



## COVID-19 - Provision of Essential Services Update

### Effective from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 during period of COVID19

With effect from today Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2020, in addition to the essential and critical service areas in operation since the end of March, the following additional service areas (highlighted in red) will recommence.

Our phone line – 0761 06 5000 and website – [www.tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.tipperarycoco.ie) continue to remain open.

The Council`s Covid-19 Response Team and Crisis Management Team are continuing to meet and have put Recovery Plans in place which will steer us through each phase.

Timelines around the reopening of our Civic, District and other public buildings will be guided by national protocols which are currently being prepared.

### Housing

- **Emergency Homeless Service Supports** - By appointment only;
- **Traveller/Roma/other LA Vulnerable tenants** – Supports will continue – Contact by phone and in person supports as necessary
- **Vacant Units** - Work will continue on vacant units
  - for use as community self-isolation units and
  - the re-letting of units to new tenants;
- **Housing Allocations** - by appointment only for collection of keys;
- **Rent** – Queries & supports will be provided by phone on a restricted basis (including amending rent accounts);
- **HAP/RAS** – queries, supports and payments to landlords and applicants will be provided on a restricted basis;
- **Representations/Queries** – will be supported on a restricted basis;
- **Housing Construction projects** – Will recommence on site where social distancing protocols can be managed effectively. Part 8



Projects still delayed until the consultation element can be resolved satisfactorily;

## Roads and Transportation

- Annual Road Works Programme.
- Roads routine maintenance.
- Grass cutting and general maintenance in public spaces
- Street cleaning services
- Extreme weather events – crews will respond to severe weather events including flooding, storms and heavy snowfall.
- Flood Prevention Scheme (Clonmel) resuming normal operations and monitoring.
- Public Lighting
- Road opening licences, roads abutting certificates and abnormal loads permits administration
- Roads Capital Works.

## Planning and Development

On the 29<sup>th</sup> March, the Minister and the Government, taking account of the importance of the statutory timelines associated with the planning system made Orders which resulted in an extension of time for a range of specified and appropriate periods.

Subsequent Orders have been made by the Government, to extend the period of the original Order until 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 inclusive, a total period of 8 weeks

This effectively means that the planning authority will have the normal period of time (8 weeks), together with an additional period of 8 weeks to determine a planning application. The Order also means that an interested person will have the normal period of time for submissions (5 weeks), together with an additional period of 8 weeks to participate in the planning process.

More detail is provided in the FAQ which is also viewable from the Tipperary County Council webpage. The document entitled *Covid Period Revised dates for public notice* is available to view on our website, and sets out the appropriate dates as they now stand, which is based on exact calculations.



Our Planning Services are continuing to be provided through a combination of remote working and staff rotas in both the Clonmel and Nenagh offices.

For clarity, here is a summary overview of how the Development Management element of the service is currently being provided here:

- Planning applications may be posted to the office, even where public offices are closed.
- Initial processing of an application, including validation, scanning and upload on to the on-line system will then take place in the office.
- Planning authorities facilitate the on-line display of planning application documentation which can be used for inspection by interested people
- A Submission may be made on any planning application lodged with a planning authority by post, (submissions can also be accepted via e-mail on [planning@tipperarycoco.ie](mailto:planning@tipperarycoco.ie) and the fee can be paid over the phone to Cash Desk quoting file ref. no.)
- The Planning authority will continue to engage with applicants and their representatives, and/or consider pre-planning documentation by phone/email.
- Acceptance of any written complaints or information by post or email
- Acceptance of telephone calls and queries
- Validation of Planning Permission applications in both offices
- Investigation of Enforcement complaints within the HSE public safety guidance
- Processing Declarations and other applications that don't require public submissions

At present, we have assessed and determined all of the files that preceded these Ministerial orders i.e. applications submitted up to and including Friday 21st February 2020. We are now assessing live planning applications, but we cannot make a determination on these files until the orders allows us to, the dates will be different for each file and dependent on the lodgment/application dates.

Further information is available at the following link:

<https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/news/faq-planning-applications-and-emergency-covid>



## Water Services

This is deemed an essential public service and in general business is continuing as normal.

Construction works on IW sites ceased with effect from 29<sup>th</sup> March, but some works may have continued on a minimal number of sites due to operational criticality.

## Environment and Climate Action

- Civic Amenity Sites – will continue to provide waste disposal services at the following locations:
  - Tipperary Town - Donohill
  - Roscrea - Dublin Rd
  - Nenagh
  - Clonmel - Carrigeen
  - Cashel – Waller’s Lot
- Landfills – Management, Sampling and closed Landfill monitoring;
- Bring Banks;
- Dangerous Structures – on a call out basis;
- Environmental Monitoring & Enforcement – on a call out basis;
  - Illegal Dumping investigations
  - Removal of Dead Animals
- Vets - Abbatoir ante & post mortem inspections;
- Community Services – on a call out basis;
  - Control of Horses
  - Control of Dogs
  - Burial Grounds Administration and caretaking
- **Water Sampling;**
- **Inspections where there is no direct engagement with property owner;**

## LAWPRO

- Support central government on water quality restoration and protection
- Support the EPA on prioritisation of rivers/lakes for assessment



- Phased return to field work and maintain contact with local community groups and stakeholders, including announcement of project grant funding.

## Fire and Emergency Services

- Fire and rescue services remain operational out of each of our 12 Fire Stations in Borrisokane, Cahir, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Clonmel, Cloughjordan, Nenagh, Newport, Roscrea, Templemore, Thurles, and Tipperary Town).

## Civil Defence

- Civil Defence remains operational as a support to the Principal Response Agencies.

## Community and Enterprise

- Community Response Service – 8am to 8pm service which is designed to support voluntary groups providing support to vulnerable in the community; **Community call grant is closing on 15<sup>th</sup> may.**
- **LCDC proceeding as normal via zoom meetings, and Leader grants proceeding.**
- Local Enterprise Office supports to businesses through the Covid 19 crisis, **notably Business Continuity grants and On-vouchers, feasibility grants, business expansion grants.**

## Corporate Services

- Customer Services – Phone 0761 06 5000 and email/online support – [customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie](mailto:customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie);
- Communications – Continue to support national messaging at critical stage;
- Corporate Services – Ongoing communication with members & Meetings administration – **Plenary Council meetings to re-commence with effect from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020;**
- Facility Management – Maintenance of Council owned buildings

## Finance

- Accounts payable - supplier payment



- Accounts Receivable – by post, phone and online
- Motor Tax postal and online applications continue

## **Municipal Districts**

- Burials – will continue in accordance with local arrangements;
- Street cleaning and emptying litter bins will continue but may be scaled back depending on the need;
- Routine housing maintenance work will continue to be suspended; but **essential emergency** works will continue;
- Parks – facilitate inspection and core use by people within 2km;
- **Grass cutting – re-commenced with effect from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May;**