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HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED PONTOON AT FIRHILL BASIN, FORTH & CLYDE CANAL

Scottish Canals have previously been given consent to install a 160m long by 1.5m wide jetty along the Panmure Street embankment at Firhill Basin on the Forth & Clyde Canal.

However due to resource issues, and the opportunity to employ an unused existing off-site pontoon, Scottish Canals wish to re-apply for Scheduled Monument Consent for a new pontoon arrangement at Panmure St embankment (See Fig 1).

As we no longer have the option to construct the jetty as shown in our original application, a new proposal has been drafted. This new proposal will use a 1.8m by 12m long pontoon.

The pontoon will be accessed by an access bridge. The access bridge and pontoon will project into the canal by 2.4m which is 0.9m further than the original consented scheme.

Scottish Canals have previously stated in the '*Heritage Impact Assessment Report for Proposed Development at Firhill Basin*' (Section 5 PP:6) that we would endeavour not to unduly narrow the width of the canal. We also stated in our previous Scheduled Monument Application of 2014, that a row of pontoons would not be suitable because of the impact they would have on navigation. This is in fact not the case and our operation team has re-assed this impact and although the new pontoon arrangement is wider than the consented scheme, the total projection into the canal will be 4.2m (which includes access bridge, pontoon with a moored boat circa 1.8m), the canal at this section is 18m wide, and therefore there is ample room for operations and passing boat traffic.

Scottish Canals also feel that the impact on the setting of the canal, although different to the consented scheme will not be significant or detrimental. An important element of the setting of Firhill Basin is the canal channel, and the ability to '*read*' it as such. Although this new scheme protrudes into the canal channel more than the consented scheme, the width of the canal is such that the pontoon will not hinder either the views from the East or West along the canal.