

DUNDALK & ARDEE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Residents, Businesses and interested parties are invited to our

Virtual Public Consultation Event

22nd September 2021 at 6.30 pm



BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

The project involves two scheme areas; Dundalk & Blackrock and Ardee. Dundalk is an historic town that lies on the Castletown River, flowing into Dundalk Bay on the east coast of Ireland. It has strong architectural and cultural heritage, forming part of ‘Ireland’s Ancient East’. Blackrock is a seaside village that forms part of the Dundalk metropolitan area and draws visitors to its’ beach overlooking Dundalk Bay and the Cooley Mountains. Ardee is a small town on the banks of the River Dee which is home to a number of medieval buildings, and has undergone continuous development for several decades. It is a small project being run in tandem with Dundalk to provide benefits to all of the local communities as soon as possible.

Having suffered many previous flooding events throughout 2013-2016, as well as in 2020 and 2008,

WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

Since appointment, the B/NOD team have been reviewing all relevant sources of information, including the previous CFRAM study, to identify any gaps where additional surveys or information may be required. These checks will be enhanced and finalized upon receipt of any data held by the client.

In addition to reviewing existing data, work has also commenced on the hydrological analysis, Greenway route constraints study, and the Defence Asset Condition Surveys. Progress is being made identifying the environmental surveys which are critical to be undertaken throughout the winter months, to avoid any possible project delays.

Initial Defence Asset Condition Surveys have been undertaken to offer a preliminary review of the condition of current assets and whether any immediate works are required to help keep the flooding risk to local communities as small as possible.

Dundalk and Blackrock are furthermore at significant risk of coastal flooding.

With the future risk increased by climate change and the areas natural low-lying topography, calls for a sensitive flood relief scheme to be constructed to protect Dundalk and Blackrock from future flood events were set out in the Catchment Flood Risk and Management Study (CFRAM) published by the Office of Public Works (OPW) in 2018.

In August 2020, Binnies (B) and Nicholas O’Dwyer (NOD) were appointed by Louth County Council to develop a flood relief scheme to protect Dundalk, Blackrock and Ardee which is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable to protect the areas of Dundalk, Blackrock and Ardee.

The works likely to take place in all areas are hard defences (walls & embankments), improvement of channel conveyance (maintenance & culvert upgrade), and floodplain storage measures.



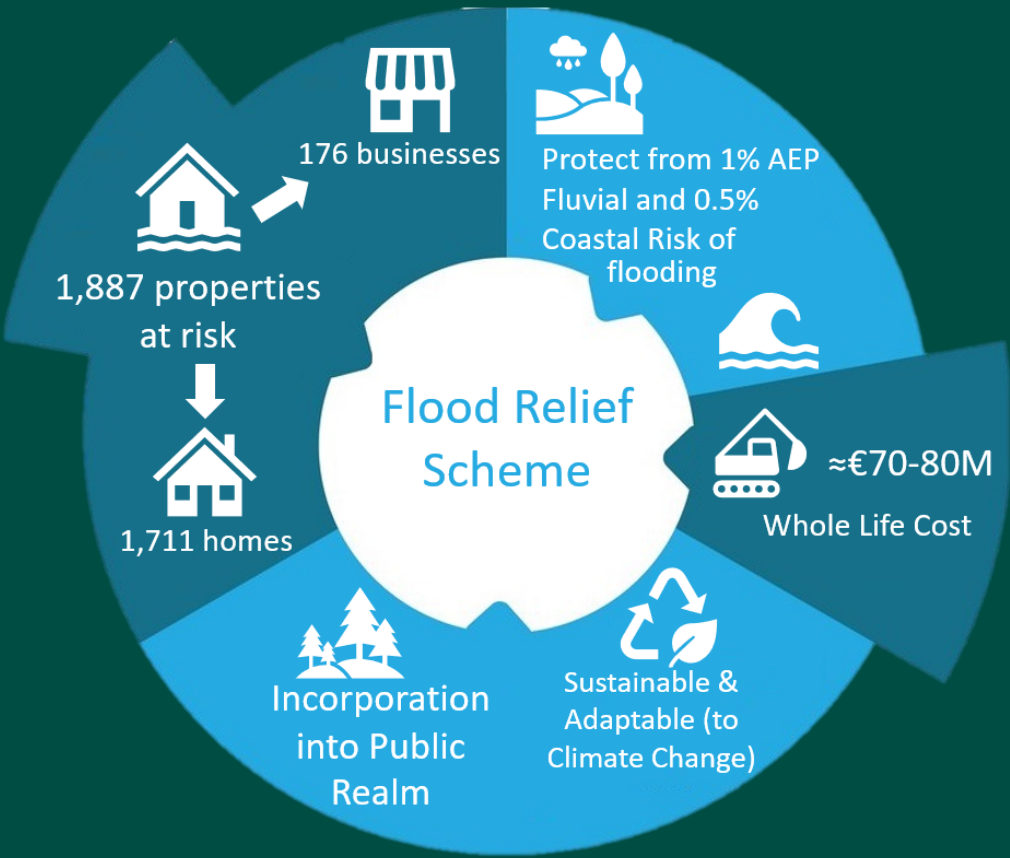
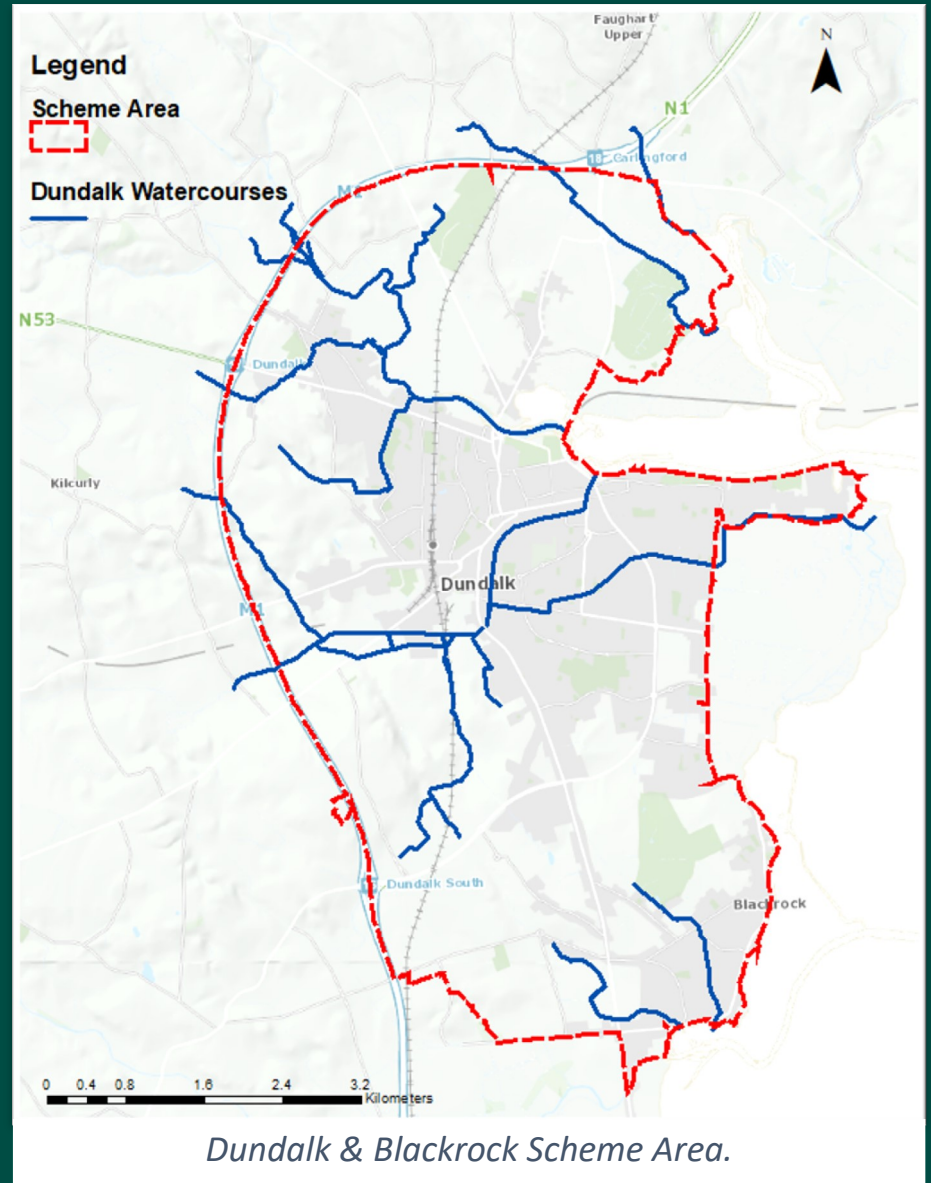
NEXT STEPS

Data Collection and Review: Ongoing task where Binnies/NOD will continue to collect data, such as photos, videos, sketches, imagery, and any other relevant information which will help inform surveys and subsequent design stages.

Environmental Assessment: Work is continuing on the scoping and procuring of environmental surveys, with a priority given to summer surveys. In parallel an environmental impact scoping assessment, environmental constraints survey and Invasive Species Management Plan are being progressed.

Hydrological Analysis: Modelling is being progressed to understand how the river systems respond to weather events. This will include a validity check of the existing models used for the CFRAMS study.

Scheme Development and Design: All comments received in writing or through the website will be considered by the Project Team in developing the scheme from an environmental and engineering perspective. At this early stage of the project it is important that we have the opportunity to listen to the views of those who will be living and working near the scheme, and others who may also have an interest in the long term plans. A subsequent Public Consultation will be held to let stakeholders and the public know how their observations, comments and submissions were used within the environmental constraints study and the scheme development process.



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

We want to consider all viewpoints in relation to the scheme, and this is your opportunity to take part at an early stage. Any time spent communicating your views is greatly appreciated.

- Please join our virtual public consultation event. A weblink to the meeting will be made available on our project website <https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home/>
- Questionnaire forms are available on our website and can be completed today, or returned at a later date.
- We will hold more consultation days as the project progresses and you will be given the chance to comment again as the scheme develops.

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:

Dundalk FRS Community Liaison / Project Manager
Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme Project Team, Binnies, Bluebell Business Centre, Old Naas Road, Bluebell, Dublin 12, 12 NXF5, Ireland

@ DundalkArdeeFRS@binnies.com

Relevant Links
floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home

TIMELINE OF SCHEME PROGRAMME

ACTIVITY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Data Collection & surveys							
Hydrological analysis							
Hydraulic analysis							
Scheme development							
Public Exhibition							
Detailed design							
Confirmation by authorities							
Construction works							
Scheme Operational							

Timelines provided as current best estimate and are subject to revision.