

# AILG

Association of Irish Local Government  
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

## AUTUMN TRAINING SEMINAR **2019**

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND PLANNING

New Challenges  
for Local  
Government



The Hillgrove  
Leisure & Spa Hotel  
Monaghan

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
September 2019**

Registration Starts

6pm WEDNESDAY 11th &  
9am THURSDAY 12th  
SEPTEMBER 2019

SEMINAR FEE: €140

- » Seminar classed as a training event for purposes of payment
- » Delegates to register through your Local Authority Corporate Services Section

### CONTACT:

**Tom Moylan & Liam Kenny**  
Directors AILG

Office Unit 10, Manor Mills,  
Maynooth, Co. Kildare

**T:** 00353 1 610 6100

**M:** 00353 86 823 6386

**E:** t.moylan@ailg.ie

**W:** www.ailg.ie



### WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

**6.00pm Registration for Delegates**

**7.00pm Official Opening and Welcome Reception to Delegates by**

- Luie McEntire, President AILG 2018/19
- Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, Vice President AILG 2018/19
- Cllr. Seamus Coyle, Cathaoirleach Monaghan Co. Co.
- Cllr. Sean Conlon, Cathaoirleach Monaghan Municipal District
- Eamon O'Sullivan, Chief Executive, Monaghan Co. Co.

**Re-launch of updated AILG Brexit Issues Paper, followed by Hot Buffet Dinner for Delegates**

### THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

**9.00am Registration for Delegates**

#### **“Climate Change and Planning – New Challenges for Local Government”**

**10.00am ‘Climate Change – The Role of Local Government’**

Speaker: Joe Boland, Director of Service Kildare Co. Co.  
& Chair of Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office

**11.00am ‘Met Éireann – Forecasting Services and Local Authorities’**

Speaker: Joan Blackburn, Deputy Head of Forecasting Met Éireann

**12.00pm ‘The Planning Process and the Office of the Planning Regulator’**

Speaker: Niall Cussen, Planning Regulator

#### **Questions & Answers**

**1.00pm Lunch**

**2.15pm Panel Discussion – A Conversation with Newly Elected Councillors with Liam Kenny, Director AILG:**

- Cllr. Aoife McCooey, Monaghan Co. Co.
- Cllr. Yemi Adenuga, Meath Co. Co.
- Cllr. Pippa Hackett, Offaly Co. Co.
- Cllr. Geraldine Donohue, Galway Co. Co.

**3.15pm ‘Local Authority Budgets 2020 & Other Local Government Issues’**

Speaker: Tommy Moylan, Director AILG

#### **Questions & Answers**

**4.30pm Rooms available for Party Meetings**

**7.30pm Pre-Seminar Dinner Reception**

**8.00pm Seminar Dinner**

# SEMINAR SPEAKERS



## **Joe Boland**

*Director of Service Kildare Co. Co.  
& Chair Eastern and Midlands  
Climate Action Regional Office*

Joe started his career with Kildare County Council in 1984 and he subsequently joined Louth County

Council in 1998 where he served as County Secretary and subsequently as Director of Services for Corporate Services. Joe returned to Kildare County Council in June 2003 and is currently Director of Service for Water Services and Environment.

In 2018, Kildare Co. Co headquarters in Naas was chosen as the home to the new Climate Action Office for the Eastern and Midlands Region with Joe becoming one of the four Regional Climate Action Officers for the country. A key ingredient in Kildare County Council being chosen as the location for this regional office has been the success of its partnership with Maynooth University, which hosts the Irish Climate Analysis and Research Unit (ICARUS), a national leader in providing integrated research, data and advice to both policy makers and the scientific community.



## **Joan Blackburn**

*Deputy Head of Forecasting Met  
Éireann*

Joan is the Deputy Head of forecasting and also is the Met Éireann representative on the NECG and the GTF.

As deputy Head of Forecasting Joan has responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for managing the Forecast Division of Met Éireann which incorporates both operational and strategic tasks. The primary responsibility is to ensure resilient 24/7/365 operations in the Central Analysis and Forecast Office and in the Central Aviation Office. These offices also support weather broadcasting on RTÉ radio and television, and build and maintain an online presence for Met Éireann.

Critical tasks include the provision of forecast and warnings services to the road maintenance community and the aviation community. Forecast Division provides a high degree of support to Emergency Management in Ireland in both planning and operational phases, and coordinates with the forecast and warning services of other European National Met Services as appropriate. Forecast Division also provides, through MET web, key weather information online to help support decision-making across many public-service bodies, ranging from the Gardai through to the Local Authorities. Joan also led the national briefings during recent national weather emergencies including Storm Emma and The Beast from the East.



## **Niall Cussen**

*Planning Regulator*

In December 2018 Niall was appointed as Ireland's first Planning Regulator, heading up the new Office of the Planning Regulator which was established in January 2019.

Niall previously was Chief Planner at the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and had been centrally involved in the development of a range of national planning policies, including the National Planning Framework published last year as part of Project Ireland 2040. He has also previously worked in An Bord Pleanála and in Dublin City Council and Meath, Clare and Roscommon County Councils.

He is an Economics and Geography graduate of NUI Maynooth and has also been awarded a Diploma in Environmental Engineering from Trinity College Dublin and a Masters of Regional and Urban Planning from UCD.



## **Cllr. Aoife McCooey,**

*Monaghan Co. Co.*

Aoife was elected to Monaghan County Council on her first attempt in May 2019 and is one of the youngest elected representatives in the country. She has been involved in many local

organizations as a teenager, especially in drama groups, volunteering and in the church.

Aoife graduated from Sligo Institute of technology in 2018 with an honours degree and she is returning to her studies in September to study an MA in Public Affairs and Political Communications at The Technological University Dublin.

Having a strong family tradition in politics, members of Aoife's extended family were councillors and she herself has been attending local party meetings since she was 15. She was honoured to be given the opportunity to run in the local elections and now be able to represent the people of the Carrickmacross - Castleblayney Municipal District.



## **Cllr. Yemi Adenuga,**

*Meath Co. Co.*

Cllr Yemi Adenuga's election to the Navan Municipal District of Meath County Council represented the latest in a long list of achievements both in her native Nigeria and in Navan which has been her home for twenty years.

She worked as an award-winning radio and TV presenter and producer for Nigerian TV before her move to Ireland. More recently, television watchers would have seen her and her family feature in the popular Virgin One TV show "Google Box."

She has been active in community life in Navan including acting with the Navan theatre group. She has pioneered many initiatives in relation to women of African origin in Ireland. She is chair of the Migrant Women's Council of Ireland and is on the board of the Cultúr Migrants Centre in Meath.

Her election to Meath County Council was seen as a sign of members of the "new Irish" community becoming engaged in local government.





### Cllr. Pippa Hackett,

*Offaly Co. Co.*

Originally from Co. Mayo, Pippa has been living near Geashill in the Co. Offaly for the past 20 or so years with her husband Mark, and four children. They have an organic farm where they

produce beef, lamb and eggs. She only quite recently became involved in politics, and joined the Green Party at the time of the last general election in 2016 after reading its election manifesto.

She has a BSc in Agriculture from the UK, a post-graduate diploma in Equine Science from UCD, and a PhD in Equine Sports Biomechanics from UL. She worked in the Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences at UL for a number of years, before taking leave to raise her family. She is passionate about protecting our natural environment, and is also very much interested in physical activity and the benefits it brings to people of all ages, mentally and physically.

She is the Green Party's Spokesperson on Agriculture, Food, Forestry, Heritage, and Animal Welfare, and its general election candidate for Laois-Offaly.



### Cllr. Geraldine Donohue,

*Galway Co. Co.*

Geraldine is a native of Kilchreest, Loughrea, Co. Galway and married to musician Seanie Donohue from Duniry. They have two teenage children and are part-time suckler farmers.

Geraldine works as a Secretarial Assistant to Independent Senator Victor Boyhan and she returned to education at NUIG graduating with a BSC in Rural Science & Development in 2012. Geraldine's work experience has been varied and interesting from Payroll Manager to sub-contracting as a Soil Sampler with Teagasc for GLAS Clients many of whom like themselves subsidize their farming income with off-farm employment.

Geraldine is a Member of ICA Loughrea Guild. Her family and community are at the heart of all that Geraldine does and from this she developed her strong interest in sustainable communities and Local Government.



### Liam Kenny

*Director AILG*

Liam Kenny is a strong advocate for the heritage of local democracy which has roots in the first County Council elections of 1899.

He has spoken and written widely on how Ireland's pioneering County Councillors created a legacy which has benefited the Irish public to the present day.

Liam has been Director of the Association of Irish Local Government and its predecessors for twenty-three years.



### Tommy Moylan

*Co-Director AILG*

Tommy is a qualified accountant by profession and has a wide range of experience in local government having served as a public representative for 15 years.

Tommy was a member of the working group for engagement with Local Authority Representative Associations working with the Department of Environment Community & Local Government on Local Government policy in relation to the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

In July 2015, following a national recruitment process he was appointed co-director of the AILG.

## ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

The Hillgrove Hotel Leisure & Spa, Old Armagh Road, Monaghan, Co Monaghan, H18 RK15

**(047) 81 288**

Delegate Rates Available:

**€79 Single Occupancy / €99 Per Room (Double/Twin)**

**Ashleigh Guest House**

37 Dublin St., Monaghan

**(047) 81 227**

**Grove Lodge B&B**

Old Armagh Road, Latlurcan, Monaghan

**(047) 84 677**

**Westenra Arms Hotel**

The Diamond, Monaghan

**(047) 74 400**

**Four Seasons Hotel & Leisure Club**

Coolshannagh, Monaghan

**(047) 81 888**

**The Meadows B&B**

No 5 Tirkeenan, Monaghan

**(047) 81 227**