

County Tipperary Local Community & Social Inclusion Plan 2015 - 2020



LCDC Tipperary
LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

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SECTION 1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Strong communities are a critical part of the social fabric of the county and contribute significantly to the quality of life/wellbeing experienced by residents and visitors alike. Communities which are vibrant and active are important because they enable people to interact with each other, share experiences, develop valued relationships and work toward a common goal. The more resilient a community is, the more positive the life experience of the individual. State institutions rely on strong resilient communities to assist in the delivery of some service supports and the more capacity a community has in this area, the more likely that the individual and community needs are met from a quality of life perspective. Supporting the development of a strong vibrant community in Tipperary will be key in relation to supporting communities living in disadvantaged areas and in relation to target groups at risk of social exclusion including people who are unemployed, older people living in isolation, young people in disadvantaged and rural areas, people parenting alone, non Irish nationals in particular those with little or no English and other marginalized groups in the county.

Enhancing the quality of life and well being of the citizen is viewed as one of the key objectives of all public policy interventions Quality of life is difficult to benchmark and measure. We have very little in the form of data or background material but a high quality of life is seen as a “desirable state” by all those who make policy. The Quality of Life Research Unit of the University of Toronto has proposed the following reflection on the nature of the Quality of Life.

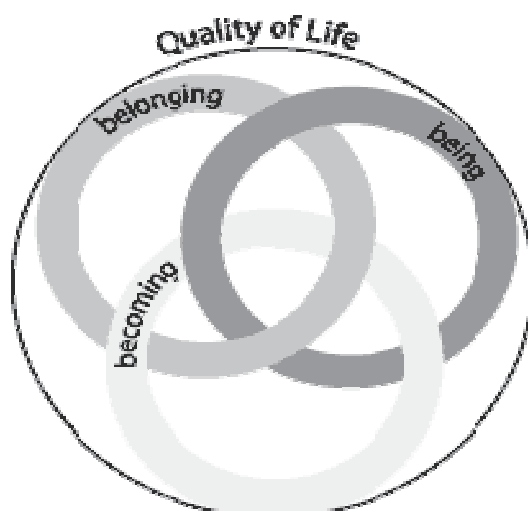


Figure 1 Quality of life Conceptual Framework- University of Toronto -Quality of Life Research Unit

<p>The Being domain includes the basic aspects of "who one is" and has three sub-domains. Physical Being includes aspects of physical health, personal hygiene, nutrition, exercise, grooming, clothing, and physical appearance. Psychological Being includes the person's psychological health and adjustment, cognitions, feelings, and evaluations concerning the self, and self-control. Spiritual Being reflects personal values, personal standards of conduct, and spiritual beliefs which may or may not be associated with organized religions.</p>	<p>Belonging includes the person's fit with his/her environments and also has three sub-domains. Physical Belonging is defined as the connections the person has with his/her physical environments such as home, workplace, neighbourhood, school and community. Social Belonging includes links with social environments and includes the sense of acceptance by intimate others, family, friends, co-workers, and neighbourhood and community. Community Belonging represents access to resources normally available to community members, such as adequate income, health and social services, employment, educational and recreational programs, and community activities.</p>	<p>Becoming refers to the purposeful activities carried out to achieve personal goals, hopes, and wishes. Practical Becoming describes day-to-day actions such as domestic activities, paid work, school or volunteer activities, and seeing to health or social needs. Leisure Becoming includes activities that promote relaxation and stress reduction. These include card games, neighbourhood walks, and family visits, or longer duration activities such as vacations or holidays. Growth Becoming activities promote the improvement or maintenance of knowledge and skills.</p>
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- Quality of Life Research Unit, University of Toronto

Quality of Life Conceptual Framework

– Quality of Life Research Unit, University of Toronto

Being	Who one is
Physical Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> physical health personal hygiene nutrition exercise grooming and clothing general physical appearance
Psychological Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> psychological health and adjustment cognitions feelings self-esteem, self-concept and self-control
Spiritual Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> personal values personal standards of conduct spiritual beliefs

Belonging	Connections with one's environments
Physical Belonging/Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> home workplace/school neighbourhood community
Social Belonging/Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> intimate others family friends co-workers neighbourhood and community
Community Belonging/Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adequate income health and social services employment educational programs recreational programs community events and activities
Becoming	Achieving personal goals, hopes, and aspirations

Practical Becoming	domestic activities paid work school or volunteer activities Seeing to health or social needs.
Leisure Becoming	activities that promote relaxation and stress reduction
Growth Becoming	activities that promote the maintenance or improvement of knowledge and skills adapting to change.

It can be seen that a high quality of life/wellbeing is related to many personal and community-related factors as well as to the existence of objective and perceived realities. Some aspects of Quality of Life and Wellbeing require action on the part of the individual themselves and their immediate social unit. However, others can be provided by the community and by society at large. While difficult to define in any totally objective way, it is possible to devise an appropriate set of measures which would measure the potential for a high quality of life and wellbeing of members of a community if not the quality of life and wellbeing experienced by each individual.

In Co Tipperary' our population and visitors benefit from:

- Strong vibrant community life which is reflective of the population structure and type in which it sits
- Good quality environment
- Access to key services
- Access to fulfilling life activity
- Range of appropriate community facilities and supports
- Perception of a reasonable level of safety and security that there is a reasonable basis on which to build a good quality of life and wellbeing.

However, one can also infer from this model that

- if an individual is disconnected from community
- where a person's physical or psychological
- spiritual being is not at its best
- where an individual does not have good connections to family, friends, home, work and when an individual does not have purposeful activities to achieve personal goals,

Hopes and dreams then his or her quality of life and wellbeing will not be good.

When assessing these key areas in the context of priorities, it becomes clear that there is a very strong interrelationship between all. A core element to all of them is the need to assist and support sustainable and resilient communities, in a manner that meets their needs and to support individuals and target groups that are at risk of social exclusion with a view to helping to improve their quality of life and wellbeing.

In the context of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), the objective is to promote a more integrated and targeted approach to addressing the strategic community and social inclusion issues through the delivery of key services in a way that meets the needs of the community and supports individuals and target group who are socially excluded to improve their quality of life and wellbeing. What constitutes community needs is heavily influenced by the views of the communities themselves, but within the context of Government Policies and priorities.

1.2 Methodology

The process for the preparation of the community and social element of the LECP was undertaken as part of the overall LECP preparation. The Tipperary LECP is underpinned by a number of guiding principles which include

- Sustainability
- Promotion and mainstreaming of equality
- Community development principles
- Maximizing returns from resources by avoiding unnecessary overlap and duplication and by achieving synergies through co-operation and collaboration
- Participative planning
- Community consultation and engagements
- Accessibility and ownership

All sections of the Plan have been developed with these underlying principles as a key guiding framework.

A Steering Group, consisting of representatives of the LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) and the Economic SPC was set up in order to maximize the level of integration and co-ordination during the preparation process so that any potential difficulties of overlap or duplication could be avoided. It also ensured maximum benefits of the community consultation processes.

Phase 1

- a. seeking written submissions on the issues of concern from the broader community
- b. Working with the principal Agencies which operate in the county to identify their views of the key framework priorities as suggested by their experience and knowledge and their understanding of what would be acceptable within the context of Government priorities and policies. This stage of the process is important as it should maximize the likelihood that the actions identified in the Plan would be achievable and realistic since they would lie within the strategic priorities of the principal funding and approval agencies.

Based on these key framework priorities, the broader community was consulted to review the priorities as identified by the agencies from a community perspective and to identify potential additional priorities. Key agencies with a national/regional remit were also consulted at this stage.

A statistical evidence based approach was then undertaken to evaluate the priorities which were identified in the above process. Any new additional areas which were suggested through the evidential assessment but which did not come through the agency and community processes were also added to the draft list of Framework Priorities and the stated targets for each Priority. The Advisory Committee, a structure made up of representatives from the SPC for Economic Development and the LCDC, considered same and recommended their adoption to both the SPC for Economic Development and the LCDC.

Phase 2:

Following the sign off on the Framework Priorities, a set of strategic actions and relevant KPI (key performance indicators) were drawn up which would assist in meeting the individual Framework Priorities. This draft document was adopted by the relevant structures and went out for further consultation with the broader community and relevant national/regional agencies. The feedback received from this process resulted in additional changes to this Community and Social section. During this phase, the draft Community and Social section was commented upon by the SPC for Economic Development, the Municipal Borough and District Councils and the Regional Assembly

Phase 3

The final phase involved the integration of the economic, social and community elements together to provide one all county integrated LECP which was considered and adopted by Council.

SEA Screening & Equality proofing Exercises:

During all of the 3 phases, an SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Screening process was undertaken to ensure that there were not significant adverse environmental issues arising from the actions or priorities identified. In addition, an equality proofing process was undertaken to ensure that there were no adverse or unexpected impacts from an equality perspective.

Priority Constraints:

Based on the above methodology and process, it is important to note that the LECP will concentrate only on those actions where cooperation and collaboration amongst local agencies would deliver better services to the people of Tipperary. It is important to stress that not every issue or every challenge has been incorporated into the Plan. As a six year plan, only those actions which were highlighted as key priorities and which also required the combined action of two or more agencies have been included in this document. The expectation is that all agencies will continue to deliver on their core areas of activity (which will be wider than the remit of this document) but that included in their core area of activity are the above priorities which must be included and where resources and attention must be committed and included.

1.3 Key Community and Social Inclusion Issues

The key issues which emanated from the above methodology relevant to the “community development” section of the LECP included

- The need to establish a benchmark on what constituted a “quality of life” and sense of ‘wellbeing’ for communities in Tipperary and to establish a benchmark on the minimum level of appropriate infrastructure that each community, relative to their position in the settlement hierarchy, should aspire to retain/accommodate
- The need to address issues of rural isolation and rural decline, particularly around the area of declining rural services and safety and security, where elderly concerns in particular were noted
- The need to address issues around accessibility but predominantly in the context of rural broadband and rural public transport, with particular focus on access to both by the elderly, youth and those who wished to access employment/training and specific services (e.g. health services)
- The requirement to address particular cohorts of the community who had inadequate or inappropriate supports in place to facilitate their active engagement with the broader community. Senior citizens, youth and non Irish nationals were identified as principal priorities that required assistance this time around
- The need to address the deficits in existing community infrastructure in the County so that communities are enabled to become more engaged and active

- The need to build the capacity of the weaker communities so that they can fully participate and engage in developing their communities in a manner that meet their needs. In addition, there is a recognized challenge for all communities to develop appropriate support structures so that they become more resilient and sustainable.
- The need to focus on target groups and areas that are most at risk of social exclusion
- The need to seek to eliminate areas with the highest level of social deprivation in the County
- The requirements to provide a targeted and integrated response to the needs of vulnerable families, children and young people in areas of greatest risk
- The need to address the high level of youth unemployment with a particular concentration of those areas where such was highest in addition to the need to maximize life opportunity potential for young people and to support and facilitate their contribution to the sustainable development of the county.
- The need to reduce the level of high “long term” unemployment in the County in those areas where it is highest and in particular to work with those groups who have particular difficulty entering workforce such as those with a disability; persons with previous additions; travellers and ex-prisoners.
- The need to work collaboratively to reduce the marginalisation of specific communities including the travelling community; the non-Irish nationals; lone parents, those with a disability and the LGBTI
- Develop an integrated response to the needs of the elderly population with a particular focus on those areas which are geographically isolated and where the concentration of 65+ is greatest
- To provide an integrated and targeted response to those sectors of society who find it difficult to sustain a home
- Develop an integrated response to reducing the level of substance misuse/abuse in agreed targeted areas
- Provide an integrated response to health and wellbeing of the community in relation to marginalized groups and areas

- To provide opportunities to the more marginalized communities to access lifelong educational opportunities
- Develop the potential for alternative energy projects to reduce the impact of fuel poverty in key agreed areas where social deprivation is highest

SECTION 2 Key Policies Relevant to Community Development and Social Inclusion

2.1 EU and National Policies

The following EU, National and Regional/Local documents are relevant in the context of setting out the key framework within which community's needs must be identified and met.

Europe 2020 outline's the European Union's growth and job strategy until 2020. Five headline targets have been set (employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy) which should encourage high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. The document is relevant to communities in County Tipperary in that communities will have a role in implementing and participating in programmes and supports aimed at reaching the targets of the Europe 2020 document including targets around fighting poverty and social exclusion and reducing energy consumption. Communities in Tipperary have a role to play in achieving these targets and they have an opportunity to benefit from the initiatives arising out of the national commitments to EU2020. It is therefore important that the appropriate infrastructure and supports are in place to assist the community in the delivery of these targets

This strategy 'aims to deliver smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through investment in education, research and innovation; moving decisively towards a low-carbon economy; and placing a strong emphasis on job creation and poverty reduction.' The EU Poverty Target is based on three EU social inclusion indicators:

- Those at risk of poverty
- Those with severe material deprivation
- Jobless households

Report on the taskforce on active citizenship (2007) & Working Group on Citizen Engagement with local government (2014)

The report of the Task Force on Active Citizenship (and the subsequent Working Group 2014) outlines recommendations about how society can enable individual citizens to contribute to their communities. An active community can play an important role in partnership with state agencies in delivering appropriate services in a manner unique to that community. The new Public Participation Network (PPN) will have a key role to play in this area.

Energizing Ireland's Rural Economy' report from the Commission for the Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA) (2014)

Tipperary is predominantly a Rural County and the CEDRA report is relevant in that it contains recommendations aimed at enabling rural communities to contribute to and benefit from the national economic recovery.

This document provides a vision for rural communities to become vibrant, sustainable and resilient. It is a place where people can and want to live, work and raise their families. A key objective of the document is to:

Access to and cost of high quality broadband emerged from the CEDRA consultation process as one of the most significant challenges faced by rural communities particularly from a business perspective.

The high level challenge therefore is to up skill and re skill many thousands of rural dwellers in order to better equip them to avail of future employment opportunities.

Rural Resources are resources physical, human, cultural and social that are located in rural areas and provide specific advantages for the development of sectors such as the food, tourism, creative and marine sectors. In relation to marine and food products, there is a need to increase in the share of higher value added goods, targeted directly at the consumer rather than primarily business to business. CEDRA the Commission recommends that economic planning at regional/local level should be conducted using an approach that considers functional rather than administrative boundaries and facilitates full community participation i.e. sub-county zones within which most people live and work. These Rural **Economic Development Zones or REDZ (see map below)** are functional rather than administrative geographic areas that reflect the spatial patterns of local economic activities and development processes, i.e. they are the sub-county zones within which most people live and work. Tipperary County is covered by 5 REDZ. In some instances, particularly in parts of the country with few medium or large rural towns, REDZs may encompass an area characterized by the absence of such places, i.e. very low and dispersed populations. CEDRA recommends the piloting of a selected number of REDZs, to enhance the capacity for local communities to contribute to and take ownership of local economic development by creating local strategic economic development plans that will contribute to and align with local, regional and national economic development plans.



Figure 2 Rural Economic Development Zones (CEDRA 2014)

A number of the recommendations and findings of the report are relevant to County Tipperary. Similar issues raised in the CEDRA report also arose during the public consultation processes, particularly around broadband and the need to sustain vibrant rural communities.

Our Sustainable Future (2012)

This publication outlines the policy approach to sustainable development in Ireland. It highlights that communities are at the heart of everything the State does and they must be enabled to identify and address social and economic issues in their own areas.

This policy, which is core to all the actions which the LECP will include, seeks to support communities that are vulnerable, disadvantaged or under threat and adhere to the values of local participation. Active citizenship is recognized as an area that needs to be nurtured and encouraged. Support for Local and Community Engagement is a measure of the plan

The Local Government Reform Act (2014)

This Act enshrined in law the reforms of 'Putting People First'. It provided for the establishment of Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) within each local authority area. The Act requires the LECP plan to '*promote and support the interests of local communities, or any part of a community or group within a local community, including measures to enhance quality of life and well-being of communities.*' Other measures that the Plan is expected to address include

- measures aimed at the provision of infrastructure and community facilities
- investment in physical regeneration and environmental improvements,

- supporting the capacity of local communities to improve their quality of life and wellbeing,
- supporting social enterprise, social capital, volunteering and active citizenship,
- developing integrated and evidenced-based approaches to local service planning and delivery,
- identifying the needs and priorities of local communities to enhance their well-being, and developing sustainable solutions that
- make the best use of local assets, strengths and opportunities to address those needs and priorities,
- exploiting and coordinating funding sources from the public, private and community and voluntary sectors to stimulate and support local development and sustainability.

The LECP and subordinate plans will need to ensure that these priorities are met in the appropriate manner..

European Agenda for New Skills and Jobs

This initiative is the vehicle used by the EU to assist it in realizing its employment target for 2020: (i.e. that 75% of the working age population 20 – 64 are in work). Launched in 2010, it is part of the EU's overall strategy – Europe 2020 – promoting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the next 10 years and beyond.

The Agenda also contributes to achieving the EU's targets to

- reduce the early school-leaving rate below 10%;
- encourage more young people in higher education or equivalent vocational education (at least 40%).
- have at least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion by 2020.

The Agenda presents a set of concrete actions that will help:

- Step up reforms to improve flexibility and security in the labour market ('flexicurity')
- Equip people with the right skills for the jobs of today and tomorrow
- Improve the quality of jobs and ensure better working conditions

The 'New Skills for New Jobs' initiative launched in 2008 set out the Commission's agenda for better skills upgrading, anticipation and matching. The initiative is ongoing and will be continued in the future. Despite the similarities in names, the flagship is much wider and includes flexicurity, job quality and working conditions and job creation. Skills development forms one of the four main areas of the flagship.

Social Investment Package (SIP) framework

The SIP was introduced as the EU faces significant challenges arising from the economic and financial crisis that has resulted in high unemployment, youth inactivity and increased levels of poverty and social exclusion, as well as mitigating the effects of demographic changes (increased ageing and dependency ratios) and fiscal constraints (deficit reduction and budgetary pressures). The SIP aims to enhance

people's capabilities to adapt to risks such as changing career patterns, new working conditions or an ageing population and enhance their opportunities to participate in society across the life course.

National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016

The key objective of this Plan is to reduce the number of those experiencing consistent poverty to initially between 2% and 4% by 2012, with the aim of eliminating consistent poverty by 2016. Under the revised targets as set out under The National Social Report 2014, the targets were re-set to reduce consistent poverty to 4 per cent by 2016 and 2 per cent or less by 2020. In the context of this Plan there is a high level focus on:

- Ensuring children reach their true potential;
- Supporting people of working age and people with disabilities, through activation measures and the provision of services to increase employment and participation;
- Providing the type of supports that enable older people to maintain a comfortable and high-quality standard of living;
- Building viable and sustainable communities, improving the lives of people living in disadvantaged areas and building social capital.
- Building a more inclusive society in the context of our non-Irish national cohort

National Social Report 2014

The National Social Report 2014 highlights the Government's goals in its medium-term Economic Strategy 2014-2020: The National Social Report highlights that addressing poverty and promoting social inclusion are mainstreamed policy objectives. The report notes that social protection policies have a key role to play in contributing to and augmenting economic recovery by increasing employment opportunities for those who are distant from the labour market and by freeing up resources for productive purposes.

Ireland's Rural Development Programme (RDP) - 2014-2020 'LEADER' will be programmed under priority 6 of the RDP and it will aim to promote social inclusion, poverty reduction and the economic development of rural areas.

Funding provided under the LEADER measure will support members of rural communities to participate fully in their communities from an economic, social and cultural perspective and the solutions to the challenges faced by these will be very much based on the needs identified in the Local Development Strategy.

Indicative Themes of LEADER programme – (all of which could potentially have Social inclusion implications and opportunities) include

- Rural Economic Development / Enterprise Development and Job Creation
- Social inclusion through building community capacity, training and animation including but not limited to; a) Basic Services targeted at hard to reach communities and b) Rural Youth
- The Rural Environment

Our Sustainable Future – A Framework for Sustainable Development Ireland

The key challenges are categorised as follows:

- Sustainability of public finances and economic resilience.
- Sustainable consumption and production.
- Conservation and management of natural resources.
- Climate change and clean energy.
- Sustainable agriculture.
- Sustainable transport.
- Social inclusion, sustainable communities and spatial planning.
- Public health.
- Education, communication and behaviour change.
- Innovation, research and development.
- Skills and training.
- Global poverty and sustainable development.

The overarching national policy framework for sustainable development is set out in the document but the detailed policy approaches and relevant commitments are addressed in policy statements in individual sectors. Current relevant policy statements include the National Climate Change Strategy; Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future; Actions for Biodiversity 2011-2016: Ireland’s National Biodiversity Plan; the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan; the National Renewable Energy Action Plan; the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020 (including the 2010 NSS Update and Outlook); the Government Policy on Architecture (2009 – 2015); the Energy White Paper (2007-2020); and the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion (2007-2016).

“Our Sustainable Future” has a focus on social inclusion and sustainable development of communities and its contents are of relevance to the LECP

The Action Plan for Jobs 2014

The key economic policy imperatives for the Government continue to be:

- The re-establishment of competitiveness in the economy.
- The re-establishment of a functioning banking system.
- The reform of the social welfare system.
- The restoration of consumer and business confidence.
- The continued improvement in Ireland’s international reputation.
- The creation of a sustainable public finance situation.
- Supporting the protection and creation of jobs.

From a Social Inclusion Perspective the actions most relevant in the plan are included in the Pathways to Work and Related Initiatives.

Pathways to Work 2013 and the Youth Guarantee

The Government's Pathways to Work policy is complementary to the Action Plan for Jobs, and is designed to ensure that as many as possible of the new jobs created in the recovering economy go to people on the Live Register. The 2014 Actions – under Pathways to work included

- Commence implementation of the Youth Guarantee. (DSP)
- Develop a new Youth Strategy in 2014 which will, inter alia, review youth funding schemes to ensure that the youth work and non-formal education sector contributes to youth employment and youth employability policy objectives, including skills development and experiential learning opportunities for young people and the provision of valuable volunteer opportunities.(DCYA)
- Explore the potential to secure EU Funding to support youth work initiatives that increase young people's employability, enhance their acquisition of transversal skills and aid their preparedness and progression to employment and prevent them from becoming registered unemployed. (DCYA)
- Facilitate the increased participation in volunteering opportunities by unemployed people in supporting the provision of youth services throughout the country. Such volunteering provides young people and adults with opportunities to develop and derive job relevant skills and competencies. (DCYA)
- Undertake a programme of structured engagement with the enterprise sector to maximize recruitment from the Live Register. (DSP)
- Advance the introduction of a new Housing Assistance Payment which will allow recipients to remain in the scheme in the early stages of returning to employment. (DECLG, DSP, Limerick and Other Local Authorities)
- Through the Local and Community Development Programme (LCDP), continue to work towards increasing access to formal and informal educational, recreational and cultural activities and resources; increasing people's work readiness and employment prospects; and supporting enterprise start-ups. (DECLG, Pobal, Local Development Companies)
- Publish a comprehensive employment strategy for people with disabilities. (National Disability Authority, D/Justice and Equality)
- Run a programme of activities to promote the employability of groups that have experienced labour market disadvantage related to discriminatory grounds (e.g. age, race, family status, disability etc.). This will include specific streams for developing the equality capacity of employers, vocational education and training providers and labour market providers. (Equality Authority)

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children & Young People 2014 – 2020 (DCYA 2014)

This framework sets out the Government Priorities for children and young people (under 25years) over the next 7 years. There is an explicit aim to develop a whole of Government response, supported by an evidence based approach, to maximise

positive outcomes for children and young people within the resources available and to particularly focus on those young people most at risk.

In particular this national Policy stress the need to better coordinate and integrate agencies services and workers to ensure that children/young people are placed at the centre of service development, delivery and review. Whilst Túsla is tasked with implementing this policy at national level, the Children and Young People Services Committees (CYPSC) are tasked with delivering on same at local level. Those children and young people most at risk are the key priority for both structures.

Healthy Ireland – A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 – 2025

The Healthy Ireland Framework defines a clear vision, with four central goals. It sets out a broad framework of actions that will be undertaken by Government Departments, local authorities, statutory agencies, community and voluntary groups, businesses, families and individuals to improve health and wellbeing and reduce the risks posed to future generations.

The Healthy Ireland framework describes four high-level goals and details 64 actions that will work together to help achieve these goals.

- Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life
- Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities
- Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing
- Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland

The Healthy Ireland framework outlines that there are inequalities in health are differences in health status or in the distribution of health determinants between different population groups due to the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age. There is an uneven distribution of the risk factors associated with many chronic diseases, with the burden borne disproportionately by those in the lower socio-economic groups.

Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020

'*Connecting for Life*' sets out a vision of an Ireland where fewer lives are lost through suicide, and where communities and individuals are empowered to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

This vision is to be realised through seven goals:

- Better understanding of suicidal behaviour
- Supporting communities to prevent and respond to suicide behaviour
- Targeted approaches for those vulnerable to suicide

- Improved access, consistency and integration of services
- Safe and high-quality services
- Reduce access to means
- Better data and research

'Connecting for Life' provides a detailed and clear plan to achieve each of the goals it proposes, with defined actions and a lead agency and key partners in place for each individual objective (Government Departments, HSE, NGO partners and community groups).

'Connecting for Life' sets out sixty-nine actions agreed by ten Government Departments, twenty-one State Agencies, NGO, Community and Voluntary sector partners to achieve the seven goals.

These actions will impact on:

- The Health Services
- The Education Sector
- The Criminal Justice and Equality Systems
- Social Protection and Inclusion
- Children, Youth and Family Services
- Media and Communications Sector
- The Environment, Community and Local Government Sectors
- Sports and Recreation Sectors
- Agriculture and Marine Sectors
- Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Sectors
- The Defence Sector

South Tipperary Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2015-2020) will be aligned to 'Connecting for Life' and will mirror the national strategy at county level.

The Local Government Reform Act (2014)

This Act enshrined in law the reforms outlined in 'Putting People First'. It provided for the establishment of Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) within each local authority area. The Act requires the LECP plan to '*promote and support the interests of local communities, or any part of a community or group within a local community, including measures to enhance quality of life and well-being of communities.*'. Other measures that the Plan is expected to address include

- supporting the capacity of local communities to improve their quality of life and wellbeing,
- supporting social enterprise, social capital, volunteering and active citizenship,
- developing integrated and evidenced-based approaches to local service planning and delivery,

- identifying the needs and priorities of local communities to enhance their well-being, and developing sustainable solutions that
- make the best use of local assets, strengths and opportunities to address those needs and priorities,
- exploiting and coordinating funding sources from the public, private and community and voluntary sectors to stimulate and support local development and sustainability, and

The LECP and subordinate plans will need to ensure that these priorities are met in the appropriate manner.

2.2 Relevant Regional & Local Policies

Mid West Regional Authority Regional Planning Guidelines (MWRA RPG)

The MWRA RPG covers the Northern part of County Tipperary along with the counties of Clare, Limerick and Galway. The Plan recognizes that the provision of social, community and cultural infrastructure requires a coordinated approach by a wide range of authorities.

South-East Regional Authority Regional Planning Guidelines

The South-East Regional Authority covers the five counties in the South-East Region of Ireland - Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Waterford and the southern portion of Tipperary. The plan acknowledges the key role that the Local Authority plays in supporting the development of communities by giving direct support and also by working with other agencies to deliver services and community supports on an inter-agency basis.

North Tipperary County Development Plan and South Tipperary County Development Plan

The current North & South Tipperary County Development Plans and the Borough and Town Development plans include policies that seek to improve facilities and services available to local communities and promote the placement of community facilities close to principal centers of population. These Plans also support working in partnership with local communities and enhancing the participative role of community groups in the decision making process.

Of interest to this community section of the plan is the tool developed by the South Tipperary CDP to seek to identify the impact that significant development could have on a community in the context of existing services and community facilities. This tool is called a "Development Impact Assessment" (DIA). The purpose of DIA is to ensure that receiving settlements have the capacity to cater for any proposed development. The Development Impact Assessment (DIA) provides information regarding all existing community facilities within the settlements in the Southern part of Tipperary. The DIA makes specific reference to the location, capacity and condition of the existing facilities. The DIA effectively sets a benchmark for facilities

within each development tier (District Service Centre, Local Service Centre, and Settlement Nodes) and is therefore relevant to the LECF in the context of issues raised during consultations.

Both county development plans support working in partnership with local communities and enhancing the participative role of community groups in the decision making process. In particular the Council has identified that it will work with relevant key stakeholders to address issues of equality of access for all to services, facilities and decision making processes.

Tipperary Corporate Plan

The promotion of quality of life and inclusive communities is a key component of the Tipperary County Council Corporate Plan 2015. The plan envisages a growth in the population of the county and infrastructure to support this growth to be delivered to ensure safe and inclusive Communities. Some of the mechanisms set out in the Corporate Plan to achieve this are the need to:

- Develop and build on the concept of Social Capital, and to establish a Public Participation Network as a mechanism for the Local Authority to link with and communicate with the community, voluntary and environmental organisations
- To support Social Inclusion Actions in the county in relation to positive ageing, mental health, connecting young people, children services and family supports;
- To support the provision of quality childcare services to young families throughout Tipperary;
- Empower communities to assist the local authority to create and maintain a high quality public realm which is attractive and safe
- Promote social integration through managed tenure mix and promote safer communities by working in partnership with communities, Gardaí and other organisations
- Adopt and Implement an Age Friendly Ireland Programme

Other County (or part County) plans of relevance to the sustainability and well – being of communities across the county include:

Other Plans of a cultural, sporting or creative nature have a very direct impact on the quality of life of a community in Tipperary. They play a key role in engaging and connecting communities and can provide a more “fulfilling” life for citizens and communities. How and where such plans focus their actions will be important in the context of supporting the priorities and objectives of the LECF. The plans of relevance include:

- Creating Connections-North Tipperary Strategic Art Plan 2012-14
- South Tipperary Arts Strategy and Public Arts 2011-2014
- South Tipperary Heritage Plan 2012-16
- North Tipperary Heritage Plan 2013-18

- South Tipperary Sports Partnership Strategic Plan 2011-16
- North Tipperary Sports Partnership Plan 2007 - 2012

Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020

'Connecting for Life' sets out a vision of an Ireland where fewer lives are lost through suicide, and where communities and individuals are empowered to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

This vision is to be realised through seven goals:

- Better understanding of suicidal behaviour
- Supporting communities to prevent and respond to suicide behaviour
- Targeted approaches for those vulnerable to suicide
- Improved access, consistency and integration of services
- Safe and high-quality services
- Reduce access to means
- Better data and research

'Connecting for Life' provides a detailed and clear plan to achieve each of the goals it proposes, with defined actions and a lead agency and key partners in place for each individual objective (Government Departments, HSE, NGO partners and community groups).

'Connecting for Life' sets out sixty-nine actions agreed by ten Government Departments, twenty-one State Agencies, NGO, Community and Voluntary sector partners to achieve the seven goals.

South Tipperary Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2015-2020) will be aligned to 'Connecting for Life' and will mirror the national strategy at county level.

2.3. Relevant Key Points to be Actioned Arising from Section 2:

- The need to ensure that objectives of the LECF address the high level government priorities as outlined in the various documents in 2.1 and 2.2 above and that the LECF also supports the core strategies of the Regional Plans, the relevant County Development Plans (and any changes/variations made in subsequent years) and the Tipperary County Council Corporate Plan
- To ensure Heritage, Arts, Cultural and Sporting Plans as well as appropriate Local Development Strategies, Social Inclusion Plans and all other appropriate community development spending plans incorporate the key priority community objectives identified in this document

- The importance of providing appropriate supports and infrastructure to enable communities to assist themselves, to become more active/engaged and to work with state agencies in assisting to deliver services to hard to reach groups and areas. The PPN should be a key support here.
- The importance of developing policies to sustain a vibrant and diverse rural community which is feeling increasingly isolated and to address deficiencies around broadband and economic opportunities
- To develop benchmarks in relation to acceptable basic levels of community facilities, services and infrastructure for the different settlement tiers in the County which will be critical to supporting a vibrant and resilient community
- The relevant EU, national and regional documents are all consistent in the context of targeting in a coordinated and integrated manner, assistance and support towards those communities and sectors who experience marginalization or exclusion. Any supports or actions to be prioritized by the LECP will be expected to address such deficiencies in such a manner. In particular, EU and Government Policies seek to concentrate supports on unemployed, marginalized communities (people with disabilities, travellers etc) and those who are educationally disadvantaged; youth and children and young people at risk and these will form a framework for the LECP priorities.

SECTION 3 Descriptive Overview from a Community Development and Social Inclusion Perspective

The details in this section provide an overview of the existing community development and social inclusion infrastructure currently in existence in the County.

Tipperary is a rural county with a number of medium sized towns reasonably well dispersed throughout the county. As a result of its rurality, delivery of services and the retention of services will continue to prove a challenge, even in times of good economic growth. It is therefore critical that the County:

- Retains and further develops its strong community structures and linkages so that it can maximize and sustain appropriate services to its citizens.
- Develops more effective interagency actions and responses to address the myriad of causes which lead to social deprivation and inequality

In reviewing the demographic analysis of the County, the key community and social inclusion priority themes/groups which were raised by the key statutory and local agencies operating in the County and which were further reinforced during the broader community consultation processes, included the following:

High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority Framework	
High level Priority 1	<p>A. Support and enable continuing improvement of access to services within the community for all citizens in a manner that is realistic, capable of being delivered and which utilizes the strengths of the existing communities</p> <p>B. Improve the quality of life and well being for communities through supporting prioritized community infrastructural development and providing prioritized relevant support services</p>
High level Priority 2	<p>A. To Support the development of sustainable resilient communities enabling them to have a meaningful quality of life and to respond to the needs in their community.</p> <p>B. To support communities and the voluntary sectors to have a meaningful voice in decision making in areas which affect their communities, through the development of effective structures and supports</p>
High level Priority 3	Seek to eliminate or significantly reduce those areas with the highest level of social deprivation in the County
High level	Address the high level of long term unemployed through targeting

Priority 4	those areas with the highest level of long term unemployment in the County including youth unemployment ”
High level Priority 5	“To maximise life opportunity and potential for young people and support and facilitate their contribution to the sustainable development of the county”.
High level Priority 6	Reduce the marginalisation of specific target groups and communities – Travelling community, Roma Community, Non Irish Nationals and Asylum Seekers, Lone Parents, LGBTI and people unable to sustain a home
High level Priority 7	Provide a targeted and integrated response to the needs of vulnerable families, children / young people in areas of greatest risk
High level Priority 8	Develop an integrated response to the needs of the elderly population with a particular focus on those areas which are geographically isolated and where the concentration of 65+ is greatest.
High level Priority 9	Develop an integrated response to reducing the level of substance misuse/abuse in agreed targeted areas
High level Priority 10	Develop an integrated approach to supporting people of all ages with disabilities to access opportunities so that their quality of life and wellbeing is improved.
High level Priority 11	Integrated response in relation to health and wellbeing of the community in relation to marginalised groups and areas
High level Priority 12	To provide opportunities for the citizens to access life-long educational opportunities with a particular targeted focus to provide supports for communities and individuals who are marginalised
High level Priority 13	Develop the potential for alternative energy projects to reduce impact of poverty in key agreed areas where social deprivation is highest
High level Priority 14	Develop a sense of security and safety in communities in Tipperary with particular reference to the elderly and those who live in more isolated rural areas

Table 1-Community and Social High Level Priorities

The county profile of community and social facilities, infrastructure, groups/organization and services below summarizes the assets and strengths of the County in the context of achieving the above priorities. The profile helps to identify

the gaps in terms of service provision and identifies the areas and target groups in the county in most need of support.

3.1 Community and Social Inclusion Facilities in County Tipperary

Community Infrastructure can be viewed in terms of hard and soft infrastructure. Hard community infrastructure for the purposes of this section refers to community facilities, public transport services, and broadband services. Community facilities generally fall into the following categories:-

- Playgrounds
- Schools, crèches
- Community Halls
- Community and sports fields and pitches
- Churches
- Youth clubs building
- Day Care centre
- Libraries
- Childcare facilities



Figure 3 Map of Playground Facilities

Figure 3 above, it is clear that Tipperary has a good coverage of playgrounds with thirty three playgrounds located throughout the county. There are a number of areas, such as Newport, Cappawhite, Cloughjordan, and Ardfinnan which do not currently have a formal playground.



Figure 4 Map of Library Facilities in Co Tipperary

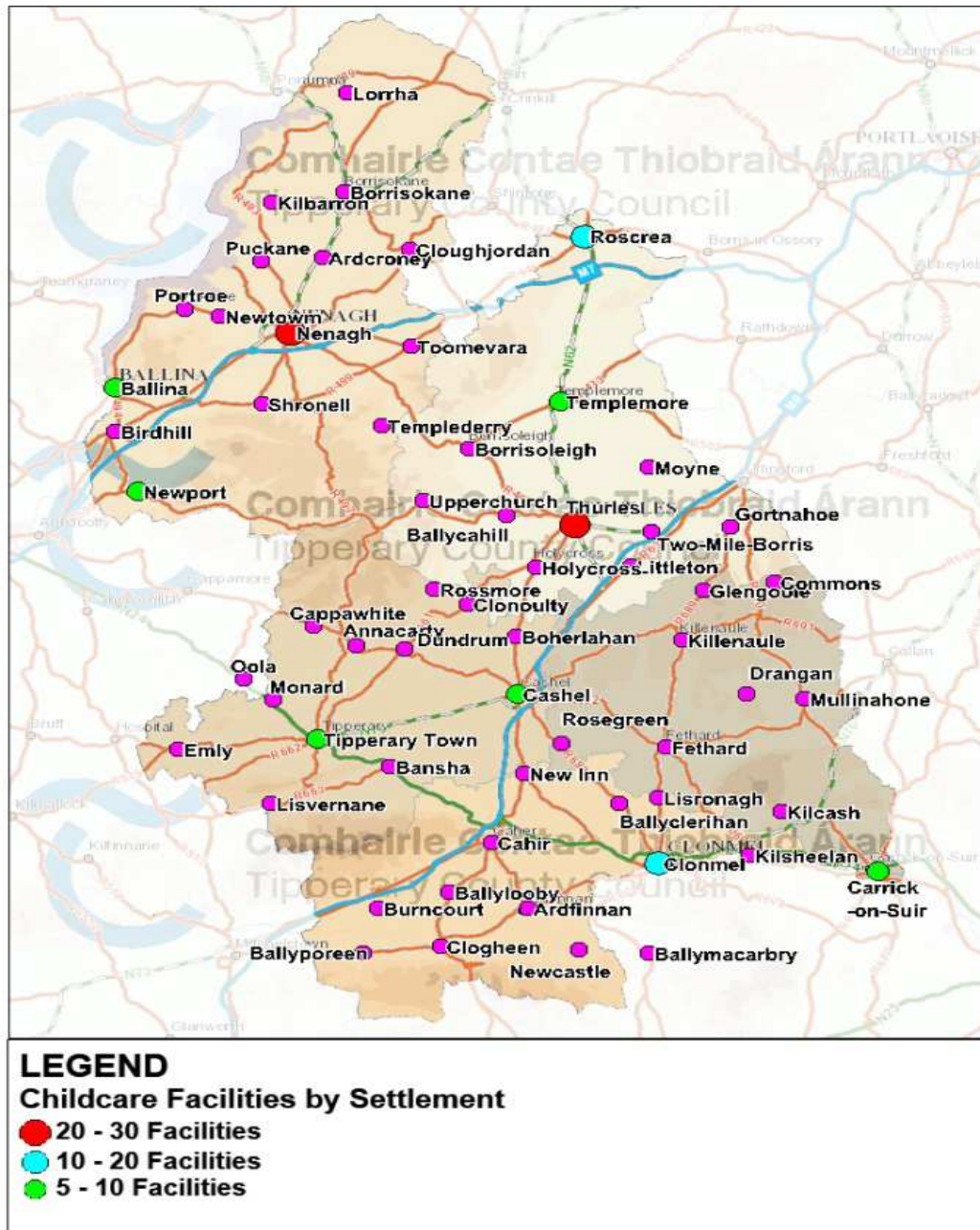


Figure 5 Map of Distribution of Childcare Facilities

Crèches are well distributed throughout the county as indeed are libraries which provide a countywide, inclusive service that is accessible by families, students, lifelong learners, older people and people with disabilities. The libraries also provide housebound services and deliver to nursing homes, day care centres and schools. As of yet, there is no all county database of youth clubs/facilities, day care centres or community halls.

3.2.1 Rural Infrastructural Services

3.2.1.1 Rural Transport Services

Access to effective public transport is important for community development and social inclusion particularly in a rural county such as County Tipperary.

Advantages of an integrated and accessible public transport system include.

- Inclusion of marginalised group e.g. those who cannot afford private car, elderly, disabled, & young people with no access to transport
- Better access to training, education and employment
- Increased community interconnectivity and cohesion
- Reduced emissions

Public Transport in County Tipperary is provided through a number of different operators a) by the national bus operator Bus Eireann; b) by the national rail service providers, Irish rail and by the Tipperary rural transport service supported by the Transport Co-ordination Unit (TCU). There are also a number of private operators who service the areas around the towns and the rural areas e.g. O'Donoghues in Clonmel and Kavanagh bus services along with a myriad of licences hackney drivers and taxis..

The CSO figures in relation to private car ownership are an indication that public transport service in the County is weak with the car ownership in the area covered by North Tipperary in particular being higher than the national average with 624 persons per 1,000 persons aged 16yrs and over (national figure 532 cars per 1000 population)

Irish Rail

Irish Rail operate three routes which intersect Co Tipperary

- Dublin –Cork/Limerick servicing Limerick Junction, Thurles and Templemore
- Dublin-Limerick via Nenagh servicing Roscrea, Cloughjordan, Nenagh and Birdhill
- Limerick/Waterford Line (Southern Rail Corridor) -servicing Limerick Junction, Tipperary Town, Cahir, Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir
- The Southern Rail Corridor (SRC) extends from Limerick City via Clonmel, to Waterford City and eastwards to Rosslare Strand where it adjoins Rosslare Europort. In Tipperary the rail line passes through the larger towns of Carrick-on-Suir, Clonmel, Cahir, Tipperary and Limerick Junction. Critically, this rail corridor connects with transatlantic, continental Europe and UK trade routes

via Waterford and Limerick Ports and by connection via Limerick Junction to the Dublin and Cork major ports.

There are twelve operational rail stations in Tipperary, Thurles, Templemore, Carrick-on-Suir, Clonmel, Cahir, Tipperary, Limerick Junction, Birdhill, Nenagh, Cloughjordan and Roscrea

Bus Eireann

Bus Eireann operate a number of expressway and local bus routes throughout the county as shown on Appendix 3. Expressway routes link the main towns including Clonmel and Mitchelstown via Clogheen and Ballyporeen. There is no bus service running North-South in the county. Nine Local bus services which serve areas in County Tipperary are also operated by Bus Eireann and are highlighted in Appendix 3.

Rural Transport Programme – Tipperary Rural Link

The Rural Transport Programme offers affordable transport to areas not well served by public or private transport companies. Many of the journeys are delivered on a door-to-door basis, collecting people from their homes and assisting them to their destination. This may involve helping older people with shopping, assisting mobility impaired passengers to access vehicles, or calling to the homes of people who may have.

Under the National Transport Authority (in line with ‘Strengthening the Connection of Rural Areas’,) a whole county Transport Coordination Unit (TCU) has been developed in Tipperary. The new company in place since June 1st 2015 is called Tipperary Rural Link. Services previously provided by NTLP have been transferred to the new company. Ring-a-Link, which operated in the South of the County, will continue to operate in the south of the County but through a direct awards contract which is managed through the TCU structure.

Rural Transport Data Analysis

An analysis of the use by the communities under the previous rural transport programme does provide a particular perspective of the effectiveness of the previous service providers.

NTLP solely serviced the northern part of the County and operated over 27 user routes (Appendix 3). In 2014 North Tipperary Leader Partnership's Rural Transport Programme (RTP) carried 27,500 passengers on 3050 services.

Ring a Link operated in the southern part of the County. Whilst it also covered Carlow and Kilkenny, almost half of all service passenger trips were delivered in South Tipperary by Ring a Link (43%). The route areas covered and the frequency of service is provided in detail in Appendix 3.

In 2014 Ring a Link carried out 33,500 passenger trips in South Tipperary. There were 588 trips where passengers needed assistance. The total ring a link passenger trips in 2014 was 78,017 (inclusive of Carlow and Kilkenny)

Passenger profile broke down broadly as follows:

	NTLP Rural Transport Service (27,500 passengers)	Ring a Link – South Tipperary Only (33,500 passengers) 40% fare payer; 60% free travel pass	Comment
Males	34% (10%)	40%	(%) readjusted figure when school runs removed
Females	66% (90%)	60%	(%) readjusted figure when school runs removed
4 – 17 yrs	34%	5%	
18 – 25 yrs	0%	23%	
26 – 65yrs	10%	33%	
65yrs +	56%	39%	

Table 2 Passengers Numbers on Rural Transport Services 2014

Gaps in Rural Public Transport Provision

There is growing pressure on the national public transport providers to reduce the level of service provided, particularly to the smaller rural communities. The national public transport providers provide a very important service to communities in Tipperary as they provide a connection to the remainder of the Country and in particular to the key towns and cities where key services lie.

Internal rural public transport connectivity is also critical to the survival and resilience of rural communities. From an analysis of the data and route coverage of the previous rural transport services (NTLP and Ring a Link), the following is of note:

- With the unification of the County, many services are now currently being provided on an all county basis rather than the traditional North/South basis; a public transport link running from the areas in a North/South axis would assist in enabling the County to operate at a more unified level particularly in the context of enabling access to employment opportunities and other community and social services
- In terms of rural transport provision, South Tipperary is in the main covered by the Ring-a-Link service. However, there are some minor pockets/areas not covered. The areas of Rosegreen and Ballyclerihan were explored for a service but there appeared to be little demand. There is no service into Cahir Town and there has been some enquiries relating to this.
- The North Tipperary Rural Transport service is not as comprehensive as the southern part of the county. Most areas are only supported by a once-a-week service – the new TCU would like to provide at least bi-weekly services. The specific areas within North Tipperary where there is no service due to funding restrictions are:
 - Toomevara, Gortagarry & Latteragh area
 - Drom, Killea & Dovea area
 - Area between Cloughjordan, Dunkerrin & Moneygall (mostly Offaly)
 - Knock area
 - Ballina, Birdhill area
- In the development of any rural transport plan, it would be particularly important that survey work is undertaken to identify the destination of potential passengers and in particular to look at this in the context of particular groups such as the elderly, the youth (18 - 25), usage by males, lone parents and migrants. Where possible, such services should try and meet their particular destinations e.g. youth reach courses; other educational/training establishments; day care centres; health centres and key towns. Data should be collated on the basis of the above groups to track progress and usage. In particular statistics on use of these services by those with a physical disability should also be collated

- It would also be critical that any rural public transport plan for the County would seek to make the linkages and connections between the private operators such as hackneys, taxis and the public transport providers through to county based TCU service and into the national public transport operators. Timeliness and frequency will be important KPIs in this regard.
- The rural transport service will also play a unique role in ensuring the sustainability of smaller villages/towns. Where such services by-pass the smaller towns for the larger town, the rationale for same should be explored and addressed in a realistic manner. In as far as is practicable the smaller town/village should not be disadvantaged.
- Timing, frequency, accessibility and the destination of services will be critical in determining whether the TCU is successful in meeting demands. It is clear from the data provided from the previous rural transport companies that passengers in the elderly and 18 – 25 youth cohorts are poorly represented in some areas.

A significant amount of work is required to ascertain the gaps and frequency of service and whether this meets the needs of the communities which it purports to serve. The TCU will play a role in mapping the current routes and identifying where gaps in service provision exists. The map of the routes will be available in 2016.

3.2.1.2 Rural Broadband

Most community groups in County Tipperary now rely on modern technology to communicate with their members, with other organisations or agencies. Over the last decade there has been an increase in the number of commercial service operators and Fibre Optic Cable has been provided in the main County Towns through the Metropolitan Area Networks (MANs) Programme (exception being Thurles). Nevertheless there are large number of areas throughout Tipperary where is no broadband provision or have largely inadequate broadband provision. According to the CSO statistics (2011), 52.7% of households have broadband connectivity in County Tipperary compared with 63.8% nationally.

Broadband is clearly one area that can assist communities, particularly rural communities to become connected and to access services in locations where physical facilities have been removed. It arose at all public consultation sessions as a significant issue and whilst there is reasonable access in the main towns, the level of services in the rural areas is particularly poor. The economic section has provided a good overview of broadband issues, and service levels and there are proposals nationally to address the deficit by 2018.

With over 400 public services now online, broadband is really now essential for access to services, information. Some of the benefits of good broadband connectivity are outlined below:

- Most community organisation or Community networks do not have adequate resources to post information to all their members and they rely on email to notify members and groups of activities, meetings, information, events, consultation opportunities and funding.
- In rural and remote areas, broadband provides easier access to services that are not available in local communities (including education, healthcare and employment services, banking, tax renewal, funding applications etc). Broadband gives fast and convenient access to more than 400 public services online.
- Broadband facilitates people to stay in touch with family members
- Access to training and education online and opportunities for 'working from home'
- Broadband connectivity also benefits people with disabilities or those who cannot access or afford transport by providing them with improved access to services in their homes
- For individuals and households, broadband provides a means of connecting with others, through email, chat, Skype, social networking and file sharing.

Connecting Communities-Broadband blackspots

In April 2013, around 1,100 rural towns and villages in Ireland were identified as initial target areas under Connecting Communities – the proposed State intervention under the National Broadband Plan aimed at connecting all communities. This programme was put in place as commercial operators have made it clear that there are large parts of the country that they cannot address. The objective of Connecting Communities is to extend reliable high speed broadband to every premise in the country where there is no current or planned high speed broadband network. Specifically, it will facilitate broadband download speeds of 70Mbps with a minimum of 40Mbps generally available and 30Mbps available in harder to reach rural areas.

The villages in Towns in County Tipperary that are to be targeted under Connecting Communities are identified.

Further locations may be identified as the mapping process continues. Similarly, it may be determined that some of the locations will be addressed by the commercial sector and accordingly will not require a state intervention.

The map below (Figure 6) highlights (in blue) areas of the country where high speed broadband will be available from commercial operators by 2016. All the areas in the map coloured amber (most of the map) will be covered by the Government intervention through the Connecting Communities Programmes

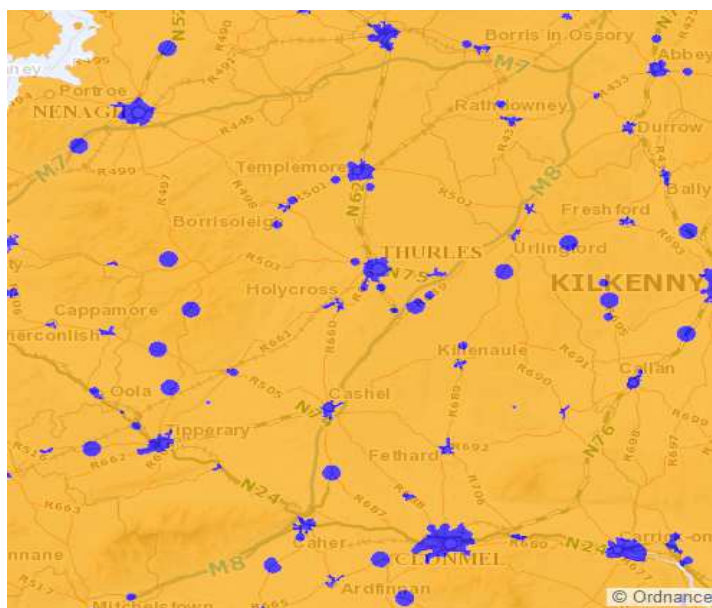


Figure 6 Map of Broadband provision in Co Tipperary (Connecting Communities)

Given the extent of the area to be covered, there may be time delays in rolling out the programme as envisaged. If this is the case, priority is to be given to providing good quality broadband connections to multi use community halls/facilities which may assist communities to address service deficits (e.g. post offices, motor tax offices) through appropriate Information Technology (IT) infrastructure. In any event, support for IT infrastructure and training in such halls should also be a key consideration. Again, access to such facilities for the youth of the area and the elderly of the area will need to be managed and supported if this is to be an effective tool to assist with service delivery. Particular support should be given to supporting the non Irish nationals and those in more isolated areas of the county to access services such as employment and health services through effective IT infrastructure.

3.3 Community and Social Inclusion Groups in County Tipperary-Voluntary

Community facilities would serve little purpose if they were not managed and used by committees and community groups. The users of these facilities come from every demographic group within that community. The groups, programmes, clubs,

committees, council and associations who meet in and manage the above facilities are known of the ‘soft’ infrastructure and include the following.

<p>Community Councils, Development Associations Hall/Field Committees Community Alert/Neighborhood Watch Tidy Towns Committees Parents Associations Active retirement groups Macra clubs Women’s/men’s groups including men’s sheds</p>	<p>Youth Services including scouts Parents and toddler groups Charities Se Vincent de Paul, Rotary and Lions Clubs Support groups e.g. AA and GROW Sports and Recreation Muintir na Tire Public Participation Network</p>
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From work undertaken in the REAL (Resilient Empowered Active Learning) Communities research (CDB South Tipperary) and arising from the output of the community consultation sessions, it is very clear that significant support is required to assist these groups to continue to be active in an inclusive and sustainable manner. One of the key genuine concerns raised during the consultations was the lack of knowledge by the groups around the variety and type of programmes and activities that could be run through their community facilities and how this could be used to help sustain and manage the facility itself and ensure that it is available to all segments of the community to use.

Public Participation Network (PPN) In order to try and support the myriad of community groups who undertake significant levels of activity and in line with Government Policy and their recognition of the valuable role of communities, a Public Participation Network has been set up in Tipperary. It is anticipated that this structure will be a significant resource for both the community itself and the service providers as it will not only assist in the communities engagement with the Local Authorities and other state agencies but it will also provide a structured and targeted support to community groups around the area of governance, structures and sustainability.

The PPN currently has over 500 groups registered and there is a secretariat of 15 members. This will be the key channel through which the Local authority and in time other agencies can engage effectively with the broader community. In analyzing the location of the 500 (approx) groups, it is clear that there is a reasonable even spread of groups throughout the county. The map (Figure 7) below demonstrates same.



Figure 7 Map of PPN registered group in Co Tipperary*

*Note: - This map is based on the postal address of the groups and therefore some of the groups in rural areas have been clustered to be represented in the towns (relating to their postal address. Areas with less than 10 groups are not represented.

All community groups who sign up to the PPN must name themselves as belonging to one of the three “colleges” which constitutes the PPN – the Community College; the Social Inclusion College and the Environmental College. Overtime, it is expected that communities which are active, dynamic and resilient will have reasonable spread of all 3 communities who have signed up to all 3 colleges. This database will be developed over time and will be used to identify where support is to be provided.

3.4 Organisations providing community and Voluntary Services and Supports

Volunteer Centre (South Tipperary only) –The Volunteer Centre was established in 2007. The centre is governed by an elected board of directors; it is managed by a full time manger and staffed by 2 part time placement officers.

They have a total number of 282 registered organizations and 1,424 volunteers active. Currently they have sum of 355 active Vacancies .e. where an organization has sought a volunteer and that volunteer has not yet been filled. All national organizations are only registered with the volunteer centre that has its head office in its area and are not reflected in the number of organizations above.

North Tipperary does not have a volunteer centre which is perceived as a weakness in terms of the supports that could assist communities. A working group comprising of members of the Sports Partnership Board and manager, Tipperary County Council, LIT and North Tipperary Leader Partnership to progress the expansion of the Volunteer centre into North Tipperary.

Citizens Information Services The services provide comprehensive information on public services and on the entitlements of citizens in Ireland

There are Citizens Information Services in the areas around the county including Clonmel CIC, Nenagh CIC, Roscrea CIC, Thurles CIC and Tipperary CIC. There are outreach services in the following areas

- Carrick-on-Suir Outreach – Nano Nagle Community Resource Centre
- Cashel –The Spafield Family Resource Centre
- Cahir Outreach –The Enterprise Centre
- South Tipperary General Hospital- Western Road, Clonmel

Overall there is a good spread of CIC in the county of Tipperary and it could provide a useful resources

Tipperary Energy Agency TEA is an independent social enterprise operating on an all county basis with the goal of supporting sustainable energy use in all sectors. Its headquarters are in Cahir.

Tipperary Centre for Independent Living (Thurles & Clonmel): provides personal support services to people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes

Tipperary Community Services Centre: provides a range of services and facilities to local community groups which include community development, training and education, childcare, family therapy and counselling

Cuan Saor: provides supports to women experiencing domestic violence including short term refuge for women and children who need to leave their home

Clonmel Youth Training Enterprise: provides community based training for early school leavers (16 – 21)

Carers Association: provides a range of support services to family carers including information on rights and entitlements, training opportunities and home respite services

Society of St Vincent DePaul: The Society works for social justice and the creation of a more caring nation. It also gives practical support to those experiencing poverty and social exclusion by providing a wide range of services to those in need. The society is active throughout the whole of Tipperary

Tipperary County Childcare Committee: This new all county committee is responsible for coordinating the provision of quality childcare provision in Tipperary. As illustrated by the map in Figure 5, there is a good distribution of facilities throughout the County. However the type of care provided (full day care or sessional) and the capacity of the facilities to address demand needs to be reviewed on an all county basis, particularly in the context of supporting and targeting the more marginalized groupings.

3.5 Local Development Companies, Resource Centres and Community Development projects

A number of providers provide an all county (or part county) community development support service and are a key support for communities in the context of mentoring; services and grant aid.

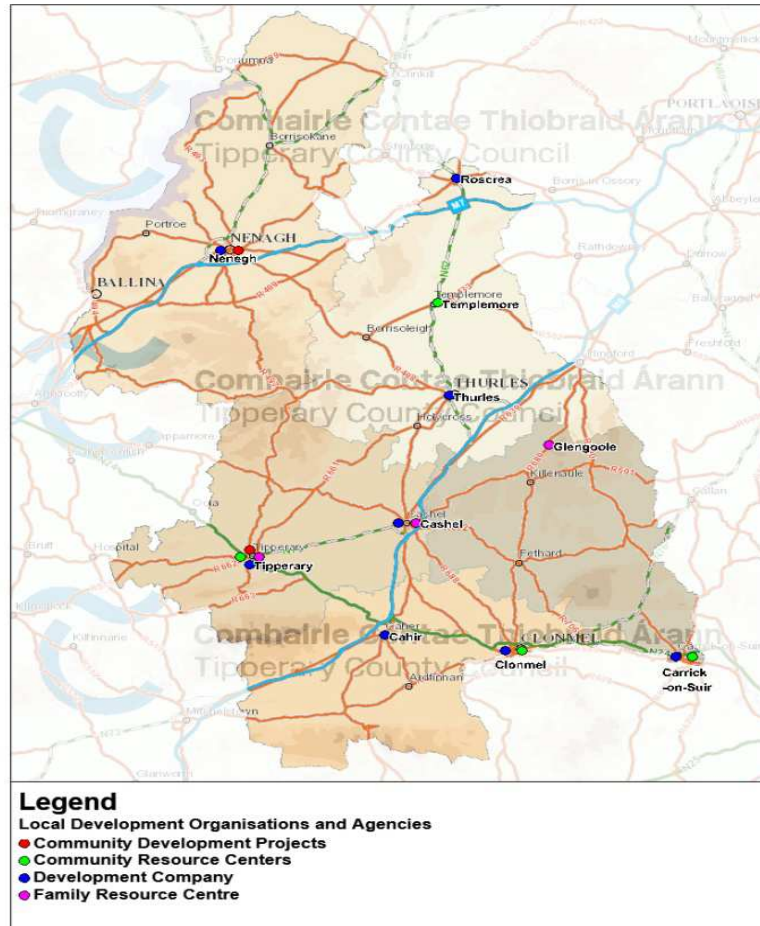


Figure 8 Map of Distribution of Community Support Providers by HQ Location

A number of local development companies (such as NTLP STDC North Tipperary Community Services, Nenagh; Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary Town; Tipperary Rural Traveller Project, Tipperary Town, Millennium Family Resource Centre Glengoole; Spafield Family Resource Centre Cashel; The Three Drives FRC (Tipperary Town); Clonmel Community Resource Centre; , McCaukley Centre Templemore; Nano Nagle Resource Centre, Carrick-on-Suir; Respond Community Centres (County-wide); and Barnardos Clonmel & Thurles) all provide important local support services to the communities they serve. Many provide specific social inclusion services to target groups and areas.

Whilst there is a good all county spread in terms of the availability of supports services, there is some deficit in the context of an appropriate outreach facility in the area to the north west of the County.

3.5 Statutory Services providing Social inclusion and Community Development supports in Tipperary

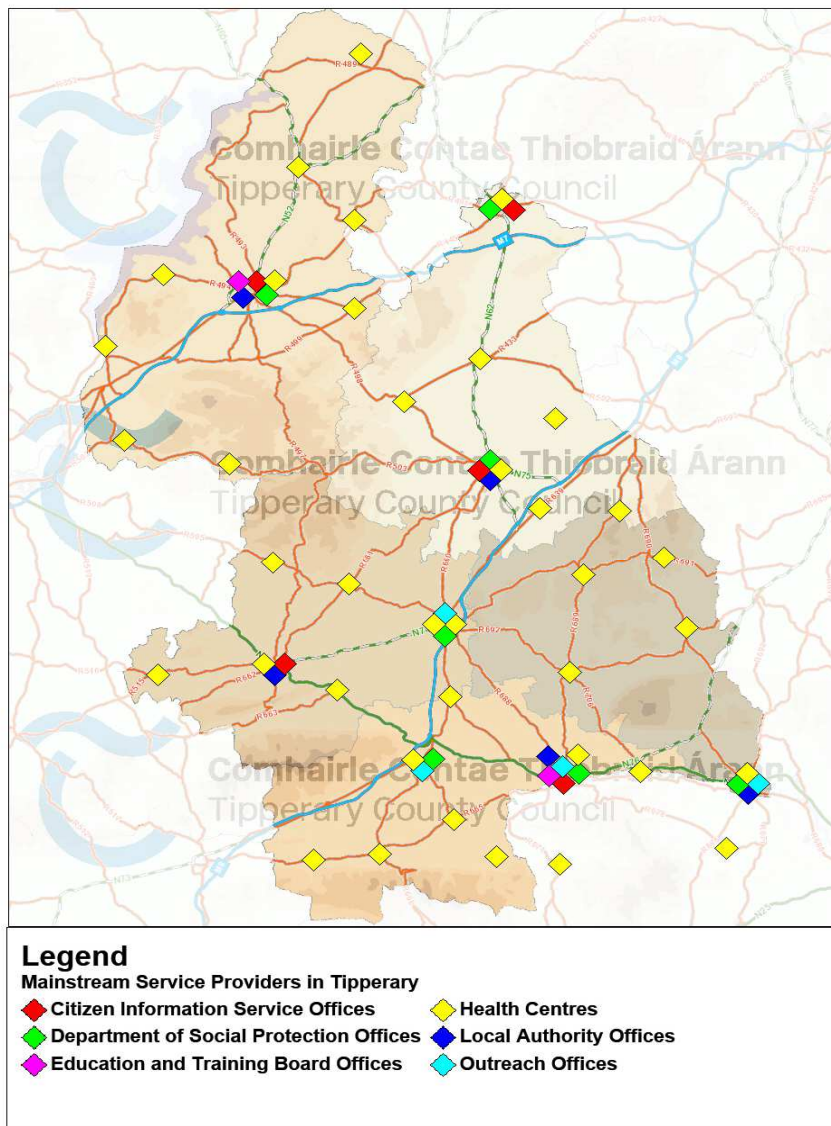


Figure 9 Map of Mainstream service Providers in Co Tipperary

Social inclusion and community development revolves around coordinating the key social inclusion priorities at County level providing housing support to those who cannot access housing on the private market and putting in place supports and structures to assist in addressing issues of social exclusion and access to services. The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) also provides supports to assist in the creation of employment opportunities, including financial, training and mentoring supports.

Department of Social Protection/Intreo Offices: The DSP provides information, guidance and support to the unemployed, including social welfare supports and services. DSP also provide regionally based training courses with a vocational focus.



Figure 10 Map of ETB Training Centres in Co Tipperary

Employability Services: the nationwide Employability service has offices in Nenagh (outreach in Roscrea and Thurles) and Clonmel and provides employment support services to people with health conditions, injuries, illnesses or disabilities as well as recruitment advice to services to the business community. The service supports people with disabilities to secure and maintain employment opportunities.

Tipperary Education and Training Board:- operates a wide and varied programme of adult education and community education opportunities which is in itself a very extensive social inclusion programme giving opportunities to early school leavers; provides community education and specialist provision around back to Education initiative; youthreach programmes; Adult Guidance in Education Service; Vocational Training

Opportunities; English for Speakers of Other Languages; Youth Services and Special Needs Support

Figure 10 above identifies the education centres spread around the county where people can access ETB training. It should be noted that there is no training centre servicing Tipperary but that the northern part of the county is serviced by the limerick training centre and the southern part of the county is serviced by the Waterford training centre.

HSE: the HSE has established a series of primary health care teams across the County. It also supports initiatives around mental wellbeing, counselling, drug and alcohol services and healthy community initiatives



Figure 11 Map of Primary Health Care Centres

Túsla: The Child and family Agency (Túsla), which co-ordinates the newly formed Tipperary Children and Young people Services committee (CYPSC) was set up specifically to support better outcomes for at risk children and their families. Túsla services include the provision of social work and family support services.

An Garda Síochána: AGS work at local level with communities to address issues of safety and security. Key programmes that are of relevance to the social inclusion area revolve around Probation Service, Juvenile Liaison Officers, Youth Diversion projects and community policing.

Probation Services: This is an agency of the Department of Justice and its role is to reduce the level of crime in the community and to increase community safety by the effective assessment and management of offenders and by facilitating the integration of ex-offenders. Locally the service is based in Clonmel and it supervises offenders on an all-county basis. The Probation service is also involved with the Restorative Justice Initiative based in Nenagh and operating throughout the county

MABS (Money, Advice and Budgeting Service) The service provides free confidential advice for people in debt or in danger of getting into debt

Barnardos: is a children's charity which works with vulnerable children and their families. Barnardos have projects in Thurles, Clonmel, Littleton and family support work includes– direct work with children, direct work with parents, whole family work and group work

3.7 Spatial Accessibility of Main Service Providers

Having the facilities of the main service provider's within a reasonable distance from the population it serves is important in the context of ensuring reasonable accessible coverage and supports throughout the county. Whilst physical distance is not the only determinant in the context of reasonable access to appropriate services, it is a reasonable indicator to use.

Education: In terms of access to school facilities, it is also worth noting that most areas within the county are within a 20 minute drive of a secondary school whilst only a handful of areas (Clogher/Clonoulty; Clogheen, Tullaghopten and Ballybacon) are between 20 – 30 minute drive. No area is greater than 30 minutes drive from a school. From a primary school perspective, all areas in the County are within a 12 minutes drive.

Medical: In the context of access to medical services, the County is well served by the distribution of GPs and the majority of the county is within 8 – 12 minutes drive from access to a pharmacy (22 EDs within 15 – 20 minutes drive). Whilst most areas of the county are within a 45 minutes drive of access to a full 24 hour emergency hospital

service, there are a number that fall within the 45 – 60 minutes timeline and these include the areas around Killea/Drom/Inch and Borrisnoe; the area around Borrisoleigh & Loughmoe, the area around Cloughjordan, Upperchurch and Kilbarron/Finnoe

Safety & Security: Figure 12 below illustrates the distance from Garda stations in Tipperary by Electoral Division. Whilst there may be issues in relation to the manning and opening times of these, it should be noted that no one area of the county is further than 20 minutes drive from a station. Those areas between 15 – 20 minutes drive are clustered around the lakes area, the Limerick Boundary, Kilcooley and just south of Roscrea

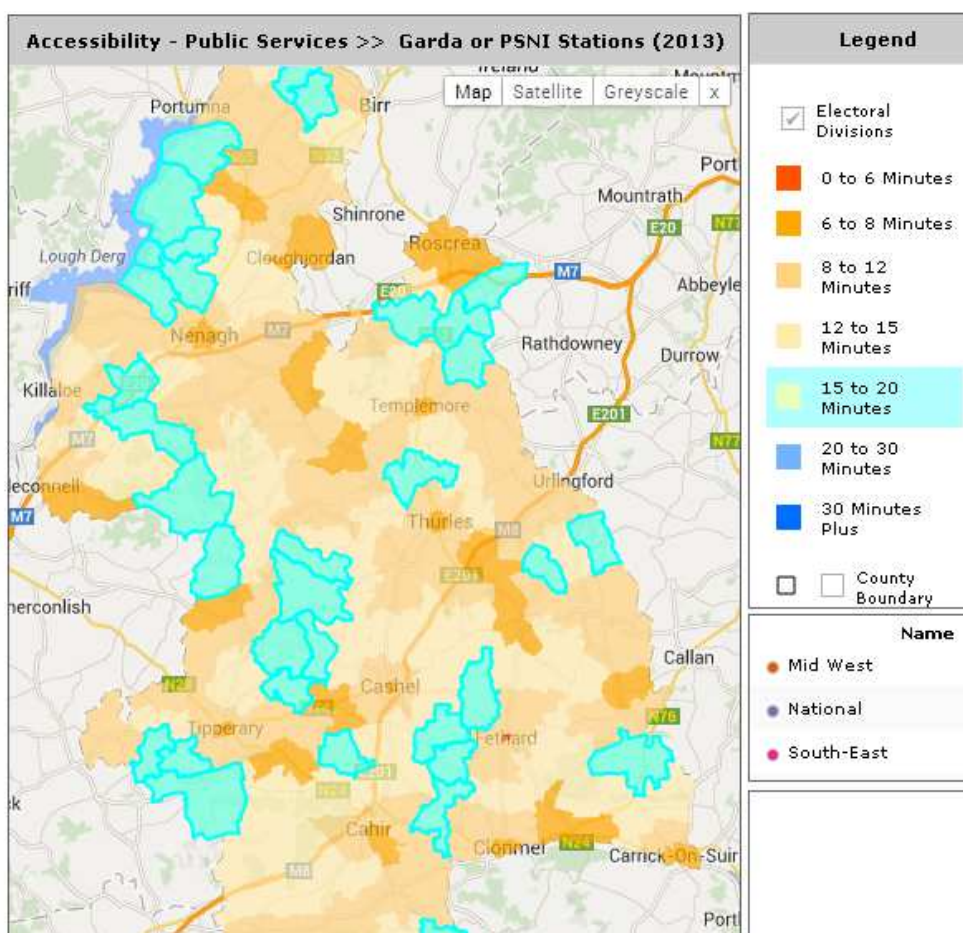


Figure 12 Map of Accessibility of Garda Stations in Tipperary

In general, it is fair to say that there is a reasonable distribution of statutory mainstream services distributed throughout the county. However, whilst the facilities may exist, this does not necessarily determine that access to the services is in a manner which meets the perceived needs of the community. However, the basic building blocks exist to ensure a reasonable level of access for all is possible all else being equal.

3.8 Youth Service Provision

Professional Youth Services are provided in co Tipperary by:

- Tipperary Regional Youth Services (TRYYS)-County wide with centres at Cashel, Tipperary and Thurles
- Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth Service-Clonmel and Cahir and surrounds
- Foroige –Carrick-on-Suir, Nenagh and the northern parts of the county
- NTLP youth Services-Roscrea and others in North Tipperary

These four youth service providers between them cover a substantial proportion of Tipperary and provide a range of youth services to young people in Tipperary including youth information centres; youth cafes, community youth projects; rural outreach youth diversion programmes; drug based supports and services and other appropriate training initiatives. TRYYS also support the Comhairle Na nOg all county structure. Of note in the map below is the level of service provided in the mid Tipperary area relative to the area to the north of Borrisoleigh. However also of note is the fact that whilst 9 facilities are Youth Service led, the remainder are all volunteer led. This is a useful indication of the level of community engagement around youth issues. The level of volunteer activity will also be important in ascertaining the level of value of these facilities.

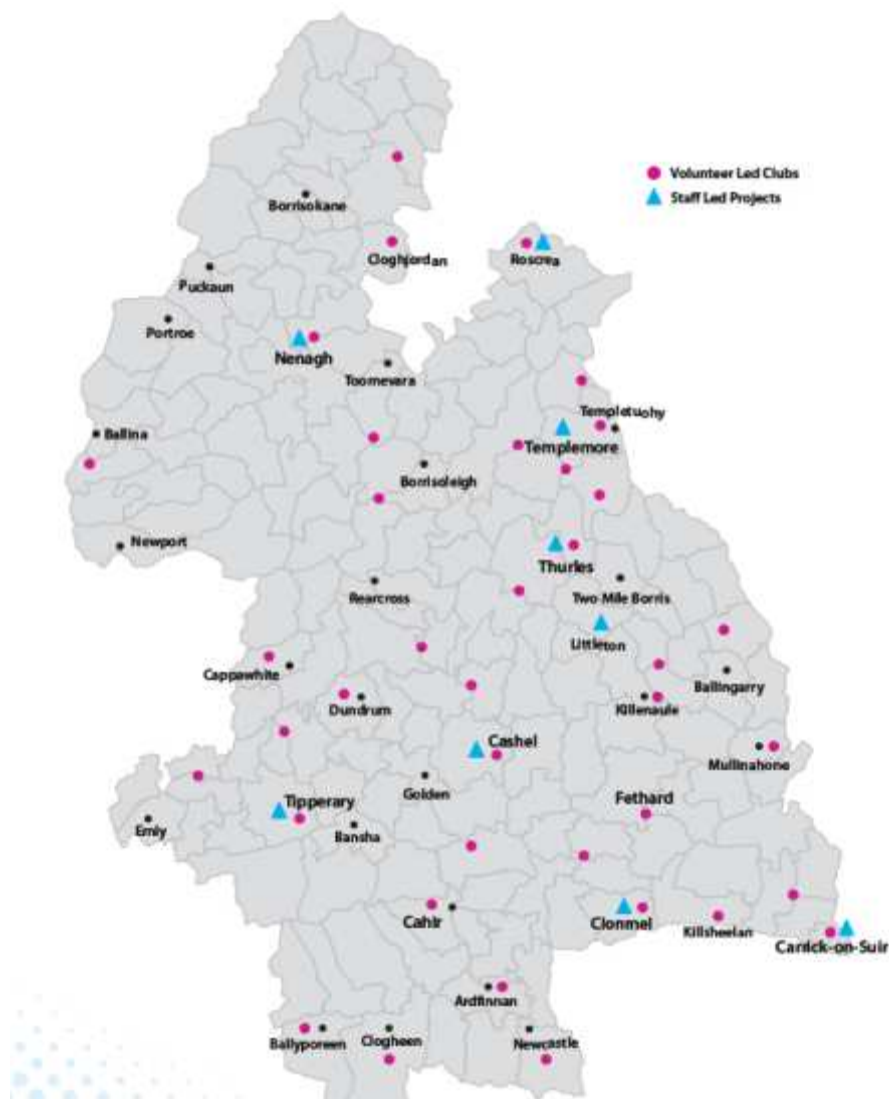


Figure 13 Map of Youth Project Provision including Volunteer led youth clubs (ETB-Demographic profile 2014)

From the above map (Figure 13) , there is a reasonable distribution of Youth led services in the county with the exception of obvious gaps along the north western boundary of the county and in particular around Newport. However, notwithstanding the distribution, the number of volunteer led youth services are vulnerable and a cause for concern and in particular there is a poor representation of such services in the Nenagh Municipal District area. One of the key needs, as espoused by the Youth Service providers is not the requirement for more facilities but the requirement for more support to run programmes in existing facilities.

3.9. Social Inclusion Networks

Due to the number of services provided by a myriad of different structures and given the multi dimensional nature of social deprivation it is inevitable that in order to coordinate service provision to the most marginalized, various themed networks have been set up. In most cases, each network developed action plans with clear priorities. In the context of this Plan, where relevant and necessary, these priorities will be carried through. The key networks developed include:

- Area Implementation Teams (AIT) in the RAPID areas of Clonmel, Carrick on Suir and Tipperary Town
- Tipperary Integration Forum (North Tipperary Area)
- A number of peer support groups for children with disabilities such as
 - Down's Syndrome Association;
 - Autism Support group
 - Tipperary Dyspraxia Association
- Men's Sheds (11 locations throughout the county)
- Tipperary Age friendly County Committee
- South Tipperary Disability Group Forum

It is also proposed that a number of new networks will be developed in 2015/2016:

- A whole county Traveller Interagency Group
- A interagency suicide prevention group in the northern and southern part of the county
- A South Tipperary area Drugs & Alcohol Task Group and a North Tipperary Community Network (Drugs & Alcohol)
- PPN linkage groups on thematic areas including community safety linkage groups and older person's linkage groups to act as community consultative forums.

3.10 Resources for Community groups and Social Inclusion Programmes

Resources for communities and social inclusion initiatives come in the form of either grant aid, loans, support services and/or mentoring and advice. Most community groups/organisations fundraise on an annual basis to support their activities. Oftentimes these funds can be used to match funds that are provided through Local Government, Statutory organizations, Central Government or European Funding.

Some of the funding lines available to support the Community and Voluntary Sector area come through the organizations and/or programmes below

<p>Scheme of Capital Grants (Local Authority)</p> <p>Other Local Authority based grants (Tidy Towns; Community Initiatives; Festival Grants, Burial ground; Play & Recreation; Suicide Prevention Day Grants; Retail Grants etc)</p> <p>Enterprise grants – LEO (TCC)</p> <p>ETB Youth group grants</p> <p>Rural Development Programme Grants</p>	<p>Sports Capital Funding</p> <p>Dormant Account Funding</p> <p>Lottery Grants (HSE & DCYA)</p> <p>Volunteer Centre RUTT Initiative</p> <p>Rural Transport Services (non grant)</p> <p>Social Inclusion Community Activation programme(SICAP) (non grant)</p> <p>IPB Community funding (operated through the Local Authority)</p>
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Other resources available to Community groups include Volunteers through the Volunteer Centres, TUS workers, CE participants, and RSS workers. Group also have access to information through the Family Support Directory, Newcomers Guide, Mental Health Directory and Citizens Information's Services and publications

3.11 Conclusion and Commentary

Arising from the above, the following is of note:

- Tipperary is well supported by mainstream Social Inclusion Service Providers. The challenge now is to try and maximise their abilities to work more effectively together
- The local community development support structures are also extensive throughout the county. Whilst there may be gaps in some particular areas relative to a local service, overall they are well placed to work with the main stream providers in terms of accessing hard to reach areas and target groups at risk of social exclusion.
- An Garda Siochána stations are reasonably well distributed throughout the county. Whilst there may be issues in relation to the manning and opening times of these, it should be noted that no one area of the county is further than 20 minute drive from a station. Those area between 15 – 20 minute drive are clustered around the lakes area, the Limerick Boundary, Kilcooley and just south of Roscrea
- Most areas within the county are within a 20 minute drive of a secondary school whilst only a handful of areas (Clogher/Clonoulty;; Clogheen, Tullaghopten and Ballybacon) are between 20 – 30 minute drive from a secondary school. No area is

greater than 30 minute drive from a school. Primary school sae also well distributed throughout the county and majority within a 12 minute drive

- Given the fact that some locations in the county are more distant from services than other areas, it is critical that the county is able to support active resilient community groups so as to ensure that all parts of the County have appropriate access to services.
- Of particular note in relation to the location of structures generally is the structural weakness in some areas such as that area north of Borrisokane, the area south of Glengoole and north of Carrick on Suir and the area to the mid northwest of the county (north of Tipperary Town). Part of this is explained by the settlement structure of the county but it is important to ensure individuals in these communities to have appropriate access to services.
- The number of groups registered with the PPN in the context of the over-all numbers is reasonable (500 approx in July 2015) but most of the Social inclusion type groups are located in the towns with a poorer representation in the more rural areas (due perhaps to the more rural communities registering as “community groups” in the more rural areas as they have a more geographic focus but they will also deal with social inclusion issues.. Additional work would need to be undertaken in the northern part of the county in terms of encouraging the development of more social inclusion groups.
- Need to review the type of childcare services and facilities on an all-county basis and in particular to focus on their effectiveness in targeting more marginalised groups.
- Youth service provision has a reasonable spread in most of the county with the exception of the Nenagh Municipal District area and in particular along the north western boundary (Newport). Greater resource provision and supports are required for this sector and in particular more robust support for the volunteer led facilities

Playgrounds

- To develop an all county playground development and maintenance policy to ensure that there is a planned approach to playground development and support appropriate to their position on the settlement hierarchy. Communities to have a significant role in same.
- Target funding and support to those significant settlements where there is a deficit of playground facilities and prioritise according to the location in the settlement

hierarchy. In particular target those areas where there has been significant population growth and no playground infrastructural provision

- Targeting of resources where the playground facility of poor quality and requires substantial upgrade or relocations (e.g. Cashel)
- Secondary funding and supports to be provided to community groups to assist in maintenance, repair and management of those playgrounds already developed

Libraries:

- There is significant potential to use library facilities as appropriate outreach facilities for certain type of activities and support. This should be further explored
- Opportunities to be explored to further develop mobile libraries to access the more remote areas of the county

Rural Transport

- Develop a public transport plan for the entire county which shall ensure a particular focus on
 - Increased usage by the elderly, youth, males, lone parent and non Irish national and to ensure there is appropriate connectivity to their key destination needs such as youth-reach centres; health centres; training courses, day care centres and towns
 - North south connectivity and which addresses key areas which have a deficit in rural public transport, particularly on the Nenagh Municipal District and the Thurles/Templemore Municipal District
 - Ensure that the smaller towns are not by-passed in the linkage with the larger towns in order that their services are also afforded the appropriate opportunity to be sustained.

Broadband

- Examine the possibility of developing pilot community schemes to deliver high speed broadband into key areas
- Within community fatalities/centres, explore options to run programmes to up-skill the community, including assisting older people, the Long Term Unemployed and those with disability to access internet services, information via email accounts etc.

Supporting communities to be active and resilient communities:

- Assist community groups to be active and relevant in an inclusive and sustainable manner and in particular to address governance issues to facilitate this aim

- Support communities to develop appropriate programmes of activities around their facilities and to effectively manage the facility in a financially sustainable manner
- Based on the PPN map, community development animation to focus on
 - Those areas where there is a relatively low level of community activity
 - Review the governance structures of those community groups who are active and have a reasonable level of activity
 - In time, address deficits in key areas which are poorly represented in a college area relative to the county “norm”
- Extend the existing volunteer centre to North Tipperary area
- Use the existing state funded agency supports to ensure there is adequate coverage throughout the county and explore the opportunities to develop a multi use outreach facility in the north western part of the County

Community Infrastructure

- Need to develop a new all county audit of community facilities and identify where the key deficits exist in the context of community facilities
- Develop benchmark of the type of facilities required for settlements of varying sizes
- Identify priority areas of public transport market failure
- Prioritise delivery of broadband to multi use community facilities and develop appropriate programmes to ensure appropriate usage by key cohorts of the population

Soft Infrastructure

- Assist community groups to be active and relevant in an inclusive and sustainable manner, focusing in particular on governance issues
- Provide appropriate supports to assist in increasing the usage of facilities and develop and host more programmes and activities for all levels/age groups
- Provide supports to assist communities to sustain facilities
- Target animation and capacity building support to those areas where there is poor/weak community structures
- Extend the Volunteer centre to the North of the County

Community Supports

- Use existing support structures to facilitate community development objectives as relevant

Community Resources

- Where public resources fall under the influence of the LECP, target these at the identified LECP Community objectives.

SECTION 4 Community and Social Demographics

Tipperary is a rural county with a number of medium sized towns reasonably well dispersed throughout the county. As a result of its rurality, delivery of services and the retention of services will continue to prove a challenge, even in times of good economic growth. It is therefore critical that the County retains and further develops its strong community structures and linkages so that it can maximize and sustain appropriate services to its citizens. Strong vibrant communities are critical for the well being of the County.

From research undertaken in Toronto, it would appear that that a high quality of life and wellbeing is related to many personal and community-related factors as well as to the existence of objective and perceived realities. Some aspects of Quality of Life require action on the part of the individual themselves and their immediate social unit. However, others can be provided by the community and by society at large. A strong vibrant community is not just reflective of the population structure and type in which it sits, but is also dependent upon access to key services, a range of appropriate community facilities and supports and perception of a reasonable level of safety and security.

When assessing these key areas in the context of priorities, it becomes clear that there is a very strong interrelationship between all. A core element to all of them is the need to assist and support sustainable and resilient communities, in a manner that meets their needs

Within this context, rural isolation and the perception that services in rural areas are being slowly eroded are a significant cause of concern for rural communities. The closure of Garda stations, pubs, local shops, and services, government offices, banks schools and the removal of public transport routes have all contributed to a real feeling of isolation, lack of connectivity and lack of accessibility to key service facilities by those communities who are not attached to towns. It is also perceived to be leading to a weakening of community structures, particularly in the less populated areas of the county.

No overall research has been taken on the level of service closures within Tipperary and how this has really impacted on the quality of life of the citizens. In fact whilst there is a desire on all citizens part to have a “better quality of life”, it is difficult to state what this benchmark is and whether we are scoring low or high on this scale. It is an area that requires attention if only to allow appropriate measurement of how public services are performing in the context of the perceived and wellbeing of life needs of the citizens. It would also assist in defining what is a reasonable rate of public service delivery relative to a citizens location in the county and relative to other citizens in the region.

In reality, not all services can be provided in each community or settlement but it is reasonable for all communities and citizens to expect that they have reasonable access to such services. In the context of access to educational supports; health supports; social welfare supports and other basic services. Whilst it is important that such are available online, it is also important that they can be accessed where necessary by bus or other form of public transport.

Quality of life can also be impacted on by the level of connectedness of a community – the quality of interactions both within itself and with other key stakeholders. This can define the quality of the services, facilities and supports that are available to a community. It is therefore critical that communities are enabled and supported to work for themselves and engage appropriately with key agencies. Where such connectedness is weak, the LECP will focus on opportunities for improvement.

Amongst the indicators of a weak community structure are population decline; poor or non-existent community facilities; poor take-up of grant-aid and other support opportunities; low numbers of active community organisations; and low or declining numbers in the organisations which do exist. If properly resourced and used The Volunteer Centre and the PPN are two mechanisms that can assist in supporting greater connectedness, but there are other significant supports which could also be leveraged.

In addition to the priority issues above, consideration also needs to be given to particular cohorts which emerged during the consultation processes and in particular during the statistical analysis – the elderly, the youth, lone parents, unemployed people and non Irish national population etc. Particular support and priority should be given to those community groups who actively seek to be inclusive of their more minority cultures and people in their community at risk of social exclusion.

Connectedness and well-being within a community is also enhanced by access to the more non-essential services that sometimes are viewed as only being available within the larger centres. Services such as library access; heritage; festivals, arts and sports are vital to tying communities together and giving them a sense of purpose. It is desirable that all communities are provided with some level of support in this area. Often, the facilities available within a community are not considered for such uses and the experience is that there is underutilization of such facilities. The experience of communities to date is that a lot of energy is expended on building the infrastructure but that once constructed, facilities are often underutilised. There is a need to support and build the capacity of communities to develop activity programmes for community facilities to maximise the use of the facilities in providing services based on the needs of the local community. This is an area that needs

specific attention, particularly given the level of public and community funds invested in these buildings and the many gaps in service provision at community level. There is a need to support and investigate opportunities for communities to develop social economy programmes that could deliver services for their local communities.

4.1 Community Demographics

It is difficult to obtain directly relevant CSO statistics which can illustrate the health or otherwise of a community. From analyzing some of the economic and social data, it is possible to get an indicative picture of the vitality or otherwise of the community. For more in-depth information or analysis, local research and data will be the key informants. However it is useful to note at this stage that as a result of the County's previous existence as two separate entities, there are very few if any documents which can provide a whole county perspective.

From the CSO perspective, population density and the pyramidal structure of the population would be one reasonable indication of the health of a community. A potentially healthy community should have a pyramidal structure whereby the middle section of the pyramid (aged between 18+ - 55) is more robust and populated and should balance out the numbers on the aged/youth section of the pyramid. Where there is a significant bias towards either the youth sector (under 18yrs) or the older sector (>65yrs), this represents an imbalance which has the potential to pose challenges for these communities.

Population density and the sub division of the population into the youth and elderly cohorts can provide a reasonable indicative overview of where the potentially stronger communities are located and within this, the key concentrations of the younger (0 – 18) and older population cohorts (55+)

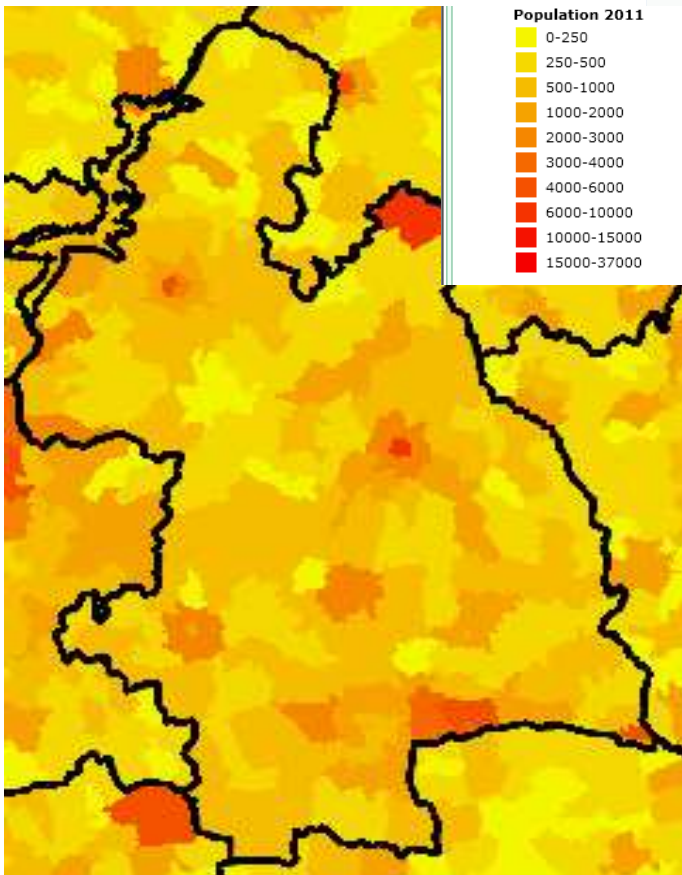
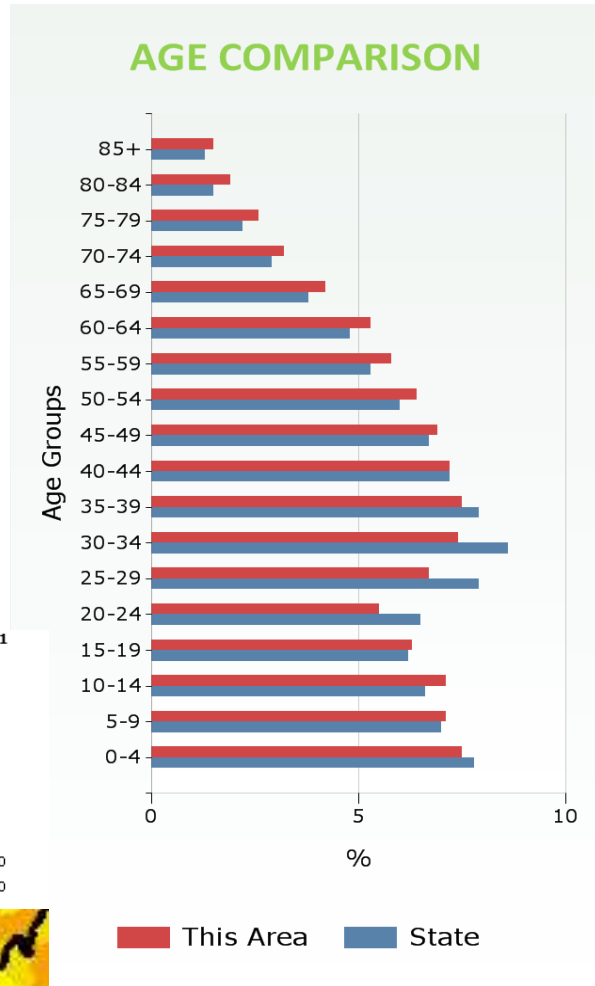
4.2 Population Structure & Density

The total Tipperary Population in 2011 was 158,754, consisting of 79,584 males and 79,170 females. This was an increase of approx 6.37% between 2006 – 2011. Structurally, the population is relatively stable with some potential vulnerability around the loss of those in the 20 – 34 age cohort and the stronger ageing population sectors (compared to the state average). Tipperary also exceeds the state average in the context of the cohorts from 5 – 14 years

The table below provides a good overview of the population structure relative to the state average.

Demographics

Population :	158,754
Males:	79,584
Females	79,170
pre-school age (0-4)	11,947,
primary school going age (5-12)	17,966
secondary school age (13-18)	12,753.
65 years and over :	21,196



even from the above statistics that the population in Tipperary is still primarily rural

(particularly given that the remaining towns with a population of over 1500 between them account for a population of 15,349 persons). This has implications in terms of targeting resources and maximizing the efficiencies of scarce resources and of ensuring that there is an appropriate distribution of service centres distributed throughout the county

The CSO map for Tipperary below illustrates the level of density by ED. The more sparsely populated areas in the county are highlighted below in Figure 15 below .

The population of the county rose by 6.37% between 2006 and 2011 (CSO). The areas with the greatest population increase of over 20% were Ballina, Ballycannon, Cashel Rural, Clohaskey, Clonmel Rural Emly, Greenhall/Lackagh, Kilcash, Rathlynin.

Areas of population decline of approximately 10% or more include Templederry, Templemore, New Birmingham (Glencoole), and Inch

Areas of declining population are listed in the table 3 below. The EDs with declining populations are, Templederry (141 people) and new Birmingham. Larger areas with declining population are Tipperary' East and Clonmel West and Clonmel Urban. Not surprisingly these figures correlate with deprivations scores. The RAPID areas of Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Tipperary Easy and Clonmel Urban and West Urban continue to show high scores. Conversely some areas with rising population e.g. Roscrea population rose by 7% from 2006-11 do have high deprivation scores (-7.94), other EDs such as Finnoe (near Borrisokane) and Farranrory (Slieve ardagh) have show significant deprivation with scores of -13.62 and -10.23 respectively with very little (+1% approx) population increase

ED Name	Total Population 2011	Deprivation Score 2011	Population Change 2006	Population Change 2011
ARDSALLAGH	435	-0.92	8.69	-6.05
BALLINGARRY	531	-2.36	-1.54	-7.49
BALLYGRIFFIN	250	1.37	2.43	-1.19
BOURNEY EAST	255	-1.76	-4.18	-7.27
BURGESBEG	405	1.24	1.67	-4.71
CAHER	1153	-0.81	12.83	-4.32
CARRICK-ON-SUIR URBAN	4352	-13.90	2.97	-2.00
CARRIG	174	-0.22	1.08	-7.45

CARRIGATOGHER	686	0.58	9.98	-2.70
CASHEL URBAN	2275	-8.01	0.42	-5.72
CLONMEL WEST URBAN	5699	-11.97	-6.19	-6.97
CULLEN	282	-4.85	11.81	-0.70
CURRAHEEN	285	-4.75	5.59	-5.63
FENNOR	539	-5.47	5.73	-2.71
HOLYCROSS	1394	-1.45	-0.07	-2.04
INCH	413	0.15	7.36	-8.63
KILCOMMON	2134	-8.17	-1.47	-0.74
KILFEAKLE	461	-4.22	5.13	-2.12
KILNANEAVE	473	-2.11	2.95	-3.07
KILPATRICK	970	-2.99	12.19	-2.41
LITTLETON	1088	-8.07	-1.47	-4.23
LORRHA EAST	319	-4.55	2.74	-5.62
LORRHA WEST	321	-2.12	8.78	-7.49
NEW BIRMINGHAM	435	-11.59	21.66	-9.94
POYNTSTOWN	178	-8.69	3.24	-6.81
REDWOOD	128	-7.26	-8.39	-2.29
TEMPLEDERRY	141	-3.41	-12.78	-10.19
TEMPLEMORE	1941	-6.79	4.45	-13.92
TIPPERARY EAST URBAN	2467	-14.83	-5.51	-6.30
TULLAMAIN	683	-1.89	37.30	-1.30
TWOMILEBORRIS	807	-1.95	14.15	-2.89

Table 3 CSO Data showing Population, Population Change and Deprivation scores by ED in Tipperary

The CSO map for Tipperary below illustrates the level of density by ED. The more sparsely populated areas in the county are highlighted below on map shown in Figure 15 below.

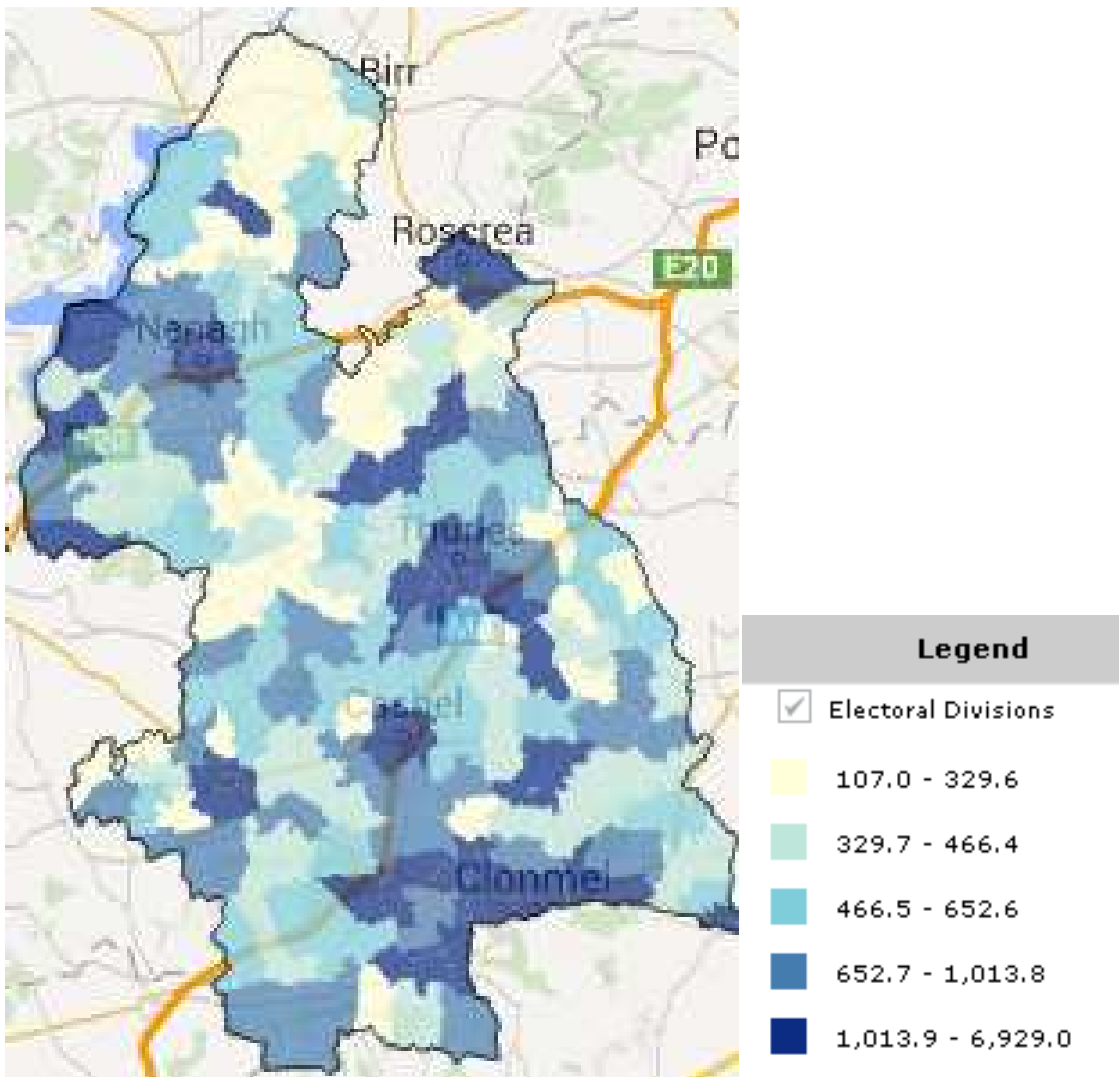


Figure 15 Map of Population Density

These areas are concentrated to the very North of the county i.e. around Lorrha East and West Redwood (128), Aglish (229) Uskane (241), Finnoe & Carrig (174) in addition to the diagonal line running from Roscrea to Newport (Bourney east (255) ,Borisnoe (107), Borrisnafarney (296), Dolla (235), Templederry (141), Upperschurch (329), Clogher (244) Curraheen (285) and Glencar 273) are areas where population density is weak. Pockets of areas with low population are also seen near Sologhead (238), Cullen (282) and Bruise (360), Rodus (255) and Ballygriffin (250). Some of these areas are also show up as having a high deprivation index e.g. Cullen, Redwood and Templederry-see Table 3 above. Further work would need to be undertaken to establish the level of activity of communities in these areas and if there is a need to

concentrate supported community activity development in this area. Clearly this is not the only potential indicator of a weak community and other data sets will need to be examined such as for instance, the level of uptake of grant assistance, the number and type of community groups etc.

4.3 Social Inclusion Demographics

The map below lists the electoral areas of greatest deprivation in the county.

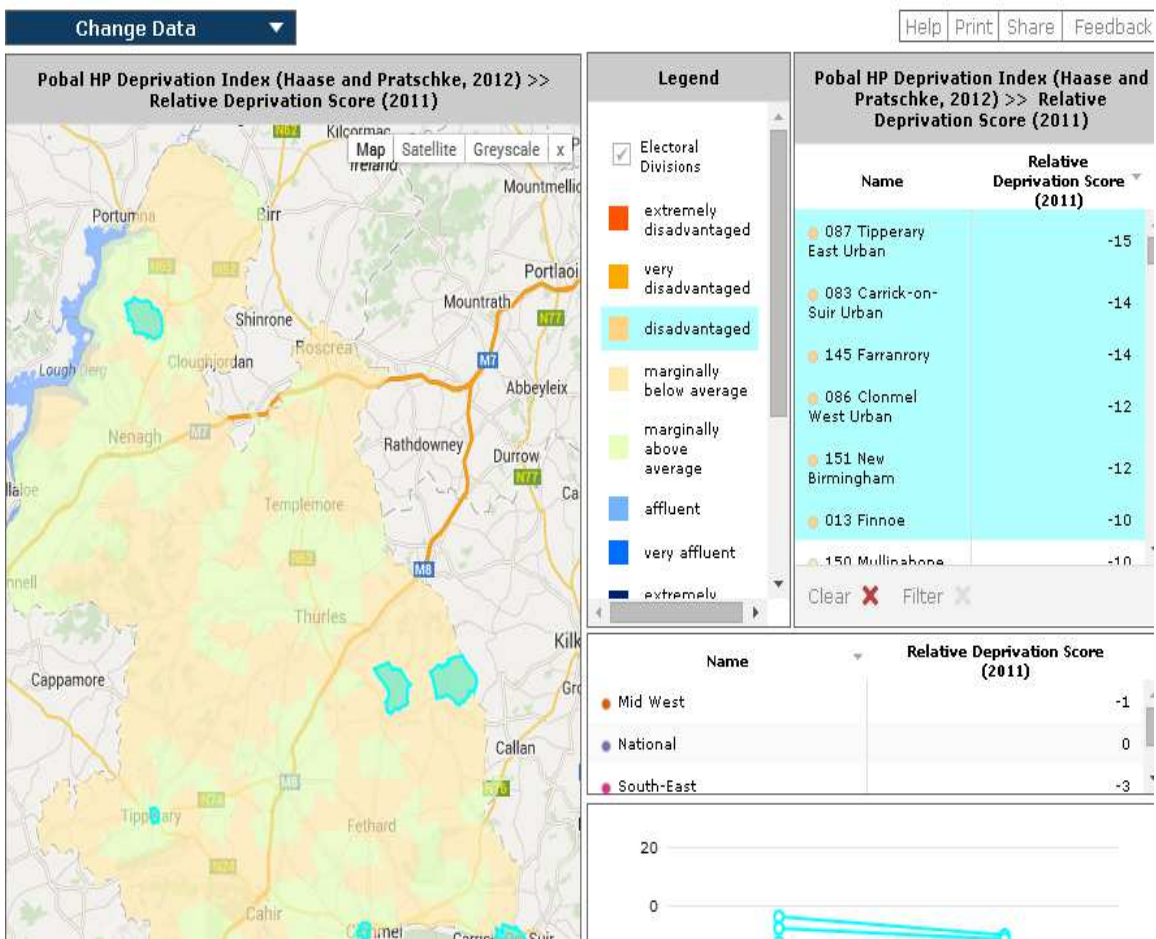


Figure 16 Map of Electoral Areas of Deprivation in County Tipperary

The relevant electoral areas include Tipperary east Urban, Carrick on Suir Urban, Farranrory, Clonmel West Urban, Glengoole, Finnoe and Mullinahoe as being areas of relative disadvantage when compared to the national average and when compared to the county average. When the population figures of these locations are taken into account, it is

clear that the greatest disadvantaged areas on an all county basis continue to be the main RAPID towns of Tipperary, Clonmel and Carrick on Suir.

However, in order to obtain a more in-depth analysis of the extent of marginalization, a more detailed analysis can be obtained at the small area statistical level. The following Tables 4&5 provides a synopsis of the findings

Small Areas	Total Population	Deprivation Score 2011
Tipperary East Urban	258	-25.00
Roscrea	220	-24.40
Tipperary East Urban	268	-23.90
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	359	-22.70
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	223	-22.30
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	298	-22.00
Nenagh East Urban	137	-21.80
Nenagh West Urban	209	-21.70
Roscrea	167	-21.60
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	234	-21.50
Roscrea	307	-21.20
Littleton	301	-20.80
Clonmel West Urban	228	-20.50
Roscrea	270	-20.40
Carrickbeg Urban	283	-20.20
Tipperary East Urban	179	-20.10

Total population living in very disadvantaged areas	3941	2.48%
Total population of Tipperary	158754	
Table 4 Deprivation index small areas with 'very disadvantaged status		

Small Areas clusters with disadvantage or very disadvantaged score	Population
Clonmel area	5075
Carrick on Suir area	3507
Thurles	2741
Tipperary area	2699
Roscrea	2588
Nenagh area	1977
Kilenaule/Slieveardagh	1842
Cashel area	1032
Templemore	880
Kilcommon (Cahir)	808
Ardfinnan	419
Borrisokane	415
Clogheen	381
Emly	326
Table 5 Small Areas clustered with HP score of disadvantage of very disadvantaged	

18.69% of the population who live in "small area units" have a Pobal HP 2011 Deprivation Index² of disadvantaged or very disadvantaged. .

2.48 % (3941 people) of the population of Tipperary live in a small area with a Pobal HP Deprivation Index of “very disadvantaged”. The following is a list of small areas that have a deprivation score of over -20 i.e. very disadvantaged.

Table 4&5 above shows the areas of the county which, when defined as close geographic clusters have a HP Deprivation Index of disadvantaged or very disadvantaged. Disadvantaged areas are dispersed throughout the county in both urban and rural areas.

In fact, as one drills down through the small area statistics, what becomes evident is that there is a clear correlation between the areas of disadvantage and very disadvantaged with the location of local authority housing estates. This is not surprising as local authorities only house those who are most in need of housing. This level of detail should assist in focusing and targeting programmes and resources on those areas which are most in need.

Whilst there is no town with a RAPID status in the northern part of the County, it is clear from the evidence above that the long term social deprivation issues also need to be coherently addressed in Roscrea, parts of Nenagh, Littleton, Thurles and parts of Templemore. Due to issues around resourcing and priorities, it will not be possible to roll out full RAPID type supports to all of these settlements. However, on reviewing the statistical evidence in the round, it is clear that for a number of reasons both Roscrea and Littleton stand out as requiring particular support. There are already strong service providers in Nenagh and the level of complex issues facing Thurles is not as significant as those facing Roscrea and Littleton, where, in particular, there is the added challenge of a strong traveler population as a proportion of the settled community and the myriad of disadvantage and lack of opportunities that this bring with it.

Rural areas too continue to show persistent trends of strong deprivation with the Slieve Ardagh Area, the Ardfinnan/Clogheen area, the Borrisokane area areas showing strongly. Particular actions targeted at these very rural areas are required.

4.4 Actions arising from identification areas with poor community sustainability and the highest level of Social Deprivation

For the most part, the weaker rural communities are those where population is declining, where there is a greater than average proportion of the over 65+, high deprivation index data and where the level of grant aid is weaker than in other areas. Particular attention and focus ought to be brought to bear on these areas listed below and assistance and support provided where necessary.

In the context of addressing complex social deprivation issues on an area basis (and mindful of other initiatives to be undertaken on a target groups basis), it is clear from the above broad analysis that there is a reasonable correlation between population location, deprivation and dependency. The following areas ought to be considered for actions in the context of addressing those areas with the highest level of social deprivation

- Continual focus to be brought to bear on the existing RAPID towns of Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Tipperary as they are the most marginalised, have a strong youth population and have the greatest level of unemployment and long term unemployment
- Additional actions and an integrated approach to be prioritised for both Roscrea and Littleton (see traveller section below) given their very significant level of disadvantage at the Small Area Level and given the unique culture of the Littleton population
- Secondary priority to be given to addressing social deprivation in the following areas:- Nenagh; Thurles; Templemore, Templederry area, Slieve Ardagh/Killenaule; Ardfinnan/Clogheen/Kilcommon(Cahir) area, Newport Mullinahone; Cashel; and Borrisokane
 - In particular, any action in these areas should assess the value of targeting those local authority estates where the deprivation index is >- 20

Section 5 Community Facilities Audits and Funding

In terms of identifying weak or undeveloped communities, it is useful to look at the distribution of community facilities and services and explore the level of uptake of grant aid and supports that is available. The findings of the Audit Reviews undertaken in North and South Tipperary are of some value here as are the level of funds which have been grant aided over the years by both the County Councils and the Local Development Companies. However, when linked with the CSO data above, a reasonable indication of the areas which have weak or few appropriate community development structures becomes apparent.

5.1 South Tipperary Community facilities Audit 2009

An audit of all communities in South Tipperary was carried out during the period June to December 2008. Its main purpose was to establish the current level of provision and inform future investment in facilities based on the outcome of the audit and with regard to identified local needs. The audit documented and mapped community facilities including sport facilities.

The Community facilities Audit (2008) enumerated a total of 302 publicly accessible community, sports and arts facilities in 73 settlements in the southern part of the county. The audit clearly shows that some areas have more facilities than other areas. As one might expect, the facility per head of population ratio differs significantly between urban and rural areas: one facility for every 220 urban dwellers compared to 327 rural dwellers

The ratio of facilities to the population in the five towns in South Tipperary is shown on the table 6 below

Town	Population 2006	Number of Facilities	Population per Facility
Clonmel	15,482	54	286
Carrick-on-Suir	5,856	29	202
Tipperary	4,415	26	169
Cahir	3,381	16	211
Cashel	2,413	19	127

Table 6 Number of Facilities per town and per capita population

KEY FINDINGS-South Tipperary Audit 2009

- Information on the condition of the community facilities highlights a mixed building stock with one quarter of facilities having been built prior to 1900 and almost 10% of facilities having been built since 2000. Two thirds of the facilities that were built prior to 2000 have been refurbished during the last decade,
- The majority of community facilities (38%) use oil-fired systems, followed by electrical heaters (20%) and gas-fired systems (19%). One facility cited a wood chip heating system
- The types of investment needed to improve community facilities as identified by the respondents included: The provision or refurbishment of toilet facilities, roof repairs or replacements and the provision or upgrading of heating systems. These represented the most frequently required types of work, followed by replacement of windows, provision or upgrading of kitchen facilities and a general expansion to create more space.
- A description of the measures enabling wheelchair access revealed that in the majority of cases, the entrance to the building was perceived to be wheelchair accessible (i.e. with entrance ramps or by way of level access), but that other building requirements were lacking.
- Parking facilities are available in 74% of facilities with an average of 24 spaces.
- Less than one third of the facilities are serviced by public transport, the primary mode cited being bus services (provincial and town bus services or Ring-a-Link).
- Only three community facilities were identified that did not provide toilet facilities.
- Connectivity to telephone services, such as analogue lines or broadband, was comparatively poor.
- Approximately two in ten facilities had either type of telephone line available, although many respondents expressed the need for some form of telephone connectivity, ideally broadband, in order to use the facility for computer courses and similar activities
- Respondents found it difficult to specify usage frequency as most small and medium sized facilities open on a needs-only and ad-hoc basis, rather than providing standard opening hours. Seasonal variations further complicated quantification. Approximately one quarter of facilities (23%) are open for use for 20 hours or less per week.

5.2 Community Facility Audit in North Tipperary

In October 2005, the North Tipperary Sports and Community Facilities Audit Data Analysis Report October 2005 was published.

A total of 263 facilities were surveyed as part of the facilities audit. The audit broke down the facilities on a parish basis. Similar to the South Tipperary Audit (2009), North Tipperary found that some areas were better served with community facilities than others. Areas around the centres of population are the best served which is not unexpected. There was a wide range of both public and private facilities in the county.

Thurles had the most public sports and community infrastructure within the county, with 31 public facilities (12.8%). Roscrea has a total of 22 public facilities (9.1% of the total in the county). In contrast, the parish of Kyle and Knock has only one public facility - Knock Community Hall. Nearly 40% of all public facilities within the county are located in five parishes, with the remainder being distributed across 24 parishes. Furthermore, 20 of these parishes each have less than 10 public facilities.

KEY FINDINGS (North Tipperary Audit 2005 – Sports Partnership)³

- The parish of Thurles not only has the highest number of publicly owned facilities, but the DEDs of Thurles Urban and Thurles Rural combined have the highest level of facilities per population in the county (14.3% of total North Tipperary population)⁴.
- Private facilities tend to be restricted to a narrow range of types and are located, in general, in the larger urban areas
- There is an acknowledgement that many facilities require improvement and many organisations are intending to develop their facilities, though they are discouraged by a range of barriers as outlined below
- Making application for and obtaining planning permission for improvements seems to be a difficult for many groups.
- There is a wide variety of perceived quality of facilities with many pitches in particular being deemed to be of poor quality
- The issues facing those wishing to improve their facilities are very variable. The five top issues, however, suggest that the scale of the facility, and finance issues are the key factors that need to be addressed.
- Access to facilities is variable with many being restricted to members of specific clubs or sports
- Only about 50% of facilities have any organised booking system

⁴ CSO, 2002 Census of Population, Volume 1 - Population Classified by Area

- The heating systems for centres may need to be looked at given the current dependence on oil.
- The ownership of facilities is concentrated in quite a few sectors. The co-operation of these sectors will be critical in the future improvement of quality and access
- The ownership and management of facilities are not always the same though there does seem to be considerable overlap between them
- Facilities for those with a disability are limited. The perception that improvements are not needed may be a reflection of a failure of understanding of need rather than a reflection of the adequacy of facilities in this regard.

It is important to note that both audits collected slightly different data due to their different perspectives and are thus not directly comparable. There is no available map of the North Tipperary facility audit.

Notwithstanding this, the facilities audit is useful in that it does provide an indicator as to the issues facing the Communities and the challenges that they are struggling with in the context of delivering for their areas. Another interesting finding from the South Tipperary audit in particular is the low level of usage of the community facilities by older persons and by the younger persons. This also came through in the consultation processes undertaken with the LECP and it is not unreasonable to assume that it is also likely to be a feature of the North Tipperary facilities.

It is also important to note that since the above audits were completed, a substantive level of funding has been provided through the Community Sports and Cultural grants (NTCC), the Scheme of Community Facilities Grants (STCC) and the RDP Programme 2007-2013 (STDC and NTLF) which has led to a significant improvement in community facilities.

Notwithstanding this, the quality of some of the facilities in the settlement centres throughout the county varies widely and improvements to heating, electrical and plumbing systems as well as disability accessible features and energy/water saving features are a requirement in many facilities. Broadband infrastructure is also lacking in most. An updated and comprehensive audit of the community facilities is required to provide specific information of facility quality County wide and to ensure that funding is targeted at those areas which are most in need. It will also assist in identifying those communities who are most in need of supports around capacity building and active

community engagement. In the interim, the deficits as identified above ought to be prioritized.

5.3 Funding Take Up By Communities

5.3.1 Grant take-up through the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

From 2007, funds have been dispersed through the Rural Development Programme throughout Tipperary

The distribution of funding from STDC up to December 2013 is shown below. It should be noted that the information below does not just relate to community grant uptake but also relates to individual enterprise grant take up. However, on the basis that in the region of 75% of the above fund was drawn down by Community groups, it is reasonable to use it as an indicator in the context of the distribution of spend in the relevant part of the County

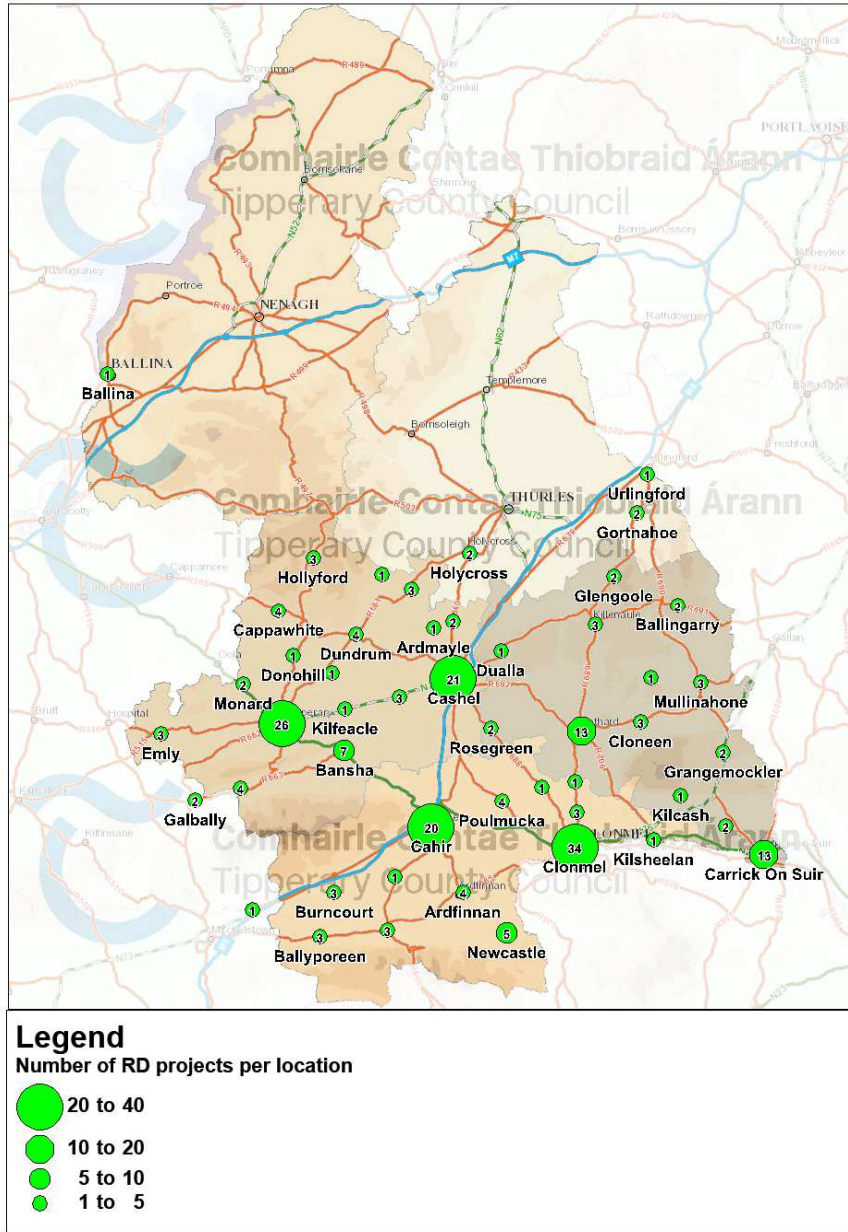


Figure 18 Map of Distribution of RDP Funding in Tipperary Southern

KEY FINDINGS- RDP 2007-13 STDC

The STDC RDP funding shows a relatively even spread across the county with the majority of investment expended in the 5 large towns. Fethard, Newcastle and to a lesser extent Killenuale have all obtained reasonable access to RDP funds.

There does appear to be some areas where there is lesser investment especially considering that the light blue grants represent funding of up to €5,000 (smallest category).

The area west of Cahir (Bansha & Aherlow) and the north west of the old STCC have received only small levels of funding - similarly the area north of Gortnahoe. Over the 5 years, there are a number of more rural isolated areas which have received low levels of funding and this may need to be explored further

KEY FINDINGS- RDP 2007-13 NTLP

A significant level of RDP funding for community projects was also provided by NTLP. Figure 19 below shows an spread of funding with some concentration on the main towns. The red symbol of the map depicts the number of projects that were funded by NTLP that an North Tipperary remit (e.g. thematic or programme) rather than a geographical basis.

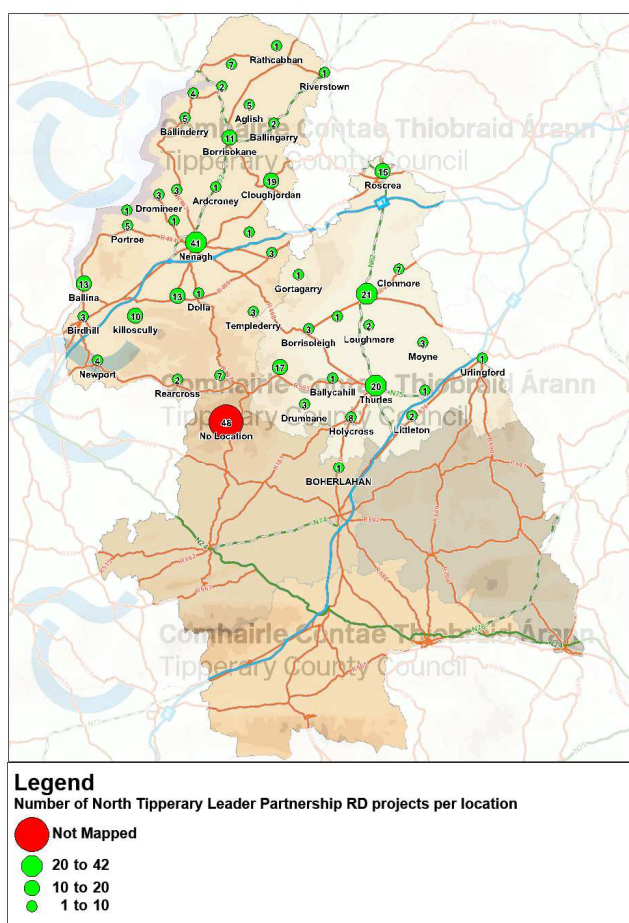


Figure 19 Map of Distribution of RDP Funding in Tipperary Northern area

5.3.2 Community Facilities Scheme (STCC) & (NTCC)

The map below (Figure 20) illustrates the level of funding made available through the South Tipperary Community Facilities Scheme between 2005 and 2009. This map is relatively up to date as very few grants have been paid out since 2009. The map demonstrates a concentration of funding in the towns which would be expected. Outside of the key towns, there is a reasonable spend in the areas around Annacarthy/Cappawhite/Donohill and Ballyclerihan. The eastern area of the old South Tipperary, particularly the north eastern portion of the county has not been as successful in its use of this scheme.

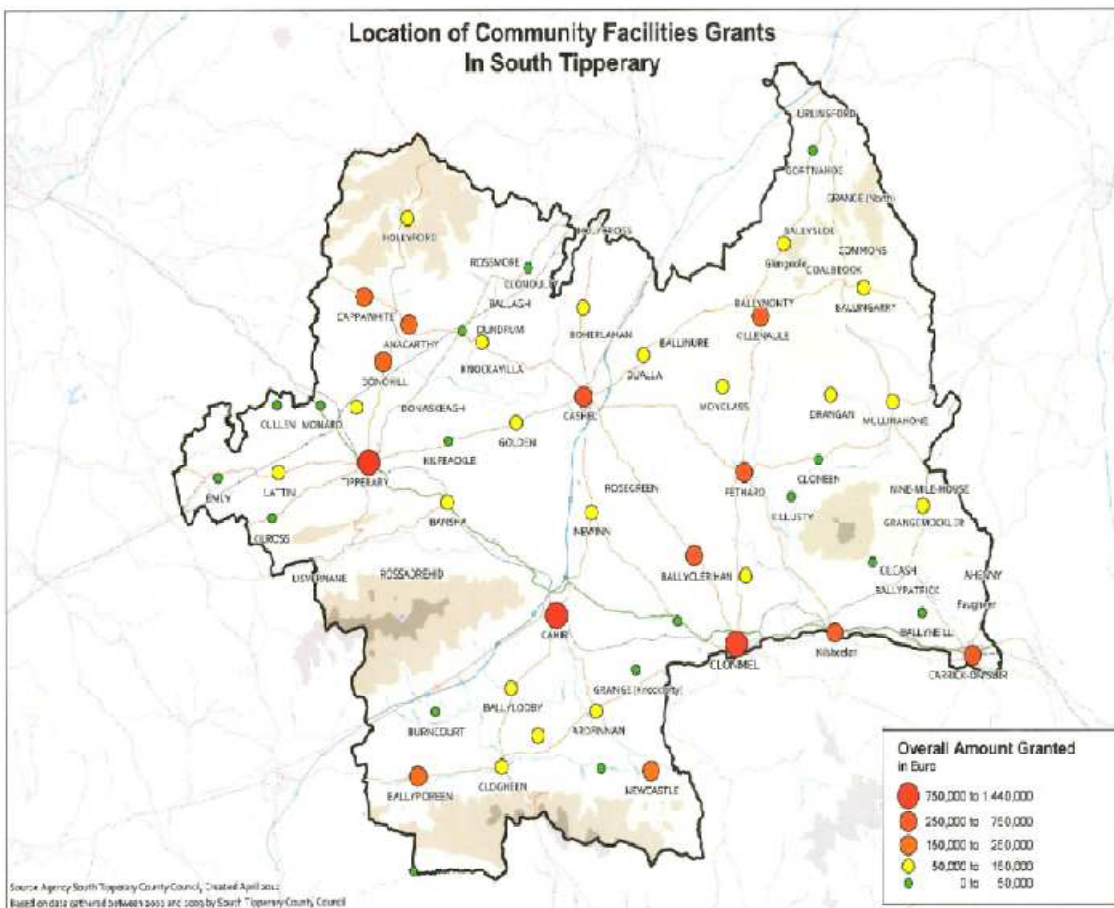


Figure 20 Map of Distribution Community Facilities Grant Aid (Scheme of Capital Grants STCC) to Community Groups in South Tipperary 2005-2009

It is also worth noting the graph below (figure 21) in relation to the category of spend on facility type in the south Tipperary area. The greatest expenditure was on sports facilities, Community facilities, youth facilities and playgrounds.-

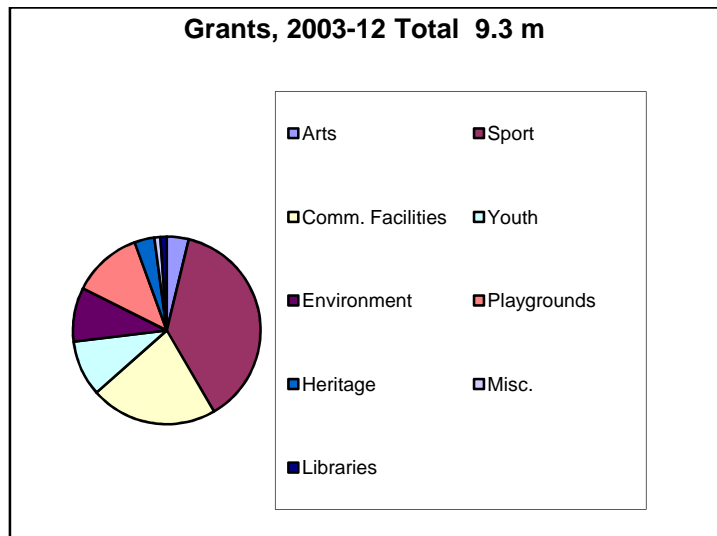


Figure 21 Distribution of South Tipperary Scheme of Capital Grants but Project type 2003-2012

Whilst over Eight million euros in funds over a 5 year period was expended by the STCC in Community Facilities Grants to communities. €4,524,235 was also expended by NTCC between July 2009 and December 2012 (Community Sports and Cultural Scheme). Whilst this expenditure has not been mapped to date for the northern part of the County, it would not be unreasonable to assume that the greater spend was taken up by the key towns and that the remainder was spread in a reasonably balanced geographical manner (given the way in which the development levies were collected and spent). It would be important in any future spend of community development levies monies to map and categorise same for the entire county so that trends and gaps can be identified.

5.4 Settlement Tier/Facility Matrix

An assessing both sets of data from the LA and the Local Development Companies,, it is reasonable to state that there appears to be a relatively balanced distribution of community facilities support throughout the County . But it is also clear that there are some areas which appear to have a greater density of community facilities and services than other settlements/parishes of similar size. When the facilities in the various settlements are benchmarked against their position in the county settlement hierarchy, a more informative spatial pattern should emerge and it should greatly assist in identifying where the key priorities should be focused. This process was undertaken in STCC prior to the Local

Authority merger and the DIA (District Impact assessment below) below sets out the facilities/services which it is desirable to see provided in each of the rural settlement tiers (this is based on the Settlement Tier/Facility Matrix as identified in the District Impact Assessment in Practice Document (STCC Forward Planning 2009).

District Service Centre

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ❖ Post Office | ❖ Sports Hall |
| ❖ Local Shop/Garage | ❖ Community/Parish Hall |
| ❖ Bring Bank Facilities | ❖ School |
| ❖ Church/Graveyard | ❖ Playground |
| ❖ Doctors Surgery | ❖ Childcare Facilities |
| ❖ Outdoor Sports Pitches/Clubhouse | |

Local Service Centre

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ❖ Post Office | ❖ Community Hall |
| ❖ Local Shop/Garage | ❖ School |
| ❖ Bring Bank Facilities | ❖ Outdoor Sports Pitches/Clubhouse |
| ❖ Church/Graveyard | ❖ Childcare Facilities |

Settlement Nodes

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| ❖ Post Office/Local Shop | ❖ Bring Bank Facilities |
| ❖ School | ❖ Church/Graveyard |
| ❖ Outdoor Sports Pitches | |

It would be desirable if the new County Development Plan developed a similar benchmark structure which would allow subsequent programmes to target those settlements where the deficit is greatest and which would assist Communities to build up the deficits in their own areas in accordance with their location on the settlement hierarchy.

5.5 Community Services & Village Environments

A good quality environment is critical to ensuring a good quality of life and sense of wellbeing. One of the more significant issues that were raised on a number of occasions during the public consultations revolved around good quality environments and in particular strong vibrant villages and rural settlements. The fact that communities were experiencing what they perceived as a significant withdrawal of services from their villages and towns posed a real fear for them that their way of life was being denuded and that there was little regard for their quality of life/wellbeing of their own community and social connections. Derelict sites, undeveloped waste ground, poor quality public open space, poor streetscape environments and little or no appropriate development all led to a bleak and negative perspective of the potential survival of rural settlements and villages.

If “Physical Belonging” is viewed as a key “reflection” on quality of life, it is important that there is a defined programme to try and address not just the removal of services and

facilities from these settlements but also a programme identified to address the streetscape and public space quality of the settlement/village setting. A priority programme would need to be drawn up which focuses on the type of works that need to be undertaken. The priorities should reflect the settlement hierarchy, their role from an economic and community perspective and the level of degradation comparable to the county average. Ensuring all communities can relate and connect with a settlement that they are proud of is invaluable in the context of improving people's lives.

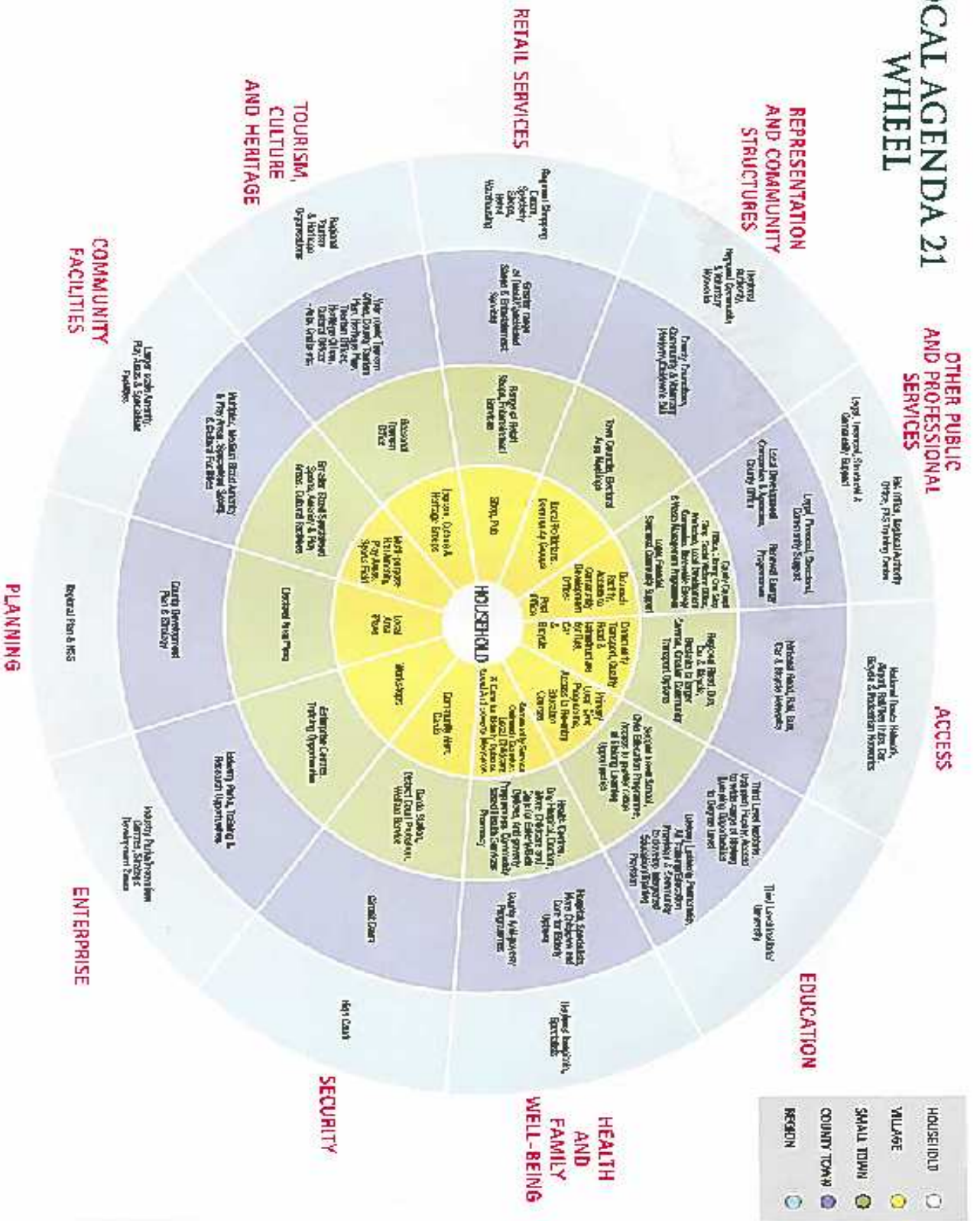
The Wheel Model as demonstrated by the Local Agenda 21 Sub-Committee of the former South Tipperary CDB provides a useful basis for identifying the type of services and facilities access which could be expected to provide a good quality of life and sense of wellbeing.

This would be a useful way to commence the linkage of facility development and service provision and a consensus could be reached on the degree of access to such services that should be available to members of communities living within the County (within the capacity of the various stakeholders to deliver).

Additional survey work on the appropriate level of service access and supports for different community types is required on an all-county basis and should form part of the process used in the preparation of any new development plan for the County. This should also assist in addressing expectations as to the levels of access which can be expected within different communities. Where such facility and access is significantly below the "norm", the LECP will seek to prioritise and seek opportunities for improvement

From work undertaken to date, it is clear that the mapping of the facilities is a key required action in the context of deciding on priorities. As such a key action of any LECP should be to develop a more robust all county database of such facilities and benchmark this according to their location on the settlement hierarchy.

LOCAL AGENDA 21 WHEEL



5.6 Community Resilience

In 2012, under the South Tipperary County Development Board, a sub group titled “The REAL (Resilient Empowered Active Learning) Communities Programme Management Group undertook some significant work in the area of resilient and robust communities.

The plan recognized that a number of agencies and organizations are involved in activities that can be loosely described as being involved in the “development of communities of different kinds”. Many of these organisations and agencies bring resources of one kind or another to the activity. The objective of this Action Plan was to co-ordinate the proactive community development activities of agencies and organisations that can assist in the creation of strong and resilient communities so that such communities would be more effective partners with agencies and support organisations in the future.

The Plan demonstrated that communities which exhibited the characteristics below would be in a good position to improve their areas and provide safeguards for the community organisation. These characteristics included :-

- Good governance structures and processes
- Ownership of assets that are important to the functioning of the community
- Awareness of their own resources
- Volunteering activity at a significant level and contributing to the work of the organisation in a sustainable and effective way
- Good systems of decision making that are clear, accountable and responsive
- A small range of issues being addressed at any one time
- Good communication systems within the organisation and between the organisation and those it represents
- A system of fund-raising established within the community to assist in the capacity to access external funds

It is interesting that the plan put in place through the REAL Communities back in 2012 captured a significant number of the current issues and concerns of community groups which were raised during the consultation process of this LECP. A number of the priorities identified in the REAL Communities plan have the potential to be very relevant to the priorities identified for the county of Tipperary - particularly in the context of vibrant and

sustainable communities. The above priorities are clearly ones which all community groups should strive to attain and these should be the focus of any capacity work undertaken by the relevant agencies in supporting more resilient communities

5.7 Conclusion & Key Points to be Actioned

It is also important to ensure that any supports provided in the manner of developing physical assets, have a life cycle structure so that they do not become obsolete once the community moves onto the next stage in its cycle. It is acknowledged that whilst the larger towns appear to have a strong impact in terms of facility development and grant aid accessibility, sectorally weak communities exist within these towns and they should continue to receive support. However this aspect will be particularly addressed under the social inclusion section.

Finally, there needs to be some attempt to identify the level of facilities and support that at a minimum are required to ensure that communities are supported to remain vibrant and resilient. The Planning section of the Council had undertaken some work –see section 5.4 above (in relation to the reasonable level of service that ought to be in place in relation to settlements of various sizes. In the absence of all else, this could provide a good baseline from which to start. This initiative would also be particularly helpful in identifying the level and type of community facility and service that ought to be available in each of the relevant settlement tiers and whether there are gaps in this provision or otherwise. Such a benchmarking exercise would assist greatly in targeting scarce resources and ensuring that there is a targeted approach to addressing deficits in the community. The Planning section can also be informed by the population type and make provision accordingly (i.e. where there are significant elder numbers, provision and use of facilities for day care purposes/day care activities should be encouraged and likewise with areas where there is a strong youth population).

It is clear, with the changing times that services will not continue to be delivered in the manner in which they were in the past but services should be capable of being accessed through other means. There are a variety of ways in which to do this but for it to be effective, strong engaged communities and facilities are required. Options around social enterprise development; cooperative developments; greater use of IT, social media and

online facilities are only some options that must to be explored. There will be particular issues to be addressed with the elderly in terms of accessing these facilities. The PPN will be particularly important in this regard as an appropriate link through which services can operate

SECTION 6 Social Inclusion Target Populations and Groups

6.1 Long Term Unemployed

Framework Priority 2: “The need to reduce the level of high “long term” unemployment in the County in those areas where it is highest and in particular to work with those groups who have particular difficulty entering workforce such as those with a disability; persons with previous additions; travellers and ex-prisoners”

6.1.1 Relevant National & other Policies

National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016 - Under Goal 5, ‘Employment and Participation’, it is proposed to target support for 50,000 long-term unemployed from welfare into education training and employment. It also proposes to reduce by 20% the number whose total income comes from social welfare payments.

National Social Report 2014:- Under 3.2, ‘Action Measures’, the focus is on targeting activation places to long-term unemployed through *Pathways to Work* strategy, 2012. It’s key aim is to further embed progression paths from welfare to work. Other long term unemployment supports and strategies (for both employers and the unemployed) include the operation of the *JobsPlus: JobBridge and the Gateway schemes*

Action Plan for Jobs, 2013. The Government have pledged to provide approximately 51,000 places for long-term unemployed across a range of further and higher education and training. It aims in particular to address the needs of the under-25's.

The OECD in its review of the Action Plan for Jobs emphasised that more needs to be done to target activation efforts among long term unemployed, low-skilled and young people, as these groups are particularly at risk of becoming marginalised and permanently detached from the labour market. The OECD in the same Report is critical of the CE Programme, proposing that its continuation should be reconsidered as not particularly cost effective or successful at getting participants back into full-time employment. Resources should be gradually withdrawn and redirected to more effective Active Labour Market Programmes or to subsidising the development of a modern apprenticeship programme.

6.1.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

Department of Social Protection/Intreo: DSP offices are located in Nenagh, Roscrea, Thurles, Tipperary, Cashel, Cahir and Carrick-on-Suir. Intreo office is located in Clonmel . These offices provide advice and support to claimants of JSA, BTEA, BTWEA, and a range of other schemes and programmes.

Tipperary Education and Training Board (TETB): Provides a broad range of education services in the county including to the long-term unemployed via the Back to Education Initiative, which offers FETAC-certified training. It is also responsible for the Adult Learning Scheme, Community Education, Adult Guidance in Education Service, Vocational Training Opportunities (VTOS), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). TETB has adult learning centres located in a number of centres, urban and rural, across the County.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP): provides employment and progression programme for those individuals most distance from employment. North Tipperary LEADER Partnership and South Tipperary Development Company are the programme implementers for this programme in the county.

Employability Service Tipperary: Service for job seekers with a disability or support need who require assistance in securing employment. Offices are located in Nenagh and Clonmel.

Local Employment Service: Acts as a hub or gateway to the full range of services and facilities that are available to help jobseekers to enter or return to employment. In County Tipperary there is a single LES which is located in Carrick-on-Suir.

Tipperary County Council supports the Local Enterprise Office (LEO in Nenagh and Clonmel. The supports range from providing an initial "First Stop Shop" service where individuals can receive advice on the steps involved in setting up a business, to the

provision of grants for feasibility studies, provision of financial support for the establishment of new businesses and the provision of a range of soft supports such as training and mentoring.

Compass Employment Support: Operated by South Tipperary Development Company, this programme supports jobseekers through: sourcing employment opportunities, CV preparation, interview advice, self-employment support and advice. Provides outreach support in RAPID Clonmel, Killenaule and Tipperary Town.

Rural Support Scheme: Provides income support via a Farm Assist payment to farmers and those under employed in the fishing industry and in receipt of a long term welfare payment. It is intended to provide a social service to the community by utilising the skills of participants.

Mens sheds provide a range of supports for people who are unemployed and tend to be a place where men can get some personal and peer support that can support their progression.

6.1.3 Statistical Overview

According to the 2011 CSO statistics, there were 75,328 persons aged 15 and over in the labour force and of these, just over 80% were at work. The unemployment rate was 19.9%* in Tipperary with an average rate of 19% in 2011. 5 . The unemployment rate amongst the travelling community is 84.51% (CSO 2011). The unemployment rate of people with disabilities in County Tipperary is 32.9% (CSO 2011)

As is evident from Figure 22 below, In 2011, the highest number of unemployed persons in the county were concentrated in the key towns of Roscrea, Thurles, Carrick on Suir, Clonmel, Nenagh and Tipperary Town in addition to smaller towns of Cashel and Ballina.

Name	Unemployed 2011	Name	Unemployed 2011
059 Roscrea	742	087 Tipperary East Urban	410
004 Thurles Urban	704	001 Nenagh East Urban	359
083 Carrick-on-Suir Urban	702	085 Clonmel East Urban	347
086 Clonmel West Urban	627	084 Cashel Urban	257

*Rate of Unemployment: the total number of people unemployed (unemployed plus looking for 1st job) as a percentage of the labour force (total people at work plus total people unemployed).

002 Nenagh West Urban	587	125 Kilcommon (Cahir)	252
133 Clonmel Rural	436	096 Cashel Rural	224
		027 Ballina	216

Table 7 Unemployment level per ED 2011

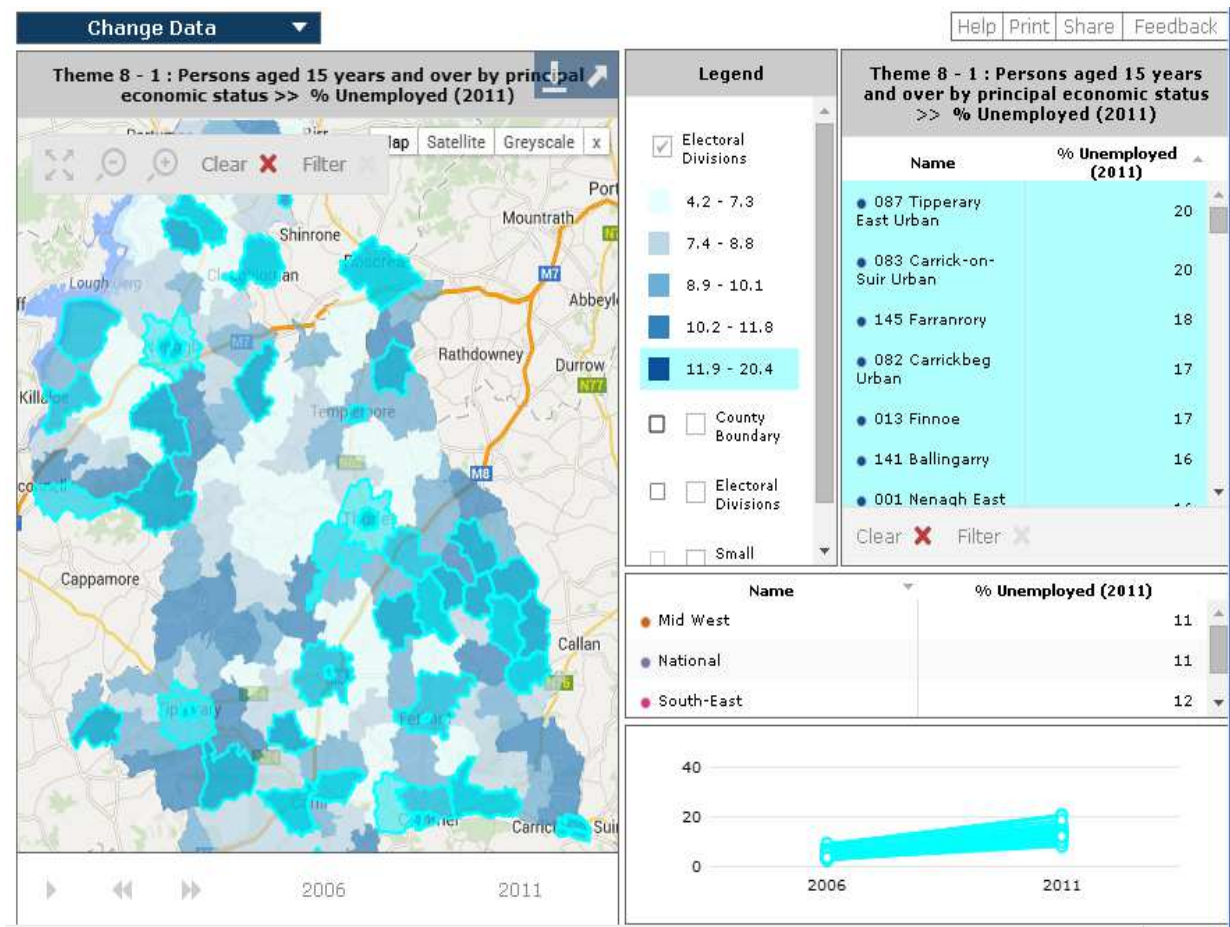


Figure 22 Map showing persons aged 15 or more by Principal Economic Status (CSO 2011) % unemployed(2011)

The areas with high numbers of unemployed tend to mirror the areas of disadvantage identified in the deprivation index map (Figure 16) above – the highlighted areas depict those areas that have between 11.9% and 20.4 % unemployment. In addition to the Urban areas there are a number of rural areas that had a high % of persons unemployed. These include the cluster around Kilmore; a cluster around Finnoe/Borrisokane/Cloughjordan a cluster around Killenaule/Ballingarry and Clogheen. Whilst numerically the figures may be weak, the % figure is a cause for concern in these rural areas given the impact they will have on subsequent generations

6.1.4 Long Term Unemployment:

By 2014, whilst the level of unemployment was falling, the level of long term unemployed has continued to remain stubbornly high. In the southern part of the County, roughly 45% of the total unemployed figure are still long term unemployed (i.e. longer than 18months on the live register (CSO Nov 2014).

The long term unemployed are at a particular risk of social exclusion because they tend in the main to be low or semi skilled, of an older working age profile, have low educational attainment levels and have a history of being unemployed. This risk is further compounded where there are issues of poor literacy , poor overall health and no personal transport. Since the onset of the 2008 recession, the increase in unemployment in Tipperary was significantly higher among men than women. The number of long term unemployed is more pronounced amongst men than women and any strategies being devised to assist the long term unemployed need to be mindful of this fact

Principal Economic Status, Number																												
Location		At Work			Unemployed having Lost or Given Up Previous Job			Student			Looking For First Job			Looking After Home/Family			Retired			Unable To Work due to Sickness or Disability			Other					
State		1,807,360			390,677			408,838			34,166			339,918			457,394			156,993			13,316					
Mid-West		143,669			32,719			36,242			2,683			28,116			39,871			14,269			1,112					
South-East		183,334			47,338			39,297			3,977			40,289			52,883			19,224			1,358					
Tipperary		60,332			13,865			12,267			1,131			12,699			17,133			6,499			442					
Tipperary North		27,022			5,854			5,716			469			5,519			7,524			2,597			120					
Tipperary South		33,310			8,011			6,551			662			7,180			9,609			3,902			322					
Location		NT/ST			At Work			Unemployed having Lost or Given Up Previous Job			Student			Looking For First Job			Looking After Home/Family			Retired			Unable To Work due to Sickness or Disability			Other		
Clonmel		ST			6,961			1,621			1,266			123			1,362			2,077			952			37		
Nenagh		NT			3,167			973			575			67			583			960			359			9		
Carrick-On-S..		ST			1,803			901			377			76			460			684			306			79		
Thurles		NT			2,765			788			711			73			648			1,038			375			18		
Tipperary To..		ST			1,722			750			337			52			392			722			320			17		
Roscrea		NT			1,819			675			377			39			413			584			271			7		
Cashel		ST			1,539			423			216			55			298			445			194			16		
Cahir		ST			1,387			404			223			37			274			340			144			20		
Templemore		NT			742			191			163			27			185			291			105			5		
Fethard		ST			513			189			102			16			137			179			103			3		
Ballina		NT			960			184			166			13			176			155			47			4		
Newport		NT			732			154			112			13			107			129			47			4		
Newcastle		ST			1,316			143			127			13			169			173			75			2		
Borrisokane		NT			290			108			75			7			85			119			69			5		

Table 8 Principal Economic Status

The majority of people who are unemployed are located around the main towns of Clonmel, Nenagh, Carrick on Suir, Thurles, Tipperary Town and Roscrea.

The areas of highest levels of unemployment tend to be area with have high levels of disadvantage as can be seen from the table 9 below.

With ED	Total Population 2011	Deprivation Score 2011	Proportion with Primary Education Only 2011	Unemployment rate-Male 2011	Unemployment rate-Female 2011
Tipperary East Urban	258	-25.00	35.40	74.20	53.50
Tipperary East Urban	268	-23.90	36.70	70.20	43.80
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	298	-22.00	39.50	66.70	35.60
Tipperary East Urban	171	-18.90	28.40	64.90	33.30
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	359	-22.70	30.90	61.00	40.70
Tipperary East Urban	179	-20.10	37.00	58.70	30.80
Roscrea	211	-19.30	20.00	58.30	31.30
Carrickbeg Urban	283	-20.20	22.80	57.70	36.70
Roscrea	167	-21.60	21.60	56.80	35.50
Buolick	209	-16.60	22.40	55.60	35.10
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	147	-19.50	36.50	55.30	27.30
Roscrea	307	-21.20	28.40	54.90	41.30
Thurles Urban	337	-19.50	15.90	54.40	29.80
Emly	130	-11.70	16.40	53.30	33.30
Nenagh West Urban	316	-15.90	26.30	53.10	37.90
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	223	-22.30	31.90	52.50	34.60
Templemore	299	-18.80	26.20	52.10	40.70
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	234	-21.50	29.60	51.60	34.90
Tipperary East Urban	300	-18.30	31.40	51.30	25.40
Clonmel Rural	240	-17.30	20.20	50.90	32.80
Clonmel East Urban	82	-7.00	15.30	50.00	35.00
Nenagh West Urban	96	-15.90	22.40	50.00	33.30
Carrick-on-Suir Urban	216	-17.50	31.10	50.00	32.60
Thurles Urban	281	-17.50	27.60	50.00	32.60
Clonmel West Urban	252	-18.30	38.20	50.00	29.40
Nenagh West Urban	209	-21.70	42.60	50.00	27.00
Tipperary West Urban	157	-17.20	24.60	50.00	22.50

Table 9 –Deprivation scores, Primary Education, Unemployment rates (m/f) ny ED

In addition to supporting the long term unemployed themselves to return to work, experience has shown that there is also a requirement to support employers who are willing to play their part in supporting the long term unemployed to return to work. Whilst there are a number of supports out there for this purpose, it is important that the relevant agencies focus on ensuring that this information is available and the supports taken up by employers in those areas where long term unemployment is greatest.

Within the statistical profile of the long term unemployed, there are a number of very specific groups who need to be specifically supported as a result of their particular lifestyle histories, cultural exclusion or physical ability.

6.1.5 Long Term Unemployment and The Travelling Community:

From research undertaken in relation to the travelling Community, it is clear that long term unemployment is a significant issue. Literacy issues; education levels, discrimination by some employers and the nomadic lifestyles of some travellers are some of the barriers that need to be tackled. The travelling population are mainly concentrated around the key towns of Roscrea, Clonmel, Nenagh, Thurles, Tipperary Cashel and Cahir. There is a high percentage of travellers also concentrated in the settlements of Littleton, Greystown, and Poyntown, with other clusters around Knockgraffon Borrisokane and Ballyporeen

- The Unemployment rate amongst young people aged 18 - 24 in the travelling community is 85.47% (CSO 2011)
- Unemployment rate amongst the travelling community is 84.51% (CSO 2011)

Tipperary Rural Traveller Project are investigating the establishment of an innovated CE scheme focused on establishing men shed type initiatives for traveller men with a view to establishing a social economy project that will provide training and education opportunities.

6.1.6 Long term Unemployed and those with Disability

- The unemployment rate of people with disabilities aged between 18 and 24 in County Tipperary is 60.7% (CSO 2011)The unemployment rate of people with disabilities in County Tipperary is 32.9% (CSO 2011)

6.1.7 Long Term Unemployed and those with a Previous Conviction

Specialist targeted programmes need to be developed with this cohort and relationships with employers need to be developed to engage this target group of people into employment and/or social economy projects.

6.1.8 Long term Unemployed and Those with a previous Addiction:

Specialist targeted programmes need to be developed with this cohort and relationships with employers need to be developed to engage this target group of people into employment and/or social economy projects.

6.1.9 Long Term Unemployed and Access to Services

Access to services is often identified as a reason why it is difficult to support those who are long term unemployed. Access to services is a difficulty not just in the context of educational attainment and literacy but also in the context of being able to access computers, or access public transport to access such services.

It is probably reasonable to assume that there is some correlation between those households who are headed by a long term unemployed individual who are also those who do not own a private motor car. In looking at the census data of those households who do not own a car and if one removes those towns over 1500 persons; the picture emerging is one where areas such as Kilcoment; Kilcommon (south), Borrisokane, Cloughjordan, Ballina, Newport, Borrisoleigh, Killenaule, Mullinahone and Peppardstown all emerge as areas where there are 50 or more households who do not own a car.

Exploring data around access to computers would demonstrate that it is the key areas of deprivation that score highest in the context of the number of households with no personal computer (Thurles, Clonmel, Roscrea, Nenagh and Carrick on Suir being the top 5 such locations). These are also the areas where there is a greater concentration of youth and who would be the most comfortable way for them to engage with information and services.

In terms of educational facilities, it is clear that they are located in those areas where the greatest concentration of the unemployed (numerically and %) live. However, there are outline areas where access to educational facilities are not as readily available and access to public transport is also weak. Consideration should be given to exploring innovative ways of how to reach and address the unemployment needs of these communities.

Some further research around the accessibility area needs to be undertaken in the context of access to public transport, access to good quality broadband and/or access to outreach facilities to enable access (Littleton; Kilcommon; cluster around Kilmore; Cluster around Borrisokane; cluster around Killenaule/Ballingarry and cluster around Clogheen/Ballyporeen)

6.1.10 Youth Unemployment

Framework Priority : “Address the high level of youth unemployment through targeting those areas with the highest level of youth unemployment in the County”

The main EU initiative at curbing the level of youth unemployment has been the Youth Guarantee Scheme, which in an Irish context is rolled out through the Pathways to Work Scheme. The target is to ensure that all young people under 25 years receive a good quality job offer; apprenticeship; traineeship or further education opportunities within 4 months of their having left formal education or becoming unemployed.

In addition to the mainstream unemployment supports referenced above which are also applicable to the youth unemployment cohort, the following youth specific supports exist in the county

6.1.10a Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP): provides employment and progression programme for those individuals including unemployed young people most distant from employment. North Tipperary LEADER Partnership and South Tipperary Development Company are the programme implementers for this programme in the county.

Waterford Regional Youth Service: Training and mentoring. In Carrick-on-Suir, the service is based in the Youth & Community Resource Centre. In Clonmel, the service is based in the Youth Information Service Irishtown, and runs programmes in the Elm Park Community House and the Wilderness Youth & Community Centre on the estate.

Tipperary Regional Youth Service: Based in Thurles, Tipperary Town, Cashel and Templemore. It supports young people to enter the labour market through training and individualised supports (Work Winner Project). The service works collaboratively with the Department of Social Protection, Tipperary Enterprise and Training Board, local partnership groups and local employers. TRYS have developed a **Work Winner Programme** which is a youth work model that has the primary goal of getting young people, particularly those who are long term unemployed, back into work. The main aim of the programme is to get those young people furthest from the labour market in Tipperary into work. This is achieved through working with young men and women aged between 18 and 25 who are not at present ready due to lack of personal capacity, low skills base, socio-economic backgrounds to take up employment

Clonmel Youth Training is a Community Training Centre resourced by Solas Training Agency. Course participants are paid an allowance and train/work for up to 35 hours per week. Block work placements are provided as part of training. Subjects include: catering, woodwork, information technology, maths, horticulture, communications, art and design.

Youth Reach – Cappawhite – Youthreach is a Department of Education and Skills official education, training and work experience programme for early school leavers aged 15 – 20. It offers young people the opportunity to identify options within adult life, and provides them with opportunities to acquire certification. As it operates on a full-time, year-round basis, Youthreach has a continuous intake policy

6.1.10b Statistical Analysis – Youth Unemployment

Youth unemployment for the first quarter of 2015 in Ireland stood at 20.3%. In Tipperary, youth unemployment is roughly at 11 %. Notwithstanding this figure which is below the national average there are concentrated areas of very high youth unemployment and again they are broadly reflective of those areas which score highest on the deprivation map above. In the north of the county, areas around Templemore, Borrisokane, Newport, Littleton, the Slieve Felim area and Lorrha/Rathcabbin are particularly high. In the south of the County, high level of youth unemployment exist around Tipperary, Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and the Glengoole area

The unemployment rate amongst young people aged 18 - 24 in the travelling community in County Tipperary is 85.47% (CSO 2011).

The unemployment rate of people with disabilities aged between 18 and 24 in County Tipperary is 60.7% (CSO 2011)

Persons on Live Register (Number) by Sex, Age Group, Social Welfare

Office and Month

2015 M04

Both sexes

Under 25 years

North Tipperary	880
Nenagh	337
Roscrea	183
Thurles	360
South Tipperary	1,180

Cahir	152
Carrick-On-Suir	231
Cashel	154
Clonmel	399
Tipperary	244

Table 10 : numbers of under 25 year olds on the live register

Table 10 above shows the numbers of under 25 year olds on the live register in these areas. (This figure includes part time workers so it is not a true reflection of the level of unemployment)

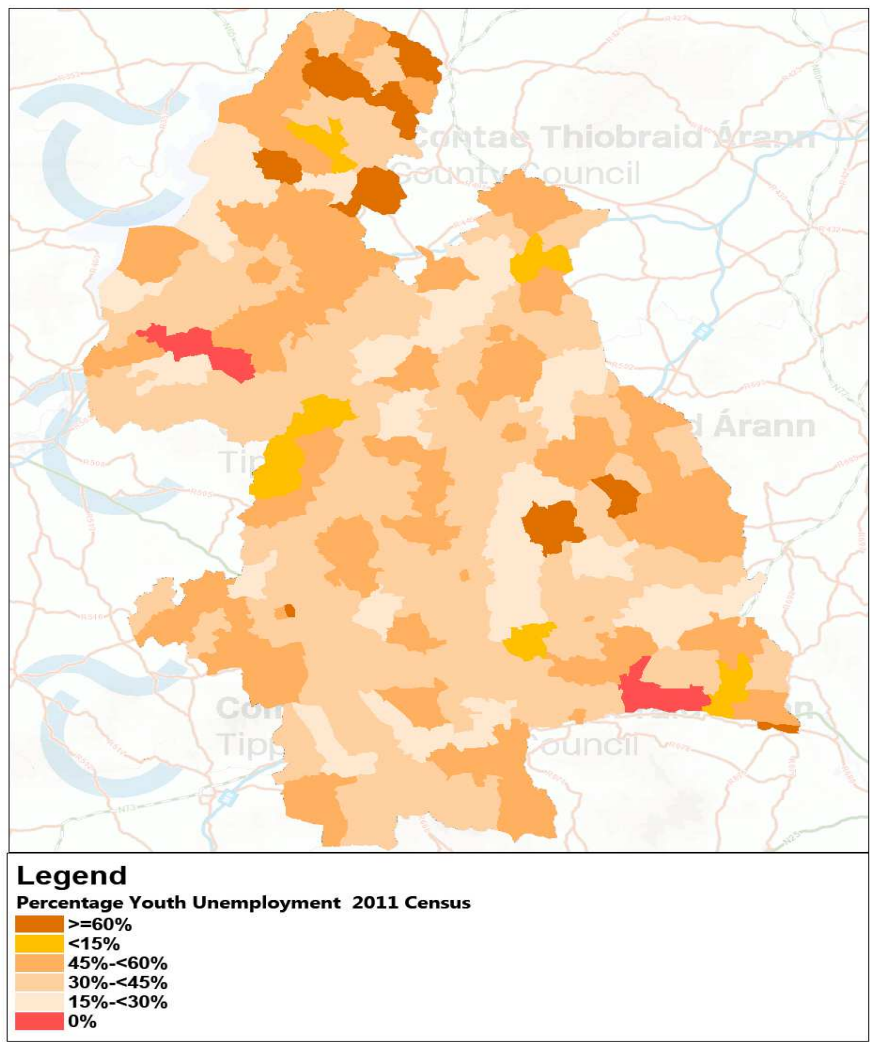


Figure 23 Map showing Percentages of Youth Unemployment

6.1.10c Actions Arising from Findings of Areas with the Highest level of Unemployed and Long Term Unemployed

The areas with the highest level of long term unemployed are as follows:- specific areas of Clonmel, Nenagh, Carrick-on-Suir, Thurles, Tipperary Town, Roscrea, Cashel and Cahir. Appropriate social inclusion supports to be developed around their capacities and skill sets with a particular focus on male long term unemployed.

In line with the identified areas of LTU, the TCU Rural Transport to examine the potential to provide appropriate services to this cohort. Accessibility to outreach facilities for the rural outliers also needs to be considered in the context of the LTU and specific groupings.

Where there is inadequate provision, alternative solutions to be explored. The TCU to particularly focus on youth long term unemployed in rural areas; those with a disability and travellers who are unemployed

Build targeted awareness programmes which are location specific of the benefits to employers in employing LTU and support employers as appropriate

Support the coordination of focused public financial support in those areas priority long term unemployed areas.

It has been the finding of those agencies working with the long term unemployed that existing enterprise supports in the county do not have adequate reach to the most marginalized and that there is a need for capacity building work to be done to address this deficit, in particular with the long term unemployed and those sectors who find it most difficult to enter the workplace (travelers; disabled; ex-addicts; ex-prisoners etc).

People who are long term unemployed may have a variety of needs in terms of health, education, poverty etc and it may be necessary to support people who are long term unemployed to access services from a wide variety of organisations on a needs be basis before they are ever ready to take up employment. The type of initiatives to be progressed could include actions around

- Develop programmes around “first step progressions” for this target group focusing on projects/programmes that have a social /wellbeing /mental health/personal development value with a view to moving on to literacy and other more specific training/upskilling. Areas such as Arts, Heritage, Sport & Culture are obvious potential link ups and have a role in this context
- Providing access to literacy support and more targeted activity to engage those furthest removed from the labour market
- Provide career guidance and job coaching for people to help support progression into training and jobs and retention in same – service is only available in a limited way in the county.

In particular, there is a need to focus on engaging with the long term unemployed men and to develop structures and programmes which meet their particular needs. The Mens’ shed movement is one such structure could be used as a particular medium to identify and support men who are long term unemployed to progress into education and work.

There are a number of state schemes (Labour Market Initiative; Gateway Programme; Tús Schemes; RSS schemes; Community Employment Schemes; Community Services;

Jobbridge etc) which provide opportunities for the long term unemployed if properly supported and tracked. There are also supports for employers who are willing to engage and take on those who are long term unemployed. These should be explored in full and every support provided to the employer to support this vulnerable cohort of persons.

Particular attention in any programme operated should be provided to key designated sections of society such as the travelling community, disability community; ex-offender community and those with previous addictions. Investigate Social economy type projects focused on those who cohorts who find it difficult to enter the workforce, for example social farming, fishing hubs, outdoor pursuits activities

Work up and support existing successful projects and solutions such as “work winners” in those areas that have high levels of youth unemployment transport. Support and develop projects that promote and encourage Youth Entrepreneurship

Support alternative learning programme delivered through youth services to support young people at risk of early school leaving. Investigate options through support and culture to link the more disengaged youths to access and link in with services.

In terms of the key issues arising around the youth unemployment theme, evidence and experience has demonstrated that where young people are 2 – 3 years unemployed, it becomes very hard to re-engage them and early intervention programmes are crucial for this cohort. Creative solutions around transport, access, and retention on schemes/jobs/courses will be required for those who are now termed the long term youth unemployed.

6.1.11 Actions Arising from Findings in relation to youth unemployment

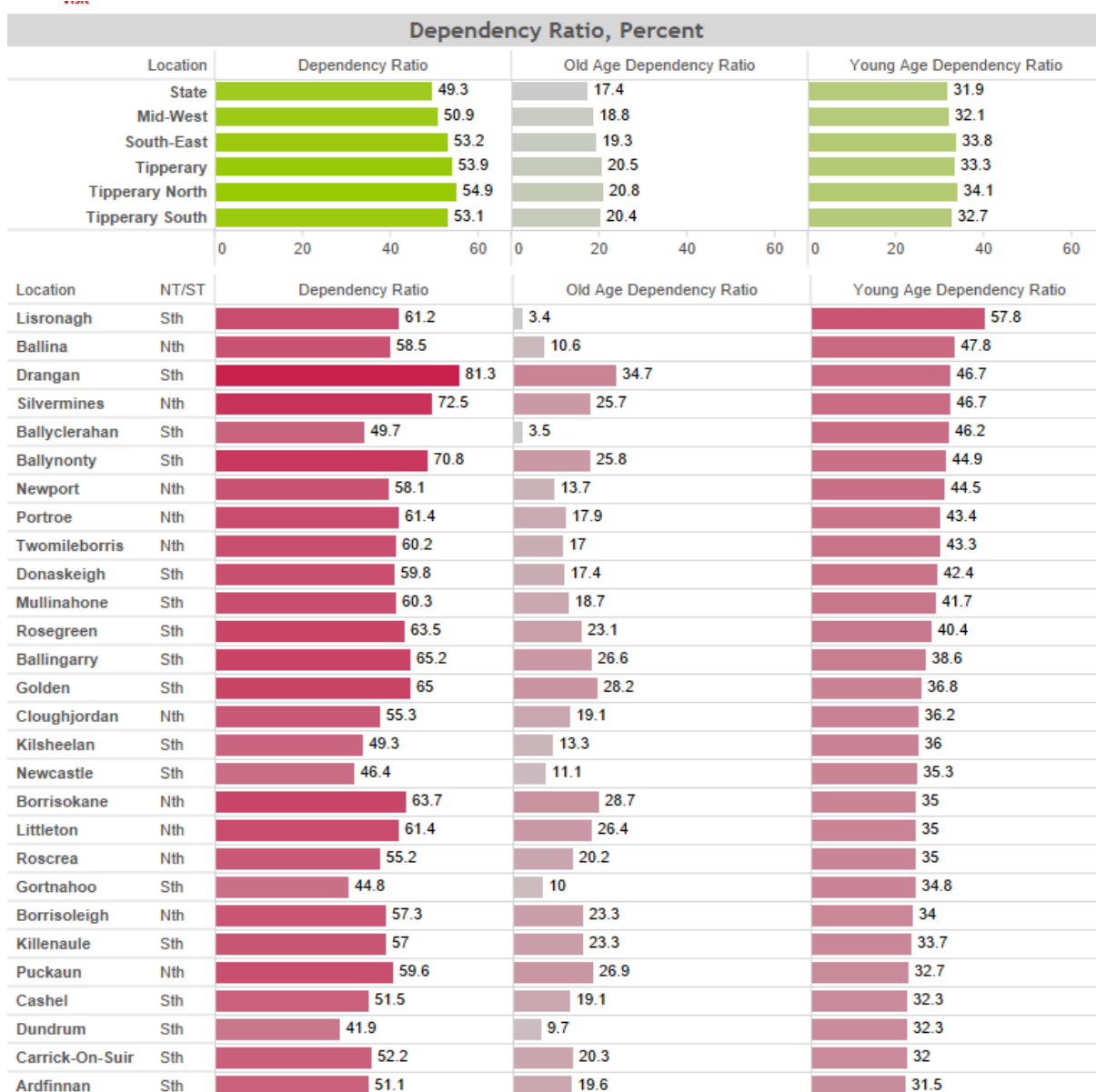
- Identify on a geographic basis, those areas where there is a high % of youth unemployment, prioritise and develop appropriate social inclusion supports around their capacities and skill set
- Following identification of high areas of Youth Unemployment, identify accessibility issues to services (transport, remote access, childcare etc) and seek to develop appropriate supports /solutions
- Explore opportunities with smaller employers to provide employment opportunities for this cohort

- Support the roll out of programmes such as work winners in the county in areas that have significant numbers of youth unemployment and which have access issues such as transport.
- Support and develop project that promote Youth Entrepreneurship
- Support alternative learning programme delivered through youth services to support young people at risk of early school leaving

6.2 Youth Engagement-

Framework Priority: To Maximise Life Opportunity and Potential for Young People and Support and facilitate their Contribution to the Sustainable Development of the County

Linked to youth unemployment and potential long term unemployment is the capacity of young people to engage effectively with their own communities and indeed the capacity of their host communities to welcome and encourage their participation.



The age dependency table above demonstrates a high level of youth age dependency around Lisonagh, Ballina, Drangan, Silvermines, Ballyclerahan, Ballynonty, Newport, Portroe, Two Mile Borris, Donaskeigh and Mullinahone (it references the youth population as a % of the total population).

Location	NT/ST	0 to 14	15 to 24
Clonmel	Sth	3,509	2,181
Thurles	Nth	1,517	992
Nenagh	Nth	1,746	924
Carrick-On-Suir	Sth	1,245	744
Roscrea	Nth	1,218	678
Tipperary	Sth	998	645
Cashel	Sth	865	448
Cahir	Sth	749	435
Templemore	Nth	362	247
Fethard	Sth	299	204
Ballina	Nth	737	196
Newcastle	Sth	641	192
Newport	Nth	508	147
Borrisokane	Nth	206	120
Ardfinnan	Sth	197	102
Holycross	Nth	145	99
Kilsheelan	Sth	195	98
Killenaule	Sth	153	97
Ballyclerahan	Sth	249	96
Borrisoleigh	Nth	153	79
Portroe	Nth	126	66
Twomileborris	Nth	148	62

Table 11 Number of children and young people in the 0-14 and 15-24 age group by settlement

Table 11 above illustrates that the majority of young people aged between 15 and 24 in the county are located in the main towns of Clonmel, Thurles, Nenagh, Carrick on Suir, Roscrea, Tipperary Town, Cashel and Cahir.

From a resource targeting perspective, it is important that appropriate youth services and supports are provided in those areas where there is a significant youth cohort, a high youth dependency and in particular in those areas that have disadvantage or very disadvantaged status

There is no data at county level which provides an overview of the level of youth engaged with their communities (15 – 25 year olds). Anecdotedly, it is reported that the age profile of the community and voluntary sector tend to be older. In addition, the Youth services

providers also find that the “hard to reach” young people are usually not involved in sports, arts or cultural organizations.

During the consultation processes, a number of interesting issues were raised which culminated in a realization that a greater engagement was required by those in the 15 – 25 age cohort, not only in the context of adding vitality and energy to the communities but also in the context of making sure this cohort remain connected and feel valued and respected. By “being connected”, there are greater opportunities provided to young people in the context of mental health, social well being and employment opportunities. In particular it was considered that agencies and support workers should be more inventive in how they approach hard to reach youths and also approach the issue from the point of view that education and training should be for well being and not solely for employment opportunities (although this is clearly an important part of the process). In the context of the type of initiatives that could be explored, the following were put forward during the consultation process

- To seek ways of linking the youth cohort of 15 – 25 in with existing community and voluntary organizations
- To provide extra support for disadvantaged young people to engage with sports, cultural and arts programmes
- To look at the vulnerabilities of those young people coming out of care; prison, addiction services and seek to put a pathway in place which would prevent homelessness and ensure adequate support
- To look at alternative and innovative ways of encouraging young people to connect with education such as in the areas of traditional craft skills; food growing; wildlife; rural skills; biodiversity etc

6.2.1 Young People with Disabilities

There are also a number of areas of the county where there are particular high areas of young people with disability-see the maybe based on CSO 2011 data below showing young people (aged 18-24) with disabilities. It is clear from the map (Figure24)that the highest percentages are living in the county’s main towns. Specific measures for engagement of young people and models of participation are required for this cohort.

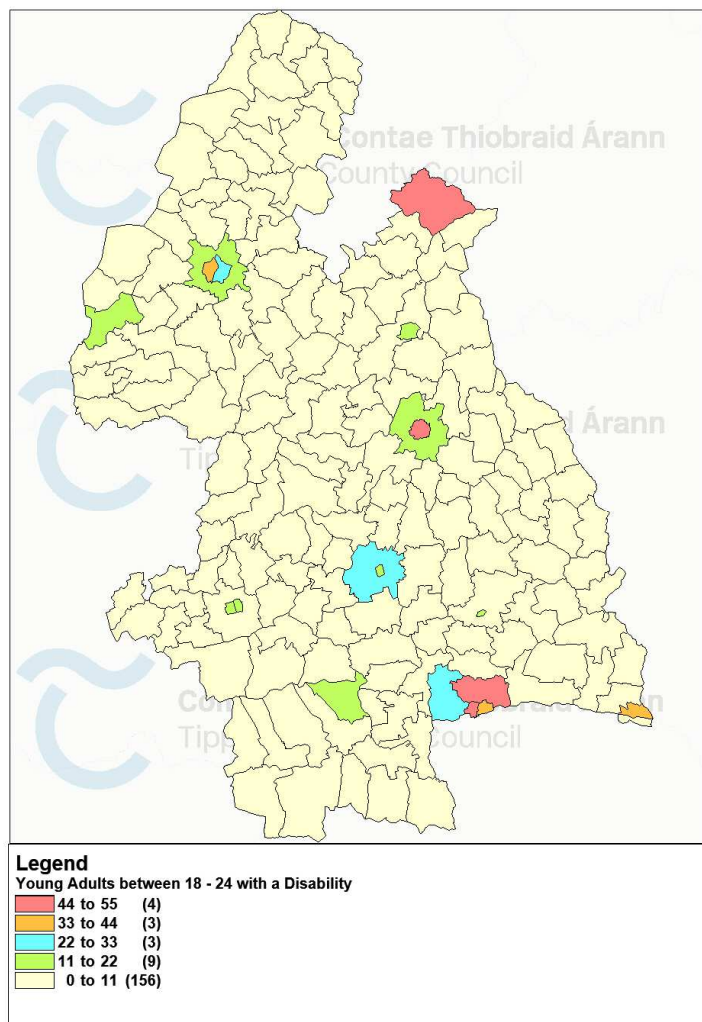


Figure 24 Map showing young adults between 18-24 with a disability

6.2.2 Actions Arising from Findings of Youth Engagement

From a resource targeting perspective, it is important that appropriate youth services and supports are provided in those areas where there is a significant youth cohort, a high youth dependency and in particular in those areas that have disadvantage or very disadvantaged status

Develop programmes and supports that encourage young people to volunteer in the community and voluntary sector. Support and encourage the community to actively embrace and seek youth input. Youth Work Services have developed best practice in terms of youth participation with many young people on management boards of youth

services. There should be a focus on youth participation on statutory and voluntary boards and in community and voluntary sector groups. Youth services could potentially support the capacity building of the community and voluntary sector in this area.

Consideration to be given to supporting transport provision in rural counties so young people can engage including creation of strong linkages between youth programmes and the rural transport services so that young people can access the resources, services and facilities available in their local area'. Any Rural Transport Plan to specifically focus on the needs of the Youth 15 – 25 in the rural areas and explore options to facilitate an appropriate service for this cohort.

Address Identify areas that have gaps in terms of youth service provision and support youth services to add value and extend current provision for hard to reach young people.

Support the development of rural youth clubs in communities that do not have access to youth services. Explore innovative collaborative options around how to develop rural youth clubs these communities.

Engaging with young people to support them to undertake learning and training activities in an international setting

Youth mental health- build and support resilience and positive mental health programmes in the county including county based programme on youth resilience and engagement in informal educational and leisure/sporting supports in order to build a healthy and strong youth population.

Proactive inclusion of Comhairle na nOg in the consultation and youth proofing process of any planning and development work relevant to young people in the county.

Focus supports around sports, cultural and art programmes that target hard to reach young people in conjunction with youth services in key identified areas of high youth deprivation

Actively promote the utilisation of the range of community based facilities by young people. Strongly encourage the utilisation of 'diversity audits' when funding future community buildings etc, A programme could be considered to support community halls and centres to develop youth meeting hubs in smaller local rural areas. There are often

good facilities in rural areas like community halls but they are often not used very much by young people.

Investigate Social economy type projects focused on young people and engagement, for example social farming, fishing hubs, outdoor pursuit's activities

To look at the vulnerabilities of those young people coming out of care; prison, addiction services and seek to put a pathway in place which would prevent homelessness and ensure adequate support and progression for these marginalized young people.

To look at alternative and innovative ways of encouraging young people to connect with education such as in the areas of traditional craft skills; food growing; wildlife; rural skills; biodiversity etc

Support programmes that build the skills and capacity of young people in the travelling community, young people with disabilities and other marginalised young people to participate and engage in all aspects of life.

6.3 Marginalised Communities

Framework Priority 5: “Reduce the marginalisation of specific communities: Non Irish Nationals & Asylum Seekers; Travelling community; Lone Parents; Disability Community & LGBTI”

6.3.1 Non -Irish nationals:

Communities are enriched with the addition of “newcomers” but that enrichment can only be realized if there are very specific and inclusive efforts made to support communities to engage with these new communities. With the recent growth in the non-Irish communities in Tipperary, there are challenges to ensure that they do not fall into the category of “at risk of poverty” due either to their lack of connectivity or engagement with their host communities, poor employment prospects or due to their language skills

6.3.1.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

The non-Irish Community effectively consists of two sectors – those who have freely and legally entered Ireland and those who are termed “asylum seekers and refugees”. Both have different and varying needs

The **HSE Intercultural Strategy in Health- Consultation Report** highlighted the need for the strategy to be underpinned by the principles of equality, rights-based approaches, social inclusion, involvement and participation of minority ethnic communities, community based approaches and quality user-focused services.

Both *Healthy Ireland* and *Putting People First* identify the need to develop an integrated, co-ordinated intersectoral plan to address the risk factors associated with low health status and social determinants of health. (*Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, 2013-2025*, 2013) (*Putting People First. Action Programme for Effective Local Government* (2012) Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government)

The Institute of Public Health in Ireland defines health inequalities as

‘Preventable and unjust differences in health status experienced by certain population groups’ (Institute of Public Health 2014). Inequalities in health exist across a range of social and demographic indicators (including age, geography, gender, ethnicity, occupation, education, disability, housing and household), and for many health outcomes (for example life expectancy, causes of morbidity and mortality, self-reported health, mental health status, injuries and violence).

There are no known strategies which address the needs of the non-Irish Communities in Tipperary.

6.3.1.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

There are a number of key mainstream agencies who deal with the needs of the Non Irish Communities, including Tipperary County Council (accommodation), the Education & Training Board (education & language classes) and the HSE Social Inclusion Unit.

HSE Social inclusion Unit: HSE Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) Area 5 Social Inclusion plays a key role in supporting the most marginalised service users to access health services on an equal basis to any other health service user. The social determinants of health are taken into consideration when working within these care groups who are in general marginalised and vulnerable.

The HSE CHO Area 5 Social Inclusion Team work in the five health areas / counties in the South East South; Waterford, Wexford, South Tipperary, Carlow and Kilkenny. The team members have a role in Intercultural Health – current focus on Asylum Seekers living in Direct Provision Centres and with Roma Community Health – initial focus on Waterford and Wexford with regional mapping planned, Traveller Health, Substance Misuse, Services for people who are homeless.

Tipperary Education & Training Board

Tipperary ETB (South) provide English Language classes. Good adult education provision is based on a set of principles, one of which is Responsive to Diversity. For Tipperary ETB this means meaningful engagement with people in minority communities who may be experiencing marginalisation or exclusion.

Bridgewater House: A reception centre in Carrick-on-Suir for asylum seekers which is privately owned and contracted by the Reception and Integration Agency regarding *accommodation and food*, it houses 84 residents- 47 adults and 37 children. Needs have been identified through a pilot health programme which included needs around the development of English language opportunities, health care information, opportunities for engagement and development, etc. A pilot intercultural healthcare programme is in place through a partnership with HSE Social Inclusion and the Integration and Support Unit a Humanitarian NGO based in Waterford, this pilot project is the up-skilling of a number of

Community Knowledge Workers (CKW) in the provision of health information and access routes and has an outreach to Bridgewater House is in place.

Whilst there have been a number of initiatives over the years in terms of supporting the non Irish nationals, these have been sporadic. There is and have been nevertheless a number of initiatives undertaken by various structures which seek to support and engage the non Irish community. These include

'Integrate Carrick'- Carrick-on-Suir-A committee which gives practical support to Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the Carrick-on-Suir area.

St Mary's Parish International Group: provides conversational English Classes for immigrants based on the Failte Isteach Model for adults Tues 7.30 – 9pm classes and materials free.

Forige NYP (Carrick-on-Suir) have a number of programmes that aim to integrate non-national children and young people into our community.

Tipperary Integration Forum: Based in Nenagh and established in 2013 by NTCC and supported by NTLF. The Forum offers advice and support to immigrants to the county and assists them to access various services with greater ease. The Forum also offers free English conversation classes which provide further opportunities for immigrants from different countries living in the north of the county to come together and network.

FAI Soccer Programme- An after school programme for children in schools that have a high percentage of non national children. The 6 week programme is designed to include children from all backgrounds in a sporting and team working environment. The FAI development Officer also runs anti racism workshops in schools and has also run tournaments where local companies would enter teams based on having a number of different nationalities per team.

County Childcare Integration Supports

Dormant Accounts Preschool Education Initiative for Children from Minority Groups
DESSA Childcare Inclusive Policy & Practice Training Workshop - 84 Providers in South Tipperary have attended this training to date. Information Leaflets on Early childhood care and education booklets were printed in seven different languages

Tipperary County Childcare Committee also had targeted interventions in support of the travelling community, non-Irish national communities and parents of children with special needs.

Greater efforts are required to ensure that the non Irish National communities and the existing host communities are enabled to engage and interact in a manner which enhances community living for both communities.

Thurles Syrian Integration Project - an interagency committee has been established to support the integration of 12 families from Syria as part of a national resettlement programme of refugees from Syria.

6.3.1.3 Statistical Overview

Non-Irish nationals accounted for 9.7 per cent of the population of this area compared with a national average figure of 12.0 per cent. UK nationals (4,713 persons) were the largest group, followed by Polish (4,193 persons).

Nationality																
Location	Irish		UK		Lithuanian		Other EU 27 (..		Polish		Rest of World ..		Not Stated (N)		Total	
STATE																
Mid-West	333,843		9,090		1,725		6,601		10,501		8,913		4,302		374,975	
South-East	439,737		14,646		2,705		8,706		13,156		9,311		5,036		493,297	
Tipperary	98,221		3,358		927		2,141		3,063		2,644		1,278		111,632	
Tipperary North	62,862		1,919		467		1,202		1,753		986		695		69,884	
Tipperary South	77,819		2,794		691		1,522		2,440		1,557		902		87,725	
	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M
	Irish		UK		Lithuanian		Other EU 27 (..		Polish		Rest of World ..		Not Stated (N)		Total	
Clonmel Plus Envi..	ST	15,129	340		146		415		1,064		455		200		17,749	
Nenagh Plus Envi..	NT	6,564	169		172		265		775		279		157		8,381	
Thurles Plus Envir..	NT	6,877	139		62		206		380		178		48		7,890	
Carrick-On-Suir Pl..	ST	5,217	175		41		84		150		163		82		5,912	
Roscrea	NT	4,401	93		171		365		190		92		70		5,382	
Tipperary Legal T..	ST	4,364	126		165		197		267		104		68		5,291	
Cashel Legal Tow..	ST	3,080	108		82		173		343		150		72		4,008	
Cahir	ST	2,461	124		161		210		358		193		45		3,552	
Newcastle	ST	2,253	40		37		58		92		122		47		2,649	
Ballina	NT	2,008	130		5		55		126		61		30		2,415	
Templemore Lega..	NT	1,835	50		1		24		114		18		18		2,060	
Newport	NT	1,624	32		2		15		14		56		59		1,802	

Table 12 Co Tipperary Nationalities (CSO 2011)

In an analysis of the CSO information in relation to English language proficiency, it is of note that other than Irish or English, Polish was the most common foreign language spoken at home whilst over 3,140 persons could not speak English well or at all. This would provide significant challenges to this cohort of the community and has the potential to lead to significant marginalisation.

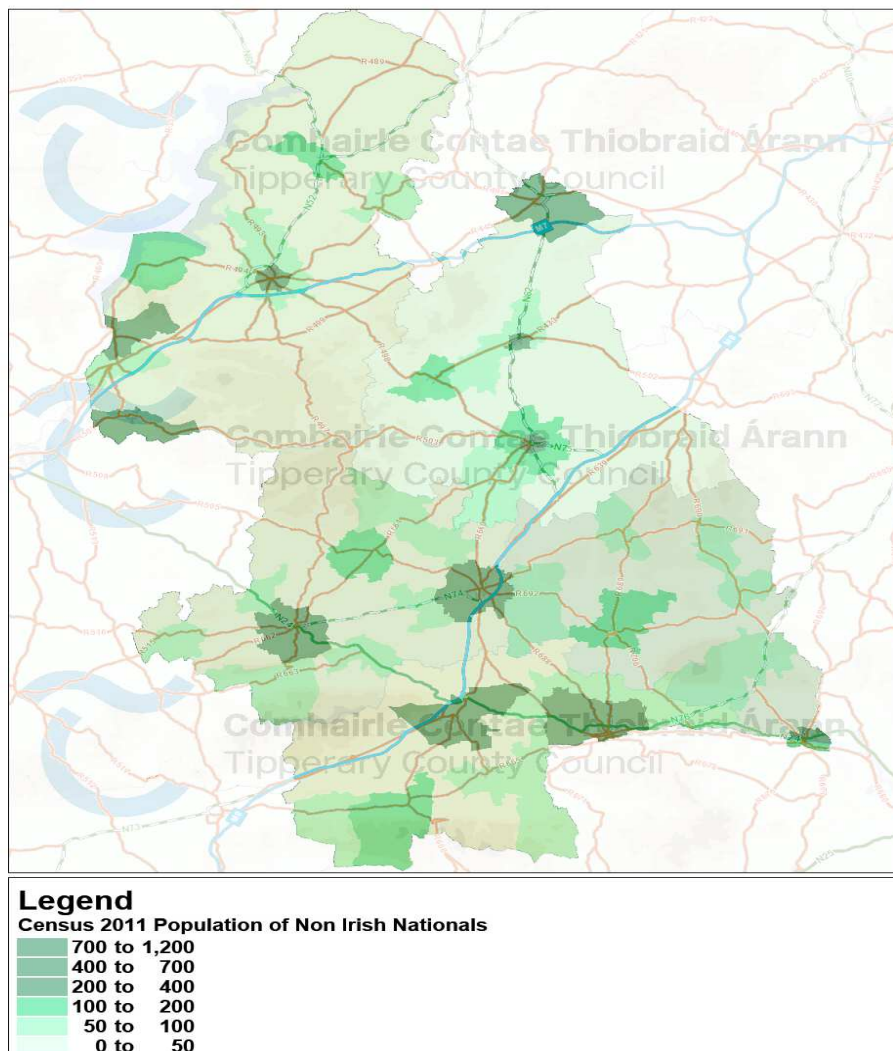


Figure 25 Map showing population of non Irish nationals

Foreign Speakers Ability to Speak English					
Location	Not At All	Not Well	Total	Very Well	Well
STATE	15,114	74,447	514,068	245,391	161,461
Mid-West	1,173	5,568	34,712	15,647	11,133
South-East	1,538	7,286	41,878	17,950	13,469
Tipperary	385	1,804	10,750	4,709	3,422
Tipperary North	255	1,143	5,458	2,126	1,746
Tipperary South	293	1,452	7,418	2,887	2,495
	OK	800K	OK	800K	OK
	Not At All	Not Well	Total	Very Well	Well
Nenagh Plus Envi.. NT	94	412	1,627	457	614
Clonmel Plus Envi.. ST	86	384	2,390	962	888
Roscrea NT	61	276	893	228	309
Cahir ST	56	298	959	224	348
Thurles Plus Envir.. NT	47	189	883	302	321
Cashel Legal Tow.. ST	38	165	793	276	283
Tipperary Legal T.. ST	34	213	801	208	317
Carrick-On-Suir Pl.. ST	25	112	494	175	158
Templemore Lega.. NT	12	48	213	72	68
Ballina NT	11	50	296	133	90
Newcastle ST	8	47	350	166	121

Table 13 Foreign speaker’s ability to speak English

Table 13 above demonstrates that the bulk of non-Irish national who speak english, ‘not at all’ or ‘not well’ are located in the main towns of Nenagh, Clonmel, Roscrea, Cahir, Thurles, Cashel, Tipperary and Carrick on Suir.

6.3.1.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

Whilst addressing the challenges facing non irish nationals is not an issue for a number of communities, it is a real issue for others. Some of the key issues which arose during the LECP analysis and consultation processes included

- Access and information to services is a key issue for non-nationals e.g. health services, education and accommodation. Language skills (poor levels of English) act as a barrier to social integration, access to services and the workforce etc. Language classes are key to this issue.
- Some areas have high level of foreign nationals which provides issues in schools especially in links with parents who don’t have English
- Social integration is a challenge. Whilst it is not necessary to “integrate” communities, it is important in the context of a stable community environment to ensure there is good positive connectivity and engagement between the different communities
- Employment opportunities and particularly supports around such opportunities
- Minority Groups / Non-Irish and Asylum seekers – The direct provision centres for immigrants need to be reviewed at a national level and alternative methods of accommodating these families in a more dignified and respectful manner.

- Sport and cultural initiatives provides unique opportunities for inclusion and connectivity between the host communities and the non-Irish national communities

6.3.1.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Needs of the Non Irish Communities

Arising from the above process, the following actions emerge as areas to be further explored

- Support and focus the roll out of English language provision to non-Irish nationals, particularly where their populations are concentrated. .
- Support and enable community initiatives in relation to informal language and conversation groups
- Support and enable integration activities at community level, particularly around sport and culture and use financial and other incentives to encourage such initiatives
- Encourage and promote all key service providers to provide key information on services in a number of relevant languages
- Support the development of a whole county integration network with smaller forums set up in those towns where there is a high level of non Irish nationals (name these).
- Túsla to consider particular supports in their Children and Young Persons Plans around the Direct Provision centre in Carrick on Suir

6.3.2 Reduce the Marginalisation of specific communities: - Lone Parents

6.3.2.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

European Commission. 2007 '**Poverty and Social Exclusion among Lone-parent Households.**' found that Ireland had one of the highest rates in Europe of children living in single-parent households. Almost one in four children in Ireland come from a lone parent household, compared to the EU average of just one in seven.

In a national context, the **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007 – 2016** included actions which also specifically targeted lone parent households. A meaningful proportion of those on long-term social welfare fall into the lone parent household bracket,

are concentrated in local authority housing areas and in a significant proportion of cases, have poor educational qualifications and lack training and upskilling opportunities.

At a more local county context, a report undertaken on behalf of the South Tipperary CDB in 2007 on Lone Parents in South Tipperary included some of the following key recommendations which are of value to this document:

- Establish and facilitate additional lone parent support groups initially in Cashel, Cahir and Glengoose. A phased expansion into rural areas should focus on the “pockets” of lone parents identified in the statistical review of the Lone Parent Report (2007) A close link between existing and future support groups should be encouraged
- Examine ways to provide information on existing services in the form of a publication to lone parents at the point in time when they “become” lone parents. Access points (Social Welfare Office, maternity and PHN and other suitable services) should also be determined to distribute this information in a targeted manner.
- Develop a joint employment support service that meets the individual needs of lone parents and their children. Existing services in the county may serve as a viable model
- Actively promote the inclusion of lone fathers and their children and lone parents from the traveller community among organisations offering specific supports to lone parents. Traveller Support Projects who become aware of needs of lone parents from their community should then refer them on an individual basis before referring them to the relevant public services.
- Encourage existing service providers to review the geographical dimension of their services and extend (resources permitted) into areas of greatest need
- Address the acute gap in service provision in respect of the social needs of lone parents, i.e. the facilitation of social interaction between lone parents thus creating opportunities for pragmatic peer support and affordable social activities that include their children.
- Develop a family therapy/counselling service that meets the needs of lone parents and their children. This service should be adequately resourced in order to be

accessible to low-income families. Existing services in the county may serve as a viable model.

6.3.2.2 Descriptive overview of Supports in the County

The key supports for lone parents are provided through the Local Authority in the context of Housing, the ETB on the context of the Back to Education Programmes & VTOS and the DSP in the context of welfare supports. A range of additional supports are provided through the Family Resource Centres, the Local Development Companies and the Childcare Company

Lone parents can avail of a range of family support services in the county including:

Social welfare: Family income supplement, one parent family payment. It was announced in Budget 2015 that a new Back to Work Family Dividend is being introduced for lone parent and long-term jobseeker families with children who find or return to work from January 2015.

6.3.2.3 Statistical Overview

There are over 215,000 one-parent families in Ireland today – 25.8 per cent of all families with children (Census 2011)

There are a number of interesting statistical trends which are of interest in the context of prioritising and targeting resources and supports. From a national perspective, the following is of interest (CSO statistics 2011)

- One-parent families are more than twice as likely to live in consistent poverty as two-parent families. Well over a quarter of adults and children in one-parent households are at risk of poverty (28.4%), almost twice as many as those living in two-parent households (14.6%).
- Adults and children in one-parent families have the highest deprivation rate in Ireland (56%), a very significant increase from 2009 (44%).
- Just over 4 in 10 lone parents are in paid work, as compared with 7 in 10 heads of two-parent families.
- 18% of children in Ireland live with lone parents, of whom the majority (16%) are with lone mothers. This makes the one-parent family the second most common family type after the 'standard' two-parent family.

- The majority of lone parents (58%) have just one child, while over a quarter have 2 children, and just 15% have 3 or more.
- A very small number of lone parents in Ireland are teenagers. Only 2% of women giving birth in 2011 were aged 19 or under.
- One in four lone mothers is a fulltime homemaker, but just under 5% of lone fathers. Childcare provision in Ireland is one of the poorest in the EU. There is no system of out-of-school childcare provision in Ireland and this poses a barrier to those lone parents who seek opportunities to take up paid employment.
- Childcare costs take up 29% of a dual-earning two-parent family's net income, but an extraordinarily high 52% of a lone parent's net income.

Tipperary County Figures

- There are 3,176 lone parent households in Tipperary NR; 78% lone mothers, 22% lone fathers.
- There are 4,084 lone parent households in Tipperary SR; 85% lone mothers, 15% lone fathers.
- There are Currently 2,608 clients in receipt of OPFP in Tipperary (includes 292 in Carrick-on-suir), of these 89 are Jobseekers Transition Payments clients (includes 13 in Carrick-on-suir). 'Jobseekers Transition Payment'-introduced in July 2012 for OPFP recipients whose youngest child, depending on date of original claim, was between 10 and 18 years of age.
- From July 2015 -all OPFP claimants (whose youngest child is 7) will move to the JST payment.

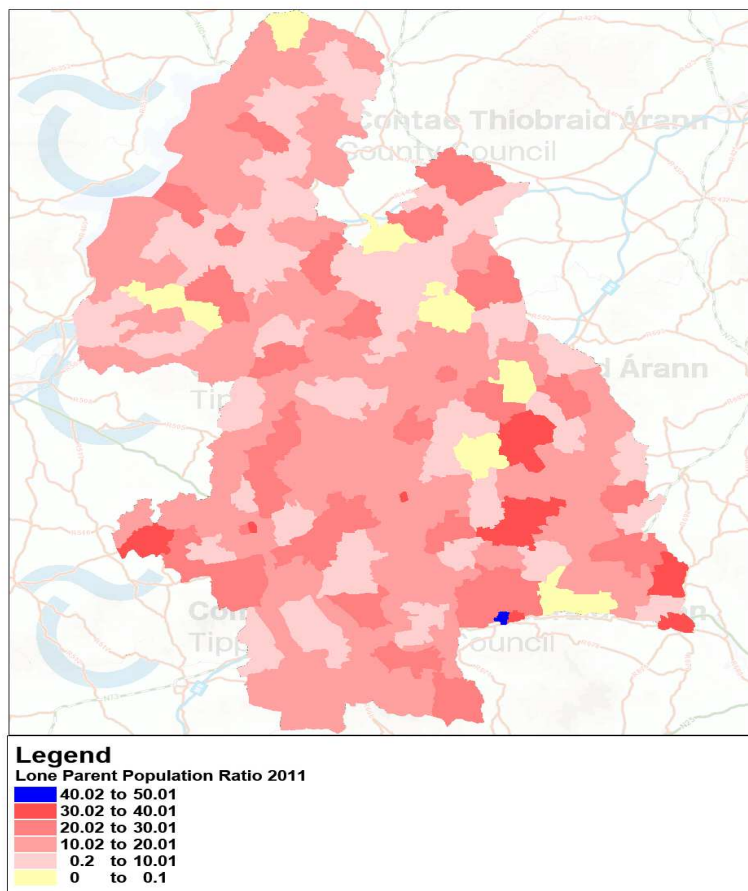


Figure 26 Map showing lone parent population ratio

ED Name	ED ID	Population 2011	Population Score 2011	Lone Parent Ratio 2011
CLONMEL WEST URBAN	23086	5699	-11.97	43.85
CARRICK-ON-SUIR URBAN	23083	4352	-13.90	37.85
TIPPERARY EAST URBAN	23087	2467	-14.83	36.98
CASHEL URBAN	23084	2275	-8.01	36.90
CARRICKBEG URBAN	23082	1534	-9.64	36.10
FETHARD	23104	900	-7.29	33.73
CLONMEL EAST URBAN	23085	3922	-0.81	33.33
NEW BIRMINGHAM	23151	435	-11.59	33.33
NEWTOWN	23092	422	-4.05	32.73
KILLENAULE	23109	1238	-9.21	31.97
EMLY	23164	729	-5.14	30.86
PEPPARDSTOWN	23115	1352	-1.68	30.36

BANSHA	23156	868	-4.17	29.89
THURLES URBAN	22004	6929	-7.01	29.76
NENAGH EAST URBAN	22001	2912	-5.02	29.74
KILCOMMON(Chair)	23125	2134	-8.17	29.52
BORRISOLEIGH	22063	1231	-1.85	29.41
LISRONAGH	23139	905	0.00	28.00
TIPPERARY WEST URBAN	23088	1855	-8.97	27.47
NENAGH WEST URBAN	22002	5111	-4.30	27.36

Table 14 Electoral areas with the highest lone parent ratios.

The following small areas in the county have a greater than 60% lone parent ratio: Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Monsea, Thurles Urban1, Thurles Urban2, Clonmel West Urban, Clonmel Rural, Clonmel West Urban, Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Carrickbeg Urban, Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Clonmel West Urban and require significant supports. Many of the small areas that have high lone parent ratios also have very disadvantaged status as can be seen in the table 15 below

	With ED	Total Population 2011	Deprivation Score 2011	Lone Parents Ratio 2011
Tipperary East Urban		258	-25.00	50.00
Roscrea		220	-24.40	45.20
Tipperary East Urban		268	-23.90	53.30
Carrick-on-Suir Urban		359	-22.70	44.70
Carrick-on-Suir Urban		223	-22.30	60.00
Carrick-on-Suir Urban		298	-22.00	45.70
Nenagh East Urban		137	-21.80	37.50
Nenagh West Urban		209	-21.70	34.80
Roscrea		167	-21.60	32.00
Carrick-on-Suir Urban		234	-21.50	42.10
Roscrea		307	-21.20	34.00
Littleton		301	-20.80	40.00
Clonmel West Urban		228	-20.50	50.00
Roscrea		270	-20.40	34.40
Carrickbeg Urban		283	-20.20	61.40
Tipperary East Urban		179	-20.10	30.80

Table 15 Electoral areas with high disadvantages and % of lone parents within those areas.

6.3.2.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

Arising from demographic analysis, previous studies in this area, and from the consultation processes undertaken, the following key issues have emerged

The most significant issues arising in relation to the data re lone parents is that there is a significant number of small areas that have a 60%+ lone parent ratio. Some of these areas are also deemed to be disadvantaged. Priority for resources must be in areas that have large numbers of lone parents and in small areas that have a high lone parent ratio and in areas that have disadvantaged or very disadvantaged status.

Additional issues arising during the public consultation also included:

- Family therapy/counselling service that meets the needs of lone parents and their children
- Establish lone parent support groups where necessary
- Lone parents have no representative structure in the county to get their issues heard or addressed
- Isolation of young lone parents in rural Ireland is an issue to be addressed
- A website is required to facilitate peer support and exchange of information between lone parents from all areas
- Develop a joint employment support service that meets the individual needs of lone parents and their children.
- Promote the inclusion of lone fathers and their children and of lone parents from the traveller community among organisations offering specific supports to lone parents.
- Address geographical gaps in services

6.3.2.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Needs of the Lone Parents

Priority for resources must be in areas that have large numbers of lone parents and in small areas that have a high lone parent ratio and in areas that have disadvantaged or very disadvantaged status. An interagency response to needs of lone parents in these areas need to be developed to include the range of services from predevelopment, parenting supports, educational supports, health and wellbeing supports, employment supports and development of lone parent forums.

6.3.3 Reduce the marginalisation of specific communities - Traveller \Roma

6.3.3.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

The EU Framework is a response to human rights violations against Roma. It sets out the European Strategy to 2020 for addressing Roma inequalities in education, health, accommodation and employment. The EU Framework obliges each member state to submit a National Roma Integration Strategy. Ireland's National Traveller Roma Integration Strategy 2011 is the formal response to this request.

Ireland's National Traveller / Roma Integration Strategy : Following a proposal from the European Commission on an EU Framework for national Roma integration strategies, all Member States were asked to present to the European Commission a strategy for Roma inclusion or sets of policy measures within their social inclusions policies for improving the situation of Roma people.

The EU Framework is a response to human rights violations against Roma. It sets out the European Strategy to 2020 for addressing Roma inequalities in education, health, accommodation and employment. The EU Framework obliges each member state to submit a National Roma Integration Strategy. Ireland's National Traveller Roma Integration Strategy 2011.

South East Traveller Health Unit – Strategic Plan 2015-2020 - **HSE South East Social Inclusion Unit have a focus on Traveller & Roma Health** – Two projects hosting primary Health Care Programmes TRTP and STDC, some of the Traveller Public Health Community Worker employed directly by HSE and other by Voluntary agencies. Link to Substance Misuse working model developed in South Tipperary and the men's health work.

Roma Health: HSE Social Inclusion Unit has initiated mapping of Roma Community in South Tipperary with a view to supporting access to services. European Roma Rights Centre and the Pavee Point Traveller & Roma Centre also work at national level in relation to needs of Roma and Traveller community.

Over the years, the previous administrations of North and South Tipperary County Councils drew up and prioritised actions under the **Integrated Traveller Action Plans**. A number of common themes emanated from both and the more pertinent of these included

- Health issues for Travellers.

- Needs based education and skills training with **progression routes for men and women**
- Achieving high levels of participation & retention rate of Traveller children in education, preschool, primary and post primary
- Recognition by mainstream providers of the literacy challenge faced by some members of the traveler community in accessing services.
- Employment as key to improving quality of life/wellbeing - targeted Investigation of opportunities to develop an build long term and sustainable Traveller Economy Projects
- provision of appropriate accommodation utilizing a partnership approach
- Traveller participation in the design and implementation of approaches to addressing Traveller issues
- Awareness Raising for front-line staff on Traveller culture with proposals of including Travellers as providers of this training .
- Dedicated liaison officers for each major service provider

Tipperary County Council has responsibility for addressing the accommodation needs of the travelling Community. **A - Joint Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018** has been developed and the following key points are of note

- The areas of significant accommodation need are located around Cabra, Cashel, Cahir and Clonmel.
- It is planned that 71 families will be offered or provided with permanent accommodation during the duration of the programme.

The Tipperary Rural Traveller project (TRTP), in its strategic plan seeks to ensure that

“Travellers in Tipperary have equal access to opportunities and services, and have a recognised voice and a positive influence on social and economic life”

Actions are carried out fewer than two parallel programmes:

- *Programme 1: Addressing Traveller Needs Locally*
- *Programme 2: Influencing Mainstream Services and Promoting Civic Engagement*

The South Tipperary Children’s Services Committee – *“Children and Young Peoples Plan- 2013-2016”* identified the need to address issues in relation to children and young people in the Travelling Community. It proposes, in its new all County Plan to incorporate

the findings of the survey of the Travelling community undertaken by TRTP. This community is expected to be a significant area of interest to the all county CYPSC given the issues facing the children in this community.

6.3.3.2 Descriptive overview of Supports in the County

All of the mainstream providers have a role in the provision of specific supports for the travelling community ranging from TCC in terms of accommodation and social work support; the ETB in terms of education and training; the HSE in the context of addressing health needs, the DSP in the context of welfare supports; Túsla in terms of children and young peoples needs and the Childcare Company in the context of pre-school supports.

In addition to the above, there are a number of other local community development supports which include

- Tipperary Rural Travellers Project (TRTP) who have a specific to work with and support the travelling community in the county
- The Local Development Companies who provide very specific supports to the travelling community including a Primary Health Care Programme for the Travelling Community (PHCP) (which covers Clonmel Roscrea, Littleton & Thurles; A Nenagh, Borrisokane & Roscrea Traveller Development Programme; and a Traveller Family Support Service in North Tipperary which assists families to better manage their homes and engage with agencies and community structures more effectively.
- Youth service providers such as TRYs – who have a traveller youth projects in North Tipperary and who support a number of young travellers in Littleton

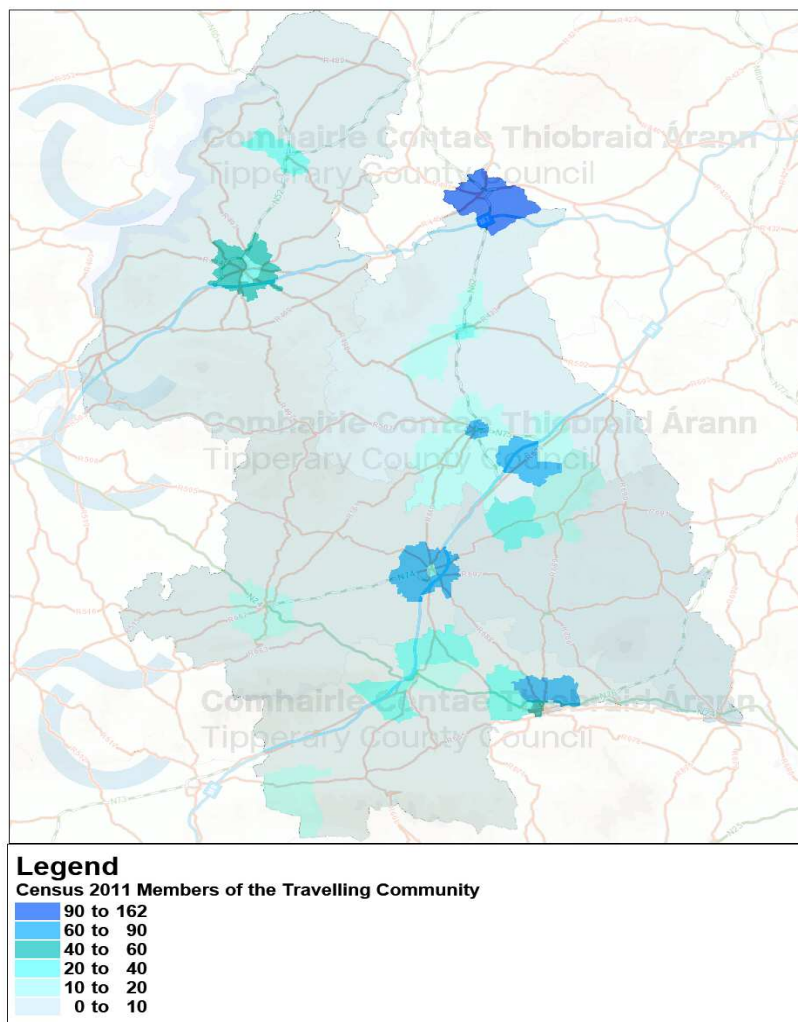


Figure 27 Map showing distribution of members of the Travelling Community

6.3.3.3 Statistical Overview

The following are the key relevant statistical bullet points in relation to the Travelling Community population in Tipperary

- The population of Travellers in the county is 1150 (CSO, 2011).
- 10.37% of travellers whose education is ceased have completed second level education compared to 8.46% of the travelling community nationally compared to 60.3% of the population of County Tipperary aged 15 years and over whose education has ceased.
- 85.47%(117) of traveller young people between the age of 18 and 24 have left school early

- Accommodation

- The Annual Count of Traveller Families at November 30th 2012 identified 201 households in North Tipperary. Of this total, 106 families were in permanent accommodation provided by the Local Authority. 27 families were residing in Traveller specific accommodation and 16 families were living on unauthorised sites. In South Tipperary the Annual count showed 139 Traveller Households. 50 families were in permanent accommodation provided by the Local Authority. 24 families were residing in Traveller specific accommodation and 12 families were living on unauthorised sites.
- The requirements for North and South Tipperary are as follows;

	Standard Housing/Including RAS/Leasing	Group Housing	Halting Site	Single Rural Dwelling	Total
North Tipperary	28	6	1	7	42
South Tipperary	26	24	4	3	57
Total	54	30	5	10	99

Table 16 Traveller accommodation requirements –Tipperary

There are no official statistics as migrants in Ireland are counted on the basis of nationality and not ethnic group, but estimates put the Roma population in Ireland at over 3,000. The majority of Roma in Ireland are from Romania, with significant populations also from Slovakia and Czech Republic and small numbers from Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria. The Roma community, like many migrant groups have tended to settled in cheaper suburbs and commuter towns of the major cities, as well as some smaller towns nationwide.

Research carried out by the ETB in 2014 found that:

South Tipperary

- The Census recorded 142 Irish Travellers between the ages of 10 and 24 years. Approximately half of these young people are estimated to live in South Tipperary's towns.
- The overall Traveller population in South Tipperary has increased by 30 per cent from 421 in 2006 to 546 in 2011. However, the number of young Irish Travellers has only grown by one third this rate.

North Tipperary

- The Census recorded 221 Irish Travellers between the ages of 10 and 24 years. Young Travellers in this age group form more than one third of the Traveller community in North Tipperary.
- The overall Traveller population in North Tipperary has increased by 35 per cent from 446 in 2006 to 604 in 2011.

Source: Tipperary Education and Training Board (2014) *Young People in Tipperary, A Demographic Profile*, (2nd Edition), Dublin: Irish Youth Work Press

From a spatial perspective, it is interesting to note that there are clear concentrations of the travelling community in Clonmel, Roscrea, Nenagh, Thurles, Cahir, Cashel and Templemore and in the more rural eastern part of the county around Littleton, Fethard, Ballynonty and Killenaule. Notwithstanding the population numbers involved, there is also quite a significant cluster of travelling families located in Littleton which is well above the national and county average east of the county. This spatial distribution is helpful in that it can assist in ensuring that resources are targeted to these areas but it also brings with it a responsibility to ensure that resources are targeted at these key areas.

Ethnicity														
Location	Other		Asian or Asian Ir.		Black or Black Ir.		Other White		Total		White Irish		White Irish Trav..	
STATE	40,724		84,690		65,078		412,975				3,821,995		29,495	
Mid-West	2,631		4,604		3,264		29,416		374,975		327,126		2,973	
South-East	2,926		4,539		3,519		40,114		493,297		432,633		3,354	
Tipperary	794		1,213		1,683		9,480		111,632		95,355		932	
Tipperary North	343		510		134		5,507		69,884		61,940		604	
Tipperary South	495		731		406		7,545		87,725		76,958		546	
	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M	0M	5M
	Other		Asian or Asian I.		Black or Black Ir.		Other White		Total		White Irish		White Irish Trav..	
Clonmel Plus Envi..	ST	161		308		155		2,003		17,749		14,719	150	
Roscrea	NT	32		60		17		818		5,382		4,223	144	
Nenagh Plus Envi..	NT	72		133		42		1,436		8,381		6,382	75	
Thurles Plus Envir..	NT	76		115		39		750		7,890		6,751	70	
Cahir	ST	32		43		71		884		3,552		2,381	36	
Cashel Legal Tow..	ST	32		93		19		713		4,008		3,025	34	
Tipperary Legal T..	ST	55		52		16		762		5,291		4,326	32	
Templemore Lega..	NT	2		8		2		190		2,060		1,817	30	
Littleton	NT	4		1		0		9		407		359	29	
Fethard	ST	11		5		2		89		1,536		1,393	21	
Borrisokane	NT	4		15		2		63		954		846	17	
Carrick-On-Suir Pl..	ST	36		39		73		444		5,912		5,222	12	
Ballynonty	ST	0		0		0		4		152		140	8	
Killenaule	ST	3		9		10		18		713		658	8	
Newport	NT	7		50		1		73		1,802		1,599	6	
Toomevara	NT	0		1		0		12		311		289	6	
Borrisoleigh	NT	4		4		0		82		706		607	5	

Table 17 Ethnicity in Co Tipperary –CSO 2011

- Unemployment rate amongst the travelling community is 84.51% (CSO 2011)

- Unemployment rate amongst young people aged 18 - 24 in the travelling community is 85.47% (CSO 2011)

Roma Community -There are no official statistics in relation to this grouping as migrants in Ireland are counted on the basis of nationality and not ethnic group, but estimates put the Roma population in Ireland at over 3,000. The majority of Roma in Ireland are from Romania, with significant populations also from Slovakia, the Czech Republic and small numbers from Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria. The Roma community, like many migrant groups have tended to settle in cheaper suburbs and commuter towns of the major cities, as well as some smaller towns nationwide..

In terms of their health, this is a relatively new and emerging community presenting with various needs that requires an interagency integrated response, there are health issues including access to medical cards, Habitual Residence Clause (HRC), Social Welfare Entitlement, English Language, Housing, Employment, Education, Childcare / Children's needs. Until some mapping is done in South Tipperary it is not possible to highlight any particular community or needs.at this point in time (HSE South East Social Inclusion Unit)

6.3.3.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

Arising from the studies and statistics referenced above, there are a number of key issues which continue to challenge the marginalization of the travelling community. There is a requirement for a new all County Traveler Interagency Plan which focuses on the following key issues

- Addressing the accommodation issues, particularly those who are currently occupying unauthorized sites
- Targeting supports around the education of the travelling community at all levels, including adults and progression/ access to third level
- Addressing the vulnerabilities around traveler and roma children, particularly in the context of education attainment, health and well being
- Engaging traveler men with services and supports, particularly around health, education and employment
- Using social economy initiatives and other creative solutions to support employment based opportunities

- Promoting a better understanding between the travelling community and the settled community, particularly in the context of housing accommodation
- Progressing with initiatives which support families in their new homes
- Development of incentives and programmes to enable greater engagement with services through sport; culture; health initiatives and other)
- Developing health strategies that take sufficient recognition of the needs of the travelling community, cognisant of structural inequalities, low life expectancy and high infant death rate.
- Develop very particular supports around drug misuse and abuse amongst the travelling community
- Travelling Community need to be represented on key structure that impact on their community.
- New whole county traveller interagency plan needs to be developed and implemented

Roma Community

- Mapping and Needs Audit to be completed in relation to the Roma Community.

6.3.4 Reduce the Marginalisation of specific communities: - LGBTI

6.3.4.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

- LGBT rights in the European Union are protected under the European Union's (EU) treaties and law.
- The EU adopted on 24 June 2013 guidelines for supporting LGBTI persons' human rights. These Guidelines instruct EU diplomats around the world to defend the human rights of LGBTI people
- LGBTI Health research – A regional steering group overseeing the development of recommendations from the regional research report launched in April 2015 “ The Rainbow Report”: LGBTI Health Needs & Experiences and Health Sector Responses and Practices in the HSE South East CHO Area 5.

6.3.4.2 Descriptive overview of Supports in the County

Teni's (Transgender Equality Network Ireland) Health and Education Worker provides awareness raising and training opportunities for relevant agencies / groups in the area.

Tipperary Regional Youth Services (TRYs) is one of the few community development structures that provides assistance and support to young people through the LGBT youth group. TRYs also run workshops for teachers and other relevant professional in order to develop skills for working with those individuals who identify as (LGBT) and their families.

Red Ribbon Project provides support, consultation, workshops, and training in North Tipperary.

6.3.4.3 Statistical Overview

The ETB, in its youth profile review in 2014, stated that

- It is estimated that 7.5 per cent of young people nationwide are LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender). This would mean that up to 800 young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender in Tipperary.

In total, approximately 1400 young people are LGBT in Tipperary. This figure would clearly increase if an estimate was also provided for those persons over 18 years of age

6.3.4.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

It is clear from the lack of data or reports above that there is very little information on this cohort of the population which would illustrate the level of marginalization that this community is suffering. Clearly a key issue emerging would be to address this gap.

There is no formal network or forum for people in this cohort and it is therefore difficult to ascertain their needs/requirements or how policy affects them

There is a clear need to increase the capacity of professionals to support people who identify as LGBT.

Ensure best practice guidelines and policies are being adhered to.

6.3.5 To support people who are finding it difficult to sustain a home

6.3.5.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

The Government's strategy on tackling homelessness is set out in their 'Homelessness Policy Statement' published in February 2013. This sets a target for ending long-term homelessness by 2016 – the objective being that no one should have to live in temporary or emergency accommodation for more than 6 months from that date.

This brief Policy Statement builds upon *The Way Home: A Strategy to Address Adult Homelessness in Ireland 2008 – 2013* which set a target of ending long-term homelessness and the need to sleep rough by 2010. These targets were not met, although the period up until 2010 saw a substantial fall in the numbers of people sleeping rough. With a crisis rise in the level of homelessness in late 2014 an **Implementation Plan on the State's Response to Homelessness – May 2014 to December 2016** was outlined. It identified the State's response to homelessness in order to achieve the national objective of ending involuntary long-term homelessness by 2016. It set out to be a practically focused delivery plan securing a ring-fenced supply of accommodation to house homeless households within the next three years and mobilise the necessary supports.

The **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016** contained a specific Goal on Housing which included the objective of delivering high quality housing for those who cannot afford to meet their own housing needs and to underpin the building of sustainable communities. Whilst there were targets set in this document (some 60,000 new households over the period 2007 to 2009), these became a significant challenge with the onset of the economic crisis.

This South East Homelessness Action Plan mirrors the six strategic aims as outlined in 'The Way Home'

1. To reduce the number of households who become homeless through the further development and enhancement of preventative measures – preventing homelessness.
2. To eliminate the need for people to sleep rough.
3. To eliminate long term homelessness and to reduce the length of time people spend homeless.
4. To meet the long term housing needs through an increase in housing options.
5. To ensure effective services for homeless people.
6. To ensure better co-ordinated funding arrangements and re-orientate spending on homeless services, away from emergency responses to the provision of long term housing and support services.

The South East Homelessness Action Plan summarises the causes of homelessness and notes there are a number of characteristics in the backgrounds of homeless people which are commonly held.

- physical or sexual abuse in childhood or adolescence
- family disputes or breakdown
- a background of institutional care
- offending behaviour and/or experience of prison

There are a number of general causes of homelessness, which include;

- Housing and financial crisis;
- Institutional discharge;
- Family breakdown, including domestic violence;
- Substance abuse;
- Mental health issues; and,
- the transition from youth to adulthood for young people in care or who were homeless as young people

In addition to these risk factors, there is a range of events or crisis points which can trigger homelessness including, leaving the parental home after arguments, marital or relationship breakdown, widowhood, leaving care, leaving prison, a sharp deterioration in mental health or an increase in alcohol or drug misuse, a financial crisis of mounting debts, eviction, victims of anti-social behaviour.

The South East homelessness Action Plan highlights that ‘understanding these characteristics which place people at risk of homelessness and the events which might then trigger homelessness is vital in informing the development of services for homeless people and strategies to prevent homelessness. Clearly many people who experience homelessness will have a range of support needs, which must be addressed alongside their need for housing.’

6.3.5.2 *Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County*

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has general responsibility for the health and in-house care needs of homeless people. In terms of funding, this means that local authorities are responsible for the costs of providing accommodation while the HSE provides funding for the care and welfare needs of homeless people, including in-house care.

In 2013 a Directory of Adult Homeless Services in the South East Region was published. The Directory provides a comprehensive listing of all specialist homeless services, for adults, families and young people in the South East, as well as providing some information on relevant mainstream and general services, which provide support to people who are experiencing homelessness

The Child and Family Agency (Tusla) has responsibility under the Child Care Act 1991 for providing accommodation for people under the age of 18 who are homeless or in need of care. It may also provide aftercare facilities for young people aged over 18. From a County perspective, supports are currently delivered on a north south basis but this will be addressed on a whole county basis in time.

The South East Homeless Forum and Mid West Homeless forum's have been the interagency body to provide a consultative mechanism in relation to homelessness in the context of the preparation of the statutory Homelessness Action Plan 2013 – 2016. Two Homelessness action plans covered County Tipperary as the county straddled both regions.

Homeless Action Teams are in operation in each of the Local Authority areas (and are comprised of Local Authority Housing officials, HSE healthcare, DSP community welfare staff and representatives from voluntary service providers. Each Homeless Action Team meets to co-ordinate an inter-agency response to the support needs and case management of homeless people and individuals at risk of becoming homeless.

The role of the Homeless Action Team as identified in the Murtagh report (2006) is to:

- carry out initial assessment of presenting homeless people prepare and approve care and support plans
- resettle homeless people into new permanent and emergency accommodation regularly review the implementation and efficiency of plans
- to develop and implement local preventative strategies with other agencies such as hospitals, probation service, Gardai and voluntary agencies.

In the Southern part of the County, The South East Homeless Action Plan the supports include

- Homeless Action Team (H.A.T.)
- Tenancy Sustainment Service (SE SIMON)

Both the H.A.T. and the Tenancy Sustainment Service address the issue of homelessness and its prevention. Temporary B&B can be made available in an emergency pending the sourcing of private rented accommodation. Currently work is being undertaken to establish inter-county protocols to allow homeless persons in South Tipperary access to regional hostels.

In the North of the County, a dedicated Homeless Unit has been established by the County Council and the H.S.E. since 2003. The main objective of the Homeless Unit is to provide assistance in dealing with all persons who present as homeless.

6.3.5.3 Statistical Overview

The number of applicants awaiting the allocation of a local authority/social housing unit has risen substantially in the last 8 years. A total of 2,811 persons are currently waiting to be allocated appropriate accommodation. The breakdown per municipal/borough district is as follows:-

Carrick on Suir District – 260
Cashel-Tipperary District – 526
Clonmel Borough District – 599
Nenagh District – 668
Templemore-Thurles District - 758

Under the new Social Housing Strategy 2020, new social housing units will be expected to come on stream which will assist in addressing the growing demand. Housing accommodation is one of the greatest challenges facing the county to day. The core responsibility for addressing this needs lies with Tipperary County Council. But there are significant elements within housing accommodation that require an interagency support, particularly around areas of anti social behaviour, traveller accommodation and homelessness.

One of the most difficult aspects of the Housing function lies in addressing the needs of homelessness. These are often the most vulnerable of persons and the most complex of cases and quite often, the issue of accommodation itself is not the solution, but rather the supports around addressing the complex needs of those who present as homeless.

Homelessness in Tipperary has reflected the national trend and there has been an ongoing rise in the number of homelessness over the last number of years.

- 218 presented in 2013
- 231 presented in 2014
- More complex cases are presenting

In 2013, 218 individuals presented as homeless on an all-county basis. This increased to 231 in 2014.

6.3.5.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

In reviewing the above documents and from the experience of those agencies on the ground who deal on a regular basis with homelessness, the following are the key issues,

- Lack of an all-county Homeless Action Plan. Any such strategy to address the issues outlined below
- lack of available supported homeless accommodation and thereafter the lack of supportive supply of secure, supported, affordable and adequate housing
- action to prevent, as far as possible, the occurrence or reoccurrence of homelessness
- Support - promoting independent living, with supports as appropriate
- Develop appropriate interagency support to those vulnerable sectors such as ex-prisoners, ex-addicts; young people coming out of care; victims of domestic violence, asylum seekers, Roma Community for.
- Lack of support for homelessness of those young people 18-25 year olds – sleeping on couches (homelessness) under 23 only earning €100 per week.
- Life skills programme to be developed with the most vulnerable of the homeless sector around basic housekeeping and the running/operation of a home.
- Supports in relation to mental health and wellbeing of people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless

6.3.5.5 Actions Arising *Reduce the marginalisation of specific target groups/ communities: Non Irish Nationals & Asylum Seekers; Travelling community; Lone Parents; People at risk of homeless & LGBTI*

Travelling Community

Establishment of an all-county Traveller Inter-Agency Strategy Group (with participation by (Travellers) and the development and implementation of a multi-annual action plan as drawn up by that group. Prioritise in particular innovative employment support programmes and early education programmes.

Roma Community

Identify base line data re Roma Community

Non Irish Nationals & Asylum Seekers

1. Complete a profile and needs analysis of non-Irish nationals who have little or no English.

2. Support English language provision in particular in relation to non-Irish nationals with little or no English.
3. Support community initiatives in relation to informal language and conversation groups
4. Support integration activities at community level
5. Encourage and promote all services to provide information on services in a number of relevant languages
6. Support the development of a whole county integration forum with smaller forums at town level in particular in relation to towns with high levels of non-Irish nationals who have little or no English.
7. Support Residents of Bridgewater to access services and address issues which are barriers to services and support transition process of residents once granted leave to remain in the country

Lone Parents

1. Priority for resources must be in areas that have large numbers of lone parents and in small areas that have a high lone parent ratio and in areas that have disadvantaged or very disadvantaged status. An interagency response to needs of lone parents in these areas need to be developed to include the range of services from predevelopment, parenting supports, educational supports, health and wellbeing supports, employment supports and development of lone parent forums.

LGBTI

1. Support the establish a county forum for LGBTI with a view to identifying issues for people in the LGBTI community
2. Commence work on data gathering to ascertain the extent, needs and requirements of people who identify as LGBTI
3. Support the work of key youth service providers to provide appropriate supports and services to young people in this community

Homeless

1. Develop an all-County Homeless Action Plan which addresses in particular the needs of the more vulnerable sectors, including ex-prisoners; ex-addicts; victims of domestic violence; people with mental health difficulties, young people coming from the care system, ex-offenders and asylum seekers.
2. Develop a programme providing integrated support for families and people who are homeless and the need for supported housing for key at risk groups – such as people following rehabilitation from substance misuse, families who are victims of violence/domestic abuse and young people coming out of care.

6.4 Vulnerable families & Young People

Framework Priority: Provide a targeted and integrated response to the needs of vulnerable families, children / young people in areas of greatest risk

One of the common threads binding social deprivation issues is the fact that it has a tendency to be generational based for those in long term poverty, is linked to poor education, health and well being and as such leads to potential significant vulnerabilities where children are concerned. By supporting families, and particularly those families most at risk of deprivation, it is considered the most effective way of trying to effect positive change, particularly from the perspective of the child. It should also contribute to trying to break the generational trend..

6.4.1 Relevant National Policies

There are a number of relevant policy document developed at national level which have assisted Government in identifying the type of appropriate supports for vulnerable families and children. These policies include

- National Strategy for Research and Data on Children's Lives 2011-2016 (DCYA, 2011)
- Report of the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency (DCYA, 2012)
- Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020 (DCYA, 2014)
- Prevention, Partnership and Family Support National Guidance & Local Implementation: suite of documents: (Tusla, 2013)
 - Guidance for the Implementation of an Area Based approach to Prevention, Partnership and Family Support.
 - Investing in Families: Supporting Parents to Improve Outcomes for Children.
 - 50 Key Messages in Supporting Parenting.
 - What Works in Family Support?
 - Commissioning Guidance.
- Meitheal- A National Practice Model for All Agencies working with Children, Young People and Their Families.

From a local county perspective, the relevant immediate documents would include

- South Tipperary Children and Young Persons Plan
- Tusla; Child and Family Agency: North Tipperary Community Development- Brief Demographic Profile and Child and Family Services Mapping 2014

6.4.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

In addition to the mainstream providers the County, the following key agencies/organizations have a particular focus on vulnerable families as part of their remit. These include

Tusla in both north and south parts of the county are implementing national policy in relation to an Area Based Approach to Prevention, Partnership and Family Support. This national policy, which requires all those who provide services to children and families to coordinate and deliver these services in an integrated way to help improve outcomes for children and families. Tusla in Tipperary have commenced development of the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support programme in the county. The programme involves the establishment of local groups of relevant service providers working to deliver appropriate and integrated services for targeted families and children.

Childcare Services – there is now a whole county childcare committee and there is a range of both private and community service providers throughout the county.

There are three **Family Resource Centers** in the southern part of the County – Spafield Resource Center in Cashel, The Three Drives Center in Tipperary Town and the Millenium Family Resouce Center servicing the Slieve Ardagh Area.

The **Community Development Projects (CDPs)** have been integrated into the Local Development Companies with the exception of Knockanrawley Resource Centre and the Tipperary Rural Traveller Project which have retained their own status. The northern part of the county does not have CDP's or FRC's but similar services are provided by NTLP, Tipperary Regional Youth services and North Tipperary Community Services in the northern part of the county.

SICAP Programme- North Tipperary LEADER Partnership & South Tipperary Development Company: The aim of SICAP is: "To reduce poverty, promote social inclusion and equality through local, regional and national engagement and collaboration." SICAP's vision is to improve the life chances and opportunities of those who are marginalised in society, living in poverty or in unemployment through community

development approaches, targeted supports and interagency collaboration where the values of equality and inclusion are promoted and human rights are respected.

Barnardos: is a children's charity which works with vulnerable children and their families. Barnardos have projects in Thurles, Clonmel, Littleton and family support work includes—direct work with children, direct work with parents, whole family work and group work

Tipperary Regional Youth Service (TRYs) is funded by Tusla: to provide a family support service based in Templemore. TRYs also manages the running costs of a community house based in Littleton, Tipperary. TRYs MORE (Family Support Project) was initiated in April 2008 with a full time Project Worker employed to work with vulnerable families. Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is commonly used both as an evidence based intervention and prevention systemic family programme for at risk adolescents and their families. At present FFT is in operation in South Tipperary on a part time basis as part of the workload of two staff members with TRYs.

The Traveller Primary Health Programme is a county-wide programme which aims to improve the health status and quality of life/wellbeing of the Travelling Community in Tipperary, through health promotion activities.

NLTP's Traveller Development Programme works with Travellers in Nenagh and Borrisokane providing advocacy support to adults and young people in accessing services, educational, and social activities.

Tipperary Rural Traveller Project support and works with travellers in the south part of the county in relation to capacity building of the travelling community in the areas of education, family support, leadership and capacity building etc.

NLTP Family Support Project The Family Support Project has positive working relationships with a number of statutory agencies in the area. The steering committee made up of public health nurses, social work services, primary care and housing worker, provides a direct link between those agencies and the service. The Family Support Worker carries out approximately twelve home visits each week. Meetings take place based on needs assessed. The project has its own assessment form based on the common assessment framework triangle. Due to the high degree of demand for the service there have been waiting lists. Priority based on the initial assessment of needs. A large proportion of cases; over 50% in 2012, were either referred by or co worked with social work services. These families tend to have complex issues with high degree of need (Hardiker level three). This is funded by Tulsa: Child and Family Agency.

Youth Services: The T.E.T.B. has a planning role in the development of youth services. In fulfilling this purpose, its Youth Officer(s) have a role in monitoring and assessing youth

programmes, preparing a youth work development plan, and producing an annual report evaluating youth work activities in the county. The T.E.T.B. also provides funding in the form of a Local Youth Club Grant scheme, administered by the Youth Officer

The Youth Work Services also provide an important and valuable service for many disconnected young people.

Currently there are a number of staff-led Youth Work Service providers operating in the County;

- Foróige have youth projects based in Carrick on Suir and Nenagh and a youth mentoring and entrepreneurship project based in Cashel which provides a service for the whole County
- Tipperary Regional Youth Service covers parts of North Tipperary, South Tipperary and East Limerick and has youth projects based in Cashel, Thurles, Littleton, Tipperary Town and Templemore
- Waterford and South Tipperary Community Youth Service covers parts of South Tipperary, including Clonmel, Carrick on Suir and Cahir
- NTLP RAY Project in Roscrea which delivers the Special project for Youth Programme and a Garda Youth Diversion project.

Additionally, Youth Service Providers support volunteer-led youth clubs throughout the County North Tipperary Leader Partnership have two youth projects based in Nenagh and Roscrea South Tipperary Development Company currently oversee the Southside Youth Project based in the RAPID area of Clonmel

Tipperary Regional Youth Service: MORE (Family Support Project) :Tipperary Regional Youth Service (TRYs) is funded by Tusla: Child and Family to provide a family support service based in Templemore. TRYs also manages the running costs of a community house based in Littleton, Tipperary. TRYs MORE (Family Support Project) was initiated in April 2008 with a full time Project Worker employed.

Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is commonly used both as an evidence based intervention and prevention systemic family programme for at risk adolescents and their families. At present FFT is in operation in South Tipperary on a part time basis as part of the workload of two staff members with TRYs.

Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence services in the county include:

Ascend Domestic Abuse Service offers confidential support services and information to women who have or are experiencing domestic abuse in their intimate relationships. Services include one to one support, a helpline, court accompaniment, information and

outreach support. The service is based out of Roscrea and is available throughout North Tipperary including Nenagh and Thurles. Ascend supported three hundred and sixty eight women in 2014.

Tipperary Rape Crisis & Counselling Centre (TRCC) provides a long and short term counselling service for adult survivors of Rape, Child Sexual Abuse, Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, also to their families or anyone affected.

Cuan Saor (Safe Haven) refuge provides short term crisis accommodation for women and children fleeing domestic violence.

Cuan Saor also provides the following services:

- 24 Hour/365 day Freephone helpline
- Support and information (drop in or by appointment)
- Counselling
- Outreach to designated clinics in South Tipperary area
- Court Accompaniment Service
- Aftercare
- Training and Awareness raising
- Child and Family Support

Tipperary Rape Crisis & Counselling Center and Cuan Saor provided services to six hundred and twenty nine people in 2014.

6.4.3 Statistical Analysis & Overview

The map below highlights where children (under 14years) are living in the county. Whilst the youth age dependency table 18 below demonstrates a high level of youth age dependency around Lisronagh, Ballina, Drangan, Silvermines, Ballyclerahan, Ballynonty, Newport, Portroe, Two Mile Borris, Donaskeigh and Mullinahone (it references the youth population as a % of the total population), in fact, as can be seen in table 18 and Figure 28, the highest number of under 14 year olds are focused around the larger towns and the smaller towns of Cashel, Cahir, Ballina, Newport and the smaller settlement of Newcastle. Community supports in these areas need to consider families as a target group. From a

resource targeting perspective, it is important that appropriate youth services and supports are provided in those areas where there is a significant youth cohort.

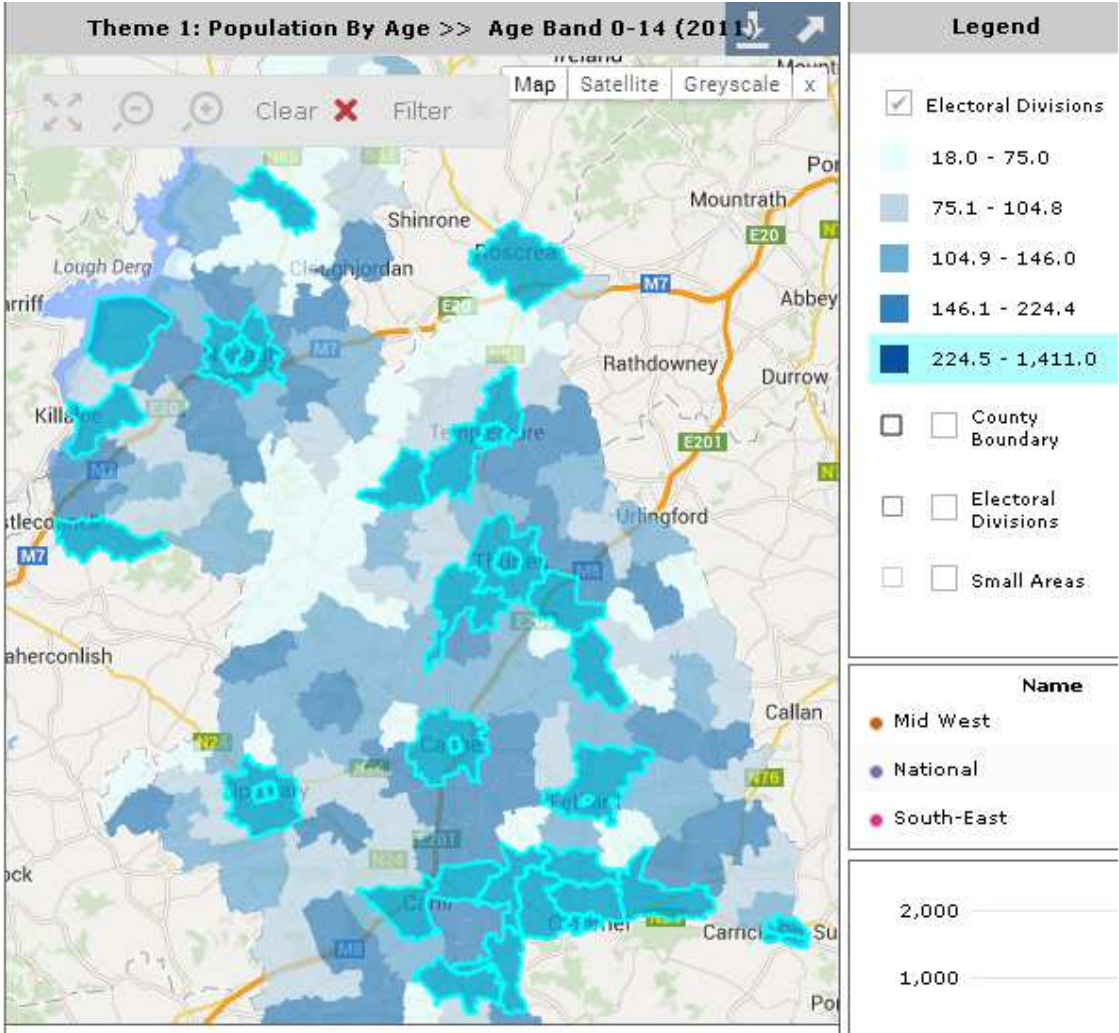


Figure 28 Map showing Population by Age (CSO 2011)

Census 2011

Theme 1: Sex, Age & Marital Status



Select Data to View
 Age Group
 Dependency Ratio

Select Geography
 County
 Settlement

Select Number Format
 Number
 Percent

Select Nth/Sth Tipp
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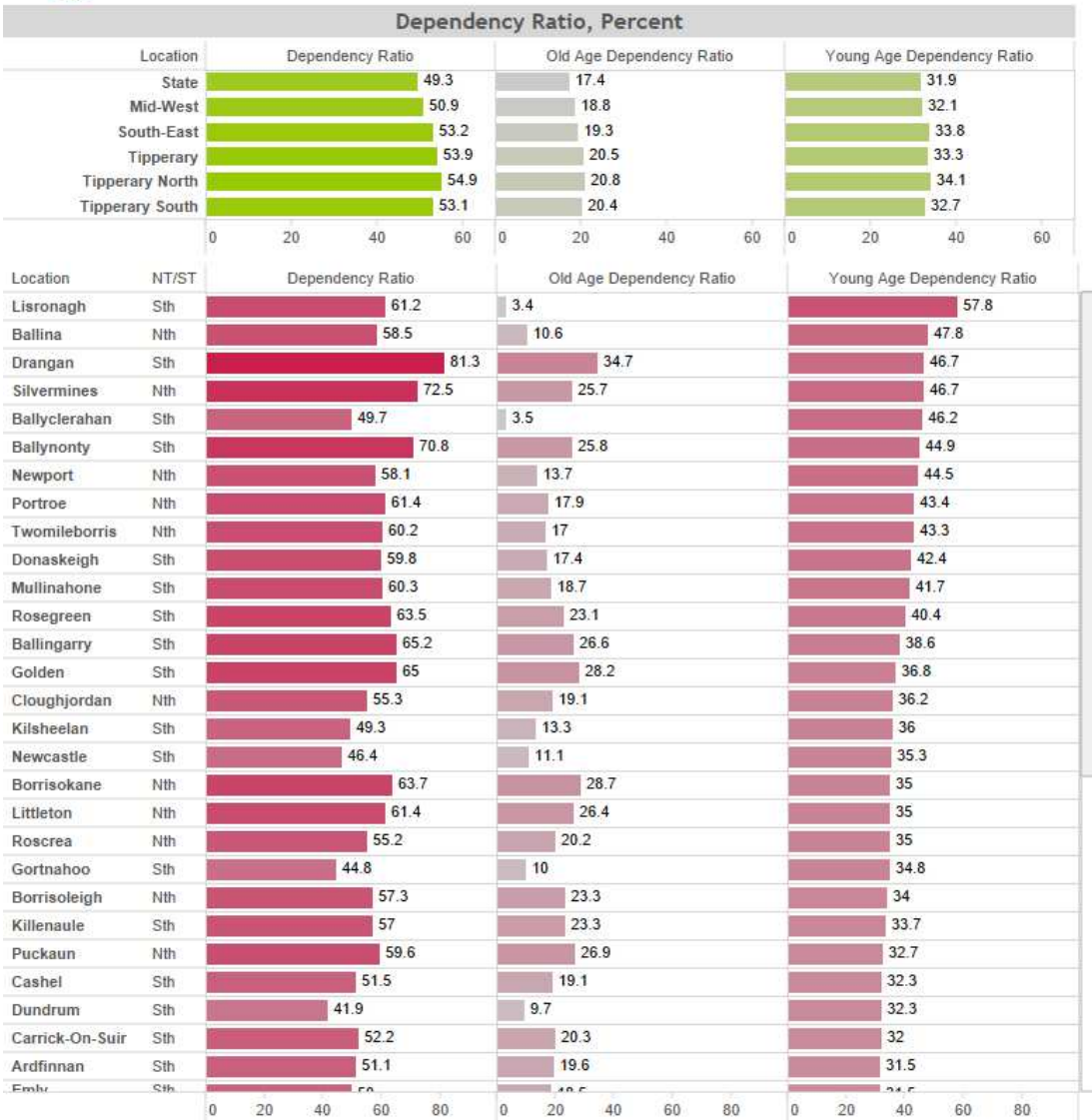


Table 18 Youth Age Dependency by Settlement

Location	NT/ST	0 to 14	15 to 24
Clonmel	Sth	3,509	2,181
Thurles	Nth	1,517	992
Nenagh	Nth	1,746	924
Carrick-On-Suir	Sth	1,245	744
Roscrea	Nth	1,218	678
Tipperary	Sth	998	645
Cashel	Sth	865	448
Cahir	Sth	749	435
Templemore	Nth	362	247
Fethard	Sth	299	204
Ballina	Nth	737	196
Newcastle	Sth	641	192
Newport	Nth	508	147
Borrisokane	Nth	206	120
Ardfinnan	Sth	197	102
Holycross	Nth	145	99
Kilsheelan	Sth	195	98
Killenaule	Sth	153	97
Ballyclerahan	Sth	249	96
Borrisoleigh	Nth	153	79
Portroe	Nth	126	66
Twomileborris	Nth	148	62

Table 19 number of children and young people in the 0-14 and 14-25 year age groups by settlement

The three key documents of relevance to the County in the context of this sector include the detailed review undertaken by the Tipperary Education and Training Board (2014) Young People in Tipperary: A Demographic Profile, the Children Services Action Plan for South Tipperary (TúsIa – Children services Committee South Tipperary) and a draft Demographic profile of Children and Young people in the north of Tipperary (on behalf of TúsIa, in the context of setting up an all-county Children Services and Young Peoples Committee (CSYPC) There are a number of interesting findings in these documents which include:

- Notwithstanding the spatial concentration of young people around the key towns, the CSO comparisons from 2006 – 2011 for the south of the County shows a trend of families with young people (10 – 18 yrs) moving from urban to rural EDs

Just over half of the youth population in the Northern part of the County live in areas that are not bordering towns or urban electoral divisions. Over one third live in urban centres/towns. There has been a particular increase in youth population growth in areas of Ballina, Newport, Nenagh and Roscrea

The youth dependency table above demonstrates a high level of youth age dependency around Lisronagh, Ballina, Drangan, Silvermines, Ballyclerahan, Ballynonty, Newport, Portroe, Two Mile Borris, Donaskeigh and Mullinahone (it references the youth population as a % of the total population), in fact, the highest number of under 14 year olds are focused around Clonmel, Nenagh, Thurles, Carrick on Suir, Roscrea, Tipperary, Cashel, Cahir and Ballina, Newcastle and Newport. Community supports in these areas need to consider families as a target group. From a resource targeting perspective, it is important that appropriate youth services and supports are provided in those areas where there is a significant youth cohort.

- 1 in 10 young people aged 10 – 24 have a non Irish background. Close to 2% have a non white background in the South of the County while the figure is 1.4% in the northern part of the County. Cahir differs significantly to the rest of the County in that 3 out of 10 young people are not Irish Nationals and of these, 90% are EU27 nationals.

As a proportion of the population, it is expected that young people with a UK or American nationality will decrease in the coming years whilst a proportionate increase can be expected in the number of young Asian, Africans and non EU27 Europeans

- Whilst the overall traveller population in South Tipperary has increased by 30% from 421 in 2006 to 546 in 2011, the number of young Irish Travellers has only grown by one third of this rate. There are 142 Irish Travellers between the age of 10 and 24 years and roughly 50% of these are estimated to live in the main towns of South Tipperary. There are 221 Irish Travellers in the North of the County (forming more than one third of the traveler population in the north of the county) .
- There are no significant LGBTI support networks in the County. On the basis that approximately 7.5% of young people are LGBT, it is estimated that there would be up to 1400 young people between the ages of 15 – 24 years lesbian, gay , bisexual or transgender
- 1 in 5 young people who are no longer in education have not completed upper secondary level education. However the overall number of early school leavers (i.e

those who ceased their education before completion of upper secondary level) has dropped from 12.6% of all 15 – 24 year olds in 2006 to 8% in 2011 for South Tipperary (this could be explained by the fact that there were no opportunities in the construction sector). Second level school retention rates in the north Tipperary area would suggest that 1 in 10 students who enter the junior cert cycle do not complete the senior cycle

- The number of 15 – 24 year olds in the south of Tipperary with no formal education has almost tripled from 11 in 2006 to 28 in 2011. Whilst numbers are small, the trend needs to be addressed
- It is estimated that 870 young people in south Tipperary were living in consistent poverty and 1,840 were at risk of poverty in 2009. These figures are likely to have risen under the current economic conditions. Approximately 680 young persons in North Tipperary were living in consistent poverty and 1,460 were at risk of poverty in 2009. It is likely that these figures have increased since the economic collapse.
- 1 in 5 children in North Tipperary live in one parent families in 2011. 85% of them with their mothers. The number of children growing up in one parent families has grown twice as fast as those in two parent families. In the south of the County, the level of one parent families has also risen and is ahead of the national average for both lone mothers and Lone Fathers.

The majority of lone parent's households in the south of the county are concentrated in the 5 main towns, with the majority in Clonmel Town and its hinterland (South Tipperary Children's Services Committee – Children and Young People's Plan 2013 – 2016). In the area around Slieve Ardagh and the village of Killenaule (an area comprising a cluster of 13 DEDs), there are a total of 827 parents and children in lone parent households.

In the South of the County, the % of children under 18 who's Mothers has either no formal education or primary education only was 6.9% and 27% for those who had only attained lower secondary education

In North Tipperary, the highest proportion of lone parents are also to be found in the main towns comprising just under 12% of all family households in Nenagh; 11% in Thurles, 12.8% in Roscrea and 11.5% in Templemore. Newport has 14.2 % of lone parent families which is more than one third higher than the North Tipperary average

The following small areas in the county have a greater than 60% lone parent ratio: Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Monsea, Thurles Urban1, Thurles Urban2, Clonmel West

Urban, Clonmel Rural, Clonmel West Urban, Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Carrickbeg Urban, Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Clonmel West Urban and require. There are significant other small areas in the county. Many of the small areas that have high lone parent ratios also have very disadvantaged status as can be seen in Table 15 above.

- In 2011, 273 children in South Tipperary and 135 children in North Tipperary were in care services. Approximately three quarters of those in care in the South were fostered whilst nearly two thirds of those in care in the North were fostered. Nationally, the number of children in care had risen by 15% since 2008 but in South Tipperary, this had increased by 29% in the same period. North Tipperary has also seen an above average increase in the number of children in care. At the end of 2011, all of the children in care in South Tipperary had an allocated social worker and a written care plan. Performance reports from the HSE represent North Tipperary as an area with the greatest challenge to reach the targets set in relation to care plans and allocated social workers for children in care
- It is estimated that close to 8% of children live with a disability in the County and difficulties in learning, remembering, or concentrating are the most commonly experienced disability in the 15 – 24 year age group
- Suicide amongst young people is a particular concern at 14.4 per 1,000 in Ireland – the 4th highest in Europe. Alcohol is also identified as the most reported drug of misuse among young people in Tipperary
- Unemployment amongst young people was very high at 65% for 15 – 19 year olds in the South of the County and 63.5% for those in the north of the County. Unemployment amongst the 20 – 24 year olds was at 39.6% in the South of the County and 40.7% for those in the North (CSO 2011 census). However, this is on the decline.
- Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence : Close to 1000 people availed of violence against women services in Tipperary in 2014 through the Assend Service in the Northern part of the county and through Cuan Saor and the Rape Crisis center in the southern part of the county.

In the context of the gaps in service provision identified by the Children and Young People's Plan 2013 -2016 for South Tipperary, a number of service gaps have been identified which include

- The chequered development of the Primary care model of health care

- The limitations of the Child & Adolescent Mental health Services to an upper age threshold of 15 years and the lack of appropriate services for 16 – 17 years age group. There is an insufficiency of resources at preventative and early interventions levels to address the less acute mental health issues prevalent in the community
- The care issues for children and young people in residential care – the most vulnerable of all children
- The uneven distribution of a range of support services around the county so that services available in some areas are not available in others, reflecting differential development of service provision by the voluntary and community support programmes. Services such as free or low cost counselling, parenting support and community support programmes may not be available in certain parts of the county. This is particularly the case for Cahir and the South West of the County as well as in the area in the North west of the southern part of the county
- The gaps and lack of standardization of service provision for children and young people with disabilities 6 – 18 yrs
- Poorly resourced youth services in rural and urban settings is in some way attributable to lack of appropriate volunteers and under-resourcing, particularly in urban areas
- Dissatisfaction with the levels of communication amongst service providers with the responsiveness from statutory Children and Family Services in relation to referrals

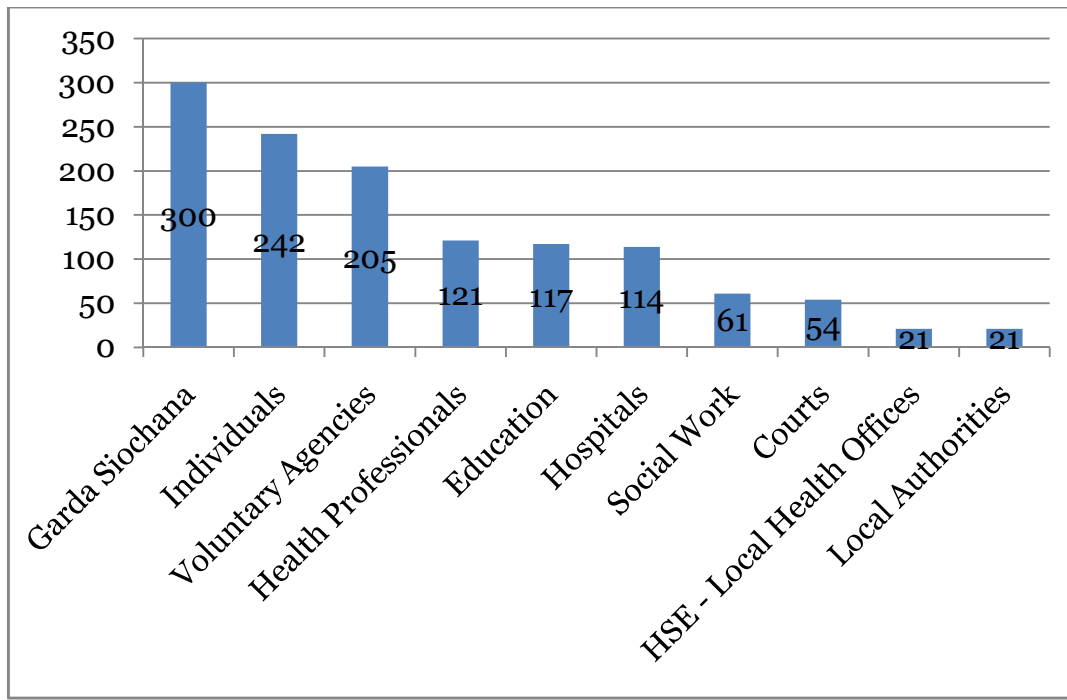
TUSLA – South Tipperary Data –

In the Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary Tusla areas, South Tipperary had the highest rate of referral per child of population – 3.7%. Carlow: 3.2%, Kilkenny: 2.6%.

The South Tipperary child population is 23,574(2011 Census)

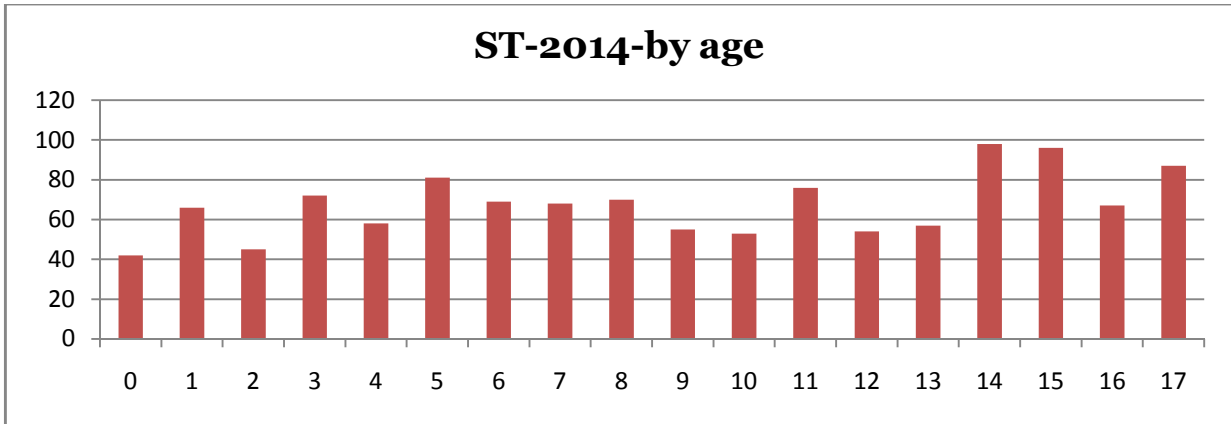
- Total referrals 2014 was 1,312 – 1.2% increase on 2013
- 5.6% of child population – up 0.01% on 2013
- Number of children referred: 875 – 9.8% increase on 2013 of child pop – up 0.37%
- % of children referred more than once within 2014: 33% - down 6% on 2013

South Tipperary referral's by source, geographical area and age



Town	Total
Clonmel	419
Tipperary	184
Cashel	146
Thurles	146
Carrick-on-Suir	102
Cahir	95
Fethard	51
Cappawhite	22
Bansha	19
Clogheen	16
Kilsheelan	16
Ardfinnan	12
Killenaule	11
The balances of children referred are spread in small numbers over the South Tipperary area.	

Table 20 Geographic areas from which Tusla South Tipperary receive referrals



TUSLA – North Tipperary Data

North Tipperary TUSLA Child Welfare Referrals		
	2013	2014
Total Referrals	1018	819
Reasons for Referrals		
Welfare	651	593
Emotional Abuse	115	99
Neglect	115	24
Physical Abuse	48	45
Sexual Abuse	89	58

In addition to the above data, reports, studies have also demonstrated that local authority housing estates generally score highly in the small area deprivation indices. This is not surprising as the local authority generally deals with the most vulnerable of society in the context of accommodation provision. By location,, the key areas of social housing provision are in the main towns of (list according to number of units per town). These towns, along with those settlements where there is a greater proportion of social housing to private housing are key identifiers in terms of where to focus resources, projects and programmes to support vulnerable families. It should also direct local authorities where to focus the establishment of community houses.

Community Development Programmes, Family Resource Centres and the use of Local Authority Community Houses in addition to supports such as Barnardos and Youth Services can play a very real and effective role here if their work is closely targeted to the most vulnerable groups in these estates

6.4.4 Key issues /opportunities arising from the LECP consultation also included

- Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence (DSGBV is integral to many aspects of poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion. Close to 1000 people in Tipperary in 2014 availed of the Services of Assend, Cuan Saor and the Tipperary Rape Crisis Center. Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence was identified as a key issue at public meetings and it was also proposed by Tipperary Rape Crisis & Counselling Centre (TRCC) and Cuan Saor the women's refuge in a written submission that the LCDC will consider include DSGBV in the consultation, planning and implementation of the following key priority areas, the Needs of Children and young people, Substance Misuse/Abuse, Health and well being, security and safety throughout the county.
- *Targeted supports for Vulnerable Families & Children* need to be prioritised
- There are a number of evidence based programmes operating in the county in relation to family support such as 'incredible years'
- There a number of service centers/projects offering family support programmes in the county but there are gaps in the county.
- The national framework and the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support programme is the key framework on which family supports services will be built around.
- The care issues for children & young people in residential care.

- The uneven distribution of a range of support services around the county, so that services available in some areas are not available in others, reflecting differential development of service provision by the voluntary & community sectors. Thus services like free or low-cost counselling, parenting support and community support programmes may not be available in certain parts of the county.
- The gaps and lack of standardisation of service provision for children and young people with disabilities, aged 6 – 18 years, and their families.
- In mainstream education, there are significant reductions in resources for important support services such as Language support, Guidance Counsellors, Special Needs Assistants, the Home School Community Liaison programme, the National Educational Psychological Service, Resource Hours, and the School Completion Programmes.
- Families have highlighted the lack of youth services and facilities as a main reason for teenagers becoming engaged in anti-social behaviour.
- Addiction and its impact on children, young people and families.
- Family breakups and impacts on young people and children

6.4.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the needs of vulnerable families, children / young people in areas of greatest disadvantage

The newly formed Children and Young People's Service Committee will be responsible for drawing up an Action Plan on the key areas to be addressed on an interagency all County basis which will improve services to the most vulnerable families. Based on the above broad overview the following areas ought to be considered as a priority in any such Plan

Extend the Children and Young Persons Committee remit to the whole of the county.

Prepare and implement a Child and Young Persons Services Action Plan which incorporates actions targeted at those areas which have been identified as being most in need and support the priority actions of the plan once its developed.

Develop an agreed mechanism for cross county standardised data collection which will contribute to evidencing need & outcomes.

In particular focus supportive actions on the areas where the greatest no of children are being referred. The areas to be identified as part of the development of the Tipperary Children and Young Persons Services Plan.

Support family support initiatives that are evidence based and that target children and families referred through the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support programme established in the county - in particular on those areas where lone parent families and families of the travelling community are most highly concentrated. Support the embedding of the Meithal model into practice of all agencies working with Children & Families including the County Council, AGS, Education etc and Support family support initiatives that are evidence based and that target children and families referred through the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support programme established in the county.

Support programmes that build the skills and capacity of young people in the travelling community, young people with disabilities, LGBTI young people, young people from the non-Irish national community and other marginalised young people

Provide family supports to families with children with disabilities. Support the voluntary sector to provide supports for families of children with disabilities.

Support initiatives that address the needs of families in relation to Child & Adolescent Mental health

Address the uneven distribution of a range of family support services around the county and encourage creative and innovative usage of existing supports services in particular in relation to areas of highest need.

Support the development of free or low cost counselling, parenting support and community support programmes across the county and provide services where there are gaps e.g. Cahir and Fethard and key areas in North Tipperary

Develop and support programmes in Local Authority housing estates which are disadvantaged or very disadvantaged. Community Development Programmes, Family Resource Centres and the use of Local Authority Community Houses in addition to supports such as Barnardos and Youth Services can play a very real and effective role here if their work is closely targeted to the most vulnerable groups in these estates

Support the families who are victims of Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence. Include DSGBV in the consultation, planning and implementation of the following key priority areas, the Needs of Children and young people, Substance Misuse/Abuse, Health and well being, security and safety throughout the county

Develop and support project that support children and family around family breakups and impacts on young people and children.

6.5 Older People

Framework Priority: Develop an integrated response to the needs of the older people in the population with a particular focus on those areas which are geographically isolated and where the concentration of 65+ is greatest.

6.5.1 Relevant National Policies

A number of national and EU policies reference the need to support and target the needs of the elderly, particularly in the context of social inclusion. The National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016 contains priorities around investment in community care for older people; whilst the Social Inclusion Forum recognizes the value and contribution of the elderly and sought to identify how to exchange knowledge, empathy and appreciation between generations.

The Healthy Ireland framework describes four high-level goals and details 64 actions that will work together to help achieve these goals.

Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life

Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities

Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing

Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland

Specific actions targeting older people include:

- maintaining, improving or managing their physical and mental wellbeing,

- removing barriers to participation and to provide more opportunities for the involvement of older people in all aspects of cultural, economic and social life in their communities and
- enabling people to age with confidence in comfort, security and dignity in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The framework provides two key performance indicators specifically relevant to older people:

- Increase healthy life expectancy at age 65 years by: reducing morbidity; overall and premature mortality for four major noncommunicable diseases of circulatory system disease, heart disease, stroke and cancer.
- Reduce the gap in healthy life expectancy at age 65 between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups.

Healthy ageing, which is fundamental to achieving the goals of Healthy Ireland is influenced throughout the life course rather than only in later years. Healthy ageing is a major contributor to closing the gap in health and wellbeing between socio-economic groups and between men and women.

From a more local county perspective, both the North Tipperary & South Tipperary SIM Action Plans 2012 -2014 had identified services for older people as a priority action with the South Tipperary SIM Group setting up an Age Friendly Committee. The expectation is that this can be used as the basis to establish an all county Age Friendly Committee

6.5.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

In the context of service supports, the **HSE and Community Care** services are the main providers of health supports for older people. **The Community & Voluntary sector** plays a significant role in particular in the area of family support, services for older people and community supports and facilities.

Other committees and agencies also deliver very particular programmes to the elderly target groups such as

- i) The Tipperary Sport Partnership's who work to deliver specific programmes to encourage the participation of the older adults,.

- ii) Tipperary Libraries provide a countywide, inclusive service that is accessible to older people and people with disabilities
- iii) The Bealtaine Festival is well established in the county, providing opportunities for art and cultural activities for older people during the month of May each Year .
- iv) Muintir na Tire Programmes are also particularly targeted at the elderly population with programmes including:
 - Community Text Alert programmes and neighbourhood watch programmes
 - The Bottle in the Fridge Community Alert programme and.
 - Home repair programmes/warmer home schemes
 - Good Morning Tipperary –Greeting service

6.5.3 Statistical Overview

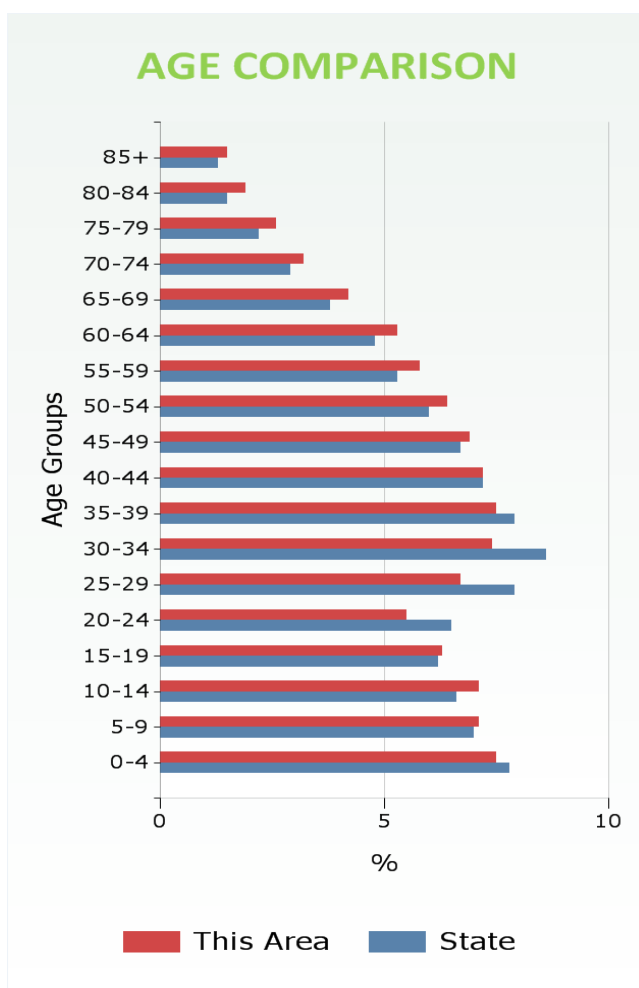
The need to adequately invest and prioritise older people’s needs was a strong requirement raised during the community consultations. The population of Ireland (and Europe) is aging rapidly – the numbers will treble to 1.4m by 2041 raising the need for considerations about how public services will be provided for older people in the future. The cost of services and how this can be met is clearly a huge factor. Indicators used to measure poverty among the elderly need to be reviewed as there is a concern that poverty is underestimated and therefore under-allocated within current provision. There is also the continuing need to challenge age-based discrimination

In Tipperary, 13.35% of the population are aged 65 or over. This % is higher than the national average (see table below). On the basis that the national poverty picture is broadly similar in Tipperary, it is estimated that approximately 12.1% of those aged 65 years + are ‘at risk’ of poverty or have an income of less than 60% of the median income for the whole population.(*Age Action Ireland*). The Vincentian Partnership found in their comparison of a rural and urban minimum income standard (MIS) that those living alone in rural areas had a weekly income deficit of 105.73 versus 2.75e for those living in urban areas

Demographics (CSO 2011)

Population :	158,754
Males:	79,584

Females	79,170
pre-school age (0-4)	11,947,
primary school going age (5-12)	17,966
secondary school going age (13-18)	12,753.
65 years and over :	21,196
aged 18 years or over	117,994.



6.5.4 Age

It is not has a than the figures

number of areas within the county have significantly higher dependency ratios again when compared to the county average.

Dependency Ratio

surprising that Tipperary higher Dependency ratio national average given the above. Within this trend, a

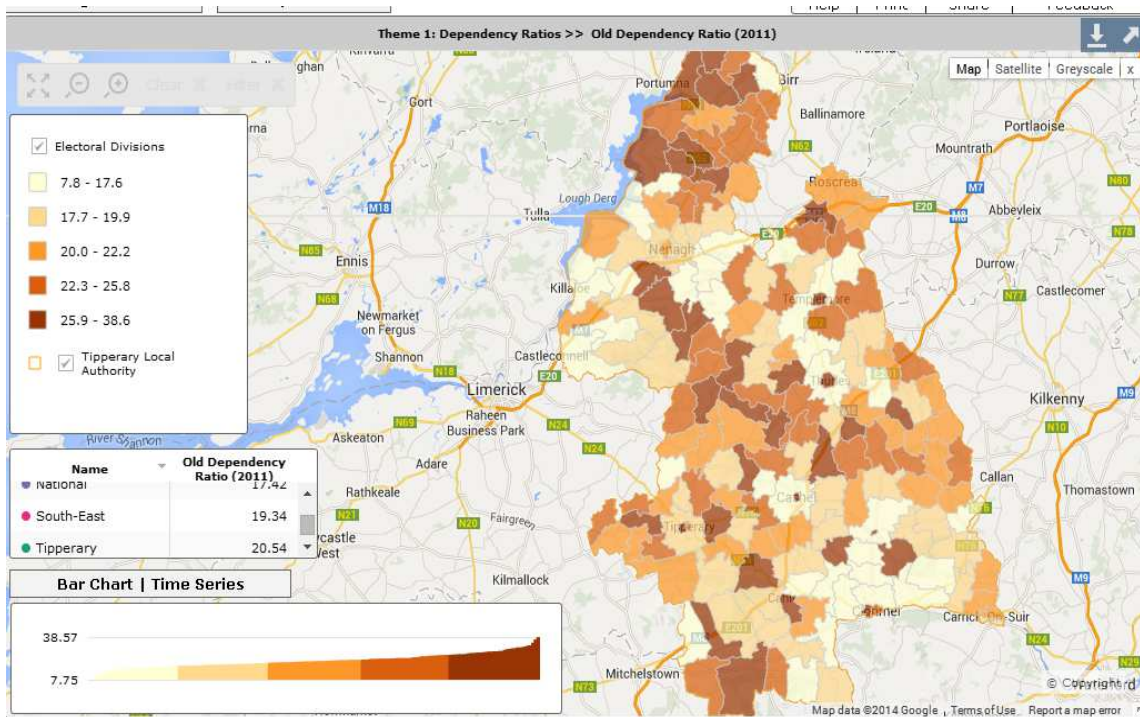


Figure 29 Map showing Old Age Dependency Ration

Whilst the Map above (Figure 29) provides a good visual of the key areas of high levels of older adult dependency, the table 21 below clearly demonstrates Drangan as having a very high old age dependency ratio (and unusually also a very high youth age dependency ratio.) Dependency ratios are used to give a useful indication of the age structure of a population with young and old shown as a percentage of the population of working age (i.e. aged 15-64). Tipperary (27.1% in south and 26.1 in the north) also scores above the national average (25.5%) in the context of those adults over 65+ who live alone

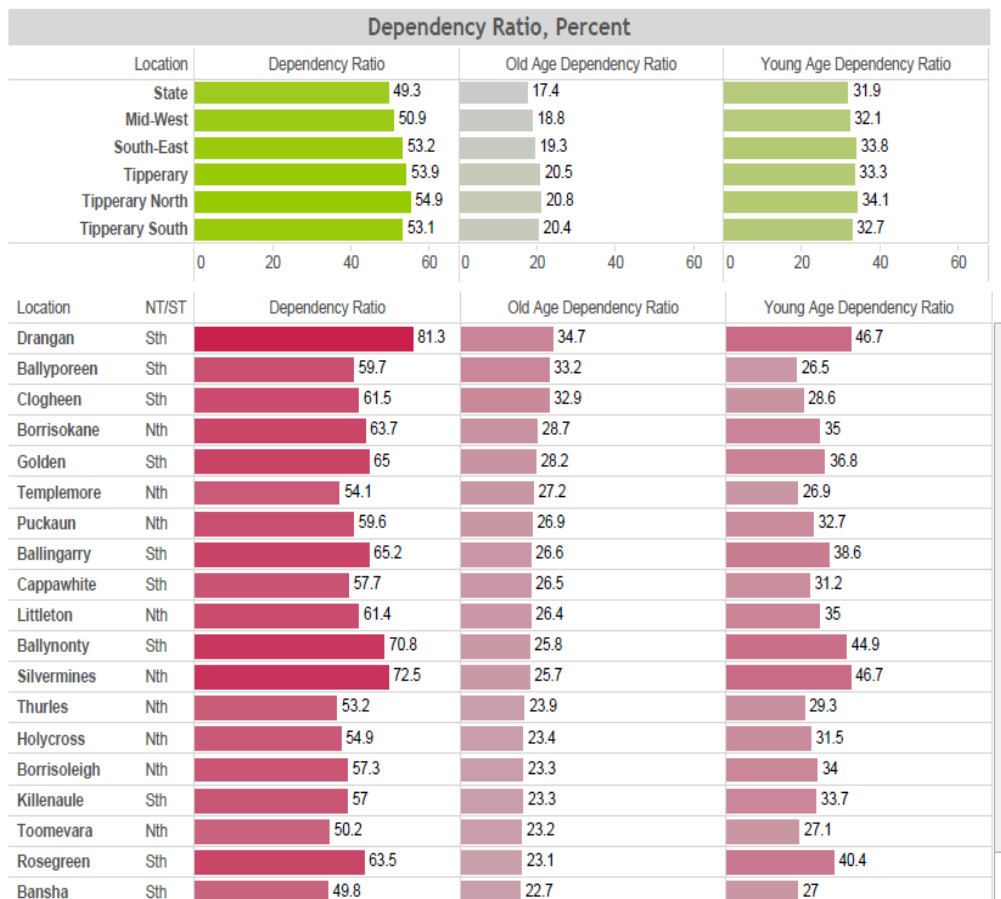


Table 21 Dependency ratio in Co Tipperary (CSO 2011)

Those areas with a high elderly dependency ratio will require more community support around aging ,particularly where they live alone. The key services and more particularly the community and voluntary structure around the County will have a key role here.

Whilst there are areas around the county dotted with areas of high dependency levels, Significant numbers of people aged 65+ live in the towns of Clonmel, Thurles, Nenagh, Carrick on Suir, Tipperary Town and Roscrea. Other Electoral areas with a significant level of people over 65+ include Cashel Urban, Inislounaght, Templemore, Newport, Kilcommon, Ballina, Cahir, Holycross and Borrisokane. The remaining population of over 65's are spread across the rest of the county.

Age Group, Number																									
Location		15 to 24				25 to 44				0 to 14				45 to 64				65+				15 to 64			
State		580,250				1,450,140				979,590				1,042,879				535,393				3,073,269			
Mid-West		48,926				112,311				80,646				90,190				47,254				251,427			
South-East		59,608				147,065				109,878				118,206				62,821				324,879			
Tipperary		18,675				45,698				34,386				38,799				21,196				103,172			
Tipperary North		8,106				20,235				15,501				17,058				9,422				45,399			
Tipperary South		10,569				25,463				18,885				21,741				11,774				57,773			
Location		0M	2M	4M	6M	0M	2M	4M	6M	0M	2M	4M	6M	0M	2M	4M	6M	0M	2M	4M	6M	0M	2M	4M	6M
Location		0 to 14				15 to 24				25 to 44				45 to 64				65+				15 to 64			
Clonmel Sth		3,509				2,181				5,548				4,337				2,333				12,066			
Thurles Nth		1,517				992				2,339				1,848				1,237				5,179			
Nenagh Nth		1,746				924				3,016				1,658				1,095				5,598			
Carrick-On-Suir Sth		1,245				744				1,663				1,489				790				3,896			
Tipperary Sth		998				645				1,595				1,290				782				3,530			
Roscrea Nth		1,218				678				1,730				1,074				703				3,482			
Cashel Sth		865				448				1,397				829				512				2,674			
Cahir Sth		749				435				1,200				793				401				2,428			
Templemore Nth		362				247				563				534				365				1,344			
Fethard Sth		299				204				459				363				216				1,026			

ED Name	Total Population 2011	Deprivation Score 2011	Households without a Car	65+ year olds
THURLES URBAN	6929	-7.01	764	1170
CLONMEL WEST URBAN	5699	-11.97	785	1108
ROSCREA	6318	-8.07	528	836
NENAGH WEST URBAN	5111	-4.30	483	686
CLONMEL EAST URBAN	3922	-0.81	509	614
CARRICK-ON-SUIR URBAN	4352	-13.90	511	594
CASHEL URBAN	2275	-8.01	285	409
INISHLOUNAGHT	3324	5.49	78	363
NENAGH EAST URBAN	2912	-5.02	315	361
TIPPERARY EAST URBAN	2467	-14.83	389	351
TEMPLEMORE	1941	-6.79	211	348
TIPPERARY WEST URBAN	1855	-8.97	268	345
CLONMEL RURAL	5553	5.09	189	320
NEWPORT	2729	2.05	98	292
TIPPERARY RURAL	2188	1.32	69	274
KILCOMMON	2134	-8.17	197	272
NENAGH RURAL	1868	3.30	36	238
BALLINA	2959	6.74	76	228
CAHER	1153	-0.81	94	227
THURLES RURAL	2300	4.93	56	227
CASHEL RURAL	2680	1.05	101	225
HOLYCROSS	1394	-1.45	49	213

BORRISOKANE	1294	-8.02	71	211
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Table 22 household without a car per idea –linked to derivation score

Tipperary has a higher than national % of older people living alone as can be seen from the following table Older people. Older people living alone have a higher risk of poverty and can be isolated from services and communities.

Living alone by Age & County 2011 – CSO

County	% of cohort
	65 &over
South Tipperary	27.1
North Tipperary	26.1
National	25.5

Key Issues:

A number of common themes and issues were raised around the ageing theme in Tipperary. These included

- Poverty, particularly hidden poverty, amongst the elderly. Fuel poverty in particular was highlighted as a key area of concern.
- Rural isolation and loneliness were not unsurprisingly raised as an issue, and particularly in the context of access to services. Security was a common concern, in particular for those living alone in isolated rural areas. Rural transport infrastructure was also deemed to be weak
- Accessing urban centres for key needs can be a challenge for older people
- Whilst there are a number of voluntary and well supported older people networks (such as active retirement groups, day care centres etc), there is no older persons forum in the county where key issues can be raised
- There are significant opportunities for social economy projects to be developed to provide services for older people in their own communities

6.5.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the needs of the Elderly in areas of greatest risk

Prepare and implement an Older Persons Action Plan\Age Friendly County Plan which incorporates actions targeted at those areas which have been identified as being most in need. In particular, the Plan to identify those parts of the county where the needs of older people are greatest and where the services are least.

Investigate opportunities around the social economy to support initiatives to address social isolation, security and enabling access to services for the older more isolated citizens in the county

Develop opportunities and programmes that support Older People to contribute to the social, economic and community development of the county.

Through the PPN, support the development of an all County Older Persons Forum to assist in developing appropriate policy initiatives for the older cohort of the population

Through the TEA and other appropriate community and voluntary structures, identify innovative ways to address fuel poverty initiatives

Particular action of the various funding programmes shall prioritise a focus on those areas where deprivation is greatest and which also correlates with a high level of aged dependency

The TCU Rural Transport Plan to focus in particular on supporting access by older people to villages/towns, particularly in those areas where there is a significant concentration of those over 65+ .

6.6 Substance Abuse & Misuse

Framework Priority: Develop an integrated response to reducing the level of substance misuse/ abuse in agreed targeted areas

6.6.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

Substance abuse and misuse is a key determinant in relation to the health and well being outcomes in Ireland. In the document, **Healthy Ireland – A Framework for improved health and wellbeing**

In a more local context, the **South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force - DRAFT 2015 Priorities** included the following

1. Avenues for communities to address issues such as Intimidation, drug supply, alcohol supply and anti social behaviour related to drugs and/or alcohol.
2. Early identification and referral to appropriate services
3. Access to a full range of well co-ordinated treatment and rehabilitation services
4. Access to a continuum of post treatment education, training and employment services
5. Access to “half way” and other housing for those in recovery
6. Measures to respond to underage and binge drinking
 - Family services – effective engagement of treatment/rehabilitation services with family members (where client agrees) and specific support services for children and families of problematic substance users (Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford, and Wexford)
 - Overdose prevention supports (Carlow, Wexford, and South Tipperary)

Treatment data identified priorities

1. Services for children and families of Substance misusing clients
2. Recovery oriented services, particularly for those on Opiate Substitution/methadone
3. Very little training/supports for people on programmes e.g. post rehab Training /supports needed for people in recovery re drug/alcohol addiction e.g. extend making connections programme for people in Carrick – current programme is only a few hours a week
4. Substance misuse is a key issue –programme required for people in recovery and need to have access to programmes re addiction treatments that are accessible

In a **Drug & Alcohol Misuse -Report on South Tipperary Community Consultation – key priority issues** which emerged included

Alcohol Use and Antisocial Behaviour

1. Identifying and using methods that work to address underage and binge drinking
2. Up skilling people to be able to identify and refer people earlier with substance misuse issues to the appropriate services.
3. Educating those currently using drugs on the harms and ways of keeping safe.
4. Developing “On the spot “ drug testing
- 5.

Roads to Recovery – Treatment, Harm Reduction Services

1. Identifying people earlier and referring them to the appropriate services.
2. Develop and expanding the range of Services needed to address drug and alcohol issues in adults and young people.
3. Involving families in the treatment process.
4. Providing services that reduce harm and prevent drug/alcohol related death and overdose.

The Recovering and the Recovered – Education, Training and Employment

1. Building confidence and self-esteem for those in recovery by improving literacy and numeracy skills.
2. Barriers to education for people in recovery should be identified and addressed.
3. Providing special Community Employment Schemes for people in recovery to increase employment skills and opportunities.
4. Access to housing and accommodation support for people in recovery.

Key priorities in the MWRDAF (Mid West Regional Drugs & Alcohol Forum) Strategy 2009-2016

The Mid Western Regional Drugs and Alcohol Forum Strategy centers on five pillars, coordination, research, supply reduction, prevention and treatment

Coordination

- Implement a strategic approach to the overall co-ordination role of the MWRDTF
- Establish an LDTF for the city & integrate LCSG plan into the regional plan.
- Develop operational plan for the implementation of MWRDTF Strategic plan

Research

- Utilise the HRB NDTRS on a quarterly and annual basis to inform the MWRDTF of treatment trends in the region and outputs from funded programs
- Develop a drug trend/early monitoring system based on the NACD model to inform the MWRDTF as to trends in drug misuse
- To develop strategic alliances with the third level institutes in the region (particularly those with a focus on substance misuse related courses) to harness their research capabilities
- To carry out research to identify issues emerging into alcohol misuse in the region and to identify models of good practise in relation to responding.

Supply Reduction

- To Establish a sub-committee to develop a co-ordinated response to alcohol / drug supply issues in the mid-west
- Establish local policing for a

Prevention

- Develop and implement community mobilisation action plans in relation to emerging drug / alcohol problems
- Develop and implement plan to support the delivery of drug education in both formal and informal settings
- Develop a co-ordinated and strategic approach in relation to delivery of drug awareness training
- Develop a strategy to ensure that drug awareness work is evidence based and mainstreamed
- Develop a strategy to up-skill workers in both the formal/informal educational settings

Treatment

- Implementation of the NDRIC framework
- Development of integrated care pathways in relation to mental health services
- Develop a training strategy & program for medical/health staff
- Develop a strategic plan in relation to drug services for young people
- Develop day treatment services in Clare, North Tipperary & Co. Limerick
- MWRDTF develop a strategy to deliver detox in the region
- Establishing a co-ordinated plan regarding needs in relation to Limerick Prison which affects clients from region with regard to education / prevention, T and R Family support
- Establish an inclusive family support model
- The MWRDTF will develop the family respite model managed by Novas – integrating it into the continuum of care of existing projects
- The MWRDTF will work with the Traveller Community to develop a model of service integration promoting equitable access and culturally aware delivery
- The MWRDTF will develop a model of targeted outreach to at risk communities under-represented in treatment

6.6.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

Tipperary county area is covered by two Regional Drugs Task Groups – Mid West and South East Groups

South East Regional Drugs Task Force is now supporting the development of a local county Task Groups who will work on county priority issues. They have the committee

established already and they are looking for community representatives. They have liaised with PPN and are seeking to establish a PPN linkage group.

South Tipperary Alcohol and Substance misuse services <http://www.serdtf.ie/> provide a full directory of services for

- Substance Misuse Team, Health Service Executive - South East Area
- Alcohol & Addiction Treatment Service
- Aiséirí Residential Treatment Centre
- Community Based Drugs Initiative
- Outreach Worker

The following services are available in Northern part of the county primarily on an Outreach basis.

HSE Nth Tipperary Community Drug & Alcohol Service : Provides support to young people and adults affected by drug use, including advice, information, counselling, training and education as well as harm minimisation, needle exchange and referral to the methadone programme. (Nenagh) Walk in screenings on Mondays from 10am – 12.30pm

Ana Liffey Drugs Project Midwest: An adult low threshold, harm reduction outreach service. Worker allocated to Nth Tipperary one day a week (Tuesday).

Community Substance Misuse Team: An early intervention service for young people and their families including education and family programmes. This service also works with NTLP in supporting a Family Support Group, now located in Templemore (previously in Roscrea).

Novas Community Detox: Provides safer detox from benzo's and methadone on an outpatient basis and is part of a national initiative.

Novas Family Respite House: A safe space for families, without the substance misuser, giving them time to reflect and nurture their own needs. The house is located in North Tipperary and transport is available.

6.6.3 Statistical Overview

Around one million people in Ireland smoke tobacco products and it is estimated that approximately 12% of children aged between 11-17 years are current smokers. Smoking rates are highest (56%) amongst women aged 18-29 years from poor communities, compared to 28% of young women from higher social classes. [30]

The alcohol consumption rate for Ireland is one of highest in Europe at 11.9 litres per capita in 2010. It is responsible for approximately 90 deaths every month, which include

many alcohol-related cancers and heart diseases and it is a contributory factor in half of all suicides.

Drugs are a growing cause of concern for society at large. Use of illegal drugs in the last year is reported at 7% of adults between aged 15-64 years. Drug use was the direct and indirect cause of 534 deaths in 2008, including deaths attributed to heroin, methadone, benzodiazepines, and medical and trauma deaths.

6.6.5 Key Issues /Opportunities

Similar to the issues identified above by the Drugs & Alcohol Misuse Report, the public consultation issues raised around this topic included

- Need to have a specific and clear strategy around dealing with drug abuse and misuse for Tipperary which deals with the key hard issues and which tackles the areas of greatest deprivation where use is highest.
- Tipperary county is covered by Two Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force areas – there is a need to have linkages and co-ordinated all county actions between the groups working in the south and north part of the county.
- Substance misuse -key issue which results in anti-social behaviour/family difficulties/ disengagement with services and needs to be dealt with in a multidimensional manner
- Need to ensure that programmes are effective and that existing successful programmes ought to be continued eg
 - Making connections programme should be continued with entry level at level 2
 - Nenagh 2nd Chance programme for young people(restorative justice) – needs to be extended to other areas
- Transport to the key services is a real issue particularly in the context of accessing services around recovery/addictions
- The most vulnerable ages for drug use/abuse is between 18-24- and from the ages of 24-30-drug problems get to a very challenging level. Different supports required for the different stages.

6.6.6 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Drug Abuse & Misuse

Support the establishment of local Task Force groups/Action networks in the southern and northern part of the county to identify the priority areas; the causes and actions required to minimise the level of substance use/abuse and implement a targeted action plan based on this analysis.

Ensure any such actions initiated are specifically targeted at key target groups and key marginalized areas.

Draw up an appropriate focused local action plan linked to the priorities identified by the Mid West Regional Drugs & Alcohol Forum and the South East Regional Drugs Task Force which focus on the following priorities already identified:

- Addressing issues such as intimidation, drug supply, alcohol supply and anti social behaviour related to drugs and /or Alcohol
- Access to a full range of appropriate treatment and rehabilitation services and promoting the take up of services amongst people who are misusing drugs and alcohol
- Access to a post treatment education, training and employment services
- Actions related to underage and binge drinking
- Supports and services for children and families of substance misusing clients
- Education and awareness programmes at community level to build community resilience in relation to drug and alcohol misuse

Establish a linkage group between the north and south local action network to develop county wide initiatives where appropriate.

Ensure any such actions initiated are specifically targeted at key target groups and key marginalized areas

6.7 Disability

Framework Priority :_ Develop an integrated approach to supporting people of all ages with disabilities to access opportunities so that their quality of life and wellbeing is improved.

6.7.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

The European Union adopted a European Disability Strategy 2013-20 as a comprehensive framework committing the Commission to empowering people with disabilities to enjoy their full rights, and to removing everyday barriers in life. The Council

of the European Disability Strategy 2013-20 aimed to bring about a better life for people with disabilities as full and equal citizens.

The **National Disability Strategy Implementation Plan 2013-2015** is a comprehensive approach to advancing the social inclusion of people with disabilities whilst the **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016** aims to increase the employment of people with disabilities who do not have a difficulty in retaining a job. The immediate objective is to have an additional 7,000 of that cohort in employment by 2010. The longer term target is to raise the employment rate of people with disabilities from 37% to 45% by 2016 as measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey. The overall participation rate in education, training and employment is to be increased to 50% by 2016.

A Social Portrait of People with Disabilities in Ireland – examines the circumstances of people with disabilities in Ireland. It is one of a series of Social Portraits on vulnerable groups in Ireland commissioned by the Social Inclusion Division of the Department of Social Protection, from the ESRI.

The report highlights that ‘Data from the Survey of Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) shows that those who are limited in their daily activities and those experiencing chronic health problems are at a higher risk of income poverty and of being unable to afford basic goods and services.’ It also notes that ‘Apart from reduced opportunities to earn income, the living standards of people with a disability are also affected by costs associated with the disability itself, such as health care, assistance, aids and devices. One study suggested that the estimated long-run cost of disability is about one third of an average weekly income.’

The **Pathways to work 2013 policy** clearly recognizes that certain groups experience labour market disadvantage. It is known, for example, that people with disabilities are only half as likely to be in employment as others of working age. Addressing the different obstacles to employment of groups experiencing labour market disadvantage needs a joined-up multi-pronged approach, spanning a number of key Departments and state agencies and also involves building capacity among employers and labour market providers to deal with the challenges involved.

6.7.2 Descriptive overview of Supports in the County

The mainstream supports for those with a disability are the **Health Service Executive**, particularly the supports around children and adults with an intellectual, physical or sensory disability. Specific disability services such as: Specialist assessment and therapeutic services;

Respite & home support services; Day or rehabilitative training services; and Residential services are also available.

TUSLA is the primary funder of non-statutory service provision to children with disabilities, both intellectual and physical & sensory.

There are also a number of special schools and day care centers in the county for children and adults who are differently abled e.g. Scoil Cormaic, St. Annes School Roscrea, Moorhaven Center.

Within Tipperary, there are a number of **peer support groups** active in County Tipperary. Some of these include:

Downs Syndrome Association, Autism Support Group, Tipperary Town Autism Support Group

SPEAK (mainly Clonmel Based), Tipperary Dyspraxia Association, RSS North Tipperary Dyslexia Support Group Puckane.

These play an important role in breaking down the isolation that many families report, and of getting useful information about services and programmes.

A **South Tipperary Disability Groups Forum** also operates in the southern part of the county . its overall aim is to promote the development of universal access at all levels through policies, actions and ways of working to seek to ensure the full involvement and inclusion of all people with disabilities in everyday life to achieve their own full potential to ensure maximum quality of life . There is no similar structure in the north of the County.

6.7.3 Statistical Overview

The 2011 CSO figures demonstrate that approximately 14%) of the population of County Tipperary have a disability. This is higher than the national average. Of the number of people with a disability of working age in Tipperary, only 31% were at work (compared to 62%. of people without disabilities who are at work)

The following is a breakdown of the percentage of Tipperary population living with a disability:

Age band	0-14	15 – 24	25 – 44	45 – 64	65+
% living with a disability	8.5%	7%	18%	29.7%	36.8%
% at national level	8.9	7.5	20.2	29.1	34.3
Source CSO – Tipperary Data Unit					

Table 23 percentage of population living with disability by age

Disability Types	Physical and Sensory	Intellectual Disability	Mental Health	Chronic Illness
No. of Persons	15,605	7,306,	3434	10,708

Table 24 Disability in Tipperary' by type

Whilst the physical and sensory disability sector is the highest, of particular interest is the high level of those with a chronic illness. This has implication sin the context of addressing the health needs of the community referenced in an earlier section.

Those with a disability are also adversely affected in terms of educational opportunities.

Educational Level	% Primary level education Only	% Completed Lower Second Level Education only	% Progressed to further education y
Tipperary disability Figure	18%	26%	34%
Tipperary Non-Disability Figure	4%	16%	54%

Table 25 Educational Attainment of those with Disabilities in Tipperary

The Tipperary Education and Training Board (2014) **Young People in Tipperary, A Demographic Profile; Summary of Key Findings** estimated that close to 8 per cent of young people between the ages of 15 and 24 (or 865 persons in this age group) live with a disability. Difficulties in learning, remembering or concentrating, are the most commonly experienced disability in the 15-24 year age group. Census 2011 for the southern part of the county recorded 541 more children and young people with a disability than 2006,

which represents an increase of 39.6 per cent during a period that saw the overall number of persons in this age group fall by 7.6 per cent. The same census recorded 544 more children and young people with a disability than 2006. In the 15 to 24 year age cohort, this represents an increase of 59 per cent during a period that saw the overall number of persons in this age group fall by 15.2 per cent.

Poverty and people with disabilities:

A Social Portrait of People with Disabilities in Ireland analyses the consistent poverty rate. 'Table 26 shows that the consistent poverty rate in 2009 was higher for those reporting a chronic illness or health problem than for other adults (5.5 compared to 4.4 per cent), and was higher still for those whose activities were severely limited (7.8 per cent). For those with a disability, as well as for other adults, the at-risk-of-poverty rate dropped between 2007 and 2009. The consistent poverty rate fell between 2007 and 2008 but with some tendency to increase again between 2008 and 2009. Similar results are reported by Gannon and Nolan (2005) who conducted a detailed analysis of the circumstances of people with a disability in Ireland, using data from the 2000-2001 Living in Ireland Survey. The authors found that the at-risk-of-poverty rate and the consistent poverty rate were both about twice as high for adults reporting chronic illness or disability as for other adults.'

		Chronic illness or health problem		Limited activity in last 6 months		
		No	Yes	Not limited	Limited	Strongly limited
2007	At-risk-of-poverty rate	14.1	22.0	13.8	24.9	27.7
	Consistent poverty rate	3.2	7.9	3.3	8.1	11.9
2008	At-risk-of-poverty rate	12.7	16.0	12.6	16.5	18.7
	Consistent poverty rate	2.8	6.0	3.0	5.5	7.7
2009	At-risk-of-poverty rate	12.5	15.2	12.5	15.2	17.8
	Consistent poverty rate	4.4	5.5	4.3	5.5	7.8

Table 26 At Risk of Poverty rate and consistent poverty rate for adults aged 16 and over in 2007, 2008 and 2009

A Social Portrait of People with Disabilities in Ireland also highlights 'Educational disadvantage and disability bear a reciprocal relationship. The relationship between disability and education in the youngest cohort of adults is likely to be mainly driven by the barriers to completing education associated with a disability. The pattern in the older age group is likely to be mainly a result of the negative health impact of life circumstances ensuing from educational disadvantage. There is a strong association between disability and educational achievement for young adults. Among people with a disability aged 18 to 34, well over half were affected by their disability before finishing school or college. Over one third of young adults (aged 25 to 29) with a disability left school before completing second level compared to one in six of young adults with no disability. Among older adults with a disability, the disability was less likely to have affected them during their school years. Nevertheless over half of adults with a disability aged 60-64 have primary education or less, compared to 38 per cent of people without a disability.'

The South Tipperary Children and Young Persons Services Plan identifies there are gaps and there is a lack of standardisation of service provision for children and young people with disabilities, aged 6 – 18 years, and their families. The plan also notes that there is 'a perception among families that there are no resources in main-stream schooling to offer realistic support for children with disabilities to be educated in mainstream schools. '

From a social inclusion perspective, very significant work has been undertaken by the Social Inclusion Disability Officer in both Sport Partnership Structures (north and south) with the disability sector. Networks of sports who facilitate those with a disability have been developed, nurtured and supported. It is important that in the LECP, this initiative and support is continued and in particular is rolled out in the area of Arts and Culture.

In addition, it is important the in the development of any new community structures (halls, playgrounds etc) where public funds are being used, that particular provision and design is included for those with a disability so that this cohort of the population can engage as effectively and energetically as other members of the community

6.7.4 Key Issues/Opportunities

A number of key issues were identified during the above process but the key one related to concerns in relation to access to services and opportunities for people with disabilities. Other key issues included during the public consultation included:

- The need for an integrated Disability Action Plan for the County
- People with disabilities have high risk of poverty – employment opportunities are needed including the innovative developments around the social economy. Supports for people with disabilities who are unemployed /long term unemployed in particular when accessing training /work/education need to be put in place
- Ensuring public transport is accessible to those with a disability is important and in particular, there is a real need to maintain current transport links and develop more accessible transport (vehicle design, timing, routing etc). Any plan prepared by the TCU in particular should capture data on the number of persons with a disability who use this transport.
- Support improvement in disability access in all Towns e.g. Support the roll out of the Gold Star project to other towns in the county.
- Promote participation of people with disabilities in decision making by extending the South Tipperary Disability Groups Forum model to the whole county.
- Establish a disability Linkage group under PPN, and actively develop the capacity of people with disabilities to be a voice for people with disabilities within the PPN structure.
- The lack of adequate levels of supports for children with disabilities to be realistically integrated in mainstream school settings.
- Community/volunteers-need to be trained in disability awareness so that groups are able to access services.
- The relative isolation experienced by children and young people with disabilities because of having few opportunities to participate in integrated social activities.
- Community facilities and community programmes are not always accessible for people with disabilities
- The lack of family support services for parents of children with disabilities including support for siblings of people with disabilities.
- The waiting lists for public assessments for educational psychology services and occupational therapy assessments and the cost of completing these assessments privately. The difficulty in relation to assessing children who have little or no English was also identified.

Actions arising to inform an *integrated approach to supporting people of all ages with disabilities to access opportunities so that their quality of life and wellbeing is improved.*

Draw up a Disability Action Plan for County Tipperary, focusing on greater inclusiveness for persons with a disability.

Support access to social, cultural, educational and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

The PPN to establish a Disability linkage Group and to support the development of advocacy groups and forum to represent the needs of children and adults with disabilities.

The TCU Plan to address transport needs of those with a disability and to capture data on level of usage by those with a disability

Provide an integrated package of statutory and community supports to enable people with disabilities to live independently within the community, and to participate fully in the life of the community.

Support the development of programmes within the community and voluntary sector that develop opportunities for children with a disability to participate in integrated social activities.

Support the further roll out of the Gold Star programme in the County.

Support existing community and voluntary organisations that support children and adults with disabilities to develop their capacity and their ability to deliver services for people with disabilities. In particular focus on developing social economy projects that provide work, cultural and social opportunities for people with disabilities.

Support programmes that offer family support to families of children with disabilities.

Support disability awareness training and policy development amongst the community and voluntary sector especially in relation to encouraging participation and inclusion in sports, cultural and social activities.

Support early intervention programmes such as subsidised assessments for educational psychology and occupational therapy assessments with a view to getting educational resources for children as early as possible.

6.8 Health & Well Being

Framework Priority 11. Integrated response in relation to health and wellbeing of the community in relation to marginalised groups and areas

6.8.1 Relevant National & Local Policies

There has been a growing recognition over the last decade of the importance of health and wellbeing of a community in addressing issues of social marginalization and consistent poverty. The **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016** set out a series of objectives to improve access to services in the community, with particular emphasis on meeting the needs of holders of medical cards; The **HSE Intercultural Strategy in Health- Consultation Report** focuses on priority actions in relation to delivering health services for a multi-cultural society. **“Healthy Ireland – A Framework for Improved Health & Well-being** sets out a vision where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and well-being to their full potential. Improving the health and well-being of the nation is a priority for Government. It is considered that a healthy population enables people to live life to their full potential, it assists in creating an environment to sustain jobs; helps restore the economy and assists in looking after the most vulnerable people in society.

The Healthy Ireland Framework describes The social determinants of health (SDH) are a range of factors that impact upon health and wellbeing. These include the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work and age.’

These factors, illustrated in Figure 30 below of the Healthy Ireland Framework, are not usually the direct causes of illness but are described as “the causes of the causes”.

Determinants of Health

(Adapted from Dalghren and Whitehead, 1991 and Grant and Barton, 2006)

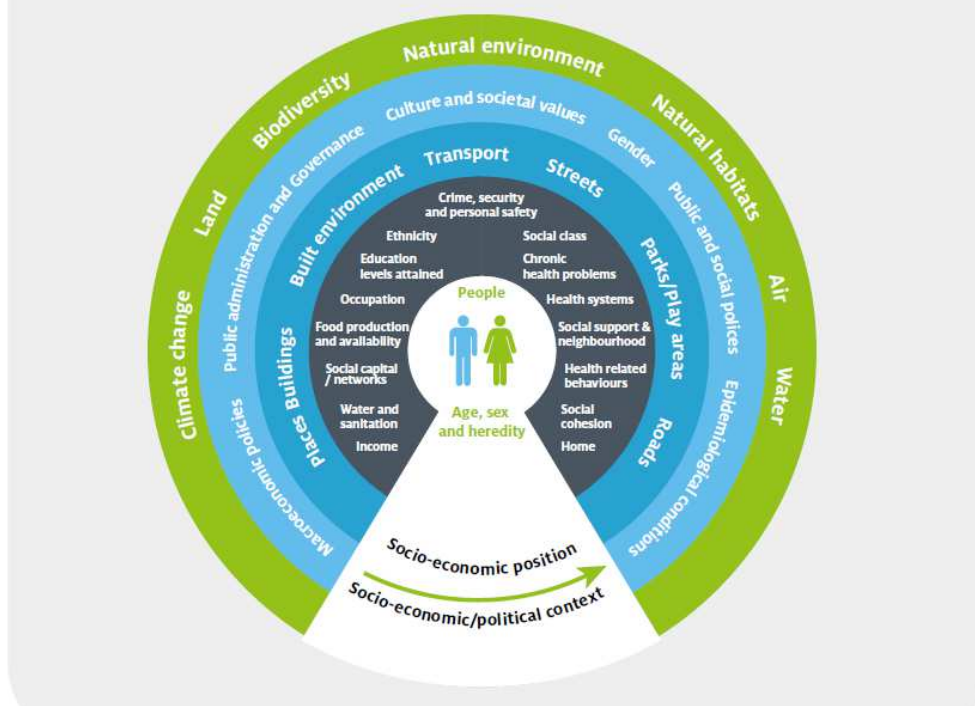


Figure 30 Social Determinants of Health

The Healthy Ireland Framework defines a clear vision, with four central goals. It sets out a broad framework of actions that will be undertaken by Government Departments, local authorities, statutory agencies, community and voluntary groups, businesses, families and individuals to improve health and wellbeing and reduce the risks posed to future generations.

The Healthy Ireland framework describes four high-level goals and details 64 actions that will work together to help achieve these goals.

- Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life
- Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities
- Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing
- Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland

The Healthy Ireland framework outlines that there are inequalities in health are differences in health status or in the distribution of health determinants between different population groups due to the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age. There is an uneven distribution of the risk factors associated with many chronic diseases, with the burden borne disproportionately by those in the lower socio-economic groups.

Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020

'*Connecting for Life*' sets out a vision of an Ireland where fewer lives are lost through suicide, and where communities and individuals are empowered to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

This vision is to be realised through seven goals:

- Better understanding of suicidal behaviour
- Supporting communities to prevent and respond to suicide behaviour
- Targeted approaches for those vulnerable to suicide
- Improved access, consistency and integration of services
- Safe and high-quality services
- Reduce access to means
- Better data and research

'*Connecting for Life*' provides a detailed and clear plan to achieve each of the goals it proposes, with defined actions and a lead agency and key partners in place for each individual objective (Government Departments, HSE, NGO partners and community groups).

Suicide Prevention Action Plans (2015-2020) which will be developed in the southern and northern part of the county in late 2015/2016 will be aligned to '*Connecting for Life*' and will mirror the national strategy at county level.

In the context of the more local Plans/Strategies, the South Tipperary Children and young person's plan focuses on the health and well-being needs of Children and young people whilst the Sport partnership Plans both north and south focuses on the need to increase physical activity of the population.

6.8.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

The HSE services and HSE Health Promotion Units are the key building support blocks around building a healthy society in Tipperary..

The Community & Voluntary sector also provide a range of service that contribute to health and wellbeing including participation in local groups, services for older people, provision of opportunities to participate in community, cultural, sport and arts activities etc.

6.8.3 Statistical Overview

Health

Overall, Tipperary scores just below the national average in the national debate on the health of the population. 87.5% of all persons in Tipperary stated they were in very good or good health compared to 88.3% nationally. 1.7 % of the population in Tipperary stated they were in bad or very bad health compared to 1.5%of persons nationally. In terms of those with a disability, 36.8% of the total were aged 65+

Overweight and Obesity

Whilst there are no figures on a county basis , 61% of all adults in Ireland and 25% of 3-year-olds are overweight or obese; Poorer individuals and those with lower levels of education have the highest levels of obesity. It is probable that the population in Tipperary is no different to this trend

Mental Health

Nationally, mental health is a growing health, social and economic issue and it is expected that depressive mental illnesses will be the leading cause of chronic disease in high-income countries by 2030. One in every four people will experience mental health problems during his/her lifetime. • More Irish young people die by suicide than in other countries. In Ireland, the mortality rate from suicide in the 15-24 age group is the fourth highest in the EU, and the third highest among young men aged 15-19. [25, 26]. It is not surprising that Mental health problems are related to deprivation, poverty, inequality and other social and economic determinants of health,

Enjoyment of health is not evenly distributed in society with prevalence of chronic conditions and accompanying lifestyles behaviour being strongly influenced by socio economic status, levels of education, employment and housing. By addressing these underlying causes, it is expected that the quality of health amongst the more vulnerable in society can be significantly improved.

6.8.4 Key Issues /Opportunities

A number of common themes and issues were raised around the health and well-being during the consultation processes in Tipperary.

- A Health & Well-being Strategy for Tipperary to be developed based on the Health Ireland Framework
- Mental health and suicide prevention has been identified as a key issue for the community, particularly in the context of young people
- The need to increase the level of physical activity of the population in particular in relation to hard to reach groups. Young women in marginalised rural areas in particular need to be supported given the limited options available to them in rural areas
- Need to explore opportunities around the community and voluntary sector in the context of improving communities' health, particularly in the context of mental health – e.g. community kitchens, recreation projects, promoting safe walking areas; Men's Sheds,

6.8.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Health & Well-being in Tipperary

To develop and implement a whole county plan in relation to mental health awareness/promotion and suicide prevention in line with the national framework for suicide prevention

Develop and implement a whole county plan in relation to participation in sports and physical activity with particular focus on hard to reach target groups.

To develop a whole county plan/programme of activities in relation to participation in social, cultural, arts and community activities with particular focus on targeting hard to reach marginalised groups.

To implement the relevant local actions of the Healthy Ireland Framework in particular in relation to improving the health outcomes of people living in disadvantaged areas and from marginalised communities.

6.9 Life Long Learning Educational Opportunities

Framework Priority: To provide opportunities for the citizens to access life-long educational opportunities with a particular targeted focus to provide supports for communities and individuals who are marginalized

6.9.1 National Policies

Lifelong learning is a key aim of **The European 2020 Strategy** and it sets out the targets it expects to achieve by 2020 as being

- 75 % employment rate for the % of the population in the cohort 20 – 64 years
- To reduce early school leavers to 10 per cent and to ensure a population reaches a minimum of 40 per cent holding a tertiary degree

Under the **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016**, it sets out the objective of

Ensuring that the proportion of the population aged 20-24 completing upper second level education or equivalent will exceed 90% by 2013; and to introduce an active case management approach that will support those on long-term social welfare into education, training and employment. It also sets a target to reducing by 20% the number of those whose total income is derived from long-term social welfare payments by 2016.

The **Further-Education-and-Training-Strategy-2014-2019** plays an important role in promoting social inclusion and lifelong learning, particularly aimed at unemployed people, long-term unemployed and young unemployed people. Literacy and numeracy amongst key cohorts is a significant challenge and one of the key strategic objectives of this strategy is to promote literacy and numeracy across FET.

6.9.2 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

The Tipperary ETB are the main service provider in the areas of life long learning and training in particular in relation to marginalised groups and individuals. They contract out some of their work to groups such as the Youth services and the Local Development Companies

6.9.3 Statistical Overview

As can be seen from the Table 27 below Tipperary has a higher percentage of the population over 15 who have ceased education with only primary school level education at 14.5% as compared to the national rate of 13.8%.

Location	No Formal Education	Primary Education	Lower Secondary	Upper Secondary	Higher Certificate
State	1.4	13.8	16.6	20	4.5
Mid-West	1.4	13.7	17.7	21.4	4.5
South-East	1.5	15	19.8	20.6	4.4
Tipperary	1.4	14.5	19.8	22.2	4
Tipperary North	1.3	13.9	19	22.3	4.1
Tipperary South	1.4	15	20.4	22	3.9

Table 27 Educational Achievement by region

A significant number of areas in the county have significantly higher % of the population with only primary school level of education including the Commons, Newtown, Ballynonty, Drangan and Ballyporeen.

Nationally, 16.6 % of the people aged 15+ who have ceased education have lower secondary level education. 19.8 % of the same cohort in Tipperary have only lower secondary level. There is a significant number of areas that have significantly higher percentage of people who have only completed lower level such as The Commons where 40% of the same cohort have only lower second level education as can be seen in below.

Location	NT/ST	No Formal Education	Primary Education	Lower Secondary	Upper Secondary
The Commo..	ST	0	33.7	40.4	9.6
Newtown	NT	3.5	32.4	25.3	11.8
Ballynonty	ST	0	29.5	24.2	20
Drangan	ST	3.7	26.8	23.2	23.2
Ballyporeen	ST	2.1	26.2	18	20.6
Mullinahone	ST	1.6	23	22.7	17.8
Toomevara	NT	3.3	22.2	22.6	20.8
Borrisokane	NT	1.5	21.9	21.5	18.3
Silvermines	NT	3.2	21	21	25.3
Littleton	NT	3.6	20.2	32	18.2
Clogheen	ST	3.8	20.1	21.7	17.3
Tipperary To..	ST	1.1	20	21.6	24.4
Bansha	ST	1.2	19.9	22	23.2
Killenaule	ST	2.7	18.8	25.9	21.1
Golden	ST	2.7	18.6	16.9	22.4
Monard	ST	0	18.5	20.7	28.1
Reardnogy	NT	0.8	18.3	25.4	19.8
Ardfinnan	ST	2.3	18.1	23.2	21.6
Cappawhite	ST	3.6	18.1	23.7	24.9
Carrick-On-S..	ST	1.9	18	25.4	21.3
Fethard	ST	2	17.5	23.2	23.2
Borrisoleigh	NT	1	16.8	23.3	24.3
Ballingarry	ST	2.1	16.4	20.2	18.2
Dundrum	ST	0	16	20.8	18.1
Emly	ST	2.2	16	23.6	27.1
Gortnahoo	ST	1.6	15.7	33	16.8

Location	NT/ST	No Formal Education	Primary Education	Lower Secondary	Upper Secondary
The Commo..	ST	0	33.7	40.4	9.6
Gortnahoo	ST	1.6	15.7	33	16.8
Littleton	NT	3.6	20.2	32	18.2
Killenaule	ST	2.7	18.8	25.9	21.1
Rosegreen	ST	0.9	15	25.7	32.7
Carrick-On-S..	ST	1.9	18	25.4	21.3
Reardnogy	NT	0.8	18.3	25.4	19.8
Newtown	NT	3.5	32.4	25.3	11.8
Ballynonty	ST	0	29.5	24.2	20
Portroe	NT	2.2	14.5	23.8	20.1
Cappawhite	ST	3.6	18.1	23.7	24.9
Emly	ST	2.2	16	23.6	27.1
Borrisoleigh	NT	1	16.8	23.3	24.3
Ardfinnan	ST	2.3	18.1	23.2	21.6
Drangan	ST	3.7	26.8	23.2	23.2
Fethard	ST	2	17.5	23.2	23.2
Templetuohy	NT	2.2	14.7	23.2	22.3
Puckaun	NT	1.1	13.4	23	20.9
Mullinahone	ST	1.6	23	22.7	17.8
Toomevara	NT	3.3	22.2	22.6	20.8
Templemore	NT	2	12.7	22.2	25.5
Bansha	ST	1.2	19.9	22	23.2
Clogheen	ST	3.8	20.1	21.7	17.3
Tipperary To..	ST	1.1	20	21.6	24.4
Borrisokane	NT	1.5	21.9	21.5	18.3

Table 28 Educational Achievement by location in Co Tipperary

6.9.4 Key Issues /Opportunities

The following are key issues and opportunities that have come out of the consultation in relation to the LECP Plan

- Education is way out of poverty – access to literacy support is essential particularly amongst the most marginalized groups or those who could be potentially marginalized such as Travelers; Roma; non Irish nationals and

asylum seekers. Literacy and numeracy skills are also weak amongst a significant proportion of lone parents and particular supports also need to be focused towards this group.

- Access and information to services/education/information is an issue –the challenge is to get information out to people who need it most. This is a challenge faced by most organisations but there needs to be more inventive methods used to ensure it reaches the appropriate groups and better linkages between agencies in relation to those families who may benefit from these supports would be very helpful. Primary schools could also have a role here
 - Transport is identified as an access issue re education and training especially for marginalised groups and areas. This need to be explored in the context of the TCU Plan for the county
- It is acknowledged that it is harder to get funding for Training Courses not geared at employment . But education /training doesn't always have to be accredited. This is particular the case with the harder to reach groups and education can be integrated seamlessly into a programme which is built around more creative activities – Engaging in this manner is also very beneficial even if it is just for social /wellbeing /mental health/personal development value
- There is a need to see if more courses could be operated locally locally – especially for marginalised groups/individuals to get them started in further education and where there is access issues. Use of facilities such as community houses; community halls etc would be one option but others need to be explored. However resources would need to be considered as indeed would the quality of the training to be provided.
- Traditional skills training should be promoted in the county and from a social economy perspective is a very unique way of engaging the more hard to

reach groups. It is also an excellent tool in terms of connecting people with their communities and enabling people to become more engaged.

- Promote life long learning as a key action to support wellbeing of individuals/communities and the whole county
- Career guidance and job coaching needed for people to help support progression into training and jobs

6.9.5 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Life Long learning

Support the delivery of outreach back to education initiatives and literacy supports in areas where the educational levels are low.

Support the delivery of outreach back to education initiatives and literacy supports with target groups where the educational levels are low. Roll out programmes around literacy and numeracy in a targeted and focused manner for the more vulnerable sectors such as Travellers; Roma; Asylum Seekers and Lone parents of young children living in disadvantaged areas. Work with primary schools, homework clubs and networks as required.

Develop a central portal for all further education opportunities in the county

Supports programmes for the more marginalized groups in society around career guidance and job coaching to assist people to support progression into training and jobs

Deliver community education programmes as a way of getting marginalised individuals to get involved in further education

Roll out programmes around literacy and numeracy in a targeted and focused manner for the more vulnerable sectors such as Travellers; Roma; Asylum Seekers and Lone parents of young children. Work with primary schools, homework clubs and networks as required.

Explore opportunities around traditional skills transfer /training in the county

6.10 Fuel Poverty

Framework Priority : Develop the potential for alternative energy projects to reduce impact of poverty in key agreed areas where social deprivation is highest

Relevant National & Local Policies

Fuel poverty is where people are unable to afford to heat their homes to a level that is healthy and safe². Fuel poverty arises as a result of the relationship between household income, energy efficiency of the dwelling, and fuel prices.

People in fuel poverty frequently live in cold, damp and mouldy houses. Fuel poverty has important direct and indirect effects on health and contributes to health inequalities in the following areas:

- Increased risk of death in cold weather (excess winter mortality)
- Increased risk of respiratory illness
- Increased blood pressure and cardiovascular events
- Worsening arthritis
- Increased risk of accidents at home
- Social isolation
- Impaired mental health
- Adverse effects on children's wellbeing

'International research reports higher levels of excess winter mortality in Ireland and Northern Ireland than in the rest of Europe. *In Ireland around 70% of excess winter mortality from cardiovascular disease and respiratory disease arises in the poorest socio-economic groups.*

Fuel poverty also had adverse social outcomes including debt, disconnection of supply and increasing poverty and social exclusion.' *Institute of Public Health in Ireland.*

"Fuel Poverty: a Matter of Household Resources or a Matter of Dwelling Efficiency?" – ESRI:

According to a study of household poverty by the Economic and Social Research Institute, fuel poverty primarily reflects financial difficulty, and not heating costs. The ESRI study showed that the rates of so-called 'fuel poverty' were about 10%-11% from 2004 to 2007, rising to 12% in 2008, and continuing to rise steeply to reach 21% by

2011. The researchers conclude that the results of the study suggest that the solution to the problem of fuel poverty lies in understanding and addressing people’s access to resources in general. The study argues that there is a strong overlap between the three fuel poverty indicators and the other nine indicators of deprivation;

6.10.1 Descriptive Overview of Supports in the County

Tipperary Energy Agency is the main service provider in the county in the area of alternative energy supports and energy efficiency. TEA’s goal is to support sustainable energy use in all sectors. TEA enable local authorities, communities and businesses to deliver renewable energy projects and become more energy efficient.

6.10.2 Statistical Overview

The ESRI study showed that the rates of so-called ‘fuel poverty’ were about 10%-11% from 2004 to 2007, rising to 12% in 2008, and continuing to rise steeply to reach 21% by 2011.

Tipperary Fuel Allowance Payment Numbers	
CE Participants in Tipperary is :	328
Jobseekers Allowance (JA)	10,927
Jobseekers Transition (JST)	88
OPFP	2,533
Disability Allowance	2,852
Invalidity Pension	768
State Pension Contributory	2,824
State Pension Non-Con	2,464
Widow's Con Pension	1,848
Fuel Only (Could have Foreign Pensions)	57
RSS	27
GATEWAY	36
TUS	170
Total	24922

Table 20 Fuel Allowance payment by location in Co Tipperary

Tipperary Energy Agency has run a number of programmes which has tried to raise the issue of fuel poverty and energy efficiency. The project rolled out in Drombane is a good example of where a community has benefitted significantly. This is potentially a project that could be rolled out on an all county basis but it is probably greater potential to success if it is rolled out on a targeted village basis as per the Drombane project.

6.10.3 Key Issues /Opportunities

From the studies above, it would appear that

- Older people were the age group most at risk of fuel poverty
- The risk factors for fuel poverty are substantially the same as the risk factors for other types of material deprivation: household joblessness, unskilled or 'unknown' social class, low levels of education, disability, lone parenthood or larger family size.

6.10.4 Actions Arising to inform a targeted and integrated response to the Life Long learning

- To improve the energy performance of buildings and dwellings in the county through supporting animation to maximise the national retrofit incentives in Tipperary in conjunction with relevant agencies on a targeted village or parish basis.
- Develop innovative actions to maximise the ability of communities to reduce energy use and generate renewable energy to support sustainability in the community.
- Identify a specified number of areas and sectors where opportunities in relation to alternative energy can have an impact on target areas, target groups at risk of poverty and the community & voluntary sector with a view to identifying opportunities to roll out and measure the impact of these initiatives.
- Specifically target farmers especially farm holdings on low incomes that are unsustainable in relation to on farm opportunities in the energy sector.

- Investigate opportunities for retrofit programmes for social housing

SECTION 7 Community Safety, Security and Policing

Physical safety and security ranks highly on all quality of life indicators. Security is a crucial aspect of citizens' lives. Where people face risks of violence and crime that threaten their physical safety, their quality of life and wellbeing is severely diminished. Even if such risks do not materialize, the subjective perception of a threat and the resulting feelings of insecurity still undermine quality of life and wellbeing and makes participation in their community's difficulty.

An Garda Síochána are the principal agency working to provide security in Tipperary. They have a long established tradition of working closely with communities by fostering and maintaining effective community partnerships. The Garda Divisions of Tipperary' is structured across five districts centered of 5 district offices.



Figure 30– Garda Divisional Districts – Tipperary

7.1 Crime rates in the County

The crime rates in the county are reported back to the central statistic office by An Garda *Súochána*. The Gardaí also provide regular report on crime figures within the County to the Joint Policing Committee (see below). The table below shows the percentages of crime types in the county against the national averages for 2013 (Irish Independent 2014)

	Tipperary (2013)	National (2013)
Theft (%)	27	34.8
Public order(%)	19.1	16
Criminal Damage(%)	11.3	12.7
Burglary(%)	13.8	11.5
Drugs(%)	8.3	6.8
Assault (%)	7.7	6.3
Other (%)	12.8	11.9

(CSO 2013)

Recorded Crime Offences (Number) by Garda Division, Type of Offence and Quarter (January-June 2014) CSO

	2014Q1	2014Q2
51 ,Tipperary Garda Division		
01 ,Homicide offences	1	0
0111 ,Murder	0	0
0112 ,Manslaughter	0	0
0113 ,Infanticide	0	0
012 ,Dangerous driving leading to death	1	0
02 ,Sexual offences	15	9
021 ,Rape and sexual assault	12	9
022 ,Other sexual offences	3	0
03 ,Attempts/threats to murder, assaults, harassments and related offences	70	85
0311 ,Murder-attempt	0	0
0312 ,Murder-threat	3	3
033 ,Harassment and related offences	6	9
034 ,Assault causing harm, poisoning	14	17
035 ,Other assault	47	56
04 ,Dangerous or negligent acts	101	85
0411 ,Dangerous driving causing serious bodily harm	1	0
0412 ,Driving/in charge of a vehicle while over legal alcohol limit	96	82
0413 ,Driving/in charge of a vehicle under the influence of drugs	2	3
0421 ,Endangerment with potential for serious harm/death	0	0
0422 ,Abandoning a child, child neglect and cruelty	2	0
0423 ,Unseaworthy/dangerous use of boat or ship	0	0
0424 ,False alarm/interference with aircraft or air transport facilities	0	0
0425 ,Endangering traffic offences	0	0
05 ,Kidnapping and related offences	1	0
0511 ,False imprisonment	0	0
0512 ,Abduction of person under 16 years of age	1	0
0513 ,Human trafficking offences	0	0
06 ,Robbery, extortion and hijacking offences	6	7
0611 ,Robbery of an establishment or institution	1	1
0612 ,Robbery of cash or goods in transit	0	0
0613 ,Robbery from the person	5	6
0621 ,Blackmail or extortion	0	0
0631 ,Carjacking, hijacking/unlawful seizure of aircraft/vessel	0	0
07 ,Burglary and related offences	147	151
0711 ,Aggravated burglary	1	1
0712 ,Burglary (not aggravated)	146	149
0713 ,Possession of an article (with intent to burgle, steal, demand)	0	1
08 ,Theft and related offences	357	351

081 ,Theft/taking of vehicle and related offences	40	20
0821 ,Theft from person	8	8
0822 ,Theft from shop	100	110
084 ,Other thefts, handling stolen property	209	213
09 ,Fraud, deception and related offences	17	86
10 ,Controlled drug offences	78	159
1011 ,Importation of drugs	0	0
1012 ,Cultivation or manufacture of drugs	0	5
1021 ,Possession of drugs for sale or supply	18	27
1022 ,Possession of drugs for personal use	58	119
103 ,Other drug offences	2	8
11 ,Weapons and Explosives Offences	11	14
111 ,Explosives, chemical weapons offences	0	0
1121 ,Discharging a firearm	1	1
1122 ,Possession of a firearm	1	2
113 ,Offensive weapons offences (n.e.c.)	9	11
114 ,Fireworks offences	0	0
12 ,Damage to property and to the environment	151	131
1211 ,Arson	10	14
1212 ,Criminal damage (not arson)	140	117
1221 ,Litter offences	1	0
13 ,Public order and other social code offences	203	263
131 ,Disorderly conduct	177	243
132 ,Trespass offences	15	16
133 ,Liquor licensing offences	8	3
134 ,Prostitution offences	0	0
135 ,Regulated betting/money, collection/trading offences	1	1
136 ,Social code offences (n.e.c.)	2	0
15 ,Offences against government, justice procedures and organisation of crime	30	31
151 ,Offences against government and its agents	0	1
152 ,Organisation of crime and conspiracy to commit crime	0	0
153 ,Perverting the course of justice	0	2
157 ,Offences while in custody, breach of court orders	30	28

Table 31 Recorded Crime Offences by Garda division, type of offences and quarter (January-June 2014)

Burglary and 'theft other' are the main criminal areas of activity in Tipperary with public order also scoring higher than the national average.

There has been some improvement in the burglary and theft in 2014 due to particular targeted actions by AGS but issues around burglary, theft, and drug possession continue to be the main areas of concern for both the AGS and residents in Tipperary

Overall crime in Tipperary in broad terms is at or slightly above the national average in a number of key areas in 2013. However crime type and detection can vary from one year to another depending on national and county policing priorities. This is evidenced by the particular priority given to burglary and theft in 2014 where the interim figures demonstrate a very high level of positive action by the Gardaí and a consequent reduction in crime statistics (and detection rates) in these two key areas. Simple assaults and Assaults causing harm were also down by 5% on the 2013 figure whilst public order and drunkenness declined by 15% on the 2013 figure. Drug related crime continues to be an issue and for a rural county, has a significant % share of the crime type is related to this issue.

Notwithstanding the apparent improvement in the statistics, there is still a very strong perception amongst the communities that they are unsafe or are potentially vulnerable to being victims of crime. The elderly members of the community feel particularly vulnerable and this came across clearly in the consultation process. Drug use and criminal behavior around drugs continue to be a very significant area of concern for all communities.

7.2 County Tipperary Joint Policing Committee

Section 35 of An Garda Síochána Act 2005 provides for the establishment of Joint Policing Committees (JPC). A full county JPC was formed in County Tipperary' in 2015

The purpose of the JPC is to provide a forum where a Local Authority, senior Garda officers, the Oireachtas members and community interests, can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the area. The JPC has a role in monitoring the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behavior in that area and the factors underlying and contributing to the levels of crime. The committee advises the local authority and the Garda Síochána on how they might best perform their functions in order to improve the safety and wellbeing of life of citizens and communities

There is a requirement for the JPC to develop a six year plan and annual strategic plans which will link with the LECP. The development of the strategic plan will be carried out by the JPC during 2015.

7.3 Text Alert Initiative

Text Alert is a community based initiative launched in 2013. "Text Alert" is designed to facilitate immediate and cost effective communication from An Garda Síochána to the public.

The system is operated in conjunction with Muintir na Tire and there has been a high take-up of the initiative in the county with a total of 54 Text Alert Groups, 12,341 Subscribers and 612 Text Alerts sent to date. A breakdown of the number of text alert groups by district is provided below

Breakdown of Text Alert Groups by Policing District

Thurles District – 17	3,409 subscribers
Clonmel District – 9	2,262 subscribers
Tipperary District – 7	2,606 subscribers
Cahir District – 12	2,550 subscribers
Nenagh District – 9	1,456 subscribers

The text alert system is a particularly useful communication tool and is an area that ought to be given further priority in any JPC strategic plan.

One of the key determinants of a quality of life and wellbeing is the ability for all to feel safe and secure. This is an area that needs to be addressed in any Joint Policing Strategy with a particular focus on the elderly and particularly those elderly in the more remote locations of the county. Preventative actions against drug use and targeted actions to reduce the level of criminal activity associated with drug use will continue to be a key priority for AGS and will form a significant focus for the LECP. Particular targeting of actions around the drugs area should be focused on those locations where there is a high incidence of drug abuse/activity, namely Clonmel, Nenagh, Carrick-on-Suir as well as Roscrea, Tipperary Thurles and Cashel –see drug offences 2012 below

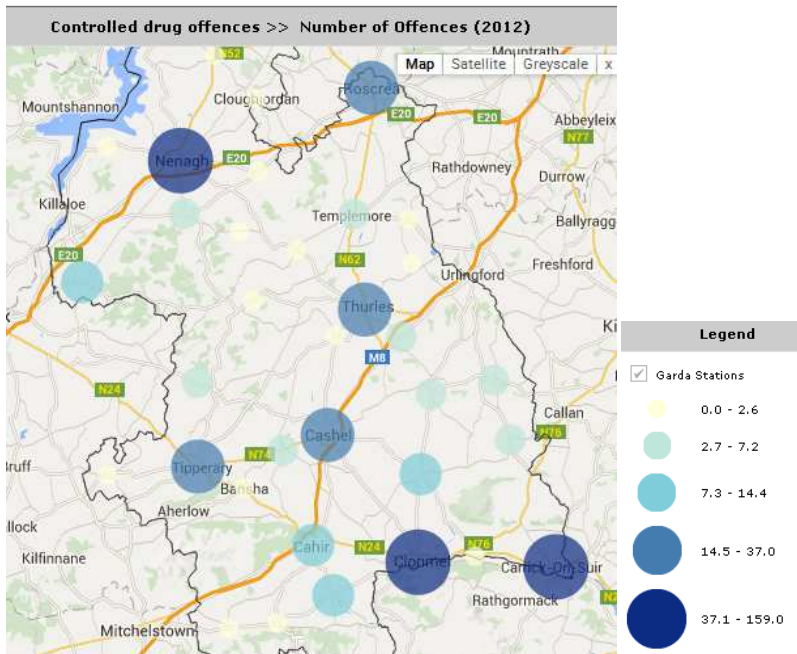


Figure 32–Controlled Drug Offences 2013

7.4 Actions Arising from Community Safety and Crime Data

Issues around community safety came up at every level of the consultation process. The Joint Policing Committees well as Municipal District Community safety committees will be the primary structures through which community safety strategies and actions will be progressed. As a reflection of community concern Particular provision to be made in the JPC Plan to address concerns of the elderly, particularly in the more remote/isolated areas and to put appropriate actions in place to minimize their vulnerability in rural areas. The Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme, which is built on the recognition of the valuable role that older people can and should play in shaping their communities for the better, will be considered.

The JPC will also hold community safety consultations and a community safety forum (PPN Linkage group) may be required.

In addition to rural crimes against the elderly and vulnerable, their issues for the JPC to focus on will be illegal drugs, CCTV, Public order, Anti-Social behaviour, underage drinking, estate management, youth diversion, litter, traffic management and road safety

SECTION 8: Key Strategic Social Inclusion and Community Actions:

Arising from the intensive processes both statistical and consultative outlined above, a series of shared Social Inclusion Framework Priorities emerged for the County. Key Strategic Actions were developed under each of these Framework Priorities with

associated Key performance Indicator to allow for ease of tracking progress. All of these go towards the attainment of the vision which is

VISION: To Support a Better Quality of Life and sense of wellbeing for the Citizens and communities of Tipperary, particularly those who experience significant marginalisation ensuring that

- All communities are enabled to actively access appropriate state supports for their own needs and also be the vehicle through which state supports can be rolled out if desirable
- To undertake the realization of this vision in a targeted and phased manner

In terms of selecting priority target groups and areas, it is proposed to select priorities on a sliding scale based on the following criteria

- Level of deprivation
 - Number of people affected
- Target group of interest
- Some positive weighting towards rural areas given the very rural nature of the county and that over 60% live in rural areas
 - Level of existing support structures in place
- Some early wins
- Nuance approached to some supports depending on the type of supports previously provided (Old RAPID versus new RAPID)

High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 1⁶	<p>A. Support and enable continuing improvement of access to services within the community for all citizens in a manner that is realistic, capable of being delivered and which utilizes the strengths of the existing communities</p> <p>B. Improve the quality of life and well-being for communities through supporting prioritized community infrastructural development and providing prioritized relevant support services</p>			
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No Benchmark for Quality of Life and Wellbeing ▪ Rural Transport: 2014 Total passengers = 61,000 passenger trips ▪ Current Rural Transport Demographic categorization: Elderly 56% (North) 39% (South); Youth(18–25) 0% (North) 23% (South); Disability 0% ▪ Broadband - 52.7% broadband connectivity 			
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Baseline benchmark established for the County on Quality of Life (wellbeing) by 2020 ▪ Evidence based document on level of facilities & services appropriate to tier in the settlement hierarchy of the County by 2018 ▪ Rural Transport:- Elderly figure to increase to 50% of passengers; Youth figure (18–25) to increase to 28% of passengers countywide; Disability Figure (to be collected & baseline established)) ▪ Broadband 1:- 30Mbps speed available to all areas of the County by 2020 ▪ Broadband 2 – Increase of 5% of broadband usage by citizens (CSO) ▪ Broadband facilities available to 40% of community halls by 2020 			
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resources available to track ‘quality of life and wellbeing issues’ surveys and to develop databases - Resources available to provide appropriate rural transport services. - Lack of use by public of rural transport facilities - Roll out of national broadband services delayed - Lack of buy in by Communities and other agencies to engage with survey work and community animation 			
Strategic Actions	Local KPI	Coordinating Lead⁷	Supporting Partners	Timeline

⁶ Compliments Economic Priorities 3 & 6

⁷ **Co-ordinating lead:** This role is to bring key stakeholders together regarding the relevant action with a view to developing an implementation plan for the action and overseeing the implementation same

C&S 1.1	Develop a programme of longitudinal measurement of quality of life and wellbeing in the County by engaging the community and voluntary sector in a tracking project over a 5 year period.	Research completed in year 5	Environmental Pillar PPN/ LIT	LIT, LDCs, TCC	Commence Q2 2016 (5 year period)
C&S 1.2	Undertake an Audit of all physical community facilities in the County, including ability to access services (broadband; transport; health services etc) and benchmark against a Tipperary version of the LA21 Wheel. Develop a prioritized community facilities infrastructural programme based on need.	Audit Completed by June 2016	TCC (Planning & C&E)	LDCs, PPN	Q3 2016
C&S 1.3a	In the interim, develop an appropriate grant scheme which focuses on improving disability access, usage of facilities for those with a disability, usage of facilities for elderly and youth; broadband connectivity and works which address energy, heating and water efficiency deficiencies.	Draft Community & Recreation Scheme to be developed by December 2015 Number, type and location of facilities supported in the specified areas	TCC	TEA, LDCs, PPN	Q1 2016
C&S 1.3b	Support the development and effective management of play and recreation play infrastructure in the county.	Develop a Co Tipperary Play and Recreational Policy to include a playground policy and playground management strategy -to be in place by December 2016	TCC (Planning & C&E & MDs)	PPN, Youth Services, LDCs	Q1 2016

C&S 1.3c⁸	Support the sustainability of rural shops and rural retail services in Tipperary.	Develop a rural retail strategy with initiatives to promote and sustain rural shops, to incentivise shop usage through development of meeting spaces in shops, café areas, picnic facilities and internet access and catering services, etc.	TCC (Planning and C&E)	LDCs, PPN	Q1 2016
C&S 1.4a	As part of Audit, survey and map the level of usage of existing community facilities vis-à-vis their usage & capacity and identify priorities.	Audit Completed by June 2016	TCC	LDCs, PPN	Q3 2016
C&S 1.4b	Based on outcome, prepare and implement a community development programme around capacity issues identified and which concentrates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Maximizing the use of existing community facilities. ii. preparing business plans for community facilities which will assist with their sustainability; iii. Providing for the inclusion of minority groups which live in the area. 	Programme prepared with appropriate KPI	NTLP; STDC	PPN	Q3 2016
C&S 1.5	Develop a dynamic all-county (and all agencies) database which captures the level of community spend including type and category of community spend.	Database in place by Dec 2016	TCC	LDCs, ETB, TEA, PPN	Q4 2016

⁸ Compliments Economic Action 1.5e

	and access by the community to use facilities so supported.	multi use community halls for broadband provision/connectivity			
C&S 1.7c	Provide information sessions to communities on how to access e-government services on-line.	Level of grant investment allocated to community groups who manage multi use community halls for broadband provision/connectivity Number of training programmes delivered from halls	LDCs	PPN	Q1 2016
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 2	<p>A. To Support the development of sustainable resilient communities, enabling them to have a meaningful quality of life and wellbeing and to respond to the needs in their community.</p> <p>B. To support communities and the voluntary sectors to have a meaningful voice in decision-making in areas which affect their communities, through the development of effective structures and supports</p>				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No benchmark available 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidenced based document on i) the number of active community groups; ii) the number of underactive community groups and iii) the number of area with inactive or no community groups in the County by 2020 760 Registered groups active in the PPN Network by 2020 Transparent and accountable representation of social inclusion, environmental, community and voluntary groups on 20 decision making and advisory bodies Minimum of 1 member of a socially disadvantaged grouping to be an elected member of the LCDC or the SPC representing the PPN by 2020 Volunteer Centre extended to cover northern part of the County 				
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of buy in by Communities and other agencies to engage with survey work and development programmes/projects Inadequate funds to extend appropriate services Lack of capacity by the more marginalized sectors of society to participate 				
Strategic Actions	Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline	

C&S 2.1a	Community & Civic Engagement:- Support the development and expansion of the PPN on a geographical and sectoral basis in order to facilitate greater engagement by civic society as both a nominating body and a consultative forum. The PPN is to be the main mechanism through which information sharing is facilitated within the community sector.	No. of Strategic Plans engaged with by the PPN per annum (benchmark to be set).	PPN	TCC, LDCs	Q1 2016-Ongoing
C&S 2.1b	Prioritise those geographical areas where this is a relatively low level of community activity.	No. of new groups assisted in areas identified as “least active”	LDC	PPN	Q1 2016 Ongoing
C&S 2.1c	Provide capacity and support to voluntary and community organizations to enable them to engage actively in decision-making.	No. of education programmes delivered	PPN	LDCs, LIT	Ongoing
C&S 2.1d	Develop a programme which address the needs of communities around governance; constitutions, sustaining volunteering activity; decision-making, fundraising and communication with its members.	No. of Community Groups who have availed of this support	PPN	LIT, LDCs, STVC	Ongoing and continuous
C&S 2.1e	Enable the expansion of the Volunteer Centre to service the north of the County.	All county coverage of Volunteer Centre	Volunteer Centre	LDCs	Q2 2016
C&S 2.1f	A County Volunteer Strategy to be developed which shall include specific provision to meet the needs of i) the elderly; ii) the non Irish national; iii) Citizens with a disability; iv) young people.	No. of volunteer initiatives undertaken with i.) Elderly; ii.) Non-Irish national’s iii.) Disability sector and iv.) Young people; v.) travelling community	Volunteer Centre	PPN, LDCs, Muintir na Tire	Q3 2016
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 3	Seek to eliminate or significantly reduce those areas with the highest level of social deprivation in the County				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18.69% of the population who live in “small area units” have a Pobal HP 2011 Deprivation Index of disadvantaged or very disadvantaged. 2.48 % (3941 people) of the population of Tipperary live in a small area with a Pobal HP Deprivation Index of “very disadvantaged”. 				

<i>6 Year target</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2% of population of Tipperary live in a small area with Pobal HPD Index of “very disadvantaged” 			
<i>Constraints</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Willingness of communities and individuals to engage Willingness of agencies to engage in a collaborative manner Level of funding and resources available 			
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Comment
C&S 3.1a	Continual focus to be brought to bear on the existing RAPID towns of Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Tipperary as they are the most marginalised, have a strong youth population and have the greatest level of unemployment and long term unemployment.	Develop 3 year RAPID Plans for each with appropriate targeted actions.	TCC	LDCs, ETB, DSP, GS, HSE	Q1 2016-ongoing
C&S 3.1b	Additional actions and an integrated approach to be prioritised for both Roscrea and Littleton (also see traveller section below) given their very significant level of disadvantage at the Small Area Level and given the unique culture of the Littleton population.	Develop 3 year RAPID Type Plan for each with appropriate targeted actions	TCC	LDCs, ETB, TRTP, GS, HSE, DSP	Q1 2016
C&S 3.1c	Secondary priority to be given to addressing social deprivation in the following areas: - Nenagh; Thurles; Templemore; Slieve Ardagh/Killenaule; Mullinahone; Cashel; Kilcommon and Borrisokane. In particular, any action in these areas should assess the value of targeting those local authority estates where the deprivation index is > -20.	SICAP Programmes to include actions relevant to these areas with a particular focus on the LA estates >-20 % of individuals in selected estates “case managed” by SICAP and other SI funding agencies	LDCs	LA (Housing & MD), Barnardos, FRCs, Nenagh Community Services	Q3 2016
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 4	Address the high level of long term unemployed through targeting those areas with the highest level of long term unemployment in the County				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Unemployment rate for County Tipperary = 19.9 % (National average of 19%.(CSO 2011)) 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment rate amongst the travelling community is 84.51% in Tipperary (CSO 2011). Unemployment rate of people with disabilities in County Tipperary = 32.9% (CSO 2011) • Youth unemployment (18–24yrs): - Youth unemployment in Ireland - 29.7%¹⁰ (30, 8152 young people are long term unemployed (12 months or more). • Youth Unemployment (Under 25yrs) in Tipperary – 3,192 (CSO 2011) • Youth Unemployment amongst travelling community in Tipperary is 85.47% (CSO 2011) • Youth unemployment amongst people with disabilities in County Tipperary is 60.7% (CSO 2011) • Seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate aged 15-24 is 20.2% (May 2015 CSO)
6 Year target	<p><u>Long term Unemployed – Tipperary target:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tipperary Unemployment to reduce below 10% by 2020 (Dept of Finance (Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan) project fall in unemployment to 11.4% by 2016) • Contribute to the National Targets in Pathways to Work 2015 (published by INTRO) by assisting 300 long term unemployed people to move into employment for each year of the LECP (1800). • Reduce average length of time on live register from 21 to 12 months as per national target in the Pathways to Work 2015. • Unemployment amongst travelling community – 84% by 2020 • Unemployment amongst those with a disability – 31% by 2020 <p><u>Youth Unemployment -Tipperary Target:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce level of Youth unemployment by 1.5% pa to 2020 (current rate of reduction nationally is 2%) • Tipperary to meet the target in the national Youth Guarantee Scheme: all Young People 18-24 who are unemployed to be offered a job; work experience; apprenticeship training or combined work/training within a defined period of time (4 months)¹⁰ after leaving school/becoming unemployed • Youth unemployment amongst travellers - 85% • Youth unemployment amongst those with a disability - 59% • Reduce Youth unemployment to somewhere in the range 21-23% by 2016 (National Targets in Pathways to Work 2015)
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Willingness of communities and individuals to engage - Willingness of agencies to engage in a collaborative manner - Level of funding and resources available and slow-down in economic recovery

¹⁰ National Target in State Youth Guarantee Scheme & 4 months is time recommended by European Commission in relation to same

Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 4.1a	Appropriately focused social inclusion and financial supports to be developed in area of highest long term unemployment around their capacities and skill sets with a particular focus on male long term unemployed. Top priority areas re focus of action: Roscrea, Thurles, Carrick on Suir, Clonmel, Nenagh and Tipperary Town.	No. of long term unemployed people supported to Progress	DSP	LDCs, ETB, LIT	Q2 2016
C&S 4.1b	Secondary priority: Towns of Cashel and Ballina and rural areas of Kilcommon, the cluster around Kilmore; a cluster around Finnoe, Borrisokane, and Cloughjordan; a cluster around Killenaule, Ballingarry and Clogheen.	No. of programmes developed in these areas where access is an issue	DSP	LDCs, DSP, Childcare Company, ETB, LIT, TRTP, PPN (Disability)	Q3 2016
C&S 4.1c	The TCU Rural Transport to examine the potential to provide appropriate services areas of highest long term unemployment. Accessibility to outreach facilities for long term unemployed people living in rural areas also to be positively explored in any new TCU Plan. The TCU to particularly focus on youth long term unemployed in rural areas; those with a disability and travellers who are unemployed.	No. of outreach facilities being serviced	TCU	DSP, IFA, LA (LEO), Youth Services	Q4 2016
C&S 4.1d	Build targeted awareness programmes which are location specific of the benefits to employers in employing Long Term Unemployed (LTU) and support employers as appropriate. In particular, focus on potential to develop a pilot with the IFA in	No. of programmes developed and the No. of people who have progressed through these programmes	LDCs	TRTP, DSP, HSE and other Disability providers	Q1 2017

	the context of supporting LTU with skill sets that would be of value to farmers who are considering expanding their enterprises.				
C&S 4.1e	Develop programmes around “first step progressions” for the LTU focusing on projects/programmes that have a social /wellbeing /mental health/personal development value with a view to moving on to literacy and other more specific training/up skilling. Areas such as Arts, Heritage, Sport and Culture are obvious potential link-ups and have a role in this context.	No. of individuals in each sector engaged with no. supported in an employment initiative	LDC	LDCs, DSP, Childcare Company, ETB, LIT, TRTP, PPN (Disability), TCC (Arts, Heritage, Sports), STVC	Q1 2017
C&S 4.1f¹¹	Develop particular focused and relevant support schemes around capacity building; engagement and innovative employment opportunities with those sectors who find it most difficult to enter the workplace (travellers; people with disabilities, ex-addicts; and ex-prisoners). Investigate Social Economy type projects focused on those cohorts who find it difficult to enter the workforce, for example social farming, fishing hubs, outdoor pursuit’s activities. Develop programmes around literacy; career guidance and job coaching and mentoring etc.	No. supported in an employment initiative No. who progress to employment. No. of Social Economy projects developed	LDCs	LDCs, DSP, Childcare Company, ETB, LIT, TRTP, PPN (Disability), STVC	Q1 2017

¹¹ Linked to Economic Actions 5.7a – 5.7d

C&S 4.1g	Focus on engaging with the long term unemployed men and develop structures and programmes which meet their particular needs (e.g. Men's Shed type programmes, etc.)	No. of LTU men engaged with and the no. who have progressed to employment	LDCs	LDCs, DSP, Childcare Company, ETB, LIT, TRTP, PPN (Disability)	Q1 2017
C&S 4.2a	Youth Unemployment - Identify on a geographic basis, those areas where there is a high % of youth unemployment. Prioritise and develop appropriate social inclusion supports around their capacities and skill set	Source information on youth unemployment across the county and identify top 5 priority areas and secondary priority areas and rural areas with high youth unemployment	LDCs	DSP, IFA, LA (LEO), Youth Services	Q2 2017
C&S 4.2b	Following identification of high areas of Youth Unemployment, identify accessibility issues to services (transport, remote access, childcare etc).	Final report on Youth employment with target areas and actions	Youth Services	ETB, DSP, LDCs, LA (LEO)	Q2 2017
C&S 4.2c	Explore opportunities with smaller employers to provide employment opportunities for this cohort	No. of young people on internship programmes or recruited through job plus	Youth Services	ETB, DSP, LDCs, LA (LEO)	Q3 2017
C&S 4.2d	Replicate and support existing successful projects and solutions such as "work winners" in those areas that have high levels of youth unemployment	No. of participants on work winner programmes	Youth Services	ETB, DSP	Q3 2017
C&S 4.2e	Support alternative learning programme delivered through youth services to support young people at risk of early school leaving.	No. of young people on programmes	Youth Services	ETB, CYPSC (TúsIa)	Q3 2017

High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 5		To maximise life opportunity and potential for young people and support and facilitate their contribution to the sustainable development of the county			
<i>Current Benchmark</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No benchmark or data available regarding participation and engagement of young people in social, recreational, sporting, cultural or community activities 			
<i>6 Year target</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1200 hard to reach young people supported to participate and engage in social, recreational, sporting, cultural or community activities on an ongoing basis 			
Constraints		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources & personnel Willingness of targeted community to engage 			
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 5.1a	<p>Address areas that have gaps in terms of youth service provision and support youth services to add value and extend current provision for hard to reach young people.</p> <p>Appropriate youth services and supports to be targeted at those areas where there is a significant youth cohort, a high youth dependency; poor youth infrastructure relative to the rest of the county and in particular in those areas that have a disadvantaged or very disadvantaged status. Cahir, Fethard, Newcastle, Ballina and Newport; in particular to be targeted.</p> <p>Support the development of rural youth clubs in communities that do not have access to youth services.</p> <p>Explore innovative collaborative options around how to develop rural youth clubs in these communities.</p>	<p>No. of youth focused services delivered into agreed targeted areas; No. of additional contact hours secured in relation to youth service provision</p> <p>No. of targeted hard to reach young people participating in social recreational and sporting events /organisations</p> <p>Prioritised Youth Infrastructure Plan by Dec. 2018</p> <p>No. of grants and supports provided for youth facilities and supports in designated areas</p>	Youth services	ETB, LDCs, STVC, LA (Sports, Arts)	Q1 2017
C&S 5.1b	Develop programmes and supports that encourage young people to volunteer in the community and voluntary sector.	<p>No. of new youth volunteers</p> <p>No. of communities supported to embrace youth cohort</p>	Youth Services	Volunteer Centre, CYPSC (TúsIa), ETB, LDCs, PPN, Comhairle na nÓg	Q2 2017

	Support and encourage the community to actively embrace and seek youth input.				
C&S 5.1c	Prioritise the development of appropriate youth infrastructure and programmes in those areas where the Youth Dependency Ratio exceeds 33 and which correlates heavily with areas of deprivation.	Youth Dependence Ratio Map established	TCC	Volunteer Centre, CYPSC (Túsla), ETB, LDC, PPN, Comhairle na nÓg	Q1 2018
C&S 5.1d	Rural transport plan to investigate the possibilities of providing transport in the more remote areas for young people so that they are enabled to engage with youth programmes and activities. Any Rural Transport Plan to specifically focus on the needs of the Youth 15 – 25 in those rural areas where there is limited service.	TCU Plan prepared which assesses the needs of this cohort and provides as necessary and within allowable resources.	TCU	LA (Roads), Youth Services, ETB, LDCs	Q1 2018
C&S 5.1e	Proactive inclusion of Comhairle na nÓg in the consultation and youth proofing process of any planning and development work relevant to young people in the county.	No. of plans consulted upon by Comhairle na nÓg	Youth Services	Comhairle na nÓg, CYPSC (Túsla), LA	Q1 2016
C&S 5.1f	Actively promote the utilisation of the range of community based facilities by young people. Consider utilisation of ‘diversity audits’ ensuring they are ‘open to all’ when funding future community buildings, etc. Support community halls and centre’s to develop youth meeting hubs in smaller local rural areas.	No. of grants provided to Community groups to incorporate youth focused activities. No. of youth meeting hubs developed in the county in areas outside of main towns	LDCs	ETB, LA (Housing & C&E), Youth Services	Q2 2016
C&S 5.1g¹²	Investigate Social Economy type projects focused on young people and engagement, for example social farming, fishing hubs, outdoor pursuits activities To look at alternative and innovative ways of encouraging young people to connect with education such as in the areas of traditional craft skills; food growing; wildlife; rural skills; biodiversity etc.	No. of social economy projects with a youth focus	Youth Services/ETB	LDCs, LA (C&E), LIT	Q3 2016

¹² Linked to Economic Actions 5.7a – 5.7d

C&S 5.1h	Support programmes that build the skills and capacity of young people in the travelling community, young people with disabilities and other marginalised young people to participate and engage in all aspects of life.	No. of members of the travelling youth community & disability youth community engaged in a formal activity (youth clubs; arts; sports etc)	LDCs	Youth Services, TRTP, LA (C&E), PPN (Disability Forum), HSE	Q1 2016
C&S 5.1i	To look at the vulnerabilities of those young people coming out of care; prison, addiction services and seek to put a pathway in place which would prevent homelessness and ensure adequate support and progression for these marginalized young people.	CYPSC Plan to be developed to incorporate actions around this area	CYPSC (Túsla)	LA (Housing), HSE, Probation Office, ETB, DSP, GS	Q1 2017
C&S 5.1j	Youth Communities:- In the context of the all-county ETB All County Youth Demographic Profile 2014, prioritise the development of appropriate youth infrastructure and programmes in those areas where the Youth Dependency Ration exceeds 33 and which correlates heavily with areas of deprivation.	CYPSC Plan to be developed to incorporate actions around this area	CYPSC (Túsla)	Youth Services, ETB, Comhairle na nÓg, LDCs, Youth Services	Q2 2017
C&S 5.1k	Arts, Heritage & Sports Plans to prioritise some actions around rural youths and those in 10 – 18 year cohort.	No. of actions developed	LA (Arts & Sports)	Youth Services, Comhairle na nÓg, ETB	Q3 2017
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 6	Reduce the marginalisation of specific target groups and communities – Travelling community, Non Irish Nationals and Asylum Seekers, Lone Parents, LGBTI and people at risk of homelessness.				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseline benchmark established for the County on Quality of Life (wellbeing) by 2020 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be set once Quality of Life and Wellbeing baseline established 				

Constraints		- Difficult to identify non Irish nationals that have little or no English			
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 6.1a	Travelling Community Establishment of an all-county Traveller Inter-Agency Strategy Group (with participation by Travellers) and the development and implementation of a multi-annual action plan as drawn up by that group.	TIA (Traveller Inter-Agency) drawn up with focused actions	LA (Housing)	TRTP, LDC, HSE, GS, ETB, DSP Probation office, PPN, STVC	Q2 2016
C&S 6.1b	Non Irish Nationals and Asylum Seekers Develop an all county profile and needs analysis of non-Irish nationals who have little or no English and develop actions appropriate to the needs identified. In particular, focus on those areas where concentration is greatest, namely Roscrea, Nenagh, Thurles, Cahir and Clonmel. Support community initiatives in relation to informal language and conversation groups and support integration activities at community level. Support residents of Bridgewater to access services and address issues which are barriers to services and support transition process of residents once granted leave to remain in the country. Develop a number of key programmes which focuses on the improving the level of connectivity of the non Irish nationals with their host communities, with particular attention on those areas where the percentage of non Irish nationals is higher e.g. Cahir.	All County Integration Service Strategy completed by Dec 2018 No. of community initiatives supported Number of “connecting” LDC programmes supported or set up in the targeted areas	LDCs LDCs LDCs	LA (C&E), ETB, HSE, DSP, Tusla, Volunteer Centre, STVC PPN, TCC, HSE, ETB, Youth Services, STVC	Q2 2017
C&S 6.1c	Lone Parents: Prioritise resources and programmes on those areas	Focused programme	LDCs	CYPSC	Q 3 2016

	<p>where the proportion of lone parents is >60%, namely Carrick-on-Suir Urban, Monsea, Thurles Urban 1, Thurles Urban 2, Clonmel West Urban, Clonmel Rural, and Carrickbeg.</p> <p>Develop an appropriate interagency response to needs of lone parents in these areas including addressing the range of service needs from predevelopment, parenting supports, educational supports, health and wellbeing supports, employment supports and development of lone parent forums.</p>	developed for the key prioritised areas	(SICAP)	(Túsla), LA (C&E & Housing), Childcare Company, ETB Youth Services, PPN	
C&S 6.1d	<p>LGBTI Seek to establish a county forum for LGBTI with a view to identifying issues for people in the LGBTI community.</p> <p>Commence work on data gathering to ascertain the extent, needs and requirements of people who identify as LGBTI.</p>	LGBTI Forum established	TRYS	Youth Services, LDCs, PPN	Q1 2017
C&S 6.1e	<p>Homeless Develop an all-County Homeless Action Plan which addresses in particular the needs of the more vulnerable sectors, including ex-prisoners; ex-addicts; victims of domestic violence; people with mental health difficulties, young people coming from the care system and asylum seekers.</p> <p>In particular, Action Plan to include a supported housing programme providing integrated support for key risk groups, namely people following rehabilitation from substance misuse, families who are victims of violence/domestic abuse and young people coming out of care.</p>	<p>Needs identified and collated</p> <p>Homeless Action Plan developed</p>	LA (Housing)	Voluntary Housing Groups, LDCs, TRTP, HSE, Túsla	Q2 2107

High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 7		Provide a targeted and integrated response to the needs of vulnerable families, children / young people in areas of greatest risk			
<i>Current Benchmark</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Consistent Poverty baseline of 6.2% (no county measure of poverty) • Ascend in North Tipperary (2014) supported 368 women • The relevant services (Cuan Saor and the Rape Crisis centre in South Tipperary (2013) supported 604 women) • Number of Children referred to TUSLA – South Tipperary – 2014: 1312 children • Number of Children referred to TUSLA – North Tipperary – 2014: 819 children 			
<i>6 Year target</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the national target of reducing consistent poverty to 4 % by 2015 (interim target) and to 2% or less by 2020 from a baseline of 6.2% (Currently no county measure of poverty) 			
Constraints		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The multiplicity of bodies involved in the provision of services to children and young people. - The availability of resources to address the needs of children and young people - The successful rollout of the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support programme across the county. 			
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 7.1a	Extend the Children and Young Persons Committee remit to the whole of the county.	All County Committee established.	TUSLA; CYPSC (Children and Young People’s Services Committees)	LA (C&E), LDCs, FRC, CCRC, ETB, GS, Barnardos, PPN, Youth Services	Q4 2015
C&S 7.1b	Prepare and implement a Child and Young Persons Services Action Plan which incorporates actions targeted at those areas which have been identified as being most in need. In particular, focus supportive actions on the top five priority areas where the vulnerability to children is greatest and where services are limited.	All County Action Plan developed.	TUSLA; CYPSC		Q4 2016

	Areas to be identified as part of the development of the all County Children's and Young Persons plan (areas not identified yet).				
C&S 7.1c	Establishment of a data collection system in relation to measuring services delivered in relation to vulnerable families and children.	Data Collection system established	TUSLA; CYPSC		Q4 2017
C&S 7.1d	Develop family support initiatives that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are evidence based - target children and families referred through the Partnership, Prevention and Family Support (PP&FS) - PP&FS programme established in the county - Focuses in particular on those areas where lone parent families and families of the travelling community are most highly concentrated. - Support the embedding of the Meitheal model into practice of all agencies working with children and families including the County Council, GS, Education etc 	Number of initiatives supported in priority areas identified by CYPSC Plan	TUSLA/ CYPSC	LA (C&E), LDCs, FRC, CCRC, ETB, GS, Barnardos, PPN	Q1 2016
C&S 7.1e	Support initiatives that address the needs of families, children and young people in relation to Mental health	No. of initiatives identified No. of services provided	HSE	LA (C&E), LDCs FRC, CCRC, ETB, GS, Barnardos, PPN, Youth Services	Q 3 2016
C&S 7.1f	Investigate options to address the uneven distribution of a range of family support services around the country and encourage creative and innovative usage of existing supports services in particular in relation to areas of highest need.	Mapping completed	TUSLA/ CYPSC	LA (C&E), LDCs, FRC, CCRC; ETB, GS, Barnardos, PPN	Q2 2016

C&S 7.1g	Support the development of free or low cost counseling, parenting support and community support programmes across the county and provide services where there are gaps. Top 5 priority areas to be identified as part of the development of Children and Young Person's plan.	No. of programmes in place	TUSLA /CYPSC	LA (C&E), LDCs, FRC, CCRC,ETB, GS, Barnardos, PPN	Q2 2016
C&S 7.1h	Map the location of community houses vis-a-vis the most disadvantaged housing estates and identify priority areas for the development of community houses; Develop and support programmes in these estates to focus on supporting vulnerable families.	No. of new Community Houses developed with support programmes in place	LA (C&E) LA (Housing)	FRCs, LDCs, CDP, Barnardos, Youth Services	Q1 2017
C&S 7.1i	Support the families who are victims of Domestic Sexual Gender Based Violence (DSGBV). Include DSGBV as a key issue in the consultation, planning and implementation of the following key priority plans/areas:- the Needs of Children & Young People, Substance Misuse/Abuse, Health & well being, Security & Safety throughout the county.	No. of support programmes implemented	TUSLA /CYPSC	LA (JPC), HSE, Drugs Task Force (Regional)	Q2 2017
C&S 7.1j	Develop and support projects that support children and family around family breakups and impacts on young people and children	Research evidence based programmes and no of programmes implemented	TUSLA/ CYPSC	FRCs, CCRC, LDCs, CDP, Barnardos, Youth Services	Q1 2017
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 8	Develop an integrated response to the needs of the elderly population with a particular focus on those areas which are geographically isolated and where the concentration of 65+ is greatest.				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Quality of life/Wellbeing measure in place 				

6 Year target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline benchmark established for the County on Quality of Life (wellbeing) by 2020 • Contribute to national targets in Healthy Ireland Framework including as follows: • Increase healthy life expectancy at age 65 years by: reducing morbidity; overall and premature mortality for four major non-communicable diseases of circulatory system disease, heart disease, stroke and cancer. • Reduce the gap in healthy life expectancy at age 65 between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups. • 2020 – Theft 25% (current nation = 34.8%); Criminal Damage 12% (national 12.7%); Burglary 10% (national 11.5%); Drugs – 6% (national 6.8%) • Text Alert groups:- 75 by 2020 • 760 Registered groups in the PPN Network by 2020 				
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The multiplicity of bodies involved in the provision of services to older people - The availability of resources to address the needs of older people - The willingness of older people to become involved 				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 8.1	In the context of the Age Friendly Strategy to be prepared (see Section 4.1.2) develop a number of key community programmes which focuses on the needs of the 65+ and those areas where the Old Age Dependency Ration exceeds 40	Age friendly County Plan completed by Dec 2017. Number of Age Friendly Communities assisted/supported or set up in targeted areas	TCC (C&E)	LDCs, HSE, PPN	Q1 2016
C&S 8.2a	<p>Develop opportunities and programmes that support Older People to contribute to the social, economic and community development of the county.</p> <p>Prepare and implement an Older Persons Action Plan\Age Friendly County Plan which incorporates actions targeted at those areas which have been identified as being most in need.</p> <p>In particular, the plan shall identify those parts of the</p>	<p>Whole county analysis completed</p> <p>Whole county Age Friendly County Committee in place</p> <p>Older persons forum in place</p>	LA (C&E)	HSE, LDCs, PPN, Relevant community stakeholders – Muintir na Tire, Day Care Centres, FRCs, CCRC	Q1 2016

	county where the needs of older people are greatest and where the services are least and shall include areas that have high numbers of older people including Clonmel, Thurles, Nenagh, Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary Town and Roscrea and other areas with a significant level of people over 65+ include Cashel Urban, Inislounaght, Templemore, Newport, Kilcommon, Ballina, Cahir, Holycross and Borrisokane.	Age Friendly County Plan in place			
C&S 8.2b¹³	Investigate opportunities around the social economy to support initiatives to address social isolation, security and enabling access to services for the older more isolated citizens in the county. Develop opportunities and programmes that support Older People to contribute to the social, economic and community development of the county.	No. of social economy projects developed	LDC	LA (C&E), PPN	Q2 2016
C&S 8.2c	Through the PPN, support the development of an all County Older Persons Forum to assist in developing appropriate policy initiatives for the older cohort of the population	PPN Older People's Network set up	PPN	LCDC, LA(C&E)	Q2 2016
C&S 8.2d	Through the TEA and other appropriate community and voluntary structures, identify innovative ways to address fuel poverty initiatives	No. of targeted fuel poverty initiatives identified	TEA	PPN, LA (C&E)	Q2 2016
C&S 8.2e	Particular action of the various funding programmes shall prioritise a focus on those areas where deprivation is greatest and which also correlates with a high level of aged dependency and or significant numbers of people over 65 including areas in Clonmel, Carrick-on-Suir and	Level of funds targeted at these areas	LA (C&E)	LDCs, PPN	Q 3 2016

¹³ Linked to Economic Actions 5.7a – 5.7d

	Tipperary Town.				
C&S 8.2f	The TCU Rural Transport Plan to focus in particular on supporting access by older people to villages /towns, particularly in those areas where there is a significant concentration of those over 65+	No. of older persons using TCU rural transport	TCU	PPN, LA (Roads)	Q1 2016
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 9	Develop an integrated response to reducing the level of substance misuse/abuse in agreed targeted areas				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No benchmark 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to national target: Reduce the amount of alcohol consumed by people over the age of 15 years to an annual per capita consumption of 9.2 litres of pure alcohol (Steering Group Report on a National Substance Misuse Strategy 2012) Increase in level of drug use detection and conviction over the 2014 County Tipperary level 				
Constraints	- The commitment and resources required by key stakeholder in the delivery of actions.				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 9.1	<p>Support the establishment of local action network groups in the southern and northern part of the county.</p> <p>Draw up an appropriate focused local action plan linked to the priorities identified by the Mid West Regional Drugs and Alcohol Forum and the South East Regional Drugs Task Force which concentrates key actions and funds on those areas where the level of detection is highest in the county including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing issues such as intimidation, drug supply, alcohol supply and anti social behaviour related to drugs and /or alcohol Access to a full range of appropriate treatment and rehabilitation services and promoting the 	<p>Local Action Network to be in place for the northern and southern part of the county</p> <p>Action plans in place in both northern and southern part of the county.</p> <p>No of people supported through actions</p>	South East Regional Drugs Task Force & Mid West Regional Drug and Alcohol Forum	GS, PPN, LA (C&E), ETB, LDCs, HSE, Tusla	Q3 2016

	<p>take up of services amongst people who are misusing drugs and alcohol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to post treatment education, training and employment services - Actions related to underage and binge drinking - Supports and services for children and families of substance misusing clients - Education and awareness programmes at community level to build community resilience in relation to drug and alcohol misuse. <p>Establish a linkage group between the North and South local action network to develop county wide initiatives where appropriate.</p> <p>Ensure any such actions initiated are specifically targeted at key target groups and key marginalized areas.</p>				
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 10	Develop an integrated approach to supporting people of all ages with disabilities to access opportunities so that their quality of life and wellbeing is improved.				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No benchmark currently in place 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline benchmark established for the County on Quality of Life (wellbeing) by 2020 				
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resources available to track quality of life/wellbeing issues surveys and to develop databases - Resources available to Transport Co-ordination Unit to deliver on actions 				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 10.1a	Draw up a Disability Action Plan for County Tipperary, focusing on greater inclusiveness for persons with a disability. The plan in particular to	Disability Action Plan completed	LA (C&E)	PPN, HSE, Youth Services, ETB, LDCs, STVC	Q3 2016

	<p>focus on.</p> <p>Supporting access to social, cultural, educational and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Supporting the development of programmes within the community and voluntary sector that develop opportunities for children with a disability to participate in integrated social activities</p> <p>Supporting existing community and voluntary organisations that support children and adults with disabilities to develop their capacity and their ability to deliver services for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Support disability awareness training and policy development amongst the community and voluntary sector especially in relation to encouraging participation and inclusion in sports, cultural and social activities.</p>				
C&S 10.1b	The PPN to establish a Disability linkage Group and to support the development of advocacy groups and forum to represent the needs of children and adults with disabilities.	PPN Disability Network established	PPN	HSE, LA (C&E), LDCs	Q3 2016
C&S 10.1c	The TCU Plan to address transport needs of those with a disability and to capture data on level of	Disability data collated at a county level Baseline established	TCU	HSE	Q1 2017

	usage by those with a disability				
C&S 10.1d	Support the further roll out of the Gold Star programme in the County.	2 additional Gold Star Towns established	HSE	PPN, LA (Municipal Districts)	Q3 2107
C&S 10.1e	Support the development of social economy projects that provide work, cultural and social opportunities for people with disabilities	No. of social economy projects developed	DSP	HSE, LDCs, PPN	Q1 2016
C&S 10.1f	Support early intervention programmes such as subsidised assessments for educational psychology and occupational therapy assessments with a view to getting educational resources for children as early as possible.	No. of early interventions provided	LDC	ETB, PPN	Q4 2017
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 11	Integrated response in relation to health and wellbeing of the community in relation to marginalised groups and areas				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current benchmark 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the national targets : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase by 5% the number of adults with a healthy weight by 2019; Increase by 6% the number of children with a healthy weight by 2019 (Changing Cardiovascular Health National Cardiovascular Health Policy, 2010) Increase by 20% proportion of the population undertaking regular physical activity (Changing Cardiovascular Health National Cardiovascular Health Policy, 2010) Reduce the gap in healthy life expectancy at age 65 between the highest and lowest socio-economic groups. Base line benchmark established on Quality of life and Wellbeing in the County by 2020 				
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources Engagement by target population 				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline

C&S 11.1a	To develop and implement a whole county plan in relation to mental health awareness/promotion and suicide prevention in line with the national framework for suicide prevention	Suicide prevention plan(s) in place for the whole county	HSE Suicide Prevention Office	Comhairle na nÓg, County Mental Health Group	Q1 2017
C&S 11.1b	Develop and implement a whole county plan in relation to participation in sports and physical activity with particular focus on hard to reach target groups	Sports Partnership plan in place -focus on hard to reach target groups/ areas	Sports Partnership	LDCs, ETB, HSE, GS, LIT Youth Services, RAPID AITs	Q1 2016
C&S 11.1c	To develop a whole county plan/programme of activities in relation to participation in social, cultural, arts and community activities with particular focus on targeting hard to reach marginalised groups	Specific actions included in all plans regarding arts/heritage/culture and community focused on building participation of marginalised groups and communities	LA (C&E),	PPN, Youth Services, LDCs, TRTP	Q4 2016
C&S 11.1d	To implement the relevant local actions of the Healthy Ireland Framework in particular in relation to improving the health outcomes of people living in disadvantaged areas and from marginalised communities	Local Health Ireland working group in place and action plan developed re implementing the Health Ireland Framework in Tipperary.	HSE	RAPID AITs, LDCs, TRTP	Q4 2016
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 12	To provide opportunities for the citizens to access life-long educational opportunities with a particular targeted focus to provide supports for communities and individuals who are marginalised				
Current Benchmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifelong learning participation rate was 7.3% (2014)national figure • Education baseline: • Of those aged 15 years and over whose full-time education had ceased, 16.7 per cent were educated to at most primary level only; a further 60.3 per cent attained second level while 23.0 per cent were educated to third level. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall number of early school leavers (i.e. those whose education ceased before completion of upper second level) has dropped from 1,444 young people (12.6 per cent of all 15-24 year olds) in 2006 to 849 (8 per cent) in 2011 634 courses provided 7,500 participants in part-time provision alone 				
6 Year target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016: Proportion of the population aged 20-24 completing upper second level education or equivalent exceeds 90% by 2013; 15% of 25-64 year-olds to participate in lifelong learning by 2020 				
Constraints	- The Training element of FAS including budget and resources have not yet been transferred to The ETB – estimated transfer will be in January 2016				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 12.1a	Support the delivery of outreach back to education initiatives and literacy supports in areas where the educational levels are low.	No. of initiatives delivered	ETB	LDCs, DSP, TRTP, LIT	Q3 2016
C&S 12.1b	Develop a central portal for all further education opportunities in the county	Central Portal delivered	ETB	LIT	Q1 2017
C&S 12.1c	<p>Roll out programmes around literacy and numeracy in a targeted and focused manner for the more vulnerable sectors such as Travellers; Roma; Non Irish nationals; Asylum Seekers and Lone parents of young children.</p> <p>Develop innovative initiatives with primary schools, homework clubs and networks as required.</p> <p>Target programmes for the more marginalized groups in society around career guidance and job coaching to assist people to support progression into training and jobs</p>	No. of specific programmes targeted at the more marginalised	ETB	LDCs, DSP, LIT, TRTP	Q 2 2018
C&S 12.1d	Deliver community education programmes as a way of encouraging	No. of communication education programmes	LDC	ETB, RAPID	Q3 2018

	marginalised individuals to get involved in further education	delivered		AITs, TRTP	
C&S 12.1e	Explore opportunities around traditional skills transfer/training in the county	No. of initiatives delivered	LDC	TRTP, DSP, HSE	Q3 2107
High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 13¹⁴	Develop the potential for alternative energy projects to reduce impact of poverty in key agreed areas where social deprivation is highest				
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<i>To be established</i>				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<i>To be established</i>				
Constraints	Unknown				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting partners	Timeline
C&S 13.1a	Develop innovative actions to maximise the ability of communities to reduce energy use and generate renewable energy to support sustainability in the community.	No. of active community energy projects developed in the county	TEA	PPN	Q1 2017
C&S 13.1b	Identify a specified number of areas and sectors where opportunities in relation to alternative energy can have an impact on target areas, target groups at risk of poverty and the community and voluntary sector with a view to identifying opportunities to roll out and measure the impact of these initiatives.	No. of active community energy projects developed in the targeted areas	TEA	PPN, LDCs	Q2 2017
C&S 13.1c	Specifically target farmers especially farmer holdings on low incomes that are unsustainable in relation to on farm opportunities in the energy sector.	No. of interventions engaging farmers re animation re energy efficiency and alternative energy opportunities	TEA	LDCs, IFA, Teagasc	Q3 2017

¹⁴ Community & Social Inclusion Priority 13 linked to Economic Priority 2.

13.1d	Investigate opportunities for retrofit programmes for social housing	No. of social housing homes availing of retrofit programmes	TEA	LA (Housing), Social Housing Agencies	Q1 2018
High level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 14		Develop a sense of security and safety in communities in Tipperary with particular reference to the elderly and those who live in more isolated rural areas			
<i>Current Benchmark</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2013 – Theft 27%; Criminal Damage 11.3%; Burglary 13.5%; Drugs 8.3% • 2013 - Number of text Alert Groups- 54 				
<i>6 Year target</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 – Theft 25% (current nation = 34.8%); Criminal Damage 12% (national 12.7%); Burglary 10% (national 11.5%); Drugs – 6% (national 6.8%) • Text Alert groups:- 75 by 2020 • 760 Registered groups in the PPN Network by 2020 				
Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GS resources - Engagement by communities with text alert 				
Strategic Actions		Local KPI	Coordinating Lead	Supporting Partners	Timeline
C&S 14.1a	In the context of the Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan, the following areas will be targeted those areas where security is most compromised and where anti-social behaviour is most prevalent and put in place a series of supports and actions to mitigate against this	JPC Strategic Plan has clearly identified the key vulnerable areas: % decline in level offences in targeted areas	GS	TCC, PPN, LDCs	Q1 2016
C&S 14.1b	Particular provision to be made in the JPC Plan to address concerns of the elderly, particularly in the more remote/isolated areas and to put appropriate actions in place to minimize their vulnerability in rural areas	Number of identified actions in Plan related to the elderly: % decline in level of elderly related offences & increase in number of text alert groups, particularly in the Nenagh area	GS	PPN, LDCs, Muintir na Tire	Q1 2016
C&S 14.1c	Develop appropriate communication mechanisms to ensure greater awareness of community safety	Communication Strategy in place by mid 2016	JPC	PPN	Q1 2016

C&S 14.1d	Identify proactive and targeted response to areas where there is a concentration of drug related crime	Local Drugs strategy to identify specific focused actions with appropriate targets set on reducing drug related crime	Local Drugs Task Force	GS, Youth Services, TCC, HSE, PPN	Q1 2017
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