

Newsletter

Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme





Background to the Study

Leitrim County Council, in conjunction with Roscommon County Council and the Office of Public Works, are progressing the Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme. Carrick on Shannon and Cortober are prone to flooding from the River Shannon and its tributaries.

This Project involves the assessment and development of a Flood Relief Scheme to manage existing and potential future flood risk, and the potential for significant increases in this risk through climate change and ongoing development in Carrick on Shannon and Cortober.

The Steering Group, set up in February 2020, comprises Leitrim County Council, Roscommon County Council and the Office of Public Works, with Ryan Hanley providing engineering and environmental consultancy services.

Pending identification of a technically, socially, economically and environmentally acceptable solution to the flood risk in Carrick on Shannon/ Cortober, the Scheme will progress to the next stages as follows:

- Identify preferred scheme & complete outline design.
- Seek consent for the proposed Scheme in accordance with provisions of the Planning & Development Act.
- On obtaining planning permission, progress detailed design to tender and construction phase.

Progress to Date

The initial stage of the Project involves hydrological and environmental assessments, surveys, in addition to the outline design of flood relief measures and cost benefit analysis.

The Project Team have completed review of existing data, including CFRAM datasets, data collection and

the initial environmental and ecological assessments and determined further studies to be completed as part of the Flood Relief Scheme. Following these, the topographical and CCTV surveys were completed and site investigation, bird surveys, invasive species surveys and other species surveys are ongoing and will be completed in 2021.

Additional Surveys and Investigation Works

Topographical and CCTV surveys were required for riverbank areas, river cross sections, bridges, weirs, sluices, culverts and hydrometric gauges. Site investigation was required to determine the ground conditions in the areas where the Flood Relief Scheme is proposed. Information from these surveys was required to update the existing hydraulic model and its results (flood extents and levels), as well as assisting in costing the damages associated with flood events.

A summary of the additional surveys is as follows:

- The topographical survey contractor was appointed in September 2020 and survey works were completed in December 2020.
- Additional topographical survey works were required for Jamestown and the survey contractor commenced works in September 2021.
- The site investigation contractor was appointed in December 2020 and works are nearing completion.
- The CCTV survey contractor was appointed in December 2020 and survey works were completed in May 2021.

Environmental

A Constraints Study Report was prepared from the initial environmental and ecological assessments, as well as feedback from the public consultation process. The Constraints Study Report was added to the Project website in February 2021 and is available to view.

Wintering bird surveys took place from November 2020 to March 2021. Breeding bird surveys, habitat, botanical and invasive surveys, mammal and aquatic

Progress to Date (continued)

survey commenced in May 2021 and are due to be completed in October 2021.

Hydrological Analysis

Hydrological analysis for the Carrick on Shannon Study Area is ongoing. This includes the assessment of the study catchment area, review of flows and water levels on the River Shannon and its tributaries and determining design flow events. The Hydrology Report is being finalised at present.

Hydraulic Analysis

The existing hydraulic river model from the CFRAM study was reviewed and updated, where necessary, using additional topographical and CCTV survey. The updates in hydrology from the hydrological analysis will be included in the hydraulic river model update.

Outline Programme

An outline programme is shown below for the Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme, which is the current best estimate (September 2021). This is subject to change as the Project progresses.

Activity	2020				2021				2022				2023				2024				2025			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Stage I																								
Collate available data																								
Environmental & Ecological Baseline Assessment																								
Site Investigation & Surveys																								
Hydrological Analysis & Hydraulic Modelling																								
Options Assessment & Scheme Development																								
Stage II																								
Planning Process																								
Stage III																								
Detailed Design of Flood Relief Scheme																								
Tender Process for Flood Relief Scheme																								
Stage IV																								
Construction Works																								

Next Steps

The Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme is progressing and the Project team are adhering to all Covid-19 restrictions. The following is a summary of the next steps associated with the Project:

Completion of environmental surveys, site investigation and topographical surveys.

Completion of hydrological analysis to assess the river regimes in the Study Area.

Completion of hydraulic modelling to determine flood extents and levels.

Undertake options assessment for Flood Relief Scheme.

Determine preferred Flood Relief Scheme Option and undertake the relevant analysis for this.

Contact Us

Should you have any queries on the Project or have any historical flood data or environmental/ ecological information that may inform the design, please contact the Project Team by phone, email or through the Project website.

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