Reference Group Support Statement.

The SA Water Happy Valley Outfall Channel Reference Group was established to develop, and obtain alignment on a concept for the upgrade and rehabilitation of the Happy Valley Outfall channel.

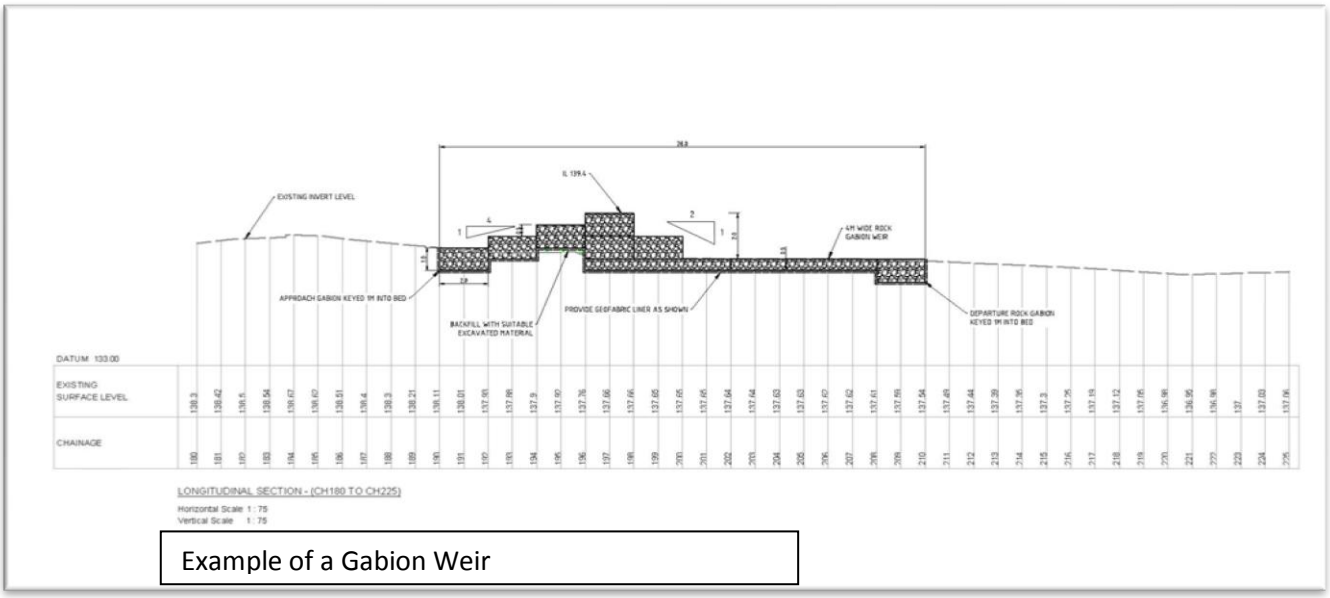
Following a series of meetings and the development of a design brief, the Reference Group supports SA Water remediating the Happy Valley Outfall Channel in accordance with the following principles:

- Retain existing Aleppo Pines outside erosion corridors (outside chainages 185-240 and 260 – 300) unless there is an identified safety risk or the pine tree is growing at the base of the channel and poses a risk to the future integrity of the channel. In such cases these tree will be identified and removed following discussion with the Reference Group.
- In the areas that require significant rehabilitation (within chainages 185-240 and 260 – 300) due to severe erosion and under-cutting of the banks, Aleppo Pine trees will need to be removed where either a safety risk exists or there is a need to significantly stabilise and/or regrade the banks. Where this occurs, the pines will be replaced with native plantings indigenous to the area. Voids created by erosion will be filled with rock and retained to ensure bank stabilisation prior to any bank regrade.
- If there is any significant variation of the proposed rehabilitation chainage areas, (i.e. chainage 185-240 and chainage 260-300) these will be discussed with the Reference Group prior to final determination.
- Construction of suitable interface (e.g. headwall/ mass rock/weirs as shown in the diagram below) between concrete lining and non lined sections of the channel – and in other locations deemed appropriate through concept design to slow down the predicted velocity of the water. SA Waters preferred method to reduce flow rate is by means of large fixed rocks/boulders rather than gabions due to longevity.
- A review of the concept design by the Reference Group to ensure the velocity of the water is decreased through the implementation of appropriately engineered structures in required locations throughout the channel.
- The landscaping will rehabilitate and complement the existing vegetation by introducing new indigenous ground covers and understory and high density plantings to maintain existing backdrop (middle screening)
- Consideration given to advanced plant stock use (especially trees)
- Opportunities will be assessed in concept design to batter channel banks to allow landscape to intrude into the channel whilst maintaining reasonable and useable space between the channel batter and property fence
- Pedestrian walking trails will be enhanced to add value to the ‘experience’ for pedestrians choosing to walk through the space
- Implementation of a 1.5 metre high standard stock fence.

Upon the basis of this support, SA Water will proceed to:

- Develop detailed engineering design drawings
- Seek further input from the reference group to further shape the concept plan based on the principles outlined

- Seek full financial approval
- Seek Development Assessment Commission approval
- Procure a suitable contractor on a design and construct contract



Example of a Gabion Weir