

Project Title: National Flood Forecasting and Warning Service (NFFWS)
Project Stage: Stage 1

Theme	Item	Description of Risk	Owner	Initial Risk Level	Measures to reduce/mitigate risk	Residual Risk Level	Status
Staffing	1.1	Health emergency (e.g. COVID-19) causes significant absence of key staff in Met Éireann and the OPW.	OPW, ME	L	Backup staff roles identified, procedures documented and training manuals in place.	L	
Staffing	1.2	Difficulties in recruitment of specialist staff (backfills and new posts) due to market conditions	OPW, ME	M	Engage with D/PER on conditions and PAS on targetted campaigns, Contract out some of the work to third parties.	L	
Technical	2.1	Failure of OPW water level and flow data sharing infrastructure and ICT Systems (e.g. waterlevel.ie)	OPW	M	Implement technical solutions such as roaming SIM cards with static IP addresses. Install fixed telephone and power lines. Increase staffing to ensure reduced chance of failure and quicker response time.	L	
Technical	2.2	Failure of critical ICT infrastructure in FFC	ME	L	Both the IFICS and Delft-FEWS systems, which support flood forecasting communications and fluvial forecasting respectively, are cloud based, have back-up systems and are geo resilient. They are both supported by their respective contractors via an on-call facility. The fluvial forecast system also incorporates a number of process fallbacks. The TSSF model is run on the ECMWF's HPC facility. It's operation is monitored by staff at ECMWF. All staff of the FFC have been given training on troubleshooting the model and documentation has been developed to support monitoring and maintenance. The relevant vendors have been made aware that the FFC will be providing an enhanced service.	L	
Communications	3.1	Unrealistic expectations of the service amongst stakeholders - There may be an expectation that the NFFWS will be able to accurately forecast all types of flooding for all circumstances	OPW, ME	H	Manage Communications to highlight what the limitations of the service will be (i.e does not include small catchments/waves/pluvial flooding/groundwater flooding etc. Review the Communications Strategy to reflect the limitations of the Service and its delivery timeframe.	M	
Policy and Governance	4.1		OPW, ME	H		M	
Policy and Governance	4.2		OPW, DHLGH	M		L	

Risk Level Options
Low
Medium
High