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- Nominations open for LAMA Awards 2016
- MeetWest returns to Roscommon
- Fingal and Longford scoop major safety awards
- Nominate your RSA Leading Light for 2015
- Excellence in Local Government Awards
- Local Property Tax allocations for 2016



AILG President
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21 HAZARDOUS WASTE

Ten local authorities have joined a cross-government team to provide farmers with opportunity to yet again dispose of their hazardous farm waste at temporary bring centres at ten locations throughout the country during October and November.

22 AILG PRESIDENT

Having served on a wide variety of local government bodies at local, county and national levels, it's no surprise then that South Dublin County Council's Cllr Colm Brophy is the new President of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG).



Homeless Crisis
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29 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

The controversial decision to merge Cork City and County Councils, in light of the publication of the Cork Local Government Review (CLGR), has met with much derision. And if implemented, the single Cork authority will be operational by the next local elections in 2019.

36 HOMELESS CRISIS

Dublin's four local authorities have joined forces to provide innovative modular housing units as accommodation options for families who are currently placed in emergency accommodation whilst awaiting social housing.



WEEE Ireland
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43 WEEE IRELAND

Leo Donovan has led WEEE Ireland as its chief executive officer since it was established 10 years ago. He has been instrumental in this country's response to the EU's call to action on e-waste disposal. He says his organisation is already ahead of the current set target of recycling 45 per cent of all disposed e-waste by 2016.

48 COMMUNITY HOUSING

South Dublin County Council and Clanmil Housing Association was the overall winning entry at the Community Housing Awards 2015 for the Clondalkin-based scheme for people with disabilities.



Community
Housing
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51 WATERFORD SOCIAL HOUSING

Chairman's Arch Redevelopment at Cathedral Square, which has rehabilitated the heart of the historic core of Waterford, was a winner for Waterford City & County Council in the Regeneration Category at the 2015 Community Housing Awards.

54 FIRE ENGINEERING

An international sustainable fire engineering conference, which is taking place in Dublin in April 2016, will outline how and why people's lives are in danger, even in the newest buildings around the world.



Fire Engineering
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55 EURO GREEN AWARDS

The European Commission has started its search for the 2018 European Green Capital and the European Green Leaf 2016, and is looking for cities which have demonstrated a well-established record of achieving high environmental standards.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The proposed amalgamation of Cork's city and councils has divided members of the Cork Local Government Committee. This committee was established in January 2015 by Minister Alan Kelly, to review what improvements could be made and how the region could be governed.

The proposed merger of Cork's city and county councils forms part of the wide-ranging and controversial reform of local governance in the country. Cork looks now set to join the other three city and county councils mergers in Tipperary, Limerick, and Waterford.

The Galway Review Committee met senior management representatives from these three authorities, and the report says the general view of the executives appears to be that unification has been beneficial, despite some initial reservations.

Next on the agenda will be the publication of the report by Galway Local Government Review Committee. There are now widespread fears that the review will lead to the merger of Galway's city and county councils, or a potential change to the city boundary. This report is due to be published by the end of 2015.

The newly-elected president of the Association of Irish Local Government has told 'Council Review' that with members both for and against such proposed mergers, AILG will not be taking a formal position on the matter.

In an extensive interview since he succeeded Cllr Pdraig McNally as President in September, Cllr Colm Brophy says AILG members from the affected councils have expressed their views to the Association.

His final word on the matter was quiet diplomatic. As a national body we're not going to take a definitive position on either side on that. We hope that can be resolved by agreement between all the parties involved. And we'd like to see that an agreement would be reached that would work for everybody involved."

It will be interesting to see how it all pans out west of the Shannon!

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56 TOURISM AWARDS

Anticipation is now mounting ahead of this year's Fáilte Ireland Tourism Towns Awards in late November, as the top ten highly commended tourism towns were recently shortlisted at the National Tidy Towns Awards.

57 TRAVELLER FINANCE

Very few local authorities provide loans to Travellers who live on halting sites to purchase or upgrade their caravans, according to the National Traveller Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS), and it has now rolled out a campaign to improve Travellers' access to financial services.

58 MUSIC GENERATION

A total of €2 million raised from U2's concerts in Belfast and Dublin in November will be gifted to Music Generation – Ireland's national music education programme – to provide greater access to high quality subsidised music tuition for thousands of children and young people throughout the country.

60 RURAL IRELAND FUNDING

The Government is to set aside a €30 million investment package to revitalise rural towns and villages throughout the country. The aim is to improve the living and working environment in rural communities and to enhance their potential to support increased economic activity into the future.

63 YOUNG ENVIRO AWARDS

Registration is open for the 2016 ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards and all interested groups have until 27 November to register online. Now in its 17th year, the Young Environmentalist Awards (YEA) is Ireland's biggest celebration of youth eco-action.

65 HEALTH MATTERS

The HSE's winter flu vaccination campaign is targeting frontline healthcare workers including carers, those aged over 65 years, and individuals with long-term medical conditions such as heart or lung disease.

66 CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Six new Cystic Fibrosis centres opened around the country during 2014 and 2015, due to the very generous support of the general public and fundraising by local community groups and agencies.

68 PERSONAL INJURIES

The Injuries Board has reiterated its call for insurance data sharing and greater transparency, in light of its mid-year analysis which revealed a seven per cent increase in new personal injury claims.



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