

# Newsletter

## Tralee Flood Relief Scheme



**Tralee Bay Wetlands**



**OPW**

Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



Comhairle Contae Chiarraí  
Kerry County Council





# Tralee Flood Relief Scheme

## What stage is the Project at?

The Tralee Flood Relief scheme 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 completed the hydraulic model for the scheme. This model will be crucial in evaluating the effectiveness of various flood mitigation strategies. In parallel, updated Flood Mapping and Geotechnical Investigations within the Tralee Flood Relief Scheme area are providing valuable information upon which is critical to the design of these flood mitigation measures.



## Current Progress

**Hydraulic Modelling:** Hydraulic modelling for the scheme has been completed, utilising data from various surveys and geotechnical investigations. The resulting hydraulics report, which outlines the model's findings and includes draft updated flood mapping for Tralee town, will be published on the project website in the coming months.



**Geotechnical Investigations:** Ground Investigations (GI) in areas where flood relief measures are under consideration were scoped by the project team and the contractor, IGSL Ltd, has progressed these investigations throughout the Tralee scheme area. It is anticipated that IGSL will complete this fieldwork by the end of this month.

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

- Large Mammals – MWP Ltd.
- Bats – Southern Scientific Services Ltd.
- Amphibian & Reptiles – Southern Scientific Services Ltd.
- Terrestrial Habitats – Southern Scientific Services Ltd.
- Freshwater & Floating River Vegetation – Envirico Ltd.
- Marine & Estuarine Ecology – Aquafact Ltd.

Ornithological surveys, initiated in 2022, continue to monitor bird populations. Additionally, treatment of invasive alien plant species (IAPS), such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam, is ongoing to mitigate potential risks to the flood defence locations.

**Flood Defence Design Options Development:** The design team has been working diligently to develop effective flood defence solutions for both coastal, fluvial (river) and some pluvial (rain) flooding within the scheme area. A rigorous screening process has been undertaken to identify the most suitable defence measures. Measures considered include both engineering and non-engineering solutions. Freeboard assessments of flood defence design levels to consider design uncertainties and ensure an appropriate level of protection have also been undertaken.



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# Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Tralee Flood Relief Scheme project website. The project team can be reached at the Tralee FRS email address.

**Telephone:**  
021 466 5900

**Email Address:**  
[traleefrs@rpsgroup.com](mailto:traleefrs@rpsgroup.com)

**Project Website:**  
[www.floodinfo.ie/traleefrs](http://www.floodinfo.ie/traleefrs)

**Postal Address:**  
Tralee Flood Relief Scheme -  
Project Manager  
RPS Consulting Engineers,  
Innishmore, Ballincollig, Co.  
Cork P31 KR68, Ireland.

## Next Steps:

**Geotechnical Investigations:** The project team will complete the assessment of the new GI data, which will serve to assist in the option development process and help determine the viability of the available options.

**Hydrology & Hydraulics:** The finalised hydraulic and hydrology model and reports will be uploaded on the website along with the flood maps once approved by the Steering Group.

**Flood Defence Design Options Development:** The identification and assessment of viable options has been progressed. 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 Consultation Day:** A date for a second Public Consultation Day in early/mid 2025 will be determined as the design options emerge. The aim of this event will be to inform the public and

stakeholders of the progress made since the project began and to outline the suite of potential flood relief options that have been considered to alleviate flooding within the Tralee Flood Relief Scheme Area.

**Environmental Assessment:** The detailed ecological surveys as listed on page 2 are currently underway. Data from these surveys will be used to inform the development of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Scheme.

**Stakeholder Engagement:** Engagement with stakeholders and the public is an ongoing process.

Key local and statutory stakeholders have been communicated with as part of the initial Public Consultation. Further communications will take place as scheme options are developed.

Input from the public and other stakeholders is welcomed by the project team at any time during the project. All feedback / input should be submitted by email, post, or phone to the RPS project team using the contact details noted above. These inputs will be reported to the KCC and OPW Steering Group for consideration as part of the scheme development.

## Current Programme:

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme - Programme	2021		2022			2023			2024				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030				2031				2032			
	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	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4						
Stage I: Options Assessment, Scheme Development & Design																																												
Stage II: Planning / Development Consent Process																																												
Stage III: Work Packages & Tenders for Contracts																																												
Stage IV: Construction																																												
Stage V: Handover Works																																												