

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: <http://raphoefrs.ie/>



RYAN HANLEY



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

OPW
Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works

RAPHOE

Flood Relief Scheme

Newsletter August 2023

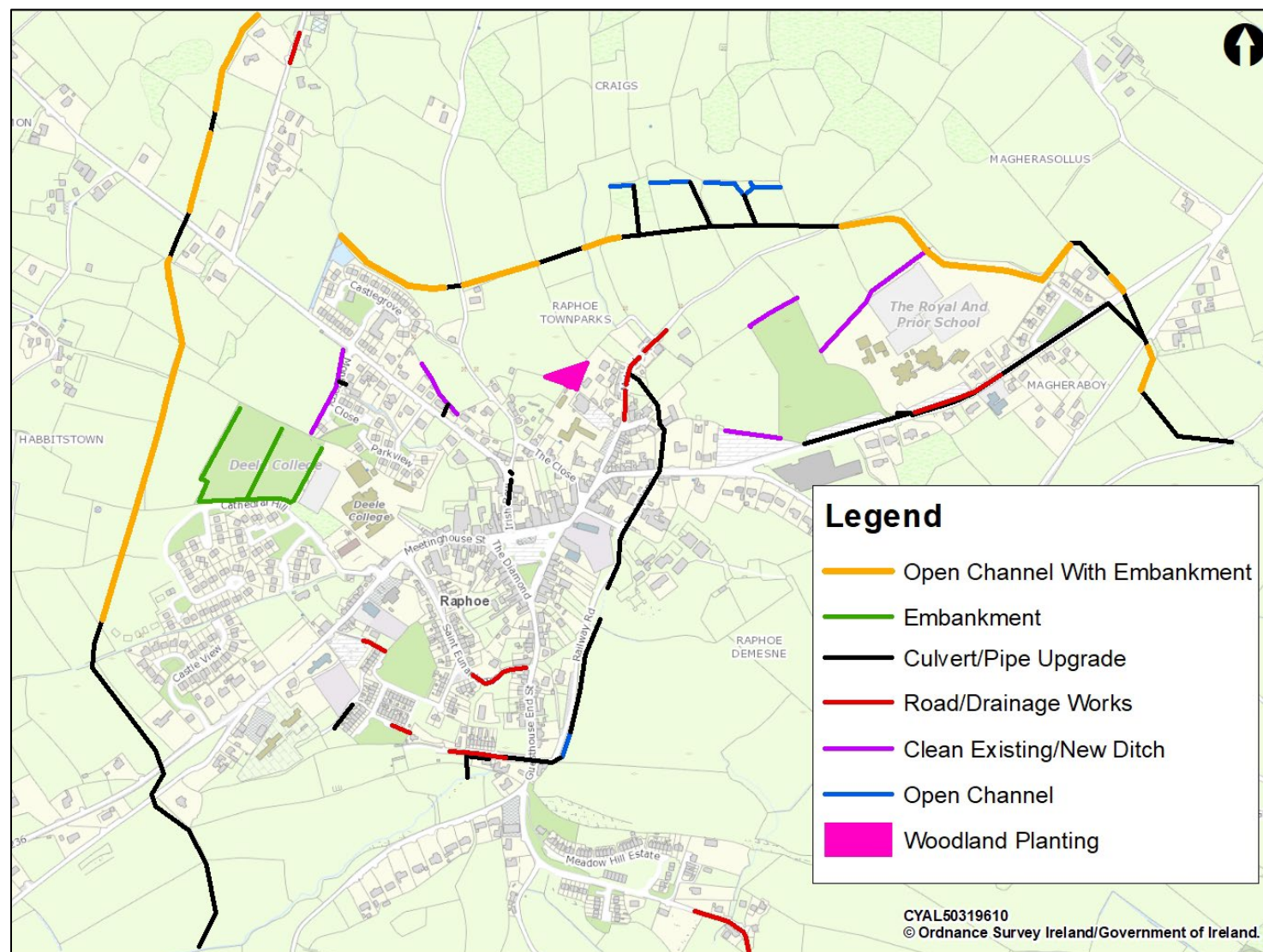


BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Raphoe town has had a history of serious flooding, the most recent in August 2023. Flooding in Raphoe is caused by intense, localised rainfall events generating surface water run-off from the steep hillsides above the town, causing widespread disruption and damage to properties and businesses. This flood risk is well documented and has been subject to hydrological and hydraulic analysis, flood risk assessment, public consultation, and development of a preferred option.

The Office of Public Works (OPW) in partnership with Donegal County Council, have commissioned the Raphoe Flood Relief Scheme to address flooding in the town.

The Scheme identified includes measures to intercept and divert surface water before it reaches the areas at risk. An overview of the Scheme can be seen in the image below:



Will the Scheme be protected against climate change?

The FRS is not being designed for climate change levels from the outset as there is significant uncertainty in what these are, and the impact to the Scheme could be unnecessarily large.

The analysis includes a full assessment of the level of present-day flood risk and flood risk under the mid-range future climate change scenario. The Scheme is designed for the present-day scenario with an extra allowance for uncertainty, referred to as 'freeboard', which is typically provided as additional height on a wall or embankment.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

The Public Exhibition provided the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Project Team responded to all the comments and amended the Scheme as necessary. The Scheme documentation has since been submitted to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform for approval.

The Project Team are currently going through the process of procuring contractors to undertake the ground investigation works and surveys. These contractors will be working throughout Raphoe in the coming months to obtain the information needed to inform the detailed design.

A review of the recent flooding is also being undertaken and the next newsletter will provide an update on that event.

OUTLINE SCHEME PROGRAMME

	Activity	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Stage 1	Outline Engineering Design	█								
	EIAR and AA		█	█	█					
Stage 2	Public Exhibition Process			█	█	█	█			
Stage 3	Scheme Confirmation by Minister					█	█			
	Detailed Site Investigation					█				
	Detailed Design						█	█		
Stage 4	Construction Works							█	█	█
Stage 5	Scheme Operational									█

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

NEXT STEPS

The Minister will undertake an independent review of the environmental assessments of the Scheme before considering making an Order of Confirmation.

Concurrently, the Scheme will go through the detailed design process once the ground investigation and survey data has been received.

Should the Scheme successfully pass through these stages, the construction of the Scheme works will commence shortly afterwards.