

## Mallow Flood Relief Scheme

### Category:

Engineering – Flood Alleviation Works

### Description:



The town of Mallow, County Cork, has a long history of flooding from the River Blackwater, which flows through the town. The Blackwater poses the main flood risk to the town and flooding occurs from high water levels in the river. There are some smaller watercourses, which flow through Mallow and into the River Blackwater. These can also cause flooding. This can be from large amounts of rainfall on their catchments, or by the River Blackwater flooding and high water levels in the Blackwater extending back up these watercourses. The watercourses, which can cause flooding in Mallow are Hospital Stream, Gooldshill Stream, Bearforest Stream and Spa Glen Stream. The Spa Glen Stream has caused most problems, as it flows through the town centre, mostly beneath the streets in a series of culverts.

Mallow has flooded many times before and the Town Park gets flooded several times a year. Major floods have occurred in 2004, 1996, 1995, 1988, 1980, 1969, 1948, 1875 and 1853. The most severe flood occurred in 1853 when the town bridge was swept away.

The Final Engineering Report was produced in October 2003 with a preferred solution, which would protect against a 1 in 100 year flood event - in other words, a flood of such extent that it has a 1% probability of occurrence in any year.

Generally, the Scheme comprises:

- new culverts,
- walls and embankments,
- demountable defences,
- lowering of ground at Mallow Bridge.

In February 2004 Arup produced a Phasing Report which assessed the various phasing options for the Mallow Scheme. The recommended overall phasing of the Scheme comprises three geographical phases:

- (i) Mallow North (including Spa Glen)
- (ii) Mallow West
- (iii) Mallow South

It is hoped to begin construction on the next phase including Mallow West and South once construction of Mallow North is completed.

**Project Team:**

**OPW Flood Relief Section:**

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**OPW Engineers:**

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**Design Team:**

ARUP, Consultant Engineers

**Construction Team:**

BAM Civil

**Dates:**

Mallow North commenced in March 2008 and is due for completion by March 2009.