

CFRAM Undefended Situation

Background:

The CFRAM undefended mapping illustrates the extents of flooding that may impact Limerick City and its Environs if the area was undefended.

The existing embankments along the Shannon estuary and River Shannon and its tributaries were constructed with the goal of defending agricultural lands from fluvial or tidal water inundation, with others being constructed to form tow paths, walkways etc. with flood defence being a by-product.

What does this mean?

None of the embankments were constructed to the modern engineering standard that would be applied now when providing urban flood protection. It cannot be said with certainty that these embankments will be able to withstand future tidal surges or fluvial events. Further assessment is required.

As part of this Flood Relief Scheme, a detailed geotechnical structural and stability assessment of the existing embankments will be undertaken in addition to a breach analysis to assess if these embankments can withstand issues such as overtopping (water going over the crest of the embankment and flooding the nearby areas) or seepage (water flowing through or under the embankment).

