



## **Department of Social and Family Affairs**

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### **Minister Coughlan Launches Cavan Directory Of Services And Community Forum Website**

Mary Coughlan T.D., Minister for Social and Family Affairs, today officially launched the County Cavan Directory of Services and the Cavan Community Forum Website – [www.cavancommunity.com](http://www.cavancommunity.com).

“I am delighted to be here in Cavan to launch these two valuable resources. Both the directory and the website will help your local community get in touch with the services they need, be they statutory, voluntary, health, educational or religious,” said Minister Coughlan.

“The directory and the website will dovetail well together, and compliment each other - making this local information available to everybody,” said Minister Coughlan.

One of the objectives for establishing the website was to develop a means of networking between all the various voluntary and community services providing an easily accessible forum for people to share their views.

“I would like to pay tribute to the staff who had the hard work of collating, editing and verifying the information that has gone into both of these productions,” added Minister Coughlan.

The Directory has been put together through the combined efforts of County Cavan Citizen’s Information Service and the County Development Bord. The website has been jointly developed by Cavan Development Board and Cavan County Forum.

The idea for the directory originated from Cecilia Smith, Development Manager County Cavan Citizen’s Information Service. It is being published with funding provided by Comhairle, the Citizen’s Information Service is funded by Comhairle under the aegis of Minister Coughlan’s Department, and by Cavan County Council.

**ENDS 8<sup>th</sup> April 2004**

#### **NOTE FOR NEWS EDITORS**

#### **County Cavan Directory of Services**

Some 3,000 copies of the Directory are being published. It includes entries on the following services available in Cavan:



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- statutory
- community
- voluntary
- health services
- sports clubs and bodies
- education
- religious

Copies of the directory will be available from many sources, including: social welfare offices, libraries, information centres and waiting areas.

### **Cavan Community Website - [www.cavancommunity.com](http://www.cavancommunity.com).**

The site should appeal to all members of the community by communicating the strengths and weakness of community development within their areas. It is hoped that the site will facilitate strong working relationships within the wider community. Through their support and encouragement it is hoped that new groups can form friendships with the more established groups and learn from their experiences.

The website has been jointly developed by Cavan Development Board and Cavan County Forum.

### **County Cavan Citizen's Information Service**

Cavan Citizen Information Centre was established in 1996 and officially opened by Minister Dermot Ahern in early 1998. By special resolution the company changed it's title last year to County Cavan Citizen's Information Service to affirm it's countywide remit.

The Cavan town office is open 5 days a week and there are outreach centers in Arva, Cootehill, Bailieboro and Kingscourt. At present the Service is staffed by 2 full-time officers.