

Newsletter

Project Newsletter No. 08 | Dec 2024

Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



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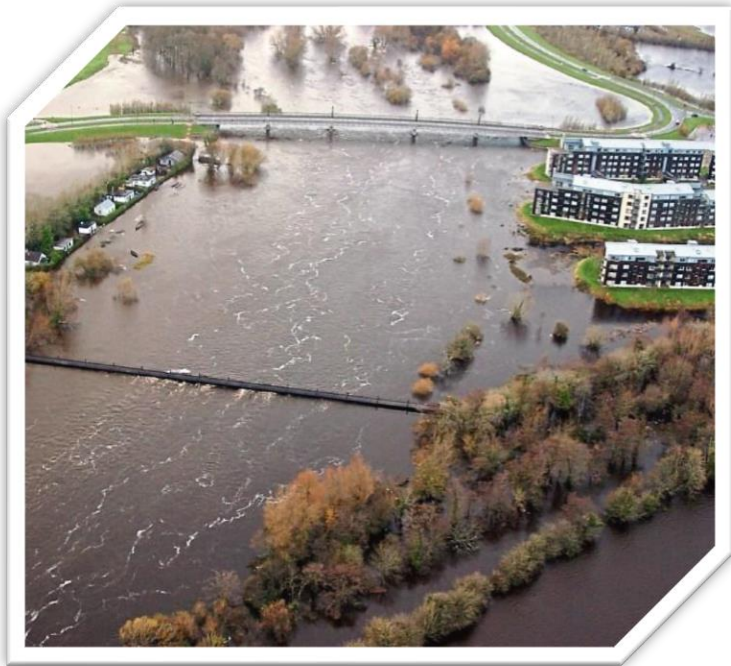


Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council



Newsletter Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



What stage is the project at?

The Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme (LFRS) is in its first stage of development. This stage involves identifying and considering various flood defence design options to determine the most effective solution for the area.

Since the last newsletter, the project team has made significant progress in developing the hydraulic model. This model will be crucial in evaluating the effectiveness of various flood mitigation strategies. In parallel, ongoing Geotechnical Investigations (GI) within Limerick City and the surrounding areas are providing valuable information on the Ground conditions which is critical to the design of these flood mitigation measures

Current Progress

Hydraulic Modelling: A sophisticated hydraulic model has been developed to simulate flood scenarios and inform the design of flood defences. This model incorporates potential breach and blockage scenarios at critical points within the scheme.

Flood Defence Design Option Development: The design team has been working diligently to develop effective flood defence solutions for both coastal and fluvial flooding along the banks of the River Shannon and its tributaries. A rigorous screening process has been undertaken to identify the most suitable options. Freeboard assessments have also been incorporated into the design to ensure adequate protection.

Public Realm Design: In tandem with flood defence design, the team has been developing public realm designs for the city centre. These designs are being integrated with the wider plans of Limerick City and County Council to create a vibrant and resilient urban space.

Geotechnical Investigations: To inform the design process, geotechnical investigations are currently underway at various locations across the scheme. Three contractors are actively involved in this work:

- IGSL: Annocotty and Limerick City North
- Priority Geotechnical Ltd.: Coonagh, Clondrinagh, Thomondgate, Quinspool South, Athlunkard, and Castletroy
- Irish Drilling Ltd.: Dock Road, Dooradoyle, Limerick City South, and Corbally

Environmental Surveys: A comprehensive range of environmental surveys is being conducted to assess the ecological impact of the project:

- Terrestrial Habitats & Flora: Ayesa
- Mammals, Amphibians, and Reptiles: ORS
- Bats: Southern Scientific Services Ltd
- Freshwater and Estuarine Ecology: Malachy Walsh & Partners

Ornithological surveys, initiated in 2022, are ongoing to monitor bird populations. Additionally, treatment of Invasive Alien Plant Species (IAPS) such as Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, and Giant Hogweed has been ongoing to mitigate potential risks to the flood defence locations



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Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to the overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme project website.

The project team can be reached at the Limerick City & Environs FRS email address.



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Email: limerickfrs@rpsgroup.com



Website: www.floodinfo.ie/limerickfrs

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Postal Address:

Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme – Project Manager
RPS Consulting Engineers
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Next Steps:

Geotechnical Investigations: Ground investigations will continue to throughout Limerick City and its environs over the next number of months. The investigation will include non-intrusive geophysical testing, Ground Penetrating Radar as well as boreholes and trial pits to help the designers understand the geotechnical considerations affecting the design of flood relief measures within the scheme.

Flood Defence Design Options Development: The identification and assessment of viable options has been developed. The initial screening of fluvial and coastal flood defence measures has been undertaken based on the finalised hydraulic modelling outputs. A technical multi-criteria analysis that will factor the environmental, hydraulic, geotechnical and buildability considerations for the flood defence design options will be undertaken later in 2025. This together with feedback from stakeholders will be used to inform the preferred flood defence option design.

Public Realm: Public Realm designs will be developed in parallel with the flood defence options, working closely with LCCC to align with their 'World Class Waterfront' scheme. The finalisation of the Public Realm designs will be informed by the selection of the preferred flood defence option.

Public Consultation Day: A date for a second Public Consultation Day in early/mid 2025 will be determined as the design options are being developed. The aim of this event will be to inform the public and stakeholders of the progress made since the project began and to outline and present the suite of potential flood relief options

that have been developed to alleviate flooding within the Limerick City & Environs Scheme Area.

Environmental: The detailed ecological surveys currently underway will be adapted to the scheme flood defences options as they are developed.

Ecological specialists MKO are currently on site in Limerick undertaking detailed ornithological survey to inform the ongoing birds breeding data. Treatment of Invasive Species within the scheme area has concluded for the 2024 treatment cycle. This includes the treatment of Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, and Giant Hogweed throughout the scheme area.

Stakeholder Engagement: Engagement with stakeholders is an ongoing process. Specific communication with landowners impacted by the geotechnical investigations throughout Limerick commenced in April and is ongoing. The project team has engaged with a number of key stakeholders to gather insights and inform the design process particularly in relation to other initiatives and projects being progressed in proximity to where flood relief measures are being proposed. These collaborative discussions have proven invaluable in shaping the project's vision and identifying opportunities for integration with existing plans and infrastructure. Consultation will continue as scheme options are developed.

The project team welcomes feedback from the public and other stakeholders at any time. Please submit your input via email, post, or phone to the RPS project team using the contact details provided above. This feedback will be shared with the LCCC and OPW Steering Group for consideration.

Limerick City & Environ FRS - Programme		2021			2022			2023			2024			2025			2026			2027			2028			2029			2030			2031			2032		
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Stage I:	Options Assessment, Scheme Development & Design																																				
Stage II:	Planning / Development Consent																																				
Stage III:	Detailed Design & Tender																																				
Stage IV:	Construction																																				
Stage V:	Handover																																				



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