



Management Report to Council



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March dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> 10:00 CPG Mtg
<u>10</u> 10:00 TCC Plenary Mtg	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> 14:30 Environment & Climate Action SPC Meeting	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>18</u> 10:00 LCDC (In person) Mtg 14:30 Thurles MD Mtg	<u>18</u> 11:00 Clonmel BD Mtg	<u>19</u> 10:00 Nenagh MD Mtg	<u>20</u> 10:00 Library Services, Culture & Biodiversity SPC Mtg
<u>23</u> 11:00 Tipperary-Cahir- Cashel MD Mtg	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> 14:00 Carrick-on-Suir MD Mtg	<u>27</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>			

Report at a Glance



**Roads, Transportation,
Health & Safety**

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Libraries & Cultural

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**Planning & Development &
Emergency Services**

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**Finance &
Information
Technology**

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ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE



New Policy/Strategic Issues

Policy Changes/Updates

A meeting of the Infrastructure SPC was held on 25 February 2025 and considered the following items:

- Regional and Local Roads Allocations 2025
- Review of Severe Weather Snow/Ice Event
- Parking Harmonisation Pathways.

Recommendations from the SPC will be presented to the Plenary Council in due course.

Directorate Priorities

Major Current Issues

Progress to date

Next Stage

Major inter-urban routes


2 no. N24 projects notified on NDP 2021-2030:

Cahir to Limerick Junction: Arup appointed Oct 2019 for Phase 1-4. Website launched August 2020. Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility complete in September 2020. Phase 2: Preferred Transport Solution announced May 2022. TCC published the Options Selection Report in March 2023. Phase 3: Design Update No. 1 took place on 23 January 2023. Design Update No. 2 took place on 25th Oct 2024 and announced a divided road.

Waterford to Cahir: Arup appointed by Kilkenny County Council August 2020 to complete Phase 1-4. Website launched February 2021. Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility complete April 2021. Phase 2: Options selection commenced 3 May 2022. The Proposed Transport Solution was announced on 19th January 2024. A non-statutory public display of the Preferred Transport Solution was held from 23 January to 9 February 2024. Four in-person public displays were held in Carrick, Clonmel, Cahir and Mooncoin.

Cahir to Limerick Junction: Phase 3: Design and Environmental Evaluation is 60% complete. This will define land take required for the preferred option. The Draft Design is to be advertised in Q1 2025. An Bord Pleanála application programmed Q4 2025.

Waterford to Cahir: Phase 2 – The Options Selection Report is due to be published before the end of 2024. TII did not provide an allocation for 2024 and therefore this project is shelved. Funding is required for the project to progress to Phase 3.

Capital Programme 2025	Implementation of Programme	2025 TII Allocations are awaited.
Implementation of 2025 Operational Road Works Programme	Implementation of Programme	2025 Regional and Local Road allocations received and circulated.
<p>Rural and Community Schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Involvement Scheme 2025 Local Improvement Scheme 2025 	<p>Implement in conjunction with Districts and Community and Enterprise Department</p> 	<p>The allocation for Community Involvement Schemes in 2025 is €983,400. Applications are on hand for the 2025 programme of works.</p> <p>The allocation for Local Improvement Schemes in 2025 is €1,023,479. Applications are on hand for the 2025 programme of works.</p> <p>Both schemes will be advertised in mid-2025 for applications for the two-year programme 2026-2027.</p>
Consultation	Consultation with TII, Elected Members and staff.	The Annual Meeting with TII will be scheduled for Q4 2025.
Speed Limit Review - update	<p>The Department of Transport carried out a Review of Speed Limits nationally and this has resulted in changes to the default speed limits for roads in Ireland. These changes were signed into law in April 2024.</p> <p>The changes to the legislation will reduce the default speed limits on some road categories including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60km/hr on Rural Local Roads (reduction from 80km/hr) 80km/hr on National Secondary Roads (currently 100km/hr) 30km/hr in Urban Areas (currently predominantly 50km/hr). <p>* The default speed limit commenced nationally on 7 February 2025 and all Rural Local Roads in Tipperary now have a 60kmh speed limit. There was no requirement to revoke any element of our existing Special Speed Limit Byelaws. The stretches of Local Roads within urban areas (USLZ) were not part of this Phase One.</p>	<p>It is proposed by the National Group that implementation of the speed limits will be done in phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 - Rural Local Roads* Phase 2 - National Secondary Roads and Urban Areas Phase 3 - Other Special Circumstances, such as schools. <p>Maps are being prepared for Phase 2. Notification of the commencement of the Special Speed Limit process issued in late January to relevant stakeholders.</p>



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Nenagh Municipal District		
N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge	This scheme involves raising the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road. Preliminary design work continues on this challenging scheme. A ground investigation has been completed and the scheme has been formally categorised as a Minor Improvement Scheme. The Council has received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design. A tender competition for design phases 1 and 2 has been completed.	Preliminary design will commence when TII funding becomes available. No funding allocation was provided by TII in 2024.
N65 Carrigahorig Pavement Improvement Scheme	The scheme in the village of Carrigahorig involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> road pavement improvement works addressing a number of road safety issues the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borrisokane side of the village public lighting improvements some public realm improvements. RPS consultants have been appointed and the Preliminary design has been completed. Part 8 planning procedures commenced in June 2024 and approval received in October 2024.	Advance works (drainage attenuation pond) to commence in March 2025, subject to funding allocation.
Thurles Municipal District		
N62 Thurles Outer Bypass	Route Selected in 2011 and reserved corridor in place. TCC lobbying for it to be included in the next NDP.	Promote the inclusion of a Thurles Bypass on the National Development Plan.
N62 Slievenamon Road Thurles, Phase 2	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 447m of pavement on the N62 road through Thurles. The scheme involves changes to the road layout, road rehabilitation, replacement and widening of existing footpaths, provision of essential pedestrian infrastructure such as crossing areas, build outs, surface water drainage improvements, undergrounding of overhead power lines and public realm improvements. The preliminary design and Part 8 planning process have been completed. Consultants for the detail design were appointed in April 2024 and the detail design has commenced.	It is anticipated that construction will commence in late 2025 subject to the availability of funding.



N75 Liberty Square to Anner Hotel	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 1km of road pavement on the N75 National Secondary road within the town of Thurles from its junction with Mitchel Street to the Anner Hotel. The scheme was held up for a while due to funding restrictions but went out to tender in December 2024 and the scheme is now at tender assessment stage.	It is anticipated that construction will commence in Q1 2025 subject to the availability of funding.
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Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District		
N24 Carrick-on-Suir Pavement Strengthening	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of 3.5km of pavement on the N24 National Primary route. GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd were awarded this contract in July 2022. Works are substantially completed and are now in the maintenance period. Some remedial works are required and will be carried out during this period.	12 months maintenance period ongoing into 2025 and snags are being addressed.
Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District		
Project	Progress to Date	Next Stage
(N24 Main Street) N74 Fr Mathew Street, Tipperary Town	This scheme involves the N74 Fr Mathew Street in Tipperary Town. Preliminary and detailed design stages are completed and a Contractor Glas Civil Engineering has been appointed to carry out the works, which commenced on April 29 th 2024.	Construction work will take approximately 18 months and it is anticipated that the scheme will be completed by Q3 2025.
N24 Knockagh Roundabout approach	This scheme comprises the pavement strengthening of approximately 1.6km of the N24 National Route extending east from the Knockagh Roundabout. The Contract has been awarded to Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd., and will commence on site in Q1 of 2025.	Commencement of Works in Q1 2025.
Clonmel Borough District		
N24 Moangarriff to Twomilebridge Pavement and Traffic Calming	This scheme involves traffic calming and the inclusion of improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities as well as road pavement strengthening. Preliminary Design is under way along with liaison with TII Road Safety engineers. Progression of this scheme has been delayed due to resourcing issues and prioritisation of other schemes. TCC have sought additional resources to allow the scheme to progress through the next stages.	The Planning process will commence following obtainment of TII technical approvals.



Strategic Non-National Road Projects		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends	The CPO was published in August 2020, an Oral Hearing was held on 1 st & 2 nd December and the CPO was confirmed on April 16 th , 2021 without modifications. RPS consultants were appointed on 3 November 2022 to complete the design work and procure a works contractor for the scheme. The detail design was substantially completed in Q4 2023. Advance works were completed in Q1 2024. Archaeological investigations to commence in June/July 2024. Archaeological investigations and excavations are substantially complete.	It is anticipated that the tender for the Main Works contract will be advertised in February 2025 and works will commence in Q3 2025.
Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme	The Main Contractor for the scheme is John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd. Works commenced on site in August 2022. The scheme is now getting close to substantial completion.	The scheme is expected to be completed in Q2 2025.
Thurles Inner Relief Road	Thurles Inner Relief Road is a proposed local link between the N62 and the Mill Road. The proposed scheme comprises approximately 1.1km of new road with: a signalised junction on the Slievenamon Road at the Clongour Road junction; a new priority junction with Mill Road and 5 no. intermediate priority junctions to provide access; 50-metre span tied bowstring arch crossing of the River Suir; public lighting; flood alleviation works along the River Suir. This scheme is on the NDP and DoT approval will be required to allow it to go to detailed design. Lidl has completed construction of a section of the road for access to new store.	DoT has requested a Detailed Business Case and Procurement Strategy and TCC is preparing these for submission. DoT approval is then required to proceed to Detailed Design and Construction.

GREENWAY PROJECTS – UPDATES

Greenways 2025 Total Allocation: Unknown	Current Update
Cashel to Cahir Greenway- Cashel to Cahir Town	Phase 1 Feasibility Report was submitted to TII for comment in August 2024. Comments were received from TII on 10/10/2024. The revised Feasibility Report was reissued to TII on 10 th February 2025 with responses to TII comments.
Lough Derg Greenway – Ballina to Dromineer	Phase 2 Options Selection Report and cost estimates for the scheme were submitted to TII for review on 27/09/2024. TII issued comments on 29/11/2024. TII would not recommend submitting this report for TII Peer Review at this time and advised revision of the report as per comments. TCC and their Technical Advisor are currently preparing responses to TII comments and revising the report.
Marlfield Blueway Clonmel – Convent Rd to Marlfield	Draft tender documents were submitted to TII for approval to appoint new Technical Consultants for the project. TII have informed TCC that there was no funding available in 2024 to progress the project at this time.
Suir Blueway, Gas House Bridge – Suir Island, Clonmel	An Bord Pleanála decision was initially due 05/05/2024. ABP requested further information from TCC on 09/07/2024. This further information was submitted to ABP on 25/09/2024 and notice published on 14/11/2024. The Public submission period was 15/11/2024 to 23/12/2024. Three submissions were received from the Public. We await ABP’s decision.
Suir Blueway – Marlfield to Cahir – Marlfield Village to Swiss Cottage	The Phase 1 Feasibility Report has been revised following 2 rounds of feedback from TII. The latest revised report and comment responses were issued to TII on 06/12/2024. TCC intend to apply for Gate Review approval in February 2025 to move to Phase 2.
Suir Blueway – Waterford Greenway Link – Carrick o/n Suir to Kilmeaden	The Phase 1 Feasibility Report was submitted to TII for comment in 23/08/2024. TII issued comments on 29/10/2024. The report is currently being revised in line with the comments received and due to be returned to TII towards end of February 2025.



Department of Transport (DoT)

Tipperary County Council Regional and Local Roads Allocations 2025	
Restoration Improvement	€19,319,000
Restoration Maintenance	€2,425,500
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€2,122,500
Discretionary Grant	€4,846,500
Bridge Rehabilitation	€1,070,000
Specific Imp. Grant	€560,000
Strategic Regional and Local Roads	€6,150,000
Safety Improvement Works	€771,500
PSCI: Survey Support	€44,000
Training Grant	€129,500
Drainage Works	€1,073,000
Former National Roads	€680,000
Speed Limits Review Signs	€940,000
Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Works	€938,490
Community Involvement Scheme	€983,400
Total Allocation	€42,053,390

Health and Safety Workshop

A Health and Safety Workshop was recently delivered to Roads Outdoor Staff over two half days, in the Horse and Jockey Hotel.

Pictured below is Liam Brett, Director of Services addressing the Workshop, along with Senior Engineer James Murray, Roads Health and Safety Co-Ordinator, Kieran Malone, Senior Engineer, Roads Operations, and guest speaker.



All-Ireland Community and Council Awards 2025

In 2024, Roads/Active Travel Section submitted an entry to the All-Ireland Community and Council Awards in the Best Sustainable Transport Category for the Clonmel Town Bus Service.

While unlucky not to win an Overall Award, the Clonmel Town Bus Service was Shortlisted in its category.



Pictured at the awards ceremony held recently in Cork are:

James Murray, Senior Engineer Roads Operations; Adam Coffey EE Area Engineer;
Anthony Moroney, General Manager Local Link Tipperary; Cllr. Pat English, Mayor Clonmel Borough District;
Nicola Keating, SEE, former District Engineer; Cllr. Michéal Anglim, LAMA.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues</u>			
<u>Policy Changes/Up-Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>	<u>Progression in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
<p>Residential Zoned Land Tax (reviewed and updated annually)</p>	<p>Final maps for 2025 were published on 31 January 2025.</p> <p>Draft Maps for 2026 were published on 01 February 2025.</p> <p>Submissions are invited up to 01 April 2025 in respect of (a) the inclusion / exclusion of land on the Draft Map for 2026 (b) seeking a re-zoning of land identified on the Final Map for 2025.</p>	<p>Work undertaken to prepare Final Maps for 2025 and Draft Maps for 2026, including surveys of settlements; review of Uisce Eireann Capacity Registers; and zoning changes arising from the adoption of the Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles LAPs.</p>	<p>The Council will evaluate all written submissions received.</p> <p>Submissions on Annual Draft Map 2026 – The Council must issue a Determination on landowner submissions not later than 1 July 2025.</p> <p>The Final Maps for 2026 will be published on 31 January 2026 and will take account of determinations and appeal decisions. The Draft Maps for 2027 will be published on 01 February 2026 with a 2 month consultation period (1 February to 1 April 2026).</p> <p>Rezoning Requests on Final Map 2025 – A rezoning request acknowledgment letter (including planning history of land) will be issued by 30 April 2025 from the Council to the landowner. This letter can be used to support a claim for an exemption from the tax for 2025. The Council will communicate in writing</p>



			to the landowner its decision on whether to progress with a variation to the statutory land use plan by 30 June 2025. Decisions on rezoning requests cannot be appealed to An Bord Pleanála.
Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031	Proposed Materials Alterations (PMAs) to the Draft Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan published on 28 th February. Submissions invited until 4pm on Monday, 31 st March 2025	Chief Executive Report to be prepared on the Draft LAP shared with Elected Members on 22 nd January. Workshop held with Elected Members of Carrick-on-Suir MD on 23 rd January. Elected Members at February Council meeting resolved to <u>AMEND</u> the Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031	Chief Executive Report to be prepared on PMAs in April and workshop with Elected Members of Carrick-on-Suir MD. Decision on making of the LAP required at May plenary meeting. If made, the LAP will become effective 6 weeks after the making of the Plan.
First Revision to the Draft National Policy Framework (NPF)	NPF recently discussed at Cabinet.	No further progress at local authority level since last reported to Council.	Final changes must be agreed by the Oireachtas. This is likely to happen in Q2 2025.



<u>Town Centre First (TCF)/ Town Regeneration Officer (TRO)</u>			
<u>Policy Changes/Up-Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>	<u>Progression in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Town Centre First Policy	Carrick on Suir - Funding confirmed for new TCF Plan	Draft plan finalised	Publication as part of LAP
	Draft Newport TCF Plan .	Draft Plan published for submissions. Town Team formed	Finalise draft.
	Nenagh TCF Plan to be prepared.	TCF plan tender awarded	Draft plan to be agreed
	Thurles Renewal Strategy to be updated to TCF Plan	Tender process for TCF plan to be progressed	Tender to be awarded
	TCF Suite of Funding supports for towns < 10,000	Ongoing for Thurles, Nenagh and Cashel	Funding to be allocated for support of TCF teams
	Thrive Strand 2	Call to submit applications open. Key towns eligible Nenagh, Clonmel and Thurles	Assessment of applications for submission to Southern Regional Assembly

<u>National Planning Framework: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u>		
<u>Project</u>	<u>Progress in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Templemore Town Hall Enterprise and Cultural Centre with Civic Plaza	Works practically completed September, 2024. Department approval received in November, 2024 for additional kerbing, paving and resurfacing works. Facility was officially opened by Minister Heather Humphreys on 3 rd . December, 2024 and open to the public.	Complete additional kerbing, paving and resurfacing works by end of May, 2025.
Thurles Market Quarter - Regeneration through Recreation, Education and Support for Local Producers	Final Business Case approved by the Department. Successful/Unsuccessful letters issued to tenderers. Contracts signed on 18 th . June, 2024. Works commenced on site early August, 2024 and satisfactory progress is being made.	Complete construction works by end of September, 2025.
Carrick -on-Suir Regeneration Plan - 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter - Delivering Our Community's Ambition' Category 1	Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park- Works are practically completed. Minor snagging is in progress. Phase 2 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay – Internal review completed on tender documents and further amendments being made by the design team. Agreement reached with Uisce Éireann for upgrading of water infrastructure network under this Phase. Phase 3 Digital Hub – Contractor appointed on 18 th . November, 2024. Works commenced December, 2024.	Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park - Complete minor snagging items. Phase 2 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay - Advertise for tenders in March, 2025. Uisce Éireann to complete upgrading of water infrastructure network. Commence works end of Q2 2025. Phase 3 Digital Hub – Complete works in Q1 2026.
Activating Cahir's Town Centre Regeneration Strategy – Category 1	Phase 1a Car Park Site – Demolition and enabling works contract completed. Phase 1b Car Park Construction- Pre-Tender Approval received	Phase 1b-Car Park Construction- Issue tender documents to contractors entered on the multi-party framework. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the



	<p>from the Department November, 2024. Tender documents completed. Phase 2 Library- Pre-Tender Approval received from the Department November, 2024. Revisions being undertaken on tender documents. Phase 3a Market House Enabling Works- Pre-Tender Approval received from the Department November, 2024. Revisions being undertaken to tender documents.</p>	<p>Department. Appoint contractor and commence works circa April, 2025. Phase 2-Library- Finalise tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework in March, 2025. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor and commence works in May, 2025. Phase 3a Market House Enabling Works- Finalise tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework in March, 2025. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor and commence works in May, 2025.</p>
<p>Reimaging and Regenerating Gantly Street towards an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Roscrea</p>	<p>Request for Tenders advertised on e-Tenders on 8th. November, 2024 with closing date for submission of tenders extended to 17th. January, 2025.</p>	<p>Assess tenders received. Issue Successful/Unsuccessful Letters to tenderers. Complete insurances check. Appoint design team in Q2 2025.</p>
<p>Tipperary Town - Social, community and heritage led regeneration of Dan Breen House and Tipperary Courthouse and Bridewell</p>	<p>Offer of Approval in Principle received from the Department in August, 2024. Tender documents for the construction stage are under preparation for both buildings.</p>	<p>Obtain Pre-Tender Approval from the Department on completion of tender documents. Courthouse- Issue tender documents to contractors entered on the multi-party framework in April, 2025. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor and commence works in June 2025. Dan Breen House - Issue tender documents to contractors entered on the multi-party framework in April, 2025. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor and commence works in June 2025.</p>



<u>National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u>		
<u>Project</u>	<u>Progress in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
Thurles: Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme - Phase 2	Phase 2 Western end of Liberty Square and junctions to approach roads - Design Report and Feasibility & Options Report completed. Part 8 Planning Report completed. Part 8 adopted at a Special Meeting of Thurles Municipal District in early December. Extensive consultations ongoing with statutory bodies. Tender documents for the engagement of a design team in preparation.	Phase 2 –Complete tender documents for the engagement of a design team. Complete Pre-Tender Compliance check. Procure for design team in Q2 2025 to prepare detailed design and oversee the construction stage. Appoint design team by end of Q2 2025.
A Pathway to a Low Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the Transformational Urban Regeneration of Nenagh Town Centre	Ongoing progress meetings being held with the design team. Extensive stakeholder engagement is in progress. Project Steering Group meetings and District Delivery Group meetings in progress. Works are ongoing on the preliminary design.	Complete stakeholder engagement. Complete preliminary design by Q3 2025.
<p>URDF Call 3 URDF Call 3 seeks to tackle long term vacant and derelict buildings and sites across URDF towns and cities primarily in order to accelerate the provision of residential development and regenerate town centres. An allocation of €5m has been approved for Tipperary County Council under this Call and €1m of this allocation has been paid in advance to assist with early activity under an approved acquisition programme in the URDF designated towns of Clonmel, Nenagh and Thurles.</p>		

Vacancy and Dereliction Team

- Second Vacant Homes Officer based in Clonmel commenced
- Derelict Sites officer commenced February 2025
- Work on identifying appropriate derelict sites commenced



Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Funds: Projects completed to date

The following projects are delivered.

- Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration – Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub
- Tipperary Town Regeneration: Market Yard and River Ara Walkway
- Fethard Town Park
- Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan - A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter - Category 2
- A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre – Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter - Category 2
- Nenagh Historic and Cultural Quarter-A Tourism Led Regeneration Plan – Category 2
- Thurles: Liberty Square Enhancement -Phase 1 New Car Park and Eastern end of Liberty Square
- Rialto Digital and Enterprise Hub, Nenagh – Category 2

Active Travel

In January 2025 the Council received notification from the National Transport Authority of an allocation of €4,500,000 for Active Travel Schemes in 2025 (see full details hereunder).

Project Name 2025	2025 Allocation	Current Update
SRTS (R1) Gaelscoil Chluain Meala, Clonmel	€ 5,000	Snagging works near completion
R445 Lisbunny - Nenagh Active Travel Scheme	€ 10,000	Works near completion
Active Travel Staff Costs	€ 350,000	Ongoing and seeking to appoint new staff to current vacancy
Ardfinnan Bridge	€ 120,000	Non-statutory public consultation now complete and the design team is progressing the Preliminary Design for the project
Old Bridge to Suir Blueway Link	€ 15,000	Finalising Part 8 planning documents and seek NTA approval to proceed to planning
Cashel Road Active Travel Scheme, Clonmel	€ 1,525,000	Works ongoing
Active Travel Connectivity, Supervalu Junction, Cahir	€ 50,000	Finalising Part 8 planning pack
Birdhill Active Travel Scheme	€ 400,000	Preparing to appoint design team for stages 5 - 7
SRTS (R1) Loreto Secondary School, Clonmel	€ 5,000	Scheme design being updated
SRTS (R2) Cullen National School	€ 25,000	Design team to be appointed
SRTS (R2) St Marys Central National School, Killenaule	€ 20,000	Part 8 planning secured
Davis Road Active Travel Scheme Clonmel (Previously TCC/21/0014)	€ 40,000	Part 8 Planning pack at validation



Nenagh Urban Greenway (Previously TCC/21/0006)	€ 20,000	Non-statutory consultation now complete and the design team are finalising the planning documents
Quarry Lane - Cullenagh (R494) Active Travel Scheme, Ballina (Previously TCC/21/0014)	€ 15,000	The current design layout is under review
Emly Village Footpaths (Previously TCC/22/0013)	€ 120,000	Construction underway
Castlemeadows Active Travel Scheme Thurles	€ 750,000	Detailed design ongoing and preparing tender for works contractor
Newtown - Active Travel Connectivity Scheme	€ 250,000	Preparing Part 8 planning pack
SRTS Inch National School (Previously TCC/22/0015 - TCC/22/0013)	€ 280,000	Preparing tender pack for works contractor
Total	€ 4,000,000	
Allocations Through Other NTA Funding Streams		
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	€ 500,000	Awaiting meeting with NTA bus team in relation to changes on their delivery of bus infrastructure upgrades
Total NTA Allocation 2025	€ 4,500,000	

ZEVI (Zero Emissions Vehicles Ireland)

[Development of an EV Infrastructure Strategy for Region 5 of the Regional and Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan.](#)

As part of the Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024 -2030 Tipperary County Council as lead authority has appointed Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd, T/A Arup as the Consultant for the development of an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy for Region 5 of the Regional and Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan in December 2024. Tipperary County Council as lead Authority for Region 5 will develop the strategy in collaboration with the local authorities of Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford.

The Strategy Inception Meeting convened in January and senior officials from each local authority were in attendance. We recently hosted an Informational Webinar for the elected officials and Local Authority officials from the five Local Authorities, to provide information on the objectives of this plan and on the project lifecycle. We are in the very early stages of developing the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy which we expect to be completed later this year.

First Revision to the National Planning Framework

Government published the First Revision to the National Planning Framework (NPF) on 10th July 2024 for consultation with a closing date for submissions of 12th September 2024. The Planning Section led on the drafting of a submission, engaging with each directorate in the Council for comments and input.

Tipperary County Council made a detailed submission. The government received 272 submissions in total. On 5th November, Cabinet agreed the changes to the First Revision to the NPF following publication. The changes are subject to environmental assessment and have been discussed in Cabinet in February 2025. The final draft is expected to the Houses of the Oireachtas for their approval imminently.

Conservation Grant Schemes 2025

The **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2025** seeks to encourage conservation of structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in certain cases, structures within Architectural Conservation Areas. The scheme also seeks to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craft workers and trades people. Funding is available for successful projects subject to each owner fully matching the funding awarded and the criteria set out by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Tipperary County Council.

Tipperary County Council received the third highest award of funding in the sum of **€367,285** after Dublin City Council and Cork City Council for 2025. We also received an extra allocation of **€21,376.70** under the supplementary ring-fenced funding for historic thatched structures. 40 applications were received under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme which closed for applications on the 27th September, 2024. A thorough assessment was carried out by Eamonn Hunter, Executive Architectural Conservation Officer and 33 projects were recommended to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. We have now received approval from them for the following projects:

Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) Project	Funding Awarded
• Ballyfinboy House, Newlawn, Ballinderry, Co. Tipperary	€14,500.00
• The Old School House, Garryduff East, Dunderum	€6,000.00
• Pallas Upper, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary	€4,000.00
• Killoran House, Templetuohy, Thurles, Co. Tipperary	€25,000.00
• Ballylaffin, Ardfinnan, Co. Tipperary	€7,000.00
• Thonogue House, Roosca, Cahir, Co. Tipperary	€20,000.00
• Ballybrado House, Cahir, Co. Tipperary	€7,000.00
• Ballinahow House, Tipperary, Co. Tipperary	€3,000.00
• Church of St John the Baptist, Clonoulty, Co. Tipperary	€8,000.00
• St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Thurles, Co. Tipperary	€7,000.00



• St. Mary, Blessed Virgin Church, John Street, Tipperary	€10,000.00
• Monsea, Ballycommon, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	€7,000.00
• St. Ruadhans' Church of Ireland, Lorrha	€3,500.00
• St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Templemore, Co. Tipperary	€12,000.00
• Church View House, Church Street, Templemore, Co. Tipperary	€11,000.00
• Vernacular Out-houses, Bauroe, Toomevara, Nenagh	€9,000.00
• Milford House, Borisokane, Co. Tipperary	€15,000.00
• Drominagh Lodge, Ballinderry, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	€14,000.00
• St. Mary's Church, Bailey Street, Killenaule, Co. Tipperary	€18,000.00
• St. John the Baptist RC Church, Friar Street, Cashel, Co. Tipperary	€25,000.00
• Former Bank Building, Step Road, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary	€8,000.00
• 17-19 Main Street, Tipperary Town	€10,000.00
• Beechrow House, The Terrace, Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary	€7,185.00
• St. Joseph's RC Church, Ballinree, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	€2,100.00
• Main Street, Ballingarry, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary	€10,000.00
• Ferns Hollow, Ballina, Co. Tipperary	€5,000.00
• 34 Castleliney Village, Templemore, Co. Tipperary	€4,000.00
• Millhouse, Step Road, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary	€18,000.00
• Town Clock, Westgate, Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary	€9,000.00
• Former AIB, Bank Street, Templemore, Co. Tipperary	€9,500.00
• Suir Mills, Barnora, Cahir, Co. Tipperary	€18,000.00
• Thatch Cottage, Greenmount, Newcastle, Co. Tipperary	€3,000.00
• Governor's House, County Gaol, O'Rahilly Street, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	€37,500.00
Total:	€367,285.00

Historic Thatch Buildings (HTB) Project

Funding Awarded

• Monsea, Ballycommon, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary	€7,125.57
• Cooladerry, Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary	€7,125.57
• Ballylaffin, Ardfinnan, Co. Tipperary	€7,125.56
Total:	€21,376.70

Historic Structures Fund (HSF)

The **Historic Structure Fund 2025** seeks to support conservation works to heritage structures in both private and public ownership. Tipperary County Council received 9 applications under the scheme. After a thorough assessment was also carried out by Eamonn Hunter, ACO, 2 projects were recommended to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. We await news from the Department regarding these projects.

Should you have any further queries please contact Eamonn Hunter, Executive Architectural Conservation Officer or Jacqui Dowling, Staff Officer, Planning Section.

Planning Applications – Decision Making from 1/1/25 to 31/1/25

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number Granted	Number refused	Number of Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	Number of Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála
Individual House	15	15	0	1	1
Housing Development	1	1	0	1	0
NIA/EIA	0	0	0	0	0
Other Applications	51	48	3	6	0
Total	67	64	3	8	1

Enforcement Proceedings

There were 8 complaints received from the 1st January to the 31st January 2025. During this period 15 Warning Letters and 1 Enforcement Notice was issued.

Taking in Charge: Estates

Applications Being Processed	DPI Developments	Taken-in-Charge in 2024	Taken-in-Charge To-Date in 2025	With District & Awaiting Approval	Applications Received in 2025
41	21	2	1	2	0

- 1 development (70 housing units) have been taken-in-charge to-date by Tipperary County Council in 2025
- 2 housing estates are currently with Roads section for advertising.
- 0 taking-in-charge application has been received to-date in 2025.
- There are currently 21 Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) housing estates in County Tipperary which the Planning Authority is unable to progress at present.



Planning & Emergency Services SPC

The first of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC for 2025 were held on 12th February. Agenda covered: Nature Based Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, Update on Emergency Services and Vacancy Dereliction and regeneration.

Vacant Property update since commencement of scheme Croí Cónaithe fund (Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant)

Item	Quantity
No of applications received	564
Approved to date	407
No at Further Info stage	70
No of applications rejected	33
No of applications withdrawn	49
No of Grants Paid Out	109
Approval in principal value to date €23,578,780	



FIRE SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL



SECTION PRIORITIES		
Major Current Issues	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Major Emergency Management	Tipperary County Council has taken over the Chair of both the regional steering & working groups. -----	Coordinate and administer this function in the region for 2025/2026
Building Control	Commencement notices and fire safety certificates continued to be submitted for assessment. Onsite inspections ongoing -----	Complete annual inspection programme for 2025 reaching Dept. guideline targets
Quality, Health & Safety	Audit to ISO 45001 & 9001 completed in Jan 2024 – successfully certified to both standards -----	Undergo integrated audit in early Q2 2025
Fire Safety	Fire Safety Strategy prepared and signed off for delivery in 2025	Primary schools programme underway along with station visits by schools at end of school year.
ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES		To 24th Feb 2025
Number of Emergency Calls Attended		295
Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received		13
Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted		9
Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received		3
Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted		7
Number of Commencement Notices Received		24

Library Service



- The January exhibition held at Nenagh Library was an intriguing collection of underwater photographs taken by divers. The photographs feature a wide and captivating array of marine life pictured around Ireland and abroad. This collection was on display at last year's Diving Ireland Expo, the national scuba-diving and associated water sports annual convention, which was held at the National Aquatic Centre in Dublin.



- Nenagh Library held a St Brigid's Day crafting workshop with students from St. Cronan's on 30th January. Participants made St Brigid's Crosses and decorations.

- Nenagh Library has commenced running a 13 Mindful Movement course with Mia Magan. Mia is a trained Mind Coach and a yoga and meditation teacher. This event is being run in conjunction with Tipperary ETB and North Tipperary Development Company as part of our Healthy Ireland Programme for 2024.

- The February exhibition held at Nenagh Library was by local artist, Lian Knight Hogan. Entitled 'Nádúr agus Teibí – Nature and Abstract', the exhibition includes some pastoral scenes but concentrates mainly on the abstract use of shapes and colours to express movement and feeling, showing what the artist is seeing and feeling in their mind's eye.



- Clonmel Library hosted an art exhibition entitled “Woolly Nest – An Exhibition of Felt Art by Gráinne Zannis and her children – Saoirse, Donnchadh and Oscar”. These works were exhibited from 6th – 18th January.

- Clonmel Library has commenced Ciorcal Comhrá which is an informal conversational Irish group that is welcoming to all! Come along and brush up on your Irish language skills. The group commenced on Thursday 13th February at 11.15am. Fáilte roimh chách!



- Clonmel Library organised for the Irish Heart Foundation to visit on the Library on 22nd January. Library users were able to avail of a free heart health check where IHF Nurses carried out blood pressure and pulse checks and provided information advice to help reduce risk of disease stroke



- Clonmel Library hosted “A Bad Year”, a collection of paintings by Thomas Culligan (a.k.a. Tom Frost) from Tuesday 4th of February to Saturday 15th of February.



- Thurles Library launched a new Book Club for adults with Down Syndrome in collaboration with Meitheal 21 on 23rd January. The aims of this book club are as follows:
 - Encourage Literacy and Lifelong Learning
 - Facilitate the Development of Social and Life Skills
 - Enable Community Participation
 - Promote Social Inclusion

Meitheal 21 are an organisation who provide an ‘all-through-life’ supports to people with Down syndrome and their families across Ireland with specialists in the areas of health, speech and language, early development, education and adult education and independence that enhance the lives of thousands of children and adults with Down syndrome across the country.

- Thurles Library ran a Valentine’s ‘Blind Date with A Book’ initiative in early February. Readers selected a book without knowing what the title was. The books were gift wrapped with all details completely covered. The benefits of this initiative are for

the reader to discover something new that they might not have chosen otherwise.



- Thurles Library hosted an exhibition entitled “All ground is holy” by sculptor, Philip Quinn.



- Cashel Library hosted an art exhibition by Ukrainian Artist Karyna Vechorkina. This beautiful collection of paintings from nature and animals were exhibited for the full month of January.



Tipperary Town Library held a St Brigid's Cross making workshop on 31st January.

- To celebrate St. Brigid's Day, Maura Barrett, Cashel Library delivered a talk on Saint Brigid, her enduring legacy and demonstrated how to make St. Brigid's crosses.



- Cashel Library held a Children's Card Making Workshop on 14th February to celebrate Valentine's Days.

- Tipperary Town Library held a Card Making Workshop for residents of Moorehaven centre on 13th February to celebrate Valentine's Days.
- Tipperary Town Library held a craft workshop and Storytime session for pupils of Gaelscoil Thiobraid Arann on 19th February. This event was held to celebrate Ireland Reads.



- Carrick-on-Suir Library hosted a talk by Brian White to celebrate UN World Wetlands Day on 12th February. The talk celebrated five years of the Lions Club 'Wild About Carrick' project.
- Carrick-on-Suir Library relaunched the Memory Café on 18th February. This club is for people with or affected by Dementia. Participants meet, share stories and give support, along with getting a chance to play with the Magic Table, including a round of karaoke. The Memory Café is held in conjunction with South Tipperary Development Company and SICAP.

- Carrick-on-Suir Library hosted an exhibition entitled 'People and Places, an exhibition of photos from the Kenrick Photo Collection' from 17th – 31st January. The Kenrick Photo Collection is the work of amateur photographer Patrick Kenrick (1872-1950). The collection consists of over 830 plate glass negative images spanning the years 1895 to 1915. Patrick Kenrick was born in Fethard, Co. Tipperary and photographed the full stratigraphy of society in Fethard at the turn of the twentieth century, from the barefoot child on the street to the affluent middle-class family and their peers.



- Cahir Library continues to host a Craft Circle group on a weekly basis. Participants meet every Friday to enjoy craft work and a cup of tea.



- Templemore Library and Tipperary ETB have collaborated to run a new eight-week course, entitled *Nature Connection*. Participants will explore the benefits of connecting with nature through, eco literacy, nature connection activities and creative activities. The participants will meet in the library to explore course material practical work will take place in Templemore Town Park. This course commenced on 29th January.



- Templemore Library hosted a drop-in information morning with Grow Mental Health on 10th February.

This charity facilitates peer support groups promoting mental health awareness and support. The information stand will be available with the hope that a regular group meeting will be established in Templemore Library.



- Staff in Templemore Library has hosted multiple tours of the new Library. Visitors have included the following groups:

Group tours of new building & services

- 16/01/2025 St Cronan's Service Users -6 attended
- 30/01/2025 ETB Students -20 attended
- 12/02/2025 Avista Service Users - 10 attended
- 14/02/2025 St. Anne's Service Users - 7 attended

Class Visits for tour of new library

- 16/01/2025 Our Lady's Secondary School TY Class – 25 attended
- 20/01/2025 St.Colmcilles Boys NS 15 attended
- 30/01/2025 St. Josephs NS 1st – 3rd class 30 attended
- 06/02/2025 St Joseph's NS 4th Class -15 attended
- 18/02/2025 St. Sheelan's Pre School 10 attended
- 12/02/2025 Templemore Pre School – 8 attended
- 12/02/2025 Castleiney NS School - 15 attended



- Works took place in January to renovate Roscrea Library. The carpet and shelving have been

replaced and the building has been completely repainted. This is in addition to the external works which were carried out last year to upgrade the guttering, drainage and ancillary external works.

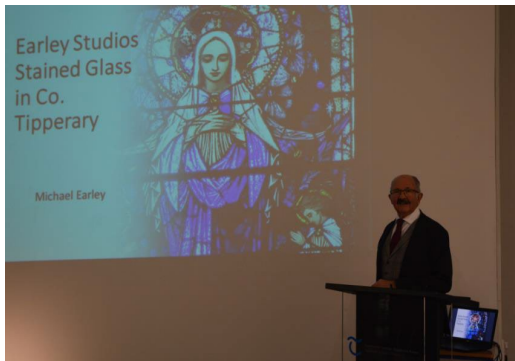


- The Leaving Cert Applied class from Scoil Ruain Secondary School, Killenaule visited the library on the 6th of February to explore the resources available to them for their local history projects.

Tipperary Studies



- Tipperary Studies held a lecture entitled 'The Mass Rock: myth and reality' by Dr David Fleming on 21st January. There was over fifty-five people in attendance.



- Tipperary Studies held a lecture entitled Earley Studios Stained Glass Windows in Co. Tipperary (1881- 1951) by Dr Michael Earley on 21st January. There was over seventy-five people in attendance.

Arts Service

- A range of grants and schemes to support Arts Development in the county in 2025 were advertised from December 2024 to February 2025, as follows:
 - The **Tipperary Artist in Primary Schools Scheme** -intended to give pupils in schools all over the county the opportunity to work with a professional artist on a once-off unique project to be planned between the artist and the school. **Closing date was 7th February 2025.**
 - **Tipperary Arts Act Grant Scheme** – intended to assist organisations in stimulating public interest in the arts, promoting the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts or in improving standards in the arts in the county. **Closing date was 20th February 2025.**
 - **Tipperary Artists Awards** – intended to support professional

artists under three categories, professional development, creation of new work, reaching audiences.

Closing date was 27th February 2025.

- **Local Drama Scheme** - Up to two development awards annually to assist groups in developing skills within the group/enhancing production values/availing of further training/availing of professional input or for other development needs/special projects. **Closing date was 27th February 2025.**
- **BLAS International Summer School for Traditional Irish Music and Dance** - Tipperary County Council offers two bursaries to attend the BLAS summer school at the University of Limerick. The value of the bursary covers 1 week's tuition (one-week intensive of masterclasses, Irish language, lectures and concerts). The purpose of these bursaries is to support professional development of artists. **Closing date is 27th March 2025.**

The Arts Office also co-ordinates the **Tipperary Festivals & Events Scheme** on behalf of Tipperary County Council which supports festivals throughout the county. **The closing date for 2025 was 6th February last.**



Engine Short Film Scheme

- The Arts Office joined again with partners in Limerick and Clare for the 3rd edition of *Engine Shorts*. This training & production scheme aims to inspire and support up-and-coming filmmakers to create world-class shorts that resonate with a wide international audience. It also offers the opportunity for emerging local crew to gain real-world experience on funded productions and to receive industry guidance. The ambitious short film training and production scheme for emerging talent has already produced 12 films over the first two editions, and seen commissioned films screened globally, picking up awards in London, Belfast, Chicago and screening at the famous SXSW festival in Austin, Texas. Run by Innovate Limerick through Film in Limerick, Engine Shorts is a partnership between the Local Authorities in Tipperary, Limerick and Clare, and Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.
Closing date was 10th February 2025.

Tipperary Bealtaine 2025 Open Call



Bealtaine Special Event 2024 Patricia Hurl & Aileen Barry in conversation, Source Arts Centre, Thurles

- Each year in the month of May, Bealtaine is presented as a nationwide festival celebrating the arts and creativity as we age. The festival, which celebrates 30 years in 2025, is an initiative of Age & Opportunity, the national organisation that promotes active and engaged living as we get older. The Bealtaine theme for 2024 to 2026 is *Last for Life*. Tipperary Arts Office runs an extensive, interactive programme throughout the county in partnership with Tipperary Libraries. The Tipperary Arts Office is keen to engage older people as makers and participants as well as audiences for the arts. An open call inviting proposals from artists to support these aims was issued in December with a closing date in January.

Tipperary Youth Arts Hub

- The Tipperary Youth Arts Hub is a partnership initiative involving the NYCI National Youth Arts Programme, Tipperary Arts Office, Tipperary ETB and Youth Work Ireland Tipperary. The Tipperary Youth Arts Hub has been running since 2022. The Tipperary Youth Arts Hub invited Tipperary-based artists and practitioners with an interest in youth arts to meet for a day-long workshop on 11 February last to explore youth arts practice, introduce the youth work context in Tipperary and participate in a youth arts workshop with artist Chelsea Canavan. The day offered practical activities and discussions and a supportive environment where artists could connect with other artists and practitioners. Sessions included:
 - Exploring youth arts practice with Rhona Dunnett, National Youth Arts Programme Manager, National Youth Council of Ireland;
 - Introducing youth work and the map of youth work services in Tipperary, with the Youth Work Team, Tipperary ETB;
 - Exploring printmaking & creative word-play (typography) in the youth arts context with artist Chelsea Canavan;
 - The Introduction of a new pilot Tipperary Youth Arts Bursary Scheme and other funding opportunities.



'Pucked' -Touring Theatre Production



- **'Pucked'** is a fast paced, comedic, theatrical, one-man blockbuster! **About Hurling** and more... Touring of the one-man theatre production 'Pucked' by Tipperary playwright and performer Cathal Ryan and Tipperary Director Jack Reardon was supported by the Tipperary Arts Office and Creative Ireland Tipperary. PUCKED tells the story of the young and ambitious Matty Daly. Immersed in the GAA from birth, Matty has one dream and one dream only, to play on his senior team. When Matty finally gets called up, we join him as he learns the hard way, that playing senior isn't everything it's cracked up to be. PUCKED is an electric comedy with exceptional theatricality for GAA and theatre fans alike. Running during January and February, a number of Tipperary post primary schools were supported to attend the matinee performances. Pucked contains themes of masculinity and consent, with this in mind, the

matinees were followed by a post-show discussion between writer and performer Cathal Ryan, representatives from the Tipperary Rape Crisis Centre and Tipp Hurler Conor Stakelum. The discussion engaged young people on the topics contained within the production with excellent feedback from schools.

Visual Artists Ireland



- Visual Artists Ireland serves as the representative body for professional visual artists in Ireland. This Winter we continued our online training provision for Tipperary artists in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and local authorities in Limerick and Clare. As part of this partnership programme a webinar titled 'Effective Funding Submissions for Artists with Dr. Marianne O'Kane Boal' was presented on Thursday 16th January 2025. Following the webinar, one-on-one clinics were available for artists based in Clare, Limerick, and Tipperary to receive personalised advice on their applications.



Prints for Schools Exhibition

- An exhibition of 32 contemporary prints by Irish artists is available to borrow from the Tipperary Arts Office for cultural and educational purposes. The prints are specially packed for easy handling and transport and include works by well-known Irish Printmakers including Alice Hanratty, Des Mac Mahon and David Lilburn. In addition, printmaking workshops are offered to participating schools while the exhibition is in the school. The Exhibition is currently on loan to Coláiste Dún Iascaigh in Cahir.



Youth Theatre

- The Arts Office encourages events and activities in theatres that stimulate children and young people

to take part in the arts. Supported by the Arts Office, Nenagh Youth Theatre is currently running two programmes for young people aged 12-17, that take place every Saturday from January to March 2025.

- **NYT Players:** This Programme is for new and continuing members interested in developing new skills in theatre making and performance. NYT Players will develop skills in acting, improvisation, creative writing and directing. They will participate in the Nenagh Youth Drama Festival, an intimate showing of work for family and friends.
- **NYT Explorers:** This programme is for continuing members that are interested in learning the process of exploring a play and staging a production. NYT Explorers will develop skills in acting, production design and physical theatre. They will stage a full play at the end of the second term, with the theme of this play falling into the area of mystery.

[Heritage Service](#)



Irish Community Archive Network ICAN

- The 6 pilot sites who will form part of the Tipperary iCAN network are Tipperary Heritage Office, Cahir Historical & Social Society, Slieveradagh Mining Heritage Group, Tipperary in the Decade of Revolutions, Ormond Historical Society and Borrisoleigh Heritage & Cultural Society.

- All the groups along with Tipperary Heritage Office have been busy populating their sites in anticipation of the official launch in March 2025.

Tipperary Supports Tidy Towns , TUS College Campus Thurles 8th February 2025

- On Saturday 8th February an information day was held for Tidy Towns groups within Tipperary in Thurles. Tipperary has a very strong record of participation in Tidy Towns Competition with 80 groups taking part in 2024. The event was opened by Fiona Crotty, Community team within Economic Community and Rural Development, who reviewed the 2024 results. Roísín O'Grady Heritage Officer Tipperary County Council showcased the importance of our heritage and how we within the community can support, enhance and preserve our heritage at this event.

Irish Walled Town Network

- The AGM of this network took place on the 25th February in Cashel.
- The IWTN Interpretation & Events Grants Scheme 2025 is now open for applications, with a closing date of 19 March 2025. Applications are invited from Irish Walled Towns Network members. Eligible projects in 2025 will include: heritage themed festivals and events.



National Heritage Week 2025

- The Heritage Council has announced that National Heritage Week 2025 will take place from **16th - 24th August 2025**. The theme for National Heritage Week 2025 is “Exploring our Foundations”. This theme invites all of us to delve into the building blocks of who we are. Our foundations are not just the buildings and structures that shape our urban areas but the landscapes, flora and fauna, the cultural activities that define who we are and much more.



Adopt a Monument

- Tipperary Heritage and Community groups are encouraged to join the

Adopt A Monument Programme which offers communities support, mentoring, and guidance in caring for and celebrating local monuments. The programme is now open for applications from community groups.



Community Monuments Fund 2025

- The Community Monuments Fund (CMF) aims to assist with conservation, research and interpretation of archaeological monuments by communities and private owners. The scheme is funded by the National Monuments Service of the Department of Housing, Local Government. Grants will help custodians and owners of archaeological monuments to safeguard them into the future for the benefit of local communities and the visiting public. In addition, they will provide support for heritage professions and job opportunities in building conservation and other traditional skills. The core aims of the Community Monuments Fund are the conservation, maintenance, protection and presentation of archaeological monuments. A high

number of applications were submitted to this grant scheme for 2025. A number of very successful projects have been carried out with this fund over the last 3 years and a number of our archaeological monuments have been secured because of this funding stream.

Biodiversity Service



Grassland Training Event Tullamore – Biodiversity Officer Network

- The Biodiversity Officer attended the Semi-Natural Grasslands Training Workshop in Tullamore with Dr Maria Long and the Heritage Council on 16th January 2025
- The Biodiversity Officer gave a presentation entitled *How to showcase Biodiversity in Tidy Town's Applications* to the Tidy Towns Workshop in TUS Campus on 8th February
- A funding application under the Heritage Council Biodiversity Action

Plan Scheme (€20,000) to fund the remaining elements of the Tipperary Biodiversity Action Plan was submitted in February.

- The Biodiversity Officer submitted project proposals for the NPWS Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025 in February.

Royal Sites Bid

- Caitríona O Connor, Royal Sites Project Coordinator has been appointed and attended the October steering group meeting where Caitríona presented to the group setting out draft timelines for the project and discussed the MOU.
- Match Funding has been confirmed from the Department to cover nomination costs
- In recent months, a number of tenders were issued by the coordinator and have been awarded in respect of website services, rebranding and visual identity and documentary filming and editing services for the project.

Museum Service



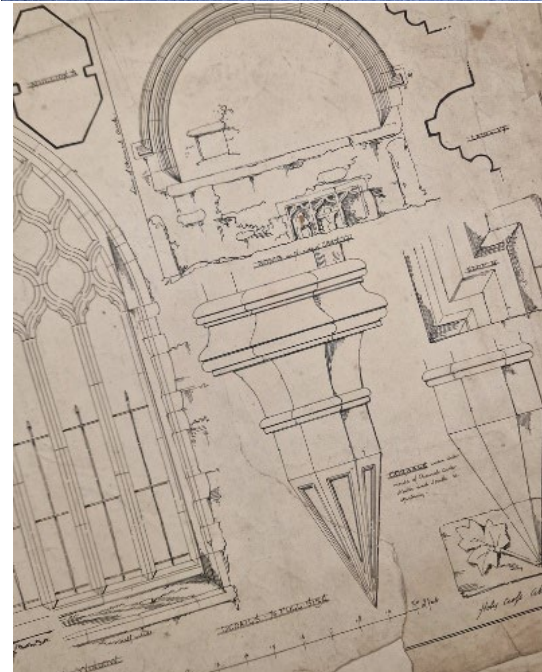
Martin Mansergh, Pat Leahy, Julia Walsh Drohan, Diarmaid Ferriter and Susan McKay at the one-day seminar in Thurles titled: *A Quiet Revolution: The Making of Modern Ireland 1960-2000*

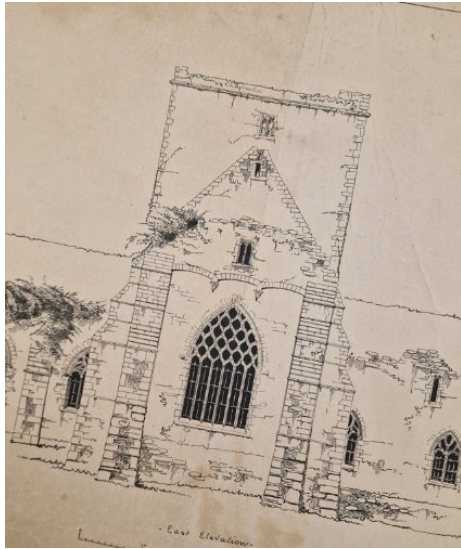
January in TUS Campus, Thurles. The guest speakers were Martin Mansergh, Diarmuid Ferritter and Susan McKay and the event moderator was Pat Leahy, Irish Times.

Donations to the Museum



- Tipperary Museum organised a one-day seminar as part of the 2024/2025 Museum Lecture Series *A Quiet Revolution: Ireland 1960 -2000* This event took place on 18th





- A beautiful set of architectural drawings of Holy Cross Abbey were donated to Tipperary Museum. While conservation work is required, these are visually beautiful and exceptionally detailed.
 - Dated to 1800s
 - A complete set of drawings
 - Includes up-close detailed drawings of various architectural elements
- A P&T sign from Tipperary, exact date unknown was also donated to the Museum in January.



Above image: Adding new images to the John D Kelly Exhibition

- The John Kelly photo exhibition run was extended to February 2025, due to the continued public interest which has been ongoing since it was launched.



- A clay modelling workshop for children aged 6 to 12-years-old with Evelyn Kelly took place at Tipperary Museum of Hidden History on 18th January



FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 31st January 2025

		EXPENDITURE				INCOME			NET	
		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Budget Remaining €	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	Budget outstanding €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
A	Housing & Building	6,964,470	54,828,212	13%	47,863,742	6,993,998	53,219,758	13%	46,225,760	29,528
B	Road Transport & Safety	4,135,185	61,209,737	7%	57,074,552	2,802,935	40,638,533	7%	37,835,598	(1,332,250)
C	Water Services	1,069,593	13,654,538	8%	12,584,945	887,758	13,048,921	7%	12,161,163	(181,835)
D	Development Management	2,839,036	24,596,881	12%	21,757,845	1,355,879	11,433,968	12%	10,078,089	(1,483,157)
E	Environmental Services	3,660,634	58,729,485	6%	55,068,851	2,254,346	37,335,112	6%	35,080,766	(1,406,288)
F	Recreation & Amenity	1,612,798	16,934,762	10%	15,321,964	286,421	2,928,265	10%	2,641,844	(1,326,376)
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	113,030	1,124,505	10%	1,011,475	21,458	275,246	8%	253,788	(91,573)
H	Miscellaneous Services	1,533,593	17,762,618	9%	16,229,025	1,739,915	21,877,804	8%	20,137,889	206,322
LG	Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	2,428,324	29,139,885	8%	26,711,561	2,428,324
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	0	3,281,275	38,943,246	8%	35,661,97	3,281,275
Totals		21,928,340	248,840,738	9%	226,912,398	22,052,310	240,840,738	9%	226,788,428	123,970



Capital Account – Year to Date 31st January 2025

	Expenditure	Income
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
A Housing & Building	1,328,258	1,133,001
B Road Transport & Safety	732,584	500,000
C Water Services	176,585	113,079
D Development Management	334,113	2,251,607
E Environmental Services	14,328	0
F Recreation & Amenity	6,116	30,000
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	7,046	0
H Miscellaneous Services	1,922	25,076
Total	2,600,952	4,052,763

Collection Rates	YTD 202412	YTD 202312
Rates	94%	90%
Rents	94%	92%
Housing Loans	101%	99%



COMMERCIAL RATES

As at 31/12/2024 Rate Accruals for 2024 amounted to **€36,243,077**.

Arrears of **€5,520,979** were brought forward from 2023, giving the total amount to be collected as **€41,764,056**. Reductions of **€1,138,425**, have been applied to individual accounts following ReValuation Appeals finalised in 2024. This amount was in relation to the financial years 2020-2023. Write offs in the amount of **€2,156,747** have been processed to date in 2024.

Receipts of **€34,447,653** were recorded in 2024. Arrears at 31/12/2024 were **€4,021,231**.

This included Specific Doubtful Debts of €1,699,922. (Specific Doubtful Debts relate to accounts in Receivership/Liquidation, or properties that were vacant, but we are awaiting evidence of vacancy before we can process a write off.

This will show a 94% Collection in the Annual Financial Statement.

INCREASED COST OF BUSINESS GRANT

ICOB #1 Grants in the amount of **€4,454,448** have been paid out to 2,999 customers to date.

ICOB #2 Grants in the amount of **€2,904,404** have been processed for 1,891 customers.

The grant was available to qualifying businesses as a contribution towards the rising costs faced by businesses. The grant was intended to aid businesses but not intended to directly compensate for all increases in wages, or other costs, for every business.

POWER UP GRANT

This grant was available to businesses in the Hospitality, Retail and Beauty Sectors who received the ICOB 2 Grant. 1,566 submissions have been received. 1,816 grants were paid in November, in the amount of **€7,208,000**.

RATES PAYMENT INCENTIVE SCHEME 2024

2,038 customers benefited from our Rates Payment Incentive Scheme in 2024, and achieved total reductions in their rates of €348,678.

The terms for our Rates Payment Incentive Scheme for 2024 are: -

- Applied to all ratepayers with an annual rates bill of up to €26,000.
- To avail of the Early Payment Reduction of 6%, subject to a maximum of €600, payment of rates must be made in full, by 31st July 2024.



- Customers paying by Direct Debit can avail of the scheme if payment is made by September 2024.

The scheme is open to customers with arrears on their accounts where they pay a minimum amount which is equivalent to the annual rates by the same timelines outlined above, and enter into a structured payment plan to address and eliminate arrears.

Credits under the RPIS will be applied to the bulk of qualifying customers in September.

The 2025 Scheme is adjusted to allow for an annual rates bill of up to €27,500, with accounts to be cleared by 31st July 2025, (or by September 2025 if paying by direct debit).

VACANT PROPERTY RELIEF

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

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

Category	% Relief	% Payment
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill up to €5,000	100%	0%
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €5,000, but less than €10,000	80%	20%
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €10,000	60%	40%

DIGITAL AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Websites and eDevelopment

- Innovation funding – Achieved support from CCMA economic group to progress to LGMA Innovation Fund on a system to assist with dereliction and vacancy in Towns.
- Websites- continued to consolidate smaller websites into main infrastructure.
- National Digital Government Conference – Presented TCC’s approach to web development using Local Gov Drupal.



- CCMA Best Practice in Local Government Conference – TCC’s approach to web development was included as a case study highlighting build to share as a more economical approach to providing digital services.
- AI- R&D - Continued to show how AI and automation can streamline our services.
- Migration of Sharepoint on-premise to MS 365. A plan commenced to categorise systems across SharePoint on-premise, archiving old systems and data and creating methods and timelines for migration.



Business and GIS Systems

- Corporate Councillor Reps System - Commenced scoping exercise for the Project.
- Housing’s Project Dion – Liaised with DHLGH regarding technical requirements.
- Planning - Enforcement system - Go Live is scheduled for April 2025.
- Organisation Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system - Commenced scoping of project to upgrade system for Customer Services Desk, Housing and Environment.



- Roads Suir Flood Forecasting system - System migrated to cloud environment – it is now live and operating in parallel with older system.
- Local Authority Services National Training Group (LASNTG)- LA Climate eLearning Management System tender evaluation completed.

GIS Systems

- Progressed the development of a New ArcGIS Planning System.
- Processed Data Requests from Third Parties.
- Processed AutoCAD Renewals.
- Upgraded 2025 Q1 GIS layers with data received from external agencies i.e. Tailte Éireann, ESB, Bord Gáis, GeoDirectory, OSI.
- GIS layers
 - New - Solar farms and Wind turbine layers created

- Updated - N24 corridor
- Updated - Record of Protected structures
- New Violence and Aggression Application in development.

Mobile Phones and Billing

- Processed mobile phone and telephony billing.
- Procurement of Mobile Voice and Data Communications – tender responses received – evaluation underway.

General Tasks

- Continued development of ICT Health and Safety to maintain ISO 45001 status.

Networks, Infrastructure, Phones

MS 365 project

- Completed MS Cloud tenant provisioning
- Continued with work on MS 365 tenant to prepare for bulk email migration.

Cyber Security

- Continued with network segmentation project.
- Prepared business case for Cyber Recovery solution
- Completed pilot of SDWAN solutions.

General

- Catered for IT requirements regarding the Severe Weather Events - Phones Emergency lines, Remote working, etc.
- Supplied devices and e-mail accounts for new co-opted Elected Representatives.
- Continued with progressing secondary site connectivity.

- Deployed 5G connectivity solution for Donohill in to production.
- Completed installation of video conferencing solution for Clonmel interview room.
- Commenced tendering process for video conferencing solution in Thurles MDO chamber.

All Teams

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



- Continued to keep our network and systems safe and secure, and at maximum uptime and performance
- Continued to perform security patching, Application troubleshooting, system upgrades, systems analysis and User support.