



Management Report to Council



This Month

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September 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> 9:30 Special TCC Meeting 10:00 Budget Workshop
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> 10:00 CPG Meeting Zoom
<u>14</u> 11:00 TCC Plenary Meeting	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u> 16:30 Clonmel BD Meeting	<u>17</u> 10:00 Nenagh MD Meeting	<u>18</u>
<u>21</u> 10:00 LCDC Meeting 10:30 Thurles MD Meeting	<u>22</u> 2.30 Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Mtg	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 14:00 Carrick-on-Suir MD Meeting	<u>25</u> 10:00 JPC Mtg
<u>28</u> 11:00 Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD Meeting	<u>29</u> 10:00 Infrastructure SPC Meeting	<u>30</u>		

Report at a Glance



Roads, Transportation,
Health & Safety

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Emergency Services,
Libraries & Culture

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Planning & Development

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Finance & Information
Technology

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ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE



New Policy/Strategic Issues - Infrastructure SPC meeting held on 8 July 2020

Policy Changes/Updates

A meeting of the Infrastructure SPC was held on 8 July 2020 and the following items were considered:

- Water Services Presentation by Denis Holland, SE
- Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management Programme (CFRAM)
Tipperary Flood Relief Minor Projects (FRMP) presentation by James Swords, A/SEE

Recommendations from Infrastructure SPC to Plenary Council:

1. 'That Tipperary County Council request the Irish Water contact line for Councillors be made available on a 7 day week basis'.
2. 'That Tipperary County Council request the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to expand the criteria for rural water grants to include new rural housing'.

A further recommendation was made to the Planning SPC for their consideration in relation to the Phased development of new housing estates.

Directorate Priorities

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.	<u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Consultants Arup appointed by Kilkenny County Council in August 2020. <u>Cahir to Limerick Junction:</u> Consultants Arup appointed. Presentation to full Council on the constraints study area planned for January 2021 in TCC MD, followed by public consultation.
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 2019 – 2 schemes recently completed 2020 CIS Scheme - Allocation €1,194,000 2020 LIS Scheme – Allocation €599,969
Consultation	Continued consultation with TII, DTTAS, Elected Members and staff	Meeting with TII scheduled for 3rd November 2020. Agenda items to be selected at September District meetings, three items per District requested
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 scheduled Q4 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 Borrisokane 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 both Nenagh and Birr Road approaches to the town. Works were suspended in March due to COVID crisis and re-opened in May 2020.	N52 Birr Road and Bridge culvert repair/protection works commenced in August 2020. Taking down overhead cables and installing new public lighting on the Main Street.
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 Q1 2021 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 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 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 2021.
N62 Templemore approach roads	Two schemes on the Thurles Road and Roscrea Road approaches to the town. Survey work completed. Design is completed and tenders for the works contract for the Thurles Road scheme are being assessed. Design is 90% complete on the Roscrea Road scheme.	Construction works on the Thurles Road scheme to commence in Q3 2020. Construction on the Roscrea Road scheme is planned for 2021.
N62 Crescent to new roundabout Roscrea	Detailed design completed.	TII approval to go to tender in Q3 2020.



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
Carrick- on- Suir Municipal District		
N24 Carrick-on-Suir	Part 8 Planning approved by TCC at Carrick on Suir Municipal District July meeting. Safety Feasibility Report issued to TII for approval.	TII approval of preliminary design report, and Safety feasibility report.
N76 Grangemockler Pavement Strengthening	Feasibility Report submitted to TII for approval. Draft Preliminary Design report prepared. Draft Part 8 prepared. Site Investigations ongoing.	Subject to Feasibility Report approval, submission to TII of preliminary design report to be followed by Part 8 Planning Process.
Tipperary Cahir Cashel Municipal District		
N74 Ballyhusty Realignment	Meetings held with individual landowners. CPO published in September 2020.	Subject to CPO approval by An Bord Pleanála, and finance availability, proceed with preparation of Tender documents.
Main Street and Fr Matthew Street, Tipperary Town	Topographical and Pavement Condition Surveys complete; Consultants appointed. Preliminary design completed and Part 8 submission being finalised.	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, followed by Part 8 planning.
Clonmel Borough District		
N24 Clonmel Pavement Improvement Scheme	Work recommenced on 18/05/2020. Completion due in September followed by defects period of 12 months.	Contract Administration to completion.
N24 Moangarriff to Twomilebridge Pavement and Traffic Calming	Preliminary Design of Traffic calming and pavement improvement works ongoing. Revising Preliminary Design following discussion with TII.	Submission of Feasibility Report followed by Preliminary Design Report to TII for approval. Planning under Section 38 Traffic Calming Measures of Road Traffic Act 1994 will be required.



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. Landowners were issued with preliminary information including draft land acquisition maps and landowner Accommodation Works Agreements in July 2020 in advance of the formal publication of the CPO.	CPO published in August 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 the Oral Hearing have been completed. Design has been completed. The Tender Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in December 2019.	The tender competition for the works contract will commence in Q3 2020 and will be completed in Q2 2021. Subject to availability of funding it is anticipated that construction will commence in Q2 of 2021 taking in the region of three 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 8 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. The Roads Section has maintained pre-Covid levels of service provision with many alternative technologies and new practices now part of the day-to-day running of the section. These changes will provide greater resilience for service provision going forward.

ROADWORKS PROGRAMME (2020) - TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

The significant programme of work planned for 2020 is now entering the final 4 weeks of works on site. Following the return from the initial Covid restrictions the delivery of the full road works programme for 2020 was a high priority for the section. All council staff and external contractors engaged in the works programme have completed the required Covid inductions and implemented the changes and precautions required under national guidelines. Site inspection indicates a high rate of compliance with the protective measures. This will be an ongoing part the works going forward with changes communicated and implemented as national recommendations and advice develops.

Weather conditions over the past three weeks have not been favourable in respect of the progression and completion of the remaining elements of the programme. However, the Roads Section remains on target to complete the planned works with an estimated end date in mid-October.

ROADWORKS PROGRAMME 2020 & MACHINERY FLEET - TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL



Surface dressing in Thurles area



Resurfacing & relining, Main Street, Borrisoleigh



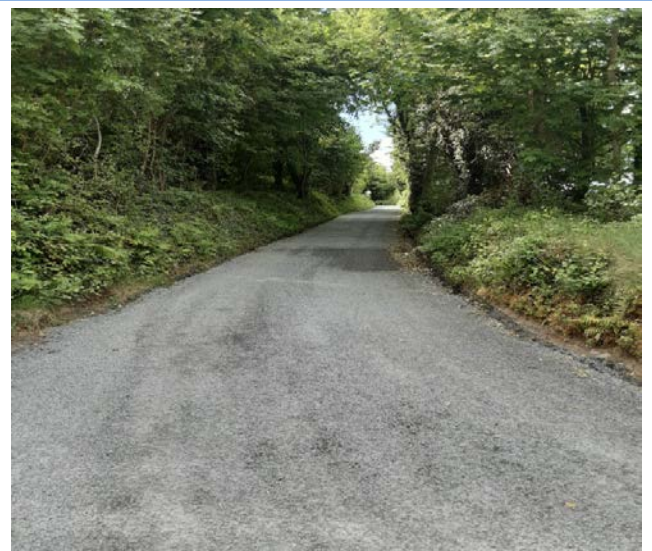
**Preparation for surface dressing between
The Ragg and Borrisoleigh**



**Surface dressing completed on R498 at
The Ragg, Thurles**



**Road recycling L7421
Lisfunchion, Ballyporeen**



L7421 Lisfunchion, Ballyporeen



R503 Shevry, recent overlay using HRA
(Hot Rolled Asphalt)



Resurfacing and relining on N62
Main Street Templemore



Before works – N52 Carrig Village, Birr



N52 Carrig Village–Capital maintenance July 2020



New van lift in workshop, Nenagh Machinery Yard



Truck wash lift, Clonmel Machinery Yard



Resurfacing of the road from Mary Willies to Gortnahoe



Burke Street, Fethard – Road overlay works



Drangan Road, Mullinahone - New path construction, Drainage installation, Road overlay



Ard Mhuire, Carrick on Suir - Road overlay works



Surface dressing – Seskin, Thurles

Footpath replacement works



Albert Bridge Clonmel – Before works



Albert Bridge Clonmel – After works



New Archway Roadmaster Velocity Patcher - Due for delivery to the Machinery Yard, in September, 2020. The unit is being purchased through a combination of Own Resources and DTTaS Grant aid and will operate primarily out of the Clonmel Machinery Yard.



Admin/Licensing Process During 2020	Number
Roads Abutting Certificates Requested	383
Roads Abutting Certificates Issued	310
Abnormal Loads Permits Requested	165
Abnormal Loads Permits Issued	149
Road Opening Licence applications received	565
FOI requests processed	18
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
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
Abbey View, Fethard (Phase 1)
Abbey View, Fethard (Phase 2)

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. Work on Schemes is ongoing with many now completed.

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 were reviewed and prioritised within the terms and conditions of the scheme and the policy adopted by the Council. Offers of Grant Assistance have now been made in line with the allocation received for 2020. Work on these Schemes is currently ongoing with many now completed.

CLÁR 2019 / 2020

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 have recently been completed.

Applications for CLÁR 2020 Measure 1 (6) and Measure 2 (4) were submitted by Community and Enterprise Department in August 2020.

A decision on this application is expected in September 2020.

ROAD SAFETY

The Road Safety Section recently undertook an extensive advertising campaign to alert people walking or running on roads, where there is no footpath, to the dangers posed by agricultural machinery during the summer months. This campaign ran in local papers, on local radio, on Tipperary Live, and on the Tipperary County Council website.

The banner message was “Listen out! Look out! Step in” when you hear or see agricultural machinery on the road.

The following article was also carried on Tipperary Live and on the Council’s website:

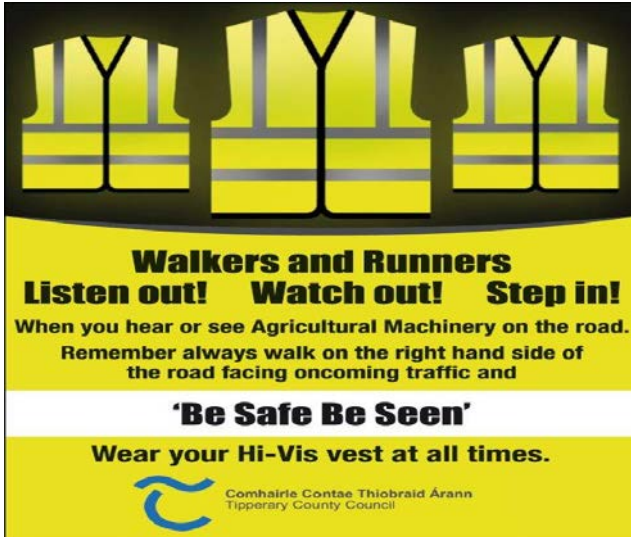
“The silage and harvest season is now well under way and at this busy time of year Tipperary County Council is asking walkers and runners on roads where there is no footpath to pay particular attention to large agricultural machinery.

The message is:

“Listen out! Look out! Step in” when you hear or see agricultural machinery on the road.

Tipperary County Council is advising walkers and runners not to wear headphones on country roads as they can block out the sound of traffic approaching. Remember **you** can hear traffic approaching a bend but **they** cannot hear or see you. The extra second or two, that hearing approaching traffic gives you to step in, might save your life.

Always remember to walk on the right hand side of the road facing oncoming traffic and always wear your hi-vis vest.”



An awareness campaign was also run in local media regarding safety at road works.

“A Line of Cones Won’t Stop a Speeding Car but YOU Can!”

This is a busy time for road works around county Tipperary. Every year in Ireland there are hundreds of incursions into road works which put road workers’ lives at risk and can lead to death and serious injury.

Tipperary County Council is raising awareness among drivers that road works are a place of work for lots of people and that all of us have a right to expect a safe working environment.

Michèle Maher, Road Safety Officer with Tipperary County Council said, “For some reason a small minority of drivers still find it acceptable to put road worker’s lives in danger by not taking care when they go through road works.

This campaign is about reminding road users that road works are like any other work place, and that our workers have just as much right to work in a safe environment as everybody else. The message is clear:

“A line of cones won’t stop a speeding car but YOU can.” We know you want to get home, but so do our workers - **see the cones, obey the zones.**”

Tipperary County Council is urging drivers to adhere to the following safety tips:

Drivers

- Adhere to the speed limit on display.
- Follow the temporary road signage in place.
- Stay alert for the road workers and machinery.
- Keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front.

Never Break the Red Light or Ignore a Flagman Stop Sign!!!!!!



Staff from the Road Safety Section also participated in a video conference with Road Safety Officers from around the country. The items discussed included: Safe Passing Signage; the safe return to work of School Wardens; Junior School Wardens; Cycling Training and the possible return to schools of Road Safety staff.

SWAT – SEVERE WEATHER ASSESSMENT TEAM

Tipperary County Council has in place a Severe Weather Assessment Team (SWAT), which comprises the Director of Services, Senior Engineers Roads, Senior Engineer Water Services, Administrative Officer

Roads, each District Engineer, Machinery Yard Engineer, Duty Engineers (winter maintenance) and SEO Corporate Services.



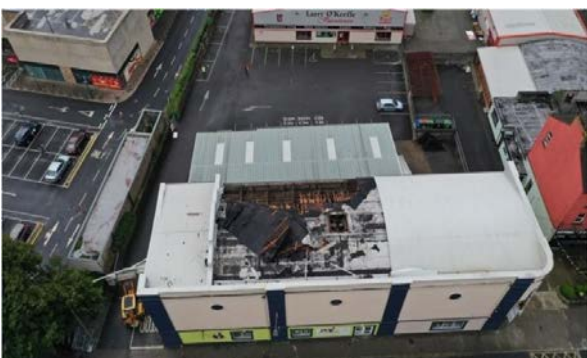
During severe weather events, the SWAT team meets regularly to assess the situation and decide what action is necessary, providing regular updates to the Council's website and social media channels.

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

On 18th/19th August, Met Eireann issued notification of Storm Ellen approaching, and Tipperary moved from a Yellow to an Orange Weather Warning status. The Council's SWAT Team was convened on 19th August to plan for the forthcoming wind event.

Storm Ellen caused significant damage across all areas of the county resulting in the temporary closure of National, Regional and many Local Roads overnight and into the following days.

Our Council crews in all Districts worked diligently, assisted by ESB Networks, to make all areas safe and to reopen roads safely to the public, as soon as possible.



Storm Damage to roof – Davis Road, Clonmel



PUBLIC LIGHTING

Led Public Lighting Upgrade, Thurles Bridge

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 1,050 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.

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 inspect trees and hedges on their property during the 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 2020/2021 Hedgecutting Season commenced on 1st September 2020 and runs 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 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. A public awareness campaign will begin in September and continue throughout the hedgecutting season. Our District offices will be carrying out local inspections

and notices will be issued as necessary to relevant landowners.

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 further treatment process in 2020 and beyond.

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.



Treatment of Japanese Knotweed at Gortagarry by Thurles Municipal District

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 was advertised on e-tenders and the returned tenders are currently being assessed.

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.

ACTIVE TRAVEL MEASURES

ALLOCATIONS

Tipperary County Council was requested to submit an application for Active Travel Measures projects for consideration for funding in August 2020. On 31st August, the Council was notified that funding of €1.769m had been awarded for approved projects across all Municipal Districts in County Tipperary.

The approved allocation is solely for design/works which can be completed and claimed by the end of November 2020.

All Districts have been advised to proceed with the approved works immediately.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ALLOCATIONS

Tipperary County Council was requested to submit an application for Climate Change Adaptation works, for consideration for funding in August 2020. On 31st August, the Council was notified that funding of €858,000 had been awarded for approved projects in County Tipperary. The approved allocation is solely for design/works which can be completed and claimed by the end of November 2020.

All Districts have been advised to proceed with the approved works immediately.



Flood Barriers in place on 25th August in Clonmel



COVID MEASURES SCHEME

The National Transport Authority has advised the Council that funding is available under a 'Covid Measures Scheme' for potential road space interventions/temporary measures to address challenges in the public realm resulting from Covid-19 related to public health and safety, mobility and to support the recovery of the local economy.

Examples of interventions are widening footpaths, pedestrianisation, one way systems, temporary facilities/cycle parking for cyclists, use of car parking as additional external commercial space, widening or protecting footpaths around schools.

Each Municipal District has been asked to review their public realm to identify projects that can be submitted for funding. Nenagh Municipal District has submitted two applications to date and provisional

approval for funding of €90,000 has been issued by the NTA. The measures proposed in Nenagh are at Hanley's Place and Kenyon Street and include the following:

- Enhancement measures and pedestrianisation of part of Hanley's Place to accommodate safe pedestrian access, social distancing and support business activities
- Aesthetic interventions to define the surface and enhance the public realm; Signage; Landscaping
- Review and modification of car park arrangements in order to facilitate proposals
- Removal of 6 car parking spaces at Kenyon Street to facilitate additional External Commercial Space



Example - Temporary Parklet creating additional external commercial



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

New Policy/Strategic Issues			
Policy Changes/Up-Date	Current status	Progression in Previous Months	Next Stage
County Development Plan 2022-2028	Background Research on-going	Elected Member workshops held on 22 nd & 23 rd July 2020.	Formal commencement Sept, 2020.
Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027	Under preparation	Elected Members Workshop, 7 th July 2020	Public Consultation on proposed Local Area Plan commencing Sept, 2020

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

Project	Progress in Previous Months	Next Stage
Tipperary Town Regeneration	Market Yard - Consultants preparing Detailed Design for construction phase. Tender documents are currently being finalised.	Market Yard - Construction stage scheduled to commence in January, 2021 and be completed by June, 2021.
	River Ara Walkway – River Ara Walkway - Further information sought by An Bord Pleanala. Response prepared by consultants and referred to An Bord Pleanala on 25 th . August, 2020.	River Ara Walkway - Works to be undertaken in 2021 with bridge installation to commence in September, 2021. Anticipated completion December, 2021.
Fethard Town Park	Project was awarded €2.6 million under the Fund. Project Execution Plan prepared. Planning in place and final design for project completed for the town park. Progression with requirements to facilitate the co-location of the primary health care centre are ongoing.	Groundworks to commence in October, 2020. Main contract to be awarded circa November, 2020. Construction to commence in January, 2021 with anticipated completion in December, 2021.
Templemore Cultural and Enterprise Centre with associated Civic Plaza	Project was awarded €2.1 million under the Fund. Design team appointed September, 2020. Part 8 Planning completed.	Completion of detailed design circa March, 2021. Construction stage scheduled to commence June, 2021 for an 18 month period.



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 off Liberty Square nearing completion. Contractor has commenced works on Liberty Square with expected completion within 12 months.
Clonmel: Transformational Regeneration.	Regional Sports Hub - Tenders received for the construction stage currently being assessed. Tender Assessment Report to be compiled and forwarded to the Department in due course.	Regional Sports Hub - Expect contractor to be appointed in November, 2020 with a 18 month construction duration.
	Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1 - Tenders received for the public realm and civic plaza, construction stage currently being assessed. Tender Assessment Report to be compiled and forwarded to the Department in due course.	Works on car park due for completion by year end. Expect contractor to be appointed in November, 2020 for the public realm and civic plaza with anticipated 12 month construction duration.
Nenagh Historic and Cultural Quarter	Project was awarded €0.65 million under the Fund. Significant preparatory work for the engagement of a design team has commenced. Representation on Steering Group and Implementation Group identified and agreed.	Procurement of design team October, 2020.
Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan	Project was awarded €0.365 million under the Fund. Contract administration documents currently being prepared for the engagement of a design team.	Anticipate that design team to be in place for January 2021
A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre	Project was awarded €0.632 million under the Fund. Application approved by Department in August, 2020. Acceptance form and Verification tables submitted to the department.	Initial preparatory work on tender documents to be commenced once Project Manager is in place.

PLANNING SECTION

County Development Plan

It is proposed to formally commence the County Development Plan preparation process on 18th 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. The Plan review process will commence on 18th of September, and will be followed by an 8 week period for stakeholder and public input. After initial pre-draft consultation has been completed, all submissions will be compiled and considered in a Chief Executives report for the consideration of the Elected Members.

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 2021-2026 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. The proposed Local Area Plan will be placed on public display for a 6 week period, commencing 25th Sept, 2020. Following this consultation, all submissions will be compiled and considered in a Chief Executives report for the consideration of the Elected Members.



Killaloe-Ballina Enhancement and Mobility Plan

Clare County Council and Tipperary County Council have commenced the preparation of a Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan. The Plan will facilitate a coordinated approach to public realm enhancements within Killaloe and Ballina, providing a clear vision for Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements. Specific measures, designs and schemes will promote the towns' complementarity, and create an overall focus on their joint strengths and opportunities in terms of functionality, aesthetics and the changing transport and mobility profile of the towns as a result of the future Killaloe Bypass and Shannon Bridge crossing. An Issues Booklet has been produced and

is available on www.tipperarycoco.ie The closing date for submissions or observations which can be made by e-mail to forwardplan@clarecoco.ie or planning@tipperarycoco.ie with respect to the Killaloe-Ballina Enhancement and Mobility Plan was no later than 5p.m. on Monday 7th September.

Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (LSMATS) 2040

The draft LSMATS has been published which sets out a framework for investment in transport for the Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area for the next 20 years and includes proposals for the significant development of the cycle network and enhancement of bus services and infrastructure. An Environmental Report has been prepared which assesses the likely effects on the environment of implementing the Draft Strategy. An Appropriate Assessment is also being carried out. Written submissions or observations with respect to the Draft LSMATS 2040 and/or associated SEA Environmental Report and/or associated AA Natura Impact Statement made up to Friday 16th October 2020 at 5p.m. will be taken into consideration in the finalisation of the transport strategy. Submissions or observations should be marked with the subject title “Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy Consultation”, and submitted to limerickshannonstrategy@nationaltransport.ie (<mailto:limerickshannonstrategy@nationaltransport.ie>) or sent by post to National Transport Authority, Dún Scéine, Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02 WT20.

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.

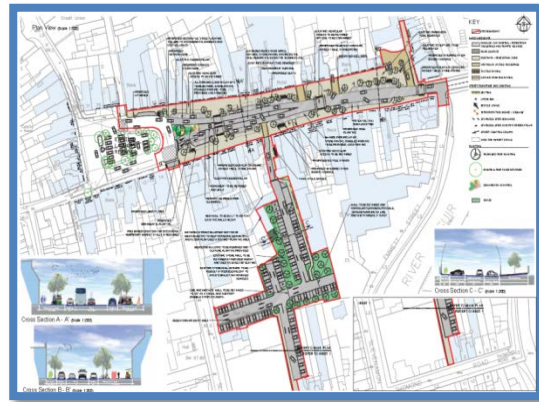
Kickham Barracks Regeneration - Works on car park due for completion by year end. Tenders received for the public realm and civic plaza, construction stage currently being assessed. Tender Assessment Report to be compiled and forwarded to the Department in due course.

Regional Sports Hub - Tenders received for the construction stage currently being assessed. Tender Assessment Report to be compiled and forwarded to the Department in due course.



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. Car Park off Liberty Square nearing completion. Contractor has commenced works on Liberty Square with expected completion within 12 months. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.



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**. Contracts have been awarded for detailed design of the Market Yard project and for the planning phase of the River Ara walkway. Market yard detailed design is nearing completion and information sought by An Bord Pleanála on the River Ara walkway currently being progressed. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

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. Final design for project completed. Groundworks to commence in October, 2020. Main contract to be awarded circa November, 2020. Construction to commence early next year.



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. Detailed design to be completed circa March 2021.

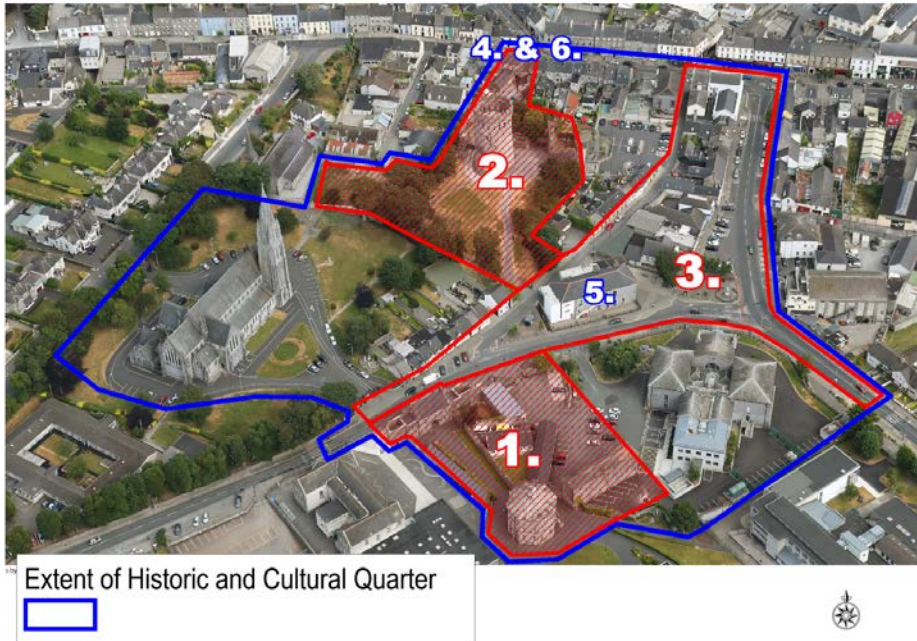


Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Funding Calls

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:

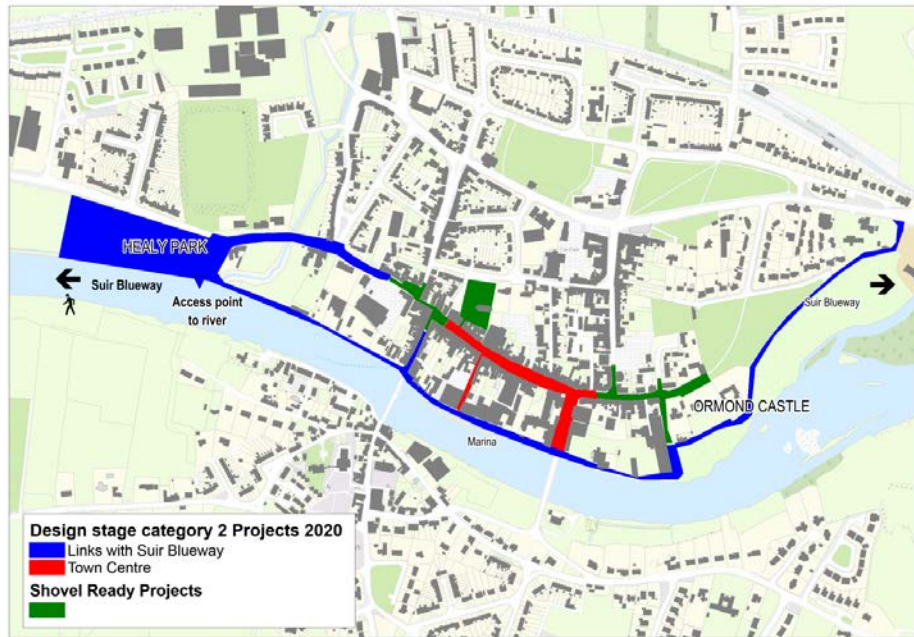
Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan

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**. The project was awarded **€650,000** under the fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.



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**. The project was awarded **€365,000** under the fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.



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. The project was awarded €632,000 under the fund. The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing.

A call for applications for funding under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund for Category 1 (shovel ready) applications closed on 29th May 2020. Two applications have been submitted as follows:

Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration

The application builds on the existing project at Kickham Barrack and the Regional Sports Hub, seeking funding to complete this ambitious, multi-annual integrated urban regeneration project developed for Clonmel by TCC and its partners.

The aim of "Clonmel 2030 - Transformational Regeneration" is to transform Clonmel

The proposals presented for funding include the following integrated pillars:

Kickham Barracks Regeneration (Phase 2) -

Phase 2 includes for new Limerick Institute of Technology (LIT) and Tipperary Education and Training Board (TETB) Campuses and an Arts and Cultural Venue within the historic buildings on



the site. This second phase will complete the transformation of the site from a former inaccessible Military Barracks to a civic, cultural and educational shared campus quarter.

In addition a new Garda Station is proposed for the site.

Clonmel – Flights of Discovery! –

This pillar represents an international tourism product of scale encompassing four interlinked visitor hubs all of which are built around Clonmel's industrial and heritage past and which facilitate immersive interactive experiences.

- Dowd's Lane Bulmer's Vat House Visitor Centre - Re-development of the former town centre site of Bulmer's cider production into a historical and cultural "visitor experience" with capacity to attract up to 100,000 visitors per annum.
- Suir Island Amenity Park - It will include appropriate high-quality interactive recreational & heritage interpretative structures, amenity spaces, and a new pedestrian bridge linking the island and the adjacent newly constructed car park back into the town centre.
- West Gate Interpretative Centre - to provide a creative and immersive visitor experience into Clonmel's industrial, commercial and literary past associated with Charles Bianconi and Anthony Trollope.

Clonmel Public Realm Enhancement

In order to deliver on the overall project vision the key public streets in Clonmel will be transformed, re-imagined and significantly upgraded. This includes the Primary Retail Area (PRA), adjacent streets and Mick Delahunty Square. This will improve the attractiveness and liveability of the town.

This pillar will connect with the proposed pedestrian bridge linking to Suir Island and will be the key component in connecting all of the pillars back into the town centre.

A Pathway to a Low-Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the transformational urban regeneration of Nenagh

The proposal is to develop a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy, to be the anchor and catalyst for the redevelopment of Martyr's Road Regeneration Quarter, a 10 ha. strategic site of brownfield lands and underutilised properties located in the heart of Nenagh Town Centre.

The Centre of Excellence, taking reference from best international practice, will uniquely host a range of public agencies working collaboratively to deliver innovative solutions from training and development, to new cutting edge research on technologies, to incubating low-carbon social enterprises. The Centre has been designed to be Ireland's first carbon neutral and energy positive building.



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. Applications were invited up to and including the 31st January, 2020. Tipperary County Council had 28 applications for funding under the BHIS. 17 applications have been approved for funding by the Department with funding ranging from €2,500 to the max of €15,000. However due to COVID restrictions and the tighter timeframe this year 5 projects have already indicated that they will not be in a position to proceed this year.

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.

Tipperary County Council received 11 applications under the HSF and 5 of these projects were recommended for funding to the Department. Having assessed the projects the Department chose to financially support 2 projects;

- Newport Court House – awarded €20,000.
- DW Parkes Chemist, 23 Gladstone Street, Clonmel- awarded €40,000.

Both projects have commenced and works must be complete by the end of October.

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 interpretative 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.

On 26th August correspondence was received from the Heritage Council, additional funding was offered to the value of €50,000 for works to the Carrick on Suir Town Walls. Funding to the value of €30,000 has been received from the HSE for works to the Cashel City walls to the rear of the Hospital in Cashel.

Total funding received 2020 - €124,000

Funding must be drawn down by November 2020.

Near Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) promotional campaign

In association with Sustainable Tipp, the planning section and the Tipperary Energy Agency set out to promote compliance with the new Building standards for dwelling construction to Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard. This campaign was aimed at planning agents and designers, planners and building control officers. A key part of the campaign was an information day held in Thurles on the 26th November 2019 and a design competition for extension to domestic dwelling to NZEB standard. The closing date for the design competition was the 31st July and judging will take place over the coming month.



Number of Planning Applications received

A total of 958 planning applications were received from the 1st January to the 31st August 2020. 306 applications were deemed invalid and 37 were withdrawn. During the period 619 applications were decided with 599 being granted planning permission and 20 being refused. Further information was requested in 278 cases.

Enforcement Proceedings

There were 122 complaints made from the 1st January to the 31st July 2020. During this period 76 Warning Letters and 6 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. Seven estates were taken in charge to date in 2020. A further seven estates are due to be advertised by our Roads Section under Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended). Five 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	Finalising the Business continuity software package. Ongoing engagement with both the SE and MW regional steering groups.	Final workshop with supplier and delivery of the system - on hold due to travel restrictions from UK.
Building Control	Commencement notices and fire safety certificates continued to be submitted for assessment. Onsite inspections have recommenced. Launch of the online applications platform for fire safety certificates and disability access certificates	Prepare for restart of inspection programme reaching Dept. guideline targets Complete annual licencing for September courts.
Health & Safety	Ongoing evaluation of all work practices with regard to the Covid-19 situation All training now resumed in Tipperary	Re-open training centre and Hydra Suite in Clonmel
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.

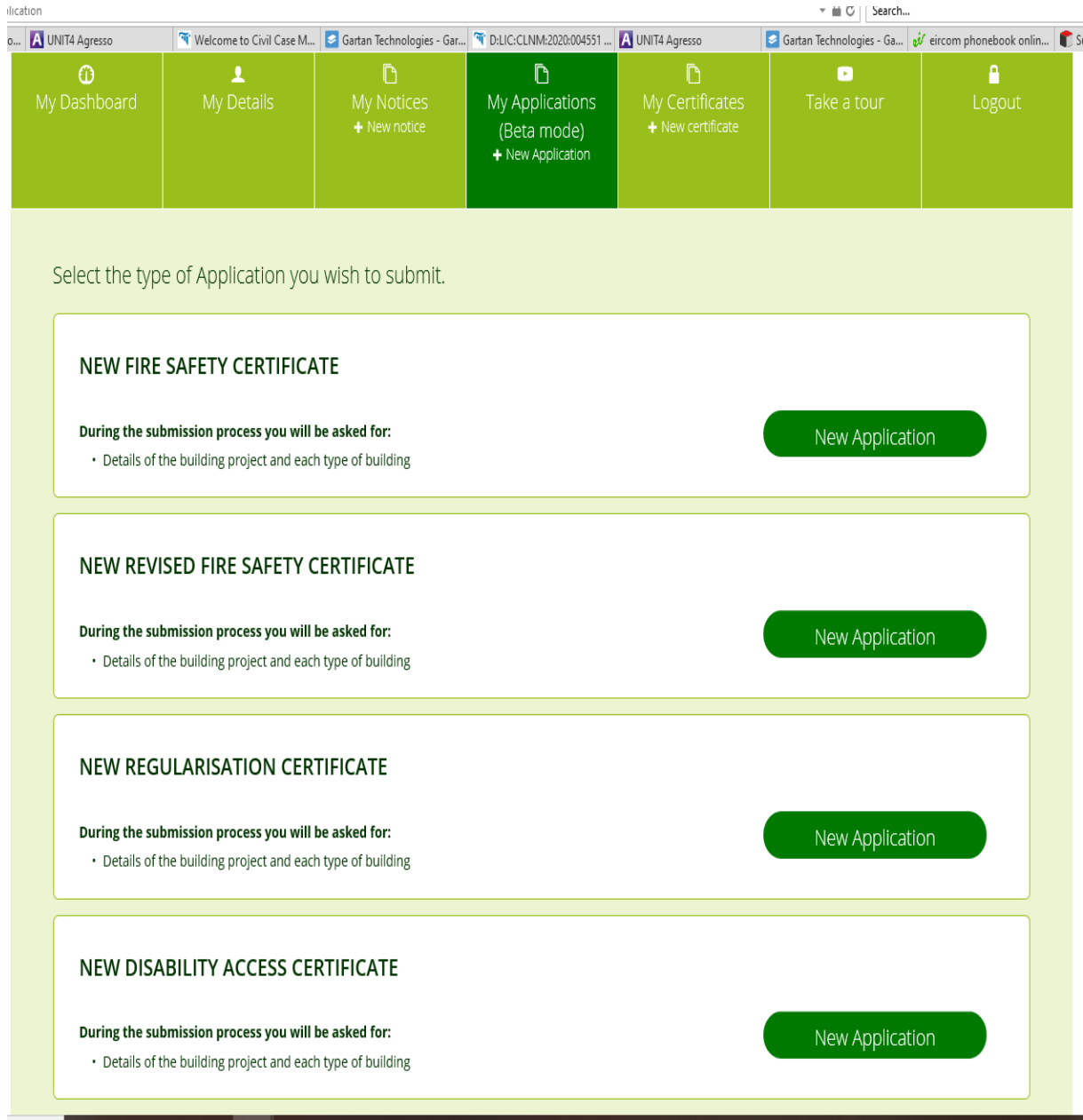


CURRENT PROJECTS		
Project	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Templemore Fire Station	Works completed.	Arrange official opening
Cashel Fire Station	Part 8 Completed	Currently out to tender.

ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES	To 25th August 2020
Number of Emergency Calls Attended	944
Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	53
Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted	62
Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	37
Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted	47
Number of Commencement Notices Received	218

Launch of Online Applications Platform

Since July 12th 2020 Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service is now in a position to accept all applications for Fire Safety Certificates and Disability Certificates online. This is of major benefit to our customers who no longer have to lodge hard copies of the numerous reports and drawings which typically accompany these applications.



Innovative Delivery of Training to the Childcare Sector

Due to the cancellation of our annual fire safety seminar in April due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Tipperary Fire and Rescue Service took the decision to run two zoom webinar events for Early Years Services operating in Tipperary.

The seminars covered:


- Fire safety legislation applicable to operators of early years services (Fire Services Acts and Building Control Acts)
- Fire safety management of early years services
- Fire safety features of early years services
- Review of Fire Safety in Preschools document published by the Department of the Environment

Through collaboration with TUSLA and the Tipperary Childcare Committee the event aimed to raise fire safety awareness in premises operating crèche's / early year services and providing after school care. It also allowed operators to discuss their specific premises with Fire Officers in TFRS and provided a future conduit of communication between the sector and the Fire Authority of Tipperary.

The first event was run on Wednesday 12th August at 18.30 and the second event on Wednesday 26th August at 18.30. Both events had approximately 60 participants with a recording of the seminar, the presentations and a certificate of attendance issued to all attendees following the conclusion of the events. Feedback has been extremely positive.



Tipperary Civil Defence

Activities	COVID -19 Response
Response	Tipperary Civil Defence still remains deeply involved in the response to the COVID-19 crisis since late Feb 2020. Our involvement includes, Patient transfers for routine appointments, Community Support, transport, and assistance to the Local Authority and HSE with the setup of test centers.
Patient Transfers and Transport	Civil Defence volunteers have been involved in assisting the HSE in the transfer of suspected COVID-19 patients to assessment hubs for testing, and, in addition, volunteer responders have provided transport for Non COVID patients to attend routine appointment, Chemo and hospital appointments.
Assistance to the Irish Blood Transfusion Clinics	Civil Defence have provided assistance with Meet & Greet administration and support to the Blood transfusion Clinics in Thurles, Nenagh, Roscrea, Tipperary Town and Clonmel.
	
<p><i>Tipperary Civil Defence assisting the HSE with mobile test centers in Golden Co Tipperary</i></p>	

Community Support

<p>Assistance to the HSE at Testing Centre in Golden</p>	<p>Civil Defence played a significant role in the setting up, administration and provision of welfare support, along with our control van and inflatable tent at the recent mobile test centre set up in Golden, Co. Tipperary</p>
<p>Medications & Essential Items Delivery</p>	<p>Members have been involved in the delivery of essential medication and personal care items to vulnerable persons throughout the County</p>
<p>Training</p>	<p>Essential training of our volunteers was held in our training centres. Social distancing was adhered to at all times</p>



Volunteers Supporting Blood Transfusion throughout the County



Patient Transport for
Routine Medical Treatment
& Appointments



Health & Safety

Risk Assessment Review

Civil Defence has currently reviewed all risk assessments and has risk assessments in place for all COVID related activities. Method Statements will be reviewed to include COVID. Facilities checks are in place in all our training centers.

New Addition to our Fleet

New Ford Ranger

Tipperary Civil Defence has recently been granted a new Ford Ranger Jeep from the Department of Defence through the Dormant Account Fund. A very welcome new addition.



152 Mercedes Ambulance



HEALTH & SAFETY
OHSAS 18001:2007
NSAI Certified

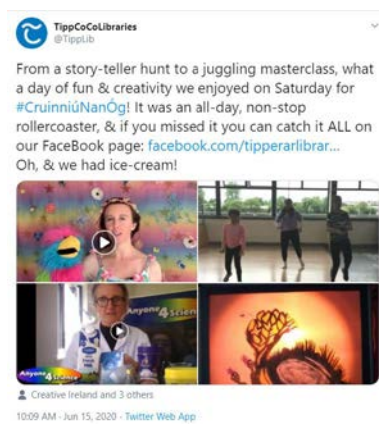
The H.S.E South has made a very generous donation to Tipperary Civil Defence of a 151 Mercedes Ambulance. This is testimony to the good working relationship in place between Civil Defence and the National Ambulance Service, and an acknowledgment of the tremendous work carried out by our volunteers.

Library Service

Library reopening



- Our Libraries began reopening on a phased basis in June. Libraries operated a “pick and go” system for issuing books to customers from 8th June. In essence, borrowers were able to ring or email their local Library and order books. Our Libraries began reopening to the public on 22nd June. Social distancing measures including queuing systems, floor marking guidelines and signage are now in place. Perspex screens have been installed in front of staff work stations at issue desks. A stringent daily cleaning regime has been put in place in each Branch Library.



- Thurles Library hosted a series of online events on 13th June to celebrate Cruinniú na nÓg. These

included dance workshops, online storytime and puppet shows. There were over 37,000 views of these events on the Library Social Media platforms.

- Thurles Library celebrated the Summer Stars Festival Summer Stars throughout the month of July. They hosted a number of weekly themed quizzes and puzzles. They also had a week of online celebrations of Harry Potter's birthday which is 31st July.



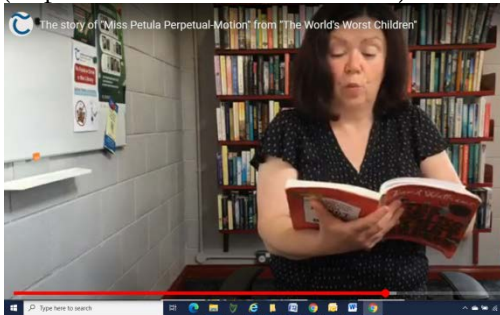
- Thurles Library commenced an online campaign in July to highlight new book stock which was added to the Library collection over the past few months.



- Nenagh Library held a weekly online LEGO Bucket Challenge during July and August. Children were given a choice of two things to make and

they then sent in their pictures. These pictures were then displayed on the Library website.

- Nenagh Library participated in the annual, national Summer reading programme for children, **'Summer Stars'**, with weekly online story time for the younger children and thrice weekly online chapter readings for the older children, both of which have featured on Library Ireland's Summer Stars website. (<https://www.librariesireland.ie>)



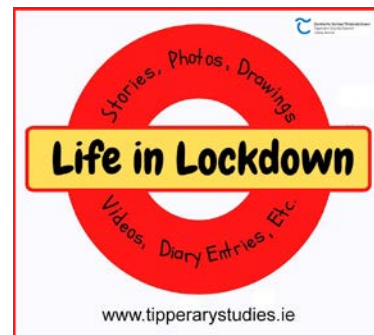
- Tipperary Town Library held a series of online craft workshops in June and July.
- As part of heritage week, Tipperary Town Library hosted an exhibition on the urban electrification scheme from the 1930s.



- Clonmel Library is working in partnership with Tipperary Gold Star and members of the Deaf Community to provide an online storytime which is both read by a Library Staff member and simultaneously signed by Elena Sawczenko. This project is part of

the Sign of the Times initiative and there are now 4 story times available to view on the Library Facebook page.

- Clonmel Library has commenced an online weekly storytime session. This will take place on the Library Facebook page every Thursday at 4:00pm.
- Templemore Library hosted a window display exhibition entitled *Like a Phoenix from the Ashes - Templemore from Ruination to Redemption 1920-2020*. The exhibition was designed by local artist Aisling Hassett as part of Heritage Week.



- Tipperary Studies ran 'Life in Lockdown' project during the lockdown period. Children in both primary and secondary school were asked to record their thoughts about life in lockdown. All items received have now been uploaded to the Local Studies website and can be viewed at www.tipperarystudies.ie

Arts Service



part of the County arts programme supported by the Arts Council and delivered by The Source Arts Centre in Thurles and Nenagh Arts Centre in Nenagh. 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 extended the usual term of Youth Theatre this year to support both groups in continuing to meet for weekly workshops and rehearsals in order to maintain high levels of creative engagement. Once restrictions were eased summer youth projects took place for youth theatre members adhering to government guidelines in both Nenagh and Thurles, using a mixture of “virtual” and “in person” workshops and giving young people an opportunity to meet, create and perform, albeit differently to usual.



- **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

- **Supports to Festivals-** This year has been a particularly difficult one for festival organisers and the arts sector generally. The arts office has supported the sector through the COVID-19 Pandemic in a number

of ways. We co-ordinated two networking meetings for the sector via zoom in June and August to share information, approaches and experiences of working within government guidelines to re-imagine and co-ordinate festivals in a rapidly changing environment . There was huge buy-in from the sector and 27 people attended across the two meetings. Research was also conducted with festivals as to their training needs and a training programme delivered as follows:

8th & 16th July- *Risk Assessing to Re-Open*- This training supported festival organisers and venues in developing the tools needed conduct risk assessments for events and arts venues with specific reference to COVID-19. Training was delivered by *Safe Events*, one of the most experienced Risk Management Specialists Operating in Ireland.

1st September- *Planning Festivals & adapting to a changing landscape*- organised in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and Limerick and Clare Arts Offices. This training looked at insurance and legal considerations for festivals with a specific reference to presenting work online.

- **Supports to Artists-** Artists have had to rapidly re-imagine how they work over the past six months. As part of our supports to the sector we organised a 7 series training programme called **“Going Digital”** which supported artists and community facilitators in learning how to use online digital tools to expand their practice and connect with peers. Sessions ranged from “How to use your phone to make images and film” to “Producing

stop-motion animations and time-lapse on your mobile phone and ipad/tablet using free software called iMotion and Stop Motion Studio”.

[Heritage Service](#)



- The Graves of the Leinstermen survey was completed in July and a full report of the photogrammetric and geophysical surveying has been submitted to the Heritage Office. The findings will analysed over the coming months.
- Work are continuing on the Himalayan Balsam eradication program. Tipperary County Council are working with Offaly County Council on this project.
- A colouring book version of ‘Gardening for Biodiversity ‘ book has been delivered and will be made available through civic offices and libraries.



- Heritage Week went ahead in a predominantly online capacity with

restrictions for physical events. The Heritage Office organised a series of events including ‘**The Big Dig**’ at the Cabragh Wetlands, a zoom video lecture with Dr Patrick Gleeson entitled *The Rock of Cashel in the middle Ages: new light on the ancient capital of Munster* and a walking tour of the *Architectural Heritage of Tipperary Town* with Dr Barry O Reilly.

- The Heritage Office also funded the ‘Harvest Knots for Lughnasa’ project with Nenagh Arts Centre for Heritage Week and the Kickham Tree Project hosted an event following funding for a hedge laying project earlier in the year.



Malcolm Noonan, Minister of State at the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Róisín O'Grady, Heritage Officer during Heritage Week.

- The Creative Ireland Programme is coordinated by the Heritage Officer and overseen by the Cultural team of Libraries, Heritage, Arts and the Museum. Cruinniú na nÓg, a major national event in the Creative

Ireland calendar took place in June across the county with online events in Nenagh, Thurles, Cashel and Clonmel. It was the first national cultural event to go online during the Covid-19 pandemic. Events included our traditional song workshop featured on RTE Junior along with other counties. In addition, members of the Cloughjordan Circus Club featured on a specially commissioned podcast ‘My Creative Life’ for Cruinniú na nÓg.

- All future projects that received funding under our Creative Ireland Open Call Scheme and Community Grant schemes are progressing with some amendments due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Commemorations Programme:

Commemorations by their nature are very closely aligned to dates and places and thus have suffered under the lockdown with many events being rescheduled or cancelled.

However, 11 projects are being supported under the Tipperary Commemorations Scheme. Successful applicants include:

- Third Tipperary Brigade Old IRA Commemoration Committees
- Kilbarron Terryglass Historical
- Aisling Hassett
- Tipperary in the Decade of Revolution
- The Source Arts Centre
- 18th Regiment of Foot Royal Irish Regiment (& South Irish Horse)
- Ballylooby/Castlegrace GAA
- Tipperary Excel Youth Theatre
- G.A.A. Bloody Sunday Commemoration Committee.
- Templemore 1920 Commemoration Committee.

the Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme 2020 to progress our War of Independence Exhibition.

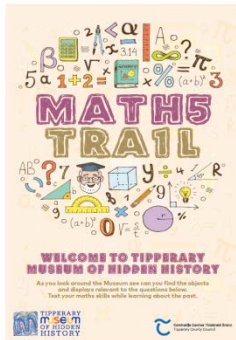
- Tipperary Museum is currently devising an alternative lectures series Oct '20 – April '21 through our digital platforms. This years theme is 'The War of Independence Jan 1919 – Dec 1921'.

Museum Service



Reopening of Tipperary Museum of Hidden History

- Museum staff implemented all Health and Safety COVID19 elements and the Museum reopened on July 6th 2020. Return to Work Protocols were implemented and all staff received onsite training.



- Tipperary Museum have devised an interactive maths activity booklet for families and children exploring our galleries and highlights significant objects and tests their maths skills while learning from the past.
- The Museum was awarded €15,000 from Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht through



- Clonmel Junction Festival collaborated with Tipperary Museum to create an Art Installation Trial across Clonmel in July. This was launched by Clonmel District Mayor Cllr Siobhán Ambrose.



- Tipperary Museum partnered with local Rock Choir 'Up Roar Rock Chorus' in July to create a video filmed at Tipperary Museum, highlighting the Museum's new galleries, local entertainment and sporting heroes past and present.



FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 31st July 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	22,709,547	33,789,894	67%	11,080,347	22,085,550	34,216,360	65%	12,130,810	(623,997)
B	Road Transport & Safety	30,739,563	52,874,517	58%	22,134,954	19,551,121	35,705,020	55%	16,153,899	(11,188,442)
C	Water Services	8,005,972	14,339,131	56%	6,333,159	7,488,618	13,887,502	54%	6,398,884	(517,354)
D	Development Management	13,336,074	13,310,691	100%	(25,383)	8,776,529	4,765,462	184%	(4,011,067)	(4,559,544)
E	Environmental Services	15,567,509	27,554,455	56%	11,986,946	5,857,739	10,667,608	55%	4,809,869	(9,709,771)
F	Recreation & Amenity	7,520,741	13,446,449	56%	5,925,708	1,299,184	2,807,128	46%	1,507,944	(6,221,557)
G	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,017,490	1,862,632	55%	845,142	719,428	1,268,976	57%	549,548	(298,062)
H	Miscellaneous Services	10,047,567	16,536,161	61%	6,488,594	4,593,530	7,460,995	62%	2,867,465	(5,454,037)
LG	Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	15,829,893	27,136,959	58%	11,307,066	15,829,893
RA	Rates	0	0	0%	0	20,882,119	35,797,920	58%	14,915,801	20,882,119
	Totals	108,944,463	173,713,930	63%	64,769,467	107,083,711	173,713,930	62%	66,630,219	(1,860,752)



Capital Account – Year to Date 31st July 2020

	Expenditure	Income
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
A Housing & Building	13,179,019	11,914,669
B Road Transport & Safety	6,206,738	4,071,401
C Water Services	1,718,810	2,129,552
D Development Management	2,836,277	3,692,397
E Environmental Services	712,037	270,714
F Recreation & Amenity	1,407,761	1,211,456
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	30,997	-
H Miscellaneous Services	1,076,482	2,187,786
Total	27,168,123	25,477,975

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

Collection Rates	YTD 202007	YTD 201907	YTD 201912
Rates	36%	48%	83%*
Rents	92%	94%	95%
Housing Loans	91%	83%	90%

Specific Doubtful Arrears, unlike the end of April figures



COMMERCIAL RATES

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the economic outfall, with many businesses closed or severely restricted, Tipperary County Council did not issue the majority of Rate Demands for 2020 until late June.

This has had a severe impact on our Rates Collection figures. At 31/08/2020 our collection rate is down by 15% compared to the similar period in 2019. (39% v 54%)

The Total Amount of Rates demanded was €35,801,345.

COMMERCIAL RATES WAIVER SCHEME

The Government has announced a Waiver Scheme for Commercial Rates for the period 27th March 2020 to 27th September 2020, for all businesses, subject to certain exceptions. These include vacant property, windfarms, global utility networks, banks, building societies, public service and individual properties where the rate bill is in excess of €100,000.

This will be processed automatically on customer accounts in the near future.

RE-START GRANT SCHEME

Revenue Section has completed processing applications for the first ReStart Grant.

1,732 Applications were processed, with €5,075,539 paid out to applicants.

We are currently dealing with applications for the ReStart Grant Plus scheme and at 1st September we have received 1,590 applications. 250 of these have been finally approved to a value in excess of €1.1m.

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

Who can apply

The scheme applies to small businesses with a turnover of under €25 million and employing 250 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

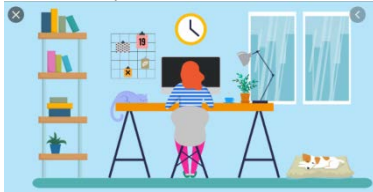
The Early Payment scheme has been revised for 2020 to reflect the current situation with Covid-19.

Details of the 2020 Early Payment Scheme issued to all relevant ratepayers with their rate demand. Ratepayers whose bills are less than €12,000 can qualify for a 5% reduction, to a max value of €500 if they clear their rates bill by 31st October 2020.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Networks & Infrastructure

- Progressed the procurement process for a new phone system for the organisation.
- Planned for the office reconfiguration in offices in Clonmel, the moving of the middle communications room, and Cashel Fire Station build.
- Continued to support staff who have the facility to work remotely from home.



- Commenced the rollout of the upgrade of our Microsoft Office estate to MS Office 2019.
- Continued to upgrade our Windows 7 PCs to Windows 10 in line with our Windows upgrade programme.

Web Site and eDevelopment

- Developed online and back office solutions for the Restart 1 and Restart + grant applications schemes.
- Assisted with the Road alerts for the Web site and alerts systems.
- Added the following to our web site:
 - Clonmel Public Realm page <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/news/clonmel-public-realm>
 - traffic fine appeals App <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/roads/parking-fines-and-appeals>

Business Systems and GIS

Planning

- Completed the upgrade of our internal Planning Administration System (I-Plan).

- Continued to facilitate and support the piloting of the national online planning project (ePlan).
- Completed the moving of the Planning GIS system from a legacy system to the new ArcGIS solution.
- Updated the PETal project for TCC's points and polygons. This is national web map portal for planning applications, where on you can view all County's planning applications on a map viewer <https://myplan.ie/national-planning-application-map-viewer/>

Finance

- Facilitated the eInvoicing project.

Housing

- Updated our Housing back office system (iHouse) to include a new Eircode API feature, and set up a new API interface in the iHouse test environment for access to the Department of Employment's central system.
- Created a new Violence and Aggression Register using ArcGIS mapping system.

Corporate/Organisation/HR

- Completed the migration of Electoral Register back office system (iReg) reports to the new SQL 2019 reports server.
- Investigated the use of the eLearning Management System for online induction training of new staff.
- Set up and tested the new CRM 2015 environment.
- Continued migration of legacy databases to the new SQL 2019 environment.
- Completed a tender to procure MapInfo licenses for the organisation.

Technical Support

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

