



Management Report to Council



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January dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
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<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> CPG Mtg @ 10:00
<u>13</u> TCC Plenary Mtg, Nenagh @ 10:00	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> Clonmel BD Mtg @ 11:00	<u>16</u> Nenagh MD Mtg @ 10:00	<u>17</u>
<u>20</u> Thurles MD Mtg @ 10:30	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> Carrick on Suir MD Mtg @ 14:00	<u>24</u>
<u>27</u> Tipperary-Cahir- Cashel MD Mtg @ 11am	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>

REPORT AT A GLANCE



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ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE



New Policy/Strategic Issues

Policy Changes/Updates

The initial meeting of the Infrastructure SPC was held on 11 December 2024 and considered the following items:

- Introduction to Roads and Transportation Directorate
- Speed Limit Review
- Harmonisation of Pay Parking.

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 has not provided 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 Operational Road Works Programme 2025	Implementation of Programme	2025 Department of Transport Allocations are awaited.
<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 awaited. 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>
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 <i>default</i> speed limits on some road categories including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60km/hr on Rural Local Roads (currently 80km/hr) 80km/hr on National Secondary Roads (currently 100km/hr) 30km/hr in Urban Areas (currently predominantly 50km/hr). 	<p>It is proposed by the National Group that implementation of the speed limits will be done over three phases as follows:</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>* The default speed limit will commence nationally on 7 February 2025, whereby all Rural Local Roads will have a 60km/hr speed limit unless Special Speed Limit Byelaws have been adopted by local authorities. The stretches of Local Roads within urban areas will <u>not</u> be considered as part of Phase One.</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 has been 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 pond) to commence in Q1 2025 subject to availability of funding.
Thurles Municipal District		
N62 Thurles Outer Bypass	Route Selected in 2011 and reserved corridor in place. TCC lobbying for it to be included in the next NDP.	Continue lobbying for scheme to be included in the next NDP.
N62 Slievenamon Road Thurles, Phase 2	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 447m of pavement on the N62 road through Thurles. The 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.	It is anticipated that construction will commence in Q1 2025.
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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.
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 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. Preliminary on-site archaeological investigations are completed and archaeological excavations are underway.	It is anticipated that the tender for the Main Works contract will be advertised in January 2025 and works will commence in Q2 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.

Briefing and Site Visit to Killaloe By-Pass, Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Upgrade Project



Elected Members from Tipperary and Clare County Councils, together with Chief Executives, Sinéad Carr, Pat Dowling and Council Officials, attended a briefing and site visit to the Killaloe By-pass, Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Upgrade project, on 13 December 2024.

This strategic project is scheduled for completion in Q2 2025.

N74 Fr. Mathew Street, Tipperary Town - Road Improvement Scheme

See image below of recent footpath works completed on Fr Mathew Street, Tipperary Town.
This scheme is funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Uisce Eireann.





GREENWAY PROJECTS - UPDATES

Greenways 2024 Total Allocation: €690,000	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. Feasibility Report is currently being revised and comments responded to.
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.
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. We await ABP 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.
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.
Local Authority Greenways Support	Ongoing

ACTIVE TRAVEL – UPDATES AT 2024 YEAR END

Active Travel 2024 Total NTA Allocation: €4,499,000	Current Update
Old Bridge to Suir Blueway Link	Finalising Part 8 planning documents for the project and seeking NTA approval to proceed with Planning
Cashel Road Active Travel Scheme, Clonmel	Construction works ongoing
R445 Lisbunny - Nenagh Active Travel Scheme	Construction works ongoing
Active Travel Connectivity, Supervalu Junction, Cahir	Finalising project details before launching Part 8 planning
Cláirín Footbridge, Carrick On Suir	Construction complete
Birdhill Active Travel Scheme	Part 8 planning secured and preparing tender to procure a design team for stages 5 - 7
SRTS (R1) Loreto Secondary School, Clonmel	Scheme design with the NTA for review and needs to be finalized before launching the Part 8 Planning
SRTS (R1) Gaelscoil Chluain Meala, Clonmel	Construction complete
SRTS (R2) St. Brigid's National School, Donaskeagh	Construction complete
SRTS (R2) Cullen National School	Delivery plan received – Design team to be appointed
SRTS (R2) St Marys Central National School, Killenaule	Part 8 submission period closed 18 th December
Davis Road Active Travel Scheme Clonmel	Design being finalised following feedback from the NTA
Nenagh Urban Greenway	Non-statutory public consultation complete in preparation for a planning application for submission to An Bord Pleanála
Quarry Lane - Cullenagh (R494) Active Travel Scheme, Ballina	Updated design and responses to queries on the Options Selection Report for the scheme are under review before finalising the preferred option for the scheme



Project Name 2024	Current Update
Newtown - Active Travel Connectivity Scheme	Preparing a Part 8 planning pack for the scheme
Cahir Road Active Travel Scheme, Cashel	Project complete
Emly Village Footpaths	Phase 2 to be delivered in 2025
Carrick Beg Footpath Improvements, Carrick on Suir	Project complete
R445 Roscrea Footpath and Cycleway scheme	Project complete
Castlemeadows Active Travel Scheme Thurles	Tender documents being prepared to tender for a works contractor
Inch National School	Safe Routes to School Design elements of the project have been approved by the NTA
Nenagh Local Transport Plan	Completed
Thurles Local Transport Plan	Completed
Clonmel Local Transport Plan	Completed
Ardfinnan Bridge	The design team is progressing the Preliminary Design for the project. A non-statutory public consultation is open until 31 st January
Active Travel Staff Costs	Ongoing and seeking to appoint new staff to current vacancies
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	Awaiting NTA feedback on the completed review of the Primary Bus Stop audits

Planning Section will provide the Active Travel Projects update report, going forward.



2024 Active Travel Projects at Construction Stage

Cláirín Bridge Replacement





Gaelscoil Chluain Meala, Clonmel
Safe Routes to School





Cashel Road Clonmel Active Travel Project





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	Implement annual objectives as per service delivery plan
Fire Safety	Fire Safety Strategy prepared and signed off for delivery in 2024	Primary schools programme underway along with station visits by schools at end of school year.
ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES		To 4th Dec 2024
Number of Emergency Calls Attended		1783
Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received		95
Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted		99
Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received		62
Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted		67
Number of Commencement Notices Received		525



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>
Residential Zoned Land Tax	Final maps for 2025 are being prepared having consideration to (i) the Draft Maps, (ii) Determinations / Evaluations and (iii) appeal decisions. Draft Maps for RZLT 2026 also being prepared.	Determinations issued on exclusions / inclusions, and requests for change of zoning issued. 3 Appeals received on these Determinations. All 3 appeal decisions upheld by An Bord Pleanála. Survey work in all settlements subject to RZLT to inform the Final RZLT 2025 and Draft RZLT 2026 ongoing.	Final Maps for the RZLT 2025 to be published on 31 st January 2025. Draft Maps for RZLT 2026 are also being prepared and will be published on 1 st February 2025. Consultation will be open until 1 st April 2025 on the Draft Maps.
Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031	Chief Executive Report on the Draft Carrick-on-Suir provided to Elected Members in early January 2025.	Draft Plan was published on 25 th October 2024. Public consultation on the Draft Plan was open until Monday, 9 th December 2024. Planning Team preparing Chief Executive Report and engaging relevant stakeholders in relation to this document.	Workshops with Elected Members of Carrick-on-Suir MD on Chief Executive Reports in January 2025. Decision required at February Council meeting whether to <u>AMEND</u> or <u>MAKE</u> the Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031
First Revision to the Draft National Policy Framework (NPF)	Government environmentally assessing changes with a view to bringing the final changes before the Oireachtas.	On 5 th November 2024, Government published the schedule of amendments to the First Revision to the National Planning Framework (NPF) arising following public consultation process.	Final changes must be agreed by the Oireachtas. This is likely to happen in Q1 or 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	Tender awarded and TCF Plan in progress	Draft to be finalised and TCF team to review
	Draft Newport TCF Plan .	Draft Plan published for submissions. Town Team formed	Finalise draft.
	Nenagh TCF Plan to be prepared.	TCF plan to be developed	Tender process for TCF plan to be progressed
	Thurles Renewal Strategy to be updated to TCF Plan	Town team formed and Thrive funding secured	Tender process for TCF plan to be progressed
	TCF Suite of Funding supports for towns < 10,000	Ongoing for Thurles, Nenagh and Cashel	Funding to be allocated for support of TCF teams

<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	Construction commenced end of May, 2023 and works were substantially completed in early September, 2024. The facility was officially opened by Minister Heather Humphreys on 3 rd . December, 2024 and is now open to the public.	Complete additional external paving and resurfacing works approved.
Thurles Market Quarter - Regeneration through Recreation,	Final Business Case approved by the Department. Successful/Unsuccessful letters issued to tenderers. Contracts signed on 18 th . June, 2024. Works	Complete construction works by end of September, 2025.



Education and Support for Local Producers	commenced on site early August, 2024 and satisfactory progress is being made.	
Rialto Digital and Enterprise Hub, Nenagh	Part 8 Planning process completed. Fire Safety Certificate and Disability Access Certificate received. Detailed design is completed.	Completed
Carrick -on-Suir Regeneration Plan - 'A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter - Delivering Our Community's Ambition' Category 1	<p>Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park- Works commenced mid-November, 2023 and are practically completed.</p> <p>Phase 2 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay - Tender documents completed and detailed review undertaken inhouse.</p> <p>Phase 3 Digital Hub – Contractor appointed on 18th. November, 2024. Works commenced December, 2024.</p>	<p>Phase 1 Healy Park, Strand Walk and Ormond Park - Complete snagging.</p> <p>Phase 2 Castle Street, Chapel Street and North Quay - Advertise for tenders in January, 2025. Commence works Q1/Q2 2025.</p> <p>Phase 3 Digital Hub – Complete works in Q4 2025.</p>
Activating Cahir's Town Centre Regeneration Strategy – Category 1	<p>Phase 1a Car Park Site – Demolition and enabling works contract completed.</p> <p>Phase 1b Car Park Construction- Pre-Tender Approval received from the Department November, 2024. Tender documents reviewed and currently being revised by the design team.</p> <p>Phase 2 Library- Pre-Tender Approval received from the Department November, 2024. Tender documents received and detailed review undertaken inhouse.</p> <p>Phase 3a Market House Enabling Works- Pre-Tender Approval received from the Department November, 2024. Tender documents being prepared.</p>	<p>Phase 1b-Car Park Construction- Finalise tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor. Commence works Q1 2025.</p> <p>Phase 2-Library- Finalise tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor. Commence works Q1, 2025.</p> <p>Phase 3a Market House Enabling Works- Finalise tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor. Commence works Q1 2025.</p>
Reimaging and Regenerating	Offer of Approval in Principle received from the Department.	Assess tenders received. Appoint design team in Q1 2025.



Gantly Street towards an Age Friendly Neighbourhood for Roscrea	Tender documents for the engagement of a design team completed. Request for Tenders advertised on e-Tenders on 8 th November, 2024 with closing date for submission of tenders on 20 th December, 2024.	
Tipperary Town - Social, community and heritage led regeneration of Dan Breen House and Tipperary Courthouse and Bridewell	Offer of Approval in Principle received from the Department in August, 2024. Tender documents for the construction stage are under preparation for both buildings.	Obtain Pre-Tender Approval from the Department. Complete tender documents and issue to contractors entered on the multi-party framework. Assess tenders received. Obtain Approval to Proceed from the Department. Appoint contractor and commence works in Q2 2025.

<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.	Phase 2 –Procure for design team in Q1 2025 to prepare detailed design and oversee the construction stage.
A Pathway to a Low Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the Transformational Urban Regeneration of Nenagh Town Centre	Design team appointed on 30 th May, 2024. Ongoing progress meetings being held with design team. Stakeholder engagement is in progress. Project Steering Group meetings and District Delivery Group meetings in progress.	Complete stakeholder engagement. Commence preliminary design in Q1 2025.

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.

Vacancy and Dereliction Team

- Second Vacant Homes Officer based in Clonmel commenced 23 September
- New team formation almost finalised

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

Carrick on Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031

A Draft Plan was published on Friday, 25th October 2024, with public consultation then ongoing until Monday, 9th December 2024. A public drop-in event was held in Carrick-on-Suir Library on 13th November 2024, where members of the general public engaged with the Planning Policy team questions about the Plan. 23 submissions were received on the Draft LAP and a Chief Executive's (CE) Report will be shared in early January 2025 with Elected Members.

The CE report outlines the submissions received, provides a summary of each of submission, and the CE's consideration and recommendation on each submission. A workshop will be provided in January 2025 for members of the Carrick-on Suir MD to outline the recommendations contained within the CE report, the implications of these recommendations, next steps and the decisions required.

At the plenary meeting in February 2025, a decision will be required to: (i) make the Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031; (ii) amend the Draft Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031 in accordance with the CE recommendations **OR** (iii) amend the Draft Carrick-on-Suir Local Area Plan 2025-2031 in accordance with some / all of the CE recommendations and other changes.



Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) is reviewed and updated annually. Public Consultation on the RZLT 2025 opened on 1st February 2024 with the publication of Draft Maps. People had an opportunity to make submissions on whether lands should be included / excluded on the Final Maps until 1st April, and until 31st May to make submissions on requests to amend the land use zoning of lands.

13 Submissions were received on whether lands should be included / excluded on the Final Maps. 9 of these submissions were from landowners, and specific “Determinations” were required on these 9 submissions. Three appeals were received by An Bord Pleanála on the Determinations made by TCC and the decision of TCC were upheld in each of these cases.

The Planning section has been surveying settlements that are subject to the RZLT in preparation for the publication of Final Maps for the RZLT 2025 and the Draft Maps for the RZLT 2026. The final Maps for RZLT 2025 will be published on 31st January 2025.

Draft Maps for the RZLT 2026, with an opportunity to make submissions, will be published on 1st February 2025. Consultation will be open until 1st April 2025.

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 focusing on 4 key themes: 1) balanced regional development; 2) Tipperary’s place in the region; 3) investing in infrastructure and; 4) A Just Transition and the BioEconomy, as well as other critical areas. The submission included 17 recommendations for Government to consider. The government received 272 submissions in total.

On 5th November, Cabinet agreed the changes the First Revision to the NPF following publication. The changes are subject to environmental assessment, which will be carried out in the coming weeks and months. Once this process is complete, the final draft will then be submitted to the Houses of the Oireachtas for their approval. This is likely to occur in Q1 or Q2 2025.

Conservation Grant Schemes 2024 and 2025

Applications are now being accepted for the Historic Structures Fund 2025 and BHIS Historic Thatch Buildings Grant 2025 – Closing date 17th January, 2025 4 pm strictly.

Historic Structures Fund 2025 - Closing 17/01/2025 4pm

The Historic Structures Fund will invest essential capital in our valuable built heritage and help the owners and custodians of historic structures to safeguard them into the future for the benefit of communities and the public. The Historic Structures Fund will offer grants from €50,000 up to

€200,000 only, and focus on larger enhancement, refurbishment or reuse projects involving heritage structures, where:

A clear community or public benefit has been demonstrated, or a clear residential benefit has been demonstrated (such projects must be advanced through the planning process as necessary)

BHIS Historic Thatch Buildings Stream 2025 – Closing 17/01/2025 4pm

The purpose of the scheme is to protect the heritage value of historic thatched roof buildings across Ireland, including dwellings and other structures. For 2025, the Historic Thatched Buildings Grant will offer funding offers of up to €20,000. Any historic thatched structure built before 1970, including domestic or commercial properties, is eligible to apply for grant funding under this scheme.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2025 – Scheme Now Closed

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, has announced the continued implementation of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2025, **which includes revised timeframes and criteria to incorporate elements of Historic Structures Fund (HSF) Stream 1.**

Applications were invited under the scheme for 2025 works. Grants of up to €50,000 are available to cover the cost of repair and conservation of protected structures. The closing date for submission of completed applications was **4.00pm on Friday 27th September, 2024.** Tipperary County Council received 40 applications under the scheme and have made a recommendation to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for 33 projects to receive funding under the scheme. A decision on same is expected late-January 2025 and applicants will then be notified of the outcome of their application.

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 1/01/24 to 31/12/24

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number Granted	Number refused	Number of Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	Number of Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála
Individual House	189	177	12	5	2
Housing Development	18	15	3	6	1
NIA/EIA	7	6	1	7	0
Other Applications	774	753	21	35	7
Total	988	951	37	53	10

Enforcement Proceedings

There were 240 complaints received from the 1st January to the 31st December 2024. During this period 218 Warning Letters and 41 Enforcement Notices were issued.

Taking in Charge: Estates

Applications Being Processed	DPI Developments	Taken-in-Charge in 2023	Taken-in-Charge To-Date in 2024	With District & Awaiting Approval	Applications Received in 2024
24	21	4	2	4	6

- 2 development (16 housing units) have been taken-in-charge to-date by Tipperary County Council in 2024
- 4 housing estates are currently with Roads section for advertising.
- 6 taking-in-charge application has been received to-date in 2024.
- There are currently 21 Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) housing estates in County Tipperary which the Planning Authority is unable to progress at present.

Planning & Emergency Services SPC

The first and second meeting of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC for 2024 were held on 22nd February and 23rd May. Updates were given in February on Residential Zoned Land Tax, Emergency Services, Planning workload update and project Ireland 2040 update. In May the updates were on Temporary Waiver Development Contributions Update, Emergency Services, Carrick-on Suir LAP and Tipperary Town LAP . Following the local elections, a new SPC was set up the first meeting was on the 16th December 2024, covered standing orders, update from emergency services, updates on Carrick on Suir LAP, RZLT changes and Planning and Development Act 2024 plus the establishment of a working group on Modular and MMCs.

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

Item	Quantity
Applications received	540
Approved to date	411
Further Info stage	61
Applications rejected	33
Applications withdrawn	35
Grants Paid Out	59
Grant Payments to 20/12/2024 = €3,118,9948.26.	

Library Service

Capital Projects



- Minister Heather Humphreys officially opened the new Library and Enterprise Centre for Templemore on 3rd December. The new Library is the first in County Tipperary to provide a suite of new technology solutions to the public. These include a dedicated

Makerspace room which has technologies such as Robotics and 3D Printing. There is a glazed reading area for both adults and children which offers a view directly into the Library. The building also includes a meeting room for Templemore Community Development Association who have collaborated with Tipperary County Council on this project. The support of the Templemore Community Development Association was a major contributing factor in RRDF funding being received for this project. The landmark project received funding of €3 million under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF). An additional investment of €1 million was provided by Tipperary County Council.

Children's Book Festival 2024

- The Children's Book Festival is one of Ireland's biggest arts festivals, with hundreds of free events celebrating children's books happening nationwide in libraries. The Festival places a major focus on children's books and emphasises the message that reading is fun, enjoyable, stimulating and inclusive. It is the biggest annual event that Tipperary County Council Library Service runs and is the highlight of the Library events programme. The main aims of the festival are:
 - ✓ to encourage children to enjoy the experience of reading and support their reading development
 - ✓ to provide activities and events in collaboration with writers/illustrators/storytellers
 - ✓ to promote children's books and stories

- ✓ to increase engagement with families and schools and to attract new audiences.



- Cllr Declan Burgess, Cathaoirleach, Tipperary County Council officially launched the Tipperary Children's Book Festival on 30th September in Clonmel Library. Pupils from Sisters of Charity NS, Clonmel attended a puppeteer show by Julie Rose McCormack to celebrate the launch.



- Pupils from St. Oliver's N.S. in Clonmel enjoyed a talk entitled "The Forgettables" by author and illustrator, Alan Dunne on 2nd October. This talk concentrated on Irish life, some fascinating, but sadly forgotten, Irish people and animals who have advanced (or set back) the cause of everything from astronomy to Zoology.



- Cashel Library held a anime art workshop with the graphic illustrator, John Carpenter on 15th October. Students from St. John the Baptist's Boys N.S. in Cashel enjoyed an interactive workshop on anime art. This event took place as part of the Children's Book Festival.



- Nenagh Library hosted author **Wayne O'Connor** who acted out *Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes* with pupils from St. Mary's No. 2, Nenagh and Gurtagarry N.S. on 7th October. This event took place as part of the Children's Book Festival.



- Thurles Library hosted an Interactive Workshops with Author, Biologist, Environmental Consultant, Radio and Television presenter and Educator Éanna Ní Lamhna on 14th October. There were 57 students in attendance from Gaelscoil Bhríde Durlas Eile and Scoil Angela Primary school, Thurles. This event took place as part of the Children’s Book Festival.



- Thurles Library hosted three workshops with Author and Illustrator Kate Sheehy. 134 Students from The Presentation Primary school, Thurles, Gortnahoe National school, Thurles and Scoil Angela Primary school, Thurles were

in attendance. This event took place as part of the Children’s Book Festival.

Library Events:

Clonmel Library Presents:

‘When the Body Says NO’: The Cost of Hidden Stress


A talk by Dr. Sabine Eggers

This talk will look at how stress and our emotional makeup play a role in an array of common diseases such as arthritis, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, IBS and multiple sclerosis.

We will also learn about “The Seven A’s of Healing”.

**Wednesday
16th of October 2024
6:30pm – 7:30pm**

Contact us for more information: clonmellibrary@tipperarycoco.ie 052 6166130



- Clonmel Library hosted a talk by Dr. Sabine Eggers entitled “When the body says no”. Dr Eggers looked at how stress and our emotional makeup play a role in an array of common diseases such as arthritis, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, IBS and multiple sclerosis. This took place as part of the Healthy Ireland at your Library programme.



- Clonmel Library hosted an Intergenerational Workshop on 19th October. This event encouraged participants to learn some basic Irish Sign Language (ISL) through an interactive workshop aimed at older people who are hard of hearing. This workshop was facilitated by Artist Paulette O'Donovan, ISL Signer Mary Kiely and interpreter Mary Dermody.



- Clonmel Library hosted a workshop entitled *Code Cracker* by Dr. Cas Kramer explained the impact that DNA analysis, Fingerprinting technology and Genetics have had on criminal justice. Additionally, Cas explored intriguing genetic traits, such as tongue rolling and hair on the first knuckle, and share insights on how these and other features are passed down through our DNA. This event was held as part of Science Week 2024.



- Suzanne Brosnan, Cashel Library held a series of Halloween Storytime for different age groups on 31st October. These were enjoyed by all who attended.



- Cashel library welcomed the Cashel Daycare Centre for three days of table quizzes from 4th – 7th November. These quizzes were very much enjoyed by all participants.



- Cashel Library held an “Explore Engineering: Build and Learn” workshop on 12th November. This event was ran the Young Engineers Cork team and was held as part of Science Week.



- Templemore Library organised a writing workshop with Emma Larkin in St. Joseph’s Primary School on 17th October. Over 30 pupils were in attendance.



- Templemore Library organised a nature and biodiversity workshop with renowned author Éanna NÍ Lamhna on 14th October. Over 40 students from St. Colmcille’s Boys School, Templemore attended this event.



- Roscrea Library held a wreath making workshop for senior citizens on 4th October. This event was held as part of Positive Ageing week.



- Roscrea Library held two STEM workshops with Dr Eleanor Walsh from Mary Immaculate College on 13th November. These workshops were held as part of Science Week.



- Cahir Library organised a Science Week event with ... in Scoil on



- Roscrea Library hosted a talk by Ann Costigan, Registered Children's Nurse & Founder of @pooandtheloo who spoke on the Foundations of Toilet Training. This event took place on 14th October.



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



- Nenagh Library hosted a workshop and talk on 1st October entitled **Skincare as We Age - How to Protect, Care and Enhance our Skin as We Mature.** by Dympna Fitzgerald, Founder and Ben Fitzgerald, Education Co-Ordinator of Totalcare Nenagh & CARELIKA Ireland. This event was held as part of Positive Ageing Week.



- Nenagh Library hosted a talk on 22nd October entitled **‘Report on the Irish Bioeconomy with a Focus on the Blue Economy and Key Initiatives’** by Naveen Kumar and Gavin Moroney, European Project

Managers at the Irish Bioeconomy Foundation. This talk was delivered to senior cycle agricultural science students from St. Mary’s Secondary School, Newport as part of National Bioeconomy week.



- Nenagh Library hosted a talk entitled **‘Shattering the Menopause Taboo,’** by Catherine O’Keeffe on 29th October. This talk focused on the realities of menopause, highlighting the physical and emotional challenges women encounter and sharing various strategies for coping. It was held as part of the Healthy Ireland at your Library programme.



- Nenagh Library hosted two sessions of **‘The Super Science of Spiderman’** with Dr. Barry Fitzgerald on 8th November. This event was organised in collaboration with Mary Immaculate College and took place as part of Science Week.



From L-R Philip Quinn, PJ O'Connell & Gerry Flannery

- Thurles based artist, PJ O'Connell launched his latest Art Exhibition on 21st October. There were over 80 people in attendance.



- Thurles Library hosted a STEM workshop called Rosie Revere Engineer Workshop. Storytime and Building Activity on 15th November. Over 30 students from Scoil Angela Primary school, Thurles. Participated in this workshop which was held as part of Science Week.



- Thurles Library hosted a Christmas Coffee Morning on 12th December. There was music and songs by 60 students from Scoil Angela and there were 80 members of the public in attendance. We also had our friends from Meitheal 21 on hosting duties as part of their Barista Work Experience.



- Carrick on Suir Library hosted local musicians Mo O'Connor, Martin Murray and Gay Brazel who played an afternoon of music as part of Positive Ageing Week. There was 25 in attendance.



- Carrick-on-Suir Library hosted a talk by Hazel Tree Farm Author and AgriKids founder, Alma Jordan on 9th October. Alma spoke to 26 students from Newtown Upper regarding farm safety and to share an extract of her new book with them. The pupils had a chance to ask their own questions as well as learning from

Alma about tractor safety and farm animals.



Carrick-on-Suir Library hosted a science week workshop for adults, organised by Calmast, SETU. The 18 attendees learned about gemstones, and were able to create and take home their own piece of jewellery.



- Students from Cloughjordan NS visited Cloughjordan Library on 6th December for a Library tour and storytime.



- As part of Science Week, Tipperary Town Library welcomed Shane from [Cobots.ie](https://www.cobots.ie) who demonstrated the robotic arm in action. This event took place on 15th November as part of Science Week.



- Tipperary Town Library welcomed Arran Towers, from The Tallest Smallest Circus on 6th December. He brought his collection of Ancient Indian Puppets to life through

music, story, interactions and participation, for St Joseph's Primary school, the Gaelscoil and St Michael's Girl's school.



- Tipperary Town Library welcomed Dorothy Jacobs from Self Help Africa for a workshop focused on Ethical Fashion on 12th December. Self Help Africa is a NGO focused on supporting sustainable development in rural Africa. Two classes from St Ailbe's School were in attendance.



- Killenaule Library hosted a Wreath-Making Workshop with "The Irish Flower Whisperer", Róisín

O'Connell on 3rd October. This event took place as part of Positive Ageing Week.

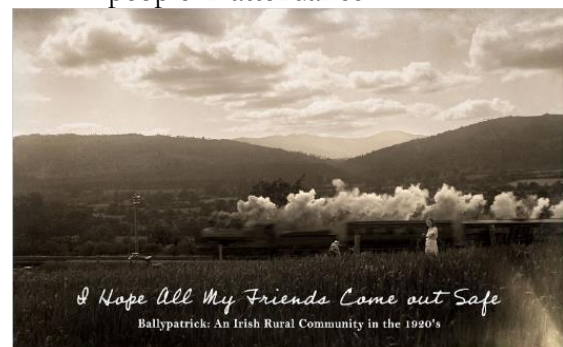
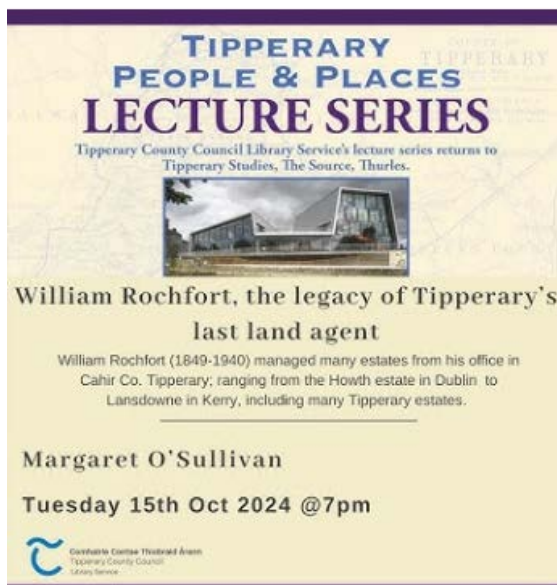


- Killenaule Library hosted a talk on Women's Hormone Health, which was given by Nicola Ryan, M.P.S.I. (menopause advisor and pharmacist) on 10th October.



- Tipperary Studies held a lecture entitled 'William Rochfort, the legacy of Tipperary's last land agent' by Margaret O'Sullivan on 15th October. There was over fifty people in attendance.

Tipperary Studies



- Tipperary Studies launched a short documentary film called 'I hope all of my friends come out safe: Ballypatrick an Irish rural community in the 1920s in the

Kilcash Community Centre on 24th October. The film is a visual journey through the lens of John Quinn a talented local photographer from the early 20th century. It's a fascinating look at life in this small corner of South Tipperary during a time of incredible change. It tells the story of the daily lives of the people in Ballypatrick and the surrounding villages of Kilcash and Kilsheelan. John Quinn's images give us a rare glimpse into a world that was rapidly evolving, with the looming spectre of war and revolution always present in the background. The film can be viewed on the Tipperary Studies Website (www.tipperarystudies.ie)

scheme as part of the Templemore Flood Relief Scheme.

The artwork celebrates the diverse journeys of the people in Templemore. Drawing inspiration from themes of connection and sharing, the piece incorporates elements from the local map – roads and buildings – transformed into abstract lines and cubes. These forms represent the community's intricate paths and shared experiences, creating a dynamic visual narrative through the interplay of light, lines and forms.

[Arts Service](#)

Per Cent for Art



- Minister Heather Humphreys recently opened the new state of the art Templemore Library & Enterprise Centre on Tuesday, 3rd December last. Featured in this new library building is a ceiling-mounted artwork by Kevin Killen titled *Nexus*, a sculpture commissioned by Tipperary County Council and funded under the Per Cent for Arts

Artists Training Programme



- The Arts Office recently held an online workshop for professional artists that live and/or work in County Tipperary on the topic of “Pricing your Artwork”. Curator and advisor Eamonn Maxwell covered the basics of how to properly price your work when selling to individuals, institutions and collections. Eamonn explored the main visual art disciplines of painting, sculpture, drawing, photography and printmaking, as well as looking at installation, and performance. By the end of the

workshop the 21 participants had a better understanding of what's needed to consider when pricing their work.

Eamonn Maxwell is a curator and advisor, and has more than 20 years' experience of purchasing work for individuals, institutions and national collections. His knowledge and track record of working with contemporary artists afforded attendees a unique insight into this subject.

participants with ideas and approaches on using stop-motion animation in youth work and youth arts practice. Participants explored basic stop-motion animation skills using plasticine, wires, paper, Lego and other materials. They worked together in groups to explore themes, develop story/concept and make storyboards using stop-motion apps, editing and adding voice-overs.

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

Tipperary Youth Arts Hub



- The Tipperary Youth Arts Hub was identified to support practice and sharing between all involved in youth arts in Tipperary and to support the development of this area of practice. It offers free training opportunities to youth workers, artists and youth practitioners living in Tipperary. The most recent Youth Arts Hub training opportunity held in Templemore College of Further Education on Tuesday, 12th November, specialised in stop motion animation. Led by artist Mike Byrne, this workshop was an introduction to the techniques involved in creating stop-motion animated films and provided



Tzarini Meyler

Tzarini Meyler is a writer and director whose work explores identity, memory, grief, childhood, and climate change. An MA graduate of the Institute of the Arts Barcelona, she is the artistic director of LipZinc Theatre. Inspired by history, art, and found objects, Tzarini's practice blends sensory elements with text to create thought-provoking stories. Recent credits include: KITES (VAULT Festival) and Pheromone (Edinburgh Fringe); They Call Me Bridget (Best Overall Film – Bloomsday Film Festival, 2023). Upcoming work includes: Mermaid of the Sands starring Cedrick Mugisha (Almodovar's Pain and Glory) and The Three Chairs, supported by Tipperary Arts Office. (Virtual Attic, Tipperary)

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

playwrights and theatre makers called Six in the Attic and Virtual Attic 2024/25. Six in the Attic (SITA) is a year-long artist development programme. SITA supports a community of playwrights and theatre makers to engage, explore, develop, debate, and collaborate on their projects and practice, both in-person and online. Selection for the programme was made by open call published in November 2024. 2025 marks the second time the programme has included local authority partners ensuring the virtual programme reaches the entire country. The Six in the Attic & Virtual Attic Artists for the 2024/25 programme were announced in December and we are delighted that Tzarini Meyler was selected as the Tipperary artist participating for 2024/25.

part of this partnership programme a webinar titled ‘Visual Artist Café: Artists in Schools’ was presented on Wednesday, 2nd October and attendance was free for Tipperary based artists. The session, facilitated by Fiona Byrne, was presented for any artist wishing to apply for an Artist in schools programme and highlighted the aims, objectives and benefits to both the artist and schools. Fiona Byrne (PhD) is an educator and facilitator who creates participant-centred, engaging experiences to promote an understanding of creative practice, with a focus on visual literacy and tacit knowledge.

Visual Artists Ireland



- Visual Artists Ireland serves as the representative body for professional visual artists in Ireland. This Autumn we continued our online training provision for Tipperary artists in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and partner local authorities in Limerick and Clare. As

Tipperary Dance Festival 2024



- The Tipperary Dance Festival 2024 was held in October, and featured an exciting line up of dance performances, residencies, masterclasses for professionals and workshops for dance enthusiasts. Spanning 10 days, the festival offered a total of 31 events across Thurles, Clonmel and Tipperary Town, attracting nearly 1000 attendees throughout its duration. Tipperary Dance Festival is funded by The Arts Council under Festivals Investment Scheme, Tipperary

County Council and by Goethe-Institut Irland and the German Federal Foreign Office.

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 February 2025.
- Further training was facilitated by ICAN staff on the 18th November in Tipperary Town and Nenagh by Hassan and Chris.



Local Authority Heritage Officers & Biodiversity Officers December 2024

- Local Authority Heritage Officers and Biodiversity Officers gathered at Heritage Council HQ IN Kilkenny on the 12th & 13th December for their final training and networking day of 2024.

The day was filled with insightful discussions, knowledge sharing and reflection on the impactful work achieved this year.



Community Monuments Fund 2025 launched

- 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.

Funding is available for:

- Conservation works to monuments which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support.
- Works to improve access to and presentation of monuments.
- Building resilience into monuments to enable them to withstand the effects of climate change.
- Funding for 2025 is now open for applications and is available in three streams

Stream 1 offer grants up to €100,00 for essential repairs and conservation works for the conservation of archaeological monuments.

Stream 2 offer grants up to €30,000 for development of Conservation Management Plans/Reports and detailed specification of works aimed at identifying measures for conservation of archaeological monuments and improving public access.

Stream 3 offer grants up to €30,000 for enhancement of access infrastructure and interpretation projects (including virtual/online) and small-scale emergency conservation works at archaeological monuments.

More information on the above scheme is available here [Community Monuments Fund 2025](#).

Applications can be sent by email to heritage@tipperarycoco.ie or submitted in hardcopy_

Closing date for the scheme is 4pm the 31st of January 2025.

Amazing work carried out this year at Loughmore Castle under the Community Monuments Fund 2024



Creative Ireland & Cruinniú na nÓg programme

- We are delighted to share that **'Hit the Wall**, a documentary by a young Tipperary film-maker Ailill Martin supported by local Creative Ireland funding will be broadcast on TG4

on Sunday 5th January 2025 at 5.40pm. This documentary was filmed around Tipperary and across the country and focuses on Handball and its players. In the landscape of Irish sport, Handball is an island within an island. Once hugely popular, it has since fallen into obscurity. Today the countryside is littered with abandoned alleys and crumbling old walls, the remains of a once great game whose time would appear to have passed. Less than 10,000 players remain. These athletes strive for immortality in a game most consider "dead".



Creative Ireland grant programme

- During the period October to December 2024 the **Tipperary Creative Ireland programme** continued to support another 10 projects and events across the county.

Please visit

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/tipperary/> to see details of these projects.

- An example of one project which was launched in October is enclosed below.

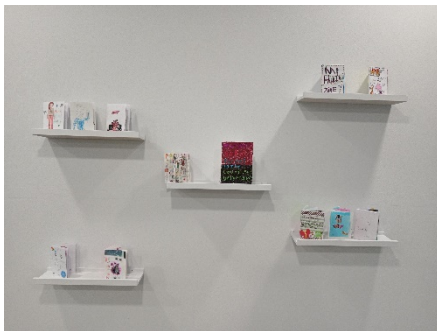


- *Images above of Emerging Narratives* which was the culmination of a 6-month long mentorship project ‘Social Engagement and Practice –Building for the Future’ developed by South Tipperary Arts Centre and funded by Creative Ireland. Selected artists Annie Hogg & Mags Rudnicka worked with Workmen’s Boat Club, Clonmel and Clonmel Youth Training Enterprise, respectively, and the work on display in STAC Chapel is a culmination of their time working together.

Creative
Health & Wellbeing

Creative Ireland Health and Wellbeing Funding

- Staff from Tipperary, Clare and Limerick County Councils along with HSE, TUSLA and Creative Ireland staff were delighted to attend the lunchtime celebration at Limerick City Gallery of the Mid-West Helium Arts project on Wednesday 23rd October. It was amazing to view the art-works created by the young people with life-long health conditions and especially pleasing to hear from a parent about the positive impact the programme has on her children and her family.



Funding opportunities 2025

- The Tipperary Creative Ireland Community grant and Tipperary Creative Ireland Project Award were recently launched for 2025. The vision of the Creative Ireland Programme 2023 - 2027 is to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation so that we can realise our full creative potential thereby promoting individual, community and national wellbeing. We welcome applications for high quality cultural/creative projects which involve a community/ group or clearly benefit the wider community. Further information from creativeireland@tipperarycoco.ie

Biodiversity Service



- 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.

- The first meeting of the Tipperary Biodiversity Forum took place at Cabragh wetlands on the 10th of October. Further meetings have taken place in October and December. The Biodiversity Forum is comprised of members which represent sections of TCC, NGO's, State bodies and voluntary organisations which are relevant to biodiversity. Meeting of the Forum will resume in early 2025 as we move closer to finalising the actions to be included in the plan

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

Museum Service



- The first lecture in the 2024/2025 Museum Lecture Series *A Quiet Revolution: Ireland 1960 -2000* took place on November 9th. It was on the subject of Emigration and an audience of 50 people attended. The second lecture looking at Church State relations will be on December 7th. Work continues on the organising and advertising of the one-day seminar in Thurles on January 18th.



- **ARTiculation** – Over 200 students attended ARTiculation Discovery sessions throughout October and November, delivered by the Education Officer, Julia Walsh Drohan and Eileen Acheson. The sessions explained the Public Speaking competition to students and encouraged participants to talk about museum artefacts, architecture and art.



- Julia Walsh Drohan attended the Irish Walled Towns Network Conference in Carrickfergus on September 26th and 27th. Tipperary Museum Curator where she presented on the Heritage Stewardship Project and other projects involving communities at the Conference.



Above: McCarthy's Funeral Director & Condon's Funeral Director

- The 'death & faith' section in the museum has been used as inspiration for a new oral history collection which began recording in September. It features various undertakers and members of the church and covers the culture, folklore and changes of death and funerals within Tipperary.
- **TUS Project:** Students from the TUS Digital campus were tasked with using the museum collection as their inspiration for a written piece. This piece was part of their communications module and could be factual or fictional but no more than 200 words. Students were given an in-depth tour and chose a broad array of items from military material to a horse skull.

TEMPLORE TOWN HALL
A much-loved landmark at the heart of Templemore is ready to take on a new lease of life

Since its completion in 1806, the Town Hall, a landmark of the town of Templemore, has had a long, distinguished and varied history. It is a Grade II listed building, a status that was bestowed upon it in 1988. It has dominated the streetscape of the town for 208 years.

It was in the centre of the town's very early history that the town of Templemore was founded. It was here that the first market was held in 1200. In 1202, the town was granted a charter by King John. In 1203, the town was granted a charter by King John. In 1203, the town was granted a charter by King John.

A Market House for Templemore
The landmark building that has dominated the town since its completion in 1806, the Town Hall, was built on the site of the old market house. It was here that the first market was held in 1200. In 1202, the town was granted a charter by King John. In 1203, the town was granted a charter by King John.

It is a beautiful building with a distinctive design that has dominated the streetscape of the town for 208 years

Templemore
GROWING TOGETHER

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

TEMPERARY MUSEUM
TIPPERARY HISTORY

Incredible events that brought a temporary halt to a divisive conflict

Following the burning down of the Town Hall, the residents of Templemore were facing a difficult time. The town was in a state of conflict, and the residents were suffering. The town was in a state of conflict, and the residents were suffering.

The town became known as Pilgrimville with over 30,000 people flocking to the town every day to see the bleeding statues.

Templemore
GROWING TOGETHER

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

TEMPERARY MUSEUM
TIPPERARY HISTORY

- To celebrate the opening of the new Library in Templemore, the Museum collaborated with the Templemore Community Development association to create an exhibition marking the 200-year history of the Town Hall. This exhibition can be viewed in the new Library.



- A Philosophy Lecture *Tweets, Lies and Post Truths* was held in the Museum on Saturday 26th October in association with Anne Jordan SETU and Clonmel Philosophy group – 26 in attendance.

- Donations received October to December:
 - Railway crossing telephone dating to first half of the 20th century.
 - Local business poster
 - Material from GPO, Dublin.
The Museum was closed down and the collection was broken up and dispersed throughout the country.



FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 30th November 2024

		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	62,560,965	47,811,603	131%	(14,749,362)	61,835,432	47,104,166	131%	(14,731,266)	(18,096)
B	Road Transport & Safety	60,712,848	60,638,999	100%	(73,849)	42,639,034	41,698,401	102%	(940,633)	866,784
C	Water Services	13,447,830	14,930,489	90%	1,482,659	12,378,225	14,366,139	86%	1,987,914	(505,255)
D	Development Management	34,504,315	23,356,907	148%	(11,147,408)	24,259,630	11,031,135	220%	(13,228,495)	2,081,087
E	Environmental Services	36,085,031	52,473,153	69%	16,388,122	18,469,048	32,619,608	57%	14,150,560	2,237,562
F	Recreation & Amenity	14,718,378	15,841,198	93%	1,122,820	2,795,562	2,668,927	105%	(126,635)	1,249,455
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,861,019	2,012,720	92%	151,701	1,284,602	1,327,851	97%	43,249	108,453
H	Miscellaneous Services	16,484,881	17,088,811	96%	603,930	17,384,267	18,186,945	96%	802,678	(198,748)
LG	Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	26,177,104	28,556,840	92%	2,379,736	(2,379,737)
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	0	33,222,328	36,593,868	91%	3,371,540	(3,371,540)
Totals		240,375,268	234,153,880	103%	(6,221,388)	240,445,232	234,153,880	103%	(6,291,352)	69,964



Capital Account – Year to Date 30th November 2024

	Expenditure	Income
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
A Housing & Building	39,984,912	38,161,931
B Road Transport & Safety	22,213,534	20,822,904
C Water Services	3,238,800	3,331,993
D Development Management	15,795,713	17,136,483
E Environmental Services	1,883,308	1,068,474
F Recreation & Amenity	2,726,815	1,709,768
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	185,691	212,196
H Miscellaneous Services	2,150,830	690,944
Total	88,179,603	83,134,693

Collection Rates	YTD 202411	YTD 202311	YTD 202312
Rates	83%	80%	90%
Rents	94%	89%	92%
Housing Loans	99%	99%	99%

Note regarding Rates figures -

- 2023 year-end % takes account of Specific Doubtful Arrears, unlike the current month end figure.



COMMERCIAL RATES

As at 30/11/2024 Rate Accruals for 2024 amounted to **€36,242,540**.

Arrears of **€5,520,979** were brought forward from 2023, giving the total amount to be collected as **€41,763,519**. Reductions of **€1,114,542**, 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 **€801,592** have been processed to date in 2024.

Receipts of **€33,167,468, (83%)**, were recorded to 30/11/2024.

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. 1,344 grants were paid in November, in the amount of **€6,248,000**.

RATES PAYMENT INCENTIVE SCHEME 2024

Approximately 4,150 (90%) of customers are eligible to benefit from our Rates Payment Incentive Scheme in 2024. If fully subscribed and availed of this could achieve total reductions in their rates of **€648,249**.

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.

2,013 Customers have benefitted from the RPIS to date in 2024, in the amount of **€342,433**.

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)

Networks, Infrastructure, Phones

MS 365

- Progressed MS 365 preparatory project work as follows:
 - prepared on prem AD & Exchange environment for 365 replication,
 - Prepared 365 tenant for replication.
 - Implemented Entra ID Sync
 - On Prem AD fully replicated with 365.
 - Completed Exchange patching prior to Hybrid Configuration
 - Exchange Hybrid configured
 - Test account migrated to 365 and testing on-going
 - Prepared MS Office 365 / Azure tenant to host services
 - Progressed implementation of MS Intune mobile device management platform

Elected Members

Catered for changes/setups in MS 365 accounts as a result of general election.

General

- Completed the rollout of Managed Print Services contract across the organisation
- Supported IT requirements for New Templemore Library
- Completed the hybrid cloud sizing exercise.
- Progressed implementation of resilient link to DR site
- Deploying a new direct internet access circuit for Clonmel Hydra suite
- Connectivity upgrade for Roscrea Civic Amenity site being deployed.

- Trial of 5G connectivity solution for Donohill Plant underway.
- Awarded contract for supply and installation of video conferencing solution for Clonmel interview room
- Progressed scoping upgrade of video conferencing solution for Thurles MDO chamber
- Provided advice on broadband requirement for Roscrea REACH site
- Moved Clonmel Fire Station to new WAN connection (previously connected via radio link), plus reconfigured switches in four buildings

Email Stats (1 Jan to 5 Dec 2024)




Total number of inbound mails from external senders	Total e-mails blocked at source due to spam, virus, content rule, blocked sender, Quarantined.	Delivered
2,450,122	779,709	1,670,413

Phone Stats (1 Jan to 5 Dec 2024)



Inbound Calls	Outbound Calls	Internal Calls
173,934	139,753	322,901

Help Desk Stats (1 Jan to 5 Dec 2024)

	Total Number of requests created	Total Number of requests completed
Q1	3475	3291
Q2	2976	2947
Q3	2811	2695
Q4	1980	1679
Total to date	11,242 Open = 866	10,612

Security

Completed the migration of Sophos endpoint encryption to cloud solution

Continued with:

- Patching of servers
- Further securing 3rd party access to our network
- Implementing the security segmentation project
- Implementing MS Intune mobile device management platform



- Providing online security training
- Conducting organisation wide phishing test and providing follow up training where relevant.

Phone System

- Issued recommendation for Phone System Maintenance 2025
- Catered for General Election Freephone Number setup for Voice Recording
- New Phones installed in Templemore New Library
- All phones updated to SIP phone models. (approx. 50 over last quarter)

Websites and eDevelopment

- Innovation funding – Examined the redevelopment of Property Portal as a candidate for potential funding from LGMA.
- Websites- completed the consolidation of three smaller sites into the Tipperarycoco.ie platform i.e. Royalsites, Yourcarrickonsuir, Clonmel links project.
- AI- R&D continued in the area of custom AI development. An R&D trial is underway with Roads.

- Housing -Developed new Sharepoint systems for Housing that supported their digitisation project,
- 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 next year.
- Consultations & Residential Zoned Land Tax -Continued to provide and support the service for the county;
 - 119 webforms
 - 400+ consultations
 - 1500 redactions
 - 4659 submissions
- T&S System successfully upgraded with new climate change configuration.
- New Meeting Room system developed and implemented.

Business and GIS Systems

- Continued with replacement of older unsupported architecture hosting systems:
 - The Suir Flood Forecasting system migrated to cloud environment – Go live early 2025
 - Upgrade of Fire Services Rostering and Scheduling software completed
 - Planning Enforcement System – Procurement evaluation complete. System implementation to proceed in Q1 2025. Go Live is March 2025
- Housing Digitisation Project – Systems Analysis and Design stage continues.
- eLearning Management System -redesign complete, development in progress
- I-House, I-Reg and I-Plan
 - Upgrades completed as follows: iHouse to version 4.2, iReg to version 5.0.9 and iPlan to version 5.1.2

GIS Systems

Progressed the following:

- Updated Salting Routes App online
- New ArcGIS system prepared
- Migration of internal Planning Application underway
- Upgraded GIS layers with data received from external agencies i.e. Tailte Éireann, ESB, Bord Gáis.

Mobile Phones and Billing

Continued with procurement of Mobile Voice and Data Communications – in analysis/consultation phase with OGP

General Tasks

- Continued development of ICT Health and Safety to maintain ISO 45001 status
- Assisted in Procurement for Water EIP Grants system – invitation to tender complete.

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.