

# AILG

Association of Irish Local Government  
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

## INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

HOTEL KILMORE CAVAN

29TH – 30TH OCTOBER 2014

ALAN KELLY T.D. MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
IS INVITED TO ADDRESS CONFERENCE DINNER

Conference Fee: €100

REGISTRATION  
STARTS

6:00PM WEDNESDAY  
29TH OCTOBER 2014

CONFERENCE CLASSED AS  
A TRAINING EVENT FOR  
PURPOSES OF PAYMENT

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Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

## INAUGURAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

WEDNESDAY  
29<sup>TH</sup> OCT

**7.00pm**

**Welcome Reception by Cllr Shane P. O'Reilly**  
**Cathaoirleach Cavan County Council**  
**Tourism Presentation**

### SESSION 1

**Housing Crisis ? Feast or Famine**  
**“How can we avoid making the mistakes of the past”?**  
**Chairman: Cllr Padraig McNally President AILG**

THURSDAY  
30<sup>TH</sup> OCT

**10.00am**

#### **SPEAKERS:**

#### **Paudie Coffey T.D. Minister of State for Housing**



Paudie Coffey is the Minister of State at the Department of the Environment with Special Responsibility for Housing, Planning and Coordination of the Construction 2020 Strategy. He has been a member of Dáil Eireann since 2011 and previously a member of Seanad Eireann from 2007.

He was elected to Waterford County Council in 1999 and re-elected in 2004. During his time on the council Paudie served as Deputy Mayor of Waterford County Council and as Chairman of the South East Regional Authority.

Paudie served in Seanad Eireann from 2007-2011 where he was Fine Gael Spokesperson on the Environment, Community and Local Government; he was also a Member of Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment & Local Government & Member of Joint Oireachtas Committee on Energy Security & Climate Change.

When Paudie was elected to the Dáil in 2011 he was a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and was also chairperson of the Fine Gael Internal Committee on Environment, Community and Local Government. In 2013 he was elected as Vice Chairperson of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Transport and Communications.

Paudie's interests include; Hurling, Cycling, IT, Reading, Politics, and Community Development. Paudie holds a diploma in Facilities Management. Paudie also holds certificates from Waterford Institute of Technology and UCD.

Paudie is heavily involved in his community and is currently Chairperson of his local GAA Club and Secretary of a Day Centre for the Elderly. Paudie is former County Minor and U21 Hurler for Waterford. He is also a Former Secretary Portlaw GAA Club and U21 County Team Selector/Trainer.

Prior to becoming a full time politician in 2007 Paudie worked in ESB Networks for over 20 years where he initially trained as an electrician and MV and LV Cable jointer.

He subsequently joined the Network design department where, for a period of over seven years, he was responsible for the planning, design and project management of the electricity distribution system in the South East region.

## Vincent P.Martin

Vincent P Martin is a practising barrister. Co-founder (2010) of New Beginning, an independent advocacy group founded to campaign for Ireland's financial recovery by reaching a fair solution to over-indebtedness. Founder (1997) and Director of the Public Access to Law Group (P.A.L.) which strives to make the workings of the legal system more accessible to the public. He is also member of the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB).



## Fr. Peter Mc Verry

Fr Peter McVerry SJ grew up in Newry, Co. Down and was educated at the Abbey Christian Brothers' Grammar School in Newry and at the Jesuit school at Clongowes Wood College in Co. Kildare.

In 1962, he entered the Jesuit Order and was ordained in 1975. From 1974 to 1980, Peter worked in the Inner City in Dublin and there he came into contact with young people who were sleeping on the streets because of their home situation. He opened a hostel for homeless boys, aged 12-16, in 1979 and this subsequently became his life-time work. He saw through the work of this hostel that when the boys reached 16 and needed to leave, they had few options open to them and most ended up back living on the streets. This realisation led him to set about providing services and accommodation for these older youths.

In 1980 Peter moved to Ballymun and by the end of 1983 he had founded the Arrupe Society, a charity to tackle homelessness. This charity, subsequently renamed as the Peter McVerry Trust, has progressed from a three bedroom flat in Ballymun to eleven homeless hostels, over 100 apartments, a residential drug detox centre and two drug stabilisation services. His vision for PMVT is to support all those living on the margins and to uphold their rights to full inclusion in society. In 2013 the charity worked with almost 3,600 vulnerable youths.

As a social activist Peter is a strong advocate for those who have no voice in society. He has written widely on issues relating to young homeless people such as accommodation, drugs, juvenile justice, the Gardaí, prisons and education. He has a regular article in the monthly Redemptorist magazine, Reality, and speaks on issues of homelessness, justice and faith to groups around the country. He is a critic of government policy on issues such as homelessness, drugs and criminal justice.

Peter has produced a book of writings, called "The Meaning is in the Shadows". These writings reflect on his experiences working in Dublin's Inner City. His most recent book is "Jesus – Social Revolutionary?"

Now based at Peter McVerry Trust's Open Access Centre in Upper Sherrard Street, Peter's ongoing work with and campaigning on behalf of troubled young people has made him one of the most prophetic voices in Ireland today.

Speaking at the 50th Eucharistic Congress held in Dublin in June 2013 he said: "In a community that loves one another, there should be no-one poor, (unless all are poor); there should be no-one homeless, no-one lonely, no-one sick or alone without visitors, no-one in prison who has been abandoned and written off, there should be no-one rejected or marginalized."

The Freedom of the City acknowledges the tireless work done by Fr. Peter McVerry SJ for the young people of Dublin.



**LUNCH 1:00PM TO 2:15PM**

## SESSION 2

### **A Leadership Role for Local Authorities in Economic Development - the Potential & Challenges**

**Chairman: Cllr Colm Brophy Vice President AILG**

## Niall Cussen

### **Principal Officer Local Government Planning**

Mr Niall Cussen is currently Principal Adviser (Planning) in the Water and Planning Division of the Department of the Environment Community and Local Government.

Niall has particular responsibility for national spatial planning and regional development matters, addressing unfinished housing developments, the Dublin Housing Task Force and also leads the Departments Planning Advisers in progressing both the Departments and the wider Government business agenda in so far as they relate to planning and related matters.

Before joining the Department in 2000, Niall worked in a number of planning posts in the previous 11 years in both local authorities such as Clare, Meath and Dublin City and An Bord Pleanála where he was a Senior Inspector.

Mr Cussen possesses qualifications in economics, regional and urban planning and environmental engineering from Maynooth University, UCD and TCD and is a member of the Irish Planning Institute.



THURSDAY  
30<sup>TH</sup> OCT

## Padraig White Former Chief Executive IDA



Padraic has been chairman of the Louth Economic Forum since its formation in April 2009. It was a pioneer in bringing together representatives of the business community, State agencies, DkIT and local authority management to advance economic development and job creation in a county. He is Chairman of the Leitrim Recreational Strategy Forum and a member of the Board of trustees of the Waterford Viking Triangle. He chairs a Steering Group to advance commitment to a Border Development Zone or Corridor. He is Chairman of eight SME companies including three in the border counties. He was recently appointed to the Board of UTV Ireland which plans to open a new television station in January 2015 and which intends to have strong regional news and current affairs coverage .

Padraic was Managing Director of the Industrial Development Authority of Ireland (IDA –Ireland ) in the decade to June 1990 when Ireland endured and then emerged from the last prolonged recession. During his tenure, IDA negotiated the initial location in Ireland of some of the to-days leading multinationals such as Microsoft, IBM Software and Intel.

He is a native of Kinlough, County Leitrim and is married to Senator Mary White co-founder of Lir Chocolates Ltd.

## Questions & Answers Session

CONFERENCE DINNER 8:00PM  
THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2014

ACCOMMODATION

HOTEL	TELEPHONE	SINGLE	DOUBLE
Hotel Kilmore	049 4332288	€65.00 pn	€99.00 pn
Cavan Crystal	049 4360600	€65.00 pn	€99.00 pn
Radisson (Farnham Estate)	049 4377700	€95.00 pn	€115.00 pn

  

BED & BREAKFAST	TELEPHONE	BED & BREAKFAST	TELEPHONE
Milestone House	049 4371896/ 086 8519664	Oakdene	049 4331698
Bobby Murtagh	049 4330058	Ardmore Lodge	086 8365700
Drumbo Lodge	049 4371982 / 087 6477944	Shamrock House	049 4331650

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