Ballinasloe
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

OPW
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme

Public Consultation Day 1 – 5th March 2020

Feedback Report

August 2020

ARUP

Hydro Environmental Ltd

RYAN HANLEY

CLIENT	Office of Public Works/ Galway County Council
PROJECT NO.	2524
PROJECT TITLE	Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme, Co. Galway
REPORT TITLE	Public Consultation Day 1 – 5th March 2020 Feedback Report

REV.	STATUS	AUTHOR	REVIEWED BY	APPROVED BY	ISSUE DATE
0	DRAFT	SB	ND	-	July 2020
1.1	ISSUED – Following OPW comments	SB			August 2020
1.2	ISSUED – Following amendments for GDPR Compliance	SB	ND	ES	November 2020

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1 INTRODUCTION

Ballinasloe has a long history of flooding from the Suck and Deerpark Rivers and other local tributaries. In recent times, significant flooding occurred in November 2009 and during winter 2015/2016.

The scheme objective is to provide protection to all domestic and commercial properties currently at risk of flooding from the River Suck and its tributaries within the scheme area, up to the design standard of protection including an allowance for climate change adaptation.

The first Public Consultation Day was held on Thursday 5th March 2020 in the Dunlo Room of the Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe.

1.1 Aims and Approaches of the Public Consultation Day

1.1.1 Aims

- To inform the general public of the Constraints Study and preliminary aspects of the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme and to obtain information about flooding or other relevant environmental information about the Study Area presented. Interested persons were able to scrutinise the consultation materials, have relevant questions answered and take away a brochure setting out the project for future reference.
- To elicit feedback on the CFRAMS flood hazard maps and preliminary options in order assist with the assessment of options as part of this project.
- To communicate the project processes and timescales
- To encourage participation from stakeholders and the public generally in relation to their own observations or experiences of flood events.
- To invite stakeholders and the public to contribute their views by way of submissions, photos, videos, verbal comments and via the questionnaire.

1.1.2 Target audience

The general public and all interested parties, including political stakeholders, in particular the Ballinasloe Flood Action Group, affected landowners and local residents

If during the course of the PCD anyone wishing to discuss the scheme in more detail will be passed to senior study team members, or members of the OPW / local authority team. This would also include Elected members / TDs and media representatives.

1.1.3 Event format

- Information stand / posters set-up.
- Galway County Councillors Briefing at 14:00.
- Drop-in style consultation event between 15:00 and 20:00, with representatives from the Project Team of OPW, Ryan Hanley and ARUP present.
- Registration (host role) and one-to-one or small group discussions.
- Supplementary drawings, maps and other supporting materials on-hand.

2 ADVERTISING OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION DAY

2.1 Traditional media

Advertising of the Public Consultation Event was undertaken in various online news outlets and on social media in the week preceding the event. In addition, notices were placed in the local papers in the week and weekend preceding the event and radio announcements were made on Galway Bay FM.

2.2 Social / Other Media

It was determined that social media sites, such as Facebook and Twitter groups, provided a suitable format to promote messages and information about the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme Public Consultation Day.

Galway County Council published a post on their page the week prior to the event highlighting the upcoming Public Consultation Day.

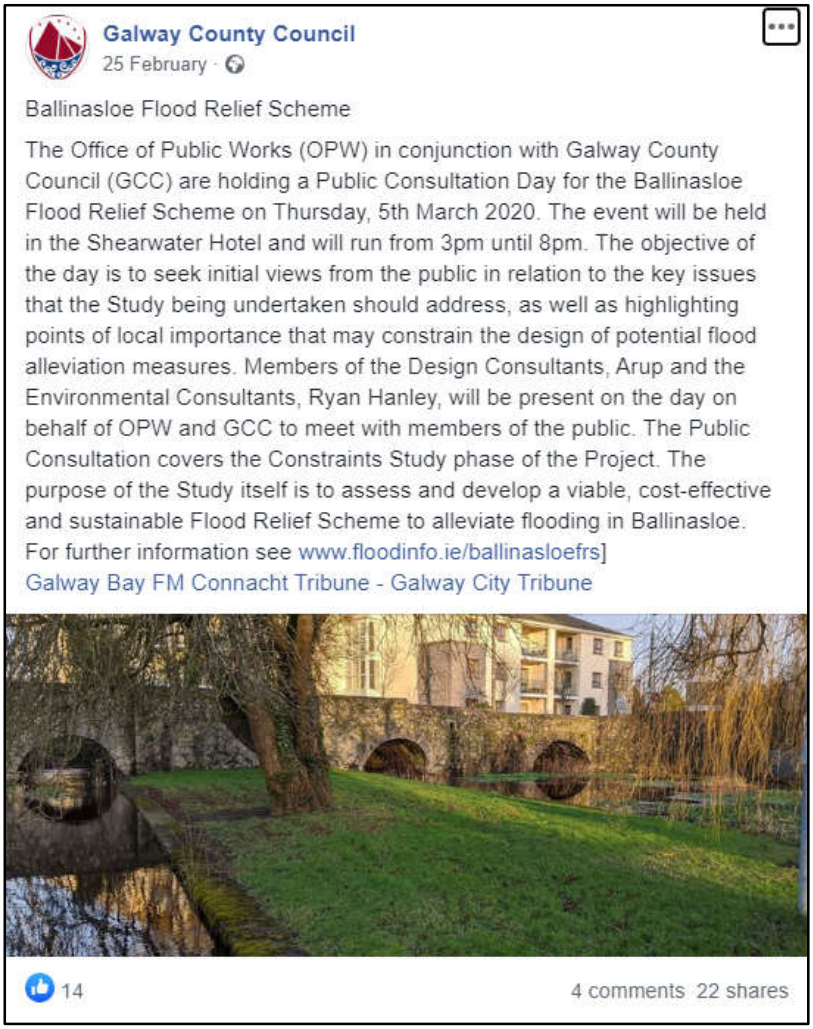

Figure 2.1 Facebook Post from Galway County Council

Twitter posts were published from the Galway Bay FM and also from Galway County Council twitter accounts informing the public of the event.

Figure 2.2 Twitter Post from Galway Bay FM

Figure 2.3 Twitter Post from Galway County Council

2.3 Mail Drop

The event was also publicised locally through distribution of information leaflets to those landowners and stakeholders affected by the proposed works. Prior to the event, Posters were also put up and flyers

made available in the Town Hall, Library and other public buildings. A copy of the Newsletter which was distributed on the 2nd March 2020 is available in Appendix C.

2.4 Other

Feedback received on the night referred that word of mouth was integral part in the community hearing about the event.

3 Public Consultation Day Arrangements

3.1 Public Consolation

On the Thursday 5th March 2020, an exhibition of the study area was opened to the public between 15:00 and 20:00. The event was held in the Dunlo Room, of the Shearwater Hotel in Ballinasloe.

3.2 Councillor Presentation

A presentation to Local Councillor representatives of Galway County Council was held on Thursday 5th March 2020. The purpose of this was to present the study area to the elected members, prior to the Public Consultation Event, and to outline the process involved in the preparation for the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme. The presentation was held in the Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe prior to the commencement of the PCD. Following the presentation, members of staff from the Office of Public Works and Design Team were available to answer questions from the Council representatives.

Points raised by the councillors included:

- Queries regarding security of funding for the project and tight cost-benefit ratio
- Concern with timelines for the project and desire to see scheme implemented sooner
- Queries about why it is necessary to carry out another options selection process, considering that a preferred option was identified under CFRAMS
- Concern about availability of property flood insurance locally

3.3 Signage at the Public Consultation Day

PCD Posters and signs were placed on the doorways of the lobby of the Shearwater Hotel directing people to the Dunlo Room of the Shearwater Hotel.

3.4 Public Consultation Materials

3.4.1 Literature Available for the Consultation

A copy of Ballinasloe Flood Relief Study (Hydro Environmental Ltd., 2010) which was completed on behalf of 'Flood Alleviation Ballinasloe Community Project'.

3.4.2 Public Consultation Questionnaire

A questionnaire with pre-printed questions was provided to each attendee at the exhibition on the 5th of March. Prepaid envelopes were provided to those who wished to return questionnaire by post with a return date for the completed questionnaires of the 16th of April. Information in addition to the questionnaires was also accepted and recorded on the evening of the event or subsequently by post.

This provided an opportunity for members of the public to express their views on the study area shown and to provide information regarding flooding in their area, in addition to other comments they may have had relating to the design or the Environmental Constraints Study. A copy of the blank questionnaire is attached in Appendix A.

3.4.3 Public Consultation Exhibition Posters

The format of the Constraints Study Consultation exhibition was based on a number of scheme posters. The posters included:

- Indicative Study Area Map
- Constraints Study
- Scheme Objectives and Overview
- Environmental Constraints
- CFRMP Flood Relief Scheme Interaction Process
- Public Involvement

Figure 3.1 Photo of Some of the Posters Displayed at the Event

3.5 Public Consultation Exhibition

3.5.1 Staffing of Exhibition

At the venue, staff from the OPW, Galway County Council, Ryan Hanley (Environmental Team) and ARUP Design Team were in attendance to present the study area, accept information from the general public and answer any questions at the preliminary stage. Additional photos of the night are available in Appendix B.

3.5.2 Numbers of Public Attendees

Members of the public visiting the exhibition were invited to sign a visitor's book to enable a record of the number of attendees to be maintained. A total of eighty-two attendees signed the attendance book at the event in Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe. Thirty-Two of which were 5th Year geography students from Garbally College in Ballinasloe.

3.5.3 Additional Comments

All material used at the event, including the presentation given to the councillors, was made available on the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme website (https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/ballinasloe/project-info/public-engagement/).

3.6 Other Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with Flood Alleviation Ballinasloe (FAB). They emphasised their opinion that the Station Road element of the project is of utmost urgency given that it is in a location which has the greatest number of households vulnerable to flood risk on an annual basis. They also say that the works on the East Bridge (Dublin Rd Bridge) are equally urgent as it would benefit all areas upstream, as would the river maintenance and dredging.

They highlighted that there is worry that a number of issues may delay the 'Bridge' works to the detriment of the entire project and are of the opinion that other areas-segments such as Station Rd could proceed while these issues were being addressed.

4 PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESPONSE

4.1 Verbal Comments at Exhibition

Visitors to the exhibitions are considered to have understood the proposals as presented at the exhibition. Comments received generally related to the level of flooding in the past. Some members of the public demonstrated to project team staff the location of their property and their general concerns regarding the level of flooding and damage which arose from past flood events. In addition to provision of information about flooding, members of the public also provided their suggestions relating to potential flood alleviation measures.

Further points brought up during the event related to access if embankments are built on farmland and also the bisecting of land, and the possibility that land in some areas west of the Derrymullen wall/embankment have become wetter due to the presence of the defences.

Some of the verbal comments received are available in Appendix D.

4.2 Questionnaires Returned

By the 16th of April 2020, a total of fifteen questionnaires and one email submission had been returned to the team. No questionnaires were received after this date. These submissions along with the dates received have been passed on to the OPW.

4.3 Photos and other Media

Those who indicated that they had photos or videos of the flooding they experienced were contacted and asked to supply what photos or videos they had. There were 3 responses to this contact, of which 2 provided photos and/or video of flooding which impacted the individual and their property, while a third respondent provided a link to a YouTube video showing flooding within Ballinasloe and in which you can see the back of the respondent's house. All media received was passed on to the Design team for consideration.

5 ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESPONSE

5.1 Analysis of Questionnaires

Although there were 82 attendees, 32 of these were students from the local Secondary School and due to the requirement of GDPR consent no Questionnaires were filled out by the students. Instead, they were offered Questionnaires to bring home for their parents to complete. However, their verbal comments were taken into account above. Therefore, the analysis is conducted on the 50 adult attendees.

Although the questionnaire was available to all, in some cases the attendee did not have sufficient knowledge of flooding to answer the questionnaire. A number of attendees were given the questionnaire to take home or to pass to non-attendees, for which they were given a prepaid stamped addressed envelope.

In total, there were fifteen respondents to the questionnaire (one respondent filled 2 Questionnaires) representing 30% of the attendees, all of whom live or work either within the study area or on the border and in areas affected by the indicative flood extents. The responses were mapped below in Figure 5.1. If specific addresses were not given, the point location was placed within the general area indicated by their address. All respondents have been directly affected by the flooding. Full details of the responses to the questionnaires were provided to the Design Team. Outlined below is a summary of the information obtained from the questionnaires.

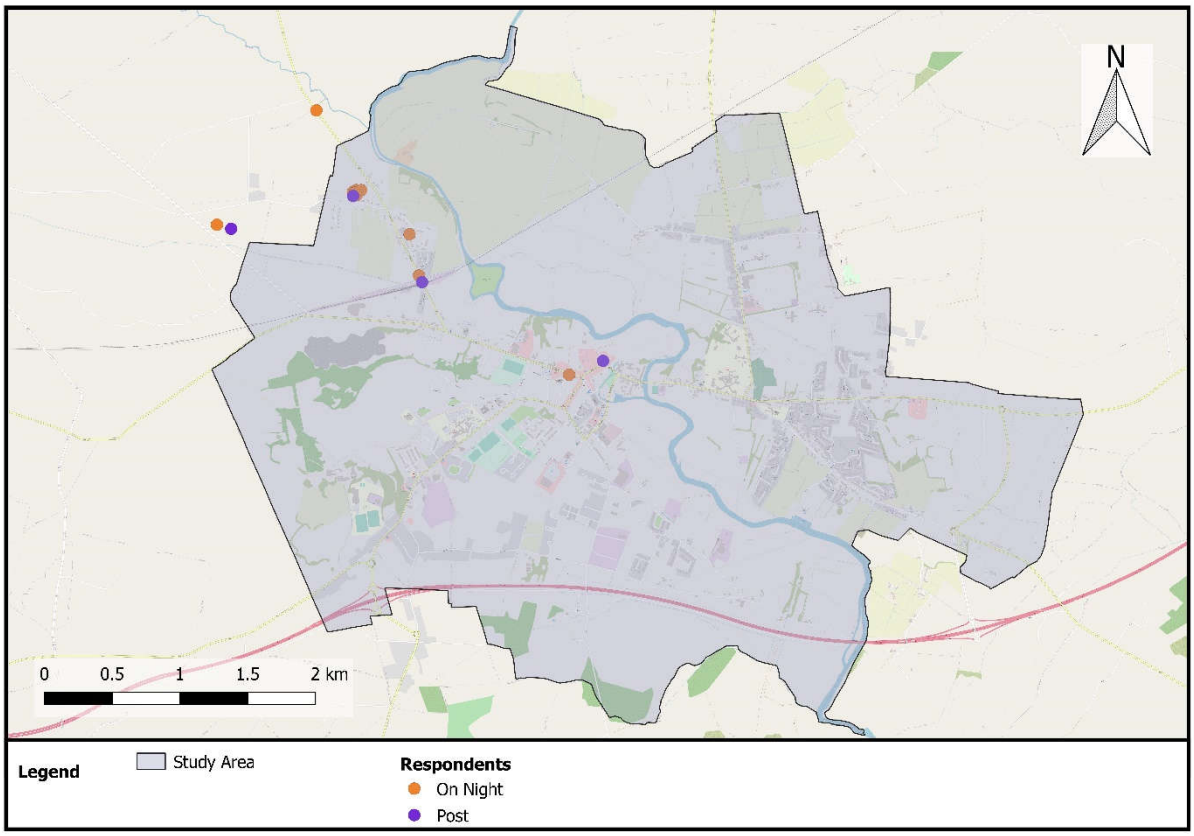

Figure 5.1 Approximate Location of Respondents

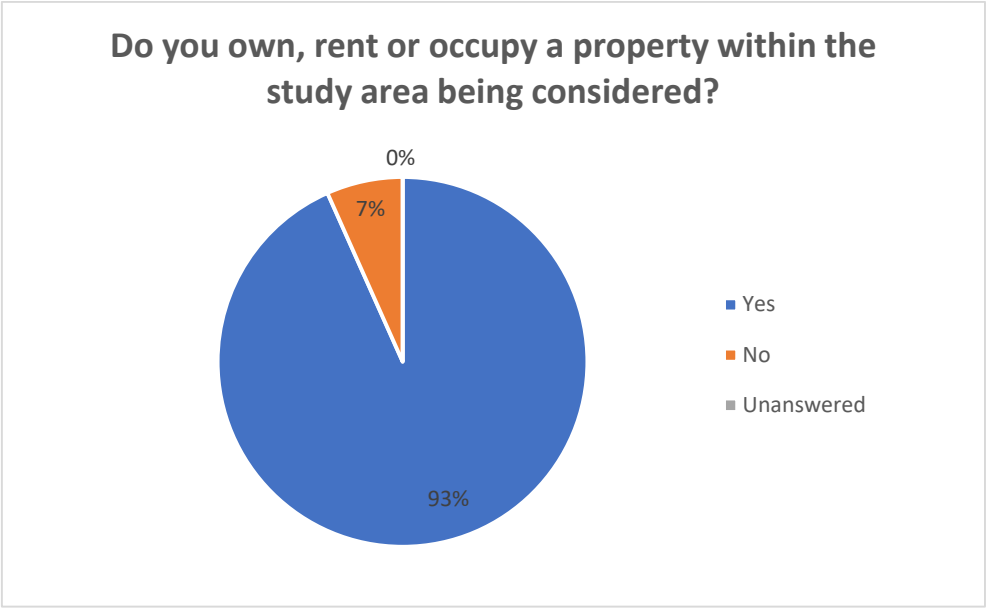

Figure 5.2 Results from the Question: "Do you own, rent or occupy a property within the study area being considered?"

As seen in Figure 5.2, over 90% of attendees owned/rented/occupied a property within the study area. Three people left this question "unanswered" however gave their home address as being within the study area and therefore were included as "Yes".

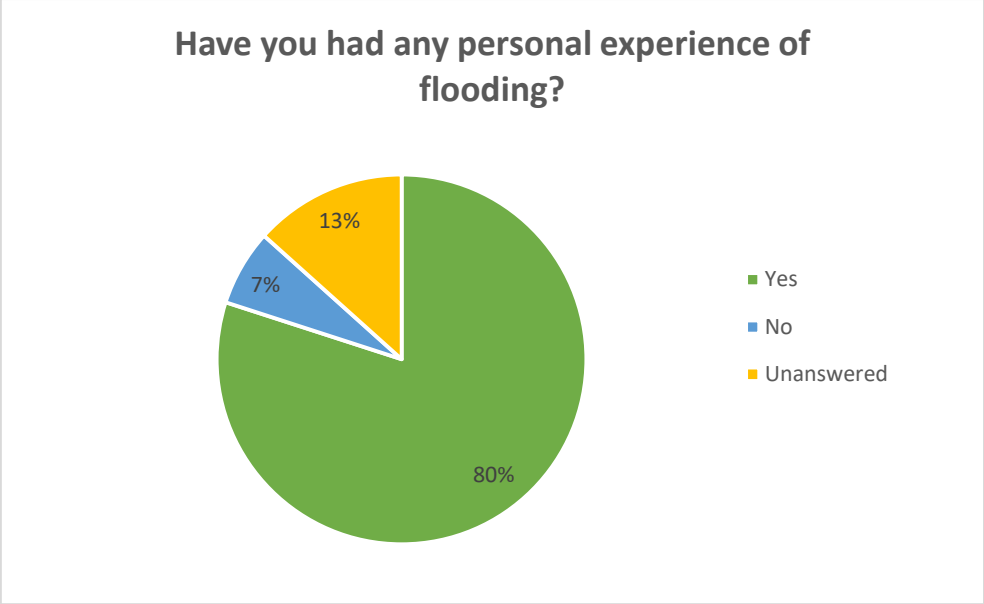

Figure 5.3 Results from the Question: "Have you had any personal experience of flooding?"

The majority of respondents had personal experiences of flooding (80%) as shown above in Figure 5.3. Figure 5.4 below shows that the main type of property which had previously been flooded were "Dwellings" (35%). The next most common was "Land" (including agricultural) at 20% and other buildings such as "Stables/Sheds" (10%). A number of respondents left this question unanswered (15%).

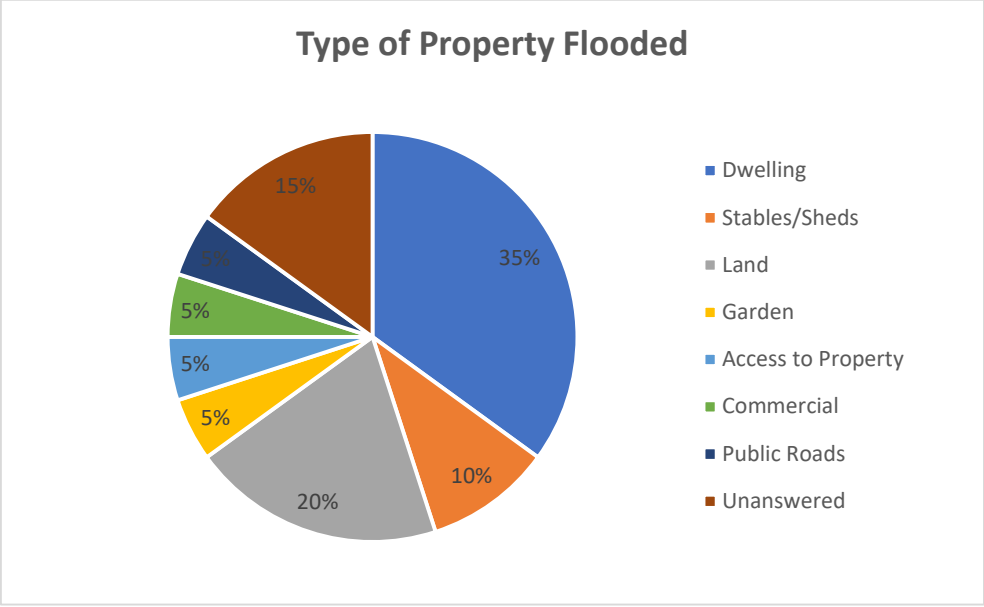

Figure 5.4 Results from the Question: Type of Property Flooded

The questionnaire also asked if the respondents had put any measures in to prevent or reduce the impact of flooding on their properties. The majority of respondent either answered no (40%) or left the question unanswered (40%). However, 20% of respondents said that they had. One respondent noted that they had installed a small wall at back of some of the property. Another gave details of the measures they had put in place which included a wall around the perimeter of property, demountable gate barriers, a sump dug at the lowest point, a pump on standby, and a non-return valve on the surface water drain.

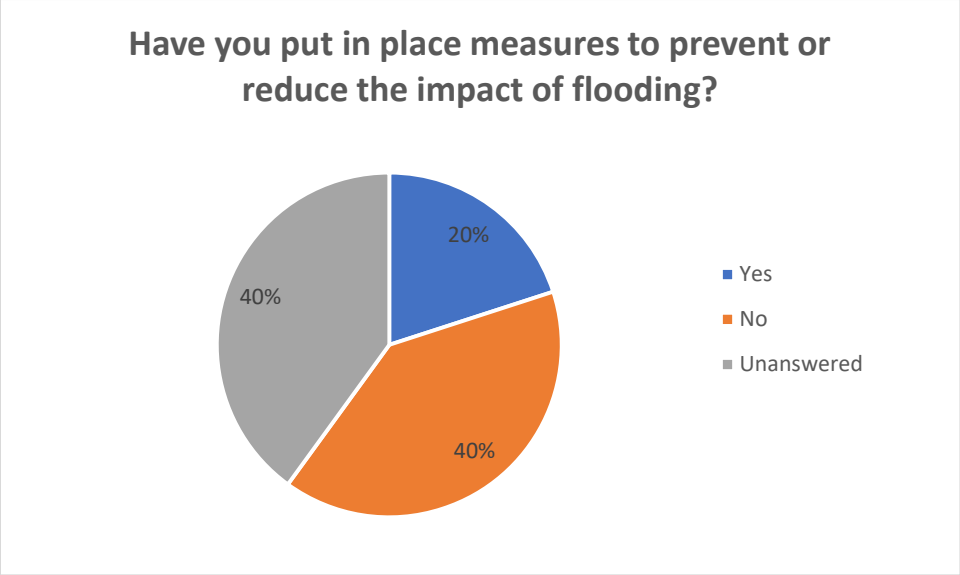

Figure 5.5 Results from the Question: "Have you put in place measures to prevent or reduce the impact of flooding?"

5.2 Flooding Information

Flooding information was gathered and recorded from residents in relation to first-hand experiences and anecdotal information.

5.3 Environmental Constraints

In Question 13 the respondents were given six environmental topics and asked to rank their opinion of the importance of each constraint, from very important to un-important. One respondent to the Questionnaire did not answer this question.

The majority of the respondence considered "Water Quality" as being of most importance with 58.82% of respondents indicating it as 'very important'.

"Land use and Agriculture" was considered the second most important constraint with 33.3% of respondence indicating it as 'very important'. While Architectural & Cultural Heritage and Angling, Tourism & Recreation come in as joint third with 13.33% of respondence reporting these two constraints as 'very important'. "Landscape and Visual Amenity" was indicated as of the least importance with 6.66% of respondents indicating it to be "Very Important". Overall answers to this question are summarised in

Table 5.1 below:

Table 5.1 Answers to Question 13 – In your opinion, how important are the following environmental constraints to the proposed Flood Relief Scheme

Environmental Topics	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Of Little Importance	Unimportant
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna		20%	20%	26.6%	13.3%
Land use and Agriculture	33.3%	6.66%	26.6%	6.66%	
Water Quality	58.82%	13.33%		13.33%	
Architectural and Cultural Heritage	13.33%	33.3%	13.33%	6.66%	
Landscape and Visual Amenity	6.66%	20%	20%	26.6%	
Angling, Tourism & Recreation	13.33%	6.66%	26.6%	26.6%	6.66%

5.4 Other Comments

A number of residents raised concerns about elevated water levels in February 2020 after the series of storms and highlighted that the areas of Derrymullen and Station Road were the worst affected. They also mentioned that the flood defence wall and pump system, which was installed in 2011 after the 2009 flood event, has been working well.

Other issues raised by the local community include how long the project would take to come to fruition and problems regarding the insurance of properties which were previously affected by flooding. People also commented on the isolation felt by those affected, particularly when some roads become impassable.

Praise was given to the quick response of the authorities in February and the hardworking people who were dispatched to the area. However, concerns regarding the regular maintenance of gutters and drains were also raised.

A general increase in the capacity of the river through dredging and additional pipework to remove water from the mill race were also suggested components of the solution. It has been suggested that the current flood defence wall should be extended to provide protection for the remaining houses. Concern was raised that if a sluice were to be built at the Hill of Back that it would cause areas to flood which have never flooded before.

Some issues were raised with the current design by landowners as they felt in parts it removed access points as well as bisecting and isolating areas of farmland. As well as devaluation of land quality due to diversion of flood waters to farmland as a result of mounds and walls.

The submissions also asked for consideration to be made in the design to ensure that the River Suck remains an amenity which the town's inhabitants and tourists can use and, if possible, for the design to improve access and connectivity to the river along with providing walk and cycle ways. There was also

a suggestion that proposed works to rejuvenate areas near Main Street and Society Street be incorporated or taken into account when designing the flood relief scheme.

Some suggest that the scheme could be completed in stages to alleviate the risk of flooding in the most vulnerable places.

6 Conclusions and Recommendations

It was noted that numbers on the night may have been affected by the arrival of Covid19 to Ireland as the first case was confirmed in the country the previous week. There were no health and safety issues to report at any of the events and care was taken to avoid shaking hands, etc.

Despite leaflets being delivered by mail drop within the study area, a number of people noted at the event that they had been the victim of flooding and had not received one. Perhaps for future events, leaflets could be delivered at an earlier date to aid publicity to be spread through word of mouth and to benefit anyone who had not received a leaflet.

Overall, there has been a positive response to the scheme and people are eager for it to commence. The submissions and the attendees on the night both highlighted the urgency of the project.

Appendix A – Blank Questionnaire

OPW

BALLINASLOE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME
PUBLIC CONSULTATION NO.1 QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please complete this questionnaire and hand it in at the Public Information Day or place in the stamped addressed envelope provided, alternatively this questionnaire can be downloaded from www.floodinfo.ie/ballinasloefrs and sent by email to ballinasloefrs@arup.com. Please return by Thursday 16th April 2020.

1. **Name *(optional)*:** _____
   Address: _____
   _____
   Phone *(optional)*: _____
   Email *(optional)*: _____

2. **Do you own, rent or occupy a property within the study area being considered?** Yes ☐ No ☐

3. **Address of property (if different from home address)**
   _____

4. **Have you had any personal experience of flooding?** Yes ☐ No ☐

5. **If yes, please give date(s):** _____

6. **Type of property flooded:** _____

7. **Approximate maximum depth of flooding:** _____

8. **Source of Flooding:**
   Directly from River/ Stream ☐
   From Drains ☐
   Overground flow (surface water) ☐

9. **Do you have photographs of flooding?** Yes ☐ No ☐

10. **If you do, may the OPW have permission to use them?** Yes ☐ No ☐
    Note: Photographs will be collected at a later date

11. **Have you put in place measures to prevent or reduce the impact of flooding?** Yes ☐ No ☐
    If so, please describe:

12. **How do you think the issue of flooding in the area can be resolved?**

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13. In your opinion, how important are the following environmental constraints to the development of a Flood Risk Management Scheme for the Ballinasloe area: *(please tick appropriate boxes)*

Issue	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Of Little Importance	Unimportant
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Land Use and Agriculture	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Water Quality	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Architectural and Cultural Heritage	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Landscape and Visual Amenity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Angling, Tourism & Recreation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

If you have any comments in relation to the proposed scheme or the constraints, please record them here:

Comment:

GDPR Compliance

Your contact details have been collected to aid the development of the flood relief scheme for Ballinasloe. The details will only be used for the purposes of contacting you in relation to the scheme, which may include some or all of the following:

- Notifying you of future consultation opportunities
- Arranging access to your lands for the purposes of data collection by project staff and approved third party surveyors
- Clarifying information, you have already provided to the project team and obtaining further inputs

Your details will be securely kept on file for the duration of the project

Signature:	I agree to the above use and retention of my contact details

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

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Appendix B – Photos of the Public Consultation Venue


Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Scheme Objectives & Overview
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Public Involvement
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme


Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Scheme Objectives & Overview
OPW
ARUP


Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
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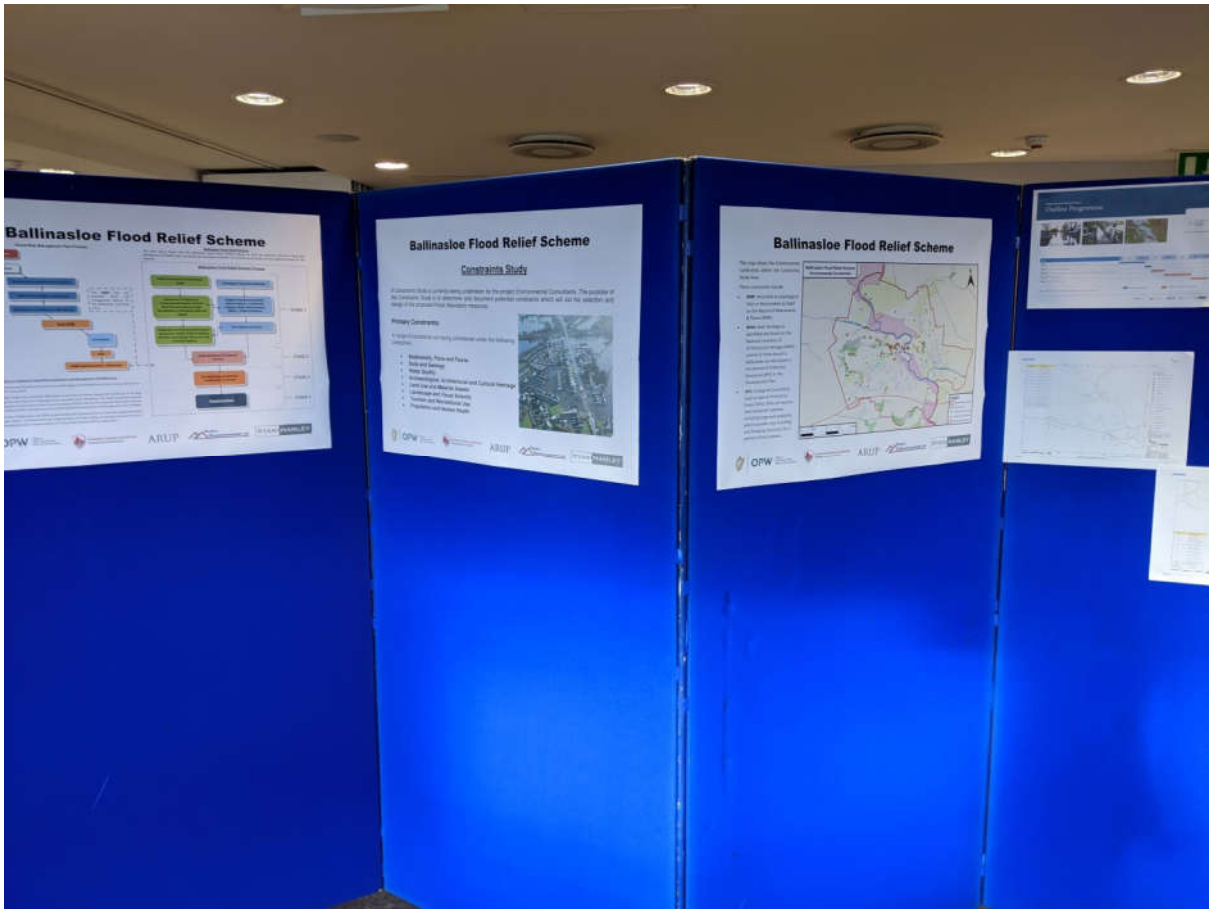

Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme
Constraints Study
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme


Relief Scheme
Ballinasloe


Ballinasloe
2040
ARUP

Appendix C – Newsletter

Project Newsletter No. 01 | February 2020

Newsletter

Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW ARUP RYAN HANLEY

Newsletter Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme

Background to the Scheme

As part of the implementation of the EU Floods Directive, the OPW undertook Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Studies between 2012 and 2018. These studies examined 80% of Ireland's major source of flooding across 300 communities in the largest study of flood risk ever undertaken by the State.

The findings from the CFRAM Studies are set out in a series of Flood Risk Management Plans (available at http://www.floodinfo.ie/). The Plans provide the outline of 118 proposed schemes that can protect 11,500 properties. The OPW is now working closely with the Local Authorities to commence the implementation of the first tranche of prioritised schemes, which includes Ballinasloe.

Ballinasloe has a long history of flooding from the River Suck, Deerpark River and other local tributaries. In recent times, significant flooding occurred in November 2009 and during winter 2015/2016.

Following the flood of 2009, a flood relief scheme for the Derrymullen area was advanced by Galway County Council. Construction of the scheme was completed in 2011, and involved 1.19km of flood defence structures consisting primarily of walls and embankments. The existing Derrymullen scheme is proposed to be incorporated into the proposed Ballinasloe Flood Relief scheme, which will facilitate the ongoing management and maintenance of a single overall scheme for the town.

www.floodinfo.ie/ballinasloefrs

OPW in partnership with Galway County Council, has appointed Arup in conjunction with Hydro-Environmental Ltd. to assess, develop and design a viable, cost-effective and environmentally sustainable flood relief scheme for Ballinasloe. OPW has appointed Ryan Hanley to undertake the necessary environmental assessments. This project-level development includes further public and stakeholder engagement, detailed design and a local Public Exhibition or submission for planning approval or confirmation. The outputs from the detailed design may give rise at that stage to some amendment of the proposed works to ensure that it is fully adapted, developed and appropriate within the local context and that it is compliant with environmental legislation and is economically feasible.

Scheme Area

The scheme objective is to provide protection to all domestic and commercial properties currently at risk of flooding from the River Suck and its tributaries within the scheme area, up to the design standard of protection including an allowance for climate change adaptation (refer to map opposite).

Consideration will also be given to additional measures located outside of the main scheme extent to assist with provision of flood relief measures in the areas described above.

Newsletter **Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme**

Opening Public Consultation Day

Location
Dunlo Room, Shearwater Hotel, Ballinasloe.
Date:
Thursday 5th March 2020.
Time:
15.00 – 20.00

The purpose of this first public consultation event is to introduce the project team, display the process for developing the scheme and to gather valuable local knowledge from stakeholders and the public which is essential in achieving this project objective. In particular, we seek initial views from the public in relation to the key issues that the scheme should address and highlight points of local importance that may constrain the design of potential flood alleviation measures.

The Office of Public Works wishes to consider all viewpoints in relation to the scheme area being examined and this is your opportunity to take part at the early stages of the planning of the Flood Relief Scheme. Time spent communicating your views to the Office of Public Works is appreciated. Please examine the scheme area shown above and let your views be known. Questionnaires will be available at the public consultation event which can be filled out and handed in on the day. Alternatively submissions can be posted or emailed to the project team address.

While comments from the public will be welcomed throughout all stages of the project, we would appreciate if comments relating to the opening public consultation day could be submitted by Thursday 16th April 2020.

www.floodinfo.ie/ballinasloefrs

Additional Information

Additional information in relation to overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme project website. The project team can also be reached at the following addresses:

Project website:
www.floodinfo.ie/ballinasloefrs

Email address:
ballinasloefrs@arup.com

Post address:
Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme Project Manager
Arup,
One Albert Quay,
Cork

What happens next?

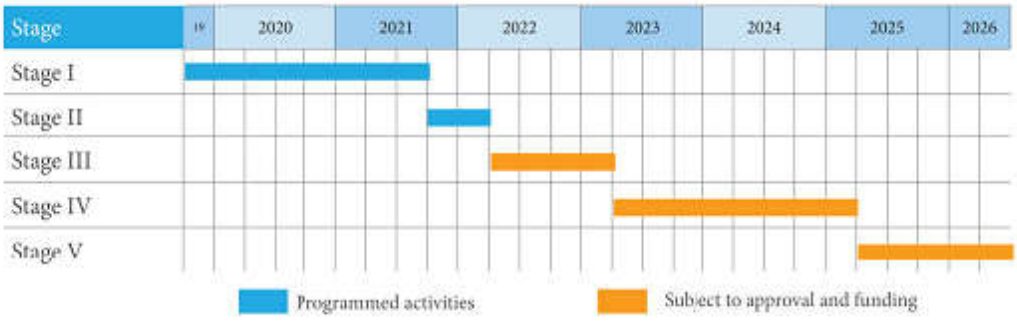
In the following 6 months, the design team will work on:

- Data Collection and Review
- Procurement and Management of Surveys
- Initial Public consultation day
- Collaborative Workshop for stakeholders
- Environmental Constraints study
- Hydrological review analysis

All comments received in response to the Public Information Event will be considered by the Office of Public Works and will be taken into account in the preparation of the first stage of the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme. The stages of the scheme are as follows:

Flood Relief Scheme Stages	
Stage I	Data Gathering, Surveying and SI
	Hydrology Study & Hydraulic Modelling
	Flood Risk Management Options
	Selection of Preferred Option
Stage II	Public Exhibition / Planning
Stage III	Ministerial Confirmation / Detailed Design
Stage IV	Construction
Stage V	Handover of Works

Outline Project Programme



Note : Timelines are the current best estimate but are subject to revision.

www.floodinfo.ie/ballinasloefrs

Appendix D – Additional Notes from the PCD

Issues raised at PCD 5/3/2020

The following are notes of verbal discussions between the project team members and attendees at the PCD.

Local resident

- Noted that there is an issue with peat silt entering the channel from bogs. Landowner suggested that this causes loss of fish habitat and conveyance capacity of channel.
- Suggestion to utilise the dry canal channel to the south east of the town as a flood relief channel.
- Suggestion that the crossing of the channel adjacent to the civic offices under the R446 road is too small.
- Suggestion that the 2009 event could be mainly attributed to:
    - lowered sluices at east bridge;
    - blocked arches at west bridge;
    - blocked arches at the atlas channel;
    - Lack of conveyance associated with peat silt.
- The resident questioned whether the flood relief measures identified by CFRAMS are necessary or appropriate considering the above.

Landowner adjacent to Ballinasloe west bridge

- In favour of CFRAMS preferred option – not keen on the alternative of defending along the old channel.
- Landowner noted that there is a pump arrangement to feed the old channel during dry weather which doesn't seem to work. Landowner suggested that the old channel upstream of the west bridge could do with being cleaned/dredged.

Former Galway CoCo staff member

- Some past flooding occurred at Portnick Drive associated with blockage of surface water pipes with debris. Alignment of surface water pipe shown on CFRAMS map isn't accurate – takes a more indirect route through private property route.
- Some past surface water flooding occurred on Creagh Road. Stream coming from the east is piped under the cemetery and flows into the Suck.
- A number of foul Imhoff tanks discharge into the suck from this area, however some of the flow now goes to the treatment plant near the Pines.
- At least three buried arches are present in the east bridge. Suggested that the arches were blocked to allow for road widening. Suggested that the spoil from the historic dredging of the Suck was deposited on the left bank.

Former local elected representative

- Suggestion that the Derrymullan wall has caused additional flooding of agricultural lands on the western side.
- Suggestion that there was a historic/prehistoric crossing (possibly fording) of the Suck adjacent to the Hill of Back. Suggestion that there were footways associated with this crossing on either side.
- Suggestion that restrictions associated with designated environmental sites should be temporarily removed to allow essential works to take place e.g. flood relief.