Lissycasey

Smart Community Plan.

Part 2 of 4

Environment & Sustainability

A Plan by the Community for the Community

1. Introduction

Welcome to the **Lissycasey Smart Environment and Sustainablity Plan** plan June 2019. This plan has been compiled by the **Lissycasey** community for the **Lissycasey** community. The plan comes at the end of a twelve month process of working to strengthen the community management capabilities in **Lissycasey**.

Benefits of a Local Plan

- ✓ Better local collaboration
- ✓ Encourages greater volunteerism
- ✓ Provides direction to local development
- ✓ Creates a unified voice and action team
- ✓ Helps identify & understand problems
- ✓ Improves access to outside supports

The Wider Project: The project has been funded by Clare Local Development Company and facilitated by a company called eTownz. The project is part of a wider project in Clare where forty communities across the county have been undertaking similar exercises. As many nearby communities are undertaking similar projects and developing local action teams, it creates collaboration opportunities for neighboring communities.

The Four-Part Plan: This document is one of four parts of a community plan for **Lissycasey**. These represent four top tiers of community planning: Economy, Wellbeing, Environment and Management.

- Well being
- Environment
- Economy
- Management

Lissycasey may wish to develop more detailed plans for specific areas within one of the four parts, such as a specific Tourism plan under the Economy heading, or a specific Energy plan under the Environment heading.

Town Teams: The importance to local development of collaboration between local people, clubs, businesses and service providers cannot be understated. eTownz suggests **Lissycasey** creates teams for each of the four top tiers: **Economy, Wellbeing, Environment and Management.**

- Build positive approach to local development
- Coordinate local stakeholders
- Manage, plan & help co-ordinate activities
- Promote the fun of local participation
- Encourage feedback & ideas from community
- Help volunteers & public service providers
- Identify Ideas & Opportunities

> How Did We Get Here?

The Lissycasey Smart Environment and Sustainablity Plan plan has been compiled over 12 months from community feedback. eTownz liaised with a small group of dedicated local volunteers to organise and gather the information in this report.

- Community Workshops
- Residents Surveys
- Interviews
- Desktop Research
- Regional Training
- Research Tour

COMMUNITY PLAN

> Plan Structure

This is a 'smart' community plan. It draws on information from different sources and can be updated at any time through the eTownz online dashboard- Click Here . This allows different sections of the community to engage with an ongoing planning process

The plan was compiled by creating a 'model' of **Lissycasey.** The information is logged to a database as 'Record Logs'.

Each record log is assigned both a "Log Type" and a "Log Theme". This provides the framework for the community plan. This modular plan is compiled using the eTownz Dashboard, allowing the plan to be easily updated by the **Lissycasey** team in the future, adding new project ideas and challenges.

> What Next?

The plan hopes to assist **Lissycasey** locals with creating a series of community development teams. Each team will cover one of the four top tiers; **Economy, Wellbeing, Environment or Management**. Teams should be composed of representatives from local clubs, businesses and service providers, as well as interested people from **Lissycasey** . Teams will set their own agendas for how often they would like to meet, what projects to undertake and so on.
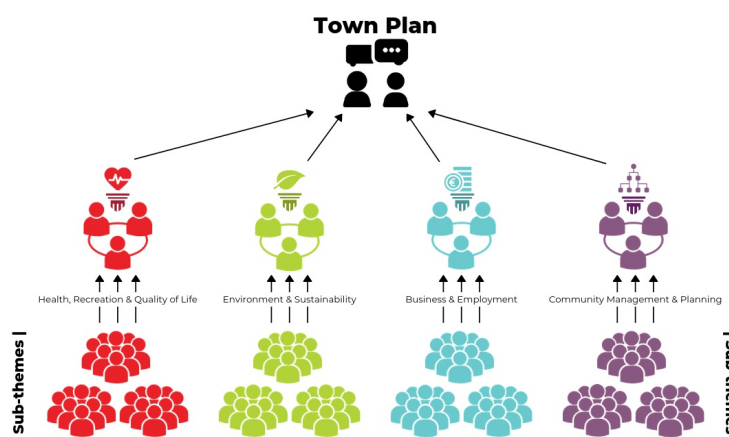
> So What Can You Do?

If you have an interest in local issues in Lissycasey , there are a number of ways you can get involved:

- **Share**: Read and share this report with others

- **Survey**: Complete the surveys or register your club/organisation

- **Contribute**: Contribute your ideas on any record by clicking on the log record title or visiting the eTownz dashboard

- **Join a team**: Register for a team online or attend a meeting to get involved in the **Lissycasey** plan.

2. Executive Summary

The town is set in a great environment with great natural scenery. The local community plays a role in maintaining the environment. There is a new retrofit for older homes so that they are more energy efficient and the SEAI scheme needs to be rolled out in the town. Lack of a waste water system is a major environmental issue. This is having an effect on the receiving environment with the Owenslieve River currently at poor status under the WFD. Lissycasey has also been identified as being within a high-risk zone and a sensitive area from the EPA Domestic Waste Water Risk. There also needs to be a flood risk assessment carried out in some areas of the town. The Ecology Park also greatly adds to the local environment. More social housing would be a positive for the local area.

Environment, Habitats and Sustainability Town Team

The first step in developing environment initiatives in the community is to create & support a team of relevant people and organisations that can help coordinate activities and facilitate change. The team can be small or large and decide its own format. The team may take on its own projects or simply meet occasionally to help coordinate groups with common interests. The team could be comprised of local residents, businesses, club or public service representatives. Team structure can be simple to start with and decide how often they should meet as they see fit. Members of the team can seek to gain a greater understanding of local barriers and opportunities to formulate a plan for future activities. There are also a wide variety of supports available and a well-prepared team can help the community to take advantage of these. Building a local environment team helps coordinate cross-community initiatives, helps liaising with service providers, and helps the community understand & address local environmental challenges.

Local Energy Efficiency Plan

There are a range of supports to assist communities in working together to improve local energy efficiency & reduce carbon footprint. The town environment team may wish to appoint people from the community as "champions" to lead the community in adopting the Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) program from Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI). This program can provide access to grants to upgrade facilities and improve awareness.

Further Develop Waste Reduction & Reuse Initiatives

There are a wide variety of waste streams which may be prevalent in a community. The environment team may wish to perform a study of local resource use and waste generation. This would allow setting of short and long-term targets on becoming a resource efficient community. The team may not only look at waste reduction but the economic opportunities of waste reuse in a circular economy. Ultimately the team might look at aiming to be a zero waste community (An example program of this can be seen athttps://www.zerowastecashel.ie/).

3. Summary of Community Stats

In this section we provide a summary of key statistics related to the community based primarily on 2016 Census data. In the appendices we provide further detail via charts and below this table are direct links to the data visualisations.

Lissycasey:

The following information is based on 2016 Census data for Liscasey electoral district.

Economy

- 23% of females and 34% of males over 15 are classified as "At work" compared to the national average of 24% and 28% respectively. The number of females in particular in work is of particular note. 7% of females and 8% of males are classified as retired which is above the national average of 8% which illustrates that the community needs to focus on providing services to the elderly

- Regarding occupations, 23% of males are classified as "Skilled trades"compared to a national average of just 12%. While 6% of females worked in "Caring, leisure and other service occupations" compared to a national average of 6%.

- The local social welfare office for the area is in Kilrush, live register figure for this office show relatively medium levels of seasonality with live register figures highest in Dec - Feb and lowest in Sept/Oct

Wellbeing

- 10% of females and 8% of males ceased education at the age of 21 compared to a national average of 13.1% and 11.4% respectively, while a higher number of males finished education aged 18 of 8% compared to a national average of 5.5%.

- 35 people were classified as carers, 18 of which are female and 17 of which are male.

- When asked about their health, 34% of females and 32% of males described their health as "Very good" which is slightly above the national average of 30% but 11% of females and 13% of males described their health as "Good" compared to the national average of 14%.

- Interestingly, 6% of people lived in a one person home compared to a national average of 8.5% and county average of 9.5% which may point towards issues of isolation in the community.

Environment

- The community have a relatively old housing stock with 10% being built pre 1919 and 8% built between 19-'45 compared to national average of 8% and 6.5% respectively. This would indicate poorer levels of home insulation in the community

- Lissycasey rely on less climate change friendly forms of fuel (Oil 70% and Peat 21% compared to the national average of these fuel types 40% & 5%)
- The water and wastewater infrastructure in Lissycasey is extremely below the national and county averages with 7% of people on public wastewater scheme (compared to 66% nationally) and 2% of the homes are on public water mains (compared to 77% nationally)

Management

- The community have a lower % of people who travel to work/education etc between 6:30 and 8:30 while a higher percentage of people travel to work 8:30 - 9 compared to national average and this also is reflected in journey times to work which are considerably lower than the national average which means people spend less time travelling to and from work each day.

- A higher percentage of people travel by car 45% to school or work (above the age of 5), compared to the national average of 38%.

4. Stakeholders

Good local plans should strive to help all stakeholders within a community, especially the most vulnerable.

Sometimes, plans tend to focus on the most obvious stakeholders, such as local hotels, but forget about the small business owner working from home; they acknowledge the local football team, but ignore the local bridge club.

By building a register of the various local stakeholders, we aim for the Lissycasey Smart Community Plan to be inclusive and relevant to the needs of people and organisations throughout Lissycasey. The image across provides a breakdown of relevant stakeholders types.

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Lissycasey Ecological Park (Walkways and Nature Trails) - 8290	Walkway and nature trail **T2:** *Sports & Recreation, Habitats & Environment*	Group/Club	0	0
Lissycasey Tidy Towns - 8291	A group to keep the village of Lissycasey neat and tidy with a possible reward for the community.	Group/Club	0	0
Publicly elected representatives - 7796	"Elected representatives can assist communities in the development process. There are 3 main groupings of elected representatives relevant to the community. Our representatives include: Councillors: Bill Chambers // Christy Curtin // Michael Hillery // Gabriel Keating // P.J. Kelly // Ian Lynch // Richard Nagle // Bil Slattery Councillors are the people you should contact if you have questions or concerns about local issues. Examples would include problems with local infrastructure like refuse collection or damaged facilities. TDs: Timmy Dooley // Michael Harty // Pat Breen // Joe Carey TDs are the people you should contact if you have questions or concerns about national issues. Examples would be the Budget, taxation, Health policy or other nationwide initiatives. MEPs: Deirdre Clune // Brian Crowley // Seán Kelly // Liadh Ní Riada MEPs are the people you should contact if you have questions or concerns about european issues. Examples would be EU treaties and Union wide agreements such as the Common Agricultural Policy or Fisheries Policy. "	Public Service	0	0
Clare Co Co - Environment and Water Services Department - 8075	We connect communities by improving high quality digital, broadband and WiFi services in Clare. We provide DigiClare - hot-desking, co-working and conference spaces - and continually improve the web site and web services. We build customer relationship management systems to help improve how we deliver services. This department is part of the Rural Development directorate .https://www.Clarecoco.ie/your-council/departments/environment-and-water-services-dept/	Public Service	0	0

5. Assets

Identifying, understanding and appreciating the assets within a community is an important part of any community plan. This plan takes elements from a popular approach to community planning called Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). ABCD works on the premise that positive and effective community plans are built by leveraging existing assets within a community. Therefore, it is important to properly log all relevant assets in this category.

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TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Bring Centre - 5489	The Bring Bank is where local residents can deposit their waste products for recycling. It is managed by Clare County Council. **T2:** *Waste & Resource Efficiency*	Have	0	0

6. Objectives

Defining local goals and challenges can often be the most difficult component of a community plan, but it is vital nonetheless.

Of course, different stakeholders within the community may wish to prioritise different goals. As such, defining clear goals is a necessary step in selecting projects and preparing a tailored action plan.

The table below provides a themed breakdown of local objectives, which are divided Goals & Challenges.

| TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments

7. Projects

Projects are the actions that stakeholders take to improve their community. Local projects can range from things like coaching a youth team to building a hall or organising a clean-up. While sometimes overlooked, it's important to appreciate the projects that have recently been undertaken or that are currently underway in the area, as this helps place the capabilities for future projects in context.

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Local Environmental plan - 8394	A local environmental plan needs to be developed for challenges in the area. i.e cascades. **T2:** *Habitats & Environment* **T3:** *Sustainable Local Living*	Idea	0	0
Improve water quality - 8401	There is a need to improve the quality of drinking water in the locality. Local community needs to lobby for improvements to the system. **T2:** *Waste & Resource Efficiency* **T3:** *Water / Wastewater Efficiency*	Idea	0	0

8. Appendices

Households by Year Built

Permanent private households by year built Comparison
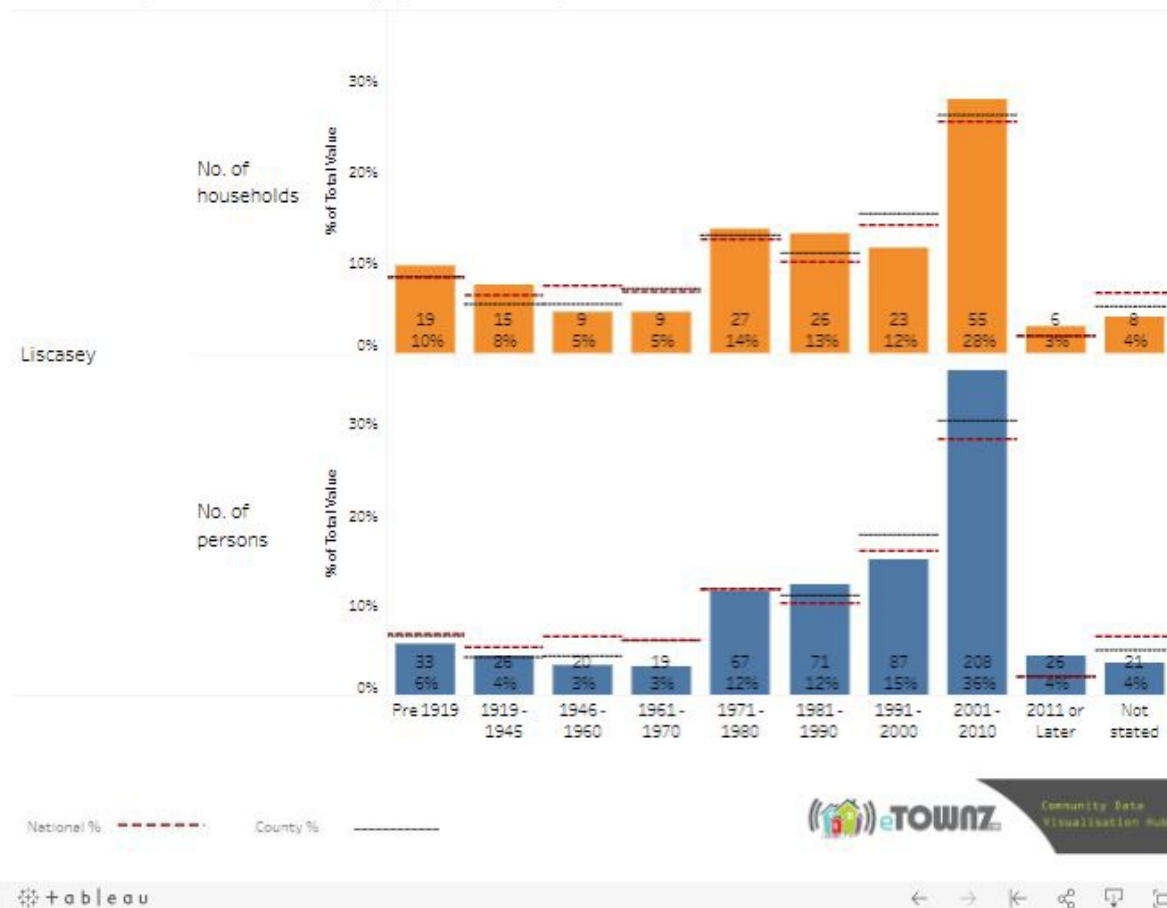
Trendlines:
> The red dotted line represents the national average for this parameter
> The black continuous line represents the county average
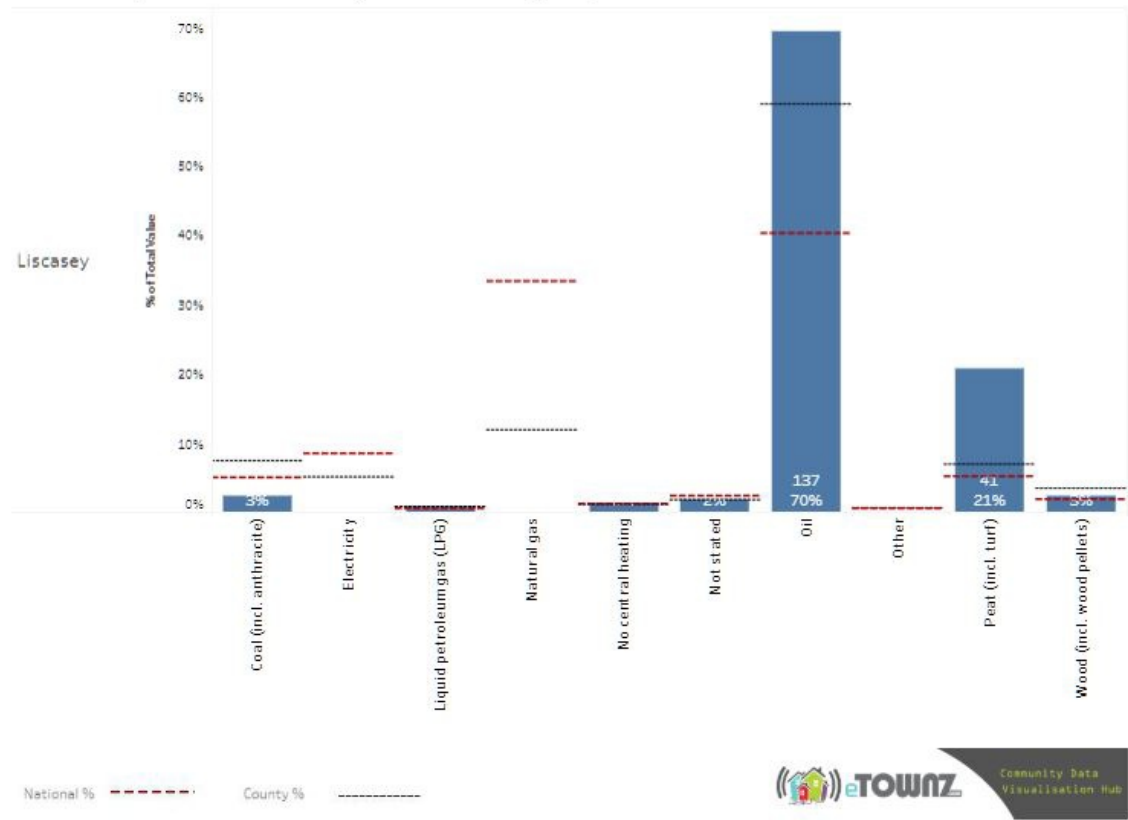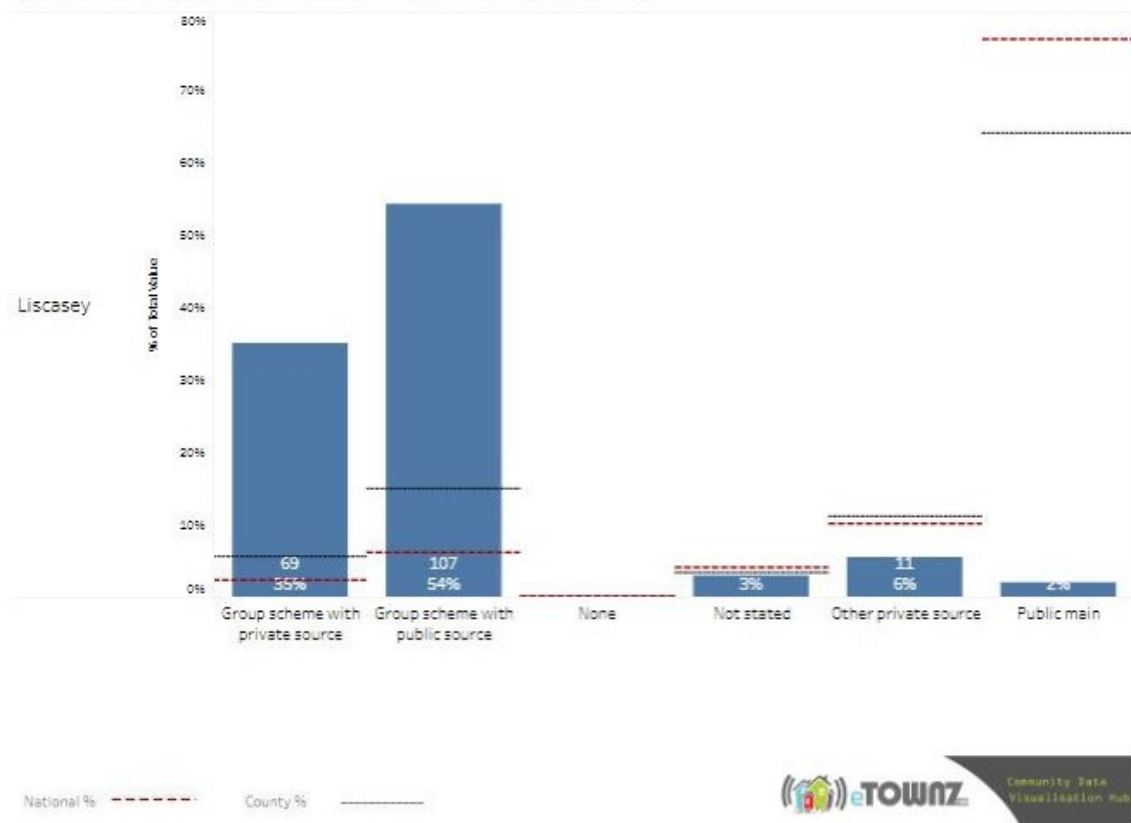
Census '16
https://public.tableau.com/profile/pat.kennedy#!/vizhome/Environment_3/PermanentprivatehouseholdsbyBuiltYear?Edname=Liscasey

Central Heating type by households

Permanent private households by Central Heating

Select Community
*Select upto 3

Liscasey

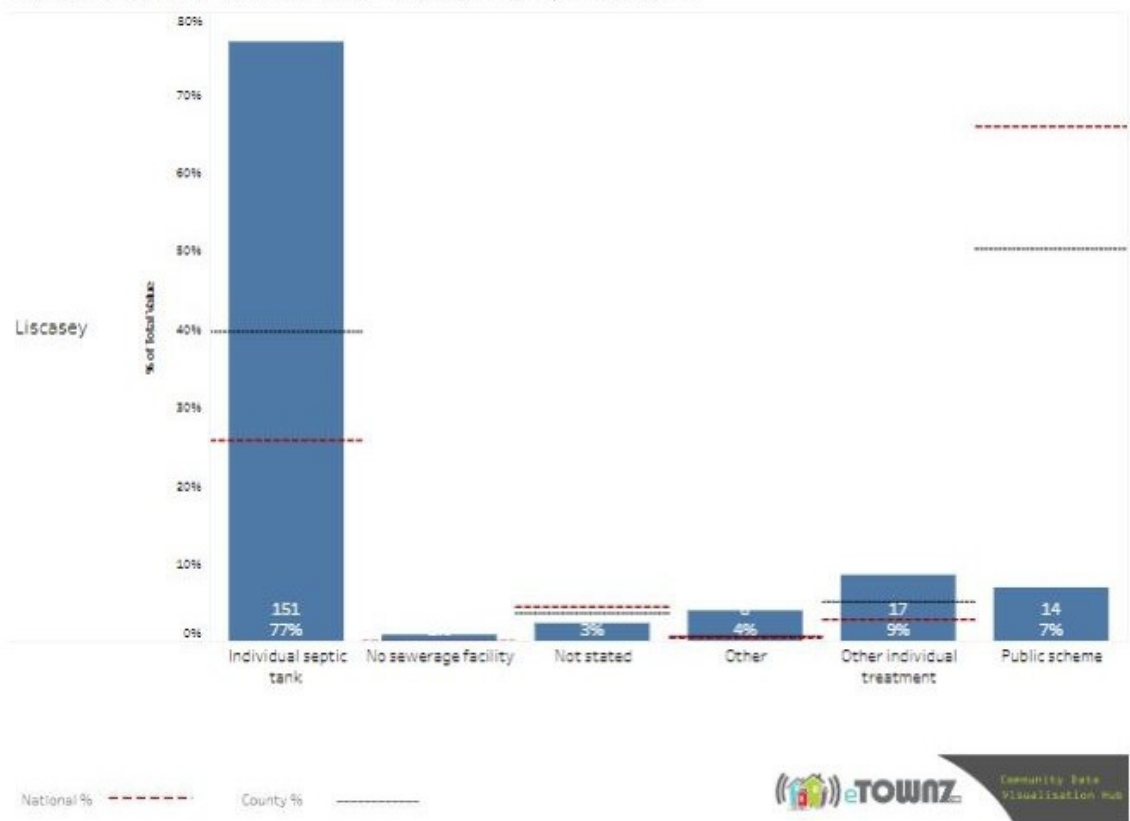Permanent private households by central heating Comparison

Trendlines:
> The red dotted line represents the national average for this parameter
> The black continuous line represents the county average

Census '16
https://public.tableau.com/profile/pat.kennedy#!/vizhome/Environment_3/PermanentprivatehouseholdsbyBuiltYear?Edname=Liscasey

Water Supply Type - Permanent private supply to households

Permanent private households by water supply Comparison

Liscasey

% of Total Value

Group scheme with private source	Group scheme with public source	None	Not stated	Other private source	Public main
69 35%	107 54%		3%	11 6%	2%

National % ------- County % _____

Trendlines:
> The red dotted line represents the national average for this parameter
> The black continuous line represents the county average

Census '16
https://public.tableau.com/profile/pat.kennedy#!/vizhome/Environment_3/PermanentprivatehouseholdsbyBuiltYear?Edneme=Liscasey

Sewerage Facility by permanent private household

Permanent private households by sewerage facility Comparison

About: By understanding the number of mains sewage systems in the locality it helps to understand the risk to groundwater from septic tanks.

Trendlines:
> The red dotted line represents the national average for this parameter
> The black continuous line represents the county average

Breakdown of local wind farms
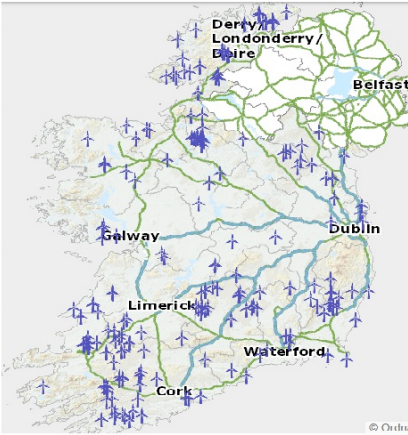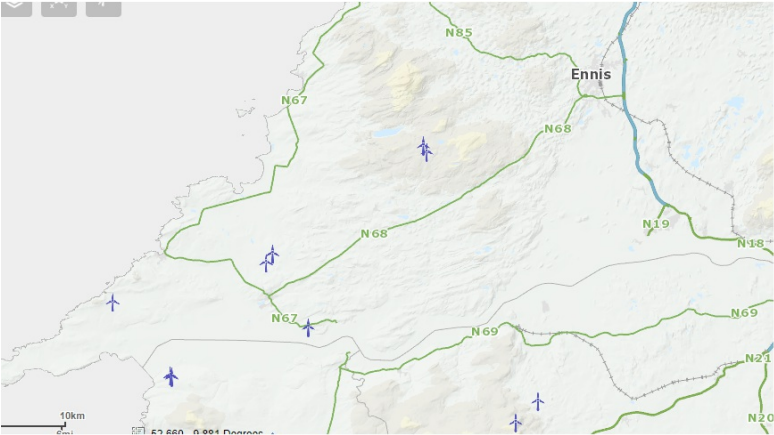
Name	MEC (MW)	Connection Date
Moanmore Wind Farm	12.6	21/12/2004
Carrownaweelaun Wind Farm	4.6	17/06/2015
Moneypoint (1)	17.25	01/06/2017
Moanmore Wind Farm	12.6	21/12/2004

SEAI Wind Mapping System
http://maps.seai.ie/wind/

Forestry Cover 2007