131 and therefore it has been deemed that no further bat surveys or mitigation measures are required at the structure at this stage. If at any point during the structure works, any roosting bats, or suspected roosting bats are identified, all works within 30m must cease immediately, the area made safe, and a licenced bat worker contacted immediately.

For all (any) night-time working at the structure, a lighting plan shall be in place to ensure that site lighting is restricted to the works area only with minimal light spill to the wider area and River Kelvin riparian corridor. The area should not be lit when site staff are not in attendance.

INNS mitigation measures:

In the first instance, areas where giant hogweed has been identified should be avoided, and alternative work methodologies considered. If the areas of giant hogweed cannot be avoided to accommodate the works at the structure, a minimum 4m exclusion zone around all plants should be marked and no works, storage or passing through should take place within the exclusion zones. Where works within these exclusion zones are required, it is recommended that an invasive species specialist contractor is contacted to develop an invasive non-native species management plan. This may include the removal or treatment of the species. During the works, it is also recommended that a toolbox talk is provided to all site personnel and any sub-contractors. This must cover the location of the plants on site, identification of the species on site, health and safety considerations when working close to this plant and legal implications of its spread.