

RAMELTON
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME



**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 February 2024

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Latest Overview

This is the ninth newsletter for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme. The main activities carried out since the previous newsletter include hydraulic modelling, optioneering and environmental activities.

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Hydraulic Modelling

The hydraulic modelling assessment has been completed with the draft Hydraulic Report submitted to the client. Work is ongoing in updating the report following the review process. The hydraulic assessment has indicated the heights of floods to be considered in the development of the flood relief scheme.



River Leannan

Ground Investigations

Ayesa have identified locations for ground investigations to assist with the development of flood relief measures in the Ramelton scheme area. Tender documents are being prepared for these site investigations with commencement of works anticipated in Q3 2024.

The project team will arrange and agree access routes in advance of carrying out the ground investigations. This work will further determine the overall conditions within the scheme area and inform location of potential works and improvements that are identified as part of the flood relief scheme.

Optioneering

Assessment of Quay Walls

A detailed assessment of the quay and river walls in Ramelton, involving the Archaeologist and a Conservation Engineer has been commissioned as part of the scheme. The findings will provide information on the possible integration of these walls into the flood relief scheme as well as other potential solutions to meet both conservation and flood risk management objectives. CORA Consulting Engineers were awarded the contract for the specialist assessment and work commence with a site visit and survey in early January 2024.

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 for Ramelton.



Ramelton Quay Wall Collapse in 2019

Environmental Activities

Specialist Surveys

The specialist baseline environmental surveys for the Ramelton Flood Relief Scheme are completed for now. Further surveys will be undertaken when the possible flood defence measures have been identified.

Nature-Based Solutions (previously known as Natural Water Retention Measures)

Nature-based Solutions are “solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience” (European Commission, 2023).

The project team have compiled a feasibility study and report that is required for Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) that provide opportunities for water retention.

Mapping for the potential of NbS for the Study Area has been completed to assess runoff reduction, floodplain storage and sediment management for the catchments draining to the scheme area. A draft report has been completed for this assessment.

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 Q3 2024.

Rebranding

ByrneLooby rebranded to Ayesa on the 19th of October 2023. The name 'ByrneLooby' will be replaced with 'Ayesa' on any new documentation or associated material produced after this date.

The ByrneLooby team's member and scheme emails have been updated to Ayesa addresses. All social media has also rebranded to Ayesa marketing.

Please refer to the *Contact Us* details or scheme website for our new contact information.



What's Next?

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

- ➔ Continuation of Optioneering
- ➔ Management of the conservation specialist.
- ➔ Hydraulic Modelling of Flood Relief Options.
- ➔ Continue drafting the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening and Scoping Reports once scheme parameters and emerging options are finalised.
- ➔ Ground Investigation Contract Management.
- ➔ 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:

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

www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ramelton/home/