



Management Report to Council






This Month

- Department of Rural and Community Development Funding Update – Page 5
- Tipperary Sports Partnership- Page 14
- Tourism – Page 26
- Broadband – Page 35
- Tipperary Food Producers – Page 51
- Local Enterprise Office – Page 52
- Rural BioUp – Page 55
- Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme – Page 56
- Annual Declaration/Political Donations Pages 61 & 62
- Graduate Youth Programme – Page 65
- Communications – Page 66
- Customer Services Activity – Page 76
- Climate Action Plan – Page 81
- Community Climate Action Fund – Page 82
- Housing Delivery – Page 98
- Housing Grants – Page 103

January dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> CPG Mtg @ 10:00
<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> Housing SPC Meeting @ 14:30	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> TCC Plenary Mtg @ 11:00 - Clonmel
<u>15</u> Thurles MD Mtg @ 10:30	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Clonmel BD Mtg @ 11:00	<u>18</u> Nenagh MD Mtg @ 10:00	<u>19</u> N24 Cahir/Waterfor Presentation to TCC Members and Oireachtas Member - Zoom
<u>22</u> <u>LCDC Meeting @ 10:00</u> Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD Mtg @ 11am	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> Carrick-on-Suir MD Mtg @ 14:00	<u>26</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> Environment & Climate Action SPC @14:30 – Thurles MD		

Report at a Glance

	Economic/Community/ Rural Development & Corporate Services	1 - 80		Environment & Climate Action and HR	81 - 96
	Housing/Ukrainian Refugee	97 - 115			

Economic Community and Rural Development January 2024

<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues:</u>		
Policy Changes/Updates	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
LEADER 2023-2027	The funding agreement for the LEADER 2023-2027 programme was signed after the December LCDC meeting. Funding will be available for projects in early 2024.	
Local Economic and Community Plan	The Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029 plan for Co Tipperary was adopted by TCC on December 11th. The Initial implementation plan is being developed and will be completed by January 2024	
<u>Directorate Priorities</u>		
Major Current Issues	Progress to date	Next Stage
Local Economic Community Plan	Adopted- December 2023	First Implementation plan for 2024&2025 being developed

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Tipperary LCDC met 11 times in 2023. There were considerable changes in the membership of the committee with some longstanding members stepping off the committee. 2023 was a busy year for the LCDC with the procurement and bidding process taking place for two of their most significant programmes i.e. the Rural Development Programme and the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) as the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan, Funding coming through the LCDC continues to

increase with the inclusion of the Community Recognition Fund in 2023. Other Funds that were administered by the LCDC and ECRD team in 2023 were the Community Support Fund, CLAR, ORIS, Town and Village Renewal, LGBTI Dormant Accounts Fund, Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme



Tipperary LCDC members, December 2023

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme 2023. (SICAP)

During 2023, 1178 Individuals have been supported by SICAP across Tipperary and 99 Local Community Groups. The programme supports the capacity of Community Groups and can provide grants and support individuals to return to education, training, employment and self-employment. The 2023 SICAP Annual Plan for both lots will be reviewed in January 2023 and the current SICAP Programme 2018-2023 will be finalised on December 31st 2023.

Ukrainian support provided through SICAP Programme companies

The SICAP Programme Implementers were also funded to support the integration of the Ukrainian beneficiaries of Temporary protection. NTDC received €90,747 while STDC received €109,053. Both companies employed staff to assist with the integration of this new community. Work carried out includes supporting the Ukrainians as tenants in pledges accommodation (incl. setting up household utility bills), cultural and information events, familiarisation trips, support with English language access and assisting with linkages with services such as GPs, schools, and medical care. In October 2023, both

companies were invited to apply for additional funding and STDC was granted an additional €18,000 while NTDC applied for and was granted €32,764

SICAP 2024-2028

The contract from the new Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) for the 2024-2028 period was officially signed on 18th December at the Horse & Jockey by the Chairpersons of the Implementing Partners - South Tipperary Development Company and North Tipperary Development Company, the Chairperson of the Tipperary Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), Mr Eoin Wolohan and the Chief Executive of Tipperary County Council, Mr Joe MacGrath.



Photographed signing the Tipperary South Lot 2 SICAP 2024-2028 contacts, left to right, Brian Beck, Director of Services, TCC, Simon Ryan, Chair STDC, Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive TCC, Eoin Wolohan, Chair LCDC, Isabel Cambie, CEO STDC and Geraldine Manning TCC (standing



Photographed signing the Tipperary North Lot 1 SICAP 2024-2028 contacts, left to right, Brian Beck, Director of Services, TCC, Monica McElveney, Chair, NTDC, Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive TCC, Eoin Wolohan, Chair LCDC, Michael Murray, CEO STDC and Geraldine Manning TCC (standing)

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) provides funding to tackle poverty and social inclusion at a local level through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies.

SICAP is funded through the Department of Rural and Community Development with co-financing from the European Social fund and is managed locally by Tipperary LCDC with support from Tipperary County Council.

The budget for the programme is:

Lot Name and No	Maximum Framework Agreement Budget 2024-2028	SICAP 2024 Annual Plan Budget	New Arrivals* 2024 Allocation
22-1 Tipperary North	€5,415,499	€702,348	€123,218
22-2 Tippetperary South	€6,618,250	€867,090	€128,194
* International Protection Applicants and Holders of Temporary Protection			

Local Economic and Community Plan

The LCEP went out as a draft in September 2023, following input from community consultation and a submission process, the report was brought to the Municipal District, the Community Libraries and Culture SPC and the Economic SPC for input. Following adoption by the ESCP and the LCDC, the plan was adopted by Tipperary County Council on December 11th and submitted to the Minister's Office. The First Implementation Plan for the years 2024 and 2025 is near completion.



Participants at the second stage LECP Community Consultations held in Borrishleigh in September 2023

Tipperary LEADER programme

The funding agreement for the LEADER 2023-2027 programme was signed after the December LCDC meeting. Funding will be available for projects in early 2024.



Tipperary County Council team with LCDC Chairperson, NTDC CEO & Chairperson, and STDC CEO & Chairperson at the signing of the Partnership Agreement to implement the Tipperary LEADER Programme

Community Enhancement Programme

The community support fund was the 2023 iteration of this programme. 180 projects were supported through small-scale operating and capital grants in 2023.

The Department of Rural and Community Development Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2024 was recently announced and will provide capital funding to support community groups across Ireland.

This capital fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

This funding will help communities, community groups and committees, allowing them to continue to provide valuable services to the people in their area, and in the process strengthen the bonds that tie communities together. The fund also aims to support local strategic priorities through linkages with Local Economic Community Plans (LECPs).



This total amount for Tipperary comprises of:

- €178,045.98 capital funding for the Local Enhancement Programme to use towards carrying out necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy efficiency type projects, purchase of equipment etc.
- €35,609.20 capital funding ring-fenced for Women's Groups.

This fund will open via an online application process in January.

Community Recognition Fund

Work continues on these projects and almost 30% of the funding was completed in 2023. Projects are ongoing throughout Q1 and Q2 of 2024. Works completed in December include Moycarkey Borris GAA Club works, including upgrades to the Men's Shed located there and works on the GAA facilities.

[Department of Rural and Community Development Funding Update](#)

Town and Village Renewal 2023

The 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme was launched in July with a renewed focus on town centre economic and social recovery and regeneration. 5 applications up to the

value of €1.186m were submitted to the Department for consideration and we are awaiting an indicative date for approvals.

Building Acquisition Measure

The Building Acquisition Measure (BAM) under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2023 was launched on 27 March 2023. The scheme recognises the urgent need to transform and regenerate town centres and the measure provides an opportunity for Local Authorities to immediately acquire derelict or vacant buildings, to use these projects for town regeneration purposes. Buildings purchased under this Measure must be for use as multi-purpose community spaces. Multi-purpose use could include enterprise spaces, arts, tourism, youth hubs, theatre spaces, galleries, sports or pastimes spaces. It may also include a space for a local craft market or food/farmers market.

The Tipperary Cahir Cashel Municipal District purchased 2 properties under the Scheme with a total value of €385,000: 7-8 Main Street, Tipperary Town (formerly Liz's bar) €220,000 and Galbally Road €165,000.

Clár Funding 2023

Clár Measure 1 Programme

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in rural areas that have



experienced significant levels of de-population. On 1st December 2023, the following 6 applications were announced as successful under Measure 1 Developing Community Facilities and Amenities of the 2023 Clár programme:

- Gortnahoe-Glengoole GAA Club and Gortnahoe NS – Safety and surfacing works for Gortnahoe-Glengoole GAA grounds incorporating Gortnahoe NS and Gortnahoe Playground – Funding allocation of €50,000
- Ballingarry GAA – Upgrade the car parking amenity – Funding allocation of €50,000
- Upperchurch Drombane GAA – Install a new car park – Funding allocation of €44,984
- Galtee Rovers St Pecauns GAA Club – Community upgrade works to Galtee Rovers GAA Clubhouse and Walking Track – Funding allocation of €46,854
- Lattin Cullen GAA – External universal access toilets with baby changing facility – Funding allocation of €18,886
- Killea GAA – Upgrade of Flood Lighting for Killea GAA pitch – Funding allocation of €16,200

ORIS (Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme) 2023

The 2023 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme was launched in

early June and is similar to the 2022 scheme with 4 levels of funding. The scheme supports the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and the necessary repair, enhancement, or promotion of existing outdoor recreation infrastructure in countryside areas. In line with 'Embracing Ireland's Outdoors', outdoor recreation is defined as activities that take place in the natural environment, such as walking, canoeing, mountain biking, orienteering, and wild swimming.

On 21st November, Minister Heather Humphreys TD announced the successful projects under the Project Development Measure of the 2023 ORIS fund and there were 2 projects successful in Tipperary as follows –

- Roscrea River Rooms - this project involves consultancy for the detailed design, planning, and feasibility of a series of connected spaces along the riverside in Roscrea with a grant of €49,999.50
- Garrykennedy Inner Harbour – this project involves consultancy services to undertake planning and design works for the upgrading of the inner harbour in Garrykennedy, including improving outdoor recreation, greening, safety, and access to the harbour with a grant of €49,500.

Just Transition Fund

The Local and Regional Economic Strategies Support Scheme was launched under Just Transition in October. Applications must be aligned with either the Local Economic or Community Plan or the Regional Economic Plan. Several 'Concept papers' and a ready-to-go project have been submitted. The scheme covers the Carrick-on-Suir and Thurles MD areas.

Tipperary JPC

Four meetings were held in 2023 with Chief Superintendent Colm O'Sullivan reporting at all meetings. At the September meeting the Chief Superintendent was accompanied by Superintendent Edmund Golden, Superintendent Ollie Baker and Superintendent Kieran Ruane and the amalgamation of the Clare/Tipperary Division was discussed. Under the Operating Model, all Garda Stations and former Districts have been aligned to a Community Engagement Functional Area.



Left to right Chief Superintendent Colm O'Sullivan, Superintendent Edmund Golden (Tipperary Central Community Engagement), Cllr Noel Coonan, JPC Chairman, Superintendent Ollie Baker East Clare Tipperary North Community Engagement), Superintendent Kieran Ruane (Tipperary South Central Community Engagement)

The JPC continue to maintain the Property Marking machine and provide this to Community Groups as part of a community-led safety programme. Training sessions were organised in conjunction with the Garda Community Safety Officer in the 5 Municipal Districts in the Autumn. This has resulted in an increase in bookings for the machine from community groups and should act as a deterrent to theft. If property is stolen this provides increased potential for detection.



Tipperary Age-Friendly

Tipperary Older Peoples Council Planning Day 4th December

On 4th December Tipperary Older Peoples Council facilitated a consultation with its membership on main thematic areas to

- ✿ Build support and interest among older people and other stakeholders in the Age-Friendly Programme
- ✿ Give older people and their organisations a strong sense that their views will influence the final strategy
- ✿ Identify how the various stakeholders and older people and their organisations can contribute to the programme
- ✿ Identify mechanisms by which the older adults in Tipperary can become genuine partners in the ongoing design and delivery of services in the county
- ✿ Gain expressions of interest to participate in Tipperary Older Peoples Council
- ✿ Ensure that the priorities and ambitions of all key stakeholder groups, particularly older people and their organisations are reflected strongly in the Age Friendly Action Plan for Tipperary

A summary report reflecting the summary of the views and opinions expressed during the consultation

workshop was prepared and circulated to the Older Peoples Council and the Age Friendly Interagency Alliance.

The actions identified will be considered together with the 2023 Action Plan and will inform the development of the 2024-2025 Age-Friendly Action Plan. The Tipperary Age-Friendly Action Plan will complement the Implementation Plan for the Tipperary LECP 2-year implementation plans. The older Peoples Council will have further opportunities to input into actions over the lifetime of the Action Plan.

Age-Friendly Roscrea Business Recognition Programme

30 businesses in Roscrea completed the Age Friendly Ireland Business Recognition Programme For the past few years, businesses all over Ireland have obtained their Age Friendly Charters as part of the Age Friendly Ireland Programme, and have proudly displayed their Age Friendly status on their shop window or in their reception area. They know that by doing this, they signal strongly that our older community is welcome, resulting in loyalty and increased custom. Age Friendly Roscrea Age Friendly held its recognition and Charter event with business who engaged with Age Friendly Business Training, together with the Tipperary Age Friendly Ambassador John Lonergan



Positive Ageing Week 2023 Community Events		Positive Ageing Week 2023 Tipperary Age Friendly Events	
Monday 2 nd October	Kilgeran Quay, Ballinacorney Silver Ash Family Resource Centre will host their 'Laugh, Cackle, Cheer' event for older people. Dishes from 10.30 to 12.30. Contact: Mairéad 085 2070024.	Monday 2 nd October	High Medical Foundation Sustainable Development Goals Age Friendly Tipperary, in collaboration with High Medical Foundation and Lynch Solicitors, Clonmel will offer a FREE seminar on arranging your personal, medical and legal affairs for the future. Learn about Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Advance Care Planning, Making a Will and more. Essential for those over 65.
Wednesday 3 rd October	Fethard Parish Church and Carrick-on-Quinn Richard & Susan's Day, Care and Richard Maria's Day will host a Mass followed by refreshments and entertainment. Free Willa. Contact: Mairéad 085 7833329.	Tuesday 3 rd October	High Medical Foundation Sustainable Development Goals Age Friendly Tipperary, in collaboration with High Medical Foundation and Lynch Solicitors, Clonmel will offer a FREE seminar on arranging your personal, medical and legal affairs for the future. Learn about Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Advance Care Planning, Making a Will and more. Essential for those over 65.
Thursday 4 th October	Millstream Family Resource Centre Millstream Family Resource Centre will host a social singing event 'Open to Open'. Contact: Aine 085 1510313.	Wednesday 4 th October	High Medical Foundation Sustainable Development Goals Age Friendly Tipperary, in collaboration with High Medical Foundation and Lynch Solicitors, Clonmel will offer a FREE seminar on arranging your personal, medical and legal affairs for the future. Learn about Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Advance Care Planning, Making a Will and more. Essential for those over 65.
Friday 5 th October	Berrigagh Training Home, Carrigrohane Eileen Marie's Day will host an afternoon of music & song at Berrigagh Training Home. 'Open to Open'. Contact: Aine 085 20641182.	Thursday 5 th October	High Medical Foundation Sustainable Development Goals Age Friendly Tipperary, in collaboration with High Medical Foundation and Lynch Solicitors, Clonmel will offer a FREE seminar on arranging your personal, medical and legal affairs for the future. Learn about Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Advance Care Planning, Making a Will and more. Essential for those over 65.
Saturday 6 th October	Assembly Hall Assembly & Church of the Holy Spirit will host an afternoon of music and refreshments from 2pm to 4pm. Contact: Bridget 086 8172062.	Friday 6 th October	High Medical Foundation Sustainable Development Goals Age Friendly Tipperary, in collaboration with High Medical Foundation and Lynch Solicitors, Clonmel will offer a FREE seminar on arranging your personal, medical and legal affairs for the future. Learn about Wills, Enduring Power of Attorney, Advance Care Planning, Making a Will and more. Essential for those over 65.

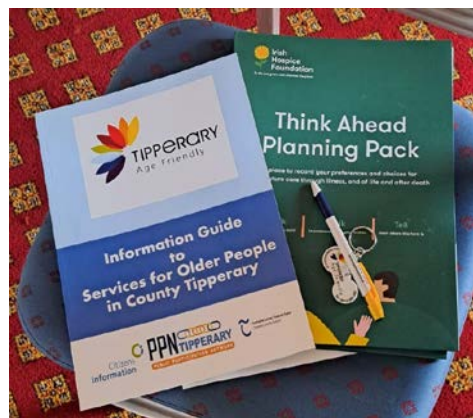


Positive Ageing Week 2023 1st to 7th October 2023

The theme for Positive Ageing Week 2023 which is an Age Action initiative is to promote the agency of older people and to celebrate the contribution they make to our families, workplaces, communities and societies as a whole.

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Age Friendly provided a small grant scheme to support older adult groups support events during Positive Ageing Week 2023.

Tipperary Age Friendly also provided workshops 'Putting Your House in Order' which featured the Irish Hospice Foundation and Lynch Solicitors. These events showcased making a will, power of attorney and practical advice on planning for our future recording our wishes and preferences. The workshops took place in Clonmel on 3rd of October and in Nenagh and Thurles on the 4th October.



Tipperary Public Participation Network (PPN)

Tipperary PPN held its Autumn plenary in November in Holycross. The theme for the evening was Together Let's Grow a Healthy Community.

Guest speakers included Comhairle Na Nóg Omar and Jack, informing us that their county theme for 2024 is about drugs and vaping.

SCEAL (Nelius O'Meara and James Heenan), from Lorrha, did a fascinating presentation on their community development work over the last 20 years—such an inspiration to the crowd who were listening attentively.

Mona Zirngibl, from Energy Communities Tipperary Cooperative, gave a presentation around looking for Energy Saving Champions in each of our communities and how the project is going.

Ester Mackey gave a very relevant presentation on literacy, the types, including digital, and how to do plain English in all our communications. She is the Regional Adult Literacy Coordinator with the Education and Training Board.

Fiona Crotty and Marie Cox, Economic Community & Rural Development, gave a very valuable presentation around funding application advice with

lots of pointers and how the applications get assessed.

Tipperary PPN has several current rep vacancies'

<https://www.ppntipperary.ie/current-rep-vacancies/>.

Migrant Integration

The Diverse Tipperary Migrant Integration Strategy was launched in Bru Boru, Cashel on September 19th by Minister of State Joe O'Brien. Recruitment has taken place for the new Local Authority Implementation Team. The Public Sector Duty Implementation Plan for the Roma Accommodation Project has been finalised by a working group made up of members from the Costumers Service Office, Human Resources, the Housing Team, and the Economic Community and Rural Development Section

Sláintecare Healthy Communities Clonmel



Quality of Life/Substance MisUse Alliance Clonmel

- Quality of Life Alliance met on 28th November with target areas for 2024 identified.
- In January 2024 the final 'Community Conversation about substance use in Clonmel' will

take place with the schools and parents.

Planet Youth

Planet Youth – Tipperary Partners, Tipperary ETB, HSE South East, Children & Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC), Tipperary County Council and Sláintecare Healthy Communities funding in place to cover the 5-year partnership €77,500 with Tipperary County Council the lead partner

Tipperary County and Wicklow County will be one site for the delivery of Planet Youth. Planet Youth will be targeted at all secondary schools in Tipperary, including Youth Reach and also those not currently in education, training or employment.

Commence first round of surveys in Q3 2024.



Healthy Ireland Strand 4 2023-2025

Actions are currently underway from implementing partners such as Tipperary Sports partnership in Cahir area and Silver Arch in Nenagh and also Vee Valley Day Care centre Clogheen and St Paul's Community Centre Clogheen.

Progress on actions for the overarching actions has started such as health talks, and information sessions. There

will be actions taken place by various partners in the Nenagh area, Clogheen, Littleton, and Cahir areas.

Healthy Tipperary funding for 2024 was increased to €75,000 following the national budget process. Plans in respect of the funding partners will be submitted to Pobal in January 2024 in line with the strategic actions and budget available

Period & Hygiene Poverty

Tipperary County Council works with Family Resource Centres, Libraries, and Youth services to purchase and distribute to the target base. Funding for this project was from the Department of Health.

Community Support Fund Well-Being Boards:

Healthy Tipperary in partnership with Connecting for Life, Mental Health Ireland, Tipperary GAA, and Tipperary County Council will provide Mental Health Well Being boards to 73 boards GAA clubs and facilities in January 2024.

These boards provide vital information for those who need same and create awareness of the services available, create suicide awareness and promote mental health awareness within the community.

There will be an official launch with Minister Mary Butler in attendance.



Youth Mental Health Seminar Cahir

Healthy Tipperary was presented at the Youth Mental Health seminar that took place in the Cahir House Hotel on 9th November. The event was hosted by Oak Park Foods along with Cahir Youth Club and Cahir Meet and Train.

Minister for State for Mental Health and Older People Mary Butler TD opened the event followed by Niamh O Gorman development and training officer with Connecting for life south-east, Garda Detective Sergeant Graham Deegan, Senator Frances Black, John Leahy HSE Drug Education Officer and Tommy Morrissey of Oakpark foods.



Cahir Youth Mental Health Seminar

Comhairle na n-Óg

AGM 2023 was held in TUS Thurles on Friday 20th October. 107 young people attended with a great atmosphere on the day and some area and delegates back for 2023 including 2 from Roscrea who got elected. All vacant seats were filled and now all 40 seats are filled across Tipperary with a very diverse grouping from urban/rural areas and including members of the Syrian, Roma & Traveller communities. The venue is very suitable and TUS staff are very supportive of the event so the venue will be very suitable going forward. Some needs in relation to school and youth group attendance need to be revisited, but the current Comhairle were very happy overall with the day and the newly elected members bring some extra areas and increased diversity to Tipperary Comhairle going forward. Cllr. Maureen McGrath attended on the day

and help from staff of Tipperary County Council was also hugely beneficial to the smooth running of the day.

New Theme- Vaping and Drugs were selected as the new theme for the next term, so work on defining and deciding how to action this is ongoing and will form the Work Plan at the December meeting. New links to experts in this field will also be established for 2024 including the Gardaí. Teambuilding day took place in Cabra Wetlands on 18th November where all members received an overview and committee skills training as part of their new term and then officers were elected to new committee roles. The first meeting of the new term will take place on 2nd December in Tipperary town.

Each sub-group in each of the MDs will progress with their chosen theme for the year.

Collaboration with decision-makers:

- Members gave a presentation to Tipperary PPN at the plenary event in Rosegreen & update in Holycross in November.
- Have reps on CYSPC, VEC Youth Committee, Health Promotion Committee YWIT locally. Possible link to Planet Youth going forward.
- Have been involved in several consultations in Dublin including the Young Voices on EU Dialogue event in October and Mental Health Day in Youth Work Ireland.

- In June 6 members will attend the Munster networking event in Limerick and linked with all the Munster Comhairlí.
- Caleb Ryan from Borrisoleigh finished his term on the National Assembly but Abigail Strappe was selected to replace him from Tipperary.
- Olivia Darcy incoming Chair in South Tipperary was invited to attend the Mental Health event in Cahir House in November by Cllr. Andy Moloney did so to promote CNN's support for all youth mental health actions. However, invitations come with the need for planning and support of young people so we need to manage this going forward.
- At the AGM in October, Comhairle were facilitated by TCC staff to submit the TCC Draft Climate Action Plan
- Tipperary Comhairle will make a presentation at the regional CYSPC meeting in Kilkenny on 30th November.



Comhairle members pictured with Cllr. Declan Burgess at a meeting to discuss collaboration with TCC



Sports Partnership

Tipperary Sports Partnership implemented its 2023 Operational Plan and successfully secured over €573,600 for sports and physical activities in the County in 2023.

Tipperary Sports Partnership allocated over €37,190 to 45 sports clubs under their 2023 Coaching, Development Fund & €81,422 under the Return to Sport Funding Scheme. These schemes were administered along with an Energy Support Scheme with the majority of clubs receiving their funding Q4 2023.

Phase 2 of the 'Innovation Project – Suir V' in partnership with TUS, Canoeing Ireland and Clonmel Canoe Club is being further developed to enhance the experience and to deliver outreach programmes. The project was showcased at Sport Irelands Sport Innovation & Technology Summit in November.



Innovation Project at Sport Irelands Sports Innovation & Technology Summit

Two 8-week Community Walking programmes were delivered in Nenagh & Cahir with 39 participants supported by Healthy Ireland.



Community Walking in Nenagh

In September in Nenagh, TSP worked with Silver Arch and the HSE to roll out another 'Let's Get Moving Green Exercise' programme with 12 participants engaged over 12 weeks.

In October, TSP linked with Table Tennis Ireland to promote their Table Tennis at Home initiative. 50 Families received kits across the County reaching 211 family members.

During the Autumn, a 'Swimmin' Women' programme was facilitated in 6 pools in Carrick, Clonmel, Thurles, Tipperary Town, Nenagh & Roscrea with 89 females engaging.



Swimmin' Women in Roscrea

In the Community Sports Hub on the Suir Blueway, TSP is supporting the establishment of a new Canoeing Club in Carrick on Suir supporting their leaders to attain their Level 3 skills. Activities for the Hub for 2024 is currently underway.

The Community Sport Hub in Tipperary Town continues to progress. A new iCoach Girls Play Centre was piloted in the Hub based in the Canon Hayes Centre with Sport Ireland Coaching. 28 inactive girls in Tipperary participated in fun games and activities lead by 2 Head Female Coaches and 10 Assistant Female Coaches over 10 weeks.



iCoach Kids Playcentre, Tipperary Town Community Sport Hub

The 'Her Moves' programme Fit Femmes concluded in December with 20 girls completing the programme which culminated with a visit to Sport Ireland Indoor Arena.



Fit Femmes in the National Arena

In November, a Badminton Coaching Course, (Shuttle Time) was delivered in Tipperary Town to support Badminton in the Town.

The 2023 Wibbly Wobbly Balance Bike Programme concluded in December with a further 16 Preschool receiving the programme in Q3 & 4 with 302 toddlers receiving their Driving Licence

bringing the total to 824 toddlers who received the programme in 2023. Plans are in place for 2024.

48 Primary Schools are currently been supported to deliver the Schools Cycle Right programme for 1,221 children across Tipperary with support from Roads Dept.

Sports Hall Athletics Programme facilitated in a further 3 Schools in North Tipperary.

TSP linked with Rowing Ireland and Clonmel Rowing Club to deliver another 'Get Going Get Rowing' programmes with the High School in Clonmel. In 2023 in total, 393 second-level students engaged in the programme. In the Autumn another TY rowing programme 'TrY Rowing' was completed in Rockwell College. Plans are underway for 2024 Rowing programmes.

Support was provided to Orienteering Ireland to provide a 'Ready to Go Orienteering' training in Nenagh, which was attended by 12 teachers. A school orienteering event was supported in Fethard Town Park for 260 participants in October.

A Sports Leader Programme was delivered to 16 students at Newport College. In January another programme is due to commence in St. Mary's in Nenagh.

A Club support group has been established (WhatsApp) with 8 clubs currently providing inclusive activities.

- The "Inclusion Spotlight" social media campaign has started to highlight clubs and volunteers providing inclusive activities.

Support was provided to North Tipperary Development Company to deliver a physical activity programme for traveller women in the Littleton area.

Ongoing support is been provided to Roscrea RFC for their inclusive rugby, Peake Villa FC for their Football4All programme in Thurles and Moycarkey Borris GAA to expand on their inclusive offerings and Nenagh Hockey Club to establish Inclusive Hockey and Toomevara GAA.

In Nenagh, a new Boccia programme was delivered linking with various local groups in the town to develop Boccia as a regular activity with support from Healthy Ireland.



Boccia with COPD group in Nenagh

In October, with Down Syndrome Tipperary support was provided to assist with their Inclusive Swim Programme.

In November, the 'Movement 4 All' programme was commenced and was delivered to 6 Disability Services for 6 weeks.

Active Disability Ireland's "Active Healthy Me" programme was supported and information was distributed to disability services, 25 services signed up across Tipperary

The Walking Football programme with Cashel Men's Shed was delivered with 10 participants from October to November.

TSP connected with Men's Shed Tipperary and delivered a walk which incorporated the Suir Blueway for 18 men from Men's Sheds across Tipperary.



Mens Shed Walk in Clonmel

2 Aqua Fit programmes were delivered for older adults in Nenagh and Carrick on Suir.



Aqua Fit in Carrick on Suir

In the Autumn Sports Clubs were supported with Child Protection training with 6 Safeguarding 1 workshops delivered with 74 sports volunteers receiving training to date,

One Safeguarding 2 workshops with 15 participants and One Safeguarding 3 with 15 participants Courses are currently been advertised for 2024.

TSP along with Limerick & Clare Sports Partnerships are currently working with TUS to deliver the Sports Admin Level 6 Special Purpose Award Course 'Running Sport'. 37 participants registered for the course across the 3 LSPs, with 10 participants from Tipperary Clubs. The programme will be completed in 2024.

In November, a 4-week Training & Education Package for Sport Volunteers was delivered, the topics included Strength & Conditioning; Sports Nutrition; Sports Psychology and Long-Term Player Development.

A new Research project *'Can Virtual Reality be used to coach canoeing skills to new canoeists and, if so, how effective is it compared to traditional canoeing coaching methods?'* is continuing with TUS. Initial testing took place in September with further testing planned for 2024.

TSP along with the IT department supported the development of Sport Ireland's National Digital Database of Sport & Recreation Amenities which is a public hub to make it easy to find a place to go / recreational opportunities. It will also assist planning, asset management and tourism. The Database was launched by Sport Ireland on the 26th October.



This report is an update on football initiatives and development within Tipperary between October to January 2024. Following on from Q3 & Q4 of 2023 several new programmes have been implemented helping grow participation as can be seen in the following portfolio of initiatives.

Club Development

The 'FAI Club Mark' is an award based on best practices in the governance, management, and administration of a football club. In embarking upon this process, a simple application is made to register to proceed with an application. Clubs then proceed upon their journey by applying for an 'Entry-Level' status and can thereafter progress to becoming a 1-star club. To achieve such a status, each award level challenges the club to implement policies and procedures in line with best practices in football governance, management, and administration.

1-STAR AWARD:

Lough Derg FC has led the way in progressing from the entry-level award and have become the first within Tipperary to achieve the FAI Club One Star Award. Moneygall FC achieved the FAI one-star award also in 2023.

ENTRY-LEVEL AWARD:

Most recently Birdhill FC achieved the entry level award placing them alongside Ballymackey FC, Lough Derg FC, Cahir Park, Two Mile Borris/St Kevin's FC, Holycross FC, Moneygall FC, Killavilla FC, Killenaule Moyglass FC and Carrick United FC who have all received the FAI Club Mark entry level award.

CLUB PROJECT

Club project is a new initiative to further support clubs who have completed the club mark award or have applied for the club mark. Development officers will run a series of programmes throughout the year to support clubs with their development. This includes workshops, practical sessions, assistance with governance, volunteer training and committee support.

Club project workshops completed:

- Intro to football – Academy development workshop x2 (42 participants)
- Injury reduction workshop (24 participants)
- 11v11 coaching workshop BT Harps (35 participants)
- Coaching workshop Newport Town AFC (15 participants)
- Coaching workshop North Tipperary clubs (54 participants)
- Coaching workshop Moneygall FC x2 (32 participants)



APPLIED:

Most recently Ardcroney FC, Suirside FC, Slievenamon Celtic/Kilsheelan United FC, Ballingarry Albion FC and Killenaule / Moyglass FC have applied for club mark registration joining Club DC, Nenagh Celtic, Nenagh AFC, Rearcross FC Newport Town AFC, Peake Villa FC, Arra Rovers FC, Knigh United FC, Cloughjordan FC, BT Harp FC, Birdhill FC, Borrisokane FC, Tipperary Town FC, in being supported towards fulfilling the criteria to make an application for an entry level award.

Meetings are ongoing with Cashel Town FC, Silvermines FC, Clerihan FC and Clonmel Celtic FC to give information around the advantages of the FAI Club Mark and outline the steps in the process and help move toward an application. Throughout the process, at all stages of the process, we as Development Officers are in constant communication with clubs via meetings, calls and emails to support

clubs on their journey toward achieving the FAI Club Mark Award.



Circle K partnered up with the FAI as the title sponsors for the Club Mark. As part of this partnership, Circle K ran a draw where clubs registered for the Club Mark clubs could enter to win a cash prize. Both Moneygall FC and Cloughjordan FC were selected as winners of the draw and each club won €10,000.



Both North Tipperary and South Tipperary schoolgirls competed at club, and inter-league level also with considerable success demonstrating the strength of the 25 clubs and their member's ability at both a local and national level.

AVIVA GIRLS IN GREEN

The Aviva Girls in Green programme is the next phase on the pathway and an increasingly important one. The methodology and support are the same as the Future Stars programme but aimed at a higher age group. We have seen a significant drop in the number of registered players in this age group (13-16 years) and this programme will look at addressing that problem with an age-appropriate coaching syllabus.

An eight-week 'Aviva Girls in Green' program was held in St Josephs Borrisoleigh for girls aged between 13 – 16 years.



WOMEN'S AND GIRLS FOOTBALL

UEFA DISNEY PLAYMAKERS

UEFA Disney Playmakers is a new programme that the FAI is running alongside UEFA and Disney in clubs and schools across Ireland. This programme is for girls aged 5-8 years who are not currently playing football and it invites them to step into the magical world of Disney as they take their first steps on their football journey.



The sessions are based around some of Disney's most famous films. The programme will be broken down into two blocks with 10 sessions, where girls will play out their favourite films and take on the roles of some of the best-loved characters of all time. Focusing on developing fundamental movement, life, and football skills. This

is a club and school-led programme, run by coaches who prioritize girls' needs; resulting in girls that are healthy and multitalented – and choose football as an activity for life.

Nenagh Celtic, Nenagh AFC, BT Harps, Moneygall FC, Birdhill FC, Cloughjordan FC, St Marys Convent Primary School Nenagh, Peake Villa FC, Lough Derg FC, Killenaule Moyglass Ladies FC, Cahir Park AFC Galbally United FC and Slievenamon Celtic FC.

Block Two of the programme commenced in August/September with ten weeks of successful participation taking place for these 5-8-year-old girls in the aforementioned clubs.

FAI CADBURY KICKFIT PROGRAMME

The Kickfit programme which is a 8-week football fitness programme for women over the age of 18 gives women the opportunity to keep fit by playing football.





Moneygall FC and BT Harps FC have continued their KickFit group with the members who want to play recreationally, both groups have since arranged local games. Clonmel Town FC and Two Mile Borris St Kevins FC are successfully taking part in their Kick Fit programmes at present. The programme will also continue to be club-led. This adds to the other 2023 new Kickfit programmes that have taken place at Cloughjordan FC, Borrisokane FC, BT Harps FC, the Tipperary Community Sports Hub in the Canon Hayes and Killenaule Moyglass FC.

KickFit Women's 5v5 League

Moneygall and BT Harps groups have since begun to play regular games and both clubs have also entered the women's 5v5 KickFit League which was developed to expand the number of

clubs offering women's football in North Tipperary. The league commenced in November with a blitz event in BT Harps FC and Newport town AFC. Killavilla, Birdhill, Newport, Borrisokane, Rearcross, Moneygall, Newport, BT Harps, Holycross all signed up for the newly formed KickFit 5v5 League. The league will continue in as a series of 5v5 blitz events up to Q1 of 2024.



INTERCULTURAL

An eight-week club bride programme ran in Borrisokane FC from Nov – Dec with the aim of the programme being to integrate the members of Borrisokane Direct Provision Centre into the club.



successful with The Brothers of Charity reporting that the program engaged participants fostering their desire for continued sporting participation. A Walking Football continued successfully with Cashel Men's Shed / Spafield Family Resource Centre over two blocks in the spring and winter.



LATE NIGHT LEAGUES

A new pilot Late Night League format was successfully delivered in collaboration with An Garda Síochána in the Clonmel / Carrick district over four weeks in September / October. Youth and community groups from both areas participated in the initiative taking place at Clonmel Celtic FC.



FOOTBALL FOR ALL

Football For All sessions continue weekly in Clonmel Town FC with Rehab Care Clonmel, Ballymackey FC, Peake Villa FC, Bridgewater Clonmel & Journeyman Program from Carrick on Suir. Football for All sessions also continue to take place within Cahir Park AFC Football for All.

WALKING FOOTBALL

Another six-week programme at the Tipperary Sports Hub with the Brothers of Charity commenced after the successful completion of a previous six-week block. This program was very

In addition, discussions are being held with Clonmel Town FC to assess the viability of setting up an FFA section within this club.

Meetings were held with Moneygall FC in September & and October to discuss



setting up a new FFA section within the club. Plans are in place to provide the club with the relevant training for new club coaches. The new programme aimed for Adults will launch in Q1 of 2024.

Ongoing supports will also be provided to clubs who currently have FFA Club sections and to those setting up FFA Club sections.



John The Baptist BNS, Presentation Primary School Clonmel, Ballyneale NS, Ballylooby NS, Thomastown NS and Bunscoil na Cathrach NS, Scoil Mhuire Caislean Nua NS and Our Lady's Ballingarry NS.



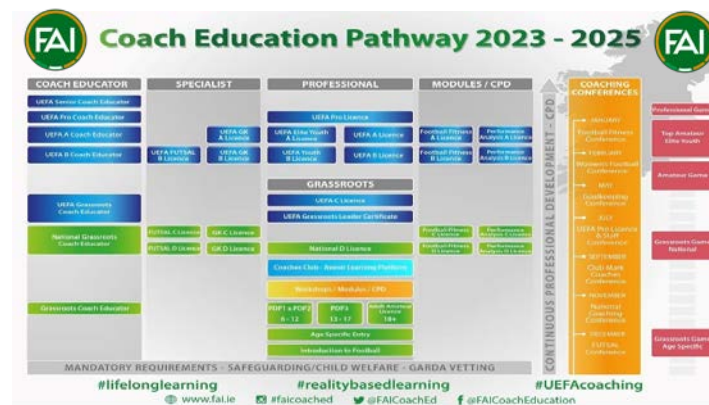
FUTSAL IN THE YARD

FAI Futsal in the Yard is a programme that targets football participation for primary school children within 1st – 4th class. The programme promotes physical activity in the primary school setting, using the game of Futsal to encourage pupils to stay active and develop their fundamental movement skills. The following schools have taken part in the programme:

Youhgalarra NS, Lissenhall NS, ClougJordan NS, St Michaels CloughJordan, Drom NS, St Marys NS, Gurtagarry NS, Scoil Naomh Cualan, Moyglass NS, Lisvernane NS, Gaelscoil Thiobraid Árann, Rathkeevin NS, St

FAI COACH EDUCATION

Coach education is being delivered across Tipperary in line with the 2021-2025 Coach Education Pathway. This pathway provides coaches at all levels a clear direction for their development as a coach.



- X9 PDP 1 (164 participants)
- X2 PDP 3 (67 participants)
- X2 PDP 3 (38 participants)
- 7v7 Workshop (30 participants)
- 9v9 Workshop (30 participants)

- Intro to Football Workshop x2 (42 participants)
- Injury prevention Workshop (24 participants)
- 1 x GK Fundamentals 12 participants
- 1 GK National D Licence (10 participants)
- X3 Football Fitness intro workshop (91 participants)
- X9 Safeguarding 1 Course with (246 Participants)
- Referee Intro Course (18 participants)

Female Only Coach Education

The Female only coach education programme supported by the FAI Coach Education department and the TSP commenced also in June, with 13 female coaches from Tipperary who completed all modules leading up to the National D licence (PDP 1, PDP 2, 7v7, 9v9, Football fitness intro).



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

EMERGING TALENT PROGRAMME AND CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Player Development (Boys and Girls)
The Emerging Talent programme continues to promote the development of the elite underage male and female players in the county with centres of excellence in both the South and North of the county respectively. These centres provide additional coaching and contact time with over 550 elite underage players from the ages of U10 - U16 taking part.



In addition, players from across Tipperary are playing in FAI Regional Centre of Excellence programs at boys' and girls' levels, which has further supported numerous players moving on to receive international recognition at schools and international levels,

demonstrating the strength of grassroots football across the county.

An NTSFL League ETP Player, Coach & Parent workshop held in November (432 participants), whilst coaching sessions, coach education and player ID continually take place to support the leagues.



TOURISM

Tipperary Angling & Accessible Outdoor Recreation Activities Development & Promotion

Tipperary has significant Angling opportunities on both the river Suir and Lough Derg. Funded by ORIS 2022, this project will audit the current angling and accessible outdoor recreational activities infrastructure in the county, curate new visitor information and promote the same through www.tipperary.com and various marketing platforms and also

make recommendations around the future development of angling and accessible outdoor tourism experiences in the county. It is referenced in the Tipperary Tourism Marketing Experience and Destination Development Plan 2016 – 2021. Alan Hill and Deirdre Lewis have been appointed as the Consultants after a tender process and will commence this project in the New Year.

Just Transition Fund

Tipperary County Council have developed a shortlist of projects under Scheme D of the EU Just Transition Fund Regenerative Tourism and Placemaking Scheme (2023-2026). There is now a signed Strategic Partnership agreement in place with Fáilte Ireland and a Steering Group has been established. A shortlist of projects has been agreed and applications to Fáilte Ireland will be submitted for these priority projects. The closing date for the first call for applications (for all Categories/ project stages as set out in the Partnership Agreement) is 29th February 2024.

Additionally, Tipperary County Council is in the process of recruiting a Tourism Animator to work on the JTF with tourism organisations, to advise and assist in applying for funding. The Tourism Animator will commence employment in early 2024.

Tipperary Tourism Conference 2024

A tourism conference for all tourism trade in Tipperary has been confirmed

for Wednesday, February 21st, 2024 in the Cashel Palace Hotel.

The focus of this conference will be to motivate and inspire the tourism trade in Tipperary by providing a high-quality, attractive opportunity to meet, network and learn, with an excellent lineup of speakers. There will also be information stands at the event guiding various themed topics including the forthcoming Leader Programme.

Promotional Events

The Time for Tipperary stand featured at the Gifted event in the RDS, Dublin in December from 6th to 10th. Working in partnership with the Tipperary Food Producers Network, this opportunity served to reach a very important demographic, to promote Tipperary as a destination.

There was tremendously positive feedback over the 5 days, both from visitors to the stand and from our partners on the stand, who included Cashel Palace Hotel, John G. O'Dwyer, Fethard Heritage Town, Fuchsia Lane Farm, Clonmel Golf Club, Galtee Honey Farm, Brookfield Farm, The Apple Farm, Irish Hedgerow.



Tipperary Tourism along with Munster Vales hosted a promotional stand at the Audit Committee Meeting, in Bru Boru, Cashel in September.



Tracks and Trails Filming

Tipperary County Council in conjunction with OPW and Coillte are funding an episode in the Series 11 of Tracks and Trails on RTE.

Filming took place in October across a few dates, with a team helping to

curate the content including the Rural Recreational Officer, Tourism Section, Tipperary Sports Partnership, Tipperary Tourism, and local community members. The route featured is from Cahir Castle to Swiss Cottage, to Ardfinnan and Liam Lynch Memorial along St. Declan's Way and the Blueway.

State of Season Research

The Tipperary State of the Season was conducted by Tipperary Tourism and Tipperary County Council with the aim of gauging the health of the county's tourism sector. The report is based on feedback voluntarily provided by businesses participating in the survey. It compares tourism businesses' performance – accommodation, activity providers and attractions January to August 2023 to the same period in 2022.

The full State of Season Report is available at:

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/68475349/tipperary-state-of-season-2023>

Highlights include:

- Considering the business environment, the feedback is as positive as we might have hoped for.
- 85% of Tipperary businesses surveyed experienced Growth (70%) or Parity (15%), when compared with the same period in 2022. 15% experienced a Downturn. This shows a positive

trend, but recovery is still underway and businesses are still struggling.

- The report sheds light on the various factors influencing business outcomes, from the nature of operations to the diversity of source markets. It's clear that success in our industry is multifaceted and complex.

Tipperary Tourism Training Needs Survey 2023

A recent survey of tourism trade in Tipperary demonstrated the following highlights:

- Digital Demand: 96% of Tipperary businesses are seeking digital or marketing-connected training, indicating a desire to shift towards greater online presence as a key strategy.
- Gap in Marketing Skills: Our state-of-season survey also identified digital as a gap because of the low share of online businesses being won by many businesses.
- Digital Training is not just about individual improvement but can achieve collective enhancement to Tipperary's profile and image as a tourism destination.
- Mentoring: Despite low demand via the survey, business mentoring is identified for its one-to-one guidance, capable of

addressing niche and specific training needs.

This feedback will help determine the Training Programme 2024. Full report at:
<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/68573716/tipperary-tourism-training-needs-survey-2023>

Press Coverage – Local

Tipp Tourism Networking event

Stakeholders meet in Glen of Aherlow

TIPPERARY Tourism was incredibly lucky to enjoy a warm autumn evening in the Glen of Aherlow recently. After a very successful networking event earlier this summer 'in the bog', this month's venue was a meet-up in the charming Aherlow House Hotel, with breath-taking views of the Galtee Mountains, on what was a clear and balmy evening. After a selection of home-baked goodies in the hotel's cosy tea parlour, the majority of the group set off along what was once part of the original Blarney road system. Local guide, Jimmy Barry, enthralled the group with snippets of information on the history and geography of the area.

On reaching the Christ the King, the group were rewarded with crystal clear views of the Galtee Mountains. What a gem right on our doorstep in Tipperary. This corner of the county is wealthy with many looped walks of various lengths and for all abilities. The signage is first class, and the enjoyable experience will be enticing many in the group to re-visit the area again soon.

Above all, the event was a great success with regards to connecting people from within Tipperary Tourism's membership. Those attending the walk included people from the hotels sector, self-organising community tourism, activities, tour operator, chauffeur drive to name a few from various corners of the county. The format ensured everyone had the opportunity to speak at length with each other, and it is with 100% certainty that the swapping of business cards, brochures



Tipperary Tourism group members, with walking guide Jimmy Barry and Chairman of Tipperary Tourism, John G O'Dwyer.

and contact details will be the start of business relations going forward. Tipperary Tourism Chairperson John G O'Dwyer thanked Glen of Aherlow Falls Society for hosting the group. He commented: "There is no doubt Tipperary Tourism, which was established by Tipperary County Council, and is committed to the marketing and development of the tourism potential in Tipperary. Membership is available to approved tourism operators in the county, and is open year-round, with new members welcome at any time; email tourism@tipperary.ie for details.

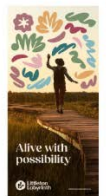
Social Media

Continually very active across all social media platforms: Instagram VisitTipperary 8,900+ followers; Facebook TipperaryTourism 23,900 followers; X @VisitTipp 5,200 followers.

Facebook has particularly high engagement.

Littleton Labyrinth Branding Strategy

Tipperary Tourism is working with Bord na Mona and Tipperary County Council and a wider steering group to develop a network of recreational 'peatway' trails as a new tourism and recreational product. Resulting from Leader funding secured in 2022, and working with design agency, DesignWorks, the Littleton Labyrinth Brand Strategy has been completed. This element of the project focused on developing a brand design to be used in building recognition of the offer going forward and also guide the design direction of other aspects of the project, including interpretation panels, trail maps, and signage.



Cashel Public Realm & Signage / Cashel Destination Town Plan

The Tourism Marketing and Development Officer continues to support the MD in the delivery of this project. The proposed development of a new Visitor Centre is being appraised under three headings: Iconic Heritage;

World Class Visitor Experience;
Sustainable Tourism.

Carrick-on-Suir

The Tourism Marketing and Development Officer continues to work with the Carrick-on-Suir Tourism & Economic Development Committee/ Town Centre First Year/Vision 2050. A new Tourism and Commercial Manager for Carrick-on-Suir was appointed in December.

Equine Tourism / Thoroughbred Country

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism are working in partnership with Fáilte Ireland, Kildare County Council and Kildare Fáilte on the development of equine tourism experiences across the county connected nationally under the Thoroughbred Country Experience brand, to jointly deliver the Thoroughbred Country Visitor Experience Development Plan.



Fethard Walled Town and Fethard Horse Country Experience (FHCE)

The Tourism Marketing and Development Officer continues to support the marketing consultant appointed to promote Fethard and the FHCE, attending a recent public engagement meeting in November. A Destination Marketing Plan for Fethard is now in place for marketing this destination into 2024.

Tipperary Tourism Policy

Tipperary Tourism continues to adhere to the following Policy documents:

- Policy Development – Tourism Marketing, Experience and Destination Development Plan for Tipperary 2016 – 2021
- Tipperary Transforming, Tourism Product Development Plan 2020-2030.

A Marketing Actions Plan is currently being developed with a focus on 2024.

Destination Lough Derg



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2023

Destination Lough Derg in association with the Nenagh MD was successful in an ORIS Project Development Measure announced on 21 November 2023 for a Garrykennedy Harbour Upgrade -

Consultancy services to undertake planning and design works for the upgrading of the inner harbour in Garrykennedy Value €49,500.00

Lough Derg VEDP 2020- 2024 Midterm Review

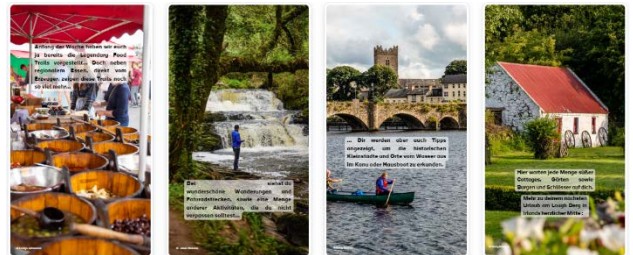


A midterm review of the Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan (VEDP) 2020 – 2024 was commissioned by the Destination Lough Derg Group to assess the impact of the VEDP in its first few years of implementation. The review process was based on the V.I.C.E. model for sustainable tourism. It included an examination of Visitor demand, Industry and Community attitudes to the plan. A series of one to one interviews were conducted with members of the Destination Lough Derg Group, agencies, stakeholders and representatives of the tourism industry.

Visitor Monitoring

Funded by ORIS 2021, 6 visitor counters were installed around Lough Derg hiking and walking trails. The 2 counters in Tipperary are located at Garrykennedy and The Lookout.

The Lough Derg Legendary Food Trail"



Sample of Digital Promotion of Tourism Ireland Germany

Agri-Food Tourism Grant Destination Lough Derg was awarded an Agri-Food Tourism Grant valued at €21,094.50 from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. This grant was instrumental in funding a mentoring and awareness campaign, which launched on the 25th of September, centring around the unique food products in the Lough Derg region.

"The Lough Derg Legendary Food Trail" is an exciting agri-tourism initiative that aims to showcase and promote our region's agricultural and culinary offerings.

Marketing assets include:

- a. A brand developed to align with the Destination Lough Derg overarching brand
- b. A hero video and three reels for social media
- c. A webpage

- d. Adverts and editorials in local media
- e. PR influencer and journalist visits and associated write-ups and promotions to follow
- f. A visitor-focused brochure

Marketing Campaign:

The assets created were promoted via a digital campaign, a partnership with Tourism Ireland FR and Tourism Ireland GR, Adverts in local papers and PR coverage in national papers.

Audience Engagement Programme



1,761,011 Total Impressions

A comprehensive digital campaign together with a PR campaign garnered over 1.7 million impression.



Sample of National Coverage in Irish Country Magazine

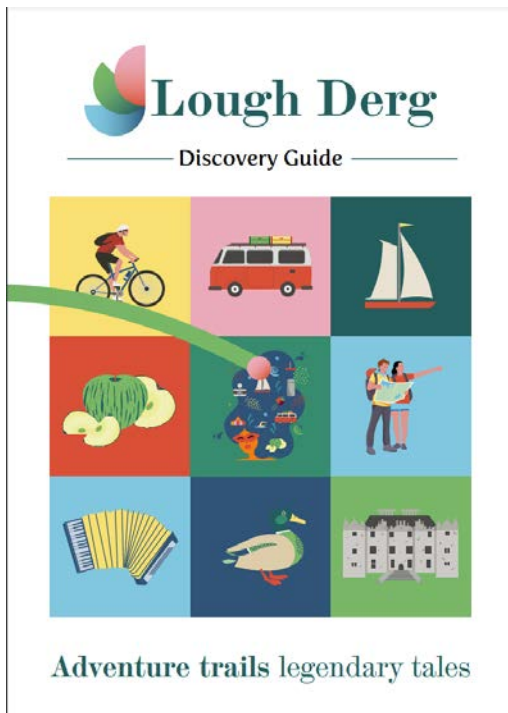


Sample of Regional Coverage in the Nenagh Guardian Dromineer Designated Bathing Area

An application is in progress and will be submitted in March 2024 to designate Dromineer as a designated bathing area. The public consultation was completed in November and received support from the local business and residences

Master Brochure

A new 36-page master brochure complete with dynamic QR codes has been designed, printed and is being distributed for the destination.



Adventure Lough Derg APP

The updated version of the Adventure Lough Derg App is live in APP stores. The updated include fun features, videos and imagery which bring the adventure APP to life.



Video Series to Homesteads

A project to create content for Genealogy promotions was undertaken in the Autumn, two videos and copy and testimonials were sourced for the website. The project will create awareness of the services provided around Lough Derg.

Inspirational video link

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/893509657>

A description of the methodology video link

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/893816883>



[Munster Vales](#)

Networking Event



Munster Vales successful networking and information workshop in the Talbot Hotel Clonmel in October to an attendance of 75 people. The audience was made up of stakeholders from the wide Munster Vales region. Councillor and Mayor of Clonmel Richie Molloy officially launched the Visitor



Information Kiosk in the lobby of the hotel. The kiosk lists all tourism-related businesses in the Munster Vales region, the kiosk has had over 12,000 page views in the past three months. There were several presentations on the day from the IAAT, the Local Enterprise Office, and South Tipp Development Company highlighting the supports that are available to tourism businesses. The feedback was very positive and strong connections were made between businesses on the day.

Digital Marketing and PR

Munster Vales welcomed four high-profile media personnel to the area in the past number of months. Liana Modonova is a highly respected travel creator based in Cork, she visited the South Tipperary area in September and rented bikes from Blueway Bike Hire in Carrick On Suir and cycled the Blueway to Kilsheelan where she dined in Nagles Bar and Restaurant, enjoyed horse riding along the banks of the Suir in Cahir, visited Cahir Farmers Market, visited Mitchelstown Caves. Liana and her friend also visited Ormond Castle and were very impressed, the videos that she created following the trip reached over 1 million people and encouraged many others to visit this beautiful area.

Munster Vales also received a three-page spread in the Sunday Independent which has a readership of 700,000, we hope to welcome more visitors to holiday here as a result.

Corporate Connections

Munster Vales recently presented to the Ireland India Business Association to highlight the range and quality of experiences on offer here which may be of interest to the Indian community who are living and working in Ireland. Munster Vales has forged a relationship with Boston Scientific to promote local tourism businesses to the workforce and visitors. Munster Vales is also working closely with the Thoroughbred Country and Fethard Horse Country Experience team to attract more visitors to this region in the shoulder season.



Product Development

Munster Vales are planning to apply for LEADER funding later this year for a feasibility study to develop a Munster Vales Way which would connect the existing five long-distance walks from Carrick on Suir to Charleville. We will also seek funding for a feasibility study on motorcycle tourism in Munster Vales and for innovative marketing campaigns. This is in line with the Strategic Development Plan 2020-2025.

Broadband

1. Digital Connectivity

Smart infrastructure’ or ‘Digital infrastructure’ is the utility of the twenty-first century. It underpins every aspect of the modern economy and all aspects of smart cities/ villages. This includes cellular wireless - 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G - and Wi-Fi, wired (including full-fibre) technologies, Internet of Things (IoT), and emerging non-terrestrial networks such as low-earth orbit satellites.

Digital connectivity is being delivered across the State primarily through the Commercial investment of the telecommunications industry. The government will take measures to drive increased Gigabit and 5G connectivity, including complementing commercial investment in infrastructure with Government-led initiatives and facilitating other strategic enablers.

2. National Broadband Plan (NBP)

The 2012 National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the Government’s initiative to deliver high-speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland. This will be delivered through investment by commercial enterprises coupled with intervention by the State in those parts of the country where private companies have no plans to invest. High-speed broadband services will be delivered to every premise in Ireland through a combination of –

- a. Commercial investment by the telecommunications sector within an area (known as the (NBP) Commercial (BLUE) area)

- b. State intervention in those areas where commercial providers acting alone will not provide this service (known as the (NBP) State led- Intervention (AMBER) area)

Table 1 below - **(NBP) County Tipperary Statistics**

National Broadband Plan (NBP) – County Tipperary Statistics ¹		
Total Number of Premises	85,278	100%
Number of Premises situated in the (NBP) State led- Intervention (AMBER) Area	30,545	36%
Number of Premises situate in the (NBP) Commercial Investment (BLUE) Area	54,677	64%

Note¹ Information sourced June, 23 here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/5634d-national-broadband-plan-map/>

3. (NBP) State Led-Intervention Area known as the “AMBER” area

To deliver the National Broadband Plan (NBP) State led-Intervention “AMBER” area, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) went through a rigorous procurement process to choose a company to design, build, operate and manage a new very high capacity network (VHCN) on behalf of the state. Following the award of this state contract in November, 2019 - **National Broadband Ireland (NBI™)** was established and together with its



build partners - including KN Group, Actavo, TLI and SECTO commenced the roll-out of high-speed Fibre broadband to every home, business, Farm and school (regardless of how rural or remote) in the National Broadband Plan (NBP) state led- Intervention “AMBER” Area in the Country.

In May 2021, NBI™ commenced works to deploy FTTH cable to over 30,545 premises in rural County Tipperary - including 21 Broadband Connection Points (BCPs); 35 rural BCPs – National Schools; 20,079 homes; 3,951 Farms; 5,305 Residential/ commercial businesses and 1,210 Commercial premises.

The current NBI™ Projected time-lines for delivery of the (NBP) State led- Intervention (AMBER) area per Table 2 below -

N ^o	NBI™ DEPLOYMENT AREA	PROJECT DELIVERY TIME-LINES FOR CONNECTION ₂
1	BALLINAMULT*	January 2025 - June 2025
2	BALLINDERRY*	January 2025 - June 2025
3	BANAGHER	July 2025 – December 2025
4	BIRR	January 2026 – December 2026
5	CAHIR*	July 2024 – September 2024
6	CARRICK-ON-SUIR	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
7	CASHEL	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
8	CLONMEL	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER

9	GORT	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
10	HOLLYFORD*	January 2025 – June 2025
11	HOSPITAL	January 2024 – March 2024
12	JOHNSTOWN	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
13	LITTLETON	January 2026 – December 2026
14	MITCHELSTOWN	January 2026 – December 2026
15	MULLINAHONE*	January 2024 – March 2024
16	NENAGH	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
17	NEWPORT	January 2026 – December 2026
18	OGONNELLOE	July 2025 – December 2025
19	ROSCREA	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
20	TALLOW*	July 2024 – September 2024
21	TEMPLEMORE	July 2025 – December 2025
21	TIPPERARY	AVAILABLE TO ORDER/ PRE-ORDER
	Additional Premises to date	TBC

Note₂ dates provided above are estimated and based on the current view of NBI™

Note* civil works in progress in these Deployment Areas

The Network rollout for the National Broadband Plan (IA) is divided into 227



Deployment Areas (DAs) across the country (including 21 Deployment Areas (DAs) in County Tipperary). These are typically areas of approximately 25 km in radius and, in total, they cover 96% of Ireland’s landmass. The architecture of the network design is specifically based on the design of the NBI™ network extending from the eir Exchanges or the Metropolitan area Networks managed by Enet. It is based on an engineering design that allows NBI™ to get to every premise as quickly as possible working within the confines of how fibre networks are built. Each DA creates a ‘fibre ring’ which is essential to ensure reliability and resilience. The NBI™ fibre rings are built with back-ups, ensuring that in the event of one fibre cable being disrupted, the whole network continues to perform. The network design utilises existing eir / enet OH/ UG infrastructure to a very significant degree.

Table 3 below – identifies the current status of the new FTTH Network Deployment in Tipperary.

NBI™ Build Stage	NBI™ Network deployment Figures for County Tipperary – per December, 2023
Stage 1,2 and 3	Total number of – Premises recently “SURVEY COMPLETED” is 9,468 premises (32%) (100% of Tipperary Premises Surveyed Completed at end 2023)
Stage 4	Total number of –

	<p>Premises with Network “BUILD IN PROGRESS” is 6,258 (22%)</p> <p>Currently working in Five (5) NBI™ Deployment Areas (as shown in Table 2)</p> <p>In total, over 70 NBI™ Planning Applications have been determined (under Section 254 of the Planning Act, 2000 (as amended) by Tipperary County Council to date, for development consisting of placing 1,423 new poles and 3,682 Km of new Fibre Network cable.</p> <p>All s254 applications submitted in 2023 have been determined by TCC within a timeline of 4-6 weeks.</p> <p>c.426 Road Opening Licence (ROL) applications have been submitted on MRL to date and Granted within 1/2 weeks.</p>
Stage 5	<p>Total number of - “Premises Passed with Network Fibre” and “BUILD COMPLETE” is 13,837 (46%)</p> <p>These Premises can now “place an Order/ pre-Order” for a “New Service Connection” with an approved Retail Service Provider (RSP)</p>



Stage 6	<p>Total number of “NEW SERVICE CONNECTIONS” to date is 3,503 (December, 2023)</p> <p>Clonmel DA has the highest take-up for “NEW SERVICE CONNECTIONS” at 662 (42%)</p>
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Table 4 below – identifies the staged delivery time-Lines to complete the delivery of the (NBP) State led- Intervention (AMBER) Area in County Tipperary

Stage 1,2 and 3	<p>Percentage Survey Complete:</p> <p>To date: 99%</p> <p>By end of 2023: 100%</p>
Stage 4	<p>Percentage Build Commenced:</p> <p>To date: 70%</p> <p>By end of 2023: 85%</p> <p>By end of 2024: 94%</p> <p>By end of 2025: 100%</p>
Stage 5	<p>Percentage Build Complete:</p> <p>To date: 45%</p> <p>By end of 2023: 48%</p> <p>By end of 2024: 59%</p> <p>By end of 2025: 86%</p> <p>By end of 2026: 100%</p>

Data correct as 13/12/2023 – National Broadband Ireland (NBI™)

NBI™ does not sell broadband services directly to Customers. They operate a Wholesale Service where they partner with **Retail Service Providers (RSPs)** throughout Ireland who is turn deliver a service to the customers door. The Retail Service Providers that are currently setup and certified to sell **NBI™** Network services include for Kerry Broadband, Atlantek Broadband, Three, Clare WiFi Networks, Lightnet Telcom, Roctel, BBnet, eir, Chill Wifi, Real Broadband, Budget Broadband, HiSpeed, Rural Wifi, Westnet, Carnsore Broadband, NuWave, Ivertec, Elio Networks, Mynet, Magnet, Zintek, ClearWave, Fastcom, Rocket Broadband, Aptus, Premier Broadband, Rural Broadband, Vodafone, Sky, Pure Telecom, Regional Broadband, Net1, eBroadband, Viatel, Eurlona Ireland, Blacknight, Beacon Broadband, Tipp Broadband, KerNet, Whizzy Internet, Airwave, MTS, IMS, IFA, Digiweb and 6NET.

More (RSPs) will be added as the new **NBI™** Network continues to be rolled out across Ireland, unleashing the unlimited potential of every individual and organisation in the country – see link for more details here:

<https://nbi.ie/where-can-i-buy/>

4. Connected Communities – the (NBP) Broadband Connection Point Initiative

The (NBP) Broadband Connection Point Initiative will unlock the potential in our Rural communities in County Tipperary.



New Website launched in 2023

<https://www.tipperarybcp.ie/>

Whether that is connected to work, the creative arts, eHealth, educational support, or business support, the BCPs will be supported to provide the digital services that their communities need.

“These premises are not merely a stop-gap measure ahead of the arrival of the National Broadband Plan (NBP IA) it is our hope that they will instead become long-term community assets, fixtures of their communities, providing next-generation services to Tipperary’s rural heartlands.”

High-quality digital connectivity offers an unprecedented opportunity to transform rural Ireland. It will support the sustainability of rural communities by enabling more people to continue to live and work in rural locations and encouraging others to relocate to rural areas.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the importance of digital connectivity in supporting many aspects of our daily lives.

Throughout the crisis, digital connectivity helped many people to avoid becoming socially isolated; It enabled students to continue their education through online learning, and it demonstrated its potential to support economic activity through remote working and the delivery of services online.

Improved connectivity and digital innovation will help communities to have greater outreach.

It will support older people to live independently in their communities, but with access to more support and services through connected technologies.

It will mean a better quality of life for rural dwellers, enabling people to access online information (including government services) and resources including the provision of online services such as e-education and personalised e-health care. In the longer term, it is envisaged that many of the BCPs will act as a central point for the provision of digital services in the community.

The (NBP) BCP delivery Programme is completed in County Tipperary and the following 21 Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) known as the “Tipperary BCP Network” are connected and provide free Public WiFi Services to Members of the Public; including

- 1) **ROSSMORE COMMUNITY HALL,**
ROSSMORE, CASHEL, E25D429
- 2) **DROM COMMUNITY HALL,**
DROM, BORRISOLEIGH, THURLES,
E41X285
- 3) **CURREENEY COMMUNITY HALL,**
CURREENEY, KILCOMMON,
THURLES, E41XC62
- 4) **AGLISH COMMUNITY HALL,**
AGLISH, ROSCREA, E53E132

- 5) **KILLURNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**, KILLURNEY, BALLYPATRICK, CLONMEL, E91H7W4
- 6) **MOYGLASS COMMUNITY HALL**, MOYGLASS, FETHARD, E91WK25
- 7) **KILLOSCULLY COMMUNITY CENTRE**, KILLOSCULLY, NEWPORT, V94FK20
- 8) **KILLEA COMMUNITY CENTRE**, KILLEA, TEMPLEMORE, E41T6YOTHE
- 9) **PAVILLION, BALLINDERRY SPORTSFIELD**, BALLINDERRY, NENAGH, E45 F627
- 10) **BALLINAHINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE**, ROSSFINCH, BALLINAHINCH, BIRDHILL, V94 CVC0
- 11) **BOHER PARISH HALL**, BOHER, BALLINA, V94 EY06
- 12) **FANURE COMMUNITY HALL**, FANURE, ROSCREA, E53 AE02
- 13) **KILCOLEMAN COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL CENTRE**, BURGESS GAA CLUB, PAIRC NA NGAEL, KILCOLEMAN, NEWTOWN, NENAGH, E45 YH76
- 14) **THE APPLE CAMPING & CARAVAN PARK**, MOORSTOWN, CAHIR, E21 YX33
- 15) **DONASKEAGH COMMUNITY CENTRE**, DONASKEAGH, E34 AK24
- 16) **TERRYGLASS COMMUNITY HALL**, TERRYGLASS, NENAGH, E45 FC42
- 17) **BALLYLOOBY CASTLEGRACE GAA CLUB**, KILROE, BALLYLOOBY, E21 TA47
- 18) **LATTERAGH COMMUNITY CENTRE**, SALLYPARK, LATTERAGH, NENAGH, E45 EF68
- 19) **GURTAGARRY COMMUNITY HALL**, GORTAGARRY, TOOMEVARA, NENAGH, E45 FA43
- 20) **LISMACKIN COMMUNITY HALL**, LISMACKIN, ROSCREA, E53 Y589

- 21) **NORTH TIPPERARY FOOD WORKS**, MAIN STREET, REARCROSS, NEWPORT, V94YW08

<https://www.tipperarybcp.ie/>



Map 1 –

Showing BCP Locations for public access to Free WiFi services (per Municipal District) in county Tipperary

<https://www.tipperarybcp.ie/>

The Broadband Point Initiative (BCP) Initiative in County Tipperary is a collaborative effort involving -

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, the Department of Rural and Community Development, National Broadband Ireland, Vodafone Irl, the Local Authorities and Managers of the BCP sites.



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

The receipt of DRCD Funding supported its community involvement and we aim to further develop the "Tipperary BCP Network" into a more active network of "remote Digital Hubs – connected hubs"



These locations in County Tipperary support and compliment the development of a National Hub Network, which is a key action of the Our Rural Future, Ireland's Rural Development Policy 2021-2025.

The .IE Digital Town Awards 2023



Clonmel, County Tipperary was recently crowned the Overall Winner at the .IE Digital Town Awards 2023.



The town was chosen from the category winners as the overall winner. In addition to winning the Agri-tech category prize, Clonmel was awarded the additional overall winner prize.



"Agri-tech Winner"
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

"Smart Skills for Farming Communities"

This pilot programme was developed to help farmers use new technologies to make their work easier, save time and money as well as improve the sustainability and profitability of their farms. 60% of farmers report that there are barriers to digital training and support.

This project addresses that problem by providing very practical digital training in areas such as soil fertility

technology; grassland management technology; tech for time and labour saving; and farm management systems and useful Apps. This project also addresses the digital skills gap amongst farmers and helps them access digital technologies that hold the key for a smarter, more competitive and resource-efficient agricultural sector.

Rossmore BCP was chosen as an “Community Digital Winner” “Rossmore Scratchers Rural Connectivity”

The installation of a Broadband Connection Point (BCP) was a game changer for Rossmore village. It enabled Rossmore Scratchers, a new coding club, to provide a space for digital projects through STEAM for students and adults alike. It is volunteer-led, has diverse community involvement, a clear understanding of community needs, all of which is managed on a limited budget. A great example of a community being given the digital tools, and taking it from there.



The Awards recognise and reward projects with a digital element that

have been created by town groups and local communities. They promote awareness, knowledge, use and understanding of digital in Ireland by its citizens, businesses and communities. They also highlight the benefits and possibilities of digital and celebrate the digital achievements of local towns, big and small.

Our **BCP Network Finalists** on the day were:

1. **Digital Education** – Clonmel - Full STEAM ahead – highlighting the opportunities of STEAM
2. **Agri-Tech** – Clonmel - Digital education for Farmers
3. **Newcomer** – Boher – Let’s all code together
4. **Digital Rising Star** - Boher – Let’s all code together
5. **Community Digital** – Rossmore - Rossmore Scratchers for Rural connectivity

Terryglass BCP continues to support-

“Grow Remote Working”



GROW REMOTE TERRYGLASS
SAT 18th FEBRUARY @ 10am - 1pm
TERRYGLASS BCP
COMMUNITY HALL, E45 FC42
REMOTE WORK INFO SESSION
+ FULLY-FUNDED TRAINING FOR REMOTE JOB SEEKERS
growremote.ie/events

Terryglass BCP and Tipperary County Council were recently selected as 1 of 4 finalists in the -

Cormac Tagging -
Community/Discussion Group
Incentive Scheme Award at the [Better Farming Awards](#) 2023

Boher BCP is delivering digital programmes – in the following areas -

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence Free Training Event

This pilot project aims to create an awareness for upskilling and development opportunities in AI for communities to learn about harnessing the power of AI.



“The Ark” is a programme supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development and delivered throughout the Tipperary BCP Network.



Adult Learning Service

Smartphone Courses - Boher

Get to know your Smartphone
Thurs 23rd Nov - Thurs 14th Dec
3.30pm-5.30pm
4 Weeks - Small Group

Smartphone for Farmers
Thurs 23rd Nov - Thurs 14th Dec
6.30pm-8.30pm
4 Weeks - Small Group

Venue:
Boher Parish Hall (Boher BCP)

Full course info:
www.FetchCourses.ie
Course code:

REGISTER TODAY WITH:
Nicola
086 898 6138
bohercommunitygroup@gmail.com

Learning in the Hubs Initiative
TUS Learning Gate Network – Boher BCP are now part of a connected

community that can offer Higher Education opportunities for their local communities. This is a collaboration between Boher BCP and TUS.



Ballinderry BCP

Lakeshore Ladies Digital Skills for Mature Community Members

Members Volunteer Champion Facilitator Training Programme

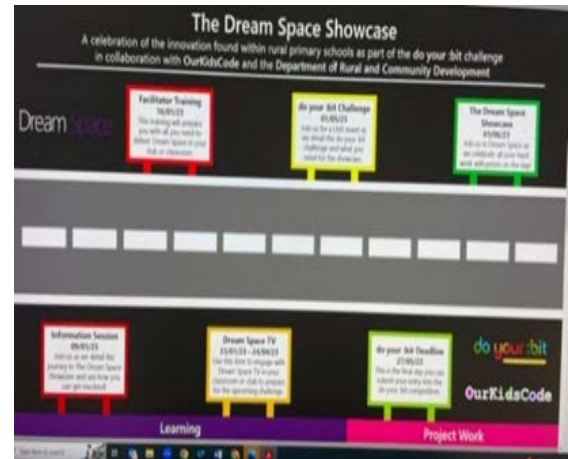
The theme of OurKidsCode 2023 is sustainability i.e. to ensure that **OurKidsCode** remains in the BCP community as an ongoing offering to new families. To be able to do this we needed to have the skills and capacity in each community.

To achieve this, we worked with Trinity College (OurKidsCode) to deliver a

Volunteer Champion Training Programme

in February, 2023 where ten (10) volunteers received training on how to deliver/facilitate a full four week Workshop. At the end of this training all participants now have the skills, knowledge and ability to successfully facilitate a programme in their community BCP before the end of 2023.

The Dream Space Showcase - Microsoft's do your:bit Challenge –



Celebrating the innovation within Tipperary's rural Primary Schools in January 2023 saw the launch of

The Microsoft Ireland™ do - OurKidsCode and our Tipperary BCP Network -

As supported by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

At the inaugural Microsoft Ireland™ "Dream Space Den" Event in June 2023 over 250 National school students and their teachers from our Network showcased their digital skills in presenting their sustainable projects - which won seven awards on the day including;

Prize Name	Awards Partner	School/Club Winner
Rural Future Prize	(DRCD)	Rossmore National School.
OurKidsCode Overall Club Award	OurKidsCode, Trinity College Dublin	Boher Bytes Coding Club, Tipperary

OurKidsCode Most Creative Project	OurKidsCode, Trinity College Dublin	Killoscully Coding Club, Tipperary
Connecting Communities Award	Imagine	Birdhill National School
Future STEM Leaders Award	Microsoft Dream Space	Drom National School
Tipperary's Global Goal Award	Tipperary County Council	Lackamore National School

MS Dream Space – Mary Immaculate College, Thurles Campus a Collaborative Initiative - November 2023

Year One - [Accelerating the Reach of Microsoft Dream Space to Students in Rural Ireland](#)

KINIA – Creative Digital Media



Secondary school teachers took part in a one-day training programme on Video making and are now skilled to deliver this in their respective schools.



Tipperary County Council and Longford County Council partnering with Microsoft were shortlisted as finalists for two categories Best Community Engagement and Digital Skills for [Shortlist - Public Sector Digital Transformation Awards](#)

Development of the GSDAT peer led programme

Our BCP Network are working on delivering this training in Boher for social inclusion sports coaches as a pilot roll out in Tipperary in early 2024.

In summary currently, Tipperary County Council have a very strong BCP Network consisting of 21 BCP locations in rural Tipperary.

An number of DRCD initiatives are rolled out as pilots across Tipperary's BCP network initially and then replicated in other local authorities. The national success of our pilots lays a strong foundation to work with DRCD and Others to identify additional Community Centre locations throughout the county to extend the BCP network and continue to deliver initiatives that bridge the digital divide and improves rural accessibility to education, ehealth and the arts.

5. (NBP) Commercial Investment in Gigabit Network Infrastructure known as the “BLUE” area

The telecommunication sector employs approximately 25,000 people and has invested circa €3.3 billion over the past 5 years in new and upgraded networks. Recent announcements from Virgin Media, SIRO, and eir indicate that the vast majority of premises in urban and suburban areas will be covered with - fiber-to-the-home services (FTTH) - Gigabit Network services - being made available to all these locations by 2028.

The NBP Commercial investment will result in Gigabit Network services being made available to the vast majority of premises, in Primarily Urban and Suburban areas covering circa 77% of the premises across the State.

In County Tipperary - the New Gigabit “Fibre” Network (s) are for the most part being built by SIRO, Virgin Media and Open eir (Eir Ltd)

“SIRO” was launched in 2015 as a joint venture between ESB and Vodafone with the aim of delivering the first 100% fibre-to-the-building broadband across regional Ireland. Their Fibre to the Home (FTTH) Network is built using the ESB’s overhead and underground infrastructure, ensuring a fast, reliable and sustainable Network. “SIRO” recently announced plans to extend its FTTH Network footprint to the towns of Thurles, Cashel, and Tipperary as part of their ongoing network rollout across County Tipperary. In both Thurles and Cashel, it plans to connect over 5,000 Premises to high-quality fibre

broadband, and this rollout out is on track to be completed during Q4 2023. SIRO’s FTTH Network is already available in the towns of Clonmel, Nenagh, and Roscrea and to date, they have invested over €20 million in bringing world-class connectivity to County Tipperary. “SIRO” does not sell broadband services to customers. They operate a wholesale service where they partner with Retail Service Providers (RSPs) throughout Ireland who is turn deliver a service to the customer’s door – see link for more details <https://siro.ie/broadband-for-home/>

As part of the Liberty sq, Thurles Refurbishment Project – Tipperary County Council trailed new innovative technologies with the support of the telecommunications industry to pilot the “Dig Once” principle - and innovative uses of existing technologies to deliver more effective public services through the Government’s Digital Innovation Programme – including the development of an extensive network of passive ducts and chambers under the public footway - to pilot the use of the standard known as “underground Shared Telecommunications Physical Infrastructure” SIRO started using this pilot Infrastructure in November 2022 and it is now available to the telecommunications industry to use.



The recent announcement to deploy Gigabit Network Services (Phase 2) to Thurles, Nenagh, and Tipperary town was made by Senior Officials of SIRO at a Presentation to the Elected Members of Tipperary County Council, which took place in the Clonmel Civic Offices in May 2023 (see photograph above)

In 2019, **EIR Ltd** commenced the roll-out of their IFN Project in County Tipperary - which aims to cover a majority of the NBP commercial areas in the county. To date, Open eir has passed c38,000 premises with Gigabit Network services (FTTH) including the towns of Nenagh, Ballina/ Killaloe, Tipperary, Templemore, Thurles, Clonmel and Cahir, County Tipperary.

Their FTTH deployment works commenced in the town(s) of Cashel, Roscrea, and Carrick-on-Suir in November 2022 and the footprint of this programme is currently being extended to/ planned for Newport; Two-mile Borris; Cappawhite; Fethard; Borrisokane; Ardfinnan; Borrisoleigh; Clogheen; Cloughjordan; Emly; Mullinahone in 2023/ 2024.

Under its "Commitment Agreement" with the State in 2017 – OPEN eir recently completed the Rural deployment of its Gigabit Network to

c16,000 premises in rural County Tipperary.

When these programs are completed, c2026 - approximately 60,000 premises in County Tipperary will have access to an Open eir FTTH connection – given an Financial Investment by Eir Ltd in the County of circa €30 million.

"Open eir" does not sell broadband services to customers. They operate a wholesale service where they partner with Retail Service Providers (RSPs) throughout Ireland who is turn deliver a service to the customers door – see link for more details

<https://www.openeir.ie/open-eir-irelands-largest-wholesale-full-fibre-network/>

Enet "Open Access Networks" operates a Wholesale Network Service using the existing State funded "Metropolitan Area Networks" In total, (8) Metropolitan Area Networks have been deployed in the county and located in the towns of Clonmel (deployed under Phase 1, 2004) and Cahir, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Nenagh, Roscrea, Templemore, Tipperary Town (deployed under Phase 2, 2007) These underground Networks, which are being used by NBI™ as part of the NBP IA roll-out, are capable of delivering virtually unlimited bandwidth to their Customers. Enet has delivered over 130 Network service connections to date and their end Users include for Schools, Bank Branches, SMEs, Credit Union offices, Gov Departments and State Agencies (Hospitals/Garda Stations etc)



6. Commercial Investment in Fixed Wireless high-speed broadband Services (FWA)

Fixed wireless access (FWA), uses Radio waves to deliver internet services between two stationary locations such as a mobile cell tower and a customer's home or office.

- a) "Imagine broadband" continues to upgrade and expand - its WTTx network (FWA) services in County Tipperary and over 60,000 premises and businesses in the County are covered on the Imagine Network from 22 Mast/ and Tower locations situated both within and in surrounding counties – refer to link: [Imagine Link](#)

The focus of Imagine is on rural areas with no connectivity – and where NBI™ Fibre cable is not expected to be deployed until 2025/2026

- b) There are a number of Companies ³ operating in County Tipperary who are also Offering (FWA) Services including –
- a. Arra Communications www.arra.ie
 - b. Celtic Broadband www.celticbroadband.ie
 - c. Echoitbroadband www.echoitbroadband.ie
 - d. Wirelessconnect www.wirelessconnect.ie
 - e. Munster Wireless www.munsterwireless.com
 - f. RuralBroadband www.ruralbroadband.ie
 - g. Premier (Wireless) Broadband www.premierbroadband.ie
 - h. Pure Telecom www.puretelecom.ie

- i. Bbnet Broadband www.bbnet.ie
- j. Orion Broadband www.orcs.ie
- k. Imagine www.imagine.ie
- l. Magnet Network <https://www.magnetplus.ie/>
- m. Other ³

Note ³ Other Companies may also be offering (FWA) services in County Tipperary -that are not listed above.

- c) SpaceX (**StarLink**) offer's high-speed, low-latency broadband internet services in remote and rural locations in County Tipperary - using Emerging non-terrestrial networks such as low-earth orbit Satellites.

Refer to link:

<https://www.starlink.com/>

7. Commercial Investment in Mobile Phone (MP) and Mobile Broadband (MB) Services

A Mobile Network Operator (MNO), also known as a wireless service provider, wireless carrier, cellular company, or mobile network carrier, is a Provider of wireless communications services that owns or controls all the elements necessary to sell and deliver services to an end User, including radio spectrum allocation, wireless network infrastructure, back haul infrastructure, billing, customer care, provisioning computer systems, and marketing and repair organizations.

There are three MNOs operating in Ireland; namely Three Ireland, Vodafone PLC, and Eircom Limited.

There are also seven mobile virtual network operators (MVNOs) using the main networks to deliver mobile services.

These Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNOs) lease wireless telephone and data spectrum from the aforementioned major carriers for resale.

As of Q1 2022, the market share of MVNOs in Ireland is 13.4%.

At the end of Q4 2022 there were 8,863,983 mobile subscriptions in Ireland, including mobile broadband ('MBB') and Machine to Machine ('M2M'). If mobile broadband ('MBB') subscriptions (355,089) and M2M subscriptions (2,818,877) are excluded, the total number of Mobile Subscriptions is 5,690,017

Note: Machine-to-Machine ('M2M') mobile subscriptions are machines with SIMs. These machines could include anything from SIMs inside car engines to vending machines, industrial control systems etc and a Mobile broadband ('MBB') device provides a mobile computer with a wireless data connection to a cellular service.

<https://www.comreg.ie/publication/quarterly-key-data-report-q4-2022>

In 2021, 87% of people used a Mobile Device to access the Internet (up from 73% in 2016), which corresponds to the number of regular internet users (87% of people in 2021).

Source: Eurostat, European Union survey on ICT usage in Households and by Individuals.

Examples of typical Mobile data Usage include –

- Sending 1 email: 20KB
- 1 Social media update (with photo): 350KB
- Instant messaging for 1hour: 1MB
- 1 hour of web browsing: 10MB
- Streaming 1 hour of music: 28MB

- Downloading one app: 40MB
- Streaming 1 hour of video: 117MB

The Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) offer the following technologies -

- **2G** emerged c1995 and support voice calls and SMS, with relatively low data speeds.
- **3G** emerged in the early 00s and support voice calls and higher data speeds than 2G.
- **4G** appeared around 2011 and support faster data speeds than 2G and 3G. A 4G network does not support traditional voice calls like 2G and 3G, but can support an Internet Protocol (IP) voice service called Voice over LTE (VoLTE).
- **5G** supports new technologies, faster speeds through lower latency and higher throughput.

The telecommunications regulator "ComReg" has a Mobile Signal Checker Map that is searchable by Eircode and by Mobile Phone Operator (MNO) to see what Outdoor data services might be available in a particular area. This map is available at <https://coveragemap.comreg.ie/map>.

The world's economy is at a pivotal point as we see a move towards an increasingly connected society driven by the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence and Big Data. The pace of adoption of these types of technologies will become the basis for long-term national economic growth. The impact of these emerging technologies will be underpinned by the connectivity that 5G offers. 5G stands for "Fifth Generation" wireless technology, also known as the next evolution of mobile technology after

4G LTE. 5G will bring faster speeds through lower latency and higher throughput, improved efficiency and reliability, as well as increased capacity to sustain a massive increase in the number of connections between devices and the internet.

The current coverage status of the commercial 5G Network is detailed as follows -

- Vodafone's 5G network is currently live in selected areas across 26 counties in Ireland.
- Three Ireland's 5G network has 85% population coverage.
- eir's 5G network rollout continues to expand, with coverage to over 70% of the population in all 26 counties.

The current 5G deployment model used by the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) is to upgrade their existing high-power Macro-cell Infrastructure with 5G-ready equipment. However - in order to meet the emerging/ ever-increasing appetite for bandwidth-demanding services – MNOs are starting to densify their Networks through the deployment of additional network infrastructure (i.e. 5G cells, including small-area wireless access points (SAWAPs)) at street level and as the operational/ coverage range of a typical 5G cell is limited – it means that an extensive number of 5G cells are required to be deployed relatively close to end user/ and the Internet of Things (IoT) to provide connectivity.

8. The European Commission - wiFi4EU Initiative



WiFi4EU
Co-funded by
the European Union

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/wifi4eu>

WiFi4EU is a ground-breaking initiative that promotes free access to Wi-Fi connectivity for citizens in public spaces including public areas, public buildings, libraries, and museums in municipalities throughout Europe.

The "Tipperary Wifi4EU Network" consisting of 51 Free-public wifi Access Points across 6 towns was completed in 2021 with the support of Funding from the European Commission and the Department of Rural and Community Development and is currently being maintained by Magnet plus across 51 free-public WiFi Access Points (SAWAPs) located in the towns of Nenagh x14, Thurles x5, Roscrea x6, Tipperary x14, Carrick-on-Suir x6 and Clonmel x6.

The "Tipperary WiFi4EU Network" was deployed with the support of the Local Chamber of Commerce and the Property Owners, who kindly agreed to allow telecommunications equipment to be attached to their shop Façade's facing the public street/ area.

The "Tipperary WiFi4EU Network" is maintained by Tipperary County Council and the demand for Free on-street Wi-Fi connectivity, first

introduced in Tipperary town in September 2020 has grown Exponentially over the past three years with a total of 4,637 customers (154 customers per day) using the “Tipperary WiFi4EU Network” (as per the Operator Event Analytics Wifi4EU Platform – Figure shown below) in November, 2023.



Over seven (7) million customers used this free service across Europe in 2023 and are benefiting from high quality digital connectivity which supports the provision of Public Services and Services of General Economic Interests.

Tipperary Food Producers Network

The Tipperary Food Producers Network enjoyed a successful second half of 2023, marked by numerous accolades, positive media coverage, and active participation in key events.



Twelve members were finalists in the prestigious Blas na hEireann awards, earning well deserved recognition for

their excellence, with Cashel Blue Cheese and Rivesci emerging as gold medal winners. Cooleeney Cheese also garnered recognition, securing two Great Taste Awards.

The network's achievements were further amplified by positive commentary in both written media and social media circles. Articles in the Sunday Times, penned by renowned food writers Tom Doorley and Ross Parsons, highlighted the network's contributions to Clonmel and County Tipperary's thriving artisanal food scene. This exposure is key in the Networks strategy to elevate the profile of Tipperary's artisanal food offerings.

The network's members actively engaged in a series of events, showcasing their culinary creations to a wider audience. They were invited by Cashel Palace to participate in an event at the Fethard Horse Country Experience, delighting international guests with their exquisite artisan foods.



network showcased the county's exceptional food and tourism offerings to a large audience. The network has many new ideas and events planned for 2024.



In September, the network collaborated with the Tipperary Local Enterprise Office to organize a photography workshop, empowering members to capture professional-looking images of their products using their smartphones.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE TIPPERARY - IMPACT 2023

The Local Enterprise office Tipperary is the first stop shop for entrepreneurs and small businesses, providing a range of supports including financial, mentoring, training and sector specific expertise to help guide businesses at any stage of their development. Other key initiatives to foster entrepreneurship across the county include Local Enterprise Week, National Women's Enterprise Day, the Student Enterprise Programme, Cluster Networking and the National Enterprise Awards.



The network's involvement in the GIFTED fair at the RDS marked the culmination of a remarkable year. Partnering with Tipperary Tourism, the



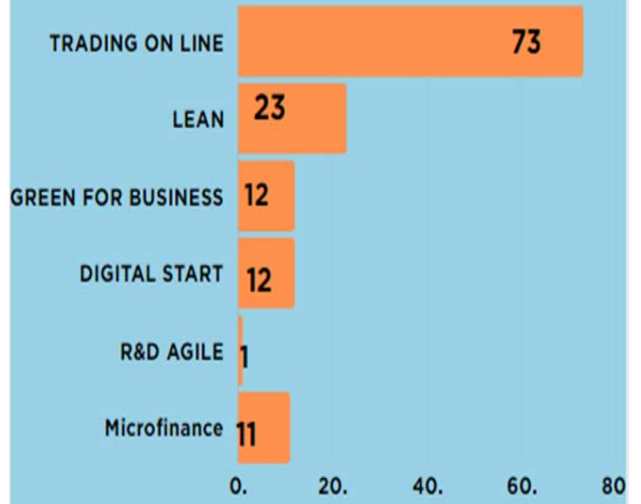
**Total 2023
M1 Grants
37
approved
€717,854**



**49
potential
new jobs to
be created
in Tipperary**

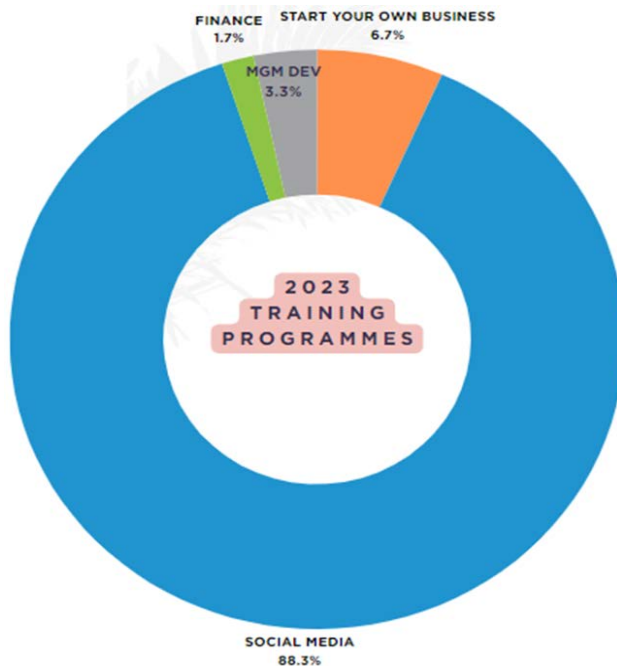


OTHER SUPPORTS



TRAINING AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPANTS





Economic Development and Enterprise SPC

Ballingarrane ABS Update

Tipperary County Council and the IDA have engaged RPS Group, as the lead Consultant to manage a multi-disciplinary consultancy team and to prepare a planning application for a 100,000 sq ft Advanced Building Solution (ABS) in Precinct 3 in Ballingarrane Business and Technology Estate Park, Ballingarrane, Clonmel. The design will allow for all associated infrastructure including car parking, site services, landscaping and related works with additional lands adjoining the site to offer opportunities for expansion. The building will be designed to achieve LEED CS accreditation and NZEB compliance and will consist of approximately 70,000 sq ft production/light industrial space with a parapet height of approx.

14m. The design intent for the ancillary office space, which is proposed over two floors has a proposed level of finish as follows: raised access floors, suspended ceilings, lighting, heating, air conditioning, finished toilets and common areas. The design also allows for full serviceability of the Ballingarrane Estate which includes ESB power requirements, Wastewater treatment and water provision.

The design is well in progress and it is expected Planning will be lodged in Q2 of 2024. Below is a concept model of what the proposed building will look like.

Please visit <https://pratum.ie/> for further details on the projects and other projects in Ballingarrane Estate.



A flyover video is included in the website. Shortcut is on the following link:

<https://vimeo.com/892175398/88f35ac183?share=copy>

TCC Bioeconomy Developments:

TCC were represented at the launch of National Bioeconomy Week in October at the Southern Regional Assembly in Waterford by Elaine Cullinan, who took part in a panel discussion, giving the TCC perspective on a Local Authorities role in the development of the Bioeconomy.



Two projects are currently underway at the National Bioeconomy Campus and wider decarbonised zone- Revive Environmental have commenced construction of a 40,000 sq.ft. building at the entrance of the campus and Naringtech has the steel and cladding structure complete on the first phase of their project in Derryvale. Photo below.



The Tipperary kick off meeting of RuralBioUp took place in mid November in the Horse and Jockey, starting with a tour of the National Bioeconomy Campus in Lisheen. TCC were represented at this meeting by Elaine Cullinan Economic Development, Mary Ryan LEO and Clare Lee, Climate Action Co-ordinator.



[Rural BioUp](#) is a three-year Horizon funded project to help rural areas adopt biobased solutions to make the primary production sector more sustainable. The project will do this using three main aims:

1. **One-Stop-Shop:** This online tool will provide information on previous EU projects to give information on biobased solutions including Technology, Business Models, and Financial Support.
2. **Regional Hubs:** Nine regional hubs have been established in Rural regions throughout Europe. These are 30-person multi-factor stakeholders hubs to give input in

creating an Action Plan for the region. IBF is responsible for the Hub in Ireland which will focus on the Midlands region.

3. **Empower Regions:** The project will provide coaching, training activities as Study Visits, and Networking events to provide further practical information to the regions.

Irish Bioeconomy Foundation is responsible for the Regional Hub in Ireland which will be focussed on the Midlands/Midwest region.

Tipperary County Council is the Regional Hub Contact Point in Ireland.

The role of the Hub Contact Point is to be a representative of the region and provide local knowledge as well as help organise events and encourage stakeholder engagement during the meeting.

Romania Workshop

Elaine Cullinan participated in a full week workshop in Iasi, Romania in mid November, representing Tipperary as the contact hub point for Ireland based out of Lisheen. These EU meetings and best practise sharing will form an important part of what happens in the National Bioeconomy Campus in Lisheen over the next decade.

Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme



The Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme was developed to help restore vibrancy and vitality to towns and villages. Tipperary County Council developed this mechanism to directly address the issue of vacant retail units. The scheme targets both a reduction in the number of vacant retail units and the stimulation of a differing and engaging retail mix and experience in towns and villages across the county. The scheme limits the financial risk associated with the establishment of a new business thus assisting in providing an entry point to entrepreneurs wishing to start up.

This scheme adds significantly to the retail infrastructure in towns and villages by creating support for the provision of a more varied, vibrant, and exciting offering.

Subsequent increases in footfall will assist in the restoration of town and village vitality and provide a positive economic impact.

Over 40 applications have been successfully processed to date under the current Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme. Of these, 19 were

processed in full for the commercial rates period of 2023.

There are an additional 13 applications being processed relating to the 2023 period at this time. The scheme has supported start-up businesses in a wide range of areas including Phone Shops, Beauty Consultants, Cafés, Motor Trade, Health Sector, Bathroom Providers, Fitness, Print, Food, Crafts, and Flexible Office Space.

For the 2023 period, 8 business were in the Prime Retail Areas across the County, 7 were in the Town Centre or Village Centre Areas and 4 were in the wider areas of the County.

One additional benefit of the scheme is that the applicants, in the main, use the grant fund towards their rates of the following year and this further assists in the reduction on costs for the business in that financial year.

Promotion of the scheme is continuing through a number of different channels. Direct marketing via mail-shot with Auctioneers, Solicitors and Accountancy practices in the County results in the details of the scheme being provided at the point of purchase/sale or when committing to starting up a new business and registering the company with their accountant.

Direct promotion to the public continued on local radio stations at times when people are travelling to and from their place of business - *Tipp FM's Traffic and Travel with Tipperary County Council: Are you a new business based in a previously vacant*

premises? Check tipperarycoco.ie to see if you are eligible for a grant under the Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme.



On Local papers adverts were taken out in full colour to remind people of the availability of the grant and reminders are posted on social media on the Shop Local Tipperary Channels.

Shop Local Tipperary



Tipperary County Council is critically aware of the value of the Retail sector to the county and the importance placed on this is reflected in the provision of a strong Shop Local Tipperary Social Media campaign throughout the year by the council.


The Retail sector is the biggest employer in the county and Tipperary County Council's 'Shop Local Tipperary' online social media campaign continues to provide promotions that remind all citizens, people in the county, and further afield, of the value and services provided locally by our retail sector. The platform is also used by retail businesses themselves to promote their offerings and reach a large number of people on our social media pages.

Of course, with some great prizes



people who enter our competitions benefit if they are lucky to win a voucher for a Tipperary shop of their choice – and those that enter help us by pushing out, to their friends and followers, the message of Shop Local Tipperary. The target audience of Shop Local Tipperary posts are people living in Tipperary and we seek to continually remind them of the variety of businesses right on their doorstep and how important it is to keep those business going by shopping locally.

We use 'organic' social media reach which is best for building long-term relationships and trust with your audience – 'organic reach' refers to the number of people or unique users who see a post on a social media platform or page which is not paid for or not as a result of an advertisement by the social media provider. This 'organic reach' means that people that view our pages and competitions are in a position to purchase from the business in their local community any day of the week because they live near some of the businesses within their locality or community.

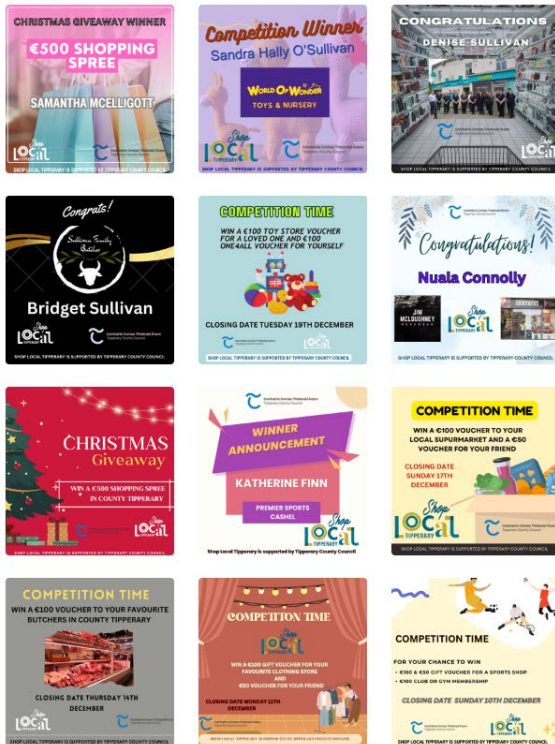
 Facebook
followers

2,274

 Instagram
followers

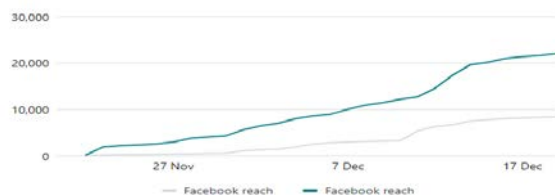
1,920

Our Shop Local Tipperary Christmas 2023 campaign reached over 40,000 people who viewed and interacted with our posts. Along with this, each of those that interacted with our competitions shared with at least one person on their friend list and named a shop in County Tipperary that was a favourite of theirs (under several different themes – Butchers, Sports Shop, Clothes Shop, Local supermarket and toy shop).



Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Community Groups, Farmers Markets, Craft Markets or those involved in the Craft Sector under the Christmas Retail Support Programme. The grant scheme targeted the provision of support for towns and villages to implement strategies designed to enable increased spending or retaining spend in Tipperary' towns and villages over the Christmas period.

This platform provides a great way to keep the shops and businesses in County Tipperary to the fore with the many users of Facebook and Instagram in our county and society today.



Year on Year we have seen phenomenal growth in our campaigns and we will continue to promote and support this important sector.

Christmas 2023 Retail Support Programme

Tipperary County Council in conjunction with the Tipperary Local Enterprise Office sought applications from Trader

Name of Group	MD Location	Name of Event	Grant Awarded
Ballygarry Community Council	Carrick-on-Suir	Christmas Wonderland Festival	€700
Carrick on Suir Business Association	Carrick-on-Suir	Christmas in Carrick on Suir	€2,500
Clonee Sports & Social Club	Carrick-on-Suir	Clonee Village Christmas Festival and Craft Fair	€350
Patrician Presentation Community Association	Carrick-on-Suir	Light Up Fethard Community Fair	€1,300
County Tipperary Chamber	Clonmel	Santa Coming to Town	€5,000
South Tipperary Arts Centre	Clonmel	Christmas Craft Showcase	€500
Ballindery Development Association	Nenagh	Christmas Market	€300
Christmas Gathering Singalong	Nenagh	Christmas Gathering Singalong	€500
Cloughjordan Community Development Association	Nenagh	Christmas Market with turning on of Christmas Lights	€1,000
Development Association (Newport) CLG	Nenagh	Newport Christmas Market	€2,000
Killoran Community Centre	Nenagh	Childrens Christmas Party	€300
Nenagh Country Market Ltd	Nenagh	Nenagh Country Market weekly Christmas Markets	€400
Nenagh Tourist Office & Visitor Centre	Nenagh	Christmas at the Castle	€2,800
Rathcabbin Development Association	Nenagh	Rathcabbin Lights Up 2023	€500
Millennium Family Resource Centre CLG	Thurles	Glengoole Christmas Festival	€500
Roscrea Chamber of Commerce	Thurles	Christmas Shopping Festival - 12 Days of Christmas	€2,500
Templmore Community Development Association (TCDA)	Thurles	Nollag le Chéile - Christmas Together	€2,500
The Source Arts Centre	Thurles	The Source Arts Annual Christmas Piyama Party	€400
Thurles Christmas Skyfest	Thurles	Thurles Christmas Skyfest	€2,800
Thurles Farmers Market	Thurles	Christmas at Thurles Farmers Market	€500
Tipperary Heatland Voluntary Tourism Group	Thurles	Santa's Grotto - Thurles	€2,800
Taste of Christmas	Thurles	Taste of Christmas	€2,500
Thurles Chamber of Commerce	Thurles	Thurles Shop Local for Christmas 2023	€2,800
Annacary Donohill Active Retirement Association	Tipperary	Christmas Bonanza	€500
Ardfinnan Community Council	Tipperary	Ardfinnan Community Christmas Festival	€1,000
Burncourt Community Council CLG	Tipperary	Christmas Thank You	€500
Cahir Development Association CLG / Cahir Tidy Towns	Tipperary	Christmas Retail Programme	€2,500
Monard Community Hall	Tipperary	Monard Christmas Community Fair	€500
St. Paul's Community Hall Clg	Tipperary	Christmas 2023 Events	€1,000
The Rhododendron Walking Festival	Tipperary	Winter Solstice Walk	€1,000
Tipperary Excel Heritage	Tipperary	Christmas PJ Movie	€400
Tipperary Town Revitalisation	Tipperary	Christmas in Tipperary Town	€2,500
Newcastle Tidy Towns	Tipperary	Christmas in New Castle	€700
Ballylooby	Tipperary	Christmas Market and Tractor Run	€300
			€46,250

The grantees were awarded funding to be spent on activities including advertising, promotions, street entertainment or other expenses for their Christmas events.

There was a wide range of activities hosted in the run up to Christmas and many of these activities may not have been held if it were not for the funding

provided by Tipperary County Council. These included Markets, Santa Parades, Pyjama Parties, Tractor Runs, and Craft Markets.



Clonmel MD had 2 applications, Carrick-on-Suir MD had 4 applications, Nenagh MD had 8 applications, Thurles MD had 9 applications of which 1 was refused as it was a community event rather than a retail support event, and Tipperary MD had 11 applications of which 2 were refused as they were more of a social event than a retail support event.



What a great atmosphere on the streets of Clonmel yesterday for the Christmas Santa event! A special thanks to the organisers at Tipperary County Council/Clonmel Borough District for a lovely day out 🎅🌨️



CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Strategies/Policies/Plans

Policy/Strategic Issues	Status
Audit Committee Work Prog	Completed
SPC Scheme	Completed
Corporate Plan 2020-2024	Completed
Communication Strategy	Completed
Social Media Policy & Protocol	Completed
Property Asset Management Strategy	Completed
Records Management Polices/Procedures	Completed
GDPR & Data Protection Policies / Procedures	Completed
Annual Service Delivery Plan 2024	At Draft Stage
Annual Report 2023	At Draft Stage
Associated Companies Governance Policy & Guidance document	At Draft Stage

Circular Letters

- LG 07/2023 dated 15th December 2023 re Domestic Subsistence rates for Elected Members;
- Letter dated 21st December 2023 re Allowances and Expenses of Elected Members;

Audit Committee

The last Audit Committee took place on 5th December 2023. The following items were discussed:

- Management Update on Outstanding Internal Audit Recommendations –

- Overtime & Fire Services Pay & Expenses;
- Management Update on Related Companies Internal Audit Report;
- Risk Register Update;
- NOAC Performance Indicator Report 2022;
- NOAC Workshop Update;
- Local Government Auditor Management Letter 2021;
- Local Government Auditor Statutory Audit Report 2022;
- Internal Audit Plan Update;
- Audit Committee Forum Feedback and Review;
- TCC Management Reports (Sept & Oct 2023);

Ethical Framework

This framework imposes a statutory duty on all in the service to maintain proper standards of integrity, conduct and concern for the public interest.

Annual Declaration

- **29th February 2024 deadline for the submission of Annual Declarations by elected members.**

Under Section 171 of the 2001 Act, every member must prepare and furnish to the Ethics Registrar before the end of February, an Annual Declaration in writing containing particulars of his or her declarable interests and an undertaking that he/she has read and understood the Code of Conduct for Councillors and to have regard to and be guided by the code in the exercise of his or her functions.

Political Donations by Elected Members

- **31 January 2024 deadline for the reporting of political donations by elected members**

Each person who, in the preceding year, was a member of a local authority is required, under section 19E of the *Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act 1999* (as amended) (referred to hereafter as “the 1999 Act”) to furnish to their local authority, not later than 31 January, a donation statement indicating whether during the preceding calendar year the member received from the same person, a donation exceeding €600 in value. This provision applies to each person who was a member of a local authority in 2023.

Furthermore, a member of a local authority who receives, in any particular year, a monetary donation of more than €100 must open and maintain an account in a financial institution in the State and must lodge that donation and any further monetary donations received, of whatever value, to that account (referred to as a political donation account).

- ❑ Letter to Duplicate electors re name/DOB (1220) - 31st October 2023

Not later than 31 January in each year, a member of the local authority who was required to open a political donations account must furnish to the local authority, along with their donation statement, a statement provided by the financial institution where the political donations account was opened (under section 19D of the 1999 Act).

Electoral Register Update

Following enactment of the Electoral Reform Act 2022, at the start of Q2 2023, as part of a sector-wide initiative, Tipperary County Council was awarded a grant of €55,234 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

This grant has been spent in full.

The following sets out what our Team have been doing during 2023 with this grant, to progress a complete and accurate register, and the related impacts from these activities.

- ❑ TCC Leaflet Drop to every household – 4th Sept 2023
- ❑ Ploughing Championships Awareness Stand – 20th Sept 2023
- ❑ TCC Social Media Meta Advertising Campaign (Facebook & Twitter) - Oct 2023
- ❑ Letter to each elector in Carrick-on-Suir LEA – 11,653 electors – Q4 2023
- ❑ Translation of iReg to Irish

Position at end of 2023 – Total Electorate – 128,481

Increases Dec 2022 – Nov 2023			
Datapoint	Nos. increase	Improvement in % % terms from numbers	% Current
Total Electorate with DOB populated	+948	1%	75%
Total Electorate with EIRCODE populated	+2,703	5%	42%
Total Electorate with email address populated	+3,755	252%	4%
Total Electorate with contact number populated	+3,514	294%	4%
Total Electorate with DOB & Eircode	+2,981	7%	34%
Total Electorate with PPSN	+4,531	303%	5%

A busy electoral period ahead...

- March 2024
 - *Referendums – 8 March*
 - Women in the home
 - The constitutional description of the family
- June (6-9 tbc)
 - *European Parliament elections*
 - *Local elections*
- General Election to be held before end March 2025;
- Presidential Election to be held before end November 2025
- **Legislative Provisions – as soon as practicable after the 14th day before polling date at an election or referendum**
 - ✓ Publish the register
 - ✓ Publish a list of names added to the register since the date of making the polling date order in respect of that election or referendum;
- Register and balancing list – The register in force is the one published after the closing date - this will be the first cut combined with the remainder (the balancing list)



Time lines - Key dates

Event	Polling day	Last day for applications	Last day for appeals	Last day for PV/SV	Last day for PV/SV appeals
Referendums	8 March	Tues 20 Feb (applications received on or after 21 st shall have no effect)	Tbc (County registrar)	11 February (Su) Applications received on/from Monday will have no effect	13 Feb or after
European Parliament elections	6-9 June (end December for indicative)	19 May/20 May/21 May/22 May	Tbc (County registrar)	22 days before poll	Closing +2 days
Local Elections	6-9 June	19 May /20 May/21 May/22 May	Tbc (County registrar)	22 days before poll	Closing +2 days

Annual Report

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

Work has commenced on the collation and drafting of the Annual Report for 2023 and a draft of the report will be submitted to the Council at its April meeting.

Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP)

The Annual Service Delivery Plan for 2024 is currently being drafted and will be submitted for the consideration of the Council at the April meeting of the Council following notification of Road grant allocations for the year ahead. This plan will be consistent with the budgetary provisions estimated to be necessary for the Council to carry out its functions during 2024. The adoption of the plan is a reserved function of the Council;



Insurance Management

Period to 31st December 2023

- Pothole Claims = 156
- Public Liability Claims = 41
- Total = 197

Graduate.ie Youth Engagement Programme

Tipperary County Council is partaking in the 2024 [Graduate.ie](https://graduate.ie) youth engagement programme, which will allow the Council to set 20 questions about the various topics which are relevant to its local authority e.g. democracy & participation, environment & waste management, library service, etc. The questions will be available to all secondary school students in Co Tipperary over a 20 week period i.e.

one question each week on the [Graduate.ie](https://graduate.ie) website. At least one student from Tipperary Co Council electoral area will win a free 4-day educational trip to Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg. There will be a total of 24 students from Ireland travelling and they will be taking part in a youth parliament (Euroscola) at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. This is a unique and very effective way to engage and inform the next generation of potential leaders, customers, voters, politicians, workers, etc.

Miss Emma Torpey, Borrisokane Community College won the citizens and democracy programme run by graduate.ie and sponsored by Tipperary County Council in 2023 and travelled to the European Parliament in Brussels/Strasbourg in November 2023

Communications

The Communications team communicates and promotes Council activities and services and raises public awareness of matters of local and national interest

Press Releases issued January – December include: -

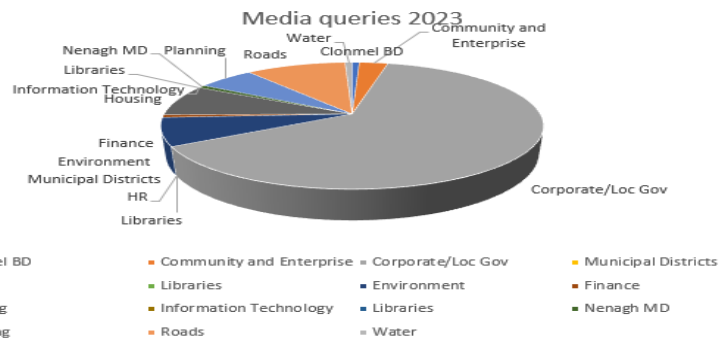
Date	Subject
06/01/2023	Damage to ring buoys River Ara Tipperary
11/01/2023	LEO Tipperary 2022 Jobs results
24/01/2023	Press Release- N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction update
10/02/2023	Local Enterprise week
17/02/2023	Official opening of Glenconnor Close, Clonmel
20/02/2023	Official opening of housing schemes around Tipperary
20/02/2023	Official opening of Kickham Barracks Clonmel
23/02/2023	County Student Enterprise awards
01/03/2023	Town Centre First Roscrea
06/03/2023	Student enterprise
27/03/2023	LEO Showcase post exhibition
14/04/2023	C-Pens - Library Service
20/04/2023	National Enterprise awards
27/04/2023	Social Stories - Library Service
09/05/2023	Student Enterprise winners
10/05/2023	Citizen Science Kit - Library Service
16/05/2023	Garda Station - Kickham Barracks
17/05/2023	Roscrea Town Centre First Masterplan
18/05/2023	Women in politics
19/05/2023	EU debate post event
19/05/2023	Student Enterprise awards All Ireland
27/05/2023	Carving Limb of view - Thurles library
06/06/2023	Press Release - Industrial Action Fire Services
30/06/2023	Press Release - Tipperary Students recognised as Future STEM Leaders at Microsoft Ireland's Inaugural Microsoft Dream Space Showcase (BCP Broadband Connection Points)
04/07/2023	Press Release - Summer Book Bus
17/07/2023	Press release Basse-Goulaine Twinning
28/07/2023	Press release retained firefighters
28/07/2023	Press release Unite industrial action
02/08/2023	Press release litter campaign
18/08/2023	Press release Storm Betty
22/08/2023	Press release Algal Bloom Lough Derg
25/08/2023	Press release Nenagh's pride of place
05/09/2023	Press release enterprise exhibition ploughing



06/09/2023	Press release Heritage Week Nenagh Cult O
08/09/2023	Press release Glen of Aherlow - tourism
27/09/2023	Press Release Storm Agnes
11/10/2023	Press Release Nenagh MD tidy towns
18/10/2023	Press Release new library website
24/10/2023	Press Release lunchbag expansion Nenagh
25/10/2023	Press Release Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan
27/10/2023	Press Release LEO - National Women's Enterprise Day
06/11/2023	Press Release vacant property information evening Roscrea
06/11/2023	Press Release Vacant properties information evening Clonmel
08/11/2023	Press Release Register of Electors campaign
13/11/2023	Press Release Storm Debi
17/11/2023	Press Release Nenagh Pride of Place
24/11/2023	Press Release Carrick on Suir Tidy Towns Awards
07/12/2023	Press Release Funeral Shane MacGowan

Media queries received January – December

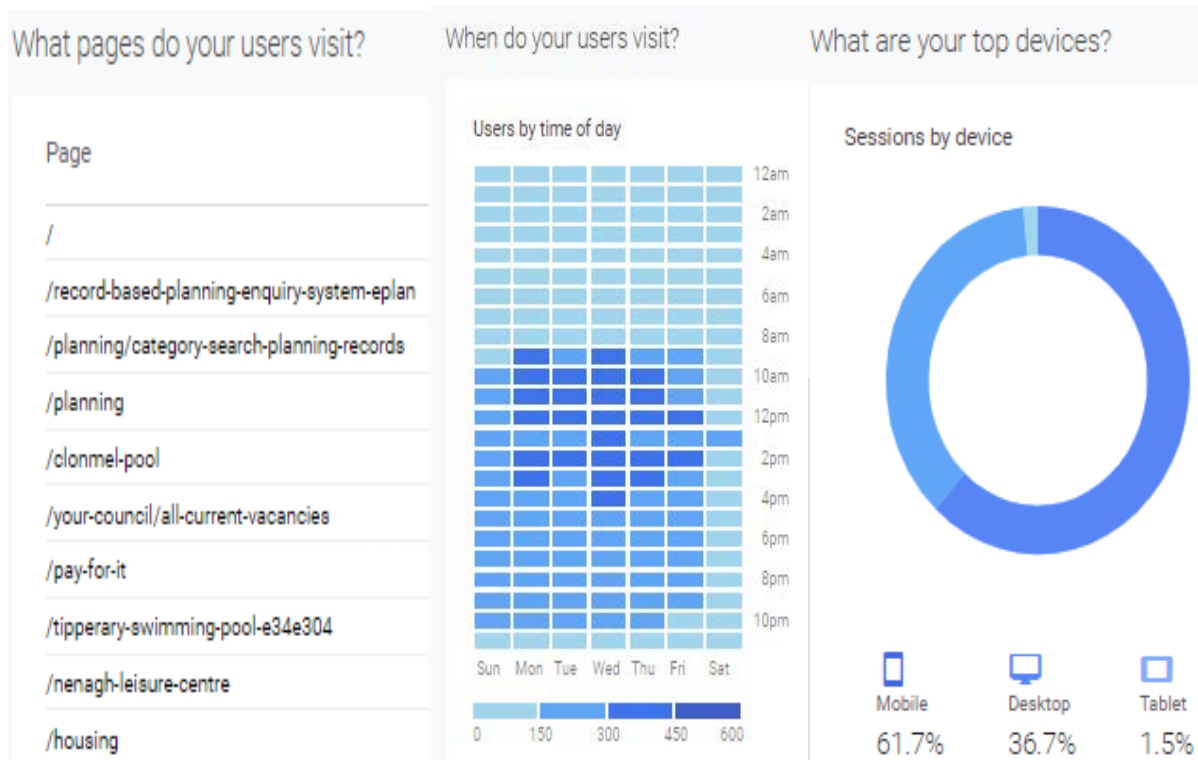
Section	Total
Clonmel BD	1
Community and Enterprise	4
Corporate/Loc Gov	88
Municipal Districts	0
HR	0
Libraries	0
Environment	10
Finance	1
Housing	11
Information Technology	0
Libraries	0
Nenagh MD	1
Planning	8
Roads	14
Water	1
TOTAL	139



Digital and Social Media

The communications team monitors and updates social media channels with creative content to enhance engagement with the public and maintain awareness of the work of the Council.

Website





FACEBOOK

1/1/2023-31/12/2023



and
Instagram

Facebook reach ⓘ

195,443 ↓ 3.2%

Instagram reach ⓘ

22,121 ↑ 100%

Visits

Facebook visits ⓘ

44,416 ↑ 6%

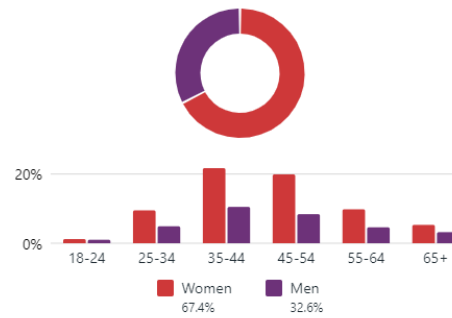
Instagram profile visits ⓘ

494 ↑ 100%

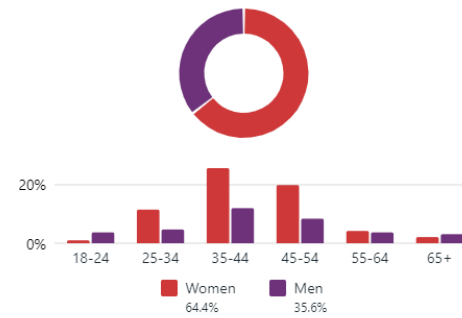


Followers

Age & gender ⓘ



Age & gender ⓘ





<h3>January</h3> <p>Jan 2023 - 31 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 1,711 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 141 engagements pic.twitter.com/R2iOELUzq</p> <p>Top Follower followed by 4,379 people pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 522 impressions pic.twitter.com/WUUTz61YtK</p>	<h3>February</h3> <p>Feb 2023 - 28 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 7,833 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 375 engagements pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 802 impressions pic.twitter.com/WUUTz61YtK</p> <p>Top Follower followed by 12,700 people pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p>	<h3>March</h3> <p>Mar 2023 - 31 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 714 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 561 engagements pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 793 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p>
<h3>April</h3> <p>Apr 2023 - 30 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 836 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 245 engagements pic.twitter.com/R2iOELUzq</p> <p>Top Follower followed by 4,379 people pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 522 impressions pic.twitter.com/WUUTz61YtK</p>	<h3>May</h3> <p>May 2023 - 31 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 791 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 348 engagements pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 509 impressions pic.twitter.com/WUUTz61YtK</p>	<h3>June</h3> <p>Jun 2023 - 30 days</p> <p>Top Tweet earned 714 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top mention earned 561 engagements pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p> <p>Top media Tweet earned 793 impressions pic.twitter.com/10qFVCKWwG</p>




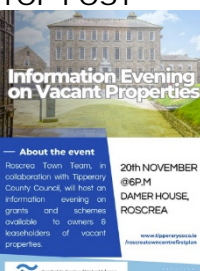
Bin it... Don't Fling it!

Shame on you, if you are responsible for this.....

Dispose of your litter & Waste properly or face a FINE of €150 or up to €3,000 in COURT

Keep Tipp Tidy
[www.tipperarycoco.ie](#)



July	August	September								
<p>July</p>  <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo Shannon Estuary economic and environmental transformation for Ireland & Europe was emphatically endorsed @LeoVaradkar @NormaFoleyTD1 @EamonRyan @NormaFoleyTD1 at the estuary taskforce report launch. #SEETF #ShannonEstuary #RenewableEnergy https://www.tipperary.ie/government/publications/publication-files/shannon-estuary-economic-taskforce-report.pdf pic.twitter.com/hzmpJfVME</p>  <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo Free recycling for Mattresses at 6 Civic Amenity Sites will run from Tuesday 25-Thursday 27 July. Note: A maximum of 3 mattresses per household will apply. pic.twitter.com/GU4bc7fHl</p>	<p>August</p> <p>Tweets Top Tweets Tweets and replies Promoted Impressions</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Aug 30 L-5313 Ballinree, Cashel, Co. Tipperary is closed until further notice : L-5313 Ballinree, Cashel, Co. Tipperary is closed until further notice due to a... tipperarycooco.ie/roads-and-tran... Wed, 30/08/2023 - 12:00 #Tipperary View Tweet activity</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Aug 30 Temporary Traffic Management on the R-878 Mountain Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary; Temporary Traffic Management on the R-878 Mountain Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary... tipperarycooco.ie/roads-and-tran... Wed, 30/08/2023 - 12:00 #Tipperary View Tweet activity</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Aug 30 Fethard Town Park nominated for Pride of Place Awards 2023. Fethard Town Park nomination for Pride of Place Awards 2023 Fethard Town Park... tipperarycooco.ie/community/comm... Wed, 30/08/2023 - 12:00 #Tipperary View Tweet activity</p>	<p>September</p> <p>Tweets Top Tweets Tweets and replies Promoted Impressions</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Sep 26 We would very much welcome your input in the Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP) 2024 – 2029 consultation process. Full details on the process, to view the Draft LACAP and associated documents and how you can make a submission link: consultations.tipperarycooco.ie pic.twitter.com/E62n5VEaZC View Tweet activity</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Sep 26 FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day today in Roscrea Recycling Centre, Old Dublin Road, Roscrea from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 pm. pic.twitter.com/2V5H6naW6D View Tweet activity</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Sep 26 FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day today in Clonmel Recycling Centre, Camogie Business Park, Clonmel on Thursday, 28/09/2023 from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. pic.twitter.com/pH0n5M595 View Tweet activity</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Sep 26 Ulster Eirann has a text alert service designed to provide important updates about water supply to business customers #Tipperary. Go online to Ulster Eirann website and fill in the text alert form under 'business update'. You will need mobile phone number and account details. View Tweet activity</p>								
<p>October</p>  <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo pic.twitter.com/vN2eW1VJ</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Impressions</td><td>240</td></tr> <tr><td>Total engagements</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>Detail expands</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Likes</td><td>1</td></tr> </table> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo · Oct 31 #ClimateAction #Tipperary #SEAI pic.twitter.com/qsnwOuy5 View Tweet activity</p>	Impressions	240	Total engagements	5	Detail expands	4	Likes	1	<p>November</p> <p>TOP POST</p>  <p>Information Evening on Vacant Properties</p> <p>About the event Roscrea Town Team, in collaboration with Tipperary County Council, will host an information evening on grants and schemes available to owners & leaseholders of vacant properties.</p> <p>20th NOVEMBER @6PM DAMER HOUSE, ROSCREA www.tipperarycoco.ie #RoscreaTownTeam</p>	<p>December</p> <p>TOP POST</p> <p>Tipperary County Council @TipperaryCoCo Traffic Management Arrangements in Nenagh on 8th December for the funeral of the late Shane MacGowan. The funeral mass of Shane MacGowan will take place at St Mary's of the Rosary... https://buff.ly/41dxAXn #Tipperary</p>
Impressions	240									
Total engagements	5									
Detail expands	4									
Likes	1									

Achievements October - December 2023

<p>Sports Partnership</p>	<p>LAWPRO</p>	<p>Thurles MD EV charging points Slievenamon Car Park</p>
<p>Environment and Climate Action Climate Action course</p>	<p>LEO</p>	<p>Art Office</p>
<p>Tipperary Libraries Children's book festival</p>	<p>Fire and Rescue Services Major Emergency exercise</p>	<p>Planning Roscrea Local Area Plan</p>
<p>Nenagh MD Newport Town Park</p>	<p>Town Centre First Roscrea</p>	<p>LEO Tipperary</p>
<p>Arts Office</p>	<p>Fire and Rescue New recruits in newly enhanced Burn House</p>	<p>Vacant Properties meeting Roscrea and Clonmel</p>

TIPPERARY YOUTH ARTS HUB EVENT
For youth workers, youth arts practitioners & artists

STORY EXCHANGE

Explore the magic of story, art and relationships with artist Nathalie El Baba

DATE: Tues, Nov 21
TIME: 8.30 - 1.30
VENUE: Azmer Hotel, Thurles

To book your free place, visit:
<https://tipperary-youth-arts-hub-2024.eventbrite.ie>

NSCI



**Planning and Development
Built Heritage
Investment Scheme and
the Historic Structures
Fund**



**Tipperary Tourism in
the RDS**



**LAWPro
Ruth Hennessy at the
Duhallow Blue Dot End
of Project Conference**



**Tipperary Arts grant
scheme open until 12
noon 14 February 2024**



Sports Partnership

**Tipperary Sports
PARTNERSHIP**
SPORT ILLINOIS

**Park Runs
Tipperary**

Borrisokane Town Park
Clonmel Templemore
Fethard Town Park
Knockanacree Woods

Free timed run each Saturday at 9.30am

Communications focus

Summary of some items

PLANNED for promotion

January – March 2024

Month	Event	Messaging suggestions	Section
January	Free Natural Christmas Tree Recycling	It's free to dispose of your Christmas tree thanks to local authority bring centres	Environment and Climate Action
	Operation Transformation programme	Want to get active this winter? Have a look at local authority sports and recreation opportunities in your area.	Community and Enterprise Sports Partnership
February	St Brigid's Day (Feb 1) and Bank Holiday (Feb 5)	Local community and library events Bank holiday an opportunity to promote local recreation and amenity sites	Community and Enterprise Libraries
	Ireland Reads campaign (throughout February and Ireland Reads Day February 25)	Opportunity for libraries and local authorities to highlight services and collections.	Libraries
March	Seachtain na Gaeilge (1-17 March)	Highlight events planned and opportunity to profile Irish Language services and officer. Potential to create content in Irish during the week.	Libraries and Cultural Services
	World Book Day (March 7)	Showcase library events planned for World Book Day and benefits of reading	Libraries
	World Wildlife Day (March 3)	Showcase local authority policies and action on biodiversity, climate, environment.	Environment and Climate Action



	STEPS Engineers Week (2-8 March)	STEPS Engineers week gives children the opportunity to discover engineering. Potential to profile engineers in your local authority and / or engineering work projects. Events may be planned at local libraries	Libraries
	Local Enterprise Week (March 4-9 TBC)	Highlight and showcase events run by LEOs and LEO and local authority supports for business	Community and Enterprise LEO
	St. Patricks Day (March 17)	Showcase festival events planned in the area	Municipal Districts

Month	Title
January	Natural tree Christmas Tree Recycling
January	Library Showcase
January	Operation Transformation Walks
January	Promoting Tipperary as a holiday destination
January	LIS Scheme
January	Job change/start your own business
January	Community groups - grant applications
January	Community Smoke Alarms
January	Membership Scheme for Tipperary Tourism
January	Hedgecutting Reminder
January	Tipperary Active Travel
February	Road allocations
February	Responding to Climate Change
February	Ireland Reads
February	Spring clean
February	Libraries - Aoitias adult learning
February	Smoke Alarms and checking on neighbours
March	Seachtain na Gaeilge
March	Enterprise week
March	St Patrick's Day festivities
March	Tree month
March	Fire safety and awareness Primary Schools Programme

Customer Service Desk activity

Comparison year end 2020 to 2023

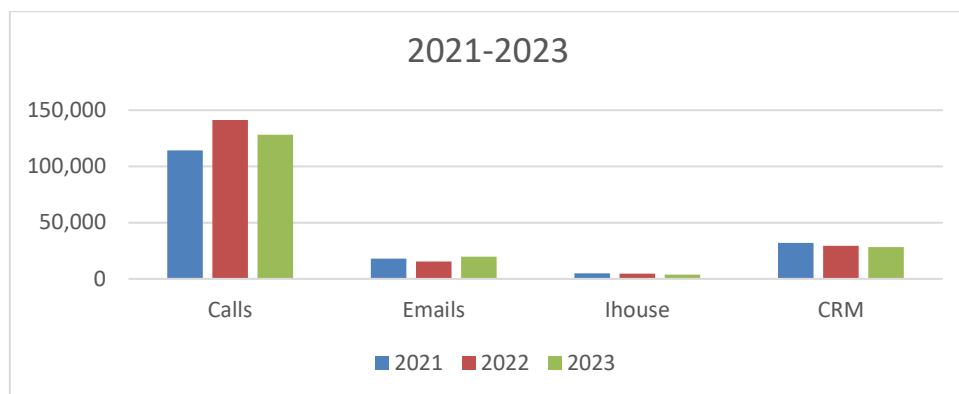
CSD staff also utilise the following systems for logging and looking up customer queries:

- CRM – customer relationship management
- Anti-Social Behaviour Log
- Environmental complaints register
- Fix your street
- NVDF system (motor tax)
- Ihouse

Customer Service activity – CSD staff

2021-2023

	Calls	Emails	Ihouse	CRM
2021	114,236	18,099	4,920	31,865
2022	141,331	15,607	4,540	29,408
2023	128,226	19,846	3,862	28,364



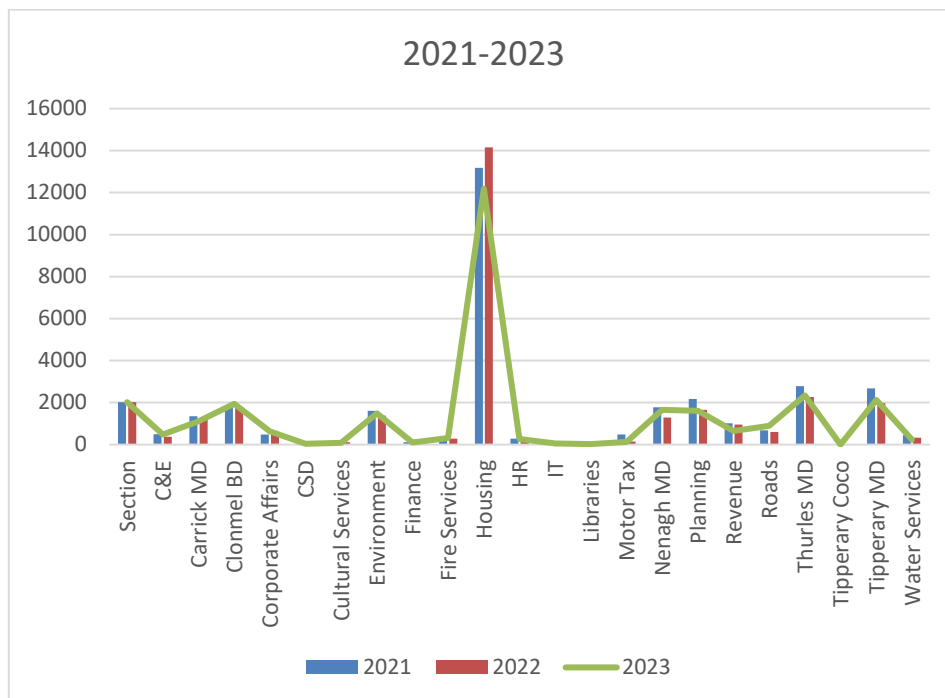
CRM – Customer Relations Management System

2021-2023 – all cases

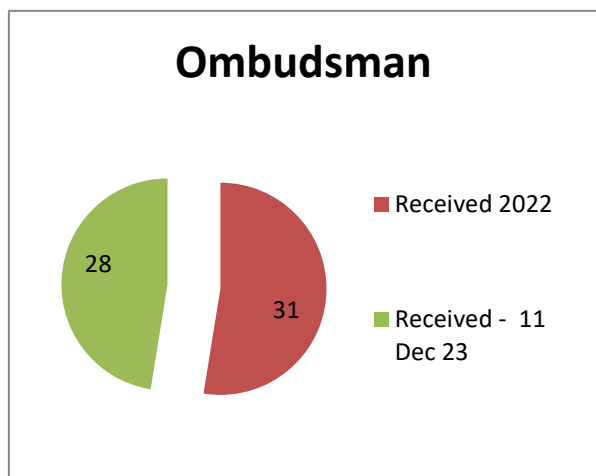
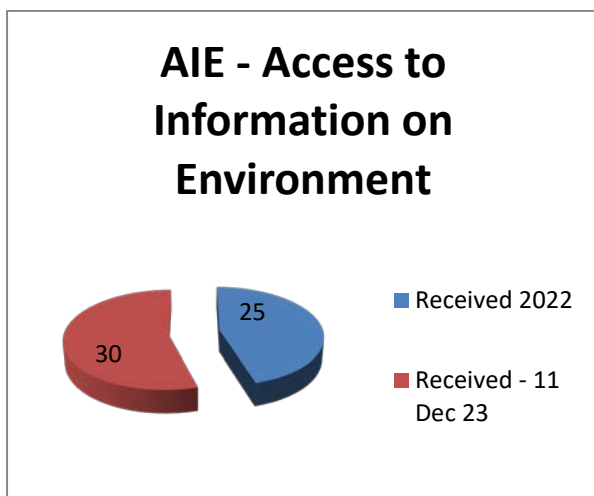
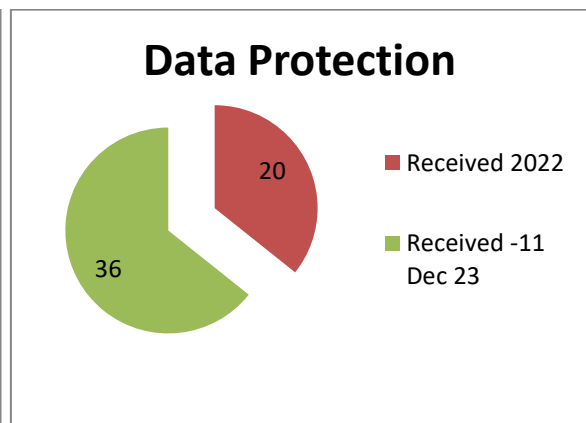
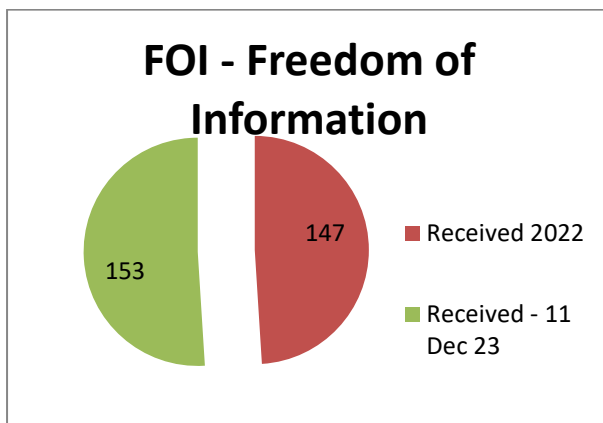
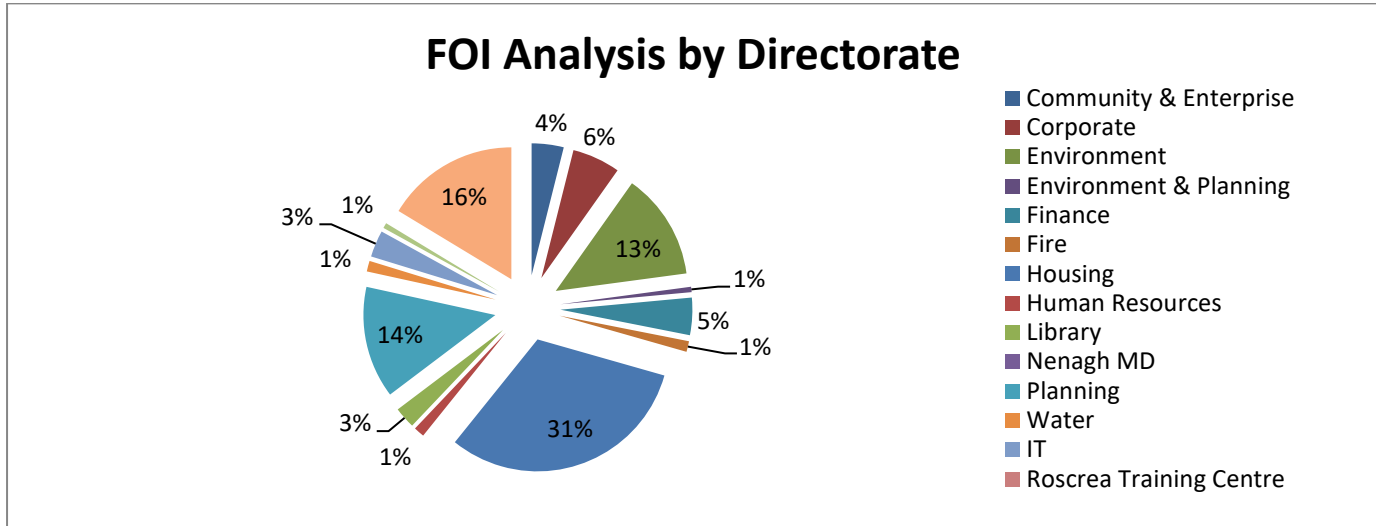
Section	2021	2022	2023
C&E	495	371	474
Carrick MD	1350	1190	1107
Clonmel BD	1843	1730	1941
Corporate Affairs	473	502	630
CSD	15	13	40
Cultural Services	100	121	89



Section	2021	2022	2023
Environment	1613	1374	1484
Finance	113	111	106
Fire Services	280	275	317
Housing	13176	14148	12186
HR	286	249	263
IT	76	80	57
Libraries	24	25	25
Motor Tax	473	141	123
Nenagh MD	1778	1296	1659
Planning	2167	1648	1612
Revenue	1007	950	654
Roads	674	606	892
Thurles MD	2790	2258	2344
Tipperary Coco	0	3	0
Tipperary MD	2683	1982	2126
Water Services	449	335	235
TOTAL	31865	29408	28364



Information Management



Property Management

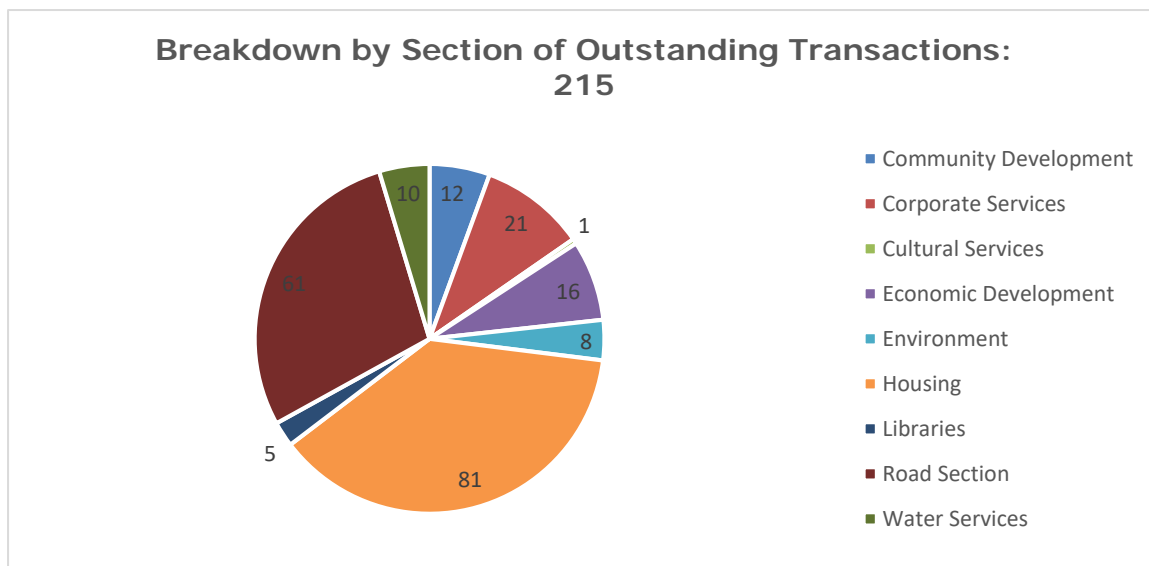
Property Unit, Corporate Services are responsible for management of Property Related Enquiries, i.e. acquisitions, disposals and the letting of lands or buildings by or to Tipperary County Council.

Property Transaction Comparision of Year 2020 to 2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Balance B/F	264	260	204	205
New Transactions	136	164	188	214
Resolved	140	220	187	204
Closing Balance	260	204	205	215

There was overall increase of 14% in new requests submitted in 2023 from 2022.

Active Property Transactions



Letting agreement

In 2023, Property Unit reviewed 179 agreement of letting agreement, i.e. drafted agreements for 72 annual licences and re-commenced the negotiations on 27 lease agreements and issued associated invoices, i.e., 235

Section 183 Resolution Comparision of Year 2020 to 2023

Section 183 Resolutions approved by Elected Members				
	2020	2021	2022	2023
Passed	24	30	26	69
Resolved	23	29	22	29
Outstanding	1	1	4	40

Locations of outstanding Section 183 resolutions, i.e.

1. The Mall, Templemore
2. Old Motor Tax Offices, Nenagh
3. Melview, Clonmel
4. Templemore Demesne, Templemore
5. Yewston Nenagh
6. No. 12 Heywood, Templemore
7. Main Street, Templemore
8. Nenagh Road Borrisokane
9. Wilderness, Clonmel
10. Old Bridge Clonmel
11. Curragh, Portroe
12. Nenagh Road, Borrisoleigh
13. Lisbunny Business Park, Nenagh
14. Kilballygorman, Ardfinnan
15. Gortnahoe (Boulick)
16. Erasmus Smith House, Cahir
17. Foilaclug, Kilnamanagh Upper
18. Longfordpass South, Gortnahoe
19. Borrisokane
20. Fontenoy Terrace, Thurles
21. Roscrea Business Park
22. Cormack Drive, Nenagh
23. Garrykennedy, Portroe
24. Ballingarry Lower, Thurles
25. Ballingarry Lower, Thurles
26. Brittas, Thurles
27. Galtee View, Bansha
28. Greenane Drive, Tipparary Town
29. Kilballygorman, Ardfinnan
30. Lisbunny Business Park
31. Nenagh North, Nenagh
32. Terryglass, Nenagh
33. Terryglass, Nengh
34. Tyone, Nenagh
35. No. 1 Michael Collins Row, Clonmel
36. No. 2 Michael Collins Row, Clonmel
37. No. 3 Michael Collins Row, Clonmel
38. No. 4 Michael Collins Row, Clonmel
39. No. 5 Michael Collins Row, Clonmel
40. Old Bridge, Clonmel
41. Rosegreen, Cashel
42. Marion Terrace, Clonmel
43. Longorchard, Templetuohy
44. Bulterstown, Ballyneale
45. Ballyporeen
46. Longfordpass South, Gortnahoe

There was an overall increase of 62% Section 183 notices issued to Elected Member in 2023.

Environment & Climate Action Directorate

Climate & Energy



Tipperary County Council Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029

The Climate Action Office is staffed by Clare Lee, Climate Action Coordinator, Eddie Meegan, Climate Action Officer and Marie O'Donnell, Community Climate Action Officer. In accordance with the Local Government Climate Action Charter and the National Climate Action Plan - Delivering Effective Climate Action 2030 (CCMA), the Council is required to reduce its own Green House Gas emissions by 51% and to deliver a 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030. In addition, the Council is required to advocate for, influence and co-ordinate climate action in its own policies and practices, and in its many dealings with citizens, business and communities. The Climate Action Office is supported by a new Climate Action governance structure, with a 'Climate Action Team' across all Council service areas reporting to a 'Climate Action Steering Group' at senior management level.

The Council is required no later than **24th February 2023**, to adopt a new Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP). The Tipperary LACAP will set out how the Council can deliver on climate action (Climate Mitigation and Climate Adaptation) in areas within its own remit: including local authority buildings, infrastructure, systems, operations and how the Council through its actions, will seek to influence, facilitate and advocate for climate action across the wider sectors and communities in how they achieve their own climate actions and targets.

The Draft LACAP sets out 100 ambitious actions, along with actions for the Tipperary 'Decarbonising Zone'. The Draft LACAP was published in September 2023 and submissions were invited from stakeholders and members of the public. A Report on Submissions (with proposed modifications) has been circulated to the Elected Representatives for their consideration and a workshop will be held with the Elected Members on the **1st February 2024 at 2.30pm by Zoom**. The Elected Members will be requested to adopt the Draft LACAP at the February Plenary meeting, either with or without modifications.

The Tipperary LACAP 2024 – 2029 will be in place for a period of 5 years and will be subject to regular monitoring with respect to the delivery of the actions set out therein.

Community Climate Action Fund

On the 6th December, 2023 the Community Climate Action Fund was launched, the closing date for expressions of interest is 27th February, 2024. €700,000 has been allocated to Tipperary County Council by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications for the first tranche of funding, which will run over an 18-month period. This funding is being provided to fund community climate action projects and initiatives for capacity building within local communities.

Full details including expression of interest forms, can be found at <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/climateaction/community-climate-action-fund>. Expression of Interest forms must be submitted via email only to communityfund@tipperarycoco.ie

Projects will address the following five themes:

1. Home/energy
2. Travel
3. Food and waste
4. Shopping and recycling
5. Local climate and environmental action.

Marie O'Donnell is the Community Climate Action Officer and will administer this fund.



Launch of the Community Climate Action Fund

Policy

The Environment & Climate Action Strategic Policy Committee meeting took place on Wednesday 6th December 2023, presentations were given and discussions held on the following topics;

- The Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan for Tipperary 2024-2029;
- Reaffirmation of commitment to the EU Covenant of Mayors;
- Launch of the Community Climate Action Fund;
- EPA's Local Authority Environmental Enforcement Performance Report 2022;
- Updates were given in relation to:
 - National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030;
 - Septic Tank Grants;
 - Air Monitoring Forecasting;
 - Deposit Return Scheme (“Re-turn”);
 - Separation of Waste at Collection (i.e. 3-bin system).

Public Awareness Initiatives

Picker Pals Programme

The Section is funding the Picker Pals programme in 20 classrooms through-out the County for the 2023-2024 academic year. This innovative primary school programme is run by the environmental NGO VOICE (Voice of Irish Concern for the Environment) for 1st and 2nd class primary students and aims to equip them to become the next generation of environmentalists by leading their families on local litter-picking adventures. To date, welcome zoom calls have been completed, packs have been distributed containing child-friendly litter-picking equipment and a fun filled calendar of events has been planned for the year ahead, focusing on litter picking adventures.

Green Hubs Pilot Project

The Section have been successful in securing funding from the Regional Waste Management Planning Office to participate in the Green Hub Pilot Project. The project aims to increase the participation of businesses in waste segregation practices, with support and guidance from the Regional Waste Management Office. Tipperary Town has been selected as the pilot location with a focus on assisting the hospitality sector to improve their waste segregation practices through mentoring and training, while also helping businesses to reduce their waste related costs.

Waste Reduction Initiatives

Food Waste Promotion

The Environment & Climate Action team continued to promote prevention and segregation of food waste. The team attended an information morning held by Grangemocker Tidy Towns on 25th November, where they distributed food waste caddy packs.

To mark Sustainable Development Goals Week, food waste prevention and segregation was promoted at Clonmel Library and Carrick-on-Suir Library and food waste caddy bins distributed free of charge.



Food waste caddy pack promotion for SDG week in Clonmel Library



Food waste caddy pack promotion for SDG week in Carrick-on-Suir Library



Cloth Nappy Incentive Scheme

To reduce nappy waste Tipperary County Council is working in collaboration with Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Waterford City & County Council and Limerick City & County Council, to trial a cloth nappy incentive scheme at Cork University Maternity Hospital to support families from their respective administrative areas, wishing to use cloth nappies. The Scheme is run by VOICE Ireland and families will be provided with starter bundles comprising of birth to potty cloth nappies, cloth wipes, a storage bag, as well as a fitting and a washing guide.

Applications can be made through the cloth nappy incentive scheme app. VOICE Ireland will follow up on successful applications with a survey a year later to examine the experiences of the family using the nappies and to look at how the scheme has impacted upon behaviour change. VOICE will then compile a report on the pilot scheme and will send this to participating local authorities.

Sustainable Christmas

Clare Lee and Fiona Flynn participated in Tipp FM’s “Ours to Protect” climate action radio series and spoke about enjoying a sustainable Christmas by supporting local, availing of public transport, tips for waste reduction, promotion of Tipperary County Council’s Civic Amenity sites and free Christmas tree recycling in the New Year.

The Section also held a Council staff Christmas jumper swap to help reduce textile waste and promote circularity by keeping things in use for longer. Staff members swapped adults and kids jumpers for a “new to you” jumper.



Environment & Climate Action Staff Clonmel – Christmas Jumper Swap

Burial Ground Maintenance & Tidy Town Grants 2023

Grant application forms for both schemes were issued to applicants in February 2023. The closing date for receipt of completed 2023 Burial Ground Maintenance Grants and Tidy Town Grants was the 10th March, 2023.

Municipal District	Number of Tidy Town Grants Received	Number approved – Total amount approved	Number of BG Maintenance Grants received	Number approved – Total amount approved
Clonmel BD	7	€12,135	21	€12,600
Tipp-Cahir-Cashel MD	40	€56,000	70	€58,498
Carrick on Suir MD	16 13 Tidy Town Groups	€12,000 €15,400	49	€32,600 (48 approved)
Nenagh MD	30	€56,700 €51,626 paid at 13 th Dec, awaiting submission of receipts from final applicants	66	€44,773
Thurles MD	26	€42,300	57	€39,900

Derelict Sites

As of yearend, **71** properties were on the Derelict Sites Register and the Section engaged with **54** owners in relation to remediating their properties. Up to December, **56** Section 8(2) Notices (intention to place on Derelict Sites Register) and **34** Section 8(7) Notices (placing on the Derelict Sites Register) were issued in 2023.

34 properties were added to the register and **6** properties removed from the Register in 2023

Municipal/Borough District	Number of properties engaged with in 2023 (pre-Section Notice being issued)
Tipp /Cahir/Cashel	29
Nenagh	10
Clonmel	4
Carrick-on-Suir	4
Thurles	7
Total	54

Litter Management Plan 2024 - 2026

The Litter Management Plan 2024 – 2026 was formally adopted by the Members of Tipperary County Council at the Council meeting held on the 27th October 2023.

The new Plan takes effect from the 1st January 2024 and a launch of the Litter Management Plan 2024 – 2026 will take place in January.

Veterinary Services

Horses

98 horse queries were reported to the Environment & Climate Action Section, which resulted in 45 horse pickups as of the 29th December 2023.

Dogs

A total of 260 dogs were surrendered or seized by the dog wardens as at the 30th November 2023. 19 dogs were re-homed, 154 dogs sent to Rescues and 43 dogs were reclaimed and 33 were put to sleep. The section continues to work with the animal welfare organisations in the re-homing of dogs. As at the end of November 2023, the number of dog licences purchased was 6,929.

Breakdown of licences purchased by Municipal District up to the 30th November 2023:

Municipal District	Licences purchased
Carrick on Suir	920
Clonmel	746
Nenagh	1866
Thurles	1451
Tipp/Cahir / Cashel	1946
Total	6,929

Abattoirs

Abattoir figures from October-December 2023

Abattoir figures from January – December 2023

Bovine	Ovine	Caprine	Porcine	Deer	Turkey	Abattoir Visits
1855	5830	14	102	4558	11245	924

Infrastructure

Civic Amenity Sites

A total of 120,290 customers used the services as at the 19th December 2023.

Customers visits to the CAS	
Waller's-Lot	27,100
Carrigeen Clonmel	27,220
Nenagh	27,170
Roscrea	24,150
Donohill	14,650
Total as at the 19th December 2023:	120,290

Burial Grounds

Burial Ground Development/Upgrade Works

Burial Ground	Progress update
Ballina (Boher)	Boundary works and excavation works commenced on site in Quarter 3, 2023.
Fethard	Land acquisition negotiations are now completed. The Section has completed the Fethard Burial Ground Part 8 planning and development process. Boundary works commenced on site in Quarter 4, 2023.
Cahir	The Section has commenced with Part 8 drawings for a new burial ground in Cahir.
Solohead/Monard	A potentially suitable site was identified and a hydrologist was engaged by the Section. Preliminary site suitability trial holes have been completed and the consultant's report has indicated that the site maybe suitable subject to further site assessment.

Carrick on Suir	Land acquisition negotiations are agreed with landowners. The Council has commenced with the land acquisition.
Shanrahan	The boundary wall is now complete. Further boundary works completed in Quarter 3 / 4, 2023.
Kilmore	Works completed in Quarter 4, 2023.
Cloughprior	The National Monuments Service was consulted in relation to the development of the burial ground extension during the Part 8 process. A geophysical survey, as requested by National Monuments Services, deemed the site and adjacent site unsuitable. A constraints study was completed to assist in identifying alternative suitable sites within the parish. The Section is actively exploring alternative suitable sites within the parish.
Thurles (St Patricks)	Surfacing of the access road and widening of the existing road and corners in the lower section of the burial ground were completed.
Holycross	New access road and plinths were completed in Quarter 2. Lawn Cemetery section and urn plot section constructed in Quarter 4, 2023.
Kilnarath BG Newport	Phase 2 of structural works were completed in Quarter 3 under the Community Monument Fund (CMF) Grant of €80,000.
Clonmel (St Patricks)	A new section providing additional plots to St Patricks Graveyard was completed in Quarter 3, 2023.

Waste Management and Enforcement

Notices issued	Update	Details
Section 14 Directions (to remediate a site)	To date, 22 Notices have been issued.	14 Notices were complied with; 8 Notices are still ongoing for compliance.
Fixed Payment Notice issued under Section 34 of the Waste Management Act under Section (breach of waste collection holder)	1 Notice served for non-compliance with Waste Collection Permit	

Waste Management/Enforcement News

Burning of Green Waste

Exemption under the Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Regulations 2009 (as amended) was revoked and came into effect from 1st November 2023. This exemption applied to agricultural enterprises who now must manage disposal of green waste through alternative methods of disposal (e.g. mulching / shredding), as burning is no longer permissible.

Nationwide roll-out of Brown Bin: From the 1st January 2024 all waste service operators must provide a brown bin to their customers. This implies that every householder who has a refuse service must also have a brown bin as part of their service.

Legal Proceedings

13 successful court convictions to date in 2023 for breaches under the Litter and Waste Management Acts.

Fixed Payment Notices (FPNs) Issued

As per table below, a total of 242 Fixed Payment Notices issued as at the 19th December 2023, which includes 122 Litter fines, 17 Fixed Payment Notices issued to Waste Collectors and 103 Fixed Payment Notices that issued to private individuals for giving their vehicle to an un-authorized collector.

Total Fixed Payment Notices Issued	Clonmel	Thurles	Nenagh	Carrick-on-Suir	Tipperary/Cahir/Cashel	Total Fines
Total number of fines Issued	21	85	40	5	91	242
Number of total fines Paid	12	21	23	3	35	94
Number of fines cancelled	1	1	7	1	4	14
Total Outstanding	8	63	10	1	52	134

Household Waste Inspections

A total of 429 household waste surveys were carried out on houses in Tipperary in 2023, up to the 21st December 2023. The compliancy rate is 86% with 368 householders to date, having replied to letters, demonstrating evidence of their waste providers. This compliancy rate is above the national average of 75% approximately. The Section will continue to engage with home owners/occupiers in an effort to encourage full compliance.

Circular Economy Bill re CCTV usage to amend Waste Management Act and Litter Pollution Act legislation

Three draft Codes of Practice (listed below) were submitted to Ossian Smyth TD, Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Public Procurement, eGovernment, Communications and the Circular Economy, in December:

1. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of CCTV under the Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended);



2. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of CCTV under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 (as amended); and
3. Draft Code of Practice on the operation of Mobile Recording Devices under the Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended).

The Codes have now been approved by the Minister and have been laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas by the LGMA in accordance with Sections 22 and 33 of the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022. Local authorities now await commencement of the legislation, which has to be completed by the Attorney General's Office and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and it is expected the same will take place in early 2024.

2023 Anti-Dumping Initiative

All Anti-Dumping Initiative projects awarded funding in 2023 totalling €115,500 were completed including;

- mattress amnesty days, which resulted in 1,298 mattresses being collected;
- household hazardous waste collection days, resulting in 11.95 tonnes of waste being collected;
- anti-roadside littering campaign and Summer clean-up week;
- projects involving site clean-ups and abatement measures at Carrigeen, The Commons and Knockanore, Silvermines.

Glass, Cans & Textile Recycling

3296.17 tonnes of glass and 104.87 tonnes of cans were collected as at the end of December 2023. These figures represent a 4% decrease in glass and a 3% decrease in cans collected for the same time period in 2022. 427.56 tonnes of textiles were collected up to the end of December 2023. For the same period in the previous year 425.7 tonnes were collected, which represents minor upwards movement in the percentage of textiles collected.

Certificate of Registrations / Waste Permits

There are currently 43 active waste facilities authorised by Tipperary County Council across the county. This includes 12 certificates of registration and 21 waste facility permits. Two new waste facility permits were issued in 2023 and 5 permits were reviewed. Tipperary County Council have achieved 100% data validation with respect to annual returns in 2022, data was validated throughout 2023.

Landfills & Waste Removal from Rathcabbin



Ballaghveny landfill- Cell 10b being filled with waste, 9th November 2023

Ballaghveny landfill

The monitoring of the landfill in compliance with its waste licence conditions is ongoing. The filling of Cell 10b with waste, commenced on 23rd March 2023 and is currently being filled with contaminated soil, stone and wood ash, which is being mixed with stabilized waste from the former Shannon Vermi-composting facility in Rathcabbin. Up to the end of December 2023, the landfill has accepted in total 48,992t of waste, this is 99.9% of our licensed intake limit of 49,000t/a.

As at the end of November 2023, the volume of leachate removed from Ballaghveny landfill, following our wet year, is ca. 32% above the same period in the previous year (2022).

The value of the Community Gain Fund (CGF) arising from the waste accepted during 2022 is €62,085 and offers have been made available to distribute these funds in 2023. A similar CGF value will be made available in 2024, arising from the waste accepted during 2023.

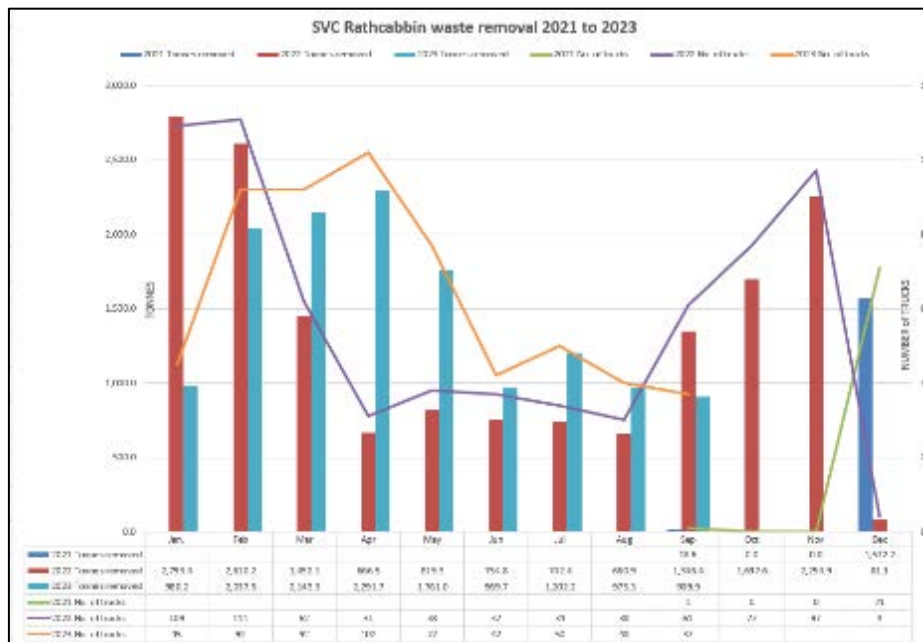
Donohill landfill

The monitoring of the landfill in compliance with its waste license conditions is ongoing. The leachate volumes removed from Donohill landfill are ca. 16% higher than the same period last year, again reflecting the wet year.

Rathcabbin Waste Removal

The removal of waste from the former Shannon Vermi-Composting (SVC) facility in Rathcabbin commenced on 2nd December 2021. During 2023, Ballaghveny landfill accepted 13,498.14t of waste from SVC Rathcabbin.

The total amount of waste removed from SVC Rathcabbin, up to the end of 2023, is 30,968.55t. The SVC waste removal is estimated to be ca.88% complete, based upon a total of 35,000t.



Monthly distribution of waste removed from SVC Rathcabbin from 2021 to 2023

Historic Landfills	
Tipperary – Cahir – Cashel	Tipperary Town - Landfill remediation documentation is complete and applications were submitted in May 2023 to An Bord Pleanála for development consent.
Tipperary – Cahir – Cashel	<p>Applications for a Certificates of Authorisation (CoA) have been submitted to the EPA for the Dundrum and Knocklofty historic landfills. Environmental monitoring of the historic landfills is ongoing.</p> <p>Contracts were completed on 22nd November 2022 appointing consultants to conduct environmental risk assessments of closed landfills at: Killeigh, Cahir; Caherabbey, Cahir; and Deansgrove, Cashel.</p>
Carrick-on-Suir	Connawarries, Carrickbeg – A consultant was appointed to carry out the landfill remediation design and ecological surveys are complete in preparation of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for submission to the EPA and An Bord Pleanála.
Thurles	Applications for a Certificates of Authorisation (CoA) were submitted to the EPA for the Brittasroad and Monanearla historic landfills. The EPA will make their final determination on these applications. The EPA issued a draft decision on the Brittasroad CoA application in August 2023. TCC representations on the draft were submitted to the EPA in September 2023.

	Environmental monitoring of these historic landfills is ongoing. Contracts were completed on 22nd November 2022 appointing consultants to conduct environmental risk assessment of the closed landfill at: Kiltillane, Templemore.
Nenagh	Contracts were completed on 22nd November 2022 appointing consultants to conduct environmental risk assessments of closed landfill at: Shesheraghscanlon, Borrisokane.

Environmental Protection

Water Pollution /Agriculture



- 724 samples were taken as part of Water Framework Directive (WFD) sampling programme.
- 59 Section 4 monitoring samples were taken.
- 74 farm inspections were performed.
- 10 source protection investigations were undertaken.
- 21 Nutrient Management Plans have been submitted and assessed.
- 40 septic tank inspections were performed under the National Inspection Plan.
- 455 drinking water samples were taken as part of the Rural Water Programme, 40 of which were investigative, follow up samples.
- 22 on site drinking water audits were performed (small private supplies).

*All figures under this section are as at the 19th December 2023.

Planning Referrals

72 Planning applications have been assessed and reported to the Planning Section to ensure potential environment impacts of proposed developments are identified and mitigated at planning stage.

AIR

Project

Tipperary County Council along with Limerick, Clare, Offaly and Laois County Councils is undertaking a joint project funded by Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications to address compliance and enforcement of the new solid fuel regulations that came into operation on the 31st October 2022. The objective of the project was an intelligence gathering operation, with a view to identifying the percentage of non-compliant fuels on the market and the primary source of same.

The project involves solid fuel sampling, which is an important and critical process in the monitoring, regulation and enforcement of the sale and distribution of solid fuels such as coal and wood. It is an essential step in ensuring environmental safety standards are being met and producers, distributors, sellers and users are complying with the Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 529 of 2022). The project will continue and conclude in early 2024.



Air Inspections

- Air Pollution Act 1987 (Solid Fuels) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 529 of 2022)
-31 onsite inspections were carried out.
- European Union (Installations and Activities Using Organic Solvents) Regulations 2012
- 5 certificates were issued; 6 inspections were carried out and 4 annual reports were received.
- European Union (Paints, Varnishes, Vehicle Refinishing Products and Activities) Regulations 2012
- 3 certificates were issued and 3 onsite inspections were carried out.
- Air Pollution Act, 1987 (Petroleum Vapour Emissions) Regulations, 1997
- 14 petroleum vapours inspections were carried out and 22 certificates were issued.

Air Monitors

- The current status of air quality in all towns monitored is rated as good and is compliant with The CAFE directive.
- Live Information on Air Quality in Clonmel and Tipperary Town can be retrieved at airquality.ie

- The EPA has launched a national air quality forecast in 2023. This new service will show expected Air Quality Index for Health (3 DAY). This is especially important for vulnerable groups like those with respiratory disease. For more information see airquality.ie

Awareness

- An awareness campaign based on the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Clean Air Campaign was run on all social media platforms urging the public to choose low smoke fuel for better health outcomes.



Rural Water Programme

Annual Maintenance Subsidy

- 72 Schemes received an invitation to apply for an Annual Maintenance Subsidy in January 2023, with a closing date for applications of the 30th June 2023.
- 72 applications were received.
- Annual Maintenance Subsidies to the value of €623,650 were paid as at the 18th December, 2023, (70 Group Water Schemes (GWSs)).

Current Capital Projects:

There are 7 Group Water Schemes (GWSs) currently engaged in capital projects, assisted by the rural water team. Up to the 18th December 2023, €50,398 was invested.

Private Well Grants:



As at the 18th December 2023, 81 new applications were received, 72 grants were awarded during 2023, 6 were refused (alternative source in proximity) and none were withdrawn. A total of €316,151.42, has been invested with 77 applicants paid.

Septic Tank Grants:

As at the 18th December 2023, 2 applications were received and €5,000 has been paid.

Environmental Complaints

Complaint Category	Carrick on Suir MD		Nenagh MD		Thurles MD		Tipperary, Cahir, Cashel MD		Clonmel BD	
	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed
Air	0	7	6	12	2	6	1	16	0	3
Animal	3	44	9	103	13	83	5	154	13	96
Infrastructure	4	1	0	3	3	4	14	2	6	2
Litter	5	70	3	141	7	202	15	116	19	130
Noise	1	8	4	14	2	2	2	9	0	10
Waste	8	42	5	118	10	47	10	47	11	69
Water	2	8	2	22	4	13	2	22	0	9
Totals	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed	Open	Closed
	23	180	29	413	41	357	49	366	49	319
Totals	203		442		398		415		368	

[Housing Directorate](#)



All figures relate to the period 01 January 2023 – 30 November 2023

New Policy/Strategic Issues

Policy Changes/Updates	Current Position/Progress made	Next Stage
Affordable Housing	<p>Serviced sites identified</p> <p>Draft scheme of priority in place</p> <p>Application submitted to the Department for funding</p>	<p>Advertise serviced sites once approval received</p>
Review of the Housing Allocation Scheme & associated policies	<p>The ASB strategy, tenant handbook and tenancy agreement are under current review.</p>	<p>Draft Allocation Scheme will be presented to Councillors at the plenary meeting in January.</p>
Disability strategy	<p>Meeting with relevant stakeholders to identify support pathways for disabled persons to enable them to live independently, with more choice and control over with who and where they live and included in their community.</p>	<p>Three-year capital plan based on disability to be finalised.</p>

Housing Delivery

The current status of the projects is as follows:

2022 – 2026 Construction Programme

Address	No of Units	Current Status	Next Stage
Gort an Oir, Fethard Belmont Park Housing Association	7	Stage 2 Submitted	Stage 2 Approval
Gortlandroe, Nenagh	27	Stage 1 Approved	Design Team to be appointed
Puckane	21	Stage 1 Approved	Stage 2 submission
Coolnamuck Road, Carrick on Suir	30	Decision required on third river crossing -	Stage 1 submission
New Line Road, Nenagh	14	Stage 1 Approved	Design Team to be appointed
Clogheen	14	Design Team Appointed	Stage 3 Submission
Ballingarry (South)	10	Stage 2 Approved	Design Team to be appointed
Gantley Road, Roscea	16	Design Team Appointed	Stage 2 Submission
Rialto site, Nenagh	12	Design team appointed	Stage 2 submission
Mulcair Manor, Newport	10	Stage 1 Approved	Design Team to be Appointed
CuChulainn Road, Thurles	6	Stage 1 Approved	Under review with Thurles MD
Millersbrook, Nenagh	13	Stage 1 Approved	Design Team to be appointed



Mountain Road, Cahir	43	Section 179A	Tender Scheme
Templemore AHB, Main Street, Templemore	23	Planning Appeal	Stage 3 Submission
Ashbury, Roscrea	10	Design Team Appointed	Stage 3 submission
Fr Matthew Street, Tipperary Town	4	Design Team Appointed	Stage 3 submission
Glencarrick, Roscrea	46	Section 179A	Tender Scheme
Church Street, Templemore	2	Contractor Appointed	Scheme completion 2024
Glenconnor Road, Clonmel	6	Contacto on Site	Scheme completion 2024
Grove Street, Roscrea	9	Stage 3 Approved	On E-Tenders
William Street, Nenagh	7	Design Team Appointed	Stage 3 Submission
Borrisoleigh	12	Stage 2 approved	Design Team Appointment
Boherclough Street, Cashel	9	Substantial Completion	
Woodview Close, Nenagh	10	Substantial Completion	
Moyne	9	Completed	
Portroe, Nenagh	14	Completed	
Bansha	14	Completed	
Ardfinnan	14	Completed	
Ballyclerihan	14	Substantial Completion	



Donohill	8	Substantial Completion	
Carrickbeg, Carrick on Suir	22	Turnkey Contractor on site.	Phased Delivery (9 Completed and other 13 Q2 2024)
Ard Na Sidhe , Clonmel	9	Completed	
Tyone Road, Nenagh	67	Respond AHB	Waiting on CALF application Q1 2024
Irish House, Tipperary Town	6	Completed	
Coopers Lot, Cashel	44	Respond AHB	On site
SeanLine, Fethard	16	Completed	
Farranahassery, Cahir	48	Respond AHB	On site
Dun Lia, Thurles	61	Cluid AHB	CALF Approved
Wallers Lot, Cashel	42	Tuath AHB	On Site
Glentarra, Roscrea	2	Turnkey	Contracts with Solicitors
Dun Uisce, Cahir	1	Turnkey Renewal	Contracts with Solicitors
Glencarrick, Roscrea	50	Cluid AHB	CALF Approved
Springfort Meadows, Nenagh	19	Turnkey	Contracts being finalised
Wheatfields, Clonmel	38	Turnkey Contractor on site	Phased Delivery in 2024
Stradavoher Road, Thurles	32	Turnkey	Contracts being finalised
Glencree, Newport	8	Completed	Completion 2023
Thomas Street, Clonmel	61	Turnkey	Anticipated commencement Q1 2024
Ma Chaoin,	13	Turnkey	Phased Delivery



Templemore

Ardcroney	4	Completed	
Prior Park Grove, Clonmel	41	Turnkey Project on Site	Phased Delivery

RAS Voluntary

New properties	81
Total tenancies	338

RAS Private

New properties	11
Total tenancies	605
Rent Reviews carried out	159

Long term lease

Total tenancies	274
Rent Reviews carried out	115

Mortgage to rent

New properties	12
Total tenancies	100
Rent Reviews carried out	9

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP tenancies set up	228 ¹
Total tenancies	1637
Average weekly HAP set up	5

Inspections

	1 st inspection	2 nd inspection
RAS	25	48
Private rented	441	115
Long term lease	6	2
HAP	257	356
Mortgage to rent	4	4
Total	733	537

Energy Efficiency Works

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP)

Under the previous schemes, 119 houses have been retrofitted to a BER of B2 or better during previous years. A target of 99 houses to be completed under the Energy Retrofit Program was set by the department for the current year.

100 units were identified and selected for the current year. 68 of the units are completed and recouped. The remainder of the units are substantially complete with snagging and post works energy surveys underway.

This year's programme includes units in Cloughjordan, Ballina, Roscrea, Borrisoleigh, Templemore, Thurles, Clonmel Town, Carrick-on-Suir Town, Tipperary Town and Cahir Town.

A further list of units is currently being assessed in accordance with the Departments guidelines under criteria to be eligible

¹ 34 of these are HAP Placefinder tenancies

under the scheme. This list has been generated from units proposed by each Municipal District.

Qualifying works under the scheme typically involve insulation, upgrades of windows and doors and installation of heat pumps (renewable energy heating systems) up to a monetary limit set out by the scheme.

Housing Grants

The Council has received a total of €4,258,125 in private grant funding for 2023 and €2,344,736 for LA DPG's.

We anticipate that, as per previous years, that we will receive initial approval to spend 65% of the 2023 budget pending confirmation of final allocation for 2024.

	Budget	Allocated	No. of Paid Applications
Housing Adaptation for People with A Disability (HGD)	€2,525,494	€2,511,148	281
Mobility Aids Grant (MAG)	€99,700	€99,650	29
Housing Aid for Older People (HOP)	€1,632,931	€1,632,930	377
TOTAL	€4,258,125	€4,243,728	687
Local Authority DPG Grants	€2,344,736	€2,344,736	127

Voids

The number completed is 129.

- Tipp/Cashel/Cahir - 35
- Nenagh - 24
- Templemore/Thurles/Roscrea – 30
- Carrick - 19
- Clonmel – 21

Vacant Houses²

District	Approved Applicants	Vacant Houses	% Vacant Houses ³
Carrick	350	12	0.22%
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	794	22	0.41%
Clonmel	617	19	0.35%
Nenagh	753	23	0.42%
Templemore/Thurles	824	32	0.59%
Total	3338	108	1.99%

Offers of Tenancy

	Offers Accepted	Pending	Refused	Nomination to AHBs	
Carrick	49	34	3	4	10
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	118	100	1	3	6
Clonmel	86	67	4	2	9
Nenagh	61	38	5	1	9
Templemore Thurles	153	100	2	10	30
Total	467	339	15	20	64

² Includes available for letting and houses where works are being carried out

³ Calculated as a percentage of overall housing stock

Number of Housing Applications received

There were 2181 housing applications received of which:

- 1704 were found to be valid
- 477 were found to be invalid

Number of Housing Assessments carried out

Month	Number of Assessments
January	65
February	118
March	107
April	74
May	132
June	92
July	71
August	108
September	177
October	386
November	60
Total	1390

Choice Based Lettings

- 178 offers of accommodation have been made to applicants who expressed an interest,
- 154 offers have been accepted.
- 18 awaiting decision
- There have been 6 refusals (3.3% refusal rate)

Summary of Social Housing Assessments (SSHA)

The purpose of the SSHA is to capture the **total number of households qualified** for social housing support across the county whose social housing need is not being met, in order to understand the level of need for such support. The files requiring review were those not yet assessed for the first time or which had not been reviewed since 11th August 2022. Applicants approved for a transfer or currently in HAP accommodation were not included as part of this review.

The SSHA report captured data between 1st November 2022 and 1st November 2023 and it identified a total net need of 1336 households that were deemed qualified for social housing support.

Of these approved households, the following is a breakdown of the housing type required:

- SHS1 (one bed unit) – 657
- SHS2 (two bed unit) – 401
- SHS3 (three bed unit) – 250
- SHS4 (four bed unit) – 27
- SHS5 (five bed unit) – 1

AHB forum

There is continuous engagement with Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's) through the AHB forum. The Council have held quarterly meetings with AHB's both through zoom and in person. We intend to continue this process into 2024 as it has proven to be beneficial in building relationships with AHBs and is an effective means of communicating with them.

Over the duration of the Housing For All programme the AHB's have been tasked with delivering 40% of the 1,125 houses set to be delivered in the coming years. The AHB forum provides a means of managing delivery of that target.

Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

During 2023 the SPC focussed on a number of key areas within housing including:

- The new Tenant Purchase scheme
- The council's Domestic Violence and Abuse Policy
- Options for providing grant aid for double glazed windows and doors & implications of same
- Approved Housing Bodies processes within the Council.
- Discussion on options to addressing one bed needs.
- Review of Tipperary County Council's Housing Allocation Scheme
- The Housing First model as presented by Focus Ireland.
- An update on homeless services
- Consideration of Regional Homeless Action Plan 2023-2026
- Consideration of Tipperary County Council's revised Housing Allocation Scheme.
- Presentation from Department of Social Protection on Community Welfare Service.

Five SPC meetings were held in 2023. Two SPC sub-groups were also formed and a number of meetings held throughout the year. The first sub-group was formed to focus on specific items within the housing allocation scheme to include succession, tenancy breaches and homelessness. The 2nd sub-group to focus on a short-term and medium-term plan for rough-sleepers.

Homelessness

The Homeless Team consists of 7 staff members:

- Homeless Coordinator * 1
- Homeless Prevention Officer * 3
- HAP Place-finders * 2
- Clerical Support * 2

The Homeless Team operates 9 clinics across the county:

- Civic Offices in Clonmel & Nenagh
- Community Clinics in Novas, Croke St, Thurles and Substance Misuse Service, Clonmel

The purpose of these clinics is to:

- carry out homeless assessments,
- complete prevention work through mediation with family, friends etc.,
- provide advice and information,
- signpost to support services, and
- in exceptional cases provide B&B emergency accommodation

The homeless team have the following forms of emergency accommodation available

Temporary Units	Target	Number	Type
Own Front Door units	Homeless Families	21	units
Own Front Door units	Individuals with mental health issues	5	units
Transitional Units (Matthew Burke house Thurles)	Individuals with mental health issues	5	units
Transitional Units (Novas, Thurles & Nenagh)	Individuals with addiction issues	9	units
Private B&B providers	Individuals	60	bed spaces
Cold Weather Initiative Clonmel	Rough Sleepers	10	bed spaces

As of 30th November, of the 403 houses allocated to Tipperary County Council housing applicants, 37% of them were made to individuals and families who were homeless or at a risk of homelessness.

Number of houses allocated	403	
Homeless Allocations	Singles	Families
B&B	15	8
OFD	6	7
Matthew Burke House	5	0
Nova's prospect	5	0
Nova's Mitchell Street	4	0
NTQ accommodated that were not purchased	8	37
NTQ accommodated via tenant in situ-scheme	15	40
Total	58	92

Buy and Renew

The Buy and Renew scheme is designed to support local authorities (and approved housing bodies) to purchase and renew vacant housing units in need of remediation and make them available for social housing. There is continued engagement with landlords to bring more properties back into use through the purchase of both disused and older vacant homes. Buy and Renew will also assist in the improvement of derelict and disused areas within our villages and towns. 5 Buy & Renew properties have been delivered in 2023 with a similar number expected in 2024

Repair and Lease

The level of financial support under the Repair and Lease Scheme, a companion strategy of the Buy and Renew scheme, has increased to €80,000. This was extended to allow developers to participate in the scheme in order to further enhance the delivery of long term social housing supports.

The Department set a target of 19 units to be delivered under this scheme in 2023. 19 Units have been delivered with units located in Clonmel, Thurles and Nenagh.

A target of 18 units has been set to be delivered in 2024. We have a number of interested parties in discussions to deliver in 2024 across the County These units tend to be apartments as opposed to dwellings and are typically located in the towns.

Local Authority Home Loans⁴

Number of Applications Received	85
Number of Valid Applications Received	34
Number of Loan Applications Approved	17
Number of Loans Issued	15
Total Value of Loans Issued	€1,488,750

Tenant Purchase Scheme

⁴ Please note any application received which is deemed to be invalid i.e. missing information will be returned to the applicant for updating. Therefore, not all applications received will be moved on to "Valid"

Formal applications to purchase received	78
Applications approved (i.e. offer letter issued)	61
Sales completed	20
Total proceeds of sales received	€1,302,300

Government Circular 48 of 2023 has advised that there are a number of changes coming into effect from **29 January 2024** to the Tenant Purchase scheme.

These are:

1. The minimum income requirement for an applicant to qualify under the scheme is being revised downwards to **€11,000 per annum**.
2. The requirement for joint tenants to have been in receipt of social housing support for 10 years each, is amended to **one tenant only** fulfilling the 10-year requirement.
3. **Primary income** – the following payments will be now considered:
 - The Widow's, Widower's, Surviving Civil Partner's (Contributory and Non-Contributory) Pension,
 - Blind Pension,
 - Invalidity Pension, and
 - Disability Allowance.
4. **Secondary** income – the following payments will now be considered:
 - Working Family Payment,
 - Age 80 (Pension) increase, and
 - Rural Social Scheme.
5. **Income disregards** – the following payments will be excluded when assessing reckonable income:
 - Constant Attendance Allowance,
 - Household Benefits Package (including Electricity and Gas Allowance),
 - Telephone Allowance,
 - Increase for living on a Specified Island,
 - Payments under Medical Care Scheme,
 - Disablement Benefit,
 - Training Support Grant,



- Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance,
- Humanitarian Assistance Scheme,
- Funeral Grant,
- Community Service Programme,
- Work Placement Experience Programme,
- Payments in respect of education or training courses,
- Mobility Allowance, and
- Income earned by children.

Applications received prior to 29 January 2024 will continue to be processed in line with the conditions applicable to the Scheme prior to this date. Please note that the regulations underpinning the Scheme do not prevent tenants from withdrawing an application submitted to a local authority prior to 29 January 2024 and re-submitting a new application to avail of the new application conditions.

We will also write to tenants who have been previously refused and advise them of the changes to the Scheme to allow them the opportunity to re-apply under the new regulations.

Traveller Accommodation Programme

Tipperary County Council's Traveller Accommodation Programme, following consultation with traveller agency groups outlines the accommodation requirements of the Travelling Community from 2019 to 2024. The projected housing units need over the five-year period is 90 of which 123 have been delivered to-date. A target of 25 accommodation units for traveller families was set out for 2023. To date 26 units have been delivered.

Ukrainian Refugees

The war in Ukraine is ongoing, resulting in the continuing displacement of Ukrainians. To date some 101,000 Ukrainians have entered the country with close to 2500 now living in the county. Tipperary County Council through the Housing, Civil Defence, C&E sections and Local Development Companies in addition to support from key community groups have provided the following services in assisting with this humanitarian crisis:

- 2 x temporary rest facilities (one of which in Littleton is supported by THLT). 1784 arrivals in 89 number intakes. This is equivalent to 37,260 bed nights at an average cost of €59.19 per person per night.
- IRC Pledged Properties - 231 Ukrainians have been housed in both vacant and shared units.
- Offer a Home Pledged Property fully managed by the Council has facilitated the provision of 550 Ukrainians with housing in 164 properties.
- Commercial Operators: - there are some 25 commercial operators in the county and housing staff actively support the residents in these facilities to integrate into the broader community.
- Refurbished Properties: The Council is also actively engaging with and supporting the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integrity and Youth to identify appropriate properties which can be refurbished to accommodate additional BOTPs on an interim basis and a number of such properties are currently under consideration. One such property has been finalised in Cahir with a capacity for 16 number residents and will be tenanted shortly.

Modular Homes: The OPW has provided 62 such homes on their own site at Gortataggart, Thurles which are now fully tenanted.

Community Car Initiative- to assist those Ukrainians living in locations not on a transport route to access services. Currently operational in the south of the county but not yet commenced in the north.

Community Integration

The Council works closely with other agencies such as the H.S.E., Department of Social Protection, AGS, Education, Local Development Companies etc in assisting the families housed and Ukrainians generally to integrate with the local communities and to access the necessary health, educational, income and other supports. To this end, the C.E.O. convenes a high level Community Forum Group which meets monthly and includes all the relevant agencies, to track and ensure the provision of support and integration services for the Ukrainians. This model is replicated at service level to implement the policies formulated at the Community Forum Group.

Vacant Property

Croí Cónaithe fund (Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant)

This scheme has been expanded to include houses in rural areas and an applicant can now apply for one grant for their primary residence and one additional property which they will rent. This additional property must be registered with a tenancy with the RTB.

The same criteria apply for both types of grant application:

- Building must be empty for at least 2 years.
- Built before 31 December 2007.
- Up to €50,000 available as a grant. An additional €20,000 is available where an engineer certifies the building as derelict or dangerous.
- The applicant does not have to own the building when applying for the grant but the grant will not be paid until the sale of the building and works are complete.
- The works proposed must be approved in advance, following inspection by the local authority of the subject property
- The applicant must live in the building as the primary residence for a period of not less than 10 years.
- Grant must be used to renovate the existing dwelling or be within the ambit of exempt development under planning regulations, or as part of a planning application, if required, as part of a wider refurbishment.

Item	Quantity
No of applications received	332
Approved to date	211
No at Under Review by LA	15
No at Further Info stage	73
No of applications rejected	23
No of applications withdrawn	10
Applications under drawdown review	16
Legal Charge Stage	9
No of Grants Paid Out	0
Approval in principal value to date €11,337,600	

Affordable Housing

The provision of Affordable Housing is a key plank of the Housing For All strategy. There are a number of key pathways within that area which are being pursued by Tipperary County Council to ensure that as wide a population as is possible can benefit from the strategy.

The provision of funding for the renewal of older or derelict properties is being facilitated through the Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Grant. To date Tipperary County Council has approved in principle over €11m in grants which will facilitate the reintroduction of over 200 buildings back into use as residential homes throughout the county.

In addition, we have approved almost €1.5m in local authority home loans with 15 loans approved. There are a further 19 applications being processed which have deemed to be valid thus affording more applicants the opportunity to avail of this scheme.

We have approved 20 of own tenants to purchase their homes from the Council. A further 61 tenants have been issued with letters of offer following applications to purchase their home.



The First Homes Scheme is a scheme run nationally which assists applicants to purchase a newly built home or construct a new build home through the provision of a low interest top up loan where the applicant is unable to get mortgage approval for the full amount of the cost. Tipperary County Council has been actively engaging with the private sector to increase awareness of this scheme and to date there have been 8 applications with 5 approvals.

The Council has identified a site for 4 self-build affordable homes in Boherlahan and has received approval from the Department to progress with this project. This Ready To Build scheme will make it possible for an applicant to build their own one off house through the provision of a low cost service site purchased directly from the local authority. It is planned to advertise these sites for sale in the first quarter of 2024.

We also intend to offer affordable homes for sale to those applicants who qualify for the Affordable Housing scheme, subject to access to the Affordable Housing Fund. A call will be made in Q1 2024 asking for expressions of interest from those developers who have an interest in providing affordable homes in the key towns and who already have planning permission. Depending on the response to this call, an application will then be made to the Department to access the AHF fund in a given area.