

# Newsletter

## Ballina Flood Relief Scheme



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



### Project Newsletter 2023

Issue 2, June



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo  
Mayo County Council



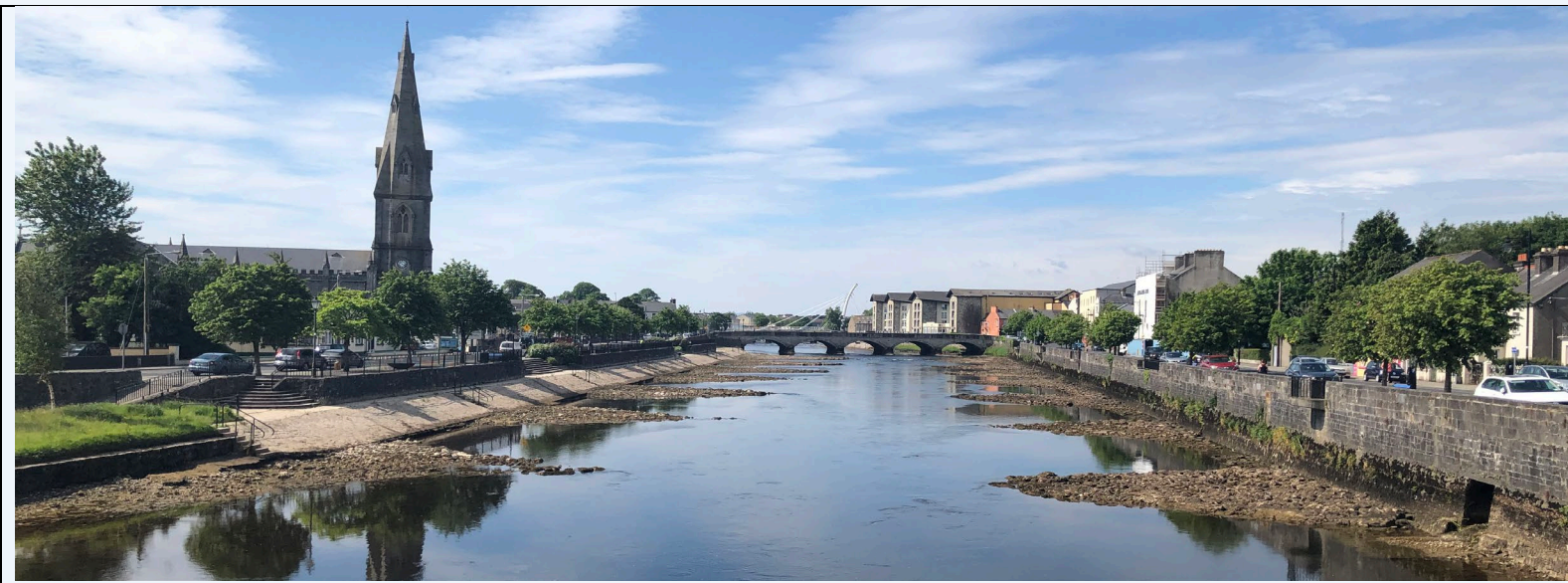
**OPW**

Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



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### WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

In the period since the last Project Newsletter was issued (March 2023) the project steering group (comprising of Mayo County Council, the OPW and RPS) have continued to develop the scheme based on the most accurate and up to date information.

#### EMERGING PREFERRED OPTION:

The previously identified emerging preferred flood relief options are currently being revised in some areas following the completion of a buildability assessment and additional site walkovers. Areas being revisited include the Knockanelo Stream and temporary works associated with the works at Ridgpool road and Ballina Manor Hotel.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL:

Additional environmental survey works were completed by the RPS Environmental Team in areas not previously captured and some additional targeted surveys. These included surveys of compound areas, wintering bird surveys and underwater Archaeological assessments.

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION DAY 2

A public information evening was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 from 4 pm to 8 pm in the Newman Institute, Cathedral Close, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

The event was organized and attended by staff from Mayo County Council, the OPW and RPS.

This was the second of such events with the first one held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 in the Kennedy Glasgow House, Quignamanger, Ballina, Co. Mayo, which served as an introduction to the development of a Flood Relief Scheme for Ballina.

The event was advertised in the Western People, the principal paper for the locality, in the edition published on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023. A household leaflet drop was also carried out to inform locals of the upcoming event.

The format of the event was centred around the presentation of information boards. These notice boards displayed overview maps showing the proposed works on the River Moy and other areas.

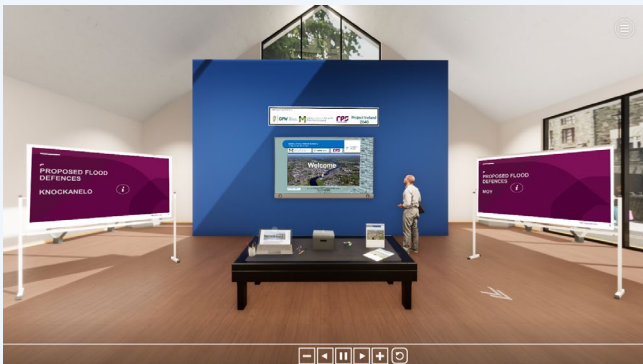


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Details of the public consultation were also posted on the Ballina FRS Website ([www.ballinafrs.ie](http://www.ballinafrs.ie)) with the opportunity for members of the public to submit comments online and a virtual public consultation event was held for those unable to attend the event. The virtual room was accessible from the 30<sup>th</sup> March until 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023. An Image of the Virtual Room can be seen below.



The PCD event was well received with almost 40 people attending the in-person event. A number of observations were made including the following;

- Consider reuse of the existing stone especially on Bachelor's Walk.
- Improve green space and reduce hardscape space where possible.
- Improve pedestrian and cycle flows around rivers.

- Improve recreational access to the river
- Works should minimise impacts to Salmon, Seals and Otter.

A more detailed report on the Public Consultation event will be up on the project website shortly.

### Consultations with Statutory and Non-Statutory Bodies

An Options Selection Letter was issued to stakeholders, requesting comment on the Emerging Preferred Option. The EIA Scoping Report was also made available for stakeholder review.

Comments received from statutory and non-statutory consultees were used to further develop the preferred scheme where relevant.

### PREFERRED SCHEME DEVELOPMENT:

While the preferred scheme is largely known some decisions remain to be made to allow completion of the EIAR.

Recent decisions made and outstanding decisions to be made to allow the EIAR to be finalised include;

- The project steering group has agreed to remove the proposed works on the Quay from the current scheme as the Ballina Municipal district has plans to redevelop this area. The future redevelopment works will need to take into account the flood risk in this area.
- The proposed works on the Knockanello are currently being revisited to determine if there is an option that is easier to construct.
- The temporary works at Ridgepool road and at the Ballina Manor Hotel need further consideration to determine the most suitable approach in this area.

Once these decisions are confirmed the RPS project team will finalise the EIAR for the scheme.

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### SCHEME STAGES:

**Stage I: Option Assessment, Scheme Development and Design**

- Data Gathering /Topographical Survey (Complete)
- Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling (Complete)
- Option Assessments & Preferred Option Selection (Substantially Complete)
- Environmental Assessment (EIAR) (Underway)

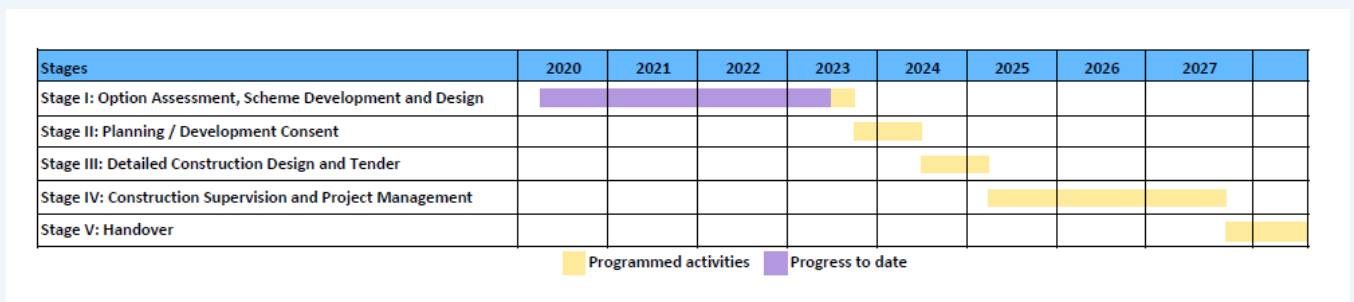
**Stage II: Planning / Development Consent**

**Stage III: Detailed Construction Design and Tender**

**Stage IV: Construction Supervision and Project Management**

**Stage V: Handover**

### OUTLINE PROGRAMME:



Note: Timelines are the current best estimate but are subject to revision and approval

### Contact us:

Ballina Flood Relief Scheme Project Manager  
RPS Consulting Engineers, Lyr 2, IDA Business and Technology Park,  
Mervue, Galway, H91 H9CK.  
Telephone: +353 91 400 200  
Email: ballinafrs@rpsgroup.com