

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: <https://countydonegalfrs.ie/glentiesfrs/>

COUNTY DONEGAL
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEMES



Tionscaldal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

GLENTIES

Flood Relief Scheme

Newsletter No.9
November 2022

<https://countydonegalfrs.ie/glentiesfrs>



WHAT STAGE IS THE PROJECT AT?

The Project Team is working on identifying the Preferred Option for Glenties in conjunction with the Steering Group, ahead of a Public Information Day in the new year.

Stage I data collection including surveys is complete. A detailed computer model of the Owenea, Stracashel and Gortnamucklagh Rivers, existing defences and floodplains in the area has been calibrated against past flood events to ensure it is correctly simulating and mapping flood risk in the area. A range of design flood events have been tested in the model to cover all eventualities including the risk of more severe flooding due to climate change.

Having defined the areas of flood risk, the model was then used to test the effectiveness of various types of flood relief options. This body of work has enabled the team to narrow down the list of potential scheme options and assess those that are technically feasible against a range of other factors including cost, benefit, environmental and social impact. We are now refining the preferred option as outlined below.

DEVELOPMENT OF PREFERRED OPTION

Various flood risk management options were considered and modelled to evaluate the most effective scheme for Glenties. All types of potential measures have been looked at in detail, including but not limited to those in the North Western Flood Risk Management Plan (www.floodinfo.ie). This is important to ensure all possibilities are considered and based on best available data so that a robust preferred option is identified.

A number of options have been subject to a costing exercise to determine the whole life cost across the design life. The team are currently refining these costs based on the best available current market data.

A property economic damage assessment is complete for the Glenties FRS and a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) has been determined for the identified options.

A Multi-Criteria Analysis has been undertaken to assess the performance of each option against a range of technical, environmental, social and economic factors. This also informs the selection of the preferred option and ensures that benefits beyond economic viability are considered.

RPS is developing the Stage I Options report and the Nature based Catchment Measures report to assist the Steering group in determining the next steps for the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The RPS Environmental team have informed the multi-criteria analysis for the options considered, particularly given the sensitivities associated with the Stracashel and Owenea Rivers, which are important as salmonid and Freshwater Pearl Mussel (FPM) rivers.

Specialist fisheries and FPM surveys have been undertaken. Habitat mapping and protected species surveys have been completed which will inform the environmental assessment of the project. Further specialist surveys may be required next year.

PUBLIC INFORMATION DAY

The Project Team will hold a Public Information Day once the next steps for Glenties have been identified. The purpose of the Public Information Day is to let you know how the information you provided to us at the Opening Public Consultation (9th November 2021 – 21st December 2021) has been used to help define the preferred option for flood risk management.

OUTLINE 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							■

Timelines provided as current best estimate but are subject to revision. The Stage 1 programme has been extended by approximately two (2) months due to technical challenges in the analysis.

NEXT STEPS

Surveys: The detailed surveys have been completed and final data has been provided to the Project Team. RPS are currently looking at further surveys to inform the outline design of a scheme.

Hydrological and Hydraulic Analysis: Hydrological analysis is complete and RPS are in the process of finalising the hydraulic report.

Scheme Analysis and Development: RPS are working to identify the preferred option in conjunction with the Steering Group. RPS are developing Scheme Analysis and Development reporting including supplementary reporting on the application of nature-based catchment measures, buildability, operation and maintenance and climate change adaptation.

Environmental Assessment: Screening for Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening and where necessary the development of the Natura Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EAIR) will be undertaken on confirmation of the preferred option.

Public Information Day: A public information day is planned for early 2023.