



# AONTÚ

Michael is a native of Moymore, Pallasgrea, Co. Limerick. Married to Teresa, he is formerly Head of Advocacy and Quality, Brothers of Charity, Bawnmore, Limerick. Teresa is a Regional President of St. Vincent De Paul Society. They have five grown up children, Anna Jane, Úna, Éamon, Ríona and Maria.

Michael was Principal of Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School in Janesboro, Limerick from 2007 until his retirement in Jan. 2021. He is a part-time tutor in Irish in Mary Immaculate College of Education, Limerick. Michael was Chairperson of the Finance Committee which renovated both

churches in his parish from 2012-2020 at a cost of €1.8m. He is chairperson of Pallasgrea/ Templebraden Community Council, and a member of the Board of Ballyhoura Development Co.

## MICHAEL RYAN Cappamore - Kilmallock

### 228 COUNCIL HOUSES VACANT IN LIMERICK IN A HOUSING CRISIS

We're facing a housing disaster like never before, with 2,485 people on the housing waiting list in our county. Total reform is required of Limerick 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 65 vacant Council Houses across Limerick. 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 given that a private sector rental takes 3 weeks to be turned around.

All rural areas should be prepared for housing projects with sewerage and water upgrades and updated facilities for social activities and learning. Communities must be consulted on the type of housing projects that are needed.

Planned growth is what is required and Michael believes that a mixed type of housing is preferable. The sons and daughters of farmers should be allowed to build houses on their own land within reason.

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



**Aontú Leader  
PEADAR TÓIBÍN TD**

### SERVICES

For healthy vibrant towns and villages to flourish, essential facilities such as a functional sewerage system, uninterrupted water supply, proper roads and footpaths, post offices and medical services are needed. Members of An Garda Síochána need to be more available and visible throughout the area.

Michael Ryan was heavily involved in the successful campaign to save Old Pallas Post Office, including a meeting in Dáil Éireann with An Post executives and TDs. Rural towns and villages must fight hard to retain and extend all available services.



For assistance on local issues, contact Michael: Tel 089 233 2031 Email [michael.ryan@aontu.ie](mailto:michael.ryan@aontu.ie)

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## PRIORITISING URBAN/RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Michael has been Chairperson of Pallasgrean/Templebraden Community Council for the past eight years. Working in conjunction with Ballyhoura Development Co. and Limerick City and Co. Council, the organisation has provided a new playground and sensory garden in the village, as well as completely refurbishing our Community Centre.

Michael has constantly campaigned for improved infrastructure in our area. This has recently resulted in a new footpath between the village and St. Anthony's Nursing Home, essential in providing connectivity for residents to local shops and services. Michael has been committed to Community Development all his adult life and will work with all communities in the Cappamore/Kilmallock area to progress development plans for their areas.

Aontú seek to significantly increase investment in rural infrastructure to help make our towns and villages attractive places in which to live, do business and visit. Rural and regional investment is necessary to addressing the growing lopsided Dublin centric development that is happening in Ireland under this government.

## DEFENDING THE ELDERLY & THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

We must improve the situation of older people, especially those living on their own. Meeting the needs of this ever-expanding group

of people will be a priority for Michael. He will be particularly supportive of our Daycare Centres and of those groups helping the elderly in the Cappamore/Kilmallock area.

As the father of a young woman with a disability, Michael is acutely aware of the needs of those with disabilities. The greatest worry concerns their future when parents are no longer living. He will work closely with parents and service providers regarding housing and services to this group. The parents of those with severe autism deserve far greater respite and support than they presently receive. Michael will be a strong advocate on their behalf.



## FIGHTING FOR EDUCATION

As a former primary school Principal, I will support the schools in the area, particularly with regard to school transport and, if requested, in any dealings with Limerick City and County Council and other statutory bodies.

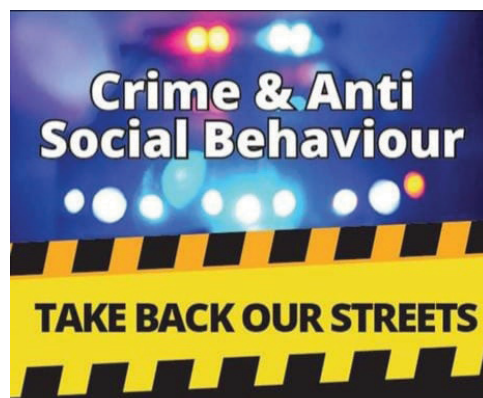
## CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON THE INCREASE

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 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.

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.

Aontú has raised with the Government time and again the need for more Garda officers to be retained, for a real focus on increasing violent crime and introduced legislation that would mean an automatic custodial sentence for anyone assaulting a Garda or emergency services personnel.



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