



Kilkenny County Council
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

In association with



OPW
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter November 2024

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The purpose of the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme is to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch by providing a scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally, and economically acceptable.

Introduction

Kilkenny County Council in partnership with Carlow County Council and The Office of Public Works (OPW) are advancing with the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme.

This newsletter covers the teams progress from July to November 2024. Previous newsletters are located under 'Project Documents' on the scheme website. Newsletters typically issue every 3 months.

The team has been focusing on refining flood defence designs, incorporating ground investigation results into the design and developing the scheme drawings as well as finalising environmental impact assessment

The scheme is currently at Stage 1 – Scheme Development and Preliminary Design, this stage is intended to be completed in Q1 2025 and Stage 2 – Planning is due to commence in 2025.



Drone Photo of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch looking upstream

Hydraulic Modelling

The project team completed a review of recent flood and flow data on the River Duiske as significantly more data was available since the original modelling was completed.

As a result, flood levels have been refined locally near the gauging station at Turf Market and the defences in this area are now finalised.

The 2D scheme wide modelling runs for the emerging preferred scheme are now being completed so that all data can be presented to the public, landowners and stakeholders.

The project team is progressing climate change assessments. These results will feed into the scheme climate change adaptation plan.

Environmental

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) has progressed over the last period. Surveys, detailed designs, model runs etc., are being incorporated into respective EIAR chapters. Chapters that the team are continuing to progress include:

- Cultural Heritage
- Biodiversity
- Landscape and Visual
- Climate
- Noise and Vibration
- Interactions and Cumulative Effects
- Residential impacts

All top-up surveys have been completed and will be included in the original surveys for the EIAR.



Photo of River Duiske at Turf Market

Site Investigations

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and Geophysical surveys have been finalised, and respective reports have been prepared. The geotechnical information has led to refinements to the initial scheme design.

The scheme received ministerial consent to conduct additional archaeological slit trenching along Graiguenamanagh Quay in order to further define the archaeological features under the quay. The trenches were positioned based on results of previous excavation studies to distinguish whether archaeological remains are subsurface where defences are proposed. The slit trenches were completed and supervised by two archaeologists; the report of findings is being developed.

Scheme Development

The project team has been progressing the emerging preferred flood defence option for the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme. Ayesa and Kilkenny County Council have conducted on-site visits to refine the alignment of defences with considerations to landowner requests, surrounding environments and landscape profiles.

Photomontages have been prepared by Chris Shackelton Consultancy to display at the next public engagement. These are constructed photographic images of the proposed flood defences proposed for the Graiguenamanagh and Tinnahinch areas.

The Big Space is finalising landscape plans and drawings. These drawings include natural

landscaping, potential tree planting areas and man-made elements for each area of proposed protection. The plans will show the proposed finishes of all surfaces.

Ayesa has been developing templates and finalising documents required for planning expected to commence in Q3 2025.

Following the site investigations the project team has completed seepage analysis across the scheme to verify the characteristics of the ground water flow paths. Generally, in the areas near the river, a form of cut-off (such as sheet piles) will be required below the raised defences to prevent groundwater coming under the defences. This has been incorporated into the design.

Southgate Associates are appointed as the schemes conservation specialists and have conducted laser scanning surveys and building conditions surveys to feed into the buildability assessment and conservation strategy for the scheme. A full conservation strategy is being developed and will be included in the Cultural Heritage chapter of the EIAR.

Public Engagement

The third public event will be a Public Engagement Event held in Q1 2025. The purpose of the event will be to advise the public, landowners and stakeholders of the preferred emerging option and to discuss the scheme prior to submission of planning.

Some landowners have been contacted over recent months, and the project team are eager to speak with all affected landowners before planning is submitted.

If you believe you are affected, please contact us as we may not have your details.

Anyone with an interest in the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme is welcome to contact us and to come to the engagement day.

Information on the event will be provided on the project website; letter drop and social media once a date is selected.

The team can also be contacted directly with specific queries or information at GTFRS@Ayesa.com.



What's Next?

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

- ➔ Development of scheme options report.
- ➔ Environmental Impact Assessment for the emerging option.
- ➔ Preparing information and drawings for the next public engagement event on the emerging option.

Website

Details of scheme progress and documentation are available on the scheme website.



Contact Us

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

Email

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Phone

021 – 2407988

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

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/grauguenamanagh-tinnahinchfrs/home/>