Notice of Appointments

**Tuesday 13 June**

Outgoing Minister for the Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney TD, has announced five new members to the board of An Bord Pleanála.

The Board’s responsibilities lie mainly in determinations on appeals applications to do with the development of building and infrastructure, acquisition of land by local authorities and other matters as provided for under the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 to 2016 and the Water and Building Control Acts.

- Mr Eugene Nixon will take up office on 12 June 2017. He has a long career as a scientific Civil Servant, notably in the Marine Institute. He hold qualifications in Analytical Chemistry and Environmental Science.
- Dr Maria Fitzgerald will take up office on 10 July 2017. Most recently she has held the role of Senior Environmental and Archaeological Manager in Transport Infrastructure Ireland. She has a PhD in Archaeology.
- Ms Terry Prendergast will take up her new role on 2 August 2017. Ms Prendergast is a long-time lecturer in Planning, and a member of the Irish Planning Institute. She holds qualifications in Sustainable Development and Environmental Economics.
- Mr Terry O’Niadh will take up his role on 4 September 2017. He has held roles such as Non-Executive Director of the VHI Board and County Manager in North Tipperary Local Authority.
- Mr John Connolly will take up his role on 18 September 2017. He is a Chartered Engineer and Director of the Irish Waste Management Association. He hold qualifications in Civil Engineering and Business Administration.

New Cabinet Announced

Newly-appointed Taoiseach Leo Varadkar TD has announced his cabinet decisions.

Enda Kenny TD, previously An Taoiseach, and Michael Noonan will both be retiring.

Many Ministers and Junior Ministers have kept their positions. They are:
- Richard Bruton remains as Minister for Education and Skills
- Michael Creed remains as Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- Simon Harris remains as Minister for Health
- Heather Humphreys remains as Minister for Arts, Heritage and Culture
- Paul Kehoe remains as Minister of State for Defence
- Finian McGrath remains as Minister of State with special responsibility for disabilities
- Denis Naughten remains as Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment
- Shane Ross remains as Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport
- Katherine Zappone remains as Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
- Paul Kehoe remains as Minister of State for Employment and Social Protection
- Joe McHugh will be Chief Whip and Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs

The following TDs have been moved to new cabinet positions:
- Simon Coveney will be Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, with special responsibility for Brexit
- Regina Doherty will no longer be Chief Whip but will take up the position of Minister for Employment and Social Protection
- Frances Fitzgerald remains on as Tánaiste but will now also serve as Minister for Enterprise and Innovation
- Charlie Flanagan will be Minister for Justice and Equality
- Mary Mitchell O’Connor TD has lost her senior appointment and will now serve as Minister of State for Education with special responsibility for higher education
- Paschal Donohoe TD will serve as both Minister for Finance and Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.
- Joe McHugh will be Chief Whip and Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs

Two junior Ministers were promoted to Ministerial roles. They are:
- Eoghan Murphy TD will be Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government
- Michael Ring TD will be Minister for Community and Rural Affairs
- Joe McHugh will be Chief Whip and Minister for Gaeltacht Affairs
- Paschal Donohoe TD will serve as both Minister for Finance and Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.
The Protected Disclosures Act 2014, in the main, aimed to put in place a mechanism wherein it would not only be easy for employees to report on any wrong-doing in their workplace, but would also provide protections for them.

With the recent strong media focus on notable whistleblowing cases in public organisations, now more than ever it is important to not only ensure transparency but to safeguard the rights and privacy of those who report improper activity.

This conference will look at how the Protected Disclosures Act impacts legal, HR, governance and reputational issues. It will assemble panels of professionals and experts who will discuss the practical issues and best practice in the area. There will be ample opportunity for attendees to participate in the debate and discussion.

Key themes
- The policy and political background to the Protected Disclosures Act 2014
- Guidance for public sector organisations on compliance with the Protected Disclosures Act 2014
- Emerging legal issues concerning Protected Disclosures and public sector organisations
- Board Responsibilities and Protected Disclosures
- Managing the reputational issues arising when a protected disclosure arises
- HR Practicalities

Keynote Speaker
Brendan Howlin TD is the current leader of the Labour Party. His political career has spanned over thirty years. He has represented the people of Wexford as a TD since 1987. During his career he has served as Leas-Cheann Comhairle, and Minister for the Environment and Minister for Health. In 2011, he was appointed Ireland’s first Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, with the eponymous Department being established formally by statute in July of the same year. He retained this appointment in the subsequent election. He is currently the Labour Party’s spokesperson for Justice and Northern Ireland.
At Public Affairs Ireland

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Is Ireland becoming a better place to do business?
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Deirdre Cronnelly
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Fleur O’Shea
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Training

Certificate in Corporate Governance
5 & 12 July
The “Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies” issued by the Department of Finance states that - High standards of corporate governance in all State Agencies, are critical to ensuring a positive contribution to the State’s economic efficiency and competitiveness. They are subject to more stringent obligations than private sector therefore it is important to ensure public sector bodies are adhering to these standards.

Click here for more information

Business Writing Skills
4 July
Writing skills are essential in any profession. The ability to write, edit and proofread written communications that are accessible yet professional can set you apart from others. These skills ensure that your communications are always received and understood in the manner you meant them, and that they are accessible to everyone.

Click here for more information

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Tuesday 20 June

2.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, LAB, I4C) (32 mins)

2.32 p.m.
Order of Business (30 mins)

3.02 p.m.
Taoiseach’s Questions (45 mins)

3.47 p.m.
Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (90 mins)

5.17 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

6.05 p.m.
Government Business: (115 mins)
Motions re. Renewal of Certain Provisions of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act 1998 and the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act 2009 (to conclude within 40 minutes) (Department of Justice and Equality)
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Health)

8.00 p.m.
Private Members Business (Fianna Fáil) : Motion re. Trade and Foreign Direct Investment

10.00 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Wednesday 21 June

12.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, I4C, SD-GP) (32 mins)

12.32 p.m
Questions on Promised Legislation (30 mins)

1.02 p.m.
Taoiseach’s Questions (45 mins)

1.47 p.m
Government Business (85 mins)
Pre-European Council Statements (to conclude within 85 minutes if not previously concluded)

3.12 p.m
Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Health (90 mins)

4.42 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

5.30 p.m.
SOS (40 mins)

6.10 p.m.
Private Members Business (Social Democrats-Green Party Group): (120 mins)
Motion re. Building Standards, Regulations and Homeowner Protection

8.10 p.m.
Government Business (210 mins)
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Health)
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Report and Final Stages (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)

10.15 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Thursday 22 June

12.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, Sol-PBP, RIG) (32 mins)

12.32 p.m.
Questions on Promised Legislation (15 mins)

12.47 p.m.
Government Business
Weekly divisions

1.30 p.m.
Government Business (120 mins)
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed, if not previously concluded) (Department of Health)
Heritage Bill 2016 [Seanad] - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs)

3.30 p.m.
Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (90 mins)

5.00 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

5.48 p.m.
Committee Report/PMB: Sláintecare Report – Committee on the Future of Healthcare (120 mins)

7.48 p.m.
Dáil adjourns
Tuesday 20 June

2.30 p.m.
Commencement Matters

3.30 p.m.
Order of Business
Motions regarding reports of the Seanad CPP (without debate)

4.45 p.m.
Inland Fisheries Bill 2017 - Second Stage (Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment)

6.30 p.m.
Motion regarding Offences against the State (Amendment) Act 1998
Motion re the Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act 2005 (Department of Justice and Equality)

7.10 p.m.
Seanad Adjourns

Wednesday 21 June

10.30 a.m.
Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m.
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.
Recognition of Irish Sign Language for the Deaf Community Bill 2016 – Committee Stage (Department of Justice and Equality)

3.00 p.m.

5.00 p.m.
Private Members Business
Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Second Stage (Senators Joan Freeman, Gerard P. Craughwell, Marie Louise O’Donnell)

7.00 p.m.
Private Members Business
Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland (Amendment) Bill 2014 – Second Stage (Sinn Féin Senators)

9.00 p.m.
Seanad Adjourns

Thursday 22 June

10.30 a.m.
Commencement Matters

11.30 p.m.
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.
Criminal Justice Bill 2016 – Committee and Remaining Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)

2.15 p.m.
Seanad Adjourns
This week’s Committee Meetings

Tuesday 20 June

Public Accounts
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Examination of Matters arising from the Interim Report of AGS Internal Audit Unit on Financial Procedures at the Garda College Templemore (resumed)
Session A: 9 a.m. [Commissioner of An Garda Síochána]
Session B: 7 p.m. [The Policing Authority & the Department of Justice and Equality]
(note: The Committee on Budgetary Oversight is scheduled to meet in this room between 4 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. - see separate entry for details)

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Engagement on aspects of the Irish Mortgage Market
Session A: 2 p.m. - Brexit Options for Ireland’s Mortgage Market [Ms. Isolde Goggin, Chairperson, Competition and Consumer Protection Commission]
Session B: 3 p.m. - Distressed Mortgages - Legislative Proposals [Mr. Brian O'Reilly, RIGHT2HOMES]

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)
CR4, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: Issues concerning the Sea-Fisheries (Amendment) Bill 2017 and domestic aspects of fish quota allocations within the Irish fishing industry [Representatives from the Irish Fish Producers Organisations and the National Inshore Fisheries Forum]

Budgetary Oversight
CR3, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: The Fiscal Assessment Report [Representatives from the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council (IFAC)]

Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 5 p.m.
AGENDA: Decarbonising Transport – the key role of alternative fuels and technologies, including Electric Vehicles
Session A: [Officials from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport; representatives from the SEAI (Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland), CER (Commission for Energy Regulation), ESB (Electricity Supply Board), SIMI (Society of the Irish Motor Industry), IRHA (Irish Road Haulage Association), and IEVOA (EV Owners Ireland)]
Session B: Oversight of CER (Commission for Energy Regulation) [Commissioners from CER]

Wednesday 21 June

Children and Youth Affairs (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Issues arising in foster care services in Ireland (resumed) [Representatives from TUSLA]

Justice and Equality (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the General Scheme of Data Protection Bill 2017 (resumed)
[Mr. Denis Kelleher, barrister and author]

Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: The Impact of Short Term Lettings on Ireland’s Housing & Rental Market
Session A: [Officials from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government and Representatives from Dublin City Council]
Session B: [Representatives from Focus Ireland, Simon Community and the Peter McVerry Trust]

Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 10 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Seanad Select)
CR2, LH 2000 11.15 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

European Union Affairs (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: White Paper on the Future of Europe [Mr. Gerry Kiely, Head of Representation, European Commission Representation in Ireland]

Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 2.15 p.m.
AGENDA: The work of the Western Development Commission in sustaining viable rural communities [Paddy McGuiness, Chairman, Western Development Commission]
Coimisiún Forbartha an Iarthair; an Obair atá ar siúl chun Pobal tuaithe inmharthana a chaomhnú [Paddy McGuiness, Cathaoirleach, Coimisiún Forbartha an Iarthair]

Thursday 22 June

Health (Select)
CR4, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Mental Health (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2017 [PMB] [Mr. James Browne, T.D.]

Public Accounts
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Business of the Committee,
(ii) Matters relating to the Financial Accounts of the Third Level Sector [Officials from University of Limerick, University College Cork, Dublin Institute of Technology and Cork Institute of Technology]

Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 10 a.m.
AGENDA: The situation in Ukraine [Mrs. Olena Shaloput, Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of Ukraine]

Dáil Business
Room 2, LH 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)
CR2, LH 2000 11.15 a.m.
AGENDA: National Shared Services Office Bill 2016 [Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform]

Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness - Third Quarterly Progress Report and Emergency Accommodation [Minister for Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government and Officials from the Department]

Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Seanad Select)
Seanad Chamber 2.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Implications of the UK’s Withdrawal from the European Union for relations between the State and Northern Ireland [The Lord Alderdice]