

**Comhairle Contae Chiarraí**  
**Kerry County Council**



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**



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# Kenmare Flood Relief Scheme



## Newsletter September 2022

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## Project Purpose

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

### Project Introduction

A brief overview of the background to the project and how we got here.

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# Project Introduction

Kenmare has suffered from serious flooding over the years including recent floods in 2015 and 2020. Areas at risk include the Town Square, Scarteen Park, Finnihy Banks and at the pier and adjacent roads. The Southwestern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) identified Kenmare as an Area for Further Assessment (AFA).

The resulting CFRAM Flood Risk Management Plan for Kenmare was finalised in 2018 and identified a preliminary scheme design that might be feasible for Kenmare. The flood relief measures identified included the removal of the existing combined sewer pipe under Finnihy Bridge, construction of walls and embankments on the Finnihy and Kealnagower rivers and tidal defences comprising of walls, embankments, removable barriers and road raising.

Kerry County Council in partnership with the Office of Public Works (OPW) are now advancing with the Kenmare Flood Relief Scheme. In May 2022 Kerry County Council appointed Byrne Looby as Engineering and Environmental Consultants to undertake the design and implementation of the proposed Flood Relief Scheme.

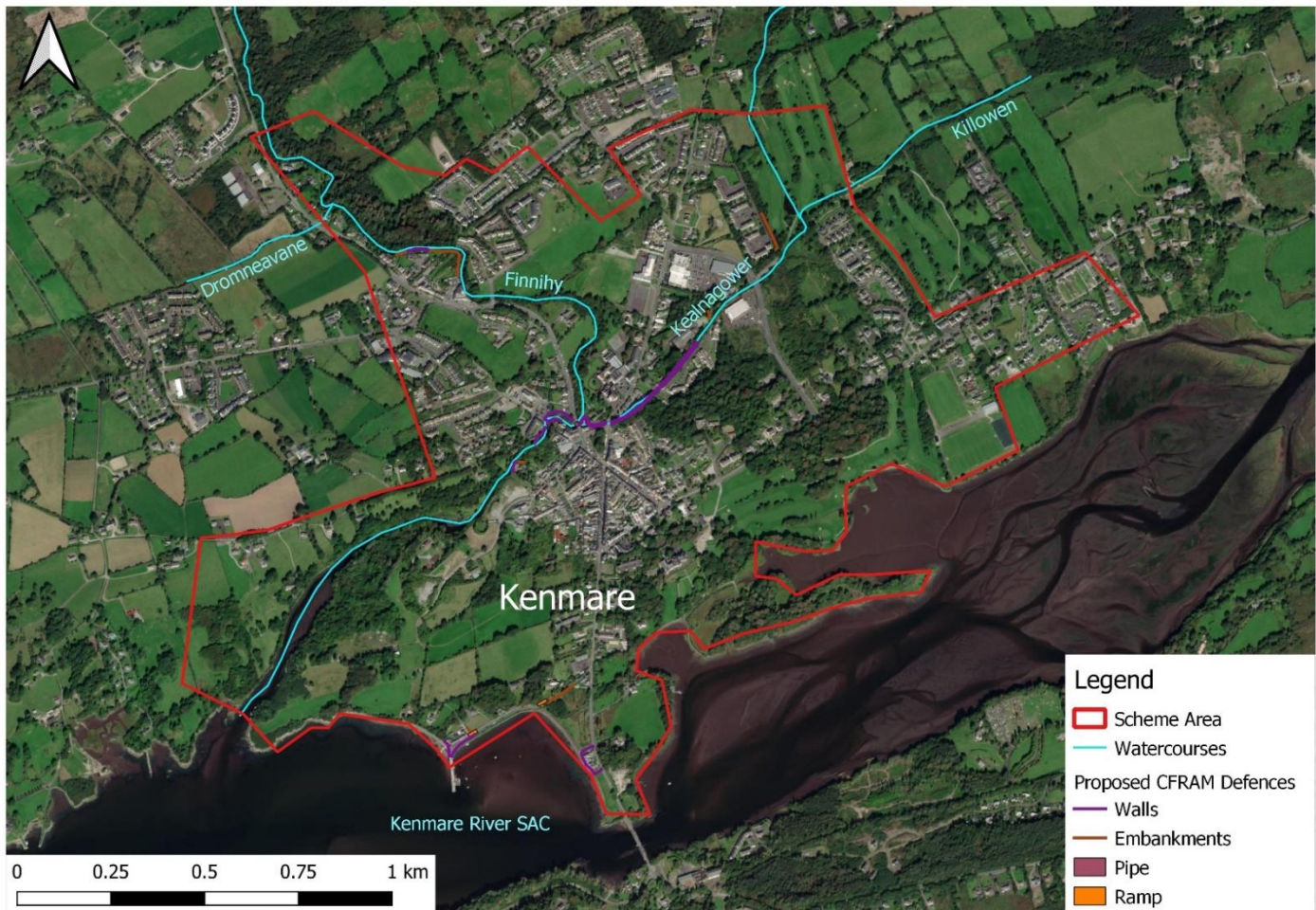
This Flood Relief Scheme is part of the €1bn National Fund announced by the Government for Flood Relief Schemes throughout the Country in May 2018.

The design standard of protection for the scheme is the 1% AEP fluvial event (1 in 100 year) and 0.5% AEP tidal event (1 in 200 year). The design will consider and allow for the impacts of climate change which may be realised over time.



*Flooding at Quill's Corner, Kenmare July 2020*





*Kenmare Flood Relief Scheme - Scheme Area*

## Scheme Area

The Scheme Area is the town of Kenmare and the surrounding watercourses and coastline including the Finnihy River, Kealnagower River and local tributaries as well as the coastal area around Kenmare pier.

The overall study area will also include any areas that require hydrological or environmental assessment as part of the scheme, essentially comprising the entire River Finnihy Catchment Area.

Consideration will also be given to measures located outside of the scheme area that provide flood mitigation for the outlined area.

## Environmental Work

The development of a viable scheme will require detailed environmental assessments including baseline surveys of terrestrial and aquatic ecology, archaeological and cultural heritage, landscape and water quality. These will lead to a Constraints Report to help define an acceptable scheme. The identification and management of any potential environmental impacts will be set out in a Natura Impact Statement and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report.





The entire scheme will be implemented in five different stages. Stage I is currently ongoing having commenced in June 2022.

The five stages of the scheme are described briefly below.

- Stage 1 – Data collection and preliminary design
- Stage 2 – Planning delivery and public exhibition
- Stage 3 – Detailed design and tender
- Stage 4 – Construction
- Stage 5 – Handover of work

[illegible]

# Public Consultation Day

## **Location Online at:**

<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/kenmare/project-info/public-engagement/>

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022, 2pm to 7pm

**Venue:** Gateway Methodist Church, Molls Gap Road

The purpose of this event is to introduce the project team, outline the process for delivering the scheme and gather valuable local knowledge from stakeholders and the public. Public information is essential in achieving this project objective and we are seeking any initial views on key issues relating to the scheme or previous flood events.

The event will be held at the Gateway Methodist Church on the Killarney Road. Staff from Kerry County Council and ByrneLooby will be in attendance from 2:00pm to 7:00pm to explain the overall project and to answer any queries.

## What's Next?

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

- ➔ Data collection
- ➔ Public Consultation Day
- ➔ Carrying out environmental and hydrometric river surveys
- ➔ Condition Surveys of Existing Flood Defences
- ➔ Hydrology - Analysis of river and rainfall data including past flood events to be used in the design.
- ➔ Hydraulic Modelling and Analysis



## Contact Us

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

### Email

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### Post

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

[www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/kenmare/home/](http://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/kenmare/home/)