

# 4 Areas identified at risk from coastal flooding





Predicted flood extents for 0.5% AEP tidal level, with 50% AEP fluvial flow

### Tidal / Coastal Flooding

- Tidal flooding begins to occur within Bantry at approximately Spring Tide level.
- The predictive flood map shows areas predicted to be flooded during a theoretical flood event with an estimated probability of occurrence.
- The flood extents shown refer to the 0.5% Tidal AEP. Refer to the table below for indication of frequency of this event.
- Tidal flooding is generally seen to begin to propagate from the location of Sand Quays, which is the lowest point of the current





🚟 Latest Readings	✓ i Data Quality	~	Further	nformatio	n `	🗸 🖾 Contact us		H	YDI	20-	DA	TA
ref												
Bantry / 21063 / Waterlevel		Week Mo	onth Yea	r Comp	lete		~	?	<u>±</u>	R	ħ	
Current Year 🗸 🗸							Date					mAOD *
		29-10.2028					05/11/2023			-0.539 - 0.867 -0.523 - 0.749		
2		Waterlevel Min - Max: -1.262 m - 2.095 m Waterlevel Day Mean: 0.4 m			Median Annual Maxima Highest Annual Maxima		04/11/2023			-0.435 - 0.916		

defenses. This tidal inflow then inundates Wolfe Tone Square, flowing both across the square and east towards High Street.

Annual Exceedance Probability	Odds of occurrence in a given year	Return Period (Years)				
10%	10:1	10				
0.5%	200:1	200				



Example of recorded tide level data from waterlevel.ie/hydro-data







Tionscadal Éireann Project Ireland 2040





## Coastal Defence









Past experience of flooding on quays

#### **Potential Measures**

#### Proposal

- Replacement of existing walls around harbour at public carpark, Wolfe Tone Square, The Quays, and Marina.
- Height of new wall will be similar height to existing walls. Minor height raising in limited locations.
- New low-level wall and railing at location of existing railing near hotel underground carpark entrance.
- Provision of flood gates at existing access points to quays. One access point to be closed.
- Raising of N71 near Bantry Harbour Marina and Pier.

#### Considerations

- Architectural finish of wall that is sympathetic to the character of the existing public realm (Architectural Conservation Area).
- Scenic views.
- Access to quays and marina.
- Archaeological and heritage status of Sand Quays and Bantry House Gate Lodge.

### **Alternative Measures**

An initial assessment on the viability of a tidal barrier was undertaken as an alternative to sea wall defences. This has been ruled out as a viable option for the following reasons:

• The barrier, when closed, results in the harbour becoming tide-locked. This causes a restriction on fluvial (river) flows. The volume of storage provided on the harbour side of any tidal barrier is insufficient for a coincident rainfall event happening with the barrier closed.



- Coastal flooding currently occurs in less than the 1 in 2 year (T2) event. Therefore, frequent operation of the tidal barrier would be required or alternatively some seawall interventions would be undertaken in combination with the barrier.
- o Significant defences will be required on land to prevent high tidal levels by-passing the barrier in climate change scenarios. See adjacent image for high-end future scenario (HEFS).
- Specialist operational expertise will be required and on stand-by.







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