



**Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann**  
Tipperary County Council

# GENDER PAY GAP REPORT 2025



## Contents

### 1. Introduction

- Tipperary County Council Chief Executive, Ms. Sinead Carr

### 2. About us

- Local government in Ireland
- Tipperary County Council

### 3. Gender Pay Gap Reporting

- Gender Pay Gap Reporting 2025
- Who is included?
- What do we mean by the Gender Pay Gap?
- Mean and Median Gender Pay Gaps
- Quartiles
- Bonus and benefit-in kind
- Factors that can have an impact on the Gender Pay Gap

### 4. Our figures

- All employees
- Part-time employees
- Temporary employees
- Benefit-in kind
- Bonus payments

### 5. How we are supporting gender equality



## 1. Introduction by Tipperary County Council Chief Executive, Ms. Sinead Carr

*I am pleased to present Tipperary County Council's Gender Pay Gap Report for 2025. This marks our fourth year of reporting on this important issue following our first report issued in 2022.*



*The Issue of gender pay differences is an important one, not only to the workplace but to wider society. Tipperary County Council remains committed to creating an inclusive workplace culture, where every employee feels valued. People are at the core of our organisation, and we continue to strive to promote and sustain equality of opportunity.*

*Tipperary County Council is a place where all employees have equal prospects for career development and progression.*

*We continue to be committed to addressing workplace barriers to equality, supporting diversity and creating an open and inclusive workplace community. Many equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives and supports are already in place, and we will continue to work in this area – but improvement is always possible.*

*This year's gender pay gap figures will, as with previous years, be used to inform our future action plans and we will continue to monitor these trends and work with our colleagues across the local government sector to share and develop best practice in order to ensure a sustainable, inclusive and diverse workplace.*

*Sinead Carr  
November 2025*



## 2. About us

### Local government in Ireland

There are 31 local authorities and 3 regional assemblies in Ireland. Local authorities are the closest and most accessible form of government to citizens. They have responsibility for the delivery of a wide range of services in their local area, with a focus on making cities, towns, villages and the countryside attractive places in which to live, work and invest. Local authority services make a significant contribution to the physical, cultural, social and environmental development of communities and include housing, planning, infrastructure, environmental protection and the provision of amenities and recreation and community infrastructure.

Local authorities play a key role in promoting social inclusion and quality of life and supporting economic development and enterprise at a local level. Local authorities take the lead role in shaping the strategic vision of the county or city. They also work in partnership with other state, public and private bodies in the delivery of critical infrastructure and shared services. Local authorities deliver hundreds of services and implement policy across a range of areas including:

Arts and culture	Libraries
Climate action	Parks and open spaces
Community services	Planning
Economic development	Roads and transport
Environment	Tourism
Housing	

Local authority employees come from a wide range of backgrounds with diverse skill sets, qualifications and experience. Roles in the sector include:

Accountants	Administrators
-------------	----------------

Apprenticeships	General service and tradespeople
Archaeologists	Graduates
Architects	Health and Safety
Archivists	Information technology
Conservation officers	Library services
Engineers	Planners
Fire services	Senior management roles
	Technicians

Working for Tipperary County Council gives our employees the opportunity to gain experience at the heart of local government and to make a real difference for County Tipperary. Everything we do in Tipperary County Council is geared towards making County Tipperary a great place to live and work and our employees play a vital role in that ambition.

### **Tipperary County Council**

Tipperary County Council is the Authority responsible for Local Government in County Tipperary. Our corporate headquarters are located at Civic Offices, Emmet Street, Clonmel and Limerick Road, Nenagh, and there are five Municipal Districts. Tipperary County Council has 40 elected members and approximately 1300 staff.

Tipperary County Council is responsible for providing a wide range of services and supports to a diverse range of customers. Our customers include over 168,000 (Census 2022) residents in 70,000+ households, approximately 10,780 active businesses with over 40,000 employees and a further 47,000 persons engaged, along with those who visit our county whether for recreation or work. The Council provides a diverse range of services across a large geographic area. Key services areas include Planning, Local Enterprise Office, Community and Economic Development, Transportation, Motor Taxation, Water, Environment, Emergency Services along with Housing, Libraries and the Arts.

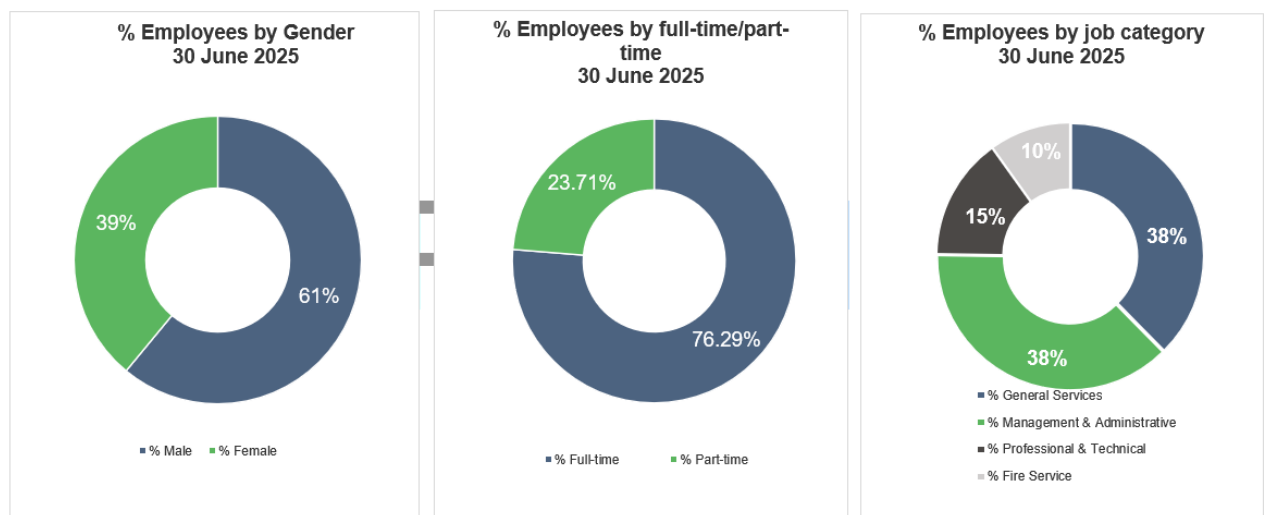


These operations are supported by internal services which include ICT, Corporate, Finance and Human Resource functions.

Tipperary boasts both vibrant urban centres, active rural based communities, a highly skilled workforce and excellence in R & D capabilities spanning the length and breadth of the county. Ireland's largest inland county is home to some of the world's largest organisations across the global technology, pharmaceutical, biosciences, manufacturing and financial services sectors.

Our employees work in a dynamic and progressive local authority which promotes training and development of our employees who are our most valuable resource.

The Tipperary County Council workforce demographic profile on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 shows below the percentage of employees by Gender, Full-Time and Part-Time and by Job Category:



### **3. Gender Pay Gap Reporting**

#### **Gender pay gap reporting 2025**

The Gender Pay Gap Information Act, 2021 requires organisations with over 50 employees to report on their Gender Pay Gap. 2025 is the fourth year that organisations will have to report on their Gender Pay Gap. Organisations are asked to select a 'snapshot' date in the month of June. The reporting period is the 12-month period immediately preceding and including the snapshot date. For local authorities, the snapshot date is 30 June 2025. Organisations have five months to prepare their calculations, before reporting five months later during November 2025. The information must be published on the employer's website or in some other way that is accessible to all its employees and to the public.

#### **Who is included?**

All persons employed by the employer on the snapshot date, including employees not rostered to work on that date and employees on leave. The mean and median figures must also be given separately for part-time and temporary employees.

#### **What do we mean by the gender pay gap?**

The Gender Pay Gap calculates the percentage difference between the average earnings of males and females irrespective of their role. The Gender Pay Gap is not the same as equal pay. Employment Equality legislation provides for equal pay for like work. All male and female employees in the local government sector are paid equally for work that is the same or similar or for work of equal value, therefore this report does not examine equal pay. Rates of pay within the sector are agreed through national wage agreements negotiated regularly between employers and staff representatives. Most employees are paid according to an incremental salary scale, and the salary ranges for various roles are available on the local government jobs website at [www.localgovernmentjobs.ie](http://www.localgovernmentjobs.ie)

## Mean and Median Gender Pay Gap

The Gender Pay Gap calculates the percentage difference between the average earnings of males and females irrespective of their role, using the following measures:

MEAN GENDER PAY GAP
<p>This shows the % difference between the average hourly rate of pay for males and average hourly rate of pay for females</p> $\frac{(\text{average male hourly rate}) - (\text{average female hourly rate})}{\text{average male hourly rate}} \times 100$
MEDIAN GENDER PAY GAP
<p>This shows the % difference between the median hourly rate of pay for males and median hourly rate of pay for females</p> $\frac{(\text{median of male hourly rates}) - (\text{median of female hourly rates})}{\text{median of male hourly rates}} \times 100$

The **mean** is the average. It is calculated by getting the difference between the average hourly rate of pay for males and the average hourly rate of pay for females (male hourly rate minus female hourly rate), expressed as a percentage of the male hourly rate. If this figure is negative, the average hourly rate of females is higher than the average hourly rate of males on the snapshot date. If this figure is positive, the average hourly rate of males is higher than the average hourly rate of females on the snapshot date.

The **median** is the figure that falls in the middle of a range where the salary of all relevant employees is listed, from the lowest to the highest. This can provide a more accurate representation of the 'typical' differences in pay.



It is useful to look at both the mean and median figures, as each one can tell us something different about the underlying factors affecting the pay gap. For example, a small number of higher paid employees can impact the mean figure and if this is the case, the median figure may be more representative of difference between what a male and a female is paid. If there is a significant difference between an organisation's mean and median pay gap, this may indicate that the data is impacted either by the presence of very low earners (making the mean lower than the median) or by a group of higher earners (making the mean higher than the median). It is also important to remember that this report uses data on a snapshot date in June. Gender pay gaps can fluctuate from month to month and across quartile pay bands, depending on changes to headcount. However, headline figures will give a good indication of the differences between average earning between males and females.

### **Quartile Pay Bands**

Dividing employees into four more-or-less equal groups (or quartiles) with pay graded from lowest to highest helps us to examine pay across different levels of the organisation. Organisations must report on the percentage of employees who fall within the lower, lower middle, upper middle and upper quartile hourly pay bands. In order to group employees into these Quartile Pay Bands, the organisation lists all employees from lowest to highest, based on their hourly rates. The employees are then divided into four equal groups or Quartiles based on this - lower, lower middle, upper middle and upper. The employer then shows the proportion of male and female employees in each quartile as a percentage e.g. percentage of male employees in the lower quartile and percentage of female employees in the lower quartile (and so on).

### **Bonus and benefit-in-kind**

Figures must also be provided for bonus payments or benefit-in-kind payments if these apply. Bonus payments do not apply within the local government sector. Benefit in Kind may arise in certain circumstances, such as where some professional fees are paid by the employer.

## Factors that can have an impact on the gender pay gap

As mentioned, this report does not look at equal pay. Every employee, regardless of gender is paid equally for work that is the same or similar or for work of equal value. However, differences between what employees are paid can be impacted by a number of complex factors including:

- Occupational segregation – some job categories or occupations may have traditionally attracted more females than males or vice versa.
- Working patterns – full-time and part-time work. It may be that more females than males seek part-time work or career breaks and although this does not impact on their hourly rate of pay, it may impact on choices around career progression.
- Length of service – incremental pay increases may mean that new joiners are paid less than more experienced employees.
- Time of year – temporary or seasonal workers may be recruited for different roles which may attract a different rate of pay.
- Gender breakdown of senior roles at higher salaries – a small number of higher paid employees can affect the average figures.
- Gender breakdown of lower paid roles – a large number of lower paid employees can affect the average figures.

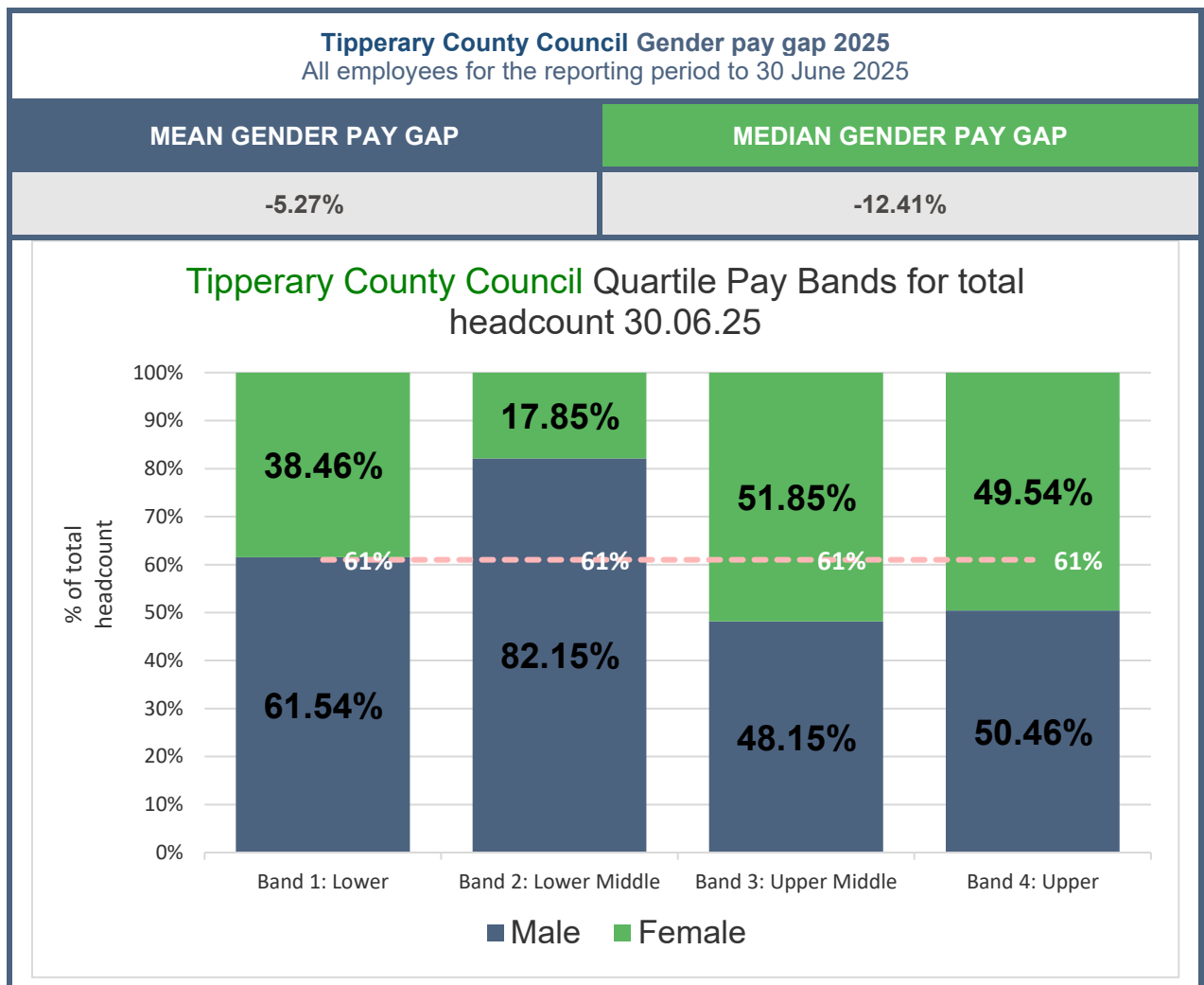
If an organisation reports a **positive gender pay gap**, it does not mean that females are paid less than males for doing the same job, but it does show that, on average, males occupy higher paid roles than females.

If an organisation reports a **negative gender pay gap**, it does not mean that males are paid less than females for doing the same job, but it does indicate that, on average, females occupy higher paid roles than males.

The larger the positive or negative pay gap is, the more marked the differences in hourly rates of pay will be and the more males or females proportionally working in either higher or lower paid roles within the organisation.

## 4. Our Figures

### Mean and Median Gender Pay Gap - all employees



Note: 61%:39% (male/female) is the gender breakdown of all employees on 30 June 2025. This is shown in the dotted line above.

The Mean Gender Pay Gap shows that on average, females are paid 5.27% more than males. The Median Gender Pay Gap shows that the median rate of pay for females is 12.41% higher than the median rate of pay for males.

Looking at the distribution of employees across the four Quartile Pay Bands helps us examine pay at different levels of the organisation. These Quartile Pay Bands show the distribution of male and female employees by Pay Band across the

organisation. (We list all employees from lowest to highest, based on their hourly rates, then divides this into four equal Pay Bands or Quartiles - lower, lower middle, upper middle and upper. We then show the proportion of male and female employees in each quartile).

The split for each of the 4 quartiles shown above is broadly in line with our workforce demographics of 61% male and 39% female. For there to be no Gender Pay Gap you would expect to see the workforce demographics reflected more closely in each quartile. There is a higher proportion of males in Band 1 (61.54%), and Band 2 (82.15%) reflecting that there are proportionately more males in lower grades. However, an almost 50:50 split in Bands 3 and 4 (upper middle and upper) is a welcome indicator of equality in pay between the genders in the higher paid bands.

#### Mean and Median Gender Pay Gap - Part-time employees

Tipperary County Council Gender pay gap 2025 Part-time employees for the reporting period to 30 June 2025	
MEAN GENDER PAY GAP	MEDIAN GENDER PAY GAP
-13.26%	-5.92%

Approximately 24% of all our employees on 30 June were working part-time. Of these, 53% are male and 47% are female. Factors influencing the pattern of part-time employees across the organisation include a range of flexible work options for part-time work, which, while available to all employees, have a greater take-up of in administrative and clerical job categories. Another factor is job categories where part-time work is an occupational feature of the role, including the fire service, library service, community employment scheme participants, burial ground caretakers, etc.

## Mean and Median Gender Pay Gap - Temporary employees

Tipperary County Council Gender pay gap 2025 Temporary employees for the reporting period to 30 June 2025	
MEAN GENDER PAY GAP	MEDIAN GENDER PAY GAP
-13.39%	-26.55%

On 30 June 2025, 7% of our employees on were employed on temporary contracts. Of these, 49%, are male and 51% are female. These contracts include temporary/seasonal employees such as lifeguards, contract personnel (projects), and general operatives, as well as graduates, tourism posts, technicians and clerical admin positions.

### Benefit in kind

On 30 June 2025 0% of male employees received a Benefit in Kind payment and 0.0% of females received a Benefit in Kind payment.

### Bonus payment

Bonus payments do not feature as part of pay in the local government sector.



## **5. How we are supporting Gender Equality**

In line with the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021, 2025 is the fourth year that Tipperary County Council has reported on the gender pay gap, but equality, diversity and inclusion continue to be part of the way we work.

### **Fair and transparent recruitment practices**

As an equal opportunities' employer, we work to promote a culture of equality, and we strive to embrace genuine equality of opportunity through our recruitment and selection process which are open to all. We provide appropriate assistance and accommodation throughout our recruitment and selection process, including providing easily accessible interview facilities, agreeing an appropriately timed interview, and supplying or arranging appropriate equipment.

All our Interview Board are gender balanced and all Interview Boards receive training, including unconscious bias training. Recruitment websites highlight family friendly and flexible working options, and our job descriptions and job advertisements are gender neutral.

We provide training and support, open to all employees to help them prepare for job applications and interviews. Employees are paid according to an incremental salary scale, and we offer strong career progression opportunities which are open to all employees.

### **Work life balance**

We offer a wide range of flexible working and leave options which are available to all employees, including carer's leave, career breaks, paid maternity and adoptive leave, paid paternity leave, parent's leave, parental leave, shorter working year schemes, work-sharing.



### **Blended working**

Blended working is now a part of our flexible working policies with flexible options to combine office and home/hub working. We provide access to the Cycle to Work Scheme and the Tax Saver Scheme, to reduce commuting costs.

### **Learning and development**

We remain committed to providing ongoing learning and development opportunities so that all employees can develop to their full potential. All employees are actively encouraged to pursue education opportunities through the Education Assistance Scheme, with study and examination leave also available.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

The health and wellbeing of all employees is paramount, and a healthy work-life balance is important to us in. We offer a comprehensive employee occupational health and wellbeing programme including an Employee Assistance Programme. Each year we target health and wellbeing initiatives towards our indoor and outdoor staff with tailored information for both male and female employees.

### **Dignity at Work**

We promote and support a culture of dignity, respect and equality. We have a Dignity at Work Policy, and all employees and managers have received training and support in the implementation of the policy.

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

Tipperary County Council is continually developing as an employer of choice to attract, develop and promote an inclusive and diverse employee population.

We continue to design and provide responsive services and customer care that meet the needs of an increasingly diverse customer base.

## **Public Sector Duty**

Tipperary County Council progressively embeds the Public Sector Duty in its current management, policy development and service delivery processes. The Public Sector Duty is set out in Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act, 2014. Section 42 requires a public body, in terms of the performance of its functions, to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and treatment of its staff and the people to whom it provides services and protect human rights of its members, staff and the people to whom it provides services.

Public bodies are required to set out in a manner that is accessible to the public in their strategic plan an assessment of the human rights and equality issues it believes to be relevant to its functions and purpose and the existing or proposed policies, plans and actions to address those issues. Furthermore, public bodies are required to report annually on developments and achievements in that regard in its annual report in a manner that is accessible to the public.

Tipperary County Council acknowledges the commonality of purpose stated in both the “Duty” and Gender Pay Gap reporting requirements and the publication of this report serves to underline and support the three-step approach advocated by the IHREC i.e., Assess, Address and Report.

In 2025 Tipperary County Council formed a working group to further advance progress on the embedding of the Duty, and in that regard the working group set out to develop:

- An Equality & Human Rights Values Statement;
- A Public Sector Duty Assessment of Equality and Human Rights Issues & Evidence Book; and
- A Public Sector Duty Implementation Plan

All of these documents are available on our website at:

[Public Sector Duty Implementation Strategy & Action Plan](#)

## **Apprenticeships and Graduate Programmes**

As part of our inclusive approach to recruitment, Tipperary County Council offers a number of apprenticeship placements and will seek to expand the areas in which apprenticeships may be located and in differing disciplines. This includes new apprenticeship programmes linked to areas of work within local authorities, including IT and finance as well as more traditional apprenticeship areas. We continue to support Graduates in Engineering, Science and Planning and participate in the national Graduate Placement scheme organised by the LGMA.

## **Data collection and evidence-based policy development**

We welcome the opportunity to report on our gender pay gap and have worked collaboratively across the sector to provide a standard and consistent approach to reporting. We will work with the LGMA and our colleagues in other local authorities to share learnings and best practice.

