

Newsletter

Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



OPW

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Office of Public Works



Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

**Limerick City
& County Council**



Newsletter Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme



What stage is the project at?

The Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme (LFRS) is currently at Stage 1 of the project. This stage is where potential flood defence designs are identified and considered, to develop the best flood defence options for the area.

Since the last newsletter, the project team has been continuing to progress the completion of the hydraulic modelling. This model will be used to assess viable options for mitigating flood risk. Further Ground Investigations (GI) to have also commenced and will be ongoing for the remainder of the year. The information gathered from these investigations will inform the flood alleviation measures being considered as part of the scheme optioneering.

Current Progress

The latest calibrated hydraulic model had been used to define both coastal and fluvial flood extents for flood events with return periods ranging from 2 to 1000 years. These draft flood extents are currently being reviewed by the project team. The model will also be used to define flood extents for further current and future climate change design scenarios.

The output from the hydraulic model will be used to inform the identification of appropriate measures to reduce flood risk within the Scheme area. This process will be ongoing for the remainder of 2024 and will include a technical analysis to identify a range of measures that individually and in combination can be used to manage both tidal and fluvial flood mechanisms. In addition, adaptation requirements to account for implications of climate change will also be considered. The identified viable options will be presented at the next Public Consultation Day for the project.

To date various engineering and environmental surveys and studies have been undertaken to inform the scheme design and evaluation. These include desktop environmental constraints identification, geotechnical investigations and assessments, existing flood defence review, topographical surveys, and various ecological and ornithological surveys.

Currently further geotechnical investigations are being progressed within the scheme area to inform preliminary designs. Initial investigation packages have been awarded to Priority Geotechnical Ltd. and IGSL Ltd. These investigations have commenced, and further package are currently being procured.

Various ecological surveys have also been procured by Limerick City & County Council to inform a detailed ecological baseline assessment of the scheme area. These surveys will be ongoing throughout the remainder of 2024.



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Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to the overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme project website.

The project team can be reached at the Limerick City & Environs FRS email address.



Tel: 021 466 5900



Email: limerickfrs@rpsgroup.com



Website: www.floodinfo.ie/limerickfrs

Postal Address:

Limerick City & Environs Flood Relief Scheme – Project Manager
RPS Consulting Engineers
Innishmore, Ballincollig,
Co. Cork P31 KR68

Next Steps:

Geotechnical Investigations:

RPS are working with Limerick City & County Council (LCCC) to procure contractors to carry out detailed geotechnical investigations throughout the scheme area.

Ground investigation contracts commenced in February 2024 and will continue over the next number of months. The investigation will include non-intrusive geophysical testing as well as boreholes and trial pits. This investigation will help the designers understand the geotechnical considerations for scheme.

Options Development:

The identification and assessment of viable options will be commencing shortly based on the finalised hydraulic modelling outputs.

A technical multi-criteria analysis together with feedback from Public Consultation will be used to inform the preferred flood defence option design.

Public Consultation Day

The date for second Public Consultation Day will be determined as the design options are being developed. The aim of this event will be to inform the public and stakeholders of the progress made since the project began and to outline and present the suite of potential flood relief options that have been developed to alleviate flooding within the Limerick City & Environs Scheme Area.

Environmental:

A series of detailed ecological surveys is currently being procured. These surveys are scheduled to

take place in 2024. The surveys include:

- Terrestrial habitats & Flora,
- Mammals and Bats,
- Amphibian and Reptile,
- Freshwater and estuarine ecology.

The purpose of these surveys is to inform a detailed baseline environmental assessment of the Scheme area and proposed flood defence options.

Treatment of Invasive Species to mitigate construction risk within the scheme area is continuing this Spring. This includes the treatment of Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, and Giant Hogweed throughout the Scheme area.

Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement with stakeholders and the public is an ongoing process.

Notifications were issued to landowners impacted by the detailed geotechnical investigations in April 2024.

Consultation is continuing as appropriate with Local and statutory stakeholders.

Input from the public and other stakeholders is welcomed by the project team at any time during the project.

All feedback / input should be submitted by email, post, or phone to the RPS project team using the contact details noted above. These inputs will be reported to the LCCC and OPW Steering Group for consideration as part of the scheme development.

Programme:

Limerick City & Environ FRS - Programme			2021			2022			2023			2024			2025			2026			2027			2028			2029			2030			2031			2032		
			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Stage I:	Options Assessment, Scheme Development & Design																																					
Stage II:	Planning / Development Consent																																					
Stage III:	Detailed Design & Tender																																					
Stage IV:	Construction																																					
Stage V:	Handover																																					