

Public Consultation Information Brochure

Adare Flood Relief Scheme

November 2023



Background

Limerick City & County Council in partnership with the Office of Public Works [funding authority] and the appointed environmental and engineering consultant Ryan Hanley are progressing the Adare Flood Relief Scheme in Co. Limerick. Adare has a history of flooding from the River Maigue which flows through the historic town. Notable flooding took place in Adare and environs during events in August 1946, January 1995, February 1996, January 1999, February 2002, January 2014 and February 2014. In 2014, Adare Bridge flooded to a depth of c.900mm. Ryan Hanley were subsequently appointed by Limerick City & County Council County Council in September 2021 as engineering and environmental consultants to develop a Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) for Adare.

Progress to date

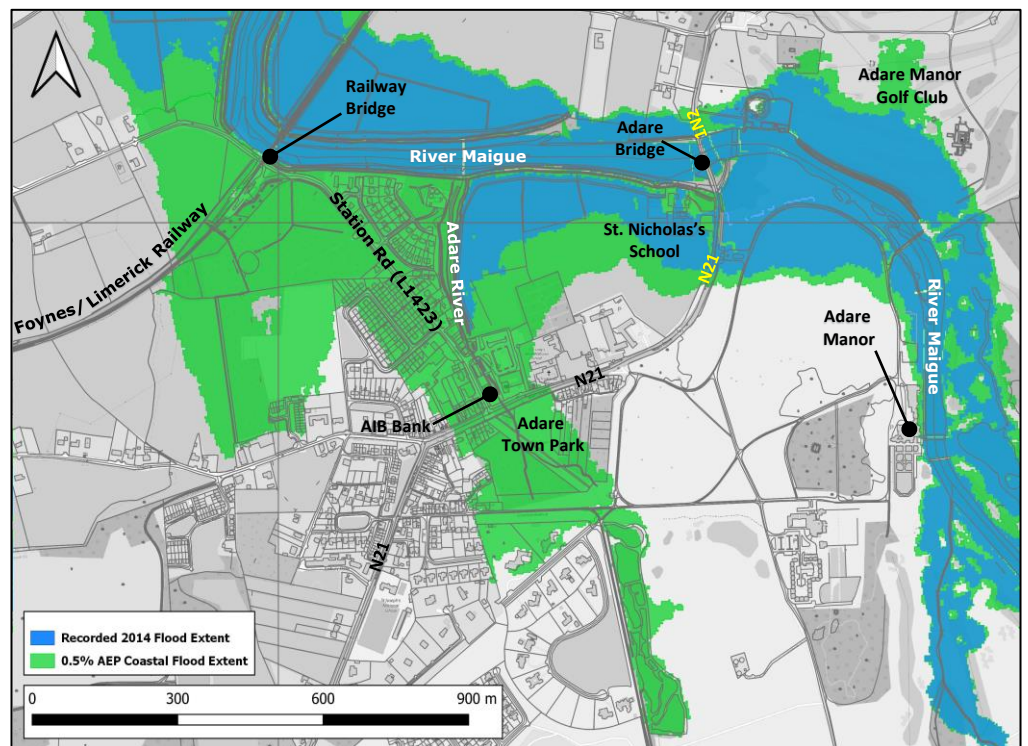
To date, work has been completed on the flood relief scheme including:

- Identification of the Study Area
- Extensive Data Collection
- Constraints Study
- Initial Public Consultation (March 2022)
- Collaborative Workshops
- Topographical Surveys
- CCTV Surveys
- Geotechnical Investigation
- Environmental Surveys
- Stakeholder Consultation
- Hydrological Analysis
- Hydraulic Modelling
- Breach Analysis
- Options Identification
- Options Development

Hydrological and Hydraulic Analysis

The Adare FRS has involved a detailed hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling of the River Maigue. This hydraulic model has enabled the project team to produce updated flood mapping for Adare.

The critical design event is 0.5% AEP Coastal flood extent within the Scheme Area and is presented the map to the right (Hydrological and hydraulic modelling has shown that Adare is currently at most risk from estuarine [i.e. coastal] flooding). The impacts of climate changes is also being considered by the Project Team.



Options Assessment Process

The options assessment under Stage 1 is being advanced under a number of parts. Part I involves baseline, data collection, surveys, analysis and modelling. Part II is Scheme Analysis and Development including detailed assessment of viable options and Part III involves environmental assessment of the preferred options for Adare FRS. The project team have completed the Part I assessments and have moved onto the Part II detailed assessments of options.

The options considered at Stage 1 [the preliminary assessment of options] included:

- Do Nothing/ Do Minimum
- Property/ Infrastructure Relocation
- Conveyance Improvements
- Flow Diversion
- Non-structural Measures (Flood Forecasting System/ Flood Early Warning System/ Planning Restrictions)
- Sediment Management
- Flow Reduction (Flood Storage)
- Flow Reduction (Natural Flood Management)
- Flood Defences/ Pumping

Options Applicable to Adare

Our hydrological analysis and hydraulic modelling has shown that Adare is currently at greatest risk from estuarine [i.e. coastal] flooding, when the water level in the Shannon Estuary and consequently, the River Maigue is highest. Providing large areas to store water, or deepening the River Maigue are therefore not useful tools in addressing flood risk in Adare. Following a screening exercise, the project team is now looking in more detail at flood defences. The proposed solution will make best use of flood storage behind defences and may also incorporate extra pumping facilities.

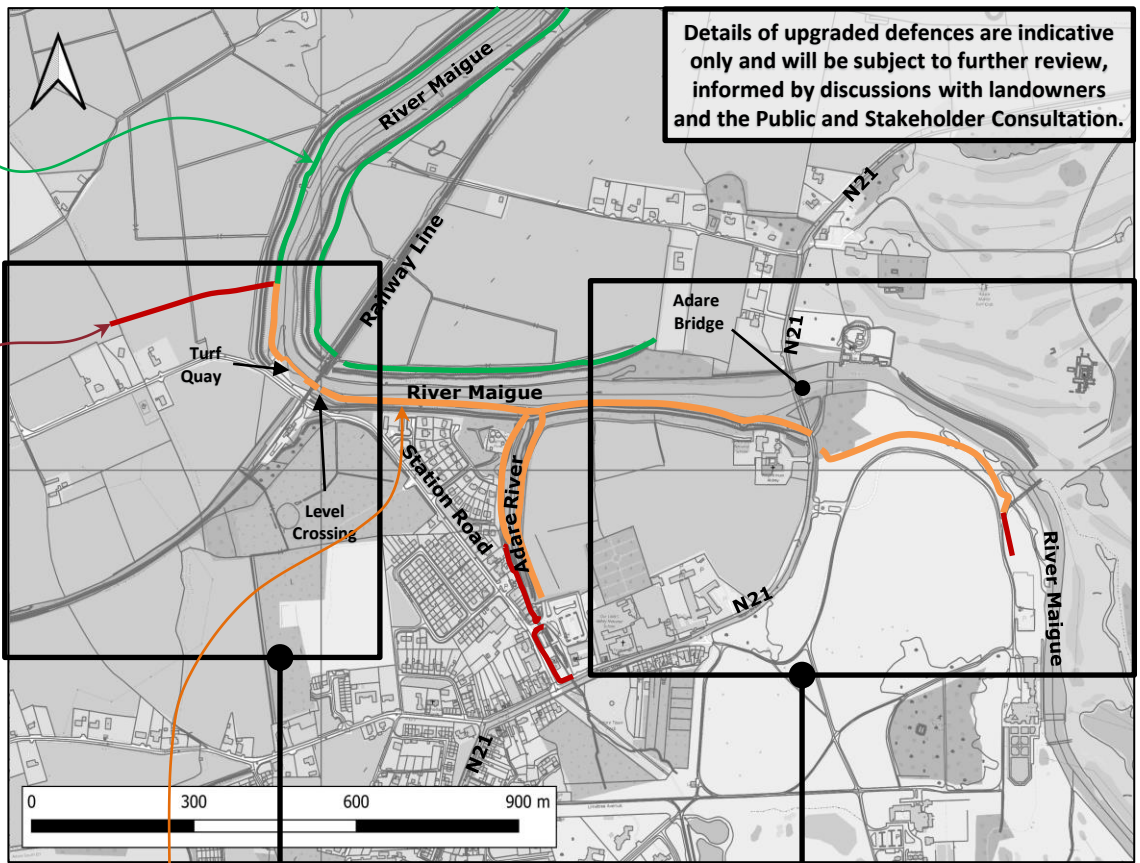
Options for proposed defences are constrained by the locations of existing defences, residential and commercial properties, transport infrastructure (N21 and rail), Adare's impressive Heritage, and a wide range of environmental factors. In many instances, options are limited to a narrow range of technically viable solutions. At the two particular locations highlighted below, a wider range of options are available. Details of the options are presented on the project website www.adarefrs.ie.

Arterial Drainage Embankments:
Options for the Adare FRS are focused on the left bank of the River Maigue within the Adare FRS Scheme Area. The embankments [shown in green] will not be raised as part of the proposed scheme.

New Defences:
A number of new embankments are proposed as part of the flood relief scheme. These are located at Adare Manor and north of Turf Quay. New flood walls would need to be erected on the left bank upstream of the existing embankments along the Adare River (close to the AIB Bank). Locations of these new defences can be seen in the figure to the right.

Existing Defence Upgrades:
The proposed Scheme will include upgrades to existing flood defences in Adare. Locations where existing flood defences will be upgraded are shown in the above figure.

Part of the existing defences to be upgraded will include the Adare Riverwalk. The flood relief scheme would represent a significant investment in Adare Town. The value of this investment could be increased in combination with the Adare Public Realm Project. Opinions are very much welcomed by the project team on any areas in particular, along the River Maigue or the Adare River (from Town Park to River Maigue), where investment could be focused.



Station Road:
Station Road (L1423) will also require defences at Turf Quay and the level crossing. Options under consideration at this location include walls at Turf Quay, road raising and the use of temporary (demountable) defences when flood risk is high. One option under consideration would facilitate further development of Turf Quay as an amenity area.

Five options are presented for your consideration on the posters at the Public Consultation Day. These posters are also available to view on the project website.

N21:
As part of a proposal to improve flood defences in Adare, **it will be necessary to provide flood defences on the N21.** This could involve substantial works to Adare Bridge, resulting in localised road raising, or the use of a temporary (demountable) defence when flood risk is high. Short duration flooding of the N21 may be accepted as an alternative to major works on Adare Bridge. Five options are presented for your consideration on the posters at the Public Consultation Day. These posters are also available to view on the project website.

What's Next?

Views received from the public following the public consultation on these options will be considered before a preferred flood relief scheme is identified for Adare. The options will be compared under various technical, economic, social and environmental criteria. A further public consultation will be held on the preferred flood relief scheme.



The Public Consultation Event No.2

Where: Dunraven Arms Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick

When: Tuesday 28th November 2023 from 04:00pm – 08:00pm hrs

The project team wants to hear your views on the options under consideration and the development of a flood relief scheme for Adare, Co. Limerick. This is your opportunity to take part in the options assessment for the Adare Flood Relief Scheme.

Please let your views be known either at the Public Consultation Day or by writing to the address below, giving your comments. The questionnaire can also be found on the project website. The questionnaires can be returned using drop boxes provided at the Public Consultation Event or emailed to adarefrs@ryanhanley.ie. Please return your information and questionnaires by **Tuesday 12th December 2023**.

Your opinion is greatly appreciated and will be given full consideration by the project team. The comments and views received will be analysed and included in the assessment of options and will contribute towards the identification and development of a preferred flood relief scheme. A further opportunity to comment will then be provided to the public following identification of the preferred scheme at Public Consultation Day No.3.

Further Information

All queries, questionnaires and comments in relation to this project can be addressed to:

Address: Ryan Hanley Ltd,
1 Galway Business Park,
Dangan, Galway, H91 A3EF.

Phone: 091 587116

Email: adarefrs@ryanhanley.ie

Website: www.adarefrs.ie

