

Newsletter

Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme



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OPW

Oifig na
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Office of Public Works



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

shannon GROUP



RPS

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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 (January 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) are now complete except for some soil testing results. These surveys and investigations are being utilised in completing the Hydrological and Hydraulic assessments.

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HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS:

Hydrological analysis is now completed in accordance with the method statement prepared before. The Hydrology report is currently being prepared.

Following the completion of hydraulic model build, it is currently being calibrated and validated using data from the flow monitoring programme to ensure that it provides an accurate representation of the flooding mechanisms. A hydraulic technical workshop was held on 11th April 2022 and a 2nd Technical workshop was held on 11th May. The calibrated model will then be used to assess and compare various engineering options to reduce the flood risk in Shannon.

The coastal modelling informing the design tide levels is now completed. Wave overtopping exercise for the existing embankment is also completed. Preparation of a hydraulic report is also underway.

EMBANKMENT STABILITY ASSESSMENT

A technical memo was prepared presenting the method and results of preliminary slope stability analysis undertaken on the existing levees forming the existing flood defences around Shannon Airport and Shannon Town. The analyses have been undertaken to provide a preliminary assessment of the slope stability of the existing embankments.

The ground model used in the analyses, along with the results, findings and conclusions are preliminary only and were prepared for the purposes of providing an initial assessment of the slope stability of the existing embankments. The analyses have been undertaken using the preliminary ground investigation information available, including Cone Penetration Test (CPT) results and has been undertaken prior to the completion of the final ground interpretation report.

The preliminary stability analyses indicates that a number of the embankments do not meet modern design standards. However, based on the correlated annual probabilities of failure, failure of the embankments does not appear to be imminent. The ground model, assessment methods and results will be updated following completion of the ground interpretation report, and any updates to adopted water levels following hydraulic modelling.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION DAYS

The **Opening Public Consultation Day (PCD)** commenced on 18th June 2021. Due to the Covid 19 restriction in place at the time the event was held virtually on the scheme website (www.shannontownandenvironsfrs.com) for a number of weeks, in the form of a virtual room. The purpose of the event was to offer interested parties the opportunity to offer their views on how the scheme should progress given the existing environmental constraints identified.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

The Shannon FRS Steering Group (comprising RPS, OPW, Clare County Council and Shannon Group) have continued to meet via video conferencing facilities in order to comply with government guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic.



All contractors followed the latest government health and safety guidance in relation to COVID19 whilst undertaking the survey.

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NEXT STEPS:

Data Collection: Data Collection is substantially complete. The project team are interested in receiving photos, videos, sketches or any other relevant information regarding previous flood events. This information will help us to refine our river model and the design of the flood relief scheme. If you have any information which could be of use, please contact us.

Surveys: The procurement of a contractor to undertake additional topographical survey required for carrying out detailed design of the flood protection works will be initiated.

Scheme Analysis and Development: Following completion of the Hydraulic report the project team will begin the scheme analysis and development process where potential options will be assessed in conjunction with the Environmental team with the ultimate aim to identify a preferred scheme for Shannon. Information

from the Ground Investigation contract will be utilized to develop proposed embankment details.

Once all potential options are being assessed using Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) the Steering Group will identify a preferred scheme for Shannon. A further public consultation event will be undertaken at this stage and submission received will be considered in the design development. The final preferred scheme will be developed to a sufficient extent to allow the Environmental Impact Assessment process to commence.

Environmental Assessment: Once the preferred option is finalised the Environmental Impact Assessment will be undertaken. Some additional ecological survey work required will be undertaken in the coming months especially in areas not previously assessed.

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											

Contact us:

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