Notice of Appointments

Tuesday 27 June 2017

New Mayors and Deputy Mayors have been elected for Dublin and Limerick.

Cllr Stephen Keary (Fine Gael) was elected as the new Mayor of Limerick. Mr Keary is a qualified engineer and part-time farmer who was first elected as a representative in 2009.

Cllr Maíra Hurley (Fine Gael) was appointed to the position of Deputy Mayor of Limerick. Ms Hurley holds a BA in Human Resources Management, has thirty years’ experience working with the Shannon Development, and has a wealth of experience in working with youth groups and the local community.

Dublin’s new Lord Mayor is Micheál Mac Donncha (Sinn Féin). He has been a member of Dublin City Council since 2011. He is a long-serving member of Sinn Féin at local, Dublin and national level.

Cllr Áine Clancy (Labour) was appointed Deputy Lord Mayor of Dublin. She was first elected locally in 2009, representing Dublin Central on Dublin City Council.

Government Business: Bill to establish Office of Planning Regulator

Throughout this week, Government Business will surround the Report Stage of the Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016.

In the main, this Bill will establish the Office of the Planning Regulator. The role of this new office will be “to evaluate and carry out assessments relating to planning matters and provide observations and recommendations in relation to those matters, to conduct reviews and examinations and to conduct education and training programmes and research in relation to planning matters”. The Bill also sets out provisions for the staffing, running and funding of this office.

The Bill also provides for a National Planning Framework.

Notably, the Bill also contains an amendment of section 33 of Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 – a section related to a water services strategic plan. The amendment will insert the following line in subsection (5)(b)(i):

“in line with any development plans within the meaning of the Act of 2000, in particular with the core strategy under section 10 of that Act”.

You can view the Bill here.

Bill to establish Independent Reporting Committee

Government Business this week will also see Second Stage discussions on the Independent Reporting Commission Bill 2017.

This Bill would give legislative effect to an agreement reached between the British and Irish governments on 13 September 2016. If enacted, it would establish an Independent Reporting Commission.

Two notable sections of the Bill are Section 6 and Section 7:

Section 6 provides that the Commission shall not do anything that could reasonably be expected to endanger the safety of any person, to prejudice the security interests of the State or of the United Kingdom, or have a prejudicial effect on any legal proceedings, or the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of crime.

Section 7 provides that members and staff of the Commission shall not disclose information obtained in the performance of their functions unless authorised by or on behalf of the Commission. The section also facilitates co-operation with the Commission by An Garda Síochána.

You can view the Bill here.
At Public Affairs Ireland

On the Blog

Is Ireland becoming a better place to do business?
Tom Ferris
Read here

The Impact of Brexit on the Good Friday Agreement: Committee Report
Read here

People Matter: Good Governance is Rooted in Strong Ethical Values
Read here

GPDR and Data-Sharing in the Public Sector
Fleur O’Shea
Read here

Training

Finances for Non-Financial People
12 July
Without a background in accounting or finance, delving into an organisation’s accounts can be daunting. The language used, the standard practices and the processes through which things are done can seem confusing to an outsider. This workshop will help those with little or no experience in a financial position get to grips with financial documentation or reports, and accounts.

Click here for more information

Certificate in Policy Development
11 & 12 July
This two-day course provides practical guidance in understanding of policy development, the legislative process and legislative drafting. You will gain a keen understanding of how policy and legislation are made in Ireland while examining the role of Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA), looking at how legislation can be produced that is both effective and accessible.

Click here for more information

You can find us on...
This week in Dáil Éireann

Tuesday 4 July

2.00 p.m. Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, I4C, RIG) (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 Children and Youth Affairs (90 mins)
5.17 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
5.50 p.m. Private Notice Question (if any)
6.05 p.m. Government Business: (175 mins)
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Report Stage (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
9.00 p.m. Private Members Business (Fianna Fáil): Motion re. Bin Charges
11.00 p.m. Dáil Adjourns

Wednesday 5 July

10.00 a.m. Government Business (120 mins)
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Report Stage (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
12.00 p.m. Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, LAB, 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. Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Finance (90 mins)
3.17 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
3.50 p.m. Private Notice Question (if any)
4.05 p.m. SOS (40 mins)
4.45 p.m. Private Members Business (Sinn Féin): (120 mins) - Motion re. Childcare
6.45 p.m. Government Business (270 mins)
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Report Stage (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
Rugby World Cup 2023 Bill 2017 - Second and Remaining Stages (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)
Independent Reporting Commission Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Justice and Equality)
7.00 p.m. Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Education (90 mins)
8.30 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
9.18 p.m. Dáil adjourns

Thursday 6 July

10.00 a.m. Government Business (120 mins)
Statements on the Quarterly Report on Housing
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. Weekly divisions
1.30 p.m. SOS
2.00 p.m. Government Business (240 mins)
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Report Stage (resumed, if not previously concluded) (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
Rugby World Cup 2023 Bill 2017 - Second and Remaining Stages (resumed, if not previously concluded) (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)
Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Bill 2016 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)
7.00 p.m. Parliamentary Questions: Oral - Minister for Education (90 mins)
8.30 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
9.18 p.m. Dáil adjourns
Tuesday 4 July

2.30 p.m.
Commencement Matters

3.30 p.m.
Order of Business

4.45 p.m.
Domestic Violence Bill 2017 - Committee Stage - (Minister for Justice)

7.00 p.m.
Statements on Finite Lives, Dying, Death and Bereavement. An Examination of State Services in Ireland by Senator Marie Louise O’Donnell (Minister for Social Protection)

Wednesday 5 July

10.30 a.m.
Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m.
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.
Statements on Household Waste Charges (Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment)

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

4.30 p.m.
Private Members Business
Declaration of Independence Day Bill 2017 – Second Stage - (Senators Keith Swanick, Diarmuid Wilson, Mark Daly and Paul Daly)

6.30 p.m.
Seanad adjourns

Thursday 6 July

The Seanad Public Consultation Committee will meet in the Seanad Chamber
**Tuesday 4 July**

**Public Accounts**
CR3, LH 2000 10 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

**Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (Joint)**
CR1, LH 2000 11 a.m.
AGENDA: Credit Union Finance for Social Housing
(i) Representatives from the Irish League of Credit Unions
(ii) Representatives from the Housing Supply Alliance

**Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)**
CR2, LH 2000 2.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2017 [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform]

**Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (Joint)**
CR4, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:
(ii) The situation of non-EEA crew in Irish Fishing Fleet under the Atypical Worker Permission Scheme [Representatives from Migrant Right Centre Ireland and International Transport Workers’ Federation]

**Wednesday 5 July**

**Health (Joint)**
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Link between Homelessness and Health [Representatives from the Simon Communities of Ireland]

**Justice and Equality (Joint)**
CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the General Scheme of Data Protection Bill 2017 (resumed)
(i) Mr. Simon McGarr, Solicitor and member of Digital Rights Ireland, and Mr. TJ McIntyre, Law Lecturer in UCD and Chair of Digital Rights Ireland
(ii) Dr. Geoffrey Shannon, Special Rapporteur on Child Protection

**Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (Joint)**
CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Session B: Credit Union Finance for Social Housing (resumed)
(i) Officials from the Department of Finance
(ii) Officials from the Central Bank of Ireland

**Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (Joint)**
CR3, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

**European Union Affairs (Joint)**
CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Session A: Private

**Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)**
CR2, LH 2000 2.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill 2017 [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform]

**Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (Joint)**
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AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:
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**Thursday 6 July**

**Public Accounts**
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (a) 9.00 a.m. 2015 Appropriation Accounts - Vote 7: Office of the Minister for Finance
Chapter 2: Government Debt
Finance Accounts 2015
(b) 2.30 p.m. 2015 Appropriation Accounts - Vote 11: Office of the Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform
Vote 12: Superannuation and Retired Allowances
Vote 18: Shared Services
Vote 39: Office of Government Procurement
CBAG Report 2015 - Chapter 3: Vote Accounting and Budget Management
CBAG Special Report 95: Financial Reporting in the Public Sector

**Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Joint)**
CR2, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Pre-Ecofin Council Engagement [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform]

**Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence (Joint)**
CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Session A: 9:30 a.m. Organ harvesting in China [Mr. David Matas and Mr Ethan Gutmann]
Session B: 11.00 a.m. The work of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in the Mediterranean the current humanitarian implications of EU policy in the area [Dr. Conor Kenny, MSF]

**Seánad Public Consultation**

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

**Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (Joint)**
CR1, LH 2000 2.15 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

**Dáil Reform (Sub)**
Room 2, LH 2.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting