



Case reference	SMC-GLW-004 & SMC-GLW-005
Application details	Construction of a foot and cycle bridge and associated works
Site address	Forth and Clyde Canal: Glasgow Branch
Applicant	Scottish Canals
Determining Authority	Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
Local Authority Area	Glasgow City Council
Reason(s) for notification	Notification Direction 2015 – works to be granted Scheduled Monument Consent by Historic Environment Scotland go beyond the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument
Representations	NIL
Date notified to Ministers	10 June 2019
Date of recommendation	25 June 2019
Decision / recommendation	Clear

Description of Proposal and Site:

- Scottish Canals have submitted a proposal for cycle and footbridges and associated landscaping to connect sections of the Forth and Clyde Canal (figure 1).
- As the proposed works will take place at Stockingfield Junction the work will impact two scheduled monuments, where the Cleveden Road to Bishopbriggs Golf Course Branch of the Forth & Clyde Canal meets the Glasgow Branch of the Forth & Clyde Canal.
- Both branches of the canal have distinct scheduling and two separate applications for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) have been submitted by Historic Environment Scotland (HES). However, as the applications form part of a single project, both SMC applications have been considered in this assessment.
- Both branches of the canal are of national importance because they are integral parts of the Forth and Clyde Canal, which is an excellent example of Gregorian civil engineering. The canal was the first of Scotland's great inland waterways to be constructed (between 1768 and 1790) and even at the time of its opening, it was christened 'The Great Canal' - a recognition of its national importance even then.



Figure 1 - Proposed Bridges, Pylon, Landscaping and showing where the two Scheduled Monuments meet

Consultations and Representations:

- No representations were made.
- HES has undertaken extensive pre-application discussions with the applicant.
- Upon notification, PAD consulted the Scottish Government's Culture and Historic Environment Division and they are content and have no further comment to make.

Assessment:

1. The applications have been notified as HES are minded to grant scheduled monument consent for proposals that are not considered the minimum necessary consistent with conserving the cultural significance of the monument.
2. The aim of the proposed works is to create new connections on the north, east and west sides of the canal and to enhance the provision for existing canal users. This is considered to be important as there are currently very limited connections for users and where there is a connection (via the tunnel on Lochburn Road) it is considered to be inappropriate due to safety concerns.
3. HES acknowledge that the physical impact of the proposed works such as piling and the removal of 7 metres of the existing canal wall will be extensive. HES also acknowledged that the bridge and its 40 metre high pylon will be a significant new construction within and across the scheduled monuments, resulting in a significant visual impact on the character of the canal. However, HES considers that that design will indicate and emphasise the junction of the canal and that its simple engineering would not be inconsistent with the industrial character of the canal, nor would it be inconsistent with the wider urban setting of the canal.
4. HES state that extensive engagement with the wider community has been carried out as part of the proposal and the applications include wide-ranging

references to public benefits - such as the key aim to enhance the connectivity of the canal to communities. HES consider that the proposal will provide wider community benefits such as: active travel for connecting communities; improved safe and accessible-for-all open space; re-instating a connection to the water for local communities; regeneration of an area registered as 'vacant derelict land'; and, safer access to schools, facilities and canal activities for young people in Ruchill and Gilshochill.

5. HES consider that while the works are extensive and would be a major change to this section of the canal, they have been designed sensitively to be consistent with the historic use, current character and visual amenity of the canal and affect a relatively short stretch of the canal. As a result, HES consider that the works would have a limited impact on the cultural significance of the scheduled monuments.
6. Overall, HES consider that the proposed works would generate public benefits of national importance that outweigh any limited impacts on the cultural significance of the monument. Furthermore, HES consider that the application on the whole has been carefully considered, based on good authority, sensitively designed and properly planned. As a result, HES consider the proposed works are compliant with Scheduled Monument Consent Policy 3.
7. However, as further information such as specific detailed drawings and a timetable of the works has still to be submitted to HES - 4 conditions are required to enable the application to be fully compliant with Scheduled Monument Consent Policy 4.
8. In summary, it is considered that the applications do not raise issues of national importance that would merit intervention by Ministers.

Decision/Recommendation:

- The applications should be cleared back to HES to issue Scheduled Monument Consent with 4 conditions.