

Jonathon Codd

From: Jonathon Codd
Sent: Thursday 20 November 2025 17:38
To: Jonathon Codd
Cc: Orla Kelly; Sinéad Breathnach; Susan Whelan; Emma Smyth; Gerard Mulhall; Eoin Morrissey; Ovidiu Matiut; Yvonne Dam; Mairead McKnight; Seamus De Faoite
Subject: Minister Calleary announces Éamon Ó Cuív as new Chair of Comhairle na Tuaithe
Categories: Egress Switch: Unprotected

Dear Chair and members of the LCDC/LAG,

Please see media release below,

Media Release

Thursday, 20th November 2025



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Minister Calleary announces Éamon Ó Cuív as new Chair of Comhairle na Tuaithe

- ***Comhairle plays a vital role in the oversight and implementation of ‘Embracing Ireland’s Outdoors’, Ireland’s national outdoor recreation strategy***

Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, today (Thursday, 20 November 2025) announced the appointment of Éamon Ó Cuív as chair of Comhairle na Tuaithe (The Countryside Council).

Comhairle na Tuaithe advises the Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht on the sustainable development of the outdoor recreation sector in Ireland.

Announcing the appointment today, Minister Calleary said:

He has held a number of ministerial positions including:

- Minister of State at the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands 1997-2001
- Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development with responsibility for rural development and the Western Development Commission 2001-2002
- Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs 2002-2010
- Minister for Social Protection 2010-2011

Comhairle Na Tuaithe (The Countryside Council/ Comhairle) is an Advisory Council which was established in February 2004 as a non-statutory body by the then Department for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. It meets four times a year and is made up of stakeholder representatives from farming organisations, recreational users of the countryside and state bodies with a responsibility or interest in the countryside.

In 2019 an independent chair was appointed to Comhairle for the first time, along with a new mandate to reinforce and strengthen its advisory role for the sustainable development of the outdoor recreation sector in Ireland.

Since the inception of Comhairle there has been significant growth in the number of people engaging in outdoor recreation. Over the last number of years Comhairle has played a lead role in the development and implementation of 'Embracing Ireland's Outdoors', the national outdoor recreation strategy 2023-2027 which was published in November 2022. Comhairle continues to play a vital role in the oversight and implementation of the strategy over the course of its lifetime.

The appointment as Chair will be for an initial period of three years.

Further details on the membership and work of Comhairle na Tuaithe can be found on www.gov.ie at the following link: [Comhairle na Tuaithe](#).

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

The expanded Department is now known as the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD leads the Department and is supported by the Minister of State with Responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD.

“Tá a’ fhios agam go bhfuil spéis faoi leith aige in gach gné den áineas faoin aer agus go dtacaíonn sé go láidir le pobail tuaithe agus le húsáid inbhuanaithe na tuaithe go fóill. Cuirfidh sé go mór le Comhairle na Tuaithe lena thaithí agus a shaineolas.

“Beidh Éamon ag teacht in ionad an Dr. Liam Twomey, a bhí an-chumasach ina cheannasaíocht ar an gComhairle le seacht mbliana anuas. Agus é ina Chathaoirleach, ghlac Liam ról suntasach i bhforbairt ‘Téigh Amach Faoin Aer’, an straitéis náisiúnta áineasa faoin aer, agus ina chur i bhfeidhm go dtí seo.”

Agus é ag glacadh leis an ról, dúirt Éamon Ó Cuív:

“Is cúis áthais dom go bhfuil deis á tabhairt dom chun a bheith i mo Chathaoirleach ar Chomhairle na Tuaithe. Tá ionadaíocht ar an gComhairle ag na príomh-gheallsealbhóirí go léir i réimse an áineasa faoin aer, agus táim ag tnúth go mór le leanúint le dea-obair an chathaoirligh dheireanaigh, Liam Twomey, trína bheith ag obair leo uile chun tacú le cur i bhfeidhm ‘Téigh Amach Faoin Aer’, an Straitéis Náisiúnta Áineasa Faoin Aer 2023 go 2027.”

CRÍOCH

Teagmháil:

Preasoifig na Roinne Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir:

Éamon Ó Cuív

Bhí Éamon Ó Cuív ina Theachta Dála do thoghcheantar na Gaillimhe Thiar ón 27ú Dáil i 1992 go dtí an 33ú Dáil i 2024, tar éis dó a bheith ina Sheanadóir ó 1989 go 1992. Bhí sé ina Leas-cheannaire ar Fhianna Fáil ó 2011 go 2012.

Bhí roinnt post aire aige, ina measc:

- Aire Stáit sa Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán 1997-2001