Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

New Geopark ambassadors celebrated at graduation event

CUILCAGH Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark has welcomed its newest cohort of Geopark Ambassadors following a special graduation event celebrating their achievements, commitment and contribution to their local communities.

The graduation ceremony brought together ambassadors, community representatives, Geopark staff, elected members and guests for an evening of reflection, recognition and connection. The event marked the successful completion of the 2026 Geopark Ambassador Programme and celebrated the growing network of individuals dedicated to promoting and protecting the internationally significant natural and cultural heritage of the Geopark.

As representatives of Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, Ambassadors play a vital role in connecting people with the area's unique landscapes, heritage, history and communities. Through community engagement, events, information stands, local collaborations and projects, ambassadors help share the stories that make the Geopark such a special place to live, work and visit.

Speaking at the event, Councillor John Paul Feeley, Chair of the Geopark Committee said: "I extend my sincere congratulations to each of our

Small Business Rates Incentive Scheme 2026

Incentive details

This incentive is a credit of 5% of the annual rates liability for all businesses who pay their annual rates liability by 31st October 2026.

The incentive of 5% will be applied to customer accounts automatically by Cavan County Council once their rates account has been cleared in full (zero balance owing) by 31st October 2026.

The discount is applied to the rate account at the end of the financial year which will result in a credit on the customer account.

There is no application process for this incentive.

Example – 1) Annual Rates Bill €3,000. Paid €3,000 in full by 31st October 2026 – Incentive = €150 credit on account towards 2027 rates liability

2) Annual Rates Bill €5,000. Paid €5,000 by 9 x monthly SO of €555.56 by 31st October 2026 – Incentive = €250 credit on account towards 2027 rates liability.

Aims of the Incentive

• To reduce the operational overheads of businesses in County Cavan.

• To provide a cash flow advantage to businesses that pay their annual Commercial Rates Liability early.

• To provide a targeted support for the SME sector in relation to Commercial Rates.

• To demonstrate the Council's commitment to the economic development and regeneration of County Cavan.

Eligibility

The incentive will apply to businesses in County Cavan who have an annual Commercial Rates Liability of less than or equal to €10,000 for 2026.

The following prerequisites will apply to the Small Business Rates Incentive Scheme at 31st October 2026;

• There can be no arrears of Commercial Rates or any other local authority charges due by the Rate Payer.

• The premises cannot be subject to planning enforcement proceedings.

• The incentive is only applicable to premises which have an annual rates liability of no more than €10,000.

Qualifying Uses

The incentive is available for all business uses that trade legally and which are in line with the planning permission granted.

Qualifying Rate Payers

• Payment of 100% of the annual rates liability must be received by Cavan County Council by 31st October 2026 for the year the incentive is in operation.

• The Rate Payer must be the owner or lessee of the subject premises and be in occupation of the premises conducting a qualifying business activity.

• The Rate Payer must not have any local authority charges outstanding at 31st October 2026.

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NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 177AE OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED) & THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA FOR APPROVAL

Notice is hereby given that Cavan County Council propose to undertake the following development at the Ducking Stool Jetty, The Lawn and associated lands at Willow Avenue, Belturbet, Co. Cavan.

The proposal is for the upgrade and realignment of the existing jetty and slipway at the Ducking Stool Jetty and the creation of a car park on lands at Willow Avenue. Particulars of the development comprise as follows:

1. The removal of the existing timber jetties;
2. The realignment and widening of the slipway providing access to the River Erne;
3. The reconfiguration and extension of the existing pier, including amended levels;
4. The installation of floating jetties and a jetty access ramp;
5. Provision of associated hard landscaped areas and public recreational open space;
6. The reconfiguration and upgrade of existing gravelled area to create new carpark;
7. The installation of public lighting;
8. The installation of bicycle stands;
9. The installation of wayfinding signage;
10. The reconfiguration and upgrading of existing drainage and all associated site development works.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the proposed development in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (Direct 92/43/EEC) and Article 250(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended and is available for inspection with this application.
An Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report of the proposed development have been completed and is available for inspection with this application. In accordance with the requirements of the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 296 of 2018). It is concluded that the proposed development does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment and will not be likely to have a significant effect on the environment. An Coimisiún Pleanála may give approval to the application for development with or without conditions or may refuse the application for development.

The plans and particulars of the proposed development are available for inspection or purchase, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the following offices of Cavan County Council:

- Customer Service Desk, Farnham Centre, Farnham Street, Cavan, H12 C9K1 between Tuesday 27th October and Wednesday 9th December 2026 during the public opening hours from Monday to Friday (excluding public holiday).
- Cavan-Belturbet Municipal District Office, Courthouse, Church Street, Ballyconnell, H14 N471 between Tuesday 27th October and Wednesday 9th December 2026 by appointment only.

A copy of the plans and particulars of the proposed development are also available for viewing on the Council website: www.cavancoco.ie

The plans and particulars may also be inspected at the offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála at 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin1, **D01 V902 between Tuesday 27th October and Wednesday 9th December 2026 during the public opening hours Monday** to Friday (excluding public holidays). Any submissions or observations may be made in writing to An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 during the period between Tuesday 27th October and Wednesday 9th December 2026 (inclusive of both dates) in relation to:

i. The implications of the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and development of the area in which the development is concerned,
ii. The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development; and
iii. The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site, if carried out.

A person may question the validity of any such decision by the Coimisiún by way an application for judicial review, under order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986), in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Publications – Judicial Review Notice on the Coimisiún's website www.pleanala.ie or the Citizen Information Service website www.citizeninformation.ie.

Brendan Jennings,
Director of Service,
Cavan County Council,
Courthouse, Cavan.

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