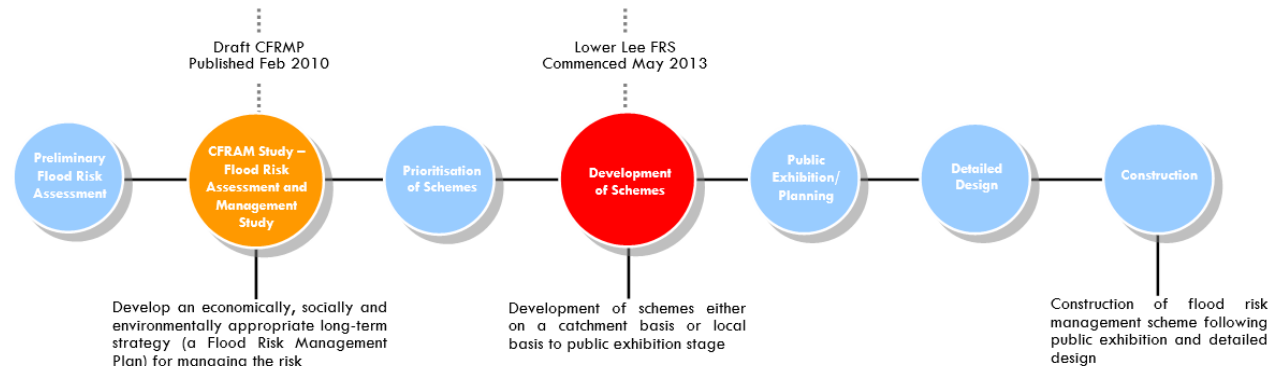


# Lower Lee (Cork City) Flood Relief Scheme (Including Blackpool and Ballyvolane)

## Scheme Objectives & Overview

- The Office of Public Works (OPW) has carried out a Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study for the Lee Catchment. From this study, the Draft Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan, published in February 2010, set out a range of potential flood risk management options for particular areas within the catchment including the Lower Lee (Cork City).
- The OPW has now commissioned Engineering and Environmental Studies to assess and develop a viable, cost-effective and sustainable Flood Relief Scheme, building on the preferred option from the Lee CFRAM Study.
- The Project Team includes a Steering Group made up of the OPW, Cork City Council and Cork County Council, the ESB in addition to the engineering and environmental consultants.
- A broad study area was initially identified. The project has since progressed through a constraints study, hydrological and hydraulic analysis, preliminary geotechnical investigations and is currently at the options assessment stage.
- The process of identifying the preferred scheme includes a detailed assessment of a range of flood risk management measures to determine their technical, economic, social and environmental viability.
- An Indicative Flow chart showing the process from inception through to construction for a flood relief scheme is shown to the right:



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# Public Consultation



## Public Information Day No.1

17<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Purpose of project set out  
Constraints study explained  
Overview of potential outcomes provided  
Your views were sought



## What has happened since?

Constraints Study  
Hydrology and Hydraulic Modelling  
Assessment of Viable Options  
Preliminary Geotechnical Investigations  
Emerging Preferred Options



## Public Information Day No.2

29<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Progress update  
A chance to have your views heard on the emerging preferred options



## What happens next?

Scheme Review  
Production of Scheme Documentation  
Appropriate Assessment  
Environmental Impact Assessment



## Public Exhibition

Four week exhibition  
(Dates yet to be announced)  
A third chance to have your views heard



## And then?

Scheme Refinement  
Detailed Design  
Detailed Geotechnical Investigations  
Confirmation of Scheme

Your views taken on board



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# Constraints Study

- The Constraints Study for the scheme was completed following the initial public consultation, taking into account your views.
- The purpose of a Constraints Study is to identify the key environmental issues in a study area which might be impacted by possible flood alleviation measures and/ or which may impose constraints on the viability and/ or design of these measures.
- The design constraints identified include the requirement to maintain traffic and pedestrian links across the River Lee in addition to local amenity and angling areas, minimise disruption to residents and businesses, protect the various landscape types in the study area and also protect archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage sites. Ecological constraints include the importance of the River Lee and banks as a habitat. Other constraints include the protection of water quality and material assets in the study area.
- A copy of the full Constraints Study Report is available to download from the project website [www.lowerleefrs.ie](http://www.lowerleefrs.ie).



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# Option Development

## Flood Risk Management Options Considered at Preliminary Assessment

- Do Nothing
- Non-Structural Measures (e.g. flood warning system or individual property protection)
- Relocation of Properties and/or infrastructure
- Reconstruction of Properties and/or infrastructure to a higher level
- Flow Diversion (e.g. river diversion or flood flow bypass channel)
- Flow Reduction (e.g. upstream catchment management or flood storage)
- Flood Containment through construction of Flood Defences
- Increase Conveyance of Channel (upstream and/ or through and/or downstream of the town)

## Options Brought Forward for Detailed Assessment

- Flood defences
- Flood forecasting system
- Channel widening
- Bridge modifications/ Removal of obstructions from channel
- In-channel flow regulation
- Modified operation of Inishcarra Dam
- Upstream flood storage/ washlands
- Local conveyance improvements
- Flood early warning system

## Emerging Preferred Options

- River Lee  
(Inishcarra to Cork City)
- Blackpool
- Ballyvolane

Options assessed using Technical, Social, Environmental & Economic Criteria



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# Formal Public Exhibition Process

- Once a preferred Flood Relief Scheme has been determined and an outline design completed, the OPW will seek consent for the proposed scheme in accordance with the provisions of the Arterial Drainage Act.
- This statutory process includes a four week Public Exhibition, during which the plans and particulars of the proposed scheme will be put on Public Display.
- Representatives of the Project Team will attend the Public Exhibition on various dates to explain the scheme to members of the public and to address queries.
- Copies of the EIS for the scheme will be available for sale to the public during this time.
- Members of the public will be invited to submit written observations which will be considered and responded to.
- An Exhibition Report, including all observations received will be sent to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform before formal approval of the Scheme.



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