

WHO

A STATUTORY STAKEHOLDER
BODY

WHAT

A NEW APPROACH TO WATER
GOVERNANCE IN THE
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

ADVISORY BODY TO

MINISTER FOR HOUSING,
PLANNING AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

IRISH WATER

WATER POLICY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

COMMISSION FOR REGULATION
OF UTILITIES

DEBATE & ANALYSIS

WATER QUALITY

RURAL WATER CONCERNS

IRISH WATER CUSTOMER
CONCERNS

WFD IMPLEMENTATION

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

Ireland's national stakeholder forum on water seeks to reimagine the future for Ireland's landscapes

Ireland's national forum on water, The Water Forum | An Fóram Uisce, is hosting a one-day symposium on 20th March at the Tullamore Court Hotel to mark World Water Day. The aim of the day is to re-imagine the place and role of water in an ecologically healthy Irish landscape and to explore how the spectrum of conventional and nature-based food production and flood management systems fit into this vision.

The most recent EPA report on Water Quality highlighted the continuing decline in Ireland's water quality, and noted that the main significant pressures include agriculture, wastewater discharges and physical changes to habitats. Professor Tom Collins, Chair of The Water Forum stated that *"Despite significant investment of resources, the recent EPA Report highlights that the quality of many of Ireland's rivers, lakes and coastal waters are deteriorating. We are losing our highest quality rivers and streams, and the diversity of our habitats, animals and plants is under threat."*

The symposium will bring together experts, key decision makers, researchers, stakeholders and the public to debate various visions of the Irish landscape and the place of water in it. The Water Forum aims to identify decision making priorities, push for more ambitious strategies and empower, individually and collectively, all members of society to act to protect, conserve and value water resources across this island.

Professor Collins continued "The Water Forum is opening the debate on how we can turn our deteriorating water quality around, by reimagining the future of our waters and how they interact with the Irish landscape".

END

Note to Editor

The Water Forum | An Fóram Uisce was established as a statutory body in June 2018 to facilitate stakeholder engagement and debate on issues relating to water as a resource, water quality, rural water concerns, issues affecting customers of Irish Water and issues associated with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

The Forum consists of 27 representatives from a wide range of organisations with direct connections to issues relating to water quality. These include consumer, community and water sports groups, business and trade unions, environmental sector, Irish Water consumers, the group water scheme sector and a range of other sectors including education, agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The Forum is chaired by Prof. Tom Collins.

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Continued

This event is free but requires registration at info@nationalwaterforum.ie SYMPOSIUM in title
Date: 20th March 2020, Venue: Tullamore Court Hotel, Time: 9:15 -16:15

For further information, please contact: Dr Gretta McCarron, Communications and Education Lead,
The Water Forum

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