

Town Team and Council to join forces to host Vacant Properties Information Evening in Roscrea

Tipperary County Council in collaboration with the newly formed Roscrea Town Team will host an information evening for owners and leaseholders of vacant properties to hear about supports available to them. The event will take place in the Annex in Damer House in Roscrea at 6p.m on the 20th of November and is free to attend.

The event was announced at the official launch of the new Town Centre First Plan for Roscrea at Damer House last week. Áine Mc Carthy, Town Regeneration Officer with Tipperary County Council is coordinating the event with the Roscrea Town Team who are progressing actions identified in the Roscrea Town Centre First Plan that can be delivered in collaboration with the County Council now that the Plan has been officially launched.

On the evening, council officials will present on the various schemes and supports available in Roscrea including the Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grants scheme. The 'Croí Conaithe' scheme with grants of up to €50,000 and €70,000 being made available by the Government, and administered through the Local Authority, is proving to be very popular and is bringing vacant and derelict buildings back into residential use across the county at present. The Vacant Homes Officer, Nevan Phelan will provide attendees with the information they need to access the various grant schemes and provide examples of where the schemes have been successful in the county.

In addition to this, Anne-Marie Devaney, A/Senior Planner from the Planning and Development Department will present on vacancy and planning policy, and Martin Moore, Assistant Chief Fire Officer working with the Fire and Emergency Services Department will present on fire safety and building control requirements for people interested in bringing their vacant properties back into use for residential and commercial activities. He will provide best practice examples of where properties have come back into use in compliance with fire and building control regulations.

Sharon Scully, District Administrator will provide an update in relation to enhancement schemes available in Roscrea over the next twelve months and finally, there will be an opportunity to hear from the newly formed Roscrea Town Team and Town Champion Brian King, on their plans to deliver elements of the Roscrea Town Centre First Plan in collaboration with Tipperary County Council.

Commenting on the event planned for November, Ms. Mc Carthy said “ By bringing the various departments within the Local Authority together to provide information on planning legislation, building control and fire regulations, and grants available around vacant and derelict properties will enable vacant property owners and leaseholders in the town centre to be well informed on the next steps they can take in bringing their properties back into use.”

Brian King, Town Champion of the Roscrea Town Team commented that “We are delighted that the new Plan has been officially launched and we will work in collaboration with the County Council to progress the actions identified in Roscrea Town Centre First Plan. Organising the information evening is one of our first actions to try to create an awareness around the supports available to tackle vacancy and dereliction in Roscrea”.

For more information on the information evening and the Town Centre First Plan for Roscrea please visit www.tipperarycoco.ie/roscreatowncentrefirstplan