


## Contact Us

You can keep in touch with the project through our website where we will be posting updates on progress and details of ongoing works.

For further enquiries feel free to contact us via email or post at:

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### Relevant Links

 [www.floodinfo.ie/dundalkfrs](http://www.floodinfo.ie/dundalkfrs)



# Dundalk & Ardee

## FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Newsletter No. 05

November 2023

## PROJECT NEWS

Binnies and Nicholas O'Dwyer together with the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Louth County Council (LCC), are progressing with Stage I of the Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Scheme. Progress is being made in terms of environmental surveys and assessments, flood modelling and optioneering for both Schemes.

## CURRENT PROGRESS

Since the last newsletter (July 2023), a second round of Wintering and Migratory Bird surveys was procured. These surveys initiated in October 2023, following the first round completed between January - May 2021 and Nov 2021 - May 2022. This round of surveys is required in order to further inform the design and provide continuity of data for the environmental assessments.

The Bat Activity Survey Report for Dundalk is now completed. The surveys were undertaken to determine the potential for bats utilising the site, to identify if bats could be affected by the proposals and, if necessary, inform a mitigation strategy to reduce impacts to non-significant levels. Due to high levels of bat activity in many areas, further surveys are likely to be required when the flood relief options will emerge. In addition, consultation with LCC's planning authority and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) will be sought to discuss likely impacts and agree mitigation measures if required.

Site investigation surveys are currently being scoped for the Dundalk Study Area. With a view these works to have the minimum impact on the existing environment and cultural heritage, assessments are being prepared to establish the best practices to undertake the works.

## STORM CIARÁN

Storm Ciarán impacts Dundalk on the night/early morning of Monday 30th October/Tuesday 31st October. The event caused flooding of roads at Cluan Enda, St Alphonsus Road, Bay Estate, R172 Blackrock Road and at Mounthamilton off the Ardee Road. Properties were also impacted. Based on footage, it was evident that the Blackwater River did not overflow at the rear of the houses off R172 Avenue Road.

Other photographs along the course of the Blackwater River show that it was at full capacity on Wednesday morning, 1st November. Also evident was that the 1350 dia. pipe at Balmer's Bog Inlet Structure was seen to be practically at full bore capacity. An inspection along the Ramparts River on Wednesday Morning November 1st showed that the river was at near full capacity at Thomas Street. Further down the course of the Ramparts River at the junction of Mill Street and Quay Street, appeared to be some spare capacity left within the culvert.

This information was incorporated in the model for low return period events, improved the understanding of the flooding mechanisms and was used to further verify the hydraulic model outputs.

## NEXT STEPS

The Project Team is focusing on the completion of the baseline hydraulic analysis. This also includes the wave overtopping which is one of the dominant flood mechanisms along the coast of Dundalk and Blackrock.

Followingly, and after a high level assessment of the suitable approaches to manage flood risk in the catchment, measures will be hydraulically tested. The various combinations of the measures will form the emerging options.





Bat Static Detector Location



Blackwater River - 1st November 2023

## PROJECTED KEY MILESTONE DATES—DUNDALK FRS

DATE	MILESTONE	INFORMATION
Q2 2024	Hydraulics Analysis	Completion of the hydraulic analysis and flood mapping.
Q2 2024	Options Assessment	The identification of potential flood relief measures and combination of them into options by detailed hydraulic modelling.
Q3 2024	Emerging Options Workshop	To discuss the findings of the optioneering process and the assessment of the performance of potential flood relief options.
Q4 2024	Public Consultation Day no.2	This is a second public event which will present the emerging flood relief options.
Q2 2025	Scheme Analysis and Development	Selection, development and design of a preferred option with the implementation of a greenway .
Q3 2025	Public Consultation Day no.3	A closing public event will be held once a preferred Scheme has been identified.
Q3 2025	Environmental Impact Assessment	Targeted Environmental Surveys and desk studies.
Q4 2025	End of Stage I	Completion of all necessary studies required to progress to Stage II - Planning

