



The Senior Planner,
Planning Department,
Kilkenny County Council,
County Hall,
John Street,
Co. Kilkenny.

Re: Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme Progress Update

Dear Sir/Madam,

OPW welcomes the opportunity to provide the following update with regards to the Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch Flood Relief Scheme from the Project Team. Separate correspondence in the form of a full review of the Draft LAP for Graiguenamanagh – Tinnahinch will be provided from the OPW Planning Advisory Service (PAS) before the consultation closing date on the 25th of January.

Byrne Looby Consulting Engineers were commissioned in March 2020 to progress the development of a Flood Relief Scheme for Graiguenamanagh-Tinnahinch as a result of the work completed in the South Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study. This Flood Relief Scheme is part of the €1bn National Fund announced by the Government for Flood Relief Schemes throughout the Country in May 2018.

Since Project Initiation the first public engagement event has been hosted online from June 18th to July 9th 2020. A newsletter drop has been completed to almost 1000 homes and businesses in the area informing all interested parties how to engage with the project. The consultant has now completed the initial data collection phase, carried out a number of baseline environmental and topographical surveys and are currently working on the hydrology and hydraulics elements of the Scheme in conjunction with sub-consultants McCloy Consulting.

The next significant areas of work include Hydraulic Modelling, Drainage Surveys, Site Investigation, further public consultation and in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) in 2021. Newsletters and further information will be published on the project website (<https://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/grauguenamanagh-tinnahinchfrs/home/>)

OPW, Kilkenny County Council, Carlow County Council and Byrne Looby will continue to work closely in the delivery of a cost beneficial scheme for the area of Graiguenamanagh and Tinnahinch in the coming months and years and look forward to further engagement with both Local Authorities in future.



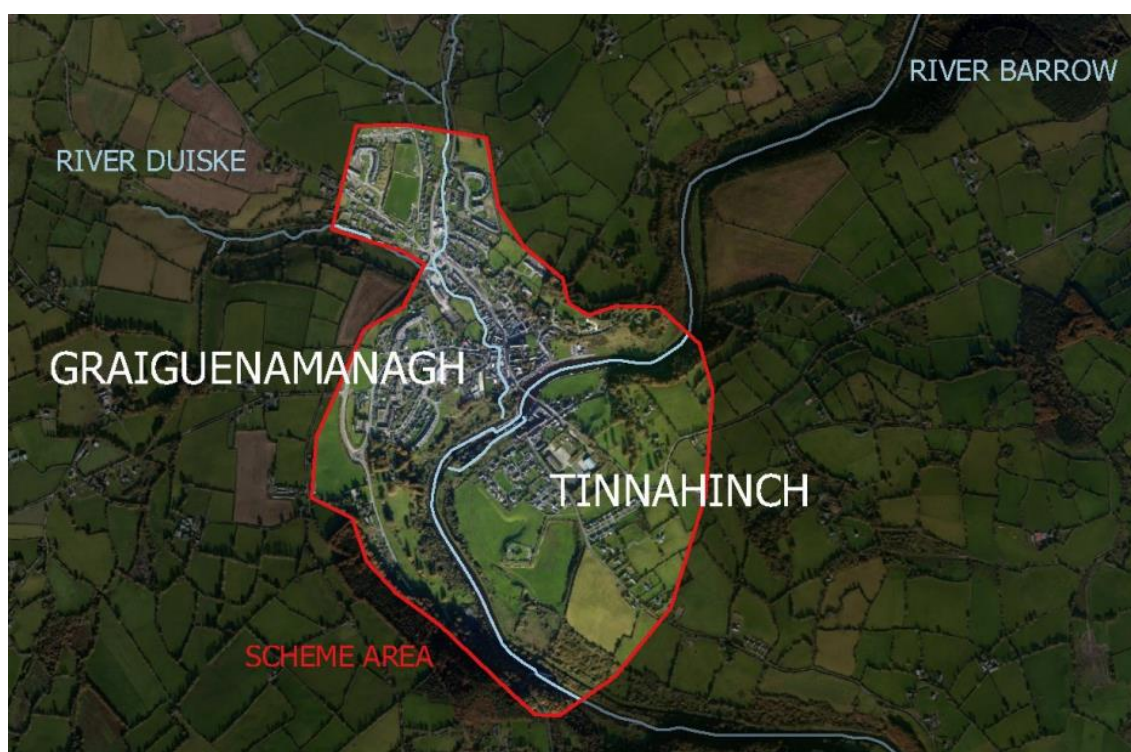


Figure 1 - Graiguenamanagh -Tinnahinch Scheme Area