

Ballyhale Flood Relief Scheme

Initial Public Consultation

14th May 2020

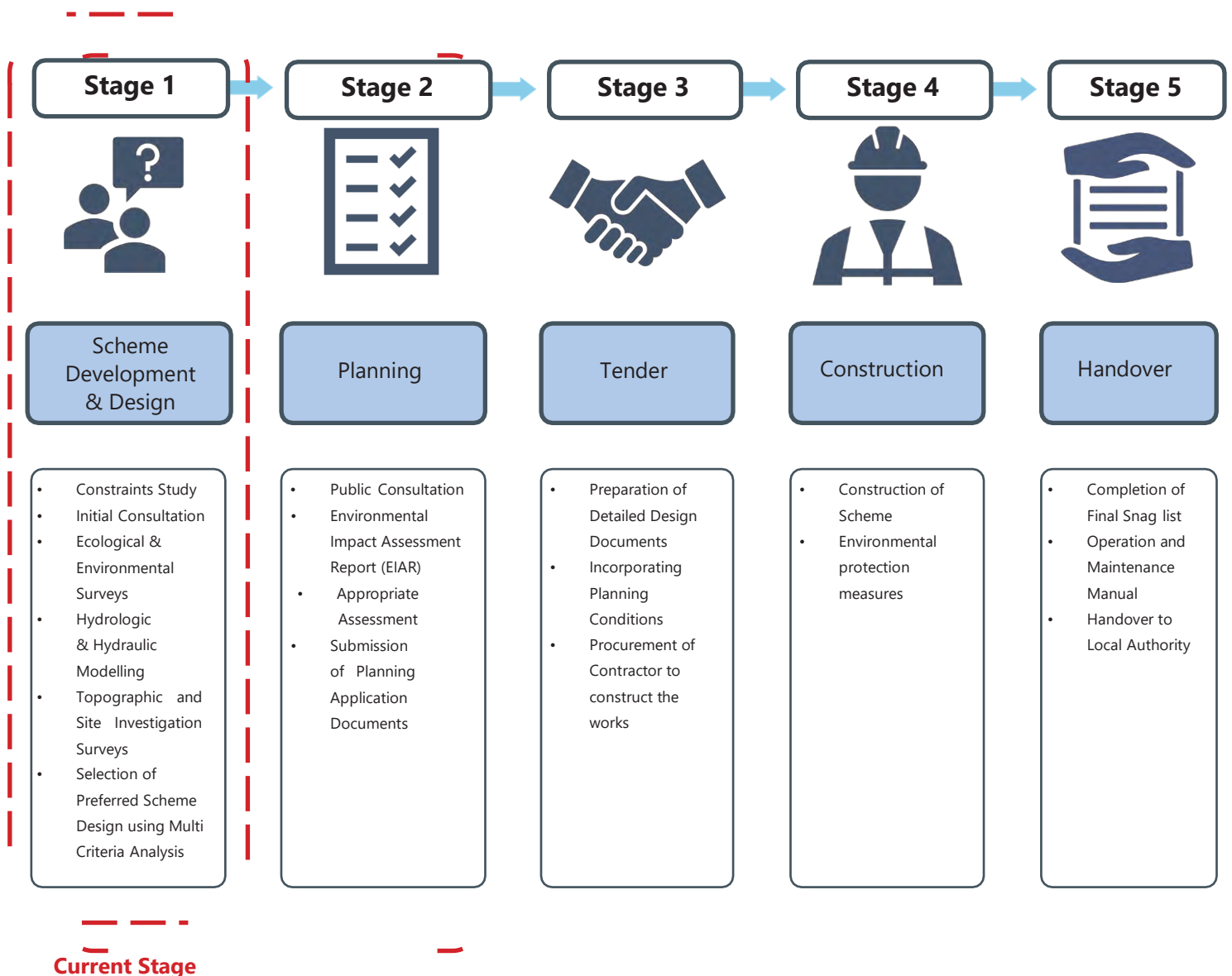


Introduction

Kilkenny County Council have recently appointed DBFL Consulting Engineers to develop a sustainable flood relief scheme for Ballyhale. DBFL is an Irish owned multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy with head office located in Dublin and regional offices in Waterford & Cork cities.

The scheme is funded by the Office of Public Works (OPW).

The objective of this project is the identification, design and construction of a Flood Relief Scheme, that is technically, socially, environmentally and economically acceptable, to alleviate the risk of flooding to the Community of Ballyhale.

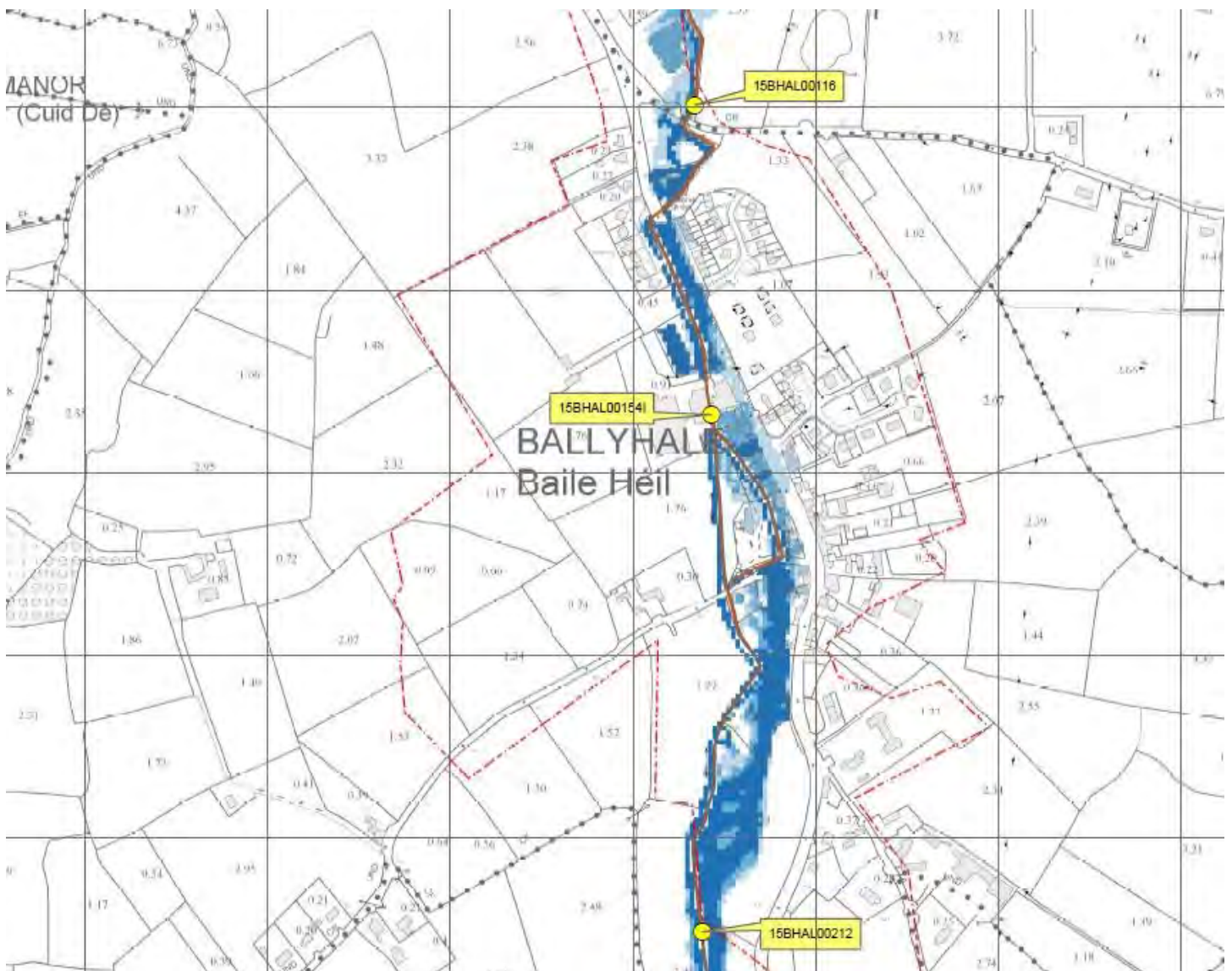


Background - CFRAM

The Office of Public Works (OPW) commissioned the South Eastern CFRAM study to determine locations in Ireland which may be at risk of flooding. The determined that 25 properties in Ballyhale are at risk of flooding for the current day 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) event. There is also non residential flooding such as flooding to roads and agricultural lands.

Ballyhale is within the catchment of the Little Arrigle River which is a tributary of the River Nore. Ballyhale is affected by a tributary of the Little Arrigle River called the Ballyhale River. The Ballyhale River enters the village near the church and splits into two channels either side of the church. A number of culverts/bridges are present on the watercourse along its route through the village.

The study predicted that out of bank overland flooding occurs upstream of the village on the eastern bank of the Ballyhale River. These floodwaters flow overland across agricultural lands and into the village. Flooding is also affected by a number of undersized culvert/bridge structures on the watercourse through the village.



Predicted Flood Extents Map [1% AEP] (OPW Eastern CFRAM)

Background - CFRAM

The study identified that a section of flood defence embankment combined with a flood diversion channel may be an appropriate way to address the flood risk.

It is noted that the diversion channel route and details shown in the previous study are a concept only and will be developed by the current design team.



What's next in Stage 1?

The design team will verify the findings of the CFRAM Assessment and make updates where necessary. The team will create computer models to simulate the river network and the models can also be used to determine the effectiveness of any proposed flood relief measures.

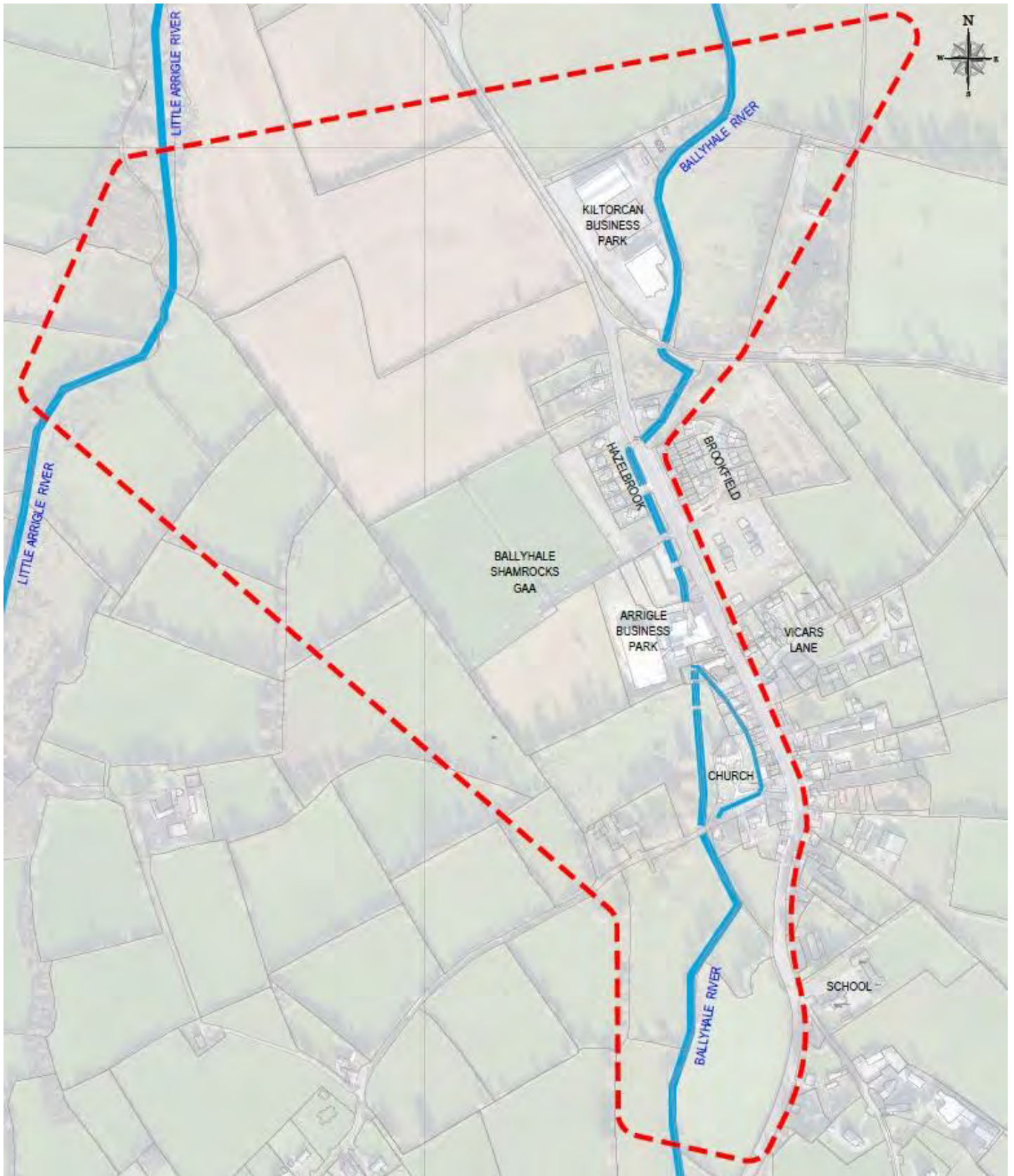
A variety of surveys will be carried out over the next number of months which will include topographical, ecological and environmental surveys. Landowners may be contacted to arrange access to their lands.

Various options will be considered to manage the flood risk in the area. These may include flood walls, embankments, upgrades to the channel/ culverts on the river or flood diversion channels.

All options considered will seek to balance the economic, social, cultural heritage and environmental impacts of the scheme. The placement and routing of any works associated with the scheme will have careful regard for all local constraints. The needs of any affected landowners will be incorporated into the scheme design where possible.

What's next in Stage 1?

The anticipated study area for the scheme is outlined below but this may be amended as the scheme progresses. Some items such as river surveys will extend beyond this area



Primary Study Area

Your Opportunity to Shape the Scheme!

The scheme is at an early stage and the Design Team are keen to incorporate the views and local knowledge of the local community and others who may also have an interest in the plans.

Online Survey

We have prepared a short survey questionnaire which can be filled out online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGGS637>



Queries

Comments or queries on the scheme can also be sent to Kilkenny County Council:

Post to: Emir Slattery, Flood Relief Capital Office, The Lodge, County Hall, Kilkenny.

Email to: ballyhalefrs@kilkennycoco.ie



As the scheme develops we will hold a public consultation day following Public Health Guidance and Social Distancing requirements at that time and there will be further opportunities to comment once a preferred option is established.