



Explanatory Leaflet.

Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management Programme

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Stage - Public Consultation

CFRAM Programme

The Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme is designed to assess and map the country's river systems to identify areas at risk of significant flooding.

The purpose of the Programme is to:

- produce detailed flood mapping in order to identify and map the existing and potential future flood hazard and risk areas within the study area.
- Build the strategic information base necessary for making informed decisions in relation to managing flood risk.
- Identify viable structural and non-structural measures and options for managing the flood risks for localised high-risk areas and within each river catchment as a whole.

There are three main stages in the Programme and a suite of documents will be produced for public consultation at each stage:

- 2011 - Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
- 2013 - Flood Hazard Mapping
- 2015 - Catchment Flood Risk Management Plans

CFRAM Studies

The country has been divided into 6 river basin districts and separate studies are being commissioned to carry out a detailed mapping of Ireland's rivers. The Programme will meet the requirements of the EU Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC) and the 2004 Flood Policy Review Report. The studies will focus on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas subject to significant development pressure both now and in the future.

Each Study is divided up into a number of key stages:

- Data Collection & Surveying
- Flood Risk Review
- Hydrology Analysis
- Detailed Hydraulic Modelling
- Flooding Mapping
- Development of Flood Risk Management Options
- Strategic Environmental Assessment & Appropriate Assessment
- Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan

The CFRAM Studies are being commissioned at the scale of the River Basin District (RBD). The River Basin Districts are:

- Shannon
- East
- South-East
- South-West
- West
- North-West/Neagh-Bann

PRELIMINARY FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) is an important first step in determining how flood risk will be assessed and managed in the future; both in your area and nationally. The purpose of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) is to identify areas at risk of significant flooding.

The draft PFRA, to be made available for public consultation shortly, will provide maps showing areas deemed to be at risk. The areas deemed to be at risk (referred to as Areas for Further Assessment, or 'AFAs') are where more detailed assessment is required on the extent and degree of flood risk, under the CFRAM Studies.

PFRA Process

The draft PFRA has been arrived at by:

- Reviewing records of floods that have happened in the past
- Undertaking analysis to determine which areas might flood in the future, and what the impacts might be, and,
- Extensive consultation with each Local Authority, as principal partners in this stage of the CFRAM Programme as well as with other Government departments and agencies

This assessment has considered all types of flooding, including that which can occur from rivers, the sea and estuaries, heavy rain, groundwater, the failure of infrastructure, and so on. It has also considered the impacts flooding can have on people, property, businesses, the environment and cultural assets.

Areas where on-site inspection is required to investigate the issues more closely have also been identified and these investigations will be carried out as part of the CFRAM Studies.

The PFRA is only a preliminary assessment, based on available or readily-derivable information. Analysis has been undertaken to identify areas prone to flooding, and the risks associated with such flooding, but it should be stressed that this analysis is purely indicative and undertaken for the purpose of completing the draft PFRA.

The primary purpose of the public consultation on the PFRA is to facilitate the inclusion of locally-derived knowledge and information to better inform this preliminary assessment of flood risk.

PFRA Outcomes

The Areas for Further Assessment (AFAs) identified through the draft PFRA in your Local Authority area will be listed and shown on the draft PFRA maps on display in your Local Authority principal offices during the public consultation period.

The completed PFRA and its outcomes will take into account submissions made, the findings of site inspections, and any other information that has arisen.

When complete the Preliminary Assessment will inform the determination of the two further stages of the CFRAM Programme: Flood Hazard mapping and the production of Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs).

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT PFRA

The draft PFRA is available for formal public consultation during the consultation period. Information, views and locally-derived knowledge generated through the public consultation will be taken into account prior to the finalisation of the PFRA.

The draft PFRA documents are display for viewing at each county council principal offices, and is also available for viewing / download on the national CFRAM Programme website www.cfram.ie .

The principal documents include:

- an Introduction to the draft PFRA
- A Main Overview Report
- 420 maps of flood extents and PFRA outcomes
- Other associated reports.

Each county council will be requested to submit its formal response to the PFRA findings covering your area of the country.

Any member of the public, is also invited to make a submission on the findings of the PFRA. If you have any information that you think should be considered, or agree or disagree with any aspect of the PFRA or it's conclusions, you can submit this information or point of view in one of the following ways.

By the Web: Search www.cfram.ie and follow the link to 'Public Consultation'

By Post to: Mr. P. McAlinney
PFRA Consultation
Office of Public Works
17-19 Hatch Street
Dublin 2.

By Email to: PFRA@opw.ie

All submissions will be reviewed prior to finalising the PFRA.

All relevant information is also available from the National CFRAM Website at: www.cfram.ie .