

About County Tipperary, Ireland

County Tipperary is a rural County located in the South of Ireland. It has a total population of 150,000 people within an area of 425,000 hectares. In 2006 there were 86,000 private vehicles registered (1 for every 2 persons in the County). The County is reasonably served by public transport infrastructure however use is limited.

The target of the National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 is to reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by 17 Mtonnes. County Tipperary represents a 3.5% of the total population in Ireland and the expected CO2 reduc-

tions in the Climate Change Strategy for County Tipperary are 555 and 816 kTonnes in 2010 and 2020 respectively. In 2006 Transport accounted for 44% of fuel consumption and 36% of CO2 emissions within the County.

Local Authorities in Ireland do not have specific responsibility for energy and transport, which are mainly managed at a National level. The Local Authorities in Tipperary however are aiming to be proactive in addressing the pressing need to act to reduce CO2 emissions.



Keywords for the regional project

Tipperary Energy Agency works mainly with two activities on the local level in the framework of the MOVE project, the Walking Bus project for schools and the Rural Transport Initiative.

Virtual Mobility Agency

The TEA has created a Virtual Mobility Agency within its organisation. Without creating another organisation the TEA has created a set of skills and activities which it can use to promote and support the development of sustainable transport within the County.

To date 4 staff within the TEA have completed training on Mobility Management. Key activities for the Mobility Agency will be to

1. coordinate mobility activities with strategic partners
2. collect information in a systematic way (transport related info, energy balances)
4. provide information on the website
5. have a steering group/network consisting of local stakeholders.

Target groups

The main target groups for the TEA are the Local Authorities, Public Transport providers, Public Sector Bodies, Regional Authorities and Large Industry.

Projects

Achievements to date include:

- In 2006/2007 the TEA Mobility Group completed a detailed Energy Balance and Climate Change Strategy for the County. A specific report on transport was also produced.
- On the 1st of November 2007 a new section was added to the TEA website on Sustainable Transport which will be continually updated.
- TEA has made a detailed submission to the South Tipperary County Development Plan Issues Document including a significant section on mobility management.

Partners in Ireland

South Tipperary County Council
 North Tipperary County Council
 Tipperary Institute
 South East Regional Authority
 Local Public Transport Providers
 Local Schools

Energy Use by Sector in Co. Tipperary (GWh)

	Industry	Transport	Residential	Commercial & Public	Agriculture
2005	1081.3	2472.7	1193.7	585.8	260.0
BAU 2010	1284.1	3209.1	1265.1	714.8	248.0
BAU 2020	1494.6	3621.9	1296.5	828.5	248.0

CO2 Emissions by Sector in Co. Tipperary (kT-CO2)

	Industry	Transport	Residential	Commercial & Public	Agriculture
2005	378.9	637.5	418.1	238.4	84.5
BAU 2010	438.1	757.1	468.7	271.1	98.6
BAU 2020	445.8	799.9	493.3	315.2	109.2

In the future the TEA will organise seminars on specific mobility topics including work place mobility management plans. In addition, the TEA will work with the local network towards achieving the goal set out in the South East Regional Transport Strategy of creating a Regional Mobility Planning Office.

Rural Transport Initiative

The Ring a Link service is part of the Rural Transport Initiative. **The Rural Transport Initiative is a programme launched by the Department of Transport under the Transport 21 framework.** Tipperary County is a rural area, and small towns and villages are not provided with the normal public transport services (bus and train). The Rural Transport Initiative aims to provide a service for these small populations and reduce their dependence on car use.

TEA is working with Ring a Link to analyse and promote new services for commuters in the area of South Tipperary and a car pooling service for companies interested.

Transport Modes in 2006

The statistics available show that there is a need for action as the trends are towards increased use of private vehicle for transport.

The following table shows the % use of different modes of transport for two categories – travel to work and travel to school. In all cases the use of environmentally friendly modes of travel is reducing and use of the car increases.

Travel to school - % use of each Mode

	2002	2006
Car	59.8	64.9
Bus	21.0	18.2
Walk/cycle	19.2	16.9

Travel to work - % use of each Mode

	2002	2006
Car	84.8	86.6
Bus	2.1	1.3
Walk/cycle	13.1	12.1



Walking Bus Project

Walking Bus is a project on sustainable mobility under the European project MOVE.

In the walking bus the children walk to school in a group along a set route picking up additional 'passengers' at specific 'bus-stops' along the way. Each walking bus has an adult 'driver' at the front and an adult 'conductor' bringing up the rear. The walking bus is a sustainable, healthy and fun way of travel to school.

The Walking Bus aims to increase the number of children walking to school each day reducing traffic congestion in the morning and at the end of the school day. A survey in one school in Cahir, Co. Tipperary highlighted the fact that most of the children are driven to school daily.

Method	Number of pupils	% of Total
Walk	18	16%
Cycle	0	0%
Car	74	66%
Bus	20	18%

"A Walking Bus in Cahir" the target is to set up a walking bus in Our Lady of Mercy girls School and Cahir Boys School on Cahir, Co. Tipperary. Information and materials are provided by TEA and parents are assisted in the setting up of the walking bus. The first walking bus started in April 2007 and continues to operate.

Tipperary Energy Agency

The Tipperary Energy Agency was formed in 1998 as a partnership between North and South Tipperary County Councils and the Tipperary Institute. The mission of the TEA is to lead and support Co. Tipperary to reduce its CO2 emissions by stimulating and contributing to the implementation of best practise in the field of sustainable energy. It works in the areas of energy conservation and renewable energy and develops these

through the provision of services, project development, education and training and information provision.

Contact person: Seamus Hoyne
Phone: +353 52 43090
E-mail: shoyne@tea.ie

