

Newsletter

Shannon Town and Environs Flood Relief Scheme



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Project Newsletter

August 2023



OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL



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Existing Flood Protection Embankments at estuary

WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

In the period since the last Project Newsletter was issued (December 2022) the project steering group (comprising of Clare County Council, the OPW, Shannon Airport Authority and RPS) are continuing to ensure that the development of the scheme is based on the most accurate and up to date information.

All third-party survey works (Topo Survey, Ground Investigations, CCTV, Flow-Water Level-Rainfall and Geophysical Survey) have now been completed.

Additional third-party survey works will be procured as necessary.

Hydrologic and hydraulic analyses of all watercourses/drainage systems including the coastal wave overtopping analyses have now been completed. A Nature-based Catchment Management Feasibility Study has also been prepared.

Initial geotechnical design of the proposed/existing flood protection embankments is also completed. Preliminary

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drawings with options on embankment alignments and sections were prepared and issued to Clare County Council.

Baseline environmental survey works, e.g. the habitat surveys, mammal surveys, etc; are largely complete and detailed surveys are being progressed.

An underwater archaeological survey is also being progressed.

Option assessments and preferred option identification:

Scheme Analysis and Design tasks are ongoing. All potential engineering options to reduce the flood risk in Shannon Town and Environs are currently being investigated using the calibrated hydraulic models. Once all potential options are assessed using Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) the Steering Group will identify a preferred scheme for Shannon.

Consultations:

A meeting and site walkover was held between Clare County Council (CCC), Shannon Airport Authority (SAA), RPS and National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to review and discuss options for embankment raising and realignment, especially in relation to the western embankment and lagoon, the treatment plant road and the breakwater.

An opening Collaborative workshop with relevant stakeholders will be held in the near future. The purpose of the Collaborative workshop will include establishing goals and objectives from relevant sections within Clare County Council (e.g., planning, enhancement of public realm, heritage, recreation, biodiversity, etc.), and determine if and how these goals and objectives may inform design features for this scheme.

Meetings will also be held with other interested parties in relation to the key issues that the project should address, the options to manage the flood risk in the area, to highlight points of local importance that

might constrain the design and/or viability of any potential flood alleviation measures and collate information on any flood events that have occurred since the CFRAM Study was undertaken. Any comments received will be incorporated into the option development insofar as is possible.

The FRS Design Team is liaising with the N19 upgrading works design team on a regular basis.

NEXT STEPS:

Detailed Environmental Surveys

RPS are currently undertaking detailed environmental surveys to inform the options selection process and to ensure sufficient detail is available to allow the EIAR to be prepared for the preferred scheme.

Preliminary Scheme Development:

Once a preferred scheme is agreed with the Steering Group following incorporation of comments received through Stakeholder and Public Consultations, the final preferred scheme will be developed to a sufficient detail to allow the Environmental Impact Assessment process to commence.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

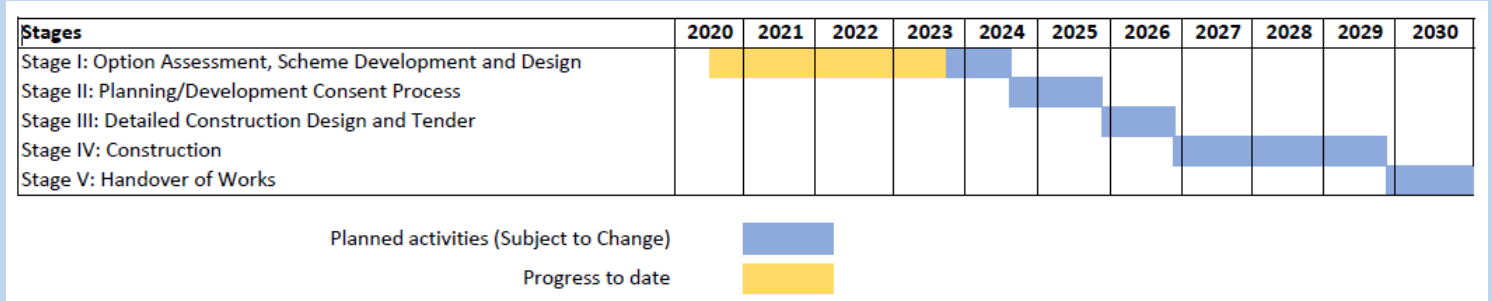
An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) will be prepared for the preferred scheme. The EIA process ensures that projects that are likely to have a significant effect on the environment, are assessed in advance, so that people are aware of what those effects are likely to be. The EIAR will set out proposals to deal with any potentially negative effects. The EIAR must include a non-technical summary. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published guidelines on the information to be contained in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Further Consultations will be undertaken during the preparation of the EIAR.

It is expected that the EIAR for the Shannon Town & Environs Flood Relief Scheme will be completed in Q2/Q3 2024.

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Outline Project Programme



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