

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



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council



OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Dundalk & Ardee

FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Newsletter No. 13

October 2026

PROJECT NEWS

Binnies and Nicholas O'Dwyer (B/NOD) 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. Since the last newsletter, the team progressed with the optioneering, presented all options to the public and drafted the Options Development Report which is currently under consideration by the Steering Group. Further Site Investigations works are progressing and are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, and the Wintering Bird Survey for 2026/27 is scheduled to commence this month.

CURRENT PROGRESS

Since the last newsletter in January 2026, the options were presented to wider stakeholders and the public at Public Participation Days.

The Steering Group then progressed with the identification of an emerging preferred option, considering the outcomes of the Multi Criteria Analysis, high level costs and public preference. A Cost Benefit Analysis was also carried out considering the damages avoided by developing the scheme. An Options Development Report summarising the optioneering process has been drafted and is currently under consideration by the Steering Group.

The Site Investigation works restarted in September and are expected to be finalised by the end of the year, while the geomorphology report was drafted and is being reviewed by the team.

The 2025 Wintering Bird Survey (WBS) concluded in March 2026 with a report issued shortly after. The team has now procured the 2026/2027 WBS which will commence in October. The areas to be surveyed are similar as for the 2025 survey and will allow comparison of birds nesting and movements between both years.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The shortlisted options were presented to the public during two Public Participation Days (PPD), one in March for the Blackrock area and one in April for the Dundalk Area. Both events were in person, and welcomed more than 150 attendees. Residents were invited to provide feedback of the shortlisted options through a questionnaire, which were summarised into two PPD summary reports. The public feedback helped inform the Optioneering process to identify an emerging preferred option.

The next Stakeholder Engagement is planned for Q2 2027 for the Closing PPD which will present to the public the Scheme Emerging Preferred Option and its outline design. This will allow for further public engagement and feedback to refine the Preferred Option.



NEXT STEPS

The next steps will be:

- Complete the Site Investigation works,
- Undertake the 2026/2027 Wintering Bird Survey,
- Complete the Scheme Climate Change Adaptation Plan,
- Prepare a Marine Underwater Licence application to facilitate maritime surveys.

In tandem with the above, the Draft Option Report will be reviewed by the Steering Group before a final version will be agreed upon. The team will then develop the outline design of the Scheme Emerging Preferred Option, which will be presented to external stakeholders, including the public during a Closing Public Participation Day planned for Q2 2027. The feedback received will be incorporated into a final Scheme Preferred Option.

PROJECTED KEY MILESTONE DATES

DATE	MILESTONE	INFORMATION
Q4 2026	End of Site Investigation works	To assess the buildability of the options considered and to inform the optioneering process.
Q4 2026	Options Development Report	To provide an overview of the optioneering process and the selected preferred option, based on the Multi-Criteria Analysis and Cost
Q1 2027	End of 2026 Wintering Bird Survey	To provide a continued record of wintering birds in the area of interest.
Q1 2027	Draft development of outline design	To provide a high-level design of the Emerging Preferred Option.
Q2 2027	Closing PPD	To present to the public the Emerging Preferred Option and its outline design.
Q2 2028	Environmental Impact Assessment	Targeted Environmental Surveys and desk studies.
Q2 2028	End of Stage I	Completion of all necessary studies required to progress to Stage II - Planning

