

NEXT STEPS

Scheme Analysis and Development: TT are working to finalise all Final Stage I Engineering work related to the identification of the Preferred Option.

Environmental Assessment: The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is currently being progressed alongside baseline sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

Design Development: Develop the heritage led design elements of the scheme along the riverside properties.

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

LIFFORD

Flood Relief Scheme

Newsletter No.20
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tetrattech.com/europe



WHAT STAGE IS THE SCHEME AT?

The Project Team is working to finalise reporting on the Stage I Engineering work related to the identification of the Preferred Option. Two separate additional workstreams to refine the design in advance of Stage (II) Public Exhibition are ongoing:

- 1. **Analysis of cumulative flood risk impacts from the Lifford FRS and A5 Western Transport Corridor (WTC) and whether additional, potentially cross border, mitigation measures are required.**

Tetra Tech has submitted a draft report to the Project Steering Group for review. The report sets out the results of the modelling undertaken and analysis of the results.

Following initial review of the reporting, the Steering Group and DfI’s A5 WTC project team agreed to explore mitigation measures and examine the models in greater detail.

Meetings between technical working groups from DfI’s A5 WTC project team and the project Steering Group continue to take place regularly on a monthly/bi-monthly basis.

- 2. **Refinement of the design of the hard defence solution proposed along the banks of the River Foyle adjacent to sensitive archaeological and architectural heritage features.**

The heritage-led design refinement of the scheme adjacent to the sensitive built heritage areas of the town has been ongoing.

A heritage-led design workshop was held in Lifford with elected members on 3rd June and was largely positive. The designs were shared with the Project Steering Group, and the Dedalus Architecture is working with the project engineers to further develop the design.

The remainder of the Scheme Analysis and Development technical reports are at Draft Final stage and TT are working to finalise these and their associated deliverables.

Collaboration with Other Projects and Stakeholders

The Project Team has continued to meet regularly with DfI’s A5 WTC project team to assess the cumulative impacts of both projects and to identify any necessary mitigation. The last project liaison meeting took place on 19th May 2026.

The Project Team is liaising with the Riverine team to agree how the projects interact, progress any consents required and identify any opportunities there may be for collaboration.

The Project Team met with the Loughs Agency on 5th February 2026 at County House, Lifford. The Preferred Scheme was presented to the Loughs Agency for discussion of potential impacts and mitigations. It was agreed that a further meeting would be held to discuss the proposed scheme prior to submission for confirmation by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform as set out in the Arterial Drainage Acts.

Environmental Assessment

Stantec (formerly Ryan Hanley) have been developing baseline sections of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as well as impact assessment. Stantec have also drafted the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for the scheme.

John Cronin Associates and Tetra Tech have procured an Architectural Geophysical Survey to identify potential below ground areas of interest. Earthsound Geophysics were appointed to undertake Architectural Geophysical Survey to identify potential below ground areas of interest. Earthsound completed the geophysical survey for archaeology, and the results are currently being reviewed by the archaeology specialist and the Steering Group.

Stantec has completed repeat baseline and specialist ecological surveys, including otter and badger surveys, with further field visits undertaken in April and May 2026. Otter signs/evidence were recorded and trail cameras deployed, although dense vegetation and agricultural activity limited survey coverage in some areas.

Outline Scheme Programme

	Activity	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2030
Stage 1	Hydrological/Hydraulic Analysis									
	Scheme analysis & development									
Stage 2	Public Exhibition									
Stage 3	Detailed design of Scheme									
	Approval and construction procurement									
Stage 4	Construction works									
Stage 5	Scheme Operational									

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