

FURTHER INFORMATION

All queries, questionnaires and comments in relation to this project can be addressed to:

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COUNTY DONEGAL
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEMES



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW
Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

RPS
MAKING
COMPLEX
EASY

CASTLEFINN FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Public Information Day

**Thursday 10th November 2022, 4pm – 8pm
at the CPI Centre**

www.countydonegalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs



PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

To implement a flood relief scheme for the town of Castlefinn to alleviate acute flooding. The Preferred Scheme must be technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable.

Current Position of the Project

The Project Team held an Opening Public Consultation event two years ago. It was held online due to the Covid 19 Government restrictions. At that time, we asked for your views on possible constraints and what the considerations should be in the development of a flood relief scheme for Castlefinn. There was a strong response to the consultation via completed questionnaires which reinforced the urgency felt by the community. At that time, we advised that we would hold a second public event to let you know how your views have been considered in arriving at the Preferred Scheme to be taken forward to the statutory planning process. We are now extending an invite to this event on 10th November 2022.

Since the Opening Public Consultation, the Project Team has completed extensive surveys and investigations in Castlefinn which have supported detailed hydrological and hydraulic analysis of the River Finn and the smaller watercourses flowing through Castlefinn. The team then undertook a comprehensive option development process to alleviate flood risk. A wide range of potential measures were assessed under various technical, social, environmental, and economic criteria before a preferred flood relief scheme was identified.

Crucial to option development have been environmental considerations which were identified in an Environmental Constraints Study. The study was informed by the submissions made during the Opening Public Consultation as well as a detailed desktop review of available environmental data. The report produced on the study can be viewed on the project website. This early consideration of constraints ensured that the Preferred Scheme was shaped with environmental factors in mind. Extensive environmental baseline surveys have been undertaken to provide the data needed for Environmental Impact Assessment; and for Appropriate Assessment of the Preferred Scheme on Natura 2000 sites.

Public Information Day

Stage I of the project is now nearly complete and has identified the Preferred Scheme for Castlefinn. The purpose of the Public Information Day on 10th November is to let you know how information you provided to us has been used to define the Preferred Scheme.

Castlefinn FRS Preferred Scheme

The Preferred Scheme is to provide a 1 in 100 year return period Standard of Protection (SoP), this is also described as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) in other words, protection against a flood event that has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

The scheme consists of 585m of earthen embankments to protect against flooding directly from the River Finn. These embankments will be constructed along the line of the old railway embankment just to the south of the town and will be on average 3.5m (11.5 feet) above ground level.

The culvert of the Bridge Burn which flows under the N15 / R235 junction outside McGlynns will be re-built with a higher flow capacity.

The culvert of the Castlefinn watercourse which flows from north to south under the N15 before emerging adjacent to the CPI Centre will be re-built with a higher flow capacity.

372m of earthen embankments and 62m of wall will be constructed around the CPI Centre and upstream

of the N15 to protect against flooding from the Castlefinn watercourse. These defences will have an average height of 1.1m (3.5 feet) above ground level.

A residential property and an agricultural building in Coolyslin to the south of the River Finn will be relocated out of the Finn floodplain.

Where can I find out more about the Preferred Scheme?

On Thursday 10th November the Project Team will be presenting the Preferred Scheme to the public at the Castlefinn Partnership Initiative (CPI) Centre, Castlefinn, between 4pm and 8pm. The Project Team consists of Donegal County Council, the OPW and their consultants, RPS.

From that date, details of the Preferred Scheme will be available on the Castlefinn FRS Project website at: <https://countydonesalfrs.ie/castlefinnfrs/index.php/public-information-day>

Can I provide feedback on the Preferred Scheme?

Yes, members of the Project Team will be available on the day to listen to your views on the Preferred Scheme or you can provide feedback in your own time by post or by email. In this way, we hope to resolve any concerns that the local community may have before the project proceeds to the formal Planning Permission submission in July 2023.

You can provide feedback by contacting the project team:

Post: [Castlefinn Flood Relief Scheme Project Team, RPS, The Enterprise Fund Business Centre, Ballyraine, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 AF43](#)

Email: Castlefinnfrs@rpsgroup.com

What happens next?

Stage I will conclude in the coming months with the completion of reporting, including the latest feedback from the public and completion of the supporting Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement for the Preferred Scheme. Following approval of Stage I of the Flood Relief Scheme, the Project will move to Stage II; Planning, where permission will be sought from the relevant Planning Authority.

Outline Castlefinn Scheme Programme

	Activity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Stage 1	Data Collection and surveys	█						
	Hydrological Analysis	█	█					
	Hydraulic Analysis		█	█				
	Scheme analysis & development		█	█	█			
Stage 2	Planning				█			
Stage 3	Detailed design of Scheme					█		
Stage 4	Construction works						█	
Stage 5	Scheme Operational							█