



AONTÚ

Cáit Ní Ríordáin is a native of Castleisland town in Co Kerry. She is a single parent and works as a shop assistant in the town as well as private security throughout the County.

A committed community activist, Cáit recognises the challenges in the local area around providing safe and secure housing to meet current and future demand. Anti-social behaviour is on the rise in our community and Cáit is

determined to bring people together to address these problems as a unified locality.

Public transport has long been a concern for the people of Castleisland and the wider Castleisland-Corca Dhuibhne area. Cáit will work hard to ensure better scheduling, communication and user input into our transport services.

Cáit Ní RÍORDÁIN Castleisland

IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AT FARRANFORE

Cáit has witnessed the effect of

poor communication for travellers from Iarnród Éireann at Farranfore Train Station. On multiple occasions, she has raised this issue with officials in relation to delayed services wherein no information is provided to passengers with the exception of the official X account which is not universally accessible.

Cáit will work to ensure that the station has improved communication for passengers, a basic necessity for those using the local service.



149 COUNCIL HOUSES VACANT IN KERRY IN A HOUSING CRISIS

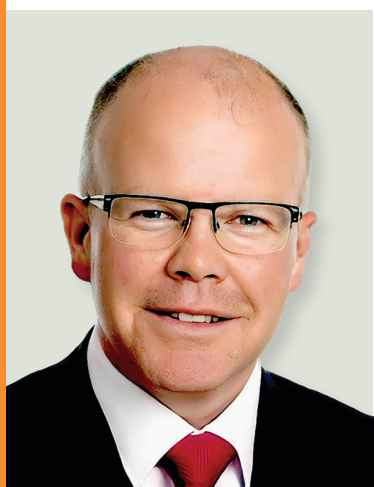
We're facing a housing disaster like never before. Total reform is required of Kerry County Councils approach to social housing. So many families are terrified in

relation to the accommodation crisis. The threat of homelessness is a reality for thousands in our community.

Many families are trapped as they are earning too much to qualify for social/affordable housing but too little to obtain a mortgage as ECB interest rates soar. These people are stuck paying enormous rents in the private rental sector or are forced to live with family for years upon years. Shockingly many young people are now accepting that they'll never own a house in their lives.

All this is happening while there are nearly 150 vacant Council Houses across Kerry. This is a scandal and it would not have come to light if it were not for a housing investigation by Aontú. Our research has also shown that it takes, on average, 8 months for councils to turn around a Local Authority house and relet it. This is shocking since a private sector rental takes 3 weeks to be turned around.

Your elected councillors are not doing their jobs. Cáit Ní Ríordáin will work to ensure that these homes are immediately brought back into use.



Aontú Leader
PEADAR TÓIBÍN TD

For assistance on local issues, contact Cáit: **Tel 085 729 9375** **Email** Caitaontuchiarrai@gmail.com

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GOVERNMENT COST OF LIVING CRISIS WORSE

Irish electricity prices are the highest in Europe.

The Government is jacking up the price of petrol and diesel for the 2nd time in just a few months. None of this is an accident. These are deliberate attacks on drivers and commuters many of whom have no alternative mode of transport.

Rich Ministers are purposefully pushing up the cost of commuting in the middle of a Cost-of-Living Crisis. Aontú has found out that the government are taking more on fuel taxes now than ever before. Cáit Ní Ríordáin will fight for lower Excise Duties on fuel and better public transport.

DEMANDING INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Cáit has been listening to the concerns of residents and business owners in relation to the annual failure of Uisce Éireann to address the inadequate water infrastructure

between Castleisland and Cordle. The bursting of pipes that leaves the area without water happens far too often and Cáit is determined to see investment in the area to upgrade the materials.

It is entirely unacceptable that businesses and schools have to close because of such a basic service failure with so little interest from Kerry County Council. Children being unable to wash their hands, families unable to do the washing up and older people unable to make a cup of tea in this day and age is not something Cáit is willing to accept.

Many citizens are in fear not just at night-time, but even in the middle of the day. Restaurants are closing earlier in the evening for the fear of attacks and violence. Children are being mugged for money and their phones on the way home from school. Lanes off main streets are off limits due to open drinking and drug taking.

CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON THE INCREASE

Communities, especially in working class areas feel under siege due to the increase in crime and anti-social behaviour. Sexual assault has doubled in 10 years. Rape has doubled in 10 years. Serious unprovoked attacks are now commonplace.

Yet, until recently, this crisis did not feature at all on the government's radar. Every year that Helen McEntee has been the Minister for Justice, the number of Gardaí has fallen. Indeed we have one of the lowest numbers of police per capita in EU. Every year hundreds of Garda are being attacked. Every year hundreds of Gardaí are resigning and retiring. Garda morale is on the floor. Recruitment to Templemore has collapsed.

The Government is distracted by the culture wars while communities suffer. Cáit Ní Ríordáin has worked solidly to try to make this community safer and will push hard for more Gardaí and community supports.

FIGHTING BACK AT THE CULTURE WARS

Balance Bill which reduced women to 'persons' in relation to maternity protections. The Bill would have removed the terms 'women', 'female' and 'mother' in maternity legislation.

We are the only party that brought this issue successfully to Councils seeking to ensure that women would not be written out of future legislation. We have also pushed back against Government efforts to put ideology into SPHE classes in school.

Cáit believes that parents must be listened to when it comes to their children's education. SPHE classes should be based on science and fact and not on political ideology.

GOVERNMENT INCREASING ENERGY COSTS



1 Jun 2023

Petrol +6c
Diesel +5c

1 Sep 2023

Petrol +7c
Diesel +5c

11 Oct 2023

Petrol +3c
Diesel +3c



Crime & Anti Social Behaviour

TAKE BACK OUR STREETS



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