

Contact Us

You can keep in touch with the project through our website where we will be posting updates on progress and details of ongoing works.

For further enquiries feel free to contact us via email or post at:



Portarlington Flood Relief Scheme Project Team,
Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited , Unit 4E, Nutgrove Office
Park, Nutgrove Ave, Churchtown Upper,
Dublin, D14 V3F6



PortarlingtonFRS@binnies.com

Relevant Links



floodinfo.ie/portarlingtonfrs



OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Laois County Council

Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council



**NICHOLAS
O'DWYER**



PORTARLINGTON FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Newsletter No. 05

February 2023

PROJECT NEWS

Stage I - Scheme Development and Design of Portarlington's Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) - is being advanced by Binnies and Nicholas O'Dwyer (NOD), together with the OPW, Laois and Offaly County Councils.

Since the last newsletter, we completed the flood extent maps for the baseline scenario along with the hydraulic modelling of the options. We also organised and held a second Public Consultation Day (PCD) in Portarlington Community Centre on 24th November 2022 where we presented the Scheme's two emerging flood relief options. .

CURRENT PROGRESS

Feedback received from the recent Public Consultation Day was analysed and presented in a summary report. The event allowed for informative discussions with residents, businesses and landowners and also supported the outcome of the Options Development Report.



We have conducted Drone and Detailed Topographical surveys and an Asset Condition Survey to assess whether existing structures could be integrated to the emerging proposed Scheme. A Property Title Survey is ongoing, to identify all relevant landowners who may be affected by the works.

The scope of Ground Investigation (GI) works in Portarlington is in progress, aiming to go for tender by the end of April 2023. The GI Scope of Works is based on the Scheme's emerging options, by also considering the findings of the Asset Condition Survey and feedback received during Public Consultation.



Figure 1 - AMR2 Tributary of the River Barrow near Sandy Lane

Recent surveys have provided additional information on the environmental constraints the project shall consider. Some of these reports include the Potential for Bat Roosting; Floating River Vegetation and Snail Surveys.

The Options Development process continued with the Multi Criteria and the Cost Benefit Analysis of the two emerging options. The outcomes of these analyses along with the adaptability of the options to climate change were used to guide the decision-making process.

Option A which includes hard defences, conveyance improvements and water retention is at this stage considered as the emerging preferred option. It is considered to be the least invasive option in terms of short- and long-term environmental impacts and more readily adaptable in terms of climate change.

NEXT STEPS

Further environmental surveys will be conducted to provide the information required for the completion of the Environmental Assessments. The technical specifications for the invasive species treatment contract is in progress. Additional surveys on Bat Activity are also planned as part of future works which will likely take place this Summer.

A third, Closing PCD will be held once a preferred Scheme has been identified and agreed with the Steering Group to close out the stakeholder participation events for Stage I of the Project.



Figure 2 - River Barrow Walk near Waterfront Apartments

PROJECTED KEY MILESTONE DATES

DATE	MILESTONE	INFORMATION
October 2023	Environmental Impact Assessments	Targeted Environmental Surveys and Desk Studies
June 2023	Public Consultation Day no.3	A Closing Public Consultation Day will be held on the preferred Scheme identified.
December 2023	Scheme Development	Development and design of the preferred Scheme Option.
February 2024	End of Stage 1	Completion of all necessary steps required to progress the Scheme to Stage II - Planning



Figure 3 - Floodplain and Tributary of the River Barrow, by Link Road