



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council Providing for the Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections in Member States (2001/331/EC)

Inspection and Compliance Plan under RMCEI 2026

Note from the Director:

Once again, Tipperary County Council is particularly pleased to observe the continuation of improved performance trends, outcomes and scores in the EPA's Local Authority Performance Framework for Environmental Enforcement for 2024.

This positive performance was most obvious during the latter stages of the first cycle of that Performance Framework for Environmental Enforcement in that year.

This is due in part to the strategic improvements that were implemented but primarily due to the competence and dedication of the team that has risen to meet the challenges that the sector experiences in terms of recruitment, turnover, increasing expectations, emerging work areas and changing priorities.

Tipperary County Council met the required standard of a Strong or Excellent result in 17 of the 19 National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) in 2024.

See table hereunder.

Performance Scores	2021	2022	2023	2024
Excellent	0	4	6	5
Strong	4	5	9	12
Moderate	15	11	5	2
Limited	1	0	0	0

Tipperary County Council's performance in 2025 included many excellent case studies and areas of particular note include the achievement of the National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP) inspection target and the number of inspections completed across all teams being higher than those planned.

Inspections in 2025:

Air, Water, Noise and Agriculture: Planned 2,303; Actual 2,675.5 = Difference + 372.5

Waste: Planned 3,321; Actual 4,834 = Difference + 1,513.

I also acknowledge the need to give priority and focus to those areas where the need for improvements has been identified, whilst also maintaining those areas of satisfactory performance.

Of particular concern to me is the level of non-compliance in our NAIP, which must be addressed if we are to achieve the desired outcomes, but with the annual target for initial inspections remaining the same, it is very challenging to address both without a modification in approach or increased resources, both of which need national decisions.

However, I am very confident that we can continue to achieve improved scores in the years to come and adapt to the challenges that we navigate and I am also confident that this team will proceed to develop and grow, as it has done in recent years and will continue to be an inspiring example to the sector and for this organisation.

Acknowledgments:

On behalf of Tipperary County Council, I wish to acknowledge the significant environmental enforcement work carried out by all team members and to acknowledge the work of our RMCEI Co-ordinator.

I also want to acknowledge the professional inputs, contributions and assistance from our various partners in the area of environmental enforcement, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspectors, the Regional Waste Management Planning Office (RWMPO), the Southern Region Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (SRWERLA) and Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO).

Approved by Directors of Services



Eamon Lonergan
Director of Services

Date of Approval: 26/02/2026

Note: Please note that our RMCEI Plan does not include any personal data (as defined under GDPR), as we understand that the document may be published or shared publicly.

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Glossary/Definitions

Activity - The aim of the activity should be to achieve the intermediate outcomes and/or the final environmental outcome associated with the National Priority

Additional Intermediate outcome – Other outcomes, identified by a Council, outside those that have been specified by the EPA in the RMCEI Return template

ATF – Authorised Treatment Facility (processing of ELVs);

Baseline - To measure the progress in achieving the intermediate outcome over time, a baseline value must be established. Data gathered in subsequent years can then be compared to the baseline value in order to measure progress towards achieving the intermediate outcome.

C&D – Construction and Demolition (Waste);

CCMA – County and City Management Association;

CoR – Certificate of Registration;

DAFM – Department of Agriculture Food and Marine;

DCEE – Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment;

DHLGH – Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage;

DRS – Deposit Return Scheme;

DWWTS – Domestic Wastewater Treatment System;

Environmental inspection according to RMCEI includes:

- site visits,
- monitoring achievement of environmental quality standards,
- consideration of environmental audit reports and statements,
- consideration and verification of any self-monitoring carried out by or on behalf of operators of controlled installations,
- assessing the activities and operations carried out at the controlled installation,
- checking the premises and the relevant equipment (including the adequacy with which it is maintained) and the adequacy of the environmental management at the site,
- checking the relevant records kept by the operators of controlled installations.

ELV – End of Life Vehicle;

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency;

Final Environmental Outcome - is a measurable change in the environment, e.g. cleaner air or improved water quality

GAP – Good Agricultural Practice for the protection of waters Regulations;

LAWPRO – Local Authority Waters Programme;

Metric – A metric is a way of measuring the progress to achieving the intermediate outcome or the objective

NAIP – National Agricultural Inspection Programme

NIECE – Network for Ireland's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement;

NIP – National Inspection Plan;

Non-routine inspection – an inspection carried out in such cases in response to complaints, in connection with the issuing, renewal or modification of an authorisation, permit or licence, or in the investigation of accidents, incidents and occurrences of non-compliance.

OEE – Office of Environmental Enforcement, EPA;

PMDS – Performance Management and Development System;

PRI/EPRI – Producer Responsibility Initiative or Extended Producer Responsibility Initiative;

RBMP – River Basin Management Plan;

RMCEI – EU Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections;

Routine inspection – an inspection carried out as part of a planned inspections programme, e.g. scheduled inspection of a permitted facility, scheduled monitoring of a licensed discharged; compliance assessment of a regulated facility, etc.

Specified Intermediate outcome – Those intermediate Outcomes specified by the EPA in the RMCEI Return template

TARGET - Once the baseline is established, the goal should be to reduce/increase the baseline value over time, thereby achieving the intermediate outcome. A target is the value to which the baseline value is aimed to be reduced (or increased) to for that year. A qualitative target can be developed where a baseline has not been established or targets may also be set centrally to ensure a consistent approach to achieving an intermediate outcome/objective"

VOC – Volatile Organic Compounds;

WEEE – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment;

WERLA – Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority;

WFD – Water Framework Directive;

WFP – Waste Facility Permit.

1. Introduction

1.1 Plan Details

Table 1: Plan Details

Geographic Area	County Tipperary Total Area = 4,305 km ² (1,662 sq. mi). Tipperary is Ireland's largest inland county and sixth largest county in the Republic. County Tipperary comprises 5 Municipal Districts as follows: Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel; Carrick-on-Suir; Clonmel Borough; Nenagh and Thurles.
Population	Census 2022 shows that the population of Tipperary grew by 5% to 167,895 persons, which means the number of people in the county rose by 8,342 between April 2016 and April 2022. CSO (2023) Press Statement Census of Population 2022 - Summary Results Tipperary- CSO - Central Statistics Office. https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/pressreleases/2023pressreleases/pressstatementcensusofpopulation2022-summaryresultstipperary/ . (Accessed 27/11/2025).
Calendar Year	2026
RMCEI Coordinator Name and Position	D.J. Buckley, Assistant Scientist, Waste Licensing and Permitting

1.2 Once-Off Challenges that may be Faced in Implementation of this Plan

Table 2 Once-Off Challenges that may be Faced in Implementation of this Plan

Description of known challenge and outline of how these will be addressed
<p>1. <u>Limitation of Resources:</u> The Waste Enforcement Executive Scientist is also responsible for co-ordinating and maintaining ISO 45001 and ISO 14001 EMS accreditation for the Environment and Climate Action Section (approx. 70 staff): this involves a minimum of 12 high-level meetings every year. There are two separate audits which take up to 10 days for audits of the Section and minimum of 2-3 weeks audit preparation leading up to the audit dates.</p>
<p>2. <u>Limitation of Resources:</u> Tipperary County Council has 5 municipal districts with 1 Environmental Enforcement Officer per District. A new Environmental Enforcement Officer commenced in January 2025 which will required lead-in time for developing necessary training and experience in the role. This officer operates on a 4-day work week. The Environmental Enforcement Officers occasionally provide support to the operation of Civic Amenity Sites to facilitate leave requirements for Civic Amenity staff.</p>
<p>3. <u>Protracted Cases / Legal Obstacles/delays:</u> Enforcement cases leading to court/legal proceedings consume considerable time and resources. Obstacles arise from legal proceedings that are unforeseen and difficult to predict and also from court sitting deferrals and appeals by defendants. This will have an impact on the operations discussed in our 2026 Plan.</p>
<p>4. <u>Impacts arising from Human Resources issues:</u> As is common in all Local Authorities at present, Tipperary County Council faces significant challenges in recruiting and retaining workforce numbers. Examples of factors affecting resources are: staff turn-over, reduction in work time due to Family Friendly Policies and unavoidable delays in filling vacant posts. Loss of experience/knowledge and the time needed to induct and train new colleagues will always have an effect on productivity.</p>

1.3 Staff Structure

Director of Services

Senior Engineer

Assistant Scientist – RMCEI Co-Ordinator

Senior Executive Engineer Waste/Infrastructure and Waste Licensing /Permitting, Waste Enforcement Team

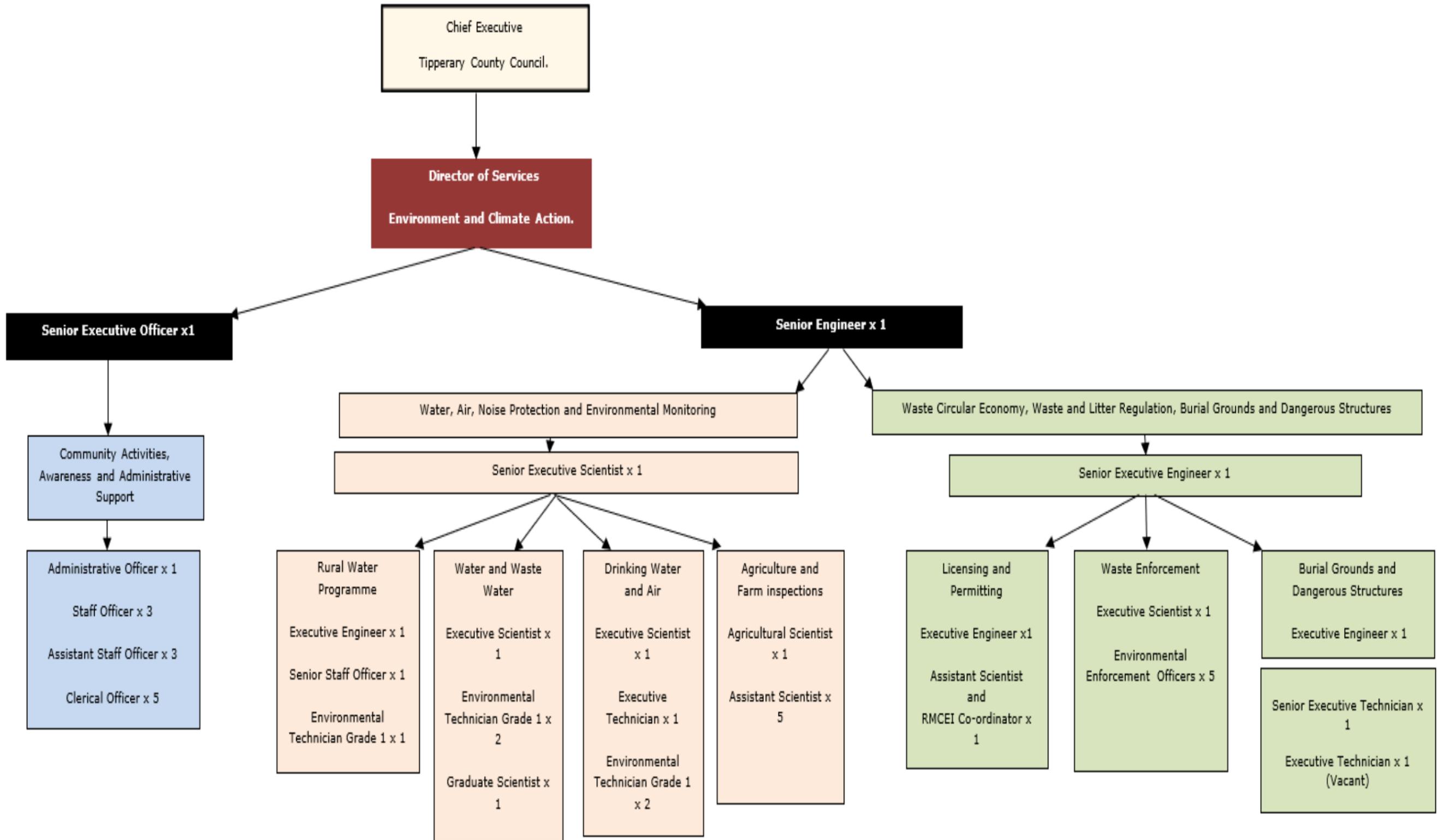
Senior Executive Scientist and Air, Noise, Water Protection Team

Senior Executive Officer, Administrative Officer and Administration Team

Further detail on available staff resources is provided in section 4.

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Figure 1 Council Organogram



2. Priorities for Environmental Enforcement for the Year Ahead

2.1 National Environmental Enforcement Priorities for the Year Ahead

National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) for the Year ahead have been communicated in the letter sent to each Council which is available on the NIECE portal (accessed via <https://epaireland.sharepoint.com/sites/NIECEPortal/RMCEI>).

Our RMCEI Plan took account of these priorities and key activities when allocating our resources.

Our RMCEI Plan takes account of the following points (these may change from year to year as the activities for focus under each NEP are revised):

- the Local Authority Waste Enforcement Work Programme and relevant sections of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030;
- ongoing air enforcement work still requires resourcing, including solvents, deco-paints and petroleum vapour regulations, air pollution licences, noise action plans and wind turbine noise complaints; and
- the requirement for Councils to consider carrying out local catchment assessments (upstream of priority areas for action) and allow time for catchment assessment data entry into the WFD IT Application/ participation in Regional Characterisation Workshops.

This plan takes account of the National Enforcement Priorities 2025-2027 new cycle as shown below:

Waste Note 1	Water Note 2	Air and Noise Note 2	Governance Processes Note 2
Tackling illegal waste activities and Multi-Agency Sites/Operators of Concern	Pressures from Agriculture (Farmyards) - slurry/soiled water collection and storage	Solid Fuel	Planning for Environmental Inspections and Compliance
Construction and Demolition Material	Pressures from Agriculture (Farmland) - slurry and fertiliser spreading	Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use	Recording & Reporting of Environmental Inspections, Compliance and Enforcement Data
Household Waste	Discharge Licences/ Misconnections	Environmental Noise Directive (END) Activities	
Commercial Waste	Local Water Quality Pressures including Septic Tanks and Private Water Supplies	Local Air and Noise Investigations	
Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives			

Note 2: These priorities are as advised by DECC Circular WP 09/24 issued on 07/11/24, agreed by the National Waste Enforcement Steering Committee.

Note 2: These priorities have been defined following consultation with the NIECE Steering Committee, CCMA representatives, DHLGH, DECC and LAWPRO|

3. Incorporation of NEP Context for Tipperary County Council's RMCEI 2026 Plan

Tipperary County Council RMCEI Plan is prepared annually in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supervisory framework and the statutory requirement to submit a completed Environmental Inspection Plan before 1st February each year.

The RMCEI framework ensures consistent planning and delivery of environmental inspections across all local authorities and requires that all routine and non-routine environmental inspections are captured, scheduled and reported as part of the Council's enforcement programme.

3.1 Alignment with National Enforcement Priorities (2025–2027)

The EPA's Local Authority Performance Framework sets 15 National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) for the 2025–2027 cycle, grouped under waste, water, air, noise and governance processes. These NEPs establish the focus areas that Tipperary County Council must integrate into its inspection and enforcement planning to deliver measurable environmental outcomes. [\[epa.ie\]](#)

Key relevant NEPs include:

Waste NEPs (2025–2027)

These priorities aim to improve waste segregation, reduce illegal waste activities and regulate all waste streams effectively. They include:

- Tackling illegal waste activities and multi-agency sites of concern
- Construction and Demolition waste oversight
- Household and Commercial waste compliance
- Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives
[\[epa.ie\]](#), [<https://www.werla.ie/waste-priorities/>]

Tipperary Council prioritises the continuation of targeted enforcement of household and commercial waste operators, conduct intelligence-based inspections, enforce waste management bye-laws, and participate in multi-agency actions against unauthorised waste activities.

Water NEPs

The water priorities relate closely to EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) obligations, including:

- Pressures from agriculture (farmyards and farmland)
- Discharge licences and misconnections
- Local water quality pressures, including private wells and septic tanks
[\[epa.ie\]](#)

These NEPs directly support the requirement for **local catchment assessments**, especially upstream of priority areas for action, and require the Council to participate in Regional Characterisation Workshops and input data into the WFD IT application.

Air and Noise NEPs

Air and noise priorities focus on monitoring and enforcement relating to:

- Solid Fuel air quality monitoring and data use
- Environmental Noise Directive (END) actions
- Air and Noise complaints investigations
[\[epa.ie\]](#)

This aligns with ongoing enforcement needs in County Tipperary, including solvents, deco-paints, petroleum vapour recovery, air pollution licences, and noise complaints.

Governance NEPs

These include:

- Planning for environmental inspections
- Recording and reporting inspection and enforcement data
[\[epa.ie\]](#)

These governance requirements support transparent and consistent delivery of the RMCEI obligations.

4. Integration with the National Waste Management Plan (2024–2030)

The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024–2030 sets the overarching national context in which Tipperary’s waste enforcement operates. It outlines national obligations relating to:

- Waste management legislation, producer responsibility, and circular economy initiatives
- Municipal waste collection and treatment
- Food waste reduction
- Packaging, plastic, WEEE, ELV, and construction and demolition waste regulation
[\[mywaste.ie\]](https://mywaste.ie)

The RMCEI actions must support these national policy goals by ensuring that local enforcement contributes to improved waste segregation, reduced contamination, and effective oversight of waste operators, facilities, and material flows.

5. Specific Application to Tipperary County Council

Waste Enforcement Work Programme

Tipperary’s annual Waste Enforcement Work Programme is aligned to the NEPs and to the structures overseen by the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs). The Council must continue:

- Risk-based site inspections
- Oversight of waste collection permit holders
- Enforcement of household waste presentation and 3-bin system provisions
- Collaboration with regional and national enforcement partners
[\[https://www.werla.ie/waste-priorities/\]](https://www.werla.ie/waste-priorities/)

Air Enforcement Requirements

Tipperary continues to receive and manage complaints and inspections relating to:

- Solvent Regulations (S.I. 565 2012)
- Deco-paint Regulations (S.I. 564 2012, as amended)
- Petroleum Vapour Emissions Regulations 1997
- Air pollution licences (non-EPA licensed sites)
- Noise and general air/noise complaints

The RMCEI Plan must allocate sufficient resources to maintain monitoring, complaint handling, and enforcement activity in these areas, consistent with the EPA NEPs for air and noise. [\[epa.ie\]](https://epa.ie)

Water Quality and Catchment Management

Tipperary has responsibilities under the Water Framework Directive and associated river basin planning structures. These include:

- Conducting local catchment assessments

- Providing upstream assessments for priority areas
- Recording characterisation data in the WFD IT system
- Participation in Regional Characterisation Workshops
[\[epa.ie\]](https://www.epa.ie)

6. Integration of the National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP)

Tipperary has responsibilities under the NAIP, which the EPA develops and oversees.

These include:

- A risk-based agricultural inspection plan for local authorities.
- Guidance and templates for conducting, recording and reporting farm inspections.
- Methodologies for follow-up, including promotional, monitoring and enforcement actions.
- Protocols and templates to ensure consistent compliance with the Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) Regulations.
- A national training programme to ensure consistency of inspection standards.
- ICT requirements for recording inspection data and supporting national reporting obligations.
[\[epa.ie\]](https://www.epa.ie)

Tipperary County Council's 2026 RMCEI Plan is structured to align with the EPA's National Enforcement Priorities (2025–2027) across waste, water, air and noise, and governance processes. In delivering the Local Authority Waste Enforcement Work Programme, the Council will integrate the priorities set out in the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024–2030 and respond to all local regulatory obligations. This includes continued resourcing of air enforcement activities, including solvents, deco-paints, petroleum vapour recovery, air pollution licences, noise investigations along with agricultural inspections.

The Plan also incorporates requirements for water protection, including local catchment assessments upstream of priority areas for action and participation in Regional Characterisation Workshops, together with timely entry of assessment data into the national WFD IT system. The RMCEI framework provides the structure for consistent inspection planning, reporting, and delivery of environmental outcomes in Tipperary. These obligations must be factored into staff scheduling, data management resources, and inter agency coordination.

Table 3 National Environmental Priorities Checklist

Ref. No	National Environmental Priorities	Have the relevant NEP activities for focus been incorporated into your inspection plan for the year ahead?		Where you have answered 'No' please provide a comment to explain.
		Yes	No	
1.0	Water - Improving Water Status in all waterbodies			
1.1	Pressures from Agriculture (Farmyards) - slurry/soiled water collection and storage	Yes		
1.2	Pressures from Agriculture (Farmland) - slurry and fertiliser spreading	Yes		
1.3	Discharge Licences/ Misconnections	Yes		
1.4	Local Water Quality Pressures including Septic Tanks and Private Water Supplies	Yes		
2.0	Air - Protecting public health and to improve and maintain air quality			
2.1	Solid Fuel	Yes		
2.2	Air Quality Monitoring and Data Use	Yes		
2.3	Environmental Noise Directive (END) Activities	Yes		
2.4	Local Air and Noise Investigations	Yes		
3.0	Waste - Improving waste management and protecting our environment			
3.1	Tackling illegal waste activities and Multi-Agency Sites/Operators of Concern	Yes		
3.2	Construction and Demolition Material	Yes		
3.3	Household Waste	Yes		
3.4	Commercial Waste	Yes		
3.5	Plastics and Producer Responsibility Initiatives	Yes		

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6.1 Ongoing RMCEI/Local Priorities

Table 4 Additional Local Priorities

Local Priorities	Yes	No	Where you have answered 'Yes' please provide a summary of the local priorities for the year ahead
Are there additional local priorities for the year ahead which are not activities for focus under the NEPs?	YES		There may be issues that will arise from representations by public representations or other matters brought to the attention of the Council. The other local priority is progression of the CCTV operations for County Tipperary following from the implementation of the Pilot CCTV Project late 2025/early 2026
WATER	As arises		The activities planned for this year will follow in-line with the National Priorities and local priorities as they arise. These are generally identified through our inspection programme, the complaints referral process or referred from other agencies.
AIR / NOISE	As arises		The activities planned for this year will follow in-line with the National Priorities and local priorities as they arise These are generally identified through our inspection programme, the complaints referral process or referred from other agencies. .
WASTE		No	All waste activities fall into the waste NEP categories.

The Plan includes anticipated work with Regional Lead Authorities in order to address the National Enforcement Priorities.

Table 5 Work Planned with Regional Lead Authorities

Authority	Plans for the Year ahead
<p>This will comprise of multi-agency work with some of the following bodies not referred to above:</p> <p>e.g. WERLA, Teagasc, Dept of Agriculture Food and the Marine (DAFM), EPA, DCCE, DHLGH, LAWPRO</p> <p>It considers liaison, enforcement advice and on-site support mechanisms.</p> <p>If all such work has already been referred to above leave this blank.</p>	
<p>This may include work with some of the following bodies not referred to above:</p> <p>EPA, DCCE, DHLGH, and collaboration with other Local Authorities.</p>	<p>Air: Work collaboratively with the EPA, DECC and other Local Authorities on all Environmental protection activities and particularly Solid Fuel Regulations implementation (inspection and joint inspections, sampling and enforcement) and air monitoring across the county.</p>
EPA, DCCE	<p>Noise: Work collaboratively with the EPA, DECC, other local authorities and in particular our own Planning, and Roads and Transportation Sections particularly with the NAP and mitigation/response measures.</p>
DAFM, EPA, DCCE, DHLGH, LAWPRO	<p>Water:</p>

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	<p>Work collaboratively with LAWPRO on maintaining and restoring water quality across the county. Present and share knowledge at ROC meetings (4 annually). Have representation on Teagasc oversight committee on Water quality</p> <p>TCC will host a minimum of 2 meetings with LAWPRO annually on issues within the jurisdiction.</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the EPA on the NAIP. Work with DAFM on farm inspections and cross reports and exclusion lists.</p> <p>Work collaboratively with Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) where appropriate and required.</p>
<p>EPA HSE Uisce Éireann DHLGH,</p>	<p>Private Drinking Waters Supplies -Rural Water Programme</p> <p>Work collaboratively with the EPA, DHLGH, Uisce Éireann and the HSE on all matters relating to drinking water supplies including source protection.</p>

7. Risk Assessment

Regulated installations are assessed using an internal risk rating tool they and have been placed into the following categories:

Category A: Large installations with significant associated environmental risk or those with poor compliance histories.

Category B: Medium sized installations or those with lesser risk of environmental pollution.

Category C: Small Installations or those with good compliance record.

Table 6 identifies:

- the number of total regulated installations in your functional area,
- the total number of installations in your functional area per assigned risk category, and,
- the number of inspections you intend to undertake, assigned per risk category.

Table 6 Selection of Sites for Assessment in the Year Ahead

Type of Regulated Installation (i.e. Discharge Licences/ Waste Permit Facilities / Certificate of Registration / Sites licensed under the Air Pollution Act / etc)	Total No. of Installations in your functional area	Total No. of Installations in your functional area Per Risk Category			No. Of Inspections Planned Per Risk Category ¹			Total No. Of Inspections Planned	Additional Comment (e.g. include rationale for selection of sites to be inspected and/or indicate whether any of the inspections planned include installations that have been recommended for inspected by Lead Authorities)
		A	B	C	A	B	C		
Waste Facility Permits	33	0	21	12	0	21	0	21	National Enforcement Priorities 2025-2027: Construction and Demolition Material, Commercial Waste all WFP sites will be inspected on-site within 2026 calendar year. Based on NWCPO submissions any WFP holder that is showing difference in recordings will be subject to on-site audits to determine waste In and waste Out calculations. Complaints from the public or referrals from WERLA SR, EPA or RWMPO will also be investigated and automatically warrant an onsite audit/inspection. Monitoring of Construction and Demolition Waste Activity. Document Control Sheet No: WERLA-GM-2021-1011 Rev 2.1. which was issued by email circular 20/04/2024 by WERLA SR will be utilised on the C&D site visits.
CoR's (Private)	15	0	4	10	0	4	1	06	National Enforcement Priorities 2025-2027: Construction and Demolition Material all private sites with a Certificate of Registration will be inspected within the 2026 calendar year. Based on NWCPO submissions any CoR holder that is showing difference in recordings will be subject to on-site audits to determine waste In and waste Out calculations. Complaints from the public or referrals from WERLA SR, EPA or RWMPO will also be investigated and automatically warrant an onsite audit/inspection. Monitoring of Construction and Demolition Waste Activity. Document Control Sheet No: WERLA-GM-2021-1011 Rev 2.1. which was issued by email circular 20/04/2024 by WERLA SR will be utilised on the C&D site visits.
CoR's (LA)	100	0	100	0	0	100	0	100	Following on from 2025 progress, all of Tipperary Co Council CoR Sites to be inspected in 2026, i.e. Bottle banks, Cans banks and Textiles banks have been considered for 2026 Inspection Plan. The downturn in textile market has been

¹ Unless directed otherwise

Type of Regulated Installation (i.e. Discharge Licences/ Waste Permit Facilities / Certificate of Registration / Sites licensed under the Air Pollution Act / etc)	Total No. of Installations in your functional area	Total No. of Installations in your functional area Per Risk Category			No. Of Inspections Planned Per Risk Category ¹			Total No. Of Inspections Planned	Additional Comment (e.g. include rationale for selection of sites to be inspected and/or indicate whether any of the inspections planned include installations that have been recommended for inspected by Lead Authorities)
		A	B	C	A	B	C		
									identified as a local priority as it may incur an increase in unauthorised disposal of textiles.
PRI- (Garages) Tyres Batteries Haz Waste	86	9	11	66	9	6	0	15	Most of the C category have been inspected in previous years and found to be consistently compliant. The selected ones for 2026 have been identified from the CIRCOL ELT Portal, enforcement team meetings and WERLA Regional Ops meetings and previous inspections resulted in indicating areas for improvement towards compliance. Some site inspections will be undertaken with SRWERLA as multi-agency inspections.
PRI - WEEE	60	0	28	32	0	10	0	10	Inspections of some retailers indicated there are instances of minor non-compliances and spot checks are required predominantly during seasonal sale times, this is especially the case in respect of WEEE Retailers who may provide "pop-up" offers without the correct signage or pricing in their stores on the products advertised in the offer.
Packaging	377	10	10	357	5	5	0	10	Sites have been selected from REPAK Portal as being potential major producers. Also considered in the Inspection Plan are producers identified from REPAK's monthly report, such as producers listed under "New" on the report have been granted a certificate for the purpose of the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014, as amended in 2022, while those listed under "Revoked" have had their certificate of compliance revoked. These notifications do require attention and are therefore included in our Inspection Plan.
Commercial Food Waste	290	10	18	262	10	5	0	10	Sites proposed in this plan are identified from previous inspections and collaboration with Municipal District staff on-the-ground regarding clogging of sewer system. Complaints received regarding inappropriate management of Food Waste will also be prioritised.

Type of Regulated Installation (i.e. Discharge Licences/ Waste Permit Facilities / Certificate of Registration / Sites licensed under the Air Pollution Act / etc)	Total No. of Installations in your functional area	Total No. of Installations in your functional area Per Risk Category			No. Of Inspections Planned Per Risk Category ¹			Total No. Of Inspections Planned	Additional Comment (e.g. include rationale for selection of sites to be inspected and/or indicate whether any of the inspections planned include installations that have been recommended for inspected by Lead Authorities)
		A	B	C	A	B	C		
Deposit Return Scheme	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	10	<p>Tipperary Co Council waste enforcement team will use their Multi-Category inspection report.</p> <p>This Producer Responsibility Initiative impacts primarily with large/franchised retailers, i.e. supermarkets and off-licences.</p> <p>Notifications from the DRS have indicated 2 suspected operators for assessment in 2026. It has been identified through enforcement team meetings and WERLA Regional Ops meetings that 8 operators in the county have been identified for assessment in 2026.</p> <p>Cross referencing on Members/Retailers - Re-Turn LA Portal assists with identifying sites for inspection going forward, cross-communication and engagement with Re-Turn will feature during 2026.</p>
Farm Film Plastics	29	0	10	19	0	10	0	10	<p>All existing suppliers have indicated 100% compliance annually.</p> <p>This year it is proposed to target the marts in conjunction with an officer from the IFFPG to determine if farm film plastic is being sold at marts by un-authorised operators.</p> <p>Informal report of alleged unauthorised operator within County Tipperary will be investigated further.</p>
Plastic Bag Levy	98	0	0	98	0	0	10	10	<p>10 routine inspections proposed, in tandem with inspections under WEEE and Commercial Food Waste Inspections. Significant compliance from majority of retailers; it has been identified through enforcement team meetings and WERLA Regional Ops meetings that the inspection area for 2026 is to assess specialist/low volume retailers to determine compliance.</p>
Mercury Regs	30	0	0	30	0	2	0	2	<p>Submissions returned and validated from self-compliers, as well as previous years' inspections, have indicated 100% compliance.</p> <p>No new dental practices have been identified throughout 2025.</p>

Type of Regulated Installation (i.e. Discharge Licences/ Waste Permit Facilities / Certificate of Registration / Sites licensed under the Air Pollution Act / etc)	Total No. of Installations in your functional area	Total No. of Installations in your functional area Per Risk Category			No. Of Inspections Planned Per Risk Category ¹			Total No. Of Inspections Planned	Additional Comment (e.g. include rationale for selection of sites to be inspected and/or indicate whether any of the inspections planned include installations that have been recommended for inspected by Lead Authorities)
		A	B	C	A	B	C		
									A routine check for new clinics will be carried out throughout the year and a routine sample assessment on existing clinics has been considered and included in this Plan.
S4 Licence Discharge Facilities	42	4	5	33	2	2	2	92	(86 sampling events and 6 on site process audits) Risk category assigned - to be fully determined through risk tool rating process developed in 2026.
Deco Paint	30	0	0	30	0	0	30	10	Risk category assigned as low.
Solvents	8	0	0	8	0	0	8	3	Risk category assigned as low.
PVE	67	0	0	67	0	0	15	15	Risk category assigned as low.
Solid Fuel Suppliers	244	0	244	0	0	40	0	40	Risk category assigned as medium - to be fully determined through inspection process.
-TBC Sample numbers - Small Private Supplies	73	0	0	75	0	0	75	264	254 samples and 10 audits. Monitoring as per Drinking Water Regulations requirements. Audits plan will be concentrated on those operators where non-compliant results are returned or process issues are identified .
Group Water Schemes	41	0	0	40	0	0	40	142	137 samples plus 5 audits. Monitoring as per Drinking Water regulations requirements.
Total No. Of Inspections Planned								770	

8. Resource Assessment for the Year Ahead

8.1 Review of the Achievement of the Previous Years Inspection Targets

The Plan for the year ahead identifies and addresses last year's under/over estimation in planned (routine and non-routine) inspections.

Note: 'routine inspections' refers to inspections at authorised sites and 'non-routine inspections' refers to inspections of unauthorised sites, environmental complaints/incidents.

Table 7 Review of Previous Years Inspections

Inspection Type <i>Figures available from your RMCEI return (Section 6) or previous years RMCEI plan</i>	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
Routine Waste Inspections	640	971	Environmental tasks, inspection, compliance planning and resourcing were based on risk, and implementing all inspection schedules with a focus on local and National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs).	Conduct intelligence-led household and apartment waste inspections in areas with low segregation performance, using approved templates, guidance documents, and data from permitted waste collectors. Maintain ongoing enforcement of non-routine waste presentation activities in accordance with the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws. Carry out risk-based inspections at authorised waste facilities, using the appropriate inspection templates and focusing on waste acceptance practices to prevent misclassification, reduce contamination, and ensure full compliance with waste acceptance criteria. Validate Annual Environmental Reports (AERs) for Waste Facility Permits (WFPs) with targeted emphasis on

Inspection Type <i>Figures available from your RMCEI return (Section 6) or previous years RMCEI plan</i>	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
				operators identified as priority for review.
Non-Routine Waste Inspections	860	599	Environmental tasks, inspection, compliance planning and resourcing were based on risk, and implementing all inspection schedules with a focus on local and National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs).	<p>860 was based on previous year's complaints received.</p> <p>Based on the specific wording 6.2.1 Investigative inspections of fly-tipping or illegal dumping, excluding unauthorised C&D, ELVs and Tyres; 460 complaints were investigated and recorded as fly-tipping and illegal dumping.</p> <p>Under 4.1 Waste Complaints including Litter, C&D and Non-C&D Waste total for the year is 985 which would exceed the planned 860 of "non-routine" inspections. It is our opinion that the recording of this on NEMIS is double-accounting as the figures are also counted in the 4.1 Categories for Complaints on NEMIS.</p>
Routine Litter Patrols/Investigations	1701	3100	Environmental tasks, inspection, compliance planning and resourcing were based on risk, and implementing all inspection schedules with a focus on local and National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs).	<p>With the removal of the Textile banks from 100 sites in the County throughout the calendar year all bring banks were visited to mitigate any illegal dumping due to clothing bank removal.</p> <p>Also, other sites were investigated based on direct contact from elected representatives and the public with all waste teams.</p>

Inspection Type <i>Figures available from your RMCEI return (Section 6) or previous years RMCEI plan</i>	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
				Following the EPA Audit of October 2024 and subsequent Waste Enforcement Team Meetings it was recognised that under-reporting of all patrols and investigations and inspections was happening. As a result the number of completed inspections far exceeded the planned inspections.
Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	1905 (includes 350 farm)	2299.5	Increased DWWTPS inspections and engagement days due to focus on historic open cases. Increased S4 monitoring on problematic sites.	The best estimate is seen as using previous year's number when planning 'unplanned work'.
Non-Routine Water/Wastewater Inspections	179	105	This is unplanned and demand led, i.e. depends on number of complaints received.	The best estimate is seen as using previous year's number when planning 'unplanned work'.
Routine Air/Noise Inspections	70	128	Increased focus on solid fuel sampling and inspections on non-compliant operators.	The best estimate is seen as using previous year's number when planning 'unplanned work'.
Non-Routine Air/Noise Inspections	30	27		The best estimate is seen as using previous year's number when planning 'unplanned work'.
Routine producer Responsibility Inspections				
Planning inspections	120	102	Estimated as demand led.	Following from assessment of previous year's compliance rates, enforcement team meetings have identified a reduction in PRI inspections for 2026 inspections to target alleged non-compliant operators as referred

Inspection Type <i>Figures available from your RMCEI return (Section 6) or previous years RMCEI plan</i>	No. of Planned Inspections set out at the start of the Previous Year	No. of Completed Inspections at the end of the Previous Year	Outline any reason for significant difference in completed versus planned figures (i.e. +/- 25%)	Please provide a brief narrative to demonstrate that the previous years completed inspections have been considered when planning the inspections for the year ahead
				from CIRCOL ELT, REPAK, DRS, ELVEs and Re-Turn.ie

8.2 Number of Staff Days Available

Table 8 identifies the available resources to undertake the work mapped out for the year ahead, identifying what National Enforcement Priority the resource that will be assigned, and the days available for each resource to complete all work required under RMCEI.

Table 8 Resources Available to undertake required Work for the Year Ahead

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
Environment and Climate Action	2.73	Director of Services	All NEP Categories Senior Management oversight	06	<p>Director of Services for 3 Sections within Tipperary County Council and Deputy Chief Executive.</p> <p>RMCEI - input into the development of the plan including the selection of priority areas and target setting, including the approval and endorsement of the RMCEI Plan.</p> <p>Meetings with relevant external stakeholders, e.g. LAWPRO (formal biannual plus informal).</p> <p>Progress Review Meetings and Follow up Actions (monthly and biannual).</p> <p>Assessment of Cases following inspections and enforcement action.</p> <p>Approver of Chief Executive's Orders, where appropriate, for Notices and Legal Proceedings.</p>
Environment and Climate Action	7.27	Senior Engineer	All NEP Categories Senior Management oversight	20	<p>RMCEI - input into the development of the plan including the selection of priority areas and target setting, including the approval and endorsement of the RMCEI Plan.</p> <p>Meetings with relevant external stakeholders.</p>

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
					<p>Progress Review throughout the year, including meetings</p> <p>Final approver of Reports, Recommendations, etc.</p> <p>Assessment of Cases following inspections and enforcement action.</p> <p>Approver of Chief Executive's Orders, where appropriate, for Notices and Legal Proceedings.</p>
Waste Infrastructure and Burial Grounds	4.55	Senior Executive Engineer	Waste NEP's Endorsement / Approval	20	<p>Primarily deals with Waste Management and Regulation. Also deals with Burial Grounds and Dangerous Structures and Places.</p> <p>RMCEI input will be as Reviewer and initial approver of Reports, Recommendations and Notices etc.</p> <p>Responsible for Management of Civic Amenity Sites.</p>
Waste Permitting	6.82	Executive Engineer (Permitting and Licensing)	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity, Multi-Agency Sites of Interest, Construction and Demolition Activity, ELV and Waste Metal Sector, Waste Collection Household and Commercial.	160	<p>RMCEI input will be for Facility Permitting and Regulation, reporting and recommendation.</p> <p>Assessments of WFP, CoR Permitting obligations.</p> <p>Deals with Waste Infrastructural operations and procurement under tender applications.</p> <p>Assists with provision of information in relation to FOI/AIE requests.</p>
Waste	95.45	Assistant Scientist (Permitting and Licensing)	WASTE NEP's ELV and Waste Metal Sector	210	<p>RMCEI Co-Ordinator.</p> <p>Deals with AER validations on NWCPO portal alongside</p>

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
		<p>RMCEI Co-Ordinator</p> <p>Data Validation and Auditor of Permit Holders through NWCPD portal and on-site visits.</p>	<p>Waste Collection Household and Commercial.</p> <p>Priority validations NWCPD, EPA, RWMPO top 100 facilities. EPA National Waste Survey.</p>		<p>RWMPO and EPA Top 100 Priority List.</p> <p>Data collection for Tipperary Co Council's own WCP submissions to the NWCPD portal annually.</p> <p>EPA National Waste Survey and LGMA (NEMIS) Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Monitors the Genwaste system (weighbridges reports) x 5 in Tipperary Civic Amenity Sites.</p> <p>Investigates complaints and supports inspections with the Waste Enforcement team.</p> <p>Site audits of WFP, CoR and WCP obligations.</p> <p>Assists with multi-agency checkpoint operations.</p> <p>Sits on NWCPD Data Validation Working Group.</p>
<p>Waste Litter PRI's</p> <p>Health and Safety EMS – Co-Ordination</p>	70.45	<p>Executive Scientist</p> <p>Waste Enforcement Team leader</p> <p>EHS Co-Ordinator</p> <p>RMCEI Support</p>	<p>WASTE NEP's</p> <p>Multi-Agency Sites of Interest.</p> <p>Construction and Demolition Activity.</p> <p>ELV and Waste Metal Sector.</p> <p>Waste Collection: Household and Commercial.</p> <p>Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity</p>	185	<p>RMCEI input will be for Line Manager for Environmental Enforcement Officers.</p> <p>Liaison with legal advisors and stakeholders, elected members and Government Agencies and Authorities, SRWERLA, Multi-Agency Crime Forum.</p> <p>Health and Safety Co-ordinator for Section and EMS Co-ordinator for Section, deals with ISO Audits internal and external.</p>

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
Waste Litter PRI's	86.36	Environmental Enforcement Officer	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity. Waste Collection: Household and Commercial	198	Env complaints investigation (Litter/Waste). Litter Patrols / Litter Surveys Checkpoints RMCEI Litter/Waste inspections. Anti-Dumping Initiative support. Inspections under Household Waste Management Bye Laws. Commercial Food Waste End of Life Vehicles. Construction Demolition Waste Inspections / Art 27 By-Product Notifications.
Waste Litter PRI's	75.95	Environmental Enforcement Officer	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity Waste Collection: Household and Commercial	158	Env complaints investigation (Litter/Waste). Litter Patrols / Litter Surveys Checkpoints RMCEI Litter/Waste inspections. Anti-Dumping Initiative support. Inspections under Household Waste Management Bye Laws. Commercial Food Waste End of Life Vehicles. Construction Demolition Waste Inspections / Art 27 By-Product Notifications.
Waste Litter PRI's	86.36	Environmental Enforcement Officer	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity	198	Env complaints investigation (Litter/Waste). Litter Patrols / Litter Surveys Checkpoints

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			Waste Collection Household and Commercial		RMCEI Litter/Waste inspections. Anti-Dumping Initiative support. Inspections under Household Waste Management Bye Laws. Commercial Food Waste End of Life Vehicles. Construction Demolition Waste Inspections / Art 27 By-Product Notifications.
Waste Litter PRI's	86.36	Environmental Enforcement Officer	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity. Waste Collection: Household and Commercial	198	Env Complaints investigation (Litter/Waste). Assists with provision of information in relation to FOI/AIE requests. Litter Patrols Litter Surveys Checkpoints Env complaints Litter and Waste. RMCEI Litter/Waste inspections. Anti-Dumping Initiative support. Inspections under Household Waste Management Bye Laws. Commercial Food Waste End of Life Vehicles Construction Demolition Waste Inspections / Art 27 By-Product Notifications.
Waste Litter PRI's	86.36	Environmental Enforcement Officer	WASTE NEP's Tackling significant illegal Waste Activity	198	Env complaints investigation (Litter/Waste). Litter Patrols / Litter Surveys Checkpoints

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
			Waste Collection: Household and Commercial		<p>RMCEI Litter/Waste inspections.</p> <p>Anti-Dumping Initiative support.</p> <p>Inspections under Household Waste Management Bye Laws.</p> <p>Commercial Food Waste End of Life Vehicles.</p> <p>Construction Demolition Waste Inspections / Art 27 By-Product Notifications.</p>
Water/Air	14.88	Senior Executive Scientist	Water/Drinking Water/Air	25	<p>Staff Management Meetings with relevant external stakeholders, e.g. LAWPRO (formal biannual plus informal).</p> <p>Progress Review Meetings and Follow up Actions (monthly and biannual).</p> <p>Supervision of Environmental Protection Team and Activities</p> <p>4 days a week avails of Family Friendly Scheme.</p>
Water	45.45	Executive Engineer	Protecting Public Health by supervising water quality in Rural Water	100	<p>Rural Water Engineer. Deals with Water Quality issues from GWS.</p> <p>Involved with Auditing schemes.</p> <p>Private Well grant assessments.</p> <p>Capital Works.</p>
Water Administration	2.27	Senior Staff Officer	Protecting Public Health by providing administrative support in Rural Water	5	<p>Administrative support to Rural Water Programme.</p> <p>Rural Water Liaison Officer.</p>
Water/Noise/Air	54.55	Executive Scientist	WATER Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	120	<p>Water Quality officer in respect of WFD/S4 discharge /DWWTPS/DPI and non-agricultural pollution monitoring.</p>

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
					Complaints: Air, Water and Noise. Planning. Enforcement.
Water	45	Environmental Technician Grade 1	WFD Water	99	WFD monitoring and Water pollution monitoring (0.5 FTE) Environmental Complaints. (Water Safety 0.5 FTE)
Water	90	Environmental Technician Grade 1	Water and Waste water	198	Water quality S4 and WFD sampling/environmental complaints.
Water	90	Environmental Technician Grade 1	Water	198	Monitoring and Section 4 monitoring. Environmental complaints. Assessment of planning applications. Investigation of issues related to Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) (Wastewater) sites.
Drinking Water /Air Pollution Monitoring	53.57	Executive Scientist	WATER AIR and NOISE Protecting Public Health by supervising water quality in Rural Water-HSE/EPA Liaison. Protecting Public Health and improving Air Quality.	90	Deals with Water Quality issues from SPS, Auditing schemes. HSE/EPA Liaison. Responsible for Air Monitoring programme - Relevant complaints. Bathing Water. Planning assessments and pre-planning meetings. Enforcement. 4 days a week avails of Family Friendly Scheme.
Drinking Water /Air Pollution Monitoring	90	Environmental Technician Grade 1	Protecting Public Health by supervising water quality in Rural Water-HSE/EPA Liaison. Protecting Public Health and improving Air Quality.	198	Rural water Monitoring. Air pollution monitoring where capacity exists. Environmental complaints.

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Drinking Water /Air Pollution Monitoring	90	Environmental Technician Grade 1	Protecting Public Health by supervising water quality in Rural Water-HSE/EPA Liaison. Protecting Public Health and improving Air Quality.	198	Rural water Monitoring. Air pollution monitoring. Environmental complaints.
Drinking Water /bathing water /general	90	Executive Technician	Protecting Public Health by supervising water quality in Rural Water-HSE/EPA Liaison. Protecting Public Health by monitoring bathing water quality including designated area.	198	Rural water Monitoring. Bathing Water and Swimming pool monitoring. Environmental complaints.
Water - Agriculture	53.57	Agricultural Scientist (Executive Scientist cognate)	WATER Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	90	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Sludge Management/NMP's, Drinking Water Source Protection, Planning, Silvermines Rehabilitation Project (on behalf of DCCE), Forestry and Peatland Enforcement. Agri Pollution complaints. FOI/AIE Support. 4 days a week avails of Family Friendly Scheme.
Water - Agriculture	90	Assistant Scientist	WATER-Agri Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	198	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Drinking Water Source Protection, Complaints, NMPs, Catchment Assessments, Planning

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					Agri Pollution complaints
Water - Agriculture	90	Assistant Scientist	WATER-Agri Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	152	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Drinking Water Source Protection, Complaints, NMPs, Catchment Assessments, Planning. Agri Pollution complaints. 4 days a week avails of Family Friendly Scheme.
Water - Agriculture	90	Assistant Scientist	WATER-Agri Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies	198	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Drinking Water Source Protection, Complaints, NMPs, Catchment Assessments, Planning. Agri Pollution complaints.
Water - Agriculture	90	Assistant Scientist	WATER-Agri Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	198	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Drinking Water Source Protection, Complaints, NMPs, Catchment Assessments, Planning. Agri Pollution complaints.
Water - Agriculture	90	Assistant Scientist	WATER-Agri Maintaining and Improving Water Status in all water bodies.	198	Water Quality officer in respect of Agricultural Activities: NAIP, Drinking Water Source Protection, Complaints, NMPs, Catchment Assessments, Planning. Agri Pollution complaints.
Supports	54.55	Graduate Scientist	Support general.	120	Support sampling and NEMIS coordinator. Special projects not NEP related. Subject to training.
Administration	2.25	Senior Executive Officer	Admin Governance	1	Senior Executive Officer - manages the administration of the Section including Waste, Water, Air.

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
Administration	15.91	Administrative Officer FOI Decision Maker.	Waste, Water, Air and Governance	34	Administrative Officer - manages the administration of the Section including Waste, Water, Air. Manages complaints and - signs all Enforcement Notices/FPNs issued; Oversees all legal correspondence and Oversees Waste Facility Permit Administration.
Administration	9.09	Staff Officer	Waste and Governance	20	Green Schools – visiting schools, carrying out renewal assessments and making recommendations to An Taisce on awarding of Green Flag. Litter Clean up support, Liaising with Groups, providing support/supplies for National Spring Clean. Anti-Roadside Litter Pick Week and requests from Tidy Town Groups and complaints handling.
Administration	27.27	Staff Officer	Waste and Governance	60	Litter pollution qualification surveys. Managing the collation and upload of questionnaires. Administration of Household Waste Surveys, updating Register/issuing and follow up of letters (500 + in 2025) and complaints handling. Avails of Family Friendly Scheme.
Administration	15.91	Staff Officer	Waste, Water and Governance	35	Litter Clean up support, Liaising/supporting Groups for the north of the county. Administration for Section 4 licence invoicing and complaints handling.
Administration	2.73	Assistant Staff Officer	Waste and Governance Infrastructure	06	Green Schools, assisting with visiting schools, carrying out renewal assessments and making recommendations to An

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
					Taisce on awarding of the Green Flag for the south of the county and complaints handling. Burial Grounds administration south of county.
Administration	5.00	Assistant Staff Officer	Waste and Governance Infrastructure	11	Green Schools, visiting schools, carrying out renewal assessments and making recommendations to An Taisce on awarding of the Green Flag for the north of the county and complaints handling. Burial Grounds Administration north of the county.
Administration	34.09	Clerical Officer	Waste and Governance RMCEI Enforcement Plan Implementation Review	100	Administration in relation to waste enforcement, issuing Notices/maintaining registers/work on enforcement files, etc. Litter pollution qualification surveys- uploading questionnaires. Providing support for litter clean ups. Filing/processing Waste Facility Permit Administration and complaints handling.
Administration	3.18	Clerical Officer	Waste and Governance	07	Filing/processing Waste Facility Permit Administration and complaints handling. Website content. FOI/AIE support.
Administration	5.91	Clerical Officer	Waste, Water and Governance	13	Assisting with Administration of Household Waste Surveys, issuing and follow up of letters, etc. Litter Clean up support – assisting with Spring Clean/ litter picks. Administration of Section 4 licensing and complaints handling.

Department	Available Resources	Role	Focus Area for this Resource (please ensure you outline which NEP area this resource will be associated with)	Available days for RMCEI (both routine and non-routine)	Basis of calculating Resource Available days (take account of e.g. job-sharing, full/part-time working, expected leave, secondment to other work areas and therefore unavailable, basis for a standard working year e.g. 220 days)
Administration	25	Clerical Officer	Waste, Water and Governance	55	Assisting with Administration of Household Waste Surveys, issuing and follow up of letters, etc. Litter Clean-up support – assisting with Spring-Clean/ litter picks. Administration of Section 4 licensing and complaints handling.
Administration	30	Clerical Officer	Waste, Water and Governance	13.64	Litter Clean-up support – assisting with Spring-Clean/ litter picks. ADI awareness support team. Tipp clean up support awareness. Administration of Section 4 licensing and complaints handling.
TOTAL DAYS AVAILABLE				4489.64	

8.3 Environmental Enforcement Training Requirements

The boxes below detail the environmental training that has been provided in the previous year and which is planned for the reporting year to ensure that staff, including new staff who joined during the reporting period, have the appropriate knowledge and competencies to implement the Plan

Course/Training provided to enforcement staff in previous year:	Course/Training provided by:	Comment
Courtroom Skills	La Touche	Env Enforcement Team (WASTE)
Environmental Inspections Skills	La Touche	Env Enforcement Team (WASTE)
Waste Management Level 6	ATU Sligo	Env Enforcement Team (WASTE)
Biological and Chemical Hazards Awareness Training	SQT	Env Enforcement Team (WASTE)
Drone Pilot Training	Survey Instruments Ireland	Env Enforcement Team (WASTE)
Water Safety Training	Irish Water Safety	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training

Dealing with Aggressive Behaviour	In house through HR.	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training
Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Inspectors Course	LASNTG	Env Team (Water)
Agricultural Inspectors Course	LASNTG	Env Team (Agriculture)
Catchment Science and Management Course	LAWPRO	Env Team (Agriculture and Water)
Safe Pass Training	In house through HR.	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training
Biological and Chemical Hazard Awareness Training	SQT Training	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training
Manual Handling	In house through HR.	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training
Courtroom Skills	La Touche	Env Team (Water, Air, Noise and Agriculture)
Environmental Inspections Skills	La Touche	Env Team (Water, Air and Noise)
Small Stream Risk Score	LASNTG	Env Team (Water and Agriculture) New recruits and inspectors without prior training
Preparing and Responding to a Serious Incident	LASNTG	Env Team (Water, Agriculture, Air and Noise) New recruits and inspectors without prior training

Course/Training planned for enforcement staff for the reporting year:	Course/Training provided by	Comment
Construction and Demolition Waste	LASTNG	To assist Environmental Enforcement Officers when inspecting sites.
Management of Hazardous Waste	LASTNG	To assist Environmental Enforcement Officers when inspecting sites.
Asbestos Recognition	To be confirmed proposed for March/April	To assist Environmental Enforcement Officers when inspecting sites.
Garda Interview Skills – Witness and Suspect	An Garda Síochána	To assist Environmental Enforcement Officers when inspecting sites. (Completed Jan 2026)
Water Safety Awareness Training.	Irish Water Safety.	For newly recruited inspectors.
Biological and Chemical Hazards Awareness Training.	SQT Training.	For inspectors without prior training and new recruits.
Handling Violence and Aggression Training.	Through Human Resources Training Team.	For inspectors without prior training and new recruits.

Safe Pass Certification.	Through Human Resources Training Team.	For inspectors without prior training and new recruits.
Manual Handling Training.	Through Human Resources Training Team.	For inspectors without prior training and new recruits.
Inspections of DWWTPS	HRLASTNG	For staff carrying out septic tank inspections – mandatory

Training is linked to PMDS Personal Development Plans	
Yes/No	If answered No, state your reasoning.
<p>YES</p> <p>All training opportunities are subject to organisational requirements, course availability, and budgetary provisions.</p> <p>Tipperary County Council, through the Human Resources Department, makes available a suite of 71 approved training courses, the details of which are maintained in the Training Course Directory on SharePoint.</p> <p>Training needs form part of the Personal Development Plan for each member of staff and will be subject to review as 2026 progresses.</p>	

8.4 Health and Safety

Tipperary County Council hereby provide an outline of the Health and Safety measures adopted when carrying out environmental enforcement duties i.e., inspections.

Planned Health and Safety training for the reporting year:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Pass • Manual Handling • Toolbox Talks – Lone Working, Complaints processing, Risk Assessing Sites • Dealing/Handling Violence and Aggression • Water Safety • Chemical Biological Awareness
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Public and staff safety is paramount when carrying out all inspections and monitoring.</p> <p>All inspections will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Tipperary County Council's Environment and Climate Action Environmental and Health Safety Statement.</p> <p>The Environment and Climate Action Section has maintained two internationally recognised Quality Standards under ISO14001 (Environmental Management System) and ISO45001 (Occ. Health and Safety Management System). The accreditations have been maintained annually, the most recent re-certifications awarded in 2025 and audits are being undertaken again in 2026.</p> <p>The Environment and Climate Action Section Inspection Team utilise a comprehensive Safety Risk Assessment Register and use risk assessments and method statements for all aspects of Environmental Inspection duties.</p>

Background checks may be undertaken to determine a risk of confrontation or violence and aggression. Where this hazard is identified multi-agencies may be engaged such as An Garda Síochána, SR WERLA and security agency assistance where requested.

Issuing of Enforcement Notices/Legal Proceedings at volatile areas may necessitate the services of a Summons Server/Security Agency.

All inspections are assessed prior to site-inspection under Health and Safety measures (risks and hazards) using an in-house Safe System of Work Plan (SSWP Env Inspections)

Any site where enforcement action is to be undertaken shall be visited by at least 2 Inspectors.

9. Planned Inspections/Other Activities for the Year Ahead

9.1 Planned Routine and Non-Routine Inspections

	Planned Inspections for Year	No. of Inspections Days for this Inspection Type	Local Authority Comments for Planned Inspections for the Year Ahead
Total Waste Inspections end of year	800	892	Assessed for 2026 through Waste Team Meetings and RMCEI review meetings 2025
Total Litter Inspections end of year	1113	688	Assessed for 2026 through Waste Team Meetings and RMCEI review meetings 2025
Total Water/Wastewater Inspections end of year	2488	2368.45	
Total Air/Noise Inspections end of year	124	170	
Total Producer Responsibility Initiatives Inspections end of year	80	65	Assessed for 2026 through Waste Team Meetings and RMCEI review meetings 2025
Total Planning (Environmental) Inspections end of year	80	160	
Total Routine Inspections end of year	4077	3677.45	As totalled from figures above
Total Non-Routine Inspections end of year	608	666	As arising from figures above
Total Inspections end of year	4685	4343.45	

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9.2 Enforcement and Complaints Requiring Resources for the Year Ahead

Table 9 Outstanding Enforcement Actions and Complaints to be Closed Out

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections to close out in the Year Ahead	Estimate time per inspection+ write up (days)	Time for all Inspections (days)
Outstanding Complaints			
4.1.1 Litter (excluding fly tipping and illegal dumping)	11	0.25	2.75
4.1.2 Waste, non C&D. Includes fly tipping and illegal dumping	07	0.25	1.75
4.1.3 Waste, C&D.	1	0.25	0.25
4.2 Water/Wastewater	10	0.25	2.5
4.3 Air/Odour	3	0.25	0.75
4.4 Noise	7	0.25	1.75
Outstanding enforcement Actions			
Warning Letters	4	0.25	1
Section Notices	44	0.25	11
Complaints	0	0	0
Court Cases	1	1	1
Other			
Total	88		22.75

9.3 Summary of Resource Requirements

Table 10 Summary of Inspections to Complete and Resources Required for the Year Ahead

Inspection Type	No. of Inspections Planned for the Year Ahead	Total Time for all Inspections (days)
Total Routine Inspections (obtained from Appendix 1: Planned Routine and Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead)	4077	3677.45
Total Non-Routine Inspections (obtained from Appendix 1: Planned Routine and Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead)	608	666
Outstanding Enforcement Action and Complaints to be Closed out – (outlined in Table 9)	88	22.75
Totals	4773	4366.2
Total Available Resources (Days) – (outlined in Table 8 of the Plan)		4489.64

Explanation of the variance between 'Resource Days Available' and 'Days of Inspections Planned' Summary

Resource Days Available:	4,489.64
Days of Inspections Planned:	4,366.20
Surplus days:	123.44

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Interpretation of the Surplus

The small surplus of **123.44 days** indicates that the organisation has slightly more resource capacity than the number of inspection days planned for the year. While this surplus is modest, it represents a positive buffer that can help manage operational realities that inevitably arise across air, noise, waste, litter, and water protection inspections.

Benefits and Practical Considerations

Even though a surplus suggests adequate staffing for the planned workload, in practice it provides important support for several challenges, such as:

Unforeseen Absences:

Staff may take unplanned sick leave or other urgent leave. Having a surplus means these absences are less likely to compromise delivery of the inspection plan.

Complex or Serious Investigations:

Certain incidents—e.g., major pollution events or serious non-compliance—can demand significantly more time than a standard inspection. The surplus offers capacity to allocate inspectors to these without causing delays elsewhere.

Seasonal or Unpredictable Workload Peaks:

Some environmental pressures fluctuate throughout the year. A small buffer helps accommodate variations without needing additional short-term resources.

Training, Development, and Quality Assurance:

Surplus time can support essential non-operational activities such as training, calibration exercises, shadowing, procedure reviews, and improving inspection quality.

Overall Assessment

The surplus of **123.44 days** is small but strategically valuable. It indicates that the organisation is broadly aligned in terms of staffing versus planned workload, while still maintaining a minimal buffer to absorb operational pressures. It is not large enough to be considered excess capacity, but it does offer reasonable flexibility to protect delivery of the inspection plan against routine disruptions.

Recommended Actions if Unforeseen Events Arise

When unplanned events place demands on staff availability or require additional inspection time, the following actions are recommended to maintain delivery of the environmental inspection plan:

1. Re-prioritise Planned Inspections

Review the annual inspection schedule and identify **lower-risk or non-time-critical inspections** that can be deferred without compromising regulatory requirements.

Prioritise **high-risk, statutory, or complaint-driven** inspections to ensure compliance obligations continue to be met.

2. Re-deploy Internal Resources

Redirect available staff from areas with temporary lower workload to support priority inspections.

Make use of the existing **123.44-day surplus** as a buffer to absorb short-term disruptions.

If appropriate, adjust workloads between inspectors to balance pressure across the team.

3. Activate Contingency Capacity

Utilise trained staff who may not be part of the regular inspection rota (e.g. technical support staff capable of assisting with sampling or administrative preparation).

Consider temporary cross-cover arrangements between teams (e.g. air/water/waste), provided competency requirements are met.

4. Implement Flexible Work Planning

Introduce short-term adjustments such as:

Combining inspections in the same geographic area

Increasing the use of remote assessment where suitable (documentation checks, follow-up evidence, etc.)

Rescheduling non-urgent follow-ups

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5. Escalate and Communicate Early

Inform management promptly where resource strain is expected.
Document the expected operational impact and identify which planned inspections may be at risk.
Communicate revised schedules to regulated entities where necessary.

6. Utilise Overtime or Additional Support (as last resort)

When pressures exceed available buffer capacity, consider:
Limited overtime allocation.
Requesting short-term staff assistance from other regional or corporate units.
Engaging external contractors for technical sampling or monitoring (if allowable).

7. Adjust Workload Forecasting for Future Planning

Capture data on the cause and duration of the disruption.
Incorporate lessons learned into future **resource modelling**, allowing improved resilience to peaks in workload or staff unavailability.

Overall Benefit

Having a small surplus—such as the **123.44 days** forecast for 2026—does not indicate excess capacity but instead provides a **strategic cushion**. The above recommended actions help ensure that even with unforeseen events, Tipperary's Environment and Climate Action Section can continue delivering its regulatory responsibilities across air, noise, waste, litter, and water protection efficiently and compliantly.

10. Plan Review Mechanisms

Monitoring progress of the RMCEI Plan will take place through regular reviews during the year and team meetings. The progress review is valuable to the control of plan implementation. It tells us the issues supporting or affecting the progress in the RMCEI areas. This information will be a trigger for action where the plan is considered to be behind targets then resources will be directed to bringing activities in line with the targets. Areas that are behind target that have a statutory basis will be focused first, followed by any inspections related to specific National Enforcement Priorities and finally any other inspection types. This information will be discussed at relevant team meetings so that any related inspections being done by various team members can be considered if the plan targets are to be revised in agreement with Senior Management and subsequent notification to the EPA at rmcei@epa.ie

In addition, as part of the EPA's Section 63 oversight and implementation of the local authority performance framework, all changes made to planned targets may require verification during OEE audits by checking that appropriate review records and meeting minutes are in place.

A suggested plan implementation review template is included in Appendix 2.

Table 11 Summary checklist of plan review mechanism

Question	Yes	No
Q1 Have progress implementation meetings been planned to be undertaken to assess Plan progress through the year?	Yes	
Q2 Will the Director of Services, Senior Engineer, Senior Management and Environment Strategic Policy Committee be informed of Plan progress (on a monthly or quarterly basis).	Yes Should the Environment Strategic Policy Committee seek information on the RMCEI plan, a comprehensive report will be supplied to facilitate their work and support robust policy oversight.	
Q3 Are objectives for the delivery of the RMCEI Plan incorporated within staff PMDS Team Development Plans?	Yes	
Q4 If aspects of the Plan need to change (i.e. achieved good progress in some areas and are behind in other areas), as a result of a quarterly review, is there a mechanism in place to implement the change?	Yes	
Q5 Will monitoring of the progress of the Plan be documented (i.e. monthly/quarterly monitoring reports, preparation of minutes and circulation of same in relation to any progress meetings)?	Quarterly	
Q6 Were these plan review mechanisms implemented in the previous reporting year?	Yes	
Q7 What frequency will the plan progress be reviewed?	Quarterly	

11. Use of Relevant Inspection Templates

Table 12 Summary of waste inspection template use for the reporting year

Has the use of relevant waste inspection templates been incorporated into your enforcement work for the year ahead²? (Yes/No/Not for all applicable work areas)	Where you have answered ‘No’ or ‘Not for all applicable work areas’ then please provide a comment, with reference to the relevant template(s) not being used.
<p>Yes. Inspection of soil recovery sites to ensure only appropriate materials accepted. WERLA Document Control sheet (WERLA-IF-1024) soil recovery site inspection form will be utilised during site audits.</p> <p>Document No: WERLA-GM-Construction and Demolition Waste Activity forms are used. Waste Collection Permit inspection form is used for “cradle to grave” data verification, and Destination facility inspection form is also used.</p> <p>Skip facility inspection form and Waste Enforcement Inspection Form – soil recovery sites Template Inspection forms will be used.</p> <p>ELV and Metals: Validation and inspection of records for WCP/WFP and licensed operators dealing with ELV and metal waste. Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATFs) Inspection Form – Inspection for compliance with conditions of Waste Facility Permit Document No:WERLA-IF-1001</p>	

² Relevant waste inspection templates are available on the WERLA page of the NIECE Portal.

Appendix 1: Planned Routine and Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead

This information is populated in the Excel Spreadsheet RMCEI Plan Appendix 1 – Planned Routine and Non-Routine Inspections for the Year Ahead.

The data will be available on the NIECE Portal and will be submitted with the RMCEI Plan.

Appendix 2: Suggested Plan Implementation Review Template

RMCEI/Enforcement Plan Implementation Review Report

Meeting Date:

Meeting Time:

Attendees:

Name	Title

Reason for the Meeting:

Monthly Implementation Review:	
Quarterly Implementation Review:	
Other Reasons:	

Important Notes/Actions from Previous Meeting:



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Table A – Progress Against Priorities

National Priority:			
Areas Requiring Review for this Priority - for example:	Progress to Date	Further Work Required	Responsibility Assigned
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For authorised sites- compliance rates; • Site selection methodology, and/or early interventions; • Detection of non-compliances/follow up; • Progress in the NEP shown; • Positive environmental outcomes – not just inspections targets; • Collaborative work with WERLA, LAWPRO, EPA, Catchment Care Projects; • Data analysis/sharing for enforcement targeting – and other activities as described in Table 1 of the Guidance. 			

Table B – Progress Against Inspection Targets

Inspection Plan Review				
	Areas	Progress to Date	Further Work Required	Responsibility Assigned
1				
2				
3				

Appendix 3: National Environmental Governance Processes 2025 - 2027

National Environmental Governance Processes 2025 – 2027			
National Enforcement Priority (2025 -2027)	Objective (2025 – 2027)	Outcome (2025 -2027)	Activities for Focus in 2026
<p>Planning for Environmental Inspections and Compliance</p>	<p>Environmental inspection tasks are planned and carried out according to Recommendation 2001/331/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, providing for Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI), thereby strengthening compliance with, and contributing to a more consistent implementation and enforcement of environmental law in all local authority functional areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate inspection and compliance planning, resourcing environmental tasks based on risk, and implementing inspection schedules, focused on the National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce an Environmental Inspection and Compliance Plan according to RMCEI requirements³ to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The time period and geographical area to which the plan relates. ➤ The resources available to undertake inspection tasks and any challenges to implementation. ➤ The incorporation of the National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs) into the Plan with related inspection/compliance tasks. ➤ The sites or types of installations covered by the plan. ➤ Environmental risk ranking of sites or installations and prioritisation of resources based on risk. ➤ A programme for routine environmental inspections and resource provision for non-routine inspections. ➤ A periodic review structure (minimum biannually) for assessing the implementation and adaptation of the Plan and progress of NEPs and planned inspection targets. ➤ Sign-off of the Plan and reviews by Director of Services. ➤ Submit the Plan to the EPA by the required deadline.

³ RMCEI Plan Template is available on the NIECE website at <https://www.niece.ie/Topics/RMCEI.aspx>

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<p>Recording and Reporting of Environmental Inspections, Compliance, and Enforcement Data</p>	<p>Environmental Inspections, Compliance, and Enforcement Data is reported in a timely manner through the National Environmental Management Information System (NEMIS), to facilitate national reporting on RMCEI statistics and implementation of the National Enforcement Priorities (NEPs).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate and timely data recording and reporting of inspections, compliance, and enforcement data by all local authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enter environmental inspection and complaints⁴ data on a quarterly basis in NEMIS across all environmental sectors of Waste, Water, Air and Noise. ➤ Enter agricultural inspection, compliance, and enforcement data on a quarterly basis in the NAIP spreadsheet and submit this to naip@epa.ie ➤ Produce NEP Progress Reports for each priority area and submit to the EPA by the required deadline. The NEP reports should adhere to the criteria set out in Local Authority Performance Framework Assessment Methodology and Guidance⁵ with clear examples of positive environmental outcomes provided. ➤ Use relevant inspection templates and guidance from WERLA, NAIP, etc. ➤ Ensure all annual RMCEI statistics are reported via NEMIS by the required deadline. ➤ Review and update existing complaints handling procedures and processes to ensure alignment with the revised Environmental Complaints Procedure for Local Authorities.
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⁴ Appropriate systems should be in place for recording and tracking environmental complaints and reporting these numbers for each thematic area in NEMIS.

⁵ Available on the NIECE website at <https://www.niece.ie/Topics/RMCEI.aspx>