



Management Report to Council



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May dates for your Diary

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> N24 W/ford to Cahir Public Consultation 2.30pm Housing SPC Mtg	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> 10 am CPG Meeting
<u>10</u> 10 am TCC Plenary Mtg	<u>11</u> 10.30am Economic Development and Enterprise SPC Mtg	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> 10am JPC Meeting
<u>17</u> 10am LCDC Mtg <u>10:30am</u> Thurles MD Mtg	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> 11am Clonmel BD Mtg	<u>20</u> 10am Nenagh MD Mtg	<u>21</u>
<u>24</u> 11am Tipp/Cahir/Cashel MD Mtg	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> 11am Deputation with Tánaiste re. N24 Limerick to Waterford Improvement Scheme	<u>27</u> 2pm Carrick-on-Suir MD Mtg	<u>28</u>
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Report at a Glance



Community & Economic
Development & Tourism

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Environment & Climate
Action

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Water Services

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Housing

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Corporate Services &
Human Resources

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**Community and Economic Development Directorate
(Community/LCDC, SPORTS, FAI, SPU Teams)**

<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues;</u>			
Policy Changes/Updates	Date Adopted	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
LECP Annual	The LECP 2014-20 has been implemented- bi-annual reviews took place on action delivery. A Departmental working groups is developing national guidelines for the new LECP process. The LCDC has made a submission to the consultation on same (February 2021). New Guidelines for the LECP development are expected within the coming months		
Migrant Integration	Process underway		
Healthy Tipperary	Noted September 2018	2021 budget in place	Implementation of plan and review of same in 2021.
<u>Directorate Priorities</u>			
Major Current Issues	Progress to date		Next Stage
Scheme of Capital Grants for Community Facilities & Amenities	In the final stages just wrapping up some the projects and arranging decommitments for reassignment to shovel ready projects. Would have been wrapped in Jan 2021 except for the COVID 19 restrictions.		Look at decommitted fund which will support shovel ready projects and additionally playgrounds. Most projects wrapped up a small number very near completion held up due to construction restrictions. Will work with groups to agree revised timelines. Develop the next scheme.
Town & Village Renewal Scheme	2018 Progressing well 2 projects completed Aghish & Terryglass. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Puckane will be completed Early 2021 90% complete. Held up due to construction restrictions. 2. Thurles regeneration plan completed will be drawdown by mid feb 2021. 3. Nenagh Bamba Square, has proved to be challenging project Services to be moved, discovered damaged main drains etc will be completed in Q1 2021. 4. Cloughjordan wood walk trail again in the completion and snagging stage expect to drawdown in Q1 of 2021. 5. Cashel lowergate street expect to be completed by End of march 2021. 		Close out 2018 project and progress the 2019 projects and 2020 projects there has been much delay due to COVID restrictions we will be writing to all promoters seeking revised timelines when restrictions ease.



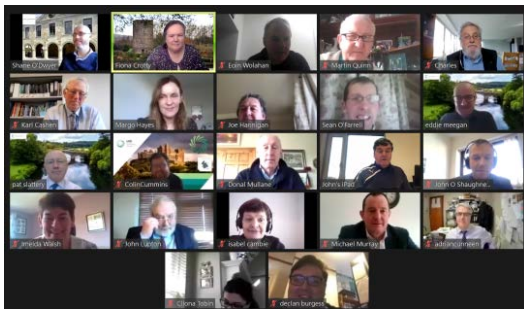
	<p>6. Carrick heritage centre almost complete just snagging and awaiting a heritage door. 90% of funding has been spent.</p> <p>2019 Only early stages 5 Projects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lorrha Community Hall(community led) 2. Newcastle Community Hall(community led) 3. Cashel Public Realm Lowergate Square (MD Led) 4. Clogheen improvements to community Building and Chapel Lane.(MD Led) 5. Nenagh Ball Alley Lane(MD Led) <p>2020 Accelerated measures(New Scheme) 13 grants approved with a value of almost €400,000.</p> <p>2020 Main Scheme approved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boherlahan Village Enhancements 2. Kilbarron Village Enhancements 3. Kilsheelan enhancement to the Blueway and app development. 4. Marlfield viewing platform, parking spaces, disabled access fishing point. 5. Loughmore undergrounding of cables etc laying on fibre optic for a broadband Hub. 6. Birdhill village enhancements. 7. Templemore Town Park Enhancements. 	
CLÁR Measure 2 (Playgrounds/Multi-Use Games Areas)	<p>2019</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballingarry Playground <p>2020</p> <p>No Community measures Approved</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Currently working through Expressions of Interest with a view to submitting 4 Community non-road safety projects of 10 total shortlisted projects.</p>	Very little to be done to close out Ballingarry Playground but again held up due to COVID restrictions.
Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme	<p>2018</p> <p>Measure 2 outstanding the river Ara Walkway in Tipp Town, resulted in an An Bord Pleanála application.</p> <p>2019</p> <p>One measure 3 approved for Blueway & Suir Island works in Cahir, Carrick and Clonmel grant €500k</p>	Progress delayed due to COVID restrictions.



	<p>One measure 2 garrykennedy replace footbridge and some enhancements to walkway</p> <p>2020 2 measure 2's approved Beara Breifne Way lorrha to Portumna Suir Blueway Cahir Infrastructure Enhancement.</p>	
Rural Development Programme (LEADER)	<p>Current Scheme closed realising almost €8million worth of projects over teh 2014-2020 period.</p> <p>It has just been confirmed Tipperary will receive projects fiunding of just over €2million for April 2021-December 2022</p>	This scheme covers 2014-2020 leader Programme.
Healthy Tipperary actions funded Round 3.	12 Actions approved January 2020 with funding of €340,000.	Actions ongoing with timeframe of delivery extended from June 2021 to December 2021
Healthy Tipperary Community Mental Health Fund Small Grants Scheme	8 actions approved October 2020with funding of €30,000.	Actions ongoing with timeframe for delivery extended from June 2021 to October 2021
Community Enhancement Programme	<p>2020 Covid Emergency Fund Round 1</p> <p>€81,831 scheme launched in April 2020 to assist community groups affected by the Covid 19 restrictions. All successful applicants have been paid.</p> <p>Community Enhancement Programme Round 1 €67,777 scheme launched June 2020. 151 applications where received. All successful applicants have been paid.</p> <p>Community Enhancement Programme Round 2 €188,971 scheme launched in June. 110 applications where received. All succesfull applicants have been paid.</p> <p>€10000 was set aside to support the establishment of learning hubs in 10 community centres</p> <p>2021 Covid Emergency Fund (CEF) Round 2 €59,048 was launched in December 2020. 100 applications where received. The grant drawdown deadline is 30th of Dec 2021.</p>	<p>In May 2021 close out the the CEF Round 2 Scheme</p> <p>Manage the next round of CEP in 2021. It is expected that the scheme will be launched in in Q2 of 2021.</p>

Local Community Development Committee

The LCDC meets monthly. The Committee has changed membership from the HSE with Derval Howley of CHO5 (South East) back in the committee after a period of three years. A subgroup to make a submission to the LECP Guidelines development process met a number of times. The LCDC continues to oversee key programme delivery and ensures a collaborative multi-agency approach to community investment across a board number of areas including the environment, social inclusion, community wellbeing, age initiatives, and diversity.



Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme. (SICAP)

Local Economic and Community Plan

Up to Mid April of this year, SICAP had worked with 26 Local Community Groups across the county as well as 230 individuals to support them back to work and employment. A mid year review will take place in June

Community Call

The Community and Enterprise section responded to the significant challenges and fears being faced by the older and vulnerable in the community by developing a community call service. The service initially provided a 12 hour per day (8am-8pm), 7 day a week service between April and June after which it was

reduced to an 8 hour (9am-5-pm) a day service over the 5 days (Monday to Friday) for weekends the public ring the Emergency on call line who have a script guiding their response.

Local Development Strategy

The current LDS is coming to its final stages and the LAG (Local Action Group) has performed very well obtaining top 10 in both Projects approved and claims processed.

At this point we are not required to create a new LDS and will await guidance before we begin for the next programme. We have however developed a white paper setting out a strategy that will set the County up to be able to hit the ground running in the next full LEADER Programme.

It has been indicated that the next LEADER programme will focus on:

- Community based projects that seek to address the impact of COVID 19. Support new and innovative projects in the area of Environment, climate change and the green economy.
- Maximise the potential of broadband and the digital economy in communities, promotion of skills, awareness and usage of available remote working facilities.
- Projects to develop the Smart Village Initiative or (REDZs) which may serve as proof of concept for more substantial proposals in the context of the next EU funded LEADER programme.
- Focus on areas and groups that have not to date benefitted from LEADER.
- Support to Enterprise in overcoming the challenges associated with BREXIT and COVID 19.



DRC Grant Funded Programmes

Town and Village Renewal

The summary of projects is above. The main change in 2020 is the 10% of total project cost as match funding, ordinarily this is 20% but it recognises the impact of COVID and the reduced matched funding enables groups who struggled with fund raising to realise projects and also to invest money into the local economy (counter cyclical spending to reduce the economic impact).

All projects under the 2018 scheme are very close to completion but impacted by restrictions arising from COVID 19.

The 2019 Approvals are in the early stages and some have had extensions approved already, I believe there are risks with these Community led projects as the scheme required 20% funding and their ability to fund raise is seriously affected by COVID 19.

The 2020 Accelerated Measures (3 Tranches) have been announced and are progressing with 10% matched funding.

The 2020 scheme has only been announced as per above and have progressed very little.

ORIS

The 2018 projects are all complete save the River Ara walkway in Tipperary Town this required an application to An Bord Pleanála and one of the conditions of the planning consent was that works on, in or directly adjacent to the river could not be undertaken until the End of Q2 2020. The DRCD fortunately have granted an extension until the End of October 2021.

2019 Measure 2 we have one measure 2 approved in Garrykennedy to replace a

footbridge and other improvements to a walkway.

2019 Measure 3 we had one measure 3 approved in 2019 with a grant value of €500,000. This involves work across 3 districts. Carrick, Clonmel and Tipperary work is progressing well and at this point we expect to meet the project completion deadline.

In 2020 we received approval of 2 ORIS measure 2's.

The Beara Breifine Lorrha to Portumna improvements and also the Blueway improvements at Cahir.

Clár

The 2019 Scheme we had 3 Community group approvals.

1 playground Ballingarry this has been hampered by Covid 19 in that the successful supplier was based in Northern Ireland and restrictions prohibited travel. It is expected to be completed by February 2020. It is hoped that BREXIT will not adversely affect the delivery of the project but we will continue to discuss with DRCD.

In 2020 all approvals were given to roads led projects (Road Safety measures). There were no community led schemes approved.

The 2021 Scheme has just closed for EOP's and shortlisting in preparation for submission is in progress at time of writing this report.

As restrictions lift we will be writing to all promoters with a view to updating project timelines and informing the Department who we expect will agree to extensions.

Community Enhancement Programme.

In 2020 we had 3 schemes, over 350 applications and more than €350,000 provided to community groups through out the county.

In 2021 we have had one scheme with 100 applications and nearly €60,000 going to community groups.

The DRCD has indicated that there will be another scheme in 2021 launched in Q2.

Joint Policing Committee

Due to Covid 19 there were only 3 JPC meetings in 2020. One less than usual. Meetings are by zoom and will return to face to face meeting when guidelines allow. The number of members of the JPC was increased from 31 to 32 to allow for a migrant representative. This representative will be nominated by the PPN. In July 2020 the JPC supported Borrisokane Community CCTV scheme. Also in July 2020 JPC supported the establishment of a permanent community policing unit in Tipperary.

In January 2021 Councillors and JPC members attended training provided by Property Marking Ireland. It is intended to provide this training to community groups in 5 locations through out the county in 2021.

Tipperary Age Friendly



Tipperary Age Friendly Alliance and Older Peoples Council continue to operate albeit in an online capacity and delivering actions and

complimenting actions of the Tipperary Age Friendly Strategy.

Tipperary Older Peoples Council plan to hold a full plenary of all members in June, provisional date 17th of June with webinar to showcase and prepare for ageing in respect of housing, getting our affairs in order and wellbeing as we age. Further details will follow when the webinar is formalised and speakers confirmed.

Roscrea Age Friendly Town

Roscrea Age Friendly Alliance are progressing the development of the Roscrea Age Friendly Strategy and will conduct a walkability audit when restrictions complimenting the development of the Town Plan.

Tipperary County Council are progressing the Gantly Street Age Friendly Neighbourhood which will be a flagship for Age Friendly in the County.

Age Friendly online Content

Over the coming weeks and months Tipperary Age Friendly will showcase content of relevance to older people in the county.

This calendar will include information from Tipperary Libraries, Tipperary Sports, Tipperary ETB and it will provide links to register for events and training opportunities.

The calendar will feature on our digital devices, will be available on

<https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/community-and-economic-development/tipperary-age-friendly-calendar> & also feature on www.whatsonintipp.ie/

If you would like more information or provide content to be included please email agefriendly@tipperarycoco.ie

Tipperary Bealtaine festival



Every year, Tipperary County Council Arts Office and Libraries Service together with artists and arts organisations in the county, promote and celebrate the Bealtaine festival celebrating creativity throughout our lives. The Tipperary theme of this year's Bealtaine Festival is "Give Me Shelter", echoing the fact that everyone has been cocooning at home. Covid-19 has changed the way we connect with each other and engage with culture, making technology more important than ever.

Tipperary Bealtaine festival is hosting a wonderful online programme for you to enjoy from home. If you know some-one who would enjoy our Bealtaine programme but who might like some support in accessing the online content then register for these workshops by ringing 0761 06 6448 or emailing artsoffice@tipperarycoco.ie. More information in relation to events <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/arts/tipperary-bealtaine-festival-2021>

Digital Connections Pilot Sites

Tipperary Age Friendly are working with partners on the Age Friendly Alliance are supporting and providing digital devices to older adult's groups in the county. The first rollout of pilot sites with provision of 40 units was a partnership with Tipperary PPN, South

Tipperary Development Company and North Tipperary Development Company. Additional partnerships with North Tipperary IFA, An Garda Síochána and the Keep Well Campaign have led to the provision of additional units. Groups have also been supported by the HSE lottery funds, TETB and Comic relief in the provision of devices.

This scheme sees pilot sites in County Tipperary where devices are provided within host organisations, each organisation identifies a champion to support the older adults using the device. The beneficiaries will be supported by the champion, and when it is feasible and practical do to do so they will be supported through TETB and other partners like the Library and Historical Studies, Healthy Eating Tutors which will be coordinated when the beneficiaries are identified and their interests established.

The champion at each pilot site is also engaged in a working group so that we can share best practice and offer support to each other in the rollout of the devices ensuring the end user is competent and confident in the use of the device.

Tipperary Age Friendly will continue to work with new community groups to progress digital engagement across the county. There are currently 17 groups engaged to date.

Resilience Packs - Tipperary Co Operative Campaign

The Co-Op distribution of resilience packs to older adults, funded by the Keep Well campaign, was to the local farming community and is being targeted at those not engaged in the traditional older adult community groups and those who may not

typically engage online to get their information.

The “Keep Well” campaign is aimed at showing people of all ages how we can mind our own physical and mental health and wellbeing by adding healthy and helpful habits to our daily and weekly routines.



Figure 1 Guard Maureen Finnerty at Liffey Mills Nenagh



Figure 2 Catherine Fogarty and Trisha Spillane Tipperary Coop

Within each pack there are information guides, healthy eating guidelines physical activity guides, crime prevention advice and information for supports available during these challenging times.






Reminiscing in Tipperary - “Back in my Day”

Tipperary Age Friendly Older Peoples Council are developing a project to capture stories and tales of the past, listening to the

voices of older people across County Tipperary.

Within this project we hope to capture some living history from residents in the county and we will collate this information in written, audio and video form. In this we have 5 main areas designed to capture the memories about where you went to school, memories of growing up and family activities, where you worked and the friendships and social or sporting activities that you participated in.

The 5 main areas which also include some prompt questions:

-  School and growing up
-  Family Memories and Household composition
-  Work and work life
-  Relationships, Marriage, Friendships
-  Traditions Sayings and pastimes

This has been circulated by post to over 80 groups in the county and also promoted through Tipperary PPN. The project will be showcased in May and will conclude with publication in September

Dementia Awareness



Funded by Healthy Ireland the Dementia Awareness Project, commenced with online Learn Listen Link training in Thurles MD. We have held a workshop with the Councillors in February and we will focus the next training in the Clonmel Borough District in April. This training is delivered by the Alzheimer Society of Ireland’s Moodle Workplace site.

Training will also be provided to frontline staff in the local authority, specific workshop with Tipperary GAA and also offered to Local Link.

Nursing Home and Preschool Project

Tipperary Age Friendly, in partnership with Tipperary Libraries and funded by Keep Well campaign we matched 5 Nursing Homes and 5 Preschools in the county to commence on an intergenerational project through storytelling and use of technology.

Tipperary Bealtaine festival



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Migrant Integration

The consultation process has commenced for the development of the Co Tipperary Migrants Integration Strategy 2021-2024. The Consultation process consists of an online questionnaire as well as focus groups with Direct Provision Centres, The Syrian Resettlements programme, through the Family Resource Centres as well as through distinct cultural groups within the county for example the Kerala (Indian) community Nenagh, the Tipperary Cultural Centre Islamic Group and the Pakistani and Filipino Community. Links will also be made through the hospitals, the equine industry, meat processing and pharma- all of which are significant employers of non-Irish national within the county.

Survey of Migrants and Foreign-Born Nationals in County Tipperary



Tipperary Local Community Development Committee along with other partners are preparing a three-year plan to promote integration of foreign-born nationals who live in Co Tipperary. The purpose of this is to make Tipperary a more welcoming and inclusive place, to deliver services in a way that caters for all cultures and to eliminate all forms of discrimination and intolerance.

To gather the information for this, we have designed a survey which can be found on the website of Tipperary County Council. The survey will ask about your experience of living in Ireland to help us to make changes so that we can support you in creating a better life.

The link to the survey is
<http://www.tipperarycoco.ie/multicultural-survey>

The survey can be translated with Google translate. We would appreciate it if you take a few minutes to fill it out. Deadline - May 24th 2021

All responses are confidential but you can leave your name if you would like to be provided with the research outcomes and some of the projects associated with it.

Disability Awareness

The County Tipperary Disability Action Plan is to finalised as soon as possible in Q2.

Tipperary County Council is supporting work from by the HSE (CHO 5) in securing funding for a pilot project on a Smart Accessible Parking System for drivers with a disability parking permit.



Comhairle Na Nóg

Clonmel subgroup are linking with the Planning Department to assist with the County Development Plan. One member of the clonmel subgroup in part of the Natinal Office group expert on the new climate bill In Tipp/Cashel/Cahir the subgroup are working with the HSE to assist in a peer education training on disability that can be rolled out in schools and community groups, this is part of their theme on tackling discrimination.

Nenagh group are working on strengthening a support group for LGBTQi in North Tipperary area and a member of the subgroup is chosen to be part of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Carrick subgroup are working with Bridgwater House to raise awareness locally to combat racism, there is a calendar of events for the year planned.

The Thurles/Templemore continue to work on Mental Health through involvement with NTMHW and Jigsaw.

They are asking to be considered to have a place on the Youth Advisory Committee of Jigsaw and to guarantee a formal link between CNN and Jigsaw.

Training and upskilling of members is ongoing at the moment on areas such as PR skills & podcasting.

Over Easter holidays a huge engagement in consultations were carried out, with CYPSC, Jigsaw, Irish Aid consultation, on young people and physical health.

Meetings continue to be online and this has been problematic in pockets of the county for connectivity.

Since the AGM the stress of exams, a language barrier and the current unknown for young people has led to two deciding to resign from the group.

The steering group for CNN has been revitalised with new members that can assist with curren themes and a update of the Terms Of Reference.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

Tipperary PPN continues to provide information to community groups, advice of training and grant opportunities and seek representation from the membership for structures within the county.

It has concluded a comprehensive training campaign supporting community groups to get online and will facilitate further training over the coming months.

The PPN will hold a plenary meeting on 27th of April.

Healthy Ireland

Tipperary LCDC and Tipperary CYPSC are currently administering a joint application for Round 3 Healthy Ireland funding which has 12 actions over two years with a particular emphasis on Community Mental Health. This round of funding has been extended until December 2021. Funding of €374,100 has been received. Within this there is an opportunity for local, community and voluntary groups to apply for funding up to €5,000 with €30,000 being available to administer in this fund. Application process was held in September with actions to be now extended to October 2021.

Keep Well

Tipperary County Council report to the LGMA and the DHLGH on weekly basis providing metrics on Keep Well and Community Call activities.

In this Together

A newsletter is produced fortnightly, by the HSE & Tipperary County Council and is circulated via email and placed on the website www.tipperarycoco.ie and www.ppntipperary.ie.



Pride of Place

Categories have been announced for the 2021 Pride of Place competition with the deadline for entries being May 2021. Judging will take place over the summer 2021.

Play and Recreation & Playgrounds

Play and Recreation grant was applied for playgrounds refurbishment and upgrades for Templemore and Newcastle.

The Annual Inspections are planned for June and two further playgrounds are interested in joining the Maintenance agreement with the council.

Suicide Prevention & Mental Health

A new group to look at Mental Health Proactive support across the county has been

formed- the group- Tipperary Mental Health Network is made up of members from STAN- South Tipperary Area Network and North Tipperary Mental Health Week Committee. The group have made an application to the Arts Grants and have been successfully awarded €5000 for Mental Health Week in October. The plan is to have online events as well other events with some targeting of schools.

After a review of the Connecting For Life Mid-West 2017-2020 Action Plan, a ongoing restructuring of the implementation group has commenced with a view to streamlining it to be more affective in the delivery of its actions.

Children and Young People Services Committee

The main purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committee is to improve inter-agency cooperation and collaboration for better outcomes for children and young people with working groups established and in operation for each of the 5 outcomes. Tipperary CYPSC will deliver on the Minding your Mood element of the Keep Well campaign targeting the 0 to 24 age cohort.

Tipperary CYPSC launched its own website in Q1 2021 which is a signpost for service and supports in County Tipperary

<https://www.tipperarychildrenandyoungpeoplelesservices.ie>

Jigsaw

Fit out works on our new premises in Thurles Technology Park underway. Induction of new team underway and begin to set up the service, making use of some temporary office space nearby.

On 6th April, Jigsaw hosted a lively and engaging consultation session with a group of young people from various parts of County Tipperary. In the coming months, Jigsaw will be establishing an advisory panel of young people in Tipperary (as we do in all our service locations) so that we keep young people's voices at the centre of our planning and development of the service into the future.

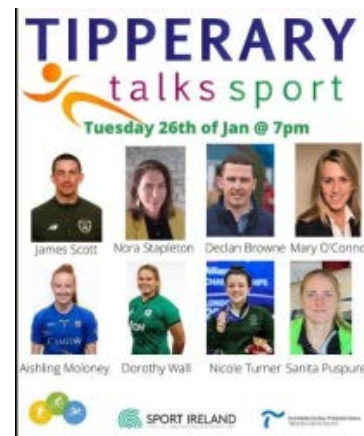
Sports Partnership

Tipperary Sports Partnership is currently implementing its 2021 Operational Plan. TSP successfully secured over €430,000 for sports and physical activities in the County to date in 2021. It continues to be a difficult time for the delivery of activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, TSP adapted many of its activities and its delivery methods with many programme now delivered online and virtually. A number of programmes are currently postponed due to Covid-19.

TSP is working closely with Tipperary County Council on the 'In This Together' and 'Keep Well' campaigns.

Tipperary Sports Partnership Funding Scheme is currently accepting applications online up until the 27th May. Details are available on www.tipperarysports.ie

In January, TSP held its first webinar which focused on women in sport which was a resounding success. Over 400 people tuned in to hear Evanne NiCuillinn speak with Dorothy Wall, Sanita Puspure, Nicole Turner, Aisling Moloney, James Scott, Declan Browne, Nora Stapleton and Mary O'Connor.



In partnership with LIT completed the delivery of its Special Purpose Award in Club Administration 'Running Sport Clubs' in March.

A 4 week Club Support Package was delivered virtually in February/March which covered Nutrition, Strength & Conditioning, Physical Literacy and Autism in Sport.

Work is continuing on the 'Innovation Project – Suir V' in partnership with LIT, Canoeing Ireland and Clonmel Canoe Club to develop a canoeing Virtual Experience on the Suir Blueway.

A Couch to 3k 6 week Podcast was developed and is available to be downloaded on www.tipperarysports.ie

6 Virtual Exercise programmes were delivered which included – Two Rise & Shine Yoga initiatives for women; 1 Women's Cardio Kick programme; 2 x Mens Fitness programmes; 1 Exercise programme for Older Adults along with an exercise programme with the IWA and a Movement for All programme for Disability Services.



The Wibbly Wobbly Balance Bike Programme has recommenced in 6 Preschool settings.

5 Safeguarding 1 and 1 Safeguarding 2 workshops have been delivered to date.

Currently, TSP is working with FAI in supporting a Women Only Coaching Course.

Orienteering was promoted including the promotion of the newly mapped areas in the County along with other outdoor activities such as walking and cycling. A new Walking App is currently been promoted with Sport Ireland & Get Ireland Walking.

A 21 Day Walking Challenge was facilitated with 75 young people from 3 CTIs.

Schools Paddles Up Canoeing Programme is currently been rolled out with 4 Secondary Schools on the Suir Blueway.

A Sports Capital Information Workshop was delivered to support club applying for funding. 2 Applications were submitted for TCC for outdoor equipment in Tipperary Town and Cahir.

TSP, TCC and the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre are currently commencing work on the development of a new Community Sports

Hub in Tipperary Town. A Sports Hub Co-ordinator has been appointed.

A Tik Tok Challenge is currently running targeting young people to be active with Daly Cronin from Dancing with the Stars.



A newsletter was distributed in January.

FAI

Club Development

The **FAI Club Mark** is an award based on best practice in the governance, management, and administration of a football club. Clubs start their journey at Entry Level and can progress on to become a 1-star club. Each step challenges the club to implement policies and procedures in line with best practice.

The aim of the FAI Club Mark:

- Establish minimum operating criteria for football clubs
- Provide clubs with a road map to good governance, management, and administration
- Support clubs on their Journey



- Reward clubs for achieving and maintaining high standards
- Provide recognition to clubs for their commitment and achievements
- Increase club's capacity to operate effectively and grow football in communities throughout Ireland.

Lough Derg FC, Cahir Park, Two Mile Borris/St Kevin's and Carrick United have all received the FAI Club Mark.

After consultation with clubs through emails & calls the following clubs have all applied and are currently in the process, Newport Town AFC, Peake Villa, Moneygall FC, Killavilla United AFC, Tipperary Town FC, Galbally United, Killenaule/Moyglass.

Zoom calls were also arranged with clubs to give some more information around the advantages of the Club Mark and outline the steps in the process and how we as Development Officers can assist.

Throughout the process we are in constant communication with clubs via calls/emails & video calls

Sports Capital Grant

In 2021 the FAI put a bigger emphasis on the application process for the Sports Capital Grant to assist more clubs to apply and help with support and information.

A series of webinars were organised for clubs to assist with the application process and creating a support network for clubs.

PDP Coaches Workshop

Workshop completed with Killenaule/Moyglass & Cahir Park AFC based around knowledge of the small, sided games and a return to social distancing training.

Women's/Girls Football

Girls Football continues to grow with almost 25 clubs throughout the county having girl's football within their club structures.

Meeting with Tipperary Women's League to discuss plans and structures for 2021.

Coach Education

Due to Covid 19 and the restrictions we have been delivering courses online through Zoom.

3 x PDP1 (65 participants)

4 x PDP2 (68 participants)

Safeguarding

5 x Safeguarding 1 (76 participants)

3 x Safeguarding 2 Children's Officer (55 participants)

3 x Safeguarding 3 Designated Liaison Officer (60 participants)

Environment & Climate Action Directorate

Public Awareness

The Environment & Climate Action Section has delivered a number of public awareness / engagement initiatives.

1. Press Release – to acknowledge contributions made by Communities

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary GAA joining forces to promote a cleaner and more sustainable county



Cllr. Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach, Joe MacGrath, CE and Tipperary Hurling Manager Liam Sheedy united to thank the people of Tipperary for their continued support in driving Tipperary towards a cleaner, greener and more sustainable county. A press release was issued in recognition of the important role that communities play in relation to protecting our environment and to thank groups for the valued contribution they make to our natural environment, biodiversity, streetscapes, amenities, litter control and landscaping in our villages and towns.

2. National Spring Clean 2021

During the month of April, the National Spring Clean took place with restrictions, due to Covid-19. Despite this, 380 Community Groups registered and took part in clean ups throughout the county. Supports provided by the Council included the distribution of packs comprising of litter pickers, bags and gloves to communities. Rubbish collected was disposed of at Civic Amenity Sites.



3. Distribution of trees/packs of wildflower seeds

Trees on the land Project

The Trees on the Land project is a cross-border initiative, working to establish young native trees across the 32 counties of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Environment & Climate Action Section and Water Services Staff collaborated to distribute native trees to Tidy Towns Groups, Community Groups and Group Water Schemes throughout Tipperary. A total of 3,487 trees were allocated to 36 groups under this project.



Tipperary County Council staff distributing trees.

National Tree Month

In conjunction with the National Tree Council of Ireland, a further 1,200 trees were distributed to 120 groups within the county (Tidy Towns, Schools, Community Groups etc) for National Tree Month held in March. 156 wildflower packs were also distributed to assist our pollinators.



Mary Plunkett, Ballingarry ICA and Clare O'Sullivan, Rathkeevan National School collecting their trees and pack of wildflower seeds at Cahir Depot.



Pauline O'Connell, Resident, Cahir with Anne Marie Clifford.



Members of Tidy Towns and Community Groups at Nenagh Recycling Centre on 23rd March, collecting trees and wildflowers packs.

4. Anti-Dog Fouling Campaigns

Hi-Vis jackets Campaign

A campaign to raise awareness of dog fouling was piloted in Thurles and Tipperary Town. 100 Hi-Vis jackets, which included the text “My dog supports a clean environment – Keep Tipp Tidy” were distributed through Supervalu stores last March. Due to the success of this campaign, it is being extend and a further 500 Hi-Vis jackets will be made available in local Supervalu stores in Carrick-On-Suir, Clonmel and in Centra, Nenagh.



Staff of Tipperary County Council and Supervalu Thurles, working together to curb dog fouling.

Anti-Dog fouling Social Media Campaign

The Section is collaborating with Clare County Council, Cork County Councils and Limerick City & County Council on a new social media campaign to combat dog fouling. The purpose of the social media campaign is to raise awareness with dog owners of the importance of taking personal responsibility and cleaning up after their dog. This initiative will take place from 28th April to the 3rd May and aims to address the scourge of dog fouling on our streets, footpaths, greens and other public spaces.



#RightBite #LoveYourDog #OwnersPickUp

5. Household Waste Pre-Tenancy Training



The section continued to work collectively with the Housing Section to advise new households of their responsibilities regarding household waste management. Pre-Tenancy training was carried out, by telephone with 38 tenants and information packs were provided, which included information about civic amenity site services, recycling and ways of reducing food waste.

6. Biodiversity Workshop

The Environment and Climate Action Section in partnership with Aoife Munn will be delivering a 5 week, online Sustainable Gardening Course targeting Green Schools Coordinators, Tidy Towns and Residents Groups, working within the county to improve their areas for biodiversity.

This 5-week course will be held by Zoom in June. The aim is to enable community groups to effectively improve their area for wildlife, increase pride of place and reduce pollution. Among the topics to be covered are pesticides and waste reduction, methods of creating wildflower meadows, bulbs and trees, grow your own veg, bio scaping and compost heaps. By teaching a practical class on how to take cuttings, how to identify what creatures live in the area and what plants most benefit wildlife, we can enable groups to improve their local areas with a limited budget. Course places are limited and are currently available through Eventbrite.





Community Services

Dogs

There were 1,942 Dog Licences purchased during this period. 44 dogs were impounded, with 2 rehomed, 8 reclaimed and 21 to Animal Rescues.

Horses

The number of horse queries processed to date is 17, with 12 horses seized.

Abattoirs

	<u>Bovine</u>	<u>Ovine</u>	<u>Porcine</u>	<u>Caprine</u>	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Abattoir Visits</u>
Total	365	1521	10	2	84	137

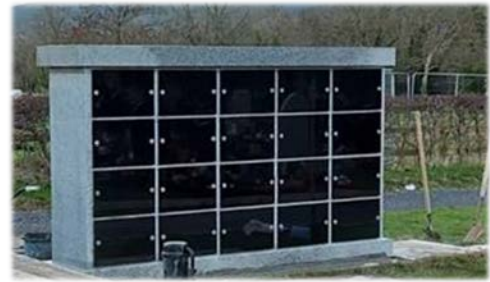
Infrastructure

Burial Ground	Progress update
Ballina (Boher)	Part 8 planning permission was granted. The construction drawings and pricing document is currently being completed by consultants.
Fethard	Land Acquisition is at an advanced stage. Part 8 drawings have commenced.
Cahir	Cahir parish is progressing the development of the burial ground. Technical assistance is being provided by the Environment & Climate Action Section.
Cloughprior	National monuments were consulted on the development of the Burial Ground Extension. Negotiations have commenced with Landowner. Hydro-geological Assessment is substantially completed.
Carrick on Suir	Preliminary Hydro-geological Assessment is completed. Negotiations have commenced with landowner prior to commencing with full Hydro-geological 12 Month Assessment.
Shanrahan Burial Ground	Burial ground works are completed, land acquisition additional works to be completed.
Kilmore Burial Ground	Land acquisition is completed. Boundary treatment works to be completed in 2021.
Tipperary Town	Tipperary town burial grounds upgrade access/egress and provision of additional parking to be carried out in conjunction with NRA Roads Scheme Project.
Thurles (St Patricks)	Resurfacing of access roads has commenced, works to be completed in 2021.
Borrisoleigh	Removal of overgrown boundary, works to be completed in 2021.

A presentation on the Columbarium Wall installed in St Patrick’s Clonmel was given at the Environment & Climate Action SPC meeting held on the 22nd March. The Clonmel Borough District Members were also updated.

The costs are as follows:

- Purchase of double Niche (including inurnment of 1st urn and 1st inscription on plaque (Niche door) - €1,000
- 2nd Inurnment & 2nd engraving on plaque - €380
- Other maintenance works:
 - Opening & closing for maintenance / other - €100
 - Niche tablet (door) replacement - €100



New Columbarium, Clonmel

Civic Amenity Sites

41,412 customers have used the Civic Amenities to date in 2021.

Waller’s-Lot	9,062
Carrigeen	9,706
Nenagh	9,496
Roscrea	8,271
Donohill	4,877

The Civic Amenity Sites are continuing to show very strong growth, with an increasing number of customers using the facilities. Indications show that the record number of customers who used the facility in 2020 is being surpassed this year, with an increase of 6, 519 customers or 18% in the first 4 months of 2021.

An application to fund a mattress amnesty event at the 5 Civic Amenity Sites has been made to the Department under the Anti-Dumping Initiative.

It is also planned to continue to support Tipperary Rotary Club with their hugely successful Bicycles to Africa project and discussions in this regard have already commenced. It is proposed to continue with the assessment and installation of a grey water collection system at all sites. This will greatly reduce the amount of treated water used at the facilities.

Derelict Sites

The section continues to engage with owners in relation to their properties, to try to prevent the need for a property to be placed on the Derelict Site Register. To date, works have been completed on 11 derelict properties, rendering them no longer derelict, whilst further works are on hold due to the current Government restrictions.

Landfills

	LANDFILLS
Tipperary – Cashel - Cahir	Donohill
	Civic Amenity Site is open and remained fully operational throughout this Covid-19 crisis. The monitoring of the landfill in compliance with its waste licence conditions is ongoing.
Nenagh	Ballaghveny
	The intensive groundwater monitoring programme commenced in September 2019 and is continuing until September 2021. The monitoring of the landfill in compliance with its waste licence conditions is ongoing.
	Ballaghveny landfill enabling works are continuing since the middle of July 2020 and are expected to be complete by July 2021.
	Historic Landfills
Tipperary – Cashel – Cahir	Landfill remediation detailed design and ecological surveys are ongoing in preparation of application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent.
Tipperary – Cashel – Cahir	Preparation of Tier 2 & Tier 3 Environmental Risk Assessments (ERA) at four historic closed landfill sites at Dundrum and Knocklofty are ongoing.
Thurles – Templemore	Preparation of Tier 2 & Tier 3 Environmental Risk Assessments (ERA) at four historic closed landfill sites at Brittasroad and Monanearla are ongoing.
Carrick-On-Suir	Consultant appointed to carry out the landfill remediation design and ecological surveys are to be completed in preparation of NIS for submission to the EPA and ABP.

Waste Management and Enforcement

Glass, Cans & Textile Recycling

2021 is continuing to be a challenging year in terms of glass and can collection due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The first quarter of 2021 saw an increase of approximately 22% in glass and cans collected at our bring sites, compared to the first quarter of 2020 (Pre-Covid). To date 1,030.50 tonnes of glass has been collected compared to 847.92 in the first quarter of 2020. Cans have seen a similar trend, increasing from 33.75 tonnes in the first quarter of 2020 to 39.53 tonnes in 2021.



117.94 tonnes of textiles was collected in the county thus far in 2021. Ten illegal clothes banks have been identified and removed from sites around the county, two of which were released back to the owners, following payment of a handling fee to Tipperary County Council.

Waste Authorizations

Certificates of Registration	1 Received, 3 invalid, 1 under review
Waste Facility Permits	1 Technical Amendment received – under review 1 New application received – pending decision



Household Waste Inspections

Surveys were carried out on 26 households, by correspondence due to Covid-19 restrictions. 21 households were compliant and 5 were requested to provide evidence to demonstrate compliance.

Litter Fines	Fines Issued	Cancelled	Paid	Outstanding	Legal Proceedings
	67	5	30	32	0

Enforcement Legal Proceedings

A Litter Fine prosecution case that was brought to the Circuit Court, was due to be heard on the 13th April but was deferred to June 29th.

The council was successful in prosecuting for illegal dumping on the 20th April at the Thurles District Court. The perpetrator was convicted and costs awarded of €2,500, with an additional penalty of €150. The case involved illegal dumping and stockpiling of waste at a private house. 10.6 tonnes of waste were removed from the property and investigation and clean-up costs awarded in court.

Anti-Dumping Initiative 2021

The Department issued a Circular in relation to the 2021 Anti-Dumping Initiative, calling for projects which target waste prevention, abatement and enforcement.

12 applications were completed, in accordance with the application criteria, comprising of an average of 2 projects per Municipal District (MD) and 3 county-wide projects including; Mattress Amnesty, Signage & Audio Promoters and Bikes for Africa. The total value of these 12 projects, which have been submitted to the Department for consideration is €145,000 approx.

Waste Enforcements

Section 14 Directions	4 Directions Issued
Section 55 Notices	3 Notices Issued
Prosecutions	18 Cases Recommended for Prosecution

Additional Enforcements:

The Section carried out a joint investigation with An Garda Síochána in relation to the illegal disposal of Septic Tank Waste. The offender was arrested and detained for questioning and the case is currently being prepared for the DPP by An Garda Síochána

Climate & Energy

The Climate and Energy Committee met on the 3rd March and updates were given by the TEA and various sections of Tipperary County Council involved in energy & climate action projects. A presentation was made on the Active Travel programme by the Roads Section.

The Annual Energy Action Plan for 2021 and the Strategic Energy Action Plan 2020-2030 were agreed, these Plans aim to increase our energy efficiency targets and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

The National Climate Action Plan 2021, which is due to be published in June, is currently open for public consultation until mid-May.

Local Authorities will also commit to a Climate Action Charter and a strategy document “Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030”, which outlines how the sector will achieve its climate change targets.

Energy Audits are progressing at various Council sites and an Energy Management Information System has been installed in 15 buildings, which have the highest energy usage. TEA will analyse the data generated and will make recommendations on changes to optimise energy usage.

Environmental Protection





Air Pollution

Air Quality information can be viewed at www.airquality.ie. The current status of air in all towns monitored is rated as “Good” and is compliant with The CAFE Directive. Data from a traffic emission studies undertaken in Thurles and Tipperary Town, is currently being collated for reporting and will be published by the EPA. 34 Air and Noise complaints have been investigated from January to April 2021.

Water Pollution /Agriculture

Activities undertaken in this area to date include:

- 235 River samples taken as part of the WFD sampling program.
- 41 water pollution incident complaints were responded to and corrective actions implemented.
- 25 Farm inspections were completed.
- 4 Section 12 Notices have been issued to prevent water pollution.
- 15 Nutrient Management Plans have submitted and assessed.

Planning Referrals

51 Environmental Reports on Planning application were submitted to the Planning Section to ensure potential environment impacts of proposed developments are identified and mitigated at planning stage.

Projects Planned

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



Open/Closed Complaints 01st January – 30th April 2021

Complaint Description	Tipperary/Cahir /Cashel		Thurles		Nenagh		Clonmel		Carrick-on Suir	
	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed
Air	3	5	3	6	3	3	9	14	11	4
Burial Grounds	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derelict Sites	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Dog Control	4	21	3	4	4	66	1	24	1	8
Litter	35	125	37	109	12	123	12	57	12	71
Noise	1	4	2	0	1	1	5	2	2	0
Veterinary	1	3	0	8	0	3	2	2	0	4
Waste Enforcement	2	6	2	3	2	7	3	5	1	4
Water	10	6	4	1	3	6	3	3	1	3
Complaints Open	57		51		25		35		29	
Complaints Closed		171		132		210		107		94
Total Received		228		183		235		142		123



WATER SERVICES DIRECTORATE

IRISH WATER INVESTMENT PLAN 2020-2024:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Irish Water Infrastructure Projects for County Tipperary:

B. Schemes at Pre-Construction/Design	Contract Name	Current Scheme Status
Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme (Water Abstraction, Water Treatment Plant and Pipelines)	Clonmel Town and Rural Water Supply Scheme – Water Intake Works, Water Treatment Plant, Reservoirs and Pipelines (Design Build Operate (DBO) Contract)	<p>Nicholas O’Dwyer Limited Engineering Consultant.</p> <p>The main scheme is currently delayed due to issues with awaited abstraction licence legislation.</p> <p>Irish Water is to progress an alternative project involving increasing the supply from the Monroe wellfield into Clonmel. Further details were outlined at the workshop for the elected members, Clonmel Borough District, on 21 April 2021.</p>
Roscrea Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by end 2021.
Thurles Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by end 2021.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme (Design Build Operate (DBO) 1 year operate, operate starts once contract signed)	Wastewater Treatment Plant and Network Upgrade	Irish Water appointed EPS Contractor/Consultant. Planning application documents and EIS estimated to be submitted in Q1 2022. Estimated to start construction in late 2022/early 2023.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	ARUP Engineering Consultants completed Draft Drainage Area Plan and model for Irish Water. Irish Water to review.
Ballina Wastewater Treatment	Wastewater Treatment Plant	RPS Engineering Consultant



Plant	Upgrade	progressing with full design. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning Application submitted on 13 April 2021. Estimated to start construction in Q3 2022.
Newport Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Grant of permission for upgrade works issued on 09 March 2021. Estimated to start construction in mid 2022.
Tipperary Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning Application estimated to be submitted in Q2 2021. No construction works until 2025.
Fethard Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning Application estimated to be submitted in Q4 2021. Estimated to start construction in late 2022.
Cahir Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Planning Application submitted on 29 March 2021. Estimated to start construction in late 2022.

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

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

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

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

The programme addresses issues such as:

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

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

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

(A) NETWORKS PORTFOLIO DELIVERY (WATER):

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

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

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

(1) Watermains Rehabilitation Works:

- 1) Proposed 2021 works: Ardfinnan (1km); Mount Carmel and St. Anne's Terrace, Ardfinnan (0.2km); Davis Road, Clonmel (0.48km); Kilfeacle to Thomastown (0.8km); and Templetuohy (0.15km), Carrick on Suir N24 rehabilitation works (0.6km of various pipe sizes at junctions).
- 2) Back Yard Services replacement ongoing at Tipperary:

The project began with Phase 1 works to replace 220 number lead shared services in the following locations: Marian Terrace, Saint Michael's Avenue, Cashel Road, O'Connell



Road, Dillon Street, Saint Patrick's Avenue and Dawson Villas. This phase of works is the first to be approved of the planned 3 phases which, subject to Irish Water approval, aim to progress the removal of almost 1,000 back yard lead services from the water supply in Tipperary.

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

- 3) Back yard services replacement (32 no.) in Mount Carmel and St. Anne's Terrace, Ardfinnan to start in 2021.
- 4) First Fix programme is ongoing. By email, dated 22 April 2021, Irish Water notified the elected members of changes to the programme, including a widening of eligibility criteria.

(2) National Disinfection Programme:

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

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

The Disinfection Programme will be carried out in 2 phases:

Phase 1: Water Treatment Plant Assessment:

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

Phase 2: Necessary Upgrade Works:

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

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



- (i) Works ongoing at Lingaun Coalbrook, Cordangan, Crotty's Lake and Stooke.
- (ii) Design ongoing at Hollyford, Dualla, Riverstown, Lorrha, Coolbawn (Nenagh), Newport and Borrisokane.

(B) NETWORKS PORTFOLIO DELIVERY (WASTEWATER):

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

No start date has been indicated by Irish Water.

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

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

Irish Water has procured EPS to assess a number of wastewater treatment plant sites to assess the provision of new inlet works, storm tank, sludge treatment (or combination of these) to improve plant operation. The sites identified are Newtown, Puckane, Portroe, Dromineer and Borrisokane. A preliminary design review is ongoing. The provision of any identified works may require a prior grant of permission from Tipperary County Council as planning authority.

(2) Flow Monitoring and Sampling Programme:

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

(3) Provision of Chemical Bulk Storage Tanks:

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

(4) Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme:

Under the Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme, the wastewater treatment plant at Carrick Street, Mullinahone was identified for improvement works. to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant, to include construction of inlet works, new process units and below ground storage tanks, landscaping and associated ancillary works including new below ground pump chambers and pipework. The population equivalent of the agglomeration of Mullinahone is 608. Consequently, it is in receipt of a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency. The above works are substantially complete.

(5) National Certificate of Authorisation Programme:

Wastewater treatment plants which serve an agglomeration where the population equivalent is less than 500 are in receipt of a Certificate of Authorisation from the Environmental Protection



Agency as the environmental regulator. Those plants serving a population equivalent in excess of this threshold are in receipt of a licence from the environmental regulator.

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

(6) Wastewater Pumping Station Programme:

Consultants appointed by IW are currently assessing a number of wastewater pumping stations to improve pumping station operations. The consultants have produced draft concept design reports for pumping stations at Borrisokane Park; Riverstown, Birr; Murroe Road, Newport; Riverside, Ballina; and Killenure, Knockavilla. These will be reviewed at Irish Water workshops.

CONCLUSION:

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

IRISH WATER NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES PLAN:

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

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

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

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

The NWRP will:

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



A 10-week public consultation sought feedback on the Irish Water NWRP Draft Framework Plan and associated environmental reports was completed on 12 March 2021. Following this consultation period Irish Water will finalise and adopt the Framework Plan and commence the Phase 2 development of four Regional Water Resources Plans which will set out the options to address identified needs across all of Irish Water's supplies. Irish Water will be again seeking the public's views as each of the Regional Plans will be subject to public consultation. In this respect, further engagement with Tipperary County Council will take place.

The reports can be viewed online and downloaded at www.water.ie/nwrp.

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

IRISH WATER SMALL TOWNS AND VILLAGES PROGRAMME:

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

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

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

Final decisions on which projects progress will be made by Irish Water. At that stage, Tipperary County Council will be notified of the successful project(s) which will then be progressed as per Irish Water's capital investment delivery processes. It is anticipated that Tipperary County Council will be notified of successful projects on a staggered basis from Q2 2021 as project details are agreed.

NON-DOMESTIC WATER CHARGES:

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

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



The new non-domestic charges were to take effect on 01 May 2020 but have been deferred. The CRU, in conjunction with the then Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and Irish Water, announced on 31 March 2020 that they had agreed to approve Irish Water's proposals to defer the implementation of the new non-domestic tariff framework for business customers, in recognition of the potential financial difficulty for non-domestic customers over the coming months. In 02 November 2020 the CRU announced a revised date of 01 May 2021 for the new set of national water and wastewater business charges to come into effect.

The CRU website states: *The CRU felt that any further delays would limit the positive benefit to smaller business customers who will experience a bill decrease under the new arrangements. The new tariffs encourage water conservation and will mean lower bills for many businesses forced to use less water due to COVID-19 restrictions, as the new tariffs will lead to bills that better reflect their reduced water consumption.*

On 10 March 2021 the CRU announced a further revised date of 01 October 2021 for the new charges to come into effect.

COUNCIL WORKSHOP WITH IRISH WATER:

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

A series of workshops, conducted on a District basis, took place during the period from 28 September 2020 to 06 October 2020, with remote connection by representatives from Irish Water and the facility for remote connection by the elected members also.

A similar series of workshops, conducted by Zoom on a District basis, was recently carried out in the period 15 April 2021 to 29 April 2021.

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME:

The Rural Water Programme principally covers the following:

- (i) group water schemes; and
- (ii) group sewerage schemes, the provision of which requires the active participation of the householders concerned.

The focus of the Rural Water Programme for 2021 in respect of group water schemes is to address remaining inadequacies in the quality of drinking water so as to ensure compliance with the priorities set down in the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014, as amended, through:

- (i) the provision of treatment and disinfection facilities;
- (ii) source protection measures; and
- (iii) the rehabilitation and upgrade of distribution systems.

The unprecedented national circumstances occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic paused much of the civil works activity with the result that progress has been slow. With social distancing requirements it has been impossible to hold meetings required for the scheme

amalgamation and rationalisation process. A number of group water schemes are meeting digitally; however, it is a challenge.

Progress on the above programme of work was reviewed by the Rural Water Committee at its meeting at Civic Offices, Nenagh, on 21 October 2020, with some members in attendance by remote connection. The meeting scheduled for 12 January 2021 was postponed and it is anticipated that the meeting will be held, by Zoom, on 05 May 2021.

Capital Grants for Group Water Schemes:

Tipperary's average annual investment via capital grant is €500,000 with capital grant payments at €528,047.35 as at 31 December 2020.

The Rural Water Team within Water Services recognises the commitment of the group water scheme sector in progressing capital projects to the extent of this expenditure, given the difficulties arising from having to comply with public health measures, such as construction work paused and difficulties encountered meeting group water schemes, and engineering and other personnel involved in driving these projects.

Some of the projects underway are

- Gurteenakilla-Plunkett Street Group Water Scheme: attending to Chlorine contact and finalising metering, April/May 2021;
- Ardcroney-Frolic-Luska Group Water Scheme: new source under investigation;
- Kilcoran and New Burgess Group Water Schemes have completed their metering exercise; and
- Rahealty-Clobanna Group Water Scheme: civil works contract completed and attending to snag list works April 2021.



Ardcroney GWS New Source - the red "dot".

Consulting Engineer's Report: Brief, Maps and Appendices with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) for review prior to publishing on eTenders website. This will begin the process to procure the services of a consulting engineer in relation to a process of amalgamation and rationalisation of group water schemes in County Tipperary:

Phase 1: Preliminary Report; and

Phase 2: Design and Contracts.

27 Group Water Schemes have returned statements noting their agreement to become involved, with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Water Services anticipates a response from the DHLGH shortly.

It is expected that the DHLGH will invite Tipperary County Council to gather projects for consideration under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2024 in Q3 2021. Requests for watermain improvement funding must be accompanied by supporting documentation (step testing, analysis of unaccounted for water (UFW) and display that one is addressing the point where most water is being lost as distinct from the area with most leakage points).



Figure 1 Frost and water pipe network
March 2021

Annual Maintenance Subsidy for Group Water Schemes:

Annual Maintenance Subsidy (AMS) payments, in 2020 amounted to €580,175.54 distributed over 69 group water schemes. This is the first year Tipperary County Council has had an application for Advance Annual Maintenance Subsidy, payment of which (€4,365) is included in the total payments. An Advance AMS can be paid where a group water scheme is experiencing financial issues. It is calculated at 70% of the previous year's AMS. The invitation to apply for AMS was posted to 72 group water schemes on 26 January 2021.

The Rural Water Team within Water Services continues to work with all group water schemes and with the National Federation of Group Water Schemes to ensure that schemes' reliance on this Advance AMS is minimised.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the Rural Water Team within Water Services has been in contact with group water schemes accepting electronic submissions and responding electronically where possible. Group water schemes are allowed to submit claims despite being unable to hold an annual general meeting and where it has not been possible to present audited accounts to members at an annual general meeting. Such schemes are to ensure that, at the earliest opportunity, annual general meetings and presentations take place. This year the DHLGH has set a closing date of 01 October 2021 for receipt of recoupment claims from Tipperary County Council. Requests for payments to group water schemes after that date cannot be recouped until 2022.

Alia:

The Rural Water Programme also covers the following grant schemes and expenditure on these grants is recoupable from the DHLGH:

- (a) grants payable pursuant to the Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 for the provision or necessary improvement of an individual water supply to a house (known as well grants);
- (b) grants payable pursuant to the Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2013, which Regulations have been superseded by the:
 - (i) the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020;
 - (ii) the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for Prioritised Areas for Action) Regulations 2020; and
 - (iii) the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for High Status Objective Catchment Areas) Regulations 2020(known as septic tank grants);

and

- (c) grants payable pursuant to the Domestic Lead Remediation (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2016 (known as lead piping grants).

It should be noted that the assessment of the applications under the grant schemes at (b) above, including site inspections, are carried out by the Environment and Climate Action Section.

Further details on these schemes follow:

Revised Private Well Grant:

A revised Private Well Grant Scheme is now in place and operating from 05 June 2020.

Conditions are largely unchanged and the Scheme is still demand-led. The Scheme has an appeal system built into it. There are 3 headings under which an application may be made:

Treatment: installing an ultra-violet (UV) system, pre-filter system, iron or manganese, etc. filter:
100% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000.

Upgrade: new pump, pressure vessel, structure and electrics of pump house:
85% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €3,000.

New source: drilling, dressing, sealing well head:
85% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €5,000.

An applicant can apply under any of these headings or combinations as follows:

Treatment and Upgrade **or** Treatment and New Source.

An applicant **cannot** apply for both New Source and Upgrade.

On 15 January, 2021, the DHLGH introduced a cut-off date of 30 March 2021 in respect of the former private well grant scheme. An extension to this date was sought by the Rural Water Team. On 24 March 2021 the DHLGH informed all local authorities of an extension until 30 June 2021 for applicants to have work completed and submit claims and until 30 September 2021 for local authorities to submit claims and address items where water quality reports are causing delay in submitting claims. The extension is especially welcome and facilitates the Rural Water Team in its contacting persons who may need a little extra support.

Well Grants:

Invested 2021		Applicants	% At Maximum	Treatment.	Up grade	New Source
Former Scheme:	€23,249.06	12	83%			
Revised Scheme:	€120,621.07	29	% At Maximum	87% (19 Applicants)	9% (1 Applicant)	41% (Applicants)
			Value:	€22,437.74	€21,678.25	€81,505.08
			No. of Applicants:	23	11	17
Total:	€148,870.13	41				



As at 21 April 2021, 29 applications were received with 23 grant approvals issued.

Septic Tank Grants (Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems):

No applications have been received in 2021 to date.

The Domestic Wastewater Treatment System Grant Scheme has also been revised. There are now 3 headings under which an application can be considered. Technically, the conditions are unchanged. The income limit has been removed. The maximum grant payable has increased from €4,000 to 85% of eligible costs or €5,000 whichever is the lesser figure.

Each of the following is a separate scheme and an applicant cannot be assisted under a combination of these schemes. Each scheme requires the applicant to have registered the domestic wastewater treatment system with *Protect our Water* by 01 February 2013; where the dwelling was erected after that date, the applicant must have registered within 90 days of connecting to the domestic wastewater treatment system.

Each scheme requires that the home is the applicant's principal place of residence (not applicable to holiday homes, for example). Each scheme has an appeal system built into it.

(a) DWWTS National Inspection Plan:

This is the most similar scheme to the former scheme with virtually no change in conditions under which an applicant qualifies and an increased maximum payable. This is not demand-led. The Environmental Protection Agency notifies Tipperary County Council of the areas where inspections can be carried out and the number of inspections to be carried out annually. Only those homeowners inspected can be considered for assistance under this scheme.

(b) DWWTS Prioritised Areas for Action (PAA):

The River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 outlined Prioritised Areas for Action nationwide. The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) promotes the scheme in Prioritised Areas for Action, identifying homes where domestic wastewater treatment systems may be a risk to water quality and notifying the homeowner in writing. This enables the homeowner to apply to Tipperary County Council to be considered under the DWWTS PAA Scheme. Receiving such a letter does not mean the homeowner must apply for a grant and carry out improvement works. Neither will this be used in enforcement proceedings. It is the homeowner's decision to pursue an application and works under the DWWTS PAA Scheme.

To apply for consideration, the homeowner forwards a completed application form, the LAWPRO letter along with a scope of works put together by a competent person, to Tipperary County Council. Staff from the Environment and Climate Action Section carry out a site visit to verify the application for qualification purposes and the scope of works outlined by the competent person on behalf of the applicant. The applicant is advised in writing as to eligibility for the scheme and can proceed with eligible works. Once work is

complete a second site visit is carried out by staff from the Environment and Climate Action Section. Where all is in order, the file proceeds to payment.

(c) DWWTS High Status Objective Catchment Area:

Potential applicants satisfy themselves that their home is within a High Status Objective Catchment Area (there is an interactive map online), then submit an application form and a scope of works prepared by a competent person, to Tipperary County Council. The Council carries out a site visit verifying whether or not this application is eligible for consideration. The homeowner is notified in writing of eligibility (or not). Where eligible, the applicant can proceed with having work carried out, which is followed by an eventual post-works site visit and processing of payment.

Public interest in these 3 Schemes is quite strong.

Lead Piping Grants:

One application has been received as at 15 April 2021. Work is complete; payment (€4,000, the maximum allowable) has been made to the applicant and a recoupment claim forwarded to the DHLGH.

Trees on the Land:

Working with Environment and Climate Action Section, 3,400 trees have been distributed throughout County Tipperary in March 2021. This is not representative of the usual figure; nevertheless, the Rural Water Tram is satisfied that this year has not been a 'fallow' year and that, despite the reduced number of distributions, it has managed to generate interest and keep some momentum going during the unprecedented national circumstances occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic. The project met and managed several challenges this year with Brexit and national Level 5 restrictions and working within public health guidelines.

WATER SECTOR TRANSFORMATION:

On 23 February 2021 Deputy Darragh O'Brien, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage published a Policy Paper on Water Sector Transformation entitled *Water Sector Transformation Policy Paper: Irish Water – Towards a National, Publicly-Owned, Regulated Water Services Utility*. The Policy Paper, Frequently Raised Topics, and accompanying press release, are available on www.gov.ie/housing. All new publications appear on the homepage under the Publications heading with the press release appearing under the Press releases heading.

The Policy Paper:

- sets out the Government's vision for the future of water services;
- addresses the provision of water services as set out in the Programme for Government, entitled *Our Shared Future*, published on 15 June 2020;
- considers the water sector transformation process; and
- concludes by requiring the key stakeholders to engage to agree a framework to move towards an integrated public water services utility.

Further developments are awaited.



Watermain Rehabilitation at Carrick-on-Suir

Housing Directorate



New Policy/Strategic Issues		
Policy Changes/Updates	Current Position/Progress made	Next Stage
Review of allocation scheme	Adopted allocation scheme forwarded to the Minister for Housing for approval. The Minister raised a number of queries that are being addressed by the Council.	Once Ministerial queries resolved the scheme will be brought before SPC and full Council in June for approval.
Choice Based Letting	Pre-contract negotiation with proposed provider in final stages.	Expected introduction to be Q4 2021
Review of Housing Adaptation Grants	Discussion paper to be brought to April SPC meeting on P2 & P3 progress and additional areas for consideration	To be brought before the full Council July
Disability Strategy	Review of Current Disability Strategy & Development of 2021 Disability Strategy	To be commenced with SPC in Q2

Housing Delivery

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage identified a target of 625 social housing units to be delivered by Tipperary County Council in conjunction with Approved Housing Bodies for the period 2018-2021 as part of Rebuilding Ireland, through a combination of new build, acquisition and long-term leasing. This is in addition to separate HAP and RAS targets.

In the period 2018 to date 657 units of accommodation had been provided in Tipperary or 105% of the target with 9 months of the timeline remaining. Covid-19 has had a significant impact on delivery across the country with construction stopped for a period in 2020 and again from 11th January 2021 to 12th April 2021. Construction has resumed across all sites but the stoppage will impact on 2021 delivery with some projects now projected to deliver in Q1 2022. Where feasible partial delivery will occur in 2021.

The 2018-2021 Housing delivery programme continues to be rolled out with:

- Construction works on site at 14 locations providing 199 dwellings.
- 5 schemes at tender stage providing 73 dwellings.
- 2 schemes providing 13 dwellings recently approved for Part 8 planning.
- 143 dwellings in the early stages of the 4 stage approval process at 9 locations .

2021 Construction Programme

<i>Address</i>	<i>No of Units</i>	<i>Current Status</i>	<i>Next Stage</i>
Coolnamuck Road, Carrick on Suir	30	Decision required on third river crossing.	Stage 1 submission to Department
Mountain Road, Cahir	48	Stage 1 submitted.	Stage 1 approval
Glencarrick, Roscrea	46	Design team tenders being assessed. Revised stage 1 submitted.	Stage 1 approval
Church Street, Templemore	2	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement
William Street, Clonmel	4	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement
Boherclough Street, Cashel	12	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement
Comeragh Drive, Clonmel	2	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement



Grove Street, Roscrea	9	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement
Castle Crescent, Nenagh	8	Stage 2 approved Design team appointed	Part 8 advertisement
Borrisoleigh	12	Stage 2 approved	Preparation of part 8
Camphill Communities, Carrick on Suir	7	Stage 2 approved	On hold with Camphill
Ardcronney	4	Part 8 approved	Stage 3 submission
Moyne	9	Part 8 approved	Stage 3 submission
Portroe	14	Re-tendered	Stage 4 submission
Ballyclerihan	14	Tenders being assessed	Stage 4 submission
Bansha	14	Tenders being assessed	Stage 4 submission
Donohill	8	Tenders being assessed	Stage 4 submission
Two Mile Borris	23	Stage 4 submitted	Contractor appointment
121 Ard Na Greine, Clonmel	2	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Cormac Drive, Nenagh	12	Contractor on Site	Delivery 2021/2022
Mulcair View, Newport	11	Contractor on Site	Delivery 2021/2022
Mitchel Street, Thurles	1	Contractor on Site	Delivery 2021
Mill Road, Thurles	28	Snagging Stage	Delivery 2021
Borrisokane	16	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Knockanrawley, Tipperary	28	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Abbey Street, Cahir	10	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Prior Park Grove, Clonmel	41	Turnkey Works ongoing	Delivery 2021/2022
Templetuohy	10	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Cloughjordan	2	Contractor on site	Delivery 2021
Mullinahone	10	Contractor on site	Delivery 2022
Cluid Housing Association, Glennconnor, Clonmel	9	Contractor appointed	Delivery 2022
Thurles Lions Trust, Stanwix Homes, Thurles	19	Contractor appointed	Delivery 2022



Longfield, Boherlahan	3	Part V, Complete
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1

¹ The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 4 stages of approval are:
Stage 1: Layout Design and confirm approval of scheme for Expenditure
Stage 2: Assess project prior to Statutory Approval Submission
Stage 3: Approve Detailed Design Solution and Pre Tender Cost Estimate
Stage 4: Review Tender Returns in advance of Contract Award

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) & Long Term Leasing (LTL)

New RAS properties, incl voluntary units	21
New LTL properties	6
Rent Reviews carried out 2021	86

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP tenancies set up in 2021	112
Total active HAP tenancies	1880
Average weekly HAP set up	8

Syrian Refugee Resettlement Project

Tipperary County Council is housing 45 families in 2020/2021 as part of Ireland's international commitments arising from the humanitarian crisis in Syria. An interagency steering group is assisting with the resettlement process. Youth Work Ireland (Tipperary) has been appointed as the implementation partner for this project and is providing resettlement assistance for an eighteen-month period to establish a support structure for the families once the project is completed. To date this resettlement process has 34 families settled in Clonmel, Nenagh, Templemore and Tipperary Town. The remainder will be accommodated over the next number of weeks

Energy Efficiency

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued a revised allocation of €1.624 million to Tipperary County Council for the retrofitting of a minimum of 60 local authority-owned houses in the county under the Midlands Retrofit Programme. After the works, the Building Energy Ratings (BER) of homes will typically be B2. They will be expected to be substantially cheaper to heat than similar homes heated by oil or gas.

Works will typically involve insulation, upgrades of windows and doors and installation of heat pumps (renewable energy heating systems), as committed to under the Programme for Government. This will help Ireland's efforts to combat climate change. About 40% of Ireland's energy-related carbon emissions are from buildings. The works are broken into 3 phases:

- 1st phase tendered and contractor appointed.
- 2nd phase tendered and tenders being assessed.
- 3rd phase will be tendered in April.

An additional allocation is provided under the newly revised 2021 "Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme", details of which will be provided at the earliest opportunity. This will typically facilitate the upgrading of a further 40-50 properties to B2 BER in 2021.

Housing Grants

The Council received a total allocation of €3,271,795 in 2021 for private housing adaptation grants of which €654,359 is to be provided from Tipperary County Council's own revenue resources.²

Applicants who are seeking a grant for roof insulation, wall insulation, boiler and heating control upgrades, solar panels, etc, should contact the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) - Tel: 1850 927000 for more information, as these works are not available under the housing grants schemes.

At the end of 2020 the housing grants section completed processing the back log of P2 & P3 applications received in 2017 and 2018 and are currently reviewing P2 and P3 applications received during 2019. It is hoped that these can be addressed during 2021.

Grants - 31 st March 2021	2021 Budget	Total Allocated	No. Of Applications
Housing Adaptation for People with A Disability (HGD)	€2,000,000	€1,648,440	202
Mobility Aids Grant (MAG)	€200,000	€82,090	27
Housing Aid for Older People (HOP)	€1,071,795	€913,455	172
TOTAL	€3,271,795³	€2,643,985	401
Local Authority DPG Grants	€347,627	€241,757	8

Voids

The number completed from 01/01/2021 to 31/03/2021 is 25.

Vacant Houses - 31st March, 2021

District	Approved Applicants	Vacant Houses ⁴	% vacant houses ⁵
Carrick	350	29	0.5%

² For Local Authority DPG's all Local Authorities are allowed to spend up to 65% of their previous year's allocation pending receipt of their full 2021 allocation in order to progress works throughout the year.

³ Please note, the Occupational Therapist Budget for assessing applications is not included in the above figures but is covered by the 2021 allocation.

⁴ In addition to the vacant houses there are additional properties being held for the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Project and Isolation Hubs.

⁵ Calculated as a percentage of overall housing stock



Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	856	55	1.1%
Clonmel	653	15	0.3%
Nenagh	729	28	0.5%
Templemore/Thurles	931	50	0.9%
Total	3519	177	3.3%⁶

Offers of Tenancy - 31st March 2021

	Offers	Accepted	Pending	Refused	Nomination to AHBs
Carrick	23	16	1	6	7
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	34	27	0	7	9
Clonmel	4	4	0	0	1
Nenagh	22	13	7	2	22
Templemore Thurles	32	20	3	9	9
TOTALS	115	80	11	24	48

⁶ There are additional vacant properties being held for the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Project and Isolation Hubs. The above figure excludes demountable's and houses being sold.

Homelessness

In line with government policy, the focus of the Homeless Team has been on the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation and thus the homeless cycle with the use of private rented accommodation with the aid of HAP as the primary option for homeless clients. The Homeless Prevention Officers working in tandem with the HAP Place finder Service have been very successful in achieving this aim.

There were 139 homeless presentations for 2021 to end March 2021. Of these 63 were prevented from becoming homeless which indicates a 45% success rate for the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation

There are currently 3 single clients and 1 family with 3 children in long term emergency accommodation i.e. in excess of 6 months. There is an exit plan in place for each client.

The HAP Place Finder Service has contributed to the success in this area by the creation of 179 Homeless HAP tenancies since its introduction. From 01 January 2021 to 31 March 2021 a total of 24 HAP place finder tenancies have been created in the county. These tenancies were in respect of clients who were street homeless or potentially street homeless and are the most vulnerable of our clients.

The Council has sought and received approval from the Department to appoint a second HAP Placefinder for the north of the county; this is subject to compliance with staff numbers.

Under the Housing First model 11 units out of 12 have been provided to accommodate the most complex of homeless cases with wrap around supports and it is hoped that the final unit will be in place shortly.

A submission was forwarded to the Department seeking to extend this service to the north of the county and expand the service in the south of the county. Preliminary approval has been received to the extension of the service which will be considered as part of the 2022 programme.

The START programme, a 2-year pilot initiative in the south of the county, supports persons at risk of becoming homeless due to significant mental health challenges. To date we have accommodated 6 such clients. They are provided with wrap around mental health services to ensure that they are able to maintain their tenancy. This project has recently come to an end and the necessary services support is now provided by Tenancy Sustainment Service (TSS) as part of reconfiguration of Focus Ireland's service provision in the county and the mental health service will continue with these clients.

A similar support service is provided by a North Tipperary Intensive Support programme in the north of the county and the Council is currently engaged with this programme to ascertain how it could be mainstreamed.

The TSS which has a county wide remit (with the recent appointment of a TSS officer to the Nenagh office) provides support for 43 LA tenants who need help in sustaining their tenancy ensuring that they remain in their accommodation that is suitable to their needs. In addition, the TSS service has taken on a number of Traveller family units to help them sustain their current

tenancy. As outlined above this service has also taken over responsibility for support of clients under the START programme.

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

Buy and Renew

The Buy and Renew scheme is designed to support local authorities (and approved housing bodies) to purchase and renew vacant housing units in need of remediation and make them available for social housing. It is a companion strategy for the Repair & Lease scheme, providing additional social housing options. Buy and Renew can target the purchase of both disused and older vacant homes and assist in the improvement of derelict and disused areas within our villages and towns. The level of support with the Repair and Lease Scheme has recently increased to €60,000 and we are actively seeking a greater take up as a result in 2021.

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

The Rebuilding Ireland home loan is a Government backed mortgage which was introduced on 1st February 2018. An applicant can apply to borrow 90% of the market value of the property to a maximum of €250,000 in Tipperary. This loan offers two rate products; 2.745% fixed for up to 25 years and 2.995% fixed for up to 30 years.

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan Applications

01/01/2021 to 31/03/2021

Number of Applications Received	39
Number of Valid Applications Received	14
Number of Loan Applications Approved	8
Number of Loans Issued	4
Total Value of Loans Issued	€472,500

Tenant Purchase Scheme Allocations

01/01/2021 to 31/03/2021

Formal applications to purchase received	14
Applications approved (i.e. offer letter issued)	5
Sales completed	2
Total proceeds of sales received	€135,000



CORPORATE SERVICES AND HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORATE

Policy/Strategic Issues	Status
Audit Committee Work Prog	Completed
SPC Scheme	Completed
Corporate Plan 2020-2024	Completed
Service Delivery Plan 2020	Completed
Annual Report	Completed
Communication Strategy Implementation	In Progress
Social Media Policy & Protocol	In Progress
Associated Companies Governance Policy & Guidance document	In Progress

Directorate Priorities

Audit Committee

The last meeting of the Audit Committee took place on 28th April 2021 online via Zoom. The following items were discussed:

1. Roads Directorate Update: Liam Brett, Michelle Maher
2. Audit Report - Approved Housing Bodies Funding Scheme: Cora Morrissey
3. Update on outstanding internal audit recommendations: Sandra Maher
4. Progress update internal Audit Plan: Sandra Maher
5. Final NOAC Public Spending Code Report 2019: Sandra Maher
6. VFM Fire Service Expenditure and Income Dec 2020
7. LGAS Overview Report for the year ended 31 December 2019: Sandra Maher
8. MTO Management Letter: Liam McCarthy
9. Annual Financial Statements Management Letter: Liam McCarthy
10. 10.Draft AFS: Liam McCarthy

The next meeting is scheduled for 1st July 2021 online through Zoom.

Performance Indicators 2020

The deadline for compliance with the submission of data to the LG Returns system in respect of the 2020 performance is Friday 30th April 2021. A report on the indicator outcomes will be presented to the full Council and the audit committee following publication of the NOAC report later in the year.

Annual Report 2020

Tipperary County Council is required under Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001 to prepare and adopt an annual report not later than 30th June in relation to the performance of its functions during the preceding year and shall furnish a copy of the report to each member of the Council, the adoption of which is a reserved function.

The draft plan was presented to the Council at the April meeting and the final report will be presented at the June meeting.

Insurance Management

Public Liability/Pothole Claims to period 22nd April 2021:

Pothole - 44

Public Liability - 31

Total Claims – 75

Coroner Service

Statistics for period 1st January to 30th April, 2021

No. of deaths reported: 221

No. of Post mortems/Inquests: 41




No. of Undertaker Removals: 35

Communications Strategy

Tipperary County Council’s Corporate Plan provides a vision for how we propose to deliver our services working with our communities, our citizens, our Councillors and our staff. Key to this is good communications across the Council to deliver our message and tell our story.

Some of the activities promoted since the last report include the following:-

Achievements March-April 2021

<p style="text-align: center;">Your Carrick on Suir</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Dog fouling awareness/ Keep Tipp Tidy</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">Streetscape and building façade enhancement scheme – Tipperary Cahir Cashel MD</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Amenity Grant Scheme 2021 Clonmel BD</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">€8 million delivered in Leader projects over 6 years</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Outdoor seating and accessories scheme</p> 

Town enhancement and painting scheme – Thurles MD



Keep Well Radio Drama series



Small business assistance scheme for Covid



Tipperary Age Friendly Older Peoples Council – Reminiscing in Tipperary



**Rural Regeneration and Development Fund
Kilsheelan cluster housing**



**Rural Regeneration and Development Fund
Thurles Market Quarter**



Nenagh Culture Quarter



Libraries



Communications focus

Summary of some items PLANNED for promotion

May-July 2021

Arts/Events/Festivals/Heritage/Museum

Bealtaine Festival



Fire and Rescue



Gorse Fires



Environment and Climate Action



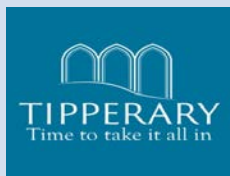
Dog Fouling initiative



Sports Partnership



Tourism



Promoting holidays and staycations in Tipperary



Libraries

Something for everyone



Local Government Service Catalogue – update

90% of all services have been catalogued, which equates to the cataloguing of **937** public-facing services across **Planning and Building Control, Housing, Parks open spaces and public realm, Economic Development Tourism and local enterprise, Environment Veterinary and Cemeteries, Arts Culture Heritage and Conservation, Roads and Transport, Libraries, Community Sport and Childcare, Corporate.**

You can find draft catalogues on the LGMA website at www.lgma.ie/en/servicecatalogue



The finalising of the catalogue by cataloguing the services listed below is underway:-

Functional Area	Number of Services (Estimated)
Human Resources	10
Finance	30
ICT/Digital Services	20
Fire and Emergency Services	36
Water Services	35
Miscellaneous	20

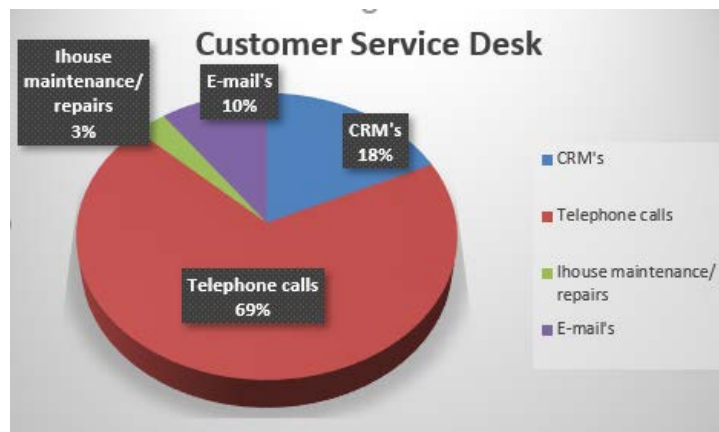
Customer Service Activity

1 March – 23 April 2021 (8 weeks)

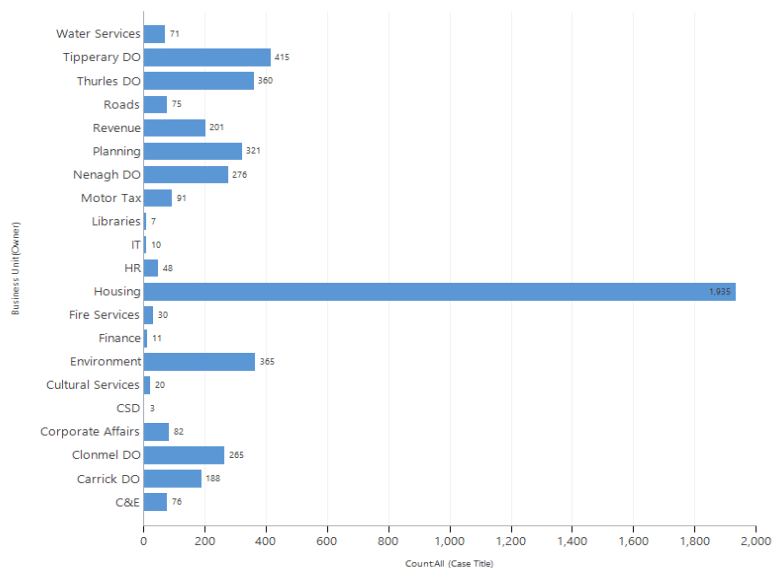
Customer Service Statistics

CSD staff also utilise the following systems for logging and looking up customer queries:-

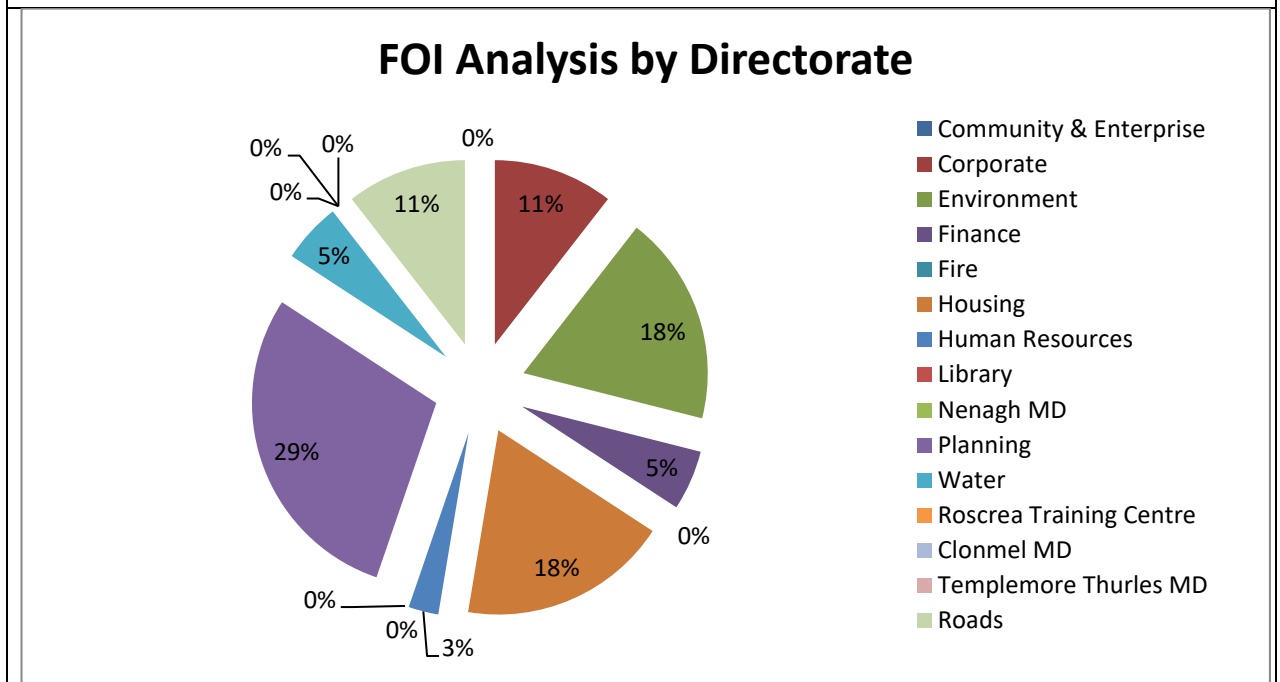
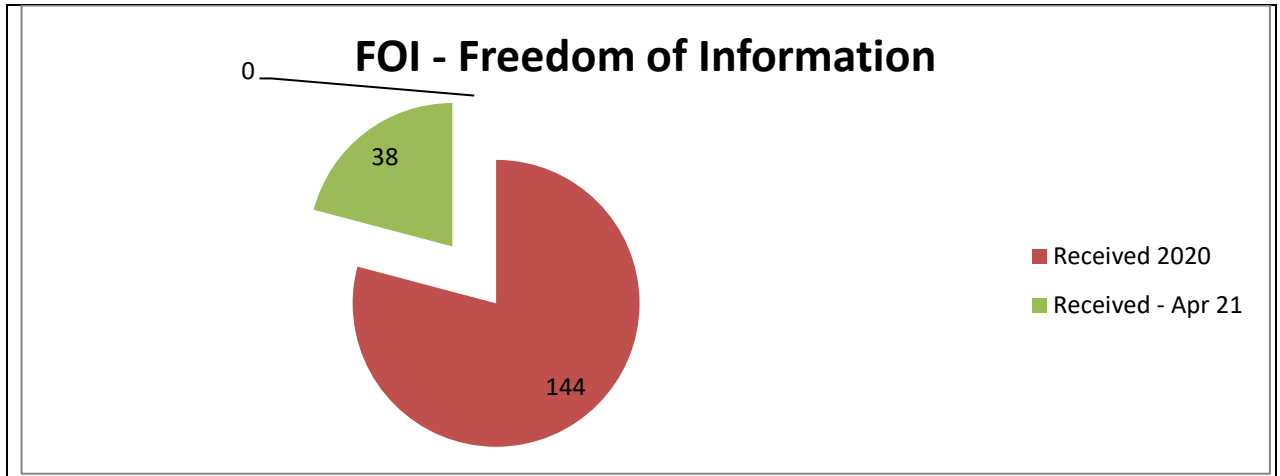
- Anti Social Behaviour Log
- Environmental complaints register
- Fix your street
- NVDF system (motor tax)
- Ihouse

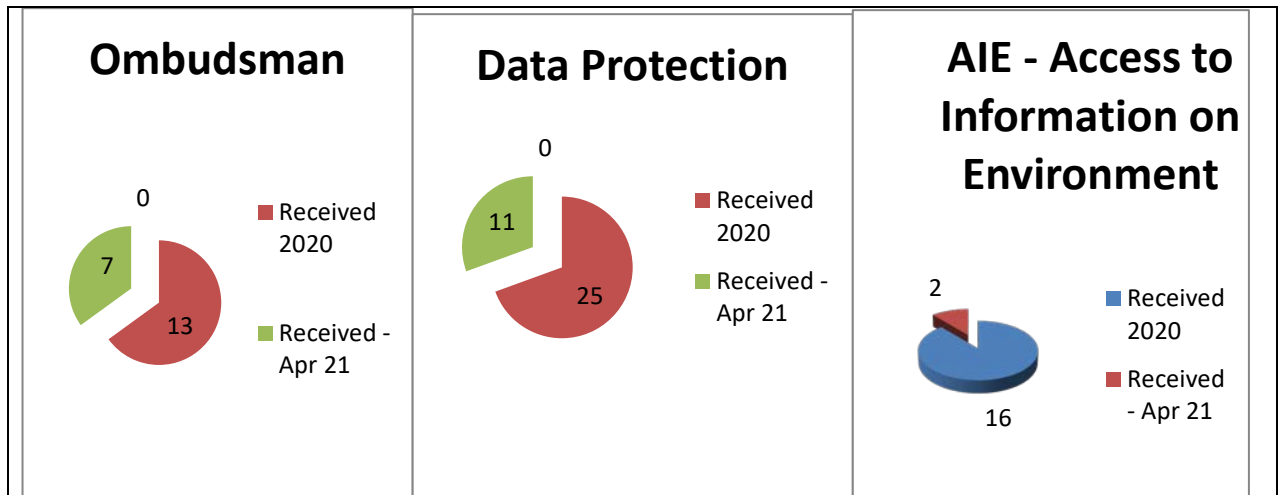


Customer Relations Management (CRM) system –per section



Information Management





Property Management

Land Disposal - Section 183 Resolutions approved by Council and managed by CPU - Period to: 20 th April 2021			
Year	Passed	Outstanding	Resolved
2018	27	5	25
2019	33	0	33
2020	24	12	12
2021	10	8	2

Schedule of Locations of Outstanding Transactions

1. Gortnahoe, Co. Tipperary
2. Powerstown Demesne, Carrigeen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
3. Glenconnor, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
4. Brickendown, Cashel, Co. Tipperary
5. Redmond Square, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary
6. Tipperary Hill, Musgasty, Tipperary Town, Co. Tipperary
7. Melview, Burgagery Lands West, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
8. Old Cashel Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel, Co. Tipperary
9. Ballyrichard, Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary
10. Knockgrave, Aghnameadle Ormond Upper, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary
11. Knockmorris, Cahir, Co. Tipperary



12. Callan Street, Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary
13. The Mall, Templemore, Co. Tipperary
14. Templedowney, Toomevara, Nenagh
15. Galtee View, Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary
16. Caherabbey Upper, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
17. Corderry, Galbally, Co. Tipperary
18. Clashganny West, Newcastle, Co. Tipperary
19. Graigue Lower, Killenaule, Co. Tipperary
20. Carrigaun, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
21. Streame, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
22. Borris, Twomilebridge, Thurles, Co. Tipperary