



# Management Report to Council



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# February dates for your Diary

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
	<u>1</u> 10:30 Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Mtg	<u>2</u> 10:00 Joint Carrick on Suir/Piltown Mtg	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> 10:00 CPG Meeting, Nenagh
<u>14</u> 10:00 TCC Plenary Council Mtg Zoom	<u>15</u> 10:00 Councillor Workshop on County Development Plan Review	<u>16</u> 11:00 Clonmel BD Meeting	<u>17</u> 10:00 Nenagh MD Mtg 10:00 Councillor Workshop on County Development Plan Review	<u>18</u>
<u>21</u> 10:30 Thurles MD Mtg 15:00 Sean Ross Working Group Mtg	<u>22</u> 10:00 Councillor Workshop on County Development Plan Review	<u>23</u> 14:30 Environment and Climate Action Mtg	<u>24</u> 14:00 Carrick-on-Suir MD Mtg	<u>25</u>
<u>28</u> 10:00 Infrastructure SPC Mtg 11:00 Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel MD Mtg				

## Report at a Glance



**Roads and Transportation Directorate**

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**Emergency Services, Health & Safety/ Libraries & Culture Directorate**

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**Planning & Development Directorate**

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**Finance & Information Technology Directorate**

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**ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE**



**New Policy/Strategic Issues - Infrastructure SPC meeting held on 6 December 2021**

**Policy Changes/Updates**

A meeting of the Infrastructure SPC was held on 6 December 2021 and the following items were considered:

- Active Travel Programme – Presentation by Gillian Flynn, Acting Senior Executive Engineer
- Road Traffic and Roads Bill 2021 (Part 12 E-Scooters) – Presentation by Mary Murphy, Assistant Staff Officer, Roads Section.

The next meeting of the SPC is scheduled for 28 February 2022.

**Directorate Priorities**

Major Current Issues	Progress to date	Next Stage
Major inter-urban routes	<p>2 no. N24 projects notified on NDP 2021-2030:</p> <p><u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Consultants Arup appointed by Kilkenny County Council in August 2020 to complete Phase 1 to 4. Website launched in February 2021. Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility was completed in April 2021.</p> <p><u>Cahir to Limerick Junction.</u> Arup appointed on 22 October 2019 to complete Phase 1 to 4. Website launched in August 2020. Phase 1: Concept and Feasibility completed in September 2020. Transport Options and Alternatives Public Consultation took place between 25 June and 6 August 2021.</p>	<p><u>Waterford to Cahir:</u> Phase 2: Options selection commenced. Options were to be advertised Q4 2021 but TII removed funding. KCC/TCC/TII in discussions to understand the implications for the project.</p> <p><u>Cahir to Limerick Junction:</u> Phase 2: Options selection commenced and is due to be completed in May 2022.</p> <p>This will announce a Proposed Route Corridor and open a Public Consultation Process on same.</p>



Capital Programme 2022	Implementation of Programme	Progress schemes and draw down grant funding before end of TII financial year.
Implementation of Operational Road Works Programme 2022	Implementation of Programme	Completion of programme within budget and drawdown of all available grant funding. Notification of 2022 allocation is awaited.
Rural and Community Schemes (CIS, LIS, CLÁR)	Implement in conjunction with Districts and Community and Enterprise Department	<p>CLÁR 2021 – 3 no. Measure 1 applications approved by Department of Rural and Community Development with an allocation of €104,000. Projects to be delivered in 2022.</p> <p>2022 Community Involvement Scheme – schemes to be offered in line with 2022 allocation.</p> <p>2022 Local Improvement Scheme – Scheme is open for new applications with closing date of Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 12 noon. Applications can be emailed to <a href="mailto:lis@tipperarycoco.ie">lis@tipperarycoco.ie</a></p>
Consultation	Annual Meeting with TII was held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	Continued consultation with TII, Elected Members and staff.
Public Lighting	Public lighting policy adopted in May 2018	Implementation of policy ongoing.
Road Safety	Strategy adopted in June 2018	<p>A meeting of the Road Safety Working Together Group is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022.</p> <p>Tipperary County Council will develop a new Road Safety Strategy in 2022, following recent launch of the Government strategy ‘Our Journey Towards Vision Zero’.</p>



Department of Transport (DoT)

**2022 Allocations for Regional and Local Roads have not been notified by the Department of Transport as at 28<sup>th</sup> January.**

**REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS ALLOCATIONS 2021**

<b>Tipperary County Council Regional and Local Roads Allocations 2021 (Initial)</b>	
Restoration Improvement	€15,221,000
Restoration Maintenance	€2,546,500
Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	€1,820,000
Discretionary Grant	€4,772,000
Bridge Rehabilitation	€695,000
Specific Imp. Grants	€150,000
Strategic Regional and Local Roads	€500,000
Safety Improvement Works	€560,000
Speed Limits	€27,900
Cycle Signs	€6,500
Active Travel	€168,405
Training Grant	€129,500
Drainage Works	€1,192,053
Community Improvement Scheme	€1,194,000
PSCI: Survey Support	€44,000
Former National Roads	€500,000
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>€29,526,858</b>



2022 GRANT ALLOCATIONS  
FOR NATIONAL ROADS

Tipperary County Council – National Roads Allocations 2022 (Initial)	
Improvement	Allocations 2022
<b>National Primary</b>	
HD15 and HD17 Minor Works	€20,000
Pavements incl. Safety Works	€4,500,000
Major Schemes	€1,025,000
<b>National Secondary</b>	
HD15 and HD17 Minor Works	€77,000
Minor Works	€500,000
Pavements	€1,900,000
Engineering Support for National Primary, National Secondary, and Pavement Design and Supervision	€300,000
Fencing Retrofit	€20,000
<b>Total Improvement Allocations 2022</b>	<b>€8,342,000</b>
Maintenance	Allocations 2022
Total National Primary Maintenance & Route Lighting	€362,457
Total National Secondary Maintenance & Route Lighting	€385,328
Engineering and Winter Support to the National Primary and National Secondary - Maintenance Programme	€88,300
<b>Total Maintenance Allocations 2022</b>	<b>€836,085</b>
<b>Total TII Grant Allocation for National Roads</b>	<b>€9,178,085</b>
Greenways	Allocations 2022
Cashel to Cahir Greenway	€90,000
Lough Derg Greenway	€100,000
Suir Blueway, Gas House Bridge – Suir Island	€250,000
Suir Blueway – Marlfield to Cahir	€100,000
Suir Blueway – Waterford Greenway Link	€100,000
<b>Total Greenway Allocation 2022</b>	<b>€640,000</b>
<b>Total TII Grant 2022</b>	<b>€9,818,085</b>



Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
<b>Nenagh Municipal District</b>		
N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge	This scheme involves raising the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road. Preliminary design work continues on this challenging scheme. A ground investigation has now been completed and the scheme has been formally categorised as a Minor Improvement Scheme. The Council has sought approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design.	Preliminary design is expected to commence after consultants have been procured and appointed in Q2 2022.
N65 Carrigahorig Pavement Improvement Scheme	The scheme in the village of Carrigahorig involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ road pavement improvement works</li> <li>▪ addressing a number of road safety issues</li> <li>▪ the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village</li> <li>▪ the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borrisokane side of the village</li> <li>▪ public lighting improvements</li> <li>▪ some public realm improvements.</li> </ul> Feasibility work has been completed and the Preliminary Design stage has commenced. Land acquisition for footpath widening and extension works is currently underway.	Subject to land acquisition it is expected that preliminary design work will be completed and the Part 8 for the scheme advertised in 2022.
<b>Thurles Municipal District</b>		
N62 Thurles Outer Bypass	Route Selected in 2011 and reserved corridor in place. TCC lobbying for it to be included in the next NDP.	Continue lobbying for scheme to be included in the next NDP.
N62 Slievenamon Road Thurles, Phase 2	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 447m of pavement on the N62 road through Thurles. The works consists primarily of planing and inlay work. Other works include the replacement of existing footpaths, provision of essential pedestrian infrastructure such as crossing areas, build outs and public realm improvements. Consultants were appointed and design work commenced in 2018. The preliminary design is substantially complete.	Part 8 will be advertised in Q1 2022.
N62 Templemore approach roads (Roscrea Road)	This is the second of two schemes on the Thurles Road and Roscrea Road approaches to the town of Templemore.	Final snag items are being completed.



	N62 Templemore (Roscrea Road) – This Scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 700m of road pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road on the northern approach to Templemore. The Scheme starts at the speed limit sign north of Templemore at the Circle K Garage and continues 700m to the south. Construction commenced in September 2021 and was substantially completed in December 2021.	
N62 Kilnoe (M8) to Thurles Road South	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 3.9km of pavement on the N62 National Secondary Road from Kilnoe (M8) to Thurles Road South. The scheme is currently at preliminary design stage. Consultants were appointed in 2021 to complete the design and procure a Contractor to carry out the works.	This scheme will be ready to go to tender and commence construction in Q1/Q2, 2022. A financial allocation to progress will be required from TII and this has not been guaranteed.
N75 Liberty Square to Anner Hotel	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 1km of road pavement on the N75 National Secondary road within the town of Thurles from its junction with Mitchel Street to the Anner Hotel. The scheme is at preliminary design stage.	The scheme is at preliminary design stage and it is anticipated that the scheme will go ahead 2023.

Directorate Projects (Capital)		
Project	Progress to date	Next Stage
<b>Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District</b>		
N24 Carrick-on-Suir Pavement Strengthening	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of 3.5km of pavement on the N24 National Primary route. Design work is being undertaken by Tramore House Road Design Office and the Main Works tender is to be published in the coming weeks. Advance Works on watermain replacement on the Clonmel Road are due to commence in March.	Publication for Tender Q1 2022.
N76 Grangemockler Pavement Strengthening	This scheme includes pavement improvement and traffic calming through the village, improvements to footpaths, landscaping and pavement strengthening. Part 8 Planning was approved in July 2021. Tender documents are near completion and expect to advertise the Tender in February.	Detailed design and preparation of contract documents. Publication for Tender Q1 2022.
<b>Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District</b>		
N74 Ballyhusty Realignment	This scheme involves the realignment of approx. 1km of the N74 at Ballyhusty. The Tender process is completed and TII have given approval to award the tender to Tony Kirwan Civil Engineering Ltd. Archaeological Works have taken place with a further area to be completed once access is	Commencement of works on site



	available. The Main Contract is to commence on 31 <sup>st</sup> January and will continue through 2022.	
(N24 Main Street) N74 Fr Mathew Street, Tipperary Town	This scheme proposes a significant upgrade to the public realm through the centre of Tipperary town between Church Street and Cashel Road. The scheme is 1.6km in length and encompasses two national routes through the town, the N24 and N74. The Part 8 for the scheme was passed in January 2021 and the Municipal District Council decided not to proceed with the N24 Main Street element of the scheme. The Fr Mathew Street element of the scheme is at final design stage. Funding has been made available in 2022 to commence construction.	It is anticipated that works will commence in July/August 2022.
N74 Golden to Knockroe Pavement Improvement Scheme	This scheme involves the rehabilitation of approximately 2.5km of pavement on the N74. The scheme is located approximately 4km west of Cashel Town. The scheme is at preliminary design stage. Consultants were appointed in 2021 to complete the design and procure a Contractor to carry out the works. Design is substantially complete.	It is anticipated that subject to the availability of funding that construction on this scheme will commence in 2023.
N24 Ballydrehid Realignment	This scheme involves the preparation of proposals for possible improvements to the N24 at Ballydrehid. Feasibility report submitted to TII.	Awaiting TII response. It is expected that TII are awaiting the outcome of the N24 Cahir to Limerick Junction design process in order to decide how this scheme would be delivered.
N24 Knockagh Roundabout approach	This scheme comprises the pavement strengthening of approximately 1.6km of the N24 National Route extending east from the Knockagh Roundabout. 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 process in 2022.
<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Next Stage</b>
<b>Clonmel Borough District</b>		
N24 Moangarriff to Twomilebridge Pavement and Traffic Calming	This is a continuation to the east of the Clonmel Inner Relief Road to a point beyond the 60kph speed limit and is approximately 1.6km in length. This scheme involves traffic calming and the inclusion of improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities as well as road pavement strengthening. Preliminary Design is under way along with liaison with TII Road Safety engineers.	The Planning process will commence following obtainment of TII technical approvals in 2022.



<b>Strategic Non-National Road Projects</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>	<b>Next Stage</b>
R498 Road Realignment at Latteragh Bends	Part 8 procedures and preliminary design work is completed. The CPO was published in August 2020 and Oral Hearing was held on 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020. The CPO was confirmed on April 16 <sup>th</sup> 2021 without modification. Tender documents have been prepared for the appointment of a consultant to carry out the detailed design, procurement and supervision of the Works contract.	Following a tender competition, a consultant is expected to be appointed in Q2 2022.  On completion of the detailed design it is anticipated, subject to funding availability, that a contractor will be appointed by Q1 2023.
Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme	Clare County Council is lead authority. Planning procedures, the Oral Hearing and design have been completed. A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer is substantially complete. Tenders for the works contract were received in November 2021, funding for construction of the scheme has been made available in 2022 and approval was granted in December 2021 to award the works contract to the recommended successful tenderer for the works, John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.	It is anticipated that the main contract will be awarded in Q1 2022 and the works will commence. The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete.  See further information hereunder.
Thurles Inner Relief Road	Thurles Inner Relief Road is a proposed local link between the N62 and the Mill Road. The proposed scheme comprises approximately 1.1km of new road with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a signalised junction on the Slievenamon Road at the Clongour Road junction</li> <li>• a new priority junction with Mill Road and</li> <li>• 5 no. intermediate priority junctions to provide access</li> <li>• 50-metre span tied bowstring arch crossing of the River Suir</li> <li>• public lighting</li> <li>• flood alleviation works along the River Suir.</li> </ul> This scheme is on the NDP and DoT approval will be required to allow it to go to detailed design. Lidl has completed construction of a section of the road for access to new store.	Secure funding to deliver the Inner Relief Road project and finalise land acquisition.



**SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS - FENCING RETROFIT WORKS**

**THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**



**Fencing Retrofit works on N62  
Whitefield, Loughmore,  
Templemore, recently completed**



**ROADS ADMINISTRATION**

<b>Admin / Licensing Process During 2021</b>	<b>Number</b>
Roads Abutting Certificates Requested	880
Roads Abutting Certificates Issued	807
Abnormal Loads Permits Requested	202
Abnormal Loads Permits Issued	198
Road Opening Licence applications received	930
FOI requests processed	24
AIE requests processed	0
Internal Roads Abutting Requested	49
Internal Roads Abutting Issued	49
<b>Estates Taken in Charge 2021</b>	
Ash Court, Cahir Road, Clonmel	
Springfield Grove, Rossmore Village, Tipperary Town	
Springfield Crescent (part of), Rossmore Village, Tipperary Town	
Friarsfield, Killenaule Road, Fethard (Phase 1)	
Friarsfield, Killenaule Road, Fethard (Phase 2)	
Meadowlands, Moangarriff, Clonmel	
Cluain Orga, Cashel	
Ard Abhainn, Ballina	
Townspark, Clonmel Road, Cahir	
Bellevue, Coolbawn	

### CLÁR MEASURE 1

The Council, under CLÁR Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures made a submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development for funding for a number of projects in 2021. Three projects have received approval to proceed, Drangan NS, St. Brigid's NS Donaskeigh, and Carrig & Riverstown GAA & Community Car Park within a total allocation of €104,000. The projects will be delivered in 2022.

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME 2022

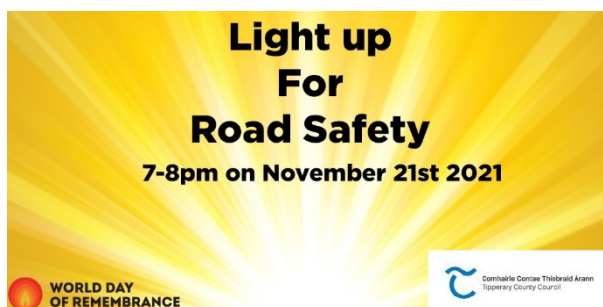
The Local Improvement Scheme 2022 (LIS) is now open for new applications. The LIS Scheme applies to non-public accommodation roads. Projects must benefit two or more parcels of land owned or occupied by different persons or serve the public.

Applications from previous years which were not successful, will remain on file and will be considered for the 2022 scheme.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications for the 2022 Scheme is **Friday 18th February 2022 at 12 noon.**

### ROAD SAFETY

Tipperary Road Safety Section supported World Day of Remembrance for Road Collision Victims which takes place on the third Sunday of November each year and participated in the "Light up for Road Safety" initiative organised by Road Safety Officers from local authorities around the country.



The Road Safety Section undertook an awareness campaign in December 2021 urging drivers to make sensible decisions and plan a way home if they planned to drink. This campaign appeared in all local papers.



### SPEED LIMIT APPEALS

The Minister of Transport formally launched the Speed Limits Appeals Procedure on Friday 3rd December 2021. This procedure is now live, and members of the general public or interested parties can apply to a Local Authority to have a speed limit reviewed. Local Authorities have established a Speed Limits Review Panel to receive, deliberate, and make recommendations on applications received. This Speed Limits Appeals Procedure constitutes a direction by the Minister of Transport which introduces a process whereby a member of the public can object to and appeal an existing speed limit contained within a Local Authority's current Special Speed Limit Byelaws.

The procedure is intended to facilitate a legitimate query that a member of the public or interested party may have regarding a particular speed limit. This



procedure is NOT a mechanism for appealing penalties issued for speeding offences and any applications received through this process relating to same will not be processed and will not be acknowledged.

The process consists of two parts, with an initial appeal to the relevant Local Authority Review Panel, and the option to then escalate the appeal to a Regional Review Panel, for a specified fee, currently €125 (refundable if the appeal is upheld by the Regional Review Panel), should the appellant not accept the decision of the Local Authority Review Panel. Both panels shall review speed limits that are referred to them in accordance with the ‘Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland’. The ‘Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland’ constitute a Direction of the Minister of Transport and as such, is the mandatory document to be used when setting Special Speed Limits on all Irish public roads.

### **PUBLIC LIGHTING**

A Public Lighting policy was adopted by the Council in May 2018. Public lighting queries are dealt with daily 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.

Tipperary County Council has responsibility for the management and maintenance of more than 17, 800 lights in the county and public lighting is one of the biggest users of energy in the Council's overall energy usage. Upgrading of lights to LED is ongoing with 1,449 upgrades and 138 new lights completed in 2021.

The Council 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 reviewed all work practices to comply with the

working recommendations for dealing with Covid-19 and its related restrictions.

Tipperary County Council has advertised the Public Lighting Maintenance Contract and has completed the tender assessment. The Council has decided to appoint SSE Airtricity for the maintenance Contract for a period of two years with options to extend by two further periods of 12 months each.

Tipperary County Council has been notified that SSE Airtricity is in the process of rebranding and is changing its name to ENERVEO.

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

- **Internet: [www.airtricitysolutions.com](http://www.airtricitysolutions.com)**
- **Phone: Airtricity Utility Solutions Call Centre – 0818 81 22 20**
- **Customer Services, Tipperary County Council - 0818 06 5000**

### **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 50% more energy efficient by 2030.

The southern region project has gone out to tender and a Contractor is to be appointed shortly. The Eastern Region which Tipperary is part of has also gone out to tender with the responses now being assessed. Works are likely to begin in this area in mid-2022.

## INTERREG SMART SPACE PUBLIC LIGHTING PROJECT



Smart-Space aims to facilitate the uptake of smart lighting in small/mid-size towns to enhance energy-efficiency and reduce CO2 emissions.

Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Energy Agency are partners in the Smart Space project along with three other European cities Saint-Niklaas and Ostend in Belgium and Middleburg in the Netherlands.

In Tipperary, the project is replacing 600 standard street lights with LED street lights. These new LED lights are equipped with smart technology allowing the Council better control over the light and can provide information on energy use. In some areas a pilot will be trialled where motion detectors will allow lights to dim down if there is no movement in the area and light up again once the system detects cars or pedestrians approaching. Another pilot project will see street lights that can change colour for events being trialled in Liberty Square, Thurles.

The three areas chosen in Tipperary to take part in the project are Thurles, Clonoulty and Drangan.

The SMART-SPACE project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund under the transnational co-operation programme Interreg North-West Europe.

Installation of the 600 lights is now nearing completion. The testing and analysis of the system will be ongoing for several months.

[www.nweurope.eu/smart-space](http://www.nweurope.eu/smart-space)

Drangan Before Lighting Upgrade



Drangan After Lighting Upgrade

## THE EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS 2021



The All Ireland Community and Council Awards are presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA. These awards recognise and celebrate community and councils working together. They provide a great opportunity to highlight and celebrate the work done within our communities, to reward our unsung heroes and recognise the contribution made to our lives.

Tipperary County Council has been shortlisted for the 2021 All Ireland Community and Council Awards, with the awards ceremony scheduled for April 2022.

The Interreg North West Europe (NWE) SMART-SPACE Project has been shortlisted in the Best Energy Smart Initiative. Tipperary has also been shortlisted for the Imagine – High Speed Broadband in the same category.

Best of luck to all involved in the project on behalf of Tipperary County Council, Tipperary Energy Agency and project Partners.

### **HEDGE CUTTING**

The 2021/2022 Hedgecutting Season commenced on 1 September 2021 and runs through to 28 February 2022. 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.

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.

Tipperary County Council requests the co-operation of the public in keeping road users safe. A public awareness campaign began in September 2021 and continues throughout the hedge-cutting season. Our District offices will be carrying out local

inspections and notices will be issued as necessary to relevant landowners.

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](http://www.invasivespeciesireland.com)



The image shows a notice from Tipperary County Council regarding hedge cutting. The notice is titled "NOTICE TO LANDOWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND ADJOINING PUBLIC ROADS" and refers to "ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 70 ROADSIDE TREES, DITCHES AND HEDGES". It states that from 1 September 2021 until 28 February 2022, landowners and occupiers are obliged to take reasonable care to ensure that trees, ditches, hedges, and other vegetation on their lands do not become a danger to people using or working on a public road. It also mentions that the owner/occupier is obliged to comply with the Health and Safety Act 2005 and that liability for damage or injury resulting from such hazards will rest with the landowner/occupier. Examples of hazards include dead or dying trees, ditches or hedges interfering with traffic, blocking footpaths, obscuring road signs, or obscuring a view of the road ahead. The notice also references Section 46 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 and Regulations 49 and 50 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. Contact information for the Customer Services Department is provided, including a telephone number (0818 06 5000) and an email address (customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie). The notice is signed by Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services, Roads and Transportation.

**INCREASED PENALTIES FOR  
MOTORISTS WHO PARK ON  
FOOTPATHS, CYCLE TRACKS AND  
BUS LANES**

Elected members should note that the Minister for Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan T.D., has signed regulations doubling from €40 to €80 the fixed charge penalty for motorists caught parking on footpaths, cycle tracks and bus lanes. The new €80 penalties will come into operation on 1 February 2022.

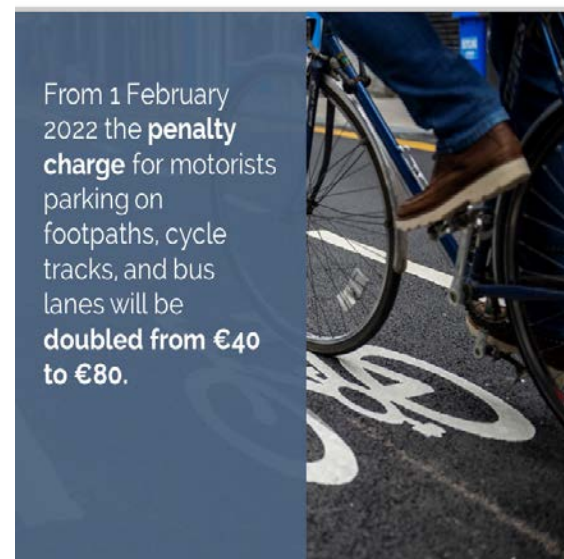
Minister Ryan said:

"I am very pleased to announce these increased penalties which will both promote active travel and encourage a more considerate use of road space. Parking on footpaths puts vulnerable pedestrians, such as wheelchair users and those pushing buggies, at significant risk by forcing them off the footpath and into traffic. Parking in bus and cycle lanes endangers cyclists and undermines State investment in sustainable public transport infrastructure. These increases should help improve the safety of all vulnerable road and footpath users, by creating a more effective deterrent to these specific forms of illegal parking."

Minister of State with responsibility for Road Safety Hildegarde Naughton has welcomed the increases:

"Obstructing footpaths, bus lanes and cycle tracks can confront vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists, with particularly dangerous obstacles on busy roads, while also forcing tricky manoeuvres upon buses and cars who may be attempting to overtake such careless parking. These new penalties will safeguard families and communities as they make use of our growing network of active travel infrastructure and will encourage more people to walk and cycle as Government invests almost €1 million per day on Active Travel projects across the country."

Tipperary County Council has implemented the increased penalties with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022, and carried out a media campaign including through our website and social media accounts.



### **BALLINA/KILLALOE BY PASS SHANNON BRIDGE CROSSING AND R494 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

Tipperary County Council is pleased to announce that approval has been granted by the Department of Transport to Clare County Council to award the contract for the Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Crossing and R494 Road Improvement project to John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd. The contract value is €43.7m plus VAT and the scheme will include a cycle lane over its entire length.

The Project Team for this scheme consisting of Clare County Council, Tipperary County Council, Department of Transport and scheme consultants, RPS Consulting Engineers have been progressing the delivery of this important piece of infrastructure for the Mid-West over the past number of years.

Michael O'Meara, Cathaoirleach of the Nenagh Municipal District stated that "This is fantastic news for Ballina/Killaloe and the wider North Tipperary/East Clare area. It will get rid of the long-standing queues at the old bridge and improve the quality of life in the twin towns and allow them achieve their full potential as a premier destination in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands."

Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services, said: "We have been working on this scheme with our colleagues in Clare County Council and the Department of Transport for over 15 years. It was a long haul but certainly worth it. It's one of the biggest non-national road schemes in the country and will have a transformative impact on Ballina and its hinterland."

#### **Background**

The proposed Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme will provide a western bypass of Killaloe, a new bridge crossing of the River Shannon and an



upgrade of the existing R494 regional road from Ballina to the N7 at Birdhill. The entire scheme is approximately 6.2km and will cross the River Shannon approximately 1km to the south of the existing Killaloe Bridge and will cross the Kilmastulla River (a tributary of the River Shannon and part of the Lower River Shannon SAC) on the R494.

The proposed scheme has been broken down into three sections as follows:

- Killaloe Bypass: This part of the scheme aims to create a western bypass around the town of Killaloe which will connect the R463 to the north of town with the proposed Shannon Bridge Crossing section and R463 to the south of the town.
- Shannon Bridge Crossing: This section of the scheme will cross the River Shannon approximately 1km south of the existing Killaloe Bridge and will connect the proposed Killaloe Bypass with the R494.
- R494 Upgrade: This section will involve widening, regrading and local realignment of the R494 from its junction with the R496 and proposed Shannon Bridge Crossing south of Ballina, as far as the junction with the R445 (previously known as N7) north of Birdhill.

For more information and full documentation please visit the Clare County Council Website <http://www.clarecoco.ie/services/capital-projects/roads-and-bridges/killaloe-bypass-shannon-bridge-crossing/>



**Tipperary towns and villages benefit from €5.1m of National Transport Authority investment in 2021**



**Kilcash Village Footpath Scheme**

Thirty-five towns and villages across Tipperary have benefitted from over €5.1m of investment in Active Travel measures in 2021.

In March 2021, Tipperary County Council was allocated €4.6m to fund an ambitious Active Travel programme within the Tipperary County Council area.

With this funding from the National Transport Authority, Tipperary County Council has delivered a range of improvements for pedestrians and cyclists with many projects completed in recent weeks. A further allocation for the provision of Additional Outdoor

Infrastructure was secured during the year to create Covid-friendly safe urban public spaces.

Active Travel works included the construction of new footpaths to provide an orbital walking route in Roscrea; safe routes to school created by providing footpaths and pedestrian crossings in Upperchurch and Castleiney; improved connectivity between residential areas and schools within Kilcash and Killusty villages; provision of a walkway in Fethard town; a footpath link from Newport town centre to new town park and onwards; improvements to an existing walkway and cycle path adjacent to the River Suir in Thurles; provision of high quality footpaths at Coleville Road, Clonmel and connecting Marfield Village and Clonmel.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy said: “I am delighted to see so many projects come to fruition in what has been the first year of NTA funding to rural local authorities for Active Travel measures. The construction of new footpaths and pedestrian crossings, along with other upgrades and improvements to outdoor public spaces, will result in a safer, healthier and more sustainable way for people to get about and enjoy their local area.”

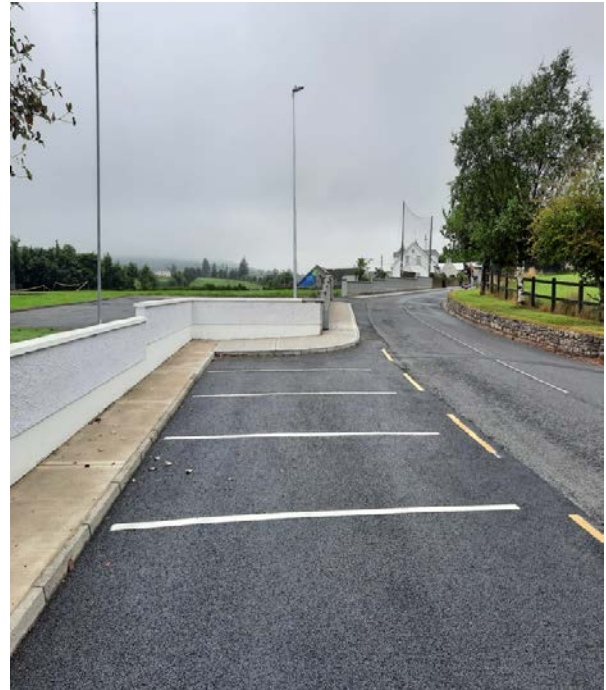
Marcus O’Connor, Director of Roads and Transportation said: “This investment in Active Travel and Outdoor Infrastructure is a great example of how our partnership with the National Transport Authority is benefitting communities across county Tipperary.”

The Active Travel team at Tipperary County Council has delivered a wide range of improvements for our citizens in 2021 and I am looking forward to seeing more of that in 2022 and beyond”.

On 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the council received notification of an increased allocation of €6.6m for Active Travel Schemes in 2022 (see full details hereunder).



**Benamore, Roscrea–Orbital Walking Route**



**Upperchurch Footpath Scheme**



**Fethard Walkway**



**Marlfield Road, Clonmel**

Table A: Tipperary County Council

Active Travel Investment Grants: 2022 Allocations		
Project Code:	Project Name	2022 Allocation
<b>Tipperary County Council</b>		
TCC/21/0002	Irishtown Walking and Cycling Route, Clonmel	€20,000
TCC/21/0003	Coleville Road Footpath Improvement Scheme	€150,000
TCC/21/0004	Abbey Rd to Marlfield Footpath Improvement Scheme	€50,000
TCC/21/0005	N52 Footpath/Cycle track Lighting Scheme	€110,000
TCC/21/0006	New/Improved Pedestrian & Cycle Schemes: Including works in Nenagh, Cashel, Cahir, Thurles & Roscrea	€560,000
TCC/21/0007	New Footpaths Package A: Including works in Killusty, Kilcash, Nenagh, Portroe & Newport	€30,000
TCC/21/0008	New Footpaths Package B: Including works in Cashel, Ballyporeen, Ardfinnan, Clogheen, Donaskeigh, Hollyford &	€270,000
TCC/21/0009	New Footpaths Package C: Including works in Castleiney, Loughmore, Upperchurch, Benamore & Thurles	€145,000
TCC/21/0010	New Footpaths Package D: Including works in Killenaule, Cloneen & Mullinahone	€400,000
TCC/21/0011	Footpath Improvements Package A: Including works in Cloughjordan, Cahir, Cashel, Tipperary Town, Ballagh,	€265,000
TCC/21/0012	Footpath Improvements Package B: Including works in Tipperary Town, Clogheen Village, Borrisoleigh, Roscrea &	€230,000
TCC/21/0014	Light Segregation Cycle Schemes	€250,000
TCC/21/0015	Low Cost Junction Tightening/Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	€90,000
TCC/21/0016	Low-Cost Permeability Measures	€80,000
TCC/21/0017	Safe to Schools Programme - Support Infrastructure	€100,000
TCC/21/0018	Transport Studies/Mobility Plans: Towns including Nenagh, Thurles & Clonmel	€530,601
TCC/21/0020	Fethard Walkway	€150,000



### Active Travel Investment Grants: 2022 Allocations

Project Code:	Project Name	2022 Allocation
<b><u>Tipperary County Council</u></b>		
TCC/22/xxxx	N24 Cycle Scheme, Clonmel	€60,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Convent Road, Clonmel	€100,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Old Bridge to Suir Blueway Link	€50,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Cashel Road, Clonmel	€50,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Clonmel MD - Minor Footpath schemes	€280,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Birdhill Active Travel Scheme	€100,000
TCC/22/xxxx	R445 Nenagh Active Travel Scheme	€100,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Riverstown Active Travel Scheme	€215,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Ballina Active Travel Scheme	€50,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Nenagh MD - Minor Footpath Schemes	€180,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Ardfinnan Bridge	€220,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Supervalu Junction, Cahir	€20,000
TCC/22/XXXX	Tipperary Cahir Cashel MD - Minor Footpath Schemes	€400,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Bowes Corner Junction Improvement Scheme	€500,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Thurles MD - Minor Footpath Schemes	€180,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Clairin Footbridge	€100,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Carrick on Suir Active Travel Scheme	€80,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Carrick MD - Minor footpath schemes	€151,000



Active Travel Investment Grants: 2022 Allocations		
Project Code:	Project Name	2022 Allocation
<b>Tipperary County Council</b>		
TCC/22/xxxx	Tipperary County Council Active Travel Office - Staff Costs	€350,000
TCC/22/xxxx	Cycle Parking	€50,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>€6,666,601</b>

### **ACTIVE TRAVEL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2022**

The Minister for Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan T.D., has confirmed that the National Transport Authority (NTA) has allocated funds to Ireland’s local authorities with a view to spending €289 million on walking and cycling infrastructure in 2022, €6.6 million of which is to be spent in County Tipperary.

With this funding from the National Transport Authority, Tipperary County Council will be able to deliver an ambitious Active Travel programme and a range of improvements for pedestrians and cyclists with some thirty-six new projects in towns and villages across Tipperary benefitting from this investment.

Active Travel works will include the construction of new footpaths to provide walking routes; safe routes to school created by providing footpaths and pedestrian crossings; improved connectivity between residential areas and schools and the creation of cycle paths.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Murphy said: “I am delighted to see so many projects benefit from

this funding. The increased funding for footpaths and pedestrian improvements in towns and villages all across the county will result in a safer, healthier and more sustainable way for people to get about and enjoy their local area.”

Marcus O’Connor, Director of Roads and Transportation warmly welcomed the allocation stating: “This investment in Active Travel is a great example of how our partnership with the National Transport Authority is benefitting communities across County Tipperary, creating a more attractive and safer local environment. It will allow us to build on the success of the Council’s 2021 Active Travel programme which delivered a wide range of improvements for our citizens.”

### **GREENWAY PROJECTS**

The Active Travel team will report during the year on progress regarding Greenway projects, for which an allocation of €640,000 has been received from TII.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

<u>New Policy/Strategic Issues</u>			
<u>Policy Changes/Up-Date</u>	<u>Current status</u>	<u>Progression in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
<b>County Development Plan 2022-2028</b>	Commenced	The Draft Plan was on public display for the period 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 to 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2021. 615 submissions were received. A Chief Executive's report on the submissions received was prepared and circulated to the Elected Members in January 2022.	The Chief Executive's report on the submissions received is being considered by the members. A series of Workshops will be held in February and the CE's Report and Material Amendments will be brought to the plenary meeting in March. Material amendments to the Draft Plan will then be advertised for a further period of public consultation.

<u>National Planning Framework: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u>		
<u>Project</u>	<u>Progress in Previous Months</u>	<u>Next Stage</u>
<b>Tipperary Town Regeneration</b>	<p><b>Market Yard</b> - Detailed Designs completed. Contractor appointed for the construction stage. Works commenced on 21<sup>st</sup>. June, 2021.</p> <p><b>River Arra Walkway</b> – Design team appointed and detailed designs completed. Final Business Case approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development with additional RRDF grant aid of €455,264. Tender validity period of most economically advantageous tenderer extended to 24<sup>th</sup>. June, 2022. Construction of the bridge is completed under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.</p>	<p><b>Market Yard</b> – Works are completed.</p> <p><b>River Arra Walkway</b> – Progress the purchase of the land required. Appoint contractor and commence works in June, 2022. River works to be completed between July and September in compliance with decision issued by An Bórd Pleanála. Complete project by year end.</p>



<p><b>Fethard Town Park</b></p>	<p>(i) Phase 1 Groundworks and pitches in progress. (ii) Phase 2 Pavilion and Public Realm Works- Scope of works reduced following review of the Final Business Case by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Redesigning, retendering and assessment of tenders completed. Final Business Case approved by the Department on 20<sup>th</sup>. December, 2021 together with additional grant aid of €403,445. Successful/Unsuccessful Letters issued to tenderers early January, 2022.</p>	<p>(i) Complete Phase 1 Groundworks and Pitches by end January, 2022. Open pitches in February, 2022. (ii) Phase 2 Pavilion and Public Realm Works – Obtain all paperwork from proposed contractor. Appoint contractor and commence works in March, 2022. Estimated programme duration for completion of works is 12 months.</p>
<p><b>Templemore Town Hall Cultural and Enterprise Centre with Civic Plaza</b></p>	<p>Design team appointed. Consultative group established with ongoing meetings. Detailed designs presented to Consultative Group and revisions agreed. Stage 1 Restricted Procedure to assess suitability of contractors completed. Main works tender documents being prepared.</p>	<p>Complete revisions to detailed designs. Finalise tender documents and issue to prequalified tenderers under Stage 2 Restricted Procedure. Assess tenders received and compile Final Business Case for submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development. Appoint contractor and commence works in Q2 of 2022. Estimated programme duration for completion of works is 18 months.</p>
<p><b>Thurles Market Quarter - Regeneration through Recreation, Education and Support for Local Producers</b></p>	<p>Part 8 completed. Verification and Due Diligence Phase completed. Approval in Principle issued by the Department of Rural and Community Development together with additional funding of €549,270. Meetings held with Mary Immaculate College and Thurles Farmers Market. Tender Documents for the engagement of a design team completed and Request for tenders advertised on e-Tenders in December, 2022.</p>	<p>Compile Pre-Tender Approval Report for submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development. Complete tendering process and appoint design team in Q1 of 2022. Commence detailed design stage in Q2 of 2022.</p>
<p><b>Nenagh Historic and Cultural</b></p>	<p>Steering Group and Implementation Group</p>	<p>Sign off on final report on concept testing. Complete concept</p>



<p><b>Quarter-A Tourism Led Regeneration Plan</b></p>	<p>established with ongoing meetings being held. Design team appointed. Site visits undertaken. Significant input from public to “Have your Say” questionnaire advertised online. Four concepts developed and three market tested to establish how Nenagh town can be best promoted as a tourism destination. Final report on concept testing received from the design team and circulated to the Project Steering Group for comment.</p>	<p>development and preliminary designs in Q1 of 2022. Complete detailed designs by end of Q2 of 2022 and Part 8 Planning by end of Q3 of 2022.</p>
<p><b>Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan-A Journey from the Suir Blueway to the Ormond Castle Quarter</b></p>	<p>Design team appointed. Dedicated website in place and continuously updated. Preliminary design stage completed with significant engagement and input from the public. Part 8 Planning completed. Detailed designs commenced.</p>	<p>Complete detailed designs by end of Q1 of 2022.</p>
<p><b>A Pathway to the Regeneration of Cahir Town Centre – Re-establishing the Historic Square as the Living-Working Quarter</b></p>	<p><b>Cahir Market House Business Centre:</b> – Part 8 Planning approved. Design team appointed. Preliminary Designs completed. Detailed designs completed. <b>Cahir Town Centre Public Realm and Car Park:</b> - Design team appointed. Pre-Planning consultation completed. Preferred designs agreed. Part 8 Planning for the proposed car park site was approved in December, 2021 with the public realm approved in January, 2022. Purchase of two sites for the proposed car park is completed.</p>	<p><b>Cahir Market House Business Centre:</b> – Part 8 Planning and detailed designs completed in accordance with the Category 2 approved project.  <b>Cahir Town Centre Public Realm and Car Park:</b> - Complete detailed designs by end of February, 2022.</p>
<p><b>Kilsheelan - Revitalisation of Rural Villages: A Model for Cluster</b></p>	<p>Verification and Due Diligence Phase completed. Approval in Principle issued by the Department of Rural and Community Development</p>	<p>Progress the development of a Serviced Sites Scheme. Complete detailed designs by end of Q2 of 2022. Appoint contractor by end of Q3 of 2022 and commence works on site.</p>



<b>Housing &amp; Low Carbon Planning</b>	together with additional funding of €51,896. Design team appointed in January, 2022. Working Group established to develop a Serviced Sites Scheme for the sale of the sites.	Estimated completion of construction works by end of Q2 2023.
<b>Rialto Digital and Enterprise Hub, Nenagh</b>	Funding approval of €1,208,847 announced by the Minister of Rural and Community Development on 6 <sup>th</sup> . January, 2022. Verification Forms for the Due Diligence and Verification Phase completed and returned to the Department in January, 2022. Project Steering Committee established.	Complete the Project Charter, Risk Register, Task Schedules, Roles and Responsibilities document etc.

<b><u>National Planning Framework: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (Project Implementation)</u></b>		
<b><u>Project</u></b>	<b><u>Progress in Previous Months</u></b>	<b><u>Next Stage</u></b>
<b>Thurles: Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme-Phase 1 and Phase 2</b>	<p><b>Phase 1:</b> -New Car Park off Liberty Square is completed. Phase 1 works which relate to the Eastern end of Liberty Square are substantially completed.</p> <p><b>Phase 2:</b> -Proposed enhancement works relate to the Western end of Liberty Square and approach roads. Scheme extents drawing completed. Extensive consultations held with other statutory bodies. Companies engaged to undertake Topographical/Tree/Building Heritage surveys. Consultants appointed to prepare the Part 8 drawings and documentation.</p>	<p><b>Phase 1:</b> - Complete snagging.</p> <p><b>Phase 2:</b> - Complete Topographical/ Tree/Building Heritage surveys to advance the Planning process. Procure for design team and appoint design team circa March, 2022. Complete Part 8 Planning by the end of Q3 of 2022.</p>
<b>Clonmel 2030 Transformational Regeneration</b>	<p><b>Regional Sports Hub</b> – Design team appointed. Detailed designs completed. Contractor appointed and works began on site mid-August, 2021.</p> <p><b>Kickham Barracks Phase 1</b> - Design team appointed. Detailed designs completed. Car park completed. Contractor appointed for the plaza and public realm. Works commenced on site 10<sup>th</sup>. June, 2021.</p>	<p><b>Regional Sports Hub</b> – Complete construction phase. Programme duration is approximately 12 months.</p> <p><b>Kickham Barracks Phase 1</b> – Complete construction phase. Programme duration is approximately 12 months.</p>
<b>A Pathway to a Low Carbon Society: A Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Energy driving the Transformational Urban Regeneration of</b>	<p>Project Deliverables Review Meeting held May, 2021. Project Steering Group meetings and District Delivery Group meetings are ongoing. Provisional Approval issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 25<sup>th</sup>. August, 2021. Project Financial Tables</p>	<p>Approve Communications Strategy. Review and update Preliminary Business Case and submit to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage by end of Q1 2022. Prepare tender documents, advertise for tenders and appoint design team by end of Q2 2022.</p>



<p><b>Nenagh Town Centre</b></p>	<p>completed following in-depth review of costings and returned to the Department in September, 2021. Consultant procured and appointed to review and update the Preliminary Business Case. Project Charter completed. Consultant appointed to prepare tender documents for the engagement of a design team. Working Group established to develop a Communications Strategy and branding.</p>	
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**PLANNING SECTION**

**County Development Plan**

The Pre-Draft ‘Shaping Our Future’ consultation stage ran from 18<sup>th</sup> September to 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020. 190 submissions were received during the public consultation period, and were summarised and considered by the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive’s Report on submissions was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. A Workshop with the Elected Members was held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The Chief Executive’s Report was considered at the March 8<sup>th</sup> Plenary Council Meeting whereby the Elected Members issued directions to the Chief Executive regarding the content of the draft Plan. The Draft Plan was issued to the Elected Members for their consideration on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. 13 Workshops with the Elected Members were held over June and July 2021 to discuss the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan was considered at the July 16<sup>th</sup> Plenary Council meeting whereby the Elected Members agreed by resolution to put the Draft Plan on public display subject to amendments. The Draft Plan was on public display for the period 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021. 615 submissions were received. A series of Workshops will be held in February and the CE’s Report and Material Amendments will be brought to the plenary meeting in March. Material amendments to the Draft Plan will then be advertised for a further period of public consultation.

**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 Phase 1 and Clonmel Regional Sports Hub.



**Kickham Barracks Regeneration Phase 1**- Works on the car park were completed in December, 2020. The main works contract commenced in June, 2021 and programme duration is 12 months.

**Clonmel Regional Sports Hub** – Works commenced on site mid-August, 2021 and programme duration is 12 months.

The Project Management Plan for the delivery and implementation of this project is ongoing. **Total project costs approved are € 15,163,247 and URDF grant awarded is €10,594,961.**

**Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, 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. **Phase 1:** -The new Car Park off Liberty Square opened on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2020. Phase 1 works are substantially completed on Liberty Square. **Phase 2:** - Appoint design team circa March, 2022. Prepare detailed designs and complete Part 8 Planning by end of Q3 2022.



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

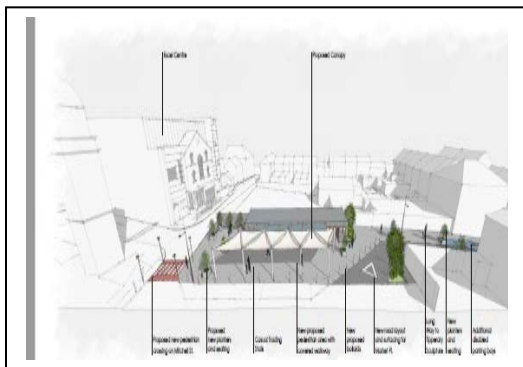
**Total project costs approved are €10,700,000 and URDF grant awarded amounts to €5,390,291.**

**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. The works to be supported also include Public Realm and Amenity

Enhancement to Friar Street Civic Plaza, Martyr’s Road Town Park, Martyr’s Road streetscape improvements, including cycleways. Project was approved for funding in March, 2021. Provisional Approval received from the Department on 25<sup>th</sup>. August, 2021. Preliminary Business Case is being reviewed and updated for submission to the Department by the end of Q1 2022. Design team will be appointed by the end of Q2 2022. **Total project costs approved are €12,700,000 and URDF grant awarded amounts to €9,525,000.**



**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, an 800 metre walkway along the River Arra, including two loop walks. **Market Yard** –Works were completed in October, 2021 and officially opened by Minister Heather Humphreys in November, 2021. **River Arra Walkway** –Bridge has been installed. Construction works will commence in June, 2022 to take account of decision issued by An Bórd Pleanála in regard to river works and all works will be completed by year end. Final Business Case for Market Yard and The River Arra Walkway was approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development with an increase in RRDF grant aid of €455,264. **Total project costs approved are €1,442,018 and RRDF grant amounts to €1,081,513.00.**



### 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 Healthy Ireland. Final design for project completed. **Phase 1 - Groundworks and pitches** will be completed by end of January, 2022.



**Phase 2 – Pavilion and Public Realm Works** – Final

Business Case received approval from the Department of Rural and Community Development in December, 2021 together with an increase in grant aid of €403,445.00. Contractor will be appointed shortly and works will commence on site mid-March, 2022. Programme duration is 12 months. **Total project costs for Phase 2 works are €3,137,927 and RRDF grant amounts to €3,003,445. Phase 1 works are being funded by Coolmore Ireland.**

### Templemore Town Hall Cultural and Enterprise Centre with Civic Plaza

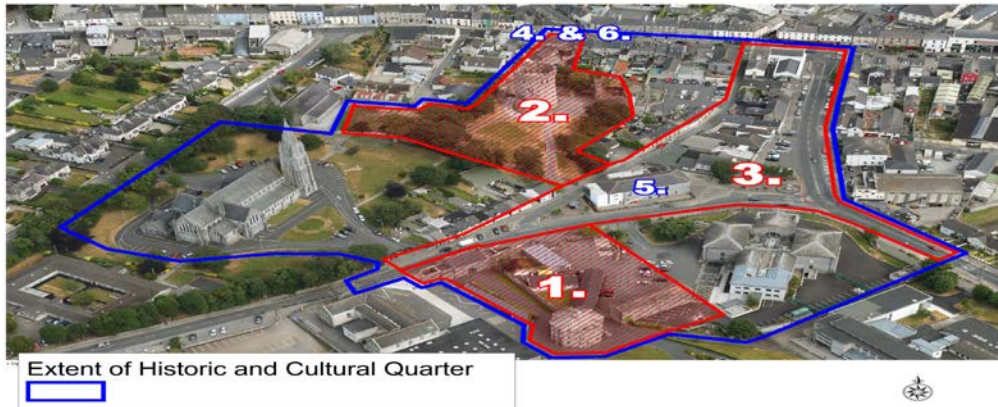
The project proposal is a flagship urban regeneration project to conserve and establish Templemore Town Hall as an economic, cultural and community hub of the town, the District and the Mid-West Region. The project was prepared by the Council in partnership with Garda Training College, Templemore College of Further Education, Templemore Community Development Association, the Local Enterprise Office and the Tipperary Energy Agency. Complete revisions to detailed designs. Tendering process is being progressed for the appointment of a contractor for the construction stage. Final Business Case will be compiled for submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development on completion of the tendering process. Works are expected to commence in Q2 2022. **Total project costs approved are €2,810,000 and RRDF grant amounts to €2,107,500.**



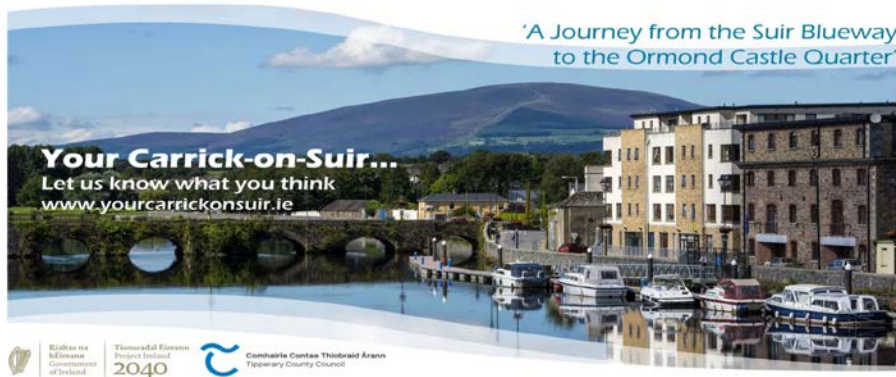
### Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter - A Tourism-led Regeneration Plan

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. Design team appointed. Significant public consultation has been undertaken on the concept development which will inform the detailed design. Concept development and preliminary designs will be completed by end of Q1 2022. Complete detailed designs by end of Q2 2022 and Part 8 Planning by end of Q3 2022. **Total project costs approved are €896,712 and RRDF grant amounts to €672,534.**



**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. Design team appointed December, 2020. Preliminary design stage completed with significant input from the public. Part 8 Planning is completed. Detailed designs will be completed by end of Q1 2022. **Total project costs approved are €487,500 and RRDF grant amounts to €365,625.**



**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.

**Cahir Market House Business Centre:** –Part 8 Planning completed. Detailed designs completed.

**Cahir Town Centre Public Realm and Car Park:** - Purchase of two opportunity sites for the proposed car park is completed. Part 8 Planning completed January, 2022. Detailed designs will be completed by the end of February, 2022. **Total project costs approved are €986,354 and RRDF grant amounts to €663,362.**



**Thurles Market Quarter: Regeneration through Recreation, Education and support for Local Producers** is a collaboration between Tipperary County Council, Thurles Lion’s Club and Mary Immaculate College Thurles. The project will provide a designated market space in the town centre for local food and craft producers, artists and performers; will offer a location in the centre of a cluster of civic spaces to be enjoyed by locals and visitors while also acting as a base for the MIC Students’ Union. Project was awarded RRDF Funding in April, 2021. Approval in Principle issued by

the Department of Rural and Community Development in October, 2021 together with additional funding of €549,270. Pre-Tender Approval Report currently being compiled for submission to the Department. **Total project costs are €3,825,700 and RRDF grant amounts to €3,443,130.**



### Kilsheelan – Revitalisation of Rural Villages: A Model for Cluster Housing and Low Carbon Planning

The project has been developed as a demonstrator scheme to show the practical implementation of Tipperary County Council's 'Design and Best Practice Guidelines for Cluster Housing'. The guidelines



include a series of case studies illustrating how sustainable design solutions can be developed across a range of village types and site options. This project will be model for serviced site developments across the country and an initiative to revitalise villages in Tipperary and across the country. The scheme was subject to a Part 8 process, approved by the Elected Members in July, 2019. Approval in Principle under Decision Gate 1 issued by the Department of Rural and Community Development together with additional funding of €51,896. Pre-Tender Approval Report under Decision Gate 2 was approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development in

November, 2021. Design team appointed January, 2022. Detailed designs should be completed by end of Q2 2022 with works commencing on site by end of Q3 2022. Estimated completion of construction works by end of Q2 2023. **Total project costs are €670,833 and RRDF grant amounts to €603,750.**

### Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub, Nenagh



Funding has been approved to prepare detailed designs and planning for the adaptive re-use of the former iconic 1940's Rialto cinema into a modern digital and enterprise hub facility using best practice and appropriate modern architectural intervention to provide excellent office, collaboration and meeting spaces. The associated brownfield site will be master-planned to explore the potential for further digital and enterprise office space, the creation of a new streetscape along Emmet Place, the potential provision of town centre residential units and the delivery of a new public amenity heart in the town centre. The Hub will be an exemplar

sustainable, green, town centre regeneration project that will revitalize the town centre of Nenagh through the provision of much needed incubator enterprise space, public realm enhancement, improved permeability/linkages with existing streets and backland/infill development through planning for the delivery of town centre homes. The overarching aim and purpose of the proposal is to promote economic development and increase employment opportunities while preserving and saving a protected historic structure which was purchased by the Council in December, 2020.

Verification and Due Diligence Phase completed and returned to the Department of Rural and Community Development in January, 2022. Project Steering Committee established. Total project costs are **€1,511,059** and RRDF grant amounts to **€1,208,847**.

### Conservation Grant Schemes 2021/2022

The **Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2022** 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 opened for new applications on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and closed on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Tipperary County Council have received 24 Applications. These applications will now be assessed by our Conservation Architect. The projects nominated for funding must be with the Department by the 11<sup>th</sup> February.

The **Historic Structure Fund 2021** 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.

Inspections took place in early November and works were complete on all projects except the Tipperary Courthouse. This was delayed due to the appointment of a contractor but works have now commenced.

The scheme opened for new applications on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and closed on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Tipperary County Council have received 12 Applications. These applications will now be assessed by our Conservation Architect. The projects nominated for funding must be with the Department by the 11<sup>th</sup> February.

Any queries on the scheme can be directed to Fergal Condon, Staff Officer, Planning, Clonmel.

### Town Walls

There are 4 towns currently members of the Irish Walled Towns network – Clonmel, Cashel, Carrick on Suir and Fethard. Membership is renewed annually by the Heritage Office.

Funding for conservation works and interpretation is offered annually by the Heritage Council (subject to competitive application), and the Council is responsible for annual maintenance of sections that have been subject to conservation works.

### Conservation Works schedule 2021

**Fethard-** In 2021 a section of the Fethard Walls behind Lonergans Bar was conserved. Funding of €34,000 was received from the Irish Walled towns Network with match funding provided by the



Council. The works were undertaken by V Plant Construction Ltd and supervised by Michael O'Boyle, Grade 1 Conservation Architect.

**Clonmel**- No funding sought

**Cashel**

Works were completed at the rear of the Hospital.

**Carrick on Suir**

Works were completed at the Castlelawn tennis Courts.

**Planning Applications – Decision Making from 1/01/21 to 31/12/21**

Application Type	Number of decisions made	Number Granted	Number refused	No. of Decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	Decisions reversed by An Bord Pleanála
Individual House	295	289	6	4	0
Housing Development	36	30	6	8	1
NIA/EIA	8	7	1	1	1
Other Applications	859	839	20	14	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>1165</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>

**Enforcement Proceedings**

There were 205 complaints received from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. During this period 136 Warning Letters and 21 Enforcement Notices were issued.

**Taking in Charge: Estates**

Being processed	Taken in Charge in 2022	Advertised	New applications 2022
26	0	1	1



### OPR Pilot Programme – Review of Tipperary Co. Council’s Systems & Procedures

The Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR) was established in 2019 for a number of purposes including independently overseeing the delivery by planning authorities of planning services to the public. The OPR has recently commenced a programme of reviews of planning authorities on a national scale, that will take place over a six-year cycle.

Tipperary County Council recognised the benefits of such a review of its current planning functions and the opportunity to future proof its service delivery, so the Council’s Planning Department sought to be included in the pilot phase of the review programme.

The OPR published their review report in September 2021. The report acknowledged that the Council’s planning service is operating effectively with robust systems and procedures in place to deliver statutory planning functions. The independent review found that the planning department has many considerable strengths and it can reinforce and enhance that strong competency base by implementing the various recommendations proposed in the report. To ensure that the benefits and opportunities of the review report are realised, Tipperary County Council is committed to developing a robust Implementation Plan through the establishment of a cross-directorate working group together with positive engagement with the OPR and other national bodies to fully implement the findings and recommendations of this first review report by the OPR.

### E-Planning

In association with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), and the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), Tipperary Planning Authority is piloting the planning portal <https://planning.localgov.ie> During 2021 the following works have been completed in preparation for e-planning, webinar has been held with agents, full UAT (User Acceptability Testing) testing has commenced on the production platform, faults have been addressed and the national document categorisations have been completed. We have liaised with Galway County Council to assist them with pilot project. The prescribed bodies have been engaged with regarding planning applications to inform them of the implications for e-planning. In addition, Tipperary County Council and the LGMA have worked with the software developers and significant development works (phase 1 & 2) have been undertaken. Prior to go live agents who submit applications to Tipperary County Council were emailed with a user guide and a step by step video. The portal went to live pilot here in Tipperary County Council (where planning applications can be lodged online and all subsequent correspondence to the applicant/agent will be electronic.) in December 2021. This year 2022 to date (25<sup>th</sup> January) 29% of applications received have been online applications.

## FIRE SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL



SECTION PRIORITIES		
Major Current Issues	Progress in Previous Month	Next Stage
Major Emergency Management	Finalising the Business continuity software package.  Ongoing engagement with MW regional steering & working groups. -----	Final workshop with supplier and delivery of the system – expect to complete in Q2 2022
Building Control	Commencement notices and fire safety certificates continued to be submitted for assessment.  Onsite inspections ongoing  -----	Complete annual inspection programme for 2022 reaching Dept. guideline targets
Health & Safety	Audit to ISO 45001 & 9001 completed in Jan 2022 – successfully certified to both standards  New fire kit on test in two stations for January  -----	Procure two sets of Gold firefighting kit for all staff
Fire Safety	Fire Safety Strategy prepared and signed off for delivery in 2022  -----	Liaise with schools to assess if a restart of the primary schools programme is feasible in Q1 2022.

<b>CURRENT PROJECTS</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress in Previous Month</b>	<b>Next Stage</b>
Cashel Fire Station	Shortlisting completed for new tender and final tendering process underway.	7 Contractors have been pre-qualified and will be invited to submit final tenders this month
Roscrea Fire Station	Improvement works included in Department allocation.	Seek department approval to appoint design team – application currently with Department.
New appliances	Final design meeting held with Emergency One and TFRS	Signed contracts have been exchanged with Emergency One UK Ltd – significant delay (6-9 months) on delivery of the chassis to the supplier

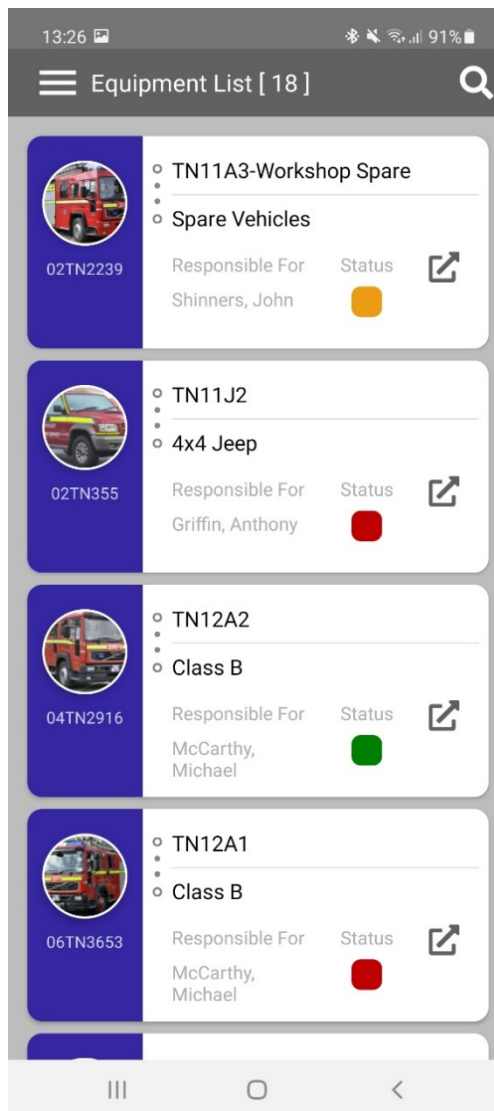
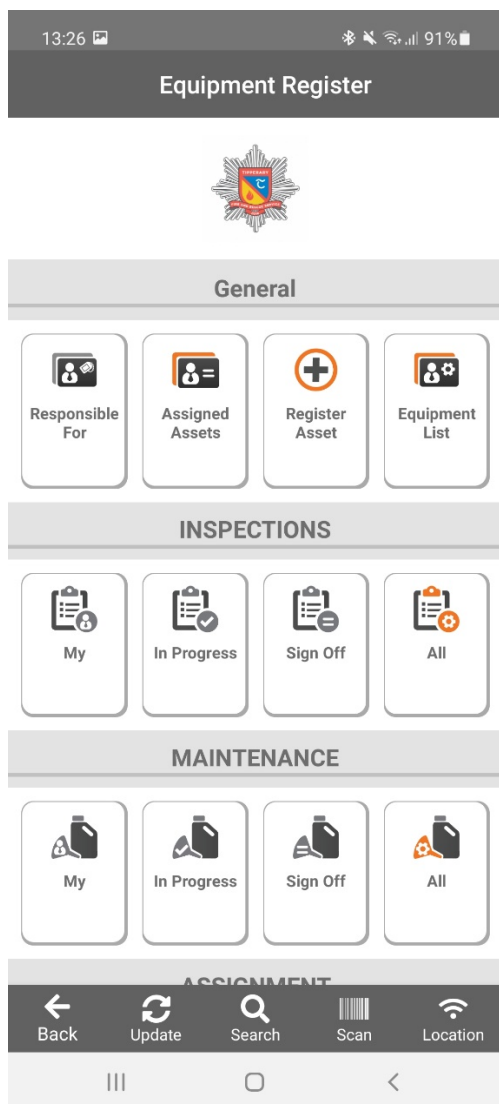
<b>ADMIN/LICENSING PROCESSES</b>	<b>To 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022</b>
<b>Number of Emergency Calls Attended</b>	<b>1295</b>
<b>Number of Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Number of Fire Safety Certificates Granted</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Number of Disability Access Certificate Applications Received</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Number of Disability Access Certificates Granted</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Number of Commencement Notices Received</b>	<b>446</b>

### Health & Safety - Flex Manager System

As part of Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service’s continued certification to ISO9001 for quality management and ISO45001 for occupational health and safety, the fire service has procured use of Flex Manager, a software application for asset tracking and safety administration. Several components of Tipperary Fire & Rescue Service’s safety management system are dependent on the completion of periodical checks. Previously this has been completed on paper with relevant checklists and associated guidance issued to stations on an annual basis. The Flex Manager system will ensure checks are completed on time and a full and easy accessible audit trail is maintained. The system can also generate work schedules based on defects identified omitting the need for contact between station officers, senior officers and mechanics, creating leaner work flows. Implementation of the full system using all available modules will inevitably result in

cost savings with a reduction in printing costs and man hours in managing the previous paper-based system. Additional benefits include ease of access of information for day-to-day activities, inspections and audits.

The Flex Manager software system from CGA Technology was chosen over other asset management systems through a tender process on E-Tenders.



## Civil Defence

### COVID-19 Response

#### Response

Tipperary Civil Defence is continuing to provide support to the HSE in the fight against COVID 19. In particular in the Vaccination Centre and providing support and backup to the COVID test center Munroe just outside Clonmel. This support continued over what was an extremely busy Christmas period

#### Blood Transfusion Service

Volunteers continue to supply Meet and Greet and wellness checks for the Blood donation clinics at various location throughout the county. Most recent clinics in Clonmel Nenagh and Thurles

#### Vaccination Centre Response

Volunteers have since April 2021 aided the HSE with Meet and Greet and post vaccination observation in vaccination centers. Volunteers have been outstanding in their response to this activity request.



#### COVID Test Centre

Preparation of COVID test kits has continued reaching an outstanding amount of 5000 kits Christmas week to meet the excessive demand for PCR tests. Kits are prepared in our Thurles and Clonmel training centres. Great credit is due to the volunteer for this outstanding response over the Christmas period to allow for such an increase in demand.



*Repacking of 5000 kits to aid the test centre with the increased demand for PCR tests during and after Christmas.*

### Community Events

In spite of the very busy Christmas period our volunteers were more than happy to provide Ambulance cover for Operation Transformation 5k National event supported by Tipperary Sport Partnership at Thurles race course.



### Health & Safety

#### Risk Assessment Review

Civil Defence has reviewed a substantial number of operational Risk assessments and has completed the sectional Risk assessments for COVID related activities

### Funding & Additional Grants

#### Dormant Account Fund

In late 2021 Tipperary Civil Defence was granted a further €20,000 to replace our current K9 vehicle which is now near end of life. A suitable vehicle has been sourced and again will require additional funds for fit out in 2022 which have been agreed by the Dept of Defence. Decal of the vehicle has taken place and the vehicle is now operational in our fleet.



*K9 support vehicle 100% grant funded from Dormant Account fund complete with Civil Defence Decal, and now operational.*

#### Civil Defence Training

Due to the contagious nature of the Omicron variant of COVID 19 training of volunteers was temporarily suspended. It is hoped training will recommence as soon as public health guidelines allow. On-line Training continues for our student EMT's

Library Service



Martina Coffey, Rainbow Pre-School and Childcare Centres collecting the First 5 Little Library book bags from Nenagh Library

- *The First 5 Little Library* book bags were distributed by staff in Nenagh Library to pre-school and childcare centres in Nenagh and surrounding areas as part of the roll out of the second phase of the *Little Library Initiative*. The First 5 Little Libraries book bags contain books and materials chosen by librarians to support storytelling and reading with children. The aim of the Little Library Book Bag initiative is to support Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School-Age Childcare (SAC) services to further develop little libraries in their settings with quality book titles in English and Irish.



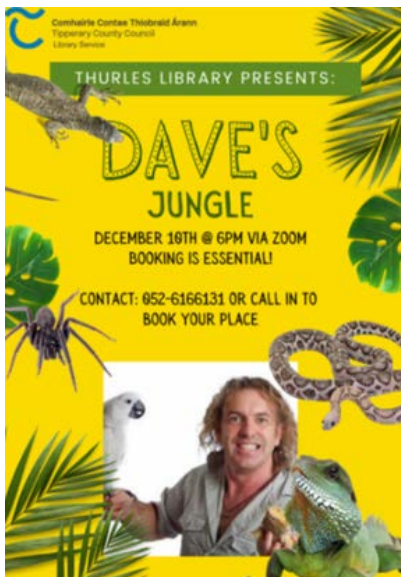
- Staff in Nenagh Library ran an online toddlers storytime throughout January. These were broadcast live on Facebook.



- Nenagh Library hosted an exhibition of paintings by Tipperary based artist Damien McCarron during December.



- Nenagh Library ran a “Build a catapult” Lego challenge throughout the month of January. There was a great response to this and these can be viewed on the Library Facebook page.



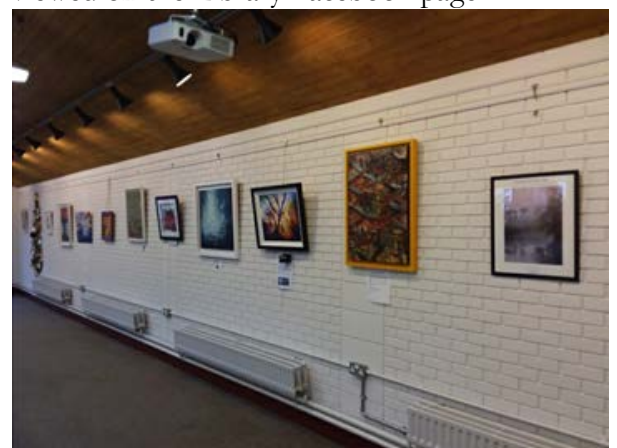
- Thurles Library hosted an online children's workshop on 10<sup>th</sup> December entitled Jungle Dave. This workshop introduced local children to exotic creatures such as snakes, crocodiles, spiders, insects and lizards. This event was run as part of the Family Time at your Library initiative.



- Staff at Thurles Library organised an online Christmas storytime with storyteller and entertainer Helena Byrne on 18<sup>th</sup> December.



- Thurles Library prepared and distributed a series of craft bags during December and January. Each bag contained materials for a series of arts and craft challenges.
- Staff in Thurles Library ran a series of Lego challenges in December and January. Entries received can be viewed on the Library Facebook page.



- Clonmel Library relaunched the Library exhibition space on 1<sup>st</sup> December with a special exhibition featuring over 20 local and national artists. The library hosted two exhibitions in January. *Child's Play II* which ran from 4<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup> January was an exhibition featuring artwork produced

by home schooled children during the pandemic. *Ireland Painted with Vice* which ran from 17<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> January was an exhibition on Guinness inspired art by Mike Gale

- Clonmel Library partnered with Clonmel Municipal District to create a Christmas Trail around Clonmel Town. Over 50 participants followed a map to the Christmas scenes painted on windows around the town & unscrambled the hidden letters to spell out a Christmas Tale. The event ran from 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December.
- The Clonmel Library Winter Reading Challenge concluded on December 18<sup>th</sup>. 115 children participated with each child reading 15 books.



- Clonmel Library's *Around our town* series continues with two further episodes added in January. These can be viewed at the following links:
  - Episode 43 – Famine & Flour in South Tipperary  
<https://www.tipperarylibraries.ie/around-our-town-ep-43-famine-flour-in-south-tipperary/>
  - Episode 44 – Famine Evictions in Tipperary:  
<https://www.tipperarylibraries.ie/around-our->

[town-ep-44-famine-evictions-in-tipperary/](https://www.tipperarylibraries.ie/around-our-town-ep-44-famine-evictions-in-tipperary/)



- Staff in Clonmel Library organised a Design a Christmas Decoration Competition and Christmas Colouring Competition during December.
- Cashel Library organised a series of drama classes with Ta Da Theatre company on 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December.



- Cashel Library distributed Christmas Cookie recipe kits. These were complimented with an online video demonstration on how to prepare and bake them.
- Staff in Cashel Library organised a “Design a Christmas card” workshop on 18<sup>th</sup> December.



- Staff in Tipperary Town Library organised an outdoor Carol signing session with St. Ailbhe's School, Tipperary.



- Staff in Tipperary Town Library organised an online Christmas trad session which was broadcast on the Library YouTube Channel.
- Tipperary Town Library organised an online Christmas Poetry Recital on 23<sup>rd</sup> December which was read by retired staff member, Donie McGettigan.

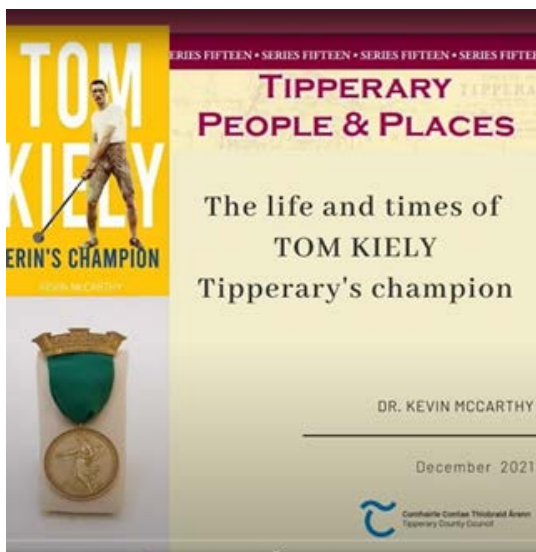


- Staff in Roscrea Library organised for local artist Niamh Ryan to paint the Library windows with Christmas scenes.



- Staff in Roscrea Library prepared and distributed a series of craft bags in December.

## Tipperary Studies

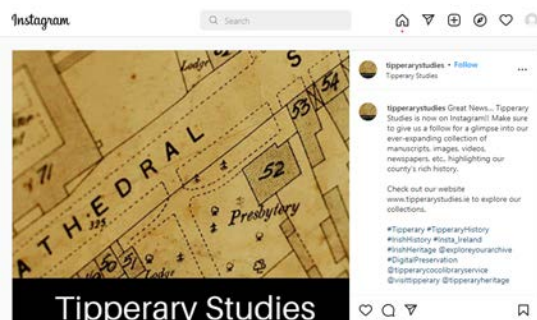


- Dr Kevin McCarthy gave an illustrated talk on Tom Kiely in the Source Theatre on December 14th, which presented the case for him being not only Tipperary's greatest sports star, but Ireland's too. Kiely's sporting career spanned over twenty years and encompassed athletics in many forms, the GAA, and the social and political challenges of the day too.



- The Sharkey Photographic Collection is now available on our digital archives <https://www.tippstudiesdigital.ie/> Seán (John/Jack) Sharkey, intelligence officer with the 3rd Tipperary Brigade was an avid photographer and took this collection of photographs during the War of Independence and the subsequent Civil War. His collection also includes documents and an autograph album from Tintown. The photographs consist of images of

flying columns, training camps and individual members of the 3rd Tipperary Brigade, with some rare photographs of Dan Breen's wedding in 1921.



- Tipperary Studies has launched an Instagram account which will host much of the digitised content which has been created in recent years. This has already received very positive feedback.

### Arts Service

- **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. A range of support schemes provided direct grant support to 22 artists in 2021 in Music, Theatre, Literature, Circus and the Visual Arts. Professional development training and events, in addition to supporting artists development, also provide important networking opportunities for artists in Tipperary. This is an area of arts office support consistently identified by artists as of value and during 2021 we continued our online training provision in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland and partner local authorities in Limerick and Clare. A range of grants and schemes to support Arts Development in the county were advertised in December for 2022 as follows:

- **Tipperary Arts Act Grant Scheme** – intended to assist organisations in stimulating public interest in the arts, promoting the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts or in improving standards in the arts in the county.
- **Tipperary Artists Awards** – intended to support professional artists under three categories, professional development, creation of new work, reaching audiences.
- **Local Drama Scheme** - Up to two development awards annually to assist groups in developing skills within the group/enhancing production values/availing of further training/availing of professional input or for other development needs/special projects.
- The closing date for all grant schemes is 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 12 noon.
- The Arts Office co-ordinates the **Tipperary Festivals & Events Scheme** on behalf of Tipperary County Council which supports events throughout the county. The closing date for 2022 has been extended to 11<sup>th</sup> February next in response to changing public health guidance announced recently and to give organisers an opportunity to plan in this context.



- The aim of the **Tipperary Artist in Primary Schools Scheme** is to give pupils in schools all over the county the opportunity to work with a professional artist on a once-off unique project to be planned between the artist and the school. Nine projects across a range of artistic disciplines ranging from animation to visual arts, music and theatre took place in Tipperary schools during 2021 engaging 602 pupils in a creative arts programme. The 2022 scheme is currently open for applications with a closing date of 18<sup>th</sup> February. The Tipperary arts strategy identifies an action around data mapping to identify geographic take up of the scheme to inform future arts policy and planning in this area. This work started in 2017 and continues to demonstrate that this scheme is key to delivering on one of our desired outcomes, to achieve a demographic and geographic spread of arts provision across the county.

## Local Live Performance Programming Scheme Round 2 – Dec. 21

- In June 2021, Tipperary Arts Office were notified that their application for funding under the Local Live Performance Programming Scheme was successful with an award of €143,000. As the live performance sector was very adversely affected by the restrictions due to COVID-19, this scheme was established with the aim of supporting local event management companies to host live events outdoors between July – October 2021. Tipperary Arts Office put out an Open Call to event management/professional production companies for the delivery of services in relation to live outdoor performances to take place in the 5 Municipal Districts of Tipperary. Events took place across all of the five municipal districts providing employment for musicians, crew and creatives and providing audiences with a safe return to events. Through this scheme 213 individuals were employed over 274 days employment over 32 events across the county.
- Tipperary County Council invited quotations for the programming and delivery of services in relation to live performances to take place throughout Tipperary, in each of the five Municipal District (MD) areas, between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. The aim of this scheme was to assist producers, promoters and venues to provide support for people in the industry to facilitate programming of live performances (outdoor or indoor), animating town centres for local communities during November/December 2021, should public health considerations permit. Performances could be recorded or streamed if health restrictions prevented live events. A number of

approaches were supported across the county last December and due to changing Public Health Guidance some events which were planned to take place in person changed to online presentations to great response in spite of the challenges presented by changing conditions.



### Clonmel BD

- The local response to 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' outdoor community musical in October was fantastic and many people locally expressed disappointment to have missed it due to limited capacities. In response to this demand Clonmel Junction Arts Festival were excited to share 'The Bells of Notre Dame: Songs from the musical 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' which was supported under this scheme. The Hunchback cast, choir, musicians and creative team came together again in December to recreate the magic from the original performance. A digital celebration of the show was filmed in Old St Mary's Church, with a wonderful community cast, ensemble, and choir supported by a professional orchestra, led by conductor Eamon O'Malley and the recording was available to view online from December 24th to December 31st.



- A series of three live outdoor events which took place at Clonacody House near Fethard were also supported under Phase 2 of the scheme during December featuring The Cedartowns, Mike Hanratty of Stockton's Wing and Emma Langford and The Kilkennys with Pat Kerwick.

### Nenagh MD:

- A series of outdoor live events were programmed in Nenagh town throughout the month of December featuring local performers across genres from pop up events to supporting Christmas initiatives such as the Christmas Lights Open Air concert in partnership with Nenagh MD and a number of socially distanced concerts as restrictions allowed. In all more than 60 musicians, singers and dancers performed on the streets of Nenagh in the lead in to the Christmas season, programmed by the dynamic local production company Spain AV.



### Carrick On Suir MD/ Thurles MD/ Cashel/Cahir/Tipperary MD:



- Live events which were planned for these districts we re-imagined due to changing restrictions in December to present a monumental and memorable showcase of the county and its musical talent shot on location across the three districts and showcasing local singers, musicians and storytellers with high profile visiting musicians in a two-hour extravaganza which received a hugely positive response and reach. **GrianStad** was a special event celebrating the solstice in Tipperary. It aired as a streaming show on [Tipperarylive.ie](http://Tipperarylive.ie) and Tipperary Arts office Facebook on the 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7pm. Filmed across Cahir, Thurles and Carrick on Suir, Grianstad featured live performances from Bell X1's Paul Noonan, Rockwell School of Music, Jack O'Rourke, The Wood of O, Liam O'Maonlai, Jim of The Mills and many more local talented performers. The event was hosted by Emma Langford, produced by Star Systems (Thurles) and managed by CWB Productions, Birdhill. This event has recently been picked by SPFTV (St Patricks Festival TV) and will air nationwide in March. SPFTV had over 1 million viewers last

year so this will be a fantastic platform for the county.

Heritage Service

**County Heritage Plan Actions Update:**

**Funding drawdown for 2021:**

- Final reports and drawdowns for the Community Monuments Fund, Commemorations Community Grant Scheme, Creative Ireland and Community Grant Scheme were completed in December. This culminated in an income of €408,704 for 2021 across 6 programmes. Approximately 91 projects were delivered/supported through these funds.



- The Local Authority Heritage Officers Network are hosting a series of 4 online webinars through January and February based on Heritage and Climate. These can be booked via the following link:
- <https://kilkennyheritage.ie/2022/01/save-the-dates-heritage-biodiversity-actions-for-climate/>

**Community Monuments Fund:**

- The Community Monuments Fund 2022 launched in December. this scheme is for archaeological sites and closes on February 15<sup>th</sup> February. The core aims of this Fund are the conservation, maintenance, protection and presentation of archaeological monuments. It will:
  - **enable** conservation works to be carried out on monuments which are deemed to be significant and in need of urgent support
  - **build** resilience in our monuments to enable them to withstand the effects of climate change
  - **encourage** access to monuments and improve their presentation.
  - The Department encourages project promoters to incorporate a traditional skills training element in projects.

**Commemorations Programme:**

- The Commemorations Community Grant Scheme was launched in January with a closing date of 11<sup>th</sup> February. Under the Community Strand of the Decade of Centenaries Programme in 2022, local authorities will drive and support community-led commemorative initiatives to reflect on local connections to the significant historical events that occurred a century ago, supported by the principles and guidance laid down by the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations.

**Creative Ireland Programme:**

- The Creative Ireland Open Call and Community Grant scheme was launched in January with a closing date of 11<sup>th</sup> February. The ambition of the Creative Ireland Programme is to

mainstream creativity in the life of the nation. Participation in cultural and creative activity promotes individual, community and national wellbeing. Creative Communities is a collaboration, between central and local government, between culture and industry, between artists, policy makers and communities.

it is intended to launch the project in May as part of Bealtaine.

- The Museum have received requests in January for the loan box from a Nursing Home in Co. Limerick and Fethard NS, Co. Tipperary. It already went to a Dublin Secondary School where 350+ students engaged with the box. Three new Loan Boxes will be developed in the coming 12 months.

## Museum Service

2022		
LECTURE <b>04</b>	SEAN HOGAN Fire as a Weapon in the Decade of Revolution	SATURDAY JAN 8
LECTURE <b>05</b>	BRENDA MALONE The Irish Wars and the Politics of Display	SATURDAY FEB 5
LECTURE <b>06</b>	GABRIEL DOHERTY The 'other' Treaty Debate	SATURDAY MAR 5
LECTURE <b>07</b>	PAT MCCARTHY The Irish Civil War - The first phase	SATURDAY APR 2

- The Irish Civil War Lecture Series continues to attract high numbers of viewers. Sean Hogan gave a lecture entitled *Fire as a weapon in the decade of revolution* in January and Brenda Malone gave a lecture entitled *The Irish Wars and the politics of display* in February. Both lectures can now be viewed on [www.hiddenhistory.ie](http://www.hiddenhistory.ie)
- The Museum has partnered with a women's group in Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary Town produce an architectural trail of Tipperary Town. The group will participate in three facilitated sessions on architecture, photography and local history before devising the trail. Mary Alice O' Connor will facilitate the Local history element of the project. The sessions will be held in March and



- Staff in the Museum prepared and distributed fifty St Brigid's Day Crosses kits. An accompanying step by step instruction guide and You Tube Video was uploaded onto the Museum Website and Facebook page.



- The successful collaboration of TCC Partnership with Walter Doheny and the Museum developed an incredible volume of innovative projects to

support staff through various lockdowns and the challenging work/life balance. The culmination of several photography and colouring competitions with TCC staff and their

families resulted in a wonderful record of life during the 2020 & 2021 Covid-19 lockdowns. This positive project was rolled out and distributed across all staff and retirees in Dec 2021.



## FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

### Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

	EXPENDITURE				Income €	INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Budget Remaining €		Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	Budget outstanding €	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €
<b>A</b> Housing & Building	36,121,773	34,559,408	105%	(1,562,365)	35,063,618	34,709,748	101%	(353,870)	(1,058,155)
<b>B</b> Road Transport & Safety	59,737,849	59,048,543	101%	(689,306)	43,038,757	41,786,965	103%	(1,251,792)	(16,699,092)
<b>C</b> Water Services	12,834,549	14,885,125	86%	2,050,576	12,036,360	14,444,814	83%	2,408,454	(798,189)
<b>D</b> Development Management	15,212,479	14,611,039	104%	(601,440)	7,705,470	5,451,283	141%	(2,254,187)	(7,507,009)
<b>E</b> Environmental Services	25,691,665	29,570,114	87%	3,878,449	10,688,114	12,402,770	86%	1,714,656	(15,003,551)
<b>F</b> Recreation & Amenity	12,460,715	13,813,198	90%	1,352,483	2,098,090	2,605,159	81%	507,069	(10,362,624)
<b>G</b> Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,454,372	1,929,188	75%	474,816	1,034,890	1,272,475	81%	237,585	(419,482)
<b>H</b> Miscellaneous Services	22,818,814	16,486,224	138%	(6,332,590)	15,884,770	9,271,617	171%	(6,613,153)	(6,934,044)
<b>LG</b> Local Property Tax	0	0	0%	0	24,893,610	27,156,665	92%	2,263,055	24,893,610
<b>RA</b> Rates	0	0	0%	0	32,817,899	35,801,343	92%	2,983,444	32,817,899
<b>Totals</b>	<b>186,332,215</b>	<b>184,902,839</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>(1,429,376)</b>	<b>185,261,577</b>	<b>184,902,839</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>(358,738)</b>	<b>(1,070,638)</b>



**Capital Account – Year to Date 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>
	Expenditure YTD €	Total income YTD €
<b>A</b> Housing & Building	27,915,069	26,516,681
<b>B</b> Road Transport & Safety	6,470,624	5,469,358
<b>C</b> Water Services	2,537,925	2,229,187
<b>D</b> Development Management	11,946,961	12,463,306
<b>E</b> Environmental Services	1,729,598	1,064,275
<b>F</b> Recreation & Amenity	1,130,138	485,311
<b>G</b> Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	86,991	65,567
<b>H</b> Miscellaneous Services	2,956,282	1,646,862
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,847,421</b>	<b>38,846,832</b>

<b>Collection Rates</b>	<b>YTD 202111</b>	<b>YTD 202011</b>	<b>YTD 202012</b>
<b>Rates</b>	76%**	66%	75%*
<b>Rents</b>	95%	96%	97%
<b>Housing Loans</b>	99%	93%	94%

\* 2020 Year-end collection rate is as per AFS, and takes account of Specific Doubtful Arrears, unlike the end of Nov figures.

The year-end collection rate also takes account of Rates Waiver Scheme in the sum of €12.5m.

\*\* November 2021 figure takes account of Rates Waiver of €7.51m.



## COMMERCIAL RATES

Rate Accruals for 2021 amounted to **€35,761,638**.

Payments of €28,633,865 were received, including deferred income in 2021 from 2020 in the amount of €3m – this arose where customer accounts were in credit at the end of 2020 due to the application of the 2020 Covid relief waiver. An amount of approx. €1.4 M will be deferred from these receipts to 2022.

## COVID 19 COMMERCIAL RATES WAIVER SCHEME

The 2021 Covid19 Rates Waiver Scheme for Q1, Q2 and Q3 of 2021 has been implemented and the waiver has been applied to the appropriate customer accounts, in the amount of **€6,681,503**.

A more limited Waiver Scheme was implemented for Q4. This was restricted to certain uses within the Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism categories, and will be administered on rates accounts in the coming weeks. An amount of **€835,251** has been applied to appropriate accounts in relation to this waiver.

## SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR COVID (SBASC)

137 applications were received for the Q1 SBASC Scheme. 84 applications were approved to the value of €336,000. 53 applications were rejected.

125 Applications were received for SBASC Q2. 80 applications were approved to the value of €287,000. 45 Applications were rejected.

## EARLY PAYMENT SCHEME FOR COMMERCIAL RATES 2021

1,346 customers benefitted from our Early Payment Scheme, achieving total reductions in their rates of €92,304

- Applied to all ratepayers with an annual rates bill of up to €12,000 for 2021.
- To avail of the Early Payment Reduction of 5%, subject to a maximum of €500 payment of rates were made in full, (less the reduction under the Waiver Scheme\*) by 30th September 2021.

The scheme was open to customers with arrears on their accounts where they met the following requirements:



a) Paid a minimum amount which is equivalent to the annual rates, net of waiver, by the same timelines outlined above and

b) Entered into a structured payment plan to address and eliminate arrears.

### VACANT PROPERTY RELIEF

Commercial Rates remain payable on vacant property. Where a property is vacant on the date of making the rate, owners must notify the local authority and advise that the property is vacant and for letting, or is closed for refurbishment or repair.

Vacancy relief will be applied to qualifying property in accordance with the following scale:

Category	% Relief/Payment
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill up to €5,000	100% Vacancy Relief
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €5,000, but less than €10,000	85% Vacancy Relief 15% to be paid
Qualified Vacant Properties with a rates bill over €10,000	70% Vacancy Relief 30% to be paid

Vacancy relief has been applied to accounts in the amount of **€1,642,989**. We are still working on end of year processes, and this figure could increase by a further €625,000.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

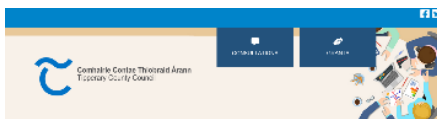
### Web Site and eDevelopment

#### Website Statistics

- Our web site [www.Tipperarycoco.ie](http://www.Tipperarycoco.ie) had just under 1.5 million page views in 2021.
- Our Consultations Portal had 39,943 page views in 2021. It was launched in 2021 and facilitated 12 consultations. Our County Development Plan had 626 submissions online.

#### Other Developments of Interest

- Developed and launched Online applications for Municipal District Schemes for Clubs & Residents Assoc Grants
- Tested the automating of electronic requests for shorter working year as a proof of concept, for family friendly policies (HR)
- Commenced the development of a Tipperary Holy Wells & Artists Online Database.



Welcome to Consultations and Grants

### Business Systems and GIS

#### Planning

- Provided support to the infrastructure for National ePlanning System that went live in the pilot sites (Tipperary & Galway) in December 2021.
- Undertook conversation with An Bord Pleanála to send planning

appeal documentation in electronic format rather than hard copies being posted up.

- In process of writing a Request for Proposal for system to replace existing planning Enforcements system.
- Completed a Web Services Catalogue in preparation of migration and upgrade of Arcgis in 2022.
- Continued GIS supports for County Development Plan.
- Weekly updates to planning digitisers continue.

#### Housing

- Prepared for User Acceptance Testing (UAT) system of Choice Based Letting System.
- UAT for CBL deployed end of January 2022. Continue to complete pre-requisites for the production environment.

#### **Choice Based Letting**

#### Finance

- eInvoicing went live and is in use.
- As a consequence of CORE upgrade, links from financial systems to CORE needed to be upgraded.

#### Roads

- Renewed subscription/licences of MapInfo/Autocad when required.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party licencing facilitated where required.

#### Corporate/Organisation/HR

- Continue to support phone billing.
- Provide corporate phones and setup on management tools.
- Continued with the first stage of our transition of our Customer

Relationship Management system (CRM) from version 2015 to 2016 (will be complete in February 2022)

- Completed our own CRM licence audit and purchased additional licencing
- Completed internal ISO45001 audit with Quadra for the IT H&S systems in preparation for our NSAI audit in March 2022
- Prepared the Electoral Register system iReg for live register.
- Added a Document management learning module to the e-learning management system.



- Provisioned a managed IT security operations services (SOC)
- continued to rollout and support remote working
- Upgraded remote access systems
- Installed Video Conferencing Facilities in Nenagh Municipal District Office Chamber and Parnell St Clonmel Chamber
- Continued with rollout of new wireless services across the county

### Networks & Infrastructure

- Completed the windows 10 upgrade programme – all desktops (with exception of 2) upgraded or replaced with windows 10
- Working on upgrading all office installs to Office 2019 – almost complete
- Installed a new wireless network link for Clonmel Library improving network speeds
- Reviewed and ceased a number of legacy phone and data lines
- Decommissioned a number of legacy servers



### All Teams

- Continued to provide technical support to staff and elected members
- Continued to manage and support business systems, websites, geographical, desktop and network systems