

Avoca River (Arklow) Drainage Scheme

At Design Stage



Arklow Bridge

The Office of Public Works (OPW) and Wicklow County Council have commissioned consultants to undertake engineering (Byrne Looby PH McCarthy) and environmental studies (ARUP) respectively to assess and develop a viable, cost effective and sustainable Flood Relief Scheme for the Avoca River, Arklow.

The process of identifying a preferred scheme includes a detailed assessment of a range of flood risk management measures to determine their technical, economic, social and environmental viability.

Following a detailed scheme options assessment process, the series of measures that will make up the emerging preferred flood relief scheme for the Avoca River, Arklow have now been identified with the main element of the scheme as follows:

- Flood defence walls particularly at River Walk and South Quay (including provision for surface water drainage behind walls)
- Extensive upstream and downstream dredging including a debris trap and a gravel trap upstream of Arklow Bridge
- Lowering of floor of Arklow Bridge by 1m

- Underpinning of Arklow Bridge piers and abutments
- Scour protection at Arklow Bridge,
- Construction of new flood embankment on north side and upstream of Arklow Bridge
- Widening of the river channel at a point approximately 375m downstream of Arklow Bridge

An Environmental Impact Statement is currently being finalised and it is proposed to go for planning permission in the first quarter of 2018.

At present, untreated wastewater is being discharged into the river in Arklow and Irish Water intends to fix this problem in partnership with Wicklow County Council by developing a Waste Water Treatment scheme. OPW, Wicklow County Council and Irish Water are currently liaising on possible ways to integrate some of the proposed works so as to minimise disruption to the town, where possible.