

Newsletter

Marfield Lake Flood Relief Scheme



MARFIELD LAKE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Newsletter No. 01 | February 2024



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council



OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



**NICHOLAS
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SCHEME BACKGROUND

The village of Marfield is located south west of Clonmel Town. Immediately north and upstream of Marfield village is Marfield Lake. This is an artificial lake made by damming the river during the mid 1700's. The lake was created to power mill machinery, and it covers an area of approximately 5.6 ha. There were originally several outlets including an overflow weir and at least two sluices, however one of the sluices has been blocked and the other has fallen into disrepair. Flooding has occurred in the past when the flow from the upstream catchment exceeds the capacity of culverts in the village.

In 2021, Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited (NOD) has been commissioned to carry out the Marfield Lake Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) by Tipperary County Council, working in partnership with the Office Public Works (OPW).

The project shall be carried out in five stages:

1. Options Assessment, Scheme development and Preliminary Design
2. Planning / Development Consent Process
3. Detailed Construction Design and Tender Process Evaluation and Award
4. Construction
5. Handover of Works

The proposed works will be designed to suit the local context and to be fully compliant with all relevant environmental legislation.

SCHEME AREA

The scheme area is outlined by the red border on the map. It is located in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, and it extends generally upstream and downstream of Marfield Lake .



WHAT STAGE IS THE SCHEME AT?

The scheme is currently in Stage 1 – Option Assessment, Scheme development and Preliminary Design.

Work carried out to date includes:

Hydrological & Hydraulic Analysis:

The hydrological assessment and hydraulic modelling of the existing situation in the scheme area has been completed. Flood risk maps have been produced and several options for flood protection have been developed. They have been presented at the first Public Consultation Day (PCD 1) in March 2023 to receive feedback.

Two additional flood protection options have been developed since the PCD 1 and they will be presented to the public during PCD 2.

Surveys:

The following surveys have been carried out:

- Topographic survey of the scheme area, including threshold survey for buildings to determine the level which flooding would have to reach in order to impact each building in the area.
- CCTV survey of the culverts in Marfield village.
- Geophysical survey to determine the depth to rock in the scheme area.
- Long-term flow and rainfall monitors have been installed in the catchment.

Environmental Assessments:

Baseline environmental data was collected to inform the assessments. The following surveys and assessments have been carried out to date:

- Preliminary AA Screening (2018),
- Winter bird survey (Winter 2020),
- Baseline ecological survey, Freshwater Crayfish survey, Breeding Bird survey (Summer 2021),
- Bat survey (Summer 2021),
- Archaeological and Built Heritage assessment (August 2021),
- Arboriculture Assessment & Impact (August 2021).

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INTERIM MEASURES

Management Plan:

A flood management plan for Marfield Village has been established and a simulation event was undertaken in September to refine the document. The event was attended by Tipperary County Council, An Garda Síochána and the Fire Service. A robust document is now in place to manage the flood risk to Marfield Village.

Site Clearance:

Extensive Site Clearance Works have been ongoing both on the Dam structure and on the stream passing through the village to increase channel conveyance and reduce the risk of blockages from fallen branches/trees and also to provide access for the forthcoming ground investigative work on the Dam structure.

Safety Access Works:

A temporary access structure has been erected to facilitate safe access for personal accessing the Dam structure to monitor it.

NEXT STEPS

Site Investigations: Investigation work to determine the ground conditions on the dam and surrounding area will be carried out during summer 2024. These will assist in the selection of the preferred option.

Upcoming Sluice Works: Sluice works in the scheme area are currently underway separately from the FRS. These works will involve rehabilitating the existing sluice gate by replacing the penstock gate to allow additional control of the water level in the lake during flood conditions to help to reduce overtopping of the dam.

Public Consultation 2: A Second Public Consultation Day (PCD 2) will be held to present two additional flood protection options not previously discussed in our last PCD and to inform you about the project updates, site investigation works, and the functionality of the sluice works. The date and location of the consultation event will be publicised on the website and in local media once it is available.

Emerging Preferred Option: After collecting the feedback from PCD 2 and after internal consultation the emerging preferred option will be assessed as the one which best meets the Social, Economic, Environmental and Technical criteria to deliver a sustainable solution.

Public Consultation 3: A Third Public Consultation Day (PCD 3) will be held to present the emerging preferred option.

Contact Us:

Please have your say – speak to the project representatives today.

Further questions can be directed to:

Tipperary County Council or to Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited

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