

## 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.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie](http://www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie)



# DROGHEDA & BALTRAY

## Flood Relief Scheme

**Newsletter**  
December 2022



## WHAT STAGE IS THE STUDY AT?

The Project is currently in the first of five stages – Stage I: Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme.

RPS have completed a review of the detailed topographical survey data of the river channels, structures and building threshold levels provided by a survey contractor. This data has been used to complete the construction of the computational hydraulic model, which will be used to simulate flood events for a range of present day and climate change scenarios and to assess various flood relief measures. An image of the model is shown below



The image shows an extract from the computational model which has been constructed to allow simulation of a range of flood events and to assess possible flood relief measures.

The hydrological analysis, which includes an assessment of the frequency and magnitude of river flows over a range of scenarios and the establishment of coastal design boundaries, is substantially complete. This, along with the survey data, will provide the necessary inputs to the computer model as part of the hydraulic analysis.

RPS are continuing to collect data to ensure the technical analyses are based on the most accurate and up to date information. A CCTV survey, to record data within the culverts along the study watercourses, has been completed – RPS are reviewing the CCTV data to ensure that it is sufficient to support calibration of the computational hydraulic model in representing the flooding mechanisms which have been recorded within the study area.

RPS has agreed with the Steering Group (comprising the Office of Public Works and Louth County Council) the locations to undertake ground investigations, which will support the technical analysis required to identify feasible flood relief measures during the Scheme Analysis and Development phase of the project. RPS are currently drafting a specification which will facilitate procurement of a specialist contractor to undertake the works.

The final Environmental Scoping Report has been completed. This report highlights the main characteristics and sensitivities that would be present in the local environment and the main environmental aspects within the project. The Invasive Species Management Plan (ISMP) has also been completed. This report details the location and extent of invasive species in the study area, along with the potential treatment options including a cost estimate for each option. Overwintering bird surveys are continuing to be undertaken.

## OUTLINE SCHEME PROGRAMME

Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Stage 1 Data Collection and surveys											
Stage 1 Hydrological Analysis											
Stage 1 Hydraulic Analysis											
Stage 1 Scheme analysis & development											
Stage 1 Environmental Assessment											
Stage 2 Planning/Development											
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.

## NEXT STEPS

**Surveys:** RPS are continuing to manage the delivery of the final CCTV survey, to ensure that the data acquired is suitable for use in the technical analyses. The Steering Group will procure a specialist contractor to undertake the ground investigations in early 2023.

**Hydrological Analysis:** The hydrological analysis will be completed in conjunction with the hydraulic model calibration. This will be followed by completion of the draft Hydrological Analysis report.

**Hydraulic Analysis:** Construction of the computer model has been completed – the CCTV data will now be used to ensure that the model is calibrated and can adequately represent historical flood events. Following model calibration, the model will be used to simulate a range of design scenarios which will inform the economic damage assessment.

**Environmental:** The overwintering bird surveys are continuing to be undertaken as per the programme.