



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage

# National Hydromorphology Programme

## Preparation of work programme

Water Division  
10<sup>th</sup> July 2024

# Responsibilities of the Hydromorphology Expert Group (1)



The Expert Group will report directly to the Water Policy Advisory Committee (WPAC). The initial focus of the Expert Group will be on:

- Scoping the optimum environmental management framework for activities posing a risk to the hydromorphological conditions of waterbodies;
- Advising the Minister on policy and legislative needs required to give full effect to the provisions of Article 11(3)(i) of the Water Framework Directive;
- Assisting in the preparation of a work programme and associated timelines for the delivery of (1) a new regulatory framework for the protection of waters from hydromorphological pressures (physical impacts), and (2) the establishment of a restoration programme;
- Advising on the establishment of a National Restoration Programme to mitigate the impacts of existing hydromorphological pressures in or near waterbodies, thereby responding to the WFD requirement to restore status.

## Responsibilities of the Hydromorphology Expert Group (2)



Whilst a new comprehensive environmental management framework is developed for activities posing a risk to the hydromorphological condition of waterbodies, the Expert Group will:

- Serve as a forum for information and best practice exchange between organisations with a role in managing hydromorphological pressures; and
- Identify interim solutions, which can be readily implemented during the third RBMP cycle to assist in managing hydromorphological pressures.
- Once established, the National Hydromorphology Expert Group should set the identification of interim measures as a priority.

# Work Programme (2024 – 2027)



To be developed by end of Q4 2024:

Thematic areas:

- Policy, legislation and future regulatory framework
- National Restoration Programme
- Management of hydromorphological pressures – Priority interim solutions



Head of  
Business Unit

Environmental Water  
Programme  
Management

Policy, Governance,  
Finance &  
International

RBMP Programme  
Delivery Office (PDO)

Water Services  
Management & **New**  
**Hydromorphology**  
Programme

Water of LIFE Project