



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Thiobraid Árann

TIPPERARY

## Strategic plan 2018-2022

### ***Background***

The Local Agenda 21 subgroup of the County Development Board identified that volunteering was key to the future sustainable development of the county. Community and voluntary organisations were reporting a decline in volunteers during the Celtic Tiger. It was agreed that resources were required to support the development of volunteering infrastructure, which would complement the existing provision in the county. In 2005 a funding stream was identified from Government to establish Volunteer Centres. The LA21 working group, applied for, and was granted development funding in 2006. This funding was channelled through the Community and Voluntary Forum. One of the conditions of funding was that a limited company be established, and that the centre should become members of Volunteer Centres Ireland (VCI).

South Tipperary Volunteer Centre Limited was established with its members initially drawn from the existing members of the LA21 group including those from South Tipperary Community and Voluntary Forum, South Tipperary Development Company, South Tipperary County Council, Citizens Information Centres, Tipperary Institute, South Tipperary VEC and South Tipperary Sports Partnership.

In 2016 following amalgamation of South and North Tipperary County Councils, STVC decided to expand its remit to cover North Tipperary as well and the organisation was remodelled and renamed Tipperary Volunteer Centre. TVC now covers all of Tipperary North and South, with its headquarters in Cashel, near the middle of the County and a second office base in Nenagh in preparation.

In 2012 STVC adopted Strategic Plan to 2016. This plan was due for review in that year. However, due to the significant re-organisation of the Volunteer Centre and the expansion of its remit, this process was postponed until 2018.



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**The following have been adopted as the principal elements of the TVC Strategy**

***Vision***

Everyone has access to volunteering opportunities that are fulfilling, engaging and which contribute to the betterment of the community with volunteers being respected for the individual contributions they make.

***Mission***

To promote volunteerism in Tipperary by supporting both volunteers and volunteer-involving organisations and by operating a quality placement and training service for organisations while providing information on a range of volunteer opportunities to all our registered volunteers.

***Values***

In carrying out its work the Tipperary Volunteer Centre will respect volunteers and voluntary organisations and will promote good practice and equal opportunities for all involved or wishing to be involved in volunteering. In carrying out its work the Centre will demonstrate courtesy, responsiveness, efficiency, inclusiveness and good governance.

***Goals and Objectives***

1. That the Volunteer Centre becomes recognised throughout the county of Tipperary as a resource for all volunteers and voluntary organisations
  - a. To take specific steps to establish the organisation in the North Tipperary area
  - b. To develop and implement an Annual Action Plan for the Centre
2. That volunteers have easy access to information on volunteering and volunteer opportunities which will meet their needs
  - a. To use the Centre's Salesforce system and social media to their maximum capacity
3. That volunteers are offered relevant supports in their volunteering



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- a. To provide volunteer training for voluntary organisations to the extent that resources allow
  - b. To seek to assist in resolving issues between volunteers and member organisations where appropriate
4. That volunteering is promoted within groups who are underrepresented at present
    - a. To pro-actively seek opportunities for volunteering for underrepresented groups and to promote those opportunities to those groups
  5. That quality placements which are beneficial to both the volunteer and the receiving organisation are offered by using the Salesforce system.
    - a. To provide training to voluntary organisations so that they become more effective in quality volunteer management
  6. That volunteer-involving organisations (VIO) in South Tipperary will be able to readily access volunteers via TVC to fill their volunteering opportunities.
    - a. To promote the Volunteer Centre as the primary resource in the county for the recruitment of volunteers
  7. That effective networking and collaboration with a range of statutory and nongovernmental organisations will be pursued to develop volunteering and volunteer opportunities locally, regionally and nationally.
    - a. To actively engage with and contribute to national, regional and local organisations relevant to the work of the Centre
  8. That the Centre will maintain its status as an independent, locally-autonomous body which supports but is not governed by national representative organisations
    - a. To participate in national structures in an active way and thereby protect the autonomy of the Centre
  9. That the centre will communicate its role and services clearly to all stakeholders



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- a. To develop and implement a coherent communication plan
  - b. To develop and publish an Annual Report
10. That the Volunteer Centre will operate to the highest standards of management and Governance
- a. To continue with the implementation of its undertaking regarding the application of the Governance Code to its structures and processes
11. That the Centre will seek sources of finance other than those provided by National Government in order to have the resources to enable it to provide services that complement the core services on offer.
- a. To develop and implement a fund-raising plan and to respond where possible to funding opportunities
12. That the Centre will regularly evaluate its structures, services, policies and procedures, and make relevant changes as required
- a. To carry out a strategic review at least once a year
13. That a culture of collaboration and best practice will be fostered and encouraged between the stakeholders groups involved in the governance of the Centre to achieve the goals of this strategy.
- a. To spread the work of the Centre between staff and Board members and to ask Board members to engage the support of the organisations which they represent.



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### ***Indicators***

The following will be used to judge the extent to which this strategy is being implemented –

1. Number of volunteer opportunities registered on Salesforce
2. Number of organisations registered
3. Number of organisations registering volunteer opportunities
4. Number of matches
5. Distribution of volunteer and organisation registrations
6. Number of Social Media posts
7. Number of events attended
8. Number of meetings of the Board
9. Average attendance at Board meetings
10. Progress in complying with the Governance Code
11. Additional finance obtained
12. Number of national and regional meetings attended
13. Whether communication plan developed and level of implementation
14. Number of strategic reviews carried out

### ***Monitoring and Review***

Overall monitoring and review will be carried out by the Board. The Manager will report on the strategic actions and on the indicators as set out above and progress will be identified on the basis of the movement of these indicators.

Where the indicators suggest that there are difficulties being experienced, the Board, with the assistance of the Manager and other staff will identify and implement actions to address the issue.