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:

RAPHOE FRS Project Manager

Project Office: RPS, Enterprise Fund Business Centre, Ballyraine,

Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 AF43

Email: raphoefrs@rpsgroup.com

RELEVANT LINKS

Website: http://raphoefrs.ie/











RAPHOE FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Public Exhibition of the Proposed Scheme

Tuesday 12th January until Tuesday 9th February 2021 inclusive



BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Raphoe town has had a history of serious flooding; the most significant in recent years occurred in 2006 and 2007. Flooding in Raphoe is caused by intense, localised rainfall events generating surface water runoff from the steep hillsides above the town, causing widespread disruption and damage to properties and businesses.

To address the issue of Raphoe's flooding, a Flood Risk Assessment & Management (FRAM) Study was completed in 2017 by the Office of Public Works (OPW) in partnership with Donegal County Council. The OPW has since appointed RPS as consultants to further develop the scheme, along with Ryan Hanley who were appointed to carry out the required environmental assessments.

Following a number of Public Information Days, that helped to collect information and local knowledge from previous flood events, and meetings with individual landowners who will be affected by the scheme proposals; the measures, bypass channels, embankments, drainage network upgrades, etc. as first proposed in the FRAM Study, have been reviewed and refined. These measures are designed to protect the town by intercepting and diverting the overland flows from the hillsides before they reach the areas at



WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

The Pubic Exhibition is the commencement of the statutory consent (planning) process of the statutory consent process of the Scheme under the Arterial Drainage Act. It provides the public with a final opportunity to make comment and submit observations on the proposals for consideration by the Project Team. Any necessary amendments will be made to the Exhibition (planning) documents prior to being issued to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform for approval of the Scheme. This will inform the next stage of the process which will be the detailed design of the Scheme with whatever amendments arise following this Public Exhibition.

The Scheme will go to Exhibition on Tuesday 12th January 2021 until Tuesday 9th February 2021 inclusive. All the Scheme documents including, the drawings, schedules and Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be available from 12 noon on 12th January for public review over this period.

The public are encouraged to make time to review the Exhibition documents, potential impacts and benefits from the scheme and make relevant submissions in relation to the scheme.

The Commissioners will accept any observations received on or before 26th February 2021. Observations can be made via the website or by email at raphoefrs@rpsgroup.com. Observations can also be sent by post to Office of Public Works, Flood Projects Management Services, 52 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, D02 DR67.

Due to the current Covid 19 pandemic the Exhibition will be held virtually. All the documents will be available to view and download from the Scheme website – www.raphoefrs.ie. Personnel from the Scheme's engineering and environmental teams and the Office of Public Works will be available for online meetings to assist the public with their queries at the following times:

- Tuesday 12th January 2021 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm
- Thursday 21st January 2021 from 2.00pm to 8.00pm
- Thursday 28th January 2021 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm
- Thursday 4th February 2021 from 2.00pm to 8.00pm

To arrange a meeting with members of the Project Team please do so via the website or by email to raphoefrs@rpsgroup.com. Alternatively you can call 074 916 1927.

A hard copy of the documents will also be available to view at the following venues:

Donegal County Council County House The Diamond Lifford Co. Donegal Cathedral Hall McBride Street Raphoe Co. Donegal

Due to possible ongoing Covid 19 restrictions opening hours and access arrangements should be checked locally, particularly in relation to Cathedral Hall in Raphoe.

NEXT STEPS

Following the Exhibition, any necessary amendments will be made to the Scheme based on comments/ observations from the public. The Scheme will go through the detailed design process and will then be submitted to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform for formal Confirmation of the Scheme.

The Minister will undertake an independent review of the environmental assessments of the Scheme before considering making an Order of Confirmation. Should the Scheme successfully pass through these stages, the construction of the Scheme works will commence shortly afterwards.