

Project Newsletter













Introduction

Since the last project Newsletter (October 2021), the project steering group has continued to work on the development of the scheme. Significant progress has been made in the analysis and the identification of the flood risk problem in Galway. The next steps will involve the development and assessment of potential flood relief options for the scheme area.

The key activities undertaken since the last newsletter are outlined in detail below.





Surveys

In the last period, the topographic, flood defence and property threshold survey has been completed by Murphy Geospatial. The purpose of these surveys is to capture and verify ground elevations that inform the hydraulic model and the scheme design.

Also in the last period, Amelio Utilities Ltd completed surveys of a number of culverts and storm water pipes within Galway City Centre, including the Sruffnacashlaun culvert. This survey data informed the hydraulic model of the scheme.

A winter birds survey also commenced last winter and will continue in the coming months over the winter period.

Hydrological Analysis

The hydrological analysis for the scheme is complete. This included surveys and analysis of cross sections on the River Clare and River Corrib. The outputs of this study are key inputs to the hydraulic analysis of the scheme area.



Hydraulic Analysis

The purpose of the hydraulic analysis is to understand the extent of the existing flooding problem within the scheme area for a range of storm events / return periods, including in climate change scenarios. A hydraulic model has been developed and is nearing completion. This includes fluvial, tidal and wave overtopping flood mechanisms. Revised flood extent mapping utilising the most up to date data will be produced as an output from this model. This mapping will be used to inform the development of the flood relief options.

Environmental Assessment

Environmental surveys will continue as required. The Constraints and Opportunities Study has been completed, the purpose of which is to inform the options development process. The project webmapper on the website will continue to be updated to include the relevant datasets.





Opening Collaborative Workshop

This workshop was held at the end of September 2021 with representatives from a number of stakeholder organisations in attendance. The purpose of the workshop was to identify and discuss issues, constraints and opportunities that could inform the development of the Scheme, and to consider if and how the Scheme could create multiple benefits and/or meet objectives other than flood risk management.

Next Steps:

Surveys: In addition to the ongoing and completed surveys, further drainage and utilities surveys will be carried out as required over the coming months.

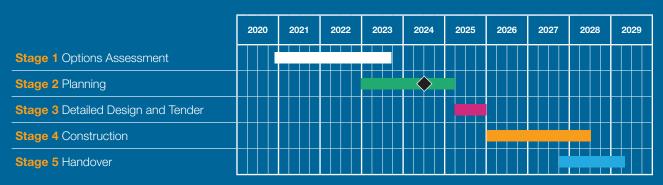
Geotechnical Investigations: It is also scheduled to commence a geotechnical investigation of the scheme area, in particular where flood defences are proposed. The purpose of this survey is to inform the scheme design which in turn will inform the project cost estimate.



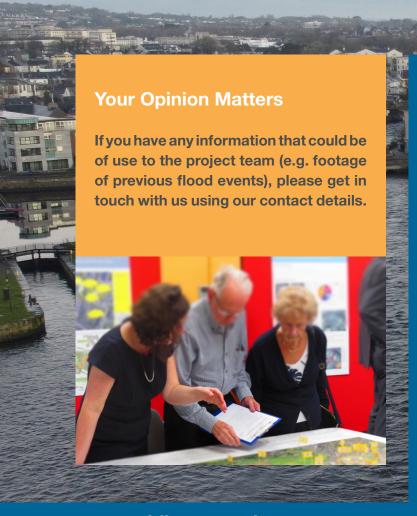
Optioneering: Following the production of the flood extent mapping, the development of flood relief options will commence. Further hydraulic analysis will be undertaken to understand the impact of implementing various flood relief options to ensure the proposed flood defences will not increase flood risk elsewhere. Once the options have been developed, they will be appraised by a range of stakeholders on various environmental, technical, social and economic criteria.

Public Engagement Day 2: It is proposed to hold a second public engagement day in early 2023 to present the flood risk maps to the public and gather feedback on the potential flood relief options.

Outline Project timeline



Timelines provided as current best estimate, but are subject to revision.



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Additional Information & Contact Details

Additional information in relation to overall progress, current news items and project reports can be found on the Coirib go Cósta project website. The project team can also be reached at the following addresses:



Email

coiribgocosta@arup.com



Post

Arup – Galway City Flood Relief Scheme Project Manager Corporate House, City East Business Park, Ballybrit

H91 K5YD

Galway

Phone No.: (091) 894700