



Arklow Flood Relief Scheme

Newsletter 03 – September 2024

Project Overview

The Arklow Flood Relief Scheme has progressed steadily since the previous newsletter was issued in June 2024. The aspects of the scheme which have been prioritised and progressed include – data collection, topographical survey works, environmental surveys, archaeology surveys, site investigation works, ongoing CPO process, utility surveys and diversions investigations and detailed designs.

In this issue:

- Diversions of utilities within the scheme.
- Hydrology/Hydraulics review of the scheme.
- Updated progress on surveys & ground investigations.
- Collaboration with Uisce Éireann.
- Environmental updates
- Advancement of valuations for compulsory purchase orders.
- Detailed designs
- Project Programme.
- What's Next



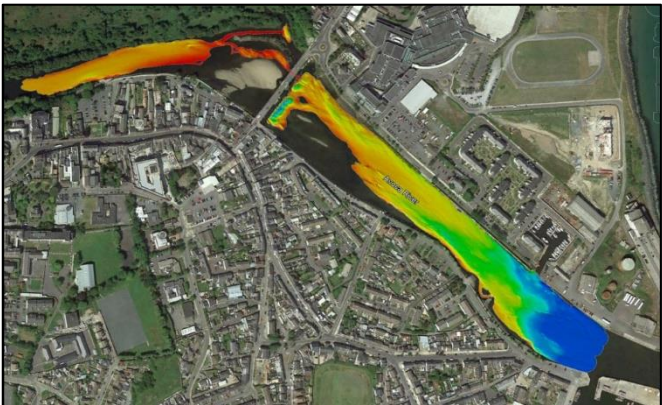
Project Progress

Utility Diversions

The project team has initiated discussions with utility service providers (electricity, telecommunications, water, gas lines etc...) to gauge the assets that will be impacted by the flood scheme. In certain instances, utility assets will either have to be relocated or temporary solutions found to ensure minimal impact to the residents of Arklow during scheme construction.

Hydraulic & Hydrology Modelling

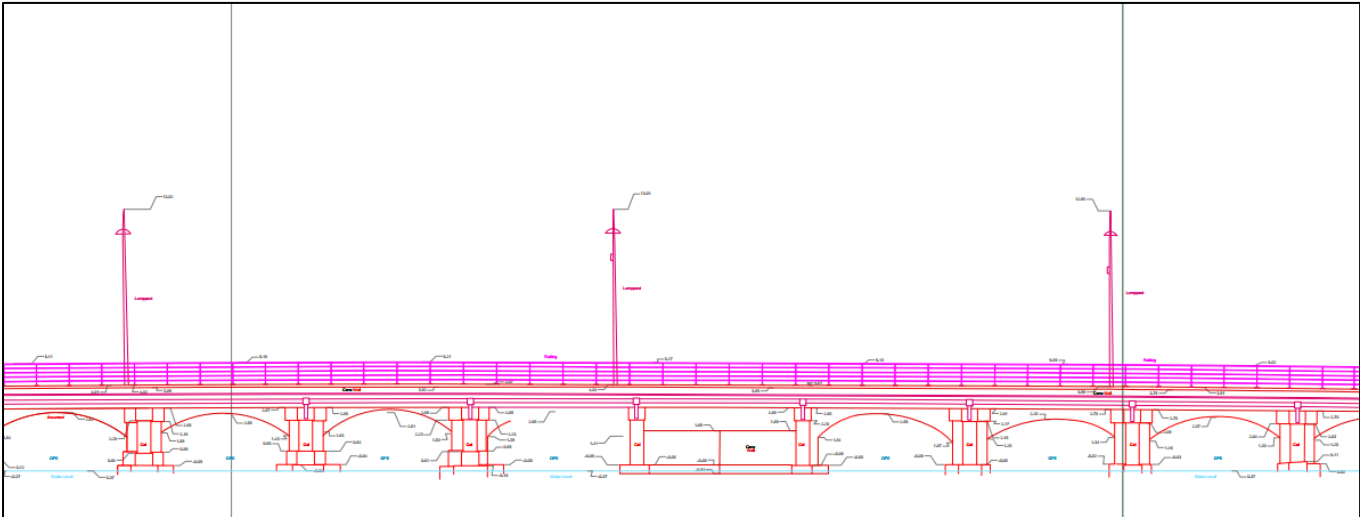
The review of the hydraulic and hydrology conditions in Arklow are ongoing. The outcomes of these reviews will aid the detailed designs of flood defences to be incorporated into the scheme. Bathymetric surveying of the bed of the Avoca River is due to be undertaken in the near future to aid these reviews.



Surveying of the Avoca River.

Topographical & Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys

Surveyors have successfully completed fieldwork and reporting of the Topographical and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Surveys in Arklow Town. The current levels (as taken from Topography) will aid the detailed design of flood defences for the scheme and the GPR surveys will aid the diversion of existing impacted utilities.



Elevation Surveying of the Nineteen Arches Bridge.

Ground Investigations

Ground investigations have commenced for the Arklow Flood Relief Scheme and several slit trench investigations have been completed. Ongoing planning and scheduling in completing Riverwalk Site Investigation (SI) works and remaining SI works to be finalised. Access works to the Marsh due to commence in September with SI works to follow.

Works to be undertaken include boreholes, slit trenching, archaeological test trenches, cone penetration tests, trial pits and geophysical surveys.

Collaboration with Uisce Éireann

Collaboration with Uisce Éireann's ongoing wastewater treatment plant project team and the Arklow Flood Relief Scheme is still ongoing. Information shared between these projects is expected to remain ongoing through monthly meetings.

Environmental Updates

Protecting the natural environment is of the highest importance to the Arklow Flood Relief Scheme. As such, project ecologists have been performing invasive plant species and mammal surveys to identify and account for protected areas and species in the scheme design and construction programme. These surveys are expected to continue into the winter season to account for seasonal variations in mammal behaviour.

A team of samplers has begun conducting water quality monitoring of the Avoca River. This monitoring will continue throughout the project to ensure there will be no negative impacts on the natural watercourse.

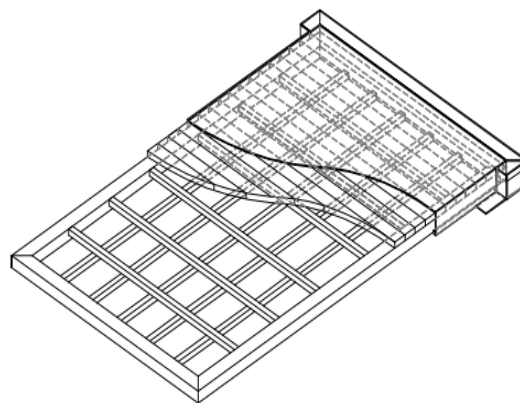


Samplers collecting water samples from the Avoca River.

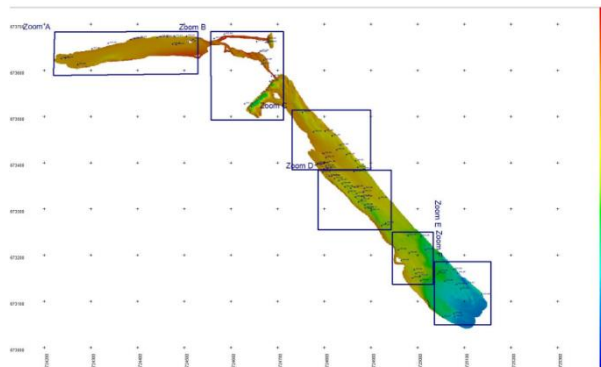
Detailed Designs

Detail designs of the scheme are currently ongoing and are inclusive of:

- A Gravel and Debris Trap upstream of the bridge.
- Underpinning of the Nineteen Arches bridge.
- A flood defence embankment in the Marsh.
- Flood Walls along River Walk/ South Quay.
- Stormwater pumping stations behind flood defence walls.
- Layouts of the Public Realm.
- Riverbank defences and avian roosting platforms in the watercourse



Roosting platform detail designs in progress.



Scanning of archaeological anomalies in the Avoca River.

Archaeological Investigations

An underwater geophysical archaeological investigation has been undertaken in the Avoca River in July 2024 and various anomalies were identified in the watercourse. Dive licences have since been obtained and a dive survey is scheduled to take place in September to further identify these anomalies and if any are of archaeological significance.

Project Programme

The scheme is being implemented in three different stages. Stage 3 commenced in January 2024. The figure below shows the initial programme for the three stages as briefly described below:

- Stage 3 – Detailed Construction Design and Tender.
- Stage 4 – Construction.
- Stage 5 – Handover of Work.

		2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Stage 3	Detailed Construction Design and Tender									
Stage 4	Construction Supervision									
Stage 5	Handover of Works									

Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO)

Avison Young, Wicklow County Council and Ayesa are engaging over valuations and compensations of CPO’d properties for landowners who will be affected by the scheme. Landowner engagement is due to begin in the near future.

What's Next

Most of the current project activities will continue over the next few months, including, but not only:

- Ground / Archaeological Investigations to continue.
- Environmental Surveys to continue.
- Detail designs to be informed by survey findings.
- Stakeholder Engagement.
- Continued engagement with authority bodies for the diversion of utilities located in the site.
- Water Quality Monitoring to continue.



Contact Us

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

Email

ArklowFRS@Ayesa.com

Post

Project Manager: Arklow FRS
Ayesa
Building 2100
Cork Airport Business Park
Kinsale Road
Cork, T12 KV8R

Phone

+353 (0) 21 240 7988

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

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/arklow/home/>