



Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

In association with \_\_\_\_\_



OPW Óifig na n-Obreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



Tionscatal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040



# Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme



## Newsletter October 2022

### IN THIS ISSUE

### PURPOSE

#### Project Introduction

A brief overview of the background to the project and how we got here.

Page 2

#### Environmental

Overview of the environmental assessment process and progress completed in the last period.

Page 3

#### Hydrology & Hydraulic Modelling

Update on the hydrology and hydraulic modelling completed in the last period.

Page 3

#### Site Investigation

Overview of progress on the site investigation planned for the Scheme.

Page 4

#### Public Consultation

Outlines of public engagement completed in the last period.

Page 4

#### What's Next?

Page 5

The purpose of the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme is to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch by providing a scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally, and economically acceptable.

# Project Introduction

Kilkenny County Council as the Lead Authority, in partnership with Carlow County Council and The Office of Public Works (OPW) are now advancing with the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme.

This Flood Relief Scheme is part of the €1bn National Fund announced by the Government for Flood Relief Schemes throughout the Country in May 2018. Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch is on the Kilkenny-Carlow border and Kilkenny County Council are acting as the Lead Authority for the Scheme.

Kilkenny County Council commissioned ByrneLooby in March 2020, to develop and implement a Flood Relief Scheme for Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch.

Since then, ByrneLooby have collaborated closely with the Local Authority and OPW and local and national stakeholders to progress the scheme.



*Graiguenamanagh - Tinnahinch view of the Quays*



## Environmental

Environmental work is progressing on the project, in line with the overall updated programme. Constraints report was completed in spring 2021. This report set out all the known environmental constraints that will impact on the planning of the scheme and will feed into determining what options are taken forward for further assessment. The main constraints identified are the dense archaeological and cultural heritage features and the various aquatic species found in the Rivers Barrow and Duiske which are protected under Irish Law.

The Environmental Team also progressed and developed a Natura Impact Statement for proposed site investigation works (see below for technical update), which was submitted to An Bord Pleanála in July 2021.

Five options were developed to address flood risk based on environmental, social, economic and technical criteria.

In 2022, the environmental team have undertaken a multicriteria assessment and environmental impact assessment of the various options under development.

This process is nearing completion and will conclude in 2022 with the identification of the preferred option, which must then be assessed in detail for environmental impact.

The flood relief scheme is anticipated to require an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) with initial preparation work being progressed for this. Once a preferred option is identified, the EIA and NIS for the preferred option will begin. This is expected to begin before the end of 2022.

## Hydrology

The hydrological analysis has been completed and agreed for the scheme. Flood flow for the watercourses in the areas to include the River Barrow, Duiske, Duiske West, Killeen and the Relief Road (R705) stream have been established for use on the project.

## Hydraulic Modelling

Substantial work has been completed on the baseline hydraulic computer modelling. The modelling results have identified the properties in the Scheme Area at risk of flooding and work has been completed on assessing the effectiveness of potential flood mitigation measures.

Additionally, numerous flood relief measures and options have been tested and five options developed to alleviate flood risk in the scheme area.

Modelling of all options has been completed and result presented to public in August 2022.

## Preferred Option

The team are completing the assessment to identify the preferred option at present. It is expected this will be completed in 2022.

## Site Investigation

Site Investigation works are required to determine the ground conditions for areas where potential flood defence measure will be constructed. Statutory approval was granted in September 2022 to complete the required ground investigations and Kilkenny County Council are currently appointing a contractor to execute the works following a procurement process.

Details on the scope of the works will be published on the project website.

It is anticipated that site work will begin in November 2022 and will be ongoing into summer 2023.

## Public Engagement

A Public Consultation Event was held in The Hub on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2022. The event presented the flood mitigation options that have been assessed. A questionnaire was available and a deadline of the 30<sup>th</sup> August to receive any feedback or concerns about the potential options published at the event was set.

Good engagement was experienced, and a report on the Public Consultation is being prepared currently.

Responses from the questionnaires had high concerns of defence walls hindering the aesthetic amenity of the Graiguenamanagh Quay in particular and the team will be reviewing this feedback in the coming months.

Landscape and conservation specialists are appointed and will be feeding into the impact assessment and mitigations for the preferred scheme.

## Progress Update

### Stage 1 Progress



Estimated completion: Q2 2023



Public Consultation Event, August 2022

## What's Next?

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

- ➔ Reviewing options based on stakeholder and public feedback from PCD event
- ➔ Developing a preferred option for approval by the Steering Group
- ➔ Beginning the Environmental Impact Assessment for the preferred option
- ➔ Preparing information and drawings for the next public consultation event on the preferred option
- ➔ Site Investigations

## Website

Details of scheme progress and documentation is available at the scheme website.



## Contact Us

If you would like to contact our Project Team about any matter relating to the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme you can do so through the following:

### Email

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

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/grauguenamanagh-tinnahinchfrs/home/>