



NEWSLETTER | MARCH 2026



John *Your Offaly Update* CLENDENNEN TD

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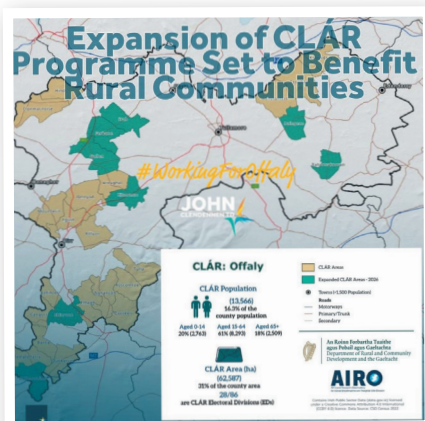


Former Fine Gael Representative visit Leinster House & Government Buildings

I was proud to welcome former Fine Gael elected representatives from across Offaly to Leinster House during the month of March.

Several former Councillors and TDs who served the county with distinction over the years, including Johnny Butterfield, Tom Enright, Liam Hogan Brian Whelehan, Patricia Brady, Nichola Hogan, Connie Hannify, Olwyn Enright & Percy Clendennen, along with their guests, were invited to join me for a certificate presentation and meeting with An Tánaiste and Minister for Finance, Simon Harris, as a small token of appreciation for their dedication and service over many years.

As we continue to look to the future and building the party, its important to recognise those that have laid the strong foundations over many years before us.



Expansion of CLAR Programme Set to Benefit Rural Communities

More Offaly areas, including Daingean, Ferbane, Kilcormac and Moneygall, are now eligible for CLAR funding following a Government review. The programme has already supported key community projects across the county, and this expansion will allow even more rural communities to access funding for local improvements.

NEWS UPDATE:

Birr Outdoor Education Centre

Summer camps at Birr Outdoor Education Centre will go ahead this year following my engagement with LOETB. A full review of the centre is underway, with a financial and marketing plan to address a €60,000 deficit due shortly. Plans are also in place to expand activities and strengthen long-term sustainability, with continued collaboration between LOETB, Offaly County Council and local partners. I want to acknowledge the efforts of Birr 20|20 Vision and all the stakeholders who I will continue to engage with as we look towards a €1 million investment for upgrading the main building.



MEET ME *Mondays*

A dedicated time for you to raise issues, ask questions or simply have a conversation. No issue too small.

Mondays

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location:

Constituency Office,
1st Floor, The Mall,
Tullamore, R35X7X9

#WorkingForOffaly
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Positive outcomes from St. Patrick's Day USA visit

My recent visit to Washington D.C. and New York was a valuable opportunity to promote Offaly and strengthen Ireland–US ties.

In Washington, I engaged with key stakeholders including Amazon, focusing on investment, data centre development and regional growth, while highlighting Offaly's potential to attract jobs and enterprise to the Midlands.

In New York, I attended St. Patrick's Day events, including St. Patrick's Cathedral and meetings with the Offaly Association New York, celebrating the strong links between Offaly and the Irish diaspora living in New York.

I also met with civic leaders including Mayor of New York, Zohran Mamdani, to further strengthen connections and promote opportunities for collaboration.

This visit ensured Offaly is firmly on the radar for future investment and international engagement, and I will continue working to translate these relationships into real opportunities for jobs, tourism and community development at home.



Offaly leading Ireland's energy future with Shannonbridge milestone

The official opening of Ireland's first hybrid grid-stabilisation system in Shannonbridge is a major step in strengthening our grid as we transition to renewable energy. This innovative project by Lumclon Energy, in partnership with Hanwha Energy, will help stabilise the national grid and store renewable power for periods of high demand.

Offaly continues to position itself as Ireland's renewable energy capital, with significant investment and further potential ahead. It is vital, however, that these developments deliver real benefits for local communities.

This milestone reinforces the central role Shannonbridge and the Midlands will play in Ireland's energy future, with Offaly once again leading the way in energy innovation.





Restoration of full Civil Registration Services in Tullamore a priority

The HSE is working to fully restore Civil Registration Services in Tullamore, with birth and death registrations now resumed and efforts underway to recruit temporary and agency staff.

The Tullamore office was temporarily closed in March, with services supported through the HSE call centre during that period.

I will continue to liaise with Minister Jennifer Carroll MacNeill and representatives of the HSE to ensure full services are restored in Tullamore as soon as possible.

Strong community support for St Saran's NS Biodiversity Walking Track

Great to attend the St. Saran's NS High Street Fundraising Walk and to see such strong community support for plans to develop a new biodiversity walking track at the school. It was good to catch up with Rory Liddane, Principal Carmel Ferris and so many involved in the initiative. A fantastic project that will benefit students and the wider school community, donations can still be made online to support its delivery.



€4.4 million Fire Service Training Centre officially opened in Tullamore

A proud day for Offaly with the official opening of the new Fire Service Learning and Development Centre in Tullamore by Minister James Browne TD. This €4.4 million investment significantly strengthens emergency response capability, providing state-of-the-art training facilities for firefighters across the country.

Strategically located in the Midlands, the centre is already supporting crews nationwide and represents a major investment in safety, preparedness and frontline personnel. A vital national resource that will enhance fire service standards and support communities right across Ireland.



I welcome the €48 million national investment under the new DEIS Strategy to 2035, the largest full-year commitment since 2006 and a significant step forward in tackling educational disadvantage.

In Offaly, this will support schools including Charleville National School, Tullamore, St Mary's Secondary School (Edenderry Convent), and Scoil Mhuire agus Chormaic, Kilcormac, with expanded Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) services to help more families engage with education.

€10 MILLION CLONMACNOISE INVESTMENT TO TRANSFORM TOURISM IN OFFALY

I was delighted to welcome Minister Kevin 'Boxer' Moran to Clonmacnoise for the official launch of a €10 million investment in the visitor centre. This is a major boost for tourism in Offaly and a transformational step for this iconic heritage site. The opportunity was also used to emphasize the need to improve road access to ensure the area can safely and efficiently accommodate increased visitor numbers, and I will continue to progress this important issue both locally and nationally.



Fuel supply to Ireland currently stable but prices impacted due to global market pressures

Good to meet with Kevin McPartlan of Fuels for Ireland to discuss current fuel supply and pricing pressures. While supply remains stable, global market volatility continues to impact prices, with tight stock levels and international developments influencing costs. I will continue to engage with all stakeholders to ensure transparency, protect consumers and support a stable and secure fuel supply. As of going to print, the Government have announced a €755 million support package, which is one of the largest in the EU. Prudent management of the country's finances to date means further measures can be introduced.



Uisce Éireann pipeline roadshow as Tullamore Lions Clubs install new water fountain

Good to see strong engagement at the Uisce Éireann Water Supply Project roadshow in Kilcormac, giving local people the opportunity to meet directly with representatives and discuss plans for this important national infrastructure. There will be further dates announced, ensuring ongoing opportunities for communities to engage and have their voices heard.

Also water related, it was great to have the opportunity to meet President Dymphna Bracken and members of Tullamore Lions Club, to launch their latest initiative, a public water fountain in O'Connor Square. A positive project that will enhance the town centre and promote sustainability, reflecting the strong objectives across Offaly.



Offaly students shine at ESB Science Blast as call made for stronger Stem support

It was great to meet some outstanding young scientists from across Offaly at ESB Science Blast in the RDS. Students from St Patrick's NS Clonbullogue, Scoil ShinChill Killeigh, and St Ciaran's Mixed NS Ballycumber showcased impressive curiosity, creativity and teamwork.

Events like this play a vital role in building confidence, encouraging problem-solving and inspiring the next generation to engage with STEM. I have been consistently raising the importance of STEM education in the Dáil, highlighting the need to continue building on this momentum and ensuring schools have the resources and support they need.



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Cllr. Eleanor
CLENDENNEN



Cllr. Noel
CRIBBIN



Cllr. Hugh
EGAN



Cllr. Neil
FEIGHERY



Cllr. Liam
QUINN



Nina
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