

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, CLONMEL  
AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM  
AT 10.00 AM  
ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2025.**

**Present**

Cllr. John Carroll, Cathaoirleach

Cllrs: Acheson, T; Ambrose, S; Bourke, K; Brennan, MI; Browne, L; Burgess, D; Crosse, J; Dennehy, N; Dunne, D; English, P; FitzGerald, J; FitzGerald, M; Goldsboro, A; Hannigan, J; Hourigan, M.H.; Kennedy, R; Kennedy, Wm; Lee, S; McGrath, M; Molloy, R; Moloney, A; Moran, E; O'Meara, JP; Ryan, AM; Ryan, J; Ryan, P; Ryan, S.

**Remote**

Cllrs: Anglim, MI; Bonfield, F; Bugler, P; Cahill-Skehan, K; Morgan Walsh, L; Morris, S; Murphy, M; O'Heney, J; O'Meara, MI; Quirke O'Meara, P; Smith, MI.

**Apologies**

**Also Present**

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Mr. Liam Brett, Mr. Brian Beck, Mr. Anthony Coleman, Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Mr. Damien Ginty Directors of Services

Mr. Denis Holland S.E. Mr James Murray, S.E, Mr. Robert Johnston S.E.E. Mr. Fergal Condon A.O., Mr. Shane O'Dwyer

Mr Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator

**Item 1.1**

**Welcome &  
Introduction/  
Meetings  
Protocol**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the December Meeting of the Council, advising members present in the Chamber that their microphone had to be turned on when they spoke and referred members attending remotely of the protocol for remote meetings circulated with the agenda and asked members to observe the rules contained therein with regard to remote meetings. He checked with each councillor attending remotely that they could see and hear clearly. He welcomed the media, the staff members and the members of the public who were in attendance.

The Meetings Administrator took a roll call confirmed a quorum was present and commenced the meeting with the opening prayer.

**Item 2.1  
Disclosure/or  
Conflicts of  
Interest**

No disclosures or conflicts of interest were notified to the Meetings Administrator in advance of the meeting

**Item No. 3.1  
Minutes of  
Council Meeting  
held on 13<sup>th</sup>  
October 2025**

The Minutes of Council Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October were proposed by **Cllr. Pat English**, seconded by **Cllr. David Dunne** and approved.

**Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

**Item 4.1**  
**Approval to**  
**Attendance**

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse** and resolved: -

"That pursuant to Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act 2001 and having regard to (i) the benefits likely to accrue, (ii) the general interest of this administrative area and of the local community (iii) the estimated cost of the proposed attendance and the provision made for such purposes in the annual budget, hereby nominate those listed hereunder to attend the following Conferences/Seminars/Trainings: -

<b>Seminars/ Conferences/ Similar Events</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Nominees</b>
The Celtic Conference - Irish Health Services Entitlements	5th-7th December 2025	Four Seasons, Carlingford	Richie Molloy Shane Lee Eddie Moran

**Item 4.2**  
**Reports on**  
**Conferences**

Reports on Conferences attended were noted.

**Item No. 5.1**  
**Draft Policy on**  
**the Naming of**  
**Local Authority**  
**Housing Estates**

The Cathaoirleach called on Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services to brief the members on the draft policy which was provided to the members in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Cooney outlined that the purpose of this policy is to establish a naming convention for Local Authority housing estates that complies with the Official Languages Act while promoting Irish cultural heritage. Under the policy, estate names will be presented either in Irish only or in a bilingual format. Names should reflect local historical and geographical significance and avoid duplication. To implement this, the Council Executive will invite name suggestions from local primary schools and compile a list of options. Three proposed names will then be submitted to the Municipal District for consideration. Members may choose one of these names or propose an alternative. Once a name is adopted, relevant agencies such as An Post, ESB, and the HSE will be notified. The overall objective of this policy is to

preserve local heritage and encourage the use of the Irish language in community naming practices.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Peggy Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. John Crosse** and resolved: -

***"that Tipperary County Council hereby adopts the policy on the Naming of Local Authority Housing Estates."***

**Item No. 5.2**  
**Local Authority**  
**own**  
**development**  
**pursuant to**  
**Article 81 of**  
**Part 8 of the**  
**Planning and**  
**development**  
**Regulations (as**  
**amended)**  
**Housing**  
**Development at**  
**Lissava and**  
**Carrigeen,**  
**Mountain View**  
**Drive, Cahir, Co.**  
**Tipperary**

The CE Report as circulated, noted that in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and development Regulations 2001, as amended, Tipperary County Council made available for public inspection, from 2nd September 2025 to 3rd October 2025 inclusive but excluding public holidays, the plans and particulars of the proposed development of: -

- 6 no. 1-Bed apartments in 3 No. two storey blocks (3 No. at Ground Level & 3 No. at First Floor Level),
- 2 No. 2-Bed single storey houses,
- 11 No. 2-Bed two storey houses,
- 19 No. 3-Bed two storey houses,
- 6 No. 4-Bed two storey houses,
- 1 No. 5-Bed two storey house
- a new entrance, estate access road,
- public open spaces,
- associated site development works including on curtilage and visitor car parking, site boundaries,
- re-location of existing playing pitch, drainage, associated earthworks, utilities and services connections and all ancillary siteworks.

The Planning Authority is satisfied that the proposal is in accordance with the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028 and the Cahir Local Area Plan 2021-2027 is acceptable in terms of design, traffic, access and circulation, surface water proposals and flood risk. The proposal will not result in negative impacts on built heritage or archaeology and presents no significant impacts on the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 site. The development as set out on the plans and particulars is considered acceptable and is consistent with the principle of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Therefore, it is recommended that the proposed development should proceed subject to the following recommended requirements and conditions.

1. (a) The applicant shall enter into Connection Agreements with Uisce Éireann to provide for service connections to the public water supply and wastewater collection network.
1. (b) All development shall be carried out in compliance with Uisce Éireann's Standard Details and Codes of Practice.
1. (c) Uisce Éireann does not permit Build Over of its assets. Where it is proposed to build over or divert existing water or wastewater services Housing Section shall have received written Confirmation of Feasibility (COF) of Diversion(s) from Uisce Éireann prior to any works commencing.

1. (d) Housing Section shall liaise with Uisce Éireann through all stages of the project to ensure the requirements of Uisce Éireann are met.

2. The mitigation measure as set out in the Archaeological Heritage Impact Assessment Report shall be implemented in full.

3. Prior to development commencing on the site Housing Section shall submit details of the boundary treatment within and bounding the site for the agreement of the Planning Section.

In response to members' queries, Mr. Robert Johnston, S.E.E., noted that significant engagement had taken place with neighbouring estates and that agreement was reached on linked areas. He anticipated that the contract will be awarded in early Q1 2026.

He clarified that wheelchair access had been fully considered, with a universal design incorporated throughout the development. Issues relating to surface water runoff have been addressed.

The inclusion of cycle lanes was welcomed by members.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mairín McGrath**, seconded by **Cllr. Andy Moloney** and agreed:

***"That Tipperary County Council proceed with the housing development at Mountain View Drive, Lissava, and Carrigeen, Cahir, County Tipperary consisting of the construction of 45 no. new social housing units including 6 no. 1-Bed apartments in 3 No. two storey blocks (3 No. at Ground Level & 3 No. at First Floor Level), 2 No. 2-Bed single storey houses, 11 No. 2-Bed two storey houses, 19 No. 3-Bed two storey houses, 6 No. 4-Bed two storey houses, 1 No. 5-Bed two storey house with a new entrance and associated site development Works in accordance with the Chief Executive Report as presented."***

Mr. James Murray S.E. outlined that the November 2025 Plenary Workshop presented Tipperary County Council's initiative to harmonise parking bye-laws across all Municipal Districts, creating a consistent countywide framework for regulation, enforcement, and fee structures. The project aims to ensure equity in charges, improve parking turnover to support town centre vitality, and maintain infrastructure through a stable income stream.

**Item No. 5.3**  
**Parking**  
**Harmonisation**

Progress to date includes agreement through the SPC and management team on the structure of proposed countywide bye-laws and a three-tier charging system (Tier 1: Clonmel; Tier 2: Nenagh, Thurles; Tier 3: Carrick-on-Suir, Roscrea, Templemore, Tipperary Town, Cashel, Cahir).

Broad consensus has been achieved on product lists, time increments, and funding returns to towns. Draft bye-law text has been developed and is undergoing legal review, with the legal pathway for plenary adoption identified. Additionally, retrospective maps of existing parking landscapes and draft schedules have been completed, facilitating transparency and

comparison across districts. Five district workshops were held, recording 77 items in the change log, of which 48 were actioned.

Proposed measures feature uniform charging times, a spectrum of parking products, off-street parking at lower rates, and a formal 20-minute free period for short and medium stays. A parallel scheme will return a percentage of parking revenue to towns to fund local initiatives, with an estimated €550,000 based on 2023 income. Next steps involve finalising maps, completing legal reviews, conducting public consultation, and presenting the bye-laws for adoption, with implementation targeted for September 2026.

It was proposed by Cllr. Jim Ryan, seconded by Cllr. Fiona Bonfield and agreed that the project moves to public consultation.

Cllr. Pat English counter proposed that the matter be referred back to the SPC, citing concerns about Clonmel's parking charges; this was seconded by Cllr. Niall Dennehy

Mr. Murray emphasised the need for public opinion to progress, and noted the broad spectrum of products proposed. Several members supported moving forward, noting that issues had been addressed at workshops.

Mr. Liam Brett, Director of Services, reminded members that the process began two years ago and highlighted the extensive work by the SPC, stressing the need for compromise and public feedback. Cllr. Mairín McGrath proposed deferring public consultation to January 2026, seconded by Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan; Mr. Murray indicated no objection.

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive, acknowledged the complexities involved and reiterated that the proposal represents a genuine attempt at harmonisation, urging members to allow public input.

In accordance with Standing Orders, the meetings Administrator noted that a vote would be taken on the amendment to refer the matter back to the SPC for further consideration.

### **Amendment to refer Parking Bye-Laws back to the SPC**

The vote was as follows:

	<b>COMHAIRLEOIR</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
1.	Acheson, Tom		✓		
2.	Ambrose, Siobhán		✓		
3.	Anglim, Micheál		✓		
4.	Bonfield, Fiona		✓		
5.	Bourke, Kieran		✓		
6.	Brennan, Michael		✓		
7.	Browne, Liam		✓		
8.	Bugler, Phyll		✓		
9.	Burgess, Declan			✓	
10.	Cahill Skehan, Kay		✓		

11.	Crosse, John		✓		
12.	Dennehy, Niall	✓			
13.	Dunne, David		✓		
14.	English, Pat	✓			
15.	FitzGerald, John			✓	
16.	Fitzgerald, Mark		✓		
17.	Goldsboro, Amy		✓		
18.	Hannigan, Joe			✓	
19.	Hourigan, Mary Hanna		✓		
20.	Kennedy, Roger			✓	
21.	Kennedy, William		✓		
22.	Lee, Shane		✓		
23.	Lowry, Michael			✓	
24.	McGrath, Máirín		✓		
25.	Molloy, Richie			✓	
26.	Moloney, Andy		✓		
27.	Moran, Eddie		✓		
28.	Morgan Walsh, Louise			✓	
29.	Morris, Seamus			✓	
30.	Murphy, Marie		✓		
31.	O'Heney, John		✓		
32.	O'Meara, J.P.		✓		
33.	O'Meara, Michael		✓		
34.	Quirke O'Meara,		✓		
35.	Ryan, Anne Marie		✓		
36.	Ryan, Jim		✓		
37.	Ryan, Peggy		✓		
38.	Ryan Séan		✓		
39.	Smith, Michael			✓	
40.	John Carroll		✓		
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>

The Meetings Administrator noted the result of the vote as 2 for the amendment, 29 against with 9 councillors deemed absent when the vote was called. He deemed the amendment as proposed, defeated and the proposal to proceed to public consultation approved.

**6.1 Ratification  
of Members to  
Strategic Policy  
Committee  
(SPC)**

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan** and seconded by **Cllr. William Kennedy** and resolved: -

**"That Mr. David Dwyer (Clonmel Involvement Centre) be and are hereby appointed as the PPN representative on the Housing SPC".**

This nomination is to fill the vacancy of Mr. Thomas Ryan who was thanked for this contribution to the SPC.

It was proposed by **Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan** and seconded by **Cllr. William Kennedy** and resolved: -

***"That Lily Tyrole (Nenagh LGBTI+) be and are hereby appointed as the PPN representative to the Infrastructure (Roads, Transportation & Health & Safety) SPC."***

**Item No. 6.2**

**Ratification of Member to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

It was proposed by ***Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald*** and seconded by ***Cllr. Peggy Ryan*** and resolved: -

In accordance with Section 36 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 49A (1), Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and Article 4 (1) of the Local Community Development Committee (Section 128E) Regulations 2014, and statutory instruments no. 314 of 2014 the Local Community Development Committee (section 128e) (amendment) (no. 1) regulations 2014

**Item No. 6.3**

**Nomination of Member to Tipperary Education and Training Board**

***"That Mourné Gouws be and is hereby appointed as the Community & Voluntary PPN representative on the Local Community & Development Committee (LCDC)"***

It was proposed by ***Cllr. William Kennedy*** and seconded by ***Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan*** and resolved: -

***"That Cllr. Peggy Ryan be and are hereby appointed member to the Tipperary Education & Training Board"***.

**Item 7.1**

**Consideration of Management Report as per Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014**

This nomination is to fill the vacancy arising from the resignation of Cllr. Phyll Bugler on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Management Report as circulated with the Agenda noting that the reports related to the Directorates based in Clonmel and any queries/clarifications would be dealt with by the relevant Director of Services.

- Economic, Community and Rural Development
- Environment & Climate Action
- Corporate Services
- Housing Services

**Economic, Community and Rural Development**

It was agreed to take the following item as part of the Management Report on Economic, Community and Rural Development:

Item No. 8.1 Presentation on Planet Youth Survey Report Findings  
Mr. Damien Ginty, Director of Services, provided an overview of the background to the Planet Youth initiative, noting that Planet Youth Tipperary was launched in September 2024. It applies the Icelandic Prevention Model to reduce youth substance use and improve wellbeing through community-driven, evidence-based strategies.

**Item No. 7.1 Management Report contd.**

**Item No. 8.1**  
**Presentation of**  
**Planet Youth**  
**Survey Report**  
**Findings**

The Cathaoirleach then invited Ms. Fiona Crotty, A.O. Community & Enterprise, who welcomed Marian Daly, Planet Youth Co-Ordinator, and Stephanie O'Callaghan, Community & Enterprise, as part of the team. Ms. Crotty, Ms Daly and Ms. O'Callaghan proceeded to deliver the presentation, a copy of which was circulated to members.

The presentation outlined the findings of the recent Planet Youth survey and the next steps in developing a community response plan. Key priorities include identifying appropriate interventions with relevant stakeholders, progressing a funding model, and clarifying engagement with schools. The initiative aims to address issues highlighted by the survey, such as high levels of parental provision of alcohol to teenagers (62%), social anxiety among young people, vaping, and the significant influence of social media.

The first survey in 2025 gathered responses from 1,737 adolescents (47% female, 51% male) aged 14–17+ across secondary schools, further education centres, and NEET individuals.

**The Key Findings in Tipperary were noted as follows:**

- **Home Life:** 72% often spend weekends with parents, and 49% share a daily meal, but less than half eat fruit and vegetables every day.
- **Mental Health:** 11% rated their mental health as bad, 38% felt they needed help, yet only 18% sought support. Self-harm was reported by 28% (34% females vs. 21% males), and 6% had attempted suicide.
- **School:** 19% of secondary students reported a neurodevelopmental diagnosis (ADHD, autism, dyslexia, etc.).
- **Leisure:** Teens spend more time on social media (14% of weekly hours) than on team sports (1%). 30% spend 3+ hours daily on social media; 46% feel less happy about appearance, 15% experienced online bullying, and 26% were asked for explicit images.
- **Substance Use:** 13% tried alcohol by age 11; vaping peaks at age 14, with 72% starting at 14 or younger. Alcohol use by ages 15–16 is high compared to other counties.
- **Community:** 84% feel safe locally, but roughly 1 in 3 teens report no after-school social space, and 16% face transport barriers to activities.

Additional concerns include inadequate sleep (53% get  $\leq 7$  hours), low physical activity (14% meet daily recommendations), and widespread phone use at night (84% keep phones in bedrooms).

The insights highlighted would inform a Community Response Plan, expanded surveys for seldom-heard voices, and preparation for 2026 implementation.

Statistics on self-harm and absenteeism were described by members as concerning, and members stressed the urgent need for additional mental health supports, including school psychologists.

Members complimented the team for their work and shared personal experiences, highlighting the strength of addiction and its impact, which was acknowledged by colleagues. Questions were raised regarding survey anonymity, geographic coverage, and representation across the county. The importance of leadership beginning at home, parental involvement, and a whole-of-society approach was emphasised.

In response to members queries, the presenters stated that the survey was repeated over multiple years, with findings shared confidentially with schools and used to inform evidence-based interventions. A steering group will oversee implementation, ensuring that data drives advocacy and service provision. The initiative seeks to build resilience among young people and strengthen community supports through collaborative action.

It was agreed that a breakdown of the participation numbers per town and the survey findings by Municipal District would be provided to the members

Ms. Sinéad Carr, Chief Executive, stressed that the role of elected members is one of leadership and that meaningful change requires active involvement from parents and communities. She noted that a recent initiative in Clonmel was poorly attended, underscoring the challenge of engagement. While the local authority can provide support, progress depends on collective responsibility. She expressed concern about the statistics on self-harm and acknowledged the complexity of addressing these issues. Ms. Carr thanked the Cathaoirleach for including the item on the agenda and encouraged members to engage with the Community & Enterprise team.

Mr. Damien Ginty, Director of Services and Ms. Cora Morrissey, S.E.O. responded to general queries raised on the Management Report as follows:

**Item No. 7.1**  
**Mgmt. Report**  
**continued.**

National Broadband Ireland

The Council discussed issues relating to broadband provision in rural areas, specifically in Littleton and surrounding areas. It was agreed that the Broadband Officer will liaise directly with Cllr. Séan Ryan regarding the specific concerns raised. Furthermore, the Broadband Officer will engage with National Broadband Ireland (NBI) to arrange a presentation to the Council in 2026, providing an update on progress.

Teen Spaces

Matter is being looked at as part of the Play Policy.

Ryder Cup

Engagement is continuing with Limerick City and County Council regarding accommodation for the event.

Community Gardens

Allotments will be incorporated. There is currently no published framework on this.

## **Environment & Climate Action**

Mr. Eamon Lonergan, Director of Services and Mr. Denis Holland S.E., responded to general queries raised on the Management Report as follows:

### **Textile Banks**

The matter regarding textile banks is now resolved. Bring banks located at Civic Amenity Sites form a significant part of the offering, and further investment in this service is anticipated.

### **Household Waste Inspections**

A total of 400 inspections have been carried out, achieving an 85% compliance rate. The section will continue to work with areas requiring improvement and encouraged members to notify them of any specific locations needing attention.

### **Community Action Fund**

Criteria for the fund have been established, and 69 applications have been received. Additional initiatives will be rolled out for the decarbonisation zone.

### **CCTV Pilot Scheme**

Plans are in place to extend the CCTV pilot scheme under the applicable procedures.

### **Burial Grounds**

The 2026 grant scheme will be rolled out and administered by the Districts. It was agreed to liaise with Cllr. Liam Browne regarding specific queries on bye-laws and Cashel Graveyard. The wide range of bye-law applications was noted, and enforcement will depend on the volume of evidence available to sustain a successful legal conviction.

### **Historical Landfill Remediation**

An update was provided on two sites in Thurles, where €2 million has been invested. Continuous monitoring is being undertaken.

### **Dog Control**

The introduction of a third dog warden was welcomed as a positive development.

## **Corporate Services**

It was agreed to take the following item as part of the Management Report on Corporate Services.

- Item No. 7.2 Privilege & Procedure Committee Terms of Reference
- Item No. 7.3 Protocol for the Office of the Cathaoirleach

### **Item No. 7.2 Privilege & Procedure**

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator outlined that the Privilege & Procedure Committee is an advisory body to Tipperary County Council tasked with developing and reviewing policies on standing orders, civic

**Committee  
Terms of  
Reference**

procedures, and protocols. Its functions include reviewing and recommending changes to standing orders and civic protocols, monitoring adherence to established procedures, and considering referrals from elected members, the Corporate Policy Group (CPG), or Council. The committee also provides input on policies affecting elected members. It is chaired by the Cathaoirleach, includes one nominee from each political grouping, and is supported by the Meetings Administrator.

A minimum of three meetings will be held annually, scheduled before monthly CPG meetings, with a quorum of three members. Recommendations are reported to the CPG and then to the full Council. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed at the start of each Council term or as required.

The Terms of Reference for the Privilege and Procedure Committee, as presented, were proposed by **Cllr. David Dunne**, seconded **Cllr. Roger Kennedy** and agreed.

**Item No. 7.3  
Protocol for the  
Office of the  
Cathaoirleach**

Mr. Ger Walsh, Meetings Administrator outlined that the protocol defines the role, responsibilities, and ceremonial procedures for the Cathaoirleach of Tipperary County Council, recognised as the "First Citizen" of the County. The role is apolitical and requires political neutrality throughout the term. Statutory functions include presiding over Council meetings, upholding Standing Orders, and representing the Council at civic functions. Ceremonial duties involve acting as an ambassador for Tipperary, promoting public engagement, and maintaining precedence over all except the President of Ireland.

Key protocols include wearing the Chain of Office at official functions (with permission required for use outside the County), honouring accepted engagements with punctuality and adherence to protocol, and following event guidelines provided to organisers, including seating, introductions, and media coordination. Deputising arrangements are in place for the Leas Cathaoirleach or District Cathaoirleach when required.

Appendices include an event checklist and procedural guidelines for hosts to ensure proper reception and protocol.

The Protocol for the Office of the Cathaoirleach, as presented, were proposed by **Cllr. David Dunne**, seconded **Cllr. Roger Kennedy** and agreed.

**Item No. 7.1  
Mgmt. Report  
contd.**

**Housing Services**

Mr. Jonathan Cooney, Director of Services, and Mr. Shane O'Dwyer, SEO, responded to general queries raised on the Management Report as follows:

**Housing Delivery**

The importance of collaboration among all stakeholders—social, private, and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs)—was emphasised to achieve housing solutions. Members were encouraged to engage with Homeless Services. The Council is on track to meet targets under the Housing for All programme. Of

total delivery, 27% comprises one-bedroom units, rising to 64% when combined with two-bedroom dwellings.

#### Housing Grants

The scheme will reopen in 2026; however, commitments outstanding for 2025 were noted.

#### Windows & Doors

Outstanding commitments from previous years are being carried forward. Funding for double-glazed windows and doors was discussed at SPC level and the impact of including double glazed windows/doors as part of the Housing Aid for the Elderly scheme was noted and it was decided not to allow the inclusion of double-glazed windows and doors replacement as part of the scheme.

#### Affordable Housing

Progress on affordable housing schemes was noted, with expectations that these will positively influence the market. The scheme operates similarly to the First Home Scheme, but members highlighted the need to increase the ceiling in line with other counties.

#### 9 to 9 Service

Tipperary Town is currently being serviced through the Clonmel facility.

#### Choice-Based Letting

This item will be considered further by the SPC in 2026. Due to staffing constraints, unsuccessful applicants are not currently being notified.

#### Housing Allocations

28% of allocations are to persons with disabilities. A priority list has been identified, and "right-sizing" will be a key focus for the Housing SPC in 2026. It was agreed to revert to the SPC with a legal update on GDPR issues relating to housing allocations.

#### Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs)

The Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) remains the primary funding mechanism for AHBs. Clarification was provided on the market rent anomaly, and a letter has issued to the Minister. AHBs continue to play a critical role in delivering social housing units.

#### Part V Process

Under planning legislation, local authorities may acquire up to 20% (10% social) of development land at existing value or opt for finished units (>5) within the development or an alternative site of equivalent value for development of units. This process promotes engagement and flexibility in delivering housing solutions.

#### Castle Green Cashel Development

Initial design work has been completed, incorporating ground-floor units with universal design features.

#### Social Housing Approval Process

Local authorities await a Departmental Circular on transitioning from the current four-stage approval process to a single-stage process.

Tipperary Town

The need for additional lands in Tipperary Town was noted.

**Item No. 9.1**  
**Agree Date for**  
**Meetings**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Meetings Administrator who reminded members with regard to the **Variation to the County Development Plan Councillor Workshop on Tuesday 9th December to take place at the earlier time of 1.30 pm in Thurles MD offices and remotely via MS Teams.**

He noted that the purpose of the workshop is to brief Elected Members on Guidelines published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on increasing the quantum of land zoned for residential uses, the implications for Tipperary of these guidelines, and the actions proposed by the Planning Section to address these guidelines.

**10.1**  
**Consideration of**  
**Orders for the**  
**period to the**  
**30<sup>th</sup> November**  
**2025**

Chief Executive Orders and Delegated Officers Orders for the period to the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025 were noted.

**Item No. 11.1**  
**Cllr Jim Ryan**  
**(NOM Ref.**  
**3046)**

Notice of Motion Ref. 3046 was proposed by **Cllr. Jim Ryan.**

**"I am calling on Tipperary County Council to invite the eight (8) Oireachtas Members (TDs & Senators) in Tipperary to a Special Meeting of this Local Authority to discuss issues within our County that require National influence and financial assistance such as Roads, Housing, Bypasses, Tourism etc."**

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Pat English

The response to the Notice of Motion was noted as follows:

Regulations were introduced under Section 237A of the Local Government Act 2001 (inserted by the Local Government (No. 2) Act 2003) to govern how local authorities interact with members of the Oireachtas (Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann).

Regulation 12 provides that the Chief Executive, together with the Cathaoirleach of the County Council concerned, shall arrange to meet with local parliamentary representatives as a group at least annually. This is commonly referred to as the Oireachtas Members' Annual Meeting. These meetings currently involve the Cathaoirleach, Chief Executive, and members of the Senior Management Team (SMT). Historically, these sessions have provided updates on key strategic projects across the main Directorates and allowed TDs and Senators to raise questions and provide feedback.

Tipperary County Council currently exceeds this statutory obligation by holding bi-annual meetings with Oireachtas Members, which provide a structured forum for briefing on strategic priorities and securing national support.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, 15th December 2025**, where the request in this Notice of Motion will be raised with the Oireachtas Members with a view to strengthening collaboration and accountability.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion would be listed on the Agenda for the Oireachtas Members meeting scheduled for December 15th for their consideration

**Item No. 11.2**

**Cllr. Peggy Ryan**  
**(NOM Ref.**  
**3065)**

Notice of Motion Ref. 3065 was proposed by **Cllr. Peggy Ryan**.

**"That Tipperary County Council prepare and publish an update on how it intends to meet its obligations under Action 12.4 of the National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People relating to Walkability Audits; and that this update include:**

**a) the current national position including any guidance or direction received from the LGMA or from the Department of Local Government and Heritage**

**b) Tipperary County Council's proposed approach to implementing walkability audits, including whether dedicated staff or resources will be assigned and**

**c) indicative timelines for work"**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. Declan Burgess**.

In moving the motion Cllr. Ryan said a more proactive approach was required and it was important that these audits were completed before 2029.

Members spoke in support of the motion.

The response to the motion was noted as follows:

The National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People 2025-2030 was published on 3 September 2025. Action 12.4 commits Local Authorities to undertaking Walkability Audits in settlements with a population of over 5,000.

At the outset it should be noted that a significant amount of work has been undertaken by Tipperary County Council to date in addressing access issues in urban areas across the County.

A Dementia Inclusive Design Audit has been completed in Roscrea and Clonmel which has identified areas that are working well and suggests upgrades and adaptations to the existing environment to make these urban areas more usable, accessible and inclusive.

In addition, the MD's through the Municipal Works programmes are continually maintaining and repairing existing pedestrian infrastructure with accessibility at the core of any design solution, in accordance with modern standards.

The Active Travel team, has also delivered over €20 million of infrastructure across Tipperary in recent years, all in accordance with modern accessibility standards.

However, the large-scale implementation of the two audits, and the further development of same for all 3 key towns, requires greater investment in improving accessibility pedestrian infrastructure and is limited by the availability of funding.

It was also be noted that the National Human Rights Strategy for Disabled People 2025-2030 also commits to: -

- Ensuring that there is a dedicated full-time post for an Access and Inclusion Officer in each Local Authority, in line with obligations under the Disability Act 2005.
- A review of all minimum standards, guidelines and regulations that apply to the public transport network where it interacts with associated built environment with regards to accessibility, including the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.

The Council is awaiting clarity in relation to the funding of this full-time position and the completion of the review of all standards, guidelines and regulations but in particular the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets, as this manual informs the design of urban infrastructure.

The undertaking of Walkability Audits prior to the appointment of this Officer and the completion of the review of standards, guidelines and regulations would be premature.

In addition, the Council have not been given any indication that funding to cover the cost of these audits or the resultant recommended infrastructural improvements will be forthcoming. It was agreed that the Council will seek clarification from relevant Government Departments in relation to:

1. Commitment of a dedicated full-time position of an Access and Inclusion Officer
2. Anticipated timeline of the review of standards / guidelines and
3. Funding necessary to implement the recommendations of these audits.

Notice of Motion Ref. No 3053 was proposed by **Cllr. Richie Molloy.**

**Item No. 12.1**

**Cllr. Richie  
Molloy (NOM  
Ref. 3053)**

**"That Tipperary County Council calls on the relevant minister to consider allowing Daylight Saving Times the entire year-round as it would provide more useable daylight in the evening which could be used for outdoor activities and recreation, according to some surveys this would also lessen car accidents if day light saving times was allowed all year round".**

The Motion was seconded by **Cllr. Jim Ryan.**

Members spoke in support of the motion.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion would be referred to the Minister for Justice, Mr. Jim O'Callaghan, TD for comment/response.

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach it was agreed to take Items 12.2 and 12.3 together as both motions referred to the abolition of the Triple Lock

Notice of Motion Ref: No. 3054 was proposed by **Cllr. Jim Ryan**.

**Item No. 12.2**

**Cllr. Jim Ryan**  
**(NOM Ref No. 3054)**

**"This Council expresses its dismay at and opposition to the government's intention to abolish the Triple Lock, which governs the deployment of Irish Defence Forces".**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan**

Notice of Motion 3067 was proposed by **Cllr. David Dunne**

**Item No. 12.3**

**Cllr David Dunne**  
**& Cllr Anne Marie Ryan**  
**(NOM Ref No. 3067)**

**"Tipperary County Council expresses its dismay and opposition to the Government's intention to abolish the Triple Lock, which governs the deployment of Irish Defence Forces personnel overseas.**

**The Triple Lock has ensured that Ireland's participation in overseas missions (with more than 12 defence personnel) would always require approval from:**

- 1. The Cabinet**
- 2. Dáil Éireann and**
- 3. That the mission they are being deployed on would have a UN mandate either from the Security Council or the General Assembly.**

**In 2001, the Irish people rejected the Nice Treaty over concerns that it would drag Ireland into EU military structures that would threaten our neutrality. To get the electorate to approve the EU Treaty, the government with the agreement of the other EU Member States, through a "solemn declaration" introduced the Triple Lock. This Declaration was reiterated following initial rejection of the subsequent Lisbon Treaty. Therefore, this Council rejects government plans to abolish or amend the Triple Lock, considering the proposal signifies a breach of trust with the Irish electorate and a serious diminution of Irish neutrality."**

The motion was seconded by **Cllr. Anne Marie Ryan**.

Members debated both motions concerning the retention of the Triple Lock mechanism, which requires UN, Government, and Dáil approval for overseas deployment of Irish Defence Forces.

Several councillors expressed strong support for maintaining the Triple Lock as a safeguard of Ireland's neutrality, citing historical commitments and concerns about implications if removed. References were made to the Programme for Government and previous statements on neutrality. Some members called for a referendum on any proposed changes, while others

highlighted challenges posed by UN veto powers and the need for flexibility in peacekeeping operations.

Following further debate and consideration, an amendment to both motions was proposed by **Cllr. Declan Burgess** and seconded by **Cllr. John FitzGerald** requesting that Government provide extensive pre-legislative scrutiny and public engagement before any legislative changes.

**"Given the level of concern regarding Government proposed legislation on the Triple Lock, that Tipperary County Council call on the Government to provide extensive and additional pre-legislative scrutiny and public engagement on the proposed legislative changes."**

**Meeting  
Adjourned**

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting for 10 minutes to all the Councillors to consider the wording of the amendment further before a vote would be taken on the matter.

Following resumption of the meeting an amendment to the wording of their motion was proposed by **Cllr. Jim Ryan**, seconded by **Cllr. David Dunne** as follows: -

**"The Council expresses its dismay at the intention to abolish the Triple Lock which governs the deployment of Irish Defence Forces and calls on the government to hold a referendum to allow the people of Ireland make that decision to keep or remove the Triple Lock".**

The Meetings Administrator clarified that it was in order for the proposer/seconded of a Notice of Motion to amend the wording of their motion but given that an amendment motion had been proposed a vote would be taken on the amendment motion in accordance with Standing Orders.

A vote was taken on the proposed amendment to the wording of the original motions.

	COMHAIRLEOIR	For	Against	Absent	Abstain
1.	Acheson, Tom	✓			
2.	Ambrose, Siobhán	✓			
3.	Anglim, Micheál	✓			
4.	Bonfield, Fiona		✓		
5.	Bourke, Kieran	✓			
6.	Brennan, Michael		✓		
7.	Browne, Liam		✓		
8.	Bugler, Phyll	✓			
9.	Burgess, Declan	✓			
10.	Cahill Skehan, Kay	✓			
11.	Crosse, John	✓			
12.	Dennehy, Niall		✓		
13.	Dunne, David		✓		
14.	English, Pat		✓		

**Item No. 13.1**  
**Motions from**  
**other Councils**

15.	FitzGerald, John	✓			
16.	Fitzgerald, Mark	✓			
17.	Goldsboro, Amy			✓	
18.	Hannigan, Joe		✓		
19.	Hourigan, Mary Hanna	✓			
20.	Kennedy, Roger	✓			
21.	Kennedy, William	✓			
22.	Lee, Shane			✓	
23.	Lowry, Michael			✓	
24.	McGrath, Máirín		✓		
25.	Molloy, Richie		✓		
26.	Moloney, Andy		✓		
27.	Moran, Eddie			✓	
28.	Morgan Walsh, Louise			✓	
29.	Morris, Seamus			✓	
30.	Murphy, Marie	✓			
31.	O'Heney, John		✓		
32.	O'Meara, J.P.	✓			
33.	O'Meara, Michael		✓		
34.	Quirke O'Meara, Pamela			✓	
35.	Ryan, Anne Marie		✓		
36.	Ryan, Jim		✓		
37.	Ryan, Peggy	✓			
38.	Ryan Séan			✓	
39.	Smith, Michael	✓			
40.	John Carroll	✓			
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

The Meetings Administrator noted the result of the vote as 18 for the amendment, 14 against with 8 councillors deemed absent when the vote was called. He deemed the amendment as proposed, passed.

The original Motions Ref No. 3054 & 3067 were deemed defeated.

It was agreed that the amended Motion will be referred to the Minister for Defence, Ms. Helen McEntee, TD for consideration/response.

The following Resolutions from other Local Authorities were considered and noted: -

**Monaghan County Council**

"That this Council condemns all those involved in the neglect, mistreatment and abuse of residences in Nursing Homes and Care Facilities for the elderly, the most vulnerable in our society and demands of An Taoiseach, Micheal Martin, T.D., the Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll MacNeill T.D. and all of Government to immediately priorities the strengthening of safe guarding protection across the Health and Social Care Sector, as national confidence, trust and respect for the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA), the HSE and the Department of Health is very low, following the revelations of recent years – Children's Health Ireland (CHI), the number of deaths during Covid proved standards were very low, following the revelations of recent years – Children's Health Ireland (CHI), the numbers of deaths during Covid proved standards were very low in

**Item No. 12.1**  
**Expressions of**  
**Votes of**  
**Sympathy /**  
**Congratulation**

**Item No. 13.1**  
**A.O.B.**

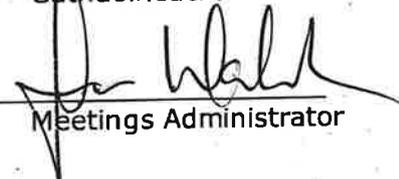
Nursing Homes nationally, the recent RTE Undercover Report exposed the abuse of residences in Nursing Homes and were it not for this programme, the nation would be unaware of these outrageous incidents; hence Monaghan County Council demands of all members, parties and groups in Government to act immediately to ensure the Health and Social Care Sector in Ireland is cleansed of neglect, abuse and wrong doing".

Members passed a vote of sympathy to the following: -

- Anna Ryan, Economic Community & Rural Development, Clonmel on the death of her husband Philly Ryan
- Miriam O'Driscoll, Housing Section, Clonmel on the death of her father Jerry O'Shea
- The family of John 'Mackey' McKenna, retired Revenue Collector
- Mark Egan, Clonmel Borough Council on the death of his brother Philip
- Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose on the death of her aunt Cathy Ambrose
- Gary Gunne, Clonmel Borough District, on the death of his father Sean Gunne
- Frank Dwan, Clonmel Borough District, on the death of his sister, Mary Dwan, former employee of South Tipperary County Council.

There being no other business, the Meeting concluded at 2.40 p.m.

Signed/  Date 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Cathaoirleach.

Signed/  Date 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
Meetings Administrator