



Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall  
Donegal County Council



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040

OPW  
Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works

# Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme



## Newsletter September 2023

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## Latest Overview

This is the eighth newsletter for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include hydraulic modelling, a Public Participation Event and environmental activities.

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# Hydraulic Modelling

The development of the hydraulic model has progressed significantly since the last Newsletter in June 2023. Flood Maps have been prepared showing the flood extents from fluvial and coastal sources. The hydraulic assessment has indicated the heights of floods to be considered in the development of the flood relief scheme. The Hydraulics Report has also been prepared.



*River Leannan*

# Optioneering

## Assessment of Quay Walls

A detailed assessment of the quay and river walls in Ramelton, involving the Archaeologist and a Conservation Engineer is planned. This will help to inform on the possibility integration of these walls into the flood relief scheme. This assessment will be used in consultation with Donegal County Council Heritage Officer, the Georgian Society and the National Monument Service to identify an acceptable approach to flood defences.



*Ramelton Quay Wall*

# Public Participation Event



## Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme

Public Participation Event

From 4:00pm to 8:00pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023  
at Town Hall, Ramelton

### Purpose of this Public Participation Event

This is a second public engagement event for the project. An initial public engagement event to get the views of the people, businesses and stakeholders was held in September 2021. The feedback from that event has informed the assessment and development of the scheme to-date.

The purpose of this public participation event is to present the findings of the assessments undertaken to date, to outline the available flood protection measures and options being considered to alleviate flooding and to obtain the views of the public and stakeholders on those options.



Draft Coastal Flood Extent

### Your Feedback is Important

This is your opportunity to take part at the early stages of the planning of the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme. Donegal County Council and the Office of Public Works wishes to consider all viewpoints in relation to the flood relief measures being considered. Time spent communicating your views to the project team is appreciated.

See also the project website: <https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ramelton/home/> where the Event documentation will be available from 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

The general public and all interested parties are invited to give their opinions on the Scheme. Please examine the possible flood protection measures presented at the event and let your views be known by 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

All queries and comments in relation to this project can sent to either of the following:

Email: [Ramelton@ByrneLooby.com](mailto:Ramelton@ByrneLooby.com)

Post: **Project Manager Ramelton FRS**  
**ByrneLooby**  
**Building 2100**  
**Cork Airport Business Park**  
**Kinsale Road**  
**Cork, T12 KV8R**

A public participation event (PPE) was held in June 2023, including in-person consultation in Ramelton Town Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> June. The purpose of the event was to update stakeholders and other interested parties on progress on the Ramelton FRS and in particular, the updated flood risk maps. In particular, possible flood relief measures available for the scheme were described to attendees. These included two very different approaches, flood walls along the Quay and Shore Road or renovating properties at flood risk to make them flood resilient. The PPE clearly demonstrated the height of flood defence wall that would be required to provide the design standard of protection.

Following on from the Public Participation Event, Ramelton Tidy Towns have completed a visual realisation of how they believe the flood relief scheme for the town could look. Donegal County Council have had no input into this work but are very grateful for the proactive and positive contribution of the Ramelton Tidy Towns and continue to engage with committee members. The proposal captures very well the essence of what is required, specifically the defence levels which will be necessary if Ramelton is to be defended from the 1 in 200-year tidal flood. However, the preferred option has yet to be formally defined and as such, consideration of all options continues formally through the Outline Design phase of the scheme.

The discussion sparked by the Tidy Town's online publication of their vision is very welcome and helpful in understanding stakeholders' views on the possible flood relief measures. Donegal County Council will endeavour to review public feedback in all forms, but would request that, if possible, formal submissions are made by either of the following ways:

### By post to:

*Project Manager Ramelton FRS*

*ByrneLooby*  
*Building 2100*  
*Cork Airport Business Park*  
*Kinsale Road*  
*Cork, T12 KV8R*

### By email to:

[Ramelton@ByrneLooby.com](mailto:Ramelton@ByrneLooby.com)



# Environmental Activities

## Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme have been completed:

- The Wintering Brid Survey Report was reissued in July 2023.

Other specialist surveys will follow in due course when flood defence measures are better defined.

## Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM)

The project team has completed the assessment of the potential for NWRM in the Ramelton river catchments to alleviate flood risk and a feasibility report has been prepared. The contents and recommendations from the NWRM report are currently being considered.

## Invasive Species Treatment Contract

The IAS Treatment for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme was carried out in July 2023 and is now complete for 2023. This includes Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.

## Hydromorphology

Hydromorphology looks at how natural and human activity influences the hydrology and geomorphology of water bodies and the ecosystems that they support. The hydromorphology baseline survey for the Ramelton FRS will get underway over the autumn.

# Other Projects

It has been noted by the Project Team that there are other public projects ongoing in Ramelton at present. These include Uisce Éireann's upgrade to Ramelton Sewerage Scheme and the Ramelton Reimagined Project being implemented by Donegal County Council. The FRS Project Team are continuing to liaise with these other projects. There can be some confusion with the public regarding the different projects but we wish to clarify that the Flood Relief Scheme does not have any Contractor working in Ramelton at present. A Ground Investigation contract is planned for Q1 2024.

## What's Next?

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

- ➔ Assessment of quay and river walls
- ➔ Continuation of Optioneering
- ➔ Hydraulic Modelling of Flood Relief Options.
- ➔ Continuation of Environmental Specialists Surveys for the next survey period.
- ➔ Continue drafting the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Reports once scheme parameters and emerging options are finalised.
- ➔ Continue work on the Screening for Appropriate Assessment.
- ➔ 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:

### Email

[RameltonFRS@ByrneLooby.com](mailto:RameltonFRS@ByrneLooby.com)

### Post

Project Manager Ramelton FRS  
ByrneLooby  
Building 2100  
Cork Airport Business Park  
Kinsale Road  
Cork

### Phone

+353 (0) 21 240 7988

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

[www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ramelton/home/](http://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ramelton/home/)