



Ceann Oifig
Sráid Jonathan Swift
Baile Átha Troim
Co. na MI

Head Office
Jonathan Swift Street
Trim
Co Meath

Teil/Phone: (046) 942 6000
Facs/Fax: (046) 948 1793
Íosghlao/LoCall 1890 213414
Suíomh gréasáin/website: www.opw.ie

To :
Director of Services
Each City and County Council

Re : Statutory Consultation on Draft Flood Maps

13th November, 2015

Display of Books of Draft Flood Maps

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and assistance from the officials in your Council to the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme.

As you are aware the Office of Public Works (OPW) is leading the CFRAM programme in part to meet Ireland's obligations under the 2007 EU Floods Directive, in accordance with the European Communities (Assessment and Management of Flood Risks) Regulations 2010, SI No. 122 of 2010, which transposed the EU 'Floods' Directive into Irish law, as amended by SI No. 495 of 2015.

As required under Regulation 12 (1) (a) of SI No 122 of 2010, the OPW is required to make available appropriate Flood Maps for the public to view at the principal offices of their local authority for a period of no less than one month. This statutory consultation follows a series of informal Public Consultation Days held in the majority of Areas for Further Assessment (AFA) and concluded in April 2015.

The OPW is making the arrangements to send the relevant Books of Maps for your Council on Tuesday 17th November, and your contact person will receive them on Wednesday 17th November.

The OPW would appreciate if your Council can arrange to have the Books of Maps put on public display in a secure manner during normal office hours between **Friday 20th November, 2015 to Wednesday 23rd December, 2015, both dates are inclusive. These dates are until the 20th November confidential.** This has been determined to be the statutory period for the statutory public consultation. The draft maps may also be viewed during those dates on the consultation website – http://maps.opw.ie/flood_draftmap_consult/

The Books of Maps for your Council are compiled per Unit of Management (hydrometric area) and contain draft maps for each AFA within that UoM. In some cases UoMs have been combined because of the small number of AFAs in them. The maps have mainly been produced under the CFRAM Programme, however some Books contain maps produced by local authority commissioned projects and schemes. The relevant local authority logo is featured on those books in addition to the OPW logo.

The OPW has been in contact with relevant personnel in your council to discuss the logistics and arrangements. Accordingly, the number of Books of Maps as requested by your Council have been provided. Contacts for receiving the Books have been established and the OPW requires acknowledgement of receipt of the Books. A list of locations where the Books are on display for each Council will be available on www.cfram.ie.

Information for the Public

An Information Booklet accompanies the Books of Maps, which provides members of the public with information, including an Introduction to the draft maps, FAQs, Maps User Notes, a Glossary of Terms and the Procedures for Processing Objections to the Draft Flood Hazard Maps. There is no requirement for Council staff to provide information or discuss the draft maps with the public. A dedicated phone number and email address is provided on the accompanying poster in this regard. There is no requirement on Council staff to provide copies of the draft maps to the public, however, the Council may wish to provide copies if asked.

Draft Reports

In order to make as much information available to the public as possible, draft Hydraulics Reports for the CFRAM produced maps will be available on the project websites accessible via www.cfram.ie. In relation to other project reports, the OPW intends to make these available via links on www.cfram.ie.

Observations and Objections on the draft maps

Members of the public can submit observations/comments on the draft flood maps to the OPW on the questionnaire provided up to 23rd December, 2015 (copies of questionnaires are being sent to Councils in Irish and English). It is a matter for members of the public themselves to post these to the OPW directly and the Council are asked not to take these questionnaires or comments from the public. Members of the public may also provide their comments through the consultation website – http://maps.opw.ie/flood_draftmap_consult/

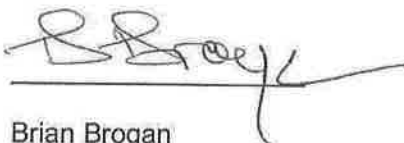
Members of the public who wish to make an objection to land or property they own, use or occupy being shown within the flood extents on the draft flood maps, have to read and follow the Procedures for Processing Objections to the Draft Flood Hazard Maps and lodge their objection on the appropriate form. This completed form and supporting information must be sent directly by the Objector to the OPW to arrive no later than 5pm on 21st December, 2015. This is a statutory deadline and the Council are advised not to take Objections from members of the public.

Observations from Councils

Local authority officials who are members of CFRAM Progress Groups have been actively involved in reviewing the draft flood maps and their local knowledge has been invaluable to finalising these draft maps. In addition to exhibiting the Books of Maps in their principal offices, there is a Statutory requirement under Regulation 12 (2)(b) and (c) on every county council to examine and consider the maps and they may, within a period of two months of publication of the notice in Iris Oifigiúil by OPW (20th November, 2015), send to the Commissioners all observations they have on the maps i.e. **by 20th January, 2016**. This is a reserved function under the statutory provisions. All observations should be addressed to Eileen Hughes, Assistant Principal Officer, eileen.hughes@opw.ie

Thank you for your co-operation on this statutory consultation. If you have any queries on this matter, please contact Eileen Hughes, Assistant Principal Officer, eileen.hughes@opw.ie or on (046) 942 6286.

Yours sincerely



Brian Brogan
Principal Officer
Engineering Services

cc CFRAM Progress Group Members