

The **hydraulic computer modelling** of the rivers and Cork harbour uses the data from the surveys and the hydrological analysis to predict water levels along the rivers and in Cork Harbour for flood events of various magnitudes both now and in the future. The computer modelling results have been used to identify and map areas of significant flood risk within the catchment using a number of different **flood mapping** formats.

Identification and assessment of flood risk management options.

Using a decision making framework developed for the study, the information gathered, processed and analysed in the assessment of flood risk and SEA is being used to develop a list of potential flood risk management options. This decision making framework ensures that the identification of potential flood risk management options is evidence based, transparent, and inclusive of stakeholder and public views.

Production of the CFRMP

Work on the production of the CFRMP will take place over the next few months. The CFRMP will pull together all the information gathered over the duration of the project to set out an economically, socially and environmentally appropriate long-term strategy for managing the flood risk to help ensure the safety and sustainability of communities in the Lee Catchment.

Next issue

As the project team concentrates on preparing the CFRMP, the next issue of the newsletter will be in spring 2009 in advance of the next public information and consultation days. Until then, the project team would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.



The Tramore River catchment



The Curragheen River catchment



Contact details and project website

If you have any questions or require any further information relating to this study or if you would like to be included on a distribution list for future issues of this newsletter please email

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Further information is also available on our project website at

www.leecframs.ie

LEE CATCHMENT FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT STUDY

Newsletter 28 - December 2008



Introduction

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of the Lee CFRAMS newsletter. The project team is continuing with work on assessing potential flood risk management options for the Lee catchment. As work on the project is nearing completion, in this month's newsletter we provide a brief summary on some of the key project activities which have been carried out over the last two and a half years as shown in the flow chart opposite.

Summary of project activities

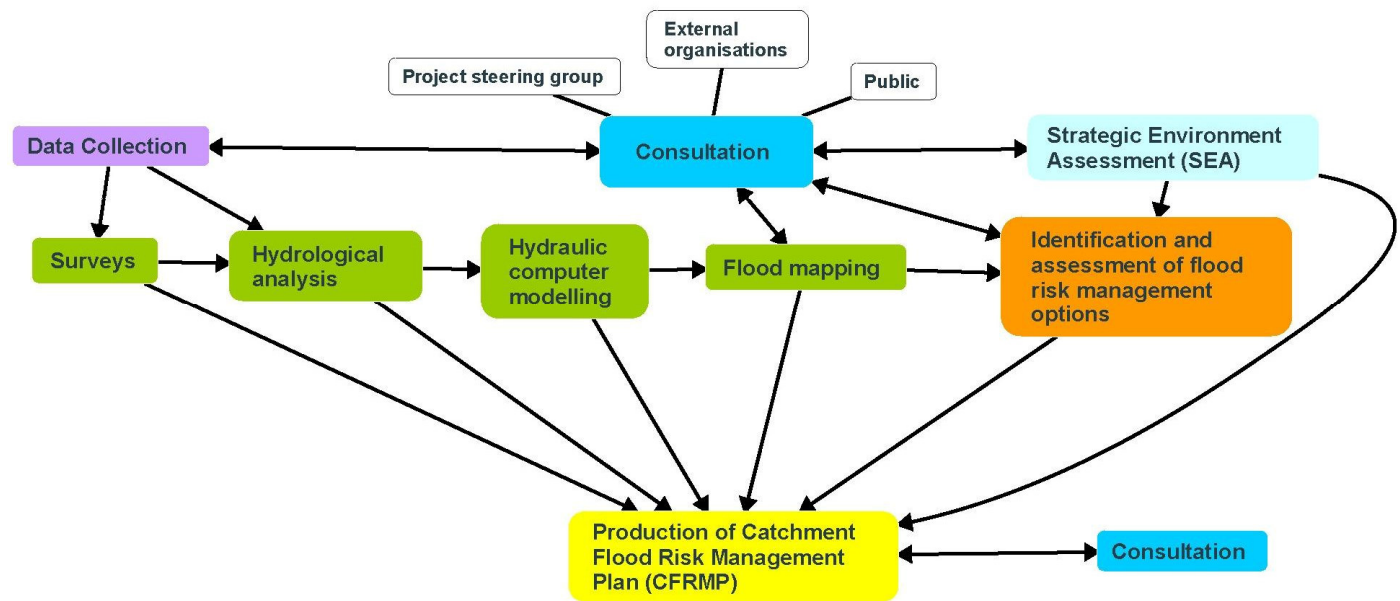
Data collection

Data collection is an integral part of the entire project from the start right up to the current stage. Each project activity involves the collection and analysis of data; whether it is rainfall data for the hydrological analysis or survey data for the hydraulic computer modelling. Data has been obtained from a number of sources including external organisations and the public.

Consultation

It is important that the knowledge and views of stakeholders and the general public are taken into consideration when developing the Lee Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan (CFRMP). This has been achieved through public information and consultation days, attendance and presentations at meetings, stakeholder workshops, monthly newsletters, a project website, a feedback form on the project website and a project email address.

Consultation will form a key part of the successful completion of the project. Details of public information and consultation days in 2009 will be advertised locally and published on the project website and newsletter.



Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

This is an ongoing activity throughout the entire project to ensure that environmental constraints and opportunities within the Lee Catchment are fully considered in the development and selection of appropriate flood risk management options. The SEA process involves a number of steps including screening and scoping. The SEA is currently forming a key part in the identification and assessment of potential flood risk management options. The environmental objectives identified during the scoping stage are being used to test the environmental acceptability of potential flood risk management options. An Environmental Report will be published with the draft CFRMP which will build on the information presented in the Environmental Scoping Report. The report will describe the option assessment process and the predicted environmental effects, and associated mitigation and monitoring requirements, of the identified flood risk management strategy.

Assessment of flood risk

The assessment of flood risk incorporates all of the activities coloured green in the flow chart above. A full understanding of the flood risk in the catchment allows the project team to make informed decisions on the most appropriate flood risk management options for the catchment. A number of **surveys** were carried out for the project which provided information on the shape of the river channels and catchment. A flood defence asset survey was used to gather information on the condition of flood defence assets in the catchment.

The **hydrological analysis** of the Lee catchment used the scientific findings and guidance of the Flood Studies Report (FSR) together with recorded river flows and rainfall data to estimate rates and quantities of runoff into the catchment water bodies. An assessment of drivers that are likely to influence future flood risk in the Lee catchment, including changes in climate & land use and urban growth was also carried out.