

Newsletter

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme



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Office of Public Works



Comhairle Contae Chiarraí
Kerry County Council



What stage is the Project at?

The Tralee Flood Relief scheme is currently at Stage 1 of the project. This stage is where potential flood defence designs are identified and considered to develop the best flood defence options for the area.

Since the last newsletter, the project team has continued with Hydraulic Studies with a focus on evaluating critical design flood extents and the identification of measures with the potential to address flood mechanisms within the Tralee Scheme Area.



Current Progress

The project team has continued to progress the hydraulic modelling for the scheme. The model has undergone calibration based on available historic flood information. Initial design flood extents have been prepared and reviewed. This has identified the need for some further surveys and model refinement. These surveys were undertaken during December 2023. The output from the hydraulic model is being used to identify an initial suite of possible flood defence measures for the scheme. Consideration of these measures is ongoing. A key element of this consideration is an ongoing detailed technical evaluation of the existing flood defence embankments.

Following completion of the hydraulic modelling a detailed optioneering process (technical analysis) based on the initially screened measures will be undertaken. In addition, adaptation requirements to account for implications of climate change will also be considered.

Various engineering and environmental surveys have been undertaken to inform the scheme design and evaluation. These include detailed ecological surveys and invasive species treatment, visual inspection of culverts and extensive topographical surveys. The data from an extensive geotechnical investigation contract completed earlier this year has been analysed. Further environmental and ground investigations are currently being planned to assist with the design and assessment of defence options. These surveys and investigations are anticipated to commence mid-2024.

Public Consultation Day 2

A second Public Consultation Day is scheduled to occur later in 2024. The aim of this event will be to inform the public and stakeholders of the progress made since the project began and to outline and present an initial suite of potential flood relief options that have been developed to alleviate flooding within the Tralee Scheme Area.



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Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Tralee Flood Relief Scheme project website. The project team can be reached at the Tralee FRS email address.

Telephone:

021 466 5900

Postal Address:

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme -
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Project Website:

www.floodinfo.ie/traleefrs

Next Steps:

Hydrology & Hydraulics:

The hydraulic model is nearing finalisation. From a review of the initial model, further areas were identified that required additional surveys.

These surveys were completed in December 2023. The findings of which will be incorporated into the model in January 2024.

Geotechnical Investigations:

RPS are finalising a preliminary engineering options report for the reinforcement of embankments within the scheme area. This report presents various design options for remediating or reconstructing existing embankments to modern design standards.

The findings from this report will be considered in the scheme options development.

Environmental Assessment:

Procurement of detailed ecological surveys is ongoing, and these surveys are scheduled to take place in 2024. Typical surveys will include otter, badger, bat, trees, aquatic and other habitat surveys.

These surveys will inform the assessment of the flood defence options and the survey results will be assessed to inform the preferred scheme option and the identification of appropriate mitigation measures to address any

environmental risks. These measures will be presented as part of a planning application for the Scheme.

Ecological specialists MKO and Envirico will continue to progress Bird surveys and Invasive Species Treatment respectively throughout 2024.

Options Development:

The identification and assessment of viable options will progress during 2024. A technical multi-criteria analysis together with feedback from Public Consultation will be used to develop a preferred flood defence option and progress the scheme design.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Engagement with stakeholders and the public is an ongoing process.

Key local and statutory stakeholders have been communicated with as part of the initial Public Consultation. Further communications will take place as scheme options are developed.

Input from the public and other stakeholders is welcomed by the project team at any time during the project. All feedback / input should be submitted by email, post, or phone to the RPS project team using the contact details noted above. These inputs will be reported to the KCC and OPW Steering Group for consideration as part of the scheme development.

Programme:

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme - Programme	2021		2022				2023				2024				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030				2031				2032									
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4						
Stage I: Options Assessment, Scheme Development & Design																																																				
Stage II: Planning / Development Consent Process																																																				
Stage III: Work Packages & Tenders for Contracts																																																				
Stage IV: Construction																																																				
Stage V: Handover Works																																																				



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