



Title of Report:	Drumaheglis Marina Dredging Project
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 January 2023
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	Increasing Tourism Spend
Lead Officer	Head of Tourism and Recreation HALP Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	TBC through the procurement process.
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES
Capital/Revenue	Capital
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Elected Members to proceed to complete on scoping, design for tender and procurement for dredging services at the Drumaheglis Public Marina, operated by Council's Holiday and Leisure Parks (HALPs) remit (Stage 2 Capital Works process).

2.0 Background

In December 2021, Council Officials presented on the requirement to invest in dredging operations at the Marina Facility at Drumaheglis. This is a popular facility with 32 berths, associated services and a slipway. The channel around the pontoons and berthing areas has, over the last number of years, suffered from river silting and significant vegetative growth, causing difficulties with boat movements around the Marina and on occasions 'grounding' and 'snagging' propellor shafts. The Marina has not been dredged since 2014.

3.0 Project Proposal

Council's Tourism and Recreation team, in conjunction with the Infrastructure Team have been looking at the most cost-effective way of securing dredging services at this site. The nature of the work requires specialist consultants and contractors, and pre-procurement work for contractors will require site investigations, material classification, application preparation and submission of environmental permissions.

To reduce costs, it is proposed to partner with Waterways Ireland and secure economies of scale by sharing costs apportioned with dredging services that are required elsewhere on the Lower Bann by Waterways Ireland (the statutory body responsible for navigation on the Lower Bann).

To advance the project, Officers would like to enter into an agreement with Waterways Ireland and complete on the following:

- Agree roles and responsibilities, including lead project manager.
- Design of works and contract.
- Establish environmental, health and safety requirements.
- Complete site investigations, material classification and methods of disposal.
- Make submission for statutory and environmental permissions.
- Preparation and advertising of tender.
- Tender assessment.

If for any reason it is not possible to partner with Waterways Ireland, Officers propose to independently procure for a qualified contractor. By doing so, this will increase the timescales and may increase costs.

4.0 Next Steps

Subject to jointly procuring a qualified contractor to complete on the dredging (in line with Council's procurement policy), it is proposed to revert to Council to seek approval for the investment decision for works that can be apportioned to the Drumaheglis site (see **Figure 1** for proposed dredging area).

The cost to Council for the works at Drumaheglis Marina has been factored for within the Capital investment funding allocated to HALPs for the 22/23 financial year

5.0 Recommendation

In line with Council's Capital Project Management Process, it is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee approve the advancement of this project to Stage 2, and in doing

so, further the partnership arrangement with Waterways Ireland to jointly procure specialist services for the design and execution of dredging services at Drumaheglis Marina.

This procurement will be based on an agreement to apportion the costs that relate to the percentage of works completed for each partner. If a partnership approach is not possible then Council will proceed to independently procure for the dredging services.

Figure 1

