



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

2020 ANNUAL REPORT







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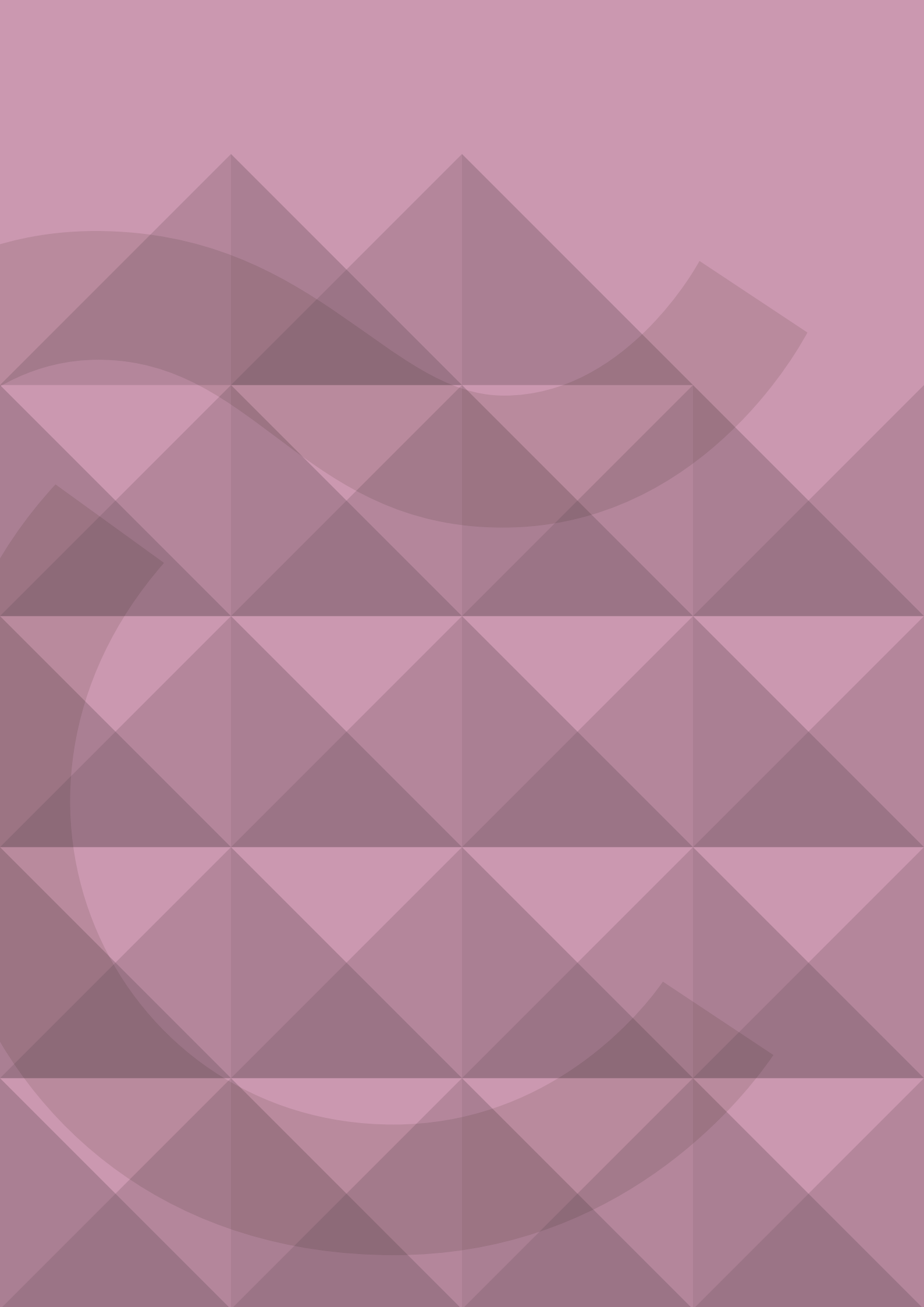


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INTRODUCTION





FOREWORD CATHAOIRLEACH

**COUNCILLOR
MICHAEL SMITH**



A Cháirde,

As we reflect on one of the most difficult and challenging year in our living history, it is an honour and pleasure to introduce on behalf of Tipperary County Council, this Annual Report, which provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of this Council during 2020.

I am honoured to hold the position of Cathaoirleach, having being elected on 26th June 2020, as the 7th Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council, in a socially distanced Annual Meeting held in The Dome, Semple Stadium, Thurles. It was a proud day for me personally and also my family, following in the footsteps of my father who was elected Cathaoirleach in 1986 and my uncle Dan in 1995, continuing the proud history of my family involvement in local government.

The year 2020 will be forever etched in our memories as a year in which we had to re-think and re-do everything we had taken for granted prior to this. While the Coronavirus pandemic forced us all into lockdown, the immense positive impact of volunteers and communities working together provided evidence of Tipperary's rich history of community and loyalty, borne from surviving through times much tougher than what we are dealing with today, and that sense of survival would appear to be hardwired into our DNA.

The Council played a key part in this response. In the most difficult of circumstances they kept the show going and continued to work with the public to further develop the economic, social, physical, environmental and cultural landscape of Tipperary. The restrictions throughout the first part of the year meant that more and more people were choosing to do their business with Tipperary County Council via our website, social media or over the phone.

During the summer months as restrictions eased, our Sports Partnership activated many local campaigns to get people out and active. This year cycling and walking has seen huge growth with people of all ages getting out and about, exploring the beauty of their county and all within 5k of their homes during lockdown. The increase in outdoor activity take-up was such a signifier of people's need to keep active for both body and mind during the restricted living we all endured during 2020.

Tipperary Tourism continued in partnership with our local, regional and national media, to highlight the fantastic places around the county where people could staycation, or visit on daytrips, reminding us of the incredibly beautiful places to enjoy and adventures that can be pursued, right here in our own county.

As businesses began to reopen their doors, we worked with local companies to assist them in getting their business back on track. Dedicated teams were established within the Municipal Districts to work with business owners in towns and villages to aid them to reopen to a new way of doing business, by advising them of the incentives, grants or refunds available. In some cases, Tipperary County Council approved the temporary assignment of suitable, adjacent parking spaces or other outdoor spaces for use by a trading business for the location of outdoor seating.

Towards the end of the summer, we welcomed funding from the Department for Rural and Community Development under the enhanced Town and Village Renewal Scheme, in support of rural businesses and communities to rebuild in response to Covid-19, included 10 new additional Broadband Connection Points offering rural communities' essential access to free high-speed internet access, paving the way for the wider rollout of the National Broadband Plan. Funding was also allocated to improvements to villages for enhancement of the public realm to increase visitor footfall.

October saw the country return again to level five restrictions, bringing with it more business closures, job losses and financial stresses for many. Tipperary County Council endeavoured to ensure that as many eligible businesses as possible obtained the Restart Grant and the Restart Grant plus. Over four thousand (4,273) Tipperary businesses received funds from the Restart Grant and the Restart Grant Plus and a total of over €12.4m was provided in liquidity support through the local authority Commercial Rates waiver to eligible businesses, including the vast majority of SMEs, for the nine months since the pandemic took hold, supported by a share of a €900 million special funding allocation from the Government.

In addition, LEO Tipperary approved 56 projects totalling €1,191,366 leveraging over €4 million back into the county creating 118 jobs. Thurles CBS students Jack O'Meara and Daniel Ruddy won the overall title at the Student Enterprise Programme National Finals. Our Enterprise Office also approved €982,293 in grant funding through the Trading Online Voucher scheme, helping businesses migrate and adapt to selling online with €1,542,075 provided in consultancy support to assist businesses in contingency planning during the height of the crisis.

We continued to support the national public health message, amplifying it to the people of Tipperary alongside ensuring that key messages from Tipperary County Council around delivery of our services were clearly communicated to our customers and that at all times, we were driving initiatives that would assist in the economic recovery of our county and the well-being of our people.

We closed the year with the launch of the Draft Tipperary County Development Plan 2021-2027 for public consultation, which sets out the roadmap and will be a blue print for the economic and social development of County Tipperary over the next seven years.

On a personal level, while I was not in a position to travel around the county and see first-hand the various programmes, projects and initiatives being advanced by the Council, I am delighted to report that significant progress is being achieved on the following key projects, which are critical to the future development of our county:

- Killaloe /Ballina Shannon Crossing
- Contract stage;
- Nenagh to Latteragh road upgrade - CPO stage;
- N24 Limerick to Waterford motorway
- Route Option selection stage;

The continued investment in our county was also evident with other significant programmes and projects progressed, such as:

- The adoption of the Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 which outlines the vision for the county for the next 5 years;
- The launch of the dynamic newly redeveloped www.tipperary.com;
- Strategic Plan for Munster Vales and new Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan completed;
- The development of four new video testimonials for "Tipperary, The Place The Time" and the Council worked with successful Tipperary based companies, highlighting the many reasons Tipperary is a viable location for investment and business location;
- Project Ireland 2040 projects in Clonmel, Thurles, Tipperary Town, Fethard and Templemore;
- Rural Regeneration projects in the hearts of our towns in Nenagh, Roscrea and Cahir;



- 8 connected communities Broadband Connection points live and connected to high-speed broadband across the county;
- The Town Centre Initiative continues to focus on facilitating town centre groups to build commercial success and more attractive town centres with funding awarded to Thurles, Tipperary and Carrick-on-Suir;
- Just Transition funding for Littleton Labyrinth;
- National Primary Road improvements at N24 Clonmel Inner Relief Road pavement improvement and N74 Fr Matthew Street, Tipperary;
- National Secondary Road improvements at N52 Borrisokane Street Imp works, N74 Ballyhusty realignment, N62 Templemore entrance roads improvements, N65 Carrigahorig, N62 Slievenamon Road, Thurles;
- Sowing the seeds for a Major Outdoor Recreational route close to the National Monument, Monanicha Abbey, a project which has huge potential and I look forward to its continued progress and investment.
- Commencement of the Newport Town Park and upgrading of the Garrykennedy Forest Walkway;
- Launch of Nenagh 800;

I also outlined at the outset of my term, that it was my intention to review the administration of our Plenary meetings, with monthly meetings now commencing at the earlier time of 10a.m. and external presentations being taken at Councillor workshops, which has helped to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our meetings.

Health, education, sport and social care all depend on the continued efforts of volunteers devoting their skills, time and energy towards those in need and I would like to especially acknowledge and thank the large number of community groups and voluntary organisations we have in the county and who do such tremendous and valuable work in making a positive contribution to their locality and environment. I would like to commend the dedication and commitment of all the tidy towns groups around the county who continued to maintain their communities despite the Covid-19 lockdown.

The sporting achievements of our Senior Footballers in winning the Munster Senior Football final on the same weekend as the commemoration of Bloody Sunday was heroic and fitting given Tipperary's involvement on that historic moment on 21st November 1920, not forgetting the cycling exploits of Sam Bennett in winning the green jersey at the Tour de France and becoming the sixth Irish cyclist to win a stage at the Tour and the second to win a stage in every Grand Tour. I look forward to honouring these achievements during 2021, when Covid-19 restrictions are eased to allow for indoor gatherings.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, for his guidance and support throughout the year. Finally, thank you also to all the staff of the Council at all levels, indoor and outdoor, that need to be thanked for their tremendous efforts in continuing to provide a wide range of services during the pandemic. In particular, I wish to acknowledge with sincere gratitude the contribution of Mr. Sean Keating, who retired as Director of Services of LAWPRO in December 2019 after a career spanning 44 years. Sincere thanks to the team in Corporate Services for their assistance to me in guiding the important work of our Council during this most difficult year.

I wish to acknowledge the work of the local media who attend our meetings and are a vital conduit for the general public in terms of keeping them informed of what is happening in the county.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors in Tipperary County Council for their invaluable support during my term as Cathaoirleach. A special word of thanks to my Leas-Cathaoirleach, Mary Hanna-Hourigan, and Councillor Michael Murphy who presided as the previous Cathaoirleach.

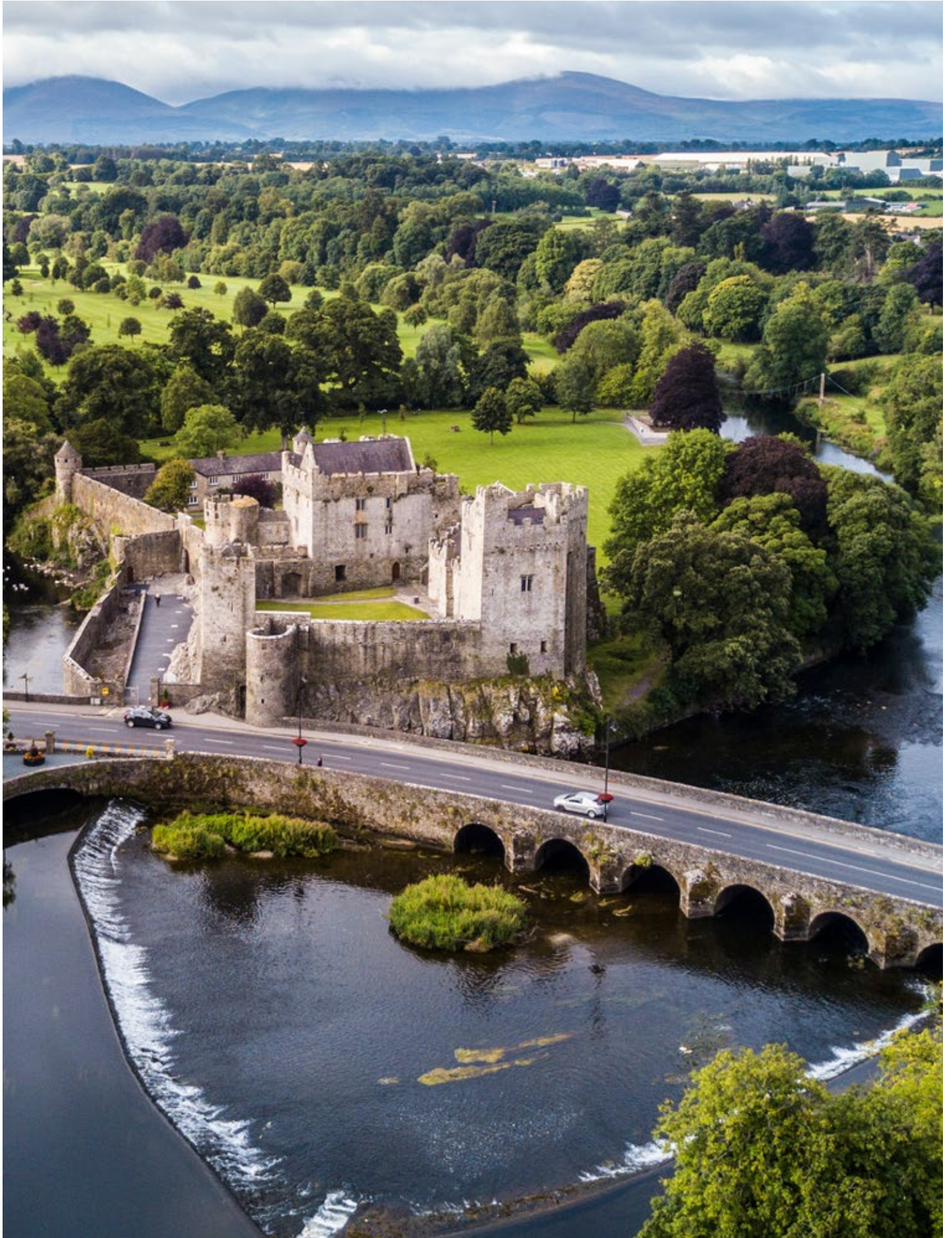
Our citizens, communities and businesses are at the very core of our organisation and representing the needs of the many communities of Tipperary is, and always will be, our key priority.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Is Mise le Meas,

Cllr Michael Smith,
Cathaoirleach
Tipperary County Council





MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

JOE MACGRATH



I am pleased to join with the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Michael Smith in presenting this Annual Report, which is the Council's seventh report, since we merged as one Council. 2020 was undoubtedly the most challenging and unprecedented year that we have witnessed in our lives. It brought with it a global pandemic that impacted on every aspect of our personal, family, community and work lives.

The Covid-19 pandemic placed significant demands on all public services including local authority services. We were acutely aware of the criticality of continuing to provide local services and the need to take care of the most vulnerable people in our community while also taking a lead on creating awareness across the county of the measures needed to keep people safe. By March, we were asking people to stay-at-home, wash their hands, wear masks, and socially distance themselves from one another. Throughout the weeks and months of lockdown, we maintained lines of communication by keeping the public updated and informed of Council services and supports. A Coronavirus Response On-line Hub for Tipperary was made available from the Council's website which provided a single access location for national and local resources. A Covid-19 Response Team and Community Call helpline were established. The Council's Crisis Management, Team working closely with our colleagues in the HSE and the Gardai, ensured that no stone was left unturned in the fight against this pandemic.

One year on, we remember those who lost their lives during the pandemic and their loved ones. We are also mindful of those in our community who are still recovering from the continuing and long-term impacts of the virus and we wish them all the very best in their journey of recovery to good health.

Reflecting on what we have learned about ourselves and our communities, we are reminded that "character reveals itself in the heart of a crisis". As a community and as individuals we witnessed this character and we learned to adapt, to be resilient, and to respond to the changing needs of our new environment. I would like to acknowledge, in particular, our elected members and our staff for all their work in ensuring the provision of essential local services without interruption during this extraordinary and difficult year.

The year also acted as an accelerant for change in other areas such as remote working and virtual meetings, enabling the Council and our 5 Districts to continue to efficiently operate while also protecting the health and safety of those availing of services.

Notwithstanding the demands posed by the pandemic, the Council maintained our focus on initiatives, programmes and projects which promoted local economic recovery and support social and cultural development in our county. Investments were made across the county in areas such as housing, roads, urban and rural regeneration and tourism development.



I am delighted to report on the many achievements across our 4 strategic themes, in particular:

OUR ECONOMY

- LEO Tipperary approved 56 projects totalling €1,191,366, leveraging over €4 million back into the County creating 118 jobs;
- Establishment of the Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force to develop an agreed plan;
- Development of the county's first flagship tourism product development plan 'Tipperary Transforming 2020-2030';
- The launch of the Stable Lane Digital Hub in Carrick-on-Suir, an innovative collaboration between the Council and the Business Sector in Carrick on Suir, providing a flexible and cost-effective workspace with high-speed broadband connectivity in a town centre location;
- N24 Major Road Improvement Scheme: Cahir to Limerick Junction – Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility completed and Phase 2 Option Selection commenced;
- Two Compulsory Purchase Orders published to progress road realignment schemes at N74 Ballyhustya and R498 Latteragh;
- Funding of €2.687 million for Active Travel projects and Climate Change Adaptation works;
- N24 Clonmel Inner Relief Road Pavement Improvement Scheme completed
- 2,000 Sox street light upgrades to LED carried out;
- Formal commencement of preparation of new County Development Plan;
- Projects funded under Project Ireland 2040: Regeneration and Development Funds and in the process of being delivered
 - » *Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration – Funding of €2.89m approved*
 - » *Liberty Square Enhancement Project Thurles – Funding of €4.39m approved*
 - » *Tipperary Town Regeneration – Funding of €600,000 approved*
 - » *Fethard Town Park – Funding of €2.6m approved*
 - » *Templemore Town Hall: Enterprise and Cultural Centre with associated Civic Plaza – Funding of €2.1m approved*
- Successful applications under Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund:
 - » *Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter – A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan awarded €650,000*
 - » *Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter' awarded €365,000*
 - » *A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre: Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter' awarded €632,000*

OUR ENVIRONMENT

- The launch of the Ormond Castle Park, Ecological and Amenity Enhancement Scheme to review and enhance the ecological, biodiversity and physical components of this unique amenity situated close to Carrick on Suir Town Centre and its River Suir;
- **Stories from the Waterside** was a story writing competition ran during Lockdown, with over 500 entries received from across the island of Ireland, and further afield from diaspora, resulting in LAWPRO publishing a book on Water Heritage Day 2020, during National Heritage Week in August.
- Commissioning in partnership with Irish Water of the Thurles Regional Water Supply and the Burncourt Regional Water Supply

 *As a community and as individuals, we learned to adapt, to be resilient, and to respond to the changing needs of our new environment*





I look forward with optimism to an acceleration of growth and development across Tipperary over the next 12 months

OUR COMMUNITY

- Excellence in Local Government Award received for supporting tourism - Suir Blueway
- Target for Social Housing supports for 2018-2021 was exceeded by end of 2020;
- The doubling of spend in relation to voids resulted in long-term voids being closed out;
- The Community call within Tipperary provided a practical support to older people who were cocooning, assisting with shopping and prescriptions.
- The Keep well campaign, aimed at healthy eating, physical activity, staying connecting for those socially isolated, minding your mood, switching off and being creative.
- The commencement of an ambitious project to construct a new 23-acre sport, health and wellness campus at Fethard Town Park in partnership with Coolmore, the Archdiocese of Cashel & Emly and the local community, to provide a shared multi-use community campus with all-weather and grass playing fields, walkway, sensory garden, dressing rooms, gym, café, open parkland and community parking;

OUR PEOPLE

- Provision of a new Employee Assistance Programme providing 24-hour access over 7 days to staff and their families;
- The engagement of over 50% of our staff in remote working arrangements;
- The roll-out of on-line partnership initiatives for our staff during the pandemic;
- The application of performance rating for all staff throughout the organisation under the PMDS system;

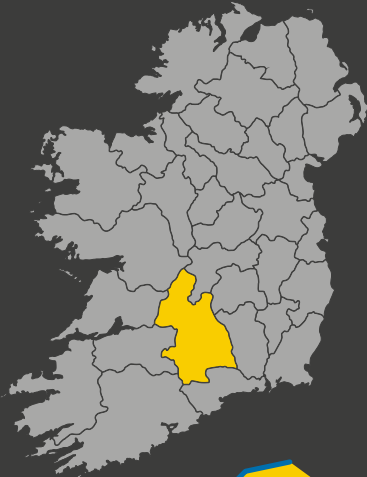
I would like to thank the Members of the Council, the Corporate Policy Group, the members of the Strategic Policy and other Committees and, in particular, the work of our five Municipal Districts for their continued contribution to the delivery of services to the public during this difficult year. My thanks to the team in Corporate Services for their work in compiling this Report.

My sincere thanks also to the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Michael Smith for his commitment, dedication and enthusiasm to the position during 2020, our Leas-Cathaoirleach Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, the Municipal District Cathaoirligh, Councillors Kevin O'Meara, John Crosse, Siobhan Ambrose, Seamus Morris and Noel Coonan for their ongoing support and assistance during the year. My sincere appreciation again to all the staff of Tipperary County Council, who continued to work on a daily basis in a variety of disciplines across the county, for their resolute commitment and dedication to the delivery of services to the communities of Tipperary during this difficult time and I look forward with optimism to an acceleration of growth and development across Tipperary over the next 12 months as we continue to ease out of the Covid-19 restrictions.

Joe MacGrath
Chief Executive



Of the 32 counties Tipperary County is



6th
largest by
area

11th
largest by
population

4,282km²
(census April 2016)

159,553
(census April 2016)



Tributaries of the Shannon run through the northern part of the county and into Lough Derg.

LOUGH DERG

Arra Hills

M7

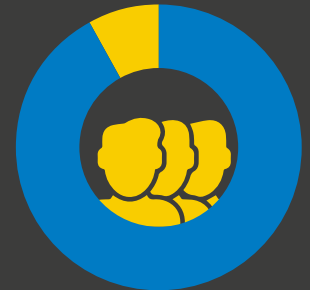
The region is part of the central plain of Ireland, but the diversified terrain contains several mountain ranges

Silvermine Mountains

KEY ARTERIAL ROUTES

Dublin: **M7, M8**
Waterford: **N24**

Train lines:
Dublin & Waterford



14,000
Tipperary residents identified as a nationality other than Irish

Making the county representative of both rural Ireland and a modern multi-cultural society (2016 census)

NEWPORT

is the fastest growing town. The population increased **10.5%** between 2011 & 2016.



The River Suir runs through the southern & central portion of the county.

M8

THE GOLDEN VALE

A rich pastoral stretch of land in the Suir basin which extends into counties Limerick and Cork. No part of the county touches the coast.

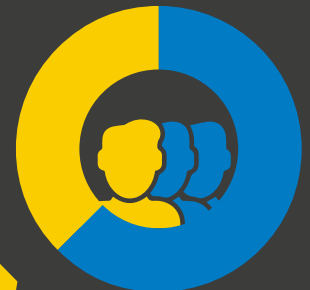
Galtees Mountains

N24

KEY ARTERIAL ROUTES

Limerick: **M7, N24**
Cork: **M8**

Train lines:
Cork & Limerick



TIPPERARY RESIDENTS

62.7%
live in rural areas

37.3%
live in urban area (2016 census)

Knockmealdown Mountains

CLONMEL

is the largest town in the county, with a population of over 17,000 people.



VISION STATEMENT

Tipperary - A vibrant place where people can live, visit and work in a competitive and resilient economy, a sustainable environment and an inclusive and active community





FIONA BONFIELD
LABOUR PARTY



GERARD DARCY
FINE GAEL



HUGHIE McGRATH
NON-PARTY



JOE HANNIGAN
NON-PARTY



JOHN CARROLL
FIANNA FÁIL



JOHN ROCKY McGRATH
NON-PARTY



MICHAEL O'MEARA
NON-PARTY



PHYLL BUGLER
FINE GAEL



SEAMUS MORRIS
NON-PARTY



ANDY MOLONEY
NON-PARTY



ANNEMARIE RYAN
NON-PARTY



DECLAN BURGESS
FINE GAEL



JOHN CROSSE
FINE GAEL



MÁIRÍN McGRATH
NON-PARTY



MARIE MURPHY
FINE GAEL



MARY HANNA HOURIGAN
FINE GAEL



MICHEÁL ANLÍM
FIANNA FÁIL



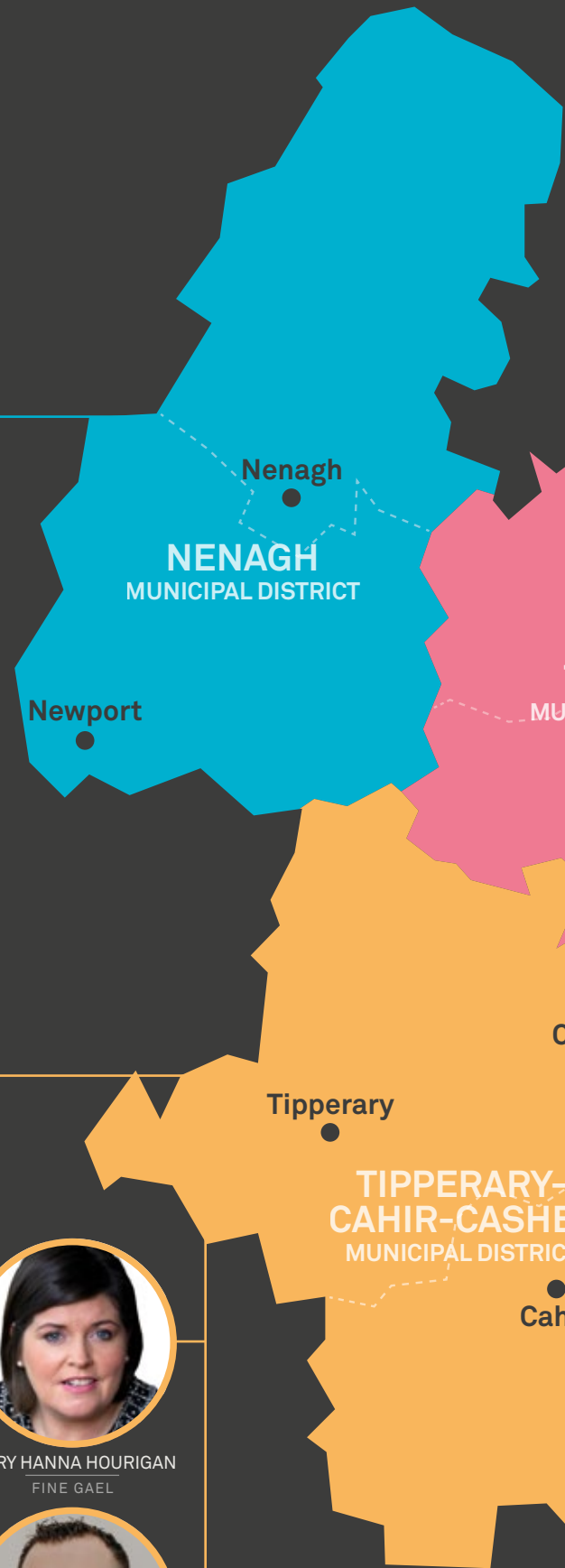
MICHAEL FITZGERALD
FINE GAEL



ROGER KENNEDY
FIANNA FÁIL



TONY BLACK
SINN FÉIN



THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

- EDDIE MORAN (NON-PARTY)
- JIM RYAN (NON-PARTY)
- MICHAEL SMITH (FIANNA FÁIL)
- MICHEÁL LOWRY (NON PARTY)
- NOEL COONAN (FINE GAEL)
- PETER RYAN (FINE GAEL)
- SEAMUS HANAFIN (FIANNA FÁIL)
- SEAN RYAN (FIANNA FÁIL)
- SHANE LEE (NON-PARTY)

CARRICK MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

- DAVID DUNNE (SINN FÉIN)
- IMELDA GOLDSBORO (FIANNA FÁIL)
- KEVIN O'MEARA (NON-PARTY)
- KIERAN BOURKE (FIANNA FÁIL)
- MARK FITZGERALD (FINE GAEL)

CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT

- JOHN FITZGERALD (FINE GAEL)
- MICHAEL MURPHY (FINE GAEL)
- NIALL DENNEHY (NON-PARTY)
- PAT ENGLISH (WUAG)
- RICHIE MOLLOY (NON-PARTY)
- SIOBHÁN AMBROSE (FIANNA FÁIL)

MEMBERS OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL



CLLR MICHAEL MURPHY FINAL MEETING AS OUTGOING CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr Michael Murphy final meeting as outgoing Cathaoirleach held in Hillview Sports Club Clonmel on 8th June 2020. This was the first socially distanced meeting in 2020.



ANNUAL MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of Tipperary County Council was held in The Dome, Thurles, Co. Tipperary on Friday 26th June 2020.



Chain Handover. Cllr Michael Murphy & Cathaoirleach Michael Smith



Cathaoirleach Michael Smith



Meeting in progress



Meeting in progress





SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

MR. JOE MACGRATH

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



MR. KARL CASHEN

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES / DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Directorate Functions

Emergency Services, Health & Safety, Library/Cultural Services

Delegated MD: Carrick-on-Suir

Directorate: Nenagh



MS. SINEAD CARR

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Housing Services

Delegated MD: Clonmel

Directorate: Clonmel



MS. CLARE CURLEY

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Corporate, Human Resources, Climate Action & Environmental Services

Directorate: Clonmel



MR. SEAN KEATING

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) National Shared Services

Directorate: Clonmel





EAMON LONERGAN

ACTING DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Planning, Water Services

Delegated MD: Thurles Municipal District

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. LIAM MCCARTHY

HEAD OF FINANCE

Directorate Functions

Finance, Information Technology,
Motor Taxation & Shared Services

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. MARCUS O'CONNOR

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Roads, Transportation, Infrastructure

Delegated MD: Nenagh

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. PAT SLATTERY

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Economic & Community Development

Delegated MD: Tipperary/Cashel/Cahir

Directorate: Clonmel



MS. ROSEMARY JOYCE

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Nenagh Municipal District



MR. GER WALSH

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Corporate Services





OUR ECONOMY

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Local Enterprise Office Tipperary

The Local Enterprise Office has completed a review of the metrics and performance for the years 2017-2020, with the results on the following pages. During the period of the 2017-2020 plan, significant growth and development was delivered in the county as a result of direct and indirect intervention and support of Tipperary LEO. The table below charts the period in successive metrics for the four years of the plan.

Table 1: LEO Performance 2017 - 2020

M1	App Rec'd	No Approved	Amt. Approved	No of Jobs	Investment	Payments
2017	51	40	€984,581.00	132.5	€4,799,956.00	€673,880.00
2018	37	37	€798,220.00	125	€4,700,000.00	€879,431.00
2019	44	44	€874,398.00	108	€3,150,000.00	€390,413.00
2020	59	56	€1,191,366.00	118	€4,100,000.00	€864,154.00
Total	191	177	€3,848,565.00	483.5	€16,749,956.0	€2,807,878.00

A total of 191 projects received with 177 projects approved totalling €3,848,565. These approvals leveraged €16,749,956 investment back into the County creating 483.5 jobs. During this period a total of €2,807,878 was paid out to M1 clients and a total of 23 clients were progressed from LEO Tipperary to Enterprise Ireland. The pipeline of projects was strong during the period, with manufacturing figuring strongly overall and a pattern of engineering and food in the northern half of the county and life sciences, food and some engineering in the southern half. The breakdown is depicted grant type and sector breakdown is shown on graph no. 1.

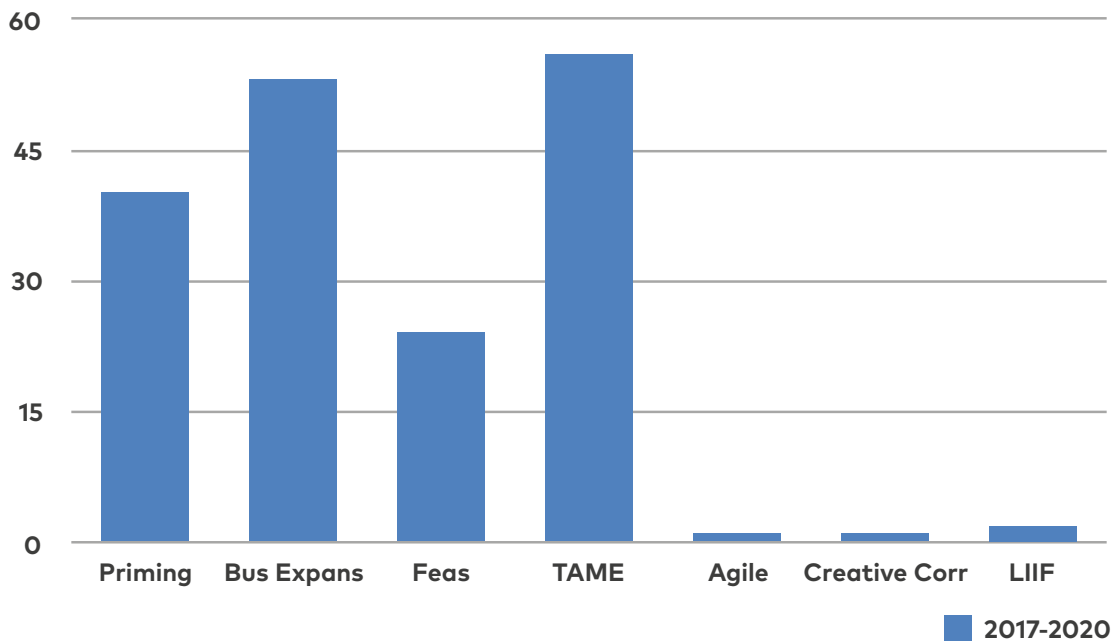
Evident from table 2 above, 2020 was the best year with a total of 59 projects assessed; 56 approved including 9 feasibility, 15 priming, 11 business expansion and 20 TAME; one Agile resulting in €1,191,580 in assistance and leveraging €4,109,035 in total investment and the creation of 118 new jobs in the county.



A total of 191 projects received with 177 projects approved totalling €3,848,565



Graph no. 1: Breakdown of 177 Grants approved by grant type



Year	Priming	Bus Expans	Feasibility	TAME	Agile	Creative Corr	LIIF	Total Projects
2017-2020	40	53	24	56	1	1	2	177

Sector Breakdown:

Manufacturing	Food	Services	IT
102	33	30	12

Table No.2:
TOVs approved during Period 2017 - 2020

Year	TOV approved	Amount Approved €
2017	37	73,713
2018	40	75,679
2019	40	85,672
2020	419	982,293
Total	536	1,217,357

Table No.3: Measure 2 -
Mentoring & Training over Period 2017 - 2020

Year	1 to 1 mentor	No of Programmes	Total Participants
2017	319	93	1384
2018	363	72	1031
2019	331	83	890
2020	437	73	1386
Total	1450	325	4,690

LEO Tipperary has provided a total of 325 programmes and delivered training to 4,690 participants between 2017 and 2020. These programmes include Start Your Own Business, Finance, Social Media, Trading Online Voucher seminars, LEAN, a range of management development programmes etc. This equates to an average of 60 scheduled events per year and 1,173 clients across all the programmes provided.



Some specific highlights - during **IBYE 2019**, LEO Tipperary finalist Sharon Cunningham of Shorla Pharma received the coveted prize at Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur competition.



And in 2020, Student Enterprise Awards finalists Jack O'Meara and Daniel Ruddy (J&D Engineering) from Thurles CBS representing Tipperary won the top prize in the Senior category and overall title at the Student Enterprise Programme National Finals.




Business and Enterprise Park space and interaction with Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- Clonmel Business Development Park. At full capacity (17K sq.ft.) fully occupied and three tenants (Source Apart, SPV Healthcare and Kieran Bergin Sports) supported during with M1 funding during 2020. Board membership from Tipperary County Council and LEO.
- Questum. At full capacity at the end of 2020. JED Pharma supported with priming grant at end of 2020. Shorla Pharma moved from LEO to EI in February 2020. Theradep and Advanced Plasma were part of DTIF consortium led by Latch Medical in NovaUCD in December 2019 (pic. Below). Head of Enterprise on advisory board of Questum, along with Pat McGrath, retired CEO of PM Group and Tom Brennan, co-founder of Eirgen Pharma and now Entrepreneur in Residence in Questum, Chairman and shareholder in Shorla Pharma and Triviumvet in Waterford.



- Thurles Chamber Enterprise Centre. Tipperary County Council on board of company. Full capacity at present and successful in Covid CEC scheme in November for €112K.

 **Jack O'Meara and Daniel Ruddy (J&D Engineering) from Thurles CBS representing Tipperary won the top prize in the Senior category and overall title at the Student Enterprise Programme National Finals.**



Local Enterprise Office - 2020 Highlights:

In summary, during 2020 LEO Tipperary delivered the following set of results.

Total assessed:	59 projects		Excess of 350 Trading Online Vouchers:	€791,195
Total approved:	56 projects		Micro Finance Ireland:	24 projects assessed, 16 approved for €379K
Feasibility:	9 projects	€123,850	Retail online > 10 employees:	7 projects €263K
Priming:	15 projects	€705,310	Job stimulus:	115 clients €566K
Business Expansion:	11 projects	€288,320	Enterprise centre fund:	€281,848 (Questum €112,322 TCEC €97,766 Cloughjordan €71,760)
TAME:	20 projects	€33,289	Micro Enterprise Assistance Fund:	6 approvals €5,865
Agile:	1 project	€40,811	GradStart Fund:	1 approval €30,000
Total of M1		€1,191,580	Overall Total	€5,050,563
Total investment from client companies:		€4,109,035		
		118 Jobs		
Excess of 600 Business Continuity Vouchers:		€1,542,075		



Digital Hubs, Enterprise Centres and Shared Spaces

There has been ongoing development across the county to create or support availability of Enterprise Centres, Digital Hubs and shared work spaces in the light of the need for remote working and digital hubs.

There are 9 existing projects and an update on each is laid out below:

Town	Project Description	Project Update
Cahir	Cahir Market House Business Centre. (dependant on Public Library transfer to Craft Granary) To renovate existing library, courthouse and former council offices into Business centre	The Part 8 plans and application to convert the Craft Granary Cahir into a public library has been publicly advertised and the C E's Report for proposed development will be presented at the February MD meeting. Shortfall of 250k not yet secured. This will result in the release of the current building. Preparation of detailed construction drawings to support the delivery of a new Business Development Centre in Market House and its adjoining Council owned building are required. It is necessary then to complete the planning process and tender process for the project in order to apply for further funding for capital works and completion of the project.
Carrick	Stable Lane: Repurpose floor 3 of Carrick MD offices for shared work space	Lease finalised, T&V funding secured for Kit-out, Council and LEO funding secured for running costs. Covid challenging but currently 50% booked out.
	Phase 2: Expansion to 50 seats in a new location	Two Locations are under consideration. Funding was not successful under the Town & Village 2020 for the feasibility of Phase 2. Currently the group are looking at other funding options and location options that might be available to them.
Clonmel	Phase 2 of Questum, Ballingarrane, Clonmel	Consultants to be procured to prepare Feasibility Report and Planning stage in Q3 2020-Q1 2021 - funding not yet secured
Nenagh	Nenagh Digital Hub:	RRDF application for the Nenagh Digital Hub was submitted in December 2020, inc. Business Case and Executive Summary.
Roscrea	REACH: Conversion of 11,450 sq ft former Tesco site to Business hub	A number of Board meetings in Qtr 3 and Qtr 4 2020. Lease of the premises now agreed. Tender published for professional fees, tender submissions reviewed and a contract currently being offered. First phase meetings on the design and layout took place early January and a number of other meetings scheduled for Qtr1 2021 with architectural firm.
Templemore	Town Hall - Repurposing to cultural enterprise centre	Architects EML have been appointed to progress the design in line with the Part VIII approval. Following on from this they will prepare the tender documentation and procure a main works contractor. The design is well progressed at present and would hope to finalise the design shortly
Tipperary Town	Digihub Precursor to Tipperary Innovation Engine.	Occupancy rates of 180 days in Q3/4 2020. Reduced seat capacity by over 50% in order to comply with social distancing requirements. On-going funding and support from Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Local Enterprise Office required
	Tipperary Innovation Engine Repurposing of the Tipperary Technology Park to co-work spaces	Hennessy Architects appointed for the design work. Aim to complete works by Q4 2021. Target to recruit Manager in Q3, and begin branding, marketing and securing clients.
Cloughjordan	Cloughjordan Eco Existing facility, training space, Fab Lab, Workshop and manufacturing unit and Co-working space	This facility is located as part of Cloughjordan Eco village. €74,000 funding sourced from EI in 2020.



LECP

Key Economic Actions from the LECP for 2020:

- Ballingarrane site – Project group established. Water quality and quantity trials completed
- AgriChemWhey project deferred due to investment review by Glanbia across the Agri/Food Group
- Food Network – Further links with Tipperary Tourism forged in 2020.
 - *Taste of Tipperary Food Hamper launched in July 2020*
 - *Neighbourhood Box Scheme operations developed in Clonmel and Tipperary town*
 - *Extensive marketing programme undertaken with members in conjunction with TETB*
- Green Sector – Tipperary Energy Agency is supporting the development of renewable energy contractors in the county, providing training and helping Tipperary enterprises become more sustainable by reducing energy consumption.
 - *Application for Centre of Excellence in sustainable energy submitted, led by TEA with support from TCC.*
 - *SEAI communities funding applications submitted in December 2020 – expected investment of approx €1.5 million into sustainable energy in Tipperary.*
- The Town Centre Initiative (TCI) continues to focus on the facilitating town centre groups to build commercial success and more attractive town centres, while also consolidating other council supports to town centres, backed by additional innovative measures.
 - *There has been progress in Tipperary town with a new website and branding for the town. Templemore is the focus for Q1/2 2021.*

Sectoral and Enterprise Support –

- www.tipperary.com redevelopment completed and launched at a networking event in Tipperary town
- New Tipperary Transforming Tourism Product Development Plan 2020-2030 completed.
- Strategic Plan for Munster Vales developed and launched.
- New Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan 2020-2024 completed.
- TCC awarded an Excellence in Local Government Awards for the development of the Suir Blueway Tipperary
- New Tipperary Destination Recovery Taskforce established to support the tourism industry through the challenges posed by Covid 19.
- TEA – Committee convened to develop the successor plan to the SEAP, which will include actions to adapt to climate change. This plan will be developed by Q2 OF 2021
- TETB – In 2020 over 300 employees benefitted from Skills to Advance Programmes with 600 learners benefitting from Skills to Compete programmes. 14 traineeships ran during 2020.
- Tipperary, The Place The Time – four new video testimonials were developed and launched for the website www.tipperary.ie and its associated social media platforms. TCC worked with successful Tipperary based companies, highlighting the many reasons Tipperary is a viable location to for investment and business location.



TCC awarded an Excellence in Local Government Awards for the development of the Suir Blueway Tipperary



TOURISM:

Following a positive to start to the year the 2020 Covid 19 global pandemic brought tourism to a standstill worldwide as countries closed their borders and travel was restricted to 2km from home.

The focus for the tourism office for much of 2020 has been on supporting the industry as much as possible linking tourism providers with supportive information, funding and upskilling opportunities to assist in forging a way through the challenges of a very difficult economic climate. A focused and dynamic marketing campaign was developed and rolled out for the reopening during the summer months when restrictions allowed. Notwithstanding this operating environment many tourism development projects moved forward during the year including the development of the county's first flagship tourism product development plan Tipperary Transforming 2020-2030. It is anticipated that 2021 will also bring challenges in business sustainability however it is hoped that 2021 will mark the commencement of a road to recovery.

Tipperary Destination Recovery Taskforce

A Tipperary Destination Recovery Taskforce has been established to co-ordinate recovery at a destination level. The role of the taskforce is to agree actions with and between the stakeholders, identify and capitalise on opportunities as they arise over the next 12-18 months and to align destination marketing efforts with national brands and Discover Ireland Marketing Campaign.

This new stakeholder group is led by Tipperary Tourism in co-operation with Fáilte Ireland and supported by Tipperary County Council. Stakeholders from across the industry and across the county are represented, working together to specifically address issues arising from Covid-19.

Tipperary Strategic Tourism Marketing, Experience & Destination Development Plan 2016-2021

Tipperary Tourism Company and Tipperary County Council continued to implement the Strategic Tourism Marketing, Experience and Destination Development Plan. An interim review completed in 2019 recommended the development of the Tipperary Transforming, Tourism Product Development Plan 2020 – 2030 which was completed during 2020.





Tipperary Transforming, Tourism Product Development Plan 2020-2030

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism recognise the important opportunity that tourism provides in terms of economic impact, job creation and sustainability for the county. There is a huge opportunity to drive forward an ambitious countywide investment programme, creating successful tourism development leading not only to job creation and economic development but to county pride, confidence and community wellbeing, all of which is critically important from a county development point of view. The purpose of this Plan is to guide and assist the council and Tipperary Tourism in delivering its plan to significantly improve the visitor product experience in the county, increase capacity, dwell time, bed nights which will assist the local economy. The Plan suggests ideas for creating exciting new tourism experiences and significantly enhancing existing ones. These will lead to building greater capacity among tourism providers and extending visitor length of stay in the county, whilst also building synergies and collaborations between tourism product offerings in order to deliver top-quality visitor experiences. There is a suite of innovative and creative potential projects included,

along with a range of key targets, followed by an action plan plotting out the roadmap to be focused on for the next decade. <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/community-and-economic-development/tipperary-transforming-tourism-product-development-plan-2020-2030>



Redevelopment of www.tipperary.com

The launch of the dynamic newly redeveloped www.tipperary.com took place on January 28th and was very successful with an attendance of 75 tourism providers at Tipperary Excel. The new website showcases, through imagery and video, the wealth of attractions and activities available across the county and packages these experiences through itineraries to appeal to target markets such as families and the culturally curious. The new website is completely mobile enabled and provides a platform to promote destination Tipperary to the world.



tipperary.com launch. Team photo



tipperary.com launch. Tipperary Tourism Board Members



tipperary.com launch. Eliz Nallen Bowen, Hotel Minella



New Historic Town Trail signage at Tipperary Town

Fáilte Ireland worked with the local community in Tipperary Town and Tipperary County Council to upgrade and rebrand the signage to align with the Irelands Ancient East proposition and The Butler Trail.



Des Marnane, Justine Carey, Marie Phelan & Pat Slattery

Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme –
Department of Rural and Community Development.

Funding was secured by tourism section for the following projects which were delivered in 2020:

- **Suir Blueway Tipperary** - Way Markers, Bike Racks and Marketing. (€25,000);
- **Lough Derg Blueway** - PR and Marketing Campaign. (€25,000);
- **Take A Hike, PR and Marketing Campaign** - to promote Tipperary as a walking and hiking tourism destination. (€25,000);
- **A further three applications have been made during 2020 for the following projects;**
 - *Tipperary Hiking Digital Platform* (€25,000),
 - *Lough Derg Digital Platform* (€25,000) and
 - *Munster Vales Digital Platform* (€25,000).

Cashel Destination Town Plan

Tipperary County Council invited Fáilte Ireland to work together to develop a Destination Town Plan for Cashel during 2019. Following much consultation and research the new Cashel Town Plan was completed in August 2020. Furthermore Funding was secured under the Fáilte Ireland Developed and Emerging Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme to deliver initial actions on wayfinding and public realm from the Cashel Destination Town Plan (€500,000 matched by €166,000 from Tipperary County Council). Plans are progressing to develop a new visitor hub for the Rock of Cashel in partnership with the OPW and to deliver the new Cashel Tourism Park.

Tipperary County Council wins Excellence in Local Government Supporting Tourism Award

Tipperary County Council won the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award in the Supporting Tourism category for Suir Blueway Tipperary. This is a much coveted award with strong competition from five other shortlisted local authorities. This win cements Tipperary's reputation as a tourism destination offering excellence in visitor experience development, and specifically showcases the fine attributes of Suir Blueway Tipperary, providing another vehicle through which to promote Tipperary as a tourism destination.



Just Transition Funding secured for Littleton Labyrinth

Tipperary County Council, in partnership with Bórd na Mona, secured funding under the Just Transition Fund of €780,000 to develop the first phase of Littleton Labyrinth, essentially this project encompasses a peatway from Horse and Jockey to Glengoole encircling Lough Daoire Bhile. Also included in this application is a feasibility and business plan to develop the concept of a Bushcraft Survival and Activity Centre a concept from the Tipperary Transforming Tourism Product Development Plan 2020 -2030.

Tipperary Tourism - Re-Imagining Tourism in Tipperary

Over fifty tourism providers from around the county attended a new tailored training programme for the tourism sector from June until December 2020. The Re-Imagining Tourism in Tipperary Course pivoted with the changing requirements of the industry through out focusing on topics to support businesses through the challenges of Covid 19. The feedback from participants is overwhelmingly positive and the impact on Tipperary Tourisms marketing campaigns in terms of extended reach and cross selling has been significant. The industry has come together very positively during this extremely challenging time and we will continue to support the industry to meet in this forum into 2021.



TIPPERARY TOURISM

Marketing:

Significant effort ensured that the online presence of Tipperary Tourism was maintained during the Covid 19 pandemic pivoting marketing messages to reinforce public health messaging whilst also keeping Tipperary in the mind of local and perspective visitors alike. There were 6 mini campaign throughout 2020, resulting in 11 million eyes on Tipperary promotions throughout the year. Sixty pieces of coverage in the press, with a PR value of almost half a million. The highlights, radio and tv campaigns reaching an audience of over 1 million. Nine new promotional videos and a new bank of imagery were created and shared.

Marketing Actions

Print:

- To make Tipperary Tourisms brochures available on line in a simple way for tourism providers and visitors alike a QR Codes poster was developed for distribution countywide.
- A Code of Conduct flyer for Suir Blueway Tipperary was designed and printed. This was circulated to all businesses operating along the Blueway.
- The very popular Take A Hike brochure was updated, and reprinted.
- The Suir Blueway Tipperary brochure was updated and reprinted and is due for circulation to the relevant businesses.
- There Discover Tipperary Map Brochure was updated.

PR:

- A PR Value of €427,000 was achieved from 8 press releases with coverage in multiple national publications including; Irish Times, Irish Independent, Sunday World, Irish Star and Woman's Way.
- Press releases secured solid traction locally with both radio and print media. Outlets have covered several stories including Suir Blueway Tipperary, Picnics, Photo exhibition and the COVID Safety Charter.
- Social Media Influencer Fiona Naughton (parenting blogger) completed a fam trip and promoted the Lough Derg region.

Filming coverage:

- The Elaine Show on TV3 filmed a feature on Blackcastle Farm in Two Mile Borris & Bridget Cleary's burial ground and story.
- Rachel Gaffney's "REAL IRELAND" VIDEO SERIES, filming took place at Crossogue Preserves, Crossogue Equestrian, Brookfield Farm and Lough Derg landscapes. Footage will be made available from the shoots to Tipperary Tourism as well and coverage in the US market.

Website:

- New homepage completely redeveloped focusing on the message that Tipperary is Open with up to date information on the businesses that were open.
- 115k + visitors to www.tipperary.com between June & September, peaking in August.
- A new section highlighting the "Spend & Save Initiative" offers was developed.

Social Media:

- Engagement 3 times the industry standard across the platforms.

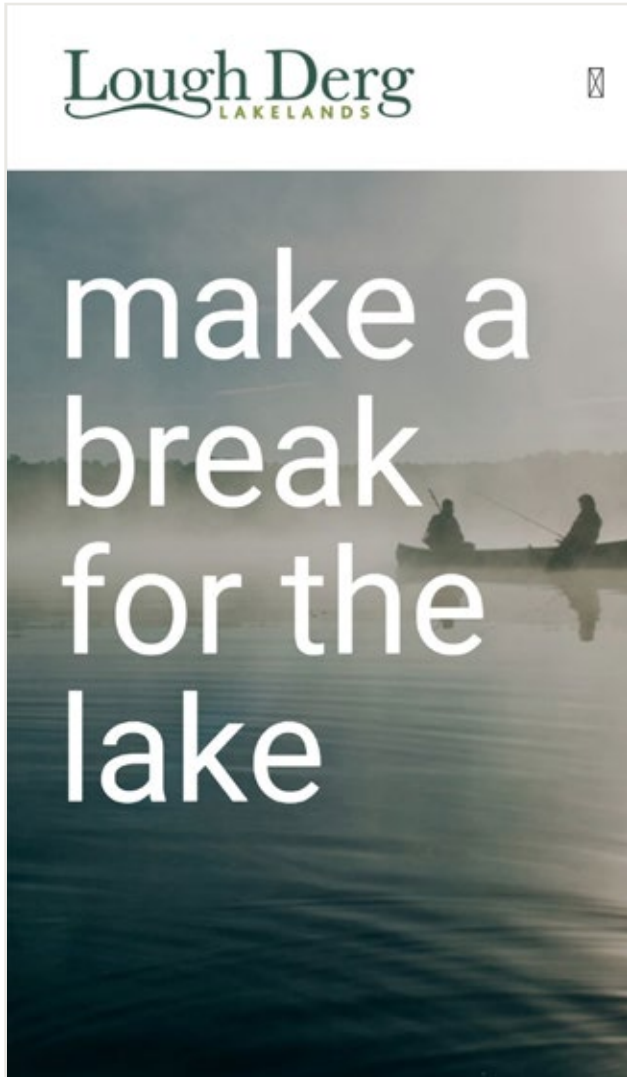
Covid Safety Charter:

Following an intensive campaign by Tipperary Tourism there are now 137 Tipperary Businesses signed up for the Covid 19 Safety Charter. The message that Tipperary is a safe destination to visit is paramount.



Lough Derg

A Destination Recovery Taskforce was established for Lough Derg in July in collaboration with Irelands Hidden Heartlands to support and assist the industry through the pandemic.



Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan

The Lough Derg VEDP & Screening documents, were adopted by the Lough Derg Marketing Group on December 2nd 2020. It is envisaged this plan will be launched in April 2021.



The Shannon Tourism Masterplan adopted in 2020, sets out a bold and integrated framework for sustainable tourism development along the Shannon and Shannon Erne Waterway repositioning the region as a key tourism destination within Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands, with world class visitor experiences based on the region’s natural and cultural assets.

Waterways Ireland, in association with Fáilte Ireland and with the support of the ten local authorities adjoining the River Shannon and Shannon Erne Waterway: Leitrim, Cavan, Roscommon, Longford, Westmeath, Galway, Offaly, Tipperary, Clare and Limerick have developed this Tourism Masterplan for the Shannon and implementation has already begun.



A workshop was carried out in December with the remit to agree actions with and between the stakeholders, identify and capitalise on opportunities as they arise over the next 12-18 months and to align destination marketing efforts with Irelands Hidden Heartlands and the Discover Ireland Marketing Campaign.

Marketing

In 2020 an innovative marketing plan was executed, including P.R., podcast sponsorship with Blindboy, Radio and local press media. As a result of this awareness Lough Derg reported a significant increase in followership and website traffic in 2020. Digital audiences across all social media more than doubled in the last 12 months, and 8 million impressions were created. A new digital marketing plan will be implemented in 2021.



Munster Vales

Launch of Strategic Development Plan 2020-2025

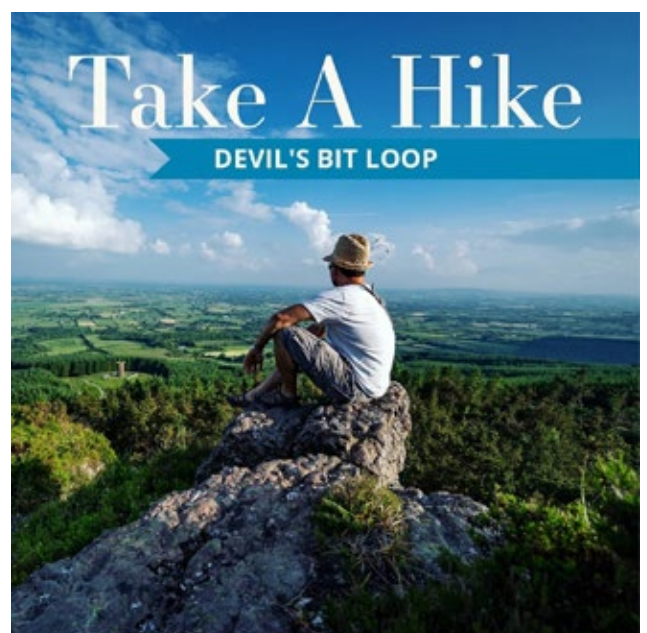


For more information please find Munster Vales Strategic Development Plan 2020-2025



Munster Vales launched the Strategic Development Plan at a virtual launch held in Event Plan Studios in Cork to an audience of over 100 people. The strategy aims to maximise partnership between the four local authorities and relevant agencies, providing opportunities for local businesses to collaborate and promote their products and experiences to the national and international target market.

The three strategic priorities include stakeholder and community engagement, visitor experience development and visitor awareness and engagement. The engagement with key stakeholders delivered tangible ideas and direction to drive the Munster Vales brand and maximise its contribution to the local tourism economy for business across the region.



Developed relationships with Failte Ireland & Tourism Ireland

Munster Vales actively worked on developing the relationship with Failte Ireland and Tourism Ireland in 2020 and relayed important information relating to Covid 19 to the trade. Munster Vales also availed of two opportunities to present on what this region has to offer visitors, one to the North American market with Tourism Ireland and one to the domestic market with Failte Ireland.

Community Engagement Program

Following on from the strategic priorities and goals outlined in the Strategic Development Plan, a community engagement programme emerged as a key action. The program commenced in December 2020 with almost 90 participants from communities throughout the region. The program will evoke a clear understanding of local needs and opportunities and ensure that communities have the support and toolkit to leverage off the Munster Vales brand and build on the collaborative opportunities between businesses, communities, counties and regions.

Training and Mentoring

Tailored online training courses were delivered to over 80 Munster Vales stakeholders in 2020 and over 30 specific mentoring requests were met with the assistance of the Local Enterprise Office. This brings the total number of people who received training courtesy of Munster Vales to 230 over the past three years. Munster Vales continues to support the tourism related businesses in the region through this difficult time.



Networking Event with LEO Tipperary

In February 2020 a successful networking event took place in the Excel Centre in Tipperary Town and was supported by the Local Enterprise Office. It was well attended by the tourism related businesses from Tipperary, Cork, Limerick and Waterford.



Funding

Munster Vales received LEADER funding for the Strategic Development Plan and were awarded LEADER funding for marketing actions and community support for 2021. ORIS funding was also awarded for the development of an interactive digital map of the area and for a slow adventure campaign which will support the development of new and existing visitor experiences, encouraging extended dwell time and increasing revenue growth from overseas and domestic visitors.




BROADBAND DEVELOPMENTS:

National Broadband Plan

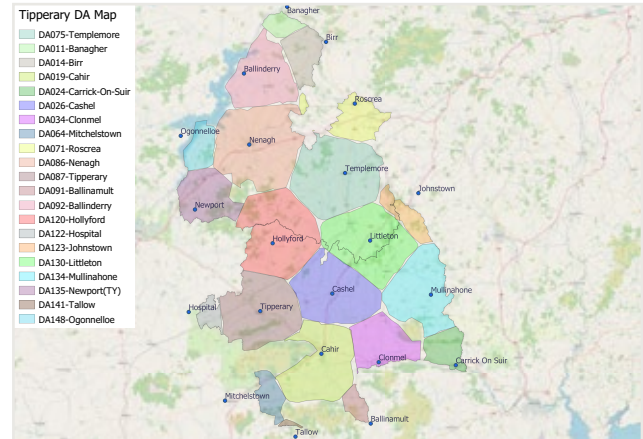
The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the largest State infrastructure investment in rural Ireland since rural electrification. It is a Programme for Government commitment and a key project under the National Development Plan. The fibre broadband network will be delivered by National Broadband Ireland (NBI) under a contract signed in November 2019 to roll out a high speed and future proofed broadband network within the Intervention Area which covers 1.1 million people and includes over 544,000 premises, almost 100,000 businesses and farms, along with 695 schools.



In Tipperary, there are 29,759 premises in the Intervention Area (IA), which includes homes, farms, commercial businesses and 35 National schools. This equates to 35% of all premises in the county. Under the National Broadband Plan, Tipperary will see an investment of €118m in the new high speed fibre network. This will enable e-learning, remote monitoring of livestock or equipment, e-health initiatives, better energy efficiency in the home, and facilitate increased levels of remote working.

 *The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the largest State infrastructure investment in rural Ireland since rural electrification.*

The NBP IA - Delivery Programme for County Tipperary



Map of NBP IA – Deployment Area (s) - Tipperary County

Every individual premises covered by the National Broadband Plan - State Intervention in County Tipperary will be surveyed to ensure that a detailed delivery plan is prepared for each and every home and business.

Every premises in the National Broadband Plan - State Intervention Area (IA) will be connected via Network Fibre to 1 of 33 NBI Core Network Exchange Areas - where traffic will be handed over to Commercial Service Providers. Three (3) Core Network Areas are planned for the County and are located in the towns of Roscrea, Tipperary and Clonmel.



Commercial Investment in high-speed Fibre Broadband



SIRO

A joint venture of VODAFONE and the ESB, continues to deploy high speed broadband (FTTH) in the towns of Nenagh (3,700 premises), Clonmel (8,693 premises), Roscrea (2,800 premises).

Further SIRO investment in the County is planned to be announced in 2021.

In June 2019 **Eir ltd** commenced the build of its new FTTH investment Programme to upgrade its legacy copper network across the County. The footprint of the eir IFN Project will cover all Urban areas in the county with greater than 1,000 urban premises (10 towns in the county). **Eir ltd** recently completed its Urban fibre build programme in Tipperary town in record time. An total of 3,000 premises were passed in 10 weeks. In addition, Eir ltd has now also passed 7, 900 premises in the following towns:Nenagh, Templemore and Cahir.



Eir ltd - open eir

Eir ltd - open eir also recently completed the deployment of high speed broadband FTTH to 16,000 rural premises in the National Broadband Plan - Intervention Area in County Tipperary - under its Commitment Agreement with the State.

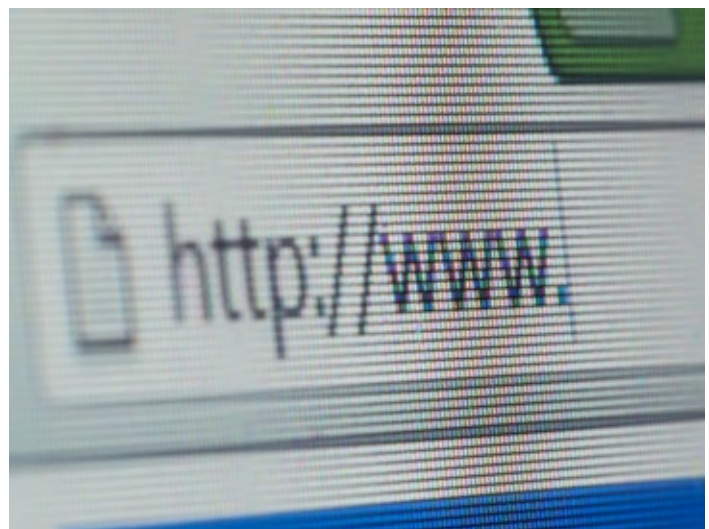


eNet

eNet has over 133 Metropolitan Area Network Connection (s) across the eight (8) Urban eNet Networks in County Tipperary and these are either operational or in the process of coming on stream.

Their end users are a real mix of life in Business in the county made up of-

- Schools
- All of the larger FDI employers in these towns
- Bank Branches and Credit Union offices
- Supermarkets
- Gov Departments and State Agencies (Hospitals/Garda Stations etc)
- Other telecoms Infrastructure (Allows the operators provide connection to homes and smaller business in and around the towns)



Commercial Investment in Mobile Phone and Mobile Broadband

The Mobile Network Operators (MNO), including Vodafone, Three, Eir and Imagine (who provide for 4G LTE broadband and VOIP services) continue to build and upgrade networks in County Tipperary and this has led to significantly enhanced call and text reliability, 4G, 4G (plus) and 3G services.

Eircom ltd continues to upgrade their 2G, 3G and 4G infrastructure in County Tipperary and has submitted a number of planning applications to the planning authority in order to seek to improve their services in these area's. Eircom ltd has a policy of co-location and allowing other operators to use their infrastructure.

Vodafone Ireland has identified over 30 locations in the county that require network improvements and plans are at an advanced stage to progress a number of these.



Cellnex Telecom build telecommunications Infrastructure and are now actively progressing circa 15 locations for new telecommunication mast infrastructure in County Tipperary.

In the Portroe area / North Tipperary alone they are looking at solutions for the Terryglass, Carrigahorig, the N65 Portumna road, Puckane, Dromineer, Nenagh North and Silvermines as Phase One of their plan. Phase One progressed in 2020 with Phase 2 beginning in early 2021.

Works to build a new MNO network mast structure at Carrigahorig are to commence shortly.



Commercial Investment in Next Generation Access to high-speed Fixed Wireless Broadband services



Following their announcement of a €300 Million investment in 2019 and in response to the Covid pandemic, with the upgrade and expansion of its WTTx network - Imagine have extended high-performance broadband availability to 1.1 million homes and businesses across Regional and Rural Ireland.

As of February 2021, 62,793 homes and businesses in County Tipperary, are covered by the Imagine network from 22 Mast locations both within (11 no.) and in surrounding the counties.

Borrisoleigh and Carrick-on-Suir and surrounding townlands went live in September 2020.

In response to requests from local businesses, communities etc, their coverage has also recently been extended around Fethard, Littleton, Terryglass, Nenagh and Newport. Carrigahorig which was identified by the Council on a number of occasions as a black spot will be covered in April, 2021 from a new network mast location in Ballynakill, County Galway.

Future Technologies

The Telecommunications Industry has agreed to participate in the design of a pilot solution to Shared underground Telecommunications Infrastructure with Tipperary County Council and others.

The development of shared telecommunications Infrastructure template is being developed as part of the Liberty Square Refurbishment Project, Thurles. The concept of telecommunications "physical infrastructure sharing" is supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



WiFi4EU Initiative



The WiFi4EU Network in County Tipperary is located as follows:

Location	Number of Free WiFi Access Point's (AP's) Deployed	Operational Status of Free WiFi Access Point (AP) Connectivity
Tipperary	14	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services
Nenagh	11	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services
Roscrea	6	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services
Thurles	5	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services
Carrick-on-Suir	5	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services
Clonmel	5	All APs "Live" and delivering WiFi services



Note: AP - Location of Free WiFi Access Point connectivity to Members of the Public.

Launch of the Free Wi-FiEU Network in Tipperary Town

Cathaoirleach of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District, Cllr John Crosse officially launched the service in Tipperary town on Monday 28 September 2020.



The new service was installed by Magnet Networks and Tipperary town is one of the first locations in the State where the WiFi4EU Funded Initiative has been introduced and is operational.



Additional Broadband Connection Points:


- Ten new locations were selected to be connected in County Tipperary as follows:
- Ballinahinch Community Centre, Rossfinch, Ballinahinch, Birdhill
- Boher Parish Hall, Ballina
- Ballylooby Castlegrange GAA Club
- Donaskeagh Community Centre,
- Fanure Community Hall, Roscrea
- Kilcoleman Community /Burgess GAA Newtown, Nenagh.
- Latteragh Community Centre, Sallypark, Nenagh
- Terryglass Community Hall, Nenagh
- The apple Camping & Caravan Park, Moorstown, Cahir
- The Pavillion, Ballinderry SportsField, Nenagh

Work will commence on the delivery of these new Broadband Connection Points over the 2nd Quarter of 2021 and efforts to source funding for them for improvements in the facilities at each location, funding for equipment and collaborations from other agencies to delivery services, training and remote-hub environments.

Digital Innovation Project

A study to identify and support the considerable advantages of smart agricultural based technologies for food security and safety, promote more sustainable ways of farming, trigger wider societal changes and the learning of new skills will be completed in March 2021.

This study is supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

 *A study to identify and support the considerable advantages of smart agricultural based technologies for food security and safety, promote more sustainable ways of farming, trigger wider societal changes and the learning of new skills will be completed in March 2021.*



CRAFT STRATEGY:

Computer Training was identified for 16 members of the Craft Sector in County Tipperary through the Regional Skills Mid West Explore Programme.

Retail Commercial Incentive Scheme

A full review of the Commercial Incentive Scheme was completed by a sub-group of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC. This involved consultation with staff, applicants and recipients of the Grant. Changes that will bring improvements were identified for the next scheme.



Painting and Enhancement Scheme

The Painting and Enhancement Scheme was undertaken in 2020 in all MD's with the following allocations.

Municipal District	Cashel Tipperary	Clonmel	Templemore Thurles	Nenagh	Carrick on Suir
Grant allocation €	4317	5695	5092	2980	1960



Christmas Retail Support Programme 2020

Tipperary County Council in conjunction with the Tipperary Local Enterprise Office sought applications from Trader Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Community Groups, Farmers Markets, Craft Markets or those involved in the Craft Sector under the Christmas Retail Support Programme. Grantees were awarded funding to be spent on activities including advertising, promotions, street entertainment or other expenses for their Christmas events. On account of the COVID19 challenges, emphasis was placed on projects and events that were hosted out-of-doors. Versatile and innovative approaches were favored.

There was 29 applications from across the County and funding was awarded as follows:

Burncourt Community Council CLG	Cashel Tipperary	350
Duhill Community Council	Cashel Tipperary	350
Ballylooby/Castlegrace GAA club	Cashel Tipperary	350
St Marys Parish Cahir	Cashel Tipperary	400
Ardfinnan	Cashel Tipperary	600
Tipperary Excel Heritage Centre	Cashel Tipperary	700
Cashel Heritage & Development CLG	Cashel Tipperary	700
Newcastle Community Alert	Cashel Tipperary	1200
Knockavilla Community Council	Cashel Tipperary	1300
Tipperary Vintage Rally Group	Cashel Tipperary	2200
Cahir Development Association CLG	Cashel Tipperary	2200
TIRD chamber of Commerce	Cashel Tipperary	2200
Kilsheelan Tidy towns	Clonmel Borough	1300
Clonmel Junction Arts Festival	Clonmel Borough	3000
Dromineer & District Development Association	Nenagh MD	350
Sceal Community Group	Nenagh MD	350
Ballycommon Sponsored Ride (BSR)	Nenagh MD	350
Ballinderry Development Association	Nenagh MD	350
Cloughjordan Community Development	Nenagh MD	1300
Ballingarry Community Initiative	Nenagh MD	1300
Nenagh Chamber	Nenagh MD	3000
Quintins way Christmas Festival Group	Nenagh MD	3000
Thurles Arts and Crafts Centre	Templemore Thurles	350
Thurles Tourist Office	Templemore Thurles	1600
Thurles Christmas Skyfest	Templemore Thurles	2000
Roscrea Town Christmas	Templemore Thurles	2200
Recommendation		€36,500

Shop Local Tipperary Campaign

The Shop Local Tipperary Social Media Campaign gained traction in 2020 and continued to grow. It promotes the commissioned messaging to the public across the county using strong imagery and all activity is fully branded as a Tipperary County Council initiative.



Instagram Statistics

	Page Followers	Total Page Likes	Total Post Reach per Month
Oct 2019	570	607	3
June 2020	792	691	3,002

Facebook Statistics

	Page Followers	Total Following	Total Posts
Oct 2019	298	263	13
June 2020	838	577	64



In 2020 a full radio campaign on Tipp FM and Tipperary Mid West Radio ran along with promotions on the social media channel tipperarylive.ie in collaboration with LEO in order to keep local business highlighted.



New promotional website for Tipperary Businesses

A new site was established by Tipperary County Council <https://shop.localtipperary.ie> to support businesses that are capable of online retail services during COVID. This now has 600 business on display drawn from across the county. The site is fully searchable - broken down by nearest town and also by categories of business type. Feedback from businesses is very positive and a full radio promotion was undertaken to highlight the service itself and separately to get businesses to register on it also.

This new site has the potential to become a service for further promotion of the Shop Local message in the future.



Review of Casual Trading / Markets Bye-Laws

A Review of Casual Trading /Markets Bye-Laws was undertaken and provided to each MD for the next step of the process which involves provision of maps of the relevant areas to be included in the Bye-Laws of each individual MD area; the setting of fees for each relevant license category and consultation with members of the public in each MD.



Supporting Towns - Town & Village Accelerated Measures Funds 2020

Funding was awarded to Thurles, Tipperary and Carrick-on-Suir MD's for Town Centre Initiatives to support the Retail Sector under the Town and Village Accelerated Measures 2020.

This included a range of projects including website development, marketing, training and research and support the the development of a new digital Hub by COSBA in Stable Lane.

Working directly in collaboration with Tipperary TIRD and Revitalisation Task Group the development of a new Brand and Website for Tipperary Town was achieved.

Despite the challenge of COVID 19 restrictions a consultative process and information campaign was undertaken to ensure the views of the public were garnered and fully reflected in the final brand developed. The new brand was adopted by Tipperary County Council, Tipperary Revitalisation Task Group and TIRD/Chamber of Commerce and will be used widely across the town over the coming years.



L-R Dave McMahon, Ann Hadnett, Bryan O'Rahilly and Siobhan Hyland Ryan.



ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

The Policy of the Council is to maintain, develop and improve existing roads and to construct new roads as planning and resources allow.

INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE (to include Roads, Transportation and Water Services)

The Infrastructure SPC (Roads, Transportation and Water Services) was established following the Local Elections 2019 and held four meetings in 2020.

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillors

- Cllr. Jim Ryan (Chair),
- Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald,
- Cllr. Micheál Anglim,
- Cllr. Kieran Bourke,
- Cllr. Hughie McGrath,
- Cllr. David Dunne,
- Cllr. Declan Burgess,
- Cllr. Kevin O'Meara,
- Cllr. Michael O'Meara,
- Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald

Sectoral/Pillars

Public Participation Network Representatives:

- Mr. Ger Shanahan,
- Mr. Brian Pope

Agriculture & Farming:

Mr. Peter Farrell

Business, Commercial and Tourism:

Mr. David Shanahan,
succeeded by Michelle
Aylward in December 2020.

Development Construction:

Mr. Seán Reidy

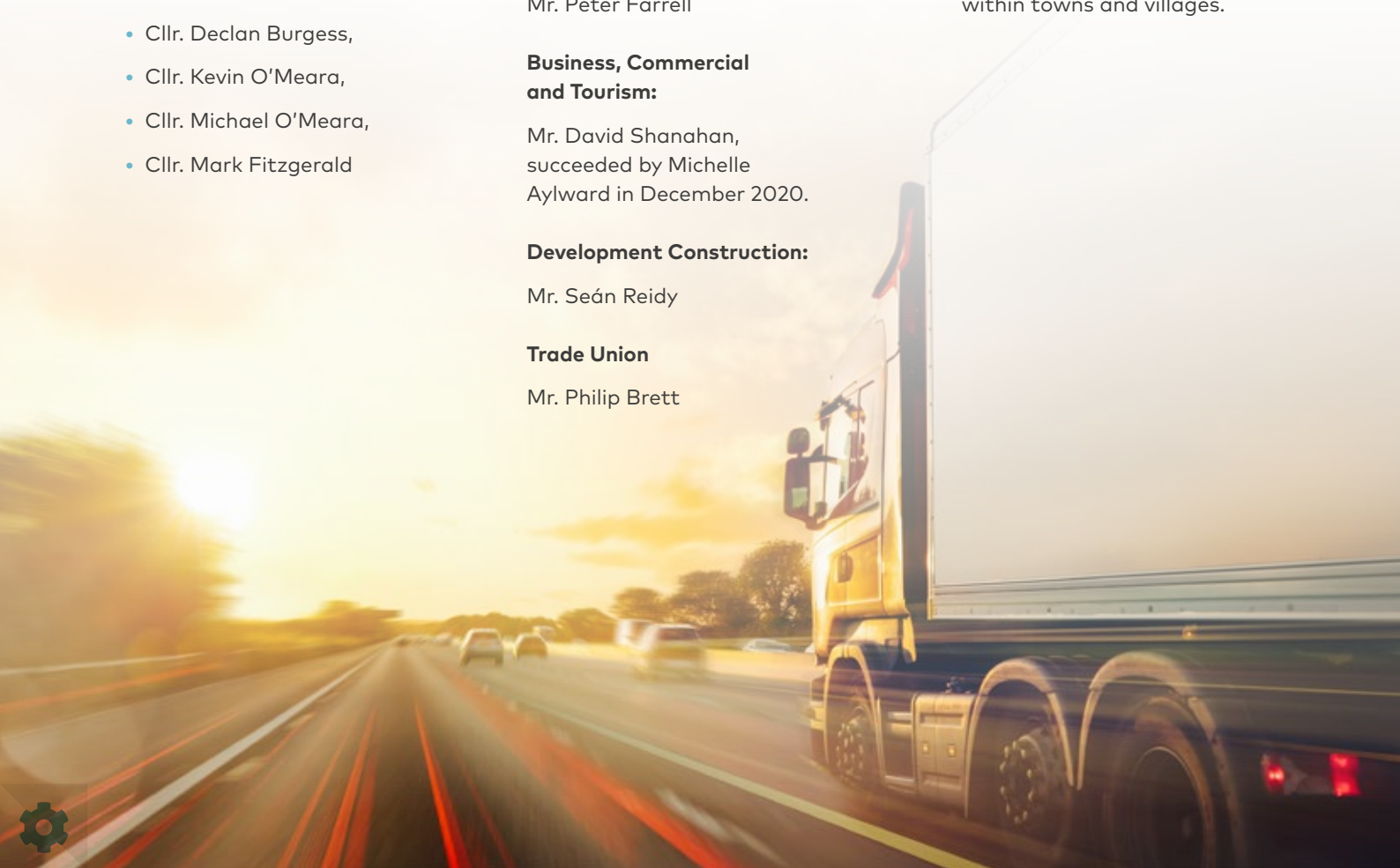
Trade Union

Mr. Philip Brett

Policy Areas Considered

Policy areas considered were:

- Provision of Disabled Parking Spaces in residential areas
- Use of sulkies on public roads
- Urban raised pedestrian crossings/raised turntables within towns and villages.



County Tipperary Road Classification Lengths in Municipal Areas (per km)

National

Municipal Area	Nenagh	Thurles	Clonmel	Tipperary Cahir Cashel	Carrick	Totals
Motorway	39.00	38.00	0	39.00	6.00	122.00
National Primary	0	0	25.40	36.12	9.91	71.43
National Secondary	52.38	52.37	9.07	20.39	11.08	145.29
Total	91.38	90.37	34.47	95.51	26.99	338.72

Regional, Local and Tertiary

Regional	276.69	154.90	58.87	272.18	135.55	898.19
Local Primary	494.74	487.98	130.00	547.00	244.00	1903.72
Local Secondary	453.66	398.86	67.03	537.27	258.30	1715.12
Local Tertiary	260.86	242.46	98.05	321.92	131.25	1054.54
Total	1485.95	1284.20	353.95	1678.37	769.10	5571.57

Totals

Overall Total including Motorways	1577.33	1374.57	388.42	1773.88	796.09	5910.29
Overall Total excluding Motorways	1538.33	1336.57	388.42	1734.88	790.09	5788.29

Summary of Roads Allocations Paid 2020

National Roads

Improvement	€ 7,941,374
Maintenance	€ 1,114,472
Total	€ 9,055,846



Tipperary County Council maintains over 5,700km of road network across all road categories



NON-NATIONAL ROADS

This category caters for Regional and Local Roads. The maintenance and improvement of these roads in 2020 was funded by the Department of Transport, in addition to the Council's own resources.

The Council received grants for non-national roads amounting to €32,166,924 in 2020, as follows:

Discretionary Maintenance	€4,796,000
Restoration Maintenance (incl. Supplementary RM)	€4,110,834
Restoration Improvement	€14,443,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€652,261
Safety Improvement Works	€537,902
Drainage Works	€1,258,387
Cycling signs	€25,623
Specific Improvement Scheme – Albert Bridge	€196,876
Specific Improvement Scheme – Ardfinnan Bridge	€15,534
Specific Improvement Scheme – Clonbeg Bridge, Aherlow	€372,103
Specific Improvement Scheme – Knocklofty Bridge	€205,417
Velocity Patching unit	€100,000
Hedge Cutting	€14,480
PSCI Survey Support 2020	€40,757
Active Travel Projects	€1,701,095
Climate Change Adaptation projects	€986,137
Training Grant	€106,195
Latteragh Upgrade	€206,994
Former National Roads	€1,243,316
Community Involvement Schemes	€1,133,700
Speed Limits	€20,313
Total Regional and Local Road Allocations 2020:	€32,166,924
Own Resources Allocation 2020	€8,540,256

The Discretionary Grant of €4,796,000 was used to supplement the Council's own resources for ordinary maintenance of Regional and Local Roads. The Council's own resources allocation was €8,540,256.

Covid-19 Measures:

The Council received funding approval in 2020 from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to undertake two projects in Nenagh under a scheme to deal with challenges posed by Covid-19, with funding received in the amount of €52,381 to date.

Major Capital Schemes

Project Ireland 2040 – Our Plan (National Planning Framework and National Development Plan) sets out the investment programme for National Road infrastructure. Outlined below is the current position in relation to major projects:

 **€40.7m funding for non-national roads in 2020**



Major Road Improvement Schemes

N24 Waterford to Limerick:

In January 2018, two schemes were notified to TII by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS):

- N24 Waterford to Cahir - Kilkenny County Council advised as Lead Authority
- N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction - Tipperary County Council advised as Lead Authority.

Arup and Partners Ireland Ltd., t/a Arup has won two separate appointments and are the Design Consultants on each of these projects.

Cahir to Limerick Junction:

- **Phase 1:** Concept and Feasibility completed in September 2020
- **Phase 2:** Option selection has commenced and is due to be completed by April 2022.



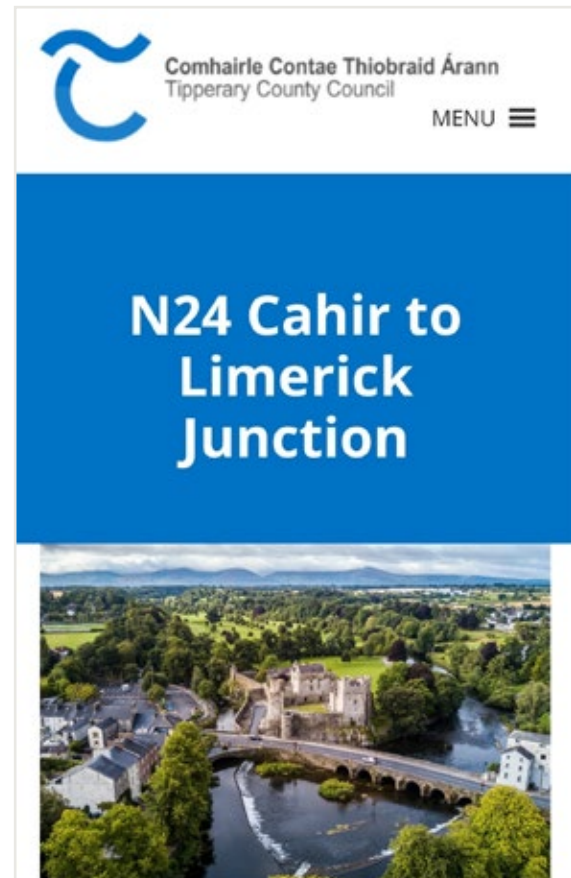
Cahir to Waterford Study Area, available on the Project Website www.n24cahirlimerick.ie

Waterford to Cahir:

- **Phase 1:** Concept and Feasibility is underway and will be completed Q1 of 2021.
- Website to be launched in February 2021.



The N24 is a strategic corridor from Limerick to Waterford and is particularly important for the enhancement of accessibility to the towns it passes through, Tipperary Town, Cahir, Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir and their rural hinterland



NATIONAL PRIMARY AND NATIONAL SECONDARY ROUTES

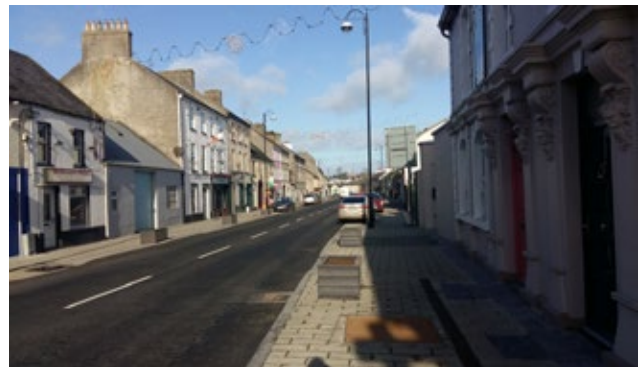
Works were planned and carried out on National Primary and National Secondary routes during 2020 as follows:

National Primary Road Improvements

- **N24 Clonmel Inner Relief Road Pavement Improvement:** This scheme involved the rehabilitation of approximately 7.3 km of pavement on the N24 National Primary road and cost €4.5 million. Construction commenced in October 2019 and works were completed in mid-2020 despite setbacks due to Covid-19.
- **N24 Carrick-on-Suir Pavement Scheme** - This scheme involves the rehabilitation of a total of 3.5 km of pavement on the N24 National Route in county Tipperary. Design work was completed in 2019. Public Consultation and Part 8 were completed in 2020, and following detailed design stage, construction is due to commence by mid 2021 subject to TII final approval and funding.
- **N24 - Main Street Tipperary Town and N74 Fr. Mathew Street** - This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 1.8 km of pavement, replacement of existing footpaths and provision of essential pedestrian infrastructure such as crossing areas and build outs. The scheme commences at the junction between the N24 and R515 at O'Brien Street and terminates approximately 1.2 km out the N74 Fr Mathew Street/Cashel Road. Mott MacDonald Pettit Consultants were appointed in 2019 to carry out design work. The scheme has been progressed to Part 8 for the Elected Members Planning decision in January 2021. It is hoped that the scheme can progress to construction in 2021.

National Secondary Road Improvement

- **N52 Borrisokane Street Improvement Works –** This scheme involved three main elements (i) N52 Main Street Improvements, 1.6 km in length, which involved inlay and overlay works, undergrounding of overhead services, erection of public lighting columns, construction of drainage infrastructure, street landscaping as well as footpath and build-out works; (ii) N52 Birr Road Improvements, 0.6 km in length, which involved overlay, footpath modification and drainage works and (iii) Mill Race Culvert works at the junction of the N52 and N65. The scheme started construction in late 2018 and continued throughout 2019 and was substantially completed in December 2020. Snag items are to be closed out early 2021.



Some examples of the completed works in Borrisokane

- **N74 Ballyhusty Realignment** - this Scheme involves the realignment of approximately 1 km of the N74 at Ballyhusty. A Compulsory Purchase Order was advertised in September 2020 and submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval. An Bord Pleanála approval to confirm CPO was received on 17 November 2020. Subject to finance availability it is expected that Tipperary County Council will proceed with preparation of Tender documents and start construction in 2021.



- N62 Entrance to Templemore (Thurles Road) - this Scheme involved rehabilitation of approximately 2 km of road pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road on the southern approach to Templemore starting at the junction of the N62 and the R501 extending southwards. The Mid West National Road Design Office was appointed in 2019 to carry out design work. Construction work was substantially completed in 2020.




Works underway at Templemore November 2020

- N62 Entrance to Templemore (Roscrea Road) - this Scheme will involve the rehabilitation of 0.7 km of road pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road on the northern approach to Templemore starting approximately 600m from the square in Templemore and extending northwards for 700m. The Mid West National Road Design Office was appointed to carry out design work and it is anticipated that construction will take place in 2021.
- N62 Crescent to new roundabout Roscrea: this Scheme involved the rehabilitation of approximately 0.5 km of road pavement on the N62 National Secondary road within the town of Roscrea. Works commenced in November 2020 and are substantially complete.



Pavement Works at Birr Road Roscrea

- N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge – this Scheme involves raising of the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road. The scheme commences to the north of Carrigahorig Village and extends approximately 2.5 km in a north westerly direction to Balleiragh Bridge 2 km southeast of Portumna. A Ground Investigation Contract to aid preliminary design decisions was tendered in 2020.
- N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvement Scheme – There is a need for road pavement improvement works on the N65 through Carrigahorig village and a number of road safety concerns need to be addressed including the provision of a footpath extension from the village to the R493 Terryglass Road. Preliminary design work has been completed, and funding is being sought from the TII to carry out the final design and the pavement improvement works, road safety elements and footpath extension works. It is anticipated that detailed design work will commence in 2021.
- N62 Slievenamon Road, Thurles Phase 2 - this Scheme involves the rehabilitation of 447m of pavement on the N62 road through Thurles, Co. Tipperary. The works consist primarily of planing and inlay work. Other works include the replacement of existing footpaths and provision of essential pedestrian infrastructure such as crossing areas and build outs. Consultants were appointed to carry out design work and it is anticipated that the Scheme will go to Part 8 Planning in 2021.

 **National Roads
Allocations 2020**
€9,055,846



Strategic Non-National Road Projects

Thurles Inner Relief Road	Preliminary design completed, awaiting funding to proceed. The first section of the road is under construction by Lidl at the end of 2020 which will give access to a new store development.
R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh bends	Part 8 procedures have been completed and design work is underway. The CPO was published in Q3 2020 and Oral Hearing held in December. The decision is anticipated in April 2021.
Ballina/Killaloe By Pass – Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme	Planning procedures and Oral Hearing have been completed, CPO is confirmed and Notices to Treat have been served on the landowners. RPS Consultants progressed the detailed design and tender process commenced in Q2 2020. Construction is expected to commence in Q1 2021 subject to the availability of funding and will take approximately 3 years to complete.

Safety Improvement Works 2020 €537,902



Safety Improvement Works at Windmill Road, Cashel

Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads

A sum of €537,902 was spent on Safety Improvement Works at a number of locations on Regional and Local Roads throughout the county during 2020.

Works took place at the following locations:

- L-3275 at Ballyclerihan
- R639-26 at Ballytarsna
- R690 at Ballydonnell, Mullinahone
- R665 – Approach to Ballyporeen Village from Mitchelstown
- R515/R662 Top of O'Brien Street Tipperary Town
- L-1315 Windmill Road Cashel
- L-3211-0 Roadstown
- R503-153 Coonmore Bridge
- R497-74 Design and Replace Vehicle Restraint system



Safety Improvement Works at Roadstown Lower, Thurles

Community Involvement Schemes

These schemes refer to the upgrading and improvement of local roads where residents contribute 15% of the cost of the works. A total of 21 schemes were completed in 2020 across five Municipal Districts. Grant funding in the sum of €1,133,700 was received from the Department of Transport, under this scheme.



Local Improvement Schemes

In accordance with the Local Improvement Scheme Memorandum of February 2002, improvement works can be carried out on private/non- public roads. There must be more than one landowner on LIS road and the road must be open to the public. A local contribution is an integral part of the LIS scheme and it varies from 10% to 15% depending on the number of residences on the road. A total of 21 schemes were completed in 2020 across five Municipal Districts. Grant funding in the sum of €599,969 was received from Department of Rural and Community Development.



CLÁR 2020:

In July 2019, €95,000 was allocated for two roads related projects, under the CLÁR Measure 1 funding stream. Both projects were completed in 2020.

Project	Description of Works	Grant Funding	Community Contribution	Local Authority Contribution	Total funding
Bishop Harty NS. Ballinree, Nenagh	Car-parking and set down area	€45,000	€2,500	€2,500	€50,000
Rossmore National School, Cashel	Footpaths and Safety Measures	€50,000	€2,778	€2,778	€55,556



Bridge Rehabilitation Works

A sum of €652,261 was spent in 2020 in respect of bridge rehabilitation works in several locations across the county.



Killoskehan Bridge on the L-3216-20



Bridge at Modeshill, Mullinahone



Dillon Bridge, Carrick on Suir



Killoskehan Bridge on the L-3216-20



Bridge at Modeshill, Mullinahone



Coolmoyn Ballyvaddin Bridge



Killoskehan Bridge on the L-3216-20



Bridge at Modeshill, Mullinahone



Curraghscarteen Culvert near Fethard



Bridge at Modeshill, Mullinahone



Knockshanbrittas Bridge



Curraghscarteen Culvert near Fethard

In terms of Specific Improvement grants on bridges, €15,534 was spent on Ardfinnan Bridge, a further sum of €372,103 was spent on Clonbeg Bridge, €205,901 on Knocklofty Bridge, and €196,876 on Albert Bridge.



Machinery Yard

The Machinery Yard, which has two bases in Clonmel and Nenagh, provides a support service to engineering based activities for all of Tipperary County Council.

The core service objective is to provide machinery (i.e. vehicles, plant and equipment) at a reasonable cost to assist District based staff to carry out their functions. The machinery yard has approx 180 council owned vehicles and 25 leased vehicles under its control, with a replacement value of circa €4.2 million. In addition, it maintains approximately 20 District vehicles which would have an additional replacement value of circa €1.2 million.

The activities of the Machinery Yard include:

- Fleet management in compliance with the Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012,
- The inspection, operation and maintenance of the Council fleet, including requirements under Statutory Instrument S.I. 348 of 2013 Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) (Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Regulations 2013),
- The supply of plant and machinery as required to the Districts and sections of the County Council,
- The acquisition and disposal of plant and machinery,
- To have available the staffing levels and skills necessary to maintain and operate the council's plant and machinery fleet efficiently,
- Arranging the long-term and short-term hire of commercial machinery for the Districts.

In 2020 the machinery yard purchased 7 no. 7.5 tonne pickups to replace pre-2010 vehicles that were sold at auction in December 2020. These pickups will be used by the District road maintenance crews.



7 new 7.5 Tonne Crew cab Pickup Tipper Trucks

In addition, a velocity jet patcher was purchased, with the aid of a €100,000 grant from the Department of Transport; this vehicle will be used for pothole filling and patching in the Districts.



2020 Archway Velocity Jet Patcher

The council operates a computerised and automated fuel storage and dispensing system at Clonmel, Cahir, Cashel, Nenagh, Tipperary and Thurles depots to avail of the cost reduction achievable with bulk purchases through the OGP National Framework. Where vehicles cannot use the bulk facility due to remote locations, the drivers have been issued with fuel cards through the OGP National Framework, or can access fuel through local outlets.



Automated Diesel Fuel and Adblue Dispensing System



The Council operates its own machinery garages in Clonmel and Nenagh to meet the maintenance requirements for the various items of machinery. At present there is a Foreman fitter, six fitters and an apprentice fitter in the Clonmel workshop and a Foreman, two fitters and an apprentice fitter in the Nenagh workshop.

The machinery workshop is responsible for regular inspection of all commercial vehicles in the fleet, the servicing and maintenance of trucks, pickups, vans, tractors, specialised surface dressing and winter maintenance equipment, as required by the manufacturers' specification, and the repair of vehicles as required.

In 2020 the following upgrades were made to the Nenagh workshop:

- installation of a fire escape;
- installation of 2 No. Lifts to replace maintenance pits;
- upgrade of the vehicle wash bay;



Vehicle Lift System

and in Clonmel:

- installation of a fume extraction system in the maintenance pits;
- provision of a vehicle lift in the vehicle wash bay to wash the underside of vehicles as required by the RSA for CVRT inspections.



Truck lift system for washing underside of vehicles

The process of upgrading the Machinery Yard and the attached Civic Amenity Site in Nenagh is at design stage.

Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance service consists of four distinct phases namely:

1. Pre-salting of National Primary and Secondary routes and major Regional roads and routes of strategic importance
2. Salting and sanding of ice-bound National and Regional routes
3. Clearance of snow by means of snow ploughs from National and Regional routes
4. Clearance of snow by means of snow ploughs or mechanical loaders from county roads.

Phase 1 is termed precautionary treatment and is generally timed to be completed approximately two hours before the start of freezing conditions.

Winter maintenance of roads in Tipperary is prioritised on the following basis:

- Priority 1: National roads, and Regional roads of strategic importance
- Priority 2: Regional roads with high volume of traffic using the road
- Priority 3: Urban roads and Local roads on a priority basis, urban centres.



In extreme weather events Priority 1 routes will take precedence over Priority 2 routes in terms of allocation of available resources.

The winter maintenance period lasts from 1 October to 30 April each winter with the aim of keeping priority routes safe and as free as possible from wintry hazards. Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) provided a grant of €289,000 for National Road Winter Maintenance in 2020. €500,000 was allocated from the Department of Transport discretionary maintenance allocation for the treatment of non-national routes. €75,000 was allocated by Tipperary County Council for winter maintenance.

In 2019/2020 €910,555 was spent by the Council on winter maintenance. This does not include the cost of salt which is purchased nationally by TII and distributed to Local Authorities.

The county has a roster of four ice-cast Duty Engineers who are responsible for use of the Weather Bureau Service to examine the forecast and track the conditions for the area, in order to issue instructions for required winter maintenance based on specialist forecasts and local information.

The winter maintenance service is managed and operated by the Machinery Yard. Twelve crews are rostered on a weekly basis using seven (7) No. 6 tonne and five (5) No. 9 tonne salt spreaders, mounted on council trucks to pre-salt Priority 1 and Priority 2 routes (approx. 1,000 km) in the event of forecast of overnight frost/ice. Tipperary County Council has agreements with Offaly, Waterford and Kilkenny County Councils on a quid pro quo basis for cross-boundary treatments of routes to increase the efficiency of the operation.

Snowploughs can be fitted to the salt spreading vehicles when snow is forecast and the clearance of snow by ploughing will commence as soon as snow depths on all or part of the Priority 1 network exceeds 30mm. A complete schedule and map of pre-salting routes, and cross boundary agreements is published annually on the council's website www.tipperarycoco.ie



Map of Priority 1 (blue) and Priority 2 (red) Routes

Transport Infrastructure Ireland manages the national procurement of road salt for national and non-national roads. It provided an allocation to Tipperary County Council of 5,300 tonnes of salt for both national and non-national roads in 2019/2020, of which 4,375 tonnes were used between October 1 2019 and April 30 2020.

There were 61 callouts during that period, 35 of which were in 2020. Between October 2020 and December 2020 there were 19 callouts. TII maintains a national reserve of salt for distribution to local authorities in the event of forecast of a severe weather event, i.e. a prolonged cold snap, or blizzard conditions. The council's covered salt storage capacity is now in excess of 3,000 tonnes and salt storage barns are located in Cahir (600 tonnes), Cashel (350 tonnes), Clonmel (600 tonnes) and Nenagh (1,500 tonnes).



Winter Maintenance service covers 1,000km of Priority 1 and 2 routes



Severe Weather/Storm Damage

Tipperary County Council has established a Severe Weather Assessment Team (SWAT) to deal with emergencies as they arise. The team comprises of the Senior Engineers (SE) Roads, Senior Engineer (SE) Water Services, and District Engineers (5) under the chairmanship of the Senior Engineer (Roads Central).

The SWAT Chair convenes a teleconference meeting of the Severe Weather Assessment Team on receipt of all Orange and Red alerts from Met Eireann. This meeting should take place within one hour of the receipt of the alert to enable the team to assess the alert and its implications for council services. The SWAT Team should then determine the appropriate level of response. Every warning should be considered in the context of other relevant information available to SWAT, i.e. information from the Ice Cast System, local knowledge of roads, infrastructure, vulnerable communities etc. Depending on the nature of the weather impact assessment, a warning and/or a Severe Weather Activation Plan instruction should be issued to all appropriate sections of the Council as well as to relevant principal response agencies.

The Council responded to several weather events in 2020, including Storm Brendan in January and Storm Ellen in August. Storm Ellen was a significant early season storm which brought down trees across the county –and blew the roof off a commercial building on Davis Road, Clonmel.

The roads section updated the Severe Weather Plan and the Flood Emergency Plan in 2020.

Public Lighting

The Council is responsible for the provision and maintenance of public (street) lighting throughout the county. Public lighting maintenance is carried out under contract with Airtricity Utility Solutions. Energia supplies the electrical power to the lighting network. The total number of public lights in the network is circa 17,200.

Public Lighting is the single biggest user of energy in the overall Council's energy usage. Over the past number of years the Council has introduced LED lighting in new and replacement public lighting projects, as Sox lights are being phased out. This Council has and will continue to avail of external funding where same is available from SEAI and TII for energy efficiency projects. In 2020, 2000 Sox street light upgrades to LED were carried out with ongoing upgrades planned for 2021.

The Council is obliged to meet the National Public Service Efficiency Targets. This means that energy consumption must be reduced by 33% by 2020 and by 50% by 2030. Tipperary County Council has signed the Covenant of Mayors to give effect to this commitment.

 **2,000 street light upgrades to LED carried out in 2020**



**Interreg North West
Europe Smart Space Project**



Smart-Space aims to facilitate the uptake of smart lighting in small/mid-size municipalities to enhance energy-efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions. Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Energy Agency are partners in the Smart Space Project. In Tipperary, the project will replace standard street lights (such as those in the photos below) with LED street lights. These LED lights will be equipped with smart technology motion detectors which will monitor movement. For example, when a street or car park is quiet, the LED Smart Lights dim down, which saves energy and reduces CO2 emissions.

The three pilot areas in Tipperary included in the project are Thurles, Clonoulty and Drangan and 600 street lights will be upgraded. The villages of Drangan and Clonoulty along with approximately 50% of the street lights in Thurles Town have been prioritised for upgrading. Tipperary County Council is funding 40% of the associated cost with the remaining 60% being funded through Interreg North West Europe (EU). The Project in Tipperary was advertised on e-tenders in 2020, with SSE Airtricity being awarded the tender. Replacement of lights commenced in December 2020.

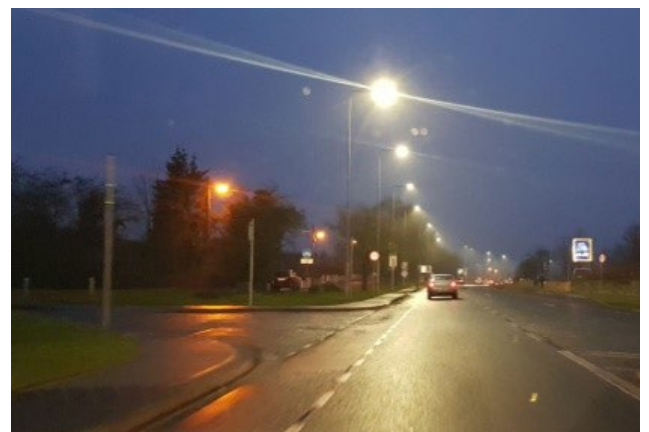


Pilot Villages for Interreg Smart Space Project
Drangan and Clonoulty (above)



Pilot Site for Smart Lighting Project, Thurles

 **Tipperary County
Council and Tipperary
Energy Agency are
partners in the Smart
Space Project**



RMO Local Authority Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project

Twenty-four of Ireland's Local Authorities and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) propose to retrofit approximately 280,000 street lights to LED. For Tipperary this will involve upgrading 14,000 street lights to LED within the next two years.

In replacing 14,000 of our older lights to LED lights the maintenance costs to Tipperary County Council will reduce to an estimated 42% of the current maintenance costs.

The power consumption is estimated to fall to 52% of the current power usage for these 14,000 lights, resulting in a significant cost saving on power usage for the Council. The upgrading to LED lights will improve the quality of street lighting throughout the county for the general public.



Do Chomhairle:
ag lasadh ár bpobal –
ag cosaint ár n-aeráid

Your Council:
lighting our community –
protecting our climate

e-Parking

e-Parking has been rolled out to 9 towns throughout Tipperary. This service is an additional, more convenient way of paying for parking. Methods of payment for parking by members of the public include a smartphone 'app', website or phone call.

Benefits of the e-Parking service include the ability to process transactions remotely; meaning that users don't need to display a ticket before leaving their car, or even return to the car to extend their parking – all of this can be controlled via the App on a Smartphone. Users no longer spend time scrambling for change to park their car; and being a cashless system, it is environmentally friendly as it cuts down on paper use and potential litter in towns from disused pay and display tickets.

e-Parking eliminates the need to handle cash or touch parking machines, both of which are important advantages in these Covid times.

**Tipperary's cashless parking
system-Quick-Convenient-Smart**

Try it today!

www.tipperaryeparking.com



 **14,000 street lights
to be upgraded
to LED within the
next two years**



Taking in Charge of Estates

A total of 14 estates were taken in charge during 2020.

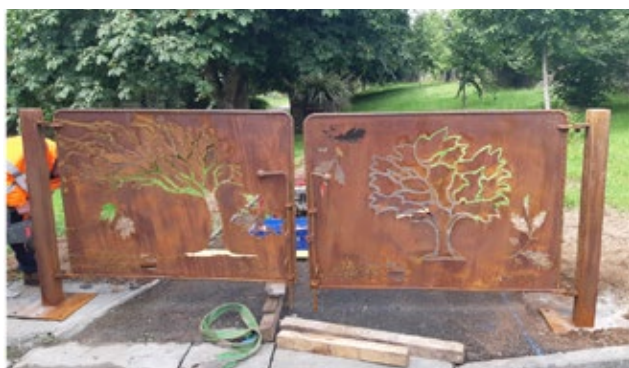
Municipal District / Borough District	Name of Estate	Date Taken in Charge
Carrick-on-Suir	Castleheights, Carrick-on-Suir	28/05/2020
Carrick-on-Suir	Abbey View (Phase 1), Fethard	26/11/2020
Carrick-on-Suir	Abbey View (Phase 2), Fethard	26/11/2020
Clonmel	Gort Na Smól, Ardgeeha, Clonmel	20/05/2020
Clonmel	Barr an Áird, Ardgeeha, Clonmel	20/05/2020
Nenagh	Bruach Tailte, Nenagh	18/01/2020
Nenagh	Millersbrook (Part of), Borrisokane Road, Nenagh	19/11/2020
Nenagh	Carrig Derg, Ballycommon, Nenagh	19/11/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosanna Close, Rosanna Road, Tipperary Town	22/06/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosemount Drive, Barnora, Cahir	22/06/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosemount Avenue, Barnora, Cahir	22/06/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosemount Close, Barnora, Cahir	22/06/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosemount View, Barnora, Cahir	22/06/2020
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Rosemount Heights, Barnora, Cahir	23/11/2020

Clonmel to Carrick-On-Suir Blueway

The Council was successful in securing an allocation under the Outdoor Recreation Improvement Scheme (ORIS) in 2020. This has allowed various works to be undertaken in Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir Districts (to be completed and drawn down by August 2021).

A funding application was submitted for the 2021 ORIS scheme and if successful, this will allow further enhancement works along the Blueway trail.

In 2020 new bespoke gates, pictured below, were installed at Carey's Slip to restrict unauthorised access.



In excess of 400,000 users were recorded at the pedestrian and cyclist counter at Carey's Slip during 2020.

A campaign was launched during the summer months to encourage users to walk and cycle on the left, pass on the right and to ring their bell. Lining (seen below) was provided to remind users of the code of conduct.



Advertising and Awareness Campaigns

In 2020 the Council undertook an extensive road safety advertising and awareness campaign. Due to the increase in the numbers of walkers and runners on our roads several campaigns were targeted at this group.

- Campaigns in 2020 appeared in local newspapers, radio, online and on social media and included:
- Road Safety during Covid-19;
 - Walkers "Be Safe Be Seen";
 - Walking on Rural Roads (agricultural machinery);
 - Safety at Road Works;
 - Don't Drink and Drive.



The Road Safety Section undertook an extensive "Back to School" road safety awareness advertising campaign in August/September. The campaign ran for four weeks in local papers, on Tipperary Live and on the Tipperary County Council website.

- The themes were:
- Crossing the road safely;
 - Drivers - slow down when approaching schools;
 - Cycling - children wear hi-vis and helmet;
 - Drivers leave a safe distance when overtaking cyclists;
 - Respect the School Traffic Warden and follow their instructions.

The four posters (below) in the campaign were accompanied by road safety articles:





Staff from the Road Safety Section participated in a Webinar organised by the RSA on the topic of the Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030.

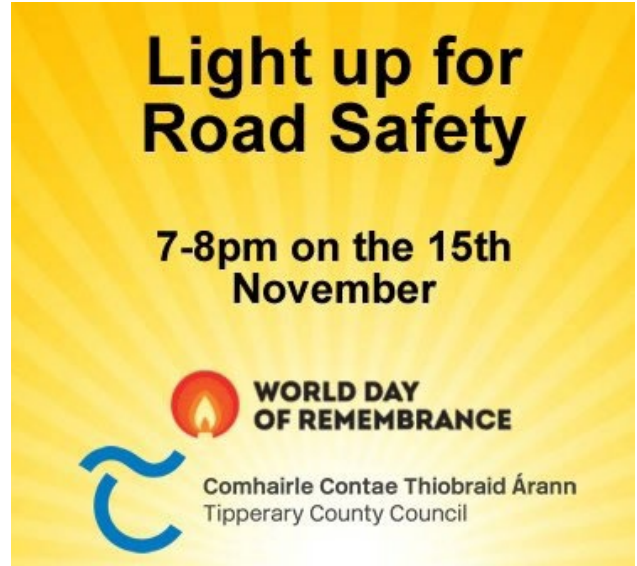
Other stakeholders who participated in the event include: An Garda Síochána, Medical Bureau of Road Safety, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Health Service Executive (HSE), Health and Safety Authority (HSA) and the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Themes examined included:

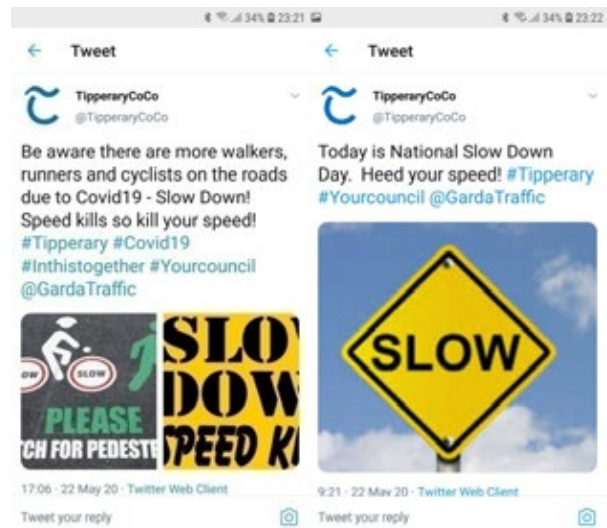
- Adopting Vision Zero and the Safe System approach;
- Embedding Safe System into national policies and procedures;
- Current road safety challenges;
- Priorities for the next Government Road Safety Strategy;
- Mechanisms for delivery;
- Key Success Factors.

The Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 is expected to be published in Quarter 2 of 2021 and this will influence the next Tipperary Road Safety Strategy.

The Road Safety Section supported World Day of Remembrance for Road Collision Victims which takes place on the third Sunday of November each year and participated in the "Light up for Road Safety" initiative organised by Road Safety Officers from local authorities around the country.



Other national/international campaigns supported were National Slow Down Day and the RSA's virtual "Check it Fits" campaign.



We also liaised virtually, on a regular basis, with Road Safety Officers in local authorities around the country.

The Road Safety section is actively preparing for the day that we will be able to engage with the public in a more personal way with one staff member successfully completing online training organised by the RSA on the "Mobility Matters" and "Wrecked" programmes to become qualified to deliver these road safety programmes to older adults and the 17-24 year age group respectively.



Road Safety

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted on the ability of Road Safety staff to engage in person with the public in 2020. From mid-March onwards it was not possible to visit schools or other groups to promote the road safety message. One group which did benefit from the use of the Virtual Reality Display (VRD) headsets, donated in 2019 by Aviva Driving School, was students from The Abbey in Tipperary Town, pictured below with Mary Murphy of the Roads Department, before lockdown in March.



Roads Abutting Certificates

A total of 684 applications for Roads Abutting Certificates were received during 2020 and 634 Certificates were issued.

Abnormal Load Permits

A total of 231 applications for Abnormal Load Permits were received during 2020 and 223 permits were issued.

 **223 Abnormal Load permits issued**

Road Opening Licences

The 'MapRoad' Roadworks Licencing system (MRL) administered by the Road Management Office (RMO) is the national system for the management and processing of roadworks licence applications. Once a utility or civil contractor is registered on the MRL system, this registration enables them to apply to any Local Authority in the country for a road opening.

The procedure used on the MRL system is based on the "T" model. "T" model licences contain limits such as total excavation area, advance notification periods, licence validity periods, number of days allowed for works to take place and distances between excavations.

- **T1 Notification:** A T1 Notification is required when it is intended to perform works of high impact due to extent or complexity of the proposed works. A T1 Notification is not a licence. The notification process allows adequate time for consultation and joint planning between the applicant and the authority.
- **T2¹ Licence:** Following determination of the T1 notification by the roads authority, the applicant subsequently submits T2¹ licence(s) for the project.
- **T2 Licence:** Works of moderate to significant impact
- **T3 Licence:** Works of low impact
- **T4 Notification:** A notification of emergency works as defined under legislation. A T2 or T3 licence may be subsequently required to complete the works that are not of an emergency nature.
- **T5 Notification:** A notification by the applicant to the local authority of completion of works carried out under T2¹, T2, T3 or T4.

The RMO in conjunction with local authorities continues with its programme of improving efficiency in the management of Road Opening Licences by considering and implementing various Service Level Agreements (SLA's).



The National Deposit Scheme SLA was implemented in 2019. This limits the overall cost of deposits for member utilities while maintaining enough security for the Council against the unsatisfactory reinstatement of the road. The scheme is managed by the RMO and Tipperary County Council is part of the scheme. The National Deposit Scheme does not apply to private contractors.

A new SLA for participating Group Water Schemes commenced from 1st March 2020. At the time, there were 163 N^o Group Water Schemes registered nationally on the MRL system as licence applicant organisations. Of these 33 N^o applied for licences with further Group Water Schemes due to carry out upgrading works under the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) 2019-2021.

Under the agreement, it is mandatory for Group Water Schemes availing of DHPLG MARWP funding/ Annual Operation Subsidy to apply for a road opening licence. Reinstatement deposits will not be applied on the basis that Group Water Schemes submit documentation confirming compliance with licence conditions, as verified by the District Engineer. DHPLG funding for Group Water Schemes may be withheld as a deposit by a Local Authority in certain circumstances where conditions of Road Opening Licence(s) have not been adhered to. The deposit funds may be used by the local authority to remedy defects. This scheme applies to participating Group Water Schemes only.

The Monthly Billing Agreement SLA was first implemented in September 2019. There are now 8 N^o utilities under this agreement, an increase of 1 N^o utility in 2020.

Following on from the previous SLA, the National Centralised Billing Process for utilities road licensing commenced from 1st October 2020. On behalf of all local authorities under the framework, the RMO is authorised to invoice utilities using a single monthly national invoice. Payment will be made to the RMO, who will then refund monies received to each individual authority on a quarterly basis. Under this national approach, each utility will receive one monthly bill as opposed to one from each local authority, thereby creating efficiencies.

The implementation is being carried out on a phased basis with the objective of completion by mid-2021. The process commenced with 2 N^o utilities in October 2020 followed by a further 2 N^o utilities in December 2020.

In addition to the implementation of these agreements, the Council's Road Opening Licence Conditioners continue to undertake Road Opening and Reinstatement Training Courses (Basic and Advanced). This will ensure that the Roads Authority has suitably trained personnel to carry out conditioning, monitoring, on-site inspection of works in progress, and inspection of completed works.

Roads Section received 871 N^o Road Opening Licence online applications during 2020. In conjunction with the Districts, the Council favourably determined 14 N^o T1 notifications in respect of various utility projects throughout the county and granted 55 N^o T2¹ licences for schemes. During the year 556 N^o T2 applications, 154 N^o T3 and 34 N^o T4 licences were also granted. This was inclusive of applications received in 2019 and granted in 2020. The remainder of the applications received in 2020 are at various stages of Processing/Conditioning/Approval.

In 2020, arising from Covid-19 Public Health Measures, Tipperary County Council engaged with road opening licence applicants to extend the validity period on expiring licences where works could not take place owing to restrictions during the original licence period. This minimised the need to re-submit applications and reduced the workload on utilities and authorities alike.

871 Road Opening Licence applications received



Tipperary County Council Community Employment Projects

Tipperary County Council has supported Community Employment Projects since their introduction in 1985. The Council, in partnership with the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection continues to promote and encourage the development of Community Employment projects. Roads Directorate sponsored schemes operate over various locations including the Town and Environs of Cahir, Cashel, Clonmel and Tipperary Town and the communities of Boherlahan, Clonoulty/Clogher, Holycross, Kilsheelan and Rosegreen with approval for 30 N^o participants in 2020.

The Community Employment projects involve a range of activities including:

- Horticultural, landscaping and environmental improvement projects
- Maintenance works in parks, towns, and cemeteries
- General Operative/Driver/Traffic Management Duties/Road Crossing Wardens

Emphasis is placed on providing valuable employment experience and training for participants. All participants benefit from mandatory Health and Safety training which is a transferable skill, required in similar work places. After achieving mandatory training, participants then follow on with job related or skill specific courses.

The Tipperary community benefits by having cleaner towns, improvement of amenities and the landscaping of areas. Participants gain in skills, confidence and self-esteem that enable them to work as part of a team within their own community. Many of the participants on the projects have secured employment either during or directly after their involvement.

Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Studies

During 2020, Tipperary County Council completed 3 N^o schemes with funding approvals under the Office of Public Works (OPW) Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Studies.


Thurles Municipal District completed 2 N^o schemes at L8009 Drish, Thurles and R498 Nenagh Road, Borrisoleigh, both of which were approved for funding in October 2019.

In Nenagh Municipal District, 1 N^o scheme was approved by the OPW and completed in 2020 at L2142 and L2144 Capparoe.

Total OPW funding in respect of the 3 N^o schemes completed in 2020 amounted to €86,242.

A scheme at L3228 Holly Cottage Road, Barnane in Thurles Municipal District also secured funding approval in late 2019. As a result of issues arising, the OPW extended the deadline of this scheme to 2021 to allow for alternative solutions to be explored and ascertain if the scheme can progress.

The OPW is currently assessing 3 N^o further minor works applications submitted by the Council in 2020; 2 N^o in Thurles Municipal District at Galbertstown, Holycross and Blackcastle Road, Templemore and 1 N^o in Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District at Grove Road, Fethard.

 **Tipperary County Council -
working in partnership with
the Office of Public Works**



Home Relocation Works Scheme

In July 2020, the Council received approval to carry out Flood Protection Remedial Works at Priory Demesne, Borrisoleigh Road, Templemore under the Home Relocation Works Scheme. Funding approval amounts to €244,850 excluding VAT with works being carried out during 2020/2021.

The Council acknowledges the support of the OPW and the co-operation of landowners when carrying out scheme works. Roads and Districts will continue to investigate locations where there are reports of flooding, and bring forward further Minor Flood Relief Schemes in 2021 where feasible flood relief measures and cost beneficial engineering solutions are identified to provide protection to "at risk" properties.

Marlfield Lake and Catchment Area

The final Cost/Benefit Analysis (CBA) for Marlfield Lake and Catchment Area within Clonmel Borough District was completed in 2019/2020. Some seasonal baseline surveys and assessments are on-going at present. Discussions are taking place with relevant stakeholders to identify a source of funding for progression of the scheme.

Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP)

Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP) involves projects of greater than €400,000 and up to €1 million in estimated value. Five N^o locations in the county of Tipperary are amongst the first tranche of 50 N^o flood relief projects identified by the OPW countrywide for priority implementation. Schemes at Golden, Holycross, Knocklofty, Nenagh and Ballina/Killaloe were approved by the OPW in 2019.

Original scheme details were based on a high-level desktop analysis. In 2020, on-site assessments of the schemes took place to re-assess scheme details and confirm Benefit to Cost Ratios. There was no change to the Knocklofty, Holycross and Killaloe/Ballina schemes as a result of this assessment. It did however prompt significant re-assessment of the Nenagh scheme which is more complex than previously projected. The final budget for the scheme is being considered by the OPW. Golden was also identified as being slightly more complex than identified in CFRAM reports. The mechanism for progressing the scheme is being discussed with the OPW at present.



Single Consent Forest Road Application

Section 8 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2018, makes provision for the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to act as the consenting authority for the construction, maintenance or improvement of a road that serves a forest or woodland and ancillary works. This section was enacted by order dated 7 February, 2020 (S.I. No. 39/2020).

Applicants for a Forest Road Works licence, that includes a forest road entrance from a public road, (excluding national roads), or the material widening of an existing entrance are required to submit certain documentation to the Department. These documents are forwarded to the local authority as part of the mandatory consultation process. The Council has eight weeks from the date of the receipt in which to respond.

The Department advises the Council amongst others of the decision. A copy of the applicant's Commencement Notice is also provided with an opportunity for comment within two weeks. On completion of the works, the Council may submit observations within 28 days of the date of the Completion Certificate, which is submitted by the applicant.


The Department of Agriculture produced the 'Forest Entrances - Requirements for Mandatory Consultation' document, and the 'Technical Standard – Design of Forest Road Entrances' document, following consultation with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Department of Transport. Bodies applying for a Relaxation or Departure to a Technical Standard should contact the Council before formally applying to the Department.

In the period November to December 2020, Tipperary County Council received 7 N^o applications under the new process. By year end, 2 N^o responses were submitted to the Department with the remainder of the applications due for report in 2021.

Pavement Management System

A Pavement Management System is in operation in Tipperary as part of a national electronic database of all Local and Regional roads. The maps displayed on this system provide colour coded information on the road surface condition on a scale of 1 to 10 for each road category.

This information allows Tipperary County Council to quantify in a scientific fashion the different treatments required for the different road categories. This is a dynamic system which is updated automatically when a section of roadway is surveyed. Pavement improvement works are captured on the system, building in to a multi-annual record of completed projects. The Pavement Management System software is maintained by the Road Management Office (RMO).

 **94% of Tipperary's Roads have been surveyed in the past 2½ years**



Hedge Cutting



Under Section 70 of the 1993 Roads Act the owner or occupier of land is required to take all reasonable steps to ensure that a tree, shrub, hedge or other vegetation on the land is not a hazard or potential hazard to persons using a public road and that it does not obstruct or interfere with the safe use of a public road or the maintenance of a public road.

Where a tree, shrub, hedge or other vegetation is a hazard or potential hazard to persons using a public road or where it obstructs or interferes with the safe use of a public road or with the maintenance of public road, a road authority may serve a Notice in writing on the owner or occupier of the land.

Between 1 March and 31 August each year it is an offence under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended by the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Heritage Act 2018 to cut, curb, burn or otherwise destroy any vegetation growing on any land not then cultivated or growing in any hedge or ditch.

During the Hedge Cutting Season in 2020 Tipperary County Council placed notices in the local newspapers in January, September and November and in the national newspaper in September and also issued press releases to the local media. A total of 86 Hedge Cutting Notices were issued to landowners/occupiers between September and December 2020.



***Hedgecutting
season runs from 1st
September to the
end of February***



NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SCHEMES (NCS)

Tipperary County Council is providing verification and accreditation services on behalf of SOLAS (the Further Education and Training Authority) at the National Construction Schemes (NCS) Office which was established in Nenagh in October 2018.

The NCS Office is responsible for approving candidates who have undertaken a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) or Quarrying Skills Certification Scheme (QSCS) programme with public and private sector SOLAS Approved Training Organisations. Previously this process was delivered by twelve Education Training Boards before SOLAS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Tipperary County Council in July 2018 to transfer the verification and accreditation processes to Tipperary County Council. After piloting the service for seven months, in May 2019 the NCS Office became responsible for providing verification and accreditation services nationally in the Republic of Ireland for CSCS and QSCS programmes.

The services provided cover all of the CSCS and QSCS programmes that are delivered nationally and the office corresponds with in excess of 50 Approved Training Organisations nationwide as required.

In 2020 a total number of 8,480 participants who undertook one or more of the 34 programmes available under the CSCS and QSCS schemes were processed by the NCS Office. Examples of the programmes verified and accredited include; Signing Lighting and Guarding at Roadworks, Locating and Avoiding Underground Services, Health and Safety at Roadworks, and plant programmes such as Telescopic Handler Operations, Front Loading Site Dumper Operations and 360 Excavator Operations etc.

The Covid-19 pandemic restrictions resulted in fewer learners being assessed in 2020 as the CSCS and QSCS Programmes were suspended and the Approved Training Organisations were unable to deliver courses between the 25th of March and the 08th of June 2020. The NCS office convened 18 RAP meetings in 2020 and although the restrictions prohibited training for a period it was an extremely busy year for the NCS team.

In 2020 we continued delivering the Internal Verifier Training Programme and effectively adapted the training programme accordingly to deliver same through zoom when the Covid-19 restrictions did not allow on-site visits to the Approved Training Organisations. We also developed a digitisation project whereby we began scanning all packs received and processed since the NCS Office was established in 2018.

It has been widely acknowledged that having an electronic copy of each pack will cut down on the volume of packs having to be retrieved from Iron Mountain Archives when historic assessments are requested from SOLAS.

In summary while 2020 was an extremely challenging year for all, the level of service delivery remained at an exceptionally high standard that the office has become accustomed to and the team deserve great credit for the way every member adapted to remote working to ensure standards were upheld during the level 5 restrictions especially in October and November when the Training Centres remained open for business and there was a high number of training courses being delivered across all programmes.



The NCS Office is responsible for approving candidates who have undertaken a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) or Quarrying Skills Certification Scheme (QSCS) programme with public and private sector SOLAS Approved Training Organisations.





PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Planning Section of the Council administers the Planning legislation as contained in the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and the various Regulations made there-under.


Development Management

Development Management involves the evaluation of planning applications and various other applications under planning legislation, within the regulatory time frame and ensuring that interested parties have access to all available information which will enable them to assess proposed development. The planning register is available for viewing online at www.tipperarycoco.ie.

Set out below are figures for 2020 planning applications.

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number granted	Number refused	No. of Decisions appealed to An Bord Pleanala	Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanala
Individual House	188	180	8	7	3
Housing Development	25	23	2	5	3
NIA/EIA	1	1	0	1	0
Other Applications	720	701	19	24	6
Total	934	905	29	37	12



 The planning register is available for viewing online at www.tipperarycoco.ie



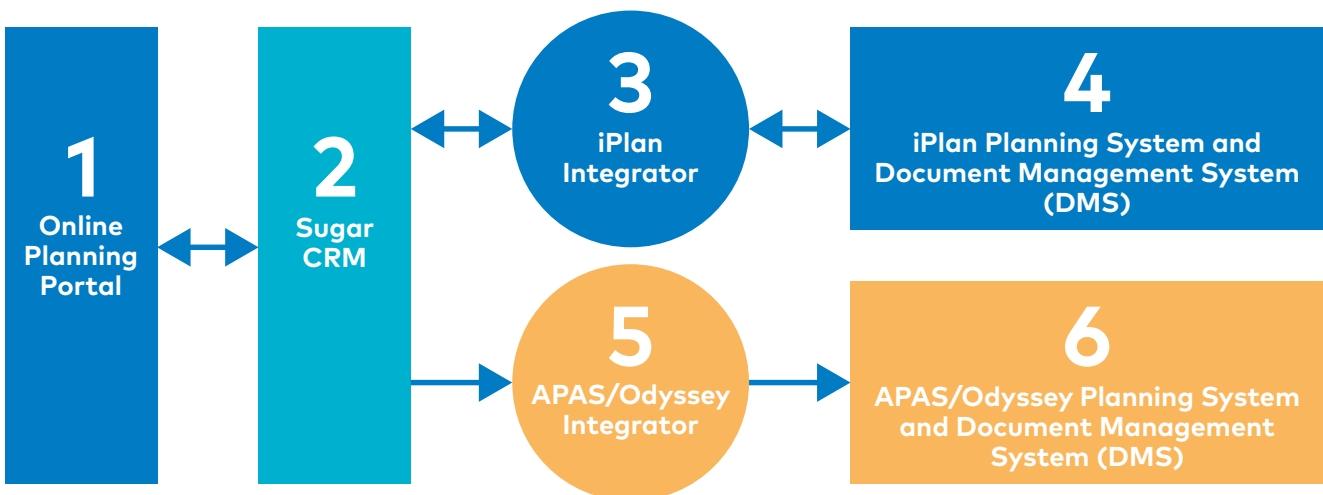
Number of Planning Applications received in 2020

A total of 1599 planning applications were received from 1st January to 31st December 2020 compared to 1478 for 2019, an increase of 8%.

489 applications were deemed invalid and 50 were withdrawn. During the year 966 applications were decided with 936 being granted planning permission (97%) and 30 being refused (3%). Further information was requested in 445 cases.

e-Planning

To facilitate the transition to e-planning where applicants/agents will be able to submit applications on-line, member of the public will be able to make submissions on applications on-line and receive all subsequent notifications on same on via email. The Planning Section has up-graded several systems including I-Plan (intranet system designed to process planning applications), idocs (document management system) and ARCGIS (digitising of the Planning Register Map) resulting in greater efficiency (upgrades more stable and for documents PDF's now available for viewing) within the Section and to the public.



The Council's Website is under continued development to provide information in a user friendly format e.g. details of application forms, weekly lists, variations to plans etc. Online facilities are available to arrange a pre-planning meeting and make a submission on statutory and non-statutory plans. It is government policy under Rebuilding Ireland/Broadband plan to progress ePlanning. An e-Planning project board was established and Tipperary County Council is a member. Its purpose is to progress the delivery of e-Planning functionality in order to increase and provide enhanced customer service. Tipperary County Council as one of the pilot sites aim to go-live in quarter 4 of 2021.



Tipperary County Council as one of the pilot sites for ePlanning aim to go-live in quarter 4 of 2021.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Development Plans/Local Area Plans

County Development Plan

The County Development Plan process formally commenced on 18th September 2020. The Pre-Draft 'Shaping Our Future' consultation stage ran from 18th September to 16th November 2020. A strategic 'Issues Paper' was published and made available in public libraries, at Civic Offices and on the Council's website. In addition to the Issues Paper, an animated infographic and background papers were produced along with Children's Activity Worksheets. These informed the public consultation processes and helped ensure that it was accessible to all.



A dedicated website was set up on the Council planning website; this can be accessed at <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/cdp>, and will remain available as a key source of information over the two year process of plan-making. In addition, the planning section dedicated Twitter page @planningtipp will be constantly updated.

In response to public consultation procedures 190 submissions were received and are available to be viewed on the website. Submissions were being summarised at year end and will be set out in the Chief Executive's report.

Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027



The new Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027 is being prepared in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and sets out the land use strategy for the town to ensure the town can grow, support employment and homes, and can do so sustainably.

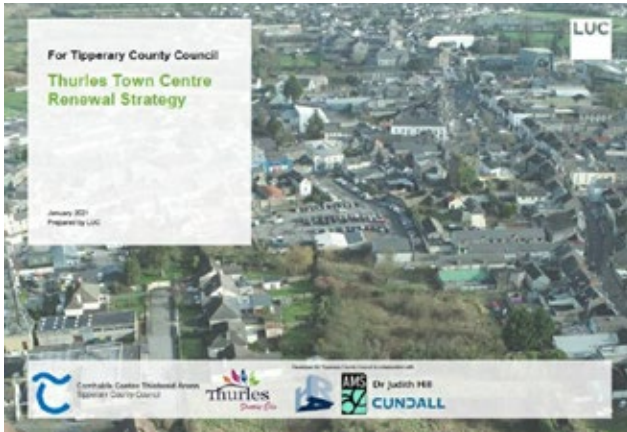
On 25th September 2020, the Council published the proposed Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027, which will replace the Cahir Local Area Plan 2011-17 (as extended) once adopted. Public consultation on the proposed Plan was open until 9th November 2020 and submissions from 128 stakeholders were received. This included over 40 submissions from the 5th and 6th class in Cahir Boys National School. Following this consultation, all submissions are being compiled and considered in a Chief Executive's report for the consideration of the Elected Members in January 2021.



The preparation of a County Development Plan is one of the most important functions of the Council and is a shared process where public participation and engagement will be key to its success.



Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy



The final Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy was noted by the Elected Members of Thurles MD on the 18th January, 2021. The Strategy strives to create a thriving and vibrant town centre for Thurles which will support the future growth of the town and the needs of its residents, visitors and businesses. The community and businesses of the town took the opportunity to input into the Strategy during the two consultation periods which included workshops and a dedicated online portal. The final document sets out a number of projects that can be developed in the town centre over the next ten years.


Killaloe-Ballina Enhancement and Mobility Plan

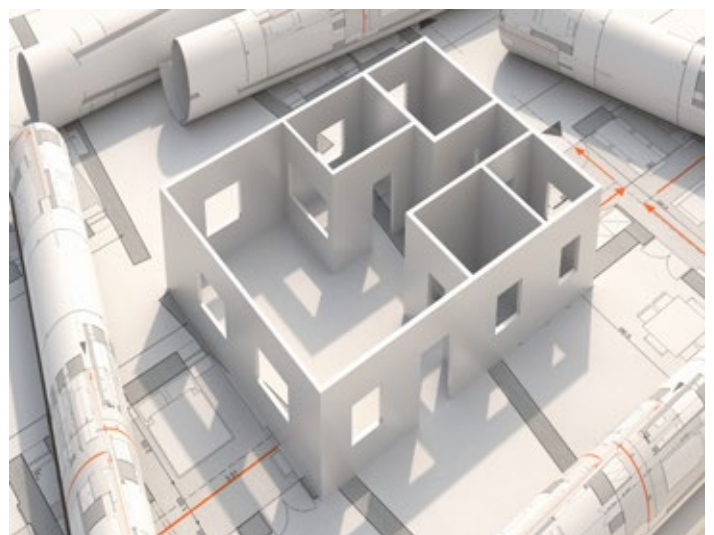
Clare County Council and Tipperary County Council commenced the preparation of a Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan. The Plan will facilitate a coordinated approach to public realm enhancements within Killaloe and Ballina, providing a clear vision for Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements. Specific measures, designs and schemes will promote the towns' complementarity, and create an overall focus on their joint strengths and opportunities in terms of functionality, aesthetics and the changing transport and mobility profile of the towns as a result of the future Killaloe Bypass and Shannon Bridge crossing. A Draft Plan will be published early in 2021.

Project Ireland 2040: Regeneration and Development Funds

Project Ireland 2040 established four new funds to help drive the specific core priorities detailed in the NPF (National Planning Framework). These four funds included an Urban Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The Planning Department leads the preparation and development of the strategic projects for consideration of the Government Departments and with the Municipal District co-ordinates their delivery.

 **Project Ireland 2040 established four new funds to help drive the specific core priorities detailed in the NPF (National Planning Framework).**



The following projects have been successful in being awarded funding and are currently being delivered under these Scheme.

- **Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration** seeks to develop a multi-dimensional, public/private/community partnership proposal for Clonmel, which will re-imagine how civic, cultural, educational, enterprise and tourism uses can work together to regenerate and create a new role for the town. Funding of €2.89m was approved for the project which includes four intrinsically linked and integrated pillars, namely: Kickham Barracks Regeneration, Clonmel Regional Sports Hub, Clonmel – Flights of Discovery and Clonmel Public Realm Enhancement. Funding was received for proposed Category A works in 2019 relating to Kickham Barracks Regeneration and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub. Detailed designs completed by the Consultants for the Sport Hub and Kickham Barracks public realm works.
- **Kickham Barracks Regeneration** - Works on car park due for completion by year end. Tenders received for the public realm and civic plaza, construction stage have been assessed. Tender Assessment Report compiled and Final Business Case forwarded to the Department on 28th September, 2020. Awaiting Department approval to appoint the contractor.
- **Regional Sports Hub** - Tenders received for the construction stage assessed. Tender Assessment Report compiled and Final Business Case forwarded to the Department on 28th September, 2020. Awaiting Department approval to appoint the contractor. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.
- **Liberty Square Enhancement Project Thurles** seeks to deliver a vibrant Liberty Square at the heart of Thurles: a place to live, shop, work, socialise, play or “hang-out”. The revitalised Liberty Square will become an engine for growth in and around Liberty Square and will enhance the attractiveness of Thurles as a place to live and a place for investment / employment. Funding of €4.39m was secured through the Urban Regeneration Development Fund towards the cost of the project. The new Car Park off Liberty Square opened on 1st October, 2020. Works on Liberty Square are being progressed with expected completion by January, 2022. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.
- **Tipperary Town Regeneration** - This is a significant regeneration project for Tipperary Town which will greatly enhance long term sustainable tourism for the area. It will include an upgrade of the Market Yard as a pedestrian priority area, linking the Excel Heritage Centre to Market Yard and the Town Centre and, a 800 metre walkway along the River Ara, including two loop walks. Funding of €600,000 was approved under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.
- **Market Yard** – Detailed designs for the construction phase have been completed. Tenders received for the construction stage currently being assessed. Anticipate works will commence on site circa January, 2021 and completed by June, 2021.
- **River Ara Walkway** – Planning Permission granted by An Bórd Pleanála on 2nd November, 2020. Bridge design has been completed. Main works to be undertaken from July, 2021 with bridge installation to commence in September, 2021. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.
- **Fethard Town Park:** The project proposal is for the development of a community sport and recreational campus, incorporating a community pavilion, playing pitches, walkways, parkland and open spaces. The project was developed through a partnership approach with Coolmore Ireland, Cashel and Emly Diocese and Health Ireland. Funding of €2.6m was approved to for the project under the Rural Regeneration Fund. Final design for project completed. Groundworks and pitches commenced November, 2020. Main contract for the pavilion and public realm works advertised on e-Tenders on 13th November, 2020 and expect contract to be awarded in March 2021 subject to Department approval with works commencing in April 2021.
- **Templemore Town Hall: Enterprise and Cultural Centre with associated Civic Plaza.** The project proposal is flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and establish Templemore Town Hall as an economic, cultural and community hub of the town, the District and the Mid-West Region. The project was prepared by the Council in partnership with Garda Training College, Templemore College of Further Education, Templemore Community Development Association, the Local Enterprise Office and the Tipperary Energy Agency. Funding of €2.1m was approved under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. Revisions to preliminary designs currently being reviewed. Detailed design to be completed circa March 2021.



Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Funding Calls

A call for applications for funding under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for Category 2 (project development) applications closed in 28th February 2020. Three applications for Category 2 funding were made and were successful.


Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter - A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan



A Plan to regenerate specific existing buildings and civic spaces of distinction and value within Nenagh (including The Gaol, The Castle and Banba Square) to stimulate tourism growth, and revitalise the local economy/visitor economy within a context of tourism-led regeneration, comprising arts, history, heritage and culture. The focus will be on the development of 3 Flagship Pillars and 3 Supporting Pillars, collectively offering an immersive tourism experience. The project value is **€866,712,00**. The project was awarded **€650,000** under the fund. Tender documents for the engagement of an Architect led Multi-Disciplinary Design Team was advertised on The Official Journal of the EU on 25th November, 2020 with closing date for receipt of tenders by 8th January, 2021. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter'

Plan for the town, through investment in orientation and public realm enhancement actions, to build on its relationship and synergies with the Suir Blueway (west) and the historic Ormond Castle Quarter (east) and thereby regenerate the town centre as an immersive visitor destination and rural town in its own right. The project value is **€487,500.00**. The project was awarded **€365,000** under the fund. Tenders for the engagement of a design team currently being evaluated. Design team will be appointed in January, 2021. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

 *Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan is a Plan for the town through investment in orientation and public realm enhancement actions, to build on its relationship and synergies with the Suir Blueway (west) and the historic Ormond Castle Quarter (east) and thereby regenerate the town centre as an immersive visitor destination and rural town in its own right.*



A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre: Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter

A suite of measures that will re-vitalise Cahir's historic Square as a living-working quarter. The project will provide a dynamic town centre Square with a focus on pedestrian priority and civic space.

The re-development will be focused around Market House, a flagship Business Development Centre based in one of the most historic buildings on the Square. The project value is €842,987. The project was awarded €632,000 under the fund. Tender documents for the procurement of a design team and project management services for the development of Cahir Market House Business Centre advertised on e-Tenders on 30th November, 2020 with a closing date for receipt of tenders by 21st December, 2020. Tender documents, design stage, for Cahir Town Centre Public Realm were being compiled at year end. Acquisition of two opportunity sites being finalised.

The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

A call for applications for **funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund for Category 1 (shovel ready) applications closed in 29th May 2020.**

Two applications have been submitted as follows:

Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration

The application builds on the existing project at Kickham Barrack and the Regional Sports Hub, seeking funding to complete this ambitious, multi-annual integrated urban regeneration project developed for Clonmel by TCC and its partners.

The aim of "Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration" is to transform Clonmel.

The proposals presented for funding include the following integrated pillars:

Kickham Barracks Regeneration (Phase 2)

Phase 2 includes for new Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) and Tipperary Education and Training Board (TETB) Campuses and an Arts and Cultural Venue within the historic buildings on the site. This second phase will complete the transformation of the site from a former inaccessible Military Barracks to a civic, cultural and educational shared campus quarter.

In addition a new Garda Station is proposed for the site.



 *The aim of "Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration" is to transform Clonmel.*



Clonmel - Flights of Discovery!

This pillar represents an international tourism product of scale encompassing four interlinked visitor hubs all of which are built around Clonmel's industrial and heritage past and which facilitate immersive interactive experiences.

- **Dowd's Lane Bulmer's Vat House Visitor Centre** - Re-development of the former town centre site of Bulmer's cider production into a historical and cultural "visitor experience" with capacity to attract up to 100,000 visitors per annum.
- **Suir Island Amenity Park** - It will include appropriate high-quality interactive recreational & heritage interpretative structures, amenity spaces, and a new pedestrian bridge linking the island and the adjacent newly constructed car park back into the town centre.
- **West Gate Interpretative Centre** - to provide a creative and immersive visitor experience into Clonmel's industrial, commercial and literary past associated with Charles Bianconi and Anthony Trollope.



Clonmel Public Realm Enhancement

In order to deliver on the overall project vision the key public streets in Clonmel will be transformed, re-imagined and significantly upgraded. This includes the Primary Retail Area (PRA), adjacent streets and Mick Delahunty Square. This will improve the attractiveness and liveability of the town.

This pillar will connect with the proposed pedestrian bridge linking to Suir Island and will be the key component in connecting all of the pillars back into the town centre.

A Pathway to a Low-Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the transformational urban regeneration of Nenagh

The proposal is to develop a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy, to be the anchor and catalyst for the redevelopment of Martyr's Road Regeneration Quarter, a 10 ha. strategic site of brownfield lands and underutilised properties located in the heart of Nenagh Town Centre.

The Centre of Excellence, taking reference from best international practice, will uniquely host a range of public agencies working collaboratively to deliver innovative solutions from training and development, to new cutting edge research on technologies, to incubating low-carbon social enterprises. The Centre has been designed to be Ireland's first carbon neutral and energy positive building.

 *Nenagh Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy will be the anchor and catalyst for the redevelopment of Martyr's Road Regeneration Quarter, a 10 ha. strategic site of brownfield lands and underutilised properties located in the heart of Nenagh Town Centre.*



Rural Regeneration and Development Fund - Third Call

Four applications have been submitted under the Third Call for Category 1 projects for funding under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, the closing date for submission of applications was 1st December 2020:

Nenagh Digital Hub

Tipperary County Council is seeking funding to develop a digital hub at Stream Business Campus in Nenagh. The project would deliver a major new facility for the promotion of enterprise development across economic sectors, indigenous industry, micro – enterprises and small and medium enterprises. The overarching aim and purpose of the facility is to promote economic development and increase employment opportunities by connecting companies, remote workers and local communities. The project value is **€6,439,296** and grant funding of **€5,795,366** is being sought through the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

Thurles Market Quarter:



Regeneration, Education and support for Local Producers is a collaboration between Tipperary County Council, Thurles Lion's Club and Mary Immaculate College Thurles. The project will provide a designated market space in the town centre for local food and craft producers, artists and performers; will offer a location in the centre of a cluster of civic spaces to be enjoyed by locals and visitors while also acting as a base for the MIC Students' Union.

The project value is **€2,846,613** and grant funding of **€2,789,681** is being sought through the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

Kilsheelan Cluster Housing Project

The project has been developed as a demonstrator scheme to show the practical implementation of Tipperary County Council's '**Design and Best Practice Guidelines for Cluster Housing**'. The guidelines include a series of case studies illustrating how sustainable design solutions can be developed across a range of village types and site options. This project will be model for serviced site developments across the country and an initiative to revitalise villages in Tipperary and across the country. The scheme was subject to a Part 8 process, approved by the Elected Members in July, 2019. The total project cost is **€613,171** and **€61,317.10** is being sought under the fund.

Cashel Town Park and Public Realm Works

Tipperary County Council is seeking funding to develop an innovative Tourism Experience set at the base of the Rock of Cashel which will greatly enhance the visitor experience and expand capacity at one of Ireland's most iconic visitor attractions. In line with Ireland's Ancient East, Castles and Conquests & Vikings Visitor Experience Plan, this attraction will grow the Rock of Cashel into an immersive cluster of tourism experiences increasing capacity, dwell time, bed nights and extending the tourism season. The park will also host local events and festivals and provide a valued amenity space to the local community. The project value is **€3,737,976** and grant funding of **€3,364,178.40** is being sought through the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

 *Kilsheelan Cluster Housing Project has been developed as a demonstrator scheme to show the practical implementation of Tipperary County Council's 'Design and Best Practice Guidelines for Cluster Housing'.*



Conservation Grant Schemes 2020

The Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020 seeks to encourage conservation of structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in certain cases, structures within Architectural Conservation Areas.

Applications were invited up to and including the 31st January, 2020. Tipperary County Council had 28 applications for funding under the BHIS. 17 applications were approved for funding by the Department with funding ranging from €2,500 to the max of €15,000. However due to COVID restrictions and the tighter timeframe this year 8 projects proceeded with a total funding of €79,000.

The funded projects were as follows;

- O'Sheas, Burke St, Fethard €15,000
- Quakers' Graveyard, O'Neill St., Clonmel €15,000
- Former Mercy Convent, Pallas St, Borrissleigh €4,560
- St Marys Church of Ireland, Thurles Select Vestry €15,000
- An tSráid Mhór, Cloch Shiurdáin (Cloughjordan) €2,800
- Garden Cottage, Patrickswell, Clonmel €8,800
- Old AIB, Templemore €2,840
- St Marys Church, Clonmel €15,000



St Mary's Church, Clonmel

The Historic Structure Fund 2020 seeks to support conservation works to heritage structures in both private and public ownership.

The focus is on conservation and enhancement of historic structures and buildings for the benefit of communities and the public and will seek to:

- enable larger scale conservation works to be carried out on heritage structures which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support;
- encourage the regeneration and reuse of heritage properties and help to secure the preservation of protected structures and/or historic-culturally significant assets; and
- support the investment of private capital in labour-intensive projects to conserve historic structures in public and private ownership for community use.

Tipperary County Council received 11 applications under the HSF and 5 of these projects were recommended for funding to the Department.

Having assessed the projects the Department chose to financially support 2 projects;

- Newport Court House – awarded €20,000.
- DW Parkes Chemist, 23 Gladstone Street, Clonmel- awarded €40,000.

Both projects were awarded extra funding under the July Stimulus Program. Newport Court House was awarded an extra €20,000 and DW Parkes Chemist an extra €10,000. Both projects went ahead and the grant funding was paid over to the applicants in early November following site inspections by our retained Conservation Architect.



Town Walls Grant Scheme 2020

There are four walled towns in Tipperary: **Clonmel, Carrick on Suir, Cashel and Fethard**, all have upstanding remains of their medieval walls and are members of the Irish Walled Towns Network. The Irish Walled Towns Network (Heritage Council) provides annual funding for both conservation works and interpretative measures relating to the Walled Towns. In 2020, funding was sought and provided as follows:

Fethard Town Walls	€1,500
Carrick on Suir Town Walls Stabilisation and Conservation of Section	€32,500
Ormond Castle Park Ecological and Amenity Improvement Scheme	€10,000



Works complete at Carrick on Suir

On 26th August correspondence was received from the Heritage Council, additional funding was offered to the value of €50,000 for works to the Carrick on Suir Town Walls. Funding to the value of €30,000 has been received from the HSE for works to the Cashel City walls to the rear of the Hospital in Cashel.

Total funding received 2020 - €124,000

Near Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) promotional campaign



In association with SustainableTipp, the Planning section and the Tipperary Energy Agency set out to promote compliance with the new Building standards for dwelling construction to Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard. This campaign was aimed at planning agents and designers, planners and building control officers. A key part of the campaign was an information day held in Thurles on the 26th November 2019 and a design competition for extension to domestic dwelling to NZEB standard. The closing date for the design competition was the 31st July. Entries from all over the country were received. A winner has been selected and will be announced after easing of Covid-19 restrictions.

Taking-in-Charge of Estates

Fourteen estates were taken in charge in 2020 - a total of 610 housing units.

Developments TIC by Municipal District in 2020		
Municipal District	No of Developments TIC	No of Housing Units
Nenagh	3	303
Clonmel	2	34
Carrick On Suir	3	105
Thurles	0	0
Tipp / Cahir / Cashel	6	168



Planning & Emergency Services SPC

Meetings of the Strategic Policy Committee for Planning & Emergency Services were held on 9th July, 21st October and 8th December 2020.

Matters discussed included RSES (Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy), LSMATS (Limerick/Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy), Cluster Guidelines, National Policy and Legislation update, County Development Plan, Taking in Charge Policy and Update on Record of Protected Structures (RPS) Review.

The membership of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC is as follows:


Sector	Name
10 Councillors	Chair – Phyll Bugler
	Hughie McGrath
	Micheál Lowry
	Michael O'Meara
	Joe Hannigan
	John Carroll
	Roger Kennedy
	Michael Fitzgerald
	Ger Darcy
	Marie Murphy
1 Agriculture & Farming	Tim Harty
1 Business Commercial & Tourism	To be nominated
1 Development Construction	John O'Shaughnessy
3 PPN	Mike Edwards
	Patti O'Neill
	To be nominated

Enforcement

The enforcement part of the Section deals with compliance with the conditions of permissions granted, collection of development contributions and follow up of reports received from the public and/or council officials of possible unauthorised development.

In accordance with Section 154 (14) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the statistics from 1st January to 31st December 2020 are as follows:

Complaints investigated	187
Warning Letters issued	174
Enforcement Notices issued	15
Prosecutions initiated	5
Cases closed	167

 *Planning Enforcement deals with compliance with the conditions of permissions granted, collection of development contributions and follow up of reports received from the public and/or council officials of possible unauthorised development.*





OUR ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ACTION

The Environment & Climate Action Section is responsible for developing initiatives and delivering programmes that protect and enhance our local environment. Other functions carried out by the section include waste management/enforcement, Climate/Energy, Landfill Restoration and community services/environmental awareness.



CLIMATE & ENERGY

The Environment & Climate Action Section is responsible for the co-ordination of the Climate and Energy initiatives and climate change awareness. Four meetings of the cross-sectional committee responsible for climate change were convened during the year.



Since the adoption of the Climate Adaptation Strategy in 2019, different sections of the Council have incorporated actions into their service delivery and undertook projects, in order to make Tipperary County Council more resilient to climate change.

To date a total of €6.12 million has been invested in upgrading services and programmes.

The biggest investment in 2020 was in the Roads Section, which included works and maintenance programmes relating to the greenway, severe weather prevention, invasive species and bridge maintenance. Major capital projects undertaken related to LED lighting upgrade and local roads network infrastructure.


The Housing Section completed a review of energy ratings of the Local Authority Housing Stock and retro-fitted six houses to Superhomes standard. Due to the success of this programme, a further 60 houses will be retrofitted in 2021, following a tendering process.

The Library & Culture Services Section organised a series of lectures on Climate Change and supported biodiversity projects in urban areas. The Water Services Section undertook pump upgrades and the distribution of wild flower packs to Group Water Scheme Committees. The Fires Services Section has developed a Business Continuity plan and incorporated climate related risk events into the Major Emergency plan.

The Planning Section incorporated climate change considerations into all current projects, including the Local Economic and Community Plan and County Development Plan. A competition was organised to raise awareness of the requirements for all new buildings to incorporate Near Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standards into their design.

The Environment & Climate Action Section undertook a number of projects including the completion of the Community Virtual Power plant project and Environment Management Information System.

Other projects included, the tendering for the installation of 22KWh electric charging units in Nenagh & Thurles cark parks, the submission of a renewable heating proposal to identify funding models for the replacement of the heating systems in the leisure centres and libraries. Energy audits were completed in all council owned buildings above the 500m³ threshold in compliance with Energy Efficiency Regulations and SI426. Under the Anti-dumping initiative, funding was received for the installation of smart bins in various locations, aimed at increasing operational efficiencies and reducing energy consumption.

 **To date a total of €6.12 million has been invested in upgrading services and programmes.**



Community Virtual Power Plant Project

This INTERREG funded European project demonstrated how community groups can develop the capacity to establish their own community based virtual power plant and in doing so, raise awareness of the potential of generating their own energy needs from renewable sources. The project was completed in December with the assistance of Tipperary Energy Agency and Community Power. 250Kw of solar panels were installed at four sites, two leisure centres, the Thurles Municipal District building and the Ballaghveny Landfill site. The electricity generated from these solar panels will fulfil the energy requirements of the sites, with the excess going to the national grid.



PV panels on the roof of Roscrea Leisure Centre

Environment Management Information System

An Environment Management Information System was procured for the purposes of monitoring the energy consumption in 15 buildings with the highest energy usage with the aim of reducing energy consumption through behavioural change in usage.



Under the Anti-dumping initiative, funding was received for the installation of smart bins in various locations,

aimed at increasing operational efficiencies and reducing energy consumption.

Climate Change Awareness Campaigns

Tipperary County Council participated in a national social media campaign "Your Council working for you on climate change" to highlight initiatives undertaken.

A campaign to highlight SMEs contribution to sustaining the environment and supporting climate change was held in October, in association with Tipp Fm. Eleven enterprises shared their stories of how their businesses were evolving to meet the challenges/opportunities of climate change by reducing waste, minimising energy consumption, supporting biodiversity and contributing to the circular economy.




Energy Performance Measurement

The Annual Report 2020 on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance, ranked Tipperary Co Co 4th highest across all local authorities for energy savings. A 39% energy efficiency performance rating was achieved; which represents a 4% improvement on last year's result and is attributed to LED light replacements and PV panel installations.

The following table summarises the annual cost and consumption of electricity and fuel by Tipperary County Council in 2019:

2019 Electricity - Total Annual Spend	€1,933,626
2019 Electricity - Annual Spend on Public Lighting	€1,265,552
2019 Transport Fuels (diesel/petrol/ bio fuel) - Total Annual Spend	€954,698
2019 Heating Fuels (Gas/oil / biomass etc) - Total Annual Spend	€395,212
2019 Electricity - Total Annual kWh	24,469 MWh
2019 Electricity - Annual kWh used by Public Lighting	8,454 MWh
2019 Renewable Electricity Generation (33% 2018)	8,075 MWh
2019 Onsite Generation by Non-Fuel Renewables	0.189 MWh
2019 Renewable Thermal Energy (35% Thermal Energy 2019)	3,512 MWh
2019 Renewable Thermal Energy (39% Thermal Energy 2019)	3,928 MWh



 *The Annual Report 2020 on Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance, ranked Tipperary Co Co 4th highest across all local authorities for energy savings.*



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Tipperary County Council plays an important role in protecting the Environment, including continued implementation of the Water Framework Directive sampling programme, investigating pollution incidents and issuing notices where remedial works are required.

Water Framework Directive



As part of this scheduled programme a total of 790 samples were taken from 150 river sites to monitor water quality. The section worked closely with the LAWPRO's Catchment Assessment team and the EPA's Catchments team in assigning river catchment areas to be actioned in the 3rd Cycle of the Water Framework Directive from 2021 to 2027.

The section is responsible for implementing protection measures in the following catchments:

River catchment	Category
KING'S (KILKENNY)_010	Protect
SUIR_110 & 070	Protect
MULTEEN_010/020/030/040/050	Protect
DOLLA_010	Protect
NENAGH_010 /020/030/040/050	Protect

Water Pollution Act: Section 4 Discharge Licenses

141 inspections were undertaken in 2020. An information pack was developed for the licensed facility operators. This provided the operators with a better understanding of water quality issues and their role in compliance with license parameters and in operating the systems correctly.

Domestic waste Water treatment Systems Programme

The National Inspection Plan for Septic tanks was deferred due to Covid 19 in 2020. The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage introduced two new grant schemes to improve the water quality, by providing grant aid for those householders within areas classified as High-Status Objective Catchment Areas (HSOCA) or Priority Areas for Action (PAA).


Farm Inspections

121 farm inspections were carried out in 2020.

Legal Notices arising from Inspections related to pollution

13 notices, pursuant to Section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977-1990, were issued to persons, requiring them to carry out improvement works to prevent water pollution.

1 section 34 (Waste Management Act) was issued relating to the unlawful dumping of septic tank waste.

 *As part of this scheduled programme a total of 790 samples were taken from 150 river sites to monitor water quality.*



Air Pollution

The section completed a public awareness campaign using social media, newspaper and radio advertising to highlight the importance of air quality and the implementation of the Solid Fuel Regulations. Given the significant public health benefits of good local air quality in our towns and cities and in recognition of the increased level of awareness and interest amongst the public, air monitoring stations gather and live-stream air quality data on www.tipperarycoco.ie and www.airquality.ie websites.

Two traffic emission studies were commissioned for Tipperary Town and Thurles, with reports expected at the end of Q1 in 2021. Findings to date suggests that there was no indication of breach of limits for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), which is a marker for pollution caused by vehicular traffic.

46 inspections were performed as part of our remit under the Air Pollution Act and Air Quality 4th Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC).

Sector	No. Inspections
Dry Cleaners/ Pharmaceutical Sector (small scale use)	5
Vehicle Refinishers	13
Solid Fuel regulation	10 including 3 joint inspections with Waterford County Council.
Petroleum Vapour Regulations	17
Quarry	1 License Application processed

Nutrient Management


23 Nutrient Management Plans were submitted for approval and 40 inspections were completed. A mapping project identifying the location of all piggeries in the county and associated land spreading was mapped onto our GIS systems. This has allowed for the assessment of nutrient losses to rivers in those areas and for more accurate catchment assessments as part of our Water Framework Directive work.

Planning Referrals

The section reviewed and reported on 92 Planning applications to ensure potential environment impacts of proposed developments were identified and mitigated at planning stage.

Catchment Assessments

Three catchment assessments were completed in the following river catchments: Ollatrim, Ballintotty and Fishmoyne

 *46 inspections were performed as part of our remit under the Air Pollution Act and Air Quality 4th Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC).*



INFRASTRUCTURE AND MAINTENANCE

Derelict Sites/Dangerous Structures

39 sites were listed on the Derelict Sites Register at the end of 2020. The section continues to engage with property owners in relation to rendering their sites non-derelict.

Burial Grounds Maintenance Grants

230 Burial Ground Maintenance Committees applied and received grants totalling €179,624.

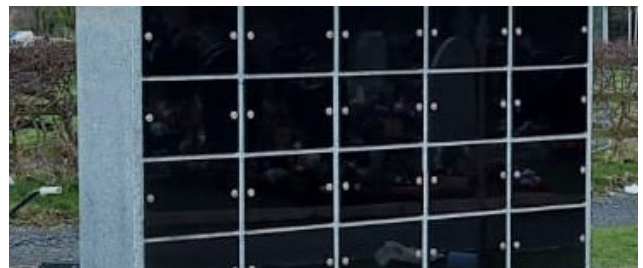


 **230 Burial Ground Maintenance Committees applied and received grants totalling €179,624.**

Burial Grounds capital, minor and improvement works



Quaker Wall - Clonmel



Columbarium - St. Patrick's Burial Ground, Clonmel

Minor Works	Financial & Technical support/ assistance provided to Burial Ground Committees.
Columbarium Wall	Columbarium Wall installed at St. Patrick's Burial Ground Clonmel

Burial Grounds	
Pallas Dorrha	Repair works were carried out on the Old Church Ruins, following receipt of funding from the Dept.
Boher/Ballina	Part 8 Planning Permission was granted for the development of the Boher/Ballina Burial Ground.
Shanrahan	Landscape works were completed. Land Acquisition Conditional Works deferred to 2021.
Kilmore	The Land Acquisition phase was completed.
Fethard	The Land Acquisition phase is at an advanced stage. Part 8 Drawings to commence in 2021.
Cloughprior	The National Monuments Office was consulted regarding the development of the Burial Ground Extension. The Hydro-geological Assessment is substantially completed.
Carrick on Suir	The preliminary Hydro-geological Assessment was completed and will progress to a full Hydro-geological Assessment in 2021.



Landfill Restoration

The contractors Priority Construction Ltd. and Campion Pumps were appointed to carry out enabling works at Ballaghveny landfill site, in order to upgrade the leachate, surface water and landfill gas infrastructure, prior to the landfill reopening in 2021.

Plans for landfill infrastructure work to facilitate acceptance of waste at Ballaghveny landfill have been accepted by the EPA

The enabling works commenced in July 2020, with an expected completion date in Q2 of 2021, with the more significant works being the leachate tank, leachate pumping station, and surface water lagoon.



2020 Bunded area for new leachate tank under construction (in the foreground) and landfill empty lined cells (in the background)



2020 leachate holding tank under construction



2020 leachate pumping station under construction

The existing leachate lagoon at the facility will be converted in to a new surface water lagoon.

An open day for the local community was held at the Ballaghveny landfill in July 2020 and an open question and answer session took place, followed by a walk around the landfill access road.

As part of the community virtual power plant (CVPP) project on renewable energy, 28 kW of solar photovoltaic panels were also installed at the Ballaghveny site.



Solar PV panels installed at Ballaghveny Landfill

The engineering and environmental consultants are progressing with the Environmental Risk Assessments (ERA) at the four historic landfill sites at: Brittas Road, Thurles; Moananearle, Thurles; Coole, Knocklofty and Convent Cross, Dundrum, in preparation of their submission to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Fehily Timoney & Co. also prepared documents, drawings and Natura Impact Assessment in advance of the application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent, for the four historic landfills at Carrownreddy, Tipperary.

Engineering and environmental consultants RPS Engineering were appointed in Q2 of 2020 to complete a Natura Impact Assessment, detailed remediation design, applications for development consent from An Bord Pleanála and Certificate of Authorisation from the Environmental Protection Agency, and the preparation of detailed design for construction tender, of the historic landfill site at Connawarries, Carrick-On-Suir.



WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT

The Waste Management and Enforcement team is responsible for the prevention, management and control of waste under Irish and EU legislation.

Twenty four permits were issued to operators of waste facilities. Inspections were carried out to ensure the operators were in compliance with regulatory and permit conditions. Additionally, the team continued to engage with the commercial sector on producer responsibility initiatives and implementing anti-dumping projects. Recycling projects implemented included the rollout of the Clothes Pods for the recycle textiles and farm plastic collection days.

Civic Amenity Sites



The 5 civic amenity sites at Clonmel, Donohill, Nenagh, Roscrea and Cashel remained open throughout Covid 19. They accept a wide range of materials including paper, cardboard, plastic, timber, garden waste, DIY waste, glass, and metal, waste electrical goods, batteries, textiles, waste oil and household hazardous waste for recycling.

The total number of customers visiting the civic amenity in 2020 was 128,686 which is a 12% increase in footfall over 2019. A tender was awarded for the installation of 21 skips and compactors in the Nenagh and Roscrea Civic Amenity sites, which will improve capacity.

Recycling

The bring banks and textile receptacles support the public in enabling households to segregate waste and foster the re-use and recycling of materials, which supports the circular economy. Glass and cans are recycled at the 135 Bring Banks facilities and are used for a wide range of purposes.

Textile Receptacles



80 clothes/textile pods were installed at bring bank locations, coloured a bright orange with the local authority logo. 247 Tonnes of textiles were collected for recycling between May and December 2020. These textiles were re-used in several different industries, such as furniture manufacturing, the motor industry and the rag trade.



Bring Banks



3,962 tonnes of glass and 146 tonnes of cans were collected from 113 bottle and can bank locations during 2020. This was an increase of just over 1000 tonnes (35%) of glass from 2019.



A campaign was undertaken to deter littering using covert CCTV cameras and the placement of stickers on all the bring banks, informing the public who to contact when the banks were full and advising them not to leave waste at the sites. These measures have resulted in a reduction of illegal dumping and increased levels of detection for littering.

Anti-Dumping Initiatives



€91,000 was approved by the Dept of Environment Climate and Communications towards projects under the Anti-Dumping Initiative 2020.

The projects focused on a joint approach involving the local authority, Municipal Districts, Communities and other State Agencies, covering prevention, abatement, and enforcement.

The four projects funded were the Solar Compacter Bins, the Smart Enforcement support project, a Housing estate clean up and illegal dumping investigation and surveillance in rural areas.



Solar Compacter Bins

This involved the rental purchase of 12 Smart Bins for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District. The compacter bins are equipped with built in software to alert staff when the bins are full to reduce littering around bins and optimise the management of litter bins in towns and villages.

Surveillance Support Project



This project included further investment in drone technology, CCTV equipment and signage to combat increased levels of illegal dumping in rural isolated areas and in the detection of unauthorised waste activities.

Rural areas illegal dumping investigation and surveillance

CCTV cameras were installed at locations across the Tipperary/Cashel/Cahir Municipal District due to the high level of repeated incidents of illegal dumping reported. The outcome of these investigation has assisted the section in taking prosecution cases.



Housing Estate Black Spot Area



A clean-up of a black spot area in a large housing estate in Roscrea involved the installation of CCTV surveillance, fencing the area, household waste inspections and a clean-up where there was regular dumping. The outcome of this initiative was the transformation of the site into a community amenity and increased compliance with the household waste services.

Waste Management Legislation	Inspections
Facility Permit and Registration Regulations 2007-2015	24
Collection Permit Regulations 2007-2015	5
Packaging Regulations	44
End of Life Vehicles Regs	3
Tyres/Waste Tyres Regs	22
WEEE Regulations & Battery Regulations	27
Farm Plastics Regulations 2001	5
Plastic Bag Levy Regulations	26
Commercial Food Waste Regulations	28
Household Food Waste	220
Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Regulations	9
Road Checkpoints	4
Multi Agency Inspections Hazardous Wastes	4
CCTV operations	27
Unauthorized Waste Activity	15



Waste Enforcement

Number of waste enforcement actions	Number
Warning letters issued	0
Enforcement Notices Issued	28
Prosecutions Initiated	13

Litter Fines

The number of litter fines issued increased by 50% due in part to the use of CCTV installations at known dumping blackspots

Number of Litter Fines	Number
Fines issued	213
Fines Paid	141
Fines Appealed	50
Fines Outstanding/Carried over to 2020	22
Legal Proceedings Issued	2



COMMUNITY SERVICES & ENVIRONMENTAL

Complaints

The Section received 2,271 complaints, of which 2,189 were resolved, representing a 96% completion rate. Roadside litter, illegal dumping and dog fouling issues are the most prevalent types of complaints. Several campaigns were undertaken to highlight the detrimental impact these activities have on our communities and to encourage behavioural change.



Roadside Litter Public Awareness Campaign

50 aluminium "Keep Tipp Tidy" signs were purchased to raise awareness about roadside littering and were placed at known black spots across the county. The purpose of the campaign is to encourage people to dispose of their litter responsibly and to support the work of Tidy Town committees.

Dog Fouling Awareness Initiatives

The section places significant emphasis on developing measures to deter dog fouling and to make dog owners aware of their responsibilities. In the last two years, 75 Mutt bag dispenser units were installed along known dog walking routes and the section funded the bags for these dispensers at a cost of €15,000.

Staff worked with traffic wardens from the Cashel/ Tipperary Municipal District to highlight the issues of dog fouling. Bags were distributed, and the public were advised of the locations of mutt dispensers and of their obligations as responsible owners. New stencil signage was painted on footpaths in Cahir and Tipperary along walking routes.



Staff Clonmel promoting anti dog fouling

The Dog Warden, in conjunction with the Cahir Gardaí and Animal Rescue Services, took part in 7 checkpoints to tackle the spate of dog thefts in the county.



Household Food Waste Awareness



A waste awareness week, supported by radio and newspaper advertising, was held in November to highlight the services of the county's five Civic Amenity Sites, along with information on food waste prevention, textile recycling and greener cleaning. The Southern Regional Waste Office commissioned a series of video clips on household waste disposal and recycling initiatives.

220 households were contacted by letter and requested to submit proof of how they were disposing of their waste, 84% responded with details of their waste arrangements. The section also provided online training and information to new households on their waste disposal options.

Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN)



The Local Authority Prevention Network is a co-operative programme between the Environmental Protection Agency and the local authorities. LAPN aims to build capacity in local authorities for promoting waste prevention at a local and grassroots level for the benefit of their areas.

In Sept 2020, approval was received for the provision of repair directory of all businesses in the county that carry out repairs/alterations etc.



Tree Planting Initiative



The section provided Irish native mature trees to the Transition Year students of Abbey School, Tipperary Town.

These trees include scots pine, hazel, birch and rowan. They were planted along the river Ara walkway to promote climate change and biodiversity.

Plastic Free Awareness Day



Staff with Shoppers in SuperValu Cahir

The section organised a popup stand at Dolans SuperValu, Cahir to encourage shoppers to remove plastic packaging from purchases prior to leaving the store. Council staff met with 400 customers over a 2-day period in February and provided information on environmental issues.

Countywide Spring Clean

In association with An Taisce and the Tipperary PPN, a countywide spring clean was organised in April. 248 groups participated in the event. They were provided with litter pickers, bags, gloves for the collection and disposal of the rubbish.



Goatenbridge/Ballybacon Tidy Towns

Tidy Town Grants

95 Tidy Town Committees applied and received grants totalling €167,702.

Community Environment Action Fund



The Community Environment Action Fund promotes sustainable development by assisting small-scale sustainable development environmental projects at local level. The projects involve partnership arrangements between local authorities and various local groups including community groups, Tidy Towns, Men's Sheds resource centres and schools.

Green Schools Programme



Attendance at Tankerstown National School at their Green Awareness Day

158 schools registered for the Green Schools initiative. Schools were awarded flags based on their selected programme, biodiversity, energy/water conservation measures, litter/waste reduction and global citizenship.

44 Green Flags were awarded in 2020. The local authority provided financial assistance and arranged for the assessments to be carried out.

Food Safety inspections

There are 16 Abattoirs, 1 Poultry Plant, 18 small meat manufacturing plants, 3 Cold Storage facilities and 1 Butcher Shop based in County Tipperary. A priority in 2020 was to keep these premises open and operating during the pandemic and to ensure that the supply of locally sourced first quality meat was not interrupted for the people of Tipperary. In this respect, the County Veterinary Inspector, assisted by 3 part time veterinary inspectors, made a total of 728 visits to the 16 Abattoirs and 1 Poultry Plant during 2020. These visits were to ensure compliance with the FSAI, animal welfare standards and hygiene standards in abattoirs prior to slaughter and post mortem. During these visits, a total of 1,951 cattle, 7,584 sheep, 86 pigs, 14 goats, 2,324 deer, 9,974 turkeys, 2,547 chickens and 2 ducks were inspected. There were a further 76 visits carried out to inspect and observe operations, hygiene and sampling across the 18 Small Meat Manufacturing Plants, 3 Cold Storage facilities and 1 Butcher Shop, to ensure compliance with the FSAI and relevant legislation.

Biodiversity Awareness

The section continues to promote biodiversity initiatives, in association with the Heritage Officer. Over 1200 trees were distributed as part of National Tree Week in association with Coillte to Tidy Town Committees, Schools, Community Groups and Staff. 375 wild flower packs were distributed at Cahir, Tipp Town and Cashel Marts. A further 75 wildflower seed packs were distributed to various Tidy Towns, Schools, Community Groups and Residents Associations.



Dogs & Horses

A total of 300 dogs were surrendered or seized by the dog wardens in 2020. Of this number, 280 were re-homed. The number of dogs licensed in the county was 8,860. Environment & Climate Action section continues to work with the animal welfare organisations in the re-homing of dogs and is supported by two dog shelters in Clonmel and Knockalton.

During the year, 71 horses were seized.



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Of this number, 280 were re-homed.



FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

The Council maintains fire brigades in twelve fire stations located in Nenagh, Clonmel, Thurles, Roscrea, Carrick on Suir, Tipperary, Templemore, Newport, Borriskane, Cloughjordan, Cahir and Cashel. The dedicated crews, together with modern vehicles and equipment, ensured delivery of a prompt, efficient and effective response to 1499 incidents on a 24/7 basis in 2020.



This is supported by the Munster Regional Control Centre located in Limerick City Fire Station, which receives calls from the public through the 999/112 service and mobilises the appropriate fire service resources in Tipperary.

Services such as administration, fire safety activities, dangerous substances licensing, building control and major emergency management are delivered from the Fire Service Headquarters at Limerick Road, Nenagh and from the Clonmel Fire Station at Heywood Road, Clonmel.

Approvals were granted for the development of a new fire station in Cashel and the tender process completed in 2020. In late 2020 funding has also been approved from the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management for refurbishment works to Roscrea Fire Station and towards the procurement of a further two Class B Fire Appliances which we hope to take delivery of in 2021.

Tipperary Fire & Rescue took delivery of new Class B fire appliance which went into service in Clonmel Fire Brigade on 25th May 2020. This appliance was built by HPMP in Carlow and represents an investment of over E400,000. This was the first new appliance to go into service in Clonmel in sixteen years.





Pictured welcoming the appliance to Clonmel are (L:R) Garret McLoughlin, Senior Asst. Chief Officer, Steve McEvoy, Station Officer and Noel Howard, MD HPMP.

Training And Quality Management

While a comprehensive training program was carried out in 2020 by all members of the service the programme was impacted by Covid 19 restrictions in respect of new recruits.



Fire Safety

In addition to the operational activities, the Fire Service was also very active in promoting fire safety and continued to inspect public-assembly buildings in an effort to meet the obligations under the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003.

Activities undertaken in 2020 included:

Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service continue to operate a Community Smoke Alarm Scheme in conjunction with community alert groups, neighbourhood watch schemes, and other local community and voluntary groups. The aim of the scheme is to identify those that are most vulnerable from fire in the community and ensure that they are protected by smoke alarms. As vulnerable households are identified arrangements are made for two firefighters to visit the household, complete a home fire safety checklist with the occupant(s), fit a minimum of 2 smoke alarms and provide a smoke alarm 'testing stick', while carrying out a home fire safety check to identify hazards and inform and advise the homeowner.

To date over 2000 Home Fire Safety checks have been carried out throughout the county with much of these checks being carried out in rural Tipperary targeting the most vulnerable people.

2020 saw a dramatic reduction in the number of home fire safety checks due to public health/government restrictions imposed as a result of the Covid pandemic. A small number of home fire safety checks were carried out at the beginning of the year however and throughout 2020 we received expressions of interest in the scheme. It is intended to re-introduce this scheme as soon as possible once restrictions are lifted.

Primary School Programme

While the 2019-2020 Primary schools programme ran as normal up to February 2020, due to school closures and Covid 19 restrictions the 2020/2021 programme did not take place in the usual way, as fire-fighters across the county were not able to visit schools. School fire safety was instead delivered via zoom and promoted via social media.

The objective of the programme is to educate children about the dangers of fire so that they in turn will bring the message home and thus enhance fire safety in the home and in the community. We have used this opportunity to include a focus on the elderly and remind students to consider looking in on elderly friends/family while reviewing Fire Safety in their home.

Fire Safety Presentations

It has always been the practice in Tipperary to facilitate requests from various community groups to deliver fire safety presentations and this continues to be the case.

In 2020 presentations were delivered via zoom to a number of community groups, schools and colleges.

As 2020 saw the closure of Fire Stations to the general public it was not possible to host the usual school tours. However a virtual school tour of one station was created and a link sent to all primary schools in Tipperary to allow them a 'different' type of school tour for 2020.

The videos were also posted on social media.

Social Media Platforms/Campaigns

Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service recognise the importance of social media and as such has set up both a facebook page and Twitter account. Both are working extremely well with approximately 14,322 followers on Facebook and 1,467 on Twitter.

Our social media platforms have helped encourage people to think about fire safety, through the use of competitions amongst other things.

In 2020 our posts have reached a cumulative audience of 1,947,592.



The 'Test it Tuesday' campaign continues to encourage people to test their smoke alarm every Tuesday. This initiative evolved from the research by B&A which highlighted an issue with the testing of smoke alarms in the County. Our biggest 'Test It Tuesday' reach in one week reached over 3,000 followers but averages approximately 2,500 per/wk. The initiative is currently being reviewed by The National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management with a view to adopting it as a national campaign.

A brief summary of our social media platforms statistics are as follows:

- 15,789 followers of our Tipperary Fire and Rescue social media platforms. An increase of over 2,135 followers from this time last year.
- Posts covered both fire safety/ covid related safety messages/fire calls/ traffic issues and general fire notices
- Over 8000 'followers are located in County Tipperary. This figure is a minimum as some facebook users don't declare the town, county or country they live in.
- Our biggest 'Reach' by a single post was in October 2020 which reached approx. times 102,000 Facebook users.
- Our 'Test It Tuesday' campaign reaches an average of just under 2500 Facebook users' p/week.
- Tipperary Fire Service is the most followed/ liked Retained Irish Fire Service page on facebook and ranks as the 3rd most followed Fire Service in the Country.

National/International Project involvement

Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service continue to be involved in additional fire safety projects including:

- Involvement in a European Project to develop of a ' Fire Safety ' series of modules for secondary schools
- Involvement in a National project to develop and promote Fire Safety

Health & Safety

In February 2020 a successful surveillance audit of the Fire Service's safety management system was completed by the NSAI following on from certification to ISO45001 in 2019, indicating that the safety management systems in Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service continues to comply with international best practice.

Building Control

There were 86 Fire Safety Certificate applications, 61 Disability Access Certificate applications and 357 Commencement Notices received in 2020.

A total of 111 proactive Building Control inspections were carried out in 2020.

Regional Dangerous Substances Licencing Office

A 2018 review undertaken by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) into the operation of the Dangerous Substances Act, 1972 and the 1979 Dangerous Substances Regulations highlighted considerable gaps both in the legislation and in the implementation systems of the Local Authorities who have statutory functions as set out in the Dangerous Substances Act, 1972 and the Fire Services Acts 1981 and 2003.

As a potential solution to these issues, the Review proposed that the Local Authorities Shared Services structures could serve as a potential model for the efficient and effective implementation of Government policy at local level.

In September 2020 expressions of interest were sought from Local Authorities to take the role of 'Lead Authority' for each of the 4 agreed regions. Following an extensive bidding process Tipperary County Council were successful in securing the role of lead Authority for the establishment of The Regional Dangerous Substances Licencing Office for the Southeast Region. In 2021 this will see an office being established within Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service which will oversee the inspection and licencing of up to 800 premises (filling stations) across Wicklow, Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Laois, Offaly and Tipperary.



WATER SERVICES REPORT



IRISH WATER INVESTMENT PLAN 2020-2024:

Irish Water has submitted its Third Interim Revenue Control proposal (known as IRC3) to the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) for the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2024. This incorporates Irish Water's Investment Plan for the period 2020-2024. The CRU's determination on this proposal was made with the publication of its Decision Paper on 05 December 2019, entitled Irish Water Revenue Control Revenue Control 3 (2020-2024).

This Decision Paper was issued against the backdrop of the new funding model for Irish Water brought about by:

- the Water Services Act 2017;
- the publication by Mr. Eoghan Murphy, TD, the then Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, of the Water Services Policy Statement on 21 May 2018, and
- his approval of Irish Water's Strategic Funding Plan 2019-2024 on 08 November 2018.

The Decision Paper was accompanied by Irish Water's Updated Investment Plan 2020-2024, entitled Irish Water Investment Plan 2020 to 2024 Updated Investment Plan for CRU Review, submitted by Irish Water in November 2019 to the CRU for review.

In April 2020 Irish Water submitted a further capital funding request to the CRU, which was reviewed in its entirety by the CRU. Having considered this request, the CRU, on 04 August 2020, published its Decision Paper entitled Update to Irish Water's Revenue Control 3(RC3.5) - Irish Water's Updated Capital Investment Plan. This Decision Paper took into account evidence related to commitment dates for projects that Irish Water plans to deliver in the period and information provided by a review of Irish Water's capital planning processes by Scottish Water International.

The Update sets out the total revenue that Irish Water can receive, through government subvention and from customers, to cover its efficiently covered costs during the period 2020-2024. This Decision Paper should be read in conjunction with the aforementioned Decision Paper published on 05 December 2019.

Further details on this economic regulatory control process may be gleaned from a perusal of the website of the CRU, www.cru.ie.

Investment is prioritised where it can deliver the most urgently needed improvements in drinking water quality, leakage, water availability, wastewater compliance, efficiencies and customer service.

The table hereunder provides an update of the current status of capital projects in County Tipperary.

Irish Water Infrastructure Projects for County Tipperary:

A. Schemes in Construction	Contract Name	Consultant	Contractor	Current Scheme Status
Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme Contract 2 (Water Treatment Plant and Pipelines) (Contract Cost €9.5M)	Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme Contract 2 Design Build Operate (DBO) Water Treatment Plant at Bohernacrusha, Holycross, Thurles and Pipelines	Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited	Glan Agua Limited	Completed.
Burncourt Regional Water Supply Scheme (Contract Cost €2.27M)	Mechanical and Electrical Works at Ballylooby Springs at Scart East, Ballylooby, including Reservoir at Kilroe, Ballylooby	J. B. Barry and Partners Limited	Ward and Burke Limited	Completed.



Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme - Design Build Operate Water Treatment Plant

Irish Water, in partnership with Tipperary County Council, completed the construction of the new Thurles Water Treatment Plant at Killeenyarda, Holycross. The contractor was Glan Agua Limited who will operate the plant for seven years. Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited were the consulting engineers.

The new water treatment plant provides a safe and secure supply of water for over 15,000 people in the Thurles, Borrisoleigh, Ballycahill and Holycross areas.

The main elements of the project are as follows:

- new 8,600m³/day water treatment plant at Killeenyarda, Holycross;
- mechanical works at the new raw water intake and pumping station on the River Clodiagh at Rathkennan, Holycross;
- new 2.2km raw water rising main from the River Clodiagh pumping station to the new water treatment plant at Killenyarda, Holycross;
- new 1.0km watermain at Abbey Road, Thurles; and
- new watermain under the River Clodiagh at Annfield Bridge, Borrisoleigh




Thurles RWSS - Abbey Road Watermains

Significantly the project will also enable the utilisation of previous infrastructure completed including a 10,000m³ reservoir at Garrynamona, Ballycahill and 41km of watermain infrastructure.



Thurles RWSS - Water Treatment Plant

 *The new water treatment plant provides a safe and secure supply of water for over 15,000 people in the Thurles, Borrisoleigh, Ballycahill and Holycross areas.*



Ardfinnan Regional Water Supply Scheme - Ballylooby Springs and Kilroe Reservoir

Irish Water, in partnership with Tipperary County Council, completed the construction of the new Ballylooby Water Treatment Plant at Scart East, Ballylooby and new reservoir at Kilroe, Ballylooby. The contractor was Ward and Burke Limited. J.B. Barry and Partners Limited were the consulting engineers.

In conjunction with the Burncourt Water Treatment Plant, the new water treatment plant provides a safe and secure supply of water for people supplied from the Burncourt Regional Water Supply Scheme.

The main elements of the project are as follows:

- drilling of two deep abstraction production wells;
- provision of a 1,440m³/day water treatment plant;
- decommissioning of the existing water treatment plant;
- provision of a new treatment/control house;
- provision of chlorine and fluorine storage tanks;
- supporting mechanical and electrical works;
- construction of a new 500m³ treated water reservoir at Kilroe; and
- demolition of the existing concrete reservoir.



Ardfinnan RWSS - Ballylooby Springs



Ardfinnan RWSS - Kilroe Reservoir



B. Schemes at Pre-Construction/Design	Contract Name	Current Scheme Status
Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme (Water Abstraction, Water Treatment Plant and Pipelines)	Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme – Water Intake Works, Water Treatment Plant, Reservoirs and Pipelines (Design Build Operate (DBO) Contract)	Nicholas O'Dwyer Limited Engineering Consultant. The main scheme is currently delayed due to issues with awaited abstraction licence legislation. Irish Water is to progress an alternative project involving increasing the supply from the Monroe wellfield into Clonmel. Irish Water to issue full details.
Roscrea Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by end 2021.
Thurles Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by end 2021.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme (Design Build Operate (DBO) 1 year operate, operate starts once contract signed)	Wastewater Treatment Plant and Network Upgrade	Irish Water appointed EPS Contractor/ Consultant. Planning application documents and EIS estimated to be submitted in Q1 2022. Estimated to start construction in late 2022 / early 2023.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	ARUP Engineering Consultants completed Draft Drainage Area Plan and model for Irish Water. Irish Water to review.
Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	RPS Engineering Consultant to progress with full design, EIA and planning documentation. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning Application estimated to be submitted in Q1 2021. Estimated to start construction in late 2022.
Newport Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning permission granted on 09 March 2021. Estimated to start construction in mid 2022.
Tipperary Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning application estimated to be submitted in Q1 2021. No construction works until 2025.
Fethard Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning application estimated to be submitted in Q4 2021. Estimated to start construction in late 2022.
Cahir Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning application estimated to be submitted in Q1 2021. Estimated to start construction in late 2022.



In 2020, Irish Water restructured the delivery of the Investment Plan into three streams, as follows:

1. Water Portfolio includes all projects and programmes relating to water treatment plants, water quality, trunk watermains, reservoirs, energy efficiency and dam safety;
2. Wastewater Portfolio includes all projects and programmes relating to wastewater treatment, sludge management, trunk networks and drainage area plans; and
3. Networks Portfolio includes leakage reduction programme, water networks regional contracts, growth and development programmes and sewer rehabilitation.

The above table lists those projects in County Tipperary which form part of the water and wastewater portfolios.

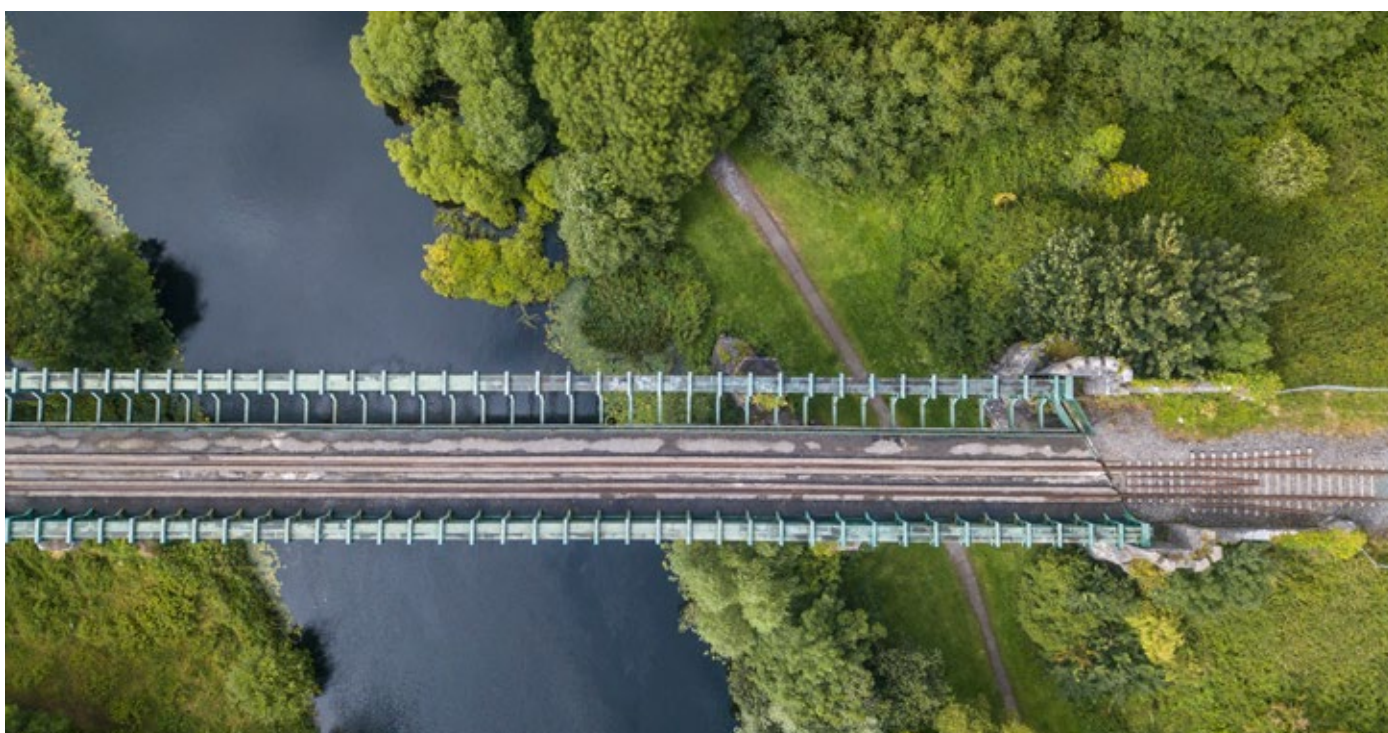
In respect of the Capital Delivery element of the Investment Plan, these ongoing programmes are designed to prioritise spending as effectively as possible, by identifying where funding is most needed through a focus on specific asset condition and performance, identifying root causes of problems and addressing these.

The programme addresses issues such as:

- water quality;
- water availability;
- health and safety;
- environmental regulatory compliance (per the Environmental Protection Agency);
- public health and environmental risk;
- energy efficiency; and
- maintaining levels of service through addressing underperforming assets.

All projects put forward by Tipperary County Council are reviewed by Irish Water before approval.

As part of Capital Delivery, projects are underway in County Tipperary under a number of headings. The following update describes the current position on a number of these projects in relation to water and wastewater.



(A) Networks Portfolio Delivery (Water):

Irish Water established a contractor framework in 2018 to replace the existing frameworks and has appointed Shareridge Limited to the Mid-West Region which covers Counties Tipperary, Limerick and Clare.

The scope of services covered by this framework includes the following:

- new watermains and service laying;
- below ground network rehabilitation work;
- backyard lead replacement;
- District Metering Areas (DMA) establishment;
- pressure reducing valves (PRV) works; and
- minor works to include leak repair, public side lead works and metering.

Watermains Rehabilitation Works:

(1) 2020 works: Ballinard Bridge, Fethard (0.163km); Abbey Road/Marlfield Road, Clonmel (1.68km), Davis Road, Clonmel (0.48km); and Templetuohy (0.51km).

Construction completed at Ballinard Bridge, Fethard and at Abbey Road, Clonmel.



Templetuohy Watermain Rehabilitation

(2) Back Yard Services replacement ongoing at Tipperary:

The project began with Phase 1 works to replace 220 number lead shared services in the following locations: Marian Terrace, Saint Michael's Avenue, Cashel Road, O'Connell Road, Dillon Street, Saint Patrick's Avenue and Dawson Villas. This phase of works is the first to be approved of the planned 3 phases which, subject to Irish Water approval, aim to progress the removal of almost 1,000 back yard lead services from Tipperary Water Supply.

The process of transferring the water supply from the rear to the front of each dwelling is a slow procedure which will require engagement and agreement with all the properties affected. It is planned that the removal of all the back yard services will add to the quality and sustainability of the water supply to Tipperary and reduce leakage, in a major way, in the old lead and cast-iron pipes.



(3) Back yard services replacement in Thurles completed.

(4) Tie-ins of new watermain completed from Tully's Cross to Birdhill.

(5) First Fix programme is ongoing.

NATIONAL DISINFECTION PROGRAMME:

Irish Water is undertaking a National Disinfection Programme. This Programme will:

- improve drinking water quality;
- ensure compliance with the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014, as amended;
- remove supplies from the Remedial Action List (RAL) as maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency;
- reduce the risk of the issue of Boil Water Notices or the formation of trihalomethanes (THM); and
- provide improved control of the disinfection systems.

The Disinfection Programme will be carried out in 2 phases:

Phase 1: Water Treatment Plant Assessment:

This stage involves the assessment of the condition and performance of the existing disinfection systems at water treatment plants across the country. This will determine the works required to ensure that the treatment plant disinfection process meets the specified requirements.

Phase 2: Necessary Upgrade Works:

Some of these works may include upgrade of chemical storage and dosing infrastructure, upgrade of ultraviolet (UV) disinfection systems, upgrade of monitoring systems and generation of Critical Process Alarms.

The following update describes current progress on the National Disinfection Programme in County Tipperary in respect of Phase 2 Necessary Upgrade Works at various locations throughout the county:

Works ongoing or completed at Ahenny, Springmount, Linaun, Coalbrook, Monroe, Cordangan, Crotty's Lake, Galtee, Templetney, Mullenbawn and Stooke.



(B) Networks Portfolio Delivery (Wastewater):

(1) Wastewater network rehabilitation

Irish Water has appointed AECOM (Project Management) and Terra Solutions contractor to carry out sewer network rehabilitation works as part of regional sewer rehabilitation projects. The scope of works within each regional contract will be defined gradually through inputs from Water Services engineers, closed circuit television (CCTV) surveys, etc., to identify and prioritise asset upgrade requirements.

Foul sewer rehabilitation works have taken place at Father Sheehy Terrace, Clogheen and at Market Place, Clonmel during November to December 2020.

(2) Wastewater Inlet Works, Storm Tank and Sludge Programme:

Irish Water has procured J.B. Barry and Partners Limited as engineering consultants to assess a number of wastewater treatment plant sites to assess if the provision of new inlet works, storm tank, sludge treatment (or combination of these) would be worth progressing to improve plant operation. The sites identified are Borrisokane, Kilsheelan, Holycross and Limerick Junction. A preliminary design review is ongoing. The provision of any identified works will require a prior grant of permission from Tipperary County Council as planning authority.

(3) Flow Monitoring And Sampling Programme:

A Flow Monitoring and Sampling Programme is underway at a number of wastewater treatment plants throughout the county.

(4) Provision of Chemical Bulk Storage Tanks:

The provision of chemical (ferric sulphate/chloride) bulk storage tanks is planned for a number of wastewater treatment plants throughout the county.

(5) Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme:

Under the Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme, the wastewater treatment plant at Carrick Street, Mullinahone was identified for improvement works. A grant of permission issued to Irish Water by Tipperary County Council, as planning authority, on 25 September 2018 to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant, to include construction of inlet works, new process units and below ground storage tanks, landscaping and associated ancillary works including new below ground pump chambers and pipework.

The documentation submitted by Irish Water with the planning application indicated that the population equivalent of the agglomeration of Mullinahone is 608. Consequently, it is in receipt of a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The above works are substantially complete; however, redesign of the settlement tanks is ongoing and it is expected to be constructed in Q1 2021.

(6) National Certificate of Authorisation Programme:

Wastewater treatment plants which serve an agglomeration where the population equivalent is less than 500 are in receipt of a certificate of authorisation from the Environmental Protection Agency as the environmental regulator. Those plants serving a population equivalent in excess of this threshold are in receipt of a licence from the environmental regulator.

Irish Water has a National Certificate of Authorisation Programme (NCAP). Pursuant to this programme, feasibility studies and site investigations are underway in relation to a number of wastewater treatment plants throughout the county which are in receipt of the said certificate of authorisation.



Irish Water has appointed AECOM (Project Management) and Terra Solutions contractor to carry out sewer network rehabilitation works as part of regional sewer rehabilitation projects.



Irish Water National Water Resources Plan:

The Irish Water National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) is Ireland's first 25-year strategic plan enabling us to move towards safe, secure, reliable and sustainable water supplies for all of Irish Water's customers and communities, whilst safeguarding public health and the environment.

Irish Water has published its Draft Framework Plan, the first phase of its National Water Resources Plan, for public consultation.

The NWRP aims to safeguard public health, facilitate growth and meet the challenges of climate change over the next 25 years.

For the first time, the NWRP will provide a country-wide analysis to identify the water we have, the water we use, the water we need and any potential risk to water quality. It sets out the methods and options to meet these shortfalls in a resilient and environmentally sustainable way and is accompanied by a Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report and a Natura Impact Statement, which looks at how the Plan considers its impact on the environment.


A 10-week public consultation seeks feedback on the Irish Water NWRP Draft Framework Plan and associated environmental reports from 08 December 2020 until 16 February 2021, subsequently extended to 12 March 2021. Following this consultation period Irish Water will finalise and adopt the Framework Plan and commence the Phase 2 development of four Regional Water Resources Plans which will set out the options to address identified needs across all of Irish Water's supplies. Irish Water will be again seeking the public's views as each of the Regional Plans will be subject to public consultation.

The reports can be viewed at the Planning Office, Civic Offices, Nenagh during normal working hours. They can also be viewed online and downloaded at www.water.ie/nwrp.

For more information please visit www.water.ie/nwrp.

The NWRP will:

- calculate the demand for water from homes, businesses and industry now and into the future;
- assess the amount of water available in existing supplies;
- assess the impact of weather events such as drought on our water supplies; and
- identify areas where there is not enough water supply to meet demand, or where there is a risk to water quality.

 *The NWRP aims to safeguard public health, facilitate growth and meet the challenges of climate change over the next 25 years.*



Irish Water Small Towns and Villages Programme:

Irish Water's Revenue Control 3 (RC3) Investment Plan 2020-2024 includes the Small Towns and Villages Programme (STVGP). This programme is primarily intended to provide capacity in wastewater treatment plants to cater for growth in smaller settlements which would not otherwise be provided for in the current Investment Plan. The STVGP is limited to supporting growth in settlements already served by Irish Water infrastructure.

On 27 July 2020 Irish Water notified Tipperary County Council that 7 settlements in County Tipperary had been identified for inclusion in the STVGP. These are: Cloughjordan, Golden, Holycross, Kilsheelan, Lisvarrinane, Newcastle and Silvermines.

Tipperary County Council has submitted supporting information in relation to these settlements and a workshop for Planning and Water Services staff took place with Irish Water on 11 November 2020 to discuss the above settlements, possible solutions and cost estimates.

Final decisions on which projects progress will be made by Irish Water. At that stage, Tipperary County Council will be notified of the successful project(s) which will then be progressed as per Irish Water's capital investment delivery processes. It is anticipated that Tipperary County Council will be notified of successful projects on a staggered basis from Q1 2021 as project details are agreed.

Conclusion:

It should be noted that progression of the above projects is dependent on Irish Water and on the availability of the resources necessary to deliver same. Engagement by Water Services with Irish Water is ongoing in respect of the above.

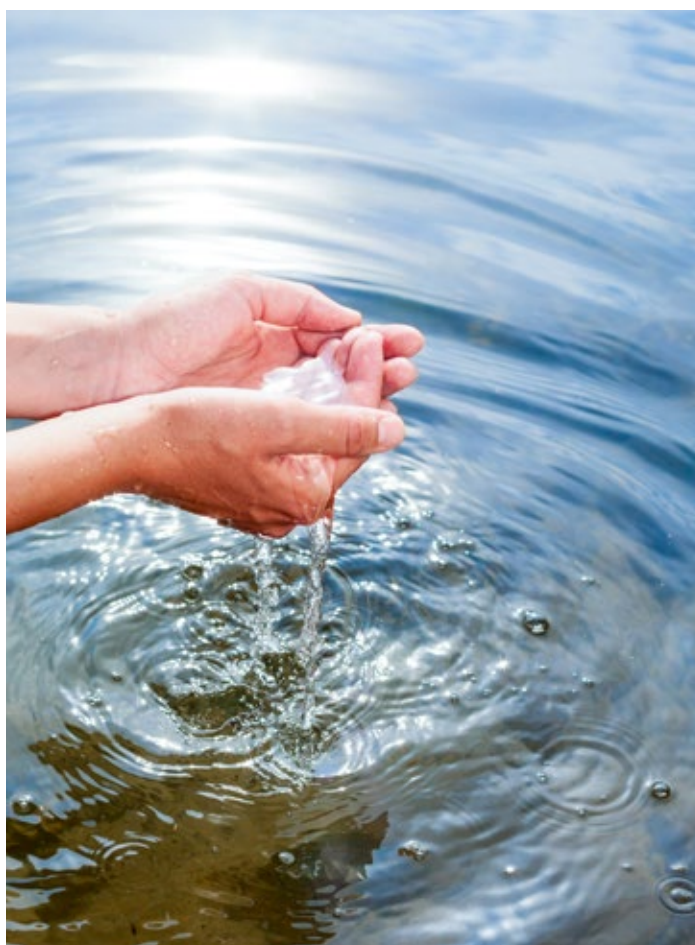


NON-DOMESTIC WATER CHARGES:

On 03 July 2019 the CRU published its Decision on Irish Water's Non-Domestic Tariff Framework. The purpose of the framework is to generate a harmonised suite of tariffs for non-domestic water and wastewater customers. A harmonised approach will benefit Irish Water's customers in terms of transparency, simplicity and equity. The framework sets out the "rules" for how tariffs are designed and how customers will be transitioned to their new tariffs over time, as well as the new non-domestic tariff rates.

This framework of charges will replace the existing charges, which had been set by each local authority prior to 01 January 2014. The new charges will be on a national basis, i.e. there will be no local variation and they will have a fixed and a variable element. Existing billing frequencies will remain as they are until Irish Water carries out a review. Details of the new charges are provided at <https://www.water.ie/for-business/billing-explained/charges/> and an executive summary is available at <https://www.cru.ie/cru-publishes-decision-on-new-tariffs-for-irish-waters-non-domestic-customers/>.

The new non-domestic charges were to take effect on 01 May 2020 but have been deferred. The CRU, in conjunction with the then Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and Irish Water, announced on 31 March 2020 that it had agreed to approve Irish Water's proposals to defer the implementation of the new non-domestic tariff framework for business customers, to 'a future point in time', in recognition of the potential financial difficulty for non-domestic customers over the succeeding months. The CRU further announced on 02 November 2020 that the new tariff framework for Irish Water business customers would now be introduced on 01 May 2021. Subsequently, the CRU announced, on 10 March 2021, a further deferral of the new framework until 01 October 2021.



The purpose of the framework is to generate a harmonised suite of tariffs for non-domestic water and wastewater customers. A harmonised approach will benefit Irish Water's customers in terms of transparency, simplicity and equity.



COUNCIL WORKSHOP WITH IRISH WATER:

Workshops with Irish Water for the elected members have taken place at the Civic Offices, Thurles on 27 October 2017, 12 April 2018, 02 October 2018, 03 April 2019 and on 30 September 2019.

The most recent workshops have been conducted on a District basis during the period from 28 September 2020 to 06 October 2020, with remote connection by representatives from Irish Water and the facility for remote connection by the elected members also.

Arrangements for further workshops and engagement by Irish Water with the elected members are the subject of ongoing discussions with Irish Water.



RURAL WATER PROGRAMME 2020

Rural Water Monitoring Committee:

This was a challenging year set against the background of the unprecedented national circumstances occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Rural Water Monitoring Committee met 3 times in 2020 (January, July and November). The Committee's purpose is to assist in a structured manner with the delivery of the Rural Water Programme. November 2020 was the Committee's first electronic meeting, using Zoom. It was successful and sets the tone for future events.

With 17 members, the Committee reflects the interests of a broad group, as follows:

- 5 elected members of Tipperary County Council;
- 4 representatives of group water schemes in the county;
- 4 representatives of rural organisations in the county;
- 1 representative the National Federation of Group Water Schemes; and
- 3 Council officials.

During the year the Rural Water Monitoring Committee had oversight of the following:

Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme, 2019-2021:

- In this, the second year of the 3 year Programme, Tipperary County Council invested €528,047 in group water schemes throughout the county as follows:
- Source Protection: €21,342;
- Public Health: €30,518;
- Amalgamation and Rationalisation: €169,052;
- Improvement of existing group water schemes: €14,719; and
- Water Conservation: €292,416.

Continued commitment of the group water scheme community to its members is evident in both this level of investment and water quality compliance. Compliance with the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014, as amended, for 2020 was 98% (micro-biological was 98% and chemical was 99%).

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the group water schemes' management and employees, with the support of the National Federation of Group Water Schemes personnel and the Rural Water Team, have maintained the service. In the midst of the pandemic, having a good drinking water supply at home has been key.



This red marker shows the location of the borehole for Ardcroney Group Water Scheme new source. This exciting development will serve the community for decades.




Here can be seen the network improvement carried out by Fantane Group Water Scheme. This will help with water conservation and continuity of supply.



Annual Maintenance Subsidy:

Group water schemes are invited to apply for the Annual Maintenance Subsidy to assist with day-to-day expenditure of their scheme. 69 schemes were supported under the Subsidy with investment of €580,175.54 this year.



 **69 schemes were supported under the Subsidy with investment of €580,175.54 this year.**

Climate Proofing the Service:


Trees on the Land, February 2020:

Engaging with this cross-border initiative, the Rural Water Team and friends facilitated the planting of 12,800 native Irish trees. One further sorting and collection point (Thurles) was put in place this year. There were then 3 points countywide, (Nenagh, Thurles and Ballingarrane House, Clonmel).



Pictured here are volunteers:

Mattie Ryan (former member of Tipperary County Council and Chair of the Rural Water Monitoring Committee, 2014-2019), Mary Stephens (Rural Water Team), Jim McGuire (former Senior Engineer), Kevin McDonnell (Water Services), Triona Collins (Rural Water Team), P.J. Corrigan (former Administrative Officer), Denise Laffan (Water Services), Sheila Ryan (Rural Water Team), Catherine Fogarty, Ashill GWS, Adrian Smyth (National Federation of Group Water Schemes), Caroline O'Herlihy (Water Services), Rosemary Purcell (Water Services), Pat Holland (Water Services) and Eddie Loughnane (Water Services).

 **It is good to note that Pat Holland's apple tree did produce one apple in the summer time.**



Wildflower Patches:

Group water schemes were gifted a small pack of wildflower seeds in January. Pictured here is the result of Rodeen Group Water Scheme planting. The goal is to have little pockets of flowers for bees and insects throughout the county, where they can feed and live. These will also give a splash of colour and prettiness to passersby.



Grants for the Provision or Necessary Improvement of an Individual Water Supply to a House:

This is a demand-led scheme. Funding is made available to those with a private domestic water supply where deficiencies need to be addressed. Focusing on 2 key elements, drinking water quality and secure supply, there is strong interest in the scheme. The scheme was revised on 05 June 2020. Participation has been vigorous. €186,139 was invested in Tipperary under this heading during 2020 as follows:

Former Scheme - €74,580.48;
Revised Scheme - €111,558.85.

The Revised Scheme has a minimum expenditure of €750 and is summarised as follows:

New Source:

where one needs to drill, dress and provide a pumping system for the drinking water supply for one's home. A maximum grant of 85% of eligible expenditure or €5,000, whichever is the lesser, may be available.

Treatment:

where one needs to put a filtration or disinfection system in place to address contamination of the drinking water supply for one's home. A maximum grant of 100% of eligible expenditure or €1,000, whichever is the lesser, may be available.

Upgrade:

where one needs to replace the pumping system for one's home. A maximum grant of 85% of eligible expenditure or €3,000, whichever is the lesser, may be available.

Grants payable pursuant to the Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2013:

Under the National Inspection Programme, one application was received and paid in 2020. Expenditure under the scheme was €4,000. This is not a demand-led scheme. It focuses on the areas where water quality is at risk. These are notified to the Council by the Environmental Protection Agency annually. Responsibility for the administration of this scheme remains with the Council. Grants are recouped from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

This Scheme was also revised on 05 June 2020. Two further headings were added to the Scheme, the income limit was removed and the maximum grant possible increased to 85% of eligible expenditure or €5,000, whichever is the lesser.

Prioritised Areas for Action:

There were no applications received under this heading. One needs to contact the County Council to know whether or not one's home is located in an area prioritised for action.

High Status Objective Catchment Areas:

Determination of eligibility commences with the prospective applicant entering his/her Eircode on an interactive map (see the Tipperary County Council website: Environment and Climate Action Section). This will tell one whether or not one's home exists in a High Status Objective Catchment Area. If it does, one may apply for consideration. There were no applications received under this heading in 2020.

Grants Payable under the Domestic Lead Remediation (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2016:

There were no applications received for consideration under this Grant Scheme in 2020.



LOCAL AUTHORITY WATERS PROGRAMME



Photo: Crotty's Lake in the Comeragh Mountains with Slievenamon in the distance. Crotty's Lake is a drinking water source for the town of Carrick on Suir.

About the Local Authorities Waters Programme

The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) is a national, local authority shared service managed jointly by Kilkenny and Tipperary County Council. The national programme operates across a five regions structure: Border, Western, Midlands & Eastern, Southeastern, and Southwestern. With 60 staff based in 13 local authority centres nationwide, supported from a head office at Ballingarrane, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

LAWPRO's mission is to protect and care for Ireland's rivers, lakes, estuaries, groundwater, and coastal waters by engaging and supporting communities and working with local authorities, state agencies, and stakeholders.

Ireland's natural waters mean different things to different people, whether as farmers or anglers, foresters or builders, households or businesses, communities or local authorities, they are a precious resource to all. Human activities such as wastewater treatment, manufacturing, and agriculture can have negative impacts on this precious resource.



If water is under pressure, nature is under pressure, and so too are we.

LAWPRO Goals and Objectives

- LAWPRO is driving collaboration and coordination with all stakeholders on agreed actions to improve water quality. This is occurring both on the ground and through regional and national governance structures.
- By engaging with communities on local water issues and concerns, LAWPRO is building capacity for community involvement in the care and management for local waters.
- Catchment science is a new and evolving discipline. LAWPRO is leading the way in collaboration with the EPA. Local catchment assessments and stream walks identify issues affecting our natural waters, which are referred to the relevant public body for action.

A guiding principle of the approach is to ensure 'the right measure in the right place'.

The European Union Water Framework Directive (WFD) requires all Member States to achieve good status for all its waters by 2027. To achieve the goals set out in the Irelands River Basin Management Plan, 2018 -2021, LAWPRO focusses on three strategic areas: Coordination and collaboration; scientific assessments of catchments and community and stakeholder engagement. Fig.1 is from LAWPRO's Communications Plan illustrates this strategic approach.



Fig. 1 – a visual representation of LAWPRO's strategic approach

LAWPRO'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020 UNDER VARIOUS THEMES

Coordination Role

Oversight of implementation of the Water Framework Directive occurs through a tiered governance structure, with ultimate responsibility resting with the Minister for Housing, Local Government, and Heritage.

Key to this structure are the five Regional Management Committees and five Regional Operational Committees, which are facilitated and supported by LAWPRO. A local authority Chief Executive chairs the management committees and they include Director of Services from each local authority in the region, LAWPRO and the EPA representatives. 20 meetings were held in total in 2020 with 15 of these online. The operational committees include representatives from 23 different public organisations and are chaired by a director of service from the region. 20 meetings were held in 2020, 15 online, with attendances ranging from 23 to 61 participants.

The objectives of these committees are to facilitate and foster collaboration and knowledge sharing between public bodies. The commitment by local authorities to the success of this governance structure is evidenced by 100% attendance at meetings by senior management and operational staff.



Catchment Science

LAWPRO's Catchments Team comprises 37 scientists with a wide range of technical expertise. The team uses a targeted approach to improve water quality in waterbodies within 190 Prioritised Areas for Action (PAAs) as set out in the RBMP. The areas identified in Tipperary are the Ara, Dead & Cauteen, Toem & Cappawhite, Inch (Bilboa), Lorrha Stream, Lower Nenagh and Clareen, Ballyfinboy (Upper), Bunow, Little Brosna, Borrisoleigh, Clashawley, Lingaun, and Aherlow.

This specialist work in the prioritised areas for action involves desktop studies, community information meetings, followed by stream walks and scientific assessment to identify the issues affecting water quality. Issues are referred to relevant public bodies for action and a report is compiled on the process and findings. The catchments team also supports the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme, which works with farmers to resolve agriculture related issues.

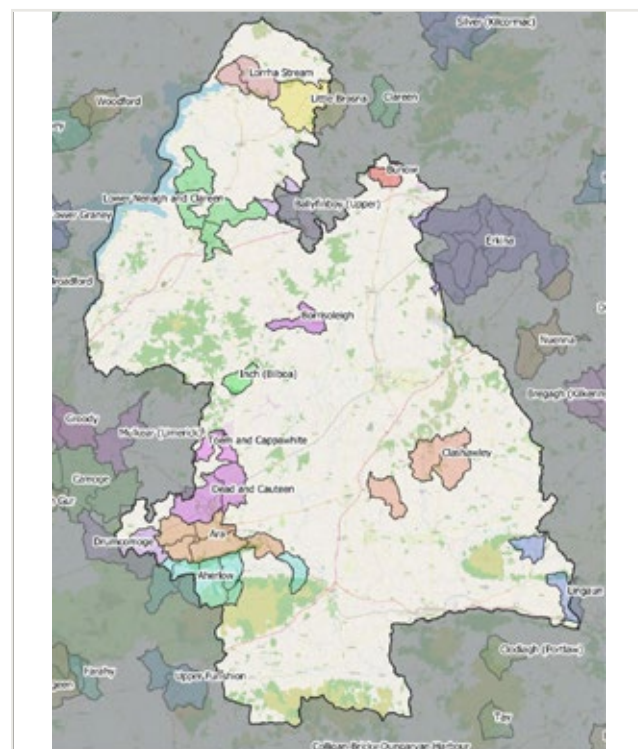
LAWPRO is at the fore of this innovative catchment science approach in assessing water quality. Catchments Team members meet and share knowledge in internal working groups, with the focus on the development and dissemination across the full team to ensure a consistent approach nationwide. They share this knowledge and science with colleagues in local authorities and have developed a comprehensive training programme which will be delivered in 2021 in collaboration with the Environmental Service National Training Group.

Catchments Team activities in numbers

	Public meetings held	Farmer meetings facilitated	Desk studies started	Desk studies complete	Assessments started	Reports underway
National in 2020	17	22	21	53	28	22
Cumulative totals by end 2020	99	80	122	75	102	68



Catchment Scientists carry out streamside walks to locate issues affecting water quality



River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021
Prioritised Areas for Action in Co. Tipperary



Communities Role

A core aim of the Communities Team is to facilitate the engagement of communities in the management of natural water resources. The 13 Community Water Officers promote active involvement and stewardship of local streams, rivers, and lakes through building capacity in existing community organisations and assisting in the establishment of new community groups and initiatives. They provide technical support, access to funding, knowledge transfer, and training. The communities team also works with existing and emerging Rivers Trusts and catchment associations.

Local level engagement was curtailed in 2020 because of COVID-19 restrictions on physical gatherings. In response to this, many engagements and meetings took place online via Zoom, while limited outdoor events took place under Level 3.



A Community Information Meeting via Zoom

Water Heritage Day

Each year LAWPRO collaborates with The Heritage Council to deliver Water Heritage Day as part of National Heritage Week, during the last week of August. Local community groups organise the events that take place on Water Heritage Day with the help of LAWPRO and these are free to attend. In compliance with public health advice, live events in 2020 were restricted in numbers, while many events took place online.

Water Heritage Day Events in 2020		
Total no. of events	On the ground	Online
44	30	14
Types of events: storytelling, guided stream walks, catchment bike tours, wildlife surveys, and more.		

Funding

2020 was the third year of the Community Water Development Fund. It was set up to support community-led water projects and initiatives. Each year the fund is oversubscribed. The fund delivers a broad range of local water projects which benefit the amenity value of rivers and lakes, and it promotes community engagement in natural water resource management. There are also benefits to community and individual health and well-being, especially in these covid times.

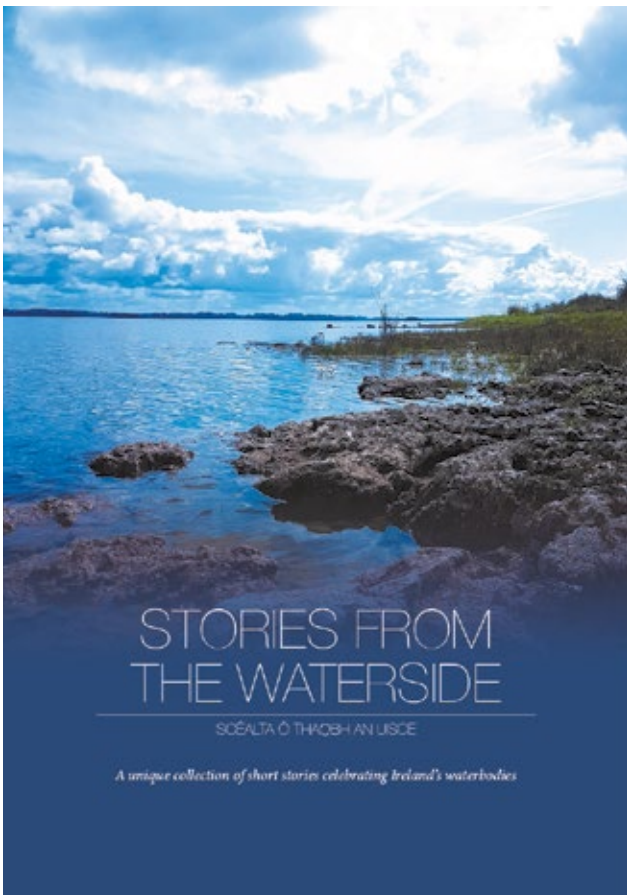
Applications Received	No. of grants offered	Max Grants sought	Grants approved
145	118	€ 663,904	€ 230,247
Average grant offered			€ 1,587.92



Stories from the Waterside

Stories from the Waterside was conceived during the first COVID-19 Lockdown in May 2020, to help people cope and promote the value of local waters. It was initially a story writing competition, whereby people were asked to share their memories and reflections of time spent at a river, lake, or coast.

Almost 500 stories were submitted from across the entire island of Ireland, in both English and Irish languages. After a robust judging process, 20 prize winning stories were selected. Those winners and a further 18 stories were published in the Stories from the Waterside book. The book was launched during National Heritage Week 2020 by Minister Malcom Noonan to mark Water Heritage Day. This initiative was delivered in collaboration with The Heritage Council, The Heritage Officers Programme, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and Waterways Ireland. The success of this initiative led to a request to speak at an international Symposium on Rivers in November 2020.




GAA Green Club Programme

The Green Club Programme is a partnership between the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association and local authorities across Ireland. LAWPRO is a member of the working group and is partnering with Irish Water to deliver a holistic approach for the water theme, incorporating water quality, conservation, water supply and wastewater. Water is one of several sustainability themes included in the GAA Green Club Programme; other themes include Energy, Waste, Biodiversity, Travel & Transport, and expert partners from various bodies are supporting this GAA initiative. The programme was launched on Dec. 9th, 2020 and currently 45 clubs across Ireland (North & South) are taking part in the pilot stage. For further information see: Green Clubs Programme (gaa.ie)

Working with Nature - from Tipperary to National Policy

A Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) workshop took place in January 2020, organised by LAWPRO. This brought together staff from Dublin City Council and Tipperary county Council to share experiences and knowledge and included management and staff from Roads, Planning, Environment, and C&E Sections. This meeting led to an online national conference on 9th November with almost 500 in attendance. The Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage is acting on recommendations from the conference to develop a SuDS guidance document to assist public bodies in implementing SuDS in their areas.

 *Stories from the Waterside was conceived during the first COVID-19 Lockdown in May 2020, to help people cope and promote the value of local waters.*



Head Office

The LAWPRO Head Office in Ballingarrane, Clonmel provides back office supports in several key areas for the delivery of the programme. These include administration, funding, IT, financial management, health and safety, communications and marketing.

Because LAWPRO operates out of 13 separate office locations nationwide, its computer and information systems cloud-based. These systems allowed LAWPRO staff to respond quickly to public health advice and 'work from home', thus minimising the impact on LAWPRO's work programme for 2020.

LAWPRO's expenditure in 2020 was €5,312,596. That was 100% funded by DHLGH through a Memorandum of Funding Agreement. This agreement bases recoument on certified expenditure.

Retirement

In December 2020, Seán Keating, Director of Services retired from Tipperary County Council and LAWPRO after a career spanning 44 years. Karl Cashen is the new Director of Service for LAWPRO.



Sean Keating



In Q4 2020 LAWPRO began preparations to lead the public consultation on the Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027. This will entail a six-month consultation period in 2021, with meetings at Municipal District level in all 31 local authorities.



Nenagh River, credit Ruairí Ó Conchúir, LAWPRO



CIVIL DEFENCE



The predominant role of Civil Defence is to provide ancillary support to the Primary Response Agencies (PRA's). Secondary to this when possible to support local community events and activities including sporting, cultural and community care. This year with the worldwide outbreak of the Coronavirus Pandemic reaching Ireland these roles had been called upon more so than ever.

COVID-19

During the current COVID-19 Pandemic, Tipperary Civil Defence has provided support to a number of agencies and groups, such as the Health Service Executive (HSE), where it provided volunteers to aid in the re-packing of COVID-19 Test Kits for the test centre in Munroe, and in the setting up and running of mobile testing centres.

In addition, to this Civil Defence worked with other healthcare staff to arrange transport for patients to specialist and routine hospital appointments locally and throughout the Country. Transport was also provided to healthcare staff from various care facilities in the Nenagh area to get to and from work. Collection and delivery of P.P.E to care centres was also a role undertaken. Support was also provided to the National Ambulance Service.



volunteers decontaminating ambulance and equipment following transport of a patient for COVID testing.



(Caption) Civil Defence supporting HSE with repacking of COVID -19 test Kits and delivery of essential PPE

As part of a nationwide initiative Tipperary Civil Defence has been supporting the Irish Blood Transfusion Services (IBTS) at donor clinics throughout the County. Volunteers provided a meet a greet system at the clinics in Clonmel, Thurles, Roscrea, Newport and Tipperary Town.





Volunteers provided assistance to IBTS Clinics

Civil Defence has also played a significant role in assisting Tipperary County Council's Community Forum, where volunteers helped in the packing and distribution of home care packs, which were delivered to various collection hubs and homes around the County. Assistance was also given to vulnerable members of the community with the delivery of medications, shopping and other essential medical supplies. Assistance was also given to Knockanrawley family resource centre in Tipperary with the distribution of education packs to support child care services, and during the months of June and July support was given to their food cloud initiative with the collection of food from a central distribution centre in Cork. Support was also given to Cuan Saor in Clonmel, and the Housing Section of Tipperary Co. Co. in relation to homeless services.

Clonmel Meals on Wheels was another local community groups which benefited from the assistance of Tipperary Civil Defence .Volunteers provided daily backup in delivery of hot meals, 5 days a week. This is ongoing since last year.

Searching for Missing Persons

In addition to our COVID -19 response Tipperary Civil Defence assisted An Garda Síochána with the search for missing persons, four of which were in Tipperary. We also assisted other Civil Defence units throughout the Country with our Drone and K9 teams.



Search for Missing Person

In all Tipperary Civil Defence undertook 368 tasking in 2020 of which 357 were COVID-19 related which has been the busiest year to date for the organisation.



Health & Safety

Civil Defence has in place a COVID response plan, and risk assessments have been carried out on all our operational activities, including during this COVID period.

Throughout all of these additional COVID related activities, Civil Defence as a Section of Tipperary County Council still had to meet its obligations to achieve and reach targets set out in the Annual Works Plan. The culmination of this plan was the achievement of OHSAS 18001 Certification in March from the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI). This certification is accredited to all the hard work undertaken by the staff and volunteers to develop and bring together a Health and Safety Management System for use within the organisation. Tipperary Civil Defence is the first Civil Defence unit nationally to achieve this standard.



NASI OHSAS 18001 Certification

Training

Training within the organisation continued with volunteers completing training and certification in the following disciplines, Updating of COVID-19 PPE Donning & Doffing procedures, Manual Handling, CFR Community, CFR Advanced, People Handling, Drone Operation, Communications and Search Responder. In 2020, for the first time volunteers who work in the boating/water aspect of Civil Defence undertook Personal Survival Training (PST) at the National Maritime College Ireland (NMCI), Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork. This training was found to be very beneficial to the volunteers involved and promoted the development of skills, and safer operations while operating on the water during Civil Defence operations. All training was conducted with full COVID compliance, adherence to social distancing and in line with public health advice.



Volunteers Conducting Search Responder Training including night operations.

New Vehicle

Tipperary was one of many Civil Defence units to receive funding for a new 4x4 vehicle in 2020. 100 % funding was provided by the Civil Defence Branch in Roscrea as part of the Governments Dormant Accounts fund allocations. This vehicle, a Ford Ranger 4x4, based in Clonmel is a welcome addition to our fleet. This vehicle has been in fulltime use since it arrived and is also a very useful asset for our adverse weather response.



New Ford Ranger vehicle which was funded from the dormant accounts allocation

Thurles Training Centre

2020 saw the completion of phase one and two renovation works on our premises in Thurles. This building is now in operation since March 2020 and consists of two training rooms, office accommodation, toilets and vehicle & equipment storage. This has already proven to be of immense benefit with its large training room and central location. While some works remain to be completed on the ground floor it is hoped to secure funding to progress this in the future. Gratitude is expressed to the Civil Defence Branch in Roscrea and to Tipperary Co Council for providing funding to complete the works to date.



Training Centre Thurles which was made operational in March 2020

Change of Directorate

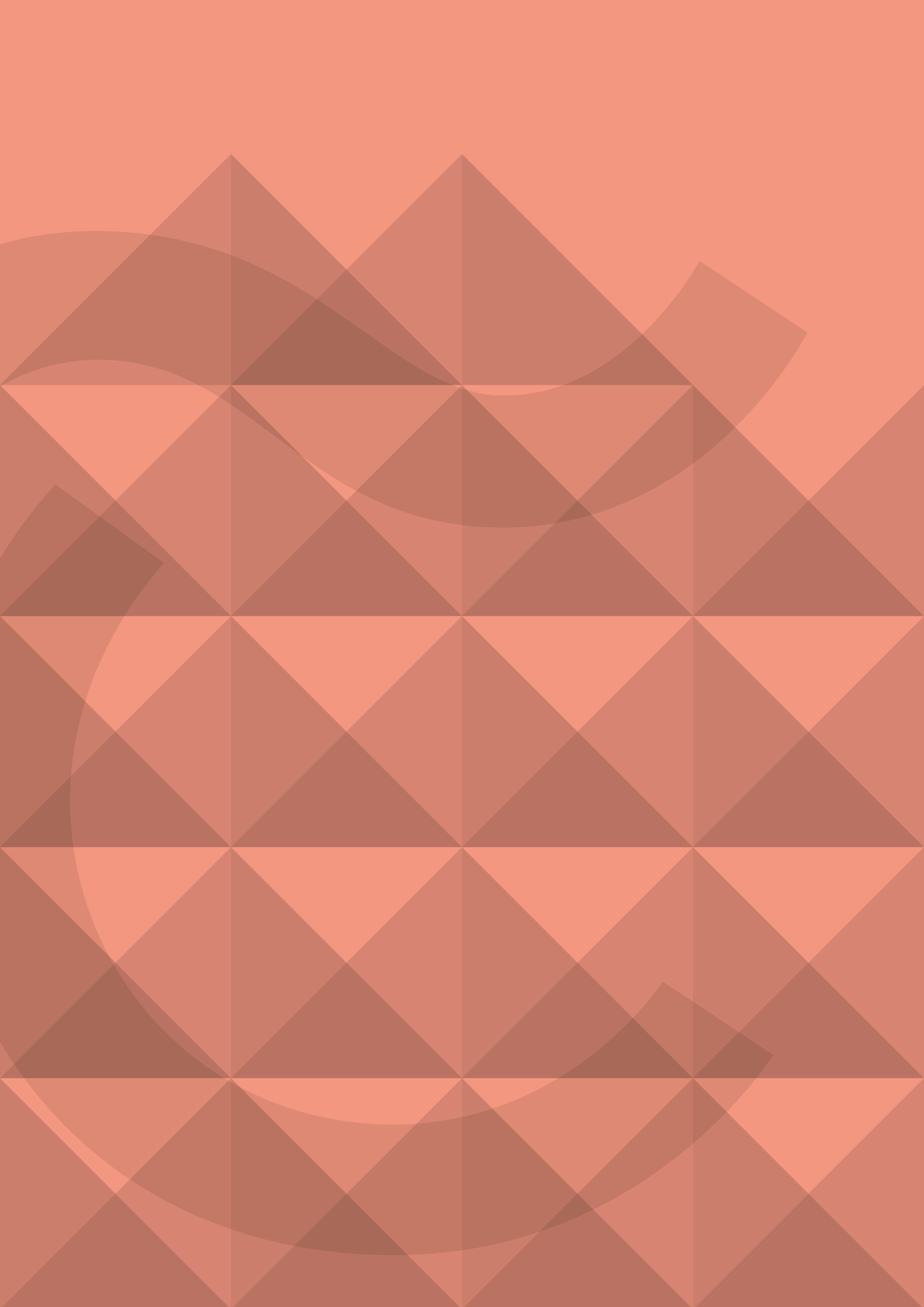
December 2020 saw a change at Directorate level within the Tipperary Co Council with the departure of Mr. Karl Cashen Director of Services moving to take up his new role as DoS with the Local Authorities Waters Programme (LAWPRO) and Mr. Brian Beck stepping into the role as Acting/ Director of Services, for Emergency Services, Health and Safety, Library/Cultural. We would like to thank Karl for his support and guidance over the years and wish him all the best in his new role. We welcome Brian and look forward to working with him in 2021.

2020 for Civil Defence has been a year like no other. It was a year of challenge and immense change. Given the large number of taskings under taken and the continued training requirements, our volunteers have really shown their ability and commitment to supporting our communities in time of need particularly in relation to COVID-19. We wish to thank most sincerely all our volunteers for their resilience, adaptability, commitment, enthusiasms and professionalism whether responding to callout or in training. Well done to all.





OUR COMMUNITY



HOUSING



HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Role

The role of this Strategic Policy Committee is to assist the Council in formulating Housing policy. The membership is comprised of members of the County Council, representatives from the PPN, Trade Union, Business Sector and Development/Construction Sector.

Membership

Tipperary County Council:

- Cllr Mary Hanna Hourigan, Chair,
- Cllr Shane Lee,
- Cllr David Dunne,
- Cllr John McGrath,
- Cllr Pat English,
- Cllr Michael Smith,
- Cllr Kieran Bourke,
- Cllr Roger Kennedy,
- Cllr Noel Coonan,
- Cllr Marie Murphy.

External Representatives:

- Ms Moira Merrigan - Public Participation Network, (PPN)
- Mr Tom Gallahue, Development / Construction,
- Lalor McGee, Trade Union

The following Housing related items were considered during 2020:

- Voids Programme.
- Housing Grants Scheme.
- Housing Allocation Scheme.
- Succession of Tenancy.
- Choice Base Letting.
- Naming of the new 26 Unit Council Housing Scheme at Glenconnor, Clonmel.
- Elected Members & Communication Engagement Protocol.
- Enforcement Procedure – Tenancy Breaches.



Housing Need

The social housing need in the county at the end of 2020 was 3481. Of this figure approximately 60% were in receipt of social housing support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment.



Housing Allocations 2020

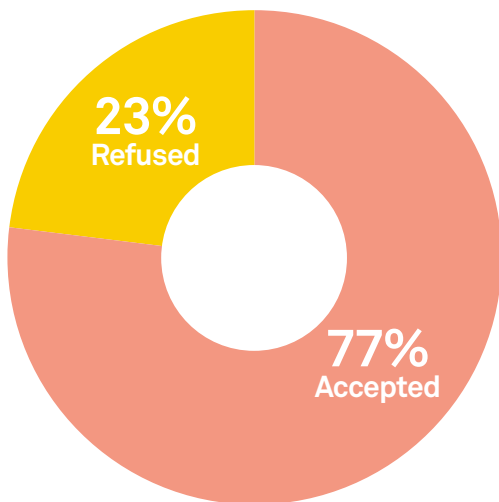
A total of 467 applicants were offered tenancies of Local Authority dwellings in 2020.



In addition, the Council nominated a further 96 applicants to AHB housing during the year.



107 persons refused offers of Local Authority dwellings in 2020 which represents a 23% refusal rate.



 *A total of 467 applicants were offered tenancies of Local Authority dwellings in 2020*

Voids Programme

A total of 158 vacant houses had works completed which enabled them to be returned to use in 2020.



The total cost for these works totaled €4.4m. Housing Section works closely with all Districts to ensure the efficient turnaround of vacant houses to ensure that they are allocated and tenanted in a timely fashion.



Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SLI) / Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

Under the above Schemes, the Department of the Housing Planning and Local Government has allocated funding for local authorities to lease residential properties from private landlords. The schemes allow the Council to lease good standard accommodation in the private rental sector on medium to long term contracts. These properties are used to provide accommodation for social housing applicants who are currently unable to provide suitable accommodation from their own resources.

Progress 2020:

	Contracts Procured
RAS including Voluntary RAS units	58
Long Term Leasing including ABH units	21

Housing Assistance Payment

The Housing Assistance Payment scheme (HAP) is a form of social housing support, providing rental assistance for approved housing applicants to secure accommodation in the private rented sector.

Some 442 housing applicants were assisted under the Scheme in the county in 2020. On average 8 housing applicants were assisted per week. There were 1868 active HAP tenancies at the end of 2020.



Repair and Leasing Scheme

The Repair and Leasing Scheme is an action under the Government's Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness.

Tipperary County Council commenced operation of the Scheme during 2017. The basis of the Repair and Leasing Scheme is that repair and improvement works to suitable vacant properties are funded to bring them up to the standard for rented accommodation, the properties are then leased to the Council/Approved Housing Body and the cost of the works is deducted from lease payments over the agreed lease term.

Tipperary County Council received 95 applications since 2017, the breakdown of which is as follows:

Table 1 – Summary of RLS Applications	
Status of Application	No.
Lease issued	1
Lease to be issued	1
In discussion with owner regarding rental valuation	1
Inspection required	1
Inspected with costs to be issued to owner	1
Further information sought from owner	9
Costed and awaiting response from owner	20
Owner withdrawn from the scheme	37
Rejected due to insufficient demand in area	8
Rejected due to structural issue / poor condition	12
Rejected due to flooding issue	1
Rejected due to excessive funding requirement	3

Buy and Renew

The buy and renew scheme is designed to support local authorities (and approved housing bodies) in the purchase and renewal of vacant housing units in need of remediation and make them available for social housing.

It is a companion strategy for the Repair & Lease scheme, providing additional social housing options. Buy and Renew can target the purchase of older vacant homes and assist in the improvement of derelict and disused areas within our villages and towns.

In 2020 5 properties were purchased as follows:

Year	Purchase Location	Property
2020	Carrick On Suir	6 Dunbane
2020	Cashel	10 Spafield Crescent
2020	Cashel	Upper Green
2020	Clonmel	231 St Olivers Square
2020	Cappawhite	Limerick St



3&4 The Mall, Templemore Pre Works



3&4 The Mall, Templemore Post Works

The owners of vacant properties considered suitable for social housing are identified where possible through advertising campaigns, local knowledge and through Land Registry and are contacted by letter and advised of the schemes available. i.e. Buy & Renew and Repair and Lease. Financial Institutions who have an interest in a vacant property would also be contacted. The owners are requested to contact the vacant homes officer to discuss their properties and the benefits of the schemes. Under legislation Local Authorities have powers to Issue Compulsory Purchase Orders and this will be considered where appropriate by Tipperary County Council. An interdepartmental team consisting of members from Planning, Fire and Building Control, Environment and Housing are available to discuss properties with owners. The 9 largest Urban centres as well as the second tier of larger towns where the largest need exists are the focus. A national website maintained by Mayo County Council is available to members of the public to identify vacant properties of concern. This is monitored by Tipperary County Council with properties listed being investigated.





Homeless Service 2020

In line with government policy, the focus of homeless services in 2020 was on the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation and thus the homeless cycle.

The use of private rented accommodation with the assistance of HAP was the primary option for those presenting as homeless. The 2 Homeless Prevention Officers, working in tandem with the HAP Placefinder Service, were successful in achieving this aim in 2020. This can be seen from the figures set out below for homeless presentations in 2020 which shows a 56% success rate for the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation. In monetary terms this resulted in a reduction in expenditure on emergency from €736,000 in 2019 to €435,000 in 2020 which represents a 41 % reduction.



The HAP Placefinder service has contributed to the success in this area by the creation of 122 tenancies in 2020. Given the success of the HAP Placefinder service in sourcing private rented accommodation for those presenting as homeless, the council submitted an application in 2020 to the Department for the appointment of a second person to work in this area and is awaiting confirmation of approval.

The multi disciplined Homeless Action Team continues to provide a forum whereby a care and case management approach is adopted to put in place an exit strategy for each client availing of emergency accommodation support. This strategy will provide the most suitable option for these clients whether it is HAP, RAS, Approved Housing Body accommodation or council housing.


Under the Housing First model introduced in the south of the county in 2020, 12 units of accommodation were to be provided for the most vulnerable of approved housing applicants. In 2020, 10 units have been provided and it is hoped that the final 2 units will be in place early in 2021. The model is successful in that we have 10 of our most complex cases in secure accommodation with wrap around services ensuring that they maintain their tenancy.

A submission is now with the Department seeking to extend this service in the county by the provision of an additional 18 units.

The START programme, a 2 year pilot initiative which commenced in the south of the County in 2020, supports persons at risk of becoming homeless due to significant mental health challenges. In 2020 this programme supported 4 such clients. They are provided with wrap around mental health services to ensure that they are able to maintain their tenancy. A similar support service is provided by the North Tipperary Intensive Support programme in the north of the county and the Council is the lead partner along with the H.S.E. Focus Ireland in providing this service.

The Tenancy Sustainment Service was expanded in 2020 with the appointment of an additional support worker in the Nenagh office. This service provides support for 41 LA tenants who need help in sustaining their tenancy ensuring that they remain in their accommodation that is suitable to their needs. In addition, in 2020, the TSS service provided a service to a number of Traveller family units to help them sustain their current tenancy.

The Council will continue to work with other mainstream service providers to maximise the supports that can be provided to the most vulnerable of our clients and provide them with every opportunity to have access to a safe home.

 *The use of private rented accommodation with the assistance of HAP was the primary option for those presenting as homeless.*



Housing Rents



5,183

Rent Accounts at 31/12/2020



€51.86

Average Rent for 2020



97%

Collection rate

Tipperary County Council had a total of 5183 Local Authority houses as at 31st December 2020. Rents are calculated in accordance with the Tipperary County Council's Differential Rent Scheme. The average rent in 2020 was €51.86 and the collection rate was 97%



Social Housing Investment Programme - (Ship)

Tipperary County Council has a target of 625 units for delivery in the period 2018-2021. This is comprised of units delivered through Build, Acquisition and Long Term Leasing.

With one year remaining of the four year programme we have delivered 657 units of accommodation or 105% of the target with 12 months remaining. This has been achieved partially by working successfully with the Approved Housing Bodies. Restrictions imposed due to Covid 19 stopped construction for a number of weeks in Q2 2020 and this has resulted in additional delivery being pushed into 2021.

The following is the delivery for 2020:

Build (LA &AHB)	106
Part V	5
Acquisition	42
Longterm Lease	40
Buy & Renew	5

A number of schemes advanced through the 4 stage approvals process and are on site with completions due in 2021 and 2022. Newer proposals have commenced design with an emphasis on one and two bed properties on brown field sites



Knockanrawley, Tipperary



With one year remaining of the four year programme we have delivered 657 units of accommodation or 105% of the target with 12 months remaining.





Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability is available to assist in the carrying out of works that are reasonably necessary for the purposes of rendering a house more suitable for the accommodation of a person with a disability who is a member of the household.

The Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme covers three types of grants operated by the Council.

- The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability provides for the provision/adaptation of accommodation to meet the needs of people with a disability, works include access ramps, stair lifts, level access showers and extensions.
- The Mobility Aids Grant is a scheme to address mobility problems and works include level access showers, ramps, grab rails and stair lifts.
- The Housing Aid for Older People assists older people in carrying out necessary repair and improvements to their home.

The combined capital allocation, which was notified to this Council in 2020, for the payment of the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability, for private dwellings, was €3,246,170 of which €649,234 was to be provided from this Council's own revenue resources. A total of 299 projects were completed.

The Council received a total allocation of €534,813 for Local Authority DPG's in 2020 but got final approval for €583,040. A further 28 projects were completed under this funding.

The Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme was reviewed at national level by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government which streamlined the application process from three separate application forms to one single form for all three housing adaptation grants making the application process more accessible to applicants. This single application form came into effect in February 2020. Revised guidelines were also published by the Department to assist with the administration of the changes which came into effect from the 31st January, 2020. The income thresholds and grant amounts remain unchanged.

The housing grants Occupational Therapist Panel was reviewed and successful applicants were appointed to the new panel effective from December, 2020. To ensure that the works to be carried out, through a housing grant application, are appropriate to the long-term needs of the applicant, it is recommended that applications for a significant change to the function of a room in the home, a stair lift or an extension should be assessed by an Occupational Therapist.

Due to funding constraints, Priority 2 and Priority 3 applications for 2017 and 2018 were not progressed at the time of application, though all files remained open. During 2020, Housing Grants commenced the processing and approval of these applications for both 2017 and 2018.

Energy Efficiency Works

Phase 1 energy efficiency works are complete across the county. Tipperary County Council was part of the Pilot Midlands Retrofit Programme and this was recently subsumed into the national retrofitting programme.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has allocated €1.277 million to Tipperary County Council for the retrofitting of a minimum 47 local authority-owned houses in the county. After the works, the Building Energy Ratings (BER) of homes will typically be B2. They will be expected to be substantially cheaper to heat than similar homes heated by oil or gas.

Works will typically involve insulation, upgrades of windows and doors and installation of heat pumps (renewable energy heating systems), as committed to under the Programme for Government. This will help Ireland's efforts to combat climate change. About 40% of Ireland's energy-related carbon emissions are from buildings. The works are broken into 3 phases with 2 phases tendered to date and the third phase is being surveyed. It is anticipated that works will commence in Q2 2021 and be completed by the end of Q3 2021.



Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024

Tipperary County Council's Traveller Accommodation Programme, which was approved by the elected members in 2019, outlines the accommodation requirements of the Travelling Community over a five year period from 2019 to 2024. The indicative targets in line with requirements set out in the plan were met for 2019/2020 in that the housing needs of 61 families were provided for, with 42 of these catered for in 2020, in accommodation as set out hereunder

Accommodation Type	Standard incl. LTL & AHB	Group Housing	Halting site	Single Rural Dwelling	TOTAL
Traveller Accommodation Programme	58	15	8	9	90
No. provided in 2019 & 2020	45	7	1	8	61
Balance Remaining	13	8	7	1	29

The Council is also obliged to prepare a 3 Year Capital Programme and the current Programme covers the period 2020 to 2022. This Programme provides for upgrade works, new build, site remedial works, etc. so as to improve the living conditions of the travelling community and details of the plan are listed below.

Tipperary County Council 3 Year Capital Plan – Traveller Accommodation 2020 -2022

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION SCHEMES				
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE (e.g. Group Housing/ Halting site)	Expected Completion Date	Description of Project	CURRENT POSITION
Wallers Lot, Cashel	Halting Site	2021	Extension to House 4	Project tendered Commence 2021
Wallers Lot, Cashel	Dwelling	2021	Refurbishment Works – "Lawrence's House"	Project tendered Commence 2021
Heywood Road, Clonmel	Halting Site	2021	*Refurbishment of existing bays. *Removal of roadside mound. *Road re-surfacing works	Project tendered, Commence 2021
Ballybeg, Littleton	Dwelling	2020-2021	Extension (3 bedroom)	Part 8 being prepared to be advertised in March 2021
Ashbury, Roscrea	Halting Site	2020-2021	Add bedrooms to 2 tigin	Tender being prepared for Departmental Approval
Parkmore, Roscrea	Halting Site	2020-2021	Add bedrooms to 4 tigin	Part 8 to be advertised
Lisnaviddogue, Templemore	Dwelling	2022	Demolish existing house and construct 5 bedroom house due to overcrowding	Part 8 approved and costing being prepared for Departmental Approval.
Chapel Lane, Roscrea	Extension	2022	Extension (1 bedroom)	Tenders being assessed.

Annual Count of Traveller Families and their Accommodation

The Council undertook the Annual Count of Traveller Families and their Accommodation, as required under the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998, occurred on the 4th December 2020. The total number of families was 358.

Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

The Traveller Consultative Committee meets quarterly or as deemed necessary by the members. Membership consists of representatives from the Travelling community, elected members, Council officials and representatives from voluntary and statutory agencies.



Voluntary Housing

Capital Assistance Scheme.

Tipperary County Council acknowledges the progress that continues to be made by Approved Housing Bodies in the delivery of social housing units at various locations across the County. Thurles Lions Trust has received Stage 4 Approval for the delivery of 19 no units at Stanwix Village, Thurles. This includes the refurbishment of a protected structure known as Stanwix House at Kickham Street, Thurles.

Cluid Housing Association has received Stage 4 Approval for the construction of 9 units at Glenconnor Road, Clonmel. Both of these schemes will be funded under the Capital Assistance Scheme.

Nenagh Voluntary Housing Association completed 8 units at Drummin Village, Nenagh with funding of €1,086,000 provided under the Capital Assistance Scheme in conjunction with Tipperary County Council. These 8 units are now occupied by social housing tenants.

The Approved Housing Bodies also purchase properties that become available under the Mortgage to Rent scheme and, facilitated by Tipperary County Council, lease these properties back to the owners over a 25-30 year term. This prevents the owners of the properties from becoming homeless and allows them to remain living in their own homes and their status changes from Borrowers/Owners to tenants.

Capital Advance Leasing Facility

The CALF scheme allows the approved Voluntary Housing Bodies to access private or Housing Finance Agency (HFA) loans for the purchase of, and in some cases the construction of, units that will then be made available for social housing under the leasing initiative.

Under the scheme, the Voluntary Housing Bodies may also request a capital investment from the Local Authority.

Tuath Housing Association completed the construction of 22 units at Mill Crescent, Mill Street, Carrick on Suir which was funded under the CALF scheme including a €1,365,000 Capital Advance Loan Facility from Tipperary County Council which represented 30% of the cost of the project. These units are now occupied by social housing tenants.

Co-Operative Housing Ireland Society completed the purchase of 17 houses at Ashgrove, Monadreen, Thurles with these properties now also occupied by social housing tenants.

Focus Housing Association purchased 13 units at Drummin Village, Nenagh with funding of €550,000 from Tipperary County Council which represented 25% of the total cost of the project. These 13 units are now occupied by social housing tenants.



AHB Forum


Tipperary County Council set up an AHB Forum consisting of representatives from the AHBs operating in the county and staff members from the Voluntary Housing Team of TCC. The inaugural meeting was held in March, 2019 and the aim is that the Forum meets quarterly to discuss relevant issues and review the progress of the work programmes of each AHB in the delivery of social housing within the County.

Tenant Purchase Scheme

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government announced a new Incremental Purchase Scheme providing for the sale of existing local authority houses to tenants in 2015. All tenants were notified of the Scheme in March 2016.

Tipperary County Council received 57 applications from tenants to purchase their house in 2020.

Formal applications to purchase received during 12 months ended 31 December 2020	57
Applications approved (i.e. offer letter issued) during 12 months ended 31 December 2020 but sales not completed at that date	25
Sales completed during 12 months ended 31 December 2020	11
Total proceeds of sales received during 12 months ended 31 December 2020	€580,490.00

 *A first time buyer can apply for a Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan to purchase a new or second-hand property, or to build your own home.*

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan is a Government backed mortgage for first time buyers. It is available nationwide from all local authorities from 1st February 2018. A first time buyer can apply for a Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan to purchase a new or second-hand property, or to build your own home. You can borrow up to 90% of the market value of the property.

Maximum market values of the property that can be purchased or self-built in Tipperary is €250,000. In 2020 a total of 89 applications were received by Tipperary County Council.

Number of Applications Received	89
Valid	32
Approved	14
Number of loans issued	12
Total value of loans issued	€1,240,110.00



Estate Management

Tipperary County Council continues to promote estate management initiatives and awarded amenity grants to Resident Associations under this Council's 2020 Estate Management Budget. This funding aims to enhance and develop the physical appearance of our Local Authority estates.

Training in the form of educational excursions and up skilling workshops are normally provided annually to help encourage ongoing participation from residents. However, restrictions imposed due to Covid-19 meant that it was not possible to run these during 2020. Once restrictions are lifted it is the Council's intention to re-organise these events.

The Council's seven Community Liaison Officers work to address anti-social behaviour, providing pre tenant training, also developing further training initiatives and continuing the second chance programme, involving inter-agency support and community and youth projects.

They work closely with a number of organisations such as An Garda Siobhan, HSE, Youth Work Ireland Tipperary, local Community and Family Resource Centres and others to improve the quality of life for all residents and tenants in Tipperary

Private Rented Accommodation Inspections

The Housing Authority is continuing to implement and affect enforcement of standards within the private rented sector.

During the year a total of 852 inspections were carried out. This included 70 inspections on long term lease properties, 162 RAS properties, 515 HAP, and 105 others. The number was reduced from 2019 figures due to the significant impacts of Covid 19 in Q2 particularly when inspections ceased for a period of time.

Where necessary, letters issued to owners of property identifying items to be addressed and further follow up action is being taken to ensure compliance with the standards.



Tipperary County Council continues to promote estate management initiatives and awarded amenity grants to Resident Associations under this Council's 2020 Estate Management Budget



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY/LEADER PROGRAMME:

2020 was the final year of the 2014-2020 RDP rollout in Co Tipperary. It has been a particularly busy year with both Implementing Partners(IP's) working well with the LCDC\LAG to deliver a total of 45 projects across the various themes and subthemes per table 1.

Table1 2020 Projects

Theme	Sub Theme	Value of Approvals	No. of Projects
Rural Economic Development, Enterprise Development And Job Creation	Enterprise Development	€573,416	9
	Rural Tourism	€319,151	8
	Rural Towns	€362,304	7
	Broadband	€24,500	1
Rural Environment	Local Biodiversity	€10,000	1
	Renewable Energy	€293,116	6
	Water Resources	€95,676	7
Social Inclusion	Basic Services for hard to Reach Communities	€257,771	4
	Rural Youth	€187,144	2
Total		€2,123,077	45

While being a busy year it has obviously had its challenges with the Pandemic and restrictions disrupting the normal operations. That being said Tipperary's LAG (Local Action Group) was one of the top 10 performing LAG's in the country and thus received an additional €500,000. The LDS is built into theme and sub themes.

At writing of this report mid January(2021) the following was the position for the full programme. The Deadline for entering into new contractual arrangements is the 31st of March 2021.



Tipperary Circle of Friends LEader Grant recipients



**Table 2 Full Programme Delivery**

Theme	Sub Theme	Value of Projects with Contracts Signed	Number Of projects
Rural Economic Development, Enterprise Development And Job Creation	Enterprise Development	€1,632,716.4	35
	Rural Towns	€1,660,354.09	39
	Rural Tourism	€1,125,660.32	35
	Broadband	€36,559	1
Rural Environment	Local Biodiversity	€192,561.14	9
	Renewable Energy	€647,999.16	14
	Water Resources	€147,266.04	11
Social Inclusion	Basic Services for hard to reach communities	€1,876,345.94	39
	Rural Youth	€596,721.43	19
Totals		€7,916,183.56	203

The overall Project Budget for Projects is €7,997,584 which equates to a 99% of our Budget spent at Mid February. Based on the projects the LAG currently has in the pipeline we will be within €5,000 of the overall Budget being expended.

Some of the more Notable Projects supported in 2020 are as follows, this list is far from exhaustive and is only a sample of the projects approved:

- Support increased capacity of an Engineering firm outside Emly.
- Support a glass manufacturer in filtration of water to reduce emissions and the water demand for production of the product.
- Cahir Playground Redevelopment.
- Roscrea Community Hall Renovation.
- Monard Community Hall Renovation.
- Lough Derg Experience
- Fitzgeralds Open Farm
- Upperchurch Drombane GAA Club Walking Track

Additional to the above the LAG realised 32 National Cooperation and Food projects with a value of over €1,656,331.15. These come from national projects budget. Cooperation Projects are projects delivered through more than one LAG (so for example Ballina-Killaloe projects would be completed between Tipperary and Clare). There were some notable Food projects are a food factory in Clonmel making taco's that increased capacity and plan to increase employment and a School lunches organisation in Nenagh.



Cabragh Wetlands



FUNDING SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES

All Community Funding Schemes were brought through the LCDC structure in 2020. The big change across all schemes this year is that the level of matched funding reduced to 10% to the maximum of the grant threshold (that is in 2020, 10% of the total project is the level of matched funding required).

These included

CLAR Scheme

The decision around 2020 applications was announced in Autumn, this year all approved projects in Tipperary were roads safety measures. Clar 2019 projects both Sensory Gardens (Ballyporeen and Ballysloe) are completed. Arising from COVID 19 restrictions delays in delivery of materials resulting in difficulties completing the Ballingarry Playground, the Department have been kept informed.

Town and Village Renewal

Accelerated Measures (NEW) In 2020 a new scheme was approved, Accelerated measures these were smaller scale projects most valued up to €25,000 and a smaller number up to €40,000. This year additionally larger towns could apply one per town. There were three tranches under this scheme and Tipperary had 13 projects approved with the total value of all projects being €455,784.00 and the grant funding to realise these projects is €392,634.00.



Clar 2019 Ballyporeen Sensory Garden committee member overlooking the Garden



Main Scheme

The 2020 Approvals of the main scheme the total value of all projects being €900,911 and the grant funding to realise these projects is €788,025.

Project Description	Community/CoCo	Project Code	Project Cost	Grant Funding
Main Scheme Council Led Boherlahan	Council	TV20TY01	€190,000	€171,000
Main Scheme Community Led Kilbarron	Community	TV20TY01	€57,222	€51,525
Main Scheme Community Led Kilsheelan	Community	TV20TY03	€70,000	€63,000
Main Scheme Council Led Kilsheelan	Council	TV20TY03	€30,000	€27,000
Main Scheme Council Led Marlfield	Council	TV20TY04	€300,000	€200,000
Main Scheme Council Led Templemore	Council	TV20TY06	€5,889	€53,000
Main Scheme Community Led Loughmore	Community	TV20TY08	€222,800	€200,000
Main Scheme Community Led Birdhill	Community	TV20TY09	€25,000	€22,500

The 2019 Scheme approved in 2020 the following projects were approved and are progressing but not as much as we would expect with COVID restrictions.

Location	Description	Community or Group	Project Cost	Grant Amount
Lorrha	Extension to Community Hall	Community	€120,000.00	€149,555.00
Newcastle	Extension to Community Hall	Community	€173,825.00	€139,060.00
Clogheen	Public realm Works to Village	Tipp\Cahir\Cashel MD	€120,000.00	€96,000.00
Nenagh	Ball Alley Lane, Nenagh	Nenagh MD	€120,000.00	€96,000.00
Cashel	Cashel Town Centre	Tipp\Cahir\Cashel MD	€250,000.00	€200,000.00
			€783,825.00	€680,615.00



Terryglass Town and Village



The 2018 Programme

Terryglass and Aglish are Completed, Nenagh, Puckane, Thurles, Carrick on Suir, Cloughjordan and Cashel are all just about complete were all scheduled to complete in Q1 of 2021 but are likely to be affected by the current restrictions.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructural Scheme

2018

- Measure 2's
- Hoare Abbey Walk Completed.
- River Ara Walkway Delayed due to an An Bord Pleanala Planning process requirement, DRCD have given an extension until 31st October 2021

2019 Approvals

Measure 1's 5 approved and 4 are completed at this point Suir Blueway Trail Experience, Lough Derg Blueway Promotion, Tipperary 'Take Hike', Provision of Carpark at Glencushabinná, Glen of Aherlow. The last project St. Declan's Way near New Inn.

Measure 2

GarryKennedy is progressing well

Measure 3

Very significant approval Total grant of €500,000 for the Blueway near Cahir, Suir Island(Clonmel) and Carrick On Suir. Work again is progressing in each of these areas.

2020 Approvals

At the time of creating this report only Measure 1's were announced and the following projects were approved each with a value of €20,000-€25,000.

Bothar na Marbh, Cashel,

Cahir Viaduct

Lough Derg Interactive Map

Munster Vales Interactive Map

Munster Vales Slow Adventure

Tipperary Mass Path

Tipperary Hiking & Outdoor Activity

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The Local Economic and Community Plan was a 6 year plan running from 2014 to 2020, therefore 2020 was the final year of the plan The LECP Advisory board oversees and coordinates the Community Action Plan of the Local Economic and Community Plan and the Economic SPC and provides a monitoring role in relation to the Economic Actions.

The LECP continued to be implemented by the LCDC and lead agencies. The plan and annual review for 2019 was presented to Tipperary County Council in February 2020. A mid-year and end of year progress report was presented to the LECP Advisory Group in June 2020 and December 2020

By End of Year 2020, no Departmental guidelines in relation the LECP review process or the new LECP process had been issued. However we understand that these will be issued during Q2 2021 and there is national working group in place.



Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme



2021 was the third year of Implementation for the current SICAP. The Programme Implementation costs were €1,208,587 over the year (between North Tipperary Development Company and South Tipperary Development Company). The key objectives of the Programme are to support marginalised individuals and target groups back to work and employment as well as support to community groups.

Both Local Development Companies have met their targets, with regard to Local Community Groups and individuals being supported to employments/self employment, education or training. Due to the difficulties with meeting with groups and individuals throughout the Covid Pandemic, the LCDCs had to option to reduce targets numbers for 2020 only, the numbers for STDC were reduced f

SICAP Case Studies

The Local Development Companies carried out case studies in 2020 with NTDC's case study entitled 'Stronger Together' -In this case study they explore the collaborative responses to this global pandemic and how small communities across North Tipperary established specific COVID 19 response groups and local organisations, such as North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC); statutory agencies like Tipperary County Council, An Garda Síochána, and volunteer based organisations such as Irish Red Cross, Tipperary Volunteer Centre, GAA clubs, Search and Rescue, Public Participation Network, Food Banks, Order of Malta, all came out to respond and support vulnerable members of the community; in particular, older people who cocooned, people with underlying health issues and anyone who needed care or assistance.

South Tipperary Development Company showcased their 'Cooking through COVID' initiative. The focus of the project was on supporting families who had little or no pattern of family cooking. The initiative provided for families to cook one -pot/ slow cooker main meals easily prepared without any prior cooking experience and using everyday ingredients that were familiar, readily available locally and affordable. No assumptions were made about prior cooking experience, cooking facilities and equipment. Community development approach was agreed as a key principle of the programme design and implementation.

Pride of Place

Pride of Place is an all-island competition that recognises improvements made by local communities to create civic pride in their area. In 2020, Tipperary County Council had 4 entries into the Pride of place Competition. The judging of the entrants was through zoom so as to minimise any risk associated with Covid. The participating Communities were Kilsheelan Tidy Towns and Terryglass Improvement Association as well as Cloughjordan Circus Club and Age Friendly Roscrea- in the creative place and community wellbeing categories respectively.

Terryglass was awarded a major prize at the all-Ireland Pride of Place community awards in the 'Areas With a Population Less than 300' category. The awards, hosted by Marty Morrissey, took place online due to the Covid pandemic with 6,000 people logging in from across Ireland.

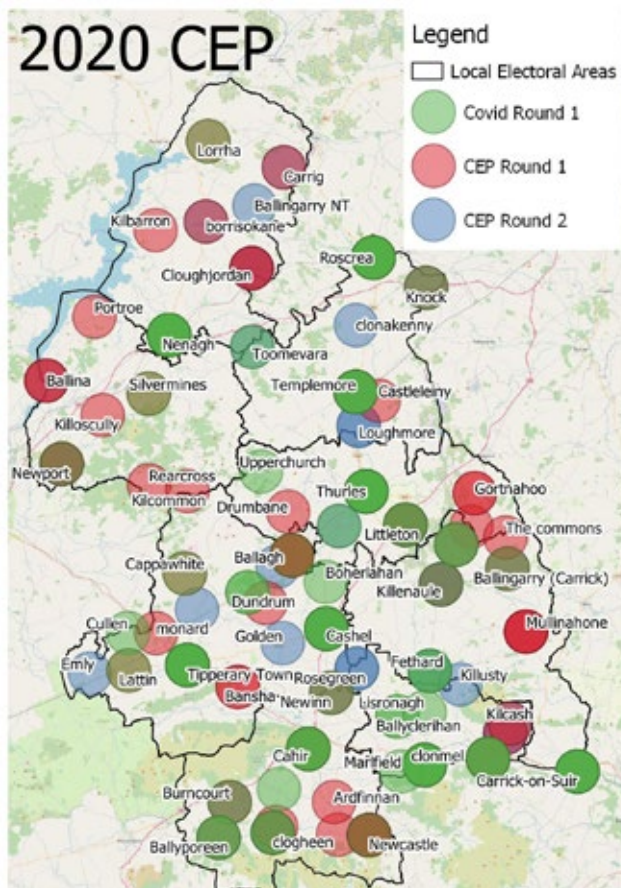


Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) 2020

Tipperary received funding of approximately €340,000 from the Department of Community and Rural Development in 2020.

- €81,831 Covid-19 Emergency fund was launched in April
- €67,777 CEP Round 1 fund was launched in June
- €188,971 Round 2 was launched in August

The map below shows the communities that have benefited from these funds.



Joint Policing Committee

Due to Covid 19 restrictions the March meeting was abandoned. The meetings in July, October and December were held virtually with JPC members logging in from home using Zoom cloud meeting software.

The following were the key JPC achievements for 2020

- Tipperary JPC established a steering group according to Section 3 of the Standing Orders
- Tipperary JPC established a working group to review the use of Text Alert Systems in the county.
- The standing orders were updated to allow for the increase in membership from 31 to 32 to include a migrant representative.
- The JPC organised property marking training for Councillors and JPC members and this took place in Jan 2021.
- Tipperary JPC gave their support to the proposed Borrisokane Community CCTV scheme
- Presentations in relation to the review of levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in Co Tipperary were provided at all the JPC meetings and clarity in relation to key Garda Operations and policies were provided across a range of areas.
- An update feasibility study for Roscrea CCTV was commissioned by Roscrea CCTV Ltd in 2020 following endorsement by the JPC in 2019.
- Gardaí in Co Tipperary played a very active part in the Covid-19 response and participated in the community call as well as the 'Keep well' and 'In this together' campaigns.
- In 2020 a community policing unit was established in Tipperary. This is a temporary unit and Tipperary JPC support the establishment of a more permanent unit.



Community Call

The Community and Enterprise section responded to the significant challenges and fears being faced by the older and vulnerable in the community by developing a community call service. The service provided an 12 hour per day (8am-8pm), 7 day a week service between April and June after which it was reduced to an 8 hour (9am-5pm) a day service. To establish the services, the section worked closely with Tipperary Volunteer centres and Tipperary Public Participation Network to support volunteers that were providing the service on the ground. Groups were provided with funding through a COVID grants scheme as well as procedures and protocols for working with clients as well as signage for this building and cars where required. Shops and Businesses that were delivering to homes signed up to the service so that customers were aware that they could access items required while remaining safe in their own homes. To compliment the Community Call Tipperary County Council developed a mapping resource where business across the county could register and outline their hours of operation and if they had delivery services available. This ongoing resource is a platform to support all of our communities and promote local business.

Mental Health

Mental health came into focus as a priority for Community and Enterprise in 2020 due to the significant strain that COVID had on communities, families and individuals. 'Minding your Mood' was one of the themes under the Keep well Campaign and the section have been active on keeping that section of the website up to date with various events, workshops and resources. A committee in North Tipperary came together to organise North Tipperary's first mental health week including events around 'learning and connect', 'be active and connect as well as take notice and connect'. South Tipperary Area Network also organise a mental health week to celebrate mental health day on October 10th which included a webinar with Dr Harry Barry. As this was very well attended, another webinar with Dr Barry took place in December 2021.

Jigsaw Project is to bringing counselling and other service to young people and the community in Tipperary, it will be based in Thurles Technology Park, with outreach planned for Clonmel and Nenagh at a later date. The fit of the premises and recruitment is underway.

Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairle na nÓg is the child and youth council which gives young people a voice on the development of local policies and services in Tipperary. They are recognised as national structure for participation by children and young people in decision making in all 31 local authorities.

Throughout 2020 Comhairle adopted to a virtual platform to carry out the workplan, interactions was good however it highlighted a digital divide in some areas of the county. The group decided to move meetings to Friday evenings to avoid screen time on weekends.

The **Thurles/Templemore** group continued to work on Mental health, and carried out survey on "How are you in Tipp" – post lockdown, survey final results were published in October in conjunction with Mental Health day promotion.

Clonmel - work linked to LGBTQ

Hubs of young people joined in from Fethard/Killenuale Youth project, Tipp town youth project, Borrisokane youth club, Carrick Foroige and Tipperary Resettlement project. There also were some youth people from Finland with us who hope to do a youth exchange on Democracy with Tipp Comhairle when travel resumes.

The Nenagh group struggled with digital access through out the year.

Tipp/Cashel/Cahir worked with MTDI Drugs project on behalf of CYSPC on a project around Be Sober, Be safe over 7 weeks, some great info and video produced but insta reach was not as they had hoped on the project.

The Carrick group carried out research on awareness of Climate Change amongst young people, the actions from this research are postponed till 2021 due to COVID.



Migrant Integration

In 2020, Tipperary County Council LCDC agreed to lead out the Migrant Integration Strategy development for county Tipperary. Funding of €40,500 has been granted through the National Integration Fund (Department of Justice) to progress work.

A project to provide mental health supports for migrant groups through provision of short films in their own languages was organised in December 2020. The short videos are available in Romanian, Arabic, Polish and Portuguese (Brazilian) area available on the Tipperary County Council website. Tender documents were prepared for the procurement of a consultant for the strategy research.

Disability Awareness

Tipperary County Council for the first time hosted 'Make Way Day' 2020 in the county with representatives from Access Groups, Tipperary PPN and other interested parties where all highlighted issues from their lived experience of disability. It was held on September 25, 2020 and was attended by Cathaoirleach Michael Smith.



Cathaoirleach Michael Smith with Disability Access Officer Dan Downey on Make Way Day 2020.

Play Day and Recreation Week 2020

Play Day took place on July 4th and due to COVID had to adapt. Various groups carried creative ways to deliver National Playday 2020 under the theme Playful Communities, Playful Homes.

Groups delivered play packs leading up to July 4th and shared pictures and stories through various social media platforms on the 4th of July.

Through linkages with the Family Resource Centres, Barnardos and Traveller organisations we have prioritised children from socially excluded family and those who have been disproportionately impacted upon by the Covid pandemic. Playpacks were delivered to 412 were delivered to children in Tipperary for Play Day.

Playground policy

Playground Policy was affected due to inability to carry out workshops throughout the year. The COVID pandemic highlighted the need for playgrounds and investment in existing playgrounds.

The subject of fundraising and receiving funds from through different channels needs to be a focus of this policy.

Funding received through the then DCYA Capital Grant Scheme 2020 was used refurbishing Elm Park in Clonmel and Fairgreen in Carrick on Suir.

The Playgrounds were closed for the first lockdown.





Healthy Tipperary



A joint application was submitted by Tipperary LCDC & Tipperary CYPSC for Strand 1 Healthy Ireland funding round 3. This resulted in 12 actions being developed and the maximum of €374,100 applied for to implement these actions. This includes a Community Grants Scheme where local; community and voluntary organisations can apply for grants between €2,000 and €5,000 to help support community mental health initiatives. The actions include themes on Mental Health, Physical Activity, Sexual Health, Nutrition and Community Engagement is ongoing and funding in place until December 2021. Holistic look at delivery of all actions has taken place with regard to delivery due to restrictions on movement during the year.

A further 8 grants were awarded in 2020 under the Community Mental Health Fund Small Grant Scheme with activity to take place in 2021.

Care Box Initiative

Tipperary LCDC, through the Healthy Tipperary Initiative, has contributed to the provision of care boxes for vulnerable persons affected by Covid 19 pandemic across the South East, including County Tipperary. Care boxes were delivered to vulnerable persons in each county through the Public Health Services. The care boxes provided essential items for those who are vulnerable and cocooning/self-isolating but would also communicate essential public health messages including minding mental wellbeing and staying well to reduce avoidable escalation of chronic condition symptoms, supporting people to document their current medications and provide a bag for medications in the case of them having to go to hospital so that they would bring them with them and reduce the medications checking burden on hospital staff if they present in emergency situation.

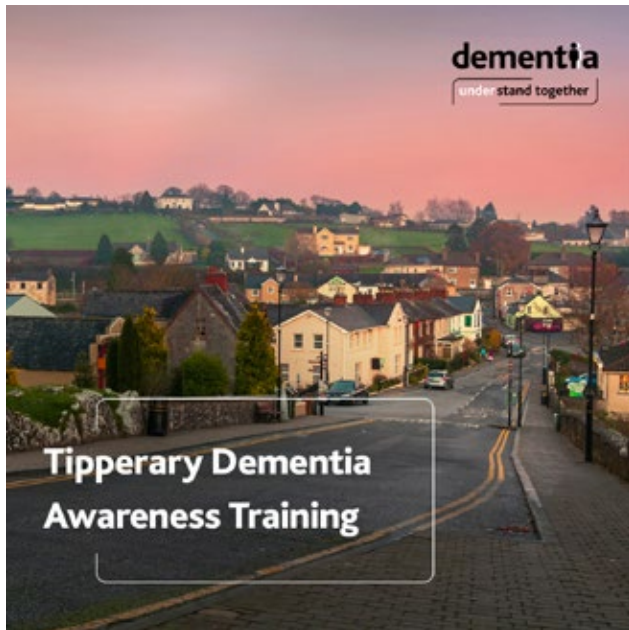
Care boxes were packed at Moycarkey Borris Community Centre by the Community & Economic Development Section with assistance in packing and distribution around the county by Tipperary Libraries and Tipperary Civil Defence. 400 care boxes were provided across the five counties and were gratefully received.



Tipperary Civil Defence and Library Services assisting with the packing of Care boxes at Moycarkey Borris Community Centre for distribution around the county with Healthy Tipperary Coordinator Dan Downey



Dementia Awareness



Dementia: Understand Together in communities is led by the HSE and aims to raise awareness and increase people's understanding of dementia, to inspire the nation to stand together with those affected. We want to change the culture around dementia and help create an Ireland that embraces and includes people living with the condition. Partnering with the campaign, Tipperary County Council is embarking on the journey of making its towns inclusive. Dementia awareness training for businesses and community and sport groups as well as training on dementia inclusive design and walkability audits are part of the programme.

The outcome of this project is to ensure that people with dementia and their families are supported in our communities and to increase awareness across the county.

The project funded by Healthy Ireland and supporting the Healthy Tipperary Strategy, and Tipperary Age Friendly Strategy commenced with the Thurles MD in November and will be delivered across the other 4 MD's in early 2021

Keep Well



The Government Plan for Living with COVID-19 - Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 highlights the important role that individual and community resilience will play in contributing to our ongoing response to COVID-19.

The "Keep Well" campaign will show people of all ages how to mind their own physical and mental health and wellbeing by adding healthy and helpful habits to their daily and weekly routines. The Healthy Ireland "Keep Well" campaign will provide guidelines, information, and tips on things to help all to keep well through the coming months.

This Resilience and Wellbeing information is being added on www.gov.ie/healthyireland and placed under the following sections: Staying Active, Keeping Connected, Switching Off, Eating Well, and Minding Your Mood. Tipperary County Council has been allocated €67,225 and Tipperary CYPSC €18,519 for Community Resilience Programmes; these are being developed in December 2020 with activities to be completed by March 2021.

Further information in relation to the Keep Well Campaign can be found on www.tipperarycoco.ie



In this Together



Do you know that Tipperary County Council and the HSE produce a newsletter every fortnight called 'In this Together Tipperary'?

The newsletter is part of an overall campaign which looks at the national themes of Looking after our Mental Health, Coping at Home, Let's Play Ireland, Staying Active, Healthy Eating, Cocooning, Helping in our Community and Local Resources.

The community and voluntary effort has demonstrated Tipperary's capacity to ensure that no one is left behind, that we remain connected and that we are all in this together.

See www.tipperarycoco.ie and www.ppntipperary.ie for current and future editions.

The community team can be contacted on **0761 065000**
Email: inthisogether@tipperarycoco.ie
"In this Together Tipperary"



Tipperary County Council and the HSE launched the fortnightly newsletter on 8th of June and continue to publish a newsletter on a fortnightly basis focusing on positive news stories and topics of interest and supports aligned to national campaigns in the Tipperary context. The past issues can be found on www.tipperarycoco.ie and also on www.ppntipperary.ie

#What's on in Tipp

<http://events.whatsonintipp.ie> is a website provided by Tipperary County Council to promote activities, events across the county. Community Groups, Local Business can promote activities and events across the county and this will become a tool for all across the county to increase awareness of the fantastic amenities and activities across the county.

Public Participation Network



In 2019 Tipperary PPN commenced its wellbeing visions in each Municipal district, creating a vision for Tipperary to be the best place it can be. The wellbeing vision informed by the community is embedded in the Corporate Plan for Tipperary. Tipperary PPN held its plenary on the 26th of November and launched its Wellbeing Vision. This contains an overarching vision for county Tipperary and then a specific vision prepared by the residents in each MD.

Overarching Vision for Community Wellbeing in Tipperary "Tipperary is an attractive, inclusive, and welcoming county with community-minded people, diverse cultures and a rich heritage, where we respect and value one another. It is a positive and safe place to live. Our thriving and progressive economy is dynamic and enhanced by our strong local democracy and active community participation. Everyone enjoys a great quality of life with excellent local infrastructure, supports and services. We live sustainably and work together to protect, enhance and enjoy our beautiful environment."

The PPN website contains a resource section "In this Together" which features resources for the community and for families aligned to the national In this Together campaign.

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary PPN will partner to deliver training to support community groups develop their digital capacity aligned to the Keep Well campaign in 2021 and also promote the fantastic community engagement and supports since March 2020.



Tipperary Age Friendly



Tipperary Age Friendly held its first Older Peoples Council and interagency Alliance meeting in February 2020 after a series of public meetings held in 2019.

With the Covid Restrictions meetings transferred to online and the Tipperary Age Friendly Alliance, Tipperary Older Peoples Council and Executive were facilitated via zoom and focused on information and supports in response to Covid 19 and also in achieving outputs from the Tipperary Age Friendly Strategy.

Roscrea Age Friendly Town

The Roscrea Age Friendly Town Alliance also held its first meeting in February 2020 and are progressing developing an Action Plan and focus on Roscrea as Tipperary's first Age Friendly Town. Tipperary County Council Planning Section are leading the design of an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Gantly Road.

Positive Ageing Week

Positive Ageing Week (PAW) is an Age Action Ireland initiative. The focus is on community-based events, organised by groups and individuals throughout Ireland, and national events organised by Age Action and its partners.

This year a partnership project involving the local authorities of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford, and this Regional Action for Positive Ageing was funded by The Healthy Ireland Fund, supported by the Department of Health and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs

The content showcased was streamed live each day via zoom over 3 themes and the information relating to each recording and link to each recording is available here under the heading of our 3 Themes: Health and Wellbeing, Information and Culture and Diversity. The 19 videos are available to www.tipperarycoco.ie

Digital Connections Pilot Sites

Tipperary Age Friendly partnered with FRC and Community Groups in 10 Pilot locations across the county in the provision of digital devices and supports to address digital poverty and support the older adult in becoming confident and competent in the use of technology.

This action was supported by Tipperary PPN, South Tipperary Development Company and North Tipperary Development Company for the initial pilot location purchase of the digital devices.

In addition, over the coming months a schedule of content related to the older people will be developed with regular opportunities for engagement.



Figure 1 Anne Keevy Age Friendly Roscrea with Acorn Tablet Delivery



Figure 2 Cllr Marie Murphy St Pauls Clogheen, Fiona Crotty Age Friendly Program Manager and Pat Slattery Chair Tipperary Age Friendly Alliance



Resilience Packs

In November Tipperary Age Friendly commenced assembly of resilience and information packs for distribution to the older adult groups in County Tipperary. The packs were assembled by Catherine Fogarty and Valerie Madden in Tipperary Library and were distributed with the cooperation of Tipperary Civil Defence, South Tipperary Development Company and staff from community section to the older adult groups in the county.



Figure 3 Catherine and Valerie Tipperary Library



Figure 4 Tipperary Civil Defence prepared for distribution

Christmas Wishes to Nursing Homes

Tipperary Age Friendly provided a small fruit gift basket to the nursing homes across the county to acknowledge the Christmas season 2020.

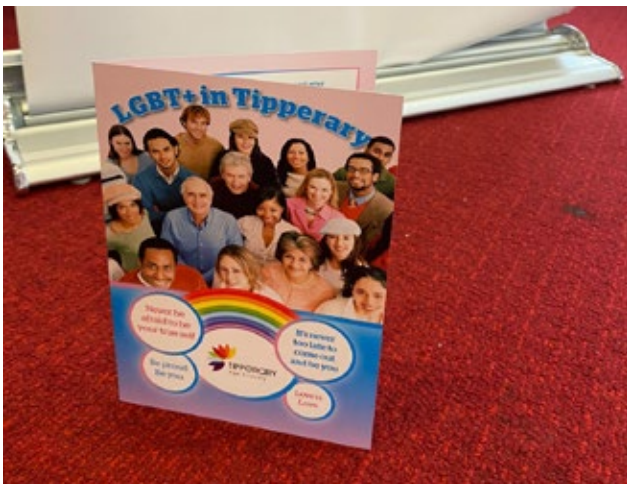


Figure 5 Anthea Conway, Tipperary County Council and Honora Kennedy Cottage Nursing Home Clonmel



LGBT+ All County Guide

Tipperary Age Friendly, North Tipperary Development Company, the HSE and Clonmel Community Resource Centre have prepared an all-county guide to showcase support services for adults in relation to LGBT in Tipperary. In addition, a recording has been undertaken and will be formally launched in 2021 and will be aligned to the Positive ageing week content.



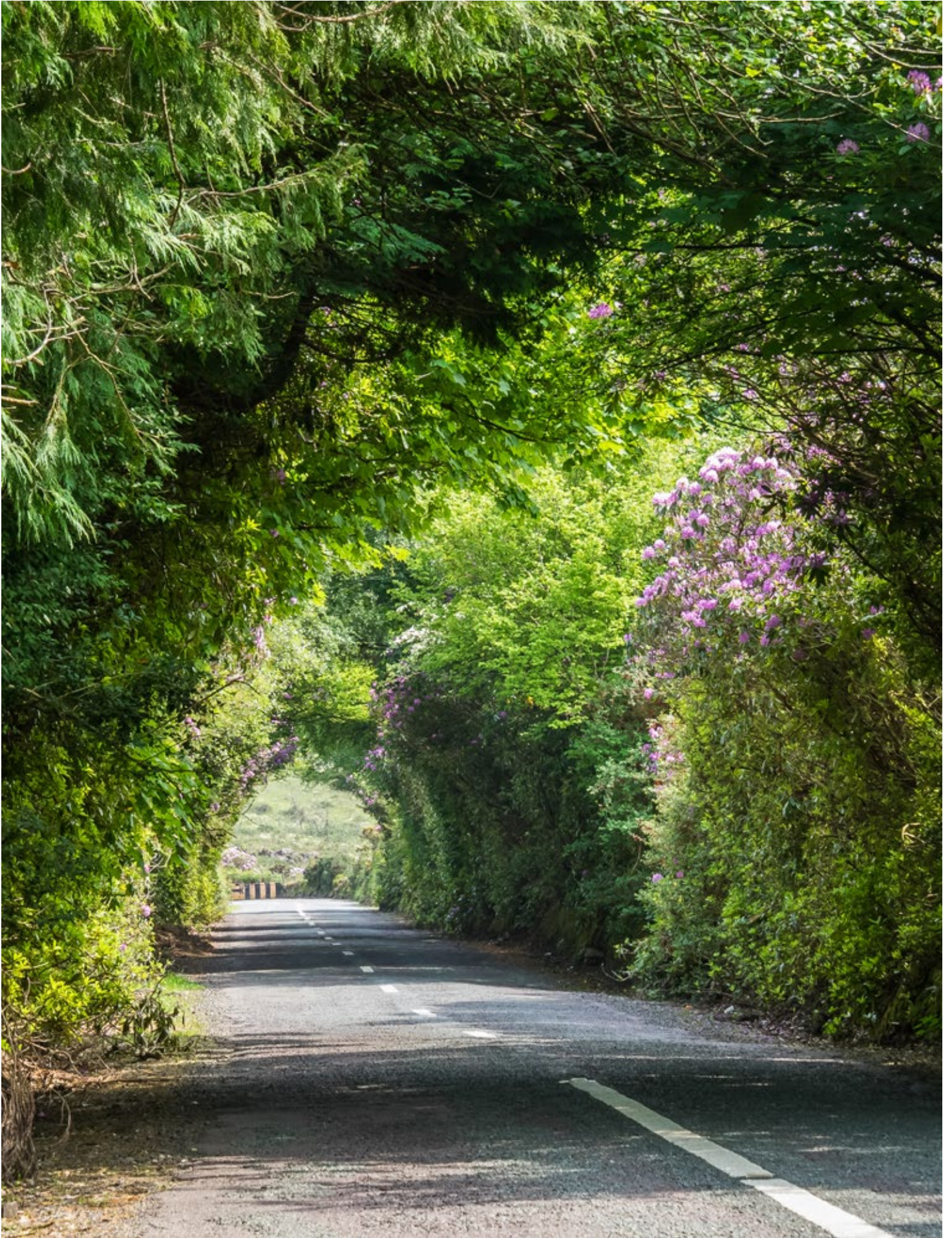
Children and Young People Services Committee

Tipperary CYPSC, chaired by TCC, is a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every county in Ireland. CYPSC, who receive its own Healthy Ireland national funding partner Tipperary LCDC in joint funding application and implementation of Healthy Ireland funding across the county ensuring geographical and demographical targeting of this funding support.

Jigsaw service has commenced their recruitment campaign and this will continue for the Tipperary service into the new year.

Tipperary CYPSC will launch its own website in Q1 2021 which will provide a signpost for service and supports in County Tipperary.





SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

In 2020, the Sports Partnership delivered over 40 individual programmes or initiatives with over 4,000 participants. The Sports Partnership successfully secured in excess of €720,000 in funding to support the delivery of its programmes and initiatives in Tipperary.

The implementation of TSP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 for Tipperary continued in delivering on the key objectives and action to develop sport for all in our Community at all stages of life. In June, a review of the TSP Strategic Plan was completed and it was agreed to extend the Strategic Plan for 2 years until 2022. Currently, the Sports Partnership is conducting a review of its governance and its compliance with the Governance Code through its Strategic & Governance Committee.



It was a difficult year for the delivery of activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, TSP adapted many of its activities and its delivery methods with many programme delivered online and virtually. In brief, some of the Partnership's key achievements in 2020 include:

- A number of walking initiatives were delivered which included two 8 week walking programmes with 57 walkers - Galtee Transformation covering areas of Aherlow, Banasha, Lisvarrinane, and Thurles Transformation covering the area of Thurles town and outskirts. 5 Operation Transformation Walks were held in Cahir, Clonmel, Nenagh, Templemore and Tipperary Town with 755 participants across the County. 2 Operation Transformation runs were supported these runs took place in Templemore (Parkrun) and Cahir. The 2 runs attracted over 250 participants.
- The establishment of a new Park Run was supported in Borrisokane.
- TSP delivered 5 Swim training programmes in Clonmel Swimming Pool, Thurles Leisure Centre, Sean Kelly Sports Centre Carrick on Suir, Nenagh Leisure Centre and Roscrea Leisure Centre with 71 participants. In conjunction with Swim Ireland a "swimming clinic" was delivered in the Sean Kelly Sports Centre in Carrick on Suir by former Irish Olympic swimmer Melaine Nocher for 15 participants.



- Some Swim for a mile participants with Olympic swimmer Melaine Nocher
- An 8 week video exercise programme was developed by TSP with advice on how to correctly perform exercises at home.
- A National Active Day took place on Sunday, 26th June.
- Bike Week took place during the week of the 19th to 27th September with a total of 18 initiatives been held across the County with over 628 participants.



The launch of the Inclusive Blueway Cycling Initiative

A number of water activities took place in the Outdoor Community Sports Hub which included the schools programmes 'Paddles Up' with 3 secondary schools with 112 students and a 3 week SUP programme with 12 students from the Clonmel School Completion programme. During the Summer, 4 Sit on Top Summer Camps were facilitated with 24 participants and an Adult Taster session took place in September with 10 adults. The discipline of Freestyle was supported with a Freestyle Clinic for 11 participants, Girls Free Style Programme for 12 girls along with support for the development of South East Development Squad. A Freestyle Event took place in Clonmel on the 13th August. TSP also supported the hosting of the Intervarsity Canoe Slalom Event in Clonmel on the 15th February. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the Canoeing Ireland Slalom Events and Suir Descent and were unable to be held. A new storage container was purchased and is now in situ on Suir Island and acts as a storage unit and changing facility for outdoor activity, mainly canoeing at present. The Sli Nadur outdoor education programme was delivered in St. Olivers N.S.





Participants on the SUP programme on the River Suir

- Tipperary Sports Partnership, in association with Waterford Orienteers and the Irish Orienteering Association is currently developing Orienteering across Tipperary.
- The Sports Leader programme was rolled out in 4 schools in 2020 in St. Josephs College Borrisoleigh, Our Lady's Templemore, Presentation Clonmel and St. Marys Nenagh, 93 students took part.



TY students taking part in the Sports Leader course in Templemore

- TSP linked with Rowing Ireland and Clonmel Rowing Club to facilitate the Get Going Get Rowing Programme for 80 female students from the Loreto Secondary School, unfortunately due to Covid only 1 programme was able to be delivered in 2020.
- TSP continued to provide information to support primary schools to achieve their active school's flag.



Participants in the Cycle Right Programme

- The 6-week Wibbly Wobbly Balance Bike programme was delivered in association with the Tipperary Childcare Committee to 12 preschools across the County with over 346 children partaking.

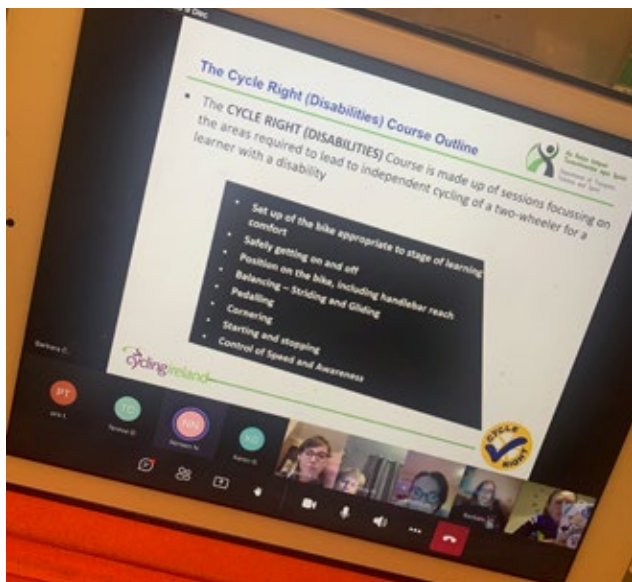


Sample of resource cards developed to support the delivery of the Wibbly Wobbly Programme for children with additional needs

- Due to Covid 19 restrictions the Multi Sport Adapted Schools Programme was delivered in an alternative way in 2020 in 3 special schools Scoil Aonghusa Cashel, Scoil Chormaic and St. Anne's Roscrea.



- On 9th December TSP facilitated the online Learn to Cycle Tutor Training for Children with a Disability with Cycling Ireland with 11 participants.



Online Learn to Cycle Tutor Training for Children with a Disability with Cycling Ireland

- A 4 week online physical activity programme was piloted and delivered via zoom with 3 Disability services Anusha Thurles, The Orchard Roscrea and Stafford Day Service Nenagh with 20 participants.
- Groups and services working with People with a Disability were supported with the provision of resources and campaigns during 2020 including CARA's 10 minute series of home workouts, '.
- 2 of CARA's Autism in Sport workshops were delivered in 2020, one in February in Thurles with 21 participants and in November via online delivery with 20 participants.



Participants from the Autism in Sport workshop

- 8 'Youth at Risk' programmes were delivered in partnership with Youth Work Ireland Tipperary, TUSLA, Clonmel Youth Training Centre and a School Completion Programme.



Borrisokane Direct Provision Centre Activ8 Programme

- In partnership with Tipperary Rural Traveller Programme and YWIT, 22 traveller youths took part in a multi activity programme in Littleton which included horse riding and handling skills and swimming activities.





Littleton Traveller Youth Programme with YWIT

- A week long Swimming and Water Safety programme was delivered to Children in the Direct Provision Centre in Carrick on Suir, Bridgewater House in Sean Kelly Sports Centre with 35 participants.
- The 2020 Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon Virtual 10k was launched by Irish International Rugby Player Dorothy Wall with 408 women taking part over the weekend of the 26th and 27th September.



Launch of 2020 Tipperary Mini Marathon

- North Tipperary Mental Health Week which took place from the 5th-10th October 2020
- TSP worked with HSE Mid West, Limerick and Clare Sports Partnerships on the "Take a Break" initiative to deliver zoom exercise sessions for frontline workers 3 times a week for 8 weeks.



Schools Virtual Exercise classes for North Tipp Mental Health Week

- 64 sports grants totalling €18,832.87 was distributed to sports clubs in Tipperary in the form of TSP Club Sport & Physical Activity Development Fund. This year the fund supported club development, coaching and return to sport.



- In August, a new Covid-19 Small Club Grant Scheme was opened for sports clubs in partnership with Sport Ireland which was strictly for Covid-19 expenditure. A total of 74 clubs were allocated funding, €88,992.84 will be distributed. The administration of the fund is currently been processed.
- The partnership promoted the Sport Ireland online training course to support clubs and sport organisations to return to sport and adhere to HSE guidelines.
- TSP in partnership with LIT developed a new Level 6 Certificate in Sports Administration 'Running Sport' with 10 ECTS.
- Organized a 5-week Coaching Children and Physical Literacy workshop through Sport Ireland in Thurles and in Tipperary Town.
- On the 2nd December - an online Sport Ireland Physical Literacy Course for local Clubs in Tipperary. 14 participants
- As part of the Club Development programme, TSP continued to promote Code of Ethics training with 3 face to face Safeguarding 1 workshops delivered in February and March with 48 participants. As a result of Covid-19 Sport Ireland developed an online version and TSP delivered 6 courses online via Zoom with 113 participants.



Safeguarding 1 Course Participants

- The Sports Partnership continued to actively promote and market all its programmes and events, via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and on www.tipperarysports.ie along with relevant Press Releases sent to the local media. A revamp of the TSP website was concluded.
- TSP worked with Sport Ireland and was a member of the LSP 'In This Together' Working Group that was established to support the network of Sport Partnerships and promote their work during the pandemic. The Partnership also worked closely with Tipperary County Council and supported the Community Call along with 'In This Together' and 'Keeping Well' campaigns.



FAI

Social Inclusion

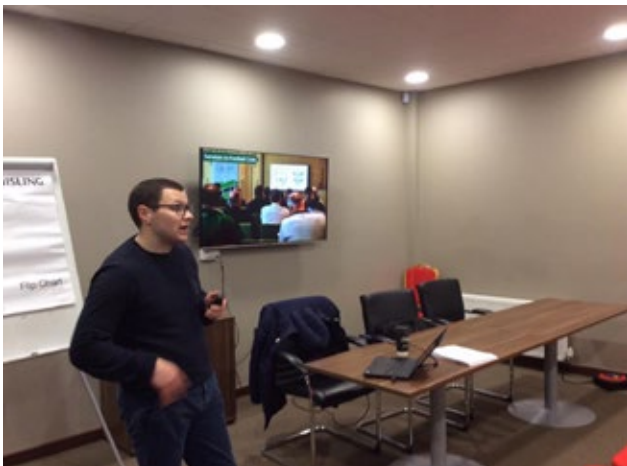
Football for All coaching sessions with Knocklofty Rehab Care, Bridge Water Rehab Care (Clonmel), Moorehaven Centre (Tipperary Town), The Journeyman Program (Carrick on Suir) & National Learning Network Coaching.

Club Development

As part of our club development strategy, we identified Social Media Training for Tipperary clubs to be very beneficial.

The FAI Club Mark is an award based on best practice in the governance, management, and administration of a football club. Clubs start their journey at Entry Level and can progress on to become a 1-star club. Each step challenges the club to implement policies and procedures in line with best practice.

Lough Derg FC, Cahir Park, Two Mile Borris/St Kevin's and Carrick United have all received the FAI Club Mark.



FAI Club Mark Meeting

Women's/Girls Football

Girls Football continues to grow with almost 25 clubs throughout the county having girl's football within their club structures. A Women's Football Development Workshop held in Barack Obama Plaza with 10 clubs present and 28 participants



FAI Womens Development Workshop



Tipperary Community Response & Boots Deliveries

As part of our partnership with Tipperary County Council support was provided for the Community Response call centre. FAI & Boots Ireland teamed up to assist the public with home deliveries of prescriptions, Development Officers were tasked to link up with local stores in Clonmel & Thurles and we were on call for any deliveries if required.

Coach Education

Courses took place before COVID 19 in Clonmel, Lough Derg FC, Cahir Park, Killavilla United AFC, Ballycahill Community Centre, Canon Hayes Center,

Coach Education Webinars

Several Coach Education webinars have been delivered to Coaches, Parents and Players. Including 9 webinars for the Women's National League coaches with a number of these coaches from Tipperary.



FAI Safeguarding Workshop

Summer Soccer Schools

18 Summer camps took place in Tipperary. Camps took place in the following clubs:

Arra Rovers FC, BT Harps, Clonmel Town FC x 2, Lough Derg FC x 2, Killenaule FC, Clodiagh Rangers, St Michaels FC, Shinrone Ladies FC, Killavilla United AFC, Cahir Park AFC, Ballymackey FC, Nenagh AFC, Newport Town AFC, Rearcross FC, Holycross FC, Peake Villa FC.

FAI Summer Camps



FAI Summer Camps

Schools

- 4th/5th & 6th Class Primary 5's Competition with 129 schools in Tipperary.
- Competition was cancelled during North Tipperary qualifiers due to COVID-19
- Schools coaching sessions in numerous Primary and Post Primary schools in the county prior to COVID 19.




ARTS SERVICE

The key objective of The Arts Service is to improve the artistic life of our communities in County Tipperary. We work towards the continuing development of the arts in the county in partnership with a range of stakeholders including our funding partners The Arts Council.

Our work is guided by the Tipperary Arts Strategy 2017-2021 across six strategic priorities:

1. Creative Communities - Public Participation
2. Creative Practitioners - The Artist
3. Creative Solutions - Arts Partnerships & Collaboration
4. Creative Supports - Arts Information & Advice
5. Creative Infrastructure - Arts Venues & Festivals
6. Creativity & The Public Realm - Public Art

2020 was a year like no other for everyone and particularly for the Arts and Creative Community in Tipperary. As you will see in the overview that follows, the artists and creative community in Tipperary completely re-imagined how they worked and continued to create and engage with audiences, as the parameters shifted around us throughout the year.

 *Initiatives to support the development of the Arts in Education are a key element of the Tipperary Arts Programme.*

Primary Imprint was a pilot Arts in Education initiative which took place in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District in January and February 2020 as an introductory arts in education programme. The Print for Schools Exhibition from Tipperary Arts Office's collection was on display in Carrick-on-Suir Library until the middle of February 2020 as part of the project. The exhibition consists of 26 contemporary prints by well known Irish print artists. To coincide with the exhibition Tipperary printmakers Aoife Barret, Margueritte Kent and Suzannah O'Reilly worked with pupils and their teachers from nine local primary schools in this project co-ordinated by Tipperary artist Katy Goodhue. Each class visited the exhibition with one of the three printmakers which was followed up with a school visit from the artist where pupils in each class participated in a print making workshop, learning the techniques associated with printmaking. 577 students took part in the project.



Tipperary Artists with **The Primary Imprint** Exhibition at Carrick on Suir Library. L-R: Katy Goodhue, Suzannah O'Reilly, Aoife Barret, Margueritte Kent.





Students visit to the exhibition and work created during workshops



The scheme supports direct access to the arts for children throughout the county and provides direct employment for artists and engaged 990 pupils in schools across the county during 2020.

The Artist in Primary School Scheme

Supported 8 artists in Tipperary schools during 2020, working with students and staff across visual arts and music residency projects adapting to working outside and amending plans where required due to Covid-19. The scheme supports direct access to the arts for children throughout the county and provides direct employment for artists and engaged 990 pupils in schools across the county during 2020.

Commission of Online Resource for Schools-Animation Series

During 2020, we commissioned Tipperary based animator Michael Byrne to record an online series of workshops in stop motion animation and model making which is now available as an online resource on the Tipperary County Council website.

This six part series is a fantastic introduction to Stop Motion animation for children (and adults). Mike Byrne is a former student of Limerick School of Art & Design where he studied Animation and he has been working on Animation and Model Making projects for the past 10 years.



In response to the first lockdown in March 2020, we supported an **Online Circus Soccer Skills Programme**, an innovative initiative by CloughJordan Circus Club to commission a 10 week circus skills programme by Simon Llewellyn, based in Finland. Simon is a talented performer who was due to be performing his Soccer Ball themed Circus Show in Dublin as part of the UEFA 2020 events. A new skill was demonstrated and released every Monday starting on 6th April through the CloughJordan Circus Club Facebook page and YouTube channels and was free to all.



The Tipperary Bealtaine Festival

Celebrates creativity in older age was re-imagined during 2020 and went online for the first time. Under the title "It's not a long way to Tipperary" and using modern technology, we programmed a series of four live zoom events during late May and early June. The first event was an Intergenerational Traditional Singing Session, followed by a Spoken word, Recitation, Verse and Song event featuring Tipperary poet Eleanor Hooker. The third event explored the deep connection to place in Tipperary across areas such as built heritage, geography, history, folklore and song, featuring historian Dr. Barry O'Reilly and traditional singer Mike Scanlon. The series finished with Omós Nora- A Gathering of Musical Friends in memory of the late Nora Butler Swan with guest host musician Eileen O'Brien. Renowned Traditional Singer Nora Butler was a key part of our annual Bealtaine music tour for many years and we felt this was a fitting tribute to Nora as part of the Bealtaine Festival 2020. 5,231 people engaged with the Tipperary Bealtaine Festival 2020 online.



Featuring:
 Tim Dennehy
 Tadhg Maher
 Bobby Gardiner
 Micheál Mairrían
 Deirdre Scanlan
 Mike Scanlon
 Ann Mulqueen
 Seamus Brogan
 Sadie Mulqueen
 Aileen Lambert
 Brid Slattery
 Sandra Joyce

Ómós Nora
 A gathering to pay tribute to the late Nora Butler Swan
 Hosted by Eileen O'Brien

An evening of Music, Song and Story
 from **County Tipperary** and Beyond for Bealtaine 2020

THURSDAY 11TH JUNE – 9PM TO 10.30PM

This online event is FREE, however booking is essential as spaces are limited.
 Email Aileen and Michael ASAP at folklore.ie@gmail.com to secure your place and receive Zoom login details.

Curated by Aileen Lambert and Michael Fortune. Photo by Debbie Hickey.

 Comhairle Contae Thibraid Árann
 Tipperary County Council

 **bealtaine festival**
 celebrating creativity in older age

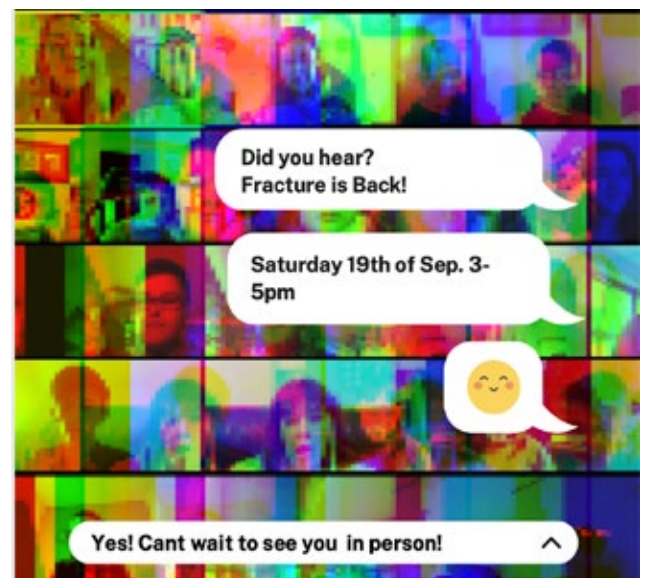
 **the arts**

 **folklore**



Tipperary Youth Theatre

Aims to make participation in the arts accessible to young people between 13 and 17 years and encourages the exploration and development of all art forms in particular theatre and the performing arts. This initiative is part of the County arts programme supported by the Arts Council and delivered by The Source Arts Centre, Thurles and Nenagh Arts Centre. Both groups were mid-way through their spring term when COVID-19 restrictions were announced and weekly workshops quickly went online to ensure continuity of engagement with young people. We extended the usual term of Youth Theatre this year to support both groups in continuing to meet for weekly workshops and rehearsals in order to maintain high levels of creative engagement. Once restrictions were eased summer youth projects took place for youth theatre members adhering to government guidelines in both Nenagh and Thurles, using a mixture of "virtual" and "in person" workshops and giving young people an opportunity to meet, create and perform, albeit differently to usual.





Supports to Festivals

2020 was a particularly difficult year for festival organisers. The arts office supported the sector through the COVID-19 Pandemic in a number of ways. We co-ordinated two networking meetings for the sector via zoom in June and August to share information, approaches and experiences of working within government guidelines to re-imagine and co-ordinate festivals in a rapidly changing environment. There was huge buy-in from the sector and 27 organisers attended across the two meetings. Research was also conducted with festivals as to their training needs and a training programme delivered as follows:

Risk Assessing to Re-Open- This training supported festival organisers and venues in developing the tools needed to conduct risk assessments for events and arts venues with specific reference to COVID-19 and was run twice due to demand. In September, Planning Festivals & adapting to a changing landscape was organised in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and Limerick and Clare Arts Offices. This training looked at insurance and legal considerations for festivals with a specific reference to presenting work online.




Supports to Artists

Tipperary County Council views the creative practitioner as central to the long term development of the arts and culture in the County. Direct grant support to 22 artists was awarded for 2020 in Visual Arts, Film, Literature, Theatre and Music. In addition 4 young music bursaries were awarded.

Artists had to rapidly re-imagine how they worked during 2020. As part of our supports to the sector we organised a 7 series training programme called **"Going Digital"** which supported artists and community facilitators in learning how to use online digital tools to expand their practice and connect with peers.



 *Direct grant support to 22 artists was awarded for 2020 in Visual Arts, Film, Literature, Theatre and Music. In addition 4 young music bursaries were awarded.*



Culture Night Tipperary 2020

Was viewed by the Tipperary Arts Office as an opportunity to support artists in the county, to highlight and showcase the range of creative work taking place in the county and to be a catalyst for the development of new work in a year which had presented many difficulties for artists and event planning.

Taking a curatorial approach we developed a programme which was a mix of online and live events, in the event that we were unable to present live events. In order to host our online offer we developed a Tipperary Culture Night website www.culturenighttipperary.ie and all events were also linked to the national Culture Night website.

Three approaches were taken to developing new work:

- Curated commissioning across artforms
- An open call for commissions for Tipperary Artists
- Partnership programme with Arts Centres & Venues

In total 36 artists and 20 non-artists/curators/technicians were involved in the delivery of Culture Night Tipperary 2020.

13 artists were commissioned to make new work or to develop an event/project. In addition storyteller Niall de Burca and illustrator Jackie Gray made new work based on Tipperary Folklore which remained available online for a number of weeks after the event.

The new work developed by Tipperary Artists pushed boundaries; Laurence O'Dwyer, poet, collaborated with a Swedish gamer to develop an interactive book accessed through an APP; and also pushed methods of presentation; Iseli-Chiodi presented a new dance work through glass screens, inverting the location of audience and performer. Poet Eleanor Hooker presented a poetry walk which was also pre-recorded for audiences to access by mobile phone to enable a self directed poetry stroll and visitors to Templemore Town Park happened across temporary artworks by artist Lynn Kirkham in the forest park. Dance artist Rita Marcalo presented a virtual reality choreography experienced through a mobile phone in Cloughjordan.

Working with our arts partners across the county, Culture Night Tipperary was re-imagined and re-created by Tipperary artists in 2020 showcasing the wealth of artistic talent we have here within the County.



Launching the 2020 Culture Night Programme: L-R Joe MacGrath, CE; Cllr Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach; Melanie Scott, Arts Officer.



Culture Night Clonmel






Culture Night Thurles



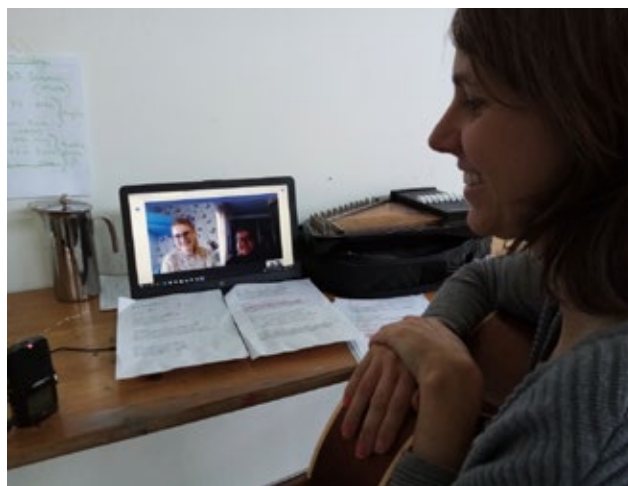
When You See Water -a lyrical wander - Culture Night in Dromineer, Co. Tipperary.

 *In total 36 artists and 20 non-artists/curators/technicians were involved in the delivery of Culture Night Tipperary 2020.*

Anthem (for all of us)

Was a collaboration between a group of participants in St. Cronan's, Roscrea, artist Tess Leak and songwriter/musician Liz Clark which was supported by Tipperary County Council as a link project to maintain communication and creative relationships among the group during the pandemic and between funding applications to further develop their work together.

Artist Tess Leak collaborated with the group and songwriter Liz Clark in the autumn of 2020 to create an 'Anthem (for all of us)' a collectively made song about their experience of 'lockdown' during 2020. The Anthem (a 'rousing or uplifting song identified with a particular group, body, or cause') evolved out of short poems created during '1-to-1' conversations between the participants and Tess. These conversations took place online due to restrictions and the group then worked with Songwriter Liz Clark to set these short poems to music, in the form of a song (an 'Anthem for all of us'). The Anthem was rehearsed by the group online and was recorded in early December for everyone to have a record of the event. When possible, the Anthem will be performed at the centre for friends and staff of St. Cronan's.



During 2020, 20 local community and voluntary groups were funded under the **Arts Act Grant** Scheme which enables and supports independent arts activities and events throughout the county.

Support, advice and/or funding was also provided to a range of artists, arts festivals and arts organisations throughout the County during 2020.



HERITAGE OFFICE

The Role of the Heritage Office is to work with local communities and the local authority

- Promoting awareness and appreciation of the Heritage of Tipperary
- Promoting active conservation of the Heritage of Tipperary
- Supporting that gathering and dissemination of information on the Heritage of Tipperary.

In addition to this the Heritage Office also delivers the Creative Ireland Programme for Tipperary in conjunction with the Councils Cultural Team and Creative Ireland and the Commemorations programme in conjunction with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.



Heritage Plan

After carrying out a significant number of research projects and audits in the last number of years, 2020 was a year where we were looking to switch our focus to highlighting aspects of heritage around the county. The Heritage programme like everything else was impacted by Covid 19 and with the lockdowns and restrictions on movement much of what was planned was eventually modified in response to the public health guidance at the time. It was a year where we had to look beyond our traditional delivery method and embrace technology and throughout the course of the year, while nothing will replace bringing people together in the context of heritage engagement we did enhance our outreach in ways not imagined previously. Projects like the geophysical Survey at the Graves of the Leinstermen facilitating a better understanding of this unique heritage site were very successful. A number of initiatives were undertaken to highlight aspects of the Heritage of the county, including a film project with Tipperary Dance platform that utilised the unique heritage of the county as a backdrop for a film piece that was broadcast as part of the Dance Festival. We were also happy to support our colleagues in Birdwatch Ireland when their Barn Owl Study lost their funding and support this important survey in Tipperary.




Electrical Resistivity Tomography Survey Graves of the Leinstermen



Funding allocated to the Lorrha Monastic Conference was used for interpretation

Biodiversity Action Plan

We continued our collaboration on eradication of Himalayan Balsam on the Little Brosna River with Offaly Heritage Office, now in its third year and giving good results in eradicating this invasive species from this river system. We funded a programme of works on two of the Bird Hide facilities at the Cabragh Wetlands centre to improve the Bird watching experience and hopefully to encourage more people to take it up as a hobby. Areas like the wetlands were an invaluable resource for recreation during the periods of lockdown and there was a significant increase in interest in nature and biodiversity which we hope will continue into the future. We supported a local community in Mullinahone to carry out a hedge laying project in February. This took place over the course of a week and members of the public were able to observe the technique as it happened. We worked with Birdwatch Ireland and Clare and Laois County Councils to produce a video on 'How to manage wildlife in Buildings'. We also funded an instructional video with the National Biodiversity Data Centre on how to complete a Flower Insect Timed Counts which encourages people to engage with citizen science. We secured additional funds under the July Stimulus Funds to provide native Irish wildflower seeds to local communities to enhance biodiversity in their localities. Collaborations with the Local Authority Heritage Officers network also gave us much material that was of huge benefit to raising awareness and connecting with people during lockdown such as the 'Gardening for Biodiversity' booklets.

 *It was a year where we had to look beyond our traditional delivery method and embrace technology*



Community Monuments Fund

We were delighted to welcome a new funding scheme in September that focused on Archaeology and invested in the rich archaeological heritage in the county. Under the July Jobs Stimulus Fund a scheme was launched to provide assistance to land owners or local authorities to commission conservation plans for archaeological sites, carry out capital works and interpret and facilitate access to these sites. There are 3 streams of funding and we were successful in each category. We collaborated with our colleagues in Environment to carry out much needed works on Pallas Church in Dorrha. We supported a Conservation plan of Carney Castle near Ardcroney. We also commissioned a reconstruction drawing highlighting what the Monastic settlement at Emly would have looked like originally as there are no upstanding remains of the settlement today. We will put this drawing on a panel in the coming months.



Works in progress at Pallas Church



Drawing of monastic site Emly

Heritage Week

Heritage Week 2020 was a unique event given the Covid-19 pandemic. From April, a great deal of thought was given to how Heritage Week could be rolled out in an environment that could prohibit gatherings or interaction. A decision was made to change the format to online. Instead of hosting events, the Heritage Council invited people to highlight their local heritage and projects that they had completed in recent years. This proved to be very successful. Heritage Week itself took place in August where limited gatherings were allowed so the Heritage Office held two 'in person' events. We ran our annual, 'Explore your Heritage, ' Day in the Cabragh Wetlands observing social distancing and with limited numbers which booked out in a day. We also hosted a 'Walk and Talk' Tour of Tipperary Town with Dr Barry O'Reilly which also proved very popular. Tipperary always has a lively programme of events for Heritage Week and despite the difficulties in 2020, and even with the limit of numbers being reduced during the week itself, Heritage Week had a lot to offer and huge tribute to all the groups and organisers who took part.



The Big Dig at the Cabragh Wetlands



Walk and Talk Tipperary Town




Creative Ireland

We launched our 2 Creative Ireland Schemes in January, the **Community Grant Scheme** and **Open Call** and our assessments had just taken place when the first lockdown was imposed. Offers of funding were made and throughout the year, the Heritage Office worked with groups and communities to support them in the delivery of their projects. Many projects evolved due to the restrictions and some could not proceed. However there was a diverse and engaging programme, promoting opportunities for communities in Tipperary to engage in creative activities through arts and heritage.



Cruinniú na nÓg, Ireland's national day of free creativity for children and young people in Ireland took place on June 13th. Following discussions with Creative Ireland, an early decision was taken to move this event online. It was the first large-scale online national initiative for 2020 run by the Heritage Office and it was a great source of learning. There was a significant programme of online activity including workshops in the Nenagh Children's Film Festival, a fabulous Funday with the Library Service and a day of exploring nature and heritage in our local areas with the South Tipperary Arts Centre.



 *there was a diverse and engaging programme, promoting opportunities for communities in Tipperary to engage in creative activities through arts and heritage.*



Commemorations

Following on the success of the 2019 programme and with Bloody Sunday set to be a significant date in the calendar, planning was well under way by the time lockdown began.

The process of commemoration is inextricably linked to both time and place. Therefore the past year posed significant challenges to groups who had been planning up to a year in advance of significant events and this sector was particularly hard hit for that reason. A year long programme of events to mark Bloody Sunday by the GAA had to be postponed. Additional funds were secured at the end of the year to run a travelling exhibition on Bloody Sunday.



Commemoration at Templemore Town Hall Mick O Dea exhibition at The Source, Thurles

Other Initiatives

Royal Sites Bid:

A workshop with the Department and ICOMOS Ireland took place in Killarney in February as the Tentative List are due to be reviewed. Tipperary County Council took over as lead authority on this project in 2020 and are working towards an application for remaining on the Tentative List.

Tipperary Town Taskforce:

As part of the Heritage Councils Collaborative Town Centre Health Check process, a heritage sub group was set up and the Heritage office has been offering support to heritage projects in the town





TIPPERARY MUSEUM OF HIDDEN HISTORY

Following on from a hugely successful launch of the Museums new development, our marketing campaign lined up for 2020 was to set us on a trajectory to increase our visitor numbers. The Museum celebrated 20 years in Mick Delahunty Square and had an incredible series of LIVE concerts, CDs, book, dances and commemoration programming lined up. However, in early March 2020 the Museum was forced to close temporarily due to the outbreak of COVID -19.



Ryan Tubridy Late Late Show with Jayne Sutcliffe Museum with the Hogan Bloody Sunday Jersey





Museum New COVID19 Directional Signage Throughout its Galleries

With our cultural facility shut, the new challenge began for our team to pivot our service delivery. We reassessed our Team Development Plan and prioritised our objectives. With the ongoing support of our cultural team behind us, we set about attaining our changed goals.

While assessing 2020, it is vital that our newly engaged audiences across Ireland and beyond will visit us in 2021. We have received strong feedback to suggest that our new audience want to visit Tipperary Museum and County Tipperary. It is important for visitors to invest time in our cultural assets and visit our beautiful scenic sites when restrictions are lifted and the Museum will be in a strong position to offer vibrant cultural experience going forward.



Marie McMahon with Author Michael Foley 'The Bloodied Field' on the Late Late Show

Priorities 2020

Health & Safety:

- Devised & implemented a safe COVID19 response strategy & protocol for returning staff and visitors to the museum on July 20th 2020
- Installed COVID19 elements:
 - » *No touch ingress & egress doors installed*
 - » *Sanitizing stations throughout the gallery and reception*
 - » *Clear signage*
 - » *One way system*
 - » *Cleaning schedules*
 - » *Kitchen facilities*
 - » *Work stations*
 - » *Automatic hand towels*
- Awarded Fáilte Ireland's COVID19 Safety Charter and staff continued to upskill in H&S toolbox training.
- Continued to implement H&S procedures to achieve OHSAS 18001 & ISO 45001 before end 2021.



Mayor Cllr Siobhan Ambrose launches an exhibition by Molly Anna King and Khriti Khatri with museum Curator on Culture Night 2020



Museum commissioned dance and Creative Ireland funded TURNSTILE Tipperary Dance Platform based on Bloody Sunday



Additional Funding

Additional funding was secured to upgrade our digital capabilities and our online offering to a high spec and professional standard. Without this investment many projects might not have been possible to achieve.

- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport
- and Media - €15k
- Fáilte Ireland - €3,500
- The Heritage Council - €8,500
- Creative Ireland - €18k
- Tipperary Tourism - €1,500

Reimagined Education & Programme Delivery:

Due to Government Restrictions, the Museum's Education and Outreach Department refocused its children and family events to an online platform and is using a mix of Facebook posts, YouTube Tutorials and Zoom events to make access easy for everybody.

- Museum staff upskilled in digital media and IT applications to ensure delivery of our new marketing strategy.
- A unique series of history led Facebook posts by museum staff, captured people's imagination and interest in Tipperary Museum's Collection.
- The Young Archaeologists Club was streamed online and the number of participants doubled from 2019.
- The 'Artist in Schools Residency' exhibition was presented in a digital format
- Created a calendar of workshops based on traditional craft & art.
- The Museum commissioned a series of 14 colouring pages based on themes and artefacts in the Museums Collection.

War of Independence Exhibition:

The museum began its research of Tipperary's War of Independence in in January 2020 and have since been working with a designer and production team to bring this era to life through images, research and artefacts.

Museum staff have teamed up with photography colourists and the National Library to present never before seen colourised images of the War of Independence up to signing of the Treaty Dec 1921.

The conservation of artefacts has been completed, the interior installed and the bespoke cases delivered. Final design panels will be signed off early Feb and installed end Feb '21.

Lecture Series:

The 8th Annual in house Lecture Series was replaced by 7 lectures individually filmed and presented as an online resource.



Museum's War of Independence lecture series went online for the first time in 20 years opening up our audiences

War of Independence Song Resource:

Tipperary Museum commissioned traditional singer Aileen Lambert to create a resource for use with schools, choirs, community groups and individuals on the musical heritage of the period. Two songs feature in the resource, 'The Galtee Mountain Boy' and 'Pat Keating's Grave'. Each resource pack features a YouTube link to the song, lyrics, background info, tin whistle notes, guitar chords and sheet music.



Community Collaborative Projects:

- Tipperary Museum collaborated with The Late Late Show, Croke Park and Author Michael Foley to bring significant artefacts pertaining to 1920s Bloody Sunday Commemoration to a wider audience. The centre piece was Michael Hogan's Jersey and it was a huge success and resulted in many enquires to visit the Museum when lockdown lifts.
- Tipperary Museum remastered, digitised and successfully marketed the 'Lost Recordings of Mick Delahunty 1948' CD, to national acclaim. These recordings had not been heard for over 72 years. Over two thousand CDs were distributed across the world. This translated into hundreds of letters sent by grateful and emotional fans of Mick Del, many had not spoken to someone in months while in lockdown. This CD has captured the hearts of the nation with many fans reminiscing about fun times, social outings and the lengths young fans would go to see a Mick Del Show.
- The Museum launched 'ReCOVer Together' an initiative by Tipperary Museum and Tipperary County Council to collect photographs and stories about our experiences during Covid19 in Tipperary.
- The Museum collaborated with Clonmel Junction Festival's reimagined Festival programme. Michael Durand published a newspaper 'Continuum' and artists collaborated with the museum's collection to create 'The Boatmen of Clonmel'. The artist responses to the river material resulted in 'The Boatmen Art Trail', a series of stunning installations exhibited across Clonmel and along the River Suir during the festival in July '20.
- 'Culture Night' Sept 2020 was a blended approach to our usual programming.
 - » We launched our activity based 'Family Architectural Treasure Hunt: Clonmel'.
 - » A talk by Marc Roosli, Managing Director at Mirador Media and lead interpretative designer entitled 'Designing and Building the Tipperary Museum of Hidden History' was streamed live from the Museum.
 - » Mayor Cllr Siobhan Ambrose launched a collection of works by Mollie Anna King and Kriti Khatri who both investigated the tactile nature of their chosen medium.
- Tipperary Museum worked in partnership with 'Tipperary Dance Platform '20' to commission a contemporary dance piece based on Bloody Sunday events in 1920, titled TURNSTILE. It was created with funding from Creative Ireland & Arts Council.
- Tipperary County Council Workplace Partnership worked with Tipperary Museum of Hidden History, who took the lead on motivating our own frontline staff and their families with a number of exciting projects such as a series of crosswords, music trivia, word searches and history quizzes, exercise sessions, mindfulness and photography competition for TCC staff. The prizes offered were purchased locally to support struggling businesses across Tipperary's Districts.



Culture Night Architectural Trail across Clonmel with the O' Mahony Family



Socially distanced onsite talk about the Museum's Redevelopment and virtual setup for Culture Night 2020



LIBRARY SERVICE



Tipperary County Council Library Service offers a welcoming democratic space which is a cornerstone of family, cultural, and civic life. The Library Service has essential role in the community as a trusted resource preserving the values of the past and enriching the quality of life for all.

The library service aims to foster a culture of reading, literacy and lifelong learning in Tipperary by providing a range of services to schools, families and community groups, and promote the library as a place of culture and knowledge.

The service is responsible for the collection development, preservation and accessibility of all records of historic interest for County Tipperary. The library service develops and promotes access for all citizens to online and digital information resources, including broadband internet PCs, Wi-Fi, online resources and free access to e-government/ local authority information and services.




The service operates a network of twelve libraries throughout the county at:

- Thurles;
- Clonmel;
- Nenagh;
- Carrick-on-Suir;
- Roscrea;
- Tipperary;
- Templemore;
- Cashel;
- Borrisokane;
- Cahir and
- Cloughjordan;
- Killenaule.

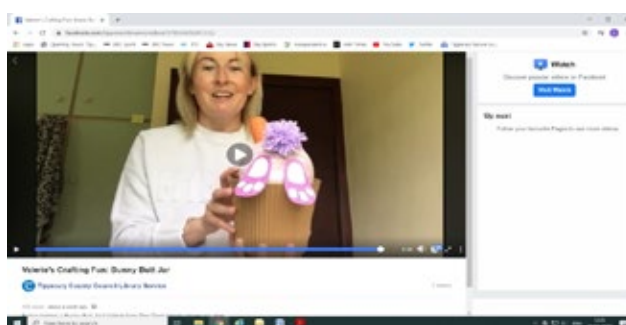


Main activities in 2020

Tipperary County Council Library Service continued to deliver a high quality service during 2020 despite the limitations placed on the service due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Emphasis was placed on online services and an extensive marketing campaign took place to highlight the range of online library services available which include e-books, e-magazines and online courses. In addition, Library staff created online videos of story-time, arts and craft sessions and lectures throughout 2020.

 *Tipperary County Council Library Service continued to deliver a high quality service during 2020 despite the limitations placed on the service due to the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Online Activities



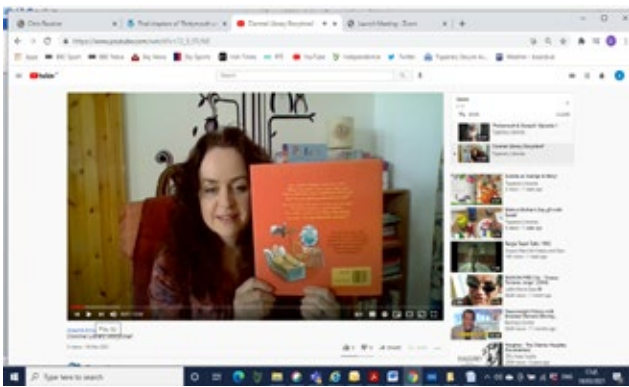
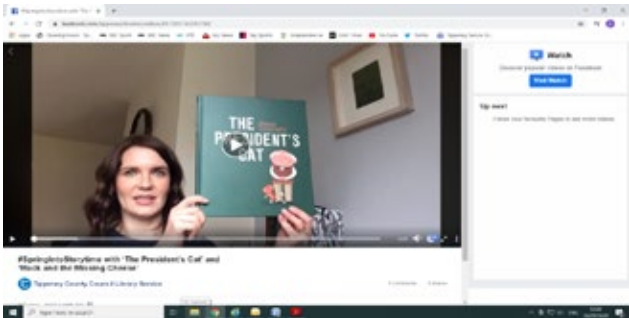
Library outreach activities such as children’s storytime, arts and craft sessions and lectures have always been an essential part of the service offered by the Library. Most Branch Libraries hold weekly events and these are always well attended. Since the Covid-19 crisis commenced in 2020, the Library service has utilised social media and provided these events and activities online using social media and the Library YouTube channel. During the year, Library staff filmed over 200 videos which included storytimes, arts and craft sessions, tutorials, lectures and local history segments. During 2020, over 12,000 views were recorded on our media platforms.




Right to Read National Literacy Programme

Right to Read is a national programme to promote literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds. There are four national programmes designed to promote children's reading and literacy.

Spring into Storytime:



Spring into Storytime is annual celebration of families reading together. In 2020, the initiative focused on Irish authors. Tipperary County Council Library staff created a series online storytimes which gained over 23,000 views. The programme was promoted extensively on Library social media with almost 21,000 views online.

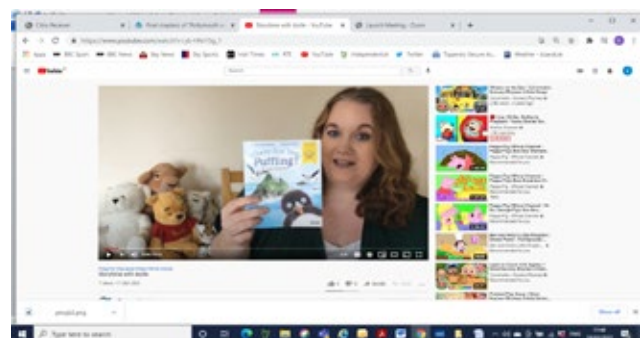
 *Right to Read is a national programme to promote literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds.*

Summer Stars



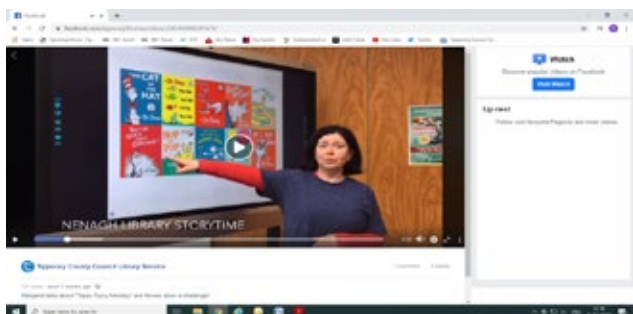
Summer Stars is a national summer reading programme which is held from the 15th of June until the end of August. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book is regarded as having completed the programme. The programme was promoted extensively on Library social media and with almost 17,000 views online.

Children's Book Festival



The Children's Book Festival is a National festival celebrating children's books. Every October thousands of children in Tipperary attend events with authors, illustrators and storytellers and engage in workshops on writing, illustration and poetry. The Library Service organised over 45 online events and there were over 1,100 online participants.

Family time at your library



Family time at your library is a programme where a series of organised events and activities take place in libraries during the month of December to support the involvement of the whole family in children’s reading. The Library Service organised over 36 online events and there were over 5,400 online participants.

Library 3D Printers provide PPE to Healthcare workers




During the initial Covid-19 lockdown, Library Staff collaborated with Engineers Ireland and Limerick Institute of Technology to manufacture headbands for faceguard visors. This was part of a national effort to produce face shield visors for healthcare professionals.

Engineers Ireland, the representative body for engineers on the island of Ireland produced a design for the headband of the visor which could be manufactured using 3D Printers. Library staff tested this design on the Library Service 3D printers and were able to produce a successful visor headband that met the Engineers Ireland specification. Headbands were produced 7 days a week by Library Staff and over 1,000 were produced over 6 weeks.

E-Resources



The Library Service has made a significant investment in E-Resources in recent years. Library users can now access daily newspapers, e-books, e-audio books, e-magazines and online courses. During the Covid-19 crisis, the Library Service made a significant effort to promote these services. This included promoting the services in local newspapers and radio. In addition, the Library website was redesigned to highlight and promote e-services. This resulted in a 120% increase in usage of e-services in 2020.

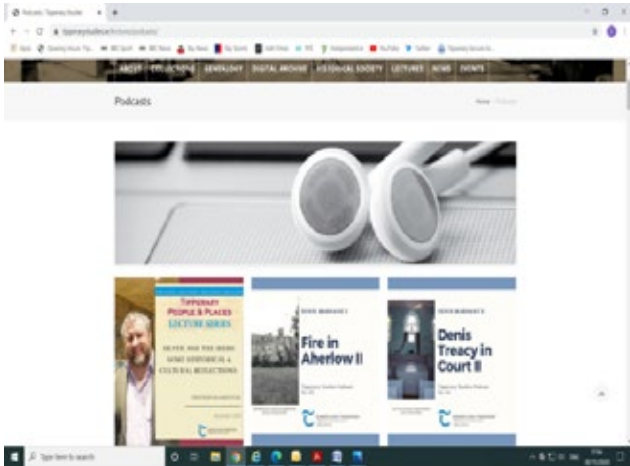
 *Library users can now access daily newspapers, e-books, e-audio books, e-magazines and online courses.*



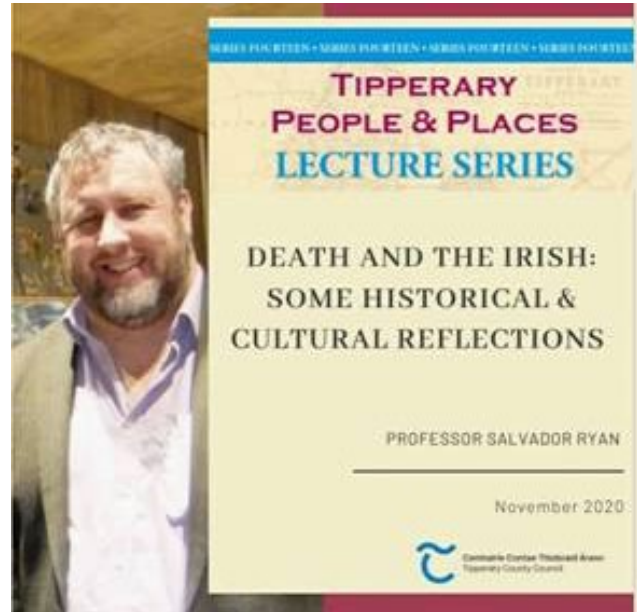
Tipperary Studies

The Tipperary Studies digitisation project aims to make available online a range of sources, both historical and genealogical, which are part of the fabric which makes up the history of Tipperary. Many of the documents are unique to Tipperary Studies and one of the aims of the project is to make these sources available to everyone, free of charge on the Tipperary Studies website www.tipperarystudies.ie

Key highlights from the project in 2020 include:




- Tipperary Studies produced over 70 podcasts in 2020 on a variety of historical matters relating to County Tipperary.
- Tipperary Studies held a photographic project over the May Bank Holiday weekend. This project entitled "A day in the life" invited members of the public to take photographs of their locality which would normally be busy over the May bank holiday weekend. These photographs captured life in lockdown. Over 230 photos were uploaded to the Tipperary Studies website



- Tipperary Studies recommenced the People and Places lecture series in October and two lectures were held online. The first lecture took place in October with Denis G. Marnane giving a lecture entitled 'Sean Treacy 1895- 1920: A life for Ireland'. The second lecture took place in November with Dr Salvador Ryan giving a lecture entitled 'Death and the Irish : Some historical and cultural Reflections'. Over 2,000 online views were recorded for these lectures.



 *The Tipperary Studies digitisation project aims to make available online a range of sources, both historical and genealogical*



Nenagh Europe Direct Information Centre

Nenagh Library is designated the Europe Direct Information Centre, (EDIC), for the Mid-West region for the period 2018- 2021. EDICs give information, advice, assistance and answers to questions about the EU and the rights of EU citizens, the EU's priorities, legislations, policies, programmes and funding opportunities. During 2020, two live online Citizen's Dialogues took place in Nenagh.



Nenagh EDIC Presents:
A New Push for European Democracy
 Is Europe doing enough to protect its democracy?

Mary C. Murphy
 Lecturer in politics, UCC

Moderator
Iva Pocock
 Journalist

Andy Klom
 Deputy Head of the EC
 Representation in Ireland

Join the conversation live Thursday 22nd October @ 7pm
 Login through Facebook / Twitter / Website


www.tipperarylibraries.ie
 FaceBook @tipperarylibraries
 FaceBook @NenaghEDIC
 @NenaghEDIC
 @TippLib

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
 Tipperary County Council
 Library Service

europa direct
 Nenagh



The first dialogue took place in October. The theme was "A New Push for European Democracy - Is Europe doing enough to protect its democracy?" The speakers on the night were Mary C. Murphy, Lecturer in politics, Department of Government and Politics, UCC and Andy Klom, Deputy Head of the European Commission Representation in Ireland. The moderator was local journalist, Iva Pocock.

 *EDICs give information, advice, assistance and answers to questions about the EU and the rights of EU citizens*



Nenagh EDIC Presents:
"A Europe Fit for the Digital Age"

Mihai Bilauca
 Principal Officer, Head of ICT/Digital
 Department of Housing, Local Government
 and Heritage, Government of Ireland

Stephen Kinsella
 Associate Professor of Economics,
 UL

Patrick Reidy
 Business Development Manager at
 Confirm Smart Manufacturing, UL

MaryAnn Vaughan
 Moderator
 Senior Editor at TippM

Join the conversation live Thursday 19 November @ 7pm
 Login through Facebook / Twitter / Website

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Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
 Tipperary County Council
 Library Service



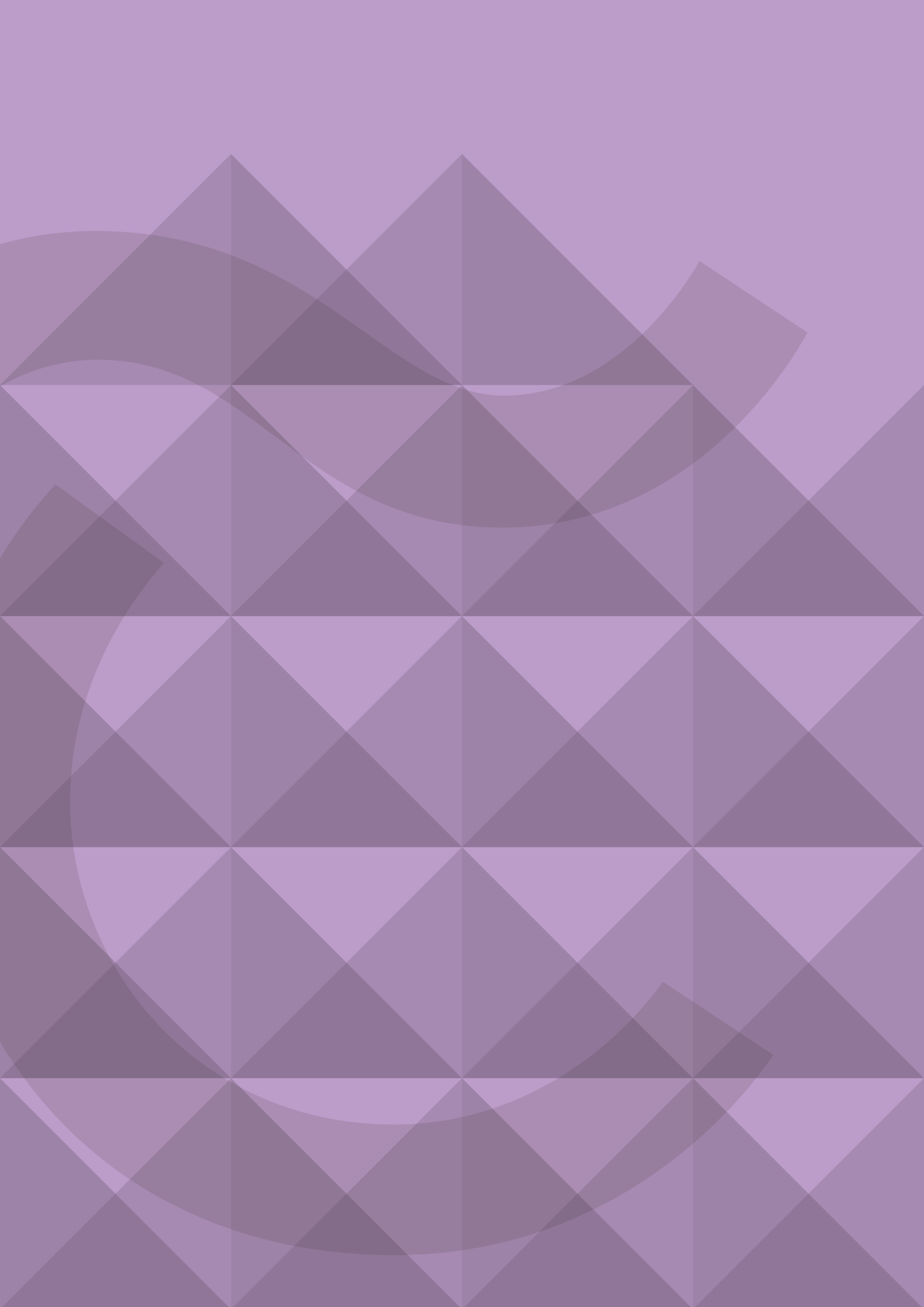
europa direct
 Nenagh

The second online event took place in November. The theme was "A Europe Fit for the Digital Age" The speakers on the night were Dr Stephen Kinsella, Associate Professor of Economics UL, Dr. Mihai Bilauca, Principal Officer ICT & Digital at Department of Housing Planning and Local Government and Patrick Reidy, Business Development Manager at Confirm Smart Manufacturing, UL. The moderator was journalist, Mary Ann Vaughan.





OUR PEOPLE



CORPORATE, COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP



JOE MACGRATH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



MICHAEL SMITH
CATHAOIRLEACH



JOHN CROSSE



**MARY HANNA
HOURIGAN**



JIM RYAN



PHYLL BUGLER



JOHN CARROLL



MICHEÁL LOWRY



SIOBHAN AMBROSE



KEVIN O'MEARA

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) comprises the Cathaoirleach and the Chairpersons of each of the six Strategic Policy Committees, supported by the Chief Executive & Senior Management Team.

The role of the CPG includes advising and assisting the Plenary Council in the formulation, development, monitoring and review of policy for Tipperary County Council, however, full decision-making authority remains with the Elected Council. The group may also make proposals for the allocation of business between the Strategic Policy Committees and for the general coordination of such business.

Cllr Kevin O'Meara and Cllr Siobhan Ambrose are members of the CPG as no Chair of the SPC's are from the Carrick-on-Suir and Clonmel Districts (Section 133 of Local Government Act 2001)

The following Councillors were members of the CPG during the period January to December 2020:

	SPC	Councillor	Party Affiliation
1	Cathaoirleach	Michael Smith	Fianna Fáil
2	Economic Development & Enterprise	John Crosse	Fine Gael
3	Housing	Mary Hanna Hourigan	Fine Gael
4	Infrastructure (to include Roads, Transportation and Water Services)	Jim Ryan	Non-Party
5	Planning and Emergency Services	Phyll Bugler	Fine Gael
6	Environment and Climate Action	John Carroll	Fianna Fáil
7	Community, Culture and Library Services	Micheál Lowry	Non-Party



During 2020, there were 8 meetings of the CPG as the meetings scheduled for April and May did not take place owing to Covid19 restrictions.

Among the items considered at their meetings were:

Ethics Framework Compliance

- Annual Declarations under Section 171 of the Local Government Act 2001
- Disclosure of Donation Statement under Section 19E of the Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act 1999

Consideration of Reports / Policies

- Revised Standing Orders re Holding of Remote Meetings and Standard Operating Guidance re attendance at meetings;
- Draft Corporate Plan 2020-2024
- 3-year Capital Programme 2020-2022
- Monthly Management Reports
- Service Delivery Plan 2020
- Performance Indicators 2019
- Annual Report 2019
- National Roads Allocation 2020
- Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2019
- Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor)
- Budget 2021
- Arts Grants 2020
- Overdraft Facility for year ended 2021
- Section 85 Agreement – Public Lighting Energy Enhancement Project
- Loan Authorisations re Advancing Mortgages under Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan scheme and Vacant Housing Stock
- Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy
- Framework for Re-opening and Recovery of Town Centres
- Draft Tipperary Tourism Product Development Plan 2020-2030
- LAMA All Ireland Community & Council Award nominations

Casual Vacancy

- Co-option of Cllr John Fitzgerald, Fine Gael following the election of Cllr Garret Ahearn to the Seanad

Presentations to the Council

- Foras na Gaeilge
- National Broadband Ireland (NBI)
- HSE Mid-West
- Horse Racing Ireland Ltd

Deputation Requests

- Minister Eamon Ryan re N24 Project

Appointment of members to Committees/Boards

- Economic Development 7 Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Service SPC
- South Tipperary Art Centre (STAG)
- Ratification of Tipperary Joint Policing Committee (JPC) membership
- Ratification of member to represent Clonmel Borough Council on Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

Consideration of Civic Reception

Conferrals & Cathaoirleach Invitations

Tipperary County Council	Danny Carroll Tipperary Senior Footballers Bloody Sunday Commemoration event
Clonmel Borough Council	Tipperary Secondary and Primary Schools
Cathaoirleach Invites	National Commemoration Service of the RIC 50th Anniversary of the Washington 2020 St. Patrick's Day event



COMMUNICATIONS & CUSTOMER SERVICE

Tipperary County Council continues to proactively promote the services, supports and activities of the Council, managing the Council's online presence across the various digital and social media platforms. Everything we do is for our communities, citizens and our stakeholders, involves engagement by staff in customer service and communications on a daily basis.

Promotion and Council's activities and events, some of which include:

- What's on in Tipp is a website to promote events and cultural opportunities in the county which is a great source of information for both the residents of Tipperary and for people who are visiting the County. The website is showcased on all of tipperarycoco & external platforms and has great potential e.g. Festivals, Sports, Theatre, Music, Exhibitions, Family, Arts, Heritage, Lectures, Community Training
- Tipperary Tourism launched newly redeveloped county tourism website www.tipperary.com
- Coronavirus Response Hub - An online Covid-19 Hub for Tipperary was made available from the Council's Website which outlined national and local resources in one place.
- Covid 19 community call response service for vulnerable people and the launch of the 'In this Together' newsletter which showcases community projects that have taken place.
- Corporate Plan 2020-2024 which outlines the vision for County Tipperary for the next 5 years
- Library involved in the 3D printing project of urgently required visors for health care workers.
- Tipperary County Council published a plan setting out a series of measures which can contribute towards post Covid-19 local economic recovery and renewal in Tipperary.
- Launch of issues paper for Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028
- Excellence in Local Government Award received for supporting tourism - Suir Blueway

Online customer service initiatives 2020

Throughout the year, improvements have been made to the provision of online services. This is an area of opportunity to enable more accessible, timely interaction and automation of services with our customers.

Year on year, our web visitors and social media followers increase. During 2020, websites owned and operated by Tipperary County Council received over 2.2 million visitors. These range from the main council website, <http://www.tipperarycoco.ie> to the Libraries/Museum/Tourism and Events Guides.

Our Social media channels collectively received 105,733 followers.



40
Media queries
responded to



105,733
Social media
followers



111,910
Telephone calls
answered



Achievements 2020

- Developed online and back office solutions for the ReStart and **ReStart +** grant application payments, with in-house system for online gathering and internal processing/reporting.
- Provided Online Submission and redaction/publishing system with report creation, for the **County Development Plan**.
- Provided website development for the **Keep Well** Covid Campaign- <http://www.tipperarycoco.ie/keepwell>
- Developed website to list **online shopping options** available in Tipperary during lockdown. 460 businesses listed by category and location <http://shop.localtipperary.ie>
- Provided social media campaign management for **Tipperary Foreign Direct Investment**
- Provided support for **Culture Night** virtual events
- Assisted with the **Road alerts** for the website and alerts systems.
- Added the following to our www.tipperarycoco.ie web site:
 - » **Clonmel Public Realm page** <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/news/clonmel-public-realm>
 - » **Traffic fine appeals app** <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/roads/parking-fines-and-appeals>
- Established dedicated Covid19 hub: www.tipperarycoco.ie/covid19
- Facilitated second phase of Covid-19 government campaign- #inthistogethertipp resources for Tipperary area of hub and tipperarycoco.ie
- Relunched Clonmel.ie to promote businesses emerging after Covid restrictions

Tipperary County Council's approach to customer service is based on a dedicated, trained customer services team in Clonmel and Nenagh who provide a countywide service for customers calling in person or by telephone to Tipperary County Council by utilising the customer the use of a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for logging and tracking customer queries.

1	Customer queries processed through Customer Relations Management System (CRM)	26,137
2	Telephone calls answered	111,910
3	Average answer time	36.7
4	Media queries responded to	40
5	Number of Fix Your Street queries	199
6	Web pages opened	2,295,242
7	Social media followers	105,733
8	Number of complaints from Irish Language Commissioner Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga.	3

Customer Service Desk Staff Nenagh



Customer Service Desk Staff Clonmel



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

With the abolition of FOI Request fees in 2014 the Council has continuing increases in FOI Requests from less than 40 in 2014 to 144 in 2020. This requires significant staffing resources particularly in Housing, Roads, Planning and Environment.

Information Requests received 2020

Freedom Of Information	144
Data Protection Subject Access Requests	25
Ombudsman	17
Access to Information on the Environment	16

DATA PROTECTION / GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

The Council are committed to respecting and protecting the personal data of its customers.

Policies and procedures have been put in place to govern the various aspects of data protection including the Councils Privacy Statement and a CCTV and other Surveillance Technologies Policy.

The Council has appointed a Data Protection Officer and Data Protection Nominees for each Section and Municipal District.

Data Protection awareness training was provided to all staff through our inhouse eLearning resources.

 *Policies and procedures have been put in place to govern the various aspects of data protection including the Councils Privacy Statement and a CCTV and other Surveillance Technologies Policy.*





HUMAN RESOURCES

With a total of 1270 employees (full time equivalent and retained) on our payroll at the end of 2020, the unified Tipperary County Council is one of the largest employers in the County.

The Human Resources Department is responsible for the delivery of the following service areas:

- Recruitment, remuneration and conditions of employment.
- Development and implementation of staff training/development programmes
- Superannuation (pension entitlements)
- Employee welfare/relations
- Family-friendly policies and arrangements
- Industrial relations
- Maintenance of personnel records
- The CORE computerised human resources system
- Performance Management and Development System (PMDS)
- Support to functional departments in all matters relating to human resources

Workforce Planning and Recruitment

Each local authority is required to have in place an approved workforce plan. As part of the Tipperary merger process, an extensive workforce planning exercise was carried out in 2013 and has been in the process of implementation since. Following the lifting of the embargo on recruitment and the issuing of Delegated Sanction by the Department, 2017 saw a dramatic increase in recruitment activity, in the context of open and confined competitions. This process continued into 2020 with record levels of activity providing a range of opportunities for existing employees and also new employees to this Authority. A total of 50 recruitment competitions (following on from 67 in 2019) yielded 77 new starters across the full range of disciplines including Administrative, Engineering, Technical, Scientific, General Operative and supervisory grades, notwithstanding the unprecedented challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Industrial Relations

The Council continues to work in partnership with trade unions and employee representatives to achieve harmonious working relationships and improved working conditions with safe, effective and efficient work practices. The main trade unions engaged with are FÓRSA, SIPTU/LAPO, UNITE and CONNECT UNION. The Council retains the services of the Local Government Management Agency as representation in disputes referred to third parties such as the Workplace Relations Commission.

Staff Training & Development

In keeping with current national policy and the objectives of our Corporate Plan we continue to ensure that staff at all levels of the organisation have the opportunity to develop to their full potential and acquire the appropriate level of knowledge and skills to carry out their job. The Human Resources Section has a dedicated training team which is responsible for drafting and implementing a comprehensive training programme. Training requirements are based on the needs identified through the Performance Management Development System (PMDS) and during the year, prioritisation was given to Health and Safety Training, training required for specific roles and also developing new skills. 19 staff members were provided with funding for third level courses under the Staff Education Assistance Scheme in 2020 to a value of €21,565.

In order to ensure effectiveness and value for money, training was mainly delivered in-house and at the Regional Training Centre, Roscrea using in-house and external trainers.

Congratulations are extended to all employees who engaged in the training programme in 2020.



Superannuation

The Human Resources Department administers the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and Single Pension Scheme (SPS) and associated Spouse's and Children's Scheme and Widows and Orphans Pension Schemes for all grades.

It carries out the following functions:

- Calculation of retirement lump sums and pensions, death gratuities, lump sums in respect of retirements, preserved benefits etc.
- Transfer of service to and from other public sector bodies
- Calculation of statements regarding service and estimates of benefits
- Registration of new scheme members.

In 2019 the section continued the process of data readiness in preparation for the transfer of this function to the shared service centre, MyPay. This process will take some time to complete and is expected to conclude in 2021.



Public Sector Duty ("The Duty")

The Human Resources section operates under the umbrella of equality, transparency and openness in all its dealings with staff and the public. In particular the section espouses public sector values and seeks to embed same into its processes, with particular emphasis on its recruitment processes.

Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 places the Duty in the context of strategic planning. Tipperary as a consequence is required to set out an assessment of the equality and human rights issues relevant to its purpose and functions in a strategic plan, such as a Corporate Plan, in a manner that is accessible to the public.

Section 42(1) requires public bodies to have regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination;
- Promote equality of opportunity, and
- Protect the human rights of staff and service users.

Implementing the Duty has the potential to stimulate proactive approaches to equality and human rights at strategic planning level and in annual work plans, team development plans etc.

Performance Management & Development System (PMDS)

National policy continues to place a very high priority on the use of performance management and development systems in Local Government. Increased emphasis has been placed on ensuring that team development plans and personal development plans are in place for all teams and employees and that they are aligned with the Council's Corporate Objectives. The PMDS system has been further broadened to include performance rating and 2020 saw these ratings applied for all staff throughout the organisation.



Employee Welfare/Relations


We continuously strive to create a work environment that is conducive to promoting a healthy and progressive workforce.

Initiatives that have been taken include the following:

- Provision of a new Employee Assistance Programme providing 24 hour access over 7 days to staff and their families
- Access to Occupational Health Professional
- Employee Handbook
- Superannuation Handbook
- Information/Induction package to new employees
- Long Service Awards
- Pre-retirement Courses
- Return to Learning Project

Tipperary County Council facilitates the taking of the various family-friendly leave arrangements including work-sharing, parental leave and carers leave. 2018 saw the introduction and adoption of a sectoral "People Strategy" which sought to focus on the development, capability and capacity of staff. Tipperary County Council continued the process of integrating it into all operational and functional areas of council activity in 2020.

Arising from the strategy the Council enhanced its staff support offering and rolled out a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme following a procurement process which saw Workplace Options selected as its provider, covering a multitude of services and various means of access on a confidential basis free of charge to all employees and their immediate family members.

 *Tipperary County Council facilitates the taking of the various family-friendly leave arrangements including work-sharing, parental leave and carers leave.*

CORE HR Payroll and Superannuation System

A new HR Payroll and Superannuation System (CORE) was introduced in 2010. In 2017 the HR section initiated the procurement of Data Analytics as a means of accessing, understanding and reporting on the data contained in the CORE system, thereby enabling the section to provide key strategic management reports across a range of business areas highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of those areas.

In 2018 the LGMA decided to examine the possibility of creating a sectoral suite of standard analytics reporting templates and formed a working group which includes two representatives from Tipperary County Council.

In 2020 the project went live with the provision of 4 dashboards providing information in relation to:

- Retirement Analytics;
- Sickness Absence;
- Workforce Profiling; and,
- Turnover Analytics.

Further dashboards will be added when developed.



Retirements

During 2020 the following employees retired from service:

- Bernadette Donnelly
- Ann Ryan Commins
- Patrick Lenihan
- Joe Boland
- Kevin Murray
- Tom Hogan
- Noreen Ryan
- Joseph McGrath
- Tony Duggan
- Patrick Gleeson
- Thomas Hayes
- Mary Price
- Elizabeth Poyntz
- Patricia Brassil
- Antoinette Dougan
- Denis McGuire
- Gerry McGarry
- John Doyle
- Michael Foley
- Sean Hyland
- Anthony Wynne
- Tom Ryan
- Sean Keating
- Noel Hennessy
- Thomas Toomey

Tipperary County Council and its customers have been well served by these employees who have given years of exemplary service. We wish each and every one of them health and happiness for many years to come. Our hope is that they remain in constant contact with their many friends and colleagues.

In addition to the above we fondly remember former colleagues who sadly passed away during 2020 and in doing so express again our sincere condolences to their families.



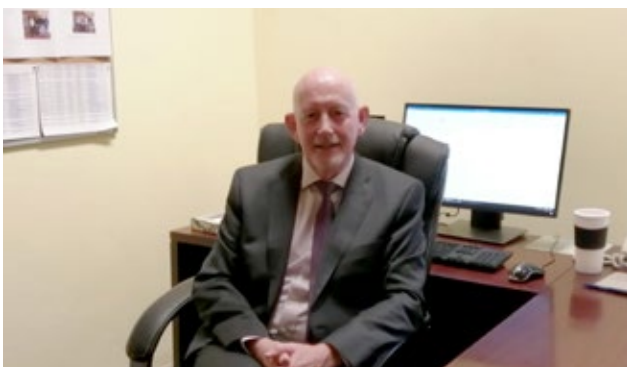
Antoinette Dougan, Housing



John Doyle



Anne Doorley, Roscrea Library, 48 yrs



Sean Keating




Patsy Brassil Housing

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Objectives

- Provide an accessible, comprehensive customer service platform for the public, elected members and staff, through the use of information technology and the internet.
- Provide the tools, systems, solutions and infrastructure to enable the staff and the business sections achieve their business objectives.
- Provide a technical support service to staff in the areas of Networks, Applications, eDev/Web and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

 *The IT Service successfully delivered on solutions to cater for the requirements of the organisation regarding remote working, video conferencing, online customer services, online eLearning and community call, while at the same time keeping our systems safe and secure.*



Achievements

The Information Systems team achieved the following in 2020:

Web/Online/eDevelopment

- Developed online and back office solutions for the ReStart and ReStart + grant application payments, with in-house system for online gathering and internal processing/reporting.
- Provided Online Submission and redaction/publishing system with report creation, for the County Development Plan.
- Provided website development for the Keep Well Covid Campaign- <http://www.tipperarycoco.ie/keepwell>
- Developed website to list online shopping options available in Tipperary during lockdown. 460 businesses listed by category and location <http://shop.localtipperary.ie>
- Provided Social media campaign management for Tipperary Foreign Direct Investment.
- Provided support for Culture Night virtual events
- Provided further web consultations for various sections such as Roads, MDs, Planning etc. – provided Video/Audio content/online forms (Thurles Renewal Strategy/Ormond Castle park Scheme/N24-N74 TippTown Road Improvement Scheme).
- Implemented Opt-in Cookie policy for all websites in line with GDPR Requirements
- Assisted with the Road alerts for the Web site and alerts systems.
- Added the following to our www.tipperarycoco.ie web site:
 - » *Clonmel Public Realm* page <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/news/clonmel-public-realm>
 - » *traffic fine appeals App* <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/roads/parking-fines-and-appeals>
- Established dedicated covid19 hub: www.tipperarycoco.ie/covid19

- Developed an Online business service database to advertise Covid-related delivery services across the county; <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/covid19companysearchmap>
- Facilitated second phase of Covid-19 government campaign- #inthistogethertipp resources for Tipperary area of hub and [tipperarycoco.ie](https://www.tipperarycoco.ie)
- Redeveloped Councillor Expenses system to improve reports
- Developed system to manage contractor data
- Enhanced the eTenders management system to provide governance and quality control of documentation
- Piloted a system to allow GSSs to update road issues directly to web and social media from smart phones
- Relunched [Clonmel.ie](https://www.clonmel.ie) to promote businesses emerging after Covid restrictions
- We had just under 2.3 million page views across the following web sites
 - » [Tipperarycoco.ie](https://www.tipperarycoco.ie),
 - » [Tipperarysports.ie](https://www.tipperarysports.ie),
 - » [Tipperary.com](https://www.tipperary.com),
 - » [Tipperaryllibraries.ie](https://www.tipperaryllibraries.ie),
 - » [Tipperarystudies.ie](https://www.tipperarystudies.ie),
 - » [TipperaryFDI, \(Tipperary.ie\)](https://www.tipperaryfdi.ie)
 - » [Munstervales.ie](https://www.munstervales.ie),
 - » [discoverloughderg.ie](https://www.discoverloughderg.ie),
 - » [LASNTG.ie](https://www.lasntg.ie),
 - » [hiddenhistory.ie](https://www.hiddenhistory.ie),
 - » [Energyinagriculture.ie](https://www.energyinagriculture.ie),
 - » [Exploretipperary.ie](https://www.exploretipperary.ie),
 - » [Clonmel.ie](https://www.clonmel.ie),
 - » [Shop.localtipperary.ie](https://www.shop.localtipperary.ie),
 - » [whatsonintipp.ie](https://www.whatsonintipp.ie),
 - » [Covid Data Hub](https://www.covid-data-hub.ie),
 - » [TipperaryLEO](https://www.tipperaryleo.ie),
 - » [Tipperaryinfo.ie](https://www.tipperaryinfo.ie)



Networks/Infrastructure

- Phones

- » *Procured a new unified central phone system for the organisation and commenced implementation of the system before Christmas.*

- Video Conferencing



- » *Converted the video conferencing facilities in Clonmel Boardroom, Nenagh room 5.3 and the Chief Executive's office to Zoom.*
- » *Commenced design of zoom compatible solution for Nenagh Council chamber, Clonmel Council Chamber and Clonmel Borough Council chamber.*
- » *Provided Zoom and MS Teams software to staff and elected members.*
- » *Facilitated virtual Budget Workshop for Council Members & Staff via Zoom.*

- Security

- » *Prepared and signed off an organisation information security policy*
- » *Carried out number of cyber security tests across organisation*



- » *Kept our Network, Systems and Data safe and secure.*
- » *Progressed the implementation of two factor authentication on the Outlook Web Access system*
- » *Provided online cyber security awareness sessions to our Users and Members*
- » *Continued with progressing recommendations identified in Security Audit.*

- Remote Working

- » *Developed and implemented solutions to facilitate large scale remote working*
- » *Deployed laptops and technology to staff to facilitate remote working.*



- Infrastructure and Network



- » Procured and awarded a contract for the upgrade of our data centre to cater for our requirements for the next five years.
- » Completed the new comms room in Civic Offices Clonmel and the new UPS infrastructure in server room Clonmel.
- » Assisted with the major electrical works & generator install project in Civic Offices Clonmel
- » Delivered maximum uptime and performance of Networks, Business Systems and IT Systems across all offices for all Users.
- » Facilitated staff and office moves in several offices across the organisation.
- » Proceeded with upgrade of corporate wireless network
- » Facilitated the office reconfiguration in offices in Clonmel, the moving of the middle communications room, and Cashel Fire Station build.
- » Continued to provide the infrastructure to support Tipperary County Council being a user test site for the national online ePlanning project.
- » Commenced deployment of new core network infrastructure
- » Commenced the deployment of a new firewall system

- Office Productivity Software

- » Completed the procurement process for the upgrade of our Microsoft Licensing estate.
- » Progressed the upgrade our Windows Operating Systems in line with our Windows upgrade programme.
- » Progressed the upgrade our Microsoft Office estate to MS Office 2019.

- Other

- » Provided IT advice and assistance to the Tipp Town Revitalisation Project
- » Provided IT assistance to the Carrick on Suir Business Association Digital Hub – assisted with Comms connections to new Hub.



Business Systems and GIS

Planning

- Continued to facilitate and support the piloting of the national online planning project (ePlan).
- Upgraded the internal Planning Enquiry System
- Upgraded the external Planning Enquiry (website version)
- Added EPA Noise Pollution data to GIS systems, and created a new map for the Heritage Officer
- Facilitated Third Party Requests for OSI Data i.e. N24 Project
- Tested moving Preplan system to a new server, and investigated options for new Enforcement System
- Completed the moving of the Planning GIS system from a legacy system to the new ArcGIS solution.
- Updated the PETal project for TCC's points and polygons. This is national web map portal for planning applications, where on you can view all County's planning applications on a map viewer <https://myplan.ie/national-planning-application-map-viewer/>
- Moved the document management system iDocs to the latest Microsoft operating system (OS) and upgraded the system.

Environment

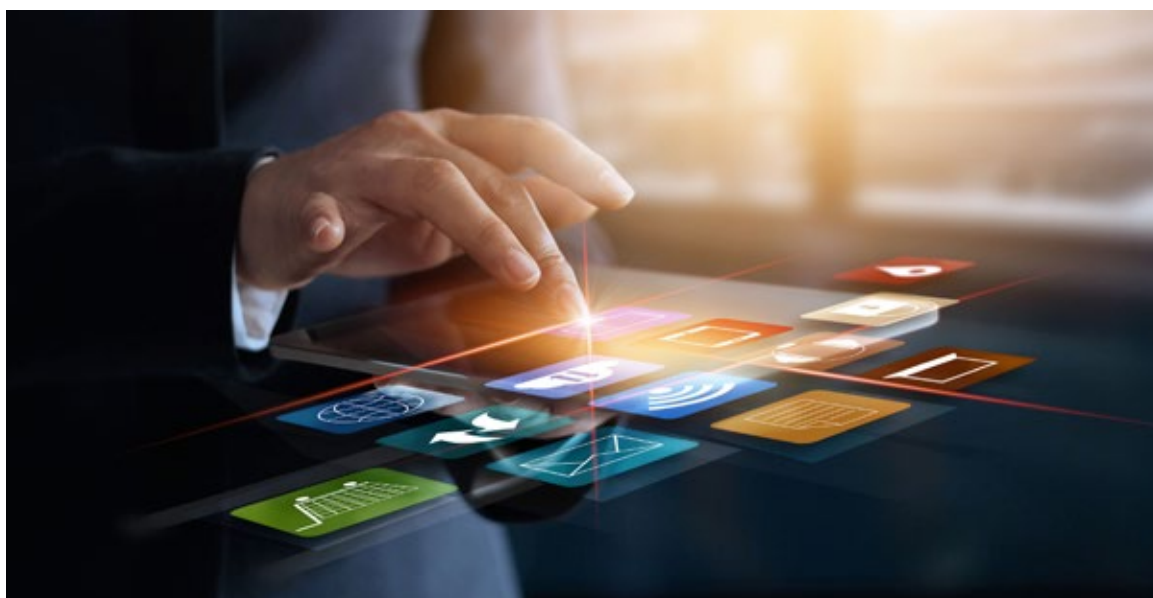
- Updated the Environment Apps viewer and digitizer
- Migrated LabWorks migrated to new server and SQL environment

Finance

- Assisted with eInvoicing testing (Agresso) and Lighthouse
- Facilitated the eInvoicing project.

Housing

- Facilitated upgrade of iHouse and link with DEASP
- Migrated the Rental Accommodation System to a new server
- Updated our Housing back office system (iHouse) to include a new Eircode API feature, and set up a new API interface in the iHouse test environment for access to the Department of Employment's central system.
- Created a new Violence and Aggression Register using ArcGIS mapping system.
- Upgraded the iHouse underlying OS system to a supported front end/backend version.
- Investigated setting up a new Housing Digitiser for Housing stock.



Corporate/Organisation/HR

- Translated the Property Register Data into Sql spatial format
- Updated GeoDirectory
- Upgraded AutoCAD licencing model to single user licenses
- Completed the upgrade of swimming pool systems and install of chip & pins
- Facilitated upgrade of Electoral Register back office system (iReg) and migrated it to a new server
- Facilitated the rollout of additional smart phones/devices
- Progressed online eLearning for H&S and HR requirements
- Completed User acceptance testing for new CRM 2015,
- Facilitated the IT requirements for the General Elections re Electoral Register software and polling cards.
- Setup and configured a new upgraded SQL database backend for business systems and started migrating business application databases.
- Investigated the use of digital signatures
- Provided GIS analysis and reporting mapping services to the Business sections.

Covid Community Response

- provided the CRM solution to log all calls from vulnerable members of our community through the Customer Service Desk.
- provided maps of cases logged through the CRM/Community Response system for the county and resources/dashboards through the Covid Online Hub.
- Provided new online eLearning training for all staff on Covid-19 Work Safely

Roads/Solas/Swimming Pools

- Piloted a virtual RoadWorks mobile app for Roads general operatives.
- upgraded the chip & pin payment system for Clonmel and Tipperary swimming pools.
- implemented a document management system to facilitate the back scanning of all training applications.



All Teams

Provided a technical support service to our staff and elected members across the organisation.

Continued to provide technical support and maintenance for:

- the IT and Network systems such as Email, File Services, Networks, Desktops, Servers, Database systems, etc.
- our business systems e.g. I-Plan, I-Docs, I-House, CRM, etc.
- our web sites and web systems e.g. www.tipperarycoco.ie, www.Tipperary.com; and the Intranet and Sharepoint
- our geographical and CAD information systems e.g. Planning Enquiry, Online Digitisers, etc; and training in same.
- phone systems, mobile phones and fixed lines phones.





SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

SOUTH

For reasons well known to everyone we were unable to organise any social events during 2020 in the interests of everybody's safety and wellbeing.

This is the first time that this has happened since our foundation as a committee in 1983. We did however continue to hold our monthly, summer, hamper and Christmas draws. In the Christmas draw we increased our prize money to €23,000 which was divided between over 100 lucky winners.

We look forward to being back organising events where it is safe to do so, hopefully later in 2021. In the meantime we thought we might indulge in a little nostalgia and publish a couple of photos taken on Slievenamon during our inaugural hillwalk in 1991 - 30 YEARS AGO!!!

**Some of those
photographed are still
on "active service"
- can you identify
any of them?**

Committee Members:

- John O'Mahoney
- Marian Scully
- Anne Marie O'Flynn
- Maeve O'Brien,
- Rosemary Purcell
- Fiona Crotty
- Alison Blackmore
- Claire Cooney
- Paul Farrell
- Jimmy Kelly
- Mick McCarthy
- Tom Byrne
- Mary O'Mahoney
- John Fitzgerald
- Geraldine Tobin
- Gerard Quigley
- Geoff Burke
- John L. O'Meara
- Stephen Ahern



NENAGH

2020 was an unusual year for our Social Club (Nenagh), as all planned activities were cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Our fortnightly lotto, Easter and Christmas Draws yielded a total of €15,650 in prizes for our members.

The annual Mass in remembrance of deceased staff and members was held online.

We also continued to operate our 'Holiday Fund' for those members who want to save for a break away, for a special family occasion or just to have funds to meet annual bills.

Thanks to all our members for their patience and support, and we look forward to being able to hold events in the not too distant future.

Committee Members:

Chairperson

- Peter Cleary

Treasurer

- Rosemary Joyce

Committee

- Paraig Cantwell,
- Brian Dunne,
- Nuala Freeman,
- Maureen Grace,
- Siobhan King
- Auvén Melia,
- Mary Murphy,
- Miriam Ryan,
- Mary Stephens.

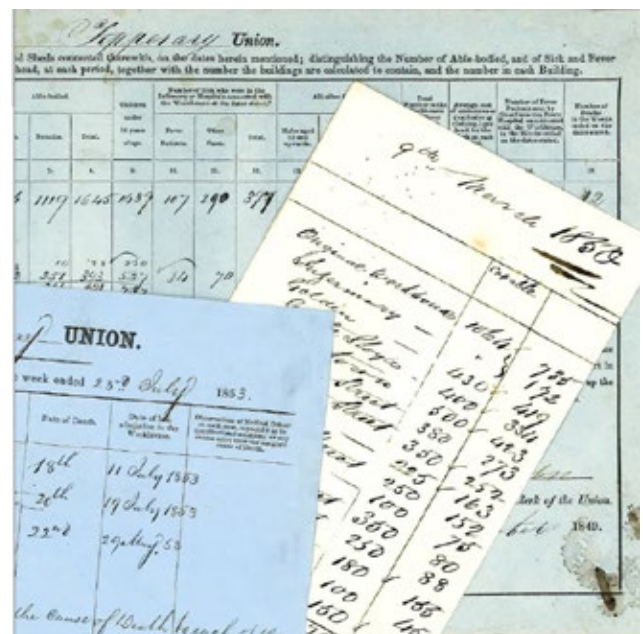
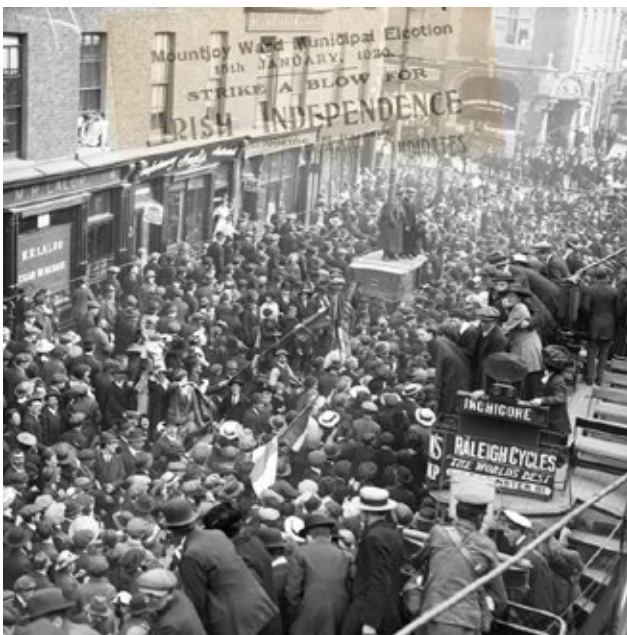


As always we would welcome new members to join the committee and would love to hear new suggestions for events coming from our members.



ARCHIVE SERVICE

As part of the commemorations of the centenary of the 1920 local government election, the Local Government Archivists and Records Managers Group (LGARM), in association with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government produced a booklet entitled 'Democracy and Change - The 1920 Local Elections in Ireland'



This group also continues its work updating the National Retention Policy for Local Authority Records. In conjunction with this, the Tipperary archive service, with the fantastic support of the Records Management Working Group, have produced final drafts of a number of policies relating to the area of records management, which we hope to finalise over the next couple of months.

We have been collaborating all year with Muckcross Bookbindery who have done wonderful work in restoring administrative records of the various Tipperary jurisdictions. These records range in date from 1687 up to the end of the 20th century and included Minute Books, Receipt Books, Valuation Lists, Rate Books and Letter Books, as well as some very interesting material in relation to the Tipperary Poor Law Union

During the year we identified and purchased the cataloguing system we intend to use for the archive collection and will begin work on this in Q2.

Our long term plan is to expand the use the archives building in Carrigeen for archival collections and we spent last year clearing out the building in anticipation of this.

While we were unable to welcome visitors into the archive building for much of 2020, we continued to receive and work on some interesting queries, and continued our work in discussing an intake of new archival collections.





FRANCHISE SECTION




The Franchise Section is responsible for the preparation of the Register of Electors. This Register, prepared annually, is a list of persons over 18 years resident in Tipperary who are entitled to vote in elections/referenda.

The following are the relevant dates in the process:

1st November	Publish Draft Register
1st February	Publish Register of Electors
15th February	Register comes into force

The following is a breakdown of the total electorate per Local Electoral Area in Tipperary:

	Live
Cahir	11,776
Carrick on Suir	16,259
Cashel-Tipperary	22,521
Clonmel	18,557
Nenagh	17,638
Newport	13,319
Roscrea - Templemore	14,312
Thurles	16,259
	130,641

 *There were 130,641 Local Government Electors on the Live Register 2020/2021 which was published on the 1st February 2020.*



General Elections 2020

The 2020 Irish general election took place on Saturday 8 February, to elect the 33rd Dáil Éireann, the lower house of Ireland's parliament. The election was called following the dissolution of the 32nd Dáil by the president, at the request of the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, on 14 January 2020.

The following 13 candidates contested five seats for the Tipperary Constituency:

- Garret Ahearn (FG),
- Mary Newman Julian (FG),
- Jackie Cahill (FF),
- Imelda Goldsboro (FF),
- Sandra Farrell (FF),
- Martin Browne (SF),
- Alan Kelly (Lab),
- Rob O'Donnell (GP),
- Séamus Healy (Ind),
- Micheál Lowry (Ind),
- Mattie McGrath (Ind),
- Dolores Cahill (Irish Freedom Party),
- Joe Hannigan (Ind)


Results

Electorate	126,781
Quota	13,632
Total Poll	82,423
Spoiled	635
Valid Poll	81,788

Names of Candidates Elected

- Micheál Lowry (Non-P.),
- Mattie McGrath (Non-P.),
- Martin Browne (S.F.)
- Alan Kelly (Lab.),
- Jackie Cahill (F.F.)

* Independent candidate **Marese Skehan** died suddenly on February 3rd after nominations were finalised. As a result, her name remained on the ballot paper.

 **13 candidates contested five seats for the Tipperary Constituency**





MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS



CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



CATHAOIRLEACH AND LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. Kevin O'Meara was elected as Cathaoirleach at the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal District Members on the 25th June, 2020. Cllr. Kieran Bourke was elected as Leas Cathaoirleach on the same date.

PERFORMANCE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT FUNCTIONS:

In 2020, the Municipal District members held an Annual General Meeting and ten monthly meetings.

The Hub:

Fostering Entrepreneurship & Innovation at Stable Lane Digital Hub, Carrick-on-Suir

Stable Lane Digital Hub opened its doors to clients on the 1st October 2020. Located on the top floor of the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District Offices of Tipperary County Council, this state-of-the-art E-Hub Space supports clients in a co-working environment. It is an innovative collaboration between the Local Authority and members of the business sector in Carrick-on-Suir.

The Hub's doors have remained open through 2 level 5 lockdowns, and operates under strict HSE Guidelines, ensuring a safe working environment for its clients. The Hub has workstations for sixteen workers spread over two spacious offices. However, just half of that number of workspaces are currently available for use due to the Covid-19 pandemic social distancing restrictions.

Since its opening, Stable Lane Digital Hub has become home to a selection of microbusinesses, SME's, entrepreneurs, and remote workers predominantly from the Tech. Sector. Each of its clients is provided with a flexible and cost-effective workspace with high-speed broadband connectivity in a town centre location.




The Hub allows for the co-location of enterprise workspace, providing a home to a community of like-minded innovators and entrepreneurs, with the ultimate capability of boosting the local economy of Carrick-on-Suir town and its environs.



Official opening of the Digital Hub on 17th September 2020



 *The Hub allows for the co-location of enterprise workspace, providing a home to a community of like-minded innovators and entrepreneurs*

SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS:

A Schedule of Municipal District Works totalling €8.3 million, was adopted by the Members, who oversaw its implementation.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works included the maintenance and minor improvement of the social housing stock in the District, the maintenance and improvement of the road network, the rehabilitation of bridges, drainage works, the maintenance of open spaces and cemetery maintenance.

The Civic Offices were closed to the public for part of 2020 due to the Covid pandemic but staff were on duty to assist the public as much as possible.

Pavement Strengthening and associated works at N24, Carrick on Suir

At the June Municipal District Meeting, Carrick on Suir Municipal District Members approved the Part 8 planning application process for a 3.5 kilometres upgrade of the N24 road carriageway and adjoining footpaths, cycle paths and verges and extends from the Clonmel Road to the Pill Road, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary.

The project then moved onto detailed design stage. It is 100% funded by TII and construction is expected to commence in June 2021 for an eighteen month period.

Town Park Health & Wellness Campus



Other major work carried out in the District included

- Completion of the rehabilitation work on Dillon Bridge, Carrick on Suir including new road surfacing
- Street and footpath works were completed in Carrick on Suir, Fethard and Mullinahone
- Strengthening work was carried out on 16 kilometres of the road network
- Resurfacing work was carried out on 21.3 kilometres of the road network
- Phase 2 of the Safety Improvement work and overlay was completed at Ballytarsna
- Active Travel projects for cycling and walking were completed in Carrick on Suir
- Climate Action and Bridge maintenance works were undertaken at various locations including Lissadobber and Garraun, Ballinure
- Cycle safety signage was erected on the N24
- HGV signage was installed at Coolnamuck Road and North Quay to deter access to North Quay in Carrick on Suir
- Eastgate Park, Fethard is now open to the public via a local voluntary committee
- A contractor was appointed in October 2020 to reconstruct footpaths at New Street, Carrick on Suir. This project also involves undergrounding of overhead ESB cables and the provision of new public lighting columns
- Mullinahone Pocket Park was completed in 2020 with funds made available from the Town and Village Renewal Scheme fund with additional funds added from the community group and the Council
- Outdoor Recreation Improvement Grant funding of €137k has been received towards widening and improvement of the Suir Blueway from Sean Healy Park upstream towards Fishermans Boreen. These works will be undertaken as soon as possible in 2021 when weather and river levels allow



Ormond Castle Park, Ecological and Amenity Enhancement Scheme

The Ormond Castle Park, Ecological and Amenity Enhancement Scheme was officially launched on 23rd October 2020. The objective of the scheme is to review the ecological, biodiversity and physical components of the park and propose how these may be enhanced whilst also raising awareness of urban biodiversity in general.



Taken in Charge Estates

The following housing estates were taken in charge by the Carrick on Suir Municipal District Members during 2020:

- Castle Heights, Carrick on Suir
- Abbey View (Phases 1 & 2), Fethard

Assistance under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001

The Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District assisted the following bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001:

Carrick-on-Suir Development Association

A grant of €3,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Development Association (CoSDA). The Association provides a heritage centre at the Main Street in Carrick on Suir, a community centre in Carrickbeg, Carrick-on-Suir, and is involved in a number of training schemes in the town.

Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee

A grant of €1,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee (COSTEDC). The committee has representatives of the Local Authority, the Business Association and the Development Association. It has prepared a strategic plan for Carrick-on-Suir and is involved in a number of different measures to promote the town.

Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band

A grant of €1,900 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band. The Band has been established for many years and performs in public free of charge.



Sean Kelly Sports Centre

A grant of €40,000 was made to the Sean Kelly Sports Centre. The sports centre provides facilities for swimming and physical training and attracts thousands of visitors each year.

Municipal Festivals

One festival was assisted under this heading, the Clancy Festival in Carrick on Suir, with a grant of €2,500. This was a virtual festival in 2020.

Tidy Town Committees

The Carrick On Suir Municipal District Members awarded 15 grants as follows:

Ballingarry Tidy Towns Committee	€1,000
Grangemockler Tidy Towns Association	€1,000
Glengoole Tidy Towns Association	€1,000
Cloneen Tidy Village	€1,000
Drangan Tidy Towns Committee	€1,000
Dualla Tidy Towns	€1,000
Ballyneale Tidy Towns	€1,000
Killusty Tidy Towns	€1,000
Mullinahone Tidy Towns	€1,000
Carrick on Suir Business Association	€140.00
Killenaule Community Enhancement Association	€1,000
Ballinure Community Group	€1,000
Ahenny Village	€1,000
Faugheen Tidy Towns	€1,000
Fethard Tidy Towns	€286.66

Painting and Enhancement Scheme 2020

Carrick on Suir Municipal District supported 12 property owners under the Painting and Enhancement Scheme in 2020.

Burial Grounds Grants:

Grants were made to burial ground committees to assist with the maintenance of burial grounds as follows:

Kilmurray Burial Ground Carrick on Suir	€600
St Mary's Churchyard, Killenaule	€600
St. Joseph's Ballingarry BG	€800
Modeshill Mullinahone BG	€600
Magoury Drangan BG	€600
Calvary Graveyard Fethard	€600
Ballinure BG	€800
Ahenny; Carrick on Suir	€600
Evardsgrange Burial Ground Committee	€600
Killmaclough BG Fethard	€800
Rathcoole Fethard	€800
Tullamaine BG Fethard	€800
Ballingarry Church Graveyard (old graveyard)	€600
Ballingarry Parish Church (new graveyard)	€600
Boulick Gortnahoe BG	€600
Lismolin BG	€600
Holy Trinity Fethard	€600
Famine Graveyard (Treacy Park Res Comm)	€800
Dualla BG	€600
Carrick on suir Workhouse Burial Plot	€600
Mogorban Parish Church	€600
Ballinalacken Glengoole	€800
Woodhouse BG Committee	€600
St Marys Drangan BG	€600
Cloneen New Burial Ground	€800
Cloneen Old Burial Ground	€600
Kiltinan Fethard	€600
Isterkiernan Mullinahone	€600
Kilvemnon Mullinahone	€600
Killaghy Mullinahone BG	€600
St Michaels Churchyard Mullinahone	€600
St Johnstown Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
Cooleagh Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
Crosscannon Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
Lanespark Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
Peppardstown Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
River Street Burial Ground Killenaule	€800
Grangemockler Parish Church Graveyard	€600
Ballyneale Parish Church Graveyard	€600
St Patricks Church Graveyard Faugheen	€600



Community Grants

The county council invited submissions from clubs and other organisations providing facilities or engaging in community based projects. Grants were made under the scheme as follows:

Carrick Road Runners	Sports equipment	€1,000
Thomas Walsh	Publication	€1,000
Dualla Community Association	Running costs	€1,000
Castle Court Residents Association	Estate maintenance	€1,000
Carrick United AFC	Running costs	€1,000
Strylea Residents Association	Estate maintenance	€850
Drangan & Cloneen Heartsafe	Medical equipment	€1,000
Carrick Swan GAA Club	Running expenses	€1,000
Carrick on Suir District Angling Association	Running costs	€1,000
Men's Shed Mullinahone	Running costs	€250
Ballingarry Community Centre	Running costs	€1,500
Cloneen Sports & Social Club	Running Costs	€1,400
Fethard & Killusty Community Ballroom Ltd	Running Costs	€1,000
Galteemore Kickboxing Fethard	Running Costs	€1,000
Cluain Cregg Residents Ass	Estate maintenance	€1,000
Fr Tirry Park Fethard	Running Costs	€500
Carrick on suir Former workhouse Graveyard Restoration Committee	Graveyard maintenance	€1,000
Castle Heights Residents Association	Estate maintenance	€1,000
Killenaule Community Enhancement Group	Running Costs	€1,000
Ballynonty Community Field	Assist with cost of Wild life garden	€1,000
Killenaule GAA Club	Running Costs	€1,000
Dualla Parish Council	Running Costs	€1,000
Grangemockler & Ballyneale Community History Group	Publishing costs	€1,000
Manor Close Residents	Estate maintenance	€600
Cluain Ard Residence Ass	Estate maintenance	€250
Michael Hogan Memorial Committee	Development works at the location for Michael Hogan memorial	€1,000
Michael Hogan Community Sports Field Committee	Running costs	€1,000
Fethard & Kilusty Comm Council	Purchase of equipment	€134
Cappanagarrane Horse rescue	Running costs	€1,000
Clairin Residents Association	Estate maintenance	€580
Old School The commons	Running Costs	€1,000
Kilmurray Graveyard	Purchase of equipment	€1,800
Sliabh Ardagh Rural Dev Clg	Assist with the purchase of signs	€1,000
Carrick on Suir Athletics Club	Running Costs	€1,000
Tinvane	Estate maintenance	€385
Dualla FC	Running cost	€1,000
St Patricks Residents	Estate Maintenance	€1,000
Moyglass Sports and Leisure Centre	Running cost of community Centre	€1,000



Some additional pictures of the parks and open spaces in Carrick On Suir



Parks and open spaces in Carrick on Suir

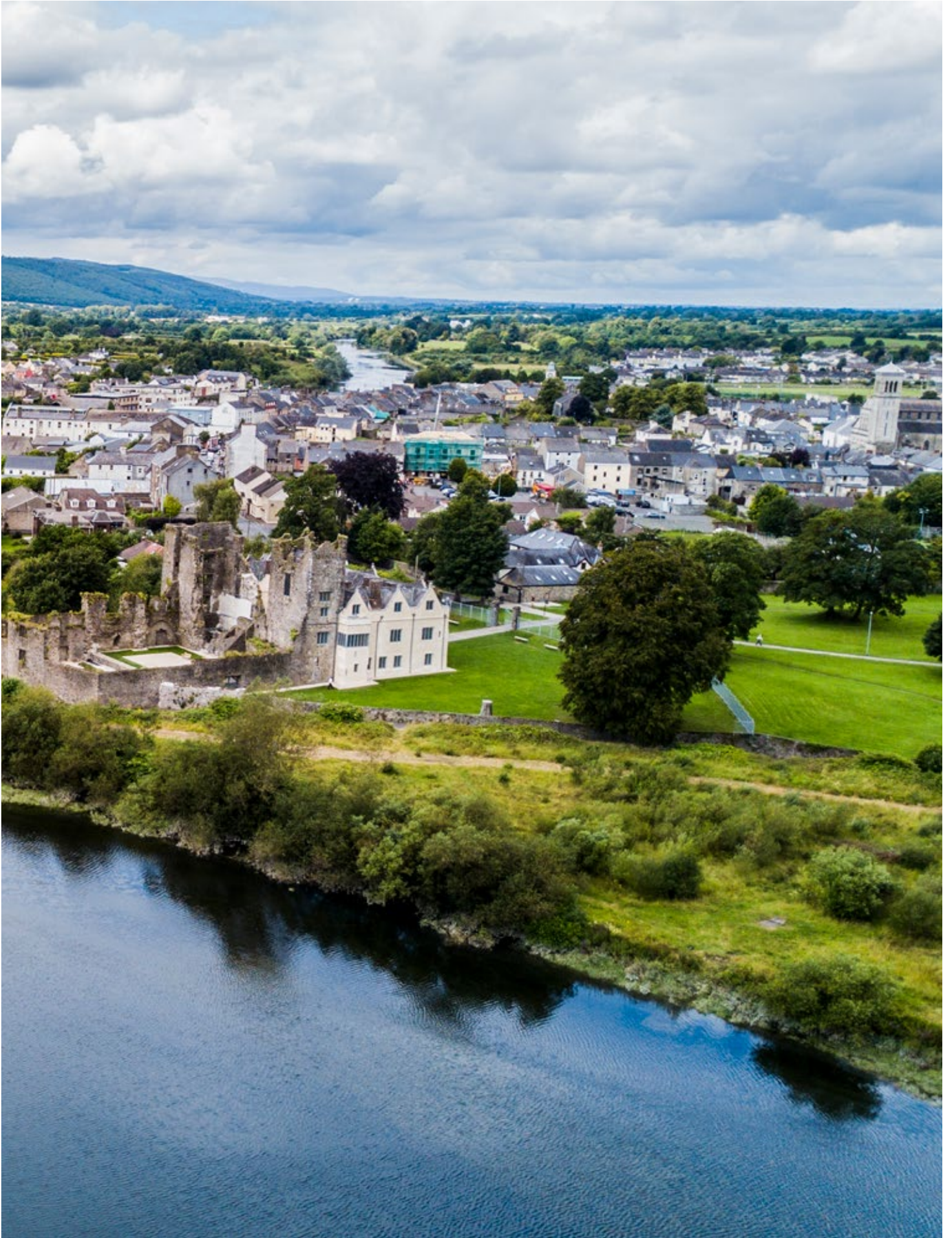


Carrick Daffodils at Sean Healy Park – Spring 2020 in Carrick on Suir



Carrick MD offices lights up green for Sam Bennett following his success in the Tour de France 2020





TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



The Annual Meeting of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District was held on 22nd June 2020. Councillor John Crosse was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Declan Burgess was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.



Cllr. John Crosse



Cllr. Declan Burgess

Members & Management of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District in 2020



Back Row - from left: Cllr. Tony Black, Cllr. Micheál Anglim, Mr. Paddy Crowley, District Engineer, Cllr. Andy Moloney. Middle Row:- Cllr. Roger Kennedy, Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald, Cllr. John Crosse, Cathaoirleach, Mr. Pat Slattery, District Director, Cllr. Máirín McGrath, Front Row:- Cllr. Marie Murphy, Cllr. Declan Burgess, Leas Cathaoirleach, Mr. Anthony Coleman, District Administrator, Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan and Cllr. Annemarie Ryan (Shiner).

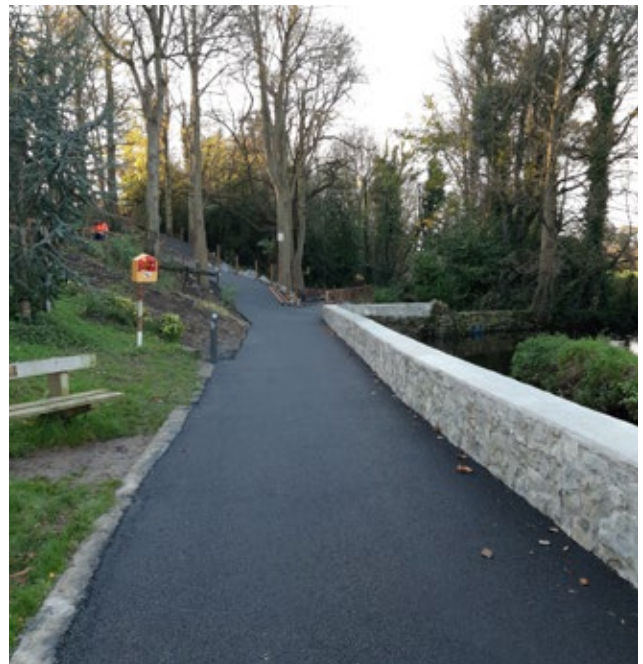
SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In February 2020, the members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the district. This provided for a total expenditure in excess of €14 million in respect of housing maintenance; road improvements; street cleaning; maintenance of burial grounds and maintenance of amenity areas including playgrounds together with undertaking capital projects.

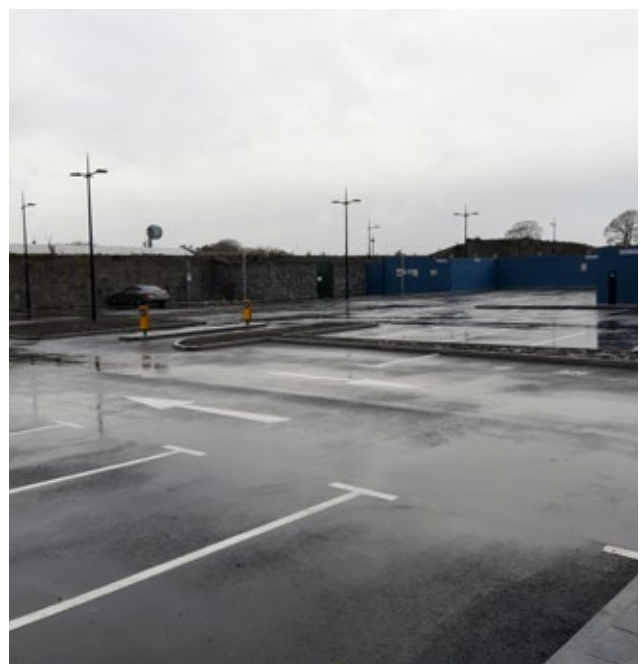
The main projects and programmes which benefited from funding were:-

- Public Realm Enhancement Works at Lowergate, Cashel
- Circular Road to Hore Abbey to Golden Road Walking Route
- Swiss Cottage Walkway, Cahir
- Improvement to Buckley's Car Park, Cashel
- Knockshanbrittas Bridge Replacement
- New pedestrian lights installed on Rosanna Road, Tipperary
- High Kings Amenity Walkway in Cashel
- Clonbeg Bridge Replacement
- Clogheen Public Realm works
- New carpark at Glencoshabinnia
- Extensive footpath renewal and active travel programme of works delivered across the district.

Swiss Cottage Walkway Cahir



Improvements to Buckley's Car Park in Cashel



 *District is hopeful and ready to accommodate a surge in homegrown Tourism*

Knockshanbrittas Bridge



Before & After photos

New pedestrian lights installed at Rosanna Road, Tipperary



High Kings Amenity Walkway Cashel

The new Cashel Walkway is an 8.5 Km looped walk starting at the Kiln, continuing to the Golden Road via Bothrín Bocht through a woodland section and returning along the Golden Road back to Cashel. This walkway has been developed with the assistance of funding from the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme and the Active Travel funding.



Clonbeg Bridge Replacement



Clogheen Public Realm works



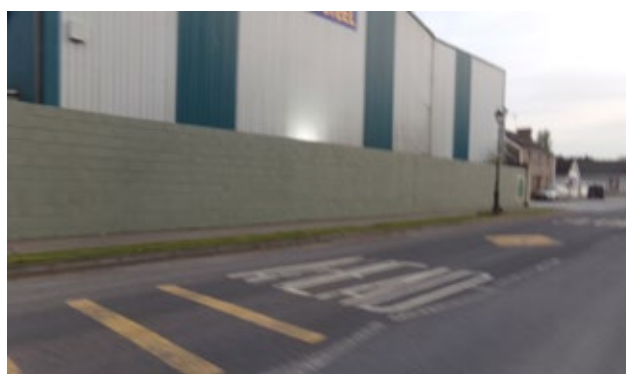
WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO ENHANCE TOWNS & VILLAGES

Tidy Towns Grants 2020

Name	Allocation
Aherlow Road Residents Association	€1,200
An Duiche Residents Association	€1,200
Ardfinnan Tidy Towns	€3,000
Ballyporeen Community Council	€1,000
Bansha Tidy Towns	€1,200
Burncourt Community Council	€1,200
Cahir Tidy Towns	€4,880
Cappawhite Tidy Towns	€1,200
Cashel Tidy Towns	€4,880
Churchview Residents Association	€1,200
Clogheen Tidy Towns	€1,300
Clonoulty Tidy Towns	€1,300
Cullen Tidy Towns	€1,200
Donohill Tidy Towns	€1,200
Duhill Community Council	€500
Dun Chormaic Residents Association	€1,000
Dundrum Tidy Towns	€1,300
Emly Tidy Towns	€3,000
Goatenbridge Tidy Towns	€1,000
Golden Tidy Towns	€1,200
Grange Tidy Towns	€1,200
Kilnamanagh Court Residents Association	€1,200
Kilross Tidy Towns	€1,200
Lattin Tidy Towns	€1,300
Murgasty Residents Association	€1,200
New Inn Tidy Towns	€1,200
Newcastle Tidy Towns	€1,200
Oliver Plunkett Park Residents Association	€1,200
Rossmore Tidy Towns	€1,200
Spafield Family Resource Centre	€1,200
Summercove Residents Association	€1,200
The Rhododendron Walking Festival	€1,200
The Steeples Residents Association	€1,200
Thomastown Tidy Towns	€1,200
Tipperary Town Tidy Towns	€4,880
Woodlawn Residents Association	€575
Total	€56,315

Before and after photos of Tidy Towns Works

Dundrum Tidy Towns



Burial Ground Grants 2020

Grant Recipient	Allocation 2020
Annacarty-Kilpatrick Burial Grounds	€1,825.00
Ardfinnan Burial Ground Committee	€1,015.00
Ardmayle Burial Ground	€1,015.00
Ballinacourty Burial Ground	€1,015.00
Ballinatemple Burial Ground	€967.00
Ballybacon Burial Ground, Ardfinnan	€967.00
Ballydrennan Burial Ground	€745.00
Ballysheehan Burial Ground	€810.00
Bansha Old Burial Ground	€967.00
Cahir Abbey Burial Ground	€810.00
Cahir New Burial Ground	€1,015.00
Cahir Quaker Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Cappawhite Old & New Burial Grounds	€1,982.00
Cashel Cathedral Burial Ground	€967.00
Clonbeg Church St. Sednas Glen of Aherlow	€745.00
Clonoulty Old & New & Clogher Burial Grounds	€2,570.00
Cullen Graveyard Committee	€810.00
Dangan-Dargan Maintenance Committee	€810.00
Derrygrath Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Duhill / Castlegrace Community Council	€745.00
Duhill Burial Ground Committee	€967.00
Emily Old/New Burial Ground Committee	€1,760.00
Garranlea Burial Ground Committee	€745.00
Grange New Cemetery	€1,015.00
Hollyford Burial Ground	€1,015.00
Kiladriffe Burial Ground	€810.00
Kilcommon Cemetery Cahir	€745.00
Kilshane Burial Ground	€810.00
Knockgraffon Burial Ground	€810.00
Kyle Burial Ground, Cahir	€745.00
Lady's Abbey Burial Ground, Ardfinnan	€810.00
Laggainstown Burial Committee	€810.00
Lattin Old Cemetery Committee	€745.00

Grant Recipient	Allocation 2020
Lattin New Burial Ground	€1,015.00
Lena Rice Graveyard Parish Committee	€967.00
Loughkent Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Loughloher Burial Ground Mtce Committee	€810.00
Monard Church of Ireland Burial Grounds	€745.00
Mortlestown Burial Ground Committee	€745.00
Mount Bruis Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Mullough Abbey Burial Ground Committee	€745.00
New Inn Graveyard Parish Committee	€745.00
Newcastle New Burial Ground Committee	€745.00
Newcastle Old Burial Ground Committee	€967.00
Old Church Street Cahir	€967.00
Old Donohill Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Outrath Burial Ground, Cahir	€967.00
Rochestown Burial Ground, Cahir	€810.00
Shanrahan Burial Ground Maintenance	€1,712.00
Shronell Burial Ground Committee	€745.00
Solohead Burial Gound Committee	€967.00
St John the Baptist Graveyard	€745.00
St Mark's Famine Graveyard	€745.00
St Mary's Church of Ireland Tipperary Town	€745.00
St Paul's Churchyard Cahir	€810.00
St Senan's Burial Ground Committee	€1,015.00
St. Mary's Church Dundrum	€745.00
Templenoë Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Toem (Kilbeg) Burial Ground	€745.00
Tubrid Burial Ground Committee	€810.00
Tullaghmeelan Graveyard, Ardfinnan	€810.00
Tullameelan Churchyard Newcastle	€745.00
Neddins Graveyard, Ardfinnan	€300.00
Protestant Graveyard Ardfinnan	€300.00
Total	€58,594.00



Maintenance Photos Of Burial Grounds

Cashel Cathedral



Garranlea Burial Ground



Cappawhite Burial Ground



Tipperary Festival & Events Grants Scheme 2020

Grants were approved for 40 organisations and groups across the Municipal District in 2020 as part of the scheme. However due to the coronavirus pandemic many of the festivals and events had to cancel while others rescheduled their events subject to restrictions or organised on-line events. The following festivals and events took place.

Community Grants

Applicant	Festival/Event	Grant Awarded
Glen of Aherlow Fáilte Society	Winter Walking Festival	€750
Cahir Development Association	Cahir Christmas Retail Programme	€1,200
Tipperary Tidy Towns	Celebrating Pollinators & Biodiversity in Tipperary Town	€750
Cahir Development Association	Cahir Trad Festival	€1,500
New Inn Festival	Family Scarecrow Fun	€1,000
Grange Community Council	Grange Festival	€475
Burncourt Community Council	Burncourt Pumpkin Festival/Scarecrow Display	€1,700
Mountain Lodge Restoration Group	A weekend of Poetry Music & Story	€750
Kyasho Jitsu Ireland	Busking Festival	€350
Cahir Development Association	A Scare in Cahir	€1,000
Total		€9,475

Municipal Grants

Applicant	Festival/Event	Proposed Grant
Cashel Arts Festival Committee	Cashel Arts Festival	€12,200
Ballyporeen Community Council	Ballyporeen Music Maker Festival	€2,500
Total		€14,700
Overall Total		€24,175



Glen of Aherlow Tipperary - Winter Walking Festival

This festival took place between 24th & 26th January 2020 and was a joint initiative between the Glen of Aherlow Fáilte Society and the Galtee Walking Club.



Photo from the event

Cahir Development Association - Cahir Christmas Retail Programme

Under Covid-19 guidelines Cahir Development Association provided Santa at Cahir Tourist Office. This event took place from 4th - 6th December. Santa remained behind a closed window, contact was via an intercom and the presents came out through a chute.

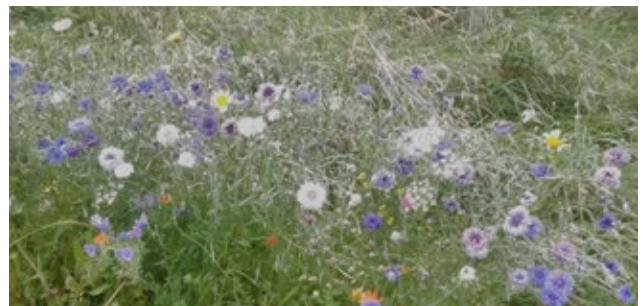


Photo from the event with Santa & Mrs. Claus at the window.

Tipperary Tidy Towns - Celebrating Pollinators & Biodiversity in Tipperary Town

Due to restrictions this festival was held via zoom. Local schools used the Tipperary Hills as an outdoor classroom during the lockdown and they were delighted to learn about biodiversity in the hills which helped inform their nature walks. Workshops were done with the entire staff and students. In total 1000 students participated in the live zoom workshops.

Below is a photo of the wildflowers planted in the hills. The flowers attract insects that in turn feed bats.



Cahir Development Association - Cahir Virtual Trad Fest

From 11th to 13th September Cahir Comhaltas presented their sixth annual Trad Fest but due to restrictions it was an online event with music, song and dance through their Facebook page. www.facebook.com/CahirComhaltas.



Photo of the Fahy family & dancers outside Cahir Castle.

Grange Community Council - Grange Festival

Grange Community Council sponsored an art competition for all classes in the local school. The theme being "Lockdown 2020". Each child drew, painted and wrote about their experiences during the pandemic and participants were given a certificate to mark the occasion.



Photo from event below

Mountain Lodge Restoration - A Weekend of Poetry, Music & Story at Mountain Lodge

In late November Burncourt Community Council launched a four-part series of their virtual festival of music, poetry, art and word set in Glengarra Mountain Lodge. Each programme with one art form in mind was filmed to highlight the beauty of the setting of the mountain lodge and Glengarra and how this environment inspires those artists who encounter it. All four episodes included a different aspect of the history of the lodge.



Photo from event below

The Rhododendron Walking Festival Committee

The Rhododendron Walking Festival Committee wanted to create a landmark for their festival and for the Galtee Vee Valley area. The festival is organised by a multi-community committee, comprising of members from the villages at the foothills of the Knockmealdown and Galtee Mountains, in conjunction with Siul Eile.

The committee applied to Tipperary County Council and were successful in obtaining funding through the Community Enhancement Programme, Tidy Towns Grant, and the Environmental Action Fund.



Photo below of the Clogheen Hiker

Cashel Arts Festival Committee - Cashel Arts Festival

Cashel Arts Festival took place from 17th – 20th September. The theme of the 2020 festival was '20/20 vision'. The festival was enjoyed as a community on local radio, Cashel Arts Festival website, zoom, social media and visual arts on Cashel's streets.



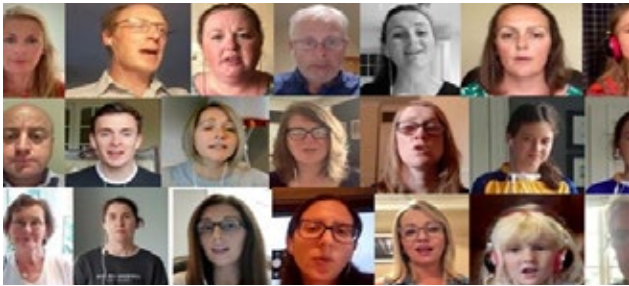
Photo above from the launch of Cashel Arts Festival

From left:- Cllr. Michael Smith Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council, Ann Marie O'Donnell, Chairperson of Cashel Arts Festival & Cllr Declan Burgess, Leas-Cathaoirleach of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District



Yoga class as part of the Cashel Arts Festival

Photos below from Cashel Arts Festival



Hosting a virtual choir



Primary School Outreach Programme as part of Cashel Arts Festival. Children and their teachers were invited to follow an online tutorial to produce this beautiful bunting which was displayed on Cashel Plaza during the festival.



Sand Sculpture on Cashel Plaza



The European Charter of Rural Communities

Cashel is a member of the European Charter of Rural Communities which is a unique twinning of 25 communities across the EU.

A group from Malta visited Cashel in January to meet with members of Cashel's soccer club with the intention of bringing a Maltese youth team to Cashel. Their interest in Ireland began when they met with Cashel EU Rural Charter delegation who visited Nadur in Malta in 2018. The visitors were presented with produce hampers, which included locally produced Cashel Blue Cheese and Rossa Pottery.



From left:- Colm Taylor, Mattie Finnerty - former Mayor of Cashel, Cllr. Eucharist Camilleri - Malta, Dr. Niall Gregory, Eddie Bennett - former Mayor of Cashel, Sister Mary Walsh, Cllr. Roger Kennedy, and Cllr. Declan Burgess.

Europe Day

May 9th is Europe Day when communities across the EU fly the twelve-starred flag. Pictured below are the Cashel team of the Charter of European Communities represented by Councillor Declan Burgess and Cashel Friends of Europe Chairman Dr Niall Gregory. Also photo below of John Redfern, Tipperary Civic Offices caretaker raising the flag.



Christmas Events & Initiatives

Contributions of €10,000 each were provided towards the provision of Christmas lights in Tipperary & Cahir Town. Cashel received a grant of €8,500.

Photo below of Christmas Lights in the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District



Cashel Town



Cahir Town



Tipperary Town



The Plan, Tipperary Town.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Town Centre Forums & Town Action Plans

The District facilitates and supports the Town Centre Forums of Cashel & Tipperary in their on-going efforts to enhance their town, promote business opportunities and implement agreed actions.


Meetings of Cashel and Tipperary Town Centre Forums were held throughout the year and updates were received from representatives of agencies and local organisations on projects and initiatives in each of the towns. However, the activities of all organisations and community groups were significantly curtailed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The District developed plans for the three main district towns to assist with reopening and revitalising town centres in particular as COVID-19 restrictions were eased. These plans included short, medium- and long-term initiatives, actions and projects which were reviewed and revised where necessary to ensure that as many businesses as possible and consumers returned to our town centres as well as helping people to think about what type of town centres they want in the future.

Funding to support some of the measures and actions in the Town Action Plans was provided from unspent General Municipal Allocation (GMA) budgets and an additional central budget to deliver initiatives including town voucher schemes, shop local campaigns, outdoor dining areas and public realm improvements.

Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force

Ms. Carmel Fox, who was appointed as independent chair of Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force has engaged with stakeholders around the process and structures and there has been extensive public consultation and engagement with individuals and groups in Tipperary town and hinterland. The Task Force which is supported by funding from Tipperary County Council and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has 18 members representing different sectors, agencies and organisations and part of its work is to develop an agreed strategy and 3-year action plan for the town.

 *The Task Force which is supported by funding from Tipperary County Council and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has 18 members*



Back Row L-R: Emer Leahy, Bernadette Cullen, Tipperary ETB, Cllr. Annemarie Ryan Shiner, Anne Bradshaw, Siobhán Hyland Ryan, Tim Ryan, Pádraig Culbert, Cian Ó Lionáin, Front L-R: Donal Kelly, Isabel Cambie, Carmel Fox, Pat Slattery, John P. Hartnett, Colette Treacy

Streetscape & Shop Front Enhancement Scheme 2020

The Streetscape & Shop Front Enhancement Scheme provided grant aid to assist owners or occupiers of properties situated in the primary retail areas of Tipperary, Cahir, Cashel towns to improve the streetscape through:

- Removal of inappropriate contemporary signage, fittings and general clutter and replacement with shop fascia signage, with an emphasis on hand painted signage;
- Painting and general improvements to existing shop fronts;
- Erection of planters, floral hanging baskets and other environmental improvements.

In Tipperary town 33 applicants availed of the scheme.



No. 8 Davis Street, Tipperary - Photos before and after works

In Cahir 17 applicants availed of the scheme.



No. 6 Castle Street, Cahir - Photos before and after works

In Cashel 29 applicants availed of the scheme.



Ladyswell Street, Cashel - Photos before and after works



Collaborative Town Centre Health Check in Tipperary

A Collaborative Town Centre Health Check (CTCHC) Workshop for Tipperary town was held in the Excel Centre on 16th January. The Health Check is an initiative developed by the Heritage Council which brings together the private, public and civic sectors in a town to develop an agreed town centre-led commercial, heritage and tourism baseline from which an action plan can then be developed.




A full-time project manager, Marie Ryan, was recruited to work with and support the Task Force on developing agreed actions and funding proposals and bids. New public offices were also opened in September on Bridge Street.



Funding of €25,000 was approved for Tipperary town under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020 - Accelerated Measure in Response to COVID-19. The funding allocated to the Council was used for a range of measures and actions working in partnership with TIRD/Chamber of Commerce and Tipperary Task Force including re-development and design of the website www.tipperarytown.ie to provide an interactive online platform and the development of co-ordinated branding and marketing campaigns for Tipperary town, which was launched on 24th November.



New Brand for Tipperary Town

 Funding of €25,000 was approved for Tipperary Town under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020.

Tipperary Town WiFi4EU Initiative

Tipperary town centre now has free Wi-Fi through the WiFi4EU initiative which is co-funded by the EU Commission and Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Access points were installed and are operational and the project was launched on Monday 28th September in Tipperary town.



Photos of the Launch



Tipperary Technology Park

Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation Heather Humphreys TD, announced on 8th January 2020 funding of €500,000 under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) for refurbishment of the existing Tipperary Town Technology Park under the auspices of a new company, Tipperary Innovation Engine CLG. This project will deliver 13,000 sq. ft of contemporary enterprise space in Tipperary town and bring to market up to 40 flexible hot desks and co-working spaces, with the capacity to house 60 employees as well as meeting rooms, training room and associated facilities.

Tipperary County Council has also committed match funding of €127,000 to assist in the delivery of this project.

An architect has been appointed to commence detailed designs and internal works are expected to commence in 2021. When renovation is completed, a full-time centre manager will be recruited to market the centre and develop new business opportunities.

Cahir Market House Business Centre

The proposed plans and conservation report for a new Cahir Market House Business Centre (which includes the current Cahir Library building and the former council offices) were on public display in October and November. The Chief Executive's Report for the proposed development was approved by Members at the December Municipal District meeting.

The Council was approved funding of €633,000 for Cahir under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) for 'Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter'.

Ballyporeen Building Façades Scheme 2020

The Building Facades Scheme for Ballyporeen included surveys of buildings and identified how property owners could upgrade their premises to improve the visual appearance of the village. A painting scheme was introduced in cooperation with Ballyporeen Community Council for part of the village to incentivise property owners to carry out works and 13 properties were approved funding totalling €4,375.



Photos before & after works



TOURISM AND RECREATION

Developing Cashel as a Destination Town in Ireland's Ancient East

Cashel is a designated heritage town within Ireland's Ancient East and Fáilte Ireland commissioned a Destination Town Plan for Cashel. A major outcome of the report is a collaboration between Fáilte Ireland, the OPW and Tipperary County Council. The Council has signed a grant letter of offer from Fáilte Ireland in respect of a €500,000 grant. This funding is to assist in the implementation of a Cashel Signage Strategy and upgrading the public realm and plaza.

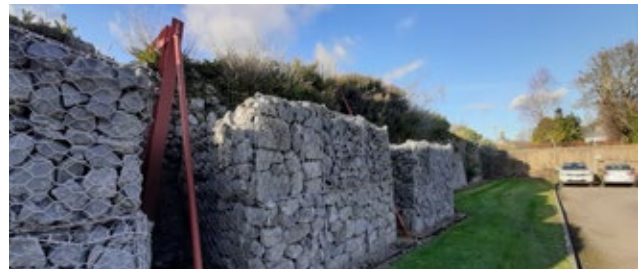
Cashel Tourism and Recreation Park

Plans for Cashel Tourism and Recreation Park were prepared by the Paul Hogarth Company and following public consultation were also on public display during a Part 8 planning process for this project. A Chief Executive's Report was presented to Members and the plans were approved at the November Municipal District meeting.

The Council has applied under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF) for capital funding to construct this amenity.

Cashel - Irish Walled Towns Conservation Grant 2020

A grant of €30,000 from the Heritage Council was awarded for works on section of Cashel town wall on HSE lands to the rear of the hospital. Photo below show the walls to the back of St. Claire's Day Care, Cashel Hospital.



Historic Trails Tipperary Town

Signage for the historic town trail in Tipperary town was upgraded with funding from the Council and Fáilte Ireland and was re-launched on Tuesday 28th January in Tipperary Excel. The Historic Towns Trails are designed to encourage visitors to stay longer and explore the wider region.



PLAYGROUNDS & AMENITIES

In January 2020 Cashel playground reopened following redevelopment by Cashel Playground Committee with support from the LEADER programme, local business and Tipperary County Council.

The construction of a new community playground in Ardfinnan is progressing and works on the amenity are expected to be completed in 2021.

The Three Drives multi-use games area (MUGA) in Tipperary Town was upgraded with assistance from the Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play and Recreation.



Picture below of MUGA, Tipperary Town.

River Ara Walkway



The River Ara Project was granted planning permission by An Bord Pleanála in November 2020. The project is now in the detailed design phase with construction due to commence in 2021.

Canon Hayes Recreation Centre

Tipperary County Council assisted and funded the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre to undertake a strategic and financial review of its facility. Deloitte Ireland LLP were appointed to work with the board of the Centre and other stakeholders to review the current operations and prepare a new strategic plan to enable the facility to operate in a sustainable manner in the long-term.

Sean Treacy Memorial Swimming Pool

The Sean Treacy Memorial Swimming Pool is a Council operated facility which adjoins the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre. Due to restrictions activities in the pool were curtailed during the year. However significant improvement works were undertaken to protect pool users and staff including upgrades of the reception area and public changing rooms.



Photo of Refurbished Pool Changing Room



CASHEL TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT FAREWELLS & RETIREMENTS

Retirements

- Joe McGrath, General Operative
- Thomas Hayes, Tradesman
- Joe Boland, General Operative
- Patrick Gleeson, General Operative
- Tommy Toomey

Photo below



Joe McGrath



Tommy Hayes



Joe Boland

Farewell

- Liam O'Dwyer, Executive Engineer.
- Sean Power, Technician



CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT





Following the election of Garret Ahearn in April to Seanad Éireann, Councillor Pat English was elected as Mayor for the remainder of the 2019-2020 term of office.



In June 2020, Councillor Siobhán Ambrose was elected Mayor for the District for the 2020-2021 term of office and Councillor Richie Molloy was elected Deputy Mayor.



COVID-19 COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC SUPPORTS & TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVES



The Covid-19 pandemic introduced huge challenges to the local authority in carrying out its functions. Despite this a significant contribution continued to be made by Clonmel Borough District to social, economic and cultural life at local level, through support for a variety of groups, organisations and events in 2020 including alternative options such as online events.


The Borough District, in collaboration with the Town Centre Forum, Chamber and other local stakeholders, worked together to make it easy for shoppers to return to spending locally and supporting our local businesses in the town centre.

A Plan of short-term Actions was developed and implemented, including:

- Repurposed the www.clonmel.ie website to become a portal/directory of the town's businesses and how they can be contacted; businesses can just submit their details through the website to get posted on the site;
- Provided "Clonmel Support Local Shops" branded social distancing stickers free of charge to businesses for use on public footpaths outside their premise to allow for orderly queuing;
- "Green It, Paint it, Light It" - the Town Centre Enhancement and Painting Grant Scheme through which businesses got a grant of up to €500 to assist with the costs of external painting and enhancements to their premises;
- Introduced a Seasonal Clonmel Town Centre Business Window Display Grants Scheme – a €250 grant was available towards cost of having 3 themed window displays from now until end of year (Summer, Halloween, Christmas).
- Brought a new competition to Clonmel, called **"WIN WEDNESDAY"**. Customers who spent over €5 in any Clonmel store on any Wednesday from August until the end of the year took a picture of their receipt and e-mailed it into winwednesday@tipperarycoco.ie with their name and number. Customers were able to enter the draw each week as often as they like once they are spending over €5 in different shops in Clonmel on the Wednesday in question. Each week, three (3) lucky people from entries received that week won one of three €50 vouchers from participating businesses (paid for by Clonmel Borough District).
- A "Shop Clonmel, Dine Clonmel, Stay Clonmel" radio and online marketing campaign is also being run by yourselves (Tipp FM) to support this competition.





 *The Borough District, in collaboration with the Town Centre Forum, Chamber and other local stakeholders, worked together to make it easy for shoppers to return to spending locally and supporting our local businesses in the town centre.*

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Most of the applicants, who applied through the Council for financial assistance under the Tipperary Festivals & Events Grant Scheme 2020, did not hold their event due to Covid-19 and the restrictions around it.

Funding, however, was still made available for those still interested in showcasing performances and artists by an alternative means and complying with government and HSE guidelines. Some of these groups who re-submitted their original applications with new proposals for on-line events included the Junction Festival, Busking Festival, Stagecraft and Applefest. All major gatherings previously run by the Borough District were cancelled including St. Patrick's Day Parade, Halloween Zombie Walk and the Christmas Santa Parade in Clonmel. Alternative ideas to create a festive atmosphere in Clonmel for these events worked very well in 2020.

St Patrick's Day Parade



This year's St Patricks Day parade was hampered with the arrival of Covid-19 the week before celebrations were due to get underway. Clonmel Borough District still brought a vibrant feel to the town by hanging bunting throughout the streets and illuminating in bright green the main buildings and other Clonmel landmarks around the town

Clonmel Busking Festival

Clonmel Busking Festival usually takes place each summer on the August Bank Holiday weekend and for years it has attracted a wide variety of events, performances and competitions for the duration of the festival. To mark the 10 year anniversary of the festival, despite restrictions imposed by Covid- 19, the group created a series of virtual performances. A "10 year Anniversary Video" which was recorded over 2 days of the 2020 festival weekend featured nationally renowned singer John Spillane performing "Molly Bán". This recording includes beautiful footage of the Blueway, the Bulmers Orchards, the Main Guard and other local Clonmel landmarks.

Halloween Festival Clonmel

It's one of the biggest event nights of the year for Clonmel where families and fans of ghostly thrills and spooky scares come out in droves. The Level 5 restrictions called a halt to lots of plans this year including the traditional Zombie Walk, but Clonmel Borough District worked with Clonmel Junction Arts Festival to put a new event in place that gave people an opportunity to celebrate Halloween in a new and different way. A mixture of socially distanced events meant that families could still participate and have fun. As part of their 5km walk, the trail, as well as online events, allowed something to happen for everyone on Halloween Weekend. The town centre mapped trail and the spooky makeover in shop windows made the town an exciting place for families over the weekend.



Clonmel Junction Festival 2020



Clonmel Junction Arts Festival, one of the key arts events of the summer in the South-East, still went ahead this year but in a re-worked and re-imagined fashion. With a theme of 2020:Visionaries, the festival held many events (mostly on-line) from 4th – 12th July despite Covid restrictions being in place. The Boatmen of Clonmel Art Trail, in collaboration with Tipperary Museum of Hidden History was a great success. Five artistic installations were also erected throughout the town during Festival Week and there were pop-up galleries in shop windows to bring some vibrancy to the town throughout the festival. The director of Clonmel Junction Arts Festival was delighted to have the opportunity in 2020 to research various platforms for the digital elements of the festival and felt it was something they could build into future festival plans. Clonmel Borough District and Tipperary Arts Department financially supported all of these events in 2020.



Clonmel Junction Arts Festival, one of the key arts events of the summer in the South-East, still went ahead this year but in a re-worked and re-imagined fashion

Christmas In Clonmel 2020



Clonmel Borough District teamed up with Junction Arts Festival to bring creativity, imagination and a little bit of theatrical magic to the town centre at the end of a challenging 2020. In a safe environment, the team worked with local artists and the creative community to re-imagine seasonal events and bring some much-needed Christmas cheer. Creative illuminations on the town's main streets, snow flurries at the lit-up West Gate, icicle-wrapped trees as well as a series of beautifully-lit installations in Clonmel shops enhanced the entire town.



The Festive Trail, The Bumper Win Wednesday Draw, The Seasonal Window Displays and the free family portraits taken in front of the green screen also proved a great hit throughout the festive period. Santa Claus made his traditional visit to Clonmel on Sunday 29th November to turn on the town lights, but unfortunately, it was minus, the big Clonmel gathering to welcome him, however, we got the visit recorded and broadcasted live to everyone on social media that night.



Promoting Safety On The Blueway

Clonmel Borough District held a competition for bicycle bells which was to promote the use of bicycle bells by cyclists on the Suir Blueway in the interest of safety and courtesy to all users.

All 5th & 6th class primary school pupils from the district were invited to participate in order to win free bicycle bells for everybody from the winning entrant's class. The standard of the art was very high. The winners were Olivia Kurpan, St Olivers N.S., Roisin Fahey, Presentation Primary N.S., Ava Healy, Srs of Charity N.S. and James O'Brien, Powerstown N.S.

An advertisement campaign and competition was also held on Tipp FM's Breakfast Show in order for the general public to win one of 100 bicycle bells being given away. It was very well received.



Schedule Of Municipal District Works

In March 2020 the Members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Clonmel Borough District.

Schedule of the main programmes affecting the Clonmel Borough District in relation to road and infrastructure during 2020 were:

- Surface dressing works were carried out at Loughcapple, R689 Garrinch, Stephenstown, Jossestown, Priorstown – Link between N76 & N24, R689 Clonacody, Bulmers Orchards, Horsepasture/Doon, Rathloose and Powerstown.
- Road strengthening works on public roads were carried out at Killusty, Ballypatrick to Grange, Castleblake to Tooloone, Pond Road Marlfield, Ballyclerihan to Poulmucka and Rosegreen to Lowesgreen.
- Capital Road strengthening works were carried out on the N24, west of the Killheffernan Roundabout.
- Carry out road strengthening works on a Community Involvement Scheme, (CIS), in a local public boreen in Woodroff.
- Carry out road strengthening works on a Local Improvement Scheme, (LIS), in a private road in Seskin.
- Pedestrian Enhancement works were carried out at the Suir Blueway, Clarks Villas laneway, St.Patrick's crossroads to Cotter's House. Installed gates at both ends of Clarks Villas rear laneway and cleared out same. Public lighting on the Frank Drohan Road.
- Traffic Management Works at Marlfield Village, Barron Park Car Park, 2 no. ramps in Heywood Close, 1 no. ramp in Rockfield, Glenconnor.
- Road resurfacing works carried out at Dungarvan Road at the Grotto, St. Patrick's Tce Laneway, McDonagh Crescent laneway, St. Bernadett's Terrace laneway, Carrigeen main Road (top of hill), Abbey meadows, Tannersrath Junction, Willow Heights, Springfields Estate, Patchworks around Clonmel Town, Road markings and signage, Rathronan Crossroads.
- Bridge rehabilitation works were carried out at Convent Bridge, Clonmel and Albert Bridge in Lisronagh.
- Road patching, drainage and other maintenance on regional and local roads in the Clonmel Borough District.
- Drainage work carried out on regional and local roads of the Clonmel Borough District.
- Safety Improvement works carried out in Ballyclerahan outside the car park on the school road.
- Maintained parks and open spaces such as Mulcahy Park, Denis Burke Park and Toberaheena Well.
- Maintenance, enhancement and widening certain locations of the Blueway.
- Carry out numerous footpath repairs and replacement in Clonmel, Clerihan, Marlfield, Rosegreen, Kilsheelan, Ballypatrick, Kilcass and Killusty.
- Carried out complete housing repairs, etc to 23 no. vacant houses in the Clonmel Borough District area.





(Contract Signing for appointment of Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates Ltd to provide Consultancy Services for Suir Island Infrastructure Links Project. Design for pedestrian bridges to the Island and their connections to the Suir Blueway.)

Funding Provided by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)

Funding was provided by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and a Contract was awarded for a Pavement Improvement Scheme on the N24 Clonmel Inner Relief Road (Frank Drohan Road) at Clonmel.

The work was required to improve the surface texture and structural strength of the road resulting in a safer facility. The project involved the repair and rehabilitation of approximately 6.4 Km of Frank Drohan Road from the Cahir Road Roundabout at Ballingarrane to the Moangarriff Roundabout on the Waterford Road. Some changes to kerbing and concrete islands were carried out at Heywood Road junction, Cashel Road Roundabout and Fethard Road Roundabout. A new combined drainage kerb was constructed between the Powerstown Road and St. Patrick's Road junctions.

Tipperary Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2020

Funding was allocated under the 2020 Tipperary Festivals and Events Grant Scheme in the Clonmel Borough District and it included groups in the categories below

Premier Category:

Clonmel Junction Festival;	€30,000
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Municipal Category:

Clonmel Busking Festival	€6,000
Illustrating Tipperary/South Tipperary Arts Centre	€2,500
Clonmel Applefest	€10,000
South Tipperary Positive Mental Health Festival	€2,000
HACKED – Stagecraft	€1,500



Tidy Towns

Due to Covid-19 the National Tidy Towns Competition in 2020 was cancelled. However, all our Tidy Town Entrants from the District were given continued financial support in order to continue with funding projects throughout the year. These groups included Kilsheelan, Clonmel, Kilcash, Marlfield and Rosegreen.

The continued support from the District was in acknowledgement of the groups demonstrating commitment, pride and huge effort through the Covid-19 pandemic.



Playgrounds

Closed in the initial stages of Covid-19 pandemic, it was acknowledged by Government the importance of the playgrounds in communities, and with parents and guardians adhering to social distancing and other measures such as hand sanitizing, this allowed the playgrounds to be reopened.

Clonmel Borough District were successful in their application for funding under the capital grant scheme for play and recreation 2020 for Elm Park Playground which allowed for upgrade of safety surface.



Amenity/Burial Ground Grants

Other funding provided to organisations and voluntary groups include amenity grants totaling €10,600 allocated to 27 applicants and €11,900 allocated to 17 burial grounds.

Tidy Town Grants

No.	Name of Committee	Grant Awarded
1	Clonmel Tidy Town	€1,000*
2	Kilsheelan Tidy Town	€5,000
3	Marlfield Tidy Town	€1,750
4	Rosegreen Tidy Towns	€1,500
5	Kilcash Tidy Towns	€1,500
Total Grants Awarded		€10,750

*Additional technical support will be provided to Clonmel Tidy Towns for a 5 year Action Plan drafted by external assistance.

Burial Ground Grants



Burial Ground Committee 2019	Grant Awarded
Baptistgrange BG Committee	€700
Rathronan BG Committee	€700
Old Clerihan Graveyard BG Committee	€700
Donoughmore BG Committee	€700
Burntchurch BG Committee	€700
Clerihan New BG Committee	€700
Killaloan BG Committee	€700
Marlfield BG Committee	€700
New Chapel BG Committee	€700
Old Kilsheelan BG Committee	€700
Rosegreen BG Committee	€700
St Mary's Churchyard BG Committee	€700
Templetney BG Committee	€700
Old Powerstown BG Committee	€700
Lisronagh Old BG Committee	€700
St. Nicholas Church & BG Committee	€700
Shanavine BG Committee	€700
Total Grants Awarded	€11,900



Amenity Grants

Residents Association	Amount Paid
Ard Caoin Residents Association	€350
Auburn Estates Residents Association	€350
Beechwood Close Residents Association	€350
Beechwood Drive Residents Association	€350
Brookway Residents Association	€750
Cloughcarrigeen Residents Association	€350
Coleville Avenue Residents Association	€350
Crann Ard, Glencarra, Gracefield Residents Association	€350
Fán Aoibhinn & Droimeala Residents Association	€350
Garden Grove Residents Association	€350
Glenoaks Residents Association	€850
Gort na Manach Residents Association	€350
Highfield Grove Residents Association	€350
Honeyview Estate Residents Association	€350
Inis na Managh	€350
Ivowen Residents Association	€350
Killusty Tidy Village	€350
Knockaun Court Residents Association	€350
Marfield Village Residents Association	€350
Moylebrook Residents Association	€350
Old Bridge Community Association	€350
Redwood Gardens Residents Association	€350
Rosegreen Development Association	€350
Springfields Residents Association	€350
The Paddocks Residents Association	€350
Tivoli Heights Residents Association	€350
Wilderness Grove/Carrigeen/Oakland Drive Residents Association	€600
Total Grant Awarded	€10,600


"Flights of Discovery"

The Clonmel 'Flights of Discovery' tourism feasibility report (incorporating Dowd's Lane, Suir Island, County Museum and West Gate) proposes the development of new tourism experiences for the town.

Discussions continue with Bulmers/C&C Group regarding the redevelopment of their former manufacturing site at Dowd's Lane as a tourist attraction. This will involve the establishment of a separate Designated Activity Company (DAC) to assist in delivery of this project.

The Suir Island Masterplan promotes the development of Suir Island as a recreational amenity; a robust, sustainable and appropriate form of development for this key public asset and resource. The Borough District continues to examine and consider how to progress to the design stage for the project elements/stages identified in the Masterplan. During the year a Design Team was appointed to the Suir Island Infrastructure Links project to develop the design for the pedestrian bridges to the Island and their connections to the Suir Blueway. In addition, a procurement competition was underway to appoint a Design Team to the Suir Island House Gardens project.

Likewise, the Borough District office continues to examine how to progress proposals for the West Gate. Unfortunately, an application for funding to the Historic Towns Initiative 2020 Call for Proposals was unsuccessful.

 *The Suir Island Masterplan promotes the development of Suir Island as a recreational amenity; a robust, sustainable and appropriate form of development for this key public asset and resource.*



Kickham Barracks Phase I and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub Projects



Under the Government's Project Ireland 2040 Plan, funds for rural development, urban regeneration, climate action and innovation are being allocated competitively to the best projects, which leverage investment from other sources thereby ensuring that the impact of the investment goes further.

In 2018, Tipperary County Council submitted an application to the Government's Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) titled 'Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration' in partnership with a number of other agencies and organisations.

The Council has secured approval in principle with a provisional funding allocation of over €10 million for 2 projects in Clonmel – (phase 1 of Kickham Barracks which includes the civic plaza and public realm area of the site as well as the Davis Road car park; and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub).



The respective implementation teams set up by the Council continue to meet to oversee the delivery of these projects in partnership with the agencies and organisations involved. Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) has the project management role for the Clonmel Regional Sports Hub development as the site is currently in their ownership.

Construction of the Davis Road car park element of Kickham Barracks Phase 1 had been completed by the end of 2020. Awarding and signing contracts for the construction of the civic plaza and public realm area of Kickham Barracks Phase 1 and the Regional Sports Hub will be taking place in Q1, 2021.



Construction of the Davis Road car park element of Kickham Barracks Phase 1 had been completed by the end of 2020.

Project Ireland 2040 Funds - Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF) - 2nd Call



The Borough District submitted a €75m application to the 2nd Call under the terms of the URDF in May 2020.

The application, "Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration", comprises three intrinsically linked and integrated development pillars:

- Kickham Barracks Regeneration (Phase 2);
- "Clonmel Flights of Discovery" tourism;
- Public Realm Enhancement.

"Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration" is an ambitious application of considerable scale that is seeking to transform and change Clonmel's town centre into a re-imagined, dynamic and energetic one for the 21st century; to re-activate centrally located brownfield sites and assets into new civic, cultural, education, recreational and tourism uses that work together to create a new role for the town; and to enhance the quality, attractiveness and liveability of the town resulting in increased critical mass and economic activity.

A decision from the Government on the application is awaited.

Suir Blueway



The numbers using the Blueway have increased significantly in the last year and user numbers are increasing continuously. Funding has been applied for (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme) to undertake structural improvement and enhancement works to sections of the Blueway. A Design Team was appointed in the latter part of 2020 to examine the feasibility of extending the Blueway to Marlfield. Their work was ongoing at the end of the year.



Clonmel Arts Studios Group (CASG)

Following agreement with a property owner, occupancy of a commercial unit in Hughes Mills, Suir Island was continued for another year by four professional artists from different disciplines as a co-shared studio space. This is a pilot project between local artists, Borough District, Council's Arts Office and South Tipperary Arts Centre to explore the potential of using vacant commercial premises in Clonmel as temporary artists' studios. The aim is to provide affordable studio space in buildings that fosters a collaborative environment for artists working in different disciplines.

Kickham Barracks Masterplan

As already outlined above, funding has been allocated under the URDF for Phase 1 of Kickham Barracks. The Council is continuing to engage with LIT and Tipperary ETB to explore funding options and progress the next phases of the Masterplan for Kickham Barracks. Regarding the site for the new Garda Station, the Council continues to liaise with the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Department of Justice and Equality. The OPW was going through the statutory Part 9 planning process for the new Garda Station at the end of 2020. The building will then be developed under a PPP arrangement by the OPW.



NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



CATHAOIRLEACH

The Annual Meeting of Nenagh Municipal District was held on 18th June 2020. Councillor Séamus Morris was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor John Carroll was elected Leas Chathaoirleach.

Cathaoirleach Séamus Morris at Nenagh Municipal District Annual Meeting on 18th June 2020



SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In March 2020 the Members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Nenagh Municipal District. This provided for a total expenditure of over €10.4 million on housing maintenance, roads, drainage, amenity areas, street cleaning and burial grounds.

Under the Roadworks Programme the following works were undertaken:

- 44km were improved under the Restoration Improvement Programme
- 51km were surface dressed under the Restoration Maintenance Programme
- 6km was improved under the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)
- A major programme of works was carried out in Nenagh Town involving drainage improvements, pedestrian crossings, raised speed tables, new footpaths and new HRA road surfacing at 18 locations
- A new road surface was completed for over 1km on the R503 Cork to Limerick Road through Newport Town.



Ability swing in Ballina

Funding for the upgrading of the Garrykennedy forest Walkway was secured under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measure 2 in 2020. Works involved provision of a dedicated wheel chair accessible trail, replacement of footbridges, new picnic area and bench, improved signage, and improvement works to 1,800 metres of forest trail.



Wetmix works in Templederry



Garrykennedy Forest Trail



Garrykennedy Forest Trail

Nenagh Leisure Centre

During 2020 Nenagh Leisure Centre was again awarded the Outstanding Level in the National Quality Standard Award for 2020.

Due to Covid-19 the Leisure Centre was closed from March 14th – July 12th and from October 24th – 2nd December & from December 26th to the end of the year.

In order to open during Covid-19 restrictions Nenagh Leisure Centre had to implement a number of new practices, some of these were:

- A maximum limit of 50 people in the Leisure Centre at any one time (including staff)
- Installation of numerous sanitisation stations around the building
- Movement of people around the building in one direction only
- Introduction of hourly sessions in the Pool & Gym areas
- Closing down hair & hand dryers
- Closing the Sauna, Steamroom & Jacuzzi
- Postponing Swimming Lessons & School Sessions



Enhancing our Towns & Villages

Painting and Enhancement Schemes

Nenagh Municipal District assisted property owners in the towns of Nenagh, Newport, Borrisokane, Ballina and Cloughjordan to improve and enhance their properties by facilitating grant aid towards painting and enhancement works.



Painting and Enhancement Scheme in Ballina



Painting and Enhancement Scheme in Cloughjordan



Painting and Enhancement Scheme in Newport

Working with the Community

During 2020 the Nenagh Municipal District continued to work with the community throughout the District in various ways.

This included provision of funding through grants and contributions, liaison with voluntary groups and associations, liaison with business groups, provision of advice and support and assisting with a variety of events.

Despite Covid restrictions, all the Tidy Towns Committees in the Nenagh District continued to deliver an impressive programme of enhancement works.



Work completed by Portroe Tidy Towns




Cloughjordan Tidy Towns Committee

In recognition of the contribution made by communities across the district, funding was allocated in 2020 to 75 clubs & organisations, 29 residents associations, 29 Tidy Towns Committees and 67 burial grounds committees within the Nenagh Municipal District.

Due to Covid restrictions only four festivals/ events were able to take place in 2020 and some of these took the initiative to do so virtually.

The groups supported by the Festival & Events grants were:

- Spleodar
- Dromineer Literary Festival
- Nenagh Children Film Festival
- Irish Youth Circus Gathering

 *Despite Covid restrictions, all the Tidy Towns Committees in the Nenagh District continued to deliver an impressive programme of enhancement works.*



Newport Town Park

The contract for Newport Town Park was signed on 1st July, 2020. The contractor Sole Sports & Leisure has made substantial progress however the advent of Covid will impact on the completion date.



Aerial view of works at Newport Town Park



Works to Riverside Path at Bandstand Junction in Newport Town Park

Newport Enhancement Plan

Nicholas De Jong Consultants were appointed to prepare an Enhancement Plan for Newport. 272 responses were received as part of the consultation exercise undertaken during October and November, 2020. Consultants are currently working on finalising the draft plan prior to further consultation.

Nenagh 800/Nenagh Castle

The launch of Nenagh 800 took place on 29th January at the Civic Offices, Nenagh with approx. 100 people in attendance. The winner of the Song for Nenagh competition was announced on the night. Bubba Shakespeare performed the winning entry "Well – Tipp'n Away".



Bubba Shakespeare receiving his prize from Eva Birdthistle, Manager Nenagh Arts Centre.

Also on the night Flora O' Mahony, MRIA of the Heritage Services – Conservation unit of the OPW gave a very informative presentation on the restoration of Nenagh Castle.



Angela & Joe Starr at the launch of Nenagh 800



Nenagh Ormond Brass Band performing at the launch



Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive; Rosemary Joyce, Chair of Nenagh 800 Committee; Cathaoirleach Joe Hannigan & Kevin Whelan, Tour Guide, Nenagh Castle

A number of events were held early in 2020 including a talk by Donal A Murphy hosted by Ormond Historical Society on 'Some Streets of Nenagh – Characters & Anecdotes'; the launch of the Bob Tisdall Exhibition at Nenagh Heritage Centre and a talk by Dr. Conor Reidy entitled "Haunted Memories – When Nenagh Used the Gallows". It was decided that due to Covid-19 the focus of activities would change and events would move online.




Some of the other outputs from the year included:

- Archaeology Ireland produced Heritage Guide No. 91 on Nenagh Castle.
- A 20-page special supplement on Nenagh Gaol by Simon O' Duffy & Danny Grace was published by Nenagh Guardian in October.
- A History Ireland Podcast as part of Nenagh 800 on the subject of Nenagh and North Tipperary during the Revolutionary Decade was broadcast and had 715 listens.
- The Dromineer Nenagh Literary Festival included an event to mark Nenagh 800 – members of the Nenagh Players performed scenes from Jim Minogue's play 'Trainees' dealing with the fate of the Cormack Brothers. A talk was also given on the history of the Governor's House.



Caitlin White & Dr. Conor Reidy

 *A number of events were held early in 2020 including a talk by Dr. Conor Reidy entitled "Haunted Memories - When Nenagh Used the Gallows"*

Nenagh Live

Spain AV were commissioned to undertake a 'shop local' social media campaign as part of "Nenagh Live".

It was a great success and featured 15 nights of recordings which showcased a mixture of retail, memories of Nenagh and outstanding local talent with omnibus editions on 3 Sundays. A final Christmas show was broadcast on 20th December.

The Nenagh Live initiative reached in excess of 572,000 people with the total number of video views 229,900 (and still rising!).



Munster Blades – with Nenagh Live



Nenagh Live at Nenagh Gaol



Nenagh Live – Promoting Local Businesses

Christmas Lights

A new scheme of Christmas lights was provided for the town of Nenagh, it included new lights on the trees on Pearse St and Kenyon St. and additional crossings and features



Christmas Lights in Nenagh

Covid Measures Grant Scheme

Two projects in Nenagh secured funding under the Covid-19 Measures Grant Scheme from the National Transport Authority, Kenyon Street and Hanley's Place.

Paving works at Kenyon St were completed and seating will be put in place in 2021. Tender process for Hanley's Place has been completed and work will begin in 2021. In preparation for this part of Hanley's Place has been pedestrianised.



Kenyon St., Nenagh

Historic Structures Fund

A grant allocation of €40,000 was secured in respect of conservation works for Newport Courthouse and this work was completed during 2020.



Newport Courthouse - before works



Newport Courthouse - works substantially completed



Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

A bat and swift survey were undertaken at Emmet Place/Mitchel St. and contract signing took place on 11th September.

Kenny Civils were appointed and demolition work was sub-contracted to Smith Demolition. Demolition work is now complete and contractor will return to complete the junction works and carpark when Level 5 Covid-19 restrictions on construction are lifted.



Emmet Place before demolition works



Emmet Place during demolition works



Emmet Place after demolition works



Emmet Place after demolition works



Historical & Cultural Quarter

An allocation of €650,000 has been received under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter - A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan.

This is a Category 2 funding stream which will facilitate the planning and design work necessary in order to allow a Category 1 application to be submitted for implementation of the project which centres on the Gaol, Nenagh Castle and Banba Square.

Fáilte Ireland, the OPW and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht are partners in the project. The tender for the architect-led design team for the Historic & Cultural Quarter has been advertised on e-tenders and the OJEU. The closing date for receipt of tenders is 15th January 2021.



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Public Consultation

Public consultation processes were undertaken in respect of:

- Part VIII for Mitchel St/Emmet Place
- Part VIII for Tourist Office & Banba Square
- Part VIII for Digital Hub, Nenagh
- Introduction of temporary road closures and vehicle traffic and parking prohibitions to enhance pedestrian safety at Hanley's Place, Nenagh.

Taking in Charge

The following estates were Taken in Charge during 2020:

- Bruach Tailte
- Millersbrook (part of)
- Carrigderg, Ballycommon

Health & Safety

In 2020 Nenagh Municipal District retained OHSAS 18001 accreditation for Health & Safety.

The process for OHSAS 45001 accreditation will begin in 2021.



THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



The Annual Meeting of Thurles Municipal District was held on 15th June 2020. Councillor Noel Coonan was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Jim Ryan was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.



THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS SIT ON THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT:



NOEL COONAN
FINE GAEL



SEAMUS HANAFIN
FIANNA FÁIL



SHANE LEE
NON-PARTY



MICHEÁL LOWRY
NON PARTY



EDDIE MORAN
NON-PARTY



JIM RYAN
NON-PARTY



PETER RYAN
FINE GAEL



SEAN RYAN
FIANNA FÁIL



MICHAEL SMITH
FIANNA FÁIL



Projects



Templemore Town Hall: Phase 2 - Enterprise and Cultural Centre, with associated Civic Plaza.

This flagship urban regeneration project involves the conservation and re-establishment of Templemore Town Hall as an economic, cultural and community hub of the town, the District and the Mid-West Region.

Part VIII planning permission was approved in July 2019. Following on from this a Temporary County Council tendered for an External Design Team to prepare the final design and procurement process. In October 2020 EML Architects were appointed as the successful candidate to carry out these services.

The scheme is progressing with detailed design and surveys currently underway.

Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy (including Masterplan Design Concept for the regeneration of the Friar Street/Croke Street and Castle Avenue Quarter).

The Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy was completed in 2020 and the document will provide a new shared vision for the Town Centre, allowing it to be re-imagined and, faced with the modern-day challenge of climate change, will set out how the town can develop in a truly sustainable way. The Renewal Strategy reflects a collaborative effort between the local authority and the community of Thurles to present an informed and evidence-based 10-year vision, grounded on an appreciation of the key characteristics and issues within the Town Centre, to be used by organisations to assist with improving Thurles in response to the changing dynamic of the town, and to national trends. The Renewal Strategy focuses on Thurles Town Centre, with the area designated as 'Town Centre' within the Thurles and Environs Development Plan Land-Zoning Map used to inform a study area boundary.



Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme Thurles seeks to deliver a vibrant Liberty Square at the heart of Thurles: a place to live, shop, work, socialise, play or "hang-out". The revitalised Liberty Square will become an engine for growth in and around Liberty Square and enhance the attractiveness of Thurles as a place to live and a place for investment / employment. While Covid 19 restrictions has delayed overall progress on the project, Phase 1 of the works – new car-park was opened in early September and the contractor has since been able to progress main drainage and culvert replacement during the current Level 5 lock down. It is hoped that pavement replacement works will commence once Level 5 restrictions are lifted.





Roscrea Enhancement Scheme

Phase 1 - Improvements at Market Square, Roscrea

Historically Market Square represented the principal civic public space within Roscrea being the meeting point of the town's two key streets Main Street and Castle Street. A key objective contained of the Roscrea Enhancement Plan was to greatly improve the quality of the built and natural environment within Roscrea while unlocking its tourism potential and providing the platform that will enable Roscrea to grow in a sustainable manner and in a way that supports existing businesses and community groups.

In July 2020 Rathcabbin Ltd were appointed as main contractors for the Market Square Project and works commenced in August 2020 with substantial completion in December 2020. Unfortunately due to Level 5 Covid restrictions the contractor has been unable to fully complete the works but it is expected that once Level 5 restrictions have been lifted the works will be completed within two weeks. The establishment of safer walking was a particular priority for this project given the high footfall at this busy junction and the prominent businesses and post office in the area. The reorganisation of the Market Square junction has significantly reduced traffic speed with wider footpaths and the upgraded public realm has helped create a more attractive environment for all. In making these changes it is hoped that Market Square will transition from a traffic dominated junction to a pleasant shopper/visitor destination and meeting hub.



Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme Works in Roscrea



Grant Recipients 2020

Despite restrictions imposed by Covid-19, significant work was undertaken by local community groups and clubs during 2020.

The following table gives the total number of grants awarded in each category.

Grant Category	Number Granted
Sports	49
Residents Association	46
Burial	54
Tidy Towns	24
Municipal	2
Community	15
Christmas Lights	10
Town Enhancement	16

Schedule of Municipal District Works

The schedule of Municipal District Works for 2020 was adopted by the members in April and this formed the basis for the works programme for the district including Roadworks, Housing Maintenance and pre-lets, Playground Maintenance, Amenities/Open Spaces and projects undertaken under the General Municipal Allocation.

The total allocation was €9,744,663.



Bridge Rehabilitation works at Kiloskehan Bridge, Gortagarry

General Municipal Allocation

The General Municipal Allocation, which is discretionary funding allocated by the Members, is essential in funding many projects including grant schemes, Christmas Lighting Contributions and Village Enhancement Works across the District.

In 2020 the GMA amounted to €212,556.00 and was used to fund the following projects -

Village Enhancement Works - Loughmore-Castleiney, Grange, & Gortagarry

Christmas Lighting Contributions

Festival & Events Grant Schemes

Residents Associations Grant Scheme

Contribution to a production by Roscrea Musical Society as part of their 80th Anniversary celebrations

Contribution to the provision of the new Borrisoleigh Community Centre

Contribution to Development Works at Thurles Gaels GAA Grounds

Contribution to Development Works at Durlas Óg GAA Grounds

Road resurfacing works adjacent to Upperchurch/Drombane GAA Grounds

Support through match funding to Economic Development Opportunities in Thurles

Footpath upgrade works at Moycarkey and Fanning Park, Two-Mile-Borris

Contribution to the Development of a Sensory Garden in Thurles

Contribution to the Development of a Sensory Garden in Ballysloe

Support the Enhancement of the Two-Mile-Borris Sensory Garden

Resurfacing works at Chapel Lane, Roscrea



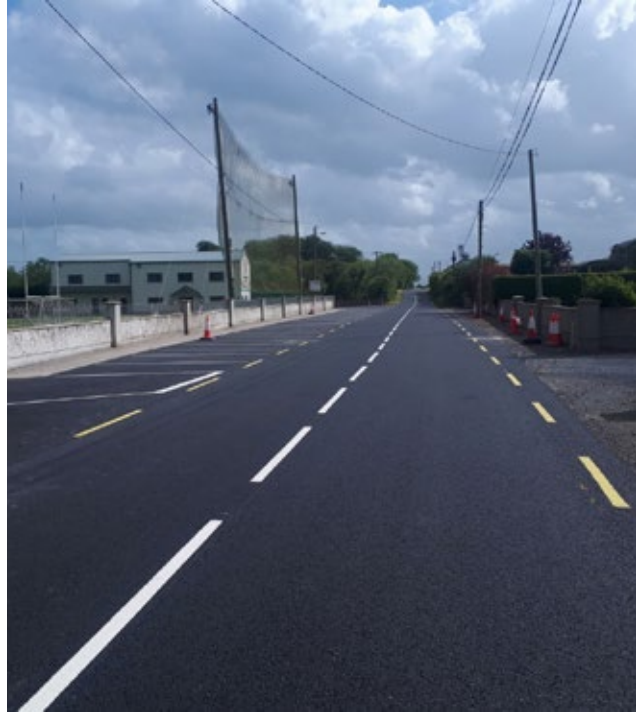
General Municipal Allocation Funded Works -



Replacement of footpath outside St Kevin's Park in Littleton (GMA Funded Works)



Reinstatement of Chaple Lane, Roscrea (GMA Funded Works)



Drainage and Surfacing works outside Drumbane GAA (GMA Funded Works)





FINANCIALS



FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the overall control and management of the Council's finances, both Revenue and Capital. It is responsible for the short, and long-term financing of the Council's operations.

Included among the wide range of services provided by the Finance Department are:

- Financial Control, Cash Flow and Treasury Management
- Preparation of the Draft Annual Budget
- Preparation of the Annual Financial Statement
- Collection of Commercial Rates
- Processing and payment of Covid19 Business Re-Start Grants
- Processing and collections of Housing Loans
- Non-Principal Private Residence - NPPR charge
- Administration and maintenance of the Financial Management System – Agresso
- All payments, including loan repayments and insurance premiums
- Monitoring the recoupment of government grants and subsidies
- Guidance in procurement to all sections
- Maintenance of financial records and the making of various reports and returns
- Internal Audit and checking section
- Motor Taxation



 **Revenue Section processed 4,273 Covid19 ReStart Grant applications, and paid out over €20M in restart grants.**

In the course of its work, the Finance Department liaises with all sections of the Local Authority.



MAIN SECTIONS WITHIN FINANCE:

Financial and Management Accounting

Financial Accounting involves the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements (AFS), other statutory returns, reporting to external agencies and dealing with the Local Government Audit process.

Management Accounting involves the preparation of quarterly management reports to assist with budgetary control and the decision-making process within each directorate.

The Annual Budget process is managed in this section, in consultation with all the service divisions.

Treasury management, bank reconciliation, debtor management, monitoring of the Capital Account and ensuring draw down of grants are some of the other activities carried out by this section.

Revenue

This section mainly deals with the collection of Commercial Rates, Housing Loans, Covid19 Business ReStart Grant applications and the Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) charge.

Waivers to the value of €12,493,093, (funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), were credited to Rates Accounts in 2020.

In 2020 Revenue Section also processed 4,273 applications for ReStart Grants, resulting in €20,401,593 being paid out to SMEs. This money was funded by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment through Enterprise Ireland, but administered by the Local Authority.

Revenue Collection

Debtor type	% Collected
Rents	97%
Housing Loans	94%
Rates*	75%

* As per Draft Annual Financial Statement (AFS), 2020 - Appendix 7, after allowing for specific doubtful arrears relating to:

- Vacancy applications pending or criteria not met, and
- Accounts in examinership / receivership / liquidation, and no communication.
and
- The rates waiver led to a significant number of rates accounts being in credit at 31/12/2020, by approx. €3m, which has been accrued to 2021.

 **97% of Housing Rents were collected in 2020.**



Accounts Payable

All invoices are certified for payment by the relevant sections of the council and forwarded to the Finance Department.

These include payments for goods and services provided to the Council for both revenue and capital purposes. The payments are then processed and paid by the Finance Department. Checks are carried out for Tax Clearance Certificate or Sub-Contractor's Certificates as appropriate. Withholding Tax is deducted at the prescribed rate from payments in respect of 'Professional Services' and paid over to the Revenue Commissioners.

Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 which came into effect on the 1st of January 1998, requiring local authorities to pay interest on payments which are not paid within the prescribed period.

Invoice Statistics

No of Invoices Processed in 2020		Value
Quarter 1	11,197	21,119,484
Quarter 2	9,566	24,242,638
Quarter 3	9,714	28,453,827
Quarter 4	15,151	50,527,429
TOTALS	45,628	124,343,378

Internal Audit

The role of internal audit is to provide independent assurance that the organisation's risk management, governance and internal control processes are operating effectively.

Internal Audit objectively examine, evaluate, and report on the adequacy of internal controls as a contribution to the proper, economic, effective and efficient use of resources.

During 2020, the Internal Audit section undertook a number of audits and the findings and recommendations from each audit were reported to management and the Audit Committee. Internal Audit continued to review the implementation of the recommendations from previous audits.



 **45,628 invoices were processed by Accounts Payable section in 2020**



Procurement

The Procurement Section has a role in ensuring that Tipperary County Council has good purchasing practices in place. Procedures are designed to maximise value for money and to provide that all potential suppliers have a fair opportunity to tender. The general principles used in all elements of procurement are: equality of treatment, transparency, mutual recognition and proportionality. The procurement sections works to provide high standards of openness, transparency and compliance with all relevant public procurement guidelines and legislation.

It is government policy that all contracts above €25,000 for goods and services and over €50,000 works are formally advertised on eTenders. www.etenders.gov.ie is the key national website where potential suppliers and service providers need to be registered in order to be kept informed of upcoming tenders. There is a range of guides on the www.tipperarycoco.ie website to assist potential suppliers find where to register and maximise their opportunities to tender for public sector contracts.

Agresso Financial Management System

The Agresso Support Team maintains the Council's Financial Management System, helping to ensure proper control over the Council's financial records (an essential feature in the Council's system of Internal Control). The Agresso system was implemented in 2001 and was upgraded to Agresso Milestone 4 (MS4) in October 2017, in line with 26 other local authorities.

Agresso MS4 introduced new features which assist in the achievement of our business goals, including; automated workflow, web service access, procurement checks and enhanced controls.

 *All contracts above €25,000 for goods and services, and over €50,000 for works are advertised on eTenders, www.etenders.gov.ie.*



MOTOR TAXATION

Receipts - Offices Clonmel & Nenagh

	€	%
Private cars and motor cycles	3,952,621	61.11
Goods and other vehicles	2,027,609	31.35
Miscellaneous	487,825	7.54
Total Revenue 2020	6,468,055	100

Tax Discs issued

	No.	%
Number of tax discs issued by Clonmel & Nenagh Motor Tax Offices 2020	37,666	18.32
Number of tax discs issued On-Line	167,916	81.68
Total Number Of Tax Discs Issued 2020	205,582	100.00

Postal Applications (Motor Taxation Transactions)

	No.	%
Total Postal Applications	16,734	8.14

Average number of postal applications and percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions) from receipt of application

On the same day	16,379	97.87
On the 2 nd or 3 rd day	275	1.64
On the 4 th or 5 th day	11	0.07
Over 5 days	69	0.42

*M.1 Percentage of motor tax transactions which:

	2018	2019	2020
Are dealt with over the counter	23.94	21.64	10.18
Are dealt with by post	5.06	4.89	8.14
Are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	71.00	73.47	81.68

M.2 Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions issued) from receipt of application

	2018	2019	2020
(a) on the same day	10,115	9,886	16,379
(b) on the 2 nd or 3 rd day	219	178	275
(c) on the 4 th or 5 th day	6	8	11
(d) over 5 days	42	17	69

M.3 Public Opening Hours

	2018	2019	2020*
Average number of opening hours per Week	20.00	20.00	20.00

*The public counter was closed during Level 5 Covid-19 restrictions

Motor Tax On-line

The usage of the on-line motor tax facility www.motortax.ie continues to grow incrementally across all local authorities and Tipperary County Council is continuing its policy of promoting this facility.

The total number of Tax Discs issued to the 31st December 2020 amounted to 205,582. In percentage terms the amount of discs issued on-line as of this date was 81.68% thereof.

A percentage of 73% was reflected for the equivalent period in 2019.

In addition the Council also has facilities available at Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary and Thurles Municipal District Offices. These outlets cater for persons who do not have a Laser or Debit Card available to them. Payments are accepted in Cash or Postal/Money Order and the on-line aspect of the transaction is carried out by a member of staff. A total number of 1,119 transactions have been carried out by the three Municipal Districts from the 1st of January 2020 to 31st December 2020.

Computers with internet connection are also available for use by members of the public wishing to tax on-line at the Libraries in the County.



MAIN REPORTS PRODUCED BY FINANCE:

The Annual Budget

The Finance Department prepares the overall Draft Revenue Budget in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Management Team.

The budget is presented to the Corporate Policy Group and to the Elected Members for adoption at the Annual Budget Meeting.

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS)

Each local authority is required to prepare an Annual Financial Statement (AFS) by the end of March of the following year and to publish it by the end of June.

The AFS is presented to members at a Council Meeting, and undergoes an independent audit by the Local Government Audit Service.

The AFS details the income and expenditure for the financial year for both revenue and capital. The Balance Sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the County Council at the end of the year.

Council & Management Reports

The management report provides details of the income and expenditure for the various services provided by the council, and is compared to Budget for purposes of ensuring proper and ongoing budgetary control.

Management reports are provided to the Management Team on a monthly basis and to the Council on a bi-monthly basis.

Department Quarterly Reporting

All Local Authorities report financial performance quarterly to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DPLG). These reports consist of a quarterly Income and Expenditure Report, a General Government Balance (GGB) Report which essentially consists of an abbreviated Balance Sheet, a Capital Account report and Debtors report.

In addition, various reports are produced for budget holders in Tipperary County Council relating to all aspects of the councils activities.

Public Spending Code

All Irish public bodies are obliged to treat public funds with care, and to ensure that the best possible value-for-money is obtained whenever public money is being spent or invested. The Public Spending Code is the set of rules and procedures that apply to ensure that these standards are upheld across the Irish public service.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the deadline for the submission of the 2019 Report was extended. The Public Spending Code for Tipperary County Council was published and submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) on 31st August 2020.



2020

205,582

TOTAL NUMBER OF
TAX DISCS ISSUED
IN 2020



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



The **Revenue Account** details monies spent and received on day-to-day items such as payroll, insurance, loan repayments, the purchase of materials and the maintenance of roads, housing, landfill sites, burial grounds, and so on.

There are four principal sources of Revenue Income for local authorities:

1. Commercial Rates;
2. the provision of Goods and Services, e.g. Planning Fees, Rents;
3. the Local Property Tax and
4. Other Grants e.g. Road Grants.

The Council's **Capital Account**, on the other hand, relates to the Council's activities in terms of creating assets, and various Projects having a multi-year timeframe. These include the building of council houses and road construction. When such schemes are completed, the day-to-day receipts and expenditure incurred in their maintenance is accounted for in the Revenue Account. The monies spent by Tipperary County Council on capital projects are recouped by means of State Grants. Occasionally, the Council borrows money for such projects. Housing Loan Redemptions and Planning Contributions are also credited to the Capital Account.



Draft Revenue Account 2020

	Expenditure €	Income €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
Housing & Building	37,170,461	36,661,420	509,041
Road Transport & Safety	57,521,630	38,093,927	19,427,703
Water Services	13,618,368	12,985,294	633,073
Development Management	36,014,414	29,021,223	6,993,191
Environmental Services	26,443,919	10,767,377	15,676,542
Recreation & Amenity	12,832,525	2,162,823	10,669,701
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,674,906	1,225,338	449,567
Miscellaneous Services	24,515,255	25,408,909	(893,654)
Local Property Tax / LGF		27,136,956	
Rates		35,801,344	
	209,791,477	219,264,611	
Transfer from / (to) Reserves			(9,465,933)
Surplus for Year			7,202
General Reserve at 1st January 2020			5,562,106
General Reserve at 31st December 2020			5,569,3077

Draft Capital Account 2020

Programme	Expenditure €	Income €
Housing & Building	32,795,258	36,615,747
Road Transport & Safety	13,685,889	11,768,761
Water Services	4,639,151	4,499,884
Development Management	7,979,057	8,498,551
Environmental Services	2,693,598	2,027,559
Recreation & Amenity	1,715,220	1,403,088
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	64,074	64,074
Miscellaneous Services	5,030,650	2,343,203
Totals	68,602,897	67,220,867



Tipperary County Council spent €70M on Housing and Building in county Tipperary in the year 2020.

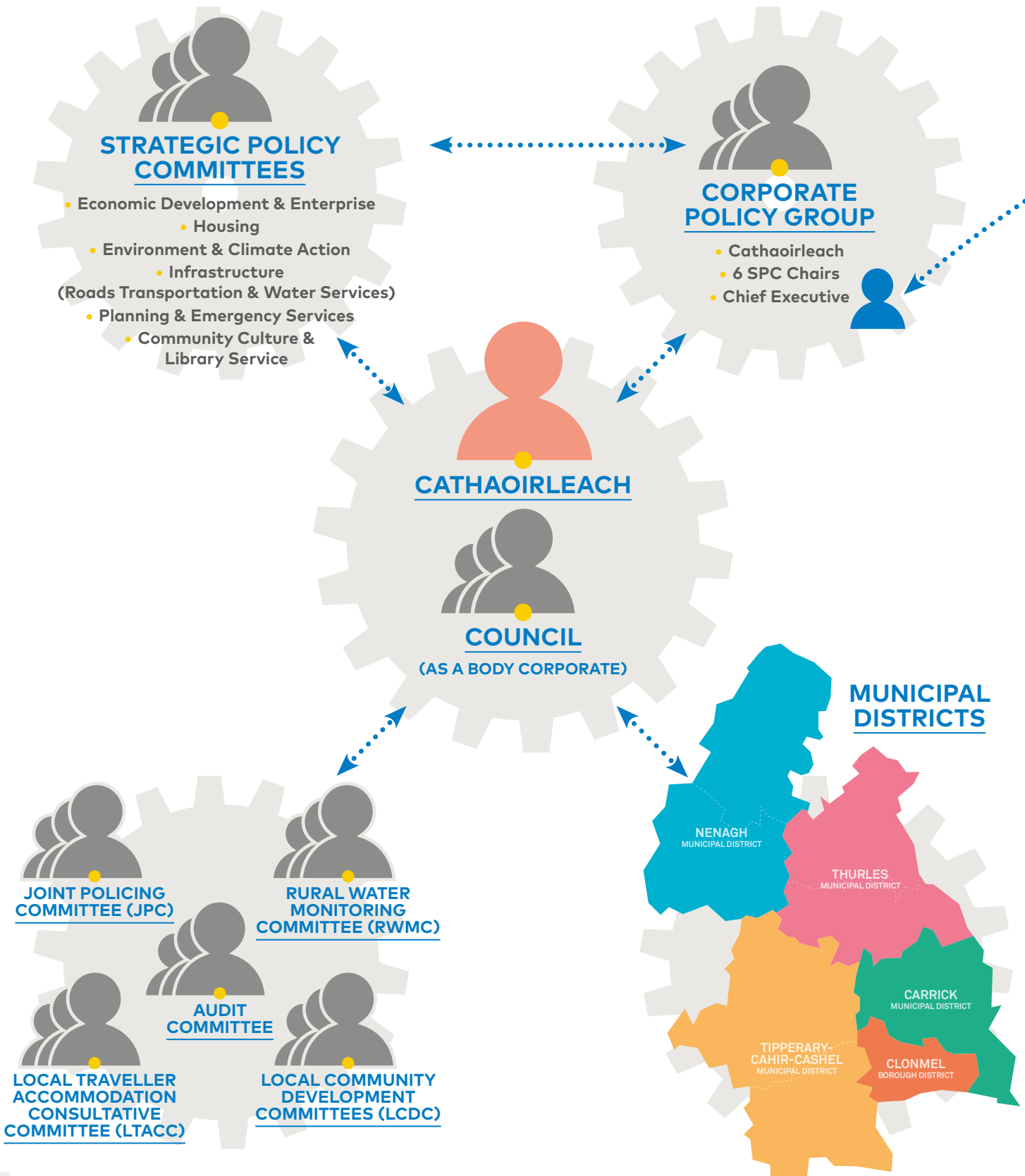


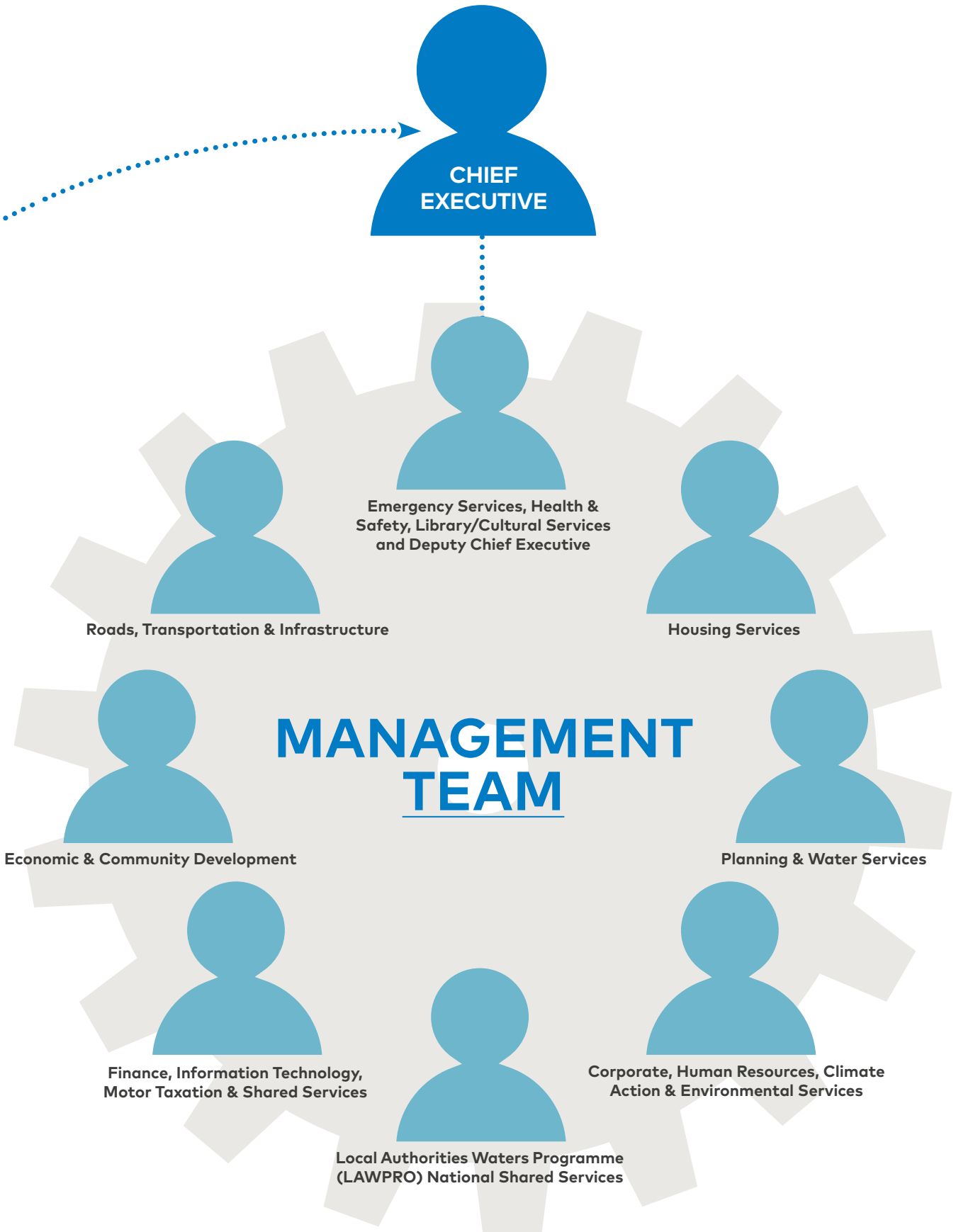


APPENDICES

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ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE - POLITICAL & SENIOR MANAGEMENT





COUNCILLORS DETAILS BY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



KIERAN BOURKE

FIANNA FÁIL

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086-8049772

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Housing SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)



DAVID DUNNE

SINN FÉIN

42 Cregg Lawns, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary
david.dunne@tipperarycoco.ie
086-3476317

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Housing SPC
- LTCC (Local Traveller Consultative Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- Privilege & Procedures Committees



IMELDA GOLDSBORO

FIANNA FÁIL

Clashduff, Coalbrook, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
imelda.goldsboro@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2444819

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit



KEVIN O'MEARA

NON-PARTY

22 Cois na hAbhainn,
Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary
kevin.omeara@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2065864

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC



MARK FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

The Thatch, Cloneen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
mark.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie
087-6359397

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- RHFS(Regional Health Forum South)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT



SIOBHÁN AMBROSE

FIANNA FÁIL

Dun Mhuire, Melview, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
siobhan.ambrose@tipperarycoco.ie
086-3850242

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- STAC (South Tipperary Arts Centre)
- SRA (Southern Regional Assembly)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- TTCU(Tipperary Co-ordination Transport Unit)



NIALL P. DENNEHY

NON-PARTY

23 Inislounaght, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
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086-2402753

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC



PAT ENGLISH

WUAG

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087-7684746

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Housing SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



JOHN J. FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

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COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- STAC (South Tipperary Arts Centre)



RICHIE MOLLOY

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086-1967482

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- RHFS(Regional Health Forum South)
- LTCC(Local Traveller Consultation Committee)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



MICHAEL MURPHY

FINE GAEL

“Orpen” 30 The Paddocks, Fethard
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087-3226699

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Privilege & Procedure Committee



NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



FIONA BONFIELD

LABOUR PARTY

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086-1670863

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Service SPC
- IPBMI(Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee
- NTFEC(North Tipperary Food Enterprise Centre)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



DR. PHYLL BUGLER

FINE GAEL

Inchadrinagh, Ballina, Co. Tipperary
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087-2807655

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- NTFEC(North Tipperary Food Enterprise Centre)



JOHN CARROLL

FIANNA FÁIL

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COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Environmental & Climate Action SPC
- RHFWS (Regional Health Forum West)
- LCDC
- RWMC(Rural Water Monitoring Committee)



GERARD DARCY

FINE GAEL

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Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
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086-2752838

COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- RWMC(Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- THF (Tipperary Heritage Forum)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



JOE HANNIGAN

NON-PARTY

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087-2566157

COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- LCDC(Local Community Development Committee)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Service



HUGHIE MCGRATH

NON-PARTY

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087-2559323

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services
- LTCC(Local Traveller Consultative Committee)





SÉAMUS MORRIS

NON-PARTY

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 seamus.morris@tipperarycoco.ie
 087-2859125

COMMITTEES:

- Economic & Development & Enterprise SPC
- RHFWR (Regional Health Forum West)
- MWRDAF (Mid West Regional Drugs & Alcohol Forum)



JOHN (ROCKY) MCGRATH

NON-PARTY

Graunbeg, Killoscully,
 Newport, Co. Tipperary
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 086-1714224

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- RWMC (Rural Water Monitoring Committee)



MICHAEL O'MEARA

NON-PARTY

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 Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
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 086-8379300

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency SPC
- SRA (Southern Regional Assembly)



THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



NOEL J. COONAN

FINE GAEL

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086-2427733

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- SRA(Southern Regional Assembly)
- TTCU(Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit)



SEAMUS HANAFIN

FIANNA FÁIL

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087-2614000

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- TRAC(Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TSPC(Tipperary Sports Partnership Committee)



SHANE LEE

NON-PARTY

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086-3296667

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)



MICHEÁL LOWRY

NON-PARTY

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Co. Tipperary
micheal.lowry@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2897585

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Privilege & Procedure Committee



EDDIE MORAN

NON-PARTY

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eddie.moran@tipperarycoco.ie
086 2484363

COMMITTEES:

- Environmental & Climate Action SPC
- AILG Permanent Delegate



JIM RYAN

NON-PARTY

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Co. Tipperary
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087-7043785

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- TRAC (Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



**PETER RYAN**

FINE GAEL

Drombane, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
 peter.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-0765183

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- TRAC(Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TSPC(Tipperary Sports Partnership Committee)
- SERDAF(South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force)
- RHFV(Regional Health Forum West)

**SEAN RYAN**

FIANNA FÁIL

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 Thurles, Co. Tipperary
 seano.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie
 087-4581455

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- TTCU(Tipperary Transport Co-ordination Unit)

**MICHAEL SMITH**

FIANNA FÁIL

Behagloss, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
 michael.smith@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-8525634

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC



TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



MICHEÁL ANGLIM

FIANNA FÁIL

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Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie
086-0251277

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- LAMA(Local Authority Members Assoc)
- LTCC(Local Traveller Consultation Committee)



TONY BLACK

SINN FÉIN

Lisbreen, Galbally Rd,
Tipperary Town,
Co. Tipperary E34 CY91
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087-7465762

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



DECLAN BURGESS

FINE GAEL

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086-7330454

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- LCDC(Local Community Development Committee)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Comhairle na nÓg
- RHFS (Regional Health Forum South)



JOHN CROSSE

FINE GAEL

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087-9165851

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- LTCC (Local Traveller Consultative Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



MICHAEL FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

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087-2292126

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure(Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- RWMC (Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- UCC Governing Body
- AILG Permanent Delegate



MARY HANNA HOURIGAN

FINE GAEL

Parkview House, Tipperary Road,
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085-8150689

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- ETB (Education Training Board Tipperary)
- AILG Permanent Delegate





ROGER KENNEDY

FIANNA FÁIL

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 086-8161058

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- AC (Audit Committee)
- Tipperary Heritage Forum
- Privilege & Procedures Committee
- RHFS(Regional Health Forum South)



ANDY MOLONEY

NON-PARTY

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 Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
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COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library SPC



MÁIRÍN MCGRATH

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COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- RWMC (Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- Comhairle na nÓg



MARIE MURPHY

FINE GAEL

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COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- AC (Audit Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee



ANNEMARIE RYAN (SHINER)

NON-PARTY

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COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Service SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- TTCU (Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit)



COUNCILLORS MEETING ATTENDANCE 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	Total % Rate of Attendance
Ahearn, Garret (FG)	5	4	80%
Ambrose, Siobhán (FF)	32	26	81%
Anglim, Micheál (FF)	28	26	93%
Black, Tony (SF)	28	20	71%
Bonfield, Fiona (LAB)	28	28	100%
Bourke, Kieran (FF)	24	21	88%
Bugler, Dr Phyll (FG)	38	35	92%
Burgess, Declan (FG)	33	25	76%
Carroll, John (FF)	51	51	100%
Coonan, Noel (FG)	27	27	100%
Crosse, John (FG)	43	38	88%
Darcy, Ger (FG)	33	31	94%
Dennehy, Niall (NP)	22	22	100%
Dunne, David (SF)	31	25	81%
English, Pat (WUA)	31	29	94%
FitGerald, John (FG)	13	11	85%
Fitzgerald, Mark (FG)	26	22	85%
FitzGerald, Michael (FG)	29	25	86%
Goldsboro, Imelda (FF)	27	22	81%
Hanafin, Seamus (FF)	25	25	100%
Hannigan, Joe (NP)	37	28	76%

Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	Total % Rate of Attendance
Hourigan, Mary Hanna (FG)	38	34	89%
Kennedy, Roger (FF)	32	30	94%
Lee, Shane (NP)	26	25	96%
Lowry, Micheál (NP)	36	34	94%
McGrath, Hughie (NP)	30	21	70%
McGrath, John(Rocky) (NP)	31	25	81%
McGrath, Máirín (NP)	28	25	89%
Molloy, Richie (NP)	30	25	83%
Moloney, Andy (NP)	24	23	96%
Moran, Eddie (NP)	23	20	87%
Morris, Seamus (NP)	25	20	80%
Murphy, Marie (FG)	36	33	92%
Murphy, Michael (FG)	29	26	90%
O'Meara, Kevin (NP)	22	20	91%
O'Meara, Michael (NP)	25	23	92%
Ryan(Shiner), Ann Marie (NP)	27	26	96%
Ryan , Jim (NP)	33	29	88%
Ryan, Peter (FG)	27	25	93%
Ryan, Sean (FF)	22	22	100%
Smith, Michael (FF)	28	27	96%





Councillor Name	Representational Payment	Annual Allowance	Cathaoirleach's / Leas Cathaoirleach Allowance	Municipal District Allowance	Borough/MD Chair Allowance	SPC Chair Allowance	Conference Expenses	Training Expenses	Mobile Phone Expenses	Cathaoirleach Invitations Expenses	Gratuity	Total Amount Paid to Councillors 2019
Hourigan, Mary Hanna	€17,375.43	€8,321.52	€2,897.75	€996.58	€0.00	€5,979.48	€424.79	€1,020.21	€301.56	€0.00	€0.00	€37,317.32
Kennedy, Roger	€17,375.43	€7,770.24	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€313.56	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€26,455.81
Lee, Shane	€17,375.43	€8,654.28	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€298.15	€580.91	€0.00	€0.00	€27,905.35
Lowry, Micheál	€17,375.43	€7,678.44	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€5,979.48	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€32,029.93
McGrath, Hughie	€17,375.43	€7,951.80	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€497.35	€628.31	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€27,449.47
McGrath, John Rocky	€17,375.43	€8,344.56	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€413.26	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€27,129.83
McGrath, Máirín	€17,375.43	€8,592.24	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€537.32	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€27,501.57
Molloy, Richie	€17,375.43	€8,130.60	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€536.24	€314.27	€195.24	€0.00	€0.00	€27,548.36
Moloney, Andy	€17,375.43	€7,981.56	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€312.72	€497.38	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€27,163.67
Moran, Eddie	€17,375.43	€7,977.00	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€948.84	€342.30	€0.00	€0.00	€27,640.15
Morris, Seamus	€17,375.43	€8,367.48	€0.00	€996.58	€3,035.74	€0.00	€514.37	€810.54	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,100.14
Murphy, Marie	€17,375.43	€8,742.84	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€1,204.35	€322.65	€0.00	€0.00	€28,641.85
Murphy, Michael	€17,375.43	€8,367.48	€15,523.65	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€539.45	€1,283.83	€122.91	€2,007.28	€0.00	€46,216.61
O'Meara, Kevin	€17,375.43	€8,512.56	€0.00	€996.58	€2,920.75	€0.00	€0.00	€620.81	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€30,426.13
O'Meara, Michael	€17,375.43	€8,618.88	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€600.00	€464.83	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€28,055.72
Ryan (Shiner), Annemarie	€17,375.43	€8,689.68	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€89.76	€225.78	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€27,377.23
Ryan, Jim	€17,375.43	€7,770.24	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€5,979.48	€440.91	€256.11	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€32,818.75
Ryan, Peter	€17,375.43	€7,655.40	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€26,027.41
Ryan, Sean	€17,375.43	€7,701.36	€0.00	€996.58	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€810.42	€124.53	€0.00	€0.00	€27,008.32
Smith, Michael	€17,375.43	€11,205.88	€14,488.74	€996.58	€2,920.75	€0.00	€349.45	€661.10	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€47,997.93
Totals	€690,026.92	€331,788.37	€36,014.88	€39,575.73	€35,807.95	€35,876.88	€6,887.06	€20,296.64	€7,853.84	€2,407.84	€0.00	€1,206,536.11



STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE (SPC) MEMBERSHIP

Councillors	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure (Roads Transportation and Water Services)	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Fiona Bonfield, LAB						√
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG	√				√*	
John Carroll, FF			√*		√	
Gerard Darcy, FG					√	√
Joe Hannigan, NP	√				√	
Hughie McGrath, NP				√	√	
Séamus Morris, NP	√					
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP		√	√			
Michael O'Meara, NP				√	√	
Noel J. Coonan, FG		√				
Seamus Hanafin, FF	√					
Shane Lee, NP		√				
Micheál Lowry, NP					√	√*
Eddie Moran, NP			√			
Jim Ryan, NP				√*		
Peter Ryan, FG	√		√			
Sean Ryan, FF			√			
Michael Smith, FF		√				
Kieran Bourke FF		√		√		
David Dunne, SF		√		√		
Imelda Goldsboro, FF	√					



Councillors	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure (Roads Transportation and Water Services)	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Kevin O'Meara, NP				√		
Mark Fitzgerald, FG			√	√		
John FitzGerald, FG	√					√
Siobhán Ambrose, FF	√					√
Niall P. Dennehy, NP						√
Pat English, WUA		√	√			
Richie Molloy, NP			√			
Michael Murphy, FG			√			
Micheál Anglim, FF				√		√
Tony Black, SF	√					
Declan Burgess, FG			√	√		
John Crosse, FG	√*					√
Michael Fitzgerald, FG				√	√	
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG	√	√*				
Roger Kennedy, FF		√			√	
Andy Moloney, NP						√
Máirín McGrath, NP	√					
Marie Murphy, FG		√			√	
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP						√
Total	12	10	10	10	10	10

*Chairs Designate Strategic Policy Committee



Sectoral Representatives	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure (Roads Transportation and Water Services)	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Seamus Hoyne, LIT	√					
Imelda Walsh, Agriculture	√					
Laura Jones, Business/ Commercial	√					
Tom McGrath, Business/ Commercial	√					
Jim Sheehan, Development & Construction	√					
Clare Cashman, PPN Social Inclusion	√					
Noel Byrne, PPN Environment	√					
Mary Spillane, PPN Community & Voluntary	√					
To Be Nominated Business/Commercial		√				
Tom Gallahue, Dev/Const.		√				
Moira Merrigan, PPN Social Inclusion		√				
James Byrne, PPN Community & Voluntary		√				
To be nominated PPN Community & Voluntary		√				
Lalor McGee, Trade Union		√				
Vacant - PPN						
Erica O'Keeffe, Agriculture			√			
Emer Leahy, PPN Social Inclusion			√			
Mary McMahan, PPN Environment			√			
Charles Lamb, PPN Community & Voluntary			√			
Mairead O'Donnell, PPN Community & Voluntary			√			



Sectoral Representatives	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure (Roads Transportation and Water Services)	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Vacant Business/Commercial			√			
Peter Farrell, Agriculture				√		
David Shanahan, Business/Commercial				√		
Sean Reidy, Dev/Const.				√		
Philip Brett, Trade Union				√		
Ger Shanahan, PPN Social Inclusion				√		
To be nominated PPN				√		
John O'Shaughnessy, Dev/Const.					√	
Tim Harty, Agriculture					√	
Mike Edwards, PPN Social Inclusion					√	
Patti O'Neill, PPN Environment					√	
Clare Ryan O'Keeffe, PPN Community & Voluntary					√	
Vacant - Business/Commercial						
John Butler, Business/Commercial						√
Evelyn Norton, PPN Social Inclusion						√
Matt O'Meara, PPN Environment						√
Peggy O'Brien, PPN Community & Voluntary						√
Patrick Hanley, PPN Community & Voluntary						√
Eamon Clancy, Agriculture						√
Total	8	6	6	6	5	6
Total Committee	20	16	16	16	15	16



COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES

Councillors	A.I.L.G	South Regional Assembly	IPBMI	LAMA	Education and Training Board	Local Traveller Consultative Committee	Audit Committee	South Tipperary Arts Centre	Thurles Regional Arts Centre	North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre	Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Regional Health Forum South
Fiona Bonfield, LAB			√		√							
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG					√							
John Carroll, FF											√	
Gerard Darcy, FG										√	√	
Joe Hannigan, NP										√		
Hughie McGrath, NP						√				√		
Séamus Morris, NP												
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP											√	
Michael O'Meara, NP		√										
Noel J. Coonan, FG		√										
Seamus Hanafin, FF									√			
Shane Lee, NP					√							
Micheál Lowry, NP												
Eddie Moran, NP	√											
Jim Ryan, NP									√			
Peter Ryan, FG									√			
Sean Ryan, FF												
Michael Smith, FF												
Kieran Bourke FF					√							
David Dunne, SF						√						
Imelda Goldsboro, FF												



Councillors	A.I.L.G	South Regional Assembly	IPBMI	LAMA	Education and Training Board	Local Traveller Consultative Committee	Audit Committee	South Tipperary Arts Centre	Thurles Regional Arts Centre	North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre	Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Regional Health Forum South
Kevin O'Meara, NP												
Mark Fitzgerald, FG					√							√
John FitzGerald, FG								√				
Siobhán Ambrose, FF		√						√				
Niall P. Dennehy, NP												
Pat English, WUA					√							
Richie Molloy, NP						√						√
Michael Murphy, FG												
Micheál Anglim, FF				√	√	√						
Tony Black, SF												
Declan Burgess, FG					√							√
John Crosse, FG						√						
Michael Fitzgerald, FG	√										√	
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG	√				√							
Roger Kennedy, FF					√		√					√
Andy Moloney, NP												
Máirín McGrath, NP					√						√	
Marie Murphy, FG							√					
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP					√							
Total	3	3	1	1	12	5	2	2	3	3	5	4



Councillors	Regional Health Forum West	Local Community Development Committee	UCC Governing Body	Comhairle na nOg	Tipperary Sports Partnership	Tipperary Heritage Forum	Tipperary Transport Coordination Unit	Privilege & Procedure Committee	North Tipperary Food Enterprise Ltd	South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force	Mid West Regional Drugs Alcohol forum
Fiona Bonfield, LAB								√	√		
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG									√		
John Carroll, FF	√	√									
Gerard Darcy, FG						√					
Joe Hannigan, NP		√					√				
Hughie McGrath, NP											
Séamus Morris, NP	√										√
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP											
Michael O'Meara, NP											
Noel J. Coonan, FG							√				
Seamus Hanafin, FF					√						
Shane Lee, NP											
Micheál Lowry, NP								√			
Eddie Moran, NP											
Jim Ryan, NP											
Peter Ryan, FG	√				√					√	
Sean Ryan, FF											
Michael Smith, FF								√			
Kieran Bourke FF											
David Dunne, SF								√			
Imelda Goldsboro, FF							√				
Kevin O'Meara, NP											
Mark Fitzgerald, FG											
John FitzGerald, FG											



Councillors	Regional Health Forum West	Local Community Development Committee	UCC Governing Body	Comhairle na nOg	Tipperary Sports Partnership	Tipperary Heritage Forum	Tipperary Transport Coordination Unit	Privilege & Procedure Committee	North Tipperary Food Enterprise Ltd	South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force	Mid West Regional Drugs Alcohol forum
Siobhán Ambrose, FF							√				
Niall P. Dennehy, NP											
Pat English, WUA								√			
Richie Molloy, NP											
Michael Murphy, FG											
Micheál Anglim, FF											
Tony Black, SF											
Declan Burgess, FG		√		√							
John Crosse, FG											
Michael Fitzgerald, FG			√								
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG											
Roger Kennedy, FF						√		√			
Andy Moloney, NP											
Máirín McGrath, NP				√							
Marie Murphy, FG								√			
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP							√				
Total	3	3	1	2	2	2	5	7	2	1	1



CONFERENCE/TRAINING & WORKSHOPS ATTENDED DURING 2020

Date	Conference Details	Location	Councillors in attendance
10th - 12th January 2020	Celtic Conferences The Finance Act 2019	Four Seasons Hotel , Carlingford, Co. Louth	6
18th January 2020	Political Leadership for Sustainable Development & Training	Clayton Hotel Lapps Quay, Cork	1
24th - 26th January 2020	Celtic Conferences Tackling Carbon Emissions & Fuel Poverty	O'Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork	1
29th - 30th January 2020	National Manufacturing & Supply Chain Conference & Expo	Citywest Convention Centre, Dublin	1
21st - 23rd February 2020	Celtic Conferences Health & Safety in the Workplace	O'Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork	3
4th March 2020	Employment Incentive & Supports for SME's in the Cross Border Region	Fairways Hotel Dundalk	1

Date	Training Details	Location	Councillors in attendance
28th January 2020	Irish Planning Institute - Planning for Growth	Red Cow Hotel , Dublin	1
6th February 2020	SEAI Public Sector Energy Conference	Helix DCU, Dublin	2
13th February 2020	AILG module 2 'The Development Plan Making Progress'	Hotel Kilmore, Cavan	1
15th February 2020	AILG module 2 'The Development Plan Making Progress'	Dooley's Hotel, Waterford	16
19th February 2020	N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road Improvement Scheme	Charleville Park Hotel, Cork	5
4th & 5th March 2020	AILG Annual Training Conference	Longford Arms Hotel, Longford	27
11th March 2020	Building the Cross Border - Post Brexit	Carrigdale Hotel Co. Louth	6
25th July 2020	AILG Module 3 'The Moorhead Briefing'	Clayton Whites hotel, Wexford	3
30th July 2020	AILG Module 3 'The Moorhead Briefing'	Carrickdale Hotel Dundalk	2
6th August 2020	AILG Module 3 'The Moorhead Briefing'	Horse & Jockey Thurles	1
8th August 2020	AILG Module 3 'The Moorhead Briefing'	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo	4
13th August 2020	AILG Module 3 'The Moorhead Briefing'	Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork	4

Date	Councillor Workshop Details	Location	Councillors in attendance
22nd July 2020	County Development Plan Workshop	The Dome , Thurles, Co. Tipperary	29
23rd July 2020	County Development Plan Workshop	The Dome , Thurles, Co. Tipperary	23
4th September 2020	Budget Workshop	Moycarkey-Borris Community Centre, Littleton	30





STAFF STRUCTURE

DIRECTORATE:

Finance & Information Technology

DIRECTOR
Liam McCarthy

FINANCE GENERAL

Noirín O'Dwyer
Acting Financial Accountant

Paddy Brennan
Management Accountant

SECTION HEAD - OTHER GRADE

Breda Moloney AO

IT

Gerard Lynch
Head of IS

IS Project Leaders
Yvonne Byrne
Dermot Tobin
Ruth Maher

REVENUE

Peter Cleary AO

MOTOR TAX

Geraldine Manning A/AO

DIRECTORATE:

Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) - National

DIRECTOR
Sean Keating

LAWPRO SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Carol McCarthy
Project Lead Catchment Assessment Team

Ray Spain
Coordinator based in Tullamore

Fran Igoe
Coordinator based in Clonmel

Bernie O'Flaherty
Coordinator based in Carrick-on-Shannon

CATCHMENT MANAGERS

Martina Smith
Monaghan

Bernie White
Galway

Margaret Keegan
Dublin

Maeve Ryan
Limerick

Ruth Hennessy
Clonmel

SPECIALIST SUPPORT STAFF

Sheevaun Thompson
Funding Lead

Michael Pollard
IT and Administration

Alan Walsh
Communications and Marketing Lead
(all three based in Clonmel)

DIRECTORATE:

Planning, Water Services & Thurles Municipal District

A/DIRECTOR
Eamon Lonergan

PLANNING

SECTION HEAD SEO/SE ANALOGOUS
Nuala O'Connell, A/SP

SECTION HEAD - OTHER GRADE
Brian Clancy, AO

WATER SERVICES

SECTION HEAD SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Denis Holland SE
Section Head

Gerry Robinson SE (A)
John Crowley SE (A)

SECTION HEAD - OTHER GRADE
Pat Holland AO

Eddie Loughnane AO

John Fogarty SEE (A)

DIRECTORATE:

Housing & Clonmel Borough District

DIRECTOR
Sinead Carr

HOUSING

SECTION HEAD SEO/SE ANALOGOUS
Seán Lonergan SEO (A)

Jonathon Cooney SE (A)

SECTION HEAD - OTHER GRADE
Jim Dillon AO

DIRECTORATE:

Roads, Transportation & Infrastructure and Nenagh Municipal District

DIRECTOR
Marcus O'Connor

ROADS

SECTION HEAD SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Liam Brett SE

John Nolan SE

James Murray A/SE

SECTION HEAD - OTHER GRADE

Michelle Maher AO

Michael Woulfe SEE



DIRECTORATE:

Corporate Services,
Human Resources,
Climate Action &
Environmental Services

DIRECTOR

Clare Curley

CORPORATE SERVICES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Ger Walsh SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

David Coleman AO

HUMAN RESOURCES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Paul Murray A/SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Marie O’Gorman AO (A)

ENVIRONMENT

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Marion O’Neill SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Ruairi Boland SEE

Kieran McKenna SEE (A)

Cora Morrissey AO

DIRECTORATE:

Economic & Community
Development &
Tipperary-Cashel-Cahir
Municipal District

DIRECTOR

Pat Slattery

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Anthony Fitzgerald
Head of Enterprise

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Ita Horan
Local Enterprise Office

Kathleen Prendergast AO

Margo Hayes AO

Shane O’Dwyer AO

Fiona Crotty A/AO

Marie Phelan AO

DIRECTORATE:

Emergency Services, Health & Safety,
Library & Cultural Services

DIRECTOR

Karl Cashen

FIRE SERVICES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Dave Carroll CFO

SACFO

- **Ray O’Leary**
- **Eddie Ryan**
- **John Shinnors**
- **Gareth McLoughlin**

CIVIL DEFENCE

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Dolores Fahey
Civil Defence Officer

HEALTH & SAFETY

Liam Quinn SEE

LIBRARIES

SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Damien Dullaghan
County Librarian

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Jess Codd
Senior Executive Librarian

CULTURE/ARTS

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Melanie Scott
Arts Officer

Roisin O’Grady
Heritage Officer

Marie McMahan
Museum Curator



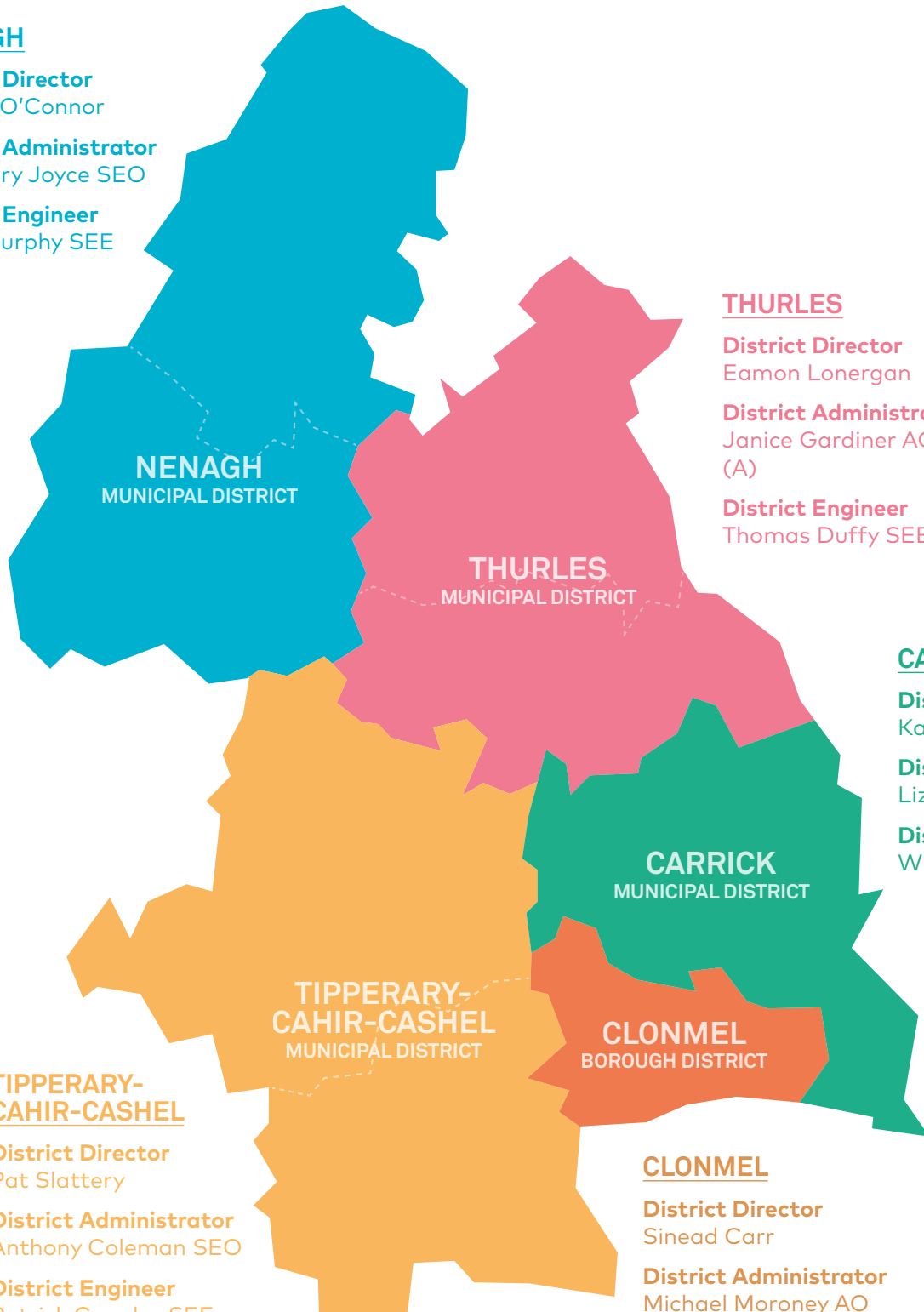
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT STAFF STRUCTURE

NENAGH

District Director
Marcus O'Connor

District Administrator
Rosemary Joyce SEO

District Engineer
Barry Murphy SEE



THURLES

District Director
Eamon Lonergan

District Administrator
Janice Gardiner AO
(A)

District Engineer
Thomas Duffy SEE

CARRICK

District Director
Karl Cashen

District Administrator
Liz McGrath AO (A)

District Engineer
Willie Corby SEE

TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL

District Director
Pat Slattery

District Administrator
Anthony Coleman SEO

District Engineer
Patrick Crowley SEE

CLONMEL

District Director
Sinead Carr

District Administrator
Michael Moroney AO

District Engineer
Eoin Powell SEE





ASSOCIATED COMPANIES REGISTER FOR TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Company Name	Company Secretary	Directors		
Nenagh Arts Centre Ltd	Nora O'Connor	Community / Other reps • Tom Ryan • Nora O'Connor • Bernadette Slattery • Tom Moylan • Virginia O'Dowd	TCC nominees • Melanie Scott • Marcus O'Connor • Rosemary Joyce	Councillors • Hugh McGrath • Fiona Bonfield • Joe Hannigan
Thurles Swimming Pool Ltd	Michael Ryan		TCC nominees • Michael Ryan • Deirdre O'Shea • Sean Keating	Councillors • Peter Ryan • Sean Ryan
Thurles Regional Arts Centre Ltd	Michael Ryan	Community / Other reps • Liam Ryan • Michelle Carew	TCC nominees • Liam McCarthy • Michael Ryan • Matt Shortt • Damien Dullaghan • Karl Cashel	Councillors • Jim Ryan • Seamus Hanafin • Peter Ryan
Roscrea Swimming Pool Ltd	Sharon Kennedy	Community / Other reps • Sean Guilfoyle • Eileen Doherty	TCC nominees • Sharon Kennedy • Liam McCarthy • John Jones • Patrick Slattery • Deirdre O'Shea	Councillors • Michael Smith Jnr • Noel Coonan
North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services Ltd	Rosemary Joyce	Community / Other reps n/a	TCC nominees • Marcus O'Connor • Rosemary Joyce • Roisin O'Grady • Damien Dullaghan	Councillors • Gerard Darcy • Hughie McGrath • Joe Hannigan
South East Regional Craft Centre Ltd	Ita Horan	Community / Other reps • Liam Ahearne • Cyril Cullen • Mary Whelan • Mary Kinane • Maeve Sookram • Eileen Condon	TCC nominees • Ita Horan • Karl Cashel • Jess Coddá	Councillors • Marie Murphy • Michael Anglim • Siobhan Ambrose
Clonmel Business Development Park Company Ltd	Ita Horan	Community / Other reps • Walter Heneghan • Don Davern • Michael Campbell	TCC nominees • John Doyle • Kathleen Prendergast • Jonathan Cooney • Ita Horan • Ger Walsh • Anthony Coleman	Councillors n/a



Company Name	Company Secretary	Directors	TCC nominees	Councillors
Shannon Broadband Ltd	Jenifer Kearns	Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban McMahon • Jim Dore • Ray O'Driscoll • Ray Bell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ger Lynch 	n/a
Tipperary Tourism Company		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isabel Cambie • Una Ryan • Todd McNamara • Patrick Martin Killeen • Elizabeth Nallen • Noreen O'Sullivan • John Egan • Terry Cunningham • Patricia McKeogh • Maire Hennessy • Sinead Delaney Cash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe MacGrath 	n/a
Tipperary Energy Agency Ltd		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seamus Hoyne • James Owen Lewis • Thomas Cooke • Isabel Cambie • Claire Ryan Walsh • Marie Donnelly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam McCarthy • Marion O'Neill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Murphy
Munster Vales CLG		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isabel Cambie • Helen Morrissey • Tony Musiol • Amanda Slattery • Valerie Murphy • Gerard Walsh • Christy Roche • Declan Mulhearn • Billy Duggan • Margaret Atalia • Aoife Potter Coogan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Slattery 	n/a
Irish Bioeconomy Foundation CLG		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph Patrick Gorman • Kevin O'Connor • Ramesh Babu Padamati • Bill Morrissey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Fitzgerald 	n/a
Tipperary Technology Park Ltd		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Haslam • Jacqui Finnan • Anne Halligan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Conway • Paul Murray • Anthony Colemana 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Maguire • Michael Fitzgerald • John Crosse
Clonmel Community Resource Centre Ltd		Community / Other reps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cora Gentles • Ann Deady • Kay Quirke Bowe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ita Horan 	n/a
Tipperary Culinary Delights Ltd		Community / Other reps n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ita Horan • Pat Slattery 	n/a



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Data is draft only for 2020 and final report will be available through NOAC on publication of Performance Indicator Report 2020 at the end of 2021.

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Housing: H1, H2 & H4 Approved	A. No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 1/1/2020	5078	
	B. No. of dwellings added to the LA owned stock during 2020 (whether constructed or acquired)	94	
	C. No. of LA owned dwellings sold in 2020	11	
	D. No. of LA owned dwellings demolished in 2020	5	
	E. No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 31/12/2020	5156	
	F. No. of LA owned dwellings planned for demolition under a DHPLG approved scheme	0	
	A. The percentage of the total number of LA owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2020	4.38 %	
	The number of dwellings within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2020	226	
	A. Expenditure during 2020 on the maintenance of LA housing compiled from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020, divided by the no. of dwellings in the LA stock at 31/12/2020, i.e. the H1E less H1F indicator figure	€592.99	
	Expenditure on maintenance of LA stock compiled from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020, including planned maintenance and expenditure that qualified for grants, such as SEAI grants for energy efficient retro-fitting works or the Fabric Upgrade Programme but excluding expenditure on vacant properties and expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration or under the Remedial Works Schemes).	€3057468	
Housing: H3 & H5 Approved	A. The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 2020 when the dwelling is re-tenanted, averaged across all dwellings re-let during 2020	37.22 wk	
	B. The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in 2020, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2020	€10871.51	
	The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in 2020 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)	188	
	The number of weeks from the date of vacation to the date the dwelling is re-tenanted	6997.36 wk	
	Total expenditure on works necessary to enable re-letting of the dwellings	€2043844	
	A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at end of June 2020	8122	
	B. Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2020	765	
	C. Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2020 that were found not to be compliant with the Standards Regulations	98.65 %	
Housing: H6 Approved	D. Number of dwellings deemed compliant in 2020 (including those originally deemed non-compliant)	91	
	A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term homeless as a % of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2020	0 %	
	The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2020 as recorded on the PASS system	20	
The number out of those individuals who, on 31/12/2020, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months	0		

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Roads: R1 & R2 Approved	A. (a) The % of Regional road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2020	93.90 %	
	A. (b) The % of Local Primary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2020	96.10 %	
	A. (c) The % of Local Secondary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2020	95.60 %	
	A. (d) The % of Local Tertiary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2020	80.20 %	
	B. (a.1) The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2020	9.60 %	
	B. (a.2) The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2020	16.40 %	
	B. (a.3) The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2020	40.70 %	
	B. (a.4) The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2020	33.30 %	
	B. (b.1) The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2020	18.10 %	
	B. (b.2) The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2020	15.10 %	
	B. (b.3) The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2020	40.90 %	
	B. (b.4) The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2020	25.10 %	
	B. (c.1) The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2020	25.20 %	
	B. (c.2) The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2020	10.40 %	
	B. (c.3) The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2020	43.30 %	
	B. (c.4) The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2020	19.30 %	
	B. (d.1) The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2020	36.40 %	
	B. (d.2) The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2020	10.10 %	
	B. (d.3) The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2020	27.70 %	
	B. (d.4) The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2020	10.30 %	
	A1. Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2020	26.2 km	
	A2. The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2020	€4421304.00	
	A3. The average unit cost of regional road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€23.51	
	B1. Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2020	44.9 km	
	B2. The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2020	€1649775.00	
	B3. The average unit cost of regional road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€5.29	
	C1. Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2020	141.8 km	
	C2. The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2020	€12406033.00	
	C3. The average unit cost of local road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€19.81	
	D1. Kilometres of local road resealed during 2020	121.1 km	
D2. The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2020	€2445824.00		
D3. The average unit cost of local road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€4.43		
Motor Tax: R3 Approved	A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which were dealt with on-line (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2020	84.47 %	



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Water: W1 & W2 In Progress	% of Private Drinking Water Schemes in compliance with statutory requirements in respect of the monitoring of the quality of private drinking water supplies during 2020	not available at time of printing	
	The number of registered schemes monitored by each local authority as a percentage of total schemes registered	not available at time of printing	
	The number of registered schemes monitored in 2020	not available at time of printing	
	Total number of registered schemes in 2020	not available at time of printing	
Waste: E1 Approved	A. The number of households, based on the 2016 Census, who are situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2020	25728	
	B. The % of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations of more than 500)	125.94 %	
Environmental Pollution: E2 Approved	A1. Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2020	1690	
	A2. Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	1648	
	A3. Total number of cases on hands at 31/12/2020	108	
	The opening number of cases carried forward from the year end 2019	66	
Litter Pollution: E3 To Be Approved	A1. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was unpolluted or litter free	7 %	
	A2. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was slightly polluted	74 %	
	A3. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was moderately polluted	20 %	
	A4. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was significantly polluted	0 %	
	A5. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was grossly polluted	0 %	
Green Flag Status: E4 Approved	A. The % of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2020	44.39 %	
	Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2020	2	
	Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2020	43	
	Schools which held a Green Flag from 2019 and therefore do not require renewal until 2021	38	
Energy Efficiency: E5 In Progress	A. The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2020 relative to baseline year (2009)	not available at time of printing	
Public Lighting: E6 Approved	A. Total billable wattage of the public lighting system	7484.49 MWh	
	B. Average billable wattage of the public lighting system	104.51 W	
	C. Percentage of the total system that LED lights represent	24.60 %	
	Number of LED lights in the public lighting system	4227	
	Number of SOX-SON lights in the public lighting system	12957	



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Planning: P1 Approved	A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	20.67 %	
	Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 by a builder or developer on the local authority	537	
	Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2020 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2020 undertaken by the local authority	111	
Planning: P2 & P3 Approved	A. Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2020	37	
	B. % of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation) the decision made by the LA	67.57 %	
	Number of determinations confirming the LA's decision (either with or without variation)	25	
	A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 that were investigated	187	
	B. Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2020	167	
	C. % of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	58.08 %	
	D. % of cases at B that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	0 %	
	E. % Cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	41.92 %	
	F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2020	724	
	Number of cases at 'B' that were dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000	97	
	Number of cases at 'B' that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	0	
Number of cases at 'B' that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	70		
Planning: P4 & P5 Approved	A. The 2020 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census	€24.03	
	AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2020	€3834511.14	
	A. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2020 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	47.44 %	
	B. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2020 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant	41.03 %	
	The total number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2020 that were not withdrawn by the applicant	78	DIFFERENCE OF 9 BETWEEN RECEIVED AND ISSUED OF THOSE 7 AT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION I NOT VALID AND 1 WAS PENDING
	The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2020 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application	37	
	The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2020 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period	32	



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Fire Service: F1 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2020 divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports	€53.44	
	AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention for 2020	€8565222	E11 fire service €8,018,578 E12 €546,644
Fire Service: F2 & F3 Approved	A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire		N/A NOT FULL TIME
	B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.55 min	
	C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents		N/A NOT FULL TIME
	D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	5.72 min	
	A. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes	46.68 %	
	B. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	41.38 %	
	C. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	11.94 %	
	D. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	31.91 %	
	E. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	51.33 %	
	F. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	16.76 %	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	880	
	Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	352	
	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	312	
	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	90	OF 880 COMPLETE DATA FOR 754 ONLY
	Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	425	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	120	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	193	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	63	OF 425 COMPLETE DATA FOR 376 ONLY



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Library Service: L1 Approved	A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the LA area per the 2016 Census	0.96	
	B. Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year	397461	Press Reader replaced ProQuest and Transparent Languages replaced Mango Languages. Both saw a large increase in usage figures in 2020. Also, issues on BorrowBox almost doubled.
	C. Library active members per head of population	0.11	
	D. Number of registered library members in the year	16998	
	Number of visits to its libraries from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	152397	Library Services impacted by Covid-19 restrictions. Libraries were open for 29.5 weeks, operated click and collect for 4 weeks, and closed for 17.5 weeks.
Library Service: L2 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2020 divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census	€27.80	
	B. The annual per capita expenditure on collections over the period 1/01/2020 to 31/12/2020	€0.76	
	A. AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2020	€4435636	
	B. The annual expenditure on new stock acquired by the library in the year	€120816	
Youth and Community: Y1 & Y2 Approved	A. Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme	76.67 %	
	Total number of second level schools in the LA area at 31/12/2020	30	
	Number of second level schools in the LA area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in 2020	23	
	A. Number of organisations included in the County Register and the proportion who opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN	11.68	
	Total number of organisations included in the County Register for the local authority area as at 31/12/2020	1122	
	Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2020	224	
	Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN	131	



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Corporate: C1, C2, C4 & C5 Approved	A. The wholtime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2020	1069.02	
	A. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2020	3.24 %	
	B. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2020	0.15 %	
	Total Number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2020	8206.2 day	
	Total Number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2020	370.75 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2020	0 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2020	343 day	
	If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave	53 males 31 females 84 in total	
	A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020, divided by the WTE no.	€3573.23	
	Total ICT expenditure in 2020	€3819851	
	A. All ICT expenditure calculated in C4 as a proportion of Revenue expenditure	1.82	
	Total Revenue expenditure from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 before transfers to or from reserves	209791477	
	Corporate: C3 Approved	A. The per capita total page views of the local authority's websites in 2020	14.39
B. The per capita total number of followers at end 2020 of the local authority's social media accounts (if any)		0.66	
The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the local authority for the period from 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service or equivalent		2295242	We applied the cookie policy on Oct 2020 which had a slight impact of figures. Also, tourism and event-based sites were impacted by Covid while other new Covid-related sites got more visitors.
The total number of social media users who, at 31/12/2020, were following the local authority on any social media sites		105733	Social media followers increased as more campaigns occurred in the area. Good organic growth.
The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority		40	Including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Mapalserter.
Indicate if there was a change to the cookie policies on the local authority sites and the date this came into effect		Cookie policies were put in place on various sites throughout October 2020. Where there was a slight drop, it wasn't as much as expected.	

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Finance: M1 to M4 Approved	A. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2016 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5547270	
	B. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2017 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5550224	
	C. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2018 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5555516	
	D. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2019 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5562106	
	E. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2020 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5569307	
	F. Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2020 as a percentage of Total Income in 2020 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	2.54 %	
	G. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2020	€1314.87	
	H. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2020 excluding significant out of county / shared service expenditure	€1314.87	
	The 2020 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€219264612	
	The 2020 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€209791477	
	The 2020 Revenue expenditure excluding county / shared service expenditure for the service providers of HAP, MyPay, DRHE and Dublin Fire Services	€209791477	
	A. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2016	81.0 %	
	A. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2016	97.0 %	
	A. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2016	79.0 %	
	B. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	81.5 %	
	B. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	98.7 %	
	B. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	84.4 %	
	C. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	82.5 %	
	C. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	93.3 %	
	C. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	85.0 %	
	D. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	83.2 %	
	D. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	95.4 %	
	D. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	90.1 %	
	E. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	75.2 %	
	E. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	96.9 %	
	E. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	93.7 %	
	A.1 Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2018	€14.10	
	A.2 Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2019	€19.18	
	A.3 Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2020	€68.59	
	IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2018	281	
	IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2019	174	
	IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2020	147	
	IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2018	192	
	IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2019	139	
	IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2020	190	
	IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2018	€2248514.30	
	IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2019	€3059196.10	
	IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2020	€10944059.47	
	Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2018	€474.5	figure to be entered by Corporate services
	Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2019	€1111	figure to be entered by Corporate Services
	Total Cost of claims settled under excess for 2020	€350	figure to be entered by Corporate services
	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2018	n/a	
	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2019	n/a	
	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2020	n/a	
	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2018	n/a	
	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2019	n/a	
	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2020	n/a	
Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2018	n/a		
Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2019	n/a		
Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2020	n/a		
A. Overall central management charge as a percentage (%) of total expenditure on revenue account	11.32 %		
B. Total payroll costs as a percentage (%) of revenue expenditure	32.54 %		
Overall central management charge from the Local Authority FMS and defined in the Annual Budget	€23753650		
Total payroll costs from Appendix 1 of the AFS for 2020 (including Salaries, Wages and Pensions)	€68267142		



Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Economic Development: J1 to J4 Approved	A. The per capita number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	10.0280	1365 total Portfolio Employment
	The no. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	16.0	16
	A. The per capita number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2020	279.5309	446 TOV approvals
	B. The per capita number of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2020	112.1884	179 payments drawn down
	The no. of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2020	446	439 TOV approvals
	The no. of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2020	179	162 payments drawn down
	A. The per capita number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	273.8902	437 total number of participants who received mentoring
	The no. of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2020 to 31/12/2020	437	437 total number of participants who received mentoring
	A. Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy?	Yes	
	B. Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer?	Yes	





REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE ROSCREA

2020 was a challenging year for The Roscrea Regional Training Centre due to the effects of Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Course cancellations and necessary reduction in course participants resulted in a downturn for the Regional Training Centre. However, an opportunity was presented to proactively engage in amending some courses suitable for on-line delivery. Subsequently suitable courses were transposed and successfully delivered on-line. Further courses will now be considered for online delivery, allowing for continuation of training in a cost effective manner.

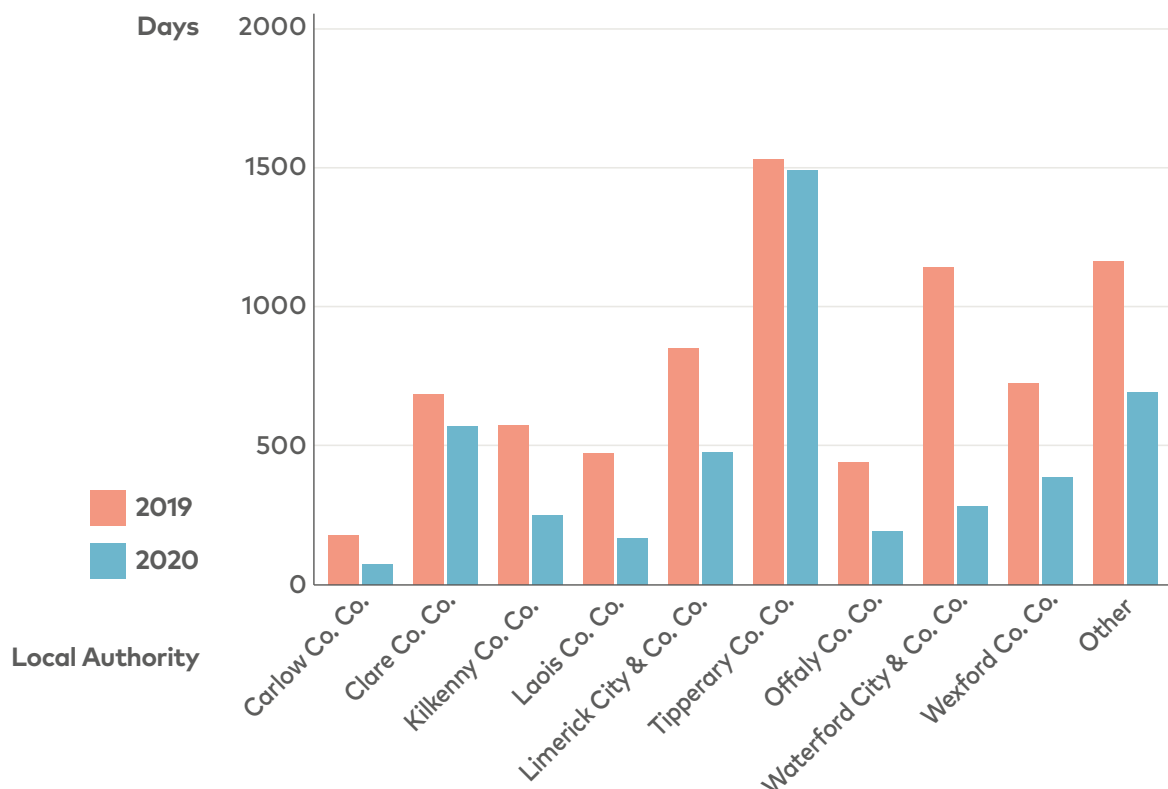
In 2020 LASNTG/Regional Training Centre network reengaged with QQI and successfully acquired QQI accreditation. Training grant assistance for roads, water and environmental sectors was maintained and contributed to ensuring local authority workforce received training, knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their duties in a professional and safe manner.

TRAINING STATISTICS

A total of 4,532 person training days were delivered in 2020 to both public and private sector employees. This represents a decrease of 41% on 2019.

Outturn for each constituent Local Authority is shown in graph below.

Personal Training Days



TIPPERARY LOCAL AUTHORITY TRAINING

653 employees from Tipperary County Council attended courses run by the centre.

	2019	2020
Person Training courses received	1,075	891
Person Training days received	1,510	1,476



Tipperary County Council employees completed accredited courses as follows:

C.S.C.S.	Employees
Signing, Lighting & Guarding at Roadwork's - Completed by -	7
Health & Safety at Roadwork's	8
Locating Underground Services	6
Q.Q.I. Certificate:	
Waste Water Plant Operators Course	3
Certificate in Roads Programme Management	7
Certificate in Leadership for Performance and Change	1
Fire Fighting Skills	7
Fire Fighting B.A. Initial Wearers	9
Site Suitability	1
Roads Services Supervisor	7
I.O.S.H.	
Safety Rep. /Coordinator Training	5
Safety, Health & Env. for Construction Site Managers	11
City & Guilds	
Confined Spaces	4
Chainsaw Training	8
Funding	
Training Grant assistance for the constituent Local Authorities was available as follows:	
UISCE Éireann (water training grant)	= €286,200
Tipperary County Council allocation	= €55,200
DTTAS (regional & local roads training grant)	= €626,500
Tipperary County Council allocation	= €129,500
Environment Training Grant	= €30,000

With the continued support of Management and hopeful decline of Covid-19 pandemic, Tipperary County Council employees can look forward to further training in 2021, leading to improved personal development and a healthier / safer work environment for all.









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