



Kilkenny County Council
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

In association with



OPW
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

BYRNE LOOBY

Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme



Newsletter January 2021

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The purpose of the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme is to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch by providing a scheme that is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable.

Project Introduction

Kilkenny County Council as the Lead Authority, in partnership with Carlow County Council and The Office of Public Works (OPW) are now advancing with the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme.

The OPW has recommended the development of a Flood Relief Scheme for Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch as a result of the work completed in the South Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study.

This Flood Relief Scheme is part of the €1bn National Fund announced by the Government for Flood Relief Schemes throughout the Country in May 2018. Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch is on the Kilkenny-Carlow border and Kilkenny County Council are acting as the Lead Authority for the Scheme.

Kilkenny County Council commissioned ByrneLooby in March 2020, to develop and implement a Flood Relief Scheme for Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch.



The Quay, Graiguenamanagh during January 2016 Flood



Environmental

Environmental work is progressing on the project, in line with the overall updated programme. The constraints report has been submitted and the EIA Screening report is under internal review which will then be followed by Statutory Consultation. The flood relief scheme is anticipated to require an EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) with initial preparation work being progressed for this. Submission of the EIA also provides further opportunity to continue our liaison with both the Statutory Consultees and other Stakeholders.

Most specialist environmentally related survey work has now been completed, however, once the preferred option is chosen additional site work may be required in certain key areas to ensure that robust baseline information is available for the EIA itself. These further detailed studies will include topics such as an underwater archaeology survey and site visits to locations of proposed options.

Hydrology

The hydrological analysis has been completed and agreed in principle for the scheme. Some updates are currently being completed to the final report to reflect comments from the review process.

Hydraulic Modelling

The hydraulic modelling for the scheme is done using a computer software package to model the watercourses, drainage infrastructure and overland surface. The calculated hydrology is input to model which is used to represent flood mechanism and evaluate the technical viability of potential flood mitigation measures. Past flood events are used in calibrating the model to ensure it is representative of the flood history in the Scheme Area.

Currently the topography surface has been translated in the hydraulic model to create a 1D hydraulic model which will be used to represent in-channel flow. Work is progressing on other elements including the 2D surface which represented floodplain and urban areas. The next step will be to create the baseline model to represent current flood risk, and which will then be used to model suitable mitigation measures. It is expected that all baseline modelling will be completed ahead of the next newsletter.

Surveys

Surveys continued on-site in Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch over the winter with several different surveys completed for the Scheme. Utility surveys have been completed around the urban areas and flood defence asset condition survey has been conducted on the existing flood defence infrastructure. These surveys will feed into the hydraulic modelling and inform the development of flood defense measures for the Scheme. A CCTV/culvert survey is the only outstanding survey, and it is expected to be completed by Mid-March allowing for the impact of COVID-19.

Public Engagement

A letter drop was completed in October 2020 to promote awareness of the Flood Relief Scheme in the local area. 1,000 properties were delivered a one-page flyer introducing them to the Scheme and informing them of the current works being progressed.

Formal consultation events will be held over the course of the project. However, the team can also be contacted directly at any time for any specific queries or information at GTFRS@byrneblooby.com

Photo of a flood defence wall on the Tinnahinch Quay downstream of Graiguenamanagh Bridge. This was assessed as part of the Flood Defence Asset Condition Survey



Progress Update

Stage 1 Progress



What's Next?

Over the next few months, the Project Team will be working on:

- ➔ Hydraulic Modelling
- ➔ Ecology and environmental survey & assessment
- ➔ Flood defence options development
- ➔ Site Investigations

COVID-19

Kilkenny County Council, supported by OPW and Carlow County Council, have deemed the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch FRS as an essential project. This means that ByrneLooby and the Steering Group for the project will continue with the essential activities for the project and continue working on the scheme throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Project Team look forward to your participation and wish all residents of Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch good health.



Contact Us

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

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

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/grauguenamanagh-tinnahinchfrs/home/>