

CONTACT US

You can keep in touch with the project through our website where we will be posting updates on progress and details of works that are ongoing. For further enquiries feel free to contact us via email or post at:

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RELEVANT LINKS

Website: www.liffordfrs.ie

OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

RPS

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2040

LIFFORD

Flood Relief Scheme

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WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

The Lifford Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) incorporates five stages – from Stage 1 (Scheme Development and Design) through to Stage 5 (Completion of works). As part of the ongoing work in Stage 1, the Project Team have completed the final Hydrological Analysis report, which is available on the project website. This report provides the necessary inputs to the hydraulic computer model (which includes reaches of the Finn, Foyle, Mourne and Dee) in order to allow simulation of a range of flooding scenarios.

A suite of computer model simulations has been completed enabling the production of draft flood extent maps. These have been reviewed and confirmed by the Steering Group as being representative of the flooding mechanisms, meaning that the hydraulic computer model is now calibrated. This will provide the basis for assessing potential options to reduce the flood risk in Lifford. We have been proactively engaging with the Riverine Community Park and A5 Western Transport Corridor (WTC) Project teams to share data and evaluate possible effects of these projects on the Lifford FRS.

A Ground Investigation Contractor was appointed to undertake works (in the form of excavated trial pits and boreholes) in the Roughan and along the river bank. The works were undertaken during January and February 2022, providing information on the ground conditions within the scheme area and the condition of the existing embankments along the Foyle. This information will be used to inform the scheme design. The photograph below shows a trial pit being undertaken during the ground investigation.

A Forestry Services Contractor was appointed to undertake vegetation clearance along the quay wall in the town, to facilitate a structural assessment and appraisal of the existing masonry wall. This work was undertaken and completed during February 2022. The photograph below shows the part of the wall where the vegetation clearance was undertaken.



Photograph of Ground Investigation



Wall where vegetation clearance was undertaken

A third otter survey was completed in January 2022, where three otters were observed on the bank along the quay wall where the vegetation clearance has been undertaken. A final Otter Survey is to be undertaken to gather further data and then preparation will commence on the otter survey report. The project team received the 2021 bat survey report and Invasive Species continue to be monitored, with the Invasive Species Management Plan (ISMP) being updated as and when invasive plant species become evident.

IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID19)

The Steering Group have been meeting via video conferencing facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic and have scheduled to resume face-to-face meetings in May 2022. The Steering Group will continue to adhere to Government guidance in relation to COVID-19.

OUTLINE SCHEME PROGRAMME

	Activity	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Stage 1	Data Collection and surveys	■									
	Hydrological Analysis		■								
	Hydraulic Analysis		■		■						
	Scheme analysis & development				■						
Stage 2	Public Exhibition				■						
Stage 3	Detailed design of Scheme					■					
	Confirmation by Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform						■				
Stage 4	Construction works							■			
Stage 5	Scheme Operational										■

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

NEXT STEPS

Hydraulic Analysis: We will continue to test the model against a range of scenarios to determine how sensitive the flood extent and depths are to changes in conditions such as higher flows, varying bank roughness or higher tides. When testing is complete the model will be used to produce updated flood maps to aid Scheme development and design.

Scheme Analysis and Development: Utilising the findings of the ground investigation and hydraulic modelling, an assessment of viable flood relief options will be undertaken. Early work on this has already begun. We will compare the technical and economic suitability of flood defence options as well as their environmental and social impact to determine the preferred flood relief scheme.

Environmental Assessment: Reporting on field surveys carried out in the preceding seasons will be completed; in addition to revision and updating of the Invasive Species Management Plan.