



# South Tipperary Arts Strategy

2002-2005

Tipperary SR  
County Council

May 2002

Draft: 2

**South Tipperary**  
**Arts Strategy**  
 2002-2005

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## A. Introduction

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### A.1 The arts

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The arts are integral to our lives and to our society. Artists live and work among us, creatively expressing, in many forms and choices of medium, their responses to and reflections on our times and circumstances.

**The state of the arts in society is one reflection of the state of society.** An active arts sector confers many benefits, one of the greatest being the contribution the arts can make to individual creativity and sense of identity. In this regard the role of the arts in education and learning (processes), especially for children and youth, is of paramount importance.

**The arts also make a significant contribution in the area of social development.** Arts activities are inclusive – they are derived from the creativity of individuals. Enabling and encouraging this creativity helps break down social barriers, overcome marginalisation and generate a positive counterpoint to the many who are disadvantaged through health (where, for example, the role of art therapy is well established) and other circumstances.

The economic impacts of the arts are derived, not only in terms of employment and enterprise within the arts sector itself, but also from tourism, particularly cultural tourism, and from enhancing the attractiveness of a locality for economic investment.

Notwithstanding these benefits that a healthy arts community confers, the arts are worthy of support in their own right, for their own intrinsic value to society. Experienced arts professionals and practitioners, especially in the realm of public support for the arts, are needed to mediate between the needs of the community and the aesthetic value of the activities and practices that receive support. The public has a right to the highest aesthetic standards in the arts.

The aptitudes and interests of each individual ultimately determine the extent to which the individual actively engages with the arts. This is as true of any area of cultural activity - crafts, sports, leisure and recreational activities, heritage and local history – as it is of the arts. What is crucial is that the individual has the freedom to choose whether or not to engage with the arts. Restrictions on that freedom occur if the arts are not accessible, open to participation, or available for either active or passive interaction for each and every individual in the community.

Public support for the arts is therefore warranted on two fronts: firstly, as a response to the recognition of the contribution that the arts make to society and to individuals; and secondly, in order to ensure that barriers and constraints to individual engagement with the arts are at least minimised if not altogether removed. The issue is primarily one of accessibility – the arts should be accessible to all.

The actions of the local authority in support of the arts do not, as such, make art. It is artists as individual members of the community that make art. The actions of the local authority do however facilitate the making and presenting of art by enhancing the environment in which the creative output of artists and arts organisations is valued and can be enjoyed by audiences. The provision of support for the arts within a public and accountable service enables the development of the arts to be fostered for the benefit of every member of the community.

It is this enabling role that provides the thrust of the Arts Strategy for South Tipperary. Tipperary SR County Council, as an integrated facet of its county-wide provision of public services, can both engender and influence the development of the arts in the county.

## A.2 Public support for the arts in Ireland

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The formation of The Arts Council in 1951 helped to formalise the primary channel for public support of the arts in Ireland. The Arts Council has continued since then to provide an advisory and funding role for the development of the arts, supporting individual artists, arts organisations, venues, specific artform initiatives, and local arts development. The more recent establishment of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands has placed national planning and policy-making for cultural development on a more integrated footing at government level.

The creation of Aosdana, the instigation of tax breaks for creative artists in Ireland, and the establishment of the Per Cent for Arts Scheme for the artistic embellishment of public capital works, are examples of particular supports that have been purposely designed to foster the development of artists and the arts.

### *Local authorities' provision for the arts in Ireland*

Local authorities throughout Ireland include support for the arts in their overall services provision for a number of reasons. The reasons vary with each local authority and with the characteristics and needs of each county. The most common reasons are drawn, either individually or in combination, from the following:

- enhancement of the quality of life of citizens
- fostering creativity and innovation at the level of the community
- contribution to local identity, and to a sense of belonging for citizens
- enhancement of the attractiveness of the county as a place in which to live, work and invest, and as a place to visit
- enhancement of civic prestige
- increase cultural tourism
- enhancement of the environment.

Local authorities provide grant aid to individuals and groups involved to the arts through annual provisions under the Arts Act. The amount of individual

grants tends to be small, because the demand for local authority support is so high. The Arts Act awards are in effect awards for cultural endeavours, since the awards are not restricted to those engaged in arts activities. Generally, local authorities also engage with the Arts Council to provide support for programmes of arts activities at local level.

Local authorities are among the most significant providers of facilities for the arts. Their provision of public buildings to host and support arts activities makes an enormous contribution to the presence of the arts at local level throughout the county.

Although difficult to quantify, the benefits of public support for the arts can include:

- positive economic impacts:
  - a. through the employment of artists and art workers (typically through a mix of full-time, part-time, contract and social employment positions);
  - b. through cultural tourism and the attraction of visitors to arts and cultural festivals and facilities;
  - c. improved cultural profile of the county in support of initiatives to attract new and mobile economic investment.
- community development:
  - a. helping to improve local identity and providing an alternative to mass cultural activities.

*Trends in public support for the arts*

A number of trends in public support for the arts are of relevance:

- the continued emphasis by the Arts Council on support for the individual artist;
- the recent re-positioning of the Arts Council as a development agency for the arts;
- the joint efforts of the Arts Council and local authorities to foster the arts – creation, presentation, access and participation – at local level;
- the increased recognition of the cultural, social and economic contribution of the arts sector in planning and strategic management.

**A.3 The rationale for an Arts Strategy for South Tipperary**

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Tipperary SR County Council’s Corporate Plan 2000-2004 has as a key operating principle **the promotion of economic development and prosperity in South Tipperary, together with its heritage, its culture and its environment, in all areas of the Council’s activity**. Running through the Corporate Plan are themes related to the quality of life of the citizens of South Tipperary, and the attractiveness of the county as a place in which to live, work, visit and invest. In particular, the Council aims to “encourage the promotion of the arts and cultural programmes generally and facilitate efforts to maximise their potential both directly and as an enabler.”

These themes are echoed in the County Development Strategy for South Tipperary, prepared after detailed consultation with the entire community by the County Development Board.

The formulation of an Arts Strategy is an opportunity to review the existing status of the arts in the county; to reappraise the reasons and benefits of support for the arts to date; and to document the strategic direction of support for the further development of the local arts scene.

It is as ‘an enabler for the development of the arts’ that the Arts Strategy is deliberately designed in its approach.

The Arts Strategy for South Tipperary therefore aims to complement the plans and strategies that address the overall development and growth of the county, and to guide implementation of their components that relate directly to public support for the arts.

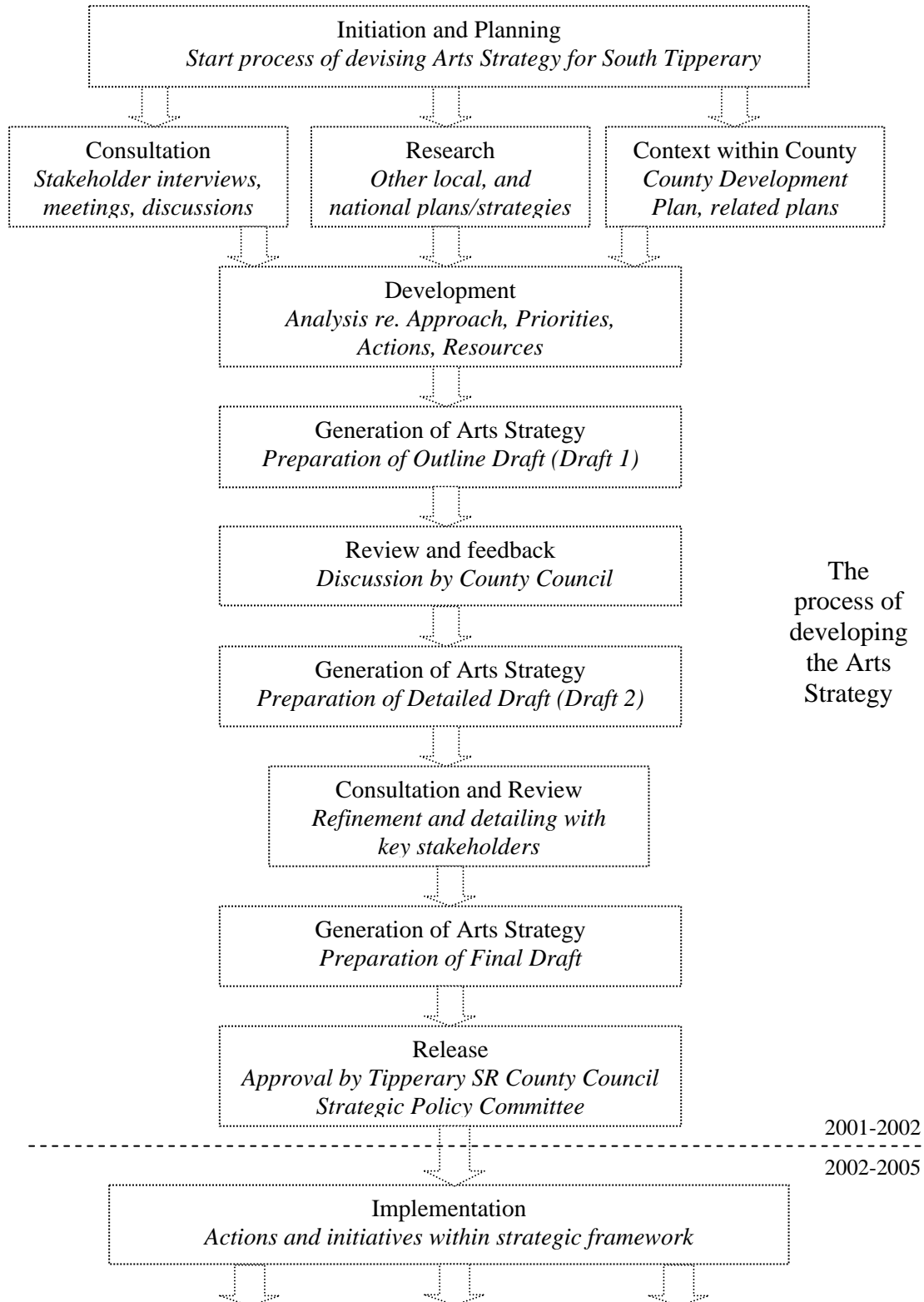
The Arts Strategy, properly framed, can help to:

- leverage past and existing investments in the cultural infrastructure of the county (libraries, museum, educational institutions, etc.) for maximum public benefit
- integrate the arts into mainstream services provision
- facilitate a more holistic approach to management of county development and growth by incorporating support for the arts in conjunction with other cultural, social and economic supports
- provide the framework for the actions needed to ensure that public support for the arts provides the maximum contribution to local development, local identity, and the quality of life of the citizens of the county.

A.4 The process of developing the Arts Strategy for South Tipperary

The process of developing the Arts Strategy comprised the following steps:

- review the existing state of the arts in South Tipperary
- evaluate the context for development of the arts, locally and nationally
- develop a strategic framework of actions
- determine resource requirements for implementation.



## B. The Arts in South Tipperary

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South Tipperary is a relatively large county in size, with its population distributed quite evenly throughout the territory. There are a number of urban centres, of which Clonmel is the largest but not by a sizeable factor in comparison with Tipperary Town, Carrick-on-Suir, Cahir and Cashel. A number of other towns and villages throughout the county form smaller concentrations of population and services.

Artists, arts activities, arts organisations and arts facilities are distributed throughout the county. There is no single concentration but the urban centres do host the majority of organisations, venues and other facilities for the arts.

### B.1 Review of the arts in South Tipperary

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There are two professional arts organisations in South Tipperary (in this context, professional arts organisations are those which are recognised by The Arts Council and receive annual funding support for their artistic programmes) – they are South Tipperary Arts Centre and Galloglass Theatre Company.

South Tipperary Arts Centre in Nelson Street, Clonmel was established with the direct support of Tipperary SR County Council. The Arts Centre plays a highly visible and proactive role in furthering the development of the arts in South Tipperary. START magazine is one of the few professionally produced local/regional arts publications in Ireland, and enables a base of information, awareness and communications in relation to the arts sector to be maintained in and around South Tipperary.

Through the South Tipperary Arts Centre, a very active programme of activities is delivered:

- a. 12 Visual Arts exhibitions, generally within the premises but also external to the Arts Centre
- b. a Music Programme comprising 12 contemporary and classical music events in a range of venues.
- c. support for South Tipperary Young Musicians Trust
- d. music projects, including AC Music Club, and exhibitions related to music
- e. an Outreach Programme that has run for 5 years with projects throughout the county
- f. an Educational Programme, accommodating roughly 200 people per week at classes in the Arts Centre
- g. a year-long Literature Programme based in the Arts Centre
- h. organisation of 'Impressions' – South Tipperary Writer's Festival
- i. production of START magazine 4 times per year
- j. administration of Clonmel Craft Fair and Clonmel Christmas Carnival.
- k. operation a FÁS Community Employment Scheme, which extends the pool of art workers in the county.

Galloglass Theatre Company is a professional touring theatre company based in Clonmel. The company usually tours two productions annually for up to 12 weeks, visiting regional theatres and arts centres throughout Ireland, both North and South. Tours in recent years have also included engagements in Wales, England and France. Since its inception in 1990, Galloglass has worked with 3 clear objectives:

- From a base in Clonmel, to provide a modern fit-up service prioritising smaller urban centres and the inland region.
- To be a working and meeting forum for actors, directors, designers and writers with a particular view to fostering new emerging talent.
- To present contemporary Irish plays and European classics, which are rarely presented outside Dublin, using an imaginative approach, bearing in mind that touring is a key element of the company's ethos.

Aside from this core activity Galloglass has also been an active contributor to the development of arts activities in the South Tipperary region, most notably in the setting up of South Tipperary Arts Centre, START magazine, Clonmel Christmas Carnival and the Junction Festival.

There is a very wide range of amateur groups in the county, operating with and without the input or facilitation of professional artists. Drama and music in particular are very well supported throughout the community. Visual arts, especially painting, and literature – poetry and prose – are also areas of active interest. A listing of arts organisations and groups in South Tipperary is provided in Appendix II. A significant number of professional artists – both visual and performing – reside in and near South Tipperary. In addition, the training and outreach activities of the professional arts organisations, STAC and Galloglass, serves to increase the pool of talented arts workers on an ongoing basis.

The county is only reasonably well served in the provision of facilities for arts activities. Although there are some very good facilities, there are particular gaps in a number of locations. A description of the facilities and infrastructure for the arts in South Tipperary is provided in Appendix III.

**B.2 Local authority support for the arts**

	<b>Tipperary SR County Council</b>	<b>The Arts Council</b>	
Individuals and groups (Arts Act awards)	12,697	-	
Arts centre (STAC)	31,743	-	<i>Notes 1,2</i>
Professional arts organisations	included in Arts Act awards	-	<i>Note 3</i>
Other venues/facilities		-	
Other arts organisations/activities		-	
Support for the arts programme	12,697	Nil	<i>Note 4</i>
Salaries and related costs of arts professional(s)	Nil	Nil	<i>Note 5</i>
	57,137	Nil	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€7,137</b>	

Notes:

1. Tipperary SR County Council also supports South Tipperary Arts Centre by providing rent-free premises at Nelson Street, Clonmel.
2. The Arts Council provides direct revenue support to South Tipperary Arts Centre (€105,000 in 2002).
3. The Arts Council provides direct revenue support to Galloglass Theatre Company (€160,000 in 2002).
4. The provision of €12,697 (IR£10,000) in 2002 for support for the arts programme has not yet been allocated, pending the completion of the Arts Strategy.
5. Tipperary SR County Council does not employ an arts professional / Arts Officer. Any apportionment of the cost of those executives that deal with Arts Act allocations, STAC support, and general support for the arts is not included.

A diverse range of individuals and groups are awarded amounts ranging from €250 to €500 each year through allocation under the Arts Act provision.

The overall 2002 provision for the arts is similar to the provision for 2001. In 2001, the amount provided for support for the arts programme was devoted to consultancy input to generate the Arts Strategy for South Tipperary.

In addition to the above, Tipperary SR County Council draws down funds through the Per Cent for Art Scheme related to public capital works. These funds have been / are being used to commission works of art associated with the projects in question, providing opportunities for artists, and increasing the public presence of the arts in localities throughout the county.

Tipperary SR County Council also provides substantial funding and support for capital development projects for the arts and related facilities. It provides the premises for South Tipperary Arts Centre in Clonmel, and has supported the development of the Excel in Tipperary Town.

South Tipperary Arts Centre sponsors a Community Employment scheme with the financial support of FÁS. Galloglass Theatre Company operates a Social Economy Programme with the financial support of FÁS. The VEC provides support for the Youth Orchestra in Tipperary Town (part-time teacher, and rehearsal facilities). The Department of Education provides a modest arts budget to primary schools. Second-level schools receive Student Services funding, which may be devoted in part to arts-related activities.

In the broader cultural domain, Tipperary SR County Council devotes substantial resources to other cultural providers and services, in particular the County Library, County Museum and South East Crafts Centre.

### B.3 Consultation

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Consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken to seek input and guidance in identifying and prioritising the main issues concerning the further development of the arts in South Tipperary. Those consulted, to elicit the views of stakeholders, included:

- artists and art workers
- representatives of South Tipperary Arts Centre
- representatives of professional arts organisations,
- representatives of amateur arts groups

- individuals engaged with arts practices and activities
- local authority executives
- members of the Strategic Policy Committee – public representatives and sectoral representatives.

Interviews with stakeholders among the arts community demonstrated two principal themes: a) there is a widespread belief that public support for the arts is both appropriate and of value to the entire community; and b) there is a diversity of perspectives on the issue – a strength in itself, as evidence of engagement with the issue.

Selected extracts from interviews are included in Appendix I. The following section presents the identified strengths and weaknesses of the arts in South Tipperary, derived from this consultative process and analysis of the responses.

**B.4 Strengths and weaknesses of the local arts sector**

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<b>Strengths</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The presence of 2 professional arts entities – South Tipperary Arts Centre and Galloglass Theatre Company, both based in Clonmel - and their levels of both artistic and operational expertise.</li> <li>2. A good foundation of facilities to host the presentation of artistic work spread throughout the county (with a couple of notable exceptions), including modern theatre facilities in Tipperary, Cashel and Fethard, and gallery/exhibition spaces in several towns.</li> <li>3. The presence of a number of locally-based professional artists, in particular around the Cahir area, and connections to Tipperary-born artists and arts practitioners throughout Ireland and abroad.</li> <li>4. The presence of a substantial body of art workers living locally, particularly around Clonmel, many trained in recent years (generally through FAS-supported CE Schemes sponsored by the professional arts organisations, South Tipperary Arts Centre and Galloglass), with the potential to support further indigenous growth of the arts sector.</li> <li>5. START magazine is a local, high-calibre publication dedicated to the arts.</li> <li>6. There is a very extensive range of active amateur arts bodies – drama groups, arts groups, musical societies, orchestras and bands.</li> <li>7. There is substantial provision for youth, principally through amateur organisations (Youth Orchestra, Youth Theatre, Music Schools and Bands).</li> <li>8. The presence of Tipperary Institute, the VEC (the VTOS course in multimedia arts in Cahir is one example), and FÁS deepen the cultural assets of the county through education, training and learning opportunities.</li> </ol>

Weaknesses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The contribution and /or potential of the arts to economic, social, environmental and other developments is not widely perceived or valued. In particular, there is under-exploitation of the contribution of the arts to cultural tourism, and to the projection of a more coherent and attractive image of the county to external viewers.</li> <li>2. There is a lack of facilities for the arts – making and presenting – in certain localities; and some facilities are not of adequate contemporary standard.</li> <li>3. Public access to, appreciation of, and participation in the arts is not being fostered or increased to its fullest extent.</li> <li>4. There is an absence of a coherent strategy for audience development in certain areas of the sector.</li> <li>5. There is a lack of awareness of / openness to contemporary practices in some of the non-professional arts groups.</li> <li>6. There is a lack of sufficient working opportunities for professional artists.</li> <li>7. There is a low level of coordination, formalised networking and collaboration between the arts organisations / activities in the county.</li> <li>8. While the capital costs re. development of buildings for the arts can be accessed at times (through County Council support, and occasionally through national programmes), it is very difficult to finance the ongoing costs of running programmes and buildings.</li> </ol>

#### B.5 Opportunities for developing the arts sector

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1. There is potential to attract more artists, indigenous and international, to live and practise in South Tipperary; the sector offers the potential for employment growth, and for making an increased contribution to the cultural profile of the county.
2. The Per Cent for Art Scheme could be exploited and managed in a more integrated manner in order to a) generate a greater, positive impact both within the local communities and for the public at large; b) create increased opportunities for artists; c) achieve greater impact and consistency in implementation and delivery; and d) to ensure that all available funds are effectively utilised.
3. Existing arts/cultural festivals could be developed further and new arts/cultural festivals could be established, with attendant benefits for community involvement, employment opportunities and tourism development.
4. Additional funding for arts programmes could potentially be attracted from the Arts Council and other sources.
5. Arts activities could be programmed in a greater diversity of locations, with a greater diversity of artforms and contributors, both local and touring. Arts

programming could further enhance the activity levels of a number of existing cultural spaces (e.g. the libraries, the Tipperary Excel).

6. Support for professional artists to work with amateur groups would help to raise standards, encourage participation, and provide work opportunities for artists.
7. Under-used facilities - schools, churches, civic spaces – throughout the county could be programmed for arts activities. Art needs to be brought to people as well as bringing people to art. (This point is similar to 5 in terms of locations where activities might be programmed, and they could be addressed simultaneously).

## B.6 Priorities for public support for the arts

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In general, South Tipperary is reasonably well served with facilities for the arts. However, there are two main gaps in availability of facilities (2. and 3. below,). There are also gaps in support to maximize the potential of existing facilities (4. below). Finally, the potential to further the development of the arts could be realised by the provision of some new facilities, possibility through expansion or conversion of existing buildings (1., 5. and 6. below).

1. The South Tipperary Arts Centre, professionally run, makes excellent use of somewhat restricted building facilities to deliver a wide-ranging programme of exhibitions and workshops, and to act as a meeting place for artists. The programme of activities could be extended, if the facilities available to it could be expanded.
2. There is a need for a designated municipal theatre/performing arts space in or near the town centre in Clonmel. While Clonmel can boast of having a nationally recognised professional theatre company, very active amateur Musical and Drama societies and a number of Youth Drama groups, the lack of a modern theatre facility to host the performances of these local groups, together with school and youth pageants, and professional touring shows and musical events, needs to be addressed. While it was available, the Regal Theatre demonstrated the richness of having regular cultural events programmed in the town.
3. A performance space in Carrick-on-Suir is needed to accommodate the needs of the local drama and musical groups. Assisting the Carrick-on-Suir Musical Society to solve a critical situation in relation to a suitable performance space in the town is recognised as a priority. Addressing this issue should take into consideration the needs and desires of other performing arts groups in the town, in particular The Brewery Lane Players.
4. A number of facilities that are operated by local amateur groups to host their own productions – especially the Abymill Theatre in Fethard, the Brú Ború Centre in Cashel, the Brewery Lane Theatre in Carrick-on-Suir – could be greatly assisted by professional involvement and support in arts

programming. This is also true of the Excel Centre in Tipperary Town. The availability of professional arts expertise and support in programming could also assist the proposed performance space within the Sports Facility in Cahir, and seminar and exhibition spaces in the Tipperary Institute in Clonmel.

5. The provision of Artists Studios in Cahir could complement the growing nucleus of crafts workers and activities in the town, centred on the Granary Crafts Centre. The inclusion of a properly equipped dark room might also be considered.
6. The potential of a music school to complement and support the various brass bands, orchestras and other musical groups in South Tipperary should be investigated. This could be done in conjunction with the educational institutions, especially the VEC.

The main issues aside from those related to facilities centred upon the position and functions of an arts professional within the local authority – an Arts Officer. Many of the concerns raised dealt with the public service provisions of the County Council, and support for the arts was seen to be extremely desirable in this context, where it could be best delivered for public benefit in a credible and accountable fashion. The key benefits cited included information provision, acting as the enabler for collaborative initiatives, especially at community level, demonstrating public commitment to the arts, and providing a credible partner (and possibly leader) in partnerships with other major bodies (educational system, health board, training, etc.).

It should be noted that these benefits were specifically considered as complementary and additional to the value of the County Councils' support for South Tipperary Arts Centre, which provides a strong focal point for the arts in the county. Above all, the importance of having the expertise of an arts professional directly available to the County Council was seen as vital in integrating support for the arts into mainstream services provision.

## C. Arts Strategy 2002-2005

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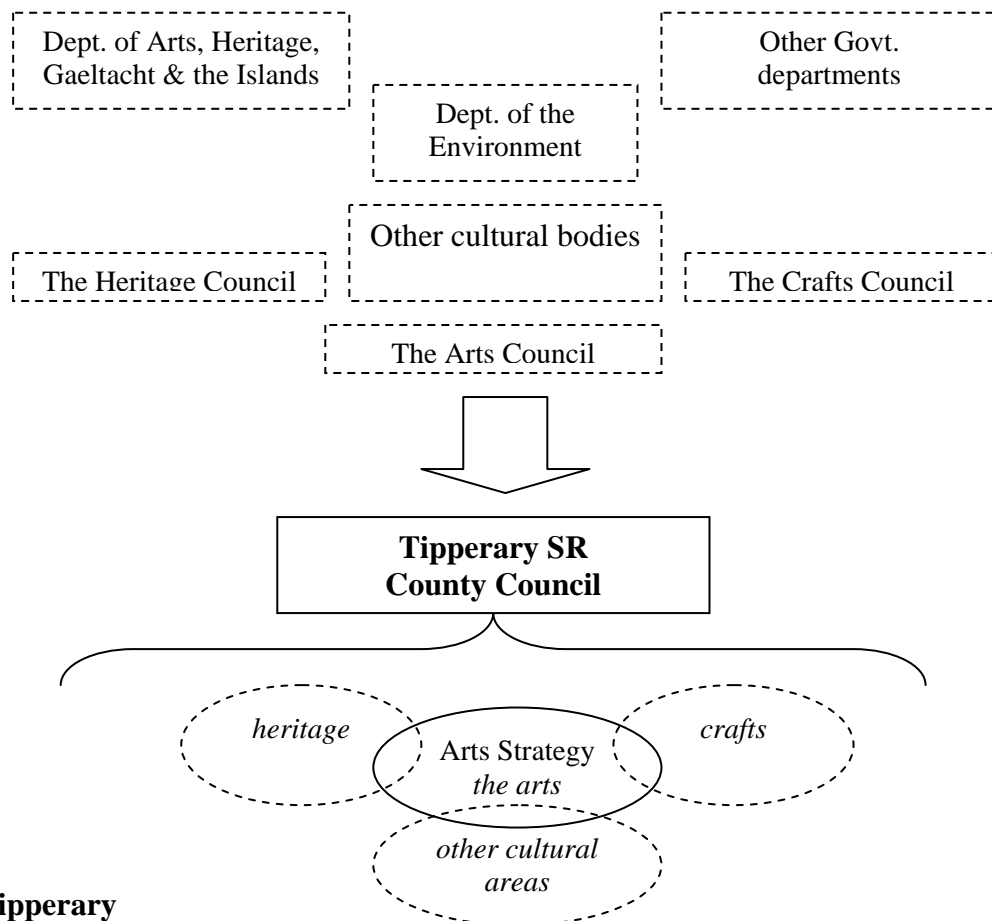
### C.1 Scope

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The Arts Strategy for South Tipperary is designed to strategically frame actions for public support of the arts in the years 2002 to 2005 that will:-

- build upon the strengths of the local arts sector
- address the weaknesses of the local arts sector
- capitalise upon opportunities for development of the local arts sector
- complement the Corporate Plan of Tipperary SR County Council
- complement the County Development Strategy.

The Arts Strategy is specifically designed for the development of the arts sector. However, it is designed to form part of an integrated approach to cultural development, and to parallel developments in related cultural areas – applied arts, crafts, local history, heritage. Initiatives in the arts sector will borrow from, and contribute to, models for implementation from these related areas. The Arts Strategy also forms the local response to national initiatives and strategies for the arts.



**South Tipperary**  
Cultural development

## C.2 Approach and guiding principles

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The Arts Strategy is designed to frame the development of the arts, through focused public support, for the benefit of the entire community of South Tipperary. The role of enabler is fundamental to the approach adopted in detailed the strategy.

Within the framework provided by the Arts Strategy, specific actions, projects and initiatives will be guided by a number of principles. These principles are:

- ⇒ Creativity and innovation by individuals and groups is encouraged, respected and acknowledged.
- ⇒ Access is available to the widest possible proportion of the population.
- ⇒ Barriers to participation are removed as far as practicable.
- ⇒ Arts activities, taken as a whole, are inclusive of all sections of society.
- ⇒ The highest standards of practice and service provisions are pursued.

## C.3 Strategic Objectives of the Arts Strategy

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1. Promote the artistic creativity of individuals as an integral part of the well-being of the community, through increased awareness and appreciation of the value of the arts.
2. Enable all the people of South Tipperary to access, participate in, and enjoy the arts.
3. Expand the range of arts activities in South Tipperary, attracting artists to live and work in the county, and providing opportunities for both the creation and the presentation of artistic work by individuals and groups.
4. Integrate provision and support for the arts within overall public, local services provision for the enhancement of South Tipperary as a place in which to live, work and invest, and as a place to visit.

## C.4 Areas for Action and Indicative Actions

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In pursuit of the strategic objectives described, action will be required in a number of distinct areas. These areas, listed below, frame where public support for the arts will be best directed during the course of implementation of the strategy in the next few years.

To expand on these areas, a number of indicative actions are presented. Each action area is referenced to the strategic objective(s) that drives it. The areas for action are:-

1. Integrated support and development
2. Information and promotion

3. Arts programming
4. Arts in the community
5. Artists and organisations
6. Facilities for the arts
7. Events and festivals
8. Public art
9. Capability of the arts sector
10. Funding for arts activities

*Indicative actions*

<b>1</b>	<b>Integrated support and development</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination and communication: Establish an Arts Advisory Committee, with the secretariat function provided by County Council (through the executive designated with responsibility for the arts), to advise on specific projects and initiatives.</li> <li>• Coordination and communication: Revisit the concept, structure, and support for the South Tipperary Arts Network, to evaluate whether and how a county-wide network of arts interests would prove beneficial in moving forward.</li> <li>• Coordination and communication: Build an email circulation list for arts groups.</li> <li>• Integration: Engage the services of an arts professional to interact with relevant internal programme teams within the County Council.</li> <li>• Integration: Form a cultural team within the local authority/CDB structure which comprises existing executives with cultural responsibilities, and, where necessary, invited external expertise.</li> <li>• Partnerships: Develop local partnerships – FÁS, VEC, Health Board, schools, etc. – to support arts programming, provision of facilities, and increasing access and participation.</li> <li>• Partnerships: Liaise with the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands; The Arts Council; other local authorities.</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Led or enabled by Tipperary SR County Council.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objectives 4: Integrated provision and support
<b>2</b>	<b>Information and promotion</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop information sheets to assist artists and arts groups; potential partners in arts initiatives; and profiles of the role of the local authority for the public and the media.</li> <li>• Raise awareness of both opportunities and achievements.</li> <li>• Make full use of existing arts activities within overall county promotional strategies.</li> <li>• Support START magazine’s coverage and circulation.</li> <li>• Create links between arts listings and tourism information outlets.</li> <li>• Increase press releases to newspapers and radio of arts events and projects, particularly in relation to reviews.</li> <li>• Conduct a promotional campaign for Tipperary Arts, encouraging businesses to purchase and display art (could involve a commissioning process involving crafts also, with Craft Granary).</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Tipperary SR County Council. South Tipperary Arts Centre.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 1: Awareness and appreciation

<b>3</b>	<b>Arts programming</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme additional arts events and activities, sourced both within and from outside the county, in existing facilities of high-standard e.g. Cahir Castle, Bru Boru, Abymill Theatre, and the Excel, by attracting more of the nationally touring arts – both visual and performing – events to South Tipperary.</li> <li>• Expand the outreach activities of South Tipperary Arts Centre.</li> <li>• Develop a collection of Tipperary Arts and Crafts as a moving exhibition to tour locations both within and outside the county.</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Tipperary SR County Council. South Tipperary Arts Centre.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 2: Access and participation

<b>4</b>	<b>Arts in the community</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the outreach programmes of the professional arts organisations (STAC, Galloglass) to engage with specific communities.</li> <li>• Investigate the provision artists-in-residence, in collaboration with the Arts Council and others, in selected artforms (e.g. music, drama), in specific communities (e.g. schools, healthcare, communities).</li> <li>• Consider the establishment of an Artsquad (like County Mayo), with FÁS collaboration, to provide a pool of skilled facilitators for fostering arts in specific communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Tipperary SR County Council. South Tipperary Arts Centre. Galloglass Theatre Company. FÁS.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 2: Access and participation

<b>5</b>	<b>Artists and arts organisations</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to target support for individuals and groups through awards under the annual Arts Act allocation</li> <li>• Investigate the provision of artists bursaries and awards in specific areas for development (e.g. music, drama, literature, visual arts).</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Tipperary SR County Council.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 3: Range of arts activities

<b>6</b>	<b>Facilities for the arts</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a review of facilities and spaces at annual intervals. Map the county and its population in terms of a) facilities to make and present art and b) arts programming, and identify gaps.</li> <li>• Work with partners and the community to explore the upgrading of existing spaces to support arts activities at local level.</li> <li>• Investigate the provision of artists studios (see Specific Outcomes).</li> <li>• Investigate the provision of new and enhanced performance and exhibition spaces in specific locations (see Specific Outcomes).</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Led or enabled by Tipperary SR County Council.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 2: Access and participation Strategic objective 3: Range of arts activities

<b>7</b>	<b>Events and festivals</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support existing events and explore the potential of developing new arts and arts-related festivals and celebrations.</li> <li>• Support the extension of the programme of town, village, street festivals to incorporate activities for children, youth and local communities in preparation (e.g. costume-making) and participation (e.g. street theatre).</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Led or enabled by Tipperary SR County Council.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 2: Access and participation Strategic objective 3: Range of arts activities

<b>8</b>	<b>Public art</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise utilisation of funding under the Per Cent for Art Scheme. Pursue implementation of public art works related to completed capital projects.</li> <li>• Establish a Public Art Advisory Committee, comprising local authority executives, artists, arts professionals, community and business representatives.</li> <li>• Detail the commissioning process.</li> <li>• Build a panel of artists for small to medium scale commissions.</li> <li>• Acquire project management practices and experiences; document project management guidelines.</li> <li>• Take a broad interpretation, in line with the latest thinking, on the nature and types of work to be commissioned.</li> <li>• Consider the hosting of temporary installations of different types of artwork, to aid in learning and stimulation across the community.</li> <li>• Ensure that mediators provide communications between artists and relevant communities for works of art.</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Led by Tipperary SR County Council
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 1: Awareness and appreciation Strategic objective 2: Access and participation

<b>9</b>	<b>Capability building</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review training and career development needs of artists and arts organisations (with partners), especially in relation to non-arts activities.</li> <li>• Develop South Tipperary Arts Centre's capacity to influence the incubation of new arts groups and activities.</li> <li>• Explore the possibilities of creating new spaces to ensure access for the entire community for both making and presenting arts throughout the county (see Facilities for the arts above).</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Tipperary SR County Council. South Tipperary Arts Centre.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 3: Range of arts activities

<b>10</b>	<b>Funding for arts activities</b>
<b>What</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore use of the Social Economy Programme to provide staffing resources for arts organisations and facilities, such as Artists Studios (similar to Custom House Studios, Westport, developed by Mayo County Council), using the successful model of the Crafts Granary, Cahir.</li> <li>• Develop a co-funding scheme with primary schools to provide skilled arts facilitators for music, drama, visual arts, etc.</li> <li>• Develop co-funding with second-level schools, using a portion of the Student Services Funding allocation for each school, to introduce professional artists and facilitators for arts in education projects.</li> <li>• Develop co-funding for arts in healthcare projects to target communities within healthcare settings.</li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	Led or enabled by Tipperary SR County Council. Partners – FÁS, VEC, Southern Health Board, Schools, etc.
<b>Why</b>	Strategic objective 2: Access and participation Strategic objective 3: Range of arts activities

C.5 Specific outcomes

The desired specific outcomes of the delivery of the Arts Strategy in the years 2002 to 2005 address in particular the priority issues that arose during the review and consultation process. They provide examples of detailed expansion of the indicative action areas of the previous section.

*Specific outcomes*

<b>1</b>	<b>Arts programming – enhanced use of existing facilities</b>
	<p>Assistance with arts programming through the attraction of more professional touring arts to existing high-standard venues in South Tipperary, to include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cahir Castle (<b>Cahir</b>)</li> <li>• Brú Ború (<b>Cashel</b>)</li> <li>• Abymill Theatre (<b>Fethard</b>)</li> <li>• Excel Centre (<b>Tipperary Town</b>).</li> </ul> <p>This assistance would extend to other facilities, as and when they are available (for example, the proposed performance space in the Sports Complex in <b>Cahir</b>; Community Halls in <b>various towns/villages</b>; and the Tipperary Institute in <b>Clonmel</b>).</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Public performance/exhibition space - Clonmel</b>
	<p>The provision of a public theatre/performing arts venue in <b>Clonmel</b> to provide for local performing arts groups – professional and amateur, touring theatre, music and dance events. The review will take into particular consideration the existing facilities in Clonmel (location, access, usage, ownership, state of buildings, etc.), especially the White Memorial Theatre and St. Mary’s Parochial Hall in determining both interim and ultimate courses of action. This development might also include the provision of a visual arts space to augment the current, limited space in the Arts Centre.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Public performance space – Carrick-on-Suir</b>
	The provision of a publicly-accessible performance space in <b>Carrick-on-Suir</b> to provide for the needs of local groups, in particular Carrick-on-Suir Musical Society and Brewery Lane Players and taking into consideration the needs of other performing arts groups – music and drama - in the town. The review will take into particular consideration the existing facilities in Carrick-on-Suir (location, access, usage, ownership, state of buildings, etc.), especially the Strand Theatre and Brewery Lane Theatre in determining both interim and ultimate courses of action.
<b>4</b>	<b>Visual arts – dedicated facilities for artists</b>
	The potential for providing an Artists Studios complex in <b>Cahir</b> , to build on the achievements in Chair to date for the crafts sector through the Granary Craft Centre and the VTOS multi-media course in making Cahir an environment which is attractive to artists, will be investigated.
<b>5</b>	<b>Community arts</b>
	<p>The establishment of a team of community art workers – possibly by sponsoring a FÁS Community Employment Scheme or Social Economy Programme – will be investigated. This team would interact with local communities in towns and villages throughout the county, supporting local arts-related activities. This team would complement the successful South Tipperary Arts Centre and Galloglass outreach programmes. The supported activities might include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assisting with running local festivals that incorporate arts-related elements into the programme;</li> <li>• assisting with producing and staging locally-produced shows;</li> <li>• running workshops in specific arts practices and techniques.</li> </ul> <p>An indicative list of locations (in alphabetical order), with which the team would aim to work twice in every year, would include: <b>Ardfinnan, Ballingarry, Cloneen, Clogheen, Grangemockler, Killenaule, Mullinahone and Newcastle.</b></p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Arts and Youth - Music</b>
	The potential for establishing a School of Music in South Tipperary will be investigated ( <b>Clonmel</b> and/or <b>Tipperary Town</b> ).
<b>7</b>	<b>Artist-in-Residence for Youth Drama</b>
	The establishment of an ongoing artist-in-residence scheme (preferably with Arts Council support) to enable a professional dramatist to be engaged to work with the several Youth Drama/Theatre groups in the county ( <b>Cahir, Carrick-on-Suir, Clonmel, Fethard, Tipperary Town</b> , and others as necessary).

<b>8</b>	<b>Schools – teachers &amp; students – support programme</b>
	A focus on children and youth – their awareness and appreciation, and their opportunities for engagement with the arts – needs to underpin the development of the arts. Projects to provide professional artists and facilitators – in drama, music, visual arts, etc. – to visit schools and work with teachers and schools, in a collaborative programme involving the local authority, schools, and educational bodies will be developed.
<b>9</b>	<b>Arts festivals and events</b>
	While Tipperary has arts-related activities in several of its community festivals (notably the Cashel Community Festival) and two dedicated arts festivals (the Junction Festival and the Clonmel Writers Weekend) the county has as yet no major annual arts festival. The expansion of these events to national / international level and the inauguration of new festivals (e.g. in music) capable of involving the public with arts activities will be investigated. Arts activities in other community festivals will be actively encouraged and supported if feasible.
<b>10</b>	<b>Public art</b>
	The establishment of a Public Art Advisory Committee to advise the County Council on best practice and consistent approaches to public art commissioning projects. This committee would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advise on best practice in relation to specific projects, particularly in relation to artist selection, community interaction and project management to facilitate consistency of both artistic and management standards across the county</li> <li>• develop a generic brief for public art commissions in the county</li> <li>• establish a pool of artists from which artists for specific projects might be drawn.</li> </ul>
<b>11</b>	<b>Arts programming – contemporary artforms</b>
	While much of this plan is concerned with responding to the initiatives and needs of the arts community, it is important to note that some artforms are less developed than others; a few are not developed at all. The support for arts programming in attracting high-calibre artistic presentations will include a commitment to present works in less developed art forms – e.g. photography, dance, musical composition - to stimulating local interest.
<b>12</b>	<b>Traditional and Folk Music</b>
	Work with Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann and the County Museum on archiving the music of the region with the possibility of mounting an exhibition. This could in time lead to the development of a permanent museum/ interpretive centre for traditional and folk music traditions.

## D. Implementation

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Achievement of the intended outcomes is dependent upon the level of investment, and the level of expertise that directs that investment. Investment in the development of the arts in South Tipperary is not merely measured in terms of funding, but also in the time and efforts of individuals and organisations.

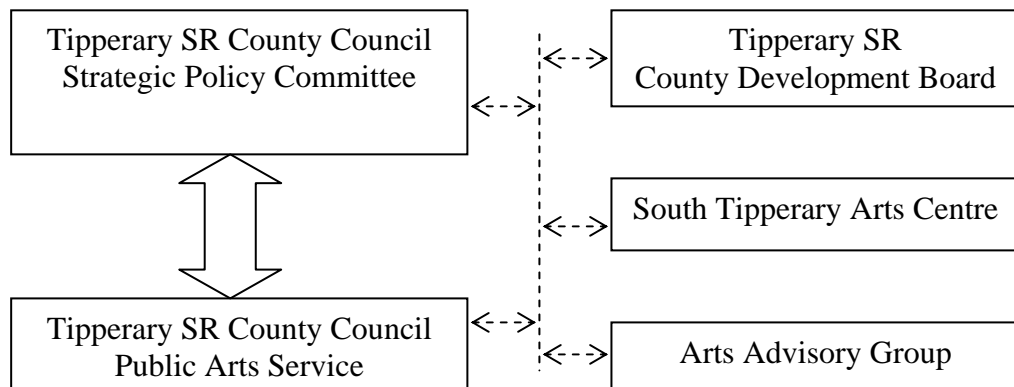
What is important is that such investment is directed by arts professionals – that the County Council in particular has access to the expertise and experience of an arts professional to strategically direct its support for the arts.

### D.1 Structures and roles

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The structure illustrated below will oversee the delivery of the Arts Strategy. The main components of this structure are:

- Executive within Tipperary SR County Council with designated responsibility for the arts
- Arts Advisory Committee
- South Tipperary Arts Centre
- Strategic Policy Committee of Tipperary SR County Council.



The expertise, skills and experience of an arts professional who is capable of mediating between the strategic imperatives of the local authority and the needs of both the arts community and the wider community, is an important requirement in the provision of an arts service that is public and accountable. The arts advisory committee is comprised of a broad range of interested arts activists.

Functions of the public arts service include:

#### 1. Quality

Act to maintain the aesthetic value of art works and art projects, ensuring that best practice is applied, processes are used for learning and

development, and the calibre of activity serves the public interest by striving for the highest contemporary standards.

2. Awards to artists and arts organisations

Support the evaluation, recommendation and administration of awards under the Arts Act provisions, in support of the County Secretary's office.

3. Artists' residencies

Manage the selection of artists and the specific communities with which they are to engage, and manage the artists for delivery and documentation or programmes.

4. Arts programming

Increase access to the contemporary arts by supporting both existing facilities and new locations to host exhibitions / performances and liaising with both local and national touring providers in the process (e.g. Music Network).

5. Festivals and events

Liaise with and provide support for appropriate, targeted elements of selected arts/cultural festivals and events in South Tipperary.

6. Partnerships

Increase the range of arts activities, the range of partners involved, and the number of funding sources by seeking partners for activities for specific communities with, among others, FÁS, Health Board, hospitals, VEC, schools, Tipperary Institute, and community groups.

7. Public art

The addition of the complementary expertise of an arts professional to join an internal team, which would include architects, planners, engineers and others to maximise the use of the Per Cent for Art Scheme to secure funding, commissioning of public works of art, policy-making, administration, documentation and promotion, and management.

## D.2 Funding

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Spending by the local authority is subject to a variety of needs from diverse service areas and to budgetary constraints.

However, investment in the arts (direct and via the Arts Act provision) generally leverages additional funding for the programme of arts activities from the Arts Council, and possibly other sources.

The following sets out a sample funding arrangement for the Arts Strategy for the first year (2003).

	<b>Tipperary SR County Council</b>	<b>The Arts Council</b>	
Individuals and groups (Arts Act awards)	12,697	Nil	
Arts centre (South Tipperary Arts Centre)	37,000	-	<i>Notes 1,2,3</i>
Professional arts organisations	included in Arts Act awards	-	<i>Note 4</i>
Other venues		Nil	
Other arts organisations and activities		Nil	
Support for the arts programme (artists-in-residence, bursaries, exhibition & performance support)	12,697	12,697	<i>Note 5</i>
Salaries of arts professional(s)	20,500	20,500	<i>Note 6</i>
	82,894	33,197	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€16,091</b>	

Notes:

1. The Arts Council provides direct revenue support to South Tipperary Arts Centre (estimated €10,000 in 2003).
2. Tipperary SR County Council also supports South Tipperary Arts Centre by providing rent-free premises at Nelson Street.
3. It is recommended that funding for South Tipperary Arts Centre – in support of its information provision and community outreach programmes – be increased.
4. The Arts Council provides direct revenue support to Galloglass Theatre Company (estimated €160,000 in 2003).
5. The Arts Programme to be delivered is assumed to be approved by The Arts Council.
6. Tipperary SR County Council would bear the associated overheads (office, facilities, etc.) for an additional employee, which is not included in the Salaries amount.

The projected provision for the arts described here represents more than a doubling of funding for development of the arts in the county between 2002 and 2003. The figures do not include the overheads associated with employing an arts professional / Arts Officer. The increased allocation for the arts is primarily devoted to the costs of an arts professional.

The figures shown do not include printing or promotional costs associated with raising the profile of the Arts Office. This is deliberate – it is suggested that these activities should be delayed until at least 12 months following the appointment of an arts professional / Arts Officer.

The figures shown do not include funding to be derived from the Per Cent for Art Scheme, which is dependent upon the number and cost of qualifying capital expenditure projects.

The main sources of funding of the Arts Programme would therefore be:

- Tipperary SR County Council – direct investment and support
- Tipperary SR County Council – Arts Act allocations
- The Arts Council: support for local programme of artistic activity
- Tipperary SR County Council – funding derived through the Per Cent for Art Scheme (associated with capital expenditure works).

Potential partners for collaborative funding of arts activities include:

1. North Tipperary County Council:  
A number of initiatives, particularly in the areas of information provision, promotion, and arts programming, could be undertaken as collaborative exercises with North Tipperary County Council.
2. FÁS:  
Support for art workers on Community Employment Schemes. The Social Economy Programme also offers the potential to put in place an operational structure for arts facilities (as has been done for the Crafts Granary, Cahir).
3. Vocational Educational Committee  
Support for education and training-related initiatives, especially for youths and adults.
4. Schools  
Second-level schools receive Student Services grant funding on a per capita basis. Primary schools have small amounts of discretionary funding availability for extra-curricular or additional projects. These funds could be used in part to engage professional artists and facilitators to work with school-goers.
5. Public sector organisations – funding derived through the Per Cent for Art Scheme (associated with capital expenditure on public works).

Additional possible sources of funding include:

- Support for festivals and other cultural/community celebrations from government for Tourism, Culture and Heritage Development initiatives.
- Possible future government initiatives for enhancing capital facilities for culture (similar to the CDIS and ACCESS schemes).
- EU Projects in the areas of cultural cooperation and cultural exchange.

### D.3 Monitoring and evaluation

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#### *Monitoring of implementation*

The structures described above for implementation of the Arts Strategy will be charged with monitoring and reporting on the progress of implementation. The primary monitoring role will be effected by the executive with responsibility for the arts within Tipperary SR County Council. Senior executives, and the Strategic Policy Committee will consider the input from monitoring and reporting, assess progress, and respond accordingly.

#### *Evaluation of outcomes*

It is widely accepted that activities in the arts are difficult to quantitatively measure and evaluate.

In support of the role of local authorities in the arts, The Arts Council is currently carrying out a two-year developmental project to create an

appropriate evaluation model to offer ways of assessing artistic quality and cultural impact as well as social or economic outcomes. As an initial step, the project is constructing an evaluation framework around the overall set of activities of counties Donegal, Sligo and Wexford. This project is due for completion in 2002. This work will provide comparative and guideline information for evaluation of the Arts Strategy for South Tipperary.

The inclusion of a number of specific outcomes in the Arts Strategy that should result from successful implementation of the strategy lends a significant base for conducting a realistic evaluation of the impact of the Arts Strategy.

A formal internal evaluation would be carried out in 2003 at roughly the midpoint of the timeframe of the Arts Strategy. In 2005, in advance of the generation of a follow-on strategy, an evaluation that would be conducted at least in part by an external party would be scheduled.

The methods for evaluation would be agreed in advance by the Strategic Policy Committee.

## References

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1. Book of Estimates 2001, Tipperary S.R. County Council.
2. Corporate Plan 2000-2004, Tipperary S.R. County Council.
3. County Development Strategy, Tipperary S.R. County Development Board.
4. The Arts Plan: 1999-2001, The Arts Council.
5. Arts Plan Policy Update: Local Authorities and the Arts, Feb. 2001, The Arts Council.
6. The Arts Plan: 2002-2005, The Arts Council.
7. The Creative Imperative, Anthony Everitt, The Arts Council.
8. Art Matters (several issues), The Arts Council.
9. Placing Art, Sligo County Council.
10. The Arts in Laois Development Plan 2001-2003, Laois County Council.
11. Clare Arts Development Plan 2000-2004, Clare County Council.
12. Integrated Arts Strategy for Limerick 2001-2006, Limerick Corporation.

## Appendices

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### Appendix A

#### **A1. Responses sought during consultation**

The nature of the questions asked of interviewees during research and consultation for the development of an Arts Strategy for South Tipperary on behalf of Tipperary SR County Council, was broadly as follows:

- What do the arts mean to you – a brief statement that encapsulates the core value of the arts to you in our society?
- Who are the main arts practitioners and organisers in the locality?
- What are the significant achievements in the arts in the locality in recent years?
- What facilities for the arts are there in the locality?
- What arts activities are missing from the locality?
- What would you consider to be the priorities for infrastructural investment necessary for the arts in the locality?
- How could a coherent strategy by local government for the development of the arts further the current state of arts activities?
- In what way will the county benefit from local government investment in the development of the arts?
- In what ways are the development of the arts in the county hindered?
- What is the potential for the arts in South Tipperary?

#### **A2. List of those interviewed**

List of arts practitioners and managers interviewed in 1st phase of research for drawing up and Arts Strategy for South Tipperary County Council.

##### **Carrick on Suir**

Watty Dunphy - Brewery Lane Players

Dick Meany - Musical Society

Peg Power - Actress

Michael Coady - Poet

##### **Cashel**

Úna NíMurchú - Brú Ború

Tony O'Malley - Artist

##### **Newcastle**

Des Dillon

##### **Fethard**

Pat Looby - Artist

##### **Tipperary**

Danny Ryan – Music School & Orchestra

Paul Grisewood – Excel Centre

Fiona Pilkington - Arts enthusiast

**Clonmel**

Danny Carroll - Orchestra & Band  
Theresia Guschlbauer – Galloglass Theatre Company  
Brendan Maher – South Tipperary Arts Centre  
Audrey Duncan - Amateur Drama  
Jim Butler – Musical Society/White Memorial Centre  
Pat Holland – County Museum  
Frank Taylor - Musician  
Ronnie Fitzgerald – Artist, Arts organiser, Arts outreach  
David Kerwin - art framer, Clonmel  
John Quinn - County Development Board

**Cahir**

Tina Looby - Arts Administrator  
Des Short - Artist  
Emma Davis - Visual arts

**A3. Extracts from the responses of those consulted**

The following extracts from interviews with key stakeholders within the community are useful in demonstrating a) the widespread belief that public support for the arts is of value to the entire community; b) the diversity of perspectives on the issue – a strength in itself, as evidence of engagement with the issue.

A selection of what arts practitioners and other interested parties said:

*“A good arts strategy should focus on supporting professional arts organisations, artists and arts managers. They in turn, in particular the arts managers, can assist/create the possibility of community arts activities and support amateur endeavours.”*

*“A good arts strategy should look to create/support the building of and renovation of appropriate buildings around the county.”*

*“A good arts strategy should invest in infrastructure and management.”*

*“A good arts strategy should start with the existing structures and organisations - invest in them and build on them.”*

*“It is great to see that the local government has finally set out to draw up an arts strategy; it is vital that it not only accepts the plan and implements it, but that it funds it properly.”*

*“Having provided shelter and good roads for the community it is vital that the local government invests in the quality of life of its citizens. For it is the culture in our lives which distinguishes us from the brute beasts.”*

*“A good strategy would encourage more creative people into the community, this in turn would encourage others to be creative, and this in turn will have an impact on the health and well being of the citizens.”*

*“The profit generated by the arts is often seen in the next generation. The arts community calls upon the local politicians to have the vision to see that far.”*

*“A number of those consulted talked about the importance of having an active arts practice as it provides a mirror for the society to gauge itself and it provides a legacy by which future generations might know us.”*

*“Quite a few of those consulted expressed a concern that the Arts Centre was failing in its brief to be a centre for the presentation of visual art. They felt that its brief was unrealistically broad considering it’s funding and that it is failing to make a connection between the public and the exhibitions.”*

*“While attending arts events is important of itself as it can be very nourishing, it is often the interaction with others at the event and after it that gives it its real worth, in that one engages in debate about the essence of the work and thereby questions social or aesthetic values. In this way the audience members are enhanced and in turn the society as a whole.”*

*“To enrich peoples lives should be one of the priorities for local government, not just to provide houses and roads.”*

*“Art is a luxury. We need food and housing - we do not need art. However it is when we make art that we become a civilized society. Do we have a desire in South Tipperary to be a civilized society?”*

*“While it is important to consult and even involve the public in the making of public art, it must be recognised that the projects need to be managed by art managers, not engineers, architects or administrators. Local Government would not dream of putting an administrator in charge of building a bridge or an engineer in charge of publishing the annual accounts.”*

*“Whatever is focused upon is expanded upon and grows exponentially. Thus if we focus on arts in the community the arts will grow exponentially to the proportion of funding input.”*

*“If you want to have a virtuous society it is important to create an environment in which the community can become virtuous.” Eric Ffrom*

*“Art is an antidote to repression and repression is one of the root causes of ill health.”*

## Appendix B: Arts organisations and groups in South Tipperary

The following table provides an overview of the principal groups and organisations in South Tipperary that are actively engaged in arts activities.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Clonmel</b>	South Tipperary Arts Centre (STAC) Galloglass Theatre Company Tipperary Youth Orchestra Strange Snow Youth Drama Clonmel Drama Guild Clonmel Writers Group Banna Cluain Meala STAG – South Tipp. Artists Group St Mary's Choral Society Shane Dempsey Youth Drama Junction 701 Festival South Tipp. Young Musicians Trust Christmas Carnival Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann On Your Toes	Prof. arts org., Arts Council support Prof. arts org., Arts Council support  Professional artist facilitation  Coordinated by Galloglass TC Coordinated by STAC Coordinated by STAC
<b>Fethard</b>	Abymill Youth Theatre Group Fethard Players Hogan Musical Society Speech and Drama Group for kids On your Toes	Facilitated by professional artist
<b>Carrick-on-Suir</b>	Brewery Lane Players Brewery Lane Youth Players Carrick-on-Suir Musical Society Carrick-on-Suir Youth Musical Soc. Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band	
<b>Tipperary Town</b>	Tipperary Youth Theatre Ryan Youth Orchestra Ryan Music School Pantomime Society Tipperary Musical Society Photographic Society Painters group	
<b>Cahir</b>	STAC Youth Theatre Castle Arts Society Cahir Choral Society Amme Fresca - publishing Suirvale Music School	Facilitated by professional artist  Adult choir  Childrens and adult choirs
<b>Cashel</b>	Choral & Dramatic Pantomime Soc. Cashel Cultural Festival Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann	
<b>Cloneen</b>	Pantomime Society	

## Appendix C: Facilities and infrastructure for the arts

<b>Location</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Clonmel</b>	South Tipperary Arts Centre	Exhibition space for visual art, hosting 8-12 shows annually. Workshop space for year-round programme of outreach workshops. Administration space. Supports production of START magazine.
	White Memorial Theatre	220-seat theatre, owned and operated by the Musical Society in Clonmel. Hosts Musical Society productions (twice annually), Clonmel Drama Guild, local school shows and occasional visiting performances.
	St. Mary's Parochial Hall	Used for workshops and rehearsals. Can be used as 111-seat studio theatre. Has also provided the space for exhibition of visual art exhibition. Requires restoration/refurbishment. Could provide the town with limited professional theatre facility until a Municipal Theatre is built.
	County Museum	Purpose-built museum, with a high-quality exhibition space, which can host art exhibitions.
	County Library	Incorporates purpose-designed and well-located exhibition space for visual arts, crafts, etc.
	Halla Banna Cluain Meala	Rehearsal room used by the band year round.
	Tipperary Institute	Variety of spaces that could link into arts programming.
	Denis Lacey Hall	Property owned by local Fianna Fail Cumann, used by a variety of dance and music instructors for private classes.
	Clonmel Og GAA Hall	Workshop/rehearsal facility
	<b>Fethard</b>	Abymill Theatre
Fethard Ballroom		Fine Community Hall, with the potential to host / programme arts activities.
Convent Hall		Recently purchased by community, has potential arts space

<b>Carrick-on-Suir</b>	Brewery Lane Theatre	80-seat theatre operated by Brewery Lane Players, local amateur drama group, in need of a certain amount of refurbishment.
	Strand Theatre	380-seat theatre/cinema where the award-winning Carrick-on-Suir Musical Society performs. Agreement on a purchase agreed
	Heritage Centre	Potential to host/programme exhibitions and workshops.  Rehearsal base for Carrick-on-Suir Brass Band
	Daven's Hall	Used as arts workshop facility
<b>Tipperary Town</b>	Excel Centre	Modern facility for performing and visual arts, with 362-seat theatre, gallery, small workshop space, together with cinema, interpretative center, café, tourist information office.
	Marian Hall	Community Hall with potential to host / programme arts activities.
	St. Mary's Hall	Community Hall with workshop/rehearsal facility
	Connolly Hall	Workshop/rehearsal facility
<b>Cahir</b>	The Granary Crafts Centre for the South Eastern Area	New centre for the crafts in South Tipperary, incorporating workshop and gallery/retail spaces. Activities could be augmented by visual arts activities.
	Cahir Castle	Hosts evening performances by the Castle Arts Society. Beautiful setting for performances especially music, poetry and some drama.
	Community Hall	Community Hall with potential to host / programme arts activities. IN need of refurbishment.
	VTOS Buildings	VEC buildings assigned to VTOS multi media course.
	Vacant Rooms in VEC Building housing Energy Centre	Could provide space for artists studios and dark room facilities.

<b>Cashel</b>	Brú Ború Cultural Centre	High-quality performance venue with 220 seats. Used very successfully by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann in the summer months. Potential to be used more frequently in winter as venue for arts/community events.
	Cashel Community Festival Marquee	Transportable facility seats capacity 1000
	Rock of Cashel AV studio	100 seat capacity. DVD facilities.
	Halla na Féile	Community Hall with potential to host / programme arts activities.
	St John the Baptist Cathedral	400 seat venue suitable for concerts.
	Artist's Studio	A disused prefab in the local primary school has been made available to STAC for use as an artist's studio.
<b>Ardfinnan</b>	Community Hall	Community Hall with potential to host / programme arts activities.
<b>Grangemockler</b>	Community Hall	Community Hall with potential to more host / programme arts activities; has already begun to host local youth drama and a choir.
<b>Cloneen</b>	Community Hall	Community Hall with potential to host / programme arts activities.
<b>Killenaule</b>	Heritage Centre	Potential to host/programme exhibitions and workshops.
	Community Centre	Stage facility suitable for local productions
<b>Kilsheelan</b>	Artists Studio	A disused prefab in local primary school has been made available to STAC for use as an artist studio

Notes:

1. This list of facilities for the arts does not include the potential and actual arts facilities provided by the schools, which are largely used within the school system.
2. Community halls and centres, and the halls of sports clubs and other recreational clubs, also offer the potential to host arts performances and exhibitions. Such facilities exist in villages throughout the county.