

Newsletter

Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
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OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

shannon GROUP



RPS

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Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme

Scheme Background

In the 1940s and 1950s as Shannon Town and Airport began to develop, a series of embankments (6km approx.) along the north side of the Shannon Estuary were constructed to facilitate this development by separating the low-lying lands from the tidal waters to the south.

Today Shannon Town and Airport area are at risk of flooding from both coastal and fluvial (stream/river) sources. The main sources of coastal flooding are wave water overtopping the embankment crest driven by strong wind during high tide periods and through any potential breaches in the embankments. The main sources of fluvial flooding are the inadequate capacities of the existing storm water drainage systems (surface water channels/culverts and pumping systems) and limited outflow capacities of the tidally affected outfall systems.

The OPW, working in partnership with Clare County Council and other Local Authorities, have completed the Shannon Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study. The Shannon CFRAM Study Area identified Shannon Town & Shannon Airport as an Area of Further Assessment (AFA) and IRR Individual Risk Receptor (IRR) respectively and concluded that a flood relief scheme would be viable and effective for the community.

The option for Shannon Town, as identified at the CFRAM level of assessment, included the construction of new walls and embankments, a flow diversion, online storage areas, the replacement of two culverts, and the maintenance of the coastal embankments. Additional studies on the existing embankments have given rise to concerns regarding their ability to provide an appropriate standard of protection to Shannon Town and the airport and recommended extensive remediation of the embankments.

RPS were appointed in July 2020 to advance and implement a Flood Relief Scheme for Shannon Town and Shannon Airport. The objective of the project is the identification, design and submission (for planning consent) of a flood relief scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable; to alleviate the risk of flooding to the community

of Shannon Town and Environs, and to procure, manage and oversee the construction of that Scheme.

The entire scheme will be implemented in five different stages. Stage I is currently ongoing having commenced in July 2020.



Existing Flood Protection Embankments at estuary



Flooding in Shannon Golf Club Car Park (Jan. 2014)

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Scheme Area



Flood Relief Scheme Stages

Stage I: Option Assessment, Scheme Development and Design

- Data Gathering /Topographical Survey/Third Party Surveys
- Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling
- Option Assessments & Preferred Option Selection
- Environmental Assessment (EIAR)

Stage II: Planning / Development Consent

Stage III: Detailed Construction Design and Tender

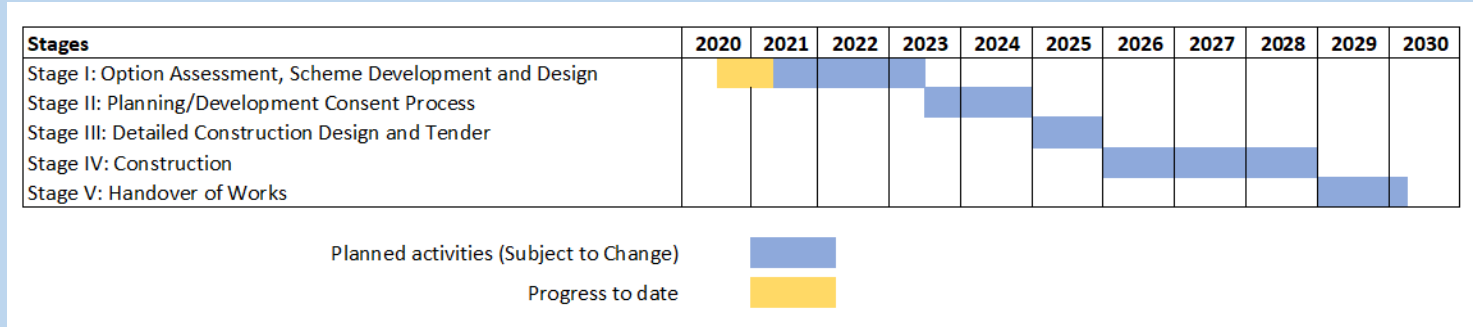
Stage IV: Construction Supervision and Project Management

Stage V: Handover

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Outline Project Programme



What stage is the study at?

Since the appointment of engineering and environmental consultants for the project in July 2020, the project steering group has been working to ensure that the development of the scheme is based on the most accurate and up to date information. 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.

RPS has been reviewing all relevant sources of information and procuring third party contractors to undertake detailed surveys and investigations of the existing drainage network and flood defenses. These surveys and investigations will be used to support analysis of how the drainage network, rivers/streams and flood defenses react to rainfall and flooding in the area.

RPS Environmental Team are also currently undertaking the Environmental Constraints Study. The study assesses constraints relating to a range of environmental aspects as required by the relevant Environmental Directives and Legislation. Information to inform this study will be gathered through field surveys and local stakeholder consultation. Letters inviting consultation on the scheme were issued in early March 2021 to local stakeholder groups and statutory bodies.

The **Open Public Consultation Day (PCD) Event will begin on the 18th June 2020** to further inform the Environmental Constraints Study. Due to current public health restrictions this will be an online event (in the form of a virtual room), running for a two-week period on the scheme website (www.shannontown@environsfrs.com).

What happens next?

- Virtual Public Consultation Event
- Specialist survey/investigation Contracts
- Baseline Environmental Surveys
- Hydrological and hydraulic Analysis

Contact us:

Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme - Project Manager
RPS Consulting Engineers, Lyrr 2, IDA Business and Technology Park,
Mervue, Galway, H91 H9CK.
Telephone: +353 91 400 200
Email: shannonfrs@rpsgroup.com