

## Next Steps

- Planning Submission to An Bord Pleanála.
- Complete Section 50 applications to the OPW.
- Continue landowner negotiations.
- An Bord Pleanála determination.

## Project team



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## Contact Us

You can keep in touch with the project team through our website, or via Facebook where we will be posting updates on progress and details of works that are ongoing.

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## NEWSLETTER NO. 4

November 2024



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR  
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL



OPW Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works

## Background to the Kilkee Flood Relief Scheme

Kilkee is a popular seaside resort town located adjacent to Moore Bay on the west coast of County Clare. The Atlantic Stream and the Victoria Stream are the major watercourses that flow through the town, with the Atlantic Stream to the north and the Victoria Stream to the south. The Victoria Stream in particular can be affected by high tides. Kilkee is susceptible to both coastal and fluvial (from rivers and streams) flood risk. Beach surveys will be carried out over the next number of seasons to develop a better understanding of the coastal processes in Kilkee.

There have been a number of instances of flooding in Kilkee. The Victoria Stream and Well Stream are noted to overflow their banks over a length of 200-300m on an annual basis, causing flooding of Carrigaholt Road, Well Road and a number of properties. The Atlantic Stream is noted to flood Waterworld, with floodwaters spilling down the promenade and onto the beach.

In 2014, winter storms damaged a section of the existing seawall and promenade, a protected structure, and a 45m section was replaced with a terraced structure.

With this in mind, Clare County Council, along with project partners the OPW, appointed the JBA Consulting team in December 2019 to assess, develop and design a viable, cost-effective and sustainable flood relief scheme which aims to minimise risk to the existing community, social amenity, environment and landscape character.

The scheme is now at Stage 2 (Planning) following submission of the planning application to An Bord Pleanála in October 2024. The estimated timeframe for Stage 2 is 6 months (Q2 2025). Stage 3 (Detailed Design and Tender) commences on receipt of planning permission. Following appointment of a Contractor, Stage 4 (Construction) is estimated to commence in Q1 2026 and last for approx. 18 months. Following construction, Stage 5 (Handover) commences.

## Information Gathering

We are still interested in receiving photos, videos and stories about previous floods from those who experienced them first-hand. The information you provide may help us refine the scheme design.



## Progress in last 6 months

Kieran O'Donnell TD, Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works (OPW) announced on 6 August 2024 that his Office has given the approval for Clare County Council to submit a planning application for a much-needed flood relief scheme for Kilkee:

*"I wish to acknowledge the support from the Kilkee community that was invaluable to inform the design of a scheme for its town, which will protect the 134 properties including 118 residential and families at risk from flooding.... This is the first of two planned schemes for Kilkee and work is separately continuing on design for a scheme to manage the risk from coastal flooding in the town."*

The fluvial scheme has now been submitted for planning consent from An Bord Pleanála. A copy of the plans and particulars of the proposed development, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAR) and the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) will be available for inspection free of charge, (or may be purchased on payment of a specified fee which shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours (excluding Public Holidays) from 03/10/2024 to 15/11/2024 (inclusive of both dates), at the following locations:

- The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902
- Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2
- Kilrush Civic Offices, Town Hall, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 XK70
- Ennistymon Council Office, Ennis Road, Ennistymon, Co. Clare, V95 YX81

The planning application documents will also be available to download from the project website [www.kilkeefrs.ie](http://www.kilkeefrs.ie). A link to the An Bord Pleanála online planning portal will also be available.



Figure 1: Photomontage of proposed Well Stream u-channel

## Plans for next 6 months

Now that the fluvial scheme planning application has been submitted, the following is a list of the next key activities:

- Complete applications to the OPW for consent under Section 50 of the Arterial Drainage Act 1945 for all proposed scheme culverts.
- Continue negotiations with impacted landowners.

