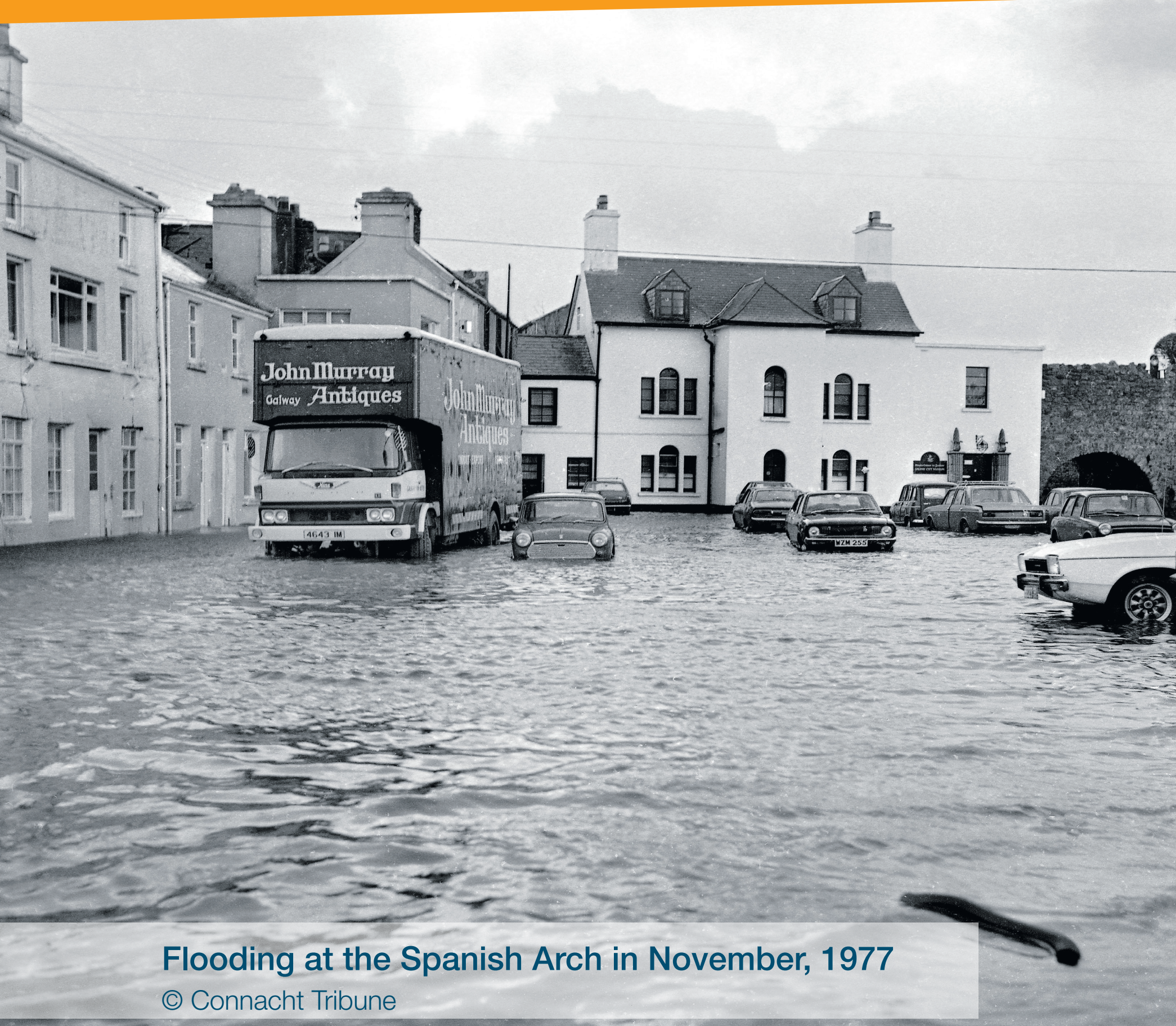


Overview of the Scheme & Project Area



Flooding at the Spanish Arch in November, 1977
© Connacht Tribune

Historic Flood Risk

Galway City is exposed to flood risk from a variety of sources, including the River Corrib, the sea (tidal extremes, storm surges, wave overtopping) and stormwater. In some cases, these sources of flooding coincide, and their combined effect can cause extensive destruction to property and local life.

Areas such as Spanish Arch, Quay Street, Flood Street, Father Griffin Road, the Docks area and the Salthill area have historically been exposed to recurrent flooding.

In recent years, severe storms from the Atlantic have resulted in wave overtopping and breaching of local flood defences in the Salthill area, Galway Port and the Docks. In February 2014, January 2018, December 2021, February 2022, November 2023 and January 2025 the combined effect of high waves, a storm surge, spring tides and high levels in the Corrib resulted in a significant number of properties being flooded.

Scheme Overview

The OPW in partnership with Galway City Council and other Local Authorities have carried out the Western Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) study for the Corrib River Basin.

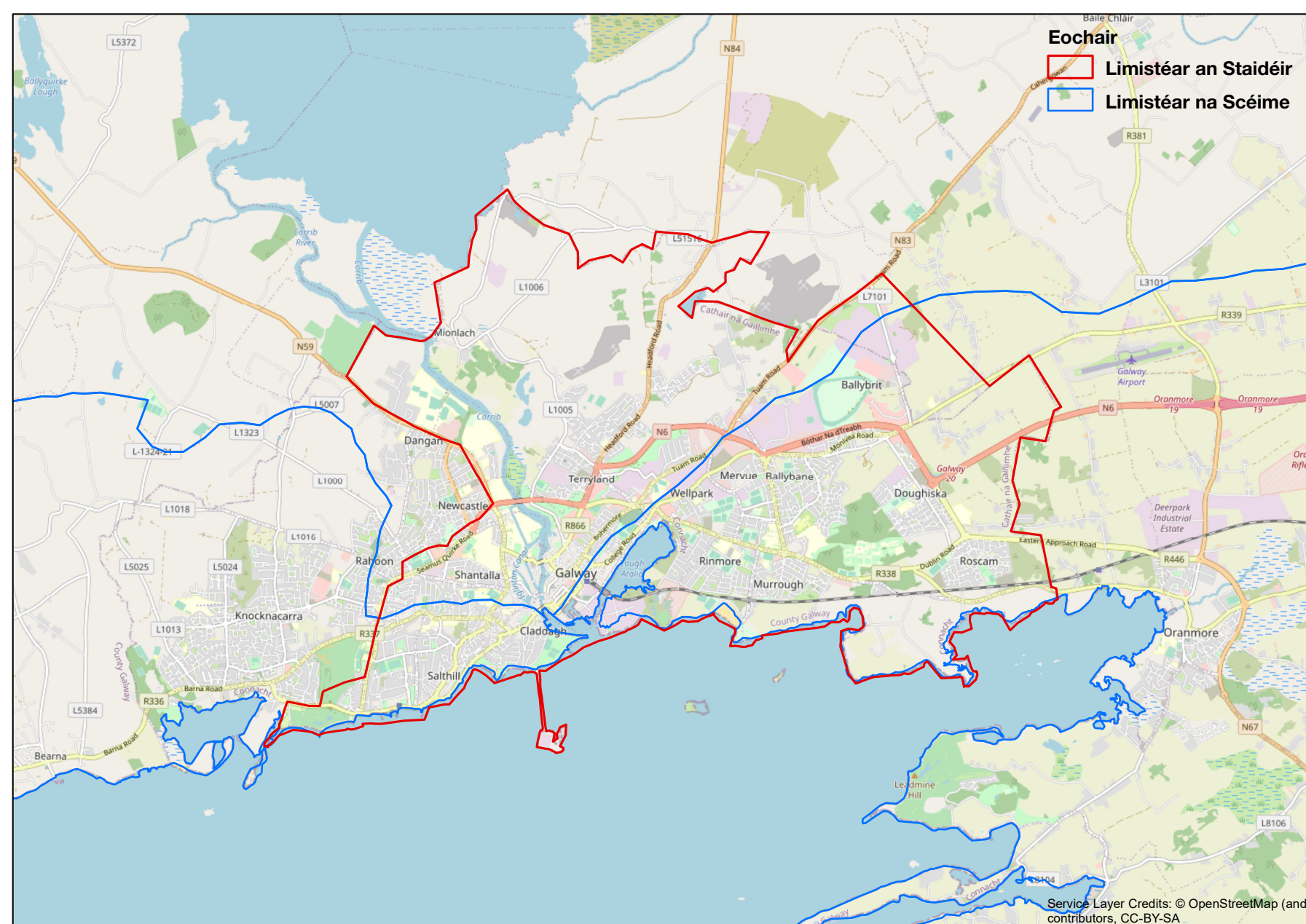


Figure Indicative scheme area

Galway City was included as an Area for Further Assessment (AFA) and it was concluded that a flood relief scheme would be viable and effective for the community. As a result, Galway City Council, and the OPW commissioned the **Coirib go Cósta | Galway City Flood Relief Scheme**. Arup were appointed as specialist consultants to advise on the development of the scheme.

Study Area: Contains lengths of river channel/watercourse that have hydraulic influence. Includes areas that require environmental assessments and full hydrological catchment areas that have an influence in the scheme area watercourses.

Scheme Area: Area within which physical works are proposed to be constructed, accessed and maintained as part of any feasible scheme.

The Study Area and Scheme Area for the project are outlined in the map on the left.

An indicative flow chart showing the process from inception through to construction for the **Coirib go Cósta** project is shown below.

Project Objective

The objective of this Project is to assess and develop a Flood Relief Scheme, that is technically, socially, environmentally, aesthetically and economically acceptable, to reduce the risk of flooding to the Community of Galway City to a determined Standard of Protection and to manage residual risk.

Indicative Flow Chart



Current Status

Since the second Public Engagement Day, the Emerging Preferred Scheme has been selected based on the feedback received to date, the cost benefit analysis and the multi-criteria analysis. Detailed hydraulic modelling of the Emerging Preferred Scheme has been completed, including a fluvial hydraulic model, taking account of the fluvial flood risk, and a coastal hydraulic model, which takes account of the tidal and wave overtopping flood risk. The Emerging Preferred Scheme has been developed in conjunction with Galway City Council, the Office of Public Works and other stakeholders, taking into account the known constraints in the Scheme Area. GCC, OPW and Arup are keen to incorporate additional views and knowledge from the local Galway City communities and all interested parties.