Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme





Project Newsletter

December 2022









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Existing Flood Protection Embankments at estuary

WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

In the period since the last Project Newsletter was issued (June 2022) the project steering group (comprising of Clare County Council, the OPW, Shannon Airport Authority and RPS) are continuing to ensure that the development of the scheme is based on the most accurate and up to date information.

All third-party survey works (Topo Survey, Ground Investigations, CCTV, Flow-Water Level-Rainfall and Geophysical Survey) have now been completed. Additional third-party survey works will be procured as necessary.

Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme

HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS:

Hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling tasks (for fluvial element) are largely competed. The Hydrology and fluvial Hydraulic Reports are currently being finalised.

The coastal model for the Shannon Estuary has been updated along with the Limerick City and Environs FRS. Wave overtopping exercises for the existing embankment are currently being finalised using the model simulated design water levels and wave heights.

The preliminary stability analyses of the existing embankments are complete. The analysis results indicate that a number of the embankments do not meet modern design standards. Embankment designs are ongoing. Draft drawings with options on embankment alignments and sections were prepared and issued to Clare County Council.

A Nature-based Catchment Management Feasibility Study is currently being prepared.

The RPS Environmental Team are completing additional environmental survey works in areas not previously captured and some additional targeted surveys. These surveys include habitat surveys, mammal surveys, bird surveys and bat surveys.

Option Assessments and Preferred Option Identification:

RPS Scheme Analysis and Design Team will now begin exploring of all potential engineering options to reduce the flood risk in Shannon Town and Environs using the calibrated hydraulic models. Once all potential options are assessed using Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) the Steering Group will identify a preferred scheme for Shannon.

Consultations:

An opening Collaborative workshop with relevant stakeholders is scheduled to be held in the new year. The purpose of the Collaborative workshop will include establishing goals and objectives from relevant sections within Clare County Council (e.g., planning, enhancement of public realm, heritage, recreation, biodiversity, etc.), and determine if and how these goals and objectives may inform design features for this scheme. The workshop will be used to identify and discuss any particular issues, constraints and opportunities that could inform the development of the Scheme and any potential features that could be considered to create multiple benefits and/or meet objectives other than flood risk.

The FRS Design Team is liaising with the N19 upgrading works design team on a regular basis.

NEXT STEPS:

Consultations.

An additional Public Participation Day (PPD) will be held in the coming months. This PPD event will look to seek views from the public and other interested parties in relation to the key issues that the project should address, the options to manage the flood risk in the area, to highlight points of local importance that might constrain the design and/or viability of any potential flood alleviation measures and collate information on any flood events that have occurred since the CFRAM Study was undertaken.

Any comments received will be incorporated into the option development insofar as is possible

Preliminary Scheme Development: Once a preferred scheme is agreed with the Steering Group following incorporation of comments received through Stakeholder and Public Consultations, the final preferred scheme will be developed to a sufficient detail to allow the Environmental Impact Assessment process to commence.

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Outline Project Programme

Stages	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Stage I: Option Assessment, Scheme Development and Design											
Stage II: Planning/Development Consent Process											
Stage III: Detailed Construction Design and Tender											
Stage IV: Construction											
Stage V: Handover of Works											
Planned activities (Subject to Change) Progress to date											

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