

## **Tolka River (Dublin, Fingal & Meath) Flood Relief Schemes**

The River Tolka has a history of flooding following heavy rainfall, which has been well documented after major flood events in 1954. The river has been the subject of a number of investigations, and of most significance were those carried out in 1955 and 1986.

Severe flooding from the Tolka River and its tributaries occurred in the Dublin City, Meath and Fingal areas in November 2000 and November 2002.

In June 2001 Dublin City Council commissioned the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (GSDSDS), a multi-million euro engineering study of the strategic drainage requirements of the Greater Dublin area. A full study of the Tolka was not included in the GSDSDS. In view of the November 2000 flood OPW requested that it be included.

The Tolka River Flooding Study was underway when the November 2002 flood occurred. The consultants were asked to produce Interim Reports for all three local authorities concerned (Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council and Meath County Council) to identify works that could be undertaken straight away to reduce the risk of flooding in the worst affected areas. The Final Report on the Tolka was completed in November 2003 and this brought together many of the recommendations contained in the Interim Reports and also much additional information, which provided the basis for further decisions in relation to the catchment as a whole. As a result of the Interim Reports, works began in the Dublin City and County Meath areas in 2003 and were largely finished by 2009. The exception was the replacement of Mulhuddart Bridge in Fingal which was completed in 2011.



The works carried out, broken up into three areas, include:

**Dublin City Council Area**

- New walls and embankments
- Replacement footbridge
- Widening of banks
- Lowering of Distillery Weir
- Scour damage repair
- General channel maintenance

**Fingal County Council Area:**

- Embankments
- Channel maintenance
- Major bridge replacement

**Meath County Council area:**

- Road Bridge replacement and repairs,
- Railway Bridge underpinning
- Stream upgrade
- Embankments and Walls
- General channel maintenance

Since the Scheme was completed there have been no reports of flooding from the River Tolka in these areas.