

# Athy

Flood Relief Scheme

# Project Newsletter No. 02

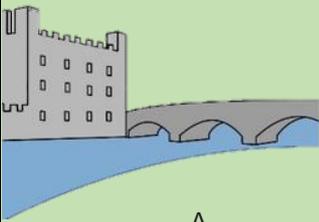
## August 2024



**OPW** Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

**RPS** MAKING  
COMPLEX  
EASY  
A TETRA TECH COMPANY



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## What stage is the project at?

The scheme design is at an early stage after the commencement of Stage I in October 2023. The RPS project team is coordinating detailed surveys and investigations and undertaking flood modelling. The outcomes of these investigations and assessments will be used to inform the designs of the flood defences for the scheme.

## Current Activities

In February of this year, Murphys Geospatial Ltd (MGL) was appointed by Kildare County Council (KCC) to undertake the level surveys of the embankments, river channels, structures (bridges, culverts, weirs etc.) and the building floor levels within the scheme area. This data forms the basis of the Hydraulic Model.

RPS is developing the Hydraulic Model for the Scheme. The model is a tool that will be used to identify flood risk and test flood scheme design options.

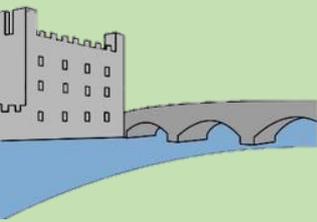
A preliminary ecological walkover survey was undertaken by RPS ecologists between the 29th of April and 1st May 2024. The purpose of this walkover survey was to assess the potential for the survey site to support protected species (e.g. bats, otter, badger, etc.) and habitats (i.e. Annex I habitats) and to identify which detailed ecological surveys would need to be undertaken

later in the year. These will help inform the assessment of scheme design options in 2025.

The opening Public Participation Day (PPD) took place in Athy Town Library on Tuesday, 27th February from 12pm to 7pm. The purpose of this opening PPD was to get the public's view on the key issues that the Constraints study should address and highlight points of local importance that may aid in the design of potential flood alleviation measures. Attendance by the public and interested parties was evenly distributed throughout the day with 16 people attending. These participants offered valuable insights on the local flood extents and underscored key issues of local significance concerning the Flood Relief Scheme.

Pictured below is Senator Mark Wall and CLLR Aoife Breslin speaking with RPS and KCC at the opening PPD.





## Next Steps:

### Stage I: Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme

#### Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling

- Analysis of how the drainage network, rivers/streams and flood defences react to rainfall and flooding events in the area.

#### Option Assessments & Preferred Option Selection

- The assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of each option and identifying an emerging preferred option

#### Natura Impact Statement (NIS) / Environmental Assessment (EIAR)

- Integration of knowledge gained from all environmental and technical assessments.

## How to get Involved?

Several Public Consultation Events and Stakeholders Workshops are to be held over the duration of the project.

The first Stakeholder Workshop was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2024, on MS Teams.

Information regarding upcoming events will be published under *Project Information -> Public and Stakeholder Engagement* on the Athy Flood Relief Scheme Website at

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/athy/home>

## Contact Us

If you would like to contact us regarding this project, a member of our team would be happy to speak with you.

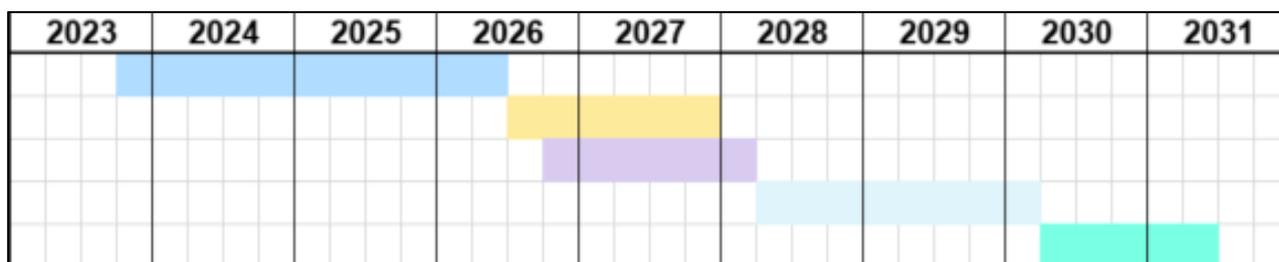
We can be reached via email at

 [athyfrs@rpsgroup.com](mailto:athyfrs@rpsgroup.com)

or by post at:

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## Programme:



Athy Flood Relief Scheme	
Stage 1	Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme
Stage 2	Planning/ Development Consent
Stage 3	Detailed Construction Design, Work Packages and Tenders for Contracts
Stage 4	Construction
Stage 5	Handover of Works