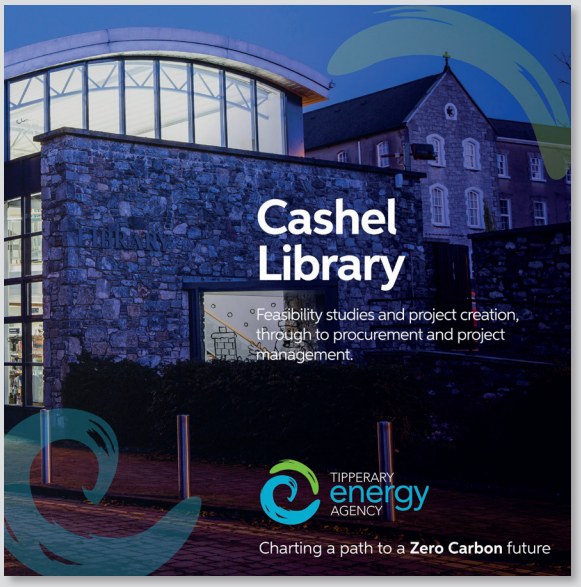
TIPPERARY ENERGY AGENCY

About the organisation

The Tipperary Energy Agency works with local government, public agencies and communities advising, educating and providing engineering services in energy efficiency projects and renewable energy plans and actions. In 2021 the agency spun off a domestic retrofit one stop shop which now operates as separate commercial entity in partnership with the Electricity Supply Board of Ireland

Key facts and figures

- **Location:** Nenagh Co Tipperary Ireland
- **Type of organisation:** Energy Agency with a core team of energy efficiency engineers
- **Number of employees:** 17
- **Founding year:** 2003
- **2 main services:**
  - Advice and engineering services to local authorities and public bodies.
  - Community energy master planning and renewable energy technical advice
- **Website and email:** www.tippenergy.ie



Meet your mentor

Lisa Vaughan CEO

Over 20 years working with start ups and high growth companies on strategy and funding to scale. Extensive Board level experience in both non-profit, pubic and private sector with a focus on scaling, good governance and operational excellence.

- **Financing instrument:** TEA received ELENA funding to support the growth of sustainable tipp and the start up of a one stop shop which was then spun out and is scaling
- **Thematic areas:** one stop shop scale up

Sustainable Tipp: Accelerating Tipperary's Transition To A Sustainable, Low Carbon Economy

In 2017 an in-depth overview of County Tipperary's emission statistics and proposed actions to improve energy efficiency and renewable deployment in Tipperary was completed. This formed the action plan now referred to as Sustainable Tipp. This plan was an official recognition on behalf of County Tipperary of its responsibility to improve the environmental standards associated with its jurisdiction and a detailed action-by-action synopsis of how this may be achieved. The aim of Sustainable Tipp is to generate actions that will reduce Tipperary's emissions by 30% from the 2005 baseline year.

Tipperary's Sustainable Energy Action Plan

In 2017 Tipperary's Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) was formally adopted by Tipperary County Council. This plan was created following Tipperary's commitment to The Covenant of Mayors, the world's largest movement for local climate and energy actions. This plan explains the steps that needed to be taken to reduce Tipperary's CO_2 emissions by 30% by 2020. That same year, Tipperary Energy Agency announced that the European Investment Bank (EIB) would support the actions of the SEAP through their ELENA fund. This action plan included 32 actions which would reduce Tipperary's energy-related CO_2 emissions by 2020. These actions cover a wide range of sectors including agriculture, education, planning, residential, local authority and the commercial sector. Following the approval of the SEAP for County Tipperary and the support from the European Investment Bank, Sustainable Tipp was born. Sustainable Tipp endeavours to keep Tipperary citizens up to date on the actions and progress of the SEAP, as there are opportunities for everyone in Tipperary.

32 Actions of Sustainable Tipp

The main objectives of Sustainable Tipp are:

- To promote and encourage greater energy efficiency in Tipperary
- To reduce Tipperary's dependency on imported energy by encouraging renewable developments
- To create employment through the deployment of renewable infrastructure and widespread energy efficiency upgrades
- To reduce energy poverty
- To ensure that small and medium sized businesses are made aware of the financial rewards associated with increased energy efficiency
- To raise awareness of Tipperary's obligations and opportunities in renewable energy and energy efficiency
- To foster the opportunities in energy efficiency and production in the agricultural sector
- To facilitate greater capacity building within all associated institutions

The Sustainable Tipp actions were devised to promote and encourage the awareness of European energy policies at a more localised level within the county of Tipperary. This is part of a broad effort across Europe to ensure that citizens are no longer detached from the macro policies implemented by vague and distant institutions, which play no part in their daily lives and therefore have a little or no influence on their behaviour. In contrast, Sustainable Tipp hopes to embed these energy requirements within the social structures of community life in an effort to lean on the social cohesiveness of communities for the purpose of tackling global climate change from the bottom up.

ELENA – European Local Energy Assistance

Tipperary Energy Agency was the first Irish beneficiary of the ELENA fund. ELENA is a technical assistance programme of the European Commission supporting regions and cities in the preparation of major investment projects, and the programme is operationally maintained by the European Investment Bank - EIB on behalf of the European Commission.

The project development services financed by Elena has provided Tipperary Energy Agency in accelerating of the implementation of the energy efficiency investment programme in four areas: residential Energy Efficiency building renovations, public street lighting, renewable heating systems and non-residential energy efficiency building renovations, offering a tailored assistance for various stakeholders – private homeowners, public entities and SMEs.

- Reduction of Tipperary's annual carbon emissions by 87.5 kilotonnes
- Tipperary lowered its carbon emissions by 30% from 2005 levels
- € 1.5 Million in technical project support
- € 37Million investment
- 500 homes deep retrofitted
- 100 community and commercial buildings upgraded
- 4,000 public lights retrofitted
- Project duration: 3 years

The PROSPECT+ project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271

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Photos: Tipperary Energy Agency