



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

# 2015

## ANNUAL REPORT



# CONTENTS

1

## INTRODUCTION



Cathaoirleach's Welcome	6
Chief Executives Welcome	8
Tipperary in context - Vision Statement	10
Members of Tipperary County Council	12
Senior Management Team	17

3

## QUALITY OF LIFE



Housing	62
Social Inclusion & Community Development	70
Library Services	80
Arts	82
Tipperary Heritage Office	86
Tipperary Museum	90
Tipperary Sports Partnership	92

5

## MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS



Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District	122
Cashel - Tipperary Municipal District	128
Clonmel Borough District	140
Nenagh Municipal District	146
Templemore - Thurles Municipal District	154

7

## FINANCIALS



Finance	182
Motor Taxation	188
Francaise Section	190

2

## STRONG ECONOMY



Economic Development & Enterprise	20
Roads, Transportation, Health & Safety	28
Planning & Development	46
Tourism	54

4

## QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT



Environment	100
Fire & Rescue Service	110
Water Services	112
Civil Defence	118

6

## ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS



Corporate Services	160
Human Resources	168
Information Technology (IT)	172
Website	176
Sports and Social	178

8

## APPENDICES



Schedule of Committee Appointments 2014-2019	194
Strategic Policy Committees	200
Organisation Structure	202
Staff Structure	204
Performance Indicators 2015	208
Conference and Seminars	216
Training	217

# 1

# INTRODUCTION

- CATHAOIRLEACH'S WELCOME
- CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S WELCOME
- TIPPERARY IN CONTEXT - VISION STATEMENT
- MEMBERS OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL
- SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



# FOREWORD

## CATHAOIRLEACH

The Annual Report gives us the opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of Tipperary County Council during the year 2015. I am honoured to hold the office of Cathaoirleach, having been elected on 22nd June, 2015, as the 2nd Cathaoirleach, to represent Tipperary as its first citizen.



During my term I have had the pleasure of attending a number of significant events for the County. In July 2015 I attended the National Day of Commemoration in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham. In August, I had the privilege of launching the Comhaltas 2016 Programme with Minister Heather Humphreys at Brú Ború, Cashel, whilst in September; I welcomed a group of Spanish students on an educational exchange programme to Ireland in the Civic Offices, Nenagh. In October, I attended the Ireland 1916 County Plan launch by An Taoiseach in the Irish Museum of Modern Art and also attended a special ceremony in Galway for the NISO Annual Safety Awards, organised by the National Irish Safety Organisation, where Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service, once again were winners of the Public Service award.

In November, I had the privilege of attending the Lord Mayor's Pageant in London to join Lord Mayors and Cathaoirligh from across the island of Ireland to participate in the 800th year of this ancient pageant for the first time, facilitated by Tourism Ireland, while in December, I attended the Regional Enterprise Awards in Nenagh and also attended the 10th Annual Canon Hayes National Sports Awards in Ballykisteen, where I had the pleasure of meeting Olympic Greats, Ronnie Delaney and Michael Carruth.

*There is no doubt that our county is a richer place because of the huge effort and dedication of volunteers around our county.*



### OTHER PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS DURING THE YEAR INCLUDED:

- The opening of the South East Mountain Rescue centre on the Heywood Road, Clonmel;
- The launch of the Local and National 1916 Commemoration Plans;
- Attending the range of quality festivals and events supported by the Council in conjunction with various partners, namely, Terryglass Arts Festival, Cashel Arts Festival, Junction Festival, to name but a few.

During 2015, Tipperary continued to build on its strong national and international brand, with the launch of the first all county Tourism website, profiling the vast range of authentic experiences that are on offer across the County. The harmonisation of Commercial Rates in November 2015 represented a significant challenge for the new Council with the convergence of rates between the County Council and former Town Authorities agreed over a four year period. As I look forward I am sure that Tipperary will continue to develop and grow over the coming years.

I wish to acknowledge all those involved in the Community and Voluntary sector and the added value this sector provides to the quality of life of individuals, communities around the county. There is no doubt that our county is a richer place because of the huge effort and dedication of volunteers around our county. I also wish to acknowledge the community efforts that secured various Tidy Towns titles across the county and the numerous communities around the county that worked so hard in their local areas.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors in Tipperary County Council for their invaluable support during my term as Cathaoirleach of Tipperary, and also to thank my Leas-Cathaoirleach Cllr. John Fahy. I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, for the valuable guidance and support he has given me. Finally to all our Council staff both indoor and outdoor for all their hard work in representing the people of Tipperary and delivering a wide range of services. And to all the people who contribute to the economic, social, cultural and sporting life of our County, building communities and making Tipperary a great place to live and work in, I acknowledge the value of your contribution.

*"Ní neart go cur le chéile"*

**Cllr Seamus Hanafin**  
Cathaoirleach

# FOREWORD

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE

I am delighted to join with the Cathaoirleach in presenting this, our second Annual Report of Tipperary County Council which details the work of the council in delivering public services and infrastructural projects during the year.



2015 was another important milestone in the life of the new Council with the adoption of its first Corporate Plan, a 5 year Strategic Framework for action in the areas of economic development, social inclusiveness and environmental sustainability within the County of Tipperary.

The vision statement adopted by the members - *"Ambitious for our communities, demanding of ourselves and working to a shared purpose to deliver prosperity across the county"* - echoes the working ethos that is Tipperary County Council, for both staff and members alike, and this Council has been particularly active in 2015 in progressing measures to underpin sustainable economic growth and employment in the county, nurturing a positive environment for job creation and enhancing towns and villages. The challenge to maintain and improve the level of service, across the County and the readiness of the elected members and employees to embrace this challenge is noteworthy.

This Council is determined in its efforts to seek new ways to do more with less through greater productivity, shared services, procurement initiatives, partnering with other agencies, and better use of resources. With the co-operation of staff and Elected Members, the Council continues to provide a broad range of services at a high level and does so on the basis of prudent budgeting.

*The Vision Statement - Ambition for our communities, demanding of ourselves and working to a shared purpose to deliver prosperity over the county - echoes the ethos, that is Tipperary County Council, for both staff and members alike*

### THERE WERE MANY HIGHLIGHTS DURING THE YEAR INCLUDING;

- Tipperary County Council was awarded "Council of the Year" in the 2015 LAMA Awards;
- Tipperary County Council was awarded "Public Sector Award" in the 2015 Sustainable Energy Awards;
- Tipperary County Council was awarded the "ESPA 2015 Best Practice" for the Merger project of North and South Tipperary into a unified Tipperary County Council;
- The opening of the Questum Centre and active marketing of the Tipperary Science and Technology Park at Ballingarrane, Clonmel.
- Purchase of the Kickham barracks site and completion of the planning process for a new Civic plaza in Clonmel;
- The refurbishment of the Tholsel, Fethard which will become a flagship project for the Cashel, Fethard, Clonmel, Kilkenny part to the Ancient East tour, telling a unique story around its medieval walls, ecclesiastical buildings (Augustinian Abbey and Holy Trinity Church) and its equine history;
- Completion of new town parks in Nenagh and Thurles;
- Purchase of the Roscrea Business and Innovation Park;
- Securing Redz initiative funding for Fethard, Tipperary, Nenagh and Clonmel;
- Commencement and/or completion of tourism projects along the River Suir Blueway, Lough Derg and Butler Trail;
- 1st Meeting of the Tipperary Tourism Company Ltd and the launch of the first all-county tourism website;
- The launch of "Tipperary 1916 Commemorations" celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Rising;
- Water Services continued to expand and improve during the year. Major new water supply schemes were under construction at Fethard and Burncourt while substantial lengths of pipeline were replaced in Fethard town and rural areas. Planning was advanced for new schemes in Clonmel and Thurles, among others. Minor capital works to the value of €6 million were underway across the county. The council continued to work with Irish water on all aspects of water services, including the transformation to a national utility model.

I want to acknowledge the valuable advice and guidance provided by Corporate Policy Group of the Council and I wish to thank the new Strategic Policy Committees for their assistance in the formulation of policy.

I also wish to acknowledge the five new Municipal Districts who adopted their own budgets in respect of their road & other works programmes being carried out in their respective geographical areas and which are a valuable form of local government serving & meeting the needs of citizens in their own localities.

I would like to especially express my appreciation for the dedication and hard work of Cathaoirleach Cllr. Seamus Hanafin, the Municipal District Cathaoirligh, Cllrs. Ger Darcy, Pat English, Mary Hanna Hourigan, John Crosse and Eddie O'Meara and all of the elected members, all of the staff of Tipperary County Council and the voluntary/community groups, sectors, committees and individuals who work with us to progress the development and well being of the citizens of the county of Tipperary.

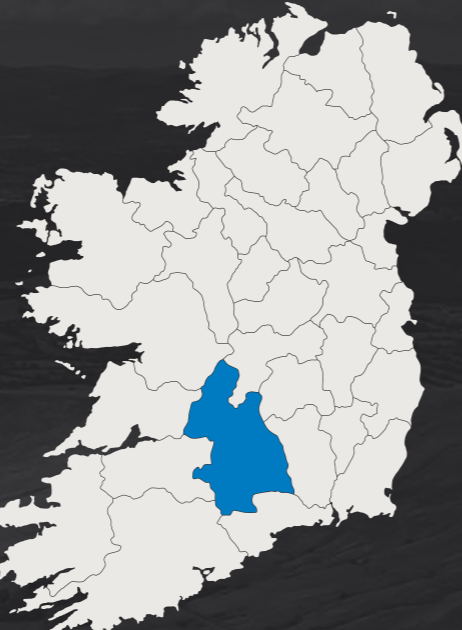
This Council is committed to supporting and enhancing local democracy; developing and growing Tipperary's social and physical infrastructure; improving efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of services and promoting and developing Tipperary as a place to live, learn, work, visit and do business.

**Joe MacGrath**  
Chief Executive

# Of the 32 counties Tipperary County Council is

**11th**  
largest by  
population

**158,754**  
(census 2011)



The region is part of the central plain of Ireland and is traversed by key arterial routes such as M7, M8, N24 as well as train lines from Dublin to Cork and Limerick and Waterford to Limerick.

M7

M8

N24

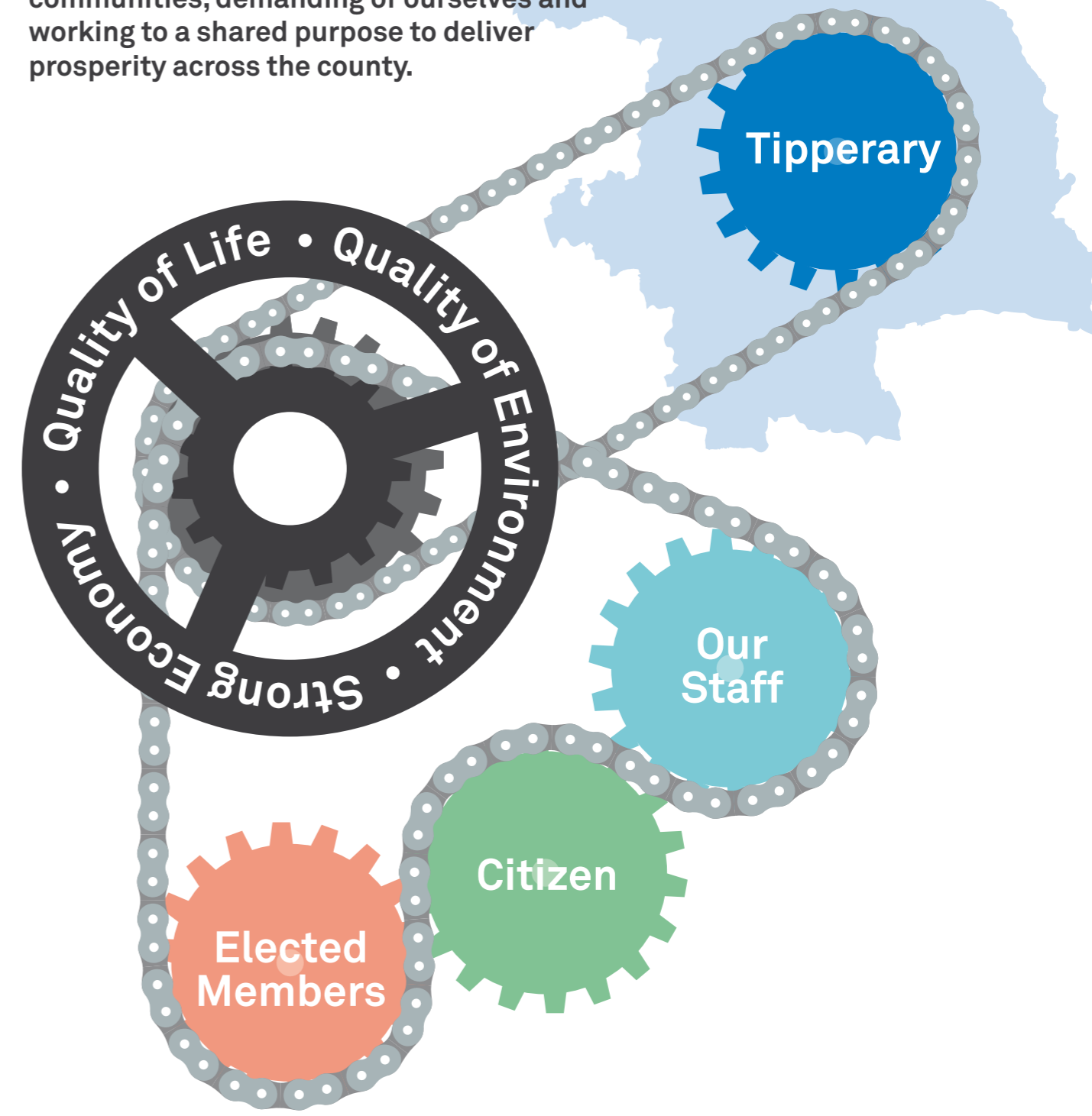
**6th**  
largest by  
area

**4,282km<sup>2</sup>**  
(census 2011)

Tipperary County Council has a very clear aspiration not only to maintain the quality of its services but also to improve them. We will be ambitious for our county and support an environment that will enable more investment and more good quality jobs for local people.








## VISION STATEMENT

Tipperary Together - Ambitious for our communities, demanding of ourselves and working to a shared purpose to deliver prosperity across the county.




# MEMBERS OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

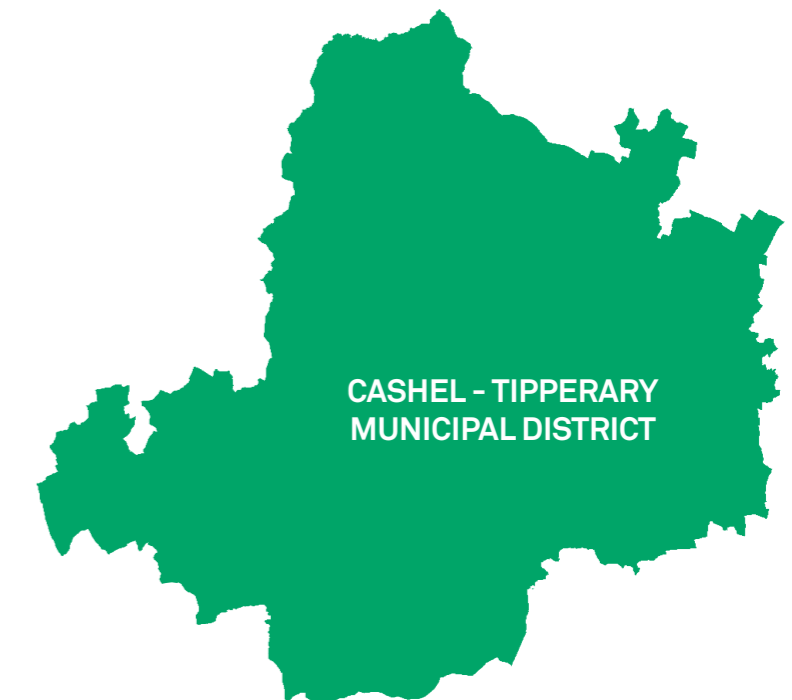
## CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

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## CASHEL - TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



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## CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT

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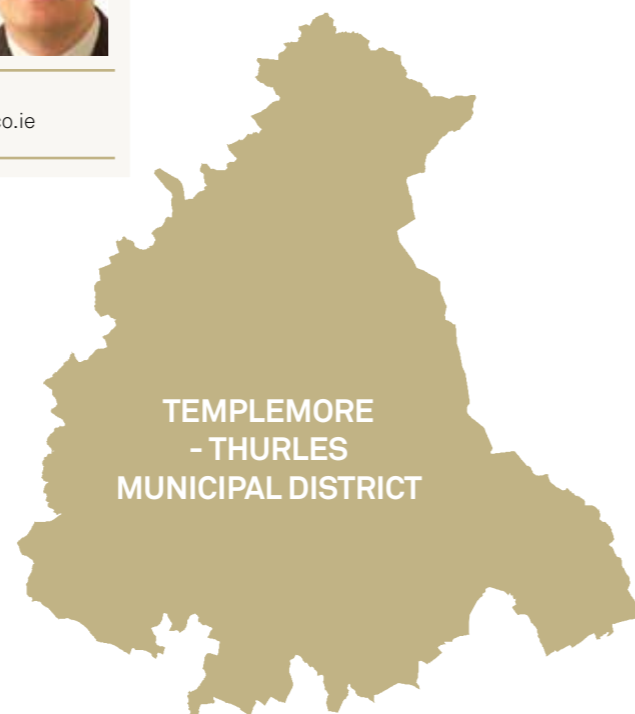
## NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

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## TEMPLEMORE - THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

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## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

<p><b>MR. JOE MACGRATH</b> CHIEF EXECUTIVE</p>	<p><b>MS. SINEAD CARR</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Community &amp; Economic Development</p> <p><b>Delegated Municipal District</b> Clonmel</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Clonmel</p>	
<p><b>MR. KARL CASHEN</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Planning, Fire &amp; Emergency Services &amp; Libraries</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Nenagh</p>	<p><b>MS. CLARE CURLEY</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Housing</p> <p><b>Delegated Municipal District</b> Cashel/Tipperary</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Clonmel</p>	<p><b>MR. SEAN KEATING</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Water Services and Change Management</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Clonmel</p>
<p><b>MR. LIAM MCCARTHY</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Finance &amp; Information Systems</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Nenagh</p>	<p><b>MR. MARCUS O'CONNOR</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Roads, Health &amp; Safety</p> <p><b>Delegated Municipal District</b> Nenagh</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Nenagh</p>	<p><b>MR. MATT SHORTT</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Environment &amp; National Water Framework</p> <p><b>Delegated Municipal District</b> Templemore/Thurles</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Clonmel</p>
<p><b>MR. PAT SLATTERY</b> DIRECTOR OF SERVICES</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Corporate &amp; Human Resources</p> <p><b>Delegated Municipal District</b> Carrick on Suir</p> <p><b>Directorate</b> Clonmel</p>	<p><b>MR. GER WALSH</b> SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Corporate Services</p>	<p><b>MS. ROSEMARY JOYCE</b> SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER &amp; SECRETARY TO THE MANAGEMENT TEAM</p> <p><b>Directorate Functions</b> Nenagh Municipal District</p>

# 2

# STRONG ECONOMY

- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE
- ROADS, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH & SAFETY
- PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- TOURISM

Tipperary County Council plays a pivotal role in providing strong leadership for the county of Tipperary.

The County has a diverse economy including a strong medi-pharma hub in the south, manufacturing and its famous horse breeding industry. The superb fertile land provides an ideal environment for food production and a growing reputation around artisan foods. Tourism also plays a significant role with major landmarks such as Lough Derg, Rock of Cashel, Cahir Castle and Swiss Cottage.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISE

The establishment of the Local Enterprise Office in Tipperary County Council on 15 April 2014 was a major step forward in the provision of support for job creation in the county. The Council's vision for the Local Enterprise Office in Tipperary is that it will be proactive, pro business, pro customer and overall consistently supported by a robust evaluation process. The following sections contain a review of LEO activities in 2015;

## ECONOMIC STRATEGY

The Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) was developed following widespread public consultation during 2015. The Draft LECP was presented to the Municipal Districts in October and was subsequently sent to the Southern Regional Assembly for consideration in terms of consistency with North and South Tipperary County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines. The LECP was then submitted to the Tipperary County Council for consideration and adoption in January 2016. This Plan will form the basis for the annual work plan of the economic and enterprise section over the next 6 years.

[www.tipperaryinfo.ie](http://www.tipperaryinfo.ie) continues to provide relevant and up-to-date access to information relating to the County that is helpful to decision-making for agencies, organizations and businesses. This has been particularly useful to a number of organisations who are currently working on new strategic documents for County Tipperary. The Tipperary Data Hub is sustained by Tipperary County Council's Information Systems and the Economic Section and the aim of the Data Hub continues to be the provision of a one-stop-shop for information in the county.

## LEO SUPPORTS

In the period January to December 2015, the Local Enterprise Office approved grant assistance amounting to €867,134 for 40 projects which will leverage a capital investment in excess of €3.5m. Projects supported included 18 start ups, 16 business expansions and 6 feasibility studies and is expected to yield 149 jobs in the County over the next 2-3 years. LEO portfolio firms surveyed at year end highlighted a net increase in employment levels of 111 jobs on the previous year. Portfolio Development was undertaken with 278 firms to assist with their development, expansion and in some cases graduation to Enterprise Ireland during the year under review.

Under Measure 2 Entrepreneurial & Capability Development the LEO supported 2,284 individuals to avail of training, management development, mentors, and a range of soft support grants such as web site development, export market development, exhibition and other grants at a cost €539,559.

Participation in the ICT On Line Trading Voucher Scheme was on target with 44 vouchers totaling €83,616 awarded to a mix of business interests including retail, service, tourism and manufacturing. Eight information sessions took place which were attended by over 90 owner managers while a further 33 firms availed of e-commerce related mentoring.

In 2015 Tipperary Local Enterprise Office supported and put forward 18 applicants for loans. Nine applications were successful in securing loan finance amounting to €122,999. Projects supported will contribute 14.5 jobs to the local economy. The LEO works closely with Microfinance Ireland to secure loans of between €2-25k for business promoters who fall short of standard bank lending criteria.

## ENTREPRENEUR INITIATIVES



In 2015, 43 individuals and firms entered Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur Competition IBYE and competed for the €50,000 IBYE fund at County level. Winners at county level included Pressure Welding Manufacturing Ltd, Thurles, Doodledale, Roscrea and Blanco Nino Ltd., Clonmel with Philip Martin of Blanco Nino Ltd winning the best start up category at Regional Level and progressing to the National Final. LEO Tipperary organised and hosted the Regional IBYE Award ceremony for the Mid West during the year.

The inaugural all Tipperary County Enterprise Awards took place in March 2015 and Nenagh firm Echo IT Ltd promoted by Donal Bray won the top prize. Templemore firm Chimney Draught Stop was the runner up and The Scullery Ltd, owned by Nenagh woman Florrie Purcell won third place. Roscrea's Herdwatch won a special award for Technology while Clonmel based Clonmel Covers Ltd promoted by Seamus & Eugene Phelan won a special award for diversification into new markets. The local competition carried a prize fund of €5,000. This was the second year of the Green Business Network awards and The Best Green Business Award went to Templemore firm Solaregy Ltd.

In the context of youth entrepreneurship, 21 Tipperary schools competed in the inaugural all-County Student Enterprise Awards. Over 1,800 second level students participated in the competition at school level which culminated in the County final. In addition a further 518 students participated in the Enterprise Encounter initiative during the year. The awards were presented by the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government, Mr Alan Kelly TD. St Mary's Nenagh, Colaiste Phobal Roscrea and the Presentation Secondary School Clonmel won the senior, intermediate and junior category prizes and went on to represent the County in the National Finals which took place in Croke Park on April 22.

Tipperary Enterprise Week is an initiative of Tipperary County Council/ LEO in conjunction with Enterprise Ireland, The Education & Training Board, LIT, Local Development Companies, Teagasc and DSP took from 18 to 22 May 2015. A series of seminars, workshops, clinics and presentations were organised at 12 Tipperary locations and attracted 670 individuals. The week provided an opportunity for the business community to come together to connect, engage and share ideas & information and to network and gain valuable knowledge from key industry experts. "Enterprise week featured a "Who to talk" to event in Roscrea, a flagship tourism seminar in Cahir, Procurement workshop, a Retail Symposium, Agri Business Clinics, Innovation workshop, Social Enterprise information evening etc.



Senior Winners Huddle with Balloons - St Marys Secondary School Nenagh

## NETWORK SUPPORT

The LEO provides tailored supports to a number of business networks across the County e.g. Green Business Network, Two Women in Business Networks and the Tipperary Food Producers Network. The Tipperary Food Producers Network is one of the country's most innovative and dynamic Food Business Networks. With the support of the Agri Food Tourism Funding, the Network will be able to embark on a very ambitious programme of development and promotional activities for its members.

In 2015 the LEO partnered with Limerick and Clare to hold a forum on female entrepreneurship in April in Thurles and a follow up event in Adare in June.

Under the Connect Ireland Programme a West Tipperary initiative commenced in 2015 which involves the establishment of a 'Connect Tipperary' team operating from the TIRD offices, the development of marketing material, a website and associated social media, and the creation of a 'Connect Tipperary' database of connectors in conjunction with Connect Ireland. The launch took place on November 26th at the Excel Cultural Centre in Tipperary Town. Mr. Terry Clune, founder of Taxback Group and Connect Ireland, the Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council, Mr. Seamus Hanafin and Mr. Dick Donovan, Chairman of Tipperary Co-op spoke on behalf of the three respective supporting organisations. A plan of action is in place for 2016 involving the existing partners on the project and following connections and leads generated from the launch and subsequent engagement with connectors.



Deputy Tom Hayes, Minister of State at Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Terry Clune, Founder of Connect Ireland, Shane Kelly, Chamber of Commerce Tipperary Town, Cllr. Seamus Hanafan, Cathaoirleach, Tipperary County Council.

Two additional locations – Terryglass, and Clonmel were also successful and benefitted from financial support under the Local Diaspora Engagement fund. Work is ongoing with this initiative and the numerous contacts which were made as a result of same.



Pictured at the Terryglass / Kilbarron Connect Ireland information evening held during Enterprise Week. L-R Cllr. Joe Hannigan, Joanne Murphy Connect Ireland, Cllr. Ger Darcy, Marcus O'Connor Director of Services and Rita Guinan Head of Enterprise.

*With the support of the Agri Food Tourism Funding, the Network will be able to embark on a very ambitious programme of development and promotional activities for its members.*

**RETAIL SUPPORTS:**

In 2015 Tipperary County Council worked with traders in supporting a number of initiatives, which assist the independent retailer in increasing footfall and encouraging additional spend. It was also recognised that additional alternative support measures, which are integrated with the above supports, may be required to assist in re-energising the vitality and vibrancy of the town/village centre.

**BELOW A NUMBER OF THE ENGAGEMENTS ARE OUTLINED:**

- A new Commercial Incentive Scheme (CIS) to support the Retail sector in County Tipperary was developed and is currently being rolled out.
- A Retail Consultant was engaged to carry out a review of the Retail Sector and to facilitate individual Town Centre Forum Development Plans. A Christmas Retail Support Fund was also launched for Christmas 2015 which attracted 26 applications following a successful pilot initiative in 2014 involving 10 towns.
- The Christmas Retail Support Programme is one of a series of interventions created with the objective to assist in increasing footfall and spend in towns and villages. The programme provided support in the form of a cash grant of between €500 and €4,000 to over 20 towns and villages to develop and implement activities and events over the Christmas period.



Photo by John Williams

A new Commercial Incentive Scheme (CIS) to support the Retail sector in County Tipperary was developed and is currently being rolled out.



**SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLICATIONS 2015;**

Tipperary Co Co submitted 4 applications under the Rural Economic Development Zones (REDZ) Initiative and were awarded funding of €375,000 or 75 % of the project cost. Projects included a as set out hereunder;

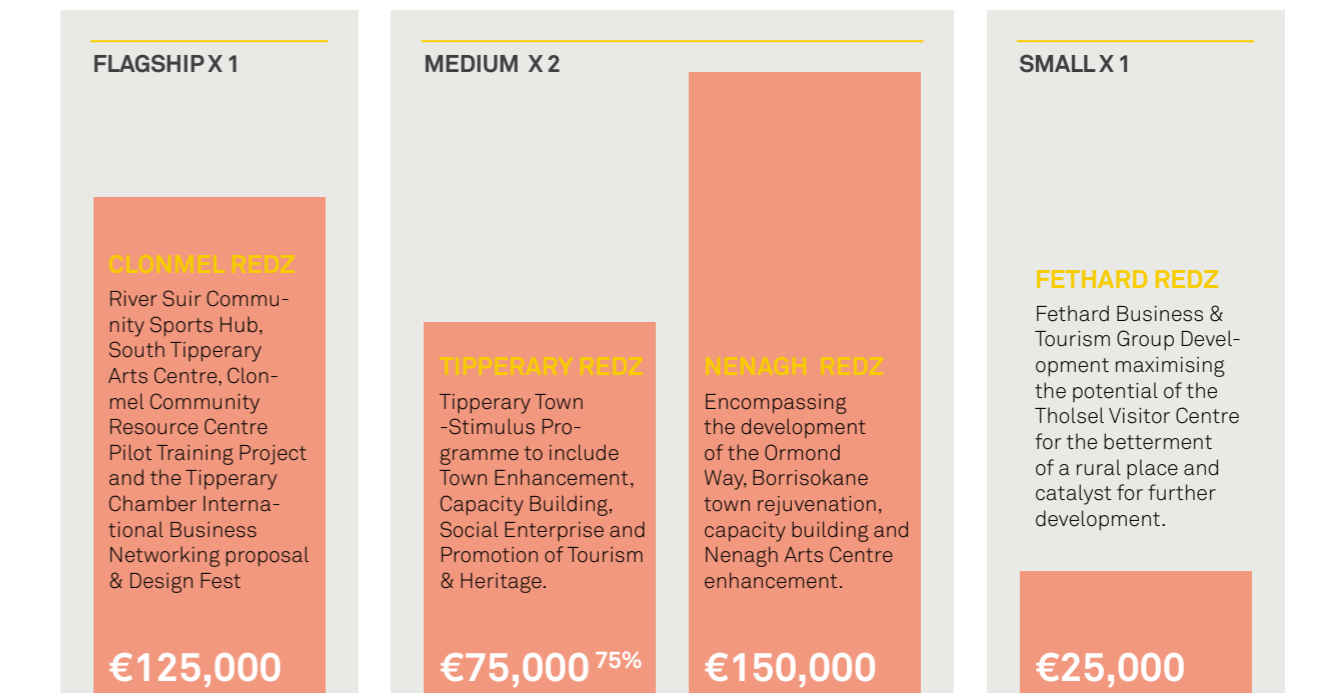


Photo by Maeve Murphy

## EVENTS/PROJECTS

In 2015, LEO Tipperary in conjunction with LIT organised a Social Enterprise Information Evening which was held on in the Thurles Chamber Enterprise Centre. The information evening featured case study presentation by Loughmore Tearooms, Tipperary Energy Communities, and Limerick Community Grocery. Subsequently Tipperary Co Co made application under REDZ and were successful in securing funding to support the establishment of a new social enterprise project in a rural area close to Tipperary Town at Annacarthy involving a Tea Rooms and Shop. The LEO also provided training and mentoring to facilitate the establishment of the enterprise. Work is also commencing in Cloughjordan to examine the options of a co-operative Cafe and other social enterprise initiatives are being explored with other communities.

DesignFest Clonmel, Celebrating Media, Arts & Digital Design took place from November 16th – 21st 2015. The objective was to develop an event of appeal that recognises and celebrates the creative multi-media options available in the Munster region and in particular from the LIT Tipperary Campus based in Clonmel and Thurles. DesignFest Clonmel was a collaboration between LIT, Clonmel Chamber of Commerce and Tipperary County Council which allowed the general public to take a look behind the scenes of the digital world we live in and provided an opportunity to meet some of the key influencers in this ever-changing industry. The festival was initiated to promote the development of the digital animation sector in County Tipperary. The project benefitted from support from DCOI and REDZ in addition to the LEO and TCC. There was 987 recorded in attendance at the events during the week and an estimated 3,000 others engaged in the events that were held during the period of the festival

Co. Tipperary was selected to be the main facilitator to lead Smart Specialisation for Digital Development in the South East Region under the EU funded eDigiregion Project.

In 2015, the LEO commissioned a study of workspace availability and demand to gain an independent analysis and conclusions to assist it with any enquiries in relation to availability of office/industrial or employment space. In addition to the study findings, Tipperary County Council has now available an extensive database of available workspace which has been mapped on GIS and which will be annually updated.

The Questum centre, the new collaborative venture between LIT and TCC saw four new emerging companies take up residence in Questum during 2015. The four companies currently located in Questum are Oneboxvision, Eirechrome, Covectra and A&C Chemicals. All four companies operate in the service to life science sector.

Tholsel Fethard. Stage 1 of the project was completed in May 2015. Phase 1 involved the renovation of the ground and first floors of the building. Phase 1 was financed by Tipperary County Council (€105K), South Tipperary Development Company (€268K) and contributions from a private benefactor. A successful application was made in July to the Ireland Ancient East initiative from Failte Ireland with the securing of €198K to finance the completion of the second floor as part of phase 2 of the project. The intention is that the finished product will host a heritage facility of significance which will celebrate the “equine story” in Tipperary and it will be a key part of the Ireland Ancient East Story in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District within the medieval folds of Fethard village.

Lisheen Mines.Vedanta Holdings ceased production of lead and zinc at Lisheen at the end of November, 2015. As part of the process to secure alternative projects and jobs for the 1,200 acre site, an application was made to the European Commission for designation as a Model Demonstrator region. The application was lead by Tipperary County Council with inputs from a number of industrial and research institutions. The official press release from the EC is attached on the following link:[http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=8436&lang=en&title=Call-for-the-Expression-of-Interest---Selection-of-six-Model-Demonstrator-Regions-to-receive-Advisory-Support](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8436&lang=en&title=Call-for-the-Expression-of-Interest---Selection-of-six-Model-Demonstrator-Regions-to-receive-Advisory-Support). The purpose of the designation is such that companies and projects assessing the location can avail of advice from the Consultants employed by the European Commission in relation to technical and fiduciary aspects of their projects and additionally, in the sharing of information from the other five model demonstrator regions within the EU.

*Co. Tipperary was selected to be the main facilitator to lead Smart Specialisation for Digital Development in the South East Region under the EU funded eDigiregion Project*



# ROADS, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH & SAFETY

## STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

### CHAIRPERSON:

Cllr Jackie Cahill

### COUNCILLORS

- Cllr Mattie Ryan,
- Cllr Fiona Bonfield,
- Cllr Michael Fitzgerald,
- Cllr Hughie McGrath,
- Cllr David Doran,
- Cllr Willie Kennedy &
- Cllr Eddie O'Meara

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### Public Participation Network Representatives

Mr. P.J. English & Ms. Angela Hickey

#### Business/Community/Tourism Representative

Mr. Seamus Campbell

#### Agriculture & Farming

Billy Collins

#### Development Construction:

Martin Healy

## POLICIES AND TOPICS CONSIDERED IN 2015

- Policy on the Sponsorship of Roundabouts
- Presentations & discussions on:
  - The Work of the Roads & Transportation Department
  - Review of special speed limits.
- The Carrick to Clonmel Greenway
- The Tipperary Transport Co-ordination Unit

## ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY

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



## COUNTY TIPPERARY ROAD CLASSIFICATION LENGTHS IN MUNICIPAL AREAS (KILOMETRE)

### NATIONAL

Municipal Area	Nenagh	Templemore Thurles	Clonmel	Cashel Tipperary	Carrick	Totals
Motorway	39	34	25	15	6	<b>119</b>
65National Primary	0	0	38	16	11	<b>65</b>
National Secondary	52	52	6	21	14	<b>145</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>329</b>

### REGIONAL, LOCAL & TERTIARY

Municipal Area	Nenagh	Templemore Thurles	Clonmel	Cashel Tipperary	Carrick	Totals
Regional	289	147	146	171	150	<b>903</b>
Local Primary	496	484	347	294	291	<b>1912</b>
Local Secondary	453	367	245	328	295	<b>1688</b>
Local Tertiary	261	232	210	167	120	<b>990</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1499</b>	<b>1230</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>5493</b>

### TOTALS

Municipal Area	Nenagh	Templemore Thurles	Clonmel	Cashel Tipperary	Carrick	Totals
<b>Overall Total including Motorways</b>	<b>1590</b>	<b>1316</b>	<b>1017</b>	<b>1012</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>5822</b>
<b>Overall Total excluding Motorways</b>	<b>1551</b>	<b>1282</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>5703</b>

## SUMMARY OF ROADS SPEND 2015

### NATIONAL ROADS

Improvement	€2,374,009
Maintenance	€1,205,010
<b>Total</b>	<b>€3,579,019</b>

### REGIONAL & LOCAL ROADS

Discretionary Maintenance	€4,018,126
Restoration Maintenance	€2,421,880
Restoration Improvement	€10,367,603
Specific Improvement Scheme - Lismalin	€392,273
Latteragh Upgrade	€30,514
Bridge Rehabilitation	€200,468
Low Cost Safety Schemes	€348,158
Training Grant	€97,500
Speed Limits	€14,575
Total R & L Allocations 2015	€17,891,097
Own Resources Allocation	€8,451,256

## NON-NATIONAL ROADS

This category caters for Regional and Local Roads. The maintenance and improvement of these roads in 2015 was funded by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, in addition to the Council's own resources.

The Council received grants for non-national roads amounting to €17,891,097.

The discretionary grant of €4,018,126 was used to supplement the Council's own resources for ordinary maintenance of Regional and County Roads. The Council's own resources allocation was €8,451,256.

In 2012, the Council submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport the 2012-2015 Multi-Annual Road Works Restoration Programme. This 4-year programme prioritised the list of restoration improvement proposals to be carried out during the period. A new 3-year 2016-2018 programme is currently being prepared & agreed within each Municipal District prior to submission to the Department.





## WORKS AT BALLYCLERIHAN VILLAGE

Ballyclerihan village was given a major upgrade in 2015 through the implementation of the District Service Centre Enhancement Scheme (DSCES). The purpose of the DSCES project was to take a look at all villages in the county which had been subject to rapid expansion and development during the Celtic Tiger years and to provide a plan for upgrading of the public spaces and infrastructure to keep pace with this expansion. Capital funding of €200,000 was made available in 2015 to put the plan in to action. These works included footpath upgrade, road resurfacing, tree planting and provision of a central plaza space. Traffic calming works to slow through traffic in the village was also accommodated by the provision of a central ramped table and narrowing of the road with greater emphasis placed on pedestrian crossing points.



Before and After Works at Ballyclerihan Village.



Photo by Patrick Lynch

Capital funding of €200,000 was made available in 2015 to put the plan in to action. These works included footpath upgrade, road resurfacing, tree planting and provision of a central plaza space.

## MAJOR CAPITAL SCHEMES

The National Development Plan 2007-2013 and Transport 21 (2007-2016) set out the investment programme for National Road infrastructure. With ongoing funding limitations, investments will be over a longer time frame than were envisaged in these Plans. Outlined below is the current position in relation to major projects.

## MAJOR ROAD IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

N24 Western Corridor – Waterford to Limerick: All work on this scheme through County Tipperary is currently suspended by Transport Infrastructure Ireland. Some Traffic Studies have been undertaken by TII in the meantime but have not indicated a significant traffic increase to justify the level of investment required.



Photo by John O'Loughlin

## NATIONAL PRIMARY & NATIONAL SECONDARY ROUTES

Works were carried out on National Primary and National Secondary routes during 2015 as follows:

### NATIONAL PRIMARY ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES

- N24 Pill Road, Carrick-on-Suir Pedestrian Facilities Improvement Works: Preliminary Design & informal consultation with School Principals and Boards of Management have taken place. TII will review funding when an agreed scheme is in place.
- N24 Davitt Street, Tipperary Town Traffic Calming Works: Design/Part 8 completed in 2015. Detailed design & preparation of Tender Documents currently underway (It is hoped that construction will commence before end of Q2 2016 subject to TII approval).
- N24 Pill Road, Carrick-on-Suir Rail Bridge Advanced Warning Signage Works: Design of Advance Warning Signage on all approach roads, Design of Vehicle Height Detection and Warning System, Investigation of options to increase existing bridge clearance underway by TII & Mid West NRDO.

### NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD SAFETY SCHEMES

- N74 Thomastown Village Traffic Calming: Construction Works Completed in 2015.
- N76-N76/R706 Junction Sight Distance Improvement at Ormonde Stores: Land Acquisition Completed for Junction Sight Distance Improvement, Construction Works to be completed in 2016.
- N52-N65 Junction Borriskane: Interim scheme to improve visibility at the junction. Scheme paused pending completion of culvert repair and drainage scheme.



Traffic Calming Works at Thomastown during 2015

### NATIONAL PRIMARY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

- N24 Knockacurra (Kilshane) Pavement Reconstruction:

#### Construction works completed in 2015

- N24 Arrigan's Boreen Realignment: Construction Works Completed in 2015
- N24 Davitt Street, Tipperary Pavement Strengthening: Design Phase/Preparation of Tender Documents underway (It is hoped that construction will commence before end of Q2 2016).
- N24 Bohercrowe Pavement Strengthening: Design & procurement of Contractor in 2015. Construction underway early 2016.



Pavement Re-construction Works at Kilshane during 2015

### NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD IMPROVEMENT

- N74 Ballyhusty Realignment: Design Phase (awaiting TII approval to proceed to CPO)
- N74 Garranacanty Pavement Strengthening: Construction Works Completed in 2015
- N62 Parnell Street and Cuchulainn Road Thurles: Construction Completed
- N65 Lehinch Pavement Scheme and Embankment Stabilisation scheme completed in 2015

### NATIONAL PRIMARY & NATIONAL SECONDARY IMPROVEMENT OF TEXTURE

Works were carried out at a number of locations across the county to improve the skid resistance of the road surface.

## STRATEGIC NON-NATIONAL ROAD PROJECTS

- Thurles Inner Relief Road
- Preliminary design completed. Awaiting funding to proceed
- R498 Nenagh to Thurles Upgrade Knockalton-Kilconane
- Part 8 completed. Land Acquisition stage underway & construction to commence later in 2016.
- R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh bends
- Consultants appointed to select preferred route in 2015-2016. Scheme will require major funding in 2017-2018 if it is to be progressed further. First public consultation took place on 3rd November 2015
- Ballina/Killaloe By Pass - Shannon Bridge Crossing & R494 Improvement Scheme
- Objectors have sought judicial review. The matter is still to be adjudicated on by the Courts

## SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENT GRANT SCHEME

This scheme is directed towards the improvement of roads to assist with tourism and other commercial and industrial developments and has enabled the Council to bring forward works, which might not otherwise be done for some time. Expenditure of €392,273 enabled Lismalin Bridge replacement in the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District. (A more detailed report on this scheme is presented hereunder).



New 14metre single span RC Bridge at Lismalin.

## LOW COST SAFETY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

A sum of €348,158 was spent for the low cost accident improvement schemes and works were carried out at a number of locations throughout the County.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEMES

These schemes refer to the upgrading and improvement of tertiary & minor roads where residents contribute 15% of the cost of the works. A significant number of schemes were completed during 2015 in each Municipal District to which the Council allocated €600,000 from its Restoration Improvement allocation.

## BRIDGE REHABILITATION WORKS

A sum of €200,468 was spent in 2015 in respect of bridge rehabilitation works at various locations.

## MACHINERY YARD

The Machinery Yard, which has two bases in Clonmel and Nenagh provides a support service to engineering based activities for all of Tipperary County Council. The core service objective is to provide machinery (i.e. vehicles, plant and equipment) at a reasonable cost to assist District based staff to carry out their functions. The machinery yard has approx 160 Council owned vehicles under its control, with a replacement value of circa 3.5 million euros. In addition it maintains the former Clonmel Borough Council, Tipperary, Cashel and Carrick UDC vehicles, approx 40 vehicles which would have an additional replacement value of circa 1.2 million euros.

### THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MACHINERY YARD INCLUDE:

- Fleet management in compliance with the Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012
- The inspection, operation and maintenance of the Council fleet, including its requirements under Statutory Instrument S.I. 348 of 2013 Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) (Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Regulations 2013).
- The supply of plant and machinery
- The acquisition and disposal of plant and machinery
- The provision of a safe, secure site for the storing of machinery
- To have available the staffing levels and skills necessary to maintain and operate the council's plant and machinery fleet efficiently.
- Arranging the hire of commercial machinery is carried out at area level from the LAQuotes System of procurement.

### MACHINERY IS HIRED IN FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS INCLUDING THE NEED TO:

- Satisfy machinery requirements of the Council at peak periods
- Avail of specialist machines with skilled drivers
- Avail of specialist machines for seasonal work
- Avail of plant and machinery for short term hire

There are 12 full time drivers and 6 seasonal drivers based in the Nenagh Yard and 14 full time drivers and 6 seasonal drivers based in Clonmel. The Machinery Yard also operates the winter maintenance service with a fleet of 11 salt spreaders.

The Council operates its own machinery workshop in Clonmel and Nenagh to meet the maintenance requirements for the various items of machinery. At present there is a foreman fitter and 5 fitters in the Clonmel Workshop and a foreman and two fitters in the Nenagh Workshop.

The machinery workshop will be responsible for regular inspection of all commercial vehicles in the fleet, the servicing of trucks, pickups, vans and tractors as required by the manufacturers specification, and the repair of vehicles as required.



New Mercedes truck displaying the logo of the newly formed Tipperary County Council

## WINTER MAINTENANCE



Surface dressing at Kingswell during 2015

### WINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICE CONSISTS OF FOUR DISTINCT PHASES NAMELY:-

- Pre-salting of National Primary & Secondary Routes and major Regional Roads and routes of Strategic importance.
- Salting and Sanding of ice bound National and Regional Routes.
- Clearance of snow by means of Snow Ploughs from National and Regional Routes.
- Clearance of snow by means of Snow Ploughs or Mechanical loaders from County Roads.

Phase 1 is termed pre-cautionary treatment and is generally timed to be completed approx. 2 hours before the start of freezing conditions.



### WINTER MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN TIPPERARY IS PRIORITISED ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS:-

- **Priority 1:** National Roads, and Regional Roads of Strategic importance
- **Priority 2:** Regional Roads with High Volume of traffic using the road
- **Priority 3:** Urban Roads and Local Roads on a priority basis, urban centres.

(In extreme weather events Priority 1 Routes will take precedence over Priority 2 Routes in terms of allocation of available resources)

The Winter Maintenance period lasts from mid October to mid April each year. The aim is to keep priority routes safe and as free as possible from wintry hazards. The NRA provided a grant of €290,000 for National Road winter maintenance. The council allocated a sum of €499,000 from its Discretionary Grant provided by the Department of Transport for Non-National Road Winter maintenance, and the Council provided € 102,000 from own resources funds for Winter Maintenance in Tipperary during 2015.

The County has a roster of 4 Icecast Duty Engineers who will be responsible for use of the weather bureau service to examine the forecast, and track the actual conditions for the area and for issue of instructions for required winter maintenance based on the specialist forecasts and local information.

The Winter Maintenance Service is managed and operated by the Machinery Yard. Eleven crews are rostered on a weekly basis using 6 No. 6 Tonne and 5 No. 9 Tonne Salt Spreaders, mounted on Council trucks to pre-salt Priority 1 and Priority 2 Routes (approx. 1,000 Km). In the event of forecast of overnight frost/ice, the Council has agreement with neighbouring Council's on a quid pro quo basis for cross boundary treatments of routes to increase efficiency of operation.

A complete schedule and map of pre-salting routes, and cross boundary agreements is published on the County Council website.

Snowploughs will be fitted to the salt spreading vehicles when snow is forecast and ploughing will commence as soon as snow depths on all or part of the Network exceeds 30mm.

The Council also has 21 no. mini-spreaders which can be mounted on the District pickups in the event of ice formed on roads or for severe weather to treat local problem areas such as junctions, steep hills, frost pockets etc.

The NRA manages the national procurement of road salt for National and Non-National Roads and provided approx 4,600 tonnes of salt to the Council in 2015. It also maintains a national reserve of salt for distribution to local authorities in the event of a forecast of a severe weather event, ie a prolonged cold snap, or blizzard conditions.

The Councils covered salt storage capacity is now in excess of 2,700 tonnes and salt storage barns are located in Cahir (600 Tonnes), Clonmel (600 Tonnes) and Nenagh (1,500 tonnes).



Loading of Salt during 2015

## SEVERE WEATHER/STORM DAMAGE

The severe weather consisting of recurrent storms and resulting flooding during December 2015/January 2016 proved very challenging to deal with in Tipperary like many counties throughout the country.

A multi-organisational approach was required with Tipperary County Council liaising with other organizations such as the OPW, Gardai, Defence Forces and HSE to ensure a co-ordinated response to these extreme weather events. The resultant flooding left many roads in a severe state of disrepair. An allocation of €5 million has been provided by the Department of Environment to deal with the cost of same.

The co-operation and dedication of all staff & others in dealing with these very challenging weather events has been acknowledged.



An example of flooding as a result of the severe storms which took place at the end of 2015.

## PUBLIC LIGHTING

The County Council is responsible for the provision and maintenance of public (street) lighting throughout the County. Unfortunately it was not possible to provide any new lights during 2015. The only additional lights that will be maintained will be when estates are taken in charge by the Council. The total number of public lights in the network is circa 14,000.

Public Lighting maintenance is now carried out under contract with Airtricity Utility Solutions. Energia supply the electrical power to the lighting network.



## TAKING IN CHARGE OF ESTATES

**A TOTAL OF 7 ESTATES WERE TAKEN IN CHARGE DURING 2015.**

Municipal District Estate	Date Taken in Charge
<b>NENAGH</b> Cnoc Ard, Portroe Road, Ballina.	18/06/2015
<b>NENAGH</b> Fernhill, Cullenagh, Ballina.	18/06/2015
<b>NENAGH</b> Kilnasalla, Gortlandroe, Nenagh.	18/06/2015
<b>NENAGH</b> Shoreside, Cullenagh, Ballina.	18/06/2015
<b>TEMPLEMORE-THURLES</b> Castlecourt, Castlequarter, Borrisoleigh.	24/06/2015
<b>CASHEL-TIPPERARY</b> Forge Close, Main Street, Emly.	29/06/2015
<b>NENAGH</b> Cullenagh (Derg Hill, The Rise, Lakelands, Lakeview, Lakeview Heights, Slí Cuilleann, Slí Rohan) Ballina	23/10/2015

## SMARTER TRAVEL

**NATIONAL CYCLE NETWORK 2014 - 2015 (EXTENDED TO 2016)**

Following a successful bid for funding under the Government Stimulus Package for Infrastructure Development, €1.9m was awarded by the Dept of Transport, Tourism and Sport for a Greenway Walking/Cycle path on the 19km Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir towpath. Detailed design & Part 8 Planning Process was completed in 2014. Tendering was completed and a Contractor appointed by May 2015. Various issues arose on site to delay progress. It is now intended that the scheme will be completed by Q3 of 2016.



(Photo of completed Greenway footpath/cycle track at Ferryhouse Clonmel – Sir Thomas's Bridge in background)

*The severe weather consisting of recurrent storms and resulting flooding during December 2015/January 2016 proved very challenging to deal with in Tipperary like many counties throughout the country.*



### ACTIVE TRAVEL TOWNS 2014 - 2016

In 2014, the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport awarded funding for two new projects at Clonmel & Thurles under the 2014-2016 Active Travel Towns Scheme. €1m was allocated for Clonmel and €510,000 for Thurles to implement measures identified in the Walking and Cycling Strategy.

**Thurles:** Design & construction of cycle lanes at (a) N62 Brittas Road & (b) Clongour – Stradavoher. The Department subsequently reduced the funding by €78,000 as a third route along N75 Kickham Street – Mitchell Street area was not progressed due to width restrictions & lack of continuity. In due course an alternative route in this area may be progressed subject to funding being available.

**Clonmel:** Consultants appointed for design of three Cycle Lane Projects at (a) Western Road – Ballingarrane R/b (b) Toberaheena R/b – Irishtown & Convent Rd (c) Cashel Road (Queen St – Argaoithe Business Pk). Construction is due to commence in February 2016 and to be completed by June 2016. The design of Walking/Cycle Path on River Suir (Convent Bridge to Old Bridge) is also underway.



### ROAD SAFETY - ACTIONS 2015

- Participated in the Gardai Síochána National slow down days through the provision of VMS signage on roadside locations throughout the county with the message “Slow Down”.
- Assisted primary schools in the provision of safer cycling training to pupils in partnership with the Road Safety Authority.
- Provided support to the **Tipp FM Road Safety Campaign** which aimed to raise awareness to the dangers on our roads and to encourage people to slow down and take extra care. The campaign organized in co-operation with the Gardai from April to Friday 1 May 2015 provided a focus on Road safety with outside broadcasts from Towns around the county, live interviews each morning included:
  - Safe driving tips which were recorded and broadcast throughout the week on Tipp FM as information adverts.
  - Feature interviews on Tipp FM’s “Tipp Today” detailing the anatomy of a car crash throughout the week including Paramedics, The Gardai, The Fire Service, an A & E Consultant, a Crash Investigator and a survivor of a road traffic accident.
- Distribution throughout the county of High Vis Vests free of charge.



### TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

(Clonmel, Cashel-Tipperary & Templemore-Thurles Municipal Districts)

Tipperary County Council in association with Department of Social Protection operates the Community Employment Initiative undertaking a range of environmental improvement projects and maintenance works in parks, towns, and cemeteries. Emphasis is placed on providing valuable employment experience and training for participants. Participants gain in confidence and self esteem that enable them to work as part of a team within their own community. The community benefits by having cleaner towns, improvement of amenities and the landscaping of areas.

#### ALL PARTICIPANTS BENEFIT FROM MANDATORY & JOB RELATED TRAINING INCLUDING

- Safe Pass
- Manual Handling
- CSCS Health & Safety at Road Works.
- Fork Lift
- Site Dumper Operations Quarrying
- “C” Drivers licence
- 360°Excavator Ticket



### HEALTH & SAFETY

Tipperary County Council Roads Section continues to pro-actively implement a comprehensive Health & Safety management system in accordance with our Parent Safety Statement & legal obligations. The focus on health & safety is maintained through regular meetings and committees where issues such as policy/procedures are discussed. Harmonisation of North & South Road Safety Statements was continued during 2015 and is to be completed in 2016. Regular Site Inspections and preparation for a HSA Safety Audit were also undertaken during 2015 along with recording of Accidents & Incidents & investigation of root causes.

### PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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

This information allows Tipperary County Council to quantify in a scientific fashion the different treatments required for the different road categories. The following illustrates the point and the scale of funding required to bring the complete network to a good standard:

#### ROAD CATEGORY IN NEED OF RECONSTRUCTION



## OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW LISMALIN BRIDGE

The new Lismalin Bridge over the King's River was officially opened by the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government, Mr. Alan Kelly, on Monday, 30th November 2015. The opening of the new bridge was very important for the local community as it ended almost two years of detours of 8 km to 10 km for local residents. Lismalin Bridge is an important link in the local road network serving the communities of Mullinahone and Ballingarry and the villages of Coalbrook and the Commons. It also provides a link to the main towns in the area, Cashel, Tipperary, Limerick and Thurles.

The old bridge, which was an iron and concrete structure predated famine times. It was closed to traffic in 2013 amid concerns of a potential collapse due to damage caused to its cast iron central support columns by the effects of erosion on the river.



Present at the official opening of Lismalin Bridge on 30/11/15: Deputies Noel Coonan and Mattie McGrath, Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council Seamus Hanifan, Minister Alan Kelly, Chief Executive of Tipperary County Council Joe MacGrath, Cllr Imelda Goldsboro, Cathaoirleach of Carrick-on-Suir MD Cllr Eddie O'Meara .

## SPECIAL SPEED LIMIT REVIEW FOR COUNTY TIPPERARY

A special speed limit review for County Tipperary commenced during the third quarter of 2015. This is part of a National Statutory Review and is expected to be completed in April 2017.

Pre-draft consultations were carried out with An Garda Síochána, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), Elected Members, Road Design Office, AA Ireland and Directors of Services of adjoining local authorities.

Pre-draft submissions received were reviewed to determine if they should be included in the Draft Bye-Laws. It is expected that the Draft Bye-Laws will go to public consultation in August/September 2016.

## HEDGE CUTTING

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

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

It is important to note that under the Wildlife Act 1976 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, it is an offence to destroy vegetation growing in a hedge or ditch between the 1st March and 31st August each year.

A total of 211 notices were served on landowners by Tipperary County Council during 2015.

## ROADS ABUTTING CERTIFICATES



A total of 432 applications for Roads Abutting Certificates were received during 2015 and a total of 388 Certificates were issued.

## ABNORMAL LOAD PERMITS



A total of 239 Abnormal Load Permits were issued during 2015.





# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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

## DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

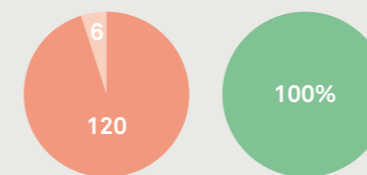
Development Management involves processing planning applications and various other applications under planning legislation, within the regulatory time frame and ensuring that interested parties have access to all available information which will enable them to assess proposed development. The planning register is available for viewing online at [www.tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.tipperarycoco.ie). Set out below are figures for 2015 planning applications.

## E-PLANNING

The on-going development of the I-Plan system, Enforcement system, and digitising of the Planning Register Map resulted in greater efficiency within the Section and to the public. All planning applications received in 2015 were scanned and made available through planning enquiry system on [www.tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.tipperarycoco.ie). The Council's Website was used where appropriate, e.g. details of application forms, weekly lists, variations to plans etc. In addition, the usage of the on-line enquiries system for the general public is increasing. July 2015 saw the launch of the @planningtipp twitter page.

### INDIVIDUAL HOUSE

126 decisions made



### NIA/EIA

12 decisions made



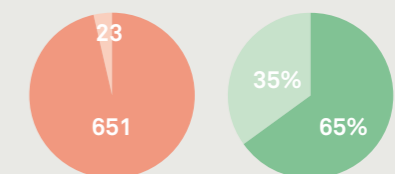
### HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

5 decisions made



### OTHER APPLICATIONS

674 decisions made



■ Decisions Granted    
 ■ Refused Decisions    
 ■ Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanala    
 ■ Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanala



## DEVELOPMENT PLANS/LOCAL AREA PLANS

### NORTH AND SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The Development Plan of a County is a document which details the overall strategy of the council for the proper planning and sustainable development of an area and consists of a written statement and accompanying maps. The policies and objectives can be critical in determining the appropriate location and form of different types of development as the development plan is one of the factors against which planning applications are assessed.



South Tipperary County Development Plan 2009



North Tipperary County Development Plan 2010

The Council, in order to provide a unified vision and strategic planning framework to support the future economic, social and community development of the county has carried out a variation process of both County Development Plans. The written statements of both plans have been replaced with a common written statement incorporating consistent policies and objectives across the county. Both Variations were made at the December meeting of the Council.

In the interest of consistency and ease of presentation, both the North and South Tipperary County Development Plans have been republished on [www.tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.tipperarycoco.ie) to incorporate changes made as a result of Variation Number 1 and Variation Number 2 of both Plans.

### TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Section 15 reports on the progress of achieving objectives under the following Town Development Plans were presented at the October meeting

- Nenagh and Environs Development Plan 2013
- Carrick-On-Suir Development Plan 2013
- Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2013
- Tipperary Town and Environs Development Plan 2013

### CAHIR LOCAL AREA PLAN 2011

In accordance with Section 19(1)(f) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), Tipperary County Council has resolved to extend the life of the Cahir Local Area Plan for a period not exceeding 5 years at its October meeting.

## PROPOSED VARIATION (NO. 3) OF THE NORTH & SOUTH TIPPERARY COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLANS: RENEWABLE ENERGY STRATEGY

Tipperary County Council is preparing a Renewable Energy Strategy which is a Strategy for County Tipperary to realise the renewable energy potential of the county while preserving the cultural, natural and built environment of the county. At the May 2015 Monthly Meeting the Issues Paper was noted and it was agreed to commence the public consultation process which ran from 13th May to 15th June 2015. A presentation on the Renewable Energy Strategy was made to a meeting of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC on 27th May 2015.

Preparation of the Draft Renewable Energy Strategy, Wind Energy Strategy and Landscape Character Assessment is currently under preparation. The Draft Strategy will be presented to the members in early 2016.



Photo by Ann Kelly

Tipperary County Council is preparing a Renewable Energy Strategy which is a Strategy for County Tipperary to realise the renewable energy potential of the county while preserving the cultural, natural and built environment of the county

## TOWN ENHANCEMENT SCHEMES / MASTER PLANS



### KICKHAM BARRACKS



Formerly known as Clonmel Barracks, Kickham Barracks is physically at the heart of Clonmel and was established on the current site in the late 18th century. Tipperary County Council is now coordinating the redevelopment of the Barracks, the first stage of which is the completion of a detailed master plan to inform and control the site's development. Kickham Barracks Masterplan has been finalised and was endorsed by the Elected Members in April 2015.

Part 8: Planning was also approved by the Council in October 2015 for the development of a new Civic Place and Public Realm Works as part of phase 1 of the Kickham Barracks master plan.

### ROSCREA ENHANCEMENT PLAN

The Planning Section continued to work with the Roscrea Town Centre Enhancement Plan committee to facilitate the delivery of priority projects which concentrated on Castle Street / Main Street Roscrea and Birr-Roscrea Greenway. Enhancement Awards were held in December 2015.

### PAINTING SCHEMES

Painting Schemes were prepared for the municipal districts to grant assist the visual enhancement of properties and streetscapes in town centre locations in Cahir, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Clonmel, Nenagh, Templemore, Thurles and Roscrea. A commemoration scheme was also prepared for Cloughjordan.



## CONSERVATION

### BUILT HERITAGE - STRUCTURES AT RISK FUND

The DAHG launched this grants scheme in December, 2014 to encourage and facilitate the repair and conservation of protected structures. Tipperary County Council was allocated funding of €30,000 for two projects Modeshill Church, Modeshill, Mullinahone and Mountain Lodge, Glengarra Woods.



### TOWN WALLS PROGRAMME

The Council continued to participate in the Irish Town Wall Network (IWTN) which seeks to co-ordinate the strategic efforts of local authorities involved in the management, conservation and enhancement of historic walled towns.

#### The Council undertook the following projects in 2015:

- **Carrick-on-Suir:** A grant of €30,000 was received from the Heritage Council the funding was allocated for the conservation of the section of upstanding wall at the north east corner of the walled town including the bartizan at the corner.
- **Cashel:** A grant of €10,000 was received from the Heritage Council for the conservation and stabilisation of Section A of the City Wall.



Works in progress in Cashel

- **Fethard:** Inspect and survey a section of the Fethard Town wall and compile a condition assessment report. Provide a conservation method statement setting out proposals required to stabilise and repair the wall. These works were fully funded by the Council.

## DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME

The review of the North and South Tipperary Local Authorities Development Contribution Schemes commenced in September, 2014 and the Draft Development Contribution Scheme was placed on public display in October, 2014. The Development Contribution Scheme 2015-2019 was adopted on 12th January 2015 and applies to the administrative area of Tipperary County Council replacing the existing schemes which applied to the nine former planning authorities in Tipperary. The Scheme is effective from 1st March 2015 until 31st December 2019 unless it is amended, reviewed or replaced.

## ENFORCEMENT

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

**In accordance with Section 154 (14) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the statistics from 1st January to 31st December 2015 are as follows:**

Complaints Received:	187
Complaints Investigated:	145
Complaints Dismissed	100
Warning Letters Issued:	169
Enforcement Notices Issued:	47
Prosecutions Initiated:	2
Cases Closed:	191

## PLANNING & EMERGENCY SERVICES SPC

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

Sector	Name
8 Councillors	Chair - Denis Leahy Micheál Anglim John Carroll Joe Bourke Gerard Darcy Michael O'Meara David Dunne Martin Browne
1 Agriculture & Farming	Matthew Mounsey
1 Development Construction	Tom Gallahue
2 PPN	Seamus Coffey Lyn Mather

The Planning & Emergency Services SPC held meetings on 31st March, 27th May and 2nd December 2015.



Photo by John O'Loughlin



Photo by John O'Loughlin



Photo by Neil Jackman



Photo by Robert Wade

# TOURISM

## TIPPERARY TOURISM COMPANY



Tipperary Tourism Company Ltd held its first meeting in February 2015. The Board is made up of 17 Directors representing tourism interests and providers across the County.

### TIPPERARY TOURISM HAD A BUSY YEAR PROMOTING AND MARKETING TIPPERARY AS A TOURISM DESTINATION INCLUDING:

- The development of the Tipperary Holiday Guidebook 2016
- Attendance at a number of Consumers Shows in Ireland and the UK
- Developing the online presence of Destination Tipperary, particularly in relation to social media.
- The creation of a monthly newsletter for tourism providers and visitors.
- Collaborating with the Local Enterprise Office to deliver specific training courses for tourism providers.
- Working with Tipperary County Council to develop an all County Tourism Strategy which will be complete by the 2nd quarter 2016.

*Tipperary*

Experience Character Adventure

## NEW ALL COUNTY TOURISM WEBSITE WWW.TIPPERARY.COM

A new all county tourism website for Tipperary, [www.tipperary.com](http://www.tipperary.com) was launched by Alan Kelly TD, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government at the Tipperary Tourism Seminar in November 2015. The website is a collaborative project between the Councils IT Section and the Tourism Unit. The new website profiles the vast range of authentic experiences that are on offer across the County. Tipperary Tourism has also established social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest.



Fionn Davenport, Award Winning Travel Journalist with the Irish Time and Lonely Planet pictured with Minister Alan Kelly at the launch of [www.tipperary.com](http://www.tipperary.com).



## SEMINARS FOR TOURISM PROVIDERS IN TIPPERARY



Una Ryan, Tipperary Tourism Company, Ruairi Deane, Fáilte Ireland, Jane Ryan, Tipperary Tourism Company, James Chiltern, Tourism and Recreation Consultant and Joe MacGrath, CE

- As part of Enterprise Week 2015, Tipperary Local Enterprise Office organised The Value of Tourism and the Opportunities to be Exploited seminar which took place in Cahir House Hotel in May 2015. The event was very well attended by tourism providers and boasted a good range of speakers. The event provided an excellent opportunity for Tipperary Tourism Company to highlight the formation and role of the Company to tourism providers.
- Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism Company, organised a tourism seminar in November for the tourism trade in Tipperary. One hundred and twenty delegates from across the County gathered to hear about the latest developments in tourism on a county and regional basis. The seminar featured Fionn Davenport, Award Winning Travel Writer with Lonely Planet and the Irish Times and Ruairi Deane, Programme Manager, Fáilte Ireland on the new Irelands Ancient East brand.



Joe MacGrath, CE, Cllr Seamus Hannafin, Cathaoirleach, Fionn Davenport, Irish Times & Lonely Planet, Minister Alan Kelly, Luke Murtagh, Chairman, Tipperary Tourism Company, Ruairi Deane, Fáilte Ireland and Marie Phelan, Tourism Development Officer at the Tipperary Tourism Seminar at Bru Boru in November 2015

## COMMUNITY TOURISM DIASPORA INITIATIVE

The Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2015 was a three-way partnership between Fáilte Ireland, IPB Insurance and Tipperary County Council. The initiative was established as a follow on from the success of The Gathering 2013 in mobilising local communities to harness diaspora links for the benefit of local tourism.

The objectives of the initiative were to:

- Provide support in the form of small-scale funding incentives for community-based tourism events that have the capacity to carry through the legacy of The Gathering in 2015 and beyond;
- Create a national network of local events with the capacity to deepen diaspora linkages and networks that have been developed or re-activated during The Gathering and subsequent years;
- To foster the growth of strong county diaspora networks on the basis that diaspora relationships are rooted in 'people and place'.

Twenty three events were supported throughout the County through the Community Tourism Diaspora Project.



## CASHEL LOYALTY SCHEME



Cashel Loyalty Scheme was launch on March 6th. This is a partnership between the OPW, Cashel Chamber of Commerce and Cashel Development and Heritage Trust facilitated by Tipperary County Council whereby visitors to Cashel will receive a free family pass to The Rock of Cashel when they spend €15 in a participating business. This is the first scheme of its kind in Ireland.

## MUNSTER VALES

The 'Munster Vales' is a major new tourism initiative led by Tipperary County Council, supported by Waterford County Council, Cork County Council, South Tipperary Development Company, Waterford Leader Partnership, Ballyhoura Development, Fáilte Ireland and the communities in the Galtees, Knockmealdowns, the Commeraghs and the Ballyhouras. Development of the Munster Vales progressed in 2015, the most significant event being the renaming of the destination from Munster Peak to Munster Vales in April. Work also commenced on developing an "identify" logo for the area, and on developing marketing bundles for the area. It is anticipated that these will be completed in early 2016.



Photo by Gerard Sheehy

## THE BUTLER TRAIL



New Butler Trail sign at Sean Healy Park, Carrick on Suir

In early 2015 Butler Trail individual town trail signage was installed in Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Cahir. This project was led by South Tipperary Tourism Company supported by Tipperary County Council and South Tipperary Development Company. Responsibility for the further development of the trail lies with Tipperary County Council supported by Tipperary Tourism Company.



Marie Phelan Tourism Development Officer, David Butler, Butler Society and Clare Lee, Executive Planner

In August Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism welcomed The Butler Society to Clonmel. The Butler Rally takes place every three years and is an event for the Butler Diaspora from across the globe. The event usually takes place in Kilkenny, however this year the Butler Rally spent one day tracing their routes in County Tipperary. Over 80 Society members from across the globe were in attendance to hear about Tipperary's Butler heritage, the development of the Butler Trail and the Walled Town Network.



In April, Fáilte Ireland launched Ireland's Ancient East – an initiative which seeks to build on the wealth of historical and cultural assets in the east of Ireland (all of County Tipperary is included). The key to this initiative's success will be how the local history is illuminated by local people, communities and tourism stakeholders, offering stories and products which touch on the main themes of Ireland's Ancient East. In early July, Fáilte Ireland ran a capital grants scheme called New Ideas in Ancient Spaces. Tipperary County Council was successful in its application for funding for the further development of The Butler Trail between Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Cahir. This funding of €109,000 will be used to erect motorway, gateway and parking directional signage and to develop an App and Audio Guides. The Tholsol project in Fethard was also successful in securing funding of €198,000 for the development of a visitor centre.



## LOUGH DERG MARKETING GROUP



The Lough Derg Marketing Group is made up of key agencies involved in tourism such as Fáilte Ireland, Waterways Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Clare, Galway & Tipperary County Councils, LEADER and tourism trade representatives from the private sector. The objectives of the Lough Derg Marketing Group are:

- To bring a coherent marketing focus to the Lough Derg Catchment area;
- To parallel the proposed capital investment programme with an integrated marketing strategy;
- To establish the Lough Derg Brand nationally and internationally.

Since the launch of the “Roadmap for Experience Development and Destination Marketing 2014-2017” in February 2014, there has been significant activity around the marketing and promotion of Lakelands Lough Derg including:

- A €2million stimulus package for Lough Derg has been invested in progressing the objectives in the Roadmap. 14 projects have been supported and the following were completed in 2015 in County Tipperary;
  - › Tountinna - improvement to access road and the Lough Derg Way, new information panel & picnic table
  - › Castlough Amenity Area - new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), outdoor furniture, grass seeding and parking.
  - › Dromineer Lakeside Amenity Area - resurfacing of parking areas
  - › Ballina Lakeside Amenity Area – resurfacing of car parking areas
  - › Signage Strategy – New Lough Derg Lakelands signage in towns and villages



Information Panel on the Lough Derg Way

- Marketing & promotional activity online was achieved using the [www.discoverloughderg.ie](http://www.discoverloughderg.ie) website, Twitter, Facebook and Pinterest.
- Radio adverts on 2FM, promotional publications, and advertorials throughout 2015 heightened the awareness of the Lough Derg Lakelands.
- A social media workshop and a Food Story workshop were organised for the tourism trade in the region in 2015.
- A Taste of Lough Derg took place over the months of June to September in cooperation with the food producers and food providers around Lough Derg. A total of 26 events took place promoting the food offering and visitor experience of Lough Derg.

## NEW TOURISM STRATEGY FOR TIPPERARY

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism Company commenced the development of a Strategic Tourism Marketing, Experience and Destination Development Plan for County Tipperary in 2015. The Plan is intended to be a practical, action oriented, consumer focused strategy which will allow providers, stakeholders and agencies engaged in tourism in the County to maximise opportunities to attract and engage visitors in Tipperary. It is anticipated that the plan will be completed by March 2016.

# 3

# QUALITY OF LIFE

- HOUSING
- SOCIAL INCLUSION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- LIBRARY SERVICES
- ARTS
- TIPPERARY HERITAGE OFFICE
- TIPPERARY MUSEUM
- TIPPERARY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP



Photo by Pádraig ÓFlannabhra

# HOUSING

## HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

### MEMBERSHIP

#### TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL:

- **Cllr Seamus Morris, Chair,**
- **Cllr Pat English, Cllr Imelda Goldsboro,**
- **Cllr Mary Hanna Hourigan,**
- **Cllr Martin Lonergan,**
- **Cllr Michéal Lowry,**
- **Cllr Louise McLoughlin,**
- **Cllr Marie Murphy, Cllr Jim Ryan.**

#### EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES:

- **Mr. Liam Hayes** - Public Participation Network,
- **Mr. Terry O'Connor** - Public Participation Network ,
- **Ms Trisha Purcell** - Public Participation Network,
- **Mr John O Shaughnessy** - Development & Construction.

The role of this Strategic Policy Committee is to assist the Council in formulating Housing and Social Policies. It is made up of members of the County Council and representatives from the Community and Voluntary Forum, Trade Union and business sectors.

The new Strategic Policy Committee for Housing & Social Policy was set up following the Council merger.

#### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE CONSIDERED AND DISCUSSED:

- Social Housing Strategy
- Housing Allocation Scheme
- Consent to Sale Policy
- Naming of Estates Policy
- Antisocial behavior Policy
- Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes
- Social Housing Investment Programme
- Homelessness
- Traveller Accommodation
- Tenant Handbook
- Tenant Purchase Scheme
- Housing Assistance Payment Scheme

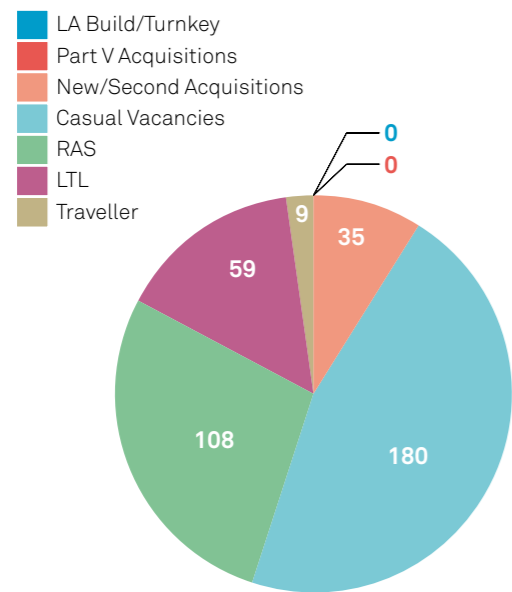
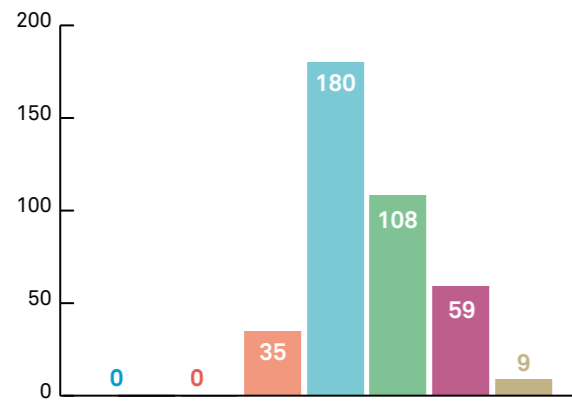


## HOUSING NEEDS ANALYSIS

The social housing need for Tipperary County Council at the end of 2015 is 3040.

### HOUSING ALLOCATIONS 2015

 **391** applicants were allocated dwellings in 2015



 **45** persons refused offers of Local Authority dwellings in 2015

### SOCIAL HOUSING LEASING INITIATIVE (SLI) / RENTAL ACCOMMODATION SCHEME (RAS)

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

Since the commencement of the schemes, in excess of 1550 properties have been secured on a county wide basis.

#### Progress 2015: Contracts Procured



## HOMELESSNESS 2015

In line with the regional approach required by government to address homelessness, the South East Homelessness Action Plan 2013-2016 was adopted by the Council in April 2013.

The plan sets out the structures, principles and actions required to prevent and eliminate long term homelessness in the region. The plan provides for performance service indicators for the first time in the area of homelessness. It also provides for a more co-ordinated approach to funding arrangements for homeless services in the region, with Waterford City Council being delegated as lead authority in relation to homeless funding.

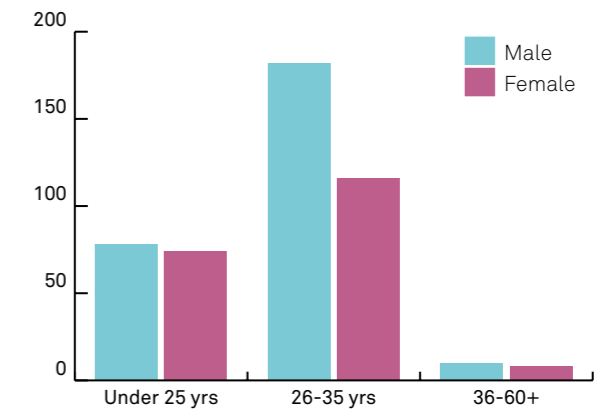
Central to the provision of homeless services are the Homeless Action Teams (HAT). The Homeless Action Teams are established in each local authority area in the region and have helped to achieve a standardised approach to care and case management in respect of those clients presenting as homeless. The HAT is a multi-disciplined approach, which meets weekly with representatives from the various service providers for the homeless, such as the Local Authority, HSE, Mental Health Services, Cuan Saor Women's hostel, Novas hostel, Department of Social Protection and South East Simon.

### HOMELESS SUPPORTS WITHIN TIPPERARY

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

These housing supports address the issue of homelessness and its prevention. Temporary B & B can be made available in an emergency, pending the sourcing of private rented accommodation/ social housing. Inter-county protocols have been established in relation to access to regional hostels for persons presenting as homeless in Tipperary. Tenancy Sustainment Services continue to play a central role in addressing the issue of homelessness in the county and at present, the number of persons in receipt of the service is 22.

 **468** in total presented as Homeless in 2015



All these people were facilitated by way of Bed & Breakfast accommodation, Hostel accommodation, Private Rented accommodation or Local Authority/ Voluntary Housing.

### HOUSING RENTS



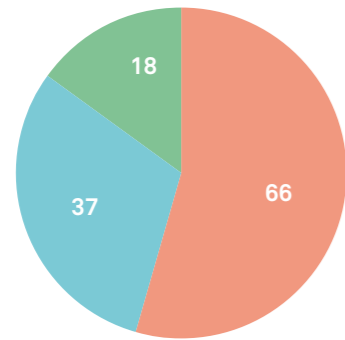
**6,153**  
Rent Accounts at 31/12/2015



**€38.44**  
Average Rent for 2015



**121** Total vacant dwellings at 31/12/2015



- Vacant Houses requiring Minor Works
- Vacant Houses requiring Major Works
- Vacant dwellings available for letting



### SOCIAL HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - (SHIP)

Tipperary received an allocation of €6,312,846 for 2015, for the main local authority social housing programme, the housing improvement works programme (energy efficiency, DPGs, extensions, returning voids to productive use), traveller accommodation and expenditure projections based on known commitments for voluntary and co-operative housing funded under the Capital Assistance Scheme [CAS] and a further €8.57m was approved for the housing construction programme.

In addition, €7,627,700 was made available for house acquisitions.



House at Lower Ballingarry



House at Faugheen

### HOUSING ADAPTATION GRANT SCHEMES

The Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes cover three grant schemes operated by the Council. The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability provides for the provision/adaptation of accommodation to meet the needs of people with a disability; works include access ramps, stair lifts, level access showers, extensions, etc. The Mobility Aids Grants is a fast track scheme to address mobility problems; works include level access showers, ramps, grab rails and stair lifts. The Housing Aid for Older People assists older people in carrying out necessary repair and improvements to their home.

The Scheme is administered in accordance with the Priority Needs Scheme adopted by the Council on the 7th February 2011. This scheme was adopted to ensure that limited financial resources are targeted at the most urgent of cases.

The combined capital allocation, which was notified to this Council in 2015, for the payment of the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability, for private dwellings, was €2,559,557 of which €512,105 was to be provided from this Council's own revenue resources. The Council has drawn down its full allocation in 2015. A total of 336 projects were completed.

*This scheme was adopted to ensure that limited financial resources are targeted at the most urgent of cases.*



## TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION

### 1. JOINT TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME 2014-2018

The Joint Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 - 2018 in respect of Tipperary County Council was adopted by the Members of the Council in January 2014. The target over the five year period is 71 units.

Year	Standard Housing	Group Housing	Residential Halting Bays	Single Instance Housing	Total
2014	11	1	1	2	15
2015	9	1	0	2	12
2016	10	7	0	2	19
2017	10	0	1	2	13
2018	8	1	1	2	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71</b>

### 2. PROGRESS REPORT 2015

The following accommodation has been provided to date:

Scheme Type	Target	Output to date
Standard Housing	9	5
Group Housing	1	1
Residential Halting Bays	0	3
Single Rural Dwelling	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>

### 3. GENERAL

With the reduction in funding for Traveller Specific Accommodation, Tipperary County Council is using the various Social Housing Options available to provide accommodation, including Council owned Housing, Rental Accommodation Scheme and Social Leasing.

### 4. ANNUAL COUNT OF TRAVELLER FAMILIES AND THEIR ACCOMMODATION

The Council undertook the Annual Count of Traveller Families and their Accommodation, as required under the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998, on 30th November 2015. The total number of families was 410.

### 5. TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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

## VOLUNTARY HOUSING

### CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

A Capital Assistance Allocation of €3.6m for 2015 was assigned to assist with the purchase and refurbishment and construction of properties at various locations across the County.

Tipperary County Council are working closely with approved Housing Bodies to progress these projects.

### TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME

#### NEW PURCHASE SCHEME

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government announced a new Incremental Purchase Scheme providing for the sale of existing local authority houses to tenants in 2015. The scheme is due to commence in January 2016 and the Council will be providing full details to all qualifying tenants in due course.

## ESTATE MANAGEMENT

Tenant participation in Estate Management has been promoted by Tipperary County Council for a number of years and remains a priority for the coming year. The continued involvement of residents groups in this process can be readily noted from the physical appearance of these estates. A number of groups have availed of grants under this Council's 2015 Estate Management Budget to aid environmental projects. This Council is actively encouraging the participation of further groups in the coming year and training will be provided as required. Many residents groups avail of supports offered by numerous other bodies which form part of an organised inter agency network. These include the HSE, Tipperary Leader Partnership (TLP), Tipperary Regional Youth Services (TRYs), Barnardos and others. All these agencies are working in partnership with Tipperary County Council to improve the quality of life of all residents and tenants within our estates.

## PRIVATE RENTED ACCOMMODATION INSPECTIONS

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

During the year a total of 167 inspections were carried out.

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





## SOCIAL INCLUSION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- The Local Community Development Committee met nine times in 2015. Key areas on work included
- the development of the Community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan,
- Assessment of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) Tenders and subsequent programme oversight & financial management
- The development and submission of an Expression of Interest for the Rural Development Programme 2015-20 and the management of the Local Development Strategy consultation and development process.

### SOCIAL INCLUSION COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME

The contract between the Leader Companies NTLP and STDC and the Local Community Development Committee for the implementation of the SICAP programme in Co Tipperary' was signed in 2015. (photo attached)



## LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY



Pictured launching the Local Development Consultation. Process in August 2015 L-R: Isabel Cambie, South Tipperary Development Co.; Charles Stanley Smith, Local Community Development Committee; Martin Quinn, STDC; Jim Finn, North Tipperary LEADER Partnership; Séan Crowley, NTLF, and Rita Guinan, Tipperary Co. Council.

Tipperary Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) submitted an Expression of Interest to develop the Local Development Strategy (LDS) for Co. Tipperary in March 2015. As the Local Action Group for Co. Tipperary, the LCDC, working with partners South Tipperary Development Co., North Tipperary LEADER Partnership and Tipperary County Council, launched a public and sectoral consultation process for the LDS in August 2015. This consultation process included a series of public meetings which were held throughout the county in September.

Work on drafting the strategy took place over October and November and it was approved by the LCDC for submission to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in December 2015. It is anticipated that the roll-out of the LDS in Co. Tipperary will commence within 2016.

## COMHAIRLE NA NÓG

Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg is the youth council for Tipperary which represents the voices and views of young people across the county. Comhairle na nÓg plays a vital role in influencing decision makers, policy makers and developing youth friendly projects on topical issues.



Members of Comhairle na nÓg made a presentation on the role and activities of Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg to the Council meeting during the year.

The topics identified by the young people which were carried out in 2015 included workshops on diet and wellness, inclusion and diversity and youth mental health.



A 'Lets Go mental' event focusing on positive mental health through music, sport, the arts and other activities, was held in June 2015. This proved to be a very successful event and another 'Lets Go Mental event' is planned for 2016.

10 members of Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg attended Dáil na nÓg 2015. The theme was 'the need for young people to have a stronger voice in their education and school.' 200 young people took part Dáil na nÓg was held on 27th November 2015. Dáil na nÓg was opened by Dr. James Reilly TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. Jan O'Sullivan, TD, Minister for Education and Skills addressed Dáil na nÓg and was included in the panel for the question and answer section.



*Comhairle na nÓg plays a vital role in influencing decision makers, policy makers and developing youth friendly projects on topical issues.*

## NATIONAL PLAY DAY AND RECREATION WEEK



Eleven Play Day and National Recreation Week Grants were distributed by the Community and Economic Development section to groups throughout the county.

This programme is funded by grant aid from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and managed by Tipperary County Council. This grant is provided to support activities for children and young people under 18 years, for National Recreation Week (28th June – 4th July) and National Play Day (5th July).

Some of the groups funded were : Three Drives After School Club, Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary Rural Travellers project, Thurles Youth Group, Annacarty Childcare and Feile Brian Boru.

The theme for this year was using the natural environment and materials for play and recreation.



### SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES ARRANGED INCLUDED:

- Arts (outdoor music centre)
- Environmental educational tours
- (Cabragh Wetlands, Devil's Bit and Templemore Park)
- Organic gardening for families
- Summer camps
- Fun Days



*The theme for this year was using the natural environment and materials for play and recreation.*

## PRIDE OF PLACE

Tipperary County Council nominated Comhairle na nÓg in the 'Youth in the Community' section of the IPB Insurance Pride of Place 2015 competition, which is an all island competition organised by Co-Operation Ireland in association with local authorities. Pride of Place aims to recognise and celebrate the vital role that communities make when they come together to improve our society.

Judging took place in June and an awards night was held in Ennis in November. Comhairle na nÓg picked up a prestigious runner up prize in their category.



## SOUTH TIPPERARY VOLUNTEER CENTRE

The centre applied for resources to expand the volunteer centre support county wide and the provision of a new development officer for the expansion was announced in December 2015. STVC recruited a new manager Emily Harrington in 2015. Emily who took up her position during the summer of 2015 has previous experience with the Cork Volunteer Centre.

The Volunteer Centre ran the Round up the Troops (RUTT) Competition in 2015 and was opened to groups in the North of the County with the support of Tipperary County Council. The two winners of this were Lattin Cullen Junior Youth Club and Roscrea Cardiac Responder Group. The judging panel were impressed with the calibre of entries this year and the projects submitted by both winning groups represented significant community co-operation in achieving goals for the betterment of the community as a whole.



Fairy doors to be erected as party of Lattin Cullins Junior Youth Clubs entry to South Tipperary Volunteers Centres RUTT initiative.

## TIPPERARY PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK

Tipperary PPN went from strength to strength in 2015, having 950 member groups by December 2015. Corena Ward, a full time Resource worker for the PPN is in place since September 2015. The PPN have 40 representatives nominated onto committees and groups, including the Joint Policing Committee, the Local Community Development Committee, Tipperary Sports Partnership, South Tipperary' Suicide Prevention Group and the Children and young Persons Services Committee.



Corena Ward –PPN Coordinator

## TIPPERARY JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

A new Joint Policing Committee for Co Tipperary was formed in 2015. The committee of 32 members held their first meeting in March 2015 and this was followed by a workshop to develop a new Joint Policing Strategy for the County in June 2015. A draft of the plan was presented to the JOC in November and it is envisaged that the plan will be adopted early in 2016.



## RAPID AREAS (CLONMEL, CARRICK-ON-SUIR AND TIPPERARY) AND COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN AREAS (LITTLETON AND ROSCREA)

The RAPID Area Implementation Team in Clonmel, Tipperary and Carrick-on-Suir continue to meet in 2015 and progress actions to improve the lives of individuals living in those areas. Tipperary County Council contracted North Tipperary Leader Partnership to develop an Action Plan for Roscrea and Littleton during 2015 and the Roscrea Community Action Plan was launched in December 2015.



## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES (CYPSC)

The Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) has been established on an all county basis and has commenced work on their strategy. CYPSC is a key structure to co-ordinate services for children and young people in the county. The overall purpose is to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national interagency working. The public participation Network have taken up three seats on the committee.



Tipperary PPN went from strength to strength in 2015, having 950 member groups by December 2015.



## STRATEGIC PROJECTS UNIT

The Strategic Projects Unit (SPU) was established by Tipperary County Council (TCC) in late 2014 within the Community & Economic Development Directorate. The function of this unit is to seek additional funding support for the Councils activities as well as assist other organisations to access same.

### DURING 2015, THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITY WAS PROGRESSED:

Project Name	Funding Programme	Objective of Project
Realising the Digital Agenda through transnational cooperation between regions (eDIGIREGION)	7th Framework for R&D	Develop a Regional Action Plan to enhance regions' sustainable competitiveness by exploiting regional strengths and smart specializations to realise the RTD and Innovation aspects of the EU Digital Agenda
Furthering Innovative Entrepreneurial Regions in Europe (FIERE)	GRUNDTVIG	Develop and test a training/education course specifically on innovative entrepreneurship that addresses the needs of personnel in public, community and voluntary organisations
Showcase Technology Applicable to Maritime SMEs in the Atlantic Area (STAMAR)	INTERREG IVB Atlantic Area	Contribute to improvement of competitiveness and innovation capacity of maritime SMEs of the Atlantic Area through giving priority to technology transfer processes, particularly solutions which encourage sustainable business development with the protection of the environment
Experimentation on Social Policy for Youth (ESPY)	PROGRESS	Examine social policy experiments aimed at reducing the unemployment situation of young people living in rural areas who are at risk of exclusion and/or have low educational levels



Members of CloughJordan Commemorative Committee with Minister Alan Kelly T.D, John Concannon Director Ireland 2016 and Róisín O Grady Heritage Officer & 2016 Coordinator

## ESPY PROJECT PARTNERS MEETING HELD IN CASHEL

On the project development front during 2015, the SPU worked to include TCC's participation in eight (8) new project proposals submitted to Calls for Proposals under various EU Funding Programmes. Topics included sport as a vehicle for social inclusion; low-carbon communities; regional innovation systems; green enterprise; innovation in water leisure/hospitality sector and internationalisation of micro-enterprises.

In addition, the SPU is currently actively working on TCC's participation a number of other proposed applications. Topics include rural SMEs and innovation; carbon footprint reduction in low-density/highly dispersed territories and conservation measures around Lough Derg.



# LIBRARY SERVICES

Tipperary County Council Library Service continued to deliver a high quality service during 2015. There were over 600,000 visits to libraries in Tipperary, 445,000 books were issued and 68,000 Internet sessions were booked.



Children's Services are a fundamental part of our remit and proved as successful as ever with over 200,000 books issued to children.

2015 was very busy and exciting for kids with numerous events and activities organised by library staff; author visits, book clubs, workshops, and storytelling. Once again our Summer Reading Programme and Children's Book Festival were a huge success. During CBF the Library Service played host to new and established authors with an added focus on bilingual events. Over 1,135 pupils enjoyed CBF events during October.

Encouraging teenagers to read has always been a challenge! Many Transition Year students around the county have completed our hugely successful One Book project. Each pupil reads the same book and then as a group presents their reactions to it. Classes presented book reviews, art work, poetry, sculptures and one group told the story through music. The creativity and enthusiasm of the pupils is boundless and the results were more than impressive.

2015 also saw continued improvements to customer services. The Schools Library van and the Inter Library delivery van are now both on the road 5 days a week, making circulation of stock to our customers quicker and more efficient.

Vision-net is now available free of charge to all library members. Vision-net is an internet based service which gives you immediate online access to information on every Irish and UK company registered.

A new Business and Employment information service was launched in Thurles library. The library acts as a support for those seeking employment, local entrepreneurs, start-ups and SMEs.

Online resources, e-books, and podcasts also saw increased usage during 2015.

## TIPP STUDIES:

Whilst Tipperary Studies continues to appeal to many visitors and responds to numerous email and other queries, the annual highpoint has to be the annual Tipperary People and Places Lecture Series. Since its inception in 2007, the normal monthly attendance is well over seventy people. Old and young travel from all parts of the county to enjoy the many different aspects of Tipperary history. January 2015 saw a record attendance when Borrisoleigh native Dr Liam Kennedy spoke on 'Borrisoleigh: the rural community in a larger Irish setting'. Series eight drew to a close in March with annual visitor, Denis G. Marnane speaking on the role of Tipperary Command Depot in the recuperation and rehabilitation of wounded soldiers during WW1. As the centenary of 1916 fast approached, Dr Shane Kenna delighted the October audience with his account of the many facets of the life of Thomas McDonagh. Due to the popularity of his first visit, Dr Tadhg O'Keeffe returned in December to speak on the Monastic Church in Tipperary 1100 -1600. Even half way through its ninth series, the Tipperary People and Places Series retains its appeal with a constant stream of fresh topics and new speakers to keep the audiences returning to learn and enjoy more of our county's heritage and history.



January 2015 saw a record attendance when Borrisoleigh native Dr Liam Kennedy spoke on 'Borrisoleigh: the rural community in a larger Irish setting'.

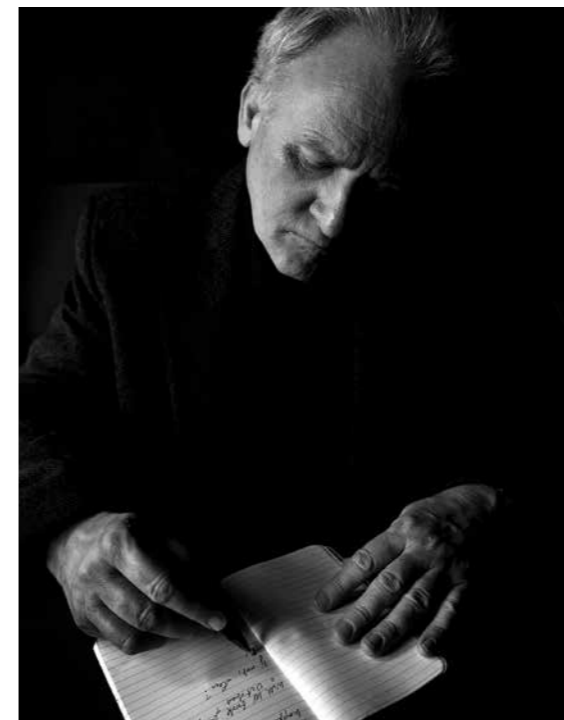


## ARTS



Tipperary County Council's Arts Service works towards the continuing development of the arts in the county by providing advice and information; arts policy development; grants and schemes for the arts; and a developmental arts programme. The service continues to build links, programmes and policies to ensure that the arts in Tipperary are a central element of civic life in the county. 2015 was a busy year for the Tipperary Arts Service and a number of new initiatives were introduced during the year; these are some of the highlights.

### TIPPERARY BEALTAINÉ FESTIVAL



Organised in partnership with Tipperary Libraries, The Tipperary Bealtaine Festival presented an all- county programme of over 100 events in May. Celebrating Creativity in Older Age, the 2015 festival launched with a very special event organised in partnership with Poetry Ireland which presented Paul Durcan in conversation with Eamon O'Shea; an enquiry into life, sport and art.



"Paul Durcan in conversation with Eamon O'Shea" as part of the 2015 Tipperary Bealtaine Festival at The Source Arts Centre, Thurles. Photo by Debbie Hickey

## ARTIST IN PRIMARY SCHOOL SCHEME

This scheme provides direct access to the arts for children across a range of artforms. 12 projects took place throughout the county during 2015 through drama, the visual arts, sean nos dance, ceramics and printmaking. A poster developed during one of the projects in 2014 was used by the Council's Environment section as part of a Biodiversity Awareness Raising Campaign in 2015 thereby extending the impact and reach of the scheme. Two exhibitions showcasing the work developed through the 2015 projects took place simultaneously in Clonmel (County Museum) and Nenagh (Civic Offices) with a sample of work from all projects shown in each location, highlighting the creative possibilities presented through the scheme.



Artist in Primary Schools Scheme 2015

## TIPPERARY CULTURE NIGHT

The second Tipperary Culture Night co-ordinated by the arts office in partnership with The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht took place on Friday 18th September 2015. This annual national celebration of our culture and the arts sees cultural buildings, organisations and groups throughout the County come together to remind us of the fantastic cultural facilities and resources we have locally and invites us to take part. This year participation numbers exceeded 2,000 with free events taking place in 27 venues across 13 locations in Tipperary.



Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council Cllr Seamus Hannafin, Joe MacGrath, CEO and Melanie Scott, Arts Officer at the Launch of Culture Night 2015



Culture Night at The Main Guard, Clonmel with The Cedartowns. Organised by The South Tipperary Arts Centre. Photo by Joe Kenny

## TIPPERARY DANCE RESIDENCY



Tipperary Dance Platform -Photo Courtesy of Iseli-Chiodi Dance Company

The Tipperary Dance Residency continued during 2015 with Iseli-Chiodi Dance Company in partnership with The Arts Office and Tipperary Excel. This residency has been extremely successful as a long term strategic approach to the development of Dance in the County, supporting community and professional engagement and in bringing high quality dance performances and practitioners to the County. Tipperary Dance Residency in partnership with The Tipperary Excel presented The Tipperary Dance Platform (International Festival) from 12-18 October 2015 at Tipperary Excel Theatre and Arts Centre which provided opportunities for participation and access to world quality dance with outstanding artists from Ireland, The Netherlands, Spain, France and Mexico. This is one of only two curated dance festivals in Ireland.

## CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

5 community based artist residencies, one in each Municipal District area were developed during 2015. The Arts Office worked in partnership with each Municipal District to develop the projects. Projects have been developed and initiated with Youth Groups, Disability Organisations and Community Education groups in artforms as diverse as music, street art and environmental art to engage with people across a range of ages and parts of the county. In Nenagh, a new contemporary street art mural entitled "The Fiddler's Light" was developed by artist DMC (Dermot McConaghy) transforming the gable end at Pound Road in collaboration with a youth group from Nenagh Community Training Centre.



"The Fiddler's Light" featuring the artist DMC at Pound Road, Nenagh- Image courtesy of the artist.

## DESIGNFEST

DesignFest Clonmel took place from 16-21 November and celebrated Media, Arts & Digital Design and showcased the wealth of technological and creative talent in Tipperary. The highly successful inaugural event closed with the Night Lights Digital Trail which led audiences on a journey through the streets of Clonmel to peek into different worlds as seen through the eyes of 15 different video artists- exploring everything from life on Easter Island to Viking rituals, meeting characters from local blacksmith Ted Channon to polar bears and pop up people.



Night Lights Digital Trail, Clonmel - Photo by Joe Kenny

## ARTS ACT GRANT SCHEME

During 2015, 51 local community and voluntary groups were allocated funding under the Arts Act Grant Scheme which enables and supports independent arts activities and events throughout the county. 20 artists received support through a range of Artist Support Schemes across artforms. During 2015 we also worked closely with Visual Artists Ireland and a range of local partners to support artist's development through four artist's development workshops across a diverse series of topics.

Support, advice and/or funding was also provided to a range of arts festivals throughout the County in 2015.

*The Tipperary Dance Residency continued during 2015 with Iseli-Chiodi Dance Company in partnership with The Arts Office and Tipperary Excel.*





Photo by Tom McKeogh

# TIPPERARY HERITAGE OFFICE

## HERITAGE PLAN

2015 was the first full year with an all county Heritage Office in Tipperary. A small scale Heritage Scheme was launched in March and 9 projects were funded around the county, raising awareness of our natural, built and cultural heritage.

The funding received on an annual basis from the Heritage Council is critical to the rolling out of actions under our county Heritage Plans. In 2015 2 large projects were targeted:- (i) a continuation of the audit work on a 17km stretch of the River Suir between Twofords Bridge between Ardmayle and Holycross to Rossestown Bridge between Thurles and Loughmore. A number of previously unrecorded sites were identified during the audit and observations were included which may be used to inform future developments.

(ii) The Lough Derg Heritage Project was a collaboration between counties Tipperary, Galway and Clare continued in 2015. A seminar was held in March to launch the Natural Heritage Trail and to complete the trio of guides, this years project involved developing a Cultural Heritage Guide. TCC also collaborated with Inland Waterways on the Lakelands treasures app.



Lough Derg Bus Tour Heritage Week 2015 at the Lookout



River Suir Audit 2015 talk at Cabragh Wetland

## HERITAGE WEEK

The theme for Heritage Week 2015 was Industrial Heritage and a number of events were organised by groups around the county reflecting this. A Bus tour around Lough Derg taking in the 3 counties of Tipperary, Galway and Clare was a collaborative Heritage Week initiative for the Lough Derg Heritage Project. This year we worked with local print media and radio to promote and spotlight different events around the county.



## GREEN & BLUE FUTURES INTERREG IVB PROJECTS

September 2015 saw the completion of the Green & Blue Futures Interreg IVB project. While a lot of our projects had ended in 2014, the Riverrun project with the Clonmel Junction Festival took place in May involving local communities and schools in Clonmel.

The Mapping and Access project turned its focus on Ardfinnan and its potential in view of the proposed canoe trail. A new bridge was also completed by the Tidy towns group as part of the River Tidy towns project, while in Golden interpretative stone signs were put in around the river. Tipperary along with partners in Scotland, England France and Belgium did a significant amount of work on what was achieved with the project and guidelines on how groups could replicate similar were also worked on. The final conference took place in Maubege North France in July. The Finnow Canal Jobs motor project on which Tipperary County Council also participated finished in March 2016 in Germany. The Green & Blue Futures secured in the region of €200,000 for projects on the River Suir during the course of the project.



Interpretative stone signage at Golden



Canoe Steps and Slipway Inch field Cahir

## IRELAND 2016



Public Consultation Meeting in the Anner Hotel Thurles.



A call was put out in early 2015 to seek the support of the Local Authorities in rolling out the Community Participation strand of the Ireland 2016 National Programme. A steering group consisting of members of the Councils cultural services of Libraries, Arts, Archives, Museum and Heritage was put in place with an S.P.C. committee consisting of Cllr Roger Kennedy, Cllr Martin Lonergan and Cllr Seamus Morris. A public call for submissions was launched in March, followed by 3 public consultations in Nenagh, Clonmel and Thurles at which over 100 people took part and gave their views on what way the commemoration should be marked.

€30,000 was received from the Department in autumn and a grants scheme was launched with a call for all county projects. A Commemorative committee in Cloughjordan which is being facilitated by the County Council and Nenagh Municipal District was successful in securing an additional funding allocation of €80,000 for a commemorative garden and a statue of Thomas MacDonagh, one of the signatories of the proclamation in his birthplace and hometown of Cloughjordan. A county programme was prepared and launched in Dublin in October along with 31 other local authority plans, it was launched in Cashel on December 14th by Minister Alan Kelly T.D.

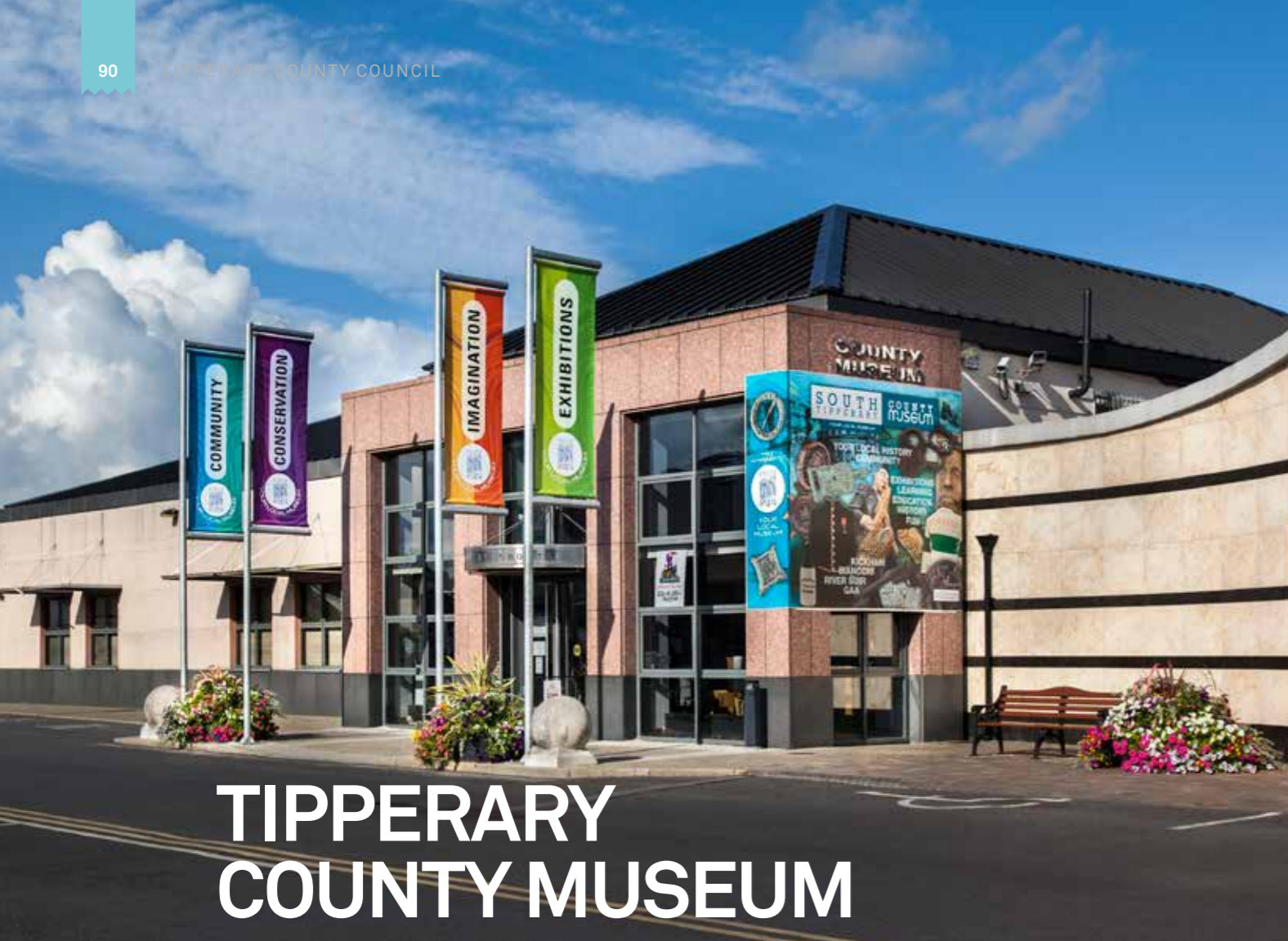


Some members of the Steering Group and SPC committee with local historian Dr Denis G Marnane who contributed the introductory essay to the plan at the launch in Bru Boru in December.

Back row: Cllr Martin Lonergan, Mary Darmody Tipperary Studies, Cllr Seamus Morris, Dr Denis G Marnane, Melanie Scott Arts Officer, Cllr Roger Kennedy, Mary Quigley Arts & Heritage. Front Row: Julia Walsh County Museum, Róisín O Grady Ireland 2016 Coordinator, Emer O'Brien Tipperary Libraries



At National launch of County Plans in Dublin in October. Cllr Michael FitzGerald, Minister Heather Humphries T.D, An Taoiseach Enda Kenny, Cllr Seamus Hanafin Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council, Minister Joan Burton, Minister Alan Kelly, Mary Quigley Arts & Heritage Office Tipperary County Council, Joe MacGrath C.E.O Tipperary County Council.



# TIPPERARY COUNTY MUSEUM

Tipperary County Museum has developed its audience base significantly in 2015. Over 20K visitors have been directly impacted by our programme of events throughout the year. The influence of our collection has brought a new focus for groups unaccustomed to collaborating with Tipperary County Museum, groups such as the Clonmel Agricultural Show Committee, National Learning Network and the Alzheimer's Society.

The Museums Standards Programme of Ireland M.S.P.I. is a priority for Tipperary County Museum in 2015 – 2016 as it raises its standards & increases funding opportunities. The museum achieved 'Full Accreditation' in June 2013, in Dublin Castle. 2015 – 2016 will be a year of maintaining those standards through policy revisions and our 5 year strategic management plan and application due in June 2016.

## GALLERY REDEVELOPMENT 2015 – 2016:

- A Museum grade display case was installed which displays Clonmel's Civic Regalia (Sword, Maces & Mayoral Chains) along with Cromwell's Death mask, 17th century dagger and helmet dating c.1650s.

## DESIGNING TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS DURING 2015:

- Clonmel Agricultural Show Celebrating 150 years opened in May – Longest Running Agricultural Show in Europe. A mini exhibition was also installed for the Clonmel Show in July and is on display in the Showground's Clonmel.
- Mick Delahunty 100th Birthday Anniversary display, coinciding with an open air concert in Mick Delahunty Square, over 1500 visitors attended.
- WW1 Material

## SYNOPSIS OF COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS DURING 2015

- Clonmel Agricultural Show Celebrating 150 years



Clonmel Show 150th Anniversary Exhibition

- The Museum's Education Department has been reaching out to schools & groups across Tipperary, liaising with Economic, Arts, Heritage Dept within C&E and Municipal Districts to access groups throughout County Tipperary.
- The Tipperary Big House Lecture series and finale tour in May was hugely successful with 45 - 65 persons enjoying each lecture.
- Working with Workman's Boat Club group and CYTE (Early school leavers) to create a Show Jump for the Clonmel Show Exhibition & Show in July 2015.
- CYTE worked with GIY to grow produce to submit to the Clonmel Show Competition Classes.
- Clonmel Show Committee outreach programming - Working with 1st & Transition year students to develop a 'Clonmel Show Bake Off' competition, liaising with the ICA to launch a 'Vintage Tea Morning' for the Cancer Society and scheduling a 'Farm Bus' for local primary schools to see firsthand pedigree animals.

- Festival Cluain Meala & Clonmel Walled Towns Day in association with Tipperary County Council, Suirvalley 3 Day Cycling Festival & Clonmel Busking Festival during August 2015. Over 20'000 people visited Clonmel during this Festival...

- Reminiscence Projects with St Luke's Occupational Therapy Department & the Alzheimers Society via HSE – facilitating discussion and memories.

- Culture Night with the Arts Service: Sept 18th 2015

- Coordinating traditional calendar workshops



Festival Cluain Meala 2015

## FUNDING 2015:

- Heritage Council funded €7.5k for Clonmel Walled Towns Day via Festival Cluain Meala.
- The Clonmel Show Committee invested €20k into the temporary exhibition Clonmel Show currently on display in the Tipperary County Museum.
- The Museum received €7k funding to develop the Museum's galleries through Department Arts Heritage & Gaelteacht.

It is hoped that the Museum will strengthen its partnerships and services it provides to the local community. Our professionalism and creativity will ensure you will learn, have fun and be part of a County Museum which strives to be the best in any climate!



## TIPPERARY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

On the 1st July 2015, South Tipperary Sports Partnership merged with North Tipperary Sports Partnership to form one entity for County Tipperary. Tipperary Sports Partnership's remit is to develop sport and increase physical activity in the county. In 2015, the Sports Partnership has delivered over 40 individual programmes or initiatives with over 2,600 participants. In addition the Sports Partnership has been successful in sourcing in excess of €460,000 in funding to support the delivery of its programmes and initiatives in Tipperary.

### SOME OF THE PARTNERSHIP'S KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2015:

- The running of the sixth Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon was held in Clonmel on 27th September over 770 participants participating.
- Walking in the County was supported with community walks in Cahir, 5k Operation Transformation Walks and 5k Buggy Push in Clonmel. Walking groups that were set up through a Walking Leader Programme continue to be supported through promotion and marketing of their events.
- Facilitated an indoor Primary School Athletics programme in Nenagh in November, with over 800 primary school children participating.



Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon, Clonmel 2015

- Supporting a variety of activity programmes targeting women, including three Couches to 5k's initiatives and the Buggy Brigade Fitness programme. Three programmes targeting teenage girls were also supported: Hoops for Girls Basketball programme including a Blitz in Presentation School Thurles with 8 school and 178 first years participating, Teen 4 Fit with 2 schools and a Bike 4 Life programme with 1 school.
- Meet n Train groups continue to be supported throughout the County including the set up of new meet n train group in Borrisoleigh and Roscrea.

*In 2015, the Sports Partnership has delivered over 40 individual programmes or initiatives with over 2,600 participants.*



- Sports Inclusion Disability Officer continued the programme of work aimed at increasing physical activity opportunities for people with disabilities. A number of key programmes were delivered including: Boccia League, Walk & Talk, Health & Exercise programme, Kayaking, Tennis for All, Xcessible Youth Sport Initiative focused on Rugby & Disability Inclusion Training. The SIDO activities now form part of the Social Inclusion programme in the Sports Partnership since July.
  - › A Social Inclusion programme was drafted in August / September 2015: 'Inclusive Communities through Sport' with initiatives and programmes targeting People with a Disability, Youth at Risk, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Marginalised Communities, Jobseekers and developing School/Club/Community links.
  - › Actions that have taken place under this Social Inclusion programme between Sept – Dec include:
    - › An Inclusive Swim programme ran during October with St.Cronan's Roscrea for women with pan-disabilities.
    - › Equipment was provided for Hillview Tennis Club Clonmel to run a Tennis 4 All programme.
    - › Training was provided for service providers in the running of the Tipperary Boccia League
    - › A 6 week physical activity programme ran during November in St. Annes special school Roscrea.
    - › A 'Mental Health Awareness in Sport' workshop for Sports coaches was held in Tipperary town on 10th December in partnership with TRYS 'Be Well Week'.
    - › 'Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies' programme ran for Traveler Women during October in partnership with NTLP and Roscrea Leisure Centre.
    - › Community coaching programme for jobseekers was held in Partnership with LIT Thurles from October - December. Work is currently in progress to roll out two further courses with Tipperary ETB and is planned for Feb 2016.



Community Coaching Programme, LIT, Thurles

- › A Community Soccer League driven by the Community and residents associations will commence on December 7th in Colaiste Phobal Roscrea. TSP and the FAI are supporting this.
- › Healthy Mind Healthy Bodies for travellers is being expanded to the Roscrea area, previously rolled out in Nenagh.



- Cycling was strongly supported with Foundation Coaching Courses, Leadership Training, Cycling Programme for Women, Couch to 50k programme, Family Cycles and Sportives.
- The Older Adults Festival, Go For Life Workshops & Link to be Active programmes continue to be supported and rolled out by the Sports Partnership.
- Child Welfare, Club Children officers, Designated Liaison Person & First Aid courses continued to be delivered throughout the year. Two Mental Health Awareness course was also facilitated for sports coaches/volunteers.
- In December, the sixth annual Volunteer in Sport Awards was held as part of the Canon Hayes Awards night. Marie Grayson nominated by Cashel/Rosegreen Community Games was the overall winner.
- The Sports Partnership was a partner on the TCC Green & Blue Interreg Project, which finished in June. Work is continuing on developing a Canoe Trail from Cahir to Carrick on Suir. Design work is being completed for Ardfinnan and a number of submissions for funding were submitted for capital works including a successful application as part of the Clonmel REDZ programme for rehabilitation of the Weir at Lady Blessingtons.
- An education and training programme aimed at developing and supporting Canoeing & Kayaking on the River Suir commenced with 11 certified courses were held, with over 80 participants receiving certificates. Further courses are planned for 2016.



Level 2 Kayak Course on River Suir

In 2015, extra funding opportunities became available from Sport Ireland, TSP made a successful bid for €70,000 to develop a Community Sports Hub on the River Suir in Clonmel which will include the development of a Slalom course at Lady Blessingtons in Clonmel. Also, €48,000 was received for a Community Coaching Programmes targeting job seekers.





## FAI DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS REPORT 2015

### TCC CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE FAI DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS IN THEIR WORK IN THE COUNTY WHICH INCLUDES THE DELIVERY OF THE

- Project Futsal - a project run in conjunction between the FAI and Tipperary ETB which concluded its third year in May. Participants take part in a full year of academic and football education. With the ETB, participants gain a full FETAC level 5 award in Sports and Recreation studies. Through the FAI participants complete various coaching modules to further their coach education. Participants also have to complete over 70 hours work experience during the year which is providing additional help to the football community within the area. In September of this year a new cohort of participants commenced the fourth year of the programme.
- Social Inclusion focused activity continued with drop ins, after school programmes, blitzes and midnite soccer providing regular football activity for the youth of Clonmel, Carrick on Suir and Tipperary Town. New programmes been developed in Roscrea and Littleton.
- Player Development (Boys and Girls) The Emerging Talent programme continues to promote the development of the elite under age male and female players in the county with centres of excellence in both South and North of the county providing additional coaching and contact time with over 350 elite underage players from the ages of u10-u16.

- Coach Education (including child welfare) 20 coach education workshops from Kick Start 1, Kick Start 2, 4v4, 7v7 and Strength and Conditioning courses took place in the county throughout the year with over 200 coaches furthering their coach education knowledge. A further 13 child welfare courses were delivered throughout the county.



Girls Football continues to grow with almost 20 clubs throughout the county having girl's football within their club structures.



### SUMMER CAMPS: OVER 1900 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT TIPPERARY ENJOYED THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMME EXPERIENCE OVER JULY AND AUGUST WITH 18 CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY HOSTING CAMPS.

- Football For All clubs are now well established in Nenagh, Roscrea, Cahir and Clonmel and regular sessions are also conducted with the various Rehab Care, Special schools (ie.St. Annes Roscrea) National Learning Networks and Brothers of Charity services right across the county.
- Intercultural Show Racism the red card was delivered to 6 schools in South and North Tip during UEFA FARE Week which highlights the issues and also provides information to those that may have been affected in some way during their time in the game. Additionally a 6 week after school programme was delivered to students of 3 schools in the county to highlight and illustrate again how to deal with issues around racism in sport.
- Schools: A record number of 92 schools participated in the Tipperary Primary schools 5th/6th class competition in April/May. Futsal blitzes for 3rd/4th class and first year secondary schools also took place in Thurles. 30 schools took part here.



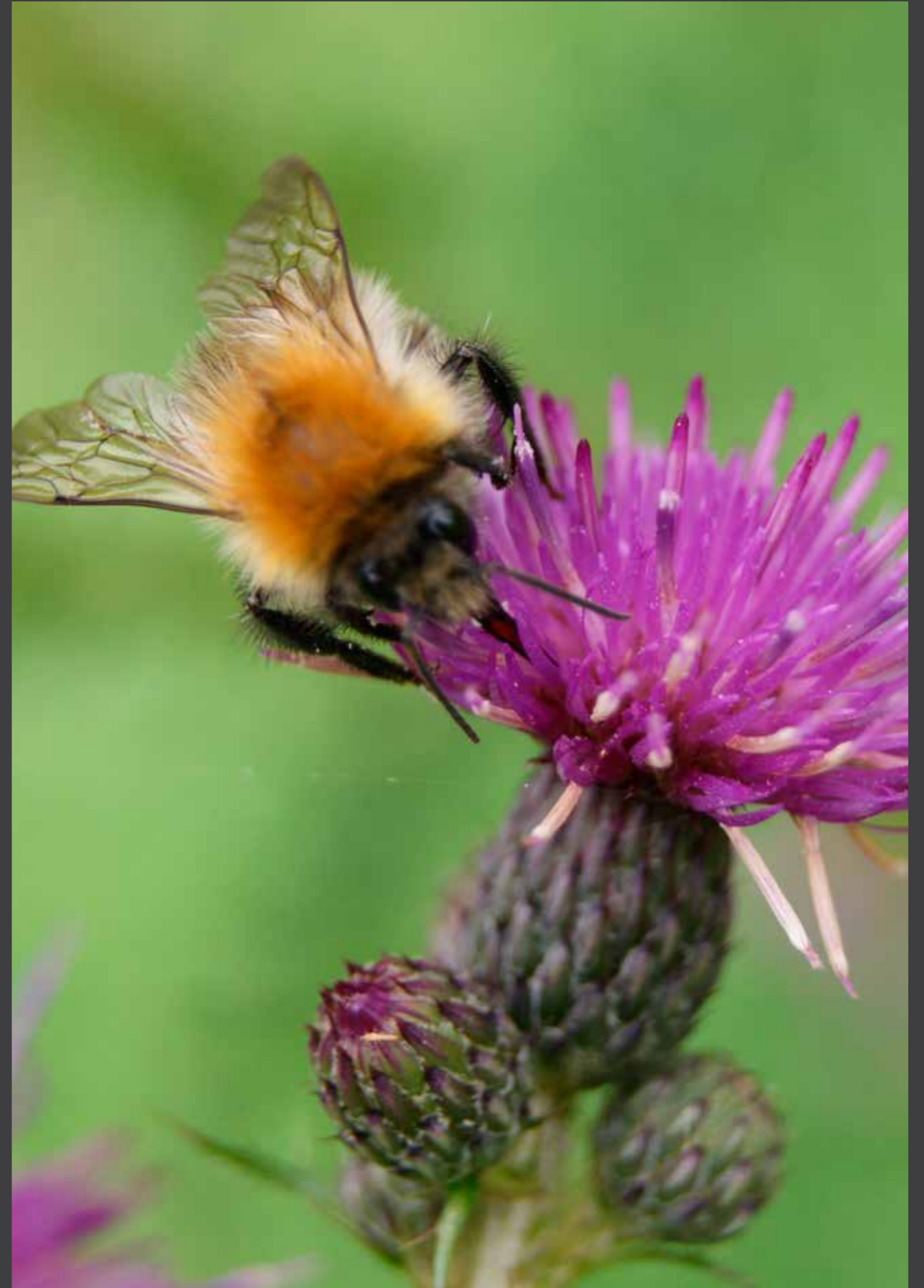
A record number of 92 schools participated in the Tipperary Primary schools 5th/6th class competition in April/May.



# 4

## QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENT

- ENVIRONMENT
- FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES
- WATER SERVICES
- CIVIL DEFENCE



# ENVIRONMENT

The functions of the environment services section includes environment protection, waste management and enforcement, infrastructure and maintenance, environment awareness and community services.

## ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

### WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE & RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

Tipperary and Kilkenny Local Authorities were appointed the lead authorities for the country to deliver the catchment management and public participation aspects of the Water Framework Directive. The Local Authorities and Water Communities Office has now been established.



### POLLUTION INVESTIGATION AND INSPECTIONS

Currently over 50% of the rivers in the county comply with the National Water quality standard. The Environment Section continues to investigate the factors causing poor water quality in particular stretches of rivers that have been identified as polluted or where monitoring shows deterioration in quality. This investigative monitoring aims to identify the specific problems affecting water quality e.g. septic tanks, agricultural activities, commercial activities etc.

In total, 158 farm inspections were carried out for the purposes of drinking water source protection, pollution investigation, catchment investigations and GAP follow-ups.



**DOMESTIC WASTE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS**

Total no. of DWWTS inspected in 2015	43
Advisory Notices Issued	8

**LICENSED FACILITIES INSPECTIONS DISCHARGE LICENSES**

233 inspections of the 173 licences facilities were conducted.

Water pollution licences issued are as follows:

- 57- Section 4 Licences (Discharge to water)
- 78 - Section 16 Licences (Trade effluent to sewers.)
- A register of such licences is available for viewing at Council Offices.

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND MAINTENANCE**

**DERELICT SITES**

52 sites were listed on the Derelict Sites Register at the end of 2015



**BURIAL GROUNDS**

206 community group committees received grants totaling €119,110 towards graveyard maintenance programmes.

A number of capital minor works were completed at Lattin, Drangan, Ardfinnan, Hollyford, Boythonrath, Gaile, Cahir and Emily.

Works commenced on the conservation of the ruins of the medieval church at Modeshil.



Figure 1.Repaired boundary wall at Emly Burial Ground



Figure 2 Repaired boundary wall at Cahir Burial Ground



Figure 3 Restoration works on Medieval Church at Modeshil Burial Grounds:

**ABATTOIRS INSPECTIONS**

A total of 892 inspections were carried out in all 20 abattoirs throughout the county. These inspections ensure compliance with animal welfare standards and hygiene standards in abattoirs prior to slaughter and also post mortem. A total of 2,322 cattle, 7008 sheep, 1203 pigs, 8 goats and 4,064 deer were inspected in these abattoirs.

**WASTE ENFORCEMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

**SOUTHERN REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015 - 2021**

The Southern Regional Waste Management Plan 2015 – 2021 was launched on the 14th May. The plan set out the the framework for the prevention and management of wastes in a safe and sustainable manner. Each local authority will be obliged to deliver a set of targets and policy actions.

**LEGISLATION**

The Household Food Waste and Bio Waste regulations 2015 obliges households to segregate food waste and keep it separate from non biodegradable materials. The brown bin service was introduced to the towns and larger villages in the county during the year and will be extended to other areas in 2016.

The environment Section received 2,340 complaints, of which 94% were resolved during the year. The environment enforcement officers issued 92 “On the spot fines”.

**RECYCLING CENTRES**

Recycling Centres	No of Visitors
Clonmel - Carrigeen	16,938
Cashel – Wallers Lot	17,343
Tipperary Town - Donohill	8,360
Roscrea (estimate)	30,960
Nenagh (estimate)	65,098

**BRING BANKS**

50 tonnes of paper, 74 tonnes of cans and 2,827 tonnes of glass were recycled from collections at our 108 Bring Bank sites.

**LANDFILL RESTORATION**

Work has commenced on the restoration of the Donohill Landfill site.



## ENVIRONMENT INSPECTIONS

The number of environmental inspections carried out under Waste Management legislation was 404. These consisted of planned and unplanned inspections are carried out under a range of regulations as part of our RMCEI plan.

Legislation	Inspections
Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007-2015	25 inspections of the Waste Facility permits authorised facilities. 13 inspections of the Certificates of Registration authorised facilities.
Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007-2015	15 Waste Collection Permit inspections.
European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014	1 inspection of a Packaging Major Producer. 2 inspections of suspected major-producers, 10 general packaging compliance inspections.
European Union (End of Life Vehicles (ELV) Regulations 2014	5 inspections of ELV Producers.
Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2007	78 inspections of tyres suppliers.
EU (WEEE) Regs 2014 & EU (Battery) Regs 2014	53 WEEE & 78 Battery inspections of WEEE / Battery suppliers.
Waste Management (Farm Plastics) Regulations 2001	15 Retailers inspected for farm film plastic levy. 3 Farm Plastic recycling inspection days with IFFPG.
Legislation	Inspections
Waste Management (Plastic Bag Levy) Regulations 2001 2007	30 Retailers inspected for plastic bag levy.
Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009	29 inspections of commercial food waste producers.
Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 – 2015	167 Declarations of Notice of agricultural burning 6 inspections of controlled burning were carried out.
Waste Management (Extractive Waste) Regulations 2009	14 inspections of extractive waste sites.
Road Checkpoints	3 Checkpoints
Multi Agency Inspections	4 Inspections with NTFSO
Hazardous Wastes	4 Hazardous waste
CCTV operations	20 CCTV installations
Unauthorized Waste Activity	32 Unauthorised waste activity inspections

## ENFORCEMENTS

In addition to the planned and unplanned inspections there were also a number of enforcement actions undertaken under the waste legislation during 2015 as follows:

Number of enforcement actions	No.
Warning letters issued	69
Enforcement Notices Issued	13
Prosecutions Initiated	3

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### TIDY TOWNS GRANT SCHEME

This scheme provides contributions to tidy town groups towards preserving and enhancing the local environment. 103 towns and villages benefitted from the actions of local volunteers and grants totalling €112,596 were awarded during the year.

### GREEN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



182 schools in the county are registered with An Taisce as part of the Green Flag programme. During the 2014/2015 school year, 54 Tipperary schools received a Green Flag at an awards ceremony in Kilkenny. 4 schools were presented with their first flag for Litter and Waste. Information seminars for teachers were held in Nenagh and Clonmel, representative of 37 schools to outline the workings of the programme.



### TIDY SCHOOLS AWARDS

The annual Tidy School Competition received a total of 49 entries. Prizes were awarded to schools across the 5 Municipal Districts from prize money allocation of €8,600.

### LOCAL AGENDA 21 GRANTS

81 grants were approved and distributed to various groups from a grant allocation of €31,400.

### FARM HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

A Farm Hazardous Waste collection day was held on the 17th November in Cahir Mart in conjunction with the EPA and over 19,107 kg's of hazardous waste was collected.

### CONTROL OF DOGS

A total of 691 dogs were surrendered or seized by the Dog Wardens. Of this number 528 were re-homed. The number of dogs licensed in the county was 9,220. Tipperary Co Co works with a number of animal welfare organisations in the re-homing of dogs.

### CONTROL OF HORSES ACT 1996

The Control of Horses By-Laws was adopted by the elected members in December. The number of horses seized in 2015 was 146.

## ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS

### GLÁS NEWSLETTER

A new bi-annual schools newsletter, Glás, was launched in November. The first edition of the newsletter contained features on the Green Flag programme, Tidy School Competition, Recycling Centres and an Energy themed crossword competition. The winner of the crossword competition was Robyn Horan, a pupil of St Patrick's National School, Drangan.

### UPCYCLING WORKSHOPS

Two one day up-cycling workshops were held in Rockwell College and Knockinrawley Recourse Centre in association with the Southern Region Waste Management Office.

### SMOKY COAL AWARENESS

All coal retailers in Clonmel were visited in regard their obligations on the ban on the sale of bituminous (smoky) coal in Clonmel and environs.

### CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME

The aim of this scheme is to encourage employees to cycle to and from work which will improve health and fitness levels as well as reducing traffic congestion and lowering carbon emissions. In 2015 a total of 59 staff availed of the scheme.

### GREENING OF FESTIVALS

In support of the greening of festivals, the environment section setup an information stand promoting food waste prevention and composting at various locations at the Fléadh Cheoil na Mumhan in Nenagh. For the Tipperary Mini Marathon, under the "Do One More Thing" campaign, reusable water bottles were given to all mini marathon participants.

### TIPPERARY LITTER PICK

This event was organised in conjunction with Tipp FM Radio. Community and resident groups were given bags, gloves and high visibility vests to assist with a community clean up of their area, which was disposed of by Tipperary County Council.



### NATIONAL TREE WEEK

Tipperary County Council distributed over 300 free trees to all interested schools, Tidy Town groups and community groups throughout the county.



National Spring Clean

287 community groups registered to take part in the National Spring Clean initiative. Tipperary County Council provided clean-up packs to all participants.

### DOG FOULING CAMPAIGN

Responsible Dog Ownership leaflets distributed to all Municipal District offices, Libraries, and veterinary surgeries/pet shops in Tipperary to raise awareness about dog fouling in public areas.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

The section was accredited with the OHSAS18001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System standard which provides a system for measuring and improving an organization's health and safety impact and ISO14001 accreditation, which provides a structure for measuring and improving an organization's environmental impact. This was accompanied by an extensive training programme.

## ENERGY PERFORMANCE REPORTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH S.I. 542 OF 2009

Tipperary County Council continues to reduce energy demand and increase their share of renewable energy in line with the Climate Change Strategy which aims to achieve savings in energy consumption and contribute to a lowering of the TCC carbon footprint.

In 2015 Tipperary County Council undertook a range of initiatives to improve our energy performance. A significant programme of energy retrofit works was undertaken at 2 libraries (Cahir and Roscrea), 1 fire station (Clonmel) 2 leisure centres (Nenagh and Tipperary Town), 1 civic office (Nenagh) and 1 machinery yard fuel dispensing system (Clonmel) under the SEAI Better Energy Communities Programme. Making these facilities more comfortable for the public and saving Tipperary County Council 256,386kWh and €33,006 annually.

In 2016, Tipperary County Council intends to further improve our energy performance by continuing the building energy retrofit programme in offices, fire stations and leisure centres. Our public lighting inventory will be upgraded and we intend to conduct further LED street lighting projects. We are also working on a Strategic Energy Management Plan to guide us towards our 2020 targets.

If implemented the 2016 Energy Action Plan will deliver 280,000kWh and €17,000 annual savings. This represents 1% further towards the 2020 target.

The following table summarises the annual cost and consumption of electricity and fuel by Tipperary County Council in 2014:

2014 Electricity - Total Annual Spend	€2,287,567
2014 Electricity - Annual Spend on Public Lighting	€823,524
2014 Transport Fuels (diesel / petrol / biofuel) - Total Annual Spend	€1,319,950
2014 Heating Fuels (Gas / oil / biomass etc) - Total Annual Spend	€551,652
2014 Electricity - Total Annual kWh	12,951,048kWh
2014 Electricity - Annual kWh used by Public Lighting	8,520,566kWh

Tipperary County Council is on track to meet their target of reducing energy by 33% by the year 2020. The SEAI report on Energy Use in the Public Sector, published in April 2015, outlined energy data from across the public sector and confirmed Tipperary is making good progress towards targets.

It is on this basis that SEAI ranked Tipperary County Council 4th out of 31 Local Authorities who have submitted data.

## ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Tipperary County Council became a signatory of The Covenant of Mayors in February 2015. By becoming a signatory, Tipperary County Council have committed to implementing a Sustainable Energy Action Plan for the county, with the aim of cutting CO2 emissions by at least 20% by 2020.



As part of EU Sustainable Energy Week, which took place between June 15th and June 19th, Tipperary County Council held an energy exhibition throughout the week in Nenagh Civic Offices. The event took place across Europe to show, promote, discuss and celebrate energy efficiency and renewable energy.



Tipperary County Council was the winner of the Public Sector award at the National Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland awards ceremony in November 2015. The council was applauded for being leaders with regard to energy management performance and in their uptake of renewable energy solutions.



Tipperary County Council was the winner of the Public Sector award at the National Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland awards ceremony in November 2015.



# FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

## FIRE OPERATIONS

The Council maintains fire brigades in twelve locations (Nenagh, Thurles, Roscrea, Templemore, Borrisokane, Newport, Cloughjordan, Clonmel, Cashel, Cahir, Tipperary Town and Carrick-on-Suir) and in 2015 these fire brigades responded to a total of 1332 incidents. Significant progress was made in 2015 on finalising the harmonisation of the operational procedures, equipment and training across the newly merged service.

## TRAINING

A comprehensive training program was carried out in 2015 by all members of the service. In addition, the Clonmel Fire Training and Development Centre had a very busy year facilitating both internal courses and those run by external customers. The ISO9001 accredited management system ensures that the highest possible standards of training are facilitated and delivered at the centre.

## BUILDING CONTROL

There were 84 Fire Safety Certificates applications, 57 Disability Access Certificates and 268 commencement notices were received in 2015. There were a total of 35 Building Control inspections undertaken by Planning Technicians on behalf of the Fire Service in 2015.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service was recognised at the 2015 National Safety Awards receiving the prestigious award for best Public Service for the second year running.

The awards, which are organised by the National Irish Safety Organisation, NISO, honour those that have visibly excelled in their pursuit of workplace safety. The award reinforced the status of Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service as safety leaders within their.

**COUNCILLOR SEAMUS HANAFIN, CATHAOIRLEACH OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL WAS PRESENTED WITH THE AWARD AT THE CEREMONY IN GALWAY.**



L-R: Mark Griffin, FF Templemore, Martin O' Halloran, CEO HSA, Karl Cashen, DOS, Pauric Corrigan, President NISO, James Tarrant, FF Cashel, Dave Carroll, CFO, Joe McGrath, CE, Eddie Ryan, SACFO, Seamus Murnane, SSO Cahir, Liam Quinn, H&S Officer, Cllr. Seamus Hanafin, Cathaoirleach, Marcus O' Connor, DOS.

## FIRE SAFETY

**In addition to its operational activities, the Fire Service was also very active in promoting fire safety and continues to inspect public-assembly buildings in an effort to assist building owners to meet their obligations under the Fire Service Act 1981 & 2003. Activities undertaken during 2015 to actively promote fire safety awareness included**

- Fire-fighters from all brigades in Tipperary visited every 3rd class in Tipperary to deliver the Safety Team programme. The objective of the programme is to educate children about the dangers of fire so that they in turn will bring the message home and thus enhance fire safety in the home and in the community.
- Involvement in Fire Safety Week in October. This involved public awareness sessions in local shopping complexes, motorway service stations, town centres and a number of radio interviews by various staff members. A number of fire stations also held open days at their stations during fire safety week.
- A Residential Care seminar was held in the Anner Hotel in Oct 2015. A total of 41 persons attended from residential care sector (participants came from both public and private sector nursing homes and hospitals) in Tipperary
- A survey was completed by B&A Confidential and we were presented with the first set of results in October 2015 (further results will issue on a six-monthly basis over 5-year period 2015-2020. The first set of results may be summarised as:
  - 98% of households are protected by at least 1 smoke alarm. We must be mindful that this is based on the initial 6-months data and future surveys which will be increasing the sample size may yield slightly different figures. The survey also shows that there is a higher proportion of people relying on one alarm in Tipperary relative to the national level (36% vs. 26%). It is a particular cause for concern that one in five of Tipperary respondents rely on the 'the bleep' to signify when the battery is running out instead of proactively testing it at various points in time. This is over twice the national average and is something we must try and address through education in the coming year.
  - Both a Facebook page and Twitter account have been set up for Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service and both are working extremely well with close to 5,000 followers.

*The objective of the programme is to educate children about the dangers of fire so that they in turn will bring the message home and thus enhance fire safety in the home and in the community.*





# WATER SERVICES, 2015

While responsibility for water services has passed to Irish Water since 01 January 2014, local authorities remain very involved in the sector, acting as agents of Irish Water in relation to the operation and maintenance of services.

This transition means that local authorities operate under Service Level Agreements with Irish Water. Irish Water will be setting the level of service, in light of its contract with the economic regulator, and driving efficiencies and accelerated investment. In conjunction with the Service Level Agreement, an Annual Service Plan must be prepared through a joint planning process between the Council and Irish Water.

## 1. CAPITAL PROJECTS

On 13 May 2014 Irish Water published its Proposed Capital Investment Plan (CIP) for 2014 to 2016. 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. IW is preparing the CIP for 2017-2022.



## IRISH WATER MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM - TIPPERARY

A. Schemes in Construction	Contract Name	Consultant	Contractor	Current scheme Status
Burncourt & Fethard RWSS	Burncourt & Fethard RWSS DBO Contract	Nicholas O'Dwyer	Glan Agua Limited	Works in progress, contract started in Dec. 2014
Thurles RWSS Contract 1 (Network)	Thurles RWSS Contract 1 (Network)	Nicholas O'Dwyer	Regan Civil Engineering	Contractor currently completing snag list.
Water Conservation Stage 3 Fethard RWSS	Fethard RWSS Network Rehabilitation and Advance Fethard Sewage scheme	Ryan Hanly	David Walsh Civil Engineering	Contract Started January 2015. 75 week contract.
Clonmel Town & Rural WSS (Advance Works)	Graigie Watermain & Borehole Contract No. 3	Nicholas O'Dwyer	Wills Bros.	Contract Started January 2015. 75 week contract.
Water Conservation Stage 3 Nenagh Town	Water Conservation Stage 3 Nenagh Town	JB Barry	Balfour Beatty	Contract started Nov 2015. 78 week contract.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme	Nenagh Wastewater Network Advanced Works	JB Barry	Balfour Beatty	Contract started Nov 2015. 78 week contract.

B. Review Scope and commence construction (IW Reviewing)	Contract Name	Current scheme Status
Clonmel Town & Rural WSS (Advance Works)	Storage North of Clonmel and Pipelines	Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultant appointment. Design review ongoing.
Thurles RWSS Contract 2 DBO WTP & Abbey road pipelines	Thurles RWSS Contract 2 DBO Water Treatment Plant & pipelines	Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultant appointed. Design review ongoing. Pre-qual to commence
Fethard RWSS	Mullenbawn Springs upgrade	IW appointed Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultant
Ardfinnan RWSS/Burncourt RWSS	M&E Works Ballylooby Springs including Drumroe & Kilroe Reservoirs	JB Barry Consultant appointed
Clonmel Town & Rural WSS (EIS & Water Abstraction Order)	Clonmel Town & Rural WSS –WTP, Reservoirs, Intake Works and Pipelines DBO Contract.	IW appointing Consultants.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme	WWTP & Network Upgrade	Terms of reference to be prepared to appoint Consultant



Pipeline on the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme



The new Burncourt Water Treatment Plant under construction



The new Fethard Water Treatment Plant under construction.



The new Fethard Water Treatment Plant under construction.

## 2. MINOR CAPITAL SCHEMES, 2015

This ongoing programme is designed to prioritise spending as effectively as possible, to identifying where funding is most needed through 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, regulatory compliance (EPA), public health and environmental risk, energy efficiency and maintaining levels of service through addressing underperforming assets. All Minor Capital Programme projects put forward by Tipperary County Council are reviewed by Irish Water before approval.

## 3. WATER CONSERVATION

The daily water demand in the County is 61,300m<sup>3</sup> (based on December 2015 figures) and this is supplied through 3,204km of watermain. Under the 2016 Annual Service Plan with IW, Tipperary County Council is aiming for a 2% reduction in Unaccounted for Water (UFW) expressed as a percentage of total water supplied under water supply schemes. This represents a saving of some 2,200 m<sup>3</sup> per day in the amount of water produced.

IW funding for initiatives such as major capital schemes, minor watermain replacement works and focused leak detection and repair through the Water Capital Programmes in 2016, will help to achieve water conservation target figures.

## 4. RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

### INTRODUCTION

The Rural Water Programme (RWP) principally relates to the group water supply scheme sector in the county.

Tipperary's vibrant group water scheme sector is an excellent example of the achievements which are possible when voluntary, local and central government and private enterprise engage positively. Some 81 active GWS provide good quality, potable water for their communities and future generations. These voluntary committees display great commitment, often above the call of duty.

Seen here at their golden jubilee festivities, Cunnahurt-Knockalton GWS, is a shining example of the continuous contribution generously given to their communities by these committees.

The Rural Water Programme is overseen by the Rural Water Committee, on which serve 5 members of the Council, a representative from the National Federation of Group Water Schemes and representatives of group water schemes and of rural organizations in the county.



View the old from the new - Knockalough from Garrynamona Reservoir located at Garrynamona, Ballycahill, Thurles, Co. Tipperary



All Smiles - Kilbarron National School visit Nenagh Regional Water Supply Scheme Water Treatment Plant at Coolbawn, Nenagh.



Cunnahurt-Knockalton GWS Golden Jubilee & J.Brien retirement, October 2014. Back Row: B Spillane, P O'Gorman and R Wallace. Front Row: T Nolan, M Hogan, J O'Brien, A O'Brien and K O'Brien.



## GROUP WATER SCHEMES

### CAPITAL GRANTS TO GROUP WATER SCHEMES:

Group water schemes are eligible for grant assistance towards capital works, which is channelled through the Council from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG). In 2015, €485,132 was invested in various improvement projects (emeters, boundary boxes, new source, new ultra-violet (UV) systems), countywide. A total of 26 group water schemes benefitted from RWP capital grants.

The measure provides 85% of the final cost of a project to a committee (up to a maximum of €7,650 per domestic connection). A GWS committee must provide 15% of the cost itself. Approved works are under the headings of water quality, health and safety, water conservation and network improvement.

### ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SUBSIDY TO GROUP WATER SCHEMES:

Sixty-five group water schemes applied for and received an annual maintenance subsidy payment in 2015. Eligible expenditure is based on the GWS expenses in the year 2014. GWS receive 100% of that spent on water quality (for example, chlorine, ultra-violet (UV) bulbs) and a percentage based on the number of domestic connections, for day to day spending. The maximum payable is based on €140 per domestic connection where the water source is private. Most GWS receive their maximum. Funding of €359,510 was distributed to the GWS community in 2015 via the subsidy.

### GRANTS FOR THE PROVISION OR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL WATER SUPPLY TO A HOUSE (PRIVATE WELL GRANTS):

The objective of this grant scheme is to assist households, dependent on individual private water supplies, who are incurring capital expenditure to:

- provide a piped supply of water for domestic purposes, or
- remedy serious deficiencies in an existing supply of water for domestic purposes.

The scheme does not apply to houses to which a public or group scheme water supply has already been provided or can reasonably be provided.

Sixty-four applications were received in 2015 with 30 of these receiving approval in principle to a grant. Grants paid amounted to €81,098 under the heading in respect of 45 applications. Seventy-one per cent of grants paid are at the maximum payable, €2,031. These grants are recouped from the DoECLG.





# CIVIL DEFENCE

## FLOODING RESPONSES

Civil Defence Volunteers played a vital role in the Local Authority Flood response in 2015. Volunteers responded in Clonmel, Kilsheelan, Ardfinnan Carrick on Suir and Newcastle. Civil Defence was involved at all levels in the provision of sandbags Road closures and especially in the evacuation of families in the Kilganey and Old Bridge area that were affected by Flooding. Members were also involved in the cleanup process after the flooding incident in Clonmel and Carrick on Suir. It is a great tribute to the dedication of volunteers who gave so freely of their time especially at holiday and Christmas time.

In addition to flood response Civil Defence volunteers attended in excess of 200 community events providing First Aid and ambulance cover including the Terryglass Arts Festival, Suir Valley 3 international cycle, Portroe Festival, Meals on wheels and senior citizen, & numerous sporting and cultural events.

As Always Civil Defence responded to callouts to missing person in the area and we involved in the recovery of 4 missing person. Our assistance was also given to the Irish coast Guard to transport an injured casualty to be air lifted.

In September 2015 Tipperary Civil Defence took part in the Emergency Services Display Day in Powerestown Park. 15 volunteers displayed Civil Defence skills and equipment to the general public, this included Ambulance Emergency Tent, Command & Control unit and the K9 search Dog.

Training of members continued throughout the County in the area of Occupational First Aid, Swift Water Flood Responses and Search and Rescue skills along with Catering and Welfare training. Most of this training takes place at night and at weekends.

2015 saw Civil Defence qualify new instructors in CFR, Swift water & Instructional methods.

Nov 2015 Tipperary Civil Defence took part in National Exercise in Radiation Monitoring organised by the Civil Defence College in Roscrea.

In 2015 Civil Defence Catering units provided 90 Christmas dinners to the Senior Citizen of Clonmel with the Elm Park Residence Association. Welfare units also assisted with catering and serving of food at the Garda/Careers association young at heart Christmas Party in Dec.

### ALSO IN CIVIL DEFENCE.

- Members Natasha Webster & Michael O'Dwyer got married.
- 6 members took part in the Killarney Adventure Race which included a 27k cycle, Kayaking and a run up Torc Mountain in Killarney.



- 4 Members of Civil took part in the Dragon Boat interfirm event in Cork and were the winner of the plate competition.
- 4 Members represented Civil Defence at the Emergency Services Cycle.
- We remember fondly members who have passed away during the year.

5

# MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

- CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
- CASHEL-TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
- CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT
- NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
- TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT





# CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General meeting of Carrick on Suir Municipal District was held on 24th of June 2015. Councillor Eddie O'Meara was re-elected as Cathaoirleach and Councillor Kieran Bourke was elected Leas Cathaoirleach.



## CIVIC RECEPTION



A civil reception was accorded to Mr Eoin Kelly on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, 2015 in recognition of his contribution to and achievements in hurling for his Club in Mullinahone, and his County. The reception was held in the C.J. Kickham GAA Centre, Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary and was attended by several hundred people, including members of the Oireachtas, members of the County council, and dignitaries from the Gaelic Athletic Association.



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District assisted the following bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001:

### CARRICK-ON-SUIR ST PATRICKS DAY PARADE COMMITTEE

A grant of €500 was made to the St Patrick's Day Committee. The committee organised the Patrick's Day Parade each year.

### SEAN KELLY SPORTS CENTRE

A grant of €5,000 was made to the Sean Kelly Sports Centre. The sports centre provides facilities for swimming and physical training and attracts thousands of visitors each year.

## CARRICK-ON-SUIR DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

A grant of €3,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Development Association (CoSDA). The Association provides a heritage centre at the Main Street in Carrick on Suir, a community centre in Carrickbeg, Carrick-on-Suir, and is involved in a number of training schemes in the town.

## CARRICK-ON-SUIR TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

A grant of €1,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee (COSTEDC). The committee has representatives of the Local Authority, the Business Association and the Development Association. It has prepared a strategic plan for Carrick-on-Suir and is involved in a number of different measures to promote the town.

## CARRICK-ON-SUIR BRASS BAND

A grant of €1,900 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band. The Band has been established for many years and performed in public without charge on six occasions in 2015.

## CLANCY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

A grant of €3,500 was made to the Committee of the Clancy Festival. The festival is held every year over three days on the weekend of the June bank holiday. It commemorates the Clancy Brothers who were born in the town, and attracts thousands of attendees.

## SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In March 2015 the members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District. This provided for the total expenditure of €5,427,938 on housing maintenance, roads, drainage, amenity areas, street cleaning, marina maintenance and burial grounds.

### SOME OF THE MAIN PROGRAMMES AFFECTING THE CARRICK ON SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT IN RELATION TO ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING 2015 WERE:

- Strengthening on regional Road R691 at Ballintogher, Tullamaine, Knockbritt and Rocks Road Mullinahone, Crohane Upper



- Low Cost Safety Scheme at, Carrickbeg, Rocklow Road Fethard and Killusty.
- Low Cost Safety Scheme and realignment at Ballinure School



- Provision of new footpaths in Fethard, Dualla, Ballingarry, Carrick and Mullinahone
- Tree Surgery Programme completed in Carrick on Suir
- Enhancement Scheme for Carrick on Suir Town Centre

## TIDY TOWN ASSOCIATIONS

Tipperary County Council sought submissions from Tidy Towns associations in relation to their plans for 2015.

### AS A RESULT, THE CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEMBERS DECIDED TO MAKE GRANTS AS FOLLOWS:

Ard Alainn Residents Association	€630.00
An Grianain Residents Association, Killenaule	€630.00
Ballingarry Tidy Towns Association	€630.00
The Commons Tidy Towns Association	€630.00
Killusty Tidy Village Group	€630.00
Carrick on Suir Business Assoc	€630.00
Ballinure Community Group	€630.00
Ballyneale Tidy Towns	€630.00
Cloneen Tidy Village & Graveyard Committee	€630.00
Drangan Tidy Towns Association	€630.00
Dualla Tidy Towns Association	€630.00
Fethard Tidy Towns Association	€630.00
Killenaule Community Enhancement Assoc	€630.00
Mullinahone Community Council	€630.00
Rosegreen Tidy Towns Association	€630.00

The total value of grants for Tidy Towns Committees in the Municipal District was **€9,450.00.**

## ASSISTANCE TO RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS

The County Council had sought submissions from residents associations in housing estates in relation to the work they carry out. Arising from these submissions, the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District Members decided to make grants as follows:

Group or Association	Work Assisted	Grant Amount
Reen heritage Group, Glengoole	Repair and replace existing fence, provision of platform, purchase grass cutting equipment	€500
Collins Park Residents Association, Carrick-on-Suir	Grass cutting and maintenance	€400
Ravenswood Residents Association, Carrick-on-Suir	Grass Cutting	€500
Killenaule Community Enhancement Group	Flowerbeds, shrubs,	€500
Ballylynch Residents Committee, Carrick-on-Suir	Flower planting and waste removal	€250
St John Terrace, Carrick-on-Suir	Waste Collection and grass curting	€275
Woodview Heights Kilcash	Grass Cutting, Hedge Cutting, maintenance	€365
Convent Lane Residents Association, Drangan	Name plate and grass cutting equipment	€500
Clairin Residents Association, Carrick-on-Suir	Grass cutting and planting, maintenance of nameplates	€500
Treacy Park Residents Group, Carrick-on-Suir	Removal of waste, grass cutting and purchase of lawn mower	€400
Seskin Court Residents Association	Recycling, maintenance and clean up of estate	€250
Manor Gate Residents Association	Upkeep of green areas, landscaping.	€400
<b>The total grants granted was</b>		<b>€4,840.00</b>

## SPORTS FACILITIES GRANTS

The County Council invited submissions from clubs and other organisations providing sports facilities.

ARISING FROM THESE SUBMISSIONS, THE MEMBERS FOR THE CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MADE GRANTS AS FOLLOWS:

Beneficiary	Amount	Beneficiary	Amount
St Nicholas Boxing Club	€493.50	Old School Community Centre	€500.00
Dualla Parish Council	€600.00	Slieveardagh United AFC	€591.50
Carrick Swans GAA	€600.00	Tidy Towns Ballingarry	€300.00
Glengoole Tidy Towns	€300.00	Senior Social Club, Ballingarry	€500.00
Rosegreen Development Association	€600.00	Nano Nagle Centre	€600.00
Carrick-on-Suir Boxing Club	€600.00	Carrick-on-Suir Athletics Club	€800.00
Sean Kelly Centre	€1,000.00	Grangemockler Community Sports	€600.00
CJ Kickhams GAA	€600.00	Ballyneale Community Hall	€586.83
St Patrick's GAA	€600.00	Ballyneale Sportsfield Development	€362.13
Carrick United AFC	€600.00	Kilsheelan/Kilcash Scout Group	€200.00
Kilcash Sports Field	€500.00	Killenaule GAA	€425.00
Fethard GAA	€600.00	South Tipperary Development Company	€500.00
Ballingarry Parish Field	€600.00	Mullinahone Community Council	€500.00
Old School of Music	€500.00		
Old School Mining Museum	€500.00		
		<b>Totals Grants</b>	<b>€15,158.96</b>



Ormond Castle, Carrick on Suir

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The County Council sought submissions from business and community groups in relation to the provision of Christmas Lights in towns in the District.

ARISING FROM THE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED, THE MEMBERS FOR THE CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT DECIDED TO MAKE GRANTS AS FOLLOWS:

COSBA	€7,561.94
Drangan Community Center	€403.00
Foroige NYP Youth Cafe	€400.00
Killusty Tidy Village	€400.00
Killenaule Community Enhancement Group	€2,244.45
Tidy Towns Ballingarry	€5,411.25
Fethard & Killusty Munitir Council Ltd	€3,409.41
<b>Total grant given</b>	<b>€19,805.05</b>

## OPENING OF LISMALIN BRIDGE

The bridge at Lismalin, between Mullinahone and Ballingarry, had been damaged by flooding and consequently closed to traffic. Tipperary County Council arranged to design and construction of a replacement bridge. The project was financed by the Department of Transport, managed by Tipperary County Council, and the bridge was reopened to Traffic in mid 2015.

In November 2015, the bridge was officially reopened by the Mr Alan Kelly, TD, Minister for the Environment, in front of an audience which included Oireachtas members, elected council members, senior staff, staff involved in the project, and the residents of the area.



Photograph of the Lismalin Bridge Opening 2015







# CASHEL - TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

The Cashel Tipperary Municipal District is one of five Districts in County Tipperary established on the 1st June, 2014 as part of the Municipal District Structure under the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

The District replaces the previous sub-county structure of Cashel & Tipperary Town Councils and local Area Committees serving a population of 27,549. While the District is not a legal entity, the County Council being the corporate body, the seven members (Councillors) acting in district formation have certain powers relating to the running of their own meetings and with regard to operations and maintenance works within the District. The Municipal District Members have an Annual and eleven Monthly meetings which are held on the fourth Monday of each month. Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan was elected Cathaoirleach of the District on 29th June 2015.

## CIVIC RECEPTION



Civic Reception to honour Tipperary Kickboxing Club  
 Front row - Alicia Chambers, Craig Sutton, Cllr. John Crosse, Cathaoirleach, M. McGivern  
 Back Row - Cllr. Martin Browne, Lisa Moloney, Chloe Quinn, Scott Carey Massey and Cllr. Roger Kennedy.

## ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH



Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan & Cllr. John Crosse on election of Cathaoirleach

Cashel Tipperary Municipal District accorded a civic reception to the Tipperary Town Kickboxing Club on the 12th May, 2015, in recognition of the club's achievements at the world championships in Tuscany Italy in November 2014. The Club sent five boxers to the world championships in Tuscany and each boxer returned with world medals of Gold, Silver and Bronze

## STREETSCAPE/SHOP FRONT ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

The Streetscape/Shop Front Enhancement Scheme provided grant aid to assist owners / occupiers of properties situate in the Primary Retail Areas of Cashel and Tipperary Towns to improve the streetscape through:

Removal of inappropriate contemporary signage, fittings and general clutter and replacement with shop fascia signage (with an emphasis on hand painted signage,

Painting and general improvements to existing shop frontages,

Erection of planters, floral hanging baskets etc or other environmental improvements.

**IN TIPPERARY TOWN, 14 BUSINESSES AVAILED OF THE SCHEME. AN EXAMPLE OF THE WORKS IS JOE WHELAN'S PREMISES PICTURED BELOW:**

**Joe Whelan's 64-65 Main Street, Tipperary Town**



Before Picture



After Picture.

**IN CASHEL TOWN 8 BUSINESSES AVAILED OF THE SCHEME. AN EXAMPLE OF THE WORKS IS PICTURED BELOW:**

**Interior Times, No. 6 Bank Place, Cashel**



Before



After

Two wells were installed on the Galbally Road and Aherlow Road approach roads to Tipperary Town. These works were completed in conjunction with Tipperary Regional Youth Services.



From left Pat Ryan, Craftsman, Eamonn Crowe, Craftsman, Jerry Sutton, General Operative, Ger Kiely, Town Gardener, Bernard O'Connor, Youth Reach, Joe Forrester, Driver

## CASHEL & TIPPERARY TOWN CENTRE FORUMS

Town Centre Forums which were established in Cashel in 2012 and in Tipperary in 2014 continued their work in 2015.

**These Forums which comprise representatives from Chambers of Commerce; Tidy Towns; Heritage/Tourist Groups and the Council work together with the following purposes;**

- to increase the responsiveness from the Council regarding town centre management issues
- to develop and foster existing relationships between the stakeholders and the Council
- to co-ordinate and focus the actions of key stakeholders in the interests of the retail function of the town as a whole
- to develop a clear management charter for town core areas
- to create greater synergy and communication between key retail stakeholders and the Council

**DURING 2015 A NUMBER OF PROJECTS WERE PROGRESSED;**

**Cashel:**

- Loyalty Card Scheme was introduced with support from Office of Public Works - Free Entry to Rock of Cashel when one spends €15 in participating outlet in Town
- Tourism Ambassadors were located at Rock of Cashel where they facilitated tourists with information on Town i.e. places to visit, shop and dine.
- Linkage between the Rock and Town Centre - Office of Public Works kindly agreed to facilitate the Council in opening up lands at rear of Courthouse for pedestrian use. Work on this project will commence in 2016
- Official Opening of "Gouts Pool" - this area located on Clonmel Road Cashel opposite Bothain Scor, which was formerly a derelict area was restored by Cashel Tidy Towns with grant aid from Council to incorporate a "pool" area with tree/hedge planting, walkways and seating.

**Tipperary:**

- Public Lighting - areas of Main Street/Market Yard which experienced a deficit of Lighting were rectified
- Tourist Signage was upgraded/cleaned
- Vacant properties - windows of these properties were used to display / advertise other businesses/events
- Council secured short-term Lease from Aldi to use portion of their property at Market Street for public events i.e. band recitals/ art exhibitions etc
- Grant aid was secured from the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government under Rural Economic Development Zone (REDZ) pilot initiative for following Projects:

Kickham Plaza Development (includes paving, street furniture, public lighting)

"It's a Long Way to Tipperary" Sculpture to be installed at entrance to Market Yard (from Main Street)

Wi-Fi Pilot Scheme at Annacarty Community Shop.

## HOUSING MAINTENANCE

The District has responsibility for the normal repair and maintenance of the local authority houses across the District. There are currently 889 units located across the Cashel Tipperary Municipal District.

## ROADS

### THE DISTRICT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS IN THE DISTRICT.

The details of the roads network in the District is as follows

Motorway	15km
National Primary	16km
Regional Roads	171km
Local Primary	294km
Local Secondary	328km
Local Tertiary	167km

Further details are provided in Roads, Transportation and Safety section of this report.



## BURIAL GROUNDS

### BURIAL GROUND GRANTS 2015

Beneficiary	Grant Allocation
Aglishe Graveyard Fund	€380
Annacarty- Kilpatrick	€910
Ardmayle Burial Ground	€480
Athassel Abbey Golden	€480
Ballinacourty Burial Ground	€500
Cappawhite Old & New Burial Ground Committee	€2,300
Clonoulty Old & New & Clogher Burial Ground Committee	€1,290
Cullen Graveyard Committee	€410
Dangan-Dargan Maintenance Committee	€410
Emly Old/New Burial Ground Committee	€910
Garranlea Burial Ground Committee	€380
Hollyford Burial Ground Committee	€500
Kilfeacle Burial Ground	€480
Kilshane Burial Ground	€410
Lagganstown Burial Committee	€410
Lattin Cemetery Committee	€480
Lattin New Burial Ground Committee	€500
Marl Bog Scout Centre & Co. Ltd.	€480
Mount Bruis Burial Ground Committee	€410
Old Donohill Burial Ground Committee	€410
Rosegreen Burial Ground Maintenance	€480
S. Senans Burial Ground Committee	€500
Shronell Graveyard Committee	€380
Solohead Burial Ground Committee	€480
Templenoe Burial Ground Committee	€410
Toem Burial Ground	€380
	<b>€15,160</b>

## TIDY TOWNS

In 2015, 12 Tidy Towns Associations in the District participated in the National Tidy Towns Competition. Each group achieved increased marks in the 2015 Competition. The District provides grants annually to assist in the voluntary work being completed across the District.

In April 2015, Cashel Girl Guides Troup teamed up with Cashel Tidy Towns volunteers for the annual clean up in Cashel. During the weeklong operation they collected almost 100 bags of rubbish which were disposed of by the Council.



### TIDY TOWN GRANTS 2015

Beneficiary	Grant Allocation
Aherlow Road Residents Association, Tipperary	€300.00
Cappawhite Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Cullen Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Golden Tidy Towns	€300.00
Kilnamanagh Court Residents Association, Clonoulty	€300.00
Murgasty Hills Residents Association, Tipperary	€300.00
The Steeples Residents Association, Cashel	€300.00
Tipperary Tidy Towns Committee	€300.00
An Duiche Residents Association, Tipperary	€300.00
Bansha Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Cashel Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Dundrum Residents Association	€300.00
Dundrum Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Emly Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Hollyford Tidy Towns	€300.00
Kilross Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Lattin Tidy Towns Association	€300.00
Oliver Plunkett Park Residents Assoc, Cashel	€300.00
Rossadrehid Tidy Towns	€300.00
Spafield Family Resource Centre, Cashel	€300.00
	<b>€6,000.00</b>

### MOTOR TAX FACILITY

The District Office provides a facility for motor tax customers paying by cash. This is to facilitate our customers that may not have online facilities or a credit card. In 2015, 894 transactions were completed in this district.



Mary Corcoran dealing with a motor tax customer at Reception

### CONNECT IRELAND

Cashel Tipperary Municipal District was selected as a pilot area by Connect Ireland with the focus on inviting new businesses to the area. Connect Ireland works in partnership with other Government Agencies to secure new jobs through connections/links with the Irish abroad. This exciting project known as Connect Tipperary was launched by John Delaney, CEO of FAI at The Excel, Tipperary in November 2015.

### SIGNING OF LEASE CONTRACTS

Circle of Friends Cancer Support Centre Tipperary

“Circle of Friends Cancer Support Centre provides a non judgemental support service to persons affected by cancer in a safe and confidential environment while respecting the dignity and worth of the individual”.

The members of Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District agreed to enable this Group with their proposal to build a purpose built facility by leasing them a site at Knockanrawley. The Lease was signed on 7th September, 2015.

Picture below shows all the board of Management who attended the official signing of the lease.



Front: Jennifer Jones Hickey (Founder), Pat Jones (Chairperson), Ronan Kennedy (Kennedy, Frewen O’Sullivan Solicitors)  
Back: Nora Hoare (Treasurer), Monica Fogarty (Asst. Secretary) and Directors: Catriona Riordan, Liam Berigan, Tom Donohue, Maeve Lowry and Mary Teresa O’ Donnell.

### CASHEL HERITAGE

Cashel City Walls are a designated National Monument, and the area is awarded statutory protection under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2004). The Walls, enclosing 14.5 hectares and encompassing a perimeter of 1,550 meters were constructed of locally sourced, roughly coursed limestone blocks with rubble infill. Standing at an average 3 meters high the Walls were built as a defensive rampart with gun towers at North, West and South east angles and contained 5 gates providing access points to the medieval town. Cashel, also known as Caiseal Mumhan meaning the “Stone Fortress of Munster” developed as an ecclesiastical and monarchical stronghold during the early 13th century.

In 2015 the Cashel City Walls Project successfully secured funding in the sum of €10,000 from the Heritage Council under the Irish Walled Towns Fund. This grant allocation enabled works to be carried out on the portion of the City Wall opposite the Roselawn Housing Estate. The consultant for this project was Mr. John Kelly, of David Kelly Partnership Chartered Engineers, Nelson House, Emmet Place, Youghal, Co. Cork.

#### CITY WALLS AT ROSELAWN



Before Picture



After Picture

### MOOREHAVEN PROJECT



Site for Multi-Sensory Space for Centre.

Tipperary Arts Office worked in partnership with the Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District and The MooreHaven Centre to develop a multi-sensory space for the centre.

The MooreHaven Centre is a Centre of excellence for adults with an intellectual disability and currently provides a day service at its location in the centre of Tipperary Town.

The aim of the project is to enable service users to develop their creativity through participation in the first steps towards the realisation of a creative space to be developed on the site. This project will provide the creative direction and a strong artistic and creative start to the transformation of the space.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

Cashel Tipperary Municipal District in conjunction with the Chambers of Commerce in Tipperary Town and Cashel contributed to the provision of Christmas lighting within the Towns.

**TIPPERARY TOWN**



Turning on the Christmas Lights in Tipperary Town.

**CASHEL TOWN**



Turning on the Christmas Lights in Cashel Town



Santa also visited businesses around the Town.

**ESTATE MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION & AWARDS CEREMONY**



Pictured at the Estate Management Exhibition & Awards Ceremony which was held in the District Offices in October 2015.

Tipperary Town Residents Associations carry out estate enhancement projects ranging from day to day upkeep e.g. grass cutting, planting etc to larger projects such as community gardens and remedial works to address safety and anti-social issues within their estates.

**TIPPERARY INTERNATIONAL PEACE PRIZE**

United Nations Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki Moon was recipient of the 2015 Tipperary International Peace Prize in May. Mr. Ban and his wife were afforded a full Irish Military Guard of Honour by ex-servicemen who soldiered on UN missions abroad, in recognition of Ireland's contribution to peace and stability as a member of the United Nations. Over 250 guests, dignitaries, politicians from across the divide and ambassadors from Europe, Asia and Africa attended the ceremony.



## AN POST RÁS 2015

Tipperary Town welcomed one of the most exciting events in the finish of Stage Two of Rás in May 2015. Tipperary's own Simon Ryan from Ballinahow was taking part in the RÁS with the Limerick Mego RT Squad. Crowds waited to cheer on the finishers outside the AIB Bank on Main Street. Tipperary Co Op was the main local sponsor of the event.



## SEAN TREACY MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL, TIPPERARY TOWN



The Sean Treacy Memorial Swimming Pool is a Council run facility in Tipperary Town. The pool is open to the public from 10am to 9.45pm Monday to Friday and from 10am to 6.45pm on Saturday and Sunday. It offers swimming lessons to adults and children on a group basis, one to one classes and 2 to one classes. The Pool Management have over recent years in conjunction with the Tipperary Energy Agency undertaken a range of cost saving measures in the energy efficiency area. 2015 was a busy year for the pool with 61,995 visitors to the pool. On Sunday 11th January, the pool hosted a Munster Branch Gala with six clubs taking part and one hundred and seventy swimmers competing. On Sunday 1st March, the local swimming club, Tiger Sharks held their invitational gala, this event was a great success with teams from all over Munster competing in this one day event. A warm welcome is extended to 3 new members of staff who joined the pool in 2015 – Hazel Foley, Jackie Parles and Niall Fitzgerald. Adjoining the pool facility is the Canon Hayes Recreational Centre which boasts a vast range of health, fitness, and sports facilities. Indoor facilities include a sports hall, aerobic studio, sauna/steam room, squash and racquetball courts, a magnificent gymnasium, lady-fit, and a pre-school. Outdoor facilities include a flood lit running track, 3 all-weather astro turf pitches and 2 tennis courts.



## CASHEL TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT RETIREMENTS 2015

### PETER LYONS, GENERAL OPERATIVE



Peter Lyons on his retirement from Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District with his wife Cathy, daughter and grandchildren.

### MICHAEL RYAN (LANTY), GENERAL OPERATIVE.



Mr. John Ryan, G.S.S., Mr. Aidan Finn, S.E.E., Mr. Michael Ryan, Ms. Noelle Ryan, Mr. Darby Mullen, E.E.

### BRIAN AHEARNE, CRAFT ELECTRICIAN



Brian Ahearne, Craft Electrician, with family and friends.



# CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT

Councillor Pat English was elected Mayor and Councillor Andy Moloney was elected Deputy Mayor for the District for 2015/2016



Mayor, Councillor Pat English

## CIVIC RECEPTION



A Civic Reception was held on the 5th June 2015 to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Clonmel Show event. Clonmel Show is not only one of the best shows in the country but also one of the oldest and the skills honed over generations in producing a top class spectacle.

*Clonmel Show is not only one of the best shows in the country but also one of the oldest and the skills honed over generations in producing a top class spectacle.*



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A significant contribution continued to be made to social and cultural life at a local level through support for a wide range of groups and events which included;

The Junction Festival, Bulmers Comedy Festival, Patricks Day Parades, Banna Chluain Meala and South Tipperary Arts Group

Support was also provided for local communities through the operation of the Community Grants Amenity Grant Scheme, Tidy Towns Grants, Burial Ground Grants

### ST. DECLANS GROVE, CAHIR

In association with Cahir Development Association, the project known as St Declans Grove commenced in Cahir. This is a significant project, which includes 40 mature trees and 10,000 bulbs for year round colour. Each tree will be sold as a family memorial tree with a brass plate with name and is a lifetime tree. Resurfacing works also took place in the Castle Car Park, Cahir to connect the parking area to this walk. This grove will be part of the St. Declan's Way and will be officially launched in 2016 as a Camino Walk or Pilgrim Path and this will be the focal point in the town.



St. Declan's Grove, Cahir

### WALKWAY CONVENT BRIDGE TO GALLOPING FIELD, CLONMEL

The aim of the project is to enhance the amenity of the River Suir and improve the scenic non motorised movement corridor from Convent Bridge across Clonmel to Mulcahy Park. The facility will be a substantial step in promoting a culture of cycling and leisure walking in Clonmel.

The project was progressed in 2015 by purchasing the relevant sections of land, obtaining Part VIII Planning Permission, tendering and award of the construction contract. This improvement is being carried out by constructing two sections of track at separate locations, one section being constructed is adjacent to Convent Bridge and the second section is at the Galloping Fields



Walkway Convent Bridge to Galloping Field, Clonmel

*The facility will be a substantial step in promoting a culture of cycling and leisure walking in Clonmel.*



### SUIR ISLAND

The Council acquired lands comprising 3 acres, within 100 metres of the main retail centre of Clonmel, at Suir Island in 2015. The lands are identified as an opportunity site in the Clonmel and Environs Development Plan 2013 and offers an opportunity to improve the amenity and commercial function of the town centre. Alterations to the Western Boundary will allow the improvement to pedestrian connectivity with the Old Bridge, the northern portion of the site will be developed as a car park and the southern portion, adjacent to the River Suir will be developed as the "Green Heart" of the town having regard to the existing habitats with the special area of Conservation.

### CAR PARKING STRATEGY

Works commenced on implementing a barrier type system in Mary Street Car park which was agreed as part of the 2013-2020 car parking strategy for Clonmel.

The next phase of the parking strategy is the provision of electronic approach road signage that provides accurate recall time parking information. This was identified as a short-term – medium term measure.

A car parking strategy will be developed for Cahir which will also consider the pedestrianisation of the Square in 2016.



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE



The parade took place and was lead by Carrie Acheson, this was an acknowledgement to Carrie Acheson's vast contribution and dedicated service to Clonmel over the years. It was also fitting in the year that Clonmel Show celebrates its 150th anniversary, as Mrs. Acheson is the show president.





## SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In March 2015 the members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Clonmel Borough District. This provided for total expenditure of €6,745.066.00 on housing maintenance roads, drainage, amenity areas, street cleaning and burial grounds.

### SOME OF THE MAIN PROGRAMMES AFFECTING THE CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT IN RELATION TO ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE DURING 2015 WERE:

- Surface dressing works at Poulmucha-Knocknaboha, Townspark Monaraha, Ballyclerihan-Treatment Plant etc.
- Road strengthening works at Church Street Cahir, Ballynevin, Caddlestown, Doon etc.
- Low Cost accident Remedial measures were carried out at Castlegrace, Clonmore South, Curraleigh East, Glennaclohalea, Knocklofty, Main Street, Ardfinnan, Moyle Rovers Hurling Club, Monroe
- Road improvements works and footpath replacement works were carried out at various location in Clonmel
- Glengarra Bridge rehabilitation works
- Community Involvement Schemes at Lyrefune Ballyporeen and Seskin, Kilsheelan
- Renewal of surface at Castle car park, Cahir
- Renewal of surface at lay bys, The Vee
- Completion of Village Enhancement Scheme, Clerihan

During 2015 there was a further welcome addition to the facilities with the installation of a Wheelchair Accessible Swing at Richard Mulcahy Park.



## COMMUNITY GRANTS

Applicant	Approved
Ardfinnan/Ballybacon/Grange Hospice Committee	€500
Grange Development Tidy Village Committee	€500
Skeenarinky Flower and Vegetable Club	€500
South Tipperary Consumer Panel for Mental health	€500
Clonmel Mountain Bike Club	€500
Art Hive	€500
Duhill Community Centre	€500
Clonmel Community Resource Centre	€500
Cahir Rowing Club	€500
CDA Promoting Cahir Group	€1,000
St Pauls' Community Centre Clogheen	€1,000
Clonmel Bridge Congress	€500
Kilsheelan Community Centre	€500
<b>Sub Total Community Grants</b>	<b>€7,500</b>
Ashfield Manor Residents Association	€300
Cahir Tidy Towns Association	€300
Lisronagh Residents Association	€300
Lady's Abbey Residents Association	€300
Marlfield Village	€300
Newcastle Tidy Towns Association	€300
New Inn Tidy Towns Association	€300
The Wilderness Residents Association	€300
Kilsheelan	€300
<b>Sub Total Tidy Towns</b>	<b>€2,700</b>
Cahir St Patrick's Day parade	€1,000
Ballyporeen St Patrick's Day Parade	€500
Sub Total St Patrick's Day	€1,500
Newcastle Old Cemetery Wall Project	€450
Rathronan Boundary Wall Project	€450
Sub Total Cemetery Grants	€900
<b>Total</b>	<b>€12,600</b>

## CAHIR AND CLONMEL TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVES

Clonmel Borough District, as part of its Town Centre Initiative, sought to improve the Clonmel and Cahir streetscape through enhancement and painting scheme by supporting owners in improving and enhancing their properties and public areas generally by such means as, but not limited to :

- Removal of inappropriate contemporary signage, fittings and general clutter and replacement with shop fascia signage (with an emphasis on hand painted signage);
- Painting and general improvements to commercial and residential building frontages
- Erection of planters; floral hanging baskets or other environmental improvements.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Clonmel Borough District supported business and community groups in relation to the provision of Christmas Lights in towns in the District:

Ardfinnan	€500
Newcastle	€500
Clogheen	€500
Cahir	€1,500
Clonmel	€15,000



## NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

The Annual Meeting of Nenagh Municipal District was held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Councillor Ger Darcy was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Joe Hannigan was elected Leas Chathaoirleach.



## CIVIC RECEPTIONS

On the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015, the Nenagh Municipal District accorded a Civic Reception to Nenagh Choral Society in recognition of their nominations for the Association of Irish Musical Awards 2015.



On the same night a Civic Reception was accorded to Newport Instrumental Group in recognition of their achievement in winning the 2015 All-Ireland Senior Scór Final.



## CIVIC WELCOME

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 a Civic Welcome was accorded in Lorrha to Cllr. Wayne Sanford, President of Collie Shire Council in Western Australia. His visit, which was to honour Lorrha native, Martin O' Meara, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during World War One, coincided with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gallipoli.



Despite poor weather conditions, Cllr. Sanford and his wife, Mary, enjoyed a true Tipperary welcome. They laid a wreath at the memorial in the village to Martin O' Meara and then visited a number of historical sites including St. Ruadhan's Churchyard, the Augustinian Abbey, the Dominican Friary and Redwood Castle. A visit was also paid to the birthplace of Martin O' Meara, V.C. The evening ended with a meal and entertainment.



## SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In March 2015 the members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Nenagh Municipal District. This provided for total expenditure of €7,361,169 on housing maintenance, roads, drainage, amenity areas, street cleaning and burial grounds.

**Some of the main programmes affecting the Nenagh Municipal District in relation to roads and infrastructure during 2015 were:**

- Strengthening and Overlay on N65 at Lehinch
- Excavation and Road Restoration at the Gluepot, Ballingarry
- Overlay at Rearcross
- Upgrade of road at Tountinna
- Undergrounding of cables on Sarsfield St., Nenagh.
- Public Consultation on Proposed Realignment at Latteragh
- Main Surface Water Drainage Scheme in Borrisokane
- Extension of Gas Network to Nenagh
- Upgrade of Castlough Amenity Area
- Official Opening of Nenagh Town Park & Leisure Centre

The official opening by Minister Alan Kelly of Nenagh Town Park & Leisure Centre took place on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in the presence of the Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council, Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald; Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District, Cllr. Fiona Bonfield; Chief Executive, Joe MacGrath and many other members and invited guests.



The Town Park and refurbished Leisure Centre continue to attract high levels of users. In 2015 a total of 122,007 used the Leisure Centre, which was a 57.94% increase on usage in 2013.



During 2015 there was a further welcome addition to the facilities with the installation of a Wheelchair Accessible Swing in the Town Park.



The Town Park was nominated in two categories for the Irish Landscape Institute People's Choice Award for Landscape Architecture. In the Design – Public Realm Category Nenagh achieved third place and was commended by the judges.

The People's Choice Award was decided by public vote. Nenagh was joint second in this category with the Mardyke Gardens in Cork City. First place in this category went to Woodenbridge World War I Memorial, Co. Wicklow.

### OFFICIAL OPENING OF LISBUNNY LAWN CEMETERY

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 the newly constructed Lisbunny Lawn Cemetery was officially opened by Cathaoirleach of the Nenagh Municipal District, Cllr. Ger Darcy in the presence of Minister Alan Kelly, members of the Nenagh Municipal District, Chief Executive, Joe MacGrath and other guests.



The new Lawn Cemetery includes an additional 500 grave spaces along with a store, two Columbarium Gardens and landscaping. The provision of the Columbariums is the first facility of this nature in the area and it will cater for the storage of urns.



### OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF CCTV SYSTEM FOR NENAGH TOWN

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 the launch of a new CCTV System for Nenagh town took place. The system, which is monitored from Nenagh Garda Station, includes 11 CCTV cameras throughout the town. This is proving very beneficial as a deterrent and a means of detection of crime.



### WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

During 2015 the Nenagh Municipal District worked with the community throughout the District in various ways. This included provision of funding through grants and contributions, liaison with voluntary groups and associations, liaison with business groups, provision of advice and support and assisting with a variety of events.

#### THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS WERE ALLOCATED TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND RESIDENTS GROUPS:

- Local Organisations - €40,000
- Residents Associations - €15,000
- Special Grant Scheme for Sports Clubs & Voluntary Groups - €10,000.
- Events supported included:
- St. Patrick's Day Parades
- Fleadh Cheoil na Mumhan
- Spleodar
- Visit Nenagh Classic
- The People's Picnic
- Nenagh Municipal District Awards Evening



On the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the Nenagh Municipal District held its first Awards Evening. The evening was a great success, recognising the hard work being carried out by community groups across the District under a number of categories. Entertainment on the night was provided by the Fleadh Cheoil Committee and Nenagh Choral Society.



## ENHANCING OUR TOWNS & VILLAGES

Nenagh Municipal District assisted 30 business premises in the Primary Retail Area of the town of Nenagh to improve and enhance their properties by facilitating grant aid towards painting shop fronts. Assistance was also given to property owners in the village of Cloughjordan through similar grant aid.

Additional grant funding was given to the five centres in the District who achieved the highest level of marks in the national Tidy Towns Competition. This funding enabled the voluntary committees in Terryglass, Kilbarron, Silvermines, Ballina and Birdhill to undertake additional enhancement works.



Further grant assistance was also given to Rearcross, Newport, Dromineer, Capparoo, Borrisokane, Pallasmore, Ardcroney and Toomevara to help them in their efforts to enhance their areas.



Within Nenagh Town the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee was supplemented by additional works by District staff which included erection of hanging and railing baskets, planting and amenity works.



2015 was an impressive year for all the Tidy Towns Committees in the Nenagh District with each Committee gaining significant marks in the National Tidy Towns Competition. In particular, special recognition goes to Nenagh on winning its first bronze medal, Silvermines for winning a silver medal and Birdhill & Terryglass on winning gold medals.

2015 saw the unveiling of Nenagh's first Street Art Mural. This was a project carried out by Draw Out – Urban Exhibitionists and artist DMC in partnership with the Arts Section of Tipperary County Council and the Nenagh Municipal District.

Entitled 'The Fiddler's Light' the mural at Pound Road was developed in conjunction with a youth group from Nenagh Community Training Centre and it has proven an attraction both on Facebook and on Pound Road! It transformed an unsightly gable wall from....



before

after

## NENAGH TOWN FORUM

In September 2015 the process to establish a Town Forum in Nenagh commenced. A number of meetings were held with retailers, Nenagh Chamber of Commerce and other interested parties. The end result has been input into a 3 year action plan which will provide a strategic vision for the town of Nenagh.

The establishment of the Forum has been a success with a high level of engagement by all concerned. One of the first fruits of this was the number of exciting initiatives undertaken for Christmas in Nenagh with a view to encouraging people to shop local.

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

During 2015 Nenagh Municipal District carried out a public consultation process on the Draft Nenagh Traffic Management Plan prepared by consultants Roadplan on behalf of the District. This Plan includes some radical proposals such as the provision of a one-way system in the town. Large numbers attended the information meeting at which Dermot Donovan of Roadplan outlined the proposals. In excess of 60 submissions were received.

Public consultation was also undertaken on Lisbunny Lawn Cemetery Bye-Laws which were adopted by members in March 2015.



## TAKING IN CHARGE OF ESTATES

### THE FOLLOWING ESTATES WERE TAKEN IN CHARGE IN THE NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT DURING 2015:

- Killnasalla Estate, Nenagh
- Fernhill Estate, Cullenagh, Ballina
- Shoreside Estate, Cullenagh, Ballina
- Cnoc Ard Estate, Ballina
- Cullenagh Estate

## TWINNING

Nenagh Town is twinned with Tonnerre in France. A contribution of €3,000 was paid to the Twinning Committee in 2015.





# TEMPLEMORE - THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

The Annual Meeting of the Municipal District took place on 24th. June, 2015. Councillor John Hogan was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Willie Kennedy was elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

## CIVIC RECEPTIONS

A Civic Reception was accorded to The Thurles CBS Harty Cup Panel on 14th. May, 2015, in recognition of winning the 2015 Harty Cup. A Civic Reception was accorded on 22nd. May, 2015, to the Cistercian College Senior Rugby Team on winning the 2015 Leinster Schools' Senior Challenge Cup.

Thurles CBS Transition Year students made a presentation to the Council on 22nd. July, 2015, on their project which involves the installation of a sensor on tractors and other machinery thereby helping to save lives on farms. A contribution of €250.00 was afforded to the Thurles CBS Group towards the cost of travelling to Seoul, South Korea, to represent Ireland with their innovative project in the Sage Global World Cup for Social Entrepreneurs.

## THURLES LINK ROAD (MILL ROAD TO CLONGOUR)

A substantial portion of the land has been acquired for the development of the Thurles Link Road which will greatly improve traffic congestion in the town.

## LIBERTY SQUARE THURLES REFURBISHMENT SCHEME AND DEVELOPMENT OF A CARPARK

The Part 8 Plans and Specification were completed by the year end and it is expected that construction will commence in late 2016.

## EXTENSION TO AND REFURBISHMENT OF THE OFFICES AT CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES.

The Part 8 Process was completed early in the year. Conack Construction Ltd. was awarded the contract on 7th. August, 2015 and works commenced on site on 17th. August, 2015. The contract is scheduled for completion in December 2016.



## THURLES TOWN PARK



The Town Park which is a huge asset to the town opened to the public on Wednesday, 14th. October, 2015 and is proving to be very popular. The park comprises of a children's playground, skateboard park, MUGA, outdoor adult exercise equipment, bandstand, pathways, green areas, pedestrian bridge and car park.



*The park comprises of a children's playground, skateboard park, MUGA, outdoor adult exercise equipment, bandstand, pathways, green areas, pedestrian bridge and car park.*

## LOUGHTAGALLA MUGA AND OUTDOOR ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

The contract for the provision and installation of the equipment was awarded to McSweeney Sports Surfaces and the improvements were completed in May, 2015.

## CARPARK AT ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY, THURLES

A draft layout plan for the provision of a carpark has been completed. Detailed plans and specification for the Part 8 process are currently being prepared 'in-house'.

## ROSCREA ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

Tenders were invited for the procurement of a Landscape Architect led Design Team to prepare detailed designs for Castle Street, the Town Plaza and Main Street, Roscrea. The objectives of the Plan focus on improving the public realm in these areas by making them more user friendly and inviting for pedestrians, motorists, locals and visitors with an emphasis on increasing footfall in the town centre.



## IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GLEBE PLAYGROUND, ROSCREA

Funding was secured through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play and Recreation 2015 towards the cost of resurfacing the playground and repairing the equipment in the children's playground. The Municipal District made a significant contribution towards the costs.



## TEMPLEMORE TOWN PARK EXTENSION

A number of layouts for the development of the additional land purchased are currently being prepared 'in-house'.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANISATIONS/ COMMITTEES

Grants in the amount of €118,952.00 were awarded to 156 Sporting Bodies, Residents Associations Community and Voluntary Organisations, Tidy Towns and Burial Ground Committees in 2015. The Municipal District acknowledges the positive contributions that these committees make to local communities.

## 2015 TOWN CENTRE PAINTING INITIATIVE

Grants were awarded to businesses in the towns of Thurles, Templemore and Roscrea towards the cost of painting the external of their business premises which has greatly improved the visual appearance of the town centres.

## HOUSING

Templemore-Thurles Municipal District assisted the Housing Section in the resettlement of 12 Syrian families in Thurles town during the year.



# 6

## ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

- CORPORATE SERVICES
- HUMAN RESOURCES
- INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)
- WEBSITE
- SPORTS AND SOCIAL







# CORPORATE SERVICES

## PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillors Conference Expenses	€16,062.77
Councillors Training Expenses	€70,528.67
Allowance paid to Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees	€19,548.30
Cathaoirleachs Allowance	€18,234.13
Leas Cathaoirleach	€3,646.82
Chair Municipal district	€22,225.93
Members representational Pay	€431,752.40

## MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

	Monthly	Budget	Annual
<b>Tipperary County Council</b>			
<b>Municipal Districts</b>			
Thurles/ Templemore	10	1	1
Carrick on Suir	10	1	1
Cashel/ Tipperary	10	1	1
Clonmel	10	1	1
Nenagh	10	1	1

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Corporate Policy Group	12
Joint Policing Committee	2
Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	6
Housing SPC	3
Planning and Emergency Services SPC	4
Roads and Transportation SPC	3
Rural Water Committee	4
L.C.D.C.	9
Local Traveller Committee	2

## CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) comprises the Cathaoirleach and the five Chairpersons of the Strategic Policy Committees and it is supported by the Chief Executive.

The group also includes the Cathaoirleach of Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District owing to the fact that a member from that district is not represented as a Chairperson of an SPC.

The role of the CPG includes advising and assisting the Elected Council in the formulation, development, monitoring and reviewing of policy for Tipperary County Council. However, full decision-making authority remains with the Elected Council.

The CPG may also make proposals for the allocation of business between the Strategic Policy Committees and for the general coordination of such business.

**THERE WERE 10 CPG MEETINGS HELD IN 2015. AMONG THE ITEMS CONSIDERED AT THEIR MEETINGS WERE:**

- IPA case study on Merger Process
- Establishment of the Electoral Commission Consultancy Paper
- 100th Anniversary of the 1916 Rising
- Draft Corporate Plan 2015-2019
- Draft Service Delivery Plan 2015
- Annual Report 2014
- Section 25 Fire and Emergency Operation Plan
- Proposed Variation (No. 2) to North and South Tipperary Development Plans
- Draft Policy on Sponsorship of Roundabouts
- Sister Cities Summit 2016
- Local Property Tax – consider the local adjustment factor in accordance with Part 4 of the Local Property Tax (local adjustment factor) Regulations 2014
- Budget Strategy Process
- Convent of Mayors

## WORKPLACE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Workplace Partnership Committee for Tipperary County Council was officially established in June 2015. The committee is meeting every two months and since its formation the committee has met on three occasions.

The Partnership Committee comprises the following members:

### MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES)

- **Dave Carroll**  
(Chief Fire Officer, Joint Chair)
- **Michael F Hayes**  
(Senior Engineer, Roads)
- **Pat Slattery**  
(Director of Services)
- **Denis Holland**  
(Senior Engineer, Water Services)
- **Seamus O'Brien**  
(Town Foreman, Nenagh Municipal District)
- **Marie McGivern**  
(District Administrator, Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District)

### UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- **Joe Sherlock**  
(IMPACT, Joint Chair)
- **Patrick Moran**  
(SIPTU/LAPO)
- **Fiona Crotty**  
(IMPACT)
- **John McCormack**  
(SIPTU)
- **Donal Tuohy**  
(UNITE)
- **Martin Gleeson**  
(SIPTU)
- **Pat O'Rourke**  
(UNITE)

### WORKPLACE PARTNERSHIP FACILITATORS

- **Brian Dunne**
- **Walter Doheny**

The Partnership Structures continue to be utilised in providing a forum for Information and Consultation with all employees.



## OTHER PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES



The main areas of activity during the year were as follows:

A group of outdoor staff attended training in a Skills for Work programme which was delivered in conjunction with the ETB. Two classes were held in both Nenagh and Clonmel. This programme received funding from the Department of Education and Skills.

The Retired Staff Association organised a number of successful outings for retired staff. In June, a two day trip took in the zig-zagging coastline of West Cork. In September, a foreign trip was organised which took in Belgium and Holland. A visit to the European Parliament in Brussels was one of the highlights of the outing. A Christmas evening dinner was organised in the Thatched Cottage in Ballycommon, Nenagh and the retired staff lunch was organised in the Minella Hotel in Clonmel. There was a large turnout for both these events.

Two Christmas Kiddies Parties were held, one in Nenagh and one in Clonmel. Kids participated in a Magic Show, Balloon Modelling, Disco, Face Painting, etc.

A presentation to staff who retired in 2014 took place at the Minella Hotel, Clonmel on 10th December. Joe McGrath, Chief Executive presented a Genesis award to the recipients aptly named 'Works Done'.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT SERVICES

The Council operates an integrated model for customer support in the form of a Customer Services Desk.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND FEATURES OF THE CUSTOMER SERVICES DESK:

- An average of 2,500 calls per week, over 50% of which are transferred to sections. This means that Customer Services are dealing with and closing out almost half of all calls to the County Council.
- Calls are answered by a member of staff, rather than going to a recorded message.
- There are an average of 600-650 public counter enquiries every week.
- E-mails to Customer Services average 200 per week.
- Over 2,000 items of post are received every week and are distributed to the various sections or dealt with in Customer Services.
- Total number of customers handled by CSD (phone/public counter/e-mail/post) is over 5,000 per week. There is a Service Level Agreement with each section to provide clarity on the roles of CSD and the Section/Borough District/Municipal District. The Council are using the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) in order to relay messages from CSD to Sections/Districts.



Feedback received from various quarters on the new Customer Service Desks continues to be very positive and favourably commented upon. This is just the first phase of what will be an evolving Customer Services model.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Freedom of information Act 2014 was enacted on 14th October, 2014. It confers three very important rights on members of the public who seek access to information held by government departments, local authorities and other designated bodies. These rights are:

- The right of access to official records held by Public Bodies.
- The right to have personal information about them held by such bodies corrected or updated where necessary.
- The right to be given reasons for decisions made by public bodies which affect them.

Since its inception in 1997 the Freedom of Information Act has been widely used by members of the public to access records held by Public Bodies.

A total of 75 Freedom of Information requests were received by Tipperary County Council in 2015.

The following table shows the number of FOI requests to Tipperary County Council in 2015 and the decisions made on those requests:

No. of FOI requests received	75
No. of Requests for personal Information	11
No. of Requests for non-personal Information	53
Mixed	11
No. of requests granted	56
No. of requests part granted	13
No. of requests refused	5
Carried forward to 2016	1

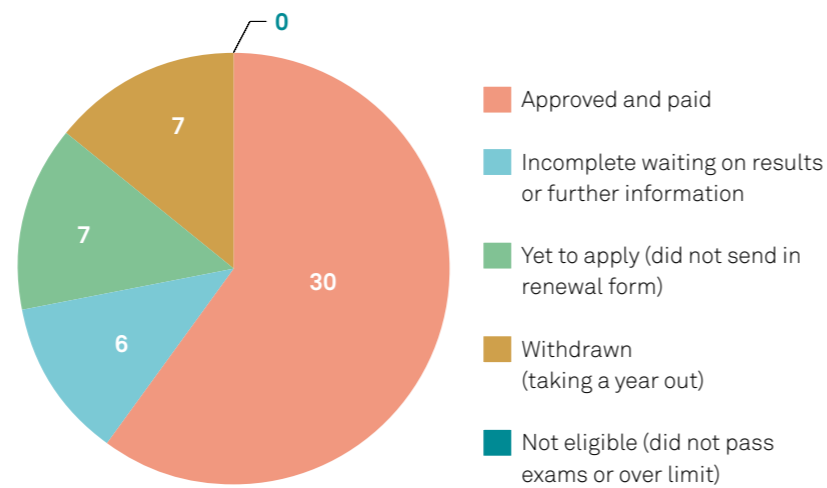


### HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS

In accordance with the Local Authority Higher Education Grants Act, Tipperary County Council provides higher education grants for eligible students. The Council adopts a scheme of grant each year with the Minister for Education and Skills.

Since 2012/2013 Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) has been processing all new applications. Accordingly, Tipperary County Council are no longer processing new higher education grant applications, they are processing applications for students continuing their current studies since academic year 2011/2012.

50 Applications Assessed 2015/2016



### CIVIC RECEPTIONS



A Civic Reception is the highest honour that the Council can confer on an individual, group or organisation who have achieved outstanding success in sporting, cultural, academic, scientific, political or other areas. The Council adopted a review protocol during 2015 for Civic Honours Conferral and Representation at official events which allows for Municipal Districts to recognise success by clubs or groups within their district at local, county or national level.

During 2015, Tipperary County Council conferred a Civic Reception to Rockwell College on 17th June, 2015 in recognition of their educational, sporting and cultural contribution to the County of Tipperary and beyond over the last 150 years. It was a special occasion for the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Michael FitzGerald who was a past pupil of the college.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

The unified Tipperary County Council is one of the largest employers in the county with a total of 1124 employees (full time equivalent and retained) at the end of 2015.

## THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT DEALS WITH THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Recruitment, Remuneration and Conditions of employment.
- Development and Implementation of Staff Training/ Development Programmes.
- Superannuation (Pension Entitlements).
- Employee Welfare/Relations.
- Industrial Relations.
- Maintenance of Personnel Records.
- The CORE computerised Human Resources System.
- Performance Management and Development System (PMDS).

## WORKFORCE PLANNING AND RECRUITMENT

Each Local Authority is required to have in place an approved workforce plan. As part of the Tipperary merger process, an extensive workforce planning exercise was carried out in 2013 and has been in the process of implementation since. During 2015, there were a number of open and confined competitions held and appointments made to key service posts, in accordance with the plan.

In accordance with national programmes “Pathways to Work” and “Action Plan for Jobs”, the Council continued to implement the Job bridge Scheme and the Gateway Scheme, providing eligible applicants opportunities to gain valuable work experience. By December 2015 there were 74 gateway participants in place throughout the county.

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The Council continues to work in partnership with unions and employee representatives to achieve harmonious working relationships and improved working conditions with safe, effective and efficient work practices. Many of the issues raised during the year were related to post merger issues and management and unions worked effectively to address same.

## STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

In keeping with current national policy and the objectives of our Corporate Plan we continue to ensure that staff at all levels of the organisation have the opportunity to develop to their full potential and acquire the appropriate level of knowledge and skills to carry out their job. As part of the merger process, a dedicated training team was established within the Human Resources Section.

The training team is headed by a training officer and the team is responsible for drafting and implementing a comprehensive training programme. Training requirements are based on the needs identified through the Performance Management Development System (PMDS) and during the year, prioritisation was given to Health and Safety Training, training required for specific roles and also change management related training. A number of staff were also provided with funding for 3rd level courses under the Staff Education Assistance Scheme.

In order to ensure effectiveness and value for money, training was mainly delivered in-house and at the Regional Training Centre, Roscrea using in-house and external trainers. Congratulations are extended to all employees who engaged in the training programme in 2015.



## SUPERANNUATION

The Human Resources Department administers the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and associated Spouse's and Children's Scheme and Widows and Orphans Pension Schemes for all grades.

### IT CARRIES OUT THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

- Calculation of retirement lump sums and pensions, death gratuities, lump sums in respect of retirements, preserved benefits etc.
- Transfer of service to and from other Public Sector bodies.
- Calculation of statements regarding service and estimates of benefits.
- Registration of new scheme members.

## EQUALITY

### THE TWO MAIN EQUALITY POLICIES IN PLACE IN NORTH TIPPERARY LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE:

- Dignity at Work Policy and
- Equality and Diversity Management Policy

There are a number of Designated Contact Persons in place and it is their role to provide assistance to employees as required in accordance with the equality policies. The list of Designated Contact Persons is attached to the Dignity at Work Policy on Sharepoint.



## PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM (PMDS)

National policy continues to place a very high priority on the use of performance management and development systems in Local Government. With the creation of revised directorates post merger and consequently new teams, increased emphasis has been placed on ensuring that team development plans and personal development plans are in place for all teams and employees.

## EMPLOYEE WELFARE/RELATIONS

We continuously strive to create a work environment that is conducive to promoting a healthy and progressive workforce.

### INITIATIVES THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Staff Support Programme including Employee Support Staff.
- Access to Occupational health Professional.
- Employee Handbook.
- Superannuation Handbook.
- Information/Induction package to new employees.
- Long Service Awards.
- Pre-retirement Courses.
- Return to Learning Project.

Tipperary County Council facilitates the taking of the various Family Friendly leave arrangements including Work-Sharing, Parental Leave and Carers Leave.

In late 2015, a new programme of lunchtime talks commenced with an emphasis on well being.

## CORE HR PAYROLL AND SUPERANNUATION SYSTEM

A new HR Payroll and Superannuation System (CORE) was introduced in 2010. This entailed the rollout nationally of 10 modules between 2010 and 2013.

In 2015 the Council successfully moved from CORE Version 15 to CORE Version 19 which provided end users with greater flexibility and enhanced features including Employee and Manager Dashboards. The facility for staff to manage and edit their own bank account details was also provided.

Following the successful upgrade the Council migrated to the Payroll Shared Service Centre – MyPay in August 2015. Significant elements of the payroll process remain with the Council such as timesheet keying, pre-implementation preparation, validation and checking of payroll data and adjustments including non statutory deductions. The final implementation of the process is undertaken by MyPay following these extensive checks.



## RETIREMENTS

### DURING 2015 THE FOLLOWING STAFF RETIRED FROM THE SERVICE:

<b>Brian Ahearne</b>	Craftsman
<b>Bernadette Riordan</b>	Lifeguard
<b>Bernard O'Brien</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Danny Scully</b>	Assistant Foreman
<b>David Ryan</b>	General Operative C.E. Scheme
<b>Denis Slizys</b>	General Operative C.E. Scheme
<b>Donal O'Brien</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Eamon Lee</b>	Ganger
<b>Eddie Mason</b>	Driver Grade VI
<b>Edmund Carew</b>	General Operative C.E. Scheme
<b>Eva O'Keeffe</b>	Clerical Officer
<b>Fiona Fuller</b>	Clerical Officer
<b>Francis Cummins</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Gerard Ryan</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Helen Phelan</b>	Assistant Staff Officer
<b>John Condon</b>	G.S.S.
<b>John Croke</b>	Sewerage Caretaker
<b>John Redfern</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Kathleen Maher</b>	Administrative Officer
<b>Mary Mullins</b>	Clerical Officer
<b>Michael Dunphy</b>	General Operative
<b>Michael Ryan</b>	General Operative
<b>Michael Walsh</b>	Water Caretaker

<b>Nora Anderson</b>	Office Cleaner
<b>Patrick Kelly</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Patrick Kennedy</b>	G.S.S.
<b>Patrick Moore</b>	fire-fighter
<b>Peter Lyons</b>	General Operative
<b>Sarah Barry</b>	Assistant Staff Officer
<b>Sean Toomey</b>	Caretaker
<b>Thomas Cormack</b>	General Operative
<b>Thomas Kennedy</b>	Assistant Foreman
<b>Thomas McCormack</b>	Ganger

The former Tipperary Local Authorities and customers have been well served by these employees who have given years of exemplary service. We wish each and every one of them health and happiness for many years to come. Our hope is that they remain in constant contact with their many friends and colleagues.

In addition to the above we fondly remember our two colleagues who sadly died in service during 2015 - Mr. Thomas Dillon, General Operative and Ms. Helen Anne Power, Clerical Officer. We express our sincere condolences to their families.



# INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The following was achieved by the Information Systems team in 2015:

## CITIZEN, ELECTED MEMBER

**Objective:** Provide an accessible, comprehensive customer service platform for the public, elected members and staff, through the use of information technology and the internet. Continue to provide a technical support service to the Elected Members.

### ACHIEVED

- Continued to rollout the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) across the organisation.
- Facilitated the Elected Members in their use of tablets and smart phones to access their email and documentation.
- Launched the tourism web site [www.Tipperary.com](http://www.Tipperary.com) (.ie), and provided assistance in the support of [www.exploretipperary.ie](http://www.exploretipperary.ie) and [www.discoverloughderg.ie](http://www.discoverloughderg.ie).
- Redeveloped the Elected Members area of [www.councillink.ie](http://www.councillink.ie) to improve usability.
- Enhanced the council web site of [Tipperarycoco.ie](http://Tipperarycoco.ie) to include: a Calendar of "whats on" in the County, Online Consultations, Eforms for job vacancies, map integration- Road Alerts & Salting Routes.
- Progressed a new Tourism initiative to develop an App called "Whats on in Tipp". It is planned to develop it in-house, and to go live with it in Q3 of 2016.
- Used the website and social media extensively for communications, during the severe weather situation.
- Commenced the upgrade of the Guest, Staff and Members WiFi in the organisation.
- Updated the web based Planning GIS Enquiry System to reflect a single unified system.



## STAFF, BRAND, SERVICE

**Objective:** Provide the tools, systems, solutions and infrastructure to enable the staff and the business sections achieve their business objectives. Continue to provide a technical support service to staff in the areas of Networks, Applications, Web and GIS.

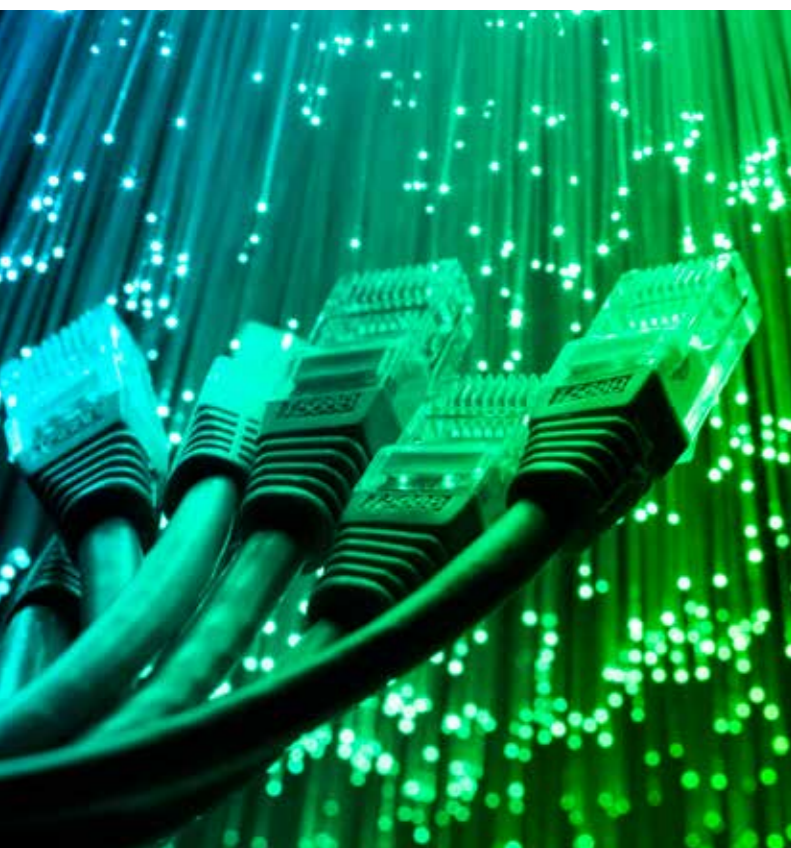
### ACHIEVED

#### Networks, Data Centre, Phones and Infrastructure

- Provided technical support to staff across the organisation in relation to business systems, pc's, laptops, mobile devices, smart phones and IT systems. 5,690 calls were logged in helpdesk in 2015.
- Delivered maximum uptime and performance of Networks/Systems across all offices for all Users
- Facilitated the following projects: Flood Forecasting system, CCTV project software, Sports Partnership integration Planning Office reorganisation, new swimming pool system, Firestation Clonmel reconfiguration, Firestations I-Pad training system, Wallers Lot reconfiguration, relocation from and decommissioning of Old Waste Management office, My Pay system, new desktops, Irish Water requirements
- Integrated the Library systems and infrastructure into the County Council. Now supporting all aspects of IT for the Libraries. Email, PCs, files migrated also. Phone system and phones implemented partly migrated (to be completed in 2016).
- Upgraded the Networks Point to Point link between Clonmel and Nenagh.
- Decommissioned and powered off 70% of servers in the Clonmel Data Centre.
- Upgraded the software to manage security (Mobile Device Management) on smart phones and Tablets. Approximately 50% of devices have been migrated to new environment.
- Selected a Vendor to upgrade the infrastructure in the data centre in Nenagh. The infrastructure was delivered on site before Christmas.
- Provided desktop video conferencing (Skype) to several staff.
- Facilitated staff moves from the Cashel offices.
- Facilitated the extension of the Thurles Municipal District offices.
- Facilitated phone moves and changes on an ongoing basis.
- Facilitated requirements for the new Thurles Municipal District office. Currently in the process of providing connectivity to new Library HQ area of site in preparation for move in March 2016.
- Implemented new technology changes to the Phone Systems in the key offices and implemented four digit extensions where feasible.
- Terminated Phone Lines where appropriate.

## GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

- Developed a pilot Geographical Information System (GIS) for Planning, using new technology.
- Migrated GIS systems to Nenagh data centre.
- Merged IS Systems/Data Sets/OSI Mapping.
- Completed an audit of Autocad systems.
- Improved the Property interest register system
- Moved to a new environmental laboratory system.



## eDEVELOPMENT

- Implemented a new Phone Book system.
- Made available 70+ Sharepoint datasets (systems) across the organisation. Some samples include: Civil Defence Resource Management, Environmental Registers and inspections; Derelict Sites, Anti-Social Behaviour, Planning Registers, Taking in charge, Bonds, RPS, Roads Plant & Lifting, Notice of Motion; Managers Orders.
- Decommissioned Internal Hosting.
- Implemented Twitter alerts by Municipal District.
- Decommissioned old Content Management System.
- Move web site hosting to a new supplier.
- Developed and Implemented the following systems: Energy Management System, Legal Cases, Councillors Expenses, Audit Control, Sports Management System.
- Provided assistance in the development of the Safety Management System.
- Provided assistance with the Tipperary Sports Partnership website, which was launched during the course of the year.
- Applications
- Selected a solution for Security/Internet Monitoring.
- Accommodated new Postal codes
- Complete the merger of several Applications e.g. enforcements and preplanning.
- Applied updates patches and enhancements to the business systems e.g. Upgraded I-Plan, I-House (new HAP module), Impala, I Docs, Shannon link (nvdf).
- Improved staff mobile phones processing.
- Facilitated the referendum (polling cards printing).





# WWW.TIPPERARYCOCO.IE

## ONLINE SERVICES @ TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Tipperarycoco.ie continued to grow and respond to customer needs during 2015. During the year, the site received 301,310 sessions with 837,326 page views.

The site plays a vital role in supporting the delivery of electronic services, public relations, media communications and customer services.

With an internal development team working alongside all sections of the council, particularly corporate services, we can respond to and streamline customer service delivery requirements rapidly as they emerge.

### “ONLINE CONSULTATIONS”

One initiative in particular involves the delivery and electronic management of online consultations.

Traditionally, consultations were carried out at physical meetings, with documentation only available in paper format.

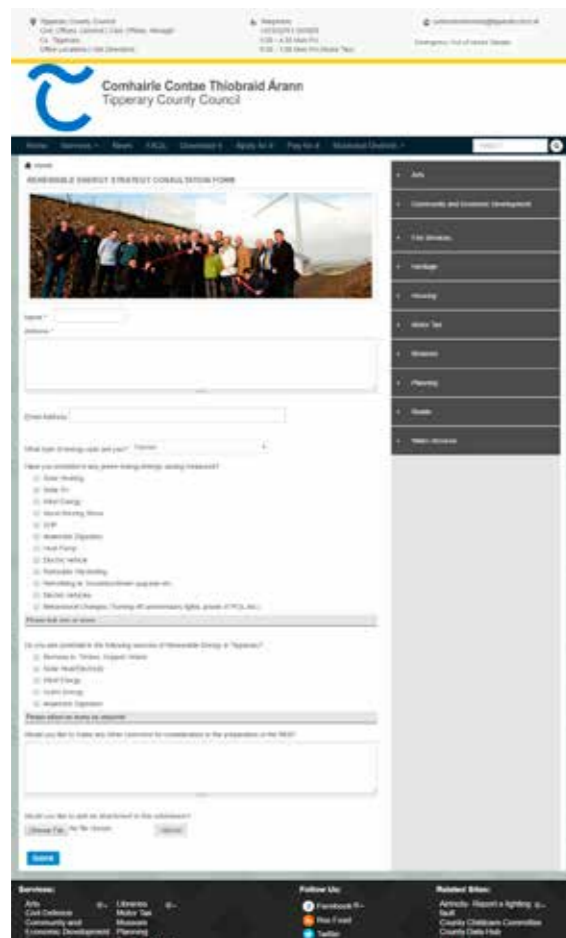
This restricted the potential interaction from our customers to times when the offices were open and if/when members of the public were available to travel.

Publishing consultation documents and forms online, opens up the consultation process to anyone, no matter where they are located at any time.

Interactive forms are structured in an intuitive way, to guide the public through the consultation process.

This, in turn provides staff in the service area with all the information required, saved to a database, and compiled for further analysis.

Sample consultation for Renewable Energy Strategy



### “EXTREME WEATHER/ EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS”

During the winter of 2015, Tipperary experienced severe flooding which closed many roads and led to some residents in towns being temporarily evacuated.

Online communications integrated with social media were key components during this time to respond to the emergency. Tipperary County Council worked alongside other government and media agencies to provide timely updates through these channels as the situation unfolded.

On a daily basis, Tipperary continues to integrate news content/alerts with Social Media Channels. Our followers and reach has continued to grow steadily over 2015.



### “COMPLEMENTARY WEBSITES”

As part of the merger between North and South Tipperary in 2014, some internal agencies required websites of their own.

At Tipperary County Council, we develop websites on a standardised platform to facilitate content provision from site to site. This has been the case with Tipperary Tourism- Tipperary.com, Sports Partnership- Tipperarysports.ie, Tipperary County Development Board- Tipperaryinfo.ie, all launched during 2015.

We continue to develop further web services internally with a view to how they can be integrated with Tipperarycoco.ie to prevent duplication.



Tipperarysports.ie



Tipperaryinfo.ie



Tipperary.com



# SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The Sports and Social Club continued to run a broad range of events and outings in 2015.

## CLONMEL BRANCH

Included among them was a trip to "The Bodyguard" in the Bord Gais Theatre, Athletics sponsorship, Hill Walks in the Knockmealdown mountains in June, Galteemore in September and Goatenbridge Looped Walk in November. We also ran our annual trip to the children's panto at UCHL attended by over 200 people, a shopping trip to Dundrum Shopping Centre, trips to 2 Inter Provincial Rugby Matches and our Annual 25 Drive.



### Our current committee is made up as follows:

- Marian Scully, Chairperson
- Mick McCarthy
- Rosemary Purcell, Secretary
- Tom Byrne
- John O'Mahoney, Treasurer
- John Fitzgerald
- Mary O'Mahoney
- Lisa Condon
- Fiona Crotty
- Aidan Walsh
- Jimmy Kelly
- Geraldine Tobin
- Gerard Quigley
- Anne-Marie O'Flynn

## NENAGH BRANCH

Events included a trip to "A taste of Dublin", Menopause - The Musical, Indoor Soccer, BBQ, Panto- Sleeping Beauty, the annual Mass and meal in memory of deceased staff and members, Christmas and Easter Draws as well as the fortnightly Lotto Draw.

The club also supported events such as Relay for Life, and the Kiddies Party. The Holiday Fund is also still in operation.



### Our current committee is made up as follows:

- Peter Cleary, Chairperson
- Rosemary Joyce, Treasurer
- Olive Dwan
- Brian Dunne
- Auvén Melia
- Pádraig Cantwell
- Miriam Ryan
- Maureen Grace
- Siobhan King
- Linda McSherry
- Mary Murphy
- Mary Stephens

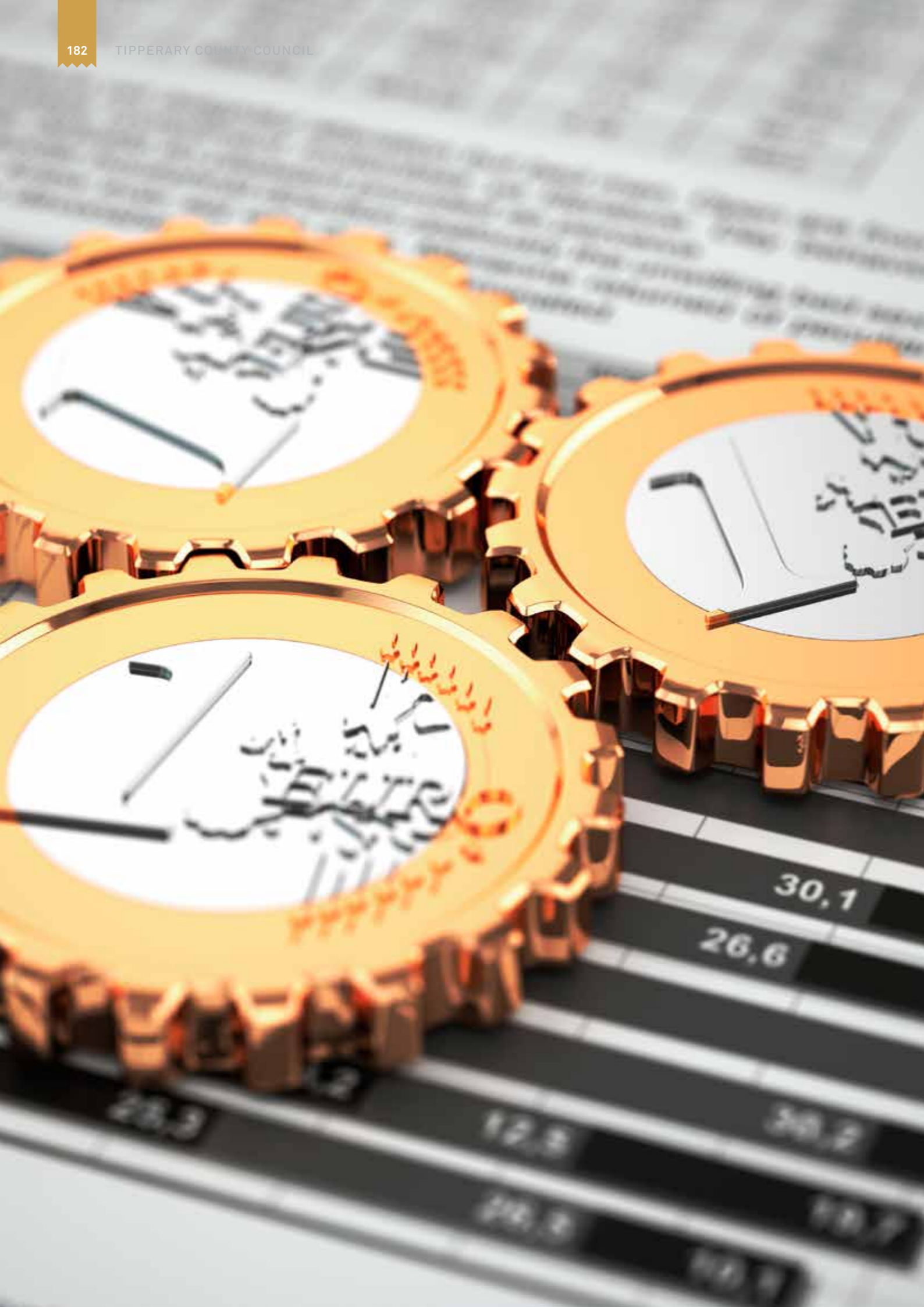
We are grateful to all our members for their continued support of our draw and events during the year. New members and event organisers are always welcome.

# 7

# FINANCIALS

- FINANCE
- MOTOR TAXATION
- FRANCHISE SECTION





## FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the overall control and management of the Council's finances, both Revenue and Capital.



Its duties include the making of all payments including loan repayments and insurance premiums; the necessary work on the provision of documentation for the Annual Budget and the Annual Financial Statement; the recoupment of government grants and subsidies; guidance in procurement to all sections; maintaining financial records and the making of various reports and returns. In the course of its work, the Finance Department also liaises with other sections and District Offices on a regular basis.

The **Revenue Account**, details monies spent and received on day-to-day items such as payroll, insurance, loan repayments, the purchase of materials and the maintenance of roads, housing, landfill sites, burial grounds, and so on. There are four principal sources of Revenue Income for local authorities (i) Commercial Rates; (ii) the provision of Goods and Services, e.g. Planning Fees, Rents; (iii) the Local Property Tax and (iv) Other Grants e.g. Road Grants.

The Council's **Capital Account**, on the other hand, relates to the Council's activities in terms of creating assets. These include the building of council houses and road construction. When such schemes are completed, the day-to-day receipts and expenditure incurred in the maintenance of same is accounted for in the Revenue Account. The monies spent by Tipperary County Council on capital projects are recouped by means of State Grants. Occasionally, the Council borrows money for such projects. Housing Loan Redemptions and Planning Contributions are also credited to the Capital Account.

## REVENUE ACCOUNT

	Expenditure €	Income €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
Housing & Building	26,231,827	26,687,659	(455,831)
Road Transport & Safety	37,643,301	24,416,011	13,227,289
Water Services	12,965,802	12,999,655	(33,853)
Development Management	10,315,119	3,643,280	6,671,839
Environmental Services	16,645,604	2,942,572	13,703,032
Recreation & Amenity	9,865,323	2,557,952	7,307,372
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	2,389,590	1,603,482	786,108
Miscellaneous Services	15,391,119	5,974,000	9,417,119
Local Property Tax / GPG		23,320,110	23,320,110
Pension Levy		2,480,936	2,480,936
Rates		31,261,671	31,261,671
	<b>131,447,685</b>	<b>137,887,328</b>	<b>6,439,643</b>
Transfer from / (to) Reserves			(6,434,100)
Surplus for Year			5,543
General Reserve at 1st January 2015			5,536,783
General Reserve at 31st December 2015			<b>5,542,326</b>

## ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	BALANCE @ 1/1/2015	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	NET TRANSFERS	BALANCE @ 31/12/2015
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	965,235	11,302,303	7,508,782	493,071	(2,335,214)
Road Transportation & Safety	8,538,076	9,538,889	3,477,036	3,944,309	6,420,532
Water Services	6,161,720	3,283,997	2,712,737	235,239	5,825,699
Development Management	22,484,650	2,403,194	10,563,965	(2,822,237)	27,823,184
Environmental Services	9,569,234	1,003,680	76,386	677,495	9,319,436
Recreation & Amenity	3,275,922	3,439,229	694,034	1,020,548	1,551,275
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	45,105	-	-	-	45,105
Miscellaneous Services	33,225,471	4,139,304	472,293	1,549,119	31,107,580
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>84,265,414</b>	<b>35,110,596</b>	<b>25,505,233</b>	<b>5,097,545</b>	<b>79,757,596</b>

## SUMMARY OF MAJOR REVENUE COLLECTIONS FOR 2015

Debtor type	Incoming arrears @ 1/1/2015	Accrued - current year debit (Gross)	Write-Off/ Irrecoverable	Total for collection	Amount collected	Closing arrears @ 31/12/2015	% Collected
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Rates	9,575,787	31,261,671	6,135,176	34,702,282	26,063,250	8,639,032	78%
Rents & Annuities	1,060,722	12,447,951	9,063	13,499,611	12,860,369	639,242	95%
Housing Loans	522,955	1,574,141	2,433	2,094,663	1,604,796	489,867	77%



## MAIN SECTIONS WITHIN FINANCE:

### FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

Financial Accounting involves the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements (AFS), other statutory returns, reporting to external agencies and dealing with the Local Government Audit process.

Management Accounting involves the preparation of quarterly management reports to assist with budgetary control and the decision-making process within each directorate.

The Annual Budget process is managed in this section, in consultation with all the service divisions.

### REVENUE

This section mainly deals with the collection of Commercial Rates, Rents, housing loans and other charges - collection and receipt of all monies due to the Council.

### ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

All invoices are certified for payment by the relevant sections of the council and forwarded to the Finance Department. These include payments for goods and services provided to the Council for both revenue and capital purposes. The payments are then processed and made by the Finance Department. Checks are carried out for Tax Clearance Certificate or Sub-Contractor's Certificates as appropriate. Withholding Tax is deducted at the prescribed rate from payments in respect of "professional services" and paid over to the Revenue Commissioners.

Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 which came into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1998, requiring local authorities to pay interest on payments which are not paid within the prescribed period.

### INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION

Internal Audit is an independent appraisal function which reviews the internal control system in operation within Tipperary County Council. It objectively examines, evaluates, and reports on the adequacy of internal controls as a contribution to the proper, economic, effective and efficient use of resources.

### PROCUREMENT

The purpose of the procurement process is to obtain value for money, and to give all potential suppliers a fair opportunity to tender. The general principles used in all elements of procurement are: equality of treatment, transparency, mutual recognition and proportionality. An authorised officer may only proceed to seek Tenders / Quotations where they are satisfied that an adequate source of funding is available.

### AGRESSO SUPPORT

This group manage the council's Financial Management System, helping to ensure proper control over all the organisations assets and liabilities.

## MAIN REPORTS PRODUCED BY FINANCE:

### THE ANNUAL BUDGET

The Finance Department prepares the overall Revenue Budget in consultation with the County Manager and the Management Team.

The budget is presented to the Corporate Policy Group and to the Elected Members for adoption at the Annual Budget Meeting.

### THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT (AFS)

The AFS is produced annually and details the income and expenditure for the financial year for both revenue and capital expenditure. The Balance Sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the County Council at the end of the year. The AFS is presented to members at Council Meeting and audited by the Local Government Auditor.

### PERIODIC MANAGEMENT REPORTS

The quarterly management report provides details of the income and expenditure for the various services provided by the council, and is compared to Budget for purposes of ensuring proper and ongoing budgetary control.

### DOECLG/IMF QUARTERLY REPORTING

All Local Authorities report financial performance quarterly to the DECLG. These reports consist of a quarterly Income and Expenditure Report, a GGB Report which essentially consists of an abbreviated Balance Sheet, a Capital Account report and Debtors report. In addition various reports are produced for budget holders in Tipperary County Council relating to all aspects of the councils activities.



# MOTOR TAXATION

RECEIPTS - Offices Clonmel & Nenagh		€
Private cars and motor cycles	10,645,899.00	
Goods and other vehicles	4,316,307.00	
Miscellaneous	1,026,550.00	
<b>Total Revenue 2015</b>	<b>15,988,756.00</b>	

Tax Discs Issued		
Number of tax discs issued by Clonmel & Nenagh Motor Tax Offices 2015		70,117
Number of tax discs issued On-Line		128,740
<b>Total Number Of Tax Discs Issued 2015</b>		<b>198,857</b>

2015 Output		
	No	%
Percentage of applications which are postal (Motor Taxation Transactions)	17,105	8.60%
Average number of postal applications and percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions) from receipt of application		
On the same day	16,724	97.77%
On the 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> day	261	1.53%
On the 4 <sup>th</sup> or 5 <sup>th</sup> day	39	0.23%
Over 5 days	81	0.47%

M.1 Percentage of motor tax transactions which:	2013	2014	2015
Are dealt with over the counter	45.60	32.03	26.66
Are dealt with by post	11.32	10.26	8.60
Are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	43.08	57.71	64.74

M.2 Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions issued) from receipt of application	2013	2014	2015
(a) on the same day	16,207	19,322	16,724
(b) on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> day	5,113	875	261
(c) on the 4 <sup>th</sup> or 5 <sup>th</sup> day	917	34	39
(d) over 5 days	1805	153	81

M.3 Public Opening Hours	2013	2014	2015
Average number of opening hours per week	20.43	19.58	20.00

## MOTOR TAX ON-LINE

Use of the motor tax on-line facility continues to increase in Tipperary. The total number of discs issued on-line in 2015 was 128,740 i.e. 64.74% of all discs issued, an increase from 57.71% in 2014.

In addition, there are facilities available at Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary and Thurles Municipal District Offices for persons who do not have a Laser or Debit card to tax online. Payment is accepted by Cash or Postal Money Order and the on-line transaction is carried out by a member of the Municipal

District Staff. A total of 3,564 transactions have been carried out in the 3 Municipal District Offices in 2015, an increase from 2,348 in 2014.

Computers with internet connection are available for use by members of the public to tax on-line at the Libraries in the County, and at the main reception areas of the Civic Offices in Clonmel and Nenagh.



## FRANCHISE SECTION

The Franchise Section is responsible for the preparation of the Register of Electors. This Register, prepared annually, is a list of persons registered to vote in elections/referenda.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE THE RELEVANT DATES IN THE PROCESS:**

1st November	Publish Draft Register
1st February	Publish Register of Electors
15th February	Register comes into force

**THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS 2015/2016 HAD A TOTAL ELECTORATE OF 122,037**

**A breakdown of the total electorate in each local electoral area is as follows:**

Carrick on Suir	16,940
Cashel-Tipperary	21,386
Clonmel	26,626
Nenagh	28,943
Templemore-Thurles	28,139
	<b>122,037</b>

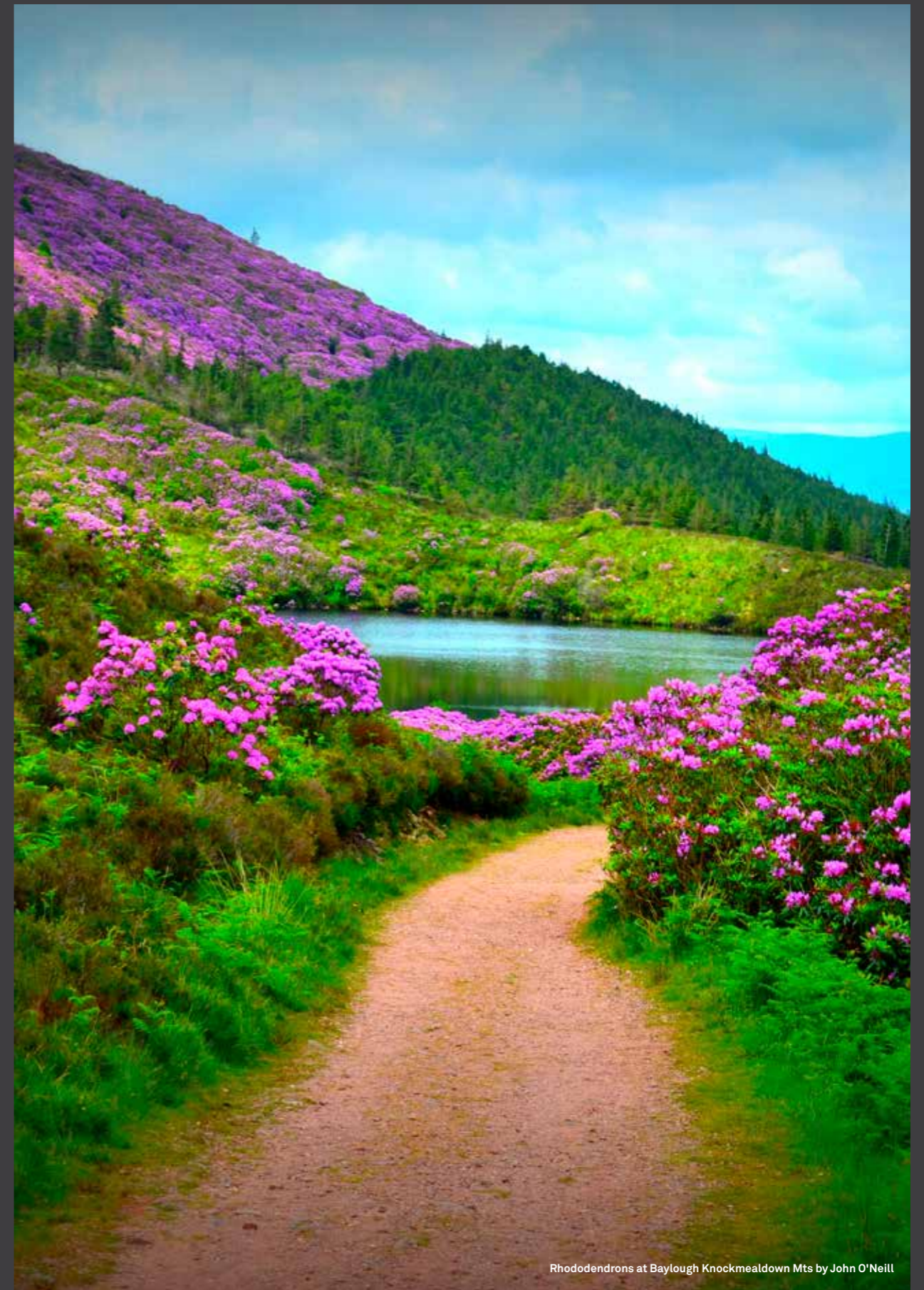




# 8

# APPENDICES

- SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS  
2014-2019
- STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES
- ORGANISATION STRUCTURE
- STAFF STRUCTURE
- PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2015
- CONFERENCE AND SEMINARS
- TRAINING



Rhododendrons at Baylough Knockmealdown Mts by John O'Neill

# SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2014 - 2019

## CHAIRS DESIGNATE SPC'S

### Cllr. Marie Murphy

Fine Gael  
052-7465327(h)  
086-8261387  
marie.murphy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Seamus Morris

Sinn Féin  
087-2859125  
seamus.morris@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Denis Leahy

Non Party  
062-51668(h)  
087-6796704  
Denis\_leahy@eircom.net

### Cllr. John Hogan

Fianna Fail  
0504-45116(h)  
086-2314067  
john.hogan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Jackie Cahill

Fianna Fail  
087-2820663  
jackie.cahill@tipperarycoco.ie

## IPBMI

### Cllr. Fiona Bonfield

Labour  
061-378738(h)  
086-1670863  
fiona.bonfield@tipperarycoco.ie

## A.I.L.G. (VOTING DELEGATES)

### Cllr Kieran Bourke

Non Party  
051-640767(h)  
086-8049772  
kieran.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Micheál Anglim

Fianna Fail  
052-7466170(h)  
086-0251277  
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan

Fine Gael  
062-75164(h)  
062-80503(w)  
085-8150689  
mary.hanna @tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Willie Kennedy

Non Party  
0504-52122(h)  
087-0517487  
willie.kennedy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mattie Ryan (Coole)

Fianna Fail  
062-78134(h)  
086-8038652  
mattie.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie

## LAMA

### Cllr. Micheál Anglim

Fianna Fail  
052-7466170(h)  
086-0251277  
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie

## A.I.L.G. (PERMANENT DELEGATES)

### Cllr. Mattie Ryan (Coole)

Fianna Fail  
062-78134(h)  
086-8038652  
mattie.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan

Fine Gael  
062-75164(h)  
062-80503(w)  
085-8150689  
mary.hanna @tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Willie Kennedy

Non Party  
0504-52122(h)  
087-0517487  
willie.kennedy@tipperarycoco.ie

## SOUTHERN & EASTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

### Cllr. Joe Bourke

Fine Gael  
086-8386376  
joe.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mattie Ryan (Coole)

Fianna Fail  
062-78134(h)  
086-8038652  
mattie.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Micheál Lowry

Non Party  
0504-22022(w)  
087-2897585  
micheal.lowry@tipperarycoco.ie

## ETB

### Cllr. Fiona Bonfield

Labour  
061-378738(h)  
086-1670863  
fiona.bonfield@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Roger Kennedy

Fianna Fail  
062-61296(h)  
086-8161058  
roger.kennedy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Joe Bourke

Fine Gael  
086-8386376  
joe.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

Fianna Fail  
086-3850242  
siobhan.ambrose@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Fahey

Fine Gael  
052-9156349(h)  
086-3573524  
john.fahey@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. David Dunne

Sinn Féin  
086-3476317  
david.dunne@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan

Fine Gael  
062-75164(h)  
062-80503(w)  
085-8150689  
mary.hanna @tipperarycoco.ie

## LOCAL TRAVELLER CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

### Cllr. John Crosse

Fine Gael  
062-76105(h)  
087-9165851  
john.crosse@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Micheál Anglim

Fianna Fail  
052-7466170(h)  
086-0251277  
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Pat English

WUA  
052-6124014(h)  
087-7684746  
pat.english@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan

Fine Gael  
062-75164(h)  
062-80503(w)  
085-8150689  
mary.hanna@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. David Dunne

Sinn Féin  
086-3476317  
david.dunne@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Kieran Bourke

Non Party  
051-640767(h)  
086-8049772  
kieran.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro

Fianna Fail  
087-2444819  
imelda.goldsboro@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Catherine Carey

Sinn Féin  
085-1012059  
catherine.carey@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Hogan

Fianna Fail  
0504-45116(h)  
086-2314067  
john.hogan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Micheál Lowry

Non Party  
0504-22022(w)  
087-2897585  
micheal.lowry@tipperarycoco.ie

# SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2014 - 2019

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

### Cllr. Marie Murphy

Fine Gael  
052-7465327(h)  
086-8261387  
marie.murphy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Roger Kennedy

Fianna Fail  
062-61296(h)  
086-8161058  
roger.kennedy@tipperarycoco.ie

## NORTH TIPPERARY GENEALOGY & HERITAGE SERVICES

### Cllr. Ger Darcy

Fine Gael  
067-38149(h)  
086-2752838  
gerard.darcy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Carroll

Fianna Fail  
067-32047  
086-8041893  
john.carroll@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Hughie McGrath

Non Party  
067-33452/  
087-2559323  
hughie.mcgrath@tipperarycoco.ie

## SOUTH TIPPERARY ARTS CENTRE

### Cllr Siobhán Ambrose

Fianna Fail  
086-3850242  
siobhan.ambrose@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr John Fahey

Fine Gael  
052-9156349  
086-3973524

## SOUTH EAST CRAFT CENTRE

### Cllr. Marie Murphy

Fine Gael  
052-7465327(h)  
086-8261387  
marie.murphy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Micheál Anglim

Fianna Fail  
052-7466170(h)  
086-0251277  
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose

Fianna Fail  
086-3850242  
siobhan.ambrose@tipperarycoco.ie

## THURLES REGIONAL ARTS CENTRE

### Cllr. Joe Bourke

Fine Gael  
086-8386376  
joe.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Hogan

Fianna Fail  
0504-45116(h)  
086-2314067  
john.hogan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Jackie Cahill

Fianna Fail  
087-2820663  
jackie.cahill@tipperarycoco.ie

## GOUL REGIONAL DRAINAGE COMMITTEE

### Cllr. John Hogan

Fianna Fail  
0504-45116(h)  
086-2314067  
john.hogan@tipperarycoco.ie

## RURAL WATER MONITORING COMMITTEE

### Cllr Mattie Ryan (Coole)

Fianna Fail  
062-78134(h)  
086-8038652  
mattie.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Ger Darcy

Fine Gael  
067-38149(h)  
086-2752838  
gerard.darcy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald

Fine Gael  
062-72136(h)  
087-2292126  
michael.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Martin Loneran

Non Party  
052-7466378(h)  
087-6497083  
martin.loneran@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Seamus Morris

Sinn Fein  
087-2859125  
seamus.morris@tipperarycoco.ie

## REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM SOUTH

### Cllr. Louise McLoughlin

Fine Gael  
052-9156422(h)  
087-7829711  
louise.mcloughlin@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan

Fine Gael  
062-75164(h) 062-80503(w)  
085-8150689  
mary.hanna @tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro

Fianna Fail  
087-2444819  
imelda.goldsboro@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Tom Wood

Non Party  
062-63142(h)  
087-9746545  
tom.wood@tipperarycoco.ie

## REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM WEST

### Cllr. Ger Darcy

Fine Gael  
067-38149(h)  
086-2752838  
gerard.darcy@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Carroll

Fianna Fail  
067-32047  
086-8041893  
john.carroll@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. David Doran

Sinn Fein  
0504-45150(h)  
086-8901599  
david.doran@tipperarycoco.ie

## UCC - GOVERNING BODY

### Cllr. Ml. Fitzgerald

Fine Gael  
062-72136/087-2292126  
michael.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie

# SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2014 - 2019

## LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC)

### Joe MacGrath

Tipperary County Council  
0761065010  
joe.macgrath@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. John Carroll

Tipperary County Council  
(086) 8041893  
(067) 32047  
john.carroll@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Joe Hannigan

Tipperary County Council  
(087) 2566157  
(067) 28020  
joe.hannigan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Cllr. Mary Hanna-Hourigan

Tipperary County Council  
(085) 8150689  
(062) 75164  
maryhanna.hourigan@tipperarycoco.ie

### Donal Mullane

Teagasc  
(087) 2503290  
(052) 6121300  
donal.mullane@teagasc.ie

### Fionuala McGeever

Tipperary Education and Training Board  
(086) 8587014  
(052) 6121067  
fmcgeever@tippsouthvec.ie

### Rita Guinan

Tipperary Local Enterprise Office  
(087) 9207700  
07 61 06 5000  
rita.guinan@leo.tipperarycoco.ie

### Adrian Cunneen

Department of Social Protection  
(067) 50919  
adrian.cunneen@welfare.ie

### Michael Murray

North Tipperary Leader Partnership  
(087) 6753380  
(067) 56676  
MMurray@ntlip.ie

### Niall Morrissey

South Tipperary Development Company  
(087) 8537000  
(052) 7442652  
niallmorrissey@stdc.ie

### Catherine Guest

Public Participation Network  
(086) 1575949  
catherineguest2012@hotmail.com

### Cora Horgan

Public Participation Network  
(087) 772011  
Cora.horgan@trys.ie

### Clare Cashman

Public Participation Network  
087 9597454  
clare@mfric.ie

### Charles Stanley Smith

Public Participation Network  
(087) 2411995  
(067) 24379  
Charles@r495.com

### Sara Bourke

Public Participation Network  
(086) 8156965  
sarabourketipp@gmail.com

### Brian Cleary

Clonmel Chamber  
052 6191101  
brian.cleary@clonmelchamber.com

### Tim Cullinane

Irish Farmers Association  
(087) 2760625  
woodvillepig@outlook.ie

### Trade Union

To be confirmed

### Angela Joy

HSE, South East Social Inclusion Office  
(087) 1692552  
Angela.Joy@hse.ie

## JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### GARDAÍ

#### Chief Superintendent Catherine Keogh

Superintendent(s) to attend deepening on location and theme of JPC

### OIREACHTAS

- Senator Denis Landy
- Deputy Mattie McGrath
- Deputy Noel Coonan
- Deputy Michael Lowry
- Deputy Seamus Healy

### LA ELECTED MEMBER

- Cllr Martin Lonergan
- Cllr Andy Moloney
- Cllr Catherine Carey
- Cllr Phyll Bugler
- Cllr Fiona Bonfield
- Cllr Hughie McGrath
- Cllr John Crosse
- Cllr Denis Leahy
- Cllr Roger Kennedy
- Cllr David Dunne
- Cllr Kieran Bourke
- Cllr Imelda Goldsboro
- Cllr Jackie Cahil
- Cllr David Doran
- Cllr Michael Smith

### PPN/COMMUNITY

- Billy Collins (Farming Pillar)
- Joe Leahy (Business Pillar)
- Carmel O'Neill (PPN Tipp/Cashel MD)
- Catherine Guest (PPN Thurles MD)
- Margaret Sheehy (PPN Nenagh MD)
- VACANT (PPN Carrick MD)
- Deidre Landers (Clonmel PPN MD)

### LA OFFICIAL

- Margo Hayes
- Sinead Carr

## COMHAIRLE NA NÓG TIPPERARY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

- Cllr. Fiona Bonfield

## TIPPERARY HERITAGE FORUM

- Cllr. John Crosse
- Cllr. Roger Kennedy
- Cllr. Joe Hannigan
- Cllr. Ger Darcy

## TIPPERARY TRANSPORT COORDINATION UNIT

- Cllr. Fiona Bonfield
- Cllr. Pat English
- Cllr. Kieran Bourke
- Cllr. John Crosse
- Cllr. John Hogan

# LIST OF STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES



## Economic Development & Enterprise

### CHAIR:

Cllr. John Hogan

### COUNCILLORS:

Cllr. Seamus Hanafin  
Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose  
Cllr. John Fahey  
Cllr. Phyll Bugler  
Cllr. John Crosse  
Cllr. Joe Hannigan  
Cllr. Martin Browne  
Cllr. Kieran Bourke  
Cllr. Tom Wood

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### Eamon Carroll

ICMSA

#### Mark Small

Marlfield Road, Clonmel

#### Laura Jones

c/o Clonmel Park Hotel,  
Poppyfields, Clonmel

#### Noel Byrne

Gurteenaphoira, Drumbane, Thurles

#### Edel Grace

Grousehall, Milestone, Thurles

#### Jimmy Ryan

Kickham Lodge, Kickham St. Clonmel

#### Ciaran Lynch

Nenagh Road, Thurles, Co. Tipperary



## Environment & Water Services

### CHAIR:

Cllr. Marie Murphy

### COUNCILLORS:

Cllr. J. Carroll  
Cllr. Ml. Murphy  
Cllr. C. Carey  
Cllr. R. Molloy  
Cllr. A. Moloney  
Cllr. Ml. Smith  
Cllr. Ml. Anglim

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### Simon Ryan

Garrydoolis, Pallasgreen, Limerick

#### Richard Auler

Ballybrado, Cahir

#### P.J. Long

Jamestown, Barne, Clonmel

\*\* (1)



## Roads & Transportation

### CHAIR:

Cllr. Jackie Cahill

### COUNCILLORS:

Cllr. Mattie Ryan  
Cllr. Fiona Bonfield  
Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald  
Cllr. Hughie McGrath  
Cllr. David Doran  
Cllr. Willie Kennedy  
Cllr. Eddie O' Meara

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### P.J. English

The Bella, Clogheen Road, Cahir

#### Angela Hickey

Aughavehir, Killoscully, Newport,  
Co. Tipperary

#### Seamus Campbell, CoSBA

Carrick-on-Suir Business  
Association, The Heritage Centre,  
Carrick-on-Suir.

\*\* (2)



## Housing, Community & Culture

### CHAIR:

Cllr. Seamus Morris \*\* Additional  
Reps to be nominated" under the  
Environment/Roads and Housing  
SPC's as we are still waiting on  
additional nominees for each of  
these committees.

### COUNCILLORS:

Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro  
Cllr. Roger Kennedy  
Cllr. Louise McLoughlin  
Cllr. Marie Murphy  
Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan  
Cllr. Jim Ryan  
Cllr. Pat English  
Cllr. Micheál Lowry  
Cllr. Martin Lonergan  
Cllr. Jackie Cahill

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### John O'Shaughnessy

c/o Clancy Construction,  
Drangan, Thurles.

#### Terry O'Connor

Three Drives Family Resource Centre,  
22/23 Greenane Drive, Tipperary Town

#### Liam Hayes

Red City, Fethard, Co. Tipperary

#### Trisha Purcell

Gurtnaskeha, Upperchurch, Thurles

\*\* (1)



## Planning & Emergency Services

### CHAIR:

Cllr. Denis Leahy

### COUNCILLORS:

Cllr. Micheál Anglim  
Cllr. John Carroll  
Cllr. Joe Bourke  
Cllr. Gerard Darcy  
Cllr. Michael O' Meara  
Cllr. David Dunne  
Cllr. Martin Browne

### SECTORAL/PILLARS:

#### Matthew Mounsey

Norwood, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

#### Tom Gallahue

c/o Teamar Property Development  
Ltd.,  
Main Street, Ballylanders, Co.  
Limerick

#### Seamus Coffey

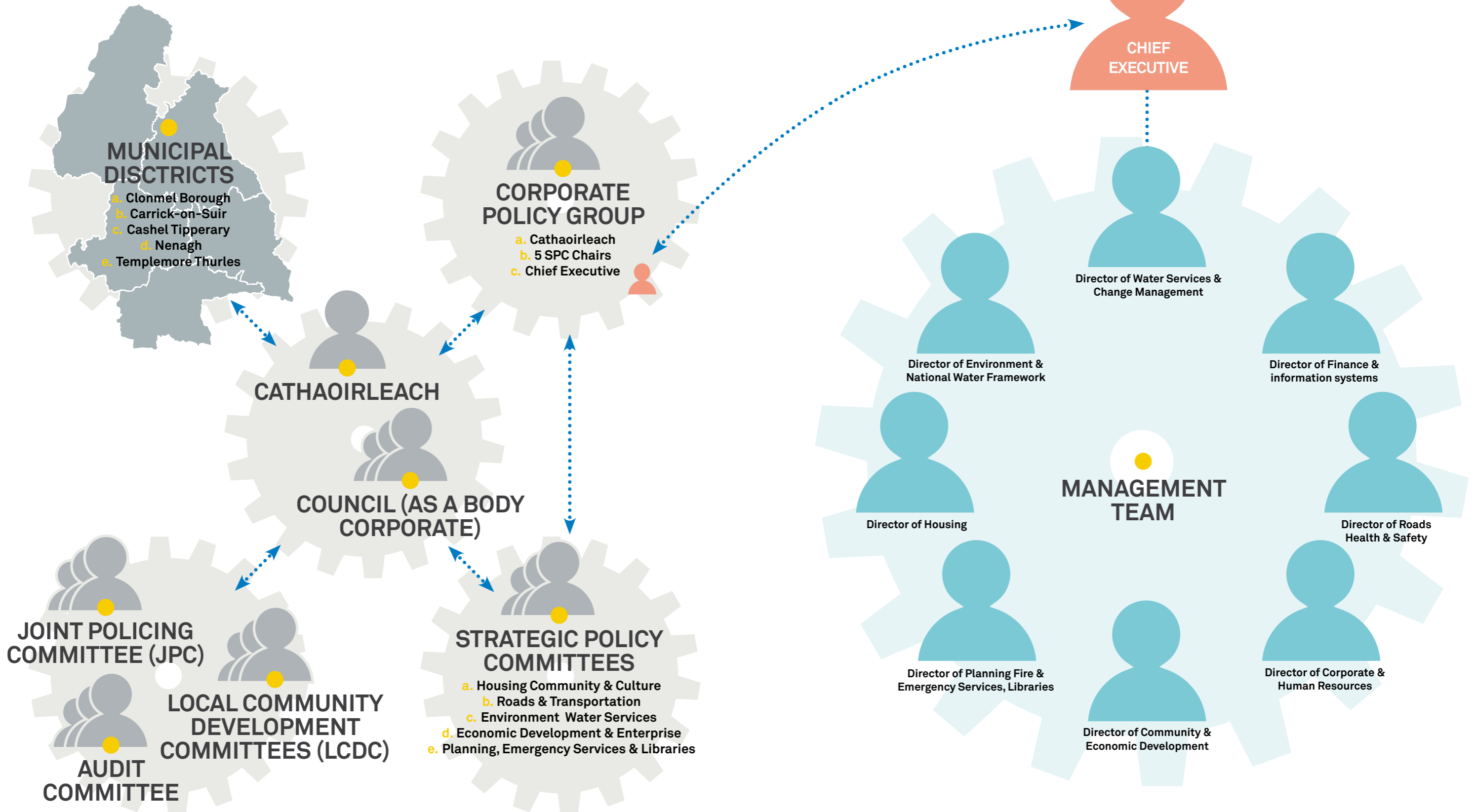
Shower Cross, Newport, Co. Tipperary

#### Lynn Mather

15 Parnell St., Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

\*\* Additional Reps to be nominated.

# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE - POLITICAL & SENIOR MANAGEMENT



# STAFF STRUCTURE

## COUNTY MANAGER:

Joe MacGrath

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Sinead Carr

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR PLANNING, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, LIBRARIES:

Karl Cashen

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR HOUSING:

Clare Curley

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR WATER SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT:

Matt Shortt

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES: MERGER IMPLEMENTATION AND CO-ORDINATION CHANGE MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Sean Keating

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR FINANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS:

Liam McCarthy

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR ROADS, HEALTH & SAFETY:

Marcus O'Connor

## DIRECTOR OF SERVICES FOR CORPORATE & HUMAN RESOURCES:

Pat Slattery

## COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Sinead Carr

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ann Ryan Commins

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Kathleen Prendergast

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Margo Hayes

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Attracta Lyons

### ARTS OFFICER

Melanie Scott

### HERITAGE OFFICER

Roisin O'Grady (Acting)

### MUSEUM CURATOR

Marie McMahan

## CORPORATE

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Pat Slattery

### SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ger Walsh

## CUSTOMER SERVICES DESK

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

David Coleman

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

John Doyle

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Karl Cashen

### CIVIL DEFENCE OFFICER

Dolores Fahey

## ENVIRONMENT & VETERINARY

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Matt Shortt

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Mary Carroll

### SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENG

Michael Woulfe

### COUNTY VETERINARY OFFICER

Pat Power

## FINANCE

### HEAD OF FINANCE

Liam McCarthy

### MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Paddy Brennan

Gerry McGarry

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Olive Dwan

Donnacha Commins

Eileen Horgan

Peter Cleary

### SENIOR STAFF OFFICER

Catherine Kiely

Deirdre Flannery

Colette McGrath

Rosarie Hickey

Joe McNamara

Angela Dillon-White

## FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Karl Cashen

Chief Fire Officer

Dave Carroll

Senior Asst. Fire Officer

Garret McLoughlin

Ray O'Leary

Eddie Ryan

John Shinnors

## HOUSING SERVICES

### DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Clare Curley

### SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Aidan Fennessey

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Jim Dillon

PJ Corrigan

### SENIOR STAFF OFFICER

Sean Lonergan

Marie O'Gorman

Michelle Maher

### SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Eoin Powell

**HUMAN RESOURCES****DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

Pat Slattery

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Sharon Kennedy

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Paul Murray

**SENIOR STAFF OFFICER**

Marian Scully

Shane O'Dwyer

**I.T.****DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

Liam McCarthy

**HEAD OF I.T.**

Gerard Lynch

**IS PROJECT LEADER**

Yvonne Byrne

Dermot Tobin

Kathleen Maher

Ruth Maher

Eddie Meegan

**PLANNING****DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

Karl Cashen

**SENIOR PLANNER**

Brian Beck

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Brian Clancy

**ROADS****DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

Marcus O'Connor

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Donal Purcell

**SENIOR ENGINEER**

Michael F. Hayes

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Michael Devery

Michael Graham

**SENIOR STAFF OFFICER**

Janice Gardiner

**WATER SERVICES****DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

Matt Shortt

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Eddie Loughnane

**SENIOR ENGINEER**

Jim Mcguire

Denis Holland

Dan Walsh

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

John Crowley

Gerry Robinson

**SENIOR STAFF OFFICER**

Triona Collins

**STAFF OFFICER**

Caroline Kennedy

**COUNTY LIBRARY****COUNTY LIBRARIAN**

Jess Codd

**CASHEL/TIPPERARY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT****ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Marie McGivern

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Aidan Finn

**CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT****ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Martin Nolan

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Willie Corby

**CLONMEL BOROUGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT****ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Mark Ryan

Michael O'Brien

**A/SENIOR ENGINEER**

Jonathan Cooney

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Paul Mulcahy

**NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT****SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Rosemary Joyce

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**

Michael Hayes

**TEMPLEMORE/THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT****ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Michael Ryan

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Ruairi Boland



# PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

## 01/01/2015 – 31/12/2015 (ANNUAL)

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment	
Housing: H1, H2 & H4 Approved	A. Overall total number of dwellings provided by the LA in the period 1/1/2015 to 31/12/2015	403		
	B. Number of dwellings directly provided	48		
	B1. Number of dwellings constructed	0		
	B2. Number of dwellings purchased	48		
	C. Number of units provided under RAS	108		
	D. Number of units provided under the HAP Scheme	188		
	E. Number of units provided under the SHLI	59		
	F. The overall total number of social housing dwellings in the LA at 31/12/2015	6360		
	G. The total number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA	4758		
	H. Total number of units provided under the RAS	1107		
	I. Total number of units provided under the HAP if operated	188		
	J. Total number of units provided under the SHLI	307		
	A. Percentage of the number of dwellings at H1G that were vacant on 31/12/2015	2.54 %		
	The number of dwelling units within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2015	121		
	A. Expenditure in 2015 on repair & maintenance of housing bought or built by the LA divided by H1G	€489.34		
	Expenditure on repair and maintenance of LA stock compiled on a continuous basis during 2015	€2328266		
	Housing: H3 & H5 Approved	A. Average time taken from date of vacation of dwelling to date when a new tenancy had commenced	21.65 wk	
		B. Average cost expended on getting the units re-tenanted ready for re-letting	€7120.21	
		No of units that were re-tenanted on any date in 2015 (excl. those vacant for estate refurbishment)	266	
No. of weeks from when previous tenant vacated dwelling up to date new tenant's first rent debit		5757.89 wk		
Total expenditure on repairs necessary to enable re-letting of the units included above		€1893975		
A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area		7228		
B. Number of inspections carried out		103		

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Housing: H6 Approved	A. No. of adults in emergency accom. long-term as a % of the total number of homeless adults	41.67 %	
	No. of adults classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on night of the 31/12/2015	24	
	No. of adults on that date who had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously	10	
Roads: R1 & R2 Approved	% Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating	83.00 %	
	% Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating	81.00 %	
	% Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating	79.00 %	
	% Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating	52.00 %	
	% Regional roads that received a PSCI rating during 2015	22.00 %	
	% Total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4	6.00 %	
	% Total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6	16.00 %	
	% Total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8	38.00 %	
	% Total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10	23.00 %	
	% Total Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4	13.00 %	
	% Total Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6	19.00 %	
	% Total Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8	36.00 %	
	% Total Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10	13.00 %	
	% Total Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4	22.00 %	
	% Total Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6	22.00 %	
	% Total Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8	27.00 %	
	% Total Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10	8.00 %	
	% Total Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4	24.00 %	
	% Total Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6	11.00 %	
	% Total Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8	12.00 %	
	% Total Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10	5.00 %	
	A1. Kilometres of regional roads strengthened using Road Improvement grants	16.5 km	
	A2. Regional road Improvement Grant amount	€2093626.00	
B1. Number of kilometres of regional roads resealed using Road Maintenance grants	31.5 km		
B2. Regional road Maintenance Grant amount	€1065727.00		

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Motor Tax: R3 Approved	% of motor tax transactions online	61.01 %	
Water: W1 Approved	% of Private Drinking Water Schemes in compliance	98.30 %	
Waste: E1 Approved	No. households in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2015	13721	
	% households within the LA that the number A represents	23.55 %	
Environmental Pollution: E2 Approved	Total number of pollution complaint cases	1339	
	Number of pollution cases not investigated or finalised	1260	
	Number of pollution cases not finalised	123	
	Number of pollution cases in respect of complaint during 2015	1339	
	Number of pollution cases closed during 2015	1260	
	Total number of cases at hand at 31/12/2015	123	
Litter Pollution: E3 Approved	Percentage of area unpolluted by litter	13 %	
	Percentage of area slightly polluted by litter	64 %	
	Percentage of area moderately polluted by litter	20 %	
	Percentage of area significantly polluted by litter	3 %	
	Percentage of area grossly polluted by litter	0 %	
Planning: P1 Approved	Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	17.48 %	
	Total no. of new buildings notified to the local authority	143	
	No. of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2015 subject of at least one inspection	25	

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Planning: P2 & P3 Approved	A. Number of planning decisions subject of appeal to An Bord Pleanála determined by board in 2015	33	
	B. % of the determinations which confirmed (with or without variations) the decision made by the LA	69.70 %	
	Number of determinations confirming the LA's decision with or without variation	23	
	A. Number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the LA during 2015 that were investigated	145	
	B. Number of cases that were closed during 2015	191	
	C. % cases at B dismissed re Section 15(2) or closed because statute barred or exempted development	51.83 %	
	D. % of cases at B that were resolved to the LA's sanctification through negotiations	0 %	
	E. % Cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	48.17 %	
	F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2015	696	
	Number of cases at 'B' that were dismissed under section 15(2), Planning and Development Act 2000	99	
	Number of cases at 'B' that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	0	
Number of cases at 'B' that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	92		
Planning: P4 Approved	AFS Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area	€15.50	
	AFS Programme D consisting of D01, D02, D03 (inclusive of the central management charge)	€4321283.8	
Fire Service: F1 Approved	AFS Programme E expenditure divided by the census 2011 population served by the Fire Service		
	AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service & E12 Fire Prevention	€8056077	

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Fire Service: F2 & F3 Approved	A. Average time (mins) to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of Fire		Not applicable to Tipperary County Council
	B. Average time (mins) to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations in respect of Fire	5.85 min	
	C. Average time (mins) to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of other accidents		Not applicable to Tipperary County Council
	D. Average time (mins) to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations in respect of other accidents	5.67 min	
	A. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 mins	45.34 %	
	B. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is after 10 mins & within 20 mins	41.86 %	
	C. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is after 20 mins	12.80 %	
	D. % of non-fire cases in which first attendance at scene is within 10 mins	31.24 %	
	E. % of non-fire cases in which first attendance at scene is after 10 mins & within 20 mins	53.15 %	
	F. % of non-fire cases in which first attendance at scene is after 20 mins	15.62 %	
	Total no. of call-outs in respect of fires from 01/01/2015 - 31/12/2015	833	There are only complete records (times) available for 719 of these incidents
	No. of fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	326	
	No. of fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 mins & within 20 mins	301	
	No. of fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 mins	92	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents from 01/01/2015 - 31/12/2015	499	There are only complete records (times) available for 429 of these incidents
	No. of non-fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 mins	134	
No. of non-fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 mins & within 20 mins	228		
No. of non-fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 mins	67		
Library Service: L1 Approved	Number of library visits during the year	595250	
	Number of items borrowed during the year	444549	
	A. Number of library visits per head of population	2.14	
	B. Number of items issued to borrowers during the year	444549	

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Library Service: L2 Approved	The Annual Financial Statement Programme F data / by the population of the LA area 2011 per census	€10.64	
	AFS Programme F02 Cost of Library Service	€2966955	
Youth and Community: Y1 & Y2 Approved	Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council//Comhairle na nÓg scheme	75.76 %	
	Total number of secondary schools in the LA area at 31/12/2015	33	
	No. second level schools in the LA area from which representatives attended the Comhairle na -Óg AGM	25	
	No. organisations in the County Register and proportion who opted in to the Social Inclusion College	12.39	
	No. organisations in the County Register for the local authority area	920	
	Total number of registered organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College	114	
Corporate: C1 & C2 & C4 Approved	Wholetime equivalent staffing number as year end	975.62	
	Percentage of working days lost due to sickness absence through medically certified leave	4.34 %	
	Percentage of working days lost due to sickness absence through self- certified leave	0.28 %	
	Number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	9601 day	
	Number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	612 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	758 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	0 day	
	All ICT Expenditure in the period 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015 divided by the WTE no.	€2689.72	
	Total revenue expenditure on Account Elements	€2624148	
Corporate: C3 Approved	Total page views of the LA website in 2015	988698	
	Total number of social media users at 31/12/2015 following the LA on social media sites	3213	
	The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the LA during 2015	988698	
	Total no. of social media users who, at 31/12/2015, were following the LA on any social media sites	3213	

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Finance: M1 & M2 Approved	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2011 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€5579540	
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2012 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€5676314	
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2013 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€5503094	
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2014 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€5536783	
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2015 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€5542326	
	Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2015 as a percentage of Total Income from the AFS statement	3.99 %	
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2011	79.0 %	
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2012	78.0 %	
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013	77.0 %	
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	72.0 %	
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	78 %	
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2011	92.0 %	
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2012	93.0 %	
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013	93.0 %	
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	92.0 %	
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	95 %	
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2011	75.0 %	
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2012	74.0 %	
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2011	77.0 %	
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	76.0 %	
Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	77 %		
The 2015 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€138752294		

Topic	Indicator	Value	Comment
Economic Development: J1 Approved	Number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the year	114.50	

## CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Conference	Venue
Practical Guide to Budget	Clonakilty
Regulation of Lobbying Act 2013	Galway
Digital Abuse of Women	Dublin
Local Authority Budgets	Wexford
Irish National Sustainability Summit	Dublin
Landmark Reform of Consumer Law	Clonakilty
NFLA – All Ireland Forum Seminar	Dundalk
Building and Control Regulations	Letterkenny
The Changing Nature of Local Government in Ireland	Cork
Government re-think	Wexford
Lobbying Act	Clonakilty
Changes to Community Development	Galway
Planning and Building Regulations	Galway
Animation in Volunteerism	Galway
Equal Rights	Galway
Heritage Work Workshop	Kilkenny
Douglas Hyde Conference 2015	Ballaghaderreen
Local Economic Community Plans	Clonakilty
The Councillors Development Plan Reserved Function	Wexford
EU Support Programmes	Clonakilty
Planning and Development No. 2 Bill	Letterkenny
National Rural Development Conference	Limerick
Building Vibrant Communities	Thurles
Crime Prevention and Community Safety	Galway
Domestic Water Charges	Carlingford
Governments Construction	Wexford
A Practical Guide to Budget 2016	Clonakilty
Finance Act 2014	Carlingford
Tourism Technology	Clonakilty

## MEMBERS TRAINING 2015

Date	Organiser	Venue	Module
17th February, 2015	AILG	Killarney	Module 1 - Governance (Part 1) of Local Authorities
12th March, 2015	AILG	Carrickmacross	Annual Conference
10th and 11th April, 2015	LAMA	Tuam	Spring Seminar
18th April, 2015	AILG	Limerick	Module 2 - Local Economic Development – Role of Local Authority
7th May, 2015	AILG	Kilkenny	Module 3 - Local Community Development and LCDC's – A new Role for Local Authorities
29th May, 2015	Tipperary County Council	Ballina, Co. Tipperary	Technology and Innovation in Developing the Potential of our Water Resources
9th June, 2015	AILG	Waterford	Module 4 - Local Authority Finance & Housing (National Social Housing Strategy – An update for the Elected Member)
15th September, 2015	Irish Planning Institute	Sligo	Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy Training Seminar
1st October, 2015	AILG	Clonakilty	Local Government Reform – 12 months on
8th, 9th and 10th October	LAMA	Kilkenny	Autumn Training Seminar
17th October, 2015	AILG	Cork	Module 5 – Roads, Transportation and Safety – A Key function for Local Authorities
10th November, 2015	AILG	Ennis	Module 6 – Septic Tanks, Ground Water and Water Pollution & Registration of Lobbying Act 2014

# REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE ROSCREA

## INTRODUCTION

The Roscrea Regional Training Centre continued with its commitment to providing quality training and development to both Public Sector Staff and the Private Sector. Training grant assistance for Roads, Water and Environmental sectors all contributed to another successful year. Continued expansion of our training programmes ensured our workforce received current knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their duties in a professional and safe manner.



QQI Training

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Additional courses were successfully submitted to QQI for validation. The Roscrea centre also received City & Guilds approval for certification of confined spaces training and chainsaw training

## TRAINING STATISTICS

A centre record total of 5,772 person training days were delivered in 2015, this represents an increase of 2% on 2014. Outturn for each constituent Local Authority is shown in graph below.

## TIPPERARY LOCAL AUTHORITY TRAINING

A total of 828 employees from Tipperary County Council attended courses run by the centre. Tipperary Staff received a total of 1,868 person training days, a 34% increase on 2014.

	Person Training courses received 2014	Person Training courses received 2015	Person Training days received 2014	Person Training days received 2015
Tipperary County Council	1,234	1,549	1,397	1,868

## TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL EMPLOYEES COMPLETED ACCREDITED COURSES AS FOLLOWS:

C.S.C.S.	Completed by
Signing, Lighting & Guarding at Roadwork's	14 employees.
Health & Safety at Roadwork's	15 Employees
Locating Underground Services	16 Employees
Telescopic Handler	4 Employees
360o Excavator	3 Employees
F.E.T.A.C. Certificate:	Completed by
Waste Water Plant Operators Course	3 employees
Water Plant Operators Course	9 employees
Supervisory Skills for GSS	12 Employees
Occupational First Aid	14 employees
I.O.S.H.	Completed by
Managing Safely for Construction	20 employees
City & Guilds	Completed by
Safe Use Pesticides & Herbicides	12 Employees
Confined Spaces	3 Employees

## FUNDING

### TRAINING GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR THE CONSTITUENT LOCAL AUTHORITIES WAS AVAILABLE AS FOLLOWS:

UISCE Éireann (water training grant)	= €225,500
Tipperary County Council allocation	= € 46,000
DTTAS (regional & local roads training grant)	= €472,500
Tipperary County Council allocation	= € 97,500
Environment Training Grant	= € 18,000

With the continued support of Management, Tipperary County Council employees can look forward to further training in 2016, leading to improved personal development and a healthier / safer work environment for all.



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

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