

NORTH TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

WATER SERVICES

QUARTERLY REPORT

April, 2011

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“Working with the Community”

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1. Operation and Maintenance

The extreme weather in December/January had a major impact on operations throughout this first quarter. There were 20 watermain bursts, and over 350 smaller repairs carried out during this weather event. Since then there have been about 6 more watermain bursts and a substantial number of leaks repaired.

Repairs and improvements were also carried out on a number of pumping stations throughout the county.

New technology has been trialed to remove silts from water reservoirs without interfering with use of the reservoir. This trial has been successful and a programme to clean other reservoirs is being planned.

Water Services Section has purchased some equipment which is a major assistance in locating small bore plastic service pipes. Although it is not successful in all cases, it is expected to be a substantial tool for identifying such services. This will ensure that there is more targeted excavation when searching for service pipes.

The new upgraded fluoridation facilities at Templemore Water Treatment Plant were commissioned in this quarter. These facilities are installed at request and funded by the HSE in accordance with national legislation.

Water Services has an important role to play in reducing energy use within the Council. Application has been made to the DEHLG for funding for improvements to various facilities and the Council is awaiting a response in the coming weeks. Water Services has engaged an engineer specialising in this area under a FAS employment scheme to support this work.

2. Water Quality

All public water supplies in North Tipperary are sampled and tested in accordance with the European Communities (Drinking Water) (No. 2) Regulations, 2007. These regulations set out the frequency of sampling and the range of parameters to be analysed. The results of this sampling is published on the Council's website. Results are regularly updated.

The EPA issued a national report in first quarter of 2011 titled : ***The Provision and Quality of Drinking Water in Ireland: A Report for years 2008 and 2009.*** The report features on the cover a photograph of North Tipperary Water Treatment Plant at Coolbawn .

The report shows that North Tipperary achieved 100% and 99.7% compliance with Microbiological and chemical parameters respectively in 2009 and noted the improvements over previous years. An extract from the report is on the Council's website and a hyperlink is provided to access the full report.

3. Water Conservation

Water Conservation received a severe set back in December/ January 2011 due to the extreme weather which resulted in a very large increase in the leakage both on distribution network and the customer side. All efforts in the first quarter of 2011 have been directed at redressing this problem. Total County Water Demand peaked at 67 % higher than the average daily demand for October 2010. Substantial progress has been made but full return to the October average daily demand has not yet been achieved. It is likely to be a few months more before this level is fully recovered.

The table below provides an overview. Nov 2007 shows the situation prior to impact of the Water Conservation Project. By Oct 2010 UFW had been reduced substantially. Feb 2011 shows a recovering situation from a peak day demand of 32,484 m³/day that occurred on 27th December 2010. In this quarter leak detection efforts have been concentrated in Nenagh, Templemore and Thurles with leak repair teams following the leak detection team.

	Nov 2007		Oct 2010		Feb 2011	
	Average for month		Average for month		Average for month	
	Inflow (m3/day)	UFW (m3/day)	Inflow (m3/day)	UFW (m3/day)	Inflow (m3/day)	UFW (m3/day)
Total County Demand m3/day	27,107	14,484 (53%)	18,607	5,991 (32%)	21,114	8,546 (40.5%)

One of the national Service Indicators for Water Services is unaccounted for water (UFW). It is calculated as the average for the full year. The table below shows the 2009 and 2010 average daily figures. This demonstrates the progress being made.

Service Indicators	2009	2010
County Average daily demand (cubic metres per day)	23,557	20,867
County Average unaccounted for water (cubic metres per day)	11,349	8,302
UFW as %	48 %	39.8 %

4. Capital Schemes

Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012

4.1 CONTRACTS AT CONSTRUCTION		
SCHEME	DESCRIPTION OF WORKS	CURRENT POSITION
WATER CONSERVATION (€4.458m) Stage I & II <u>Consultants:</u> Ryan Hanly / Carl Bro	This Scheme involves the implementation of water management systems and active leakage control to address the issues relating to unaccounted-for water in the public water supply schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 ▪ Almost complete
TEMPLEMORE SEWERAGE SCHEME DBO (€4.487m) <u>Consultants:</u> RPS Ltd.	This Scheme provides for a new Treatment Works by Public Private Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 ▪ Scheme complete
4.2 Contracts to Start		
WATER CONSERVATION (€1.3m) Stage III – Thurles Advanced Works <u>Consultants:</u> Ryan Hanly	This Scheme involves the rehabilitation of the critical infrastructure and network mains as identified in Rehabilitation Strategy in Thurles Town.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 • Site Investigation Contract at tender stage
WATER CONSERVATION (€2.2m) Stage III <u>Consultants:</u>	This Scheme involves the rehabilitation of the critical infrastructure and network mains as identified in Rehabilitation Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 • Consultants to be appointed
NEWPORT REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME (€6.06m) Consultants: Nicholas O'Dwyer	This Scheme will address the present Difficulties with regard to demand and Security of supply by increasing the output from the treatment works and providing extra storage at Birdhill and Ballina.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ At Contract award stage
THURLES RWSS PIPELINES Contract 1 (€12.0m) Consultants: Nicholas O'Dwyer	A new Regional Water Scheme for Thurles Town and the region involving intake, treatment, storage and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. • At Contract award stage
THURLES RWSS Contract 2 (€16.0m) Consultants: Nicholas O'Dwyer	A new DBO Regional Water Treatment Works for Thurles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. • Pre-Qualification ongoing

4.3 Schemes at Planning Stage:

SCHEME	DESCRIPTION OF WORKS	CURRENT POSITION
THURLES SEWERAGE SCHEME	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Sewerage Treatment Plant & Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Consultants to be appointed.
NENAGH SEWERAGE SCHEME <i>Consultants:</i> <i>Nicholas O'Dwyer</i>	Consultants preparing a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town sewerage Treatment Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Preliminary Report being prepared.
NENAGH SEWERAGE SCHEME <i>Consultants:</i> <i>Nicholas O'Dwyer</i>	Consultants preparing a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Preliminary Report being prepared.
ROSCREA SEWERAGE SCHEME	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Consultants to be appointed.
RURAL VILLAGES	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report / Feasibility study on sewerage schemes for un-serviced Villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 • Consultants to be appointed
NEWPORT SEWERAGE SCHEME TREATMENT & NETWORK – UPGRADE	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Treatment Plant & Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Consultants to be appointed.
BALLINA SEWERAGE SCHEME	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012 ▪ Consultants to be appointed.
BORRISOLEIGH SEWERAGE SCHEME <i>Consultants:</i> <i>RPS Ltd</i>	Consultants preparing a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town sewerage Treatment Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Design Review under consideration.
TEMPLEMORE SEWERAGE SCHEME <i>Consultants:</i>	The appointment of Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Report for the upgrade of the Town Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010-2012. ▪ Consultants to be appointed.
WATER CONSERVATION REHABILITATION STAGE III (further works) <i>Consultants:</i>	This Scheme involves the rehabilitation of the critical infrastructure and network mains as identified in the Rehabilitation Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Included in the Department's Investment Programme 2010 -2012. ▪ Consultants to be appointed.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR SCHEMES

STAGE	SCHEME TITLE	Est. Cost (€m)
Contracts at Construction	Water Conservation Stage I & II	4.458
	Templemore Sewerage Scheme - DBO	4.487
	Total	8.945

STAGE	SCHEME TITLE	Est. Cost (€m)
Contracts to Start	Water Conservation Stage III	3.5
	Newport Regional Water Supply Scheme	6.06
	Thurles RWSS Pipelines Contract 1	12.00
	Thurles RWSS DBO Treatment Plant Contract 2	16.00
	Total	37.56

STAGE	SCHEME TITLE
Schemes at Planning Stages	Thurles Sewerage Scheme
	Nenagh Sewerage Scheme
	Roscrea Sewerage Scheme
	Rural Villages Feasibility Study
	Water Conservation Stage III works (further)
	Newport Sewerage Scheme
	Ballina Sewerage Scheme
	Borrisoleigh sewerage Scheme
	Templemore Sewerage Scheme

4.4 Water Services Investment Programme 2010-2012 – Annual Review April 2011

The DEHLG Circular L 04/11 was issued to the Council on the 30th March 2011. The Circular outlines the manner in which the Annual Review of the WSIP 2010-2012 is to be undertaken and the criteria to be used.

The annual review focuses on three separate areas:

- (a) The contracts currently listed in the Programme as contract at construction or contracts to start construction. The Council is required to review the existing timeframes of these contracts and make amendments if necessary. The Council do not anticipate any delays in this area and hence the programme will proceed as before and the DEHLG notified of same.
- (b) The schemes currently listed in the Programme as being at the planning stage. The Council is required to review the existing timeframes of these schemes at planning and make amendments if necessary. The Council do not anticipate any delays in this area and hence the programme will proceed as before and the DEHLG notified of same.
- (c) The contracts and schemes not currently listed in the Programme, which an authority wishes to have included. The criteria set down in the Circular for the inclusion of a new scheme in the WSIP are as follows:-
 - The issue of an EPA Waste Water Discharge licence with a condition requiring infrastructure upgrade pre-2015 – authorities should **not** include contracts where a licence has been applied for, but not yet obtained;
 - The inclusion of a water supply on the RAL since the end of June 2010.
 - New economic factors, such as enterprise requirements, with due account taken of the needs of Gateways and Hubs, and development in line with core strategies of other towns under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010.

The Council do not have schemes which come under the criteria as set out above and the DEHLG will be notified of same. If the current situation changes, the next Annual Review will allow the Council to revise its recommendations to the DEHLG for amendments to WSIP, if required.

5. IRISH WATER:

The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government provides a briefing document to the Minister , dated 9th March 2011 and published on its website www.environ.ie

The following is an extract :

“The Programme for Government provides for the creation of a new State company, Irish Water, which will take over the water investment and maintenance programmes of the 34 local authorities. The precise role of the company and the functions to be assigned to it will need to be clarified with the Minister.

As part of the EU/IMF Programme for Financial Support, an independent assessment of the need for a national water utility was to be undertaken by the end of 2011. The Department has already initiated the tendering process to select the independent assessor and the intention was that the assessment would be completed by the end Q3 2011.

The objectives of the proposed assessment were to determine the most effective structure(s) for delivering high quality competitively priced water services to customers (domestic and non- domestic) and for infrastructure provision and to consider whether a national water utility would be more efficient and cost effective than the existing implementation and operation structures across the 34 city and county councils.

The commitment in the Programme for Government is clear and the consolidation of water services delivery into a single new company will be advanced as a priority, including the development of the necessary legislation. “

6. Small Schemes

PROPOSED SMALL SCHEMES PROGRAMME 2011

<i>SOURCE OF FUNDING</i>			
1. Credit Balance	€ 200,000		
2. Grant Allocation	€ 454,000		
3. Local Contribution by Council	€ 151,333		
Total	€ 805,333		
Scheme Name (Estimated Cost)	Expenditure for 2011	Description of Works	Current Position
Leugh Road Thurles Water Scheme	200,000	Upgrade 1.6km of watermain	Ongoing
Springfort Cross Nenagh RWSS	60,000	Upgrade 0.6km of 150mm watermain	To Start
Church Road Templemore SS	25,000	Upgrade 0.2km of sewer	Completed
Tyone Nenagh RWSS	110,000	Upgrade 0.3km of 150mm watermain	To Start
Ballinaclough Nenagh RWSS	90,000	Upgrade 1.5km of 150mm watermain	Completed
Silvermines Nenagh RWSS	95,000	Upgrade 0.6km of 150mm watermain	To Start
Grange Road Roscrea	90,000	Upgrade 0.8km of 150mm watermain	To Start
Scraggeen – Derrygareen Newport RWSS	65,000	Provide Booster Stations to increase supply	To Start
Garrykennedy Nenagh RWSS	70,333	Upgrade 0.6km of 150mm watermain	To Start
Total	805,333		