



**NEWS RELEASE - RiverTrack Flood Alerting Pilot Project for Moniaive**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017

The Scottish Flood Forum (SFF) is hosting an information evening with Glencairn Community Council on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Glencairn Memorial Hall in Moniaive.

The event will provide an opportunity for the flood risk community in Moniaive to learn about RiverTrack, a new flood alerting device being developed to raise awareness and provide real-time water level monitoring information.

Scottish Flood Forum Community Resilience Manager Paul Laidlaw said: *“The Scottish Flood Forum helps flood risk communities who are at risk of flooding and supports communities recovering from flooding. Moniaive was selected as a pilot site because of its rural location and history of flooding. We wanted to offer some practical support, and through the RiverTrack devices we can help the community prepare, plan and take actions to build resilience to flooding. There will be a short presentation followed by questions and then people can get their hands on a RiverTrack device, and decide if they want to sign up for this great free opportunity.”*

Cllr Archie Dryburgh, Chair of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure Committee said:

*“Following some very severe storms our Council made a commitment to do something about flooding and to find solutions for some of our worst hit towns and villages. Working with our partners on this is part of that promise and will help protect this vulnerable community during any future incidents.”*

The Scottish Flood Forum (SFF) is working with RiverTrack, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and RAB Consultants to trial the use of the RiverTrack system as a community controlled flood alerting system. With support from SEPA, the devices will be provided free of charge by the SFF to a number of households who wish to take part in the RiverTrack pilot.

Stewart Prodger, from SEPA's Flood Unit, added, "SEPA's aim is to help people reduce the impact of flooding on their lives. That includes being Scotland's national flood warning authority, but we recognise that full flood warning schemes cannot be delivered everywhere. Projects like RiverTrack are a valuable way for us to support additional, innovative and affordable ways to help individuals and small communities be better prepared for flooding."

## **Notes:**

### **Scottish Flood Forum:**

The Scottish Flood Forum (SFF) will be the point of contact for those involved in the RiverTrack trial and will provide free advice and information. SFF seeks to help communities and individuals understand the risks and consequences of flooding in their area, and ensure they are effectively and appropriately supported to recover and to become more resilient.

### **RiverTrack**

RiverTrack is a company founded by software developer, technologist and designer Gary Martin. The company is part of a Scottish Government innovation programme called CivTech® and it won the recent SEPA flood forecasting & warning challenge.

### **RAB Consultants**

RAB Consultants are specialists in flood early warning systems, flood risk and resilience activities.

### **Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)**

SEPA is Scotland's national flood forecasting, flood warning and strategic flood risk management authority. Helping reduce the impact of flooding on people's lives is at the heart of SEPA's aims.

## **Links:**

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/flooding>

[www.scottishfloodforum.org](http://www.scottishfloodforum.org)

<https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/flooding>

<http://www.rabconsultants.co.uk>

<http://www.rivertrack.org>

## **Summary:**

- Open information evening
- Community engagement

### **Contact Details:**

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