



Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

In association with \_\_\_\_\_



OPW Óifig na n-Obreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



# Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter  
July 2023

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The purpose of the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme is to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch by providing a scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally, and economically acceptable.

## Introduction

Kilkenny County Council in partnership with Carlow County Council and The Office of Public Works (OPW) are advancing with the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme.

Previous newsletters outline and summarise the work completed to date.

In late summer 2022, emerging options were presented to the public and stakeholders at a public information event held at The Hub, Graiguenamanagh. Since then, the project team have been working to develop the scheme further.

As part of the scheme development, a need to complete additional surveys has arisen upstream of Graiguenamanagh on the River Duiske where a flood water storage area is proposed. This is the focus of work at present.

## Environmental

The environmental impact assessment has commenced which will be required in order to submit the scheme for statutory approval.

The team has been developing the proposed upstream storage location. Environmental works are being conducted to establish any further constraints for this emerging option infrastructure. Whilst no specific constraints have been identified in site walkovers to date the area is suitable habitat for otter, badger and amphibians and required further seasonal ecological works to define fully the ecology of the area.

The team held a National Guidance Environmental Meeting with environmental specialists associated with the scheme. The meeting discussed considerations and opportunities for environmental protection, biodiversity, cultural heritage enhancement and lessons learnt for improvements.



*Graiguenamanagh – Barrow Way*



Topics of discussion included fish migration, tree removal and replantation, embankment finishes and mammal crossing.

Top-up surveys are to be completed next summer to align closer with the EIA planning timeframe and to update the initial scheme surveys. These surveys are required to ensure the information submitted to An Bord Pleanála is accurate and up to date.

Additionally, the noise and vibration survey are also to be re-surveyed due to initial surveying commencing in the lock-down period in Q4 2020.

## Site Investigation

OCB Geotechnical commenced site investigations within the scheme area in late March 2023. This works was intended to be completed in advance of the summer tourist season but has been delayed. Works are still ongoing, but 95% of the land-based works are complete.

River based works are due to commence in July-September 2023 when electrofishing licenses can be obtained from Inland Fisheries Ireland.

The site investigation information will support the development of the scheme. The emerging option was presented in Newsletter 07 in April 2023.



## Progress Update

### Stage 1 Progress

85%

Estimated completion: Q2 2024

## What's Next?

Over the next few months, the Project Team will be working on:

- Site Investigations
- Develop the details of the emerging option.
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the emerging option.
- Natura Impact Assessment for the emerging Option.
- Preparing information and drawings for the next public consultation event on the emerging option.

## Website

Details of scheme progress and documentation are available at the scheme website.



## Contact Us

If you would like to contact our Project Team about any matter relating to the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme you can do so through the following:

### Email

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If you would like any further information on the Scheme, please visit our website:

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/grauguenamanagh-tinnahinchfrs/home/>