



Management Report to Council



This Month

- Major Inter Urban Routes – Page 1-2
- Strategic Non-National Road Projects – Page 9
- National Planning Framework: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project implementation) - Pages 18-20
- National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (Project implementation) - Pages 20-21
- Residential Zoned Land Tax – Page 22
- Fire Services and Building Control - Pages 37-40
- Tipperary Civil Defence – Page 41-44
- Library & Cultural Services – Pages 45-58
- Financial Report – Page 59-61
- Information Technology – Page 62-64

February dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
			<u>1</u> 14:00 Cllr Workshop on LACAP - Zoom	<u>2</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>6</u> 10:30 Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Mtg	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> 10:00 CPG Meeting,
<u>12</u> 11:00 TCC Plenary Council Mtg Nenagh	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> 10:00 Nenagh MD Mtg	<u>16</u>
<u>19</u> 10:30 Thurles MD Mtg	<u>20</u> 10:00 Rural Enterprise Policy Workshop	<u>21</u> 11:00 Clonmel BD Meeting	<u>22</u> 14:00 Carrick-on-Suir MD Mtg	<u>23</u>
<u>26</u> 11:00 Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD Mtg	<u>27</u> 10.00 Tipperary JPC Meeting	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	

Report at a Glance



**Roads and Transportation
Directorate**

1 - 15



**Libraries & Culture
Directorate**

45 - 58



**Planning & Development &
Emergency Services
Directorate**

16 - 44



**Finance & Information
Technology Directorate**

59 - 64

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE



New Policy/Strategic Issues

Policy Changes/Updates


A meeting of the Infrastructure SPC was held on 8th December 2023. Policy Principles on the use of Vertical Deflections were considered and agreed, and are recommended to the Plenary Council.

The next meeting of the SPC is scheduled for 15th March 2024 and will consider the following **Agenda Items:**

- 2024 Allocations for National, Regional and Local Roads
- 2024 Allocations for Active Travel Schemes and Greenways
- Parking Charges - issues paper regarding review and consolidation of charging regime.

Directorate Priorities

Major Current Issues	Progress to date	Next Stage
Major inter-urban routes	<p>2 no. N24 projects notified on NDP 2021-2030:</p> <p><u>Cahir to Limerick Junction:</u> Arup appointed Oct 2019 for Phase 1-4. Website launched August 2020. Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility complete in September 2020. Transport Options & Alternatives Public Consultation complete August 2021. Phase 2: Preferred Transport Solution announced May 2022. TCC published the Options Selection Report in March 2023. Phase 3: Design Update No. 1 took place on 23 January 2023.</p> <p><u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Arup appointed by Kilkenny County Council August 2020 to complete Phase 1-4. Website launched February 2021.</p>	<p><u>Cahir to Limerick Junction:</u> Phase 3: Design and Environmental Evaluation Processes has commenced. This will define land take required for the preferred option. Design Update No. 2 planned for March/April 2024. ABP Application programmed Q1/Q2 2025.</p> <p><u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Phase 2 - Proposed Transport Solution was announced on 19th January 2024. A non-statutory</p>

	Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility complete April 2021. Phase 2: Options selection commenced and options were announced 3 May 2022.	public display of the Preferred Transport Solution was held from 23 January to 9 February 2024. Four in-person public displays were held in Carrick, Clonmel, Cahir and Mooncoin.
Capital Programme 2024	Implementation of Programme 2024 Allocation details awaited	Progress schemes and draw down grant funding before end of TII financial year.
Implementation of Operational Road Works Programme 2024	Implementation of Programme 2024 Allocation details awaited	Completion of programme within budget and drawdown of available grant funding.
Implementation of Active Travel Investment Programme 2024	Implementation of Programme 2024 Allocation details awaited	Completion of programme within budget and drawdown of available grant funding.
Rural and Community Schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLÁR • Community Involvement Scheme 2024 • Local Improvement Scheme 2024 	Implement in conjunction with Districts and Community and Enterprise Department 	Successful CLÁR projects will be progressed in 2024. The allocation for Community Involvement Schemes in 2024 is awaited. The Local Improvement Scheme 2024 opened for applications on 10 January 2024, with a closing date of 9 February 2024. LIS Allocation for 2024 is awaited.
Consultation	Consultation with TII, Elected Members and staff.	Annual Meeting with TII was held on 13 December 2023

Safety Improvement Works



Before photos of Ballynira Junction, Thurles MD





After photos of Safety Improvement Works - Ballynira Junction, Thurles MD





2024



Department of Transport (DoT)



Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)

National Transport Authority (NTA)

Allocations for

National, Regional, Local Roads, Active Travel Schemes, and Greenways

are awaited and will be circulated to members when available



GREENWAY PROJECTS

GREENWAY PROJECT	CURRENT UPDATE
Suir Blueway - Gas House Bridge - Suir Island, Clonmel	Planning application submitted to An Bord Pleanála.
Suir Blueway - Waterford Greenway Link - Carrick on Suir to Kilmeaden	Phase 0: Scope and Pre-Appraisal: Approved by TII and Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility under review by TII.
Suir Blueway - Marlfield to Cahir	Phase 0: SAR approved by TII and Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility report complete and submitted to TII for approval.
Lough Derg Greenway - Ballina to Dromineer	The Project Team continues with the process of finalising the stage 2 assessment of the Route Corridor Options along with reviewing the project cost estimates to deliver this extensive greenway project in line with TII guidelines and standards.
Cashel to Cahir Greenway - Cashel to Cahir Town	Phase 0: Scope and Pre-Appraisal approved by TII Phase 1: Public Consultation for Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility was live from the 1 st December 2023 to 19 th January 2024.
Marlfield Blueway Clonmel – Convent Rd to Marlfield	Environmental surveys and site investigation underway. Planning application being prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanála.



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Nenagh Municipal District		
N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge	This scheme involves raising the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road. Preliminary design work continues on this challenging scheme. A ground investigation has been completed and the scheme has been formally categorised as a Minor Improvement Scheme. The Council has received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design. A tender competition for design phases 1 and 2 has been completed.	Preliminary design (Phases 1 and 2) is expected to commence in Q1 2024, subject to the availability of TII funding.
N65 Carrigahorig Pavement Improvement Scheme	The scheme in the village of Carrigahorig involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ road pavement improvement works ▪ addressing a number of road safety issues ▪ the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village ▪ the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borrisokane side of the village ▪ public lighting improvements ▪ some public realm improvements. RPS consultants have been appointed to continue with the preliminary design and complete planning procedures for the scheme. Consultation with local residents and stakeholders has commenced which will inform the design of the scheme.	It is anticipated that the Preliminary design will be completed and planning procedures commenced in Q1 2024.
Thurles Municipal District		
N62 Thurles Outer Bypass	Route Selected in 2011 and reserved corridor in place. TCC lobbying for it to be included in the next NDP.	Continue lobbying for scheme to be included in the next NDP.
N62 Slievenamon Road Thurles, Phase 2	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 447m of pavement on the N62 road through Thurles. The works consist primarily of planning and inlay work. Other works include the replacement of existing footpaths, provision of essential pedestrian infrastructure such as crossing areas, build outs and public realm improvements. Consultants were appointed and the preliminary design and Part 8 planning process has been completed. A tender competition for consultants for the detailed design phase has been completed.	It is anticipated that consultants will be appointed in Q1 2024, subject to availability of funding, to complete the detailed design in 2024.



N75 Liberty Square to Anner Hotel	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 1km of road pavement on the N75 National Secondary road within the town of Thurles from its junction with Mitchel Street to the Anner Hotel. The scheme is at preliminary design stage.	It is anticipated that work will commence Q2/Q3 2024.
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Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District		
N24 Carrick-on-Suir Pavement Strengthening	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of 3.5km of pavement on the N24 National Primary route. GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd were awarded this contract in July 2022. Works are substantially completed and will be followed by a maintenance period.	12 months maintenance period.
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District		
Project	Progress to Date	Next Stage
(N24 Main Street) N74 Fr Mathew Street, Tipperary Town	This scheme involves the N74 Fr Mathew Street in Tipperary Town. Preliminary and detailed design stages are completed. Tender competition for the procurement of a Contractor for the works was completed in 2023.	Appointment of Contractor with work commencing in Q1 2024.
N24 Knockagh Roundabout approach	This scheme comprises the pavement strengthening of approximately 1.6km of the N24 National Route extending east from the Knockagh Roundabout. TII have approved the Preliminary Design. The scheme obtained Part 8 Planning approval at the July 2023 meeting of the Municipal District. The scheme will be Tendered for construction in Q1 of 2024.	Preparation of detailed design and tender documents. Tendering process in Q1 2024 subject to TII funding.
Clonmel Borough District		
N24 Moangarriff to Twomilebridge Pavement and Traffic Calming	This is a continuation to the east of the Clonmel Inner Relief Road to a point beyond the 60kph speed limit and is approximately 1.6km in length. This scheme involves traffic calming and the inclusion of improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities as well as road pavement strengthening. Preliminary Design is under way along with liaison with TII Road Safety engineers.	The Planning process will commence following obtainment of TII technical approvals.



Strategic Non-National Road Projects		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends	The CPO was published in August 2020, an Oral Hearing was held on 1 st & 2 nd December and the CPO was confirmed on April 16 th , 2021 without modifications. RPS consultants were appointed on 3 November 2022 to complete the design work and procure a works contractor for the scheme. The detail design was substantially completed in Q4 2023. A contractor for the Advance Works (fencing and site clearance work) has been appointed.	An Advance Works contract has commenced on site with archaeological investigations to commence in Q1 2024. It is anticipated that a Contractor for the Main Works will be appointed and works commence in Q3 2024.
Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme	The Main Contractor for the scheme is John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd. Works commenced on site in August 2022.	The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete. Currently the scheme is more than 50% complete.
Thurles Inner Relief Road	Thurles Inner Relief Road is a proposed local link between the N62 and the Mill Road. The proposed scheme comprises approximately 1.1km of new road with: a signalised junction on the Slievenamon Road at the Clongour Road junction; a new priority junction with Mill Road and 5 no. intermediate priority junctions to provide access; 50-metre span tied bowstring arch crossing of the River Suir; public lighting; flood alleviation works along the River Suir. This scheme is on the NDP and DoT approval will be required to allow it to go to detailed design. Lidl has completed construction of a section of the road for access to new store.	Ongoing discussions with DOT in order to secure funding to engage a consultant to complete detailed design. Ongoing land acquisition discussions.

Ballina/Killaloe Shannon Bridge Crossing construction works in progress





ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Admin/Licensing Process 2024	Number
Roads Abutting Certificates Requested	27
Roads Abutting Certificates Issued	21
Abnormal Loads Permits Requested	16
Abnormal Loads Permits Issued	13
Road Opening Licence applications received	115
FOI requests processed	2
AIE requests processed	0
Internal Roads Abutting Requested	7
Internal Roads Abutting Issued	6
Proposed Estates being progressed for Taking in Charge	
Millersbrook, Nenagh	
Oakwood, Ballingarry	
Estates Taken in Charge	
Arldui, Thurles	
Caislean Court, Thurles	
Mill House Park, Carrick on Suir	
Rocksprings, Kilross	

ROAD SAFETY

Road Safety Section undertook an extensive “Don’t drink and drive” campaign in December 2023. Adverts, such as the following, appeared in all the local newspapers and on social media.

A radio campaign was also undertaken with Tipp FM, which ran from Christmas Eve until New Year’s Day. This advert, which urged drivers to slow down, wear a seat belt and not to drink and drive, ran four times per day and received numerous presenter mentions throughout the day.



PUBLIC LIGHTING

Public lighting queries are dealt with daily by the Roads Section, the Customer Service Desk and the Municipal/Borough Districts. Enerveo is notified of the relevant queries and corrective action is taken as appropriate. Tipperary County Council has responsibility for the management and maintenance of more than 18,300 lights in the county and public lighting is the biggest user of energy in the Council's overall energy usage.

Tipperary County Council is participating in the National Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) which will see 11,600 lights upgraded to LED across Tipperary. This project is being rolled out on a regional basis with Tipperary County Council included in the Eastern region. Kilkenny County Council is leading the project in the region. Tipperary County Council continues to engage with the lead partner to ensure successful delivery of the project. The contractor appointed to carry out this work has completed surveying all existing streetlights and lighting designs will commence in early 2024.

For the benefit of Members, the following are the options available to facilitate reporting of public lighting faults:

- **Internet: www.airtricitysolutions.com**
- **Internet: www.enerveo.com**
- **Phone: Enerveo Call Centre 0818 372 772**
- **Customer Services, Tipperary County Council - 0818 06 5000**

EV CHARGING

Tipperary County Council in partnership with **EasyGo**, working with **eir**, are progressing with the installation of Electric Vehicle Chargers across Tipperary which will see the company investing €600,000 into the county. This involves the installation of thirteen new fast electric vehicle (EV)

charging stations in County Tipperary, providing 24 charging points.

EasyGo and **eir** have joined forces to develop new charging points across the country, to accommodate the growing number of EVs on our roads. Installing these chargers in easily accessible town centre locations will increase the appeal of EVs for drivers, greatly extending the accessibility of charging points and thus the range of the vehicles. Transport accounts for one-third of Ireland's energy-related CO2 emissions so increased adoption of EVs is a key aspect of Ireland's Climate Action Plan. The EV chargers were installed in the following locations:

Location	Type	Status
Ballina	50 kW DC	Operational
Borrisokane	50 kW DC	Operational
Cahir	50 kW DC	Operational
Carrick-on-Suir	50 kW DC	Operational
Cashel	75 kW DC	Operational
Clonmel	75 kW DC	Operational
Fethard	50 kW DC	Operational
Newport	50 kW DC	Operational
Roscrea	50 kW DC	Operational
Templemore	50 kW DC	Operational
Thurles	75 kW DC	Operational
Nenagh	75 kW DC	Being Installed
Tipperary	50 kW DC	Being Installed

Throughout this programme, **EasyGo** and **eir** will utilise Tritium's world-first, next-generation simultaneous DC Rapid Chargers, adding up to 100km range to an Electric Vehicle in just 15 minutes.



EasyGo Charge Point

**SALTING ROUTES –
WINTER MAINTENANCE 2023-2024**

The winter maintenance period lasts from mid-October to the end of April each year. Tipperary County Council is constantly striving to improve its winter maintenance service; however, neither the local authority nor Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) (formerly the NRA) has a statutory obligation to pre-salt roads.

Having regard to the Council's resources in terms of finance, equipment and staffing levels and to maximise benefit to road users, winter maintenance of roads in Tipperary is prioritised on the following basis:

- Priority 1: M7 Motorway, M8 Motorway, National Roads, and Regional Roads of strategic importance, e.g. Expressway Bus routes, access to Train and Bus Depots, Hospitals, Ambulance routes, and Fire Stations.
- Priority 2: Regional Roads with high volume of traffic using the road and access to major schools and industries.
- Priority 3: Other regional roads, town streets and local county roads on a priority basis.
- (In extreme weather events Priority 1 routes will take precedence over Priority 2 routes in terms of allocation of available resources).
- The Council has quid pro quo agreements with Waterford, Offaly and Kilkenny County Councils to treat routes in each other's areas to increase efficiency of the treatment routes.
- The Council has a total capacity of approximately 3,880 tonnes in its salt storage facilities, which is sufficient to treat a 5-day snow event.

- Twelve crews are rostered to pre-salt Priority 1 and Priority 2 Routes (approx. 1,010km) before the onset of icy conditions. These spreaders can have snowblades fitted in the event of snow.
- It is common for a variance in road temperatures to occur across the county, which may result in only some of the routes being pre-treated on any particular night.
- In the event of dangerous road conditions i.e. black ice, white frost, snow, flooding, muck or any other hazardous road condition, the responsibility is on the driver to drive at an appropriate speed with due care in accordance with prevailing conditions on the road.

Tipperary County Council is not responsible for any accidents that may occur as a result of poor driving conditions.

HEDGE CUTTING

The 2023/2024 Hedge cutting Season commenced on 1 September 2023 and runs through to 29 February 2024.

All landowners and occupiers of land are requested to note that Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 prohibits the cutting, burning or destruction of any vegetation growing on uncultivated land or in a hedge or ditch during the period 1 March to 31 August each year. This is to ensure the safety of birds and other wildlife.

Tipperary County Council would like to thank owners and occupiers of land adjoining roads who inspect trees and hedges on their property during the hedge-cutting season and ensure that they do not pose a danger to road users.



Examples of hazards include dead or dying trees, ditches or hedges interfering with traffic, blocking footpaths, obscuring road signs, public lighting or road users' visibility.

Tipperary County Council requests the co-operation of the public in keeping road users safe. A public awareness campaign commenced in September and will continue throughout the hedge-cutting season.

The Council's District offices will be carrying out local inspections and notices will be issued as necessary to relevant landowners.

A Guide for Landowners to Managing Roadside Trees is available on gov.ie at the following link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/8fb45-a-guide-for-landowners-to-managing-roadside-trees/#>



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

FÓGRA D'ÚINÉIRÍ TALÚN AGUS ÚINÉIRÍ TALÚN TALAMH THAR LEIS NA BÓITHRE POIBLÍTALAMH THAR LEIS NA BÓITHRE POIBLÍ

FACHT NA MBÓITHRE, 1993, ALT 70 CRAINN, DÍOGA AGUS FÁLTA FÁLTA COIS BÓTHAIR

ÓN 1 MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2023 GO DTÍ AN 29 FEABHRA 2024

Is mian le Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann fógra a thabhairt go bhfuil sé de dhuilgias ar Úinéirí Talún agus áititheoirí talte, faoi théarmaí Acht na mbóithre, 1993, gach cúram réasúnach a ghlacadh chun a chinntiú nach bhfuil nó nach bhféadfadh na crainn, na díoga, na fálta agus an fhásra eile atá ag fás ar a dtailte. gan a bheith ina chontúirt do dhaoine a úsáideann nó a oibríonn ar bhóthar poiblí.

I measc samplaí de ghuaiseacha tá crainn marbh nó ag fáil bháis, díoga nó fálta ag cur isteach ar thrácht, ag blocáil cosáin, ag ceilt comharthaí bóthair nó ag ceilt radharc an bhóthair amach romhainn. Ní mór duit crainn, díoga agus fálta dá leithéid a leagan, a ghearradh, a lománú, a bhearradh nó a bhalnt.

Más mian leat comhairle a chur ar Chomhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann faoi struchtúr, crann nó fál atá tadhlach le bóthar poiblí a mheastar a bheith contúirteach, déan teagmháil le do tholl leis an Roinn Seirbhíse do Chustalméirí:

Fón: 0818 06 5000
Ríomhphost: customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie

Marcus O'Connor,
Stiúrthóir Seirbhíse,
Bóithre agus Iompar.

NOTICE TO LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND ADJOINING PUBLIC ROADS

ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 70 ROADSIDE TREES, DITCHES AND HEDGES

FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2023 UNTIL 29 FEBRUARY 2024

Tipperary County Council wishes to give notice that under the terms of the Roads Act, 1993, Landowners and occupiers of lands are obliged to take all reasonable care to ensure that the trees, ditches, hedges and other vegetation growing on their lands are not or could not become a danger to people using or working on a public road.

Examples of hazards include dead or dying trees, ditches or hedges interfering with traffic, blocking footpaths, obscuring road signs or obscuring the view of the road ahead. You are required to fell, cut, log, trim or remove such trees, ditches and hedges.

If you wish to advise Tipperary County Council of a structure, tree or hedge adjoining a public road which is considered to be dangerous, please contact the Customer Services Department:

Telephone: 0818 06 5000
Email: customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie

Marcus O'Connor,
Director of Services,
Roads and Transportation.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues</u>			
<u>Policy Changes/Up-Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>	<u>Progression in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Clonmel Local Area Plan	CE report on Proposed Material Alterations (PMAs) provided to Elected Members on 19 th Jan 2024	Public Consultation on Proposed Materials Alterations from 17 th Nov 2023 to 18 th Dec 2023. 20 submissions received.	Elected members to consider the content of the CE reports provided and to decide whether to make Plan in February 2024. If made, Plan would have effect on 25 th March 2024.
Nenagh Local Area Plan	CE report on Proposed Material Alterations (PMAs) provided to Elected Members on 19 th Jan 2024	Public Consultation on Proposed Materials Alterations from 17 th Nov 2023 to 18 th Dec 2023. 11 submissions received.	Elected members to consider the content of the CE reports provided and to decide whether to make Plan in February 2024. If made, Plan would have effect on 25 th March 2024.
Thurles Local Area Plan	CE report on Proposed Material Alterations (PMAs) provided to Elected Members on 19 th Jan 2024	Public Consultation on Proposed Materials Alterations from 17 th Nov 2023 to 18 th Dec 2023. 10 submissions received.	Elected members to consider the content of the CE reports provided and to decide whether to make Plan in February 2024. If made, Plan would have effect on 25 th March 2024.
Residential Zoned Land Tax	Public Notice period for submissions on 2024 RZLT maps published on 1 st Feb 2024. Submissions invited until 1 st Apr for inclusion / exclusion or 31 st May 2024 if submission relates to zoning change.	Final Map for 2023 published on 1 st December 2023, taking account of determinations and appeal decisions made on Draft and Supplemental Map submissions, and any other relevant changes.	Consideration and determination of Submissions. Further survey, assessment to be undertaken and Supplemental map to be prepared.



<u>Town Centre First (TCF)/ Town Regeneration Officer (TRO)</u>			
<u>Policy Changes/Up-Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>	<u>Progression in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Town Centre First Policy	Roscrea Town Centre First (TCF) plan complete.	Plan officially launched on the 25 th of October by Cathaoirleach Gerard Darcy and attended by Councillors, Town Team and National Town Centre First Office reps.	Funding to be pursued for priority projects identified in the TCF Plan via RRDF, ORIS, TVR, etc. Information Evening for owners of vacant and derelict properties in Roscrea on 20 th November.
	TRO working with Clonmel Borough - new Town Team formed. Currently prioritising actions for the team from the existing TCF Action Plan.	Meetings with the Town Team ongoing.	Information Evening for owners of vacant and derelict properties in Clonmel on 16 th November.
	TRO working with Carrick on Suir - new Town Team formed, tender brief for new TCF plan underway in advance of next funding call.	Meetings with COSTEDC & Municipal District to progress the TCF initiative.	Await TCF Funding announcement and advertise tender for new TCF Plan.
	Newport Enhancement plan – plan to incorporate TCF principles	Meeting with Municipal District to discuss (a) the contents of the current draft plan to align with TCF policy, and (b) potential of a new Town Team.	Consider current draft as TCF Plan for Newport.
Killenaule & Mullinahone Enhancement Plans	Liaised with District to align the town enhancement plans to TCF plans.	Delivery of projects, source funding etc.	



<u>National Planning Framework: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u>		
<u>Project</u>	<u>Progress in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Tipperary Town Regeneration	<p>Market Yard – Works fully completed.</p> <p>River Ara Walkway – Works fully completed.</p>	Completed
Fethard Town Park	<p>Phase 1 - Groundworks and 3G pitch – Works comprising of 3G pitch and grass pitch have been completed.</p> <p>Phase 2a - Pavilion and Public Realm Works – Works comprising of construction of pavilion, car park and public realm works completed.</p> <p>Phase 2b – Stand and Community Annex to the Pavilion – Works completed.</p>	Completed
Templemore Town Hall Enterprise and Cultural Centre with Civic Plaza	Construction commenced end of May, 2023 and satisfactory progress is being made.	Complete construction works circa June, 2024.
Thurles Market Quarter - Regeneration through Recreation, Education and Support for Local Producers	Tender documents for the construction stage fully reviewed by the Council. Pre-Tender Compliance Check completed in November, 2023. Request for tenders advertised on e-Tenders in December, 2023 with closing date for submission of tenders on 16 th . February, 2024.	Evaluate and award the contract for the construction stage in Q1 2024. Commence works in Q1 2024 with estimated completion in Q2 2025.
Nenagh Historic and Cultural Quarter-A Tourism Led Regeneration Plan	Draft Preliminary Business Case prepared and updated. Surveys completed. Part 8 Planning advertised with closing date for submissions on 18 th . January 2024.	Finalise Preliminary Business Case. Complete Part 8 Planning process in Q1 2024.



<p>Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan-A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter Category 2</p>	<p>Category 2 project completed.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre – Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter Category 2</p>	<p>Category 2 project completed.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Kilsheelan - Revitalisation of Rural Villages: A Model for Cluster Housing & Low Carbon Planning</p>	<p>Detailed designs and tendering process for the construction stage completed. Final Business Case prepared under Decision Gate 3 and submitted to the Department. Confirmation received from the Department that the Minister did not approve the additional RRDF sought.</p>	<p>Project did not represent good value for money. The Department has indicated that the project can be recategorised as a Category 2 project (which covers up to completion of detailed design stage).</p>
<p>Rialto Digital and Enterprise Hub, Nenagh</p>	<p>Masterplan completed. Stage 2 approval received by Housing Section from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for 12 social housing units in the masterplan area. Part 8 Planning approved by Nenagh MD Members on 18th. January, 2024. Preliminary Business Case in progress.</p>	<p>Complete Preliminary Business Case.</p>
<p>Carrick -on-Suir Regeneration Plan - 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter - Delivering Our</p>	<p>Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park- Decision Gate 3 - Approval to proceed to Implementation Stage issued on 28th. September, 2023. Contractor appointed on 24th. October, 2023.</p>	<p>Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park - Complete works in Q2 2024. Phase 2 Digital Hub and Phase 3 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay - Complete tender documentation. Advertise for tenders, assess tenders</p>



<p>Community’s Ambition’ Category 1</p>	<p>Works commenced mid-November, 2023. Phase 2 Digital Hub and Phase 3 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay - Tender documents for the construction stage under preparation.</p>	<p>and complete Final Business Case for submission to the Department in Q1 2024. Phase 4 Main Street, Sean Kelly Square and Greystone Street - Finalise design phase in Q1/Q2 2024.</p>
<p>Activating Cahir’s Town Centre Regeneration Strategy – Category 1</p>	<p>Library - Part 8 Planning for the increased footprint approved by the Members at the September District Monthly Meeting. Detailed design in progress. Car Park Site –Demolition and enabling works tender package prepared and advertised on e-Tenders on 20th. October, 2023 with closing date for submission of tenders on 17th. November, 2023. Verification documentation completed and submitted to the Department on 20th. December, 2023.</p>	<p>Obtain Approval in Principle from the Department. Library –Complete detailed designs in Q1 2024. Car Park Site – Appoint contractor end of January and commence demolition and enabling works in February, 2024.</p>
<p>Reimaging and Regenerating Gantly Street towards an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Roscrea</p>	<p>Approval received from the Department to proceed to the Due Diligence & Verification Stage on 22nd. November, 2023. Verification documentation completed and submitted to the Department on 20th. December, 2023. Brief for the engagement of a design team under preparation.</p>	<p>Obtain Approval in Principle from the Department. Finalise Brief for the engagement of a design team.</p>

<p><u>National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u></p>		
<p><u>Project</u></p>	<p><u>Progress in Previous Months</u></p>	<p><u>Next Stage</u></p>
<p>Thurles: Liberty Square</p>	<p>Phase 1 New Car Park and Eastern end of Liberty Square - Completed.</p>	<p>Phase 1: - Completed.</p>



<p>Enhancement Scheme-Phase 1 and Phase 2</p>	<p>Phase 2 Western end of Liberty Square and junctions to approach roads -Options Report completed. Workshops undertaken with Thurles MD Members and preliminary design agreed. Extensive consultations ongoing with other statutory bodies.</p>	<p>Phase 2 - Commence Part 8 Planning in Q1 2024 and complete in Q2 2024.</p>
<p>Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration - Clonmel Regional Sports Hub and Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1</p>	<p>Regional Sports Hub –Completed Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 - Completed</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>A Pathway to a Low Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the Transformational Urban Regeneration of Nenagh Town Centre</p>	<p>Approval received to develop a detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy together with engagement of design team and completion of detailed design for Decision Gate 2 – Pre-Tender Approval. Stage 2 tender documentation for the engagement of a design team are almost complete.</p>	<p>Finalise tender documents for Stage 2 and issue to tenderers who were successful under Stage 1 in the next few weeks. Complete tendering process, assess tenders received and appoint design team in Q1 2024.</p>
<p>URDF Call 3 URDF Call 3 seeks to tackle long term vacant and derelict buildings and sites across URDF towns and cities primarily in order to accelerate the provision of residential development and regenerate town centres. An allocation of €5m has been approved for Tipperary County Council under this Call and €1m of this allocation has been paid in advance to assist with early activity under an approved acquisition programme in the URDF designated towns of Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles.</p>		



PLANNING SECTION

Local Area Plans for Clonmel, Nenagh, Thurles and Roscrea

With the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028 now in place, progress on the preparation of Local Area Plans (LAPs) for the Key Towns and District Towns in the County is well advanced. The Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028 sets out a Core Strategy for the development of towns and villages in the County. The plan sets out the character, potential and vision for growth as demonstrated in the Town Profile Plan for Key and District Towns which will inform the preparation of a new Local Area Plan.

The Planning Section commenced the development of the Roscrea, Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles LAPs in Autumn 2022 and have been developing each of the LAPs through the different stages of the process for adopting the Plans since that time.

In September 2023, elected members decided to make the Roscrea Local Area Plan 2024-2030. This Plan came into effect on 23 October 2023, replacing the Roscrea Local Area Plan 2012.

Draft LAPs were published on 28 July for the Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles LAPs and the public display period ended on 11 September. 117 submissions were received on the Draft Clonmel LAP, 37 submissions on the Draft Nenagh LAP, and 27 submissions on the Draft Thurles LAP. Chief Executive Reports were prepared for each of the LAPs and provided to elected members, summarising each of the submissions received, and providing recommendations on addressing each of the submissions. On 27 October 2023, members decided to amend the Draft LAPs for each town in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Executive Reports, with some minor additional amendments in the case of the Thurles LAP.

Proposed Material Alterations (PMA) to each of the three LAPs were published on Friday 17 November, with consultations closing on Monday, 18 December 2023 at 4pm. This is the final stage of public consultation. 21, 11 and 10 further submissions were received on the Draft Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles LAPs respectively. Chief Executives Reports on the submissions received in the PMA stage were provided to all Elected Members on 19th January 2024. Workshops were held for the elected members of each respective municipal district in late January to discuss the relevant CE reports in advance of the plenary meeting on 12 February 2024. A decision whether to make the Local Area Plans will be made at a plenary meeting in February. If a decision is made to make the Local Area Plans, the Plans will have effect on 25 March 2024, and will replace the respective Town Developments Plans currently in place for each of the towns.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax provisions of the Finance Act 2021 set out criteria to facilitate the identification of lands which fall within the scope of the tax. The Planning Authority are responsible for preparing and publishing maps based on this criteria. These maps are to be based on the local authority development plan and where relevant, local area plan zoning maps i.e. where land is zoned and suitable for residential development. The legislation also sets out certain lands which are to be excluded from the scope of the tax.

Final RZLT Maps for 2023 were published on 1st December 2023, taking account of determinations and appeal decisions made on Draft and Supplemental Map submissions, and any other relevant changes including changes on foot of the annual Uisce Éireann’s WWTP capacity register and zoning changes that come into effect prior to 1st Nov 2023 with respect to the new Roscrea LAP 2023-2029. The Final Maps were published on the TCC website (<https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/rzlt>) on 1st December 2023.

It was announced in Budget 2024 that the RZLT would be deferred by 1 year. The tax was due to take effect from 1 February 2024. This means that the first liability date will instead be 1 February 2025 and will be charged annually from 1 February 2025 onwards.

A new public notice period for the 2024 RZLT was published on 1st February 2024. This recent announcement has had the effect that submissions on inclusion / exclusion and requests for zoning changes can again be made in the current public consultation. Anyone can make a submission either requesting a site to be included or requesting a site shown on the maps to be excluded, and also allowing landowners to request a zoning change to a site which is included on the RZLT maps. Submission which relate to inclusion / exclusion on the RZLT maps must be made by 1st April 2024. Submissions that relate to requests for zoning changes must be made no later than 31st May 2024.

The RZLT now relates to 18 towns/villages. Kilsheelan and Portroe have been excluded on foot of the most up to date Uisce Eireann WWTP capacity register. Newport, Ballina, Cloughjordan and Fethard continue to be excluded based on lack of capacity in the WWTPs. When respective WWTP upgrades are complete, these towns will be reviewed and considered in the context of updated Uisce Eireann Capacity registers.

Towns in which land may be subject to the RZLT are:

Clonmel Borough District	Nenagh MD	Thurles MD	Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD	Carrick-on-Suir MD
Clonmel	Nenagh	Thurles	Tipperary Town	Carrick-on-Suir
Clerihan	Borrisokane	Templemore	Cahir	Killenaule
		Roscrea	Cashel	Mullinahone
		Borrisoleigh	Ardfinnan	
		Two-Mile-Borris	Clogheen	
		Holycross		

The maps will be available on line through the TCC website <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/rzlt> and also in hard copy available for viewing at the planning offices in Nenagh and Clonmel and the 3 other MD offices. Submissions can be made through the webpage or in writing to the Nenagh or Clonmel planning office.

Town Centre First (TCF) / Town Regeneration Officer (TRO)

Tipperary County Council was awarded funding earlier this year of €100,000 to deliver a Town Centre First Plan for Roscrea Town. The funding has been awarded under the Department of Rural and Community Affairs’ “Our Rural Future”, Ireland’s Rural Development Policy 2021-2025. The plan will help to develop Roscrea’s own unique vision and plan for its future development and once complete, will provide a basis for the town to seek support from multiple funding streams, including the Rural Regeneration Development Fund, (RRDF) and the Town & Village Renewal Schemes. A Town Regeneration Officer was appointed in November by Tipperary County Council and will initially work

with Roscrea as the first pilot town in the County to have a TCF plan developed. The first steps will be to establish a Town Team for Roscrea for which expressions of interest were received as part of a public consultation process during the summer. A contract will be awarded shortly to appoint consultants to support the delivery of the Town Centre First Plan with the TRO and a timeframe for completion has been set for the summer of 2023.

Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Project Implementation

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2027 established four new funds to help drive the specific core priorities detailed in the NPF (National Planning Framework). These four funds included an Urban Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The following projects are currently being delivered.

Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration seeks to develop a multi-dimensional, public/private/community partnership proposal for Clonmel, which will re-imagine how civic, cultural, educational, enterprise and tourism uses can work together to regenerate and create a new role for the town. The project includes four intrinsically linked and integrated pillars, namely: Kickham Barracks Regeneration, Clonmel Regional Sports Hub, Clonmel – Flights of Discovery and Clonmel Public Realm Enhancement. Funding was received for proposed Category A works in 2019 relating to Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub. Both elements of the project are completed. **Total project costs approved are €15,163,247 and URDF grant awarded is €10,594,961.**



Kickham Barracks Plaza Completed



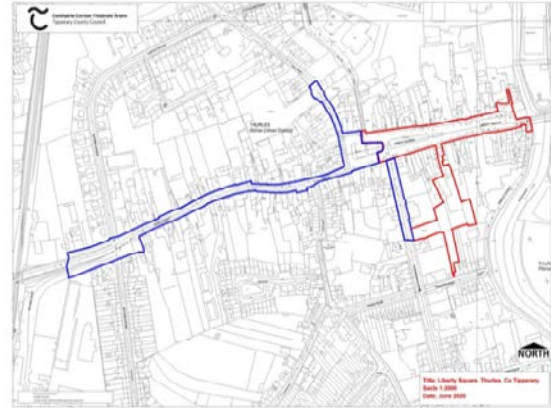
Clonmel Regional Sports Hub Completed

Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles seeks to deliver a vibrant Liberty Square at the heart of Thurles: a place to live, shop, work, socialise, play or “hang-out”. The revitalised Liberty Square will become an engine for growth in and around Liberty Square and will enhance the attractiveness of Thurles as a place to live and a place for investment / employment. Funding was received in 2019 to undertake works to the Eastern end of Liberty Square and to develop a new car park off Liberty Square. Additional funding of €1m was secured in March, 2021 to undertake enhancement works to

the Western end of Liberty Square and the junctions of the approach roads. The new car park and works to the Eastern end of Liberty Square are fully completed. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of the next phase of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs approved are €10,700,291 and URDF grant awarded amounts to €5,390,291.**



Liberty Square Phase 1 Completed



Liberty Square Phase 2 in Blue Shading

A Pathway to a Low-Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the transformational urban regeneration of Nenagh: -The proposal is to develop a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy, to be the anchor and catalyst for the redevelopment of Martyr’s Road Regeneration Quarter, a 10 ha. strategic site of brownfield lands and underutilised properties located in the heart of Nenagh Town Centre. The Centre of Excellence, taking reference from best international practice, will uniquely host a range of public agencies working collaboratively to deliver innovative solutions from training and development, to new cutting-edge research on technologies, to incubating low-carbon social enterprises. The Centre has been designed to be Ireland’s first carbon neutral and energy positive building. The works to be supported also include Public Realm and Amenity Enhancement to Friar Street Civic Plaza, Martyr’s Road Town Park, Martyr’s Road streetscape improvements, including cycleways. Funding was approved in March, 2021 under the Second Call for funding support from the Urban Regeneration Development Fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs approved are €12,700,000 and URDF grant awarded amounts to €9,525,000.**



Sustainable Energy Centre of Excellence, Nenagh

Tipperary Town Regeneration - This is regarded as a significant regeneration project for Tipperary Town which will greatly enhance long term sustainable tourism for the area. It includes: Upgrade of the Market Yard as a pedestrian priority area linking the Excel Heritage Centre to Market Yard and the Town Centre; Development of an 800m gravelled walkway parallel with the existing river channel and connecting to the existing path near Glenview; Installation of a new pedestrian bridge to access the walkway from the Link Road. Funding was approved in 2018 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. All elements of this project are completed. **Total project costs approved are €1,442,018 and RRDF grant amounts to €1,081,513.00.**



Market Yard Completed



River Ara Walkway Completed

Fethard Town Park

The project consisted of the development of a community sport and recreational campus, incorporating a community pavilion, playing pitches, stand, walkways, parkland and open spaces. The project was developed through a partnership approach with Coolmore Ireland, Cashel and Emly Diocese and Healthy Ireland. Funding was approved in 2019 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. This project was completed in early April, 2023 and opened to the public on 8th. April. The official opening was undertaken by Minister Heather Humphreys on Sunday, 18th. June, 2023. Phases 1 and 2b groundworks and pitches together with the stand and community annex of the pavilion were funded by the Magnier Foundation (Coolmore Ireland). **Total project costs for Phase 2A Pavilion and Public Realm Works amounted to €3,145,314 and RRDF grant amounted to €3,003,445.**



Fethard Town Park Completed

Templemore Town Hall Enterprise and Cultural Centre with Civic Plaza

The project proposal is a flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and establish Templemore Town Hall as an economic, cultural and community hub of the town, the District and the Mid-West Region. The project was prepared by the Council in partnership with the Garda Training College, Templemore College of Further Education, Templemore Community Development Association, the Local Enterprise Office and Tipperary Energy Agency. Funding was approved in 2019 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs approved are €4,014,746 and RRDF grant amounts to €3,011,060.**



Photomontage of Templemore Town Hall Enterprise & Cultural Centre

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

It comprises a Plan to regenerate specific existing buildings and civic spaces of distinction and value within Nenagh (including The Gaol, The Castle and Banba Square) to stimulate tourism growth and revitalise the local economy/visitor economy within a context of tourism-led regeneration, comprising arts, history, heritage and culture. The focus will be on the development of 3 Flagship Pillars and 3 Supporting Pillars, collectively offering an immersive tourism experience. Funding was approved in 2020 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs approved are €896,712 and RRDF grant amounts to €672,534.**



Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter

Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan -Category 2 Project

Plan for the town, through investment in orientation and public realm enhancement actions, to build on its relationship and synergies with the Suir Blueway (west) and the historic Ormond Castle Quarter (east) and thereby regenerate the town centre as an immersive visitor destination and rural town in its own right. Funding was approved in 2020 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. This Category 2 project is completed. **Total project costs approved are €487,500 and RRDF grant amounts to €365,625.**



Photomontage of proposed improvements at Main Street, Castle Lane and Strand Lane, Carrick on Suir

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

A suite of measures that will re-vitalise Cahir’s historic Square as a living-working quarter. The project will provide a dynamic town centre Square with a focus on pedestrian priority and civic space. The re-development will be focused around Market House, a flagship Business Development Centre based in one of the most historic buildings on the Square. Funding was approved in 2020 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. This category 2 project is completed. **Total project costs approved are €986,354 and RRDF grant amounts to €663,362.**



A Photomontage of the Proposed Cahir Square and Cahir Market House Business Centre

Thurles Market Quarter: Regeneration through Recreation, Education and support for Local Producers is a collaboration between Tipperary County Council, Thurles Lion’s Club and Mary Immaculate College Thurles. The project will provide a designated market space in the town centre

for local food and craft producers, artists and performers and will offer a location in the centre of a cluster of civic spaces to be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. The project was awarded RRDF Funding in April, 2021. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs are €3,825,700 and RRDF grant amounts to €3,443,130.**



Existing

Thurles Market Quarter

Proposed

Kilsheelan – Revitalisation of Rural Villages: A Model for Cluster Housing and Low Carbon Planning

The all-in costs for this particular project have proven prohibitive and do not represent good value for money for the Council to proceed with the development. The Council is fully committed to working with landowners on the implementation of the cluster development guidelines on other suitable sites within the County in an effort to address population decline, breathe life back into our villages and ensure their viability into the future.

Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub, Nenagh

Funding has been approved to prepare detailed designs and planning for the adaptive re-use of the former iconic 1940's Rialto cinema into a modern digital and enterprise hub facility using best practice and appropriate modern architectural intervention to provide excellent office, collaboration and meeting spaces. The associated brownfield site will be master-planned to explore the potential for further digital and enterprise office space, the creation of a new streetscape along Emmet Place, the potential provision of town centre residential units and the delivery of a new public amenity heart in the town centre. The Hub will be an exemplar sustainable, green, town centre regeneration project that will revitalize the town centre of Nenagh through the provision of much needed incubator enterprise space, public realm enhancement, improved permeability/linkages with existing streets and backland/infill development through planning for the delivery of town centre homes. The overarching aim and purpose of the proposal is to promote economic development and increase employment opportunities while preserving and saving a protected historic structure which was purchased by the Council in December, 2020. The project was awarded RRDF Funding in January, 2022. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

Total project costs are €1,511,059 and RRDF grant amounts to €1,208,847.



Proposed Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub

Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan - ‘A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter - Delivering Our Community’s Ambition’

This project follows on from the successful Category 2 RRDF application for the planning and design of extensive public realm enhancements in the town centre, development of Suir Blueway linkages and the regeneration of the Ormond Castle Quarter. Improvements will consist of (i) the transformation of Main Street, Sean Kelly Square, Greystone Street, Ball Alley Street and Chapel Street through the installation of high-quality public realm; (ii) provision of a new Enterprise and Digital Hub in a vacant town centre building owned by An Post on Main Street which will be managed and operated by Carrick on Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee; (iii) the creation of an arrival point at Sean Healy Park through design, enhancement and orientation measures incorporating user needs for kayakers, cyclists, walkers and other users and the integration of the Suir Blueway Tipperary into the town centre through the creation of shared spaces along the Quays and linkages to Main Street.; (iv) public realm upgrade of Castle Street and repurposing of Ormond Castle Park as a high-quality Amenity and Biodiversity Park. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs amount to €17,989,387. RRDF grant approved is €14,391,509.**



Activating Cahir’s Town Centre Regeneration Strategy This project follows on from the successful Category 2 RRDF application for the planning and design of a new Business Development Centre in the heart of Cahir, public realm enhancements in the centre of the town and the development of a car park on a central backland site. Improvements will consist of (i) the restoration and redevelopment of the vacant Cahir Market House and former Council Offices into a Business

Development Centre which will be run by Cahir Development Association and provide offices, a large training and conference room, co-working spaces and hot desks to satisfy the unmet demand in the town (ii) the refurbishment of the historic Granary building to provide a state-of -the-art library for the community; (iii) Cahir Square Public Realm Enhancements to include the recalibration of the traffic



circulating around the Square to a more rationalised flow that prioritises pedestrian and cyclist movements and the redistribution of public realm in favour of recreational space; (iv) the provision of a new car park consisting of 86 car parking spaces, coach parking, EV charging, and bicycle parking on disused backlands off Church Street which will involve the demolition of two derelict vacant buildings that were acquired by the Council under the Category 2 approved project. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs amount to €14,894,686. RRDF grant approved is €11,915,749.**

Reimagining and Regenerating Gantly Street – Towards an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Roscrea

This project will deliver a transformational change to the public space around Gantly Road and promote regeneration of town centre brownfield land through the activation of the surrounding lands. The project will be the catalyst and first phase in the implementation of the Gantly Street Age



Friendly Neighbourhood, an ambitious masterplan to create a more vibrant and appealing place for people of all ages to address specific social, environmental and economic challenges within the community. The works will involve (i) the realignment of Gantly Street to provide for improved pedestrian and cycle infrastructure in accordance with Age Friendly principles; (ii) the creation of high-quality public realm areas and footpaths; (iii) extensive bio-retention rain gardens and (iv) the provision of water

service and utilities infrastructure to service the Gantly Road Age Friendly Masterplan area. The regeneration and re-imagining of Gantly Street is critical to the overall delivery of the Gantly Street Age Friendly Neighbourhood masterplan area into the future. Development of the Gantly Street

masterplan area will transform a central area of Roscrea, create opportunities to provide homes, business and amenity space for local residents to enjoy and lead to knock-on socio-economic benefits for the whole of the town. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs amount to €5,639,145. RRDF grant approved is €4,511,316.**

Conservation Grant Schemes 2024

The **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2024** seeks to encourage conservation of structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in certain cases, structures within Architectural Conservation Areas. The scheme also seeks to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craft workers and trades people. Funding is available for successful projects (the minimum amount is €2,500 up to a maximum amount is €15,000 per application) subject to each owner fully matching the funding awarded.

The allocation for Tipperary County Council under the scheme for 2024 is **€126,400**. This year Tipperary County Council also received an extra allocation of **€30,341** under the supplementary ring-fenced funding for historic thatched structures.

We received 42 applications under the scheme for 2024. The closing date was the 22nd January, 2024. All applications are currently with Michael O'Boyle, RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect, who will carry out a thorough assessment. The recommended projects will then be forwarded to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for approval or otherwise. Successful applicants will be awarded grants ranging from €2,500 to €15,000.

Letters will then issue to all applicants outlining any special conditions that need to be met under the terms of the scheme. Once applicants accept the terms and conditions they may commence work on their project. All works will be assessed and inspections carried out during the coming months. Works must be completed by the middle of September so the projects can be inspected and grants paid out.

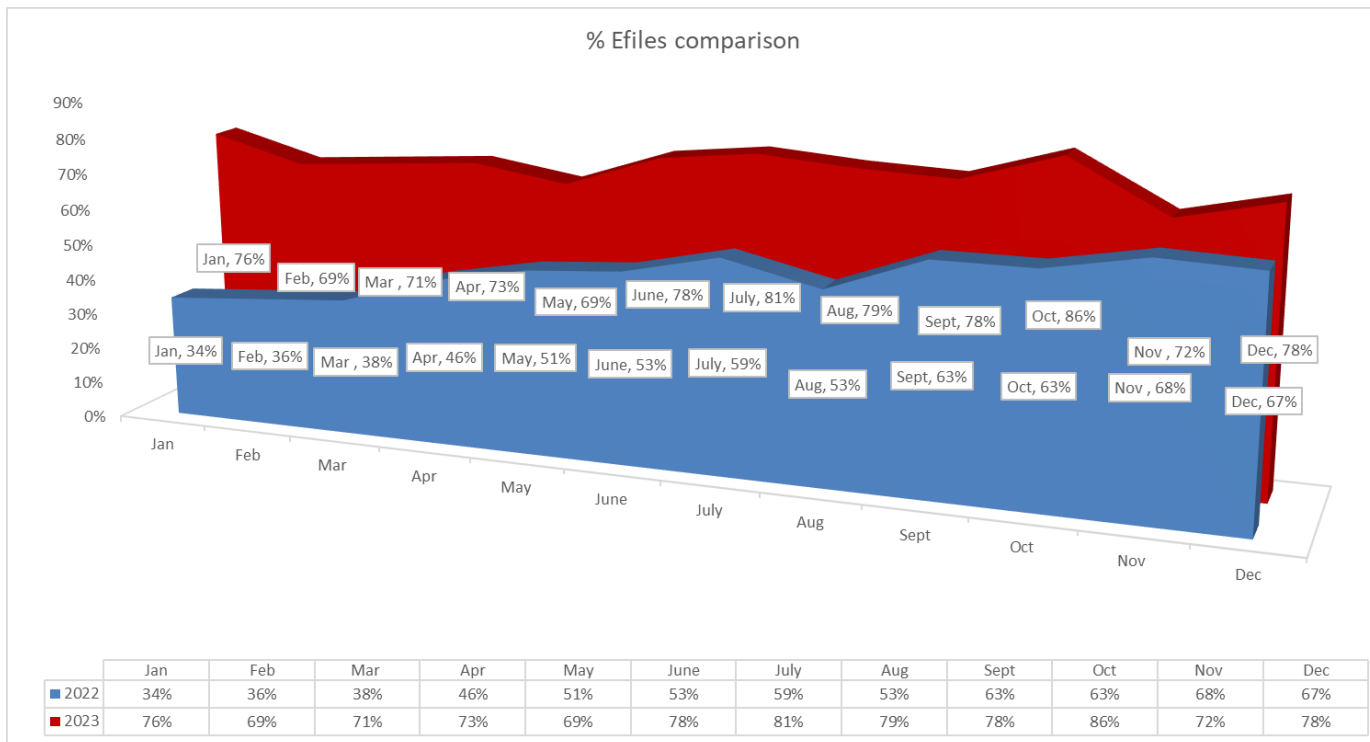
The **Historic Structure Fund 2024** seeks to support conservation works to heritage structures in both private and public ownership. Tipperary County Council received 19 applications under the various streams for the scheme. These applications are also with Michael O'Boyle, RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect, to carry out a thorough assessment and in turn Tipperary County Council will forward short listed applications to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for their consideration. They in turn will advise us of the successful applications.

Any queries in relation to the schemes can be directed to Jacqui Dowling, Staff Officer, Planning Section, Civic Offices, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.



Planning Applications – Decision Making from 1/01/23 to 31/12/23

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number Granted	Number refused	Number of Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	Number of Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála
Individual House	189	178	11	3	3
Housing Development	20	20	0	3	1
NIA/EIA	10	9	1	4	0
Other Applications	739	718	21	14	7
Total	958	925	33	24	11





Enforcement Proceedings

There were 230 complaints received from the 1st January to the 31st December 2023. During this period 167 Warning Letters and 31 Enforcement Notices were issued.

Taking in Charge: Estates

Applications Being Processed	DPI Developments	Taken-in-Charge in 2023	Taken-in-Charge To-Date in 2024	With District & Awaiting Approval	Applications Received in 2024
24	21	4	0	0	0

- 4 developments (45 housing units) were taken-in-charge by Tipperary County Council in 2023.
- 0 developments (0 housing units) have been taken-in-charge to-date by Tipperary County Council in 2024.
- 2 housing estates are currently awaiting District approval at present.
- 0 taking-in-charge applications have been received to-date in 2024.
- There are currently 21 Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) housing estates in County Tipperary which the Planning Authority is unable to progress at present.

Planning & Emergency Services SPC

The third and fourth meetings of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC for 2023 was held on 12th September and 1st November 2023. Updates were given on Residential Zoned Land Tax, Emergency Services, Temporary Time-Limited Waiver of Development Contributions Department Circulars, Local Area Plans and Town Centre First. The next meeting is due to be held in February 2024.



**FIRE SERVICES AND
BUILDING CONTROL**



Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service

SECTION PRIORITIES		
Major Current Issues	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Major Emergency Management	Tipperary County Council has taken over the Chair of both the regional steering & working groups.	Coordinate and administer this function in the region for 2024/2025
Building Control	Commencement notices and fire safety certificates continued to be submitted for assessment. Onsite inspections ongoing	Complete annual inspection programme for 2024 reaching Dept. guideline targets
Health & Safety	Audit to ISO 45001 & 9001 completed in Jan 2023 – successfully certified to both standards	Implement annual objectives as per service delivery plan
Fire Safety	Fire Safety Strategy prepared and signed off for delivery in 2024	Primary schools programme underway along with station visits by schools at end of school year.



CURRENT PROJECTS		
Project	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Cashel Fire Station	Moved into new station on 25 th January 2024	Arrange official opening
Roscrea Fire Station	Improvement works included in Department allocation.	Seek department approval to appoint design team – application currently with Department.
New appliances	2 new appliances allocated in late 2023	Await sanction to begin build process

ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES	To 31st December 2023
Number of Emergency Calls Attended	1779
Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	132
Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted	121
Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	93
Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted	73
Number of Commencement Notices Received	533

Cashel Fire Station

Construction of our new fire station at Wallers Lot in Cashel has been completed and the crew moved into the new station on Thursday 25th January last. Arrangements will now be put in place for an official opening of the station.



Social Media

To date both a Facebook page and Twitter account has been set up for Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service and are working extremely well with approximately 16,464. followers on Facebook and 1,848 on X (formally Twitter).

The 'Test it Tuesday' campaign continues to encourage people to test their smoke alarms every Tuesday. Our biggest 'Test It Tuesday' reach in one week reached over 3,200 followers but




averages approximately 2,550 per/week. To enhance this campaign TFS also created new online content utilizing a short video showing the public how to test their alarm we are also using an outside projector with a test-it-Tuesday message in Clonmel Fire Station which can be seen at night, to encourage people to test their alarms weekly.


The accumulative reach of all posts in 2023 was just over **1.4 million**. Our biggest post of the year reached 130,000 people and was engaged with over 30,000 times across X and Facebook. Social Media continues to be an important means of spreading both the fire safety and road safety messages. During the industrial action, we used these platforms to engage with the public to reassure them and to advise them to continue to call 999/112 for help if they required it.



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

- 18,312 followers of our Tipperary Fire and Rescue social media platforms. An increase of just under 300 followers from this time last year.
- Posts covered both fire safety/ /fire calls/traffic issues and general fire notices/ water awareness/ public advice...
- Over 8450 'followers are located in County Tipperary and 13,648 in Ireland This figure is a minimum as some Facebook users don't declare the town, county or country they live in.
- We had a reach of 234,158 over the course of the year,
- Our most viewed facebook 'post' reached 130,000 (approx.), safety notice and our most viewed X (formally Twitter) post (condolences to the victims of an RTC) was viewed over 13,000 times
- Our Facebook page was visited 26,000 times- giving us a huge reach.
- Our 'Test It Tuesday' campaign reaches an average of just under 2550 Facebook users' p/week.
- Tipperary Fire Service continues to be the most followed/liked Retained Irish Fire Service page on Facebook and ranks as the 3rd most followed Fire Service in the Country, ranking only behind Dublin and Cork.

Civil Defence

Activities	Ukrainian Response
<p>Ukrainian Displaced Persons Response</p>	<p>Tipperary Civil Defence continues to be deeply involved in the response to Ukrainian Crisis assisting with operations in both Littleton and Clonmel rest centers. Ongoing provision of transport, for medical appointments, the provision of transport for residence being re-housed or placed in more long-term accommodation. Tipperary Civil Defence volunteers also brought some Christmas cheer to the Rest Centre in Clonmel with the arrival of Mrs. Clause. Everyone in the centre received a gift from Mrs. Clause and enjoyed the festivities.</p> 
<p>Health & Safety Risk Assessment Review</p> <p>Training</p>	<p>The section was successful in completing Stage 1 Audit for NSAI 45001 certification and will have Stage 2 Audit on the 06/02/2024</p> <p>Civil Defence training is ongoing in Cardiac First Response, manual handling and First Aid Responder levels. Our K9 handler underwent specialized training provide by the Civil Defence college. Tipperary Civil Defence has also provided Cardiac First Responder training to Tipperary County Council staff and 3 community session were also provided. Food Safety training was rolled out to volunteers and also provided by Civil Defence to Rest Centre Staff.</p>

<p>Community Support & Duties</p>	<p>Volunteers continue to support their local community with the provision of first Aid and Ambulance cover. Assistance was also provided to Tipperary County Council with Christmas parades, and Santa coming to town and support was also given at the Staff Children Party. Tipperary Civil Defence also assisted the Wheel Chair Association with their Christmas Party</p>  <p>Pictured; Cllr Pat English(Santa) the Ice Queen and Mayor of Clonmel Cllr Richie Molloy</p>
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<p>Search for Missing Person</p>	<p>Tipperary Civil Defence were mobilized to assist a search for a missing person in the Carrick on Suir area. This was a multi-Agency search involving the Coast Guard, Carrick River Rescues and other search & rescue groups. Tipperary Civil Defence responded with trained ground search teams, the K9 unit and our drone team and a great turnout from the community. Well done to all concerned.</p>   <p>Multi Agency involvement in search for missing person</p>  <p>K9 support Unit</p>
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**Departure
of Anthony
Graham
ACDO**

Tipperary Civil Defence said a fond farewell to Civil Defence Officer, Anthony Graham. Anthony, after 21 years in the role, moved to a post with the National Ambulance Service




Anthony has been instrumental in the development of Civil Defence both at local and National level, with a keen interest in search & rescue, mapping and communications. He played an outstaying role in the setup and on-going operation of the Ukrainian Rest Centre in Littleton. His expertise and friendship will be missed in Tipperary Civil Defence.



Volunteers meet to bid farewell to Anthony Graham



The Lyons Trust Thurles, Staff at the Rest Centre in Littleton

<p>Retirement of Long-Standing members</p>	<p>A Retirement Presentation to two very dedicated volunteers attached to the Ballporeen Unit took place at a recent function held in Cahir House Hotel. Mr. Michael Dunlea and Mr. Timmy McGrath retired after a combined 70 years' service to the community of Ballyporeen and the Community of Tipperary and beyond. They were both members of the Casualty Service and were involved in high profile events like the visit of Ronald Regan to Ballyporeen and the light air craft crash in the Vee. Up to recently they were attending training and keeping their skills up to date. Michael Dunlea was also known to provide a musical addition to any social function. A sincere thanks to both Volunteers for such dedication and commitment to Civil Defence.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Photo 1; Michael Dunlea on his retirement from Civil Defence</p> <p>Photo 2. Mr. Timmy McGrath with Unit Instructor Gerard Barry on his retirement from Civil Defence</p>
<p>Former Civil Defence Officer laid to rest</p>	<p>Tipperary Civil Defence also bid farwell to Mr. Edmond Cooney, former Civil Defence Officer (South Tipperary) who passed away recently. Eddie was fondly remembered by the many Volunteers and Officers who travelled from all over to county to attend his funeral. A guard of honour was given to Edmond by Officers and Volunteer .</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Rest in peace Eddie</p>



Library Service

IT Grant for Libraries:



- The Department of Rural and Community Development announced a grant scheme for the purchase of IT equipment for Public Libraries in October 2023. Tipperary County Council secured 100% grant funding of €79,808.64 which will be used to replace all 79 Public Internet PCs across all 12 Branch Libraries. In addition, the Library Service used this funding to purchase 21 laptops, 19 IPADs and 2 iMac PCs. This new suite of equipment will be rolled out to all 12 Libraries by the end of Q1.



- Clonmel Library held an Age Friendly Sing along with local musicians Ollie Harte and Liam O'Shea on 9th December. Over twenty-five people participated in an interactive and fun sing-along.



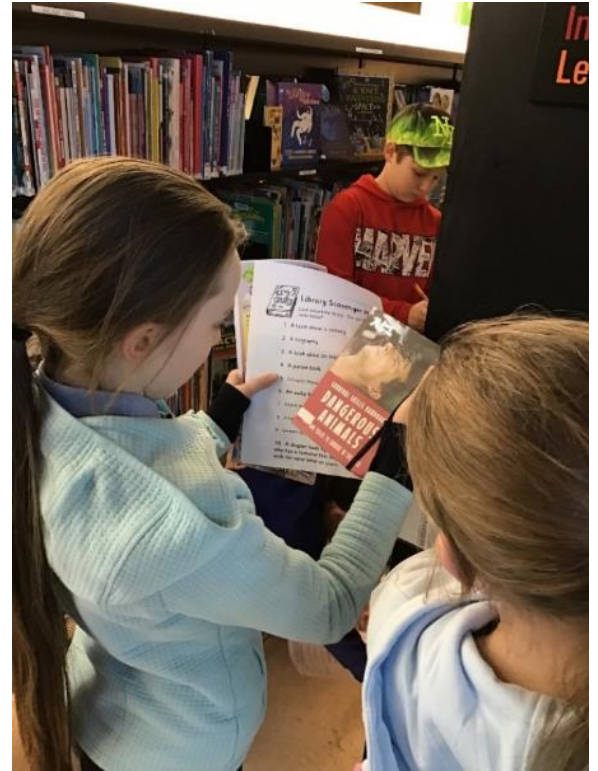
- Clonmel Library held a Match Attax Card Swapping Event on 16th December. The card swapping event was a huge hit among children, who traded Match Attax and Pokemon cards with tremendous enthusiasm.



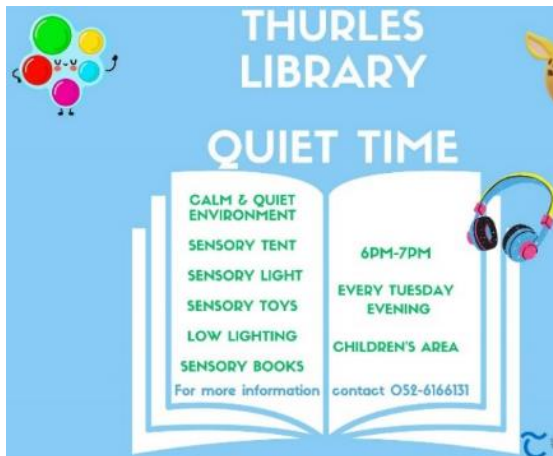
- Clonmel Library Book Club was thrilled to welcome Niamh Prior, the author of "Catchlights", to our annual Christmas party on 13th December. Niamh read from some of her works and spent time with the book club members.



- As part of the Family Time At Your Library programme, Thurles Library hosted a Christmas Coffee Morning on 13th December which included Christmas Carols from local schools. Over 160 people attended the event.



- Staff at Thurles Library organised a Library scavenger hunt for the Junior Book Club on 22nd January.



- Thurles Library have introduced a “Sensory Quiet Time” every Tuesday night from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. This will allow the Library to prioritize customers with extra sensory needs.



- Anne Kinsella, Thurles Library visited Ballysloe National School on 24th January. She spoke to all classes and held Storytime sessions, interactive book discussions and idea sharing sessions.



- Staff at Nenagh Library organised a Christmas Story Time with author Róisín Meaney on 7th December. There was very positive feedback from parents and children alike. This event was organised as part of the Family Time at your Library Programme.



- Nenagh Library organised a Library Christmas Coffee morning on 13th December. Teachers, Orla McNamara and Lucy O'Meara, and their wonderful class, rang a sé, from Gaelscoil an Aonaigh entertained borrowers and staff with singing and traditional music



- Cashel Library organised a Library Christmas Coffee morning on 13th December. Pupils from St John the Baptist 5th class and the Deanery School Cashel sang Christmas Carols played traditional music.



- Yulia Pak, Cashel Library organised a series of STEM LEGO workshops which were held on 21st December.



- Cashel Library organised a Christmas Wreath making workshop on 20th December.
- Roscrea Library in conjunction with Tipperary ETB organised a four-week workshop for parents and toddlers entitled *Crafty Connections*. This programme ran for the month of January.
- Roscrea Library in conjunction with North Tipperary Development Company have commenced a programme entitled *Connect with a cuppa*. It is a monthly get together for anyone in the community who would like to have a chat and meet new people. The meeting takes place on the First Friday of the month.



- Staff in Tipperary Town Library organised a Pyjama Christmas Party on 19th December which was very well attended.



- Tipperary Town Library organised a Library Christmas Coffee morning on 20th December. Pupils from St Joseph's NS and Bansha NS sang Christmas Carols played traditional music.



- Tipperary Town Library hosted a mobility exercise class on 19th December. This class is part of an ongoing programme designed to highlight mobility and strengthening exercises for each joint complex from the head to the toes, in order to maintain and assist increased mobility and strength as we age.



- Templemore Library hosted a Rhyme and Sign Storytime with Claire Glynn from Clever Little Handies on 4th December. This storytime session was organised for babies and toddlers and was very well attended.



- Aishling Martin, Templemore Library hosted a Christmas themed Children's Arts and Crafts Session on 8th December. Participants made Christmas decoration workshop

such as foxes and reindeer from recycled materials



- Templemore Library hosted a Christmas Coffee morning on 12th December for the Library Craft Circle Group. This group has worked on several pieces and these were showcased during the coffee morning



- Carrick-on-Suir Library organised a series of talks from Joe Lonergan, a visually impaired person who spoke about the obstacles he faces and the apps that he uses to navigate daily life. The talks which took place on 5th December were attended by boys from Edmund Rice Secondary School and Green School CBS. The boys were thoroughly engaged and got to try out some of the apps for themselves. These workshops were organised by Stephen Power, to tie-in with his *'No One Left Behind'* art exhibition.



- Carrick-on-Suir Library organised Children’s Christmas Pyjama Party with Laura from Firefly Parties and Events on 8th December. The children, who all came in their pyjamas, enjoyed music and magic with Laura, a reading of the Polar Express with library staff members Jacinta and Carol, and then it was “all aboard” the Library Polar Express Train around the specially constructed tracks. There were over 30 children in attendance, along with their parents/guardians.

fáilte isteach
WELCOME AHEAD THROUGH CONVERSATIONAL
 ENGLISH CLASSES

**LEARN
 ENGLISH**

FREE CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASSES
 PRACTICE AND IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH
 MEET NEW PEOPLE
 ALL LEVELS WELCOME
 TIME: 10AM-12PM
 DAY: THURSDAYS
 LOCATION: CARRICK ON SUIR LIBRARY
 CONTACT: LIBRY ON 087 9550 390 OR
 FANTAILLIBBY@GMAIL.COM

- Carrick-on-Suir Library officially launched *Fáilte Isteach*, a new initiative ran by volunteers welcoming migrants to Ireland through conversational English classes. The classes have been advertised in the library, the local ETB and Bridgewater House (the local direct provision centre). The

volunteers undertook training before beginning the conversational classes.



- Killenaule Library held a Christmas Story Time followed by a Christmas Paper Craft session on 14th December.



- Killenaule Library held a Christmas Tea, Chat and Sing-along session for Library users on 21st December.
- Borrisokane Library hosted three class visits with Scoil Mhuire which included a Storytime & Visit from Santa Claus on Friday 13th December

[Tipperary Studies](#)



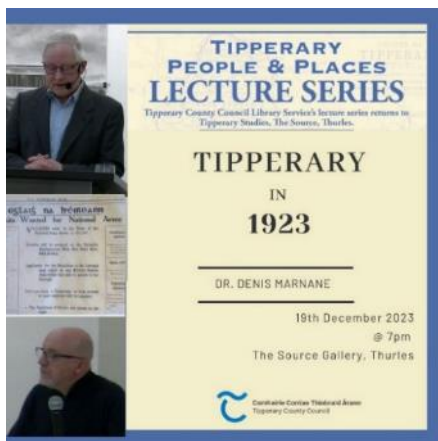
CHRISTMAS AND THE IRISH

A Miscellany

Salvador Ryan (ed.)



- Christmas and the Irish: a miscellany which was edited by Prof. Salvador Ryan was officially launched in the Source, Thurles on 12th December.



- Dr. Des Marnane delivered a lecture entitled *Tipperary in 1923* on 19th December as part of the Tipperary People and Places Lecture Series.



- Ross Drummond delivered a lecture entitled *Medieval Tipperary: Recent findings from archaeological excavations from Tipperary town & Borrisokane* on 23rd January as part of the Tipperary People and Places Lecture Series.

Arts Service

- A range of grants and schemes to support Arts Development in the

county were advertised in December for 2024 as follows:

Tipperary Arts Act Grant Scheme

– intended to assist organisations in stimulating public interest in the arts, promoting the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts or in improving standards in the arts in the county. **Closing date is Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 12 noon.**

- The **Tipperary Artist in Primary Schools Scheme** -intended to give pupils in schools all over the county the opportunity to work with a professional artist on a once-off unique project to be planned between the artist and the school. **Closing date is 9th February 2024 at 12 noon.**
- **Tipperary Artists Awards** – intended to support professional artists under three categories, professional development, creation of new work, reaching audiences.
- **Local Drama Scheme** - Up to two development awards annually to assist groups in developing skills within the group/enhancing production values/availing of further training/availing of professional input or for other development needs/special projects.
- **Tyrone Guthrie Centre Regional Bursary Award** - Tipperary County Council will fund two bursary awards to professional artists living in Tipperary to develop work at the County Monaghan workplace for artists.

Closing date for above 3 schemes is Thursday 29th February 2024 at 12 noon.

- The Arts Office also co-ordinates the **Tipperary Festivals & Events Scheme** on behalf of Tipperary County Council which supports festivals throughout the county. **The closing date for 2024 is Wednesday 14th February at 12 noon.**



Supporting Artists:

- Professional development training and events, in addition to supporting artists development, also provide important networking opportunities for artists in Tipperary and is an area of arts office support consistently identified by artists as of value. This spring we continue our online training provision in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and partner local authorities in Limerick and Clare.
- Visual Artists Ireland serves as the representative body for professional visual artists in Ireland. As part of this partnership programme a webinar titled 'An Artists Guide to accessing Funding' will be presented on Thursday, January 25th. The session, facilitated by Marianne O'Kane Boal, will take a closer look at all things 'Funding and applications' with free access granted

to artists living and working in Tipperary, Limerick and Clare. Marianne O’Kane Boal, a renowned curator and writer specializing in art and architecture, will delve into various aspects of funding and application processes during the session.

Tipperary Bealtaine 2024 Open Call

- In December 2023, Tipperary Arts Office issued an open call to artists based in County Tipperary to submit a proposal for an engagement project or event targeted at older people, culminating in a showcase during the month of May as part of the Tipperary Bealtaine Festival. Each year in the month of May, Bealtaine is presented as a nationwide festival celebrating the arts and creativity as we age. Tipperary Arts Office together with colleagues in the Library Service present an extensive, interactive programme throughout the county. The open call, which closed in January, attracted a significant number of high-quality proposals resulting in the successful approval of funding for seven projects. A total of 11 artists based in Tipperary, representing various art forms will lead projects for Tipperary Bealtaine 2024.

Six in The Attic – A new partnership with the Irish Theatre Institute



- The Tipperary Arts Strategy 2023-2027 identified a need to create new opportunities to facilitate “networking and collaboration opportunities for artists” and to seek support for the “development of new work by Tipperary practitioners (particularly in the area of theatre)”. We are delighted to work with the Irish Theatre Institute (ITI) as a partner on an initiative which supports playwrights and theatre makers called Six in the Attic and Virtual Attic 2023/24.

Six in the Attic (SITA) is a year-long artist development programme. SITA supports a community of playwrights and theatre makers to engage, explore, develop, debate, and collaborate on their projects and practice, both in-person and online.

Selection for the programme was made by open call published in October 2023. This year marks a new partnership approach with Tipperary Arts Office, Galway City Arts Office, Leitrim Arts Office, Roscommon Arts Centre and Wexford Arts Office. One artist from each of these counties was selected for SITA 2023/24.

The Six in the Attic & Virtual Attic Artists for the 2023/24 programme were announced in December and we are delighted that Áine Ryan was selected as the Tipperary artist participating in this inaugural year.

PRINTS FOR SCHOOLS Initiative



- An opportunity for Second Level Schools to utilise unique artworks in curriculum delivery.

An exhibition of 32 contemporary prints by Irish artists is available to borrow from the Tipperary Arts Office for cultural and educational purposes.

The prints are specially packed for easy handling and transport and include works by well-known Irish Printmakers including Alice Hanratty, Des Mac Mahon and David Lilburn. In addition, printmaking workshops are offered to participating schools while the exhibition is in the school.

The Exhibition is currently on loan to Coláiste Phobal Ros Cré school for the period January to March 2024- plans are to transport it to St. Joseph's CBS Nenagh next.

Heritage Service



Virginia Teehan C.E Heritage Council, Malcolm Noonan T.D. Minister of State for Heritage & Electoral Reform, Róisín O' Grady Heritage Officer TCC, Dr Martina Moloney Chairperson of the Heritage Council

- *Opening the door to Irelands heritage: A collection of Local Authority Heritage Officer projects* was launched by Minister Malcolm Noonan at the Newpark Hotel in Kilkenny on 10th January. The publication documents 31 projects from around the county that have been supported by Local Heritage Officers and the Heritage Council over the last three years. The project selected for Tipperary was the Historic Towns Initiative 2022 project which supported The Glove Factory in Tipperary Town.

County Heritage Plan Actions:

- Applications are currently underway for 2024 Heritage programme and will be submitted in February
- The Irish Community Archive Network (ICAN) project will begin work in February with 6 groups, Cahir Social and Historical Society, Borrisoleigh Historical Society, Slieveradagh Mining Museum, Tipperary in the Decade of Revolution, Ormond Historical Society and Tipperary Heritage Office. The Tipperary site will be launched later this year

Irish Walled Town Network

- The AGM of this network will take place in March
- Interpretation and Events scheme
- will launch shortly and an application will be submitted to highlight the counties walled towns.



National Heritage Week

- National Heritage Week will take place from 17th to 25th August this year and the theme will be 'Connections, Routes and Networks'. A Heritage Week grant scheme to support groups putting on events/completing projects for

Heritage Week will be launched in June.

Community Monuments Fund



- Applications for the Community Monument scheme close to the public on 1 February 2024. A number of very successful projects have been carried out with this fund over the last 3 years and a number of our archaeological monuments have been secured because of it.

Creative Ireland Programme:

- A new Creative Communities Engagement Officer, Ann Marie Keaveney has been appointed to deliver the Creative Ireland programme in the county
- The Community Grant Scheme and Project Call both closed on February 2nd and following assessments successful applicants will be notified as soon as possible
- A further scheme to deliver Cruinniú na nÓg Creative Irelands day of National Creativity for Youth will launch later in the year

Royal Sites Bid

- Mapping of OUV attributes of all six sites is currently being finalised.
- Negotiations on the MOU with Department are well underway and should be completed in coming weeks
- A Comparative Analysis Study is a priority action for 2024 to assist the Navan Fort to be added to the UK Tentative List
- Recruitment is taking place for a Royal Sites Project Coordinator and stakeholder and public engagement programmes will be rolled out in the coming months

Biodiversity Service

- In December the Biodiversity Officer attended Heritage and Biodiversity Officer training in Kilkenny.



Event: Why Hedgerows Matter - Sat Jan 13th
January 2, 2024



Why Hedgerows Matter

Free Event

January 13th, 2024 10am to 1:30pm
at Pat Maher's farm, Freighduff, Cashel E25D211

Hedge laying demonstration with Richard Markham, certified contractor

Hedge cutting demonstration with Philip Hickey, certified contractor

Question and Answer session on TAMS schemes with Dermot Grogan DAFM

Presentation on barn owls and other hedgerow birds with Aine Lynch and team from Birdwatch Ireland

Short presentation from Pat Maher, Alan Moore (Hedgerows Ireland) and Jimmy Duggan (local historian)

Information/demonstration including owl/bird/bat box making by Cashel's Men Shed, natural dyeing by Lucy Moore, local honey by Gerry Ryan, elder flower cordials by Irish Hedgerows Ltd and more

- The Biodiversity Office supported a Hedgerows Ireland event in Cashel on 13th January. This was a very well received event with 120 in attendance.
- The Biodiversity Officer attended the launch of the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (2023-2027) in the Botanic Gardens on 25th January. Following this launch, Tipperary County Council will now begin the process of producing the County Biodiversity Action Plan (2025-2030).
- We are currently preparing grant applications for the Local Biodiversity Action Fund (LBAF) and the Heritage Council Grant Scheme. In 2024 these schemes will provide up to €116,000 of funding to support biodiversity projects and the creation of the Biodiversity Action Plan in County Tipperary.

Museum Service



- The Museum in conjunction with Tipperary County Council Workplace Partnership Committee held Staff Wreath Making Workshops in Clonmel and Nenagh Civic Offices in December



- The Museum held Clay Workshops in December where students from Raheen College, Clonmel enjoyed an interactive workshop
- **Rachel Blackmore Material:** Following on from the Museum’s segment on RTÉ’s the Today show and as Part of the Thoroughbred horse Experience, the Rachel Blackmore Goggles and accompanying images have now been put on display in the Museum.

Lecture Calendar		
2023		
LECTURE 01	KEVIN MCCARTHY Irish Education: Some historical and political contexts	DECEMBER OCT 7
LECTURE 02	ROSLINE DOYLE Clonmel Mechanics' Institute, 'The Province of Education' 1849-1879	NOVEMBER NOV 6
LECTURE 03	CLODAGH GRUBB Education for all: A Quakers view	DECEMBER DEC 2
2024		
LECTURE 04	JOSEPH DOYLE Clonmel District Model School 1849 - 1877	JANUARY JAN 11
LECTURE 05	CASIAN O'NEILL Educating Irish Elites	FEBRUARY FEB 10
LECTURE 06	ANTONIA DUNNARD HEDGE SCHOOLS - 'of the people, for the people, by the people'	MARCH MAR 2
LECTURE 07	ANNE-MARIE BROGAN The Role of Religion in Irish Primary Education	APRIL APR 6

- The 11th Annual Lecture series continued with in December 2023 with a lecture by Clodagh Grubb entitled *Education for all: A Quakers view*. The January lecture was given by Joseph Doyle which was entitled *Clonmel District Model School, 1849-1877*.

- Inspired by the Museum’s collection, local artist Orla McDonagh held a Children’s Pottery Workshop on 10th January.
- *The Paddy Cashin Photographic Exhibition* has seen huge public engagement with hundreds of visitors visiting the Museum to view the collection. The images displayed December – January 24 are 1985 & 1986 and going forward each

month, a new year will be exhibited.



- **Thoroughbred Country Horse:** Tipperary Museum & Channons Forge were assessed for their market readiness for the Thoroughbred Country Experience by Deirdre McDonald *The Innovate Room* on behalf of Fáilte Ireland. A report will be sent to Fáilte Ireland and later sent to the Museum for comment.



- Right of page L to R: Kate Twohig 'When Next We Meet', Stephen McGrath 'Guitarist', Eoin Hally 'When Next We Meet', Marie McMahon Managing Curator Tipperary Museum and Dirk Baumann Sound and Lighting Producer @ Tipperary Museum.
- The Museum received funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media to host live performances for the Night Time Economy. In December, Tipperary bands and performers took to the intimate stage and setting of Tipperary Museum of Hidden History where they performed for a full house.



FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 30th November 2023

		EXPENDITURE				INCOME				NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Budget Remaining €	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	Budget outstanding €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €	
A	Housing & Building	51,432,423	39,850,258	129%	(11,582,165)	50,564,035	39,112,215	129%	(11,451,820)	(868,389)
B	Road Transport & Safety	61,724,946	59,643,759	103%	(2,081,187)	45,593,655	41,463,621	110%	(4,130,034)	(16,131,291)
C	Water Services	13,908,687	16,085,133	86%	2,176,446	13,107,595	15,506,586	85%	2,398,991	(801,092)
D	Development Management	20,655,750	19,701,481	105%	(954,269)	10,428,784	8,234,425	127%	(2,194,359)	(10,226,967)
E	Environmental Services	31,303,768	34,821,401	90%	3,517,633	14,266,540	16,243,760	88%	1,977,220	(17,037,228)
F	Recreation & Amenity	13,964,875	14,932,200	94%	967,325	2,616,548	2,675,783	98%	59,235	(11,348,327)
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,713,310	1,844,743	93%	131,433	1,142,844	1,212,277	94%	69,433	(570,466)
H	Miscellaneous Services	18,004,130	18,092,337	100%	88,207	16,561,681	16,600,010	100%	38,329	(1,442,449)
LG	Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	24,737,450	26,986,309	92%	2,248,859	24,737,450
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	0	33,457,820	36,936,326	91%	3,478,506	33,457,820
	Totals	212,707,888	204,971,312	104%	(7,736,576)	212,476,952	204,971,312	104%	(7,505,640)	(230,937)



Capital Account – Year to Date 30th November 2023

	Expenditure	Income
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
A Housing & Building	49,232,465	47,824,431
B Road Transport & Safety	23,160,700	20,831,383
C Water Services	3,868,083	3,204,417
D Development Management	13,231,302	12,003,011
E Environmental Services	4,313,050	3,497,481
F Recreation & Amenity	792,758	426,903
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	177,740	94,373
H Miscellaneous Services	3,489,506	212,171
Total	98,265,603	88,094,171

Collection Rates	YTD 202311	YTD 202211	YTD 202212
Rates	80%	76%	88%
Rents	89%	88%	90%
Housing Loans	99%	97%	97%

Note regarding Rates figures -

- 2022 year-end % takes account of Specific Doubtful Arrears, unlike the current month end figure.
- 2022 year-end % also takes account of Rates Waiver of €0.8m
- 2022 figures include credit brought forward of €1.41m.



COMMERCIAL RATES

As at 30/11/2023 Rate Accruals for 2023 amounted to **€36,499,444**.

Arrears of **€5,921,516** were brought forward from 2022, giving the total amount to be collected as **€42,420,960**.

This has been adjusted downwards in the amount of **€1,048,069**, following decisions on appeals to the Valuation Tribunal following ReVal 2019. Further reductions may follow as other appeals are decided.

Write offs in the amount of **€898,046** have been processed to end November 2023.

Receipts of **€32,262,841, (80%)**, were recorded to 31/11/2023.

VACANT PROPERTY RELIEF

Commercial Rates remain payable on vacant property. Where a property is vacant on the date of making the rate, owners must notify the local authority and advise that the property is vacant and for letting, or is closed for refurbishment or repair.

Vacancy relief will be applied to qualifying property in accordance with the following scale:

Category	% Relief/Payment
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill up to €5,000	100% Vacancy Relief
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €5,000, but less than €10,000	80% Vacancy Relief 20% to be paid
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €10,000	60% Vacancy Relief 40% to be paid

DIGITAL AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Business and GIS Systems

New Parking Fines system

A new cloud-based Parking Fines System went live on 22nd January.



New Handhelds and printers were issued to the Traffic Wardens and the new customer portal enabled. Customers can now scan a QR Code on their ticket which redirects them to the online portal where they can view details of the traffic fine, lodge appeals and make payments.

Support and Upgrades

The iReg system (Electoral Register System) was updated to version 5.0.4.

Preparatory work has taken place with a view to upgrading various systems to replace older unsupported architecture such as:

- GenWaste (used by Civic Amenity Sites)
- The Flood Forecasting System
- Fire Services Rostering and Scheduling software
- Museum and Archive systems

The Applications and GIS Systems Team continue to support the suite of existing systems including

- Security Patching
- Application troubleshooting
- System upgrades
- Systems Analysis
- User Support

GIS Systems

- Continued with the updating of internal and external Planning GIS viewers
- Continued with the roll out of the updated version of MapInfo to 29 users
- Continued to update our GIS systems with the latest GeoDirectory/Bord Gais/ESB data received from these Agencies
- Facilitated 3rd Party Requests for Data
- Provided desktop support for AutoCAD, LabWorks, ArcGIS, MapInfo, Sat Nav updates

Mobile Phones and Billing

- Provided corporate phones and setup on management tools.
- Assisted TCC Staff with mobile phone queries
- Liaised with third party suppliers and continued to process invoices

General Tasks

- Continued development of ICT Health and Safety to maintain ISO 45001 status
- Assisted in Procurement for TCC Sections

Websites and eDevelopment

- Rolled out the LGMA upgraded travel and expenses system to comply with the



new Enhanced Reporting Requirements for revenue.

- Developed a Violence and Aggression system for Health and Safety on SharePoint to digitise the Violence and aggression form. Currently waiting on feedback from Health and Safety before Launching.
- Developing a new Property Acquisitions system for Housing whereby they can track and store Notice to Quits and house purchases.
- Involved in kick off meetings with social media consultants, so as develop further a Workwise (Remote Working Hubs) section of web site to complement the Tipperary.ie web site (Foreign Direct Investment)
- Promoted Tipperary Co Co technical excellence in websites, Drupal and build to share, by submitting and featuring in write up on national LA Times magazine.
- Facilitated the publication of Consultations for Draft/Variations of Local Area Plans on our web site (Part 8 Nenagh Historic and Cultural Quarter/ Part 8 Stable Lane Carpark Carrick on Suir / Mall River Templemore Flood Relief Scheme)
- Prepared and provided support to the Tipperary Tourism Site (Tipperary.com) for upgrade and maintenance.
- Provided support and maintenance for internal systems and 20+websites
- Facilitating the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) & Cahir/Cashel Greenway Consultation

- Progressed further a core update of Tipperary County Council website from Drupal 9 to Drupal 10
- Prepared and provided support for the migration of Munster Vales to new hosting provider

Networks, Infrastructure, Phones

Email

- Exchange upgrade – Upgraded Exchange on-premise from 2013 to 2019. 98% complete, continuing to work on decommissioning old servers.
- Continue to improve on email security - implementing a DMARC policy on e-mails (improves and monitors protection of our domain from fraudulent email)

Building Works Civic offices Clonmel and Parnell Street

- Assisted with all IT Elements of building works which are on-going in Civic offices Clonmel and Parnell Street. Facilitated all staff moves back in to main offices by end Jan 24
- Continued to upgrade network equipment in the buildings.

New Building's

Assisted with all IT Elements of new offices setups for Cashel Fire Station. Scheduled to go live by end of Jan 2024.

- Continued to patch our systems.
- Continued with our 'Vulnerability Management as a Service (VMaaS)



Data Centre Secondary Site

- Completed the move of elements of our Data Centre to the secondary site (Civil Defence bungalow). The second side of cluster is located in secondary site with 50% of VM Wares running directly from the site.
- Continued to progress the second phase of moving our resilient Government Networks connection.

Security eLearning

- Continued with online security training.
- Completed an organisation wide phishing test and provided follow up training where relevant.

Data Connectivity

Completed new circuit provisions for Wallers Lot / Cashel Fire station.

All Teams

- Continued to provide technical support to staff and elected members
- Continued to manage and support business systems, websites, geographical, social media, phones, desktop, devices and network system.



Security

Vulnerability Management