

# Newsletter

## Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



**OPW**

Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City**  
& County Council



## Newsletter Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



### What stage is the project at?

The scheme design is at an early stage. The RPS project team is coordinating detailed surveys and investigations and undertaking flood modelling. The outcomes of these investigations and assessments will be used to inform the design of the flood defences for the scheme.

### Activities

Limerick City and County Council appointed Priority Geotechnical Ltd in March 2022 to undertake the detailed ground/geotechnical investigations of the existing embankments throughout the Limerick FRS scheme area. The purpose of this ground investigation is to examine in detail, the composition of the existing embankments to inform the design of new flood defences.

In January 2022, Limerick City and County Council made an application to An Bord Pleanála under section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 for approval to undertake site investigations in selected locations within Limerick City, its Environs and within County Clare. Approval for this application was granted by an Bord Pleanála on 22 September 2022 and these works are now ongoing. The geotechnical works is scheduled to be completed by early 2023.

RPS is developing the 'Hydraulic Model' for the Scheme. The model is a tool that will be used to

identify flood risk and test flood scheme design options.

In parallel with the development of the 'Hydraulic Model' RPS has undertaken an analysis of the Coastal flooding.

An Invasive Alien Plant Species (IAPS) Management Plan has been developed. This plan identifies the location of invasive plant species relevant to potential engineering works. Japanese Knotweed Ireland was engaged in May 2022 to undertake early treatment of these invasive species. Their work will continue over the next 3 – 5 years.

Various ecological baseline surveys of the scheme have also been undertaken by RPS' ecologists during 2022. These will help inform the assessment of scheme design options in 2023.

Topographical Survey to inform the Public Realm Design was completed by Apex Surveys in May of this year.

A visual inspection of the existing flood defences has also been carried out by RPS Engineers to assess the condition of the existing flood defence assets. This field survey and associated desktop assessment is well advanced.

ENVA Ltd. are also undertaking a CCTV visual survey of the main culverts within Limerick City and its environs. This will provide the team with an understanding of the condition of the storm culverts and help identify issues that may contribute to flooding.



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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.



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Website: [www.floodinfo.ie/limerickfrs](http://www.floodinfo.ie/limerickfrs)

**Next Steps:**

**Hydraulics & Hydrology:**

The hydrological analysis, which includes analysis of historic flood data, is ongoing. The design flood flow and water levels for various flood scenarios are being developed. These, along with the survey data, will provide the necessary inputs to the computer model as part of the hydraulic analysis.

The hydraulic model will be used to define flood risk and flood extents with the Scheme Area. This is a precursor to identifying technical options to reduce flood risk to business, residents and infrastructures with Limerick City & Environs.

**Environmental:**

The Environmental team will be undertaking a series of ecological/environmental monitoring programmes and surveys. These surveys will help identify and quantify the environmental and ecological constraints of the scheme.

In addition, the invasive plant species treatment will continue, with the second cycle of treatment to commence in the Spring (2023).

RPS will also continue to provide guidance on site as the ground investigation works progress.

**Geotechnical Investigations:**

It is anticipated that the field work associated with the assessment of existing embankments will be complete by early 2023. However, the assessment of the findings from the investigation will continue into the new year. The evaluation of the ground conditions to inform the flood defence design options for the scheme will commence in 2023 and further ground investigations will be undertaken at that time

**Stakeholder Engagement**

Engagement with stakeholders and the public is ongoing.

A Public Consultation Event (PCE) is scheduled to be held in Q3 2023. Feedback from this PCE will help inform the design of the proposed flood defences

**Programme:**

Stages	2021				2022				2023				2024				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030				2031			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																																								
Stage I:																																												
Stage II:																																												
Stage III:																																												
Stage IV:																																												
Stage V:																																												

Limerick City and Environs Flood Relied Scheme Stages	
Stage I	Options assessment, Scheme Development and Design
Stage II	Planning/ Development Consent Process
Stage III	Work Packages and Tenders for Contracts
Stage IV	Construction
Stage V	Handover of Works