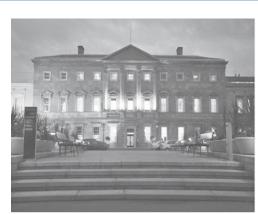


PUBLIC AFFAIRS IRELAND NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 342 JANUARY 12th 2015

YOUR ESSENTIAL WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEGISLATIVE, REGULATORY, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN IRELAND



Oireachtas Update

The Dáil and Committee Meetings are back in session this Wednesday January 14th. The Seanad is not resuming until next week, on Tuesday January 20th.

In the Dáil, the Report and Final Stages of the Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 will be concluded by Thursday. The Second Stage of the Customs Bill 2014 will be reached by Wednesday, with discussions resuming on Thursday as well.

The Joint Committee of Inquiry into the Banking Crisis will hold two private meetings on Wednesday and a public hearing on Thursday where it will hear from Professor Patrick Honohan, Governor of the Central Bank.

On Thursday the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine will be scrutinising a number of EU legislative proposals, as well as price volatility facing the Dairy Industry in Ireland in 2015.

New Secretary General for Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Aidan O'Driscoll has been appointed the new Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. He is replacing Tom Moran who was 10 years as Secretary General. Mr. O'Driscoll was previously Assistant Secretary in the Department, a position in which he held responsibility for EU Affairs, Economics and Climate Change. In 2013 he steered the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) negotiations.

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Simon Coveney welcomed the appointment, observing that it is a time of change for the agriculture sector in Ireland; 'This is an exciting time for the agri-food sector with the abolition of quotas in April and prospects presented by new and emerging markets. There are significant opportunities and challenges ahead...'.

Minister Coveney expressed confidence in the new Secretary General. 'I am confident that, under his leadership, the Department can capitalise on these opportunities.'

Goldman Sachs appointed to advise on selling state's shareholding in AIB

Minister for Finance, Micheal Noonan, has announced the appointment of Goldman Sachs to advise on the selling of the AIB shares the Irish state owns. The state has invested approximately €20bn into AIB, leaving it with 99.8% of the bank's shares. Today Minister Noonan said he is hopeful the €29.4bn used to bail out AIB, Bank of Ireland and Permanent TSB will be fully recovered in time. He says that recovering the money invested in AIB will be one of the key priorities of the Department of Finance in 2015.

The total cost to the Irish state of bailing out the Irish banks, including Anglo Irish Bank and Irish Nationwide, has been €64.1bn.



Who is contacting whom about what? : Read here

OIREACHTAS SO	CHEDULE: WEEK BEGINNING	G JANUARY 12th 2015		
DAIL				
Tuesday January 13th	Wednesday January 14th	Thursday January 15th		
Dáil Éireann adjourned	2.30 p.m. Questions (Minister for Defence)	9.30 am Questions (Minister for Justice and Equality)		
	3.45 p.m. Topical Issues	10.45 a.m. Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Report and Final Stages (Resumed if not previously concluded)		
	4.33 p.m. Leaders Questions	(Department of Public Expenditure and Reform) 12 noon		
	4.54 p.m. Order of Business	Leaders Questions 12.21 p.m.		
	Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Public Expenditure and Reform)	Order of Business 12.41 p.m.		
	Customs Bill 2014 - Order for Second Stage and Second	Private Members Business (to conclude within 90 minutes)		
	Stage (Department of Finance)	Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Report and Final Stages (Resumed if not previously concluded)		
	7.30 p.m. Private Members Business	(Department of Public Expenditure and Reform) Customs Bill 2014- Second Stage (Resumed)		
	9.00 p.m Dáil Adjourns	(Department of Finance)		
		4.42 p.m. Topical Issues		
		5.30 p.m. Dáil Adjourns		

SEANAD January Thursday 15th Wednesday January 14th **Tuesday January 13th**

--- Adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday 20 January 2015 ---



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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday	January	13th
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Wednesday January 14th

Thursday January 15th

--- Committee Meetings adjourned ---

10.30 a.m. Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint) Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Session A: 10.30 a.m. Private Meeting in Committee Room 1, LH 2000; and Session B: 4 p.m. Private Meeting in Conference Room, Agriculture House 1 p.m.

Education and Social Protection (Joint) Committee Room 3, Leinster House

AGENDA: Jobless Households: An exploration of the Issues [Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU); National Economic and Social Council (NESC); and Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (INOU)]

2.30 p.m.

Foreign Affairs and Trade (Joint) Committee Room 1, Leinster House

AGENDA:

(i) The World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Office for Europe on the topic of Migration and Health - in particular the impact on persons who migrate [Dr. Santino Severoni, Coordinator Public Health and Migration Project, WHO]; and

(ii) The implications of the proposed Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova [Mr. Eric Byrne, T.D.]

2.30 p.m.

Justice, Defence and Equality (Joint)

Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: The Garda Inspectorate Report on Crime Investigation 2014 [Representatives from the Garda Inspectorate]

4 p.m.

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform (Joint) Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting

4 p.m.

Public Service, Oversight and Petitions (Joint)
Committee Room 4, Leinster House
(a) 4 p.m. (P)
(b) 4.15 p.m. (T)
AGENDA:
(a) Private; and
(b) The Role and Remit of the Ombudsman [Mr. Rónán Ó Domhnaill, An Coimisinéir Teanga]

9.30 a.m. Health and Children (Joint) Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA:

Session A: 9.30 a.m

Developing a National Strategy for Coeliac Disease [Professor Nicholas Kennedy, Honorary President of Coeliac Society of Ireland; Ms. Richelle Flanagan, Dietitian and Board Member of the Irish Nutrition & Dietetic Institute; Dr. Patrick Doorely, former member of the Strategy and Programmes Management Team, HSE; and Ms. Gráinne Denning, CEO of the Coeliac Society of Ireland];

Session B: 11 a.m.

Coping with the challenges of Huntington's Disease [Ms. Patricia Towey, Information and Services Coordinator, Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland; Dr. Niall Pender, Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist, Head of Department, Beaumont Hospital; Dr. Tim Counihan, Consultant Neurologist, University Hospital Galway; Dr. Jennifer Hoblyn, Clinical Director, Bloomfield Health Services; and Ms. Ide Cussen, relative of a patient with Huntington's Disease]; and Session C: 12.30 p.m.

Emergency Department Services [Minister for Health; and Mr. Tony O'Brien, Director General, Health Service Executive]

9.30 a.m.

Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint) Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA:

Public Hearing [Professor Patrick Honohan, on the report to the Minister for Finance by the Governor of the Central Bank, The Irish Banking Crisis Regulatory and Financial Stability Policy 2003-2008]

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint) Committee Room 1, Leinster House

AGENDA:

(i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:

Schedule B: COM(2014)593; COM(2014)628; COM(2014)629; COM(2014)682; COM(2014)683; COM(2014)684; and

(ii) Potential difficulties and price volatility facing the Dairy Industry in 2015 [Representatives from Irish Dairy Board]

10.15 a.m.

Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (Joint)

Committee Room 4, Leinster House **AGENDA:**

Cross Border theatre projects [Smashing Times Theatre Company]





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Recent subscriber figures for the Journal & Newsletter are as follows:

PAI Newsletter Issue 331, Monday October 20th: 3,915

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Creativity and vibrance

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TENDERS AND APPOINTMEN

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ednesday October 1st Niamh Bushnell became Dublin's first Start-Up oner, a position created on the recommendation of the Activating Dublin which has Dublin Chamber of Commerce and Dublin City Council at the inded privately by the DCU Ryan Academy for Entrepreneurs, Niamh's job w until October 2016 is to generate a higher level of start-up activity in the region and assist in positioning the city as a leading global innovation and tech start-up hub.

week she is set to begin she tells Sinéad O'Loghlin why the iron is roasting for start-ups, but also why they can't neglect to do exhaustive research to themselves to investors. She also observes the bashful tendencies in the Irish personality and how they have affected the way we do business

h Bushnell has been an active tech entrepreneur since she co-founded her first stul start-up, Pan Research, in Dublin in 1996. She is an expert on doing busissivil start-up, ran research, in Dublin in 1990. She is an expert on poing ous-in the U.S., in particular New York City having been based there since 1998, and not recent stateside start-up venture is Idirus, a people-based "mentor matchsolution" that she co-founded in 2012. She has now stepped down as CEO of us to become Dublin's Start-Up Commissioner. On her appointment to the role month, Niamh spoke of her excitement over the recent rising up of the Dublin h scene, saying that the opportunity is ripe for Dublin to become one of the great require, serving mark the opportantly is the for countering become one or the great reup capitals in the world. Why does she think the Dublin tech scene has risen up

st few years?

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not be in operation for some months. nission (GSOC) to investigate cases which arise when a member

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acintas Update

In Dáil Éireann on Wednesday and Thursday, the motion re is on the agenda. The Report Stage of the Civil Registrat

2014 is set to be concluded by Wednesday morning. In the Seanad on Tuesday the motion regarding Protoc

Ireland in respect of the area of freedom, security and just Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Function Union - is being referred to the Committee without debate

On Tuesday, the Poolbeg Waste-to-Energy project is on the a

Committee on the Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht, a the Joint Committee on Transport and Communications wil the new national postcode system.