

Newsletter

Project Newsletter No. 02

October 2022

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme



OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Comhairle Contae Chiarraí
Kerry County Council



MAKING
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What stage is the project at?

The scheme design is at an early stage. The RPS project team is coordinating detailed surveys and investigations and undertaking flood modelling. The outcomes of these investigations and assessments will be used to inform the designs of the flood defences for the scheme.

Current Activities

In April of this year Murphy's Geospatial Ltd. (MGL) was appointed by Kerry County Council (KCC) to undertake the level surveys of the embankments, river channels, structures (bridges, culverts, weirs etc.) and the building floor levels within the scheme area. This data forms the basis of the 'Hydraulic Model'. The survey was completed in August.

A Geotechnical Ground Investigation (GI) of the existing embankments that form a major part of Tralee's existing flood defences started in June of this year. This investigation will provide a better understanding of the make-up of these existing flood defences. This will allow RPS to determine whether upgrades and amendments to these embankments are required. KCC appointed IGSL Ltd in May 2022 to undertake these site investigations. It is anticipated that these will be complete on site by the end of November.

Amelio Group commenced a 'Flow and Rainfall' survey of the scheme area in June 2022. The information from this survey will be used to

understand the response of the storm system to rainfall within the scheme area.

Amelio Group are also undertaking a CCTV visual survey of the main culverts within Tralee. This will provide the team with an understanding of the condition of the storm culverts and help identify issues that may contribute to flooding.

A visual inspection of the existing flood defences has also been carried out by RPS Engineers to assess the condition of the existing flood defence assets. This field survey was completed in September and the desktop assessment is ongoing.

RPS is developing the 'Hydraulic Model' for the Scheme. The model is a tool that will be used to identify flood risk and test flood scheme design options.

An Invasive Alien Plant Species (IAPS) Management Plan has also been developed. This plan identifies the location of invasive plant species relevant to potential engineering works. It is anticipated that a contractor will be engaged in early 2023 to undertake early treatment of these invasive species.

Various ecological baseline surveys of the scheme have also been undertaken by RPS' ecologists during 2022. These will help inform the assessment of scheme design options in 2023.



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Geotechnical Investigation works - Lane and Path Closures

A detailed Geotechnical Investigation (GI) of the existing embankments throughout the Tralee FRS scheme area is underway.

In order to protect the health and safety of the public and to ensure timely completion of the works sections of the River Lee Walkway will need to be closed on an intermittent basis from the 27th October to the 4th November

A lane closure on a section of the N86 from the roundabout at Princes Street towards Blennerville is scheduled to take place from 24th October to the 28th October.

Please note that closure dates are effective from Monday to Friday only. There will be no restrictions on the weekends.

Closure dates will be confirmed and uploaded to the project website over the coming weeks.



Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Tralee Flood Relief Scheme project website. The project team can be reached at the Tralee FRS email address.

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Next Steps:

Hydraulics & Hydrology:

The hydrological analysis, which includes analysis of historic flood data, is ongoing. The design flood flow and water levels for various flood scenarios are being developed. These, along with the survey data, will provide the necessary inputs to the computer model as part of the hydraulic analysis. The project team has begun the hydrology report; the report will discuss the findings from the hydrological analysis.

Environmental Assessment:

The Environmental team will be undertaking a series of ecological/environmental monitoring programmes and surveys. These surveys will

help identify and quantify the environmental and ecological constraints of the scheme.

In addition, the invasive plant species treatment will commence. It is anticipated that the first cycle of treatment within the Tralee area will start in Spring 2023.

Geotechnical Investigations:

It is anticipated that the field work associated with the assessment of existing embankments will be complete by late November. However, the assessment of the findings from the investigation will continue into the new year. The evaluation of the ground conditions to inform the flood defence design options for the scheme will commence in 2023 and further ground investigations will be undertaken at that time.

Programme:

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme - Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Stage I:	█	█	█	█	█						
Stage II:					█	█	█				
Stage III:						█	█	█			
Stage IV:							█	█	█	█	█
Stage V:										█	█

Tralee Flood Relief Scheme	
Stage 1	Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme
Stage 2	Planning/ Development Consent
Stage 3	Detailed Construction Design, Work Packages and Tenders for Contracts
Stage 4	Construction
Stage 5	Handover of Works

