







PW Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí Office of Public Works

Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter July 2024

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Latest Overview

This is the tenth newsletter for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include hydraulic modelling, optioneering and environmental activities.

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Hydraulic Modelling

The hydraulic modelling assessment has been completed with the draft Hydraulic Report submitted to the client. Ayesa is progressing with updating the hydraulics report to final status which will feed further into the options appraisal for the scheme to determine the preferred scheme.

Ground Investigations

Tender documents have been prepared for site investigation works across the Ramelton scheme area to determine ground conditions for potential flood defense measures. The contract scope includes trial pits, slit trenches, cable percussion boreholes and rotary coring and is being reviewed by Donegal County Council and the Office of Public Works and will be advertised to the market in due course.

Following the tender process a contractor will be awarded shortly after to conduct the contract. The project team will arrange and agree access routes in advance of carrying out the ground investigations. This work will determine the overall conditions within the scheme area, inform the location of potential works and improvements that are identified as part of the flood relief scheme.

Optioneering

Assessment of Quay Walls

CORA Consulting Engineers were awarded the contract for the speciality assessment of quay and river walls in Ramelton to identify defects and structural risks and stability. Surveying works commenced in January 2024 with the reporting element ongoing. The results and recommendations from CORA will be assessed and implemented into the scheme design where viable and appropriate. This assessment will be used in consultation with Donegal County Council Heritage Officer, the Georgian Society, and the National Monument Service.



Gable Square – Tree Route Growing in Wall (CORA Conservation Engineering Report)

Ramelton Quay Centre – Loose Masonry (CORA Conservation Engineering Report)

Environmental Activities

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme are completed for now. Further surveys will be undertaken when the possible flood defence measures have been identified.

Ayesa have identified required ecology top-up surveys to align with planning requirements and are scheduled for Summer 2025, these include:

- Bats Survey
- Otter Survey
- Breeding Bird Survey

Nature-based Solutions

The project team have compiled a feasibility study and report that is required for Nature-based Solutions (NbS) that provide opportunities for water retention.

Mapping for the potential of NbS for the Study Area has been completed to assess runoff reduction, floodplain storage and sediment management for the catchments draining to the scheme area. The draft report has been completed and will be finalised once options have been assessed.

What's Next?

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

- Continuation of Optioneering
- Management of the conservation specialist.
- Hydraulic Modelling of Flood Relief Options.
- Continue drafting the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Reports once scheme parameters and emerging options are finalised.
- **Ground Investigation Contract Management.**
- Hydromorphology Survey.



Contact Us

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

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

www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ramelton/home/