

30th April, 2018.

**To: The Cathaoirleach and Each Member of the Municipal
District of Adare-Rathkeale**

Re: Flooding Issues in Foynes

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

A meeting took place with Shannon Foynes Port Company on Wednesday 11th April 2018 to discuss the Foynes flooding Issue. A number of items were discussed;

1. **The option of discontinuing the use of the lake as a fire fighting reservoir.** This is most definitively not an option for the port for the foreseeable future. The lake water provides a vital independent supply of firefighting water to the Foynes port estate. This independent firefighting water supply is a key component of the ports emergency supply chain and facilitates the ongoing growth of the port. Foynes port currently imports in the region of 450,000 tons of petroleum every year to the SEVESO approved AFSC terminal. Any risk to the firefighting water supply and system of the port puts that business at risk. The Irish Water local water supply is not sufficient to supply the firefighting water demand needs to a port of the scale of Foynes.
2. **A hydrogeology report to be carried out on the source of the Lake.** The Shannon Foynes Port Company have details of the lake and source. The source is a spring located South West of the lake and flows via an open channel and earthenware pipework to the lake. The SFPC currently maintain the spring and the open channel from the source to the lake.
3. **Monitoring the level of the lake.** The port company have given an undertaking that a remote monitor will be installed on the lake and that Limerick City and County Council will be given access to the system. The system will monitor level fluctuations initially and then alarm levels will be determined and activated. Installation of this is to proceed presently.
4. **Wall at the rear of the port office building.** The Port company have given the undertaking that a wall will be built at the rear of their port office building to prevent flood water flowing to the rear of the building towards the village. This would divert flood water towards the N69 if a similar event reoccurred. There are currently sandbags at this location.

Outside of this meeting Limerick City and County Council are to pursue the option of restoring or replacing the culvert along Marine Cove Road. Discussions are ongoing with the OPW and TII. Further updates will be provided when available.

Is mise le meas,

**Kevin Murphy,
A/Senior Executive Engineer,
Service Operations West Division,
Adare-Rathkeale Area.**