

South Tipperary County Development Board - Economic Measures and Actions September 2005

EPMG – Economic Programme Management Group

Measure	Title	Actions	Co-ordinating Partner in the action	Contact Person Reports
1.1	Management of the Economic Programme	1.1.1. Establish a Programme Management Group to monitor the implementation of the Economic Programme	CDB Chair: Ned O'Connor <i>Done</i>	Eileen Horgan
<p>Update September 2005: The next meeting of the Economic Programme Management Group will be held on Tuesday 15 November 2005. Meeting notes will be posted on the website www.southtippcdb.ie on Friday 18 November 2005. Meeting notes from the last meeting of February 2005 are posted on the website.</p>				
		1.1.2. Carry out annual review of the competitiveness of the South Tipperary economy	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	John Quinn
<p>Update September 2005: The 5 year review of performance to date and Targets for 2008 was published at the end of June 2005. The document was circulated to all members of the CDB and associated working groups. It can be downloaded from the website at http://www.southtippcdb.ie/annualreports/Service Review 2005.</p>				
		1.1.3. Assess each action taken under the Economic Programme to ensure it meets the guidelines on equality (including gender), poverty, rural development and environmental impact	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	Pat Holland
<p>Update September 2005: The County Development Board has agreed that the process of consideration of any proposal by the SIM and the CDB itself will constitute proofing.</p>				
	New Action Nov 2002	1.1.4. Develop and implement an imaging strategy for South Tipperary and co-ordinate the marketing campaigns of individual sectors and address gaps in the economic promotion of the county.	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	John Condon Caroline O'Reilly John Quinn Eileen Horgan
<p>Update September 2005: The implementation of the three strands (public affairs, statistical information provision and hotel development promotion is ongoing.)</p> <p>The main achievements relate to rapid and effective responses to situations requiring good public communication, relevant economic information and promotion of strategic sites to inward and local investors.</p> <p>There are new hotel development proposals amounting to over €50 million at various stages of pre-planning, planning and build in Limerick Junction, Cashel, Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir.</p> <p>Information Unit: Until data becomes available through national sources such as the revenue commissioners it is very difficult to get a picture of the local economic situation or identify useful local economic indicators. It is hoped that data will become more accessible at a national level in the coming years and once this happens the focus of the information unit will be on carrying out analysis of the data to develop an informed view on the economic performance of the County and provide feedback to the EPMG.</p> <p>Given that requests for economic data arise in a sporadic manner and with a short time frame for completion, the information unit is available to support such activity in so far as is possible given current data constraints. Finally, the information Unit will review the data required to assist industry location decision making processes and to consider how such information could be generated in a more timely and efficient manner in the future, as the need arises.</p>				

		1.2.1 Fill available job opportunities by improving the skills of the South Tipperary workforce, including those seeking employment or working in the home.	FÁS	Oliver Clancy
<p>Update September 2005: An interagency group led by FÁS has been set up. It is looking at setting up an information system on emerging employment and promotion of employment opportunities.</p>				
		1.2.2. Direct the under-employed rural population (including farmers) to opportunities in off-farm employment and alternative sources of income. Pilot action will be initiated in West Tipperary	TEAGASC <i>Ongoing</i>	Donal Mullane
<p>Update September 2005: A total of 270 individual action plans have been prepared for farm families under the Planning Post Fischler Programme and 520 participants have been taken through the stage 1 formal course element of the programme.</p>				
		1.2.3. Attract highly qualified people into the area by establishing a network of Human Resource Managers in the County	Guidant Ireland <i>Not active</i>	Emmet Kelly
		1.2.4. Promotion campaign to regional emigrants with a particular focus on graduates and on the US and Britain.	Enterprise Ireland Regional Action New Action Nov 2002 Completed Oct 2004	Michael Dee
	New Action Feb 2003	1.2.5 Prepare and implement a Regional Employment Development Strategy	South East Regional Authority <i>Ongoing</i>	Mary Wixted
<p>Update September 2005: The SEEDS Project Implementation Committee held their third meeting on the 17th June 2005. Many of the organisations and agencies have been working on a number of initiatives that integrate into the Employment Development Strategy. However, there are a number of actions that were exclusive to the SEEDS Strategy which needed to be moved forward, therefore it was agreed that some actions would be prioritised and a brief prepared on each for the next meeting on the 23rd September 2005.</p> <p>The five actions that were prioritised are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) SEECA Centres Pilot Action 2) Facilitating the Exchange of Ideas/Business Expansion Network 3) REMAIN Programme (Agri-networks and FÁS) and Teagasc Initiative (Pilot in Mayo) 4) Entrepreneurship Magazine 5) Intro Project – Graduate Database. 				
1.3	Matching entrepreneurs with opportunities	1.3.1. Identify and support those entrepreneurs who are most likely to increase their workforce to 20 and above.	Enterprise Ireland County Enterprise Board <i>Completed</i>	Michael Dee

		1.3.2. Seek appropriate businesses for available enterprise space in Tipperary Town, Drangan, Ballingarry, Carrick-on-Suir, Cahir, Cashel, Clonmel, and new enterprise centres as they come on stream	Tipperary SR County Enterprise Board <i>Ongoing</i>	Toss Hayes
<p>Update September 2005: Tipperary town: The Tipperary Technology Park is now fully occupied, including the recently 3,000 sq. ft. at rear and a new fully equipped training room has been provided also. Factory space available at old Namco site and within the Pall complex.</p> <p>Carrack On Suir: The Enterprise Centre has been sold to a private company and the proceeds have been used to provide incubation space and training facilities in Carrick On Suir Resource Centre. Funding will also be made available for a Business Park.</p> <p>Cahir: Private units available in Cahir Business Park.</p> <p>Cashel: No units available in Cashel. There has been a call recently to provide units on IDA land in Cashel.</p> <p>Clonmel: No space available in Enterprise Center. Some units are available from private sector particularly in Gortnafleur and Dudley's Mills.</p> <p>Ballingarry: All units in Ballinger have now been occupied.</p> <p>Drangan: The Local Authority has rented all units.</p>				
		1.3.3. Create an inter-agency approach to support micro enterprises providing employment in manufacturing and service industries in the county	<i>Not active</i>	
1.4	Matching locations with opportunities	1.4.1. Prepare a template to assist towns who successfully receive large-scale investment (such as a major jobs announcement) to optimise the opportunity	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	Mark Ryan
<p>Update September 2005:</p> <p>Job creation and economic development is being driven by the West Tipp Think Tank, which is an expert grouping of local business people and key public officials, who meet periodically to identify and champion economic and social opportunities in the West Tipp area. TIRD/CC are a key partner in progressing the Think-Tank's programme of work – which includes a Time-Line of developments for Tipperary town.</p>				

		1.4.2. Encourage the preparation of realistic economic strategies and plans in the main towns and in other local areas	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	John Quinn
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Update September 2005:

Four Town Economic Development Work plans				
(Carrick)	Marina Tourism Retail	Opened New brochure launched Consultant meeting retailers		
(Tipperary town)	Decentralisation Enterprise Site assembly Town Centre Limerick Junction	Site identified Technology park full Other priority sites identified Enhancement Plan published Local area plan on public display		
(Cahir)	Economic Group Site assembly	Strategy launched Sites for investigation prioritised		
(Cashel)	Town Centre enhancement	Contracts signed.		

		1.4.3. Support the implementation of the Carrick-on-Suir Jobs Strategy	Carrick-on-Suir Town Council <i>Completed</i>	Eileen Horgan
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		1.4.4. Support the implementation of the Tipperary Town Development Strategy	TIRD/Chamber of Commerce <i>Ongoing</i>	Mark Ryan
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Update September 2005:

Tipperary Integrated Resource Development (TIRD/CC) continues to work on the implementation of a number of local projects as identified in the Tipperary Town RAPID Strategic Plan:

PE8 Anti-Litter Campaign & Re-Entry into Tidy Towns Competition

(Action Update: In 2005 Tipperary town presented a co-ordinated action plan under the Tidy Town Competition, with three distinct planks: (1) Town Centre & Business Community actions (2) Housing Estates & Residents Groups Actions (3) Youth actions.)

CD1.2 Role of TIRD/CC as one of the structures for the economic and physical development of Tipperary town

(Action Update: TIRD/CC has an office in James Street and is currently developing a number of key projects: Prof Vogel Retail Strategy; Alumini Association for past pupils of Tipperary schools; National Tidy Towns Competition; Partner agency in Tipperary People Magazine, the local Decentralisation Committee and also the West Tipp Think-Tank.)

CD2.2 Contact former residents of Tipperary town who have moved abroad

(Action Update: Launch of Alumini Project led by TIRD/CC in conjunction with the local schools has been a great success among past-pupils of Tipperary.

		1.4.5. Support the process of finalising and implementing the Ballingarrane Master Plan	South Tipperary County Council	John O'Mahoney
Update September 2005:				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Due diligence has been completed on lands and the outcome is satisfactory. Sale to be completed by September 2005. 2. Minister has sanctioned Tipperary Institute to move to Ballingarrane. Proposals sought by Institute re development of new site and purchase of old one. 3. Panning permission granted for hotel. There were no appeals. Sale of land to be completed by end of October 2005. 				

		1.4.6. Co-operate in the provision of a broadband ducting infrastructure in the main towns and between the main towns in the South East	South East Regional Authority	Tom Byrne
Update September 2005:				
<p>Construction of optic-fibre Broadband Networks in the 6 principal urban centres in the South-East Region has now been completed and the Metropolitan Area Networks (MAN) have been officially launched in Carlow, Clonmel, Dungarvan, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford. The contract for the management of the MANs has been awarded by the government to E-Net, a Limerick based company. The role of E-Net is to manage, maintain, promote and operate the MANs. Proposals for the provision of broadband in nine further towns in the South-East were prepared and submitted to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources by the South-East Regional Authority under Phase 2 of the Programme for the rollout of Broadband under the E-Commerce measure of the NDP. These towns are Bagenalstown, Tullow, Thomastown, Tramore, Dunmore East, Cahir, Cashel, Carrick-on-Suir and Tipperary. The proposals and applications for funding submitted have been approved in principle by the Department. The Regional Authority has commenced the procurement process to appoint a Design & Project Management Consultant. It is anticipated that the tendering for the works contract(s) for these nine towns will proceed in early 2006.</p> <p>The County and Group Broadband Scheme (CGBS) was launched recently by the Minister for Communications, Marine & Natural Resources. It provides funding for the provision of broadband to the smaller and rural communities, generally those with a population of less than 1,500. The Regional Authority has appointed a Regional Broadband Coordinator to work with local authorities, public authorities and communities to promote the scheme and to assist with the development of proposals and funding applications. 10 applications were submitted to the DCMNR under the recent Call under the scheme covering 93 communities across the region. To date 5 of those applications have been approved and approval of the remainder is anticipated over the coming weeks. The Regional Authority in association with the DCMNR and the local authorities will continue to promote this scheme to those communities not yet served.</p> <p>Further information on all of the above is available from the Regional Authority and/or from its website: www.sera.ie</p>				

		1.4.7. Research project on best practice in economic development of areas distant from good employment centres and how this might be applied to the Slieve Felim CLAR Area.	Tipperary Institute	John Quinn
	New Action Nov 2002		<i>Pilot activity underway</i>	
Update September 2005:				
<p>The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs has not yet decided on the bid for resources. From a South Tipperary perspective, a pilot action is underway in Slieve Ardagh. (See Action 1.4.9) which has now superseded Action 1.4.7.</p>				

	New Action Apr 2003	1.4.8 Make proposals and advise the County Development Board, in response to the economic situation in Tipperary Town	Economic Programme Management Group <i>Completed</i>	John Quinn
Update September 2005:				
This action has been completed and is being followed up by action 1.4.10.				
	New Action Nov 2003	1.4.9 Support the planning and implementation of projects in the Slieve Ardagh area.	Slieve Ardagh Rural Development <i>Ongoing</i>	Tommy Cooke
Update September 2005:				
<p>In the six-month period since the previous Slieveardagh partners meeting, Maura Barrett the new Business Plan Development Executive, has taken up her position. While the business plan in its totality will need to be implemented, Maura has had three focuses in her initial period in the position:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helping the committee of Slieveardagh Rural Development a sustainable management/ usage plan for the Slieveardagh Culture & Enterprise Centre in Killenaule 2. Developing and strengthening the structures of Slieveardagh Rural Development (SRD) and its allied organisations. 3. Working with other organisation and individuals assisting them in developing community and rural tourism projects of benefit to the region. <p>1 Maura has concluded the negotiations, (begun by Des Burke) with the South Tipperary County Enterprise Board (CEB) for the establishment of an IT training centre facility in the Culture & Enterprise Centre. The CEB have delivered 20 state-of-the-art computer workstations to the centre in late August. The centre has also been equipped with broadband IT capability. It is hoped that the training centre will start to operate in early Autumn.</p> <p>The County Museum in Clonmel has agreed to provide the centre with a number of display panels of the Derry-naflan horde. These panels are to be displayed in the centre and it is proposed that they form the focus of a permanent exhibition of significant events, artefacts and activities in the Slieveardagh region.</p> <p>Plans are being drafted in relation to alterations to the buildings fabric which will allow more sustainable uses. These plans are expected to be completed in the coming weeks and the securing of any planning permissions and funding to complete the work will commence as soon as possible.</p> <p>2 A series of meetings were held with officers of SRD on strengthening its structures and communication channels. On the 4th of August a proposal paper was put by Maura to a joint meeting of officers of the company board and management committee. These proposals were generally accepted by the officers and Maura was approved to being the process of implementing the changes required. Maura has also spent some time working with the company accountant, solicitor and the Company Registration Office in regularising some issues.</p> <p>3 A number of meetings have taken place on the future development of fishing and amenity lakes in the Glengoole area. The proposal was to develop further lakes and amenities in the area of the existing lake and wetland. There are significant community and rural tourism benefits to be expected from such a project. These meetings included local community representative, Bórd na Mona, South Tipperary County Council, BNS Rural Development and Slieveardagh Rural Development. While the meetings were positive and assistance was available from a number of sources, there is a need for an appropriate organisation to 'take ownership' of the project, if it is to proceed.</p> <p>Michael Dwyer, the Tipperary Institute mature student on placement with SRD, has completed the organisation of the reprinting of the local history book <i>Kilcooley, Land & People</i>. This will go to print in September and be available for purchase soon thereafter, with any profits going to fund Slieveardagh community projects. This will be part funded by BNS.</p> <p>A newsletter publicising the work of SRD and the Slieveardagh Partners project will be published in Autumn. This will be part-funded by BNS.</p>				

	<p>New Action March 2004</p>	<p>1.4.10 (Extending the remit and the membership of the Officials Group on Tipperary Town to:) Make proposals and advise the County Development Board in response to the economic situation in Carrick on Suir (Lead stakeholder: Economic Programme Management Group)</p>	<p>Economic Programme Management Group</p> <p><i>Ongoing</i></p>	<p>John Quinn</p>
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Update September 2005:

CDB Officials Group (Tipperary Town and Carrick on Suir)

Tipperary Town

The Think Tank Group met on March 4 and subsequently agreed the following priority actions for 2005 after consultations with a former county manager, members of the Dublin City Management Team and officials from Shannon Development (re links with the gateway Limerick City). Two new members have joined the group – Finbar McLoughlin of Kilshane House and Philip English of English, Leahy & Co. The Think Tank Group also met on May 6 and September 2 to advance the 13 actions under three priorities..

Priority A: Transforming the Image of Tipperary Town.

- Action 1 International architectural competition with RIAI to design top quality executive type residential homes in the 19 acre Scalaheen local authority owned site.
- Action 2 Enter and become competitive in Entente Florale
- Action 3. Enhance the presentation of approach roads, presentation of town centre, public lighting, tie in of overall landscaping plan with actions of residents groups. Good signage and painting.

Priority B. Economic development – especially securing good linkage between Limerick Junction and Tipperary Town and enhancing performance of both centres

- Action 4. More strategic inputs and future thinking: Learn from Oxford – Professor Theodore Zeldin.
- Action 5: Support Iarnroid Eireann management in lobbying for resources for the second platform in Limerick Junction.
- Action 6. Logistics: Generate market for 6000 square foot plus industrial and logistics units in Tipperary town.
- Action 7. Lobby for public resources to support road connection between Limerick Junction and proposed by pass.

Priority C. Generate more economic activity

- Action 8: Research Theme Park concept for Limerick Junction;
- Action 9: Walking holidays. Support a Ballyhoura proposal to carry out an ‘opportunity analysis’ of the Galtees.
- Action 10. Link with Tipperary LEADER re Organics, Farmers markets, Slow food movement and learn from good examples in Atlanta and Cork.
- Action 11: Transfer the Shannon Development E town model – perhaps linking with action 1 on the Scalaheen site. (Model influenced by the Eden project in Cornwall, building of private housing in courtyard style, with nearby workshops for home based working and good broadband links).
- Action 12: Integrated tourism product plan linked with a Shannon Development initiative in East Limerick.
- Action 13: Optimising potential of Shannon Airport and Limerick as a gateway city for Tipperary Town (and also for South Tipperary) (Ryan air decision for Shannon could mean 2.5 million passengers, already 200 k booked and aiming for a million in year 1).

Carrick on Suir

Jim Power (Friends First Chief Economist) is completing his voluntary assignment with Waterford LEADER to prepare an economic action plan for Carrick on Suir.

The Tourism Development Committee launched the Committee’s annual programme of events in April. The Carrick on Suir Marina was opened on June 3. The Nagle Family Resource Centre has opened for business and will be officially opened on September 30.

Carrick on Suir Town Council is to set up an Economic Affairs Municipal Policy Committee, which will also oversee the implementation of actions arising from CDB associated initiatives.

Comparisons with other areas in the county indicate that the Live Register numbers in the Carrick on Suir area should be approximately 300 less than what they are. In response to a request from Carrick on Suir Town Council to the Minister of Enterprise Trade and Employment, FAS and the Department of Social and Family Affairs have agreed to deliver a High Support Programme from October to March in the town.

1.5	Sectoral strategies	1.5.1. Implement the County Information and Communications Technology Strategy	EPMG <i>Ongoing</i>	Eileen Horgan
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Update September 2005:

South Tipperary is now online on the Mobhaile website at www.mobhaile.ie.

The aim of Mobhaile is to provide a comprehensive information facility for citizens and communities throughout Ireland using technology.

The infrastructure element is being progressed in South Tipperary as reported in action 1.4.6 – co-operation on broadband ducting.

		1.5.2. Implement the County Food Strategy	Tipperary LEADER <i>Ongoing</i>	Isabel Cambie
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Update September 2005:

- “Savour Tipperary” was launched in July 2005 by Mr. Alan Dukes. “Savour Tipperary” is a directory of artisan food producers and processors in County Tipperary. It has been distributed to retail outlets; restaurants; pubs; coffee shops; libraries; etc throughout the county and also has been distributed to relevant outlets nationwide e.g. Wholesalers, etc. The project was led by Tipperary LEADER Group. Some funding was secured from the County Enterprise Board towards the publication

- Tipp FM in association with Tipperary LEADER Group hosted a food fair in July. Almost 40 artisan food producers and processors participated at the show. Over 2000 people attended the fair on the day

- Four producers from the county will attend the “Food Village” at the national ploughing championship in September 2005

- Must assistance has been given towards the development of the farmers markets in the county.

- The “guide to setting up a small food business” will be launched by December 2005.

- Tipperary LEADER Group, in association with transition year students, are running a competition based on the students developing recipes and preparing menus using a minimum of 80% locally produced foods in the recipes. The aim is to generate an awareness of locally produced foods among younger people. The “grand finale cook off” will take place in April 2006.

- Preliminary work is taking place on compiling a “tourist food trail” brochure for the county. This will include food producers that are willing to allow visitors to visit their premises to see the production process; open farms; restaurants and other food outlets that use a high % of locally produced foods in their menus; tourist attractions e.g. Rock of Cashel, Cahir Castle, etc

		1.5.3. Consult with the equine community on the design and delivery of a plan to promote Tipperary as an equine county	TEAGASC <i>Not Moving</i>	Donal Mullane
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Update September 2005:

No Change

		1.5.4. Support the development of effective links between county and regional tourism strategies	South East Regional Tourism Authority	Mary O'Halloran
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Update September 2005:

Print

- Tipperary North and South Holiday Guidebook produced. New cover designed for 2005.
- Touring Routes Guide designed and printed in early May. Re print now being done.
- Wallet: It is proposed to design and make available a wallet/folder. Quotations have been sought and decision will be made in the autumn.

Promotion & Marketing 2005

- Attended tourism promotions in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Brussels.
- Literature available at all South East Tourism promotions events in Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, US and UK.
- Participated at the Bath & West Show, Malvern and Pembrokeshire Agriculture shows in the UK.
- Undertook shopping centre promotions in Dun Laoghaire and Blackrock in Dublin.
- Also attended the Ireland Workshop in the RDS where there were over 500 Tour/ travel operators from 32 countries.
- Also took part in the Belfast and Dublin Holiday worlds.

Finance 2005

- Chairperson and finance Committee propose to undertake two fund raising initiatives in the autumn/winter period. It is hope to get the Table Quiz linked to a sponsor.

	New Action Nov 2002	1.5.5. Creation of a regional network of IT enterprise centres to promote an increase in technology based jobs in these centres.	Enterprise Ireland Regional action	Michael Dee
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Update September 2005:

South Tipperary County Development Board Action Plan

Action and Heading	Next Steps	Personnel Responsible	Timetable for delivery	Progress Report	Resources Available
1.5.5 Creation of a regional network of IT enterprise centres to promote an increase in technology based jobs in these centres	Plan prepared, officers elected, action plan to commence early in 2003.	Michael Dee	Ongoing	<p>This group is now firmly established. Name of group SEECA</p> <p>Website for the promotion of enterprise centre in the South East is now live. The Web address is www.secca.ie</p> <p>The group are currently working on cost reduction measures for community enterprise centres. This network is now operating well. Have concluded a group insurance scheme for enterprise centres, and deal on telephone charges. Association now examining how it can assist in the delivery of training in local communities, and working on national training programme for enterprise centre managers. Eleven of the thirteen centres in the South East have become members.</p> <p>Project is ongoing – possibility of national organisation now being examined.</p> <p>A working group is now in place to draw up guidelines for a national association. The South East Association has negotiated 1) A group Insurance scheme 2) Group Phone Deal 3) Training programme for centre managers.</p> <p>Problem: Not all centres join or play an active role.</p>	<p>Time of regional Development Executive – 6days (€1200)</p> <p>Meeting facilities (€500)</p> <p>These are annual costs</p> <p>For years 2003 & 2004 we put €6,000 priming funding into the project</p> <p>Enterprise Ireland provides facilities for meetings and some secretarial backup.</p>

	New Action Feb 2003	1.5.6 Establish a Regional Third Level Education Forum to inform future provision of Third Level Education in the region.	South East Regional Authority	Tom Byrne
<p>Update September 2005: Regional Planning Guidelines (RPG) have been made by the Regional Authority under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 by way of implementation of the National Spatial Strategy (NSS). The Guidelines stress the importance of the establishment of a University of the South-East at Waterford City, with links to outreach centres in the Hubs and County Towns. The Guidelines also stress that existing third level facilities, such as Waterford IT, IT Carlow and Tipperary Institute, have a significant role to play in the development of this linked network of third level educational facilities.</p> <p>Nine Critical Enabling Investment Priorities have been identified in the RPG, one being:</p> <p>‘Developing the innovation potential in the region through development of a University of the South-East, supported by continued investment in established third level institutions focusing on strengthening academic-industrial linkages and the further development of educational outreach facilities throughout the region.’</p> <p>The Guidelines are available for inspection or purchase. The RPG may also be downloaded from the Regional Authority’s website: www.sera.ie</p> <p>The Regional Authority has recently held meetings with the Directors and Chairs of the ITs in Carlow and Waterford to hear their positions and to discuss issues relating to the University question. The issue has been tabled for consideration at the September monthly meeting of the Regional Authority.</p>				