



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2021





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CONTENTS



INTRODUCTION

Cathaoirleach's Message	06
Chief Executive Message	11
Tipperary Context - Vision Statement	19
Members of Tipperary County Council	20
Senior Management Team	22
Tipperary County Council Annual Meeting	24



OUR ENVIRONMENT

Environment & Climate Action	98
Fire & Rescue Services	110
Water Services	116
Local Authorities Waters Programme	130
Civil Defence	134



OUR ECONOMY

Community & Economic Development	28
Roads & Transportation	56
Planning & Development	86



OUR COMMUNITY

Housing	140
Community & Economic Development	152
Tipperary Sports Partnership	168
Arts Service	176
Heritage Office	186
Tipperary Museum of Hidden History	192
Library Services	196



OUR PEOPLE

Corporate Policy Group	204
Communications & Customer Services	206
Information Management	210
Human Resources	212
Information Systems	216
Sports & Social Club	222
Franchise Section	223
Archive Service	224



FINANCIALS

Finance	316
Motor Taxation	320
Financial Statement	322



MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District	228
Tipperary/Cahir/Cashel Municipal District	239
Clonmel Borough District	271
Nenagh Municipal District	284
Thurles Municipal District	296



APPENDICES

Organisation Structure	326
Councillors Details	328
Committee Membership	340
Councillors Conferences & Training	348
Staff Structure	350
Municipal District Staff Structure	352
Associated Companies Register	354
Performance Indicators	356





INTRODUCTION

FOREWORD

CATHAOIRLEACH

COUNCILLOR
MARIE MURPHY



As we reflect on 2021, it is an honour and pleasure to introduce on behalf of Tipperary County Council, this Annual Report, which provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of this Council across the wide span of its service delivery. The Council and its stakeholders continued to play a leading role fostering the economic, social and community development of the county.

Personally, for myself and my family, Friday 25th June 2021 provided a very special and poignant moment when I was elected the 8th Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council un-opposed, in a socially distanced Annual Meeting held in the new Borrisoleigh GAA Sports Complex in Bishop Quinlan Park, Borrisoleigh.

There is no doubt that the past 2 years have been unprecedented years in the history of our county in that we have been facing one of the most difficult challenges we have ever had to face in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Every aspect of what we understood to be the normal everyday life changed however Tipperary County Council continued to be critical to sustaining our communities throughout these two years. Despite the loss and grief that we have witnessed, there has also been incredible bravery and resilience with the Council providing the necessary platforms for community support in both urban and rural Tipperary. We have seen the best in people throughout the county and there has been a public willingness to rise to the challenge during this difficult period. The pandemic has led to us changing how we interact and the impact of that on the county.

Council staff continued to deliver essential public services like fire services, water services, housing and homelessness services, traffic systems, street cleansing and the maintenance of our public parks and green spaces. Outdoor dining facilities were provided by the five Borough/Municipal Districts and warmly welcomed by the community and business sector alike.

2021 also saw a rapid deployment of a wide range of online services which again helped to reduce the numbers needing to visit public counters at our Civic Offices and allowed us to hold councillor briefings and full council meetings online. Arts and cultural events also moved online.

While I didn't have the privilege, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in place for much of the year, to meet communities and individuals across Tipperary and wider afield, or to attend events celebrating the past and the present and show-casing the rich talents that are in such abundance in our Premier County, my tenure as Chair did give me the opportunity to see first-hand the volume and variety of services that the Council provides to the citizens of Tipperary across many different spectrums. The following is just a brief sample of some of the various events/activities that occurred throughout the year:



The year commenced with the Council convening a special meeting to consider the final report of the Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation and this Council showed their steadfast support to the efforts of the Sean Ross Abbey Ireland Group "We are still here" to assist them in their efforts to explore avenues to assist the former residents of Sean Ross affected by the history of Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes and whose lives were irreparably changed by their treatment at these homes.

The process to formulate a new County Development Plan commenced in March with the publication of the Draft Tipperary County Development Plan - the first all-county planning strategy for Tipperary. It sets out an ambitious shared vision for the 'Premier' county, building on our natural resources, our economic strengths and supporting our innovative communities in a time of great change and challenge. The public consultation process around the Tipperary County Development Plan was largely conducted online and across the county.

April saw a 'Targeted Investment Intervention' proposal agreed with the Elected Members, to address the worst rural 'Red' roads across county Tipperary. 'Red' roads have a surface condition (PSCI) rating of 1 to 4. This targeted intervention will lead to improved rural road infrastructure over the coming years.

In May 2021, The Library officially launched the digital collection of Poor Law Union records, comprising Workhouse Minute Books from Borrisokane, Cashel, Clogheen, Clonmel, Nenagh, Roscrea, Thurles and Tipperary, 1839 – 1852. These Famine records provide a unique weekly insight into pre-Famine relief and distress in County Tipperary, the emergence of the potato famine itself, and what it meant in the day-to-day workings of the various Poor Law Unions.

Staff in Cashel Library also created a six-week library induction programme to introduce children from the Traveller community to their library and to create a positive experience around using the space and its services. This library induction programme allowed Library staff to get to know the children, to welcome them into the library, and to understand what they require from their library.

In September 2021, the 3rd Cycle Draft River Basin Management plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027 was published by Minister Darragh O'Brien, T.D., and Minister for State Malcolm Noonan, T.D., for a six-month public consultation process. To support the delivery of the consultation process, LAWPRO delivered local level public engagement and consultation using innovative online platforms during Covid-19 restrictions. A virtual consultation room provided online public access to key information on the Plan, and 30 Zoom meetings in collaboration with the PPNs engaged the Environmental and Community pillars.

The launch of St. Declan's Way, was also officially launched by Minister Heather Humphries on September 29th. The newly redeveloped Pilgrim Path is an attractive asset starting in Cashel and finishing in Ardmore, Co. Waterford.

In October, as part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week. Several activities were organised under the theme "Towards 2030, Reshaping the European Energy System which included podcasts on home retrofitting and energy efficiency, demos of electric cars for staff and the Create Tipperary Energy Trees initiative involved the design of special wooden trees and leaves from sustainable sources and gathering primary school children ideas about energy.

In November, we welcomed Minister for Rural and Community Development, Ms. Heather Humphreys on her flying 'Trip to Tipp' which allowed her the chance to preview the various projects funded under her Department's Urban and Rural Regeneration Programme.

Visits were also made by the Taoiseach Michael Martin, Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, Minister for Further & Higher Education Simon Harris and other Ministers of State in Q4 of 2021 and Funds for rural development, urban regeneration, climate action and innovation continued to be allocated competitively to the best projects under the Government's Project Ireland 2040 Plan.



The Council also launched a week-long campaign in late November, to highlight how SMEs are sustaining our environment and supporting climate change in a number of innovative ways, either through viable enterprises, re-purposing old items into new, selling online and contributing to the circular economy. In parallel, they have adopted biodiversity measures, through the preservation of native hedgerows and woodlands and reducing waste. The eleven enterprises told their story about how they have adapted their businesses. Examples included SMEs transforming native species, such as apple trees, the honey bee and willow trees into beautiful everyday products, which make ideal Christmas presents and the opportunity to support local businesses. Brookfield Farm and the Galtee Honey Farm produce candles, waxes and cosmetics, while the Apple Farm produces jams, juices and cider vinegar.

November also saw the "Failte Ireland Thoroughbred Country Visitor Experience Development Plan" launched at the Irish National Stud, which involves Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism working in partnership with Failte Ireland, Kildare County Council and Kildare Failte to develop and deliver equine tourism experiences across the county connected nationally through a Thoroughbred Experience Trail.

The Council's collaboration with Coolmore Stud saw the completion of Phase 1 of Fethard Town Park to provide full-size GAA/Rugby floodlit 3G facilities, training grass pitch and walkways. It paves the way for Phase 2 comprising of community pavilion, dressing rooms, meeting room, gymnasium, café and car park to commence in March 2022. An additional walking route around its perimeter, taking in the upgraded Strylea boreen will see Fethard boasting state of the art facilities in its lovely heritage town.

At the end of the year Tipperary Tourism also reviewed its brand identity, commissioning a brand refresh, which allowed Tipperary Tourism to encapsulate new tourism trends emerging from the pandemic into the brand. The refreshed brand is more fluid, and the bezier curve is representative of the great outdoors; a fresh contemporary colour palette and modern activity icons give the brand a fresh edge moving into 2022.

In December, Clonmel Borough District teamed up with Westgate Creative to bring creativity, imagination and a little bit of theatrical magic to the town centre at the end of a challenging 2021. In a safe environment, the team worked with local artists and the creative community to re-imagine seasonal events and bring some much-needed Christmas cheer. Creative illuminations on the town's main streets, icicle-wrapped trees, decorative shop windows and beautifully created "artists benches" as well as a series of beautifully-lit installations in Clonmel shops enhanced the entire town.

The Tipperary Healthy Ireland Cultural Projects Award demonstrated the impact the arts can have in supporting our citizens and in contributing to national initiatives such as the Keep Well Campaign in responding to Covid -19. The Local Live Performance Programming Scheme was administered by Tipperary Arts Office and ensured supports put in place by The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media were targeted locally in a way which supported the local live performance sector in Tipperary while also providing opportunities for audiences to re-engage with the arts safely. Around Each Bend was a collection of poetry and prose by forty-eight Tipperary Writers and showcased an impressive collection of work by writers the length and breadth of the County at a time when we needed such initiatives more than ever.



A major highlight of 2021 was the new virtual format agreed by the Council for the conferral of Civic Receptions to honour those persons or groups that have represented the whole County and have achieved unique national or international success in the field of sport, culture, academe, science, politics or other area. Tipperary County Council held the first ever virtual civic reception in the country on 27th May 2021.

Tipperary County Council Civic Receptions:

- Tipperary Senior Footballers and the Bloody Sunday Commemoration Committee on Thursday 27th May, 2021 in recognition of their sporting achievements in winning the Munster Senior Football final on the same weekend as the commemoration of Bloody Sunday.
- Rachel Blackmore was honoured on Tuesday 15th June, 2021 in recognition of her significant achievements in being the first woman to become leading jockey at the Cheltenham Festival 2021 and the first female jockey to win the Aintree Grand National 2021.
- The cycling exploits of Sam Bennett were honoured on 2nd November 2022 in recognition of his outstanding cycling achievements during the 2020 Tour de France winning 2 stages and the overall Green Jersey as the most consistent highest finisher, sealing victory in the Final stage down the Champs Élysées on 20th September 2020 and becoming only the fifth ever cyclist to win the final stage of the Tour de France and the second Irish cyclist to win the Green Jersey.

These events were all very successful and it is hoped to continue to develop this template for future Civic Conferrals which is far more inclusive and allows greater participation from the citizens of Tipperary.

It is clear to be seen that across all the spectrums of society, from health, education, sport to social care, all depend on the continued efforts of volunteers devoting their skills, time and energy towards those in need and no words can convey the importance of the contribution that these volunteers make to community groups across the county – from the individual who maintains a green area on his own doorstep to the dedicated tidy towns committees and development groups, the residents' associations and burial ground committees, the Men's Sheds projects, the festival committees, the first responders and community alert groups. I would like to especially acknowledge and thank all these groups who do such tremendous and valuable work in making a positive contribution to their locality and environment.

In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, for his guidance and support throughout the year. Finally, thank you also to all the staff of the Council at all levels, indoor and outdoor, for their tremendous efforts in continuing to provide a wide range of services during the pandemic.

Sincere thanks to the team in Corporate Services for their assistance to me in guiding the important work of our Council during this most difficult year.

I wish to acknowledge the work of the local media who attend our meetings and are a vital conduit for the general public in terms of keeping them informed of what is happening in the county.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors in Tipperary County Council for their invaluable support during my term as Cathaoirleach. A special word of thanks to my Leas-Cathaoirleach, Siobhan Ambrose, and Councillor Michael Smith who presided as the previous Cathaoirleach.

May we continue to represent and enhance the needs of the many communities of Tipperary now and into the future.

Cllr Marie Murphy,
Cathaoirleach.





MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

JOE MACGRATH

I am pleased to join with the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Marie Murphy in presenting this Annual Report, which is the Council's eighth report since we merged as one Council.



2021 continued in the same vein as 2020, posing significant challenges for all of us from both a work and personal perspective in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic and coping with the restrictions that have had an impact on our day to day lives. The Elected Members and staff of Tipperary County Council continued to work together and respond to the ever-changing situation and we continued to facilitate remote working to ensure the continuity of all the services provided to the citizens and communities of Tipperary.

The past two years have reinforced our commitments to our core principles. We have asked a lot of our people again in 2021 and over the course of the pandemic, there has been a renewal and reawakening of the importance of public services. This Council continued to provide services during this period supporting individuals, communities, and businesses as part of a national effort to respond to the economic and social challenges arising from the pandemic. The schemes introduced to support businesses such as the rates waiver scheme and the various restart grant schemes which were delivered by local authorities assisted a relatively stable financial environment for small businesses through this very difficult time. The programme of enhancements to street surfaces, in order to make them safer and more pleasant for cyclists, pedestrians and outdoor dining underpinned the Council's Community response, placing sustainable recovery at the heart of our service role while also enhancing the quality of life of the people living and working across the county.

Notwithstanding the demands posed by the pandemic, we continued to make progress on our ambitious capital programme, maximising investment into the county from a range of national programmes including the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF), Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF), Outdoor Recreation Scheme and Town and Village Renewal Schemes. In early November Minister Humphries participated in a "Roadshow" of Tipperary to see how communities around the county are benefitting from investments made under these schemes which promote local economic recovery and support social and cultural development such as Carrick-on-Suir Blueway, Templemore Town Park Woodland Walk, the refurbishment of Suir Island House and Re-watering of Mill Race on Suir Island, River Ara Walkway, Thurles Market Quarter, Garrykenny Forest Walk and the recently completed revitalisation works at Market Yard in Tipperary Town.



I am delighted to report on the many achievements across our 4 strategic themes, in particular:



OUR ECONOMY

- Consultants continued their work on the N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction project, progressing to Phase 2 Options selection which will announce a proposed route corridor and a Public Consultation Process on same in 2022.
- Works to the value of €5.1m were completed in the first year of the Rural Active Travel Investment Programme, funded by the National Transport Authority.
- Almost €1m was invested in Climate Change Adaptation Projects on regional and local roads.
- Our Machinery Yard commenced the use of brine for pre-wetting salt for the winter maintenance programme. This results in less salt displaced, not only saving money, but also having less of an impact on the environment.
- 1,449 upgrades to LED public lights were carried out and 138 new lights completed.
- A Draft new County Development Plan was put on public display from 30th July to 15th October 2021
- Tipperary became the first county to go live on the e-planning portal (where planning applications can be lodged online) in December 2021



- **Projects funded under Project Ireland 2040: Regeneration and Development Funds and in the process of being delivered included**
 - Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration – Funding of €10.5m approved to date re Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub
 - Liberty Square Enhancement Project Thurles – Funding of €4.39m approved – Phase 1 – new Car Park and eastern end of Liberty Square completed – additional €1m secured under URDF for Western end of Liberty Square
 - Nenagh Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy project – Funding of €9.5m approved under URDF
 - Tipperary Town Regeneration – Funding of €1m approved under RRDF
 - Fethard Town Park – Funding of €2.6m approved under RRDF
 - Templemore Town Hall: Enterprise and Cultural Centre with associated Civic Plaza – Funding of €2.1m approved
 - Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter – A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan awarded €672,000
 - Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter' awarded €365,000
 - A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre: Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter' awarded €663,000
 - Thurles Market Quarter: Regeneration, Education and support for Local Producers awarded €3.4m under RRDF
 - Kilsheelan – Revitalisation of Rural Villages: A Model for Cluster Housing and Low Carbon Planning awarded €603,750 under RRDF
- Outdoor recreation infrastructure projects were delivered across the 5 districts providing upgraded amenities during the pandemic in areas such as the Swiss Walk, Cahir; Bothar na Marbh, Cashel; The Mass Path in Tipperary Town and Garrykennedy Forest Walk.
- Tipperary Tourism launched a 52-week marketing campaign, incorporating a mix of digital, print, PR, radio and TV resulting in an impressive reach of 21 million positive impressions of Tipperary as a destination.
- Four video testimonials of successful businesses based in the County were produced and released that highlights Tipperary as a viable and attractive location for business investment and location.
- A very strong performance by our Local Enterprise Office (LEO) in what was a very challenging year for start-up and established businesses The LEO has a client base of 268 companies, employing 1,345 people and these client companies created 236 new jobs during 2021.
- Fibre rollout was deployed to 30,213 premises in Tipperary which equates to 35% of all premises in the county.





OUR ENVIRONMENT

- €280,000 funding was secured towards anti-litter and dumping initiatives during 2021.
- A total of 3,487 trees were allocated to 36 groups under the Trees on the Land project and in conjunction with the National Tree Council of Ireland, a further 1,200 trees were distributed to 120 groups within the county (Tidy Towns, Schools, Community Groups etc) during National Tree Month. 156 wildflower packs were also distributed to promote pollination.
- Draft Burial Ground Bye Laws were developed to standardise bye laws across the county. The installation of a new Columbarium in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Clonmel.
- Ballaghveny Landfill recommenced acceptance of waste in September following the temporary closure of the landfill site in 2011. The empty cells were filled with contaminated soil & stone and wood ash which was mixed with stabilized waste from the former Shannon vermicomposting facility in Rathcabbin. The landfill has accepted in total ca. 8,043t of waste during the year.
- The 2nd Cycle River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 required LAWPRO to drive public engagement and stakeholder involvement for achieving water quality improvements in 189 Priority Areas for Action (PAAs), focusing on areas in Tipperary such as the Ara, Borrisoleigh, Clashawley, Lingaun, and Aherlow.
- The Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage and LAWPRO worked closely with stakeholders on the issue of nature-based solutions to surface water management. A Webinar on 30 November 2021 attended by 530 people focused on integrating a nature-based approach to rainwater management into urban design and planning.
- The dedicated crews of Fire & Rescue Services, together with modern vehicles and equipment, ensured delivery of a prompt, efficient and effective response to 1484 incidents on a 24/7 basis in 2021. Tipperary Civil Defence completed a total of 297 taskings, the majority of which were COVID-19 related.



OUR COMMUNITY

- Tipperary County Council completed the resettlement of 45 families as part of Ireland's international commitments arising from the humanitarian crisis in Syria and 198 units of accommodation were delivered through the suite of Housing Programmes during 2021. 445 applicants were offered tenancies of Local Authority dwellings and a total of 148 vacant houses had works completed which enabled them to be returned to use in 2021.
- Tipperary Studies launched a new website www.irelandsgreatwardead.ie on Armistice Day (11th November) where they now host a database of servicemen and servicewomen who died in the Great War. There are 31,384 entries in the database, the work of military historian Tom Burnell who has spent almost twenty years researching the Great War dead from Ireland.
- The Museum launched the War of Independence exhibition in 2021. This exhibition includes incredible photographs, artefacts and stories of ambushes, rescues and political instability. The timeline of events commences with the Soloheadbeg Ambush in January 1919 and ends with the Anglo-Irish Treaty ratification in December 1921.
- New Christmas lights were installed in Templemore and Thurles.
- The delivery of the new walking loops in Templemore Town Park is another highlight and has opened up the park for use by all.



OUR PEOPLE

- A total of 62 recruitment competitions were organised in 2021 which yielded 99 new starters across the full range of disciplines including Administrative, Engineering, Technical, Scientific, Fire Services, General Operative and supervisory grades.
- 20 staff members were provided with funding for third level courses under the Staff Education Assistance Scheme in 2021 to a value of €27,000.
- During 2021 a Working Group representative of all Directorates in the Council was established under the direction of the Human Resources and Corporate Services Sections to guide and assist with the preparation of a high-level Public Sector Duty Implementation Strategy and Action Plan for the Council. The Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the Council's Senior Management Team in December 2021.

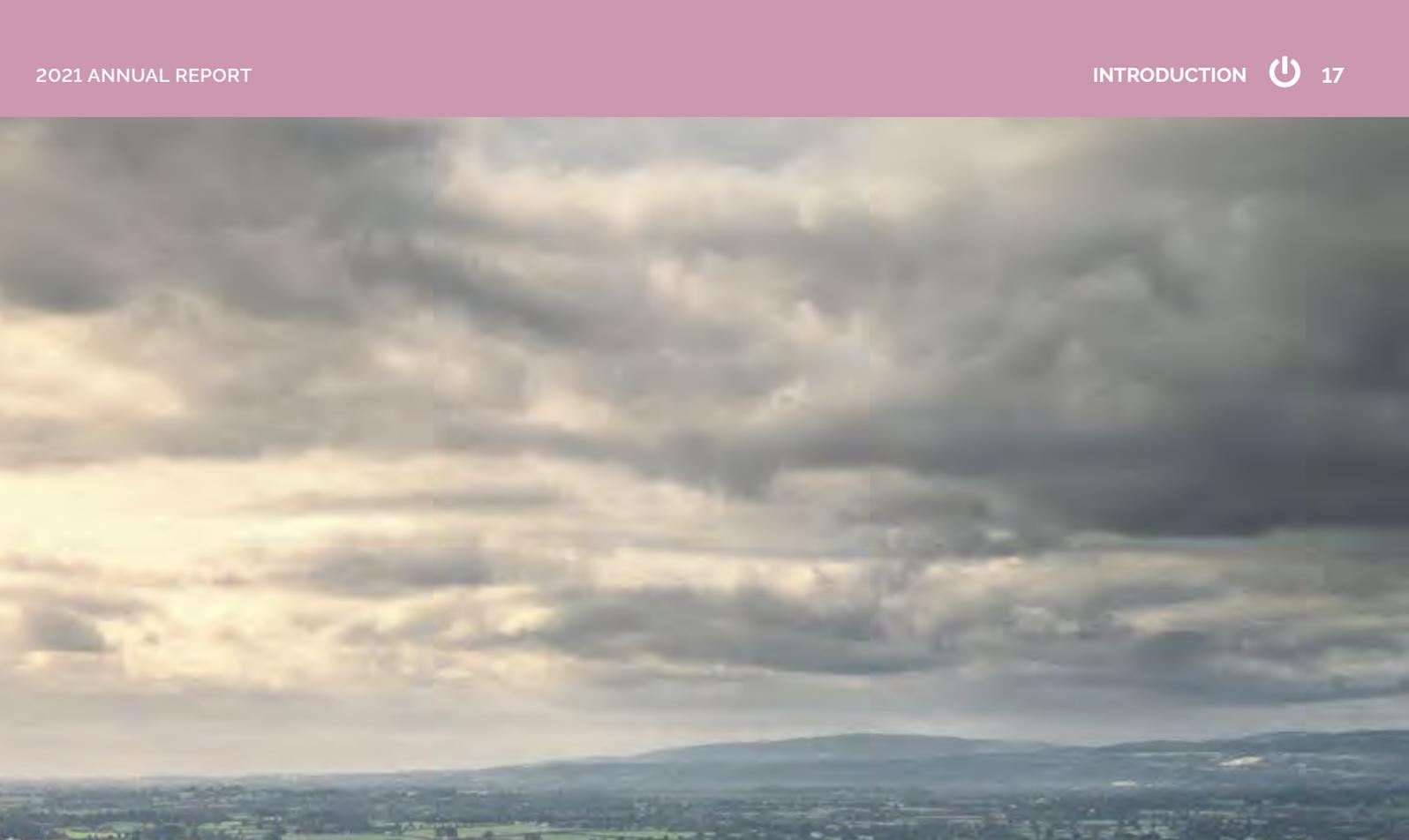


I would like to thank the Members of the Council, the Corporate Policy Group, members of the Strategic Policy and other Committees and, in particular, the work of our five Borough/ Municipal Districts for their continued contribution to the delivery of our essential public services during this difficult year. My thanks to the team in Corporate Services for their work in compiling this Report.

My sincere thanks also to the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Marie Murphy for her commitment, dedication and enthusiasm to the position during 2021, our Leas-Cathaoirleach Councillor Siobhan Ambrose, the Municipal District Cathaoirligh, Councillors Mark Fitzgerald, Roger Kennedy, Michael Murphy, Michael O'Meara and Seamus Hanafin for their ongoing support and assistance during the year. My sincere appreciation again to all the staff of Tipperary County Council, who continued to work on a daily basis in a variety of disciplines across the county, for their resolute commitment and dedication to the delivery of services to the communities of Tipperary during this difficult time.

I am satisfied to recommend this report for adoption by the Elected Members and I look forward with optimism to the re-opening of our economy during 2022.

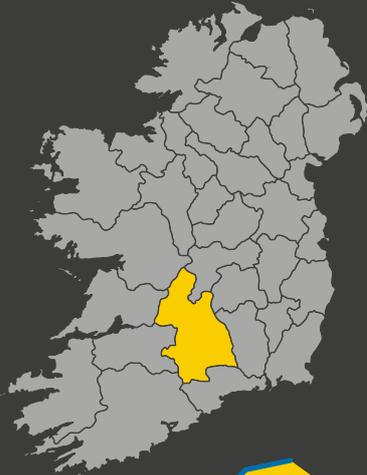
Joe MacGrath
Chief Executive



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Of the 32 counties Tipperary County is



6th
largest by
area

11th
largest by
population

4,282km²
(census April 2016)

159,553
(census April 2016)



Tributaries of the Shannon run through the northern part of the county and into Lough Derg.

LOUGH DERG

Arra Hills

M7

The region is part of the central plain of Ireland, but the diversified terrain contains several mountain ranges

Silvermine Mountains

KEY ARTERIAL ROUTES

Dublin: M7, M8
Waterford: N24

Train lines:
Dublin & Waterford

NEWPORT

is the fastest growing town. The population increased 10.5% between 2011 & 2016.



The River Suir runs through the southern & central portion of the county.

M8

THE GOLDEN VALE

A rich pastoral stretch of land in the Suir basin which extends into counties Limerick and Cork. No part of the county touches the coast.

Galtees Mountains

N24

KEY ARTERIAL ROUTES

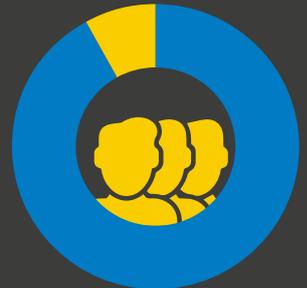
Limerick: M7, N24
Cork: M8

Train lines:
Cork & Limerick

Knockmealdown Mountains

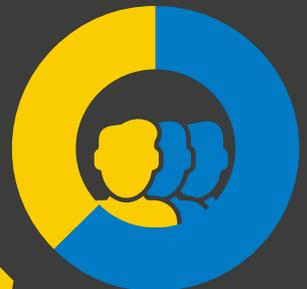
CLONMEL

is the largest town in the county, with a population of over 17,000 people.



14,000
Tipperary residents identified as a nationality other than Irish

Making the county representative of both rural Ireland and a modern multi-cultural society (2016 census)



TIPPERARY RESIDENTS

62.7%
live in rural areas

37.3%
live in urban area
(2016 census)



VISION STATEMENT

Tipperary - A vibrant place where people can live, visit and work in a competitive and resilient economy, a sustainable environment and an inclusive and active community





FIONA BONFIELD
LABOUR PARTY



GERARD DARCY
FINE GAEL



HUGHIE McGRATH
NON-PARTY



JOE HANNIGAN
NON-PARTY



JOHN CARROLL
FIANNA FÁIL



JOHN ROCKY McGRATH
NON-PARTY



MICHAEL O'MEARA
NON-PARTY



PHYLL BUGLER
FINE GAEL



SEAMUS MORRIS
NON-PARTY



ANDY MOLONEY
NON-PARTY



ANNEMARIE RYAN
NON-PARTY



DECLAN BURGESS
FINE GAEL



JOHN CROSSE
FINE GAEL



MÁIRÍN McGRATH
NON-PARTY



MARIE MURPHY
FINE GAEL



MARY HANNA HOURIGAN
FINE GAEL



MICHEÁL ANGLIM
FIANNA FÁIL



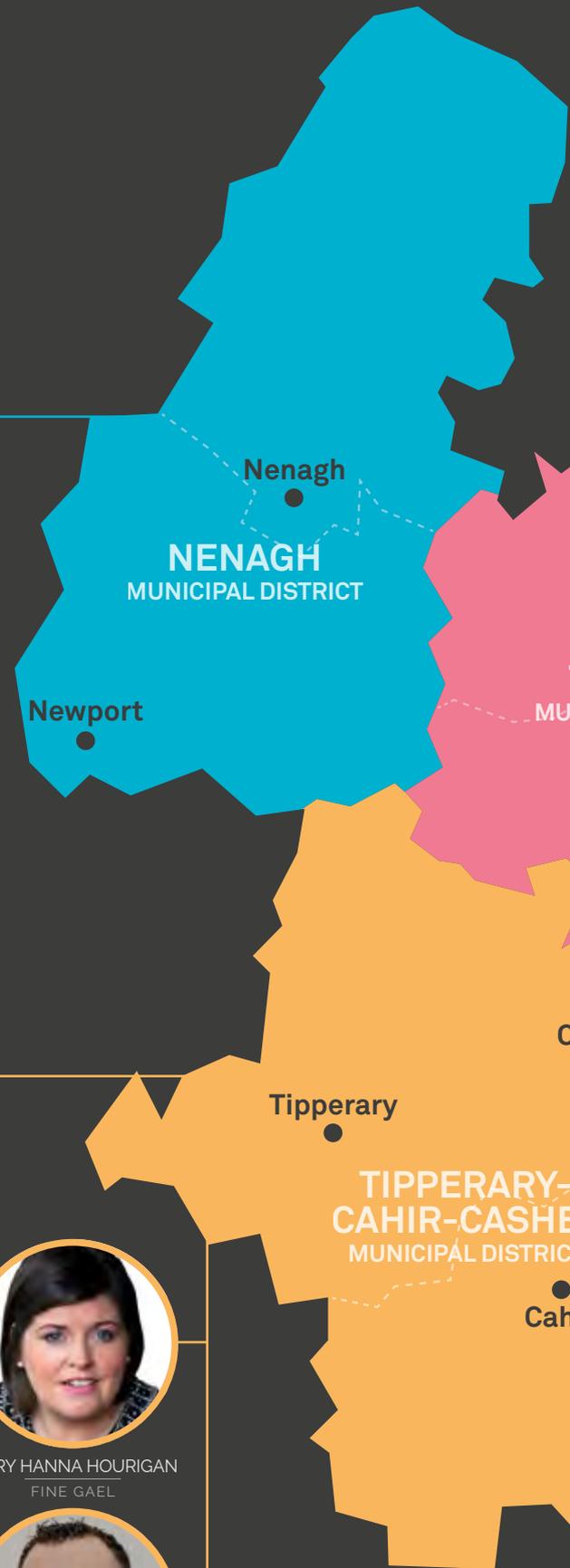
MICHAEL FITZGERALD
FINE GAEL

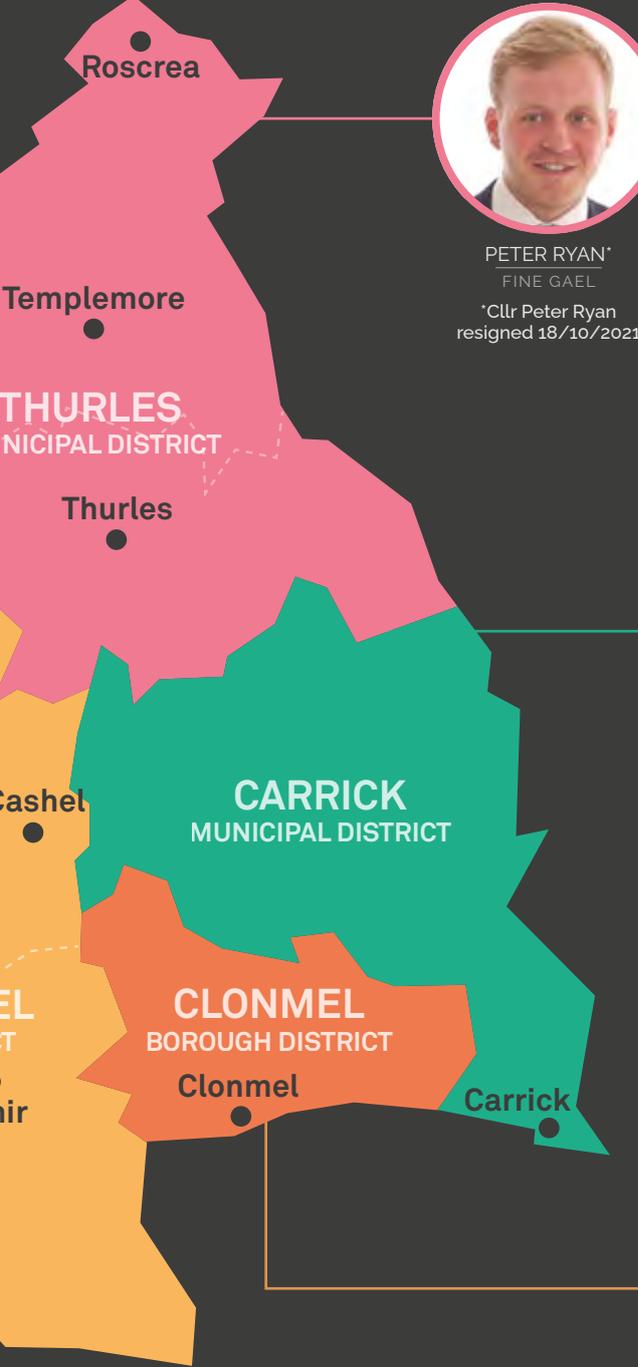


ROGER KENNEDY
FIANNA FÁIL



TONY BLACK
SINN FÉIN





MEMBERS OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

 EDDIE MORAN NON-PARTY	 JIM RYAN NON-PARTY	 MICHAEL SMITH FIANNA FÁIL	 MICHEÁL LOWRY NON PARTY	 NOEL COONAN FINE GAEL
	 PETER RYAN* FINE GAEL <small>*Cllr Peter Ryan resigned 18/10/2021</small>	 SEAMUS HANAFIN FIANNA FÁIL	 SEAN RYAN FIANNA FÁIL	 SHANE LEE NON-PARTY
		 DAVID DUNNE SINN FÉIN	 IMELDA GOLDSBORO FIANNA FÁIL	
		 KEVIN O'MEARA NON-PARTY	 KIERAN BOURKE FIANNA FÁIL	 MARK FITZGERALD FINE GAEL
		 JOHN FITZGERALD FINE GAEL	 MICHAEL MURPHY FINE GAEL	 NIALL DENNEHY NON-PARTY
		 PAT ENGLISH WUAG	 RICHIE MOLLOY NON-PARTY	 SIOBHÁN AMBROSE FIANNA FÁIL



SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

MR. JOE MACGRATH

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



MS. SINEAD CARR

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Housing Services

Delegated MD: Clonmel

Directorate: Clonmel



MR. KARL CASHEN

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES / DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Directorate Functions

Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) - National

Directorate: Nenagh



MS. CLARE CURLEY

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Corporate, Human Resources, Climate
Action & Environmental Services

Directorate: Clonmel



BRIAN BECK*

ACTING DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions

Emergency Services, Health &
Safety, Library & Cultural Services

Delegated MD: Carrick-on-Suir

Directorate: Nenagh

***Sean Keating
Director of Services
retired on 19th
December 2020**





EAMON LONERGAN

ACTING DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions
Planning, Water Services

Delegated MD: Thurles Municipal District

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. LIAM MCCARTHY

HEAD OF FINANCE

Directorate Functions
Finance, Information Technology,
Motor Taxation & Shared Services

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. MARCUS O'CONNOR

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions
Roads, Transportation, Infrastructure

Delegated MD: Nenagh

Directorate: Nenagh



MR. PAT SLATTERY

DIRECTOR OF SERVICES

Directorate Functions
Economic & Community Development

Delegated MD: Tipperary/Cahir/Cashel

Directorate: Clonmel



MS. ROSEMARY JOYCE

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Nenagh Municipal District



MR. GER WALSH

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Corporate Services



ANNUAL MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL 2021

The Annual Meeting of Tipperary County Council was held in Borrisoleigh GAA Sports Complex, Bishop Quinlan Park, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary on Friday 25th June, 2021 at 10 a.m.

On the day Cllr Marie Murphy was elected Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council for the year 2021-2022 and Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose was elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach for the term.



Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy



Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy - Leas-Cathaoirleach Cllr Siobhán Ambrose



Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr Michael Smith congratulating and handing over chains to newly elected Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy



Tipperary County Council Members in attendance at Annual Meeting Friday 25th June 2021, Bishop Quinn Park, Borrisoleigh.



Tipperary County Council Members along with Chief Executive Joe MacGrath and Meetings Administrator Ger Walsh







OUR ECONOMY

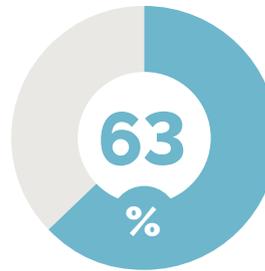
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SPC.

The Economic Development and Enterprise SPC met on 5 occasions in 2021 using the facility of Zoom.

A range of topics were presented during the year including:

- Tipperary The Place The Time 2020 Marketing Campaign.
- LECP Annual Report 2020
- County Development Plan and Economic Development
- Digital Strategy Update and Digital Strategy Focus Group
- Preparing the Way County Tipperary's Future Digital Placement
- Our Rural Futures – Rural Development Policy 2021 – 2025
- The Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme
- Tipperary Tourism Destination Recovery Taskforce
- Retail Supports in County Tipperary
- LIT and Technological University Southern, Midwest and Midlands
- Local Enterprise Office Annual Reports and Updates
- Lisheen Bioeconomy Centre – Agrichemway Project



There was an average attendance of 63% at meetings



Retail Initiatives



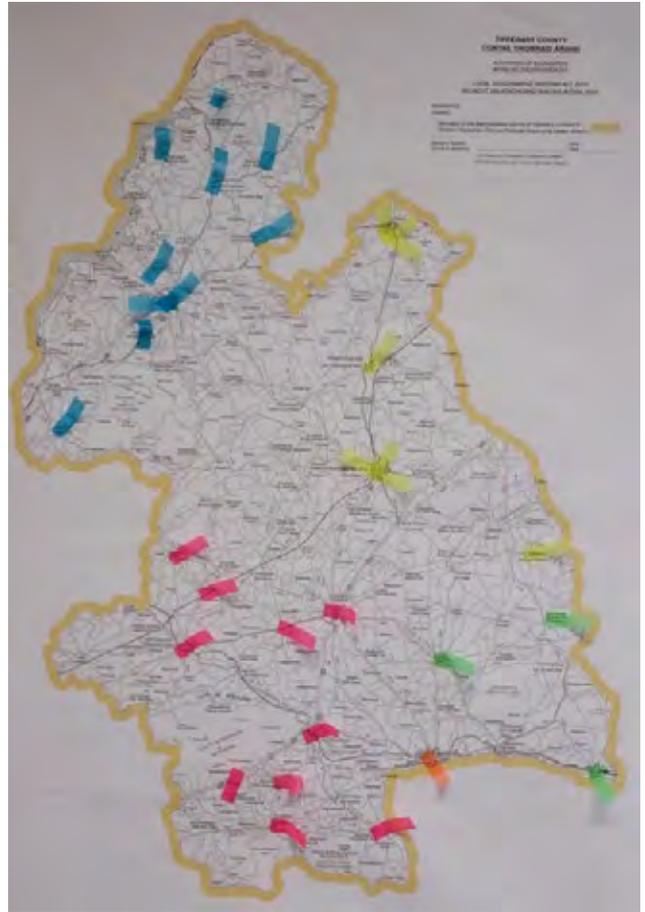
Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme



A brand was developed for the Commercial Vacancy Incentive Scheme which is being used to market and promote the scheme. A database of all the auctioneers, solicitors and accountants in the county has been used to promote the scheme directly to these key advisors to new businesses. Dedicated posters have also been developed to be placed on vacant premises by auctioneers to promote identified properties. A training program was under taken to inform all relevant staff of the detail of the scheme and promotional documentation is prepared for finance staff to issue to the new rates clients.

 ***A database of all the auctioneers, solicitors and accountants in the county has been used to promote the scheme directly to these key advisors to new businesses.***

Christmas Retail Support Programme 2021



Number of Applications	MD	Total grant	Percentage of Population	% grant
4	Carrick on Suir	€3,800	10	11
10	Tipperary Cashel and Cahir	€8,580	22	24
2	Clonmel	€2,860	28	8
10	Nenagh	€6,630	15	18
8	Thurles Templemore and Roscrea	€14,000	25	39
34		€35,870	100	100

Tipperary County Council provided financial support/ Grant Assistance under the Christmas Retail Support Programme at a total cost of €35,870 for 34 Projects. The projects spanned the county of Tipperary.

The groups also indicated that they would invest an additional €69,000 in hosting the actual events so there was an overall investment in these Christmas events of circa 105,000 to support retail and craft across County Tipperary.



Shop Local Tipperary Campaign

There were 213 posts on Instagram and Facebook promoting Shop Local Tipperary.



These have had good engagement with over 1500 followers. The Facebook posts reached have approximately 2500 'followers' and 'likes'.

A radio campaign was run on both Tipp FM and TMW in the run up to Christmas 2021 in order to encourage people to keep 'shopping local' as one of their priorities.

TMW promotion reminded people to be a LOCAL INVESTOR by Shopping local. Tipp FM had constant reminders by all the presenters to Shop Local this Christmas.

A shop local Tipperary competition was held using 8 prizes of €50 from businesses in Tipperary. The promotion was very successful with circa 15,000 engagements on Facebook. Promotions have been run to remind people if they are shopping online to look to the shop.localdirectory.ie on the Tipperary County Council Portal for all the Tipperary businesses that have their products available on line.

All these promotions state clearly that Tipperary County Council is the promoter.

Painting and Enhancement Scheme

The Painting and Enhancement scheme provides visible positive impact on the participating towns and it acts as a catalyst for the delivery of enhancements to the aesthetics of the towns and villages across the county. It also generates positive relationships with the town's retailers.

The allocation for 2021 was as follows:

MD	Carrick on Suir	Clonmel	Nenagh	Thurles	Cashel Cahir and Tipperary
Grant allocation	€1,960	€5,695	€2,980	€5,092	€4,317

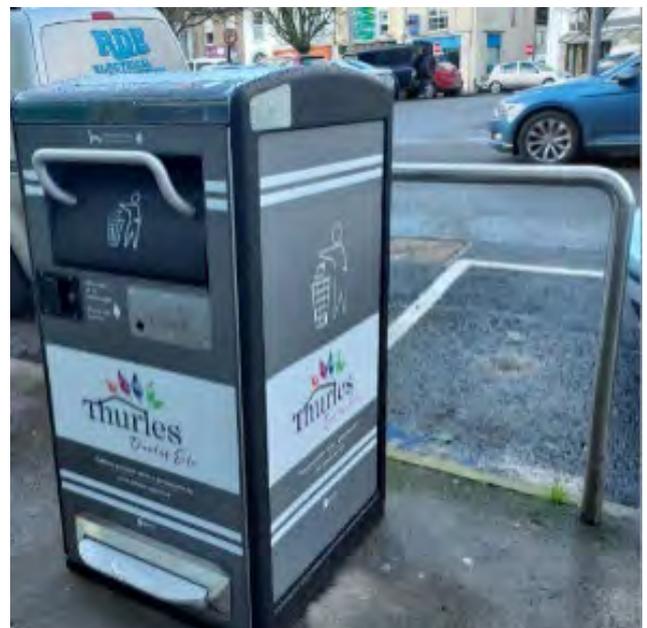


Town Centre Initiative – Templemore

Work commenced in 2021 with developing a Town Centre Forum in Templemore. A working group has been established to focus on a single project as a pilot before establishing a formal group. The initial work is based on developing a Brand for Templemore town. The branding project will involve consultation with the community and businesses of Templemore.



 *The use of 'Branding' has proved to be a positive initiative in both Thurles and Tipperary Town. The brand was adopted by the Municipal District in both cases and will be used to promote the towns in positive ways.*



Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The Guidelines for the next LECP 2023-2029 were released by the Department late in 2021 and training in relation to the Policy development took place for members of the Economic SPC and the LCDC. The Guidelines set out the process which includes a Framework of High-Level Objectives, a review of the previous plan and annual plans. The new plan will be adopted during 2023 with the consultation and development taking place in 2022.

Tipperary, The Place The Time

Marketing campaign that highlights tipperary as a viable and attractive location for business investment and location.



During 2021 four video testimonials of successful businesses based in the County, were produced and released through the Tipperary, The Place The Time social media platforms and the associated website www.tipperary.ie

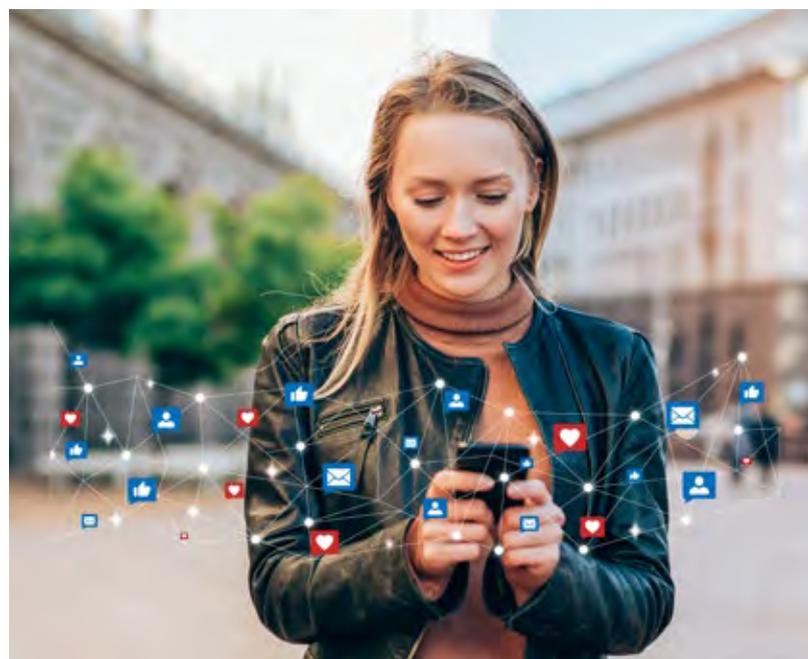
These included OakPark Foods Cahir, Blanco Nino Clonmel, Orsted (Lisheen Wind Farm) Moyne and Vision ID Clonmel. National media coverage was received of the campaign in the Irish Examiner.

The testimonials go into detail on why each of these businesses chose Tipperary as a location and being based in Tipperary works so well for them, from both a management and employee perspective. All video testimonials are available on www.tipperary.ie



Blanco Nino founder and CEO Philip Martin pictured with their corn tortilla chips product.

 *During 2021 four video testimonials of successful businesses based in the County, were produced and released through the Tipperary, The Place The Time social media platforms and the associated website www.tipperary.ie*



TOURISM:

It has been a challenging two years for the tourism industry. The tourism unit has provided active support focusing in 2021 on sustaining the industry through collaborative led marketing and connecting tourism providers with funding and upskilling opportunities to assist in forging a way through the challenges of a very difficult economic climate. A renewed focus on tourism product development saw the launch of a new ambitious strategic plan and the progression of a number of projects during year as outlined below.

Tourism Development

Tipperary Strategic Tourism Marketing, Experience & Destination Development Plan 2016 -2021

Tipperary Tourism CLG and Tipperary County Council continue to implement the Strategic Tourism Marketing, Experience and Destination Development Plan 2016-2021. 2021 saw the high profile launch of the new **Tipperary Transforming, Tourism Product Development Plan 2020 – 2030**.

This plan will lead a 150 million euro investment in tourism product development over the next decade. It contains innovative concepts for creating exciting new tourism experiences and significantly enhancing existing ones. These will lead to building greater capacity among tourism providers and extending visitor length of stay in the county, whilst also building synergies and collaborations between tourism product offerings in order to deliver world class visitor experiences. Across 19 concepts, development is focused on leveraging the county's assets in heritage, landscape and water with the entire plan underpinned by a new responsible tourism approach to tourism development.

<https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/community-and-economic-development/tipperary-transforming-tourism-product-development-plan-2020-%E2%80%93-2030>

Tipperary Transforming Projects that progressed during 2021

Cashel Destination Town

Tipperary County Council invited Fáilte Ireland to work together to develop a Destination Town Plan for Cashel. During 2021 two projects commenced and are in progress as follows; A partnership project with the OPW and Fáilte Ireland to select a site and complete preliminary work on the development of a new Rock of Cashel visitor centre; and a destination town led public realm design and signage strategy for Cashel town centre.

Fáilte Ireland Historic Towns Heritage Trail Upgrades Fethard & Cashel

The upgrade of the Historic Town Trail Signage in Fethard and Cashel was completed. Fáilte Ireland worked with the local community and Tipperary County Council to upgrade and rebrand the signage to align with the Irelands Ancient East proposition and The Butler Trail.



This plan will lead a 150 million euro investment in tourism product development over the next decade.



Holycross Visitor Experience



Tipperary County Council continued to support the community in Holycross to scope the development of a new visitor experience at Holycross Abbey.

A Tourism Impact Statement was prepared which developed the concept of a Rural Immersion Centre and looked at the potential economic impact of the development in support of a bid to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund under Category Two.



Dromineer Centre for Water Sports Activities

The second Fáilte Ireland, Platform for Growth funding scheme focused on developing water sports activity facilities. Tipperary County Council has secured support for the development of a facility in Dromineer Harbour. The facility will provide a hub in the locality from which multiple water sport operators can base themselves. These best-in-class facilities will include; changing facilities, showers, toilets, secure storage and enclosed spaces for inductions to take place.

Equine Tourism / Thoroughbred Country

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Tourism are working in partnership with Fáilte Ireland, Kildare County Council and Kildare Fáilte to develop equine tourism experiences across the county connected nationally through a Thoroughbred Experience Trail and to jointly deliver the Fáilte Ireland Thoroughbred Country Visitor Experience Development Plan. Thoroughbred Country was launched in November at the Irish National Stud. At a national level a dedicated Thoroughbred Country Executive has been employed to develop the product across the two counties. At a county level the Tipperary Equine Tourism Group actively collaborated with the Tipperary Town Taskforce to develop an Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Bid under Category Two which included a recreational tourism development connecting Tipperary Town with Tipperary Racecourse.



Suir Blueway Tipperary

Tipperary County Council worked in partnership with Waterford County Council to prepare a brief to procure consultants to complete a feasibility study on connecting Suir Blueway Tipperary with Waterford Greenway. Procurement is complete and funding has been secured.



St Declan's Way



Tipperary County Council worked in collaboration with the St. Declans Way Committee, Tipperary Tourism, Munster Vales, Waterford County

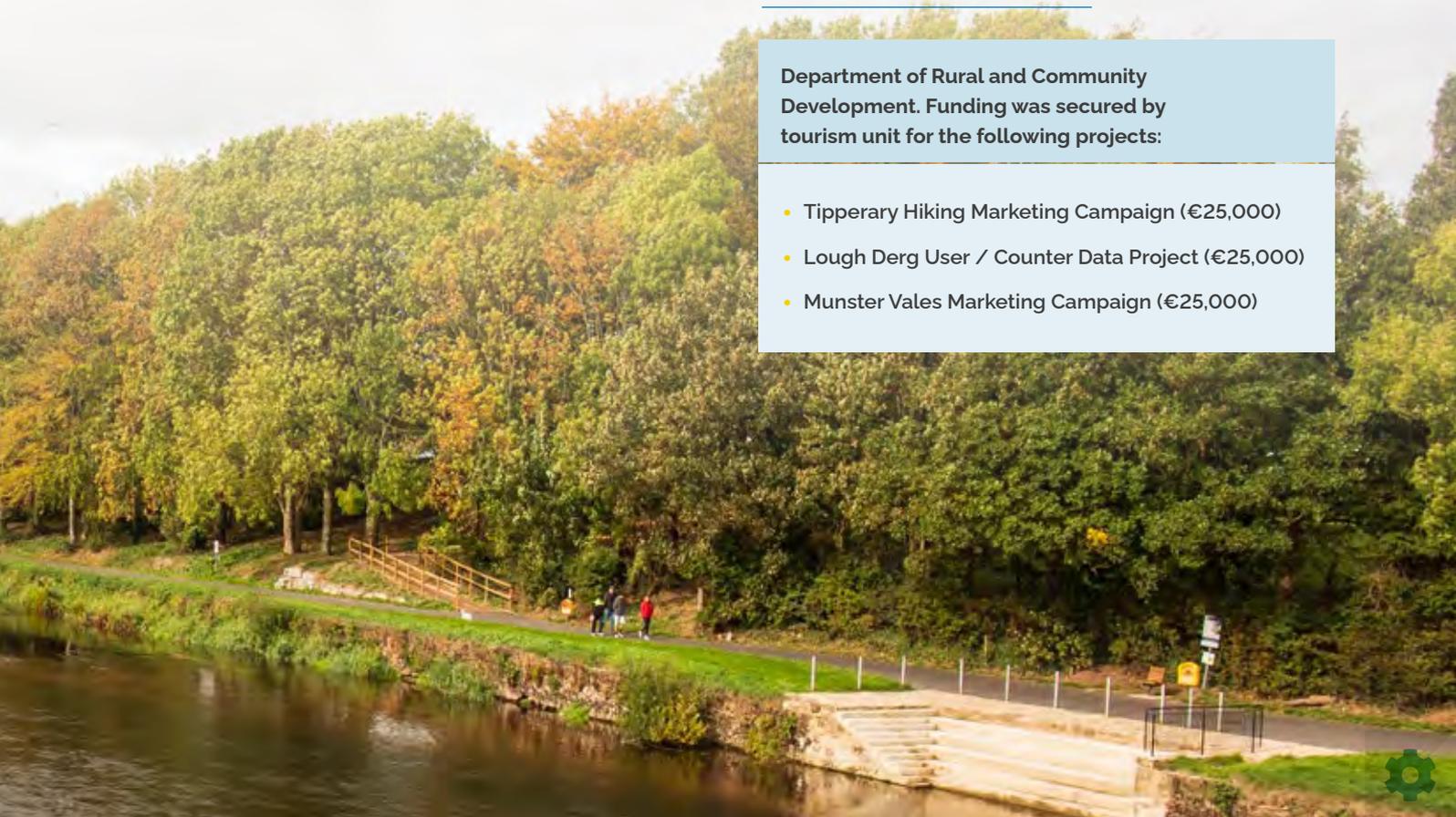
Council, Visit Waterford and Fáilte Ireland to support the development of marketing assets and launch of St. Declan's Way, officially launched by Minister Heather Humphries on September 29th. The newly redeveloped Pilgrim Path is an attractive asset starting in Cashel and finishing in Ardmore, Co. Waterford.



Outdoor Recreation and Infrastructure Scheme

Department of Rural and Community Development. Funding was secured by tourism unit for the following projects:

- Tipperary Hiking Marketing Campaign (€25,000)
- Lough Derg User / Counter Data Project (€25,000)
- Munster Vales Marketing Campaign (€25,000)



Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media

Outdoor Public Space Scheme 2021

A funding scheme to help local authorities open up and create public spaces and facilities dedicated to the arts, culture and festivals opened for applications in May. The support will allow each local authority to adapt, equip or otherwise improve public spaces for cultural and events activities. An application for Abbey Street Car Park Clonmel was supported by the tourism unit which was successfully awarded €243,512.

 *The support will allow each local authority to adapt, equip or otherwise improve public spaces for cultural and events activities.*

Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme

In March, Fáilte Ireland launched a €17million Funding Scheme for developing outdoor dining capacity nationwide. The Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme comprised two parts and was delivered in partnership between Fáilte Ireland and Local Authorities across the country.

Part One of the Scheme provided funding for individual tourism and hospitality businesses to develop and increase their own outdoor seating capacity. Grants of up to €4000 were available. €665,000 in grant funded was provided through Tipperary County Council supporting 219 business across county Tipperary.

Funding allocated under Part Two is currently being expended to enable Tipperary County Council to develop permanent outdoor public dining spaces in Clonmel and Thurles to a value of €215,000, similar to those that exist in various European cities.



Tipperary Tourism



 Stakeholders from across the industry and the county continued to work together in 2021 to address issues arising from the pandemic.

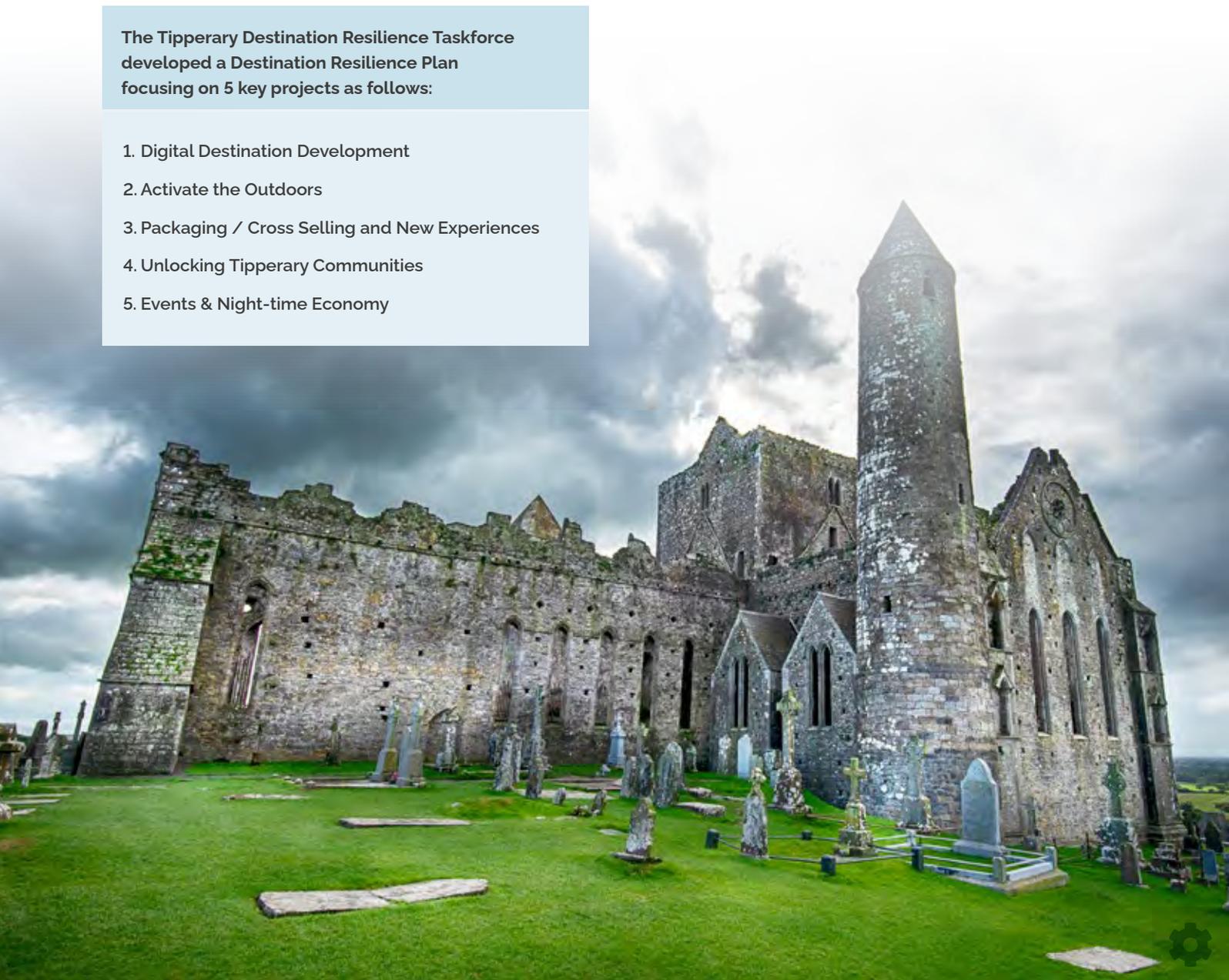
Tipperary Destination Recovery Taskforce

A Tipperary Destination Recovery Taskforce was established in 2020 to co-ordinate recovery at a destination level. This stakeholder group is led by Tipperary Tourism CLG in co-operation with Fáilte Ireland, supported by Tipperary County Council, the OPW and the industry across the county.

Stakeholders from across the industry and the county continued to work together in 2021 to address issues arising from the pandemic.

The Tipperary Destination Resilience Taskforce developed a Destination Resilience Plan focusing on 5 key projects as follows:

1. Digital Destination Development
2. Activate the Outdoors
3. Packaging / Cross Selling and New Experiences
4. Unlocking Tipperary Communities
5. Events & Night-time Economy



Re-Imagining Tourism in Tipperary

A new iteration of the Re-Imagining Tourism in Tipperary Programme ran for five weeks in 2021. Approx 30 businesses attended. This programme provided an important communications platform directly with Tipperary Tourism members where their voices were heard first hand and their needs and concerns addressed. The training positioned Tipperary Tourism members strongly for the reopening of tourism after the lockdown in the first half of 2021.

 *This programme provided an important communications platform directly with Tipperary Tourism members where their voices were heard first hand and their needs and concerns addressed.*

Tipperary Tourism Marketing

Tipperary Tourism executed a 52-week marketing campaign in 2021. Significant effort ensured that the online presence of Tipperary Tourism was maintained during the second year of the Covid 19 pandemic. In limited travel times, the company promoted the idea of considering Tipperary as a destination in the future, leading to an appropriate campaign in line with government guidelines for the remainder of the year.

A marketing mix of digital, print, PR, radio and TV resulted in an impressive reach of 21 million positive impressions of Tipperary as a destination. An increase of 90% on the marketing campaign of 2020.

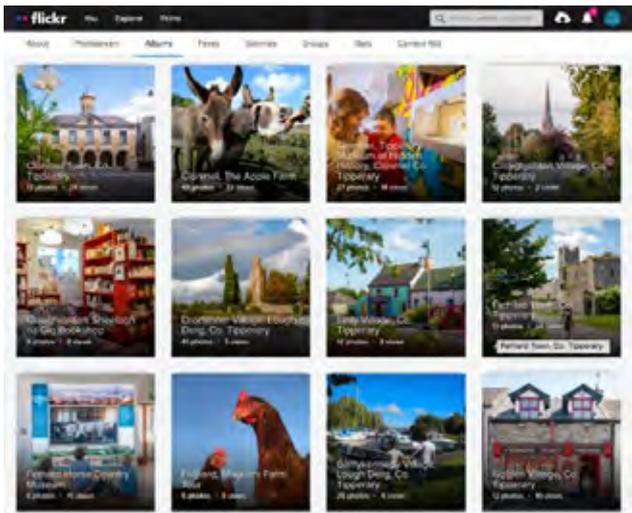
Condé Nast, a prestigious global media company that produces some of the world's leading print, digital, video and social brands, published their yearly selection of destinations for the year ahead in November. The world-renowned travel guide selected Tipperary as one of only 22 global destinations to visit in 2022.



Long Term Tourism Assets:

Creating three long-term assets and completing a brand refresh were central to the marketing activities for Tipperary Tourism in 2021. The assets were incorporated into the marketing campaign as they were completed.

1. A Tipperary Tourism Flickr account has been created as a free image resource for trade and journalists. It contains 2,000 high-quality images of the region.



"A total of 2,000 images are available for download by media and tourism and hospitality businesses"

3. A Tipperary Interactive Map was created and is now located on www.tipperary.com. The map contains details on the counties hikes, Blueway paddling trails, historical sites, The Butler Trail, playgrounds and beauty spots.



Slieve Felim Way

Distance: 43 km
Duration: 2 days

This moderate 43km linear trail covers foothills before rounding Slieve Felim, Keeper Hill and the Silvermine Mountains.

[Read More](#) [View on Google Maps](#)

2. A Tipperary Tourism Vimeo account has been created with over eight terabytes of high-quality footage for trade and journalists to use to create stunning vidography and awareness of the county.

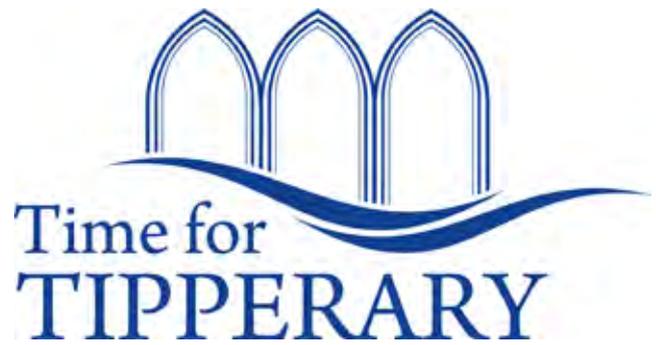


"Video Library"



Brand refresh

At the end of the year Tipperary Tourism reviewed its brand identity and commissioned a brand refresh. This refresh allowed Tipperary Tourism to encapsulate new tourism trends emerging from the pandemic into the brand. The refreshed brand is more fluid, and the bezier curve is representative of the great outdoors; a fresh contemporary colour palette and modern activity icons give the brand a fresh edge moving into 2022.



"Fethard Town Walks with Tipperary Tourism Brand"



The refreshed brand is more fluid, and the bezier curve is representative of the great outdoors; a fresh contemporary colour palette and modern activity icons give the brand a fresh edge moving into 2022.

Destination Lough Derg

Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development 2020-2024

The Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan was successfully launched on April 20th by Anne Rabbitte TD and Minister of State at the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and at the Department of Health. The Plan is aligned with the Tourism Masterplan for the Shannon, Ireland's Hidden Heartlands and Tipperary Transforming Tourism Product Development Plan. The Plan sets out the overall approach to Destination Planning in the area for the next five years, illustrating the unique attractions of Lough Derg and how best to develop visitor experiences across the region to place Lough Derg as a holiday destination of choice both nationally and when appropriate internationally.

 *The PR campaign for the launch achieved €400,000 worth of advertising value and reached an audience of 6,026,933.*



Lough Derg Destination Recovery Taskforce

The Lough Derg Destination Recovery Taskforce was established in collaboration with Fáilte Ireland's Ireland's Hidden Heartlands team to support and assist the industry through the pandemic.

A destination recovery plan was developed and implemented throughout 2021. The following projects were delivered:

- The Adventure Lough Derg APP was developed to promote a range of outdoor activities around the lake. It was launched in July, accompanied by an intensive marketing campaign with 13 videos, 12 competitions and over 50 social media posts. Image Title LDApp-9 (Images supplied separately)



- Lough Derg in the Evening – a mini-marketing campaign was delivered to support festivals & events as appropriate under Covid 19 restrictions.
- PR calendar of press releases and influencer trips delivered leveraging an AVE (Advertising Value Equivalent) of €383,455.





Discovery Points: Destination Lough Derg was awarded LEADER funding to design visitor-focused discovery points at agreed locations around the lake.

Training: Two Training modules were provided to tourism businesses on destination marketing for Lough Derg.

Assets:

- An interactive map highlighting all the outdoors activities around Lough Derg was developed for www.discoverloughderg.ie website. Image Title Interactive Map (Images supplied separately)



- A Destination Lough Derg Flickr account has been created as a free image resource for trade and journalists. It contains 1,700 high-quality images of the region.

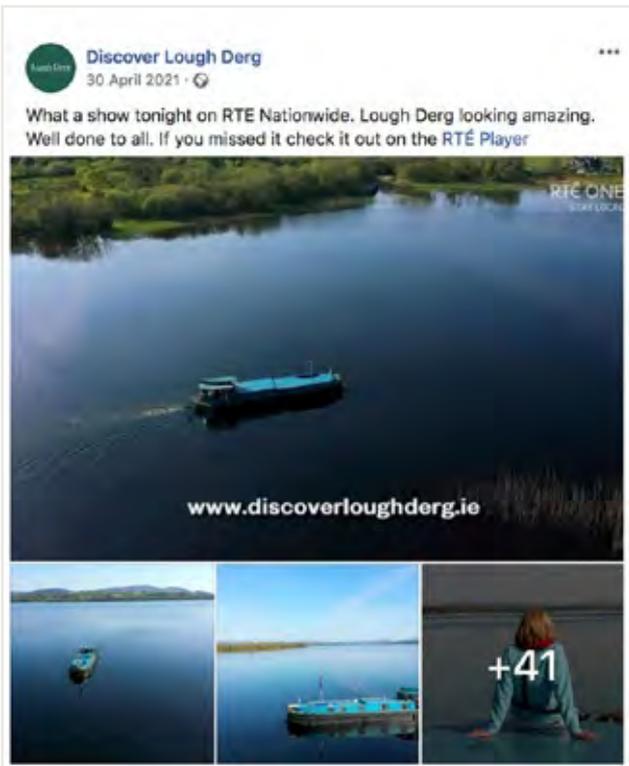


- A Destination Lough Derg Vimeo account has been created with over eight terabytes of high-quality footage for tourism businesses and journalists to use to create awareness of the region. Training manual and webinars have been provided on using these new assets.



Destination Lough Derg Marketing Highlights:

- The River Shannon and Lough Derg featured in a mini-series titled "The most Scenic Rivers in the world". The audience is 2M viewers worldwide. this show aired in Summer 2021 on Channel 5.
- Nationwide dedicated an entire episode to tourism activities at Destination Lough Derg; the show aired in early Summer 2021 on RTE. Image Title Nationwide (Images supplied separately)



- In association with the 9 Local Authorities in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands, Tipperary County Council supported a 4 part mini-series for TG4 entitled "Heartlands" the show covered Sharon Shannon's trip from the Shannon Pot to the Shannon Estuary and included extensive coverage of Lough Derg.



- Social Media Lough Derg's social media audience grew by 45.4% in 2021 to 22,967. The channels created a total of 3,413,768 impressions and published 911 pieces of content.
- There were 60,000+ visits to the website, an increase of 34% on 2020

 *Overall 13.3 million impressions were created for the region in 2021.*



Munster Vales

Munster Vales continued in its delivery of the Munster Vales Strategic Development Plan 2020-2025.

The strategy aims to maximise partnership between the four local authorities and relevant agencies, providing opportunities for local businesses to collaborate and promote their products and experiences to the national and international target markets. The three strategic priorities include stakeholder and community engagement, visitor experience development and visitor awareness and engagement. During 2021 engagement with key stakeholders delivered tangible results and direction driving Munster Vales brand forward and maximising its contribution to the local tourism economy for business across the region.

Community Engagement Program

This community engagement programme was delivered during 2021 to 90 participants from communities throughout the region including the Galtees, Knockmealdowns and Comeraghs. The program enhanced collaborative relationships providing a clear understanding of local needs and opportunities for tourism. The program outcomes ensures that communities have the support and toolkit to leverage off the Munster Vales brand and build on the collaborative opportunities between businesses, communities, counties and regions.

Munster Vales PR Campaign & Support to St. Declans Way

Munster Vales garnered PR value of over €360,000 in 2021 with press coverage in national traditional media channels like The Sunday Independent, The Sunday Times, Sunday World, Irish Country Magazine and Mail on Sunday capturing content through organized immersive press trips that represents holiday experiences in Munster Vales. Munster Vales held a 'Coffee morning with Munster Vales' where experiences across Munster Vales were showcased to over 20 media representatives this created a better awareness of Munster Vales as rural destination encompassing highlights from Tipperary Food Producer Galtee Beers and representation of St. Declan's Way. This media event enticed media to visit Munster Vales in 2022. Munster Vales released many press releases highlighted key events in 2021 including support the St. Declan's Way Pilgrim Path in its launch and through collaboration of the roll out of photography and videography for St. Declan's Way social media platforms. In addition to this, Munster Vales launched a competition in the RTE Guide highlighting Cahir House Hotel and St. Declan's Way Pilgrim Path.



THE SUNDAY TIMES HOME | TRAVEL

Up hill and down dale in the Munster Vales

When the lashing rain stops, the mountain views are revealed — *Rose Costello* climbs high and discovers a part of Ireland populated only by sheep and skylarks



The towers of Cahir House Hotel overlook Cahir in the River Suir

listening to the screech of windscreen wipers struggling to cope with grey sheets of driving rain lashing the car. With it, the feeling of hope and excitement of these years returns. Just past Cahir, the pastel pink lodge rises into view. The clouds have cleared and a stag carved from the stump of a tree stands sentinel above the lions. The lobby is warmed by a red fire crackling in a black stove.

After months, or perhaps it's been years, of clumping around in curves on suburban roads, our plan is to explore some of the local walks. The Comeragh and Knockmealdown mountains of Co Waterford are within easy reach. The "roin mounds of Keeper Hill and Slieve Felim" mentioned in Donald Ryan's *Straggly Flowers* are a little further west in Co Tipperary, but the Galtee mountains are right behind our hotel.

We settle on the Attycabraun Loop, which, although it starts just a few kilometres up the road, is in Co Limerick. It sounds like the perfect starker course for creaky city dwellers.

The hotel manager has never heard of it, which doesn't bode well, though that may be just because we have no idea how to pronounce it. The fact that it's just past Salsburghinny (aka Seachin an Rinn), which we don't know how to say either, doesn't help.

The loop follows a forestry road along the wooded banks of the Attycabraun River with views up into the Galtee mountains, before crossing the Fushion River and

Kicking back in a bath tub made for two in the bridal suite, my eyes drift over the pretty blue toile wallpaper above the wainscoting: "Is that a Japanese willow pattern? Or a traditional Chinese scene?" It is hard to tell and my thoughts drift to holidays not taken to far-flung shores. From the main room, the sounds of a football match slip under the door. We've taken over this suite at Kileasan Lodge in Co Tipperary and my half-English husband is sprawled on the plump bed sofa in front of a 60-inch TV, watching the football.

I feel a pang for the bride denied the chance to host a

having her photo taken. The hotel outside Cahir was built as the Earl of Glengall's hunting lodge in the last century. Now it's our refuge. As a not-fully-vaccinated household, we were keen to take a break far from the capital and from swarming crowds of fellow Dubliners reported to be washing up on western and southern shores. The city had begun to feel like a prison, especially as a busy neighbour walks his albatross past our house at least twice a day. So we headed for the hills and dales of Munster. The Munster Vales encompasses the region around the Comeragh, Knockmealdown,

The Sunday Times






TO ENTER

Email your answer to: rtgguide@rtja.ie, including your name, address and telephone number and labelling your mail 'Munster Vales Competition'.

Win a two-night stay in Munster Vales!

If you're looking for somewhere that has it all, look no further than Munster Vales – an incredible 1,100 kilometre stretch of olden routes and timeworn trails through the counties of Waterford, Tipperary, Cork and Limerick.

The RTÉ Guide has teamed up with Munster Vales to give one lucky reader the chance to win a two-night stay for two people at Cahir House in Tipperary with breakfast included.

If you enjoy hiking and the great outdoors, then Munster Vales is definitely the place for you. You can hike to the five highest points of the Munster Vales, encompassing the Comeragh, Knockmealdown, Galtee, Ballyhoura and Nagles mountain ranges. Along the way you'll experience unrivalled views, lush valleys, surging rivers, cascading waterfalls and rugged coastlines.

Cahir House is also the ideal spot to stay while experiencing St Declan's Way, a pilgrim walking route linking Cashel in County Tipperary and Ardmore in County Waterford.

There are also lots of other places to see and explore during your stay, including the Sulr Blueway in Co. Tipperary, the Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trail in Co. Limerick, the Waterford Greenway in Co. Waterford and Doneraile Wildlife Park in Co. Cork.

Make 2021 the year you experienced all Munster Vales has to offer! Visit: munstervales.com/

For your chance to win this great prize, just answer the following question:

Which of these counties is not in Munster? Is it:

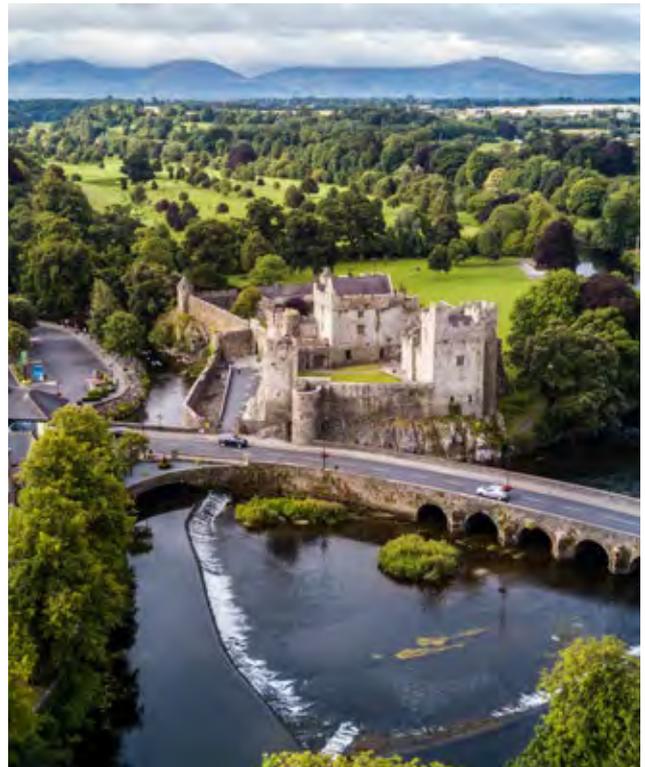
a) Cork b) Tipperary c) Donegal

RTE Guide Competition

 *Munster Vales garnered PR value of over €360,000 in 2021 with press coverage in national traditional media channels like The Sunday Independent, The Sunday Times, Sunday World, Irish Country Magazine and Mail on Sunday*

Munster Vales Photography and Videography

Munster Vales commissioned a new bank of photography and videography to support a Slow Adventure Media Campaign under ORIS funding. These wonderful images capture the essence of Munster Vales through its majestic mountain scenery and vibrant recreational activities. The images captured highlight the abundance of visitor experiences within the region.

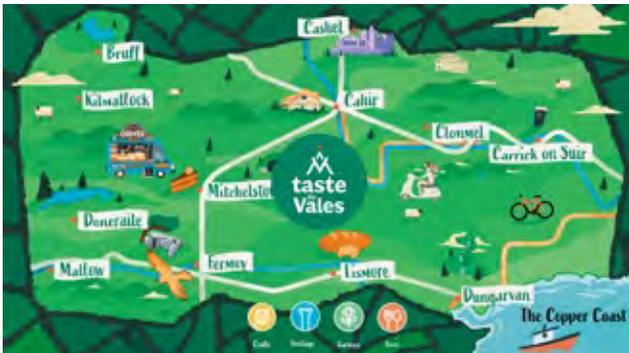


Cahir Castle

Launch of Taste The Vales Food Trails

Munster Vales launched the Taste the Vales Food trails promoting great food experiences within the region. Munster Vales launched a podcast showcasing the type of offerings available to visitors in Munster Vales. The Podcast features RTE reporter and Meet Your Maker host Liam Geraghty who discusses with local experts a taste of the vales. Each eatery that signs up to Taste the Vales received promotion via social media platforms and the website whilst receiving a window sticker promoting the trail. Taste the Vales features restaurants and cafés like Hotel Minella, Fodar, Cahir House Hotel and Mickey Ryan's to name but a few. The launch video reached over 7000 hits on You Tube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDwU2QYjUHY>

The trail calls on visitors to travel around the region tasting the many wonderful foods produced in Tipperary. For more information please visit the Munster Vales website from the following link; <https://munstervales.com/en/tastethevales>



Taste the Vales Map

Slow Adventure Itineraries

Munster Vales launched the Slow Adventure Media Campaign which highlighted 20 different itineraries appealing to visitors that enjoy a mix of adventure, heritage and culture. The itineraries showcased tourism experiences that fall within Munster Vales highlighting attractions such as St Patrick's Well, Suir Blueway Tipperary, Tipperary Museum of Hidden History, Cahir Castle, Ormond Castle, Glen of Aherlow and the Rock of Cashel along with the many wonderful accommodation offerings within the region. The Slow Adventure campaign is promoted via social media platforms along with organized press trips showcasing this rural destination to the domestic market and targeting the international visitor market for future trips. The Slow Adventure Itineraries are available to download from the following link: <https://munstervales.com/en//itineraries>



Slow Adventure Itineraries



County Tipperary Digital Strategy - RESET:

The rate of change to all aspects of our lives in this digital age continues to astound us. Digital transformation accelerated during the recent Covid pandemic. Covid 19 has had a profound impact on the working environment with the move to remote working being deemed as transformative in Ireland, as in other countries, during this period. The need to harness the potential of an electronic-based society was identified by Tipperary County Council and its stakeholder partners in the County Tipperary Digital Strategy 2018 – 2023. An emphasis on the four key areas of Infrastructure, Enterprise, Education and the Citizens, enabled a strategic focus that would position the county to seize the opportunities presented for digital transitioning.

In light of the very considerable changes to the digital landscape in the past year, Tipperary County Council considered it necessary to conduct a review of the Tipperary Digital Strategy, published just 3 years ago. This review involved research conducted with stakeholders across the county including interviews and online focus group discussions. Research into the changes brought about by the pandemic, both global and national impacts, and research into the opportunities now available including the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility were undertaken.

This RESET of the Tipperary Digital Strategy has resulted in many of the actions in the original Tipperary Digital Strategy 2018-2023 being updated. Those that have been completed in the period 2018 to 2021 have been noted and a number of the original actions remained, in some cases, having been updated. Along with this a number of new actions have been added. This includes the action to develop a County Tipperary Remote Working Strategy for Businesses.

Whilst Covid-19 hindered progress across a wide range of everyday activity, it turned the slow transitioning digital evolution into a digital revolution. As County Tipperary accelerates its digital capabilities we will see growth and intensity of many new opportunities that will place County Tipperary as a fore-runner in addressing this digital change.

Digital Hubs, Enterprise Centres and Shared Spaces

There has been ongoing development across the county to create or support availability of Enterprise Centres, Digital Hubs and shared work spaces in the light of the need for remote working and digital hubs.

 *Whilst Covid-19 hindered progress across a wide range of everyday activity, it turned the slow transitioning digital evolution into a digital revolution.*



The 9 existing projects are updated below:

Town	Project Description	Project Update
Cahir	Cahir Market House Business Centre. (dependent on Public Library transfer to Craft Granary) To renovate existing library, courthouse and former council offices into Business center. <i>Category 2 projects which are progressed to full readiness.</i>	This project seeks to restore the historic Cahir Market House's facade to its original form and to reinstate its function as an important base for enterprise and community activity in Cahir. The plans and conservation report for Cahir Market House Business Centre (which includes the current Cahir Library building and the former council offices) were prepared in 2020 and the Chief Executive's Report for the proposed development was approved by Members at the December 2020 meeting. The Council was approved funding for Cahir under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) Category 2 in 2020 on foot of a grant application submitted to progress a number of projects in the town. Category 2 proposals relate to detailed development and initiatives required to enable a project to reach Category 1 readiness. Funding is provided for the following elements of the Cahir Market House Business Centre project to bring it to shovel readiness;
Carrick	Stable Lane Digital Hub and Enterprise Townhouse;	Stable Lane Digital Hub is a Co-working Hub located at Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District Offices, New Street, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary.
	Carrick on Suir Phase 2: Expansion to 50 seats in a new location	The development of a larger Digital Hub is included in the larger RRDF application (A journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter) submitted for Carrick-on-Suir Town in 2021. The application was not successful under that round but will be resubmitted in the next round.
Clonmel	Questum and Ballingarrane business Science and Technology Campus, Clonmel	Ballingarrane Business, Science and Technology Campus. The tender process for the design and planning of a 10K sq.m. advance building solution on precinct no. 3 is complete. Additional budget is required which is currently under negotiation with the IDA, the 50:50 partners on the project. Feasibility on phase 2 in Questum is underway with a number of subject matter experts and stakeholders contributing to the assessment and business case of a cluster development of buildings servicing both the life science and food/ biotech sectors. Feasibility completion target date of quarter 3, 2022.
	Digital Hub – Clonmel Centre	Funding was applied for and awarded under Enterprise Ireland under the Feasibility Study Grant. Clonmel Business Development Park will lead the project.
Cloughjordan	Cloughjordan Eco Existing facility, training space, Fab Lab, Workshop and manufacturing unit and Co-working space	WeCreate is located as part of Cloughjordan Eco village. They currently have clients working on electronic kit design, smart digital displays, in the education sector and also some providing CAD services to industry clients.
Nenagh	Nenagh Digital Hub:	A 'Category 1' RRDF application was submitted at the end of July 2021 for Nenagh Digital Hub in a town center location at the former Sheahens Hardware building / former Rialto cinema building. This project was granted €1.2million in December 2021
Roscrea	REACH: Conversion of 11,450 sq. ft former Tesco site to Business hub	In October 2021 the design layout was completed and signed off with Agreement by the Department. The Department have been advised that Project Costs have substantially increased based on new QS Costings, and there are ongoing discussions with the Department and the Lead Partners with regards to these project increases. Approved Centre Design has considered the new center may be split into 3 sections: Public Enterprise Centre: 4,840ft ₂ (Ground and First Floor); Anchor Tenant 1: 2,475ft ₂ and Anchor Tenant 2: 2,800ft ₂
Templemore	Town Hall - Repurposing to cultural enterprise Centre	Architects EML have been appointed to progress the design in line with the Part VIII approval. Following on from this they will prepare the tender documentation and procure a main works contractor. The design is well progressed at present and would hope to finalise the design shortly.
Tipperary Town	Digihub Precursor to Tipperary Innovation Engine.	Centre closed whilst renovations in Tipperary Innovation Engine are being completed. Any clients have been accommodated elsewhere while work is ongoing.
	Tipperary Innovation Engine Repurposing of the Tipperary Technology Park to co-work spaces	Len Gaynor has been appointed as the contractor for the work which commenced in December 2021. Aim to complete works by Q2 2022. Manager recruited who will commence in March. Manager will begin branding, marketing and securing clients immediately.



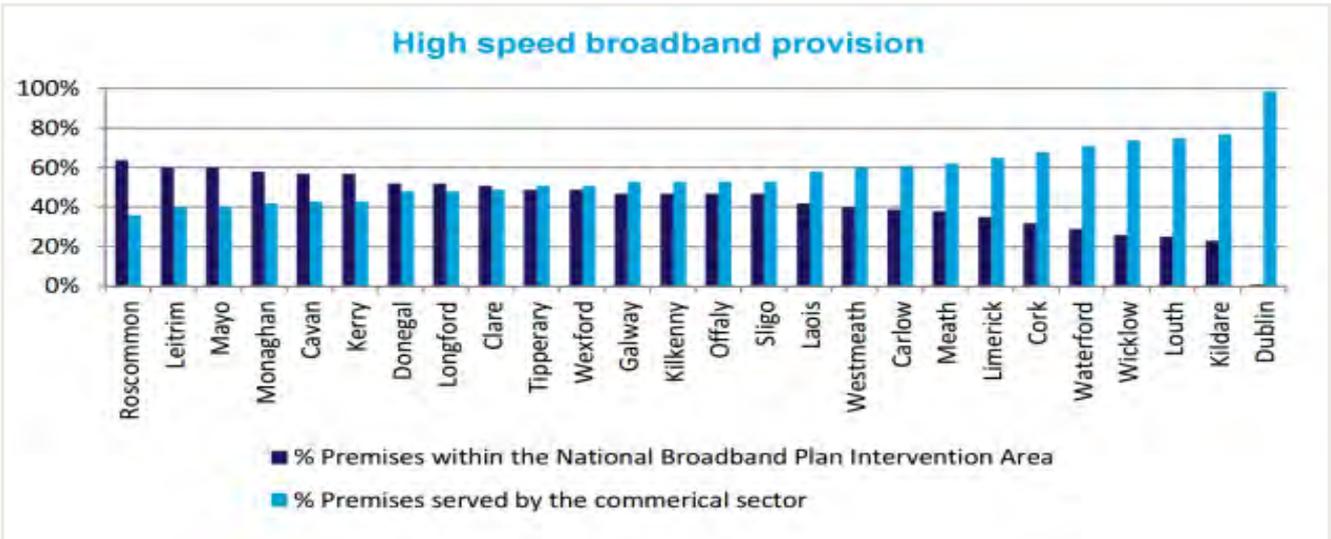
Broadband Developments in 2021:

INITIATIVE 1 - the delivery and implementation of the rollout of the National Broadband Plan (NBP)

What is it?

The National Broadband Plan (NBP) is the largest infrastructural project in rural Ireland since rural electrification, spanning 96% of Ireland's land mass. It will bring high speed broadband to 23% of Ireland's population, (69% of national total of farms) over a seven-year period. It is anticipated that the network will involve a total of 140,000km of fibre cable and over 1.5 million poles from networks throughout the country with over 15,000 kilometres of underground duct networks for fibre cable.

In total, there are 30,213 premises in 21 NBI™ deployment Fibre rollout area's in Tipperary which includes homes, farms, commercial businesses and schools. This equates to 35% of all premises in the county. Under the National Broadband Plan, Tipperary will see an investment of €117M in the new high-speed fibre network.



Source: ibec



NBI™ County Tipperary Deployment Areas – status of Work in Progress in Nov 2021

Deployment Area	N° of buildings	Estimated Time for Connection	Current Status
Ballinamult	263	February 2023 -April 2023	Survey_underway
Ballinderry	1257	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Banagher	135	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Birr	597	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_underway
Cahir	2755	January 2023 -December 2024	Survey_planned
Carrick-on-suir	1778	January 2023 -December 2024	Survey_complete
Cashel	1708	April 2023 -June 2023	Survey_complete
Clonmel	1274	May 2022 -July 2022	Network Build_in_progres
Hollyford	1705	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Hospital	271	April 2023 -June 2023	Survey_complete
Johnstown	337	January 2023 -March 2023	Pre_works
Littleton	2137	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Mitchelstown	339	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Mullinahone	1307	January 2023 -December 2024	Survey_complete
Nenagh	2361	January 2023 -December 2024	Survey_complete
Newport (Ty)	1005	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Ogonnelloe	495	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Roscrea	879	October 2022 -December 2022	Network Build_in_progres
Tallow	28	April 2023 -June 2023	Survey_complete
Templemore	2280	January 2025 -December 2026	Survey_pending
Tipperary	2396	December 2021 -February 2022	Network Build_in_progres

INITIATIVE 2 – the delivery of high-speed Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) in County Tipperary.**What is it?**

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) is working with the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) and the Local Authorities to deliver high speed broadband to specified BCPs across the country. These locations will be connected with high speed broadband in Year One/ Two of the NBP State intervention deployment while waiting for the wider deployment to reach their area.



The BCP delivery Programme is nearly completed in County Tipperary – and the following Broadband Connection Points have been connected to high-speed broadband –

1. Rossmore Community Hall, Rossmore, Cashel, Co. Tipperary, E25d429
2. Drom Community Hall, Drom, Borrisoleigh, Thurles, Co. Tipperary, E41x285
3. Curreeney Community Hall, Curreeney, Kilcommon, Thurles, Co. Tipperary, E41xc62
4. Aglish Community Hall, Aglish, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, E53e132
5. Killurney Community Centre, Killurney, Ballypatrick, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, E91h7w4
6. Moyglass Community Hall, Moyglass, Fethard, Co. Tipperary, E91wk25
7. Killoscully Community Centre, Killoscully, Newport, Co. Tipperary, V94fk20
8. Killea Community Centre, Killea, Templemore, Co. Tipperary, E41t6y0
9. The Pavillion, Ballinderry Sportsfield, Ballinderry, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, E45 F627
10. Ballinahinch Community Centre, Rosssfinch, Ballinahinch, Birdhill, V94 Cvc0
11. Boher Parish Hall, Boher, Ballina, V94 Ey06
12. Fanure Community Hall, Fanure, Roscrea, County Tipperary E53 Ae02
13. Kilcoleman Community And Recreational Centre, Burgess Gaa Club, Pairc Na Ngael, Kilcoleman, Newtown, Nenagh, E45 Yh76
14. The Apple Camping & Caravan Park , Moorstown, Cahir, E21 Yx33
15. Donaskeagh Community Centre, Donaskeagh, E34 Ak24*
16. Terryglass Community Hall, Terryglass, Nenagh, E45 Fc42
17. Ballylooby Castlegrace Gaa Club, Ballylooby Castlegrace Gaa Clubhouse, Kilroe, Ballylooby, E21 Ta47
18. Latteragh Community Centre, Sallypark, Latteragh, Nenagh, E45 Ef68
19. Gurtagarry Community Hall, Gortagarry, Toomevara, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary E45 Fa43
20. Lismackin Community Hall, Lismackin, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary E53 Y589
21. North Tipperary Food Works, Main Street, Rearcross, Newport, County Tipperary V94 Yw08*

*Not yet connected to HSB (9/2/2022) –

Connected hubs Funding in the amount of €250,000 was received from the DRCD in September 2021. This funding aims to support and complement the development of remote working facilities, which are part of the Broadband Connection Point Initiative in County Tipperary, into more active

“Remote Digital Hubs”



Killoscully Community Hub -

This Funding seeks to support the Broadband Connection Points Network in County Tipperary and help Maximise their Potential for Remote Working with the following measures and Improvements to specific BCP locations



INITIATIVE 3 - the delivery of HSB under the Schools Broadband Connection Points Project

What is it?

679 primary schools will be connected to broadband by the end of 2022 as the rollout of the National Broadband Plan accelerates. These connections will be in place significantly earlier than the original completion date in 2026.

The 35 BCP Primary Schools in County Tipperary are named as follows;

- Tankerstown National School
- Saint Brigid's National School
- Killea National School
- Leugh National School
- Ballinahinch National School
- Lackamore National School
- Boher National School
- Ayle National School
- Rossmore National School
- Newtown Upper National School
- Mount Bruis National School
- Drom National School
- Ballinacloy National School
- Gortagarry National School
- Kyle Park National School
- Kilkeary National School
- Saint Ruadhain'S National School
- Saint Cronan'S National School
- Rathkeevin National School
- Moyglass National School
- Killurney National School
- Monard N S
- S N Iosef Naofa
- St Marys Parochial School
- S N Mhuire Na Mbraithre
- Gaelscoil Charraig Na Siuire
- S N Mhuire Na Trocaire
- Cahir B N S
- Clogheen Central N S
- St Marys N S
- S N Colmain Naofa
- Two Mile Borris N S
- S N Chaoimhghin
- Poulacapple National School
- Killeen National School

INITIATIVE 4 - to support Commercial Operators in delivering their plans to deliver high speed Fibre broadband services in Urban locations in County Tipperary.

The requirement for Operators to continue to enhance their services / and upGrade their legacy copper networks in the commercial (Urban) areas of the NBP in County Tipperary – in order to improve Customers access to high speed broadband and NGA services (impacting on 40,000 premises in the County)

INITIATIVE 5 - to support the Mobile Network Operators and Mobile Infrastructures Providers to continue to carry-out coverage and capacity wireless Improvements to 2G, 3G, 4G, 4G plus and 5G and future technologies in County Tipperary.

The requirement for the Mobile Network Operators to continue to enhance their services /and up-Grade their wireless networks / and consider new future technologies – in order to improve Customer access to high speed broadband wireless services and mobile phone services.

 *679 primary schools will be connected to broadband by the end of 2022 as the rollout of the National Broadband Plan accelerates.*



INITIATIVE 6 - to complete the installation and maintain a fully supported Free Wi-Fi Network across public Access Points, at designated locations (six (6) towns) in County Tipperary, under the European Commission WiFi4EU Programme.

The Wifi4EU Scheme is an initiative of the European Commission and match funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development - which provides funding to local authorities to provide free Wi-Fi services in public places such as main streets, public parks, museums, arts centres and other public areas.

The European Commission Free Wifi4EU Network has been deployed in the following towns in the county -

- Tipperary (14 APs)
- Nenagh (11 APs)
- Roscrea (6 APs)
- Thurles (5 APs)
- Carrick-on-Suir (5 APs)
- Clonmel (5 APs)



(AP is a Free Wifi4EU Access Point)

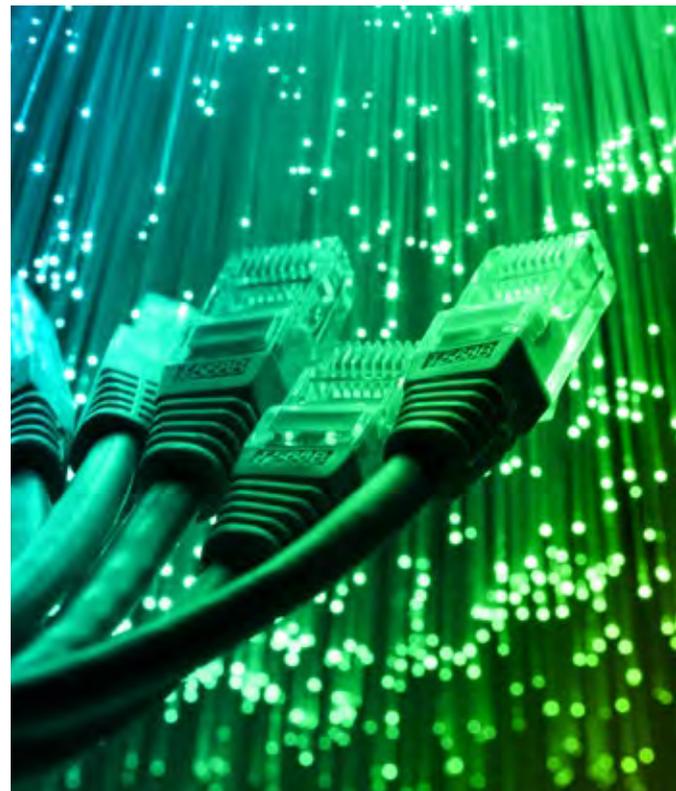


The Free Wifi4EU Network was Launched in the town of Nenagh in December, 2021.

INITIATIVE 7 - to progress a design solution with the Telecommunications Industry to pilot the concept of Shared underground Telecommunications Infrastructure.

In order to carefully manage roads networks and reduce major disruption resulting from multiple road openings, Project 1: Shared Underground Telecoms Infrastructure with Industry (Tipperary)

Tipperary County Council is trialling new technologies with Industry as part of the Liberty sq, Thurles Refurbishment Project and innovative uses of existing technologies to deliver more effective public services through the Government's Digital Innovation Programme - including the development of pilot Shared underground telecommunications Infrastructure - which will seek to ensure that all road and new housing developments are shared broadband enabled and this has shown the potential for Local Authority-led digital innovation to work for the public benefit.



INITIATIVE 8 – to progress two projects under the 'Our Rural Future Digital Innovation Programme 2021' –

The Digital Innovation Programme is an initiative of the Department of Rural and Community Development. It is designed to encourage local authority led projects that support digital development. These projects promote, support, or otherwise advance at least one of the National seven pillars.

Project 2: Shared Telecoms Infrastructure (Tipperary)

Stream: Innovation

In 2019 a Pilot Project was carried out in order to identify and assess areas within the Lough derg area of County Tipperary - where poor mobile coverage exists and to scope for new solutions which will positively impact mobile coverage for the local community and businesses. Following an extensive test - a set of Coverage maps were produced which indicated extensive area(s) of poor quantitative performance of voice services and data performance for each of the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs).

Project 3: Smart Skills for Farming Communities (Tipperary)

Stream: Innovation

Smart Agriculture IoT based network solutions are increasingly being used across the Agricultural Sector, fuelling the demand for digital skills. Digital technologies hold the key for a smarter, more competitive and resource-efficient agricultural sector. Irish farmers already benefit from an array of digital solutions that can help their farms to become more sustainable and productive. However, the extent to which new technologies are taken up in the field is actually limited.

 *Digital technologies hold the key for a smarter, more competitive and resource-efficient agricultural sector. Irish farmers already benefit from an array of digital solutions that can help their farms to become more sustainable and productive.*

Local Enterprise Office

The outputs and metrics for 2021 are shown in table no. 1 below

	Annual Target	2021 Output	% +/- Annual Target
No. of Clients Approved Funding	42	37	88%
Job Commitments associated with Priming /Business Expansion	100	123	123%
No. of Mentoring Participants	400	614	154%
No. of Training Participants	1,000	1,621	162%
No. of SYOB Programmes	5	10	200%
No. of SYOB Participants	80	120	150%
No. of Lean Projects	21	9	43%
No. of Green4Micro Projects	11	5	45%
No. of MFI Applications Submitted	19	18	95%
No. of TOVs Approved	60	88	147%

Table no. 1 – LEO Tipperary

The results demonstrate a very strong performance for the Local Enterprise Office in what was a very challenging year for start up and established businesses. While we were marginally down in the number of clients approved for funding (37 versus a target of 42), we exceeded all the remaining metrics particularly on the measure 2 (training and management development) metrics against a background of having to deliver these programmes online and remote from the trainees and businesses.

The Lean and Green4Micro projects take up from the client base was relatively poor at 43% and 45% respectively, but most businesses were preoccupied with business maintenance and continuity during 2020 and 2021. In relation to online trading vouchers, the target was exceeded by 47%, a reflection of the emerging trend of products and services going online in the last two years.

The number of Micro Finance loan applications received was 18, leading to 7 approvals and a total value of €89,500 issued to the successful clients.

Overall, Tipperary LEO has a client base of 268 companies, employing 1,345 people and these client companies created 236 new jobs during 2021. Allowing for job reductions in some companies and the transfer of clients to Enterprise Ireland (Jadeloft and Spillane Concrete), the net jobs created was 81.







ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

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

INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE (to include Roads, Transportation and Water Services)

The Infrastructure SPC (Roads, Transportation and Water Services) was established following the Local Elections 2019 and held four meetings in 2021.

Membership:

Councillors

- Cllr. Jim Ryan (Chair),
- Cllr. Michael Fitzgerald,
- Cllr. Micheál Anglim,
- Cllr. Kieran Bourke,
- Cllr. Hughie McGrath,
- Cllr. David Dunne,
- Cllr. Declan Burgess,
- Cllr. Kevin O'Meara,
- Cllr. Michael O'Meara,
- Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald

Sectoral/Pillars

Public Participation Network

Representatives:

- Mr. Ger Shanahan,
- Mr. Brian Pope

Agriculture & Farming:

- Mr. Peter Farrell

Business, Commercial and Tourism:

- Mr. David Shanahan, succeeded by Michelle Aylward in December 2020.

Development Construction:

- Mr. Seán Reidy

Trade Union

- Mr. Philip Brett

Policy and discussion items included:

- Provision of Disabled Parking Spaces in residential areas
- Age Friendly parking
- Urban raised pedestrian crossings/raised tables within towns and villages
- Active Travel
- Use of e-Scooters and e-Bicycles on public roads and footpaths
- Transformation of Water Services to Irish Water
- Rural Water Programme.



County Tipperary Road Classification Lengths in Municipal Areas (per km)

National

Municipal Area	Nenagh	Thurles	Clonmel	Tipperary Cahir Cashel	Carrick	Totals
Motorway	39.00	38.00	0	39.00	6.00	122.00
National Primary	0	0	25.40	36.12	9.91	71.43
National Secondary	52.38	52.37	9.07	20.39	11.08	145.29
Total	91.38	90.37	34.47	95.51	26.99	338.72

Regional, Local and Tertiary

Regional	276.69	154.90	58.87	272.18	135.55	898.19
Local Primary	494.74	487.98	130.00	547.00	244.00	1903.72
Local Secondary	453.66	398.86	67.03	537.27	258.30	1715.12
Local Tertiary	260.86	242.46	98.05	321.92	131.25	1054.54
Total	1485.95	1284.20	353.95	1678.37	769.10	5571.57

Totals

Overall Total including Motorways	1577.33	1374.57	388.42	1773.88	796.09	5910.28
Overall Total excluding Motorways	1538.33	1336.57	388.42	1734.88	790.09	5788.28

Summary of Road Grants Paid 2021

National Roads

Improvement	€ 7,941,374
Maintenance	€ 1,114,472
Total	€ 7,872,966

 *Tipperary County Council maintains over 5,910km of road network across all road categories*



Non-National Roads

This category caters for Regional and Local Roads. The maintenance and improvement of these roads in 2021 was funded by the Department of Transport, in addition to the Council's own resources.

The Council received grants for non-national roads amounting to €33,282,489 in 2021, as follows:

Discretionary Maintenance	€4,772,000
Restoration Maintenance (incl. Supplementary RM)	€4,390,016
Restoration Improvement	€15,393,684
Bridge Rehabilitation	€688,922
Safety Improvement Works	€595,705
Drainage Works	€1,192,053
Cycling signs	€5,411
Specific Improvement Scheme - Clonbeg Bridge, Aherlow	€392,655
Velocity Patching Unit	€100,000
PSCI Survey Support 2021	€44,000
Active Travel Projects	€168,405
Climate Change Adaptation Projects	€973,000
Training Grant	€1,676,780
R498 Latteragh Realignment & Upgrade	€169,776
Former National Roads	€1,500,817
Community Involvement Schemes	€1,193,996
Speed Limits	€25,269
Total Regional and Local Road Allocations 2021:	€33,282,489
Own Resources Allocation 2021	€7,858,419

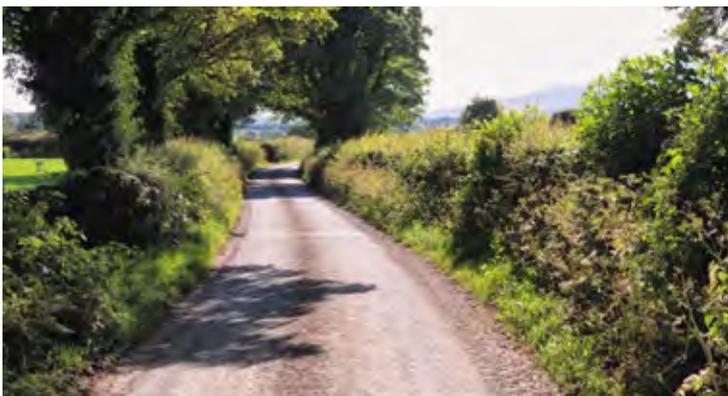
The Discretionary Grant of €4,772,000 was used to supplement the Council's own resources for ordinary maintenance of Regional and Local roads.

The Council's own resources allocation was €7,858,419.



Climate Adaptation works

 *The Council received grants for non-national roads amounting to €33,282,489 in 2021*



Major Capital Schemes

Project Ireland 2040 – Our Plan (National Planning Framework and National Development Plan) sets out the investment programme for National Road infrastructure. Outlined below is the current position in relation to major projects:

Major Road Improvement Scheme - N24 Waterford to Limerick:

In January 2018, two schemes were notified to TII by the Department of Transport:

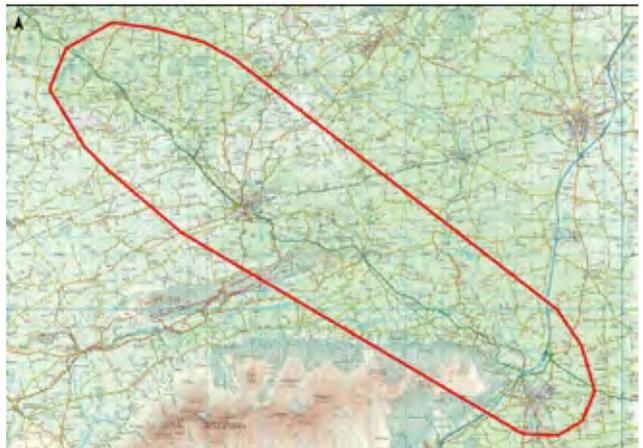
- N24 Waterford to Cahir – Kilkenny County Council advised as Lead Authority
- N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction – Tipperary County Council advised as Lead Authority.
- Both N24 projects were notified on the National Development Plan 2021 – 2030. Arup and Partners Ireland Ltd., t/a Arup won two separate appointments and are the Design Consultants on each of these projects.

N24 Waterford to Cahir:

Consultants Arup were appointed by Kilkenny County Council in August 2020 to complete Phase 1 to 4 and a project website was launched in February 2021.

Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility, was completed in April 2021.

Phase 2: Options selection commenced and is due to be completed in 2023. This will announce a Proposed Route Corridor and open a Public Consultation process on same.



Cahir to Limerick Junction Study Area, Project Website www.n24cahirlimerick.ie



National Primary and National Secondary Routes

Works were planned and carried out on National Primary and National Secondary routes during 2021 as follows:

National Primary Road Improvements

- N24 Carrick-on-Suir Pavement Scheme - This scheme involves the rehabilitation of a total of 3.5 km of pavement on the N24 National Route in County Tipperary. Preliminary design work was completed in 2019. Public Consultation and Part 8 were completed in 2020. Detailed design is underway. Some advance works in relation to drainage clearance and water main repairs have been carried out. A public tender will be advertised in Q1 2022 and construction is due to commence by mid-2022.
- N24 (Main Street) and N74 Fr Mathew Street, Tipperary Town - This scheme proposes a significant upgrade to the public realm through the centre of Tipperary town between Church Street and Cashel Road. The scheme is 1.6 km in length and encompasses two national routes through the town, the N24 and N74. The Part 8 for the scheme was passed in January 2021 with the Municipal District Council deciding not to proceed with the N24 Main Street element of the scheme. The Fr Mathew Street element of the scheme is at final design stage. Funding will be available in 2022 to commence construction.

National Secondary Road Improvement

- N62 Thurles Outer Bypass – the route for this scheme was selected in 2011 and a reserved corridor put in place. TCC wishes for it to be included in the next National Development Plan.
- N62 Kilnoe (M8) to Thurles Road South - this scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 3.9km of pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road from Kilnoe (M8) to Thurles Road South and is at preliminary design stage. Consultants were appointed in 2021 to complete the design and procure a contractor to carry out the works. The scheme will be ready to go to tender and commence construction in 2022 subject to the availability of funding from TII.
- N75 Liberty Square to Anner Hotel Thurles - 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.
- N74 Golden to Knockroe Pavement Improvement Scheme - this scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 2.5km of pavement on the N74. The scheme is located approximately 4km west of Cashel Town and is at preliminary design stage. Consultants were appointed in 2021 to complete the design and procure a contractor to carry out the works. Subject to the availability of funding it is anticipated that construction on this scheme will commence in 2023.



- **N74 Ballyhusty Realignment** - this Scheme involves the realignment of approximately 1km of the N74 at Ballyhusty. A Compulsory Purchase Order was advertised in September 2020 and submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval. An Bord Pleanála approval to confirm the CPO was received on 17 November 2020. Negotiations are ongoing with landowners for the acquisition of land. A public tender was advertised in 2021 and the contract awarded to Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd. Work on the scheme is due to commence in February 2022 and is scheduled to take 15 months.
- **N62 Entrance to Templemore (Roscrea Road)** - This Scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 700m of road pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road on the northern approach to Templemore. Construction commenced in September 2021 and was substantially completed in December 2021.
- **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.
- **N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvement Scheme** - this scheme in the village of Carrigahorig involves road pavement improvement works and addresses road safety issues; renewal, widening and extension of footpaths in the village; public lighting and public realm improvements. Feasibility work has been completed and the Preliminary Design stage has commenced. Land acquisition for footpath widening and extension works is currently underway. It is expected that preliminary design work will be completed and Part 8 for the scheme advertised in 2022.
- **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 planing 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. Mott MacDonald Ireland, Consultants, were appointed to carry out the design work, and preliminary design is substantially complete. Part 8 for the scheme will be advertised in Q2 2022.
- **N76 Grangemockler Village Pavement Scheme** – this project involves the rehabilitation of approximately 1km of the national road through the village of Grangemockler. The project includes road safety measures, improved footpaths and landscaping. The scheme obtained Part 8 planning approval in 2021. It is intended to advertise a public tender in Q2 of 2022 with construction commencing mid-2022.



Strategic Non-National Road Projects

- Thurles Inner Relief Road - this is a proposed local link between the N62 and the Mill Road, Thurles. 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
 - 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 National Development Plan and Department of Transport 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 their new store. The next step is to secure funding to deliver the Inner Relief Road Project and to finalise land acquisition.
- R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends - this project involves a Compulsory Purchase Order which was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála on April 16 2021 without modification. Tender documents are being prepared for the appointment of a consultant to carry out the detailed design, procurement and supervision of the Works contract. Following a tender competition, a consultant is expected to be appointed in Q2 2022.
- Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme - Clare County Council is lead authority. Planning procedures, the Oral Hearing and Design, have been completed. A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer was substantially completed in 2021. Tenders for the works contract were received in November 2021 and funding for construction of the scheme will be made available in 2022. Approval was granted in December 2021 to the lead authority to award the works contract to the recommended successful tenderer for the works, John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd. It is anticipated that the main contract will be awarded in Q1 2022 and the works will commence shortly thereafter. The scheme will take 3 years approximately to complete.



Active Travel Investment Programme

In 2021 Tipperary County Council received an allocation of €4.6m to improve cycling and walking infrastructure throughout the county. Works to the value of €5.1m were completed in 2021. Funding was allocated under the following project headings:

Active Travel: 2021 Allocations: Tipperary County Council		
Project Code	Project Name	2021 Allocation
TY/21/0001	Transport Studies/Mobility Plans: Towns including Nenagh, Thurles & Clonmel	€100,000
TY/21/0002	Irishtown Walking and Cycling Route, Clonmel	€60,000
TY/21/0003	Coleville Road Footpath Improvement Scheme	€310,000
TY/21/0004	Abbey Rd to Marlfield Footpath Improvement Scheme	€310,000
TY/21/0005	N52 Footpath/Cycle track Lighting Scheme	€250,000
TY/21/0006	New/Improved Pedestrian & Cycle Schemes: Including works in Nenagh, Cashel, Thurles & Roscrea	€371,000
TY/21/0007	New Footpaths Package A: Including works in Killusty, Kilcash, Nenagh, Portroe & Newport	€408,000
TY/21/0008	New Footpaths Package B: Including works in Cashel, Ballyporeen, Ardfinnan, Clogheen, Donaskeigh, Hollyford & Toem	€396,000
TY/21/0009	New Footpaths Package C: Including works in Castleiney, Loughmore, Upperchurch, Benamore & Thurles	€420,000
TY/21/0010	New Footpaths Package D: Including works in Killenaule, Cloneen & Mullinahone	€395,000
TY/21/0011	Footpath Improvements Package A: Including works in Cloughjordan, Cahir, Cashel, Tipperary Town, Ballagh, Cappawhite, Dundrum & Cullen	€486,000
TY/21/0012	Footpath Improvements Package B: Including works in Tipperary Town, Clogheen Village, Borrisoleigh, Roscrea & Carrick Beg	€417,000
TY/21/0013	Hanley's Place & Kenyon Street, Nenagh	€110,000
TY/21/0014	Light Segregation Cycle Schemes	€200,000
TY/21/0015	Low Cost Junction Tightening/Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	€200,000
TY/21/0016	Low-Cost Permeability Measures	€100,000
TY/21/0017	Safe to Schools Programme - Support Infrastructure	€100,000



A sample of some of the Active Travel Projects implemented in Tipperary is provided below:

Suir Walk and Cycle Path, Thurles:

Work involved an upgrade to the existing walkway and installation of a cycle path adjacent to the River Suir.



Ardfinnan Village:

Provision of a new pedestrian crossing and nearly 600m of new footpaths within the village.



Marlfield Road, Clonmel:

Provision of a new 2m wide footpath for the majority of the route between the Cahir Road Junction and Marlfield Village.

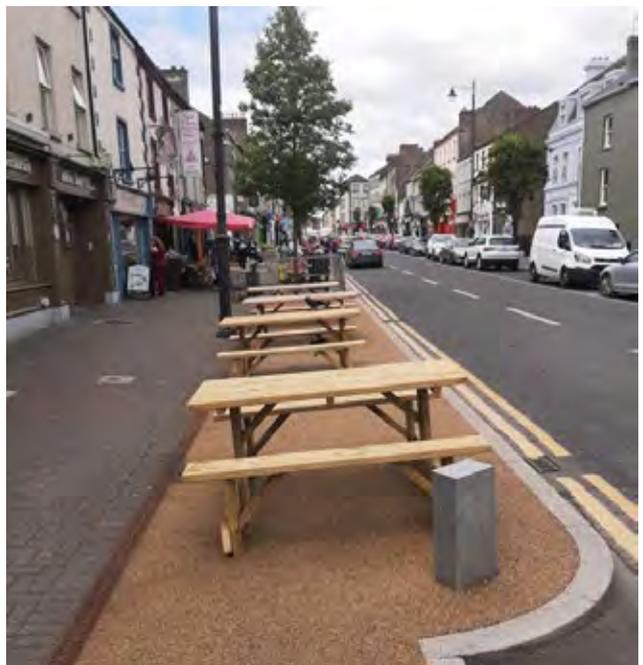


Kenyon Street, Nenagh:

Provision of outdoor dining areas on Kenyon Street.

Mullinahone Village:

New footpath to connect Blackthorn Walk to the village



Safety Improvement Works on Regional and Local Roads

A sum of €595,705 was spent on Safety Improvement Works at a number of locations on Regional and Local Roads throughout the county during 2021. Works took place at the following locations:

- R660 Thurles
- Cooneen's Cross R503/R497 - Design
- R515/R662 O'Brien Street Tipperary Town
- R689 Main Street Fethard, near Rocklow Road
- R690 Junction R692 & R690
- R502/34 Templetuohy
- L3301-2 Burncourt
- R445 Old Dublin Road Nenagh
- L1094-0 East of Ballinderry
- Realignment of Junction at R494/L6037 - Design
- R692 Mocklershill

Community Involvement Schemes

The Community Involvement Scheme refers to the upgrading and improvement of local roads where residents contribute 15% of the cost of the works. A total of 39 schemes were completed in 2021 across five Municipal Districts. Grant funding in the sum of €1,193,996 was received from the Department of Transport in 2021 under this scheme.

Local Improvement Schemes

In accordance with the Local Improvement Scheme Memorandum of February 2002, improvement works can be carried out on private/non-public roads. There must be more than one landowner on the LIS road and the road must be open to the public. A local contribution is an integral part of the LIS scheme and it varies from 10% to 15% depending on the number of residences on the road. A total of 21 schemes were completed in 2021 as part of the first Round of funding and four schemes were completed as part of Round 2 funding across the five Districts. Grant funding in the sum of €685,371 was received from the Department of Rural and Community Development.

CLÁR 2021:

CLÁR funding of €79,591 was received from the Department of Rural and Community Development for three Measure 1 projects completed in 2021:

- Killoscully Public Lighting
- Slieveardagh National School
- Lattin Lawn Tennis Club.

Bridge Rehabilitation Works

The sum of €688,922 was spent in 2021 on bridge rehabilitation works in several locations across the county including:

- Knockshanbrittas Bridge L2267
- Drominagh Bridge, Ballinderry L1091 L5080
- Rossmore Creamery Bridge L1282
- Clashnasmut Bridge L6424
- Knockrenihan Culvert L6043 0
- Rusheen Bridge, Borrisoleigh L36531-0
- Ballynera Bridge, Drombane L81341-0
- Ballycorrigan R494
- Rathcabbin Culvert L5046-0
- Kilmastulla Bridge R445 8
- Clonmore Bridge R433-38
- Bennetts Bridge R445-12
- Bridges in Carrick District



Clashnasmut Bridge, Ahenny



Specific Improvement Grants

In terms of Specific Improvement Grants on bridges, a total of €392,655 was spent on Clonbeg Bridge, Aherlow, pictured hereunder.



Machinery Yard

The Machinery Yard, which has two bases in Clonmel and Nenagh, provides a support service to engineering based activities for all of Tipperary County Council.

The core service objective is to provide machinery (i.e. vehicles, plant and equipment) at a reasonable cost to assist District based staff to carry out their functions. The machinery yard has approx 180 council owned vehicles and 25 leased vehicles under its control, with a replacement value of circa €4.2 million. In addition, it maintains approximately 20 District vehicles which would have an additional replacement value of circa €1.2 million.

The activities of the Machinery Yard include:

- Fleet management in compliance with the Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012
- The inspection, operation and maintenance of the Council fleet, including requirements under Statutory Instrument S.I. 348 of 2013 Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) (Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Regulations 2013)
- The supply of plant and machinery as required to the Districts and sections of the County Council
- The acquisition and disposal of plant and machinery
- To have available the staffing levels and skills necessary to maintain and operate the council's plant and machinery fleet efficiently
- Arranging the long-term and short-term hire of commercial machinery for the Districts.

In 2021 the machinery yard purchased an additional 20 Tonne velocity jet patcher, similar to 2020, with the aid of €100,000 grant from the Department of Transport; this vehicle will be used for pothole filling and patching in the Districts.

The council operates a computerised and automated fuel storage and dispensing system at Clonmel, Cahir, Cashel, Nenagh, Tipperary and Thurles depots to avail of the cost reduction achievable with bulk purchases through the OGP National Framework. Where vehicles cannot use the bulk facility due to remote locations, the drivers have been issued with fuel cards through the OGP National Fuel Card Framework, or can access fuel through local outlets.

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

The machinery workshop is responsible for regular inspection of all commercial vehicles in the fleet, the servicing and maintenance of trucks, pickups, vans, tractors, specialised surface dressing and winter maintenance equipment, as required by the manufacturers' specification, and the repair of vehicles as required.

Nenagh Machinery Yard and Civic Amenity Site

The proposed upgrade of the Machinery Yard and the attached Civic Amenity Site in Nenagh completed Part 8 Planning in 2021 and has progressed to preparation of tender documents for construction.



In 2021 the machinery yard purchased an additional 20 Tonne velocity jet patcher, similar to 2020, with the aid of €100,000 grant from the Department of Transport; this vehicle will be used for pothole filling and patching in the Districts.



Winter Maintenance

The Winter Maintenance service consists of four distinct phases namely:

1. Pre-salting of National Primary and Secondary routes and major Regional roads and routes of strategic importance
2. Salting and sanding of ice-bound National and Regional routes
3. Clearance of snow by means of snow ploughs from National and Regional routes
4. Clearance of snow by means of snow ploughs or mechanical loaders from county roads.

Phase 1 is termed precautionary treatment and is generally timed to be completed approximately two hours before the start of freezing conditions.

Winter maintenance of roads in Tipperary is prioritised on the following basis:

- **Priority 1:** National roads, and Regional roads of strategic importance
- **Priority 2:** Regional roads with high volume of traffic using the road
- **Priority 3:** Urban roads and Local roads on a priority basis, urban centres.

In extreme weather events Priority 1 routes will take precedence over Priority 2 routes in terms of allocation of available resources.

The winter maintenance period lasts from 1 October to 30 April each winter with the aim of keeping priority routes safe and as free as possible from wintry hazards. Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) provided a grant of €291,298 for National Road Winter Maintenance in 2021. €500,000 was allocated from the Department of Transport discretionary maintenance allocation for the treatment of non-national routes. €75,000 was allocated by Tipperary County Council for winter maintenance. In 2021/2022, €969,263 was spent by the Council on winter maintenance. This does not include the cost of salt which is purchased nationally by TII and distributed to Local Authorities.

The county has a roster of four ice-cast Duty Engineers who are responsible for use of the Weather Bureau Service to examine the forecast and track the conditions for the area, in order to issue instructions for winter maintenance based on specialist forecasts and local information.

The winter maintenance service is managed and operated by the Machinery Yard. Twelve crews are rostered on a weekly basis using five (5) No. 6 tonne and five (5) No. 9 tonne salt spreaders, mounted on council trucks, and two (2) Prewet 9 tonne salting trucks, to pre-salt Priority 1 and Priority 2 routes (approx. 1,000 km) in the event of forecast of overnight frost/ice. Tipperary County Council has Section 86 Agreements with Offaly, Waterford and Kilkenny County Councils on a quid pro quo basis for cross-boundary treatments of routes to increase the efficiency of the operation.

Snowploughs can be fitted to the salt spreading trucks when snow is forecast and the clearance of snow by ploughing will commence as soon as snow depths on all or part of the Priority 1 network exceeds 30mm. A complete schedule and map of pre-salting routes, and cross boundary agreements is published annually on the council's website www.tipperarycoco.ie



Map of Priority 1 (blue) and Priority 2 (red) Routes

Transport Infrastructure Ireland manages the national procurement of road salt for national and non-national roads. It provided an allocation to Tipperary County Council of 5,300 tonnes of salt for both national and non-national roads in 2020/2021, of which 5,007 tonnes were used between October 1 2020 and April 30 2021.

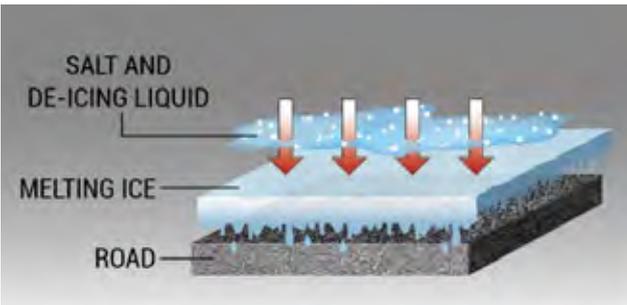
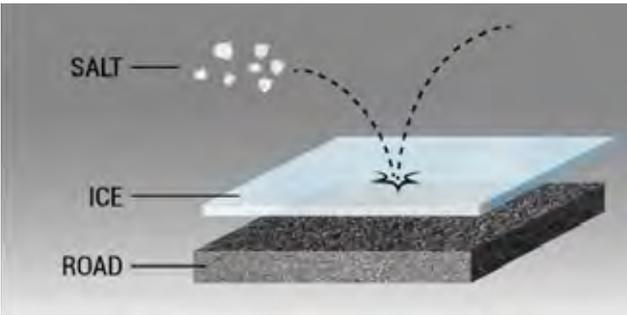


Brine Saturator, Waller’s Lot, Cashel

Tipperary County Council has commenced the use of Brine for Pre-Wetting Salt.

Pre-wetted salt, what is it and what are the advantages?

Pre-wetted salt is simply a salt that has been coated with a liquid chemical prior to being spread on a road, walkway or parking area, to prevent the formation of ice.



A pre-wetted solution is more effective for several reasons. First, the pre-wetted salt clings to the pavement instead of bouncing off the surface or being cleared off by flowing traffic like rock salt. That means less salt is displaced, not only saving money, but also having less of an impact on the environment. The liquid solution will also embed more easily into a frozen surface, which reduces scatter and works more effectively.

Salt used as a solid requires moisture to dissolve the salt in order to be effective as a de-icing agent. Moisture dissolves the salt, releasing heat to melt ice or snow. When temperatures dip below freezing and there is no moisture on the road, salt as a solid is virtually ineffective.

Using a pre-wetted salt enhances performance at any temperature because it ensures there is plenty of moisture to melt snow or ice, therefore pre-wetted salt works faster at a lower temperature with less waste. While you may be spending a little more on using an additional chemical for snow and ice removal, the investment will easily pay for itself and then some over time.

However, using a pre-wetted salt does require special equipment. In September 2021, TII supplied Tipperary County Council with 2 No. 9 cubic metre prewet salt spreaders (permanently mounted 132) ex MMARC contracts.



This will give a 30% saving in Salt usage or approximately 210 tonnes per route per year. Salt costs circa €91.50 per tonne in the depot resulting in a saving of €38,430 annually to the TII/Department of Transport for the two routes for an average salting season.

TII provided funding for the installation of a brine saturator and 60,000 litre storage tanks to be constructed in the Council’s District depot at Waller’s Lot, Cashel to service the spreading machines. Preliminary cost of the installation of Brine production and storage plant is €115,000 with civil works to facilitate the unit of c€20,000. The system uses marine salt and harvested rainwater from the roof of the salt storage barn to produce Brine. The salt content of the brine is maintained at 23% and the brine can be stored indefinitely.



Brine Saturator, installed at Waller’s Lot, Cashel



Table: 1 Summary of callouts & Salt usage

Route (Weather Station) (Base)	Total Pre-Salting actions	Number of days with operations	Total salt amount used (Tonne)
NT1 - Thurles (M8 Twomileborris) (Cashel)	65	46	409.92
NT2 - Newport (M7 Birdhill) (Nenagh)	62	43	381.18
NT3 - Nenagh W (R445 Ballywilliam) (Nenagh)	62	43	413.06
NT4 - Nenagh NW (M7 Nenagh) (Nenagh)	63	44	398.03
NT5 - Nenagh NE (M7 Nenagh) (Nenagh)	63	44	349.22
NT6 - Roscrea (R445, Roscrea) (Roscrea)	65	46	486.44
ST1 - Cahir (M8 Cahir) (Cahir)	64	44	328.17
ST2 - Cashel N (M8 Twomileborris) (Cashel)	67	47	519.25
ST3 - Tipperary (N24 Pallasgreen) (Cahir)	63	43	412.97
ST4 - Clonmel & Carrick on Suir (N24 Clonmel) (Carrigeen, Clonmel)	62	42	369.83
ST5 - Clonmel N (N24 Clonmel)	62	42	382.23
ST6 - E of Cashel & Fethard (Twomileborris)	67	47	556.75
TOTAL			5007.06

TII maintains a national reserve of salt for distribution to local authorities in the event of forecast of a severe weather event, i.e. a prolonged cold snap, or blizzard conditions. The council's covered salt storage capacity is now in excess of 3,000 tonnes and salt storage barns are located in Cahir (600 tonnes), Cashel (350 tonnes), Clonmel (600 tonnes) and Nenagh (1,500 tonnes). This is deemed sufficient to cover a 5-day snow event.



Severe Weather/Storm Damage

Tipperary County Council has a Severe Weather Assessment Team (SWAT) to deal with emergencies as they arise. The team comprises of the Senior Engineers (SE) Roads, Senior Engineer (SE) Water Services, District Engineers (5) and Corporate Services, under the chairmanship of the Senior Engineer (Roads Central).

The SWAT Chair convenes a video conference meeting of the Severe Weather Assessment Team on receipt of all Orange and Red weather alerts from Met Eireann. This meeting should take place within one hour of the receipt of the alert to enable the team to assess the alert and its implications for council services. The SWAT Team should then determine the appropriate level of response. Every warning should be considered in the context of other relevant information available to SWAT, i.e. information from the Ice Cast System, local knowledge of roads, infrastructure, vulnerable communities etc. Depending on the nature of the weather impact assessment, a warning and/or a Severe Weather Activation Plan instruction should be issued to all appropriate sections of the Council as well as to relevant principal response agencies. The SWAT team met on several occasions during 2021 in response to significant weather warnings.

Public Lighting

The Council is responsible for the provision and maintenance of public (street) lighting throughout the county. Public lighting maintenance is carried out under contract with Airtricity Utility Solutions. Energia supplies the electrical power to the lighting network. The total number of public lights in the network is circa 17,200.

Public Lighting is the single biggest user of energy in the overall Council's energy usage. Over the past number of years, the Council has introduced LED lighting in new and replacement public lighting projects, as Sox lights are being phased out. This Council has and will continue to avail of external funding where same is available from SEAI and TII for energy efficiency projects. In 2021, 1,449 older Sox and Son street light upgrades to LED were carried out and 138 new lights completed.

The Council is obliged to meet National Public Service Efficiency Targets. This means that energy consumption must be reduced by 50% by 2030. Tipperary County Council has signed the Covenant of Mayors to give effect to this commitment.



Interreg North West Europe Smart Space Project



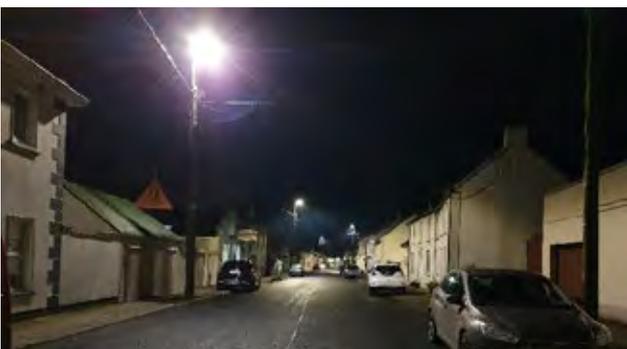
Smart-Space aims to facilitate the uptake of smart lighting in small/mid-size municipalities to enhance energy-efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions.

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Energy Agency are partners in the Smart Space Project. In Tipperary, the project replaced standard street lights (such as those in the photos below) with LED street lights. These LED lights are to be equipped with smart technology and motion detectors which will monitor movement. For example, when a street or car park is quiet, the LED Smart Lights dim down, which saves energy and reduces CO2 emissions.

The three pilot areas in Tipperary included in the project are Thurles, Clonoulty and Drangan and 570 of a planned 600 street lights were upgraded in 2021. The villages of Drangan and Clonoulty along with approximately 50% of the street lights in Thurles Town have been upgraded. Tipperary County Council funded 40% of the associated cost with the remaining 60% being funded through Interreg North West Europe (EU).



Drangan lighting before upgrade



Drangan lighting after upgrade

RMO Local Authority Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project

Twenty-four of Ireland's Local Authorities and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) propose to retrofit approximately 280,000 street lights to LED. For Tipperary this will involve upgrading 12,000 street lights to LED within the next two years.

In replacing 12,000 of our older lights to LED lights the maintenance costs to Tipperary County Council will reduce to an estimated 42% of the current maintenance costs.

The power consumption is estimated to fall to 52% of the current power usage for these 14,000 lights, resulting in a significant cost saving on power usage for the Council. The upgrading to LED lights will improve the quality of street lighting throughout the county for the general public.



Do Chomhairle:
ag lasadh ár bpobal –
ag cosaint ár n-aeráid

Your Council:
lighting our community
protecting our climate

e-Parking

e-Parking has been rolled out on a pilot basis to 9 towns throughout Tipperary as an additional, more convenient way of paying for parking. Methods of payment for parking by members of the public include a smartphone 'app', website or phone call. Benefits of the e-Parking service include the ability to process transactions remotely; this eliminates the need to handle or carry cash. Users do not need to display a ticket before leaving their car, or even return to the car to extend their parking – all of this can be controlled via the App on a Smartphone. Being a cashless system, e-Parking is environmentally friendly as it cuts down on paper use and potential litter in towns from disused pay and display tickets. Users of the service continued to increase in 2021 and now account for approximately 10% of parking transactions.



Tipperary's cashless parking system-
Quick-Convenient-Smart

TRY IT TODAY!

www.tipperary-eParking.com



Taking in Charge of Estates

A total of 10 estates were taken in charge during 2021.

Municipal District / Borough District	Name of Estate	Date Taken in Charge
Carrick-on-Suir MD	Friarsfield Phase 1, Fethard	25/03/2021
Carrick-on-Suir MD	Friarsfield Phase 2, Fethard	26/03/2021
Clonmel BD	Ash Court, Cahir Road, Clonmel	20/01/2021
Clonmel BD	Meadowlands, Moangarriff, Clonmel	16/06/2021
Nenagh MD	Ard Abhainn, Ballina	16/09/2021
Nenagh MD	Bellevue, Coolbawn, Nenagh	21/10/2021
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Cluain Orga, Golden Road, Cashel	28/06/2021
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Springfield Crescent (part of), Rossmore Village, Tipperary Town	25/01/2021
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel	Springfield Grove, Rossmore Village, Tipperary Town	25/01/2021
Tipperary -Cahir-Cashel	Townspark, Clonmel Road, Cahir	19/10/2021

Road Safety

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to impact the ability of Road Safety staff to engage in person with the public in 2021. However, this gave us the opportunity to embrace new technologies and new ways to interact with the public.

In February the Road Safety Section, in collaboration with the Road Safety Officer in Cork County Council, held a webinar for Older Road Users in counties Tipperary and Cork.

Topics included:

- Pedestrian Safety
- Cycle Safety
- Motorway and Roundabout Driving
- Medical Issues/Eye Sight and Driving
- Winter Ready Driving
- Drink and Drug Driving
- Seat belts
- Fatigue and Mobile phone use when driving.

Speakers on the day were:

- Professor Desmond O'Neill, Royal College of Physicians
- Mr. Michael Kavanagh, Driving School Manager, Aviva Driving School
- Ms. Mary Murphy, Roads Section, Tipperary County Council
- Garda Conor Gately, Community Garda, Fermoy

In March in co-operation with our colleagues in Wexford, Waterford and Kilkenny County Councils we ran a competition in conjunction with Beat 102 103 asking listeners to create a road safety video on 'Tik Tok'. The target audience of Beat 102 103 is the 15-34 age group. The competition ran for three weeks with the winning entry chosen by Beat 102 103 at the end of March, when a Tipperary winner was announced.



In October, Road Safety Section embraced new technology again and held its first ever Road Safety Webinar for Transition Year students. The webinar was timed to coincide with National Road Safety Week which ran from the 4 - 10 October 2021. It was geared towards young people who will be learning to drive and obtaining a driving licence in the next couple of years. Fourteen schools participated on the day. The webinar included presentations by first responders such as Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service, An Garda Síochána and the National Ambulance Service. It also included a talk from a victim of a Road Traffic Collision (RTC) who is living with the aftermath of that crash.

Other Road Safety Week activities included advertising in local media and the use of social media to highlight the campaign. The theme of the campaign was "Road Safety is Everyone's Responsibility".

 *In October, Road Safety Section embraced new technology again and held its first ever Road Safety Webinar for Transition Year students.*

Bike Safety Week

In September, Road Safety Section ran two free Bike Repair Clinics in Templemore and Thurles during National Bike Week. The aim of these clinics was promotion of cycling by enabling the public to come along and have their bikes checked for safety and road worthiness.



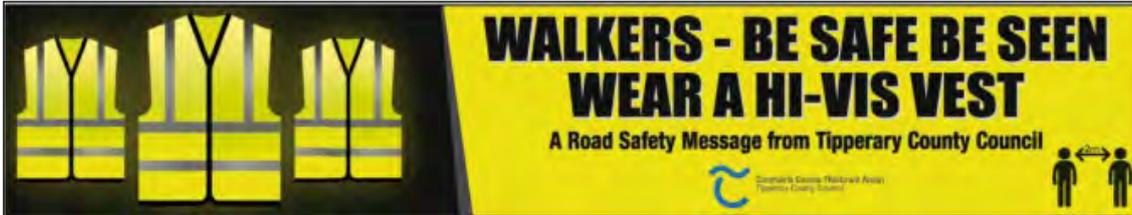
Advertising and Awareness Campaigns

In 2021 the Council undertook an extensive road safety advertising and awareness campaign. Due to the increase in the numbers of walkers and runners on our roads several campaigns were targeted at this group.

Campaigns in 2021 appeared in local newspapers, radio, online and on social media and included:

- Walkers "Be Safe Be Seen";
- Walking on Rural Roads (agricultural machinery);
- Don't Drink and Drive.
- Back to School





 *The Road Safety Section supported World Day of Remembrance for Road Collision Victims which takes place on the third Sunday of November each year*

The Government Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 was published in Quarter 4 of 2021 and this will influence the next Tipperary Road Safety Strategy, work on which will begin in 2022.

The Road Safety Section supported World Day of Remembrance for Road Collision Victims which takes place on the third Sunday of November each year and participated in the "Light up for Road Safety" initiative organised by Road Safety Officers from local authorities around the country.

We also liaised virtually, on a regular basis, with Road Safety Officers in local authorities around the country.



Roads Abutting Certificates

A total of 880 applications for Roads Abutting Certificates were received during 2021 and 823 Certificates were issued.

Abnormal Load Permits

A total of 203 applications for Abnormal Load Permits were received during 2021 and 198 permits were issued.

Road Opening Licences

The 'MapRoad' Roadworks Licencing system (MRL) administered by the Road Management Office (RMO) is the national system for the management and processing of roadworks licence applications.

Once a utility or civil contractor is registered on the MRL system, this registration enables them to apply to any Local Authority in the country for a road opening.

The procedure used on the MRL system is based on the "T" model. "T" model licences contain limits such as total excavation area, advance notification periods, licence validity periods, number of days allowed for works to take place and distances between excavations.

- **T1 Notification:** A T1 Notification is required when it is intended to perform works of high impact due to extent or complexity of the proposed works. A T1 Notification is not a licence. The notification process allows adequate time for consultation and joint planning between the applicant and the authority.
- **T21 Licence:** Following determination of the T1 notification by the roads authority, the applicant subsequently submits T21 licence(s) for the project.
- **T2 Licence:** Works of moderate to significant impact
- **T3 Licence:** Works of low impact
- **T4 Notification:** A notification of emergency works as defined under legislation. A T2 or T3 licence may be subsequently required to complete the works that are not of an emergency nature.
- **T5 Notification:** A notification by the applicant to the local authority of completion of works carried out under T21, T2, T3 or T4.

The RMO in conjunction with local authorities continues with its programme of improving efficiency in the management of Road Opening Licences by considering and implementing various Service Level Agreements (SLA's).

The National Deposit Scheme SLA was implemented in 2019. This limits the overall cost of deposits for member utilities while maintaining enough security for the Council against the unsatisfactory reinstatement of the road. The scheme is managed by the RMO and Tipperary County Council is part of the scheme. The National Deposit Scheme does not apply to private contractors.

The Group Water Scheme SLA commenced in March 2020 and applies to participating Group Water Scheme in respect of reinstatement deposits.

The Monthly Billing Agreement SLA was also implemented in September 2019. There are 8 N^o utilities under this agreement.

Following on from the previous SLAs, the National Centralised Billing Process for utilities road licencing commenced from 1st October 2020. On behalf of all local authorities under the framework, the RMO is authorised to invoice utilities using a single monthly national invoice. Payment is made to the RMO, who then refund monies received to each individual authority on a quarterly basis. Under this national approach, each utility will receive one monthly bill as opposed to one from each local authority, thereby creating efficiencies. In respect of Tipperary County Council, centralised billing was implemented for a further 2 N^o utilities in January 2021 and 1 N^o utility in November 2021, bringing the total number under this billing process for this Authority to 7 N^o utilities. Plans are in place to implement centralised billing for the 1 N^o remaining utility during 2022. It is intended that any new major utility company will be aligned to this billing and payment process as part of their registration on the MapRoad Road Opening Licence System in the future.

In addition to the implementation of these agreements, the Council's Road Opening Licence Conditioners continue to undertake Road Opening and Reinstatement Training Courses (Basic and Advanced). This will ensure that the Roads Authority has suitably trained personnel to carry out conditioning, monitoring, on-site inspection of works in progress, and inspection of completed works.



In December 2021, the local authority was notified by the RMO of the intention to implement automated granting of T3 Licences to the defined major utilities project to commence from Q1/2 2022. To facilitate this functionality, the RMO in conjunction with local authorities have formulated National Standardised Conditions to support systemised granting of T3 (minor roadworks) licences in MRL. The local authority will also have to review the road/street names on their road schedule; Traffic Impact Number (TIN) associated with each road and Road Licensing Areas/Teams in each District. Authorities will have an opportunity to input data relating to Special Engineering Difficulties (SED's).

In 2021, Roads Section received 930 N° Road Opening Licence online applications. In conjunction with the Districts, the Council favourably determined 36 N° T1 notifications in respect of various utility projects throughout the county and granted 154 N° T21 licences. During the year, 588 N° T2, 75 N° T3 and 29 N° T4 licences were also granted.

In 2021, National Broadband Ireland (NBI) launched their delivery programme for rural broadband in Tipperary. NBI applied for 21 N° T1's during the period December 2020 – December 2021. 17 N° Notifications were granted in 2021 with 4 N° due for determination in early 2022. 9 N° of the T1 Notifications were in respect of applications under Section 254 of the Planning Act processed on the RMO MapRoad Road Opening Licence system. This involved co-ordination between the Planning and Roads Departments and with the co-operation of the District Administrators, facilitating works to proceed in a timely manner.

Tipperary County Council Community Employment Projects

Tipperary County Council has supported Community Employment Projects since their introduction in 1985. The Council, in partnership with the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection continues to promote and encourage the development of Community Employment projects. Schemes sponsored by Roads Directorate operate over various locations including the Town and Environs of Cahir, Cashel, Clonmel and Tipperary Town and the communities of Boherlahan, Clonoulty/Clogher, Holycross, Kilsheelan and Rosegreen with approval for 30 N° participants in 2021.

The Community Employment projects involve a range of activities including:

- Horticultural, landscaping and environmental improvement projects
- Maintenance works in parks, towns, and cemeteries
- General Operative/Driver/Traffic Management Duties/Road Crossing Wardens.

Emphasis is placed on providing valuable employment experience and training for participants. All participants benefit from mandatory Health and Safety training which is a transferable skill, required in similar work places. After achieving mandatory training, participants then follow on with job related or skill specific courses.

The Tipperary community benefits by having cleaner towns, the improvement of amenities and landscaping of areas. Participants gain in skills, confidence and self-esteem that enable them to work as part of a team within their own community. Many of the participants on the projects have secured employment either during or directly after their involvement.



Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Studies

During 2021, Tipperary County Council completed a scheme at L3228 Holly Cottage Road, Barnane, Templemore. The Office of Public Works (OPW) provided funding under the Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Studies Scheme in the sum of €14,678 with Thurles Municipal District providing the balancing 10% of the costs of the scheme.

Also in 2021 the OPW provided funding approvals in respect of 2 N° schemes within the Thurles Municipal District:

- L7160-0 Ballycastle Road, Templemore
- L4162 Galbertstown, Holycross.

The total funding approval for these schemes is in the sum of €174,600 with the works due for completion during 2022.

The OPW is currently assessing 2 N° further minor works applications submitted by the Council in 2021 at Ballybeg, Littleton and Gortahoola, Holycross, located in Thurles Municipal District.

The Council acknowledges the continued support of the OPW and the co-operation of landowners when carrying out scheme works. Roads Section and Districts will continue to investigate locations where there are reports of flooding, and bring forward further Minor Flood Relief Schemes in 2022 where feasible flood relief measures and cost beneficial engineering solutions are identified to provide protection to "at risk" properties.

Home Relocation Works Scheme

The Council received approval to carry out Flood Protection Remedial Works at Priory Demesne, Borrisoleigh Road, Templemore under the Home Relocation Works Scheme with works scheduled to be carried out during 2020/2021.

Due to archaeological assessment arising during the course of the works, the scheme was temporarily suspended prior to progressing with the remainder of the project.

By year end, flood protection remedial works were substantially completed on this scheme by Thurles Municipal District. The remaining element will be completed in 2022 when more favourable climate conditions allow.

In 2021, the Council received reimbursement of costs in the sum of €221,756. To date, this particular scheme has been 100% funded by the Office of Public Works.

Marfield Lake and Catchment Area

Funding for this project has now been secured and Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultant Engineers have been appointed to bring the project through to construction.

The initial phases of the scheme development and preliminary design are now underway. Various surveys are currently ongoing to inform the design with a view to bringing the project through the planning process early in 2023.



 *The Office of Public Works (OPW) provided funding under the Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Studies Scheme in the sum of €14,678 with Thurles Municipal District providing the balancing 10% of the costs of the scheme.*

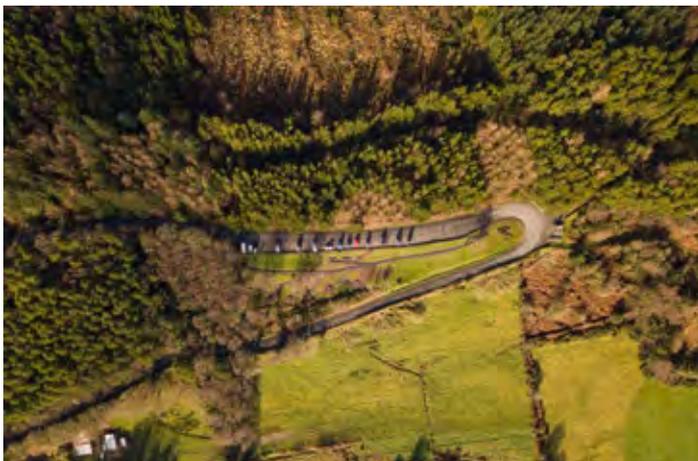


Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP)

Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP) involves projects of greater than €400,000 and up to €1 million in estimated value. Five N° locations in the county of Tipperary are amongst the first tranche of 50 N° flood relief projects identified by the OPW countrywide for priority implementation. Schemes at Golden, Holycross, Knocklofty, Nenagh and Ballina/Killaloe were approved by the OPW in 2019.

Byrne Looby Consulting Engineers have been appointed to bring the Knocklofty, Holycross and Killaloe/Ballina schemes through to construction. These three schemes are currently at preliminary design/scheme development stage, with a view to bringing the schemes through the planning process early in 2023. Preliminary scoping of the Nenagh scheme is currently underway with the purpose of identifying the areas for more detailed analysis to allow for a scope of works to be defined and consultants appointed to develop a preliminary design. Discussions are still ongoing with the OPW in relation to identifying an appropriate mechanism for progressing the Golden scheme.

 ***Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP) involves projects of greater than €400,000 and up to €1 million in estimated value.***



Single Consent Forest Road Application

Section 8 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act, 2018, makes provision for the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to act as the consenting authority for the construction, maintenance or improvement of a road that serves a forest or woodland and ancillary works. This section was enacted by order dated 7 February, 2020 (S.I. No. 39/2020).

Applicants for a Forest Road Works licence, that includes a forest road entrance from a public road, (excluding national roads), or the material widening of an existing entrance are required to submit certain documentation to the Department. These documents are forwarded to the local authority as part of the mandatory consultation process. The Council has eight weeks from the date of the receipt in which to respond.

The Department advises the Council amongst others of the decision. A copy of the applicant's Commencement Notice is also provided with an opportunity for comment within two weeks. On completion of the works, the Council may submit observations within 28 days of the date of the Completion Certificate, which is submitted by the applicant.

The Department of Agriculture produced the 'Forest Entrances - Requirements for Mandatory Consultation' document, and the 'Technical Standard - Design of Forest Road Entrances' document, following consultation with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Department of Transport. Bodies applying for a Relaxation or Departure to a Technical Standard should contact the Council before formally applying to the Department.

In the period January to December 2021, Tipperary County Council had 5 N° 2020 applications due for report in 2021 and received a further 29 N° applications. In 2021, 32 N° responses were submitted to the Department with the remaining 2 N° 2021 referrals due for report in 2022.



Pavement Management System

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

This information allows Tipperary County Council to quantify in a scientific fashion the different treatments required for the different road categories. This is a dynamic system which is updated automatically when a section of roadway is surveyed. Pavement improvement works are captured on the system, building in to a multi-annual record of completed projects. The Pavement Management System software is maintained by the Road Management Office (RMO).

Targeted Investment Intervention

Following extensive consultation and engagement with Elected Members over May and June 2021, agreement was reached on a Targeted Investment Intervention to address the worst rural “red” roads across county Tipperary. “Red” roads have a road surface condition rating of 1 to 4.

The intervention has 2 elements:

- A portion of Restoration Improvement grant allocation to be allocated to each District based on PSCI ratings 1 to 4, and
- 20% of “Towns” funding to be allocated to the worst “red” roads in each District.

This targeted intervention will lead to improved rural road infrastructure over the coming years.

 *Following extensive consultation and engagement with Elected Members over May and June 2021, agreement was reached on a Targeted Investment Intervention to address the worst rural “red” roads across county Tipperary.*

Hedge Cutting



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

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

Between 1 March and 31 August each year it is an offence under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976 (as amended by the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Heritage Act 2018 to cut, curb, burn or otherwise destroy any vegetation growing on any land not then cultivated or growing in any hedge or ditch.

During the Hedge Cutting Season in 2021 Tipperary County Council placed notices in the local newspapers in January and September and issued press releases to the local media. A total of 48 Hedge Cutting Notices were issued to landowners/occupiers between September and December 2021.





NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SCHEMES OFFICE (NCS)

Tipperary County Council is providing verification and accreditation services on behalf of SOLAS (the Further Education and Training Authority) at the National Construction Schemes (NCS) Office which was established in Nenagh in October 2018.

The NCS Office is responsible for approving candidates who have undertaken a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) or Quarrying Skills Certification Scheme (QSCS) programme with public and private sector SOLAS Approved Training Organisations. Previously this process was delivered by twelve Education Training Boards before SOLAS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Tipperary County Council in July 2018 to transfer the verification and accreditation processes to Tipperary County Council. After piloting the service for seven months, in May 2019 the NCS Office became responsible for providing verification and accreditation services nationally in the Republic of Ireland for CSCS and QSCS programmes.

The services provided cover all of the CSCS and QSCS programmes that are delivered nationally and the office corresponds with in excess of 50 Approved Training Organisations nationwide as required.

Despite the continuing challenges posed by Covid-19 in 2021, the office processed a total number of 8,458 participants who undertook one or more of the 34 programmes available under the CSCS and QSCS schemes. Examples of the programmes verified and accredited include: Signing Lighting and Guarding at Roadworks, Locating and Avoiding Underground Services, Health and Safety at Roadworks, and plant programmes such as Telescopic Handler Operations, Front Loading Site Dumper Operations and 360 Excavator Operations etc.

The office continued also to deliver an Internal Verifier Training Programme to the Approved Training Organisations, and effectively adapted the training programme to deliver it through zoom when Covid-19 restrictions did not allow on-site visits.

Work continued also on the digitisation project, gradually scanning all packs received and processed since the NCS Office was established in 2018 delivering efficiency when historic assessments are requested by SOLAS.

In summary while 2021 continued to be an extremely challenging year for all, the level of service delivery remained at an exceptionally high level and standard.



The NCS Office is responsible for approving candidates who have undertaken a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) or Quarrying Skills Certification Scheme (QSCS) programme with public and private sector SOLAS Approved Training Organisations.



LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES NATIONAL TRAINING GROUP (LASNTG)

Background

LASNTG is a shared service delivering training courses across a range of areas. The overarching LASNTG committee is chaired by a Local Authority Chief Executive.

The governance of LASNTG is achieved through four oversight groups namely the Roads Services Training Group (RSTG), Water Services Training Group (WSTG), Environmental Services Training Group (ESTG) and Fire Services Training Group (FSTG) each comprised of representatives from the relevant bodies within the sector and chaired by a local authority Chief Executive.

The group oversees and quality assures the delivery of almost 180 courses from single day courses and refreshers up to QQI level 9 post graduate courses. Details of the various courses are available to view at the following website <https://www.lasntg.ie/master-courses>. These courses are specifically designed to meet the training needs of the sector.

2021 Update

The training environment in 2021 was again challenging due to the restrictions arising from COVID-19.

However, LASNTG and the Regional Training Centres adapted and appropriate controls such as PPE, Social Distancing etc., combined with blended learning has made it possible to deliver a significant amount of training to continue serving the sector.

In 2021 LASNTG in Partnership with Carlow IT developed an additional QQI level 7 course in Environmental and Planning Legislation which attracted 75 students.

2021 Conferences

In 2021, all in person conferences were postponed as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. The Environmental Services Training Group conference was held as an online event and attended by approximately 200 delegates. The focus of the 2021 conference was Climate Action in keeping with the escalation of the Climate Action Regional Offices training drive. It is expected that as restrictions ease in 2022 the Roads and Water Services conferences will be in person events with the Environmental conference planned to be an online event over two mornings in April 2022.

The courses are delivered through

- 5 local authority hosted Regional Training Centres at Roscrea (Co. Tipperary), Ballincollig (Co. Cork), Ballycoolin (Dublin), Castlebar (Co. Mayo) and Stranorlar (Co. Donegal). See figure 1.
- Sligo and Carlow IT who between them deliver a total of 14 courses at QQI level 6 to 9.



Figure 1: The five Regional Training Centres

Training Activity

In 2021 the delivery of courses had to pivot to address restrictions, with many courses (where appropriate) moving to on-line/blended delivery to meet the needs of the learners. It is expected that in 2022 there will be increased activity in meeting the need for courses that must be delivered on site/face to face. However, the benefits of blended learning are recognised and will continue to be considered in all aspects of course development.



2021 RTC Training Days

There were over 21,500 training days delivered across the 5 Regional Training Centres in 2021, this represents an increase of 5% on the 2020 training days.

	Ballincollig	Ballycoolin	Castlebar	Roscrea	Stranorlar	Total	%
Roads	1,325	1,122	1,973	2,387	1,526	8,333	39%
Water	442	877	975	820	696	3,810	18%
Environment	145	30	73	157	335	740	3%
Fire	613	450	410	1,261	270	3,004	14%
Other	827	1,009	1,344	965	1,581	5,726	26%
Total	3,352	3,488	4,775	5,590	4,408	21,613	

Enrolment in Institute of Technology Courses 2021-2022 academic year

LASNTG works collaboratively with both Carlow IT and Sligo IT to deliver a number of QQI courses particularly relevant to the Local Authority Sector. At the end of 2021 the following summarises the number of students enrolled in these courses.

Courses and Numbers in Carlow Institute of Technology

Level	Course Description	Numbers
7	Certificate in Building Control Management	36
7	Certificate in Environmental and Planning Legislation	75
7	Certificate in Road Programme Management	35
9	Certificate in Leadership for Performance & Change – SUMMER groups 2021	110

Courses and Numbers in Sligo Institute of Technology

Level	Course Description	Numbers
WATER		
6	Certificate in Drinking Water Treatment Operations	30
6	Certificate in Waste Water Treatment Operations	12
9	PG Diploma of Science in Water Services Management	6
9	Masters of Science in Water Services Management	16
ENVIRONMENT		
7	Certificate in Waste Regulation	21
ROADS		
9	Bridge Engineering Inspection	2
9	Certificate in Road Maintenance Engineering & Network Management	2
9	Certificate in Engineering in Road Engineering and Design	0
9	PG Diploma in Engineering in Road and Transport Engineering	4
9	Master of Engineering in Road and Transport Engineering	9



LASNTG works collaboratively with both Carlow IT and Sligo IT to deliver a number of QQI courses particularly relevant to the Local Authority Sector.



External Training Providers Framework 2019-2021

LASNTG undertakes a tendering process to create a panel of external training providers.

The last competition was run in 2018 and it was expected that we would run a competition again in 2021 to establish the 2022-2024 Framework. As a result of Covid-19 related issues the decision was taken to extend the existing framework for an additional 12 months and work has now commenced on preparing for this EU level competition during 2022.

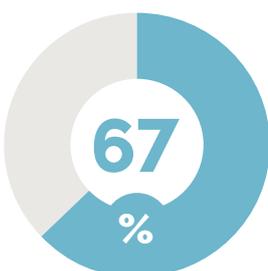
Development of New Training Programmes

A range of new training programmes were made available in 2021.

For example, the Engineering Inspection programme aimed at Bridge Inspectors and the Surface Water Construction and Maintenance programme aimed at site staff were both completed in the area of Roads. In the area of Environment, the Certificate in Regulation of Waste Activities opened for applications in collaboration with IT Sligo. In the area of Water Services, work commenced on the development of refresher programmes for water and wastewater plant operators, utilising an external consultant. It should be noted also that an agreement was made, with an external training provider who is leaving the training market in early 2022, to procure copyright of 28 training programmes for water and wastewater services staff. This transfer of ownership to LASNTG will take place in early 2022.

Training Budget Expenditure

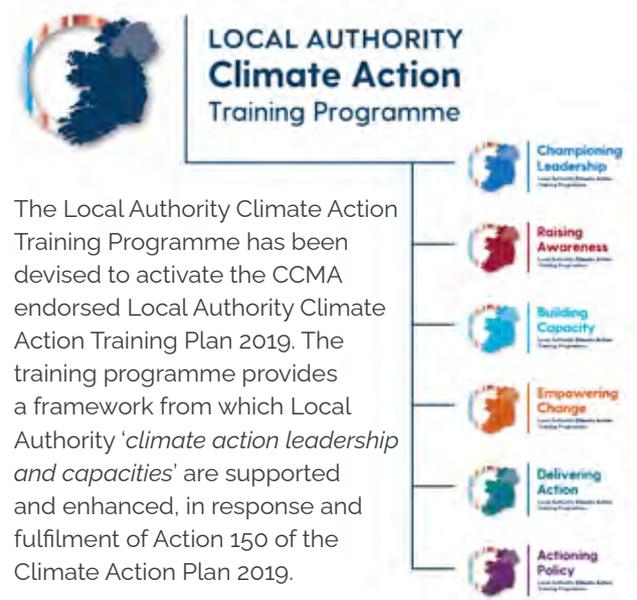
The training Budgets in 2021 were 67% expended and one of the key challenges arose from COVID-19 restrictions, with courses being cancelled or run with significantly reduced numbers, or on-line/blended training modes. It is expected that as restrictions ease that training days will significantly increase in 2022.



The training Budgets in 2021 were 67% expended

The Local Authority Climate Action Training programme

2021 also saw the Local Authority Climate Action Training programme accelerate, this training programme forms a key component of the Climate Action Plan 2019.



The Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme has been devised to activate the CCMA endorsed Local Authority Climate Action Training Plan 2019. The training programme provides a framework from which Local Authority 'climate action leadership and capacities' are supported and enhanced, in response and fulfilment of Action 150 of the Climate Action Plan 2019.

The Climate Action Training Programme comprises a suite of six training pillars, each tailored and designed to specific target groupings within Local Authorities, to develop climate action capacity to deliver on the actions of the adaptation strategies/action plans and to begin to advance positive influence across all functions and activities performed by local authorities



The coordination, development and procurement of training courses under the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme is being undertaken by the LASNTG (Local Authority Services National Training Group).

Implementation of the training programme commenced in earnest in January 2021. The table below highlights the progress to date on a number of training courses on a course by course basis. Climate Action training continues to be developed under the training programme and tailored to meet the needs of the specific training groups.



2021 Climate Action Training Programme Summary

Climate Action Pillar	Target audience	No. trained	Status update	No. of training days delivered in 2021
Championing Leadership	Local Authority elected members and senior staff, including Chief Executives, Directors of Services, Senior Executive Officers, Senior Engineers/Planners and equivalent	863	6 LA's scheduled for training between January and March 2022	24 (1/2 days)
Raising Awareness	All Local Authority Indoor Staff, Grade 7/6/5/4/3	11,703	Almost 3,500 staff across all 31 Local Authorities are currently being given an opportunity to complete this training during January & February 2022	Open for 34 working weeks across 2021
Building Capacity	Members of Local Authority Climate Action Teams (multi-disciplinary teams established to support the planning and implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures)	391	The delivery of the remaining Leadership Modules (Days 5 & 6) concluded on January 21st 2022	53 (1/2 days)
Empowering Change	Staff in each Local Authority whose role involves working closely with local communities, administrative or technical		Pilot postponed to March 2022 due to Covid-19/public health measures	
Delivering Action	All Local Authority outdoor staff across the functional areas of Roads, Environment, Water and Housing	10	Pilot completed. Climate Trainer in the process of being appointed	1 day (pilot)

ACTIONING POLICY

(a) Planning for Climate Change	Training specifically targeted to translate climate policy into particular local authority functions	291		16 (1/2 days) 4 ½ days per region
(b) An Introduction to Flood Risk Management	An 8-module course designed to develop skills and knowledge in flood risk management for key Local Authority staff while also highlighting the need to implement climate action in this area	323 attendees across the 8 modules, with an average attendance of 209 per module		16 (1/2 days) (8 pilot/8 national roll out)
Total		13,581		



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

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

Development Management

Development Management involves the evaluation of planning applications and various other applications under planning legislation, within the regulatory time frame and ensuring that interested parties have access to all available information which will enable them to assess proposed development. The planning register is available for viewing online at www.tipperarycoco.ie. Set out below are figures for 2021 planning applications.

Number of Planning Applications received in 2021

A total of 1908 planning applications were received from 1st January to 31st December 2021 compared to 1599 for 2020, an increase of 19%. 551 applications were deemed invalid and 72 were withdrawn. During the year 1232 applications were decided with 1189 being granted planning permission (96.5%) and 43 being refused (3.5%). Further information was requested in 618 cases.

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number Granted	Number Refused	No. of Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála
Individual House	295	289	6	4	0
Housing Development	36	30	6	8	1
NIA/EIA	8	7	1	1	1
Other Applications	859	839	20	14	3
Total	1198	1165	33	27	5



 A total of 1908 planning applications were received from 1st January to 31st December 2021 compared to 1599 for 2020, an increase of 19%.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Development Plans/Local Area Plans

County Development Plan

The Pre-Draft 'Shaping Our Future' consultation stage ran from 18th September to 16th November 2020. 190 submissions were received during the public consultation period, and were summarised and considered by the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's Report on submissions was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration on 15th January 2021. A Workshop with the Elected Members was held on 17th February 2021. The Chief Executive's Report was considered at the March 8th Plenary Council Meeting whereby the Elected Members issued directions to the Chief Executive regarding the content of the draft Plan. The Draft Plan was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration on 3rd June 2021. 13 Workshops with the Elected Members were held over June and July 2021 to discuss the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan was considered at the July 16th Plenary Council meeting whereby the Elected Members agreed by resolution to put the Draft Plan on public display subject to amendments. The Draft Plan was on public display for the period 30th July 2021 to 15th October 2021. 615 submissions were received. A series of Workshops will be held in February 2022 and the CE's Report and Material Amendments will be brought to the plenary meeting in March 2022. Material amendments to the Draft Plan will then be advertised for a further period of public consultation.

Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027

The Proposed Cahir LAP was published on 25th Sept 2020 and submissions were invited until 9th Nov 2020. 143 submissions (from 129 individuals) were received. A Chief Executive's Report was prepared which summarised each of the submissions and provided responses and recommendations on foot of these submissions for the consideration of the members of the Council. On 11th Jan 2021, the Council considered the Proposed LAP and the CE Report and resolved to amend the Proposed LAP in accordance with the CE recommendations subject to 2 further amendments. The Proposed Material Alterations to the Cahir LAP were published on 22nd Jan 2021 and submissions invited until 22nd February 2021. 22 submissions were received. A Chief Executive's Report was prepared and circulated to the Elected Members on 18th March 2021 for consideration. Members considered the Chief Executive's Report and the Proposed Material Alterations to the Cahir Local Area Plan at the Council Meeting on 12th April 2021, where the Plan was made. The Plan came into effect on Monday 24th May 2021.

Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy

The final Thurles Town Centre Renewal Strategy was noted by the Elected Members of Thurles MD on the 18th January, 2021. The Strategy strives to create a thriving and vibrant town centre for Thurles which will support the future growth of the town and the needs of its residents, visitors and businesses. The community and businesses of the town took the opportunity to input into the Strategy during the two consultation periods which included workshops and a dedicated online portal. The final document sets out a number of projects that can be developed in the town centre over the next ten years.



Killaloe-Ballina Enhancement and Mobility Plan

In November 2021, at the respective municipal district meetings of the Killaloe and Nenagh, the members of Clare County Council and Tipperary County Council agreed to endorse the publication of the Killaloe Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan. Subject to the statutory periods for environmental review of the Plan, and review by the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the Plan will have effect in January 2022.

The endorsement of the Plan is the culmination of a number of years of developing the Plan by the Tipperary and Clare County Councils, elected members, local amenity groups, and local residents and businesses. The Plan will facilitate a coordinated approach to public realm enhancements within Killaloe and Ballina, providing a clear vision for Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements, and create an overall focus on their joint strengths and opportunities in terms of functionality, aesthetics and the changing transport and mobility profile of the towns as a result of the future Killaloe Bypass and Shannon Bridge crossing.

 *The Plan will facilitate a coordinated approach to public realm enhancements within Killaloe and Ballina, providing a clear vision for Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements*



Project Ireland 2040: Regeneration and Development Funds

Project Ireland 2040 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 (URDF) administered by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The Planning Department leads the preparation and development of the strategic projects for consideration by the Government Departments while the Municipal Districts coordinate their delivery.

The following projects have been successful in being awarded funding and are currently being delivered under these Schemes.

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. Current funding approved for these two elements amounts to **€10,594,961**.

Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 - Works on the car park are completed. The main works contract commenced in June, 2021 with estimated completion in August, 2022. **Clonmel Regional Sports Hub** - Works commenced on site mid-August, 2021 and programme duration is 12 months.



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 of **€4,390,000** was secured through the Urban Regeneration Development Fund towards Phase 1 works. **Phase 1 – Car Park and Eastern end of Liberty Square** - The new Car Park off Liberty Square has been completed under the Scheme. Works to the Eastern end of Liberty Square are substantially completed. **Phase 2 – Western end of Liberty Square** – An additional **€1,000,291** was secured under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund in 2021 to undertake improvements to the Western end of Liberty Square. Surveys are currently in progress to advance the planning process.

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 and 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 Enhancements. This project was approved for funding in the amount of **€9,525,000** under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund in March, 2021. Provisional Approval was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage in August, 2021. In-depth internal review of project costings has been undertaken. Consultants have been engaged to review and update the Preliminary Business Case in accordance with the Departments requirements and this is in progress.

Tipperary Town Regeneration - This is a significant regeneration project for Tipperary Town which will greatly enhance long term sustainable tourism for the area. It will include an upgrade of the Market Yard as a pedestrian priority area, linking the Excel Heritage Centre to Market Yard and the Town Centre and an 800 metre walkway along the River Arra, including two loop walks. Funding of **€1,081,513** has been approved for the project under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

Market Yard - Works were substantially completed in October, 2021 and officially opened by Minister Heather Humphreys in November, 2021. **River Arra Walkway** – The Final Business Case was approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development in October, 2021. Construction phase will commence in June, 2022 as river works can only be completed between July and September in accordance with the decision issued by An Bórd Pleanála. The bridge has been installed under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.



Fethard Town Park

The project proposal is for the development of a community sport and recreational campus, incorporating a community pavilion, playing pitches, walkways, parkland and open spaces. The project was developed through a partnership approach with Coolmore Ireland, Cashel and Emly Diocese and Healthy Ireland. Funding of **€2,600,000** was approved for the project under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund in year 2019. **Phase 1 - Groundworks and pitches** commenced in November, 2020 and near completion by end of December, 2021. **Phase 2 – Pavilion and Public Realm Works** - Redesigning completed following reduction in scope of works. A request for tenders for the construction stage was re-advertised on e-Tenders and revised Final Business Case submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development in November, 2021. Contractor will be appointed on receipt of Approval to Proceed from the Department.

Templemore Town Hall: Enterprise and Cultural Centre with associated 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 of €2,107,500 was approved under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. Detailed designs are almost complete. Tender documents for the procurement of a contractor for the construction phase are being compiled.

 **Funding of €2,107,500 was approved under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.**

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

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 of 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. The project was awarded **€672,534** under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. An Architect led multi-disciplinary design team was appointed in April, 2021. Four concepts were developed following significant input from the public and three concepts were chosen to market test through Red C to establish how Nenagh should be promoted as a tourism destination.

Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter'

Plan for the town through investment in orientation and public realm enhancement actions and build on its relationship and synergies with the Suir Blueway (west) and the historic Ormond Castle Quarter (east) thereby regenerating the town centre as an immersive visitor destination and rural town in its own right. The project was awarded **€365,625** under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. The design team was appointed in December, 2020. Surveys have been undertaken for the purpose of advancing the planning process. Extensive public consultation has taken place on the project with significant input from the public. The Part 8 Planning was approved in December, 2021. Detailed design is in progress.



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 of **€663,362** has been secured under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. Acquisition of two opportunity sites for the proposed car park has been completed. Design teams appointed. Part 8 Planning and detailed designs have been completed on Cahir Market House Business Centre. Part 8 Planning for the proposed car park was approved in December, 2021 and detailed designs are currently being undertaken. Part 8 Planning for the Cahir town centre public realm is at an advanced stage.

Thurles Market Quarter: Regeneration, 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 it will offer a location in the centre of a cluster of civic spaces to be enjoyed by locals and visitors while also acting as a base for the MIC Students' Union.

Funding of **€3,443,130** has been secured under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. The Verification and Due Diligence Phase has been completed and Approval in Principle was issued by the Department of Rural and Community Development in October, 2021. The Pre-Tender Approval Report required under Decision Gate 2 is currently being compiled for submission to the Department.

 **Funding of €3,443,130** has been secured under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

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

The project has been developed as a demonstrator scheme to show the practical implementation of Tipperary County Council's '**Design and Best Practice Guidelines for Cluster Housing**'. The guidelines include a series of case studies illustrating how sustainable design solutions can be developed across a range of village types and site options. This project will be model for serviced site developments across the country and an initiative to revitalise villages in Tipperary and nationwide. Funding of **€603,750** has been secured under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund. The Verification and Due Diligence Phase has been completed and Approval in Principle was issued by the Department of Rural and Community Development in October, 2021. The Pre-Tender Approval Report was submitted to the Department on 22nd. November, 2021 and Pre-Tender Approval under Decision Gate 2 was received on 25th. November, 2021.



Conservation Grant Schemes 2021

The Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021 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.

Tipperary County Council had 32 applications for funding under the BHIS. Following review by our Consultant Conservation Architect 16 Applications were nominated to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. Works on the approved projects were complete and inspected in early November.

The payments were made to the approved applicants on the 24th November and the following is the final list of supported projects;

Croke Street, Thurles	€3,000
Old Parochial House, Borrisokane	€8,500
Southpark, Rahinane, Ballingarry	€4,800
The Old Convent, Clogheen	€8,500
Knockkelly Castle, Fethard	€9,000
Former AIB, Templemore	€2,500
St Pauls Church, Cahir	€9,000
Glenleigh House, Clogheen	€9,000
Garden Cottage, Patrickwell, Clonmel	€9,000
Milford House, Borrisokane	€9,000
St Marys Church, Thurles	€5,000
Corabella House, Newcastle	€2,500
St Marys, Clonmel	€15,000

The **Historic Structure Fund 2021** seeks to support conservation works to heritage structures in both private and public ownership.

The focus is on conservation and enhancement of historic structures and buildings for the benefit of communities and the public and will seek to:

- enable larger scale conservation works to be carried out on heritage structures which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support;
- encourage the regeneration and reuse of heritage properties and help to secure the preservation of protected structures and/or historic-culturally significant assets; and
 - support the investment of private capital in labour-intensive projects to conserve historic structures in public and private ownership for community use.

Tipperary County Council received 14 applications under the HSF and following review by our Consultant Conservation Architect 6 of these projects were recommended for funding to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Having assessed the projects the Department chose to financially support 4 projects.

The four projects are;

- Burke Street, Fethard – awarded €50,000.
- Tipperary Town Court House – awarded €50,000.
- DW Parkes Chemist, 23 Gladstone Street, Clonmel- awarded €40,000.
- Vernacular Structure at Peahill, Ballylooby awarded €10,000.

Inspections took place in early November and works were complete on all projects except the Tipperary Courthouse. This was delayed due to the appointment of a contractor but works have now commenced.

The grants were paid on the 24th November.



Town Walls Grant Scheme 2021

There are four walled towns in Tipperary: Clonmel, Carrick on Suir, Cashel and Fethard, all have upstanding remains of their medieval walls and are members of the Irish Walled Towns Network. The Irish Walled Towns Network (Heritage Council) provides annual funding for both conservation works and interpretative measures relating to the Walled Towns. Works complete for 2020/21 in Carrick on Suir and a presentation on Carrick on Suir was given by TCC at the AGM and launch of the 2021 Funding programme by the Heritage Council. Works in Cashel were completed in June 2021. These works were funded by the HSE and located at the General Hospital, Cashel, project management services were provided by Tipperary County Council.

Taking-in-Charge of Estates

Ten estates were taken in charge in 2021 - a total of 280 housing units.

Developments TIC by Municipal District in 2021

Municipal District	No of Developments TIC	No of Housing Units
Nenagh	2	20
Clonmel	2	36
Carrick On Suir	2	31
Thurles	0	0
Tipp / Cahir / Cashel	4	193



Planning & Emergency Services SPC

Four meetings of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC were held in 2021. At the first meeting on 30th March 2021 a presentation was given on the role of Civil Defence and Fire Services gave a presentation on the Dangerous Substances Regulations and their role in implementing them.

At the second meeting held on 18th May 2021 Clifford Guest, Limerick Institute of Technology gave a presentation on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and highlighted that at local level LIT Tipperary has a strong track record and commitment to Sustainable Development. Nuala O'Connell, Acting Senior Planner also gave a brief overview of the recent Circular issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on Residential Densities in Towns and Villages, as set out in Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Development in Urban Areas (2009). Eamon Lonergan, Acting Director of Services advised the meeting of the imminent launch of the Draft County Development Plan and that a number of workshops would be held with the Elected Members in June & July.

At the third meeting on 21st September 2021 an update was given on the public consultation stage of the Draft County Development Plan. Marie Ryan, Senior Executive Planner gave a presentation on the recently published 'Housing for All – a new Housing Plan for Ireland' and its implications for Planning. The fourth and final meeting for the year was held on 23rd November 2021 and included a further update on the public consultation stage of the County Development Plan together with a planning legislation update. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer, Water Services also gave a presentation on Water Services and Planning.

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

Sector	Name
10 Councillors	Chair – Phyll Bugler
	Hughie McGrath
	Micheál Lowry
	Michael O'Meara
	Joe Hannigan
	John Carroll
	Roger Kennedy
	Michael Fitzgerald
	Ger Darcy
	Marie Murphy
1 Agriculture & Farming	Tim Harty
1 Business Commercial & Tourism	To be nominated
1 Development Construction	John O'Shaughnessy
3 PPN	Mike Edwards
	Patti O'Neill
	To be nominated



Enforcement

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

In accordance with Section 154 (14) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, the statistics from 1st January to 31st December 2021 are as follows:-

Complaints investigated	162
Warning Letters issued	136
Enforcement Notices issued	21
Prosecutions initiated	3
Cases closed	171

OPR Pilot Programme – Review of Tipperary Co. Council's Systems & Procedures

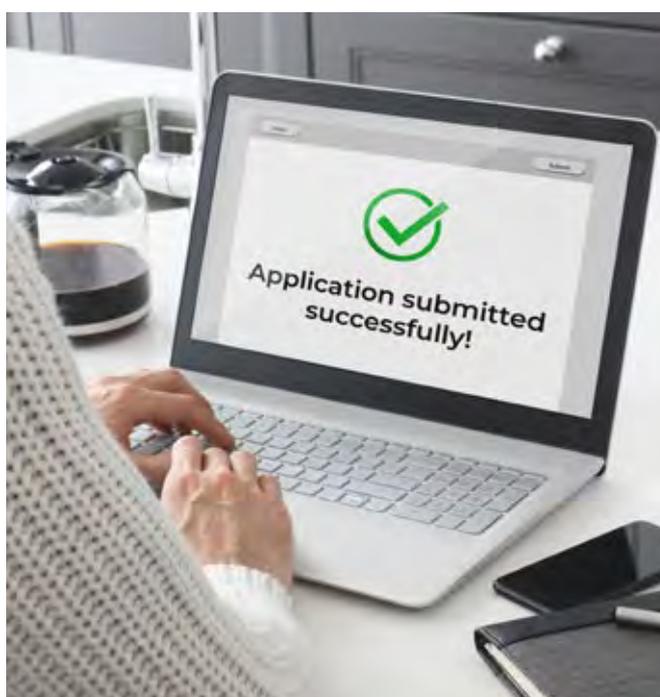
The Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) was established in 2019 for a number of purposes including independently overseeing the delivery by planning authorities of planning services to the public. The OPR has recently commenced a programme of reviews of planning authorities on a national scale, that will take place over a six-year cycle.

Tipperary County Council recognised the benefits of such a review of its current planning functions and the opportunity to future proof its service delivery, so the Council's Planning Department sought to be included in the pilot phase of the review programme.

The OPR published their review report in September 2021. The report acknowledged that the Council's planning service is operating effectively with robust systems and procedures in place to deliver statutory planning functions. The independent review found that the planning department has many considerable strengths and it can reinforce and enhance that strong competency base by implementing the various recommendations proposed in the report. To ensure that the benefits and opportunities of the review report are realised, Tipperary County Council is committed to developing a robust Implementation Plan through the establishment of a cross-directorate working group together with positive engagement with the OPR and other national bodies to fully implement the findings and recommendations of this first review report by the OPR.

E-Planning

In association with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), and the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Tipperary Planning Authority is piloting the planning portal <https://planning.localgov.ie>. During 2021 the following works have been completed in preparation for e-planning, webinar has been held with agents, full UAT (User Acceptability Testing) testing has commenced on the production platform, faults have been addressed and the national document categorisations have been completed. We have liaised with Galway County Council to assist them with pilot project. The prescribed bodies have been engaged with regarding planning applications to inform them of the implications for e-planning. In addition, Tipperary County Council and the LGMA have worked with the software developers and significant development works (phase 1 & 2) have been undertaken. Prior to go live agents who submit applications to Tipperary County Council were emailed with a user guide and a step by step video. The portal went to live pilot here in Tipperary County Council (where planning applications can be lodged online and all subsequent correspondence to the applicant/agent will be electronic.) in December 2021.







OUR ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ACTION

The Environment & Climate Action Section is responsible for developing initiatives and delivering programmes that protect and enhance our local environment. Other functions include waste management/enforcement, Climate/Energy, Landfill Restoration and community services/environmental awareness.

The key projects delivered over the year were the re-opening of Ballaghveny Landfill and the transfer of waste from the Shannon vermicomposting facility in Rathcabbin, the drafting of the county Burial Ground Bye laws, securing funding of €280,000 towards anti-litter and dumping initiatives, doubling our Solar PV installations and reducing complaints received by 7%.



Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy, Aveen Halpin and Aine Brett launching The Create Tipperary Energy Trees initiative during energy week

Climate & Energy

The cross-sectional energy & Climate Action Committee and Tipperary Energy Agency met on four occasions during the year to progress the Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 and the Energy Action Plan. A progress report detailing the status of the 53 actions identified in the Climate Adaptation Strategy was submitted to the CARO office. Expenditure on climate change related projects exceeded €6 million for 2021. For 2020, the local authority attained a 45.5% energy efficiency rating and Greenhouse Gas Emissions reduced by 25% due to the decarbonisation of the electricity sector.



Installation of Solar panels at Ballaghveny Landfill

The Energy Bureau Service managed by TEA assisted sections in identifying energy savings measures. An energy management information system was deployed in our 15 largest buildings on a 24/7 basis to track energy usage. Tipperary Co Co is committed to the use of renewable energy sources through the generation of 442 Kwh of energy from the Solar PV installations at 15 sites. The Community Virtual Power Plant project was completed in 2021 and contributed 250Kwh of energy generated from renewables.

Strategic Policy Committee Meetings

The SPC Committee met on four occasions and topics discussed included Energy management, sustainable urban drainage systems, the draft Waste Management Plan, and climate action progress. The Council's Draft Burial Ground Bye-Laws were presented and discussed with the members prior to its presentation to full Council meeting and going to public consultation. The section has engaged with the Environment pillar of the Tipperary Public Participation network to work jointly on environmental and climate action initiatives.



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Water Framework Directive



A total of 850 samples were taken from 150 river sites to monitor water quality under the Water Framework Directive monitoring programme.

The section continues to engage with LAWPRO to improve water quality and collaborated with them in a presentation to Farmers on Good Agricultural Practice to prevent Water pollution.

Water Pollution Act: Section 4 Discharge Licenses

117 Section 4 Discharge License monitoring inspections were undertaken. 3 Section 4 Discharge Licenses were reviewed, 1 was revoked and 2 were submitted for assessment.

Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS) Programme

62 DWWTS were inspected under the National Inspection Plan for Septic tanks including 20 deferred due to Covid 19 in 2020.

Farm Inspections

69 farm inspections were carried out.

Legal Notices arising from Inspections related to pollution

9 notices, pursuant to Section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977-1990, were issued to persons, requiring them to carry out improvement works to prevent water pollution, this resulted in 2 successful legal actions.

Source Protection

10 Source Protection Investigations were carried out.

Nutrient Management

27 Nutrient Management Plans were submitted and assessed and 14 approved.

Air and Noise Pollution

29 inspections were performed as part of our remit under the Air Pollution Act and Air Quality 4th Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC).

These included the following businesses,

- Dry Cleaners/Pharmaceutical (small scale use) operators= 3,
- Vehicle Refinishers =5,
- Solid Fuel Regulations=10 and
- Petroleum Vapour Regulations=11



Landfills



Ballaghveny Landfill – Filling of the Wedge Cell with waste

Waste acceptance at Ballaghveny recommenced in September following the temporary closure of the landfill site in 2011. The empty cells were filled with contaminated soil & stone and wood ash which was mixed with stabilized waste from the former Shannon vermicomposting facility in Rathcabbin. The landfill has accepted in total ca. 8,043t of waste during the year.

The leachate volumes produced at the site reduced during 2021. The conclusion of the intensive groundwater monitoring programme resulted in a streamlining of the groundwater and surface water monitoring of the landfill which will contribute to operational efficiencies in future years.



Rathcabbin - stabilised waste being loaded for transport to Ballaghveny landfill

The Community Gain Fund will be allocated in 2022 based upon the total amount of waste accepted in 2021 and will grow annually in amounts corresponding to the amount of waste accepted in each of the previous years

The removal of waste from the former Shannon vermicomposting facility in Rathcabbin commenced in December and the landfill has accepted ca. 1,200t of this waste up to the end of 2021.

Historic Closed Landfills

MD	Update
Tipperary Cashel Cahir	Landfill remediation detailed design and ecological surveys were completed in preparation for the application to An Bord Pleanála for development consent. The preparation of applications for Certificate of Authorisation to the EPA is ongoing for the site at Knocklofty. The application for a Certificate of Authorisation for the site at Dundrum was submitted to the EPA.
Thurles	The applications for Certificates of Authorisation for the sites at Brittas Road and Monanearla were submitted to the EPA.
Carrick-On-Suir	A consultant was appointed to carry out the landfill remediation design and ecological surveys in preparation of NIS for submission to the EPA and ABP.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Civic Amenity Sites

The 5 Civic Amenity sites at Clonmel, Donohill, Nenagh, Roscrea and Cashel continued to remain open throughout Covid 19 in 2021.



Nenagh CAS skips

These sites accepted 17,000 tons of waste

- which included 8,000 tons of household waste, which equates to 47% of the total,
- food waste accounted for 17%,
- dry recyclables 10%,
- timber 4% textiles 3%,
- DIY Waste 3%, WEE 3%,
- Woodchip 2%,
- waste metal 2%,
- Newsprint & cardboard 2%,
- garden waste 2% and
- 5% other.

The facilities accept a wide range of materials including household, dry recyclables, paper, cardboard, plastic, timber, garden waste, DIY waste, glass, and metal, waste electrical goods, batteries, textiles, waste oil and household hazardous waste for recycling. All materials leaving Waller's-Lot Civic Amenity and Waste Transfer station were sent for recycling, mechanical treatment and repurposing.

The total number of customers visiting the civic amenity in 2021 was 131,245 which is a 14% increase in footfall over 2019. The installation of 21 skips and 8 compactors in the Nenagh and Roscrea Civic Amenity sites was completed. This will help to improve operations increase capacity and to optimize efficiencies.

Derelict Sites

The section continues to engage with property owners in relation to rendering their sites non-derelict. However, 42 Sites were listed on the Derelict Sites Register. Section 8 (2) notices were issued on an additional 11 properties. Ten properties were issued with a derelict site levy and income received from levies totalled €9,302 and a further €1,9013 was recouped against works carried out on a dangerous structure.

Burial Grounds Maintenance Grants

252 Burial Ground Maintenance Committees applied and received grants totalling €182,210.

Textile Receptacles



There are 80 clothes/textile pods located at bring bank locations in Tipperary. 446 Tonnes of textiles were collected for recycling. There were 4 unauthorised textile banks.



Bring Banks

3,533 tonnes of glass and 131 tonnes of cans were collected from 113 bottle and can bank locations. This was a decrease of 428 tonnes (12%) of glass from 2020.

Waste Management and Enforcement

During the year several improvements were implemented which enhanced inspections and investigations under Waste Regulation.

A multi-inspection form was designed to enable the enforcement teams process multiple inspections during a single visit to sites, resulting in improving customer services and optimizing staff resources.

The section achieved a 100% compliance in carrying out the Mercury Regulations inspections and was one of the first counties nationally to achieve this target.

Anti-Dumping Initiatives

Nine projects were approved and €128,000 in funding awarded by the Dept of Environment, Communications & Climate Action

The projects were:

Project	Comments
Mattress Amnesty Countywide	1725 Mattresses Collected and Disposed for recovery/recycling
Bikes for Africa Countywide	365 Bikes refurbished and transported to Africa for schools
2 Illegal Dumping Projects Tipp/Cashel	36.1 Tonnes of waste removed
2 Illegal Dumping Projects Nenagh MD	17.64 Tonnes of waste removed
2 Illegal Dumping Projects Thurles MD	7.4 Tonnes of Waste removed
Carrick on Suir MD	8.1 Tonnes of waste removed
1 Illegal Dumping Project for Clonmel/Cahir MD	3.32 Tonnes of waste removed

Waste Enforcement Category	Number issued	Status
Section 14 Directions	15	5 Withdrawn 8 complied, 1 On-Going carried over into 2022, 1 recommended for prosecution for non-compliance.
Section 55 Notice	4	2 Notices complied with, 1 carried over for prosecution for non-compliance and 1 is ongoing
Fixed Payment Notice	1	A fixed payment notice was issued for non-display of waste permit. €500 fine paid.
PROSECUTIONS		
Breaches of Waste Management Act	5	5 Cases taken, successful convictions awarded.
Prosecution Cases carried over to 2022:	7	These cases relate to non-compliance with Waste permits, illegal dumping and litter fines
Litter Prosecutions	14	14 Successful Litter fine prosecutions.

Waste Management Legislation	Inspections
Facility Permit and Registration Regulations 2007-2015	24
Collection Permit Regulations 2007-2015	5
Packaging Regulations	44
End of Life Vehicles Regs	3
Tyres/Waste Tyres Regs	32
WEEE Regulations & Battery Regulations	54
Farm Plastics Regulations 2001	10
Plastic Bag Levy Regulations	10
Commercial Food Waste Regulations	16
Household Waste Inspections Bye-Laws	190
Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning Regulations	9
• Checkpoints for Waste Movement	5
• Multi Agency Inspections Hazardous Wastes	1
• CCTV operations	49
• Unauthorised Waste Activity	22



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Burial Ground Bye Laws

A draft of the Burial Ground Bye Laws was developed to standardise bye laws across the county. They were presented to the SPC and Elected Members for discussion and members of the public were given the opportunity to make submissions through the public consultation process.

Complaints

A new Environment Complaints system that integrates with the Customers Services Desk was implemented in the section. The number of complaints received was 2053 which was a reduction of 7% against 2020.

The table below shows the breakdown of the categories of complaints.

Air	8.0%
Animal Related	20.0%
Litter	51.0%
Noise	5.0%
Waste Enforcement	10.0%
Water	6.0%

Litter Management

Litter complaints accounted for 51% of complaints received in 2021 and legal proceedings were issued in a number of instances. Litter surveys were completed which inform awareness initiatives in tackling litter issues.

	Number
Fines Issued	197
Fines paid	110
Fines Appealed	30
Fines Outstanding at 31/12/21	31
Fines cancelled	56
Legal Proceeding issued	15



The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications provided funding of €150,000 for the procurement of 32 solar powered, compacting litter bins which will be distributed across the MD's. These bins will alert the Area office staff when the bin needs to be emptied, have larger volume capacities and will reduce litter discarded at these locations.

Dogs & Horses

A total of 166 dogs were surrendered to the Dog Control Units or seized by the dog wardens in 2021. Of this number, 119 dogs were re-homed and 46 dogs were reclaimed. The number of dogs licensed in the county was 8,626. Environment & Climate Action section continues to work with the animal welfare organisations in the re-homing of dogs and is supported by two dog shelters in Clonmel and Knockalton.

 *During the year, 44 horses were seized, of which 11 were reclaimed by their owners and 33 were rehomed.*



Green Schools

List of Awarded School's in Tipperary 2020/2021

School	Renewal	Flag
St. Ailbe's National School	1st Renewal	Litter and Waste
Killusty National School	1st Renewal	Energy
New Inn Boys National School	1st Renewal	Water
Mount Bruis National School	4th Renewal	Travel
St. Anne's Secondary School	3rd Renewal	Travel
Presentation Primary School	6th Renewal	GC Energy
Kilvemnon National School	5th Renewal	GC Litter and Waste
Scoil Chormaic	1st Renewal	Litter & Waste
Borrisokane Community College	3rd Renewal	Travel
Kylepark NS	3rd Renewal	Travel
St Marys Junior Boys NS	3rd Renewal	Travel
St Marys NS	3rd Renewal	Travel
Rahelty NS	4th Renewal	Biodiversity
Scoil Mhuire	4th Renewal	Biodiversity
St Colmcilles	4th Renewal	Biodiversity
Ballina NS	6th Renewal	Global Marine
Inch	7th Renewal	Global Marine
Kilcommon	5th Renewal	Global Litter & Waste

Tidy Town Grants

114 Tidy Town Committees applied and received grants totalling €194,500.70

Before



After



Mullinahone Tidy Towns – created a picnic area in 2021



Food Safety inspections

There are 15 Abattoirs, 1 Poultry Plant, 18 small meat manufacturing plants, and 3 Registered Premises based in the county. The County Veterinary Inspector, assisted by 3 part time veterinary inspectors, made a total of 1057 visits to the 15 Abattoirs and 1 Poultry Plant. These visits were to ensure compliance with the FSAI, animal welfare standards and hygiene standards in abattoirs prior to slaughter and post mortem.

During these visits, a total of 1,773 cattle, 5,988 sheep, 72 pigs, 13 goats, 980 deer, 12,849 turkeys, 805 chickens and 655 rabbits were inspected. There were a further 45 visits carried out to inspect and observe operations.

National Spring Clean 2021

The National Spring Clean took place in April despite Covid restrictions.

409 Community Groups registered and took part in clean ups throughout the county. Supports provided included the distribution of litter pickers, gloves and bags to communities. The rubbish collected was disposed of at Civic Amenity Sites.

Environmental Awareness Programme

Twenty-seven initiatives supporting climate change in communities, energy efficiency, waste prevention, litter deterrent measures and the circular economy were delivered. This was a contributory factor in reducing complaints by 7%. These included the distribution of over 1,000 wild flower packs/trees and organising biodiversity workshops. In support of the circular economy, a repair directory of all businesses in the county was produced and circulated free of charge, the upcycling competition attracted over 40 entries and a campaign to encourage the public to donate items to their local charity shops were some of the initiatives undertaken to reduce waste going to landfill. being The Create Tipperary Energy Trees initiative was organised as part of energy week to get primary school children to submit their ideas on energy tips. These were displayed on specially designed wooden trees in our seven libraries.

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary GAA Keep Tidy Initiative



Cllr. Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach, Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive and Tipperary Hurling Manager Liam Sheedy Tipperary acknowledging the role of communities in promoting a cleaner, greener and more sustainable county.

New Households Waste Management Training

Staff carried out Pre-Tenancy training with 146 new tenants by telephone and provided them with information packs on the civic amenity sites, recycling tips, and ways of reducing food waste.



Members of the Syrian community attending tenancy training in Templemore Youth Centre



Upcycle Challenge Competition



Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy presenting the cheque to the Brett Family winners

Over 40 entries were received, and the competition was organised to increase awareness about upcycling old items instead of discarding them. The Brett Family from Ballycahill were the overall winners, with a vibrant new henhouse made from unwanted pallets.

Dog Licences Awareness

4,000 leaflets were distributed to households in the Cahir area in January, advising them of their obligations to licence their dogs and 7000 leaflets were distributed to households in Tipperary/Cahir/Cashel MD in May.



Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign



A pilot campaign on dog fouling awareness took place in Nenagh, Thurles, Tipperary, Cashel, Carrick on Suir town, and Clonmel town. Hi Vis jackets were distributed to members of the public through the Supervalu and Centra shops in Nenagh. Refresh Tidy Town Group at Supervalu, Thurles.

Trees on the Land Project



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

National Tree Month



In conjunction with the National Tree Council of Ireland, a further 1,200 trees were distributed to 120 groups within the county (Tidy Towns, Schools, Community Groups etc) during National Tree Month. 156 wildflower packs were also distributed to promote pollination.

Community Environment Fund 2020/2021



Students and teacher from Shronell National School

73 community groups shared in the grant allocation of €36,000 under the Community Environment Fund for the 2019/2020 programme. Shronell National School received €500.00 for creating a community garden.

Gum Litter Awareness Day



The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Michael Smith launched the 2021 Gum Litter Taskforce Campaign at Lismackin National School in June. Alongside the Green Schools and Tidy Towns programmes, this campaign aims to create awareness of the impact of gum litter and contribute to the betterment of the environment.

National Reuse Month



October was designated as national re-use month and the MyWaste.ie team hosted workshops on managing food waste and upcycling everything from fashion to furniture. In conjunction with MyWaste, a Food Waste Segregation and Recycling Roadshow Day was held at Clonmel Showgrounds in November, 500 brown food caddies were distributed to members of the public.



Keep Tipp Tidy Campaign



The "When out and about Keep Tipp Tidy" campaign aimed to encourage visitors to be responsible for the removal of their litter when visiting scenic spots

The section provided Hi Vis jackets and canvas bags with the campaign logo to 10 Tidy Town committees, who agreed to distribute bags and raise awareness about litter prevention in their own areas.

Energy Week



The EU Sustainable Energy Week took place from the 25th – 29th October, with the theme "Towards 2030, Reshaping the European Energy System". Several activities were organised including podcasts on home retrofitting and energy efficiency, demos of electric cars for staff and the Create Tipperary Energy Trees initiative involved the design of special wooden trees and leaves from sustainable sources and gathering primary school children ideas about energy. 2000 leaves were circulated to all primary schools and their ideas were displayed on the trees in the libraries. The trees were made by Mycreate based in Cloughjordan Eco Village and the leaves were produced by Lion Print in Cashel.



Burial Grounds capital, minor and improvement works

Ballina (Boher)	Currently waiting on the decision on the Land Acquisition prior to commencing works
Fethard	The Part 8 Planning documents were completed for submission and the Land Acquisition details are currently being finalised.
Cahir	The Cahir Parish committee are working with the section to develop the Burial Ground and has commenced negotiations on the land acquisition
Cloughprior	The National Monuments Section was consulted on the development of the Burial Ground Extension. Alternative Sites are currently being explored in tandem with a Hydro-geological Land Suitability Study that was commissioned to assist in identifying suitable sites.
Carrick on Suir	The landowners agreed to carrying out the Preliminary Site Suitability Trial Holes on Site.
Shanrahan	Ancillary works were reviewed in consultation with the adjoining landowner as the Burial Ground has been developed at an alternative location than originally planned.
Kilmore	The Boundary Wall details are agreed with the landowner and are scheduled for 2022
Tipperary Town	Provided funding to Tipperary MD towards the civil works costs to upgrade the entrance to St Michael Burial Ground and provide for additional parking spaces.
Borrisoleigh	The boundary wall works were completed.
Nenagh Lisbunny	The demolition and rebuilding of the Historic Masonry wall was completed.



FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

The Council maintains fire brigades in twelve fire stations located in Nenagh, Clonmel, Thurles, Roscrea, Carrick on Suir, Tipperary, Templemore, Newport, Borrisokane, Cloughjordan, Cahir and Cashel. The dedicated crews, together with modern vehicles and equipment, ensured delivery of a prompt, efficient and effective response to 1484 incidents on a 24/7 basis in 2021.

This is supported by the Munster Regional Control Centre located in Limerick City Fire Station, which receives calls from the public through the 999/112 service and mobilises the appropriate fire service resources in Tipperary.

Services such as administration, fire safety activities, dangerous substances licensing, building control and major emergency management are delivered from the Fire Service Headquarters at Limerick Road, Nenagh and from the Clonmel Fire Station at Heywood Road, Clonmel.

Approvals were granted for the development of a new fire station in Cashel and construction is expected to begin in 2022. In late 2020 funding has also been approved from the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management for refurbishment works to Roscrea Fire Station and towards the procurement of a further two Class B Fire Appliances which we hope to take delivery of in 2022.



Training And Quality Management

While a comprehensive training program was carried out in 2021 by all members of the service the programme was impacted by Covid 19 restrictions in respect of new recruits.

Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Response



Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service have provided a Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Response to the county since 2012, the need for such a response came from an assessment of our waterways by Rescue 3 (an internationally recognised leader in Swiftwater rescues). Since that date all fire-fighters and senior fire officers have received some level of water-based training in response based on the hazards that they are likely to encounter.

- Lifejacket Competent User 2: (All Operational Fire Service Staff) This is delivered to all fire personnel who may be tasked with operating in the warm zone (within 3m) at a water rescue incident.
- Swiftwater and Flood First Responders : (2016 Carrick-on-Suir Fire Crew). One of the main roles of a First Responder is to support the teams of Swiftwater Rescue Technicians as well as being prepared to work around the water and undertake bank based and shallow water wading rescues.
- Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technician: (Clonmel Fire Crew) This level of training is intended for personnel who may be required to carry out rescues in a Swiftwater and flood environment, this is the highest level of training provided to Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service and allows for our fire-fighters to enter the water and effect a rescue..

Since 2017 Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service are the only retained fire service in Ireland to obtain Agency Training Provider status through Rescue 3 Europe, which means we have the ability to deliver courses to our own staff, which will then obtain an internationally recognised certificate through Rescue 3 Europe. We currently have two instructors delivering these courses (including the only female Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technician Instructor in the Ireland). Both initial and recertification courses are run throughout the year.

In 2022 it is intended to train and qualify firefighters in Cahir Fire Station to Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technician level, providing the Cahir area with a faster response to water based rescues. This decision was based on a review and assessment of the river and waterways around Cahir.

Swiftwater and Flood Rescues are a highly technical and advanced rescue in a very dynamic environment which leave little or no room for error and therefore must only be performed by highly trained personnel within the Fire service. Over the past 8 years we have seen time and time again the benefits of this training not only to the Fire Service but to the communities we try to protect.



Fire Safety

In addition to the operational activities, the Fire Service was also very active in promoting fire safety and continued to inspect public-assembly buildings in an effort to meet the obligations under the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003.

Activities undertaken in 2021 included:-

Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

In an effort to increase ownership of smoke alarms across Tipperary, the community smoke alarm scheme was launched in late 2016 and continues to this date. This scheme allows members of the public to contact the Fire Service via their local community groups with the aim of receiving a Home Fire Safety Check by members of the Fire Service. This gives the fire service an opportunity to carry out a fire safety check on the house, installing smoke alarms where necessary while communicating to the householder advice on fire safety issues and addressing any such concerns the occupant may have. To date over 2,100 Home Fire Safety checks have been carried out throughout the county, much of these checks were carried out in rural Tipperary targeting the most vulnerable people.

However, it should be noted that 2020/2021 saw a dramatic reduction in the number of home fire safety checks due to public health/government restrictions imposed as a result of the Covid pandemic. When requested we did issue smoke alarms to a small number of vulnerable households to be installed by the householder. It is intended to re-introduce this scheme as soon as possible once restrictions permit it.

It is noted that our original target (Community Fire Safety Strategy 2015-2020 Recommendation 1) to increase smoke alarm ownership by 10% across the county has been met during the lifetime of the strategy.

 *This scheme allows members of the public to contact the Fire Service via their local community groups with the aim of receiving a Home Fire Safety Check by members of the Fire Service.*

Liaising with Community Groups/Agencies

It has always been the practice in Tipperary to facilitate requests from various community groups to deliver fire safety presentations and this continues to be the case. In 2020 we facilitated this via zoom presentations, speaking to a number of community groups, schools and colleges, more of these are planned for 2022.

2020/2021 saw a different approach to this, while we may not have been able to stage events in a similar way to years gone by, we did engage with the community and other PRA's (principal response agencies) in a different way both on-line and in person, when permitted. Tipperary Fire Service attended many requests for 'drive by' community events with the HSE and An Garda Siochana. We also attended 'Little Hero' events and presented children with gifts from the Fire Service. This greatly increased our on-line profile, while continually promoting our fire Safety message.

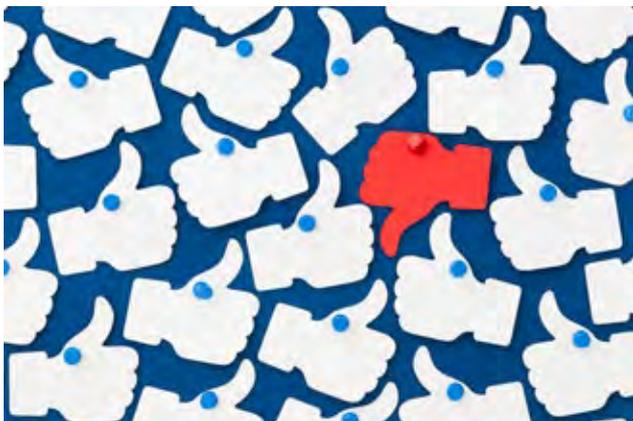
Primary School Programme

Unfortunately, again due to public health advice and school restrictions we were not in a position to run the programme this year. We did however deliver a number of school safety talks via zoom. Feedback has been very positive in this regard. It is intended once restrictions allow to re-introduce the primary schools programme in February 2022.

Fire Safety Week 2021

Given the crisis facing the country last year Fire Safety Week was very much a social media event, increasing our posts and safety messages was a priority. It was however possible for every station in the county to provide some form of community presence by means of community fire safety stands at supermarkets / school visits, when permitted and public fire safety demonstrations.





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 15,709 followers on Facebook and 1,630 on Twitter.

The 'Test it Tuesday' campaign continues to encourage people to test their smoke alarm every Tuesday. Our biggest 'Test It Tuesday' reach in one week reached over 3,400 followers but averages approximately 2,550 per/wk. To enhance this campaign TFS also created new on-line content by means of a short video showing the public how to test your alarm.

The accumulative reach of all posts in 2021 was 1.4 million. Our biggest post of the year reached 100,000 people and was engaged with over 30,000 times across Twitter and Facebook.

2022 saw TFS approach social media in a more inclusive way as we engaged with our deaf and hard of hearing community, using Irish sign language for the first time in many of our on-line videos. We also ran a competition to give away two smoke alarms designed for use by the deaf/ hard of hearing community this initiative proved very popular across all our social media channels.

 *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 15,709 followers on Facebook and 1,630 on Twitter.*

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

- 17,339 followers of our Tipperary Fire and Rescue social media platforms. An increase of over 1,619 followers from this time last year.
- Posts covered both fire safety/ covid related safety messages/ fire calls/ traffic issues and general fire notices/ water awareness/ public advice...
- Over 8230 '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.
- Our biggest 'Reach' by a single post was in August 2021 which reached approx. 100,000 + Facebook/ Twitter users.
- Our 'Test It Tuesday' campaign reaches an average of just under 2550 Facebook users' p/week.
- Tipperary Fire Service is the most followed/liked Retained Irish Fire Service page on Facebook and ranks as the 3rd most followed Fire Service in the Country, ranking behind Dublin and Cork.
- 2022 saw the introduction of Irish sign language to some of our media content
- New video content produced, one of which encourages schools to create and practice a fire escape plan.

National/International Project involvement

Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service continue to be involved in additional fire safety projects including:

- Involvement in a European Project to develop a 'Fire Safety' series of modules for secondary schools
- Involvement in a National project to develop and promote Fire Safety



HEALTH & SAFETY

Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service have operated a Safety Management System in compliance with the international standard ISO 45001: 2018 and a Quality Management System in compliance with the international standard ISO 9001: 2015 for a number of years.

In 2018 it was decided to integrate both management systems and apply for a single audit and certification through the National Standards Authority of Ireland. In early March of 2021 an Auditor from NSAI spent 1 day on site visiting Cahir and Tipperary Town fire stations and meeting with fire service staff across the county for a further 2 days via Zoom. The audit yielded no non-conformances with either standard and the service continues to have an integrated management system certified to both ISO 45001 and ISO 9001 - the only such integrated certification for any fire service in the country.

HYDRA Suite – Clonmel Training & Development Centre

On 15th November last Tipperary County Council sign a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with The Department of Housing, Local Government and Housing designating the HYDRA Suite in Clonmel Fire Training & Development Centre as the first 'Centre for National Training' in the Irish fire service. This represents the first time that a training centre in the Irish Fire Services has received such a designation and represents a very significant vote of confidence in the centre. The SLA identifies the HYDRA Suite in Clonmel as the hub for the delivery of Command and Control training to all officers in the service.

Under the SLA the Centre is tasked with developing and delivering training aimed at improving the decision making skills of fire service officers in crisis situations. The SLA also provide for TCC to have its identified costs recouped to it which will include for the recruitment of an additional member of staff in the centre.



Signing of the SLA

L:R – Brian Beck, A/Director of Services, Mary Hurley, Asst. Secretary Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, Sean Hogan, National Director NDFEM



Building Control

There were 101 Fire Safety Certificate applications, 80 Disability Access Certificate applications and 466 Commencement Notices received in 2021.

A total of 111 proactive Building Control inspections were carried out in 2020.

Major Emergency Management

Seveso III Exercise for MSD (Ballydine):

As part of the requirement to test the External Emergency Plans required by S.17 of S.I. 209 of 2015, it was required to review and test the MSD Ireland (Ballydine) External Emergency Plan for 2020 held jointly by the three Principal Response Agencies who are designated as Local Competent Authorities under S.I No. 209 of 2015 namely An Garda Síochána (Tipperary), Health Service Executive (South East) and Local Authority (Tipperary). Due to the Covid 19 pandemic and both Government and Public Health restrictions imposed as a result, the exercise was postponed until March 2021.

The exercise went ahead on 10th March in the Hydra Suite in Clonmel Fire Station under the direction of the Exercise Director Ms Carol Kennedy, Assistant Chief Fire Officer. The exercise was designed to fulfil a number of aims and objectives. While some of the objectives are common to each Principal Response Agency (PRA), others were specific to the individual PRA concerned.

Participants from each of the PRAs along with staff from MSD spent the day dealing with a simulated chemical spill at the Ballydine site. It was noted on the day that this was the first time that such an exercise has been undertaken using the Hydra technology and feedback on the day was very positive.



Aerial View of MSD (Ballydine)



WATER SERVICES

IRISH WATER INVESTMENT PLAN 2020-2024:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Monroe, Clonmel water treatment plant disinfection upgrade



Irish Water Infrastructure Projects for County Tipperary:

B. Schemes at Pre-Construction/Design	Contract Name	Current Scheme Status
Clonmel WRZ WP1 – Remedial Action List (RAL) and Boil Water Notice (BWN) Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading and expansion of existing Monroe Wellfields; and Construct Pipelines from Monroe to Clonmel and on the Mountain Road, Clonmel. <p>This will increase water supply into Clonmel and allow for the removal of the Boil Water Notice on Mountain Road and the rationalisation of Poulavanogue Water Treatment Plant.</p>	Nicholas O'Dwyer Consultants appointed to the project. Preliminary surveys ongoing at Monroe Wellfields.
Roscrea Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by Q1 2022.
Thurles Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	Jacobs Engineering Consultant. Model built and verified for existing network. Irish Water to prepare strategy plan by Q1 2022.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme (Design Build Operate (DBO) 1 year operate, operate starts once contract signed)	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	Irish Water appointed EPS Contractor/ Consultant. Planning application documents and EIS estimated to be submitted in Q2 2022. Estimated contract award in Q4 2023.
Nenagh Sewerage Scheme	Drainage Area Plan (Strategy, Optioneering and Future Solutions Design)	ARUP Engineering Consultants completed Draft Drainage Area Plan and model for Irish Water. Irish Water to review.
Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	RPS Engineering Consultant progressing with full design. Grant of permission for upgrade works issued on 19 May 2021. Irish Water issued a single tender for the upgrades to Ballina and Newport WWTPs on 17 December 2021 with the return of tenders by 07 February 2022 (which may be subject to extension). Estimated contract award in Q3 2022.
Newport Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	RPS Engineering Consultant. Grant of permission for upgrade works issued on 09 March 2021. Irish Water issued a single tender for the upgrades of Ballina and Newport WWTPs on 17 December 2021 with the return of tenders by 07 February 2022 (which may be subject to extension). Estimated contract award in Q3 2022.
Tipperary Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade assessment	RPS Engineering Consultant. Grant of permission for upgrade works issued on 06 September 2021. Estimated to start construction works in 2025.
Fethard Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Preliminary surveys ongoing. Planning Application estimated to be submitted in Q1 2022. Estimated contract award in Q4 2022.
Cahir Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	RPS Engineering Consultant. Design phase ongoing. Grant of permission for upgrade works issued on 20 May 2021. Estimated contract award in Q4 2022.



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

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

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

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



The programme addresses issues such as:

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

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

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



Kilfeacle to Thomastown watermain rehabilitation 02 September 2021



NETWORKS PORTFOLIO DELIVERY (WATER):

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

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

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

Watermain Rehabilitation Works:

1. Watermain rehabilitation:

2021 works:

- Ardfinnan (1km): complete;
- Mount Carmel and St. Anne's Terrace, Ardfinnan (0.2km): complete;
- Davis Road, Clonmel (0.48km): complete;
- Templetuohy (0.15km): complete;
- Carrick-on-Suir N24 (0.6km of various pipe sizes at junctions): complete;
- Kilfeacle to Thomastown (6.6km): ongoing; and
- Ballinastick South (1.86km): at design.



Carrick-on-Suir watermain rehabilitation April 2021

2. Back Yard Services replacement ongoing at Tipperary:

Phase 1 works replaced 220 number lead shared services in the following locations:

Marian Terrace, Saint Michael's Avenue, Cashel Road, O'Connell Road, Dillon Street, Saint Patrick's Avenue and Dawson Villas. This phase of works is the first to be approved of the planned 3 phases which, subject to Irish Water approval, aim to progress the removal of almost 1,000 back yard lead services from the water supply in Tipperary. The process of transferring the water supply from the rear to the front of each dwelling is a slow procedure which will require engagement and agreement with all the properties affected. It is planned that the removal of all the back yard services will add to the quality and sustainability of the water supply to Tipperary and reduce leakage, in a major way, in the old lead and cast-iron pipes.

Phase 2 completed in Lacey Villas and Glenview Square.

Irish Water reviewing other areas.

3. Back yard services replacement (32 no.) in Mount Carmel and St. Anne's Terrace, Ardfinnan completed.

4. First Fix programme is ongoing. By email, dated 22 April 2021, Irish Water notified the elected members of changes to the programme, including a widening of eligibility criteria.

5. Non-domestic meter survey ongoing in Clonmel.



National Disinfection Programme:

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

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



Borrisokane Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Decemeber 2021



Borrisokane water treatment plant ultra violet water filter June 2021

The Disinfection Programme will be carried out in 2 phases:

Phase 1: Water Treatment Plant Assessment:

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

Phase 2: Necessary Upgrade Works:

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

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

- works ongoing at Coalbrook, Cordangan, Stooke, Rossadrehid, Lorrha, Cloughjordan and Newport WTP; and
- design ongoing at Hollyford, Dualla, Riverstown, Coolbawn (Nenagh), O'Gorman's
- Well, Newport and Borrisokane.



Borrisokane Water treatment plant ultra violet water filter June 2021



NETWORKS PORTFOLIO DELIVERY (WASTEWATER):

Irish Water has appointed AECOM (Project Management) and Terra Solutions contractor to carry out sewer network rehabilitation works as part of regional sewer rehabilitation projects. The scope of works within each regional contract will be defined gradually through inputs from Water Services engineers, closed circuit television (CCTV) surveys, etc., to identify and prioritise asset upgrade requirements. No start date has been indicated by Irish Water.

Wastewater Inlet Works, Storm Tank and Sludge Programme:

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

A grant of permission issued to Irish Water for an upgrade to Borrisokane WWTP on 05 September 2021. Construction works commenced in Borrisokane WWTP in December 2021.

Flow Monitoring and Sampling Programme:

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



Cordangan, Tipperary water treatment plant chlorine dosing

Provision of Chemical Bulk Storage Tanks:

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

Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme:

Under the Small Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Programme, the wastewater treatment plant at Carrick Street, Mullinahone was identified for improvement works, to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant, to include construction of inlet works, new process units and below ground storage tanks, landscaping and associated ancillary works including new below ground pump chambers and pipework. The population equivalent of the agglomeration of Mullinahone is 608. Consequently, it is in receipt of a licence from the Environmental Protection Agency. The above works were substantially completed in 2021.



National Certificate of Authorisation Programme:

Wastewater treatment plants which serve an agglomeration where the population equivalent is less than 500 are in receipt of a Certificate of Authorisation from the Environmental Protection Agency as the environmental regulator. Those plants serving a population equivalent in excess of this threshold are in receipt of a licence from the environmental regulator.

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

Wastewater Pumping Station Programme:

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

Source Rationalisation Programme:

The aim of this Irish Water programme is to rationalise small water schemes into bigger schemes.

The schemes currently being assessed for rationalisation under the programme are Two-Mile-Borris, Horse and Jockey, Littleton, Upperchurch and Glengar:

- Two-Mile-Borris, Horse and Jockey and Littleton will be assessed for connection to the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme;
- Upperchurch will be assessed for connection to the Kilcommon Water Supply Scheme; and
- Glengar will be assessed for connection to the Ironmills Water Supply Scheme, which is part of the Dundrum Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Tipperary County Council will promote other suitable water schemes which meet the criteria.

CONCLUSION:

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



Irish Water National Water Resources Plan:

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

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

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

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

The NWRP will:

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

A 10-week public consultation sought feedback on the Irish Water NWRP Draft Framework Plan and associated environmental reports and was completed on 12 March 2021. Following the receipt of 84 submissions, including one from Tipperary County Council, Irish Water, on 26 May 2021, finalised and adopted the Framework Plan.

Irish Water has now commenced the Phase 2 development of four Regional Water Resources Plans which will set out the options to address identified needs across all of Irish Water's supplies. Irish Water will be again seeking the public's views as each of the Regional Plans will be subject to public consultation. In this respect, further engagement with Tipperary County Council will take place.

Irish Water held a workshop, via Zoom, with all elected members on 06 December 2021 which provided an opportunity for engagement by senior management from Irish Water with the elected members on the Regional Water Resources Plans as they impact on County Tipperary.

Irish Water also availed of the opportunity afforded by this workshop to present an update to the elected members on its Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region and on its Capital Projects for County Tipperary.

The Draft Regional Water Resources Plan for the Eastern and Midlands Region, which covers only a portion of the former Tipperary North, has been published with a public consultation on same extending from 14 December 2021 to 14 March 2022. A hard copy of the documents associated with same is available for public inspection at the Planning Section, Civic Offices, Nenagh.

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

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



Irish Water Small Towns and Villages Programme:

Irish Water's Revenue Control 3 (RC3) Investment Plan 2020-2024 includes the Small Towns and Villages Programme (STVGP).

This programme is primarily intended to provide capacity in wastewater treatment plants to cater for growth in smaller settlements which would not otherwise be provided for in the current Investment Plan. The STVGP is limited to supporting growth in settlements already served by Irish Water infrastructure.

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

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

On 30 September 2021, Irish Water advised that funding is to be provided to provide additional wastewater treatment capacity at Kilsheelan and Lisvarrinane as part of the STVGP.



Non-Domestic Water Charges:

On 16 June 2021 Irish Water issued a note on the introduction of the new non-domestic tariff framework for Irish Water's business customers, which is to go live on 01 October 2021, with Irish Water issuing letters to customers to outline what changes they can expect to see from October.

The decision to confirm the new date for implementation was taken by the regulator, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU). The changes were due to go live on 01 May 2020 originally but were deferred to 01 May 2021 and again to 01 October 2021 due to the considerable uncertainty for businesses under the essential Government public health guidelines due to COVID-19.

Irish Water noted that "The new framework will standardise charges across the country while recovering the cost of providing water and wastewater services to non-domestic customers. The vast majority of customers will see either a decrease or an increase of less than €250 per annum, in their annual bills. For the minority of customers who will face larger increases in their annual bill, Irish Water will put in place a number of important support measures. Connections that see an increase of €250 or more will be gradually transitioned to the new tariffs over three years. For connections that will face an increase of €750 or more, we will automatically apply a 10% cap to their annual bill increase in any one year. Throughout this process, both Irish Water and the CRU have examined international best practice and consulted with representative groups and individual businesses across the country. This approach has greatly helped in developing charges that are clear, simple and fair to all."

Irish Water is encouraging businesses to visit www.water.ie where they can assess the impact of the new charges on their future bills using our online calculator tool available on www.water.ie.

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



Council Workshops with Irish Water:

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

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

A similar series of workshops, conducted by Zoom on a District basis, took place in the period 15 April 2021 to 29 April 2021. A further series of workshops, via Zoom, occurred, on a District basis, on 06 October 2021.

It is planned to hold the next series of workshops in early April 2022.

As noted above, Irish Water held a workshop, via Zoom, with all elected members on 06 December 2021 to brief them on the Regional Water Resources Plans, as well as provide an update on its Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region and on its Capital Projects for County Tipperary.

Water Sector Transformation:

On 23 February 2021 Deputy Darragh O'Brien, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage published a Policy Paper on Water Sector Transformation entitled Water Sector Transformation Policy Paper: Irish Water – Towards a National, Publicly-Owned, Regulated Water Services Utility.

The Policy Paper, Frequently Raised Topics, and accompanying press release, are available on www.gov.ie/housing. All new publications appear on the homepage under the Publications heading with the press release appearing under the Press releases heading.

The Policy Paper:

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

Detailed discussions between the parties are in progress at this time.



RURAL WATER PROGRAMME:

The Rural Water Programme principally covers the following:

1. group water schemes; and
2. group sewerage schemes, the provision of which requires the active participation of the householders concerned.

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

1. the provision of treatment and disinfection facilities;
2. source protection measures; and
3. the rehabilitation and upgrade of distribution systems.

The unprecedented national circumstances occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic paused much of the civil works activity with the result that progress has been slow. With social distancing requirements it was difficult to hold meetings required for the scheme amalgamation and rationalisation processes. A number of group water schemes met digitally; however, it was a challenge.

Progress on the above programme of work was reviewed by the Rural Water Monitoring Committee at its 3 meetings held, via Zoom, on 05 May 2021, 20 July 2021 and 19 October 2021, respectively.

 *The focus of the Rural Water Programme for 2021 in respect of group water schemes has been to address remaining inadequacies in the quality of drinking water*

Capital Grants for Group Water Schemes:



Figure 1. Ardcroney Group Water Scheme Manager, Eleanor Maher, and Fogarty Well Drilling Ltd., personnel at the Production Well at Mountfalcon, Borrisokane.

Tipperary's average annual investment via capital grants is €500,000; investment during 2021 was €136,791.92, reflecting the difficulties arising as a result of both the COVID-19 pandemic and the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Brexit).

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

Some of the projects underway in 2021 included:

- Cunnahurt Knockalton Group Water Scheme: new source;
- Ardcroney-Frolic-Luska Group Water Scheme: new source under investigation;
- Kilriffith Kilmore Group Water Scheme: installation of new chlorine dosing pumps;
- Castlough Group Water Scheme: installation of new chlorine dosing pumps and ultra-violet (UV) system;
- Kilcoran New Burgess Group Water Scheme: universal metering;
- Rahealty-Clobanna Group Water Scheme: amalgamation finalised; and
- Castleiney Group Water Scheme: universal metering procurement.

Consulting Engineer's Report: following interaction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the Report will be an Options Report and will be part of the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2024. A brief, maps and supporting documents will be prepared for review by the DHLGH prior to publishing on the eTenders website in 2022.

Anticipating an invitation from the DHLGH to submit a request for funding under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2024, the Rural Water Team has engaged with Schemes in an effort to gather projects for consideration and inclusion, (15 projects on hands at 31 December 2021). Requests for watermain improvement funding must be accompanied by supporting documentation (step testing, analysis of unaccounted for water (UFW) and display that one is addressing the point where most water is being lost as distinct from the area with most leakage points). All proposed projects are to be costed accurately and supported by a robust justification.

Annual Maintenance Subsidy for Group Water Schemes:

Annual Maintenance Subsidy (AMS) payments, in 2021 amount to €566,269.15, distributed over 63 group water schemes. AMS is exceptionally important for GWSs and the focus has been on Quality Assurance, Water Conservation, organizational status and income throughout 2021.

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

Alia:

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

1. grants payable pursuant to the Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 for the provision or necessary improvement of an individual water supply to a house (known as well grants);
2. grants payable pursuant to the Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2013, which Regulations have been superseded by the:
 - *the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020;*
 - *the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for Prioritised Areas for Action) Regulations 2020;* and
 - *the Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for High Status Objective Catchment Areas) Regulations 2020 (known as septic tank grants);*
- grants payable pursuant to the Domestic Lead Remediation (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2016 (known as lead piping grants).

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

Further details on these schemes follow:



Revised Private Well Grant:

A revised Private Well Grant Scheme is now in place and operating from 05 June 2020. Conditions are largely unchanged and the Scheme is still demand-led. The Scheme has an appeal system built into it.

There are 3 headings under which an application may be made:

- **Treatment:** installing an ultra-violet (UV) system, pre-filter system, iron or manganese, etc. filter, 100% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000.
- **Upgrade:** new pump, pressure vessel, structure and electrics of pump house: 85% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €3,000.
- **New source:** drilling, dressing, sealing well head: 85% of approved costs, subject to a maximum grant of €5,000.

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

Treatment and Upgrade or Treatment and New Source. An applicant cannot apply for both New Source and Upgrade.

	Invested 2021	Applicants	
Former Scheme:	€36,592.59	22	Closed June 2021; no further activity on the Scheme.
Revised Scheme:	€318,748.49	126	Interest in the Revised Private Well Grant is strong with 120 applicants at 31 December 2021 and 114 grant approvals.
Total:	€355,341.01	135	

Septic Tank Grants (Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems):

Two applications were received and processed under the National Inspection Plan Scheme. These will reach payment stage in 2022. The anticipated expenditure will be €10,000 and this represents the maximum grant in both cases.

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

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

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

DWWTS National Inspection Plan:

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





Figure 2 Septic Tank Inspection: Staff from the Environment and Climate Action Section (Fergus O'Connor, Executive Engineer, and Paula O'Dwyer, Executive Scientist) determining the level of sludge in the tank using "The Sludge Judge".

DWWTS Prioritised Areas for Action (PAA):

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

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

DWWTS High Status Objective Catchment Area:

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

Public interest in these 3 schemes is quite strong.

Lead Piping Grants:

One application was received at 31 December 2021. Work has been completed and payment of €4,000 made (the maximum grant).

NOTE:

Responsibility for the delivery of the Rural Water Programme has migrated from Water Services to Environment and Climate Action, with effect from 01 January 2022.





Ballyfinboy River walk with Ballyfinboy Development association. Photo: Ruairi Ó Conchúir

LOCAL AUTHORITY WATERS PROGRAMME (LAWPRO)

In 2021, Tipperary and Kilkenny County Councils continued to lead The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) for the sixth consecutive year. As a nationwide shared service to the Local Government sector, LAWPRO supports the development and implementation of national River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs).

Including, coordination of water quality management by local authorities and State agencies on a regional basis and promoting public participation at a local level, as required under the EU Water Framework Directive.

LAWPRO's mission is to protect and care for Ireland's rivers, lakes, estuaries, groundwater, and coastal waters by working with the 31 local authorities, state agencies, and stakeholders and engaging supporting local community participation in caring for our natural waters. This is achieved through three core thematic areas of the annual LAWPRO Work Plan: Coordination, Engagement, Catchment Science. These thematic areas are expanded upon in figure 1.



	Rationale	Methods	Outcomes
COORDINATION Supporting governance structures for cooperation and knowledge transfer	LAs, State agencies, and public bodies working together for better water quality. Delivering multiple benefits for water, biodiversity, climate action, and local communities.	Regional Management and Operational Structures. Collaborations and knowledge sharing. Supporting local implementation and actions.	Greater Knowledge transfer. Shared vision and goals. Common purpose to achieve goals. Coordinated approach to implementation of RBMPs.
ENGAGEMENT Supporting communities and stakeholders to participate in caring for local waterbodies.	Bottom-up approach, involving communities and water users in conversations and actions to achieve water quality goals. Better understanding of local issues and concerns.	Local engagements, meetings, and events. Consultations and two-way dialogue. Listening to local communities. Promoting the value of good water quality.	Community-led water related initiatives and projects. Giving communities a voice in water quality matters. Community resilience and capacity to take local action.
CATCHMENT SCIENCE Catchment Management and Science in Priority Areas for Action	Leading the way with innovative catchment science. Identification of issues affecting water quality. Guidance for LA staff, relevant agencies, and stakeholders to find solutions to problems identified.	Desk studies and Local Catchment Assessments. Community Information Meetings. Action Planning - Referrals and tracking.	Detailed assessment in PAAs. Stakeholder and community engagement. Wider understanding of the issues and solutions at multiple scales.

Figure 1 – Overview of LAWPRO's core functions

River Basin Management Plans

The River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 required LAWPRO to deliver public engagement, stakeholder involvement for achieving water quality improvements in 189 priority areas for action. Within Tipperary, the focus areas are the Ara, Borrisoleigh, Clashawley, Lingaun, and Aherlow (working with Limerick City and County Council). Ruth Hennessy, Catchment Manager leads a team of Catchment Scientists working in these specific catchments in Tipperary, and across the wider Southeast Region.

The draft River Basin Management plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027 was published by Minister Darragh O'Brien, T.D., and Minister for State Malcolm Noonan, T.D., in September 2021 for six-month public consultation until 31st March 2022. LAWPRO delivered local level public engagement and consultation using online platforms because of Covid-19 restrictions. The first round of virtual meetings was held in collaboration with the Public Participation Networks, invites were sent to the memberships of the Environmental and Community & Voluntary pillars. In County Tipperary, the virtual meeting with PPN members was held on 7th December, with 23 attendees from across the county. Further virtual public meetings are scheduled for March/February 2022. Significant water quality declines, i.e., higher than the national average, have been noted in Tipperary. This is of considerable concern due to the negative impact that this will have on water quality dependent sectors such as water based tourism and also as a public good.

To facilitate the public consultation process during the Covid-19 pandemic, LAWPRO developed a Virtual Consultation Room, accessed through the website www.lawaters.ie. This proved hugely successful as a new way of delivering public information and reaching new audiences, delivering 7,922 visits in the first month.

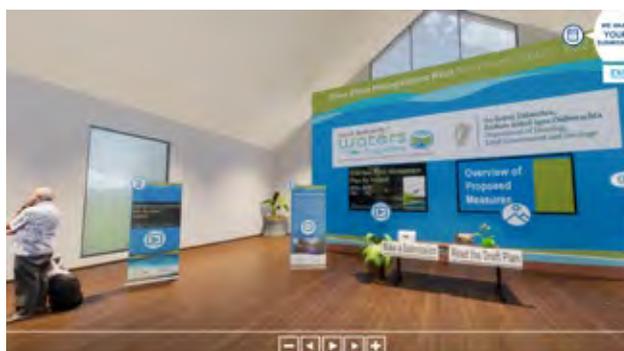


Image of the Virtual Consultation Room on the Draft RBMP



Nature Based Solutions

The Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage and LAWPRO worked closely with stakeholders on the issue of nature-based solutions to surface water management. A Webinar on 30 November 2021 with 530 attendees focused on integrating a nature-based approach to rainwater management into urban design and planning. Minister Malcom Noonan T.D., addressed the webinar and spoke of his department's commitment to innovation and solutions to adapt to the impacts of a changing climate and weather patterns. This was followed by speakers from both Ireland and Wales with experience in this area. An interim National Guidance Document and an Implementation Strategy Scoping Study were launched at the webinar which was aimed at planners, designers, engineers, architects and landscape architects, environment, climate, biodiversity, heritage, parks and landscape professionals within local authorities and the private sector. The project, which has its roots in Tipperary, is continuing to work with the above practitioners to roll out best practice throughout Ireland and should assist in not only improving and protecting water quality, but also help provide greater flood resilience, biodiversity opportunities and help with climate action.



Engaging Communities

The Community Water Officer for Tipperary and the LAWPRO head office in Balingarrane, Clonmel continued to work with community groups in developing awareness of their local waters and supporting various local projects. LAWPRO administers the Community Water Development Fund and in 2021 grants totalling €34,000 awarded to community groups in Tipperary to deliver projects and initiatives to enhance a local waterbody.

During the 2020 lockdown, LAWPRO (in partnership with The Heritage Council, the Heritage Officers Programme, Inland Fisheries Ireland, and Waterways Ireland) organised a story writing competition called **Stories from the Waterside**. The aim was to support and engage and support communities during this difficult period. The competition winners were published in a book in 2020, launched during National Heritage Week.

In February 2021 all stories, including those from Tipperary were published on a new website www.storiesfromthewaterside.ie LAWPRO held a webinar to mark World Wetlands Day on 2nd February 2021 with stories read out by their authors. The event was hosted by Jim Finn of TippFM. There was a high level of engagement in the competition with over 470 stories submitted. A surprising outcome was the feedback from people and the support they found in the exercise by recollecting memories of their local river.



Arthur O'Donnell receives a copy of the Stories from the Waterside book from LAWPRO's Ruth Hennessy. Arthur's story "Reflections on the River Suir" recollects a childhood memory of swimming with his brother all the way from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir, along a stretch of river now known as the Suir Blueway.

Ref	Group	Project delivered in 2021	Grant awarded
217	Cabragh Wetlands Trust	Land purchase to extend habitat area and produce a habitat management plan.	€18,200
219	Ballinderry Development Association	Detunneling work at lower Ballyfinboy River from Ballinderry Bridge to Ballyhooney Bridge. Thinning of dense growth and removal of non-native growth where practicable.	€12,000
240	Suircan Environmental Company	An ambitious project that involved training and coordination of 45 volunteer Citizen Scientists who took 120 water samples from the River Suir and tributaries for E-DNA testing.	€1,305
260	Tipperary Tidy Towns	A moth survey was carried out along the riverside vegetation of the River Ara in Tipperary town. A report is available.	€1,300
300	Clonmel Applefest	A series of inks were made using local materials harvested by the river Suir; a video explaining the process was filmed: https://youtu.be/LESub8N96cQ	€500
372	Kilsheelan Tidy Towns	Tree, hedge, and native wildflower planting. Pollinator friendly creeper planting on naked urban wall. Bench installation 2 of 8 installed.	€1,000

Water Heritage Day is a significant public awareness and engagement day in the LAWPRO annual calendar. It occurs each August on the last Sunday of National Heritage Week. In 2021 a nature study took place on newly opened wetlands in Cabragh Wetlands, near Thurles. This event was supported by LAWPRO.



Nature Study at Cabragh Wetlands

 *Through Stories from the Waterside more people are aware of our local river and how we need to value it as a natural resource.*

 *Stories from the Waterside gave me something to focus on and write about during a difficult time.*

The River Suir eDNA Project engaged more than 40 people on Ireland's first and largest Citizen Science project using innovative cutting edge environmental DNA scientific monitoring. Scientists from LAWPRO and UCD provided training events with a focus on the biodiversity on the River Suir and how to take eDNA water samples (which look for trace biological elements of the target species). This project covered 120 sites right across the catchment looking for traces of rare species (Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Sea lamprey and native crayfish) which were then mapped). The project was delivered by Suircan and was funded by LEADER (South Tipperary Development Company) and LAWPRO. Inland Fisheries Ireland also provided advice. The project involved significant public outreach and had 10 national schools involved with educational talks and site visits. Suircan subsequently won the water themed prize for the project at the National Heritage Awards 2021, which are delivered each year by The Heritage Council.



Joe MacNamara of LAWPRO taking water samples from the River Suir in Cahir town as a citizen scientist, with Sanni Hintikka, BioID scientist from UCD.



CIVIL DEFENCE

The predominant role of Civil Defence is to provide ancillary support to the Principle Response Agencies (PRA's). Secondary to this when possible our role is to support local community events and activities including sporting, cultural and community care.



2021 was a particularly busy year responding to the worldwide outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). In 2021, Tipperary Civil Defence has completed a total of 297 taskings, the majority of which were COVID-19 related. This has been one of the busiest year's to date for the organisation.



COVID- 19 Response

During the current COVID-19 Pandemic, Tipperary Civil Defence has provided support to the Health Service Executive (HSE), Irish Blood Transfusion Service (IBTS), Local Authority (Community Forum), Cancer Care and Meal on Wheels.

Volunteers provided support to the HSE and the National Ambulance service with the provision of transport for both COVID-19 positive patients and patients that were attending routine essential appointments such as for cancer care and treatment.

Volunteers have provided on going support to the Vaccination centres in the rollout of the National Vaccination programme, with the provision of Health check and post vaccination observation. This commitment is ongoing.



Civil Defence ambulance transporting COVID-19 positive patient to City West COVID-19 hub in Dublin.

Support was also given to the HSE in the set up and administration of pop-up vaccination centres throughout the county. In the very depth of the pandemic Civil Defence volunteers assisted the HSE with the repacking of COVID-19 testing kits. This provided essential assistance to support the running of the test centre at Munroe and allowed for the large volume of testing that was required to be carried out.



Civil Defence supporting HSE with repacking of COVID -19 test kits.

In 2021, as part of a nationwide initiative, Tipperary Civil Defence continued to support the Irish Blood Transfusion Services (IBTS) at donor clinics throughout the county. Volunteers operated meet and greet systems at the clinics in Clonmel, Thurles, Roscrea, Newport and Tipperary Town.



Volunteers providing assistance to IBTS clinics.

Members of Tipperary Civil Defence have also played a significant role in assisting Tipperary County Council's Community Forum. This included the provision of transport and assisting vulnerable members of the community with the delivery of medications, shopping and other essential medical supplies. Support was also given to Cuan Saor (women's refuge) in Clonmel, and the housing section of Tipperary County Council in relation to homeless services.

Volunteers also supported Clonmel Meals on Wheels with the daily delivery of hot meals to vulnerable older adults in the community.



Searching for Missing Person

In addition to our COVID -19 response, Tipperary Civil Defence assisted An Garda Síochána with the search for a missing person in our county. Our K9 search unit along with ground search crew and vehicles assisted the Garda K9 search unit. There was a positive outcome to this search with the safe location of the missing person. Tipperary Civil Defence also assisted other Civil Defence units throughout the country in the search for missing persons with our drone and K9 teams.



Search for Missing Person - Drone unit assisting neighbouring counties.



K9 search dog "Scooby" and dog handler Mark Condon.

Health & Safety

In 2021 Civil Defence has retained its OHSAS 18001 accreditation. The section is now working toward migrating over to the new ISO45001 standard. The section has also revised its COVID-19 response plan and risk assessments.

Training

Due to COVID-19 public health measures and restrictions much training within the organisation was suspended. However, essential training took place with regards to people handling, manual handling, Cardiac First Responder (CFR) and severe weather off-road driving skills. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training commenced, some of which was held online. Volunteers also completed Advanced Cardiac First Responder (A-CFR) training and recertification. Updating of COVID-19 PPE Donning & Doffing procedures also took place, in addition to limited training on our communications network. All training was conducted with full COVID-19 compliance including the wearing of face covering and adherence to social distancing and in line with current public health advice. Re-certification of our existing drone pilots also took place as organised by the Civil Defence College in Roscrea.



Severe weather and off-road driving course.



New Vehicles

Tipperary Civil Defence was allocated funding for the replacement of our current communications vehicle. A Mercedes Sprinter was purchased from Dormant Account fund. Fit out of this vehicle will take place in 2022. We also received funding for replacement of the Kg vehicle, with the purchase of a Mercedes Virto, fitout of which is to also take place in 2022. Tipperary was also included in a National Equipment Grant of €6,000.

Little Blue Hero

Tipperary Civil Defence were honoured to be involved in the Little Blue hero initiative which is a not for profit charity operated entirely by volunteers from An Garda Síochána with the aim of helping families in the local community who have children undergoing long term medical treatment or serious illness.

Tipperary Civil Defence, along with colleagues from the Fire Service, National Ambulance service, the Coast Guard and An Garda Síochána provided a drive by display of emergency service vehicles in honour of a little boy from Clonmel who has a serious illness. The little boy also became an honorary Garda and was presented with his very own patrol car on the day.



Little Blue Heroes. Civil Defence and other Emergency service colleagues at the Drive by of Emergency service vehicles

Heroes Aid

Heroes Aid is a not for profit organisation set up to recognise and acknowledge the work carried out by our frontline workers. Heroes Aid teamed up with Civil Defence nationally to help deliver thank you hampers to the staff of Intensive Care Units units throughout the country.

On Christmas eve Tipperary Civil Defence delivered a Heroes gift package to the Intensive Care Unit staff (ICU) of Tipperary University Hospital.



Heroes Aid . Delivery of hampers to the I.C.U staff at Tipperary University Hospital, on Christmas Eve. Pictured are Maria Barry, general manager, I.C.U staff and Civil Defence volunteers

 *Heroes Aid is a not for profit organisation set up to recognise and acknowledge the work carried out by our frontline workers.*

 *Tipperary Civil Defence were honoured to be involved in the Little Blue hero initiative which is a not for profit charity operated entirely by volunteers from An Garda Síochána*

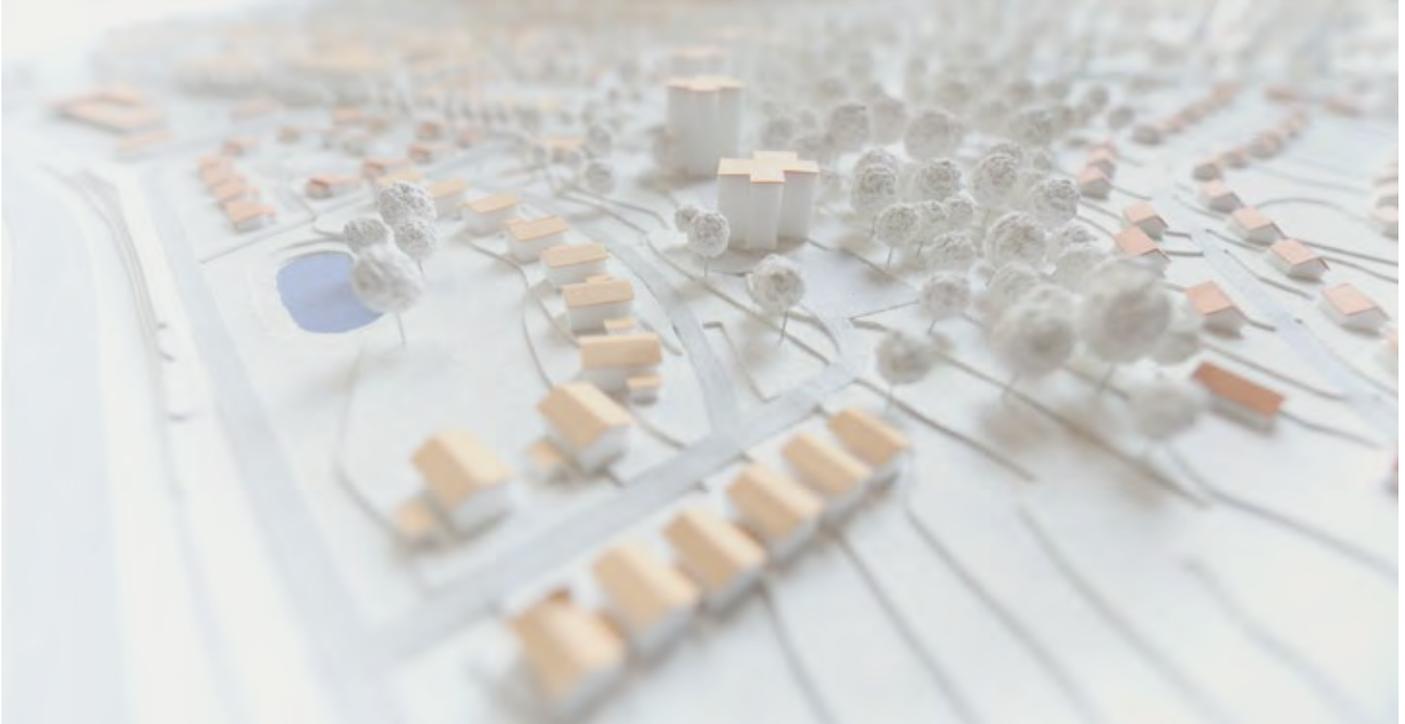






**OUR
COMMUNITY**

HOUSING



HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Role

The role of this Strategic Policy Committee is to assist the Council in formulating Housing policy.

The membership is comprised of members of the County Council, representatives from the PPN, Trade Union, Business Sector and Development/Construction Sector.

MEMBERSHIP

Tipperary County Council:

- Cllr Mary Hanna Hourigan, Chair,
- Cllr Shane Lee,
- Cllr David Dunne,
- Cllr John McGrath,
- Cllr Pat English,
- Cllr Michael Smith,
- Cllr Kieran Bourke,
- Cllr Roger Kennedy,
- Cllr Noel Coonan,
- Cllr Marie Murphy.

External Representatives:

- Moira Merrigan, Public Participation Network, (PPN)
- Paul Berrigan, Public Participation Network, (PPN)
- Tom Gallahue, Development / Construction,
- Lalor McGee, Trade Union

The following Housing related items were considered during the five meetings that took place remotely in 2021:

- Review of Housing Grants Scheme and appeals procedure
- Enforcement Procedure Policy
- Update on Allocation Policy and Choice Based Letting
- Draft Disability Strategy
- Energy Retrofit Programme
- Housing for All Overview
- Affordable Housing Bill 2021



Housing Need

The social housing need in the county at the end of 2021 was 3509. Of this figure approximately 60% were in receipt of social housing support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP).



Housing Allocations 2021

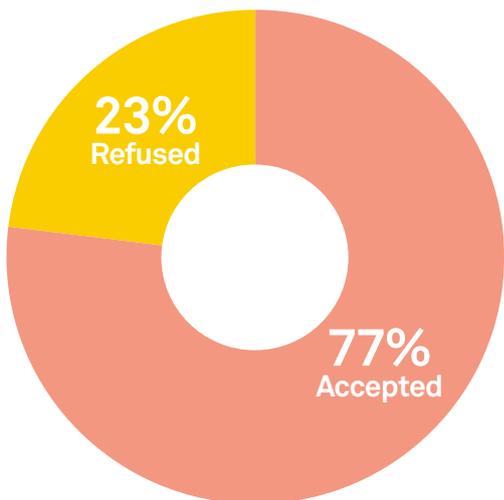
A total of 445 applicants were offered tenancies of Local Authority dwellings in 2021 of which 343 accepted the offer.



104 persons refused offers of Local Authority dwellings in 2021 which represents a 23% refusal rate. It is expected that the introduction of Choice Based Letting will reduce the refusal rate (see below)



In addition, the Council nominated a further 92 applicants to AHB housing during the year.



 A total of 445 applicants were offered tenancies of Local Authority dwellings in 2021 of which 343 accepted the offer.

Choice Based Lettings

Choice based Lettings is a system where dwellings are advertised on a dedicated website and approved housing applicants are asked to submit an expression of interest on a dwelling in which they are interested.

In the event that there is more than one applicant interested in any one dwelling for which expressions of interest are submitted, the allocation will be made in accordance with the Order of Priority in the Allocations Scheme.

In 2021 the Housing section, with the assistance of the IT team, concluded the contractual negotiations with the provider, OpenSky, and it is projected that following implementation and training the CBL system will be up and running by the end of Q1 2022.

This system will be available to all approved applicants via a:

- Dedicated resource in each Municipal District office and Civic office
- Accessibility in all libraries
- Accessibility through smartphones, tablets, laptops and PC's to the CBL platform
- The overall aim is to speed up the allocation process, reduce vacancy times and reduce the level of refusals..



Housing Rents



5,298

Rent Accounts at 31/12/2021



€53.22

Average Rent for 2021



97%

Collection rate

Tipperary County Council had a total of 5298 Local Authority houses as at 31st December 2021. Rents are calculated in accordance with the Tipperary County Council's Differential Rent Scheme. The average rent in 2021 was €53.22 and the collection rate was 97%

Voids Programme

A total of 148 vacant houses had works completed which enabled them to be returned to use in 2021.



The cost for these works totalled €5 million (inclusive of a significant number of long-term voids). The Housing Section works closely with all Districts to ensure the efficient turnaround of vacant houses to ensure that they are allocated and tenanted in a timely fashion.



€5m

Vacancy levels have fallen from 4.3% to 2.7% at year-end as a result of the work undertaken.



Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SLI) / Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

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

Progress 2021:

	Contracts
RAS including Voluntary RAS units	52
Long Term Leasing Units	9
Mortgage to Rent (incl Home for Life) and CALF	57
Total	118

Housing Assistance Payment

The Housing Assistance Payment scheme (HAP) is a form of social housing support, providing rental assistance for approved housing applicants to secure accommodation in the private rented sector. Some 314 housing applicants were assisted under the Scheme in the county in 2021. On average 6 housing applicants were assisted per week. There were 1843 active HAP tenancies at the end of 2021.

Syrian Refugee Resettlement Project

Tipperary County Council completed the resettlement of 45 families in 2021 as part of Ireland's international commitments arising from the humanitarian crisis in Syria.

Through the Interagency Group chaired by the Council, Youth Work Ireland (Tipperary) provided resettlement assistance with the aim of establishing a support structure for the families. This project was extended and funded for a further 6 months due to the impact of Covid-19. Significant support work has also been provided by the HSE; DEASP; ETB; Department of Education; LDCs and AGS in addition to the very significant support & welcome provided by the host communities.



Homeless Service

In line with government policy, the focus of homeless services in 2021 was on the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation and thus the homeless cycle.

The use of private rented accommodation with the assistance of HAP was the primary option for those presenting as homeless. The 2 Homeless Prevention Officers, working in tandem with the 2 HAP Placefinders, were successful in achieving this aim in 2021. The homeless presentations statistics for 2021 show an 86% success rate for the prevention of clients entering emergency accommodation. In monetary terms this resulted in a reduction of 46% in expenditure on emergency accommodation from 2019 to 2021.



The HAP Placefinder service has contributed to the success in this area by the creation of 83 tenancies in 2021.

The multi-disciplined Homeless Action Team continues to provide a forum whereby a care and case management approach is adopted to put in place an exit strategy for each client availing of emergency accommodation support. This strategy will identify the most suitable option for these clients whether it is HAP, RAS, Approved Housing Body accommodation or council housing.

Under the Housing First model introduced in the south of the county in 2020, 12 units of accommodation were provided for the most vulnerable of approved housing applicants. At the end of the year there was a 100% occupancy rate which exceeded the national occupancy rate of 85%. Twelve of our most complex vulnerable cases are now in secure accommodation with wrap around services ensuring that they sustain their tenancy. The Council intends to provide an additional 18 Housing First Units throughout the county to address the remaining needs in this category.

 *The use of private rented accommodation with the assistance of HAP was the primary option for those presenting as homeless.*

The START programme, an initiative which commenced in the south of the County in 2020, supports persons at risk of becoming homeless due to significant mental health challenges. In 2021 this programme supported 6 such clients. They are provided with wrap around mental health services to ensure that they are able to maintain their tenancy. A similar support service is provided by the North Tipperary Intensive Support (NTISS) programme on an outreach basis in the north of the county and the Council is the lead partner along with the H.S.E. and Focus Ireland in providing this service to 21 clients.

The Housing Section currently accommodates two support workers to deliver the Tenancy Sustainment Service programme (TSS) for those tenants who struggle to sustain their tenancy and who are neither Housing First clients or clients who are availing of the START or NTISS service. In 2021 the TSS service provided support to 85 LA tenants who required support in this area.

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



Tenant Purchase Scheme

The Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage announced a new Incremental Purchase Scheme providing for the sale of existing local authority houses to tenants in 2015. All tenants were notified of the Scheme in March 2016.

Tipperary County Council received 72 applications from tenants to purchase their house in 2021.

Formal applications to purchase received during 12 months ended 31 December 2021	72
Applications approved (i.e. offer letter issued) during 12 months ended 31 December 2021 but sales not completed at that date	29
Sales completed during 12 months ended 31 December 2021	10
Total proceeds of sales received during 12 months ended 31 December 2021	€623,150

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan is a Government backed mortgage for first time buyers. It is available nationwide from all local authorities from 1st February 2018.

A first-time buyer can apply for a Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan to purchase a new or second-hand property, or to build your own home. You can borrow up to 90% of the market value of the property.

Maximum market values of the property that can be purchased or self-built in Tipperary is €250,000. In 2021 a total of 141 applications were received by Tipperary County Council.

Number of Applications Received	141
Valid	54
Approved	34
Number of loans issued	12
Total value of loans issued	€1,505,450

This loan scheme is closing to new applications from 01 February 2022 and is being replaced with a new scheme which will be called the Local Authority Home Loan.

Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP)



Figure 1 Glenconnor Housing estate

The "Rebuilding Ireland 2018-2021" housing delivery programme is now complete with the emphasis going forward on "Housing for All 2022-2026". Tipperary County Council met and significantly exceeded its Rebuilding Ireland Target despite the unprecedented impact that Covid 19 had on the construction sector during both 2020 and 2021. The Rebuilding Ireland target was 625 units in the 4 years through acquisition, leasing and the build programme and 840 dwellings have been delivered or 134% of the specified target. There was nevertheless an impact on construction and this has been quantified as 85 units that would otherwise have been delivered in addition to the 840 above. These will form part of 2022 delivery and have been incorporated into the 2022 build target of 230 dwellings.

The following is the delivery for 2021:

Build (LA & AHB)	106
Part V	5
Acquisition	42
Longterm Lease	40
Buy & Renew	5

A number of schemes advanced through the 4 stage approvals process are on site with completions due in 2022. Newer proposals have commenced design with an emphasis on one and two bed properties on brown field sites. Four-bedroom plus units are also being designed into proposals where there is an identified need.



Figure 2 Knockanrawley Housing Estate



Repair and Leasing Scheme

The Repair and Leasing Scheme is an action under the Government's Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness and will continue under Housing for All.

Tipperary County Council commenced operation of the Scheme during 2017. The basis of the Repair and Leasing Scheme is that a loan of up to €60,000 (inc VAT) is made available to owners of qualifying, suitable vacant properties to carry out works necessary to bring them up to rental regulation standards, the properties are then leased to the Council/Approved Housing Body and the cost of the works is deducted from lease payments over the agreed lease term.

Tipperary County Council received 107 applications since the beginning of the scheme, the breakdown of which is as follows:

Table 1 – Summary of RLS Applications	
Status of Application	No.
Lease issued	1 (3 units)
Lease to be issued	1
In discussion with owner regarding rental valuation	1 (4 Units)
Inspection required	0
Inspected with costs to be issued to owner	0
Further information sought from owner	11
Costed and awaiting response from owner	14
Owner withdrawn from the scheme	36
Rejected due to insufficient demand in area	8
Rejected due to structural issue / poor condition / unsuitable	21
Rejected due to flooding issue	1
Rejected due to excessive funding requirement	1
No Response from owner	12

Buy and Renew

The "buy and renew" scheme is designed to support local authorities (and approved housing bodies) in the purchase and renewal of vacant housing units in need of remediation and make them available for social housing.

It is a companion strategy for the Repair & Lease scheme, providing additional social housing options. Buy and Renew can target the purchase of older vacant homes and assist in the improvement of derelict and disused areas within our villages and towns.

In 2021 there were 5 properties purchased:

Year	Purchase Location	Property
2021	Clonmel	231 St Oliver's Square
2021	Cashel	9 Treacy Villas
2021	Roscrea	57 Kennedy Park Roscrea
2021	Roscrea	101 Assumption Park
2021	Littleton	9 McDonagh Terrace (Contracts exchanged but completion of purchase is still finalising)

The owners of vacant properties considered suitable for social housing are identified where possible through advertising campaigns, local knowledge and through Land Registry and are contacted by letter and advised of the schemes available. i.e. Buy & Renew and Repair and Lease. Financial Institutions who have an interest in a vacant property would also be contacted. The owners are requested to contact the vacant homes officer to

discuss their properties and the benefits of the schemes. Under legislation Local Authorities have powers to Issue Compulsory Purchase Orders and this will be considered where appropriate by Tipperary County Council. An interdepartmental team consisting of members from Planning, Fire and Building Control, Environment and Housing are available to discuss properties with owners. The 9 largest Urban centres as well as the second tier of larger towns where the largest need exists are the focus. A national website maintained by Mayo County Council is available to members of the public to identify vacant properties of concern. This is monitored by Tipperary County Council with properties listed being investigated.



Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability is available to assist in the carrying out of works that are reasonably necessary for the purposes of rendering a house more suitable for the accommodation of a person with a disability who is a member of the household.

The Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme covers three types of grants operated by the Council.

- The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability provides for the provision/adaptation of accommodation to meet the needs of people with a disability, works include access ramps, stair lifts, level access showers and extensions.
- The Mobility Aids Grant is a scheme to address mobility problems and works include level access showers, ramps, grab rails and stair lifts.
- The Housing Aid for Older People assists older people in carrying out necessary repair and improvements to their home.

The combined capital allocation, which was notified to this Council in 2021, for the payment of the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability, for private dwellings, was €3,417,076 in 2021 for private housing adaptation grants of which €683,415 is to be provided from Tipperary County Council's own revenue resources. A total of 467 projects were completed. This represents an increase of 56% on the previous year's total of 299.

In addition, the Council received €1,533,332 to fund adaptation grants for Local Authority owned houses. This enabled 69 projects to be completed. This represents an increase of 146% on the previous year's total of 28.

Due to this increased funding Priority 2 and Priority 3 applications for previous years were completed for private grants thus allowing the opening up of the grants scheme for both private and local authority grants to Priority 1, 2 and 3 applications in 2022. The availability of this scheme will remain subject to funding being made available by central government.

Energy Efficiency Works

Midlands Retrofit Programme

Funding of €1.63 million has been approved in 2021. Works are practically complete on Phase 1 of the Midlands Retrofit Programme at Tara Drive, Gortnahoe. Phase 2 (20 units in Priory Place and Woodville Crescent in Templemore) and Phase 3 (24 units in Thurles, Templetuohy and Rathcabbin) have commenced with completions anticipated during Q1 2022.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme

The Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP) included a further 60 houses to be retrofitted.

Phase 1 consists of 32 houses located in Littleton, Templemore, Moyne & Templetuohy. Phase 2 consists of 28 houses located in Two Mile Borris, Gortnahoe, Roscrea & Borrisoleigh. Contractors have been appointed and works are in progress.

Works typically involve insulation, upgrades of windows and doors and installation of heat pumps (renewable energy heating systems), as committed to under the Programme for Government. This will help Ireland's efforts to combat climate change as approximately 40% of Ireland's energy-related carbon emissions are from buildings. The aim is to achieve a B2 or cost optimal energy rating in each dwelling.

Additional units for the energy efficiency retrofit scheme will be selected across all 5 districts in 2022 once we receive confirmation from the Department on the numbers allocated to the Council.



Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024

Tipperary County Council's Traveller Accommodation Programme, which was approved by the elected members in 2019, outlines the accommodation requirements of the Travelling Community over a five year period from 2019 to 2024. The indicative targets in line with requirements set out in the plan were met for the period 2019 to 2021 in that the housing needs of 80 families were provided for, with 19 of these catered for in 2021, in accommodation.

This is as set out hereunder

Accommodation Type	Standard incl. LTL & AHB	Group Housing	Halting site	Single Rural Dwelling	TOTAL
Traveller Accommodation Programme	58	15	8	9	90
No. provided between 2019 and 2021	61	7	2	10	80
Balance Remaining	-3	8	6	-1	10

A number of initiatives have been undertaken by the Council in 2021 to support vulnerable families from the Traveller Community to sustain their tenancies. Our TSS workers & senior social worker have been actively engaged with this process and have engaged with other agencies where this is required. In addition, such families or individuals can avail of the Housing First support where they meet the criteria in addition to the START and NTISS support services.

There continues to be active engagement by staff with families in need of support including bedding in the new caretaking supports provided to all group housing schemes and halting sites where this is warranted.

The Council is obliged to prepare a 3 Year Capital Programme and the current Programme covers the period 2020 to 2022. This Programme provides for upgrade works, new build, site remedial works, etc. so as to improve the living conditions of the travelling community and details of the plan are listed below.

Tipperary County Council 3 Year Capital Plan – Traveller Accommodation 2020 -2022

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION SCHEMES				
Project Name	Project Type (e.g. Group Housing/ Halting site)	Expected Completion Date	Description of Project	Current Position
Waller's Lot, Cashel	Halting Site	2021	Extension to House 4	Works complete.
Waller's Lot, Cashel	Dwelling	2021	Refurbishment Works – "Lawrence's House"	Works complete.
Heywood Road, Clonmel	Halting Site	2021	*Refurbishment of existing bays. *Removal of roadside mound. *Road re-surfacing works	Works underway. Planned completion quarter 1 2022.
Ballybeg Littleton	Dwelling	2020-2021	Extension (3 bedroom)	Contractor on Site, completion Q4 2022
Ashbury Roscrea	Halting Site	2020-2021	Add bedrooms to 2 tigin's	Contractor appointed
Parkmore Roscrea	Halting Site	2020-2021	Add bedrooms to 4 tigin's	On E-tenders
Lisnaviddogue Templemore	Dwelling	2022	Demolish existing house and construct 5-bedroom house due to overcrowding	Contractor to be appointed in January 2022
Chapel Lane Roscrea	Extension	2022	Extension (1 bedroom)	Complete
3 Rosemount, Templemore	Extension	2022	Extension/ Refurbishment works.	Contractor on site, completion Q2 2022





 *The Traveller Accommodation Capital Team is currently working on options to address the accommodation needs for 2022/2023.*

Annual Count of Traveller Families and their Accommodation

The Council undertook the Annual Count of Traveller Families and their Accommodation, as required under the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998, occurred on the 3rd December 2021. The total number of families was 379.

Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

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

Capital Assistance Scheme

Tipperary County Council acknowledges the progress that continues to be made by Approved Housing Bodies in the delivery of social housing units at various locations across the County.

Thurles Lions Trust has received Stage 4 Approval for the delivery of 19 no units at Stanwix Village, Thurles. This includes the refurbishment of a protected structure known as Stanwix House at Kickham Street, Thurles. The contractor is on site and the units are due for delivery by end Q2 2022.

Cluid Housing Association has received Stage 4 Approval for the construction of 9 units at Glenconnor Road, Clonmel. Total funding of €2,106,025 was secured under the Capital Assistance Scheme. The contractor is on site and the units are due for delivery by end Q2 2022.

Tuath Housing Association received Stage 4 approval for the delivery of 13 no units at Kickham Street, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary. Funding of €3,000,855 has been secured under the Capital Assistance Scheme in conjunction with Tipperary County Council. The contractor is on site and the units are due for delivery by end Q2 2022.

St. Patrick's Dwellings for the Elderly (SPADE) received approval to add two units to their scheme at Ashwell's Lot, Deerpark Rd, Cashel, Co. Tipperary. Funding of €517,226 was secured under the Capital Assistance Scheme and the units are due to be delivered by end Q1 2022.

Moorehaven Centre Tipperary secured Capital Assistance Scheme funding in the amount of €296,360 which enabled them to purchase a property in Tipperary Town which will be refurbished to allow 4 residents with mild intellectual disability to live independently.



Capital Advance Leasing Facility

The CALF scheme allows the approved Voluntary Housing Bodies to access private or Housing Finance Agency (HFA) loans for the purchase of, and in some cases the construction of, units that will then be made available for social housing under the leasing initiative.

Under the scheme, the Voluntary Housing Bodies may also request a capital investment from the Local Authority.

Tuath Housing Association received approval under the CALF scheme in order to construct 40 units at Wallers Lot in Cashel, Co. Tipperary. The CALF element of the funding amounts to €2,616,275 and the units are due for delivery in Q2 2024.

Cluid Housing Association received approval under the CALF scheme which will allow them to purchase 5 no units at Ballygraique Court, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary on a turnkey arrangement. The CALF element of the funding amounts to €353,800 and the units are due to be delivered by Q2 2022.

Focus Housing Association have secured funding to purchase 16 units at Abbey Court Lodges, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary under a turnkey arrangement. The CALF element of the funding amounts to €904,960 and the units are due to be delivered in Q1 2022.

Mortgage to Rent

Approved Housing Bodies or a private operator in the market also purchase properties that become available under the Mortgage to Rent scheme and, facilitated by Tipperary County Council, lease these properties back to the owners over a 25-30-year term. This prevents the owners of the properties from becoming homeless and allows them to remain living in their own homes and their status changes from Borrowers/Owners to tenants.

 ***In 2021, Tipperary County Council facilitated the completion of 36 units under the mortgage to rent scheme.***

AHB Forum

Tipperary County Council set up a forum where representatives from the AHBs operating in the county and staff members from the Voluntary Housing Team of TCC could meet to discuss relevant issues and review the progress of the work programmes of each AHB in the delivery of social housing within the County.

In addition, a new sub group of this forum consisting of housing assessment officers from Tipperary County Council and the AHB's met with the intention of streamlining the nomination process and providing a forum for improving working relationships between staff who allocate houses directly. This should assist in speeding up the allocation process and ensuring that vacancies remain at a minimum.

Estate Management

Tipperary County Council continues to promote estate management initiatives and awarded amenity grants to Resident Associations under this Council's 2021 Estate Management Budget. This funding aims to enhance and develop the physical appearance of our Local Authority estates.

Training in the form of educational excursions and up skilling workshops are normally provided annually to help encourage ongoing participation from residents. However, restrictions imposed due to Covid-19 meant that it was not possible to run these during 2021. Once restrictions are lifted it is the Council's intention to re-organise these events.

The Councils seven Community Liaison Officers work to address anti-social behaviour, providing pre tenant training, also developing further training initiatives and continuing the second chance programme, involving inter-agency support and community and youth projects. They work closely with a number of organisations such as An Garda Síochána, the HSE, Youth Work Ireland Tipperary, TúsIa; Local Community and Family Resource Centres and others to improve the quality of life for all residents and tenants in Tipperary

Where all engagements and supports cease to be effective and the tenant refuses to engage in a positive manner to address the issue at hand, the Council has been active in progressing these cases through the courts. In 2021, 18 cases were being progressed through the courts dealing with a variety of tenancy breaches including non-payment of rent, anti-social behaviour issues and illegal occupancy.



Disability Strategy

The Housing team, in conjunction with the Housing Services Disability Group (HSDG) have formulated a strategy to improve the availability of housing and supports for persons with a disability in the county.

This is currently at draft stage and it is hoped to publish the final version in 2022. The HSDG meets regularly during the year and in 2021, 118 applicants approved under the disability category were allocated a dwelling suitable to their needs. This represents 34% of the total number allocated.

Private Rented Accommodation Inspections

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

During the year a total of 756 inspections were carried out. This included:

Inspection Statistics	Physical on-site inspections carried out in this period	Virtual inspections carried out in this period
RAS	86	2
HAP	426	126
Private rented	66	8
Long term lease	42	0
Physical & Virtual Inspections / Re-inspections	620	136
Total		756

The number was reduced from 2020 figures due to the significant impacts of Covid 19 when inspections ceased for an extended period of time.

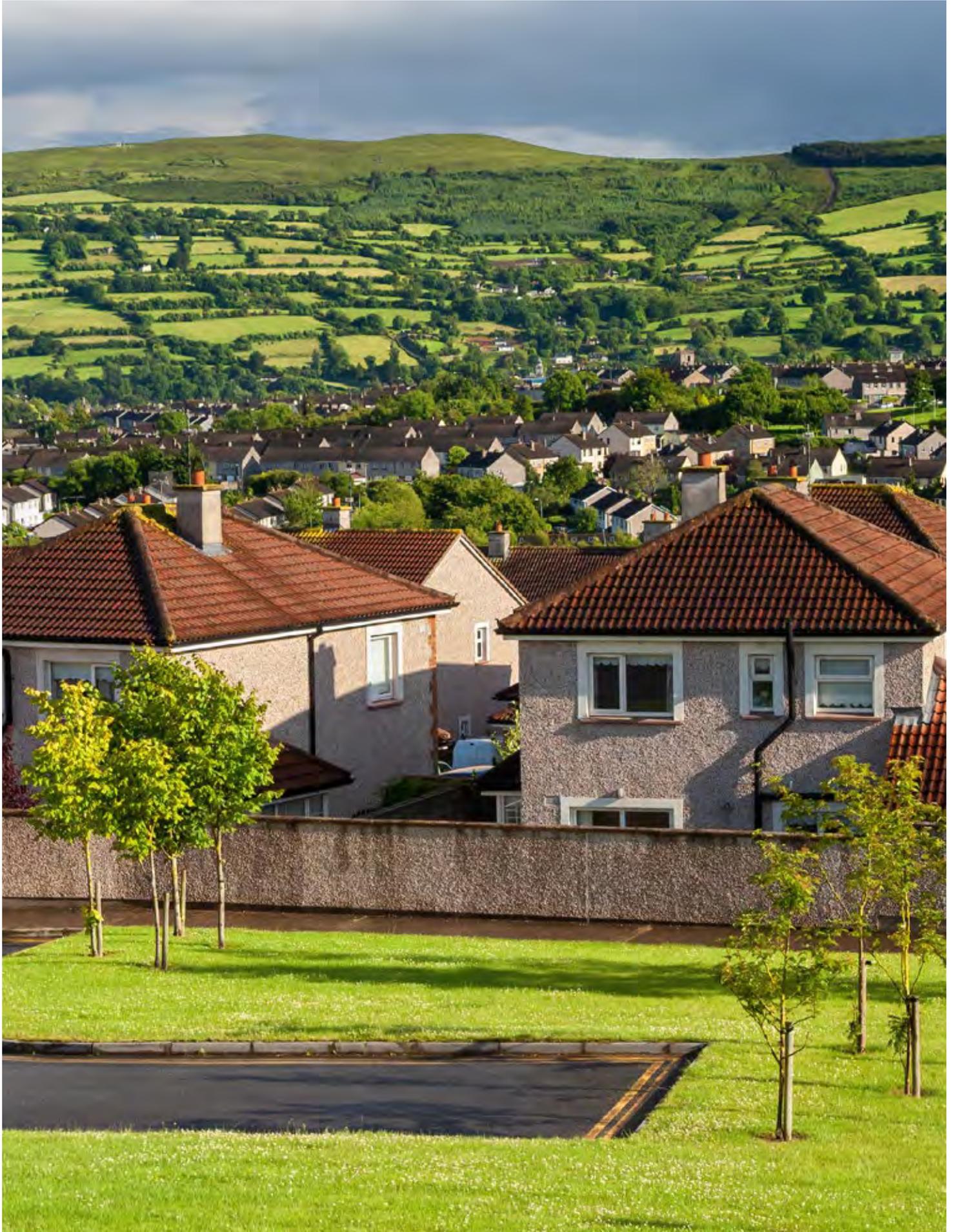
Where necessary, letters issued to owners of property identifying items to be addressed and further follow up action is being taken to ensure compliance with the standards.

Health and Safety

In 2021 the Housing section retained the Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS) 18001 accreditation for occupational health and safety management.

As part of a process of reduction of occupational injuries, including promoting and protecting physical and mental health, the Housing section are in the process of progressing on to ISO 45001, which is the new standard for management systems of occupational health and safety. It is hoped to achieve this standard in 2022.





COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY/LEADER PROGRAMME:

LEADER is a European funded programme to progress community and economic projects with a view to improving economic activity and quality of life in rural areas. The programme is delivered in a partnership approach with North and South Tipperary Development Companies working as implementing partners to support applicants through the process and the LCDC and Tipperary County Council developing the strategy and ensuring governance.



The current Leader Programme running from 2014 to 2020 delivered a total of 204 projects with a total grant support of €7,997,584 and concluded on 31st March 2021.

The projects delivered were in the following Themes and sub themes

Theme	Sub-Theme	Grant Funding
Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation.	Enterprise Development	€1,615,852
	Rural Tourism	€1,153,545
	Rural Towns	€1,635,369
	Broadband(note these projects are to complement other Government initiatives around supporting Regional Broadband, Broadband projects currently have many sources of potential funding and those sources are utilised prior to Leader being considered)	€36,559
Rural Environment	Local Biodiversity	€293,246
	Renewable Energy	€647,999
	Water Resources	€147,266
Social Inclusion	Basic Services for hard to reach communities	€1,873,426
	Rural Youth	€594,322
Total	€7,997,584	€2,123,077

This grant funding has created infrastructure, provided much needed training and supported enterprise to scale up, explore new markets, increase efficiencies and sustain/promote increased employment. Additional to this local scheme an additional €1.6 million of grants have been funded through two national initiatives namely Food Initiatives and Cooperation Projects (Projects across more than one LCDC area).

Work is currently commencing on the 2023-2029 LEADER Programme which will again have broadly similar goals i.e. improving economic activity and quality of life in rural areas.



Immediate LEADER Programme and Direction

In the interim the Department of Rural and Community Development has announced a transitional Leader fund that will run from the 31st of March 2021 until the 31st December 2022. The funding level for Projects within Tipperary for this timeframe is €2,238,831. The objective of this interim fund is to support projects in the following areas to prepare for the 2023-2029 Leader Programme.

April 2021 to 31st December 2022 Overall Project Budget	€2,238,831
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Table 1:

Theme	% allocation	Financial Budget
Rural Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation	50%	€1,119,415.50
Rural Environment	20%	€447,766.20
Social Inclusion	30%	€671,649.30
Total		€2,238,831.00

CLAR Scheme

In September 2021 the successful CLAR projects were announced with Clonakenny approved for the provision of a Community Garden and Polytunnel.

Town and Village Renewal

Town and Village is funded by the exchequer and granted by the Department¹ it is aimed at enhancing our towns and villages. Both the Council and Community groups can apply. The level of funding varies from 80% to 90% over the last two years in the whole the cap for this grant is €100,000 or in exceptional cases €200,000. Works should be possible to complete in 12-18 months. In 2021, 8 application were made to the Department and these are still awaiting approval. Drawdown is complete on the 13 accelerated measure project announced during 2020. The 2019 (684,615 for 5 projects) and 2020 (€788,025 for 7 projects) projects are currently being implemented.

In 2021 the streetscape scheme was announced and while Tipperary County Council (TCC) initially received an allocation of €320,000, TCC were successful in securing a total of €625,000 which was a boost for the six towns and villages nominated (Cashel, Cahir, Carrick on Suir, Nenagh, Roscrea and Rosegren).

¹ Department for the purposes of community is the Department of Rural and Community Development unless otherwise indicated



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructural Scheme

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. This scheme helps to make use of the resources of the countryside that contribute to healthy active lifestyles. It supports the economic and tourism potential of the area for both local communities and tourist visitors alike.

GRANT APPROVALS FOR

Measure 1: Small scale repair/development/promotion and marketing (up to €20,000 grant available), approved projects 2021:

				Grant Approved
Tipperary	Ballinderry River Walk	Upgrade of 1.5km river walk along the Ballyfinboy River.	Ballinderry Village to Ballyhooney Bridge	€17,550.00
Tipperary	Bay Lough Car Park, Knockmealdown Mountains	To upgrade and extend an existing car park at Bay Lough, including the provision of Disabled parking.	Bay Lough Car Park, Knockmealdown Mountains	€20,000.00
Tipperary	Gurtagarry Walk	Enhance and promote walking trail by replacing benches and installing signage, improving surface conditions and introducing a stream crossing along with bio-diversity initiatives.	Gurtagarry, Templemore, Co Tipperary	€20,000.00
Tipperary	Munster Vales Outdoor Adventure Digital Marketing Campaign	The provision of Digital Marketing Campaign for Munster Vales Outdoor Adventure focusing on over 40 walking trails.	Tipperary, Waterford, Cork and Limerick	€20,000.00
Tipperary	Tipperary Age Friendly Cycling without Age	Tipperary Age Friendly will implement Cycling without Age in Roscrea and Clonmel promote and encourage the use of engagement, health and wellbeing supported by volunteers in each community.	Roscrea and Clonmel	€18,000.00
Tipperary	Tipperary 'Take A Hike' Suite of Marketing Assets	Extension of the Take A Hike marketing suites of assets from its current 20 trails to include 35 trails.	Tipperary	€20,000.00
Tipperary	Lough Derg Blueway Hiking Trail Counters	Installation of visitor monitoring counters at 6 strategic locations.	Lough Derg	€20,000.00
Tipperary	Knockmealdown Trail upgrade works	Upgrade works to the Knockmealdown trail	Newcastle to Ballyporeen Co. Tipperary	€20,000.00

Measure 2 Medium scale upgrade and new trail/amenity development (up to €200,000 grant available) approved projects 2021:

Tipperary	Widening of 950m of the Suir Blueway	Development of the Suir Blueway to link with existing	Carrick-on-Suir	€180,000.00
Tipperary	Ardfinnan Walkway and Bridge	Access upgrade between the Suir Blueway and Ardfinnan village including appropriate planting and seating on the banks of the River Suir.	Ardfinnan	€138,600.00

Measure 3, Large scale repair/upgrade and new strategic trail/amenity development (up to €500,000 grant available) approved projects 2021:

Tipperary	Thurles River Suir Pathway	Provision of an off-road walking/cycling pathway along the River Suir from Clongour Road to Turtulla Bridge/Golf Club, finishing at Lady's Well on the Mill Road.	Thurles Co. Tipperary	€210,487.22
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Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The Guidelines for the next LECP 2023-2029 were released by the Department late in 2021 and training in relation to the Policy development took place for members of the Economic SPC and the LCDC. The Guidelines set out the process which includes a Framework of High-Level Objectives, a review of the previous plan and annual plans. The new plan will be adopted during 2023 with the consultation and development taking place in 2022

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme



SICAP supports disadvantaged communities and individuals including Disadvantaged Children and Families, People living in Disadvantage Communities, Disadvantaged Young People (aged 15 – 24), People with Disabilities, Disadvantaged Women Roma, Travellers, Lone Parents The Disengaged from the Labour Market, The Unemployed, New Communities/Migrants in 2021, budget for SICAP was increased to €788,641 for South Tipperary and 638,804 for North Tipperary bring the county budget up to €1.42 million.

A prioritisation process for the programme was recommended by Minister O'Brien. Both Implementers will focus on New Communities with particular focus on those living in Direct Provision and Long Term Unemployed. South Tipperary Development Company will also focus on Travellers /Roma while North Tipperary Development Company will prioritise Older People and isolation.



Travellers working with North Tipperary SICAP in Littleton

Pride of Place



Four Communities took part in Pride of Place 2021. These were Ballysloe Community Development, Down Syndrome Tipperary, Sceal Lorrha Community Cooperatve and Ballyporreen Community Council. The judging took place in person in September 2021 and the judges were very impressed with the commitment of the volunteers and the excellent achievement of the groups The awards night will take place on May 2022 in Killarney.



Ballysloe Community Garden



Garden at Down Syndrome Tipperary Centre in Thurles



Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) 2021

This is a Department of Rural and Community Development funded programme, designed to support community groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, through the provision of small capital grants. The programme is administered by Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) with support from Tipperary County Council Community/LCDC team.

Prerequisites:

- 30% of the fund must be ring fenced for grants of €1000 or less
- Proof of expenditure is required invoices\receipts
- Photos are required
- Membership of the Tipperary PPN

The following are not eligible

- Legal fees
- Project management fees

There were three schemes launched in 2021.

CEP 2021 was launched in May. Tipperary was allocated €149,690. €50,000 was ring fenced for specific actions €99,690 was provided as a general grant. We got 116 applications. Final drawdown for this scheme was 31-12-21

Social Enterprise Grant Fund was launched on the 6th of September 2021 Tipperary was awarded €36,696.52. The LCDC approved 15 applicants. Of these 15 groups 9 were approved by the department. The drawdown deadline for this is June 2022

On the 26th of November 2021 the Community Activities Fund was launched. Tipperary received €299,381. €100,000 of this will be ring fenced for specific actions. The remaining €199,381 will be available to community groups. Over 204 groups were approved for the grants up to €1050. The drawdown deadline for this is 31/01/2023

Joint Policing Committee

The Joint Policing Committee (JPC) is a body established under the Garda Síochána Act 2005 to serve as a forum where local authority representatives, Oireachtas members and community and voluntary interests work together with senior Garda Officers to discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the County. The County Tipperary JPC is chaired by Councillor Noel Coonan.

4 meetings were held in 2021. At each Chief Superintendent Derek Smart gave a presentation on the Tipperary Division Crime and Safety Statistics. The JPC are currently working on Property Marking and Community based CCTV.

Three Property Marking Training events were held in 2021 in Nenagh, Drangan and Cappawhite. Over 25 groups have now been trained.

The following Community based CCTV schemes require Garda Authorisation.

- Burgess, Birdhill and Cooleens
- Littleton
- Fethard
- Borrisokane

The JPC have funded Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for each of these schemes and is currently draft the Joint Data controller agreement to be signed by Tipperary County Council and An Garda Síochána. It is expected to have the paper signed off and sent to the An Garda Síochána by the end of Q1 2021.



Mental Health

For the first time groups from North Tipperary Mental Health Week Committee and South Tipperary Area Network joined together for Tipperary Mental Health Week which was launched on Friday 1st October 2021 in the Source Arts Centre in Thurles. This was an all-county event to launch and promote a range of all county actions that will take place during Mental Health Week. The committee is made up of community and statutory agencies, who recognise and value the importance of people minding their mental health. In addition, both the North and South Tipperary Mental Health Week groups had specific actions taking place in their respective regions. There was a mixture of closed and online events held 2021. The theme for the week was 'Connect'.

Tipperary County Council continue to support Connecting for Life and have commenced contribution to a new group set up by HSE Mid West focussing on Mental Health and Suicide Awareness.



South Tipperary Area Network ran a Creating Wellness Series in Clonmel for October to December 2021 (Cathaoirleach Marie Murphy with organisers in Photo). Events included the Knit and Natter ad Yarn bombing project, a spoken word projects based on the winter solstice – event to take place in Clonacody House in December 20th and the mistletoe café- See their Facebook page for more details. STAN is a network of mental health providers and is administered through Tipperary County Council

Creating Wellness Series
CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Ways to Wellness Open Day
12pm to 4pm
Friday 5th November
Hidden Café, Place4U

Explore the range of creative activities that will be on offer in the upcoming Ways to Wellness, about 100-150 words. Booking is essential via marie@wemurphy.com or 017 5149 404

Knit & Natter Sessions
10am to 12pm
Tuesday 9th & 16th November
Ma's Café, Market Place

Reconnect and get creative over a cuppa at our friendly Knit & Natter sessions hosted by Ma's Café. All creations will be included in our Yarn Bombing installation at Mick Deahurty Square to raise awareness around mental health.

Family Urban Knitting Workshops
10am & 11.30am
Saturday 20th November
Tipperary Museum of Hidden History

Join us to explore a wonderful world of colour, texture and creativity! Try your hand at the circular knitting machine, learn how to create with dolly pegs or pom poms and master the art of knitting guided by textile artist Philippa Kennedy of Pipscraft. Booking is essential via ljccex1@gmail.com

The Mistletoe Café
11am to 4pm
Sunday 5th December
Hidden Café, Place4U

Take a trip down memory lane in our cosy, festive café. Enjoy an exhibition of old photographs and film with the sounds of yesteryear. Share your stories and traditions over tea, coffee and mince pies. Bring or make your own traditional decoration to add to our Community Wishing Tree. Our creative team will be happy to

Community Call

This service was established in 2020 at the start of the covid pandemic to assist at risk members of the public in accessing non-emergency and non-medical supports and advice. Supported 9-5 through CRM and outside hours through Emergency on Call number. While there were 61 calls logged on the CRM, much of the success was in setting up delivery services from shops, supermarkets, pharmacies and local services. The local volunteer centres were very supportive and clubs such as GAA and many other bodies were always available when required to support vulnerable or isolated people. As health restrictions relax the number of calls has reduced.

Jigsaw

The council continues to support the role out of jigsaw mental health supports with the opening of a new operations centre in Thurles Technology Park. Manager Michele Putti informed the council that Covid has challenged the new service but by year end the services were fully operational. The next steps would be to scope out outreach services, starting with Clonmel.



Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairle na nÓg is the child and youth council which gives young people a voice on the development of local policies and services in Tipperary. They are recognized as a national structure for participation by children and young people in decision-making in all 31 local authorities.

Throughout 2021, Comhairle continued on a virtual platform to carry out the workplan. Interactions were good, however it highlighted a digital divide in some areas of the county. The group continued to hold meetings on Friday evenings to avoid screen time on weekends.

Comhairle had 99 members attending it's online AGM in 2021, representing 19 schools and one Outreach Centre. Also one member is home-schooled in Tipperary.

It was an extremely challenging year for members who joined in 2020 as they didn't get the normal Comhairle experience. Having 27 places to fill at AGM 21 was also very difficult as young people have zoom fatigue and were slow to join unless things were back to normal. Despite this, they did very well to keep going and in particular the Joint Chairs and Vice-Chair continued to be motivational, despite the challenges. Some subgroups were disappointed with not getting actions or ideas completed but in the middle of a global pandemic the young people of Tipperary Comhairle continued to address issues such as mental health, equality/racism, links with decision makers, equality LGBTQI+ & disability, while also dealing with digital challenges for members in rural areas. Members also attended workshop/consultations on Rural Youth Assembly.



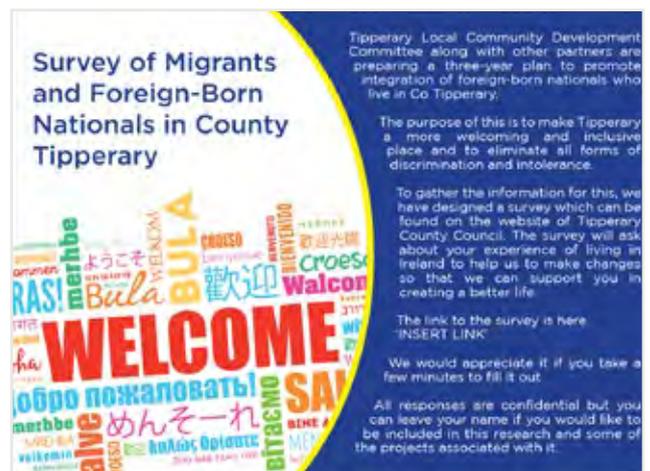
Comhairle na nÓg members Ben Gallagher and Heather Doye with Pat Slattery, Director of Services, Tipperary County Council

'In This Together' Newsletter

'In this Together' newsletter continued throughout 2021. The newsletter originally arose due to response to Covid 19 and continued to provide help for all Covid 19 issues while also providing positive news content and details of many courses, workshops, helplines etc. which could be accessed by phone and online to a large circulation list in Tipperary county. The newsletter proved to be a very positive experience and received great feedback from recipients.

Migrant Integration

The development of the Migrant Integration Strategy took place in 2021 with an online survey and interviews with over 70 non-Irish/Migrant living in Tipperary. The data from both the interviews and the surveys were analysed by TUS and excellent data was archived from which a workplan of interagency action is being developed. The strategy is currently at predraft stage.



Migrant integration actions such as Africa Day (May 25th) and actions to include migrants in sports took place during 2021.



Children from Borrisokane (Direct Provision) with GAA equipment provided in partnership with Tipperary County Council and North Tipperary Development Compact



Disability Awareness

Tipperary County Council took part in the annual one day-access blitz which is Make Way Day 21 on Friday September 24

Deputy Mayor of Clonmel MD John Fitzgerald and Tipperary County Council Disability Access Officer Dan Downey met with groups from Rehab Care Clonmel as they walked through the town of Clonmel on Make Way Day noting obstacles in the way of those with limited mobility.

The campaign organisers the Disability Federation of Ireland, DFI, have developed an online test that campaigners can use to test and rate their local area or 5k. The backbone of this campaign are people with disabilities. This online test empowers them to survey their area for obstacles and rate its accessibility.



Deputy Mayor of Clonmel MD John Fitzgerald, Tipperary County Council Disability Access Officer Dan Downey and members of Clonmel Rehab Care on Make Way Day 2021

 **Tipperary County Council took part in the annual one day-access blitz which is Make Way Day 21 on Friday September 24**

Healthy Tipperary



A joint application was submitted by Tipperary LCDC & Tipperary CYPSC for Strand 1 Healthy Ireland funding round 3. This resulted in 12 actions being developed and the maximum of €374,100 applied for to implement these actions. This includes a Community Grants Scheme where local, community and voluntary organisations can apply for grants between €2,000 and €5,000 to help support community mental health initiatives. The actions include themes on Mental Health, Physical Activity, Sexual Health, Nutrition and Community Engagement is ongoing and funding in place has been further extended until March 2022. Holistic look at delivery of all actions has taken place with regard to delivery due to restrictions on movement during the year.

A further 8 grants were awarded in 2020 under the Community Mental Health Fund Small Grant Scheme with activity to take place in 2021/2022.



Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Children and Young Person's Committee (CYPSC) welcomed Frank Feighan, T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Public Health, Well Being and National Drugs Strategy to Roscrea on Monday September 24 where he viewed examples of Healthy Ireland funded activity ongoing in the county.



Clonmel designated as one of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities

Healthy Communities is a new cross-government initiative to deliver increased health and wellbeing services to 19 community areas across Ireland. The programme will be delivered in partnership with the HSE, local authorities, local communities, statutory, voluntary and community groups.

Clonmel has been identified as one of the 19 communities across the country and is one of 3 communities across the South East Community Health Network (CHO5). It will focus on the EDs of Clonmel West Urban, Clonmel East Urban, Clonmel Rural and Inishlounaght.

The Healthy Communities in Clonmel will be a partnership to coordinate interventions that address the social determinants of health at a local level with community engagement.

The Healthy Communities Programme in Clonmel will be supported by areas-based teams in the HSE and a Local Development Officer employed by Tipperary County Council. They will partner with Barnardos for Parenting Programmes and Clonmel Community Resource Centre for Social Prescribing Service.

In addition an Enhancement Scheme provided a fund of €250,000. In Clonmel, the Enhancement Scheme will support the development of Suir Island recreational gardens in Clonmel. This provides the opportunity to develop Suir Island lands will contribute to the realisation of the Master Plan as a key community and amenity resource in Clonmel. Tipperary County Council will provide match funding of €250,000 to deliver the recreational gardens and this is a significant investment in Clonmel, in addition to and complimenting, other capital projects in the town.

Pictured to acknowledge the announcement of Clonmel Healthy Communities and the Enhancement Scheme at Suir Island recently



L to R; Derval Howley, Head of Service Health and Wellbeing CHO5, Roger Noonan, Executive Engineer TCC, Naomi Burke Manager Clonmel Community Resource Centre, Jim Dillion Clonmel Borough District Administrator, Fiona Crotty Community TCC, Cllr Michael Murphy, Cathaoirleach Clonmel Borough District, Catherine O'Loughlin Health Promotion CHO5, Sinead Carr, Director of Services TCC, Ann O'Gorman Barnardos Clonmel, Pat Slattery, Director of Services TCC.



Tipperary Age Friendly Older Peoples Council and Alliance held their meetings online in 2021 focusing on outputs from the Tipperary Age Friendly Strategy and addresses challenges posed by the Covid restrictions



 *The Healthy Communities in Clonmel will be a partnership to coordinate interventions that address the social determinants of health at a local level with community engagement.*



Roscrea Age Friendly Town

Roscrea Age Friendly Alliance held their meetings online in 2021. Roscrea is Tipperary's first Age Friendly Town. Tipperary County Council Planning Section are leading the design of an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Gantly Road.

Age Friendly Festival

Tipperary Age Friendly will support an Older Adults Festival 1st to 5th of November where we will provide a small grant scheme for older adult groups to engage music or cultural events in their own community as we celebrate reengaging and connecting after Covid within our communities

Age Friendly Recordings

Tipperary Age Friendly are compiling a guide of all recordings showcasing supports for older adults and this guide will be circulated to each GP, through the HSE for each PHN, each nursing home, through the local libraries

Healthy Homes Tipperary

The Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme aims to support older people to live in their own home with dignity and independence, for as long as possible, and reduce the number and rate of transfer to long-term residential care. The project is a partnership between Age Friendly Ireland, a shared service centre operating the national age friendly programme, and Slaintecare, the government ten-year programme for reform of the health care sector. The Healthy Homes Coordinator for Tipperary is Aoife Dunphy. For more information on Healthy Homes see <https://agefriendlyhomes.ie/>



Nursing Home and Preschool Project

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



Clonmel Childcare Preschool & Rathkeeven Nursing Home participants

Positive Ageing Week 2021

Tipperary Age Friendly captured a number of videos which provide information and supports for older people in Tipperary, including health and information. Recent recordings showcase dementia supports, bereavement supports, safeguarding, Carers, Munitir Na Tire, LGBT+ supports in Tipperary, Digital Connections. These videos can be found on www.tipperarycoco.ie and were promoted for Positive Ageing Week 2021 September 28th to 1st October.



Digital Connections

Tipperary Age Friendly are working with Family Resource Centres and Community Groups in Tipperary to address digital poverty and support older adults in becoming confident and competent in the use of technology.

Within this groups were supported to achieve funding to acquire the technology and within each site there is a champion that supports older adults to become confident and competent in using the device. Following this Tipperary ETB will support the small group with a tutor to gain further competency and training. We also establish areas of interest for the older adult and work to provide training and content of interest to the participants. Tipperary Age Friendly also provide an Age Friendly Calendar linked to <http://events.whatsonintipp.ie> This is to showcase the content of relevance to older adults in Tipperary, it will reflect content of interest to the older audience from a cultural, educational, physical activity and health perspective.

Tipperary Sports Partnership ran an online fitness programme targeting users, Tipperary Library Services supported gardening and horticulture programme and we partner with the HSE to promote the online Living Well programme. An Garda Síochána will also engage on the project through their community gardai as a point of contact with the older adults in their community, this will be piloted by Garda Maureen Finnerty, based in the Nenagh Garda District.



Resilience Packs - Tipperary Co Operative Campaign

In March Tipperary Age Friendly targeted the local farming community and those not traditionally engaged with older adult groups in the county with the provision of resilience packs distributed through the CoOp in the county. Within each pack there are information guides, healthy eating guidelines physical activity guides, crime prevention advice and information for supports available.



Guard Maureen Finnerty at Liffey Mills Nenagh



Catherine Fogarty and Trisha Spillane Tipperary Coop



Tipperary Understand Together Dementia Awareness

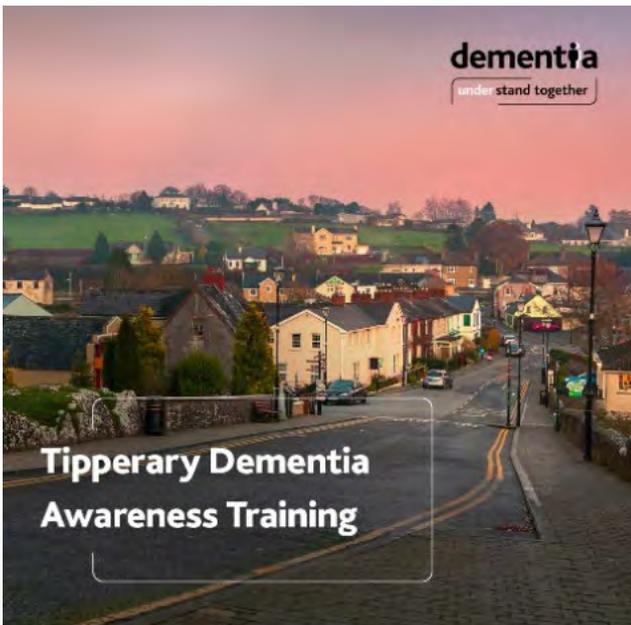
The campaign is funded by Healthy Ireland and Tipperary County Council have partnered with the Alzheimer Society of Ireland and the HSE's Dementia: Understand Together campaign.



The partnership aims to making our towns more inclusive by encouraging participation in training, taking part in walkability audits and to collectively ensure that people living with dementia in County Tipperary are supported in our communities and remain active participants in our communities. There are over 3500 people diagnosed and living with dementia in County Tipperary, the majority live within the community.

In 2021 online training events were delivered by the Alzheimer Society. The training programme, Learn Listen Link, which consists of three workbooks, resources and a live training session for a variety of audiences. Following on from that, for those who would like to become more active as community champions, inspiring others to get involved, have the opportunity to enrol in a champion induction programme after the initial training. In addition, we facilitated a workshop with the elected members.

In September a walkability audit was conducted in Roscrea and the findings of which were presented in November. Planned pop up event due to showcase the findings and encourage wider community participation have been delayed due to Covid restrictions and will now take place in early 2022. This will complement planned pop up events in other principal towns in the county and a further walkability audit to take place in Clonmel in early 2022.



Tipperary County Council welcomed Frank Feighan, T.D., Minister of State with responsibility for Public Health, Well Being and National Drugs Strategy to Roscrea on Monday September 24 where he viewed examples of Healthy Ireland funded activity ongoing in the county.



Inside Out Project



A Tipperary based crime and disability awareness project was honored in the 2021 Garda Síochána Youth Awards presented in November.

Exploring the impact of crime on people with disabilities and older people in the community, the project developed in the Tipperary Town area by the HSE/ South East Community Healthcare's disability services and Gardai features a publication entitled "Inside Out".

A crime and disability awareness resource pack, "Inside Out" explores the impact of crime on people with disabilities and older people in the community. In "Inside Out", seven (anonymous) victims of crime shared their experiences with 12 Transition Year (TY) pupils from three secondary schools in Tipperary Town. 30 women serving time in custody at Limerick Prison also participated in the project, to offer an understanding to victims and to help steer young people away from crime.

Work on the project included submissions made from project participants during the lockdown. Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Age Friendly also backed the project and the TY students came from St. Ailbe's, St. Anne's and The Abbey schools in Tipperary Town.

The handbook also includes a contribution from solicitor Kate Fleming of the LawEd education group, explaining the Irish legal system and setting out a summary of crime awareness.



Speaking about the "Inside Out" project and after RTE celebrity Marty Morrissey had presented a delegation from the project with their Garda Youth Award (at a ceremony earlier this month in Portlaoise also addressed by boxer and Olympic gold medalist Kellie Harrington), Anne Bradshaw (HSE/South East Community Healthcare Disability Services Co-Ordinator, South Tipperary) said:

"Our handbook recounts and explores the impact of crime on its victim's lives. We hope that working on this project has helped all of those involved in a positive way and that ultimately it will help to bring about a safer environment for us all to live in."

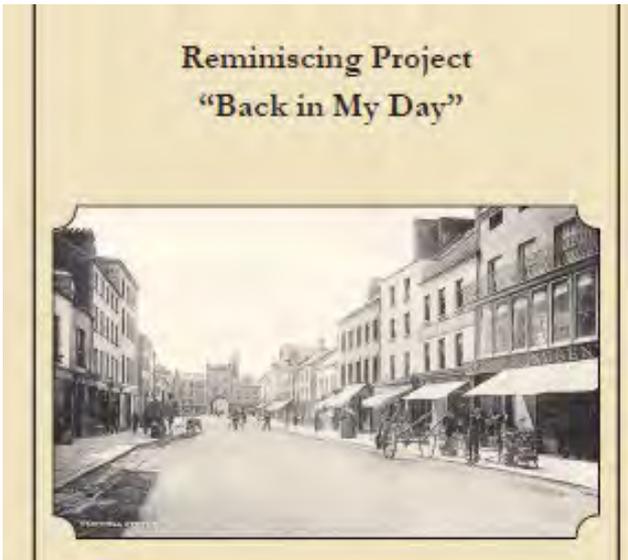


Reminiscence Project

On 1st October Tipperary Age Friendly Older Peoples Council launched Reminiscing Project "Back in My Day" Volume 1 in Cabragh Wetlands.

People in Tipperary were invited to participate in this project and 23 people participated in our first edition. A special thanks to all who took their time to share their stories and contributed to this showcase. The project captured stories and tales of the past, listening to the voices of older people across County Tipperary. It was a fantastic opportunity to capture the living history of Older Voices in Tipperary and to share stories and reminisces of our past, growing up in the county with the younger generations and showcase how in some instance's things have evolved but also at its core how family and friends impact positively on our lives.

The book was collated by Jimmy Duggan. Copies of the booklet can be obtained at your local library or by request to agefriendly@tipperarycoco.ie



Pictured at launch Jimmy Duggan narrator, Fiona Crotty Age Friendly Programme Manager, Mary McMahon Chair Tipperary Older Peoples Council, Cliona Tobin, Tipperary Age Friendly Programme Support.

Dementia Café Network

A dementia café is a welcoming, once monthly meeting for anyone who is affected by dementia. Within County Tipperary Café currently supporting people living with Dementia and Tipperary Age Friendly are partners is growing this network. At present Nenagh café is working online in partnership with the Ballina/Killaloe café. Roscrea held its first in person café on 24th September and will hold its café on the last Friday of every month in the courthouse Roscrea. Thurles host their café in the Book Worm on the second Wednesday of every month



TIPPERARY

Dementia Café Network

Atmosphere



Information



Support



Community



To find your nearest Dementia Café in Tipperary with dates and times visit:

www.dementiacafe.ie/cafe-finder
or www.tipperarycoco.ie

Ballina/Killaloe, Clonmel, Nenagh, Thurles, Roscrea



#What's on in Tipp



<http://events.whatsonintipp.ie> is a website provided by Tipperary County Council to promote activities, events across the county. Community Groups, Local Business can promote activities and events across the county and this will become a tool for all across the county to increase awareness of the fantastic amenities and activities across the county.

Public Participation Network



In 2019 Tipperary PPN (TPPN) commenced its Community Wellbeing Visions in each municipal district (MD), creating a vision for Tipperary to be the best place it can be.

The Community Wellbeing Vision, informed by the community, is now embedded in the Corporate Plan for Tipperary. TPPN launched its Community Wellbeing Vision at its Plenary in 2020. This contains the following overarching vision for County Tipperary, as well as a specific vision prepared by the residents in each MD:

 *In 2019 Tipperary PPN (TPPN) commenced its Community Wellbeing Visions in each municipal district (MD), creating a vision for Tipperary to be the best place it can be.*

Overarching Vision for Community Wellbeing in Tipperary

"Tipperary is an attractive, inclusive, and welcoming county with community-minded people, diverse cultures and a rich heritage, where we respect and value one another. It is a positive and safe place to live. Our thriving and progressive economy is dynamic and enhanced by our strong local democracy and active community participation. Everyone enjoys a great quality of life with excellent local infrastructure, supports and services. We live sustainably and work together to protect, enhance and enjoy our beautiful environment."

This document has been an influence on the 2021 draft County Development Plan consultation process and will be an active part of the 2022 Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) consultation process.

 *Tipperary is an attractive, inclusive, and welcoming county with community-minded people, diverse cultures and a rich heritage, where we respect and value one another. It is a positive and safe place to live.*



Children and Young People Services Committee

Tipperary Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC) is a county level committee that brings together the main statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to work together for better outcomes for children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years.

It provides a forum for identification of key priority issues, for joint strategic planning to address these and for co-ordination of planned actions to ensure that the key needs of children, young people and their families in the areas of health, education and learning, employment, welfare and safety, and of Social Inclusion in community and society are identified and are addressed through inter-agency work. The CYPSC is chaired by Pat Slattery Director of Services, Community & Enterprise section, Tipperary County Council.

Key actions undertaken by the CYPSC in 2021 include the following:

Tipperary CYPSC took a number of actions to counter the impact of Covid-19 and the related restrictions on the physical and mental wellbeing of families in the community:

- As part of the Keep Well campaign, Tipperary CYPSC received Healthy Ireland funding under the 'Minding Your Mood' strand for allocation to five agencies to increase capacity to provide extra counselling to children and young people.
- Tipperary CYPSC also allocated €15,590.00 from its BOBF-CYPSC budget to five agencies to increase capacity to provide Art & Play therapeutic interventions, as well as counselling, for children and young people.
- Tipperary CYPSC, in response to the issue of Food Poverty among families, allocated €12,000.00 from its BOBF-CYPSC budget to two hosting agencies, Silver Arch FRC and Barnardos Family Support Project, Clonmel. These latter agencies then responded to requests from different agencies on behalf of individual families.

Tipperary CYPSC launched three initiatives related to its Children and Young People's Plan in October 2021:

- 'A Guide to Child and Youth Participation Supports' is a resource for agencies working with CYPSC that wish to promote input by children and young children into how their services are run.
- A report on 'Services and Gaps in Service Provision for Children and Young People with Additional Needs', provides both a profile of this category of service provision in the county, and a review of needs in this area.
- The Tipperary CYPSC website provides a social media platform for the CYPSC and also includes an on-line directory of all service provision to children, young people and young adults, aged 0 – 24 years. It can be accessed here.



Where possible, actions funded by CYPSC under Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Funding programme continued, such as 'Active Tots', on-line provision of Non Violent Resistance (NVR) training, and LGBT Youth support activities.*



3.0 Community And Economic Development – Sports Partnership

In 2021, the Sports Partnership delivered over 180 innovations, programmes, events and courses with 5,197 participants engaging with the Sports Partnership which includes 195 participants with disabilities, 3,161 young people and 1,841 adults. The Sports Partnership successfully secured in excess of €720,000 in funding to support the delivery of its programmes and initiatives in Tipperary.



The implementation of TSP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 for Tipperary continued in delivering on the key objectives and action to develop sport for all in our Community at all stages of life. In June, TSP signed off Public Statement of Compliance with the Governance Code and continues to be reviewed.

It was a difficult year for the delivery of activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, TSP adapted many of its activities and its delivery methods with many programmes delivered online and virtually.

In brief, some of the Partnership's key achievements in 2021 include:

- A number of walking initiatives were delivered which included two 8 weeks walking programmes one in Cashel with 11 participants and one in West Tipperary which took place in different locations including Dundrum, Rossmore, Knockavilla, Annacarthy and Cappawhite with 51 walkers. A walk was held with Tipperary LGBT as part of Tipperary Pride Week on the 15th of August with 9 participants.
- TSP continued to support and promote the Tipperary Park runs year-round through social media channels. The establishment of a new Park Run in Roscrea is currently been supported.
- TSP delivered 4 Pre-Swim for a Mile (PSFAM) training programmes in Clonmel Swimming Pool, Thurles Leisure Centre, Sean Kelly Sports Centre Carrick on Suir and Nenagh Leisure Centre.



Pre-Swim for a Mile participants at the Thurles Leisure Centre

- A kids cyclocross programme took place in Clonmel over 4 weekends and 35 children took part.
- TSP linked with the FAI in relation to the delivery of Back to the Pitch Summer Programme which was supported in Cahir Football Club with 7 teams and 84 players.
- There were 2 virtual DIY fitness programmes for men completed with 14 men participating on the first programme and 8 on the second programme.
- TSP joined Tipp FM to produce a 'Couch to 3k' 6-week podcast. This programme was promoted by Tipp FM Fran Curry as part of his show.
- TSP promoted videos on Social Media as part of Keep Well Campaign.
- TSP set up a Tik Tok Account and has 93 followers.
- A National Let's Get Back Campaign was launched on the 4th of October. This campaign was in partnership with the network of Local Sport Partnerships and Sport Ireland and Healthy Ireland.
- Bike Week took place during the week of the 12th to 18th September with a total of 16 initiatives been held across the County with over 1,300 participants.



Pupils in Ardcroney School staying active on their Bikes during Bike Week.



- A number of water activities took place in the Outdoor Community Sports Hub which included the school's programmes 'Paddles Up' with 6 secondary schools with 224 students.
- As part of Urban adventure development in Clonmel TSP is linking Clonmel Mountain Bike Club to develop mountain biking in the area. To support the development 8 mountain bikes were purchased and an introduction day was held as part of Bike Week. TSP is working with the club to arrange a leader training programme



A group enjoying Mountain Biking in Clonmel.

- A touring boat was purchased to support rowing activities with Clonmel Rowing Club. A Learn to Row Programme with Clonmel Rowing Club was supported with 32 participants. A Secondary School rowing programme took place with 52 girls taking part.



Children taking part in the Learn to Row Programme

- The Community Sports Hub in Tipperary Town was officially launched on the 20th of June by Cathaoirleach John Crosse. Social Tennis ran for 10 weeks with 12 participants, an activator programme ran for 12 weeks and grew from 7 to 19 participants. A physical exercise programme was fun for 10 men from the Tipperary Men's shed along with Knockanrawley Resource Centre. An exercise programme with the Brothers of Charity ran in the Canon Hayes Centre with 10 participants. A mother and baby exercise programme ran for 6 weeks with 8 participants. The Hub linked with YWIT and supported a 5-week Zumba programme for young Syrian women.



Launch of the Community Sports Hub in Tipperary Town

- The Sli Nadur outdoor education programme was delivered in Fethard Primary School to 59 students and in Sisters of Charity NS to 55 girls.
- Tipperary Sports Partnership, in association with Waterford Orienteers and the Irish Orienteering Association is currently developing Orienteering across Tipperary. TSP support an orienteering through provision of resources on website and Orienteering MapMyRun event in Thurles. More information and resources such as maps are available on the TSP website.
- The Sports Leader programme was rolled out in 2 schools in 2021 in Newport College and St. Mary's, Nenagh and St. Marys Nenagh, 53 students took part.
- The Sports Hall Athletics programme was delivered in 6 Primary Schools – CBS Primary, Nenagh; Corville N.S., Lissenhall N.S., Templemore N.S., Nenagh Gael Scoil and Cloughjordan N.S.
- TSP supported The Cycle Right Programme in 20 primary schools with 826 children benefiting across the County.





Participants in the Cycle Right Programme

- The 6-week Wibbly Wobbly Balance Bike programme was delivered in association with the Tipperary Childcare Committee to 24 preschools across the County with over 488 children partaking.
- Buntus start training was provided in partnership with the Tipperary Childcare Committee. The Buntus equipment was distributed to South Tipp and North Tipp services and resource booklets to each preschool service.
- A comprehensive 'People with a Disability' sports programme was planned for 2021, unfortunately, many activities were unable to take place due to the Covid-19 restrictions.
- One Autism in Sport Workshop was delivered as part of the TSP Club Package in April with 20 participants.
- A Water Sports Ability Day was held on the 18th of September on the water with 18 participants with disabilities supported by 6 volunteers and 4 instructors. This was followed by a 6-week programme for 6 participants and they are working to achieve their Level 1 Skills Cert.



Water Sports Ability Day

- TSP in partnership with DS Tipperary ran a 15-week programme for people with an Intellectual/Learning Disability for 38 participants.
- TSP linked with MS Ireland and their physios and established an activity programme. A 10-week summer programme was delivered with 7 participants.
- Groups and services working with People with a Disability were supported with the provision of resources and campaigns during 2020 including CARA's 10-minute series of home workouts.
- In partnership with YWIT youths from disadvantaged communities engaged with our 'Youth at Risk' programme but the programme was restricted due to covid. A virtual 21 Day walking challenge was delivered with Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles CTC's. There were 75 participants and 28,549 minutes walked over the 21 days.



Youths taking part in Junior Camp as part of Activ8 Programme

In partnership with Tipperary Rural Traveller Programme and YWIT, traveller participation in sport programmes was implemented. Activities delivered included a swim session, pitch & putt and horse riding with Thurles & Littleton travellers.



Participants taking part in the Horse Riding and Horse Handling skills programme as part of the Traveller youth programme with YWIT



- A summer exercise programme which included a Fun Activity Day was delivered to 32 participants (parents and children) in Bridgewater
- TSP hosted 'Tipp Talks Sport' webinar on the 26th of January, 2021 with over 300 people tuning in. RTÉ Sports Presenter, Evanne Ní Chuilinn hosted the event
- The 2021 Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon Virtual 10K was launched by AFLW Player and Dual County Player Orla O'Dwyer with 386 women taking part over the weekend of the 25th and 26th September.



Launch of 2021 Tipperary Mini Marathon

- The Covid 19 Return to Sport Round 2 was opened for sports clubs in partnership with Sport Ireland which was strictly for Covid-19 expenditure. a total of 4 clubs were allocated funding €3,820 was distributed.
- TSP promoted the DTTS 2020 Sports Capital programme and 21 attended a workshop to support clubs applying.
- TSP in partnership with TUS delivered a Level 6 Certificate in Sports Administration 'Running Sport' with 10 ECTS.
- As part of the Club Development programme, TSP continued to promote Code of Ethics training online via zoom.
- TSP led the Stage 2 accreditation process for the Suir Blueway Tipperary along.
- A Working Committee was established comprising of TSP, LIT, Canoeing Ireland, Tipperary Tourism and Clonmel Canoe Club for the Innovation Project at the Suir V. The project team developed a Virtual Reality Experience of the section of Suir Blueway Tipperary from Sandy Banks to the Slalom Course in Clonmel. This is available to download to VR headsets.
- The Sports Partnership continued to actively promote and market all its programmes and events, via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and on www.tipperarysports.ie along with relevant Press Releases sent to the local media.
- Fit Women programmes were delivered online. 3 Rise and Shine Yoga was delivered with 35 participants and a Cardio kick was delivered with 15 participants.
- TSP supported knights Basketball Club. Over 200 girls took part in Hoops for Girls programme in 5 schools.
- Walking Football programme was held in Cashel in conjunction with Cashel Men's Shed/ Tidy Town with 10 participants over 12 weeks. A 6-week programme was delivered with St. Mary's Mental Health services with 8 participants.
- Tipperary Mental Health Week took place from the 1st -10th October 2021. TSP in conjunction with Healthy Ireland supported the facilitation of online zoom workouts for Post Primary school students. It was available to all Post Primary schools in Tipperary.
- In 2021 the Covid 19 Small Grant Scheme in partnership with Sport Ireland which was for Covid-19 expenditure 33 clubs were allocated €37,826.67 under this scheme.
- TSP 2021 Coaching & Development & Return to Sport Funding Scheme provided funding support to 52 clubs, €59,307 was allocated.



Suir Blueway VR Experience



Social Inclusion

Football For All school coaching sessions took place in Clonmel Town FC with local services such as Rehab Care, Knocklofty, Rehab Care Bridgewater and the Journey man Programme participating. FFA coaching sessions in St Annes special school in Roscrea, the students from the school subsequently joined new Football For all clubs in the area.



The FAI Football For All club programmes commenced in Ballymackey and Killavilla United FC and both clubs are running the sessions weekly with steady growth in participation. Meanwhile, the FFA club programme in Cahir Park AFC continues to run weekly sessions.

FFA Club coaches completed the FAI Awareness and coaching in disability football workshop & Safeguarding 1 was also arranged for new FFA club coaches.

Walking Football encourages older adults to keep active whilst maintaining all the fun of football.

Club integration program was held in Borrisokane FC in partnership with the Direct provision center in Borrisokane, the group participated in club open which provided a direct pathway into the club teams for the participants.



Late Night Leagues take place during prime anti-social hours and is based around the concept of using football as a tool for social inclusion and learning. In 2021, Late Night Leagues ran in Borrisokane with 32 participants taking part.

Over 35's Back to the Pitch Programme took place in the Summer & Winter in Cahir Park AFC, this programme targeted recreational players and players that had retired from playing competitive football.

Player Development

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

 ***The FAI Football For All club programmes commenced in Ballymackey and Killavilla United FC and both clubs are running the sessions weekly with steady growth in participation. Meanwhile, the FFA club programme in Cahir Park AFC continues to run weekly sessions.***



Club Development

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



A volunteer analysis tool was also developed to support clubs in tracking vetting, safeguarding and coach education requirements for each individual volunteer at the club. Following from the workshop an action plan was put in place with a timeframe to complete documents & safeguarding compliance requirements.

Summer Camps

Over 2,400 participants throughout Tipperary enjoyed the summer camp

Women's/Girls Football

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



The aim of the FAI Club Mark is to establish minimum operating criteria for football clubs and provide clubs with a road map to good governance, management, and administration

After consultation with clubs through emails & calls the following clubs have all applied Tipperary Town FC, Galbally United, Killenaule/Moyglass, Birdhill FC, Cloughjordan FC, Ballymackey FC, Shinrone Ladies, Newport Town, Peake Villa, Nenagh AFC, St Michaels FC, Holycross FC, Moneygall FC & Killavilla United FC completed the FAI Club Mark Entry Level Award & Lough Derg obtained the FAI One Star Club Mark Award.

The FAI Club Mark application workshop took place with clubs in North Tipperary. The aim of the workshop was to provide clubs with guidance on policies and supporting documents to ensure club governance was in order.



Club coaching sessions took place in Borrisokane FC, Silvermines and Knight united with the girls sections.

Disney Playmakers Programme

The Disney Playmakers program employs an innovative storytelling approach incorporating Disney characters alongside football to help girls aged between 5-8 years of age participate in fun regular activity through football.

This programme was took place in Cahir Park AFC with 16-18 girls participating consistently over an 8 week period.



FAI Coach Education



Due to Covid 19 and the restrictions we have been delivering courses online through Zoom and in a blended learning format.

The following courses took place in 2021:

- 2 x PDP 1 Course competed via blended learning approach (36 Participants)
- Football Fitness Intro workshop completed via blended learning approach via Zoom and in person practical's (40 participants)
- Futsal Introductory course online via Zoom (18 participants)
- (X2) 4-6-year-old Introduction to football workshop online via zoom (60 participants)

Coach Education due to Covid 19 has been delivered online through zoom.

- 2 x PDP1 courses completed via Zoom (44 Participants)
- 2 x PDP2 courses completed via Zoom (41 Participants)
- PDP1 Transition Students Thurles Presentation (70 Participants)
- 10x Safeguarding 1 Child Welfare workshops via Zoom (187 Participants)
- 2 x Safeguarding 2 - Club Children's Officer workshop (36 Participants)
- 2 x Safeguarding 3 – DLP workshop (40 Participants)

Monthly club coach active Sessions held targeting club coaches to promote physical activity while actively training coaches while promoting coach education. Sessions held in Borrisokane FC & Moneygall FC (24 participants)

Mental health: Jigsaw One good coach workshop (18 participants from the NTSFL league)



Schools



4th/5th & 6th Class Primary 5's Competition with 129 schools in Tipperary.

Competition was cancelled due to COVID-19

FAI Futsal in the yard is a programme that targets football participation for primary school children within 1st – 4th class. The programme promotes physical activity in the primary school setting. Ballinahinch N.S. ; Newport Boys N.S.; Clonmore N.S.; Kilkeary N.S ; Dualla N.S. ; Bansha N.S. ; St Josephs G.N.S. and Scoile Mhuire Newcastle with 650 participants participating in total.



In addition, schools across Tipperary were invited to take part in an interactive soccer challenge 'SchoolSkillShowcase'. Classes were invited to complete one of the three soccer challenges sent to schools in a workbook or work together in groups to produce their own unique School Skills Showcase challenge. There were 185 participants from 6 schools who took part in these events (Kilkeary N.S, St Francis N.S, Bishop Harty N.S, Ballinahinch N.S, Cullen N.S, Dualla N.S).



ARTS SERVICE

The key objective of The Arts Service is to improve the artistic life of our communities in County Tipperary. We work towards the continuing development of the arts in the county in partnership with a range of stakeholders including our funding partners The Arts Council.

Our work is guided by the Tipperary Arts Strategy 2017-2021 across six strategic priorities:

- Creative Communities - Public Participation
- Creative Practitioners - The Artist
- Creative Solutions - Arts Partnerships & Collaboration
- Creative Supports - Arts Information & Advice
- Creative Infrastructure - Arts Venues & Festivals
- Creativity & The Public Realm - Public Art

2021 was a challenging year for all sectors with the continuing Covid-19 pandemic and particularly so for the Arts and Creative Community in Tipperary. As you will see in the overview that follows, the artists and creative community in Tipperary continued to re-imagine how they worked and continued to create and engage with audiences as the parameters shifted around us throughout the year.

Initiatives to support the development of the **Arts in Education** are a key element of the Tipperary Arts Programme.



Artists in Primary School Scheme 2021

Nine Artist in Primary Schools Scheme projects were approved with Tipperary Artists in 2021.

Feedback from schools has indicated that these projects are now more important than ever and there was a marked shift towards applications from smaller rural schools applying to the scheme this year. 602 students across the county participated in the 2021 scheme, demonstrating that this scheme supports direct access to the arts for children across a range of artforms and a large geographic area and also provides direct employment for artists. The Tipperary arts strategy identifies an action around data mapping to identify geographic take up of the scheme to inform future arts policy and planning in this area. This work started in 2017 and continues to demonstrate that this scheme is key to delivering on one of our desired outcomes, to achieve a demographic and geographic spread of arts provision across the county.



Tankerstown NS project with artist Philip Quinn



Project at Presentation School Carrick-on-Suir with artist Margueritte Kent.

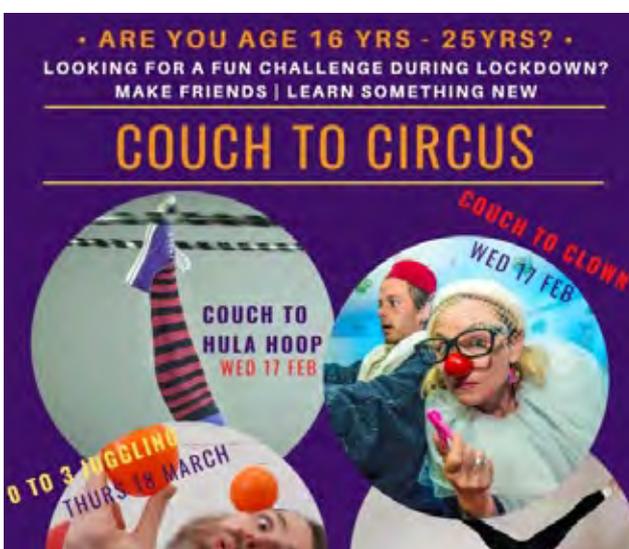


Tipperary Healthy Ireland Cultural Projects Award 2021

As part of the Keep Well Initiative and with a specific focus on the “switching off” element, the Cultural Team curated a range of resources and programmes to support local wellbeing between January and March 2021.

Through an open call to creatives, cultural organisations, artists and heritage specialists in Tipperary, ten exciting and diverse online programmes were supported. From music projects with Men's Sheds to Circus workshops for teenagers and young adults; A Farming and Gardening series with Cloncannon Biofarm; a month long online programme of creativity & wellness with The South Tipperary Arts Centre; The Sofa Symphony - Listening Party a weekly journey through classical masterpieces with musician Eamon O'Malley; Instructional gardening workshops with Tipperary County Libraries & Ruth Farrell Horticulturist; A video on making nest boxes with Birdwatch Tipperary and online Music appreciation projects for over 60's with musician Suzanne Buttimer, not to mention the Making of a Virtual Radio Drama with Tudor Artisan Hub in Carrick on Suir, there was something for all interests.

Artist support schemes support artist's professional development across the artforms and encourage artists and creative practitioners to live and work in Tipperary which is central to the long term development of the arts and culture in the County. Applications to the Tipperary Artists Awards Scheme, The Blas Bursary and the Local Drama Scheme provided direct grant support to twenty-two artists during 2021 in Visual Arts, Literature, Theatre, Circus and Music. In addition, three bursaries to the Blas summer school were awarded which supports attendance at the International summer school of traditional Irish Music and Dance and two Local Drama Scheme Awards were made to support development within local drama groups.



Following the hugely successful 'Going Digital Workshops' during 2020 aimed at supporting artists in responding to new ways of working due to COVID-19, during 2021 we facilitated a twelve week follow on more intensive Digital Skills Spring programme for Creative Practitioners in Co. Tipperary.

Running from February until April, the artist trainer delivered a programme based on identified needs. This programme was delivered by artist Michael Fortune who works as a lecturer on the Digital Media Module in the Education Department of Limerick School of Art and Design. Twenty Tipperary artists availed of this course.



Tipperary Bealtaine Festival

Every year, the Arts Office and Library Service work together with our partners throughout the county to present a programme of events to celebrate the Bealtaine Festival during the month of May. Bealtaine is a festival celebrating creativity throughout our lives and the Tipperary theme of this year's Bealtaine Festival was "Give Me Shelter", echoing the fact that we had all been cocooning at home but looking to each other, for comfort, reassurance and conversation.



Papier-mâché hare created by Jackie Matthews- Bealtaine 2021 online workshop series via Zoom with Philp and Liz Quinn, Holycross.

With over forty events across an active and varied programme, our aim was to reach as many people as possible in the comfort of their own homes, be that in care or domestic settings in our first online Tipperary Bealtaine Festival. The Arts Office were especially committed to older adults who may have had limited access to or knowledge of the internet. We would normally visit groups or care home with an event or activity during May, however in 2021 we visited them online, promoting the programme widely and through the network of nursing homes and care centres, encouraging them to engage with our online offer, all located in one place at www.tipperarybealtaine.ie. We had a huge response to many of our programmes such as this response from one participant.



Thank you Tipperary County Council for having the foresight in arranging, organising and effort that must have been needed in providing such a great service and realising the need for it.



Around Each Bend

A collection of poetry and prose by Tipperary writers was launched on 1st June by Cathaoirleach Cllr. Michael Smith and Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian. This collection brings together the work of forty-eight Tipperary writers. Margaret Galvin, Editor proudly acknowledges that "This collection brings together the work of forty-eight contemporary Tipperary writers. A few are internationally regarded figures with a number of acclaimed collections to their credit; others are appearing in print for the first time. All are serious practitioners, tirelessly working to develop and hone their craft". The collection was edited by Margaret Galvin, a writer originally from Cahir who now lives in Wexford and who has worked with many writers in Tipperary through her creative writing workshops facilitated by Tipperary Libraries. Through an open call and invited process she collected an impressive body of work by writers the length and breadth of the County at a time when we needed such initiatives more than ever. These stories and poems brought us on journeys of the imagination when we could not travel far and had a hugely positive response from readers and writers alike.



Launch of Around Each Bend by Cllr. Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach and Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian.

In the Open | Faoin Spéir

In the Open | Faoin Spéir is an Arts Council funded programme developed in response to the COVID-19 crisis for 2021 which will see a variety of outdoor arts events taking place in public spaces around Ireland.

Tipperary Arts Office partnered with South Tipperary Arts Centre and Clonmel Junction Arts Festival to make an application under this exciting programme and were delighted to hear in June that our application had been successful. With an overarching theme of "Come out to Play" this exciting programme located in Clonmel attracted funding of €90,000 from the Arts Council and focuses on making creativity visible through large scale visual arts events, performances, music and theatre with events taking place from August 2021 to April 2022.

A taste of the planned approach emerged in August in Clonmel with the installation of "Tread Softly" a newly commissioned mural by Artist Jonathan Lynn on Nelson Street Clonmel to launch the programme.

This is an ambitious programme of events for Clonmel which was demonstrated through the transformation of the Parade Grounds in Kickham Barracks into 16th Century Paris in October for the first theatre event in the programme. The Hunchback of Notre Dame, a community musical took place from 26-29 October and was seen by almost 1,000 people with over 130 participants between cast, crew and creatives. There was a great response to this magnificent large scale outdoor musical theatre event produced by our programme partners Clonmel Junction Arts Festival.



Tread Softly Clonmel



The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Kickham Barracks, Clonmel 26th – 29th October 2021.



Culture Night

Culture Night Tipperary 2021 provided an opportunity to encourage audiences to safely re-engage with the arts and the arts infrastructure locally.



Culture Night-'Back in the Mood' Hearn's Hotel, Clonmel

Working with our arts partners across the county, Culture Night Tipperary presented a broad range of live and online events. Culture Night is seen by the Tipperary Arts Office as an opportunity to support artists in the county, to highlight and showcase the range of creative work taking place in the county, to encourage audiences to connect with their place and to be a catalyst for the development of new conversations. The Tipperary Culture Night 2021 programme presented forty-four events across the county, five of which were online. The Arts Office was delighted to facilitate a new approach in Clonmel which saw three organisations come together to plan and present a packed programme of music at a new outdoor venue which extended the audience experience with the support of additional night time economy funding. Our online offer included two new radio plays developed in Carrick on Suir inspired by stories generously shared by nursing home residents recorded remotely during lockdown three. A collaboration of artists presented "Found Links" at Derrynaflan which was a bringing together of traditions in music, print, storytelling and the exploration of our Tipperary landscape through guided walks enhanced by creativity. In total 61 artists and 27 non-artists/curators/technicians were involved in the delivery of Culture Night Tipperary 2021.



Culture Night 'Found Links' event at Derrynaflan.



Local Live Performance Programming Scheme 2021- Round 1

In June 2021, Tipperary Arts Office were notified that their application for funding under the Local Live Performance Programming Scheme was successful with an award of €143,000.

As the live performance sector was very adversely affected by the restrictions due to COVID-19, this scheme was established with the aim of supporting local event management companies to host live events outdoors between July – October 2021. Tipperary Arts Office put out an Open Call to event management/ professional production companies for the delivery of services in relation to live outdoor performances to take place in the five Municipal Districts of Tipperary.

Events took place across all of the five municipal districts providing employment for musicians, crew and creatives and providing audiences with a safe return to events. Through Round 1 of this scheme 213 individuals were employed over 274 days across 32 events throughout the county.



Blaithe Kennedy overlooking the Ballina/Killaloe Bridge.



Mundy with special guest Jack Keeshan at Damer House, Roscrea.



Clonacody House, Fethard.



The Irish Chamber Orchestra with Jimmy Smyth & Karrie Holmes at Ormond Castle, Carrick-on-Suir



Local Live Performance Programming Scheme 2021- Round 2

A second round of funding was announced in October and 8 producers were contracted through a tender process to deliver events in each of the five districts between November and December attracting an additional €143,000 in funding support from The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

The aim of this scheme was to assist producers, promoters and venues to facilitate programming of live performances should public health considerations permit. A number of approaches were supported across the county and due to changing Public Health Guidance some events which were planned to take place in person changed to online presentations to great response in spite of the challenges presented by changing conditions.

The Hunchback cast, choir, musicians and creative team came together again in December to recreate the magic from the original live performance in October.



The Bells of Notre Dame; conductor Eamon O'Malley presented online 24-31 December 2021.

A series of three live outdoor events took place at Clonacody House near Fethard during December featuring The Cedartowns, Mike Hanratty of Stockton's Wing and Emma Langford and The Kilkennys with Pat Kerwick.

A series of outdoor live events were programmed in Nenagh town throughout the month of December featuring local performers across genres with pop up events and a number of socially distanced concerts as restrictions allowed. In all more than 60 musicians, singers and dancers performed on the streets of Nenagh in the lead in to the Christmas season, programmed by the dynamic local production company Spain AV.



Live events which were planned for these districts we re-imagined due to changing restrictions in December to present a monumental and memorable showcase of the county and its musical talent shot on location across the three districts and showcasing local singers, musicians and storytellers with high profile visiting musicians in a two hour extravaganza which received a hugely positive response and reach. **GrianStad** was a special event celebrating the solstice in Tipperary. It aired as a streaming show on Tipperarylive.ie and Tipperary Arts office Facebook on the 21st December at 7pm

Filmed across Cahir, Thurles and Carrick on Suir, Grianstad featured live performances from Bell X1's Paul Noonan, Rockwell School of Music, Jack O'Rourke, The Wood of O, Liam O'Maonlai, Jim of The Mills and many more local talented performers. The event was hosted by Emma Langford, produced by Star Systems, Thurles and managed by CWB Productions, Birdhill.

This event has been picked by SPFTV (St Patrick's Festival TV) and will air nationwide in March 2022. SPFTV had over 1 million viewers in 2021 so this will be a fantastic platform for county Tipperary.

switch 2021

switch 2021 curated by Triona Ryan & Harald Turek and applying itself to the rhythm of smaller places took place from 7-14 November.

Over the last 12 years, 96 video-art works have been shown on the streets of Nenagh. An open call was issued to artists for 2021 with the theme of PLAY which is an invitation to audiences to come out again. switch 2021 was nine works, nine locations, nine artists and one poet. This artist-led initiative consistently brings high quality, curated projects to audiences and is a particularly COVID friendly initiative in that it can be navigated independently.



Poetry Town Initiative

In late July, Poetry Ireland announced Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary, as one of 20 'Poetry Towns' across Ireland.

This new initiative saw more than a hundred free poetry-related activities take place in twenty towns across the island of Ireland between 10th and 18th September 2021. Carrick-on-Suir in Co Tipperary was amongst the Poetry Towns, with activities for the town being organised by Poetry Ireland in partnership with Tipperary Arts Office, Linda Fahy of Tudor Artisan Hub and Margaret O'Brien of Writing Changes Lives to coordinate the programme locally.

There was a rich and varied programme of events organized for Carrick on Suir by Margaret O'Brien and Linda Fahy including writing workshops, 'Poems that Move You' – a poetry walk culminating in a public reading of the commissioned Poetry Town Poem "The Salmon" by Billy Fenton; 'Found Poetry'- which emerged around the town as the week progressed; 'Poetry Out Loud'- poetry readings at 12 noon daily and the Michael Coady Exhibition in the Sean Healy Memorial Library. Local businesses, including cafés and chemists, also participated in the activities to celebrate their towns by distributing 'pocket poems' to customers.

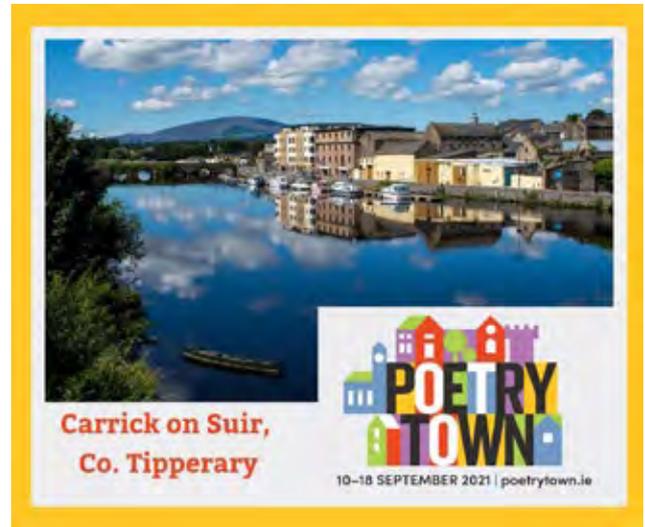


Photo by Pete Smith.

During 2021, eighteen local community and voluntary groups were funded under the **Arts Act Grant** Scheme which enables and supports independent arts activities and events throughout the county.

Support, advice and/or funding was also provided to a range of artists, arts festivals and arts organisations throughout the County during 2021.



Co-ordinators of Carrick on Suir Poetry Town- Linda Fahy, Tudor Artisan Hub and Margaret O'Brien, Writing Changes Lives.



HERITAGE SERVICES



The Role of the Heritage Office is to work with local communities and the local authority

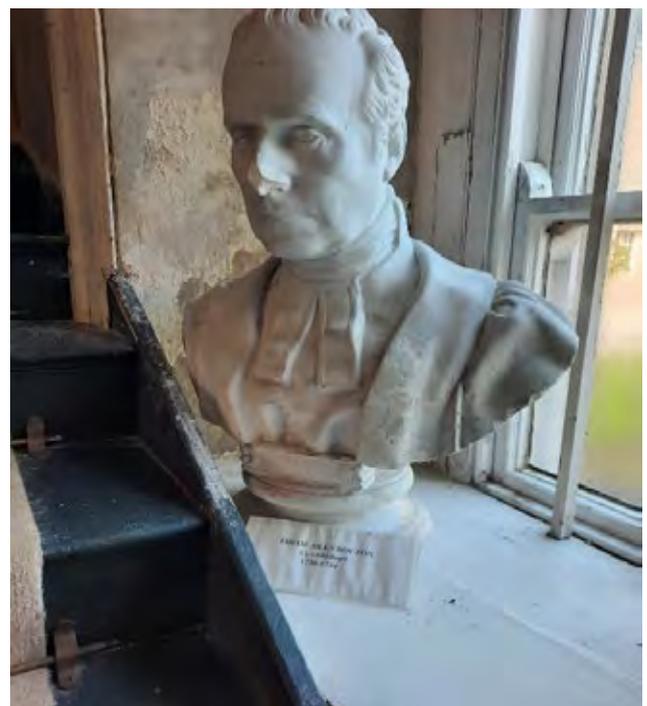
- Promoting awareness and appreciation of the Heritage of Tipperary
- Promoting active conservation of the Heritage of Tipperary
- Supporting the gathering and dissemination of information on the Heritage of Tipperary.

In addition to this the Heritage Office also delivers the Creative Ireland Programme for Tipperary in conjunction with the Councils Cultural Team and Creative Ireland and the Commemorations programme in conjunction with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

 *In 2021 91 project elements were delivered/supported through our programmes partnering with over 30 organisations and supporting approximately 50 groups and communities with Heritage and Cultural projects.*



Holy Well website



Archbishop Bolton @Bolton Library Cashel



County Heritage Plan Actions

Holy Wells Audit: An important aspect of our archaeological and cultural heritage, holy wells feature widely in our landscape.

Due to ongoing restrictions a phase 1 of a study of these sites commenced in 2021 with a comprehensive desk top survey which included an online consultation. In excess of 140 wells were identified, some of which were previously unknown. The data was put on a website and a field survey of the wells will take place in 2022.

Bolton Library Film Project: The Bolton Library, an extensive private academic library left to the people of Cashel by Bishop Theophilus Bolton is one of the most extensive collections of its kind. It currently resides in the special collections of the Glucksman Library at the University of Limerick. The Heritage Office in conjunction with Tipperary Libraries, the Representative Church Body Library and the Glucksman Library came together to commission a film piece to tell the incredible story of this significant collection and its links to Cashel. The film will be premiered in 2022.

Raising Awareness Programme: The Heritage Office continued with a raising awareness programme covering a wide and diverse range of topics in 2021. A Know your Locality course took place online over five nights with the School of Irish History. The Heritage Office also funded an Options Analysis on Tipperary Courthouse and Bridewell and a Geophysical Survey of Ormand Castle park. Support was also given to a number of groups to carry our projects and events for Heritage Week.



Know your Locality online Course

National Biodiversity Action Plan

County Wetlands Survey:

The geography, geology and climate of Tipperary makes it home to a wide diversity of wetland habitats. Wetlands are a haven of biological diversity that provide numerous benefits in terms of water quality, storing floodwaters, energy resources, transport and recreation as well as having tremendous benefit as carbon stores. In 2021, the Heritage Office commenced the first phase of an all-county wetlands survey to identify and increase our knowledge of these valuable resources. The desk survey identified 622 potential wetland sites. Work will continue in 2022 to map and survey.

Barn Owl Survey and Monitoring:

The Heritage Office continued to collaborate with Birdwatch Ireland in 2021 to monitor the Barn Owl population in the county. One of the outputs of this was a film on the longest running Barn Owl project in Tipperary at Ballycahill. Support was also provided to this group to make and install nest boxes. There was a very successful talk on Barn Owls during Biodiversity Week.

Cabragh Wetlands Centre:

To finish the works supported by this scheme to enhance the birdwatching facilities at the Cabragh Wetlands Centre, signage was provided for the bird hides to help with the educational programme.

Invasive Species Programme Little Brosna River:

Work continued on the removal of Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed on the Little Brosna River in Tipperary and Offaly. This is an all catchment approach to the problem. 90% of the species have now been removed.



Biodiversity Week Barn Owl event



Heritage Week:

National Heritage Week took place 14-22 August. This year, there was a mixture of in person and online events with over thirty registered for the County on the Heritage Week website.

The National Heritage Week Awards ceremony took place online in October with two Tipperary Groups winning prizes. The Heritage Sharing Award went to the Daughters of Dún Iascaigh Historical Walking Tour organised by the Cahir Women's History Group. The Water Heritage Award went to Suircan Community Forum for their Citizen Scientist's Water Sampling Project on the River Suir.



Bird Ringing at Cabragh Wetlands



Graves of the Leinstermen Arra Historical Society

Community Monument Fund

For the second year of the Community Monuments Fund, the Heritage Office submitted six applications and were successful with five, receiving a total investment of €166,000

Projects completed included:

- Phase 2 and completion of works to Pallas Dorrha Church
- Phase 2 and completion of works to Carney Castle Ardcroney
- Emergency works to Coolquill Castle following partial collapse
- Conservation plan for Carrick on Suir Clock Tower
- Geophysical survey of site at Moanincha Abbey Roscrea

The community monuments fund is a significant investment in our archaeological heritage allowing us to conserve these important site and future proof them for coming generations.



Works in progress Pallas/Dorrha Church



Reinstated repaired plaque



Irish Walled Town Network:

Tipperary currently has 4 towns in this network, Cashel, Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Fethard.

In 2021, the Heritage Office collaborated with Digital Heritage Age to complete a Digital Showcase of aspects of the four towns. In addition, the 3D modelling a series of ink drawings of the features were produced. For Heritage Week a pop-up exhibition toured some of the towns and a series of postcards based on the drawings were also produced.



Pop Up Exhibition in Carrick on Suir MD



Before and after pictures of Coolquill Castle



Creative Ireland Programme:

Our Creative Ireland Programme continued in 2021 with the Open Call and Community Grant Schemes launched in January.

We supported thirteen projects through the Community Grant Scheme and eleven through the Open Call programme. The Heritage Office also supported programmes through the Library and Museum Service as well as Arts and Heritage initiatives.



Found Links event Cashel

Cruinniú na nÓg:

This year's Cruinniú took place on 12 June.

The Heritage Office supported Nenagh Arts Centre, Tipperary Libraries, Museum of Hidden History, South Tipperary Arts Centre and Aileen Lambert. Overall, there were seventeen online events throughout the course of the day with audience and participation of 5,563. The Nenagh Arts Centre was also selected as a national programme partner and engaged with audiences as part of the national programme.



Aileen Lambert The Rathlin Bog Tutorial



At One with Nature Birdhill



Workshops Nenagh Arts Centre

 *We supported thirteen projects through the Community Grant Scheme and eleven through the Open Call programme.*



TIPPERARY MUSEUM OF HIDDEN HISTORY

The Museum Service continued to deliver a high-quality amenity during 2021 despite the limitations placed on the general public and the service due to Covid-19. However, our Fáilte Ireland Covid19 Safety Charter ensured our visitors we were maintaining strict COVID19 H&S standards and that we were open for business.

During the year the Museum's strategy was to concentrate on our visitors. We were acutely aware that our visitors craved onsite cultural stimulation and live experiential performances. This enabled museum staff to re- imagine new & innovative programming. With our augmented digital presence, we experienced greater engagement and traction with audiences across the globe.

Climate change

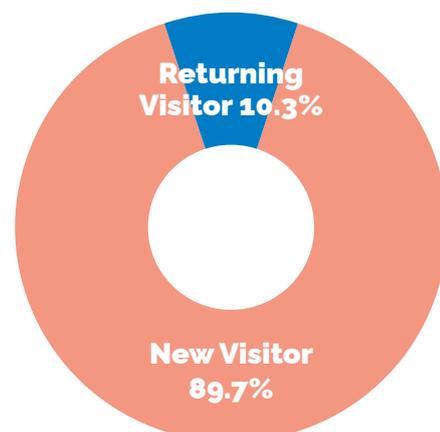
A key goal for Tipperary Museum is to meet the targets established in the Tipperary County Council's Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019 - 2024.

The Museum is currently working with the Tipperary Energy Agency to develop a Building Services Design Feasibility Study of the building and to review our HVAC System. Through the Local Authority Museums Networks SMP, a focus on Climate Change will be addressed through a series of far reaching actions.

2021 Innovative Programming

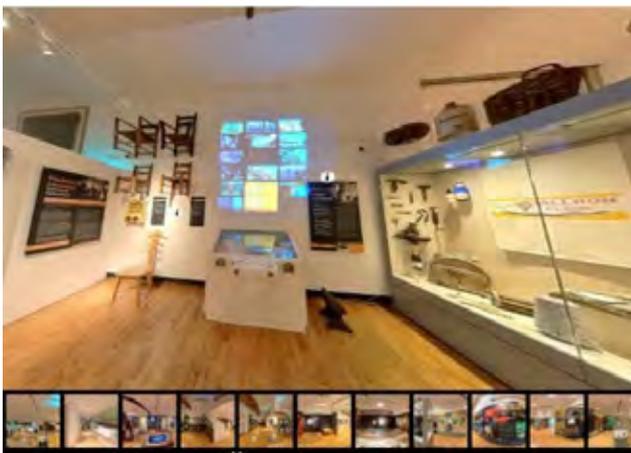
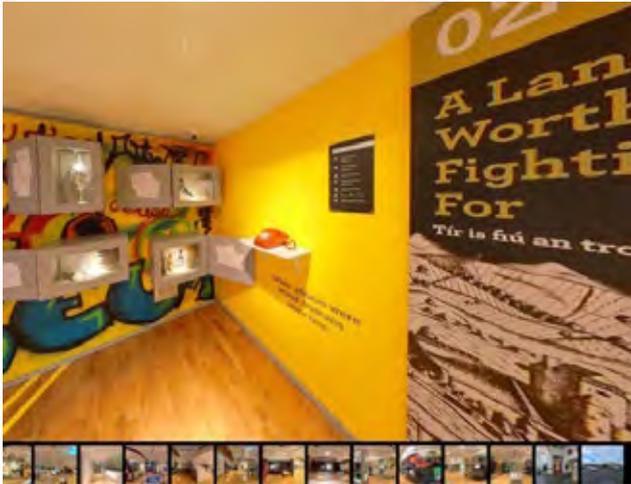
A huge milestone for the Museum was the development of our new website www.hiddenhistory.ie

For many years the museum had been digitizing its collection and preparing new and exciting digital content. We are now in a position to share this content through our cleanly designed, accessible website, across the globe.



'360 Virtual Museum Tour':

The Museum commissioned state-of-the-art galleries, where any visitor can access Tipperary Museum on their own PC or mobile phone.



Museums New '360 Virtual Museum Tour' in our exhibition page

 *The Museum has continued to upload online workshops / talks on our digital platforms and this has increased our engagement by 40% and outreach averaging to over 10,000 in 2021.*

Museum in a Box



'Museum in a Box' Launch with Marie McMahon Managing Curator, Julia Walsh Education & Outreach Officer, Mark White Resource Designer, Damien Dullaghan County Librarian, Cathaoirleach Cllr. Marie Murphy and Jayne Sutcliffe Collections Officer, Sept 2021.

The 'Museum in a Box' resource was launched in 2021 and is part of the education and engagement work of Tipperary Museum. The box brings a museum learning experience to our users, encouraging them to explore the past in a hands-on, empathetic way. It looks at the history of domestic life in Ireland and contains 16 objects, plus activities and talking points to use with students and community groups. This exciting project has moved past the Tipperary borders and into Dublin and Limerick in 2021.



In 2021, the Museum marketing campaign focused on bringing our collection alive through various channels:

- The Mick Delahunty CD project
- the Museum & Library Shopfront Project
- War of Independence Exhibition
- our Great Character Escape Trail.

These impressive, exciting and interactive projects brought the local Museum onto the streets of our local Municipal Districts.



'Tipperary Museum War of Independence' Exhibition Launch with Damien Dullaghan County Librarian, Marie McMahon Managing Curator, Brian Beck, Director of Services, Cathaoirleach Cllr. Michael Smith, Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive, Mayor Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, June 2021.



A family engaging with a 'Gael Keeper' on 'The Great Character Escape', Culture Night

'Bringing the Museum & Library onto our Streets'; Vacant Shop Front' Project: Carrick on Suir Pilot Project



Promoting Carrick on Suir 81 Gold Coin Hoard on display at Museum



A 'Roundhead Soldier' questioning locals during Culture Night, Sept 2021



Window display in the Old Post Office promoting Carrick on Suir Library, Ormond Castle and Museum Collections.





Partnering with the Thoroughbred Country Horse Experience



Tipperary County Council Workplace Partnership and Museum, Calendar 2022

The Museums partnership with Tipperary Workplace Partnership continued to flourish through sixty-eight exercises, quizzes and competitions. This was to motivate, support and care for staff and their family's wellbeing during the pandemic. Supporting local business was another key objective with over €18,000 spent in vouchers across Tipperary businesses; artisan food suppliers, restaurants, hotels, butchers, craft, sports & toy shops. A calendar was published with photographs and sketches from various competitions, 2,500 were distributed across staff and retirees of TCC.

Funding

The Museum budget from Tipperary County Council along with increased funding from our cultural partners, The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, CREATIVE Ireland, Culture Night and the Decade of Centenaries has ensured our innovative and exciting Programme of events and exhibitions has been realised in 2021 and into 2022.

Emphasizing once more, with additional investment in the Museum's service, our stakeholders will support Tipperary Museum as a significant tourism and cultural entity within County Tipperary, ensuring that our local community is at the heart of the museum's programming.

 *The Museum budget from Tipperary County Council along with increased funding from our cultural partners, The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, CREATIVE Ireland, Culture Night and the Decade of Centenaries has ensured our innovative and exciting Programme of events and exhibitions has been realised in 2021 and into 2022.*



LIBRARY SERVICE



Tipperary County Council Library Service offers a welcoming democratic space which is a cornerstone of family, cultural, and civic life. The Library Service has an essential role in the community as a trusted resource preserving the values of the past and enriching the quality of life for all.

The library service aims to foster a culture of reading, literacy and lifelong learning in Tipperary by providing a range of services to schools, families and community groups, and promote the library as a place of culture and knowledge.

The service is responsible for the collection development, preservation and accessibility of all records of historic interest for County Tipperary. The library service develops and promotes access for all citizens to online and digital information resources, including broadband internet PCs, Wi-Fi, online resources and free access to e-government/ local authority information and services.

The service operates a network of twelve libraries throughout the county at:

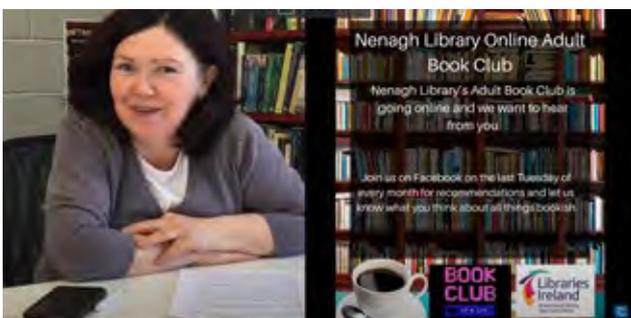
- Thurles;
- Nenagh;
- Roscrea;
- Templemore;
- Borrisokane;
- Cloughjordan;
- Clonmel;
- Carrick-on-Suir;
- Tipperary;
- Cashel;
- Cahir;
- Killenaule.



Main activities in 2021

Tipperary County Council Library Service continued to deliver a high-quality service during 2021 despite the limitations placed on the service due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Emphasis was placed on online services which include e-books, e-magazines and online courses. In addition, Library staff created online videos of story-time, arts and craft sessions and lectures throughout 2021.

Online Activities



Library outreach activities such as children's storytime, arts and craft sessions and lectures have always been an essential part of the service offered by the Library. Most Branch Libraries hold weekly events and these are always well attended. Since the Covid-19 crisis commenced in 2020, the Library service has utilised social media and provided these events and activities online using social media and the Library YouTube channel. The Library Service made a concerted effort to increase in-house digital content during 2021. As Libraries could not hold events or activities in branches; these events and activities were recorded and uploaded to our social media channels by Library staff. They delivered story-times, arts and craft sessions, lectures and many other activities online.

 *The Library Service recorded overall views of 58,000 minutes of video content on Facebook in 2021. In addition, there were over 76,500 minutes of views of video content on the Library YouTube Channel and 4,000 views on the Library Instagram channel in 2021.*



Dormant Accounts Fund

The Library Service secured grant funding in 2021 from the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), through the Dormant Accounts Fund to provide library supports for marginalised, socially excluded and disadvantaged communities. This funding was used for the following projects:

TTRS:



Touch-Type Read and Spell (TTRS) is an online typing course designed to benefit those who experience spelling, reading or writing difficulties. It is particularly useful for those with dyslexia, dyspraxia, ASD, ADHD, stroke recovery or working memory and processing weakness. It is also extremely beneficial for students who experience spelling, reading and writing difficulties and students learning English as a second language. The Library Service has 300 licences available for children and adults in Co. Tipperary, all of which are in full use.



In this together:

This project was a collaboration between Tipperary County Council Library Service and Tipperary Rural Traveller Project, and came from a shared aim to support family learning and literacy in the community. Staff in Cashel Library created a six-week library induction programme to introduce children from the Traveller community to their library and to create a positive experience around using the space and its services. This library induction programme allowed Library staff to get to know the children, to welcome them into the library, and to understand what they require from their library.

Children's Book Festival:



The Children's Book Festival is a National festival celebrating children's books. Every October thousands of children in Tipperary attend events with authors, illustrators and storytellers and engage in workshops on writing, illustration and poetry. The Library Service organised over 45 online events and there were over 1,900 online participants.



Little Library



The First 5 Little Library Bags initiative is funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth and the Department of Rural and Community Development to build on the relationships between the Early Learning and Care centres and libraries as part of the First 5 Government Strategy for babies and children and the public libraries Right to Read Programme. The Library Distributed just over 500 bags to almost 160 ELCs in Co. Tipperary, for use in their centres. The Little Library Bags each contain five books, one in Irish and four in English, with special bags for Naionraí of Irish language titles only. The books are aimed at the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) age range of 2.5 years to 5.5 years primarily, but can be used with all preschool children. A number of other resources were also provided such as reading guides, library social story, library card for the ELC.

Bealtaine



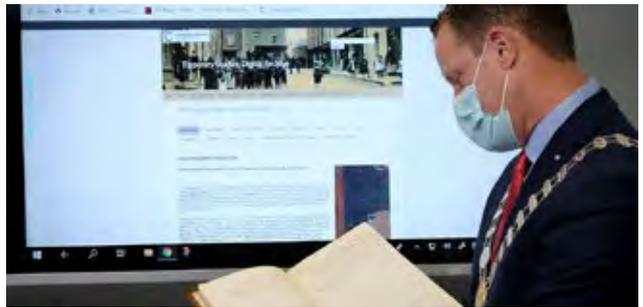
Online concert with Baritone Derek Ryan accompanied by Pat Marnane

Bealtaine is a festival celebrating creativity throughout our lives and the Tipperary theme of this year's Bealtaine Festival was "Give Me Shelter", echoing the fact that citizens have all been cocooning at home but looking to each other, for comfort, reassurance and conversation. The Library Service held a series of online zoom events throughout May in collaboration with the Arts Service.

Tipperary Studies

The Tipperary Studies digitisation project aims to make available online a range of sources, both historical and genealogical, which are part of the fabric which makes up the history of Tipperary. Many of the documents are unique to Tipperary Studies and one of the aims of the project is to make these sources available to everyone, free of charge on the Tipperary Studies website www.tipperarystudies.ie

Key highlights from the project in 2021 included:



Cllr Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council officially launched the digital collection of Poor Law Union records, comprising Workhouse Minute Books from Borrisokane, Cashel, Clogheen, Clonmel, Nenagh, Roscrea, Thurles and Tipperary, 1839 – 1852 in May 2021. These Famine records provide a unique weekly insight into pre-Famine relief and distress in County Tipperary, the emergence of the potato famine itself, and what it meant in the day-to-day workings of the various Poor Law Unions. This collection can be viewed at <http://www.tippstudiesdigital.ie/>



Tipperary Studies launched a new website www.irelandsgreatwardead.ie on Armistice Day (11th November) where they now host a database of servicemen and servicewomen who died in the Great War. There are 31,384 entries in the database, the work of military historian Tom Burnell who has spent almost twenty years researching the Great War dead from Ireland. There has been extensive media coverage with articles in the Irish Times and RTE Website. Since the website launched, there have been over 100,000 hits from 59 countries.



Nenagh Europe Direct Information Centre

Nenagh Library is designated the Europe Direct Information Centre, (EDIC), for the Mid-West region for the period 2018- 2021.

EDICs give information, advice, assistance and answers to questions about the EU and the rights of EU citizens, the EU's priorities, legislations, policies, programmes and funding opportunities. During 2021, two live online Citizen's Dialogues took place in Nenagh.



'Protecting Our Citizens and Our Values'

The European Union and Security

Talk by Professor Andrew Cottey

Department of Government and Politics, UCC

Hosted by Nenagh EDIC
Tuesday 27th April @ 7pm

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council
Library Service

europa
direct

Libraries Ireland
Nenagh Library
Mid-West Region

The first dialogue took place in 27th April. The theme was "The European Union and Security". The speaker on the night was Professor Andrew Cottey, University College, Cork.



"The Prospects for a Post Covid Irish Economy"

Online Talk
Professor Brian Lucey
Trinity School of Business, TCD

Hosted by Nenagh EDIC
Thursday 29th April
7pm

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council
Library Service

Libraries Ireland
Nenagh Library
Mid-West Region

The second online event took place in 29th April. The theme was "The prospects for a post-Covid Irish economy'. The speaker on the night was Professor Brian Lucey, Trinity College Dublin.









OUR PEOPLE

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) comprises the Cathaoirleach and the Chairpersons of each of the six Strategic Policy Committees, supported by the Chief Executive & Senior Management Team.



JOE MACGRATH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



MICHAEL SMITH
CATHAOIRLEACH



MAIRE MURPHY



JOHN CROSSE



**MARY HANNA
HOURIGAN**



JIM RYAN



PHYLL BUGLER



JOHN CARROLL



MICHEÁL LOWRY

The role of the CPG includes advising and assisting the Plenary Council in the formulation, development, monitoring and review of policy for Tipperary County Council, however, full decision-making authority remains with the Elected Council. The group may also make proposals for the allocation of business between the Strategic Policy Committees and for the general coordination of such business.

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

The following Councillors were members of the CPG during the period January to December 2021:

	SPC	Councillor	Party Affiliation
1	Cathaoirleach (January to June 2021)	Michael Smith	Fianna Fáil
	Cathaoirleach (July to Dec 2021)	Marie Murphy	Fine Gael
2	Economic Development & Enterprise	John Crosse	Fine Gael
3	Housing	Mary Hanna Hourigan	Fine Gael
4	Infrastructure (to include Roads, Transportation and Water Services)	Jim Ryan	Non-Party
5	Planning and Emergency Services	Phyll Bugler	Fine Gael
6	Environment and Climate Action	John Carroll	Fianna Fáil
7	Community, Culture and Library Services	Micheál Lowry	Non-Party



During 2021, there were 11 meetings of the CPG and among the items considered at their meetings were:

Covid-19 and Potential implications for Tipperary County Council Services

Ethics Framework Compliance

- Annual Declarations under Section 171 of the Local Government Act 2001
- Disclosure of Donation Statement under Section 19E of the Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure) Act 1999

Consideration of Reports / Policies

- Remote Meeting Protocols
- Monthly Management Reports
- Service Delivery Plan 2021
- NOAC Performance Indicator Report 2019
- Annual Report 2020
- National Roads Allocation 2021
- Annual Financial Statement (AFS) 2021
- Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor)
- Budget 2022 Process
- Arts Grants 2021
- Overdraft Facility for year ended 2022
- South East First Citizen Forum
- Councillors Code of Conduct
- LAMA All Ireland Community & Council Award nominations
- Non-Geographic Numbers (NGN's) Consolidation
- Special Lighting/Flag Raising Requests Protocol
- Dignity at Work

Presentations to the Council

- Royal Sites Bid – Rock of Cashel
- National Broadband Ireland (NBI)
- HSE Mid-West Service Update
- Eirgrid Consultation - Shaping our Electricity Future
- Connect Trade Union
- Samaritans, Limerick
- Young Social Innovators - What Matters Now

Deputation Requests

- Minister Eamon Ryan re N24 Project

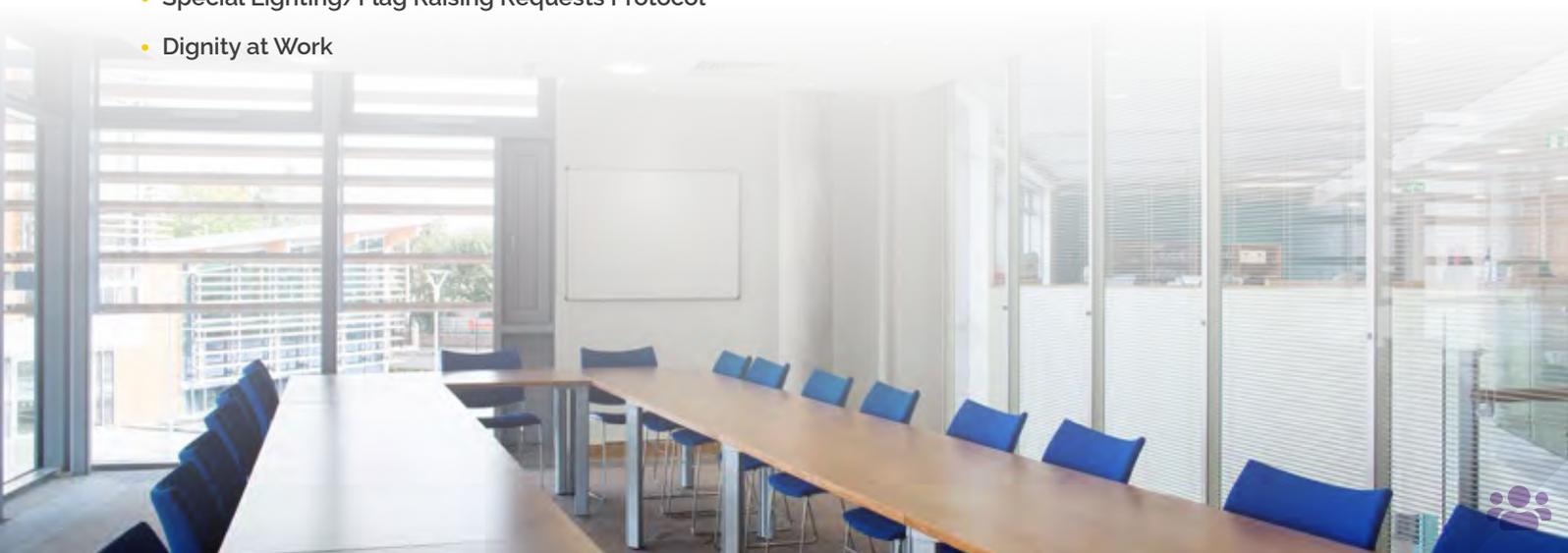
Consideration of Requests to Light up Civic Buildings

- World Vasculitis Awareness Day

Consideration of Civic Reception Conferrals & Cathaoirleach Invitations

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Tipperary County Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tipperary Senior Footballers / Bloody Sunday Commemoration – Joint Celebration • Rachel Blackmore • Sam Bennett |
|--------------------------|---|

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Thurles MD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loughmore/Castleliney GAA Club |
|------------|--|



COMMUNICATIONS & CUSTOMER SERVICE

COMMUNICATIONS

Tipperary County Council continues to improve our communications and engagement with all citizens and stakeholders in order to heighten awareness and understanding of our role and the services we deliver by promoting the services, supports and activities of the Council, managing the Council's online presence across the various digital and social media platforms. Everything we do is for our communities, citizens and our stakeholders, involve engagement by staff in customer service and communications on a daily basis.

Promotion and Council's activities and events, some of which include:

Following on from the momentum in creating more advanced online services for our customers, we have continued to expand our suite of websites and social media channels over the past year.

In 2021, our main website www.tipperarycoco.ie attracted over 1.4 million-page views.

The restrictions placed on us during Covid19 times led to an increased awareness of the possibilities of online transactions and business processes from both our customers and internally, our staff.

We hope to continue building on this expectation in line with national digital strategies to place "digital first" alongside existing channels, in streamlining the services we provide.

This means fully joining up back end businesses processes with online customer interaction creating complete, digital solutions. Providing a more efficient and economic approach.

At the same time, social media and digital public relations has become part of everything we do. As a cornerstone of digital transformation and communications in Tipperary, it is a vital that we continue to promote and inform through these channels.

Tipperary County Council promoted various national campaigns through digital and social media campaigns which included:

- Your Council Day.
- Be Summer Ready
- Be Winter Ready.
- National Bike Week.
- Fire Safety Week.
- Waste Awareness Week.
- National Spring Clean.
- Library campaigns such as Spring into Storytime, Summer Reads
- Culture Night.

Our Social Media policy and guideline for our staff and elected members on how we can best embrace these platforms to interact with and inform customers though social media platforms.



82
Media queries
received



127,044
Social media
followers



117,561
Telephone calls
answered



Online customer service initiatives 2021

Throughout the year, improvements have been made to the provision of online services. This is an area of opportunity to enable more accessible, timely interaction and automation of services with our customers.

- Year on year, our web visitors and social media followers increase. During 2021, websites owned and operated by Tipperary County Council received 2,487,384 visitors. These range from the main council website, <http://www.tipperarycoco.ie> to the Libraries/Museum/Tourism and Events Guides.

Our Social media channels collectively received 127,044 followers.

- Consultation Portal:** This website platform was launched in May 21 to correspond with the sizable public consultation for the Draft Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028. The portal was developed as a full management system to deal with redaction and display of submissions. Over 350 submissions were received during the course of the display.

Since then the consultation has hosted several other consultations for public submission electronically.

- Continued support for **Covid-19** Funding Initiatives- Further supports were launched for the tourism and recreational areas for businesses affected by closures. All applications for these were accommodated securely online through the Council Website.
- Project Websites:** Increasingly individual projects or initiatives managed by the County Council involve an online element to display results and interact with the public.

Such sites of note during 2021 include;

- Holy Wells** - an online compilation of historical wells, their history and locations in Tipperary.
- Royal Sites** - Unesco world heritage submission.
- YourCarrickonSuir** - A website to support the funding submission and regeneration plan for Carrick-on-Suir.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Tipperary County Council's customer service centres in Nenagh and Clonmel aim is to enhance our level of customer service based on a dedicated, trained staff who provide a countywide service for customers including phone, email, postal items and our public counter.

Tipperary County Council utilises the use of a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for logging and tracking customer queries to ensure a consistency on how all our customers are dealt with.

1 Customer queries processed through Customer Relations Management System (CRM)	31,864
2 Telephone calls answered	117,561
3 Average speed of answer	90 seconds
4 Average longest wait time	11 minutes
5 Media queries received	82
6 Number of Fix Your Street queries	253
7 Website page visits	2,487,384
8 Social media followers	127,044
9 Number of complaints from Irish Language Commissioner Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga.	1

Customer Service Desk Staff Nenagh



Customer Service Desk Staff Clonmel



SCÉIM TEANGA GAEILGE - IRISH LANGUAGE SCHEME

Lainseáil Scéim na Gaeilge do Chomhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann

Dhearbhaigh an tAire Stáit ag an Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán, An tUasal Jack Chambers, T.D., an chéad scéim de chuid Chomhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann faoi Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003 le déanaí.

Beidh an Scéim i bhfeidhm ar feadh tréimhse 3 bliana ó 1 Bealtaine, 2021 nó go dtí go gceadaítear scéim nua, cibé ceann a thagann níos deireanaí. Dúirt an Comhairleoir Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann: "Tá lúcháir orm go bhfuil tiomantas na Comhairle i leith ár dteanga dhúchais aitheanta go hoifigiúil anois inár Scéim na Gaeilge".

Dúirt an Príomhfheidhmeannach Joe MacGrath: "Is mian leis an gComhairle iad siúd atá ag iarraidh cumarsáid a dhéanamh linn i nGaeilge a chur chun cinn agus a éascú níos mó. Is céim dhearfach í Scéim na Gaeilge ina thaobh seo agus cuirtear fáilte roimpi".

Tabharfar gníomhartha faoin scéim nua isteach sna míonna amach romhainn agus beidh siad seo a leanas san áireamh:

- Leathanaigh tiomnaithe maidir leis an nGaeilge a fhoilsiú ar ár suíomh gréasáin www.tipperarycoco.ie
- Ríomhphoist tiomnaithe a fhoilsiú le haghaidh ceisteanna i nGaeilge.
- Go mbainfidh foireann na Seirbhísí Custaiméirí úsáid rialta as beannacht bhunúsach i nGaeilge. Tá leagan dátheangach den Scéim ar fáil ar ár suíomh gréasáin.

Deireadh

Le níos mó eolais a fháil faoin Scéim, déan teagmháil le David Coleman ag Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann Fón 0818 06 5000



Launch of Irish Language Scheme for Tipperary County Council

The Minister of State at the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Mr. Jack Chambers, T.D., recently confirmed Tipperary County Council's first scheme under the Official Languages Act 2003.

The Scheme shall remain in force for a period of 3 years from the 1st May, 2021 or until a new scheme has been approved, whichever is the later. The Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council Councillor Michael Smith said: "I am delighted that the Council's commitment to our native language is now officially recognised in our Irish Language Scheme".

Chief Executive Joe MacGrath added: "The Council is seeking to promote and further facilitate those who wish to interact with us in Irish. The Irish Language Scheme is a welcome and positive move in this regard".

Actions under the scheme will be introduced in the following months and will include:

- Publication of a dedicated page regarding Irish on our website www.tipperarycoco.ie
- Publication of a dedicated email address for queries in Irish.
- Regular use of basic greeting in Irish by Customer Services Desk staff.
- A bilingual version of the Scheme is available on our website.



CIVIC RECEPTIONS

Tipperary Senior Footballers

Tipperary County Council hosted their first 'virtual' civic reception on 27 May which was live streamed on Facebook to honour the Tipperary Senior Footballers in recognition of their success in winning the Munster Senior Football Championship Final in 2020, the achievements of 2020 were made all the more special by the fact that it was also the 100th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the events of that day in Croke Park were also acknowledged at this event <https://youtu.be/yxoauUwqZcg>



Sam Bennett

On 2 November a civic reception was awarded to Sam Bennett on his outstanding cycling achievements during the 2020 Tour de France winning 2 stages and the overall Green Jersey as the most consistent highest finisher, sealing victory in the Final stage down the Champs Élysées on 20th September 2020, and becoming only the fifth ever cyclist to win the final stage of the Tour de France and the second Irish cyclist to win the Green Jersey. <https://youtu.be/iZX3lKTUjts>



Rachel Blackmore

Rachel Blackmore was awarded a civic reception on the 24 June in recognition of her making sporting history in becoming the first ever female to win the leading jockey award at the 2021 Cheltenham Racing festival and also by becoming the first female jockey to win the Randox Grand National with victory on Minella Times at Aintree and for bringing honour to her native County https://youtu.be/gV_fl3jcvvg



Thank you to Paul Collins, Ballywire Media and his team who hosted all three live stream events and brought each recipient and spectator on a 'This is your Life' journey from their early years up to present day achievements which included inputs from family, friends, neighbours and people in their field of expertise.

 On 2 November a civic reception was awarded to Sam Bennett on his outstanding cycling achievements during the 2020 Tour de France



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

With the abolition of FOI Request fees in 2014 the Council has continuing increases in FOI Requests from less than 40 in 2014 to 148 in 2021. This requires significant staffing resources particularly in Housing, Roads, Planning and Environment.

Information Requests received 2020

Freedom Of Information	148
Data Protection Subject Access Requests	22
Ombudsman	31
Access to Information on the Environment	24



DATA PROTECTION / GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

The Council are committed to respecting and protecting the personal data of its customers.

Policies and procedures have been put in place to govern the various aspects of data protection including the Councils Privacy Statement and a CCTV and other Surveillance Technologies Policy.

The Council has appointed a Data Protection Officer and Data Protection Nominees for each Section and Municipal District.



 *Policies and procedures have been put in place to govern the various aspects of data protection including the Councils Privacy Statement and a CCTV and other Surveillance Technologies Policy.*





HUMAN RESOURCES

With over 1,200 employees (full time equivalent and retained) on our payroll at the end of 2021, Tipperary County Council is one of the largest employers in the County.

The Human Resources Section is responsible for the delivery of the following service areas:

- Recruitment, remuneration and conditions of employment;
- Development and implementation of staff training/development programmes;
- Superannuation (pension entitlements);
- Employee welfare/relations;
- Family-friendly policies and arrangements;
- Industrial relations;
- Maintenance of personnel records;
- The CORE computerised human resources system;
- Performance Management and Development System (PMDS);
- Support to functional departments in all matters relating to human resources.

Workforce Planning and Recruitment

Each local authority is required to have in place an approved workforce plan. As part of the Tipperary merger process, an extensive workforce planning exercise was carried out in 2013 and has been in the process of implementation since. 2021 saw very significant levels of recruitment activity, notwithstanding the challenges presented by the ongoing Covid-19 situation, which provided a range of opportunities for existing and new employees. A total of 62 recruitment competitions were organised in 2021 (following on from 50 in 2020 and 67 in 2019) which yielded 99 new starters across the full range of disciplines including Administrative, Engineering, Technical, Scientific, Fire Services, General Operative and supervisory grades.

Industrial Relations

The Council continues to work in partnership with trade unions and employee representatives to achieve harmonious working relationships and improved working conditions with safe, effective and efficient work practices. The main trade unions engaged with are FÓRSA, SIPTU/LAPO, UNITE and CONNECT. The Council retains the services of the Local Government Management Agency as representation in disputes referred to third parties such as the Workplace Relations Commission.

Staff Training & Development

In keeping with current national policy and the objectives of our Corporate Plan we continue to ensure that staff at all levels of the organisation have the opportunity to develop to their full potential and acquire the appropriate level of knowledge and skills to carry out their job. The Human Resources Section has a dedicated training team which is responsible for drafting and implementing a comprehensive training programme. Training requirements are based on the needs identified through the Performance Management Development System (PMDS) and during the year, prioritisation was given to Health and Safety Training, training required for specific roles and also developing new skills. Furthermore, 20 staff members were provided with funding for third level courses under the Staff Education Assistance Scheme in 2021 to a value of €27,000.

In order to ensure effectiveness and value for money, training was mainly delivered in-house and at the Regional Training Centre, Roscrea using in-house and external trainers.

Despite the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, many of our staff attended and engaged in training in 2021 and congratulations are extended to all these employees.



Superannuation

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

It carries out the following functions:

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

In 2021 the section continued the process of data readiness in preparation for the transfer of this function to the shared service centre, MyPay. This process was paused however to facilitate commitments with respect to the Single Pension Scheme and will recommence during 2022.



Public Sector Duty ("The Duty")

The Human Resources Section operates under the umbrella of equality, transparency and openness in all its dealings with staff and the public. In particular the section espouses public sector values and seeks to embed same into its processes, with particular emphasis on its recruitment processes.

Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 places the Duty in the context of strategic planning. Tipperary County Council as a consequence is required to set out an assessment of the equality and human rights issues relevant to its purpose and functions in a strategic plan, such as a Corporate Plan, in a manner that is accessible to the public.

Section 42(1) requires public bodies to have regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination;
- Promote equality of opportunity, and
- Protect the human rights of staff and service users.

During 2021 a Working Group representative of all Directorates in the Council was established under the direction of the Human Resources and Corporate Services Sections to guide and assist with the preparation of a high-level Public Sector Duty Implementation Strategy and Action Plan for the Council. The Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the Council's Senior Management Team in December 2021.

Performance Management & Development System (PMDS)

National policy continues to place a very high priority on the use of performance management and development systems in Local Government. Increased emphasis has been placed on ensuring that team development plans and personal development plans are in place for all teams and employees and that they are aligned with the Council's Corporate Objectives. The PMDS system has been further broadened to include performance rating and 2021 saw these ratings applied for all staff throughout the organisation.



Employee Welfare/Relations

The Council continuously strives to create a work environment that is conducive to promoting a healthy and progressive workforce.

Initiatives that have been taken include the following:

- Provision of an Employee Assistance Programme providing 24-hour access over 7 days to staff and their families;
- Access to an Occupational Health Professional;
- Employee Handbook;
- Superannuation Handbook;
- Information/Induction package to new employees;
- Long Service Awards;
- Pre-retirement Courses;
- Return to Learning Project.

Tipperary County Council facilitates the taking of various family-friendly leave arrangements including work-sharing, parental leave and carers leave. 2018 saw the introduction and adoption of a sectoral "People Strategy" which sought to focus on the development, capability and capacity of staff. Tipperary County Council continued the process of integrating it into all operational and functional areas of Council activity in 2021.

Arising from the strategy the Council enhanced its staff support offering and rolled out a comprehensive Employee Assistance Programme following a procurement process which saw Workplace Options selected as its provider, covering a multitude of services and various means of access on a confidential basis free of charge to all employees and their immediate family members.

HR, Payroll and Superannuation Systems

The Local Government sector utilises People XD (formerly CORE HR) for all its HR, Payroll and Superannuation needs. Tipperary County Council also partners with Makodata with regard to the provision of Data Analytics as a means of accessing, understanding and reporting on the data contained in the People XD system. This enables the section to provide key strategic management reports across a range of business areas highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of those areas.

Retirements

During 2021 the following employees retired from service:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Mary Hackett | • Mairead Fahy |
| • Martin McMahon | • Tony Ryan |
| • Donal McGettigan | • Frank Griffith |
| • Thomas Kearney | • Jerry Cahill |
| • Patrick J. Ryan | • Paddy Clarke |
| • Pat Maher | • George Tate |
| • Mary Butler | • Michael Glasheen |
| • Denis Hickey | • Francis Cagney |
| • Patricia Greene | • Phil Devaney |
| • Gerardine Hughes | • Tom Conway |
| • Michael Cahill | • Mary Fitzpatrick |
| • Patricia Corbett | • Glen Foley |
| • Martin Ryan | • Ray Spain |
| • Martin Costello | • Francis Casey |
| • Catriona Harty | • Christy Dunne |

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



In addition to the above we fondly remember former colleagues who sadly passed away during 2021 and in doing so express again our sincere condolences to their families.





Catriona Harty, Finance



Gerardine Hughes, Tipp Library



Mary Butler, CBD



Michael Cahill



Phil Devaney, Planning



Tom Kearney, GO Fethard



INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Objectives

- Provide an accessible, comprehensive customer service platform for the public, elected members and staff, through the use of information technology and the internet.
- Provide the tools, systems, solutions and infrastructure to enable the staff and the business sections achieve their business objectives.
- Provide a technical support service to staff in the areas of Networks, Applications, eDev/Web and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Achievements

The Information Systems team achieved the following in 2021

Business Systems and GIS (geographical information systems)

Housing

- Progressed implementation of Choice Based Letting project (in conjunction with Housing)
- Provided support to Housing section to facilitate data cleansing for national housing strategy
- Upgraded iHouse live environment to v3.7 (compatible with Edge and Chrome).
- Upgraded Housing Inspection system to new CRM 2015.
- Migrated Approved Housing Bodies system to new CRM 2015 system.
- Created Training Manual for Housing GIS App.
- Set up new external connections (Dept of Social Protection) within iHouse.

Planning

- Facilitated and provided support to the project which enables the public to submit planning applications online. This is a national project and Tipperary Co Co is a pilot for the new system.
- Continued to progress the replacement of the legacy Enforcements system.
- Investigated solutions to replace the legacy pre-planning system.
- Upgraded the Document Mgt System(iDocs) to the latest version.
- Continued with GIS supports for County Development Plan.
- Implemented new servers for the Planning Admin system.
- Updated base GIS maps with latest Geo directory and Bord Gais data.
- Created new digitizing layer for Part 8s.



Finance

- Completed final elements of SBASC Scheme 1 and SBASC Scheme 2. New software and SSIS package adapted and went live.
- Reissued Staff with Anti-Fraud and Corruption awareness module on eLearning Management System (eLMS).
- Completed eInvoice testing and implemented on live environment.
- Facilitated/Assisted with year end clean up on Agresso.
- Loaded invoices for Lighthouse System
- Assisted with Loans systems upgrade



Roads

- Provided maps for new salting routes across the county.
- Facilitated 3rd Party licencing of OSI maps where required.
- Facilitated upgrade of Impala traffic fine system handheld software for security.

Environment

- Developed and made live a new interim Environmental complaints system. Provided training to Customer Services and Environment staff.
- Updated the 'Bring Site' GIS digitiser

Corporate/Organisation/HR

- Implemented Axiel collection catalogue system for Archives and training organised.
- Continued with upgrade of CRM to CRM 2016. Reviewed and agreed CRM licencing requirements for next number of years.
- Trialled a new full managed mobile device management system (separate work and personal profiles)
- Upgraded Electoral Register system (iReg)
- Updated OSI GIS data
- Upgraded our CRM from 2013 to 2015 for the organisation.
- Created eLearning training modules: iHouse 3.6, Anti-Fraud & Corruption Awareness, Electronic Communication Policy, IT H&S modules, CRM Superuser Modules, Cyber Security Refresher.
- Continued to support phone billing and the provision of corporate phones

General

- Continued to decommission out of support servers and keep services running on supported environments
- Commenced analysis of our GIS infrastructure in preparation of our migration to new infrastructure next year.
- Provided for Autocad and Mapinfo licencing.
- Prepared NOAC Service performance indicators
- Developed and rolled out new eLearning module for CRM superusers
- Upgraded several clients with CRM 2015
- Provided new mobile data plan for councillor iPads and provided SIMS
- Updated Violence and Aggression register



Networks & Infrastructure

Phones

- Completed the installation of a single unified Phone System across the county's main offices. This new phone system will provide increased redundancy and reduce risk of phone system outages along with providing increased functionality for staff and sections. This has occurred without virtually any down time for our Users. Approx 750 phones now on new system – all new and existing phones installed or migrated to new server based system. The offices upgraded include: Nenagh Civic Offices, Clonmel Civic Offices, Machinery Yard Nenagh, Tipp Town Library, Clonmel Library, Thurles DO Building (all extensions including Library and Transport Link), Thurles Source, Carrick DO, Cashel City Hall, IT Section Nenagh, Ballingrane House, LAWCO Office, LASTNG Office, SOLAS Office, Tipp Swimming Pool, Donohill Landfill Site, Nenagh Recycling Centre, Roscrea Recycling Centre, Ballinveaney Landfill Site, Carrigeen Site Clonmel and Fire Station Nenagh.
- Rerouted PRA Legacy Lines in main offices to new phone system,
- Organised training for CSD and IT Staff on new modules (ACR).
- Set up hands free phones in a number of locations (still under trial).
- Streamlined Quintum routing – 4 Quintums reduced to 2 Quintums
- Changed analogue lines to sim card technology, e.g. lifts Clonmel, Visa Clonmel.
- Implemented new Phone Numbering across the organisation
- Comreg retired 0761, 1850 and 1890 on 1st Jan 2022. Implemented new numbering on 1st Nov 2021 as follows:
 - CSD 0818 06 5000
 - Out of Hours Service 0818 06 5003
 - E-Parking/Park Magic 0818 06 5004
 - DDI Range 052 616xxx will replace 0761 06 xxxx as the new DDI number range.

Security

- Procured, awarded and commenced implementation of managed security services (SOC). This service will provide a 24/7 monitoring of external devices for suspicious activity and implement measures to address accordingly.
- Continued with Windows 10 deployment
- Rolled out updates and security patches for Exchange E-Mail Environment
- Rolled out updates and security patches for core IT systems.
- Continued to implement necessary security measures arising from the global MS Exchange email- Hafnium vulnerability.

Fortunately, the organisation was not compromised by this vulnerability. Scanning tools were run to check for indicators of compromise on a regular basis, and logs, servers and files interrogated and findings investigated. The web mail external channel into our email system was rebuilt, a global password reset was executed and location of access to web email was geographically constrained. TCC liaised closely with the national cyber security centre (CSIRT), other Local Authorities and our external email consultants to assist in the process.

- **Other actions included:**
 - » Reconfigured the web mail external channel into our email system to address additional security vulnerabilities.
 - » Rebuilt 2 CAS servers
 - » Disabled 'Outlook Anywhere'
 - » Continued to liaise with the national cyber security centre (CSIRT), other Local Authorities and our external email consultants regarding security measures.
- Completed the implementation of two factor authentication on the web email system
- Progressed the Actions proposed by the national cyber security centre (CSIRT) regarding security in the light of the HSE cyber security incident in particular- incident response plan, security awareness, backups, restore testing, access control, patching, anti-virus, two factor, business continuity and segregation
- Continued to implement necessary security measures arising from the ApacheLog 4 global vulnerability.
- Prepared and signed off on organisation information security policy
- Carried out number of cyber security tests across organisation





Video Conferencing

- Completed rollout of video conferencing facilities in Nenagh and Clonmel Municipal District Chambers
- Completed rollout of new video conferencing facilities in Thurles MDO
- Prepared request for quote for provision of video conferencing facilities in Nenagh and Clonmel main council chambers



COVID

- Continued to deploy laptops to facilitate remote working.
- Continued to support staff who have the facility to work remotely from home.

General

- Completed the new comms room in Civic Offices Clonmel and the new UPS infrastructure in server room Clonmel
- Facilitated commissioning of Ballaghveney Landfill site from an IT perspective
- Completed rollout of new wireless network infrastructure to Nenagh, Clonmel Civic Offices, Clonmel Borough, Thurles MDO and Fire Stations,
- Upgraded mobile device management systems
- Implemented a new IT Helpdesk system. The helpdesk is used by IT Staff to record and deal with all IT related queries and support calls.
- Continued to upgrade our Microsoft Office estate to MS Office 2019.
- Delivered maximum uptime and performance of Networks, Business Systems and IT Systems across all offices for all Users.
- Facilitated staff and office moves in several offices across the organisation.

Data Centre

- Completed the project to implement new IT infrastructure platform for the organisation. The infrastructure has been installed in the Nenagh data centre, system tested and UAT tested and systems migrated over, with virtually no downtime to the Users.



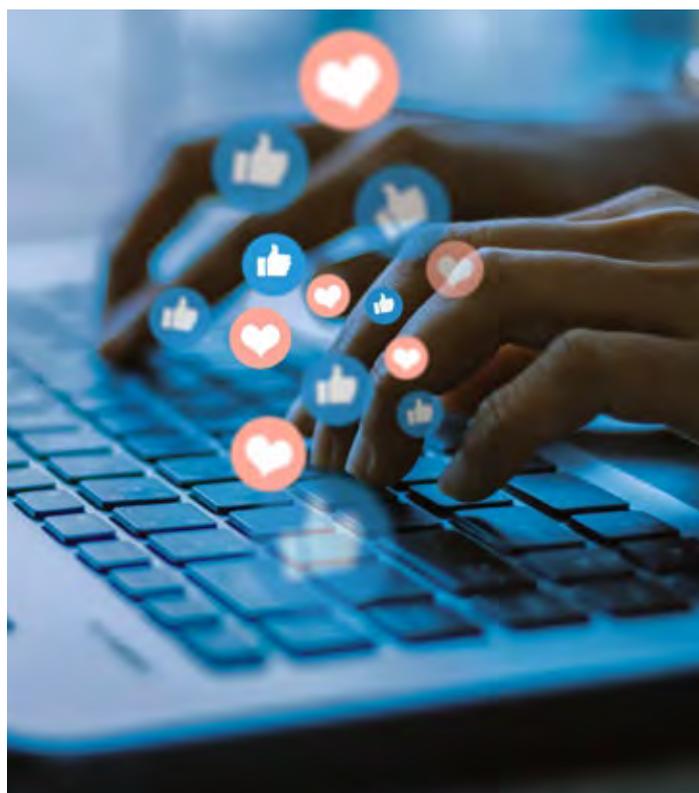
Web Site and eDevelopment

- Developed and launched a new Consultation Portal for Tipperary: <http://consultations.tipperarycoco.ie>
- Created a more improved and reliable platform for our Council intranet/ document management system.
- Continued to develop and provide support for Stage 2 County Development Plan- Chief Executive Report
- Developed online virtual consultation for Stage 2 County Development Plan
- Supplied solution to support online applications and management of Outdoor Seating Grants for dining/public premises
- Continued to support and promote the Keep-well campaign
- Continued to assist with Tourism Site Maintenance- Tipperary.com
- Upgraded Travel & Subsistence system
- Developed and provided front and back office system for Outdoor Furniture Scheme –Training and guidance provided to MD staff and admins involved.
- Developed and provided online form for Commercial Incentive Scheme for Vacant Properties. Back office system spec being considered.
- Developed Royalsites.ie to support bid for Unesco world heritage site application.
- Built out a sample Family Friendly application system for HR as part of a proof of concept.
- Provided support for social media strategy & training requirements
- Assisted in publishing details on part 8s, grants, regeneration plans, action plans and questionnaires on to web site.
- Redeveloped the tipperarysports.ie Sports Partnership Website
- Redeveloped whatsonintipp.ie to incorporate Artist Database and Craftsperson's listing (coming soon).
- Continued to support and promote the Keep-well campaign
- Developed interactive forms for the submission of Grants in the Municipal Districts.



Some web site stats

- The web site www.Tipperarycoco.ie had just under 1.5 million page views in 2021
- The Consultations Portal had 39,943 page views in 2021. It was launched in 2021 and facilitated 12 consultations
- The County Development Plan had 626 submissions online



All Teams

Provided a technical support service to our staff and elected members across the organisation.

Continued to provide technical support and maintenance for:

- the IT and Network systems such Email, File Services, Networks, Desktops, Servers, Database systems, etc.
- our business systems e.g. I-Plan, I-Docs, I-House, CRM, etc.
- our web sites and web systems e.g. www.tipperarycoco.ie, www.Tipperary.com; and the Intranet and Sharepoint
- our geographical and CAD information systems e.g. Planning Enquiry, Online Digitisers, etc; and training in same.
- phone systems, mobile phones and fixed lines phones.



SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

CLONMEL

Once again in 2021 we were unable to organise our usual schedule of events in order to ensure everyone's safety in these uncertain times.

Hopefully 2022 will bring improved circumstances which will enable us to resume activities where it is safe to do so. We did however continue with our monthly and bumper Summer and Christmas draws. During 2021 a total of 65000 euros was paid in prize money to over 350 lucky winners. We would like to thank all our members for their continued support and look forward to seeing you again soon.



NENAGH

2021 was another unusual year for our Social Club (Nenagh), as all activities were cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

- Easter and Christmas Draws yielded a total of €10,500 in prizes for our members.
- There were 9 winners of our fortnightly lotto draw, winning a total of €4,400.
- The annual Mass in remembrance of deceased staff and members was held online.
- We also continued to operate our 'Holiday Fund' for those members who want to save for a break away, for a special family occasion or just to have funds to meet annual bills.



Committee Members:

Chairperson

- Peter Cleary

Treasurer

- Rosemary Joyce

Committee

- Paraig Cantwell,
- Brian Dunne,
- Nuala Freeman,
- Maureen Grace,
- Siobhan King
- Auyen Melia,
- Mary Murphy,
- Miriam Ryan,
- Mary Stephens.



As always we would welcome new members to join the committee and would love to hear new suggestions for events coming from our members.



FRANCHISE SECTION



The Franchise Section is responsible for the preparation of the Register of Electors. This Register, prepared annually, is a list of persons over 18 years resident in Tipperary who are entitled to vote in elections/referenda.

The following are the relevant dates in the process:

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

The following was a breakdown of the total electorate per Local Electoral Area in Tipperary:

	Live
Cahir	11,732
Carrick on Suir	16,201
Cashel-Tipperary	22,429
Clonmel	18,555
Nenagh	17,624
Newport	13,277
Roscrea - Templemore	14,213
Thurles	16,028
	130,059

 *There were 130,059 Local Government Electors on the Live Register 2021/2022 which was published on the 1st February 2021*



ARCHIVE SERVICE

Our priority within the Archive function for 2021 was to finalise our suite of Records Management Policy Documents. This suite of 9 documents was approved in June by the Senior Management Team and are available on the Intranet. We subsequently carried out information sessions and our priority in 2022 is to finalise and make available an e-learning module on these documents for all staff.



Corporate Services

Corporate Services provides a range of supports to enable departments to carry out their key business functions. It comprises the following Units, Meetings of the Council, Councillor Support, Freedom of Information, Customer Services, HEG Grants and Corporate Development to name but a few.

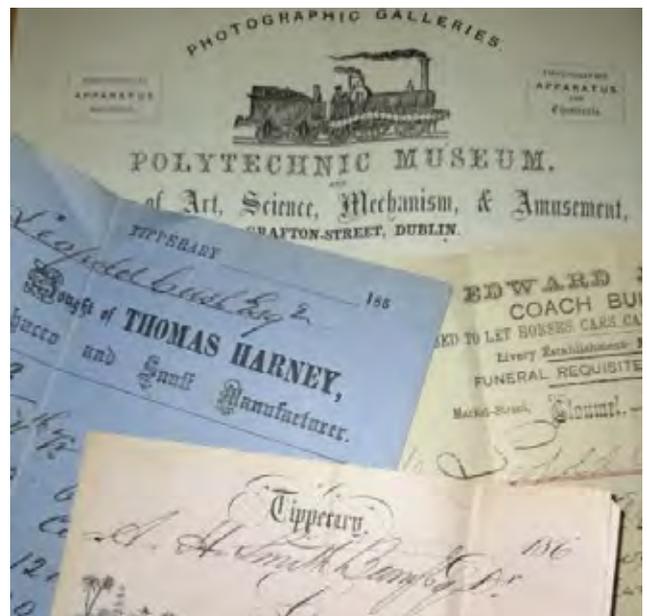
Director of Service: Clare Curley

Documents

<input type="checkbox"/> Type	Name	Modified By
	Records Management Procedures	Heffernan, Sharon
	Records Management Policy	Heffernan, Sharon
	Records Management Guidelines	Heffernan, Sharon
	Project Initiation Document Template	Heffernan, Sharon
	Email Usage Principles	Heffernan, Sharon
	Email Management Policy	Heffernan, Sharon
	Document Imaging Policy	Heffernan, Sharon
	Administrative Access Procedure	Heffernan, Sharon
	Administrative Access Policy	Heffernan, Sharon



We continued our work in clearing out our storage rooms in Carrigeen in order to facilitate our long-term plan of expanding the use of the archives building in Carrigeen for archival collections.



And we were busy liaising with donors and accepting new material into the archive. We were delighted to receive material from: St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel; St. Brigid's Hospital, Carrick-on-Suir; County Tipperary Chambers; and material relating to Cordangan Manor and copy material relating to Frank Drohan.





Over 3000 property related documents (mortgages / deeds/ leases/ probates etc.) have been catalogued in the past year and this project is ongoing.



We finalised the purchase of a heritage scanner and look forward to using this machine to begin our scanning programme of this newly acquired material as well as older collections we hold.

While we were unable to welcome visitors into the archive building for much of 2021, we continued to receive and work on some interesting queries and we look forward to welcoming researchers in 2022...







MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



The District Office was closed to the public for part of 2021 due to the Covid pandemic but staff were on duty to assist the public as much as possible until it re-opened fully in September 2021 when face-to-face in-person business resumed.



CATHAOIRLEACH & LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH

Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald was elected as Cathaoirleach at the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal District Members on the 24th June, 2021. Cllr. David Dunne was elected as Leas Cathaoirleach on the same date.



Performance of Municipal District Functions:

In 2021, the Municipal District members held an Annual General Meeting and eleven monthly meetings.

A special meeting was convened on the 4th June 2021 with Ms. Mary Butler TD., Minister for Mental Health and Older People to discuss the HSE decision to close St. Brigid's Hospital in Carrick on Suir.

The Hub:

Fostering Entrepreneurship & Innovation at Stable Lane Digital Hub, Carrick-on-Suir

The Stable Lane Digital Hub [Phase 1] located on the second floor of the District Office in Carrick on Suir has been operating since the 1st October 2020 as an innovative collaboration between the local authority and the business sector in the town, conducting operations under strict HSE Guidelines to ensure a safe working environment for its users.

Since its opening, Stable Lane Digital Hub has become home to a selection of microbusinesses, SME's, entrepreneurs, and remote workers predominantly from the Tech. Sector. Each of its clients is provided with a flexible and cost-effective workspace with high-speed broadband connectivity in a town centre location.

A very welcome visitor arrived on the 3rd November 2011 in the person of Minister Heather Humphreys when she visited the Stable Lane Hub at the Town Hall.



PICTURED L-R: Ms. Aisling O'Connor, Manager Stable Lane Hub, Senator Garret Ahearn, Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services, Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development and Minister for Social Protection, Councillor Mark Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach Carrick on Suir Municipal District, Mr. Tony Musiol, Chairman Carrick on Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee, and Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, Deputy Cathaoirleach, Tipperary County Council.

With prevailing demand shifting to 'shared office space', Phase 2 of the project is currently at planning stage. A Part 8 planning process commenced on the 23rd December 2021 with the intention of developing the protected structure of the Old Post Office at 43 Main Street, Carrick on Suir as a digital hub. An interim facility is now in place at 'The Townhouse' at 23 New Street, Carrick on Suir to meet the increasing demand pending the development of Phase 2, effectively creating a digital hub 'campus' within the town centre with all requisite amenities readily available on its doorstep.

Minister Humphreys also visited the Old Post Office on her visit to Carrick on Suir where she viewed plans for Phase 2 of the Digital Hub and the ambitious Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan – "A Journey from the Suir Blueway to Ormond Castle Quarter"



PICTURED L-R: Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, Deputy Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council, Mr. Tony Musiol, Chairman Carrick on Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee, Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development and Minister for Social Protection, Senator Garret Ahearn, Councillor Mark Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach Carrick on Suir Municipal District and Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services, Carrick on Suir Municipal District.



A very welcome visitor arrived on the 3rd November 2011 in the person of Minister Heather Humphreys when she visited the Stable Lane Hub at the Town Hall.



Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan (“A Journey from Suir Blueway to Ormond Castle”)

Under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund, Carrick-on-Suir was awarded a Category 2 Design Stage Grant of €365,000 in 2020 to which match funding of 25% (€122,500) was added from the Council's own resources. Consultants Malachy Walsh & Partners and Nic DeJong Urban Design were appointed at start of 2021 to undertake preliminary design up to Part 8 Public Consultation stage followed by detailed design and Contract Document preparation in 2022.

The Council's objective in due course is to receive RRDF construction stage funding from Department of Rural & Community Development to complete this major investment in the town costing approx. €16million.



Carrick on Suir Marina Located At North Quay – Viewed From Dillon Bridge

The project will involve major enhancement of the town centre area from Sean Healy Park to the Ormond Castle Quarter including Castle Street, Main Street, West Gate, Sean Kelly Square, Bridge Street, North Quays, Strand Lane Car-Park and the adjoining laneways, Strand Walk, and Chapel Lane area. The Council along with its partners will seek to promote and deliver this “once in a lifetime” opportunity and establish Carrick on Suir at the centre of a greatly enhanced tourism offering.

See www.yourcarrickonsuir.ie to view the ambitious plans for Carrick on Suir.

Ormond Castle Park Ecological and Amenity Enhancement



Part 8 planning consent was approved by the Elected Members of Carrick on Suir Municipal District at their monthly meeting held on the 22nd July 2021 for the Ormond Castle Park Ecological and Amenity Improvement Scheme at its 1.72 ha. open parkland at the eastern end of the River Suir Blueway. It will incorporate resurfaced spine footpath in resin-bound aggregate widened to 3 metres, fully accessible and with LED street lighting (bat friendly). A secondary looped footpath will provide a continuous circuit around the park, connecting habitats and informal seating areas; a gathering space will be provided in vicinity of Ormond Castle entrance defined by low native hedging with seating, cycle stands, water bottle refill station and interpretation board; semi-mature avenue trees along one side of spine footpath will be planted with columnar oaks to replace 4 existing trees; native woodland planting comprising a mix of whips with standard oak trees – oak, birch, holly, scots pine, whitebeam, rowan and willow will form part of the plan along with heritage fruit and nut orchard in long grass meadow including rare and local pollinator-friendly species such as hazelnut, chestnut, hawthorn, apple, pear, cherry and plum; a short grass amenity meadow will be provided and managed for wildlife, long grass meadowland with informal mown paths and deer park sculptures will include native wildflower species, habitation creation features such bird and bat boxes, bug hotels and log piles distributed informally throughout the park.

Ministerial consent for the project was issued on 30th November 2021 by the National Monuments Service and the project will form part of the Council's funding application under Category 1- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



Schedule of Municipal District works:

A very intensive Schedule of Municipal District Works totalling €8.3 million, was adopted by the Members of Carrick on Suir MD, who oversaw its implementation via reports at monthly Council meetings against a background of Covid lockdowns for construction activity. The Schedule of Municipal District Works included the maintenance and minor improvement of the social housing stock in the District, the maintenance and improvement of the road network, the rehabilitation of bridges, drainage works, the maintenance of open spaces and cemetery maintenance (see below).

N24, Carrick-on- Suir & N76 Grangemockler Capital Works

Following Part 8 approvals for road pavement strengthening, footpath improvement and revised parking layouts at N24 Carrick-on-Suir (3.5km) and N76 Grangemockler (1.2km) respectively, both projects underwent detailed design stage via Roads Capital Section and Tramore House Regional Design Office during 2021. Replacement of watermains was also undertaken by Irish Water contractors along N24 in 2021. Following tender stage in Q1 of 2022, it is expected that construction of both projects will commence shortly thereafter.

Fethard Town Park

Phase 1 comprising full size GAA/Rugby floodlit 3G, Training Grass Pitch and Walkways were completed in 2021 and open to all users since January 2022.



Phase 1 Of Fethard Town Park (Looking South)

Construction of Phase 2, comprising Community Pavilion, dressing rooms, meeting room, gym, café, car park (accessed from Rocklow Road) is due to start in March 2022. The estimated timeframe for completion is 12 months. An additional walking route around the perimeter of Town Park is also being developed including the upgrade of Strylea boreen.

 *The overall project is being developed jointly with Coolmore Stud and their project management staff to whom we owe a debt of gratitude.*



Roadworks undertaken in 2021

- Active Travel Grant works undertaken in Cloneen, Carrickbeg, Fethard, Mullinahone & Killenaule (Design/Land Acquisition)
- Provision of kerbed build-outs to facilitate 'outdoor dining' at Main Street and Kiersey Place, Carrick-on-Suir.
- New entrance to St. Nicholas Church Car Park from N24 to encourage passing traffic to stop over in Carrick-on-Suir



BEFORE - Single Exit At St. Nicholas Carn Park, Greenside, Carrick-on-Suir



AFTER - New Widened Entrance/Exit At St. Nicholas Car Park

- Outdoor Recreation Improvement Scheme [ORIS] Grant of €137,000 used to widen Suir Blueway from Sean Healy Park to Fisherman's Boreen, with further works scheduled in 2022 to widen approx. 1km of Blueway upstream of Miloko Glanbia plant with additional funding of €180,000 secured under this scheme. A plaque commemorating the improved amenity was officially opened by Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development on the 3rd November 2021 during her tour of County Tipperary



PICTURED L-R: Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services, Carrick on Suir Municipal District. Councillor Siobhán Ambrose, Deputy Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council, Senator Garret Ahearn, Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development and Minister for Social Protection, Councillor Mark Fitzgerald, Cathaoirleach Carrick on Suir Municipal District, and Ms. Liz McGrath, A/District Administrator.

- Strengthening work was carried out on approx. 14 kilometres of the Regional and Local road network.
- Resurfacing work was carried out on approx. 23 kilometres of the Regional and Local road network.
- Resurfacing of c.450m of the N76 was carried out at South Lodge Grangemockler
- Active Travel projects for cycling and walking brought to design stage in Carrick on Suir including connection from the Railway Station to New Street.
- Bridge improvement work at Clashnasmuth Bridge Ahenny



Bridge At Clashnasmuth, Ahenny, Carrick On Suir



- Structural report obtained and repairs carried out to Clárín Footbridge, Carrick on Suir over railway line. It is intended to replace this structure in due course subject to grant approval from the National Transport Authority.
- Low Cost Safety Works were completed at Main Street Fethard and at the R690 between Mullinahone and Nine-Mile-House.
- Climate Action works were completed at Moyglass, Heathview, & Ballinacloona.
- Drainage grant works were completed at Mohober, Ballingarry, Coolmoynes, Ballinard, Tinakilly-Everardsgrange and Modeshill Mullinahone.
- CLÁR Scheme was undertaken at Slieveardagh NS, The Commons.
- Development Levy works at New Street, Carrick-on-Suir, were undertaken to complete footpaths, underground overhead ESB cables and install new public lighting columns.
- Development Levies were also used to fund the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Ballingarry, the construction of a footpath in Cloneen and for bridge parapet reconstruction works at various locations.
- Town & Village Renewal applications were submitted for Carrickbeg and Ballingarry for works to be undertaken in 2022 subject to approval.
- Carrick on Suir town roadworks were completed at Castle Heights, Ash Park, St Nicholas Park, St. Johns estate, Pearse Square and at Clárín.
- Community Involvement Schemes (public roads) and Local Improvement Schemes (Private Roads) were processed for various locations



Taking-in-Charge of Estates

The members of the Carrick on Suir Municipal District resolved to take in charge the estate at Friarsfield, Fethard (Phases 1 and 2) during 2021.

Assistance under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001

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

Carrick-on-Suir Development Association

A grant of €3,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Development Association (CoSDA). This annual grant supports the Association in its provision of a heritage and tourist information centre at Main Street in Carrick on Suir, in addition to a community centre at the Old Friary, Carrickbeg, Carrick-on-Suir; the group is also involved in a number of training schemes in the town.

A further grant of €7,000 was awarded to CoSDA following a resolution of the Elected members at their October 2021 monthly meeting to provide financial assistance towards the fit-out of the refurbished Heritage Centre estimated to cost in the region of €500,000.

Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee

A grant of €1,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee (COSTEDC). The committee has representatives of the Local Authority, the Business Association and the Development Association and was established in 2004. It has prepared a strategic plan for Carrick-on-Suir – Vision 2030 - and is involved in a number of different measures to promote the town at home and abroad.

 *A grant of €1,500 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Tourism and Economic Development Committee (COSTEDC).*

Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band

A grant of €1,900 was made to the Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band. The Band has been established for many years and performs in public free of charge.

Sean Kelly Sports Centre

A grant of €60,000 was made to the Sean Kelly Sports Centre. The sports centre provides facilities for swimming and physical training and attracts thousands of visitors each year.

Municipal Festivals

The Clancy Festival in Carrick on Suir, was assisted with a grant of €2,500. This was a virtual festival in 2021 as in the previous year and extended over the month of June.

Tidy Town Committees

The Carrick On Suir Municipal District Members awarded grants of €1,000 each to Tidy Towns Groups actively promoting and enhancing their areas in the following settlements:

- Ahenny,
- Ballingarry,
- Ballinure,
- Ballyneale,
- Ballynonty,
- Cloneen.
- Drangan,
- Dualla,
- Faugheen,
- Grangemockler,
- Killenaule,
- Moyglass,
- Mullinahone
- The Commons





Additional grants were approved following results published in September to reward the 11 Tidy Towns participants entered in the National Tidy Towns Competition 2021 sponsored by SuperValu as follows:

Category A	Placing	€
Cloneen Tidy Villages	1	2,000
Drangan Tidy Towns Committee	2	2,000
Ballyneale Tidy Towns	3	2,000
Dualla Tidy Towns	4	1,000
Glengoole Tidy Towns	5	1,000
Faugheen Tidy Towns	6	1,000
Ahenny & Clashnasmuth Tidy Towns	7	1,000
Category B	Placing	€
Ballingarry Tidy Towns Association*	1	3,500
Killenaule Community Enhancement	2	2,000
Mullinahone Tidy Villages	3	1,000
Category C	Placing	€
Fethard Tidy Towns Group	1	1,000

 *Ballingarry Tidy Towns Association emerged as the overall winner in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District Tidy Towns Awards having achieved a phenomenal additional 18 points over the previous year's score in the competition.*

Burial Grounds Grants:

Grants were made to burial ground committees during 2021 to assist with the maintenance and upkeep of burial grounds at the following locations:

- Ahenny
- Ballinalacken
- Ballingarry Old
- Ballingarry New
- Ballinure
- Ballyneale
- Calvary
- Carrick On Suir Workhouse Cemetery
- Cloneen New
- Cloneen Old
- Cooleagh
- Crosscannon
- Dualla Killballyherbery
- Dualla
- Everardsgrange
- Grangemockler
- Holy Trinity Fethard
- Isertkiernan Mullinahone
- Killlmaclough
- Killusty
- Kilmurray
- Kiltinan
- Kilvemnon
- Lanespark Ballynonty
- Lismolin
- Modeshill
- Mogorban
- Newtown
- Peppardstown
- Raheen
- Rathcoole
- Red City Fethard
- River Street Killenaule
- St. Johnstown
- St. Joseph's Ballingarry
- St. Mary's Killenaule
- St. Patrick's Faugheen
- St. Michael's Mullinahone
- Templemichael
- Nun's Graveyard Carrick On Suir
- Treacy Park Graveyard
- Tullamaine
- Woodhouse Fethard



Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021

Of the 45 applications received for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District 2021 Streetscape and Shopfront Enhancement Scheme, some 37 property owners were supported with grants to assist in refurbishing their properties by resolution of the elected members at their October 2021 monthly meeting.

A very welcome extension of the deadline to the 30th April 2022 with and a four-fold increase in the allocation to €181,330, meant that many other property owners could avail of the grant and pursue improvements to their holdings.

Outdoor Accessories Grant Scheme 2021

A total of 18 businesses were supported with grant assistance to provide outdoor accessories, such as planters, awnings, seating, dining facilities at a total cost of €55,064



Community Grants

The County Council invited submissions from clubs and other organisations providing facilities or engaging in community-based projects in 2021.

Grants totaling €37,795 were made under the scheme providing support to the following groups;

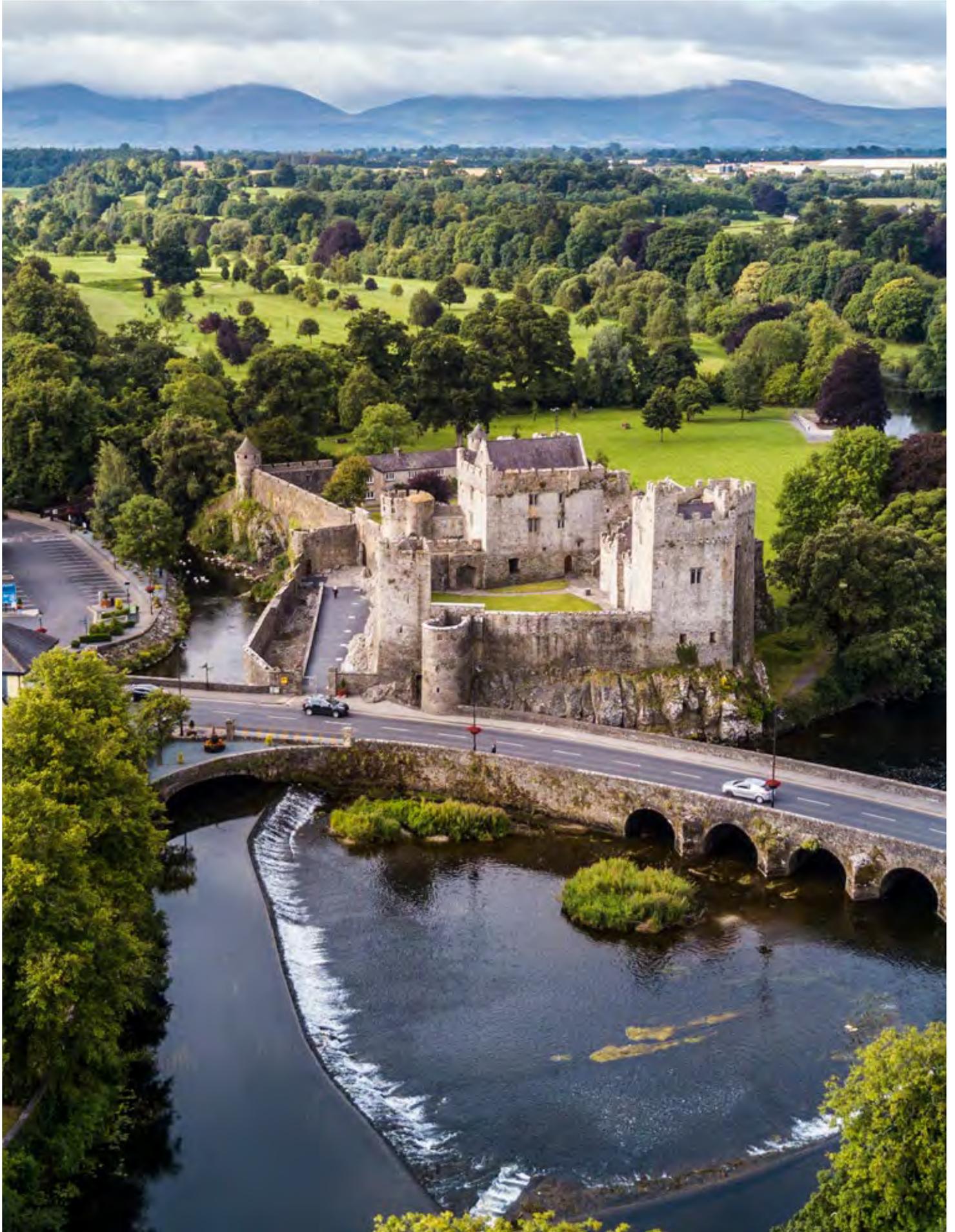
- Ballingarry Community Centre
- Ballylynch Coming Together Group
- Ballynonty Community Group
- Cappanagarrane Horse Rescue
- Carrick on Suir former workhouse burial plot restoration
- Carrick Swan, Hurling/Football and Camogie
- Carrick United AFC Limited.
- Carrick-on-Suir & District Angling Association.
- Castle Heights Residents Association
- Castlecourt Residents Association, Carrickbeg, Carrick on Suir
- Cloneen Sports and Social Club
- Cluain Áird Residents Association, Fethard
- Fethard and Killusty Community Ballroom CLG
- Fr. Tirry Park Residents Association Fethard
- Friends of Bridgewater House,
- Galtee Mór Kickboxing Club, Fethard
- Grangemockler Community Sportsfield
- Killenaule Community Enhancement Group
- Manor Close Residents Association
- Manor Close Residents Association
- Millennium Family Resource Centre, Glengoole
- Moyglass Sports and Leisure Centre
- Mullinahone Men's Shed -
- Old School House, The Commons
- Slieveardagh Rural Development CLG

Civic Reception – Sam Bennett – cycling legend

Ballywire Media headed up by broadcaster Paul Collins attended the District Office in Carrick on Suir along with his crew, to pre-record interviews with Sam Bennett's family in advance of the virtual Civic Reception accorded to Sam by the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Marie Murphy on the 2nd November 2021.

Some animated pictures of Sam's proud folks reminiscing.





TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

The Annual Meeting of the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District was held on 28th June, 2021. Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Micheál Anglim was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.



Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, Cathaoirleach

Schedule of Municipal District Works

In February 2021, the members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works. This provided for a total expenditure in excess of €16.6 million in respect of housing maintenance; road improvements; street cleaning; maintenance of burial grounds and maintenance of amenity areas including playgrounds together with undertaking capital projects.

The main projects and work programmes delivered were:

- Tipperary Market Yard & River Ara Walkway – Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF) Projects
- Lowergate Public Realm Works, Cashel
- Inch Field Enhancement Works, Cahir
- Bridge Rehabilitation works at
 - Rossmore Creamery Bridge,
 - Cloughleigh Retaining Wall
 - Clonbeg Bridge Replacement in the Glen of Aherlow
- Road Safety Improvement Schemes at
 - O'Brien Street Junction, Tipperary Town
 - Burncourt Village
- Upgrade to amenity walks within the District including:
 - Bóthar na Marbh, Cashel
 - Mass Path, Tipperary Town
 - Cahir Viaduct Walk
 - Swiss Cottage Walk in Cahir



Working with the Community to Enhance Towns & Villages

Tidy Towns Grants 2021

No.	Name	Allocation
1	Aherlow Road Residents Association, Tipperary Town	€1,000
2	An Duiche Residents Association, Tipperary Town	€1,000
3	Ardfinnan Tidy Towns, Ardfinnan	€3,000
4	Ballyporeen Community Council, Ballyporeen	€1,200
5	Bansha Tidy Towns, Bansha, Tipperary	€1,200
6	Burncourt Community Council, Cahir	€1,200
7	Cahir Tidy Towns, Cahir	€5,000
8	Cappawhite Tidy Towns, Cappawhite,	€1,200
9	Cashel Tidy Towns, Cashel	€5,000
10	Clogheen Tidy Towns, Clogheen	€1,300
11	Clonoulty Tidy Towns, Cashel	€1,300
12	Donohill Tidy Towns, Donohill	€1,200
13	Duhill Community Council, Duhill	€1,300
14	Dundrum Tidy Towns, Dundrum	€1,300
15	Goatenbridge Tidy Towns, Goatenbridge	€1,200
16	Grange Tidy Towns, Grange	€1,200
17	Highfield Residents Association, Cahir	€600
18	Kilmananagh Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
19	Kilross Tidy Towns, Kilross	€1,200
20	Murgasty Residents Association, Tipperary	€1,000
21	New Inn Tidy Towns, New Inn	€1,200

No.	Name	Allocation
22	Newcastle Tidy Towns, Newcastle	€1,200
23	Oliver Plunkett Park Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
24	Rockwood Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
25	Rossmore Tidy Towns, Rossmore	€1,200
26	Spafield Family Resource Centre, Cashel	€1,200
27	Summercove Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
28	The Rhododendron Walking Festival, Cahir	€1,100
29	The Steeples Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
30	Tipperary Town Tidy Towns, Tipperary Town	€4,500
31	Churchview Residents Association, Lattin	€1,000
32	Cullen Tidy Towns, Cullen	€1,000
33	Emly Tidy Towns, Emly	€2,000
34	Golden Village Tidy Towns, Golden	€1,200
35	Lattin Tidy Towns, Lattin	€1,200
36	Rockview Residents Association, Cashel	€1,000
37	Rosemount Heights Residents Association, Cahir	€600
38	Thomastown Tidy Towns, Thomastown	€1,200
39	Woodlawn Residents Association, Cashel	€600
TOTAL		€56,600



Before And After Photos Of Tidy Towns Works

Kilross Tidy Towns

Before Photos



After Photos



Grange Tidy Towns

Before Photo



After Photo



Emly Tidy Towns

Before Photo



After Photo



Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition

The national SuperValu Tidy Towns competition is an annual contest organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The competition is supported by the title sponsor SuperValu, other organisations and public bodies including Tipperary County Council.

Many towns and villages in the district participated in the competition with the following receiving special recognition for their work:

- Emly Tidy Towns received a gold medal in their category
- Cashel Tidy Towns and Cahir Tidy Towns each received a bronze medal in their category.
- Photo below of Patrick Downey, Chairperson & Cliff Cope, Treasurer, Cashel Tidy Towns at the awards.



 *The national SuperValu Tidy Towns competition is an annual contest organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development.*





Burial Ground Grants 2021

Grant Recipient	Allocation 2021	Grant Recipient	Allocation 2021
1 Annacarty-Kilpatrick Burial Ground	€1,670	39 Mortlestown Burial Ground Committee, Cahir	€665
2 Ardfinnan Burial Ground Committee	€935	40 Mount Bruis Burial Ground Committee, Tipperary	€735
3 Ardmayle Burial Ground, Cashel	€935	41 Mullough Abbey Burial Ground Committee, Newcastle	€665
4 Ballinacourty Burial Ground, Tipperary	€935	42 Neddan's Graveyard, Ardfinnan	€665
5 Ballinatemple Burial Ground, Tipperary	€887	43 New Inn Graveyard Parish Committee, Cashel	€665
6 Ballybacon Burial Ground Committee	€887	44 Newcastle New Burial Ground Committee	€665
7 Ballydrennan Burial Ground, Cahir	€665	45 Newcastle Old Burial Ground Committee	€887
8 Ballysheehan Burial Ground, Cahir	€735	46 Old Church Street Cahir, Cahir	€887
9 Bansha Old Burial Ground, Tipperary	€887	47 Old Donohill Burial Ground Committee	€735
10 Blessed Sacrament Golden, Tipperary	€735	48 Outrath Burial Ground Committee, Cahir	€887
11 Cahir Abbey Burial Ground, Cahir	€735	49 Protestant Burial Ground, Ardfinnan, Clonmel	€665
12 Cahir New Burial Ground, Cahir	€935	50 Shanrahan Burial Ground Maintenance, Cahir	€1,552
13 Cahir Quaker Burial Ground Committee	€735	51 Shronnel Graveyard Committee, Tipperary	€665
14 Cappawhite Old & New Burial Grounds	€1,822	52 Solohead Burial Ground Committee, Tipperary	€887
15 Cashel Cathedral Burial Ground, Cashel	€887	53 St John the Baptist Graveyard, Cashel	€665
16 Clonbeg Church, St. Sedna's Glen of Aherlow	€665	54 St Mark's Famine Graveyard, Cashel	€665
17 Clonoulty Old & New & Clogher Burial Grounds	€2,335	55 St Mary's Church of Ireland Tipperary Town	€665
18 Cullen Graveyard Committee, Cullen	€735	56 St Senan's Burial Ground Committee, Tipperary.	€935
19 Derrygrath Burial Ground Committee, Cahir	€735	57 St. Mary's Church Dundrum, Tipperary	€665
20 Duhill / Castlegarce Community Council, Cahir	€665	58 St. Paul's Churchyard, Cahir	€735
21 Emly Old/New Burial Ground Committee, Emly	€1,600	59 Templehoe Burial Ground Committee, Tipperary.	€735
22 Garranlea Burial Ground Committee, Cashel	€665	60 The Reigh Famine Burial Ground, Cahir	€887
23 Grange New Cemetery, Grange	€935	61 Tullaghmeelan Graveyard Committee, Clonmel	€735
24 Hollyford Burial Ground Committee, Hollyford	€935	62 Tullameelan Churchyard, Newcastle, Clonmel	€665
25 Kiladriffe Burial Ground, Cahir	€735	63 Whitechurch Ballylooby, Ardfinnan, Clonmel	€735
26 Kilcommon Cemetery, Cahir	€665	64 Duhill Burial Ground Committee, Ballygarrane, Cahir	€887
27 Kilfeacle Burial Ground, Tipperary	€887	65 Dangan-Dargan Burial Ground Committee, Golden, Cashel	€735
28 Kilshane Burial Ground, Tipperary	€735	66 Rossmore Church Grounds, Clonoulty, Cashel	€665
29 Knockgraffon Burial Ground, Cahir	€735	67 St. John the Baptist Church, Clonoulty, Cashel	€665
30 Kyle Burial Ground Committee, Cahir	€665	68 Toem (Kilbeg) Burial Ground, Toem, Tipperary	€655
31 Lady's Abbey Burial Ground Committee, Ardfinnan,	€735	69 Tubrid Burial Ground Committee, Scartana, Cahir	€735
32 Lagganstown Burial Committee, Golden	€735		
33 Lattin Cemetery Committee, Lattin	€665		
34 Lattin New Burial Ground, Tipperary	€935		
35 Lena Rice Graveyard Parish Committee, Tipperary	€887		
36 Loughkent Burial Ground Committee, Cahir	€735		
37 Loughloher Burial Ground Mtce Committee, Cahir	€735		
38 Monard Church of Ireland Burial Grounds, Tipperary	€665		
		Total	€57,823

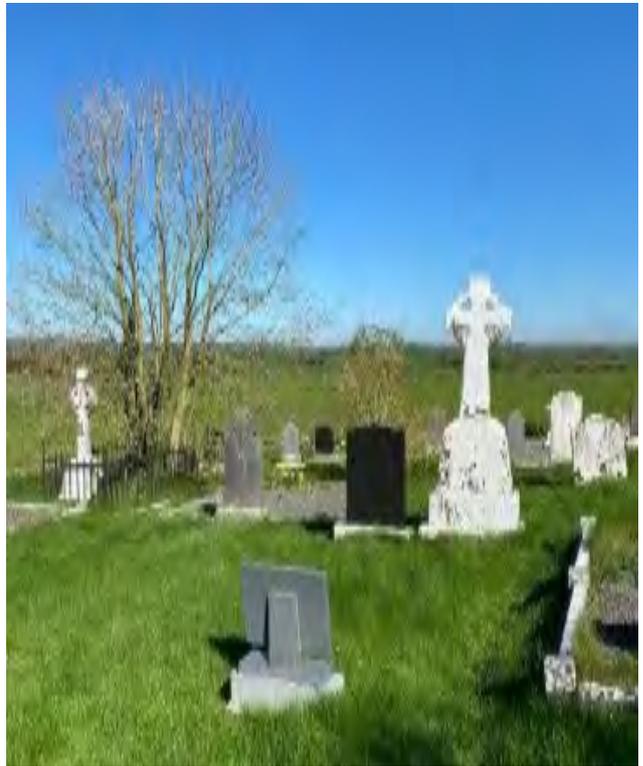


Maintenance Photos Of Burial Grounds

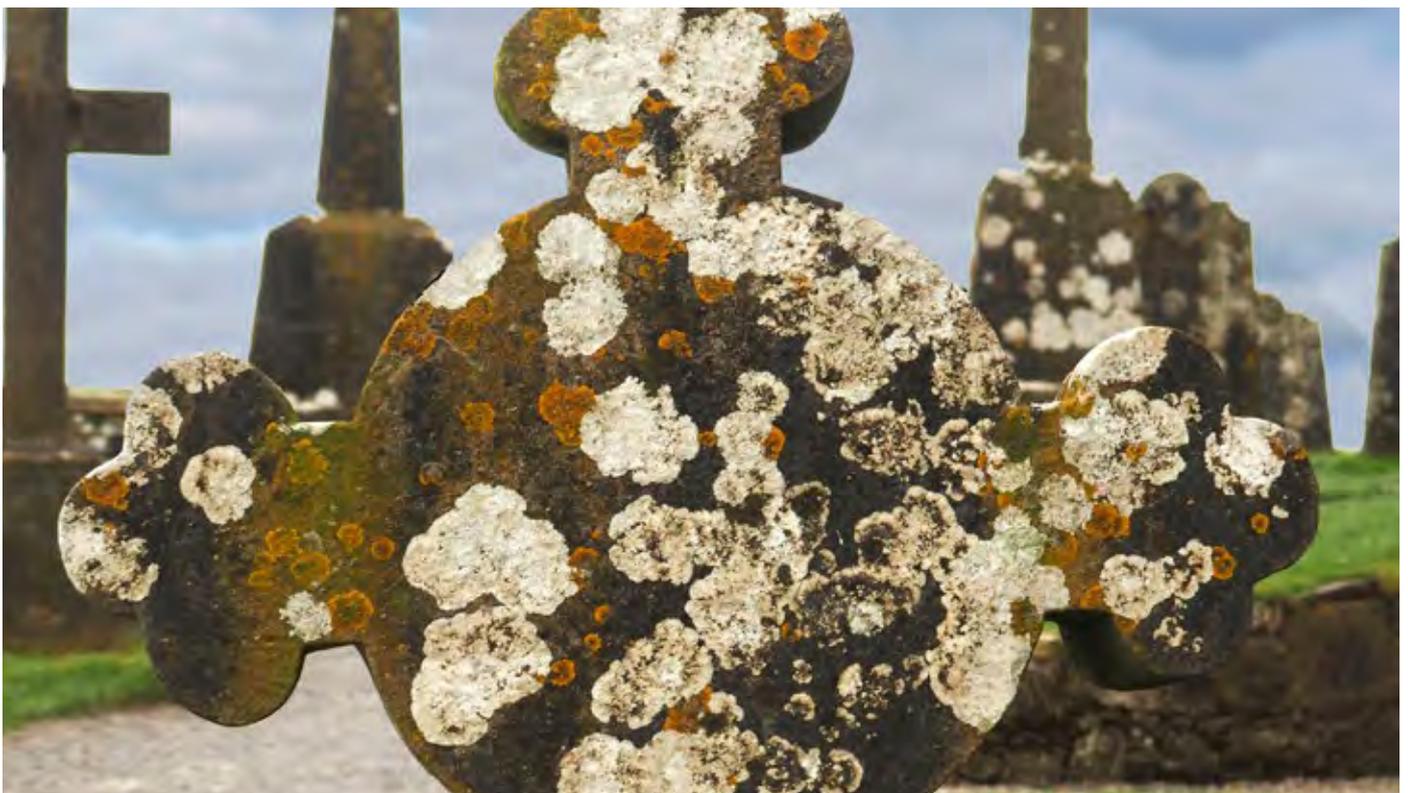
Ballydrennan Burial Ground, Cahir



Donohill Burial Ground, Tipperary



Cashel Cathedral Burial Ground, Cashel





Tipperary Festival & Events Grants Scheme 2021

Grants were approved for 30 organisations and groups across the Municipal District in 2021 under the scheme. However due to the coronavirus pandemic many of the festivals and events had to cancel while others rescheduled their events subject to restrictions or organised on-line events.

The following events and activities took place and availed of funding.

No.	Festival / Event	Grant
1	Glen of Aherlow Walking Festival	€750
2	The Ramble, Glen of Aherlow	€350
3	Cahir St. Patrick's Day Parade	€1,250
4	Donohill Festival	€572
5	Cahir Trad Fest 2021	€1,500
6	Burncourt Pumpkin Festival	€1,800
7	Suaimhneas sna Coillte – Creative Well-being Weekend, Burncourt, Cahir	€800
8	"Big Maggie" Drama Performance, Knockavilla Community Council	€700
9	Autumn Harvest Festival, Duhill Community Council, Cahir	€1,200
10	Grass Routes Gran Fondo, Cycling Club Tipperary	€1,200
11	Wellness Weekend at Ballyboy House, Clogheen	€850
12	Scare in Cahir Festival	€1,000
13	Cashel St Patrick's Parade 2021	€900
14	Summer Festival at the Castle, Cahir	€1,200
15	Tipperary Hills Wildlife Event	€1,000
16	Ardfinnan Community Centre	€1,000
17	Grange Field Evening	€1,000
18	New Inn Christmas Lights	€1,000
19	New Inn Tidy Towns Event	€1,000
20	Petticoat Loose Halloween Event, Cahir	€1,600
21	Kilfeacle Community Event	€1,500
22	Tipperary Town Halloween Event	€1,000
Sub-total		€ 23,129

No.	Festival	Grant
1	Ballyporeen Music Maker Festival	€5,000
2	Third Tipperary Brigade Festival	€4,000
3	The Rhododendron Walking Festival	€5,000
5	Cashel Arts Festival	€14,000
Sub-total		€28,000
Overall Total		€51,129



Grants were approved for 30 organisations and groups across the Municipal District in 2021 under the scheme.



Some of the festivals and events that were held in the district.

Glen of Aherlow Tipperary - Walking Festival

This festival took place on Sunday October 31st 2021 and was a joint initiative between the Glen of Aherlow Fáilte Society and the Galtee Walking Club.



Hillwalking Community Radio Group – The Ramble

This festival took place on 28th August 2021 starting at a local meeting spot known as the old Coursing Club Hall. The Ramble drew tourists from Drew's Caravan and Camping Park in the Glen of Aherlow along with a mixture of regular trail walkers, tourists and people interested in local heritage and history.

Photo from the event below



Cahir St. Patrick's Day Parade

On March 17th Cahir held a virtual St. Patrick's Day Parade. This event was broadcast on YouTube and Facebook, and promoted by Cahir Tidy Towns, and shared on the Tipperary County Council website. This event consisted of previous parades and general shots of the Cahir area, including the Castle and Swiss Cottage. A window display competition for local businesses was also organised for Mother's Day and St. Patrick's Day.

Images from Cahir's virtual St. Patrick's Day Parade



 On March 17th Cahir held a virtual St. Patrick's Day Parade. This event was broadcast on YouTube and Facebook, and promoted by Cahir Tidy Towns, and shared on the Tipperary County Council website.



Donohill & District Football Festival was held on Sunday 5th September.

Photo of event below



Cahir Development Association – Cahir Trad Festival

Cahir Trad Festival took place on Friday 17th September. This 7th annual Trad Fest marked the first seisiùn in over 600 days.

Photo from event below



Burncourt Pumpkin Festival

Burncourt Pumpkin Festival was changed due to the pandemic and the need for social distancing. Burncourt Community Council focused on “Street Art” with a scarecrow exhibition drawing contributions not only from families within the community but also from other villages.

The pupils of Burncourt National School made a huge contribution which saw a whole-school creative programme. This resulted in a significant expansion of the scarecrow exhibition in the village and also community involvement and pride in their locality among the school going population.



Burncourt Community Council - Suaimhneas sna Coillte - Creative Well-being Weekend

This one-day mini-festival hosted by Burncourt Community Council had a wide variety of activities that catered for individuals, families, nature enthusiasts, walkers, hikers, yoga and meditation practitioners.

Additionally, it was an opportunity for participants to explore their local natural beauty spots while also benefiting from well-being activities.

Photo of event below



Grass Routes Cycling Club - Grass Routes Gran Fondo

The Grass Routes Gran Fondo 2021 took place on Sunday the 19th September 2021.

The cycling event explored the numerous boreens surrounding Tipperary Town whilst also including some other cycling surfaces such as limestone, gravel and dirt passages.

Photo of event below



Cashel St. Patrick's Day Parade

On March 17th Cashel held a virtual St. Patrick's Day Parade. This event was broadcast on YouTube and showed archived parade photographs since 2005. A children's colouring competition and traditional shop window competitions were also held.

Here are some pictures used in the video presentation.



Ballyporeen Community Council - Music Maker Festival

Ballyporeen Music Maker festival took place during October & November. Due to Covid-19 this event was a blended event with live and streaming events.

Headline act in October was The 4 of Us supported by The Lost Gecko. In November the following acts performed, The Cedartowns, The Fogues, Aisling Fitzgerald, Pádraig Wallace and Bobby Gardiner & friends.

Photos below of event



The Cedartowns at the Music Maker Festival in Ballyporeen



Bobby Gardiner with family and friends performing at the Ballyporeen Music Maker Festival



Third Tipperary Brigade Old IRA Commemoration

The weekend of October 15-17 marked both the 100th annual commemoration of the death of Vice Brigadier Seán Treacy and the centenary of the foundation of the Commemoration Committee.

On Friday night the committee held a musical night in Halla na Féile, Cashel featuring Rebel Hearts and on Sunday night a power point display and lecture in Golden GAA Hall. The display featured photographs of the Committee's many monuments. The highlight of the weekend was the annual mass in Kilfeacle for all the members of the Third Brigade, Volunteers, Cumann na mBan, Fianna Éireann and their family members. It was celebrated by Very Rev. Fr. P. Coffey, PP. Among the attendance welcomed by him were Cllr. Marie Murphy, Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council and An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, T.D.

Photo of event below.



Cashel Arts Festival

The 19th Cashel Arts Festival took place from September 16th - 19th 2021. Despite the pandemic restrictions the committee continued its remit of bringing high quality artistic events to Cashel. The theme was "Reawakening" and it was explored through the prism of the arts.

Below photo of the launch on Cashel Plaza



The European Charter of Rural Communities

Cashel is a member of the European Charter of Rural Communities which is a unique twinning of 25 communities across the EU. The programmes for 2021 were suspended due to Covid-19 and are set to recommence in 2022.



Christmas Events & Initiatives

Contributions of €8,000 each were provided towards the provision of Christmas lights & voucher schemes in Tipperary, Cahir & Cashel towns.

Voucher Scheme – Cahir – Cashel & Tipperary Town



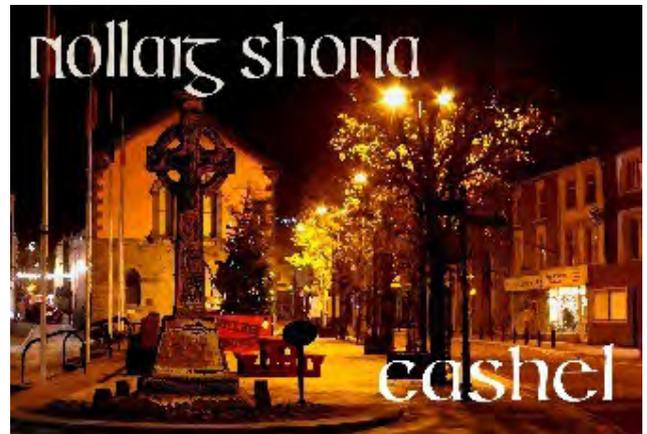


 Contributions of €8,000 each were provided towards the provision of Christmas lights & voucher schemes in Tipperary, Cahir & Cashel towns.



Photo below of Christmas Lights in the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District

Cashel Town



Cahir Town



Tipperary Town



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Town Centre Forums & Town Action Plans

The District facilitates and supports the Town Centre Forums of Cashel & Tipperary in their on-going efforts to enhance their towns, promote business opportunities and implement agreed actions.

Meetings of Cashel and Tipperary Town Centre Forums were held throughout the year and updates were received from representatives of agencies and local organisations on projects and initiatives in each of the towns. However, the activities of all organisations and community groups were significantly curtailed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Streetscape & Shop Front Enhancement Scheme 2021

The Streetscape & Shop Front Enhancement Scheme provided grant aid to assist owners or occupiers of properties situated in the primary retail areas of Tipperary, Cahir, Cashel towns to improve the streetscape through:

- Removal of inappropriate contemporary signage, fittings and general clutter and replacement with shop fascia signage, with an emphasis on hand painted signage;
- Painting and general improvements to existing shop fronts;
- Erection of planters, floral hanging baskets and other environmental improvements.

 *Tipperary Credit Union provided additional funding to support a painting scheme in Tipperary Town in cooperation with Tipperary Chamber of Commerce.*

Photo below of the launch of Tipperary Town Painting Scheme.

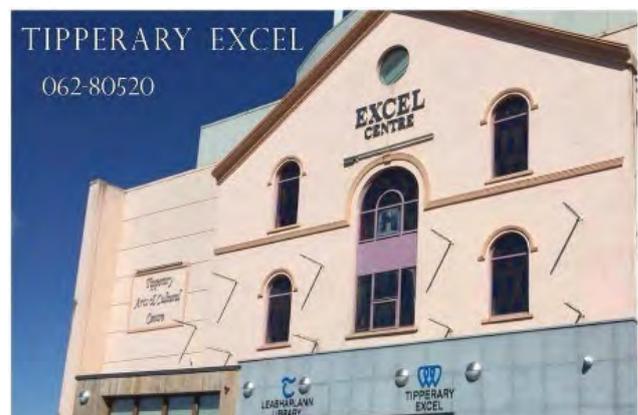


From left:- Rita Fenton, Eamon Ryan, John P. Hartnett, Chairperson Credit Union Tipperary Town, William Carroll, Anthony Coleman & Pat Shanahan, C.E.O, Credit Union, Tipperary Town.

In Tipperary town 35 applicants availed of the scheme.

Tipperary Excel Heritage, Mitchell Street, Tipperary Town

Photos of before and after works.



In Cahir 7 applicants availed of the scheme.

No. 26, Cashel Street, Cahir – Photos before and after works



In Cashel town 14 applicants availed of the scheme.

No. 37-38 Main Street, Cashel – before and after photos



Department of Rural & Community Development's Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS): Streetscape Enhancement Measure 2021

The District was allocated funding under the above scheme amounting to €94,596. Expressions of Interest were invited from premises in Cahir Town and Cashel Town for works under the Street Enhancement Measures 2021.

Casual Trading Bye- Laws

Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel adopted new Casual Trading Bye Laws in May and expressions of interest were subsequently sought from persons who wished to apply for a new casual trading licence until 31st December 2021.

Pride Month

On June 25th Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Declan Burgess raised pride flag at the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel District Office.



TOURISM AND RECREATION

Playgrounds & Amenities

The district staff maintain a number of playgrounds and multi-use games areas (MUGAs) which were important amenities for children during the pandemic.

Cahir (Duneske) community playground had major refurbishment works. The Cahir Playground Committee was approved LEADER programme funding for the project and fundraised locally. The Municipal District also supported the project with funding from the General Municipal Allocation (GMA).

A new Community Playground Committee was formed in Newcastle and the group organised refurbishment of the playground with funding of €2,533 from the Department's Capital Play and Recreation Grant Scheme 2021. The group also applied to enter into an agreement with the Council as per Tipperary Playground Policy.

Ardfinnan Community Council completed construction of a new playground with funding from the LEADER Programme, the Municipal District, and the local community.



Photo of Cahir Playground.



Newcastle Playground Committee cleaning local playground prior to re-opening



Photo Ardfinnan Playground

Canon Hayes Recreation Centre

Tipperary County Council assisted the Canon Hayes Recreation Centre to undertake a strategic and financial review of its facility which was carried out by Deloitte Ireland LLP.

They worked with the board of CHRC and other stakeholders to review operations and structures and prepare a strategic plan to enable the facility to operate in a sustainable manner in the long-term. Once the review was completed the Council assisted the board of Canon Hayes Recreation Centre to implement the report's recommendations and also provided financial support of €52,000 to the Centre to assist with various measures and actions.

A new Community Sports Hub Officer, Barry Mullane, was recruited by Tipperary Sports Partnership and he is based in the Centre.

Cathaoirleach John Crosse officially launched the new Community Sports Hub in June which received funding from Sport Ireland with the objective of increasing participation in physical activity through the provision of education and training programmes, sporting opportunities and building the capacity of the Centre.

Photo of the Community Sports Hub Launch at the Centre



From Left: - John McCahill, Chairperson, Canon Hayes Recreation Centre;

Valerie Connolly, Tipperary Sports Partnership Coordinator;

Anthony Coleman, Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District Administrator;

Cllr. John Crosse, Cathaoirleach, Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District Council;

Barry Mullane, Community Sports Hub Officer.



TOWN ACTION PLANS

Outdoor Seating & Accessories

In March Fáilte Ireland launched a funding scheme for Outdoor Seating and Accessories for Tourism and Hospitality Services which was administered by the district.

The aim of the scheme was to provide support to hospitality and tourism businesses towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity for summer of 2021.

A total of 64 eligible applications were processed and grants amounting to €186,276 were paid to businesses.

Photos below



Outdoor Infrastructure Grant funded by National Transport Authority

Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan T.D. allocated additional monies under the Outdoor Infrastructure Fund to help ensure a safe outdoor Summer.

The funding supported local authorities in enhancing outdoor urban spaces and improving walking and cycling infrastructure.

Photos below of works completed under the scheme



The Square in Cahir



Back of the Pipes, Cashel



Lady's Well, Cashel



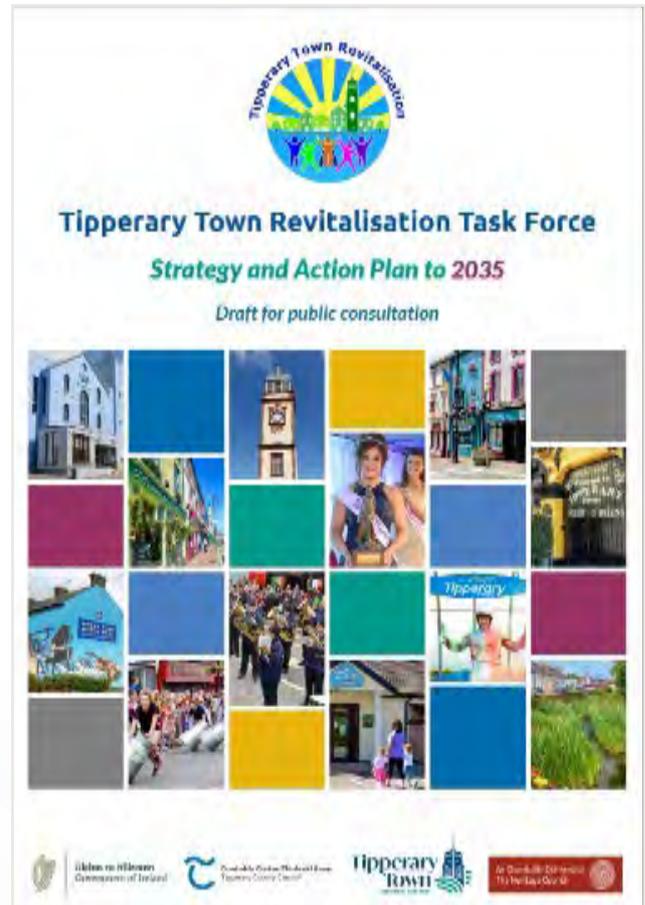
Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force

Tipperary Town Revitalisation Task Force launched its draft Strategy and Action Plan in November 2021, following 18 months of intensive community and stakeholder consultation.

The Plan outlines over 90 actions aimed at driving the socioeconomic development of Tipperary Town in the coming years, and focuses on four distinct pillars, Town Identity & Public Realm, Economic Opportunity, Natural Environment & Sustainability and Social Inclusion & Community Wellness. Numerous priority actions have been identified and outlined in the Plan.

The Task Force will work with a broad range of stakeholders to deliver the plan in the coming years and will build on the significant work that has already taken place including:

- Development of the Collaborative Town Centre Health Check (CTCHC) led by Alison Harvey of the Heritage Council. The CTCHC provides valuable data on the health of the town centre including vacancy, footfall, consumer, and business data.
- Social Inclusion, Tourism and Biodiversity Plans for the town are all at an advanced draft stage
- Funding was secured for a design project at 'The Plan' public park on the Limerick Road and Drake Hourigan Architects are undertaking this work
- Audit of all Heritage Assets in the town and environs
- Development of a high-quality video on the history of the town
- Development of a new town brand to support the promotion of Tipperary Town



Tipperary Technology Park

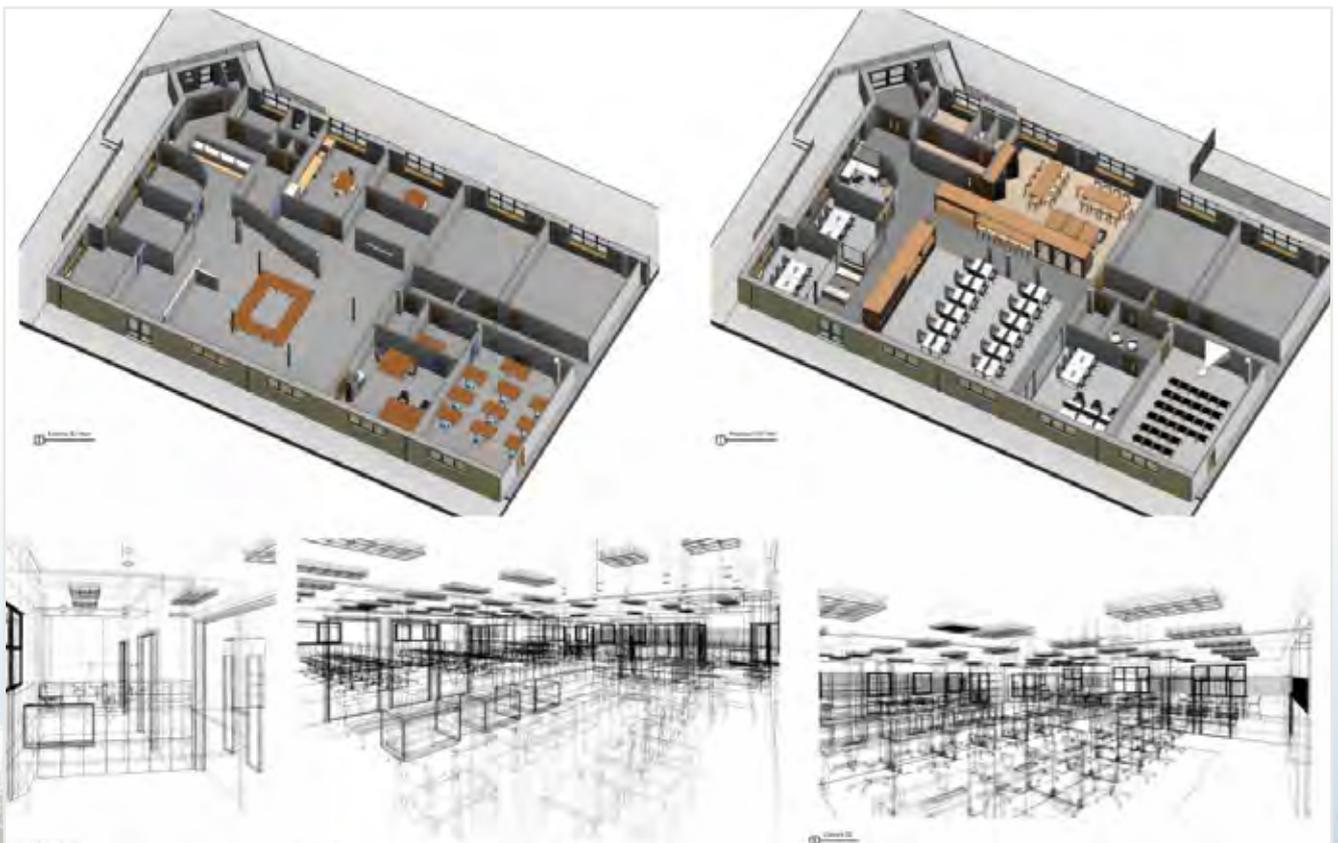
Funding was approved by Enterprise Ireland (EI) under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) for the Tipperary Innovation Engine project which will involve upgrading the existing facilities at Tipperary Technology Park.

This project funding of €500,000 from EI with match funding of €127,000 committed by Tipperary County Council is part of a regional innovation project linking with Limerick Innovation Engine to provide flexible co-working and individual office spaces.

An architect has been appointed and developed detailed designs and internal works are expected to commence in early 2022.

Recruitment of a full-time centre manager, to market the park and develop new business opportunities, is also underway.

Photomontages below of proposed works



TOWN & VILLAGE RENEWAL & RURAL REGENERATION

Cahir Town Centre Regeneration Project:

Cahir Market House Business Centre

The Deaton Lysaght Architect Design Team have developed an exciting design for the Market House building that will bring this iconic property back to its original glory. The proposed refurbished building will house a state-of-the-art business centre, incorporating hot desks and offices for rent, while the designs will restore many original façade features.



The proposed external façade of the Market House Building

Cahir Town Centre Car Park

Part 8 planning for the Cahir Town Centre Car Park was approved by the District Members in December 2021 and Tobin Consulting Engineers, who developed the preliminary plans are now nearing completion of the detailed design stage. The project will see the demolition of a derelict and dangerous structure to provide additional car parking spaces and bus parking bays in the heart of the town which will lead to greater footfall on Church Street and the Square.



This project will go forward to form part of the RRDF category 1 application for Cahir.



The proposed Cahir Town Centre Car Park

Cahir Square Public Realm Enhancement Project

Cahir Square Public Realm Enhancement Project is another major development proposed for the town which is at planning stage.

This project proposes upgrade of all approach streets to Cahir Square and the Square itself transformed into safe pedestrian friendly areas with the addition of soft landscaping and high-quality finishes. The public realm enhancements will transform the centre of Cahir by providing socio-economic, cultural and environmental benefits for residents, businesses and visitors.



A Photomontage of the Proposed Cahir Square Layout

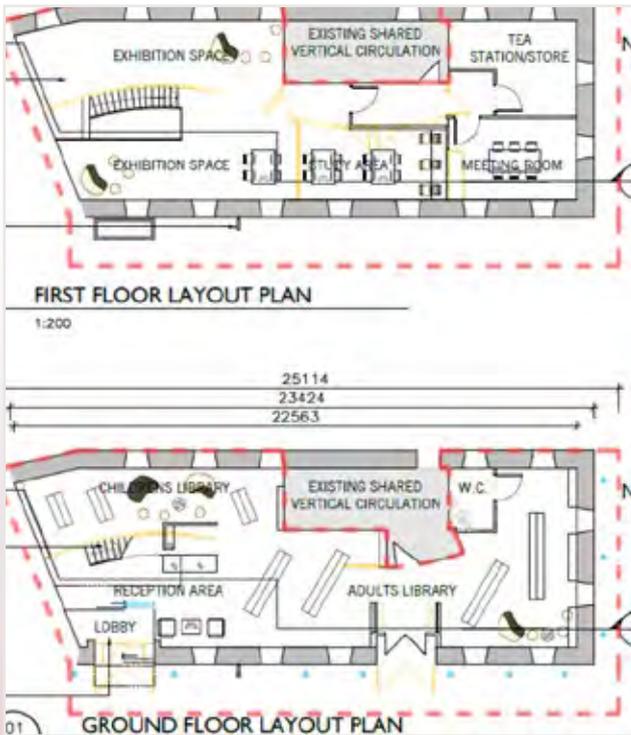
These projects are being funded through Project Ireland 2040 and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) Category 2 allocation from the Department of Rural and Community Development together with funding from Tipperary County Council.



Cahir Library at the Granary

As part of the Cahir Revitalisation Project it is proposed that Cahir Library will take up a new home on the ground and first floors of the historic Granary building on Church St.

A Part 8 planning consent was granted for the renovation works and the detailed design is being led by Healy Partners Architects. This project will form the fourth pillar of an RRDF Category 1 application.



Proposed Floor Plans for Cahir's Granary Library

Cashel Signage Strategy & Public Realm Project

The Paul Hogarth Company were appointed in 2021 to deliver a Signage Strategy and Public Realm Design for Cashel Town as part of Fáilte Ireland's Destination Towns Scheme with match funding from Tipperary County Council.

The project has recently gone through the second round of pre-planning public consultation and the design Team are currently working on the preferred design option which will proceed to a Part 8 planning process in 2022.



A photo montage that formed part of the 2nd Round of Pre-Planning Public Consultation in Cashel



Tipperary Market Yard Public Realm Project

The new Market Yard was officially opened on 3rd of November 2021 by Heather Humphreys, Minister of Justice, Social Protection, Community and Rural Development and the Islands.

Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Contractors of Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford completed the works. This project is part of the phased Town Centre Improvement Scheme for Tipperary Town which will improve connections from the Tipperary Excel Heritage Centre to the River Ara. This phase of the project has upgraded the section of Market Yard as a pedestrian friendly area.

The following improvements have been made:

- upgrading of the traffic system;
- upgrading of pavements including new kerbing and paving;
- resurfacing of road sections and the car park area;
- upgrading of the lighting system;
- installation of a new pedestrian crossing on Mitchell Street linking the Excel Heritage Centre (which incorporates Tipperary Town Library and Tourist Office) with the Market Yard and Town Centre;
- installation of street furniture and planting;
- installation of bespoke canopy structure for casual trading.



Minister Heather Humphreys officially opening the Market Yard



Market Yard Canopy



This project was funded through Project Ireland 2040 and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) from the Department of Rural and Community Development together with match funding from Tipperary County Council.



The re surfaced Market Yard Car Park

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure

The following projects were funded through ORIS (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme) from the Department of Rural and Community Development with match funding from Tipperary County Council.

River Ara Walkway Project

The River Ara Bridge Project was successfully completed in October 2021.

The bridge will provide access to the River Ara Walkway which is due to be constructed in 2022 and will provide a 1km high quality nature walkway with community amenities in the centre of Tipperary Town.



Installation of the Precast Bridge Beams

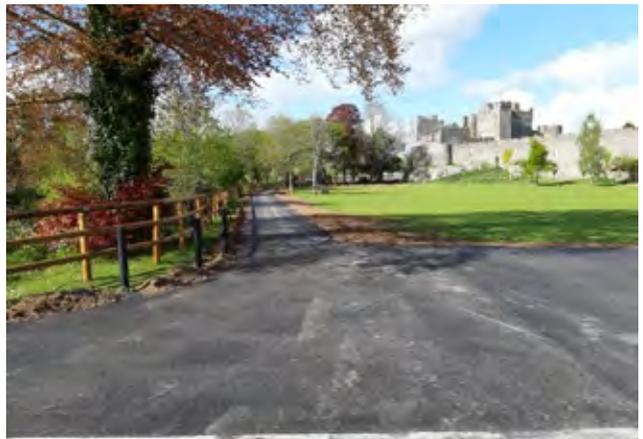


The New River Ara Pedestrian Bridge

Inch Field Cahir

Substantial upgrading works were carried out at Inch Field, Cahir in 2021 with the following improvements made:

- 500m of new fence installed along the river bank
- Sowing of wildflower seed and additional planting of hedging and lavender plants
- Construction of picnic and seating areas at various points along the walkway.
- Installation of additional topsoil and grass seeding to areas of reinstatement.
- Construction of new widened walkway and jetty access route including elevation of entire surface to eliminate areas of flooding along the walkway and access route. This new surface now provides a fully accessible walkway throughout Inch Field.



Photos of the improvements to Inch Field, Cahir



Bothar na Marbh, Cashel

This project has revitalised and made fully accessible the Bothar na Marbh walkway in Cashel. This medieval walkway links the Camas Road to the Rock of Cashel and is a popular walking route for locals and tourists alike. The 1m wide gravel pathway has been upgraded to a 2m wide asphalt walkway that is fully accessible for all. A white decorative limestone was installed at each side of the walkway and this really highlights the medieval stone wall.



The completed walkway at Bothar na Marbh Cashel

Viaduct Walkway, Cahir

Works were completed at the Cahir Viaduct Walkway in July 2021. The project involved upgrading the surface including raising the elevation of the walkway to eliminate flooding issues. Surfacing works to the path adjacent to St Paul's Church which connects Church Street to the Viaduct Walkway were also completed as part of this project. The walkway was widened to 2.5m throughout with reinstatement, top soiling and seeding works completed. Two park benches were also installed as part of this project.



Mass Path, Tipperary Town

Upgrading works to the Mass Path in Tipperary Town were completed by Tipperary County Council and its sub-contractors in June 2021 which has improved connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists within Tipperary Town creating a safer route that was previously underutilised due to its limited accessibility and safety concerns. It offers better linkage between residential and commercial areas of town resulting in greater footfall for local businesses and improved connectivity to the Tipperary Hills recreation area.



The completed works at The Mass Path



The completed Viaduct Walkway in Cahir

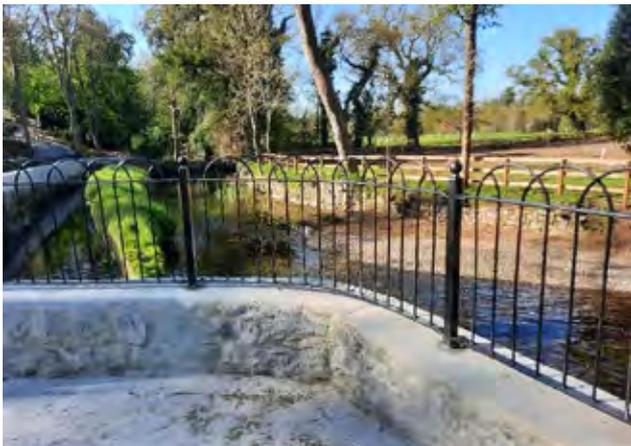


Swiss Walk in Cahir

Substantial upgrading works to the Swiss Walkway were completed by Tipperary County Council and its sub-contractors.

The works have delivered the following improvements to the popular Suir Blueway route:

- Installation of 100 meters of railing on restored stone wall
- Widening and surfacing works on the walkway from Cahir Castle to the Swiss Cottage.
- Planting and installation of hedging
- Split branch railing
- Drainage works, widening and strengthening of the walkway south of the Swiss Cottage
- Installation of picnic areas and seating areas



Newly restored stone wall and new bow top railing that was installed as part of the works



The finished Swiss Walkway in Cahir



Bridge Works

Clonbeg Bridge, Aherlow

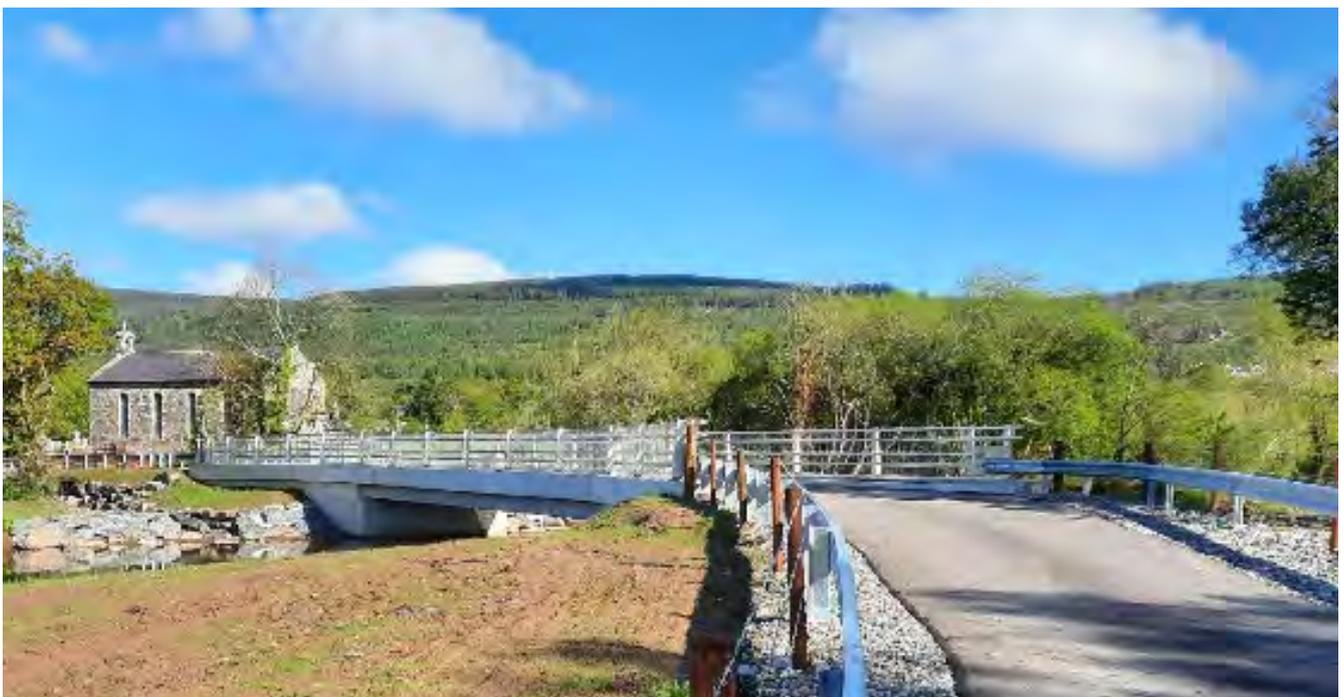
Clonbeg Bridge was opened to traffic again in April 2021 after a 6-month construction phase which saw the old 3-bay, steel beam and timber deck bridge removed and a 17m clear span concrete bridge installed. The new bridge abutments were cast in situ within purpose-built cofferdams that allowed the contractor work almost 2m below the level of the river bed. 18.3m long precast bridge beams were hoisted into position using a 300T crane to form the soffit of the bridge deck and an in-situ deck was poured subsequently using a concrete pump. The new bridge deck is constructed 1.8m higher than the old bridge deck and the approach roads are raised to suit which has eliminated the issue of flooding on the approach roads, at the bridge and around Clonbeg Church and graveyard. In consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland the river banks both upstream and downstream of the bridge were re-aligned with the widened bridge span, fallen trees and vegetation removed to further reduce the effects of flood events on the surrounding properties and lands. Installation of rock armour, fencing, crash barriers and the bridge parapets along with the road surfacing works and top soiling have all helped to enhance the appearance of the structure and the backdrop of Clonbeg Church.



Installation of the Precast Bridge Beams



The approach road to the new Clonbeg Bridge



The completed bridge with Clonbeg Church in the background

Tipperary Town Courthouse

MMT Builders began re-roofing works on the historic Tipperary Town Courthouse Building in November of 2021.



The project will see the removal of all the original slates from the building, repair to the structure of the roof as required, cleaning of all debris from the internal areas, installation of a breathable membrane to allow for air flow through the roof space which will eliminate dry rot issues in the future and re installation of the original slates. The project is programmed to be finished by March 2022.

This project is being funded by Tipperary County Council together with funding from the Historic Structures Fund.



Works progressing at the old Tipperary Town Courthouse

Town & Village Renewal Works

Clogheen

Installation of new public area with printed concrete, seating and bicycle parking. Upgrade of existing footpaths, road realignment and installation of new junction layout.



Burncourt, Cahir

Installation of public space with printed concrete, new road resurfacing and road markings.



Mount Carmel, Ardfinnan

Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District carried out the following works – new footpaths, pedestrian crossing and road resurfaced.



Lowergate Cashel

Enhancement works and upgrade works at Lowergate, Cashel



Australian Ambassador's visit

The Australian Ambassador Gary Gray visited Tipperary town for a number of engagements including a courtesy call to the Tipperary Town Civic Offices where he was greeted by the Cathaoirleach of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District, Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, fellow councillors and officials. Ambassador Gray spoke about the many historic connections between Tipperary and Australia and also current day links with many Irish people working and living in Australia. The Ambassador was presented with a book 'Tipperary People of Great Note', published by Martin Quinn, which details several people from Tipperary who emigrated to Australia and made their names there. Afterwards he visited Tipperary Bridewell Gaol where John "Red" Kelly, father of Ned Kelly was held before being transported to Tasmania.



From left: Michael Begley, Tipperary Town Revitalisation Manager; Pat Slattery, Director of Services; Anthony Coleman, District Administrator; Australian Ambassador Gary Gray; Cllrs John Crosse, Mary Hanna Hourigan and Michael Fitzgerald; and Martin Quinn, Secretary of Tipperary Peace Convention.



Farewells & Retirements

Retirements

- George Tate, General Services Supervisor
- Frank Griffiths, Clerks of Works
- Jerry Cahill, Technician
- Paddy Clarke, Plumber
- Christy Dunne, Staff Officer



Alice Holmes, Michael Ryan, Barry Morrissey, Jimmy Hickey, George Tate, Franny Quinn, Ger Ryan Ban, Johnny Barry, Paddy Nolan & Frank McCarthy



Frank Griffiths



Back row from left:- Pat Fitzell, William Kilmartin, Paul Farrell, Barry Morrissey, Mairead Bradshaw, Middle row from left:- Camille Donovan, Alice Holmes, Mary Lynch, Frank Griffiths, Sharon Kenny, Mairead Moloney, Christy Dunne, Tom Meagher, Catherine O'Connor & Mary O'Connor Front row from left:- Jerry Cahill, Anthony Coleman, Mairead Ryan & Marie Lynch.



From Left:- Paddy Clarke & Francis Fitzgerald.



Back row:- from left; Peter Cleary, Mairead Bradshaw, Sharon Kenny, Deirdre Flannery. Front row:- from left; Clara Fitzell, Alice Holmes, Christy Dunne, Tom Meagher, Rosarie Hickey, Mary O Sullivan, Carmel Hanrahan & Janette Blake.



Farewells

- Barry Morrissey, Executive Technician
- Paddy Crowley, District Engineer
- Michael Scully, Executive Engineer
- Martina Ferncombe, Assistant Staff Officer
- Mairead Ryan, Staff Officer



From Left:- Anthony Coleman, David Whelan, Alice Holmes, Robert Johnston, William Kilmartin, Frank Griffith, Barry Morrissey, Francis Fitzgerald, George Tate, Philip O'Dwyer, Christy Dunne, Mairead Moloney, Bernie O'Brien, Camille Donovan, Mairead Bradshaw & Frank Cussen.



From Left:- Back Row:- Frank Cussen, Mairead Moloney, Alice Holmes, Camille Donovan, Bill Kilmartin, Mairead Ryan, Mairead Bradshaw, Liz Stapleton, Tom Meagher. Front Row:- from Left:- Michael Sully, Paddy Crowley, Mary Corcoran, Mary Lynch & Anthony Coleman.



Back Row:- From left:- Francis Fitzgerald, Tom Meagher, Mairead Bradshaw & Frank Cussen. Middle Row:- from left: Mairead Moloney, Clara Fitzell, Camille Donovan, Alice Holmes, Marie Lynch, Sharon Kenny, Liz Stapleton & Mary Corcoran. Front Row:- from left: Anthony Coleman & Mairead Ryan.

The District adapted during the Covid-19 Pandemic

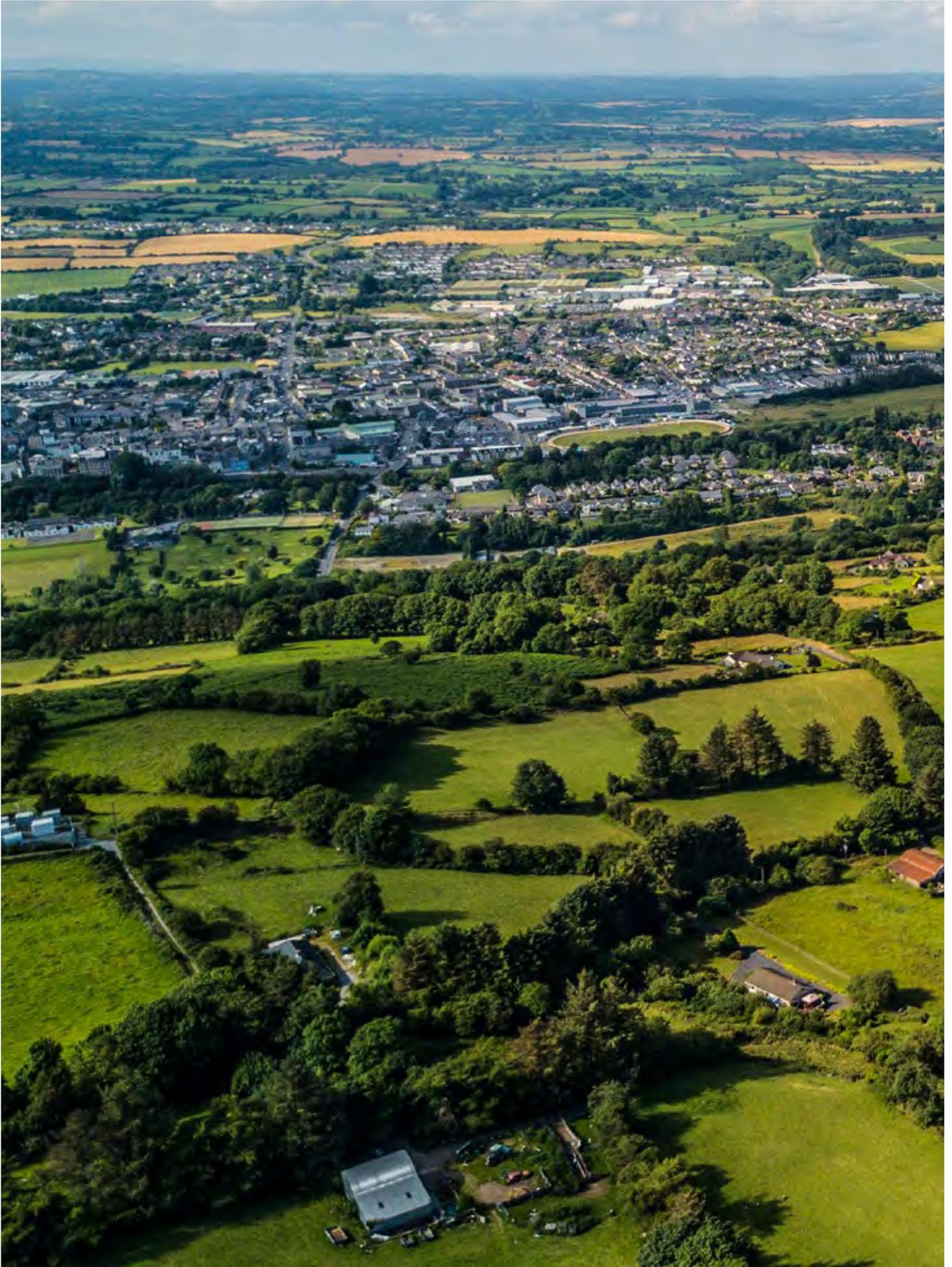
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District meetings were held on zoom due to pandemic restrictions. Members of the public were encouraged to access services and payments on-line and over the phone. Municipal District staff were encouraged to work from home in order to maintain social distancing and to protect staff and their families.



Photo of contract signing for Market Yard Upgrade on-line via zoom.







CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT



Councillor Michael Murphy was elected Mayor and Councillor John Fitzgerald was elected Deputy Mayor of the District for 2021/2022.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to make huge challenges to the local authority in carrying out its functions. Despite this a significant contribution continued to be made by Clonmel Borough District to the social, economic and cultural life at local level, through support for a variety of groups, organisations and events in 2021 including alternative options such as online events.



Festivals & Events



(Rainbow bench sponsored by Boston Scientific installed by Clonmel Borough District at the Quay, Clonmel.

A number of the applicants who applied under the Tipperary Festival & Event Grant successfully were able to hold something for their event in 2021 despite many restrictions still in place. Determined not to let this beat them, they improvised and changed dates which meant they managed to safely have the long-awaited audiences to their events. Some of the main events that were run in 2021 included the Junction Festival (Geodome's first appearance in Clonmel), Busking Festival, Applefest, Stagecraft, Finding a Voice, Tipperary Pride (First time running a festival weekend) and Clonmel Triathlon events. Clonmel was also successful in securing Department funding, thanks to the Art Section of the Council. Under this "Faoin Speir" project, work on phase 1 of the project commenced last August with an artistic mural in Parnell St, followed by the very successful outdoor musical event "The Hunchback of Notre Dame". Plans to have PRISM as part of this project were put back, due to bad weather, until the new year. Prism is a multi-dimensional artistic experience and is crafted by artists of different creative hues combining their skills to realise a shared vision. All other District-run gatherings were cancelled due to the restrictions including St. Patrick's Day Parade, Halloween Zombie Walk and the Christmas Santa Parade. Decorating the town during these festive times brought some spirit to those who visited Clonmel.



(Applefest 2021)

 ***Some of the main events that were run in 2021 included the Junction Festival (Geodome's first appearance in Clonmel), Busking Festival, Applefest, Stagecraft, Finding a Voice, Tipperary Pride***

St Patrick's Day Parade



Clonmel Borough District St Patricks Day parade was postponed once again this year due to the pandemic but that did not stop the town coming to life with decorated windows, green lit buildings, Irish bunting hanging throughout the streets of Clonmel and family activities arranged at local landmarks around the town.

 *Festival favourites included rock band Royseven, Pat Kinevane, Jerry Fish, Mick Flannery with Ruairi de Leaster, Eve O Mahoney and Down the Rabbit Hole Theatre Co.*

Clonmel Junction Festival 2019



(Livestreaming music from the Junction Dome)

The 20th anniversary festival took place from July 3rd – 12th. The festival had been programmed around the new festival Dome, its first appearance in Clonmel, but to the dismay of organisers, the planned re-opening of cultural events did not go ahead as scheduled. This meant that all events were operated under live stream only for 2021. Festival favourites included rock band Royseven, Pat Kinevane, Jerry Fish, Mick Flannery with Ruairi de Leaster, Eve O Mahoney and Down the Rabbit Hole Theatre Co. The Festival continued its exploration of Clonmel stories with "Collins Hall", a devised musical which saw director Jack Reardon working with musician James O Donovan on a play with music where 2 actors and 5 musicians recreated the Clonmel of the late 1950s, set to the music of iconic Clonmel-man Mick Delahunty. "People" an audio play that took audiences on a walk into the heart of Clonmel where memories of the town merged with the poetry and the soundtrack in a moving and thought provoking piece. Written by Chloe Barry, Aoife Delaney Reid, Aoibheann de Souza and acclaimed Australian Theatre Company, People brought a different side of Clonmel to life accompanied by audio and soundtrack.



Clonmel Busking Festival



(Live music playing during Clonmel Busking Festival 2021)

Over the 3 nights of the Busking Festival, which was held at the end of August this year, the social scene in Clonmel came alive with the sound of music. Some of the headline musicians who opened the Festival included John Spillane, Rattle the Boards (Des Dillon & Kate McDonald), Foul Play & Dom O Driscoll. Outdoor events took place on the Saturday night with Truly Devine, Devils Cadillac, Mojod, Vincent Vaughan, Donnie O Sullivan and Mad Patsy. The Family Fun Activity day this year took place along the Suir Blueway, with various musicians performing along the selected spots where walkers and cyclists gathered to enjoy the atmosphere. All events were run under the Covid Government guidelines and despite many restrictions, the festival weekend was still a roaring success. The Clonmel Busking Festival has become a tradition for many in its own right, which in turn reinforces the identity of the town, so the public were delighted the event returned and was fortunate to be able to operate this year. It provides a sense of belonging for its community and is inclusive of people from all walks of life.

Halloween Festival Clonmel



(L-R Mr. Jim Dillon, District Administrator, Cllr. Michael Murphy Mayor of Clonmel, Ms. Carol Creighton, Senior Staff Officer, Mr. Colin Everitt, Events Co-ordinator.)

A mixture of socially distanced events meant that families could still participate and have fun. As part of their 5km walk, the trail, as well as online events, allowed something to happen for everyone on Halloween Weekend. The town centre mapped trail and the spooky makeover in shop windows made the town an exciting place for families over the weekend.

Clonmel Borough District worked with Westgate Creative to bring together a wonderful series of events around the town. Spook trails with help from Presentation Secondary School Clonmel, drive in movies including *The Witches* (2020) and *Hocus Pocus* which were the great halloween Classic for the kids and the popular green screen photo booth was also set up for family spooky portraits. Clonmel Borough worked with other groups including Clonmel library, South Tipperary Arts Centre, Uproar Rock Chorus and the Museum.

 **Clonmel Borough District worked with Westgate Creative to bring together a wonderful series of events around the town.**

Spring/Summer Festival 2021

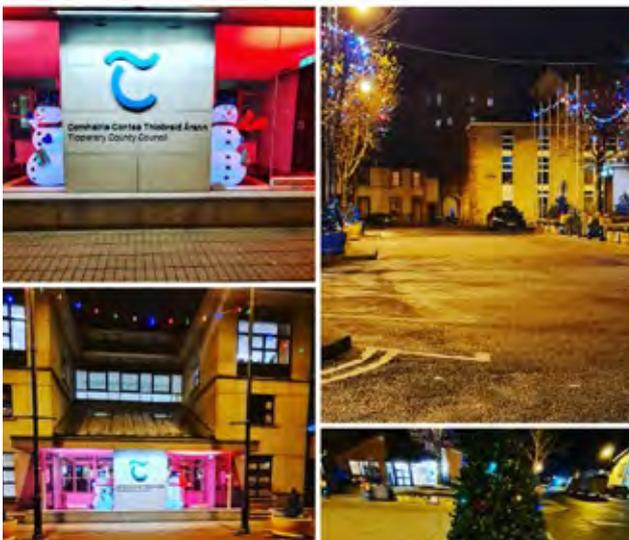


Along with the lighting up of buildings and decorations for St Patricks Day, a Spring/Summer theme was created to brighten up the town for the reopening of businesses in May and June. The artist benches were jazzed up by local artists on each of the main streets, bright umbrellas were hung in Mitchell street which proved to be a great talking point in the town for the summer and huge effort from Borough staff went into assisting businesses, particularly restaurants and pubs to the introduction of outdoor dining in 2021. Grants were made available to businesses willing to provide tables, chairs and overhead weatherproofing outside their businesses for the summer of 2021. Applications were made to the Department to avail of funds to re-pave and brighten up laneways that were suitable to cater for outdoor dining. Additional applications to Failte Ireland for larger outdoor performance spaces and outdoor dining areas were submitted and construction for these projects will go ahead in 2022 to enhance outdoor areas for the public.



(Faoin Speir Mural "Thread Softly" by Jonathan Lynn. Tipperary County Council supporting the Arts.)

Christmas In Clonmel 2021



(Staff of Clonmel Borough District getting in to the festive spirit)

Clonmel Borough District teamed up with Westgate Creative to bring creativity, imagination and a little bit of theatrical magic to the town centre at the end of a challenging 2021. In a safe environment, the team worked with local artists and the creative community to re-imagine seasonal events and bring some much-needed Christmas cheer. Creative illuminations on the town's main streets, icicle-wrapped trees, decorative shop windows and beautifully created "artists benches" as well as a series of beautifully-lit installations in Clonmel shops enhanced the entire town.

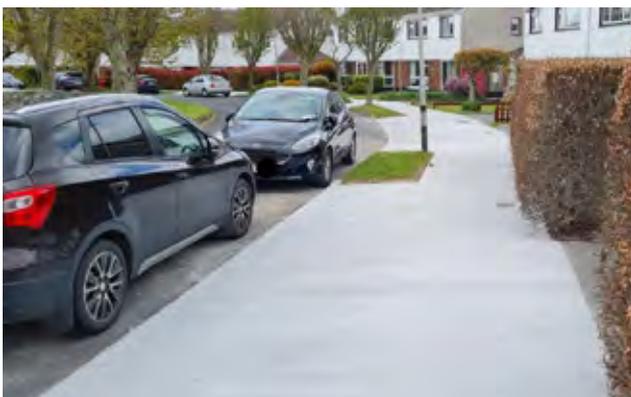
The Festive Trail, The Bumper Win Wednesday Draw, The Seasonal Window Displays and the free family portraits taken in front of the green screen also proved a great hit throughout the festive period. Santa Claus made his traditional visit to Clonmel on Sunday 29th November to turn on the town lights, but unfortunately, it was minus the big Clonmel gathering to welcome him, however, we got the visit recorded and broadcasted live to everyone on social media that night.





SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS

In March 2021 the Members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Clonmel Borough District.



Schedule of the main programmes affecting the Clonmel Borough District in relation to road and infrastructure during 2021 were:

- Surface dressing works were carried out at Marlfield, Barne to Rathkeevin, Rathkeevin to Chancellorstown, Giantsgrave to Rathnasliffen, Red City Fethard, Sladdagh to Drumdeel, Rathduff Upper to Giantsgrave, Miltownbritton to Thorny Bridge and Tempel-etney to Ballyboe.
- Road strengthening works on public roads were carried out at Lavally Upper to Poulmucka, Lavally Upper to Darcy's Cross, Mylerstown (North & South Sections), Graigue to Temple-etney, Marlfield and Balypatrick to Kilcash.
- Road patching, drainage and other maintenance of regional and local roads were carried out around the District
- Road resurfacing works were carried out at Marlfield (Moore's Road), Willow Park, Mylerstown Court, Árd na Gréine, Glenconnor Junction, and Springfield Estate.
- Traffic Management Works were carried out at various locations around the District.
- Footpath repairs were carried out at Willow Park, Wheatfields, Airhill, Prior Park Green, Cherrymount, Redmondstown, Rathronan Cross, Anglesea Street, Cantwell Street, William Street, Cashel Road, Rink Place and Cahir Road.
- Maintenance of LA housing units, based on Councils responsibility, priority and available budget.
- Voids/Pre-letting repairs, as required and based on budget allocation from centre. Based on necessary works to return a house to a habitable condition subject to available budget.
- Carried out street cleaning, litter management.
- Maintenance of St Patrick's Cemetery burial grounds.
- Management of parks and Open Spaces and Suir Blueway maintenance.



Tipperary Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2021



(Junction Festival Dome erected in Clonmel during festival)

Funding was allocated under the 2021 Tipperary Festivals and Events Grant Scheme in the Clonmel Borough District and it included groups in the categories below:

Premier Category:	
Clonmel Junction Festival;	€30,000
Municipal Category:	
Clonmel Busking Festival	€6,000
Clonmel Applefest	€10,000
Finding A Voice	€3,000
Lockdown- Stagecraft	€3,300

Tidy Towns



The National Tidy Towns Competition 2021 went ahead this year following the cancellation of same last year due to covid19 restrictions.

Tidy Town Entrants from the District were given continued financial support in order to continue with funding projects throughout the year. These groups included Kilsheelan, Clonmel, Kilcash, Marlfield, Rosegreen, Killusty and Clerihan.

The District acknowledges that the groups demonstrated commitment, pride and huge effort throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. The news of both Kilsheelan Tidy Towns and Clonmel Tidy Towns receiving their well-earned gold medals in the competition. It was a testament to the work that was put in over the year.



Playgrounds

It was acknowledged by Government the importance of the playgrounds in communities, and with parents and guardians adhering to social distancing and other measures such as hand sanitizing, this allowed the playgrounds to remain opened during 2021. The Clonmel Borough District carry out weekly inspections of all playgrounds in the District to ensure the health and safety of the users. Any defects that are observed are acted on and maintenance is carried out.



(Eric Ryan and his team carrying out a clean up in the Elm Park area of Clonmel, engaging with the local community and stakeholders).

Amenity/Burial Ground Grants

Other funding provided to organisations and voluntary groups include amenity grants totaling €10,730 allocated to 29 applicants and €12,600 allocated to 18 burial grounds.

Tidy Town Grants

No.	Name of Committee	Grant Awarded
1	Clonmel Tidy Town	€1,500
2	Kilsheelan Tidy Town	€4,000
3	Marlfield Tidy Town	€1,500
4	Rosegreen Tidy Towns	€1,500
5	Kilcash Tidy Towns	€2,000
6	Killusty Tidy Towns	€1,000
7	Clerihan Tidy Towns	€500
Total Grants Awarded		€12,000

Burial Ground Grants



Burial Ground Committee 2019	Grant Awarded
Baptistgrange BG Committee	€700
Rathronan BG Committee	€700
Old Clerihan Graveyard BG Committee	€700
Donoughmore BG Committee	€700
Burntchurch BG Committee	€700
Clerihan New BG Committee	€700
Killaloan BG Committee	€700
Marlfield BG Committee	€700
New Chapel BG Committee	€700
Old Kilsheelan BG Committee	€700
Rosegreen BG Committee	€700
St Mary's Churchyard BG Committee	€700
Templetney BG Committee	€700
Old Powerstown BG Committee	€700
Lisronagh Old BG Committee	€700
St. Nicholas Church & BG Committee	€700
Shanavine BG Committee	€700
St Stephens Graveyard Committee	€700
Total Grants Awarded	€12,600





Amenity Grants

Residents Association	Amount to Pay
Ard Caoin Residents Association	€ 370.00
Auburn Estates Residents Association	€ 370.00
Barr An Aird Estate	€ 370.00
Beechwood Close Residents Association	€ 370.00
Beechwood Drive Residents Association	€ 370.00
Brookway Residents Association	€ 370.00
Cloughcarrigeen Residents Association	€370.00
Cois Coille, Kilmash	€370.00
Coleville Avenue Residents Association	€370.00
Crann Ard, Glencarra, Gracefield Residents Association	€370.00
Fán Aoibhinn & Droimeala Residents Association	€370.00
Garden Grove Residents Association	€370.00
Gort na Manach Residents Association	€370.00
Gort na Smol Residents Association	€370.00
Highfield Grove Residents Association	€370.00
Honeyview Estate Residents Association	€370.00
Inis na Managh	€370.00
Ivowen Residents Association	€370.00
Killusty Tidy Village	€370.00
Knockaun Court Residents Association	€370.00
Marlfield Village Residents Association	€370.00
Moylebrook Residents Association	€370.00
Old Bridge Community Association	€370.00
Redwood Gardens Residents Association	€370.00
Rosegreen Development Association	€370.00
Springfields Residents Association	€370.00
The Paddocks Residents Association	€370.00
Tivoli Heights Residents Association	€370.00
Wilderness Grove & Carrigeen Residents Association	€370.00
Total Grant Awarded	€10,730.00

“Flights Of Discovery”

The Clonmel 'Flights of Discovery' tourism feasibility report (incorporating Dowd's Lane, Suir Island, County Museum and West Gate) proposes the development of new tourism experiences for the town.

Discussions continue with Bulmers/C&C Group regarding the redevelopment of their former manufacturing site at Dowd's Lane as a tourist attraction. This will involve the establishment of a separate Designated Activity Company (DAC) to assist in delivery of this project.

The Suir Island Masterplan promotes the development of Suir Island as a recreational amenity; a robust, sustainable and appropriate form of development for this key public asset and resource. The Borough District has appointed a design team for the Suir Island Infrastructure Links project to develop the design for the pedestrian bridges to the Island and their connections to the Suir Blueway. Three options for the bridges were put on public display and submissions invited. Based on the submissions received a final design for the bridges is now being finalized for submission to An Bord Pleanála. In addition, a Design Team was appointed to the Suir Island House Gardens project. The design of the gardens is almost complete and will go to a Part 8 process in early 2022.

Likewise, the Borough District office continues to examine how to progress proposals for the West Gate, however, there is currently no funding available for this project.



Kickham Barracks Phase I & Clonmel Regional Sports Hub Projects



Under the Government's Project Ireland 2040 Plan, funds for rural development, urban regeneration, climate action and innovation are being allocated competitively to the best projects, which leverage investment from other sources thereby ensuring that the impact of the investment goes further.

In 2018, Tipperary County Council submitted an application to the Government's Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) titled 'Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration' in partnership with a number of other agencies and organisations.

The Council secured approval with a provisional funding allocation of over €10 million for 2 projects in Clonmel – (phase 1 of Kickham Barracks which includes the civic plaza and public realm area of the site as well as the Davis Road car park; and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub).

Contracts were signed for both of these projects in Q2 of 2021 and construction is now well underway. Both projects have a construction timeframe of 12 months approximately, meaning that they will both be complete by the end of Q3 2022.

Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) has the project management role for the Clonmel Regional Sports Hub development as the site is currently in their ownership.

Construction of the Davis Road car park element of Kickham Barracks Phase 1 was completed in 2020 and this carpark is now in operation.

Project Ireland 2040 Funds - Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF) - 2nd Call

The Borough District submitted a €75m application to the 2nd Call under the terms of the URDF in May 2020.

The application, "Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration", comprises three intrinsically linked and integrated development pillars:

- Kickham Barracks Regeneration (Phase 2);
- "Clonmel Flights of Discovery" tourism;
- Public Realm Enhancement.

"Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration"

is an ambitious application of considerable scale that is seeking to transform and change Clonmel's town centre into a re-imagined, dynamic and energetic one for the 21st century; to re-activate centrally located brownfield sites and assets into new civic, cultural, education, recreational and tourism uses that work together to create a new role for the town; and to enhance the quality, attractiveness and liveability of the town resulting in increased critical mass and economic activity.

However, this application was unsuccessful and we are awaiting a further call for applications, which is expected in Q2 of 2022 to enable us to re-apply for funding.



Suir Blueway



(Clearing of debris on the Blueway after flooding subsides.)

The Blueway is a very important natural amenity in Clonmel and surrounding areas, it hosts a number of benefits to the user such as health, wellbeing, fitness and social interaction, the numbers using the Blueway has continued to increase in the last year. Bank stabilisation work was carried out east of Sr. Thomas bridge. The design to connect the Suir Blueway from the Gas House Bridge to Suir Island and to the existing Blueway trail at Green lane is ongoing.

Kickham Barracks Masterplan

As already outlined above, funding has been allocated under the URDF for Phase 1 of Kickham Barracks. The Council is continuing to engage with TUS and Tipperary ETB to explore funding options and progress the next phases of the Masterplan for Kickham Barracks. Regarding the site for the new Garda Station, the Council continues to liaise with the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Department of Justice and Equality. The OPW was going through the statutory Part 9 planning process for the new Garda Station at the end of 2020. The building will then be developed under a PPP arrangement by the OPW.

Columbarium



(Mr. Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment, Ms. Marie O'Donnell, Staff Officer, CBD, Cllr. Siobhán Ambrose, CBD, Mr. Jim Dillon, Administrative Officer, CBD.)

A first for Clonmel, the new Columbarium in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Clonmel was installed by the Environment Section, Tipperary County Council and will be maintained going forward by Mr. Eoin Powell, District Engineer, Mr. Robbie Hogan, Town Foreman and his team in the Clonmel Borough District. The Columbarium offers choice to members of the public and an alternative for burials.

OPW - Flood Defense Scheme

The Clonmel Flood Defense Scheme is monitored and maintained by Clonmel Borough District. The scheme is 100% funded by the Office of Public Works. Continuous monitoring by the Engineers in the District including Mr. Hugh Houlihan, Clerk of Works and his team provides a safeguard against flooding in vulnerable areas. The prior warning of flood events and the indication of the severity will be of vital benefit to inform the local authority staff, its Emergency response partners and the general public in affected areas to take appropriate action to prepare for flood events.



(Flood barriers are installed during flooding season and is a specialized operation. The barriers are left in place until the threat of flooding subsides.)

NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Cathaoirleach Michael O'Meara

CATHAOIRLEACH

The Annual Meeting of Nenagh Municipal District was held on 17th June 2021. Councillor Michael O'Meara was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Ger Darcy was elected Leas Chathaoirleach.



Schedule of Municipal District Works

In March 2021 the Members agreed the Schedule of Municipal District Works for the Nenagh Municipal District. This provided for a total expenditure of over €10.4 million on housing maintenance, roads, drainage, amenity areas, street cleaning and burial grounds.

Under the Roadworks Programme the following works were undertaken:

- 43km were improved under the Restoration Improvement Programme
- 48km were surface dressed under the Restoration Maintenance Programme
- 5.8km was improved under the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)
- A major programme of works was carried out involving bridge repairs, drainage improvements, pedestrian crossings, new footpaths and new HRA road surfacing
- A new road overlay was completed for over 2km on the R493 between Coolbawn & Ballinderry.



Wetmix works in Grenanstown, Toomevara



Footpath improvement works at Newport

John's Lane Car Park

Upgrade works were completed in John's Lane Car Park, Nenagh. These works included resurfacing, line markings, kerbing & paving, installation of electric vehicle charging stations, landscaping and upgrading of public lighting.



Entrance to John's Lane car park during works



Entrance feature at John's Lane car park after works

A further feature in John's Lane Car Park was the designation of two spaces as 'Age Friendly' spaces. Users of the Car Park are requested to keep these spaces free for those who are less mobile. The spaces are strategically chosen in proximity to the primary retail area in the town centre.



Age Friendly Parking Space at John's Lane Car Park

 *A further feature in John's Lane Car Park was the designation of two spaces as 'Age Friendly' spaces.*



Banba Square

Public realm works were completed at Banba Square, Nenagh under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme. This included the installation of Kilkenny Limestone paving at the front and side of Nenagh Arts Centre to improve linkage with Nenagh Castle. A smart bench was also installed and overhead utility wires at the rear of the Arts Centre were undergrounded.



Paving at Banba Square

Accessibility was improved with the installation of steps and a ramp at the front of Nenagh Arts Centre to facilitate the re-opening of the former entrance to the Town Hall as the new entrance to Nenagh Tourist Office. A lighting feature as part of the handrails considerably enhances the aspect of the building after daylight hours.



New Entrance at Nenagh Tourist Office

Nenagh Leisure Centre

During 2021 Nenagh Leisure Centre was again awarded the Outstanding Level in the National Quality Standard Award for the 4th year in a row.



Nenagh Leisure Centre

 *During 2021 Nenagh Leisure Centre was again awarded the Outstanding Level in the National Quality Standard Award for the 4th year in a row.*



Working with the Community

During 2021 Nenagh Municipal District continued to work with the community throughout the District in various ways.

This included provision of funding through grants and contributions, liaison with voluntary groups and associations, liaison with business groups, provision of advice and support and assisting with a variety of events.

Despite Covid restrictions, all the Tidy Towns Committees in the Nenagh District continued to deliver an impressive programme of enhancement works.

The results of the Supervalu Tidy Towns 2021 competition were announced on 12th November 2021. Terryglass achieved gold medal status. Birdhill, Nenagh and Silvermines achieved bronze medal status. Killeen-Riverstown were awarded the Endeavour Award for North Tipperary as a result of the 8 marks increase received by them.



Work completed by Portroe Tidy Towns



Toor Tidy Villages have created a wonderful amenity area





Cloughjordan Tidy Towns - work in progress

Enhancement of Nenagh

A pilot project involving the painting of 19 houses on Wolfe Tone Terrace in Nenagh Town was completed in 2021. Improvement works were also carried out on the adjoining Hanley's Place, part of which was pedestrianised.



A section of the houses painted on Wolfe Tone Terrace project

In recognition of the contribution made by communities across the district, funding was allocated in 2021 to 55 clubs & organisations, 37 residents associations, 14 festivals & events, 27 Tidy Towns Committees and 68 burial grounds committees within the Nenagh Municipal District.



Painting & Enhancement work in Hanley's Place

Events supported included:

- Spleodar
- Dromineer Literary Festival
- Nenagh Snooker Open
- Irish Youth Circus Gathering
- Cloughjordan Honours Thomas MacDonagh
- Feile Brian Boru
- Tipperary Mental Health Festival
- Kilbarron Terryglass Historical Society's Heritage of Farming Tour

Installation of new bins in Nenagh town centre was completed in 2021. These bins have a cobalt blue finish and this colour scheme was also used for bins in Borrisokane.



New bins installed in Nenagh and Borrisokane



Under the Town & Village Renewal scheme, funding was provided for Streetscape Enhancement within Nenagh town centre. The focus of this was to support the upgrade and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades. 47 applications were approved and total funding of €160,099 was allocated.



Streetscape scheme work completed

The Outdoor Seating & Accessories grant scheme was rolled out across Nenagh MD in 2021 and funding was allocated to 46 businesses towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity.



Outdoor Seating & Accessories grant work at Dromineer

The Weatherproofing & Outdoor Dining Infrastructure scheme, which assisted businesses in provision of facilities for outdoor dining, was implemented across the district.



Outdoor Dining Infrastructure at O'Rahilly St, Nenagh



Outdoor Dining Infrastructure at Pearse St., Nenagh

 *The Outdoor Seating & Accessories grant scheme was rolled out across Nenagh MD in 2021 and funding was allocated to 46 businesses towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and facilitate these businesses to increase their outdoor dining capacity.*

Newport Town Park

The contractor, Sole Sports & Leisure, made substantial progress on this €1.6 million project and works are nearing completion, despite suffering delays during the pandemic. This 6-acre site will include a children's playground, outdoor gym equipment, a multi-use games area and recreational walks. It is hoped the park will open to the public in May 2022.



Aerial view of Newport Town Park

Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement, Tourism and Mobility Plan

Following extensive public consultation, the Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement, Tourism and Mobility Plan was approved by the members of Nenagh MD in November 2021.

It was subsequently approved by the members of Tipperary County Council. The plan was prepared by Downey Planning Consultants. This was a joint project in collaboration with Clare County Council – the plan was also approved by the members of Killaloe MD and Clare County Council. It will form the basis for identification of projects for the twin towns for which funding can be sought.



Launch of Killaloe-Ballina Plan – Cllr. Michael O'Meara and Cllr. Phyll Bugler, Nenagh MD; Cllr. Joe Cooney and Cllr Tony O' Brien, Killaloe MD with officials from Clare and Tipperary County Councils

Newport Enhancement Plan

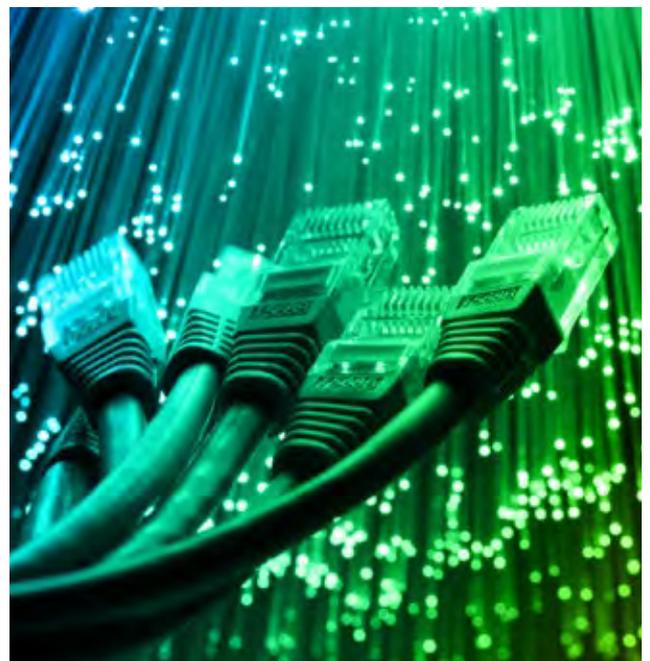
A revised draft Enhancement plan for Newport was received from the consultants, Nicholas De Jong Associates. Feedback has been provided on the draft and it is anticipated that the plan will be brought before the members early in 2022.

Broadband

The Wifi4EU initiative was launched in Nenagh Town Centre in November 2021. Under this scheme free wifi is available in public areas in Nenagh Town Centre. The new service was installed by Magnet Plus [formerly Magnet Networks].



Representatives of Magnet Plus, Nenagh & District Chamber of Commerce and Tipperary County Council at launch of Wifi4EU



Nenagh Tourist Office

Nenagh's new Tourist office opened to visitors on 1st December 2021. Guide/Information Officer, Victoria Lee, will provide information to visitors about places to go and things to do.

She will assist with bookings for entertainment events and water activities on Lough Derg. Tours are being given of the hugely impressive exhibition of photos, memorabilia and artistic creations on display in the office which includes the work of local artists such as Josephine Geaney, Gerardine Wisdom, Paul Finch, Lynn Kirkham, Donal Ryan as well as some spectacular videos produced by Robin Wallace.

The Tourist Office, which is located in Banba Square in the former Town Hall, is open all-year round Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Nenagh Tourist Office

Minister Patrick O' Donovan, Minister for State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works, visited Nenagh on 30th November and marked the opening of the Tourist Office where he met with Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council, Cllr. Marie Murphy and Cathaoirleach of Nenagh Municipal District, Cllr. Michael O' Meara as well as Chief Executive, Joe MacGrath, and a number of other public representatives.



Minister Patrick O' Donovan with the Tipperary Hurling Chair created by artist Paul Finch

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

Another visitor to the Nenagh Municipal District area during 2021 was Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development. She visited Garrykennedy where works had been undertaken under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme the previous year.



Minister Heather Humphreys with Deputy Alan Kelly in Garrykennedy

A new information board was installed in 2021 giving details of the different looped walks available in Garrykennedy.



Information Board in Garrykennedy

Works progressed in respect of the Béara-Breifne Way (Lorrha to Portumna) project which was allocated funding under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme Measure 2. These works will be completed in 2022. In December 2021 it was announced that the Ballinderry River Walk funding application had been successful. These works will be undertaken in 2022.



Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter

Following a procurement process, Scott Tallon Walker were appointed as lead consultants for the RRDF funded project in respect of 'Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter – A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan'.

Led by Nenagh native, David Flannery the consultants are working on the development of concepts with the primary focus on the three flagship pillars – Nenagh Gaol, Nenagh Castle and Banba Square.



Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter

An on-line consultation process was undertaken by CHL on behalf of the design team in June 2021 in order to inform the concept development phase.



Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive at virtual signing of contract for Historic & Cultural Quarter.

Watched via Zoom by Cllr. Séamus Morris; Danielle McCormack, National Monuments Service; David Flannery, Scott Tallon Walker; Ciara Glynn, OPW; Cllr. Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach, Tipperary County Council and Paddy Matthews, Fáilte Ireland



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub

An application for funding for the Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub was prepared and submitted under the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF). This was a category 2 application which sought funding for the design and planning costs required to bring the project to a stage that it would be ready to go to construction when further funding is secured.

The Rialto, an iconic 1940's former cinema, is a protected structure which was purchased by Tipperary County Council in December 2020. The application was submitted in partnership with Nenagh & District Chamber of Commerce, the Local Enterprise Office and the North Tipperary Development Company.

The building had been occupied by Sheahan's Hardware however it became vacant following their re-location to Martyr's Road. The project aims to provide much-needed incubator enterprise space, public realm enhancement and the re-development of the backland brownfield site through planning for the delivery of town centre homes.

During 2021 Nenagh Municipal District arranged for the painting of The Rialto and removal of defunct signage as its appearance had deteriorated during vacancy. This has significantly improved the streetscape in an extremely prominent location.



The Rialto, Nenagh (before)



The Rialto Nenagh (after)

Nenagh Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy

The application for 'A Pathway to a Low-Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the transformational urban regeneration of Nenagh Town Centre' was provisionally allocated €9.525 million funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. The Nenagh project was part of €130 million allocated for four Regeneration Projects in the Mid-West announced by Mr. Darragh O' Brien, TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage on Friday 19th March 2021.

The first step in the process of progressing this project involves the reviewing and updating of the Business Case submitted as part of the funding application. Grant Thornton Consultants have been appointed for this purpose.

A Steering Group has been established to oversee the project. This is led by Tipperary County Council and also includes representatives from the Tipperary Energy Agency (TEA), the Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) and the North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC), all of whom are partners in the project. Other partners include Community Power and Siga-Hydro.

This project will develop a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy which will be the anchor and catalyst for the redevelopment of the Martyr's Road Regeneration Quarter. The Centre of Excellence will 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 is being designed to be Ireland's first carbon neutral and energy positive building.

The project will also deliver public infrastructure, civic spaces and public realm enhancement and will consolidate the linkages to the town centre and unlock the potential for the overall area.



Conceptual image for Centre of Excellence

Platforms for Growth - Dromineer

The significant increase in people enjoying outdoor water-based activities such as kayaking, surfing, paddle-boarding and open water swimming is expected to continue to grow year on year, and not just during the summer months. This means all-weather changing facilities, secure storage and bathrooms at beaches and inland water spots will be in huge demand.

To meet this demand, Fáilte Ireland have launched a €19 million investment programme under the 'Platforms for Growth' initiative. The funding will be used to build world-class facility centres at 22 locations across the country where water-based activities are a key visitor attraction. In Tipperary, Dromineer Sports Activity Facility will be developed under this scheme through a partnership between Tipperary County Council and Fáilte Ireland. Dromineer is part of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.

Each centre will provide hot shower, changing and toilet facilities, secure storage, induction spaces, equipment washdown and orientation points.

They will be fully wheelchair accessible and built using sustainability best practices such as solar heating panels to meet 'Nearly Zero Energy Building Standards'.

This investment will support the local economy and the outdoor activity sector by significantly enhancing the overall visitor experience, providing new business opportunities in local communities and allowing for the extension of the tourism season beyond the traditional summer months.

During 2021 the project design was progressed and environmental reports commissioned to allow an application for planning permission to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála early in 2022.



Nenagh Live

In March 2021 Nenagh Live, in conjunction with local production company Spain AV, hosted a programme to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. This successful broadcasting initiative highlighted local business and the many talents of Nenagh and surrounding areas and attracted over half a million views.

A series of outdoor live events were run in Nenagh town throughout the month of December featuring local performers across genres from pop up events to supporting Christmas initiatives such as the Christmas Lights Open Air concert in partnership with Nenagh MD and a number of socially distanced concerts as restrictions allowed. In all, more than 60 musicians, singers and dancers performed on the streets of Nenagh in the lead into the Christmas season, programmed by Spain AV. As part of this programme the Christmas lights were turned on with Cathaoirleach Michael O' Meara, Trudi Lalor of Tipp FM and Santa Claus present to do the honours.

The Nenagh Live initiative was short-listed for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021.



Musicians performing for Nenagh Live programme



Nenagh Live at the turning on of the Christmas Lights

Covid Measures Grant Scheme

Two projects in Nenagh secured funding under the Covid-19 Measures Grant Scheme from the National Transport Authority - Kenyon Street and Hanley's Place.

Initial works including the installation of a resin bond surface were undertaken at Kenyon St. A procurement process was carried out to secure the outdoor furniture. This is currently being manufactured and scheduled for installation in early 2022. When completed, this will bring a whole new dining experience to Kenyon St.

Enhancement works were substantially completed in Hanley's Place with some remaining planting to be carried out early in 2022.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

During 2021 works progressed at Emmet Place/ Mitchel St. Nenagh as part of Nenagh Traffic Management Plan. Following the demolition of a number of buildings, Kenny Civils completed junction works and construction of a carpark at Emmet Place. This was opened to the public in December 2021 and provides an additional 17 car parking spaces.



New Junction layout at Mitchell Street/Emmet Place



Public Consultation

Public consultation processes were undertaken in respect of:

- Proposed Transport Hub at Nenagh Railway Station
- On-line Survey – Nenagh's Cultural & Historical Quarter
- Traffic Calming measures at Hanley's Place (part of), Nenagh, Co. Tipperary County Council
- Application to An Bord Pleanála for approval for development of Ballina Access Promenade & Viewing area
- Consultation on Casual Trading Byelaws
- Notice of Intention to make Nenagh Car Park Pay & Display Byelaws 2021.

Taking in Charge

The following estates were Taken in Charge during 2021:

- Ard Abhainn, Ballina
- Bellview, Coolbawn



THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



The Annual Meeting of Thurles Municipal District was held on the 21st June 2021. Councillor Seamus Hanafin was elected Cathaoirleach and Councillor Eddie Moran was elected Leas Cathaoirleach.



Cathaoirleach of Thurles Municipal District,
Cllr Seamus Hanafin



Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr Noel Coonan, presenting Cllr
Seamus Hanafin with the Cathaoirleach's chains





2 Schedule of Municipal Works

At the March Monthly Meeting of the Thurles Municipal District (which was held remotely via zoom on the 15th March 2021) the Members agreed the Schedule of Municipal Works for Thurles Municipal District.

Total expenditure of €10,773,327 was provided for and allocated to areas including: Roadworks, Housing Maintenance, Playground Maintenance, Amenities/Open Spaces, projects undertaken under the General Municipal Allocation, Drainage, Tourism promotion and Maintenance of Public Conveniences.

Main programmes benefitting from funding included:

Housing Maintenance	€706,635
Roadworks	€8,212,789
Development Levy Projects	€286,864
Drainage	€52,510
Street Cleaning	€330,000
Burial Ground Maintenance	€195,404
Public Conveniences	€48,000
Amenity Area Maintenance	€607,849
General Municipal District Allocations	€214,776
Town Christmas Lighting	€80,000
Tourism Promotion	€38,500
	€10,773,327

General Municipal Allocation

The General Municipal Allocation, which is discretionary funding allocated by the Members, is essential in funding many projects including grant schemes, Christmas Lighting Contributions and Village Enhancement Works across the District.

In 2021 the GMA amounted to €214,776 and was used to fund the following projects -

Festivals and Events Grant Scheme	€12,000
Christmas Lighting Contributions: Borrisoleigh, Clonakenny, Clonmore, Gortnahoe, Holycross, Littleton, Moyne, Roscrea, Templetuohy, Horse & Jockey, Ballysloe.	€15,500
Residents Association Grant Scheme	€15,000
Village Enhancement Works – Upperchurch	€25,000
Village Enhancement Works – Toomevara	€25,000
Village Enhancement Works – Loughmore	€25,000
Seed Fund District Project Pipeline Plan - Thurles LED	€48,638
Seed Fund District Project Pipeline Plan - Templemore/Roscrea LED	€48,638
General Municipal District Allocation	€214,776

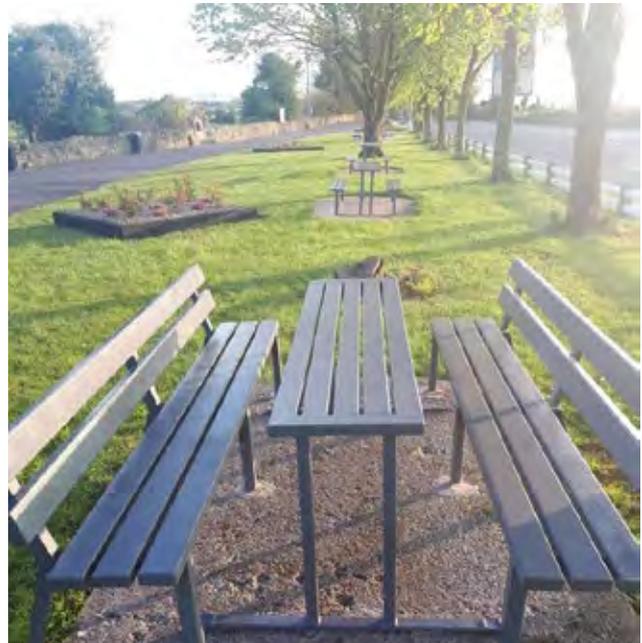


3 Working with the Community

3.1 Tidy Towns Grants

Thurles Municipal District awarded grants to 23 Tidy Towns committees. Despite Covid restrictions, all Tidy Towns Committees in the Thurles District delivered an impressive programme of works

Roscrea Tidy Towns	€10,500.00
Gortagarry Dev Committee	€1,000.00
Moyne Tidy Villages	€1,000.00
Castleiney Tidy Village Committee	€1,500.00
Gorthnahoe Tidy Village	€1,000.00
Ballycahill Tidy Village	€1,000.00
Borrisoleigh Tidy Village	€2,000.00
Shevry Dev Assoc	€1,000.00
Holycross Tidy Village	€1,500.00
Refresh Thurles	€2,500.00
Two Mile Borris Tidy Village	€1,500.00
Knock Tidy Village Group	€1,500.00
Loughmore Tidy Village	€1,500.00
Upperchurch Drombane Dev	€1,500.00
Inch/Bouladuff Tidy Village	€2,000.00
Ballysloe Tidy Village	€1,300.00
Clonmore Dev Comm	€1,000.00
Templetuohy Tidy Village	€1,000.00
Templemore Tidy Towns	€2,524.00
Toomevara Community Dev	€1,000.00
Ballyboy Tidy Village	€1,500.00
Drom Tidy Village	€1,500.00
Clonakenny Tidy Villages	€1,500.00



3.2 Burial Ground Grants

Thurles Municipal District awarded grant to 56 burial ground in 2021.

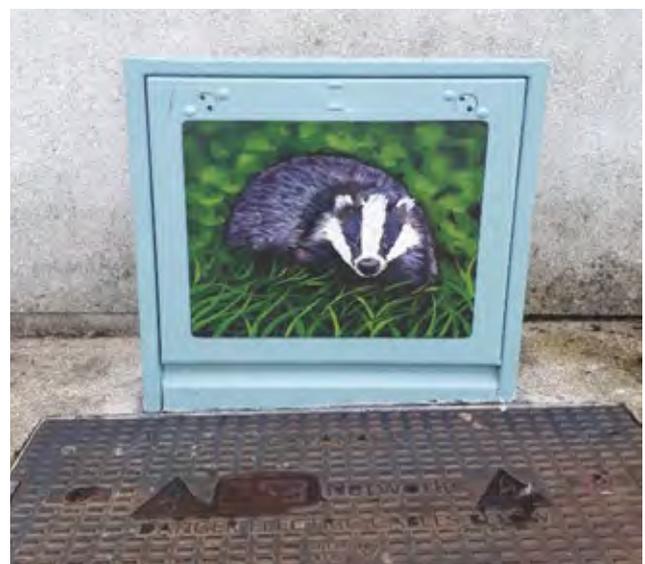
Rathnaveogue Burial Ground	€700.00	Moycarkey St Peters Burial Ground 1	€700.00
Upperchurch New Burial Ground Comm	€700.00	Littleton St Kevins Burial Ground	€700.00
Corbally Parish COI	€700.00	Inch Old Graveyard	€700.00
St Marys Church Littleton	€700.00	St Michaels Bouladuff	€700.00
Shyan Burial Ground Comm	€700.00	Quaker Burial Ground	€700.00
Drom Old Burial Ground Committee	€700.00	Courageneen Old BG	€700.00
Cooleeney Graveyard Committee	€700.00	Courageneen New BG	€700.00
Gortagarry Church Ground	€700.00	Clonakenny Cemetery Committee	€700.00
Moycarkey Old Burial Ground	€700.00	Boggaun Graveyard Committee	€700.00
Galboola Littleton	€700.00	Two Mile Borris Graveyard	€700.00
Templeree Graveyard Comm	€700.00	Upperchurch Old Burial Ground Comm	€700.00
Ballymoreen Burial Ground	€700.00	St Cronans COI	€700.00
Loughmore Old Cemetery	€700.00	Durlas Eile - St Marys Thurles	€700.00
St Burchins Burial Ground	€700.00	Killinan Burial Ground	€700.00
Holycross Old Graveyard	€700.00	Kyleanna Burial Ground Comm	€700.00
Killavinogue Graveyard Committee	€700.00	Templetuohy Burial Ground	€700.00
Aglisn Graveyard	€700.00	Moyaliffe Graveyard	€700.00
Killea St James Burial ground	€700.00	Moyne Old Cemetery	€700.00
Killea St Aodhs new Burial ground	€700.00	Timoney Graveyard	€700.00
Annameadle Burial Ground	€700.00	Ballycahill Burial Ground	€700.00
Fennor Burial Ground	€700.00	Moyne New Cemetery	€700.00
Rahealty Burial Ground	€700.00	Temple Seacht Sean Borrisofarney	€700.00
St Josephs Toomevara	€700.00	Toomevara Church of Ireland	€700.00
Boullick Burial Ground	€700.00	Latteragh Graveyard	€700.00
Knock Graveyard	€700.00	St Cronans Graveyard	€700.00
Calvary Restoration Committee Roscrea	€700.00	Camblin Burial Ground	€700.00
St Josephs Templemore	€700.00	Toomevara Old Abbey Graveyard	€700.00
Kilfithmone Burial Ground	€700.00		



3.3 Amenity Grants

Thurles MD awarded grant for maintenance and improvement works of housing estates to 44 Residents Associations in 2021

Windsor Grove Res Assoc	€400.00	Rosemount Res Assoc	€800.00
Willow Res Assoc	€800.00	Sli na Suire Res Assoc	€500.00
Moyne Road/Bellevue Residents Assoc	€800.00	Cluain Airne 2nd Res Assoc	€400.00
Marlstone Manor Res Assoc	€800.00	Ardleigh Two Mile Borris	€400.00
Knockanevin Res Assoc	€300.00	St Bridgids & St Josephs Residents	€400.00
Ikerrin Court Res Assoc	€500.00	Rathmoy Residents Assoc	€400.00
Hazelwood Res Assoc	€800.00	Caislean Cuirt Res Assoc	€400.00
Dun Lia Residents Assoc	€500.00	The Orchard Borrisoleigh	€400.00
Cluain Glas Res Assoc	€800.00	Croke St Residents Assoc	€400.00
Cluain Ard Res Assoc	€400.00	Loughtagalla Park Residents	€500.00
Cluain Airne 1-17 Res Assoc	€400.00	Oakdale Park Templemore	€400.00
Church View Roscrea	€400.00	Cluain Doire Res Assoc	€400.00
Carraig Duin Res Assoc	€400.00	Orchard Court Res Assoc	€400.00
Ashgrove Res Assoc	€500.00	Riverview Residents Assoc	€400.00
Ard Carraig Res Assoc	€400.00	The Haven Res Assoc	€400.00
Kiltillane Court Res Assoc	€400.00	Derrynaflan Res Assoc	€400.00
Cnoc Mhuire Res Assoc	€500.00	Glencarrick Residents Assoc	€300.00
Willowmere Drive Res Assoc	€800.00	Toomevara Dev Group	€500.00
Ma Teine Templemore Res Assoc	€500.00	Kennedy Park Residents Assoc	€400.00
Patricks Gate Gorthnahoe	€400.00	Parkmore Manor Res Assoc	€400.00
Elmwood Res Assoc	€650.00	Monadreen Res Assoc	€500.00
Castlecourt Borrisoleigh	€300.00	Castlepark Res Assoc	€400.00





3.4 Sports Grants

Thurles Sarsfields Camogie	€650.00	Thurles Gaels Mother & Others	€250.00
Thurles Rugby	€800.00	Gortnahoe Glengoole GAA	€650.00
Thurles Crokes	€800.00	Holycross Football Club	€450.00
Peake Villa	€650.00	Holycross Ballycahill Camogie	€450.00
Durlas Og Gaa	€800.00	Ros Temple Special Olympics	€250.00
Thurles Special Olympics	€250.00	Toomevara GAA Club	€450.00
Thurles Squash Club	€250.00	Killavilla United AFC	€450.00
Tipperary Warriors	€250.00	Thurles Gaels	€650.00
Knights Basketball	€250.00	Ballyskenagh/Killavilla GAA	€450.00
Durlas Eile Archers	€250.00	Thurles Town AFC	€250.00
Roscrea Juvenile Hurling	€450.00	Drom Inch Camogie	€250.00
Templemore & District Gun Club	€650.00	Holycross Ballycahill Ladies Football	€250.00
Lakeside Pitch & Putt	€650.00	Templemore Badminton Club	€250.00
Templemore Athlectic Club	€650.00	Templemore Ladies Football	€450.00
Slieve Felim Rapparees	€250.00	Killea GAA Community	€450.00
Upperchurch Drombane GAA	€250.00	Drom Inch GAA	€450.00
Knock GAA	€450.00	Moneygall GAA	€650.00
Moyne Athletic Club	€650.00	Moyne Templetuohy Ladies Football	€250.00
Moycarkey Coolcroe Athletics	€450.00	Moycarkey Borris Ladies Football & Camogie	€450.00
Mid Tipp Hillwalkers	€250.00	Premier Martial Arts Academy	€250.00
Drom Inch Juvenile GAA	€450.00	Loughmore Castleiney GAA	€450.00
Blackcastle Harps	€800.00	St Cronans Camogie Roscrea	€250.00
Borroway Rovers	€250.00	Thurles Sarsfields Ladies Football	€250.00
Borrisoleigh Juvenile Club	€350.00	Borrisoleigh Camogie Club	€450.00
St Kevins FC	€800.00		



3.5 Painting and Enhancement Schemes

The Streetscape & Shop Front Enhancement Scheme provided grant aid to properties in the main retail areas of Thurles, Templemore & Roscrea to improve the streetscape through:

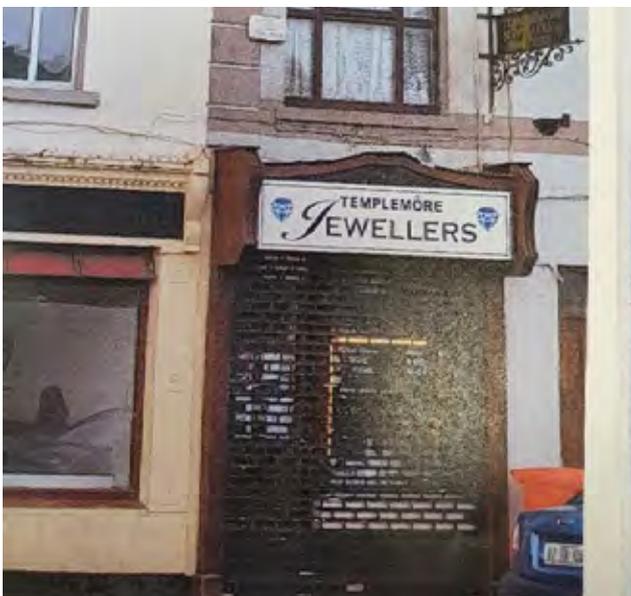
- Removal of inappropriate contemporary signage, fittings and general clutter and replacement with shop fascia signage (with an emphasis on hand painted signage);
- Painting and general improvements to the frontages of commercial and residential building frontages
- Erection of planters, floral hanging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



In Thurles MD, 28 applications were approved under this scheme in 2021.

St Marys Nat School Templemore	€300.00	Hickeys Pharmacy Liberty Sq Thurles	€500.00
Breda Cummins Main Street Templemore	€300.00	Rosemary Street Business	€250.00
Eamon Hartigan Templemore	€450.00	Brendan Dewane Brendan's Bar Roscrea	€500.00
David Cambie, Old AIB Building Templemore	€500.00	Eileen Dewane Petals Roscrea	€225.00
Patrick J Cusack Estate Agent Templemore	€500.00	Albany Home Décor Roscrea	€300.00
Paddy Cadell Snr Butler Cunningham & Moloney Templemore	€400.00	MI Madden Main St Roscrea	€500.00
Paddy Cadell Jnr one19coffee Templemore	€500.00	Colin Williams Patterson Hardware Roscrea	€500.00
Jogesh Tangri Templemore	€250.00	Robert Foley Roscrea Youth Services	€105.00
Jogesh Tangri Templemore	€250.00	Colin Fogarty Roscrea	€500.00
Joe Bourke Templemore X3	€1,500.00	Paul Fogarty The White House Roscrea	€500.00
Cllr Noel Coonan	€400.00	Paul Fogarty Day2Day News Roscrea	€500.00
Cllr Noel Coonan	€375.00	Michael Madden Main St Roscrea	€500.00
Eamonn Walsh	€400.00	Brendan Bonnar Dalys Sea Food	€349.00
Geraldine Bannon Liberty Sq Thurles	€169.00	Mitchel House Thurles	€500.00





3.6 Christmas Lighting

New Christmas lights were installed in the towns of Thurles and Templemore . Thurles Municipal District awarded funding to 12 towns and villages toward the funding of Christmas lights

Roscrea	€ 9,000.00
Borrisoleigh	€ 1,000.00
Clonmore	€ 700.00
Littleton	€ 1,000.00
Moyne	€ 700.00
Templetuohy	€ 500.00
Clonakenny	€ 500.00
Holycross	€ 500.00
Gortnahoe	€ 500.00
Two-Mile-Borris	€ 500.00
Horse & Jockey	€ 300.00
Ballysloe	€ 300.00





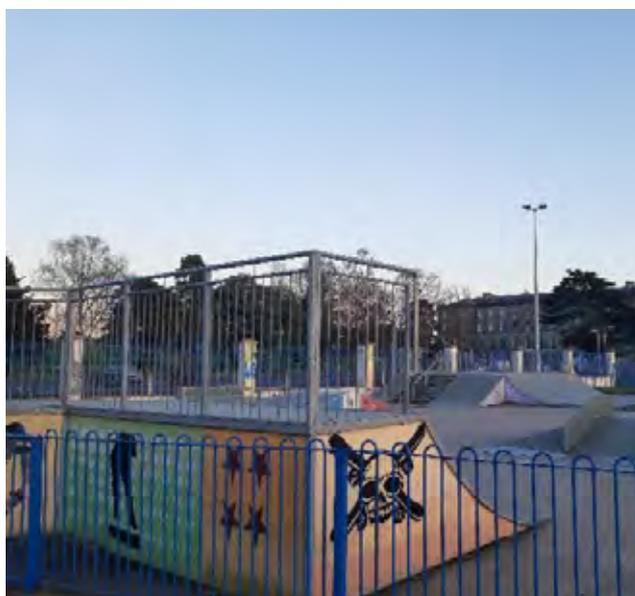
4 Playgrounds & Amenities

4.1 Playgrounds

The following playgrounds and outdoor exercise facilities fall under the remit of Thurles Municipal District:

		Playground	Gym	MUGA	Skatepark
Roscrea Area	Gleann Glas	✓			
	The Glebe	✓			
	Clonakenny	✓			
Templemore Area	Templemore Town Park	✓	✓		
	Templetuohy	✓			
	Borrisoleigh	✓			
Thurles Area	Thurles Town Park	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Monakeeba		✓	✓	
	Loughtagalla	✓	✓		
	Cabra Court	✓			

 *These recreational facilities are inspected weekly by Thurles Municipal District staff along with annually by an expert independent specialist to ensure the long-term safety of the site, equipment and ancillary items.*



The maintenance budget for 2021 for these recreational facilities amounted to: €30,848.

Playgrounds not only promote free-play, spark imagination and get children active for longer periods of time but also give parents and caregivers the opportunity to relax and spend quality with their children. The outdoor exercise equipment and playgrounds are well used facilities within the community.



5 Festivals & Events

Grants were approved for 11 organisations and groups across the municipal district in 2021. However due to the coronavirus pandemic many of the festival and event were cancelled. The following is a list of festival that took place.

County Wide Applications	
Tipperary Mental Health	€500.00
Municipal	
Thurles Halloween Arts Festival	€5,600.00
Taste of Christmas Roscrea	€5,000.00
Community	
Thurles Christmas Skyfest	€1,500.00
Roscrea Halloween Festival	€1,500.00

5.1 Halloween Festivals



6 Health & Safety

Thurles MD aims to set a high standard in occupational health and safety. Having attained OHSAS 18001 Certification from the NSAI in 2018, the MD successfully transitioned to ISO 45001:2018 in 2021 following NSAI Certification that Thurles MD was assessed and deemed to comply with the provisions of the Standard in respect of: 'The Management of Thurles Municipal District administration function, building facilities, litter and traffic enforcement. Thurles MD continues to maintain ISO 45001:2018 to a high standard

 *During the height of the covid pandemic in 2021 the MD set and maintained high standards to adhere to the public guidelines in order to protect staff and visitors.*

In 2021 Management undertook a health and safety Culture Survey of all Council staff working in the MD office. The survey aimed to gain an insight into the level of understanding and interaction of staff with the safety management system through a series of anonymous questions. The results were analysed and an awareness talk was given to all staff addressing the findings.



7 Capital Projects

7.1 Project Ireland 2040 Funds



Thurles MD have four diverse live 2040 projects at various stages of advancement. The district continues to be successful in their applications for funding support for large scale projects which will revitalise town centres and create community hubs.

7.2 URDF - Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles

The Liberty Square Enhancement Project in Thurles sought to deliver a vibrant Liberty Square at the heart of Thurles: a place to live, shop, work, socialise, play or “hang-out”.

David Walsh Civil Engineering substantially completed the project in December 2021 allowing the businesses and shoppers to take full advantage of Christmas Shopping during the run in to Christmas.

The project has been met with widespread positive feedback in particularly from pedestrians who are for the first time able to enjoy a more spacious footpath and welcoming street scape.

It is hoped that 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 initially secured under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund to undertake a high-quality public realm enhancement scheme to the Eastern end of Liberty Square.

Improvement works included: -

- Widening of footpaths to provide a better pedestrian environment and new high quality paving;
- Realignment of carriageways to improve traffic circulation and pedestrian crossings;
- Provision of one signalised and two uncontrolled pedestrian crossings;
- Relocation of some on-street parking spaces to the new Liberty Square car park;
- The provision of dedicated loading and short-term car parking/set down areas;
- Feature lighting including smart low energy lighting;
- The enhancement of Liberty Square through hard and soft landscaping measures, the undergrounding of services, civic space for markets and events and associated signage.

Additional funding was secured under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund in March, 2021 to extend the scheme through the inclusion of the Western end of Liberty Square and sections of the approach roads converging on the Square.

Preliminary design drawings for Phase 2 are currently being undertaken and the Part 8 Planning process will commence in Q4 2022.

Tipperary County Council acknowledge and appreciate that this project could only be realised through financial investment by traders as a result of rates increases from 2003 and funding secured from the Urban Regeneration Development Fund, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Smart-Space Programme.



Minister of State, Peter Burke, TD, met local officials and Elected Representatives in September 2021 for an update on the Liberty Square, Thurles.



7.3 RRDF – Thurles Market Quarter

The Agricultural Building is a publicly owned 19th Century vacant agricultural building occupying a premium location in the town centre.

The works propose the full restoration and redevelopment of the building including public realm works, the installation of a fixed roof canopy covering and enhanced access to the site from the town centre and MIC. The completed works will facilitate the MIC Student's Union, a weekly market and an events venue within the centre of Thurles town.

At present our Project Management Team are evaluating submissions received for a multi-disciplinary design team to carry out detailed design and procurement of a suitable contractor.

7.4 RRDF – Templemore Town Hall

The Town Hall has been vacant since the abolition of the Town Council and the project has been developed to seek its reuse as a flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and re-establish Templemore Town Hall as the economic, cultural and community hub of the town.



Following consultation with the local representatives (consultative group) our Project Management team are continuing to work closely with our multi-disciplinary design team to finalise the design. On completion of the detailed design the procurement of a suitable contractor to carry-out the works will commence.

7.5 Ministerial Visit

In November 2021, Thurles Municipal District Elected Representatives and officials were delighted to welcome Minister Heather Humphries, Minister for Rural and Community Development, to the District.

Minister Humphries visited the Thurles Market Quarter Project in Thurles, which is a Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) project, funded by the Ministers' Department, for an update on the progress of the project.

The Minister had recently announced an additional allocation of €549,269 for the project.



Minister Heather Humphries being shown plans for Thurles Market Quarter by Tipperary County Council Cathaoirleach Marie Murphy, along with local representatives and Deputies.

Minister Humphries then went on to Templemore town to visit the newly opened Templemore Town Park Woodland Walk. The Minister later visited Templemore Town Hall to receive an update on the progress of that project.



Both projects are again funded by the Ministers' Department, the Department of Rural and Community Development.

At the Templemore Town Hall site, Minister Humphries spoke of her delight at being able to fund such a project, to restore such an important landmark and bring it back into use.



7.6 URDF - Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme Phase 2, Thurles

This project aims to complete the upgrade of Liberty Square in Thurles and also provide pedestrian connectivity to the train station off Friar Street some 250m away from the square.

The project will also seek to revitalise specific streets of the main square to enhance the overall project.

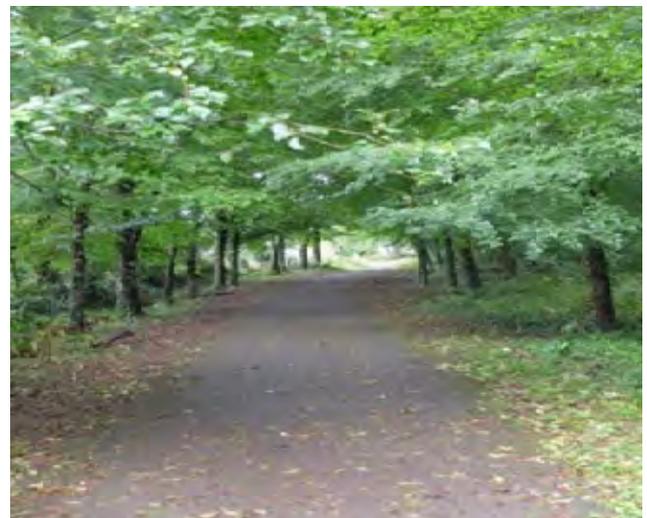
A consultant has been appointed to commence the preliminary design stage, consultation with all relevant stakeholders, leading up to a Part 8 submission for approval.

7.7 Town & Village Renewal



Thurles Municipal District were successful in obtaining grant funding under Category 1 of the 2020 Town and Village Renewal Scheme from the Department of Rural and Community Development for development works at Templemore Town Park. The Town Park is a wonderful recreational amenity containing numerous meandering trails/paths around the picturesque woodlands and lake. Development works included: upgrading the surface on main pathways, installation of benches and erection of signage.

Enhancement works were completed during 2021. Along with the grant funding, Tipperary Council also contributed towards the project and total cost amounted to €58,889.



Thurles Municipal District have submitted an application under the Project Development Measure of the 2021 Town and Village Renewal Scheme and are awaiting the announcement of successful projects under this category.

7.8 Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

Measure 1:

Tipperary County Council have successfully secured grant funding under Measure 1 of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2021 which is provided by The Department of Rural and Community Development towards improvement works at Gurtagarry Walk.



The application has sought funding to enhance and promote the wonderful countryside walking trail in Gurtagarry. Development works include replacing benches and installing signage, improving surface conditions and introducing a stream crossing along with bio-diversity initiatives. All of which will guarantee to enhance the overall visitor experience while preserving its natural beauty.

Grant funding in the sum of €20,000 has been secured and Thurles Municipal District have also committed to provide match funding for the project. Works will commence in 2022.

Measure 3:



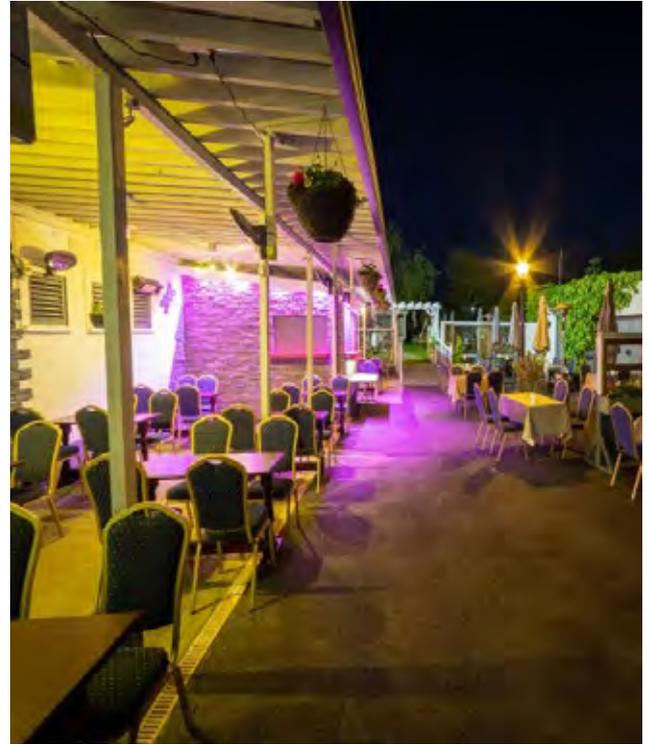
Tipperary County Council have also successfully secured grant funding under Measure 3 of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2021 for Thurles River Suir Pathway.

This project will develop and enhance a much-needed off-road walking/cycling pathway along the River Suir from Clongour Road to Turtulla Bridge/Gold Club and finishing at Lady's Well on the Mill Road. This will be an inclusive amenity linking Thurles Town into the countryside. Development of the pathway will allow the local community and visitors alike to safely enjoy the great outdoors whilst meandering alongside the beautiful Suir and Drish Rivers.

Grant funding in the sum of €210,487 has been secured and also match funding will be provided by Tipperary County Council. The project will be completed by June 2023.

7.9 Fáilte Ireland Outdoor Seating

This scheme was announced to provide support to hospitality and tourism businesses towards the cost of equipment to provide additional outdoor seating and increase their outdoor seating capacity for summer 2021.



7.10 Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play & Recreation 2021

Thurles Municipal District were successful in obtaining grant funding from The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) for enhancement works at Templemore Town Park Playground.



Templemore Town Park & Playground is open to the public 7 days a week, all year round. There is something for everyone and everyone is welcome!



Thurles
dwell a while

Firstly a 'Wheelchair Carousel' was installed. This accessible roundabout offers play for everyone regardless of ability or access constraints, allowing children and carers to use this play piece.

Secondly a 'Play & Stay with Net' was also introduced. It offers lots of opportunity for face to face play for language development, moving parts for dexterity, some climbing/swaying, and all this at ground level for a fully inclusive play experiences for 1-4 year olds.

This development project was completed in December 2021 with a total cost of €19,998. Templemore Town Park is a perfect location to go with your kids for a fun filled day of play and adventure.





FINANCIALS

FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the overall control and management of the Council's finances, both Revenue and Capital. It is responsible for the short, and long-term financing of the Council's operations.

Included among the wide range of services provided by the Finance Department are:

- Financial Control, Cash Flow and Treasury Management
- Preparation of the Draft Annual Budget
- Preparation of the Annual Financial Statement
- Collection of Commercial Rates
- Processing and payment of the Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid
- Collection and management of Housing Loans
- Non-Principal Private Residence - NPPR charge
- Administration and maintenance of the Financial Management System - Agresso
- All payments, including loan repayments and insurance premiums
- Monitoring the recoupment of government grants and subsidies
- Guidance in procurement to all sections
- Maintenance of financial records and the making of various reports and returns
- Internal Audit and checking section
- Motor Taxation

In the course of its work, the Finance Department liaises with all sections of the Local Authority.



MAIN SECTIONS WITHIN FINANCE:

Financial and Management Accounting

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

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

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

Treasury management, bank reconciliation, debtor management, monitoring of the Capital Account and ensuring draw down of grants are some of the other activities carried out by this section.



99% of Housing Loans, and 97% of Housing Rents were collected in the year 2021

Revenue

In 2021 Revenue Section mainly dealt with the collection of Commercial Rates, Housing Loans, Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid applications and the Non-Principal Private Residence (NPPR) charge.

Waivers to the value of €7,542,883, (funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), were credited to Rates accounts in 2021.

In 2021 Revenue Section also processed 262 applications for SBASC Grant Scheme, resulting in €623,000 being paid out to SMEs. This money was funded by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, but administered by the Local Authority.

Revenue Collection

Debtor type	% Collected
Rents	97%
Housing Loans	99%
Rates*	83%

* As per Draft Annual Financial Statement (AFS), 2021 - Appendix 7, after allowing for specific doubtful arrears relating to:

- i. Vacancy applications pending or criteria not met, and
- ii. Accounts in examinership / receivership / liquidation, and no communication. and
- iii. The rates waiver led to a significant number of rates accounts being in credit at 31/12/2021, by approx. €1.4m, which has been accrued to 2022.



The Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid (SBASC) paid out €623,000 to SMEs in 2021.



Accounts Payable

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

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

Invoice Statistics

No of Invoices Processed in 2021		Value
Quarter 1	12,171	21,265,953
Quarter 2	12,836	25,429,393
Quarter 3	12,491	35,414,992
Quarter 4	12,801	47,068,274
TOTALS	50,299	129,178,612



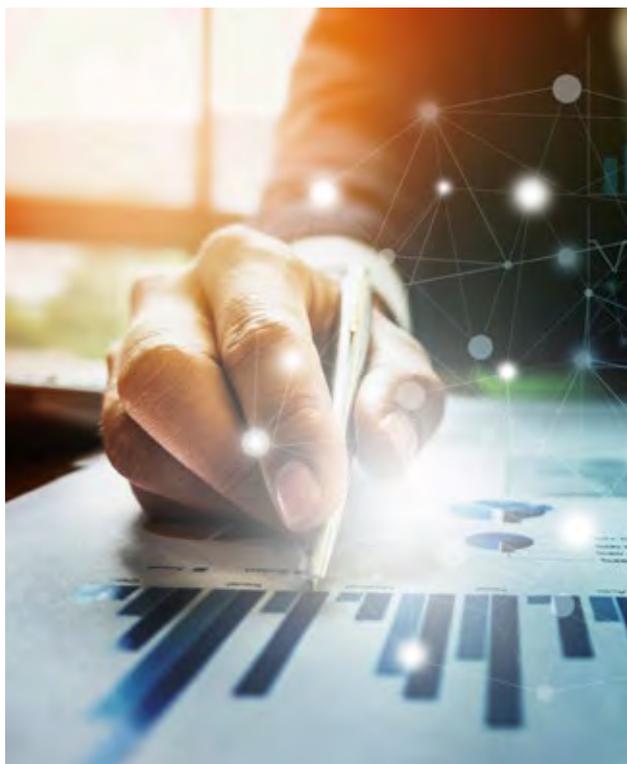
50,099 invoices to the value of over €129 Million were processed in 2021

Internal Audit

The role of internal audit is to provide independent assurance that the organisation's risk management, governance and internal control processes are operating effectively.

Internal Audit objectively examine, evaluate, and report on the adequacy of internal controls as a contribution to the proper, economic, effective and efficient use of resources.

During 2020, the Internal Audit section undertook a number of audits and the findings and recommendations from each audit were reported to management and the Audit Committee. Internal Audit continued to review the implementation of the recommendations from previous audits.



Procurement

The Procurement Section has a role in ensuring that Tipperary County Council has good purchasing practices in place. Procedures are designed to maximise value for money and to provide that all potential suppliers have a fair opportunity to tender. The general principles used in all elements of procurement are: equality of treatment, transparency, mutual recognition and proportionality. The procurement sections works to provide high standards of openness, transparency and compliance with all relevant public procurement guidelines and legislation.

It is government policy that all contracts above €25,000 for goods and services and over €50,000 works are formally advertised on eTenders. www.etenders.gov.ie is the key national website where potential suppliers and service providers need to be registered in order to be kept informed of upcoming tenders. There is a range of guides on the www.tipperarycoco.ie website to assist potential suppliers find where to register and maximise their opportunities to tender for public sector contracts.

Agresso Financial Management System

The Agresso Support Team maintains the Council's Financial Management System, helping to ensure proper control over the Council's financial records (an essential feature in the Council's system of Internal Control). The Agresso system was implemented in 2001 and was upgraded to Agresso Milestone 4 (MS4) in October 2017, in line with 26 other local authorities.

Agresso MS4 introduced new features which assist in the achievement of our business goals, including; automated workflow, web service access, procurement checks and enhanced controls.



MOTOR TAXATION

Receipts - Offices Clonmel & Nenagh

	€	%
Private cars and motor cycles	3,149,921	54.07
Goods and other vehicles	2,171,551	37.28
Miscellaneous	503,999	8.65
Total Revenue 2021	5,825,471	100

Tax Discs issued

	No.	%
Number of tax discs issued by Clonmel & Nenagh Motor Tax Offices 2021	31,883	16.09
Number of tax discs issued On-Line	166,294	83.91
Total Number Of Tax Discs Issued 2020	198,177	100.00

Postal Applications (Motor Taxation Transactions)

	No.	%
Total Postal Applications	23,302	11.76%
Average number of postal applications and percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions) from receipt of application		
On the same day	22,711	97.46
On the 2 nd or 3 rd day	470	2.02
On the 4 th or 5 th day	16	0.07
Over 5 days	105	0.45

*M.1 Percentage of motor tax transactions which:

	2019	2020	2021
Are dealt with over the counter	21.64%	10.18%	4.33%
Are dealt with by post	4.89%	8.14%	11.76%
Are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online)	73.47%	81.68%	83.91%

M.2 Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. motor tax transactions issued) from receipt of application

	2019	2020	2021
(a) on the same day	9,886	16,379	22,711
(b) on the 2 nd or 3 rd day	178	275	470
(c) on the 4 th or 5 th day	8	11	16
(d) over 5 days	17	69	105

M.3 Public Opening Hours

	2019	2020	2021*
Average number of opening hours per Week	20.00	20.00	20.00

*The public counter was closed during Level 5 Covid-19 restrictions

Motor Tax On-line

The usage of the on-line motor tax facility www.motortax.ie continues to grow incrementally across all local authorities and Tipperary County Council is continuing its policy of promoting this facility.

The total number of Tax Discs issued to the 31st December 2021 amounted to 198,177. In percentage terms the amount of discs issued on-line as of this date was 83.91% thereof.

A percentage of 81.68% was reflected for the equivalent period in 2020.

In addition, the Council also has motor taxation facilities available at Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary and Thurles Municipal District Offices. These outlets cater for persons who do not have a Laser or Debit Card available to them. Payments are accepted in Cash or Postal/Money Order and the on-line aspect of the transaction is carried out by a member of staff. This facility was unavailable during Level 5 Covid-19 restrictions. A total number of 137 transactions have been carried out by the three Municipal Districts from the 1st of January 2021 to 31st December 2021.

Computers with internet connection are also available for use by members of the public wishing to tax on-line at the Libraries in the County.



MAIN REPORTS PRODUCED BY FINANCE:

The Annual Budget

The Finance Department prepares the overall Draft Revenue Budget in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Management Team.

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

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS)

Each local authority is required to prepare an Annual Financial Statement (AFS) by the end of March of the following year and to publish it by the end of June.

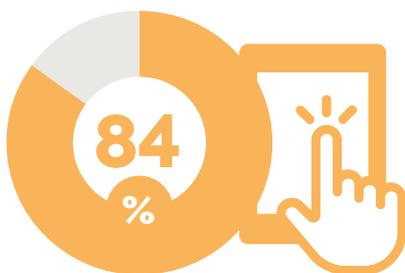
The AFS is presented to members at a Council Meeting, and undergoes an independent audit by the Local Government Audit Service.

The AFS details the income and expenditure for the financial year for both revenue and capital. The Balance Sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the County Council at the end of the year.

Council & Management Reports

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

Management reports are provided to the Management Team on a monthly basis and to the Council on a bi-monthly basis.



Almost 84% of motor tax applications were issued online in 2021

Department Quarterly Reporting

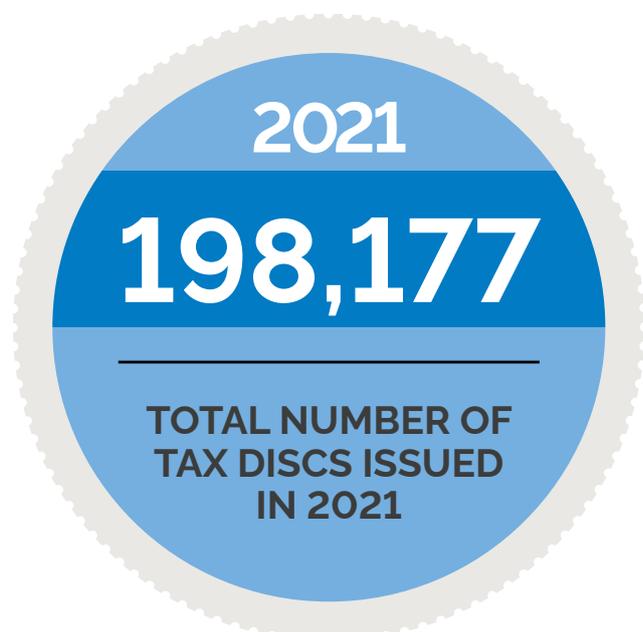
All Local Authorities report financial performance quarterly to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DPLG). These reports consist of a quarterly Income and Expenditure Report, a General Government Balance (GGB) Report which essentially consists of an abbreviated Balance Sheet, a Capital Account report and Debtors report.

In addition, various reports are produced for budget holders in Tipperary County Council relating to all aspects of the councils activities.

Public Spending Code

All Irish public bodies are obliged to treat public funds with care, and to ensure that the best possible value-for-money is obtained whenever public money is being spent or invested. The Public Spending Code is the set of rules and procedures that apply to ensure that these standards are upheld across the Irish public service.

The Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Report for Tipperary County Council for 2020 was published, and submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) on 27th May 2021.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



The Revenue Account details monies spent and received on day-to-day items such as payroll, insurance, loan repayments, the purchase of materials and the maintenance of roads, housing, landfill sites, burial grounds, and so on.

There are four principal sources of Revenue Income for local authorities:

1. Commercial Rates;
2. the provision of Goods and Services, e.g. Planning Fees, Rents;
3. the Local Property Tax and
4. Other Grants e.g. Road Grants.

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



Draft Revenue Account 2021

	Expenditure €	Income €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
Housing & Building	37,405,258	36,570,549	834,709
Road Transport & Safety	60,982,799	42,642,320	18,340,479
Water Services	13,683,021	13,773,692	(90,671)
Development Management	14,974,963	8,199,813	6,775,150
Environmental Services	27,092,461	11,456,656	15,635,805
Recreation & Amenity	13,107,799	2,476,694	10,631,105
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,658,460	1,155,278	503,183
Miscellaneous Services	17,577,956	19,447,658	(1,869,701)
Local Property Tax / LGF		27,156,665	
Rates		35,761,637	
	186,482,717	198,640,962	
Transfer from / (to) Reserves			(12,154,195)
Surplus for Year			4,049
General Reserve at 1st January 2021			5,569,307
General Reserve at 31st December 2021			5,573,356

Draft Capital Account 2021

Programme	Expenditure €	Income €
Housing & Building	35,438,811	37,410,086
Road Transport & Safety	7,358,109	5,222,931
Water Services	3,903,845	4,058,626
Development Management	13,218,552	13,670,832
Environmental Services	1,916,210	482,906
Recreation & Amenity	1,590,821	999,033
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	140,953	140,776
Miscellaneous Services	1,154,629	1,732,202
Totals	64,721,930	63,717,392



Over €251 Million was spend by Tipperary County Council in 2021 on services, infrastructure and capital projects in county Tipperary

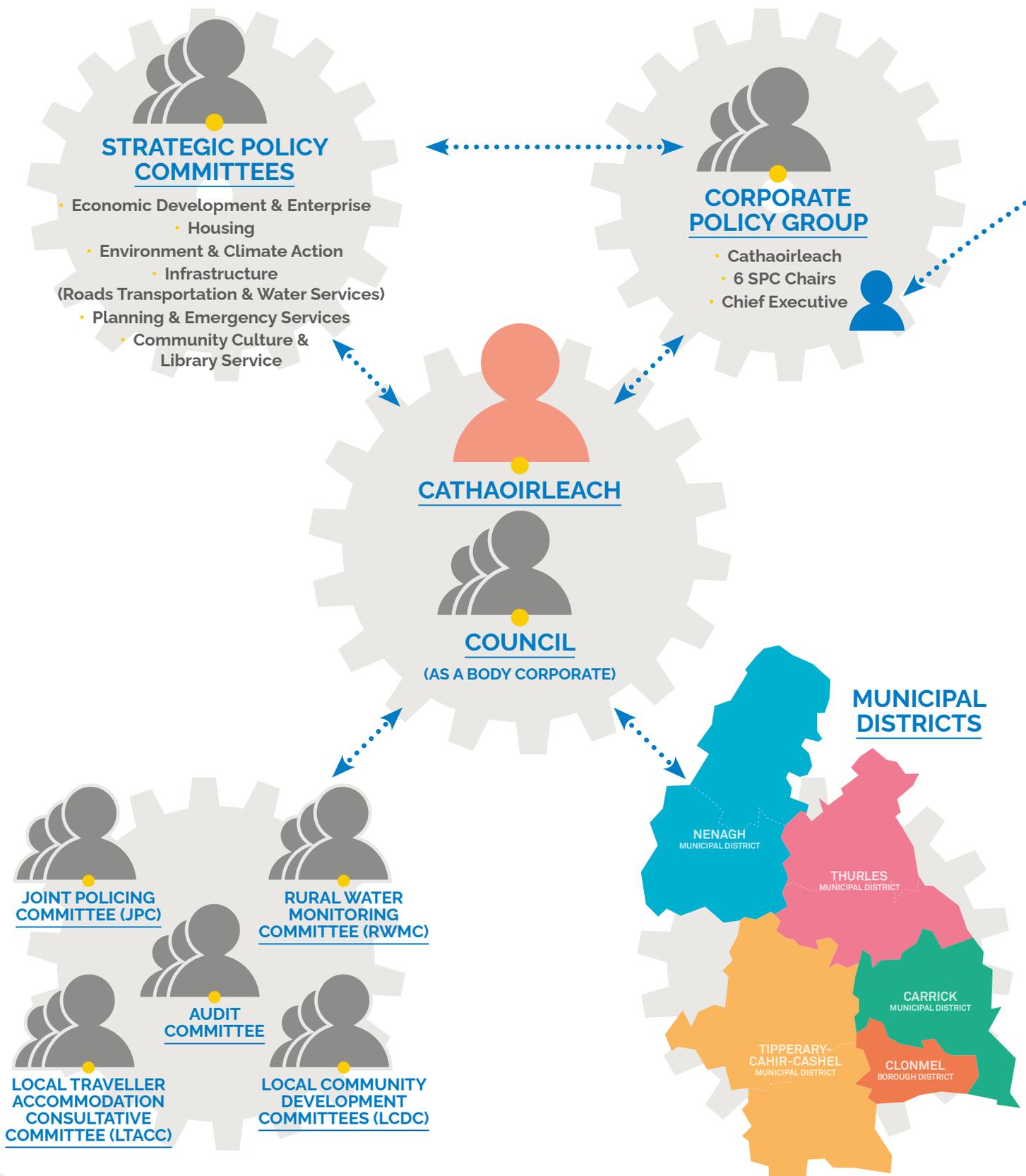


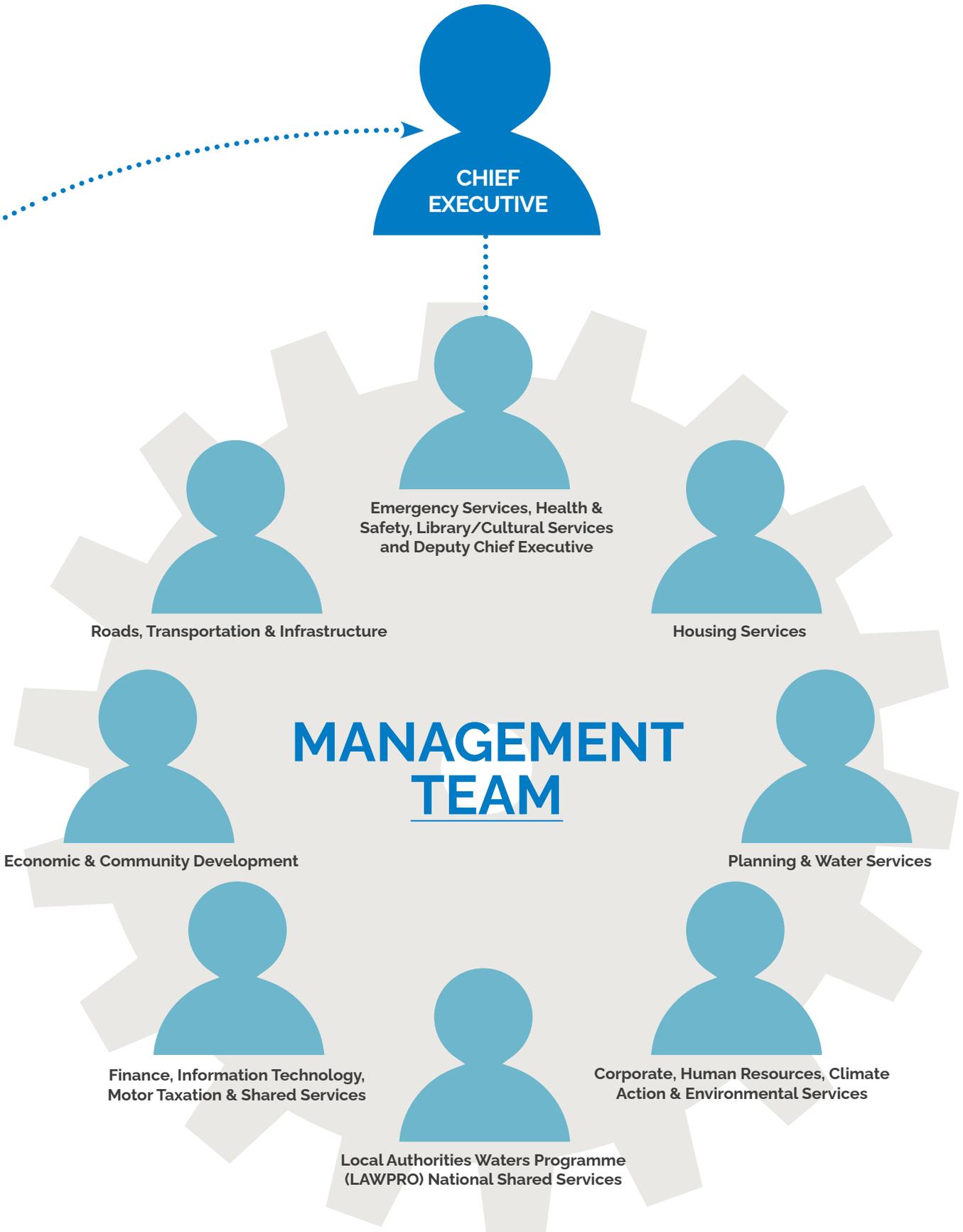




APPENDICES

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE - POLITICAL & SENIOR MANAGEMENT





COUNCILLORS DETAILS BY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

CARRICK-ON-SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



KIERAN BOURKE

FIANNA Fáil

Ballyrichard, Cregg Road,
Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary
kieran.bourke@tipperarycoco.ie
086-8049772

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Housing SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)



DAVID DUNNE

SINN Féin

42 Cregg Lawns, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary
david.dunne@tipperarycoco.ie
086-3476317

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Housing SPC
- LTCC (Local Traveller Consultative Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- Privilege & Procedures Committees



IMELDA GOLDSBORO

FIANNA Fáil

Clashduff, Coalbrook, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
imelda.goldsboro@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2444819

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit



KEVIN O'MEARA

NON-PARTY

Woodview,
Killaghy,
Mullinahone,
Co. Tipperary
087-2065864

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC



MARK FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

The Thatch, Cloneen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
mark.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie
087-6359397

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- RHFS(Regional Health Forum South)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)

CLONMEL BOROUGH DISTRICT



SIOBHÁN AMBROSE

FIANNA Fáil

Dun Mhuire, Melview,
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
siobhan.ambrose@tipperarycoco.ie
086-3850242

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- STAC (South Tipperary Arts Centre)
- SRA (Southern Regional Assembly)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- TTCU (Tipperary Co-ordination Transport Unit)



NIALL P. DENNEHY

NON-PARTY

23 Inislounaght, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
niall.dennehy@tipperarycoco.ie
086-2402753

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC



PAT ENGLISH

WUAG

"Churchview", Rathronan,
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
pat.english@tipperarycoco.ie
087-7684746

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Housing SPC
- ETB (Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



JOHN J. FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

Darcy's Cross, Ballyclerihan,
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
john.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie
086-2375473

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- STAC (South Tipperary Arts Centre)



RICHIE MOLLOY

NON-PARTY

6 Heywood Drive, Ardgaoithe,
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
richie.molloy@tipperarycoco.ie
086-1967482

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- RHFS (Regional Health Forum South)
- LTCC (Local Traveller Consultation Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



MICHAEL MURPHY

FINE GAEL

"Orpen" 30 The Paddocks, Fethard
Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
michael.murphy@tipperarycoco.ie
087-3226699

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Privilege & Procedure Committee

NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



FIONA BONFIELD

LABOUR PARTY

87 Mulcair View, Newport, Co. Tipperary
fiona.bonfield@tipperarycoco.ie
086-1670863

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Service SPC
- IPBMI(Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee
- NTFEC(North Tipperary Food Enterprise Centre)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



DR. PHYLL BUGLER

FINE GAEL

Inchadrinagh, Ballina, Co. Tipperary
phyll.bugler@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2807655

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- NTFEC(North Tipperary Food Enterprise Centre)



JOHN CARROLL

FIANNA FÁIL

Kilcolman House, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
john.carroll@tipperarycoco.ie
086-8041893

COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Environmental & Climate Action SPC
- RHFWS (Regional Health Forum West)
- LCDC
- RWMC(Rural Water Monitoring Committee)



GERARD DARCY

FINE GAEL

Clashateeaun, Ardcroney,
Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
gerard.darcy@tipperarycoco.ie
086-2752838

COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- RWMC(Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- THF (Tipperary Heritage Forum)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



JOE HANNIGAN

NON-PARTY

Kilbarron, Coolbawn, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
joe.hannigan@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2566157

COMMITTEES:

- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- LCDC(Local Community Development Committee)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Service



HUGHIE MCGRATH

NON-PARTY

19 Brooklands Drive, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
hughie.mcgrath@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2559323

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services
- LTCC(Local Traveller Consultative Committee)



SÉAMUS MORRIS

NON-PARTY

Rathnaleen, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
seamus.morris@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2859125

COMMITTEES:

- Economic & Development & Enterprise SPC
- RHFWD(Regional Health Forum West)
- MWRDAF(Mid West Regional Drugs & Alcohol Forum)



JOHN (ROCKY) MCGRATH

NON-PARTY

Graunbeg, Killoscully,
Newport, Co. Tipperary
rocky.mcgrath@tipperarycoco.ie
086-1714224

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- RWMC(Rural Water Monitoring Committee)



MICHAEL O'MEARA

NON-PARTY

Lissernane, Rathcabbin,
Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
michael.omeara@tipperarycoco.ie
086-8379300

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency SPC
- SRA(Southern Regional Assembly)

THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



NOEL J. COONAN

FINE GAEL

Gortnagoona, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
noel.coonan@tipperarycoco.ie
086-2427733

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- SRA(Southern Regional Assembly)
- TTCU(Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit)



SEAMUS HANAFIN

FIANNA FÁIL

Clongour, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
seamus.hanafin@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2614000

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- TRAC(Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TSPC(Tipperary Sports Partnership Committee)



SHANE LEE

NON-PARTY

34 Cois Carrig, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
shane.lee@tipperarycoco.ie
086-3296667

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)



MICHEÁL LOWRY

NON-PARTY

Raheen, Holycross,
Co. Tipperary
micheal.lowry@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2897585

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- Privilege & Procedure Committee



EDDIE MORAN

NON-PARTY

Knocka, Drom, Templemore, Co. Tipperary
eddie.moran@tipperarycoco.ie
086 2484363

COMMITTEES:

- Environmental & Climate Action SPC
- AILG Permanent Delegate



JIM RYAN

NON-PARTY

Mill Road, Thurles,
Co. Tipperary
jim.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie
087-7043785

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- TRAC (Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)


PETER RYAN (resigned Oct 2021)
FINE GAEL

Drombane, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
 peter.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-0765183

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- TRAC(Thurles Regional Arts Centre)
- TSPC(Tipperary Sports Partnership Committee)
- SERDAF(South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force)
- RHFWD(Regional Health Forum West)


SEAN RYAN
FIANNA FÁIL

22 Church View, Littleton,
 Thurles, Co. Tipperary
 seano.ryan@tipperarycoco.ie
 087-4581455

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- TTCU(Tipperary Transport Co-ordination Unit)


MICHAEL SMITH
FIANNA FÁIL

Behagloss, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary
 michael.smith@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-8525634

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC

TIPPERARY-CAHIR-CASHEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



MICHEÁL ANGLIM

FIANNA FÁIL

Ballylaffin, Ardfinnan, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
micheal.anglim@tipperarycoco.ie
086-0251277

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- LAMA(Local Authority Members Assoc)
- LTCC(Local Traveller Consultation Committee)



TONY BLACK

SINN FÉIN

Lisbreen, Galbally Rd,
Tipperary Town,
Co. Tipperary E34 CY91
tony.black@tipperarycoco.ie
087-7465762

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



DECLAN BURGESS

FINE GAEL

1 Moore Lane, Cashel, Co. Tipperary
declan.burgess@tipperarycoco.ie
086-7330454

COMMITTEES:

- Environment & Climate Action SPC
- Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- LCDC (Local Community Development Committee)
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- Comhairle na nÓg
- RHFS (Regional Health Forum South)



JOHN CROSSE

FINE GAEL

Donohill Cross, Donohill, Co. Tipperary
john.crosse@tipperarycoco.ie
087-9165851

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- Community, Culture & Library Services SPC
- LTCC (Local Traveller Consultative Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)



MICHAEL FITZGERALD

FINE GAEL

Rathclogheen House, Golden, Co. Tipperary
michael.fitzgerald@tipperarycoco.ie
087-2292126

COMMITTEES:

- Infrastructure(Roads, Transportation & Water Services) SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- RWMC (Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- UCC Governing Body
- AILG Permanent Delegate



MARY HANNA HOURIGAN

FINE GAEL

Parkview House, Tipperary Road,
Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary
mary.hanna@tipperarycoco.ie
085-8150689

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- ETB (Education Training Board Tipperary)
- AILG Permanent Delegate



ROGER KENNEDY

FIANNA FÁIL

Camus, Cashel, Co. Tipperary
 rogerkennedy@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-8161058

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- AC (Audit Committee)
- Tipperary Heritage Forum
- Privilege & Procedures Committee
- RHFS(Regional Health Forum South)



ANDY MOLONEY

NON-PARTY

Knocknaquil, Poulmucka,
 Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
 andy.moloney@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-3609110

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library SPC



MÁIRÍN MCGRATH

NON-PARTY

Garrencasey, Newcastle,
 Cahir, Co. Tipperary
 mairin.mcgrath@tipperarycoco.ie
 087-2722236

COMMITTEES:

- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- RWMC (Rural Water Monitoring Committee)
- Comhairle na nÓg



MARIE MURPHY

FINE GAEL

Kilballyboy, Clogheen, Cahir,
 Co.Tipperary. E21 NH 63
 marie.murphy@tipperarycoco.ie
 086-8261387

COMMITTEES:

- Housing SPC
- Planning & Emergency Services SPC
- AC (Audit Committee)
- TJPC (Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- Privilege & Procedure Committee



ANNEMARIE RYAN (SHINER)

NON-PARTY

"The Oaks", Cordangan,
 Tipperary E34 NY 10
 annemarie.ryanshiner@tipperarycoco.ie
 087-3802825

COMMITTEES:

- Community, Culture & Library Service SPC
- ETB(Education Training Board Tipperary)
- TJPC(Tipperary Joint Policing Committee)
- TTCU (Tipperary Transport Co-Ordination Unit)

COUNCILLORS MEETING ATTENDANCE

1st January To 31st December 2021

Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	Total % Rate of Attendance	Councillor Name	Total Number of Meetings	Number of Meetings Attended	Total % Rate of Attendance
Ambrose, Siobhán (FF)	41	35	85%	Hourigan, Mary Hanna (FG)	43	40	93%
Anglim, Micheál (FF)	33	29	88%	Kennedy, Roger (FF)	39	38	97%
Black, Tony (SF)	32	20	63%	Lee, Shane (NP)	33	30	91%
Bonfield, Fiona (LAB)	32	29	91%	Lowry, Micheál (NP)	42	38	90%
Bourke, Kieran (FF)	32	24	75%	McGrath, Hughie (NP)	37	33	89%
Bugler, Dr Phyll (FG)	42	41	98%	McGrath, John (Rocky) (NP)	35	26	74%
Burgess, Declan (FG)	42	35	83%	McGrath, Máirín (NP)	30	28	93%
Carroll, John (FF)	53	52	98%	Molloy, Richie (NP)	32	24	75%
Coonan, Noel (FG)	33	32	97%	Moloney, Andy (NP)	28	27	96%
Crosse, John (FG)	46	40	87%	Moran, Eddie (NP)	28	27	96%
Darcy, Ger (FG)	38	37	97%	Morris, Seamus (NP)	29	25	86%
Dennehy, Niall (NP)	28	28	100%	Murphy, Marie (FG)	45	44	98%
Dunne, David (SF)	37	27	73%	Murphy, Michael (FG)	32	29	91%
English, Pat (WUA)	37	35	95%	O'Meara, Kevin (NP)	33	32	97%
FitGerald, John (FG)	30	28	93%	O'Meara, Michael (NP)	32	30	94%
Fitzgerald, Mark (FG)	38	24	63%	Ryan(Shiner), Ann Marie (NP)	32	28	88%
FitzGerald, Michael (FG)	35	33	94%	Ryan, Jim (NP)	38	34	89%
Goldsboro, Imelda (FF)	27	24	89%	Ryan, Peggy (FG)	1	1	100%
Hanafin, Seamus (FF)	28	27	96%	Ryan, Peter (FG)	24	17	71%
Hannigan, Joe (NP)	41	38	93%	Ryan, Sean (FF)	28	28	100%
				Smith, Michael (FF)	35	34	97%



PAYMENTS TO COUNCILLORS 2021

Councillor Name	Representational Payment	Annual Allowance	Cathaoirleach's / Leas Cathaoirleach Allowance	Municipal District Allowance	Borough/MD Chair Allowance	SPC Chair Allowance	Conference Expenses	Training Expenses	Mobile Phone Expenses	Cathaoirleach Invitations Expenses	Gratuity	Total Amount Paid to Councillors 2021
Ambrose, Siobhan	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€3,127.73	€528.95	€6,301.46	€0.00	€0.00	€686.24	€427.13	€0.00	€0.00	€41,954.18
Anglim, Micheál	€22,505.52	€8,486.83	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€651.12	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€32,172.42
Black, Tony	€22,505.52	€8,663.95	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,698.42
Bonfield, Fiona	€22,505.52	€8,548.75	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,583.22
Bourke, kieran	€22,505.52	€8,876.48	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€534.07	€528.70	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€32,973.72
Brennan, Joe	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€17,589.49	€17,589.49
Bugler, Dr Phyll	€22,505.52	€8,911.99	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€6,209.46	€547.51	€448.61	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€39,152.04
Burgess, Declan	€22,505.52	€7,504.27	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€250.37	€600.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,389.11
Carroll, John	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€6,209.46	€390.66	€862.40	€455.38	€0.00	€0.00	€39,329.52
Coonan, Noel	€22,505.52	€7,871.83	€0.00	€528.95	€2,897.75	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€33,804.05
Crosse, John	€22,505.52	€8,285.35	€0.00	€528.95	€3,012.74	€6,209.46	€556.47	€473.69	€380.45	€0.00	€0.00	€41,952.63
Darcy, Gerard	€22,505.52	€8,593.03	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,627.50
Dennehy, Niall	€22,505.52	€8,423.11	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€500.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,957.58
Dunne, David	€22,505.52	€8,876.48	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€139.42	€0.00	€0.00	€32,050.37
English, Pat	€22,505.52	€8,262.31	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€81.31	€0.00	€0.00	€31,378.09
FitzGerald, John	€22,505.52	€7,656.47	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€536.76	€1,133.29	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€32,360.99
Fitzgerald, Mark	€22,505.52	€8,055.50	€0.00	€528.95	€3,150.73	€0.00	€532.28	€479.07	€380.93	€0.00	€0.00	€35,632.98
FitzGerald, Michael	€22,505.52	€8,331.20	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€521.20	€1,062.70	€152.62	€0.00	€0.00	€33,102.19
Goldsboro, Imelda	€22,505.52	€8,522.23	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€457.04	€965.30	€600.00	€0.00	€0.00	€33,579.04
Hannafin, Seamus	€22,505.52	€7,688.11	€0.00	€528.95	€3,219.72	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€33,942.30
Hannigan, Joe	€22,505.52	€8,770.27	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,804.74
Hourigan, Mary Hanna	€22,505.52	€8,326.14	€3,104.74	€528.95	€3,104.74	€6,209.46	€600.00	€704.06	€310.54	€0.00	€0.00	€45,394.15

Councillor Name	Representational Payment	Annual Allowance	Cathaoirleach's / Leas Cathaoirleach Allowance	Municipal District Allowance	Borough/MD Chair Allowance	SPC Chair Allowance	Conference Expenses	Training Expenses	Mobile Phone Expenses	Cathaoirleach Invitations Expenses	Gratuity	Total Amount Paid to Councillors 2021
Kennedy, Roger	€22,505.52	€7,779.91	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€541.24	€0.00	€216.60	€0.00	€0.00	€31,572.22
Lee, Shane	€22,505.52	€8,663.95	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€483.01	€0.00	€116.16	€0.00	€0.00	€32,297.59
Lowry, Micheál	€22,505.52	€7,688.11	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€6,209.46	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€36,932.04
McGrath, Hughie	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€453.45	€571.40	€543.87	€0.00	€0.00	€32,980.34
McGrath, John Rocky	€22,505.52	€8,354.23	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,388.70
McGrath, Máirín	€22,505.52	€8,601.91	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,636.38
Molloy, Richie	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€500.00	€634.74	€172.44	€0.00	€0.00	€32,718.80
Moloney, Andy	€22,505.52	€7,991.23	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€415.83	€282.08	€702.47	€0.00	€0.00	€32,426.08
Moran, Eddie	€22,505.52	€7,986.67	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€483.91	€69.93	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€31,574.98
Morris, Seamus	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€0.00	€528.95	€2,966.75	€0.00	€502.72	€1,231.16	€253.17	€0.00	€0.00	€36,365.42
Murphy, Marie	€22,505.52	€8,752.51	€15,638.64	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€457.19	€1,127.76	€506.96	€277.54	€0.00	€49,795.07
Murphy, Michael	€22,505.52	€8,377.15	€0.00	€528.95	€6,163.46	€0.00	€549.36	€1,003.02	€112.85	€0.00	€0.00	€39,240.31
O'Meara, Kevin	€22,505.52	€8,522.23	€0.00	€528.95	€3,081.73	€0.00	€526.01	€479.07	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€35,643.51
O'Meara, Michael	€22,505.52	€8,628.55	€0.00	€528.95	€3,265.72	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€34,928.74
Ryan (Shiner), Annemarie	€22,505.52	€8,699.35	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€141.64	€0.00	€0.00	€31,875.46
Ryan, Jim	€22,505.52	€10,401.15	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€6,209.46	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€39,645.08
Ryan, Peter	€17,493.32	€6,379.50	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€24,401.77
Ryan, Sean	€22,505.52	€7,711.03	€0.00	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€440.02	€946.04	€280.48	€0.00	€0.00	€32,412.04
Smith, Michael	€22,505.52	€11,295.59	€15,523.65	€528.95	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€49,853.71
Totals	€895,208.60	€336,373.12	€37,394.76	€21,158.00	€37,164.80	€37,256.76	€10,528.73	€14,590.75	€6,574.42	€277.54	€17,589.49	€1,414,116.97



STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE (SPC) MEMBERSHIP

Councillors	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure (Roads Transportation and Water Services)	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Fiona Bonfield, LAB						√
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG	√				√	
John Carroll, FF			√		√	
Gerard Darcy, FG					√	√
Joe Hannigan, NP	√				√	
Hughie McGrath, NP				√	√	
Séamus Morris, NP	√					
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP		√	√			
Michael O'Meara, NP				√	√	
Noel J. Coonan, FG		√				
Seamus Hanafin, FF	√					
Shane Lee, NP		√				
Micheál Lowry, NP					√	√
Eddie Moran, NP			√			
Jim Ryan, NP				√		
Peter Ryan, FG	√		√			
Sean Ryan, FF			√			
Michael Smith, FF		√				
Kieran Bourke FF		√		√		
David Dunne, SF		√		√		
Imelda Goldsboro, FF	√					

Councillors	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure(Roads Transportation and Water Services	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Kevin O'Meara, NP				√		
Mark Fitzgerald, FG			√	√		
John FitzGerald, FG	√					√
Siobhán Ambrose, FF	√					√
Niall P. Dennehy, NP						√
Pat English, WUA		√	√			
Richie Molloy, NP			√			
Michael Murphy, FG			√			
Micheál Anglim, FF				√		√
Tony Black, SF	√					
Declan Burgess, FG			√	√		
John Crosse, FG	√*					√
Michael Fitzgerald, FG				√	√	
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG	√	√*				
Roger Kennedy, FF		√			√	
Andy Moloney, NP						√
Máirín McGrath, NP	√					
Marie Murphy, FG		√			√	
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP						√
Total	12	10	10	10	10	10

*Chairs Designate Strategic Policy Committee

Sectoral Representatives	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure(Roads Transportation and Water Services	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Seamus Hoyne, LIT	√					
Imelda Walsh, Agriculture	√					
Laura Jones, Business/ Commercial	√					
Tom McGrath, Business/ Commercial	√					
Jim Sheehan, Development & Construction	√					
Clare Cashman, PPN Social Inclusion	√					
Noel Byrne, PPN Environment	√					
Mary Spillane, PPN Community & Voluntary	√					
To Be Nominated Business/Commercial		√				
Tom Gallahue, Dev/Const.		√				
Moira Merrigan, PPN Social Inclusion		√				
James Byrne, PPN Community & Voluntary		√				
To be nominated						
PPN Community & Voluntary		√				
Lalor McGee, Trade Union		√				
Vacant - PPN						
Erica O'Keeffe, Agriculture			√			
Emer Leahy, PPN Social Inclusion			√			
Mary McMahon, PPN Environment			√			
Charles Lamb, PPN Community & Voluntary			√			
Mairead O'Donnell, PPN Community & Voluntary			√			

Sectoral Representatives	Economic Development & Enterprise	Housing	Environment & Climate Action	Infrastructure(Roads Transportation and Water Services	Planning & Emergency Services	Community Culture & Library Services
Vacant Business/Commercial			√			
Peter Farrell, Agriculture				√		
David Shanahan, Business/Commercial				√		
Sean Reidy, Dev/Const.				√		
Philip Brett, Trade Union				√		
Ger Shanahan, PPN Social Inclusion				√		
To be nominated PPN				√		
John O'Shaughnessy, Dev/Const.					√	
Tim Harty, Agriculture					√	
Mike Edwards, PPN Social Inclusion					√	
Patti O'Neill, PPN Environment					√	
Clare Ryan O'Keeffe, PPN Community & Voluntary					√	
Vacant - Business/Commercial						
John Butler, Business/Commercial						√
Evelyn Norton, PPN Social Inclusion						√
Matt O'Meara, PPN Environment						√
Peggy O'Brien, PPN Community & Voluntary						√
Patrick Hanley, PPN Community & Voluntary						√
Eamon Clancy, Agriculture						√
Total	8	6	6	6	5	6
Total Committee	20	16	16	16	15	16

COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES

Councillors	A.I.L.G	South Regional Assembly	IPBMI	LAMA	Education and Training Board	Local Traveller Consultative Committee	Audit Committee	South Tipperary Arts Centre	Thurles Regional Arts Centre	North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre	Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Regional Health Forum South
Fiona Bonfield, LAB			√		√							
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG					√							
John Carroll, FF											√	
Gerard Darcy, FG										√	√	
Joe Hannigan, NP										√		
Hughie McGrath, NP						√				√		
Séamus Morris, NP												
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP											√	
Michael O'Meara, NP		√										
Noel J. Coonan, FG		√										
Seamus Hanafin, FF									√			
Shane Lee, NP					√							
Micheál Lowry, NP												
Eddie Moran, NP	√											
Jim Ryan, NP									√			
Peter Ryan, FG									√			
Sean Ryan, FF												
Michael Smith, FF												
Kieran Bourke FF					√							
David Dunne, SF						√						
Imelda Goldsboro, FF												

Councillors	A.I.L.G	South Regional Assembly	IPBMI	LAMA	Education and Training Board	Local Traveller Consultative Committee	Audit Committee	South Tipperary Arts Centre	Thurles Regional Arts Centre	North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre	Rural Water Monitoring Committee	Regional Health Forum South
Kevin O'Meara, NP												
Mark Fitzgerald, FG					√							√
John FitzGerald, FG								√				
Siobhán Ambrose, FF		√						√				
Niall P. Dennehy, NP												
Pat English, WUA					√							
Richie Molloy, NP						√						√
Michael Murphy, FG												
Micheál Anglim, FF				√	√	√						
Tony Black, SF												
Declan Burgess, FG					√							√
John Crosse, FG						√						
Michael Fitzgerald, FG	√										√	
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG	√				√							
Roger Kennedy, FF					√		√					√
Andy Moloney, NP												
Máirín McGrath, NP					√						√	
Marie Murphy, FG							√					
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP					√							
Total	3	3	1	1	12	5	2	2	3	3	5	4

Councillors	Regional Health Forum West	Local Community Development Committee	UCC Governing Body	Comhairle na nOg	Tipperary Sports Partnership	Tipperary Heritage Forum	Tipperary Transport Coordination Unit	Privilege & Procedure Committee	North Tipperary Food Enterprise Ltd	South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force	Mid West Regional Drugs Alcohol forum
Fiona Bonfield, LAB								√	√		
Dr. Phyll Bugler, FG									√		
John Carroll, FF	√	√									
Gerard Darcy, FG						√					
Joe Hannigan, NP		√					√				
Hughie McGrath, NP											
Séamus Morris, NP	√										√
John (Rocky) McGrath, NP											
Michael O'Meara, NP											
Noel J. Coonan, FG							√				
Seamus Hanafin, FF					√						
Shane Lee, NP											
Micheál Lowry, NP								√			
Eddie Moran, NP											
Jim Ryan, NP											
Peter Ryan, FG	√				√					√	
Sean Ryan, FF											
Michael Smith, FF								√			
Kieran Bourke FF											
David Dunne, SF								√			
Imelda Goldsboro, FF							√				
Kevin O'Meara, NP											
Mark Fitzgerald, FG											
John FitzGerald, FG											

Councillors	Regional Health Forum West	Local Community Development Committee	UCC Governing Body	Comhairle na nOg	Tipperary Sports Partnership	Tipperary Heritage Forum	Tipperary Transport Coordination Unit	Privilege & Procedure Committee	North Tipperary Food Enterprise Ltd	South East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force	Mid West Regional Drugs Alcohol forum
Siobhán Ambrose, FF							√				
Niall P. Dennehy, NP											
Pat English, WUA								√			
Richie Molloy, NP											
Michael Murphy, FG											
Micheál Anglim, FF											
Tony Black, SF											
Declan Burgess, FG		√		√							
John Crosse, FG											
Michael Fitzgerald, FG			√								
Mary Hanna Hourigan, FG											
Roger Kennedy, FF						√		√			
Andy Moloney, NP											
Máirin McGrath, NP				√							
Marie Murphy, FG								√			
Annemarie Ryan (Shiner), NP							√				
Total	3	3	1	2	2	2	5	7	2	1	1

CONFERENCE/TRAINING ATTENDED 2021

Date	Conference Details	Location	Councillors in attendance
24th - 26th September 2021	Celtic Conferences 'Health & Safety in the Workplace'	O'Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork	6
1st - 3rd October 2021	Celtic Conferences 'The Fair Deal Scheme'	Four Seasons Hotel , Carlingford, Co. Louth	6
29th -31st October 2021	Celtic Conferences 'Housing for all'	Four Seasons Hotel , Carlingford, Co. Louth	11
23rd-24th November 2021	National Sustainability Seminar	Simonscourt, Dublin	1
3rd-5th December 2021	Celtic Conferences 'Mental Health & Wellbeing'	Four Seasons Hotel , Carlingford, Co. Louth	5

Date	Training Details	Location	Councillors in attendance
22nd January 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'The Decision on Planning Application & Appeal'	Online	3
26th February 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'Local Authority Planning Enforcement Functions'	Online	8
22nd - 23rd March 2021	Water Ireland Conference Webinar	Online	1
26th March 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'Communications Infrastructure & Local Authorities'	Online	1
28th May 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'Rural Housing & Policy Development'	Online	12
24th June 2021	Tourism Webinar 'New Challenges: Fresh Opportunities & Role of Local Authorities in the Post Covid Era'	Online	3
25th June 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'Programme for Government & Affordable Housing Delivery'	Online	1
23rd July 2021	AILG/OPR Webinar 'Delivery of high quality housing appropriate to its setting'	Online	5
18th September 2021	AILG -Government Decision on Reform on Remuneration Payable to Local Government	Tower Hotel & Leisure Centre, Waterford	2
2nd October 2021	AILG -Government Decision on Reform on Remuneration Payable to Local Government	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo	8
13th October 2021	Climate Action Economic Opportunites - Virtual Conference	Online	1
29th October 2021	AILG /OPR Webinar 'How to Implement National Renewable Energy Targets in Dev. Plan'	Online	1
3rd-4th November 2021	LAMA - Autumn Training Seminar	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo	19
6th November 2021	AILG - 'Elected Members Mental Health & Well being with Briefing from the National Office for Suicide Preverntion'	Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit Galway	2
10th November 2021	AILG - 'Elected Members Mental Health & Well being with Briefing from the National Office for Suicide Preverntion'	Avalon House, Kilkenny	2
12th November 2021	Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme Webinar	Online	7
18th-19th November 2021	IPI - Annual Planning Conference	Clayton Whites Hotel, Wexford	2



STAFF STRUCTURE

DIRECTORATE:

Finance & Information Technology

DIRECTOR
Liam McCarthy

FINANCE GENERAL

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Claire Ryan
Financial Accountant

Paddy Brennan
Management Accountant

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Breda Moloney AO

REVENUE

Peter Cleary AO

MOTOR TAX

Rosarie Hickey AO

IT

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Gerard Lynch
Head of IS

IS PROJECT LEADERS

Yvonne Byrne
Dermot Tobin
Ruth Maher

DIRECTORATE:

Planning, Water Services & Thurles Municipal District

A/DIRECTOR
Eamon Lonergan

PLANNING

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Vacant, SP

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Brian Clancy, AO

WATER SERVICES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Denis Holland SE
Section Head

Gerry Robinson SE (A)

John Crowley SE (A)

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Pat Holland AO

Eddie Loughnane AO

John Fogarty SEE (A)

DIRECTORATE:

Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) - National

DIRECTOR
Karl Cashen

LAWPRO SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Carol McCarthy
Project Lead Catchment Assessment Team

Vacant
Coordinator based in Tullamore

Fran Igoe
Coordinator based in Clonmel

Vacant
Coordinator based in Carrick-on-Shannon

CATCHMENT MANAGERS & BASE

Martina Smith
Monaghan

Bernie White
Galway

Margaret Keegan
Dublin

Maeve Ryan
Limerick

Ruth Hennessy
Clonmel

SPECIALIST SUPPORT STAFF

Sheevaun Thompson
Funding Lead

Michael Pollard
IT & Administration

Alan Walsh
Communications and Marketing Lead

(all three based in Clonmel)

DIRECTORATE:

Housing Services & Clonmel Borough District

DIRECTOR
Sinéad Carr

HOUSING

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Cora Morrissey SEO
Jonathon Cooney SE (A)

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Sean Lonergan AO

Shane Grogan AO

DIRECTORATE:

Roads, Transportation & Infrastructure and Nenagh Municipal District

DIRECTOR
Marcus O'Connor

ROADS

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Liam Brett SE

John Nolan SE

Paddy Crowley SE (A) (Active Travel)

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Michelle Maher AO

Michael Woulfe SEE

DIRECTORATE:

Corporate Services,
Human Resources,
Environment and
Climate Action

DIRECTOR

Clare Curley

CORPORATE SERVICES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Ger Walsh SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

David Coleman AO

HUMAN RESOURCES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Michael Moroney SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Paul Murray AO

ENVIRONMENT

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Marion O'Neill SEO

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Ruairi Boland SEE

Kieran McKenna SEE (A)

Orla Kelly AO

DIRECTORATE:

Economic & Community
Development &
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel
Municipal District

DIRECTOR

Pat Slattery

ECONOMIC

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Anthony Fitzgerald
Head of Enterprise

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Ita Horan
Local Enterprise Office

Kathleen Prendergast AO

Marie Phelan AO

COMMUNITY

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Margo Hayes AO

Marie Cox AO (A)

Fiona Crotty A/AO

DIRECTORATE:

Emergency Services, Health & Safety,
Library & Cultural Services
and Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District

A/DIRECTOR

Brian Beck

FIRE SERVICES

SECTION HEAD
SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Dave Carroll CFO

SACFO

- Ray O'Leary
- Eddie Ryan
- John Shinnors
- Gareth McLoughlin

CIVIL DEFENCE

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Dolores Fahey
Civil Defence Officer

HEALTH & SAFETY

Liam Quinn SEE

LIBRARIES

SEO/SE ANALOGOUS

Damien Dullaghan
County Librarian

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Jess Codd
Senior Executive Librarian

Ann Marie Brophy
Senior Executive Librarian

CULTURE/ARTS

SECTION HEAD -
OTHER GRADE

Melanie Scott
Arts Officer

Roisin O'Grady
Heritage Officer

Marie McMahon
Museum Curator

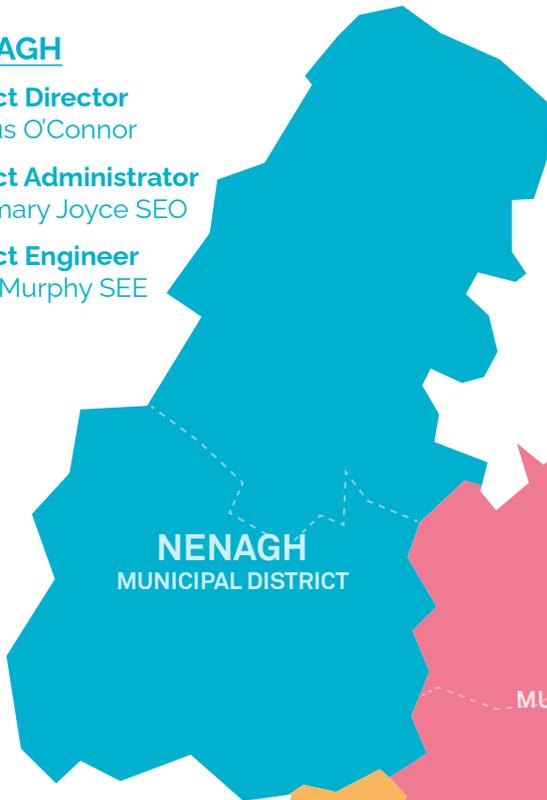
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT STAFF STRUCTURE

NENAGH

District Director
Marcus O'Connor

District Administrator
Rosemary Joyce SEO

District Engineer
Barry Murphy SEE



NENAGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

THURLES

District Director
Eamon Lonergan

District Administrator
Sharon Scully AO

District Engineer
Thomas Duffy SEE



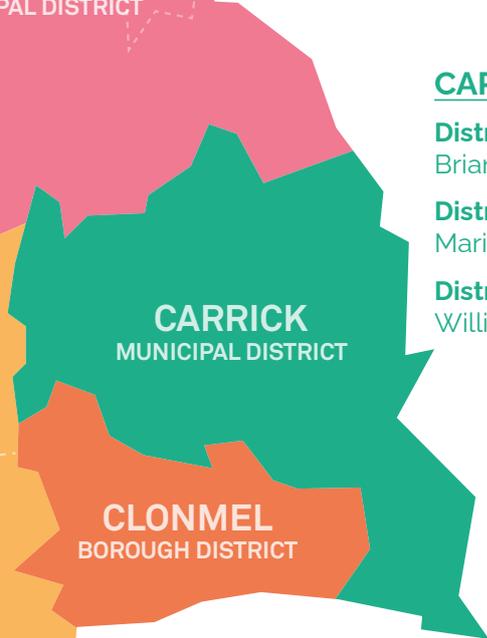
THURLES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

CARRICK

District Director
Brian Beck

District Administrator
Marie O'Gorman AO

District Engineer
Willie Corby SEE



CARRICK
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

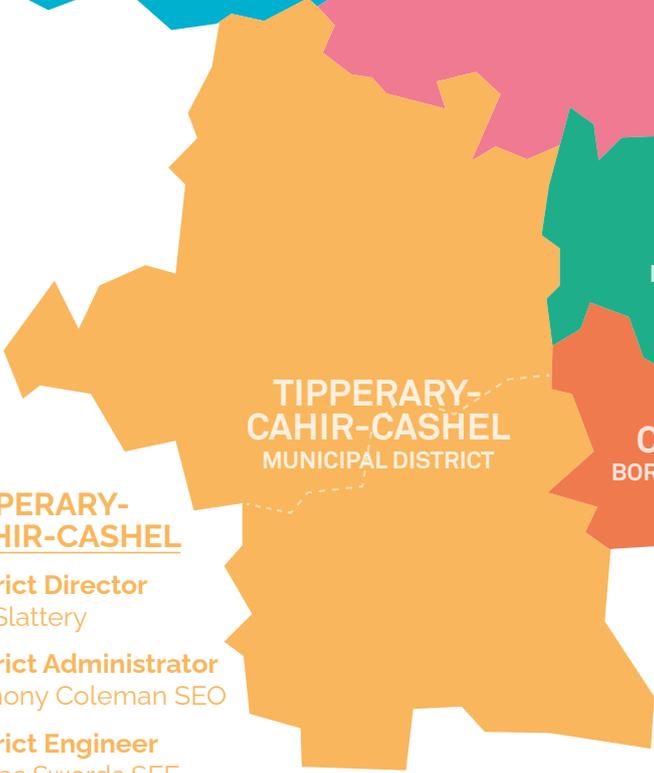
**TIPPERARY-
CAHIR-CASHEL**
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

TIPPERARY- CAHIR-CASHEL

District Director
Pat Slattery

District Administrator
Anthony Coleman SEO

District Engineer
James Swords SEE



CLONMEL
BOROUGH DISTRICT

CLONMEL

District Director
Sinead Carr

District Administrator
Jim Dillon AO

District Engineer
Kieran Malone A/SE





ASSOCIATED COMPANIES REGISTER FOR TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Company Name	Company Secretary	Directors		
		Community/Other Reps	TCC Nominees	Councillors
Nenagh Arts Centre Ltd	Nora O'Connor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Ryan • Nora O'Connor • Bernadette Slattery • Tom Moylan • Virginia O'Dowd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melanie Scott • Marcus O'Connor • Rosemary Joyce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hugh McGrath • Fiona Bonfield • Joe Hannigan
Thurles Swimming Pool	Michael Ryan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deirdre O'Shea • Matt Shortt(retired DOS) • Michael Ryan • Vacant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean Ryan • Peter Ryan
Thurles Regional Arts Centre Ltd	Michael Ryan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam Ryan • Michelle Carew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam McCarthy • Michael Ryan • Matt Shortt • Damien Dullaghan • Karl Cashen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Ryan • Seamus Hanafin • Peter Ryan
Roscrea Swimming Pool Ltd	Eddie Loughnane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean Guilfoyle • Eileen Doherty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eddie Loughnane • Liam McCarthy • John Jones • Patrick Slattery • Deidre O'Shea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Smith Jnr • Noel Coonan
North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services Ltd	Rosemary Joyce	• N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcus O'Connor • Rosemary Joyne • Roisin O'Grady • Damien Dullaghan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerard Darcy • Hughie McGrath • Joe Hannigan
South East Regional Craft Centre Ltd	Ita Horan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam Ahearne • Cyril Cullen • Mary Whelan • Mary Kinane • Maeve Sookram • Eileen Codon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ita Horan • Karl Cashen • Jess Codd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie Murphy • Michael Anglim • Siobhán Ambrose
Clonmel Business Development Park Company Ltd	Ita Horan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walter Heneghan • Paula Carney-Hoffler • Michael Campbell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Dillon • Anthony Fitzgerald • Jonathan Cooney • Ita Horan • Ger Walsh 	N/A
Shannon Broadband Ltd	Jennifer Kearns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban McMahon • Jim Dore • Ray O'Driscoll • Ray Bell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ger Lynch 	N/A

Company Name	Company Secretary	Directors		
		Community/Other Reps	TCC Nominees	Councillors
Tipperary Tourism Company	Marie Phelan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isabel Camble • Una Ryan • Todd McNamara • Patrick Matin Killeen • Elizabeth Nallen • Noreen O'Sullivan • John Egan • Terry Cunningham • Patricia McKeogh • Marie Hennessy • Sinead Delaney Cash 	Joe McGrath	N/A
Tipperary Energy Agency Ltd	Francoise Hickey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seamus Hoyne • James Owen Lewis • Thomas Cooke • Isabel Camble • Claire Ryan Walsh • Marie Donnelly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liam McCarthy • Marion O'Neill 	Michael Murphy
Munster Vales CLG	Triona O'Mahoney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billy Duggan • Aoife Potter • Rose Carroll • Declan Mulhearn • Margaret O'Sullivan • Christy Roach • Jana Mannion • Mary Barry Guerin • Grainne Mannion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie Phelan • Pat Slattery • Triona O'Mahoney 	N/A
Irish Bioeconomy Foundation CLG	Liam Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin O'Connor • Ramesh Babu Padamati • Michelle Collins • John Morrissey 	Anthony Fitzgerald	N/A
Tipperary Technology Park	Paul Murray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacqui Finnan • Anne Halligan • Michael Maguire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Conway • Paul Murray • Anthony Coleman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Fitzgerald • John Crosse
Clonmel Community Resource Centre Ltd	Cora Gentles	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ita Horan • Pat Slattery 	N/A
Tipperary Culinary Delights Ltd	Ita Horan	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Slattery • Ita Horan 	N/A

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Data is draft only for 2020 and final report will be available through NOAC on publication of Performance Indicator Report 2020 at the end of 2021.

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Housing: H1, H2 & H4 Approved	A. Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 1/1/2021	5150	
	B. Number of dwellings added to the local authority owned stock during 2021 (whether constructed or acquired)	122	
	C. Number of local authority owned dwellings sold in 2021	15	
	D. Number of local authority owned dwellings demolished in 2021	1	
	E. Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 31/12/2021	5256	
	F. Number of local authority owned dwellings planned for demolition under a D/HLGH approved scheme at 31/12/2021	0	
	A. The percentage of the total number of local authority owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2021	2.42 %	
	The number of dwellings within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2021	127	
	A. Expenditure during 2021 on the maintenance of local authority housing compiled from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021, divided by the no. of dwellings in the local authority stock at 31/12/2021, i.e. the H1E less H1F indicator figure	€567.98	
	Expenditure on maintenance of local authority stock compiled from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021, including planned maintenance and expenditure that qualified for grants, such as Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grants for energy efficient retro-fitting works but excluding expenditure on vacant properties and expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration or under the Remedial Works Schemes).	€2985299.7	
Housing: H3 & H5 Approved	A. The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 2021 when the dwelling is re-tenanted, averaged across all dwellings re-let during 2021	43.66 wk	The time to re-let has been impacted by the bringing back into use of a large number of long term voids which was possible through increased availability of funds. We expect to see this number reduced significantly in next year's figure.
	B. The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in 2021, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2021	€7406.66	A significant number of dwellings did not require large investment
	The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in 2021 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)	240	
	The number of weeks from the date of vacation to the date the dwelling is re-tenanted	10478 wk	
	Total expenditure on works necessary to enable re-letting of the dwellings	€1777597.46	
	A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at the end of June 2021	Will be supplied by Residential Tenancies Board	Not available on date of publication
	B. Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2021		
	C. Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2021 not compliant with the Standards Regulations		
	D. Number of dwellings deemed compliant in 2021 (including those originally deemed non-compliant)		
	E. The number of inspections (including reinspections) undertaken by the local authority in 2021		
Housing: H6 Approved	A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term (i.e. 6 months or more within the previous year) homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2021	26.32 %	Figures directly from iPass system. Increase in homelessness may be due to increased numbers of private landlords exiting the market and issuing NTQs to tenants.
	The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2021 as recorded on the PASS system	57	
	The number out of those individuals who, on 31/12/2021, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months	15	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Roads: R1 & R2 Approved	A. (a) The percentage of Regional road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2021	97.00 %	
	A. (b) The percentage of Local Primary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2021	81.00 %	
	A. (c) The percentage of Local Secondary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2021	77.00 %	
	A. (d) The percentage of Local Tertiary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2021	84.00 %	
	B. (a.1) The percentage of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2021	7.19 %	
	B. (a.2) The percentage of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2021	8.08 %	
	B. (a.3) The percentage of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2021	65.33 %	
	B. (a.4) The percentage of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2021	19.38 %	
	B. (b.1) The percentage of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2021	14.17 %	
	B. (b.2) The percentage of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2021	10.63 %	
	B. (b.3) The percentage of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2021	56.60 %	
	B. (b.4) The percentage of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2021	18.36 %	
	B. (c.1) The percentage of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2021	21.47 %	
	B. (c.2) The percentage of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2021	10.88 %	
	B. (c.3) The percentage of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2021	50.78 %	
	B. (c.4) The percentage of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2021	15.66 %	
	B. (d.1) The percentage of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2021	34.94 %	
	B. (d.2) The percentage of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2021	14.84 %	
	B. (d.3) The percentage of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2021	27.40 %	
	B. (d.4) The percentage of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2021	9.99 %	
	A.1 Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2021	25.4 km	
	A.2 The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2021	€5454365.00	
	A.3 The average unit cost of regional road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€30.81	
	B.1 Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2021	42.8 km	
	B.2 The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2021	€1563825.00	
	B.3 The average unit cost of regional road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€5.85	
	C.1 Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2021	117.8 km	
C.2 The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2021	€12207085.00		
C.3 The average unit cost of local road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€23.54		
D.1 Kilometres of local road resealed during 2021	147.8 km		
D.2 The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2021	€3483050.00		
D.3 The average unit cost of local road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€5.37		
Motor Tax: R3 Approved	A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which were dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2021	86.84 %	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Water: W1 & W2 Approved	Percentage of drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements	Data will be supplied by the Environmental Protection Agency	Not available on date of publication
	The number of registered schemes monitored by each local authority as a percentage of total schemes registered	92.91 %	
	The number of registered schemes monitored in 2021	131	
	Total number of registered schemes in 2021	141	
Waste: E1 Approved	A. The number of households, which are situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2021	26813	
	B. The percentage of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations of more than 500)	118.45 %	
Environmental Pollution: E2 Approved	A. Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2021	1524	
	A. Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	1487	
	A. Total number of pollution cases on hands at 31/12/2021	145	
	The opening number of pollution cases carried forward from the year end 2020	108	
Litter Pollution: E3 Approved	A1. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2021 was unpolluted or litter free	63 %	
	A2. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2021 was slightly polluted	19 %	
	A3. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2021 was moderately polluted	17 %	
	A4. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2021 was significantly polluted	2 %	
	A5. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2021 was grossly polluted	0 %	
Green Flag Status: E4 Approved	A. The percentage of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2021	33.69 %	
	Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2021	1	
	Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2021	17	
	Schools which held a Green Flag from 2020 and therefore do not require renewal until 2022	45	
Energy Efficiency: E5 In Progress	A. The cumulative percentage of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2021 relative to baseline year (2009)	Data will be supplied by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland	Not available on date of publication
Public Lighting: E6 Approved	A. Total billable wattage of the public lighting system	7186.00 MWh	
	B. Average billable wattage of the public lighting system	98.00 W	
	C. Percentage of the total system that LED lights represent	32.00 %	
	Number of LED lights in the public lighting system	5958	
	Number of non-LED lights (e.g., SOX-SON) in the public lighting system	12861	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Planning: P1 Approved	A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	31.71 %	
	Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 by a builder or developer on the local authority	432	
	Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2021 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2021 undertaken by the local authority	137	
Planning: P2 & P3 Approved	A. Number of local authority planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2021	32	
	B. Percentage of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation of the plan) the decision made by the local authority	84.38 %	
	Number of determinations confirming the local authority's decision (either with or without variation)	27	
	A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 that were investigated	162	
	B. Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2021	171	
	C. Percentage of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	70.76 %	
	D. Percentage of the cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0 %	
	E. Percentage of the cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	29.24 %	
	F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2021	758	
	Number of cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	121	
	Number of cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0	
	Number of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	50	
	Planning: P4 & P5 Approved	A. The 2021 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2016 Census	€24.98
AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2021		€3985897.74	
A. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2021 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt		42.55 %	
B. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2021 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant		52.13 %	
The total number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2021 that were not withdrawn by the applicant		94	
The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2021 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application		40	
The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2021 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period		49	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Fire Service: F1 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2021 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2016 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports	€52.45	
	AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention for 2021	€8406488.5	
Fire Service: F2 & F3 Approved	A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire		
	B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.58 min	
	C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents		
	D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	5.86 min	
	A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes	30.71 %	
	B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	65.85 %	
	C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	3.44 %	
	D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	21.26 %	
	E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	73.75 %	
	F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	4.99 %	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	407	
	Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	125	
	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	268	
	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	14	
	Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	762	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	162	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	562	
	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	38	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Library Service: L1 Approved	A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the local authority area per the 2016 Census	0.69	
	B. Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year	287560	There was a large decrease in Press Reader usage from 133,893 in 2020, to 53,666 in 2021. This can be explained by changes in access rights. Access to the app had to be verified on the library branch WiFi, which was difficult during lockdowns, and the Irish Independent was removed from the app. L1B reopened on 26 April 2022 to account for a change in the issues. Spreadsheet received from Libraries Development showed a discrepancy in how we recorded Transparent Language usage. We had a figure of count of 43,043 but the LGMA figure is 914. The issues have been readjusted to account for this lower figure of 914.
	C. Library active members per head of population	0.08	
	D. Number of registered library members in the year	10780	In order to have an accurate figure going into 2022, the policy of automatic renewals were stopped and accounts were allowed to expire again. Any account which was over a year old was set to expire between 1st September and early December. This led to a high amount of account expiring at the end of the year. Covid-19 restrictions resulted in a big drop off in registered members, with the unusually large number of 'unassigned' members further distorting the statistics.
	Number of visits to its libraries from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	109681	All libraries closed for 18 weeks of 2021. Open for 34 weeks on reduced opening hours with no late evenings and closing for lunch.
Library Service: L2 Approved	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2021 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2016 Census	€28.15	
	B. The annual per capita expenditure on collections over the period 1/01/2021 to 31/12/2021	€1.01	
	A. AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2021	€4491408.8	
	B. The annual expenditure on new stock acquired by the library in the year	€160723.75	
Youth and Community: Y1 & Y2 Approved	A. Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nOg scheme	63.33 %	
	Total number of second level schools in the local authority area at 31/12/2021	30	
	Number of second level schools in the local authority area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nOg AGM held in 2021	19	
	A. The number of organisations included in the County Register at 31/12/2021 and the proportion of those organisations that opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN	1151	
	Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2021	1364	
	Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2021	248	
	Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN	157	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Corporate: C1, C2, C4 & C5 Approved	A. The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2021	1040.79	
	A. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2021	3.79 %	
	B. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2021	0.18 %	
	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2021	9229.94 day	
	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2021	433.37 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2021	0 day	
	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2021	265 day	
	If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave	101	
	A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021, divided by the WTE no.	€3685.57	
	Total ICT expenditure in 2021	€3835900	
	A. All ICT expenditure calculated in C4 as a proportion of Revenue expenditure	2.06	
Total Revenue expenditure from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 before transfers to or from reserves	186435161		
Corporate: C3 Approved	A. The per capita total page views of the local authority's websites in 2021	15.59	
	B. The per capita total number of followers at end 2021 of the local authority's social media accounts (if any)	0.80	
	The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the local authority for the period from 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service or equivalent	2487384	
	The total number of social media users who, at 31/12/2021, were following the local authority on any social media sites	127044	
	The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority	42	
	Indicate if there was a change to the cookie policies on the local authority sites and the date this came into effect	Cookie policies stayed the same during 2021. They were applied the previous year, Oct 2020.	

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Finance: M1 to M4 Approved	A. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2017 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5550224	
	B. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2018 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5555516	
	C. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2019 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5562106	
	D. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2020 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS		
	E. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2021 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€5573356	
	F. Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2021 as a percentage of Total Income in 2021 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	2.81 %	
	G. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2021	€1168.78	
	H. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2021 excluding significant out of county / shared service expenditure	€0	
	The 2021 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€198640961	
	The 2021 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€186482717	
	The 2021 Revenue expenditure excluding county / shared service expenditure for the service providers of HAP, MyPay, DRHE and Dublin Fire Services	€0	
	A. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	81.5 %	
	A. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	98.7 %	
	A. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2017	84.4 %	
	B. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	82.5 %	
	B. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	93.3 %	
	B. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2018	85.0 %	
	C. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	83.2 %	
	C. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	95.4 %	
	C. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	90.1 %	
	D. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020		
	D. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020		
	D. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020		
	E. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	83 %	
	E. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	97 %	
	E. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	99 %	
	A. Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2021	€16.81	
	IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2021	155	
	IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2021	147	
	IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2021	€2681313.49	
	Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2021	€160	
	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2021		
	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2021		
Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2021			
A. Overall central management charge as a percentage of total expenditure on revenue account	12.32 %		
B. Total payroll costs as a percentage of revenue expenditure	36.30 %		
Overall central management charge from the Local Authority FMS and defined in the Annual Budget	€22972387		
Total payroll costs from Appendix 1 of the AFS for 2021 (including Salaries, Wages and Pensions)	€67686687		

TOPIC	INDICATOR	VALUE	COMMENT
Economic Development: J1 to J5 Approved	A. The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 per 100,000 of population	50.7668	
	The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	81.0	
	A. The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2021 per 100,000 of population	55.1541	
	B. The number of trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2021 per 100,000 of population	26.3235	
	The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2021	88	
	The number of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2021	42	
	A. The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021 per 100,000 of population	384.8251	
	The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2021 to 31/12/2021	614	
	A. Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy?	Yes	
	B. Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer?	Yes	
	The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2021 per head of population	€45.45	
	The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2021	€7251337.04	



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Telephone

0818 06 5000

E-Mail

customerservices@
tipperarycoco.ie

www.tipperarycoco.ie

Tipperary County Council

Civic Offices
Limerick Road
Nenagh
Co. Tipperary

Tipperary County Council

Civic Offices
Emmet Street
Clonmel
Co. Tipperary

