

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme Public  
**Date:** Thursday 23 January 2020 12:39:39  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good Afternoon,

Just a quick query on the River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme Public consultation notice in The Irish Examiner (dated 23.01.2020).

I am a resident of the townland of Rathpeacon. My family have lived in Rathpeacon/Carhoo since the 1930s so we know the area extremely well.

The Drainage Scheme is very important to us as our house was flooded on 2 occasions & I have a consent fear of our house flooding again.

Although we live above the area highlighted as Rathpeacon stream, there are a number of rivers/streams/springs that drain into the Rathpeacon stream area/River Bride. These streams run a natural course but over the past number of years, the volume of water in the streams has increased significantly. Some of this is due to increased rainfall & run off from the local agricultural fields (saturation levels are gone through the roof). Another issue was the infilling of flood plains on land that was previously agricultural land. This land changed ownership & was infilled by the new owners (without Planning permission?). Other reasons for the increased water flowing into Blackpool was the building of warehousing (Northpoint Business Park) & The Commons Inn on the old flood plain.

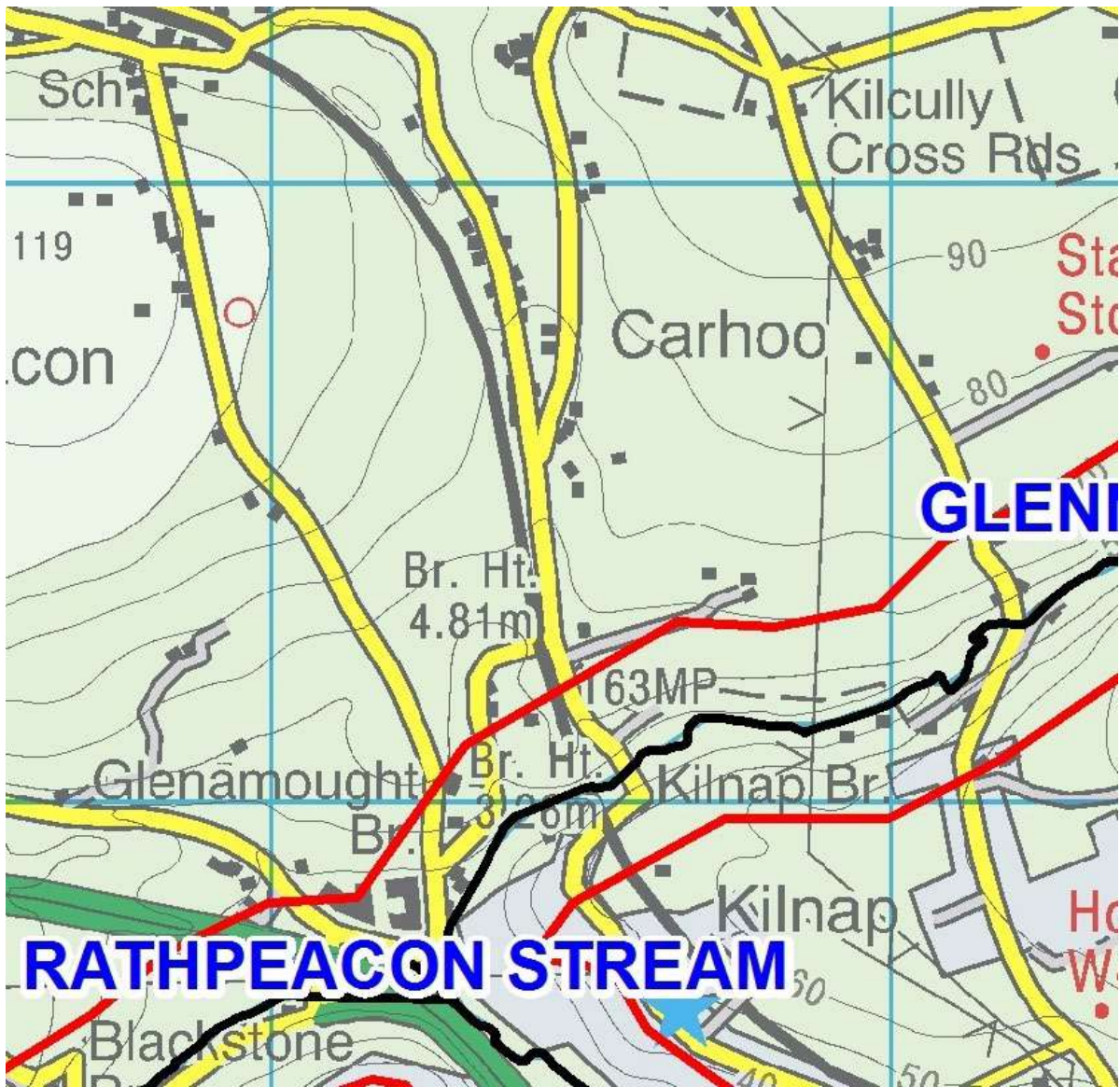
As a result the water has increased in the streams flowing into the River Bride. The volume of surface water on the Mallow & Whitchurch Roads has dramatically increased too. All this water flows into the River Bride/Rathpeacon stream area in large quantities. The volume of surface water has ripped up roads/footpaths/walls & ditches – the old drainage just cannot cope with the volume from the streams (which overflow) add to the road surface water. After heavy rain, we have a constant flow of water/streams on the sides of the roads (depth 2 inches) – again this flows into the River Bride.

You may not be able to answer this – will the work involved in the Drainage scheme look at the amount of water flowing into the Rathpeacon Stream area/River Bride from roads/springs/streams/rivers from the surrounding areas? Has this being taken into account?

I hope that the flooding and drainage relief will be a huge success for the whole area but especially for the people living & working in Blackpool.

Kind Regards,  
Liam Hurley

[REDACTED]



Liam Hurley

Alumni and Development | University College Cork | Western Gateway 2.12

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Blackpool Flood Relief Scheme Submission dated 6th February 2020  
**Date:** Thursday 6 February 2020 14:46:33

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object in the strongest terms to the proposed Blackpool Flood Relief Scheme.

The area in which the Project works are to be carried out under the proposed scheme is hydrologically linked via a continuous water channel (the Bride and the Lee) to the SAC and SPA areas (covered by both the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive) in Cork Harbour. The distance is relatively short. In a previous case works being carried out at a distance of circa 600km were found to have a measurable negative impact on bird habitat.

Apart from the negative impacts on the harbour SAC and SPA areas, the impact of the scheme on the immediate local environment and on biodiversity (at a time of an acknowledged biodiversity emergency in Ireland), particularly on the protected species otter population currently living in the area of the proposed works (as can be seen in video footage available online) as well as on fish, bird life, flora and other fauna, will be severe as a result of pollution of the river with engine oil and huge amounts of cement and, mainly, as a result of the burying of the river and the installation of screens blocking movement and access. In circumstances where the negative environmental impacts of OPW flood relief works on the Bandon River have been so widely publicised and documented, and have even resulted in a prosecution being taken, the desire of the OPW to proceed with these extremely invasive and disruptive works is very worrying indeed.

The increased flooding problems in Blackpool in recent years are as a direct result of poor planning decisions such as building on flood plains and the shortening of the river. Instead of seeking to mitigate and correct these decisions, OPW proposes to bury the river. Culverting of the Bride is being put forward by OPW as the only option in circumstances where upstream measures - such as diversion, better river management and/or natural flood protection - have not been considered, either adequately or at all. In addition, with all its associated significantly negative impacts, culverting as an approach to flood risk management is a hopelessly old-fashioned response and is no longer considered appropriate internationally. Despite this, it is being foisted on Blackpool on a 'take it or leave it' basis by the OPW.

From a heritage point of view, the burying of the Bride - **the raison d'etre for the development of the village's historical settlement and industries** - amounts to publicly endorsed vandalism. A historic bridge will be removed. The name of the village will lose all of its meaning. The potential for the future regeneration of Blackpool as a vibrant urban village, minutes from the city centre, with the river at its heart, will be squandered. The antediluvian approach being taken by the OPW is unmistakably about class - it is impossible to imagine a similarly brutal plan being adopted and promoted by the OPW in a wealthier area of Cork such as Blackrock or Douglas.

Yours faithfully,

Catherine Kirwan  
[REDACTED]





**Iascach Intíre Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

Mr Brian O'Malley,  
Principle Officer  
OPW Vote Section  
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2

04 February 2020

**Re: River Bride (Blackpool) Certified Drainage Scheme - Arterial Drainage Acts 1945 and 1995.**

Dear Mr O'Malley

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter and attachments in relation to the abovementioned proposed drainage scheme.

Inland Fisheries Ireland acknowledges the hardship caused as a result of flooding events and welcomes efforts to prevent future reoccurrences. Naturally however as a state agency with responsibility for the protection and development of fisheries it falls within our remit to ensure that flood alleviation works are carried out in a sustainable manner where any impacts on fisheries habitat are minimised, in so far as is possible.

IFI would like to acknowledge that some aspects of the scheme will be beneficial to fisheries such as the removal of 70m of culvert and a weir on the River Bride. However, the scheme as a whole presents a number of challenges from a fisheries perspective.

Culverting:

Approximately 500m of culverts are proposed throughout the scheme. These are primarily in the vicinity of Orchard Court (342m) as well as a smaller section of the River Bride in the vicinity of Blackpool Church. The section of river adjacent to the church has suffered from historic canalisation and would require significant remedial works to make it a viable fisheries habitat. However, the section in the vicinity of Orchard Court is existing viable salmonid habitat with an existing resident fish population. Should the proposal proceed it would effectively result in the sterilization and permanent loss of approximately 342m of fisheries habitat. As a statutory body charged with the protection, conservation and development of fisheries, IFI cannot view this as being a sustainable solution particularly when it is clear in the EIS that the maintenance of an open channel with flood protection by means of the construction of walls is a realistic alternative option. The EIS states "there was no viable alternative to the culvert to address the concerns of the local community about the negative impacts of the high walls."

The EIS suggests *"that there are opportunities further upstream in the catchment to compensate or mitigate any local loss of fish habitat in the short length of culverted section through Orchard Court. Such compensatory measures include the de-culverting of a significant length of culvert through Sunbeam as well as a commitment from OPW to provide appropriate funding to IFI for other compensation measures in the catchment to be agreed"*



**Iascach Intíre Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

with IFI." However, to date the extent of this funding had not been quantified. IFI requires reassurance that this funding will be sufficient to offset the loss of habitat in the culverted section with adequate enhanced habitat elsewhere.

#### Screens:

Either roughing screens or thrash screens are proposed at several locations. The design of these screens must be such that they do not impede the free passage of fish or be in conflict with existing legislative requirements in this regard. Any riverbed structures associated with the installation of screens should be installed a minimum of 300mm below existing riverbed levels and backfilled with appropriate materials (rocks or gravels) that will not be subject to erosion.

#### Channel Maintenance:

A rigorous and organised channel maintenance programme channel maintenance programme throughout the catchment is proposed. In-channel debris will typically be removed by excavator. Additionally, it is initially proposed to carry out cleaning of the sediment trap on a quarterly basis, and also following a significant flood event. Such cleaning particularly if carried out during the spawning season is liable to have an ongoing negative impact on the fisheries productivity of the system. There is a need for an agreed plan for such works that address the sensitivities of the fish species in the area and this should be agreed with IFI in advance of the overall scheme commencing.

it is additionally important that maintenance works either at construction phase or subsequent do not interfere with the low flow channel of the river or its features e.g. pools, shallows etc. More specifically IFI requests that a permanent low flow channel be established and defined using rock armour, deflectors and other means in the section of river from C06-750 to C06-1418, and that details in this regard be forwarded for consideration in advance of commencement of works.

#### Flood Defences:

Flood defence works include the replacement of existing bridges and culverts. All such works must ensure through their design and construction that the free passage of fish is maintained this should be agreed with fisheries personnel in advance of commissioning. In general terms span bridges should be designed and constructed without the need for a concrete apron or footing on the riverbed. In relation to culverts, where applicable, the invert should be a minimum of 300mm below existing riverbed levels and backfilled with appropriate materials (rocks or gravels) that will not be subject to erosion.

#### Sediment Trap:

The proposed online sediment trap is a cause of concern to IFI for the following reasons.

- (a) Due to its construction of reinforced concrete it will effectively sterilize an additional 80m of fisheries habitat
- (b) The potential exists for it to cause severance of the river channel (the provision of a long section of the proposed structure showing its relativity to the river channel upstream and downstream would be needed to fully assess this aspect).
- (c) The collection and removal of sediment from the system at an artificially installed location is liable to upset the sediment erosion and deposition patterns in the river which are critical for the establishment of pool, riffle and glide sequences.
- (d) Such a trap would require regular cleaning which is liable to cause suspended solids contamination of downstream waters on a regular basis.



Winter Channel:

The design of the proposed winter channel should ensure that (a) fish cannot be retained in the channel as flood water subsides and (b) that there is no obstruction to fish passage as a result of its construction or operation (c) the low flow channel is clearly and permanently defined and delineated from the winter flow channel e.g. by the use of low level rock armour

In-stream works or works liable to increase water suspended solids concentrations above ambient levels should be limited to the period of May to September inclusive. At all times of year sufficient care must be taken to avoid injury to or death of fish life. The scheme should allow sufficient flexibility to cater for fisheries requirements which arise during the course of construction.

In summary, the Scheme as proposed will have permanent negative impacts on the fisheries habitat, productivity and population of this river. IFI is anxious to ensure that these negative impacts are appropriately mitigated and the net effect on fisheries as a whole is minimised. With this in mind IFI awaits the proposals of the OPW in this regard.

Yours sincerely,



Sean Long  
Regional Director.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood scheme consultation  
**Date:** Monday 10 February 2020 15:24:25

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I am Tom Dennehy I have a fish shop in Blackpool for 65 years and I am second generation. I would be delighted if this scheme goes ahead as soon as possible.  
Tom Dennehy [REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood scheme  
**Date:** Monday 10 February 2020 20:07:41

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I wish to express my support for the Blackpool flood scheme. Over the years my business at Blackpool Bridge has been flooded several times the most recent in 2013 where I was trapped in the building with my 2 children and had to be rescued by the fire brigade, a traumatic event which is indelibly imprinted in my memory.

The devastation caused forced my business to close for a considerable length of time.

The covering in of the culvert would be most welcome and provide great protection to the business and homes in the immediate area. This scheme is long overdue and will certainly enhance the current streetscape and hopefully attract new businesses to occupy the current derelict sites. The flood protection proposed will also attract further investment and housing into Blackpool which is urgently needed.

Yours faithfully

Alice Hayes

**From:**   
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** OPW Blackpool scheme  
**Date:** Tuesday 11 February 2020 12:16:25  
**Attachments:** [Screenshot\\_20200211-120640.PNG](#)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a concerned but powerless citizen of Cork. It seems that I am writing this too late, as Bandon and Inniscarra have already been wrecked by this awful project, but I have written similar pieces on that in the past to no avail. My expectation is low that this will make any difference whatsoever, but better to try and influence you to consider turning away from the self-interested, corporate greed which must continuously motivate you in the face of the incredibly evil things you facilitate.

I'm not going to waste too much of my time on this email because it seems that the destruction of the entire biosphere is the only end that will satisfy your disgusting organisation - so long as those contracts keep getting given out and the boys all have their jobs, who cares about wanton destruction of ecosystems.

How many years is the wall scheme likely to buy us before a lot of Cork City and county is nonetheless submerged in spite of it? Some conservative estimates suggest a ten year window where it will be useful, if this even is correct. I've attached the map from surging seas which features the areas in Cork which will probably be underwater by 2050.

I don't know how anyone involved with this project (at any level, from the contractors on-site to the clerks and administrators - all profiting from criminal damage to nature and involved in a gross misappropriation of public money) can sleep at night. The damage done to nature already is startling, akin to genocide. It will never recover, but there is more to come with this Blackpool project. Please consider putting a plan in place to stop this profiteering at the expense of local people and wildlife.

I am making an urgent appeal to you to examine your conscience before continuing to facilitate this abhorrent project.

Sincerely,  
Orla Daly

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## LAND PROJECTED TO BE BELOW ANNUAL FLOOD LEVEL IN 2050



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Submission regarding the planned culverting of the River Bride  
**Date:** Monday 17 February 2020 11:38:35

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To whom it may concern,

I wish to suggest that the proposed culverting of the River Bride as part of the Blackpool Drainage Scheme has underestimated the environmental impact on the area as a whole and in particular the species seen foraging in the area. I write as a private individual, but I have worked on several major public works in Ireland in the past as a geotechnical engineer employed at the time by Geotech Specialists of Castlemartyr, Co. Cork.

While I no longer live in Blackpool, I grew up in the area and I visit several times a year. I am also familiar with the length of the proposed culverting. I think considering the planned loss of foraging habitats for kingfishers, otters, and other wildlife as merely slightly negative is clearly wrong; furthermore, any new planting etc. along the new banks (aside from the impact on the culverted section) can only be a token effort at restoring a habitat that will be even more vulnerable to damage and destruction given the blanket nature of the proposed solution. We've seen the nature of the works carried out in Bandon and other places in County Cork in recent years; these are not only heavy-handed but also demonstrate that once the environment impact is deemed both minor, and of lesser consequence, then there is truly no incentive or motivation for the works to be undertaken with any sense or attempt at preserving what needn't be damaged during the construction process.

"They can go elsewhere" seems to be the proposed solution for dealing with the loss of habitat that will be incurred; where, may I ask? Rivers like this do not spring up unbidden overnight, to provide an alternative habitat for the impacted species and even if they did, the development of a suitable ecosystem would take years to be able to support these inhabitants. Why not preserve (and better yet improve) a functioning ecosystem that acts as an amenity in an urbanised area like Blackpool?

In many cities, in many parts of the world, industrialised, even polluted areas have been remediated and developed to not only provide valuable commercial and residential spaces, but also incorporate riverside areas to provide further enjoyment and amenities to these areas. Given the level of development in Blackpool, and the considerable under-utilisation of some of the available development sites (Thomas Davis Street, for example), it seems likely that there will be further growth in the Blackpool area. Rather than a short-sighted, over-engineered solution to an exceptional problem, a more holistic approach should be considered so that this ecosystem and the river itself is regarded and exploited as benefit to the area rather than seen purely as a source of risk and potential harm.

As a result I propose that the minister returns the study to the OPW for reassessment of the under-evaluation of the negative impact the proposed works would entail on the area.

Sincerely,  
Myles Fenlon,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Submission regarding the proposed Blackpool River Bride Drainage Scheme Public Consultation Notice  
**Date:** Monday 17 February 2020 14:47:09

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In reference to the Blackpool River Bride Drainage Scheme Public Consultation Notice we would like more information/feedback regarding proposed works to be carried out at Woodpark Kilnap;

C08\_E03 & C08\_E02: The flood mounds proposed to surround the house were previously discussed in regard to gradually sloped mounds to the required height as opposed to a wall like effect that disconnects the house from the garden. We requested the sloped mounds in this regard and would like confirmation of same. We also need to agree the exact line of the mounds for least interference to specific trees and existing structures in the gardens.

C08\_R01: It is not clear to us what you are proposing regarding dealing with the runoff of excess surface water and flooding at the driveway to the house. We are not in favour of a gully through the grass embankment at our gate as previously discussed and would like to know how you propose to channel this water into the Glenamought River at Northpoint Business Park.

C08\_R02: We had previously explained that for safety issues, we are not in a position to offer this alternative access lane during works, without the provision of a pull in area and a guarantee that the route would be safe for all drivers- it presently is not. We would like an update in this regard.

We also have had no further discussions with any of the various teams since we originally suggested access to the adjacent land for cleaning and clearing/maintenance purposes on an ongoing basis through this same secondary lane. We see that our suggestion has now been implemented in the proposal and assume there will be discussions outlining the legal ramifications to both parties in allowing access via our property so that we are fully informed in this regard.

Kind Regards  
John & Deborah Maguire

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood scheme  
**Date:** Monday 17 February 2020 17:05:40

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I have my business and home in Blackpool called trident cleaners since 1973. Over the last number of years we have been seriously affected by flooding. We would be delighted if this new scheme designed by the opw goes ahead.

Yours sincerely Thersa O Brien

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood scheme  
**Date:** Monday 17 February 2020 17:23:06

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I'm working in my family business in trident cleaners and we have a constant worry of flooding for our business. It's a family business which is here since the 70s and I'm hoping to purchase the business from my mother but the risk of floods is a serious concern for me. The suggested scheme by the opw would bring great ease to the people and businesses in the area.

Robert O'Brien  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride  
**Date:** Tuesday 18 February 2020 08:18:41

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Hello,

I write to object to the proposed River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme.

If this scheme goes ahead the impact on otters and fish will be detrimental and permanent. Otters are known, and have been filmed, using this river as their habitat and hunting ground. It would also sterilise a viable salmonid habitat.

It seems that the OPW is engaged in whole scale destruction of flora and fauna throughout the country. This must be stopped. Our eco system is fragile and should be protected, not concreted over.

Your,  
Irene Sheedy



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride  
**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020 10:13:32

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Hi there,

I am a private citizen and do not represent any groups. It has been shown that the rerouting of sections of the river bride and lack of maintenance of subsequent debris gates has caused flooding on the past. Why people think these blockages will not just still occur if the river is turned into a concreted drain I do not know.

With otters, dippers and more living on this river we really should be looking at more sympathetic ways of working with nature and the beautiful Bride river.

I hope there can be a progressive decision made on this it's a concern of many that the OPW only care about concrete not our cities or environment-thank you- David Keeley.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme  
**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020 12:15:02

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I urge the Minister to refer the River Bride Drainage Scheme to the OPW for reassessment, giving the proposed negative environmental impact of the scheme.

I am very concerned at the designs for the scheme, incorporating huge and excessive amounts of concrete by culverting the river. This will cause permanent loss of all natural habitat along the river. It will have a permanent significant and negative impact on both the salmonid and otter habitats of the river (EIAR 2018 report). This is unacceptable destruction of our natural heritage.

I urge you to also consider the negative effect on the local people of Blackpool on covering over the river in their village. We need a better plan to both address the drainage issues in the area and also protect the natural environment.

Louise O'Connor

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride Drainage scheme  
**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020 17:36:04

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Good evening


I'm working in a pharmacy in Blackpool and we've been affected by floods numerous times in the past few years. Any large storm or rain deluge means we have to wait in fear until the morning to see if we have been flooded again.

There is an opportunity now to help not only ourselves but other businesses and residents in this area from future flooding and I would appreciate if you could give Blackpool this opportunity. The village has been neglected in recent years and this can revitalise the area and make it a safe place for residents and businesses again.

Can you please fund this. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kind regards

James Casey

**From:**   
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool Flood Scheme  
**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020 19:58:29

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Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing in Support of the Blackpool flood scheme, having grown up in a family business in Blackpool which was flooded on several occasions i believe the scheme is critical for the regeneration and viability of the area in the future.

Having experienced both my family business and home being flooded on several occasions in Blackpool i believe the scheme is critical in providing safety to the community, i believe lives are put in danger every day currently due to the rapid and strong nature of flooding in the past causing huge physical danger to the community. Flooding in blackpool has caused huge physical and emotional damage to myself and my family as we worry most nights about the danger a flood will cause to us and our future, it is a daunting burden which I have grown up with and know the flood scheme can relieve

le dea-ghuí  
Dylan Ó Buachalla,



Dylan Ó Buachalla

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool Flood Scheme  
**Date:** Wednesday 19 February 2020 20:01:34

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This email is to indicate that I support the Blackpool Flood Scheme in its entirety

With thanks,  
Josh

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photo



Josh O Regan

[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride [Blackpool] drainage scheme  
**Date:** Thursday 20 February 2020 18:21:10

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To whom it may concern.

My name is Gerard Crowley and I own and run a business at [REDACTED]

I am a fully paid business rate payer and I would like to know the following:

- [a]. What impact will this scheme have on the environment?
- [b]. What will be the scheme's impact on Natura 2000 Site[s]?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Gerard Crowley

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool Scheme Consultation  
**Date:** Thursday 20 February 2020 19:05:14

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing as an employee of Blackpool Bridge Pharmacy with regard to the impact this scheme would have on local people and businesses. The flooding in the area has badly affected members of the community in recent years and it is imperative that future occurrences be prevented. It is of great importance to the people and businesses of Blackpool and the surrounding areas that the issue of flooding be fixed.

Kate Cashman  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool Flood Prevention Scheme  
**Date:** Thursday 20 February 2020 22:28:30

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A Chara,

As a life long resident here on Watercourse Road and having encountered and lived through all of the past flooding our area, both myself and my neighbors here in Foleys Row Watercourse road were wondering what is the current status of the promised and long awaited flood prevention scheme for the area and our homes? we have from the outset been very supportive of the remedial work proposed in eliminating the flood risk and have made in the past submissions to the opw re the same, but we now fear has the flood prevention plan been shelved or axed, i would be most grateful for any update you may be able to offer on the matter, as every winter here is most worrying to us with the flooding risk to our homes,  
thank you in anticipation of your help with the above

Yours Sincerely  
Denis Mulcahy,



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride Drainage Scheme - input from local member of public  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 10:54:03

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Greetings,

This is in reply to the public consultation notice regarding the proposed drainage scheme, where the public is invited to make a written submission with respect to the environmental effects of the scheme.

Having lived in the area for 5 years (and worked in the Blackpool Retail Park for 10 years) the river Bride is a constant source of enjoyment and it would greatly impact the quality of life of the nearby community - humans and wildlife alike.

Firstly; as someone working in the area the little park behind the retail park is a nice haven for enjoying a lunch break outside when the weather is nice. Me and my colleague often goes there to eat our lunch boxes outdoors rather than in the work canteen. The proposed change to that park looks ghastly.

As a resident on Old Commons Road having the river nearby is a nice break to the otherwise dour city life in the area. I frequently bring my daughter for an evening walk to the river (the little "park" area at the end of the estate) and we enjoy having a poke around the fallen tree and look at the woodlice living in it.

The above doesn't list any environmental impact, but I also wanted to provide insight into what it means for a family to have access to a nearby piece of nature (however small it may be).

Environmentally it would be a disaster to deck over the area. It's well known for having otters living there, and removing their habitat by decking it over would of course lead to the otters not being able to live there anymore. According to the Blackpool Flood Scheme EIAR 2018 the impact on otters and fisheries is permanent, significant and negative.

I am not a wildlife expert, but I know that I would sorely miss the large arrange of birds when walking along Old Commons Road. Especially near the little bridge over to the estate I often see Grey Wagtails (my favourite). I even occasionally spot herons (one flew right over my garden once).

Please reconsider this proposal, due to its negative impact on the environment.

Kind regards,

Emma Jones

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage DPE 63 18 2018  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 14:08:49

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Hi,

Just writing in hope that this scheme will proceed as quickly as possible, having lived on the Watercourse Road most of my life and now working in Blackpool, the completion of these works is so essential. I have lived through the pain of flood and these works need to happen.

Thanking you,

Conor

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool food scheme  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 14:18:17

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I am writing to you re the flood scheme in Blackpool

I can't wait for the work to start

I have no flood insurance for years plus I lost customers at the the time they would not come in over the flooding My family lived in Blackpool since 1958

Our business is still going if the rains come people are very nervous about driving into Blackpool some customers will ring and ask is it okay to drive in for a haircut

Regards

Mick Moriarty

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool Flood Prevention Scheme  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 14:22:15

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21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

Louise Moriarty,

To whom it may concern,

My name is Louise Moriarty and I am writing to you as I would like to express my support for the Blackpool Flood Prevention Scheme.

[REDACTED] over the years we have had numerous floods [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 15 years ago was the first flood and since then he has not been able to insure the premises against flooding. We have seen huge damage done to materials as well as the building itself and the fittings inside, not to mention the harm it has caused to the flow of customers.

We have purchased flood gates as a preventative but this is not enough. The flood prevention scheme needs to go ahead. Given the long history of flooding in Blackpool and its confluence with the River Lee it is essential the scheme goes ahead immediately. The Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) highlighted the need for flood protection measures in Blackpool and the Office of Public Works (OPW) recognises the high levels of existing flood risk in Blackpool also.

Paschal Donohoe, the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform announced in August 2018 that "it is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed to commence the works in mid 2019, with construction expected to take at least two years." (Donohoe, 2018). Minister Donohoe also revealed that the scheme will consist of the following works:

- The construction of floodwalls and embankments to mitigate against future flooding
- The construction of new culverts on a section of previously open channel
- Bridge replacement
- Installation of a sedimentation trap on the left bank of the River Bride
- Modifications to the existing foul and surface water collection networks in the general vicinity
- Construction of pumping stations

- Miscellaneous other minor works.

None of the aforementioned has yet begun. As I asserted, the OPW recognises the high levels of existing flood risk and I hope the scheme will finally be undertaken. My father's business will not survive many more flooding disasters.

Kind Regards,

*Louise Moriarty*

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood scheme  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 16:31:19

---

I am manjot Singh from [REDACTED]. i am running the subway last 12 months. we have no flood insurance and can't get it. if we are flooded it will be serious for my business and staff. i fully support the flood scheme in blackpool. thanx Manjot Singh

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool flood Scheme  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 16:33:50

---

Hello

My Name is Harmendra Singh owner of [REDACTED]. I am in business from last 2 years. No insurance will cover me against flood and that's why I'm in support of flood scheme for Blackpool.

Regards

Harmendra Singh

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Flood relief work in Blackpool  
**Date:** Friday 21 February 2020 21:40:01

---

Dear sir /madam,

I am employed [REDACTED] in Cork. I am concerned about the potential disruption in the case of flooding and the hardship it could cause both to employees in the area and also to our many elderly and unwell patients/customers. I fully support the work being carried out.  
Many thanks Rosaleen Murphy

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Blackpool proposed flood relief works  
**Date:** Tuesday 25 February 2020 09:25:40

---

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am a long term resident of [REDACTED] Blackpool, Cork and am concerned about the lack of progress on works to prevent future flooding of this area. This area is in dire need of protection from flooding and is a busy and expanding part of Cork City. It cannot achieve its full potential without proper floor prevention facilities.

I would be grateful if you could update me on any progress or future plans for the above

Thank you in advance

Kind regards

liam hickey [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Brian O'Malley  
Principal Officer  
OPW Vote Section  
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2  
D02 R538

Dáta | Date  
18 February 2020

Ár dTag | Our Ref.  
TII20-108712

Bhur dTag | Your Ref.

Re: EIA Consultation relating to proposed River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme

Dear Mr. O'Malley,

Thank you for your letter of 22 January 2020 regarding the above.

- As the works are affecting structures the national road network, the developer is reminded of the requirements of TII publications DN-STR-03001- Technical Acceptance of Road Structures on Motorways and Other National Roads for structures. This Standard specifies the procedures to be followed in order to obtain Technical Acceptance for structures on motorway and other national road schemes and for the submission of as built records. The procedures cover the design of all road structures, including bridges, tunnels, subways, culverts, buried corrugated steel structures, retaining walls, reinforced earth structures, gantries, environmental noise barriers and temporary structures under or over motorways or other roads carrying public traffic.
- The Technical Acceptance requirements for the assessment, alteration, modification, strengthening and repair of all road structures (national roads) shall be agreed with the Bridge Management Section of TII.
- Works are proposed adjacent to CC-N20-001.00 Kilnap Bridge, see Drg. RB\_204. The proposals appear to include for diverting floodwater along the toe of the bridge embankment and onto the road, although further details including cross-sections are necessary to develop a full understanding of the proposals. TII have concerns regarding the potential for scour at the toe of the embankment and would not be in favour of accepting the proposal; at the very least TII need to see further detailed consideration of the effects of the proposals on the embankment, and proposed mitigation measures to protect the embankment. Is it acceptable to the road authority that the road surface under the bridge is to be used as a conduit for excess floodwaters? It appears there is an option to replace the apparently undersized pipe which is causing the flooding, although the replacement is likely to be a more expensive option than the current proposal.

Próiseálann BIÉ sonraí pearsanta a sholáthraítear dó i gcomhréir lena Fhógra ar Chosaint Sonraí atá ar fáil ag [www.tii.ie](http://www.tii.ie).  
TII processes personal data in accordance with its Data Protection Notice available at [www.tii.ie](http://www.tii.ie).



- Works are proposed adjacent to CB-N20-004.00 Blackpool Shopping Centre Culvert, see Drg. RB\_208. The existing culvert is a precast RC segmental arch structure. The proposals include the construction of Flood Defence Walls adjacent to and abutting the north east end of the culvert. TII have concerns regarding the potential increase in river flows at Blackpool shopping centre culvert and the raised potential for scour at the structure if the proposals proceed to construction. I need to see a scour inspection and assessment report, which shall be completed by the applicant in accordance with the UK DMRB BD 97/12 and the attached scour assessment requirements. The report will confirm the likelihood of scour damage arising, and the mitigation measures necessary to prevent scour if the proposals proceed to construction. At the south west end of the structure the proposals include for replacing the existing open channel with a reinforced concrete culvert which appears to abut CB-N20-004.00. The proposed culvert is of shorter span than the existing culvert. TII have concerns regarding the potential for scour at the interface between the two structures and would ask the applicant to provide details of hydraulic modelling to confirm the likelihood of scour developing at the interface between the structures, and the mitigation proposed if the hydraulic model confirms the potential for scour. TII also need to see details of the proposal to abut the new culvert against the existing arch structure.
- The proposals shown in Drg. RB211 are not sufficiently well defined to allow TII to confirm the impact on existing structures. The applicant should provide further details of the proposals including details of new and existing culvert sizes.

The above requirements and assessments should take place prior to the commencement of any works to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the strategic national road network is safeguarded in accordance with Government policy and in the interests of road user safety.

Yours sincerely,



**Natasha Crudden**

**Regulatory & Administration Unit**

## **1.1 Scour Assessment - Scour Inspection & Level 1 Assessment and Level 2 Scour Assessment:**

The Level 1 and Level 2 Scour Assessment shall be undertaken in accordance with BD97/12. The Level 1 Assessment shall be completed based upon available data including information gathered during the underwater inspection, such as river bed material, existing scour protection features, floodplain details, flood relief features, etc. Existing records should also be sought and compiled for consideration in the assessment.

For bridges where it has been determined that a Level 2 Assessment is necessary, the determination of the assessment flow will be derived from the OPW's FSU web portal (correlating to section 4.5 to 4.8 of BD97/12).

All site information necessary for the Level 2 Scour Assessment analysis shall be gathered by the Consultant including but not limited to level surveys of river bed and banks upstream and downstream, assessment of flood plain effects, surveying of river alignment and structure orientation, etc.

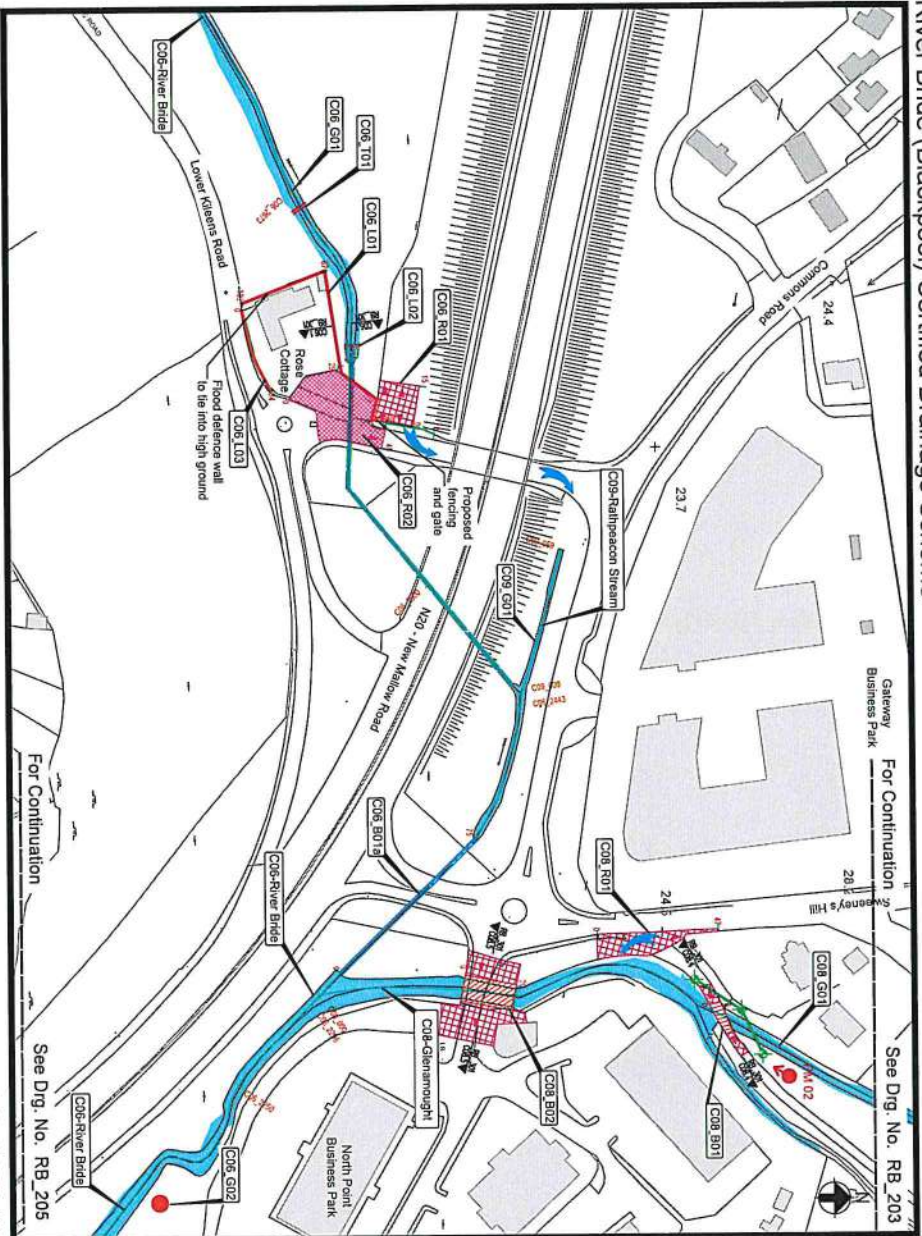
A priority rating shall be provided for all bridges in accordance with the methodology set out in Section 5 "Scour Risk Rating" of BD 97/12. In consideration of the Importance Factor, V, it will be appropriate to apply a factor of 1.0 for national primary road bridges and a factor of 0.9 for national secondary road bridges.

The findings of the underwater inspection and scour assessment will be detailed in the underwater inspection and scour assessment report. The reports shall include data recorded in the form provided in Annex A of BD 97/12. Specific reporting requirements are as detailed in section 1.3 of Task Order 291.

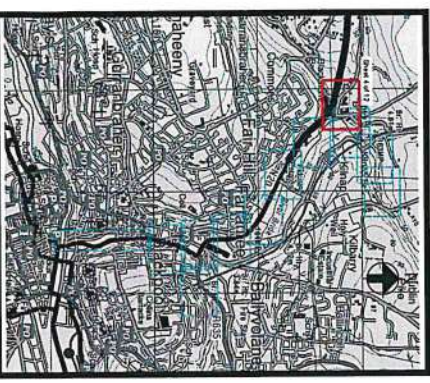
The report must summarise the outcome of the Level 2 Assessment, including the calculated scour depth and the corresponding foundation depth for each foundation. For Scour Susceptible Structures the report must also include an assessment of risk and vulnerability. The recommended approach for assessing risk and vulnerability is given in Chapter 5 of BD 97/12. Forms included in Annex A of BD 97/12 shall be completed and submitted with the report.

Based on the Scour Risk Rating it is expected that the Consultant will advise on the most appropriate course of action in line with the Section 7 "Scour Risk Management Measures" of BD 97/12. Careful consideration shall be given to the most appropriate course of action and should not automatically recommend further detailed studies. Either a monitoring regime of the structure will be recommended in accordance with TII Standard AM-STR-06039 The Management of Sub-standard Road Structures or it may be prudent to recommend undertaking scour protection measures. Where scour protection measures are recommended, the Consultant shall provide details of the appropriate measures (including drawings) and provide cost estimates for the works.

Where there is doubt regarding the reliability of the assumptions, a sensitivity analysis may be appropriate in order to make informed and reliable conclusions.



Location Plan  
Scale 1:1,000 at A1  
Scale 1:2,000 at A3



Key Plan  
Scale 1:25,000 at A1  
Scale 1:50,000 at A3

**Key to Plan**

	Watercourse		Existing Culvert to be Retained
	Channel Centreline, Reference (C08) and Changeage (300m)		Proposed Regrading of Ground Levels
	Photomontage (Location, Orientation and No.)		Proposed Wall
	Proposed Flood Defence Wall		Proposed Vehicle Access Gate
	Inference Reference		Proposed Fencing
	Location and Reference of Cross Section		Proposed Surface Water Overland Flow Route
	Proposed Works Changeage (m)		Habitat Enhancement Measures
	Proposed New Bridge		Proposed Drain (Froul Water)
	Proposed Roughing Screen		Proposed Froul Water Manhole
			Proposed Reinforced Concrete Culvert

Reference	Proposed Works	Channel Changeage (m)	General Description of Proposed Works
C06_B01a	0 to 75	-	Reconstruction of existing pipe culvert. Proposed reinforced concrete culvert of internal dimension 2.5m wide and 2.0m high. All drainage outfalls to be fitted with non-return valves.
C06_G01	-	0 to 2673	Channel to be maintained over a distance of 267m from Blackpool Church (C06_000) to upstream of Rose Cottage (C06_2673).
C06_G02	-	2187	Proposed other habitat enhancement measures
C06_L01	0 to 29	-	Proposed reinforced concrete wall to be constructed to a height typically 0.65m above existing ground levels to flood defence level (25.50mOD). All drainage outfalls to be fitted with non-return valves.
C06_L01	29 to 102	-	Proposed steel pile wall to be constructed above flood defence level (25.50mOD) on the wet side of the existing boundary wall in ground levels. All drainage outfalls to be fitted with non-return valves.
C06_L02	0 to 6	-	Proposed reinforced concrete headwall and wing wall structure to be constructed around the existing concrete culvert inlet.
C06_L03	0 to 34	-	Existing open wall south of Rose Cottage to be reconstructed in solid blockwork to 1.1m above path level.
C06_R01	0 to 15	-	Proposed vehicle access ramp crest to be at flood defence level (25.00mOD). Proposed ramp to be into the proposed flood defence wall at Rose Cottage and high ground at the N20 road embankment.
C06_R02	0 to 48	-	Proposed regrading of existing ground levels to divert surface water overland flow (during a design exceedance event) underneath the existing N20 road bridge to the Raltpasson Stream.
C06_T01	-	2666	Existing 2 no. 'Irish' screens to be removed and replaced with a single new roughing screen upstream of Rose Cottage.
C08_B01	0 to 8	-	Replace existing masonry bridge with a new reinforced concrete bridge. Bridge to be of 10.50m clear span and 8m wide deck. Construct new access ramps to bridge, incorporating new reinforced concrete retaining walls where necessary.
C08_B02	0 to 20	-	Replace existing pipe culvert bridge with a new reinforced concrete bridge. Bridge to be of 0.90m clear span and 20m wide deck. Construct new access ramps to bridge, incorporating new reinforced concrete retaining walls where necessary.
C08_G01	-	0 to 1445	Channel to be maintained over a distance of 1445m from the confluence of the River Glen (C08_1445) to the upstream end of the works (C08_000) to the upstream end of the works (C08_1445).
C08_R01	0 to 47	-	Proposed surface water drainage measures and regrading of local ground levels to divert excess surface water runoff into the River Glenmough upstream of North Point Business Park bridge.
C09_G01	-	0 to 59	Channel to be maintained over a distance of 59m from C09_000 to C09_59.

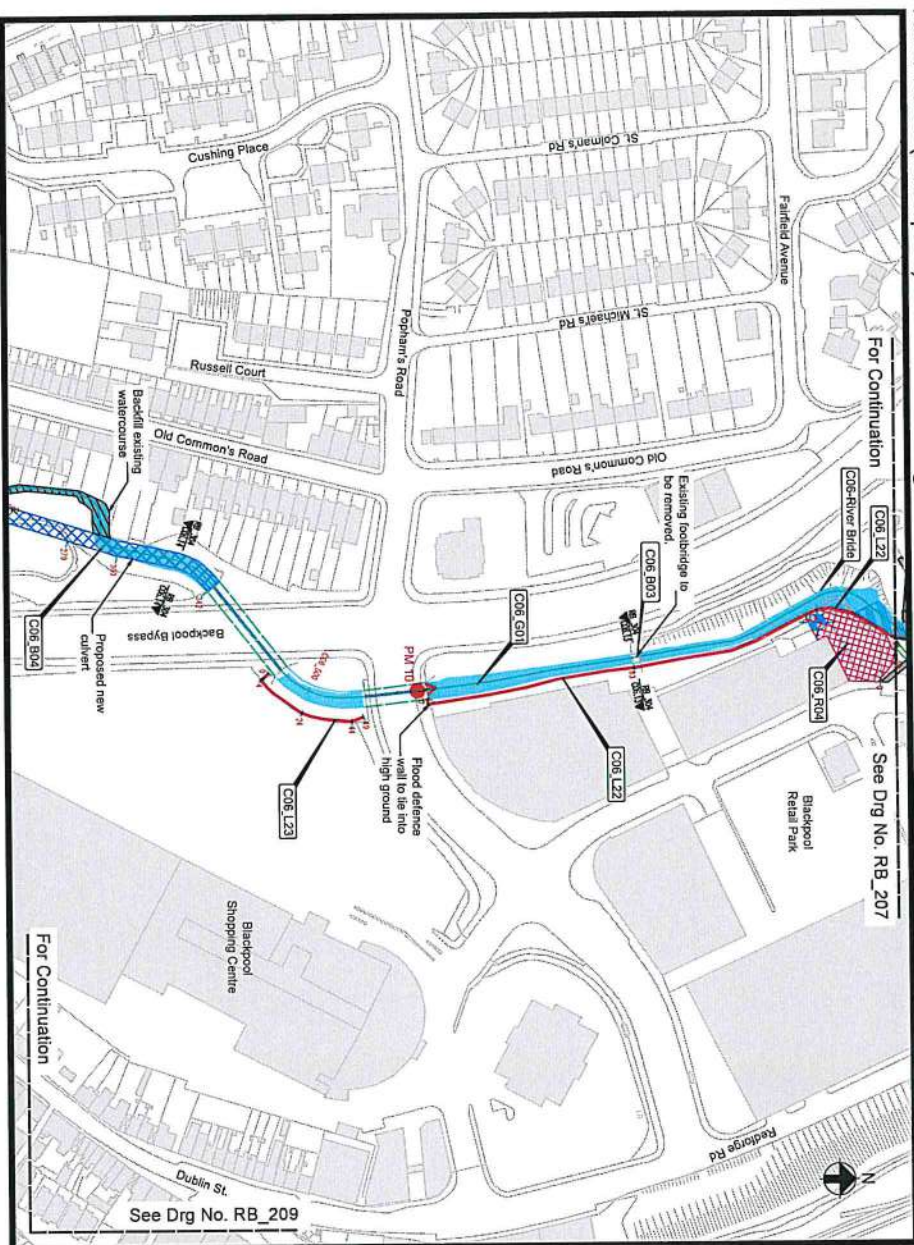
Notes:  
 1. Do not scale from drawing.  
 2. This drawing should be read in conjunction with all other River Bride (Blackpool) Certified Drainage Scheme Confirmation Drawings and Schedules.

Drg. No. RB\_204 Proposed Flood Defences - Plan Layout (Sheet 4 of 12)

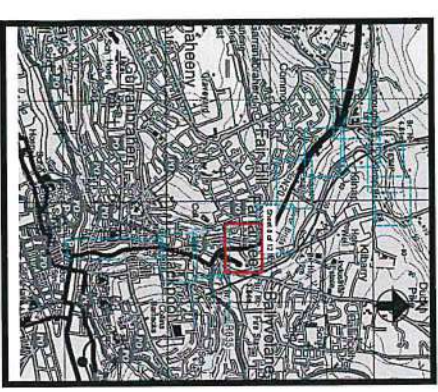
**ARUP**  
 25 Gresham Street, Dublin 1, Ireland  
 Tel: +353 (0)1 4782200 Fax: +353 (0)1 4782201

**JBA**  
 28 Gresham Street, Dublin 1, Ireland  
 Tel: +353 (0)1 4782200 Fax: +353 (0)1 4782201

**OPW**  
 12 B, Spirene Park, Dublin 1, Ireland  
 Tel: +353 (0)1 461 8000 Fax: +353 (0)1 461 8100



Location Plan



Scale 1:1,000 at A1  
Scale 1:2,000 at A3

**Key to Plan**

	CO6_300	Channel Centrelines, Reference (CO6) and
	Photomontage (Location, Orientation and No.)	
	PM 01	Proposed Flood Defence Wall
	CO6_L01	Interference Reference
		Location and Reference of Cross Section
		Proposed Backfill of Existing Watercourse
		Proposed Flood Defence Embankment
		Existing Culvert to be Retained
		Proposed Regrading of Ground Levels
		Watercourse
		Proposed Open channel
		Proposed Reinforced Concrete Culvert
		Proposed Works Change (m)
		Proposed Sump Manhole (Surface Water)

Interference Reference	Proposed Works Change (m)	Channel Change (m)	General Description of Proposed Works
CO6_B03	0 to 342	629	Existing pedestrian footbridge to be removed.
CO6_B04	0 to 342	-	Replace existing channel with a proposed reinforced concrete culvert to be constructed downstream of Blackpool Bypass through Orchard Court. Proposed culvert to be of internal dimension 5.5m wide and 2.1m high. All drainage outlets to be fitted with non-return valves.
CO6_G01	-	0 to 267.3	Channel to be maintained over a distance of 267.3m from Blackpool Church (CO6_000) to upstream of Rose Cottage (CO6_267.3).
CO6_L22	0 to 212	-	Proposed multi-piled reinforced concrete flood defence wall to be constructed to a height maximum 1.53m above existing ground levels to flood defence level (14.65mOD). All drainage outlets to be fitted with non-return valves.
CO6_L23	0 to 49	-	Proposed reinforced concrete flood defence wall to be constructed to a height maximum 1.53m above existing ground levels to flood defence level (13.60mOD). All drainage outlets to be fitted with non-return valves. Works to include construction of a new surface water sump manhole with associated local collector drain adjacent to the new flood defence wall.
CO6_R04	0 to 58	-	Existing ground to be regraded to provide pedestrian access over the proposed flood embankment into the park to flood defence level (14.65mOD). Ramp to be graded at a maximum slope of 12%.

- Notes:
1. Do not scale from drawing.
  2. This drawing should be read in conjunction with all other River Bride (Blackpool) Certified Drainage Scheme Confirmation Drawings and Schedules.

Dwg. No. RB\_208 Proposed Flood Defences - Plan Layout (Sheet 8 of 12)

**ARUP**  
 20 Queens Walk, London, E1 3AA, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 0000  
 Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 0001

**JBA**  
 20 Queens Walk, London, E1 3AA, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 0000  
 Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 0001

**OPW**  
 52 St. Stephen's Street, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 1LJ, UK  
 Tel: +44 (0)1752 891 800  
 Fax: +44 (0)1752 891 817

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme public consultation  
**Date:** Tuesday 25 February 2020 09:43:34  
**Attachments:** [BlackpoolFeb2020 A.docx](#)

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Please find enclosed the submission from the Cork Green Party councillors. My mobile is [REDACTED] I can be contacted at this email address and at City Hall in Cork. If you need further information please let me know?

Kind regards,

Colette



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Per BlackpoolSchemeConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Support for River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme  
**Date:** Tuesday 25 February 2020 12:11:51

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To whom it may concern,

[REDACTED] I wish to express my support for the River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme.

The [REDACTED] premises here has been affected by flooding on several occasions in the past, and I believe that the proposed works will offer the best future protection against repeat episodes of flooding in Blackpool.

Thank you

Sheila O'Sullivan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Blackpool

Cork



**Flooding On Thomas Davis St, Blackpool , March 2013**



**Residents dealing with Flooding on GT William O Brien Street ,Blackpool November 2002**



Flooding on Great William O Brien Street at about 5.00am



Flooding On GT William O Brien St, June 2012



Centra Blackpool , November 2002

## **Submission From Blackpool Flood Committee supporting OPW Proposed Flood Relief Scheme-For Ministerial Confirmation 27/2/'20**

Introduction:

Blackpool Flood Group was founded in July 2013 by residents and business people to engage in a positive way with all stakeholders and statutory bodies subsequent to a Public Meeting on 1/7/'13 to discuss the second major flood in Blackpool within a year. I would also like to note that after serious flooding in Summer of 2012 an Engineer from OPW South West Region Maintenance made a report on 4/7/'12 on the event .Over 150 properties were affected by the flooding the vast majority of which were residents. The main Church in the village of Blackpool was also flooded in 2012.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank my committee, Cork City Council Management and Jim Donavan (now retired Director of Services) Cork City Council. In particular I wish to thank Ezra McManaman OPW and Mr. Ken Leahy ARRUP who spent a lot of their valuable time meeting us taking local issues on board and updating us on the challenges that the scheme would present and how best to overcome them. We have had in excess of 30 meetings over the past number of years and included in our submission is a brief outline of some of the key meetings we have had to help progress the Flood Scheme for Blackpool.

I believe the process has been very lengthy and detailed but I wish to confirm that the Blackpool Flood Committee voted for this scheme to progress back on 5/11/'15.The public were presented with the OPW preferred option with a public exhibition in our Community Centre in December 2015.We all worked very hard to promote open public engagement during the OPW Public Exhibitions.The OPW public exhibitions were extremely well attended with over 300 local people attending and the vast majority approving the OPW proposal. My committee supported the OPW exhibition by doing the following:

We put posters up in Blackpool, we did interviews in the Evening Echo, we got announcements from Blackpool Church at Sunday mass (which has been flooded twice) and I myself and Jer Buckley our committee secretary did interviews on local radio promoting community engagement with the OPW Public Exhibition (I enclose a recording of one such radio interview.)During this exhaustive consultation process nobody came forward to us with issues about otters.Some time later we were contacted by OPW to inform us that they had been made aware that there were otters in our river and this would necessitate further delays and assessment. I would make the following comment on this issue.

The proposed solution requires an extension of the current culvert in Blackpool of only 350metres.If the otters are going through the current culvert into Cork City which is 1 mile in length an extra 350metres shouldn't be a deterrent.

Between the river Bride and the river Glenamought there are over 100miles of wild river course that these otters still have access to. The proposed extension to the current culvert of 350metres is less than .001% of the river courses involved. I would suggest minimal impact.

OPW are required to obtain a license from the Dept. Parks and Wildlife to carry out these works and if this is granted there should be absolutely no further reasons to delay this project which has the support of the vast majority of the people of Blackpool who have worked “hand in glove” with all stakeholders to achieve the long anticipated delivery of the OPW Flood Scheme for our village of Blackpool.

Despite the delays we are delighted that we are now at this final stage of Ministerial confirmation and we are confident that if the Minister confirms our Flood Scheme it will alleviate the misery and suffering that our community has endured due to flooding. Home owners and businesses don’t have flood insurance anymore and have had to live with huge stress and anxiety every time there is heavy rain. There are very many derelict and brownfield sites in Blackpool that will now attract investment and the delivery of the OPW Flood Scheme is THE critical piece of infrastructure required for our community to feel SAFE and reach our full potential. The table enclosed indicates how long and hard our committee of volunteers have worked to secure our Flood Scheme.

We have also been involved in voluntary examinations of the culvert(identifying blockages).Volunteering for cleaning of culvert ; that is until one volunteer caught Hepatitis E from the river on a community clean out and became very ill as a result in the Summer of 2016.The extension to the culvert along with the sediment traps proposed will result in no more dumping in the river. The improvement of the culvert with non-returnable valves will mean we can all “sleep safe in our beds”.

=====  
Table of Blackpool Flood Committee meetings attendees and main issues discussed .

=====

12/6/’13

Inaugural meeting of the Blackpool Flood Group .Agreed to call public meeting.

Attendees Jer Buckley,Tadhg OLeary,Mick Moriarty,Liz ODonavon,Paddy Tierney.

Apologies Bill Dunlea,Tim OBrien and Jerry Aherne.

1/7/'13

Public Meeting held in Blackpool Community Centre

Jim Donovan stated OPW have appointed ARRUP to do a study of the Lee catchment area to prevent flooding in Cork and Blackpool and Ballyvolane were a priority. The final engineering solution could be as far away as 3/4 years.

Present: Lord Mayor Catherine Clancy, Minister Kathleen Lynch TD, Councillors Mick Barry Thomas Gould Ken O Flynn, Jim O Donovan CCC and 40 members of the public.

Apologies: Darragh Murphy TD, Councillor Patrica Gosh, Eamon Walsh CCC.

5/7/'13

Chairman elected Mick Moriarty (Local Barber former resident)

Jer Buckley elected Secretary (local Shopkeeper former resident)

Tadhg OLeary elected PRO (local pharmacist)

It was agreed that we needed more residents on the committee.

Attendees: Jerry Ahern, Mick Moriarty, Noel Hally, Tim O'Brien Jer Buckley

Apologies: Bill Dunlea Tadhg OLeary

9/7/'13

Paudie McCarthy resident Commons Road and Hannah ODriscoll Great William O'Brien ST. Join the committee. Rules on committee protocols agreed by all.

Lack of Maintenance on River Bride was discussed.

Letter sent to Jim O'Donovan CCC requesting meetings with ARRUP and RPS.

Attendees: Mick Moriarty, Tadhg OLeary, Jerry Aherne, Bill Dunlea, Hannah ODriscoll, Paudie McCarthy, Jer Buckley Tim O'Brien.

13/7/'13

Paudie addressed meeting. He said he has been writing letters to City Hall since 1995 about illegal dumping in the Bride and high silt levels all to no avail.

Secretary to secure meeting with Jim Donovan Director of Services CCC and Eamon Walsh CCC Engineer. It was also discussed that BFG would ask City Hall why they haven't applied to OPW for funding under the minor works scheme to clean the river Bride.

Attendees: Paudie McCarthy, Bill Dunlea, Mick Moriarty, Jer Buckley, Tim O'Brien and Noel Hally

Apologies: Tadhg O Leary, Hannah O Driscoll and Jerry Aherne

26/7/'13

BFC met with Maurice O Donoghue BARRY & Partners Engineers

Main points discussed:

Cleaning of Bride,Cleaning of Trash Screen,Taking out Trash screen effects,Maintaining constant heights of river bank,Check planning of Retail Park,Formation of new flood plains ,Control flows of Glen river,By Pass at screen,rocks placed in river at Orchard Court,Flood Tanks at Parklands.

Attendees:Mick Moriarty ,Bill Dunlea,Tadhg OLeary and Jer Buckley

2/8/'13

CCC cancel meeting agreed for 29/7/'13.RPS Report not forwarded or discussed.BFG very unhappy .Chair contacted Eamon Walsh CCC Eamon stated RPS Director not happy to release report till he comes back from holidays.The report would be revised and Eamon would be in touch to reschedule a meeting with BFG.

Attendees:Mick Moriarty,Jerry Aherne,Bill Dunlea,Tadhg O Leary ,Jer Buckley,Tim OBrien and Noel Hally.

Apologies Hannah O Driscoll and Paudie McCarthy.

28/8/'13

BFG MEETING WITH CCC

RPS Report still not ready.Eamon Walsh gave a broad outline of recommendations of RPS Report.

Trash Screen to be taken out.

ESB cables running through culvert to be taken out.

Survey on need for Sediment traps.

Bambino's in Bride to be removed.

Cleaning programme needs to be put in place .

Council will move ahead with the required works .

A discussion took place about on the merits of installing an orifice plate on the opening to the Glen river.Eamon suggested this should be raised with ARRUP and BFG should meet them.

Attendees:Jim O Donavan and Eamon Walsh CCC ,Tadhg OLeary,Noel Hally,Bill Dunlea MICK Moriarty,Jer Buckley.

12/9/'13



Meeting with CCC cancelled once again .RPS Report not forthcoming.BFG extremely worried about getting access to the RPS Report and the lack of action with regard to cleaning of culvert.Protest to be organized.

Attendees:Jerry Aherne,Mick Moriarty,Paudie McCarthy,Tadhg OLeary,Tim OBrien Bill Dunlea.

Apologies:Noel Hally and Hannah O Driscoll.

15/10/'13

Copy of the RPS forwarded to BFG.Key issues are:Trash Screens,Culvert capacity.

Key drawings of culvert incomplete.It was agreed that Tadhg OLeary and Jer Buckley would go down the culvert and do a report.Committee worried that there could be blockages in culvert.

Attendees:Mick Moriarty,Bill Dunlea,Jer Buckley,Tadhg O'Leary and Paudie McCarthy.

30/10/'13

BFG meet RPS and CCC.Tom Quigley RPS gave a summary of RPS report .A discussion took place on the LEE CFRAMS report of 2010 which shows that flooding near Orchard Court and Blackpool church may be expected to occur with at least 1 in 10 chance in any give year and that the footbridge in Orchard Court maybe expected to occur with a chance of 1 in 5 chance in any given year.Eamon Walsh stated that the culvert completed in 2005 for the Bride after serious flooding in 2003 was to a tolerance of 1 year 50 flood but this figure is now in doubt.Paudie asked Tom was he aware that the flood tanks opposite the Commons Inn were not maintained and Tom said he was not aware of this.Bill raised the issue of holding water in the Glen and Eamon said that AARUP were doing an analysis on this proposal and if it had merit it could be tagged onto RPS recommendations.Jer asked about cleaning of the culvert and Jim Donovan said he would seek monies from the OPW to do this and if it wasn't available he would recommend to the City Manager that this would be done anyway.

Attendees:Tom Quigley RPS,Eamon Walsh and Jim Donovan CCC,Jer Buckley,Paudie McCarthy,Tadhg O'Leary,Bill Dunlea and Mick Moriarty.

On 3/11/'13

Jer Buckley and Tadhg OLeary surveyed the culvert in Blackpool.Bill Dunlea was safety officer above ground.The main findings of the report was :

Major blockages of debris in culvert particularly in the culvert by the church.

A lot of washing machines /fridges stuck in the old masonry culvert near Murphys Brewery.A copy of this community report was sent to Jim Donovan Director of services .McGinty OShea contractors were eventually contracted to clean the culvert and they removed 27tonne of debris from the

culvert by the church. The trash screen was removed to help flows in Orchard Court and Jersey barriers were erected in Orchard Court.

THE EMERGENCY MEASURES WHICH WERE TO HELP PREVENT FLOODING IN BLACKPOOL WERE DELIVERED.

Below is a link to the underground survey carried out by Tadhg O'Leary and Jer Buckley in November 3rd 2013

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/s4v2ibo41vezovl/BlackpoolculvertsurveyNovember13.doc?dl=0>

SOME OF THE PHOTOS OF BLOCKAGES IN THE BLACKPOOL CULVERT ON 3/11/'13











After the emergency measures were put in place by CCC my committee worked very closely with Mr. Ezerá McManamam OPW and Mr. Ken Leahy ARRUP. They facilitated us with many evening meetings explained to us exactly what the long term preferred option was to prevent Blackpool flooding. I wish to express our sincere thanks to Ezerá and Ken. Their approach has always been open and respectful and they certainly gained the trust and respect of our committee. Tadhg O'Leary also set up a community flood gauge where we text 200 people in Blackpool if there is a Flood pending. This community gauge saved many people but not all from flooding in 2013.

In conclusion it must be noted that since the floods in 2012 we have suffered major flooding in 2013 and many near misses. We are totally reliant on our community flood warning system and the temporary emergency measures taken in 2013 to alleviate flooding. It is now 8 years since the dreadful floods of 2012. The following are the key points in support of The Blackpool Flood Scheme going ahead.

1. OVER 150 HOMES AND BUSINESSES WERE AFFECTED BY FLOODING IN 2012.

2. WE HAVE PASSED THE COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS.

3. OTTERS WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE ON THE BRIDE AND GLENAMOUGHT RIVERS.

4. THE EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING CULVERT IS ONLY 350m WHICH IS LESS THAN .001% OF THE EXISTING RIVER COURSE WHICH EXTENDS OVER 100 MILES.

5. CURRENTLY IN OUR BUILT UP URBAN AREA WE HAVE ONLY PROTECTION OF LESS THAN 1:10 YEAR FLOOD ACCORDING TO RPS ENGINEERS.

6. WE HAD OVER 300 PEOPLE ATTEND THE OPW PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS WHICH IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST TURNOUTS OPW HAVE EVER HAD FOR THEIR EXHIBITIONS

7. WE LIVE IN AN AREA WHERE THERE IS A SOLUTION TO FLOODING WHICH HAS TAKEN 8 YEARS OF CONSULTATION AND DESIGN AND THERE IS HUGE EXPECTATION THAT THIS PROGRAM WILL BE DELIVERED.

8.WE HAVE AS A COMMUNITY ENGAGED AND SUPPORTED ALL STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH EVERY STEP OF THIS PROCESS AND TRY AS BEST WE CAN BUILD COMMUNITY FLOOD RESILIENCE THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY FLOOD ALERT SYSTEM BUT WE HAVE STILL CONTINUE TO BE FLOODED.

9.BLACKPOOL IS A VILLAGE WITHIN CORK CITY BOUNDARIES THAT HAS HUGE POTENTIAL TO GROW BUT SUFFERS FROM A LOT OF DERELICTION AND UNDER DEVELOPED BROWN FIELD SITES ZONED AND PERFECTLY POSITIONED FOR HOUSING.

10.WE LIVE AND WORK IN AN AREA VERY VULNERABLE TO FLOODING AND THIS HAS A HUGE AFFECT ON OUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

11.IF THIS SCHEME ISN'T DELIVERED WITH GLOBAL WARMING THE SITUATION IS ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE AND ONCE AGAIN WE WILL SEE BLACKPOOL ON PRIMETIME 9 OCLOCK NEWS WITH THE PUBLIC ASKING WHY WASN'T SOMETHING DONE FOR THIS VERY VULNERABLE COMMUNITY.

If the Minister gives approval for our scheme that will take another 2 Years to complete our scheme.10 years of worry high anxiety will be over !

I would respectfully ask the Minister to commence our long awaited flood scheme in Blackpool.

Yours Faithfully,

Mick Moriarty

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



RADIO INTERVIEW WITH BLACKPOOL FLOOD GROUP PROMOTING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE  
OPW PUBLIC EXHIBITION IN BLACKPOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE AND BLACKPOOL LIBRARY DECEMBER  
2015



10<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Mr Brian O'Malley  
OPW Vote Section  
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform  
Government Buildings  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2 D02 R538

By email: [BlackpoolSchemeConsultation@per.gov.ie](mailto:BlackpoolSchemeConsultation@per.gov.ie)

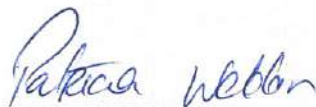
**Re: River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme**  
**Arterial Drainage Acts 1945 and 1995**

Dear Mr O'Malley,

I refer to your letter of the 22 January 2020 where you invited observations from the Department of Business, Enterprise & Innovation on the River Bride (Blackpool) Drainage Scheme.

I wish to advise that the Department does not have any observations to submit at this time on the proposed scheme.

Yours sincerely,



Patricia Weldon  
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Management Support Unit

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