



FINE GAEL 

# PAT DEERING TD

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Additional constituency office  
at The Square, Tullow and  
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## Summer Newsletter

### A Chara,

I welcome the proposed reunification of Carlow, this will strengthen ties of the community in the county.

The Report by the Constituency Commission has proposed to bring the part of Carlow that moved into the Wicklow Constituency back into the Constituency of Carlow/Kilkenny.

I am delighted with the findings of this report. Carlow has been divided for over 20 years; the reintegration of the north part of the county is long overdue.

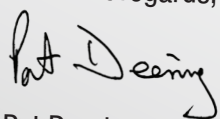
As a proud Carlow man, it's great to see North East Carlow returned to the Carlow/Kilkenny constituency and the traditional Carlow borders finally respected.

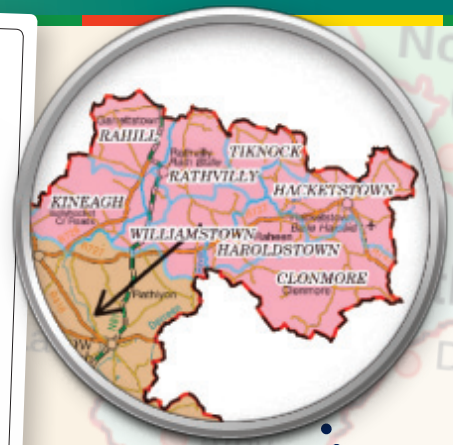
My own home of Rathvilly lies within the expanded Wicklow constituency, so it will be great to have it back in Carlow once again.

It is really important to the people of this county that the integrity of the Carlow county boundary is reaffirmed. Carlow has been a county since the early fourteenth century, encompassing hundreds of years of heritage and tradition.

It is crucial that the people of Carlow are well represented in the Dáil and in an important step I would like to see all of County Carlow represented by the one Local Authority, Carlow County Council and as part of the one General Election constituency, Carlow Kilkenny.

Warmest regards,

  
Pat Deering TD



*Working for Carlow. Working for You*

## 6 schools in Carlow will undergo major improvements thanks to Government funding

The Summer Works Scheme will see mechanical, sanitation and roofing upgrades to buildings in primary schools across the county.

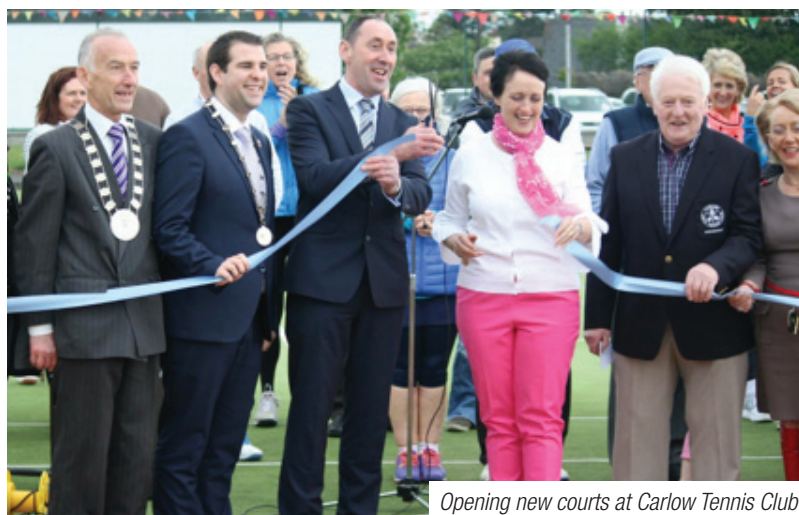
The local schools that will benefit from the scheme include Borris Mixed National School; S N Muire Lourdes, Tullow; S N Peadar Agus Pol, Ballon; S N Fiontain Naofa, Rathmore, Tullow and St Lazerians Special School, Carlow.

The Summer Works Scheme is designed to allow schools to carry out small and medium scale building works that will improve and upgrade existing school buildings in schools over the summer months, so the disruption to students and teachers will be kept to a minimum.

The Action Plan for Education, which aims to make the Irish education and training service the best in Europe within a decade, puts a big priority on investment in school educational infrastructure.



*Opening of St Lazerians with Minister Helen McEntee.*



*Opening new courts at Carlow Tennis Club*



*Pat with visitors from Carlow Mens Shed on their tour of Leinster House.*

*If you or any group that you are a member of would like to visit Leinster House to watch a debate or take the famous tour, contact me on: [pat.deering@oir.ie](mailto:pat.deering@oir.ie)*

## €3.84m funding for roads in Carlow

Carlow County Council is to receive €3,841,568 in roads funding this year. This is part of a €324 million national investment programme for regional and local roads in 2017.

The funding announced by the Government constitutes a 9% increase on last year's allocation, which is only possible as our economy continues to grow.

This funding is for the local authority to maintain and strengthen our roads here in Carlow. There is also funding for bridge rehabilitation works at Spearpoint; Acaun and Grangeford which is most welcome.

Road safety is an important part of this announcement also. Nationally, funding of over €1.3 million will be allocated to local authorities to continue with the implementation of 30km/h speed limits in housing estates across Ireland.

Here in Carlow, funding of €80,000 has been allocated to safety improvement works on roads including all of the R727, Carlow to Hacketstown Road; Brownshill crossroad's and also on the R724 road Bagenalstown at the junction with the R448 towards Leighinbridge.

This funding for roads in Carlow will make a big difference to people and businesses locally.

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Working for You*

## Technical Universities Bill will greatly benefit Carlow

Carlow is set to greatly benefit from a significant educational advancement for the South East, the new Technological University for the South East (TUSE).

The Institute of Technology in Carlow is a great asset to the town and the county. It has a well-deserved reputation for delivering high quality education all over the region.

The students attending college in Carlow also greatly benefit our local businesses, boosting the local economy.

The new Technical Universities Bill will consolidate what IT Carlow has achieved over the last number of decades; the mission of our new Technical Universities is to drive

regional development and jobs growth.

Seeking to create and develop a TU is a very significant challenge and I want to thank all those involved in the process to date; their continuing hard work means TUSE is close to becoming a reality.

The TUSE project was initiated in 2011 and consists of a consortium of two Institutes of Technology; Institute of Technology Carlow (ITC) and Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT).

It is now intended that the Bill, when revised, will be re-introduced at Committee Stage as early as possible in the next Dáil session and I will follow its progress closely.



With Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor at IT Carlow on June 30th.

## Local children to benefit from €110,000 funding for local safety measures and play areas

Local children will benefit from €110,000 funding for local safety measures and play areas.

The funding is part of the CLÁR programme, which is funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and forms part of the Government's Action Plan for Rural Development.

This €110,000 in funding to support schools and communities in Carlow county will improve public safety around their facilities, as well as funding to develop or improve play areas in rural our communities.

St Michael's National School, Newtown Borris will receive funding of €50,000; Drumphea National School Bagenalstown, allocated funds of €30,000 and Ballymurphy Community Centre will receive €30,000.



Funding for projects such as these will allow for important improvements to be made in our local small towns and villages in and around their schools and community facilities.

Many of the schools and communities involved have been working and fundraising for a long time to support these projects and I am delighted to be able to provide CLÁR funding in order to facilitate the completion of these very worthwhile works.

The finished projects will support parents, teachers and their communities to ensure that they have safe and secure environments for their children.

The initiatives under these CLÁR measures have come from the communities themselves in cooperation with their local authorities and are a great example of the work that can be done when our communities and local authorities work together.

## Carlow to receive €68,760 in CLÁR funding

The programme forms part of the Government's Action Plan for Rural Development which was launched in January 2017. This round of funding, CLÁR Measure 3, covers Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs.

I am delighted to see this much needed funding. This will enable the local community groups to upgrade and renovate established community infrastructures and is an important part of keeping communities together. Community halls and other such buildings are places where a diverse range of groups meet and socialise on a regular basis, often in less than ideal surroundings. The funding provided through this measure will support renovation projects.

Here in Carlow the following organisations received funding totalling €68,760:

- Drumphea Community Centre, funding of €50,000 for taking down partition between new and old building and securing roof of old building and extending existing kitchen to provide larger space for catering.
- Newtown Hall Committee, Refurbishment Project will receive €18,760

This is part of the second round of funding Minister Ring has announced, having re-opened the CLÁR programme last October. The programme had been closed for new applications by Fianna Fáil in 2009 which was a huge loss to rural communities across Carlow.

CLÁR forms part of a suite of measures introduced by Fine Gael to support our rural communities.

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## Over €1.5m in housing grants for older people and people with a disability in Carlow

€1,526,534 funding has been made available for older people and people with disabilities in Carlow for adaptation of their homes and I am encouraging local people to apply for the grants to help them stay in their own homes.

Older people and people with disabilities with their own homes in Carlow are going to benefit from new Government funding designed to help them to adapt their homes to improve their mobility and access.

The funding can be used by older people and people with disabilities to extend their homes to better cater for their needs. It will also provide for housing adaptations to improve mobility aids such as stair lifts and access ramps.

Grants of up to €30,000 are available for an adaptation of a home. Up to €8,000 is available for housing aid for older people and up to €6,000 is allocated for mobility aids.

The grants are 80% funded from the Exchequer by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government, with 20% funding from the relevant local authority.

In total €1,526,534 is being made available in Carlow for this housing adaptation scheme. €1,221,227 is provided by the Exchequer and this will be supplemented by Carlow County Council with funds of €305,307.

This is all about improving quality of life for older people and people with disabilities. It is also about helping

people to stay in their own homes for as long as possible. This is good for the person in question and it is good for the community as a whole.

These types of schemes are also good news for the construction sector, helping to create jobs in that sector which of course also has a knock on positive effect for the local economy here in Carlow.

I hope to see good take up of the scheme by people who need it here in Carlow and I will certainly be encouraging constituents whom I know can benefit to apply for this scheme through the Local Authority.

If you would like further information, please contact me on [pat.deering@oir.ie](mailto:pat.deering@oir.ie) or call the office in Carlow on 059 9173446.



Meeting with Local IFA reps

### Get Involved!

Getting involved in politics at a local level can be a very enjoyable experience! There are lots of different ways to participate and make a difference. I am always very grateful for any help people are willing to give. If you'd like to play a part in public affairs in our area please email: [info@GetOnBoard.ie](mailto:info@GetOnBoard.ie)



With An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar during the Fine Gael Leadership Hustings Carlow.

## 26 new Social Houses in Carlow

26 new Social Housing units in Carlow have been given the green light by the Minister of State for Housing, Damien English TD.

I warmly welcome this announcement of 26 new units at Sleaty Street, Graiguecullen, Carlow. The houses are needed and the money allocated is a welcome boost to the construction industry and to the community at large.



Delighted to welcome Minister Damien English today to the official opening of the Community Housing Association Development.

26 houses will be provided by Cluid Housing association, an approved housing body, in conjunction with CCC. There will be nine 2-bed houses and seventeen 3-bed houses.

These new permanent homes are intended for people who are on the social housing list in Carlow town and will go some way to alleviate the pressure on local authority housing. I'm very pleased that Carlow's application has been approved and that Carlow will get twenty-six units at a total cost of over €3.85m which are due for completion in June 2018.

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### Working for Carlow, Working for You

ClIr Fergal Browne, ClIr Brian O'Donoghue, ClIr Michael Doran;  
ClIr Denis Foley; ClIr Tommy Kinsella and ClIr John Murphy.

