



Management Report to Council



This Month

- Annual Road Works Programme recommenced – page 6
- Road Safety campaign urged walkers to “Be Safe Be Seen” – page 11
- National Slow Down Day promoted – page 11
- National Planning Framework: URDF and RRDF Updates – page 15/16
- County Development Plan – page 16
- Fire Services and Building Control – page 24
- Civil Defence – Covid 19 Response – page 26
- Library 3D printers used to manufacture healthcare PPE – Page 28
- Life in Lockdown Project run by Tipperary Studies – page 29
- Arts Service – page 30
- Tipperary Museum to launch 'ReCOVer Together' programme – page 32
- Commercial Rates Waiver Scheme and Re-Start Grant Scheme – page 35



June dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>8</u> 9.30am: CPG Meeting 11am: TCC Plenary Meeting – Hillview centre, Clonmel	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>15</u> 10am: Thurles MD AGM and Meeting	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> 4.30pm: Clonmel BD Meeting	<u>18</u> 10am: Nenagh MD AGM and meeting	<u>19</u> 10am: JPC Meeting
<u>23</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> 1pm: Carrick-on-Suir AGM and Meeting	<u>26</u> 11am: TCC Annual Meeting – The Dome Thurles
<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> 3.30pm: Clonmel BD AGM			

Report at a Glance



Roads and Transportation Directorate 1- 14



Emergency Services, Health & Safety/ Libraries & Culture Directorate 24-32



Planning & Development Directorate 15-23



Finance & Information Technology Directorate 33-38

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE



<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues</u>
Policy Changes/Updates
Infrastructure SPC – meeting held on 2 March 2020. Items considered: Role and functions of SPC’s 2020 Allocations/Annual Road Works Programme Driver Feedback Signs – Pilot Project

<u>Directorate Priorities</u>		
Major Current Issues	Progress to date	Next Stage
Major inter-urban routes	Submission on N24 to NPF. Two no. N24 projects notified on NDP 2027: - Waterford to Cahir, - Cahir to Limerick Junction. Project Appraisal Plans submitted to and approved by SRAD for both sections. Arup appointed on 22 nd October 2019 for Cahir to Limerick Junction Section. Design progressing through Phase 1.	<u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Enter Section 85 agreement with Kilkenny County Council. Appoint consultants in Q2 2020 <u>Cahir to Limerick Junction:</u> Arup to progress the Cahir to Limerick Junction Section through Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility)
Capital Programme 2020	Implementation of Capital Programme	Progress schemes and drawdown grant funding before end of TII financial year
Implementation of Operational Road Works Programme 2020	Implementation of Programme	Completion of programme within budget and drawdown of all available grant funding
Rural and Community Schemes (CIS, LIS, CLÁR)	Implement in conjunction with Districts and Community and Enterprise Department	CLÁR – 2 schemes at completion stage 2020 CIS Scheme - Allocation €1,194,000 2020 LIS Scheme – Allocation €599,969
Consultation	Continued consultation with TII, DTTAS, Elected Members and staff	Meeting held on 5 November 2019
Public Lighting	Public lighting policy adopted in May 2018	Implementation of policy ongoing
Road Safety	First all county strategy adopted in June 2018	Implement Strategy in conjunction with Road Safety Together Working Group. Meeting held in Q1 2020



2020 National Roads Allocations	Total allocation €6,262,116	Circulated to members
2020 Regional and Local Roads Allocations	Total allocation €28,946,723	



Department of Tourism Transport and Sport (DTTAS)
REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS ALLOCATIONS 2020

Tipperary County Council Regional and Local Roads Allocations 2020	
Restoration Improvement	€14,343,000
Restoration Maintenance	€2,546,500
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€1,576,500
Discretionary Grant	€4,796,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€627,000
Specific Imp. Grants	€700,000
Strategic Regional and Local Roads	€200,000
Safety Improvement Works	€543,000
Speed Limits	€40,170
Training Grant	€129,500
Drainage Works	€1,192,053
Community Improvement Scheme	€1,194,000
Hedge Cutting Pilot Scheme	€15,000
PSCI: Survey Support	€44,000
Former National Roads	€1,000,000
Total Allocation	€28,946,723



NATIONAL ROADS ALLOCATIONS 2020

Tipperary County Council – National Roads Allocations 2020	
Improvement	Allocations 2020
National Primary	
HD15 and HD17 Minor Works	€20,000
Major Scheme	€525,000
Pavement	€1,360,000
National Secondary	
HD15 and HD17 Minor Works	€150,000
Major Scheme	€500,000
Pavement	€2,530,000
Support to the National Primary and National Secondary - Improvement Programme	€325,000
Total Improvement Allocations 2020	€5,410,000
Maintenance	Allocations 2020
Total National Primary Maintenance	€370,481
Total National Secondary Maintenance	€393,335
Support to the National Primary and National Secondary - Maintenance Programme	€88,300
Total Maintenance Allocations 2020	€852,116
Total of 2020 National Roads Allocations	€6,262,116



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Nenagh Municipal District		
N52 Borriskane Street Improvement Works	Construction commenced in November 2018. The Contractor has completed all of the footpaths and most of the road resurfacing works in the town centre and on the Nenagh approach to the town. Works were suspended in March due to COVID crisis and re-opened in May 2020.	Completion of N52 road resurfacing works on Nenagh approach in May 2020. N52 Birr Road and Bridge culvert repair/protection works commencing in June 2020.
N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge	This scheme involves raising the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road.	Preliminary design work is underway and is expected to be completed in Q3 2020 following completion of a ground investigation, with detailed design commencing in 2021.
N65 Carrigahorig Village	This scheme was originally intended to be a realignment of a 0.6km section of the N65 on the southern approach to Carrigahorig village. The scheme has since developed into a pavement improvement scheme which deals with a number of road safety issues in the village and will also involve the provision of an extension of footpath from the village to the R493 Terryglass Road. Preliminary design work has been completed and funding is being sought from the TII to carry out the final design and works.	It is anticipated that detailed design work will commence in 2020 with construction in 2021.
Thurles Municipal District		
Thurles bypass and Inner Relief Road	Response received from TII to Plenary Council letter of September 2018, Thurles bypass is not on the National Capital Plan. Inner Relief Road - Land negotiation ongoing.	Secure funding to deliver the Inner Relief Road project and finalise land acquisition. Expect Expect Lidl to construct a section of the road for access to new store with development commencing in 2020.
Slievenamon Road Thurles, Phase 2	This scheme involves improvement of National Secondary route between the Dunnes Roundabout and junction with Liberty Square. Topographical and Pavement Condition Surveys complete. Consultants appointed, draft design 95% completed.	Design to be completed and Part 8 to be advertised in 2020.
N62 Templemore approach roads	Two schemes on the Thurles Road and Roscrea Road approaches to the town. Survey work completed, design has commenced on both schemes.	Mid West Regional Design Office to complete the design in 2020, with construction works on the Thurles Road approach to take place in 2020.
N62 Crescent to new roundabout Roscrea	Detailed design underway.	TII approval to go to tender.



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Carrick- on- Suir Municipal District		
N24 Carrick-on-Suir	Part 8 Planning extended due to COVID-19. Submissions being reviewed and preliminary Design Report being updated; CE report in preparation. Discussion ongoing with TII on safety details.	TII approval of preliminary design report, followed by completion of CE Report.
N76 Grangemoekler Pavement Strengthening	Preliminary Design under way, Consultation ongoing with TII, Draft Part 8 prepared.	TII approval of preliminary design followed by Part 8 Planning Process.
Tipperary Cahir Cashel Municipal District		
N74 Ballyhusty Realignment	TII approval to Publish CPO received.	Meeting with landowners suspended due to COVID 19. Will recommence when advised safe to do so.
Main Street and Fr Matthew Street, Tipperary Town	Topographical and Pavement Condition Surveys complete; Consultants appointed. Draft design 95% completed.	Part 8 to be advertised in Q3 2020.
N24 Davitt Street Pavement Strengthening	Works substantially completed, Snagging items being completed.	12 months Defects period underway.
N24 Ballydrehid Realignment	Feasibility report submitted to TII.	Awaiting TII response.
N24 Knockagh Roundabout approach	Draft Preliminary design report prepared, Draft Part 8 documents being prepared.	Complete preliminary design for submission to TII for approval.
Clonmel Borough District		
N24 Clonmel Pavement Improvement Scheme	Works commenced in October 2019 and are ongoing. Due for completion in March 2020. Works delayed due to COVID-19. Work recommenced on 18/05/2020.	Contract Administration to completion.
N24 Moangarriff to Twomilebridge Pavement and Traffic Calming	Preliminary Design of Traffic calming and pavement improvement works ongoing. Draft Preliminary design submitted to TII for discussion.	TII response and approvals. Approval under Section 38 Traffic Calming Measures, of Road Traffic Act 1994.



Strategic Non-National Road Projects		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
R498 Nenagh to Thurles Upgrade Knockalton - Kilconane	Scheme was completed in 2019.	Snagging is currently underway.
R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends	Part 8 procedures have been completed and design work is underway. On-going consultation with landowners to finalise work on CPO.	Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, it is anticipated that the CPO will be advertised in Q2 2020.
Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme	Progress/Steering Committee meetings held monthly, Clare County Council is lead authority. Planning procedures and Oral Hearing have been completed	Design is underway and is expected to be completed in Q3 2020. Subject to availability of funding it is anticipated that construction will commence in Q2 of 2021 taking in the region of 3 years to complete.

IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON SERVICE DELIVERY

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on all services delivered by the Roads Section in the past few months. However, Roads Administration Staff, Capital Office Staff and Roads Machinery Yard Staff, at the Nenagh and Clonmel locations, together with Municipal and Borough District Office Staff, have made great efforts to maintain and continue to deliver as many aspects of our service as possible to both our elected members, the general public and other third party stakeholders. This was carried out through the increased use of remote communications such as tele-conferencing and video conferencing meetings, management of the out-of-hours on call service and through a combination of office-based and remote working. Many of these new practices will endure beyond the current pandemic and both complement and add to our more established working practices.

ROADWORKS PROGRAMME (2020) - TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

The annual Road Works Programme has recommenced after the “lockdown” period. A significant programme of work is planned for 2020. In preparation for the return to work a review of our health, safety and welfare practice was undertaken to ensure compliance with the national guidance in respect of Covid-19. This review of the new Covid-19 risk precipitated the amendment of our existing Risk Assessments and the introduction of altered and new working practices and conditions. A huge effort was made by the District Engineers and their staff across the county to induct and advise our outdoor staff in the new procedures. A schedule of review is ongoing in respect to our response to the Covid-19 risk.

Contractors have also returned to site and elements of the programme are underway across all of the 5 Districts. Progress has been aided by favourable weather conditions and every effort will be made to complete the full 2020 programme. In 2020 we will continue to work on the development of a Quality Management System both on our own works and 3rd party projects. We look forward now to a busy summer season ahead, as restrictions are lifted, while still recognising the need to comply with HSE Guidelines for safe working.

WINTER MAINTENANCE - TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

The operational winter maintenance period as determined by TII was 14 October, 2019 to 30 April, 2020. During that period:

- there were 63 callouts of the salting crews
- 4,373 tonnes of salt was used
- 68,292 kilometres of road were treated
- €1,022,964 was spent on Winter Maintenance

- €326,472.00 on National Routes (Grant from TII)
- €648,126.00 on Regional & Local Roads (DTTAS Discretionary Grant)
- €48,366.00 Council Own Funds

This represents on average

- €16,237.50 per callout
- €1,353.13 per route per callout
- €14.98 per kilometre treated

PHOTOS OF ROADWORKS PROGRAMME (2020) - TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

	
<p align="center">Grit Stockpiles at Wallers Lot, Cashel, for Surface Dressing Roads</p>	<p align="center">Surface Dressing County Road L4306 at Thomastown</p>
	
<p align="center">Road Strengthening on L13021 at Ballygriffen</p>	<p align="center">Signage</p>



First Surface Dressing job of the year at Knockballynone for Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District



Road Improvement works – Mill Road Dundrum



Admin/Licensing Process During 2020	Number
Roads Abutting Certificates Requested	197
Roads Abutting Certificates Issued	176
Abnormal Loads Permits Requested	93
Abnormal Loads Permits Issued	87
Road Opening Licence applications received	368
FOI requests processed	11
AIE requests processed	2

Estates Taken in Charge 2020
Bruach Tailte, Nenagh
Gort Na Smól and Barr an Áird, Ardgeeha, Clonmel
Castleheights, Carrick-on-Suir
Estates Advertised to be Taken in Charge
Rosanna Close, Rosanna Road, Tipperary Town
Rosemount Drive/Avenue/Close/View, Barnora, Cahir
Proposed Estates to be Advertised to be Taken in Charge
Millersbrook (Part of), Borrisokane Road, Nenagh
Carrig Derg, Ballycommon, Nenagh
Rosemount Heights, Barnora, Cahir

List of Roads to be Declared as Public Roads to be Advertised
Ard na Croise, Thurles
Glebe View, Corville Road, Roscrea
Bothar Aluine, Moyne, Thurles

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME (CIS)

The Community Involvement Scheme is a joint venture approach between the Council and local communities, for the purpose of carrying out maintenance and improvement works on suitable public local roads.

The value of the contribution by the local community will be 15% of the estimated costs of the scheme, as determined by the Council's Engineer.

Tipperary County Council advertised the Community Involvement Scheme for 2020/2021 in 2019 and the closing date for receipt of new applications was 31st July, 2019. Forty one new applications were received, which along with those already on hand were prioritised for a funding submission to DTTAS in September 2019.

Subsequently, an allocation of €1,194,000 was received from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for 2020. Schemes are currently being offered to successful applicants in each of the Municipal Districts within the terms of the Scheme and in accordance with approved priority lists.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME (LIS)

This scheme applies to non-public accommodation roads which are rural in nature. 21 schemes were completed in 2019.

The Council advertised the LIS scheme for 2020 at the end of November 2019 and the closing date for receipt of applications was 12 noon on 31st January 2020. Sixty (60) new applications were received for funding consideration in 2020.

An allocation of €599,969 was received from the Department of Rural and Community Development on the 13 March 2020. This allocation was similar to that received in 2019.

LIS applications i.e. new applications and those presently on hand are currently being reviewed and prioritised. Schemes will be offered to successful applicants as soon as possible, subject to Departmental

approval and within the terms and conditions of the scheme and policy adopted by the Council.

Work on these Schemes will progress over the summer months 2020.

CLÁR 2019

The Council sought expressions of interest for funding under CLÁR Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures and made a submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development for funding for 11 projects in 2019. The Council was notified on 26 August 2019 that two applications under Measure 1 had received approval to proceed with an allocation of €95,000. These works must be completed by May 2020 and are nearing completion at present.

ROAD SAFETY

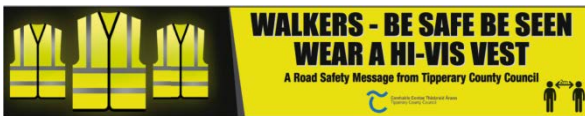
The Covid-19 pandemic has had a large impact on the promotion of road safety in County Tipperary as it is no longer possible to visit schools or other groups to promote road safety at this time.



Mary Murphy, Roads Department and Leaving Certificate Students from The Abbey in Tipperary Town trying the Virtual Reality Display Headsets. This event, which targeted the health and well-being of young people, took place in early March prior to the introduction of Covid-19 restrictions.

However, the Roads Department undertook an advertising campaign urging the increased number of walkers to **“Be Safe Be Seen”** and wear a hi-vis vest. This banner campaign was carried on Tipperary Live in conjunction with The Tipperary Star and The Nationalist during their highly popular photographic campaign in which they urged the public to submit photos taken within two kilometres of home.

An editorial/article urging people to **“Think Road Safety during Covid-19”** was carried in all local newspapers and on Tipperary Live. The article covered several aspects of road safety: driver frustration, driver distraction, pedestrians and cyclists pulling out in the road in order to observe social distancing, observing speed limits, especially in built-up areas, in spite of the reduced volume of traffic on the roads, and again urged pedestrians to “Be Safe Be Seen”. This article was shared with other Road Safety Officers and was well received.



Staff from the Road Safety Section also participated in a video conference with Roads Safety Officers from around the country. The items discussed included road safety issues arising from Covid-19 and the campaigns that could be focused on in the current climate.

NATIONAL SLOW DOWN DAY



The Road Safety Section also participated in **National Slow Down Day** organised by An Garda Síochána and the RSA on Friday 22 May 2020. The following tweets were sent out at intervals during the day:

1. Today is National Slow Down Day. Heed your speed!
2. Reduce speed – save lives!
3. Watch out for pedestrians and cyclists – slow down!
4. Protect your community – slow down!
5. Heed your speed – save lives – reduce injuries!
6. The higher the speed - the more likely a collision – the more severe the outcome.
7. Speed contributes to one third of fatal collisions – keep to the posted speed limit.
8. A 1% reduction in average speed will bring about a 4% reduction in fatal collisions.
9. Be aware there are more walkers, runners and cyclists on the roads due to Covid-19 – Slow down!
10. Speed kills so kill your speed!

An article issued by An Garda Síochána was also placed on our website.

SWAT – SEVERE WEATHER ACTION TEAM

Tipperary County Council has in place a Severe Weather Action Team (SWAT), which comprises the Director of Services, Senior Engineers Roads, Administrative Officer Roads, each District Engineer, Machinery Yard Engineer, Duty Engineers (winter maintenance) and SEO Corporate Services.

During severe weather events, the SWAT team meets regularly to assess the situation and decide what action is necessary, providing regular updates to the Council’s website and social media channels.

Tipperary County Council Roads Section responded to four storms in 2020: Storm Brendan in January and Storm Jorge (Hor-hay) and Dennis in February and Storm Hannah in April.

PUBLIC LIGHTING



Led Public Lighting Upgrade, Nenagh

A Public Lighting policy was adopted by the Council in May 2018. All public lighting queries are dealt with on a daily basis by the Roads Section, the Customer Service Desk and the Municipal/Borough Districts. SSE Airtricity is notified of the relevant queries and corrective action is taken as appropriate and where budget permits.

Tipperary County Council has responsibility for the management and maintenance of more than 17,288 lights in the county and public lighting is one of the biggest users of energy in the Council's overall energy usage.

A number of upgrades have been completed throughout Tipperary so far in 2020 with 543 existing high energy use lighting being replaced by energy efficient LED lights. Work is shortly commencing on National Roads with 215 street lights being upgraded to LED with TII funding. 739 lights were fully upgraded during 2019.

The Council has and will continue to avail of external funding where same is available from SEAI, TII and EU funding for energy efficiency projects.

Tipperary County Council and SSE Airtricity have reviewed all work practices in order to comply with the working recommendations for dealing with Covid-19 and its related restrictions.

For the benefit of Councillors, the following are the options available to facilitate reporting of public lighting faults:

- **Internet: www.airtricitysolutions.com**
- **Phone: Airtricity Utility Solutions Call Centre - 1850 372 772**
- **Customer Services, Tipperary County Council - 0761 06 5000**

HEDGE CUTTING

Tipperary County Council would like to thank owners and occupiers of land adjoining roads who have inspected trees and hedges on their property during the 2019/2020 hedge cutting season and ensured that they do not pose a danger to road users. Examples of hazards include dead or dying trees, ditches or hedges interfering with traffic, blocking footpaths obscuring road signs, public lighting or road users' visibility.

The 2019/2020 Hedgecutting Season concluded on the 29 February 2020 and the 2020/2021 Hedgecutting Season will commence on the 1 September 2020 and run through to 28 February 2021.

All landowners and occupiers of land are requested to note that Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 prohibits the cutting, burning or destruction of any vegetation growing on uncultivated land or in a hedge or ditch during the period 1 March to 31 August each year. This is to ensure the safety of birds and other wildlife.

Please also note that Regulations 49 and 50 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 make it an offence to plant, disperse, allow dispersal or cause the spread of invasive plant species. Further information regarding the control and management of invasive plant species can be found on www.invasivespeciesireland.com.

Tipperary County Council requests the co-operation of the public in keeping road users safe.



BUS STOPS

Currently there are 91 bus stops in Tipperary registered on the RTPI website (Real Time Passenger Information) which is controlled by NTA.

Tipperary County Council has a further 18 to be added in the coming weeks which will allow passengers to look up time tables for each stop and real time information on bus routes.

Tipperary County Council is currently working with the NTA to secure funding to construct wheelchair accessible bus stops including bus shelters in Roscrea, Thurles, Nenagh and Carrick-on-Suir. They are all at different stages i.e. planning, design, landowner discussions etc.

Tipperary County Council is also preparing to submit an application to NTA for the erection of bus shelters at 10 locations across the county. Shelters will be prioritised by the NTA on the basis of set criteria.

INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT - TIPPERARY

Invasive Plant Solutions Ltd. was awarded the 4 year treatment and management contract for the Invasive Alien Plant Species on National Routes in Co. Tipperary in 2016. This contract was completed in December 2019.

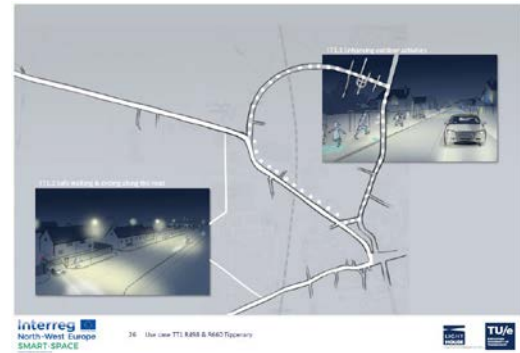
The contractor successfully eradicated 20 of the 37 sites listed for treatment, with a re-growth of 5% or less recorded on the remaining 17 sites. The remaining 17 sites which were not fully eradicated over a consecutive 3 year treatment process will undergo a further 1 year treatment process in 2020.

The contractor for the treatment of the 17 sites will be procured from the TII Framework Agreement for Management of Invasive Alien Plant Species, by means of a call-off contract for a 1 year period.

The MWRDO plans to procure and award the call-off contract no later than July 2020, on behalf of Tipperary County Council. TII has allocated funding of €11,000 to Tipperary County Council in April 2020, for the completion of the 2020 IAPS treatment.

In addition Tipperary County Council provides an annual allocation of €12,000 to each Municipal / Borough District for the treatment of Invasive Alien Plant Species on Regional and Local routes in the county.

INTERREG NORTH WEST EUROPE SMART SPACE PROJECT



Project Details: The Project entails the replacement of 600 standard Street Lights with LED Street Lights which will have motion detectors to monitor movement in the area and dim down when a Street or Car Park is quiet.

The Pilot Areas: In Tipperary 600 street lights will be upgraded in this Pilot Project. The villages of Drangan and Clonoulty along with approximately 50% of the street lights in Thurles Town have been prioritised for upgrading. 40% of the associated cost is being funded by Tipperary County Council with the remaining 60% being funded through Interreg North West Europe (EU). The Project in Tipperary is at design stage and must be completed by the end of July 2021. This project is in the process of being tendered with works commencing soon.

ROAD MANAGEMENT OFFICE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES PUBLIC LIGHTING AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT

Tipperary County Council in conjunction with the RMO and 23 other local authorities has signed up to participate in a large scale street lighting upgrade to LED. The primary aim of the project is to enable Local Authorities to reach their statutory energy efficiency target to be 33% more energy efficient by 2020. The Project will also significantly help LA's reach their new 2030 target of 50%. A Section 85 Agreement has been signed by Tipperary County Council and Kilkenny County Council for the authorisation of Kilkenny to take the lead in this project.

Approx. 280,000 lights are to be retrofitted in this project, 14,000 of these will be in County Tipperary.

Local Authorities participating in the Project:

There are 24 Local Authorities participating in the Project as follows:

Eastern Region:

Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Wicklow, Kildare, Offaly, Westmeath, Meath, Longford and Louth.

North West Region:

Donegal, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Longford, Monaghan, Cavan, Roscommon, Galway City and Galway County.

Southern Region:

Cork County, Kerry, Limerick City and County, Waterford City and County, and Clare.

PROJECT PROFILE



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

New Policy/Strategic Issues			
Policy Changes/Up-Date	Current status	Progression in Previous Months	Next Stage
County Development Plan	Background Research on-going	Background Research	Formal commencement September 2020. Elected Member workshops scheduled for end July 2020
Cahir Local Area Plan 2020-2026	Under preparation	Pre-draft public consultation on Strategic Issues concluded Dec 2019. Report on public consultation presented to Tipp-Cahir-Cashel MD	Proposed LAP under preparation for presentation to the Plenary Council in September 2020, public consultation will commence thereafter

National Planning Framework: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)

Project	Progress in Previous Months	Next Stage
Tipperary Town Regeneration	Consultants appointed to compile the detailed design of Market Yard. Tender documents are currently being finalised. River Ara Walkway planning application being prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanala for consideration. Land transfer being finalised with Department of Education.	Continued implementation of the Project Management Plan
Fethard Town Park	Project was awarded €2.6 million under the Fund. Project Execution Plan prepared.	Implement Project Execution Plan
Templemore Cultural and Enterprise Centre with associated Civic Plaza	Project was awarded €2.1 million under the Fund. Project Execution Plan being prepared.	Tender for Design Team to issue



National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)

Project	Progress in Previous Months	Next Stage
Thurles: Liberty Square Enhancement Project.	Construction of new Car Park has commenced.	Car park will be completed in Q2 2020. Detailed Project Management Plan to be implemented throughout 2020
Clonmel: Transformational Regeneration.	Additional funding has been approved by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in respect of the Regional Sports Hub. Detailed design and tender documents are currently being prepared. The contractor for the Davis Road Car Park project is to revert with a start date.	Project Management Plan to be implemented

PLANNING SECTION

County Development Plan

The Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) 2019-2031 was adopted in November, 2019. In accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), local authorities must now commence the review and preparation of County Development Plan. As a result of Covid-19 restrictions, extension orders made on 29th March 2020 under Section 251A of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and again on 8th May 2020, an additional 8 weeks must be added to the latest date to commence the County Development Plan. Therefore, the latest commencement date is now **23rd September 2020.** In view of this It is proposed to formally commence the review in September, 2020.

This will be the first County Development Plan prepared for Tipperary and will provide a unique opportunity to create a new vision to shape the sustainable development of the county for the lifetime of the plan and beyond. The County Development Plan will align with the Southern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and will be underpinned by Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Flood Risk Assessment.

The Planning Section has commenced the background research and survey work and an external environment team have been commissioned to prepare the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Flood Risk Assessment.

Cahir Local Area Plan 2020-2026

The Council has commenced the preparation of a new local area plan for Cahir, which will replace the Cahir Local Area Plan 2011-17 (as extended). The new Cahir Local Area Plan 2020-2026 will be prepared in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and will set out the land use strategy for the town to ensure the town can grow, support employment and homes, and can do so sustainably. Pre-draft public consultation took place from the 6th Nov to the 4th Dec, 2019 including a public event at the Cahir House Hotel on the 13th November. A report on the public consultation process was presented to the Elected Members of Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel at a workshop on the 16th December, 2019. It is intended to present the proposed Local Area Plan to the Elected Members for consideration at the plenary meeting of the Council in September 2020.



Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Project Implementation

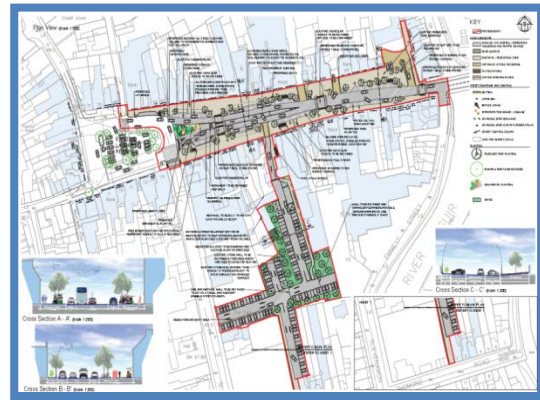
The National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2027 established four new funds to help drive the specific core priorities detailed in the NPF (National Planning Framework). These four funds included an Urban Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The following projects are currently being delivered.

Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration seeks to develop a multi-dimensional, public/private/community partnership proposal for Clonmel, which will re-imagine how civic, cultural, educational, enterprise and tourism uses can work together to regenerate and create a new role for the town. The project includes four intrinsically linked and integrated pillars, namely: Kickham Barracks Regeneration, Clonmel Regional Sports Hub, Clonmel – Flights of Discovery and Clonmel Public Realm Enhancement. Funding was received for proposed Category A works in 2019 relating to Kickham Barracks Regeneration and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub. Consultants have been appointed for the Sport Hub and Kickham Barracks public realm works. Tender documents are being prepared for Kickham Barracks Car Park. The final design for the Plaza is almost complete. The contractor for the Davis Road Car Park project is to revert with a start date.



The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

Liberty Square Enhancement Project Thurles seeks to deliver a vibrant Liberty Square at the heart of Thurles: a place to live, shop, work, socialise, play or “hang-out”. The revitalised Liberty Square will become an engine for growth in and around Liberty Square and will enhance the attractiveness of Thurles as a place to live and a place for investment / employment.



Works associated with the Liberty Square Project were suspended on the 30th March 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic as per government direction. In the interim all parties have been actively working in the background on design queries, change orders and drafting of plans to address social distancing to ensure any time lost due to the suspension was productive in other areas of the project. The contractor re-commenced construction of Phase 1 works in the car park on the 18th May 2020. The Design Team will continue to monitor the programme and will keep all parties updated regarding when works will commence on the square and the overall duration of the project.

Tipperary Town Regeneration - This is a significant regeneration project for Tipperary Town which will greatly enhance long term sustainable tourism for the area. It will include an upgrade of the Market Yard as a pedestrian priority area, linking the Excel Heritage Centre to Market Yard and the Town Centre and, a 800 metre walkway along the River Ara, including two loop walks. Funding of €600,000 has been approved under the **Rural Regeneration and Development Fund**.

With regards to the Markey Yard, detailed drawings are nearing completion with tender documents being prepared. It is anticipated that tendering process will commence shortly.

An application for development submitted to An Bord Pleanála in February for the River Ara walkway and currently waiting decision. Completing the detailed design, then will progress to contract stage, subject to An Bord Pleanála’s approval.

Fethard Town Park

The project proposal is for the development of a community sport and recreational campus, incorporating a community pavilion, playing pitches, walkways, parkland and open spaces. The project was developed through a partnership approach with Coolmore Ireland, Cashel and Emly Diocese and Health Ireland.



Ground works are expected to start in the coming months.

Templemore Town Hall: Enterprise and Cultural Centre with associated Civic Plaza.

The project proposal is a flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and establish Templemore Town Hall as an economic, cultural and community hub of the town, the District and the Mid-West Region. The project was prepared by the Council in partnership with Garda Training College, Templemore College of Further Education, Templemore Community Development Association, the Local Enterprise Office and the Tipperary Energy Agency. A tender for Design Team is to issue.

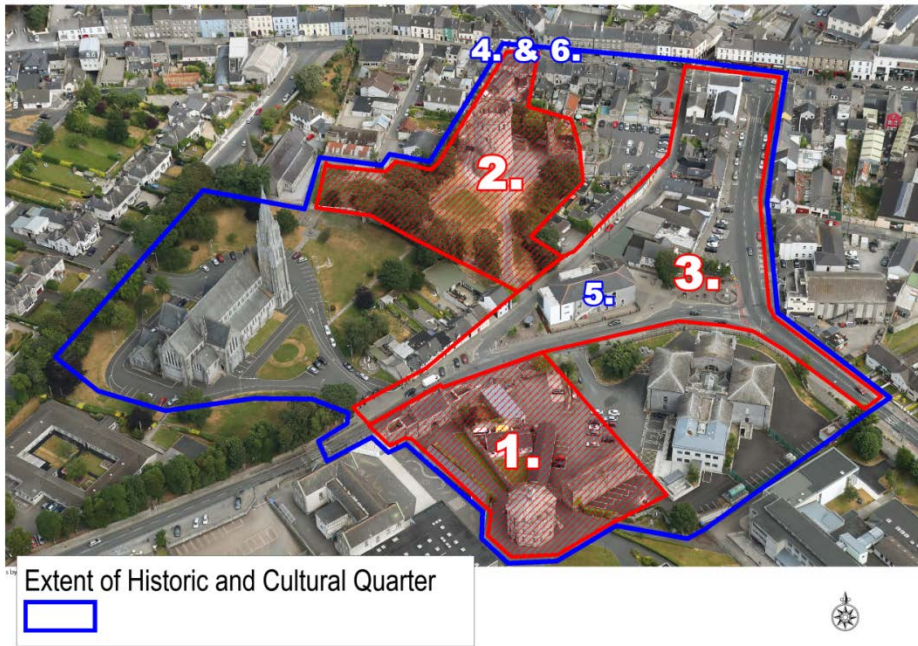


Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Funding Calls

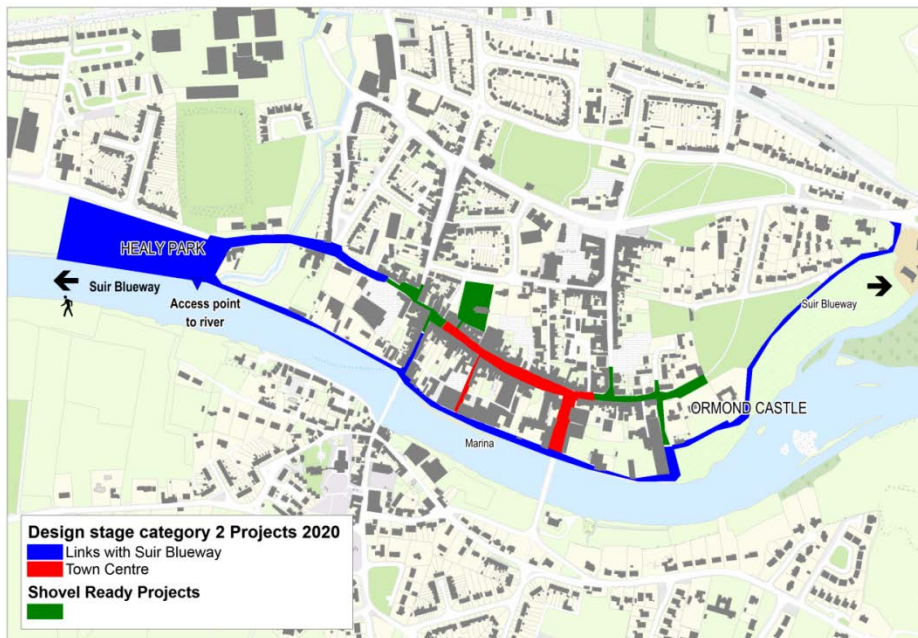
A call for applications for funding under the **Rural Regeneration and Development Fund** for Category 2 (project development) applications closed in 28th February 2020. Three applications for Category 2 funding were made:

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan

A Plan to regenerate specific existing buildings and civic spaces of distinction and value within Nenagh (including The Gaol, The Castle and Banba Square) to stimulate tourism growth, and revitalise the local economy/visitor economy within a context of tourism-led regeneration, comprising arts, history, heritage and culture. The focus will be on the development of 3 Flagship Pillars and 3 Supporting Pillars, collectively offering an immersive tourism experience. The project value is **€866,712,00**.



Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan ‘A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter’ Plan for the town, through investment in orientation and public realm enhancement actions, to build on its relationship and synergies with the Suir Blueway (west) and the historic Ormond Castle Quarter (east) and thereby regenerate the town centre as an immersive visitor destination and rural town in its own right. The project value is **€487,500.00**



A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre: Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter



A suite of measures that will re-vitalise Cahir's historic Square as a living-working quarter. The project will provide a dynamic town centre Square with a focus on pedestrian priority and civic space. The re-development will be focused around Market House, a flagship Business Development Centre based in one of the most historic buildings on the Square. The project value is €842,987.

No decision on these applications has been issued by the Department to date.

A call for applications for funding under the **Urban Regeneration and Development Fund** applications closed on the 29th May 2020. Two applications for funding were made:

A Pathway to a Low-Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the transformational Urban Regeneration of Nenagh Town Centre.

To re-develop 'Martry's Road Regeneration Quarter', with the ambition is to transform a 10 ha. brownfield/industrial town centre site to a 'Low Carbon Neighbourhood'. The centerpiece for the proposal will see the development of a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy, and an iconic structure designed to be Ireland's first carbon neutral demonstrator building.

"Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration".

Comprises three key integrated and indivisible pillars:

- Kickham Barracks Regeneration – the further transformation of Kickham Barracks from a former inaccessible military Barracks site to a civic, cultural and educational shared campus quarter (specifically, the application concerns new Limerick Institute of Technology (IT) and Tipperary ETB Campuses and "The Military Chapel@Kickham Barracks" Arts & Cultural Venue);
- "Flights of Discovery" – an international tourism proposition of scale encompassing new and interlinked visitor experience hubs all of which are built around Clonmel's industrial past and which facilitate immersive interactive experiences (specifically, the application relates to development of the Dowd's Lane Bulmers Vat House Visitor Centre, West Gate Interpretative Centre and Suir Island Amenity Park);
- Public Realm Enhancement – transforming and re-imagining the key public streets in order to deliver a new town centre public space where the new creative and immersive uses and activities can be appreciated, accessed and enjoyed (specifically, the application is for the Primary Retail Area (PRA), adjacent streets and Mick Delahunty Square).

Conservation Grant Schemes 2020

The **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020** seeks to encourage conservation of structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and in certain cases, structures within Architectural Conservation Areas. The scheme also seeks to support the employment of skilled and experienced conservation professionals, craft workers and trades people. Funding is available for successful projects (the minimum amount is €2,500 up to a maximum amount is €15,000 per application) subject to each owner fully matching the funding awarded. Applications were invited up to and including the 31st January, 2020. Following assessment, a schedule of eligible projects will be submitted to the Department for consideration on or before the 14th February, 2020. Tipperary County Council had 28 applications for funding under the BHIS. 16 applications have been recommended for funding with funding ranging from €2,500 to €8,000. The BHIS budget is €79,000. The Department have indicated that the Scheme will proceed however we have not received confirmation of the funding proposal submitted.



The **Historic Structure Fund 2020** seeks to support conservation works to heritage structures in both private and public ownership. The focus is on conservation and enhancement of historic structures and buildings for the benefit of communities and the public and will seek to:

- enable larger scale conservation works to be carried out on heritage structures which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support;
- encourage the regeneration and reuse of heritage properties and help to secure the preservation of protected structures and/or historic-culturally significant assets; and
- support the investment of private capital in labour-intensive projects to conserve historic structures in public and private ownership for community use.

Total funding available nationally under the Historic Structures fund in 2020 will be €1,824,000. Applications may be made under 2 streams. Stream 1 will offer grants between €15,000 and €50,000 for essential repairs and small capital works for the refurbishment and conservation of historic structures. Stream 2 offers a small number of grants from €50,000 to €200,000 for larger project involving projects where there is a clear community benefit. Applications were invited up to and including the 31st January, 2020. Following assessment, a schedule of eligible projects was submitted to the Department for consideration. The Department have indicated that the Scheme will be going ahead this year but as of yet have not confirmed what projects are approved for funding.

Tipperary County Council received 11 applications under the HSF. Two of those applications were for properties in Public ownership-both applications made by Sections within the Council. Both have been recommended for funding.

- Newport Court House - applied for €50,000 in funding under stream 1.
- Tipperary Court House is the only project (public or private) that is seeking funding under scheme 2. The project is seeking €153,000.

The private projects nominated are:

- St Marys Church, Irishtown, Clonmel
- Glenliegh House, Clogheen
- DW Parkes Chemist, 23 Gladstone Street, Clonmel

Town Walls Grant Scheme 2020

There are four walled towns in Tipperary: Clonmel, Carrick on Suir, Cashel and Fethard, all have upstanding remains of their medieval walls and are members of the Irish Walled Towns Network. The Irish Walled Towns Network (Heritage Council) provides annual funding for both conservation works and intrepertative measures relating to the Walled Towns. In 2020, funding was sought and provided as follows:

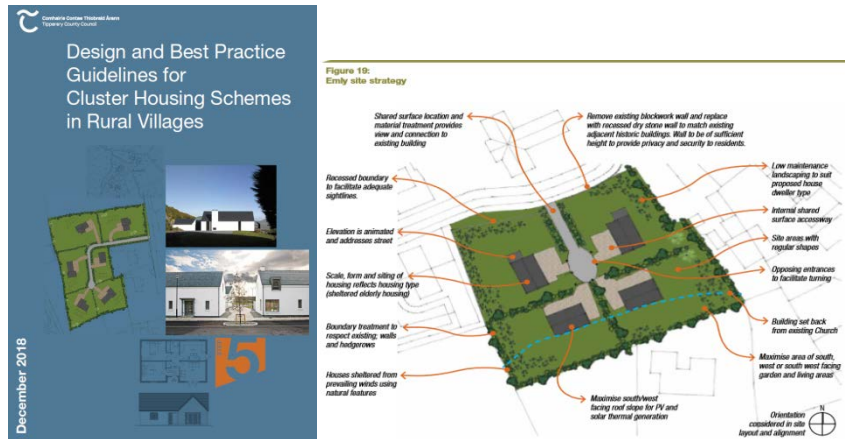
Fethard Town Walls	€1,500
Carrick on Suir Town Walls Stabilisation and Conservation of Section	€32,500
Ormond Castle Park Ecological and Amenity Improvement Scheme	€10,000

Funding must be drawn down by November 2020.

Irish Planning Institute Awards

The Design and Best Practice Guidelines for Cluster Housing Schemes in Rural Villages was shortlisted for an Irish Planning Institute Award in 2 Categories – Planning Making and Design. The

Guidelines received a ‘Highly Commended’ award at the awards ceremony which took place on 27th February, 2020.



Number of Planning Applications received

A total of 508 planning applications were received from the 1st January to the 26th May 2020. 142 applications were deemed invalid and 21 were withdrawn. During the period 261 applications were decided with 254 being granted planning permission and 7 being refused. Further information was requested in 164 cases.

Enforcement Proceedings

There were 59 complaints made from the 1st January to the 26th May 2020. During this period 49 Warning Letters and 5 Enforcement Notices issued.

Taking in Charge:

There are currently 53 residential housing developments with valid taking-in-charge applications being processed by the Planning Section. Three estates were taken in charge to date in 2020. A further six estates are due to be advertised by our Roads Section under Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended). Three new taking-in-charge application have been submitted to the Local Authority in 2020.



FIRE SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL



Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service

SECTION PRIORITIES		
Major Current Issues	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Major Emergency Management	<p>Finalising the Business continuity software package.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement with both the SE and MW regional steering groups.</p>	Final workshop with supplier and delivery of the system.
Building Control	Commencement notices and fire safety certificates continued to be submitted for assessment.	Prepare for restart of inspection programme reaching Dept. guideline targets
Health & Safety	Ongoing evaluation of all work practices with regard to the Covid-19 situation	Update all risk assessments as appropriate.
Fire Safety	Delivery of those elements of our annual strategic plan which can be delivered through the various stages of this Covid-19 emergency.	Prepare for completion of targets set out in our annual plan.



CURRENT PROJECTS		
Project	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Templemore Fire Station	Works completed.	Arrange official opening
Cashel Fire Station	Part 8 Completed	Currently out to tender.

ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES	To 25th May 2020
Number of Emergency Calls Attended	617
Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	30
Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted	38
Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	23
Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted	31
Number of Commencement Notices Received	120

Delivery of new Class B Fire Appliance For Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service

Tipperary Fire & Rescue has taken delivery of new Class B fire appliance which will go into service in Clonmel Fire Brigade. This appliance was built by HPMP in Carlow and represents an investment of over E400,000. This is the first new appliance to go into service in Clonmel in sixteen years. Pictured welcoming the appliance to Clonmel are (L-R) Garret McLoughlin, Senior Asst. Chief Officer, Steve McEvoy, Station Officer and Noel Howard, MD HPMP.

Civil Defence

Activities	COVID -19 Response
Response	Tipperary Civil Defence has been very involved in the response to the current COVID-19 crisis since late Feb 2020. Our involvement includes, patient transfers, meals on wheels, community support, provision of transport, and assistance to the Local Authority, Gardai and HSE.
Patient Transfers and Transport	Civil Defence EMT practitioners have been assisting the HSE in the transfer of COVID-19 positive patients to assessment hubs. In addition, volunteer responders have provided transport for non COVID patient to attend medical appointments such as chemotherapy treatments and hospital appointments.
Provision of transport	Civil Defence has provided assistance to the HSE in the transportation of essential medical staff to care facilities.



Civil Defence EMT Practitioners involved in assisting HSE in the transportation of COVID positive patients to assessment hubs and health Care facilities

Community Support	
Meals on Wheels	Civil Defence is currently providing assistance to Clonmel Meals-on-Wheels in the delivery of over 40 meals daily.
Medications & essential items delivery	Members have been involved in the delivery of essential medication to vulnerable persons cocooning throughout the crisis.
Training	Essential training of our volunteers in the donning and doffing of PPE was held in our new training centre in Thurles. Social distancing was adhered to at all times.



Members providing daily assistance to Clonmel Meals on Wheels



Assistance to HSE in the transportation of health care staff & also the delivery of essential medications



Assistance to Knockanrawley Family resource Centre Tipperary with the delivery of Childcare activity packs

Health & Safety	
Risk Assessment Review	Civil Defence has currently reviewed all Risk assessments, and has Risk assessments in place for all COVID related activities.
NSAI Certification	Civil Defence has received NSAI certification, with the final Audit held earlier this year. A very big Thank you, to Staff and the volunteers on reaching such a high standard in relation to health & Safety.

Library Service



- During the Covid-19 crisis, the Library Service used 3D printers to manufacture a key component used in personal protective equipment worn by healthcare personnel. Library Staff collaborated with Engineers Ireland and LIT to manufacture headbands for faceguard visors. Library staff produced a visor headband that met the Engineers Ireland specification. Headbands were produced 7 days a week by Library Staff and over 1,000 were produced over 6 weeks.

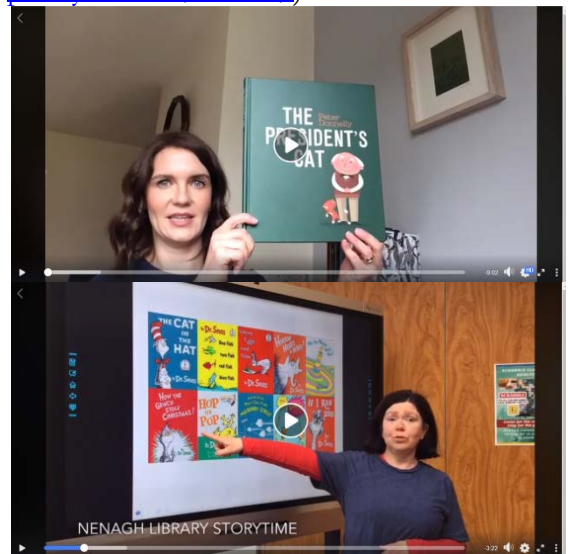
Online Storytime and Arts and Crafts



- Children’s activities such as storytime and arts and craft sessions have always been a very popular event in Tipperary County Council Library Service. Most Branch

Libraries hold weekly events and these are always well attended. Since the Covid-19 crisis commenced, the Library service has utilised social media by live streaming online children storytime and arts and crafts sessions on the Library Facebook page. This can be viewed afterwards on the Library Facebook page. One of these storytime sessions had over 7,700 views alone.

(<https://www.facebook.com/pg/tipperaryllibraries/videos/>)



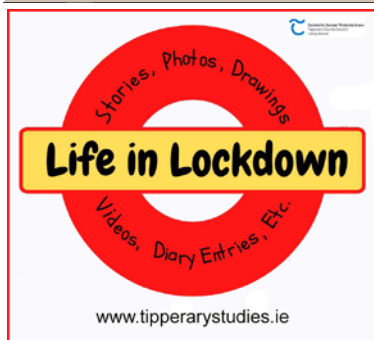
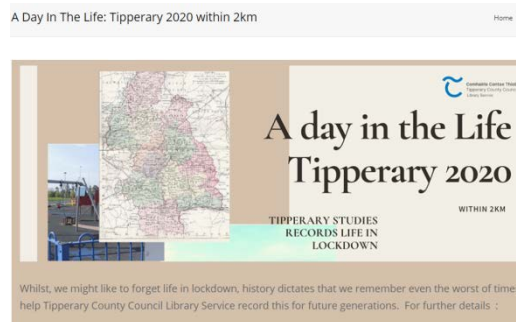
E-Resources



- The Library Service has made a significant investment in E-Resources in recent years. Library users can now access daily

newspapers, e-books, e-audio books, e-magazines and online courses. During the Covid-19 crisis, the Library Service made a significant effort to promote these services. This included promoting the services in local newspapers and radio. In addition, the Library website was redesigned to highlight and promote e-services. There was a 300% increase in usage of e-services during the period March to May 2020.

Tipperary Studies Projects



- Tipperary Studies held a photographic project over the May Bank Holiday weekend. This project entitled “A day in the life” invited members of the public to take photographs of their locality which would normally be busy over the May bank holiday weekend. These photographs captured life in lockdown. When the Covid-19 restrictions ease, those who submitted photographs will be

invited to retake the photo after the lockdown and these will be added to our online digital collection.

- Tipperary Studies is currently running a ‘Life in Lockdown’ project. Tipperary Studies has asked children, both primary and secondary students to record their thoughts about life in lockdown. This can be in the form of art, essays, diaries and photographs. All items received will be uploaded to the Library websites and the digital archives so that future generations will have first-hand accounts of ‘Life in Lockdown’.

Phased reopening of Branch Libraries

First Phase: 8th June – 26th June

- An 'Order and Collect' Library Service will commence from 8th June to 26th June. Library users will be able to contact Libraries by phone or email and order books which they can then collect.

Second Phase: 29th June – 24th July

- Libraries will open on a limited basis from 29th June. Restricted IT services will be on offer to the public. The number of people entering each building will be limited to ensure that the Government advice on social distancing is adhered to.

Arts Service



- **The Tipperary Bealtaine Festival** which celebrates creativity in older age has been re-imagined in the current circumstances and is going online this year. Under the title “It’s not a long way to Tipperary” and using modern technology, we have programmed a series of four zoom events during late May and early June. The first event is an Intergenerational Traditional Singing Session and will be followed by a Spoken word, Recitation, Verse and Song event. The third event explores the deep connection to place in Tipperary across areas such as built heritage, geography, history, folklore and song, all featuring guest Tipperary based artists and contributors. The series will finish with Omós Nora - A Gathering of Musical Friends in memory of the late Nora Butler Swan RIP with guest host Eileen O’Brien.
- **Artist support schemes** support artist’s professional development

across the artforms and encourage artists and creative practitioners to live and work in Tipperary which is central to the long term development of the arts and culture in the County. The closing date for applications to a range of support schemes for 2020 was at the end of February last and applications were assessed in early April. Direct grant support to 22 artists has been awarded for 2020 in Visual Arts, Film, Literature, Theatre and Music. In addition 4 young music bursaries were awarded.

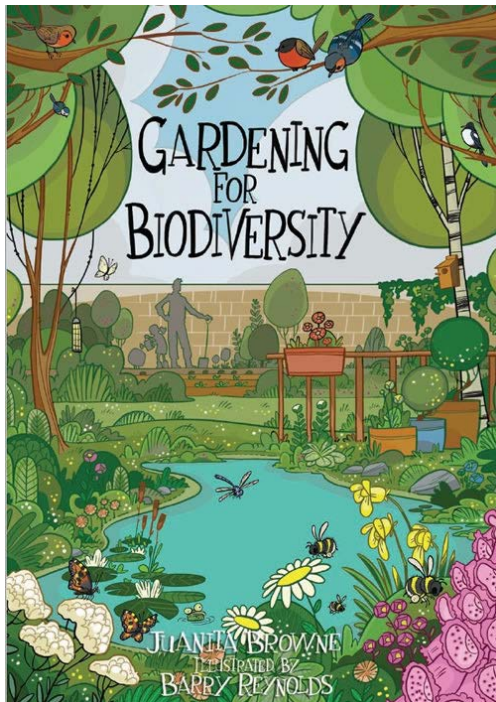
- **The Arts Act Grant Scheme 2020** also had a closing date at the end of February last. Due to the COVID-19 crises and as these grants relate mostly to community arts projects and events, we have in the last number of weeks made contact with all applicants to ascertain the status of planned events in so far as possible. We plan to bring recommendations to the Council in relation to this scheme as soon as possible.
- **Tipperary Youth Theatre** aims to make participation in the arts accessible to young people between 13 and 17 years and encourages the exploration and development of all art forms in particular theatre and the performing arts. This initiative is part of the County arts programme supported by the Arts Council and delivered by The Source Arts Centre in Thurles and Nenagh Arts Centre. Both groups were mid-way through their spring term when COVID-19 restrictions were announced and weekly workshops quickly went online to ensure continuity of engagement with young people. We have extended the usual term of Youth Theatre this year to support both groups in

continuing to meet for weekly workshops and rehearsals and have maintained high levels of creative engagement.

- **Online Circus Soccer Skills**

Programme We have supported this initiative by *Cloughjordan Circus Club* to commission a 10 week skills programme by Simon Llewellyn, based in Finland. Simon is a talented performer who was due to be performing his Soccer Ball themed Circus Show in Dublin as part of the UEFA 2020 events. A new skill has been released every Monday since 6th April through the Cloughjordan Circus Club Facebook page and YouTube channels and is free to all.

[Heritage Service](#)



- The Heritage Office has supported and promoted a number of online initiatives relating to heritage activities that people can engage with from the comfort of their own home and gardens or within the 2km

and subsequent 5 km zones in their localities.

- Cruinniú na nÓg is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth programme. It will be the first significant Heritage Office online event to take place during the Covid-19 crisis. Cruinniú na nÓg, a national day of free creativity for Children is a Creative Ireland initiative lead by the Creative Ireland team in the Council which includes Heritage, Arts Libraries and the Museum. We are partnering with the Nenagh Arts Centre, South Tipperary Arts Centre and the Library Service and Museum who are all providing online workshops on June 13th for children and young people in the county. Creative Ireland is partnered by RTE in this initiative and a young person from Cloughjordan Circus Club will feature in a podcast 'My Creative Life' which was commissioned by RTE as part of Cruinniú na nÓg.

Museum Service



- Tipperary Museum is launching '**ReCOVER Together**' an initiative by Tipperary Museum and Tipperary County Council to collect photographs and stories about our experiences during Covid19 in Tipperary. The Museum is inviting people living in Tipperary at home or abroad to share their COVID19 experiences with us. Pictures and stories can be uploaded on the link below and on any subject relating to what's happening right now in Tipperary and across the world. For full details go to [https://hiddenhistory.ie/Recover Together](https://hiddenhistory.ie/RecoverTogether) or email museum@tipperarycoco.ie



- This year, the Tipperary Museum of Hidden History is celebrating 20 Years at Mick Delahunty Square, Clonmel and to mark the occasion the museum is launching the 'Rediscovery of Mick Delahunty's Lost Recordings'. Recently the recordings of nine Mick Delahunty

tracks, which hadn't been heard in over 72 years, were discovered on four vinyl's at the Tipperary Museum of Hidden History. The museum is planning to release two re-mastered tracks from the CD to be played in nursing homes, hospitals and local radio networks, to bring joy and lift the spirits of their residents and patients. The discs were 'one off's' recorded in 1948 in halls in Clonmel and Waterford City. Although the discs are now 72 years old, today's remastering technology was able to restore the discs close to what they sounded like that day in the summer of 1948. It's hoped the CD will be available in the coming months.

- Tipperary Museum of Hidden History and Tipperary County Council Workplace Partnership Forum took the lead on motivating our own frontline staff and their families with a number of exciting projects. Staff from these services have come together to coordinate a series of crosswords, music trivia, word searches and history quizzes for TCC staff.



- The Museum linked in with local artists to create 'Colouring Challenges' themed around the Museum's collection for ages 5-14years during the Covid-19 crisis



FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 30th April 2020

		EXPENDITURE				INCOME			NET	
		Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Budget Remaining €	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	Budget outstanding €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
A	Housing & Building	13,411,494	33,789,894	40%	20,378,400	12,191,193	34,216,360	36%	22,025,167	(1,220,301)
B	Road Transport & Safety	14,981,870	52,874,517	28%	37,892,647	8,625,866	35,705,020	24%	27,079,154	(6,356,004)
C	Water Services	4,474,168	14,339,131	31%	9,864,963	3,843,593	13,887,502	28%	10,043,909	(630,575)
D	Development Management	4,692,869	13,310,691	35%	8,617,822	2,067,267	4,765,462	43%	2,698,195	(2,625,602)
E	Environmental Services	8,726,768	27,554,455	32%	18,827,687	2,819,572	10,667,608	26%	7,848,036	(5,907,196)
F	Recreation & Amenity	4,453,872	13,446,449	33%	8,992,577	902,209	2,807,128	32%	1,904,919	(3,551,663)
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	745,706	1,862,632	40%	1,116,926	536,676	1,268,976	42%	732,300	(209,030)
H	Miscellaneous Services	5,618,172	16,536,161	34%	10,917,989	2,783,608	7,460,995	37%	4,677,387	(2,834,564)
LG	Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	9,045,653	27,136,959	33%	18,091,306	9,045,653
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	0	11,932,640	35,797,920	33%	23,865,280	11,932,640
	Totals	57,104,918	173,713,930	33%	116,609,012	54,748,277	173,713,930	32%	118,965,653	(2,356,641)



Capital Account – Year to Date 30th April 2020

	Expenditure	Income
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
A Housing & Building	8,639,584	8,475,378
B Road Transport & Safety	4,160,821	3,184,909
C Water Services	806,048	564,521
D Development Management	1,409,430	1,523,590
E Environmental Services	118,033	1,674,592
F Recreation & Amenity	348,744	419,155
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	11,191	-
H Miscellaneous Services	623,805	1,652,469
Total	16,117,686	17,494,614

* Year-end collection rate is as per AFS, and takes account of

Collection Rates	YTD 202004	YTD 201904	YTD 201912
Rates	15%	17%	83%*
Rents	89%	86%	95%
Housing Loans	83%	70%	90%

Specific Doubtful Arrears, unlike the end of April figures



COMMERCIAL RATES

We indicated to Members in mid March that due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic outfall, with many businesses closed or severely restricted, Tipperary County Council had not yet issued the majority of Rate Demands for 2020. A limited number of bills have issued to some larger ratepayers and businesses deemed least impacted by the restrictions imposed.

This has had a severe impact on our Rates Collection figures. As at 25/05/2020, our collection rate is down by 5.8% compared to the similar period in 2019. (19.8% v 25.6%)

It is proposed that the remainder of the Rate Demands will issue from week commencing 8th June 2020.

COMMERCIAL RATES WAIVER SCHEME

The Government has announced a €260m Waiver Scheme for Commercial Rates for a 3 month period beginning on 27 March 2020, for all businesses that have been forced to close due to public health requirements.

The position post-27 June 2020 will be considered as part of a wider review of options to support enterprises and employment, and associated local authority funding implications, once the unwinding of public health restrictions has advanced.

We are awaiting details of the scheme and will implement reductions to rate accounts when we have the required information.

RE-START GRANT SCHEME

Revenue Section has now commenced processing applications for the Re-Start Grant Scheme. The aim of the Grant is to give direct grant aid to micro and small businesses to help them with the costs associated with reopening and reemploying workers following COVID-19 closures. The Grant Programme is devised as a contribution towards the cost of re-opening or keeping a business operational and reconnecting with employees and customers.



Principles of Grant

The principles of the government COVID-19 Restart Grant include:

- a. Represents a “solidarity payment” to businesses as an aid to returning to a form of normal trading.
- b. A largely self-certification application
- c. An online application with no other method offered
- d. Amount of Grant to reflect rates demand on a property in respect of the calendar year 2019, subject to a minimum of €2,000 and a maximum of €10,000.

Who can apply

The scheme applies to small businesses with a turnover of under €5 million and employing 50 people or less, which were closed or impacted by at least a 25% reduction in turnover from 1st April to 30th June 2020.

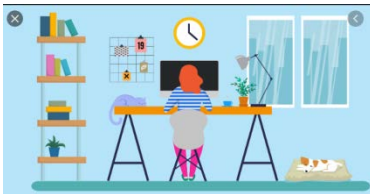
EARLY PAYMENT SCHEME FOR COMMERCIAL RATES

In 2019 the Early Payment Scheme was availed of by 961 customers with savings of €123,700 to the ratepayer. In light of COVID 19 we propose some modifications to the scheme for 2020 only. Early Payment Scheme for 2020 will be issued to all ratepayers with their rate demand in June. For 2020 a reduction of 5% up to a maximum of €500 will be applied to occupiers of commercial properties with total annual rates bills of up to €12,000 where payment is received by 31st October 2020.

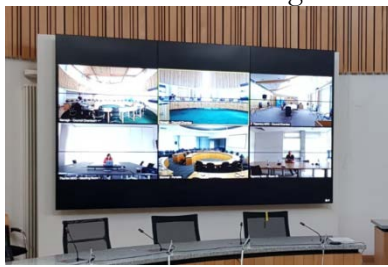
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Networks & Infrastructure

- Provided approx. 60% of staff with the facility to work remotely from home. This entailed the procurement of laptops and software and licensing, and the use of home PCs. It also included the configuration of infrastructure to ensure access to all systems.



- Extended the use of Video and Teleconferencing facilities throughout the organisation, in particular for Home Users and Council meetings.



- Completed the procurement process for the upgrade of our Microsoft Licensing estate.
- Upgraded our Windows 7 PCs to Windows 10 in line with our Windows upgrade programme.

Web Site

- Our web site www.tipperarycoco.ie received over 1.1 million page views in 2019. It received approx 30,000 page views on Local Elections results day on Sun 26th May 2019.
- Established dedicated covid19 Hub: <http://www.tipperarycoco.ie/covid19>

- Developed an Online business service database to advertise Covid-related delivery services across the county; <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/covid19companysearchmap>

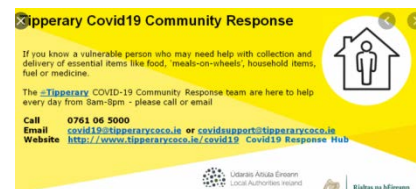


- Facilitated second phase of Covid-19 government campaign- #inthistogethertipp resources for Tipperary area of hub and tipperarycoco.ie
- Redeveloped Councillor Expenses system to improve reports
- Developed system to manage contractor data
- Enhanced the eTenders management system to provide governance and quality control of documentation
- Piloted a system to allow GSS to update road issues directly to web and social media from smart phones
- Relunched Clonmel.ie to promote businesses emerging after Covid restrictions

Business Systems and GIS

Covid Community Response

- provided the CRM solution to log all calls from vulnerable members of our community through the Customer Service Desk.



- provided maps of cases logged through the CRM/Community Response system for the county and

resources/dashboards through the Covid Online Hub.

HR

- Provided new online eLearning training for all staff on Covid-19 Work Safely

Housing

- Examined Upgraded the iHouse underlying OS system to a supported front end/backend version.
- Investigated setting up a new Housing Digitiser for Housing stock, the use of a Violence & Aggression mapping system, and an Online Choice Based Letting system

Roads;

- Piloted a virtual RoadWorks mobile app for Roads general operatives.

Planning

- continued facilitation of the new national ePlan pilot project for phase one.
- moved the document management system iDocs to the latest Microsoft operating system (OS) and upgraded the system.
- progressed migrating the internal IPlan system to a new OS and upgrade.
- Implemented a Planning Digitising system for Planning technicians as part of the project to upgrade the overall system to ArcGIS.

- progressed moving the Planning system from a legacy system to the new ArcGIS solution.

IT - Cyber Security Awareness Training

- upgraded the Cyber Security online Awareness eTraining to incorporate working from home

Swimming Pools;

- upgraded the chip & pin payment system for Clonmel and Tipperary swimming pools.

Solas/NCS

- implemented a document management system to facilitate the back scanning of all training applications.

Organisation

- started the project for upgrading the CRM system from 2013.
- Facilitated the IT requirements for the General Elections re Electoral Register software and polling cards.
- setup and configured a new upgraded SQL database backend for business systems and started migrating business application databases.
- investigated the use of digital signatures

Technical Support

Continued to provide technical support to staff and elected members, for business, web, geographical, desktop and network systems

