



Douglas Flood Relief Scheme

(including Togher culvert)



Environmental Impact Statement

May 2017

Cork County Council
**Douglas Flood Relief Scheme
(including Togher Culvert)**
Environmental Impact Statement

EIS

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This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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Non-technical Summary

	Page
List of Figures	I
List of Appendices	VI
Glossary of Impacts	VII
Preface	IX
List of Contributors	X
1 Introduction	1-1
1.1 Project Overview	1-1
1.2 Environmental Impact Statement Methodology	1-6
1.3 Difficulties Encountered during the Study	1-8
1.4 Consultation	1-8
1.5 References	1-10
2 Need for the Proposed Scheme and Alternatives Considered	2-1
2.1 Introduction	2-1
2.2 Need for the Proposed Scheme	2-1
2.3 Scheme Design Process	2-14
2.4 Constraints Study	2-14
2.5 Consideration of Alternatives	2-15
2.6 References	2-19
3 Description of the Proposed Scheme	3-1
3.1 Introduction	3-1
3.2 Main Elements of the Proposed Flood Relief Scheme	3-1
3.3 Drawing Index	3-3
3.4 Area 1 – Ballybrack Stream through Douglas	3-4
3.5 Area 2 – Tramore River through St Patrick’s Mills	3-13
3.6 Area 3 – Grange Stream (tributary of Ballybrack Stream) through Donnybrook Commercial Centre	3-16
3.7 Area 4 – Tramore River through Togher (Togher Culvert)	3-18
4 Construction Activities	4-1
4.1 Introduction	4-1

4.2	Summary of Construction Works	4-1
4.3	Outline Construction methodology	4-2
4.4	Duration, Phasing and Employment	4-6
4.5	Construction Site Layout	4-8
4.6	Construction Environmental Management Plan	4-14
4.7	Materials Source and Transportation	4-19
4.8	Construction Safety	4-20
4.9	Community Liaison During Construction	4-21
4.10	Construction Site Decommissioning	4-22
4.11	References	4-23
5	Planning and Policy	5-1
5.1	Introduction	5-1
5.2	EU Directives and Policy Guidance	5-1
5.3	Irish National Policy Guidance	5-2
5.4	Regional Policy Guidance	5-3
5.5	Local Policy Guidance	5-4
5.6	Conclusions	5-11
5.7	References	5-11
6	Biodiversity	6-1
6.1	Introduction	6-1
6.2	Methodology	6-1
6.3	Receiving Environment	6-3
6.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	6-19
6.5	Evaluation of Impacts	6-20
6.6	Predicted Impacts on Terrestrial Habitats	6-22
6.7	Mitigation Measures	6-30
6.8	Residual Impacts	6-38
6.9	References	6-38
7	Landscape and Visual	7-1
7.1	Introduction	7-1
7.2	Assessment Methodology	7-1
7.3	Receiving Environment	7-4
7.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	7-12
7.5	Evaluation of Impacts	7-13
7.6	Mitigation Measures	7-16
7.7	Residual Impacts	7-17
7.8	References	7-18
8	Population and Human Health	8-1
8.1	Introduction	8-1
8.2	Methodology	8-1
8.3	Receiving Environment	8-2
8.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	8-20
8.5	Evaluation of Impacts	8-21
8.6	Mitigation Measures	8-26
8.7	Residual Impacts	8-28

8.8	References	8-29
9	Noise and Vibration	9-1
9.1	Introduction	9-1
9.2	Methodology	9-1
9.3	Receiving Environment	9-4
9.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	9-6
9.5	Evaluation of Impacts	9-6
9.6	Mitigation Measures	9-9
9.7	Residual Impacts	9-11
9.8	References	9-11
10	Air Quality and Climate	10-1
10.1	Introduction	10-1
10.2	Methodology	10-1
10.3	Receiving Environment	10-4
10.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	10-7
10.5	Evaluation of Impacts	10-7
10.6	Mitigation Measures	10-10
10.7	Residual Impacts	10-11
10.8	References	10-11
11	Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology	11-1
11.1	Introduction	11-1
11.2	Methodology	11-1
11.3	Receiving Environment	11-2
11.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	11-15
11.5	Evaluation of Impacts	11-17
11.6	Mitigation Measures	11-19
11.7	Residual Impacts	11-20
11.8	References	11-20
12	Hydrology	12-1
12.1	Introduction	12-1
12.2	Methodology	12-1
12.3	Receiving Environment	12-8
12.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	12-23
12.5	Evaluation of Impacts	12-24
12.6	Mitigation Measures	12-28
12.7	Residual Impacts	12-30
12.8	References	12-30
13	Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage	13-1
13.1	Introduction	13-1
13.2	Methodology	13-2
13.3	Receiving Environment	13-11
13.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	13-26
13.5	Mitigation Measures	13-31
13.6	Residual Impacts	13-32

13.7	References	13-32
14	Roads and Traffic	14-1
14.1	Introduction	14-1
14.2	Methodology	14-1
14.3	Receiving Environment	14-1
14.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	14-4
14.5	Evaluation of Impacts	14-5
14.6	Mitigation Measures	14-15
14.7	Residual Impacts	14-16
14.8	References	14-17
15	Material Assets	15-1
15.1	Introduction	15-1
15.2	Methodology	15-1
15.3	Receiving Environment	15-2
15.4	Characteristics of the Proposed Scheme	15-6
15.5	Evaluation of Impacts	15-7
15.6	Mitigation Measures	15-12
15.7	Residual Impacts	15-14
15.8	References	15-14
16	Cumulative Impacts	16-1
16.1	Introduction	16-1
16.2	Methodology	16-1
16.3	Effects in Different Environmental Media	16-2
16.4	Potential Interactions and Cumulative Impacts	16-4
16.5	References	16-5
17	Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures	17-1
17.1	Introduction	17-1

List of Figures

Figure 1.1	Site Location – Overview. Douglas Flood Relief Scheme (including Togher Culvert) Study Areas.
Figure 1.2a	Douglas Key Plan
Figure 1.2b	Togher Key Plan
Figure 2.1	Maximum flood extent for the June 2012 flood event
Figure 2.2	June 2012 flood extent calibration plot (maximum flood extent vs maximum modelled flood event)
Figure 2.3	Location of culvert trash screen at Church Road
Figure 2.4	Church Road culvert trash screen – normal conditions
Figure 2.5	Church Road culvert trash screen – post 2012 flood event
Figure 2.6	Post 2012 flood event – wall knocked down outside ICA Hall
Figure 2.7	Post 2012 flood event high water mark from outside commercial property in Douglas East
Figure 2.8	2012 flood event – likely flood routes of the Ballybrack Stream in the vicinity of Ravensdale
Figure 2.9	Post 2012 flood event outside Douglas Village Shopping Centre
Figure 2.10	Post 2012 flood event inside Douglas Village Shopping Centre
Figure 2.11	Post 2012 flood event in Douglas Village Centre
Figure 2.12	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre showing manhole blockages
Figure 2.13	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre
Figure 2.14	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre
Figure 2.15	Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area
Figure 2.16	Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area – outside Togher Community Centre

- Figure 2.17 Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area – inside Spar Express shop
- Figure 3.1 Key Plan Area 1 upper reaches between Ballybrack Woods, through Ravensdale as far as Church Road
- Figure 3.2 Key Plan Area 1 lower reach - Douglas Community Park
- Figure 3.3 View of amenity area around Ballybrack Stream at the entrance to Ballybrack woods
- Figure 3.4 Douglas Community Park, looking southwards
- Figure 3.5 Area 2 – St Patrick’s Mills in Douglas village
- Figure 3.6 View of Tramore River from R851 (West Douglas Road)
- Figure 3.7 View of R581 bridge over the Tramore River and view of right bank
- Figure 3.8 Donnybrook Commercial Centre (Area 3) showing the Grange Stream
- Figure 3.9 View of existing coarse trash screen at northern end of the Commercial Centre
- Figure 3.10 View north-east through Donnybrook Commercial Centre and Grange Stream
- Figure 3.11 Area 4 Togher
- Figure 3.12 View of Togher Road
- Figure 3.13 Existing trash screen at Lehenaghmore Industrial Estate
- Figure 4.1 Location of proposed construction compound
- Figure 6.1 Natura 2000 Sites
- Figure 7.1 View of proposal site from R851
- Figure 7.2 View of amenity area around Ballybrack Stream at the entrance to Ballybrack woods
- Figure 7.3 View north-east through Donnybrook Commercial Centre
- Figure 7.4 View of Togher Road

Figure 7.1.0	View Location Map (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.1.1	View 1 – Lehenaghmore, Togher (as existing) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.1.2	View 1 – Lehenaghmore, Togher (as proposed) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.2.1	View 2 – St. Patrick’s Mills (as existing) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.2.2	View 2 – St. Patrick’s Mills (as proposed) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.3.1	View 3 – Douglas Community Park (as existing) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.3.2	View 3 – Douglas Community Park (as proposed) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.4.1	View 4 – Church Road, Douglas (as existing) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.4.2	View 4 – Church Road, Douglas (as proposed) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.5.1	View 5 – Ravensdale, Douglas (as existing) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 7.1.5.2	View 5 – Ravensdale, Douglas (as proposed) (see Appendix 7.1)
Figure 8.1	Maximum flood extent for the June 2012 flood event
Figure 8.2	June 2012 flood extent calibration plot (maximum flood extent vs maximum modelled flood event)
Figure 8.3	Location of culvert trash screen at Church Road
Figure 8.4	Church Road culvert trash screen – normal conditions
Figure 8.5	Church Road culvert trash screen – post 2012 flood event
Figure 8.6	Post 2012 flood event – wall knocked down outside ICA Hall
Figure 8.7	Post 2012 flood event high water mark from outside commercial property in Douglas East
Figure 8.8	2012 flood event – likely flood routes of the Ballybrack Stream in the vicinity of Ravensdale

Figure 8.9	Post 2012 flood event outside Douglas Village Shopping Centre
Figure 8.10	Post 2012 flood event inside Douglas Village Shopping Centre
Figure 8.11	Post 2012 flood event in Douglas Village Centre
Figure 8.12	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre showing manhole blockages
Figure 8.13	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre
Figure 8.14	Post 2012 flood event adjacent to Donnybrook Commercial Centre
Figure 8.15	Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area
Figure 8.16	Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area – outside Togher Community Centre
Figure 8.17	Post 2012 flood event in Togher Area – inside Spar Express shop
Figure 11.1	Bedrock geology of the proposed scheme works areas
Figure 11.2	Location of industrial sites currently and formerly licensed by the EPA
Figure 11.3	Aquifer vulnerability for Togher (west) and Douglas (east) works areas
Figure 12.1	Hydrometric Area 19 as part of the South Western River Basin including Togher and Douglas
Figure 12.2	Hydrological Features
Figure 12.3	Water Framework Directive Risk Scores for the Tramore River
Figure 12.4	Surface water monitoring locations for Kinsale Road Landfill (EPA Licence Reg. No. W0012-03)
Figure 12.5	Extract from the Lee CFRAM Study Fluvial Flood Map for Togher
Figure 12.6	Extract from the Douglas FRS Flood Map showing the 1 in 100 year fluvial flood extent
Figure 12.7	Extract from the Douglas FRS Flood Map showing the 1 in 100 year fluvial flood extent in Donnybrook Commercial Centre

- Figure 12.8 Extract from the OPW PFRA pluvial flood Map at Togher
- Figure 12.9 Extract from the OPW PFRA pluvial flood map at Douglas
- Figure 12.10 Extract from the National Flood Hazard Mapping reports
- Figure 12.11 Extract from Historic 25" (1888-1913) and 6" (1837-1842) maps for Douglas
- Figure 13.1 Archaeological sites included in the RMP and SMR database within the northern end of the study area
- Figure 13.2 Archaeological sites included in the RMP and SMR database within the southern end of the study area
- Figure 13.3 Extract from OS 6-inch map (1842) showing Douglas area
- Figure 13.4 Extract from OS 6-inch map (1842) showing Donnybrook area
- Figure 13.5 Extract from OS 25-inch map (1902) showing Douglas area
- Figure 13.6 Extract from OS 25-inch map (1902) showing Donnybrook area
- Figure 13.7 Extract from OS 6-inch map (1842) showing Togher area
- Figure 13.8 Extract from OS 25-inch map (1902) showing Togher area
- Figure 14.1 Existing Local Road Network
- Figure 14.2 Existing Road Network and Tramore River Route

List of Appendices

Appendix 3.1	Drawings of the Proposed Scheme
Appendix 3.2	Drawings of Trees to be Removed
Appendix 3.3	Drawings of off-road Access Routes
Appendix 4.1	Outline Invasive Species Management Strategy
Appendix 5.1	Zoning Map – Carrigaline Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011
Appendix 6.1	Fish Survey Report
Appendix 6.2	Habitat Maps – Figures 6.2 to 6.7
Appendix 6.3	Guidelines for Assessment of Ecological Impacts of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2009)
Appendix 6.4	Tree Survey Report
Appendix 6.5	Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment
Appendix 7.1	Photomontages
Appendix 7.2	Policy Objectives Extracts
Appendix 13.1	Wading and Metal Detection Survey, June 2016
Appendix 13.2	Plates (Site Photographs)

Glossary of Impacts

Reference is made in this report to environmental impacts of various qualities, significance, duration and types. These follow the relevant Environmental Protection Agency guidance on the subject.

Quality of Impacts

Positive Impact

A change which improves the quality of the environment (for example, by increasing species diversity; or the improving reproductive capacity of an eco-system, or removing nuisances or improving amenities).

Neutral Impact

A change which does not affect the quality of the environment.

Negative Impact

A change which reduces the quality of the environment (for example, lessening species diversity or diminishing the reproductive capacity of an eco-system; or damaging health *or* property by causing nuisance).

Significance of Impacts

Imperceptible Impact

An impact capable of measurement, but without noticeable consequences.

Slight Impact

An impact which causes noticeable changes in the character of the environment without affecting its sensitivities.

Moderate Impact

An impact that alters the character of the environment in a manner that is consistent with existing and emerging trends.

Significant Impact

An impact which, by its character, magnitude, duration or intensity, alters a sensitive aspect of the environment.

Profound Impact

An impact which obliterates sensitive characteristics.

Duration of Impacts

Temporary Impact

Impact lasting for one year or less.

Short-term Impact

Impact lasting one to seven years.

Medium-term Impact

Impact lasting seven to fifteen years.

Long-term Impact

Impact lasting fifteen to sixty years.

Permanent Impact

Impact lasting over sixty years.

Types of Impacts

Cumulative Impact

The addition of many small impacts to create one larger, more significant, impact.

'Do Nothing' Impact

The environment as it would be in the future, should no development of any kind be carried out.

Indeterminable Impact

When the full consequences of a change in the environment cannot be described.

Irreversible Impact

When the character, distinctiveness, diversity or reproductive capacity of an environment is permanently lost.

Residual Impact

The degree of environmental change that will occur *after* the proposed mitigation measures have taken effect.

Synergistic Impact

Where the resultant impact is of greater significance than the sum of its constituents.

'Worst Case' Impact

The impacts arising from a development in the case where mitigation measures substantially fail.

Preface

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Douglas Flood Relief Scheme (including Togher Culvert) is contained in one volume and consists of:

Non-Technical Summary

EIS (main text)

Appendices

List of Contributors

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is based on an appraisal of the environmental effects of the proposed Douglas Flood Relief Scheme (including Togher Culvert) undertaken by Arup and its sub-consultants. The Arup study team drew on in-house resources including environmental sciences, traffic engineering and graphics.

The following specialists, working in accordance with specifications prepared by Arup, supplemented these resources:

- Brady Shipman Martin – Landscape and Visual impact assessment, including preparation of the photomontages;
- Lane Purcell Archaeology – Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage assessment;
- Dixon Brosnan – Biodiversity, Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment