

Contact Us

You can keep in touch with the project through our website where we will be posting updates on progress and details of ongoing works.

For further enquiries feel free to contact us via email or post at:

📍 Portarlington Flood Relief Scheme Project Team,
Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited , Unit 4E, Nutgrove Office
Park, Nutgrove Ave, Churchtown Upper,
Dublin, D14 V3F6

@ PortarlingtonFRS@binnies.com

Relevant Links

🌐 floodinfo.ie/portarlingtonfrs



OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council



PORTARLINGTON FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Newsletter No. 14

June 2026

PROJECT NEWS

Stage I - Scheme Development and Design of Portarlington's Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) - is being advanced by Binnies and Nicholas O'Dwyer (B/NOD), together with Laois County Council (LCC), Offaly County Council (OCC) and the project's Steering Group which consists of members from the Office of Public Works (OPW). Progress is ongoing as the team works on project documents, site surveys and environmental assessments.

CURRENT PROGRESS

Since the last newsletter (August 2025), the following has progressed:

Ground Investigations Ireland (GII), the appointed contractor for the site investigations, have completed their surveying and the majority of the reporting, with the remaining data expected in the next period.

The Project Team continues to progress with the Ground Investigation Report which details and interprets the findings of the ground investigation surveys, highlighting any issues that will require addressing through the design of the Scheme.

The Scheme Carbon Calculator was completed on the 14th of March. The remaining appendices for the Options Development Report, including the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, will be completed in the next period.

Coordination with the chapter suppliers for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is in progress. Chapter suppliers are being onboarded, ready to start work on their chapters.



Figure 1: View of the River Barrow from upstream of Barrow Bridge

Geophysical and underwater surveys have been scheduled for June. Affected landowners are being contacted with details of the survey areas and programme.

The geophysical survey is a non-intrusive survey which will identify any potential archaeological features within the scheme area.

The underwater survey will identify any potential underwater archaeology within the scheme area, and will record detailed information about the riverbed topography and riverside environment.

Ecological surveys will take place before these works start, to ensure that no protected species are affected.

The Project team has defined the red line boundary and identified the landowners affected by the proposed works.

NEXT STEPS

The geophysical and underwater surveys will commence shortly and aim to complete before the end of June.

The Project Team is finalising the Scheme Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which once completed will mark the submission of all appendices for the Options Development Report.

Work on the Environmental Impact Assessment Report is progressing with the Population and Human Health and Major Accidents and Disasters chapters completed. The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and the Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) are scheduled to start soon.

The scope of the historical building survey and trial trenching for Archaeology will be discussed soon with National Monument Services (NMS).



Figure 2: View of River Barrow from People's Park

PROJECTED KEY MILESTONE DATES

The project timeline and key milestones can be found below:

TIMELINE OF SCHEME PROGRAMME

ACTIVITY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Stage I - Scheme Development and Design									
Stage II - Planning Process									

DATE	MILESTONE	INFORMATION
Q4 2026*	Appropriate Assessment & Environmental Impact Assessment	Complete the assessments and environmental reports incorporating results from surveys and desk studies
Q2 2027*	Planning Submission	Submission of the Planning Application of the Scheme.

**The programme indicates a delay in the completion of the Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and submitting the planning application compared to the previous newsletter. The team is taking proactive measures to meet the scheduled milestones.*